

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Brisk, sunny, 39°F (4°C)
Tonight: Clear, cold, 20°F (-7°C)
Tomorrow: Clouding up, 33°F (1°C)
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Volume 119, Number 66

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Wednesday, January 5, 2000

MIT Student Killed In Climbing Mishap

By Frank Dabek
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The body of Irina Libova, a graduate student in the Department of Biology, was found on the slopes of a Mexican mountain this Sunday.

Libova was reported lost on the 28th of December and apparently was killed in a fall while climbing Pico de Orizaba, a dormant volcano in south-central Mexico. Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert M. Randolph confirmed. She was 23 years old.

Randolph said that Libova and five others were engaged in "technical climbing that wasn't supposed to be dangerous." He said that all of the information in his possession indicated that the death was a climbing accident.

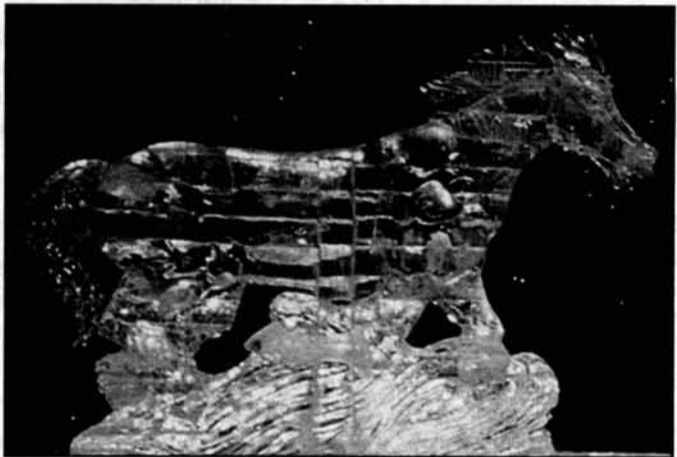
According to a message sent to

the MIT Outing Club mailing list, Libova, a member of MITOC, was among three killed on the mountain from the party of six climbers. The other two dead, Vladimir Smirnov and Ilya Krasik, were apparently not affiliated with MIT. Smirnov, 29, was Libova's fiancée.

MITOC President Michael J. Freedman said that the expedition was not sponsored by the group.

The message said that the six climbers reached the summit and that three were killed in a fall of approximately 50m while returning to their camp.

Pico de Orizaba, also known as Citlaltépetl, stands 18,406 feet above sea level and is the third tallest mountain in North America. The mountain is a popular destination for intermediate climbers and was first climbed in 1848.



MATTHEW L. MCGANN

Ice Sculptures lined the Commons as part of First Night, Boston's celebration of the turn of the millenium.

Winston, Katz Sue Ask Jeeves

AI Lab Researchers Attempt to Enforce Natural Language Patent

By Satwiksai Seshasai
CHAIRMAN

Ask Jeeves, Inc., owner of the question-and-answer based Internet search engine <http://www.ask.com> has made plans to defend a lawsuit filed by two MIT professors.

The suit, filed in U. S. District Court in Boston, charges the company with infringing on two patents held by Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Patrick H. Winston '65 and Boris Katz, a researcher at the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. The professors are demanding that Ask Jeeves stop using and licensing the technology, and requests damages and royalty payments.

Ask Jeeves' Director of Corporate Communications Heather Staples said that all of the technology used in their service was developed by the company. "A complaint has been served," said Staples, "and based upon a review by counsel, we believe the charges are without merit."

Katz has refused comment until the case has been settled.

A natural language search engine

The primary service offered by Ask Jeeves, is a question-and-answer-based search engine. The service accepts requests in natural language, as opposed to traditional keyword-based search engines.

"First, the question is tokenized to find key terms, then the question is parsed for word meaning by semantic and syntactic networks that were built by Ask Jeeves," said Staples.

The service also has the ability to comprehend new slang every day. "For example, after multiple

requests for 'Spice Girls' the service will learn the distinction between the popular music group and a request for information on the keywords 'girls' and 'spice,'" said Staples.

After the question is tokenized, it is reorganized into a structure compatible with question templates developed by Ask Jeeves, said Staples. At this point the service provides the user with a set of potential locations for the answer to their question.

Although the company does not currently hold any patents for this technology, Staples said the company has recently applied for a patent. The patent will only cover its Grammar Template Query System. "The big dilemma with any patent is when you patent something, you disclose everything."

The two patents which are held

by Katz and Winston include the use of natural language searching to retrieve text and database material. A patent filed in 1994 describes "converting natural language queries to structured form, matching

Ask Jeeves, Page 17



TECH FILE PHOTO

Boris Katz.

Vitriol, Charges Product Of CP Contract Dispute

By Sanjay Basu

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The ongoing contract dispute between the MIT Campus Police Association and the administration has become increasingly heated of late as the association continued its leaflet campaign and filed charges against MIT with the National Labor Relations Board.

According to a leaflet distributed by members of the association last month, the National Labor Relations Board "found probable cause that MIT violated federal labor law in its dealings with the Association and has filed formal complaints against

the Institute."

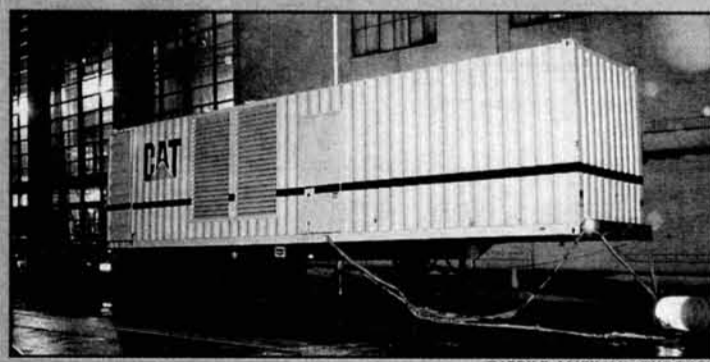
MIT's Labor Relations Manager David Achenbach said, "The Association has filed a number of different charges against MIT with different government agencies. The charges have been a distraction to the negotiations process. I believe that the charges were filed with the intention of needlessly consuming time and resources ... the complaint is no more than an allegation that the law may have been violated."

The charges against MIT

According to the association leaflet, the NLRB found probable cause for two charges: that MIT was guilty of "bargaining in bad faith" and that the Institute "unlawfully spied on association members [and] unlawfully interrogated and coerced members of the association."

The NLRB actually reviewed four claims posted by the association against MIT. Those included: 1) the failure of MIT to provide in a timely manner certain records concerning overtime (which the association referred to as "bargaining in bad faith"), 2) MIT surveillance of association leafletting, 3) a charge regarding a specific change to the Pension Plan, and 4) a charge regarding retroactive pay.

The NLRB normally investigates charges and determines whether they should dismiss those charges outright or issue a complaint. The complaint takes the form of an allegation that a party has violated the law. The Board then holds a hearing to determine whether there was



GARRY R. MASKALY—THE TECH

A tractor trailer containing a diesel generator was placed outside of MIT's Cogeneration Facility to provide electricity to the campus in the event of a Y2K related power outage.

tors, spare bedding, food and water stockpiles, and protection by the MIT Campus Police.

Gerald I. Isaacson, Y2KTT member, said the transition weekend was "quiet because of all the work that had been done prior to [the transition]."

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Preparations for Naught As Y2K Bug Bypasses MIT

By Mike Hall

STAFF REPORTER

Time to return your stockpiled toilet paper.

The much-anticipated Y2K computer bug failed to cause malfunctions in any major system at MIT and worldwide, drawing praise for the technical staffs that worked to prevent millennial disaster. The bug, resulting from computers' interpreting two-digit year numbers as "1900" instead of "2000," was cured in nearly all computer systems prior to New Year's Eve 1999, leading to a peaceful transition into the year 2000.

MIT's Y2K transition team

MIT affiliates staying on campus during the transition were protected by the Y2K transition team, operated by MIT's Business Continuity Management Team. The Y2KTT coordinated all MIT technical and emergency response units between December 31 and January 4. Work of the Y2KTT followed two years of preparation by MIT's Y2K Project, which handled the bulk of MIT's technical problems.

Precautionary measures at MIT included emergency power genera-



A committee to find a replacement for Dean Bates has formed.

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Comics

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ARTS

A great cast makes *Galaxy Quest* worth seeing even if it is a "guilty pleasure."

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WORLD & NATION

Croatians Choose Liberal Coalition Government Over Tudjman's Party

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ZAGREB, CROATIA

Ending a decade of authoritarian rule by the party of the late President Franjo Tudjman, Croatian voters on Monday chose an alliance between Croatia's former Communist Party chief and a one-time dissident.

Tudjman's once-powerful Croatian Democratic Union, or HDZ, conceded defeat early Tuesday after partial election results showed strong popular support for a center-left coalition led by the Social Democratic Party and the Social-Liberal Party.

Social Democratic Party leader Ivica Racan, 55, headed Croatia's Communist Party in 1991. The Social-Liberals' Drazen Budisa, 52, was jailed 20 years ago for his pro-democracy activism.

"Together with the other opposition bloc I think we will have a very stable majority," Racan said after partial results were announced. "I am ready to become prime minister, and I am aware it is not going to be easy."

Banks Returning Up to \$50 Billion After Y2K Fails to Ignite Panic

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Up to \$50 billion in cash is on its way back to Federal Reserve banks this week after the year 2000 rollover failed to trigger panic hoarding by consumers.

Banks nationwide are preparing to return the cash — much of it never opened from its shrink-wrapped packaging — in armored trucks to 37 Federal Reserve offices. In recent months, the Fed had pumped the cash into the banking system to handle any unusual cash demands at year's end.

Fed officials said they didn't know yet exactly how much consumers withdrew. But withdrawals, while slightly higher than normal for this time of year, weren't nearly as high as expected, federal officials and bank executives said.

A few customers demanded large withdrawals that essentially emptied or would have emptied their accounts. A customer in Virginia wanted to withdraw \$500,000 on Dec. 31 from one bank, which asked that its name not be used. The bank convinced him it wasn't necessary.

"There was ample cash, and people didn't take it out," said Federal Reserve Board spokeswoman Lynn Fox. "That implies that people were very calm."

Scandals Plague Europe

THE WASHINGTON POST

BERLIN

The criminal investigation of former chancellor Helmut Kohl is the latest of several political financing scandals in Europe that indicate how a general clamor for greater openness in public affairs is strengthening the hand of prosecutors in many Western democracies.

Federal prosecutors Monday officially opened a legal process that will determine whether they bring charges against Kohl, the architect of German unification, who has acknowledged managing secret slush funds during his 16 years in office. Already, the case is a cautionary tale about the accountability of even the most respected statesmen.

Across Europe, a spate of corruption cases and legal woes afflicting powerful politicians in France, Spain, Britain, Belgium and Italy has reflected the rise of an activist judicial branch, perhaps the prime beneficiary of voter dismay over entrenched parties and political leaders.

"If the 19th century was regarded in Europe as the period of great legislatures and the 20th century the era of the powerful executive, then the 21st century could turn out to be the special time for the judiciary," said Sergio Romano, a leading Italian political commentator.

Markets Plunge Amid Fears Of Increased Interest Rates

By Ianthe Jeanne Dugan and Sharon Walsh

THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK

Stocks plunged back to earth Tuesday, as investors, seeking to lock in profits before interest rates rise, abandoned a wide range of Wall Street's biggest darlings.

All the major indexes, which soared to record upon record in recent weeks, were battered. The Nasdaq composite closed below the 4,000 mark it hit for the first time last week. The Dow Jones industrial average toppled below 11,000.

The carnage was widespread — from financials to smokestacks — but fell heavily on technology stocks that have led the bull market. Investors made a load of money on these stocks last year, but held onto them to avoid having to pay taxes in the 1999 tax year.

Now, convinced that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates when it meets Feb. 4, many people decided to sell the stocks that have risen the most. Many fled to bonds.

Analysts and economists said that the sharp declines were both necessary and expected for stocks' prices to reflect their true values. Yet almost no one seems to believe

this signals the beginning of a bear market. Indeed, on Monday, a sell-off that started in Nasdaq stocks led to a buying binge by the end of the day, and investors may again decide the sharp drop Tuesday is an opportunity to shop for bargains.

The Nasdaq composite, which closed at a record on Monday, dove 229.46 points, or 5.56 percent, to close at 3,901.69. It was the index's biggest drop in its 29-year history and its third-largest percentage drop.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 359.58 points, or more than 3 percent, to close at 10,997.93. The S&P 500 index lost 55.80 points, or 3.83 percent, closing at 1399.42.

"The Nasdaq composite was up 49 percent in the last three months," said Richard Cripps, managing director of equity research for Legg Mason Inc. in Baltimore. "And it's a new tax year. People are buttoning up profits, selling a portion of a stock instead of all of it."

The plunge was "so broad-based, it was alarming," said Philip Tasho, chairman of Riggs Investment Management Co., a \$2.7 billion fund based in

Washington D.C. "It affected tech stocks and financial stocks and small stocks and large stocks."

Many stocks opened lower — and kept heading south. Indeed, declining shares outpaced advances on the New York Stock Exchange by a margin of more than 2 to 1 as more than 1 billion shares changed hands. On the Nasdaq, losing issues swamped gaining issues about 3 to 1.

"Certainly, the speed of the rise in the last weeks and months of 1999 made a substantial correction inevitable," said Richard B. Hoey, chief economist and chief investment strategist at the Dreyfus Corp. "The market was overbought."

The dive clobbered a new breed of individual investors who have a taste for high-tech stocks. Tom Nicastrì, who works for a computer company in New Jersey, lost a big chunk of his \$80,000 portfolio.

But he is comforted by simply looking back at the vast gains in his portfolio over the last year. "It's shocking when you look at it today," Nicastrì said. "But it's not shocking if you look at the last six months. I'm still way ahead. Unlike gambling in a casino, you don't lose unless you walk out."

Israel and Syria Commence U.S.-Brokered Peace Talks

By Norman Kempster

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W. VA.

Admonished by the Clinton administration that they face "a historic opportunity that may not come again," Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa opened a conference Monday aimed at ending half a century of war and animosity.

But the meeting almost immediately hit a snag when an anticipated face-to-face session between Barak and al-Sharaa failed to occur. Instead, the Israeli and Syrian leaders spent the day in separate meetings with President Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

U.S. officials had said that a three-way meeting of Barak, al-

Sharaa and Clinton was expected after dinner Monday. But about four hours after the anticipated start of the session, State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said the direct talks had been postponed. He did not indicate when they would be held.

Rubin said the issues were too complex to permit a "fully scripted" meeting. "It simply did not pan out," he said of the three-way meeting.

The talks began with Barak and al-Sharaa meeting separately for about an hour each with Clinton, a procedure that emphasized the pivotal role assigned to the U.S. government in bringing together the Middle East rivals.

But instead of moving to the expected three-way meeting, the

participants held a series of additional U.S.-Israeli and U.S.-Syrian talks. The only time Barak and al-Sharaa were together was during a brief walk in the woods shortly after Clinton arrived from Washington.

Rubin and White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart insisted that U.S. mediators still expect direct talks between the Israelis and the Syrians. Lockhart told reporters, "I wouldn't interpret it one way or the other. The schedule is very fluid."

Israel and Syria had never met at such a high political level before last month.

At the same time, Lockhart said it was "quite unrealistically optimistic" to believe that Israel and Syria can achieve even the outline of a peace agreement in a single round of talks.

WEATHER

Missing: Winter (Last Seen a Year Ago)

By Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

As a news reporter put it, the only effect the Y2K bug has seemed to have had is on our thermometers. After several very anomalous days with temperatures in the 60s, including a record breaking 64°F (18°C) on Monday, we will now return to more seasonable weather. A healthy high pressure center has nestled into New England this morning and driven away the rain. Today will see mostly clear skies, gusty winds in excess of 20 mph, and a high temperature just shy of 40°F (4°C). Clear and cold will be the rule until late Thursday when the clouds return with an approaching low. This system should track to our north and precipitation will not be an issue. Skies should be back to partly cloudy with temperatures just above normal by Friday and through most of the weekend.

Given the large shielding high pressure center, we are on target to break the record for going the latest in the season without receiving any accumulating snow. Apparently, the existing record is January 6th and was set in the late 1800's. Where has all the snow gone? With 1999 being the second warmest year on recent record (1998 being the warmest), one might wonder if global warming is to blame. Most experts are citing La Nina as the culprit rather than global warming. La Nina, the complementary phase to El Nino, has been in a rather strong regime of late. Its effects, while mainly described in a statistical nature, include shifting the typical tracks of east coast storms to the north. We've seen a lot of this so far with inland ski resorts receiving their share of snow while Boston has remained snow-free in the warmer, southeastern sector of most storms. Signs point to La Nina weakening, but there is still no guarantee when our snow drought will end.

Today: Brisk and mostly sunny. Gusty, northwesterly winds. High of 39°F (4°C).

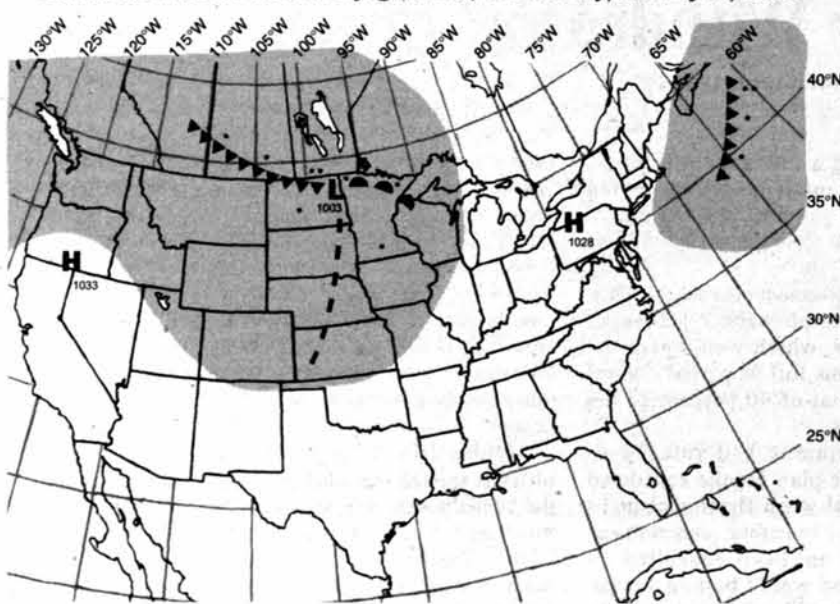
Tonight: Clear and cold. Winds slowing. Low 20°F (-7°C).

Thursday: Cold with clouds returning late afternoon. High just above freezing. Low in the upper 20s (-3 to -1°C).

Friday: Clearing to partly cloudy by the afternoon. High in mid-40s (6 to 8°C). Low in the upper 20s (-3 to -1°C).

Weekend Outlook: More of the same. No major storms predicted.

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Wednesday, January 5, 2000



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	--- Warm Front	Light Rain ▽	Thunderstorm
S Hurricane	--- Cold Front	Moderate Rain **	Haze
	--- Stationary Front	Heavy Rain ***	Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

In Latest Debate Bush, McCain Spar Over Tax Cuts, Class War

By David S. Broder
and Terry M. Neal
THE WASHINGTON POST

BEDFORD, N.H.

On a day that George W. Bush received two major endorsements, he found himself locked in the first serious policy dispute of the campaign with his major rival for the GOP nomination, Arizona Sen. John McCain.

Bush accused McCain of short-changing the middle class on tax cuts and McCain fired back that Bush's \$483 billion, five-year plan would squander money that will be needed for Social Security on tax breaks for the well-to-do.

Under his plan, Bush said, a family of four in New Hampshire earning \$50,000 would receive a tax cut of roughly \$2,000 a year. McCain's plan, he said, would give that same family a cut of \$200. He also said that McCain doesn't do enough for people with lower incomes. "His plan doesn't address the people who live on the outskirts of poverty working hard to get to

the middle class."

But McCain sharply disputed that assertion, saying that "60 percent of the benefits from Bush's tax cuts go to the wealthiest 10 percent of Americans and that's not the kind of tax relief that Americans need." By contrast, McCain claimed, all of the benefits of his own, smaller plan would go to people in the bottom three-fifths of the income scale. "I'm not giving tax cuts for the rich."

McCain said another "fundamental difference" was that the governor would use "the entire surplus" projected for the next decade to finance tax cuts, while McCain would save most of it to extend the life of Social Security and Medicare, pay down the national debt and reserve only the remaining fraction for tax cuts, some of which would be financed by "closing corporate welfare loopholes and eliminating wasteful spending."

McCain's tax plan, which is due to be amplified next week, would expand the 15 percent bottom

bracket upward, end the "marriage penalty," provide relief for Social Security recipients who continue working and eliminate taxes on estates up to \$5 million. McCain priced his plan at \$500 billion over 10 years.

Continuing the thrust and parry, Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer accused McCain of pitting rich against poor. He said McCain "sounds a lot like Al Gore and the Democrats and it would be very unfortunate if a Republican joined the Democrats in this class warfare."

The sharp exchange came as the two rivals campaigned in neighboring cities in New Hampshire, where polls show them locked in a close race for the first in the nation primary on Feb. 1. The disagreement reflected a change for the two men who have gone out of their way to compliment each other.

Bush was endorsed in New Hampshire Tuesday morning by Elizabeth Dole and Iowa by Sen. Charles E. Grassley.

Bradley Announces Plan To Save \$124B by Eliminating Tax Breaks

By Mike Allen
and John F. Harris
THE WASHINGTON POST

BEDFORD, N.H.

Bill Bradley announced Tuesday that he would work to eliminate tax shelters, breaks and loopholes that he figures would cost the government \$124 billion over 10 years, targeting powerful industries to help pay for his health-care plan and other ambitious proposals.

The measures are designed in part to defuse the warning by Vice President Al Gore, his rival for the Democratic presidential nomination, that Bradley would knock the federal budget from surplus to deficit. But Bradley, speaking at a New Hampshire forum, cast the changes more as a matter of justice and equity than dollars and cents.

"When a tax break is created to help only a few people, or a company finds a way not to pay taxes, we all end up paying more," Bradley said. "If I am president, we will spend money wisely on the things that make the most difference for the greatest number of people, and we will end the influence of special interests in Washington."

On Wednesday, it is Gore who will be making the splash as the two

men jockey for the spotlight in the weeks before the New Hampshire primary on Feb. 1. Gore will receive the endorsement of Massachusetts Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, an important boost from one of the most important liberal voices in the Democratic Party. Kennedy had remained noncommittal during months of "very aggressive" lobbying by Gore aides, but decided over the holidays he would campaign for the vice president, said a Democratic source.

As the Gore campaign began spreading the word about his coup, Bradley traveled here to announce his proposal to tighten the tax code. Much of the savings Bradley projects would come from stiffer enforcement. The Internal Revenue Service would step up audits of large corporations and increase penalties on companies that engage in practices with the sole purpose of lowering tax liability. And he would require companies to disclose to the IRS periods in which they reported higher income to shareholders than to the government. Those measures are to save \$100 billion over 10 years, aides estimated.

In addition, Bradley said he would work to reduce subsidies that he said reward what he considers

environmentally harmful practices. Bradley would cut benefits to mining companies that drill on public land but pay few royalties, oil-and-gas producers who have a deduction for exploration and development costs, and ranchers who graze livestock on public lands. That is to save \$2 billion over a decade.

Bradley also said he wants to repeal preferential tax treatment for oil drillers, chemical companies and companies with foreign subsidiaries that he said was enacted after those interests made large contributions to both national political parties in recent years. That move would save \$22 billion over 10 years.

The only corporation Bradley singled out by name is the Amway Corp., the marketing organization, which he said was the primary beneficiary of a 1997 measure making it easier to avoid U.S. taxes by moving profits to foreign subsidiaries.

Business groups were swift to condemn Bradley's ideas. "We should call this what it is: a \$120 billion-plus tax increase being pushed onto American corporations to pay for Bradley's social programs," said Martin A. Regalia, chief economist for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Palestinians Approve Israeli Plans For Withdrawal From the West Bank

By Mark Matthews
THE BALTIMORE SUN

JERUSALEM

Ending a seven-week impasse, Palestinians Tuesday accepted Israel's plans for the latest partial withdrawal from the occupied West Bank.

The agreement also set the stage for another pullback 2 1/2 weeks from now, which would give the Palestinians full or partial control over a total of 40 percent of the West Bank.

Palestinians had refused to accept the plan for the scheduled withdrawal when Israel announced it in mid-November, complaining they had not been consulted on which land would be transferred. They said much of the offered area was sparsely populated and did not connect to territory already in their control. Palestinians apparently had hoped to get territory close to East Jerusalem, which they want as the capital of a future state.

Israel, backed by the United States, said it had sole discretion to

decide what land would be transferred. The deadlock cast a shadow over Israeli-Palestinian relations and raised doubts whether the two sides would reach agreement on a framework for final talks to their long conflict by a self-imposed mid-February deadline.

Under Tuesday's deal, no change was made in the offer. However, both sides suggested that Palestinian views would be taken into consideration on the next withdrawal.

Neither Israeli nor Palestinian officials spelled out what produced the breakthrough, although a recent meeting between Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat set the stage.

Three withdrawals were called for in last year's Israeli-Palestinian accord reached at Sharm el Sheik, Egypt. The first, which came in early September, comprised seven percent of West Bank land. The one agreed to Tuesday comprises five percent and will be carried out with-

in 48 hours. The third, set for Jan. 20, will comprise 6.1 percent.

Any further withdrawal would follow an agreement on the most serious issues, including borders, Jewish settlements, the right of refugees to return and the status of Jerusalem.

"We have an understanding now that is satisfactory to both sides," Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said.

His Israeli counterpart, Oded Eran, said that on the next pullback, "they (Palestinians) have many ways to say what they want."

"I listen," he added.

The deal was reached half a world away from U.S.-brokered talks between Israelis and Syrians in Shepherdstown, W. Va., but a connection seemed clear.

According to analyst Ghassan Khatib, of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center, Arafat decided after weeks of stalling to accept the Israeli position because he was worried about being sidelined by the Syrian talks.

China Endorses Private Enterprise

THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

Faced with a foundering economy that demands "urgent solutions," China Tuesday gave one of its strongest endorsements ever to private enterprise, announcing that all obstacles to the development of the private sector should be scrapped.

On a day when Communist Party Secretary Jiang Zemin called for Marxist ideological education to be strengthened, the government seemed to be going in another direction when the influential State Development Planning Commission announced that private enterprises should be put on an "equal footing with state-owned enterprises" for the first time since China's revolution in 1949.

The announcement Tuesday, made by Planning Minister Zeng Peiyan, was a remarkable acknowledgment by the government that China's multi-billion dollar effort to resuscitate its moribund state-run sector has failed. It also indicates that China's leadership has realized that private industry, the most dynamic piece of China's economic puzzle, is a key to the future of China's economy.

"This is a significant ideological shift," said Fred Hu, the executive director for economic research at Goldman Sachs in Hong Kong. "It's long overdue. It shows the government is getting desperate to improve the economy."

Variant of Serotonin Gene Could Be Vital Link to Some Mental Disorders

NEWSDAY

At a time when investigators are struggling to find genes for mental illness, Canadian scientists have uncovered the first evidence that people with a specific variant of the gene that manufactures serotonin may be more vulnerable to depression and bulimia.

If this gene finding is replicated, it could lead to the first test to predict who might be at risk for these behavioral disorders. It may also trigger a hunt for medicines that would work directly on this gene and the protein it makes.

Dr. Robert Levitan of the Center for Addiction and Mental Health at the University of Toronto has been searching for a biological explanation for depression and decided to look for clues in people with seasonal affective disorder (winter depression) and bulimia. He chose these disorders, because 12 percent of people who binge eat also suffer from seasonal depression. People with this form of depression tend to consume far too many calories during their illness. If there was a genetic link, this would be an easier model in which to sort out genes from environmental effects. Only two percent of the population suffers from seasonal affective disorder.

U.S. Expects Return of Cuban Boy

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Anticipating a decision by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to send 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez home to Cuba, U.S. officials have asked the Cuban government to help arrange for the boy's father to travel to Miami to pick him up.

American authorities hope the appearance of the father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, and his clear desire to take custody of his son, will limit a legal and emotional backlash from Florida's large Cuban-American community, according to a U.S. official. Elian has become a cause for celebration among militant exiles opposed to Cuba's Communist government who have demanded that he be allowed to remain with relatives in this country.

The appeal to Cuba came after INS officials met for a second time with Gonzalez — a meeting that took place in Havana on New Year's Eve. Cuba responded that it would take "under advisement" a U.S. request that it facilitate an exit visa for the father, according to the U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Under preliminary plans discussed in weekend consultations involving the INS, the State Department and the Justice Department, Gonzalez would be issued an emergency U.S. visa, flown to Miami and brought to the home of Miami relatives where Elian is staying, perhaps accompanied by a Roman Catholic priest, the official said. Although the relatives — who would be informed in advance — could seek a temporary restraining order in federal court against the INS decision, legal custody of Elian would immediately revert to his father, who would be free to leave the country with him.

U.S. Court Denies Rehearing Police Case on Violating Suspects' Rights

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

A federal appeals court in San Francisco on Monday denied a request by the Los Angeles and Santa Monica police departments to rehear a case in which the court held that their policies of questioning suspects after they invoke their right to remain silent violated suspects' constitutional rights.

None of the 21 active judges of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which has jurisdiction over nine Western states, voted to rehear a Nov. 8 decision by a three-judge panel in the case of California Attorneys for Criminal Justice vs. Butts.

The panel held that both departments had questioned suspects in a manner that violated the landmark 1966 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Miranda vs. Arizona*, which established that a defendant had a right to remain silent and had to be warned that anything he said could be used against him.

Mark Rosenbaum, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, who served as co-counsel for the plaintiffs, praised Monday's action.

"The failure of the Los Angeles and Santa Monica police departments to secure even a single vote from any 9th Circuit judge in support of their petition for rehearing is a stinging repudiation of their efforts to subvert the Supreme Court's mandate in *Miranda*," Rosenbaum said. "Apparently, respect for the Constitution was not on the LAPD or SMPD's list of New Year's resolutions."

Debra L. Gonzales, deputy city attorney for Los Angeles, said it was likely that the city would ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review the ruling.

OPINION

Letters To The Editor



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Impossible to Replace Stolen Parking Sticker

My car was stolen about a month ago and I had to use a rental for a few weeks. I went to the parking office in Building E32 and received a temporary sticker. So far, so good.

My car was never found, and gone with it was the MIT parking sticker. My next visit to E32 was not so quick. It seems that in order not to pay the full amount of \$25 for a new sticker, you must have a portion of the old one.

I showed MIT parking officials the stolen car report with the notation "for further identification" that there was an MIT parking sticker on it. I tried to reason with them that the car was gone and so was the sticker. "How can I bring you a piece of it back?" The robotic response from Director of Parking and Transportation John MacDonald was "our policy is, if you don't have a portion of the sticker it will cost you the full amount." This guy will make the Registry of Motor Vehicles on the next round of hiring.

Al Cangeme
Department of Facilities

Keeping the 'X' in 'X-mas'

Veena Thomas's column was timely for Christmas ["'Tis the Season," Dec. 7].

However, she inaccurately claims that the abbreviation 'X-mas' "completely destroys the meaning of the word by removing 'Christ.'"

The "X" in "X-mas" is the Greek letter "chi," which is the first letter in the Greek spelling of "Christ," itself a word whose origins are Greek. It is certainly sad that many people forget about the spiritual aspects of the Christmas season, but it is almost equally as sad that many Christians are apparently unaware of the origins of their own traditions.

Dean Christakos G

Not for Sale

I take offense at Michael Hall's choice of words in the Dec. 3 *Tech* article "EC Strippers Raise Debate Over Dorm Funds Use."

You do not "purchase" or "rent" people; you hire them, or engage their services.

Laura Moses
Office of the Associate Provost for the Arts

Stripper Payment Source Disputed

The thesis of the Dec. 3 article "EC Strippers Raise Debate Over Dorm Funds Use," by Mike Hall, relies on a single incorrect point. The fact is, dorm funds were not

used to support this event, and the students responsible for the strippers were not reimbursed. Hall proceeds to draw parallels between MIT and the University of Wisconsin, and reports students' opinions about the incorrect point. I would like to make the request that *The Tech* print a retraction, as such a carelessly researched and written story only serves to damage the reputations of East Campus, [EC hall] Second West, and MIT, and to give students the wrong idea about the events for which their taxes are used.

Andrew Gouldstone G

[Ed.: *The Tech stands by the reporting of this story.*]

Suggestions for Future Columns

In reference to Jeff Roberts's column of Dec. 9, "A Recipe for Community":

The next time you feel like taking up space, put in a comic or something, or even a gray column. Please do not waste my time.

This dude said nothing (approximately) in his column; edit this out, or ask him to come up with some salient solutions/ideas. Lame jokes are cool in the intro, or if you have meaty, dry points to go along with them, but not as filler.

Goutam Reddy '02

[Ed.: *Reddy enclosed an annotated copy of Roberts's column, with specific, graphic comments as to Roberts's writing style.*]



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Notes from a Clock-Watcher

Guest Column

Erik Snowberg

I am a senior here, where I enjoy taking classes in math and anthropology. I am involved in extra-curricular activities and dabble a bit in politics. All of this stuff is fun, but my real passion is my hobby: clock-watching.

What's clock-watching, you say? I am not surprised that you haven't heard of this sport — well, I call it a sport; others might refer to it as a "game," but that really seems to trivialize it to me. It is actually quite straightforward. I enjoy watching clocks — digital clocks, to be precise — in all their glorious forms.

Many people at first seem to think that this would be a very dull thing to do indeed. "After all," they say, "it is so predictable." Well, predictable it may be, but it has more ups and downs than any other sport I can think of. Surely there is something exciting about watching your team come from behind to win the day, or watching them hold off an attack to stay with the lead in a contest such

as baseball or football. How often does that happen? A couple of times a season? Mostly one team starts off in the lead and that's all there is to it. But in clock-watching, there is never a dull minute, although there are dull moments.

Let me demonstrate. Say we were to begin watching just after a minute has been completed. Although the end of a minute is very exciting, as I shall explain later, it is really far more convenient to start just after that moment. Focus in on the seconds category. As the seconds flip from zero to one there is a very pleasant feeling — not terribly exciting, but the reassuring glow that another minute

has just started. This feeling will usually persist through the two and three, both pleasant numbers. As we move on to four, you may feel a little letdown, but this is all part of the game. Just as the unsettling feeling of "what the heck is so special about four" begins to set in, it is immediately followed by the five! The glorious five!

Five is the base unit for all future measurements. When your friend asks you what time it is, you will usually answer in some multiple of five. Unless, of course, you have some reason to be very specific. Moving on to six, you are still feeling the elation of the five, with the added knowledge that the minute is one-tenth over. The seven has its own significance, but does not bring the same reaction in everyone. The eight is a bit of a bummer, and not even the fact that it can be easily reduced to two-fifteenths of a minute can save it. The nine likewise, although you start to build up towards the ten, the base of our numeral system and an exciting number even before you realize that you are now one-sixth of the way done.

The 11, and all future multiples of 11, are quite nice as they allow for things like November 11, 1911, at 11:11 and 11 seconds. This when written out in concise notation would look like 11/11/11 at 11:11:11. Quite stunning, wouldn't you agree? There are other special numbers such as 14, which when coupled with a 3 in the minutes place begins to look a bit like pi. I will leave the others to your imagination, as discovering these special little numerical treats is half the fun.

So now you can see some of the wonders of the sport of clock watching — the dreadful highs and fantastic lows. But let me titillate you further with some applications of this wonderful sport. Many of our undergraduates enjoy drinking games. These could be

played with movies or sports, but often times, after a full game, you may not even feel the least bit tipsy. With all the special seconds in a minute, however, you could be passed out on the floor before a full two minutes has passed. I can't even begin to cover all of the different ways in which clock-watching can enliven a party!

The best part is that clock-watching as a sport is quickly rising in popularity. If you could pick one phenomenon of this last year, even bigger than Pokemon, it would be clock-watching. A lot of it was because of this whole Y2K business. They sold special clocks which ran backwards (although I am a traditionalist myself, there is nothing to say that watching a clock move backwards should be any less exciting), and as the year 2000 approached people got more and more excited. They began to notice that the last odd second (a second in which all the digits of the date and time are odd) until 1/1/3111 at 1:11:11 would be on 11/11/1999 at 19:59:59 (or 11:59:59, if you don't use military time.)

When the year 2000 arrived, throngs of people had gathered all over the world to watch the clock tick away those fateful seconds. In fact, people got so excited that they watched other people in other parts of the world watching their clocks. (Clock-watching as a spectator sport — even I did not dream of that, dear reader!) Where I was, in Boston, the jubilation was tremendous. A woman I never met before grabbed me and kissed me — another thing I never expected to happen. I finally felt at home among millions of my kin who had just discovered this beautiful passion. Since then I have not slept; I have not wanted to miss a single second of this gem of a year, the year 2000.

Now that we are comfortably in the year 2000, I have huge hopes for this to become our national pastime. I am even working out a deal with ESPN to become their official clock-watching commentator. Whenever there are a few seconds to fill, there will always be something exciting happening on the clock so they can cut to me. I just hope we can close the deal before the first even second since 8/28/888 — on 2/2/2000 at midnight, 00:00:00. I don't want the whole world to miss that one!

The End of The World as We Know It

Guest Column

Dana Spiegel

The new year has come and gone with nary a problem in sight — unless you count the man who attempted to return a video to a rental store, only to find that it was 100 years late and that he'd be fined \$90,000. For all who predicted pandemonium or the coming of the apocalypse due to Y2K problems or some ancient millennial prognostications, I have news for you, in case you haven't noticed that you're still alive and reading this column — the end of the world isn't upon us. At least, not yet.

That said, I believe that the worst is not actually over. Though most people returned to work on Jan. 3 only to find that poor programming practices did not result in weeks of vacation time, the fact remains that while the end of the century did not bring the end of humanity, the end of the millennium — which actually comes next New Year's, contrary to what most media outlets would have you believe — may still bring the end of the world that some fear.

My prediction, if I may step into

My prediction, if I may step into Nostradamus's shoes, is that the year 2000 is actually one long, drawn-out apocalypse.

Nostradamus's shoes for a moment, is that the year 2000 is actually one long, drawn-out apocalypse. We've been having unseasonably warm weather in the northeast for the last week, which is an indication of the fiery death that awaits us on the coming hell-on-earth. Don't believe those who claim this meteorological event is due to global warming; such an excuse is just that: an excuse. The real end of the world will be a drawn-out, arduous event. After all, if we're all supposed to go to hell (though some ingenious MIT hackers would say we're already there) come Judgment Day, I would expect that whomever is going to send us there isn't going to make Judgment Time a pleasant experience.

Why will it take all year? The obvious answer is that there so many people on earth that it's going to take that long to figure out where they all belong. I don't necessarily subscribe to the 'judgment day' philosophy, so such a reason doesn't really work for me. It's the ultimate compromise between those uninformed plebeians who claimed that we're now in the next millennium and those of us (including Peter Jennings, whose 24-hour ABC marathon celebration broadcast was excessive) who know better.

Of course, this New Year's uneventfulness begs the question: Why were there no terrorist attacks? Certainly New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and the formidable NYPD believed that such a threat did exist, or else they wouldn't have ordered 250,000 extra body bags nor lined up myriad police trucks into which they could stow used bags once the clock ticked midnight. Nor would they have sealed off all of the manhole covers in Times Square, the likely place for a terrorist attack, if they weren't afraid of someone escaping into or away from the mob once their evil deed was done. The answer is simple: terrorists believed that someone else would do the dirty work for them. Or perhaps they were worried about Y2K bugs in their bomb electronics (though I'm sure there are instructions on how to build such a Y2K-compliant device available on the Internet). Their beliefs aren't entirely inaccurate, though they'll have to wait a bit longer.

What lies ahead is difficult to predict. Certainly there will be other harbingers of the coming apocalypse. Just yesterday, Elizabeth Dole announced that she would support George W. Bush as the Republican presidential nominee, and Israeli and Syrian officials are now beginning to talk face-to-face. Certainly these events are only the first of many strange occurrences that will mark this, our last year on earth. So for all of you alarmists out there, pick up your chin, because the end of the world is indeed coming, just a little later than you thought. And for those nay-sayers out there: See you in hell!

Dana Spiegel is a graduate student in Media Arts and Sciences.

The 11, and all future multiples of 11, are quite nice as they allow for things like November 11, 1911, at 11:11 and 11 seconds. This when written out in concise notation would look like 11/11/11 at 11:11:11. Quite stunning, wouldn't you agree?

A Breath of Fresh (Political) Air

Bill Bradley, John McCain Bring Bold New Ideas, Not 'Politics As Usual'

Michael J. Ring

The presidential primary campaign is about to intensify. The people of Iowa and New Hampshire will be voicing their preferences for the major-party nominees for President of the United States in less than a month.

Interestingly, on both sides of the aisle, the battle has, for the most part, become less about ideology and more about reform. There are some important ideological differences between Al Gore and Bill Bradley and George W. Bush and John McCain, but for many political observers, the real battles are not over shades of liberalism and conservatism but whether one's leadership style will seek to change government or to continue the status quo.

The Democratic and Republican presidential primaries reflect essentially the same battle. A frontrunner for whom party bigshots have worked hard to smooth the path to nomination is challenged by an upstart candidate, pitching new ideas and promises of reform, and gaining momentum each day. Both Bradley and McCain currently lead polls in New Hampshire, and both of the candidates (particularly Bradley, who leads Gore in other key states) have an opportunity to snatch his party's nomination.

Many voters are dissatisfied with both Gore and Bush, and for good reason. Neither candidate has offered anything substantial or original to the political debate, but instead merely reacted to others' proposals.

Al Gore would make a horrendous nominee for president of the United States because he is too largely attached to the status quo. Gore seems to have caught the Clinton disease of incremental politics, and in the campaign has offered a host of small ideas without proposing a groundbreaking bill or program. His ties to the Clinton White House also hurt his credibility. Gore's attacks on Bradley's health care plan as too expensive are pitiful, considering the Clinton-Gore administration offered a very similar proposal when the nation was in a budget deficit. And Gore, having been

involved in campaign money scandals, has no credibility on the key reform issue of campaign finance.

If the proposals Al Gore makes are properly termed incremental, then those of George W. Bush should be called microscopic. On the key Republican issue of tax reform, Bush's proposed tax cut only confuses and convolutes further the nation's already-complicated tax code. Otherwise his campaign has been coasting on the fumes of promises of 'compassionate conservatism,' a term open to wide and varied interpretations so as not to anger any bloc of voters.

The political lesson of 1999 is that the American public is sick and tired of partisanship and politics as usual. The American people rallied behind Bill Clinton when his impeachment trial turned partisan. They gave the Republican Congress low marks for failure to produce meaningful health care, gun control or campaign finance bills. Yet they clearly do not want a continuation of the Clinton presidency as manifested by his vice-president, Al Gore.

There are candidates or would-be candidates who call themselves Reform, but that party is closer to being a political insane asylum than a true engine for change. One wing of the party is dominated by an egomaniacal feather boa-wearing ex-wrestler and an egomaniacal casino magnate. The other wing does have a serious politician — in Pat Buchanan. While his passionate condemnations of NAFTA and the WTO bring a refreshing perspective to the campaign, how much of a 'reform' candidate can a Beltway insider and ex-Nixon and ex-Reagan adviser like Buchanan be?

There are two true reform candidates run-

ning for president this year — candidates who deserve your attention and consideration. They are Bill Bradley and John McCain.

Bradley and McCain are candidates who can forge bipartisan consensus and end the current cycle of degenerative politics. Their courage is especially noteworthy in the area of campaign finance reform. Both realize money is the root of all political evil; both pledge not to take soft money if they are nominated. Can you imagine Al Gore of Buddhist temple fame or George W. Bush, the \$67 million man, making the same promise?

Bradley and McCain are the two candidates who have made the boldest proposals on other issues as well. For example, Bradley's plan to give more Americans health insurance can stop a brewing crisis. McCain's plan to end special-interest tax breaks for oil and sugar, and for ethanol companies to fund school vouchers, is an intriguing solution to America's education woes, and one which does not rob the bud-

get of public schools to fund vouchers. Whether you agree or disagree with their proposals, you must admire their forthrightness and courage to risk alienating certain voters by making sweeping and creative proposals.

The voters of 2000 will elect the first president to serve fully in the 21st century. The new president will set a tone for leadership in the coming years and decades. Now is not the time for uncourageous candidates with stale, trite promises and proposals. Bill Bradley and John McCain are the candidates with bold ideas and a strong impetus for reform. Each strongly deserves his party's nomination.

If the proposals Al Gore makes are properly termed incremental, then those of George W. Bush should be called microscopic. On the key Republican issue of tax reform, Bush's proposed tax cut only confuses and convolutes further the nation's already-complicated tax code.

THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW

Galaxy Quest



By Vladimir Zelevinsky

ARTS EDITOR

Directed by Dean Parisot

Written by Robert Gordon and David Howard
With Tim Allen, Sigourney Weaver, Alan Rickman, Tony Shalhoub, Enrico Colantoni

File this one under "guilty pleasures." All right, very guilty, and not even that much of a pleasure — but, still, *Galaxy Quest* did make me smile for a good part of its 98 minute running time. Main reason why it works: a handful of excellent actors clearly having a good time, nifty visuals, and a killer high-concept plot (the actors of a cheesy TV sci-fi show are mistaken by benign aliens for the real space heroes and whisked away to moderate an interstellar dispute — space warfare ensues.)

STAGE REVIEW

Ivanov

By Vladimir Zelevinsky

ARTS EDITOR

Written by Anton Chekhov

Translated by Paul Schmidt

Adapted and directed by Yuri Yeremin

Set design by Scott Bradley

Costume design by Catherine Zuber

With Arliss Howard, Debra Winger, Alvin Epstein, Will LeBow, Jeremy Geidt, Kristin Proctor, Benjamin Evett, Karen MacDonald, Paula Plum, and the others

At the American Repertory Theatre, through January 22, 2000

There's a curious tradition in 19th century Russian literature: its main characters are often *inaction* heroes. From Pushkin's *Eugene Onegin* to Goncharov's *Oblomov*, the literature centers on someone who pretty much doesn't do anything, with rare — and usually tragic — exceptions.

Chekhov's *Ivanov* (written in 1887) is a direct continuation of this tradition. The work is a portrait of an inactive man in a middle of suffocating boredom and stasis. What's amazing about the American Repertory Theatre production is how exciting it is, even when very little is actually happening (in the plot sense, at least).

The title character, Nikolai Ivanov (Arliss Howard), is an impoverished landowner, completely in debt to his farm workers and his neighbors. His wife Anna (Debra Winger) is suffering from tuberculosis; his uncle (Alvin Epstein) is rapidly approaching senility; his wife's doctor (Benjamin Evett) regards him with barely concealed hatred. And Ivanov doesn't do much about it: he mostly lies in his hammock, hammered by life into an unfeeling stupor. Meanwhile, his neighbors gather around to idly chatter, gossip, flirt, and generally attempt to escape somehow the pervading mood of overwhelming boredom.

Speaking of overwhelming boredom: observing it is rarely so engaging and exciting as in the A.R.T. production. Directed by the Artistic Director of Moscow's Pushkin Art Theatre Yuri Yeremin, *Ivanov* is an eye-full, a showcase for highly impressive theatrical invention. Clearly done on a large budget, *Ivanov* is first and foremost highly impressive visually, in some instances downright striking. From the atmospheric film-like credits, to the stylishly monochrome (with some significant exceptions) costumes, to period bicycles and a real swing, Yeremin's direction provides a plenty of visual interest. Some of the most remarkable imagery concerns the timeline: the play's four parts are presented as changing seasons. The opening's harvest with bales of hay yields to delicate birch forest to the fall's windswept landscape with falling yellow leaves to the winter's bleak snowfall. There's even a live dog on stage, to heighten the

There's a lot of funny material packed into a three-minute opening sequence which pokes fun at just about every aspect of TV sci-fi. Tim Allen plays a narcissistic captain who barks incomprehensible pseudo-scientific commands. Sigourney Weaver is a blonde sexpot displaying a considerable amount of cleavage and Alan Rickman is an intense-looking alien wearing several pounds of makeup. Providing comic-relief is Tony Shalhoub as an engineer and a cute teen ensign played by Daryl Mitchell who is also used to increase ethnic diversity. All of this is accompanied by stupid computer graphics, fake sets, plot holes, and general air of amiable nonsense.

After this introduction, we're back in real world, and the movie starts floundering. It spends unnecessary amounts of time on a fan convention sequence and perfunctory attempts to set up some personalities and conflicts. I'm always for having characters and conflicts, but not when they are as artificial and contrived as they are here.

In any case, eventually, we do go in outer space, and the movie promptly forgets that it aspired to be a *Star Trek* parody, settling instead for a much less lofty goal: being a *Star Trek* rip-off.

What we get is the same stuff as in the opening sequence: more stupid computer graphics, more fake sets, and more plot holes... and I don't think any of it was intended to be humorous, other than the general air of amiable nonsense. For instance, there's one character who goes around, bemoaning his fate as a nameless expendable crew member and expecting to perish at any instance — and while this is clearly intended as a joke, there is, at the same time, another nameless crew member, who is

play's sense of reality. A couple of gestures feel unnecessary, like a perhaps too literal projection that attempts to put us into Ivanov's mind, but, overall, the rather obvious symbolism is not distracting.

Fortunately, the visual texture is not the only outstanding feature of this production. Yeremin directed *Ivanov* according to Stanislavsky's method, where actors attempt to become their characters, and the results are very impressive. The scene of the tea party, for instance, although nothing happens whatsoever, ends up being the most interesting, just because it's quite clear at every moment exactly what all the characters are thinking, with their dramatic actions providing a thrilling texture, a mixture of conflicts right under the staid surface.

This texture also makes the play frequently very funny; Chekhov, by the way, insisted that all his plays are comedies. The inherent humor works very well, and even lightens up the scenes which could have felt too melodramatic. The ending of part three still comes off as being over the top, with entirely too much moaning and anguish; but the rest of the production doesn't succumb to such heavy-handedness.

In this way, the production is quite powerful when it concentrates on the impact of each separate moment, and that's where the actors shine, with the supporting characters being even more impressive than the leads (quite likely because the leads aren't given the privilege of being funny.) Speaking of the leads: it's nice to see big-name actors like the Oscar-nominee Winger tackle the decidedly unglamorous (and not even very big) part of Anna, and it's chilling to recognize Ivanov's fear of being over the hill at the age of thirty five — but both of them take themselves perhaps a touch too seriously to fully connect emotionally with the audience.

In any case, *Ivanov* is consistently engaging, with its impressive staging and committed acting. It even feels Russian: Yeremin clearly knows a lot about the period he's depicting. The only thing I wished were emphasized more is the flip-side of this emphasis on the moment: the sense of continuum. There are two characters in *Ivanov* who, to a certain extent, represent Russia's past and future: Ivanov's uncle and Anna's doctor, very much in the same way the title character represents the country's disillusioned present (in 1887, of course). Yeremin clearly recognizes this; I don't think it's a coincidence that in the finale the doctor, a violent demagogue, wears the long black overcoat, the kind that was later favored by the communists. But his character barely changes during the course of the play; both he and the uncle are the same in the end as they were in the beginning, and the sense of historical motion is blunted.

This is a relatively small problem, though. While *Ivanov* is unfolding, it is never less than engaging; once in a while, it is mesmerizing. Overall, it is an exciting reminder of the amazing possibilities of theatre.

indeed killed off at an opportune moment. If you would hope that there's some connection between these two, you'd be wrong. The first one is comic relief, and the second one is a lazy cliché, and that's all there's to it.

One would hope that the low intelligence of the plot is a part of a joke, but, regrettably, it's not: all of the adventures are meant to be taken at face value. Self-referential wit is clearly beyond the scope of *Galaxy Quest*, as is any kind of wit, for that matter. The cast includes the actors behind Buzz Lightyear and Lt. Ripley — and yet the film does not manage a single in-joke about *Toy Story* or the *Alien* series.

Even worse than the screenplay is Dean Parisot's inane direction: there's no regard for pacing or even continuity, and essential shots are missing from action sequences.

At least, visually *Galaxy Quest* is nice, proving that if you throw enough money at the screen, at least some of it will stick. Industrial Light and Magic is involved, and they do throw a lot of candy-colored special effects at the screen, most of them fun — almost as much as some of the actors. Tim Allen possesses no screen presence whatsoever, but Weaver, Rickman, and Shalhoub are grand. Rickman's world-weary sarcasm is refreshing, and Shalhoub's deadpan delivery just keeps getting funnier and funnier. Weaver, just like her character, has nothing whatsoever to do, other than wear a tight uniform with her zipper getting

lower and lower. But she is funny, and self-deprecating, and as sexy as she didn't have a chance to be since, oh my gosh, *Working Girl*.

Ultimately, this redeems *Galaxy Quest*. As a parody, it's weak, but taken at its face value — as an undemanding space opera, call it *Star Trek 8 1/2* — it is light, and breezy, and consistently interesting. It is certainly markedly better than just about any odd-numbered *Star Trek* movie, that's for sure.

There's an additional subtle subtext to this film, and accidental or not, it is worth mentioning. On some level, the story of *Galaxy Quest* is about a bunch of hammy actors, who are forced to do some method acting by getting a chance to actually become their characters. Were it to pay at least lip service to this, *Galaxy Quest* could have become really interesting; as it is, it's, well, cute.



The Essential Vegetarian

Soup on a balmy winter day

Welcome back from winter break. I hope it was restful and celebratory. Since the new year is here, what is a better resolution than to adopt a vegetarian diet? I have discussed before how to make the transition from a diet that includes meat to one that does not, by eliminating all meat products gradually or at once.

Around campus, start by trying, from Aramark, the vegetarian chili at Walker, the Granary selections, or Network's vegetarian specials. The falafel sandwiches at the CousCous Kitchen food truck are inexpensive, filling, and tasty. If you cook for yourself, try replacing meat in recipes with soy products, available in the freezer section at Star Market or Harvest Co-operative Supermarket, both in Central Square.

A good resource for learning to cook vegetarian food is the series of vegetarian cooking classes sponsored by the MIT Vegetarian Group and Aramark and held during IAP. Each day's course has a different topic: Monday, January 10, 2000 is "Quick and Easy Vegetarian Cooking," followed by "Demystifying Soy Foods" on Tuesday, and ending with "Gourmet Vegetarian Cooking" on Wednesday of the same week. All the classes are from 4-7 p.m. and are held in Networks' kitchen. They cost \$7 each, which includes the dinner prepared by the students. Space is limited, but contact Leah Daigle at daigle-leah@aramark.com or 253-2814 for more information.

In going vegetarian, you can choose meatless options when dining out as well. Now that winter is fully upon us what better meal than soup to warm you up on a chilly day? The New England Soup Factory offers just that at its new location on Boylston Street, right across from the Prudential Center. I had the pleasure of dining there with a friend. The meal gave us the fuel we needed to study for finals, but I think we both found it to be a little expensive. The soup menu contains at least one vegetarian choice each day from simple vegetarian soup to more hearty minestrone and cream soups. All are available in three sizes with optional add-ins such as rice or matzoh balls. Come summer, the menu turns to cold soups such as gazpacho.

In addition to soups, there are many sandwiches and wraps with gourmet ingredients such as avocado, kalamata olives, and feta cheese. I tried one which appeared a bit small but was very filling. And of course, an array of salads are also offered to complement both soup and sandwich. The cold sesame noodles and green bean salad both caught my eye.

Overall, I would say that this restaurant gives exactly what you would expect from a high-end counter-service establishment.

E-mail your support (or any questions, comments, etc.) to veggie@the-tech.mit.edu.

The following recipe lets you recreate a soup from the New England Soup Factory's menu in your own kitchen. It is reprinted from The PhantomGourmet's recipe collection found at <http://www.townonline.com/arts/dining/phantom/>.

New England Soup Factory's Spicy Chickpea and Butternut Soup

- 3 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 Tbsp. chopped fresh garlic
- 2 Cups finely chopped onion
- 1 Cup minced or diced celery
- 2 Cups sliced carrot coins
- 6 Cups- chunky diced peeled butternut squash
- 2 Cups diced canned tomatoes
- 4 Quarts well flavored vegetable stock
- 2 Cups tomato juice
- 1/2 Cup soy sauce
- 1/4 Cup fresh lime juice
- 2 Cups canned chickpeas
- 1 Tbsp. ginger
- 1 Tbsp. ground coriander
- 1 tsp. minced Scotch Bonnet Peppers
- 1 14 oz. can coconut milk
- 1 Cup flaked coconut
- 1 Tbsp. fresh chopped cilantro
- 1 tsp. coconut extract

In a large heavy lined stockpot add olive oil and garlic. Saute 1-2 minutes. Add onions, carrots and celery. Saute for 10-15 minutes. Add squash, canned tomatoes, stock, tomato juice, soy sauce, lime juice, chickpeas, ginger and coriander and bring to a boil.

Cook until all the vegetables are tender.

Add coconut milk, flaked coconut, coconut extract and cilantro, cook an additional 5-8 minutes.

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

CD REVIEW

Guster: Lost and Gone Forever

By Jacob Benfliah
STAFF WRITER

More than a year after the release of their second album, *Goldfly*, Guster returned to the music scene on September 28 with the debut of *Lost and Gone Forever*. The band's third album incorporates several new music styles: it seems that the band is trying to appeal to a wider audience beyond its traditional strong following along the eastern seaboard.

Overall, this an incredible album. Every song is worth listening to. Though some may be disappointed that the album being only 44 minutes long, in this case quality counts more than quantity. For Guster aficionados, this album is a great third effort. For those new to the band, this is an excellent album to begin with.

Those familiar with the band's first two albums will notice some changes immediately. The songs here feature more instruments (including flute and saxophone) and depend less on vocals than before. Of course, Rosenworcel still plays the bongos in several songs, adding an amazing backbeat. Their newest album, produced by Steve Lillywhite, is composed of 11 tracks (Lillywhite, by the way, has also worked with such bands as U2 and Dave Matthews Band).

The album begins with a fairly mellow song, "What You Wish For," with lots of instrumentals. Jumping into "Barrel of a Gun," the album picks up the pace with another great song, a love ballad for a movie star — the bongos really add a lot to this one.

One of the better songs is "Fa Fa," with good instrumentals and the catchy chorus. "I Spy" is a short but good mellow song about the band's journey to the "may parade." The album takes a more upbeat tune with a bongo-intensive "Center of Attention." The band's vocals hit a high note with "All The Way Up to Heaven," which also features whistling. Fans know the whistling bit so well that at the October 30 concert at the Orpheum, Guster allowed the audience to whistle that part. "Happier," "So Long," "Two Points for Honesty," and "Rainy Day" wind down the album on a very different note.

Guster is composed of Ryan Millers (guitar and vocals), Adam Gardner (guitar and vocals), and Brian Rosenworcel (percussion). The band met in 1992 while they attended Tufts University and played at several clubs in the Boston area. Their first album, *Parachute*, was actually released under the name Gus in 1994. Soon afterwards, the band discovered that many other bands across the country were called Gus — so they changed their name to Guster.

Guster's initial fame began primarily because its fan base helped to spread the word. Quickly, the band's popularity began to grow: they made an appearance on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and also played at Woodstock '99. In 1997, the band received the Best Live Music award at the Boston Music Awards. They have toured along the east coast and in some midwestern states; but the last few months they spent in San Francisco, working on *Lost and Gone Forever*. The band is touring again and will return to Boston on December 12. Unfortunately, according to the Guster website, the concert sold out in four minutes.

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

Being John Malkovich (★★★★½)

A film so different, so whacked-out, so original, and totally unlike anything else out there — like Monty Python at their most deadpan hilarious. An unconventional mixture of comedy, satire, and frighteningly deep ruminations on the nature of personality. — VZ

Dogma (★★★)

The latest film by Kevin Smith combines the elements of a mystery, suspenseful thriller, surreal fantasy, action movie, and black comedy to produce an engaging examination of religion. Although some may be put off by his irreverent approach, and the topics he brings up are never fully explored, a fairly novel story, excellent cast, and interesting ideas make this a movie that will covertly bring fodder for discussions on religion to the masses. — Fred Choi

Galaxy Quest (★★½)

File this one under "guilty pleasures." A great cast makes the best of a mediocre script in which a group of sci-fi actors are kidnapped by real aliens. The film is a *Star Trek* rip-off that would have been better off as a *Star Trek* spoof. Redeeming this one are great performances by a sexy Sigourney Weaver along

with Alan Rickman, Tony Shalhoub, and Enrico Colantoni. — VZ

The Insider (★★★)

A great story about a tobacco industry whistleblower benefits from great casting (Russell Crowe and Al Pacino) and an excellent screenplay, making the movie as much about the inner workings of big corporations as about inner character drama. On the other hand, we have overbearing direction, which frequently distracts from the power of the story. — VZ

Princess Mononoke (★★★)

An epic action adventure, a romance, and a philosophical treatise — which also happens to be animated. While it suffers from simply having too much stuff in it, and from being frequently messy and self-indulgent, it also provides thrillingly exciting action sequences and visuals you won't see anywhere else. — 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

Sleepy Hollow (★★½)

Very loosely adapted from Washington

Irving's tale of the Headless Horseman, this film features huge lavish sets, wall-to-wall special effects, astounding cinematography — and a bland, boring, mediocre screenplay. Johnny Depp is fun, playing Ichabod Crane as a mixture of action hero and frightened schoolgirl, while Christina Ricci looks lovely but is otherwise wasted. — VZ

Three Kings (★★★½)

As one of the most creative films of the year, David O. Russell's third film *Three Kings* marks his strongest directing effort to date. When American soldiers set out to find Saddam's stolen gold bullion, they also find Iraqi citizens in need of their help. In their efforts to help, the characters are forced to question the point of America's involvement in the Persian Gulf. The creative use of the camera makes for powerful images that help drive the film's message home. — Michael Frakes

Toy Story 2 (★★★½)

An instant classic, one of the most creative and fun movies of the year, this completely computer-generated sequel about the adventures of a bunch of toys is clever, funny, complex, and, most surprisingly, deeply emotional. — VZ

The World is Not Enough (★★½)

The nineteenth James Bond adventure is a rather disorienting experience: everything that is supposed to work in a 007 adventure (stunts, gadgets, babes, exotic locations) is underused, while the acting, especially from Sophie Marceau, is spectacular. — VZ

State of the Airwaves Ego, Ellis, and Econoline

By Dan Katz
STAFF REPORTER

Well, that was a nice relaxing break. Happy new year, I've missed all of you so. Did you miss me? Awww, you're so sweet. But enough pleasantries, let's talk music.

I don't know what it is about the beginning of a new year that makes live music run away screaming, but early January is traditionally a pretty dead concert period. This week follows that tradition pretty well, with the exception of one big on-campus shindig. The Airwaves Show of the Week has got to be Friday's VooDoo party, featuring minimalist Christ figure Wesley Willis, local oddballs Jim's Big Ego, plus Acid Wench, Arab On Radar, and The Children In Heat. With that impressive lineup and catering from Deli Haus (Mmmm... Deli Haus), this may be one of the best on-campus events of the year. There's a Rustic Overtones concert at Bill's Bar on Saturday, but other than that there's not much going on in Boston. If you feel like going for a drive, though, Wesley Willis warms up in Worcester (try saying that three times fast) Thursday night at the Lucky Dog, and Saturday night Ellis Paul plays a show in Lexington.

I have a strict personal rule that I never buy an album on the strength of one single. Incubus's new track, "Pardon Me," is the first song in quite a while that's been good enough to force me to break that rule. Currently getting a lot of well deserved airplay on Boston radio, the song shows off two skills that separate Incubus from other Ozzfest veterans: the utilization of breakbeats and scratching to give their music a more rhythmic feel, and the ability to sing high notes clearly rather than scream obnoxiously. That and some creative themes give the song, as well as the whole album, an innovative futuristic quality that leads me to highly recommend it.

I also got the chance to watch music videos for the first time in a while, and I made a couple of observations. First, if the evolution of female pop vocalists continues at its current rate, pedophiles are going to adore the year 2000. The first answer to Britney Spears was 18-year-old Christina Aguilera, and now MTV's newest darling is "Candy" by Mandy Moore, who's fifteen. Maybe it's a matter of taste, but when I see a fifteen-year-old on TV being seductive, I'm more disturbed than attracted. Second, Blink-182's video parody of the Backstreet Boys and 'N Sync seems to have backfired; I actually saw Carson Daly refer to the punk rockers as a boy band, and I don't think he was being entirely sarcastic. And finally, Muse's "Muscle Museum," although it's unsurprisingly not in regular rotation, may be the most chilling video of the year, portraying a generic suburban neighborhood of identical white houses, picket fences, and stereotypical residents — all of whom make the gradual transition from smiling and happily going about their day to crying uncontrollably. It's a wonderful study in the monotony of life, and it fits well with the song, which has a chorus that oozes pure angst.

There's a number of great tracks getting airplay in Canada at the moment that aren't available here yet but a careful scouring of the Internet uncovers them without too much trouble. Econoline Crush don't have a new album coming out any time soon, but they recorded a popular song from their live show, "You Don't Know What It's Like," for release on "Big Shiny Tunes 4," which is Canada's equivalent of the "NOW" series: a compilation of the most overplayed singles of the year, in case you're not sick of them all yet. Econoline make the compilation worth it though, with a pained neo-industrial tune reminiscent of their earlier song, "Wicked." If you prefer your guitars unplugged, The Tea Party's current single is a terrific haunting acoustic track called "The Messenger." That song, and the slightly more pop-oriented "Heaven Coming Down," which was a monster hit up north earlier this year, are on the band's new album *Triptych*, which should hopefully hit American stores sometime this year.

Make any New Year's resolutions this year? Mine was to write one column without ripping on the Essential Vegetarian (next week, the weaponry comes back out) Anyway, if you want to make a resolution you can easily keep, why not resolve to e-mail Airwaves? Remember, all through IAP, I'm still accepting votes for my Reader Awards, in the categories of Album of the Year, Single of the Year, Music Video of the Year, Live Act of the Year, and Most Annoying Personality of the Year. You're also free to make up any other categories or chat with me about pretty much anything in the domain of rock music via airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu. Until next we meet, have a happy January, and keep expanding your horizons.

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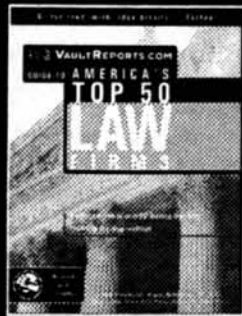
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FEATURES

Green Eggs and IAP

Literature Department Poetry Series to Feature Dr. Seuss

By Katie Jeffreys
FEATURES EDITOR

This is the first of four stories previewing interesting IAP opportunities.

MIT's Independent Activities Period offers unique opportunities for personal enrichment which may be overlooked during the semester. One of these opportunities is the Pleasures of Poetry series sponsored by the Literature Department. Held each day throughout the month, the series features presentations by literature faculty or staff on a chosen poet's work.

One notable poet being presented, amid the likes of T. S. Eliot, Emily Dickinson, and Robert Browning, is Dr. Seuss. Literature Professor Henry Jenkins will read a selection of the rhyming genius' work this Friday.

Jenkins, who has presented an IAP Salute to Dr. Seuss for nine years will discuss *Gerald McBoing Boing*, a poem which draws from both literature and modern art to create a unique word. The story is that of a boy who communicates by sound, and thus "the poem must be presented aloud," Jenkins said. It was first published as an animated cartoon in the

1950s, which Jenkins will screen.

Seuss has always "stretched the definition of poetry," according to Jenkins. His poems follow the rhyme and meter of traditional works, but because they appeal to children and are extremely popular they receive little attention from literary critics. In addition to writing eight of the top ten children's books, Seuss also was an adult humorist in the 1930s, wrote a comic strip and editorial comics, and dabbled in entrepreneurialism, advertising and modern art.

Julie A. Saunders, Senior Office Assistant in the Literature Office said that the series, starting its third year, allows the faculty to "talk about things they can't necessarily incorporate into their curricula." She also noted that "several of them are doing poetry in translation, either that they have translated or that recently translated."

One such presenter was Stephen Tapscott, who opened the series on Tuesday with a discussion of Eastern European female poets. Their poetry was viewed by censors as a representation of emotion rather than the political statement it was. After Tapscott read a work by Wislawa Szymborska entitled *Cat in an Empty Apartment*, he opened a discussion of the work which examined dealing with everything from grief to the duality of realities created by the Schrodinger's cat theory.

Readings will be held daily from 1-2 p.m. in 14E-304. A packet containing all of the poems in the series is available from the Literature Office, 14N-407. It is possible to attend the entire series or individual readings; registration is not required.

Viewpoint

This week's question:
What is your New Year's resolution?

To quit skiing.
Doana Cecan '00



I didn't make one.
Derrick Kong '92

To pass the PhD qualifying exams.
Jason Han G

To graduate.
Sarah R. Cohen '00



To eat less red meat.
Tony Cassesse,
Networks manager

I have problems with my nose. I want to get that resolved by the end of the year.
Xianfeng Zhao G

To be less of a bitter graduate student.
Maya Farhoud G

This Week in MIT History

By Caroline Chang
STAFF REPORTER

Thirty years ago, in a room full of MIT faculty, the idea of a month long independent study period was greeted with overwhelming approval. Thus, the Independent Activities Period was born.

Originally, IAP was conceptualized as a period in which students or departments could propose projects which would then be funded by the school. Unfortunately, out of the first year's total of twenty-one proposals, only three were approved.

As a result of this new break between semesters, there was also an increase in the numbers of incomplete marks received by students, especially freshmen in Calculus (18.01). This increase in the number of incomplete marks was attributed to the self-paced nature of the newly restructured class. Students were allowed to take the six exams of the class at any point during the term. With a relatively free January, many students opted to accept a grade of incomplete and finish the course during IAP.

With the institution of this new system, several changes had to be made to the existing academic schedule. To make time for IAP, the fall term had to begin slightly earlier. The curriculum also had to be condensed to fit into the shortened semesters. Also, for the first time, exams were scheduled to be taken before winter break.

Radhika Baliga and Linda Liang contributed to the reporting of this story

TechCalendar

TechCalendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance at an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

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

Thursday's Events

12:00 p.m. - Lemelson-MIT \$30,000 Student Team Prize. Teams comprised of MIT seniors & grad students are eligible to apply. Deadline is January 7, 2000. Download an application at <http://web.mit.edu/invent/www/stuprize.html>, or call 253-3352. Admission 0. Sponsor: Lemelson-MIT Program.

Monday's Events

12:00 p.m. - Modulation of APP & Memory by the Cholinergic System, Dr. Ole Isacson, Director/Neurogeneration Laboratory/McLean Hosp. Open. More info: Call at 253-6732. Email les@mit.edu. Rm E25-604.

Wednesday's Events

6:00 p.m. - Capital Markets Outlook for 2000 Monthly program for entrepreneurs with speakers and technology-oriented companies focused on the issues of building and growing the business. Students: Free; \$10/Forum members; \$15/non-members. Open. More info: Call MIT Enterprise Forum/Camb at 253-8240. Email mitefcmb@mit.edu. Web: <http://www.mitforum-cambridge.org>. Rm 10-250.

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for meetings, news, status T

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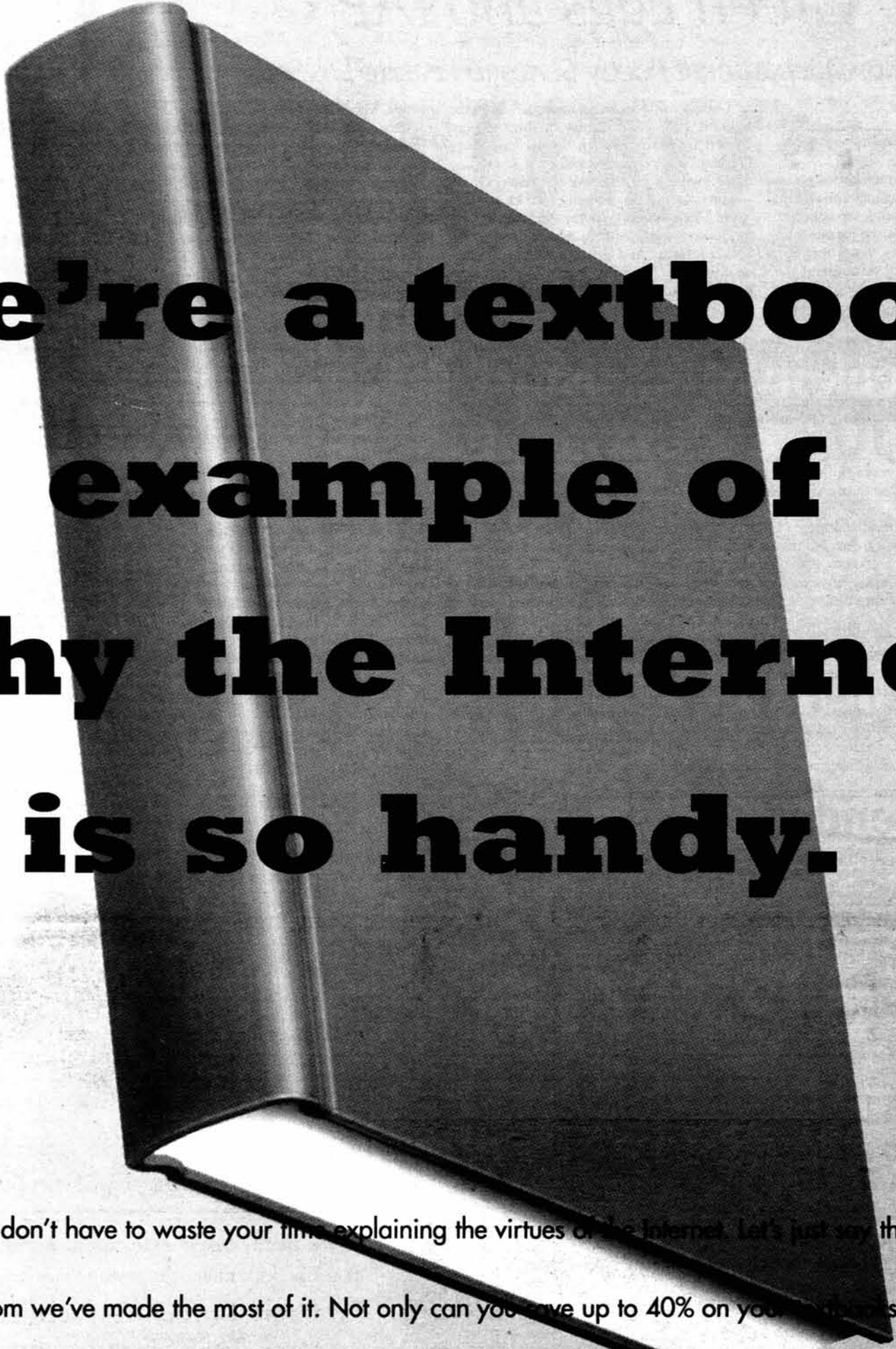
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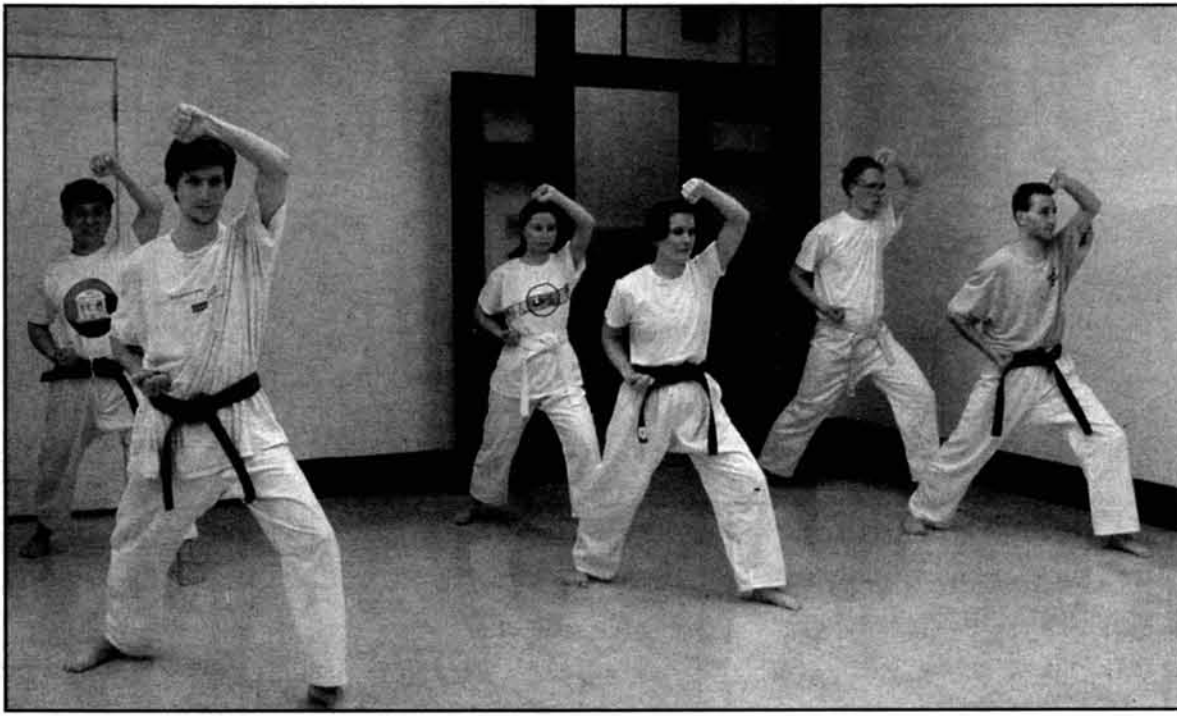
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LINDA LIANG—THE TECH
The Karate Club, one of many groups offering IAP activities, practices their rising blocks.

HEADBANGERS



M E E T



Tech heads

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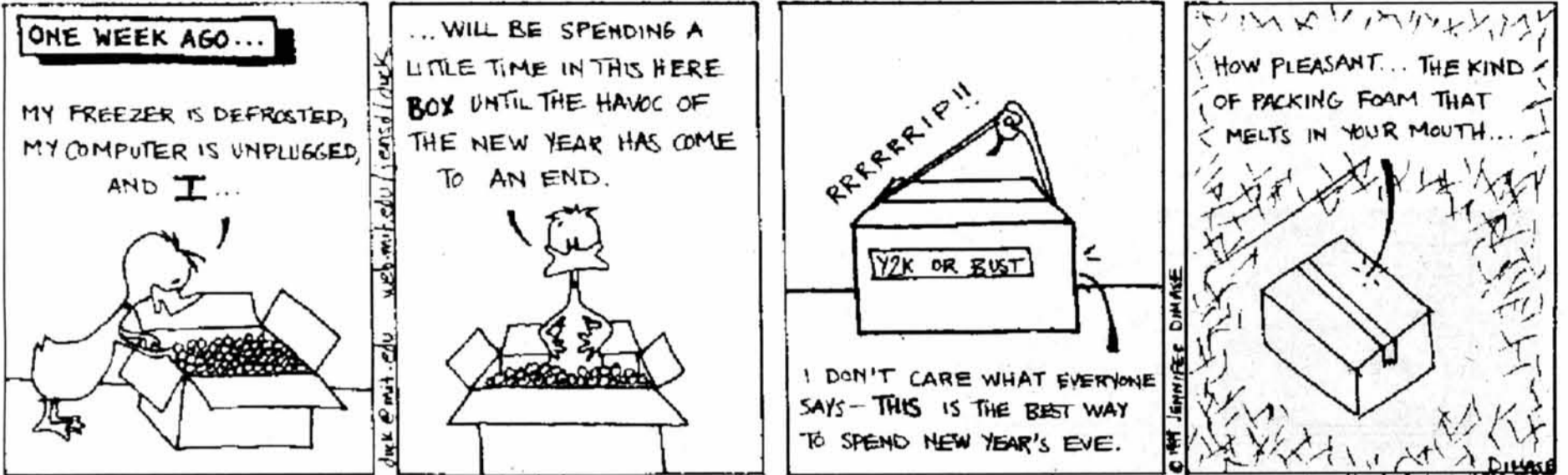
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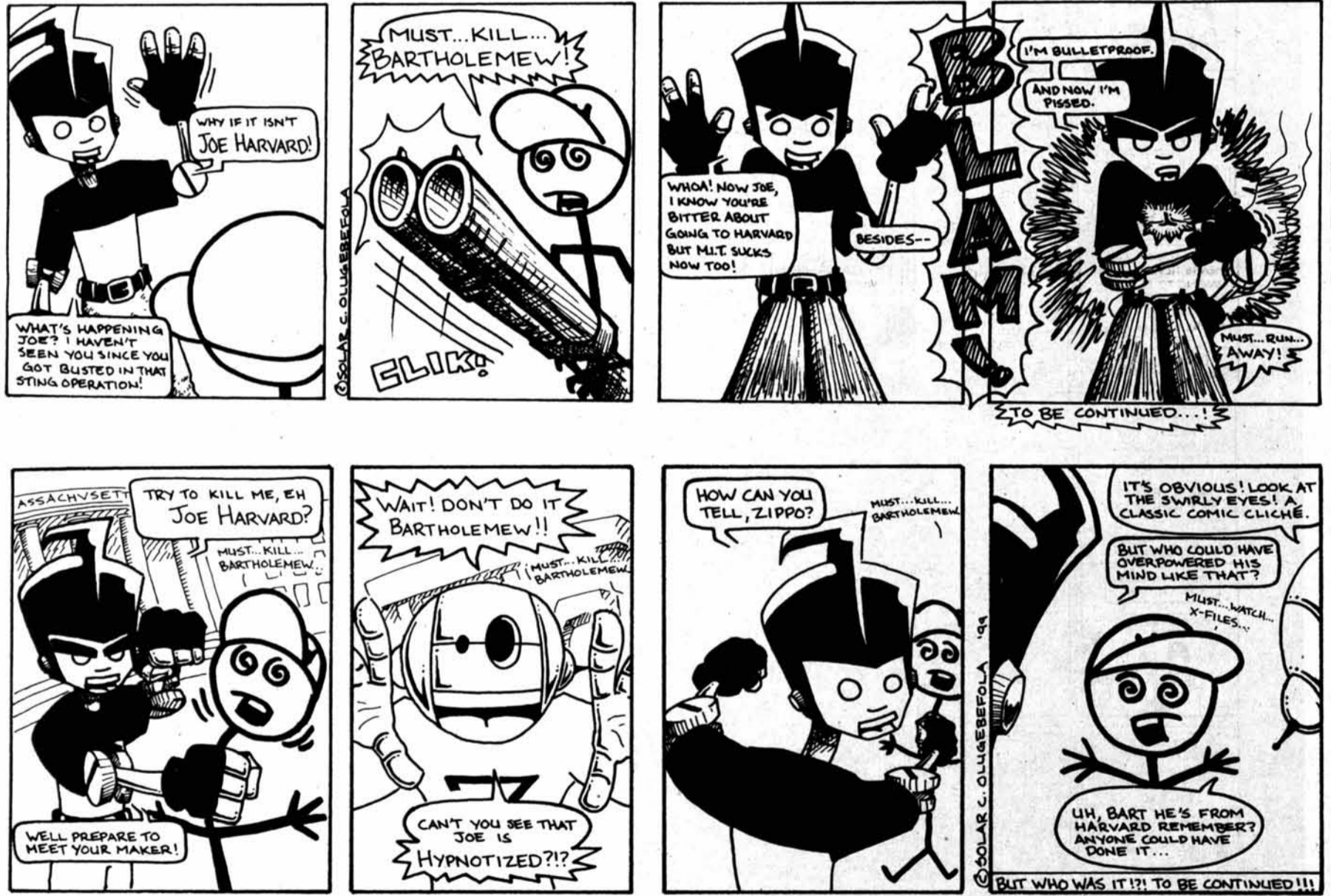


Down with Science

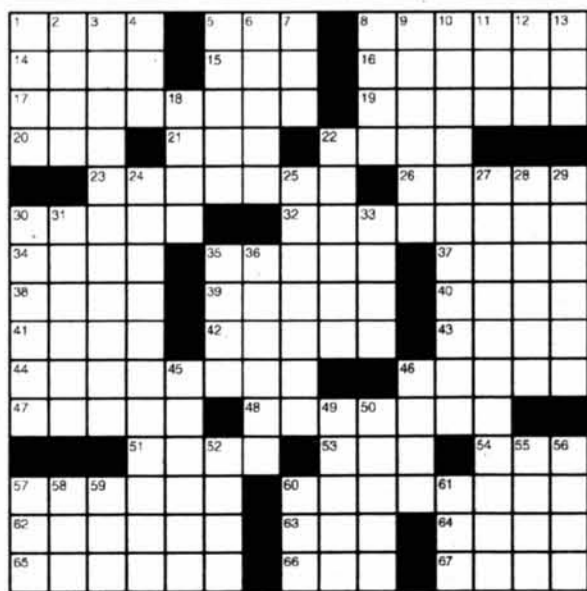
by Jennifer DiMase



HOW BARTOLEMEW SQUEAK DIED



Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 1 Vivacity
 - 5 "The Naked ___"
 - 8 Bogart's widow
 - 14 Stadium roof
 - 15 Pester
 - 16 Org. of trade unions
 - 17 Develop so as to fit
 - 19 Candidate lists
 - 20 Bard's contraction
 - 21 Album track
 - 22 Burn slightly
 - 23 "The Waste Land" poet
 - 26 Bart Simpson's mom
 - 30 Three-tone chord
 - 32 Ancestor
 - 34 Dice toss
 - 35 "The Jetsons" dog
 - 37 ___ mater
 - 38 Inactive
 - 39 Bird call
 - 40 Bread choices
 - 41 Smile broadly
 - 42 Repairs
 - 43 Mosaic piece
 - 44 One to whom a document is transferred
 - 46 Curtis and Danza
 - 47 Account
 - 48 Talking idly
 - 51 Swallows
 - 53 ___ Clemente
 - 54 Play for a fool
 - 57 Refugee
 - 60 Interval
 - 62 Went underground
 - 63 Lemon drink
 - 64 Game played on horseback
 - 65 Primitive weapons
 - 66 Primary color
 - 67 Social insects
- DOWN
- 1 Advantage
 - 2 Traditional knowledge
 - 3 Poe story, "The Cask of ___"
 - 4 Original
 - 5 Invaldate
 - 6 Singer Page
 - 7 Conceit
 - 8 Starting place
 - 9 On fire
 - 10 Red Cross founder
 - 11 Deed
 - 12 Commit perjury
 - 13 ___ Alamos, NM
 - 18 Type of tea?
 - 22 Packed away
 - 24 Capital on the Willamette
 - 25 More frequently
 - 27 Evidencing dependence
 - 28 Resolutely
 - 29 Expunges
 - 30 Groups of clans
 - 31 Squirrel, e.g.
 - 33 Decomposes
 - 35 \$ dispensers
 - 36 Wields a broom
 - 45 Scandinavian wall-hanging
 - 46 Prong
 - 49 Stage whisper
 - 50 Made tractable
 - 52 Vietnamese holidays
 - 55 Preserving substance
 - 56 Adam's grandson
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Search Committee To Find Replacement for Bates



Margaret R. Bates

MIT NEWS OFFICE

position of the Dean for Student Life, which Bates has held since October 1995. "We are looking at the roles and responsibilities of the person," Yue said. However, he adds that the job description will not necessarily change.

The job title might also be altered. One suggestion was "Vice President and Dean for Student Affairs" because the job links two very different disciplines.

The new dean needs to "link the world outside the classroom to inside the classroom in a way that's supportive," Bates said. "It's a very exciting mix."

Yue said the new dean will have to "demonstrate managerial skills and also act as an advocate for the students."

inform the student body but also to help in networking and seeking out qualified candidates," he said.

So far, however, scheduling has made it difficult for the student representatives to attend the committee meetings. "Neither student representative was notified" of the first meeting held during finals,

said Rezek. The second meeting was after school ended.

Chancellor Bacow, head of the search committee, was unavailable for comment.

The faculty members were "very apologetic" about the scheduling problems, Rezek said.

The search committee thus far

consists of Weinberg, Yue, Rezek, Ortiz, Vice President for Human Resources Laura Avakian, Associate Provost Phillip L. Clay '75, Executive Vice President John R. Curry, Dean for Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams, and Next House House Manager Borivoje Mikic.

By Matthew F. Palmer
STAFF REPORTER

Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 has formed a search committee to find a successor to Dean of Student Life Margaret R. Bates, who is leaving at the end of the academic year to join her husband on a year-long sabbatical.

The committee, which has met twice so far, is also looking into the name and role of the dean's office. MIT affiliate and search committee member Martha W. Weinberg said they are not yet in "final agreement of what the new job will look like."

The committee is currently advertising nationally for the position and hopes to present a list of three or four candidates to Bacow by April 15, with his decision possible by May 1, student committee member Christopher R. Rezek '00 said.

Seven faculty members and two student representatives make up the committee. Professor of Material Sciences and Engineering Linn W. Hobbs recently stepped down as chairman. A new one is expected to be chosen at the next meeting on January 19.

Dean's role could be redefined

Associate Dean and search committee member Dick K. P. Yue '74 said the committee is in the process of possibly redefining the

Applicants being gathered

The committee is unsure of what types of applicants will be interested in the dean's job. While they are advertising nationally, the new dean could just as easily be someone from MIT.

Bates said she has a bit of a bias in favor of an applicant "who understands the education offered for MIT students."

The Dean's role "is a large responsibility, so not too many are qualified," Rezek said. He said that the dean will have a responsibility for 350 employees and a \$30 million budget. The dean will also be on the Academic Council, which is made up of the deans, vice presidents, and other institute officials.

Committee may seek student input

The search committee is seeking student involvement with their two student members, Rezek and Luis A. Ortiz G, and possibly the student body as a whole.

Rezek said he is designing a way to generate student input, possibly including a student advisory committee, forums, or a newspaper column.

Yue said that the committee values the feedback from the student representatives. "We not only wanted them to act as a liaison to

'Green Card' Update Part of Y2K Plans

Y2K, from Page 1

"Nothing unexpected happened over the weekend, but [MIT] did have a major accomplishment as a result of the project" Isaacson stated. The "green cards" inside laboratories listing emergency numbers were updated as a precaution for Y2K problems.

Although the team had access to emergency funding from MIT, Isaacson said that spending was kept under the \$15,000 budget.

Worldwide worries wither

Preparations for Y2K across the globe ensured a peaceful night of celebration worldwide. While some cities toned down celebrations due to millennial fears, every celebration across the world was conducted without technical or security failure.

Technical preparations were the highest priority for hundreds of firms worldwide. John Koskinen, President Clinton's top Y2K advisor, estimated total Y2K international preparedness expenditures at over \$100 billion. Utility providers, local and national governments, and companies such as Microsoft, Yahoo! and IBM maintained "war rooms" throughout the millennial transition.

The most significant Y2K-related glitch occurred in a nuclear

weapons plant at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. Department of Energy CIO John Gilligan stated in a press release that the glitch — a faulty data transfer between Oak Ridge and DOE headquarters — did not affect the actual nuclear system.

Security issues were also a primary concern for municipal and national government leaders. ABC News stated on December 31 that the United States was at its highest level of military preparedness since World War II. City governments from New York to Naples took additional steps to counteract possible terrorist attacks at the transition, including blocking vehicles from city streets and sealing manholes and sewer drains. Seattle cancelled its New Year's Eve celebration out of fears stemming from the arrest of potential terrorists entering America near the city days before the new year.

Two cities reported glitches with millennial celebrations. In Paris, a countdown timer on the Eiffel Tower short-circuited five hours before midnight. In Pittsburgh, a New Year's Day fireworks show was marred when over twenty fireworks on a downtown bridge were fired into a truss, sparking on the bridge's road and sidewalk. Neither glitch, however, was attributed to Y2K failures.

Pixie Anne Pennwright

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POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between Nov. 20 - Dec. 27. This summary contains most incidents reported to Campus Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, generals service calls, etc.

Nov. 20: Edgerton House, noise complaint; Bexley, malicious damage to a window; East Campus, annoying phone calls; Bldg. 13, fire and minor explosion caused by a scrubber; Bldg. 14, hang-up call on 100 line, unable to locate problem.

Nov. 21: Memorial Dr. assist State Police with a vehicle accident; Harvard Bridge person on wrong side of railing; Bldg. 14, check and inquiry of individual who check out okay; Tennis Bubble, student refused to leave, situation resolved.

Nov. 22: Bldg. 14, suspicious activity; Bldg. 7, bike left in room stolen, \$230; Bldg. NE20, suspicious person; Bldg. NW12, suspicious phone call; East Campus, officers respond to check out a loud noise; East Lot, vehicle vs. front end loader accident.

Nov. 23: Fowler St., report of suspicious vehicle; Bldg. 14, report of smoke, cause found to be burnt toast; Vassar St. at West Garage vehicle accident; Memorial Dr. vehicle accident, assist State Police; Albany Garage, Eduardo Sanchez and Ronald Flores of 240 Albany Street, Cambridge MA placed under arrest for disorderly and other related charges; Bldg. 3, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued.

Nov. 24: Memorial Dr. assist State Police with vehicle accident; Bldg. 6, computer and computer equipment stolen \$3,521; Bldg. 10, report of suspicious male, same located and assisted; AstroTurf, gate stolen, unknown value; Bldg. 7, 1) CD layer and headphones stolen \$160, 2) CD's stolen; Student Center, four males refusing to leave, gone upon CP's arrival; Bldg. N52, Eduardo Sanchez and Ronald Flores of 240 Albany Street, Cambridge MA placed under arrest for disorderly and other related charges arrested for trespassing and other related charges.

Nov. 25: Bldg. 14, suspicious activity.

Nov. 26: Bldg. 1, report of suspicious package, same checks out okay; McCormick, annoying phone call; Bldg. 56, John Lockett of 20 Bradston Street, Boston, MA arrested for trespassing; Bldg. 54, suspicious activity, checks out okay; DuPont assist with removal of two non-affiliated persons.

Nov. 27: McCormick, report of suspicious person, area checked negative; rear of Bldg. 42, suspicious vehicle, gone upon CP's arrival; McCormick, assault between person known to each other.

Nov. 28: Bldg. 1, suspicious activity; Bldg. N42, report of a note stating a bomb was in building; Bldg. E15, skateboarders issued a trespass warning; Bldg. 3, reported smell of smoke, same from glass blowing in basement; Bldg. E52, student fell down air shaft, east Campus, report of odor of gasoline, same discovered to be rotten food.

Nov. 29: Westgate, report of person ringing several buzzers in an attempt to gain entry, same gone upon CP's arrival; Bldg. 1, computer monitors stolen; Bldg. 3, chair and computer stolen, unknown value; Ashdown, wallet containing \$100 and credit cards stolen; Bldg. E25, suspicious activity, same checked out okay; Bldg. 36, bike locked to itself with a Kryptonite lock stolen, \$300; Bldg. 6, calculator stolen \$200; Bldg. 2 report of smoke, discovered to be over heated motor; Bldg. NW10, report of homeless person, same on way to shelter.

Nov. 30: Bldg. W31, sign stolen, unknown value; west Garage, malicious damage to vehicle; Bldg. 18, bike stolen from room \$800; 500 Memorial Dr. student return to his room to find unknown person sitting on his bed; Bexley, noise complaint; Bldg. 3, past larceny of credit card; Student Center, employee problem; Ashdown, report of smoke, same found to be burnt food.

Dec. 1: 33 Mass. Ave. HP door opener stolen, unknown value; Student Center, 1) wallet stolen, \$44 cash and credit cards; 2) wallet stolen \$3; Bldg. 13, annoying phone calls/faxes; West Garage, damage to vehicle; East Campus, wallet containing \$100 and credit cards stolen; Bldg. 8, homeless person assisted to shelter; Bldg. E23, suspicious person issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 2: Bldg. E19, CD/clock radio stolen, \$40; Albany Garage, hang-up 100 call, area checked no cause found; Bldg. 66, homeless person stopped, trespass warning issued; Bldg. 2, electric equipment stolen \$300; Student Center, backpack containing compact disc player and discs \$580; Amherst St., report of person looking in cars.

Dec. 3: Kendall Square, student reports having buttocks grabbed; New House, report of homeless person; Memorial Dr. report of person running down street with Christmas tree; Student Center, 1) larceny of cash \$1,200, 2) larceny of cash \$30; Hayden Library, wallet stolen from coat, \$70 cash; Bldg. 4, report of homeless person, gone upon CP's arrival; Mass. Ave. and Vassar Street, assist homeless person to shelter. **Dec. 4:** Kresge, report of people on roof; Bldg. E51, report of homeless person, same assisted to shelter; Burton House, camera stolen \$300; Student Center, graffiti; Bldg. N51, damage to door; Dupont, 1) CD player stolen \$50, 2) \$30 cash stolen.

Dec. 5: N52 lot, car broken into and camera stolen \$800; Tang Hall, smell of smoke discovered to be burnt popcorn.

Dec. 6: Bldg. 4, report of suspicious person; Bexley, wallet stolen \$100 cash; Bldg. E55, window broken; Student Center, 1) \$49 stolen from wallet which was later found in a trash barrel, 2) wallet stolen \$2 cash, 3) wallet stolen \$200 cash; Bldg. 4, annoying phone call; Bldg. E1, suspicious activity, trespass warning issued.

Dec. 7: Bldg. N52, suspicious activity; Eastgate, malicious damage; Ashdown, past larceny of credit cards; Bldg. 24, laptop computer stolen \$2,245; McDermott Court, racial slurs yelled at person; Bldg. 14, wallet stolen containing \$20 cash; Amherst St. and Mass. Ave., James E. Mason of 890 Caterbury Street, Rosindale, MA taken into custody on an outstanding motor vehicle warrant; Bldg. E1, brass beaver statue stolen, later recovered.

Dec. 8: Mass. Ave. by Building 5, complaint of homeless persons, same moved along to shelter; Edgerton House, smoke filled room discovered to be burnt food in crock pot; New House, bike reported stolen discovered to be misplaced; Bldg. N52, suspicious activity.

Dec. 9: McCormick, annoying phone calls; Ashdown, suspicious person; 33 Mass. Ave. bike rack, bike secured with cable stolen \$300; Amherst Alley by Baker, report of fight, just noisy students; WILG, homeless person in doorway, assisted to shelter; assist State Police Memorial Dr. and Wadsworth St. with motor vehicle accident; Bldg. 66, report of suspicious package, discovered to be cookies; Student Center, suspicious package.

Dec. 10: Senior House, noise complaint; Baker, complaint of students on roof; ZBT, noise complaint; Ashdown, suspicious activity; Bldg. 54, report of suspicious activity; East Campus, annoying phone calls; Student Center, annoying phone calls; McCormick, annoying e-mail; Albany St., report of homeless persons, same directed to shelter.

Dec. 11: New House, noise complaint of construction work; Nu Delta noise complaint; Bldg. 36, tapes stolen \$60; Brookline, ZBT, noise complaint; Student Center, camera lens stolen \$7,780.

Dec. 12: Walker, malicious damage to a door; Hayward lot, hit and run damage; Student Center, pocketbook stolen, \$20 cash; Memorial Dr by Baker, report of persons yelling no cause found; Bldg. 8, suspicious person; Bldg. 14, two officers chasing a naked person towards Memorial Dr., unknown outcome.

Dec. 13: Bldg. 35, report of suspicious person, same was student; Westgate, past larceny of credit cards; Bldg. E25, chair stolen \$500; Student Center, larceny of paints and paper, unknown value; Bldg. 3, ID stolen; New House, credit cards stolen; Bldg. E23, complaint of three persons causing a disturbance; Bldg. E23 assist Cambridge Police with a 911 hang-up call; rear of Bldg. 14, suspicious person stopped and issued a trespass warning.

Dec. 16: Chestnut and Waverly Streets, assist Cambridge Police with a hit and run vehicle accident; Bldg. 16, employee problem; Bldg. 8, computer larceny \$3,428; East Campus, unwanted guest; Hayden Library, wallet containing \$60 cash stolen; Student Center, report of disorderly person situation resolved; Railroad tracks behind Metropolitan storage, check and inquiry of person; rear of NW10, report of person screaming, gone upon CP's arrival.

Dec. 17: Student House, noise complaint, no cause found; Cambridge, Kappa Sigma, report of fight, two persons having a loud argument; Bldg. E40, report of homeless person asleep in restroom; Student Center, 1) pocketbook stolen \$65 cash; 2) piece of fruit stolen; Bldg. 4, attempted break into an area; Bldg. 16, color monitor and mounting bracket stolen \$619; Hayden Library, wallet containing \$85 stolen from backpack; Bldg. 11, annoying phone calls; DuPont, past larceny of wallet \$40 cash.

Dec. 18: Bldg. 7, suspicious person, checked out okay; 500 Memorial Dr., harassing graffiti; Westgate, report of something burning, discovered to be light fixture burnt out; Johnson Athletic Center, wallets stolen 1) \$30, 2) \$21, 3) \$20; Pacific Lot, check and inquiry of individual, trespass warning issued; Kresge lot, report of person looking in windows of vehicles, gone upon CP's arrival.

Dec. 19: Student Center, check and inquiry of two individuals, trespass warning issued; Pacific Street Lot, check and inquiry of individual, trespass warning issued.

Dec. 20: Boston, Phi Delta Theta, report of a fight, call unfounded; Eastgate, hateful graffiti; Hayden Library, wallet stolen, contained no cash; Student Center, cash stolen \$18.

Dec. 21: Bldg. NW12, suspicious activity; Bldg. 2, fire alarm equipment stolen, unknown value; Bldg. 10, suspicious person, check of area unable to locate.

Dec. 22: Bldg. 13, check and inquiry of person, checks out okay; Student Center, wallet containing several credit cards and \$270 cash stolen.

Dec. 23: New House, student problem; Bldg. 6, laptop stolen \$4,000; Windsor and Mass. Ave. check on suspicious vehicle.

Dec. 24: Ashdown, past larceny of credit card; Kresge Lot, check and inquiry of person.

Dec. 25: Bldg. NW14, male broke into building, Anthony Labeau of no known address placed under arrest for breaking and entering and other related charges.

Dec. 26: Bldg. 10, report of suspicious activity.

Dec. 27: Bldg. E18, foil stolen \$60; East Garage, suspicious activity.



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Hokies Trapped in Morass Of Florida State's Depth

THE BALTIMORE SUN

Midway through the second quarter Tuesday night, Florida State Coach Bobby Bowden trotted down the sideline for an interview with ABC's sideline reporter, Lynn Swann. While the game was going on.

As Bowden spoke with his back to the camera, the Seminoles ran a flea flicker that gained 33 yards. They were already three touchdowns ahead of Virginia Tech at that point, and FSU's Peter Warrick was running wild, and it was hard not to get the sense that FSU's second national title in six years was all but locked up.

The head coach turning his back on a flea flicker for an interview certainly indicated a high level of confidence.

What happened from that point was as stunning as it was electrifying.

With freshman quarterback Michael Vick putting on a show, the Hokies survived FSU's early attempt at a knockout and rallied to take the lead late in the third quarter.

But just when it seemed an upset was at hand, the Seminoles staged a rally of their own and won, 46-29, in a classic game loaded with drama and big plays.

The Hokies gave a fine accounting of themselves in front of a roaring crowd dominated by Tech fans, making enough big plays to win most games and, if anything, showing they belonged in the championship game ahead of Nebraska and the other teams with one loss that had sniffed at the Hokies' credentials.

They certainly shut up the arrogant FSU fans who were chanting "overrated" in the second quarter.

Few other teams, if any, could have withstood the Seminoles' withering assault of big plays early in the game and come back to make things interesting. The Hokies did that and more, but they ran out of gas after taking the lead.

The Seminoles, who have such amazing depth that they used 54 players in the first quarter alone, basically outlasted Tech.

After the Hokies took the lead at 29-28, with the din in the Superdome reaching shattering levels, the Seminoles responded by driving 85 yards in 11 plays for a touchdown, then converting a two-point conversion for a 36-29 lead.

After Vick fumbled on the next series, finally showing signs of wearing out, FSU quarterback Chris Weineke hit Warrick in the end zone and the celebration was on — this time for real.

The Seminoles also had celebrated after delivering a powerful knockout punch in the game's first 19 minutes, during which they scored on a blocked punt, a 59-yard punt return and passes of 64 and 63 yards. Warrick scored two of the four early touchdowns, completing the flurry with the punt return.

The Hokies also delivered their share of big plays in the first 19 minutes, including a 49-yard touchdown pass and runs of 43 and 25 yards. They controlled the ball for all but 119 seconds of the first quarter and seemed almost an even match for the Seminoles on a play-to-play basis — but they were down, 28-7, with 11:20 left in the second quarter.

When the Hokies drove down the field and scored a touchdown just before halftime, cutting FSU's lead to 14 points, you had the feeling that, if anything, the Hokies would have a chance to make the game interesting in the second half. They did that and more, completing reversing the game's momentum and scoring 15 points in the third quarter to take the lead.

Vick was at his best during the rally, whirling and ducking, scrambling and throwing, confounding the defense and creating substantial gains out of nothing. Seldom has a quarterback, let alone a freshman, put on such a show in such a big game.

He was carrying the offensive almost by himself at that point, with his second-favorite receiver, Ricky Moore, out of the game after breaking his foot in practice last week (Moore was on the field for two plays in the first half) and halfback Shyrone Stith, Tech's top runner, knocked out of the game with a twisted knee after gaining 68 yards in the first half.

At one point late in the third quarter, for the briefest time, Vick's mobility and relentlessness almost seemed to break the Seminoles. If you'd wondered how a freshman quarterback could possibly finish third in the Heisman balloting, you're probably not wondering anymore. Vick rushed for 97 yards and passed for 225, but even those strong numbers don't reflect his impact on the game.

Belichick's Resignation Could Decrease Purchase Price of the Jets

NEWSDAY

The retirement of Jets head coach Bill Parcells on Monday was perceived as having very little effect on the pending sale of the team. But Tuesday's abrupt resignation of his handpicked successor, Bill Belichick, could hasten the closing of the \$600-million-plus deal, people familiar with the process and sports business experts said Tuesday.

"It doesn't change the economics, but it does change the atmosphere," said Marc Ganis of SportsCorp Ltd., a St. Louis-based sports consulting firm. "The bidders could argue that you're buying a team in disarray instead of one with a solid plan for the future and use it to take the leverage away from Goldman, Sachs. Both suitors could use the scenario to justify not bidding any higher."

Goldman, Sachs & Co., the investment banking firm handling the sale since Leon Hess' death in May, has narrowed the field of suitors to two: Charles Dolan, chairman of Cablevision Systems, which controls Madison Square Garden, and Robert Wood Johnson IV, heir to the Johnson & Johnson fortune. Each has submitted offers of more than \$600 million, with Dolan believed to have raised his bid to \$620 million.

A league official also agreed that Tuesday's unexpected twist could alter the playing field. "The prospective buyers have been assured that any transitions would be smooth, but that's not the case at the moment," he said. "Now you're heading into the offseason without either coach. That is, unless Parcells is lured back. If I were Goldman, Sachs, I'd wrap up the deal now before something else happens."

Final Mystery Event Challenges Dancers

Ballroom Dancing, from Page 20

Raskhodnikova took first and were joined by Shamsul Sopiee and Mahoney in third and Phan and Bradford in fourth. Berdnikov and Raskhodnikova also won the Silver International Tango/Foxtrot two-dance, followed by Herschberg and Atkinson in second. Arthur Lue (Columbia) and Stephanie Shaw G took first in Gold International Waltz/Quickstep. Workeneh and Y. Lin took second with Igor Pavlovsky G and Yang in third.

In the final set of regular events Lopez and Cuevas placed first in Newcomer International Rumba.

Langer and Yu placed third and Knobel and Tilke Judd '03 placed fifth. Ben Sun G and Sherry Jenq '02 placed second in Bronze International Rumba/ChaCha.

In the final event of the event, a mystery event the couples had to dance to whatever music was playing at the time, which changed about every 30 seconds. Herschberg and Atkinson tied for fourth with a couple from Harvard University.

The team's next competition is to be determined and is likely to be sometime in February. In the interim, several team members will be attending the International DanceSport Festival in Daytona Beach, Fla. for a week of workshops and competitions.

Engineers Try For Olympics

Sports Shorts, from Page 20

invited to participate in the USA Shooting 2000 Olympic Selection Match to be held at Fort Benning, GA, from April 19 to May 5. Tracy Ho '99 and Hattie Gruneisen '00 were each selected to participate based on their performances at last year's Intercollegiate pistol championships. Ho has been shooting with the Malaysian National Team while living in Singapore since her graduation. Gruneisen is still competing for the Engineers.

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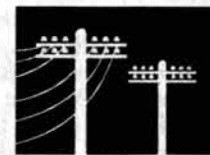
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Room 56-180

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Computers and Your Health. Monday, January 10. Description of the potential effects of using computers, including repetitive strain injury, and the effects of electromagnetic fields. Ergonomic solutions will be described and demonstrated.

Living in a New Millennium - Radiation Exposure at Home. Tuesday, January 11. A review of radon exposure in the home, its possible effects, and the latest mitigation techniques will be combined with a review of the potential risks from electromagnetic fields from household electronic and electrical devices, including wireless phones.

Health Hazards in Your Home. Wednesday, January 12. A review of the chemical and biological hazards in the home, including asbestos, lead paint, chemical cleaners, pesticides, molds, mites, and fungi, along with a discussion on drinking water and indoor air quality.

Living in a New Millennium - Medical Radiation Exposure. Thursday, January 13. Assessment of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation exposure from common medical procedures, and the potential consequences.

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SPORTS

Riders Head to Regionals

By Jenny Lee

TEAM MEMBER

MIT co-hosted its final show of the fall season with Endicott College in Georgetown, Massachusetts. Despite the cold, rainy weather, several MIT riders gave impressive performances.

Kristen Landino '02 and Sarah Low '02 had strong rides and both placed second in the open over fences and intermediate over fences divisions, respectively.

Junlin Ho '01 captured a blue ribbon after a stunning performance in her novice over fences class. This first place win qualified Ho for regionals, making her the second MIT rider this year to do so. Ho will compete in the intermediate division over fences at the next competition. The regional competition will be hosted by Boston University and held at Holly Hill Show Stable in the spring. In the alumni division, Julie Oberweis drew a difficult horse, but still placed third over fences.

On the flat, Ho had another successful ride, pinning second in her class and qualifying for regionals in novice equitation as well as over fences.

Oberweis placed fourth in her alumni flat class. Cynthia Randles '00, who rode for the first time in the beginning walk-trot-canter division after qualifying for regionals at the last competition in the walk-trot division, also placed fourth.

The team will continue to train with coach Kate Alderfer-Candela in hopes of a successful spring season.

Football Seniors Earn All-American Honors

By Roger Crosley

DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Two MIT football players have been named to the GTE Academic All-America College Division

Sport Shorts

First Team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Nikolas Kozy '00 and Angus Huang '00 were each accorded the honor. Kozy is a defensive end and was a second team selection in 1998. Defensive back Huang has been named to the team for the first time.

The New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference has named forward Rahn Huffstutler '01 the conference men's basket-

ball Player of the Week. In the first two starts of his career, Huffstutler averaged 23 points and 9.5 rebounds as MIT had wins over Gordon College and Polytechnic University. He shot .545 (18/33) from the floor and an eye-popping .556 (16/29) from behind the three-point arc during the week.

Volleyball player Alarice C. Huang '00 has been named to the GTE CoSIDA College Division Academic All-District squad. Huang will now appear on the national volleyball ballot. Huang is the first MIT volleyball player since 1991 to earn selection to the team.

Two members of the 1999 MIT women's pistol team have been

Sports Shorts, Page 18

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Featured Upcoming Event

The women's gymnastic team, led by East Coast Athletic Conference All-Around champion Sonia J. Ellefson '01 and ??? by a large freshman class, opens its season against the University of Bridgeport at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday in the Rockwell Gymnasium. The team is preparing for a trip to Bermuda during the last two weeks of IAP.

Saturday, January 8

Men's Basketball vs. Framingham State College, 2:00 p.m.
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Salve Regina University, 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 11

Men's Basketball vs. Babson College, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 15

Men's Basketball vs. Springfield College, 2:00 p.m.
Men's Gymnastics vs. Southern Connecticut State University, 1:00 p.m.
Men's Ice Hockey vs. Bates College, 4:00 p.m.
Women's Gymnastics vs. SCSU, 1:00 p.m.
Women's Indoor Track and Field, Quad Meet, 1:00 p.m.

Dancers Dominate Yale Competition

Team Brings Home 11 Blue Ribbons in 30 Events, Continuing Strong Season

By Eric D. Nielsen

TEAM MEMBER

MIT continued its strong season Yale's Eighth Annual Regional Ballroom Dance Competition taking

11 first places out of the 30 events. The 62 competitors journeyed to Meriden, Connecticut for an event which drew roughly 270 couples from 17 colleges.

The day's events started with the Newcomer Smooth events. Pavel Langer '00 and Angela J. Yu '00 won the American Tango event while Eric D. Nielsen G and Sofya Pogreb G took second in the American Foxtrot. Tony Maestro G and Michelle Goldhaber placed

first in the Bronze American Tango/Foxtrot two-dance. In the Silver American Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot three-dance, MIT took three of the top six places, led by Boris Berdnikov G and Sofya Raskhodnikova G in first. Second place went to Tuan Phan '02 and Lauren Bradford '02.

Yedil Workeneh '98 and Jennifer Hammock G placed second in the Open American Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Viennese Waltz four-dance.

The next section of events were the Rhythm events. In the Newcomer American ChaCha, Langer and Yu tied for first place with a couple from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Carlos Lopez '03 and Genevieve Cuevas '02 also took fourth in the

Newcomer American Swing.

Phan and Maria Minkoff G won the Bronze American ChaCha, Rumba, Swing three-dance. Mark Herschberg '95 and Kathleen Mahoney placed second in the Silver American ChaCha, Rumba, Swing. Workeneh and Mary Yang G captured the first place ribbon in Gold American ChaCha, Rumba, Swing. They were followed by Yanfeng Lin G and Hammock in second place.

Team does well in individual events

Resuming the individual events was the Newcomer International Waltz. In the Silver International Waltz/Quickstep Berdnikov and

Ballroom Dancing, Page 18

SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball vs. Tufts University, L, 68-66

Women's Basketball vs. Suffolk University, L, 57-53

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Suffolk University, L, 5-2

Women's Ice Hockey vs. Union College, L, 2-12

Men's Swimming vs. Wheaton College, W, 169-37

Women's Swimming vs. Wheaton College, W, 144-96

Wrestling vs. Yeshiva University, W, 35-12



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