Simmons May Have Meal Plan

By Jennifer B. Krishnan

Residents of Simmons Hall may be required to purchase a meal plan next year. Vikash Gilja '03, Simmons Hall steering committee co-chair, said the issue had not yet been resolved, but that a decision would probably be made in the next two weeks. "From upperclassmen's perspectives, we don't want anything mandatory at all," Gilja said. "But from [the Dean for Student Life's] perspective ... all the dorm dining halls are losing money."

Ultimately, Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict will decide whether Simmons will have a mandatory meal plan, but he will take suggestions from the steering committee, the future housemasters and associate housemasters, and Director of Campus Dining Richard Laskey.

Simmons, Page 11

Wolfensohn Prompts Rival Petitions

By Jessica A. Zaman

Last week's announcement that World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn will speak at the 2002 Commencement exercises sparked heated controversy among members of the MIT community.

Students almost immediately responded with a pair of petitions, one against Wolfensohn speaking, and the other in support of him.

While one group of students argued that a commencement ceremony is not an appropriate forum for such a controversial speaker, another argued that it is indeed the perfect forum.

Sanjay Basu '02, president of United Trauma Relief, is a chief proponent of a petition protesting Wolfensohn's selection.

Basu argued that many MIT students will be marginalized by the presence of such a controversial speaker. "Many MIT students have directly been affected by the many failures of the World Bank," Basu said.

"Graduation is a time for celebration, not protest. It would be nice to invite Wolfensohn to speak in a debate panel or a lecture, not commencement," he said.

Petitions, Page 14

Seale, Yoon Debate; Voting Begins Monday

By Jennifer DeBoer

The two tickets for Undergraduate Association President and Vice President debated Tuesday, highlighting the week of campaigning leading up to the start of elections this coming Monday. Both pairs of candidates stressed the importance of the UA in the student body, while trying to convince the audience they would improve on what the candidates saw as shortcomings in this year's administration.

Presidential candidate Jennifer S. Yoon '03, running with Miaquela C. Vigil '03, cited "not bringing the community together" as a failure of the UA this year. "I think that more events would benefit the student population as a whole," Yoon said.

Josiah D. Seale '03, who is running with Parul Deora '04, saw poor communication as one of the UA's major failures.

"How many students know who the UA representative is in their dorm," Seale said.

Seale, the current co-chair of the UA Committee on Student Life, also pointed to the current composition of the organization as one of its problems, arguing the body "does not attract talented, hardworking people" which he said "decreases the organization's credibility."

Rush, crowding policies debated

Changes to rush and the role of graduate housing in relieving undergraduate crowding were among the topics addressed at the debate.

Both presidential candidates argued that attention should be given to fraternities in trying to

Seale, Yoon Debate; Voting Begins Monday, Page 12

Lawrence M. Lidsky

Retired MIT professor Lawrence M. Lidsky PhD '62 died Friday after battling cancer for 17 years.

Lidsky, who taught nuclear engineering, gained notoriety when he went public with his doubts about the effectiveness of nuclear fusion for energy generation despite devoting his career to its development.

"Professor Lidsky was one of the earliest engineers to point out some of the very, very difficult engineering challenges facing the program and how these challenges would affect the ultimate desirability of fusion energy," Freidberg said. "His messages were not always warmly received initially, but they have nevertheless stood the test of time."

Lidsky advocated the development of meltdown-proof modular high temperature gas cooled reactors using fission. Such plants have gained attention recently, and several are being developed in Japan and elsewhere. "Many of the technical ideas are directly attributable to Larry's early analysis," Freidberg said.

After receiving his doctorate in 1962, he joined the faculty as an assistant professor. He became an associate professor in 1968 and full professor in 1976. He was appointed associate director of the Plasma Fusion Center in 1978. Lidsky is survived by his wife, two sons, a daughter, his mother, two brothers, a sister, and seven grandchildren. Donations may be made in Lidsky's memory to the World Society for the Protection of Animals, 34 Delaware St., Framingham, MA 01702 (800-883-9772).

Lawrence M. Lidsky, Page 13

The CAC releases results of a survey on student attitudes about the Shuttle Student Center.

Page 15

Add Date Today
Israel Hits More Palestinian Targets After Suicide Strikes

By Lee Hockstader and Daniel Williams

Israel pursued its withering assault against Palestinian targets across the length and breadth of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and Palestinians carried out more suicide attacks against Israelis in a sparring conflict that raged on through the night despite President Bush's decision to reverse course and intervene in the situation, a figure that did not change.

The fund, estimated at a total cost of $6 billion, is the first of its kind in the aftermath of an American disaster. It was approved by Congress shortly after the attacks as a way to help surviving families and avoid massive lawsuits. The legislation stops the liability of airlines and compensates the injured and families of victims if they agree not to sue.

Annan Seeks Families Bigger Payments

"Annan Seeks Families Bigger Payments," the United Nations relief and development agency, said Wednesday that the Palestinians have been hit by so many missiles and bombs in recent months that just two of its 25 buildings remain standing.

The Palestinian ambassador to the United States was shot by Israeli troops in Tulkarm, according to Palestinian officials. Dozens more Palestinians there were injured, they said, including many civilians and another four Palestinian ambulance workers.

"No one can shake the Palestin- ian leader who has been confined to the West Bank town of Ramallah by Israeli forces since December. "If they believe there is anyone in this land who fears their tanks or missiles or Apache helicopter gunships ... they are wrong."

Even as Israeli forces widened their attacks, they failed to stem Palestinian violence and suicide attacks, the proclaimed objective of the campaign ordered by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. In addition to the Palestinian attack in Gaza, a Palestinian suicide bomber himself in a hotel lobby in the Jewish West Bank settlement of Ariel, wounding five Israelis.

House Approves Stimulus Plan

Bill Includes Unemployment Benefits and Business Tax Breaks

By Janey Hook

The White House Thursday defended Army Secretary Thomas White, a former Enron Corp. executive who was rebuked by two senior senators for failing to disclose that he continued to hold financial interests in Enron long after he had pledged to the Senate that he would divest.

White had agreed to dispose of all Enron-related interests by Nov. 30, 2001, but according to documents released by the Senate Wednesday, he held on to a financial stake in Enron stock until last week. Sens. Carl Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and John Warner, R-Va., the ranking Republican on the panel, said White gave him "an inaccurate representation" of his holdings. They said he violated his Senate ethics agreement.

But White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said White has complied with "all the executive branch requirements" to avoid ethical breaches.

Annan Seeks Return Weapons Inspectors to Iraq

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Winter or Spring?

By Nikki Prive

The sight of flowers springing up on campus may seem to herald, the arrival of spring in Boston, unusually early this year. In fact, this winter has been warmer than any other winter on record, with temperatures from December through February more than 1°F warmer than the next-warmest winter, which was the winter of 1932-1933. Unfortunately, these warm temperatures have been accompanied by a lack of precipitation, and there is a drought watch in effect for northeastern Massachusetts. Much of southern New England is under a mild to moderate drought, with precipitation last winter only at 50 to 70 percent of usual levels.

Will this spring-like weather continue, or will there be a switch to a typical Massachusetts? (It's already April!) For more information, see the normal precipitation tables for the middle of March (mid 40s F), with higher than average precipitation. Although ocean temperatures in the Pacific seem to indicate that a period of El Nino might begin later this year, there is currently no impact on the Boston climate due to either El Nino or La Nina. Without any strong cli- mate driver, like El Nino, it is difficult to predict what late March and April may have in store.

Extended Forecast

Today: Overcast, highs in the low 50s F (11°C), light winds.
Tonight: Partly cloudy, lows in the lower 40s F (6°C).
Saturday: Partly sunny, warmer, highs near 60°F (16°C). Becoming cloudy overnight, with the possibility of rain, low around 40°F (5°C).
Sunday: Chance of rain, windy, cooler. Highs in the upper 40s F (9°C).

The Justice Department is moving hundreds of Pakistani detainees from the United States at a "hurried" pace and U.S. officials have told the Pakistani government that most of those arrested immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks will be returned home by the end of next month, a Pakistani official said Thursday.

The official, Inam Ali, the Pakistani consul general who oversees the detainees issue, said about 130 captives have been deported, released on bond or have agreed to return to Pakistan voluntarily in recent weeks. He said all but about a dozen of the remaining "140 or 150" Pakistani detainees are to be freed now that U.S. authorities have concluded that "absolutely none had links to 9-11."

The steady departure of the Pakistanis appears to be the largest known release of detainees since the government launched its terror investigation after the attacks on New York and Washington. But it is impossible to be certain, because the government has detained and moved the captives in total secrecy.

At least one other embassy, Turkey, said Thursday that its cadre of detainees had dropped significantly in the past month, and immigration lawyers said they had also heard that detainees were being released at a faster pace.

The law enforcement dragnet has come under repeated criticism from civil libertarians, immigration advocates and Muslim groups because of the length of some of the detentions, the secrecy surrounding the more than 1,200 people who have been jailed the past six months and the fact that the vast majority have been held on both Arab and to terror.

Last month, the Justice Department said that the number of detainees in custody for alleged immigration violations had been reduced to 327. Another group of more than 100 foreign nationals faces criminal charges unrelated to the terror probe.

The release of the Pakistanis follows the Feb. 27 visit to Washington of Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, who urged President Bush to expedite cleared detainees' departures.

Justice Department officials said Thursday night that they were not aware of any special arrangements to speed the release of Pakistanis, and said they do not keep track of deportations by nationality.

Envy Zinni to Return to Mideast

Bush Orders Special Envoy to Attempt Restart of Negotiation Process

By Alan Sipress

The Washington Post

President Bush Thursday ordered his special envoy Anthony Zinni back to a Mideast stalled by unprecedented bloodletting between Israel and Palestinians, shelving his special envoy Anthony Zinni back to a Middle East next week. U.S.

The decision to send Zinni back to the region also came amid mounting administration concerns that the Middle East strife could overshadow Vice President Cheney's trip to the region that begins Sunday.

While U.S. officials plan to use the trip to talk with U.S. allies about the anti-terrorism campaign, they said it has become apparent that Cheney would be confronted in Arab capitals with complaints about the absence of U.S. involvement in trying to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Greenspan Tells Congress

Economic Expansion Underway

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan told Congress Thursday that not only is last year's recession over but that "an economic expansion is already well under way."

Just eight days earlier, Greenspan had been much more cautious in his testimony, saying only that a recovery from the slump was "just getting underway."

However, he then reiterated concerns that for a variety of reasons that the expansion could turn out to be significantly weaker than those that have followed previous recessions.

Over the past week, however, unexpectedly strong economic news had convinced many economists that the economy is growing around a 4 percent annual rate in the first three months of this year.

That is much stronger than forecasters had expected only a few weeks ago. Similarly, during the period between Greenspan's appearance on Capitol Hill, the fourth quarter growth rate was revised upward to 1.4 percent annual rate, much faster than the 0.2 percent rate first estimated.

Retail sales jumped a better-than-expected 6.2 percent in February, the biggest monthly gain in almost two years, the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd. reported Thursday.

More good news came Thursday from the Labor Department which said that initial claims for unemployment benefits averaged 372,750 per week over the last four weeks, the lowest level since April 2001. That figure is well below the peak of around 500,000 reached in the weeks after the Sept. 11 terror attacks. With claims now running so low, many analysts believe the department will report Friday that the number of payroll jobs increased last month for the first time in nearly a year.

Reports Cite Sniping

Possibilities on Computers

The flickering of computer screens and the ubiquitous LEDs found on modems and similar devices make virtually all electronic gear vulnerable to remote eavesdropping, according to two scientific papers published half a world apart this week.

The recently reported phenomenon, "optical emanations," may have enabled the agencies with highly advanced technology, to which critics say, are nervous. Authorities see the technology as a quick route around PC-based encryption that has hampered traditional surveillance in recent years. Unlike other forms of eavesdropping, critics say, there are few laws that restrict its use.

In one of the experiments, Markus G. Kuhn of the University of Cambridge in England, successfully reconstructed the contents of a computer screen merely by measuring fluctuations in light output on a nearby wall and running the resultant information through a simple signal processing filter. The other experiment, by Joe Loughery of Lockheed Martin Space Systems and Dr. David A. Uppness of Auburn University, used similar processing to successfully decipher the contents of modern transmissions by monitoring minute flickers in their LED (Light Emitting Diodes) displays at about 22 feet.

2001-2002

James R. Killian, Jr., Faculty Achievement Award Lecture

ERICH P., IPPEN

Elihu Thomson Professor of Electrical Engineering and Physics

"FEMTOSECOND OPTICS: QUICKER THAN A FLASH"

Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 4:00 pm

Wong Auditorium - Building E51

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
With the wave of changes next year's Undergraduate Association leaders must face, neither ticket in this year's race for president and vice president appears to be fully prepared. Issues which could dominate the UA's agenda next year — especially housing — are not high priorities on either ticket's platform. The 2002-2003 school year will require the UA to constantly evaluate the dramatic changes to housing and residence selection, and the UA president and vice president will be required to lead student response to the administration when changes simply do not work. The Tech therefore reluctantly endorses the ticket of Jennifer S. Yoon '03 and Nicole C. Vigil '03.

Yoon appears to be a hardworking and dedicated individual who has approached her leadership positions with practicality. Her focus and dedication to her primary goals of student life funding convinces us that she will tackle other problems with a similar attitude. Unlike her opponent, Josiah D. Seale '03, she seems greatly aware of the world of committees, deliberation, and compromise is she is about to enter. Platforms will count for very little if turmoil make some adaptations. She will need to expand her focus from her leadership positions with practicality. an important issue with the elimination of second term pass-no vote. Seale and her vice president appears to be fully prepared. Issues representation. However, even minor changes to the constitution Seale also hopes to dramatically change the UA constitution in hopes of increasing student involvement through broader representation. However, even minor changes to the constitution have taken well over six months to ratify in the past. If anything, the current outgoing UA leadership might have considered a similar move this past year in order to establish a stronger council to handle the changes of 2002-2003, but next year is not the time for such high aspirations.

Seal and Deora seem to be a more balanced pair than Yoon and Vigil. It is possible that Deora could serve as a tempered negotiator to contrast Seale's impetuous idealism, though it is a directed to the approach which to the one's ballot. Furthermore, the UA vice presidential position is weak both by design and by precedent; therefore, it is more important to have a strong and capable president than a strong and capable vice president. For Yoon to be a successful president, she will need to make some adaptations. She will need to expand her focus from finances to include: other interests of the student body at large. She will need to expand her list of administrative contracts if she hopes to effectively voice and address concerns of the student body.

The Tech endorses Yoon because she seems far more prepared to be an efficient, effective negotiator when dealing with the chaotic policy changes of the coming year. Vote for Yoon/Vigil if you believe that 2002-2003 is not the year to attempt radical change to the UA. However, if you believe Seale will be an effective leader during changing times while also pursuing his goals of revolutionizing the UA council and winning long-sought student life battles, cast your vote for Seale/Deora.
Sanctions Help No One

Maral Shamloo

I am writing this column in response to Dan Torczyner's column "Supporting Sanctions." In this column, Mr. Torczyner argues that one way of ensuring the safety of U.S. citizens is to keep providing economic sanctions against Iraq, and he certainly should — put the safety and interests of its citizens first and foremost. Then a trifle with the Iraqi people, a further perpetuation of the current embargo is disadvantageous to United States.

As Torczyner mentions, the United States was instrumental in the development of the very same deadly weapons that Iraq possesses, that it feels threatened by a war that was not destroyed. It's a burden on the United States to bear the brunt of exploitation by the superpower.

The current embargo is disadvantageous to United States. If we trade freely with Iraq, then we make one wonder what the point of war is. The American arms industry seems to have been spending billions on the war while the United States government has been one of its primary customers.

Despite four months of relentless bombing and air strikes, not only have I been found, but also U.S. troops were killed and al Qaeda was not destroyed. It makes one wonder what the point of war against terrorism was.

American arms makers are lost (remember we are analyzing the situation merely in terms of the economic) and still the main targets are not met.

The same situation exists in Iraq. As a result of arms sales, the future of Iraq lies in itself of trade with the country that owns the second largest oil reserves in the world. The arms, however, have not been successful in removing Saddam Hussein from power. Rosalyn U.N. was given in return. Apart from minor conflicts in national interests, the world's governments tend to be supportive of each other. Because of the high regard between Muslims which makes them feel stronger, most of the Arab nations are "fellow states" regardless of their nationalism. U.S. actions against Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, etc., are frowned upon by citizens of other Muslim countries even if their government supports the United States. The world is not alone. Sparked by events in this country, the desire to be part of the arms race has been increasing in other countries as well.

If you have never heard of it, you are missing out. Similar situations are not difficult to find, and the U.S. has to face the same subject states of interest, it has certainly not ceased to use military support to bias and skew the balance in favor of Iran to protect its interests and sexual domination of men. The story of this country's involvement in Middle East struggle. Over the years, on IWD people have taken to the streets, sparked a revolution, not political, but financial, demonstrated outside newspapers and welfare institutions, occupied empty buildings, and helped usher in a new era of social justice. Although there have been a lot of progress to celebrate, we are still far from living in this world as equal and there are many terrible injustices left to fight.

Before we begin to look forward to the coming International Women's Day, we should look back and learn from those who have fought for the progress we've made so far. Through the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, women have been fighting in every industry in large numbers. Their jobs were primarily sex-segregated with most working in textiles, manufacturing, and domestic services. These women worked in extremely unhealthy conditions, often not paid even worse than for male counterparts, and at a lower wage.

In this climate, it was women who bore the brunt of society's pain and suffering. A large number of women, having no voice in the government, and more recently, in the presence of new feminist unions that feared the competition women represented. It was Lucy Parsons, the radical feminist, who first organized a General Strike against the Transcontinental Railroad. The strike was a great success, and many more women joined the movement. The strike was also a great success, and many more women joined the movement.

Convinced by this history of struggle, pain, and celebration, look around today and see how many newspapers or TV shows even mention International Women's Day. The first IWD was held on March 19, 1911 in German, Denmark, and many other countries. March 19 was chosen because on that date in 1908, a demonstration march was organized, had promised (but never delivered) universal suffrage. More than a million leaflets were distributed demanding the right to vote and the economic equality of women. By 1910, the idea of a Women's Day was spreading across the world. In 1913, the First International Socialist Congress in Copenhagen proposed that Women's Day become an international day of action. With the declaration of the Women's Day, Carla Zettin, one of the most influential women in the world, had expressed the need for all women to oppose a resolution to the conference which was unanimously approved by the 100 women delegates. The First International Conference for Women's Rights was born.

The first International Women's Day was celebrated on March 19, 1911 in Germany, Denmark, and many other countries. The day was chosen because it had been observed as a day of protest against the war. In its original form, it was to be a day to remember the sacrifices of women in the war, to demand the right to vote, and the economic equality of women. By 1910, the idea of a Women's Day was spreading across the world. In 1913, the First International Socialist Congress in Copenhagen proposed that Women's Day become an international day of action. With the declaration of the Women's Day, Carla Zettin, one of the most influential women in the world, had expressed the need for all women to oppose a resolution to the conference which was unanimously approved by the 100 women delegates. The First International Conference for Women's Rights was born.

While while addressing the State of the Union address, George W. Bush put together his beards. Dan Quayle imitation with a series of state- ments on the "axis of evil." The United States, Iran, and North Korea constitute an "axis of evil" that threatens the peace and prosperity of the world. But what these citizens do have in common is that the United States is interested in the fact that people decided to use their money to kill American people. But what these citizens have in common is that the United States is interested in the fact that people decided to use their money to kill American people. I doubt that Saudi Arabia, which has been involved in several terrorist attacks, would be willing to go to war against these evils.

Repression could not, however, stop those who were fighting against these evils. In this climate, it was women who bore the brunt of society's pain and suffering. A large number of women, having no voice in the government, and more recently, in the presence of new feminist unions that feared the competition women represented. It was Lucy Parsons, the radical feminist, who first organized a General Strike against the Transcontinental Railroad. The strike was a great success, and many more women joined the movement.

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When you wish to leave you with is that unless the U.S. adopts a long-term, consistent, sustainable, and internationally supported policy, it does not violate other nations' rights, injure their culture, and contribute to peace. There will be no definite guarantees that the nation will be immune to terrorist attacks. Unfortunately, the U.S. has created secure hills, bus stations, stadiums, large buildings, and people's trust in government. The American people are being punished by the fact that they have invested their only asset, their lives, in a war that they wish to leave.

Women's Day is the continuation of centuries of women fighting to end the social, political, and economic oppression of the world's women. One way of ensuring the safety of U.S. citizens is to keep providing economic sanctions against Iraq, and by the same token, the U.S. states that unless the U.S. adopts a long-term, consistent, sustainable, and internationally supported policy, it does not violate other nations' rights, injure their culture, and contribute to peace. There will be no definite guarantees that the nation will be immune to terrorist attacks. Unfortunately, the U.S. has created secure hills, bus stations, stadiums, large buildings, and people's trust in government. The American people are being punished by the fact that they have invested their only asset, their lives, in a war that they wish to leave.

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INTEGRAL FORCE

HUM.. WHY IS IT THAT THAT BUILDING IS ALWAYS LIT AT NIGHT? IT'S NOT EVEN FINISHED YET.

I'LL CALL SCALAR.

SEE, AN PROBLEM 5, YOU HAVE TO SOLVE IT USING-

SHOOT! Gotta go guys! I'll e-mail you later!

Boy, is he whirred!

the crass rat

NANCY SAID SHE'D GO OUT WITH ME!!

REALLY?! WHAT'D SHE SAY?

WELL, SHE AGREED TO DATE...

ACTUALLY, SHE AGREED TO ONE DATE...

IN FACT, I THINK THE TERM SHE USED WAS BETA TESTING.

PROBLEM 2??... CHECK! PILLOW... CHECK!

DROP OP CD... CHECK! CD PLAYER... CHECK! LAPTOP... CHECK! I THINK WE'RE ALL SET!

CAN WE GO! CAN WE GO?

AHH!! I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD HAVE COME FIRST BACK!

DIDN'T IT'S ONLY A WEEK THE CONCERT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? ARE YOU NOT THERE YET? WHO THEY COME??

IT'S NOT JUST ANY CONCERT, BANANAS! IT'S AN FREE! IT'S WHAT?? COMING OUT AT DAWN!

MICRO COSM by STAGE

HAPPILY ON HIS WAY TO THE INST...

HIGH HE, HANDED OFF TO SCHOOL.

DAMN SON! YO, WHITE FOLK Gotta START LOOKIN' BEFORE YOU LEAP, ESPECIALLY WITH ALL THE LANDMINES FLYIN' AROUND!!

WHO WAS THAT REVEREND WHO JUST SAVED MY LIFE??

HE'S JUST A MAN! AN IMPERFECT BEING LIKE THE REST OF Us...

GOD BLESS HIM.

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March 8, 2002

**FoxTrot**
by Bill Amend

**Dilbert®**
by Scott Adams

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**Crossword Puzzle**

*Solution, page 9*

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1-800-264-8828

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**TIME TO GO CLUBIN’!**

baby don’t hurt me

---

*By Holden Baker*  
Greenfield, MA  
3/4/02
Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at [http://events.mit.edu](http://events.mit.edu)

**Friday, March 8**

11:00 a.m. — We Have All Our Courses Online, Now What? Howard Straus, Director of Academic Affairs, Yale University. [Abstract](#)

12:00 p.m. — Pappalardo Followup in Physics Symposium. A symposium featuring the Pappalardo Fellows in Physics at MIT presenting highlights from research in progress, aimed toward a general audience. [Details](#)

2:00 p.m. — Local Cohomology Modules of Stanley-Reisner Rings and Alexander Duality. Yair Shenfeld. [Details](#)

3:00 p.m. — If You Think You Take God Seriously, Try This! We will worship at a gathering place for all who are attempting to think critically about the meaning and implications of their religious beliefs. [Details](#)

4:00 p.m. — FileMaker Pro Quick Start. This class introduces users to the FileMaker environment and its functions using an existing database as a model. [Details](#)

**Saturday, March 9**

7:00 p.m. — Indiana Jones Marathon. Raiders of the Lost Ark, Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom, Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. [Details](#)

8:00 p.m. — Decadent Desserts and All That Jazz. Come join us for a special night of desserts and a live jazz band at the Sigma Kappa House. [Details](#)

9:00 p.m. — Hungarian Folk Dance: Lesson. During the spring semester, begin thinking about coming out, have just come out, or have come out and want to help others. [Details](#)

10:00 p.m. — Bible Study. Study the Bible. [Details](#)

11:00 p.m. — Annual Concert in Bad Taste. No subject is taboo. [Details](#)

**Sunday, March 10**

4:00 p.m. — Raiders of the Lost Ark. [Details](#)

7:00 p.m. — Free Coffee House. Join us for a study break with friends with some music and delicious snacks. [Details](#)

8:00 p.m. — Bible Study. [Details](#)

9:00 p.m. — Free Coffee. [Details](#)

**Monday, March 11**

12:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. — Mechanical Engineering Seminar. Single Beam, Two Views Holographic Particle Image Velocimetry and Its Application to Turbulence Modeling. [Details](#)
**The ARTS ON THE SCREEN**

*BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF*

The following movies are playing this weekend at local theaters. The Tech suggests using [http://ae.boston.com/movies/](http://ae.boston.com/movies/) for a complete listing of times and locations.

**40 Days and 40 Nights**

Just as Josh Hartnett vows to go 40 days and nights without sex, he meets the woman of his dreams. While it has its moments, **40 Days and 40 Nights** relies on the charm of Hartnett to carry the film, and fails. The tired repetition of one theme grates on the viewer and leaves the film stretched thin.  

Dan Robey

**The Count of Monte Cristo**

An illiterate sailor finds himself imprisoned because of the jealousy of his best friend. Seeking revenge, he manages to escape from solitude confinement to become a member of Europe’s high society, in an attempt to win back the woman and the life he once had.  

Eric Chemi

**Crossroads**

Three little girls bury a box of their goals for the future. Many years later, the girls meet up to open the box and talk about their dreams and decide to take a road trip out west. Many adventures ensue on the car trip. The girls bond through NSYNC sing-a-longs and giggling. See Crossroads! You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll sing and dance, you'll get to see Britney in a pair of little boy’s BVDs. And, oh yeah, this movie sucks.  

Megan Ginter

**I Am Sam**

I Am Sam centers around a mentally challenged father, Sam Dawson (Sean Penn), and his fight against the state for his daughter Lucy (Dakota Fanning). Abandoned by Lucy’s mother shortly after her birth, Sam single-handedly raised Lucy until a social worker questions Sam’s ability to raise his daughter. With the help of Rita Hjort (Michelle Pfeiffer) as his lawyer, Sam takes on the state for the biggest challenge of his life.  

Jed Horne

**RollerBall**

Plot conformity, plot understandability, and finally, plot existence follow character development down the toilet in this atrocious movie. As for action scenes, there aren’t many, and what is there isn’t memorable except for its ridiculousness. If you’re thinking of going to this one, just stay home.  

Brian Loux

**Super Troopers**

Dumb cops play tricks and have wacky fun while on duty. The movie starts off cleverly but quickly degrades into a clichéd story about catching drug smugglers and saving the troopers’ jobs. Good for a few laughs but quickly forgotten once you leave the theater.  

Brian Loux

**The Time Machine**

A mediocre time traveling movie based on the classic novel. Though mostly enjoyable, with wonderful supporting performances by Orlando Jones and Jeremy Irons, the film lacks continuity in both plot and theme.  

Rich Redemske

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**Stress Busters**

FREE 3-session group for MIT students

- Stress Reduction Exercises
- Time Management Techniques
- Mind-Body Awareness

Group meets for three consecutive Wednesdays, 4-5:30 p.m

Next group begins March 20

Co-leaders are Margaret Zisk and Jody Leader

For more information email zisk@med.mit.edu, lead@med.mit.edu, or call 617/ 253-2916

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**AUTHOR EVENT**

**Paul Davies**

**“How to Build a Time Machine”**

With his knack for making cutting-edge theoretical science easily accessible, renowned physicist Paul Davies has won a devoted readership with his best-selling books “The Fifth Miracle,” “About Time,” and “God and the New Physics.” In “How to Build a Time Machine,” Davies tackles an issue that has intrigued us for centuries: is time travel possible?

**Book Signing and Visual Presentation**

**Tues. March 12 / 5:00 pm**

MIT Coop @ Kendall Square

3 Cambridge Ctr.  
(at the Kendall Sq. Red Line T stop)  
817-499-3200
A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
March 10 – 15
Compiled by Devdrait Majumdar

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

March 8, 2002

March 10: The Singing Priests
March 22: Mahan Dehl
March 25: John Davis, Mason d’Qar
March 30: Hong Kongophone

March 10: Joe Ambrose (in concert)
March 15: Whitney Aronoff (in concert)
March 20: Abigail Washburn
March 22: Audrey Schmidt (in concert)
March 25: The Swedish String Trio
March 30: Paul G. H. van der Linden

March 8: Myanna
March 9: Warren G. Hardman (in concert)
March 10: her Love Filled The Room
March 11: the Normal (in concert)
March 12: For Reasons Unseen
March 13: Beaux Arts Trio (Jordan)
March 14: Frank Santos
March 15: John Davis
March 16: Beaux Arts Trio (Jordan)
March 19: Q-Bert
March 20: the Samples
March 21: Pat Metheny
March 22: Mahan Dehl
March 24: Greg Howard (from the Watson, Lori McKenna (at M contestant)
March 25: John Davis
March 26: Mercedes Sosa
March 27: Bill Stainton
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Community Building
A Goal of Meal Plan

Simmons, from Page 1

D. Berlin III, Gilja said.

Multiple proposals considered
While the possibility of a campus-wide mandatory meal plan has been essentially eliminated, "the Dean for Student Life sees Simmons as a new project: we can put in new ideas, we can start over again," Gilja said. "But we don't want things to go overboard. We don't want there to be a massive overhaul for students moving into Simmons." Still, Gilja said, it is important that the dining hall not lose money.

"We're trying to balance both ends," he said. In terms of a specific meal plan, Gilja said several options were currently being considered.

The original proposal, he said, was to have five mandatory dinner meals each week, "based on an upfront price to students, which would guarantee that the dining hall [would break] even.

"But we don't necessarily have to go that far, if the vendor is willing to assume more risk," he said. "We don't use this as necessarily a very bad thing," Gilja said. There is the "potential that if everybody used the dining hall, it could help build community." There is also the issue of quality: "If we have more mandatory meals, potentially we could have better quality food," Gilja said.

However, while Simmons is expected to open in time for the beginning of the fall term, the dining hall is not. Campus Activities Complex Director Philip J. Walsh said Simmons residents would be served by Next House dining until November.

Next House president Víraan Maheshri '03 said one possibility was for dining services to prepare food at Next House and "truck it over" to Simmons.

Next House could get late night cafe
Next House residents seeking a late-night snack may soon have an additional option.

In April, $3 million renovations of Next House dining will begin, Walsh said. The renovations are scheduled to be completed before the fall term begins.

Next House dining is "mainly a convenient place to have dinner ... But I think the renovations will change that," said Adam S. Champy '04, a Next House resident involved with planning the renovations. "People are going to want to be here."

The newly renovated dining area will feature a private dining room for presentations and seminars, and a cafe in the entry to the dining area, Champy said.

He added that the cafe might be kept open late at night.

Next House dining is "currently open until 8 p.m., but stuff starts to shut down a little earlier than that," Champy said. "The dining hall was built in 1981, and the usual tear and wear over 21 years" warrants these renovations, said housemaster Borivoje Mikic.

He said that after renovations are complete, the dining hall "will attract not only our students but [also] students from other dorms."
Violinist Todd Reynolds and Professor Evan Ziporyn on the bass clarinet perform a fluid mixture of composed and improvised work entitled "Acoustic and Electronic Solos and Duets" Tuesday in Killian Hall. The concert was part of the MIT American Music Series.
Online Voting Starts Monday for UA Races

UA Elections, from Page 1

solve housing problems.

"I think that our crowding problem could be solved with more funding to our fraternities," Seale said.

Yoon vowed to "give the IFC more support to trying to recruit new pledgers."

The hotly contested issue of crowding also brought up the problem of graduate housing and MIT's plans to use some graduate beds to address an expected severe undergraduate housing shortage this fall.

Seale acknowledged that though graduate students recognize graduate housing is a priority, he believes "graduate students are definitely a very close second priority."

Yoon agreed with the importance of undergraduate housing.

"I think the primary objective is that all undergraduates are housed. I know that that puts a strain on graduate students," Yoon said.

Activities for a key issue

The teams of candidates expressed divergent views on the use of the new $200 fee incorporated into the tuition increase.

"We're taking money from the students, supposedly for the students -- it should be allocated by the students," Seale said.

Tickets highlight other priorities

Yoon and Vigil said that student/faculty relations would be another priority of their administration.

"We need to improve faculty advising and student/faculty relationships in general," Vigil said.

Seale and Deora stressed their plan to improve confidential medical transport and their hopes to reform the current alcohol policy.

"MIT does not have an alcohol problem," Seale said. "MIT has an image problem."

Deora added she "would want to become more involved in student issues," if elected as vice-president.

Additionally, Yoon and Vigil emphasized the variety of academic opportunities at MIT, with Vigil saying it is the responsibility of the UA "to make sure the undergraduates take advantage of those opportunities."

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Activities fee a key issue

The teams of candidates expressed divergent views on the use of the new $200 fee incorporated into the tuition increase.

Vigil said "the student activity fee is actually a misnomer." Vigil said the expenditure is just a part of the new tuition increase.

Vigil said she hoped to "increase funding for social events" with the money available from the fee.

Seale argued that "as students we should not be paying for administration (of the Zesiger Center)."

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Voting starts Monday at midnight

Electronic balloting for UA President and Vice-President, as well as class council positions, will take place Monday through Thursday.

Undergraduates who do not vote electronically may cast a paper ballot one week from today.

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Petitions Circulated In Support, Protest

It would be nice if every student would be really happy with the selection, but that is never the case. I believe our community will treat its visitors with dignity and respect,” Vest said.

Basu said that the administration is unaware of the response Wolfensohn’s presence will generate. “I don’t think they know that many groups, not just MIT students, will be protesting.”

Due to the high profile of MIT, Basu said he expects organizations such as those who protested against the World Trade Organization in Seattle to protest during Commencement.

Others support Wolfensohn

Some students, however, feel very differently. "I do not believe that Sanjay’s petition exhibits the opinions of the majority of students on campus," Wu said.

Wu’s petition began circulating at approximately the same time as the other petition. There are approximately 30 signatures on the petition currently, Wu said.

“I felt that MIT students needed an alternative choice,” Wu said. He said that Wolfensohn’s presence will open up discussion about both Wolfensohn and Sanjay’s petition. "I do not believe Wolfensohn will generate. "I do not believe that Sanjay’s petition exhibits the opinions of the majority of students on campus," Wu said.

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The following data is based on a web survey conducted by the Campus Activities Complex during May and June 2001. There were 535 respondents, 42 percent of whom were graduate students.

### Students' Impressions of the building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Responses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35% the building is bland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25% the building is a place to hang out</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15% the building is welcoming</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Best features of the Student Center (most common responses)

- Athena cluster
- ATM
- Coffeehouse
- Convenient location
- Copy Tech
- LaVerde's
- Lounges
- Toscaninis

### Worst features of the Student Center (most common responses)

- General food services
- General design of space
- Lighting
- Hang out space (lack of)
- Décor (general)
- Lack of activity
- Level of comfort
- Basement services

### Additional services students would like to see in the Student Center (most common responses)

- 24-hour food services
- Additional banking services
- Expanded card acceptance
- Expanded lounges
- Fast food options
- First floor restrooms
- Newbury Comics
- More study spaces
- Working information desk

### Student Center Survey Results

**By Jennifer Krishnan

Dining and computing are the two most popular services in the Stratton Student Center, a recent survey by the Campus Activities Complex showed.

The web survey was administered to help create the strategic plan released by the CAC last week. "This document looks at each facility and what should be the mission of the facility," said CAC Director Phillip J. Walsh.

The strategic plan defines goals and visions for the undergraduate-focused Stratton Student Center, and Walker Memorial, which "has more of a graduate emphasis," Walsh said.

In particular, the plan calls for a reorganization in the use of space in the Student Center, particularly on the first floor.

Walsh said that retail would remain a significant component of the building, but "maybe not the level we have today. It was important 15 years ago," but the environment around the campus has changed, with more retail services nearby.

Seventy-four percent of respondents said they went to the Student Center to eat, and 60 percent said they frequent the Athena cluster on the fifth floor. But fewer than eight percent of respondents used the other non-food retail services in the Student Center, except for the automatic teller machines, post office and Copy Tech.

On the other hand, "students are looking for more recreation space," Walsh said. Currently, the Student Center houses an arcade in the basement and a pool table in the Coffeehouse, but Walsh said he hoped more recreational opportunities would be added.

Lounge space figured heavily in the survey results, with many respondents citing lounges as one of the "best features" of the Student Center, and a lack of lounge space as one of the "worst features."

Walsh said another important concern was the appearance of the building.

"The Student Center is a place people tend to pass through," he said. "The first floor is not especially welcoming."
MIT Gymnasts Hit Season High

By Damian Engen

This past Sunday, the men's gymnastics team had a strong meet to earn their best team score of the year, but the team still lost to Springfield College and UMass. MIT's score of 160.65 was the team's best all season, despite competing without freshman star Oliver Delacruz '05 and David I. Hu G. UMass won the meet with a score of 210.60, topping Spring-field's 201.85.

All four MIT competitors ended up in the top eight all-around at the meet, the first time this has ever happened when competing against Division I and II teams. David Yin '03 managed to break the 31 point ceiling the gymnastics team had a strong meet when competing against Division I and II teams. Yin started the meet off on rings with a near-perfect routine. Reuben M. Sterling '03 and Patrick R. Griffin '04 followed with equally solid performances. Griffin rounded out rings by landing his newly acquired full-twisting double back somersault.

On the floor exercises, Yin managed to land his full-twisting front pike and cleaned up his transitions to earn a respectable 6.3. Griffin competed one of the highest double back dismounts of the day. Griffin's score was going to count and there was no room for error. Fortunately for the Engineers, Yin started the team off with a perfect routine. Reuben M. Sterling '03 and Patrick R. Griffin '04 followed with equally solid performances. Griffin rounded out rings by landing his newly acquired full-twisting double back somersault.

Engen scored 7.95 and 8.1, respectively, putting them in eighth and fifth, respectively, on MIT's top ten.

Engineers finish meet strong

The team, inspired by their incredible performance on pummel horse, managed to land four great vaults, including a stuck front-hand spring by Sterling and a piked backsalutah by Griffin. The highlights on high bar were, without a doubt. Yin's routines, especially the one that included a back dismount. Griffin caught his gienger, a back flip with a half twist, with ease despite not having competed it in over two years.

Parallel bars was the last event, and although tired, the team managed to throw great routines. To the astonishment of the judges, Engen finished off the meet with a skillfully executed double-pike dismount. While the Engineers ended the meet many points behind their Division I and II competitors, they left the judge with high hopes for the rest of the season. Since the beginning of the season, the team score has risen from 125 to 160.

MIT competes with thin lineup

In men's gymnastics, the top four competitors, they left the judge with high hopes for the rest of the season. Since the beginning of the season, the team score has risen from 125 to 160.

Running off of the momentum created by the team, Engen hit his double walk-around, the most difficult move of his routine. Griffin and Engen scored 7.95 and 8.1, respectively, putting them in eighth and fifth, respectively, on MIT's top ten.

Women's Gymnastics

Sets New MIT Record

All-Time High Topped in Loss to Springfield

By Eduardo Ovalle

The women's gymnastics team lost to Springfield College last Sunday 178.525-183.775, but the team also lost Caitlin P. Dwyer-McNally '03 to a season-ending injury. Still, the score was good enough to beat the school record set the week before.

Despite both losses, there were some quality performances from MIT gymnasts. Whitney E. Watson '05 posted a season-high 35.625 and would have broken 36 if she had not been on beam. The team welcomed Cindy Chung '04 back to the vault lineup, and she threw a piked handspring-front-somersault. Senior tri-captain Cecile E. LeCocq was also back on beam, on a good hand spring-ful for an 8.7. On bars, Carie Genova '03 finally got through a bar routine to garner an 8.75.

LeCocq leads team on floor

LeCocq changed her floor rou-
	tine around to include a "C" level tumbling skill in her last pass and scored a season high 9.25. Overall, however, the Lady Engineers struggled a bit as a team with their dives combinations on floor.

Tanya 1. Burka '03 had the option to not perform her exhibition routine immediately after the team lost Dwyer-McNally to injury, but she did not want for floor to end on a sour note for the rest of the team, and performed her exhibition. The Engineers then finished the meet on beam, but the team lost some focus after Dwyer-McNally's injury. Everyone fell off the beam except for Merritt S. Tam '03, who was the only one that got through unscathed with a beautiful 9.55 routine.

Tam hopes to qualify for nationals

MIT's record fell to 4-4 against Division III opponents and 13-13 overall. The team leads to Col-

gellegeville, Penn. to face Ursinus College for the ECAC championships this Saturday. The ECAC is the main qualifying meet to the National Championships.

As a team, MIT does not have a chance unless the top teams falter badly, but Tam has an excellent opportunity to qualify as she is currently ranked as the fifth all-around in the country. She is also ranked third on beam and sixth overall on bars.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, March 9

Rifle, USA Shooting Open, 9:00 a.m.

Men's Volleyball vs. Queens College and Vassar College, 12:00 p.m.

Intramural Basketball Playoffs

A League Bracket

1 LLUA
2 BGSA's Bad Boys
3 Slavic Tribes
4 Sloan A2
5 Sloan A3
6 DU's Ducks
7 DU Gold
8 AAD's Fab Five

B League Bracket

1 TPP
2 CHEE's Big Guns
3 Sloan B1
4 NS B2
5 KS B1
6 PBS's El Terrible
7 PTK
8 Golden Girls
9 ATO Blue
10 Widow-Makers
11 Sigma Chi
12 TCO's Taku
13 FSA
14 The Beta Ballers
15 Eurocub BB

Joshua J. Grant '02, playing for Delta Sigma, shoots around an Alpha Tau Omega Gold player during an "A" league semifinal basketball match Wednesday night. ATO Gold defeated DU, 40-33.