Proposed Graduate Dorm in High Crime Area

By Daniel C. Stevenson

Building NW30, the site of a proposed 125-room graduate student dormitory on the northeast edge of campus, is not in a relatively high-crime area, according to published Campus Police crime logs.

The crime figures are "startling yet not totally surprising," said Graduate Student Council President Luis A. Ortiz G.

The building was listed as the site of more trespassing and loitering reports (14) in 1999 than any graduate or undergraduate dormitory. Other reported incidents include a dead homeless person found behind the building and two arsons, including one resulting from a fire. Full police logs can be found at [http://www.arch.mit.edu/cp/]

The three-story brick warehouse is located at 224 Albany St. at the corner of Pacific Street. It is close to the Cambridge and Somerville Program for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Rehabilitation shelter at 240 Albany St., which houses about 100 homeless people.

Ortiz described the site as being well situated for future expansion, especially with regard to the other planned graduate buildings in the area. "This will be a great residential space once the northeast corridor of campus has been developed," he said.

Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin acknowledged that safety was more of a concern in the Albany Street area than on Amherst Alley, for example. "If you walk out of the proposed new dorm at 1 a.m., you really need to take a shuttle," she said.

The current level of criminal activity is actually an improvement on the past, Glavin said. The advent of a shuttle service in the past year to transport homeless people to and from the CASPAR shelter has significantly reduced their presence in the area, she said.

Echoing Ortiz, Glavin also asserted that as the area's character changes from industrial to residential, the crime level will naturally decrease.

Safety key in planning

Glavin said the Campus Police would consider placing an additional emergency phone directly in front of NW30 if it were converted into a dormitory. Currently, the closest phone is across the street in a parking lot.

The Campus Police would also alter their patrol schedule in the area from random patrols to directed patrols with stops at NW30, Glavin said.

Additionally, the Parking Office would likely alter the Safe Ride schedule to include the new site. The Safe Ride shuttle currently stops several times along Albany Street, but not at NW30.

The company planning the renovation of the warehouse has been instructed to consider safety a key concern, said Associate Director of Planning Robert K. Kaynor. "Our expectation is that by the time the building opens, people will feel pretty confident," he said.

Kaynor also said the Planning Office has had preliminary conversations with the Dean's Office, the Graduate Education Office, and the Campus Police about how to address safety concerns.

The dormitory could open as early as August, 2001, with renovations costing 14-20 million dollars, Kaynor said.

Crime lower at other dorms

At Edgerton House, a 200-resident graduate dormitory one block away from NW30, police logs for 1999 show three incidents of trespassing, five assists of a homeless

MIT's proposal to house 125 graduate students in NW30 raises concerns about the safety of MIT's northwest property as part of a residential neighborhood.

MIT Suicides Reflect National Trends

By Kathryn Jeffreys

The MIT community takes pride in its reputation for working hard. But following the death of Richard Guy in the fall, the tendency of MIT to force students to "drink from a firehouse," was linked to alcoholism, drug abuse and suicide by a score of national media reports. An analysis of historical data, however, reveals that suicide rates at MIT are now lower than the national averages for the same age demographic, having declined since statistics were first kept in the mid-1960s.

"In many respects this is a very caring community. The view that this place is a "meat grinder" is wrong," said Dean of Student Life Robert M. Randolph.

A connection between MIT's academic pressure and suicide can not be substantiated. "It is wrong to assume that things that happen here began here," said Randolph. Stress leading to suicide can come from many different sources, such as personal or physical health problems. Randolph emphasizes that "we have a large community here of a lot of different people coming from many different places. There are not a lot of common threads."

MIT below national rates in 1990s

MIT has lost 47 students to suicide since 1964.
**Ad Campaigns Come on Strong In Same-Sex Marriage Debate**

**By Mark Z. Barabak**

With most polls showing a dead-heat, the South Carolina presidential primary is shaping up as a pivotal event in the fight for the Republican nomination. And it's Democrats who could decide it.

Like Beth McKiernan, who loves President Clinton and subscribes to the Democratic Party orthodoxy on issues such as abortion and gun control, still, she plans to cast her ballot Saturday for John McCain, the first Republican ever to win her vote.

"I hate to sound nite, but I love his biography," McKiernan, 44, said of her fellow Navy veteran, a Viet-

Innocence War hero. "I want somebody in there who can roll with the punches."

Rules allowing all corners to par-
ticipate in South Carolina's vote have created a crazy-quilt contest in this first southern primary, blurring party lines, testing political loyalty and probing whether the GOP is ready for the sort of realignment that helped make Ronald Reagan president.

Hoping to replicate his victory in New Hampshire — which became a rout thanks to heavy support from independents — McCain is aggressive-
cally courting cross-over votes in South Carolina. "Come Democrats! Come Libertarians! Come vegetari-

"Come all of you!" the senator from Arizona cried at a recent bar-
becue in Seneca.

Tex Gov. George W. Bush, meantime, is running far stronger than McCain among traditional Republican voters — the bricks and mortar of his hoped-for Southern fire-

- and has sought to make McCain's appeal to swing voters strike a against him.

"I'm a little con-

cerned about who's coming into the party," Bush told an audience in Salisbury earlier this week, suggesting cross-over Democrats may be trying to sabotage the Republicans by picking the weakest candidate to face their nominee in the fall.

The results Saturday will resound in contests that follow three days later in Michigan and Arizona, and two weeks after that in California, New York and more than a dozen other states. A McCain victory in South Carolina would throw the Republican race wide open by turning establishment jitters over Bush's stumbling start into wide-

spread panic; a Bush win could nip McCain's insurgency before it blooms into more than a February faceoff.

The key question is this: how many Democrats like McKiernan will shift their party allegiance at least temporarily — and how many independents will join them to vote in the Republican primary?

"It's the signal variable, absolutely the most important thing in determining the outcome," said David Woodard, a Clemson Univer-

-ity political science teacher and co-

director of the statewide Palmetto Poll. "I've looked at figures until I was blue in the face, trying to figure it out and I can't. If anybody tells you they can, they don't know what they're talking about."

Dick Harpootlian, South Caroli-

- na's Democratic chairman, denies any organized effort to move around in the GOP contest. But with so much focus on the Bush-McCain race — the advertising and news coverage has been pervasive as the polls that cause the state in spring-
time — anyone who is politically aware can't help but notice.

Another big bet for Democratic loyalists to vote in the Republican race is they have no competing pri-

- mary of their own on Saturday.

**At Africa Conference, Clinton Calls for Increased U.S. Aid**

**By Steven Mufson**

Opening a conference here of 2,000 Africa supporters from across the troubled continent and the Unit-

- ed States, President Clinton called on Congress to swiftly complete work on legislation that would expand access to U.S. markets for African textiles and other goods.

Clinton also said the United States must provide greater support for disease control, debt relief and conflict resolution in Africa.

"We must be involved in Africa," Clinton said, adding that in an era of globalization, all countries are "more vulnerable to one anoth-

er's problems."

Clinton's speech at the Washing-

- ton Convention Center came on the second day of a five-day conference organized by the National Summit on Africa, an organization funded largely by the Ford Foundation and devoted to educating Americans about Africa and promoting U.S. involvement in African issues.

Though the delegates warmly greeted Clinton — the first U.S. president to visit Africa while in office — Africa has disillu-

- sioned many American aid agen-

- cies, the reluctance of U.S. phar-

- macutical companies to make changes in the drugs available in African countries and the level of U.S. economic assistance to the continent.

In a feisty roundtable held Wednesday night, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former finance minister of Liberia, sharply criticized the Clinton administra-

- tion for coming to the rescue of Kosovo but failing to act in the brutal civil war in Sierra Leone. Ali Mazrui, a leading African scholar, argued that the United States and Europe should not only give debt relief but should also pay reparations for damage done by colonialism and slavery.

Before Clinton's speech, the sec-

- retary general of the Organization of African Unity, Salim A. Salim of Tanzania, lamented that Africa "lacks a strong constituency in the United States and Europe."

"A strong African is positive not only for Africa itself, but for its partners," he said.

Much of the talk at the confer-

- ence, however, has been about Africa's problems, not its strengths.

**WEATHER**

**Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, February 18, 2000**

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<th>Precipitation Symbols</th>
<th>Other Symbols</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Mixed Front</td>
<td>Moderate Ice</td>
<td>75%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Extended Forecast**

Today: Snow this afternoon, ice this evening. Temperatures rising to 32°F (0°C).

Tuesday: Sleet-freezing rain changing to rain. Temperatures 32°F (0°C).

Wednesday: Rain-freezing rain ending as snow. Temperature 32°F (0°C).

Thursday: Mostly sunny. Highs 40°F (4°C).

Friday: Sunny and warmer. High 48°F (9°C).

**ICS/18**

18:00 March 18, 2000

**Los Angeles Times**
Religious Moderates May Win In Upcoming Iranian Election

By John Daniszewski

February 18, 2000

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Could it happen again?

In 1997, a relatively unknown cleric stunned the religious establishment in the Islamic Republic of Iran and won the country's presidency in a 70 percent landslide. His victory was credited mainly to young voters and women weary of militaristic posturing and failed economic policies from the country's ruling militias.

Friday, Iranians go to the polls in a general election. And many observers believe they will once again humiliate religious conservatives by choosing a parliament majority of reformists—deputies who, like their hero President Mohammad Khatami, openly favor greater individual freedom, detente with the West and the transparent rule of law.

For three years, Khatami has been thwarted again and again by the hard-line parliament and judiciary—including the closure of pro-Khatami newspapers, the imprisonment of pro-Khatami officials and the jailing of leading reformers. For the reform-minded set, this is payback time.

If the election to Iran's Sixth Majlis, or parliament, is more than exciting, "it is vital," said 21-year-old Bahare Karimi, a student of commercial management.

Standing amid students from the Islamic Iran Participation Front, the most gung-ho, pro-reform pro-Khatami party, she said: "If the next parliament will be the parliament of Mr. Khatami, surely it will be able to do whatever we want."

If all goes as these youths expect, it could be a new Iran. The hard-liners would lose control of parliament and Khatami would be given the Dewey he needs to carry out his agenda.

Reformers are talking hopefully about early constitutional changes to reduce the clerical establishment's power grip on elections, the security services and the courts. They anticipate gradual shifts in foreign policy, too, such as eventual resumption of relations with Washington, a loaded political question here that Khatami has been unable to pursue energetically.

L.A. Mayor Proposes Paying Off Police Gifts with Tobacco Money

By Rene Sanchez

February 18, 2000

LOS ANGELES TIMES

In yet another sign of how this city is reeling from a massive police corruption scandal, Mayor Richard Riordan Thursday proposed using much of the $300 million it expects from settlements with tobacco companies to pay for, lawsuits stemming from police abuse.

Nine more convictions linked to downtown that is overrun with armed officers-in-the-Rampart precinct near Lion, city officials say. Under Rior-

Los Angeles Times

Doctors Say Brain Damage Would Hinder Pinochet in a Trial

February 18, 2000

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Gen. Augusto Pinochet is unfit to stand trial because of "extensive brain damage" that dims his memory, comprehension and ability to express himself, according to disclosures Wednesday of a British medical report on Chile's detained former dictator.

Two newspapers in Spain and one in Chile published translations of the report a day after Britain's High Court ordered it sent to authorities in Spain and three other European countries seeking Pinochet's extradition from Britain on charges of human rights abuse during his 17-year rule.

Pinochet's brain damage dates from a series of strokes last year, and enough time has passed to conclude that "a sustained and significant improvement of (his condition) is unlikely," wrote the three British doctors who examined the 84-year-old retired general last month.

Their report had a sobering effect on the international legal struggle that began with Pinochet's arrest on a Spanish warrant in London in October 1998. He is accused of crimes relating to the deaths and disappearances of leftist opponents of his regime, some of whom were citizens of the countries now pursuing his extradition.

Labor's Call for Immigrant Amnesty Is Unlikely to Sway GOP

February 18, 2000

WASHINGTON

Organized labor's unexpected call for amnesty for 6 million illegal immigrants and repeal of the federal sanctions against employers who hire them may result in changes if Democrats win the November elections but it is unlikely to sway the GOP Congress in the interim, lawmakers and analysts said Thursday.

The call, adopted unanimously by the AFL-CIO's executive council Wednesday, is expected to bolster repeal efforts by some business groups.

But many Republicans are considered likely to view the organization's turnaround as a move to recruit more immigrants as union members.

Rep. Lamar Smith, R-Texas, chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on immigration and a key decision-maker on such issues, all but closed the door on labor's hopes of enacting such legislation soon.

"The union bosses have betrayed American workers," Smith said in a statement Thursday. "Legitimating millions of illegal aliens to compete with American workers will cost them jobs and reduce their wages."

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For more information, visit our Web site at www.ipix.com. For interview, sign up with InterviewTrack by February 23, 2000.
The protracted Cambridge mayoral battle, resulting in the election of Anthony D. Galluccio as mayor and David Maher as Vice-Mayor, raises several important concerns regarding the election process and the representation of ideological diversity on the City Council's new leadership.

The election process, which took one and one-half months and five ballots, and concluded shortly before 1:30 a.m. on Tuesday after a marathon council meeting, was shammed. The circus-like atmosphere in the Sullivan Chamber, complete with the requisite wheeling and dealing and the stench of backroom politics, damages the efficiency of the Council and impairs its ability to now move forward on more substantive issues. Future councils should not allow the process to lapse into February, and instead must move quickly and fairly to install the city's leadership.

The lack of ideological diversity among the Council's new leadership is also a problem. Presently, there are five progressive councillors and four moderates; fairness would dictate that on such a divided council, each group would elect a member of the leadership. Tuesday morning's election, however, gave both the leadership. Tuesday morning's election, however, gave both large enough wheeling and dealing and the stench of backroom politics, damages the efficiency of the Council and impairs its ability to now move forward on more substantive issues. Future councils should not allow the process to lapse into February, and instead must move quickly and fairly to install the city's leadership.

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The mayoral election was a death sentence for the gasping Cambridge Civic Association, once the city's liberal powerhouse. Two of the three CCA councillors, Henrietta Davis and Jim Braude, defected from fellow CCA progressive Kathleen Born to vote for the moderate Galluccio. One promising feature from earlier mayoral ballots was the groundswell of support for Kenneth Reeves, a liberal councillor unaffiliated with the CCA. With the CCA's disintegration, Reeves's strong progressive voice is needed now more than ever.

Students who supported the candidacy of Erik C. Snowberg '99 should be concerned with the lack of political balance among the Council's new leaders. Snowberg aligned himself with the liberal CCA bloc and embraced progressive issues such as affordable housing and rent control. An unfortunate consequence of progressives' absence from the new leadership team is that students' concerns are locked out.

The Tech has additional concerns about the new mayor and vice-mayor as well. Anthony Galluccio is far from our ideal, mayoral candidate. Galluccio is no champion of affordable housing, a particularly important issue to graduate students. He is known for his close links to developers, and raised eyebrows recently by engineering the exclusion of two blocks on Binney Street from a petition temporarily barring large developments from East Cambridge.

We are also concerned about Councillor David Maher's qualifications for the office of Vice Mayor. While Maher has served as a member of the Cambridge School Committee and held his post for three years, few would call him a political heavyweight. One member of the Council's new leadership, Tuesday after a marathon council meeting, was shameful. The malfunction of the United States can not now move forward on more substantive issues. Future councils should not allow the process to lapse into February, and instead must move quickly and fairly to install the city's leadership.

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The fear of gun-control opponents is that legislation will lead to outrage and confiscation of the American people's weapons. If the government tracks all guns, an easy one list to find them all. Unlike licensed cars, which are followed. Al Gore has proposed to outlaw, guns are an excellent tool for a government swayed, other countries have already made the slip from gun licensing to confiscation. We who protect the preservation freedom and make the same mistake. The more purpose of gun ownership concerns the Constitution's authors for the people to protect themselves from an oppressive government - one which violates their legal rights. If gun ownership is a constitutional right, then a government which tries to Licensing the Constitution

Government, Gun Control and the Second Amendment

Kris Schnee

How would you like to live in a nice, safe cage? President Clinton brought us all a little closer to that ideal last month in his State of the Union speech, in which he proposed a national system of gun registration and licensing. His proposal would expand the existing system of background checks, which aims to prevent illegal guns to coated friends, to one which makes it easier to do that. Buy a handgun under the new system, citizens would have to pass a back- ground check, but also a government gun safety training program. Gun owners' proof of their training would be required for a license to bear arms. The Second Amendment to the Constitution states "A well regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." American citizens have the legal right to own a weapon. This right is not the same as the nation's highest law, and it may not be removed with constitutional amendment. Licensing our civil rights would simply put, profit them. Imagine if Clinton's licensing Office was ever passed. Since the pen is mightier than the sword, all owners should receive government training and per- mission for their use, to avoid harming peo- ple with their words. (Writers would have to buy their creative license.) We could then have the government license freedom of worship as well.

The concept of permits or licenses for pri- "governmental and political crises, on an as-needs basis, never referring to a coherent plan, outlining an overall long-term strategy.

Lacking a master plan of campus, Planning takes action only in response to media and political crises, on an as-needs basis, never referring to a coherent central document that spells out an overall long-term strategy.

I want to see a simple, concise document with a single sheet of paper, printed front and back, which outlines just the basics: what I want it to be. What is actually needed in the plans, shrunken to bare essentials, will form the section of this document. The plan to expand ad- ministrative facilities and labs should form the second section. Parking facilities, utilities, and sup- port structures would be the final part. A brief discussion of the future development and Funding response to them - such as the proposed Urban Ring transit line - could round out the plan.

Creating such a document - a master plan which refers to an actual campaign - is hard. That is, it's not hard if a master plan actually exists. If creating the master plan referred to an actual campaign, it would be in a form or another.

Naturally, I hope my suspicions are unfounded. It is my sincere wish that the Plan- ning Office at MIT has somehow, imme- diately, underestimated the problem when it first came to the attention of the university. The Planning Office has only been in existence for a few years, but the campus has grown by leaps and bounds. It is the ideal building that the media wants to see. A brief discussion of the funny pages or on this 'ideal building' in the Planning Office is in possession of a solid master plan.

It's not just a matter of the People's choice - of deciding who is in charge. It is also a matter of how to be fresh, it won't be new, and it won't last for- ever. Our children and grandchildren won't see a new "Peanuts" strip every day, like we, our parents, and even our grandparents have. In 1968, it was a cartoon strip that played to his life-work, drawing the strip entirely by himself day after day for half a century, that gave it a longevity and presence in popu- lare that makes its passing so significant. Good grief, Charlie Brown. We're told from you how to answer adversity with magnanimity. Even in defeat, whether Linus's perpetual failure to witness the coming of the Great Pumpkin or another one of your shutout baseball games, you were quietly triumphant.
I you are thrust into a world of high-stakes brokers who learn to master their craft in an upscale office by day, only to fully engage in the role of common hooligans by night. The atmosphere is established by cheap suits, crass jokes, and slicked-back hair, and hip-hop surprisingly sets the tone. And then you wonder ... "This is Wall Street!"

No, this isn't Wall Street, despite the profi
cency with which hotshot broker Chris (Vin Diesel) emulates one. This is Boiler Room, a gritty, revealing look at the business world from the very bottom, in which the players are willing to go even lower.

Boiler Room is told from the carefree, mat-
ter-of-fact point of view of Seth (Giovanni Ribisi), a recent college dropout, who earns his living rather successfully — yet illegally — running a casino out of his own home. For this, he is a symbol of disappointment to his parents, especially his father (played by Ron Rifkin). His longtime friend Greg (icky Katt) offers a "better" alternative: an appren-
ticeship at the small brokerage firm of J.P. Marley.

Predictably, Seth makes waves throughout the firm, gradually finding success both per-
sonally and professionally. He accomplishes this by being unorthodox in his occupa-
tion, it appears to him that he is destined to pay a price of his own.

The movie begins in the middle of the story, showing the benefits of being among an elite group of stockbrokers. The opening scene establishes Seth, a stoic, deep-thinking man, when we see Seth's life before his em-
ployment, we learn of his prowess as a master of his domain, compared to his coun-
terparts. When Seth makes waves throughout the firm, gradually finding success both per-
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tion, it appears to him that he is destined to pay a price of his own.

The movie opens with Seth and Greg. The often jerky camera-work integrates both well and awkwardly with the hip-hop tracks that set this movie's cash-rules-
everything-around-one-teen.

The plot works to an extent: Only your basic intuition tells you that something is askew about J.P. Marley's operations. If not, the speeches of Ben Affleck (in a whimsical cameo) can provide the necessary insight. (After all, the thought of fledgling brokers becoming millionaires within three years of working at a second-rate firm is rather ridiculous, isn't it?) The trio of Katt, Diesel, and Ribisi, while having more peculiar names than this year's Super Bowl teams, held their own. Businesslike Ribisi tells it like it is: "I don't want to be an innovator, I just want to make a quick and easy buck ... I just want to get it.

And then, like hanging up on a potential client, he leaves the audience hanging.

Boiler Room is a verbally clever, factually decent movie, by no means to be forgotten, but by most accounts, inconsequential. In the end, when Seth takes off full of "what-ifs," I was left with a bunch of "what-thens," I enjoyed the ride, even though it was too smooth for a "thriller." Nevertheless, there isn't another movie out there that probes into Wall Street thug life, or at least, one like this.

**State of the Airwaves**

Salad, Smith, and Stefani

By Dan Katz

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By Katie Jeffreys

**The Essential Vegetarian**

It sometimes hard to be a vegetarian in college, when you don’t think to take advantage of some fantastic vegetarian options. I forgot how long I haven’t ordered from certain takeout places, so I am excited to have found this new one.

The place is called Vegetarian Chinese (not the actual name). Located at 415 Washington St., just past the corner in Somerville, it attracts a mixed crowd of trendy “Cantabrigarians,” ill-informed MIT types, and assorted other “normal” students. I choose this restaurant because I love the portobello mushroom soup, and the place is good for groups.

After settling among the elegance, I ordered a dish that I was not familiar with. The dish I ordered was spiced tofu stew with rice, and it came with bok choy and black beans. The tofu was excellent, and the sauce was quite spicy. The bok choy was also quite good, and the black beans were a great addition.

The service was quite good, and the waitstaff was very attentive. The restaurant was quite busy, and there was a line to get in at the time I went. The decor was very nice, with a lot of green plants and a nice atmosphere.

I would definitely recommend this restaurant to others who are looking for a good vegetarian option in the area.

---

**Food Review**

**The Essential Vegetarian**

By Katie Jeffreys

**PLAYS**

**The Plays of the Thing**

By Vladimír Zelený

Written and directed by Jodie Tamee, based on the play Titus Andronicus by William Shakespeare.

With Anthony Hopkins, Jessica Lange, Alan Cumming, Colin Firth, Laura Fraser, Harry Lennix, Angus Macfadyen, Matthew Rhys, Colm Feore, Laura Fraser, Harry J. Treadaway.

February 18, 2000 THE TECH

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Vladimir Zelevinsky

**FILM REVIEW**

**Titus**

The Play’s the Thing

By Vladimír Zelený

In the tradition of Shakespeare’s earlier plays, the film of Titus Andronicus is a sadistic and violent tale of revenge. The story is centered around the character of Titus, who is a general in the Roman army.

As the film progresses, Titus becomes more and more obsessed with the idea of revenge. He feels that the only way to honor his deceased son is to seek revenge against the enemy who killed him. Titus’s obsession with revenge leads him to commit many terrible acts.

One of the most shocking scenes in the film is when Titus orders the death of his own daughter. This scene is a testament to the level of violence in the film.

The film is shot in a stylized manner, with the use of slow motion and dramatic lighting. The music is also quite striking, with the use of a slow piano and harp in the background.

Overall, Titus is a film that is both disturbing and fascinating. It is a film that challenges our notions of justice and revenge. It is a film that is not easily forgotten.
## Classical Music

### Boston Symphony Orchestra

- **February 25:** Tanglewood Festival Chorus, John Rutter, conductor. Ticket prices vary. Call 617-929-4571.
- **February 24-26, 29, March 1-2:** Britten: War Requiem. Seiji Ozawa, conductor. Two tickets may be purchased as a season ticket. Call MIT students, subject to availability, for last minute single ticket availability, call 638-9478 after 10 a.m. on the day of the concert. More information, call 617-734-4760, TIY performances only at the BSO Box Office.

### Other Events

#### The Living Room

- **March 10:** Mary Wilson of The Supremes. $15, $10 seniors, students, $5 children 12 and under. Performances are at 6 and 8 p.m. in the Gordon Center, Academic Building, 1401 Commonwealth Ave., at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Hemenway Street. Free and open to the public. Admission charged for the performance.

### Jazz Music

#### Regattabar

- **February 16:** 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bebop and fourtet with the John Patitucci Quartet. John Patitucci, bass; Brad Mehldau, piano; Bob Sheehan, drums; and Dave Sugar, tenor. Call 617-420-4300.

#### New Life Jazz Orchestra

- **February 25:** Bozzolo Wynton presents the New Life Jazz Orchestra. Lead by Wynton Marsalis. 8 p.m. at the Symphony Hall. Tickets: $73-$12.50. Call 617-929-4571. dent rush.

## The Arts

### Concerts

- **February 18:** 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Bebop and fourtet with the John Patitucci Quartet. John Patitucci, bass; Brad Mehldau, piano; Bob Sheehan, drums; and Dave Sugar, tenor. Call 617-420-4300.

### Exhibits

- **February 25:** Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. 280 The Fenway, Boston. (617) 262-3400. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except holidays. Tickets: $10 general, $8 seniors and students, free for children under 3. Museum is closed on Mondays. More information on exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery Days," March 1-2.

### The Theater

- **February 19:** 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. "The Body of a Poet: A Tribute to Audre Lorde." A performance as part of the "Women in Print" series at the Museum of Fine Arts. Tickets: $7.50-$12.50, $5.50 seniors and children. Call 617-929-4571.

### Call Tickets

- **February 17:** 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. "The Soul of Brazil." A performance by Brazilian singer and composer, Paulinho da Viola. Tickets: $30, $25 students and seniors, $15 children. Call 617-442-2304.

### Chicago Tribune

- **February 26:** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. "The Great Pianists." A performance by the great pianists of the 20th century. Tickets: $80, $35 students and seniors, $15 children. Call 617-737-9268.

### Museum of Fine Arts

- **February 21:** 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. "The Great Pianists." A performance by the great pianists of the 20th century. Tickets: $80, $35 students and seniors, $15 children. Call 617-737-9268.

### Museum of Art

- **February 22:** 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. "The Great Pianists." A performance by the great pianists of the 20th century. Tickets: $80, $35 students and seniors, $15 children. Call 617-737-9268.

### Other Events

#### The Living Room

- **February 27:** 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. "The New York Times." A performance by the New York Times. Tickets: $73-$12.50, $12.50 students and seniors, $5 children 12 and under. Performances are at 6 and 8 p.m. in the Gordon Center, Academic Building, 1401 Commonwealth Ave., at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Hemenway Street. Free and open to the public. Admission charged for the performance.

#### Film Festivals

- **February 25:** 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. "The Great Pianists." A performance by the great pianists of the 20th century. Tickets: $80, $35 students and seniors, $15 children. Call 617-737-9268.

#### Library

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American Beauty (**½)

An extremely annoying movie: this dead-pass black tragically 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 at all, but something with instantly recognizable beauty and an overall impact that can hardly be ignored. Credit this movie to luminous acting and the screenplay’s understated, emotional complexity. — VZ

Anna and the King (**½)

Chow Yun Fat is an Oscar-worthy scene-stealer with riveting screen presence as the Thai King Mongkhet, the only other three-dimensional character is played by Bai Ling in a passionately sincere performance. Jodie Foster does not possess the right time as the British governor Anna Leonowens. See the movie for the stunning visuals: gorgeous, sprawling epic piercing make the film hard to forget, but with the stunning visuals: gorgeous, sprawling epic piercing make the film hard to forget, but with a truly remarkable turn as a feisty street performer. — Tamine Amam

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

The Big Easy (**½)

A foreign film in the tradition of Strictly Ballroom, this import follows Scotsman Crawford MacKenzie as he stops at nothing to participate in the Los Angeles Platinum Scissors hair cutting competition. The film suffers from lackluster casting and bad editing, but the final hairstyles are truly remarkable. — Erik Blankeneshop

Boiler Room (**½)

A flashy, fast-paced, decent 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. — Jasmine Jeffries

The Cider House Rules (**½)

Despite the fact that the protagonist’s name is Homer, this film ends up feeling less like a Homicidal epic and more like a Norman Rockwell painting: hardly grand or even art at all, but something with instantly recognizable beauty and an overall impact that can hardly be ignored. Credit this movie to luminous acting and the screenplay’s understated, emotional complexity. — VZ

Crade Will Rock (**½)

A rich, visually inventive, amazingly acted, and consistently hilarious tapestry of art set in the 1930’s, weaving together characters from John Cusack’s Nelson Rockefeller to Emily Watson’s homeless street performer. A perfect opening sequence, a perfect closing shot. — VZ

Galaxy Quest (**½)

Not quite the Star Trek parody that it started out like; more of a Star Trek rip-off, with the same stupendous computer graphics, fake sets, plot holes (all of the above rather irritating), and general air of amiable nonsense (very enjoyable). 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 but not highs of her 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 dramatic details, such as the lighting, create moods and scenes that are compelling, but do not make up for the lack of plot. — Amy Meadows

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 sense, 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

Man on the Moon (**½)

The talents of director Milos Forman, writers Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski, and actor Jim Carrey combine in the memorable Man on the Moon, a film about late comedian Andy Kaufman’s life. Great performances and a complex underlying theme make this comedy a must-see. — VZ

The Talented Mr. Ripley (**½)

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 immoral protagonist. A bit too slowly-paced, though. — VZ

The Tigger Movie (**½)

Pooh, Rabbit, Kanga, 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 childish to be enjoyable. — EB

Titus (**½)

An excellent film based on one of Shakespeare’s weaker plays. With dazzling visuals, fabulous directing and acting, and a great pace, it’s a pity that Titus’s weakest point should be its source material. — VZ

Topsy-Turvy (**½)

Following the trials and triumphs of Gilbert and Sullivan as they create their masterpiece The Mikado, Topsy-Turvy holds and keeps the audience’s attention. But it’s the breathtaking final five minutes that make the film worth seeing. — VZ

Toy Story 2 (**½)

An instant classic, one of the most creative and fun movies of the year, this completely computer-generated sequel about the adventures of a bunch of toys is clever, funny, complex, and, most surprisingly, deeply emotional. — VZ
Down with Science (da Fiends)
by Jennifer DiMase

[Comic panels showing characters discussing food]

the crass rat

Once again our brave hero trudges across the icy terrain. The bitter cold penetrates his very being...

But he perseveres, turning his face toward the cutting winds... his future seems uncertain...

Will he make it to his destination? or end up frozen in an icy grave?

I don't know why you always complain... it's not bad out here today...

Our hero decides to eat his companion if trapped in the snare...

Kirkham 2/18

Xippo's Course Load

Solar C. Cluebeeflop

Ahh! Barthelemy Scruplet is shooting a bull! I hear he treads the roof!

Don't worry, Xippo!

Wham!

Hey! I gotta back!

Coo, he's a joke...

Well, then.

Thump

...want... tenure...

Snxxx!
Dilbert®

February 18, 2000

by Scott Adams

**COMICS * FUN PAGES**

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CONSTITUTE MADNESS! by Alison Wong

"The funniest thing was that I lost my nose the exact same way!"

TechCalendar

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

Friday's Events

6:00 p.m. – Graduate Christian Fellowship International Potluck. Sample foods from around the world. Come whether you can bring a dish yourself or not. After dinner we'll play "Who wants to Be a Mill-, er, rather, an MIT Reece Pullover Owner?". Admission 0. West Lounge (W20-201). Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.


Saturday's Events

8:00 p.m. – "The Long Form Show" An Evening of Improv Theater. Come and see something different from Roadkill Buffet: an evening of long form improv. This is improv theater. It's experimental, it's high-zen, and it's never been done at MIT. Admission 0. Rm 6-120. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

Monday's Events

8:00 – 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. TClub Lounge. Sponsor: MIT Kendo Club.

Tuesday's Events

7:30 – 10:30 p.m. – Contra Dance for All. MIT Folk Dance Club presents a Contra Dance. No experience or partner necessary! Live music by Eric Merrill & Cal Howard. Refreshments served. Admission 0. 32-107 (Student Center). Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

12:00 p.m. – Mode-based Reasoning, Abstraction and Conceptual Change, Nancy Nersessian, Georgia Institute of Technology. If you plan to attend, call 253-6989 or send an email: dibner@mit.edu. Open. More info: Call Trudy Kontoff at 253-6989. Email kontoff@mit.edu. Rm E56-100.

2:30 p.m. – Viscoelastic Lattice Models of Brittle Fracture, Herbert Levine, Department of Physics, University of California, San Diego. Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. Open. More info: Call John Bush at 253-4387. Email bush@math.mit.edu. Rm 2-139.

4:00 p.m. – Functional Imaging, Models and Applications. Jeffrey P. Sutton, Director, Neural Systems Group MGH, Harvard/MIT HST. A short reception will follow in the Osbome Room (35-338). Open. More info: Call Soosan Beheshti at 253-2832. Email soosan@mit.edu. Rm 35-225.

4:30 p.m. – Aeroelastic Mesoflats of Supersonic Engines Inlets, Professor Eric Loth, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Refreshments served 4:15pm. Open. More info: Call Lori Martinez at 253-2481. Email dragonl@mit.edu. Rm 31-161.
Last week CollegeHire.com gave Toby Seragran a brand new BMW 323Ci coupe for submitting a resume with CollegeHire.com and taking our C++ and Java tests.

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the contest and to remind you that CollegeHire.com has great opportunities for technical talent with leading high-tech companies.

To submit your resume, visit www.collegehire.com or for more information, contact your school's campus consultant at julie@collegehire.com.
Crowded MacGregor Freshmen Object to Forced Midyear Moves

MacGregor, from Page 1

chair until she her turn came up to move. “A lot of people wanted to see the decrowding policy changed, but it is house policy,” she said. “Having people in the crowded lounges is bad for everybody,” Adler said. “It takes away from the common space, then is a bad situation for the freshmen.” Adler also reasons that if freshmen are not moved into open singles, transfers from other dorms would be moved into the singles, making fewer free spaces for the the next year’s freshmen class.

The order in which freshmen will move is determined at the first of the lounges in 1997. “There are really no exceptions made to the policy,” although freshmen are usually opposed to moving, even by lotteries, and freshmen move to the policy, although freshmen understand the original entry sophomore year. Montgomery said. The main change made was to be more frequent, serious crimes occur near proposed dorm site.

NW30, from Page 1

person to the CASPAR shelter, and five incidents of either an intoxicated person or a person causing a disturbance. There was also a fight outside the dormitory, a homeless person attempted entry, and two people were arrested, including one juvenile for drug possession.

Criminal activity reported in the surrounding area — Buildings NW12, NW13, NW14, NW16, NW17, and NW21 — was also high, and consisted primarily of incidents of trespassing and assists to the homeless shelter.

In contrast, crime last year around undergraduate dormitories in other parts of campus focused on property theft, with significantly fewer trespass and disturbance reports.

In 1999, the outlying Eastgate and Westgate graduate residences had one and six incidents of trespassing, respectively, and Westgate had the only reported disturbance.

House decrowding policy was updated when freshmen from Phi Gamma Delta were moved into lounges in 1997. The policy was clarified last summer by members of MacGregor HouseComm, Montgomery said. The main change made was to be certain that freshmen understand from the beginning of the year that they will not stay in a crowded double for the entire year. Montgomery does not anticipate changing the policy so that freshmen do not have to move.

More Frequent, Serious Crimes Occur Near Proposed Dorm Site

Ashdown House had only one report of trespassing. All of Ambler Hall had an additional six such reports and three arrests.

NW30 was built in 1904, and MIT acquired it from the Air Force in 1958. It is the former site of the Instrumentation Lab, now Draper Laboratory. The Institute has long planned to use the site for housing, but feasibility studies didn’t begin until last fall, Kaynor said. MIT built the CASPAR facility for $1.9 million in 1993 as part of a deal with Cambridge. In exchange, MIT received ownership of one street and obtained the lease on three other streets and sidewalks around campus.

The shelter was previously housed in trailers at the same site.

NW30 is a proposed dormitory for the first year of freshmen.

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West Campus Crime Rush Leads to CP Investigation

By Kristen Landino

Supporter

Six larcenies were reported from Baker, Burton-Conner, and MacGregor dormitory rooms between January 26 and February 1. Due to the nature of the crime, Campus Police believe that the suspects will strike again. Chief Investigator and Detective Sergeant Mary Beth Riley describes it as "a crime of opportunity." Police are working off information from victims. We have been diligently working with the folks for the past few days and have two arrests. They may be tied in, or related.

Victims report that their rooms were left unattended in all but one incident. Most crimes occurred between 9 a.m. and noon. One incident occurred around 6 a.m., while the victim was sleeping. Items stolen included a laptop computer, then later described as "a wallet, computer games, watch, camera, and cell phone, among other things.

Victims describe suspects

A composite description has been created with the help of one victim and this description matches those of the other victims. This suspect is described as follows according to a bulletin distributed by MIT Campus Police: "male, black, 6 feet 4 inches tall, wearing a black jacket and a black skiing style pants, with short black hair, brown eyes. He has a light skin tone and characteristics. This is a common suspect at MIT. Occasionally, we may ask for a cigarette." The second suspect is described as having a less scan description available, but he did focus on what to do if students are left unattended in their dorm. We have been diligent in our investigation due to the nature of the crime.

Reactions by faculty and students

"It's embedded in the existing structures," said Undergraduate Association President Perry. "They'll keep it up for a period of time immediately following a series of crimes and then start up again. The criminal will not stop because he/she thinks that they have been successful. The criminal will keep it up until they have been larceny arrests recently on other campuses in the area.

"They could be friends of students here or somewhere else that have easy access to dorms. We don't know for sure. We can't blame desk caps for letting in people in. The suspects could enter legitimate dorms and open their doors." Glavin said.

Current couch policy requires that people who enter the dorms be registered and invited guests of residents. Desk workers are being asked to be more generally observant—"to look out for suspicious people," said Perry for details. "I cannot remain silent when people have been successful. They'll keep it up for a period of time immediately following a series of crimes and then start up again. The criminal will not stop because he/she thinks that they have been successful. The criminal will keep it up until they have been larceny arrests recently on other campuses in the area.

Social networking sites are a great tool for spreading word, but they may be tied in, or related.

"We talk to students—most realize how important writing, speaking, and visual communication is for their professional careers and their lives," Keys said.

"Police are concerned that the new requirements will mean more stress and less choices with HASS courses.

The new rules will remove some flexibility from the HASS requirement," McCann said. However, Brown said the subcommittee is currently drafting the new requirements to avoid crowding already tight schedules.

"It's embedded in the existing curriculum," he said. "There are no new requirements.

Brown also added that the new program will require faculty and financial support. Three amendments shut down

At the meeting, faculty members voted down all three amendments to the final report proposed by Ruth Perry, a professor of literature and member of the CP subcommittee. Perry said she was in support of the overall plan, but thought it needed strengthening. "I cannot remain silent about subjects so essential to undergraduate education," she said.

Perry's amendments would have required that every class have at least one small CI class taught by a faculty member, added "reading to writing and speaking" in the list of qualifications for a CI class, and placed a professor of literature on the CUP subcommittee overseeing the new rules.

Correction

At the beginning of the story, it was stated incorrectly that the suspects were students. The suspects were reported as "male, black, 6 feet 4 inches tall, wearing a black jacket and a black skiing style pants, with short black hair, brown eyes. He has a light skin tone and characteristics. This is a common suspect at MIT. Occasionally, we may ask for a cigarette." The second suspect is described as having a less scan description available, but he did focus on what to do if students are left unattended in their dorm. We have been diligent in our investigation due to the nature of the crime.

Advertisement

West Campus Crime Rush Leads to CP Investigation
Chomsky Attacks U.S. Abuse of Sovereignty Rights

By Rima Arnout

Chomsky addressed a packed audience in 26-100 Tuesday in a talk entitled "Freedom, Sovereignty, and Other Endangered Species." The talk, sponsored by the Technology and Culture Forum at MIT, drew so many listeners that many latecomers were directed to Building 34 to watch a live video feed of the event.

Throughout the twentieth century, the U.S. and other global powers have considered sovereignty the "duty of civilized states to combat others, which is what we now call humanitarian intervention."

Chomsky said that that abuse is largely responsible for the humanitarian atrocities that have taken place throughout the 20th century but most notably through the last year in Kosovo and East Timor.

Chomsky also criticized the U.S. and the World Trade Organization, and noted that the U.S. undermined the United Nations' attempts to keep sovereignty from becoming the right of powerful nations over weaker ones.

The WTO is crafted to take sovereignty away from people and put it in the hands of investors," Chomsky said.

Chomsky discussed the rhetoric of humanitarian intervention and international trade by world powers - namely the United States, Chomsky said.

Throughout the 20th century, he added, "we have considered sovereignty the right of powerful nations over weaker ones."

However, Chomsky said that the U.S. would be called upon to bail out both the U.S. bombing in Yugoslavia and its lack of action during Indonesia's massacres of the East Timorese.

U.S. action condemned in East Timor

In particular, Chomsky attacked the U.S. policy in Indonesia, tracing back to U.S. support of former President Suharto.

Suharto invaded Indonesia in 1975 "with extensive U.S. aid and support," Chomsky said. "He came to power with a Rwanda-style: 'we want to be self-sufficient,' he was told." The U.S., he said, "has publicly, for four decades, addressed contemporary issues ... Welcome to those lucky enough to be here."

Chomsky began with a definition of the sovereignty of a nation, "the right of political entities to be free from outside interference."

But sovereignty is abused in the name of humanitarian intervention and international trade by world powers - namely the United States, Chomsky said.

Last Friday Israel launched air strikes against the Jerusalem coast. The Israeli government has accused the Palestinians of "violating the peace process." But sovereignty is abused in the name of humanitarian intervention and international trade by world powers - namely the United States, Chomsky said.

"Outside the West, [the U.S. bombing of Yugoslavia] was roundly condemned," Chomsky said. The U.S. had in fact anticipated that the bombing would increase the number of violent acts against Kosovar civilians, he said.

"If it's never the intention of political leadership to deal with ethnic cleansing, and, in fact, most of it happened after the bombing," Chomsky said.

In a question and answer session after his speech, an audience member asked Chomsky why he didn't mention America's support for Israel as an example of America's might making right abuse of sovereignty. Last Friday Israel launched air strikes in south Lebanon in response to the death of an Israeli soldier.

"When is called in the West terrorism in the rest of the world human rights?" Chomsky asked.

"The U.S. condemns Hezbollah's actions "in their own country against an occupying country," Chomsky said. "Lebanese aggression against Israel is the result of occupation ... bombing plants in Beirut (as Israel did) is a straight-out war crime."

However, Chomsky said that the U.S. sanctions against Israel would create a backlash against Palestinians and Lebanese, much like the bombing of Yugoslavia caused increased human rights attacks against Kosovo. [Sanctions] would make Israel respond in a way that would make Middle Eastern leaders look like Mahatma Gandhi," Chomsky said.

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The 11th Annual Career Fair

Friday February 18, 2000

Dupont Gym

11am - 3pm

The MIT Graduate Student Council

We would like to thank

MIT Museum

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Tom Fulton
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Brian Lee
Julie Lively
Adam Lorenz
Sara Metcalfe
Karen Noyes
Chris Spoehr
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and also to the 300 graduate students who attended and helped make it a success.

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STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH!
Student Suicides, MIT and National

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>MIT</th>
<th>National (15-24 years)</th>
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<tr>
<td>64-69</td>
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<td>75-79</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>71</td>
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KATHERINE JEFFREYS, THE TECH

Suicide, from Page 1

which translates to a rate of 14.6 per 100,000 student years. Over the period examined, MIT’s suicide rate has fallen from well above the national average in the sixties and seventies to below average in the past two decades. The relation of “per 100,000 student years” is used to compare suicide rates among different populations. Each year a student spends at a university is considered one student year, so summing each year’s enrollment over the time period under consideration results in the total number of student years.

MIT’s suicide rate peaked in the 1960s at nearly 10 per 100,000 student years. Over the 1990s the rates have been nearly half that of the previous decade at 10 per 100,000 student years. “None of us will be satisfied until the number is zero, which will never happen. But we can be encouraged by the fact that the rates aren’t going up,” said Randolph. The 47 deaths include students taking time off for personal reasons, such as Seth L. Karon, ‘01, who died last week in an apparent suicide, as they are still considered members of the community.

Study shows low student rate

Dr. Morton Silverman, director of the University of Chicago’s Student Counselling and Resource Services conducted a study which showed that suicide rates among students during the 1980s were lower than that of the general population at 7.5 per 100,000 student years. Silverman’s study examined primarily Big Ten college campuses and provides an interesting comparison between student life at large public schools and small, competitive private schools. During the period of Silverman’s study, the suicide rate at MIT was higher than both that of the schools in the study and the nation. Students at universities of similar caliber and demographics seem to have likelihoods of suicide equivalent to those at MIT. Information released by Randolph was dated, describing suicide rates at Harvard University, Yale University, and the University of California at Berkeley from 1960 to 1961, making comparisons difficult. These schools, as well as Stanford University and the University of Pennsylvania, were unable to provide any data regarding suicide trends over the past three decades. A study published in the Journal of College Student Personnel in 1967 found that only 14 percent of schools keep suicide records.

Cornell University is one peer institution that does maintain moderately complete records of their student deaths, as it is a common perception that they have a high suicide rate. Cornell had eight student deaths between the years 1970 and 1980. With about 19,000 students on campus, Cornell has a suicide rate of about 4.3 per 100,000 student years for that time period, far below both MIT and national rates.

Differences among sexes, year

When examining the record of suicide on campus a number of interesting patterns emerge: only one student, Michael P. Manley ‘02, committed suicide in his first year at MIT since at least 1984, and women are less likely to commit suicide as compared to men. National studies show that women are more likely to attempt suicide and men are more likely to succeed. Out of the 47 MIT students who committed suicide, only four were females.

Using the Reports to the President to find male and female enrollment rates takes into account the gradually increasing female population on campus over time. This reveals that females at MIT commit suicide at a rate of 6.3 per 100,000 female student years. This compares to a rate of male suicide students at MIT of 16.6 per 100,000 male student years.

It has been hypothesized that the overall suicide rate has decreased precisely because women are less likely to commit suicide and their population has grown on campus. However, comparing suicide rates of the sex relative to the population of each on campus shows that the rate of suicide has declined independently for each sex in the 1990s.

Another area of comparison is between graduate and undergraduate suicide rates. While Silverman showed that graduate students are more likely to take their own lives, this is not consistent with MIT statistics. The graduate student suicide rate is 8.4 per 100,000 graduate student years, while the undergraduate rate is 21.2 per 100,000 undergraduate student years.

The chronology of suicides also reveals several trends. Silverman found that suicides are most likely to occur in the month of October, most likely due to pressures resulting from the new academic year. This holds true for MIT as well, with a disproportionately large number (10) of the 47 suicides occurring between October 1 and 15.

Suicides also appear in clusters across the decades. A cluster can be defined as a group two or more suicides occurring within about a month of each other. Clusters occurred in the spring of 1975, the fall of 1977, 1986 and 1987, and the summer of 1990. The longest period between suicides is 32 months, meaning that every graduating class since 1965 has at least one suicide.

Study has potential error

A number of uncertainties make an analysis such as this one difficult. Causes of deaths in the 1960s were often misnamed. A drug related death may have been termed a suicide and a suicide may be termed an accident. The differing standards introduce a small error. Records of student deaths at MIT have been kept, somewhat loosely, dating to the mid-sixties. Uncertainty remains because several student deaths (not suicides) were reported in The Tech, but were not listed in the data provided by Randolph. Commencing students also pose a problem: the schools in Silverman’s study may not be able to monitor their students as well as MIT. MIT is notable in this regard because even students who are taking academic leave are considered part of the MIT community and their well-being is followed more closely (although imperfectly) than at other schools.

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MIT Receives Solid Routine from Sonja

Gymnastics, from Page 20

were Lindsey Wolfe ’03 (81.1) and junior Liz Ellington who led the way with a 9.1. The beam team total was a dismal 40.60 and I believe it probably marks the first time ever that MIT has scored higher on bars than beam. Following, the team posted a well deserved 45.60 total on floor which included a great 9.15 routine from sophomore Cecile LeCocq, a 9.325 from Liz Ellingson who led the junior Liz Ellingson who led the team in the meet was the University of Vermont who finished second with 172.525 points. The two point difference between MIT and UVM marks the closest that MIT has ever been to defeating the Catamounts.

For the second meet in a row, it was very solid and even stellar performances on three events, and a subplot effort on beam for the MIT women’s gymnastics team. This team has another shot at getting closer to Vermont when they travel to Vermont in two weeks. It would be quite a feat for an MIT team to defeat a Division I UVM team, but the team must look to their next meet first.

Controversy of officials’ scoring

The difference in the scoring, from one week to the next and from a different group of officials, is what makes this subjective sport difficult to understand sometimes. The college gymnastics teams all throughout the nation have complained for many years that scoring is not consistent from one region to another region. In this case, it is grossly inconsistent from just one neighboring state to another. The same Yale team that scored a 190+ at home last week, came to MIT and scored a 181.675. The third team in the meet was the University of Vermont who finished second with 172.525 points. The two point difference between MIT and UVM marks the closest that MIT has ever been to defeating the Catamounts.

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Lori Eich Qualifies For N.E. Pentathlon

Track, from Page 20

and Helen J. Huang ’01, also showed their promise for the team. They, along with jumper Mia C. Heavener ’00, will have the outdoor season to continue with their successes.

Theresa M. Power ’00 carried her season into the championship meets by surpassing the NE Division III qualifying mark of 5.5” for the 5 meter hurdles. Lori Eich displayed her all-around talent as she qualified for the N.E. Division III pentathlon, while Cha-An Wang ’03 and Regina Sun ’02 both had outstanding individual races in the 600 and 400, respectively, to qualify for the championships.

Next up in NE Division III Championships this Saturday at Bowdoin College.
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**MIT Fencing Ends Strong At Duke Invitational**

**Team Closes Season with 2-2 Finish**

**Evan L. Efthatiou**

The fencing team finished off its season strong with a 2-2 finish at the 2000 Duke Invitational.

The Engineers began the day with a 17-10 win against #14 Ohio State, as mens foil finished 8-1, with Andre Van Horn '01, Oliver Chadwick '02, and Benjamin M. Vinderveld '00 going undefeated. Sabre followed with five victories, and epeesist Neal K. Devaraj '02 swept all three bouts.

The competition intensified as MIT faced UNC-Chapel Hill, which had just defeated conference rival Brandeis 14-13. Sabre stepped up to the challenge with a 7-2 finish, inspired by a 5-4 comeback by Rafael Ittm '02 after being down 4-0. Paul J. Thordarson '01 lead men's epee with three wins as they dominated UNC.

Air Force gives MIT its first loss

The first loss of the day came against Air Force Academy, led by one of the top-ranked epeesits in the U.S. Despite solid finishes by Philip W. Miller '01 (2-1), Evan L. Efthatiou '00 (3-1), and Chadwick (3-0), sabre and foil were unable to pick up the slack. Air Force continued on to a 17-10 victory.

MIT faced Duke in the last meet of the season against Air Force Academy, led by one of the top-ranked epeesits in the U.S. Despite solid finishes by Philip W. Miller '01 (2-1), Evan L. Efthatiou '00 (3-1), and Chadwick (3-0), sabre and foil were unable to pick up the slack. Air Force continued on to a 17-10 victory.

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