

MIT Students Win Rhodes, Marshall

By Eun J. Lee
STAFF REPORTER

Two MIT students were granted prestigious scholarships for study in England over the past week when Emma P. Brunskill '01 was named a Rhodes scholar and Jason H. Wasfy '01 was named a Marshall scholar.

Brunskill is a first year graduate student in computer science and engineering and Presidential scholar at MIT. Wasfy is a senior in the Department of Chemical Engineering.

"These are people who are not only distinguished in their realm of scholarship but are strong communicators with a strong sense of purpose in their actions," said Professor Lawrence Vale, student advisor for both the Rhodes and Marshall pro-

grams at MIT. "In both the cases of Jason and Emma it was hard to imagine anyone that a committee would prefer to choose over them."

President Charles M. Vest said, "I am very pleased that two of our students have been recognized through Rhodes and Marshall scholarships. MIT has remarkable students who will both benefit from and add luster to these prestigious programs."

Competition is extremely intense for both scholarships. Brunskill is one of only thirty-two American students chosen to be Rhodes scholars from 950 applicants who were endorsed by 327 colleges and uni-

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TEAL Physics Program Sparks Student Criticism

By David Bailey
STAFF REPORTER

As debates heated up this week over the proposed Technology Enhanced Active Learning (TEAL) program, the ad hoc committee charged with the program's implementation welcomed the discussion and called for more student input.

Committee members Allison L. Neizmik '02 and Kendall B. McConnell '02 said they were especially interested in gauging reaction to the most controversial aspect of the plan: operating TEAL in the Student Center Reading Room during the daytime. Neizmik said the committee could be reached via e-mail at w20@mit.edu.

TEAL, coordinated by Professor of Physics John Belcher, proposes a new method for teaching introducto-

ry physics courses 8.01 (Mechanics) and 8.02 (Electricity and Magnetism).

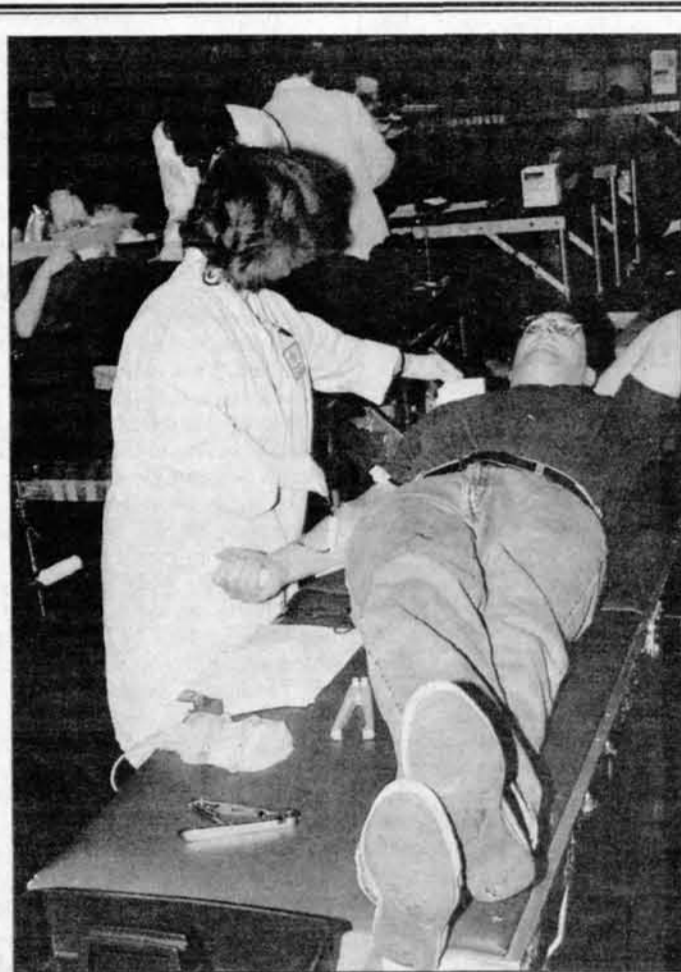
According to the proposal, TEAL will "merge lecture, recitations, and hands-on laboratory experience into a technologically and collaboratively rich experience."

Students will share laptops in groups of three, with nine students sitting at each of a dozen or so round tables in one classroom. A professor will be present for instruction, as well as guidance in performance of lab experiments.

Program eschews passive learning

According to Belcher, the program is based on a method of teaching which research by Professor

TEAL, Page 19



Matthew I. Frank G donates blood for the American Red Cross. The blood drive will be held in La Sala through Wednesday.

UA Hits, Misses in Busy Term

By Matthew Palmer
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Tosci's is still here, but confidential medical transport isn't here yet. Students have more money to spend on activities and athletics, but they are still waiting for the final look of the Transitions lounge.

After a busy term, the Undergraduate Association has accomplished a wide variety of goals and fallen short on a few others, which they say are still in the works.

Perhaps the biggest UA project of the semester, the drive for confidential medical transport, or CMT, is still in the planning stages, despite hopes for an early resolution.

"We'll know by the end of term where we stand" in regard to CMT, UA President Peter Shulman '01. "We haven't forgotten about it."

"[CMT is] looking very good," co-chair of the UA Committee on Student Life Josiah D. Seale '02 said. "We should have something good in medical transport by next

UA, Page 21

Conquering Finals: A How-To Guide

By Brian M. Loux
STAFF REPORTER

It's that time again. No, not the holidays. Finals. Whether you're a freshman facing your first finals at

MIT or a senior counting down the days on your last semester, here are some hints for how to succeed when taking final exams.

If these hints aren't enough for you and you still suffer from excessive stress, know where to turn for help. Two of the major resources on campus are the mental health center in 5-102 and the Academic Resource Center. The ARC has set up a web site to on how to improve your study skills at <<http://web.mit.edu/acadinfo/studyskills>>. The ARC also has study seminars to aid students; check their schedule in 7-104.

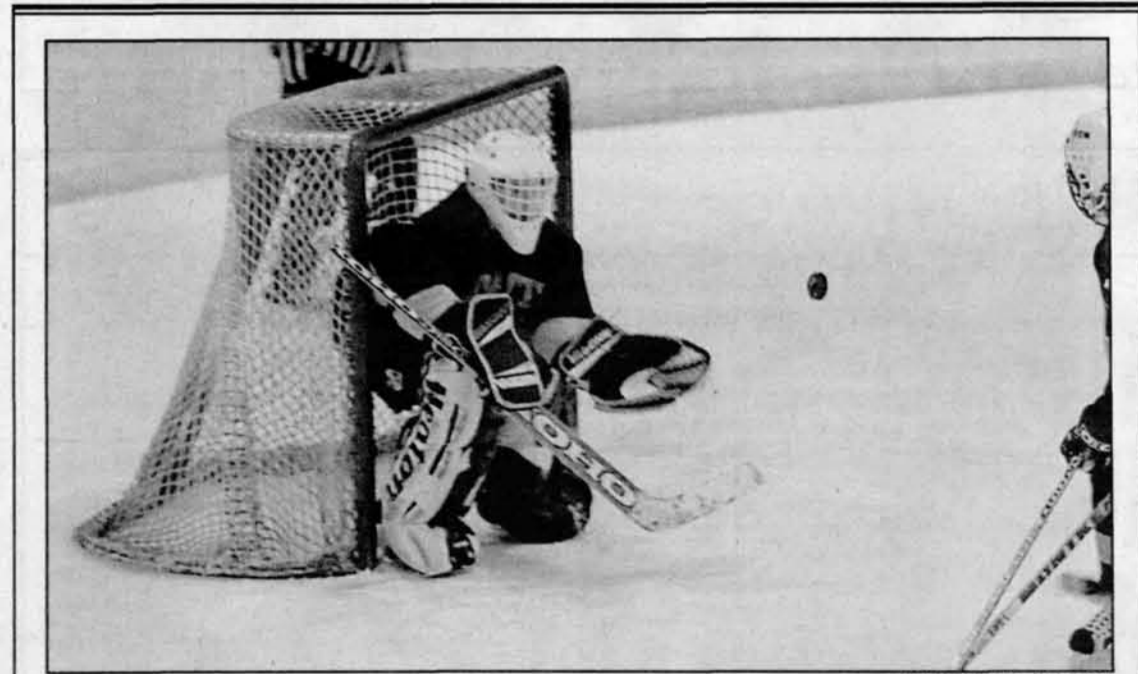
Dean of Student Life Larry G. Benedict said that students need to "make sure they get enough sleep, eat well, and manage their time properly." Noting that this was more than

just age-old wisdom, Benedict cited a recent nationwide study that showed sleeping after a study session improved memory retention. "Usually students feel so pressured that these concerns go by the wayside," Benedict said.

A plan of action for studying

Professor of Physics Edward H. Farhi, who teaches Physics I (8.01), said that the best method for physics studying is to redo every homework problem in every book. "The tests will be comparable to the problems given in the homework — nothing

Finals, Page 20



AARON D. MIHALIK—THE TECH

Goalie Jodi Cohen stops a shot during the women's club hockey game on Saturday. MIT defeated the Maine Free Agents 4-3. This latest win brings the Engineers to 4-2 for the season.

Ilona Karmel Zucker

Ilona Karmel Zucker, a retired member of the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies and the namesake of the annual Ilona Karmel Writing Prizes, passed away on Nov. 30 at a Cambridge hospital. She was 75.

"Ms. Karmel was one of the finest teachers we have had in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. She was a person of great vision and wisdom whose bond with her students is legendary," said Professor James Paradis, head of the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies.

Karmel came to MIT in 1977 as a senior lecturer, but she was an accomplished poet and writer long before then. She wrote *Songs from Behind the Barbed Wire*, a poetry anthology, while in Nazi-occupied Poland. Karmel, a survivor of the Holocaust, drew from her personal experiences in many of her works, including *An Estate of Memory* and *Stephanie*, her first novel.

"Her moving novels remain classics of mid-twentieth century lit-

Karmel, Page 20



Glimpse the holidays at MIT in our section on the season.

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Comics

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This will be the last regularly scheduled issue of *The Tech*. Publication will resume on the second Wednesday in January.

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WORLD & NATION

Proposal to Pick Electors Moves Ahead in Legislature

LOS ANGELES TIMES

TALLAHASSEE

Florida's defiant Republican-controlled Legislature will begin voting Tuesday on a resolution to directly appoint electors loyal to George W. Bush, setting the stage for further confusion in the post-election presidential race.

On Monday, state Rep. Dwight Stansel, a chicken farmer from northern Florida, was the sole Democrat on a House legislative committee who voted to support the proposal to send a slate of 25 Bush supporters to the Electoral College even if ballot recounts resume and Al Gore takes the lead.

"It was a very, very hard decision," said Stansel, whose district voted 61 percent for Bush. "But sometimes you just have to do what God tells you to do." He and four Republicans sent the measure, a proposed concurrent resolution, to the House floor for a full vote on Tuesday. A Senate committee separately passed the same measure and scheduled it for a full vote Wednesday.

International Group Begins Israeli-Palestinian Inquiry

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Ask Israelis and Palestinians what they expect from a U.S.-backed fact-finding committee concentrated on the region's devastating wave of bloodshed, and the answers are worlds apart.

Israel expects the committee, which arrived here Monday and is led by former U.S. Sen. George J. Mitchell (D-Maine) to take a narrow look at the immediate causes of the 10 1/2-week upheaval and to recommend ways to stop it and prevent it from recurring.

The Palestinian Authority seeks a far-reaching examination of root causes of the Arab-Israeli conflict, something more akin to the "truth commissions" of South Africa or Guatemala, that will lead to "achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace," according to a position document submitted to the panel Friday.

With those competing visions as the backdrop, the five-member committee began its work, meeting separately with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Yasser Arafat, the president of the Palestinian Authority, before departing after barely a day here.

The committee was formed at the urging of President Clinton during an otherwise failed emergency summit at Sharm el Sheik, Egypt, in October. Desperate to stem the violence, Clinton gathered there with Barak and Arafat and agreed to a "fact-finding committee." The agreement fell far short of Palestinian demands for a full international investigation but forced Israel to accept some outside scrutiny, which it had resisted.

Chilean Appeals Court Voids Pinochet Indictment

THE WASHINGTON POST

LIMA, PERU

A Chilean appeals court on Monday struck down the indictment and house arrest of Gen. Augusto Pinochet on kidnapping and murder charges, dealing a potentially fatal blow to efforts to bring Chile's former dictator to trial on home soil.

A panel of three judges unanimously agreed with arguments by Pinochet's attorneys that the ailing 85-year-old was denied due process because he was not formally interviewed, or deposed, before his indictment two weeks ago. That indictment by Judge Juan Guzman had appeared to open the way to a historic trial of the man who ruled Chile for 17 years.

Prosecuting attorneys immediately appealed Monday's decision to the Chilean Supreme Court.

Pinochet's supporters, who view the man as a national hero whose 1973 coup saved the country from the leftist policies of President Salvador Allende, celebrated Monday's decision as a "great victory."

Dispute over Absentee Votes Goes Back to Florida Court

By Scott Gold
LOS ANGELES TIMES

TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

Democratic lawyers launched a new legal assault on George W. Bush on Monday, charging that the Republican presidential candidate only supports states' rights when it's convenient.

In papers filed in court here, Democratic activists appealed to the Florida Supreme Court to reinstate lawsuits that accused Republicans of improperly fixing flawed ballot applications in Seminole and Martin counties. Two lower courts dismissed the cases Friday.

Vice President Al Gore did not join the lawsuits or the appeal. But a Florida Supreme Court order to toss out up to 25,000 absentee ballots — as the plaintiffs have asked — could allow Gore to take a clear lead in the race for the White House.

Republicans argue that discarding ballots would be like "seeking the death penalty for a parking ticket," Jonathan E. Sjorstrom, a Republican lawyer, said Monday.

Sjorstrom said the Democrats are trying desperately to stave off defeat, even if it means throwing out legitimate votes.

"They have just never presented any evidence at all that any mistake committed by elections workers had

any effect on voter intent," he said. "I just don't see any basis for a reversal."

In Washington, Bush and Gore lawyers argued Monday before the U.S. Supreme Court over whether a manual recount of votes should resume in Florida. A ruling by the court to terminate recounts would effectively sink Gore's chances. But a vote by the Florida Supreme Court to toss out the absentee ballots might keep him afloat pending further court challenges.

Hence the maneuvering over the Seminole and Martin county cases.

The Democrats say Bush lawyers took a federalist stance last week when they argued in court that broad constitutional interests in enfranchising voters are paramount over technical violations of state law.

But Bush lawyers took a states' rights stance, Democrats charge, in another case earlier this month before the U.S. Supreme Court. They argued then that state laws need to be strictly enforced and that Florida's secretary of state should be allowed to certify presidential vote tallies under a state-imposed deadline.

Bush is "certainly speaking out of both sides of his mouth," said Harry Jacobs, an Orlando-area personal injury lawyer and a Democrat-

ic activist who brought the Seminole County case. "It's a very inconsistent position."

Edward Stafman, a Tallahassee lawyer who argued the Martin County lawsuit, agreed. "Whether [Republicans] can navigate their way through by taking both positions, we'll have to see. But there seems to be some major-league hypocrisy here."

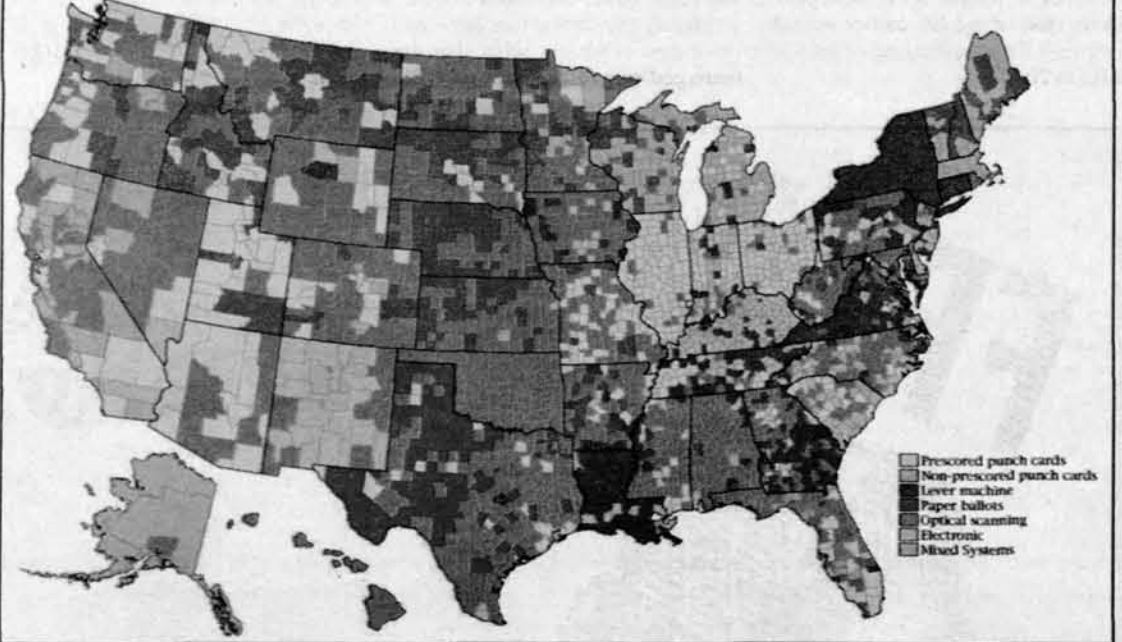
Republicans scoffed at the argument, and legal experts said the Democrats are unlikely to succeed. The Florida Supreme Court has not set a date for oral arguments in the absentee ballot case and may reject the appeal without further review.

Republicans accuse Gore, in turn, of coming down on all sides of the issue.

The vice president has insisted time and again that Florida must "count every vote," arguing that manual recounts are required to determine the winner in a razor-thin election. That clashes directly with the Seminole and Martin cases, which could invalidate thousands of ballots.

Lawyers behind the lawsuits pledged to forge ahead with their appeal even if the vice president loses in front of the U.S. Supreme Court and, possibly, even if he concedes the election.

How Counties Vote



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

WEATHER

Eyes on the Sky

By Greg Lawson
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Do you ever wonder how the weather is predicted? As early as the middle of the nineteenth century scientists were mapping observed atmospheric quantities and attempting to forecast by intuition; that is, they mentally evolved observed features forward in time.

In the early 1900s, weather prediction became conceived of as an initial-value problem potentially affording quantitative prediction. This was not realized, however, until 1950 when the prediction problem was first implemented on a computer.

Following World War II, there has been a coordinated worldwide effort to simultaneously release about five hundred weather balloons at various locations twice a day. These balloons, called radiosondes, are each equipped with an instrument package, worth about \$70, which radios back measurements. These balloons typically rise to the lower stratosphere, burst, and fall back to the earth. The information they give combined with information from satellites, commercial planes, and ocean-liners allow us to reasonably estimate the atmospheric state.

Our forecasts have proven to be reasonable for average lead times of at least four days.

Extended Forecast:

Today: Windy. Skies clearing and temperatures dropping quickly beginning mid-afternoon. High of 48°F (9°C).

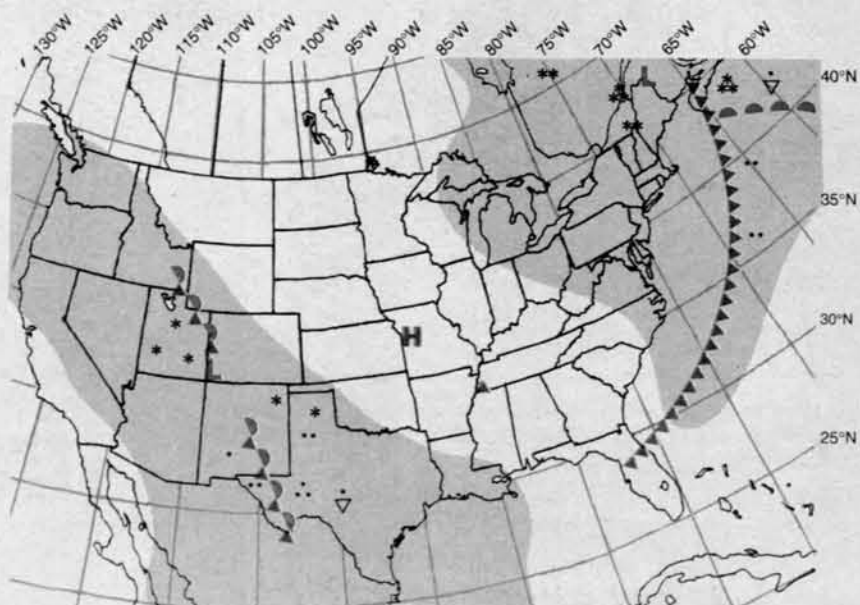
Tonight: Cold and windy. Clear skies. Low of 17°F (-8°C).

Wednesday: Cool and clear. Calmer winds. High of 31°F (-1°C). Low of 23°F (-5°C).

Thursday: Cloudy, windy, with a chance of sleet. High of 34°F (1°C). Low in the mid 20s °F (-5 to -3°C).

Friday and beyond: Clearing up and remaining cool.

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, December 12, 2000



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

Compiled by MIT
Meteorology Staff
and The Tech

College's Activity Fees Stopped

Judge Rules System Violates Student's Rights

By Alexander Conant

U. WISCONSIN'S BADGER HERALD

MADISON, WIS.

A federal judge delivered a blow to the University of Wisconsin System's segregated-fee system Friday morning, ruling that the UW's fee system did not contain enough checks and balances to protect students from funding student groups they may oppose.

U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz, whose 1996 ruling against UW in Southworth v. University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents was overturned in March by the U.S. Supreme Court, said the UW's mandatory segregated-fee system

left too much unbridled discretion to student government leaders, and did not serve to protect UW students' First Amendment rights.

"This court recognizes the university's interest in administering an effective program promoting student speech," Shabaz ruled from the bench. "While it does recognize that, the absence of express, objective standards rests unfettered and unbridled discretion on the program decision-makers in a manner inconsistent with viewpoint neutrality."

In March, the Supreme Court ruled that UW's segregated-fee system, which funds student services like recreational facilities and student organizations like UW Greens and WisPIRG, was constitutional as long as the money was allocated in a viewpoint-neutral manner.

While former UW law student

Scott Southworth had previously stipulated that the system was viewpoint neutral, in November Shabaz said he would hear arguments that the system did indeed contain bias.

At the base of the plaintiff's arguments was the accusation that student leaders responsible for doling out segregated-fee money were not held to strict guidelines and had too much discretion in which groups received funding and which groups did not.

"The Supreme Court last March said that in order for the university to operate a system in which students are compelled to pay for other's speech, the money must be distributed in a viewpoint-neutral manner," Jordan Lorence, the plaintiff's attorney, said Friday.

UW's attorneys had argued that any financial-allocation system requires discretion.

Four Countries Rule EU Summit

Eastern Expansion Overshadowed by Power Struggle

By Carol J. Williams

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BERLIN

Once the clouds of self-congratulation dispersed Monday from the European Union's marathon summit on the French Riviera, it became clear that the four biggest states of the 15-nation alliance had used the forum more to solidify their clout than to remove obstacles to eastward expansion.

Germany emerged as the main winner as it secured de facto recognition of its weight as the most populous state of the EU and prevailed in its call for a fresh round of reform talks in 2004.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder also won his fight to secure Poland equal power with Spain once the German neighbor joins the alliance.

France got what it wanted, as President Jacques Chirac had vowed to preserve voting parity among the influential foursome, which also includes Britain and Italy. Although Germany's bigger population will allow it to block certain actions, the treaty adopted in Nice, France, maintains the appearance of equal weight among the big states and therefore spared Chirac the need for an embarrassing concession.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair also was able to claim victory after the tense, behind-the-scenes wrangling that lasted five days, two more than originally scheduled. He managed to protect national veto

power over key issues such as taxation and immigration against strong pressure to abandon the stifling requirement for unanimous votes.

But what was considered good for the big guys did not necessarily serve the broader interests of the bloc. The Nice summit managed only minimal structural reforms to streamline decision-making as the alliance prepares to nearly double the number of its member states.

"Even if there are two or three good things that come out of this summit, the European Union will absolutely not be prepared for enlargement," a former EU commissioner, Karel van Miert, told Belgium's RTBF radio. "Most of today's government leaders do not have the ambition or the courage to put the EU on track for enlargement."

U.N. Indicts War Criminals in Timor

THE WASHINGTON POST

JAKARTA, INDONESIA

United Nations prosecutors in East Timor Monday issued the first war crimes indictments in connection with the violence that enveloped the territory after residents voted for independence from Indonesia last year.

In a significant step toward bringing suspects to account for the brutal terror campaign that destroyed much of East Timor, 10 members of a pro-Indonesia militia group and one Indonesian army officer were charged with crimes against humanity for their alleged role in atrocities that included the forced deportation of thousands of people to Indonesian-controlled western Timor and the killings of three priests and two nuns.

Prosecutors said the indictments, which focus on crimes that occurred in and around the town of Los Palos in East Timor's eastern district, are the first in a series of criminal charges they expect to file over the next several weeks. Indictments likely will include higher-ranking Indonesian military officials and leaders of military-backed militia groups, officials said.

Human-rights workers have criticized the United Nations, which is governing East Timor until elections are held next year, for moving slowly in identifying suspects responsible for the wave of violence that left hundreds of people dead and resulted in the destruction of more than 85 percent of the buildings in the territory.

New Amtrak Acela Train Starts High-Speed Runs

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

With thousands of airline passengers stranded along the East Coast on Monday, Amtrak's new high-speed Acela Express whisked through thick fog from Washington to Boston in six hours and 43 minutes with its first fare-paying passengers.

The 150-mph Canadian-French train left Washington at 5 a.m. about a third full, mostly with reporters, rail fans and officials. By the time it left Philadelphia, it had filled with business people, some of whom were confused by the hubbub. And after a series of minor delays, including a stop for a television crew's equipment left on the platform in Providence, the 304-passenger train arrived in Boston at 11:43 a.m., 12 minutes late.

Bruce Goldberg of Dallas, who was aboard the first passenger-carrying New York-Washington Metroliner run in 1969, added a historical footnote: That train was also 12 minutes late. "I know," he said. "I was there."

A lot of people hanging out at airport gates would have been happy to be just 12 minutes late. "It's a bad day in the skies," said a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration. Much of Amtrak's hope for the future is riding on the Acela, which was a year and a half late beginning its run because of technical problems.

FREE PANCAKES!!!



Lobdell
10pm-Midnight
Sunday, December 17

MIT Celebrity Chefs
will flip the pancakes
while you take a break
from all that studying!!!

Can you eat this many?!?!?

Brought to you by the Office of the Dean for Student Life, and co-sponsored by the Campus Police, Campus Activities Complex, the Office of Campus Dining, Residential Life and Student Life Programs, and Aramark.

OPINION

Communication Breakdown

It appears that, once again, a well-meaning Undergraduate Association has promised more than it can deliver.

In October, UA Committee on Student Life Co-Chair Josiah D. Seale '02 promised quick action on confidential medical transport for MIT students. Four thousand members of the MIT community signed a UA-sponsored petition calling for an end to a system that risks penalizing those who call for help for an intoxicated friend. To date, no concrete plan has been designed or implemented by either the UA or the MIT administration. Last spring, the UA allocated funds to buy vans for the use of student groups. As the term comes to a close, these vans have yet to be purchased.

The picture is not all dismal, however. In fact, UA committees have accomplished a significant number of things during this past term. An ambitious Task Force on Mental Health circulated surveys to students at MIT and many of its peer institutions, and has even begun to make recommendations for improving mental health and student life at the institute. Although they have yet to arrive, action has been taken on replacing the aging and insecure locks on the fourth floor of the Student Center.

In addition, the UA has agreed to contribute up to \$30,000 from its uninvested reserve funds to fund sports teams. While it

is a sad state of affairs when the undergraduates must fund athletics teams with their discretionary funding, the UA should still be commended for this action.

The Tech believes that at the root of the UA's problems is a lack of communication more than a lack of action. While several members of the UA are involved in valuable attempts to improve student life, these students often fail to properly inform the student body of their contributions and of the obstacles they are facing in pursuing their goals.

This communications barrier quickly becomes a double-edged sword. On one hand, students criticize the UA for being ineffective and not properly representing their interests. This often discourages them from joining the organization and even drives away current members. Meanwhile, the few efficient leaders lack the critical mass required to pull off important projects such as confidential medical transport.

The Tech recommends that the UA attempt to increase its communication with the individual members of the student body. Student representatives to faculty committees should give updates to the UA council on a periodic basis. And UA councilors need to make special attempts to inform their constituents of the UA's actions, whether by e-mail or reports at dormitory government. The student body can only understand the UA's role when it knows what the organization actually does for it.



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Editorial

Print the Whole Truth ...

I was under the impression that the "World and Nation" section on pages 2-3 was reserved for news stories. As a result, I was rather confused when I saw, on page two of last Friday's paper, a poetic opinion piece about violence in Israel, excerpted from the *Washington Post* ["Palestine Accuses Israel of Using Excessive Force to Quell Unrest", Dec. 1].

The excerpt named four young Palestinians who were shot in the legs, according to the inane poem that opens the piece, for silly reasons such as "he missed his ride." The rest of the *Post* "article," which you chose not to print, explains that three of these four wounded had been shot while in the process of carrying out attacks on Israeli soldiers.

One of them, Abdel Kareem, complains that he and his friends were unable to get a big burning tire rolling toward an Israeli checkpoint because "every time we went to move it, they would shoot." Excuse me if this added information strips me of the sympathy I'd had for him after reading your excerpt. I'm not saying that he deserved to get shot; that's not for any human to decide. I can say, though that he bears sole responsibility for his intended victims shooting at him, and that he should consider himself lucky that they were accurate enough shots to stop his attack without killing him.

In the future, please try to excerpt intelligently, and please don't choose to print opinion pieces where articles go. It's your editorial responsibility.

Isaac E. Moses '03

... And Nothing But the Truth

I was embarrassed after having read your Dec. 5 cover story entitled "Protesters Attack Pfizer's Drug Policies" — embar-

assed not that the story was covered, nor with the underlying content, but embarrassed by the poor, uninformed journalism and slanted style. This all coming from my alma mater, and a place renowned for getting facts right.

I should make it clear that I am a former employee of Pfizer. However, this does not mean I support Pfizer's pricing policies or actions around the current situation, nor is this letter a vote for Pfizer.

Several of your facts were either misleading or just plain wrong. First of all, to call fluconazole an AIDS drug is misleading. It treats a fungal condition; the lion's share of sales are in women's health/yeast infections. It also treats cryptococcal meningitis, a fungal infection among about 10 percent of HIV-infected persons. Just because it has been found to treat a symptom for some with HIV doesn't make it an AIDS drug.

You might also want to be clear about why there are generic alternatives if this is a

patented drug, and explain why the demand in South Africa is not served by the generics, which seems, to me, to be a glaring question.

Then, you go on to assert via a quote that "it costs Pfizer five cents to produce a tablet of fluconazole." You must surely know that cost of goods is only one of several components of cost. Pharmaceutical companies' main costs are the cost of sales. Beyond that, there are the usual overhead and general expenses. Pharmaceutical profits are high, but not \$9.95 out of \$10, as the article strongly implies.

This brings me to the main point: your story is misleading, and closer to propaganda than news. You may argue that the information was in quotes, but by slapping misinformed quotes in the middle of a front page article you give the reader the impression that this is fact rather than opinion. You have a very educated reader base; they deserve to process news for themselves.

Paulash Mohsen '96



"So far, the recount total this holiday season stands at: catalogs, 108... credit card applications, 113..."

Opinion Policy

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End-of-Term Perspectives From...

THE BEGINNING OF THE JOURNEY...

Uniformly Unique

Philip Burrowes

Most people do not have a very good idea of what goes on here at MIT. Either they have a vague perception of an elite cabal of nerds clustered around computers, or they have never heard of the place at all. The Institute may very well be the most unknown of any internationally renowned university.

Even after visiting here several times, I had a rather flawed understanding of the school; I even thought it had no libraries. If anybody had told me I'd be taking nearly half as many hours of classes as I did in high school, that I'd get January off, and that I would get to take a six-person class (with an instructor-to-pupil ratio of 1:2), I would've thought they were describing some facile liberal arts college, like Princeton. Who knew?

I doubt many of my fellow freshmen could know. A lot of us could be living like royalty right now in other schools. Our AP scores would garner us sophomore status. Our GPAs there would reap us financial benefits from the state or the school's governing bodies. Some of us could have athletic or artistic scholarships. No freshman schoolwork could challenge us.

As a consequence, many of us would be shunned by our so-called "peers." Not that we are so socially maladjusted that we could only fit in among those with whom we could have an intellectual bond. Nor am I suggesting that we are all above those at other colleges by virtue of past accomplishments. We are in an environment with higher proportions of exemplary people than your average school. How we benefit, aside from the academic excellence, is being with people who are superb lesions on the skin of a mediocre society, preventing the rest of us from ever really seeming like freaks.

We could probably find people like us if we tried, but the real advantage is in finding different people who, being different themselves, accept us. Yes, I've been called a "total wacko," a "freak," and a "nutjob," but only a third as much as I would've been called those things at most other places in the world, let alone the dens of conformity we call the average university. Few complain when the people down the hall break out into showiness or the TV lounge is occupied with people debating the inadequacies of Brazil or that some guy claims his girlfriend is a stuffed Ewok named Chachi. In fact, next to some of these people, I look like a pimp (in the good — if laden with misogynistic undertones — way). People actually expect me to know about the latest fads. The pop cultural sins of my past have yet to visit upon me here, and why should they?

Still, it feels weird to be the same as — and accepted by — the general student body. I've been so used to being The One in some way (if not in my school, then within a given class) that I need to find some way to be an iconoclast. Nobody's conforming, but we're all getting along, failing 8.01 exams, and majoring in Course VI. In an elite technical school with such diversity, sometimes it's felt like anything but.

Philip Burrowes '04 is a Tech columnist.

...THE END OF THE ROAD...

Thank You, MIT

Guest Column
Damien Brosnan

Hi there. My name is Damien Brosnan. I'm a senior and a physics major who plans on graduating this semester, a little earlier than I expected when I first got here. I still plan on hanging around next semester so I can take part in all of the senior class events, walk with my class at commencement, and most importantly, make fun of you all for still having to be in school. My time here at the Institute has been amazing, and rather than dwell on the hardships that we all have to go through here at some point in our MIT lives, I'd like to reflect on all of the great things MIT has done for me, and in the process try to figure out a way to thank the Institute and all of you for making my life here nothing short of incredible.

Maybe everyone gets all nostalgic when they're about to move out into the real world from MIT. Or maybe my graduating early, in contrast to most other people's experiences right now, brings more clearly into focus the difference between being a student here and moving to the next part of my life. Whatever it is, it makes me feel quite sad that I'm leaving.

I've made a lot of friends here, but the unfortunate reality of graduating is that I probably won't see many of them ever again. I have had the unique and rare privilege of being a brother of my fraternity Delta Tau Delta, which has been nothing short of the greatest thing to ever happen to me in my short life thus far. But even that link between brothers that is formed here at MIT isn't a guarantee that future contact will always be maintained. This is very unfortunate as well.

The activities I've been a part of here have helped me gain great respect for the Institute and the people who make this place function. I have been able to forge friendships with people within MIT's administration, and have learned a lot from them. People like Liz Young, Neal Dorow, and more recently Kate Baxter and Larry Benedict have been like big brothers and sisters to me here. They have constantly challenged me to act as an effective student leader and represent myself and my constituency to the best of my abilities. It will be sad and challenging to lose their guidance. Even my dealings with the people who run the Boston Licensing Board and the Cambridge License Commission, which taught me a lot about politics, will be missed (but not that much).

All of these things that I'll miss have made me realize that so much of my education here has come from the experiences I've had outside the classroom. The world we create for ourselves outside our academic courseload can teach us so much more about life and the lives of the people around us than chemistry or computer science ever can.

And that's the greatest gift that MIT can give you: the opportunity to educate yourself through the choices you make while you're here. All of your friends, your co-workers, your brothers and sisters, your housemates, your hallmates, your teammates, and advisors contribute to this education, and are in fact at the very center of it. They make up the Institute of learning to which you belong. They make life worth living here. The physical entity of MIT itself, the administration and the buildings, gave us the framework within which to learn these lessons about ourselves, and the Institute is definitely to be thanked for that. But it's those people, the ones that I just mentioned that truly make your life what it is here, that I thank when I thank MIT.

Don't underestimate the intangibles while you're here. The practical nature of the academic education you receive here can sometimes overwhelm your life and make you lose perspective of what's really important here. Life does not start and stop in Athena, or the reading room, or Hayden library. Those places are points in the road, just like every party you go to, every IM football game you play, and every date you go on. If you can hold on to the friendships forged through those experiences, make new ones and learn from those people every day, then maybe you'll start to think of MIT as the amazing place that I know it to be.

Thank you MIT, and thank you all for making MIT what it is to me.

Damien A. Brosnan '01 is President of the Interfraternity Council.

...AND BEYOND

Leaving Without Moving On

Eric J. Plosky

Sometimes I forget I graduated from MIT.

Sure, I *did* graduate — twice, actually, from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (Course XI), finally ending up with an MCP (that's Master of City Planning). Yes, I now have a real job, I live off campus, I pay the electric bills, the whole nine yards.

But my office is in Kendall Square, so it's not like I've really gone anywhere. Most of my MIT friends are still around, I still spend a significant amount of time on campus, and I still write columns for *The Tech*. The Institute is still, in a variety of slightly odd ways, central to my life.

In my experience, this is true for many graduates. A lot of Course Sixers stick around for their MEng and often even for their Ph.D, which can take up to a decade. The biotechs and dot-coms, which have grown up right around MIT, sniff up a considerable number of grads. And then there are the entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs, who find Cambridge's business climate a possible shortcut to IPO, IPO, IPO.

I never thought when I arrived at MIT as a naive freshman in August 1995 that I wouldn't want to leave when I was done, but such is now the case. This is probably how it happens for many of us lingering graduates.

I'm glad to still be here; I'm thankful that my post-student life has been able to unfold with no jarring discontinuities. And it now gives me a certain satisfaction to walk across Killian Court and look at the Great Dome — been there, kicked its ass. I'm still involved with several campus activities, and in many respects I've been able to stave off some of the regrets I thought I might have had by doing things I never did while I was a student.

But there is also the persistent feeling that it is now time to move on, that there are peaks yet to climb far more interesting than what has become the MIT-plateau. I have no desire to become the creepy old guy who has long overstayed his due but continues to be spotted in the Infinite Corridor. I should stop gazing longingly at Cambridge, hoist the sail of life, and let the Career Winds carry me where they may.

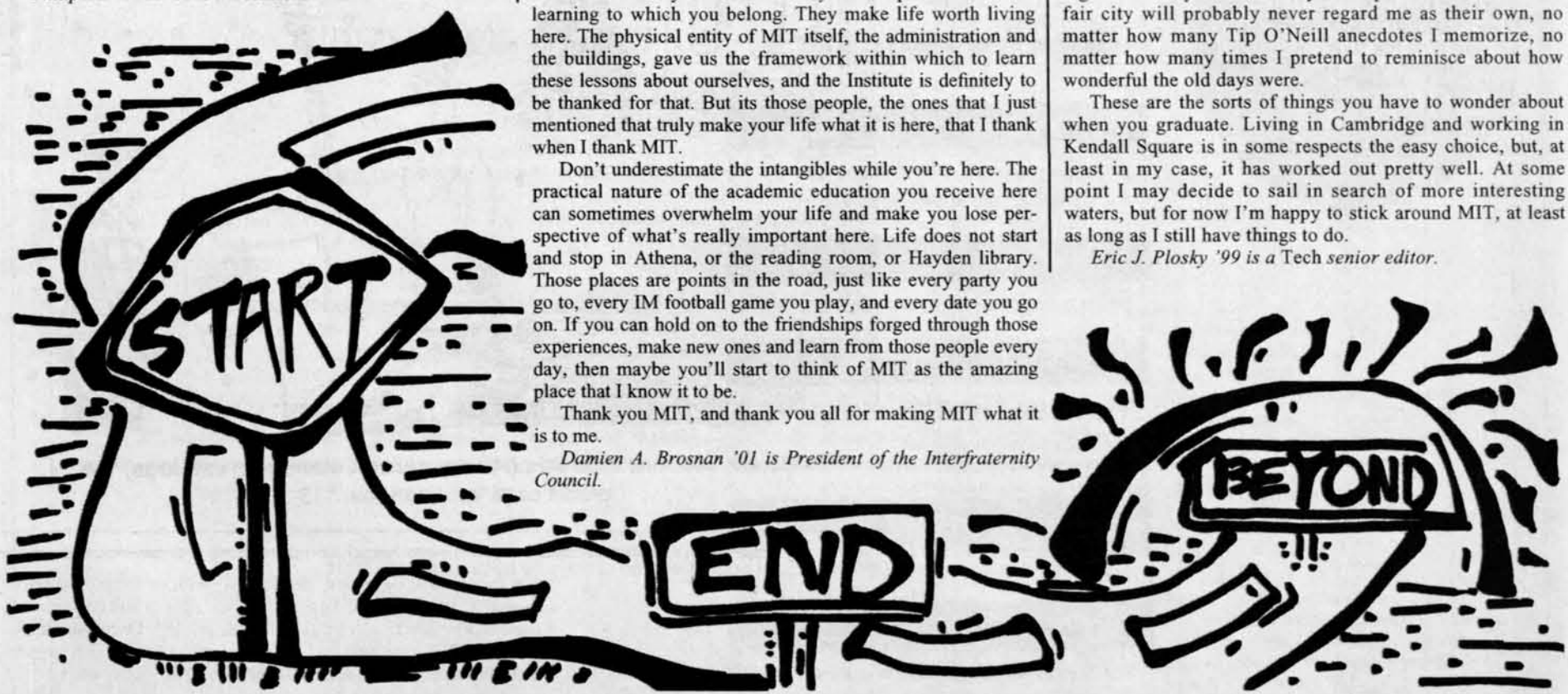
Well ... maybe eventually.

It turns out, in fact, that Cambridge is a great place to live once you've graduated. Funky neighborhoods, suitable hangouts, good transit, a culture of liberal irreverence, and an agreeably accessible human scale are all powerful inducements — particularly when compared to alternatives such as smoggy Los Angeles, overpowering New York, soulless Silicon Valley, barbaric Texas, or anonymous suburbia.

Even so, there's probably something to be said for returning to one's roots. I, for instance, will probably never be considered a native Cantabrigian by the locals — my accent is suspicious, my manners foreign, my knowledge of regional history and lore sadly incomplete. The lifers in this fair city will probably never regard me as their own, no matter how many Tip O'Neill anecdotes I memorize, no matter how many times I pretend to reminisce about how wonderful the old days were.

These are the sorts of things you have to wonder about when you graduate. Living in Cambridge and working in Kendall Square is in some respects the easy choice, but, at least in my case, it has worked out pretty well. At some point I may decide to sail in search of more interesting waters, but for now I'm happy to stick around MIT, at least as long as I still have things to do.

Eric J. Plosky '99 is a Tech senior editor.



Check Out *The Tech's*
Holiday Special!

Center spread

NOAM CHOMSKY

The Current Crises in the Middle East
What can we do?

Thursday December 14th,
4:00-6:00 PM in Kresge Auditorium at MIT

Kresge is on the west side of Mass. Ave between Memorial Drive and Vassar St.



The Middle East has been a prime policy concern for the US for half a century, and throughout this period, the US has had a major impact on developments there. Current crises are many and ominous. Of particular significance are those concerning Israel-Palestine. Here the US role has been, and will continue to be, decisive in shaping the course of events. Of all the complex factors involved, this is the one that we can directly influence. To face the responsibilities and opportunities constructively it is crucial to understand what US policies have been and what they are today. The human consequences of action, or inaction, are likely to be very great.

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Webcast: <http://www.media.mit.edu/~nitir/mideast/chomsky.html>

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THE ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

Soria Chamber Players

A Special Concert Featuring Works by Famous Composers and MIT Alums

By Guan-Jong Chen
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday, the Soria Chamber Players, under the direction of Orlando Cela, presented a magnificent concert at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brookline. The concert's program included *Sinfonie in D, KV. 141a* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, *Fantasia para un gentilhombre* by Joaquin Rodrigo, and *Estampas Mexicanas* by José Luis Elizondo, a MIT alumnus. Overall, the concert was exciting because the Soria Chamber Players presented themselves as a group possessing high musicianship and talent. Furthermore, *Estampas Mexicanas* not only added flair to the concert but also made it a special event for the MIT community in general.

The Soria Chamber Players started the performance with Mozart's *Sinfonie in D, KV. 141a*. This piece was written in 1772. It has three distinctive movements.

When Mozart returned from Italy in December of 1771, he was preparing *Il Sogno di Scipione* (Scipio's Dream) to be performed for the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of Count Sigmund Christoph von Schattenbach. However, Schattenbach was very ill, and died a month before the opera was put on stage. Mozart then revised the opera, changing it to make it fit the enthronement of Schattenbach's successor, Count Hyeronimus Colloredo. The first two movements of this symphony are the actual overture to *Il*

Sogno di Scipione. Mozart added the last movement later to make this a self-standing work.

Throughout the performance of this symphony, the Soria Chamber Players did a great job in keeping the precise rhythm that any Mozart piece requires. The performance and the symphony were both light-hearted and dignified. It was a typical Mozart composition, and the Soria Chamber Players performed it gracefully and with the elegance that the piece deserved.

Following the *Sinfonie in D*, the group performed *Fantasia para un gentilhombre* featuring classical guitarist William Riley as the soloist. Even though the piece is often considered a concerto, the *Fantasia para un gentilhombre* departs from the usual three or four movement form previously used by Rodrigo. This piece is best described as a suite of several movements of shorter proportion.

In this work, Rodrigo exploits many different compositional techniques, such as theme and variations, figures, and composite rhythms. Throughout the performance, the audience was absolutely fascinated by the depth of musical understanding and flawless technique demonstrated by Riley, who recently won first prize in the solo guitar competi-

tion held at East Carolina University and fourth prize at the International Guitar Competition at the Portland Guitar Festival 2000 in Oregon.

Aside from his tremendous skills as a guitarist, his stage presence was remarkable. Throughout the performance, he was not only able to play his music but also communicate his music to the audience smoothly and comfortably. It was a memorable and impressive performance.

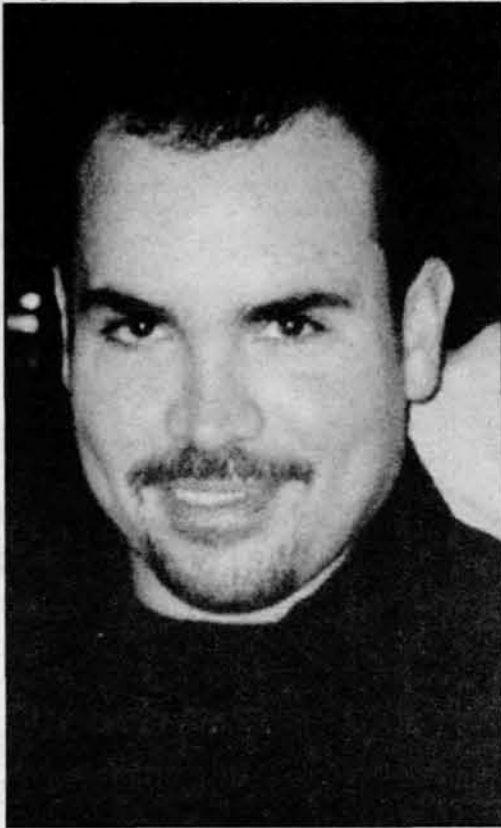
Needless to say, the most exciting performance of the night occurred when the MIT alumnus's *Estampas Mexicanas* was played. According to the composer, José Elizondo, this symphonic suite was "inspired on folk rhythms and melodies from [his] homeland, and is a homage to three composers whose music has exerted a formative influence on [his] work: Chavez, Revueltas, and Poce."

Elizondo wrote this piece when he was a student at MIT. It was originally an assignment for a music class taught by Professor Peter Child. Later, it was performed by the MIT Symphony under the direction of Professor David Epstein.

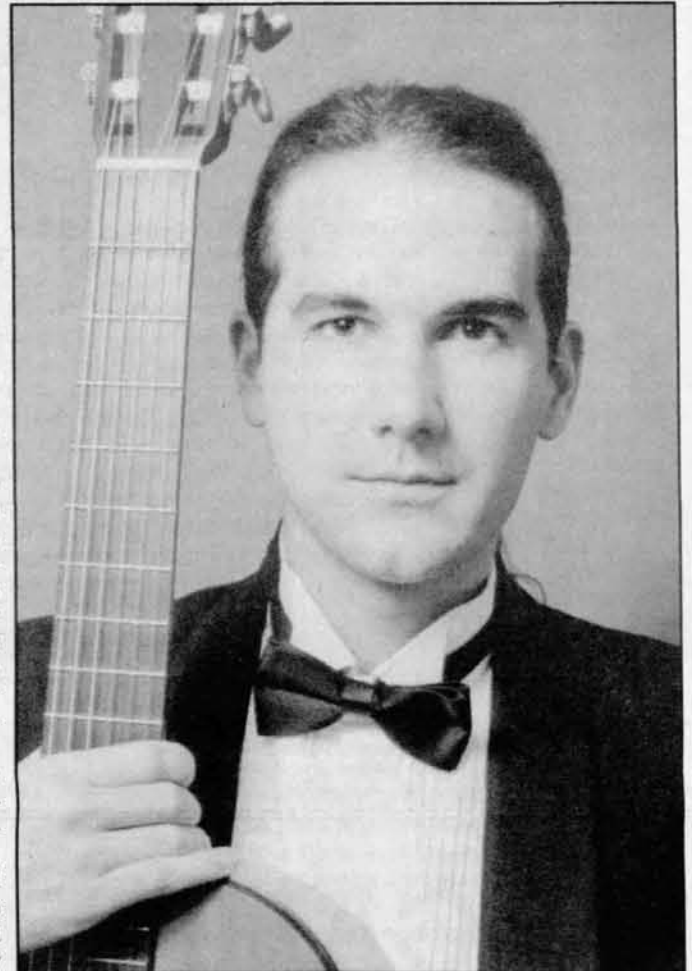
Estampas Mexicanas has now been performed in over 60 concerts around the world. It has also received great reviews from the international press and from internationally acclaimed conductors such as Leonid Grin, Andrew Sherwood, and

Vladimir Ashkenazy. *Estampas Mexicanas* was truly exciting and filled with enchanting melodies that express the enthusiastic, passionate, and colorful sides of the Mexican and Spanish culture. Its three movements, *Ferial*, *Danza del pajarito sagrado*, and *Teotlalli*, are all very attractive and moving. After listening to the performance, it is not difficult to sense the charisma and the prowess of Elizondo as a composer.

The concert was excellent. Anyone who loves classical music should have attended. For most of the audience, the concert was truly a wonderful opportunity to listen to the Soria Chamber Players perform. However, the concert was also significant because it showcased MIT as a school that does not just produce one-dimensional students, but rather individuals with many talents. Elizondo is one of these great individuals.



José Elizondo, MIT alum and composer of *Estampas Mexicanas*.



Will Riley, guitar soloist for Joaquin Rodrigo's *Fantasia para un Gentilhombre*.

FOOD REVIEW

Essential Vegetarian

Boylston St. Blues

By Katie Jeffreys
FEATURES EDITOR

Hello again from vegetarian land. And I think it will be "hello" for the last time. More people know my column by its name rather than content. I rarely get feedback or suggestions for future topics, and have just about run out of ideas. So *Essential Vegetarian* will have to take a break, until a worthy replacement steps forward. However, if you all e-mail me and tell me that you couldn't live without my words in your life, then I may reconsider. E-mail <veggie@the-tech.mit.edu> and save the veggie.

This week I would like to review the bars on Boylston St. in Boston as a dining option. Many students frequent these nightspots, but rarely sample the fare. Yet how does a vegetarian fare during dinner hours? This is a look (maybe the first in a series) at the answer to these questions. Not surprisingly, the barfare offered by many of these these, well, bars, is carni-centric.

Pour House

Pour House (909 Boylston St.) is known for their half price burgers on Saturday nights. They do not offer a veggie burger, or any vegetarian entrée at half price, however. They do offer vegetarian options, though you must pay full price. The most notable of these is the veggie wrap, which is mediocre, at best. That leaves french fries, the old fall-back for a veggie out with friends craving beef. The murals around the tables and the tables, painted to look like beer labels, add to the ambiance of the place. Yet it is noisy and you have to stalk your seating, wandering the two floors until you happen to see a table getting up to leave.

Whiskey's

Worse than Pour House is Whiskey's (885 Boylston St.). Their specially priced meats include dime wings and cheap lobster. Yet they have absolutely no vegetarian entrées, and when eating there I am always stuck with a huge plate of french fries. The redeeming quality of the

place is that its fries are actually pretty good.

The service at Whiskey's could use a few lessons. I have been there on occasions when the server did not even come greet my table for a half-an-hour after I sat down. Fortunately the manager ended up covering the cost of our meal, but it was still a terrible experience.

Cactus Club

Cactus Club (939 Boylston St.) is known for its south-of-the-border drinks, but it also serves up wonderfully creative tex-mex fare. One of the highlights of the menu is the customized quesadillas. Fillings such as avocado and spinach are wonderful, and the portions are large for a moderate price. There are enough vegetarian options to make the decision a tough one, and the menu belittles any of the other "college bars" on Boylston. The atmosphere is fun and the dining room lighter and less smoky than its neighbors. It is a great place to go with a large group of friends and share a fun time as well as food and drink.

And so on

There are several other spots on Boylston which serve both as restaurants and bars, including McCarthy's, Dad's, and the new Barcode and Vox Populi. These each have a different clientele and attitude, with associated varied menus.

Winter break is almost upon us, and once again I return home to the meat-and-potato family in which I grew up. I can't wait to hit the grocery store and try out some new (and old!) recipes in all the free time I will have. Perhaps I will try some new varieties of soup when I have my wisdom teeth out, or a vegetarian entrée to bring to my family's Christmas dinner. The possibilities are endless. The following recipe is one I am considering sharing with the family.

Well, I guess that's it; a short column this week. Thanks for all your support, especially to the infamous Dan of "State of the Airwaves." This is it I guess, unless I

get some kind of overwhelming response otherwise. Cheers!

Leek and Corn Stuffed Peppers

10 medium green or red bell peppers, or a combination
2 tablespoons olive oil
4 large leeks, white and palest green parts only, chopped and well rinsed
2 tablespoons minced shallot
2 cloves garlic, minced
4 cups cooked corn kernels, preferably fresh
1/4 cup fine bread crumbs
1/4 cup minced fresh parsley
1 teaspoon dried summer savory
1 teaspoon ground coriander
salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
wheat germ for topping
paprika for topping

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Carefully cut away the top stems of the peppers and remove the seeds. Cut a very thin slice from the bottoms so that the peppers can stand. Arrange, standing snugly against one another for support, in one or two very deep casserole dishes or a roasting pan.

Heat the oil with two tablespoons of water in a large skillet. Add the leeks, shallots, and garlic. Sauté over medium heat, covered, lifting the lid to stir occasionally, until the leeks are tender. Stir in the remaining ingredients except the toppings. Cook, stirring, another 5 minutes.

Distribute the stuffing among the peppers. Top each with a sprinkling of wheat germ, followed by a dusting of paprika. Cover the casserole or roasting pan and bake for 40 to 50 minutes, or until the peppers are tender but still firm enough to stand. Arrange in a circle on a large platter surrounding the pilaf, following. Serve at once. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

MUSIC REVIEW

*State of the Airwaves**Klein, Clowns, and Christmas*

By Dan Katz

STAFF WRITER

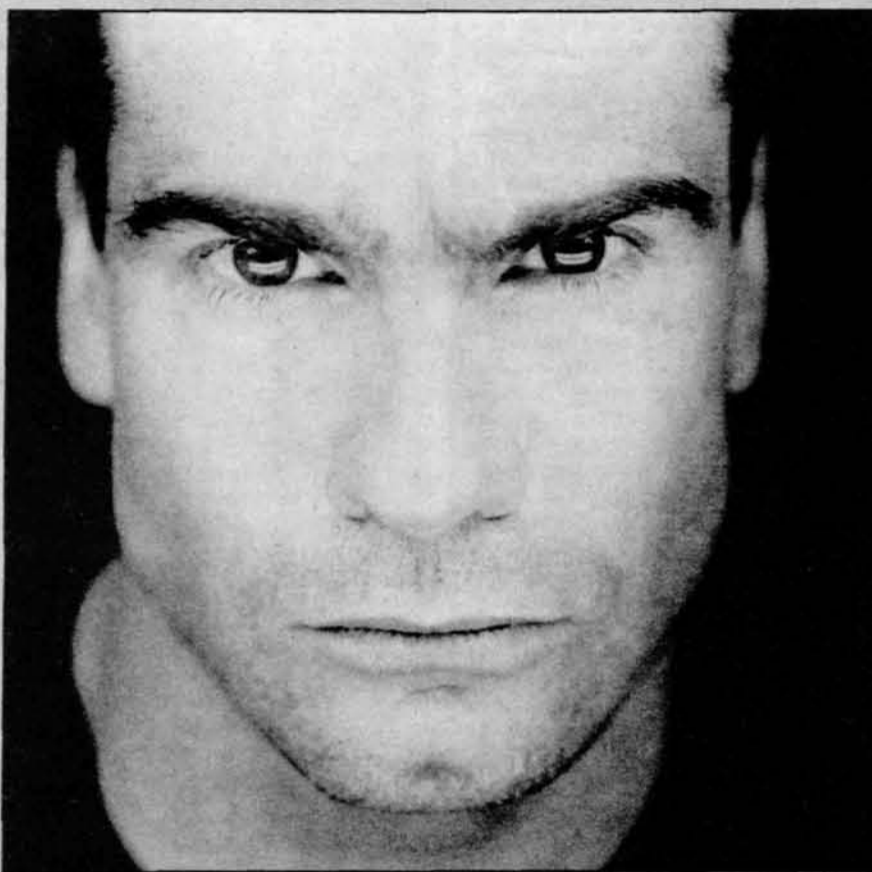
Classes come to an end tomorrow, which means you are going to have to put up with a few weeks without the melodious prose of *State of the Airwaves*.

To deal with the inevitable withdrawal, I recommend the Danoderm patch, which is applied to the brain and periodically releases choice phrases like "Self is the best band ever," "311 should be thrown off a cliff," and the classic "Katie Jeffreys belongs to a baby-stealing cult." This marvel of modern technology is in development and will be available some time in the next year, unless I get distracted by something shiny.

There's a nice mix of music coming to town before IAP starts. Tomorrow night, Napster crusaders The Offspring appear at the Worcester Centrum with Cypress Hill and MxPx. The night after, Squirrel Nut Zippers are swingin' at the Paradise Rock Club, and on Friday night, local singer-songwriter Jess Klein plays Club Passim in Harvard Square. Nina Gordon, formerly of Veruca Salt, promotes her solo career on Sunday at the Paradise.

If there is only one great Christmas tradition in modern music, it is the majesty of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, which regularly tour around this time of year to play haunting rock orchestra tracks from their album *Christmas Eve And Other Stories*, including their intense interpretation of "Carol Of The Bells," renamed "Christmas Eve, Sarajevo 12/24." Their Orpheum date on Thursday the 21st is an expensive show, but worth considering. If you prefer a cheaper show, a pair of Boston's best have hometown shows after Christmas: Dispatch do the Avalon on Wednesday the 27th, and the Pat McGee Band play the Paradise on the 28th.

Some people stay at home on New Year's Eve, some do the party thing; it's a matter of taste. But many attend concerts, and there are a number of them in Boston this year. I've seen Barenaked Ladies on New Year's, and they're a fun group to spend the changeover with. ... they play the



Vote in the 2000 Airwaves Reader Awards, or Henry Rollins will come and beat you up. Grrrr.

Fleet Center on the 31st and again on New Year's Day. Angry Salad have a gig at the Hynes Convention Center, while Sheila Divine and Nada Surf hold a promising show at the Paradise. The Amazing Crowns (formerly the Amazing Royal Crowns before Royal Crown Revue threw a hissy fit) ring in the new year at Lilli's, while the Disco Biscuits do the Palladium in Worcester.

Not much to speak of in album releases for the rest of the month except for two big discs. Tool release their long-awaited live album *Salival* today, and an accompanying video. Tool fans should treasure this release, because based on the success of Maynard James Keenan's side project *A Perfect Circle*, it may be a long time before Tool get around to touring again. Also on the shelves as we speak is Silverchair's first greatest hits album, creatively titled *Vol. 1: Best of Silverchair*. Let me go on record as saying no band should put out a greatest hits compilation after less than five albums. ... Silverchair doesn't fit that bill.

Holidays are traditionally a time for gift-giving, and music is always a nice strategy for friends with large CD collections. But what do you choose? It's dangerous to get an album by your friend's favorite band, because they probably already have it. At the same time, subtly asking them, "Hey, do you have the new Poe album yet?" can be equivalent to telling them, "Hello. I am buying you the new Poe album for Christmas." Better solutions: Get an older album by a band you know the recipient's just recently discovered. Try an album by a lesser-known band who recently toured with one of their favorites. Or just buy them an album good enough to have universal appeal. I can't tell you how many people I've given Radiohead's *OK Computer*, and it hasn't failed yet.

Over the holidays, quell your boredom. Vote in the 2000 Airwaves Reader Awards! Ballots are coming in faster than last year, which is very cool. You can be a part of this historic event by sending your three favorite albums and three favorite singles of the year, as well as your least favorite vegetarian newspaper columnist, to airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu. And if you want to get me something for Christmas, download some tracks from <http://mp3.com/dankatz>. Nothing says yuletide like payback for playback. Until next we chat, have a wonderful break and keep expanding your horizons.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program
is accepting applications for its next deadline from
December 15, 2000 - January 10, 2001

Please contact **Susan Cohen** to set up an appointment to discuss your application

An appointment is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**

email: cohen@media.mit.edu

telephone: 253-4005

MIT students, faculty and staff are eligible to apply
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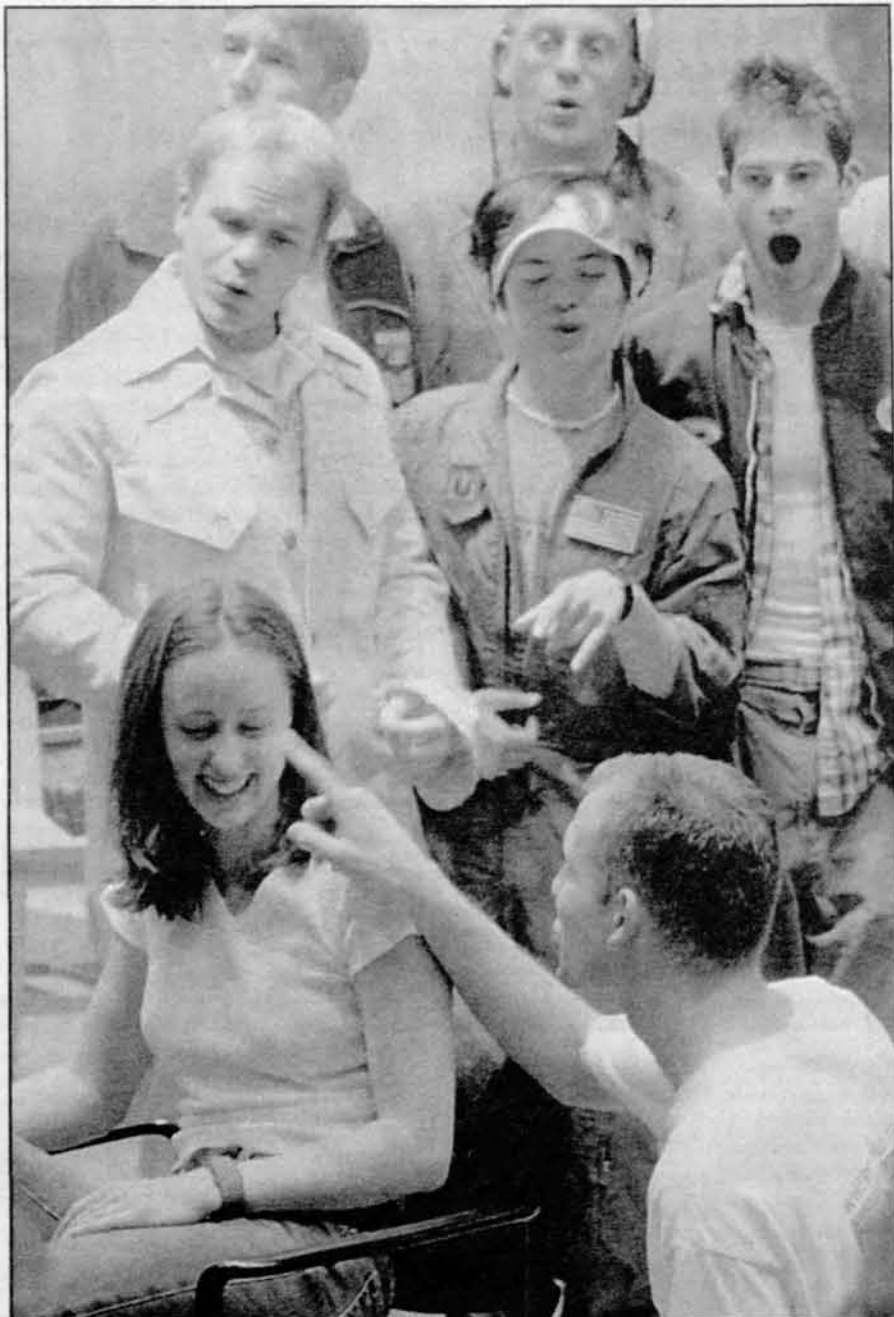
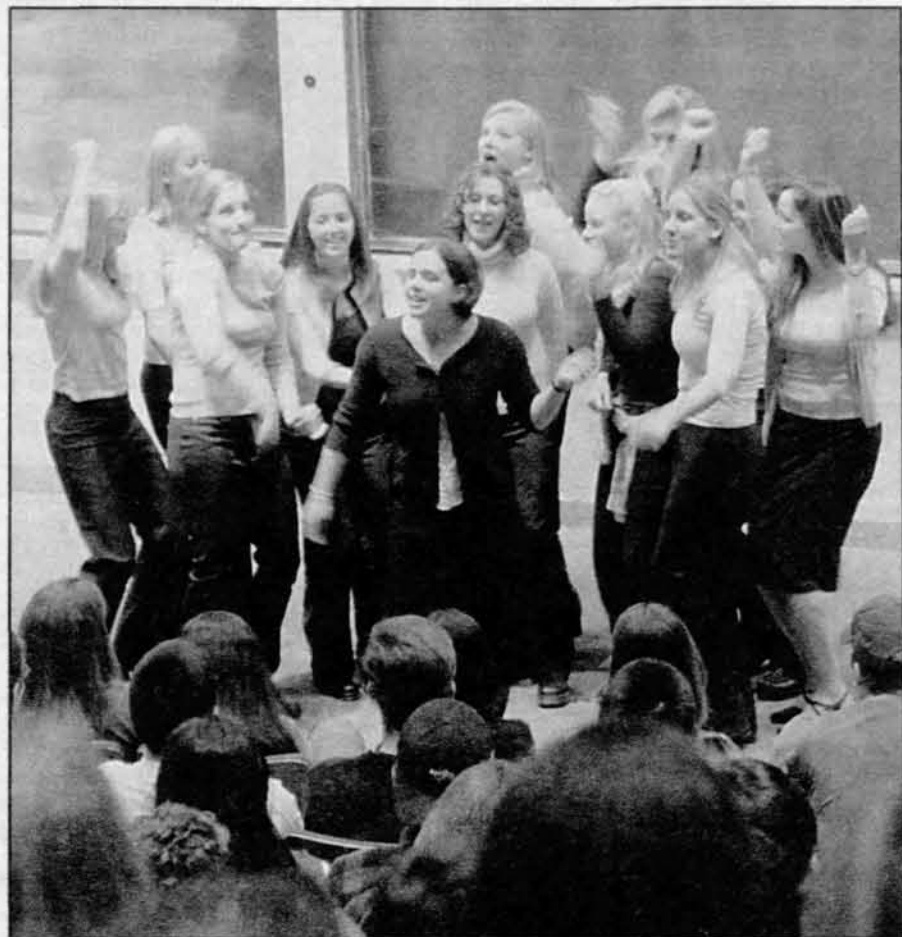
For more detailed information, read the Grants Guidelines on the web at:

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/grantguide.html>

You may also submit your application from the web, at:

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/grantform.html>

The Council for the Arts at MIT is a volunteer group of alumni and friends established to support the visual, literary, and performing arts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Since its founding in 1972 by MIT President Jerome B. Wiesner, the Council for the Arts has worked to "to foster the arts at MIT...[and]... to act as a catalyst for the development of a broadly based, highly participatory program in the arts." Appointed by the President of MIT to three-year terms, Council members serve as advocates and advisors to MIT's Associate Provost for the Arts.



The Logarithms



The Logarithms performed their fall concert Saturday night in 10-250. The evening of a capella music featured several guests, including the Mount Holyoke College M&C's (left), the Dartmouth Decibels (top left), and even an audience member (above).

Photography by James Camp

FILM REVIEW ★★½

The Claim

An Ambivalent Plot

By Jumaane Jeffries
STAFF WRITER

Directed by Michael Winterbottom
Starring Peter Mullan, Sarah Polley, Wes Bentley, Milla Jovovich, Nastassja Kinski
Rated R
Out December 29

The Claim is about the turning point of a 1860s settlement in Northern California. The legitimacy of the town's establishment is shaky at best, and the same can be said, oddly enough, about that of this movie's characters. The trials of our hero (or villain, depending on your point of view) are uniquely detailed; however, *The Claim* ultimately fails to compel the audience with a sense of relatively long-lasting pathos.

The establishing shot occurs immediately with an overhead shot of Kingdom Come, a Northern California boomtown. It's known that Donald Dalglich (Wes Bentley), a railroad engineer, arrives seeking to meet with Mr. Dillon (Peter Mullan), obviously a man of great importance. Soon afterwards, a fight breaks out for some reason, and it is indeed Mr. Dillon's shotgun that puts the brawl to an abrupt stop.

Then we are roller-coastered through a series of random events that comprise a typical day in the life of Kingdom Come. Dillon is a gracious host to Dalglich, as they partake of the interesting diversions of his saloon, where Dillon's mistress Lucia (Milla Jovovich) is the star songbird. We learn, vaguely, of Dalglich's negotiations with Dillon regarding the construction of the Central Pacific Company railroad and its possible effects on Dillon's town.

The rather unfocused chronology of these events leads us through the trials of a dying woman named Elena (Nastassja Kinski) and her strong-willed daughter Hope (Sarah Polley), who have come all the way from Boston. After a few scattered glimpses of their lives and insight into Hope's budding relationship

with Dalglich, it takes a little too long approach some kind of conflict. But it's an earth-shattering conflict, as the town's name might imply. At that point, the impact of Dillon's past relationship with Hope's mother becomes the driving force of the movie.

Through the use of vividly displayed, appropriately placed flashbacks — which effectively use colored background for symbolic purposes — we finally come to understand the nature of Dillon's sad legacy. That his fortune was gained through a disregard for humanity is a fact that Dillon must face as he tries to make amends and establish his own humanity. Hope, her mother, and Dillon do in fact share some tender and touching moments, the most heart wrenching of which occurs when Hope's mother dies.

But Dillon's — make that the writer's — quest for sympathy is thoroughly hampered by the relative lack of resolution with Hope, and the all-too violent resolution with Lucia, during which Dillon kills two sleeping guards. His charged struggle with Dalglich about the town's future — or lack thereof — made me view Dalglich as a villain, leaving me unsure about

his role in the film. And Jovovich's vengeful mistress is very not easy to sympathize with.

Visually, *The Claim* stakes its claim with effective camerawork and subtle attention to monotone color. You'll see many scenes of the landscape of Kingdom Come's snowy uniformly white fields in addition to its dark, foreboding closed spaces. In one scene, the shine of Dillon's bars of gold permeates the entire room, and his wedding scene evokes the connotative feelings of bright yellow and lavender. The camera ranges from a slow pan through memorable places and the chaotic waver of a dance with a set of French prostitutes.

Through these visual techniques and the exploration of Dillon's internal struggle, *The Claim* takes the audience through the heights and depths of human emotion. But the film takes a bit too long to find its focus, and while Hope and her mother emerge as the admirable heroines, the rest of the characters don't have the power to gain our favor. This is one *Claim*, so far, for post-Christmas entertainment, but only some will claim to be entirely moved.

CONCERT REVIEW

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Delightful Concert of Modern Classical Music

By Bogdan Fedeles

STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, the MIT Symphony Orchestra, directed by Dante Anzolini, delivered a remarkable performance of a program comprised of Roussel's *Symphony No. 3*, Berio's *Folk Songs* and Stravinsky's *Petrushka*. A diverse audience filled up Kresge auditorium, warmly rewarding the beautiful performance of MITSO and soloist Margaret O'Keefe (soprano).

Although the titles of the pieces presented may sound unfamiliar, they turned out to be highly appreciated. One good example is Roussel's *Symphony No. 3*. Albert Roussel (1869-1937) has been an important figure on the French scene at his time. After trying different musical sonorities in his works, he settled for a neo-classical style towards the end of his life. A good example, *Symphony No. 3* (1930) is a mature work that blends neo-classical elements like form and rigor with neo-baroque elements like vivid rhythms and complicated contrapuntal structures. Actually, the whole symphony is built on a small, scarcely melodic motif — a

motto — that appears in every movement. All the more melodic ideas — the themes — develop from this motto.

The rondo is constructed using a running imitation between woodwinds and violins. The ending broadens, clearly re-instantiating the initial motto. The whole piece shows Roussel's predilection for lively rhythms and ample, chromatic sonorities, which explains the intense use of percussion as well as the original accompanying patterns. MITSO delivered a very good performance of this piece; the lyrical passages sounded very expressive, contrasting with the loud and terse, highly rhythmic episodes. I enjoyed this piece a lot, especially the way MITSO rendered it.

Luciano Berio (b.1925) is a modern composer who has shown a high interest in vocal music. *Folk Songs* for voice and orchestra (1973) is one of his representative works showing his interest in international themes and sonorities. *Folk Songs* is a suite of 11 folk songs, collected in different parts of the world, and arranged for mezzo-soprano and orchestra. Even though the songs are written in different

musical styles and with lyrics in ten different languages and dialects (which include English, French, Italian, Sicilian and Armenian), they are put together using original transitions in a way that gives integrity to the whole piece.

The common theme of the songs is love, but each song offers a different perspective of this feeling. Some songs, although folk-like, are actually original compositions of Berio himself. Soprano Margaret O'Keefe delivered a great performance, admirably handling the difficulties imposed by the different musical styles and different languages featured in this difficult piece. Although the orchestra had just an accompanying role most of the time, it performed the transitions that connect the songs together in the suite very gracefully, giving a strong feeling of integrity to the whole piece.

Stravinsky's *Petrushka* (1911) is a magnificent piece, written by a well-known modern composer. However, at the time he was writing this ballet, Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971) was only a young, relatively unknown composer. The resounding success that this piece encountered made its composer famous, becoming a banner work for the Russian Ballet. *Petrushka* is the fictional story of a puppet (a sad clown) with the same name, who falls in love with Ballerina (a pretty but insensitive puppet), who in turn is attracted by the Moor, an exotic and fearsome puppet.

The music of *Petrushka* is fascinating in many ways. The descriptive passages blend nat-

urally with musical quotes of familiar melodies — kids tunes — that make the music more accessible to all audiences. Traditional Russian folk-tune rhythms and elements are also embedded in the rich sonorous texture of the piece, recreating the specific atmosphere of the Russian fairs.

The idea of a crowd is very well rendered using repeated notes, and sudden changes from high to low registers and from slow to rapid, unsettling rhythms were also done well. This is true of the first and the last part of the ballet where the real, outside world is presented.

When describing the world of the puppets, Stravinsky uses only strange chords — disjunct melodic lines — and avoids the kind of folk music used in the other sections. However, in the end, the two perspectives come together, and so does the music, alternating from light-hearted full sonorities to ambiguous, strange sounding chords.

MITSO delivered an exceptional performance of this wonderful piece. Although dealing only with the musical part of the ballet, the performance was able to recreate a great extent of the story behind Stravinsky's music. I particularly enjoyed this brilliant performance, well-conducted by Dante Anzolini. I have also noted that MITSO featured quite a few new students whose performances were particularly good. Given this and the beauty and universality of classical music, I encourage everybody to go to every MITSO concert.

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

102 Dalmations (★★★)

Cruella De Vil is released after three years in prison, and now she's on yet another villainous quest. This time, she's set her eyes on the "ultimate" fur coat, which requires 102 dalmatians. Watch Cruella and her group of bumbling henchmen manipulate flirtatious kennel-owner, Kevin, and his love-interest, Cloe, to humorous ends. — Devdoot Majumdar

Adventures in Wild California (★★★)

The theme of this movie, California's wild nature, is the direct inspiration for the spirit of adventure, exploration, and innovation — but it is the glorious visuals (sky surfing and regular surfing, snowboarding, helicopter flights) that provide real excitement. — Vladimir Zelevinsky

Best in Show (★★)

The latest release by mockumentary filmmaker Christopher Guest spoofs the peculiar American phenomenon of the dog show, and focuses on nine would-be blue-ribbon winners, each more absurd than the last. The most unforgivable error Guest makes is in the film's marketing. *Best in Show* is guilty of one of the most onerous offenses of bad action flicks: it gives away its best scenes during the film's trailer. What's left after the jokes that everyone's already seen is a series of unrelated and mostly offensive stereotypical scenes, the theatrical equivalent of calling people names. It is too bad that Guest, given his considerable resumé and a great setup for a film, can't grow up enough to intelligently poke fun at a decidedly deserving subject. — Jed Horne

Billy Elliot (★★★)

A sweet, spirited, and enjoyable (albeit sometimes clumsily rendered) movie experience. A young British boy, hypnotized by dancing, begins studying ballet, much to the chagrin of his lower-class father. The seemingly obligatory political backdrop is awkward and unnecessary, but overall, it's a heart-warming and amusing piece of light fare that recovers well from any of its missteps. Warning: thick British accents. — Karen Feigenbaum

Charlie's Angels (★★★)

This mixture of James Bond, *Mission: Impossible*, *The Matrix*, and *Drunken Master* is so much fun that it can't help but be infectious. The screenplay suffers from familiarity, and the final sequence is a letdown, but most of the movie is preposterously entertaining. Crispin Glover as a wordless assassin is a comic highlight. — VZ

Dancer in the Dark (★★★)

Björk, Catherine Deneuve, and



DOANE GREGORY—WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES

Christopher Guest is Harlan Pepper, a fly-fishing shop owner who hopes that his bloodhound, Hubert, may be the first of his kind to win top prize at the dog show in *Best in Show*.

director/writer Lars von Trier team up in this ambitious musical. A heavy and tragic plot collides with campy musical numbers to form a film that is better off as a drama than a musical. Björk and Deneuve's performances are stellar, but the rest of the cast needs intense dance and vocal training in order to make a more convincing musical. The film's music has traces of Björk's unique electronic style, but still feels held back and pulled in different directions. Bring tissues. — Annie Choi

The Legend of Bagger Vance (★)

A tiresome tale about golfer Randolph Junuh (Matt Damon), who lost his "swing," and the mysterious caddy (Will Smith) who helps out by offering philosophical golf advice. Though Damon and Smith give excellent performances, the lack of character development and corny golf spirituality ruins this film. — DM

Little Nicky (★★½)

Yet another uninspiring film in Adam Sandler's film career. Countless cameos from movie stars and SNL would-have-beens divert the attention from Sandler, who is never given the chance to really shine. Though there are some funny scenes, this film falls short on delivering belly laughs. — Erik Blankinship

Meet the Parents (★★★)

From the director of *Austin Powers* comes

this offbeat and original romantic comedy about hapless Greg Focker (Ben Stiller) and his attempts to impress his future father-in-law (Robert DeNiro). Pam's (Teri Polo) father, Jack Byrnes, instantly decides that he's unimpressed by his daughter's husband-to-be and what follows is a disastrous family weekend during which things just keep getting worse. With laugh-out-loud humor and an endless array of gut-busting scenes, this film proves to be Stiller's greatest success since *There's Something about Mary*. — Ryan Klimczak

Pay it Forward (★★★½)

With an outstanding and talented cast of actors, *Pay it Forward* proves to be one of this year's most emotionally evocative movies. Social studies teacher Eugene Simonet (Kevin Spacey) creates an assignment of impossible standards: "Think of an idea to change the world — and put it into action." The persistent and imaginative Trevor McKinney (Haley Joel Osment) constructs an ambitious plan known as pay it forward, whereby one act of kindness is reciprocated by three new acts of kindness, and so on. Inspiring, original, and thought-provoking, this film takes us on a spiritual journey on the nature of humanity. — RK

Red Planet (★)

A tiresomely repetitive compendium of some of the most excruciatingly boring

sequences ever committed to celluloid, this movie strands five people on Mars to slowly kill them off one by one, using such devices as solar flares and a berserk robot that knows kung-fu. The audience is also in mortal danger — of being bored to death. — VZ

Requiem For a Dream (★★½)

Requiem For a Dream, directed and co-written by Darren Aronofsky (the writer/director of *Pi*), employs an intense visual style to describe the personal hells of four drug-addicted characters and their interconnected spirals into madness and depravity. Aronofsky has overstepped his ability as a filmmaker in his sophomore effort, and for all the flashy pyrotechnics, *Requiem* falls flat on an unfocused plot and mediocre acting. Viscerally, however, *Requiem* is as satisfying, if not more so, than *Pi*. If you liked *Pi*, *Requiem* is a must-see. If you didn't, don't bother. — JH

Unbreakable (★★★)

M. Night Shyamalan's follow-up to *The Sixth Sense* is, despite the presence of Bruce Willis in the lead and similar visual sensibility, a rather different movie: a largely unpredictable genre yarn, which, fortunately, never takes itself too seriously (a couple of very intense sequences excepted). Bruce Willis is used more as a screen presence than a real actor, but Samuel L. Jackson is electrifying. — VZ

Clubs

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437
Sundays: See Avalon below.
Mondays: *Static*. Gay, casual dress. \$5, 18+.
Thursdays: *Chrome/Skybar*. Progressive house, soul, disco; dress code. \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Spin Cycle*. Progressive house, 80's. \$12, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424
Sundays: *Gay Night* (with Axis on long weekends). Featuring hardcore house and techno. \$10, 21+.
Thursdays: *International Night*. Euro-house. \$10, 19+.
Fridays: *Avaland*. House. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Downtown*. Modern house, club classics, and Top 40 hits. \$15, 21+.

Karma Club
9 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9595
Sundays: "Current dance favorites" by guest DJs. Cover varies.
Tuesdays: *Phatt Tuesdays*. With Bill's bar, modern dance music. \$10.
Wednesdays: *STP*. Gay-friendly, house. \$15, 21+.
Thursdays: *Groove Factor*. House.
Fridays: *Pure*. Drum and bass, guest DJ. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Elements of Life*. International House. \$15.

ManRay
21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400
Wednesdays: *Curses*. Goth. Appropriate dress required. \$5, 19+; \$3, 21+.
Thursdays: *Campus*. Popular tunes + House. Gay, casual dress. \$10, 19+; \$7, 21+.
Fridays: *Fantasy Factory* (First and third Friday of the month. Features kinky fetishes and industrial music.) *Hell Night* (every second Friday. 19+. Includes Goth music.) *Ooze* (the last Friday of the month.) \$10, 21+. reduced prices for those wearing fetish gear.
Saturdays: *Liquid*. Disco/house + New Wave. \$15, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Popular Music

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437
Next: 423-NEXT

Dec. 16: Nothingface.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424
Dec. 27: Rustic Overtones.

Berklee Performance Center
Berklee College of Music
1140 Boylston St.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info. on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 747-8820.

Dec. 31: Weepin' Willie.
Jan. 12: Rachelle Ferrelle.
Jan. 19: Aimee Mann and Michael Penn.
Jan. 27: From Gospel To Hip-Hop.
Feb. 10: Feron.
Feb. 22: Paolo Conte.
Feb. 24: Dave Brubeck.

Club Passim
47 Palmer St., Cambridge, 617-492-7679

Tuesdays: Open Mic at 8 p.m. (sign up at 7:30). \$5.

Dec. 15: Jess Klein.
Dec. 17: Lorraine & Bennett Hammond.

Dec. 18: Arabesque Holiday Concert.

Dec. 19: Aengus - Annual Celtic Christmas and Winter Solstice celebration featuring Robbie O'Connell.
Jan. 18: Michael McDermott.

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

Dec. 15: Akrobatik.
Dec. 31: Babaloo.

Orpheum Theatre
1 Hamilton Pl., Boston, 617-679-0810
Ticketmaster: 931-2000

Dec. 16: Joe Jackson.
Dec. 21: Trans Siberian Orchestra.

Sanders Theatre
45 Quincy St., 02138, 617-496-2222

Jan. 27: Kate Clinton.
Jan. 28: Zimmelman's Coffeehouse.
Feb. 3: Christine Lavin & Cheryl Wheeler.
Mar. 23: John Gorka.

T.T. the Bear's Place
10 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-492-BEAR

Dec. 15: Something Ira, Miss Fortune, Dragstrip Courage, Rocketscience.
Dec. 16: The Kickbacks CD Release, The Scrimshanders CD Release, The Drive By Truckers, Slobberbone.
Dec. 17: Lake Boone, The Warren Draws, Hazzard County, Ensimismada.
Dec. 18: California Stadium, Drew

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
December 12 - January 5
Compiled by Fred Choi

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



NORMAN JEAN ROY—UNIVERSAL RECORDS

Don't miss the magic of 98 Degrees (from left, Nick Lachey, Justin Jeffre, Jeff Timmons, and Drew Lachey) next Friday at the KISS 108FM Jingle Ball at the Avalon. Also performing are Vertical Horizon, Nine Days, Jon Secada, Evan and Jaron, and Samantha Mumba. With special guest host Lenny Kravitz. Tickets must be won through KISS 108FM.

O'Doherty, TW Walsh, Brian Michael Roff.
Dec. 19: After This.
Dec. 20: Elsewhere, Innerpink, Carry The Zero, Headrush.
Dec. 21: The Brett Rosenberg Problem, The Details, Bleu.
Dec. 23: TT's Third Annual Holiday Party featuring The Bucktones.
Dec. 26: Colonel Mustard.
Dec. 27: Swiss Bomb, Poetry & The Modeles, Nemochrome.
Dec. 31: New Years Eve Party featuring The Figgs, The Gravel Pit, The Gentlemen.

Jazz Music

Regattabar
Concertix: 876-7777
1 Bennett St., Cambridge 02138, 617-662-5000

Call for schedule.

Scullers Jazz Club
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 617-562-4111

Call for schedule.

Classical Music

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tickets: 266-1492.

Performances at Symphony Hall. For MIT Students: Tickets are offered for Th. evening concerts (8pm) and Fri. afternoon concerts (1:30pm) and are available on the day of the concert only at the BSO Box Office at Symphony Hall (301 Mass. Ave. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.). Two tickets may be obtained with two current valid MIT student IDs, subject to availability. For updated MIT student ticket availability, call 638-9478 after 10 a.m. on the day of concert.

Jan. 11-13, 16: Stravinsky: Four Norwegian Moods; Britten: Sere-nade for tenor, horn, and strings; Berio: Requies; Mozart: Symphony No. 36, Linz. Federico Cortese, conductor; Vinson Cole, tenor; James Somerville, horn. Pre-performance talk given by Robert

Kirzinger. Call for ticket prices.
Holiday Pops
Boston Pops concerts through Dec. 31 at 3 and 7:30 p.m. most days. Conducted by Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart as well as Associate Conductor Laureate Harry Ellis Dickson and guest conductors to be announced. Tickets range from \$72 to \$19. Limited availability. For tickets and a complete schedule call Symphony Charge at 888-266-1200 or visit <www.bso.org>.

Theater

SantaLand Diaries

Through Dec. 31 at the Copley Theatre (225 Clarendon St. between Boylston and Newbury St.) A hysterically funny broadside attack against that most cherished New York extravaganza, Macy's SantaLand. Seen through the eyes of one of Santa's elves, it tells the juicy behind-the-scenes stories of what SantaLand is really about - screaming children, ferocious mothers, and crazed Santas who probably spend the rest of the year in mental wards. \$8 validated parking at Back Bay Garage. Tickets \$39. Thursday, Friday @7:30PM, Saturday @9PM: \$44. Friday 12/1 @7:30PM, Monday 12/4, Saturday 12/23 @2PM: \$39. Tuesday 12/5 @7PM (Opening Night): \$43.50 For tickets call Tele-Charge at 1-800-447-7400 or visit <www.telecharge.com>. For schedule and more information call 617-747-4468 or visit <www.santalanddiaries.com>.

Antigone

Through Jan. 9. At the American Repertory Theatre (64 Brattle St., Cambridge 02138), presented by the A.R.T. and directed by Francois Rochaix. The classic Greek tragedy is presented as part of the Loeb Stage Season. Tickets \$59-\$25. Call 617-547-8300 or visit <http://www.amrep.org> for more information or to reserve tickets.

Checkhov: Three Farces and A Funeral

Through Jan. 14. At the American Repertory Theatre (64 Brattle St., Cambridge 02138), presented by the A.R.T. and directed by Yuri Yermen. Robert Brustein has taken three of Chekhov's most popular comedies - *The Proposal*, *The Bear*, and *The Wedding* - and linked them with excerpts from the playwright's own love letters and scenes from his life. You'll laugh in recognition at the age-old rituals of love, courtship, and marriage in this effervescent flight of farces. Presented as part of the Loeb Stage Season. Tickets \$59-\$25. Call 617-547-8300 or visit <http://www.amrep.org> for more information or to reserve tickets.

Comedy Connection

Mon.-Wed. at 8 p.m.; Thurs. 8:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. The oldest comedy club in Boston showcases big-name, national comedians on weekends and up-and-coming local talent during the week. At 245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston. Admission \$10-\$8 (weekend prices vary). Call 248-9700 for more information and a complete schedule.

Blue Man Group

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

Shear Madness

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

Exhibits

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston, 02115, (617) 266-5152 (Hynes Convention Center T-stop). Features a wide

variety of contemporary conceptual art with shows which emphasize artists from outside the United States. Admission \$6 adults, \$4 students and seniors, free to children under 12 and members. Admission free on Thursday evenings. Wheelchair accessible.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

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

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$10, \$8 for students and seniors, children under 17 free; \$2 after 5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri., free Wed. after 4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.: introductory walks through all collections begin at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; "Asian, Egyptian, and Classical Walks" begin at 11:30 a.m.; "American Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 12:30 p.m.; "European Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 2:30 p.m.; Introductory tours are also offered Sat. at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Permanent Gallery Installations: "Late Gothic Gallery," featuring a restored 15th-century stained glass window from Hampton Court, 14th- and 15th-century stone, alabaster, and polychrome wood sculptures from France and the Netherlands; "Mummy Mask Gallery," a newly renovated Egyptian gallery, features primitive masks dating from as far back as 2500 B.C.; "European Decorative Arts from 1950 to the Present"; "John Singer Sargent: Studies for MFA and Boston Public Library Murals." Gallery lectures are free with museum admission.

Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston. (723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors. The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery Center"; "Investigate! A See-For-Yourself Exhibit"; "Science in the Park: Playing with Forces and Motion"; "Seeing Is Deceiving." Ongoing: "Friday Night Stargazing," Fri., 8:30 p.m.; "Welcome to the Universe," daily; "Quest for Contact: Are We Alone?" daily. Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors.

Other Events

Handel's Messiah

Dec. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. Presented by the Boston Baroque, Martin Pearlman, Music Director; Soloists: Sharon Baker, soprano; Margaret Lattimore, mezzo-soprano; Mark Tucker, tenor; Dean Ely, bass-baritone. At the New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall (30 Gainsborough Street, Boston). Tickets \$51-\$19. For more information call 617-484-9200 or visit <www.boston-baroque.org>.

The Nutcracker

Through Dec. 31, 2000. Wed.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sat. 2 p.m.; Sun. 1

p.m., 5:30 p.m. At the Wang Center for the Performing Arts, 270 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02116. 617-482-9393. Boston Ballet's Nutcracker features choreography by Anna-Marie Holmes, Daniel Pelzig Bruce Marks, and Sydney Leonard including new sections of choreography by Daniel Pelzig as well as the usual lavish scenery, special effects, and costumes. Filled with the wonder and magic of the holidays, The Nutcracker follows a young girl named Clara on her dream adventure to the music of Tchaikovsky. Tickets \$62-\$12. Call Telecharge 800-447-7400 for reservations. For additional information visit <http://www.boston.com/boston-ballet>.

Of Battle and Beauty

Through Dec. 17: Photographs of China by Felice Beato. At the Boston University Art Gallery, Gallery Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 1-5 p.m. Exhibition is free and open to the public.

Luis Buquel: A Centennial Celebration

Dec. 15-22. At the Harvard Film Archive (located at the lower level of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St. Cambridge, MA). At the close of a year-long, international celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Spanish director Luis Buquel (1900-1983), the Harvard Film Archive presents this special retrospective series, which features a pair of engaging film portraits of the artist as well as ten of the major works from his remarkable fifty-year career. In representing each of the three distinct periods of Buquel's enterprise "the suchs de scandale" of his early Surrealist films, the Mexican comedies and melodramas, and his final triumphant emergence in the international film arena, this program reconfirms the artist's extraordinary depth and continuity of vision. Tickets \$7 General, \$5 Students and Sr. Citizens. For more information and a complete schedule, call the Harvard Film Archive at 617-495-4700 or visit <www.harvardfilmarchive.org>.

Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar

Through Feb. 25, 2001: The first comprehensive museum exhibition to focus on the guitar as an objet d'art. Audio guide narrated by James Taylor. The exhibit covers four centuries and features more than 130 instruments from museums and private collections around the world. Highlights include a 17th-century guitar created by famous violin maker, Antonio Stradivari, and guitars owned by celebrities such as Prince, and Jimi Hendrix's 1967 Gibson Flying V. Tickets: complimentary to MFA members (Number of tickets dependent on level of membership). Adults \$16 on weekdays, \$18 on weekends. Students/Senior citizens \$14/\$16. Children 6-17 \$6 for both weekdays and weekends. Children <=5 free. Adult group visits are available. Visit <www.mfa.org> or call 617-369-3368 for more information.

The Christmas Revels

At the Sanders Theatre (45 Quincy St., Cambridge). Dec 15-17, 20-23, 28-30. Staged by Revels artistic director Patrick Swanson with music direction by George Emlien, the 30th Anniversary production of *The Christmas Revels* is filled with rousing Gospel music and soulful Spirituals, Appalachian fiddling and clogging, Shape-Note hymns and Shaker tunes, a breathtaking sword dance and a Mountain Mumpers' Play. And, as in every Revels production, audience participation is encouraged. Tickets are \$36, \$26, and \$18 for adults, \$30, \$20 and \$12 for children <12. For tickets reservations, availability, show times, and other information call 617-496-2222 or visit <www.revels.org>.

Film Festivals

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

Boston Festival of Films from Iran
Through Dec. 16. Check website for full schedule.

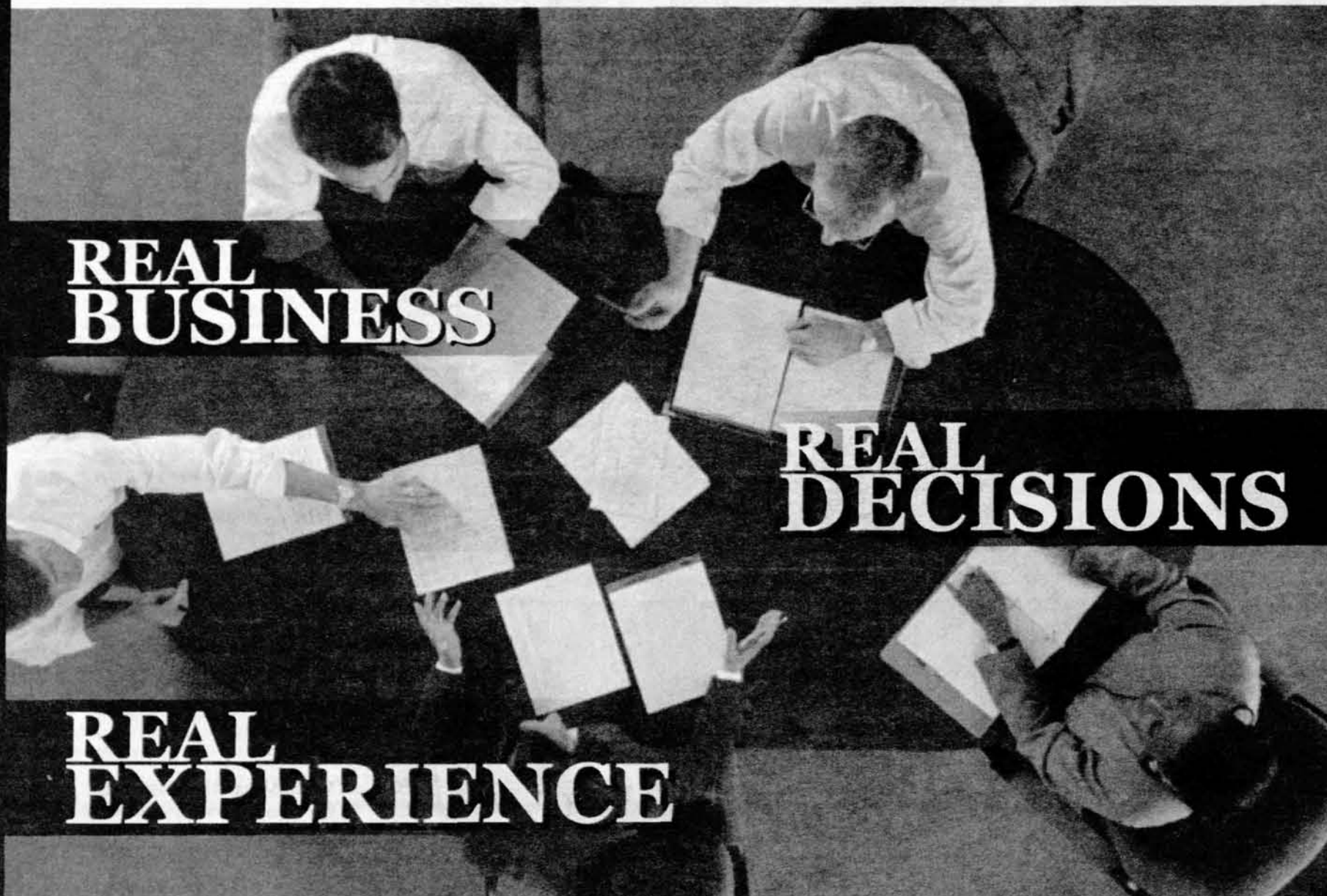
One More Day

Dec. 16 at 3:45 p.m. (1999, 75 min., Dir. by Babak Payami.) An illicit relationship and the antidote to loneliness both blossom on a Tehran bus stop bench in *One More Day*. Each day, a man and a woman wait at the same stop, travel the same route, and discover their growing dependence on each other in a culture that condemns interaction between the sexes. Payami presents a touching story of two people struggling against urban anonymity and personal heartache to forge a redemptive connection with each other. In Farsi with English subtitles.

FRANK'S PICK OF THE WEEK

It's a Wonderful Life
Dec. 22 - Dec. 24 at 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 p.m. (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 2:15 p.m.) At the Brattle Theatre (40 Brattle St., Cambridge, 02138. By T: Take the Red Line to Harvard Sq.) (1946, dir. by Frank Capra with Jimmy Stewart, Donna Reed, et. al.) The beloved holiday classic concerning a small-town businessman facing financial ruin and who wishes he'd never been born. Tickets: \$7 adults, \$4 seniors and children, \$6 all weekday shows before 5 p.m. For more information, call 617-876-6837 or visit <http://www.beaconcinema.com/brattle/>.

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Holiday Special

The Tech

December 12, 2000



JAMES CAMP—THE TECH

The Giving Tree is the mascot for MIT's community giving campaign.



ROSHAN BALIGA—THE TECH

Heather McEwen '04 shops for toys to donate to underprivileged children.

Charitable Spirit Unites Community

By Jennifer Krishnan
STAFF REPORTER

As winter break draws near, students are taking time out of studying and partying to give back to the greater community, both through their clubs and living groups and on an individual basis.

One of the more complex, carefully orchestrated projects was The Giving Tree, jointly sponsored by the Panhellenic Association and the Public Service Center. Members of the MIT community who volunteered to participate were given the name of a needy child with a specific gift request. The project involved the cooperation of all the FSILGs and over 14 local agencies.

Though the Giving Tree project is now over, the general Toy Drive continues through Friday. Gifts can be dropped off at various campus dining locations.

Others are contributing to the community by buying holiday greeting cards. Habitat for Humanity is holding a holiday card drive "to raise the \$50,000 needed to fund an MIT sponsored Habitat house," said BooShan Tseng '03, member of the Habitat for Humanity fundraising committee.

Tseng is impressed with the contributions from students. "We didn't expect so many students to buy the cards," she said. "Students mostly don't have a massive income, so it's harder for them to pitch in. It's nice to see that they're making the effort to contribute anyway."

Card sales continue in Lobby 10 today and in the Student Center Wednesday and Thursday.

The Institute is also holding the traditional clothing and non-perishable food drive. All clothes and non-perishable food will be accepted, but a "wishlist" of items most badly needed is online at <http://web.mit.edu/community-giving/uw/drive.html>. Items can be dropped off in the lobby of Walker Memorial Dining Hall, at Stratton Student Center, or at several other locations listed at the same web site.

Instead of paying their parking tickets this season, some people will donate presents for children. Through the "Tickets for Tots" program sponsored by the MIT Parking and Transportation Office, people can bring in a gift of equal or greater value than their ticket, along with a receipt, and be excused from their tickets.

ATO and Alpha Phi welcome needy

Additionally, living groups are welcoming the charity drive into their homes. On Sunday night, Alpha Tau Omega and Alpha Phi hosted a Christmas dinner for a group of teenage mothers and their children, as well as teenagers from broken homes.

The evening included a Christmas dinner complete with turkey and ham, Santa Claus, and gifts for the

Holiday Giving, Page A4

Students Plan Trips Home, Abroad for Holidays

By Vicky Hsu
STAFF REPORTER

Finals are upon us, and the light at the end of the tunnel for many is the impending six weeks of holiday break.

Most people use at least part of this period of bliss to spend time with friends and family. "Christmas is a time to go home and do as little as possible," said Sam Schaevitz G.

Matthew Lockhart '01 plans to "get as far away from MIT as possible. I am going to fly airplanes, shoot guns, and use power tools, in that order."

All play and no work doesn't fit into some people's schedules, however. Jessica L. Fry '03 is going home, but needs to finish a game she is writing with her group from the Assassins Guild. With the live action role-playing game due to be played over the Independent Activities Period, her group will be communicating over zephyr in order to complete their project.

Others still are expected to return to the Institute for the Independent Activities Period after two weeks spent at home. "IAP allows you to see the best of MIT," said Anna B. Folinsky '02. "This is a time when people can have fun without the stress of problem sets. I enjoy being surrounded by the intelligence without the stress."

Students travel around the world

David B. Crow '01 is attending a friend's wedding in Texas this holiday season. A guitarist, he also hopes to meet up with his friends and play in his old high school band. In previous years over IAP, he has stayed at MIT and participated as a paid subject in some cognitive studies conducted by Course IX (Brain and Cognitive Sciences) researchers.

Lucie J. Vogel '03 is travelling to three states this winter break. She is first going home to Virginia to see her entire family together for the first time since the eighth grade. Then, on January 20, she plans to go to Washington D.C. and protest at the Inauguration ceremony.

"I am not sure exactly what I am going to protest yet, probably the death penalty," Vogel said. During the rest of IAP, she will be up at the Killington ski resort in Vermont teaching people how to ski.

Amit Roy '01 is headed to Glasgow, Scotland on Christmas Day to attend the 2001 World Debating Championships. Roy is very excited about representing MIT along with three other teammates at the tournament, and also hopes to see the sights.

"Seeing all the different debating styles forces you to rethink your values," Roy said. "Freedom of speech is taken for granted by Americans as a natural right, but this may not be the case for people from other countries."

After the tournament, Roy plans to fly straight home from London to Calcutta, India, where he will stay for two-and-a-half weeks before flying back to the Institute.

Students celebrate in unique ways

Besides their varying holiday plans, students are celebrating the holiday season in other different ways. Tazeen Mahtab '03 is observing the Muslim holiday of Eid Ul Fitr, which falls around the same time as Christmas this year, according to the lunar calendar. After attending service at a mosque that day, she and her family will go from house to house and visit other Muslim friends.

Folinsky and her floor mates have already begun decorating Fifth East of



JAMES CAMP—THE TECH

Anna B. Folinsky '02 decorates the Fifth East tree. Folinsky is headed to Los Angeles for the holidays.

East Campus with a Christmas tree. She will also be observing Hanukkah and enjoying the 75-degree weather in Los Angeles, California in two weeks. Fry looks forward to a big lasagna feast at 1:00 a.m. on Christmas day after the traditional midnight mass.

As for Christmas shopping, many are delinquent, though this is not unusual for MIT students. Unlike most people, however, Vogel does not need to worry about what presents to get for each of her friends and family. Since last year, her family started a tradition of taking the money that they would spend on getting gifts for each other and donating it all to charity instead. These donations would be their gifts to each other.

Those who do need to buy individual gifts seek other alternatives to relieve their burden. Schaevitz has divided up shopping responsibilities for his parents and step-parents with his other three siblings. Each of them is responsible for obtaining the present to one of the parents, while the total costs of all the presents would be divided up evenly among the four.

Home for the Holidays

Jyoti Tibrewala

The holiday season brings with it many blessings, such as weeks with no problem sets, no exams, and nothing else to interrupt your sleep schedule (or what's left of it by the end of the term). This is something for which we should all be grateful.

The chance to spend time with family is another blessing. While there are many opportunities to do so during this time of year, one of the most important chances to take advantage of this is the holiday dinner. This meal provides the perfect opportunity to share your experiences with your family over good food, near a warm fire.

True, the Thanksgiving holiday also included a large family gathering and a shared meal. However, the stress of work was also present. In contrast, December marks the end of the term, giving this holiday meal an atmosphere more conducive to conversation.

Of course, the burden of assignments will be alleviated only for us college students. Our younger siblings will still undoubtedly have work due while we're still home on break. (Some of us might sympathize with them, while others would rather just laugh at them the one time we actually can.)

But despite their workload, our siblings will be overjoyed to see us. I speak from experience. Although I am the oldest

child in my family, I have an older cousin with whom I'm fairly close, and he's been away from home for nearly seven years now. Every year when Thanksgiving or Christmas rolls around, I look forward to dinner with the family because it gives me a chance to have stimulating conversation with him. That's not to say that the rest of my family is boring; it's just that I can talk to them anytime.

But I usually don't get a chance to talk to my cousin over Thanksgiving dinner. He's usually swamped with work, barely staying at the dinner table long enough for dinner and dessert. It also doesn't help that we leave by 11 p.m. every time. Come Christmas, though, my cousin can be found either videotaping the family exchanging

gifts or playing with my eleven-year-old brother. After the meal is over, he is always the one to initiate a game of *Trivial Pursuit* that lasts into the wee hours of the morning; he also makes sure that my sister and I are on his team, even though his knowledge of trivia is far more expansive than ours combined. He also visits my immediate family at least once during the vacation.

Now I'm coming home for the holidays too, and sure enough, Thanksgiving was so rushed I didn't get to have any real conversations with my sister or brother. With any luck, the winter break will be as free for me as for my cousin, and give me the chance to share a relaxed, fun holiday with my family.



Dreaming Of Shark's Fin Soup

Kevin Choi

I will be away from my family for the first time this Christmas. This year, rather than flying over the Rocky Mountains en route to California like I've been doing for the past three Christmases, I will be hovering over the Atlantic Ocean on my way to Europe to work on a film project.

It isn't my first time away from my family (coming to MIT was), but it will be the first time I'm away from my family on such a special holiday. Since my family isn't religious, we don't celebrate Christmas for its religious value, but rather for the value that it brings our family members together. Every Christmas, my family and our relatives would get together and have dinner. We would sometimes have a barbecue at my uncle's house or sometimes go out to a nice

restaurant. And during dinner, we would exchange gossip and catch up with each other's lives. I would usually have to entertain a round of questioning from my relatives, all of them curious about whether I have found a girlfriend yet.

Since coming to MIT, I have always looked forward to going home for Christmas. The holiday allows me to get away from the institute and enjoy the comforts of home. Most MIT students can attest to how wonderful it is to enjoy Mom's (or Dad's) cooking again, especially after a semester of hall dining food.

Whenever I return home, my mom would cook my favorite meals. I only get to see her twice a year (once in the summer, and once during the winter break), so my coming home is very special to her. She would go to Chinatown in San Francisco the weekend prior to my return and buy delicacies such as Shark's Fin so I can enjoy it.

"How do you like your Shark's Fin soup?" she would ask in Chinese. I would nod my head and tell her how much I enjoy it. "If you had gone to Stanford, you would be able to come home and eat Shark's Fin soup every weekend!" she would exclaim and then entertain a small chuckle afterward.

At night, I would sit by my little sister's bed and read to them. I was planning on reading them the third installation of Harry Potter this Christmas. They would fall asleep usually half an hour into the reading. I would smile, kiss them on the foreheads, and turn the lights off.

For the past three Christmases I have enjoyed going back home and feeling the warmth and love that my family provides. This Christmas, however, I will have to experience the warmth and love with a bunch of strangers aboard a British Airways jet. I'll fall asleep and dream of Shark's Fin soup instead.

For the Person Who Has Everything

Roy Esaki

Frazzled students, short on time, money and sanity, may find the obligation of shopping for the perfect Christmas gift to be stressful and frustrating. Hopefully, this first annual Perfect Holiday Gift Guide will be of some assistance to the weary shopper, as it demonstrates the gamut of presents that may serve to symbolize your love and affection.

Aquatic Pod Suite: (<http://www.ham-macher.com>)

Forget the PS2. What your son/best friend/aunt/dog-walker really wants this Christmas is what the manufacturers praise as "the world's only aquatic pod suite that offers panoramic views simultaneously above and below the surface of the water." Unlike the schmuck who has to actually go outside and, heaven forbid, touch water to enjoy the ocean, the proud owner of the Pod enjoys a whopping 300-degree view in an air-conditioned "flying saucer."

No trip to the beach for the sophisticated man would be complete without the mini-bar, AV system with Bose stereo, diesel generator, king-size bed, and desalination unit. Consider the \$91,100 price tag to be a down payment on the beginning of a beautiful relationship.

Pure Bull Putter (<http://www.pure-bull.com>):

For even more athletically inclined people, the Pure Bull Putter may be a more appropriate Yuletide gift. This putting instrument is carefully crafted by the leading manufacturer of golf putters made from "the reproductive organ of American bulls." Any putter that can claim the slogans, "the putter that has proven to produce more than others" and "this putter will make a vas deferens in your game," has to be good. For

granddad, Pure Bull also makes walking canes, presumably made from elderly American bulls.

Book: Stink Bugs of Economic Importance in America North of Mexico (<http://www.crcpress.com>):

For the bookworm looking for seat-gripping, jaw-dropping, incontinence-inducing excitement, consider giving this timeless classic (a bargain at 70 bucks!), which was listed in the top 4,059,232 of the *New York Times* Best-Seller list. Who among us haven't spent sleepless nights wondering how our stock portfolios and wages will fare, given the clearly frightening Stink Bug situation. Forget about social security and lower taxes — our economic prosperity lies in the hands of these neglected, but economically pivotal, insects. For an enrapturing sequel, try *The Impact on Judeo-Christian teleology by Katyids in West Virginia*.

Reptile Sampler (<http://www.cab-elas.com>):

The discriminating connoisseur, or past participants of Survivor, will be delighted to receive this sampling of fine reptiles that will surely complement any Christmas dinner. The menagerie of reptile samples include mouth-watering rattlesnake filets, juicy frog legs, succulent alligator filets, and unforgettable turtle filets. This true Roadkill Buffet, once available only for starving castaways or nearsighted Floridians, can be yours this Christmas! Vegetarian version available.

Bear in mind that no matter what the gift costs, or how much you'll have to pay the recipient in the out-of-court settlement, it's the thought (twisted as it may be) that counts. And remember to think to invite me to your Aquatic Suite if you get one for Christmas. I'll bring the food. Happy Holidays!



A Time for Little Gods

Kris Schnee

Is Christmas getting you down? Maybe you're one of those people who, through an excessive attachment to rationality, has mixed feelings about the religious aspects of this holiday. Maybe you feel uneasy around the nativity scenes and carols which are as tightly tied to this month as commercials for Chia Pets. If you are — let's say it — a non-believer, how can you treat Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan, etc., without getting depressed?

The "holiday season" has been secularized to the point that it's basically a national benediction-to-people month. Since religion and morality are separate issues, there's absolutely no need to be religious to appreciate the value of a little compassion and tolerance this time of year; this month lets us see that it's in our own interest to treat each other well, and hints at what the world would be like if people always acted as they do in December.

As with diamonds and other things, the law of size applies to gods: the bigger they are, the more likely they are to be fake. Someone who really knows how to appraise them finds value only in small gods, the things which can be seen and hefted and appreciated without forcing away all doubts about their authenticity.

So the holiday season does not have to be about going to a church; why not root your celebration in the things that really matter in your life? Take some time to appreciate the things you have, other than that Clapper your uncle bought you. Hug some family members on Christmas Eve. Go shopping on December 26th, just to celebrate that you're a spoiled American and you never have to worry about starving or being shot. Think about the future on New Year's Eve, and impress people with your MIT education by pointing out that this time is the *real* end of the millennium.

Celebrate your freedom of mind, and depend on the people who care about you. That's the real value of this season.



'Tis the Season For Giving

Veena Thomas

It's easy to forget that not everyone joyously celebrates the holidays.

The holiday season forces some to confront their meager existence. While they may be able to survive from day to day, the holidays represent indulgence. How is a mother supposed to tell little Timmy that Santa won't be visiting him this year?

Some families face even more severe situations. December brings cold weather along with good cheer. Some simply do not have warm clothing, and rely on donations from others to get them through the season.

In the midst of spending hundreds of dollars on obligatory gifts for others, to be admired once and relegated to the back of a closet, take the time to think of those less fortunate than you.

We tend to walk around campus not really observing our surroundings, lost in thought about that problem set. Perhaps you've tripped over bags of clothing in your hurry to grab lunch at Walker, without ever pausing to wonder about their purpose. They are part of MIT's used clothing and non-perishable food drive for the holidays. MIT asks that we make donations of old clothing and dry goods to support area agencies helping the less fortunate.

College students invariably have more clothing than they can handle.

Each of us has "back-of-the-closet" shirts and sweaters: clothing which we haven't really worn in years, but keep thinking we will. Guess what — you won't. Why not donate the clothing to someone who will actually wear it and appreciate it?

These agencies desperately need socks; they don't even have to match. Almost all of us have at least one orphan sock in our drawers. If everyone at MIT donated just one sock, thousands of people would be able to prevent their feet from freezing in winter.

In addition, MIT's toy drive is soliciting donations of new children's toys. Surely you have the time in the midst of your shopping to stop and pick up a little something for a child. Instead of buying something stupid for that random person on your Secret Santa list, purchase a new toy and tell that person that you've made a donation for him or her to the toy drive.

You can also give toys at several dining locations and Copy-Tech, as well as dropping off food and clothing at Lobby 13 and Walker.

Instead of walking blindly past drop-off points around campus, stop and think about them. Your donation will allow someone to have a merry Christmas after all.

The Missing Stocking

Mike Hall

This Christmas, I will return home after finals and help my mother set up our holiday decorations. We will play an album of old Christmas times while trimming the tree, setting candles on all the windowsills, and hanging the stockings from the fireplace.

Yet by that fireplace, something will be missing. It's a stocking not hung by the chimney with care, not hung there in ten years. It is my grandfather's stocking.

My grandfather's stocking.
Robert Mullaney.

Raised by poor Irish immigrants looking for a better future for their son.

Rose from the ghettos of Pittsburgh to become the first in family to attend college.

Served his country with honor in World War II.

Dedicated husband, father, worker, and worshipper.

Good man.

"He held this family together," my mother would always say. "He was always caring, always generous."

Life wasn't easy for my grandfather, but you couldn't tell that by his smile. He had to sacrifice so much of himself to help others. When growing up, he wanted to be a lawyer, but he had to drop out of law school to support his growing family. He took a thankless job in Pittsburgh's dying steel industry, all the while minding bratty teenagers and cross neighbors at home. Later in life, he couldn't afford a comfortable retirement because he had to spend his savings sending his kids to college.

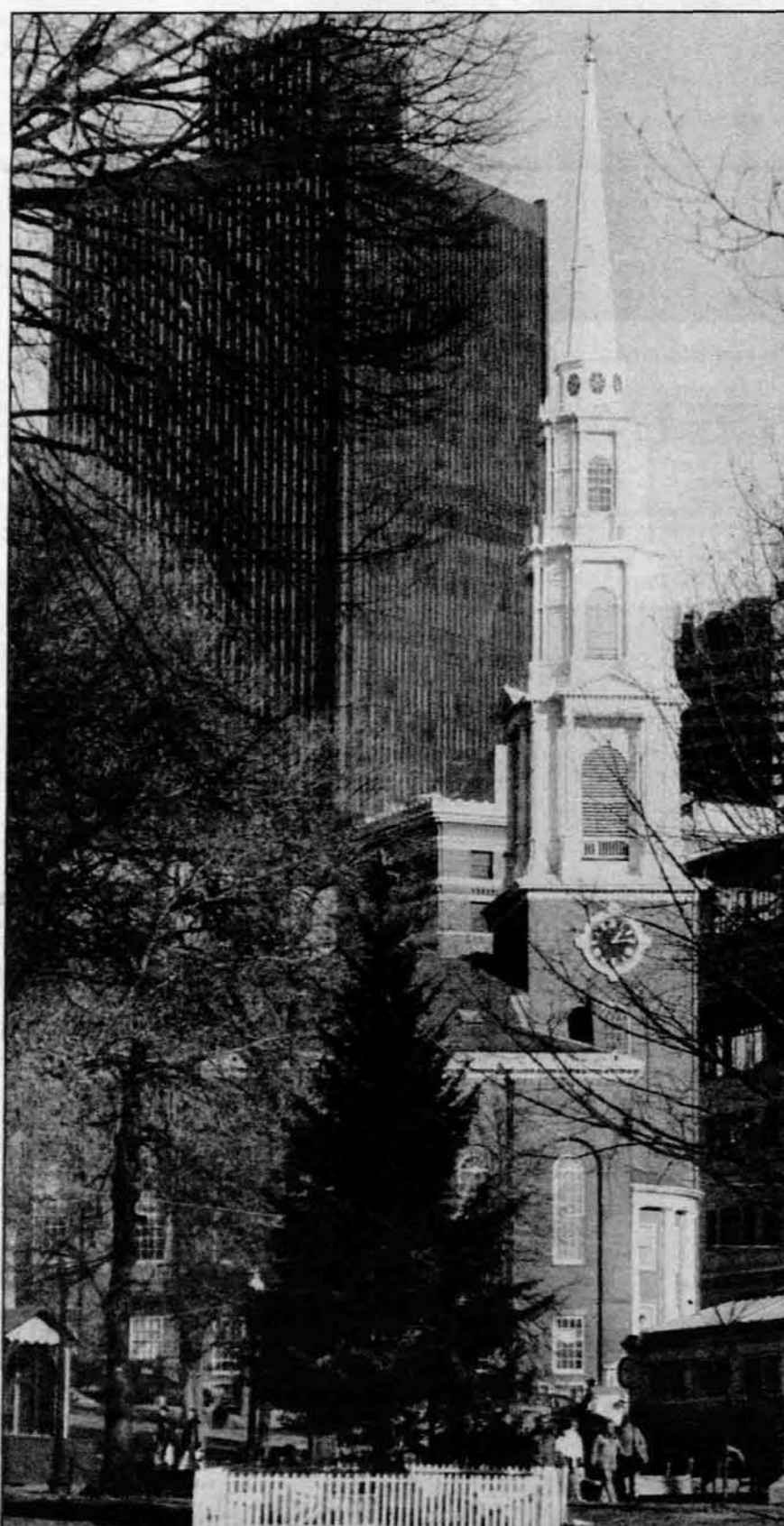
Yet he never complained. He took his misfortune and dreams deferred as a sign from above. God was testing him to check his character, to see how he would handle the roadblocks so unfairly thrown in his path. But he never failed to prove himself. He would never take his sense of loss out on anyone. Instead, he would realize the value of the gifts given to him by God — family, community, and love.

And in turn, he would share those gifts with all those around him, especially around the holiday season. I remember trips on Christmas Day to my grandparents' house as a kid. I would run up the stairs to their porch, where my grandfather would be waiting. He would scoop me up in his burly arms, give me a giant bear hug, and carry me into the living room. Broadly grinning, he'd show me the row of red stockings he had meticulously hung the night before. There was a stocking for every child and grandchild, each one as big as a giant's foot and full of candy and presents.

When comparing the size of the stockings, however, I noticed the same thing every year. While my grandfather gave everyone else big stockings, his stocking would always be the smallest and the plainest. In that small way, my grandfather proved again his willingness to sacrifice for his family. He would go without the ostentatious stocking so that others could enjoy the season, just as he went without the comforts in life to give better futures to his kids.

Grandpa, you gave so much while you were here. The least I can do — the least any of us in our family can do this holiday season is to give you your own red stocking.

Perspectives on the Season



Photos by James Camp



Lighting up the Season

Ken Nesmith

It really is a dark time of year. The sun sets over the Charles, now just beginning to ice over, at 4:30 or so, and during the day, the sun never really rises that high into the sky, so even at the peak of day it feels like midafternoon. Of course, this assumes that it's a sunny day. A good part of the time, the night recedes only enough to let a cold gray fill the sky before, hours later, the darkness takes over again.

Yet under this deathly pall of winter, we celebrate the most joyous time of the year. In no other season does the city seem so alive, so decorated and exciting. The Prudential Center is slathered in merry decorations as every good shopping mall should be at Christmas. Even ultrahip, ultrachic Newbury Street, overcome with holiday glee, puts on its Christmas bests of wreaths, lights, and the occasional Christmas tree. Christmas carols seem to play wherever we go, and they bring back sweet memories of Christmases past.

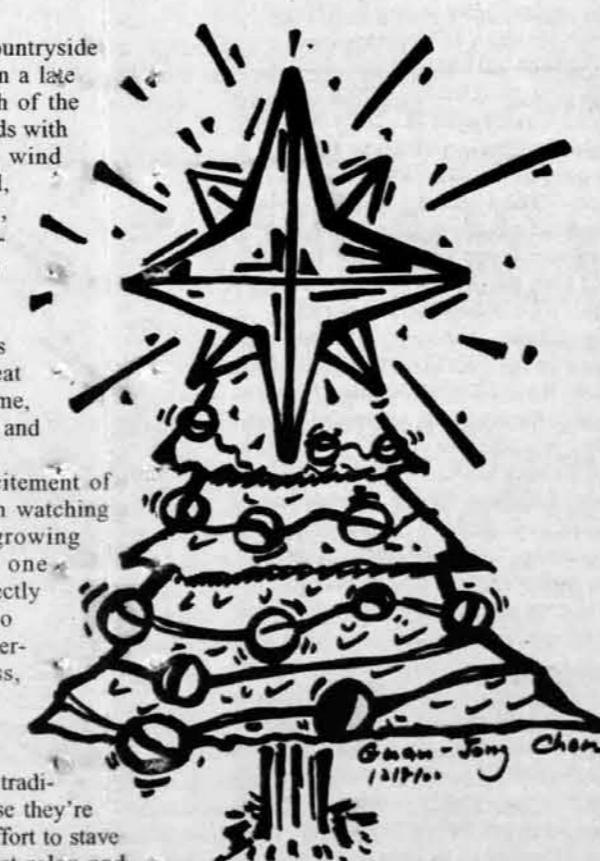
For the final touch, the snow graces Boston Commons and the rest of the city with a light dusting of white flakes that slicken roads, cover parked cars, and remind us to pull our scarves to warm snugness as we trudge through the busy winter scene. Amidst the hustle and bustle of the season, the city seems to glow with warmth and life; it's a

truly beautiful time of year.

Away from the city, the countryside rests in more serene beauty. On a late afternoon walk, the soft crunch of the cold earth under our boots blends with the hushed whispering of the wind and snow, until we stop and, peering out from our coats, scarves, and hats, in the distance we see the dark trees standing resolute among chilled white fields and the gray sky, swirling with winter's subdued mirth. Soon, we retreat to the light and comfort of home, the warmth of a crackling fire, and perhaps a hot drink.

Part of the mysterious excitement of the holiday season comes from watching us so successfully defy the growing darkness of the season. In one sense, the Christmas tree perfectly represents this defiance; we go out into nature and steal an evergreen, killing it in the process, bring it inside, and cover it with lights and decorations.

But it would be rather silly of me to impugn a season and traditions I hold so dear only because they're derived from a somewhat odd effort to stave off winter. I'd much rather just relax and enjoy them, and I will. Merry Christmas.



Religious Viewpoints

The Festival of Lights, Peace, and Sufganiot

Donuts are good. Sufganiot are better. It is as simple as that. These greasy, sweet, sweet pastries come only once a year — on Chanukah. Like many other Jewish holidays, Chanukah commemorates a miracle that saved the Jewish way of life (as well as those heavenly sufganiot).

Around 170 B.C.E., the Syrian-Greeks ruling the land of Israel tried to assimilate the Jews into their religion and culture. Battles ensued and the Jewish Maccabees (the Jewish equivalent of WWF wrestlers and gladiators), vastly outnumbered, managed a victory over the Syrians. The holy temple in Jerusalem was liberated and the menorah was miraculously lit for eight days using oil sufficient for only one day. This is the reason why Chanukah lasts eight days.

Chanukah is a joyous holiday — yes, despite the absence of Santa Claus (there are rumors of a Chanukah Harry, but these have never been substantiated). Andrew Goldsweig '03 spends the holiday with his family singing and relaxing. "We go through Mi Y'malel, Oy Chanukah, Ma Ostzur, Sivivon Sov Sov Sov, Chanukah Chanukah, and the other classics," Andrew. "Every Chanukah dinner in my house is composed of cholesterol-laden latkes and blintzes filled with cheese, cherries, or blueberries." Gift giving is also a recent tradition, though a welcome one.

With all the celebration, there is also a deep message of perseverance, faith, and tolerance. The current situation in Israel is not looking hopeful. Yet there is a will to make a

change towards peace. Every Friday night at Hillel everyone sings and prays for peace and hope. Miracles may not happen in the same way they used to, but the very smallest hope for peace is a miracle itself. Look for menorahs in windows on your way home and you'll catch a glimmer of hope for a better future.

Gilad Evrony '04
Secretary, Hillel

The Meaning Of Christmas

Christmas to me is a celebration of relationship: the final stage of God's plan for a relationship with us. This plan was started at the beginning, when he created man and woman in his image. It continued through Jewish history, with the ten commandments and the prophecies of a Messiah who would save his people.

I believe those prophecies pointed to Jesus, who willingly gave up his place in heaven in order to die on earth so that we could hang out with him for eternity. His birth in a barn — being placed in an animal feeding trough! — exemplifies to me his love for me. He was willing to go through all manner of humility and ridicule by his own creation for the purpose of knowing me. Christmas is only celebrated because of Easter, and I try to apply that to my personal life as I reflect during this Season on the difference that Jesus has made in my life.

Elizabeth T. March '03
Chi Alpha

Fasting the Month of Ramadan: A Reflection

In two weeks, as Christians commemorate the birth of Christ, and Jews the Festival of Lights, Muslims will observe Eid al-Fitr, the Festivity of Breaking the Fast — a major celebration. The spiritual essence of the Eid is the Month of Ramadan, which began on Nov. 27th and will end in late December with the sighting of the new lunar crescent.

"O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may cultivate piety," says God in the Qur'an (2:183). The fast of the Month of Ramadan is a pillar of Islamic faith; it entails abstinence, curbing worldly passions, purifying the inward self, standing in humble prayer before God, and seeking His forgiveness. It was in this month that God first revealed the Qur'an to the Prophet of Islam, as a guidance to humanity.

"Fasting is for Me, and I am its reward," says God to the believers, in the words of Prophet Muhammad. The fast, like all modes of worship, has spiritual stations. Its exoteric form is a compulsory refrain (between dawn and dusk) from food, drink, smoke, and sexual intercourse; this is the fast of the commonfolk.

A nobler fast imposes discipline on all bodily senses and limbs. Thus, the tongue fasts by refraining from superfluous or harmful speech (e.g., slander), the eyes fast by avoiding what is not permitted (e.g., lustful gaze), the ears by eschewing what is forbidden (e.g., giving audience to backbiting), and so forth; this is the fast of the select. "Surely, the hearing, the sight, and the heart, all of these, shall be questioned [on Judgment Day]" (17:36).

The sublimest fast, that of the heart, is attained by the spiritual elite. As such, the worshipper severs his or her self from any thought other than the remembrance of God. In the words of Ali ibn Abi Talib, an intimate companion and relative of Prophet Muhammad, "I never observed a thing but that I witnessed God before it, after it, and with it." Of a worshipper drawn so near to Him, God says: "I shall love him," and in metaphor, "When I love him, I become his hearing with which he hears, his sight with which he sees, his hand with which he strikes, and his leg with which he walks."

The Qur'an exemplifies the higher stations of fasting, where it narrates the virgin birth of Jesus and his miraculous speech in the cradle. When "the throes of childbirth drove [Mary] to the trunk of the palm-tree, she [despaired] ... Then, [Jesus, the infant] called unto her from below, saying: "Grieve not! Your Lord has placed a rivulet beneath you. Shake the trunk of the palm-tree toward you, to cause fresh, ripe dates to fall upon you. So eat, drink, and be consoled. And if you meet any mortal, say: 'Lo! I have vowed a fast unto the Beneficent, and may not speak this day to any mortal'" (19:23-26). Mary's fast allows for food and drink, but not speech.

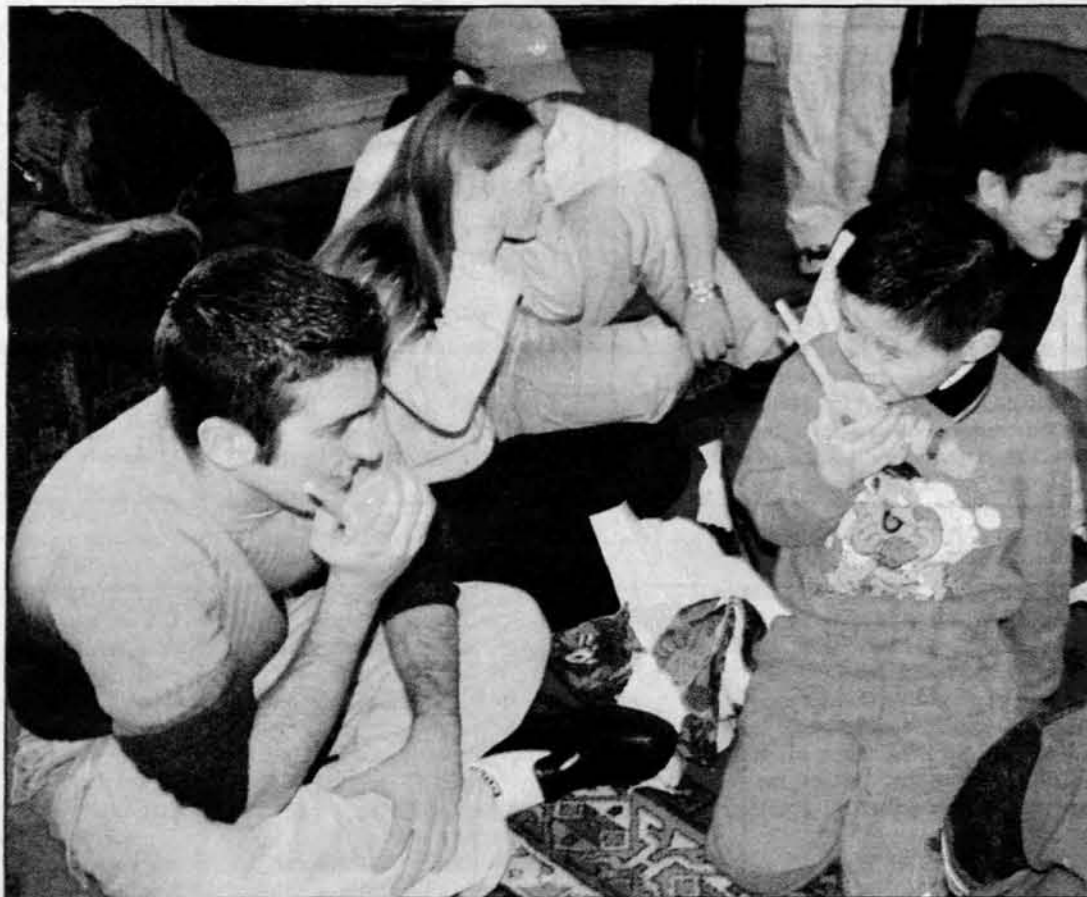
Spiritually rejuvenated from sustained, intense worship, the believers greet the occasion of Eid al-Fitr with elation. As they flock to, and from, congregational prayers on the Day of Eid, angels stand at every corner of every alley to salute them, while God addresses them, saying: "Go, with all your sins forgiven, for you indeed [strove to] please Me, and I am pleased with you."

Babak Ayazifar G
MIT Muslim Students Association



ROSHAN BALIGA—THE TECH

The Hanukkah bears at the MIT Coop in Kendall Square are busy preparing for the holiday season.



KATIE JEFFREYS—THE TECH

Joshua D. Juster '03 plays with the walkie-talkies given to a student at the Boston Children's Services after-school program. He attended an event hosted by Delta Tau Delta and Alpha Chi Omega.

For Holiday Season, Students Give Back To the Community

Holiday Giving, from Page A1

guests. "The idea is to give the Christmas experience to people who might not otherwise get it," said Clifford H. Hodges '03, a member of ATO.

"I got the idea when I saw an old ATO picture of some brothers and some little kids, with a Christmas tree," said ATO Community

Service Chair Erik M. Glover '02 before the event. "It just seemed like a good idea. We'll have a good time and we'll be able to have a more direct impact." Glover hopes to turn this into an annual tradition.

The dinner was arranged through Bridge Over Troubled Waters, a Boston-based organization that matches groups wishing to perform community service, such as fraternities

and sororities, with groups of local underprivileged people.

Students spend weekend in service

On Sunday, the Junior Interfraternity Council took MIT students to spend a day making cards and ornaments with children at the Margaret Fuller House in Cambridge, followed by ice skating at the Johnson Athletic Center.

The Margaret Fuller House is a house for school-age children in Cambridge. An ice skating trip with MIT students was meant to be a reward for good behavior. JIFC Community Service Chair Rayna B. Zacks '04, however, decided to make something more of it. "I didn't want to just show up and ice skate," said Zacks. "I thought we should have an activity beforehand to get to know the kids."

"Every month we're going to try to do something with the [Margaret Fuller] House," said Zacks. "This is only the first month."

Also on Sunday, Jeanette C. Fershtman '04 participated in the 24th Annual Bill Rodgers Jingle Bell Run. This non-competitive run raised money for the Court Appointed Special Advocates Association (CASA), Toys for Tots, and Running USA.

"I found out about the run because part of the proceeds were going to CASA, my sorority's philanthropy," said Fershtman, a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, a few days before the event. "I got myself signed up and sent out an e-mail to all my sisters that I was doing this. They're going to come out and support me, and I've already got lots of sponsors."

A group from Kappa Alpha Theta will also go carolling at Massachusetts General Hospital this Thursday. "It was just a random thought that occurred to me," said Fershtman. "I thought it would be fun to get out and actually do something, and since none of us were doing anything Thursday, we decided to go carolling."

Holiday Giving Opportunities

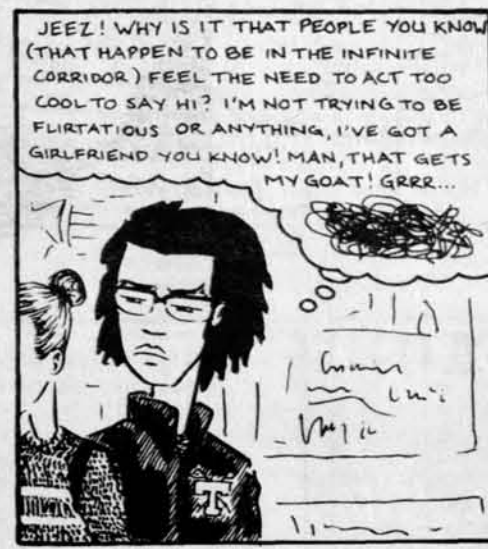
Event	Dates	Location
Toy Drive (Drop gifts in boxes.)	Through December 15	Various campus dining locations
Tickets for Tots (Give a gift of equal or greater value than your ticket. Bring a receipt.)	Through December 15	Office of Parking and Transportation (E32-105)
Clothing/Non-Perishable Food Drive (See wishlist at < http://web.mit.edu/community-giving/uw/drive.html >)	Through December 15	Walker lobby, Student Center, others (see web site)
Habitat for Humanity Holiday Card Drive (Buy greeting cards.)	December 12 (today), 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. December 13 & 14, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Lobby 10 Student Center

Down with Science

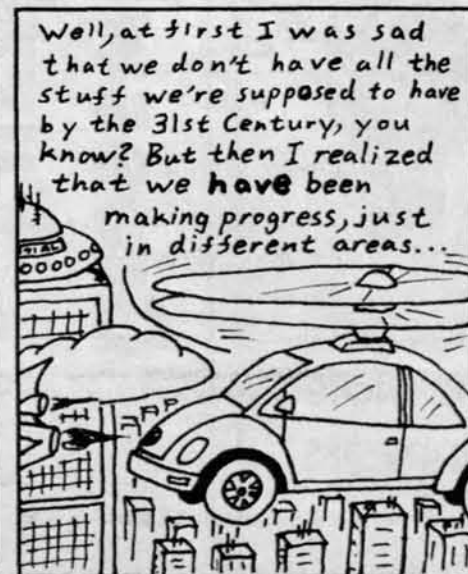
by Jennifer DiMase



the crass rat



MITCH by ToastyKen "Happy New Millennium!"



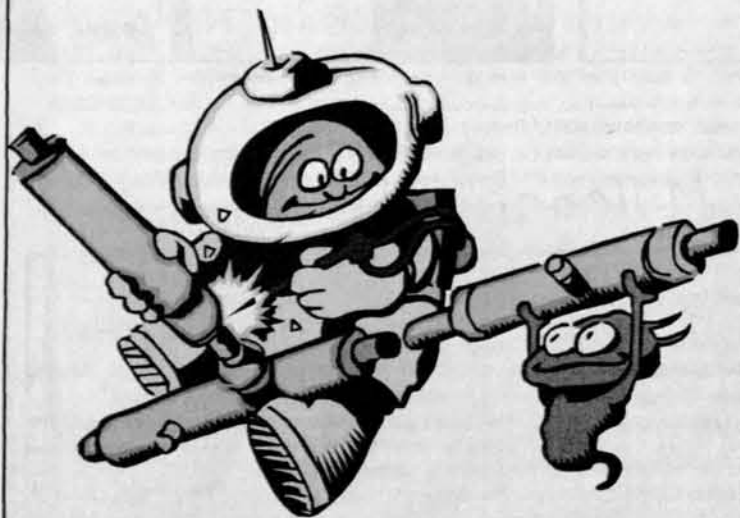
By Guan-Jong (John) Chen
Tech Life



MANGOS



Fun With Clip Art
Aaron Isaksen

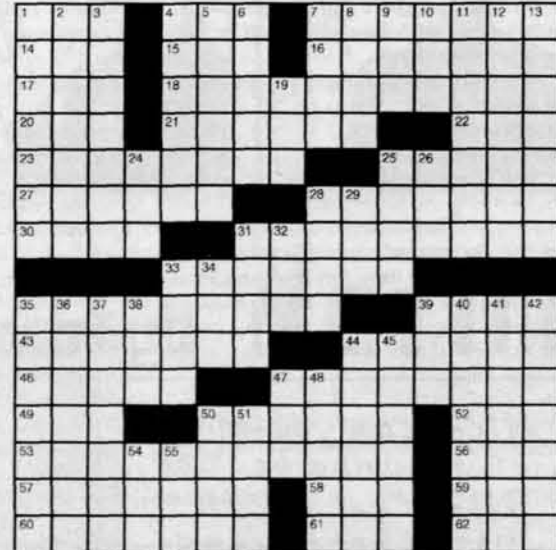


"Dude...yer totally gunna get ripped once ya toke some wicked dank buds outta this trippy-ass motherf\$\$ker!"

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 20

- ACROSS
- 1 Train unit
 - 4 ZZZ letters
 - 7 Guest
 - 14 Inspire wonder
 - 15 "All Over the World" grp.
 - 16 Most artless
 - 17 Sci. class
 - 18 Amendment concerned with senatorial elections
 - 20 Kick the bucket
 - 21 Nevertheless
 - 22 ___ Paulo, Brazil
 - 23 And so forth
 - 25 Comic routines
 - 27 Playground time
 - 28 Sea of Israel
 - 30 Sea of Asia
 - 31 Woman of the church
 - 33 Pirate
 - 35 Instability
 - 39 Holier- -thou
 - 43 Hammer wielders
 - 44 Spicy cuisine
 - 46 Scatter
 - 47 Ern
 - 49 Deadlock
 - 50 Bart and Belle
 - 52 Sign of assent
 - 53 Insert in between
 - 56 Barn nester
 - 57 Frees from captivity
 - 58 Golf course mound
 - 59 Get it?
 - 60 Jumpers
 - 61 Offbeat
 - 62 Ames and Asner

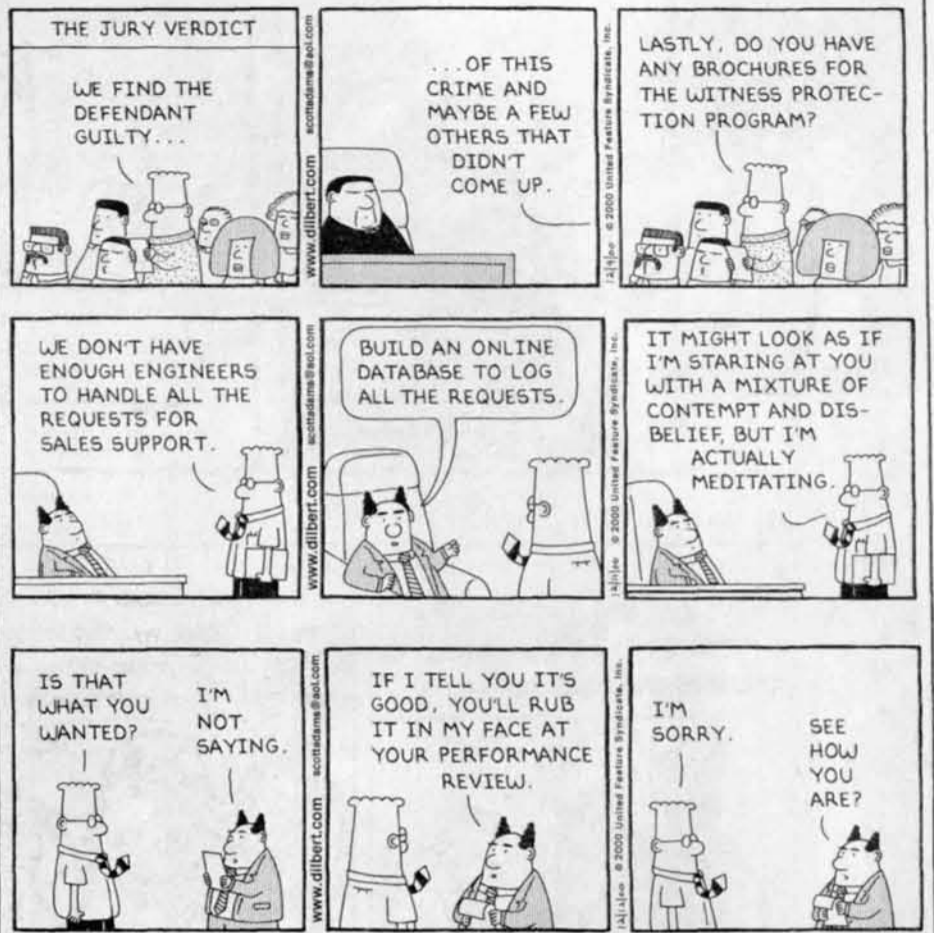


- DOWN
- 1 Volcanic crater
 - 2 One standing by
 - 3 Du Maurier classic
 - 4 Changes the timer
 - 5 French students
 - 6 Shaker's partner?
 - 7 Country stopovers
 - 8 European defense assn.
 - 9 Compete
 - 10 ___ been had!
 - 11 Ductile
 - 12 Contents of wills
 - 13 Cultural values
 - 19 Alfonso's queen
 - 24 Squirmy catch
 - 25 Work hard
 - 26 Relatives
 - 28 Walloping wind
 - 29 Unreturnable serve
 - 31 Puts on
 - 32 Abbr. of 23A
 - 33 Tooted
 - 34 Shell propeller
 - 35 Implant
 - 36 Afternoon showing
 - 37 Priest's headwear
 - 38 Alternative to lager
 - 39 Darjeeling or pekoe
 - 40 Puff adder
 - 41 Permitted
 - 42 Medical stickers?
 - 44 Hauled
 - 45 Make repairs to greens
 - 47 Mule of song
 - 48 Muse of lyric poetry
 - 50 Stimulus
 - 51 Kiddies
 - 54 6th sense
 - 55 Caviar base

FoxTrot by Bill Amend



Dilbert® by Scott Adams



TechCalendar

Visit and add events to the Event Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Tuesday, December 12

- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Telephone and Voice Mail Quick Start.** If you are new to MIT or want to learn more about the features on your telephone and voice mail, this class is just what you need. Instructors will explain features which will help you get the most out of these useful tools and talk about the most common problems and where to go for help. Attendees will learn what features are available on different phones and classes of service. You will also be able to try features on telephones in the classroom. Free. Room: E19-732. Sponsor: Information Systems.
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Windows 2000 Quick Start.** This session demonstrates the new features and functionalities of Windows 2000 for the desktop user. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.
- 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - **Dibner Institute Luncheon Colloquia: The Logical Role of Constructions in Euclid's Elements.** Dibner Institute Luncheon Colloquium. free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.
- 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - **Blood Drive.** Help the American Red Cross save lives by donating blood. free. Sponsor: American Red Cross Team and Network, Blood Drives.
- 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - **Large-scale simulations of oswald ripening in .** Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in room 2-349. Free. Room: Room 2-338. Sponsor: Physical Mathematics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Some Topics relating to the General Circulation of the Atmosphere.** Several aspects of the extratropical general circulation will be discussed, including 1) the relationship between low level eddy heat fluxes and equatorward mass transport, 2) alternatives for stopping the inverse energy cascade and scale selection, 3) a heuristic storm track model, and 4) the maintenance of the extratropical static stability. free. Room: Rm 54-915. Sponsor: MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars.
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **LIDS Colloquium.** Abstract:TBA. Free. Room: LIDS - 35-225. Sponsor: LIDS Colloquium.
- 4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - **Gas Turbine Laboratory Seminar Series.** TBA. Free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Gas Turbine Laboratory.
- 4:30 p.m. - **Lectures on Operator Algebras, etc. Continued...** Lectures on Operator Algebras, Noncommutative Geometry, and K-Theory (primarily for physicists) Continued... free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor: Harvard-MIT Mathematical Physics Seminar. M.I.T. Department of Mathematics.
- 5:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society.** Haydn's Trio XXXI in G Major, Hoboken-Verz. XV:15 performed by Hanwei Li '04, piano; Adora Lin '02, flute; Grace Nam '01, cello (Jean Rife, coach). MIT Jazz Compos perform Bauza's Mambo Inn, Calderazzo's Midnight Voyage, Higginbotham's High Heeled Sneakers (Mike Mandel '04, alto sax; Tanya Cruz Garza '04, alto sax; Johanna Erdmunger, trombone; Andrew Werner '04, piano; Rob Geary '04, bass; Nathan Fitzgerald '02, drums. Shorter's This Is For Albert; Olsen's The Arrival; C.T.A., (Wai Ling Yee (G), alto sax; Scott Miller (G), tenor sax; Andrew Thomas '04, trombone; Arnaud Czaja (G), piano; Rob Geary '04, bass; Nathan Fitzgerald '02, drums). (Doug Olsen, coach). free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts.
- 7:00 p.m. - **The New Deal: Strategies for Showcasing Alternatives.** Arts Boston Contemporary Dialogues (ABCD) Panel Discussion with Kathleen Bitetti, Cynthia von Buhler, Randi Hopkins, James Hull. Moderator: List Visual Arts Center Curator Bill Arming. free. Room: Bartos Theater. Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.
- 7:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society.** Beethoven's Quartet Op. 95 performed by Ray Cheng '02, violin; Winnie Yang '02, violin; Martina Hurwitz '03, viola; Chris Snow '01, cello (Alexei Shabalyn, coach). Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy's Quintet no. 2, op. 87 performed by Aaron Mazzeo '03, violin; Christiana Obiaya '04, violin; Rebecca Brown (G), viola; Christopher Taylor '04, viola; Alan deLespinasse '94, cello; (Marcus Thompson, coach). free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts.

Wednesday, December 13

- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **SAA Holiday Ceramics Sale.** Student Art Association's annual solution for holiday gift-giving. free. Room: Lobby 10. Sponsor: Student Art Association.
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - **Plasma Science and Fusion Center Seminar Series: Pulse Compression of High Intensity Laser Power.** Free. Room: NW17-218. Sponsor: Plasma Science and Fusion Center.
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - **Quantum Cascade Lasers.** Free. Room: 36-428, RLE Conference Room. Sponsor: Optics.
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Artist Behind the Desk: vocalist Anne Rhodes.** Musical series featuring (both solo and group) vocalists, pianists, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion etc. Ms. Rhodes is senior office assistant in Architecture. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Artists Behind the Desk, a task group of the Working Group on Support Staff Issues.
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Web Accessibility and Universal Design.** Learn about MIT's new Web Accessibility Policy and ways to make your web page more accessible to users with disabilities. This session will show examples of accessible and inaccessible Web design, and cover HTML coding and tools that can help make your site ADA-compliant. free. Sponsor: Information Systems, ATIC Lab.
- 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - **Blood Drive.** Help the American Red Cross save lives by donating blood. free. Sponsor: American Red Cross Team and Network, Blood Drives.
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - **Weekly Practice Sessions for Oral Presentations: Weekly Practice Session for**

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

- Oral Presentations.** Practice oral presentations and get professional feedback from Dr. Steven Strang, director of MIT's Writing and Communication Center. free. Room: 14N-325. Sponsor: Writing and Communication Center.
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Nanostructures Seminar Series.** Nanowire and Nanotube Building Blocks for Nanotechnology. free. Room: 34-101 - Refreshments served at 3:45 pm. Sponsor: Nanostructures Laboratory.
- 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - **spouses&partners@mit - Winter Party.** Join our celebration! We will make ornaments for a Christmas tree that we'll donate to a Boston area charity. Please bring a sweet or savory holiday food to share. Everyone in your family is welcome. free. Room: Bush Room (10-105). Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit, MIT Medical.
- 5:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society.** Beethoven's Quartet in C Major, Op. 59 No. 3 performed by Jo Marie Sison '02, violin; Colette Salyk '03, violin; Jason Parris '02, viola; Peter Jung '01, cello (Marcus Thompson, coach). free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts.
- 5:45 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - **Middle Eastern Club Bi-weekly Discussion Series.** The aim is to meet in the evenings with refreshments provided and hold a somewhat moderated discussion on topics ranging from religion and secularism to economics and women's rights to activism in and outside the U.S. Some brief materials (a few pages worth) will be distributed some days ahead of time, with the assumption that participants will have read the material in advance. Examples of previous topics: "What Role, History?", "Cultural Perceptions and the Misconceptions of the "Middle-East" in the World. E-mail mideast-officers@mit.edu for discussion topics. Free. Room: MIT Room 66-148. Sponsor: Middle Eastern Club.
- 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. - **MITGard Weekly Meeting.** Free. Room: Student Center, PDR#3. Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.
- 7:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society.** Bartok's String Quartet #2, Op. 17 performed by Dawn Perliner '01, violin; Nathan Liu '04, violin; Jennifer Gruzca '99, viola; Mea Cook (G), cello (Marcus Thompson, coach). Shostakovich's Quintet in G minor for Piano and Strings, op. 57 performed by Bonny Lee '03, piano; James Alt '02, violin; Meridith Glinka '04, violin; Arnold Kim '02, viola; Terry Gaige '04, cello (David Deveau, coach). de Machaut's Messe de Notre Dame and Hindemith's Fürst Kraft performed by Joseph Davis (G), tenor. Frederick Choi '02, bass; Anand Sarwate '01, tenor, Regaip Alp Sen '03, bass (Jean Rife, coach). free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts.
- 7:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. - **LSC Presents: "Coyote Ugly".** Celebrate the end of classes at "Coyote Ugly." Showing WEDNESDAY at 7pm & 10pm and FRIDAY at 7pm. Starring the stunning Piper Perabo. A sexy romantic comedy featuring a spectacular soundtrack, "Coyote Ugly" is the story of one girl's wild adventure in the big city. Graced with a velvet voice, 21-year-old Violet Sanford heads to New York topursue her dream of becoming a songwriter, only to find her aspirations sidelined by the accolades and notoriety she receives at her "day" job as a bar maid at Coyote Ugly. A new nightclub with a twist, Coyote Ugly is the hottest spot in town, featuring a team of sexy, enterprising young women who tantalize customersand the media alike with their outrageous antics. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - **International Film Club Film Seminar Series: International Film Club Film Seminar.** Consult our web page for this weeks title: <http://web.mit.edu/ifilm/www>. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, International Film Club.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Roadkill Buffet's The Big-Ass Final Project Show.** Roadkill whips out the long-form, mixing comedy and drama and producing miniature self-contained plays on the spot. free. Room: Rm 35-225. Sponsor: Roadkill Buffet.

Thursday, December 14

- 8:00 a.m. - **Being LGBT and Working at MIT.** We are looking to start an ongoing discussion group to help explore issues of concern to LGBT staff and faculty. We invite you to join one, or both, of our initial conversations. free. Room: 376 Medical. Sponsor: LGBT Issues Group. Mental Health Services at MIT.
- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **SAA Holiday Ceramics Sale.** Student Art Association's annual solution for holiday gift-giving. Free. Room: Lobby 10. Sponsor: Student Art Association.
- 12:00 p.m. - **CLM Plastic Lunch Seminar Series: The Organization of Memory in the Medial Temporal Lobe.** Prof. Wendy A. Suzuki of New York University, shares her current research. Title of lecture above will be updated when available. More information on Prof. Suzuki can be found at <http://www.cns.nyu.edu/corefaculty/Suzuki.html> Hosted by Prof. Earl K. Miller. free. Room: E25-117. Sponsor: Center for Learning and Memory.
- 7:00 & 10:00 p.m. - **LSC Presents: "Godzilla 2000".** Celebrate the end of classes with the ORIGINAL (Japanese/Toho Productions) Godzilla, smashing buildings and blowing up huge aliens in an all new big screen appearance. Showing THURSDAY at 7 and 10 p.m. and replaying on FRIDAY at 10pm. \$2.50. Room: MIT Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Simply Sondheim: A Review of Stephen Sondheim's Works.** Directed by Seth Bisen-Hersh, senior, electrical engineering and computer science. free. Room: Walker 201. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Plays at Work: Queer Theory! A Musical Travesty .** Theater Offensive Evening of Play Readings. Queer Theory! A Musical Travesty by Asst Prof Thomas DeFrantz. Theater Offensive is a resident company at Boston Center for the Arts. Its mission is to present the diverse realities of gay and lesbian lives. free. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.
- 1:00 p.m. - **PE IAP Lottery Closes.** free. Sponsor: Physical Education.



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mass art



MIT UNDERGRADUATES

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at the Massachusetts
College of Art &
the School of the
Museum of Fine Arts

This exchange program provides up to 10 MIT undergraduates per semester the opportunity to enroll in selected courses at each of these nationally-recognized institutions for MIT credit. All courses are pass/D/fail.

Application Deadline:
DECEMBER 13, 2000

Applications are available at the Student Services Center (11-120), Architecture HQ (7-337) or Visual Arts Program (N51-315b)

Please call the Visual Arts Program at 253-5229 or email slb@mit.edu



The MIT
Graduate
Student
Council

office: Walker Memorial, 50-220 (above the Muddy)
phone: 253-2195
website: <http://web.mit.edu/gsc/www>
email: gsc-request@mit.edu

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December - Calendar

- 11 Activities Committee Meeting*
- 12 Academics, Research & Careers Committee Meeting*
- 13 Housing & Community Affairs Committee Meeting*
- 14 MIT Museum Social & Nutcracker trip

All graduate students are welcome. Food is provided.
* @ 5:30 in 50-220 (above the muddy)

Pro-Democracy TV Will Bring Broader Coverage, Alum Says

By Dana Levine
NEWS DIRECTOR

Pro-Democracy TV, a cable channel designed to transmit international news, documentaries, event coverage, and political commentary to residents of the greater Boston area, is in the early stages of development under MIT alumnus John A. Heyer '73.

"Television can be something that does really educate and enlighten people," Heyer said. He said he got the idea for Pro-Democracy TV after watching similar stations broadcast from other universities, including the University of Michigan, Stanford University, and the University of Maryland.

"If this goes through, it will definitely fill a niche that's open in this community," said Undergraduate Association President Peter A. Shul-

man '01. "We end up getting this filter down from the major media. Everything else gets put on the shelf, and we don't get much access to it."

Shulman believes that the new programming would benefit both MIT students and the greater Boston community. "It would involve MIT taking a big step in its responsibility to the community," Shulman said, noting that "we have a lot of international students who don't have access to the kind of news they would get at home."

Heyer said that current public stations, such as WGBH, have shied away from programming which promotes activism and democracy. He described Pro-Democracy TV as a combination of "media and democracy fighting for the public sphere."

"MIT has always had a leadership role [in public television], but

they have dropped that recently," Heyer said. MIT president James R. Killian '29 was instrumental in the creation of the Carnegie Commission on Educational Television, which eventually led to the creation of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in 1967.

Several local universities have pledged interns to help MIT start Pro-Democracy TV, including Boston University, Northeastern, Tufts, and Brandeis. However, Heyer said that MIT students must provide the original impetus.

"The administration has said several times to me that they are interested. However, they said that things at MIT generally happen in response to student activism," Heyer said. He is planning on holding meetings during IAP in order to attract MIT students into the organization.

Groups Compete for Large Event Funding

By Naveen Sunkavally
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A ballroom dance competition, a drag and variety show called Fierce Forever 4, and Comedy Collage are among eight events chosen for funding by the ad hoc large event funding panel for Independent Activities Period and the spring semester.

The panel, consisting of representatives from the Undergraduate Association, Graduate Student Council, and Association of Student Activities, allocated a total of \$30,000. Twenty-three groups requested funding totaling \$121,021, making this term the most competitive ever.

"There were a lot of groups we couldn't fund because we didn't have enough funding," said Philip B. Tan, ASA treasurer and a member of the panel.

Last spring, a total of \$25,235 was granted for fourteen events out of a total pool requesting \$68,677. Tan said he did not know why there was such a large increase from last year to this year but speculated that

the number of requests has increased rather than the amount requested.

Many of the events, including the Comedy Collage, Grains of Rice: A Celebration of Asian Heritage, and the Pakistani band Junoon have received funding from the LEF panel in previous years. Grains of Rice received the most funding with \$6,500 and was the only fully funded event, Tan said. Most of the other events were largely or about half funded.

Applications for IAP and the spring semester were reviewed separately, Tan said.

Among the groups which did not receive funding is the Institute Forum, which received funding separately from the Graduate Student Council, Undergraduate Association, and Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict.

The panel gave priority to those events run by more than one student group and events requesting amounts between \$3,000 and \$10,000.

Ellen Zweig, Artist in Residence at MIT

<http://xenia.media.mit.edu/lucy>

Site is NOT active until 12:01am Dec. 11. Site ends on Dec. 15!

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• Every day, the web pages will be different •

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* * * * *

What will happen to Lucy by Friday, December 15th?

Visit <http://xenia.media.mit.edu/lucy> and find out!

LEF Allocations

Event	Grant
Chinese & Oriental Culture Show	\$1,000
Junoon Concert	\$5,500
Comedy Collage	\$3,500
Fierce Forever 4 (drag and variety show)	\$4,000
Chicano/a Symposium	\$2,500
Grains of Rice: A Celebration of Asian Cultures	\$6,500
Taste of Boston (Spring Weekend barbeque)	\$5,000
Ballroom Dance Competition	\$2,000

Source: LEF Funding Panel

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MIT Department of Facilities

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

LIFE SAFETY

Installation has begun in Amherst Alley on a fire protection water pipe from Baker House to Burton Connor. Work will continue for several weeks and will disrupt daytime vehicular traffic. Excavation of a trench will cause noise, vibration and some dust.

UTILITIES UPGRADE: Albany Street Garage: As part of the utility expansion, the walkway between buildings 42 and 44 at the railroad crossing connecting Vassar Street to the Albany Garage will be closed to pedestrian traffic through early January.

FIREHOUSE INN: Construction continues on the firehouse on Main Street and of a new 7 story steel frame structure. Contact: Suffolk Construction, Inc. Co, John Laquale, Project Manager, at (617) 517-5234 or e-mail: jlaquale@scci-bos.com. Project completion: Spring 2002.

MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

Excavation of a fire protection main will close part of the sidewalk in front of Building 9 and affect the service road at W20. Work will take place in the evenings and on weekends.

NW30 (GRADUATE RESIDENCE)

Pile installation during the next few weeks will cause noise disruption to the surrounding area. Project completion: August 2001.

SIMMONS HALL

Excavation of soil continues causing dust and noise to the surrounding area. Trucks removing the material may impact traffic along Vassar Street. Project completion: August 2002.

STATA CENTER

Drilling of holes for tiebacks continues for the next few weeks and will cause noise and vibration. Project completion: Fall 2003.

This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities: web.mit.edu/facilities/www/construction/

WIN A FREE PALM PILOT OR CASH BY DONATING YOUR CLASS BIBLES!!

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WHERE: Drop off bibles at BURTON CONNER for Elizabeth Kim or at EAST CAMPUS for Judy Chen.

SPECIFICS: (1) Label each bible with the course number, year of bible, your name, residence, email address, and whether you are lending your bible or donating it permanently. (2) Before dropping off bibles, email swebibledrive@yahoo.com with the above info and drop-off location.

* All bibles will be checked for quality. Bibles must have 90% of all problem sets, exams, solutions, notes, and handouts

QUESTIONS? Email adreyer@mit.edu or amayz@mit.edu

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

<http://web.mit.edu/swe/www/bibledrive.html>

Reading Room May Be TEAL Classroom

TEAL, from Page 1

Edward Redish of the University of Maryland indicates is a more effective way of teaching physics and is documented in a paper by Redish, "New Models of Physics Instruction Based on Physics Education Research."

"The idea [behind the TEAL program] is to move courses like 8.01 and 8.02 from a passive lecture-based format to an active learning environment," said Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine, another committee member and a proponent of the TEAL program. "There will be a significant use of computers, but I put more emphasis on the active part."

According to committee members, if TEAL were to be implemented in the Student Center, the Reading Room would be used for classes for 15 hours a week starting in fall 2001 and fall 2002 for off-term 8.02. By spring 2003, the room would be in use from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily for on-term 8.02.

Of the 5,027 square feet in the Reading Room, 3,000 square feet would be renovated, leaving approximately 28 study stations that would be soundproofed from the TEAL area so that they could be used for studying during the day.

In the long run, TEAL would move entirely to a new teaching facility under plans for construction on the east side of campus. However, the facility is not scheduled to be ready for at least 3-5 years, which would be the minimum amount of time TEAL would occupy the reading room.

Students defend reading room

The extensive student criticism expressed since the announcement of the TEAL proposal covers two broad

concerns: the use of Student Center space for academic purposes, and the educational validity of TEAL itself.

Some students question whether the TEAL program will be more effective than standard lecture-based classes.

Concerns regarding implementing it in the Student Center include exceeding the capacity of the elevators, the Athena cluster, and other Student Center resources with hundreds more students entering and exiting the building each day.

Neimzik said that space concerns have been more prevalent than academic criticisms.

"I'm glad that people are beginning to see the difference between the actual proposal for TEAL, and whether or not it will be in the Reading Room," Neimzik said. "What I'm seeing on the e-mail lists so far is that most people who have been vocal so far don't want TEAL to go in the Reading Room."

Problems have been encountered seeking space elsewhere on campus.

"There has been a comprehensive look over a period of months by a number of people for space elsewhere on campus," Redwine said. "We have not been able to find any alternative that looks reasonable."

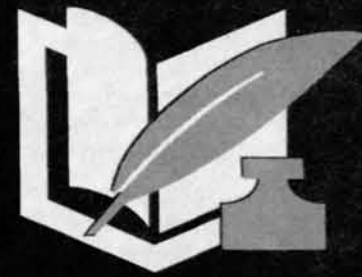
Redwine said that the committee had closely examined eight other possible locations on campus and found them all to be unacceptable. For example, Redwine said that the Career Services Center in Building 12 occupied sufficient space for the TEAL program, but that if TEAL were to take that location, the Career Services Center would have to move up Vassar Street near the ROTC building. "Most people on the committee agreed that this would be a worse situation than having TEAL in the Student Center," Redwine said.

Wednesday, December 13th at 12:00 Noon

Joe Haldeman

Signing copies of his novel

— *The Coming*



©2000 Gay Haldeman

Joe Haldeman is a Vietnam veteran who has served several times as president of the Science Fiction Writers of America and is currently an adjunct professor of writing at M.I.T. Haldeman's classic novels *The Forever War* and *Forever Peace* have both won him Hugo and Nebula Awards. In his thrilling new novel *The Coming*, he presents an intriguing tale of Earth in the twenty-first century and a visit that has everyone talking.

Earth is unprepared and in chaos when astronomy professor Aurora Bella gets a message from space. The message seems to announce the coming arrival of extraterrestrials on New Year's Day, but Aurora begins to doubt its authenticity. She is faced with wondering if the visit is a hoax and, if so, who is behind it.

As part of the Author Series at the M.I.T. Coop, Joe Haldeman will sign copies of his novel *The Coming* on Wednesday, December 13th at 12:00 Noon. This event is open to the public. Please join us.



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Plush Daddy Fly and the Red Light Renegades



Protestors outside Lobby 7 Saturday try to convince passing motorists to come to the Plush Daddy Fly sketch comedy show this Friday at 8:00pm in 10-250.

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Final date for return of application is
FRIDAY, DEC. 15, 2000 AT 5:00PM



www.thecoop.com

How to Succeed in Finals, Really Trying

Finals, from Page 1

that hasn't been seen before," said Farhi. "If you know all the homework problems, you will know the test."

Professor Farhi said that people should go to their physics class on Wednesday, not necessarily for hints and tips but rather for a fun and interesting lecture.

Igor V. Pavlovsky G, a Course XVIII (Mathematics) recitation instructor, advised mathematics students to "do all the practice exams they give you," citing the fact that a lot of review seems to be the best way to prepare for math exams. In addition, he said he has found it very helpful to look over his old tests and see what he missed and then drill those problems over and over.

Pavlovsky said students should contact their TAs if they have problems with any of the material. "A lot of times students forget that the TAs can help answer questions, and most can easily be reached by e-mail," he said.

"The [3 hour block of] time changes the test-taking environment, and this new environment automatically makes the exams harder," Pavlovsky said. "I think professors generally know that, and they realize they will not be able to test minute

parts of the course material. Instead, they will present questions testing general important points of knowledge. I think that a firm understanding of general points will guarantee a good grade."

Professor of Chemistry Jeffery I. Steinfeld emphasized time management. "You should make a schedule for your studying," he said, adding the caveat that he had not given a final recently. "You should also utilize the three off days you have, unless you consider yourself to be an expert last minute crammer." Professor Steinfeld told students not to panic.

If none of that helps, perhaps you'll appreciate this inspirational message from an e-mail spam last night in the spirit of an old holiday favorite:

*"Your teachers have pegged you,
So just do your best.
Happy Finals to All,
And to all, a good test."*

Authors Recall A Mentor

Karmel, from Page 1

erature," Paradis said.

Karmel came to the United States in 1948, where she earned her B.A. at Radcliffe College. During the next decade Karmel worked as a teacher while pursuing her writing. She spent ten years in Germany, working in an orphanage, before coming to MIT.

At MIT, Karmel "was one of the pioneering members of our Program, whose teaching helped shape the teaching of fiction at MIT," Paradis said. "She worked with everyone, great and small, from the students who flocked to her fiction workshops, to colleagues like Salvador Luria" Paradis said.

She was awarded a Dean's Award for Distinguished Service in 1994. In 1995, when Karmel retired from the Writing Program, MIT created a set of writing prizes in her name to encourage future writers and poets to pursue their talents.

Karmel was remembered in a private service Saturday at Mount Auburn Cemetery. She is survived by her niece, Joy Wolfe Ensor, her nephew John Wolfe, and her sister-in-law Lily Munford. To the MIT community, Paradis said, Karmel will always be "a unique and spirited friend and teacher."

FRESHMAN ALERT! PAID UROP OPPORTUNITIES in

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering offers funded freshman UROPs for Spring 2001

See the Course One homepage (web.mit.edu/civenv/html/academic_programs/undergrad/urop_opportunities.html) on the web for a list of UROP projects.

Or

see Cynthia Stewart in the Academic Programs Office, Room 1-281.

If you don't find a project you like, propose your own.

Funding is available for a significant number of freshman UROPs, first come, first served.

Solution to Crossword

from page 14

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UA Opens Transitions Lounge, Preserves Tosci's in Busy Term

UA, from Page 1

term."

While the details of how the system would work are yet to be finalized, the goal is to allow students to be driven to the hospital without fear of punishment if the emergency involved underage drinking.

However, the question of how confidential the system would be is still undetermined. Depending on how it is set up, CMT could let students with drinking problems fall through the cracks by not getting them help after repeated trips to the hospital, Seale said.

"Do we really want it so students get away scot-free every time?" he said. "I think the answer is no."

UA Council Speaker Jaime Devereaux said, "All the administrators have done a lot of dialoging" with us on the issue of CMT.

Lounge created, Tosci's saved

Earlier this term, the UA worked with various administrators to turn the vacant room formerly filled by Newbury Comics into a student lounge. "We are now working with the CAC [Campus Activities Complex] to try and gauge the best use of the space," Shulman said. "We want to keep it earmarked as a student activity space."

Possible additions to the Transitions lounge, he said, include three retail kiosks, audio/video equipment, or bulletin boards. A removable platform may be added for debates or presentations.

Shulman said it takes time to get the money, furniture, and the people to move new items in.

When it appeared as if the Toscanini's coffee and ice cream shop might leave the Student Center, "we met with the CAC to let them know the great student concern," Devereaux said.

"We provided the right pressure at the right time," Shulman said.

In the end, the MIT Real Estate Office was able to come to an agreement with Tosci's so that could remain open.

Mental health services examined

In light of the recent suicide, the UA Committee on Student Life has continued its work on the issue of mental health.

"We put together a task force ... to look at mental health in general and increase awareness," said co-chair of the UA Committee on Student Life David Mellis. He said they didn't yet have a specific plan on how to accomplish that.

The UA sent out surveys to other colleges as well as MIT to find out what mental health services they offer, Shulman said. The Medical Center has installed a new computer system to gather statistics on how many students use their services and how they use them.

A UA forum was also held in the Student Center to publicize the services available and receive student feedback.

UA increases activity funding

The UA has also been working to get more money available to student groups. Because many student groups don't spend all of the money allocated for them, the UA started over-allocating.

"Overallocation should get more money to more students," Devereaux said. She hopes the plan will increase the percentage of the money allocated that is spent. If that happens, the UA will be in a better position to ask the administration for more money for student groups, Shulman said.

In another move to benefit student groups, Devereaux said that there will be a "big push over IAP" for getting vans to be made available to student groups.

The plan would use about \$4,000 from the uninvested fund to either buy old Safe Ride vans or vans from

outside sources. They could be rented by student groups at a reduced cost, Devereaux said.

Funds will aid athletics programs

The shortage of funds for student activities and athletics has been a UA concern recently.

Aside from passing a resolution to ask for more athletic funding and asking for the administration to bring back junior varsity sports, the UA has plans to take action. Its Subcommittee on Athletics asked for varsity, club, and intramural sports teams to draw up a "wish list" of equipment they would like to have if they had the money.

Those lists were presented at the last council meeting. Shulman said the UA plans to provide funds for a large portion of that list, about \$30,000, by drawing from the uninvested fund of money not spent by student groups.

The proposal could be voted on early next term.

UA looking at TEAL controversy

The controversial Technology Enhanced Active Learning (TEAL) project has also been a topic of discussion and action within the UA.

"The UA has no official position" on TEAL now, Devereaux

said. She said they might state a position when more student response has been gathered.

The UA is currently working with the administration to examine other possible locations for TEAL.

UA holds dinners

The UA has also hosted two Stochastic Student Dinners this year, inviting randomly selected students and faculty (hence the name) to meet over dinner to discuss current issues. Shulman said the dinners were held to improve the "perceived huge breakdown in relations between undergraduates and the administration."

Shulman acknowledged that the UA's focus is on action, not communication.

"We spend our time in meetings, not on [public relations]," Shulman said. He said he wants to increase the frequency of UA statements that are released to the public publicizing its accomplishments and explaining its positions.

"There are often lots more projects than people," Shulman said. "The council could pass it and it might not get done."

Devereaux predicts an active UA next term. "The spring semester has a lot of momentum," she said.

PE LOTTERY IAP 2001 INFO!!!



Late registration at first class on a space available basis!

For more info, see our web-site at web.mit.edu/athletics/www/physed.html



Or contact PE Office: 253-4291

DATES TO REMEMBER:
PE LOTTERY OPENS THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 2000
PE LOTTERY CLOSES THURSDAY, DEC. 14, 2000 AT 1PM!
CLASSES START MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2001

The Sloan Subject Prioritization System Bidding Dates for Spring, 2001 Classes

<http://sloanbid.mit.edu>

Leave password field blank, create new password under 'Personal Information'

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan courses:

Opens 12:00 p.m., Monday, December 11

Closes 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 15

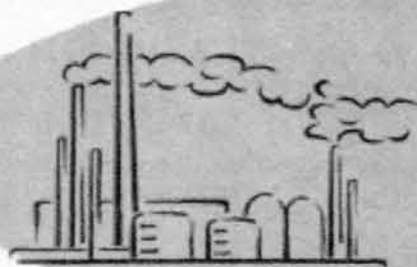
Waitlist-Only Round for closed classes:

Opens 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 20

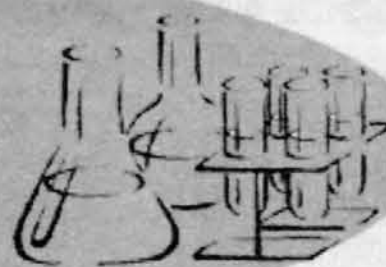
Closes 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 5

Waitlists for Closed Sloan Classes are part of the Course Bidding System, beginning in Round II.

Successful bids appear on your Registration Form on February 5 and will be posted on the bidding website as of December 20 -- write down your password to check results!



Factories & Labs



STS.S26 is a new seminar for Spring 2001!

You could visit:

- **The Big Dig**
- **Lowell Mills**
- **Bose Corp. Research & Development**
- **Teradyne**
- **Brooks Robotics Lab**
- **Whitehead Institute and more!**

This class will feature a series of field trips to local factories and labs and also construction sites - where scientists and engineers solve complicated, real-life problems. In this class, you will:

- tour research and production environments
- talk with senior scientists and engineers (many of them MIT alumni(ae)!) about their academic and career experiences
- discuss the similarities and differences of various environments and paths.

Whether it is a semi-conductor plant, a medical imaging laboratory, a mass production facility, a huge engineering project like the Big Dig, or a biotech start-up, you will learn more about what it is like to "do" science and technology.

This course is an undergraduate six-unit seminar on P/D/F grading (P/NR for freshmen). Enrollment is limited to 40 students, with preference given to freshmen. The class regularly meet on Tuesdays, 3-5pm, but some field trips may require attendance 1-5pm. As this course is ideal for freshmen interested in exploring different academic fields, arrangements are being made to mitigate a conflict for field trip days with 18.02 (Tuesday 1-2pm). Students who miss 18.02 lecture on field trip days will have an opportunity to view the lecture at another time.

<http://web.mit.edu/sts.s26/www/home.html>

1 What is ecstasy?

Chemical name
MethyleneDioxyMethAmphetamine (MDMA)

Drug type

- Hallucinogenic amphetamine
- Chemical structure allied to amphetamines and mescaline
- Controlled substance

Street name
X, XTC, E, Ecstasy, Adam, Empathy

Effects
Drug boosts levels of norepinephrine and dopamine in the body

2 The big picture

After taking ecstasy (MDMA) some people report heightened physical and emotional sensation, increased empathy, and intense connections with others. Sounds good?

- Check it out**
- Recent research has linked ecstasy to long-term damage to the brain cells that manufacture the neurotransmitter serotonin. Serotonin loss **impairs memory**, and can also cause users to feel tired, depressed, or moody
 - Ecstasy is related to methamphetamine, which has been shown to cause **damage to neurons** containing the neurotransmitter dopamine, the underlying cause of the motor disturbances seen in Parkinson's disease
 - When used during periods of intense physical exertion, users may risk **extreme dehydration, heat exhaustion, and hyperthermia**. Frequent breaks from activity and drinking plenty of water can help minimize risk
 - Acute reactions can include **hallucinations, increased heart rate, and vomiting**
 - High doses can cause delusions, feelings of **anxiety, and paranoia**
 - Frequent use of ecstasy can quickly increase **tolerance** for the drug
 - **Uncertain composition:** ecstasy tablets are often not pure MDMA, and can easily be laced with other substances
 - **Overdoses** happen, and aren't fun

ECSTASY

just the facts

Emergency numbers

On campus Emergency	100
Off campus Emergency	911
MIT Medical Urgent Care	617/253-1311
MIT Campus Police	617/253-1212

More information from MIT Medical

Health Education	617/253-1316
Internal Medicine	617/253-4481
Mental Health	617/253-2916



one of a series from
MIT Medical

British Scholarships Send Two to Oxford

Scholarships, from Page 1

versities in a nationwide competition. Wasfy is one of forty Marshall scholarship recipients nationally.

"Both [the Rhodes and Marshall scholarships] are really the two grand prizes in the fellowship sweepstakes," Vale said.

Rhodes winner a longtime scholar

Rhodes scholarships provide two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England.

Brunskill's goals for her Rhodes scholarship tie in with her research on how to improve life for the disabled. At Oxford, she will work towards an M.Sc. in experimental psychology.

"I am really excited about my proposed program. I think it will be fascinating to be at Oxford for two years, and it will be a lot of fun," Brunskill said.

Brunskill applied and was endorsed for the Rhodes scholarship at the University of Washington. "Emma was our stealth candidate this year," Vale said.

Brunskill graduated from in June with degrees in physics and computer science. She matriculated at the University of Washington at age 15 and won a Barry Goldwater Scholarship two years later.

During her years at the University of Washington, Brunskill interned at the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Geneva and studied French at the Sorbonne in Paris. She also rowed and was active in Amnesty International. During her short time at MIT, Brunskill has been active in the outing club and rowed with the Sloan rowing club.

Marshall scholar to study politics

Financed by the British Government, Marshall Scholarships provide an opportunity for American students to continue their studies for two or three years at any British university.

Wasfy plans to defer medical school until he returns from England after spending two years at Oxford studying politics so that he can be better prepared to understand the public policy of health care.

"I'm thrilled and humbled to have won a Marshall Scholarship," said Wasfy, who credited his success to the support of his family. "I hope that the skills that I take away from this experience will help me better serve our great nation that has bestowed on me and my family so many extraordinary blessings."

Wasfy said that he considers "the war against cancer and keeping tobacco away from America's children" to be among the health challenges he hopes to help tackle.

While at MIT, Wasfy has been an active member of the Undergrad-



FRANK DABEK—THE TECH

Emma P. Brunskill, a graduate student in the department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, was recently named a Rhodes Scholar.

uate Association and has served as editor in chief of *Counterpoint*. He was a Burchard Scholar in the Humanities and is a member of the Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society.

Applicants faced tough scrutiny

Rhodes scholars are chosen in a three-stage process. First, candidates must be endorsed by their college or university. Committees of selection in each of the fifty states then nominate candidates who are interviewed by district selection committees in eight regions of the United States.

Applicants are chosen on the basis of set criteria which include high academic achievement, integrity of character, a spirit of unselfishness, respect for others, potential for leadership, and physical vigor.

Cecil Rhodes, founder of the scholarship, wrote that Rhodes scholars should "esteem the performance of public duties as their highest aim." Perhaps the best known Rhodes scholar in America today is President Bill Clinton.

Candidates may apply either in the state where they are legally resident or where they have attended college for at least two years.

"The application process was really stressful," Brunskill said.

The Marshall scholarship process works somewhat differently in that applicants are scrutinized in a two-stage process. Applicants must be of the highest caliber academically and must also have shown distinction in their extracurricular activities.

The Marshall scholarships were established in 1953 as a British gesture of thanks to the people of the United States for the assistance received after the Second World War under the Marshall Plan.

"Hopefully the success of Jason, Emma and several others who have won these competitions recently will inspire even more of our students to apply in future years," said President Vest.



JAMES CAMP—THE TECH

Jason H. Wasfy '01 was recently named to represent MIT as a Marshall scholar.

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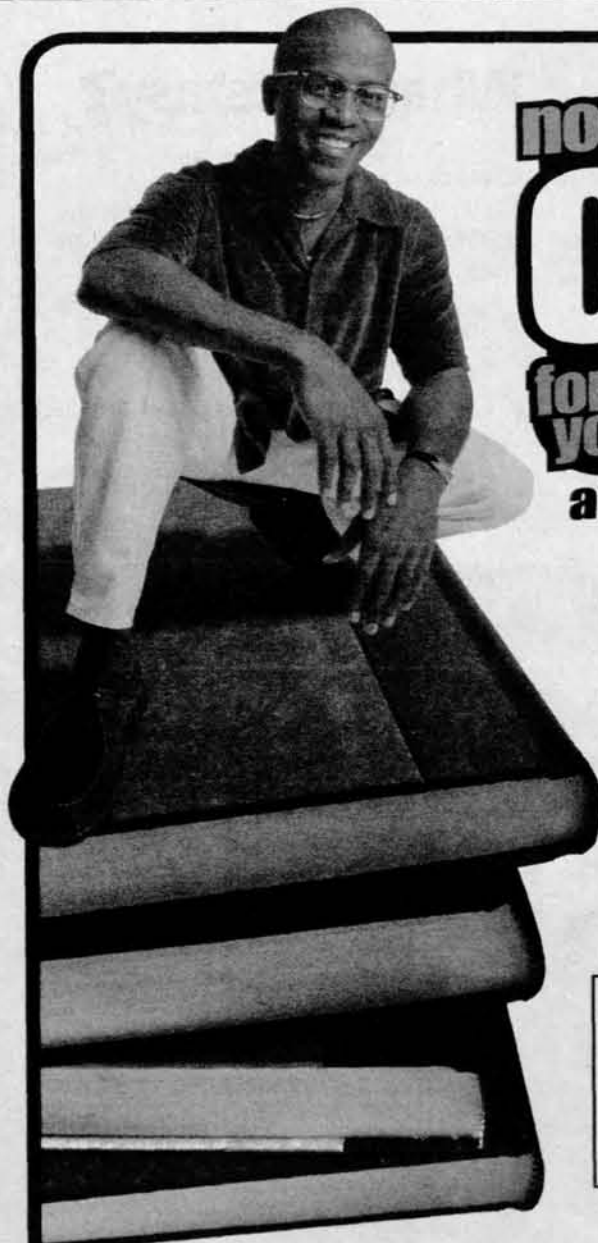
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W20
10am-11pm

E52-045
8am - 6pm



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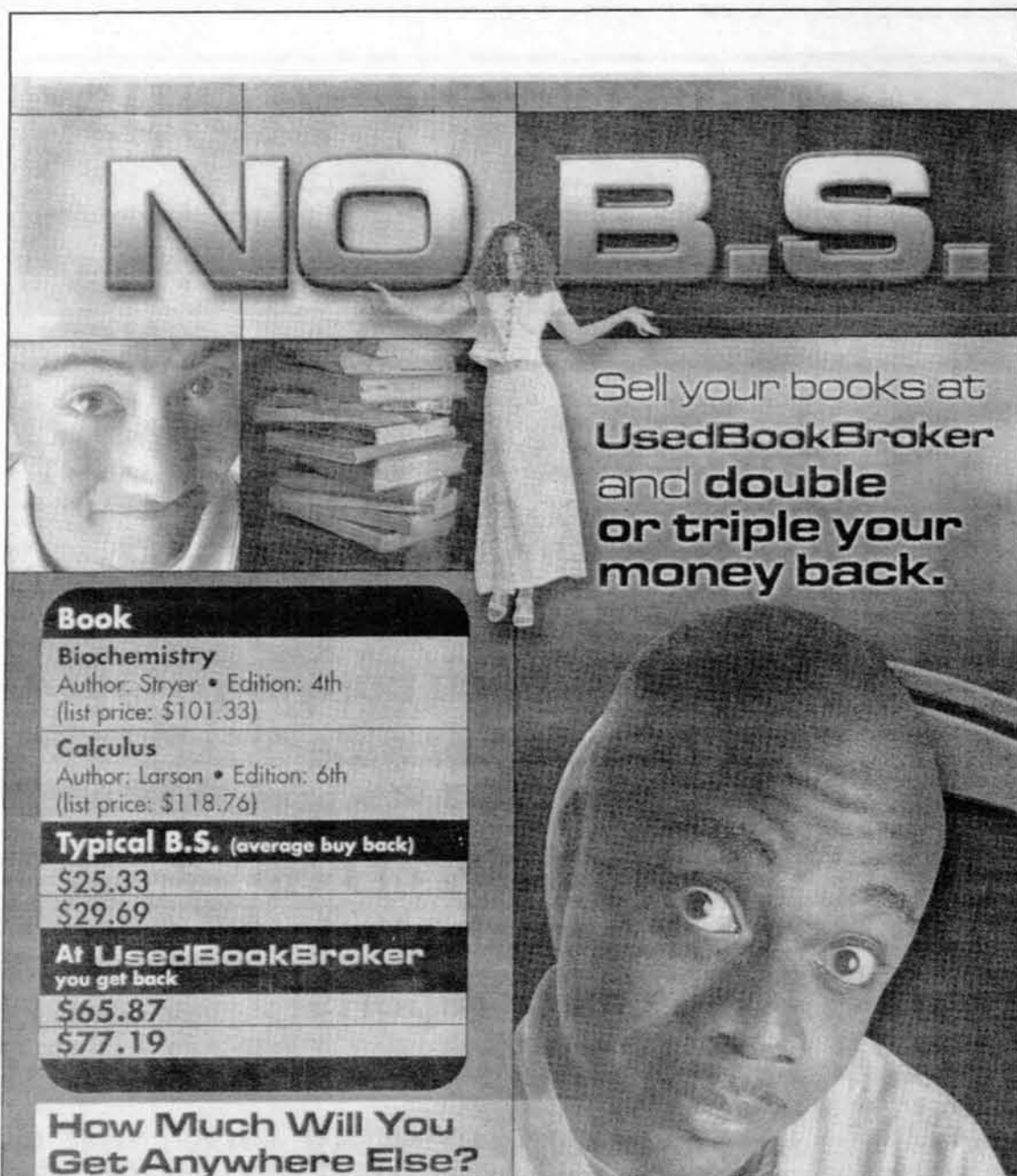
MIT at Kendall Square
Friday, December 15th to Friday, December 22nd

Stratton Student Center
Monday, December 18th to Thursday, December 21st
from 10a.m. - 5:30p.m.



The M.I.T. Coop at Kendall Square • 3 Cambridge Center • Cambridge, MA • (617) 499-3200 • www.thecoop.com
Store Hours: Monday-Friday: 9:30a.m.-6:30p.m. & Saturday: 10a.m.-6p.m.

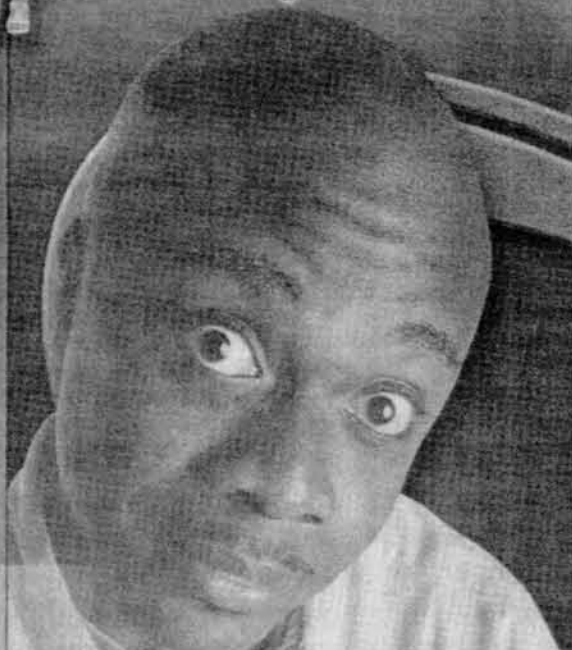
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ROSHAN BALIGA—THE TECH

Avishai Geller '01, co-captain of the MIT men's hockey team, avoids being tripped by a defender to make a shot on goal during last Saturday's game against the University of New Hampshire. MIT lost the game 8-3, dropping their season record to 4-3-1. The Engineers' next game is against Bates College on Jan. 13, and will be played at home in Johnson.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Mark Harvey, guest soloist, composer and conductor, performs with the MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble last Saturday night in Kresge.



Vote for this year's Spring Concert band!

<http://web.mit.edu/spring>



Spring Weekend 2001 will be April 26-28, 2001

Recently, we've had premier acts including Busta Rhymes, Reel Big Fish, Violent Femmes, Soul Coughing and They Might Be Giants.

Help make this year's Spring Concert an even bigger success!



Visit the Spring Weekend concert poll at <http://web.mit.edu/spring> to select your favorite musical genre and suggest a couple bands. E-mail spring@mit.edu with questions.

Voting ends at midnight on Sunday, December 31st.