

Sullivan Elected as Mayor on First Ballot

By Dana Levine
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In its inaugural session, the Cambridge City Council elected Councillor Michael A. Sullivan as mayor of Cambridge. Sullivan, who has served on the City Council since 1994, was elected unanimously on the first ballot.

The 2001-2002 City Council, which was installed Monday by City Clerk Margaret Drury, includes incumbents Sullivan, Henrietta Davis, David P. Maher, Marjorie C. Decker, Kenneth E. Reeves, Anthony D. Galluccio, and Timothy J. Toomey Jr. and two new members, E. Denise Simmons and Brian Murphy.

Sullivan initially received votes from Davis, Maher, Murphy, Simmons, and himself. Councillors Decker, Reeves, Galluccio, and Toomey initially voted for other candidates, but changed their votes after Sullivan had earned a majority.

Sullivan was inaugurated by his uncle, Middlesex County Clerk of Courts Edward J. Sullivan, who served as mayor from 1956 to 1968. Sullivan's father, Walter J. Sullivan, served on the council for 34 years, including three terms as mayor.

Following Sullivan's election, six councillors voted to elect Councillor Henrietta Davis as vice mayor. Davis has served on the council since 1996, and has chaired



Michael J. Sullivan is sworn in as mayor of Cambridge by former Cambridge mayor Edward Sullivan, his uncle. The newest Mayor Sullivan's father, former mayor Walter Sullivan, is seated behind him. Looking on at left are former mayors Kenneth E. Reeves and Anthony D. Galluccio.

the council's Health and Environment Committee.

Town-gown committee announced

Following his inauguration, Sullivan announced the creation of a new standing committee on univer-

sity relations. "There needs to be good neighbors in our universities," he said.

Sullivan said that past city-university relations have consisted of "piecemeal" dealings between a university and one or two councillors,

and this has led the council to consider such a committee. "The difficulty for the city has been that it has not had a committee that worked on town-gown relations," he said.

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Early Action Acceptances Down From Last Year

By Kevin R. Lang
NEWS EDITOR

Despite an increased number of early applications this year, MIT has accepted fewer students through early action than last year.

This year, MIT has only accepted 520 students, or 14 percent of the 3608 early applicants, versus 588, or 17 percent of the 3372 early applicants last year.

"The increase [in applicants] is probably because of our recruitment coupled with the increased number

of students applying to college," said Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones. However, she added that "we'll be taking fewer students early this year, partly to accommodate the class size issue," Jones said. "We do not want to enroll more than our target."

Elizabeth S. Johnson, associate director of admissions, said that MIT was "even more conservative than we have been in the past" due to instructions to enroll a class of "not more than 1000" students. The

stricter target this year results from a desire to crowd fewer students into MIT housing next year, especially since all freshmen will be housed on campus. "It's not a good idea to have as many crowds as MIT has had," Johnson said.

However, Jones also said that MIT wants to avoid last year's unusually high percentage of students who were admitted early. MIT traditionally admits 30 percent of each freshman class early, but 36 percent of the class of 2005 was

admitted through early action. "We do not want more than 30 percent of the class to have been admitted early."

Jones said that while admitting more students through early action makes the admissions process easier for MIT, "taking too high a percentage of the class early is not good for secondary education. It really increases the anxiety felt by high school students, teachers and

Admissions, Page 15

Microsoft Named In Patent Lawsuit

By Pey-Hua Hwang
STAFF REPORTER

MIT and Electronics for Imaging, Inc. have filed suit against 98 companies, including Microsoft Corp., for allegedly using patented image editing software.

The software was developed by MIT Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Professor William F. Schreiber and licensed exclusively to EFI.

Among the defendants named are Microsoft Corp., Polaroid Corp., and International Business Machines, Inc. The Associated Press originally reported that 94 companies were named in the suit, but officially, there are two separate lawsuits totaling 98 companies. The suits, *Mass. Inst. Tech. v. Abacus Software* and *Mass. Inst. Tech. v. Gateway*, were filed individually due to attorney conflicts of interest. MIT is the first named plaintiff on each suit.

However, according to Karin K. Rivard, MIT's attorney for these particular suits, the main complaint was filed by EFI and MIT "is just cooperating with EFI."

Schreiber cites Adobe precedent

The technology in question was invented by a team of researchers headed by Schreiber. Schreiber said that he wasn't surprised by the lawsuits because although he no longer worked for EFI, they had contacted him earlier that they were thinking of filing the lawsuits.

Schreiber said he hopes that "when most of the companies that

Lawsuit, Page 14

F. Leroy Foster

Franklin Leroy Foster '25, a retired MIT professor who directed the MIT Division of Industrial Cooperation and was involved in MIT's Alumni Association, died on New Year's Eve at the age of 99.



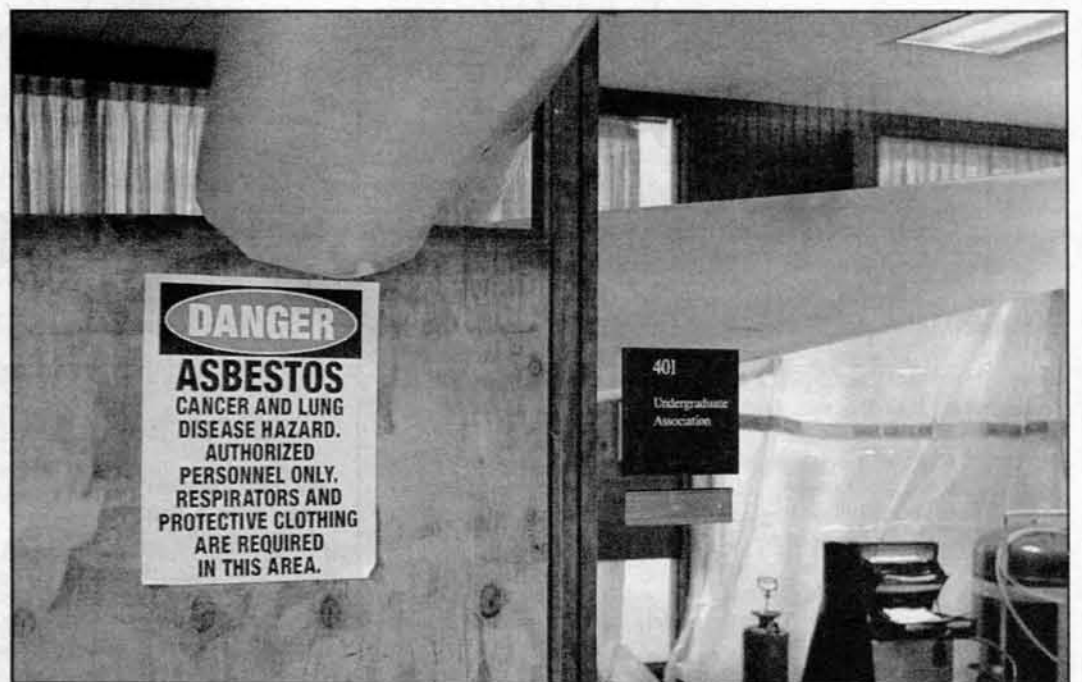
MIT NEWS OFFICE

As assistant director and later director of the DIC from World War II on, Foster was deeply involved in defining MIT's relationship with the U.S. government. The DIC defense contracts comprised about \$200,000 in 1939, and by the end of WWII the DIC oversaw over 150 sensitive research projects worth \$40 million. Foster also served as a member of the War Production Board, on the Research Laboratories Industry Advisory Committee.

In his involvement with and dedication to the MIT community, Foster was what many students today would call a MIT "lifer." After receiving the SB in mining engineering, Foster accepted an assistant position in the Department of Mining and Metallurgy. He received the SM in 1930, working as an assistant professor from 1931 until the department ceased to exist in 1940. In 1939 Foster received the PhD and began his assistant directorship of the DIC, rising to director by 1955.

Foster became the director of the Division of Sponsored Research a year after its formation in 1955, as the new division absorbed the

Foster, Page 13



Asbestos removal is underway in the UA office on the fourth floor of the Student Center.



The Majestic feels much longer than it really is.

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OPINION

Matt Craighead argues against devaluing Argentina's currency.

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WORLD & NATION

Immigration Officials to Focus On Middle Eastern 'Absconders'

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

As part of a broad crackdown on illegal immigration following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, U.S. officials are targeting as the priority for deportation several thousand Middle Eastern men who have previously been ordered to leave the country.

The men, primarily from countries viewed as strongholds of the al-Qaida terrorist network, will be the first to have their names added to the FBI criminal database under a new strategy to capture fugitives who ignore deportation orders, the Justice Department said Tuesday.

Immigration officials last month announced plans to use the FBI computers as a way to help locate more than 300,000 people — most from Latin America — who have disappeared into U.S. society rather than be kicked out by immigration judges.

Law enforcement officials decided to focus first on the Middle Eastern men, putting their names at the top of the list.

"We can't enter 314,000 names all at once. It's going to take time. We had to prioritize," a Justice Department official said.

New York Rejects Limits On Terrorism Insurance

NEWSDAY

New York state has rejected an attempt by insurers to back out of providing commercial insurance covering terrorist attacks.

The industry, reeling from the \$70 billion cost of the World Trade Center strikes, was seeking to reduce its exposure to future attacks by limiting its liability to just \$25 million.

The industry lobbied for the limit, since Congress failed to agree on a bill to provide backup for insurers in case of future acts of terrorism.

But the New York Insurance Department announced Tuesday it had opted against providing the industry with terrorism coverage "exclusions."

"We don't want to leave commercial property owners holding the bag," said Joanna Rose, a spokeswoman for the department.

So far, New York and Alaska are the only two states to reject the industry's request for exclusions.

Thirty-six other state insurance departments have agreed insurers would liable for a maximum of \$25 million in case of future attacks.

Carriers Extend Steep Air Fare Discounts

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Still losing millions of dollars a day, the United States' major airlines are continuing to discount fares sharply to at least lure leisure travelers amid the post-Sept. 11 travel slump.

The two largest domestic airlines, American and United, had sales that were supposed to end Dec. 28 for travel until May 19. But with the busy Christmas travel season over, the cheaper tickets are still here, as the two airlines announced in full-page newspaper ads Tuesday. This time the sales — still for travel until May 19 — are to end Jan. 15.

Yet that date probably won't mark the end of the savings boon for consumers, analysts said. There's a strong chance the fare sales will linger well into the year, as the airlines strive to guarantee at least a minimum number of passengers before the summer.

It's imperative the airlines do so because they can't count on the steady income they once enjoyed from business fliers, who typically don't book well in advance and thus pay higher fares and generate most of an airline's revenues, observers said.

WEATHER

Seeking Snow

By Michael J. Ring
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Over the past few weeks it seems that virtually every place except Boston has attracted significant snowfall. After a slow start to its winter, Buffalo was measuring snowfall by the foot in the days after Christmas. Last week a major snowstorm swept across the Southeastern United States. And overseas locales such as Athens and Jerusalem have been blanketed by rare snowfalls.

For parts of the Christmas break it was certainly cold enough to snow in Boston, but ironically that mass of cold air prevented snowstorms from striking New England. The high pressure system which brought the chilly temperatures to Boston also steered the oceanic storm track out to sea. Then, when we were hit by a storm on Monday, the low pressure system tracked inland. This placed Boston on the storm's warm side, and hence the system brought primarily rain to the city.

Heavy snowfall will continue to elude the region for the immediate future. A weak storm may pass offshore on Sunday but significant accumulation is unlikely.

Extended Forecast

Today: Chance of afternoon rain showers. High near 40°F (4°C).
Tonight: Showers end, then gradual clearing. Low near 32°F (0°C).
Thursday: Sunny and seasonably mild. High of 43°F (6°C). Low near 32°F (0°C).
Friday: Mostly cloudy. High of 38°F (3°C), low of 27°F (-3°C).
Weekend: Saturday looks dry; there is a chance of light snow on Sunday. Highs in the upper 30s (2-4°C) and lows in the mid 20s (-3 to -5°C) both days.

Court Takes Narrower View Of 'Disabilities' Under ADA

By David G. Savage

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court made it harder Tuesday for millions of workers with painful wrist injuries, bad backs or similar impairments to qualify for protection as disabled persons under the federal anti-discrimination law.

As long as they can brush their teeth and wash their faces in the morning, these employees are probably not disabled, the high court said unanimously, even if they suffer pain when typing on a computer or lifting a box at work.

A disabled person is someone who struggles to do basic tasks that are "central to daily life," not the special tasks that go with a particular job, said Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Moreover, she said, a disabled employee must have an impairment that is "permanent or long term," not an injury that is likely to heal. Injured workers should seek benefits under state worker's compensation laws, the court said, rather than claiming to be disabled

under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Business lawyers hailed the outcome and predicted it will shield employers from being sued or forced to make special arrangements for the growing number of employees with carpal tunnel syndrome or other repetitive stress injuries.

"Today's ruling makes it clear that the ADA is still the Americans with Disabilities Act, not the Americans with Injuries Act," said Patrick Cleary, senior vice president for the National Association of Manufacturers.

Tuesday's 9-0 ruling is only the latest court decision to limit the reach of the landmark federal law.

Three years ago, the justices ruled that people with correctable conditions such as bad eyesight, or treatable diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes or epilepsy, are not protected from job bias. The court reasoned that these people are not truly disabled because they were able to work.

The case decided Tuesday concerned an assembly line worker

who could no longer do her job because its repetitive motions caused intense pain in her wrists and shoulders. Her condition, carpal tunnel syndrome, is one of the fastest-growing work place injuries.

The case also drew wide interest because it asked a basic question: Who is a disabled person?

Ella Williams had worked with power tools at the Toyota Motors plant in Georgetown, Ky. When her pain became crippling, she sought medical treatment and obtained some benefits from Kentucky's worker's compensation system.

Typically, a worker's comp law covers medical expenses and some payment for lost work due to a work-related injury.

Williams chose to return to full-time work but asked to be assigned to lighter duties, such as inspecting cars. Her doctor said she should lift no more than 20 pounds. When her supervisors refused to accommodate her request, she quit and sued the company under the ADA.

U.S. Confirms Extensive Search For bin Laden's Heir Apparent

By Josh Meyer

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

As the hunt for al-Qaida leaders expands beyond Afghanistan, authorities confirmed Tuesday that they are pursuing one man as intensely as Osama bin Laden himself — an elusive Palestinian who they believe has been entrusted with keeping the terrorist organization's global network of cells alive and operational.

Authorities are also aggressively pursuing the theory that Abu Zubeida, whose real name is Zain al-Abidin Muhammad Husain, is the "operational link" connecting bin Laden and others who conceived the Sept. 11 terror attacks with the 19 hijackers who carried them out.

Zubeida, thought to be about 30 years old, could well be at bin Laden's side as he tries to elude a global dragnet. But unlike bin Laden and aide Ayman Zawahiri, whose movements are limited by

their high profiles, authorities fear that Zubeida also may have slipped out of Afghanistan and into Pakistan or almost anywhere else to activate new plots and to regroup al-Qaida forces.

Zubeida's role makes him a higher priority than even Zawahiri, who authorities say is more of a theoretician. Since the death last month of Muhammad Atef, Zubeida is also believed to have taken on the role of al-Qaida's chief military strategist, according to U.S. officials and counterterrorism experts.

Zubeida has well-established personal ties to many of the al-Qaida cell leaders and soldiers in far-flung posts, whom he cultivated as the group's longtime liaison to the worldwide terrorist community and overseer of camps in Afghanistan. Those al-Qaida supporters, officials said, could provide Zubeida with safe harbor, financial and logistical support and manpower needed to keep al-Qaida going,

even if bin Laden is killed or apprehended.

Authorities cite a copy of al-Qaida's plan for succession of power, recently smuggled out of Afghanistan, which states that certain key leaders must flee as opposing forces are closing in, to ensure that the terrorist network has the leadership it needs to live and fight another day.

"Zubeida is the director of external affairs for al-Qaida," said one Bush official who confirmed the intensive manhunt for Zubeida. "As part of that, he ran the camp infrastructure, he brought (terrorists) in, trained them and got them back to their country of origin or the country al-Qaida wanted to place them in."

"He is a very important cog in the machinery and certainly ... after bin Laden is gone, would be someone who would take over," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Senior al-Qaida Leaders Captured

Team of U.S. Troops Captured Suspected Soldiers in Bunkers

By John Hendren
and Alissa J. Rubin

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Two senior al-Qaida leaders laden with training documents and laptops have been caught fleeing heavy bombing in eastern Afghanistan, U.S. officials said Tuesday, and Washington's new special envoy to Afghanistan acknowledged that errant airstrikes in the country have cost "innocent lives."

A team of U.S. soldiers captured 14 suspected fighters at the Zhawar Kili Al-Badr cave and bunker complex near Khowst without a firefight late Monday, said Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The two leaders, who were not

named, were singled out for U.S. detention and brought to a makeshift prison in the former Taliban stronghold of Kandahar for interrogation. The other 12 were turned over to Afghan authorities.

Pentagon officials say they believe the arrests could yield valuable information on the al-Qaida network and its targets. Forensic scientists are searching the computers, mobile phones and training documents found Monday for information, with a keen eye on the telephone numbers stored in the phones' memory and messages and documents stored on the computers, a senior defense official said.

The capture highlighted progress in a bombing campaign that has failed to yield al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden or Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar — and has led some Afghan leaders to urge a halt amid reports of civilian deaths. As Myers outlined the potential intelligence gains from Washington, U.S. special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad

used his first news conference since arriving in Kabul, the Afghan capital, to offer a vigorous defense of the airstrikes.

The United States erred in abandoning Afghanistan after rebels expelled the occupying Soviet army in 1989, he said Tuesday, and Washington is committed to rehabilitating Afghanistan when the war ends. But continued airstrikes are needed to avert "a return of chaos and Bin Laden Jr. in the future," he said.

"We regret the loss of innocent lives, but we have to weigh the risks of ending the war prematurely and continuing the operation. And I have no doubt, on balance, that we will continue the operation until we achieve our goal," the Afghanistan-born Khalilzad said. "War is not a perfect business. Mistakes are made."

As his only example, Khalilzad cited the Dec. 5 errant bombing which killed three U.S. soldiers and injured the interim prime minister.

Police Stopped Two Hijackers In Days Leading Up To Attacks

By Manuel Roig-Franzia and Patricia Davis
THE WASHINGTON POST

One of the hijackers aboard the plane that crashed into the Pentagon was stopped for speeding within a few miles of the military headquarters six weeks before the attack, police confirmed Tuesday.

Hani Hanjour, who is believed to have piloted the hijacked plane into the Pentagon, was ticketed Aug. 1 for driving 55 mph in a 30 mph zone in the 1800 block of South George Mason Drive, Arlington, Va., police said.

The revelation came on the same day that Maryland State Police released a videotape of a trooper pulling over another of the hijackers, Ziad Samir Jarrah, in Maryland two days before the attacks.

Hanjour, Jarrah and five other hijackers fraudulently obtained Virginia identification cards, federal officials say.

Hanjour was driving a beige Chrysler van with New Jersey

license plates when Arlington police pulled him over at 3:19 p.m. Hanjour presented a Florida driver's license that indicated that he lived in Miramar, Fla., though other records show he had a New York address.

"If (the officer) has a crystal ball and he could look forward into time, it would have been a good catch," said Detective Jim Page, an Arlington police spokesman.

Three weeks after the stop, Hanjour mailed in a money order to pay a \$70 fine and \$30 in court costs, Arlington General District Court Clerk Kimberly Reazey said Tuesday.

More is known about Jarrah's traffic stop because it was videotaped by a camera mounted in a Maryland state trooper's patrol car. Jarrah's voice cannot be heard nor can his face be seen on the eight-minute videotape.

The tape began with the shimmering glow of the headlights on Jarrah's rented red 2001 Mitsubishi Gallant as he pulled to the

side of Interstate 95 at 12:05 a.m. on Sept. 9 in Cecil County.

A country music crooner could be heard on the patrol car's stereo as Trooper Joseph Catalano called a dispatcher with the car's New Jersey license plate: LJE87L. Seconds later, Catalano came into the frame, striding up to the idling car, swinging a flashlight. Passing trucks rumble as Catalano, a trooper for three years, opened the passenger side door, asked, "How are you doing?" and requested Jarrah's driver's license.

A copy of Jarrah's speeding ticket shows that his driver's license stated that he lived in Springfield, Va., in the 6600 block of Quicksilver Drive. The ticket was found after the attacks in the glove compartment of his car at Newark International Airport, State Police Superintendent David Mitchell said. The ticket and the videotape were released after a public records request by The Washington Post and other media organizations.

U.S. Military to Preserve Weapons

Many Missiles Under Bush Administration Plan To Be Retained

By Walter Pincus

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Bush administration told Congress Tuesday that many of the warheads, bombs and intercontinental missiles involved in the president's promised two-thirds reduction of deployed strategic nuclear forces over the next 10 years would be kept in reserve under its new strategic policy, according to congressional sources.

In a top-secret briefing on the results of the Bush administration's year-long Nuclear Posture Review, Assistant Secretary of Defense J.D. Crouch said it had not yet been determined how many of the roughly 4,000 nuclear warheads and bombs and hundreds of land- and submarine-based intercontinental missiles taken out of operational use would be destroyed and how many would be stored and available for redeployment, the sources said.

At his summit meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in December, Bush announced the United States would reduce its deployed nuclear warheads from today's 6,000 to between 1,700 and

2,200 over the next decade. He did not say how many of those weapons would be destroyed and how many put in reserve as a "hedge" against some unforeseen future threat, as the Clinton administration had done with its reductions under the START I agreement.

One senior Democratic congressional expert on nuclear weapons said Tuesday after the closed briefing that he believed the only firm plans disclosed Tuesday were for destruction of the 50 Peacekeeper ICBM silos, an arrangement agreed upon under the still unratified START II treaty. "They did not tell us how the remaining promised reductions would be made; they did not know what the remaining nuclear force structure would look like; and they were not sure how many would be stored or destroyed," he added.

A Republican source said details remain "to be fleshed out, but the administration was taking a good first step." Because the briefing was classified, this source refused to comment on any details but said many were contained in the highly classified report that was distributed at the sessions. They were attended mostly by House and Senate staff members because Congress is in recess.

Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association,

said Tuesday that based on what he had heard from the briefing, "if the reduced nuclear weapons are kept intact and available for redeployment, it makes a mockery of the reductions."

Crouch, according to congressional sources, also said the administration would seek additional funds to increase the speed at which nuclear testing could resume if needed, as reported Tuesday. But Crouch insisted, as Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld did in talking to reporters earlier Tuesday, that the administration has no immediate plans to resume testing.

Rumsfeld said the Bush administration would continue for now to observe a self-imposed 1992 U.S. moratorium on nuclear testing. But, the defense secretary added, "Any country that has nuclear weapons has to be respectful of the enormous lethality and power of those weapons, and has a responsibility to see that they are safe and reliable."

"To the extent that can be done without testing, clearly that is the preference. And that is why the president has concluded that, thus far, that is the case," Rumsfeld added.

The administration has not determined how much money would be needed to reduce the present guideline for the time it would take to resume underground nuclear testing.

Postal Employee Might Have Anthrax

Man Likely Exposed, But CDC Tests Find No Anthrax in Blood

By Scott Shane

THE BALTIMORE SUN

A 37-year-old Maryland postal inspector who handled anthrax-contaminated air filters at Washington's Brentwood mail sorting center in October has been severely ill ever since with symptoms resembling those of inhalation anthrax, including fever and chest pain.

But because medical tests have never detected anthrax bacteria or antibodies in his blood, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have declined to classify his illness as anthrax.

Nevertheless, the doctors who have cared for him at Sinai Hospital for more than two months say in a medical journal article to be published Wednesday that they believe the anthrax spores he inhaled 12 weeks ago are to blame for his sickness.

The mysterious case of William

R. Paliscak Jr. raises the troubling possibility that officials may not have fully recognized the extent of the wave of anthrax cases linked to poisoned letters sent last fall by a still unidentified bioterrorist.

Officially, the CDC has recorded 18 confirmed cases of anthrax, including seven skin infections and 11 people stricken with the far more serious inhalation form of the disease, five of whom died.

Two postal workers who died, as well as two others who recovered, contracted inhalation anthrax after working in the same area of the Brentwood facility where Paliscak removed filters. All five men worked around a sorting machine through which an infected letter passed on its way to the office of Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D.

Paliscak's illness may show that for reasons medical experts do not understand, some people infected with inhalation anthrax never test positive for the disease with existing test methods. That could mean other cases of flulike symptoms among postal workers and others exposed

to anthrax spores were caused by anthrax but never identified as such blood tests for the bacteria were negative.

"We strongly believe that there is a relation between the patient's exposure to anthrax and the symptoms displayed," Paliscak's doctors write in the article in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

The lead author is Dr. Tyler C. Cymet, an osteopathic physician who heads family medicine at Sinai.

While calling Paliscak's case "a suspected case of anthrax where a diagnosis is not definite," Cymet and his co-authors, Drs. Gary J. Kerkvliet, Judy H. Tan, and Jeremy D. Gradon, write that his symptoms "do not have any other valid explanation — despite extensive inpatient work-up."

Now his doctors believe Paliscak may be finally getting better. He was discharged from Sinai Friday and is recuperating at his home in Edgewater, Md., near Annapolis, Md. Tuesday, he was still on intravenous antibiotics and was too weak to speak to a reporter, his family said.

Car Rental Firm Halts Fingerprinting of Customers

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Dollar Rent a Car pulled the plug Tuesday on a trial program that required customers to be fingerprinted.

Dollar instituted the practice after Sept. 11, saying the terrorism attacks were such a disaster for its bottom line that a bold approach was required to combat fraud.

Banks sometimes require a fingerprint for certain transactions, but Dollar's foray into fingerprinting marked the first time a corporation made routine demands that consumers submit to a procedure associated with criminals.

Dollar required customers at 14 airports, including Los Angeles International and San Francisco International, to ink their thumbs and put their imprint on car rental contracts. The thumbprints were filed away with the contracts, though customers were given the option of having the thumbprint torn off when they returned the car.

"There's a stigma associated with putting a thumb on a pad," conceded Jim Senese, Dollar's vice president of quality assurance. "But 99.8 percent of the customers were supportive."

Even so, the three-month test ended 22 days early because fraud, which costs the company \$1 million a year, didn't appear to be shrinking. "The anticipated savings just weren't compelling enough," Senese said.

Greenpeace, Feds Strike Deal On Star Wars Protests

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Greenpeace USA signed a consent decree Tuesday agreeing to halt civil disobedience at all U.S. military installations involved in the Star Wars anti-missile defense program.

The agreement with federal prosecutors in Los Angeles was part of a deal that led to the dismissal of felony charges against 14 Greenpeace activists and two free-lance journalists.

The 16 defendants entered guilty pleas to misdemeanor counts as they were about to go on trial for trying to disrupt a missile launch at Vandenberg Air Force Base last July.

Under terms of the plea agreement, each of the defendants now faces a maximum of six months in custody, although some are expected to receive probation.

John Passacantando, Greenpeace USA's executive director, said that relinquishing civil disobedience in the anti-Star Wars campaign was a "worthwhile price to pay because we wanted the prosecution to drop those completely unwarranted felony charges."

Since its founding more than 30 years ago, Greenpeace has resorted to civil disobedience as a favored tactic in protests involving a wide range of environmental issues and the nuclear arms race.

Passacantando said the organization would continue its campaign against the U.S. missile defense program through other means. "Sometimes," he said, "you have to bob and weave."

Early Universe Had Explosion Of New Stars, Astronomers Suggest

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Pushing the limits of what is possible with today's most powerful space and ground telescopes, astronomers have come up with a controversial new analysis of what may have happened during the early universe — an epoch too old and distant to probe directly even with today's most powerful technology.

Astronomers have long thought of the very early universe as a dark and quiet place, with only a trickle of new stars beginning to pierce through the gloom. Many felt that a "baby boom" of star birth did not occur until the 15 billion-year-old universe was middle-aged.

The new theory suggests that when the universe was just a few hundred million years old, it may have experienced a bright, violent tempest of new stars being born — a torrent of light reminiscent of a fireworks finale.

"Quite surprisingly, the finale came first. The fireworks ran backward. It's not exactly what would have been predicted," said Bruce Margon, the associate director for science at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, which operates the Hubble Space Telescope.

Exactly what happened in the early universe — in the hundreds of millions of years after the Big Bang — remains a mystery. The universe has expanded ever since its creation. The stars or galaxies created in the early universe are too far away for current telescopes to see most of the light they emit.

Damaged Genes Linked to Mothers' Smoking, Low Birth Weight

NEWSDAY

Two genes involved in metabolizing toxins from cigarettes apparently lead to low birth weight in newborns whose mothers smoke, providing a rare glimpse into the interplay between genes and smoking, researchers will report Wednesday.

Doctors have long known about the danger of smoking during pregnancy and have cautioned pregnant women to stop. Low birth weight is a major consequence of maternal smoking. But doctors have also observed that some smokers produce low birth weight babies while others do not.

In the medical analysis to be reported on Wednesday, it appears that the two genes, one dubbed CYP1A1 and the other called GSTT1, govern the risk of low birth weight. Both genes are involved in the chemical breakdown of poisons from cigarettes. Tobacco, previous studies have shown, contains more than 4,000 toxins. The most lethal — because they also figure in lung cancer — are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, arylamines, and N-nitrosamines, all of which are inhaled in a single drag on a cigarette.

"Our data demonstrate that a subgroup of pregnant women with certain genotypes appeared to be particularly susceptible to the adverse effects of cigarette smoke," said Dr. Xioabin Wang, an associate professor at Boston University's medical school and an attending pediatrician at Boston University Medical Center.

OPINION

Letters To The Editor



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9007) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January and monthly during the summer for \$45.00 per year. Third Class Postage paid at Boston, Mass. Permit No. 1. POSTMASTER: Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 253-1541, editorial; (617) 258-8329, business; (617) 258-8226, facsimile. Advertising, subscription, and sporting rates available. Entire contents © 2001 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.

Seeking a Community Solution

Technology transitions are hard. Philip Burrowes ["Restoring Athena's Glory," December 4, 2001] reminded us of this when he lamented the phaseout of SGIs from the campus computing clusters. He highlighted the tension between the commitment of MIT I/S "to giving MIT students computers that actually work" and the sometimes endearing but frustratingly idiosyncratic SGI workstation line. Indeed, it was not an easy decision.

SGI hasn't helped itself. Reliability of SGI software, failure rates of hardware and poor customer support substantially contribute to higher costs and down time. SGI's own strategy has been to concentrate on the high-end, specialized computing environments and leave the general computing clusters to others. Added to that has been our own unpleasant experience integrating and maintaining IRIX into the Athena environment.

Software companies themselves have begun to turn new development efforts toward other platforms, either leaving SGI altogether, or, relegating those ports to a lower priority. This is hard for researchers and others who have long used unique SGI specific applications. However, there are often software alternatives, both commercial and open source, which can be found for Linux or Solaris systems. The challenge is where alternatives are less obvious.

MIT I/S approached the issue in September of 1999, through the discovery process, a mechanism for examining new technologies or directions for current technologies at MIT. Faculty and other stakeholders were surveyed and information gathered that led to the conclusion that SGI, as an Athena platform, was not a wise long-term investment (see the project notebook at <http://web.mit.edu/cease/www/index.html>). Since then discussions have been held with individual faculty, and some, Prof. Bruce Tidor for example, have graciously offered to help facilitate the exploration of alternatives to SGI specific applica-

tions and hardware.

In an effort to collectively leverage the talent and knowledge of our community, MIT I/S has scheduled an IAP session in January to share information, gather input, and seek common solutions for obstacles that might impede a smooth SGI transition process. Thanks to Prof. Carter ["MIT's Computing Services?" December 7, 2001] for raising the visibility of the issue, and hopefully the participation in the session. While the direction that SGI has taken, both in the market place as well as in their chosen focus, has effectively marginalized their suitability for general computing environments, those situations where faculty have depended heavily on SGI specific applications require our concerted effort to identify functional alternatives. MIT I/S can and will provide resources and assistance to ease the transition. Finding the right alternatives for specific applications will require our collective effort.

Phillip D. Long, Ph.D.
Senior Strategist for the Academic Computing Enterprise



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Don't Devalue in Argentina

Matt Craighead

In the aftermath of Argentina's economic collapse, there is no shortage of blame being thrown around. The forces opposed to globalization argue that we have witnessed a failure of "neo-liberal economics." Others say this is a reason for us to hand over more of our money to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to bail out such countries. And some have taken this opportunity to push the economic snake oil of "devaluation."

Argentina's most immediate problems are twofold. First, the country has a \$150 billion debt and is unable to make its interest payments. Second, it has been in a deep recession for several years. Fernando de la Rúa, president up until his recent resignation, did his best to handle the debt, but his actions worsened the recession. He raised taxes repeatedly to try to cover the budget deficit; yet the deficit grew instead of shrinking as the economy suffered under the oppressive tax burden. He tried to implement "austerity" packages (in short, government spending cuts), but opposition politicians blocked even the most necessary cuts. In the meantime, he and his economy minister, Domingo Cavallo, begged for assistance from the IMF, in the form of loans from wealthy countries.

When the IMF recently refused a badly needed loan package, the house of cards collapsed. Without cash on hand, the country was unable to make payments on its debt. Raising taxes would be equivalent to squeezing blood out of a stone, and as President de la Rúa attempted to implement a bare-bones budget to keep the country alive, the mob took to the streets. In the ensuing violence, he and his entire cabinet resigned.

Many say that the only solution for Argentina is a combination of a devastating default and a massive currency devaluation. On the matter of the default, I agree — there is no alternative. Argentina simply cannot service its debt. Indeed, the recession, not the debt, is the real problem. If Argentina's economy were healthy, the budget could be balanced easily. But default solves only some of the problems.

Argentina's currency, the peso, is currently linked to the dollar at a one-to-one ratio via an

arrangement known as a "convertibility system." Cavallo and former President Carlos Menem conceived the convertibility system in the early 1990s as a solution to Argentina's chronic hyperinflation, and it succeeded. Whereas inflation in Argentina was at least 90 percent every year from 1975 to 1990, once the peso and dollar were linked, inflation essentially disappeared.

If you believe the sophistry of such columnists as Paul Krugman of *The New York Times*, the convertibility system is Argentina's problem. Krugman, among others, believe that the peso must be devalued to make Argentina's export businesses competitive. Whereas today the government will exchange one dollar for one peso, after devaluation it might only give a dollar in exchange for 1.4 pesos. Then, products made in Argentina will appear at first to be 40 percent cheaper for foreign buyers.

The key words being "at first." Such an analysis ignores the many downsides of devaluation. There are four major problems. First, though exported goods may be 40 percent cheaper, imported goods will now be 40 percent more expensive. Second, economic arrangements made under the presumption that the dollar and peso remain linked will be heavily disrupted. Third, devaluation constitutes an immediate confiscation of 40 percent of the wealth of every Argentinean by the government — a massive breach of property rights. And finally, Argentina's debts are denominated in dollars and thus are 40 percent larger, making things worse, not better.

Indeed, the claim that exports will become more competitive is itself not necessarily true. For example, if a company in Argentina made a product whose cost was primarily composed of imported goods, the cost of production in pesos would become 40 percent higher, and the price of the product in foreign markets would not decrease at all. On the other hand, if the cost of production were primarily made

up of domestic labor costs paid in pesos, workers would realize that their wages had suddenly dropped by 40 percent and would demand pay increases. If such pay increases were widely granted, then exports would be no more competitive; if they were not, then Argentina's standard of living would drop.

Devaluation is little more than a shell game. However it is accomplished, it simply transfers wealth from some people to others. Many of the measures recommended by supporters of devaluation to cushion some of its negative side effects make this clear. For example, Paul Krugman (who claims he is opposed to a default) says that Argentina should redenominate its national debt in pesos rather than dollars prior to devaluing; yet such an action is itself a default! Others have suggested that all bank deposits and loans in Argentina, not just those of the government, be converted as well; this would cripple the banking system, eviscerate private property rights, and forever destroy savers' confidence that their money is safe in Argentinean banks.

If Argentina is not competitive in world markets, the only real solution is increased productivity. First, the government should make it clear that it is not interested in the devaluation shell game by implementing full dollarization, at a rate of one peso to one dollar. This will demonstrate to all Argentineans that their money is safe and eliminate the specter of currency risk that hangs over the country, discouraging investment of all kinds.

Second, it must embark on a comprehensive plan of tax reform and tax cuts, while at the same time cutting back on wasteful spending to keep the budget in check. President de la Rúa's tax increases have caused nothing but trouble. Finally, the government must vigorously renew efforts to liberalize its economy, efforts that stalled in the mid-90s; especially in its calcified labor market, and by enforcing property rights and opening its borders to more trade. Only then will true competition and economic recovery come to Argentina.

Devaluation is little more than a shell game. However it is accomplished, it simply transfers wealth from some people to others.

Building Knowledge-Driven Economies in Africa

Basil Enwegbara

Since independence came in the 1960s, Africans have struggled to participate in building knowledge-driven economies. The efforts have been based on the understanding that, without boosting the human capital base of the continent, Africa will continue to experience an intellectual and economic drought and will continue to be isolated from the rest of the global economic competition. But unfortunately, in the drive to provide the necessary education, African leaders have ended up producing mass philosophers, storytellers, and scientists whose laboratory work fails to pursue research for wealth generation and industrial development.

The low incentive structures, low pay, and bureaucratic pressure found in most African universities have forced rewards to be given for long service rather than for creativity and innovation among faculty members and researchers. Teaching methods are unacceptable, with instructors doing little more in an overcrowded classroom than copying their notes onto a blackboard, while the students — in severely inadequate library and laboratory facilities, as well as distracting living conditions — tend to engage in memorizing the notes for the examinations.

These passive approaches to teaching and learning, with little or nothing to offer in a world where creativity and flexibility are the ultimate drivers of knowledge-based techno-entrepreneurial development, have further rendered the entire system hopeless. But more frightening is its continuous denial of opportunity and latitude to the best and brightest students — those students who display extraordinary inner drive and competitiveness, the motivation to travel their own special roads to scientific, entrepreneurial, and techno-managerial preeminence in the 21st century's knowledge-based economic terrain, where creativity and ideas are the currency and innovation is the primary virtue.

Another impediment to building Africa's knowledge-based economic system is the fact that higher education in the continent

has been hijacked as "the playing ground for the children of the rich and powerful," as Woodrow Wilson saw Princeton University while president there.

This system continuously excludes the most qualified students due to their lower socio-economic status and frequently denies the best students from poor families access to leadership education, because their parents and/or families lack the political connections necessary to benefit from the meager financial aid that the state has put in place. It is this unfortunate exclusion of young people brimming with creative potential and readiness to take charge of Africa's future that has contributed to Africa's unbroken underdevelopment. A simple walk onto the campuses of Africa's flagship universities, for instance, will convince anyone in doubt of the level of decay in the region's higher educational system. The seriousness of the danger for a continent that is supposed to reinvent itself in the 21st century in order to escape poverty and become part of the global economic system is very clear.

This widespread hopelessness is spreading to what were once known as the region's flagship universities. Most disturbing are the situations in Nigeria, South Africa, Ghana, and Kenya where the so-called flagship universities have transformed themselves into assembly lines without quality control. The result today is an army of unqualified engineers, technicians, and managerial professionals.

Nigeria is a clear example of this negligence. This country, which has the highest number of universities in Africa (45 universities and institutions of higher learning and student population of about 404,969), still cannot meet the growing demand for a higher education for a country of some 120 million people. But even more disturbing are the persisting lack of qualified faculty, the high student-to-faculty ratio, empty libraries, and laboratories with outdated equipment. The exodus of qualified faculty from Nigerian universities as a result of the structural adjustment policies in the country still persists in the post-structural adjustment policy democratic economy. In fact, today most universities are struggling with qualified professors making up less than

10 percent of their faculties.

South Africa, supposed to have the only industrial economy in sub-Saharan Africa, suffers from the same problems as Nigeria. Its 25 universities are burdened by obsolescence in equipment and inadequate infrastructure as they serve over 600,000 students. Since 1993, the situation worsened because the Constitution puts university education directly under the national government. This nationalization of education was a problem because enrollment increased tremendously without any corresponding increase in faculty recruitment or infrastructure expansion.

Even the good efforts by the World Bank in 1995 to establish African Virtual University (AVU), a satellite-based distance education system, have not changed the poor state of human capital development in the sub-Sahara. This is because AVU lacked a well-structured and well-coordinated learning and teaching environment, rendering it unable to bring students and faculty face-to-face to deal with the realities on the ground.

Africans must ask themselves if countries like Hong Kong — with miserable per capita incomes, overpopulation, and lack of natural resources — could become industrial giants in less than 50 years because of their investments in human capital, why can't Africa achieve the same result? Why can't Africa, with its abundant natural resources and youthful population, develop its own human capital and unlock the techno-managerial and entrepreneurial potential of its great men and women?

The African situation today requires an entirely new approach, an approach that must not be weighed down by any form of regional political bureaucracy. In fact, the uniqueness of the situation requires collective responsibility, the responsibility to establish a regional world-class technical university — the MIT of Africa — to educate those young men and women with the ability and the passion to take the center stage of scientific, entrepreneurial and high-tech leadership in Africa, and who also have the readiness to move Africa into today's fast-paced global marketplace, just as MIT has led and continues to lead America through this century.

An Active Resolution

Christen M. Gray

It's now a new year, and everybody spends at least a few seconds reflecting over the last year. This year people are doing a little less reflecting in the stores and a little more at the airports.

I got to spend a lovely four hours waiting in the Atlanta airport last week and did a little reflecting myself. I reflected on the long-past days when one could wait for a person by the gate in semi-comfortable chairs. You could watch your dear friends soar off into the sky by looking out the window after their plane.

The Atlanta airport is an amazing network and infrastructure with its own internal subway system. Its ebb and flow and absolute size have always astounded me. I comment on this particular airport simply because it's home to me. It was built to accommodate people in a certain fashion they were used to and expected. Millions and millions of dollars were spent perfecting this magnificent mini-community, especially before the 1996 Olympic Games. And now, the entire thing must be redone.

There is a little yellow line crossing the floor facing the escalators from which people come from the gates. Hundreds of people gather behind this yellow line under the watchful gaze of Military Police. As with any sizable gathering, over time the line of people moves slowly more and more forward, hopeful, looking toward the escalators for loved ones, until every couple hours the MPs come by and remind all to move back behind the lines.

Today, it's crazy trying to meet anyone at the airport. I quite envied the military personnel. They were there in droves back from Christmas exodus and ready for more training at Fort Benning. At least their Drill Sergeants could wait directly in front of the escalator stopping a man or woman in uniform to give clear instructions. Between snow delays, the holiday hustle and bustle, and the overhead computers that were just plain wrong, the rest of us had to do a lot of guess work and waiting.

In another few years, once the money is raised, the new system designed, and plans implemented we will adjust to a new infrastructure. We will wait at the airport calmly, once everyone knows the system. It will be

If you are concerned that Bush and Ashcroft have their heads in a hole, then get out there and get involved yourself.

once again less frantic, but different. Everything will stabilize, but to a slightly different equilibrium.

The airports and the changes that they have undergone and will undergo are the most visible and reflective evidence of the larger changes. Our economy, the way we travel, the way we look at the world is changing very rapidly right now. In time, this too will settle, but to what end?

I recently read a column in *The New York Times* that railed against the Bush administration for not using the unity and sense of purpose found in our new state to effect great changes for the whole of the United States, particularly in regard to the energy problem.

I agree wholeheartedly with the columnist, but would like to add a more personal charge. While we are in what *Voo Doo's* editor aptly called "interesting times," it is a time for us all to make a stake in the future. If you are concerned that Bush and Ashcroft have their heads in a hole, then get out there and get involved yourself.

Most of the world is still waiting for somebody else to do it for them. The airports will be taken care of just fine without you, but what about everything else? That is not a guarantee. Whatever you care about, be it war, disease, environment, or a host of other things, get involved this year. Have something to say about where the dust settles after the storm subsides in the next few years.

THE ARTS



FILM REVIEW ★★★

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

The Not-So Flawless Fellowship

The Hobbits surrounded in the Mines of Moria.

By Vladimir Zelevinsky

STAFF WRITER

Directed by Peter Jackson

Written by Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens

Based on the book by J.R.R. Tolkien

Starring Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen, Ian

Holm, Liv Tyler, Cate Blanchett

Disclaimer: throughout this review, I shall never make a single comparison between "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" and the J.R.R. Tolkien novel of the same name. Nor shall I offer a summary of the events, since readers don't need them and non-readers shouldn't read a mere summary. I can't promise not to make any comparisons with "The Matrix," though. Consider yourself warned.

There might be a reason why grand epic movies should not be made by auteurs. This reason quite likely is that whatever the auteur in question (here, director/co-writer/general creative force Peter Jackson) finds grand, some other person, including your faithful servant, might find either likewise grand, or just rather silly.

Jackson's film really only has one ambition: to paraphrase the old TV commercial, this is your jaw; this is the floor; this is your jaw on the floor. Any questions? Just one, really. For how much of the three-hour running time is the aforementioned jaw indeed in the designated position? I'd say for about three-fourths of the film; the three out of four stars rating is more or less directly derived from this proportion.

Nearly the entire world Jackson creates, from the hillsides with cozy round doors where the story starts to the barren ruins on the impossibly foreboding mountaintops, is simply dazzling. The sets are at the same time immense and lovingly detailed — the fellowship's passage through the Mines of Moria (unquestionably the film's highlight) is the stuff of primal nightmares. Cinematographer Andrew Lesnie ("Babe") should just get his

lifetime achievement Oscar right away. The way the actors play characters of different sizes is utterly seamless and convincing.

Unfortunately, the movie's grandeur is somewhat diminished by some silly things that are small but not quite ignorable. The first occurs roughly half a minute into the movie with the glimpse of titular Lord, Sauron. He really should have been left unglimped, since he looks like an escapee from the "Transformers" television series. The wand duel that the wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellen) wages in the first hour is more similar to breakdancing than any kind of serious conflict. And I swear I am not making this up, but the tentacled creature that comes from the lake to attack our brave heroes looks like a computer-generated cross between a jellyfish and Albert Einstein.

The disappointing performance by Liv Tyler as Arwen is probably not her fault, given that Galadriel (Cate Blanchett), the only other female character to speak of, crashes and burns almost as miserably. In all honesty, what was Jackson thinking when directing these two women? Admittedly, they are not only women, but also elves — and yet the fellowship's representative elf, Legolas, is allowed to speak in normal voice, without CGI glow washing all over him. Blanchett at least tries; Tyler is simply miscast, and the same goes for Hugo Weaving as the elves' leader, Elrond. Since he looks, and even more importantly, speaks exactly like his evil Agent Smith from "The Matrix" (I warned you), I had no recourse but to snicker every time he spoke in the film.

The thing is, all of this doesn't quite matter, for fans of the book surely saw it already. I guess I'm left talking to the people who haven't read "The Lord of the Rings". Well, if you don't ever plan to read it, then by all means see the movie. But if you do plan to read it, then I'd say ignore the film. Also ignore such trivialities as work and sleep, and read it, starting with "The Hobbit." As for me, I envy you, for I shall never again read it for the first time.

FILM REVIEW★★

The Majestic

Annoying Setup, Remind, Resolve Drama

By Vladimir Zelevinsky

STAFF WRITER

Directed by Frank Darabont

Written by Michael Sloane

Starring Jim Carrey, Martin Landau, Laurie

Holden, Brent Briscoe, Bob Balaban

Sheesh, no wonder this thing is two and a half hours long but feels like eight. Not a single plot point, character trait, emotion, image, or anything else in "The Majestic" is stressed, underlined, highlighted, and solemnly explicated only twice when one can spend five more minutes to stress, underline, highlight, and solemnly explicate it thrice.

This is a movie that will laboriously set up a point, then would remind you of this point every so often, and then resolve it by very carefully spelling everything out, just to make sure you didn't miss it. An example might be in order. Very well. Let's say a long lost son — alas, suffering from amnesia — has returned to his hometown. Naturally, his dad is overjoyed to see the prodigal son, who is suffering from amnesia, and keeps calling him, I quote, "son," about twice per utterance. The son in question, who is suffering from amnesia, can't quite muster the proper filial feelings and keeps calling his dad "Harry," until, that is, an emotional moment when the two bond. Then the son, who is still suffering from amnesia, calls his dad, I quote, "dad," for the first time. The dad looks right back at him and says, "This is the first time you called me 'dad.'" Thanks. I would have missed the significance otherwise.

Now, many movies these days are equally schematic, yet I found "The Majestic" to be more annoying than most. This can be attributed to a somewhat unlucky combination of the plodding setup/remind/resolve mechanics of the story and the story itself. Usually, you see, I would start groaning in the "remind" and "resolve" stages. But here the story centers on the amnesiac coming to his home town and all the townsfolk trying to get him to remember his past life — which, regrettably, means that the entire "setup" stage is

exposition. Not just subtle two-word exposition; no, these are multiple tiresome monologues, taking up roughly an hour all together.

So I spent the entire movie just looking at flawless period detail, appreciating glowing cinematography, and enjoying top-notch casting (with one glaring exception) of many semi-familiar character actors in numerous supporting parts. The glaring exception is Laurie Holden as the love interest; she does not look remotely like a young girl from 1950s, and the only acting skill she has mastered is hiccupping convincingly.

Oh yeah, there's also Jim Carrey. Funny I should forget about him, given that he's the lead and is pretty much on screen all the time. He's fine, really, until the grandstanding finale rolls along, and he finds himself elected senator and throwing a major filibuster — no, wait, that was Jimmy Stewart in "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington."

Carrey finds himself lecturing the Committee on Anti-American Activities about the Constitution. (Was anyone surprised when he starting quoting it? Was anyone surprised to hear exactly what part he was quoting? Didn't think so.) So Carrey is there, all intense and dramatic and passionate — and it would be all fine, only one can see plain as day that the actor does not care a whit about the Constitution. All he cares is being dramatic enough for a Golden Globe nomination.

Given that the movie is concerned with some major subjects — truth, freedom of speech, and the like — allow me to respond in kind. One would think that with its defense of free speech and attempts to satirize McCarthys witchhunts (up to the point of borrowing an entire subplot wholesale from "The Crucible") this would be an appropriate movie for the winter of 2001. But look at what "The Majestic" is putting on the other side of the scales: the American flag, the girl next door, and our brave boys dying in the foreign land. In the 1950s, when the movie is set, this might be a valid counterpoint. In 2001 we already know that the witchhunts and the brave boys' deaths can be two aspects of the very same thing.



Jim Carrey stars in the tiresome melodrama "The Majestic."

—WARNER BROTHERS

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CONCERT REVIEW

Trans-Siberian Orchestra

A Classic Rock Christmas

By Brian Loux

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

TSO's Christmas Eve and Other Stories

Orpheum Theater

December 14 and 15, 2001

All great rock shows are held outdoors or in stadiums, right? This is for good reason: when so inspired, the crowd may want to jump to its feet and dance, clap, crowd-surf, or perform some condoning act that requires large amounts of open space that only those venues can provide.

And let's be honest, the Trans-Siberian

Why on earth was the concert in the cramped confines of the Orpheum Theater, the kind of place where you only leave your seat if you need to head to the bathroom? As narrator Tim Cairns sat directly onstage, rocking out with the amazing guitarists, the entire audience seemed eager to follow suit. But the atmosphere seemed to inculcate that everyone should just sit down and clap politely.

Everyone in the car. We're going to the Fleet Center and we're going to do it right this time.

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra started in 1996 with their CD "Christmas Eve and Other Stories," which was the first half of

my miscalculation on the belt and loafers and longed for my Santana shirt and jean shorts. It was evident of the group's ability to attract not only traditional patrons of classical music and theatre, but also young and middle class who enjoy the group's upbeat style.

The orchestra consisted of three guitarists taking center stage in front of drummer Jeffrey Plate, two keyboardists to the right and a modest string section composed of local talent led by orchestra member Mark Wood. The presence of each section seemed to correspond with their position, as it was usually the guitars and keyboards that directed the flow of the show and captured the colossal emotion of the music in ways their instrumental counterparts could not. For vocal numbers, the entire band would quietly shuffle off stage, adding to the solemn power of the voices of singers Daryl Pediford, Joe Cerisano, and Jayelia.

The only downside was a string of errors that befell the early part of the show. It would

have been just fine had the electric guitars not been able to hit the high notes or a tossed drumstick to go astray, but these occurred at the most important moments of the performance, during their signature pieces such as "Christmas Eve / Sarajevo," "A Mad Russian's Christmas," and "Oh Holy Night." While the rest of the show went flawlessly, there was still the nagging feeling that the show was not as great as it could have been.

The second half drew from the group's other CDs and didn't follow a set format. Gone was storyteller Cairns and replacing him was guitarist and all-around leader Christopher Caffery, who kept the mood light and cheerful. The orchestra seemed much more at home in this atmosphere. No longer driven by the pressure to make the performance a

masterpiece like the first half, most of the musicians were have a lot more fun with the pieces, and the music greatly benefited.

With Boston's continuing affinity for classic rock, it is no surprise that the TSO is a perennial favorite in the city. Like Santa, the group promised they would return the same time next year possibly with some new surprises. Fans can only lament that Christmas comes but once a year.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra rocks out its version of Christmas Eve in the Fleet Center.

Orchestra is foremost a rock show. When you have an overpowering light display, dry ice, former members of the rock group Savatage, three guitarists and a drummer who focused on dazzling the crowd with acrobatics rather than their respective instruments, and singers asking "Do ya hear me Boston?" what else can it be? What makes the TSO unique is the inclusion of holiday music, classical composers, R&B, gospel, and storytelling into the rock show.

the performance. The story, about an angel's journey to find the one thing that signifies Christmas, was greatly enhanced with the powerful monologues from narrator Cairns, as well as the lighting of the stage and the surreal effect of seeing the story unfold live.

One of the first things to strike me was the crowd. Those that had dressed up were almost a minority, giving way to those in Red Sox caps and Savatage t-shirts. I cursed



JASON LA PENTA—THE TECH

The MIT Dance Troupe's December 2001 performance in La Sala de Puerto Rico was a spectacular display of artistic motion, music, and gravity defying leaps.



join@the-tech.mit.edu

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

EVERYONE GRAB AN ODD-SHAPED PIECE OF FOAM AND SIT DOWN.

WE'LL CONTINUE THE DESIGN PROCESS BY POINTING TO THESE BRAINSTORM NOTES AND MAKING INSIGHTFUL OBSERVATIONS.

THE NOTES ARE ALL YELLOW.

SWEET JEEPERS!!! YOU'RE ALL ENGINEERS!

CREATIVE DESIGN

EACH TEAM HAS ONE HOUR TO DESIGN AND BUILD A MOCK-UP USING THESE COMMON MATERIALS.

QUESTION: DOESN'T THIS SORT OF EXERCISE USUALLY GET DOMINATED BY THE WORST TEAM MEMBER?

DON'T WORRY. WE CAN JUST IGNORE ALICE'S SUGGESTIONS.

OUR COPIER IS BROKEN. MAY I USE YOURS?

ONLY IF YOU USE YOUR OWN PAPER.

I JUST NEED ONE COPY AND MY OFFICE IS ABOUT A MILE AWAY.

DON'T MAKE ME UNLEASH THE HOUND.

THAT'S A HOUND? TECHNICAL HE'S A WEB DESIGNER IN A TIGHT LABOR MARKET.

WHO CALLED THIS MEETING?

WE THOUGHT YOU DID.

I THINK WE SHOULD DISCUSS ISSUES AND ASSIGN TASKS SO IT'S NOT A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME.

MAYBE MEETINGS HAVE BECOME A LIFETIME CAPABLE OF CALLING THEMSELVES AND THUS REPRODUCING VIA HUMAN HOSTS.

WOW! GOOD ISSUE

I'M SIGNING UP VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE FOOD TO THE HOMELESS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IN ADVANCE THAT THEY'LL BE EXTRA HUNGRY ON THAT ONE DAY?

OUR P.R. FIRM MAKES SURE THEY DON'T GET FED FOR TWO DAYS BEFORE THE NEWS CREWS ARRIVE.

ACCORDING TO THIS SURVEY THE COMPENSATION HERE IS "COMPETITIVE."

COMPETITIVE MEANS NOT THE HIGHEST. SO WE COULD GET PAID MORE IF WE WORKED AT ANOTHER COMPANY?

SHOULD WE CONTINUE WORKING AS HARD AS WE CAN OR SHOULD WE BACK OFF TO A MORE COMPETITIVE LEVEL?

WALLY, YOU HAVE FAILED TO ACHIEVE ANY OF YOUR WRITTEN OBJECTIVES.

BUT BY PURE CHANCE YOU ACHIEVED ALL OF MY HIDDEN OBJECTIVES.

HERE'S ANOTHER PROJECT I NEED SMOTHERED WITH DEFECTIVENESS.

I'M ALL OVER IT.

I WANT TO MOVE YOU TO ANOTHER CUBICLE BUT MY OFFICE MOVING BUDGET IS SHOT.

SO I'M GOING TO TRANSFER YOU TO ELBONIA AND THEN BACK SO I CAN USE THE RELOCATION BUDGET.

HE SAYS THE RELOCATION BUDGET IS SHOT BUT YOU CAN MAIL YOURSELF HOME.

I'M STARTING A PETITION TO END WAR. DO YOU WANT IN ON THIS?

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE IT TO?

SAY WHAT?

I WAS HOPING TO SELL IT.

I'LL SIGN IT FOR A DOLLAR.

BOB, I HOLD IN MY HANDS THE MOST IMPORTANT DOCUMENT EVER CREATED.

IT'S A SIGNED PETITION TO END WAR. I EXPECT TO WIN THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FOR THIS.

MAY I HAVE A SIP OF THAT?

TRADE YA.

SOMETIMES I FEEL GUILTY THAT I'M NOT DOING ENOUGH TO ENHANCE STOCKHOLDER VALUE.

DO YOU EVER FEEL THAT WAY?

GLUG GLUG GLUG

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A NO.

DUDE, WHY HAVEN'T YOU ANSWERED MY E-MAIL?

YOUR MESSAGE WAS SO POORLY WRITTEN THAT I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT AND I DIDN'T DARE TO START A DIALOGUE.

MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE A TALK WITH YOUR BOSS.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD E-MAIL HIM.

I NEED YOUR APPROVAL FOR THIS EXPENSE. THE EQUIPMENT IS ALREADY HERE AND INSTALLED.

I LEFT OUT THE DESCRIPTION BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND IT ANYWAY.

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN MANAGING AND BEING TOTALLY USELESS.

LUCKILY IT LOOKS THE SAME.

DOGBERT CONSULTS

IF YOU GIVE A MAN A FISH HE WILL EAT FOR A DAY.

BUT IF YOU TEACH A MAN TO FISH HE WILL BUY AN UGLY HAT.

AND IF YOU TALK ABOUT FISH TO A STARVING MAN THEN YOU'RE A CONSULTANT.

ALICE, I JUST SENT YOU AN E-MAIL.

HERE'S A COPY OF MY MESSAGE BUT I'LL JUST TELL YOU WHAT IT SAYS.

IT SAYS I SENT YOU A VOICE MAIL TELLING YOU TO LOOK FOR A FAX THAT SAYS I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

ALICE, ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK - THE NIGHTS AND THE WEEKENDS - ARE FINALLY PAYING OFF.

WE INCREASED OUR FIVE-YEAR FORECAST OF DEMAND BY TEN PERCENT!

YOU CHANGED A WILD GUESS BY TEN PERCENT?

THANKS TO YOU!

CAROL, I WANT YOU TO HELP ME PUT TOGETHER A MORALE BOOSTING EVENT.

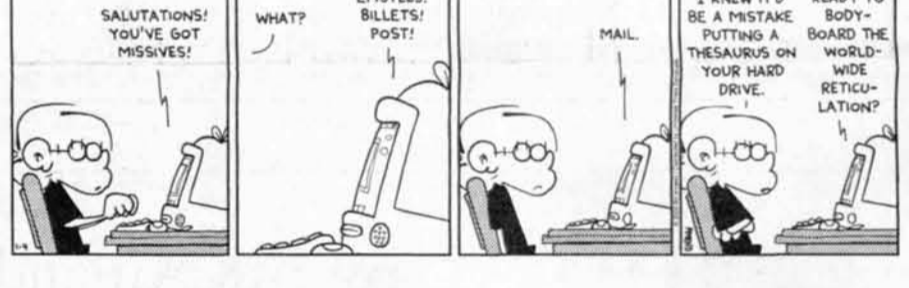
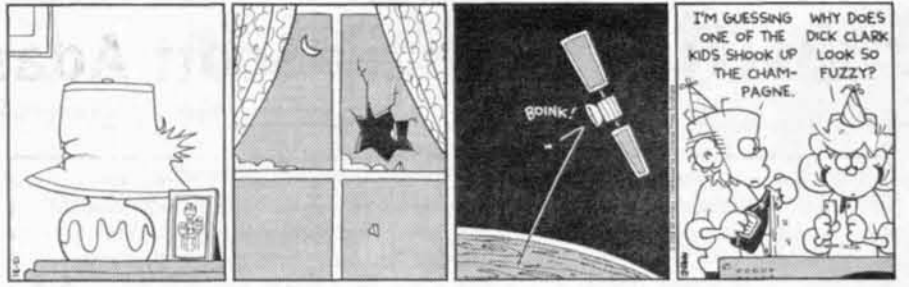
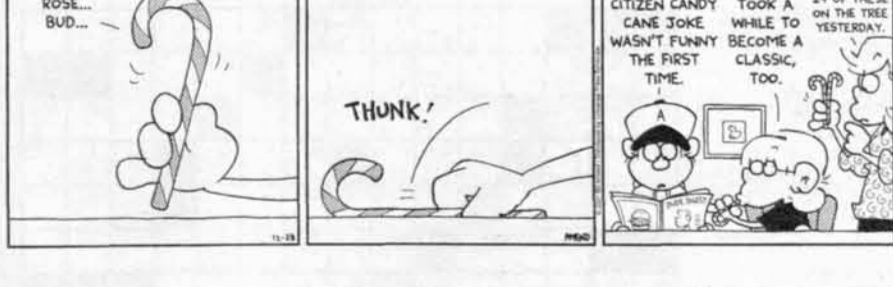
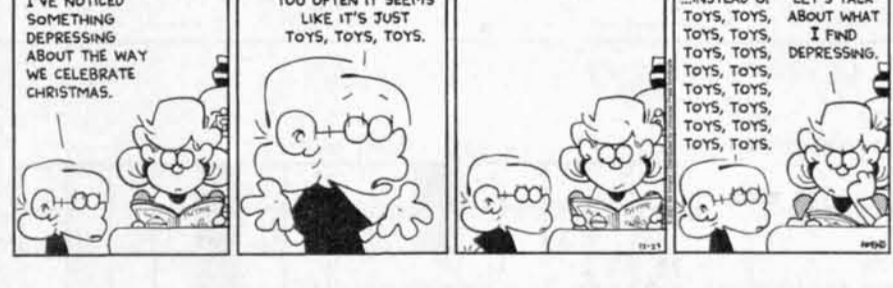
GREAT IDEA. AND AFTER THAT MAYBE I CAN DO CPR ON A MUMMY AND SEE IF I CAN SAVE ITS LIFE.

DO YOU HEAR WHAT I'M SAYING?

OUR FIRST MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY.

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



Events Calendar

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.

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

Wednesday, January 9

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Eudora Quick Start.** This session shows how to configure Eudora, create messages and address lists, send and receive attachments, and sort incoming email. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.
 12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminar.** Free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.
 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - **Fuel Tanks and Debris Impact - The Problem of Hydrodynamic Ram.** New England AIAA Section - Dr. Moussa will discuss a study he conducted for the FAA in the mid-1990's on aircraft fuel tank vulnerability to flying debris. When sufficiently energetic debris impact and penetrate a tank below the fuel level, the result is an increase in pressure that can tear the tank apart. The subsequent fuel release can have catastrophic consequences. This hazard is called hydrodynamic ram. His study in commercial aviation was basically ignored until the Concorde disaster. Since then, the study has received a lot of attention, particularly in Europe. \$5.00 Members/\$7.00 Non-members/Free Students. Free if not an AIAA member and you sign up for membership this evening. Room: MIT, Room 33-116. Sponsor: AeroAstro.
 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - **Renaissance Dancing.** There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice. From Italian balli to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. Free. Room: W20 (Sala or 407 or 491). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

Thursday, January 10

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Overview of Purchasing on the Web.** This demo integrates all aspects of using SAPweb for purchasing including requisitioning external vendors, internal providers and preferred partners. In this session we will introduce the SAPweb requisitioning form, the new online catalogs and purchasing procedures for buying from preferred partner vendors, including Office Depot, VWR, BOC Gases, and NECX. We will demonstrate how the new online ordering system interfaces with SAPweb and we will talk about how this new process differs from the ECAT purchasing process. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

Friday, January 11

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **IAP UROP Deadline (Supervisor Pay, Credit & Volunteer Proposals).** All IAP 2002 UROP proposals for Supervisor Pay, Credit or Volunteer must be submitted to the UROP Office in 7-104 by 5 p.m. today, January 11, 2002. See <http://web.mit.edu/urop/paperwork.html> for proposal outline, coversheets and guidelines. Free. Room: 7-104. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center, UROP.
 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - **RC Thermal Sailplanes.** Competition radio controlled sailplanes will be discussed and analyzed from the perspective of functional requirements, evolution of design, aerodynamics, control avionics, state-of-art composite construction, and flight tactics. Free. Room: MIT, 33-116. Sponsor: AeroAstro.
 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.
 8:00 p.m. - **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.** Milos Forman's 5 academy award-winning adaptation of Ken Kesey's acclaimed 1962 novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* is a satire set among the patients and workers in a mental institution. It tells the story (narrated by an inmate) of an energetic con man who seeks institutionalization as a means of escaping the rigors of a prison work farm. Before long, in order to reduce the sexual and emotional impotence of the men at the institution, he begins to challenge the dictatorial Nurse Ratched (Louise Fletcher, Best Actress 1975), irrevocably altering the destiny of those in the ward. The story is made up of a series of skirmishes between McMurphy (Jack Nicholson Best Actor 1975) and Big Nurse. McMurphy becomes a hero, changing the life of the inmates, but pays with a lobotomy which turns him into a vegetable. Bromden, the narrator, performs the final act by smothering McMurphy with a pillow and running away to Freedom. Ken Kesey died on November 10th, 2001, and LSC shows this film in tribute to his memory. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, January 12

7:00 p.m. - **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.** Milos Forman's 5 academy award-winning adaptation of Ken Kesey's acclaimed 1962 novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* is a satire set among the patients and workers in a mental institution. It tells the story (narrated by an inmate) of an energetic con man who seeks institutionalization as a means of escaping the rigors of a prison work farm. Before long, in order to reduce the sexual and emotional impotence of the men at the institution, he begins to challenge the dictatorial Nurse Ratched (Louise Fletcher, Best Actress 1975), irrevocably altering the destiny of those in the ward. The story is made up of a series of skirmishes between McMurphy (Jack Nicholson Best Actor 1975) and Big Nurse. McMurphy becomes a hero, changing the life of the inmates, but pays with a lobotomy which turns him into a vegetable. Bromden, the narrator, performs the final act by smothering McMurphy with a pillow and running away to Freedom. Ken Kesey died on November 10th, 2001, and LSC shows this film in tribute to his memory. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
 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.
 10:00 p.m. - **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.** Milos Forman's 5 academy award-winning adaptation of Ken Kesey's acclaimed 1962 novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* is a satire set among the patients and workers in a mental institution. It tells the story (narrated by an inmate) of an energetic con man who seeks institutionalization as a means of escaping the rigors of a prison work farm. Before long, in order to reduce the sexual and emotional impotence of the men at the institution, he begins to challenge the dictatorial Nurse Ratched (Louise Fletcher, Best Actress 1975), irrevocably altering the destiny of those in the ward. The story is made up of a series of skirmishes between McMurphy (Jack Nicholson Best Actor 1975) and Big Nurse. McMurphy becomes a hero, changing the life of the inmates, but pays with a lobotomy which turns him into a vegetable. Bromden, the narrator, performs the final act by smothering McMurphy with a pillow and running away to Freedom. Ken Kesey died on November 10th, 2001, and LSC shows this film in tribute to his memory. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Monday, January 14

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Virus Protection Software Quick Start.** Learn how to download, install, and configure virus protection software for your computer, and how to keep the software up to date. Discuss your questions with Jerry Isaacson, MIT Information Security Officer. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

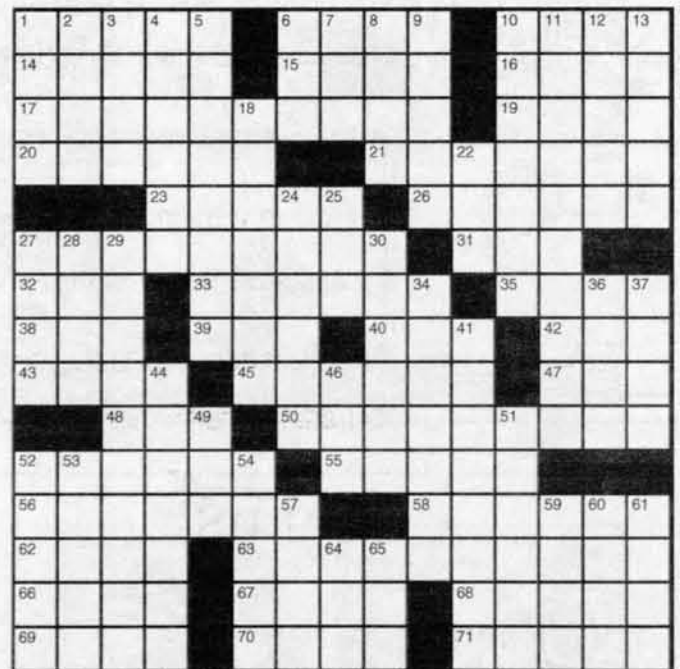
Tuesday, January 15

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Infant-Toddler Child Care Briefing.** An introductory discussion for expectant parents and those new to parenting or child care, covering types of care, costs, finding and evaluating care, and parental leave. Pre-registration is required. Free. Room: Family Resource Center (16-151). Sponsor: Family Resource Center.
 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Windows 2000 Quick Start.** This session demonstrates the new features and functionalities of Windows 2000 for the desktop user. In this session, we will: tour the Start Menu enhancements, summarize the differences between the new My Network Places and the previous Network Neighborhood, meet the Active Desktop, Power Management, and Windows Update features, see how many Control Panel functions have been consolidated, see where NT profiles and Administrative Tools now reside, learn how to set up a printer. We will also explain why Active Directories are not currently allowed at MIT. (System administration not covered.). Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.
 7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - **Ladies Night at The Ear.** Every Tuesday is Ladies Night at The Thirsty Ear Pub, with special Tuesday-only beverages. 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.
 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - **Economic Development: Promise or Threat?** Canner will show her film "Deadly Embrace" (30 mins.), on the damage that World Bank and IMF policies have done to the people of Nicaragua; and Lemire will show "Strong Roots" (40 mins.), about the MST: a social movement in Brazil that uses the country's Constitution to pressure the government into implementing land reform. Discussion to follow. Free; light refreshments provided. Room: 2-105, MIT. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project. MIT Anthropology Program.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 50 Deteriorated | 13 Actress Annie |
| 1 Director Raoul | 52 Polished | 18 Mountaintop characteristic |
| 6 Dirty air | 55 Actress Davis | 22 Puppy bite |
| 10 Break sharply | 56 Listening device | 24 Graphic storyteller |
| 14 Ciao, on Lanai | 58 City near Council Bluffs | 25 Any person |
| 15 Bell sound | 62 Evaluate | 27 Stolen money |
| 16 Chanel of fashion | 63 One way to sit on a horse | 28 Actor Sean |
| 17 Art dabbler | 66 Anon's partner | 29 Struck back |
| 19 Border (on) | 67 Be sure of | 30 Author of "The Comedians" |
| 20 Stiffening agent | 68 Rock full of crystals | 34 Christian and Helen |
| 21 Keystone Kops filmmaker | 69 Marries | 36 Swiss artist |
| 23 Van Dine's Vance | 70 Rational | 37 Frome's vehicle |
| 26 Moves like a crab | 71 Flynn of film | 41 Prehistoric period |
| 27 Wrenching | | 44 Ambles |
| 31 Dickens hero | DOWN | 46 Droop |
| 32 Itsy-bitsy | 1 Quantities of gum | 49 Positive reply |
| 33 Identifiers | 2 Dismounted | 51 More down |
| 35 Large, roomy boats | 3 Hit by the Kinks | 52 "The Taming of the ___" |
| 38 Diligent insect | 4 Everest guide | 53 ___ ho |
| 39 Tonic's partner | 5 Coming out of one's shell | 54 Schoolroom furniture |
| 40 Urban RRs | 6 Fat farm | 57 Singer Turner |
| 42 Not up to snuff | 7 Fellows | 59 Aroma |
| 43 Do beaver's work | 8 Mr. Ed's dinner | 60 Ray of "God's Little Acre" |
| 45 Usher after intermission | 9 Mirths | 61 Howard of "Annie Get Your Gun" |
| 47 Omega's cousin | 10 Powder used in ceramics | 64 Put on |
| 48 Set down | 11 Annual award | 65 She sheep |
| | 12 Keenly perceptive | |



Foster Kept Involved In Alumni Association

Foster, from Page 1

functions of the DIC.

Foster active after retirement

Although Foster retired in 1968, he remained involved in MIT affairs. He served as director of the Lowell Institute School, which offered evening classes at MIT.

Committed to the Alumni Association, Foster received its highest recognition, the Bronze Beaver, in 1959. In 1976 he co-founded the Cape Cod, Mass. chapter of the MIT Alumni Association, when he and his late wife Evelyn Taylor moved to Chatham, Mass.

Foster's sons also attended MIT. Elder son Richard S. Foster '54 died in 1995, while Alden T. Foster '62 works as a ski instructor in Colorado.

He is also survived by sister Mildred L. Foster, four grandsons, and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service for Foster

will take place at the First United Methodist Church in Chatham at 11 a.m. on Saturday. Donations in Foster's memory should be made to the First United Methodist Church, 16 Cross St., Chatham, Mass. 02633.

Town-Gown Committee Announced

Sullivan, from Page 1

Sullivan emphasized the need for Cambridge universities to publicize long-term development plans. In addition, he called for appropriate "in lieu of tax" payments. Although Cambridge universities are non-profit, and therefore do not pay property taxes, MIT makes an annu-

al voluntary contribution to the City of Cambridge. However, Sullivan said that this payment is insufficient, and he hopes that the town-gown committee will allow the City Council to renegotiate annually.

Education, housing important

Sullivan said that education and affordable housing will also be hall-

mark issues for the current City Council. He called for a joint meeting of the Cambridge school board and City Council, which will allow the council to begin to address educational issues. He also said that the council "will use zoning to ensure that people of moderate and middle income are allowed to stay in this city," he said.

Solution to Crossword

from page 12

W	A	L	S	H	S	M	O	G	S	N	A	P	
A	L	O	H	A	P	E	A	L	C	O	C	O	
D	I	L	E	T	T	A	N	T	E	A	B	U	T
S	T	A	R	C	H	S	E	N	N	E	T	T	
S	P	R	A	I	N	I	N	G	P	I	P		
W	E	E	N	A	M	E	R	S	A	R	K	S	
A	N	T	G	I	N	E	L	S	I	L	L		
G	N	A	W	R	E	S	E	A	T	Z	E	E	
S	H	I	N	E	D	G	E	E	N	A			
H	E	A	D	S	E	T	R	E	D	O	A	K	
R	A	T	E	S	I	D	E	S	A	D	D	L	E
E	V	E	R	K	N	O	W	G	E	O	D	E	
W	E	D	S	S	A	N	E	E	R	R	O	L	

Office of Career Services & Preprofessional Advising
Winter
IAP 2002

View our website for more information

<http://web.mit.edu/career/www/SpecialPrograms/IAP2002.htm>

Interviewing Skills for ESL Students

1/10, 10-12am, 24-121

Practical Tools for Success in Your Engineering Career

1/11, 9-3pm, 1-150

Not Your Basic ER 1/22-1/25, 1-2:30pm, 51-315

The Wider World of Medicine

1/22-1/24, 10-11:30am, 4-231

What Your Parents Didn't Tell You about Life After College

1/23, 6-8pm, 2-105

Diversity in the Workplace 1/24, 2-3:30pm, 24-121

Educating the Public About Science 1/24, 3-5pm, 4-237

What Can You Do with a Degree in Science?

1/30, 3-5pm, 3-133

Undergraduate Study Abroad Q & A 2/1, 1-3pm, 24-121

How to Evaluate & Negotiate Job Offers 2/1, 5-8pm, 35-225

Opportunities Outside the Laboratory for PhDs:

Management Consulting 1/11, 2-4pm, 6-120

Environmental Consulting 1/14, 3-5pm, 4-163

Intellectual Property 1/17, 3-5pm, 4-163

Finance 1/18, 2-4pm, 6-120

Policy Analysis 1/28, 2-4pm, 4-163

Morgan Stanley invites you

INVESTMENT BANKING OPPORTUNITIES IN ASIA

We invite interested students to apply for 2002 Summer Analyst Positions.

Deadline for résumé submission: January 14, 2002.

Applications will only be accepted online.

For more information about this opportunity and to apply on-line,

please visit our website: www.morganstanley.com/careers.

Any questions, please contact Morgan Stanley IBD Asia Recruiting Team:

ibd.asiarecruit@morganstanley.com

Join us.

Morgan Stanley

MIT COMMITTEE ON CAMPUS RACE RELATIONS

CCRR MIT

2001 + 2002

CCRR GRANTS PROGRAM

We're looking for innovative proposals for events, activities, and educational programs to enhance racial and cultural relations at MIT. Students, faculty, and staff are welcome to apply. For information or an application, contact CCRR at x3-1786 or racerelations@mit.edu. web.mit.edu/ccrr/www

NEXT DEADLINE
January 7th

Schreiber Hopes for Settlement

Lawsuit, from Page 1

have been accused look at [the patent] carefully ... they'll settle and not go to court." In a past conflict with Adobe Systems, Inc. over the same imaging patent rights, Adobe "gulped and paid up," he said.

If the case does go to court, Schreiber said, he will probably be deposed but not called as a witness because, as a recipient of a percentage of the revenue generated by the licensing of the patent, he has "an interest in the matter."

EFI notified companies in Sept.

Jim Etheridge, EFI Vice President of Strategic Relations, said that the case began when EFI sent out letters to over 120 companies in September about paying licensing fees for the patent on the imaging software. Those companies who responded to the letter are not included in the lawsuits.

However, although lawsuits have now been filed, they have not yet been served. EFI sent out a second letter this week informing all the companies named in the lawsuits, in hopes that they will settle out of court. Etheridge said that the company wanted to communicate with others and "come to some business resolution."

He also said that EFI filed the lawsuits simply as a means to protect the integrity of patents, due to the capital-intensive research and development process. "This isn't personal, it's just business," Etheridge said.

Etheridge said he was optimistic

about the outcome of the lawsuits. "We do our homework before we file a lawsuit," he said, adding that EFI purchased each of the defendants' products to verify the claims of patent infringement before suing.

He also said that the large number of defendants involved in the suit was for the sake of efficiency. "It was more efficient and more expedient to bring one lawsuit with one hundred companies in a central location than one hundred separate lawsuits," he said.

Since the lawsuits have not yet been served, however, companies reached for comment either said they were unaware of the lawsuits

or declined to comment.

Imaging technology in question

The technology in question is a color imaging method that can be applied to any system that produces color pictures. It is currently considered the industry standard. "Before this work, color was an art, not a science," Schreiber said. "In my humble opinion this [development] revolutionized color printing."

The actual patent in question (No. 4,500,919) can be accessed online at <<http://www.uspto.gov>>. It expires this year.

Keith J. Winstein contributed to the reporting of this story.

THE CAMBRIDGE HOSPITAL BIPOLAR DISORDER RESEARCH PROGRAM

Do you have **bipolar disorder**? Are you interested in new treatments for **mood swings**?

The Cambridge Hospital Bipolar Disorder Program is conducting **research studies** with *Quetiapine*, *Olanzapine* and *Risperidone* for bipolar disorder.

If interested, you will receive a **specialized evaluation at no charge**, and if you qualify for a study, you will receive **clinical treatment and medication at no charge**.

For more information please call,

(617) 665-1466 or email jko@challiance.org

Sponsored by the Council for the Arts at MIT

Free Tickets for MIT Students!

"Shel's Shorts: Shel Shocked"

MIT Students should send e-mail to Susan Cohen - cohen@media.mit.edu for free tickets (two max per person)

Wednesday, January 16, 2002,
8:00pm
The Market Theater

(<http://www.markettheater.org/about/>)
One Winthrop Square (Grendel's)
Cambridge, MA 02238

An existential waitress who refuses to explain her "No Skronking" sign, a suicidal man who interrupts his wife's relaxing bath, and a woman who insists that her dog is really her husband are among the hilarious and disturbing characters created by Shel Silverstein in these sophisticated, witty, bit sized plays that bite back.

MIT Department of FACILITIES CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Vassar St. Utilities

Access to the Main Lot under Building 39 will be restricted beginning in mid-January and continuing for several weeks. From Vassar St. westbound, there will be no left turn allowed. Exiting from the Main Lot will be permitted to the right only.

Media Lab Expansion

Demolition of E10 has resumed and continues at a slow rate to mitigate noise, dust, and other negative impacts. Demolition is expected to be completed by mid-January.

Stata Center

Cutting for tunnel connection to the Alumni Pool is complete. Additional steam connection to Building 57 will be completed during the week of January 7-11.

Simmons Hall

Excavation of the west end of Vassar St. for utility installation continues. This may affect traffic flow.

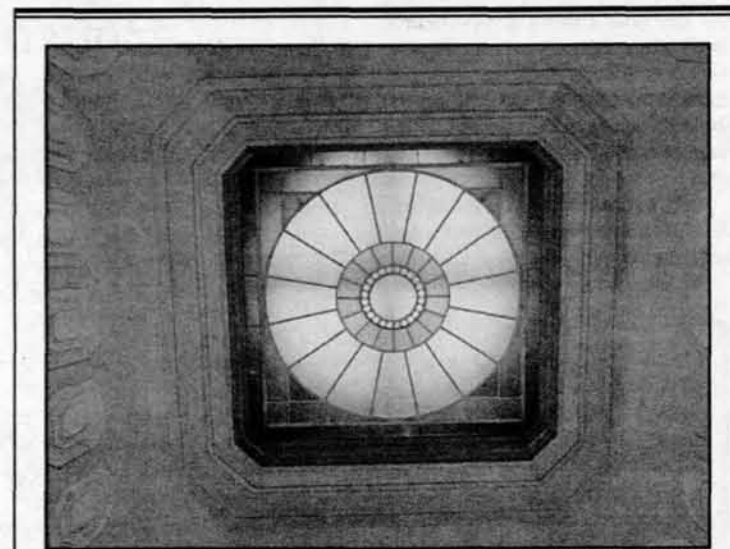
Zesiger Sports & Fitness Center

Roof work, dry wall framing, rough plumbing, casting of floor slabs, and fireproofing continue, with special precautions regarding generation of noise.

70 Pacific Street

Exterior construction continues, including spray-on fireproofing, framing, sheathing, and masonry work. Roof penetrations are being laid out in preparation for the final roof installation.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>
This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.



WENDY GU—THE TECH

IAP opened with the restoration of the Lobby 7 skylight and the removal of the scaffolding in and around the dome, ending almost a year of construction.

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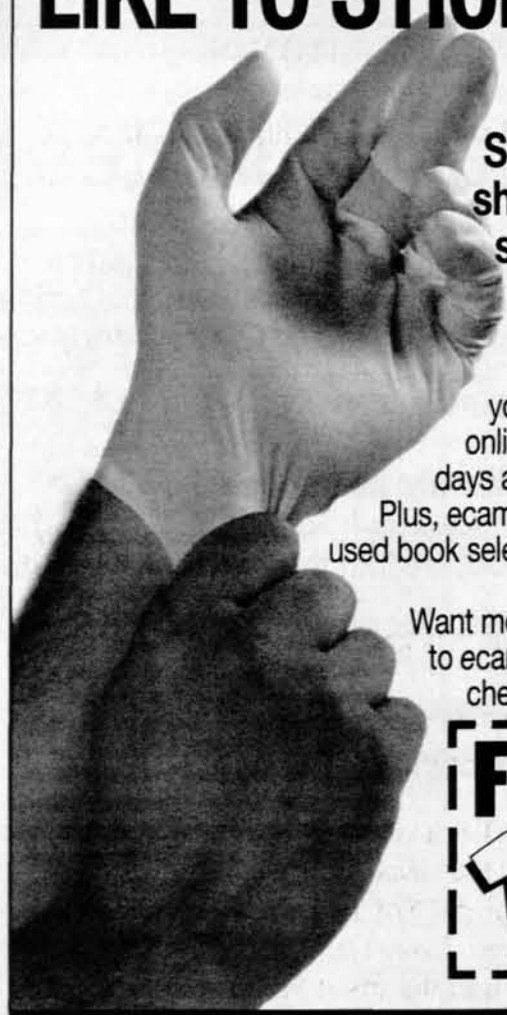
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EECS, Biology Early Favorites

Admissions, from Page 1

parents."

Early admission criticized by Yale

While MIT is attempting to maintain its traditional 30 percent cap on early admissions, another top university is pushing to eliminate the process entirely. In mid-December, Yale University President Richard C. Levin said in an interview with *The New York Times* that he wanted to abandon the early decision process altogether, and that he had discussed doing so with the presidents of other competitive universities.

Levin said that the early admission process "pushes the pressure of thinking about college back into the junior year of high school, and the only one who benefits is the admissions officers."

Most applicants deferred

MIT does not reject very many early applicants outright. This year, only 241 were rejected, compared to 2847 who were deferred. Johnson said that only students whose grades would definitely preclude them from regular admission were rejected.

Of the 520 admitted students, 53 percent are male and 47 percent female. MIT admitted 108 under-represented minorities from the early action pool.

This year's mean SAT scores for students admitted early were 731 verbal, 766 math. Johnson said that scores were unchanged from last year's admitted early action pool, but the mean scores for the entire admitted pool last year were 724 verbal and 760 math.

Of the admitted students, 87 indicated that they were interested in Course VI (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), 65 in Course VII (Biology), 51 in Course XVIII (Mathematics), and 46 in Course VIII (Physics). Fifty-six people said they were interested in "engineering."

MIT looking for "passion"

"We're looking harder for students with passion for what they do as to public distinction, which has become pro forma for our applicants now," Jones said. "It is so easy to overlook the students who follow their passions with intense desire when the applicant pool is filled with students who are the best in state, nation or world in an exam,

project or competition."

Jones echoed her earlier comments in the MIT Faculty Newsletter article "New Kids on the Block: Observations on the Newest Generation of MIT Students", in which she said that MIT students who "have been raised on praise and positive reinforcement, are in for real culture shock."

Impact of Sept. 11 not yet seen

Thus far, MIT has not seen any significant changes in early application trends which might be related to the September 11 terrorist attacks. However, Jones said that this "may change for regular admissions. It may be that Sept. 11 was just too close to the filing date and everyone was in a daze. Maybe we'll see more essays about terrorism in January."

Early Action Telethon tonight

The admissions office will begin its annual Early Action Telethon to call all admitted students tonight in the Bush Room from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Telethon will continue Thursday night at the same time.

Christine Fry contributed to the reporting of this story.



MIT Admissions tour guide Yao Li '02 (R) talks to prospective freshmen during a campus tour.

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February 1, 2002

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Media Lab Makes Budget Cuts

By W.S. Wang
STAFF REPORTER

The MIT Media Laboratory laid off approximately thirty staff members last month and cut salaries of others, including senior staff members, according to Media Lab Executive Director Walter R. Bender SM '80.

Faculty members were not affected and no plans to cut projects or programs have been announced. The Media Lab currently employs about five hundred people with an annual budget of close to \$40 million.

Budget cuts are preemptive

Bender described the lab's recent budget cuts as preemptive measures. "Media Lab revenues have been growing linearly, but expenses have been growing at an exponential rate," he said. He added that while "the Media Lab does not owe the bank any money right now," necessary steps are being taken to curb expenses so that the lab does not run out of resources.

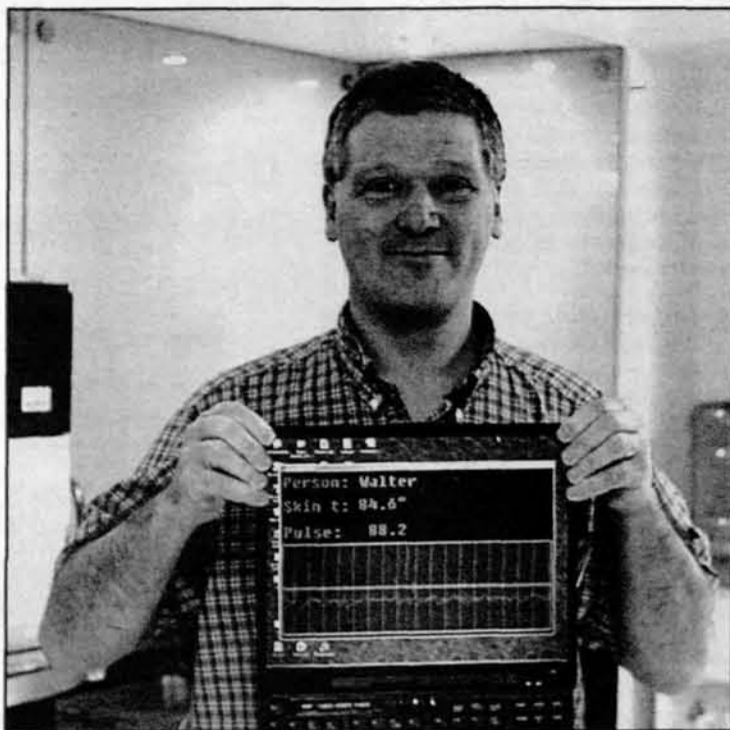
There are "three types of expenses: inefficient, excess, and growth-related," Bender said.

According to him, inefficient expenses, such as "lack of coordination between groups when ordering electronic parts" can certainly be cut, as can more excessive expenses, such as food.

However, Bender said that he does not plan to cut any research programs nor any funding for such programs.

He did say, however, that UROP students would be required to turn in proposals on time now rather than be paid in hourly vouchers as they were in past when they were negligent. These hourly vouchers incur more cost onto the Media Lab because of the extra overhead.

Bender said that he remains "optimistic about MIT and Media Lab's future" despite the recent economic recession that largely burst the technology bubble. "I want the Media Lab to take risks and build things that don't work," he said. He



Walter R. Bender SM '80, Media Lab executive director and senior scientist, holds an invention by his student, Vadim V. Gerasimov G, which displays his heart rate and body temperature. Recent financial problems at the lab are causing administrative headaches.

said that regardless of who provides the funding in the future, whether public or corporate, "the Media Lab is not going to be a job shop."

Lab, MIT numbers do not match

"Everyone tries to balance the books, but what does it mean to balance the books?" Bender asked. He said that MIT and the Media Lab do their books differently, with the lab "trying to keep track of annual revenues and annual burn rates," while MIT keeps track with the research contracts.

Because of this bookkeeping discrepancy, Bender refused to put numbers on the Media Lab's financial problems. Bender did say that "he is in almost daily contact" with the MIT finance team.

Expansion to continue

Alexandra L. Kahn, spokesper-

son for the Media Lab, said that "the extension building project is not affected" because it is financed by a separate budget. She also said that the Media Lab has been receiving more funding from avenues other than the corporate sponsors. She cited the National Science Foundation grant of an unprecedented \$13.75 million for the Center for Bits and Atoms and the private donation by Isao Okawa donation as examples.

The Media Lab annex is funded by a \$27 million donation from Okawa. This seven-story building will be connected to the existing Media Lab building and houses the LEGO Learning Lab among others. The new building, approximately 100,000 square feet in area, slated to be finished in 2005, will double the size of the Media Lab.

IAP Offerings Run the Gamut

By Vijay Shilpiekandula

The fall term is still fresh in your memory. Winter vacation didn't add much to the euphoria of having survived another term. And you know that a month from now, you'll be sucked back into the vortex of lectures, problem sets, and killer projects. What you desperately want is a breather from the stressful academic year — Independent Activities Period has arrived just in time.

MIT's unique four-week winter program offers a welcome break from the routine for faculty, staff and students of the Institute. IAP 2002 started in full swing on Monday, bringing hundreds of fun activities, unusual classes, and much-needed sleep.

Over 650 classes offered this year

"This is a nice opportunity for members of the MIT community to offer the best they can in terms of expertise and interest," said Michael Bregren, Assistant Dean for Academic and Research Initiatives. Bregren and his team from the IAP office began working on IAP 2002 as early as April 2001 to make possible over 100 credit and 550 non-credit activities that now appear in the IAP Guide.

Activities being offered in IAP 2002 cover a broad spectrum of categories including Theater and Dance, Religion and Ethics, Hands-On Engineering, Athletics and Exercise, Visual Arts and Design, to name a few. "What appeals most is the variety offered," said Saif A. Khan G.

Classes new this year include "A Bagel Testing Frenzy" by Evan Schultz, MIT Affiliate; the first ever "I Wanna Be a Cyborg" Hackfest by

Richard W. DeVaul G et al; and "MIT 2020" by Joost P. Bonsen G.

IAP draws wide participation

Some IAP activities even draw students from outside the Institute. Ding Wu and Poh Sim Saw, both seniors at Wellesley College, said they were glad they attended "Introducing the Greek of Homer" offered by Craig W. Abernethy. IAP classes are open for registration by Wellesley students, subject to conditions stated in the IAP Guide. "We give full credit to the IAP people for their website," Wu said. "It's so well-maintained."

Even faculty are drawn to teach in ways they can't during the term. "I never thought I could get back to my favorite hobby," said Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Vladimir Bulovic. Bulovic offers the class "Mime for the Imaginationally Intrigued" to keep himself in touch with mime, which he learned years ago.

When not busy with academic work, Bulovic gets around with Mimetype, the club for mime enthusiasts at MIT. Bulovic advised students to "explore your interests in this free period [IAP]."

An integral part of IAP is its wide range of games and contests. The Annual Mystery Hunt, Integration Bee, and 6.270 (Autonomous Robot Design Competition) are always eagerly awaited.

"I just don't have time for anything other than 6.270," said Pallavi Naresh '04. Naresh and other participants of this time-intensive class will develop robots that will compete head-to-head against each other at the end of the month.

Charm school an IAP classic

At the end of all the activity of IAP comes a light-hearted day of

manners and etiquette for MIT students — Charm School. Courses offered in Charm School cover telling jokes, "Flirting 101," restaurant etiquette, ballroom dance, dress code and many other social skills. The additional highlight this year is going to be "Negotiating Compensation Packages."

"These skills are for all to learn," said Linda D. Noel, program coordinator for Charm School 2002. The program was even featured on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" two years ago, making it perhaps the second most-famous IAP activity, behind only 6.270.

Tech Must Contribute \$2,000 For Activities Midway, Board Says

By Jeffrey Greenbaum

STAFF REPORTER

The Undergraduate Association-Graduate Student Council Judicial Board unanimously voted to fine The Tech \$2,000 and place the organization on probation for its alleged violations of the Association of Student Activities' Rush Rules.

The money will help fund the 2002 Activities Midway.

The Tech had appealed the ASA executive board's decision to revoke part of The Tech's office space for alleged ASA Rush Rules violations.

While JudBoard ruled that The Tech had, in fact, violated the rules, members agreed to replace the ASA's sanction with a fine and probation.

In JudBoard's verdict, H. Sanith Wijesinghe G, JudBoard Communication Chair, cited four occasions during which The Tech violated ASA Rush Rules. The board did not uphold the original punishment, however, because "we decided to confine the issue to the [Activities] Midway," Wijesinghe said.

Fine replaces original sanctions

The ASA executive board's decision to revoke part of The Tech's office space came after The Tech appealed the initial decision to suspend The Tech from the 2001 Activities Midway.

Although the ASA executive board decided that its second punishment was less harsh than its first, JudBoard wanted to work within the framework of the ASA executive board's original decision. In addition, JudBoard members felt that the original punishment was more appropriate since the violations occurred during rush, Wijesinghe said.

The ASA executive board had originally asked the UA and GSC for suggestions on how to sanction The Tech. ASA President Alvar Saenz Otero G said that he was told that "whatever the ASA executive board decides must be something that it could decide for any other group in a similar manner."

The ASA executive board subsequently arrived at both of its decisions because members decided that

those were the only realms in which they could rule. Although not every organization has an office, other organizations have a bulletin board or storage space. "All groups have some form of space as well as midway space," Saenz Otero said.

The Tech relies on advertisements and related services for its revenue, receiving no student government funding, according to Chairman Jordan Rubin '02. Rubin said this final sanction was still not a light punishment for The Tech.

Judicial process under review

Rubin said The Tech appealed the ASA executive board's decision in an attempt to receive due process. Upon assessing the judicial process of the appeals case, Rubin said that "it wasn't an easy task for [the UA-GSC JudBoard] to salvage due process ... since [the board] inherited a bad situation."

In its verdict, JudBoard cited rules that Rubin claims The Tech did not receive until after they sent the editions in question to the press. "They said that we broke the rules that were given to us Friday night, but we had already gone to press with the Friday issue, the Saturday issue, and *The Daily Confusion*."

Rubin said rules about how The Tech and the ASA could use witnesses were unclear. "I thought that I could introduce witnesses and that they could say a couple of words," Rubin said. However, he said that he did not have enough time to tell witnesses about the time of the appeals case since he did not receive enough notice about its exact time.

The UA-GSC JudBoard will become a permanent body whose judicial authority will supersede that of the ASA executive board. Saenz Otero said that the ASA executive board, the UA, and the GSC will discuss the guidelines by which the UA-GSC JudBoard will conduct hearings and amend their constitutions in order to provide the UA-GSC JudBoard with the appropriate jurisdiction over student activities.

"There are still a lot of flaws in the process that still need to be ironed out," Rubin said.

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