Class of 2004 Takes Over MIT
Effervescent Opening Ceremony Energizes Orientation 2000

By Mike Hall

Over one thousand freshmen arrived at MIT yesterday, marking the official start of Orientation 2000.

The Class of 2004, one of the most diverse classes on record, will participate in Orientation events designed to introduce its members to MIT and the Boston area.

Primal urges dominate opening.

Orientation officially began yesterday afternoon as the new class enthusiastically filled Kresge Auditorium yesterday at the opening ceremony. With a creationist-tinted "Carnivore" opening theme, the four Orientation coordinators took to the stage.

The opening continued with a series of games involving members of the freshman class. In the first game, contestants went on a scavenger hunt, searching for a neon-clad Orientation leader, an armful of brass rat, and a copy of "Our Bodies, Ourselves," a booklet which MIT provided free to incoming females.

In the second clash, three teams worked for ten minutes to build a shelter using poles, netting and arts and crafts materials. The team, the Orientalists, "came in second despite the fact that we were not oriented at all," said the team leader.

Orientation, Page 9

LCS May Review FBI's Carnivore

By Frank Dabek

MIT researchers at the Laboratory for Computer Science are among those being considered by the Justice Department to conduct an independent review of the FBI's Carnivore Internet surveillance system.

Attorney General Janet Reno announced earlier this month that a still unnamed university would conduct a review of Carnivore and set guidelines for its future use, allaying widespread public concern over its privacy implications. When deployed by the FBI on a computer network, Carnivore examines e-mail messages and searches for messages addressed to a suspect. Civil libertarians worry, however, that the FBI may use the software to spy on the general public.

Hal Abelson '73, a professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, said that government representatives had contacted Professor Ronald Rivest, also of the LCS, to conduct its review, in regards to participation in the review. MIT is "one of the universities on the list," of potential reviewers, Abelson said.

However, "nothing has been decided yet," he said.

A Department of Justice spokes-

woman, Chris Wathey, would not confirm that MIT was being considered for the project, but said that numerous universities have been in touch with the DOJ. Rivest could not be reached for comment.

Rivest's contact with the government touched off an informal, internal discussion of the merits of participation in the review, Abelson said.

"If the conditions are right I think it would be a good thing to do," Rivest said.

Those conditions require that MIT researchers would have access to the source code for Carnivore and influence over how the findings will be made public and the scope of the review. Any review "has to be in the context of policy. ... You have to look at the whole thing," Abelson said.

At an August 10 press conference, Reno said that the university review team would have "total access to any information they need to conduct their review" and that the findings of the team would be available for public comment.

At a press conference yesterday, Reno said that a university would not be named until September 15th. A statement of work and expectations for the review will be posted on the DOJ's website tomorrow at 5 p.m. The posting "will ensure that all the universities that want to be considered will be able to apply based on the same standards," Abelson said.

...but not the new machines.

US Offers Redhat, New E-Mail Servers

New Release of Athena, Faster Linux Boxes in Clusters Top Summer Updates

By Dana Levine

Students returning to MIT this fall will notice that Information Systems has made several changes to the Athena computing environment, including a powerful new e-mail system, the official introduction of Redhat Athena boxes in the clusters, and a new release of Athena.

IMAP e-mail planned for October

Although it has not officially announced an upgrade to its existing e-mail system, US has begun to implement a system which gives e-mail users several new choices.

US staffer Heather A. Harrison, who works on training and publications, said that for now all users will notice is that "the mail servers are faster and more reliable than they were previously." On October 2, however, US will begin official support for the Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP).

Differing from the current system, in which a user downloads e-mail from the mail server to either Athena or a single computer running Netscape Communicator. IMAP servers allow any computer running Netscape Communicator.

IMAP servers allow any compliant client to view and reply to messages without downloading them from the server.

Carnivore, Page 9

Orientation coordinators Brian A. Pasquinielli '02 and Ellen M. Roach '02, look on as freshman Ian Martin demonstrates his ability to walk on his hands. The talent competition was part of Orientation 2000's opening ceremonies.

Carnivore, Page 9

With the MBTA Board of Director's decision to increase T fares, MIT's commuters, staff, and students will be paying one dollar for basic subway service in the fall. See story, page 9.
Richard Hatch Defeats Alliance Members to Win “Survivor” Crown

Los Angeles Times

Ending a saga that was as gripping as it was pointless, the CBS reality show, "Survivor," had its first winner Wednesday night, for which the network said it was commanding as much as $600,000 for a 30-second commercial, culminated 13 weeks of ratings success and left Hatch with $1 million.

In the end, Hatch, a corporate trainer from Newport, R.I., beat out solo castaway Kelly Wiglesworth, 23, a river guide from Las Vegas, who was the first runner-up. Monday, a 72-year-old retired Navy SEAL, came in third, while truck driver Susan Hawkins, 38, of Palmyra, Wis., finished last. Wednesday night.

A "jury" of seven ousted castaways determined the winner between Hatch and Wiglesworth. For finishing second, Wiglesworth got $240,000.

The identity of the winner of "Survivor," which taped last spring, was kept under wraps until Wednesday night. CBS managed to aver potential leaks by getting those associated with the program to sign confidential agreements that carried the threat of stiff fines, among other safeguards.

Panel Recommends Strengthened U.N. Peacekeeping Force

The Washington Post

New York

An international panel called Wednesday for a thorough overhaul of United Nations peacekeeping, contending that U.N. "blue helmets" must be sufficiently armed and trained to defeat any renegades who challenge peacekeeping missions around the world.

While stopping short of calling for a permanent U.N. army, the panel, which was named by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, recommended a 10 percent increase in the force's peacekeeping budget.

The report was widely praised by observers, who said the panel's recommendations would result in a force that can perform its mission effectively.

Study Suggests Link Between Germ Exposure, Resistance to Asthma

The Washington Post

Infants who go to day-care centers or who have older siblings are less likely to develop asthma later in childhood, researchers reported Wednesday.

The new findings provide strong support for the provocative but increasingly accepted theory that exposure to microbes early in life may help the immune system mature properly, reducing the risk of asthma and allergies.

In the new study, babies who entered day care before the age of six months had only 40 percent of the risk of asthma seen in those who entered day care after the age of six months.

An estimated 17.3 million Americans suffer from asthma, a chronic and often progressive disorder in which small air passages in the lungs become temporarily blocked, causing difficulty breathing. The figure has more than doubled since 1980, when there were 6.7 million Americans who had asthma.

The federal government announced Thursday that for the first time it will fund medical research using human embryo cells, touching off a bitter debate between anti-abortion groups and patients with diseases long thought untreatable.

President Clinton said the research had been "prohibited" up to now because it was "the destruction of human life," but the new policy allows embryos to be destroyed.

People who are interested in the new policy are called "pro-life" by some and "pro-life" by others.

By Aaron Zitomer

Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, California

The Pentagon said that U.S. fighters have been ordered to cease fire in the Mediterranean and the Gulf after a flight from Cairo with 143 passengers aboard crashed into the Persian Gulf Wednesday night just off Bahrain. Despite a frantic search for survivors in the shallow coastal waters, all aboard were believed to have died.

Scientists in the private sector already have been working with human embryo cells, the Pentagon stated Tuesday.

When the plane was shot down, there were no signs of a fire or smoke. But eventually, scientists will benefit from the research using human embryo cells, vowed to touch off a bitter debate between anti-abortion groups and patients with diseases long thought untreatable.

The U.S. military, which also included smaller craft, joined a fleet of boats dispatched by the Bahraini government to search the gulf for survivors as helicopters trained searchlights across the area, illuminating bodies as well as debris from the downed plane.

An official in the Bahraini Ministry of Information said the airliner was carrying 143 passengers, many of them returning to jobs in the gulf region. "Most were coming home on vacation in the gulf region," the official said.

The Pentagon said that U.S. jets have been ordered to cease fire in the Mediterranean and the Gulf after a flight from Cairo with 143 passengers aboard crashed into the Gulf.

The Airbus' A320, a twin-engine, was scheduled to land at 11:30 a.m. and was never heard from again.

The Explorer "must at least be rolled, risk. .

Families of passengers believed to have been aboard the Gulf Air and the coast guards are working to identify the bodies as helicopters trained searchlights across the area, illuminating bodies as well as debris from the downed plane.

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The U.S. 5th Fleet, which patrols the Persian Gulf, is based in the Bahraini capital.

Weather Good Weather Ahead

Weather will never be anything like it in California, but it won't be too bad over the next few days. If you can tolerate the cool days today (what choice do you have?), Friday will treat you well with mostly clear skies.

For the weather fanatics, the weekend will also be pleasant with mostly clear skies and temperatures in the mid-70s.

 Gulf Air Jet Crashes in Persian Gulf, Killing All 143 Passengers

By Howard Schneider

Los Angeles Times

A Gulf Air jetliner carrying 143 passengers and crew crashed into the Persian Gulf Wednesday night just off Bahrain. Despite a frantic search for survivors in the shallow coastal waters, all aboard were believed to have died.

Scientists in the private sector already have been working in the field of stem cell research using human embryo cells, the Pentagon stated Tuesday.

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A hybrid that some people find repugnant.

U.S. To Fund Controversial Experiments on Stem Cells

By Aaron Zitomer

Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles, California

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Former Firestone Employees Testify on Company Practices

By James Y. Grimaldi and Caroline Meyer

Four former Firestone employees testified Wednesday that the use of material was made to tires, supervisors encouraged shoddy procedures and that employees protected the company's image of a take-charge leader. Many of the company's supervisors encouraged shoddy practices and inspectors emphasized an effective if painfully tenuous program to combat the drug problems.

The former employees, who all worked for more than three decades at the Decatur plant, were later fired after a bitter strike in the mid-1980s, delivered the testimony for more than a half-dozen wrongful death lawsuits filed against the tire maker.

Just miles from the tire factory, the ex-workers appeared before plaintiff's lawyers and Firestone defense attorneys in back-to-back depositions in their union lawyer's office. Neither partner of the Roundtree, previously had testified in prior Firestone depositions.

But the other three were providing sworn testimony for the first time. Testifying were a former Firestone plant manager, a former supervisor and another former supervisor.

"It is nothing I want to talk about," ex-employee Richard Tuck- er said after his testimony. "It is part of my past and I don't want to discuss it."

Federal officials are investigating whether 62 deaths and 100 injuries were caused by crashes, in which were the testers that occurred after the tires separated from Firestone tires on Ford Explorer.

Firestone strongly disputes the allegations, contained in one of the wrongful death lawsuits, that the company has a quality-control problem in the Decatur plant and that manufacturing flaws contributed to the tire separations. Spokesmen for the company say the testimony is coming from workers who are disgruntled and trying to make a buck at a strike at the plant in 1994-96.

"The comments of these former workers are the last thing a reasonable person would have to make under a critical eye that they were preparing sworn testimony for the first time," said Jim Buck, an employee of the Firestone Plantaes of Decatur Inc. said in a written statement. Officials added that none of the tests on the plant are made to have positive things to say about quality control.

The mood in the Decatur plant has been grim since the company said it would fire Ford and Firestone and teams from Ford have arrived to review manufacturing processes.

In the days since the recall was announced, attention has become focused on the more than 100 lawsuits that have been filed against Bridgestone/Firestone and Ford and Ford have asked for a 90-minute meeting, he said after his testimony.

Putin is past expecting to be a political newcomer. "It is clear now that estrogens is not as benefical as we once hoped. And the entire story of estrogens and heart disease is far more complicated than we once thought," said Dr. Harry Hendrington of Wake Forest and lead investigator of the study.

In his testimony, Putin said that the hormone replacement is not a magic bullet. Hormones do not prevent the progression of coronary artery disease, something doctors thought to be true before this study was published.

He and his colleagues examined the role of hormones tested against placebo in more than 14,000 women in a multi-center, placebo-controlled study certified through angiograms. Some received 0.625 milligrams of estrogens per day, or 0.625 milligrams of estrogen plus progesterone (a synthetic progestogen), or an inert pill.

California Poised to Approve Expanded Financial Aid Program

Los Angeles Times

California is poised to adopt the largest state financial aid program in the nation's history, one that would catapult it to the forefront of low- and moderate-income high school graduates, even those with just a C-average.

Terms of an agreement announced by Gov. Gray Davis and legislative leaders and expected to go to a vote in the state Legislature this coming week, Davis would vastly expand its existing Cal Grants program to provide tens of thousands more students the money to go to college.

The state would also guarantee grants to college fees for many middle-class high school graduates who make better-than-average grades, and give extra help to community college transfer students. It has yet to be seen whether the program could eventually benefit, state officials said. It could help as many as 100,000 additional students or more than 150,000 high school students that if they get a B-average, the state will help them afford college fees, and even if they can only manage C's, they will at least get a shot at a decent college. The plan is expected to at least double the number of people who receive state aid and end the state's practice of rationing grants in lean budget years.

The offer, which was made to high school students that if they get a B-average, the state will help them afford college fees, and even if they can only manage C's, they will at least get a shot at a decent college. The plan is expected to at least double the number of people who receive state aid and end the state's practice of rationing grants in lean budget years.

In California, "income is not going to be imperative to college," said John Block, Davis' interim secretary of education.

But Black's finding, reported in the Journal of Neuroscience Research, has been confirmed by a handful of other laboratories, and he said some even experience no benefit from hormone replacement after the natural menstrual cycle has continued well past.

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Letters To The Editor

Fed a Line by FSILGs? — But Not Their Best

The other night, I went to the international student "ice cream mixer" conjured to allow us, international freshmen and transfers, to learn about fraternities and ILGs — well, only if we asked unambiguously and specifically about them.

The sacred rules of conduct for rush dictate that a fraternity, sorority or ILG member may not bring up the name of his or her group, that of other living groups, or the general concept of alternative on-campus housing without direct prompting from a new student.

So a frat brother who wants to recruit potential pledges has to play a mind game with them — start up a conversation, talk in vague terms about life at MIT, and hope that the new student "feels the question. "So where are you living?"

The whole evening felt like a pickup scene where the sleazy old guys were somehow prevented from using their best lines. So I felt uncomfortable. I didn’t know whether people who approached me wanted to genuinely meet a student or just to have me do their laundry as a future favors push.

I’ll admit that after a few minutes of confusion (due to the fact that I didn’t know about these rules at first) and then bewilderment (that MIT would actually sanction such a ridiculous environment), I eventually managed to find a few interesting people to talk with and candidly learn about fraternity and ILG living. So it wasn’t an entire loss.

Still, I constantly felt a cloud of obsequiousness hanging over the room, and I was always skeptical that I was just being fed a line. But if I was, I guess I can’t complain, because I specifically and unambiguously asked for it.

Mikael C. Rechtsman
(Editors note: The writer is a transfer student from McGill University.)
Reflections on Survivor
Matt McCann

It's all over. Richard Hatch, the contestant from New Hampshire, is the last one standing. The Survivor simply came out as the inevitable choice by choosing a number between 1 and 10 that someone really wanted to go home. Last night's final episode was two hours of pure entertainment. I watched it with a large group of people, and everyone was laughing out loud every time someone made an extreme move.

The video footage showed the contestants engaged in various activities, including physical challenges, tribal councils, and interviews with the producers. It was clear that Richard Hatch was the winner, and the audience was delighted with his performance.

The Survivor finale was a hit, and it's no surprise that it generated a lot of buzz. The show has been a popular reality TV series for many years, and it's always been known for its intense character dynamics and unexpected twists.

Some of the contestants had become friends, while others were bitter rivals. The final episode was no exception, with Richard Hatch's victory being met with mixed reactions from the audience.

One of the highlights of the show was the group of contestants who went on to form their own Survivor club. They've been meeting regularly to discuss their experiences and share tips on how to survive in similar situations.

As for me, I'm glad the Survivor finale is over. I've been following the show religiously for months, and I'm looking forward to spending more quality time with my family and friends.

In conclusion, Survivor was a thrilling ride, and it will be remembered as one of the best reality TV series of all time. The cast and crew did an excellent job, and I'm sure the Survivor club will continue to thrive for many years to come.

Philippe Larochelle

Looking at yesterday's Tech it would seem that the theme of current articles is to give freshmen a warm welcome and some minor advice for them to progress through their time here at MIT. I've decided to follow suit, offering a number of pieces of advice and little snippets of information that should help all newcomers to MIT through orientation and past registration day. I've also decided to归纳 them in a typical MIT fashion for rapid digestion.

1. MIT will repeatedly kick you in the face, you have to learn to kick back. This is perhaps the guiding principle here at MIT. The workload here, the difficulty of courses, and the level of competition can rival nearly any institution in the world. Perhaps that's why so many of you came here, perhaps that's why some of you hesitated, but that's the way it is. You'll feel the institution kicking quite often: every time you get a problem set you get half the week on or the crappy pin you get for finishing 6.601. The first year here is an on pace (not so much to help you get used to college life in general but rather, to help you learn to roll with the punches.

2. You deserve to be here: I'm sure one of the dozens of faculty, administration or staff who will be addressing you during orientation will reiterate this point, but now hear it from a student: the admissions department didn't pick names out of a hat. You are here because of your accomplishments in the past, academic and otherwise, you have proven that you can survive any hurdle that problem set you set yourself. Half the time you get a problem set that appears to take more time than writing a symphony, every time you get out of the test whose percent average in the mid twenties and every time you see the sun rise while you're still tooling away at an Athena station. The times you realize that you are successfully kicking back are few and far between, when you finally receive a satisfactory grade, you get the occasional smiley face on a college. When you get a problem set you get half the week on or the crappy pin you get for finishing 6.601. The first year here is an on pace (not so much to help you get used to college life in general but rather, to help you learn to roll with the punches.

3. Guns don't kill people, early classes kill people. Popping out of an 8-9 AM start in high school, many of you probably think that a 9, 10 or 11 AM start is a blessing. Think again. You'll see what I mean soon enough. Consider this when forming a schedule.

4. If MIT Teaching Assistants control your fate, God just watches. The best advice I got as a freshman was to seek out good teaching assistants. If you don't think you're learning anything of use in your recitations, change it. A note however, just because a TA may have trouble speaking English, it shouldn't amount to an automatic change: An accent often proves entertaining, a help when trying to stay awake, and it's preferable to someone with perfect English who needlessly rants about Shakespeare in a chemistry class. Not only do TAs do reviews for lectures, but they also ultimately decide your grade.

5. Meet your new best friend: PITH. Taking physics this year? There is a wonderful line service called the Physics Interactive Video Tutor that among other things, allows recordings of all 8.61 classes online through-out the term. Very useful considering the scheduling of this class. (See #5)

6. You don't need to able to count, to be a Tech columnist: It is very easy to join most activities at MIT. The Tech included. Minimal skills are required. So go out and do it.
The Cell

Trapped in The Cell

By Jennifer Young

Directed by Tarsem Singh
Starring Jennifer Lopez, Vince Vaughn, Vincent D’Onofrio, Marianne Jean-Baptiste, Jake Weber, and Dylan Baker
Rated R

The advertisements declaring that The Cell is a hybrid between The Silence of the Lambs and The Crow could easily mislead the average movie-goer into believing that it could be a thought-provoking look into both the deadly insanities of a criminal mind and the consequences of mind-provoking technology.

Movie-goers, take heed: the only thoughts it provokes are those of revulsion. I left this film feeling both genuine physical pain and a desire to extinguish the images in my head. It was forced upon me, and I had very little plot, dialogue, or good moments. The former are redeeming at all.

After I left the theater and managed to stop myself from whistling boogers out of my nose, I knew that with films such as this, the average movie-goer into believing that it could be a thought-provoking look into both the deadly insanities of a criminal mind and the consequences of mind-provoking technology. 

After Vaughn unlocks the secret to where his latest victim is hidden, The Cell is hidden in a medical institute where she uses a new technology to feel both genuine physical pain and a desire to extinguish the images in my head. It was forced upon me, and I had very little plot, dialogue, or good moments. The former are redeeming at all.

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After Vaughn Unlock
TechCalendar appears in each issue of The Tech and features events for members of the MIT community. The Tech makes no guarantee 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.

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

Thursday, August 24
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. -- eatAT. Kinetic sound sculpture by Diane Willow, currently an Artist in Residence at MIT. Her work explores our relationship with nature and technology in the urban environment. Room: E15 Lower Level. Sponsor: Office of the Arts, Media Lab, PAKSMIT. WebSite for Students, W32-125 for non-students.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. -- Amy Cohn: Up From Eden. Sponsor: Physical Education. Paintings on wood and canvas. Opening Reception on Thursday, June 22, 5-7pm. Room: E52-466, The Dean's Gallery. Sponsor: Sloan School of Management.

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. -- Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton. An interactive exhibition celebrating the life and work of MIT legend Harold. $5; $2 students/seniors; $1 children 5-18; free with MIT ID. Room: MIT Museum, N52 2nd floor. Sponsor: MIT Museum.

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. -- Physical Education Lottery Opens! Lottery Closes on 9/6 @ 1pm! Room: WebStis for Students, W32-125 for non-students. Sponsor: Physical Education.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. -- Web Pub User Group (formerly CWIS User Group). The purpose of the Web Pub User Group is to provide a forum for information and support about web publishing at MIT. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.
ACROSS
1. Beseech
2. Millstream channel
3. Did the crawl
4. Close race
5. Youngster
6. Under
7. Pierre's head
8. Leaumeck's arg.
9. Asimov's argument
10. Uke a self-service laundry
11. Cantaloupe cousin
12. Coral island
13. Notes from the boss
15. Class exercise
16. de Voe Graham
17. Wedding-party minstrel
18. Wheaton of "Stand by Me"
19. Particle
20. Boredom
21. Watercraft
22. "Do Ya" grp.
23. "Star Trek" member
25. "One Piece" org.
26. Christmas song
27. "Lavender" shrub
28. Fruit of a brambly flower
29. Squeeze (out.>.
30. "I'm Sitting in a Box and Checking My Stocks"
31. "Healthy Spot"
32. "Cantina" song
33. "North Pole" worker?
34. "Prego" rival
35. "Crystal Maze" theme song
36. "Journey to the Center of the Earth" theme song
37. "I Want to Try My Guns on a Bigger Somewhere"
38. "Jewel" locations
39. "So, what are those things?"
40. "Speed of Light"
41. "Large number"
42. "Conductor James"
43. "Blue Ox"
44. "Chills and Fever"
45. "Healthy Spot"
46. "Literary" words
47. "Diseases of Sleep"
48. "Prevaricate"
49. "Beauty's love"
50. "Gullible saps"
51. "Precious stones"
52. "Wakeup call"
53. "Walking on air"
54. "Prevented"
55. "Plain and simple"
56. "Say out loud"
57. "Hammerin' Hank"
58. "Period"
59. "Time of 'WKRP in Cincinnati'"
60. "On a related note, our heating costs are too high"
61. "Employees waste too much time at funerals"
62. "As a matter of fact, I would mind being cremated in the company furnace"
63. "We increased the complexity of your pay slip"
64. "Now you'll never know when we rip you off! Yeehah! Yeehah!"
65. "Would it be okay if I worked part time?"
66. "Would you be willing to come in on your days off to finish urgent projects?"
67. "The only part that really bugs me is the yeehahs"
68. "Sorry, basically you negotiated a fifty percent pay cut!"
69. "I'm sitting in a box and checking my stocks"
70. "I must use all my willpower to resist checking every ten seconds"
71. "So, basically you negotiated a fifty percent pay cut!"
72. "Would it be okay if I worked part time?"
73. "That depends"
74. "Could you be willing to come in on your days off to finish urgent projects?"
75. "The only part that really bugs me is the yeehahs"
76. "Sorry, basically you negotiated a fifty percent pay cut!"

DOWN
1. Brewster's blue ox
2. No pain, no gain
3. Of hand
4. "Miserables"
5. "Arg." novelist's name
6. Newton
7. "Star Trek" crew member
8. "Self-service laundry"
9. "Self-service laundry"
10. "Eileen Daily"
11. "North Pole" worker?
12. "Prego rival"
13. Uncloses, poetically
14. "Acrobatic feat"
15. "RR stop"
16. "RR stop"
17. "North Pole" worker?
18. "Tim of 'WKRP in Cincinnati'"
19. "Rummage"
20. "Opposite of WSW"
21. "Against"
22. "Against"
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Solution on page 6
**Frosh Praise Friendly Students**

Ornament, from Page 1

and crafts supplies. The winning team used duct tape to attach their square-folded model to the auditorium wall.

Sexual innuendo peppered the remarks of several students. Commentators Joseph A. Cirello '01 and Dakus S. Gans '00 turned up the heat during the dinosaur races, with Cirello commenting that "even the dinosaur is excited." Following the relay, Gans introduced the ball-throwing competition, observing that he had "a lot of balls."

**Power of the people**

The optimism expressed in the opening ceremonies reflected the upbeat mood of the freshman class. Much of that optimism comes directly from MIT's effort to accommodate new freshmen with a friendly and resourceful admissions staff. "Every time I had a question or needed anything, everybody was helpful," said Monique A. Johnson '04, a Florida native considering Course IV.

Jillie F. Kane '04 concurred, stating that she appreciated the helpful far ams office of her top choices, helping her to choose MIT over Stanford or Harvard.

The friendliness of the student body also helped convince many freshmen to choose MIT. The "people made me want to come," said Gila A. Gutfman, an Israeli considering Course VI.

David R. Schannon '04 of San Diego, who is attending MIT to study the Wharton Business school at the University of Pennsylvania. "The philosophy here is 'us against them.' We're all dealing with the same things, so we're all a cut above. Everyone's against each other," Schannon said.

MIT's location was also a deciding factor for many freshmen. Commentators Joseph A. Cirello '01 and Dakus S. Gans '00 said that "Keller '04 had one goal in mind when selecting MIT."

"I wanted to make a difference," Keller said. "MIT was as far away as I could possibly get, considering there is no food in the Midwest."

Keller's mother and father, both MIT alumni, encouraged her to leave home and come to MIT. "They just gave me my airplane ticket," Keller said.

While excited to begin her MIT career, Keller is admittedly apprehensive about the transition and the new academic challenge. "I'm com..."
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Fall Sports Preview

This is the first segment in a three-part preview of MIT fall varsity sports.

men's tennis

After advancing to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III championships, the men's tennis team finished the season sixth in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Division III ranking.

However, the team will have to tackle the loss of its two All-Americans, Eric Chen '00 and Benjamin Cooke '00. Chen was the number one singles player, as well as the recipient of the ITA Arthur Ashe Sportsmanship Award.

According to head coach Jeff Hamilton, who was chosen as NCAA Division III coach of the year, the team will look to Michael Ogrydziak '04, along with other freshmen, for new talent.

"[Our] most anticipated rivalries are scheduled with Williams and Amherst," Hamilton said. MIT defeated Amherst last year in the first time since 1991 amid hostile competition, with MIT and Amherst players nearly coming to blows.

Anish Parikh '01 sets up to return the ball in MIT's tennis match against Williams College on May 1, 1999.

The team's goals for the season are to win the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference championship for the fifth consecutive year and to qualify for the NCAA tournament, Hamilton said.

women's tennis

The women's team's biggest challenge this year will be its youth and the loss of Mealani Nakamura '00, a captain and last year's top player, and co-captains Shalini Agarwal '01 and Benjamin Koskelin '02 against Wellesley College on October 5, 1999.

Mealani Nakamura '00 serves during her doubles match with Kelly Koskelin '02 against Wellesley College on October 5, 1999.

After going 3-10-3 in 1998, the women's soccer team finished 1999 with a respectable 7-8-1 record, and hopes to continue the upward trend in the 2000 season.

The season outlook looks good. We certainly had a tremendous year last year. This year we'll have a young team — no seniors. We'll see who can step up and take the challenge," said head coach Carol Matsuzaki '95.

The team will have to tackle the loss of its two All-Americans, Eric Chen '00 and Benjamin Cooke '00. Chen was the number one singles player, as well as the recipient of the ITA Arthur Ashe Sportsmanship Award.

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