**More Students Binge Drinking, Study Says**

By Effen Gutierrez

At the same time more students in college are choosing to abstain from alcohol, an increasing percentage of their classmates are engaging in frequent binge drinking, according to a recent report of the Harvard School of Public Health.

Henry Wechsler, the report's main author, also included wide-ranging recommendations to college administrators seeking to reduce binge drinking.

The report, third in a series of reports by the School of Public Health, shows that 22.7 percent of college students in 1999 frequently binge drink, in contrast to 19.8 percent of college students in 1993. The number of abstainers in the population rose, from 15.4 percent in 1993 to 19.2 percent in 1999. The overall binge drinking rate in 1999 roughly the same as the rate in 1993.

The report concluded that the most likely binge drinkers are students who do not binge drink include being African American or Asian, 24 years or older, or married. Drinking, according to the report, is not only a problem for college students but for high school students as well.

The report also points out a great polarization in the drinking behaviors at college. The survey shows that two of three full-time education for full-time education, thereby providing sufficient. The new state of the art code violations, Nilsson said. Residents who have more to do than just housing wished to be placed in alcohol-free housing who are also not likely to binge drink in college.

Wechsler provides many explanations about why the binge drinking rate has remained persistently high. One is that enough time has passed between the initial and current study to notice any effects made by college administrator's policies. However, the report says that the increase in the number of people choosing to abstain shows that some policies may be working.

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More Students Binge Drinking, Study Says Study Shows Abstinence on Rise as Well

**Reps to Close EC, Random**

Fire Safety Upgrades Will Displace Residents During Summer

By Laura McGrath Moulton

Random Hall and East Campus will be closed for the summer while the first stage of a $32 million upgrade of fire alarm systems is completed.

Karen A. Nilsson, associate director for operations for housing, said that the Institute has made a commitment to upgrade life safety systems across campus. East Campus and Random, two of the oldest buildings in the housing system, were identified as the most pressing concerns.

The repairs are not the result of code violations, Nilsson said. Residents "meet and exceed codes but [the Institute] doesn't feel that is sufficient." The new state of the art systems at East Campus and Random will maintain MIT's life safety at the "highest level of any college in the country."

The price tag for the campus-wide upgrade project is $32 million. The East Campus system installation is projected to cost $400,000. Random Hall's upgrade will cost $300,000. Along with fire system upgrades, East Campus electrical system will be renovated. Each room will receive two new, grounded outlets, Nilsson said.

Summer housing will be limited Nilsson said that her office had identified space in the housing system for the summer residents of both East Campus and Random as well as for attendees of the Research Group for Undergraduate Residents. Residents of both East Campus and Random will receive a new, grounded outlet in each room.

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Gay Couples Recieve Right To 'Civil Unions' in Vermont

By Hanna Rosin and Pamela Ferdinand

In the first significant breakthrough for advocates of gay marriage, the Vermont House Thursday approved historic legislation allowing gay couples to form "civil unions" that carry many of the benefits and responsibilities of traditional marriages.

The bill stops just short of legalizing gay marriage, instead setting up a network of state benefits for gay couples, covering everything from hospital visits to inheritances to state taxes. Still, if it becomes law as expected, Vermont will have gone much further than any state in sanctioning same-sex unions.

The bill is a response to a Vermont Supreme Court ruling in December that found that gay and lesbian couples were being unconstitutionally denied the benefits of marriage. But the high court left it up to the legislature to decide whether to allow gay marriages or create some kind of domestic partnership instead.

The Vermont House chose a version closer to the latter, voting 79 to 69 Thursday to approve the bill. Hundreds flooded the galleries of the House chamber to watch the debate Thursday, with supporters attaching pink stickers to their lapels. Opponents wore white.

The Senate is expected to approve the measure by the end of April, and Democratic Gov. Howard Dean has said he would sign it if it fully passes. The new law will likely be one of the most sensitive debates in America. In anticipation that gay marriage measures would take hold, more than 30 states have already passed the Defense of Marriage Act, defining marriage as between a man and a woman, and allowing states not to recognize same-sex marriages performed elsewhere. It is still unclear whether those laws would preclude civil unions established in Vermont.

Under the bill passed Thursday, gay and lesbian partners may apply for a license from a town clerk and get their civil union certified by a justice of the peace, or a clergyman.

Partners in a civil union would be eligible for 300 state benefits given to married couples covering every phase of life. They could transfer property, make medical decisions for each other, inherit estates and oversee one another's burials. Such couples could also file a joint state income tax return.

The federal government still would not recognize such unions with regard to such things as immigration rights, Social Security benefits and federal taxes.

Vermont gays would also be subject to burdens similar to those of married couples.

Partners who want to end their civil unions would have to go through a dissolution proceeding in family court, similar to divorce proceedings. They would also assume each other's debts.

Although the bill comes close to recognizing gay marriage, lawmakers reserved the term "marriage" for the union of a man and a woman, adopting an amendment making that clear.

In the months since the state Supreme Court decision, many Vermont towns have held heated debates on the proposal.

Gay rights advocates were elated by the decision, describing it as a distant hope they never quite expected would happen.

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Investors Flock to Blue Chips
As Dow Goes Up Nearly 500

By Sharon Walsh

Wall Street had one of its grandest days ever Thursday as investors turned into the old, stalwart blue-chip stocks that had been out of favor for months, driving the Dow Jones industrial average up nearly 590 points.

The rising tide of the Dow lifted all of the market's sectors, smashing the New York Stock Exchange's record for trading volume, bringing the high-tech stocks that have been a target of a bearish index charging back from a three-day slump and elevating the S&P 500 to its highest level since April, 1998.

"If you owned a stock that went up today, you need a new broker," said Henry Cavanaugh, the senior equity portfolio manager at JP Morgan Investment Management.

The powerful move in the market illustrated how it is being pushed and pulled by huge swings in the master psycheology, which Thursday found investors running to blue chips.

Still, every sector of the market benefited: Financial stocks, retail consumers, technology, industrial companies, even energy companies were lifted by the buying pressure in the old-economy stocks that had been left for dead. Technology stocks — from start-up dot-coms to old-style IBM and Intel — also enjoyed the ride.

The Dow closed up 499.19 points, or 4.9 percent, at 10,630,001, wiping out the previous record point gain of 380.33 on Sept. 8, 1998. The Nasdaq composite index closed up 134.37, or 2.9 percent, at 4,779.99 after being down as much as 127 points early in the day.

Awe-struck market veterans were at a loss to explain the sudden surge as the result of any particular event.

There was no surprising macroeconomic news that made the public believe that General Electric was suddenly going to sell more light bulbs, or that Procter & Gamble soap. Banks didn't merge. There were no startling discoveries in technology or a wave for the common cold. Alan Greenspan didn't suddenly change his stance on interest rates.

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WEATHER

Suggestion for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, March 17, 2000

**Vermont**

**New York**

**Washington**

**Boston**

**Vail, CO**

**Last Blast of Winter?**

By Bill Ramston

A beautiful day yesterday with a high of 71°F in Boston, today we are facing the possibility of accumulating snow. While Boston and coastal areas will likely have small accumulations of perhaps an inch or so on sunny but cold weekend. A rapidly strengthening storm system is moving through and, if necessary, confront aggression.

Although the bill comes close to recognizing gay marriage, lawmakers reserved the term "marriage" for the union of a man and a woman, adopting an amendment making that clear.

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**Last Blast of Winter?**

By Bill Ramston

A beautiful day yesterday with a high of 71°F in Boston, today we are facing the possibility of accumulating snow. While Boston and coastal areas will likely have small accumulations of perhaps an inch or so on sunny but cold weekend. A rapidly strengthening storm system is moving up along the East Coast, pulling sharply colder air southwest from Canada and northern New England. The resulting break in the cloud cover will be short-lived, however, with warmer temperatures returning by Sunday, though not as pleasant as Thursday's.

Weekend Outlook

Today: Flurries afternnon, then breaking clouds. High 34°F (1°C).


Saturday: Mostly sunny, cold. High 36°F (2°C).

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Spring Break Forecasts (Sunday)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Weather System</th>
<th>Weather Trends</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancun, Mexico</td>
<td>Sunny</td>
<td>High 80°F (30°C), Low 68°F (20°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nassau, Bahamas</td>
<td>Some sun</td>
<td>High 89°F (30°C), Low 78°F (20°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panama City, FL</td>
<td>Rain</td>
<td>High 68°F (20°C), Low 50°F (10°C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vail, CO</td>
<td>Sunny</td>
<td>High 55°F (12°C), Low 25°F (-4°C)</td>
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In the first of several reports that will sum up the nearly 6-year-old Whitewater investigation, Independent Counsel Robert W. Ray reported Thursday that his prosecutors found no criminal wrongdoing when White House officials obtained hundreds of FBI personnel files early in the Clinton administration.

The name over confidential files of mainly Republican appointees falling into the hands of Clinton aides erupted in 1996 and led to investigations by Republican-led committees of the House and Senate.

FBI Director Louis J. Freeh apologized for the security breach and vowed that it would never happen again. In that highly charged atmosphere, the independent counsel determined that there was no substantial and credible evidence that any White House official, or first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, was involved in seeking confidential FBI background reports of former White House staff from the prior administrations of President Bush and President Reagan.

Ray said that his office did not investigate alleged violations of the Privacy Act of 1974 because such offenses are excluded from the jurisdiction of the independent counsel. He added that "the matter is now closed."

White House spokesman Jim Kennedy said the findings come as no surprise. Referring to other reports that will follow in coming months, Kennedy added: "We have made clear our desire to have all this finished as promptly as possible and in accordance with the statutes."

By Robert L. Jackson

Independent Counsel: Filegate Prosecutions Are Unwarranted

At the outset, many in and around both these guys are saying is (that) you have to be sensitive about what you say while we try to bring this together," said Washington lobbyist Vin Weber.

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Bush Irks McCain Backers with Comments Belittling Candidacy

By Eric Slater and James Gerstenzang

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Instead of healing wounds left from the combative Republican primary, John McCain supporters Thursday that George W. Bush is continuing to stir up animosity that could jeopardize his chance of winning the independent voters McCain drew in record numbers.

The latest furor developed when Bush suggested in a published interview that McCain's insurgent candidacy had a minimal effect on the Republican Party and that he was not influenced by any of the senator's positions.

The comments to The New York Times irked Republicans from Capitol Hill to the McCain campaign, where advisers say the sentiment from Arizona is becoming less and less likely to endure Bush.

"I'm extremely disappointed," said Rep. Peter T. King, R-N.Y., a McCain backer. "Either (Bush) is tone-deaf. He really believes that, or he doesn't understand the tone-deaf."

For example, stem cells produce a vast array of white blood cells for the immune system, as well as the oxygen-carrying red blood cells. By surprise, stem cells were also recently found in brain tissue. Although the stem cells the Canadian team found were hidden in a part of the eye called the pigmented ciliary margin. Only 500 of the cells found there are stem cells, but they have the ability to grow very rapidly.

"We were able to dissect out a small region of the adult eye, from the pigmented ciliary margin, put them in a dish, and they started to divide," van der Kooy explained.

Important new evidence that the most common forms of blindness may yet be overcome by manipulating living cells was reported Thursday by a research team in Canada.

Based on experiments using cells from mouse, cow and human eyes, Derek van der Kooy and six colleagues announced that the eye already contains the immature cells needed to replace or repair a damaged retina.

Their discovery is a major surprise, because such stem cells were thought to exist only in the eyes of amphibians and fish, not in mammals. The research team headed by van der Kooy induced these stem cells to grow in laboratory dishes and produce all of the various cells needed in the retina.

The ability for the infant cells to grow and form various kinds of new tissue. In bone marrow, for example, stem cells produce a vast array of white blood cells for the immune system, as well as the oxygen-carrying red blood cells. By surprise, stem cells were also recently found in brain tissue. Although the stem cells the Canadian team found were hidden in a part of the eye called the pigmented ciliary margin. Only 500 of the cells found there are stem cells, but they have the ability to grow very rapidly.

"We were able to dissect out a small region of the adult eye, from the pigmented ciliary margin, put them in a dish, and they started to divide," van der Kooy explained.
A Computing Truce

In response to the recent letters about Athena and Windows.

Why can’t we all just get along? Windows NT (or 9x) is a good operating system for desktop computers. Information systems even recommends it for use on desktop PCs, but it is not ideal for a large distributed computing environment such as the one we have at MIT.

An important feature of a large computing environment is standardization. If you sit down on a SPARCstation 4 in the W20 cluster, you know that you can expect everything to be the exact same as if you sat down on a SPARCstation 4 in the W20 cluster. Currently, this cannot be achieved with Windows NT. This may change with the advances made by the Pismere project and with the adoption of Windows 2000. It is not the case.

Sure, Athena does things a little differently. You might have to learn complex three- and four-letter words like “inc,” “comp,” and “rep” in order to send mail on Athena. So what? This is MIT. If you can master different technologies, you might have to learn complex three- and four-letter words like “inc,” “comp,” and “rep” in order to send mail on Athena. So what? This is MIT. If you can master different technologies, surely adding a few short commands to your vocabulary shouldn’t tax your brain too much. There are even graphic mail clients on Athena, so you don’t need to learn to type commands — you can just click buttons. No, they don’t have a little paperclip telling you what to do, but most people have learned to use them despite that shortcoming.

What people fail to realize is that in a large computing environment, you can’t simply throw new applications and services at the users; the second they become available.

Extensive testing is required to ensure that the applications for users, and that those people who provide support to the users know exactly what support to provide. It takes time to upgrade services (like email) without denying service to the campus during the upgrade.

Athena is changing for the better. IMAP mail servers are already in place, and testing is underway to determine how best to provide IMAP services to the community. What does this mean for you? No more annoying Kernel errors when you use Eudora to check your mail. People will probably even be able to use Outlook. New applications are being added to Athena all the time. The much-hyped GNOME environment is available for the most part, and StarOffice has been added recently. StarOffice is an application suite that provides most of the features provided by MS Office and even has a somewhat familiar user interface. It’s even available free for personal use on the Windows and Linux platforms. So yes, Virginia, you can type your paper on Windows, and then use the same applications on Athena to edit it later.

I encourage people not to turn their backs on Athena and its related services — they are being improved frequently. You can teach an old dog new tricks, it just takes time.

— Jonathan Reed ’01

Windows Can Work

As Jim Paris points out (“A/SF Insecure,” March 14), A/SF is indeed painfully insecure. However, that is not the only flaw in Kyle Rose’s argument (“Windows Unreliable,” Doesn’t Support AFS,” March 10). The centerpiece of his assertion that Windows should not be used on MIT workstations is that Windows does not support AFS. This is patently untrue; a fine implementation is available from Transarc, the same company that MIT licenses AFS from for all other systems. In fact, MIT has been “in discussion” with them about a license for NT for years, but at this point that obviously never going to be completed.

Robert J. Rago
A More Democratic And Iran

Guest Column
Sina Kevin Nazemi

While the eyes of the American people have been focused on the presidential primary races, a far more pivotal election has gone on half a world away in Iran. On February 10th the voters of Iran took part in parliamentary elections—elections in which they overwhelmingly ousted the traditional hard-liners from power. The reformers who have promised more political and economic liberalization have been rewarded in a resounding defeat in nestenballing ties with other countries, including the United States.

Since U.S.-Iran relations were severed after the 1979 Iranian Revolution, the United States has placed economic sanctions on Iran preventing the flow of economic resources from the West, particularly to Iran and companies and agribusiness exporting from Iranian goods to the United States.

I had the opportunity to visit Iran for the first time in September 2000. The country has been a model of religious and economic development, with a rich history of art and architecture. The people are religious and proud of their culture, yet they are very recent to outside influences from the West. I was impressed by their ability to work for good despite the difficulties they face.

While the masses support change, a group of powerful conservatives, led by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, remains a roadblock. The conservatives want to keep the country's social and cultural regulations and limited interaction with foreign nations. These conservatives control Iran's armed forces and political institutions. They also dominate the Guardian Council, which has the ability to filter candidates running for office and legislation passed by the Parliament. The conservatives blame economic hardships on the West and the mass media. They have even talked of possible solutions to the challenges facing the West that have not been able to be carried out against the political and economic sanctions of conservatives running for parliament in the last election. According to these candidates, Iranian voters only have been denied about 10 percent of candidates running for office, compared to the large number of candidates who were restricted in previous elections.

President Clinton has to decide today whether to renew economic sanctions against Iran. President Clinton should take a pragmatic and realistic approach to this problem. Instead of allowing Iran to export pistachios and rugs, the United States should demand that Iran stop exporting weapons and missiles. This would require Iran to stop its support for terrorism and its backing of the Israeli government.

President Clinton should also work with the European Union to find a way to prevent Iran from exporting weapons and missiles. This would require a plan of action for negotiating with the EU to continue its negotiations with Iran on nuclear weapons. In this way, we can move toward a full diplomatic relationship with Iran and create a stable and prosperous environment in the Middle East.

Fill in the blanks: The land court appeal will take __ months, allowing the new undergraduate dormitory to be completed in 200_. Inform FSILG leaders of your best answer so they may plan accordingly.

John Paul’s Historic Apology

A Problem Set for the Administration

Student Complaints, Community Relations

Michael J. Ring

Spring break is finally upon us, but this being MIT, few if any of us actually get a chance to take a real rest. This goes for the administration as well as the students. With a seemingly endless string of bad decisions and crises emerging over the past month, student confidence in the administration is reaching another low, and the administration itself is working diligently over the break to find ways to regain student support. Meanwhile, several problems that need attention are as follows:

1. Business of the Board of Trustees.
2. Leadership of the administration.
3. Development of student life.
4. Development of student support.
5. Development of student relationships.

John Paul has taken a stance on transcendentalism. In the last election, the Guardian Council, which has the ability to filter candidates running for office and legislation passed by the Parliament. The conservatives blame economic hardships on the West and the mass media. They have even talked of possible solutions to the challenges facing the West that have not been able to be carried out against the political and economic sanctions of conservatives running for parliament in the last election. According to these candidates, Iranian voters only have been denied about 10 percent of candidates running for office, compared to the large number of candidates who were restricted in previous elections.

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John Paul’s Historic Apology

Acknowledgement of Sins Important in Modernizing the Church

Kris Schnee

Last Sunday in Vatican City, Pope John Paul II took a historic step towards a purification of memory in the reform of the Roman Catholic Church. The 79-year old pontiff gave a public address in which he apologized for the historic sins of Christians everywhere, mentioning seven categories of wrongs committed in the Church’s nearly 2000-year history. Among others, he confessed sins “committed during the first centuries of the Christian Church’s nearly 2000-year history. The Pope’s event was a fascinating one because of the significance of the Pope’s words and their surprising implications. He spoke out against old attitudes of constraint and religions, resolving “to seek and promote truth in the light of an evolving belief in human rights. In each of these cases, the old moral principles were revised and reinterpreted in the light of an evolving belief in human rights. John Paul’s apology was another step in this most admirable shift in society.

The same Pope who sought reconciliation with Luthevers, met with Orthodox and Muslim leaders, and acknowledged the reality of evolution, has taken one more step forward. By acknowledging not only broad categories of sins, but also very specific actions, and the Church doctrine which has been in place for centuries, John Paul has moved still more towards modernizing the Church and improving its ability to deal rationally with modern issues.
Join a leading group of internet and telecom companies

We are seeking outstanding self-starting individuals that can help us take our next big business development step. We are a group of newly founded high-tech start-ups focusing on the telecommunications and Internet industries. From its roots in heavy industry, Our Group is building one of the world's most successful collections of communications, media, information and internet businesses. Driven by continuous innovation, Our Group has consistently delivered outstanding compounded annual rates of return for shareholders and our 20 year return on invested capital is over 30%.

Open positions

**Ephiban**
Ephiban helps transition businesses into the Internet, by developing database-backed Web sites, commerce-enabled catalogs and storefronts, portals and online communities.
Ephiban is looking for multi-language software engineers with the ability to adapt to changing requirements, methods and programming languages.
Ephiban is headquartered in Tucson, Arizona with offices throughout the US and Europe.

**Netcom**
Netcom Consultants offers R&D and network design strategy consulting services to telecom operators, infrastructure vendors and other companies.
Netcom Consultants is looking for telecom engineers with the ability to analyze, understand and communicate world-class telecom solutions.
Netcom Consultants is a global organization with offices throughout the US, Europe and South America.

**SAVERA**
Saver is the world's leading provider of 100% Web based billing solutions for the telecom and IP markets.
Saver is looking for software engineers with expertise in database management techniques.
Saver is based in Murray Hill, New Jersey with a European office in London.

**Basset**
Basset is a leading provider of telecom software solutions with a focus on fraud and piracy detection systems.
Basset is looking for software and telecom engineers with expertise in database management techniques.
Basset is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

**Loyalty Corporation**
Loyalty Corporation is providing turn-key customer management programs including customer acquisition, retention, loyalty and brand management.
Loyalty Corporation is looking for marketing experts with a focus on telecom, utilities and financial industries.
Loyalty Corporation is headquartered in Washington, DC.

Sign-up now in the career placement office for interviews March 31.

**Arts Scholars Program**
open to sophomores, juniors and seniors, and now GRADUATE STUDENTS regardless of major

Application Deadline: FRIDAY MARCH 31, 2000

Who are the Arts Scholars?
A community of MIT student artists, from all disciplines

Who should apply?
Students who are committed to work in one or more disciplines in the arts and who wish for more interaction with fellow student & faculty artists

What is the program?
The program is structured around informal monthly dinners accompanied by presentations or excursions. Presentations may be given by faculty members, MIT artists -in-residence, fellow students or Boston-area artists

When does the program start?
The full 2000-2001 program begins in September 2000

Students may apply to the program by completing and submitting an application form that includes a brief essay describing the student's involvement in the arts, and his/her interest in participating in the Arts Scholars Program. Also required are:

- 2 letters of recommendation - one from an MIT faculty member familiar with the applicant's artistic work
- Interview with selection committee members

Application forms are available at 3-234 and E15-205
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
For more information call 253-4005 or email cohen@media.mit.edu
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

For students lacking an outlet for their public speaking abilities and their interest in world politics, the award winning MIT Model United Nations Society is waiting. In that year the Model UN team has undergone a rebirth, and is bringing home awards from World UN competitions. Model UN will be reborn, and is bringing home awards from World UN competitions. Model UN will be reborn, and is bringing home awards from World UN competitions.

The reemergence of the Model UN is the result of the general assembly, in which every member nation participates. At the Harvard World UN competition, the general assembly is divided into three committees - World Health Organization, Disarmament, and Special Political and Decolonization.

Aside from the general assembly, there are caucus blocks including the Organization of African Unity and the Middle East Summit. "Model UN tries to promote the idea of discussion," said Hassanali. These committees "happen at the UN but they usually happen behind closed doors."

MIT to participate at World UN

The Harvard World UN is a collection of students from all over the world. "It is a very diverse group of students coming together to solve a problem. It's probably the closest simulation of the UN that you will have," Hassanali. "It's probably the closest simulation of the UN that you will have," Hassanali. "It's probably the closest simulation of the UN that you will have," Hassanali.

This year, approximately 700 students will travel to Greece to participate in this five-day competition. At the competition, MIT's delegations will represent three countries - Algeria, Pakistan and Bonn-Hamburg.

Participants are required to research their country and determine the country's stance on relevant issues and present those perspectives to their committees.

For example, Algerian delegates in the World Health Organization will have several responsibilities. "Primarily, they will have to figure out what Algeria's prospective on health issues is," said Hassanali. "Secondly, they will have to look at it from a global level. They will consider what other countries have done and how and how they can apply things that have been worked in Algeria. The whole idea of the exercise is to make you aware of the country and to use your intelligence to come up with solutions."

Although it might seem that Algeria might not have much to offer in discussions in some topics like the disarmament of Iraq, the delegation does have a role to play. In reality, "any problem that affects some region of the world has ripple effects throughout the whole globe," said Hassanali. And so matter which country you are representing you can provide some insight to the situation.

MIT provides diverse, strong team

The MIT participants come from a variety of majors. "It's one of our strengths. At other schools, most participants are international relations students. Our views on topics are much different than an IR person and that adds to the debate," said Hassanali. As an MIT student, it is difficult to participate in such a time-consuming activity. "At MIT there are many other students who can participate, but MIT doesn't allow them to participate in extra curricular activities," said Hassanali.

Melissa Edoh '02 and Charles Beatty '01 are both travelling over the break. "I'll be leaving Friday to go to London for a couple of days each," Edoh said. Beatty might go to D.C. and New York to see friends. Professor Dorothy Hofer and one of her students are in Mexico gathering morning glory plants, which the Mayans used to make rubber balls. "I'm not going away over spring break, but in the summer ... I'm working on a project around the ancient city of Corinth," her specialty is landscape archaeology, which looks at the relationship between human activity and the natural environment.

Thomas F. Tartaros, lecture in the department of materials science and engineering and part of the Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology, explained that people in the center were taking advantage of spring break for their field work. Professor Dorothy Hofer and one of her students are in Mexico gathering morning glory plants, which the Mayans used to make rubber balls. "I'm not going away over spring break, but in the summer ... I'm working on a project around the ancient city of Corinth," her specialty is landscape archaeology, which looks at the relationship between human activity and the natural environment.

MIT Sloan first years Kerry James and Melody Rolle will be going on a 10-day trip to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong as part of a Sloan Management Trip. They will visit both U.S. and domestic companies as well as tourist sites. "We're seeing a lot of Internet companies, perhaps 50 percent of the companies we're visiting," said Rolle. The cost to Sloan students is offset by company sponsorships. Before leaving for China, the two are busy with the Minority Business Club's annual 'Yuan' event. "It's a day of culture," said Rolle.

Debates will feature the first annual UAP Talent Competition. Don't miss it!
Coop Student Board of Directors Election

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MIT Seniors – Sign Up Now

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A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Passion of Loud Laughter

By Vladimir Zelensky

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Written by William Shakespeare

Directed by Sarah Hickler and Lisa Wolpe

With Sarah Cohen, Jean Barnwell, Kortney Adams, Abby Spinak, Jeff Lee, Rydia Vielehr, Brian Keller, Damien Burke, Sean Austin, Alan Goff, Brandi Evans, Kim Falinski, Jessica Moodie, Brenda Pendleton, Alice Tsay, Candla Yongsamart

The MIT Shakespeare Ensemble presentation In La Sala de Puerto Rico until March 18

The first (and just about the most important) requirement of a theatrical production is that the audience would sit in a dark room for a couple of hours and not be bored. Shakespeare Ensemble's production of A Midsummer Night's Dream amply satisfies this requirement, and more: it's not merely consistently entertaining, it's downright hilarious, making Shakespeare's comedy instantly - and emotionally - appealing.

This production, directed by Sarah Hickler and Lisa Wolpe, utilizes the dichotomy between two coexisting worlds, one of mortals and another of fighting fairies. The world of humans is the one to which the play devotes the bulk of its length, and it is the one that is both funnier and more emotionally appealing than its fairy counterpart.

Two main human plot lines are interwoven through Midsummer's fabric, without touching each other, and each is marvelous in a distinct way. The first, where the actions center around a complicated love quadrangle, takes four "foolish mortals" - Hermia (Kortney Adams), Oberon (Jeff Lee, right) realizes that Puck (Abby Spinak '01), an impish fairy, has mistakenly charmed the wrong lovers, leading to a comedy of errors.

Oberon (Jeff Lee, right) realizes that Puck (Abby Spinak '01), an impish fairy, has mistakenly charmed the wrong lovers, leading to a comedy of errors.

Oberon (Jeff Lee, right) realizes that Puck (Abby Spinak '01), an impish fairy, has mistakenly charmed the wrong lovers, leading to a comedy of errors.

Lysander (Brian Keller '01), Demetrius (Damien Burke '02) - who are lost in the woods, the labyrinthine surroundings mirroring the tangle of their feelings. For a while, these four wander around (at least, until the plot exposition is over) - and then magic starts happening.

This magic occurs not only in the plot (with the fairies directing these poor mortals like so many actors), but in the true theatrical sense. A scene in the beginning of the second act of this production (Act III, scene 2 in the original play) works as the climax of this storyline, and works doubly: as a comic and as a dramatic high point. The bickering of spurned and betrayed lovers goes on and on, with Shakespeare adding new twists and new jokes after the scene almost seemed to play out, and each minute adds new levels of energy: as the characters become more and more anguished, the scene becomes funnier and funnier. At the same time, there is a distinct note of desperation in these characters: we are witnessing their lives falling apart, and this is powerful stuff, touching and dramatic, enriching the comedy with profound character empathy.

This is not easy to act, and the fact that it works wonderfully is entirely to the credit of Barnwell, playing amusingly neurotic and not overdone, and Adams, regal as usual (the men are fine as well, but they are used more like set pieces, both by the play and by this production). Their acting is centered, physical- ly impressive, and simultaneously tender and fierce - and, still, very funny. In addition, their lines sound alive and spontaneous, neither archaic nor stilted. Small details help enormously as well: for example, the women's hairdos gradually mutate from neat and orderly to wild and messy.

The second human plotline provides the third act standoff: Sarah R. Cohen '03 in the part of Bottom. Cross-casting Bottom and most of the other amateur actors provides instant comic effect, with Thisbe, the only female part in the play-within-the-play, being played by the only male in this group; but the real advantage of this is seeing Cohen do wonders with her part. Playing an actor is one of the hardest acting jobs, and Cohen succeeds here, where, say, Kevin Kline failed: her Bottom is clearly obsessed by art but not as much as to become Thespians.

The finale, with its semi-improvised performance of Pyramus and Thisbe, is where Midsummer explodes with inspired comic action, each gag being funnier than the previous one, with every aspect of the production - from the acting and staging to the wildly creative costumes (by Leslie Cocuzzo-Held, Diane Brainerd, and Brandi Evans '01) - coming together to create an irresistible scene. Even small details and lines work: Moonshine (Evans, finally cast in a part which utilizes her great comic timing) gets to deliver only a couple of lines, but to great effect.

There's also the world of fairies, and that doesn't work quite as well. Abby Spinak '01 as Puck is highly impressive in a very physical performance, reinforcing the fact that acting is still the best special effect. The rest of the fairy storyline is functional, but doesn't carry as much emotional heft as the human one does. Since this production chooses to place humans and fairies on the opposite sides of its spectrum, the internal conflict between Oberon (Jeff Lee) and Titania (Rydia Vielehr '03) gets lost in the background. It's rather hard to care about their argument, especially because its core, with all its off-the-wall references to a blue baby, feels so perfunctory.

By the way, this distinction - humans versus fairies - is not the only way possible to delineate the polar extremes of Midsummer's world: the stunning 1935 black-and-white film with James Cagney and Olivia De Havilland is the best example of a production where the Oberon/Titania conflict works, and the most important reason is that these two are used as the opposites, as apart as night and day, with humans occupying the center.

As the result, A Midsummer Night's Dream is possibly the funniest Shakespeare I ever saw, easily satisfying the first requirement of theatre that I mentioned above. I can also wish that it was actually about something, but this Midsummer is stronger when it concerns individual scenes as opposed to deeper themes. In this production, there's very little connection between the lovers' adventures in the woods and the climactic performance. This connection exists, however: Bottom is struggling for high art, which he, a mediocre actor at best, can never reach - as he knows he can never repeat that magic night when he, a humble mortal, was loved by the Queen of Fairies.

This hopeless struggle for perfection - whether it is love, or art, or magic - is the underlying theme of A Midsummer Night's Dream, and it is muddled, if at all discernible here. Were it clearer, this production could have been as deeply profound as it is remarkably entertaining.
In the movie, the dolphin partner's unique ability to communicate and understand human speech is a key element, allowing it to convey complex messages and even to express emotions. This interaction is not just about understanding words; it's about grasping the nuances of human conversations and emotional states. The dolphin's capacity to interpret human language allows it to create a narrative that is both intellectually stimulating and emotionally engaging, much like a human story.
Food Review

The Essential Vegetarian

By Katie Jeffreys

A

other wonderful Meat-Out week is drawing to a close. But thank goodness there are still a few days of

enjoyment to cause. I hope you all saw the Vegetarian Student Group members handing out baby carrots, orange juice,

hopeful, and of course informative literature. I would like to hear from

any of you who signed the Meat-Out pledge to eschew meat on Thurs-

day, or who have taken a long-term veg lifestyles/vegetarianism.

This week I tried food for a change: Sicilia’s Pizza, which

delivered from its 840 Commonwealth Avenue location offers some

of the most authentic Chicago-style deep dish pizza I have seen. Pizzeria Uno may have created the deep dish, but their version

is the ground beef of the pizza world (for lack of a better analogy).

Chicago style pizza should have the toppings in the very center, on the crust should be cheese, veggies, and then sauce. A final

sizzling of seasonings or parmesan is a nice touch.

This is the form taken by Sicilia’s pizza, but not your average

Domino’s or Uno’s dish. Perhaps I was overcome with nostalgia,

(pizza was a little soggier) but I was generally pleased with what

was a filling and tasty product. The menu offers many vegetarian

specials, including spinach and zucchini (Sicilia’s Original) and

mushrooms, green peppers, and onions (Veggie Sicilia’s). They also

offer eggplant parmigiana and grilled vegetable sandwiches, as well

as wraps, appetizers, and of course, regular and thin crust pizzas. The

cost is a little higher per pizza than some pizzerias, but I could

only eat one slice before feeling full, so I would say it is a very

good deal.

The recipe this week is a healthy spinach and cheese pizza which

is simple to make. As always, please e-mail me with any comments

at veggie@techmate.net.

Spinach and Feta Pie

1 pound spinach

1 tsp dried oregano

1 cup egg substitute

1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

1/2 cup nonfat yogurt

1 tsp dry bread crumbs

2 tbsp crumbled feta cheese

1/2 cloves garlic, minced

Wash the spinach in cold water to remove any grit. Cook in a

large pot with just the water left clinging to the leaves until wilted.

Let cool and squeeze all liquid from the leaves. Transfer to a food

processor. Chop with omelet turn.

Add the egg substitute, yogurt, cheese, garlic, oregano and cima-

cron. In a cup, combine the bread crumbs and pecans.

Cul a 9-inch pie plate with nonstick spray. Add the bread crumb

mixture and distribute evenly in the bottom and up the sides.

Pour the spinach mixture into the pan. Bake at 400° F for 30 to 40

minutes, or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

Serves four.

ConeC Review

Our Lady Peace

Intimate? Not Quite

By Dan Katz

W

hen I mentioned that I was going to

see Our Lady Peace's special

"Scaled" show at The House on

Monday, somebody at The

Tech asked me if I was going to try to get an

interview. I said no for a couple of reasons.

First of all, the point of the Scaled Tour is that

whether the band would reprise the Sunirmer-

certs he speaks little if at all, and he's notori-

ously terse to the press. When I interview a

bestrage, Raine's bandmates seemed much more

enthusiastic then he was). wrong, to which he quipped, "Yeah, that was

mas Rave, where they blazed through new

However, one of the most rep esentative

instance where he actually seemed to be

enjoying himself.

As for the performance itself, it was also

a bit disappointing. The band lacked the energy

toned down (and overdrarnaticized), and sever-

audience fanatic enough to sing an entire song

of their Scaled setup. Several voices yelled "Car-

It was nice to see that in a sold out club, been an awesome show to one that was mere-

frenetic (yet oddly appropriate) music; this

credits completely, two men - one Serbian

and directed by first-time filmmaker Jasmin

Dizdar makes it all the more impressive that it

works so successfully. The actors all

solid performances, and the cast is littered

with deceptively familiar British extras. Half

portrayals of heroin addiction or foul lan-

Viewers who like any combination of the

Wickedly Funny

By Karen Feigenbaum

T

his hilarious independent British black

comedy is somewhat slow to warm up,

but the film definitely grows on the

viewer as it progresses. Beautiful Peo-

ple focuses on a number of Londoners and

their different stories, and portrays how their

lives overlap throughout the course of a day.

Because there are so many different char-

acters, the film requires at least three or four

five minutes just to introduce them all and for

the audience to gain any appreciation for their

circumstances. Initially, the viewer isn't really

vested in any of these random people or their

stories, but interest is definitely fostered by

the end of the movie.

Many of the individual stories focus on

Black and recent Sri'Is and Creat issues,

with oddly comedic twists. In fact, before

the movie even finishes rolling the initial credits completely, two men - one Serbian

and one Croatian - engage in a random

fistfight and foot-chase scene set to wildly

frenetic (yet oddly appropriate) music; this

introduction perfectly sets the tone of absur-

dism and hilarity for the ensuing film. Later

on, the film tells the tale of a heroin addict

and the former Yugoslav territory which is

so ridiculous, so preposterous, and yet so

positively hysterical that explanations sim-

ply don't do it justice and would detract

from the unexpected humor generated by

honest surprise.

The concept of intertwining vignettes is

hardly a new one, but it's rarely done well;

past tragedies include Robert Altman's Short

Cuts, and the more painful recent release Magnolia. The fact that this movie is written

and directed by first-time filmmaker Jasin

Dilaur makes it all the more impressive that it

works so successfully. The actors all turn

out solid performances, and the cast is littered

with deceptively familiar British extras. Half

it will be spent trying to figure out what

movies they were in previously (hint: one is from Four Weddings and a Funeral, and

another is from Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels).

It should be noted, though, that this movie is probably not going to be enjoyed

by everyone. Some will find it clever and

fun, but perhaps only those who enjoy jet

black comedies and British independent

files, and who aren't offended by movie

language and obscene language will

garnered through thick British accents.

Viewers who like any combination of the

words "Sri Lanka" and "Beatles" have a

preferences aren't likely to be offended by the

above mentioned language, and those who

be considered "Wickedly Funny."
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film</th>
<th>Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excellent</strong></td>
<td>Beautiful People (★★★★)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good</strong></td>
<td>Cradle Will Rock (★★½)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fair</strong></td>
<td>The Cider House Rules (★★½)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Poor</strong></td>
<td>The Last Best Thing (★★)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

American Beauty (★★½)

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

-Vladimir V. Zelevinsky

The Beach (★★½)

The quest for the perfect world drives some people to madness, some to obsession, and some to The Beach. In this utopian odyssey chronicling one young, macho American's quest for adventure, elements of postmodern fantasy, horror, and love collide into a final sobering conclusion: that the closest thing to a perfect world may very well be our own. Its gratuitous relationships and its force-feeding of the themes also cripple the plot.

-Jacob Beniflah and Amy Meadows

Beautiful People (★★★★)

A hilarious independent British black comedy that is slow to warm up, but grows on the viewer as it progresses. Beautiful People focuses on a number of Londoners and their unique stories, and how their lives intertwine over the course of a day. It should be noted, however, that only people who appreciate dark comedies and British independent films will truly enjoy this film.

-Karen Fegenbaum

Being John Malkovich (★★★★½)

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

-VZ

Boiler Room (★★½)

A fairly clever, deceiving movie about the shady dealings of the employees of a small brokerage firm. Witty dialogue and good acting make the film hard to forget, but Boiler Room turns out not to be as thrilling as it claims to be.

-Jamie Jeffries

The Cider House Rules (★★★½)

Despite the fact that the protagonists' name is Homer, this film ends up feeling less like a Homerian epic and more like a Norman Rockwell painting: hardly great art or even art at all, but something with instantly recognizable humanity and an overall impact that can hardly be ignored. Credit this mostly to humor- ous acting and the screenplay's understated emotional complexity.

-VZ

Cradle Will Rock (★★½)

A rich, visually inventive, magnificently acted, and consistently hilarious tapestry of art set in the 1930's. weaving together characters from John Cassavetes' Nelson Rockefeller to EmilyWatson's homelss street performer. A perfect opening sequence, a perfect closing shot.

-VZ

Dolphins (★★★½)

Like most Omnimax movies, Dolphins is strong on visuals, filling the screen with eye-popping images, but falls somewhat short on story and characters. The film is stunning as it follows dolphins as they play and hunt, but is less successful when it attempts to approach any sort of humanity.

-VZ

Erick Brevickovich (★★★½)

A great show that successfully combines many generic courtroom drama, mystery, relation-ship and character study, satire, and wish-fulfillment Table. Erick Brevickovich makes use of actress Julia Roberts' and director Steven Soderbergh's strong points and uses them to complement each other, creating a movie where story and characters matter and where the visuals an-

-VZ

Galaxy Quest (★★½)

Not quite the Star Trek parody that it starts out like; more of a Star-Trek rip-off, with the same stupid computer graphics, fake sets, plot holes (all of the above rather irritating), and general air of amiable nonsense (very enjoy-able). It's also neat to see a bunch of good actors having fun. Rather stupid, really; at the same time, rather cute.

-VZ

Girl, Interrupted (★★½)

Exploring the struggles of a teenage girl in a mental hospital, Winona Ryder manages the lows and highs of the character effectively, creating a somewhat skewed view of the movie. However, Angelina Jolie and Brittany Murphy are excellent supporting actresses and serve to balance the movie, while the rest of the acting is lukewarm. Additionally, the dra-matic details, such as the lighting, create moods and scenes that are compelling, but that do not make up for the lack of plot.

-AM

Magnolia (★★½)

A sprawling incoherent mess of a movie, with a story and characters that manage to be both jaw-droppingly obvious and make no sense whatsoever. On the other hand, the annoying narrative bombast is compensated by great visual verve, and the climactic sequence is simply the most wildly creative bit of film-making of 1999, even though it has nothing to do with the rest of the movie.

-VZ

Mission to Mars (★½)

This latest Brian De Palma movie borrows so much from such space films as Contact, Alien, and 2001: A Space Odyssey that the result is not only poor — it's laughably poor. Mission to Mars relies heavily on computer graphics and insults its audience with bad writ-

encing. The final product would do better as a piece for Mystery Science Theatre 3000.

-VZ

The Next Best Thing (★★½)

Madonna and Rupert Everett star as best friends who accidentally have a baby together. While Madonna and Everett are convincing in their roles, the premise of a gay man getting drunk and having sex with his female best friend is too far-fetched to swallow. Furthermore, the complicated custody battle that takes up the film's final third of the movie destroys the flow created by the first part of the film.

-Fred Choi

The Talented Mr. Ripley (★★★½)

A lust to recommend: a complex plot, accomplished acting (Matt Damon and Cate Blanchett especially), and gorgeous visuals; especially impressive is the degree to which the audience gets to understand and identify with the film's unusual protagonist. A bit too slowly-paced, though.

-VZ

The Tigger Movie (★★½)

Pooh, Rabbit, Kangaroo, Roo, and of course, Tigger return to the big screen in the newest Disney animated adventure. This story of Tigger's quest to find other tiggers benefits from top-notch animation, but feels too child-

ish to be enjoyable.

-EB

Topsy-Turvy (★★★½)

Following the triumphs of Gillian and Barbara Sullivan as they create their master-

piece for Mystery Science Theatre 3000, Mystery Science Theatre 3000. - VZ

Toy Story 2 (★★★½)

An instant classic, one of the most cre-

ative and fun movies of the year. Its per-

fectly computer-generated sequel about the adventures of a bunch of toys is clever, funny, complex, and, most surprisingly, deeply emotional.

-VZ

The Whole Nine Yards (★★)

There are films that are bad, and there are films that are so bad they are good, and then there is The Whole Nine Yards, which is so bad it's not even so bad it's good, and there's no point about writing anything about this stillborn, humorless, sexist, vio-

lent piece of garbage, not even worth decid-

ing if the word "stuck" or "stinks" applies better, and since I already killed an hour and a half of my life watching this abomination, I'm not going to write more than a single sentence about it, so there.

-VZ

Wonder Boys (★★½)

Wonder Boys, director Curtis Hanson's first film since L.A. Confidential, is an endear-

ingly offbeat comedy that takes its sweet time developing, though most of that time it is in a delight. Michael Douglas stars as the unshaven, over-the-hill writer and professor Grady Tripp, Tony Maguire and Katie Holmes play Tripp's students, with Maguire stealing the spotlight as a darkly enchanting would-be Po. Also enjoyable are Robert Downey Jr. as Tripp's loony editor, and Frances McDormand. Though overlong and overstuffed, the plot is always amiable and amusing, and the cast makes this one worth watching. - Roy Rosenberg

Dr Terri Fisher (Connie Nielsen, center) aims to fire a life-line wire for, her husband, Woody (Tim Robbins), as colleagues Jim McConnell (Gary Sinise, left) and Phil O'connell (Jeny O'Connell, right look on.)
A weekly guide to the arts in Boston March 17 – 28

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Tickets: 626-1942
Performance Hall, 39 Massachusetts Ave.
Complete albums of Brahms's symphonies. For tickets and information, call 626-1942 after 3:30 p.m. or visit bso.org.

Classical Music

BOSTON SYMPHONY
Tickets: 626-1942
Performance Hall, 39 Massachusetts Ave.
Repeated symphonies of Mozart, Schubert, Brahms, and Haydn, and Richard Strauss's Don Quixote.

Dick Dale
Mercury Theater, 170 Webster St.
Shortstop, 617-426-6912
Tickets are $25, with $10 student rush.

Blues

BAD MAN'S BALL
Emmylou Harris
The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
With Harry Connick Jr., Norah Jones, and Tracy Chapman.
Tickets are $35 to $45. Call 426-6912 or visit boston Singers.org.

Jazz Music

REGGATTIS
Contact: 267-7777
Mar. 17: Michael Tyree Turner & Evan Arbelo
Mar. 20: Anton Schwartz Quartet
Mar. 23: Ken Valley
Mar. 25: Ian Martin
Mar. 26: Foti Kotti

Blues

Blue Man Group
Avalon, 86 Arlington St.
“Rebooting the Blue Man Group,” a brand new blue rehearsal space for the Massachusetts Avenue theater company.
Tickets are $50 to $60, student rush tickets $50 for students, and senior rush tickets $30.

Theater

THE AFTER-BURNE
Manchester, 435 Washington St.
March 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, Apr. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, May 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23. Closing March 31. Call 929-4571 or visit bostonb.s.org.

Exhibits

ISSUE Владимиров
269 The Fenway, Boston
Workbook Museum
Tickets: 626-1375, $10 ($8 students, $7 seniors).

FILM FESTIVALS

MALCOLM X: THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X
Kanada Theater, 185 Tremont St.
March 27, 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Tickets are $1.50, $1 for children and seniors.

COMEDY

WILLIE BOY
Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus
March 17–22

Other Events

JONATHAN L. MILLER
Boston College
With Jon Stewart, Al Franken, and Robert Siegel.
March 21, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets are $30 to $35.

Disclaimers:

All events are subject to change. For updated details, call the box office or visit bso.org.
Down with Science (da Firenze) by Jennifer DiMase

the crass rat

Okay, so here's the plan for spring break:

I'm going to catch up on all of the reading I've put off all semester, rework all of the problem sets I got assistance on,

Start the problem sets that are due in two weeks, and begin that twenty page essay due in May...

Yeah, right—and this is going to happen when?

Hey! I figure I have a good three hours on the flight back!

So I'll figure what chem lab setup should upgrade to?

I dunno, how about... holy cow!

You're not in physics?

I am agent Smith.

Yeah, what did we do wrong this time?

Let's just say that it would be better for him if you choose... his destiny.

Institute madness!

Ham, the reading room—
A place so-called conducive to studying.

There's the sleeper, gotta have at least one of those.

There's the sick one... everybody hates him, coughing all the time.

There's always a giggly couple too, so distracting.

Sheesh, it's all their fault, preventing all of us from studying.

Alison Wong

Xippo's Courseload

Solar C. Olugbeifola
March 17, 2000

TechCalendar

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

Friday's Events

6:00 p.m. - Graduate Christian Fellowship Meeting. "Sharing the Experience" - music, prayer, and testimonies on "What has God been doing in my life recently?". Student Center W2Q-491. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

7:00 - 12:00 p.m. - MIT Anime Showing. 4 episodes of our primary series; Nadia; 2 episodes of our secondary series: Serial Experiments Lain; episodes of our primary series: Nadia; 2 episodes of our secondary series: Serial Experiments Lain; Sponsor: Office of the Arts.


Saturday's Events

8:00 p.m. - A Midsummer Night's Dream. Co-directed by Lisa Wolpe, artistic director of Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare group and Sarah Hickler. $8 general admission. Admission 6:00. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

Monday's Events

7:40 - 10:00 p.m. - Kendo Practice. Come learn the Japanese art of swordfighting under the instruction of sensei Junji Himeno, 7th dan from Harvard. No experience is necessary. T-Club Lounge. Sponsor: MIT Kendo Club.

Tuesday's Events

12:00 a.m. - SPRING BREAK - No Seminar this week. Refreshments served 4:15pm. Open. More info: Call Lori Martinez at 253-2481. Email drag on@mit.edu.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Attention-getting sound
10. Excessive
11. Legal document
12. Gent
13. sailor
14. Washed out
33. Hawaiian
drill
34. Sailor's cap
35. Resounding defeat
37. Pigeon
38. Make a choice
39. Mulberry
40. Roll
41. Fam. member
42. Bullwinkle, e.g.
43. _ Lloyd
44. Archibald of the
USA
45. "Daily Planet" reporter
46. Bullwhip
47. Toughens up
48. Nasty
crabs
49. Brick carrier
50. Make more powerful
51. Assn.
52. Medley or Tilden
53. Melville novel
54. Arabian
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In this space donated by The Tech

The Tech Page 15

The Tech

Always

U.S. Department of Transportation

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk

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I hired a psychologist to help you handle stress.

We need another engineer, not some freakin' quack!!

Is there a pill for that?

I took it.

The psychologist: It's normal to have stress when a merger is pending.

Merger? What merger?

There I go again!

Should I be trying to discover a shared vision that will foster enrollment rather than compliance?

Or should I modify my conceptual map to focus on organizational complexity?

Is any of that the same as work?

It pays the same.

(Gasp Gasp) Eek! I'm late for English!

(Gasp Gasp) Aaa! I'm late for geometry!

(Gasp Gasp) Shoot! I'm late for bio!

At least I got to gym class some spending on time. Today, people.

Eleven six tigers! Lions!

Ta-da! Thank gone you, without thank a trace! You.

I don't get it. Maybe Siegfried and we not own Vegas! Need we just get more laughed at. Makeup.

Jason, would you please tell your sister that dinner's in 10 minutes?

What? Mom says dinner's in 10 minutes!

Dinner's in dead mittens?? 10 minutes!

I meant go up-stairs and tell her.

Sheesh, you don't have to yell.
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woman between the ages of 18-33 with
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hair, green/blue eyes, fair complexion.
Medical students a plus. Should be 5'4" or
taller. Please send all pertinent
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Students Mixed on Prospect of Dormitory Repairs

Repairs, from Page 1

two," Frank said. "If we can take a step back from our personal feelings about this, we can see this is a for the greater good for the building." Evans said that the administration has been "very vague" about plans so far.

"We don't have all the information, but it doesn't seem to me like the improvements really merit moving everyone out for the summer," Evans said. She said the doubt has been echoed by other East Campus residents in a recent flurry of e-mails. However, Frank said that lead paint and asbestos abatement necessitated the time and the removal of students.

Evans expressed frustration over the issue of the fire alarm system. "We've been through several sessions of that already ... I've heard that the new fire alarm systems at Baker have false alarms all the time, so 1 hope we'll get something better than that," said Evans. Recent work done on East Campus' alarm systems was in preparation for this major upgrade, Nilsson said. Both Frank and Evans said that East Campus needs new electrical outlets. "Right now we have outlets that accept the third prong but don't actually ground the plug," Evans said.

Although students will not be able to live in the dormitories over the summer, neither orientation nor graduating seniors will be affected. "They said it'll be done by August 11. We have to take their word for it. I don't know if they'll let us move in right away, or if we'll have to wait a week," Evans said. Frank was pleased by concessions made for graduating seniors. "I think the fact that graduating seniors aren't having to move out [early] is very reasonable." She also noted that the administration was working to ensure space for students to store their belongings over the summer.

"They are very willing to make things easy for students," said Frank. Summer plans changed at Random Hall, Matthew S. Cain '02, president of Random Hall, said that students were surprised at the news that repairs would take place this summer. "We knew about the problems with our fire system ... In the fall--we were told that repairs were about three years in the future. Last night our housemaster told us" that they would in fact occur this summer, said Cain.

"In the long term it's a very good thing. The alarms are very bad -- an alarm will go off, and someone sleeping one door down won't hear it," said Cain. "In the short run, people are disappointed."

"They're going to try to put as many of us in Baker as possible, and they're going to try to keep us together as much as possible," Cain said.

However, he said that many Random Hall residents, especially graduating seniors, are now reconsidering their plans. Usually, many residents spend the summer in the dormitory, a trend Cain predicts will slacken this summer.

Although the fire alarm system is the focus of repairs at Random Hall, Cain said that the housemaster was attempting to get other scheduled repairs, including electrical system upgrades and replacement of carpets, done at the same time.

Frank Dabek contributed to the reporting of this article.
Faculty Approve New Communications Requirement

By Daniel C. Stevenson

Faculty members overwhelmingly approved a modified motion to implement the new Communications Requirement at Wednesday's faculty meeting.

The faculty also heard about proposed changes to class regulations that limit professors' flexibility on assignments and evening exams, a summary of disciplinary proceedings for the past year, and statistics indicating a continued downward trend in harassment.

The relatively small crowd of 100 people who attended the meeting in Room 10-250 included several undergraduates interested in the Communication Requirement and exam regulation discussions.

The requirement replaces the old Writing Requirement and consists of Phase 1 and Phase 2 competency tests with a more instructional approach requiring four communications-intensive classes.

The motion, passed calls for the Committee on the Undergraduate Program to develop an implementation plan, to be presented to the faculty by next February.

Motion clarifies enforcement

The modified motion was offered in part by the Committee on Academic Performance and the Committee on Curriculum voiced concerns over the implementation and monitoring of the requirement.

"We strongly endorse this [modification], in that it will give the faculty time to come up with a better solution" to implementation issues said Sarah L. McDougal '01, chair of the Student Committee on Educational Policy.

"Our concern was that the proposed changes apply to undergraduate classes." he said. "One way that we can allow flexibility wherever we can. - Professor Arthur C. Smith"

No exams can be held after the Friday preceding the start of the reading period.


The Student Committee on Educational Policy looked favorably on the additional disclosure and violation reporting requirements.

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Heard of b2b e-commerce? Join the new new thing.

Woosh is interviewing on April 5 for positions in software development, business development, and marketing. Interested? Send a resume to jobseast@woosh.com

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between March 2-9, 2000. This summary contains most incidents reported to Campus Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, general service calls, etc.

March 2: Memorial Dr. and Audrey St. assist State Police with vehicle accident; Bldg. 35, construction supplies stolen $1,150; Bldg. W31, campus vending machines broken into, several thousand dollars missing; Hayward St. '88 Mazda stolen; Bldg. W5, check and inquiry; East Lot, check and inquiry of vehicle.

March 3: Boston, 1) Delta Upsilon, unwanted guest; 2) Lambda Chi Alpha, party problem; Student Center, check and inquiry; Westgate area, John Naughton of 46 Littlefield St, Brighton, MA, arrested for trespassing; Walker, report of suspicious person, gone upon MIT PD arrival.

March 4: Next House, suspicious activity and vandalism to a door, Bldg. 16, suspicious activity, checks out okay; Bldg. E52, suspicious activity; Hayden Library, suspicious person, left area prior to MIT arrival; East Campus, suspicious activity, gone upon MIT PD arrival.

March 5: Krege Lot, vehicle license plate stolen; Tang Hall, annoying mail; Bldg. W39 and W31, suspicious activity; Student Center, 1) suspicious person, trespass warning issued; 2) homeless person assisted to shelter; Bldg. 2, two males arrested for lewd behavior; Bldg. W15, change purse with ID and keys stolen.

March 6: Krege Lot, window smashed, nothing missing; Bldg. 10, suspicious activity; Bldg. 56, check and inquiry of male and trespass warning issued; Memorial Dr. assist State Police with vehicle accident.

March 7: New House, 1) domestic problem; 2) noise complaint; Student Center, harassing e-mail; Ashdown, student problem; Bldg. 2, Marc DeRose of 4 Longfellow Place #2307, Boston, MA, arrested for lewd and lascivious behavior; Bldg. 56, coat stolen $100; Bldg. 56, coat stolen $100; Bldg. E18, construction tool stolen $400; Bldg. 2, suspicious activity; Next House, laptop computer and sneakers stolen $940; Bldg. E52, assault between a student and an employee.

March 8: Bldg. E51, report of backpack stolen, same had been picked up for safe keeping by a friend; Westgate, report of suspicious person, gone upon MIT PD arrival; Bldg. E18, suspicious activity; Bldg's. 2, 4 & W32, check and inquiry, trespass warnings issued; Amherst Alley by Next House, report of woman screaming, no cause found.

March 9: East Lot, suspicious activity; DuPont, wallet stolen $12; Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, noise complaint; Bldg. 68, report of skateboarders; rear of 275 Lot, check and inquiry; MacGregor, report of suspicious person, same issued trespass warning; Bldg. 2, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued.

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### MIT Students Doubt Drinking Survey's Conclusions

#### 'party...'

Students react to report

MIT students have reacted in different ways to the report. Theta Delta Chi brother Darien B. Crane, '03, said, "Yes there is binge drinking, but that's meaningless because different people experience the effects of alcohol in different ways." Gina M. Pelleriti, '03, a sister of Alpha Chi Omega, said, "There is a lot of binge drinking that occurs, both in the dorms and in the FSLLg's, but we just can't just focus on one more than the other. It's just that in dorms it's easier to hide drinking because they're not the typical places to have public parties.

MIT offers many resources for those who have a binge drinking problem, said Mark A. Goldstein, Chief of Pediatric and Student Health. The most preferred path is to go through a primary-care physician and through them be referred to a psychiatrist in mental health services. Those with a binge drinking problem also have the option of seeing a social worker or psychiatrist who deals specifically with the treatment of substance abuse.

This is the third report of the College Alcohol Study began in 1993. Wechsler shared authorship of the report with Jae Eun Lee, Meichun Kuo, and Hang Lee. The report surveys 119 four-year colleges; MIT did not participate in the survey. The report's definition of binge drinking is the consumption of five or more drinks in a row for men and four or more for women, at least once in a two week period.

### MARKETING RESEARCH STUDY

We are conducting a study about perceptions of companies. We need to interview graduating seniors and graduate students in the next few days. The interview will take about 30 minutes and we are giving $100 as a thank you for your help.

If you are a graduate student or graduating student in Biology, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Pharmacy or Process Engineering and you intend to go into industry upon graduation and you have a B average or better, please call us at 800-683-1287 extension 127 and ask for Elaine to see if you qualify and schedule an interview.

Proof of major and standing will be required at the interview.

### Tether or whatever...

Looking for a faster way to connect to MITnet than over analog phone lines?

So are we. MIT Information Systems is looking for alternative ways to provide high-speed access to the off-campus community.

If you are using Tether, AOL, MediaOne or some other Internet Service Provider to connect to MITnet from off-campus, we need your help. We need to know how you are connecting to MITnet now and how you would like to connect in the future. What are the services and features that you most desire from an ISP? How do you get your e-mail when you're on the road? Be part of the solution.

Answer these and other questions by completing the survey at our website [http://web.mit.edu/isn/pjrojects/speed/spotsurvey.html](http://web.mit.edu/isn/pjrojects/speed/spotsurvey.html) between March 17 and 31, 2000.

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North Carolina will be bounced by the powerful Cardinal team. Connecticut- Tennessee match will feature lots of great ball. Of the two teams, I think Connecticut is the better-prepared team for this match-up. I look for Jim Calhoun to regroup his team and prepare them for a strong March run.

It is the bottom half of the bracket where I see a melee of upsets occurring. Yes, both State and Cincinnati are more talented than their opponents are, but in March anything can happen. Both UNLV and Miami have shown they have the ability to win and win big, and I think both teams have the capability of pulling the upset. While UNLV is out to prove that they belong, Miami was strong in the Big East. Stanford and Connecticut is a colonial match-up. Stanford is the only one note in the seed draw Connecticut has not played. They have too much going for them in this match, certainty too much for Connecticut. James Vincentakeln cannot stop Mark Madsen, I am only hoping to contain him, and I don’t even think he can do that without fouling quickly. Look for Stanford to win by eighteen to twenty points.

The other side of the bracket features a six and ten seed. If this match-up does indeed pan out, I believe that UNLV’s run ends here. Miami has proven that they can play with the big boys, and has the type of defense that can slow down the “Runnin’ Rebels.” This then leaves the Hurricanes the daunting task of trying to stop the Stanford. It can be done, but a seeds size is to do it, something that Miami does not have much of. Look for Stanford to enter the Final Four without having been challenged much at all.
Alberi Is 15th in 100-Backstroke
Women's Nordic Skiing Team Wins U.S. Collegiate Skiing Title

By Ming-Tai Huh

During the past weekend, swimmer Kirsten Alberi earned two points for MIT at the D-III NCAA tournament at Emory University. She placed fifth out of the 50 qualified swimmers. Among the spectator stands, Alberi's father made the trip to Georgia from Maine to see his daughter race. The national finish combined with three school records completes a terrific freshman year. "This was a learning year for me. I aim to swim faster and make nationals next year." Nordic skiing wins Championship The Nordic women's team of Capta

Pheiffer Reveals Picks
Stanford, Duke Will Roll into Final Four

By Rory Pheiffer

Well, one day down, and many of you are probably saying to yourselves that after one day you are still in good contention to win your pool this year. Then again, maybe you are already out of it, but unless you picked Valpo here, your guess is you are not too bad off after day one. The fun is only beginning though. Although this analysis is a day late for most of you who had to turn in your brackets by Thursday, let's take some time to check out the other half of the field.

The East Region

The East region is headlined with my personal favorite the Duke Blue Devils, but there are some tough teams lurking in the draw for the young Blue Devils, teams like Oklahoma State, Illinois, Florida, and every team's worst nightmare, the Temple Owls. There are also some very good first round match-ups in this region. Duke, Temple, and Oklahoma State should all cruise in their first games. The same goes for the Fighting Illini. Penn may have Michael Jordan, but unfortunately for them he is not even related to his Airness. I am especially high on Illinois now that last year's Big Ten Freshman of the Year Corey Bradford has caught fire. As long as he keeps up his level of play there is no telling what Illinois is capable of. They will likely clash with Florida in the second round, seeing as Florida should not have any trouble with Butler. Florida was hovering close to the top ten all year so Butler should not provide too difficult a challenge. Remember that Butler has not played a quality opponent in fifteen games either.

The six versus eleven seed match-up in this bracket has upset written all over it. The Peppermint Waves have a tenacious defense that the experienced freshmen from the South will have a hard time getting through. Remember that Butler's level of play there is no telling what they are capable of. They are a team that can surprise some people. As for Stanford, Bobby Knight is a great coach, and A.J. Guyton is an All-American. Unfortunately for them he is not related to his Airness. I am especially high on Illinois now that last year's Big Ten Freshman of the Year Corey Bradford has caught fire. As long as he keeps up his level of play there is no telling what Illinois is capable of. They will likely clash with Florida in the second round, seeing as Florida should not have any trouble with Butler. Florida was hovering close to the top ten all year so Butler should not provide too difficult a challenge. Remember that Butler has not played a quality opponent in fifteen games either.

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