



The Weather

Today: Partly Cloudy, 75°F (23°C)
Tonight: Clear, 59°F (15°C)
Tomorrow: Sunshine, 74°F (23°C)
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Thursday, August 24, 2001

Vest Delivers Address, Voted Off Outback

'Survivor'-Themed Orientation Continues as Vest Offers Welcome to Institute Freshmen

By Dana Levine
EDITOR IN CHIEF

President Charles M. Vest welcomed the class of 2005 into the MIT community at yesterday's convocation ceremony.

Orientation 2001 In keeping with the "Survivor" theme, the ceremony began with a reenactment of the tribal council segment from the hit television series. Alex D. Forrest '04 hosted the skit, which involved several members of the Orientation staff voting President Vest out of the Australian Outback.

After being ousted from the tribe, Vest was given the opportunity to say a few words, which turned out to be his convocation address. Vest described MIT as "a place where people want not only to discover the world, and how it works, but also to make it better."

He mentioned that MIT faculty, alumni, and staff have won 47 Nobel prizes, founded 4,000 companies, and worked on many of the most important inventions of the past century.

Vest urged incoming freshmen to continue this tradition by becoming actively involved in learning and research at the Institute. "We think every student should be a partner in



President Charles M. Vest (right, center) is voted off the island by (right to left) Michael L. Ramos '03, Roxanne M. Cartwright '02, Office of Academic Services Staffer Daniel W. Chapman, and Patricia M. McAndrew '03. Alex D. Forrest '04 hosts the "tribal council" proceedings.

research and discovery... whether in the classroom or laboratory," he said. "There will be opportunities - in the days and years to come - for us to sit beside each other, as learners and teachers together."

Freshmen should meet faculty

Vest also encouraged the members of the class of 2005 to get to know at least one faculty member

during their time at the Institute. "Believe it or not, those students who say they have had a great experience here are most likely to be those who have come to know at least one faculty member well," he said. Vest recommended the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program as a good way to meet faculty, although he also suggested that students try to meet

professors on a more personal level.

"Or here's one - one that might surprise you. There is actually a good chance that you know things that members of our faculty wish they knew. Yes, they are teachers and scholars, but you might be able to show one of them how to

Convocation, Page 17

Eateries Around Institute Offer Variety, Late Hours

By Pey-Hua Hwang
STAFF REPORTER

Freshmen may be able to survive solely on the free pizza of Orientation and Rush activities, but the start of classes will likely send the same students searching for edible alternatives.

An MIT ID card is a cash-free passport to nourishment on campus. Establishing a meal plan affords the MIT student access to all Aramark-run food venues on campus, as well as to the student-run Coffeeshop.

So where can hungry freshmen find these food vendors? Commonly frequented spots include Lobdell Food Court, located in the Student Center in west campus, and Walker Dining on the east side. Both feature an array of foods that ranges from custom stir fry at Walker's Harvest Moon to a Burger King in Lobdell. Smaller options include the Building Four Coffeeshop, Dome Cafe, and the Bio Cafe, all of which offer soup, sandwiches, coffee and various snacks.

Three of the ten undergraduate dormitories - Baker, Next House, and McCormick - house regular dining services as well. MacGregor houses a convenience store that also honors the MIT ID card.

Late-night nourishment

Chances are that studying late

into the night will bring on a case of the "munchies." Luckily there is no shortage of vendors willing to cater to the oft-nocturnal eating habits of Institute students. Many don't close until midnight, and some even stay open as late as 4 a.m. Dominos Pizza, which accepts the MIT ID and delivers straight to campus, is a popular choice.

The Coffeeshop, meanwhile, serves snacks in addition to its requisite coffee offerings. Billed as an around-the-clock service, the shop has at times kept sporadic hours due to lack of staff, but usually delivers late-night satisfaction.

Toscanini's boasts not only late-night coffee and ice cream treats (and early morning shots of caffeine), but also three convenient Cambridge locations in the MIT Stratton Student Center, Harvard Square, and Central Square.

A twenty-minute walk to the Prudential will bring you to Marche Movenpick, a serve-yourself smorgasbord of edibles open until 2 a.m. Ice cream hot spot J.P. Licks on Newbury Street and smoothie and sandwich wonder Ankara's Cafe (off Kenmore Square) have won over the eating affections of plenty of MIT students.

Food trucks: fast and cheap

For a quick meal between class-

es, several food trucks right outside 77 Massachusetts Avenue and the line of trucks outside building 68 are great alternatives to the Aramark fare. Yang's Inc and Couscous Kitchen are situated on either

side of the 77 Massachusetts Avenue steps, although the two usually attract long lines during lunch hour. Yona's Pizza, Jose's

Food, Page 20

RBA Fails To Recruit Freshmen

By Jennifer Krishnan
NEWS EDITOR

Having fallen short of their summer recruitment goals for Residence-Based Advising, Next House and German House will continue to recruit freshmen for their programs during rush.

Victoria K. Anderson '02, a Resident Associate Adviser for Next House, said that only 11 freshmen are currently enrolled in Next House's RBA program. Anderson said they had hoped to recruit 50-60 freshmen.

German House received two applications for the seven spaces in its RBA program, said German House Rush Chair Kristine L. Goldrick '02.

"It's not what we expected," said Goldrick, "but at least we're going into rush with two really good candidates."

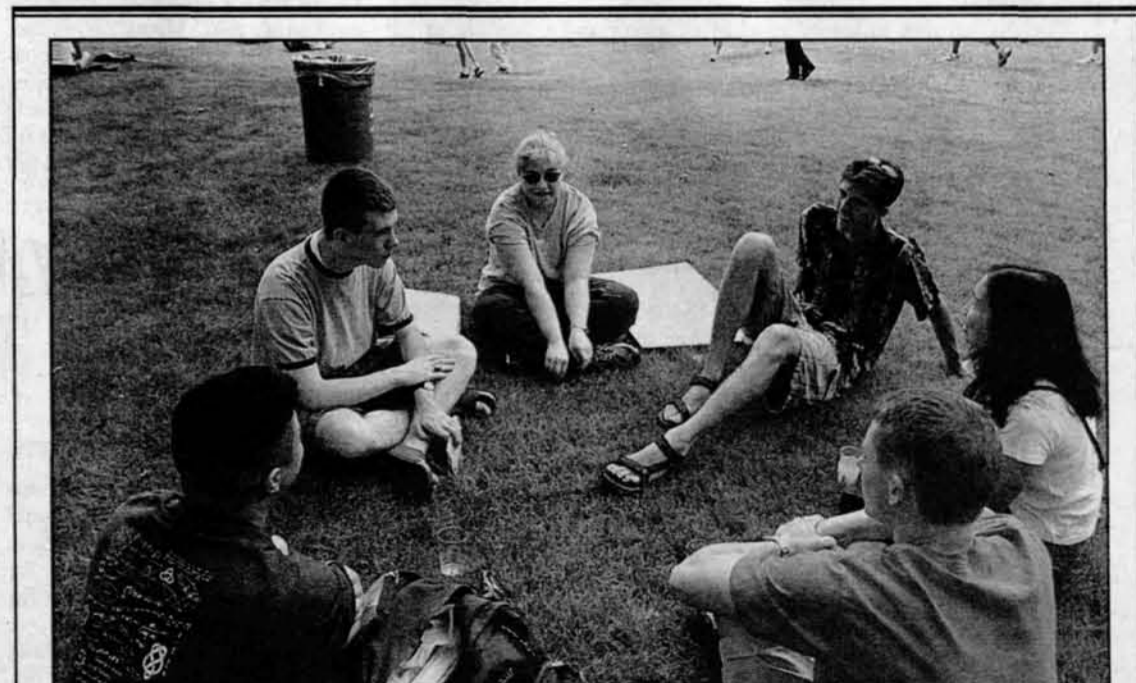
Both this year and last, McCormick Hall was able to fill its program before Orientation began.

Potential explanations

"One problem we had was that we started doing the program really late, so there was not much chance for us to recruit," Anderson said.

Anderson also said that the nature and the timing of the application process may have deterred some potential applicants. Students interested in RBA were asked to apply

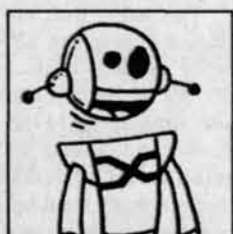
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(Clockwise from top) Nikki Johnson '04, Jeremy H. Scholz '05, Annie D. Ding '05, Nathan P. McNulty '05, Albert C. Chiou '05, and Eric J. Konopka '05 relax Thursday afternoon during a free lunch in Killian Court.



Look inside for *The Tech's* pull out guide to FSILGs.



Comics

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OPINION

Tao Yue reminds students that MIT has a long tradition of activism.

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WORLD & NATION

Japanese Court Orders Government To Pay for 1945 Explosion

LOS ANGELES TIMES

TOKYO

A Japanese court Thursday ruled that the nation's government is responsible for the deaths of Korean slave laborers from a 1945 explosion on a navy transport ship.

Legal scholars said the decision puts Japan another modest step closer to accepting responsibility for its role in World War II and should make it easier for plaintiffs in an estimated 60 slave-labor cases to obtain compensation.

That said, the results were far from sweeping.

About 80 Koreans, including survivors or relatives of those on board the transport *Ukushima Maru*, were seeking \$25 million in compensation and an official apology. The explosion shortly after the war's end quickly sank the ship, killing at least 524 Koreans and 25 Japanese crew members.

Instead, 15 plaintiffs — those the court said it could confirm had lived through the tragedy — received a total of \$375,000, though the court said an apology was beyond its purview.

"They should have received much more, of course," said Masayoshi Nakata, the lead attorney for the plaintiffs. "After suffering mental distress for more than half a century, \$25,000 per person is hardly enough. And most of all, they sought a heartfelt apology."

Elizabeth Dole Decides To Change Voter Registration

THE WASHINGTON POST

Signaling strong interest in running for the Senate in North Carolina next year, Elizabeth Dole on Thursday asked county officials in Kansas to remove her from the voting rolls there and said she planned to register "in another jurisdiction" in the near future.

Dole's husband, former Senate majority leader and 1996 Republican presidential nominee Robert Dole, told MSNBC that he was "almost prepared" to say she will be a candidate soon. Other Republicans also are jockeying for the chance to succeed Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC).

White House and national party officials regard Dole as the strongest candidate the GOP could find to run for the Helms seat and hope her entry into the race will avoid a divisive primary next spring. But one Republican strategist said Thursday that former Charlotte mayor Richard Vinroot could enter the GOP race as early as Friday.

With the Democrats holding a one-seat margin in the Senate, Republicans can't afford to lose the Helms seat in 2002 if they hope to recapture control. Dole's seen as highly popular in her home state but ran a disappointing race for the Republican presidential nomination in 2000.

China Acknowledges Rise In AIDS Infections

THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

Breaking a long public silence, the government said Thursday that nearly as many people have contracted the AIDS virus in China by selling their blood as have been infected through sexual contact. And the Health Ministry reported 67 percent more people tested HIV-positive during the first half of this year than during the same period last year, suggesting the disease may be spreading twice as fast as previously reported.

The disclosures followed months of government denials of reports by China's state-run newspapers and foreign media about villages in central China where large numbers of farmers who sold their blood to supplement their meager incomes are now dying of the disease.

The government had argued that sale of blood was a minor factor in the spread of AIDS and gagged its own journalists after they began reporting about it last year.

The issue has been particularly sensitive here because of allegations that local officials encouraged and profited from the practice, even after it was officially banned in 1995.

WEATHER

Sunnier Days Ahead

By Roshan Baliga

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The start of the weekend brings cloudy skies and a 50 percent chance of rain. Thankfully, the high humidity over the next few days will be offset by a slightly cooler weekend than normal. By the time rush starts on Saturday, the skies should be clear and the weather beautiful — just in time for that steak and lobster dinner. For those of you who are hot and sweaty right now, things should cool off a lot in the near future. Those of you who left your fur coats back in California are going to be really sorry when it starts to snow. Don't say that I didn't tell you so.

Today: Partly cloudy with scattered showers early in the morning, clearing in the afternoon. The high of 75°F and light winds make today an excellent day for ultimate frisbee, if the rain holds off.

Tonight: Clear, approaching a low of 59°F. A good time to practice your night photography in Boston.

Saturday: Sunny and warm; the perfect day for the start of the last MIT Freshman Rush ever. Expect a high of 74°F at Killian Kickoff.

United States, China Discuss Nonproliferation Agreement

By Henry Chu

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BEIJING

Chinese and U.S. arms experts opened talks Thursday on Beijing's agreement not to spread missile and nuclear weapons technology to other nations, the latest in a series of recent high-level contacts.

A U.S. delegation led by acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Vann Van Diepen is seeking to ensure that China abides by a promise made in November not to help other countries develop ballistic missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

The United States is worried about reports that Chinese companies have continued to export sensitive missile technology to Pakistan in violation of the pledge. The Chinese government insists it has stuck to its promise.

The talks come less than a month after Secretary of State Colin L. Powell visited here and sought a renewed Chinese commitment to the

agreement.

Two weeks ago, Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. (D-Del.), visited here and also pressed China on the issue. Biden, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, later called on the Bush administration to impose sanctions on the Chinese companies accused of aiding Pakistan.

Discussions are expected to continue Friday. The U.S. team and China's Foreign Ministry confirmed the start of the talks Thursday but declined to comment on their substance.

Before the session, State Department spokesman Philip T. Reeker said the meetings would not focus on alleged missile assistance to Pakistan.

"These talks aren't surrounding any specific allegation," Reeker told reporters in Washington on Wednesday. "These are on the subject of missile nonproliferation, including the implementation of the November 2000 agreement."

In addition to allegedly helping advance Pakistan's weapons devel-

opment, some Chinese companies are suspected of selling fiber-optic technology to Iraq that could enhance that nation's air defenses.

The United States and China are eager to find ways to stabilize bilateral relations, which have swung wildly during the past three years. Military ties in particular have been on shaky ground since the 1999 bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia — which the United States labeled an accident — during NATO's air war against Yugoslavia. They hit another low in April after a U.S. spy plane collided with a Chinese fighter jet off southern China.

President Bush is scheduled to visit Shanghai in two months for a regional economic summit, then travel to Beijing for a state visit — the first by a U.S. leader since President Clinton in 1998.

Powell's trip last month served partly to pave the way for Bush's arrival. In recent weeks, both sides have talked up the importance of improving Sino-U.S. relations.

Condit Denies Any Connection With Disappearance of Intern

By Allan Lengel and Petula Dvorak

THE WASHINGTON POST

Rep. Gary Condit (D-Calif.), breaking his public silence in the Chandra Levy case, said in a televised interview Thursday night that he had nothing to do with her disappearance but declined to answer questions about the nature of his relationship with the 24-year-old former federal intern.

The 53-year-old Democrat from central California defended his actions since April 30, when Levy was last seen in downtown Washington, and reiterated that he has done everything possible to aid the investigation, including answering all questions posed by investigators.

The long-awaited public appearance by the son of a Baptist minister began with a direct and dramatic exchange. ABC News correspondent Connie Chung asked the congressman whether he had anything to do with Levy's disappearance, whether he knew if anyone wanted to harm her or whether he himself

caused her harm.

After Condit answered no to each of the questions, Chung asked: "Did you kill Chandra Levy?"

"I did not," Condit replied.

The interview, taped earlier in the day and restricted to 30 minutes, was combative at times as Chung pressed Condit to acknowledge an affair law enforcement sources say he has already admitted. But the congressman steadfastly refused to answer the question.

"I have not been a perfect man. I have made mistakes in my life," Condit said. "But out of respect for my family, out of a specific request by the Levy family, it is best that I not get into the details of the relationship."

The interview covered ground familiar to many who have followed a saga that began with little fanfare in May, when police first reported Levy missing, and has since drawn international attention. Even without explaining the nature of the relationship, Condit acknowledged that he knew Levy for five months, that she

visited his apartment often and that he spoke to her in the days before she vanished.

"Did she want to marry you and have your child?" Chung asked at one point, returning to the subject that dominated the interview.

"I only knew Chandra for five months. And in that five-month period, we never had a discussion about a future, about children, about marriage. Any of those items never came up in that five-month period," Condit said.

At several points, Condit challenged media accounts of parts of the story and disputed what the Levy family has said about the case. Chandra's mother, Susan, has said from the early days of the investigation that she confronted Condit over the telephone and specifically asked him if he had an affair with her daughter.

Condit denied that part of the conversation took place. "My job was to console and do what I could to be helpful. But I never lied to Mrs. Levy at all. I'm sorry if she misunderstood the conversations," Condit said.

EPA Study Undercuts Bush Decision To Revoke Tougher Arsenic Standard

By Elizabeth Shogren

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A new study by an Environmental Protection Agency advisory panel appears to undermine one of the Bush administration's primary reasons for revoking a tough new standard for arsenic levels in drinking water.

The panel, in a report released Thursday, concluded that the Clinton administration did a "credible job" of computing the costs to water systems when it called for an 80 percent reduction in arsenic in drinking water.

EPA Administrator Christie Whitman prevented the new standard from taking effect, citing concerns that the previous administration did not adequately consider the costs and benefits of the new standard or the latest scientific evidence on the impact of small amounts of arsenic, a carcinogen, on human health.

"When the federal government imposes costs on communities,

especially small communities, we should be sure the facts support imposing the federal standard," Whitman said in March when she rescinded the standard and launched a review.

That decision has cost the administration dearly, raising doubts about the new president's commitment to public health.

The panel's findings could increase political discomfort for the Bush administration as it continues to justify revoking the Clinton administration standard and prepares to announce its own proposal this fall on what the new standard should be.

The panel did, however, offer suggestions to the EPA on how to better estimate costs as the agency decides where to set the standard. It also strongly urged the EPA to alter the way it considers affordability for small water systems and recommended that a fund be developed to help them meet the new standard.

"It's obvious that this rule and

other rules are not affordable to small systems," said David Spath, a member of the panel and chief administrator of public water systems for California.

EPA officials said the report confirmed the wisdom of Whitman's review and will strengthen confidence in the final standard.

"Her decision was made in response to a significant number of stakeholders raising questions and concerns and exhibiting a lack of confidence in EPA's analysis," said Ephraim King, an agency official working on the standard. "One of EPA's jobs is to ensure the public has confidence in the analysis we do."

The Clinton administration standard had been challenged in court by several Western states, a group of Western utilities and the mining industry.

King said the EPA will consider this report and two others ordered by Whitman as it develops a new standard for arsenic in drinking water.

Mixing of Human, Mouse Cells Poses Problems To Researchers

By Justin Gillis
and Cecil Connolly
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Most or all of the human embryonic stem cell colonies approved for research funding under a new Bush administration policy have been mixed in the laboratory with mouse cells, which may create substantial hurdles for scientists trying to turn the colonies into treatments for Parkinson's disease, spinal-cord injuries and other ailments.

The cell colonies, or "lines," were originally created for early stage research with no thought that they would become the only embryonic cells eligible for federal money. But that's the status President Bush conferred on them in his first prime-time address to the nation on Aug. 9.

The standard technique for creating human embryonic stem cell lines has been to extract cells from inside a microscopic embryo, then grow them atop embryonic mouse cells, known as "feeder" cells. The

latter excrete some unknown nutritional or growth factor that helps the human cells stay healthy. Because they've been in close contact with mouse cells, the human cells pose a small but real risk of transferring potentially deadly animal viruses into people.

Because of that, under guidelines the Food and Drug Administration has been developing for several years, it would be difficult, though not impossible, to use the cells in human clinical tests.

Under the FDA rules, which are designed to prevent the accidental creation of a new plague, transplants of these embryonic cells into people would be treated as though they were "xenotransplants," or transplants of animal tissue. The guidelines impose stringent requirements on researchers and patients alike. They would probably rule out some groups of patients who might otherwise be eligible to participate in human stem-cell tests — notably, for instance, young diabetes patients whose disease can be treated in

other ways.

The human embryonic stem cell lines reported in scientific literature were all grown in direct contact with mouse cells and might have picked up mouse viruses, which government officials acknowledged will bring them under the FDA policy.

Scientists are working on ways to grow human embryonic cell lines without using mouse cells, but any new ones created after Bush's Aug. 9 speech would be ineligible for federal research money.

Patient groups and people who work with them expressed concern when told about the xenotransplant restrictions.

"This would be the exclamation point" on an already lengthy list of questions about the quantity and quality of the cell lines eligible for research funding under the Bush policy, said Kevin Ryder, a consultant to the American Cell Therapy Research Foundation, a New York foundation that supports research into many types of treatments using cells.

Israeli Forces Storm Palestinian Hebron, Destroy Sniper Buildings

By Tracy Wilkinson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israeli armor briefly stormed into Palestinian-ruled territory late Thursday, this time taking over hillside neighborhoods in Hebron in apparent retaliation for gunfire directed at Jewish enclaves, witnesses said.

Troops occupied Abu Sneineh and other neighborhoods and destroyed two houses that had been used frequently by snipers before pulling out after three hours, an army spokeswoman said early Friday.

The late-night incursion marked a foray into one of the region's tensest hot spots. Since a 1997 agreement, Hebron has been divided between more than 100,000 Palestinians and about 450 Jews.

Abu Sneineh has been an especially potent symbol for hard-line Israelis who have repeatedly demanded the government seize the neighborhood, especially since the slaying in March of a Jewish baby in Hebron. Palestinian gunmen in Abu Sneineh often target Jewish residents and trade fire with the Israeli army posted to protect the settlers. In turn, Israeli clamps harsh restrictions on the larger Palestinian population.

On Thursday evening, two Hebron settlers were wounded by

Palestinian gunfire as they stood on their balcony: an 11-year-old boy, who was shot in the stomach, and his 18-year-old brother, a soldier on leave.

Palestinian journalists in Hebron reported seeing at least 15 armored personnel carriers and military vehicles plunging more than 200 yards into the area of the city under Palestinian control.

Residents said Israeli forces had taken over three sections of Hebron that most directly overlooked Jewish enclaves. Jamal Ash-Shobaki, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council and resident of Hebron, said he heard gun battles throughout the night but that the firing subsided about an hour after the Israeli armor moved in.

"This is an attempt to kill all agreements," he said when reached by telephone during the incursion. "I suspect the Israelis will stay a few hours and then leave. It would be very complicated to remain among so many Palestinian people."

He said the Abu Sneineh neighborhood often clears out in the evening because of the near-nightly shootings. Residents had either fled or were hunkered down in their homes for safety, he said.

Brig. Gen. Tariq Zeid, command-

er of Palestinian police in Hebron, said in a telephone interview that Israeli helicopters had fired to provide backup to the armored ground forces. He reported that eight Palestinians were wounded in gun battles.

Israeli tanks earlier in the day plowed into Palestinian territory near a refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and destroyed a police post in retaliation for mortar fire at Jewish settlements.

Such incursions, combined with targeting and killing suspected militants, gunmen and bombers, have become the most public — and, Israel says, successful — tactics in efforts to crush a Palestinian revolt that has raged nearly 11 months and claimed hundreds of lives. The Palestinians are fighting to end Israeli occupation and obtain an independent state.

Also Thursday, Israel fired missiles at the car of a prominent activist in Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement. But for the second time in two days, the shooters missed their target.

And an 11-year-old Palestinian boy, Mahmoud Zourab, was shot and killed as he threw stones during a clash with Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip following the funeral of a Palestinian slain a day earlier, Palestinian witnesses said.

New Forensic Evidence Clears Man Who Spent Years on Idaho Death Row

By Henry Weinstein
LOS ANGELES TIMES

A man who spent 17 years on death row in Idaho was released from prison Thursday after sophisticated DNA tests demonstrated conclusively that there was no forensic evidence linking him to the 1982 murder of a 9-year-old girl.

A state court judge issued an order freeing Charles I. Fain shortly after Canyon County District Attorney David Young announced that his office had decided against retrying Fain in the slaying of Daralyn Johnson, who was abducted while walking to school in Nampa, a small town southwest of Boise.

Fain, 52, became the 94th prisoner exonerated as a result of DNA testing in the United States in the last decade, the 11th on death row.

Fain, who has always maintained that he was innocent, said "it will take a few days to get used to the idea" of being free. "It's pretty overwhelming right now," he said in a brief interview after being

released from the state's maximum security prison near Boise.

"I knew I was innocent," Fain continued. "When I heard about DNA, I thought it might help me. DNA is my best friend right now."

Fain said his "faith in God" sustained him during his long incarceration.

"Something kept telling me it would work out in the long run. Technology had to catch up with the case," he said, referring to the fact that DNA testing was not available when he was tried in 1983.

Fain is the second convicted rapist cleared as a result of mitochondrial DNA testing, which can extract DNA directly from the shaft of a hair and is dramatically altering the field of forensic hair analysis. First used in a Tennessee rape trial in 1996, mitochondrial testing also has been used to secure a number of convictions.

On July 6, U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winwill vacated Fain's conviction after being presented with

the results of DNA tests done on three pubic hairs found on the young girl's clothes.

At Fain's trial, an FBI specialist testified that the hairs were similar to Fain's after examining them under a microscope.

But mitochondrial DNA tests conducted by a laboratory in Virginia in June excluded Fain as the source of the hair.

Fain's lawyers, Frederick Hoopes of Idaho Falls and Spencer McIntyre of Seattle, moved to have his conviction set aside, and Idaho Attorney General Al Lance did not contest the motion.

Young said later that his office was continuing to investigate the murder. In recent weeks, Young's office has been looking closely at other suspects, but he said nothing conclusive has been found.

He expressed regret that the Johnson family has "had to relive the brutal murder of their daughter and accept that her killer has not yet been apprehended."

Canadian Man Who Bilked Elderly Americans Gets 7 Years in Prison

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Wilson Chucks Okike, a Canadian citizen, was sentenced to seven years in federal prison Thursday for defrauding more than 1,400 American residents, most of them elderly, of at least \$1.9 million in an elaborate telemarketing scheme.

Okike, 29, earlier pleaded guilty to two counts of a federal indictment. U.S. District Judge Margaret Morrow, summarizing the case, said Okike owned a Vancouver company whose employees told victims they were 99.5 percent likely to be winners of a foreign lottery. The callers then offered to provide the winnings in exchange for a processing fee.

Later, when no winnings were forthcoming, agents of the company would call under false names to tell some of the victims they would seek to recover the fraudulent fees for them — but only if they paid more fees.

In most cases, the processing fees were anywhere from a few hundred dollars to a little more than \$2,000.

But in one case, involving an 80-year-old Montana woman, the fees collected by the Okike operation mounted to \$230,000 over a two-year period.

WHO Will Send Doctors to Iraq

THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

The World Health Organization (WHO) will send a team of physicians to Iraq on Monday to determine whether depleted uranium shells used by U.S. troops during the Persian Gulf War have caused an increase in Iraqi cancer rates.

The eight-member team hopes to lay the groundwork for the first major international study since the Gulf War into Iraqi patterns of cancer, kidney diseases and other congenital disorders, according to WHO spokesman Gregory Hartl.

"The Iraqis have been saying for a while that there has been increase in cancers caused by depleted uranium," Hartl said. "If we have determined there has been an increase, then we will look at possible causes."

The United States has used depleted uranium in tens of thousands of munitions during the 1990 Persian Gulf War and the 1999 NATO air campaign against Yugoslavia. The extremely dense metal increases the ability of a projectile to penetrate armor.

New Lawsuit Accuses Denny's Of Racial Discrimination

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

A Los Angeles County family has filed a \$10-million lawsuit against Denny's, accusing the restaurant chain of racial discrimination for refusing to serve them.

The lawsuit filed this week in Los Angeles Superior Court comes as Advantica Restaurant Group Inc., Denny's parent company, has received widespread recognition for an unprecedented corporate make-over to erase an image as a company that routinely discriminates against minorities.

"What we have is a clear and blatant act of racial discrimination," said attorney Melanie E. Lomax, who represents the family of Marcia M. Hooks in the lawsuit. "Denny's continues to preach that they have reformed, but these things continue to happen. What we have is a pattern of discrimination against black people."

Hooks says she and 24 members of her immediate family went out for lunch on Feb. 18, the day after the funeral of her husband, Roy Hooks. The lawsuit alleges that the family had called a Denny's in Torrance, Calif., to arrange accommodations for a large party, but when they arrived they were forced to wait 1 hour, 45 minutes and were ultimately refused service.

Denny's investigated the complaint and found no discrimination. "There is no evidence whatsoever that the wait for service your clients received was due to their race," wrote Robert M. Barrett, Denny's vice president, in a letter to Lomax. "From the evidence we have gathered, efforts were made to serve your clients. While that service may not have been up to their expectations, there were, nonetheless, members of the group who were being seated when others in the group decided to leave."

The Hooks family disagreed. They said that not only did the restaurant manager refuse to seat them, he refused to acknowledge their presence during much of the long wait for service. They said they were refused seating even after they said they wouldn't mind if they were not seated together in a group.

Frenchman Is Hung Up on the Statue of Liberty

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

A publicity-seeking Frenchman's effort to land a motorized paraglider on the Statue of Liberty came to a tangled end Thursday when his chute got stuck on the statue's torch, leaving the man dangling 300 feet above New York Harbor.

Thierry Deveaux, 41, steered his paraglider, which uses a fanlike motor for propulsion, toward the outstretched hand of the 305-foot tall national monument Thursday morning.

With hundreds of tourists looking on, he overshot his mark. Deveaux, who uses the name "Terry Do" for his various stunts, did briefly manage to touch the torch with both feet before bouncing off.

Officers from the U.S. Park Police and the city Police Department's Harbor Unit converged on Liberty Island and dashed to the top of the statue after hearing reports of a man stuck on the torch.

"We just wanted to secure him as best we could because we didn't know if the parachute was going to give or anything," said park officer Derrick Amalbert said.

As Deveaux dangled from the torch, scores of people who were either in the 22-story statue or waiting in the lines below were evacuated in case the daredevil's parachute gave way and sent him crashing to the ground.

OPINION

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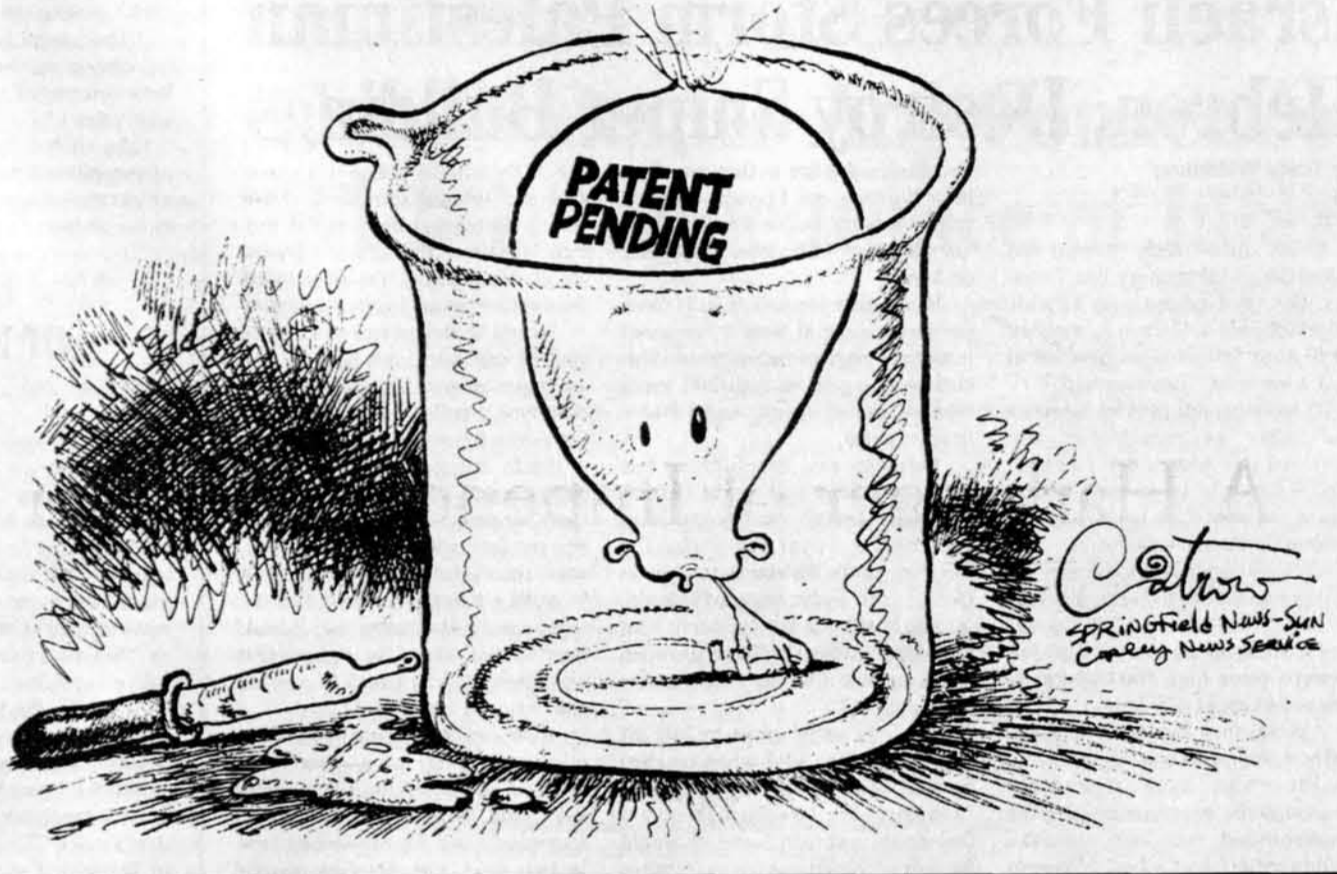
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Letters To The Editor

Show No Mercy

I commend Dan Tortorice ["The Real Progress of the Progressive Movement," August 22] for showing how the "progressive" movement is based on economic unreality.

I was disappointed, though, with the end of his column, where he states, "One cannot help but sympathize with the progressive movement. Its members have incredible empathy for the suffering of others." Here, he concedes that the progressives still have the moral high ground. They do not.

The real villain behind the progressives' faulty economics is the morality of altruism, the creed that one should live for the sake of others, but not for his own sake. As long as the progressives cling to altruism, they will continue to advocate policies that lead to poverty instead of prosperity, and suffering

instead of happiness. For this they deserve total, unqualified condemnation.

Michael E. Rolish '04

If It Ain't Broke, Don't Fix It

Liability is, of course, a driving force behind such policy changes as the housing of all freshmen on campus. The tragedy of 1997 could almost as easily have taken place in a dorm in 1997 (or happened to a non-freshman), and if it had, would we have seen the same reaction by the Institute? Probably not, since the students under closest MIT control would be faring worse than those once removed. In that case, there would be a crack-down on drinking in dorms, the fraternities would be off the hook, and life at MIT would

continue substantially unchanged.

But Scott Krueger died in a fraternity and now that all the naive, impressionable freshmen will be housed on campus, I hope for the sake of MIT's lawyers that nothing bad happens to them in the dorms. The Institute will have no one to blame but themselves (and the parents will blame them, too), and what will the next knee-jerk reaction be? By shelling out money to settle lawsuits and implementing huge policy changes, the Institute has painted themselves into a corner in case something like this happens again. Freshmen living in fraternities wasn't the problem, but MIT "fixed" it and announced they'd solved the problem of college students' binge drinking. The "solution" will open them up to even more liability. But at least we know that freshmen won't live and die in frat houses.

Christina Gehrke '99

Opinion Policy

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Dissents are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m.

two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Old Habits Die Hard

Tao Yue

Tomorrow will mark the end of an era.

At a quarter to one, the Class of 2005 will stand on the steps of building 10, facing MIT's living groups across Killian Court. Some freshmen will be eager, some confused, some afraid, others indifferent. The words "Let the Rush begin!" will ring through the air, and the upperclassmen will walk (not run) towards the freshmen, trying to grab as many as they can before the gathering in Killian Court disappears.

But if MIT's plans are completed on schedule, this Killian Kickoff will be the last. And not only will this class be the last to experience Rush as we know it, it will also be the last one to have a full year of Pass/No Record.

These changes were controversial when proposed, and it even been suggested that they will alter the entire character of MIT life. Housing all freshmen on campus will strip many FSILGs of new members, and Simmons Hall won't provide enough rooms to avoid overcrowding. The end of second-term Pass/No Record will force all freshmen to worry about getting grades higher than a C, possibly decimating student activities. In fact, even former MIT President Paul E. Gray, known for some very unpopular changes in student life in the 1980s, spoke out against ending second-term P/ NR grading.

While these events were very controversial when proposed, the controversy seems to have died down. Problem sets and projects left no time to complain about impending changes. Last year, there was hardly any talk of the end of Rush. I know about the angry student reaction only from upperclassmen and *The Tech's* archives. But I wouldn't bet that MIT students are cowed; they're just waiting for another issue on which to fight the administration.

After all, MIT students have a tradition of activism. The prospect of mandatory commons in the 1970s and 1980s resulted in massive student protests, sit-ins outside President Gray's office, and general student dissatisfac-

tion. Abolishing the traditional X-rated Registration Day film in 1985 led to weeks of angry discussion in *The Tech*, starting with flaming in letters to the editor and culminating in an editorial calling for the resignation of Dean of Student Affairs Shirley McBay.

This may merely prove that MIT students fight most fiercely for two human urges: eating and procreation. These are probably the same ones that our ape ancestors fought over back when a big black monolith (with dimensions of 1x4x9) dropped down on this planet and taught them how to use tools. But I'm digressing.

We don't just fight for immediate needs. In the 1960s, students at MIT, certainly less liberal than those at Berkeley, protested the Vietnam War. There were riots on Mass. Ave., with police firing tear gas and arresting students. Older editions of "How to GAMIT" actually advised students on actions to take

MIT students have a tradition of activism. Tomorrow may be the end of an era, but it won't be the end of the MIT student.

after getting arrested.

More recently, a spontaneous student occupation of The Dot, the circular piece of green grass in front of Building 54, derailed plans to build temporary offices on the grass. Just last term, angry students speaking at a forum thwarted plans to put Residential Coordinators in Senior House, which would have led to closer faculty supervision of students.

A cynic would point out that Vietnam War protests merely got Nixon elected, that the temporary offices were simply moved off the grass but are still in front of the Green Building, and that the RC position was renamed and planned for dorms other than Senior House.

But the situation isn't all that gloomy. Student action sometimes does make a differ-

ence. For example, mandatory meal plans, though implemented in 1980 despite student protests, have given way to a dollar-for-dollar declining balance system. That's a relief. Imagine eating Aramark food every day.

The important thing is not to give up. If students had accepted compulsory meal plans as irreversible, we'd be complaining about our plans just like students at other colleges do. Instead, we're now happily buying meals at food trucks and, yes, even choosing to eat at Aramark dining halls, but only when we feel like it. We may have tired of fighting the upcoming change in Rush, but I have no doubt that any future attacks by the administration on student life will provoke student reactions which are just as strong as the freshmen-on-campus proposal did.

Tomorrow will be the end of an era, but it won't be the end of the MIT student. The Class of 2005 will experience Rush and they'll see, just as we did, why it is worth keeping. And more importantly, they will see that other aspects of the MIT experience are worth keeping.

The administration will do well to keep this point in mind. A generation of MIT students that has never experienced Rush doesn't necessarily mean a generation of MIT students who will quietly accept all changes to student life. Isn't it better to listen to student ideas and work with us to make student life better? Last year, *The Tech's* editorial board praised Larry Benedict as the best friend students had. Maybe a day will come when we'll be able to look at the MIT administration in general as the students' friend. A friend with whom one has quarrels once in a while, but certainly not an enemy whose every move attacks students' freedom of choice.

The Class of 2005 knows little of the conflicts MIT students have had with administrators. But it will learn. And, I'm sure, it'll continue the MIT tradition of activism. Let's hope the administration realizes that there's no need to antagonize students. They are the alumni donors of the future. Tomorrow, the Rush will begin, but maybe it won't be the last time those words are called out across Killian Court on an August afternoon.

A Harbinger of Impending Doom

Christen M. Gray

Simmons Hall may open an era of further overcrowding and construction delays. The delayed finish of NW30, the new graduate student dorm, may have shown us just a few of the potential problems.

The new undergraduate dorm was originally designed and planned to relieve MIT's overcrowding. As a result of the 2002 decision inspired by the death of Scott S. Krueger '01, instead of having to house approximately 700 incoming freshmen, the Institute must now house over a thousand. Over the last 12 years the FSILGs have averaged 365 residential pledges. Simmons Hall will be able to provide beds for 320 of these comfortably. So where are the other 45 places going to come from? Well, there aren't exactly 45 extra places available. That's right, the overcrowding problem that supposedly drove Krueger to join a fraternity hasn't been relieved quite yet. MIT will start 2002 by overcrowding its brand new dorm, as well as further stretching the capacity of the older dorms. So much for relief.

Across the campus it seems as if everything built to be a double is now a triple; every room has one more occupant than originally intended. As hard as the adjustment to college life can be, overcrowded conditions can make hard times all the more difficult. One must get along with one's roommate at very close quarters with little personal space.

Beyond the straightforward numbers problems are some time scale problems that MIT may have to face. NW30, also known as "The Warehouse," was supposed to be finished by August 1. However, due to construction delays common to this sort of project, the dorm could not support residents until Tuesday, August 21st. This somehow came as a surprise to the Institute. Indeed the

only backup plan that they had in place was to house the graduate students in the University Park Hotel from August 15-22 at \$140 a night. To make up for the students not having kitchens available at The Warehouse, the Institute issued meal cards with \$20 per day for food expenses. Because the graduate students are allowed to move into their dorm rooms at any time between August 15 and

The 320 residents of Simmons Hall can't just be put up at University Park. If that is MIT's current plan, they'd better start working on Plan B.

the start of classes, the Institute could not actually be sure how many graduate students they would need to house each night. Some students were able to inform MIT that they definitely would not be moving in until September. So MIT only had to reserve enough rooms for approximately half of the graduate students living in The Warehouse.

So lets do some math. MIT paid for about sixty rooms a night at \$140 each plus \$20 for food daily times one week. That comes to a \$1120 mistake per student, \$67,000 in total. And only 25 of the hotel rooms were even used! Is this a logical and effective use of Institute funds?

On a larger scale, the 320 students of Simmons Hall next year can't just be put up in the University Park Hotel. If that is MIT's current plan, they'd better get cracking on Plan B. In fact the current plan for Simmons Hall does not even allow for an overlap of construction with the arrival of freshmen. The administra-

tion feels it can simply double-shift the workers and have work continue through the week-ends. This will raise the costs quite a bit, and would put the Institute in quite the tight spot if it fails.

Originally, all freshmen were to be housed on campus this year, but the construction of Simmons Hall was delayed by a year due to permit problems. Good news for this year's freshmen, who now have the liberty to engage in Rush and the option to live in an FSILG as a freshman. However, it may be bad news for the Institute if the building suffers more delays.

If Simmons Hall isn't finished by next year, will the administration have the sense to delay the 2002 Decision to become the 2003 Decision?

The change would be very difficult if delayed. The fact is that MIT would be violating truth-in-advertising by telling new freshmen and their parents up to that point that all freshmen would have housing on campus. This would also renege on some of the points in MIT's settlement with the Krueger family. No one would have budgeted for Rush activities either, making a spontaneous change implausible at best. All dorms would have to become ultra-overcrowded (imagine your triple as a quintet) until construction was completed.

The Simmons Hall construction was moved up a great deal with the Krueger death and settlement. The question is, was it moved up too hastily? Can the Institute reasonably plan around this dorm being completed by next fall? A wiser course of action would be to have a buffer year. Plan to house students in the new dorm next year while maintaining Rush and letting freshmen live in the FSILGs.

It should be interesting to see over the next year what decisions and backup plans MIT puts into effect.

The Way Of the Simpsons

Kris Schnee

What is grown "deep in the jungle by the inmates of a Guatemalan insane asylum?" What food has one million calories, thirty pounds of butter per square inch, and chocolate so dark light cannot escape? What does Ralph's leprechaun tell him to do?

Come on, admit it — you watch "The Simpsons," and you probably have your own favorite episodes. The show is a subject of more common public interest than national politics; if you talk about Sideshow Bob or Moe Szylak, a lot of people will know who you mean. "The Simpsons" is the show historians will watch when studying late 20th-century American culture.

The show reflects the obsessively self-referential nature of modern culture. FBI agents Mulder and Scully from "The X-Files" cross over into Springfield for an episode. Bart and Lisa each have merchandise named for them on the show, while Itchy and Scratchy have an entire theme park "a la Westworld" and "Jurassic Park." The Simpsons get a teenage tenant named Roy, who's a human version of Poochie, a cartoon dog played by Homer on the Itchy & Scratchy show, which is a parody of Tom & Jerry. Self-reference is funny in itself because of its surreality, and "The Simpsons" takes it farther by showing, accurately, what we think about a wide variety of people and institutions.

Itchy & Scratchy, the cartoon cat and mouse who brutalize each other on Krusty the Clown's show, are a comment on modern entertainment. An extreme version of the old Tom & Jerry cartoons, they show how much today's television and movies thrive on bloodshed. The fictional cartoon's history also follows real television history. In an "old" black-and-white spoof of "From Here To Eternity," Itchy & Scratchy advertise Laramie cigarettes while a black butler says, "I don't know what's in 'em; I just know I can't stop smokin' 'em!" A silent cartoon has text panels declaring scenes such as "Itchy runs afoul of an Irishman." A WWII propaganda episode has the cat and mouse dismembering Hitler as well as each other. The cartoons make a good parody of our attitude towards Disney and the rest of television's shady history.

Much of "The Simpsons'" humor comes from its willingness to show things we suspect about the real world but can't prove, and to say what we want to say but are too polite to express. A beer company exec admits his company has no ideas for innovation, standing in front of a machine that pours "Duff Lite" and "Duff Dark" from the same pipe. In the future, Ned says he went blind because he had the laser eye surgery everyone thought was so great in the 90s. Political parodies are common on the show, but the best one is not Clinton (who hits on Marge) or even Sideshow Bob (who runs Reagan's "Willie Horton" ad during a campaign) but Mayor Quimby. Quimby is suspiciously close to certain Massachusetts political figures with his corruption and philandering. Like our vision of politicians in general, he attends ribbon-cuttings without knowing what they're for, makes inane promises to name expressways after "Matlock," and moans "Again?" when told there's an election in November. There's a little of the politician's perspective offered too, such as the incident when Springfield voters want a massive Bear Patrol program (with Stealth bombers) but don't want to pay for it.

"The Simpsons" is a spiritual show, too. There are already two books analyzing the philosophy and religion presented on the show: *The Gospel According To the Simpsons* and *The D'oh! of Homer*. Characters like Lisa, Ned, Bart, and Mr. Burns live by very different kinds of morality. There are several episodes devoted to pious Ned's loss of Maude and the blandness of his life; another features the "Movementarian" cult while poking fun at its similarities to mainstream faiths. I can personally identify with Lisa and Marge's argument over the existence of angels. The show manages to tweak everyone's nose while giving each viewpoint a hearing.

"The Simpsons" is more than entertainment. It is the reference book for the way we live. The real joke, though, will be seeing what future historians who watch it will think of us.

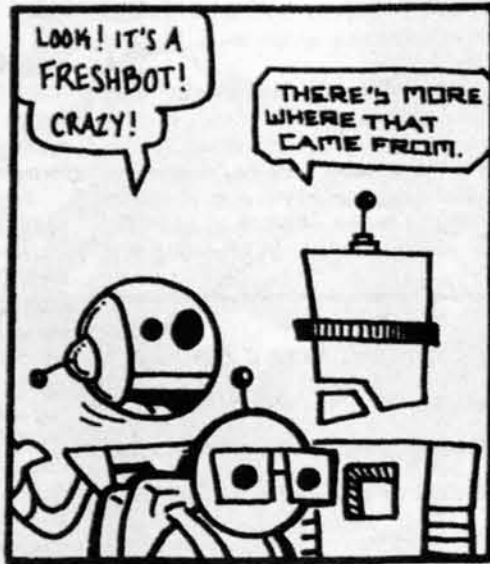
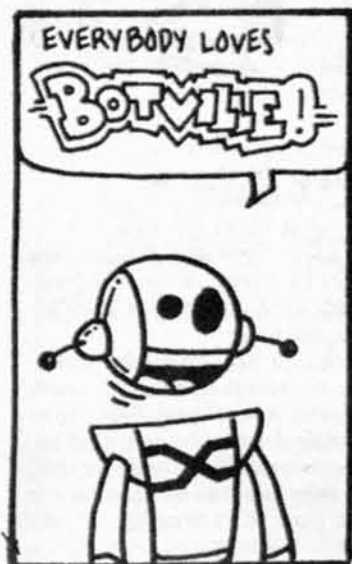
(Answers: 1. Chief Wiggum's "merciless" chili peppers. 2. A deadly eclair. 3. "He tells me to burn things.")



Join Opinion!

<opinion@the-tech.mit.edu>

Stop by W20-483 or call x3-1541 and ask for Jyoti or Kris



Fun With Clip Art

Aaron Isaksen



"Just how you like it, Sir. Fresh from the co-pilot's bladder, with three ice cubes to cool it off."

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



Dilbert®

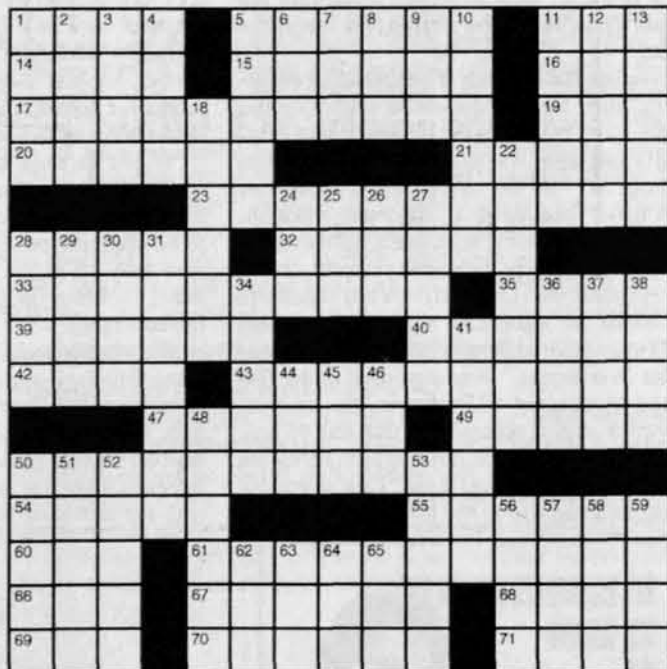
by Scott Adams



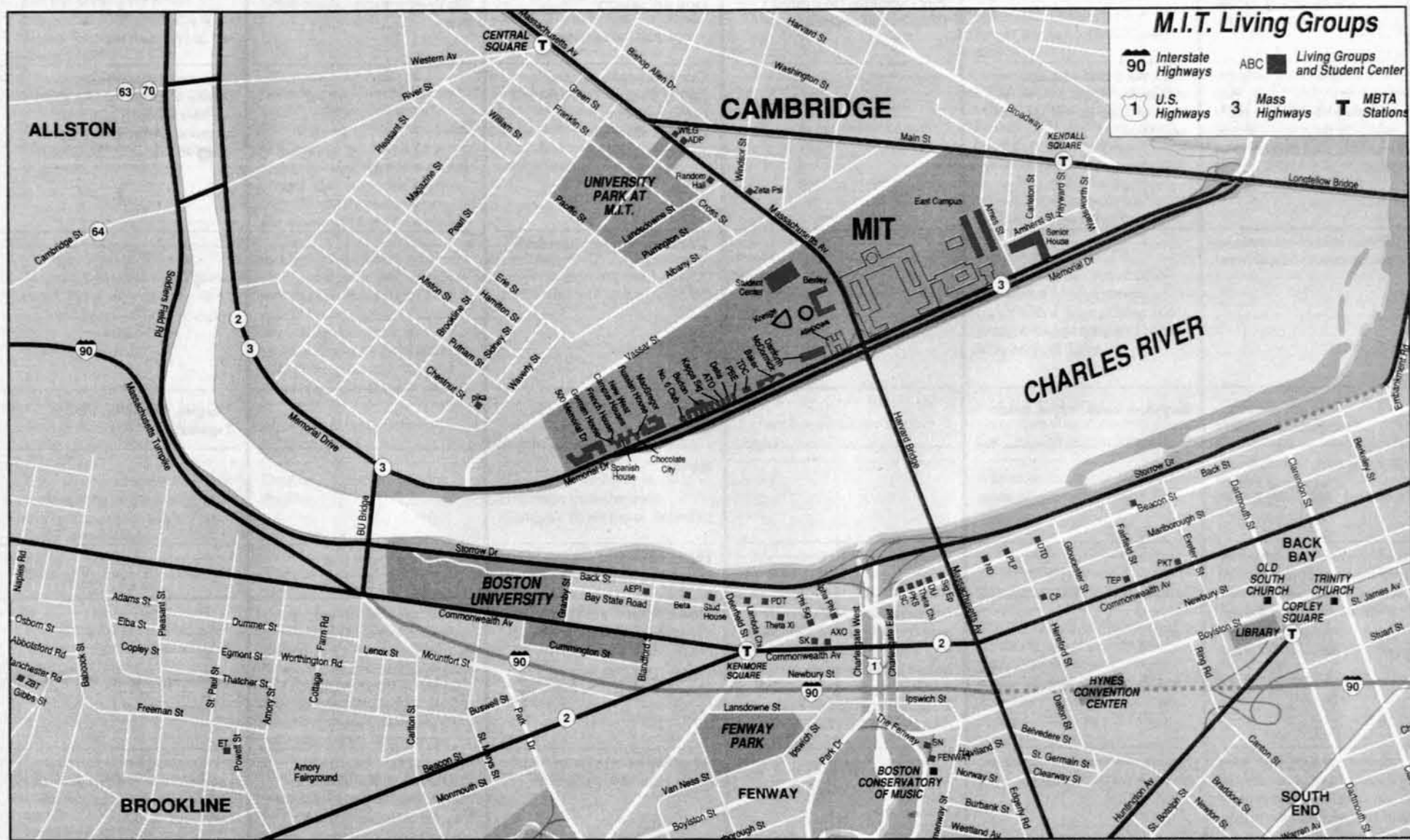
Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 17

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 47 Paris tower | 6 Actress Lupino |
| 1 Johnnycake | 49 Creative movement of the '60s | 7 Coal mine |
| 5 First-rate | 50 Scamp | 8 Also |
| 11 Qns. or Bx., e.g. | 54 Raise spirits | 9 Yours and mine |
| 14 Previous spouses | 55 Electropositive elements | 10 Hitchcock classic |
| 15 Hateful | 60 Do something | 11 Southern backwater |
| 16 Citrus drink | 61 All-in-one meal | 12 "Waiting for Lefty" dramatist |
| 17 Of breathing | 66 Lobster eggs | 13 View twice |
| 19 Affirmative | 67 Vowel mutation | 18 Practical trainee |
| 20 Harmonized | 68 Semi-eternity? | 22 Like traction devices |
| 21 \$100 | 69 Douglas' isle | 24 Zeta follower |
| 23 1930 Wallace Beery movie | 70 Kissers | 25 Sack |
| 28 Spout off | 71 Say it ___ so! | 26 Eisenhower's nickname |
| 32 Adopt | | 27 Fellas |
| 33 '85 & '89 Cy Young winner | | 28 Peak in Thessaly |
| 35 Slender | DOWN | 29 Downpour |
| 39 Earth pigment | 1 Gilpin of "Frasier" | 30 Incite |
| 40 "Honor Thy Father" author | 2 Cart pullers | 31 Most on edge |
| 42 Social insects | 3 Loch in the Highlands | 34 Israeli seaport |
| 43 Of part of the alimentary canal | 4 Spot | 36 Musical Home |
| | 5 Flambeau | 37 Munich's river |
| | | 38 Thaw |
| | | 41 Makes amends |
| | | 44 Org. of Jaguars and Panthers |
| | | 45 Part of AT&T |
| | | 46 Samuel's mentor |
| | | 48 Froze over |
| | | 50 Buy new weapons |
| | | 51 Aluminum company |
| | | 52 Eucharist plate |
| | | 53 Leaves out |
| | | 56 Siamese, today |
| | | 57 Mimics |
| | | 58 "The ___ in Winter" |
| | | 59 Mailed |
| | | 62 Rhea's relative |
| | | 63 1994 U.S. Open golf champion |
| | | 64 Mas' mates |
| | | 65 Expected |



Guide to FSILGs



COURTESY OFFICE OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE AND STUDENT LIFE PROGRAMS

Fraternalities, sororities, and independent living groups represent a broad spectrum of backgrounds, tastes, and interests at the Institute. Each particular living group has its defining characteristics and occupies a unique niche at the Institute. Many MIT graduates remain in touch with the people who they lived with for the rest of their lives.

This collection of information about FSILGs is intended to provide freshmen with information that goes beyond the basic questions.

The Tech Established 1881 Orientation 2001

All fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups were asked to respond to the same series of questions. Any question without an answer signifies that the FSILG chose not to respond to that question. FSILGs who did not respond to any questions weren't included in this guide.

However, we believe the questions we ask can only tell you so much about each of MIT's independent living options. Therefore this guide is meant only as a starting point. What is most important is the questions that *you* ask, and we hope that this guide provides a place to begin.

Compiled by: Dana Levine

Photography: Eric J. Cholankeril
Roshan Baliga

Design: Jordan Rubin
Gayani Tillekeratne
Joy Forsythe

Questions



How many members?
(residential/non-res./gender)

How many new members are you targeting (res./non-res.)?

What is your house bill (or other fee) for the coming term?

How do the eating arrangements work at your house (Do you have a cook? How many meals do they serve? If not, how does your meal system work?)

What kind of recreational facilities does your house have?

How are the room occupancies divided?

What types of rooms do freshmen usually live in?

Do freshmen live with other freshmen or upperclassmen?

Briefly describe the key points of your new member-orientation program.

Do you require your new members to participate in on-campus or community activities? If so, describe briefly.

What are some of the most popular extracurricular activities among members of your group?

What are some of the most unique activities that members of your group participate in?

What are your group's major social events/activities?

What is your most exciting Rush activity?

Tell us anything else that you would like people to know about your group.

Alpha Chi Omega



24/41/female

quota (set by Panhel)

We have a chef who cooks dinner five nights a week. We have an open pantry stocked with food.

singles, doubles, triples, quads

No, we don't require participation, but we encourage it.

Dance Troupe, Varsity and Intramural Athletics, Vocal and Instrumental Music Groups, Student Publications, ROTC, Performing Arts, Undergraduation Association, Interfraternity Council

sky-diving, scuba-diving, snowboarding

Annual Campus Fondue Party, Philanthropic Lip Sync Competition, Carnation Ball

Sororities

Alpha Epsilon Phi



0/23/female

\$450 for new members, \$240 every semester thereafter (dues not a housebill)

6-8 weeks long, with weekly new member education meetings until initiation. Last week before initiation is Inspiration Week, with extra events and activities attended by both new members and current sisters.

ballroom dancing, vocal groups, crew, instrumental groups, UROP

EMT, photography, diving, Habitat for Humanity during Alternative Spring Break

Mister for You Sister blind date party, mixers with local fraternities, one formal each semester at a local hotel

AEPhi welcomes exceptional women of diverse backgrounds who are looking forward to contributing to the sorority and to MIT.

Alpha Phi



60/40/female

around 30 new members

\$2860 per semester, includes food and laundry

Our cook makes dinner Sunday through Thursday, and our open kitchen is always stocked.

TV room, rooftop, treadmill

several doubles and triples, a few singles, one quad

triples

Either other freshmen or upperclassmen.

New members get to know the sisters and learn about the history of Alpha Phi.

All sisters participate in Alpha Phi's philanthropy activities.

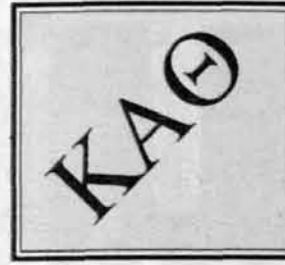
Class council, sports, Dance Troupe, acapella groups, music.

MIT Student Pugwash, Amateur Radio Society, MIT Student Ambassadors

Alpha Phlea Market - our large annual philanthropy event
Bordeaux Ball - our spring formal, All-Campus Mixer - all of MIT is invited to our house for a holiday party

Alpha Phi is a diverse, amazing group of women. It is sisterhood, a home, social opportunities, community service, and scholarship. We're looking forward to meeting you during rush!

Kappa Alpha Theta



0/75/female

We don't have a definite target for the size of the pledge class.

During the Open Houses we supply information about our dues.

Weekly meetings in Sept. and early Oct. explain chapter operations and give freshmen a chance to know their pledge class. Program also features a retreat, optional mentoring, and socials with sisters.

Our dance arcade, Theta Playstation, raises money for charity; participation is mandatory. All other service events are optional.

Student government, performance groups, cultural groups, and athletics are popular extracurricular activities.

We have a Certified EMT, ROTC scholarships, others Choreograph dances or take salsa lessons; finishing the Boston Marathon with less than a month of training.

We have mixers with fraternities, a formal dinner dance and a semi formal. We also have low-key events like Senior spring break trip, chapter banquets, and tea with alumnae.

Rush is awesome. Come to Tours and the Open Houses on Saturday and Sunday (aren't you just a lil bit curious?).

A group of Thetas who want to live together are boarding at the SigEp Annex because we do not own a house. This is MIT-approved housing, and the sisters who live there enjoy it a lot. It's a nice place and we're happy that SigEp was able to help us out. Chapter funds don't go to the house at all, and we are not rushing out of there. If you have any questions, just ask us during Panhel Recruitment.

Sigma Kappa



24/35/female

The cook prepares dinner Sunday through Tuesday, and we have an open pantry at all times. All sisters are welcome to dinner at the house.

3 singles, 4 doubles, 1 triple, 2 quints

They can live in any room they want as long as the house as a whole is satisfied with the total room arrangement.

That, or by themselves.

We have a 1-2 hour introduction to the general workings of the house.

We encourage new members to participate in many activities on and off campus as part of our sisterhood.

sports (field hockey, soccer, cross country, gymnastics, rugby, crew, etc) and leadership roles

Rugby, Equestrian Club, terms abroad (South America, the Netherlands, ...)

We hold a semiformal in the fall, our annual Violet Ball in the spring, and a wide variety of mixers with fraternities.

Come check out Panhel Recruitment to find out!

Fenway House



9/0/male 5/0/female

Between 5 and 7.

For the coming term we expect the house bill (which covers food and laundry) to be about \$1800.

We have an open pantry that is stocked by a house member who acts as a steward. Members can cook individually, in groups, whatever.

We have a piano, TV with Direct TV, several video game consoles of varying ages, and a huge library of book ranging from old textbooks to Robert Jordan.

9 singles, 3 doubles, and 2 triples.

They can live in any room they want as long as the house as a whole is satisfied with the total room arrangement.

That, or by themselves.

We have a 1-2 hour introduction to the general workings of the house.

No. New Members are not required to do anything of that sort, but a few of us do that kind of thing on our own.

APC, Anime Club. We have people in several performance groups and one or two Guild Members.

One of our members came back recently from the Classic Games Expo in Vegas. Some of us tend to have an interest in swords and swordfighting.

The Seven Deadly Sins Halloween Party.

While we have our usual bobbing for Hostess products and going to the beach, our most exiting activity is sitting around, playing games, and watching movies like we always do.

We're lame. We're kinda messy, but we are real people and we don't fuck around with people. We have one important rule and that's to respect each other. That and 'The banister is not structural'.

Number 6 Club



40/5 coed (50/50 m/f)

We don't target a specific #, but we prefer all residential.

\$2400

Open kitchen for breakfast and lunch (cold cuts, cereal, etc). Dinner is served Sun.-Fri., as well as a Sun. brunch; there's no point in ever learning the cooks name, because they come and go so often. Hopefully our new one will work out (fingers crossed).

Sundeck with a kiddie pool (cute), pool table, tv/vcr/dvd/ stereo, baby grand piano (also cute), library, computer room, large living room, bar, two cats, and five fireplaces (which can only be used on days that the Cambridge Fire Dept. is closed)

21 singles, 5 two-room doubles, 6 doubles.

Doubles, or two-room doubles.

Both.

There are new-member meetings every other Sun., for 3 hours until Dec., as well as several day trips on Saturdays, and 1 2-night retreat to Mt. Washington in Nov. We have a very strict no-hazing policy.

Nothing asides from going to class once in a while (or at least to exams).

MIT Symphony Orchestra (3 concertmasters in the last 4 years); Varsity and IM soccer, volleyball, and squash; many ethnic groups and organizations on campus; cooking; MITOC excursions; smoking, wearing tight black pants, and all the other standard euro-trashy stuff.

We like to believe that each one of us is equally unique.

We have 1 major open-house party each term, and an in-house talent show in the fall, as well as small parties almost every weekend.

Cafe Six, Sunday afternoon and evening, where many of the member of the house cook dishes from their home countries. The food is excellent, and the atmosphere is very relaxed. If anything, at least come for the crepes and nutella, yum.

The No. 6 Club is usually about 70% international students, if you count Texans as international, and about 60% if you don't. We don't target any specific nationality, ethnicity, religion, or sex during rush, and we can make a pretty sure bet that we have the most diverse house on campus. While this does lead to difficulties sometimes, it is always interesting, and (almost) always fun.

Pika



12/0/male 14/0/female

5-8 residential.

Can vary between \$1600-\$2000, which includes all food, laundry, parking, facilities, etc.

Residents cook a dinner every night, an open pantry is kept well-stocked for other meals. Vegan and vegetarian options always available.

TV room w/ DVD, ping-pong, house bikes, basketball hoop, tree house, and ample community space.

7 singles and 12 doubles. People can voluntarily triple.

There is no seniority at pika. Freshmen have the same chance at all rooms as Seniors.

Whoever they choose.

Freshmen are immediately full members, there is no program.

No, some choose to.

Film/animation, singing, mechanical and robotic competitions, dancing, the Media Lab, theatre, and sailing.

The Harvard animation class, original astrobiology, and massive construction projects.

Several house parties each semester, people throw their own smaller things together, and we do several large dinners each year (with faculty, with alumni, for Christmas, for Thanksgiving, etc).

Mohawks and Tattoos.

Surveys can only tell you so much; come check us out, see how we fit.

Student House



19/0

8 residential

\$330 per month

There is always an open kitchen. Students cook meals for pay or house hours six nights a week

Pool table, full drum set, video games, dvd/mp3 player, 200 cable channels, sports/athletic equipment

1 quad; 2 triples; 6 doubles; 6 singles

doubles

it is their choice

Upperclassmen provide assistance to freshman in any way possible

no

musical interests (playing guitar, drums, and almost every other kind of instrument), ultimate frisbee, rock climbing, hiking, outdoors activities, KEYS program, Habitat for Humanity, lacrosse, track

fall and spring dinner; IM sports; Christmas party

International Dinner with late night activities

Cheese Cake and a cappella!!! Brown's a cappella group, the Jaberwocks, is continuing its tradition of serenading the women of WILG on Saturday evening. Afterwards we're serving cheesecake made by our talented house members.

WILG is a diverse group of women looking for active, energetic new members. We encourage any one who is interested to stop by for a tour.

Women's Independent Living Group



31/0/female

We are targeting between 10 and 20 residential members

Our house bill varies from semester to semester, but ranges between \$2,000 and \$2,300.

WILG members cook for each other 6 nights a week. Residents do not have to cook, but if they do they get paid. We also have lunch each school day and an open pantry and fruit closet along with a wide selection of breakfast foods.

Our house has two TV lounges, a VCR, a music practice area, a patio, a computer room with a laser printer, and lounges for studying and socializing on each floor.

A combination of singles, "doubles," as well as two "quads."

Freshmen can live in all of the types of rooms!

Freshmen can live with upperclassmen or other freshmen.

WILG has NO pledge program or official new member program. We do have an officer called membership coordinator who helps freshmen get used to life at WILG and at MIT in general.

No

WILG residents are active in all facets of MIT life. Athletes in crew, field hockey, ice hockey, soft ball, basket ball, and fencing; members in concert band and MIT symphony orchestra. Many residents participate in community service through out the year and are active in preprofessional organizations.

WILG girls participate in Crew, NSBE, A capella, AISES, the Golf Team, are members of IFC Exec, and major in Physics!!!

We have a joint party with ADP (next door) every fall called London Fog, and we have a variety of mixers, socials, and informal study-breaks.

Cheese Cake and a cappella!!!

Epsilon Theta



9/0/male 11/0/female

We don't give out a specific number of beds.

\$2,600

Our cook makes us 7 meals a week, including dinner Monday through Thursday and on Saturday, and lunch Saturday and Sunday.

a downstairs lounge

Quads, triples, doubles or singles; chosen on an equal basis.

Freshmen usually live in doubles to quads their first term

Freshmen live with 1-3 roommates, mostly upperclassmen.

We run meetings to help our pledges orient themselves with the house.

No

APC, Assassins' Guild, Concert Choir, juggling













Ultimate Frisbee, stuffed animal hacking

We have a few parties each term

Ye Olde Road Rallye

We have quiet hours during the term to help with studies and upperclassmen are always willing to help freshmen with their studies.

Independent Living Groups

Questions	Alpha Delta Phi	Alpha Epsilon Pi	Alpha Tau Omega	Beta Theta Pi	Chi Phi	Delta Kappa Epsilon	Delta Upsilon	Kappa Sigma	Phi Beta Epsilon	Phi Sigma Kappa	Phi Kappa Sigma
											
How many members? (residential/non-res./gender)	40/0/male	32/3/male	50/0/male	32/0/male	40/0/male	38/0/male	34/0/male	41/0/male	32/0/male	38/3/male	24/0/male
How many new members are you targeting (res./non-res./)?	15+		15	10-14 (residential)	8 to 12 residential		11 Residential		15	15, residential only	
What is your house bill (or other fee) for the coming term?	\$2,700	\$2600	\$2700	\$650/month	monthly rent \$575, monthly living fee >\$100	\$2600/term includes everything	\$2,900	\$2650	\$645/month	~\$4800	\$5500
How do the eating arrangements work at your house (Do you have a cook? How many meals do they serve? If not, how does your meal system work?)	Our Chef, Bobby Mac, prepares 11 lunches and dinners a week. The lunches are buffet style. Brothers cook breakfast during the week for a total of 16 weekly meals. Members prepare food during the weekend using food from the open pantry.	A professional chef prepares 6 dinners per week. A kosher option is provided with every meal. Cereal, Milk, and Soda are always available, and fresh bagels are delivered twice weekly. Walk-in pantry.	Cook cooks 10 meals a week, lunch and dinner Sunday to Thursday. We have an open kitchen that is fully stocked with drinks, snacks and food for brothers to cook	Jim the Cook supplies dinners Mon-Thurs, while the freshmen show off their pizza-making skills Friday nights. There is also a fully stocked open kitchen, and our cook makes sandwiches for lunch everyday.	We have a full time chef that prepares dinner and pack lunches. There is an open pantry and kitchen policy, which are always stocked with food of our choice.	Our chef prepares Breakfast, Lunch served 3 times a day (to accommodate schedules). Dinner 6 days a week	Our cook makes lunch and dinner 5 days a week. Snacks and beverages are available for sign-out.	A cook serves lunch and dinner on weekdays. Our pantry is open at all times for meals on the weekends and for breakfast.	We have a cook who prepares all our meals. Our cook prepares three lunches every day (to work around everyone's schedules) as well as dinner.	18 meals/week	We have a gourmet chef who cooks three course dinners Sunday through Thursday. We also have an open kitchen which is always stocked with plenty of food for breakfast and lunch
What kind of recreational facilities does your house have?	We have two patios/decks, a baby grand piano, a hot tub room, a weight-lifting room, a theatre room, 7 lounges and a pub, a pool table, a workshop with mill and lathe.	TV with satellite dish, pool table, dart board, foosball table, big stereo system, grand piano, roof-top	Pool Table, Roof deck Jacuzzi, fully equipped Weight Room, Poker Room, Big Screen TV with DSS and Surround Sound.	Weight room, pool table, lounge, walk-in refrigerator, fire escapes...	Pool, foosball, table tennis, weight room, big screen home theatre, baby grand piano, the largest dance floor of any living group	We have a basketball court in our parking lot, regulation pool table, ping-pong table	Weightroom, Roofdeck, Big Screen TV, Pool Table, Foosball Table, Ping-Pong Table	Weight room, big screen TV, pool table, foosball, roofdeck, ping pong, poker room	A pool room, TV room, weight room, pingpong table, roofdeck	DSS with surround sound, roofdeck, 3 lounges, Billiards, Foosball, weight room	We have a brand new nine-foot, solid maple pool table. We also have a weight room and tournament ping-pong table and foosball table. We recently bought a home entertainment system with a 61" big screen TV, DVD player, and deluxe sound system
How are the room occupancies divided?	All rooms are singles.	quads-3 • tripples-4 doubles-6 • singles-11	2-room triples, singles for juniors and seniors get singles	Varies; generally: 1-2 triples, 10-15 doubles, 10-15 singles.	4 singles, 8 doubles, 3 triple, 5 quads	2-room doubles and triples, as well as singles	Rooms are mostly triples with a few doubles and quads.	1/2 in Singles, 1/4 in doubles and 1/4 in triples	9 singles and 12 triples which can also be doubles	2 quads, 7 triples, 10 doubles, 3 singles	Doubles, Triples
What types of rooms do freshmen usually live in?	They live in singles. Rooms are assigned through a housing lottery at the end of each term. Seniority is a factor.	spacious quads/triples	Rooms are divided into sleep room and study rooms so brothers are afforded whatever privacy they desire.	Freshmen generally live in doubles first semester; second semester, freshmen live on one floor (doubles and triples).	Freshmen get first pick and allowed to live in all of the main floor rooms.	Freshmen live in triples and doubles	Freshmen tend to live in triples and quads.	doubles and triples	Freshmen are all housed in triples or doubles	doubles, triples, quads	Doubles, Triples
Do freshmen live with other freshmen or upperclassmen?		freshmen	freshmen live in 2 room triples with 2 older brothers	Paired with an upperclassman for the first semester.	At least one upperclassmen; possibly other freshmen.	Other freshmen	Generally housed with a freshman and an upperclassman.	upperclassmen	With an upperclassmen; then possibly with other freshmen	yes	Upperclassmen
Briefly describe the key points of your new member-orientation program.	Our orientation program focuses on introducing the new members to each other, the current brothers and our rich culture and history as members of Alpha Delta Phi.	Developing relationships with brothers through personal interviews, building friendships within the pledge class through group activities including a retreat to NH, learning chapter/organization history.	• help with MIT assimilation, classes, sports, extra curricular activities • assimilate pledges into running of the house • career planning	Learning the lore, planning a party, planning a community service event, cleaning the kitchen once or twice a week, general pledge class unity.	Our award-winning new member education program aims to teach the operations of the fraternity, the history of Chi Phi, and doing so by letting pledges experience a little of our history and traditions.	Pledge training usually orients around familiarity with local area as well as national and local fraternity/history	Pledge trip through Boston, Pledge trip to Montreal, Pledge house improvement. New members are also given full voting rights and are encouraged to hold house offices.	The new member program lasts a full term; focuses on acquainting pledges with Kappa Sigma, MIT, and the Boston area. Heavy emphasis is placed on achieving a balance between academics and an active social life.	Our pledge program helps freshmen adjust to life at MIT while getting to know brothers and other pledges. The program is devoted to teaching leadership and responsibility as well as having a good time.	The focus is about integrating freshmen into the house so they can enjoy where they live.	Our new member education program provides freshmen with experiences, both exciting and challenging, which promote skills and attitudes, invaluable both within the fraternity and throughout their lives.
Do you require your new members to participate in on-campus or community activities? If so, describe briefly.	Yes, each new member is required to participate in at least a one-day community service activity.	New members are encouraged to participate in philanthropy events, Hillel, and other student organizations (The Tech, JIFC, music groups, etc).	community service activities every semester	Pledges are supposed to complete a number of hours of community service.	Chi Phi holds annual community service events on campus—participation recommended. Other activities are optional but we get a high turnout rate.	Yes. We encourage our new members to perform community service projects such as habitat for humanity or boys and girls club.	Once a term our house organizes a community service project which all members are required to attend.	No specific requirements, however active participation in the community is strongly encouraged.	Pledges are encouraged to participate in community service events such as City Days, City Year, and volunteering for the Boston Marathon.	Yes, City Days: 1 day program helping students in the Cambridge community.	No
What are some of the most popular extracurricular activities among members of your group?	Varsity sports, theatre troupes and poetry competitions, intramural sports.	Sports (IM: ice hockey, softball, soccer, football, ultimate, water polo, tennis, foosball, pool), Music (orchestra, wind ensemble, jazz band, chamber society), UROP, The Tech	varsity sports (over 60% of brotherhood), logarithms, IFC, student government	Betas are on the MIT crew, sailing, football, ultimate, bowling, tennis and baseball teams. We also play just about every IM sport.	Chi Phi is a diverse group and hobbies range from: skiing and snowboarding, photography, rock climbing, woodworking, guitar, chess, and so on.	Varsity Football, Rugby, Varsity Wrestling, Varsity Baseball, Varsity Hockey, Varsity Soccer, Varsity Water Polo, Varsity Lacrosse, Intramural Sports, Jiu-Jitsu, Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Design Build and Fly	Water Polo, Soccer, Lacrosse, Crew, all IM sports, Snowboarding, Skiing, MIT Logarithms, Golf	Varsity athletics, intramural athletics, Inter-fraternity Council, Student Council	Sports, clubbing/partying, gaming	Ultimate Frisbee, hockey (both ice and roller), Hawaiian club, crew, music	Crew, Basketball, Soccer, Billiards, Ultimate, Football
What are some of the most unique activities that members of your group participate in?	We often have "Cafe Thursdays," nights where we gather together with members of the community in a coffee house atmosphere to share arts and literature.	Rock Climbing, SCUBA diving, stand-up comedy	rugby, ring committee, coaches for a youth soccer league.	Skateboarding, record spinning, playing in bands, rock climbing, SCUBA diving, sky diving, flying, mountain biking, etc.	Chi Phi plans numerous retreats throughout the year and we've gone camping on the Boston Islands, skiing in Vermont, and hiking at Mount Cardigan.		Rock Climbing, Photography, Rebuilding Cars	LUCHA, AISES	Our house has professional DJ's, actors, jugglers, b-boys, and musicians and movie fanatics	Snowboarding, golf, DJing	Fencing, Theater, Wrestling, Karate, Jiu-Jitsu, Model UN
What are your group's major social events/activities?	Campus-wide parties, formals, house retreats, cafe thursdays.	formals, mixers, open parties, cider night, ski trip to VT, trip to lodge in NH	parties, mixers, Intramurals, sporting events around Boston, enjoying Boston nightlife	Open dry parties about once a month with dope bands from the area.	Chi Phi holds one major party a month plus a number of pubs and mixers. Successful parties include our annual Boheme, and seasonal parties such as the Position Party which attracted over 500 guests.	Mixers (1 a month), Semi-formal Dinners (2 a month), Formal Dinners (2 a term), Pub Nights (weekly), Large open parties (1 a month)		Christmas Formal, Mardi Gras Party, Spring Boat Cruise, Mega Party	Great roofdeck parties while the weather permits. Two formals during the year and various mixers with sororities at MIT and BU.	Cage Rave Dance Party, Around the World Party, Marathon Day Party at 1-mile-to-go of the Boston Marathon with Radio Station WBCN, 3 Formals: Fall, Winter, Spring	Parties, Wednesday night social, Formals, Fraternity/ Sorority Mixers
What is your most exciting Rush activity?	Luau and Dance co-sponsored with WILG.	Decide for yourself.	canoe trip	Pimps and Hoes Bowling	It's a tie between paintballing in an abandoned ghost town and the snowball fight		Our rock climbing trip to Quincy Quarries	Go-kart Racing	The most "exciting" activity would either be paintball or rock climbing but the most enjoyable is probably the boat cruise through Boston Harbor	Ice hockey and skating at the BU Ice Rink	Of the many exciting activities, Monday around 1pm we'll be heading to the beach to JETSKI and enjoy the summer sun.
Tell us anything else that you would like people to know about your group.	As a large house with an all single living environment, we have the opportunity to share in the diversity of our members and the culture of a Greek letter society, while each being able to call a small part of the amazing house our own.			Come chill with us, swap some stories, and meet some of the most interesting, diverse and passionate people at MIT.	Chi Phi is the oldest national fraternity in existence, we are celebrating our 128th anniversary this year. Even though we don't have the most members, the close relationships built between the brothers, alumni and between chapters are some of the strongest of any fraternity. Come visit Chi Phi this rush and find out why we are the tightest group on campus.			We're a very laid-back group of guys who work hard when necessary but know how to have a good time. Come check us out and see for yourself.	The interests of our house are diverse, so one of the major benefits of living here is the exposure to new activities, sports, and even foods.		

Questions	Phi Kappa Theta	Pi Lambda Phi	Sigma Chi	Sigma Nu	Sigma Phi Epsilon	Tau Epsilon Phi	Theta Chi	Theta Delta Chi	Theta Xi	Zeta Beta Tau	Zeta Psi
How many members? (residential/non-res./gender)	24/5/male	17/3/male	0/5/male	30/0/male	19/1/male	24/0/male	24/0/male	38/0/male	27/8/male	44/0/male	35/4/male
How many new members are you targeting (res./non-res.)?	~ 11 residential pledges; we may accept non-residential pledges	15/0	We are aiming for 10 residential new members.	10 residential/10 non-residential		8-16	10-12 Residential	Approximately \$5000	12/No Target		15. all-residential.
What is your house bill (or other fee) for the coming term?	\$4500	~\$2800	\$2500	rent and meal plan = \$2,250 dues/activities budget = about \$250	House Bill for In house Brothers is \$2,950 for out of house brothers is \$500.	\$2200	\$2100		House bill: \$2650		\$2600/semester; includes 10 meals/week, road trips, formals, and utilities (including laundry)
How do the eating arrangements work at your house (Do you have a cook? How many meals do they serve? If not, how does your meal system work?)	We have a cook who provides lunch and dinner on weekdays.	Stocked pantry (for breakfast and lunch), catered dinners (optional)	We have our own cook. We have self service breakfast in the mornings and our cook prepares meals five days a week on the weekdays.	catered dinners 5 nights a week, breakfast and lunch foods available all the time	We have a professional chef who cooks breakfast, lunch, and dinner every day there is classes. We also have an open pantry which members have access to at all times.	Everyone chooses to either be on or off house food. House food consists of cooking once per week on a cooking team and eating a cooked meal 6 nights per week. Members off of house food, buy and cook their own meals.	Brothers volunteer to cook and are paid. Dinner daily except Saturday. Midnight Snack daily except Friday and Saturday.	We have a full time cook who serves lunch to order and dinner at 6pm Mon-Saturday.	Have cook. 12 meals a week from Monday to Saturday. Open pantry for breakfast and snacks at any time	Open, fully stocked kitchen always. We have a full time cook, who prepares 5 dinners a week (Mon Thurs & Sun) and breakfast 3 times a week. Non-vegetarian and vegetarian options are served for dinner.	5-star chef Steve prepares 5 dinners and 5 lunches per week. The kitchen is always open for our own creative culinary efforts.
What kind of recreational facilities does your house have?	New 9-foot pool table, ping-pong, weight room, cable	weight: room, pool table, foosball, ping pong	We have a pool table, ping pong table, foosball table, and a weight room.	ballroom; tv room w/ satellite tv, dvd player; pool table; foosball table; roof deck	Our house has its own weight room, a house entertainment system, a pool table, ping pong table, and foosball table. We also have our own roofdeck.	1 foam closet, 1 deep cave, 1 foosball table, 1 ping pong table, 1 rave laser show, 2 large green bouncy balls, 2 large industrial yellow party tubes, 1 rooftop bathtub	Pool Table, Ping-Pong, big screen TV, piano, roofdeck	We have a tv, band room with equipment, piano, 4 roof decks, a pool table, 2 foosball tables, and a garden.	Pool, Ping-Pong, Foosball, DirectTV.	Entertainment center, Foosball Table, Pool Table, Air Hockey, Roof deck, Ping Pong, DJ stand and Party Room	Foosball, Pool, Ping Pong, Dart Board, Arcade Games, Weight Room, Books, Entertainment Room with 60" Television.
How are the room occupancies divided?	3 triples, 5 quads, 1 quint	mostly doubles and triples	4 Quads, 2 Triples, 4 Doubles (+1 single for the RA)	mostly triples, several doubles, and a quad	We have 5 singles, 5 doubles, 1 triple, 3 quads	4 quads, 4 triples, 4 doubles, 5 singles	singles, doubles, triples, quads	7 singles, 2 two-story quads; the rest are doubles and triples	singles to quads	1/3 Singles, 1/2 Doubles & 1/6 Triples	17 singles, 7 doubles, 1 triple, 5 quads.
What types of rooms do freshmen usually live in?	All rooms are open to Freshmen	doubles and triples	Quads or Triples	triples	Freshmen are not allowed to live in singles, and they are always roomed with at least one upperclassman.	triples/quads/doubles	doubles, triples, quads	Freshman live in all rooms with brothers throughout the house.	doubles to quads	Doubles & Triples	Quads and Doubles.
Do freshmen live with other freshmen or upperclassmen?	With upperclassmen. Freshmen are distributed evenly	with at least one upperclassman	In quads, freshmen live with a classmate and 2 upperclassmen.	usually with other freshmen	Freshmen always live with at least one upperclassman.	Usually upperclassmen.	Depends on the room; there is at least one upperclassman/room.	Upperclassmen.	with upperclassmen	freshmen are encouraged to live with freshmen	Freshmen live with other freshmen for one semester.
Briefly describe the key points of your new member-orientation program.	Generates strong bonds and friendships, and encourages personal development with time-management and tutoring sessions, various Brotherhood Events— social, recreational, and service activities.	Our orientation program aims to help freshmen adjust to life at MIT. Activities help freshmen get to know everyone in the house, get involved in extra-curricular activities and establish solid study habits.	Our orientation program fosters friendship between new members. A highlight of the program is "Walkout" where pledges get a van and some money and take a weekend trip to a destination of their choice.	Leadership Ethics Achievement Development. During weekly hour-long meetings, new members learn about the fraternity. Also, new members and brothers participate in our national fraternity's LEAD program.	First key point: new members are not pledges. New members get two mentors, one to watch over academic performance, one to one to help adjust to life at MIT. Talk to a brother for details on our unique program.	3 tours around boston and surrounding areas.	Acclimating the new members to MIT and Theta Chi. This includes academic and social support.	Our program provides support for freshman while they learn about MIT, the house's operation, and its brothers. A freshman's upperclass roommates as well as a chosen big brother are always available for assistance	Weekly meetings, Blacklight party, an associate member party new member walkout	You automatically attain full brotherhood status upon accepting your bid. The orientation program strengthens the lateral and vertical bonds in the house. No compulsory or demeaning activities whatsoever.	Leadership, Fellowship, Road Trips, Scavenger Hunts, Athletics, Adventures, Glory.
Do you require your new members to participate in on-campus or community activities? If so, describe briefly.	Yes, the associate member class will plan and conduct a community service project; we also support all freshmen in the pursuit of individual activities.	Involvement in on-campus activities is highly encouraged, but nothing is required.	We encourage our new members to participate in our house community service activities. Our biggest event is a weekend trip to a YMCA camp.	New members are required to participate in at least one Varsity sport, Club sport, or other ASA recognized activity.	We do not require new members to be involved on campus but we highly encourage them to be active members in the MIT community.	We require nothing but to be themselves.	New members and brothers participate in community service activities such as City Days and the Walk-for-Hunger.	No.	yes. New members participate in house community service activities and are encouraged to join an on campus organization.	Each brother is required to have at least one campus activity and do several hours of community service beyond house community service activities.	Each new member is required to participate in at least one on-campus or community activity.
What are some of the most popular extracurricular activities among members of your group?	The Simpsons, IM's, Basketball, Orchestra	Athletics, MITSO	IM Sports, Basketball, Softball, Soccer, Crew, Lacrosse	intramural athletics, accapella and other music groups, fencing, crew, Habitat for Humanity	Ski Team, Orchestra, Snow Boarding Club, ROTC, Martial Arts Clubs, and IM Sports	Song Writers Club, Jazz Band, Yearbook, Photography, Painting, Football, ROTC	IM sports, varsity sports, music, IFC	Musical groups including the MITSO, MIT FJE, MIT Chamber Orchestra, Ten Degree Chill, and vocal/songwriting groups. Of IM sports we especially enjoy soccer and basketball. Sailing, UROPs at the Media Lab. Dance Troupe (breakdancing). High school studies program.	Crew, MITSO, Aerial-Robotics team, Ultimate Frisbee, City Days	Ultimate, Crew, Theater, Djing/Raving, Foosball, Anime, Track, Football, Cycling, Fencing, Ethnic clubs, ROTC/military, Debate, Model UN	IFC, MIT Symphony Orchestra, Crew, Soccer, Hockey, Beer Die, Intramurals, the Tech, tennis, Skydiving, and road trips
What are some of the most unique activities that members of your group participate in?	Dance Troupe	Wing Tsun, MIT Community Players	Oxford study abroad, MIT-China exchange, volunteer teaching in Cambridge schools, MIT Squash, Logarithms, pole-vaulting, founding startups, Big Brothers, US Ski team, All-american sailing	Pilots, Ice Climbing, Being a Big Brother, Study abroad in Cambridge, White Water Rafting, Home Brewing, and Marathon Running			solar car; Chorallaries	Ten Degree Chill (house funk band) Sailing team. UROPs at the Media Lab. Dance Troupe (breakdancing). High school studies program. Festival jazz Ensemble.	Chorallaries, Ski Team, ROTC	Radio show hosts, professional Djs, US Marine Corps Active Reserve, Rifle	Skydiving, Freelance Trumpeting (OMIT), Quantum Physics, Operating the Nuclear Reactor.
What are your group's major social events/activities?	Social Hours, 2 Parties per term, 1 semi-formal per term	Semi-formals, Friday night beach trips, etc), retreats	Every Wednesday night we prepare baked goods and invite women over for tea. We have the usual mixers, a semiformal, and a theme party every semester. The highlight of the term is our Sweetheart Formal Ball.	1 Formal, 2 or 3 open parties, and several mixers each term; premiere party: annual Sigma Nuclear party in the spring	Formals, Mixers, House Retreats, Pub Nights and 2 large events per semester.	Purple Party (and 2-3 other parties throughout the year) Monday Night Cocoa (weekly social get-together with campus folk at Tep)	Formals, semi-formals, parties, shows	We throw large open parties often. Jellophilia and Bondage (costume party) are our trademark theme parties. We also host a few sorority mixers and one formal.	Blacklight party, CITGO Party, Christmas tree decoration party, Apple Picking community service mixer, Weekly coffee nights	Our social program is known throughout MIT. Twice a year, Z-Rave attracts several hundred people from MIT and New England, as well as a number of prominent Djs. We also have a number of other social events.	Pledge Cruise (Sept) / All-Zeta Party (Nov) / Winter Ski Retreat (late Nov) / Semi-Formal (Dec) / Masquerade Ball—and by masquerade ball, we mean Ice Luge, Bacchus Debauché—(Feb) / Elder Banquet (May)
What is your most exciting Rush activity?	Jell-O Drop	Sunday morning at 10 we will be going to FI Boston, to race on their amazing city track. FI offers one of the most unique (and fastest) go-kart experiences in the country.	Tubing and Jet Skiing, a new event we're doing this year.	FI Racing. A chance to drive cars at speeds up to 35 mph on a closed indoor track. Helmet and crash suit will be provided. To reserve a spot sign up at our Live Band Party Saturday night.		Saturday 8:22pm - "Blow Stuff Up At Tep"	All of them.	40mph FI Racing on a bi-level track. We're going Sunday evening, but sign up early.	BASH	Laser Tag & The Comedian from NYC, Billy Burr. He has performed on MTV, Conan O'Brien, Comedy Central, ABC's Townies and Showtime at Apollo. He also performs at one of NYC's top comedy clubs The Comedy Cellar.	10th Annual Zeta Psi Car Bash Hard Rock Cafe
Tell us anything else that you would like people to know about your group.			We work hard when we have to, but we just like to hang out. We've all had a great experience making great lasting friendships. We can't imagine MIT without Sigma Chi.			Tep is a motley band of friends. We are a wide variety of distinct individuals who have enough in common to get cool stuff done. Be what you want at Tep.		We value reality, creativity, and our proximity to campus.	TXI: Housing 2/3 of the undergraduate Australian population	We are very committed to our house, social calendar, and academic commitment, but ultimately the reason we love living at ZBT cannot be easily articulated. What brought us together was a commitment to friendship, mutual respect, and having fun away from the rigors of MIT life, but what keeps us together is an indescribable feeling of brotherhood. Rush ZBT!	Zeta Psi embodies the best mix of academic achievement, social fellowship, and strong character at MIT.

Questions For Freshmen to Ask FSILGs

Here are some ideas for questions that we think you should ask FSILGs.

Social

- How do you have fun?
- Where do you go to hang out (other than your house)?
- What kind of social events do you provide that don't include alcohol?

Transportation

- How far are you from campus?
- How close are you to the nearest T/bus stop?
- Do you provide any sort of regular transportation to campus?

Community Service

- What is your national philanthropy?
- What are your major philanthropy events?

Computing

- What kind of network connections do you have?
- Do you support wireless networking?

Diversity

- How many different racial groups are represented by members of your living group?
- What languages (other than English) do your members speak?

National Relations

- What kind of national awards or honors has your fraternity won?
- What kind of events do you have with other chapters?

Alumni Relations

- Who is your most famous alum?
- How many members have gotten job offers by networking with alumni?

Pledge Program

- What kind of leadership opportunities are there for first-term freshmen?
- What does your new member program consist of?
- How long does the pledge period last? When is initiation?
- How many hours per week does pledging require?
- What kind of priorities does your pledge program place on academics?
- Who is the pledge educator?
- What was last year's pledge project? What were the projects for the four years before?

Glossary of Common Rush Terms

Bad mouthing - If one fraternity says nasty things about another fraternity to a freshman (even if they are true), this is called bad mouthing. Bad mouthing is an extremely serious offense, and the penalties for being caught doing this are severe.

Bid - A formal invitation to join an FSILG. FSILGs may begin to give these out on Monday, and they can be accepted beginning Tuesday.

Camper - A member of one FSILG who goes to the desk of another FSILG and requests to see a freshman. Assuming that the freshman isn't sleeping or on a jaunt, the FSILG must produce the freshman within fifteen minutes. The freshman can then decide whether to leave with the camper or to stay at the current house.

Clearinghouse - A computer system which tracks the whereabouts and history of all freshmen. If a freshman is in the

clearinghouse (and all are by default), any FSILG can figure out where he or she has been for the duration of rush.

Control room - A secret room in each FSILG where the rush chairs and house computer geeks live during rush. Most rush logistics (such as sending out campers and answering the phone) are handled from the control room.

Desk - A desk at the front door of every FSILG which is used to sign freshmen in and out of that house.

Jaunt - a process by which fraternities may check a freshman out of the clearinghouse system. During this time, other fraternities do not have access to that freshman. These often take the form of trips and other off-campus events

Pledging - the process by which a freshman accepts a bid; this varies among FSILGs, but many involve signing some sort of book.

THE ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

MTV's TRL Tour Arrives

Complete with Intermittent Ads & Beyonce Knowles

By Sandra M. Chung

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

MTV's Total Request Live Tour stopped by the Tweeter Center in Mansfield on August 10. Headlined by Destiny's Child, the show also featured rappers Nelly and Eve.

Rising bands 3LW and Dream opened the show. Part of the latest infestation of manufactured teeny bopper pop acts, Dream hardly qualifies as a band, since none of its members has any actual musical talent. Their set consisted of well-choreographed dance routines to songs like "He Loves U Not." Any singing that may have occurred was drowned out by high-pitched shrieks from the audience, mostly pre-teen and female.

Eve made a blazing entrance in her twenty-foot golden *Ruff Ryder* scorpions in the background. She wore beige tights, an army shirt, and five-inch heels. As she was a bit under the weather, Eve only performed a few songs, high-

lighting her short set with the radio hit "Let Me Blow Ya Mind." During "Love Is Blind," a song about domestic violence. The background dancers pantomimed a couple in an abusive relationship. Songs with similarly meaningful lyrics help make Eve one of the hottest female rap artists out there.

Nelly and the St. Lunatics took the stage next, riding on dirt bikes through clouds of smoke onto a set decorated like a city street. They echoed a theme of ostentatious wealth by changing into different matching outfits for various songs. Nelly highlighted his performance with "Must Be the Money," during which he and the St. Lunatics threw money at the crowd. Performing amidst sparks and flames with real talent, Nelly was literally and figuratively one of the hottest performances at the concert.

Destiny's Child, the concert's headline act, performed with amazing energy and electrified the crowd with a memorable set that lasted for a full hour. They set the tone of the performance

with their first piece, blasting on stage with "Independent Women." Changing outfits and strutting down triplet staircases, the three R&B princesses gave loud, glittery performances of "Jumpin', Jumpin'," "Bug-A-Boo," "Bills, Bills, Bills," "Say My Name," and "Bootylicious."

Lead singer Beyonce Knowles belted out earthshaking solos for much longer than any mortal voice could possibly last. Kelly Rowland, Michelle Williams, and a surprisingly talented guitarist took their turns in the spotlight to slightly less of an effect. Just when it seemed the middle of the set couldn't drag out any longer, Destiny's Child donned white gowns and sang an amazing a cappella gospel medley. Then the trio changed into grass



Nelly and the St. Lunatics stole the spotlight from Destiny's Child and Eve at the August 10 show.

MUSIC REVIEW

Harell Rips It Up

Trumpeter Tom Harell & Quintet Take on Scullers

By Jorge Padilla

On the heels of his recently released album, *Paradise*, trumpeter, flugel-hornist, composer, and arranger Tom Harell gave Scullers Jazz Club a whirl on August 9. Harell has been voted Trumpet Player of the Year for the last four years by readers of *Downbeat Magazine*. His New York-based Tom Harell Quintet, consisting of Harell on trumpet, Jimmy Greene on saxophone, Ugonna Okegwa on bass, Quincy Davis on drums, and Xavier Davis on piano, is currently on the road promoting *Paradise*.

Paradise is a melting pot of international music, combining Afro-Caribbean, Brazilian, pop, and jazz styles. This same cultural mix permeated the set at Scullers. The first number had pop, rock, and jazz elements, and Davis wasted no time swinging and rocking on beats two and four. Harell made his musical entrance with a brief solo that enticed the audience to focus on his performance. His reserved demeanor perfectly complemented the sparse ideas and short phrases of his pensive improvisation.

In the second piece, which amplified the eerie mood of the first, Okegwa established a slow Afro-Caribbean waltz in a minor key as the band gradually joined in. Greene improvised the first few choruses, unveiling a musical intensity similar to that of John Coltrane or Michael Brecker. Harell's second solo was similar in character to his first, with its clipped, dissonant passages.

The Quintet segued into Brazilian music with a catchy, happy melody in the lively bossa nova style. Harell's third solo stunned the audience with its completely new approach to improvisation. He began slowly, gradually incorporating more complex ideas and longer phrases. In other words, he let it rip.

The band was really moving by this time, and their momentum lasted the rest of the evening. The audience, who had been sitting on the edges of their seats absorbing the suspenseful aura of the club, was now unimaginedly out of control (well, not exactly, but pretty close to it). The atmosphere in the club was intense; excitement raged through the room. The quintet couldn't have picked a better ending.

They concluded their formal program with an eight-bar blues written by Harell, an entire piece which was full of energy. Okegwa and Davis laid down the groove as the band swung on. The rhythm section did a superb job complementing the soloists and sustaining the band's energy.

A beautiful empathy about the group made for the enjoyable finale. The crowd loved the blues and gave them a standing ovation, cheering on until the band satisfied their demands with an encore rendition of Thelonious Monk's "Rhythm in E."

Harell's music speaks a different language with its distinct, lyrical beauty. He possesses a melodic power that captivates his listeners, tapping their immediate desires and eliciting emotional responses. My conclusion for the Tom Harell Quintet — they were monsters.



Destiny's Child blinded the crowd with their golden performance of "Independent Women" at the Tweeter Center in Mansfield.

skirts for "Survivor," which was themed as a send-up of the enormously popular reality television series of the same name.

The TRL Tour concert emulated MTV's television show Total Request Live in several ways. A charismatic emcee (not Carson Daly) introduced showy stage performances which were surprisingly reminiscent of music videos. Between acts, the commercialized nature of the concert was made only more obvious by a large television screen on stage which displayed paid advertisements.

Wading through the MTV schtick to get to the actual music was a frustrating, deafening experience. Though the high-quality music of Destiny's Child and Nelly nearly made it worth enduring the unbearable screaming of hundreds of young girls, over-the-top sets and effects and over amplification cheapened their performances, eardrums suffered from both audience noise and volume levels set tens of decibels past comfortable levels. Genuine fans of the music would do better to stay at home with a CD and avoid wasting money on the MTV packaging.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

Classic RPG Revisited

Dragon Warrior III Succeeds on Game Boy Color

By Chad Serrant

STAFF WRITER

Dragon Warrior III
Made for Game Boy Color
Game Boy Advance compatible
Published by Enix
Rated T for Teen

Way, way back in the console role-playing game (RPG) days, there was a game called *Dragon Warrior*. It was incredibly popular, making the RPG genre come alive. As any successful game would do, *Dragon Warrior* spawned a pile of sequels. The most recent installment of the *Dragon Warrior* series is the recreation of *Dragon Warrior III* for Game Boy Color (it is also Game Boy Advance compatible).

As the game begins, your character sets out on a quest to slay the evil demon king, Baramos. Well, that shouldn't be hard, considering that your character's courageous father died while trying to accomplish the same task. The most noticeable feature is that *Dragon Warrior III* is very light on plot, and players won't be playing the game to find out the next tidbit in the story.

Your character and three others will wander through dungeons, battle enemies, search for treasure, and buy equipment in towns. Each character has personality traits that you can adjust according to their statistics. These range from Smart to Coward and Vain to Sexy, and can make or break a character's skills. You can read books and wear items (like the ever-important garter belt) to change your personality to best fit your class. Speaking of class, there are nine classes to choose from: hero, warrior, fighter, mage, cleric, dealer, thief, jester, and sage. Each class has its pluses and minuses, and will considerably change battle strategies. When you reach the Dharma temple, your characters can change classes and create powerful characters who make it easier to change tactics during battle.

Luckily, this game has a lot of extra goodies that weren't in the Nintendo version. For one thing, the thief class is new. Thieves are great at stealing items from enemies, and they can spot hidden treasure items on the floor, abilities which make them a great addition to any party. Another extra feature is the monster medals. When you defeat enemies, you receive the oppor-



tunity to find a monster medal. There are over 150 of them, and if you want catch them all, you'll have to slay a lot of monsters. You can also look for the TinyMedals that are all over *Dragon Warrior III*. The TinyMedal man, found in the well in your hometown, will exchange them for rare gifts and items.

Not everything is perfect, of course. Money is very rare in this game, so you will have to go through a lot of battles to gain enough money. You will spend a very long time gaining cash to buy cool helmets for your ill-equipped characters. Another problem with the game is the lack of guidance to your next objective. While there shouldn't be giant neon signs that point you in a direction, a few more clues to the next destination would make for more efficient game play. The impatient need not bother with this game.

The graphics are well done in terms of Game Boy Color development. The world map and towns are clearly tile-based, but the tiles are far more handsome than the NES version. Though the battle scenes have no backgrounds, the enemies come to life when they attack and have a lot of fluid animation. Unfortunately, the colors are a little on the dark side, and undoubtedly players will want a well-lit environment to battle the enemies and explore the levels.

The music has several remakes of the songs in the NES version. Old fans will recognize the tunes and enjoy the improved songs, while new players will hum to the beat. There are, however, very few sound effects in the game.

Dragon Warrior III will tantalize RPG fans everywhere, and with *Dragon Warrior VII* coming soon to the U.S., the series will surely be more successful.

WEB REVIEW

Web Spinner

Explodingdog.com Sees Differently

By Fred Choi

STAFF WRITER

Sam Brown's Cartoons

<http://www.explodingdog.com>

This column is dedicated to highlighting the best of the Web. If you want me to check out a truly unique, funny, or interesting site that deserves attention, e-mail me at <webstuff@the-tech.mit.edu>.

The premise behind explodingdog.com is simple: visitors submit titles and the site's creator, Sam Brown, draws a cartoon based on it. This simple explanation of the site's method doesn't even begin to explain how addictive or powerful these drawings are. Simply browsing randomly through just a few of these cartoons quickly shows that, despite the modest trappings, Brown's work continues to entertain and move even after a thousand pictures. He eloquently combines his attractive visual style, sense of fun, and sometimes sick

humor with raw emotion. In a world where so much art is overrated and only a few marketable people like Takashi Murakami get concentrated attention, it is refreshing to stumble across Brown's immense body of modest yet high-quality work.

Because of its style, the visuals on explodingdog.com immediately set themselves up for being underrated. In reality the visual style is purposeful and essential to the impact of the pictures. Brown's use of childish scrawled stick figures (called "leettle monsters" by some at MIT), along with recurring cartoonish figures (such as the orange goldfish, the green monster, the red robot, and the fat baby) adds a layer of innocence which is beautifully employed to offset the very adult emotions of the pictures. For example, in "something is understood" (July 15, '01), the wide forehead and black-framed glasses contribute to the strong, concentrated gaze of the stick-boy reading his heavy book. In "i trust

you but i am not sure why" (June 12, '01) a stick-boy rests uncomfortably in the embrace of an eerily unemotional and silent red robot with large yellow eyes. In "i think my computer is controlling me" (June 12, '01) Brown beautifully captures the defeat of the technology-ensnared in a cartoon that fancifully shows a hypnotized stick figure feeding cake to a computer whose screen reads, "MORE CAKE."

Even in his earliest cartoons Brown shows his skill, as in "random people get me down" (January 13, '00), in which a group of red stick figures fly joyfully past a sun, while a firmly Earth-bound black stick figure holds his head as the sun's rays pierce his body from behind. These themes of loneliness, fruitless searching, and man's enslavement to technology all relate to life in our contemporary world. On explodingdog.com, Brown captures true postmodernist themes in a surprisingly effective and natural way. Clearly it is easy to read too much intention into these cartoons, but either way you interpret them, these cartoons are entertaining and enjoyable.

Along with the more emotion-laden cartoons, Brown's site also includes hilarious pictures that are off-the-wall. For example, "seeing differently" (July 15, '01) depicts a



"Seeing Differently" — exhibited on July 15, 2001 on <explodingdog.com>

stick-boy wearing 3D glasses with the caption, "i got stupid vision!" Also, the surreal "Watch out! You might get what you're after" (June 20, '01) shows a stick-boy standing in water attempting to eat the goldfish in his hands.

In a World Wide Web full of a lot of mediocre and bad art, explodingdog.com is truly a refuge. Kudos to Sam Brown for a site that helps us all to "see differently."

ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

The following movies are playing this weekend at local theaters. The Tech suggests using <http://www.boston.com> for a complete listing of times and locations.

- ★★★★ Excellent
- ★★★ Good
- ★★ Fair
- ★ Poor

Apocalypse Now Redux (★★★★)

If it were nothing, *Redux* should be applauded for giving us a chance to see the best action film ever made, with the best cinematography ever - on big screen, in surround sound, with its images being burnt directly on your retina. Of the never-before-seen scenes, some are neat and some a total waste of time - but the rest of it is still nothing short of insanely brilliant, going not as much for the brain or even for the heart as for the jugular. — Vladimir Zelevinsky

Artificial Intelligence (★★★½)

Stephen Spielberg finishes where Stanley Kubrick left off. Perhaps the most salient feature of the film is the ending — a thoroughly thorough ending that leaves the movie with a stale aftertaste. Nevertheless, the film as a whole is a delight as it follows Haley Joel Osment's undying quest for humanity. Perhaps not the most satisfying of films, it certainly is one of the most thought provoking of those released this year. — Devdoot Majumdar

Atlantis: The Lost Empire (★½)

The Disney formula progresses from moldy to rancid, albeit with new packaging. But all the PG rating excesses (mostly heightened levels of violence and interminable sequences of explosions and gunfire), along with a headache-inducing visual mess, cannot hide the inanity of the screenplay and the fact that this is a pre-marketed and pre-sold product instead of a movie. Michael J. Fox (as the voice of the lead character) and John Pomeroy (as his supervising animator) are alone responsible for the generous rating above. — VZ

Driven (★★)

Director Renny Harlin mixes stock footage, choreographed stunt driving, and computer-generated effects with very impressive results. Unfortunately, Sylvester Stallone's screenplay lacks any kind of convincing human drama. *Driven* provides plenty of action while the story and characters take a back seat. — Joseph Graham

Final Fantasy (★★)

A commendable effort by Japanese filmmaker Hironobu Sakaguchi, this entirely computer animated film takes the genre to a new level. Cute animated films like *Shrek* or *Toy Story* are left in the dust by a brilliantly crafted film. However, whereas the artfulness is overwhelming, the plot leaves much to be desired. If you're not a devotee of the video games, it becomes immediately clear that this movie brings inane to new levels. — DM

Jurassic Park III (★★★★½)

After the Spielberg classic and its inferior sequel, a third *Jurassic Park* has been unleashed. All the actors (Sam Neill,



Thora Birch and Steve Buscemi star in the dark comedy *Ghost World*.

William H. Macy, and Tea Leoni) do an excellent job of imagining that the dinosaurs were there when filming the action scenes. If you're looking for some action with real people, real dinosaurs, and real action, not some tearjerker comedy or bogus action flick, then *Jurassic Park III* is for you — the movie is worth the box office price. — Cesar Espitia

Kiss of the Dragon (★★)

Kiss of the Dragon, if watched in the spirit of "let's see Jet Li kick ass and laugh at this movie's sad attempts to be dramatic," is not a bad movie. But for anyone interested in character development or a plot without holes as big as a slice of swiss cheese *Kiss of the Dragon* is a waste of time. — PH

Legally Blonde (★★½)

A film about breaking blonde stereotypes should have tried harder to break stereotypes of predictable comedy. Supposedly taking place up the road at Harvard, the movie looks like a late night cable television comedy. Fortunately Reese Witherspoon graduated High School in *Election* so she could entertain us as a Graduate student in *Legally Blonde* - she is the delightful presence which brings the few earned laughs in this movie. — Erik Blankinship

Memento (★★★★½)

Christopher Nolan's *Memento* is a puzzle box of a movie, breaking up its narrative and shifting it in time, and is superbly successful in putting the audience in the same frame of mind as the ticking bomb of a protagonist, who is pursuing a criminal while suffering from memory loss. Top-notch suspense, dark comedy, and abundance of meaning make this a movie to be remembered. About half of the cast of *The Matrix* appears in colorful supporting parts. — VZ

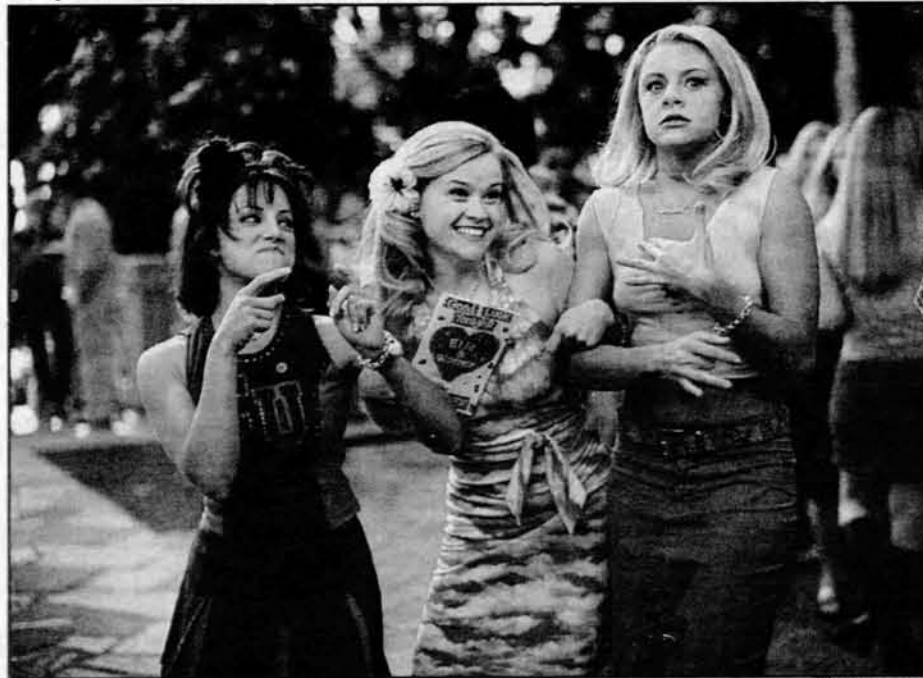
Moulin Rouge (★★★)

Shakespeare in Love meets *La Boheme* — the film includes the dizzyingly fast-paced editing of an MTV music video, the

garish glamour of *Strictly Ballroom*, the melodrama of Hollywood, the society of *La Traviata*, and the stark colors of Toulouse-Lautrec's painting. Despite a familiar story and familiar scenes, great acting (and singing) by Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor as the lovers, combined with Luhrmann's characteristically over-the-top direction, make the movie entertaining and worth seeing — and sometimes even moving. — Fred Choi

The Mummy Returns (★★½)

A bigger film than the first on the scale of action sequences and digital special effects (which make for a truly spectacular final half-hour), but less funny — and thus less enjoyable. Brendan Fraser still uses his great comic timing, but the plot is just a sequence of unnecessarily slow-moving plot devices involving overly elaborate and exotic deaths. — VZ



Reese Witherspoon, Alanna Ubach (left) and Jessica Cauffiel (right) star in *Legally Blonde*.

Original Sin (★★½)

Angelina Jolie and Antonio Banderas are flawed characters who become mere clichés by the end of the film. The story is more fit to be a trashy romance novel than anything resembling serious filmmaking. A vibrant but manipulative film, "Original Sin" captures the appeal of film noir, but not its true depth and substance. — Amy Meadows

Planet of the Apes (★½)

Planet of the Apes tries at once to be too much and too little, and it fails at both. The undertones of animal rights and environmentalism seem to take precedence over the simple plot and character devices. "Marky" Mark stars as an American pilot stranded on a strange planet where apes are in control. Helena Bonham Carter plays the ape who falls for the mysterious stranger, leading him to freedom and safety. *Planet of the Apes* is a shallow remake of the 1967 Charlton Heston classic. — AM

Princess Diaries (★★★)

Director Garry Marshall's films have been characteristically hit (*Pretty Woman*) or miss (*The Other Sister*, *The Runaway Bride*) Luckily, this one is a hit. Fifteen-year-old supergeek Mia (Anne Hathaway) finds out that she was born into royalty, and must decide whether or not to accept the role of princess. Also starring Julie Andrews (as the Queen of Genovia), Hector Elizondo, and Mandy Moore, this fluffy comedy will put a smile on your face. — AM

Tomb Raider (★½)

Closely inspired by the homonymous video games series, *Tomb Raider* is a pathetic movie that features no art whatsoever. The characters are sketchy and emotionless; the plot, childish and completely predictable. The special effects are overly abundant and without them, there would be nothing left of this production. Don't waste your time with this. — Bogdan Fedeles

UAP Promotes Sleep Recruitment for RBA Continues

Convocation, from Page 1

share directories between a Palm Pilot and a cell phone, or how to think differently about a math problem or a poem or the latest in music," Vest said.

Following Vest's speech, Peter De Florez Professor Of Psychology Steven Pinker spoke about his research on the human mind. "The great thing about the human mind is that there are an infinite number of puzzles that one can make up... For example, why do women smear their faces with makeup?... And why is eating worms disgusting?" he said.

Pinker explains euphemisms

Just a few months ago, the city of San Diego decided that the term "minority" will be removed from all official documents. "Minority - why should this be offensive? If there are two groups, unless they are divided 50-50, one has to be in the minority," he said.

Pinker went on to discuss how we often freshen up an unpopular concept by referring to it in a new way. Soon, that word is replaced by yet another word, and then another.

"When I grew up there was this stuff called garbage, and the people who took it away were called garbage men," he said. More recently these people have come to be referred to as sanitation engineers, and finally environmental workers.

Pinker described this phenomenon as the "euphemism treadmill" and said that it is used when the original word becomes tainted by derogatory connotations. "This has nothing to do with the precise meaning of the words," he said, noting that 'colored' is taboo although 'person of color' is appropriate.

In another example, Pinker described how the word "negro"

was originally used as a replacement for the term "colored." Soon the accepted term was changed to "black" in an attempt to create a parallel term to "white." More recently, this has been changed to "African American."

"What does this show? It shows that our attitudes are slow to change," he said. Pinker believes that we will only overcome racism when our terms for minority groups stop changing.

UA President wakes students up

Undergraduate Association President Jaime E. Devereaux '02 concluded the event with her speech on the "Top ten ways to wake up at MIT." These included waking up in Killian Court, in libraries, and in class. "Waking up mid-class is better than sleeping all the way through," she said.

Construction noise was also near the top of the list. Although a student may not appreciate being woken up at 7 a.m. when his classes don't begin at 12, he may actually welcome the construction noise after staying up until 4 a.m. studying for an 8 a.m. test.

"Cambridge and Boston always have some sort of construction going on, and it is usually right under your window," Devereaux said.

Students Choose Based on Living Groups, Not System of Advising

RBA, from Page 1

online by July 16. The application included a few short answer questions.

"I talked to one or two freshmen who, for one reason or another, just didn't fill out the application," she said.

Next House will continue to try to fill its RBA program this weekend, Anderson said. Any freshman who signs up before noon on Monday will be guaranteed a room in Next House and a space in the RBA program, and will not enter the housing lottery.

The remaining places in Next House will be distributed in the lottery, as was originally planned.

German House will rush freshmen

as usual, Goldrick said. Students who decide to join will be encouraged to stay in their assigned seminars, but they will be invited to participate in all RBA activities as well.

Students Offer Views

"The RBA came with McCormick, and I wanted to live in McCormick," said Michelle A. Tiu '05, who joined McCormick's RBA program.

Tiu thought RBA was a good program and believes that it will provide a great support for her.

If McCormick had not been tied to RBA, she would have opted for regular advising, Tiu said, because "there's more variety in the seminars."

Both Eric C. Makhni '05 and

Brett C. Boshco '05 said they did not apply for RBA because they intend to participate in fraternity rush.

History of RBA

Last year was the first year of the RBA pilot. Only residents of McCormick participated, and RBA was the only way to be placed in the dorm.

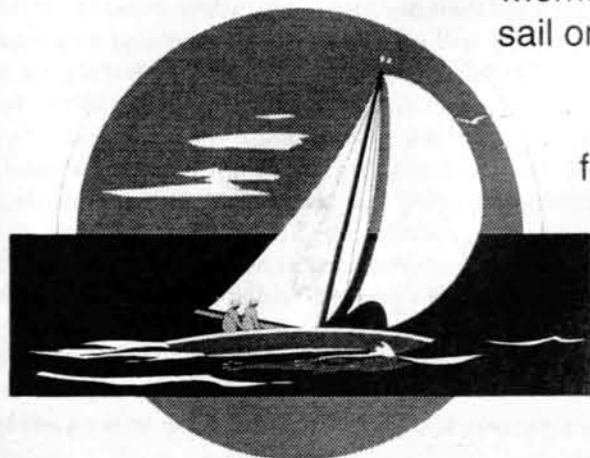
This year, the program was extended to German House and half the spaces for freshmen in Next House.

"It's not clear yet what's going to happen with the cultural houses" when rush changes next year, Goldrick said. "We decided to try [RBA] in hopes that we'd find an arrangement that works for both the administration and us."

Moonlight Sailing - Freshmen & New Grads Welcome

Friday, Aug. 24th, 2001, 8 pm - midnight

Come down to the MIT Sailing Pavilion (across from Walker on Memorial Drive) and enjoy a beautiful sail on the Charles River after sunset.



No sign up or sailing skills required. Just show up, bring a friend, and get to know people in the relaxed atmosphere on board a sailboat.

The MIT Nautical Association is looking forward to meeting you.

Solution to Crossword

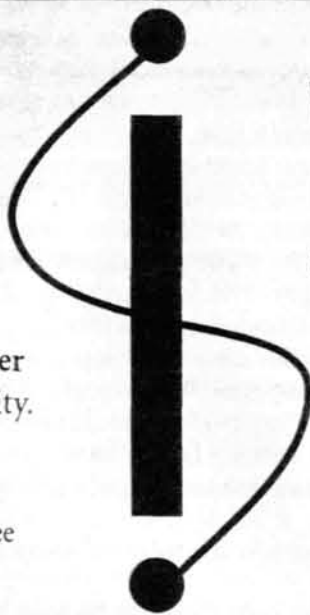
from page 6

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MITnet! it's everywhere, almost

You are here and wherever that is, there is probably a **network drop** or a **cluster** nearby... even if you are in your dorm room. Take advantage of this connectivity.

- Come to our **Minicourses** for an introduction to Athena.
- Contact the **Residential Computing Consultant (RCC)** for your graduate or undergraduate dorm for help with network and other computer-related issues. See the Residential Computing Home Page: <http://web.mit.edu/rescomp/>.
- Visit the **MIT Libraries** online.
- Check out the available **Athena software**.



Welcome To MIT!

To get an Athena Account:

- Students, Faculty, and Staff: You should already be in the Accounts database. Just attend any Athena minicourse. (Staff may need to contact Athena User Accounts, <accounts@mit.edu> or x3-1325.)

To register for a minicourse:

- You cannot register for an Athena Minicourse.
- You cannot pay for an Athena Minicourse. Minicourses are free.
- You cannot reserve a place in an Athena Minicourse. **Just show up** to 26-100 during Orientation week or 3-343 during the semester.

Athena Orientation 2001 Minicourse Schedule



Room 26-100

No fee, no registration, no reservations — just show up during Orientation Week and learn all you need to start using Athena, the MIT campus-wide computing environment.

Room	Monday Aug. 27	Tuesday Aug. 28	Wednesday Aug. 29	Thursday Aug. 30
26-100				
9 am	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course
10 am	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena
11 am	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course
noon	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena
1 pm	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course
2 pm	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena
3 pm	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course	Athena: First Course
4 pm	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena	Working on Athena



Vest's Convocation Address

Charles M. Vest
 President's Convocation for the MIT Class of 2005
 23 August 2001

I am Charles Vest, President of MIT.

I may not be a "Survivor", but I do have a great job. And one of the very best parts of being MIT's president is what I get to do right now. It is my great privilege and honor to formally welcome each of you to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and to the MIT Class of 2005!

You are on this day a full member of an extraordinary community – the community of MIT. This is Day One of a relationship that we hope will enrich you for the remainder of your life – a relationship with our faculty, staff, graduate students, returning undergraduates, our alumnae and alumni, and each other.

But before I talk a bit more about the wonderful opportunities before you, I know we need to address a concern that is haunting you. A concern that I can promise you is not true.

You were not admitted by mistake. You are not here as the result of a computer glitch, or the report of an incompetent educational counselor. You are not here because we needed more architecture majors or people from Montana or because someone misread your SAT scores.

You are a member of the freshman class at MIT because we believe – we know – that you have the intelligence, the energy, the imagination and the personal will to succeed here. You have the right stuff.

We are very proud and excited to have you as students — and I hope you are proud and excited to be here. You probably are.

What is this Place?

And you are probably wondering: just what have I gotten myself into? What is this place? And what is it that makes MIT different?

For one thing...MIT began 140 years ago as a new idea in the world of higher learning. Not as a place of scholarship set apart from the world, not as an ivory tower, but as a place of the world.

MIT is grounded in science; great science happens here. And science is the foundation of technology – which, time and time again, has reinvented the way we live and work in the world.

MIT is a place where people want not only to discover the world, and how it works, but also to make it better. And we have done just that.

MIT's faculty, staff, and graduates have been key to developing a huge catalog of ideas, discoveries, and inventions that have changed our world: Ecology. Chemical engineering. Technicolor. Cybernetics. Computer-aided design. RNA splicing. Artificial skin. Atom lasers. Magnetic core memory. Chaos theory. Linguistic theory. The World-Wide Web. Synthetic penicillin. Radar. Quarks. The list could go on.

Our faculty, alumni and staff have received 47 Nobel Prizes.

And they have founded over 4000 companies.

We can put a police car on the great dome, and we can put a man on the moon!

How does this happen? What is it about MIT that makes these things possible?

First, we think every student should be a partner in research and discovery... whether in the classroom or laboratory. A lot of the learning here is hands-on. That's what our faculty do, and we think it's the best way to keep our teaching and learning interesting and exciting. Here at MIT, we all learn together, and we all solve problems together.

Second, we give you the tools of science and logic and creativity and reflection, and the opportunities to use them.

Third, we try to make campus life here both stimulating and supportive...giving you opportunities to explore new activities and friendships, as well as new ideas. Our job is to open up your world.

Finally, we place our confidence in you. With these tools and opportunities, and with our guidance, you will become your own best teacher.

So this is the place you have come to. We will expect a great deal of you, but only because we know that you're capable of great things.

And it begins now.

A Day of Great Beginnings

This is a day of great beginnings. Look around this room – at the hundreds and hundreds of faces. A few we might know – perhaps even more than a few, for those who took part in one of our Pre-Orientation Programs. But not one of us knows more than a relative handful. Yet in this room today are people with whom we will share some part of the rest of our lives.

I count myself as someone whose life will be enriched by some of you. There will be opportunities – in the days and years to come – for us to sit beside each other, as learners and teachers together.

In some ways, that is the essence of a university: people living and learning together. For the most part, the people you form the strongest bonds with will be your fellow students. The connections and the friendships that you make here will last for years. Some will last a lifetime.

But I hope you will get to know some members of our community who carry titles other than "fellow student". This is important.

Believe it or not, those students who say they have had a great experience here are most likely to be those who have come to know at least one faculty member well. So put this at the top of your list: get to know one or more faculty or staff members here at MIT.

An excellent way to get to know faculty members is through UROP – our "Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program". There are hundreds of research projects out there – just waiting for you. But research is just one way to get to know a faculty member. Perhaps you will discover that you share a love for old Bob Marley tunes, or that by coincidence you have been snowboarding on the same trails together.

Or here's one – one that might surprise you. There is actually a good chance that you know things that members of our faculty wish they knew. Yes, they are teachers and scholars, but you might be able to show one of them how to share directories between a Palm Pilot and a cell phone, or how to think differently about a math problem or a poem or the latest in music.

Seriously. We are teachers and learners together. You have come here to learn, and we have much to share with you. But do not lose sight of the fact that you have much to share as well.

We are, in short, a learning community – on the road to discovery together.

A Time of Unprecedented Change and Opportunity

And I must say, you have an excellent sense of timing: You are entering MIT at a moment of unprecedented change and opportunity. At no time since the end of World War II has MIT undergone such change – educationally, intellectually or physically.

The physical change is most immediately obvious: it is hard to overlook the large cranes that are at work on buildings all over campus. But that physical change is easily matched in importance by the exciting educational and intellectual frontiers we are exploring.

And where there is change and exploration, there is opportunity – for you! Let me highlight just a few of these frontiers:

- First, the evolution of the Internet and the advance of pervasive computing shows no signs of slowing, and probably won't. This is an area that needs not only brilliant science and engineering, but good sense in how they should be applied.
- Second, modern communications have generated growing interconnections among the world's peoples, activities and economies. We need creative, broad-thinking leaders for this global society. You could be one of them.
- A third frontier is nanotechnology. Think what you could do if you could build tiny machines out of individual atoms. That technology is just around the corner. And it could lead to such things as computers that are a thousand times more powerful but use only a millionth the amount of electricity.
- And then there is the whole area of biotechnology. Now that the basic sequencing of the human genome has been accomplished – much of which was done here at the MIT-Whitehead Genome Center, by the way – we are embarking on a scientific adventure that will lead to dramatic advances in medicine, energy, agriculture and more.
- Another great frontier is neuroscience – which will revolutionize our understanding of the human brain and mind. The neurosciences may not only lead to treatments for diseases such as Alzheimer's, they may help us to remember better, learn better, and communicate better.
- Yet another challenge – and this is a big one – is how to protect and enhance our environment, while making it possible to build and sustain healthy economies. We need a world that prizes clean air and water, even as it builds strong industries. You could help get us there.

And underneath this all is an entire universe of mysteries within, around and beyond us. The bottom line is this: it's not what we know, but what we don't know that will make the difference in the long run. We must continue to explore the unknown – from atoms to the Antarctic, from microlasers to macroeconomics, from genomes to galaxies, from the mysteries of the heart to the mysteries of the mind.

Some of these explorations will have great payoffs to our health and well-being...and all will be worth the trip.

A Full Participant

I know that each of you has worked to get here and that you probably see MIT as a great opportunity to prepare for your future. But I've got news for you. MIT is much more than preparing for your future. This is your future. Your time at MIT is not a rehearsal, or a dry run. This is as real as it gets.

And you are now a part of this great adventure. Be ready every day to make the most of it.

Remember also that, if you need help, advice, guidance – from your teachers, your fellow students, or from any of MIT's staff – the smart thing to do is ask.

An MIT education is rigorous and intense, but no matter how smart you are, no one expects you to figure everything out on your own. If you aren't here to benefit from the wisdom, experience, and intelligence of others, then there's no point in being here. We are a learning community.

I know you will achieve extraordinary things, both at MIT and in the larger world while you are here, and as you continue in your careers. Take advantage of your time here to explore yourself as well as the world. Take time for reflection and contemplation, and make your personal growth as much a priority as your academic and professional growth.

So work hard, have fun, and – precisely because you are so full of promise and ability – please look out for, and take care of, yourselves and each other.

Again, on behalf of all of us at MIT, welcome to your next great adventure. And go for it!

Thank you very much.

Now that you've been subjected to the obligatory observations of your university's president, let's move on to address the real reason you came to MIT – to be with great scholars and teachers.

It is my great pleasure to introduce one such person to you now. He is Steven Pinker, a professor of psychology in our Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

But that hardly describes his range of interests: you might think of him as a cognitive neuroscientist...or a linguist...or a sociologist. He is all that – and more. He is a daring and creative scientist, a pungent public commentator on individual and social behavior, a fellow of many scholarly societies, and one of our most popular and gifted teachers.

Steven is the author of five books – so far – including: *How the Mind Works* and *The Language Instinct*...both of which were placed among the ten best books of the decade, or the 100 best books of the century, by various publishers or societies.

He himself was once named by *Newsweek* as one of the 100 Americans for the Next Century.

Where did this man come from – and what is he doing here?

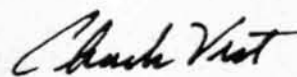
Well, he is a native of Montreal, where he did his undergraduate work at McGill.

He did his graduate work at Harvard, receiving his Ph.D. in experimental psychology in 1979. Three years later, he joined the faculty here at MIT, and has been here ever since.

Both in the classroom and the lab, he works with undergraduate and graduate students on such subjects as visual cognition, language acquisition, the psychology of language, and even the evolution of language, which he has described as the "survival of the clearest."

I am delighted that he is here to give you the first glimpse into what the MIT faculty have to offer you.

Please welcome Professor Steven Pinker.



Chuck Vest
President, MIT

Food Trucks, Stores Add to Meal Options

Food, from Page 1

Mexican Restaurant.com, Jerusalem Falafel & Olives Kitchen, and Goosebeary's reign supreme near building 68. And don't miss the Hebrew National Hot Dog stand immediately past the Building 8 Infinite Corridor exit.

Testing those culinary skills

The ambitious Institute undergraduate chef who prefers to prepare meals in the comfort of dorm kitchen space will find several grocery stops on or close to campus.

Star Market is located north on Massachusetts Avenue, roughly a block away from the MIT Museum. LaVerde's in the Student Center is a convenient option, although it does not accept the MIT ID card, and some students find that items there can be pricier than at its off-campus counterparts.

Convenient delivery options

are found in several internet grocery delivery services, including Peapod.com, Onlinegrocer.com, and Groceryworks.com. Favorites for take-out and delivery include India Samraat, Bertucci's Pizza, Cinderella's, and Royal East Chinese Restaurant. Look for restaurants menus and ratings at MIT411.com.

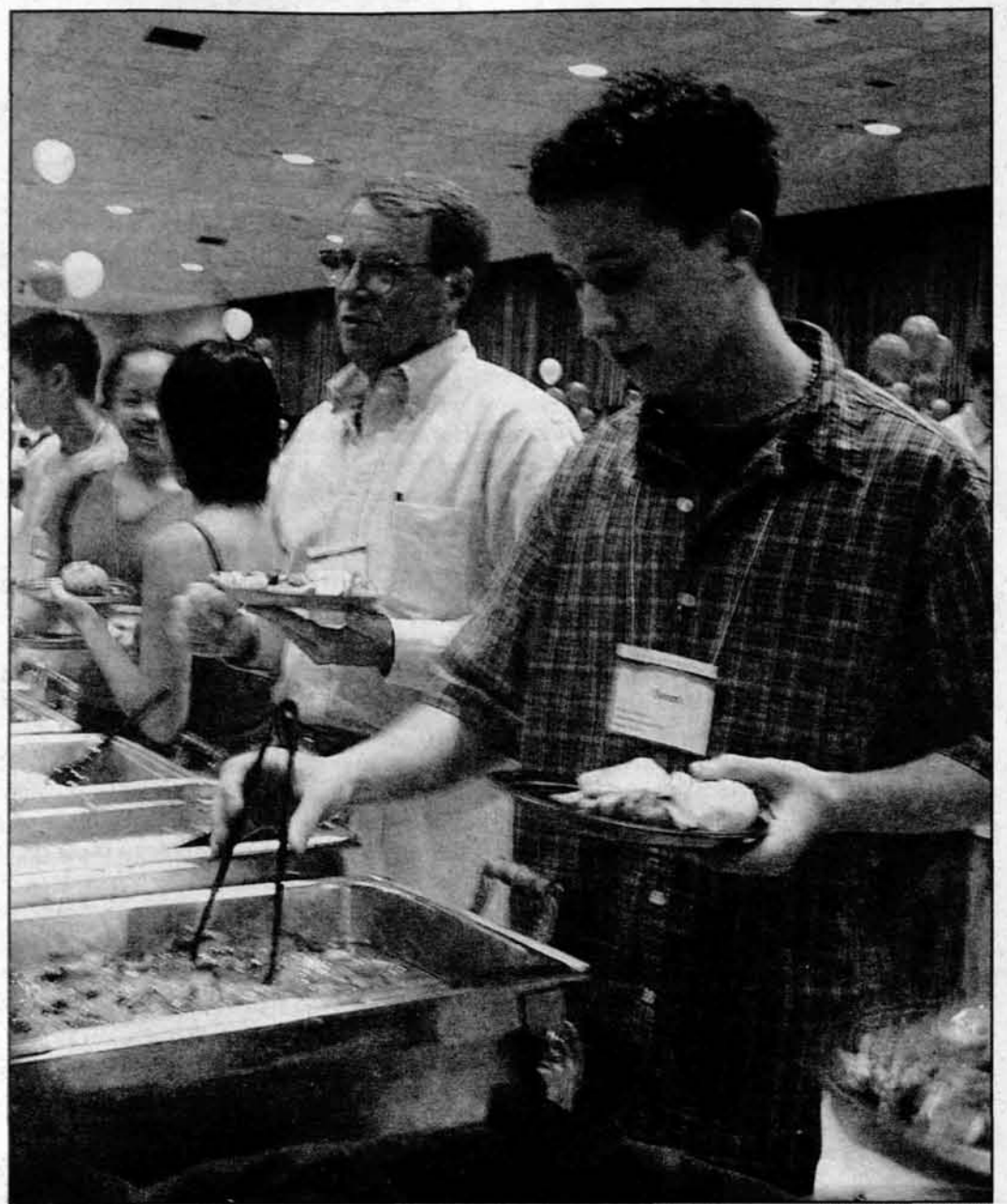
Specialty areas filled with food

For fine Italian cuisine, try navigating the narrow streets of Boston's oldest neighborhood, The North End. A quick trip on the Orange Line of the T (see <<http://www.mbta.com/Schedmaps/subway>>) will lead to the Haymarket, where neighboring fresh produce vendors serve customers in an outdoor market. Fanueil Hall Marketplace and Quincy Market Colonnade, located in the heart of downtown Boston, is a favorite restaurant (and shopping) destination for locals and tourists alike.



TECH FILE PHOTO

The food trucks located at 77 Massachusetts Avenue and next to Building 68, including the popular Goosebeary's truck shown here, are popular options for on-campus dining.



KATHY CHEN—THE TECH

John A. Benedick, Assistant Director of Athletics, grabs a bite to eat with Joseph Carlucci '05 at the Welcome Dinner, which was held yesterday in Johnson Athletic Center.

Your Name Here

GUEST COLUMNIST

An astute grad student noted that the recent increase of lemming attacks on Massachusetts Avenue may be indirectly related to the torrent of random activities involved in this year's Rush. In an unpre-

cedented act of investigative reporting, J. Random Your Name Here was able to conclusively correlate the rise of rampant Lemming League Libertarians (LLL) attacks with the last year Rush will exist in its present format.

"I never expected to find this,"

said J. Random in a recent interview. "I was just wandering around in front of Lobby 7, and it suddenly hit me." After spending an hour recovering from injuries due to flying debris from unrestrained Big Dig work, J. Random found the LLL-Rush relation.

"It could revolutionize the Rush experience," J. Random stated. "[Freshmen] are completely vulnerable to these highly random rash LLL attacks. Now we can know MIT without having to cover whenever we see the insanity of the insane Rush

ters."

Lemming attacks have been blamed for at least 289 injuries in the past year, most of them among tired Course 6 students suffering from severe vitamin D deficiency and thus unable to properly fend off the small, suicidal mammals. However, only 17 percent of attacks occurred in the first six months, with the bulk of incidents taking place in the latter half of the year.

Cautious students should note that there are several methods proposed to offer protection from the greenhairicus. Showing a copy of the small blue-green creatures with any MIT textbook or lecture notes will instantly render the offending mammal unconscious, a phenomenon similar to one exhibited in many lecture classes. Additionally, uttering the words "Harvard" and "rigorous" in the same sentence, without a negative modifier, reduces the creatures to quivering balls of laughter. However, this technique should only be used in an emergency, as it has the same effect on most MIT students. Finally, throwing Aramark food at lemmings will not only distract them, but will render them unable to move for the following week.

Not everyone is ready to proclaim the study a success, though. The administration is unsure of the precise effect of the novel study. A press release stated "While we acknowledge the ground-breaking nature of J. Random Your Name Here's report, it is far too early to conclude that freshmen are completely safe. Even if the LLL no longer pose a particular threat, students should still be aware of the possibility that a rouge yellow pig, or even a blue sailing ship, will pose a threat."

The press release warned students to remain alert while crossing Mass Ave, and to be wary of roaming herds of 17 yellow pigs.

This article was REJECTED because you don't actually work for us. It doesn't have to be that way.

Write news for the Tech.
 join@the-tech.mit.edu
 Student Center, Room 483
 Call x3-1541 and ask for Jordan or Dana