

'Survivor' Orientation Kicks Off UROP Raises Hourly Pay Rate for Students

By Jennifer Krishnan
NEWS EDITOR

Orientation 2001 kicked off in Kresge auditorium last night, and members of the class of 2005 found that they were already learning new things.

"I thought everyone was going to be a geek," said Danchai Mekadenaumporn '05, "but I guess I was wrong."

Mekadenaumporn was among the thousand freshmen who gathered for the opening ceremonies of Orientation 2001, entitled "Survivor Orientation."

Ceremonies featured speeches from Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones, who introduced herself as "God of Admissions," and Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict, who was brought in on a stretcher created on the fly by a team of freshmen.

The Orientation Coordinators also led a short series of games, including a parody of the game show *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?*, in which Jones participated.

While one freshman incorrectly identified Course XXII (Nuclear Engineering) as "Environmental Astronomics" and others were unable to define 10-250 (a lecture



"God of Admissions" Marilee Jones gave the class of 2005 advice on how to survive MIT at yesterday's opening ceremonies in Kresge Auditorium.

hall) and 8.01 (Physics I), Jones "won" the game by successfully defining osmotic pressure and determining what the letters "MIT" stood for. At the end of the game, Jones took the stage for her welcome speech.

"MIT is not just a school; it's a concept," Jones said. "When you

graduate from MIT, you're going to fix the world."

Jones reminded freshmen that they were each "hand-picked," informing them that each applicant was reviewed five times before being accepted, a fact that stunned

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Freshmen Express Feelings on Rush

By Sandra Chung
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

At MIT, the residence selection process has become a unique rite of passage for all incoming freshmen. Among members of the Class of 2005, attitudes toward rush tend to vary quite a bit.

Many freshmen have heard about the rush process from siblings and acquaintances who participated in the past. Stories of lobster and steak, trips to the beach and paintball fields and a myriad of other opportunities for free fun have been floating among new MIT recruits. Nelson Meehan '05, a freshman from Newport Beach, California, said that he was "expecting to have a good time."

Reviewing the gamut of MIT housing can be a daunting task. Many students arrive on campus with some idea of what they need or like in a residence, such as the privacy of a single room or the convenience of a kitchen, and most are open-minded about exploring several options. Sinae Vogel '05 has already moved into McCormick for the dormitory's residence-based advising program, yet she plans to keep "looking around." Danos Christodoulou '05 is still confused about housing, though he arrived on campus last Friday and has already explored many housing options. "I still have no idea where I'm going

to live. I'm trying to explore everything. I want to see all of them."

Temp housing annoys freshmen

Some freshmen expressed annoyance at the hassle of moving from temporary housing to permanent housing assignments. Ashley Rothenberg '05 said that it would have been easier to have a housing choice process which was separate from orientation.

This event, which would be akin to campus preview weekend, would allow matriculating freshmen to explore and decide on housing well before beginning the laborious task of carting their worldly possessions to MIT. Adam Gibbons '05 said that lumping housing decisions in with orientation was a little inconvenient.

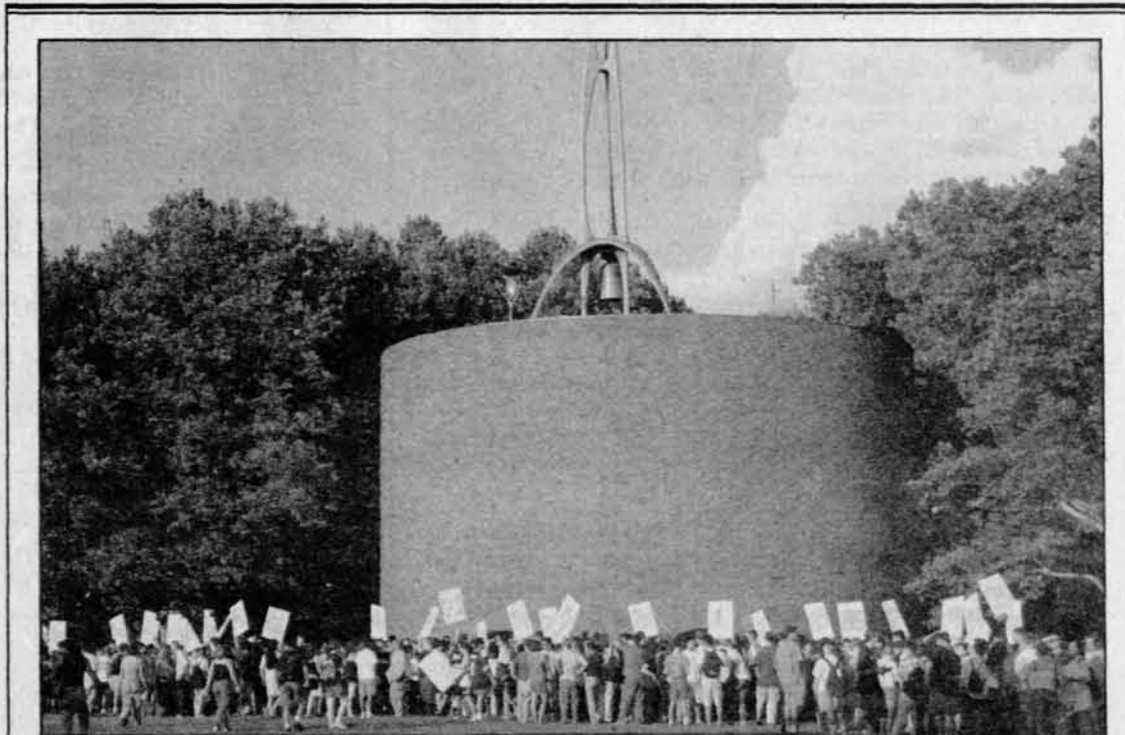
Many appreciate chance to choose

Despite the hassle of relocating from temp housing, most students still enjoy having the freedom to choose where and with whom they live. Jason Christopher '05 said that the housing decision is a big deal. "It's important to like where you're living," he said.

John Head '05 is also likes the current system. "Letting freshman choose their own housing is a sign that the administration cares," he said.

Mike Matczynski '05 believes that rush happens too quickly to allow freshmen to make the right

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New members of the Class of 2005 met yesterday with their Orientation Leaders for a barbecue on Kresge Oval.

Comics



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OPINION

To understand knowledge, people must understand three related ideas: consciousness, perception, and concepts.

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The Tech will continue to publish daily throughout Residence Selection and Orientation.

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WORLD & NATION

East Timorese Brace for Election

THE WASHINGTON POST

BEKARI, EAST TIMOR

On Aug. 30, two years to the day after a U.N.-organized referendum in which the people of East Timor voted overwhelmingly for independence from Indonesia, they will go to the polls to elect an 88-member national assembly to draft the territory's first constitution.

The United Nations has been administering East Timor during its transition to independence. After the new assembly writes a constitution, East Timorese leaders will begin discussions with the world body about when they would assume full control of the country.

Although next week's election marks a major step toward full nationhood for East Timor, people in this coastal village and in communities across the tiny territory are approaching the vote with as much trepidation as excitement.

After the 1999 referendum, East Timor was devastated by anti-independence militia groups supported by the Indonesian armed forces. The violence claimed hundreds of lives, led to tens of thousands of people being forcibly deported to Indonesian-controlled western Timor and resulted in the destruction of more than 85 percent of the buildings in the territory.

These days, reminders of the trauma still are omnipresent. As a consequence, the 16 political parties vying for seats in the assembly have adopted a low-key approach. They have so assiduously avoided contentious issues — such as the framework of East Timor's relationship with Indonesia or whether courts should provide leniency to militia leaders — that many of their platforms appear strangely identical.

IMF Creates Compromise Rescue Plan for Argentina

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The International Monetary Fund's newest rescue plan for Argentina reflects the Bush administration's attempt to strike a balance between pushing a get-tough policy in international economics while responding to the realities of international politics.

Administration officials wished to assert to world markets and investors in emerging nations that the IMF will not protect them from every risk. At the same time, Latin America is increasingly important as a U.S. trade partner, and the administration did not want to be viewed as abandoning one of the region's most important economies.

The United States, as the IMF's largest shareholder, had a major role in approving the new \$8 billion credit line, which is aimed at keeping Argentina solvent and preventing its financial crisis from spreading throughout Latin America.

Advocacy Group Notes a Rise in Anti-Muslim Discrimination

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Ignorance on the part of some employers and educators, a pattern of exclusion by the Bush administration and demonized depictions in the entertainment media are contributing to increasing discrimination against Muslims, leaders of an Islamic advocacy group said Wednesday.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations said the number of complaints of anti-Muslim discrimination it has received rose 15 percent in the past year. The group said a majority of incidents involve restrictions on religious observances or practices that occur in the workplace or schools.

"Misunderstanding and ignorance are our biggest challenges in this country," said Nihad Awad, the council's executive director.

Among the most common complaints received by the council are instances in which Muslim women are not allowed to wear their traditional hijab scarves on their heads in the workplace or men are asked to shave their beards.

WEATHER

Scattered Rain Brings More Pain

By Annie S. Choi
ARTS EDITOR

After a few days of heat and humidity, scattered thunderstorms hit the area today and tomorrow. Despite the precipitation, temperatures and humidity will still loom above a comfortable level, leaving people's deodorants working overtime (or not working at all). Just be thankful you're in Cambridge and not in Phoenix, where temperatures will soar to 102° this afternoon. Showers will begin this afternoon, and will continue sporadically tonight. Temperatures will fall from today's highs in the upper 70s to the low 60s tonight. Tomorrow will bring more of the same, albeit a few degrees cooler, as Cambridge will encounter scattered showers and high temperatures in the mid 70s. The weekend looks positively gorgeous with milder temperatures in the low-to-mid 70s and sunshine. Weekend looks rain-free, which will surely make outdoor R/O activities favorable.

Today: Expect scattered showers this afternoon. A mild, welcome 10 mph breeze will blow from the southwest this morning. This afternoon will bring a high of 79°.

Tonight: Cooler temperatures with a low of 59° and a 60% chance of precipitation.

Friday: With a 30% chance of rain in the morning, the afternoon will bring sunshine and a high of 75°.

Israeli Commando Raid Kills Six in West Bank, Gaza Strip

By Tracy Wilkinson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

In a commando operation and a helicopter attack, Israeli forces killed at least six Palestinians on Wednesday in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, pressing a campaign of hunting down and slaying suspected bombers and gunmen. A seventh Palestinian, a policeman, was killed in unclear circumstances.

All told, it was an especially deadly day and came despite fledgling efforts to renew truce talks, possibly as early as next week, between Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Two Jewish settlers were also wounded when Palestinians fired on their garbage truck in the northern West Bank.

In Gaza, Israeli combat helicopters fired missiles into a two-car convoy late Wednesday afternoon, apparently targeting a senior leader of the radical Islamic Hamas movement, which has claimed responsibility for numerous suicide bombings of Israeli Jews.

The occupants of the two cars fled during the initial barrage, witnesses said, leaving behind guns. But an 18-year-old was caught by

another missile and killed as he attempted to escape.

The teen was identified as Bilal Ghoul, son of a prominent Hamas member who also worked for one of Arafat's security services. His father, Mohammed Ghoul, was thought to have been riding in the second car and escaped.

Reports circulated that the second car also carried Mohammed Deif, top leader of Hamas' military wing and the No. 1 suspect on Israel's list of most-wanted terrorists. Deif, accused by Israel of masterminding a series of horrific bus bombings in 1996 as well as other attacks, was jailed by Arafat's police in May 2000 but released by the Palestinian leader last October at the start of the current Palestinian uprising.

Residents near the site of the destroyed convoy told Palestinian journalists that they could identify Deif as he fled. However, Hamas spokesman Mahmoud Zahar and a senior Israeli security source denied that Deif was aboard the convoy. It also seemed unlikely that a man who has so successfully eluded Israeli capture — or execution — would be riding through Gaza City in daylight.

However, the mere prospect created a flurry of excitement. Israeli

television reported that Deif was the target, while the Israel army said only that it had attacked "terrorist cells" conducting mortar attacks on Jewish settlements.

Near the charred cars of the ill-fated convoy, crowds of Palestinians chanted "Death to Israel" and "Death to Sharon."

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, speaking earlier this week to a gathering of his generals, said he believed the one-two punch of killing top guerrillas and carrying out limited incursions into Palestinian territory was the winning ticket for defeating the nearly 11-month-old Palestinian revolt.

Amos Harel, military affairs correspondent for the Israeli daily Haaretz, covered Sharon's meeting with the army and reported that there was agreement that targeted killings should focus on higher-level, hands-on guerrillas instead of political leaders.

"The most important aspect of the assassination policy," Harel wrote this week, "is the elimination of the 'engineers' — the bomb manufacturing experts. ... An engineer who manages to survive for more than a few months could cost Israel tens of dead in terrorist attacks."

Tight Federal Budget Projected

Future Surpluses Leave Little Room For More Spending

By Glenn Kessler
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The White House on Wednesday released an extraordinarily tight budget forecast for the rest of President Bush's term, suggesting there is little room for additional spending on defense, a prescription drug benefit, Social Security reform and other high-profile initiatives without cutting into other programs.

For the fiscal year that ends Sept. 30, the administration projected a budget surplus of \$158 billion, but only \$1 billion remained after the surplus generated by Social Security payroll taxes is excluded. The administration estimated another

slim \$1 billion non-Social Security surplus in 2002, \$2 billion in 2003 and \$6 billion in 2004.

Those numbers stand in sharp contrast to huge surplus projections that have dominated the political landscape in recent years, and Democrats on Wednesday were quick to pounce on the new forecast. "This is fiscal mismanagement big time," said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D.

The sharp plunge in the non-Social Security part of the forecast — largely the result of Bush's tax cut and the slowing economy — will loom as a major obstacle to important goals of lawmakers in both parties. Bush, and leading Democrats and Republicans, have sworn not to use the Social Security payroll taxes for other government programs, though that had been common practice until the big sur-

pluses of recent years ago.

Administration officials emphasized the overall surplus numbers, noting that this year's surplus will be the second largest in history.

"The nation is awash in money, and it's going to be," said budget director Mitchell E. Daniels Jr. Over the next decade, he said, the Social Security surpluses will help reduce the national debt held by the public, now \$3.3 trillion, to the smallest share of the economy since 1917.

While Democrats said Bush's tax plan is to blame for the new fiscal situation, the administration and its GOP allies said that runaway spending poses the greatest threat to the surplus. White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said the new forecast was "a warning signal because there are still people in Congress who want to spend more money and bust the budget."

Rumsfeld Defends Military Review

Pentagon to Decide Upon New Defense Strategy by October

By Vernon Loeb and Walter Pincus
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld Wednesday defended his review of the U.S. military and said he would have a new strategy in place by October to enable the Pentagon to keep its current commitments around the globe, modernize aging equipment and invest in future technologies.

While acknowledging some strains in relations on Capitol Hill and a few early missteps, Rumsfeld said he and all of the nation's top military commanders had reached unanimous agreement late last week on guidelines for developing next year's defense budget.

He also confidently predicted that with the completion of a congressionally mandated Quadrennial Defense Review by the end of September, the Pentagon would recommend an array of major

changes, including sharp reductions in nuclear forces and new rules on mandatory retirements to keep key personnel in uniform longer.

"In the next two or three months, most of the things we have been working on for the past four or five months will be rolled out in a way that they will be a coherent whole," Rumsfeld said. "And I think that will have a calming effect."

In a wide-ranging interview with Washington Post reporters and editors, Rumsfeld outlined the challenges that have marked his return to the Pentagon, noting how much Washington has changed since he first served as defense secretary a quarter century ago in the Ford administration.

"There's an enormous appetite for personality and conflict," he said.

He also said Congress has become much more deeply involved in the inner workings of the Defense Department, continually legislating new requirements and demanding over 900 reports a year on military matters — work that employs an army of bureaucrats

and auditors.

"We're killing trees all over the world to do it," he said. "Nothing ever ends. There's no sunset on things. And it all happens a little bit at a time. It's well intentioned, but of course it doesn't make it better, because you end up so constrained that you can't function efficiently or effectively."

Rumsfeld took sharp exception, however, to media reports attributing his tensions with the military brass and members of Congress to a high-handed, exclusionary style, particularly early in his tenure. A spate of recent reports has characterized his effort to "transform" the military as sputtering, particularly after the administration's \$1.35 trillion tax cut reduced the available funds.

"If you believe all the things you read in the newspaper, you are going to be sadly misinformed," Rumsfeld said over lunch in his private dining room.

Running down a list of statistics on his first eight months in office, Rumsfeld said he had met 361 times with members of Congress, 320 times with military leaders and 93 times with the press.

Russia Willing to Compromise On Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty

By Peter Baker

THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

Russia signaled again Wednesday that it was willing to make "certain amendments" to the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty to accommodate President Bush's desire to build a nuclear shield, but a top U.S. envoy said rewriting the 1972 pact would be impossible.

Instead, senior Bush negotiator John Bolton pushed Moscow to join Washington in withdrawing from the treaty altogether, a proposal flatly rejected by the Russian side, which is determined to preserve the ABM agreement in some form.

The impasse left the two sides no closer to a settlement of the most significant strategic issue separating the world's preeminent nuclear powers as the United States proceeds with development of a missile defense system that could soon conflict with the restrictions of the Cold War-era treaty. Bolton acknowledged Wednesday that Russia had made no movement on the ABM

dispute in two days of talks here.

"We've tried to explain our preference for mutual withdrawal and they have not agreed to that, that's for sure," he said. "But we're still talking."

Bolton said that there was "vast open space" for compromise but that he could not describe what middle ground exists between one side that refuses to withdraw from the treaty and the other that refuses to amend it. "I haven't come up with an alternative, but if there are proposals the Russians have to make, we're here to listen to them," he said.

At a news conference following his consultations Wednesday evening, Bolton claimed some success in persuading the Russians to accept the U.S. rationale for a missile defense program, namely, the possible launch of a ballistic missile by a "rogue state" or by accident. The Russians, he said, told him that they would be even more vulnerable than the United States because they are nearer to unpredictable nations such as North Korea or Iraq.

"They didn't dispute either the figures or the risk," said Bolton, the undersecretary of state for arms control and international security. "I think this is something they're beginning to appreciate."

While the two sides remained far apart, they apparently felt positive enough about the discussions to consider extending them. Although Bolton was supposed to wrap up his consultations Wednesday, officials were working to arrange a Friday meeting with Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, who would return from a vacation in the Crimea to jump back into the talks. Bolton scheduled another meeting with the Russians for Sept. 13 or 14 in advance of a planned Sept. 19 session in the United States between Ivanov and Secretary of State Colin Powell.

The intense pace reflects Bush's desire to win Russian acquiescence to his plan to develop a program to shoot down ballistic missiles. The administration has said its testing would bump up against treaty restrictions within "months, not years."

Marine Drill Instructors Charged After Raping Several New Recruits

By Robert L. Jackson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Intensifying a sexual misconduct inquiry that began last spring, the Marine Corps has charged two drill instructors with raping trainees at a military base in Missouri, officials said Wednesday.

The rape charges are an outgrowth of misconduct cases brought against seven Marine instructors in a training detachment at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. All were accused in April of a range of charges, including sexual harassment and inappropriate sexual relations with students under their jurisdiction. One has been convicted.

With the investigation ongoing, Marine prosecutors have added rape charges — the most serious of all — in two of the cases, including that of Howard Ross, 34, of Baltimore, a former staff sergeant considered to be a central figure in the inquiry.

In the second case, Staff Sgt. Bernard Smith, 29, of Chesterfield, S.C., is charged with rape, having sex with students, fraternizing with trainees, assaulting students and drinking alcohol.

Sexual misconduct at Fort Leonard Wood has been an embarrassment for the Marine Corps,

which runs motor transport instruction courses at the Army base for 3,800 Marine recruits assigned to handle military trucks and other vehicles.

Now, however, the more serious allegations of rape could engulf the corps in a major scandal similar to the misconduct that surfaced in 1996 at the Army's Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. A dozen drill instructors there were charged with sex crimes; eventually, four went to prison and eight were discharged or punished administratively. In addition, letters of reprimand were issued to Aberdeen's commanding general and three other senior officers.

The rape allegations against Marine instructors Ross and Smith involve separate incidents with trainees in June 2000. If convicted, they could face life sentences, officials said.

Maj. Timothy Keefe, a spokesman for the Quantico Marine Base in Virginia, told reporters that more serious charges arose at Fort Leonard Wood because, "during the course of the (earlier) investigation, additional allegations were made and investigated."

Some officials believe this signals the possibility that students at

the Army base, fearing for their careers, may not be telling investigators the full extent of the misconduct. Marine Sgt. Thad L. Kelley, 24, of Adams, Neb., is accused of telling a student to lie to investigators. He also is charged with sexual harassment.

Ross, the sole defendant convicted on previous charges, has had his rank reduced to private and is in the brig at Quantico. He pleaded guilty to improper fraternization with a student and to the receipt, possession and transportation of child pornography. He also stands accused of stealing from his students.

Keefe played down any comparison with Aberdeen, saying that "every case has different circumstances." But he said that more than 400 people have been interviewed, and "if new evidence were to develop, obviously, we would pursue those leads."

Pretrial hearings for Ross and Smith are expected this fall. For Kelley and the others, special courts-martial have been scheduled to begin next month at the Quantico base.

Each of those defendants faces confinement of up to six months. They are assigned to administrative duties at Quantico pending their trials.

Smoker Agrees to Accept \$100 Million Damage Award

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

A Los Angeles lung cancer victim has agreed to a record \$100 million damage award against cigarette maker Philip Morris, rather than seeking an even larger possible verdict in a new trial.

Richard Boeken, 57, announced Tuesday his approval of the massive award, reduced from \$3 billion by a Los Angeles judge earlier this month. His attorney, Michael Piuze, filed his client's consent in Superior Court late Monday, four days before the court's deadline for his decision.

Philip Morris, the country's biggest cigarette maker, said it plans to appeal the award, and will file papers within a few weeks. The company will ask for a complete reversal and retrial on multiple grounds.

Meanwhile, the company will be required to post a \$100 million bond with the court, according to the tobacco company's attorneys.

Under a recent ruling by Superior Court Judge Charles W. McCoy Jr., Boeken had until Friday to agree in writing to the \$100 million award or Philip Morris would have been granted a new trial on the punitive damages.

Admiral Encouraged to Stay At Military Academy

THE WASHINGTON POST

ANNAPOLIS

Instructors at the U.S. Naval Academy this week asked Vice Adm. John Ryan to extend his term as superintendent, praising him for an "inclusive" leadership style that has mended breaches between the institution's military and academic cultures.

In a unanimous vote, the Faculty Senate passed an unusual resolution asking Ryan to consider staying at the Annapolis military college beyond his four-year tour of duty, which is set to expire next year.

The Senate — made up mostly of civilian professors — has had prickly relations with many of the Navy admirals who have run the school and never before has asked any to linger in the job.

"His energy and dedication have just energized the place in a way I've never seen before," said Senate President Charles Cochran, a longtime political science professor at the academy.

"The faculty wanted to make a point of saying, 'We'd like you to stay if you would like to.'"

In a statement released by his office, Ryan said he was "honored and humbled by such a resolution, particularly because I hold the faculty in such high regard."

But his spokesman, Cmdr. Bill Spann, declined to speculate on whether the resolution would prompt Ryan or Pentagon officials to consider an extension.

White House Still Studying Proposal on Leaks

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The White House has not decided whether to support legislation, vetoed last fall by former President Bill Clinton, to criminalize leaks of "properly classified" information by present or former government employees.

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has scheduled a Sept. 5 public hearing on the controversial proposal that was authored last year by Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., then chairman and now ranking Republican on the committee. Shelby wants to add the same language to the fiscal 2001 intelligence authorization bill that is to be marked up by the panel the day after the hearing.

Shelby, according to a committee aide, has asked President Bush and Vice President Cheney to support the measure but so far has been told only that "the administration position is being worked on."

"The White House is currently studying whether a new criminal statute is necessary," a Bush National Security Council spokesman said Wednesday.

A senior intelligence official said the administration is hesitating "because it does not want to take on any additional political problems at this time."

In vetoing last year's intelligence authorization bill in order to prevent Shelby's language from becoming law, Clinton said the measure was "overbroad and may unnecessarily chill legitimate activities that are at the heart of a democracy."

Intelligence committee chairman Bob Graham, D-Fla., agreed to hold next month's public hearing after opponents of the measure complained that they had not been heard last year.

Maryland Company to Build Better Heart-Attack Detector

THE WASHINGTON POST

COLUMBIA, MARYLAND

Meridian Medical Technologies Inc. hopes to cash in on the failings of the traditional ECG. awaits government approval to sell a new version, the Prime ECG electrocardiac mapping system, which Ornat has been testing for almost two years.

The Prime system is designed to detect heart attacks earlier and more accurately than the standard ECG. It uses 80 sensors and sophisticated computer software to translate the heart's electrical activity into colorful, easy-to-read images that help doctors spot abnormalities.

Today's ECG, also known as EKG, which uses 12 sensors to measure electrical signals emitted by a patient's heart, is far from perfect. According to some estimates, it fails to detect up to 60 percent of heart attacks because it can't spot damage in several key areas of the heart.

"We've all known for some time that the 12-lead ECG is the best we had, but it has important limitations," said Joseph Ornat, a professor and the chairman of emergency medicine at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond.

Air Force General Myers to Become Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

First Air Force Officer to Hold Chair Since 1982

By Mike Allen

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — George W. Bush plans to name Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, former head of the U.S. Space Command, as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, administration officials said Wednesday.

Myers, a combat pilot in Vietnam who now is vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs, will become the nation's highest ranking military officer at a time when the Pentagon is in the midst of reassessing the size and mission of the post-Cold War armed services.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, whose intensive review of the military has drawn criticism from Congress and some top military leaders, will appear side-by-side at hearings with a general who

shares his enthusiasm for an aggressive U.S. defense in space.

Myers, 59, was one of two finalists for the job, along with Adm. Vern Clark, the chief of naval operations. Rumsfeld and Myers are scheduled to fly to Bush's Texas ranch on Friday for a briefing about the military review.

Administration officials said Bush could announce his nomination of Myers on Friday. The appointment requires Senate confirmation.

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer described Myers as "one of the key people involved in the military transformation," but said he would not speculate about who Bush had picked. "As soon as we have final word, we will advise the press corps when any type of presidential announcement will be," Fleischer said at a briefing near Bush's ranch Wednesday.

Former Pentagon officials said the selection of Myers can be expected to produce increased angst

in the Army, which has been struggling for a role in the new administration. Bush and Rumsfeld have said they want to emphasize forces that are light and swift, and make more use of technology.

An Army general has been chairman of the Joint Chiefs since 1989, and eight of the 14 previous chairmen were from the Army. The last Air Force officer to become chairman was Gen. David Jones, who served from 1978 to 1982.

Myers is a former commander of U.S. Forces in Japan and Hawaii. Former Pentagon officials said the selection of an officer with experience in Asia is the latest indication that the administration regards China as the next great military threat.

Administration officials said that Bush puts a high premium on getting along with his top officials and said that his personal comfort with Myers may have been as much of a factor in the decision as the general's space background.

OPINION

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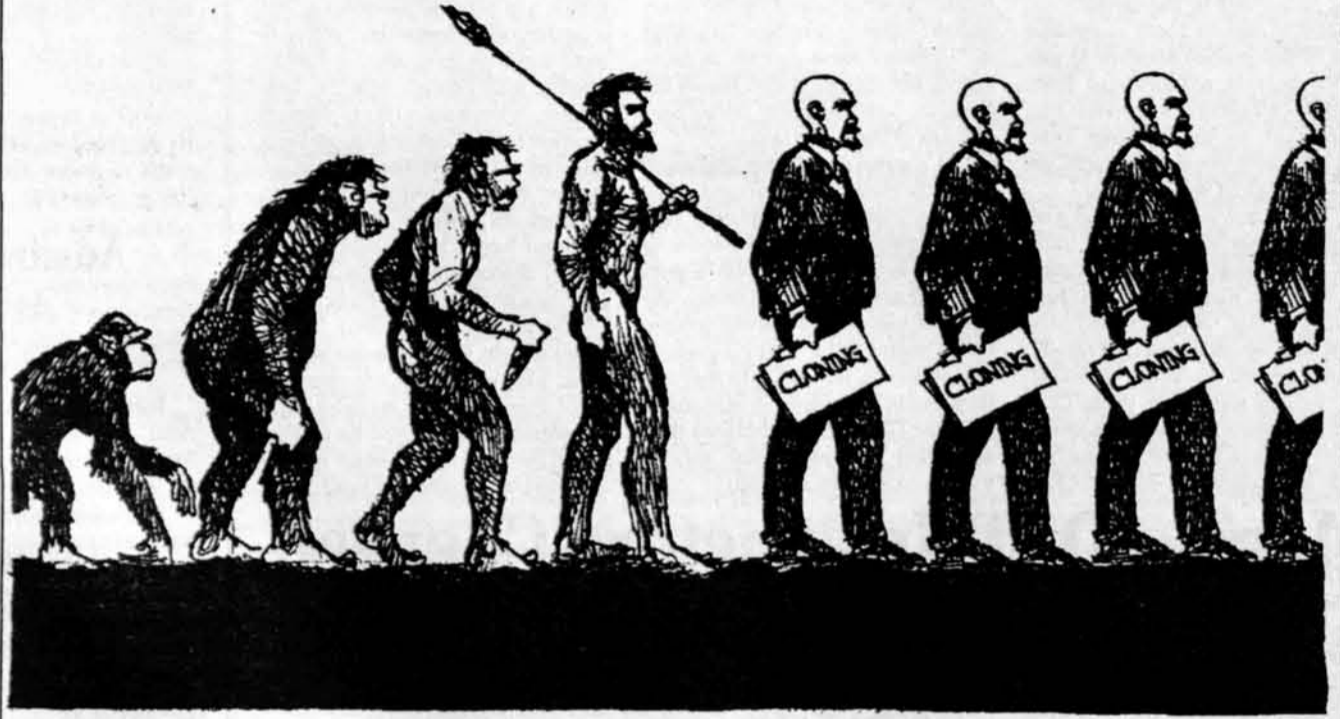
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And On the Ninth Day Bush Said...

Jyoti Tibrewala

On August 9, President Bush declared that federal funding can only be used for stem cell research on existing stem cell lines, a decision which has been the object of much criticism.

But consider the sensitivity of the situation. The question is whether the federal government should fund research on cells that, when removed from the embryo, leave the embryo to die. Bush was well aware of the nature of the situation, and he knew he had to proceed with care.

And carefully he did proceed, placing limitations on research while preserving the freedom to explore the possibilities stem cells hold (not to mention, virtually the only choice he could make in his position while still saving face). Although religious leaders still managed to find fault with his resolution, their arguments tend to miss the point.

Bishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, president of the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops, said that the federal government is "[allowing] our nation's research enterprise to cultivate a disrespect for human life." This is entirely false. If this were true, the government would be encouraging the production of embryos for research purposes, or even offering financial compensation to couples to abort pregnancies so that cells could be isolated for research purposes. Or the President could have decided not to fund embryonic stem cell research at all. In that case, he would be encouraging (but not requiring) researchers to throw away any previously isolated cells. His decision to fund research on these cells shows that he respects the life that these cells would have helped bring about. While the individual organisms won't be formed, the government will fund research on these cells, research that may give scientists a better understanding of

human biology — including, perhaps, an understanding of why the particular embryos did not develop further. The motions by the government to allow researchers to obtain this information shows that it holds human life high up on a pedestal.

The Bishop went further, taking on the task of ensuring "that our technical advances will serve rather than demean our very humanity." The promise of stem cell research

Bush's decision to fund research on embryonic stem cells shows that he respects the life that these cells would have helped bring about. The verdict will help researchers along the way to developing cures and treatments for a variety of diseases.

is that it will provide treatments for diseases.

Many diseases are characterized by malfunctions in cells or organs. As embryonic stem cells have the ability to differentiate into almost all of the cell types in the body, replacement cells and tissues could be grown to treat diseased individuals. Such a "factory" of human organs might be difficult for some to envision, but it would be a dream come true for someone needing a transplant.

Another argument that goes hand-in-hand with this is for the use of adult stem cells only. These are cells found in the adult body that have differentiated into different tissue types, but are capable of further developing into the various cells of a particular tissue. Blood stem cells, for example, can develop

into red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets. Adult stem cells have already been used to develop therapeutic treatments for various diseases. However, no human adult stem cell has been shown in culture to convert from one tissue type to another. Embryonic stem cells are even less specialized, not even unique to a tissue type.

While embryonic stem cell research has not yet been used in treatments as adult stem cell research has, this lower degree of specialization is the extra promise the former group holds. At the very least, the research could help us better understand basic biology and the complex process the embryo undergoes in its development into a human being.

As a side note, Bishop Donald Wuerl wrote in his diocesan newspaper that "While [a stem cell] is a tiny speck, it nonetheless contains the elements out of which comes the fully developed human person." Embryonic stem cells can give rise to almost all of the many types of cells found in the human body. However, an isolated stem cell, upon implantation in a woman's uterus, will not develop into a fetus. This is because they lack the ability to give rise to the placenta and other supporting tissues necessary for development in the human uterus. Thus, stem cells do not contain everything needed for full development.

Embryonic stem cells present a wonderfully unique opportunity for researchers to learn more about medicine and the human body. President Bush's decision to allow federal funding for existing cell lines keeps the power to continue or destroy human life out of the hands of scientists, while still allowing a great degree of exploration. This verdict will help researchers along the way to developing cures and treatments for a variety of diseases, and he should be praised, not admonished, for making this choice.

The Basis Of Knowledge

Matt Craighead

"Fix reason firmly in her seat, and call to her tribunal every fact, every opinion. Question with boldness even the existence of a God; because, if there is one, he must more approve of the homage of reason, than that of blindfolded fear." — Thomas Jefferson

Universities, for all that they teach, do a remarkably poor job of explaining what knowledge is in the first place. Many students can't answer questions such as, "what are the valid means of obtaining knowledge?" What constitutes certainty, or proof, of an idea and what degree of certainty is possible?

You might say, "I'm a scientist. I already know what knowledge is; that's common sense! Just apply the scientific method." But what is the scientific method, and why is it valid? And what constitutes common sense, after all? This attitude evades the question.

A pragmatist might say, "I'm an engineer. I don't care for theoretical knowledge. I only need to learn the rules from my textbooks and apply them." But this attitude rests on blind faith and can easily lead to disaster. The consequences of these attitudes often take on unexpected and frightening forms. For example, you might think that if X and Y are different locations, "object A is at location X" and "object A is at location Y" cannot both be true. Yet some quantum physicists claim to have disproven this, pointing to specific experiments that, at first glance, might indicate as much.

When trying to explain this blatant contradiction, they rationalize to cover it up. A typical explanation would go, "When we say that 'particle A is at location B,' we don't really mean that there is a physical particle and that it's at a real location. We're only making statements about observations we've made, not trying to describe how things really are."

If you hear claims like this, for your own sake, please flee in terror! This "explanation" severs the link between knowledge and reality, making knowledge pointless and reality unknowable. (The solution, of course, is to recognize that a particle can only be at one location, and to look into alternative theories

of quantum mechanics. If you're interested, I'd recommend you start by looking into Bohmian mechanics.)

So what's the right way to approach knowledge? This is not a branch of science as such; it is epistemology, the philosophy of knowledge. Philosophy is the most fundamental field of knowledge, and it must provide answers to the most basic questions.

Knowledge does not exist in a vacuum. Knowledge is knowledge of something, by someone. There is nothing to know about something that does not exist. Likewise, only a conscious being can know anything. So, the dichotomy between "theoretical" and "practical" knowledge is a false one. All valid knowledge must be practical, i.e., it must relate to real things, and it must be theoretical, i.e., it must relate to concepts.

So, to understand knowledge, we must understand three related ideas: consciousness, perception, and concepts.

Many philosophers either completely deny consciousness, or pretend that there is only consciousness, i.e., there is no reality. Both of these schools of thought, the "materialists" and "idealists," are wrong.

Instead, we must start before anything else with the recognition that "there is something that I am aware of." That is, something exists (existence) and you are aware of it (con-

Many scientists who would normally tell you to never take anything on faith drop that rule with religion; they justify the existence of God with faith. Many people who would never use their feelings alone to decide what is true or false (also a good idea) will turn around and declare that there are no objective true and false in ethics, only opinion and feeling.

sciousness). It's a something, not a nothing or an anything; so it has a specific nature, or identity.

Aristotle's Law of Identity expresses the idea best. "A is A": a thing is what it is.

From this follows the Law of Non-Contradiction: A cannot be non-A, no matter how we wish it to be so. These are the most basic laws of logic, which everything must obey. (Quantum mechanics needs a good dose of the Law of Non-Contradiction.)

Note also that consciousness is perceptive in nature. It does not create or change exist-

tence; it merely observes it. Likewise, the only path to knowledge is perception; our senses are our only link to reality.

Feelings, by themselves, tell us nothing about the external world; they are only physical responses to one's knowledge and values. So emotions, while useful, can never substitute for rational analysis.

We do not innately recognize natural order. Instead, we must learn all of the different categories of things that exist. These categories or generalizations about the world are concepts. We derive concepts not by postulating arbitrary definitions, but by observing entities and drawing universal abstractions. Consider the concept "length." There is no physical object that we can point to and say, "this is length." On the other hand, length is not an arbitrary postulate; it is a real idea, with physical referents. Concepts are neither subjective nor arbitrary, nor predetermined nor innate; they are objective ideas about our world.

Knowledge must be integrated to be useful. Non-contradiction is an absolute, and it applies to everything.

So, each new fact that you learn must not contradict anything you already know. Always think about how new ideas fit together with old ones. Sometimes, you may need to revise your previous knowledge, or correct errors in it.

Integration pops up in many different contexts. For instance, many scientists who would normally tell you to never take anything on faith (always a good rule of thumb) drop that rule with religion; they justify the existence of God with faith. But everything is interconnected, and things are either true or false; either faith is an accurate guide to reality, or it is not. Science and religion are incompatible at their core.

Many people who would never use their feelings alone to decide what is true or false (also a good idea) will turn around and declare that there are no objective true and false in ethics, only opinion and feeling. Again, this is a contradiction. Either reason is valid, or our feelings, but not both. Statements are objectively true or false, or they are not. Unfortunately, most people give up and assume that there is no scientific approach to ethics, when in fact only a scientific approach can ever work.

Man is capable of knowledge but only through reason, never faith or feeling. Knowledge is no parlor game; it's essential to human life. Contradictions do not and cannot exist; A is A. Integrate these ideas into your life; you have everything to gain, and nothing to lose, by living a life of reason.

Smile And Say 'Privacy'

Akshay Patil

During the 2001 Super Bowl, Tampa police installed security cameras all over the stadium in order to monitor attendees. Using a program called Facelt by Visionics Corp., authorities were able to identify potentially dangerous members of the crowd by comparing security images to a database of criminal mug shots.

Pleased with the results of this experiment, Tampa authorities implemented a similar system in July by placing 36 cameras around Ybor City, a popular entertainment district in Tampa. Despite public concern, on August 2nd the city council narrowly (4-3) decided to continue its partnership with Visionics.

Most supporters argue that face-recognition technology is an important crime-fighting tool. The ability to unobtrusively identify criminal members of the public can greatly increase the safety of a monitored area. The makers and defenders of the technology assert that it is time for critics to stop focusing on the technology's potential abuses, and instead on its potential to do good.

I'll refrain from going madly Orwellian. We've all read *1984* and are intelligent enough to construct the parallels that countless critics have covered. It's disturbing.

The sad thing is that the system could very well be quite legal. The Supreme Court has repeatedly upheld the principle that citizens do not have a "reasonable expectation" of privacy in public areas.

That is not to mention that the majority of the public does not seem to object to the use of face recognition technology by the police in public areas.

Within this lack of reasonable expectation, however, there is some level of privacy. Video voyeurism is definitely illegal, for

Would we oppose to having tracking devices implanted in every human being, which would monitor our position on public land? There isn't much of a difference.

example, and the police can't search you because you were walking down a sidewalk. But where are the lines between this small amount of basic privacy and the lack of reasonable expectations? It should be a basic freedom for an individual to be able to venture out of his or her house without being videotaped and identified by the government.

Would we be opposed to implanting tracking devices in every human being, which would monitor our position on public land? There isn't much of a difference.

One reason why police officers, but not video cameras, are an acceptable form of surveillance is that the police are visible. At the very least, people should be notified when they are under surveillance, be it by a company on private property, or by the government on public lands. Visible signs should be mandatory and accusations of evasive practices taken seriously.

The idea that a common public area may be under constant surveillance is terrifying to me. What is to stop the surveillance of all public areas if the government continues to use FaceIt? One of the fastest and easiest ways to start the age of Big Brother is in the name of safety. That's not to say that there are evil intentions behind the current system. I'm sure that the law enforcement community of Tampa has only the safety of the community at heart behind their actions, but you don't need me to spout clichés to tell you where a path of good intentions can lead.

Government is a double edged sword. It has the power to protect and defend, but it also has the power to harm and destroy. We must do our utmost best to use this sword safely and benevolently, for if we lose control, we may feel the sting of its second side.

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

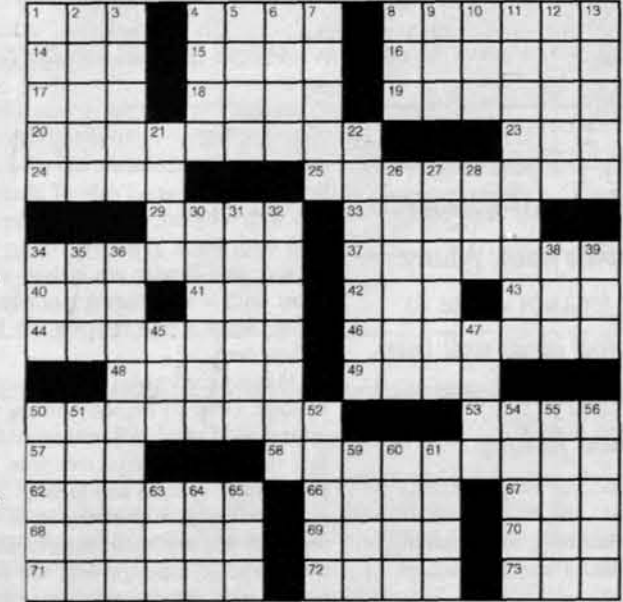


Dilbert® by Scott Adams



Crossword Puzzle

- Solution, page 8**
- ACROSS**
 1 List-ending abbr.
 4 Pineapple brand
 8 Bloom
 14 Team cheer
 15 Time periods
 16 Second spin?
 17 Best pitcher
 18 Carriageway
 19 Danish port
 20 Based
 23 Newsmen Koppel
 24 Catch sight of
 25 In a dignified manner
 29 Treaty
 33 Strider
 34 Apart
 37 Indicated indirectly
 40 ___ & breakfast
 41 Tear
 42 By way of
 43 Self-image
 44 Final stage of play
 46 Swell
 48 Door columns
 49 Gain momentum
 50 Narrowly spaced, like eyes
 53 London district
 57 Nexus
 58 "NBC Nightly News" anchor
 62 Fleet afloat
- DOWN**
 1 Wipe memory
 2 Diplomacies
 3 Cut-price
 4 Moore of "Ghost"
 5 Cookie choice
 6 Mown expanse
 7 Wormy shapes
 8 Partner of 9
 9 Directed
 10 Mine vein
 11 More cold and snowy
 12 One of the Fords
 13 Thin-voiced
 21 Secretarial mistake
 22 Stand and ___
 26 Masquerade mask
 27 Consternate
 28 ___ Aviv-Jaffa
 30 Letter-shaped home
 31 Ascends
 32 Prepare for printing
 34 Justice Fortas
 66 Sleeper spy
 67 Ms. Landers
 68 Securely closed
 69 Engendered
 70 "She Loves ___"
 71 Els and Kovacs
 72 Bastes
 73 Liquid taste



- © 2000 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.
- 35 Sportscaster Berman
 36 Jack of all trades
 38 Easter ___ hunt
 39 Unknown John
 45 Helium or argon, e.g.
 47 Furthermore
 50 Go after
 51 Decoy
 52 Pyramids and mausoleums
 54 Gives the go-ahead
 55 Capital of Vietnam
 56 Confess
 59 Extra
 60 Tooted
 61 Cincinnati nine
 63 Mr. Baba
 64 Bad grade
 65 Classified ___

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Benedict Offers Tips, Helps Frosh Adjust

Orientation, from Page 1

the crowd.

"Some of you have always been the smartest," Jones continued. "Fortunately, that period in your life is over." This remark was met with wild applause.

Benedict's Thrival Tips

After being delivered to the stage via impromptu stretcher, Benedict offered the audience "Larry's Three Simple Tips for Survival and Thrival at MIT," which were based on his own first year at the Institute. These tips include living a balanced life, making a connection with someone, and getting enough sleep.

"Sleep is a secret around here," Benedict said. "In four weeks, 90 percent of you will be sleep deprived."

Benedict ended by quoting "one of my favorite philosophers, Dr. Seuss: 'And will you survive? Yes, you will indeed.'"

Freshmen discuss experience

Yesterday's program "was a lot of fun," said Christopher C. Simeone '05. "They really built up a sense of [school] spirit."

Dissatisfied Freshmen May Move After Rush

Story, from Page 1

choice. He believes that he and his fellow freshman have "just been dropped right into college, and can't make the best decision possible" with the limited time available.

Housing decisions may be changed

For some people, the housing decision process may actually

extend several weeks or months beyond rush. Students can depledge from fraternities and sororities or apply for transfers to different rooms or dorms if they aren't satisfied with their living situation. Most students eventually end up making the right choice or at least find a place in which they feel comfortable enough that it doesn't detract from their lives at MIT.

Someone said that his favorite part was Jones' speech. "She did a good job of explaining our role at MIT," he said. "They brought us here. We were hand-picked."

Even before Orientation officially began at 5 pm yesterday, students were already getting settled in and beginning to meet each other.

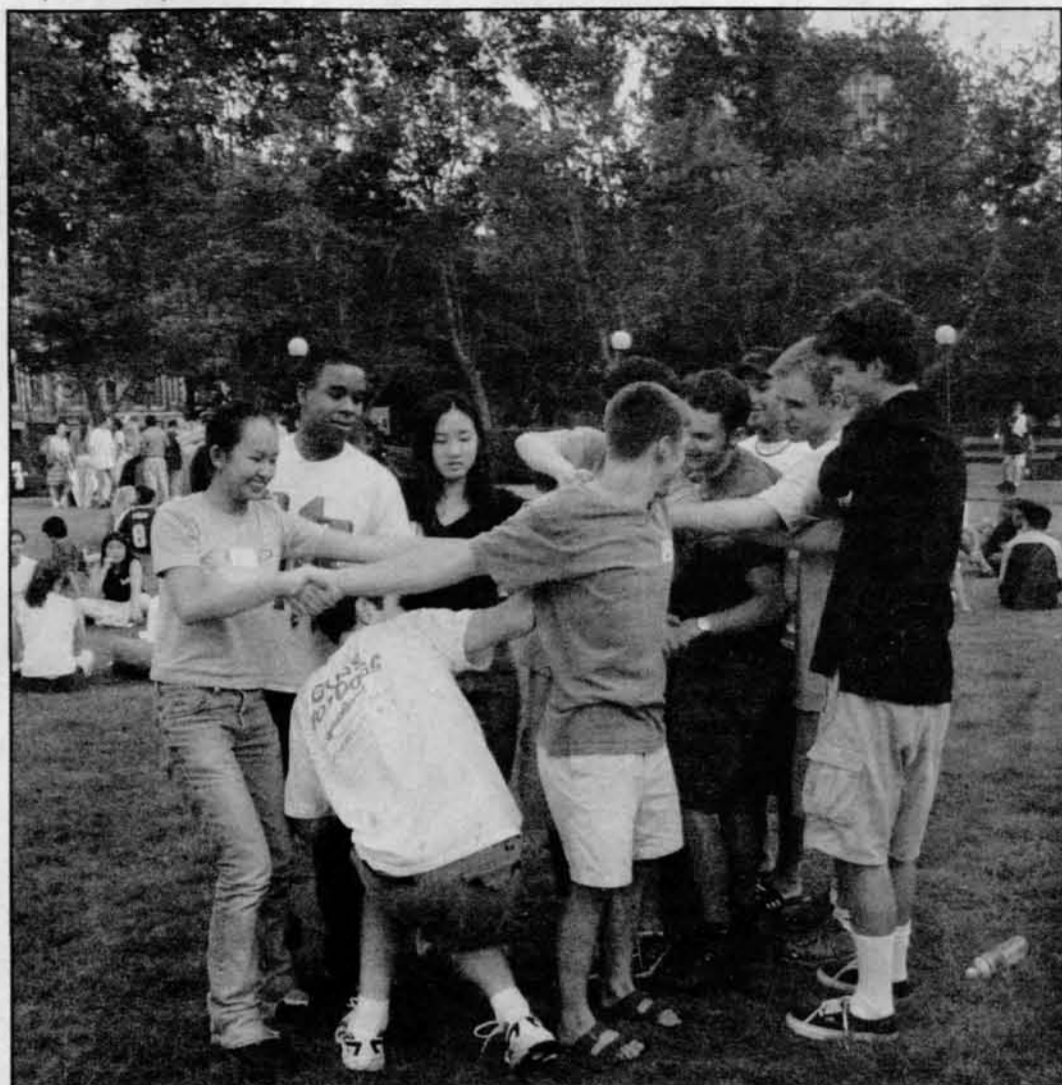
"I was pretty nervous about coming here," Mekadenaumporn said, "but now I'm comfortable."

While Mekadenaumporn didn't arrive on campus until Tuesday night, Shauna X. Mei '05 came to Cambridge on August 16 for the Freshman Leadership Program.

"It was awesome because ... it wasn't your typical leadership camp," Mei said. "By the end of it, I felt like I knew 100 people really well. But it might be a disadvantage to be people who don't do them."

Mei said her favorite part about MIT was "the fact that it's [Pass/ No Record] and you get to pick where you live. That's such a plus."

However, the disadvantage to MIT's system of residence selection, Mei said, is that since each living group has a specific reputation. "There's less diversity within the houses," she said.



ROSHAN BALIGA—THE TECH

Orientation Leader David M. LoBosco '02 (second from right) bonds with his group as they work their way out of a human knot. Freshmen gathered on Kresge in their orientation groups yesterday evening for a BBQ and "Survivor Scavenger Hunt."

Depression is a serious threat to anyone that has a brain.

Depression is a suppression of brain activity that can strike anyone. It can make life unbearable, but it is also readily, medically treatable. And that's something you should always keep in mind.

11 Cause of Suicide
UNTREATED DEPRESSION

Public Service message from SA VE (Suicide Awareness/Voices of Education)

<http://www.save.org>

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MIT, MBTA Offer Several Modes of Transportation

By Jeffrey Greenbaum

STAFF REPORTER

This is the second in a series of articles dedicated to shedding some light on how to get around MIT.

Although the MIT community spans both Boston and Cambridge, there are many ways to navigate these cities.

For those that live in the further reaches of campus, such as Next House or any of the off campus fraternities and sororities, a pair of rollerblades or a bicycle is a worthy investment. They not only will help fend off the freshmen fifteen, but will help you to arrive at class on schedule.

However, the Metropolitan Boston Transit Authority (affectionately known as the T) and MIT-run shuttles do the trick for longer-range transportation (and for those of us who are too lazy to hoof it across the bridge).

MIT offers different shuttles

If you wait at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, A Safe Ride (affectionately known as SafeRide) or the Tech Shuttle are bound to arrive. Saferide is a free service that begins at 6 PM and runs until 3 AM from Sunday through Wednesday, and until 4 AM from Thursday through Saturday.

Its four routes, Boston East,

Boston West, Cambridge East, and Cambridge West, make stops at nearly every FSILG, some dormitories, and even Star Market.

The Graduate Student Council recently donated a fifth van to help the redesign of Saferide routes. Soulaymane Kachani G, former Graduate Student Council President, said that Saferide will redesign its Cambridge routes to include a Cambridge North that will better suit undergraduate and graduate students' living. In particular, the route redesign will serve NW30, a first-year graduate dormitory that opened this summer.

For getting to and from class

during the day, the Tech Shuttle operates from 7:15 AM to 7:33 PM and runs from Kendall Square to west campus.

If you do bring a car to campus, good luck parking it during the day. Either get a parking pass from MIT's Parking Office (about \$400 for the year) or only move your car from Memorial Drive at night.

Boston area accessible by T

If you want to travel off campus, the T is your best bet. Depending on which line you take, a one-dollar token can get you to Harvard, the airport, Northeastern, the Symphony, Chinatown, the Prudential mall, or just about anywhere else.

Near the MIT Coop, the Red Line's Kendall Square is the closest stop to MIT's campus and dormitories. Many Boston fraternities are located near Green Line stops such as Copley and Kenmore, while some Cambridge living groups are near the Red Line's Central Square.

The T runs from approximately 5:15 AM to 12:30 AM and provides quick transportation along each of its four lines: Red, Green, Orange, and Blue.

MIT sells monthly passes in Lobby 10 and building E32 at the end of the prior month. Passes exist for unlimited usage of each service as well as combination passes for multiple services.

To travel to Boston's suburbs, MBTA provides a commuter rail that costs a few dollars and runs frequently during business hours. A few stations along the T, such as Porter Square and South Station, provide a means of transferring to the Commuter Rail.

MBTA's bus system also stops throughout Boston and Cambridge, Somerville, and other towns. Bus Number One will soon become a good friend, taking you from Boston

to Harvard Square and everywhere in between, including 77 Massachusetts Avenue. Bus fare is 75 cents.

Outdoor bus stops often do not post the schedules, so it is necessary to know one's destination time and arrive well in advance to make a successful trip.

The Wave and other options

Between bikes, MIT shuttles, and the T, you should be pretty well taken care of, although you should always budget time for waiting at stations and stops. But just in case, there are a few more specialized shuttles that can be quite useful.

The first of these is the Longwood Medical Area Shuttle, or LMA. It looks like an MBTA bus, and stops at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, but it is white and blue and the bus drivers are much more friendly. The LMA goes from Harvard University to Simmons College and many Boston-area hospitals via Kenmore Square, so it can be convenient for FSILG members. Unfortunately, it's only free for Harvard students. A ten-ride pass is \$7.50 and is available at Harvard's Holyoke Center.

The second is the Wave, a free shuttle that runs from the Kendall Square T stop to the CambridgeSide Galleria.

Finally, Wellesley and Brandeis both offer services which make stops near MIT campus and brings students between the colleges. Wellesley's bus, which is free during school hours and costs two dollars on the weekends, runs nearly every hour and has a stop on the Boston end of the Harvard bridge and near McCormick. Brandeis offers a van which makes a stop near the Harvard Bridge in Boston on the weekend, as well as Harvard Square.

Pey-Hua Hwang contributed to the writing of this story.



KAILAS NARENDRA—THE TECH

"A Safe Ride" vans provide free transportation to Boston and Cambridge living groups from 6:00pm to 3:00am (4:00am on Thurs-Sat). Cambridge routes have recently expanded to include the new graduate student dorm in NW30.

Pay Raise Welcome

UROP, from Page 1

it wasn't for the money," said Kenneth K. Lu G. "I'd imagine that the money is generally more of a perk than any significant source of income anyway."

Faculty and departments were notified of the pay rate change in late May and again in June.

The UROP office allocated funding to approximately 627 projects during the 2000-2001 school year, including summer 2001.

"I think [the increase] is good," said UROP participant Filip S. Antic '03. "It could motivate more students to take advantage of the UROP program. At the same time, it doesn't directly affect me, as I have additional funding from my lab."

"If you think of a student working during the fall and spring for approximately \$1200 each semester, who then continues to UROP during the summer earning approximately \$4,150, that's a sizeable sum of money for a year," Martin said. "Hopefully, this funding will help students satisfy their self-help requirements, tuition costs and living expenses."

R-Rated Hypnotist Charms Freshmen

Alvin Lin '05 gives birth with the help of two female doctors. Paul Harter, "R-rated" hypnotist, increases the contractions for Alvin until he gives birth to a mustached kid.

JASON LAPENTA—THE TECH



MIGUEL CALLES—THE TECH

Wild, hypnotized party animals dance their craziest, believing they may win a million-dollar prize.

Solution to Crossword

from page 6

ETC	DOLE	FLOWER			
RAH	ERAS	RERIDE			
ACE	MEWS	ODENSE			
STATIONED		TED			
ESPY		SEDATELY			
	PACT	LOPER			
ALOOF	FLY	IMPLIED			
BED	RIP	VIA	EGO		
ENDGAME		ENLARGE			
	JAMBS	ROLL			
CLOSESET		SOHO			
HUB		TOMBROKAW			
ARMADA		MOLE	ANN		
SEALED		BRED	YOU		
ERNIES		SEWS	SIP		