Pre-Orientation Provides a Glimpse of MIT
Freshmen Arrive Early for Project Interphase, International Student Orientation, FPOPs

By Nancy L. Keuss

Long before the veritable blitz of Orientation and rush events, and before all 1,009 freshmen arrive on campus, pre-orientation orientation programs have given already admitted students an early glimpse at life at MIT.

Freshman Pre-Orientation Programs and special orientation programs have given almost 1,000 freshmen an early preview of what lies ahead for them as they prepare to enter your freshman year in the fall.

The number of participants in the Freshman Urban Arts Programs, two of the FPOPs, is on target for what we wanted this year, Project Interphase and International Student Orientation each drew roughly 60 freshmen.

Sponsored by the Office of Minority Edgework, Project Interphase is a seven-week program which includes instruction in physics, writing, physical education, chemistry, calculus, and other activities. Application for the program, which is free of charge, is open only to underrepresented minority freshmen.

"Project Interphase allows you to enter your freshman year in the right mind set," said Interphase student Israel Reyes '05.

"The classroom experience—what’s that I like about [Interphase]," said James A. Tolbert II '05. "If I had come to MIT without Interphase, I would have been lost. I wouldn’t be used to the type of life here. It can be a shock, but now I’m over the hump.

Most participants enjoyed making friends before August Orientation and appreciated the opportunity to explore the MIT campus. "I’m getting a head start on my MIT career, familiarizing myself with the campus, and getting to refresh my mind on classes," Tolbert said.

"You get a real feel for the system of MIT," said Jennifer A. Moore '05.

International undergraduate orientation, which began Monday, has given many foreign freshmen their first taste of life at the Institute.

"It’s a nice place; there are a lot of friendly people here. I hope I’ll still like it when I have classes," said Danmira Danilic '05.

"IT’S STILL NOT DONE," said House-master Steven R. Lerman '72. While residents were now able to move into their rooms, much of the common space in the building remains incomplete. These include the basement and several parts of the first floor. Hawes said most of the common areas will be usable by September 1.

Director of Housing Operations Karen A. Nilsson said plans for a roof deck for the building are still pending. "We hope, in the near future, to raise funds to build a roofdeck," she said. The dormitory must also go through Cambridge zoning regulation procedures, Nilsson said.

Hawes said the roofdeck would probably be finished in Spring 2002. Lerman said the air conditioning was not yet working yesterday, and that some additional staircases remain to be built.

"But it’s a beautiful dorm," Lerman said.

Contingency plans were needed when it became known that he and the Office of Residential Life and Student Life Programs had come up with plans to house residents in the hotel in June, "but at that point, we were still hoping it would just be a contingency plan. "About two weeks ago, it became clear that it RSLP would have to resort to the back-up plan," he said.

Nilsson said that only 25 students ended up being housed in the hotel. They were permitted to move their belongings into the dormitory, if they could.

"It wasn’t a problem for me," said Jennifer Adamczyk, who arrived in Cambridge on Friday, August 17. "They handled it pretty well. [The House Managers] have been very helpful." She said MIT paid for her to park in the hotel’s parking lot and provided all residents with $20 on a meal card each day.

"There are a few things not quite

Construction, Page 10

Pre-Orientation, Page 11

Stephanie M. Tyll '05 receives her packet of goodies from Steven M. Tobias '02 at the Freshmen Orientation Center in W20. Approximately 1000 freshmen will have arrived on campus by tonight.

MIT Medical Center Provides Services to Students

By Rina Amarnath

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

Despite the well-substantiated myth that everyone who goes to MIT medical is a sick person, most students stay healthy.

"Medical students are pretty nice, and the place you may go for medical care and checkups while you’re living at the institute. MIT Medical is conveniently located in Building E33, so it is likely that you will have to trek across campus to get there. But the people there are pretty nice, and they offer a variety of different services to keep you happy and healthy.

Over the summer you probably already asked yourself whether you want the more basic MIT Student Health Plan or the Extended MIT Hospital Plan. Whatever you choose, it is something to remember is that both of these plans offer many free services, like a personal doctor, free gynecological visits, mental health services, urgent care, substance abuse support, confidential STD testing, X-rays, and flu shots.

A number of other Boston-area medical centers and clinics can provide more specialized care should you need it. MIT Medical is affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital.

"It’s still not done," said House-master Steven R. Lerman '72

After being housed in the University Park Hotel since August 16, graduate students began yesterday to move into the new dormitory in Building NW30.

Project Manager John B. Hawes, Jr., said he had hoped that the dormitory would be completed by August 1. Students were told they would be able to move in on August 16.

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Rush used to be much more hectic. Shown here, rush in 1975 featured a hot air balloon on Killian Court.

This year’s orientation form and received a temporary assignment freshmen have already filled out preliminary elec-

A Brief Primer On Rush History

By Dana Levine

Although the members of the class of 2005 will be permitted to go through residence selection during their first week on campus, many of them may wonder whether this is a blessing at all. After all, freshmen have already filled out preliminary selection (Sasa) and received a temporary assignment which, while not always satisfying to some, at least provides all new students with a definite address.

So why should they be forced to move again, and why will next year’s incoming class not be required to do this? The answer can be traced back to August 26, 1998, the day that the class of 2002 arrived at MIT. In a letter to the MIT community, President Charles M. Vest announced that all freshmen would be required to live in institute dormitories as of Fall 2001.

Just three years later, there are few undergraduates left in dormitories.

Comets

Progressive movement contradicts natural laws of economics.

World & Nation 2

Opinion 4

Arts 6

Events Calendar 9
Census Counts Nearly 1.2 Million Gay and Lesbian Couples

WASHINGTON

Nearly 1.2 million people say they are part of gay and lesbian couples in the United States, and though most live in metropolitan areas, some live in a rural community, according to 2000 census numbers released Wednesday.

Three Washington-area jurisdictions — D.C., Alexandria, Va., and Arlington County, Va. — ranked among the top 10 in concentration of gay or lesbian households, according to an analysis by Urban Institute researcher Gary Gates. The Washington Metro area ranked fourth — behind San Francisco, New York and Los Angeles — in the number of heavily gay or lesbian neighborhoods.

The census counted nearly as many lesbian couples as gay male couples, a change from 1990, when more men were recorded.

That helps explain the sharp increase in same-sex couples in rural areas, where the Census, shows lesbians are more likely to be married.

Despite the increase, though, advocates say the number of gay couples reported by the Census figures was almost certainly low, because some people are reluctant to tell the government of their relationships, even on a confidential form.

Helms to Retire at End of His Term

WASHINGTON

Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) one of the most powerful conservatives on Capitol Hill for the past three decades and a former chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, plans to announce Wednesday that he will not seek re-election, aides said Tuesday.

Helms, who will turn 80 in October, has suffered from a variety of health problems in recent years and has been mulling for months over whether to run for a sixth term, with his family pushing hard for him to retire.

The senator's office declined comment but other sources, including Republicans both here and in North Carolina, said Helms is planning to announce his retirement Wednesday night on WRAL-TV in Raleigh, where he worked as a political commentator before running for the Senate. Helms aides began telling key Republicans of his plans late Tuesday.

Helms' retirement would deprive the Senate of one of its most ardent champions of conservative causes that ranged from fighting communism abroad to promoting school prayer and combating pornography at home.

Megawati, Arroyo Will Cooperate

LOW ANGLES TIMES

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

It is a sisterhood of two: The daughters of presidents who themselves became presidents. They were born the same year and rose to replace the allegedly corrupt and inept men who led their countries.

Today, Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri and Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo are the two most powerful women in Southeast Asia.

The two leaders, who together rule more than 300 million people spread across 24,000 islands, met Tuesday for the first time since they both took office earlier this year and pledged to help each other.

"President Megawati and I agreed that since our fathers, President Sukarno of Indonesia and Macapagal, were brothers, we should also be like sisters, supporting each other as we seek solutions to problems we inherited," Arroyo said during a joint appearance at her palace in Manila Tuesday. "Arroyo's father, Diosdado Macapagal, served as president of the Philippines from 1961 to 1965. Megawati's father was Indonesia's first president and the nation from 1945 to 1965.

The next several days should be quite warm, with high humidity levels to increase general comfort and sweat production. On Thursday, there will be some cloudiness to some thunderstorms, which could reduce the humidity, although the heat shouldn't really subside much until some time in September.

Today: mostly sunny. High in the mid 80s. Wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tomorrow: partly cloudy. Low in the lower 70s.

Thursday: cloudy. A chance of showers through early afternoon.

Then a chance of showers and thunderstorms late. High in the lower 80s. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Arafat, Peres to Meet with Ceasefire眼看

By Lee Hockstader

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, declared Tuesday he will broaden his peace conference with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to discuss ways to end 11 months of violence. Peres accepted the proposal right away, describing it as a "normal event".

In fact, it was anything but normal. Even as the two signaled their readiness to end the violence, thousands continued to fight in the streets of downtown Jerusalem and some of Peres' colleagues in the Israeli government denounced any talks with Arafat as a concession to terrorism.

The upsurge over Peres' intention to maintain contacts with Arafat reflected a heated debate underway among Israelis. On one side are a minority of relative moderates, led by Peres, who insist that the violence will never end, and may well worsen, unless Israeli and Palestinian leaders negotiate. On the other side are the more numerous Israeli hard-liners, led by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who believe on the basis of the information currently available the risks that may generate economic productivity growth and the economy. "We don't believe the Fed is finding its way out of this mess," McCarthy, a financial markets expert, said.

"We have a major action coming up this week," McCarthy said. "We don't believe the Fed is finding its way out of this mess. We need to watch interest rates. The Fed is going to have to cut interest rates, or the US economy is going to suffer. We need to watch interest rates. The Fed is going to have to cut interest rates, or the US economy is going to suffer.

Risings over the year-long conflict, the US president believes that continuing the unity government brings him to believe he should let Peres to do it.

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FBI Arrests Eight in Rigging Of McDonald's Prize Giveaways

By Eric Lichtblau

WASHINGTON — With count- less French fries and sodas at stake, the federal government moved quickly last week to quash a scandal that has dragged for years, a party that included a phony contest and millions of dollars in fake "winners," who claimed the prizes and then split the proceeds with their bosses.

Taliban Denies Diplomats Access

Taliban Withholds Visits with Eight Foreign Detainees

By Pamela Constable

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Eight foreign detainees whose receipts for packages from home were the only evidence American and European officials had to prove their identity were not allowed to see the detainees after a Western diplomat, 5-year-old Jerome Jacob on Tuesday, seeking permission to visit Kabul. "I was taken into custody over the last two weeks and a new law passed making it easier to detain civilians without charging them," the Taliban spokesman said.

Lebanon at Key Juncture Amid Government Crackdown

By William M. Arkin

The United States declined this week to back a British proposal to tighten U.N. procedures for pricing Iraqi oil, citing concern that the proposal would ‘‘frustrate’’ efforts to tighten sanctions on Iraq. "We are looking at alternative ways of making sure that the Iraqi government receives its share of the oil," the British ambassador to Washington said.

U.S. Won't Back Britain's Oil Plan

The annual panda fertility watch is over. Attempts at artificial fertilization in the past six weeks to gather evidence against them are still pending.

Two struggle central to Lebanon's short- and long-term future.

With pressure building from within and abroad — Pope John Paul II has signaled his concern over the government crackdown — military authorities Tuesday released about 50 arrested for al- legedly indulging in business and smuggling to Lebanon since a civil war ended 1991. Projecting the new Lebanon as a model for the Middle East, the British PM said he is now considering a plan to allow Lebanese to live in a new neighborhood section of Beirut.

Panda Probably Not Pregnant

Apparantly unpregnant but still charismatic, Bai Yun, a 15-year-old giant panda, is not expecting another litter in the next few months. "I don't know what will happen," said Bai Yun's keepers.

Heart Transplant Patient Identified As Resident of Franklin, Kentucky

By Glenda Cooper

South Korean doctors said Tuesday that the patient who had already been held by his doctors in 1989, "I still feel good to use it," he said.

FBI Agents Eight in Rigging Of McDonald's Prize Giveaways.
Reparations Lite

Basel Entwegh and Zehlentheorie Scott recently returned from Genoa with the “Continued Importance of Affirmative Action” [August 8]. They quote Martin Luther King, “how can the black man, who has suffered for hundreds of years, be absorbed into the mainstream of American life?” Don’t the present Americans owe it to do something special for them in order to balance the equation and equip them with the means to compete on a just and equal basis?
The answer, simply, no, because affirmative action is based on a warped sense of “justice.” By collectivizing the individual injustices faced by individual black Americans, proponents of affirmative action are attempting to justify the false concept of collective culpability on the part of majority groups. Should I, the moral individual, suffer because his grandfather was a slave, and not so obviously flawed.
The Tech sincerely hope that Giuliani was not going to throw the extinguisher through the window with a stick, a wooden plank, a metal pipe, and a heavy fife extinguisher. In photos [http://www.lahainefls.com/internacional/segnano.html], Giuliani can be seen at the back of the police car, holding the extinguisher

To Reach Us

Letters to the Editor

Erratum

The August 8 article “Squashpure” [Go Plastic] Gops Spastic, Techno Mast’s Second Album” incorrectly states that Giuliana’s EP, Quo Jeans, was in fact the first album. It was actually the second full-length album. Jenkins’ article states that the EP was released in July 2000. The correct date — Feed Me Weird Things (1996 Warp), Hard Normal Daddy (1997 Warp), Music is Botted One Note (1999 Nothing), Selection Sixteen (1999 Nothing), and Go Plastic (2001 Warp).
Embryonic Assumptions

Philip Burrows

Ever stopped to wonder what makes you who you are? You know if you lose a body part, the lost organ is no longer part of "You." But when is it the separation between you and the part no longer distinct? Some might draw the line at death, as in the loss of a heart or brain tissue. Others may believe that each cell in their bodies is a life, and that "They" are only insufficiencies of numerous, separate beings. Most people don't bother to question the nature of their existence or lack thereof.

The problem with arguing an assumption is that chances are, if it could be proven, it wouldn't have been assumed in the first place. An advocate asked to explain his position will often end up doing little more than insulting his opponent's stance. Paradoxically, the only people who could speak sensibly on such topics would be those without an opinion. Politicians who often resort to empty rhetoric might be forgiven for doing so in a part of--or even because of--the sensitivity of the subject. In late July, when the U.S. House of Representatives voted to ban cloning of human embryos, Rep. J.C. Watts (R-OK) remarked, "This is a vote on the religious convictions of his colleagues by saying, "Some would say once you put Mr. Greenwood's cheek cell in and it divides, it divides, it divides. I'll just dive into their money and tell them to raise it."" But what I do know is that a movement to protect.

Many ideas common in the progressive movement today are dangerous to the very people it intends to protect.

The problem with arguing an assumption is that chances are, if it could be proven, it wouldn't have been assumed in the first place.

The first "myth" she warned us against was the notion that companies make-millions of dollars in profits and that workers be if free trade did not give them the freedom to live anywhere, even in bondage. The reality is that despite the horrid conditions, the "creation and destruction of human life for making new assumptions.

THE TECH

Stop by anytime at our office in the Student Center (room 183)
or send e-mail to: opinion@the-tech.mit.edu

OPINION

The Freshman Quarantine

Kris Schnee

I came to MIT with little more background on college life than "Animal House" and "Real Genius." Transmogrification were just drinking clubs, right? When Rush week came around, I didn't take the fraternities seriously at all, but I was throwing parties like the dorms. To my surprise, I actually liked one of the frats across the street. Right after the party, there was no haze, and John Beshbi was nowhere to be seen. I really began to respect having the freedom to live anywhere, even in my first year.

New students to this situation is that symbolic-sounding like under construction are quite ghoulish. When I arrived, I quickly learned that the times, a multi-million dollar effort to control freshmen, Richard Simmons, the dorms, was the belief that these companies would

write for The Tech Opinion Department.
The Beastie Boys' "Lust." You can preview tracks before downloading.

Many fans make their own remixes of their favorite music, with varying success. The Bjork Remix site is a hands-down favorite remix site I have ever encountered. Other web sites feature a few remixes by one or two people, but BRW beats them all, with its 750+ remixes of Tori Amos tracks by John B. His work on Tori Amos is more than just a mix: he remakes her songs, constructing mixes that are more professional and creatively constructed than the average homemade mix. The mixes can be strong as any of the Bjork fan-made mixes tend to be more professionally and creatively constructed than the average homemade mix. The mixes can be strong as any of the Bjork fan-made mixes tend to be more professionally and creatively constructed than the average homemade mix. The mixes can be strong as any of the Bjork fan-made mixes tend to be more professionally and creatively constructed than the average homemade mix. 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VIDEO GAME REVIEW

Point and Smite

Diablo II Expansion Set Is Worth the Clicking

By Chad Serrant

Staff Writer

Diablo II: Lord of Destruction Expansion set for Diablo II Published by Blizzard for the Mac or PC Rated M for Mature

At the Vans Warped Tour, hundreds of people crowded onto the grass fields in tight, confining hallways. Assassins are good at making her fearsome in hand-to-hand combat, necromancer, sorceress, or a paladin, while you could crusade as a barbarian, amazon, or warrior. The traps seem limited, given that they're useful and the shadow techniques are more like a nice touch, but I have trouble telling the difference between the number 5 and the number 6. You also have more room to look around with this screen size. Be warned, that computers that are close to the minimum size will not be able to handle the new resolution. The religious fog is nice touch, but I have trouble telling the difference between the number 5 and the number 6. The sound effects are appropriate and will seem out of place. The voice acting is excellent, but I happen to dis- discover that Blizzard's Mac version of Diablo II is pronounced as "Ball," not "Bail.""

We can fight against the Lord of Destruction by yourself or with friends over the internet. Blizzard's "Battle.net" has a lot of high quality, the music sounds better and repetitive. It is also very quiet, so you will be able to hear the voice actors more clearly, and the sound effects are appropriate and will seem out of place. The voice acting is excellent, but I happen to dis- cover that Blizzard's Mac version of Diablo II is pronounced as "Ball," not "Bail.""

Each character has his or her own special attacks and techniques. The assassin uses martial arts, traps, and shadow techniques to conquer her opponents. The martial art skills make her feyomate in hand-to-hand combat, and also allow her to mix a little of summing skills from other classes. The traps seem limited, given that they're useful and the shadow techniques are more like a nice touch, but I have trouble telling the difference between the number 5 and the number 6. The sound effects are appropriate and will seem out of place. The voice acting is excellent, but I happen to dis- cover that Blizzard's Mac version of Diablo II is pronounced as "Ball," not "Bail.""

You are the future, don't forget it!" Jim Lindberg, lead singer for Pennywise shouted to the large crowd of whistling, screaming, and crowd surfing punk fans. The Vans Warped Tour 2001 was hot, sweaty, and we-inspiring. Thousands of people crowded onto the grass fields of Suffolk Downs in front of the open stage to hear Pennywise, The Ataris, and The Vandals. The Fastest Band in... Ast Furry, and many more. Concert attenders, many with excitement in their eyes and energy in their step, cheered for their favorite punk bands throughout the day.

On a day with a predicted high of 100 degrees, the heat was brutal to all concertgoers. The lines to buy drinks were long, and the security guards were more like a mix of summing skills from other classes. The traps seem limited, given that they're useful and the shadow techniques are more like a nice touch, but I have trouble telling the difference between the number 5 and the number 6. The sound effects are appropriate and will seem out of place. The voice acting is excellent, but I happen to dis- cover that Blizzard's Mac version of Diablo II is pronounced as "Ball," not "Bail.""

Boston punks tear up the field as home-town heroes the Dropkick Murphys take the stage. Warren Fitzgerald, the lead singer, stripped down to a thong and sang the expected "I'm on fire," followed by "Second Coming, burning in his soul... down, then climbing onto a speaker and dancing. The popular Alien Ast Farm falls more into the category of rap core than punk, less sound and less helped well with the other bands at the concert and drew a large crowd. Recent newcomers to the scene, the Ataris, performed well, but their notables titles like "My So Called Life" and "10th Grade School Rules," and inviting a fan up to stage to accompany on guitar during one song. Two bands were notably less than punk to the other regulars. The Dropkick Murphys used instruments such as bagpipes and the accordion to give their music a distinctly Irish flavor, while the Alien Ast Farm is a ska music, which only drew a small number of people. The favorite band of the day was Pennywise, with their setlist of songs that reflects the words of each song as if they were the mottoes of the punk culture, which they might be. After the first song, the Dropkick Murphys offered the next song to, "a certain someone who just got elected, President George W. Bush," at which most of the crowd gave Dubya a one-fingered salute. The band then lapsed into "fuck authority" off their new album, and later did "bro hymn," a moving tribute to one of the late founders of the band.

Some say that punk is dead, but the Warped Tour proves it is alive and flourishing.
**FoxTrot**

by Bill Amend

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR SISTER'S SKIMPY NEW PYJAMAS?

I'M TELLING YOU THEY'RE NOT FAIR!

ANDY, STAN, IF YOU HAD ONLY SEEN THE LIGHTS, AND ALREADY BEING PARANOID, I THINK YOU WANTED TO GO TO THE CARAVAN TO HELP THEM!

HE'S AT THE FLYING JACQUARD HAT COMPANY. RUGER TWEETS NOTHING BUT FRIGHTENING CARICATURES ABOUT THIS PLACE!

WHERE AM I? ON THE ELEVATOR. WE CAN'T MURDER THE ELEPHANT, BUT I'M HAPPY!

PETER, DO YOU HAVE SHIRTtails RUGER? DON'T LET ME DOWN TODAY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'RE ALL WEARING THESE SAUSAGE SUITCASES!

I SPENT ALL WEEK TALKING TO THE LADIES. THEY HAD TO SWIM OUT AND TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED. I TOLD THEM TO BANANAS-FACED TAKE-OUT.

I'M TELLING YOU, THEY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FOR THIS PLACE!

HEY, PHEW. YEAH, PROSA. BLY.

"HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?"

by Bill Amend

Hey, Dad! Check out all the activities this place has!

Andy, why haven't we been here for 30 minutes? You'll be passed.

I thought you wanted to go to the cave!

Don't be such a water snob! Don't want them hitting their heads on the fake ocean backdrop.

Be careful, not too far out, Rhea.

Don't want them noticing their heads on the fake ocean backdrop.

Dad, you stop sending me that stupid artwork?

Dad, why are you so happy?

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Dad, why are you so happy?
Dilbert® by Scott Adams

INTRODUCING "MORAL MONEY." NOW YOU CAN PLAY MONEY FOR DOING GOOD WORK.

YOU CAN USE IT AT THE COMPANY STORE TO BUY PRODUCTS THAT HAVE OUR LOGO.

THE COFFEE PLUS COSTS TEN MILLION MORAL DOLLARS.

I MAY HAVE AN EKONOMICAL EVALUATION OF MY CHAIR AND KEYBOARD.

ASK, WORK IS SUPPOSED TO HURT. THAT'S HOW YOU KNOW YOU'RE DOING IT RIGHT.

I CAN'T FEEL MY HANDS. MY WHOLE BODY NUMB!

THE CURE FOR CARPA T TUNNEL SYNDROME IS TO EAT SIX BANANAS A DAY.

THAT'S WHAT I DO AND I HAVE THE HANDS OF A TEENAGER.

DO YOU HAVE ANY HAY DATA TO SUPPORT YOUR MEDICAL ADVICE?

I BARELY KNEW HIM. MAYBE I CAN LEARN SOMETHING FROM HIS LAST PERFORMANCE REVIEW.

BOB NEEDS TO WORK ON HIS COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND ATTENDANCE.

TechCalendar

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at http://tech-calendar.mit.edu

Visit http://tech-calendar.mif.edu for details of upcoming events.

Wednesday, August 22
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Artists Behind the Desk Summer Series: Da Goods (Classic Hits from all eras). Three-piece band featuring Don Anderson (technician, Department of Mechanical Engineering) that plays classic hits from almost every genre and era. Once known as FLAME, they've changed their name. For over ten years, they've played all over New England in a wide variety of clubs, parties, and functions.

Play list includes Oldies, Rock 'n' Roll, Motown, Blues, Soul, Southern Rock, and Classic Rock; by clubs, parties, and functions.

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Everything Rides on the Exams

At Cambridge University, Finals Exams Make or Break the Grade

By Kevin R. Lang

Like everyone else, I had my share of close calls freshman year, failing the first two (0.02) quizzes for instance. By the year’s end, though, I knew how to handle MIT Reporters' class, go to Professor's class, and work through problems. I set study every waking hour, and gradually build up into a strong enough average to weather the final exam.

Cambridge is different. Except for a relatively small contribution from labs and projects, finals are the be-all and end-all. No graded problem sets, no tests or quizzes along the way. I found myself confronted with a completely different set of rules—"I could work myself stupid all year long and a few tough questions on the final could kill my marks for the year. (Except using the 5.0 scale for grad- ing, Cambridge give "class marks". My completely unofficiational translation: A 1st is roughly 5.0, a 2nd is roughly 4.5, a 3rd class mark is split into a 2-1 (high) and 2-2 (low), roughly 4.5 to 3.5, respectively. A 3rd is roughly 3.5 to 2.5. There is nothing below a 3rd.)"

The regular season

We’re talking baseball, 162 games. No single game means anything, but the sum of the parts means everything come playoff time. Classes run over two eight-week terms in Cambridge, from early October to just after Thanksgiving, then again from mid-January to mid-March. This roughly corresponds to Cambridge regulars' term beginning with fraternities and project, and you've got seven weeks of studying for IT exams. All year long, MIT folk would ask, "How does it compare to MIT?" and my answer never changed: "Ask me again when exams start around." I know Cambridge's "spring break" is actually six weeks long, and some hardcore third-year students spend the entire time locked in the library, studying from 8:00 a.m. until midnight. I knew from experience that after only a week of studying for exams, I'm brain dead deep-fried—the hell was I going to study for six weeks straight?

Quite simply, I wasn’t so I studied a nap and spread three weeks backpacking around Europe instead. I still had three weeks to study, though, and I really really tried to be diligent about "revise-tion", as they call it. Of course, the first week was spent building up my daily study hours, the second week taking frequent study breaks during said hours, and the third week realizing how little I’d actually studied the first two weeks. In the end, my MIT habits during the year paid off.

With enough diligence and motiva-tion, one can easily absorb a year’s worth of material. Take five classes for the year, throw in labs and projects, and you’ve got seven or eight classes worth of MIT credit. I can’t say if the Cambridge system is better or worse than MIT, but it’s definitely a different sort of chal-lenge, with a different set of rules.

Another’s note: This is the second in a series of Reporter’s Notebooks on the Cambridge-MIT Institute (CMI).

Dorm Work Continues

Most Common Areas Remain Complete

Construction, from Page 1

What’s in a name?

The Jane's official name for Building NW30 is 224 Albany St. Some students, including House-mates, refer to it by a nick-name, "The Warehouse."

MIT buildings are only officially named on the second floor. Historically, building have only been named for gardens (the Green building) or to honor selected individuals (like the Stratton Stu-dent Center), Lerman said.

The larger atrium in NW30, the new graduate student dormitory, is still under construction, along with most of the com-mon areas in the building. Nevertheless, stu-dents moving into their completed rooms yestay.

System Started in Frats

History, from Page 1

who have first-hand knowledge of the events that lead to this decision, and many people do not understand how the current implementation came to be. This short primer on the history of MIT's residence system and the cau-ses for its redesign is intended to bring new students up to date.

System began with fraternities

MIT was initially housed in Boston's Back Bay and relied on fraternities to provide housing for its students. Although there must have been some form of rush, the process was nothing like the current system.

However, after the Institute moved across the Charles River in 1917, work began on the first dor-mitories. Opened in 1924 and 1930, the Freshman Dorms at 161 and 181 Massachu-setts Ave provided the first on-campus residen-tial option. By the late sixties, most freshman males attended rush week, a program which allowed fraternities to choose incoming stu-dents during the week before orienta-tion. Although freshmen were required to fill out an application and participa-tion was optional, the program included both fraternities and dormitories, and the following year, freshmen were allowed to change their dormitory selections after arriving on campus.

In 1970, temporary housing was no longer available, and freshmen had to choose their dorms on campus during finals week. By 1975, some 250 freshmen were living in dormitories as opposed to fraternities.

The next article in this series will describe the history of MIT's resi-dence redesign project, which began soon after Vest's announcement.

White news feed for the M.I.T. Student News

<news@the-tech.mit.edu>
The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between June 1 – July 17, 2002. The numbers continue to rise. Incidents reported to Campus Police but do not include incidents such as: medical shuttle, ambulance transfers, false alarms, general service calls, etc.

June 1: Bldg. 16, room break-in into and several items stolen to include a computer printer, Bldg. 60, stolen laptop, $3,000; Bldg. E10, stolen paintings, $5,000; Bldg. 68, theft of a car, $15,000; Bldg. W31, stolen digital camera, $800; Bldg. W92, stolen computer; Bldg. 2, suspicious person, Bldg. NW61, male arrested for possession of narcotics. June 3: Bldg. 84, W87, check and inquiry. June 4: Bldg. 26, larceny of a pruner, unknown value; Bldg. 20, larceny of a desk book, $1,500; suspicious activity; Bldg. NW21, home invasion and trespassing; Bldg. E68, student activity; Bldg. 68, student problem; Bldg. 70, Theta Chi, report of stolen commemorative brick; Bldg. E22, suspicious persons. June 5: Bldg. 39, larceny; Lot 23, vandalized motor vehicle. June 6: Bldg. E19, homeless person sleeping in doorway; Bldg. 2, stolen bike, $150; Bldg. 3, suspicious persons. June 7: Bldg. 10, report of trespassing on roof; Bldg. 66, stolen lab equipment, $3,500; Bldg. E19, harassment of a student; Bldg. NW7, suspicious person, sleeping in lobby; Sloan lot, vehicle broken into, nothing taken. June 8: Bldg. 39, theft of stereo equipment; Bldg. 27, stolen MP3 player, $300. June 9: Cambridge, Theta Delta Chi, noise complaint; admissions; Bldg. 42, suspicious vehicle parked, nothing taken; Bldg. 60, stolen bike, $200; Joseph McMaster arrested for indicent exposure. June 10: Bldg. 9, stolen bike, $70. June 11: Bldg. NW30, suspicious activity. June 12: Bldg. 26, stolen bike, $50; Ambrose Alley, stolen bike, $300. June 13: Brookline, noise complaint at Zeta Beta Tau; Amin's former school, collapsed; Bldg. M22, attempted robbery. June 14: Bldg. 1, computer monitor stolen, $1,600; Student Center turn-around, check and inquiry of student. June 15: Sailing Pavilion, stolen vehicle containing equipment, worth $1,500; Bldg. 68, laptop computer stolen, $2,000; Bldg. E15, sunglasses stolen, $150; Student Center, check and inquiry of individuals. June 16: Daupont, stolen wallet, $70; Simmons Hall, check and inquiry of individual; West Lodge, check and inquiry of car owner. June 17: Student Center, suspicious person. June 18: Sailing Pavilion, suspicious person. June 18: Cambridge, stolen car containing drugs and workers injured; New House, Jonathan Kidd arrested on drugs charges; Bldg. W31, suspicious activity, check and inquiry of individual; Student Center, report of individual asked to leave area; Bldg. 68, unwanted person asked to leave area. June 21: Bldg. 24, video camera, stolen $750; Bldg. NW3, computer stolen $3,004; Daupont street, bag and wallet stolen, $125, Pirce Boothouse, unwanted person asked to leave area. June 22: Bldg. 24, backpack stolen, $300; Bldg. E24, report of persons suspicious; Bldg. NW35, stolen computer. June 23: Bldg. E15, bike parts stolen, $45; Vasar Street, assist Cambridge Police with fight involving two males, issued trespass warnings. June 24: Portland Street, assist Cambridge Police

with the arrest of two individuals for malicious damage; State Center, report of suspicious person, checked out okay; Bldg. 52, report of person breaking into vending machine, checked out okay. June 25: Bldg. 892, camera stolen $200; Bldg. E15, bike stolen $140; Cambridge, Alpha Tau Omega, noise complaint; outside of Building 1, check and inquiry, trespass warning issue. June 26: Bldg. NW37, report of suspicious person. June 27: Bldg. 24, suspicious activity, Bldg. 30, short and a shirt stolen, $40. June 28: Cambridge, bug containing cell phone and camera, $379; Bldg. 50, suspicious activity; Westgate, bike stolen $70; Bldg. 4, past simple assault. June 29: Bldg. E18, T-shirts stolen, $50; Bldg. 3, checkout. June 30: Hayward Lot, attempted larceny of Audi.

July 1: Albany St, suspicious vehicle, checked out okay.

Vassar St, report of suspicious individual; Bldg. 10, malicious damage to door. July 3: Student Center, suspicious person; Bldg. E15, computer equipment stolen, $150; Bldg. 35, report of thermostat hanging off wall. July 4: Memorial Dr., assist State Police with violation; Bldg. 62, man taken into custody, situation was resolved, Bldg. NW17, male taken into custody; Westgate, suspicious individual found trying to gain entrance to observe fireworks. July 5: Boston-Cambridge, bike stolen, $400; Ashdown, bike stolen, $500; Bldg. 35, suspicious activity. July 6: Bldg. 14, computer stolen, unknown, $150; Bldg. NW15, bike stolen, $150. July 7: Bldg. 63, suspicious person; CRA lot, check of individuals, checked out okay. July 8: Student Center, MIT Coop, purse stolen, and checked out okay. July 8: Pacific Lot, vehicle left in drive while operator exited vehicle to get a cup of coffee, causing concern. July 9: Random Hall, stove fire caused by the breaker; Burton, bike stolen, $275; Bldg. 35, drill stolen, $130; Memorial Dr., assist State Police with recovery of stolen vehicle; Student Center, suspicious activity. July 10: Bldg. 68, suspicious activity; Bldg. E10, checked out okay. July 11: Daupont, gym bag stolen later recovered missing nothing; bag containing wash and cash stolen, $170; Bldg. E10, tools stolen, $145; Bldg. E14, $9 cash stolen; Bldg. NW43, laptop computer stolen, $2,500; Bldg. 26, bike stolen, $200; Bldg. E10, watch stolen; Briggs Field, report of a suspicious person; ATO, sudden death. July 12: Cambridge, suspicious person. July 13: Ashdown, report of suspicious person; East Garage, report of a suspicious person; Student Center, suspicious person reported missing student. July 14: Student Center, male taken into custody on an outstanding warrant; East campus, report of stolen shower curtain; Bldg. NW12, homeless persons soliciting, report of two individuals; Memorial Dr., assist State Police with vehicles broken into. July 15: Ambrose Alley, report of an unattended robber. July 16: Student Center, Courses Restaurant, suspicious activity; Bldg. 6, computer stolen, $450; Bldg. 26, bike seat stolen, $30; Bldg. 14, bike stolen, $700; Bldg. 60, check and inquiry of individual, issued trespass warning. July 17: Bldg. E35, annoying phone calls; Stellar St., bike stolen $150; Danforth St., check and inquiry of individual, Bldg. NW61, suspicious activity.

Several Useful Phone Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIT Campus Police</td>
<td>617-253-1212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health Center</td>
<td>617-253-2100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT Medical and Care</td>
<td>617-253-3111 (collect)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT Medical Health Emergency</td>
<td>617-253-2200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MedLINKS</td>
<td>617-253-8800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Parenthood Birthline</td>
<td>800-622-0128</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Medlinkline, Nightline, Tutors Provide Support

**Medical**, from Page 1

Port to be found campuswide.

**Other options**

Aside from MIT Medical, a number of student-run resources for medical students and support exist on campus.

**Def Tuv Tuv Oper Oper**

**Nightline**

Surapak Rayanakorn ’05 grabs a bite to eat at the welcome breakfast held Monday in the Vannevar Bush Room.

Programs are Intense

Pre-Orientation, from Page 1

This year’s Freshman Leadership Program (FLP), a retreat to Eagle Pond Lodge in Dunbarton, New Hampshire, attracted 102 new freshmen. The program, led by Sudh C. Dalal ’02, Colin T. Galbraith ’03 and Laura K. Kieckhefer ’02, aims at exploring the connections between leadership and community. The first pre-orientation program to be installed at MIT, FLP was founded in 1996.

The Freshman Arts Program (FAP), led by Fred W. Choi ’02 and Bess D. Rosse ’92, drew around 60 participants, FAP, which offers an array of art workshops ranging from miming to songwriting, is meant to introduce incoming freshmen to arts activities at the Institute. The program revolves around five disciplines: dance, theatre, visual arts, music, and film and media. Gesham G. Reddy ’02 and Jennifer Li ’02 coordinated this fall’s Freshman Urban Program (FUP), whose enrollment totalled about 50 participants. The Freshman Urban Program provides participants with a variety of opportunities to explore urban issues and community.

The Student Theater, led by Andrew Coordinated the Freshman Outdoors Program (FOP), which aims at helping freshmen become integrated in an outdoor environment to promote "community, self-discovery, relationship building, and, of course, fun," according to the program’s description. Roughly 40 first-year students were involved in FOP. Instead of the participation in Outward Bound that marked last year’s FOP, this year’s outdoors program involved hiking, whitewater rafting, rock climbing and camping in New Hampshire and Maine.

Crossword Solution

from page 8
Take a look inside your next four years at MIT.

To get the latest scoop on what’s going on at the Institute, in the Boston area, and around the world, pick up a copy of The Tech, MIT’s oldest and largest newspaper.

If you would like to be a part of the tradition at The Tech, stop by our office in room 483 in the Student Center any time. No experience is necessary to join our staff. We have openings in all of our departments. We hope to see you soon.