



KAILAS NARENDRA—THE TECH

Nur Aida Abdul Rahim '03 (CMI student) serves President Vest during the iftar on Wednesday. The meal marks the start of the last ten days of Ramadan.

Iftar Unites Muslims, Community

By Rima Arnaout

NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

Faculty, staff, and administrators gathered at Ashdown House Wednesday for a Ramadan dinner, or *iftar*. The event was the final installment in a series intended to bridge the gap between MIT's Muslim students and the greater MIT community.

The iftar series, called Ramadan@MIT, developed out of the mutual desire of MIT administrators and MIT's Muslim community to reach out to each other following the events of September 11 and ensuing domestic tension.

"Hopefully [the dialogue] will make MIT become a more special place," said Ramadan@MIT committee head Mohammed Saeed G.

About 170 people attended Wednesday's dinner, comprising about 100 faculty and staff and about 70 Muslim students. Ramadan@MIT committee head Mohammed Saeed gave a speech entitled "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness: an

Islamic Perspective."

Among the attendees were professor emeritus and former MIT president Paul E. Gray '54, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, members of Residence Life and Student Life Programs, MIT chaplains, and members of MIT Counseling and Support Services.

During the question and answer session, President Charles M. Vest said that he is often asked how the Muslims at MIT are feeling following the events of Sept. 11. "What is it that you would like me to say?" he asked the panel.

"Well first of all, *Gutten tag*," said Sarah N. Saleh G., jokingly responding to Vest's story of his family's being German-speakers during World War I. "I'm stressed out because I have two projects due on Tuesday. But I'm also happy to be in such a diverse community."

Panelist Tanya Reza '04, a New York native, recounted a phone call in which her parents advised her to remove her head scarf so as not to make her-

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Simmons Will Open On Schedule in 2002

Construction To Continue after Dorm Opens

By Kevin R. Lang

NEWS EDITOR

Simmons Hall construction is nearly back on schedule, and the new dorm will open its doors to new residents in the fall of 2002 although construction will continue after students arrive.

"Simmons is a go." Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict said after meeting with Executive Vice President John R. Curry on Wednesday morning to discuss the progress of construction.

Construction of the dormitory is still about a week behind the original schedule, according to Jonathan Himmel, project director of Simmons Hall construction. "We are working very hard to bring it in on time — there is no rest for the people working on this project."

Benedict credited the unusually warm fall with allowing the contrac-

tor to complete final concrete work on the upper floors and roof much faster than had been anticipated. "They made up a lot of work on the concrete," Benedict said.

"The good weather had a lot to do with not falling further behind schedule," said Himmel.

Residents to live with construction

Although Simmons will open its doors to students next fall, only the first of two construction phases will be complete.

"In [the first] phase, floors two through 10 as well as the entrance will be ready for occupancy," Himmel said. According to Himmel, the next phase is scheduled for completion by next December, which will include the occupancy of the first floor and basement.

Simmons Hall, Page 13



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Simmons Hall will open its doors in the fall of 2002 as planned. Unusually warm temperatures have allowed construction to proceed faster than anticipated.

Yue Elected IFC President, Anticipates Rush Changes

By Vincent Chen

STAFF REPORTER

Andrew T. Yue '03 of Kappa Sigma will be the next president of the Interfraternity Council.

Yue stressed the importance of sustaining the tradition of living groups through this time of transition. "MIT students most commonly have their closest social ties to and associate themselves with their living groups so changes in that aspect affect students greatly," he said.

"I think a lot of hand-down decisions have been made without our involvement, so I wanted to take part in standing up for the way of life for our living groups," Yue said.

The new president stated that among his goals was to develop stronger and better defined relationships with the MIT administra-

tion, the Residential Life and Student Life Programs office, MIT police, and external entities such as the Cambridge Licensing Commission and Boston Licensing Board.

He also hopes to smooth the transition of the changing FSILG system. "I want to work on fostering better internal relations so that the IFC can be more unified and stronger in the face of a changing system," Yue said.

Other incoming members are Vice President Amado G. DeHoyos '04; Judicial Committee Chair Sheldon Y. Chan '03; Risk Manager Lawrence W. Colagiovanni '04; Treasurer Patrick M. McCaney '03; External Relations Chair Bryan D. Schmid '03; Community Service Chair George R.

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Board Delays Ruling on Tech Appeal

Joint GSC, UA Board Considering ASA Ruling Stripping Tech of Office Space

By Nathan Collins

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The first-ever meeting of a joint Undergraduate Association/Graduate Student Council judicial board failed to reach a decision expected Thursday night on a *Tech* appeal of an Association of Student Activities ruling.

Board chair Hettithanthrige S. Wijesinghe G said that he believes a meeting scheduled for Sunday "will be sufficient" to reach a decision.

Wijesinghe declined to comment on what decision the board might come to, but indicated that the ASA decision might be repealed, upheld, or possibly sent back to the ASA for reconsideration. If the ASA decision is upheld, The Tech will lose room W20-477, currently occupied by The Tech's business office.

Thursday's meeting followed a hearing last Sunday in which the

ASA and The Tech presented oral arguments before the board to supplement previously submitted written arguments.

The UA/GSC judicial board was organized in response to The Tech's appeal of the ASA decision. While both the UA and the GSC have appeals procedures, this is the first joint judicial meeting.

Fairness of process questioned

Student governments are confident that the board will come to a fair conclusion.

"We put six people on the committee to look at evidence and come to a fair decision," said UA President Jaime E. Devereaux '02.

GSC President Dilan A. Seneviratne said that the GSC was "confident that [the board] will reach a fair decision."

ASA President Alvar Saenz Otero G said that "[the ASA] has to

first give the board a chance to see the whole picture," before deciding if the review process is fair.

Tech Chairman Jordan Rubin '01 said that Sunday's hearing was the "first time the process seemed to get back on track." Rubin had previously expressed concerns about a lack of due process in ASA rulings regarding The Tech but was hopeful that the UA/GSC board's ruling would be fair.

The decision to sanction The Tech came after a series of advertisements printed during Orientation were deemed a violation of ASA recruiting policies.

The UA/GSC judicial board was formed at this fall's ASA general body meeting on September 25. The board consists of six members: J. Alan Groff G, Johnny T. Yang '04, Leah S. Schmelzer '02, Adrienne F. Yandell '05, Chair Wijesinghe, and Souleymane Kachani G.

Residential Life Associate program evaluated in recent survey.



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MIT/Wellesley a cappella group
The Toons and newcomer Resonance reviewed by Pey-Hua Hwand.

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WORLD & NATION

Indiana Factory Worker Kills Co-Worker, Self in Shooting

LOS ANGELES TIMES

GOSHEN, IND.

An employee who had gotten into an angry dispute Thursday with a co-worker at a milling factory here returned with a gun, shot the man to death and wounded six others before turning the gun on himself.

A dozen nearby plants were evacuated during the gunfire, and students at a grade school and a small college were told to stay inside. Emergency workers were asked to prepare for more than 30 casualties.

But when a SWAT team entered the Nu-Wood Decorative Millwork plant on the edge of town, it discovered the shooter with a self-inflicted wound, officials said. "He was dead when they found him," said Capt. Julie Dijkstra of the Elkhart County Sheriff's Office.

The shooting prompted several emergency measures in this quiet, northern Indiana community of 29,000. Some students at the nearby elementary school already had gone home by bus, but others were held indoors until the gunman was found.

New Afghan Government Unstable as Politicians Threaten Boycott

THE WASHINGTON POST

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

A landmark Afghan power-sharing agreement began fraying Thursday, just a day after it was signed in Germany, as prominent political leaders left out of the new interim government vowed to boycott it or try to reopen negotiations.

With copies of the 10-page document still churning out of fax machines, several key figures, including a powerful northern warlord and the current de facto finance minister, complained that the U.N.-brokered pact did not include all the factions in Afghan society. Without broad support, they warned, the agreement could be doomed to failure.

The swift denunciations underscored the challenges involved in building a new government in Afghanistan to replace the once-dominant Taliban militia. Attempts to fashion compromise Afghan governments in recent years have unraveled, with bloody consequences. Much of Afghanistan has returned to the days when tribal leaders ruled their own turf regardless of the leadership in Kabul.

Senate Struggles Over Homeland Security, Recovery Spending

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Senate Thursday headed toward a showdown over attempts by Democrats to increase spending on homeland security and recovery by \$15 billion more than President Bush is willing to accept.

Despite a veto threat from Bush, Democrats pressed ahead with plans to increase funds for domestic security by \$7.5 billion and to provide \$7.5 billion more for New York and other targets of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The money would be added to the spending bill for defense and anti-terrorism efforts for the current year.

But behind the numbers was a broader political fight in which Democrats sought to portray themselves as the champions of homeland defense and confront the Republicans with the pain of choosing between supporting their president and voting against popular programs to fight bioterrorism and other domestic threats.

Republicans rejected the \$15 billion additional spending proposed by Democrats but proposed to provide \$5.65 billion more for homeland security by reshuffling the \$20 billion in anti-terrorism spending that Bush is willing to accept. To accommodate this, Republicans had to cut amounts allocated to military and other programs.

Taliban Agrees to Surrender Remaining Afghan Territory

By John Pomfret

THE WASHINGTON POST

QUETTA, PAKISTAN

The Taliban agreed Thursday to surrender its last pockets of control in Afghanistan in return for guarantees of safety for its top leaders, including Mohammed Omar, the reclusive cleric who founded the radical Islamic movement and has been hunted for two months by U.S. forces and their Afghan allies.

The deal with the Taliban was negotiated by Hamid Karzai, the newly appointed head of a post-Taliban interim government. Karzai said that the Taliban had agreed to surrender in Kandahar, Helmand and Zabol provinces in southern Afghanistan, where they have faced mounting pressure from U.S. airstrikes and tribal forces led by Karzai and others.

It was unclear whether the agreement, and especially its handling of Taliban leaders, would satisfy the various forces fighting to destroy the Taliban. In Washington, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the United States stood by its demands that Omar and other Taliban leaders be brought to justice for their support of accused terrorist Osama bin Laden.

But the Taliban offer appeared to signal the imminent collapse of a movement that just a month ago controlled 90 percent of Afghanistan. Abdul Salam Zaeef, the Taliban's former ambassador to Pakistan, said Thursday after the deal was announced that the Taliban was finished as a political movement. "I think we should go home," he said.

Omar and other Taliban leaders had publicly exhorted their forces to fight to the death, but the leaders of the Pashtun militias and some Taliban field commanders had been negotiating toward a peaceful end to the conflict. Throughout the two months of fighting, similar deals had allowed the Taliban to fall back from several cities with a minimum of fighting, and the pact announced Thursday appeared to herald the Taliban's final retreat.

The dissolution of the Taliban would increase the chances that a new interim Afghan government, agreed to on Wednesday and due to take power on Dec. 22, could get off to a smooth start. But several Afghan factions Thursday repudiated the new leadership, saying it did not fairly represent Afghanistan's ethnic groups. Particularly troubling

to supporters of the interim arrangement was the pronouncement by an ethnic Uzbek military leader, Gen. Abdurrashid Dostum, that he would boycott the new government.

Even a deal for the Taliban's surrender would not mean the end of U.S. military operations in Afghanistan. Osama bin Laden, the leading suspect in the Sept. 11 attacks, remains at large and is believed to be hiding in the mountains of eastern Afghanistan.

But the destruction of the Taliban would be a significant advance in the U.S. campaign. The Bush administration's special envoy for Afghanistan, Richard Haass, declared in testimony on Capitol Hill: "The Taliban regime no longer exists ... This military victory is the basis for all else that we may try to accomplish in Afghanistan."

The deal for Kandahar was hammered out during two days of talks between Taliban commanders and Karzai. Karzai said he offered Taliban fighters amnesty if they surrendered their weapons and turned over control of Kandahar, Helmand and Zabol provinces. He left the door open for an amnesty for senior Taliban leaders if they repudiated their past and rejected terrorism, he said.

Bush Gets More Trade Power

By Juliet Eilperin

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

By the margin of a single vote, the House Thursday agreed to give the president broader authority to forge international trade agreements, as GOP leaders used a last-minute deal to overcome intense Democratic opposition and deliver on one of President Bush's top legislative priorities.

In securing passage of trade promotion authority, also known as "fast track," Bush achieved a goal that had eluded President Bill Clinton for years. But the achievement came only after Republican leaders held off gaveling the voting to a close so they could convince several of their own members to cast a politically unpalatable vote.

Every president since Gerald Ford has enjoyed the right to strike trade deals subject only to an up or

down vote in Congress, but this authority lapsed in 1994. The House vote marked a critical step in the bill's passage because the Senate is considered more pro-trade and is expected to approve the measure easily, lawmakers said.

Bush hailed the action, saying it "will give me the flexibility I need to secure the greatest possible trade opportunities for America's farmers, workers, families, and consumers." Earlier, House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., warned his colleagues they could "support our president who is fighting a courageous war on terrorism ... undercut the president at the worst possible time."

The cliffhanger 215 to 214 vote capped an intense week of lobbying, in which Republicans, business groups and the president faced off against organized labor, environmentalists and the Democratic lead-

ership. Ultimately just 21 Democrats joined 194 Republicans in voting for the bill.

The legislation will give the administration greater leeway just as the World Trade Organization has embarked on a new round of talks aimed at lowering barriers to commerce worldwide.

Proponents argued the measure is essential to successful trade talks and will help revive the nation's shaky economy, while opponents said it would give foreign countries potentially greater leverage to challenge U.S. environmental and labor protections.

The tense debate highlighted the ambivalence many lawmakers feel about ceding control to the executive branch at a time when trade negotiations have become increasingly complex. These talks now address questions of intellectual property and anti-trust laws.

WEATHER

In the Cards

Robert Korty

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

With a persistent return to above normal temperatures over the past few months, there have been few unremarkable, average days. We may wonder: is the unusual weather we have experienced this fall being dealt from a stacked deck. This autumn has been remarkably warm. Yesterday, in fact, the temperature in Boston soared to a new record for the date (72° F), and flirted with the all time high for the month of December (which is 76° F, set three years ago today). And while there have been a few nights cold enough to remind us that, no, it is not May, there has been a persistent return to a pattern which allows the flow of warm air to continue largely unabated across the eastern United States. This weekend will be far cooler than this remarkable week, but, in fact, it will not be below normal for mid-December. The planetary pattern continues to be stuck with no major changes coming over the next week, so the deck is stacked to deal out at least one more set of days composed of dry weather and above normal temperatures (though not record breaking) after a seasonable weekend.

Weekend Outlook

Today: mostly sunny and cooler. High 50-53 °F (10-12 °C).

Tonight: mostly clear. Low 32-35 °F (0-2 °C).

Saturday: partly sunny. High near 45 °F (7 °C).

Sunday: partly cloudy. Morning lows near 30 °F (-1 °C), afternoon highs near 42 F (5 °C).

The start of next week should be dry. Highs on Monday will still be seasonably cool, but temperatures should rebound to the lower 50s by Tuesday.

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, December 7, 2001



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	- - - Trough	Snow	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	- - - Warm Front	☔ Showers	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	☂ Light	☁ Haze
	▲▲▲ Stationary Front	☃ Moderate	
		☄ Heavy	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Arafat Continues To Arrest Militants Despite Resistance

By Mary Curtius and Tracy Wilkinson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

GAZA CITY, WEST BANK

Yasser Arafat moved closer to warfare with the radical Hamas Islamic movement Thursday, continuing a roundup of militants despite resistance as he struggled to stave off a renewed Israeli assault on his regime.

Tension was high in the neighborhood where Hamas supporters and Palestinian police clashed late Wednesday after the Palestinian Authority placed Hamas' founder, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, under house arrest.

One of three demonstrators wounded in the confrontation died

of his injuries Thursday. Police said he was shot by Hamas gunmen who battled them outside Yassin's home. Hamas said he was shot by police.

Clashes flared again late Thursday, with police in riot gear charging stone-throwing youths.

Hamas waited to see how far Arafat would go now that Israel and the Bush administration had driven home the point that the militant Islamic organization threatens his survival as much as Israel does. Islamic militants are counting on support from Palestinians who admire their rejection of negotiations with Israel and their willingness to die for their cause.

Supporters of Hamas and of Arafat's Fatah movement insisted

they would not let the confrontation degenerate into civil war. But both sides say Israel's demand that Arafat dismantle the organization and lock up its hardcore activists has created a situation fraught with danger for the Palestinians. Arafat may have no choice but to take them on.

Israel launched a military assault on the underpinnings of Arafat's regime Tuesday after a series of suicide bombings in Jerusalem and Haifa over the weekend, claimed by Hamas, killed more than two dozen people and wounded scores. But it suspended air raids after Arafat phoned Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, asking for more time to make arrests.

Ashcroft Defends Anti-Terrorism Tactics before Senate Committee

By Dan Eggen
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Attorney General John Ashcroft resolutely defended the Justice Department's aggressive anti-terrorism tactics Thursday, telling a Senate committee the measures are necessary to prevent future attacks and suggesting that criticism of them aids the terrorist cause.

Peppered by congressional skepticism but bolstered by overwhelming public support in recent weeks, Ashcroft appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee to champion Bush administration strategies since the Sept. 11 attacks. The methods include the detention of hundreds of foreign nationals and plans to try

alleged terrorists and their accomplices before military tribunals.

The attorney general accused unidentified critics of exaggerating or mischaracterizing administration policies, saying the Justice Department "has sought to prevent terrorism with reason, careful balance and excruciating attention to detail."

"We need honest, reasoned debate, not fear mongering," Ashcroft said. "To those who scare peace-loving people with phantoms of lost liberty, my message is this: Your tactics only aid terrorists, for they erode our national unity and diminish our resolve. They give ammunition to America's enemies and pause to America's friends."

Ashcroft's bold language

prompted protest from interest groups, who have criticized government tactics as infringements of civil liberties. But Judiciary Committee members were circumspect in comparison, confining most of their questions to specific policy issues and appearing reticent to pick a public fight with an attorney general leading an enormously popular anti-terror campaign.

The most spirited debate centered on gun policy, as several Democratic senators criticized Ashcroft for preventing the FBI from checking whether some of the hundreds of people detained in the government's post-Sept. 11 investigation had sought to purchase guns in the United States.

Man with Knife Arrested Outside White House Gates

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The U.S. Secret Service Thursday arrested a man outside the White House gates who authorities say was carrying a foot-long hunting knife and had an assault rifle, a rifle with a telescopic lens, gunpowder, a handgun and a bulletproof vest and helmet in his pickup truck parked nearby.

William Duncan, 26, who authorities said has a history of psychiatric problems and brushes with the law, was charged with three counts of possessing illegal weapons and ammunition. He has lived in Dickinson, N.D., and Boise, Idaho, but does not appear to have a permanent address, authorities said.

Duncan is scheduled to be arraigned Friday.

Secret Service officers said they found Duncan's 1991 Dodge Power Ram pickup truck parked a block from the Ellipse, where President Bush, the first lady and thousands of people assembled hours later for the annual lighting of the national Christmas tree.

Jim Mackin, a Secret Service spokesman, said investigators found no evidence that Duncan's visit had "anything at all to do with the tree-lighting ceremony or any other planned ceremonies."

Still, Mackin said, even after investigators interviewed Duncan, "it was not completely clear why he was in the District. It's being investigated."

Commercial Jetliner Air Quality Potentially Hazardous

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON


The air quality aboard jetliners can be hazardous to passengers' health, the National Academy of Sciences said Thursday, as it called for an ambitious monitoring program that could lead to stricter federal requirements.

"Available exposure information suggests that environmental factors, including air contaminants, can be responsible for some of the numerous complaints of acute and chronic health effects in cabin crew and passengers," a panel convened by the Academy's National Research Council said in the report.

The panel said areas of concern for passengers and crew members include cabin pressure, ozone and carbon monoxide levels, and potential exposures to pesticides and to fumes from engine oil, hydraulic fluids and de-icing liquid. However, ventilation systems "do not appear" to facilitate the spread of viruses and infections, it said.

The report called for the federal government to launch a major research program into the quality of cabin air, to be overseen by an independent scientific advisory board.

SPRING 2002 CROSS REGISTRATION



at Massachusetts College of Art
and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts

mass art

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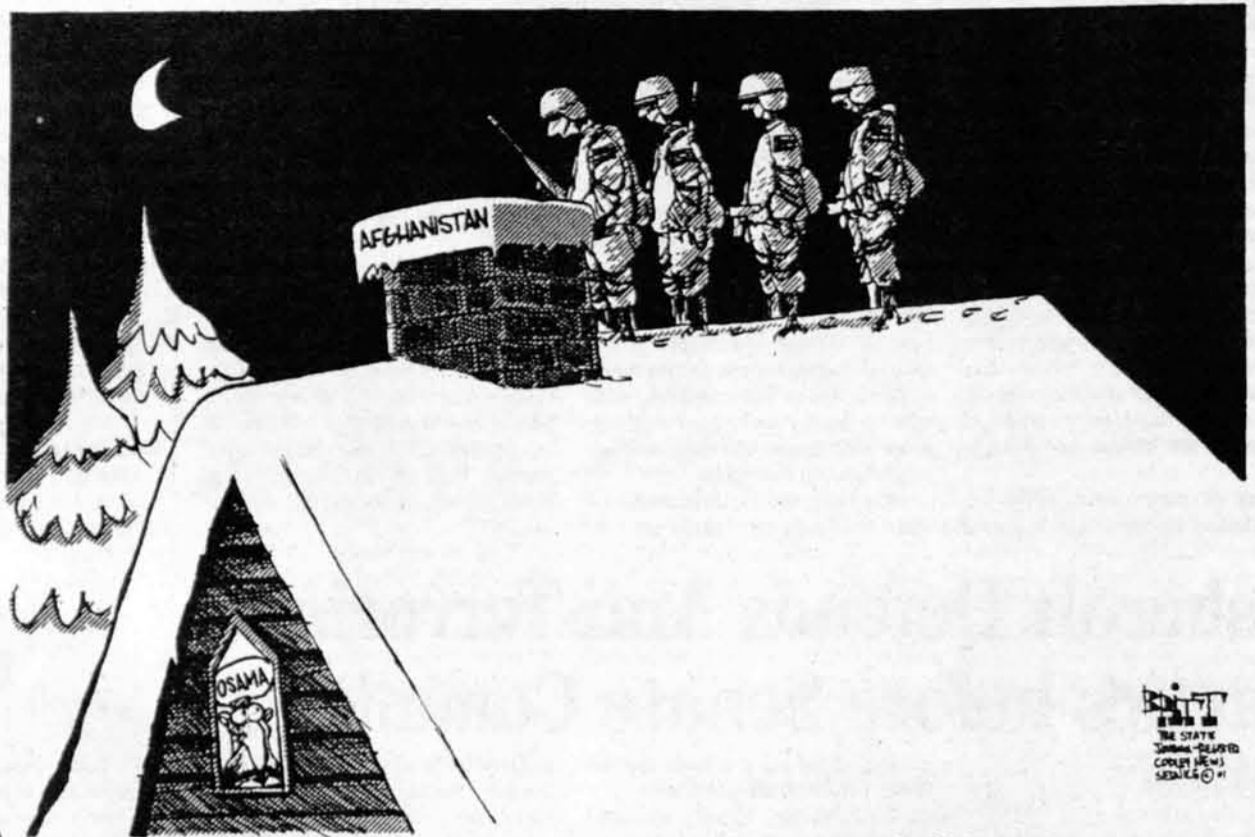
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"THEN WHAT TO HIS WONDERING EYES SHOULD APPEAR BUT THE U.S. MARINES IN FULL BATTLE GEAR."



"Relax . . . we're identical twins. Cloning hasn't gotten this far yet."

Letters To The Editor

MIT's Computing Services?

Hooray for Philip Burrowes' column ["Restoring Athena's Glory," December 4, 2001] that details how MIT's internet services have embraced the lowest common denominator solution by phasing out the SGI

machines and limiting MIT students' platform choices.

The situation is even worse than what Mr. Burrowes describes. When I/S announced that the SGI platform would be withdrawn from MIT, I asked Academic Computing what would happen to classroom visualization software and materials that are specific to SGI. After continuous dithering, procrastination,

dissipation, and broken promises, the implicitly communicated answer is that all SGI specific classroom visualization will disappear. Too bad for MIT students who should expect cutting edge technology for their tuition dollars.

W. Craig Carter
Professor, Department of Materials
Science and Engineering

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, features editor, and opinion editors.

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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Getting Priorities Straight

Matt Craighead

While in Afghanistan the war on terrorism rages, a different war is well underway in Washington, D.C.: the budget war. The federal government will spend roughly \$2 trillion dollars next year, and with "homeland security" being the latest buzzword in Washington, legislators have been trying to cram everything under the sun into the budget under those auspices. President Bush, meanwhile, has requested that Congress restrain its spending urges, calling for no more than \$686 billion of discretionary spending (as opposed to spending required by other laws), representing a rather generous 7% spending increase over last year. Yet some have cried bloody murder at the President, saying that this leaves no room in the budget for pressing homeland security needs.

A fair amount of homeland security spending is justified. We are in a life-or-death situation; we should be happy to know that our government has smallpox vaccines on hand, or that our customs agencies have the staff they need, or that counterterrorism is getting the attention it needs. In addition, it would be inane to suggest that we should now skimp on pay for our soldiers or on the weapons they need to keep us safe.

But not all of the expenditures being considered fall into these categories. Perhaps the worst boondoggle proposed is the so-called "Farm Security Act," which, of course, has nearly nothing at all to do with security. No, this bill would spend an unparalleled \$170 billion over 10 years on agriculture subsidies, including subsidies for mohair, cotton, sugar, peanuts, rice, and tobacco. Some of the better-

known recipients of farm subsidies include such cash-strapped individuals as Ted Turner and Scottie Pippen.

It is both amusing and discouraging, at a time when our nation's budget threatens to retreat into deficit territory for several years to come, that our government is handing out money to tobacco producers — at the same time that it sponsors anti-smoking programs.

Another of the worst budget train wrecks heading our way is Sen. Robert Byrd's (D-WV) demand for \$15 billion in new "infrastructure" spending. For those who aren't familiar with Byrd's checkered history, you'll be happy to learn that he is one of those members of Congress who truly inspires faith in our legislative process. An unreformed ex-KKK member who earlier this year got in trouble for using the word "nigger" on national television, Byrd is the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and has for some years been the Senate's top pork-barreler; Citizens Against Government Waste calls him the "King of Pork." If Byrd's proposal is passed (which, fortunately, it seems as if it may not), I predict that a disproportionate amount of the money will somehow snake its way into West Virginia.

Even some of the items that do fall into the category of security may be excessive. Agencies will always overstate their budget "needs" — they have no incentive to do otherwise. Scrutiny is necessary in order not to

waste taxpayers' money. For instance, some of the agencies requesting more money have existing appropriations that they have not spent. Some others that have requested money for new hires can't fill all their existing positions. In no case should Congress simply rubber-stamp security spending — it should carefully analyze the merits of each proposal.

In the meantime, if Washington wants to get our nation's security beefed up without busting the budget, it need not look very far for items to cut. We could begin by cutting such essential government services as the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, or the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Appraisal Subcommittee. How about redirecting the money that goes to the National Endowment

for the Arts or the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to FBI efforts to track down and prosecute members of terrorist groups? And, surely, our country could do without the National Center for Peanut Competitiveness.

Of course, it's easy to laugh at silly government programs like these, but this tends to obscure a larger issue — the role of government in general. Some in the media have argued that the lesson we ought to learn post-September 11 is that "Big Government" is back and is necessary. This is exactly the wrong lesson for us to learn. The real lesson is that we ought to demand that our government take on fewer activities, but pursue those it

does take up with much greater vigor.

After all, as Thomas Jefferson put it in the Declaration of Independence, "to secure these rights [life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness], governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." In Jefferson's view, not all problems fall into the domain of government — only those relating to individual rights do. And, indeed, he is correct. Can we truly deny that the post-New Deal, post-Great Society view that government ought to solve social problems has taken away its focus from its most fundamental mission, namely, the protection of our basic rights? Should not our government be preparing for the possibility of war against other nations, rather than pursuing futile "wars" against drugs and poverty?

We would do well to learn from the wisdom of a little-known 19th century French economist and statesman named Frederic Bastiat, who argued in his 1850 pamphlet *The Law* that the purpose of the law, and of all government, is to protect the life, liberty, and property of each individual. To his socialist compatriots, he issued the following stern warning:

"But make the laws upon the principle of fraternity — proclaim that all good, and all bad, stem from the law; that the law is responsible for all individual misfortunes and all social inequalities — then the door is open to an endless succession of complaints, irritations, troubles, and revolutions."

We, too, should recognize that it is not the place of government to cure all ills. To the extent that it attempts this, it will fail in everything that it does — including protecting us from terrorism.

If Washington wants to get our nation's security beefed up without busting the budget, it need not look very far for items to cut.

Fences Can Stop Sheep, But Not Humans

Tao Yue

Last Friday, a photo appeared in *The Tech*. A photo of a sign in a construction area near McCormick, on the back of which a student had written "We Are Not Sheep!" But, to my disappointment, the caption gave only the barest overview of the background behind the sign.

It's actually quite an interesting story, even if only because I'm finding random things to be increasingly funny as the end of the term comes and finals approach.

Quite a while ago, construction started in the area between McCormick and Kresge. Cordons and signs were put up to reroute pedestrian traffic around the construction.

Some time later, the entire north side of the Amherst sidewalk was cordoned off. This made things quite frustrating for West Campus residents, as most people were used to taking a slight shortcut across Kresge Oval to reach Mass. Ave. right at the Building 7 crosswalk. With this route blocked off, the easiest way to reach Mass. Ave. was by walking along the south sidewalk of Amherst Street, a route about forty-five seconds longer at an average MIT student's walking pace.

But we MIT students are pressed for time. Forty-five seconds is still forty-five seconds that didn't need to be wasted.

There was another reason that the blocking of the sidewalk annoyed us: there was really no reason for it to be blocked off.

I discovered that one day before the Thanksgiving break, I was walking absent-mindedly southward on the paved area in front of Kresge. Forgetting that the sidewalk was blocked off, I ran smack into the construction area. Not wanting to head back to Mass. Ave. just to walk westward again, I descended the stairs surrounding Kresge, walked across the lawn, found a gap in the hedges, and crossed the construction tape.

This immediately drew the attention of the Kresge parking lot attendant, who asked me, "Why did you cross that tape?" I explained

that I was already in the cordoned-off area, so obviously the thing to do was to leave that area immediately. "Yeah, but how the hell did you get there in the first place?" Very simple: I walked. I walked without crossing any construction tape, without violating any signs, without going anywhere I shouldn't.

And so, I realized the insanity of the situation we were in. The lawn behind Kresge is reachable from

ing Break, I saw that someone else had also realized the craziness of the situation. One of the signs directing pedestrians eastward had been turned around, and the words "We Are Not Sheep!" was written on the sign. The traffic cones holding up the caution netting were overturned, and the way was free once again.

I felt like congratulating whoever did it. He or

around and the way was clear. Then, realizing that simply restoring the situation wasn't going to be permanent, a wooden fence was installed in the row of hedges.

But the students — humans, not sheep, and please remember that — weren't to be stopped. The sign was back, the cones were down, and the fence was broken apart, its pieces scattered around the lawn.

This, apparently, caused the maintainer of the blockage to give up. The sign was turned back around to hide the ignominy of defeat, while the cones remained down, the fence did not come back, and the way stood clear.

This is the term where a mandatory meal plan was proposed yet again and the Dean of Admissions wrote about students in extremely condescending terms. Neither of them, by themselves, were that bad. Both could have been discussed civilly had they been civil to us. However, the meal plan was sprung on us without warning, and the article was hidden in the faculty newsletter and referred to students as little more than children, making insultingly sweeping generalizations.

The sign may have manifested frustrations about construction, but that's not all. We've had construction all around us. Senior House residents have had to listen to a building being torn down in front of them. Bexley residents, in addition to the traffic, have had to listen to heavy machinery as the asphalt of Mass. Ave. was torn and replaced as the pipes down below were refitted. And all of us have found familiar routes blocked.

The sign also represents our other frustrations. The meal plan. The Marilee Jones article. The increasing of tensions and the piling up of work as the end of the term approaches. And finally, this. Construction-related blockades are one thing, but this blockade didn't even need to be there. And while I have no idea who actually decided to act and clear the way for students, I'll bet that was a part of it. We all get frustrated with MIT once in a while. It's part of life, part of IHTFP. But to add more frustrations than are really needed — well, that's just gratuitous.



There was another reason that the blocking of the sidewalk annoyed us. There was really no reason for it to be blocked off.

the north and the east, but is blocked from the south. And the parking lot attendant would get mad at you even if you reached that location from the northeast.

I had no desire to annoy the parking lot attendant, so for the next few days I made sure to steer clear of the area.

But when I came back from Thanksgiv-

expressed the frustrations of us all.

But I also knew it wouldn't last. And sure enough, the traffic cones were back upright, the sign was turned back around, and the way was blocked again.

Then followed a game between the students and whoever was maintaining the blocking system. The next day, the sign was back

You're probably not reading this ad. But if you are , You should be doing something better... Like writing opinion for The Tech. join@tt.mit.edu

THE ARTS



CONCERT REVIEW

A Tale of Two Concerts: Toons & Resonance Sing

MIT/Wellesley Toons Live Up to Expectations, Leave Newcomers Resonance With Big Shoes to Fill

MICHAEL F. LIN—THE TECH

The MIT/Wellesley Toons perform in concert along with the Boston University Dear Abbeys and the Boston College Acoustics last Saturday night in a packed 54-100.

By Pey-Hua Hwang

STAFF WRITER

It was a night of a *cappella* as the MIT/Wellesley Toons and MIT's Resonance had back-to-back concerts. The Toons concert began at 7 p.m. with their guest group the Boston College Acoustics, and the Resonance started shortly thereafter at 8:30 p.m.

The Toons

The Acoustics, a co-ed group, opened with "It's My Life," by Bon Jovi. Though lacking the choreography characteristic of the Chorallaries, it was full of energy and had in its favor a soloist with particularly good projection. The rest of their set was less impressive, but the group seemed to be enjoying themselves and even had a bit of minor choreography in their last song, "Everywhere" by Michelle Branch.

The Toons' second guest group, the Boston University Dear Abbeys, an all male a cappella group, then took the stage. The Dear Abbeys were dressed in matching Dear Abbey baseball style three quarter sleeve t-shirts and started their set with "Hungry Like A Wolf," by Duran Duran. This song featured an interesting key change as well as some impressive voice percussion. Two other notable songs were the mellow, "Lady in Red" by Chris Deberg, where soloist Victor Sandman had some impressive falsetto notes, and "Take on Me" by A-ha, sung by Sean Landers, who topped Sandman's high A with a high B-flat and had the whole group dancing in entertaining antics.

Their whole set effused energy and made them a hard act to follow. However, the Toons were certainly up to the task. Neil Basu '01 sang "Sell Out" by Reel Big Fish to kick off the concert with plenty of stage presence and charisma. Ryan Manuel then sang "Tiny Dancer" by Elton John, which mellowed the mood and set the mood for a ballad by Hole called "Dying," sung by Brooke Bryant '03. This piece showcased Bryant's voice and allowed the Toons to display their lyrical abilities.

Then, as in any a cappella show, there was an obligatory skit. A parody of American Pie, it was but a segue into the next song called "Not an Addict" by K's Choice, aptly performed with the proper gravity by Nikhila Deo '04.

What followed was the masterpiece of choreography for the evening. The Toons performed Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," complete with a moonwalk. The soloist, David Ngo '02, even wore Jackson's signature white glove. The dance moves compensated for his occasional lack in volume in comparison to the rest of the group.

Gautam Jayaraman '02 launched into "If You Could Only See" by Tonic. With some duet help from Ngo, he managed to project over the heavy background, which also did a relatively good imitation of a guitar riff. Then the Toons took us back to the good old days with a tv medley of sitcom themes from Cheers to Who's the Boss.

They ended their set with "Ready to Go," by Republica with soloist Niyati Gandhi '02. Unfortunately, it was often hard to hear Gandhi because it seemed as if the evening's excitement had the rest of the Toons singing too loudly. However, it didn't stop the audience from applauding wildly and staying around to hear the encore song of Vertical Horizon's "You're A God," sung by Charles Floyd '03.

The Resonance

It was a tight time squeeze to hurry to the Resonance concert that followed. Brandeis' Voice Male opened for the relatively new group. Voice Male's repertoire consisted of classic a cappella tunes and oldies. For a very small group with only seven members, Voice Male had wonderful balance and although one member, Seth Herring, rendered solos for four out of their five songs, the rest of the group seemed well suited to their parts. Most of the songs were ballads, but "Don't Cry" by Seal ended their set and had some very well-executed voice percussion. Their newest member Sean Cotton sang "Dream," which was also well received by the audience and pulled the oldest a cappella tradition in the book of serenading an audience member.

Then Resonance took the stage as Corey M. Gerritsen '01 sang "Road Trippin'" by The Red Hot Chili Peppers. It made for an interesting choice for an opening number, as most a cappella concerts tend to begin with a very fast-paced, high energy piece rather than such a mellow and reflective one as this. Gerritsen had a clear voice, however it seemed rather strained on some of the higher notes he had to sing.

In fact, throughout the concert, high notes seemed to be problematic, particularly in the female background vocals, where intonation seemed to be a constant issue. Chords often seemed to be stretched between the solid bass and not-so-solid soprano and lacked the balancing effects of tenor and alto.

Sara Jo Elice G then sang "Can't Fight the Moonlight" by Leanne Rimes. She started off rather solidly, but lacked projection and again her high notes often failed to reach the correct pitch. Dan Lowrey's '02 bass introduction of "Space Odyssey" by David Bowie would serve to compensate because he had a confident and rich tone, however,

when the piece demanded his tenor range, his projection decreased considerably.

Of course, then there was a skit which drew inspiration from "Office Space" and had the audience laughing and cheering when the next song "I Love My Boss," by Moxy Fruvous was performed by Usman Akeju '02. His comic timing and animated matter combined with relatively solid intonation for an all around crowd pleasing piece. This was one of the highlights of the night.

Matthew Leal '04 sang "Enjoy the Silence" by Depeche Mode. This song seemed lackluster, though the lack of enthusiasm seemed to be more a fault of the arrangement which had the group in perfect octaves for quite a bit of the song, creating the semblance of missing singers because there seemed to be a need for absent harmonic lines. However this momentary lull was soon obliterated by a rather original skit. This skit which involved earwax, a water break, and "your mom" produced considerable laughter and merriment in the audience.

The break also seemed to help the singers a lot, as the caliber of their performance improved measurably after the skit finished. "Living on a Prayer" by Bon Jovi, sung by Rego A. Sen '03 showed a lot of potential for what the group could achieve after more practice. The background vocals were more solid and Rego himself had good stage presence.

Another strong performance was given by Carrie A Niziolek '05, who sang "You look so Fine" by Garbage. She didn't get as much backup as Rego, but her voice had a fullness lacking in some of the other solos.

Then Resonance invited down its three existing alumni to perform the first song that they had ever performed together, "Suzy Q Sail Away" by Self. This song had by far the strongest background vocals even to the point of covering the soloist, Leal. However, there were also more people singing backup. The energy was very good and they exited the class room amidst cries of encore, applause and raucous cheering.

After working the crowd for about a minute, they returned to sing "The Animal Song" by Savage Garden with soloist David M. Zych. His solid voice and clear falsetto begged the question of why he hadn't soloed in more pieces. Resonance then made their final exit in a conga line.

All in all, this relatively new group displays plenty of energy and has the potential to become an established MIT a cappella group. However, it is also clear that it may take a while for them to truly become fixture at the Institute.

Clubs

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437
Sundays: See Avalon below.
Mondays: *Static*. Gay, casual dress. \$5, 18+.
Thursdays: *Chrome/Skybar*. Progressive house, soul, disco; dress code \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Avalon.
Saturdays: *X-night* (rock, alternative, techno, hip-hop) downstairs and *Move* (techno) upstairs.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424
Sundays: *Gay Night* (with Axis on long weekends). Featuring hardcore house and techno. \$10, 21+.
Thursdays: *International Night*. Eurohouse. \$10, 19+.
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Axis. House. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Downtown*. Modern house, club classics, and Top 40 hits. \$15, 21+.

Karma Club
9 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9595
Sundays: "Current dance favorites" by guest DJs. Cover varies.
Tuesdays: *Phatt Tuesdays*. With Bill's bar, modern dance music. \$10.
Wednesdays: *STP*. Gay-friendly, house. \$15, 21+.
Thursdays: *Groove Factor*. House.
Fridays: *Spin cycle*. Prog. house. 19+.
Saturdays: *Elements of Life*. International House. \$15.

ManRay
21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400
Wednesdays: *Curses*. Goth. Appropriate dress required. \$5, 19+; \$3, 21+.
Thursdays: *Campus*. Popular tunes + House. Gay, casual dress. \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Fantasy Factory* (First and third Friday of the month. Features kinky fetishes and industrial music.) *Hell Night* (every second Friday. 19+. Includes Goth music.) *Ooze* (the last Friday of the month.) \$10, 21+. reduced prices for those wearing fetish gear.
Saturdays: *Liquid*. Disco/hse. + New Wave. \$15, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Popular Music

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437
Next: 423-NEXT
Dec. 9: H2O.
Dec. 10: DJ Krush.
Dec. 11: Genitorturers.
Dec. 12-16: *Mighty Mighty Bosstones*.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424
Dec. 12: Lifehouse.
Dec. 12: *Jonatha Brooke*.
Dec. 27: *Pat McGee Band*.
Jan. 18: *Mission of Burma*.

Berklee Performance Center
Berklee College of Music
1140 Boylston St.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 747-8820.
Dec. 15: *Jane Olivor*.

Club Passim
47 Palmer St, Cambridge, 617-492-7679
Tuesdays: Open Mic at 8 p.m. (sign up at 7:30). \$5.
Call for complete schedule.

FleetCenter
Ticketmaster: 931-2787.
Dec. 3: *Mix 98.5 Holiday Hoe-down*, with *Coldplay*, the *Cranberries*, *Alanis Morissette*, and *Barenaked Ladies*.
Dec. 9-11: *Britney Spears*.
Jan. 22-24: *Elton John* and *Billy Joel*.

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
December 7 - 13
Compiled by Fred Choi

Send submissions to ott@the-tech.mit.edu or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

The Middle East

Central Square, 354-8238
Ticketmaster: 931-2787.
Dec. 8: Karate.
Dec. 18: *Angels of Light* (Michael Gira of the Swans), *Virgil Shaw*.
Dec. 22: *Reid Genauer* (Of *Strangefold*), *Aaron Katz Project* (Of *Percy*).

Orpheum Theatre
1 Hamilton Pl., Boston, 617-679-0810
Ticketmaster: 931-2787
Dec. 8: *King Crimson*.
Dec. 14-15: *Trans-Siberian Orchestra*.
Dec. 31: *Hybrasil*.

Paradise Rock Club
967 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Ma. 02215, 617-562-8804
Dec. 7: *Nikka Costa*.
Dec. 8: *Big Wu*.
Dec. 11: *The Nortec Collective*.
Dec. 12: *Ocean Colour Scene*.
Dec. 14: *Actual Proof*.
Dec. 15: *Jaguars*.
Dec. 31: *The Sheila Divine*.

Jazz Music

Regattabar
Concertix: 876-7777
1 Bennett St., Cambridge 02138, 617-662-5000
Call for schedule.

Scullers Jazz Club
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 617-562-4111
Call for schedule.

Classical Music

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tickets: 617-266-1492.
Performances at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, unless otherwise noted.

Dec. 8 at 8 p.m., Dec. 7 at 1:30 p.m.: *Beethoven: Overture from the incidental music to Goethe's Egmont, Op. 84; Piano Concerto No. 4 in G, Op. 58; Bartok: Concerto for Orchestra*. *Seiji Ozawa*, conductor; *Dubravka Tomsic*, piano. Pre-concert talk given by *Helen Greenwald*, New England Conservatory, one hour prior to the concert, in Symphony Hall. Free to performance ticket holders.

Boston Holiday Pops
This season, continue the tradition of the Holiday Pops with your family and friends. Join the Boston Pops in historic Symphony Hall for Dec. 13-14, 18, 20-22, 26-29, 31, most days performances at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. All performances directed by *Keith Lockhard* unless otherwise noted. Check www.bso.org for full schedule and to reserve tickets.



Plymouth native DJ Dave Ralph plays New Years' Eve at Avalon.

Theater

Contact
At the Colonial Theatre (106 Boylston St., 617-426-9366). The national tour of the multiple Tony award-winning show featuring three stories and directed and choreographed by Broadway powerhouse *Susan Stroman* (The Producers). Dec. 27, 29, 30, Jan. 5-6 at 2 p.m.; Dec. 27 at 7 p.m.; Dec. 28, 29, Jan. 1-5 at 8 p.m.; Dec. 30, Jan. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$73-\$23. To reserve tickets, visit ticketmaster.com for tickets.

Stomp
Through Jan. 6 (Tue.-Fri.) at 8 p.m., Sat. 5 and 9 p.m., Sun. 2 and 7 p.m.), at the Wilbur Theatre (246 Tremont St., Boston, 617-423-4008. Take the Green Line to Boylston). The National Tour of the now-famous fun (and loud), percussive, rhythmic comedy performance hits Boston. Tickets \$50-\$23. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets.

Othello
Through Jan. 17, 2002 at the Loeb Drama Center. Russian director *Yuri Yeremin* returns to stage Shakespeare's riveting study of jealousy and revenge. Visit www.amrep.org/othello for a complete schedule or to reserve discount tickets online, or call 617-547-8300. Tickets \$61-\$28.

Comedy Connection
Mon.-Wed. at 8 p.m.; Thurs. 8:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. The oldest comedy club in Boston showcases big-name, national comedians on weekends and up-and-coming local talent during the week. At 245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston. Admission \$10-\$8 (weekend prices vary). Call 248-9700 for more information and a complete schedule.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton

primitive masks dating from as far back as 2500 B.C.; "European Decorative Arts from 1950 to the Present"; "John Singer Sargent: Studies for MFA and Boston Public Library Murals." Gallery lectures are free with museum admission.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston. (723-2500). Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors. The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery Center"; "Investigate! A See-For-Yourself Exhibit"; "Science in the Park: Playing with Forces and Motion"; "Seeing Is Deceiving." Ongoing: "Friday Night Stargazing," Fri., 8:30 p.m.; "Welcome to the Universe," daily; "Quest for Contact: Are We Alone?" daily. Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors. Current Laser Light shows: *Laser Beastie Boys*, *Laser Ragefest 3*, *Laser Pink Floyd: Dark Side*, *Laser Aerosmith*.

Other

The Films of Frederick Wiseman
The Museum of Fine Arts offers a complete retrospective of Wiseman's 31 documentaries, every Saturday, through April 14, 2002. At the Remis Auditorium Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 02115 unless otherwise noted. For tickets and more information, call 369-3770. Tickets are \$8, \$7 MFA members, seniors, students.

Dec. 8 at 10:30 a.m.: *Ballet* (1995, 170 min.). *Ballet* is a profile of the work of the American Ballet Theatre, an important classical ballet company. The film presents the Company in rehearsal in their New York studio and on tour in Athens and Copenhagen. Choreographers, ballet masters and mistresses are shown at work with principle dancers, soloists, and the corps de ballet. Other sequences involve the administration and fund raising aspects of the Company.

Jan. 9 at 8 p.m.: *Titicut Follies* (1967, 84 min.). The film is a stark and graphic portrayal of the conditions that existed at the State Prison for the Criminally Insane at Bridgewater, Massachusetts. *Titicut Follies* documents the various ways the inmates are treated by the

guards, social workers and psychiatrists.

Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years
Through Feb. 28. At the John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Dorchester, MA. Using the Kennedys' path to the White House as a framing device, Vogue editor *Hamish Bowles* presents outfits along with related material. Photos of events and appearances are blown up, and correspondence with designers proves that Kennedy's seemingly effortless grace was part of an overall exacting attention to detail. Open most weekdays and weekends 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$15-\$8. May be crowded.

Mahogany
Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.: Other Music Harvard Square (90 Winthrop St., Cambridge MA) proudly welcomes *Mahogany* for an in-store performance. Free admission, but limited capacity. For more information, call 617-491-4419 or visit www.simdisc.com/index2.html.

17th Annual Drawing Show
Opening Reception Dec. 15, 7-9 p.m. at the Mills Gallery (539 Tremont Street in the South End. MBTA Orange Line to Back Bay Station, near the corner of Clarendon and Tremont Streets. Or MBTA Green Line, Copley Station. Walk down Boylston Street to Clarendon St. Near the corner of Clarendon and Tremont Streets. Also, the MBTA Bus #43 stops in front of the Boston Center for the Arts on Tremont Street.) This event is sponsored by the Boston Center for the Arts, and Bill Arning is the guest juror and curator of this year's Drawing Show. Featuring the work of 100 Boston artists. The exhibition runs through February 10, 2002. Arning will also be giving a Curator's Talk on Thursday, January 10, 2002, from 6:30 PM at the Mills Gallery. For more information, call the BCA Events Line at (617) 426-7700.

New Films from Europe
Dec. 7-15: For the second consecutive year, the Harvard Film Archive presents a selection of new films from Europe.

Dec. 14 at 7 p.m.: *The Slow Business of Going* (Dir. by Athina Rachel Tsangari, US/Greece 2000, 35mm, b/w and color, 101 min.) Athina Tsangari, a native of Athens, is an innovative filmmaker, who works with superimposed images, numbers and words, video, looped soundtracks, and animation to create a new language of cinema. Her film revolves around the young and attractive *Petra* (Martinez), whom we follow as she travels the world. A film about personal identity, the dissolution of borders, and the place of the individual in the modern world, Tsangari's first feature is an ambitious salute to genres as varied as the spy-thriller and slapstick comedy.

All festival films will be screened at Harvard Film Archive, located at the lower level of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St. Cambridge. Tickets \$7, \$5 students, seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the Harvard Box Office, located at Holyoke Center Arcade, 1350 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. For ticketing info, call 617-496-2222 or TTY: 617-495-1642. Visit www.harvardfilmarchive.org for a complete schedule or call 617-495-4700!

FARD'S PICK OF THE WEEK

The Nutcracker

Through Dec. 30. At the Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St. (T Green Line to Boylston). Boston Ballet's 2001 *Nutcracker* brings captivating choreography, lavish scenery, special effects and costumes. Filled with the wonder and magic of the holidays, *The Nutcracker* follows a young girl named *Clara* on her dream adventure. The ballet is set to the music of *Tchaikovsky* and is choreographed by *Bruce Marks*, *Anna-Marie Holmes*, *Sydney Leonard*, and *Daniel Peizig*. Tickets \$65-\$14. Visit www.bostonballet.org for more information.

Amelie

"★★★★ 1/2 stars!"
—Jay Carr, BOSTON GLOBE
"Amelie" is a fey charmer. You've heard of "The French Connection". "Amelie" is, par excellence, the French confection."

Shows Daily at 12:05, 1:05, 1:40, 2:50, 3:50, 4:30, 5:35, 6:40, 7:10, 8:25, 9:25, 9:50
Early show Mon-Sat at 11am

Sidewalks of New York

Ed Burns' romantic comedy has an ensemble cast including *Heather Graham*, *Rosario Dawson*, and *Dennis Farina*. *Jamie Malanowski* of the *New York Times* says, "A smartly observed comedy of manners. Exceeds the promise of *Edward Burns'* widely praised debut, *The Brothers McMullen*!"

Shows Daily at 1:00, 2:30, 3:40, 5:00, 6:30, 7:40, 9:15, 10:05
Early show Mon-Sat at 11:30

Novocaine

—Jay Carr, BOSTON GLOBE
"Wickedly entertaining! 'Novocaine' is a battle between chaos and the illusion of order, which is to say, between chaos and even more chaos. As the tightly coiled *Martin* unwinds with terrified delight, he becomes a deliciously discombobulated pilgrim in *Atkins'* wickedly entertaining moral void."

Shows Daily at 12:15, 1:15, 2:35, 3:30, 5:10, 6:10, 7:25, 8:40, 10:10
Early show Mon-Sat at 10:45am

Waking Life

"★★★★"
—Jay Carr, BOSTON GLOBE
"Much is called innovative. Little is. *Richard Linklater's* 'Waking Life' is one of the exceptions. It's film reinventing itself before our eyes, turning into sort of a liquid, flowing painting, using old techniques in new ways."

Shows Daily at 2:15, 3:20, 4:45, 7:35, 9:20, 10:00
Early show Mon-Sat at 11:20

Memento

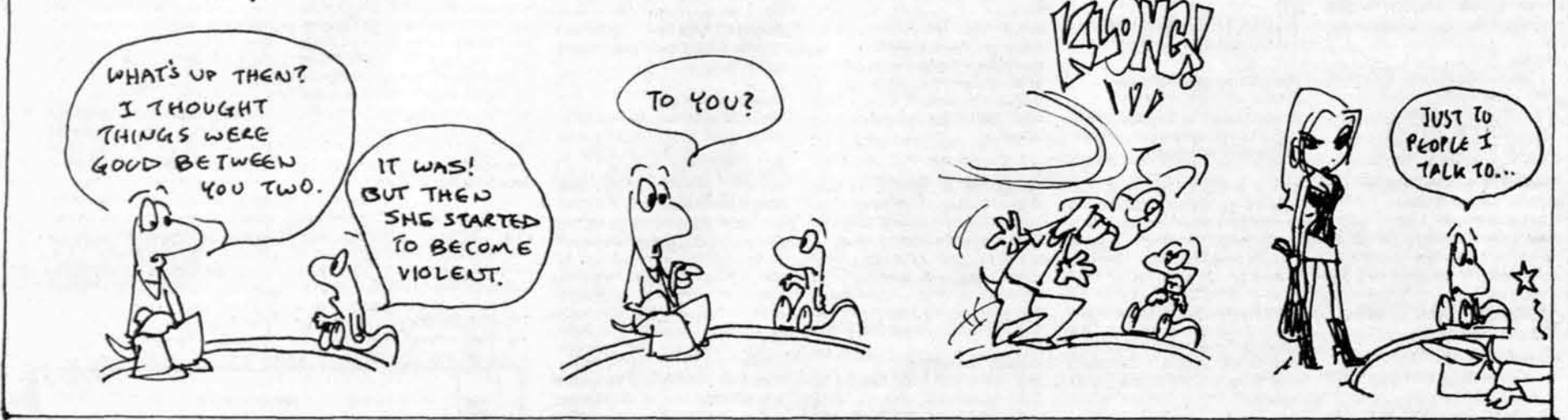
This critically-acclaimed film is the latest offering from the *Coen brothers*, who delighted audiences with "O, Brother, Where Art Thou?" and "Fargo". Stars *Billy Bob Thornton*, *James Gandolfini*, *Frances McDormand*, and *Michael Badalucco*.

Shows Daily at 12:20, 1:20, 4:20, 6:25, 7:20, 9:55
Early show Mon-Sat at 11:15am

mat'solar



ONE SCREW LOOSE SS'05



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 11

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | |
| 1 Mr. Baba | 1 Some semites | 33 West African republic |
| 4 Rascal | 2 Pinkish purple | 34 Cut and splice |
| 9 Stairway, in Milan | 3 Not likely | 35 Make over |
| 14 Edge | 4 Health resort | 37 Consequence |
| 15 ___ bear | 5 Soft drink | 40 Buttons of film |
| 16 Abodes | 6 Dress design | 42 PC image |
| 17 High mountain | 7 Allow to pass | 45 Diplomatic official |
| 18 Similar | 8 Choose in advance | 50 Bro's sibling |
| 19 Vibrant | 9 Former rulers of Iran | 51 Big swigs |
| 20 Exalted poet | 10 Composer Porter | 52 Employs |
| 22 Induced insensibility to pain | 11 "Lucky Jim" author | 54 Uncanny |
| 24 Reconnoiter | 12 Jeans man | 55 Used a broom |
| 26 Water pitchers | 13 Cruising | 56 Golfer Faxon |
| 27 Rosary unit | 21 Expected | 57 Govern |
| 29 Pie ___ mode | 23 Soon-to-be former car | 58 Press |
| 30 Component | 25 Cab | 59 Crazy |
| 34 Significant period | 28 Puts on clothes | 60 Switches to low beams |
| 36 Took an inside photograph | 30 D.C. old-timer | 64 Sandra of films |
| 38 Toast topper | 31 Providing nourishment | |
| 39 Interrogate after a mission | 32 City on the Truckee | |
| 41 Upper limit | | |
| 43 Out of work | | |
| 44 Motionless | | |
| 46 Bossy's comment | | |
| 47 Drove (a nail) obliquely | | |
| 48 Match unit for Venus | | |
| 49 Durante feature | | |
| 51 Pullman bed | | |
| 53 Baseball teams | | |
| 56 Best man's counterpart | | |
| 61 Fret | | |
| 62 Bucolic | | |
| 63 Bitterly pungent | | |
| 65 Exist | | |
| 66 In the rigging | | |
| 67 School composition | | |
| 68 Tombstone letters | | |
| 69 Fender flaws | | |
| 70 "Steppenwolf" author | | |
| 71 Thus far | | |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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FoxTrot by Bill Amend



Dilbert® by Scott Adams



Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Friday, December 7

12:00 a.m. - **PE Lottery - IAP.** The Physical Education lottery for IAP closes on Dec. 13th at 1pm! Also the MIT Athletics card is required for all non-students.. varies. Room: Students: goto WebSIS, Non-students:goto W32-125. Sponsor: Physical Education, IAP.

12:00 a.m. - **6.370: The MIT ACM/IEEE Annual Programming Competition.** Registration is open! The MIT ACM/IEEE Chapter's annual programming competition is held during IAP. This year we are offering competitors a chance to implement the artificial intelligence for an army of virtual robots in a 3D realtime strategy game. Check out the web page and register.. free. Sponsor: MIT ACM/IEEE.

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. - **Morning Prayer.** Brief time of prayer for peace and justice. All are welcome. . free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Protestant Student Community, Tech Catholic Community, Episcopal Ministry at LEM.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Hitachi-MIT Day.** Hitachi-MIT Day Wong Auditorium Tang Center. free. Room: Wong Auditorium E51. Sponsor: MTL VLSI Seminar.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Holiday Craft Fair.** The Technology Community Crafters hold their annual holiday sale. Items for sale include holiday ornaments and decorations, hand-knit children's clothing, pottery, fountains, stuffed animals, jewelry, and much more.. free. Room: Lobby 10. Sponsor: MIT Women's League.

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. - **Copyright Request Deadline for course material for Spring 2002.** The MIT Copy Technology Centers deadline for submitting copyright request forms for course material is Dec. 10, 2001 for material that will be used in course readers for the Spring 2002 semester. If you need additional time to submit copyright requests please contact the copyright administrator at 258-5275. . free. Room: MIT Copy Technology Centers . Sponsor: Copy Technology Centers.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **FileMaker Pro User Group.** The MIT FileMaker User Group (fmug) was formed for people at MIT, from beginners to experts, who are using or interested in learning to use FileMaker(r) Pro database software and related products. After several years of dormancy, the group has been revived to acknowledge increasing use of FileMaker products on campus and to help the user community transition to FileMaker 5.. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - **"Simple Systems and Other Myths".** MIT's Engineering Systems Division presents the first presentation in the Brunel Lecture Series, "Simple Systems and Other Myths." Mr. Norman R. Augustine is former Chairman, President, and CEO and current Chairman of the Executive Committee of Lockheed Martin Corporation. Reception follows from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.. free. Room: Bartos Theater, Lower Atrium. Sponsor: Engineering Systems Division.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - **BSU Lecture Panel Series.** The Black Students' Union will be starting a monthly panel series this semester to be continued throughout the school year. This month's panel discussion is "What does it take to become a doctor? Or lawyer? Or Consultant?" Staff and students from MIT departments, offices, and alumni in addition to local university staff make up each volunteer panel. This panel discussion is funded by the MIT Fund.. free. Room: 50-105 BSU Lounge. Sponsor: Black Students' Union.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - **Falun Gong Exercise workshop.** The Falun Gong exercise is an easy and effective way to relieve stress and improve physical and mental health. Millions of people in over 40 countries practice these 5 sets of gentle movements.. free. Room: 1-242. Sponsor: Falun Dafa Club.

7:00 p.m. - **The Princess Diaries.** LSC Presents The Princess Diaries. \$3. Sponsor: LSC.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - **Club Z.** Meet New People from MIT and Wellesley . . . Show up anytime during our event . . . We'll put you in a team with others to build a tower out of toothpicks and marshmallows . . . the team with the highest tower wins . . . Or just hang out and watch others build . . . Gift certificates for the winning team . . . Free hot chocolate and desserts for everyone. free. Room: 20 Chimmneys (Student Center - Third Floor). Sponsor: ClubZ.

7:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m. - **Toral! Toral! Toral!** LSC Classics Presents Toral! Toral! Toral! \$3. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. - **The Crucible.** Production of Arthur Miller's drama.. \$10, \$8 other students, MIT faculty/staff . Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

8:00 p.m. - **Gamelan Galak Tika Fall Concert.** Traditional Balinese music and dance.. \$7, \$3 students, free with MIT ID and for children under 12. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Gamelan Galak Tika.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - **The Crucible.** Arthur Miller's famous retelling of the Salem Witch Trials. \$6 MIT and Wellesley students; \$8 Faculty/Staff, Senior Citizens, and other Students; \$10 General admission. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

10:00 p.m. - **The Princess Diaries.** LSC Presents The Princess Diaries. \$3. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, December 8

2:00 p.m. - **Men's Basketball vs. Polytechnic.** free. Room: Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

5:00 p.m. - **Men's Ice Hockey vs. Lydon State.** free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

7:00 p.m. - **Cross Products Fall Concert.** MIT's a cappella Christian ensemble.. free. Room: Rm 6-120. Sponsor: Cross Products.

7:00 p.m. - **Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back.** LSC Presents Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back. \$3. Sponsor: LSC.

7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. - **Afrique Magique: 2nd Annual Semi-Formal.** Annual Semi-Formal. Sample delicious African cuisine while listening to poetry and background kora(classical west african instrument) music.Enjoy a live band performing african downbeats,calypso and reggae followed by an After party.. \$12/person, \$20/couple, \$10 each for groups of 4 or more. Room: Hulsizer Rm, Ashdown House. Sponsor: African Students Association, Wellesley African Students Association.

8:00 p.m. - **The Crucible.** Production of Arthur Miller's drama.. \$10, \$8 other students, MIT faculty/staff . Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - **MIT Logarithms Winter Concert.** MIT Logarithms Holiday Concert. MIT's oldest and only all-male a capella ensemble present their annual Christmas concert, featuring their now legendary reputation

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

for high-energy performance and outrageous brand of humor. Performing guest groups include The Middlebury Mamajamas. 8pm, Rm 10-250 (enter 77 Massachusetts Ave.). Collins Ward, 617/359-8656. free. Room: 77 Mass. Ave., Rm. 10-250. Sponsor: Logarithms, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - **MIT Symphony Orchestra.** Dante Anzolini, music director. Child's *Jubal-Brahms'* Shicksalslied with the MIT Concert Choir (William Cutter, director); Brahms' Symphony No. 3; Knussen's Horn Concerto with Jean Rife, soloist.. \$3 at the door. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - **Patrol.** Shoot your friends! Travel to strange, new classrooms; meet interesting, unusual people; and kill them. A team game of shoot-em-up; guns provided.. free. Room: Building 36, First Floor. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - **MIT Logarithms Holiday Concert.** MIT's oldest and only all-male a capella ensemble present their annual Christmas concert, featuring their now legendary reputation for high-energy performance and outrageous brand of humor. Performing guest groups include The Middlebury Mamajamas. . free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Logarithms, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - **The Crucible.** Arthur Miller's famous retelling of the Salem Witch Trials. \$6 MIT and Wellesley students; \$8 Faculty/Staff, Senior Citizens, and other Students; \$10 General admission. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

10:00 p.m. - **Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back.** LSC Presents Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Sunday, December 9

1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - **Ballroom Dancing Workshops.** Beginner ballroom dance steps will be taught. There will also be a new focus on developing techniques as well. Open to everyone. No experiences necessary. No partners required.. Visit our website for pricings. Room: Visit our website for venues. Sponsor: Ballroom Dance Club.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **The Crucible.** Arthur Miller's famous retelling of the Salem Witch Trials. \$6 MIT/Wellesley students; \$8 Faculty, Staff, Other Students, Senior Citizens; \$10 General Admission. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

2:00 p.m. - **The Crucible.** Production of Arthur Miller's drama.. \$10, \$8 other students, MIT faculty/staff . Sponsor: MIT Community Players.

5:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society Concerts.** free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

7:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society Concerts.** free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

7:00 p.m. - **The Princess Diaries.** LSC Presents The Princess Diaries. \$3. Sponsor: LSC.

10:00 p.m. - **Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back.** LSC Presents Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Monday, December 10

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. - **Morning Prayer.** Brief time of prayer for peace and justice. All are welcome. . free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Protestant Student Community, Tech Catholic Community, Episcopal Ministry at LEM.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **The Origin of Modern MIT Biology Department.** Structure & Function Seminar Series at MIT.. free. Room: Room, 68-181. Sponsor: Biology.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Dreamweaver Quick Start.** Dreamweaver 4 is a powerful tool for creating and managing complex web sites. This session introduces users to the Dreamweaver interface and gives a brief overview of web publishing practices at MIT. . free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Continuum Seminar: A Constitutive Model for the Large Strain Time Dependent Behavior of Articular Cartilage: Investigation of Collagen-Proteoglycan Interactions.** Articular cartilage is a complex hydrated tissue consisting of a small number of chondrocyte cells surrounded by an extracellular matrix (ECM). The solid fraction of the organic matrix consists predominantly of collagen (65% dry weight) and proteoglycan macromolecules (25% dry weight). We developed a fully three-dimensional constitutive model for the large strain, time dependent mechanical behavior of articular cartilage which accounts for the cooperative nature of the various constituents of the tissue. In the proposed model, the collagen network and the proteoglycan network play distinct and complementary roles. The proteoglycans contain glycosaminoglycan (GAG) groups, which are negatively charged and interact with the free positive ions in the interstitial fluid, producing an osmotic swelling tendency. This swelling tendency is balanced by constraining tensile forces developed in the collagen fibers. (Abstract continued. See web site.). Room: 3-370. Sponsor: Mechanical Engineering Dept..

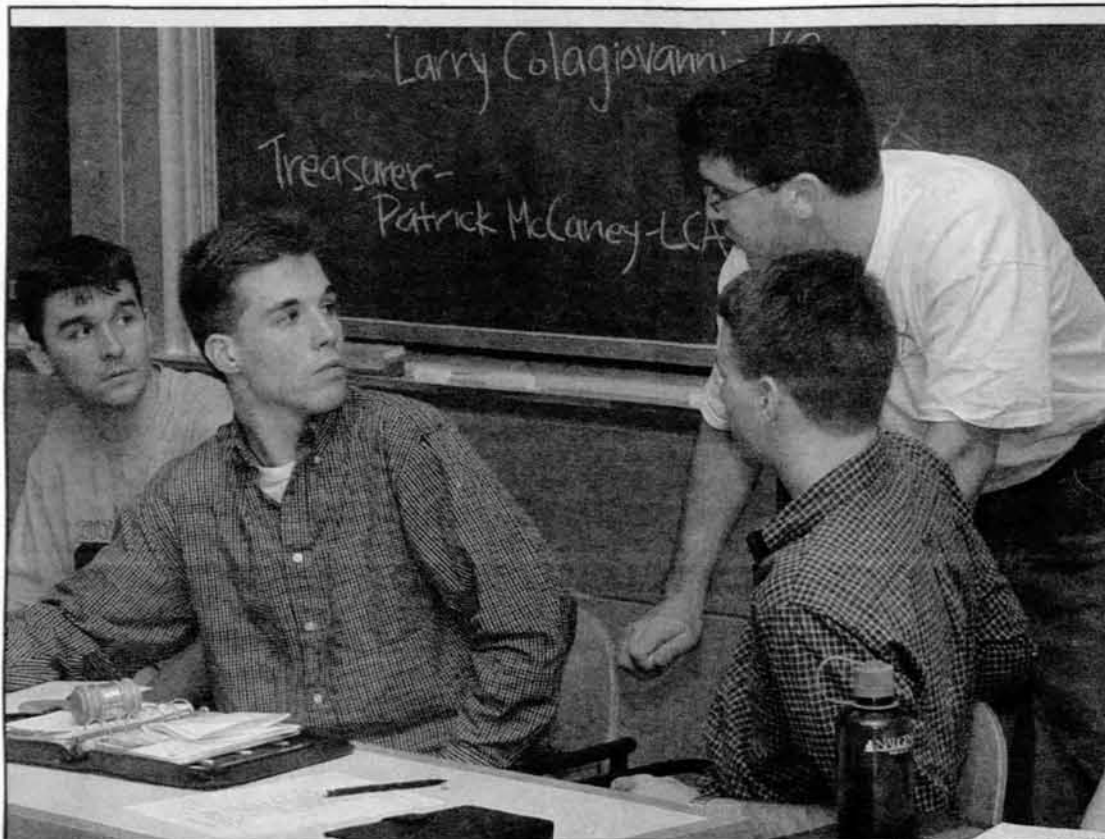
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **"Gluing and wormholes for the Einstein constraint equations."** free. Room: MIT Room 2-143. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Colloquium: "Correlation between d-electron count and the magnetic properties of pure and single-crystalline jarosite-type compounds"**. "Correlation between d-electron count and the magnetic properties of pure and single-crystalline jarosite-type compounds". free. Room: 13-2137 (von Hippel Room). Sponsor: Center for Materials Science & Engineering.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - **Rational Interactive Learning.** Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349.. free. Room: Room 2-105. Sponsor: Applied Mathematics Colloquium. Department of Mathematics.

7:00 p.m. - **MIT Chamber Music Society Concerts.** free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. - **Monday Night Football at the Ear.** Watching football at the Ear makes Dennis Miller a little more tolerable. Tonight: Indianapolis vs. Miami. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the Ashdown House basement. Enter through the courtyard. Hours: Monday: 8 p.m. - 12 am, Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 am, Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 am. Must be over 21. Proper ID required.. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.



IFC President Rory P. Pheiffer '02 and John J. Kogel '03 confer during Monday night's IFC elections.

NATHAN COLLINS—THE TECH

New Rush Changes Top Agenda of IFC

IFC, from Page 1

Hanson '03; Inter-FSILG Relations Chair Fred F. Gao '04; New Member Programs Chair Eric Zhang '04, and Secretary Andrew J. Kutas '04.

"I think that they have a good idea of where the IFC needs to go and will do a good job of the transition in 2002," said current IFC president Rory P. Pheiffer '01.

New officers plan rush changes

The new IFC officers will be faced with the challenge of following new rush and freshmen housing policies in the coming year.

"I think that some of the work that they'll do will help lead the transition into 2002," Pheiffer said.

The IFC must make sure that sufficient preparations are made for both rush and financial viability, Yue said.

"With the changes imposed for next year, I am afraid that a number of the incoming freshmen will not have the opportunity to engage in what I am sure most affiliated upperclassmen would consider some of the most rewarding experiences of their lives," said De Hoyos.

The new IFC vice-president discussed new activities to be a part of next year's rush, including a "Greek Week" preceding rush to draw freshmen to fraternities.

"I think that it will provide an excellent kick-off to getting everybody primed for what will, hopefully, be another successful living group rush in spite of the changes," DeHoyos said.

Another change that these new officers will have to deal with is the secession of the Panhellenic

Association from the IFC.

"I think in the coming year there will be various challenges faced by the two organizations while they try to develop their autonomy while maintaining relations," Pheiffer said. "Since this will be their first year on their own, Panhel will need some time to do some things on their own, establish a name for themselves on campus."

Increased unity top on agenda

Top on many of the elected officers' agendas is to increase unity within the MIT community as a whole by dispelling misconceptions of the Greek community.

"There is a great antagonization of the IFC in many cases, in which members of the community feel that we are unfair and incapable, and I think that next year will provide us with the opportunity to work on that relationship," De Hoyos said.

"[It is important] during this transition phase to make sure that a more trustful and working relationship is developed between MIT and not just the IFC Executive Committee, but to the whole IFC community at large," Yue said.

Pheiffer also noted the importance of better campus relations in light of the changing nature of rush.

"In 2002 the freshmen will be living on campus, so we can't have bad relations with students in dorms or else it will be very difficult to go in and recruit freshmen," said Pheiffer.

Gao expressed similar concerns, seeking to increase the level of interaction between FSILG residents and on campus students, as well as between the varied fraternities.

"I want to build a cohesive IFC community in the eyes of MIT. This means having IFC sponsored events on campus for the entire student body for the purpose of bringing off-campus students back onto campus in a social setting," Gao said. "I also want to work on a more personal relationship between houses."

George Hanson, the elected community service chair, hopes to establish higher profile community service events for MIT and the surrounding communities.

"Of the few [community service events] we have had, they've been poorly attended and they haven't made a great impact within the community," Hanson said.



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<http://innovation.stanford.edu>

interdisciplinary creativity intellectual
engineering teamwork modeling design property
TECHNOLOGY brainstorming prototyping

BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION ethics

Detentions, Threats To Rights a Concern

Ramadan, from Page 1

self a target. "It really shouldn't have to come to that ... when you have to sacrifice a strong part of your belief for your safety," she said. Raising awareness and reaching out to each other, she said, helps combat that fear.

"The real victims were the ones who lost their lives," Mohammed Jalal Khan G said. "I didn't want to allow myself [to be considered as a victim when] I was one of the luckiest ones, with a very minor problem."

Khan also expressed concern about the apparent threats to due process rights that the announcement of mass detentions and interviews of Muslims in America, as well as President Bush's announcement of military tribunals.

"They are not a concern for you; they are a concern for all of us," Vest said.

The previous dinners in the Ramadan@MIT series were the MIT chaplaincy iftar night and bring a friend to iftar night.

Talk addresses Islamic perspective

In his keynote speech, Saeed offered an Islamic perspective on the American values of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Quoting from the Koran, the Prophet Mohammed's sayings, and the likes of Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, Saeed said that Islam teaches that life is precious.

Saeed went on to say that according to Islam individuals have both freedom and responsibility. "We all have a choice to do right and wrong, and by giving us that choice, Allah holds us accountable," he said.

The speech was followed by a question and answer session moderated by Saeed and five other members of the MIT Muslim community. Members of the faculty and administration asked questions, such as how Islam reconciled the story of creation with current scientific evidence and how Judeo-Christian prophets fit in to Islam, in open microphone format.

CCRR develops awareness video

During the iftar, members from the Campus Committee for Race Relations recorded a video about what it is like to be a Muslim at MIT.

This effort was separate from the Ramadan@MIT series, but included input from the MSA. "Since September 11, the students have expressed some interest in making sure that the community understands what it's like to be Muslim," said housemaster and Associate Dean of Counselling and Support Services Ayida Mthembu, who directed the project at Wednesday's dinner.

In the same vein as MIT's "Intuitively Obvious" video series, this video "is intended to be used internally at MIT for educational purposes ... for people to get whatever the truth is from their perspective out there," Mthembu said. The

video may be used to spark discussion at living group events or among faculty, Mthembu said.

CCRR did give a grant specifically in support of the Ramadan@MIT series. The students also worked closely with Linda Noel, program coordinator for student activities. "I was excited when some of the students who were planning [the event] came to my office ... the whole series is a great opportunity for all members of the MIT community to come together and learn from each other," she said after attending the event.

Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar when Muslims fast from dawn to sunset. It is also a month of reflection and prayer. Muslims believe that their holy book, the Koran, was revealed during the month of Ramadan. The month travels with the lunar calendar and will start next year at the beginning of November.



CHANUKAH MENORAH LIGHTING

Monday, Dec. 10
4:45 p.m.
M.I.T.'s Lobby 10

Featuring MIT Hillel's "Test Tube Menorah" & Techiya a cappella group

Sponsored by M.I.T. Hillel
For information call 253-2982

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Compensation: This position is considered employment, minimum ten hours per week. The compensation package includes a meal stipend of \$1420 per year and free housing.

WANT MORE INFORMATION? COME TO OUR INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Friday, December 14, 4:00pm
Student Center - Private Dining Rooms 1 & 2 (3rd Floor)

Thursday, January 3, 7:00pm
Tang Hall - 24th Floor Lounge

Friday, January 11, 4:00pm
Walker Memorial- GSC Office

Wednesday, January 16, 7:00pm
Ashdown House- Hulsizer Room

For an application and detailed program and job descriptions, please visit our web site at web.mit.edu/rlslp/grad/grt.html or contact Nathan Elton at 617-253-3193, nelton@mit.edu

Solution to Crossword

from page 8

A	L	I	S	C	A	M	P	S	C	A	L	A	
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D	E	B	R	I	E	F	C	E	I	L	I	N	G
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Survey Finds RLA Program is Success

By Brian Loux
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A survey conducted by the Office of Residential Life and Student Life Programs has concluded that the pilot Residential Life Associate program has performed well in its first three months.

The survey took detailed opinions of housemasters, graduate residence tutors, and RLAs themselves. Katherine G. O'Dair, assistant dean of residential programs, said that the survey identified a need to clarify the role of the RLA and how they balance power with the housemasters, graduate resident tutors, and medical support.

The administration plans to address these issues in depth over IAP and spring semester and target dorm specific issues. "There will be some confusion of roles," said O'Dair, "but that's to be expected with the situation."

"It's very important to remember that we are only three months into the program," she said. "Three of the four RLAs are entirely new and are learning the cultures of their zones. A good part of their time was taken up learning about that."

"[The RLA program] is an entirely new thing to campus," said McCormick Housemaster Charles Stewart. "Right now I think they're trying to figure out a best way to be helpful on an unusual campus like MIT's. I think they'll do more later."

O'Dair said that the RLSLP was working on a plan to get a large volume of student feedback. "Our thinking was that students wouldn't have time to respond right now as finals pressure increases," she said. "We are hoping to get their responses next semester."

Dorm governments and the administration were quick to compliment the RLAs for assisting their endeavors. "They've been really involved in advising the freshmen and assisting the smaller programs around the dorm," said Next House treasurer Vikram Maheshri '03.

Maheshri said that the RLAs act only in instances where the administration has acted in the past. "They leave the house government to the students. They coordinate the advising events and study breaks, but do not do so much with [purely] social events," he said.

Next House GRT Youngmoo Kim G was pleased with the work of his dorm's RLA, Aaradhana K. Prajapati. "GRTs have work to do and are as busy as any student. The RLA's entire job is to help the students," he said. "She has been very useful and a helpful resource that takes the burden off the tutors, but ... she's more of a resource than a counselor."

Some students were not familiar with the RLA program. "To be honest I am not sure if Prajapati is often here," said Smitha Raghunathan '05.

O'Dair said that the extent of RLA involvement depends on the individual and the dorms. In family dorms like Eastgate, RLA Gabrielle Pardo has taken on a much more active role due to the lack of a housemaster, she said.

However, in dorms with pre-existing housemasters and GRTs, the RLA's role may be more oriented towards administrative support. "One thing we didn't want was to have the RLAs walking the hallways," said O'Dair. "We made sure the RLAs did not walk into the houses uninvited."

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Work Will Continue Next Fall

Simmons Hall, from Page 1

"I think [ongoing construction] is going to be a reality," Associate Professor of History and future Simmons Hall Housemaster Anne E. McCants said.

Similar ongoing construction has taken place since the new graduate dorm at 224 Albany Street, better known as "The Warehouse," opened to residents earlier this year.

"Sometimes it's challenging to live with the ongoing construction, but I think it's worth it to get the finished product," said Lori Lerman, housemaster of 224 Albany Street.

Dilan Seneviratne G, president of the Graduate Student Council, said that construction at the Warehouse was "fairly troublesome" especially because the construction delays were discovered late in the process.

Grads keep 70 Pacific Street

If MIT had determined that Simmons could not open in time for the fall semester, undergraduates would most likely have been housed in the new graduate dormitory at 70 Pacific Street and displaced many graduate students from campus housing. The Graduate Student Council was concerned about the potential lost revenue for the graduate reserve that would have resulted from losing 70 Pacific Street housing fees for a semester.

"The fact that Simmons is now on schedule is good news for everyone," Seneviratne said. "We hope this announcement guarantees there will be no displacing of graduate students" from the graduate dormitory under construction at Sydney and Pacific.

Salil Soman G, secretary of the Tang Hall Residents Association and co-chair of the Graduate Student Council housing and communi-

ty affairs committee, said that the announcement was a "sigh of relief" for graduate students. "The whole situation had the administration putting grad students at a disadvantage," Soman said. "You always keep your fingers crossed and hope that this is really what's going to happen."

Many optimistic about new dorm

McCants, who will serve as Simmons housemaster next year, said she was "thrilled, of course." "It's just terrific," she said. "All I can figure is we have the late summer here to thank for this; we got lucky."

Founder's Group member Jeffrey C. Roberts '02 said that he had heard some good news in the weeks leading up to the decision, and he "hadn't been too concerned about it." However, he added that he was "definitely relieved" to hear that Simmons would open on time.

Roberts said that he was confident the project team would successfully meet the completion schedule, but he recognized that "it is a challenging project and you never know what's going to happen."

Simmons planning gearing up

Benedict is said that the real planning for student life issues are yet to begin. "We're all excited, and now the real work begins," he said. "We have to start kicking those [plans] into high gear."

McCants said that MIT needed to go "full-speed ahead on getting some students who are committed to living there." She will be speaking with Benedict, Associate Dean For Student Life Programs Barbara A. Baker, and Undergraduate Residential Services Manager Denise A. Vallay next week regarding the logistics of getting upperclassmen students to move to Simmons.

However, planning is likely to be

on hold until Independent Activities Period begins since the term is ending shortly. "It can't move now, before the end of term," McCants said.

Roberts, who no longer needs to plan for a "Sponge-in-Exile" group of future Simmons residents living in temporary housing, said that he will host one final "Sponge Committee" meeting before the end of term on December 15. Key issues for the Founder's Group include a number of administrative topics, such as house governance, selection of graduate resident tutors, visiting scholars, and associate housemasters, as well as issues such as rooming, publicity, and dining. "Most of that work is going to start over IAP," Roberts said. He acknowledged that planning had been delayed by the uncertainty over Simmons' opening date. "The decision has kind of held things back," Roberts said. "We'll hopefully get more people starting to sign up and see where we go from there."

Contingency plans still developing

Although MIT has decided to go ahead with plans to house students in Simmons next fall, contingency planning is still proceeding in the event of emergency delays. "You always need to be prepared," Benedict said. However, he said that the later phases of construction could not result in delays significant enough to push back the dorm's opening. Rather, MIT would know far enough ahead "if there's a big problem" to plan accordingly.

Roberts agreed that some contingency planning is still necessary, but not on the scale previously discussed in the event of an IAP opening. "We may have to still talk about some smaller contingencies," Roberts said, such as a delay of a few days before students can move in.

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Leave password field blank, create new password under 'Personal Information'

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan courses:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Monday, December 17

Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 26

Waitlist-Only Round for closed classes:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Monday, December 31

Closes 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 4

Waitlists for closed Sloan classes are part of the Course Bidding System, beginning in Round II.

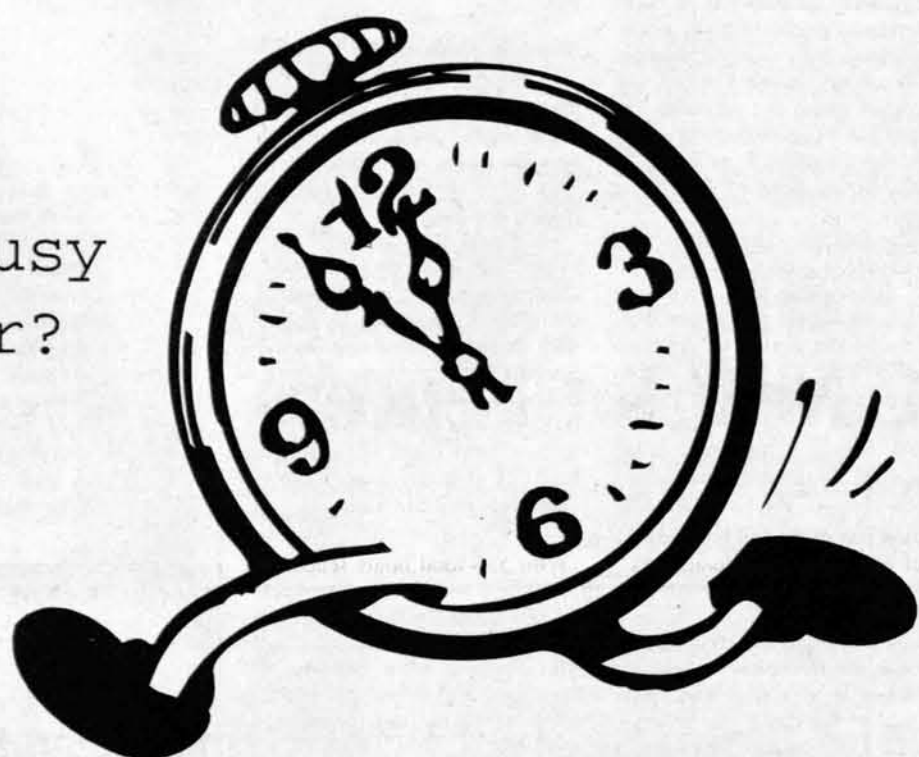
Successful bids appear on your Registration Form on February 4 and will be posted on the bidding website as of December 31 -- write down your password to check results!

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SPORTS

Sport Taekwondo Takes Fifth at Cornell

By Christina Park
TEAM CAPTAIN

On Saturday November 3rd, the MIT Sport Taekwondo Club sent a 26-member team to Ithaca, New York for the 14th Annual Northeast Collegiate Taekwondo Invitational hosted by Cornell University.

The tournament drew competitors from 14 different schools, including Cornell, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and NYU.

MIT, the newest team in the Ivy/Northeast Taekwondo League, made up for its lack of experience with enthusiasm and heart and by showing team spirit and limitless perseverance. The final results placed MIT fifth overall, with a point total marginally behind third place Harvard and fourth place Yale.

The day opened with forms competition, in which Taekwondo students highlight the beauty of the "art" in martial arts through a choreographed set of blocks, kicks and punches. Much like in gymnastics, scoring is based not only on technical merit, but also on artistic aspects such as grace, balance, power, and agility.

Margaret H. Cho '04 and Baochi Nguyen G nearly swept Women's Green/Blue belt forms, placing first and third, respectively. Cho's background as a figure skater proved to



Melissa M. Barbagelata G scores a point with a turning kick to her opponent in her first sparring match.

be an asset, as her flexible kicks and graceful movements scored high marks from the judges. Juan I. Rodriguez '04 also added to MIT's point total, taking the bronze in Men's Green/Blue belt forms.

The women's A team (Alice S. Chau '04, Christina S. Park '02) placed third overall in the black belt sparring competition. Chau confidently dominated her quarterfinal match against NYU with several kicks to the head. Park easily won the heavyweight match with a score of 8-0, advancing the team to the semi-finals. In a close match against Cornell A1, Chau lost the lightweight match by decision. Though Park knocked out the Cornell heavyweight with a turning kick to the head, the team could not advance, having forfeited the middleweight spot.

The beginner divisions followed the black belts, with the Sport Taekwondo Club's newest members competing for the first time. The men's C1 team (Nick Fung '04, Joshua Neubert '04, Vlad Gabovich G) reached the semi-finals, beating Buffalo and Temple. Gabovich anchored the C team, as his natural fighting abilities and intuition set him above the rest of the beginners. The team lost to NYU after a controversial decision. Fung and Neubert fought bravely despite injuries

Tae Kwon Do, Page 15

Track Off To Strong Start

By Adeline Kuo
TEAM CO-CAPTAIN

After a month of training, the women's track team tested their skills against schools of all divisions at the Northeastern Invitational this past Saturday. One varsity and two rookie records fell, and 18 post championship standards were made.

In the field, pole vaulters Catherine A. Tweedie '04 and Vanessa Li '02 finished with ECAC-qualifying marks of 9' 6". The lone high jumper, Emily Schwartz '05 cleared 5' 0". Schwartz's jump was just shy of the rookie record, but not enough to qualify her for the New England Division III Championships.

The highlight of the infield events came during the triple jump. First, Chinwe P. Nyenke '04 broke her own varsity record with three leaps totaling 34' 10 1/2". Then Nalini Gupta '05 sailed to a 34' 0" finish, surpassing the previous varsity record, and claiming the rookie record. Both jumps were ECAC-qualifying marks.

In the throws, Princess Imoukhuede '02 qualified provisionally for the NCAA Championships in the weight throw with a throw of 49' 11", while Akua Asa-Awuku '03 qualified for the New England Championship in the event. Imoukhuede also got off to a great season start in the shot put, with an ECAC-qualifying throw of 39' 6 1/2".

On the track, Meredith N. Silberstein '05 broke the rookie record in her first ever 500-meter run. Silberstein finished in a time of 1:27.35. In the 1000-meter, Julia C. Espel '05 qualified for ECAC Championships with a 3:12.71 and showed her potential to take down both the rookie and varsity records in the event.

Tomorrow at MIT's Johnson Athletic Center, the team will attempt to begin the season with an undefeated record, as they face off against Springfield College and the University of Southern Maine.

NCAA Champs Blemish Fencing's Perfect Record

Devaraj, Purcell Undefeated at Brandeis Tourney

By Curtis Wade
TEAM REPORTER

The Engineers dominated their NCAA rivals at the Brandeis Invitational last weekend, as both the men and women went 4-1 and lost only to St. Johns, the defending national champions. At the close of the first half of the season, the women boast a 9-1 (6-1 NCAA) and the men an 8-1 (5-1) record.

Neal K. Devaraj '02 (epee) and Caroline M. Purcell '02 (sabre) led the way, improving their personal records to a team best 16-2. Devaraj and Purcell were undefeated in the team victories over Brown University, Boston College, Brandeis University and Vassar College.

Women post convincing wins

The women felt little pressure from their first three opponents, winning 16-11 over Brown, 22-5 over BC and 18-9 over Brandeis. In team format, three fencers from each squad—epee, foil and saber—fence each of the opposing school's respective fencers, for a total of nine bouts per squad and 27 bouts per school.

Epee and foil got off to slow starts against Brown, but the sabre girls picked up the slack going 8-1 behind 3-0 outings by Purcell and Jennifer A. McKeehan G.

Against BC, all three squads came out on fire. Sabre went 9-0, as Purcell, McKeehan, Priscilla Del Castillo '04 and Sasha R. Manoohsingh '03 won all their bouts. Susannah M. Dorfman '05 and Christine A. Yee '03 went 3-0 to lead the 7-2 foil squad. Clarissa Y. Smith '04 and Natalie E. Cusano '02 went 3-0 and 2-1 to aid the women in winning their most decisive victory over a competitive NCAA school.

Like a well-oiled machine, each squad went 6-3 against Brandeis. Purcell, Dorfman and Cusano were undefeated. McKeehan, Del Castillo, Yee, Smith and Jennifer R. Lue '03 all went 2-1.

The St. John's women's team

handed the women their first loss of the season, despite valiant efforts by the sabre squad. Following St. John's, the women demolished Vassar 25-2. Purcell, Del Castillo, McKeehan and Manoohsingh went undefeated 9-0. Dorfman and Danielle M. Morse '02 both went 3-0 for foil and Smith, Cusano, Michelle A. Nadermann '03 and Crystal Shih '04 added two wins apiece for epee.

Men survive stiff competition

In a day marked by team unity, the men's team survived an early morning slump, narrowly beating Brown in their first match. Despite Devaraj's 3-0 performance for the epee squad, neither epee nor sabre posted winning records. With a strong example of team harmony, the foil squad went 7-2 picking up half the wins in the 14-13 contest. Oliver J. Chadwick '02 and Vincent Chen '05 both contributed two victories, but the 3-0 performance of William F. MacFarlane '05 carried the day.

The team score stood at 13-13 as MacFarlane faced Brown's top foil fencer. With the team's fate in his hands, MacFarlane proceeded to soundly defeat his opponent, leaving the entire Brown team stunned.

Still reeling from the loss for the season of their best fencer, the sabre squad got its chance to shine against BC. Rafael E. Bras '02, Jason M. Levine '03 and Michael P. Pihulic '04 took seven wins against BC. Foil and epee defeated the BC squads 5-4 and 6-3, as Chadwick and MacFarlane went 2-1 and Devaraj went 3-0. The 18-9 victory was ample recompense for BC's victory last year.

Chadwick and MacFarlane repeated their 2-1 efforts against Brandeis, but this time the epee squad carried the load going 6-3. Devaraj was undefeated and Matthew R. Levy '04 added another victory. Another close match, the score stood at 12-12 with two foil bouts and one epee bout remaining.

Fencing, Page 15

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, December 8

Men's Basketball vs. Polytechnic, 2:00 p.m.
Men's Ice Hockey vs. Lydon State, 5:00 p.m.
Women's Indoor Track vs. Springfield

Wednesday, December 12

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Franklin Pierce, 7:30 p.m.



Men's Basketball Remains Undefeated As MIT Takes Tech Clash Tournament

MIT's Comeback Victory over RPI and Caltech Blowout Highlights Weekend

By Richard Weber

With a big win over Rensselaer Polytechnic on a wild Friday night in Rockwell, and blowout over a weak CalTech, the Engineers won the Tech Clash Tournament last weekend and are off to a 6-0 start.

The Engineers got off to a slow start against RPI, only scoring five points in the first 10 minutes. Plagued by turnovers in the first half, MIT entered the locker room down 19-29 at halftime.

Things were beginning to look bleak for MIT as the second half opened with a dunk by RPI's Jared Hite on a fast break.

Then redshirt freshman Andrew Tsai '04 heated up and scorched the net with 3 quick trifactors. The capacity crowd came to its feet as the momentum shifted to MIT.

Daniel F. Kanamori '05 was able to penetrate and dish to MIT's hot shooters throughout second half and got nine assists for the game. Along with Tsai, Adam J. Gibbons '05 and Neal E. Brenner '03 reined a total of nine threes in the second half on the shell-shocked RPI Defense.

Kyle T. Doherty '04 also stepped up in the second half and had his third double-double of the season with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

RPI's athleticism allowed them to cut the MIT lead to one with about forty ticks left. Gibbons then took matters into his own hands and launched a three-pointer from well behind the line. The ball splashed home, the crowd roared, and the door slammed on RPI's chances of a win.

"I was feeling good, I was looking good, so I decided to let one fly from deep," said Gibbons. Gibbons lead the game with 20 points.

MIT held out over RPI and came away with a 68-62 victory.

Win over Caltech seals tournament

On Saturday MIT played CalTech in the second game of the tournament. CalTech, who was wearing its 1950s throwback jerseys, was outgunned by MIT, 82-49.

In the second half Alexander W. Phillips '03 stripped the CalTech point guard and coasted down the floor for easy layups on three consecutive plays. Like Phillips, MIT preyed on the poor CalTech Beavers and cruised to the easy win. Sebastian B. Heersink '03 led MIT with 12 points. Phillips, Brenner, Stuart S. Laval '03 and Gibbons also scored in the double figures.

The Engineers get to beat up on another Tech school at home on Saturday, as the Beavers are favored by 30 over Polytechnic University.