Sugar Ray Selected to Perform At Annual MIT Spring Concert

By Dan Cho

The MIT Spring Weekend Committee announced Wednesday that they are negotiating with the band Sugar Ray to perform at the Spring Weekend concert on Friday, April 26.

Committee member Daniel B. Jonas '02 stressed that a contract with the band had not yet been signed as of last night. However, they are confident that Sugar Ray will perform at the annual concert, he said this year.

"Historically, the duration of contract negotiation is somewhat unpredictable, but we're hoping for an easy negotiation and to get this wrapped up in the next couple of weeks," said Davidot Majumdar '04, a member of the committee.

Carise Yatter, head of tour publicity for Atlantic Records, confirmed that the band plans to play at MIT on April 26. The MIT concert has also been added to Sugar Ray's tour schedule on the band's Web site.

Students praise, pan Sugar Ray

Student reactions to the choice of band have been mixed.

"I say boo," said Jeffrey D. Leblanc '03.

"I think Sugar Ray is the best," said Dan Relihan '04.

"I've heard some of their songs," said Gregory C. Townsend '02.

"They're not terrible." Other students, however, are impressed that MIT will be hosting such a big name band at the Spring Weekend concert.

"I think a lot of people would actually think it's exciting," said Eric Leung '03.

Other weekend events undecided

Plans for the other Spring Weekend events have not been finalized. The concert, because it's a national act, has to be done way in advance," said Linda D. Noe, program coordinator for student activities and advisor to the Spring Weekend Committee. Noel said that detailed plans for the remainder of the weekend should be in place within the next few weeks.

However, students can expect some of the same traditional events which are held every year. The International Students Association will hold its I-Fair on Kresge Oval on Friday, April 25. The Alpha Chi Omega sorority will also hold its annual Lip Sync concert.

One notable absence from the list of this year's planned events is the Odyssey Ball, which was held for the first time last year on Kresge.

MIT Participants Bring Slapshots, Big Macs, and IT to Salt Lake City

By Elam J. Lee

MIT has sent a few of its finest to Salt Lake City to be a part of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, but not everyone representing the Institute is an elite athlete.

The head coach of MIT Varsity Women's Ice hockey, Kari Pachkevitch, is one of the top players on the Russian national team. Arthur G. Fitzmaurice '03 is a part of a different kind of team performing in Salt Lake City — he was chosen out of over 1.3 million McDonald's employees worldwide to serve the athletes and fans of the Olympic games. And Linda M. Yu '92, a member of the MIT Olympics, Page 14

Dilbert Creator Adams Reveals His Inspiration

By Brian Loux

He's one of the most-read authors in newspapers around the country, but he doesn't write news.

"It's more like a cartoon strip," said Scott Adams, the creator of the Dilbert comic strip, which is no longer just a busy cartoonist. For years he has been a busy public speaker and author, still boasting of his 12 hour工作days.

"He is also now CEO of Scott Adams Foods, which is launching a new food product soon to be available on campus called Dilbertos, a vegan burrito." The Tech recently had the opportunity to interview Adams about his comic strip and recent activities.

The Tech: Do the characters in your strip bear resemblance to any particular characters in your life?

Adams: Yeah, some of them are some composites of people, others are direct. Dilbert's body is based on the body of one person who doesn't know it. Alice is based on a woman I once worked with who made grown men cry in meetings. Wally is based on a guy behind my cubicle. There's a little...
Six Yemenis Taken Off
List in Terror Alert

The FBI Thursday removed six men from a list of 17 suspected terrorists identified in an extraordinary terrorism alert Monday after officials declared the six were not a threat. A hold in Yemen led to the alert.

Five of the six men were shown in photographs distributed to law enforcement agencies and media worldwide as part of a warning that a suspected al Qaeda cell was preparing an enzyme attack on U.S. military bases in the Middle East, the FBI said in a news release.

FBI officials said they did not learn until Thursday that the six are apparently the same as those listed in Monday's global alert, a law enforcement official said.

The five whose photographs were removed from the list were: Ahmad Qadibah Makkil, Ali Ahmad Al-Khateeb Nasser Alibidani, Bahbir Ali Nasser Al-Shariatani, Abdusleemuddin Saleh bin Otash and Shuhour Abdullah Mukbil al-Sabri.

Palestinian Militants Bomb Tank; Three Israeli Soldiers Die

A powerful explosion ripped apart an Israeli tank in the Gaza Strip on Thursday night, killing three soldiers and wounding another, an army spokesman said.

The attack, which Palestinians came as politicians and military analysts criticized the army's incursion into several Gaza towns a day earlier as a failure: in the broadest operation in Gaza this decade, the military estimated the death toll at 50 and hundreds of troops swept into northern Gaza towns with the stated mission of thwarting Palestinian missile attacks on Israeli and tourists.

Eighteen hours later, the forces pulled out, and on Thursday the army declared it had released all but two of 18 Palestinians arrested during the operation.

"We can only pray that what we saw in the last 24 hours in Best Hansen, Best Lahoya and Deir al-Balah is not truly the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) of today," military analyst Alex Fishman wrote in the newspaper Yisdot Aharonot. "The real IDF is different: smarter, more creative and less clumsy."

U.S. Coach Alleges Widespread Corruption in Skating

First Cat Successfully Cloned

A former Russian Olympic medalist who is now a U.S. figure skating coach Thursday launched an unusual verbal attack on figure skating's top stars, saying the sport was dirty and rife with corruption and alleging that all national skating federation judges and attempt to fix the results of competitions.

"All federations are involved, not only the Russians," said Russian-born Alexander Zhulin, a 1994 Olympic silver medalist who now coaches U.S. ice dancers Naomi Lang and Peter Tcherebenov. "I think the anti-corruption pressure from the person who is president, the people in the high posts... It's like in life - someone is watching and these people are weak, and the weak justices" just follow what their federation's say. That's corruption. ... It's so dirty."

His description, uttered calmly and in measured tones shortly after his dance team practiced Thursday, came a day after it was reported that a French Olympic official said the French judge in Monday's controversial pairs final had felt pressured to cast her vote for the Russian team, which won the gold medal by a 5-4 margin.

Scientists in Texas have created the first cloned cat, a domestic cat known as "CC" that has immediately taken a series of world records in place in history as the first cloned domestic pet.

Born Dec. 22 by Caesarian section in a Texas lab, the apparently healthy cat is the sixth kind of mammal to be created asexually from a single adult cell - after sheep, mice, cattle, goats and pigs - and the first "domestic animal" to be cloned. Scientists said the ability to clone cats or any other animals could eventually be a boon to biomedical research, but more immediately could satisfy those who said it was a growing consumer demand for pet cloning services.

"We don't beat around the bush. There are lots of people interested in their pets, so why avoid it?" said Mark Westhusin, the lead scientist behind the project at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine in College Station.

But the feat drew intense criticism from ethical organizations, which have spearheaded efforts to reduce feline birth rates through nationwide spaying and neutering programs.

"Isn't it crazy that millions of animals are killed in shelters in this country every year and people are thinking so selfishly about cloning pets," said Dr. Keith Ferrier, a Texas A&M official who has been at the center of a cloning controversy.

To commercialize the work, AVM said it would need to secure a license from the U.S. Farm Department, which has been presided over by John Spurling, who has given Texas A&M about $3.7 million so far to develop technology to clone his beloved dog, a border collie-siberian husky mix named Minsky. Although several pregnancies have been achieved, no Minsky clones have survived to term. Preliminary work on cloning the dog, Westhusin said, is in part because cat eggs grow and mature in culture dishes better than dog eggs do.

By Rick Weiss

The first cat successfully cloned.

By Helen Dewar and Juliet Elperin

The House's post-midnight vote on campaign-finance overhaul legislation that would基本上 remove all forms of special-interest contributions to political parties had finally gained the upper hand - although not necessarily the last word - in their long struggle to reduce the influence of money in politics.

"This is the year we're finally going to pass campaign-finance reform," Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., told the bill's supporters.

The House-passed measure, sponsored by Reps. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., and Martin Mehan, D-Mass., would curb the flow of "soft money" by limiting outside contributions from corporations, unions and wealthy individuals. It also would restrict issue advertising by advocacy groups when it targets specific candidates just before an election.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who has fought the bill for years, said he and other foes are studying the House-passed measure and have not yet decided whether to attempt a filibuster that might force it to a conference between the two chambers. The bill's supporters fear a conference might prove futile.

At the White House, President Bush remained officially non-committal about whether to sign or veto the bill, although several aides said he believes he will sign it. Some aspects of the bill please the president, while others do not, and White House press secretary Ari Fleischer. "The president is ultimately the process is moving forward and the president is pleased," he said.

Booed by House approval of the bill at 2:43 a.m. Thursday after a grueling 16-hour session, Daschle told reporters he will bring up the measure for a Senate vote the minute it arrives from the House. House leaders indicated they would be ready to vote now, transmission next week, moving the bill to the Senate, which must act before the bill returns the week of Feb. 25 from Congress' Presidents Day recess.

Daschle vowed an all-out fight to overcome any delaying tactics. He claimed to have picked up at least one vote, putting supporters within reach of the 60 needed to break a filibuster. A filibuster is a delaying tactic meant to kill a measure without bringing it to a vote.

A slightly different version of the legislation got 59 Senate votes last year, and Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., one of three Democrats who had voted against it - said Thursday he will vote to end any filibuster. Another, John Breaux (La.), said he was restoring judgment. The third, Ben Nelson (Neb.), said he would support a filibuster.

By By Nikki Prive

Historic Snow

This coming weekend has had a lively history of snow for Boston. In 1940, the "Valentine's Day Storm" dumped 14 inches (36 cm) of snow on the city, while in 1958, strong winds and snow brought almost 20 inches (51 cm) of snow to Boston and paralyzed much of the East Coast, causing $500 million in damages. Fortunately, this coming weekend looks to be much more pleasant, although there is the possibility of some rain on Saturday.

The region of high pressure that brought cold temperatures earlier this week will move out to sea today, and winds from the southwest will bring warmer temperatures after this. However, the wind chill will keep the cold feel to it. The National Weather Service models show a high of 86° F at 11 p.m. on the mid-Atlantic on Saturday and then moving northward over New England. This will bring clouds and some rain to the area during the day.

The storm system will swing to the north late on Saturday, and cold northwest winds will keep Sunday chilly.
Whistle-Blowers Say Managers Kept Enron CEO Lay in Dark

By Elaine S. Povich

WASHINGTON

Enron whistle-blower Sherron Watkins Thursday painted a picture of duplicity and deceit at the once high-flying energy giant that has caused the House of Representatives investigators that two top company officials kept them-from-examining documentary evidence about improper partnerships that hid money from Enron's books.

Watkins, who wrote an August 2001 memo to Lay that said the company's behavior was "dramatically different" from that of other major energy companies, delivered her testimony at a hearing held by Lay on Aug. 22 to discuss her concerns. She found him too trusting of his two top executives, Jeffery Skilling and Andrew Fastow.

"I doubt he believed that Mr. Skilling and Mr. Fastow ... did dupe Ken Lay and him," Watkins testified. "It was my humble opinion that he did not understand the gravity of the situation." Watkins charged that former chief operating officer Skilling, in particular, knew all the details of the off-the-books, possibly illegal partnerships that were hiding the true extent of Enron's mounting debt. She directly challenged that Skilling had lied before the subcommittee last week.

Watkins testified that he didn't know anything about the partnership before he spoke to Lay, but Fastow, 42, testified that it was company practice for Fastow to sign off on transactions involving the partnerships. Watkins testified that he didn't even know Fastow's name before Lay had him sign documents to change his signature to a forgery and didn't have to sign them.

Bruce Hiler, an attorney for Skilling, said in a statement that Watkins' testimony "about my client is either based on hearsay, rumor or hearsay." He said he didn't speak to his client; she has no basis in fact for her views. Ms. Watkins is certainly entitled to her own opinion, but she is not entitled to her own facts," the statement read.

Watkins, an Enron vice president, and going public with her concern costs her in terms of her position at the company. She said that when she told Fastow that she wanted to have me fired. He wanted to get me fired. He wanted to get me fired," Watkins said she was fired from her job in the accounting department and removed as much data from her computer as she could.

Committee members, including Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Joe Hillary航天 R. La., advised Watkins that if she was threatened in any way in the future the committee would make sure she let them know. The panel is one of the few panels of congressmen or any other concerned citizen in the Enron bankruptcy, which cost employees and investors millions of dollars.

Lay invoked his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination in refusing to testify at a Senate committee Tuesday. Watkins is the second top Enron managers to testify so far.

Bush Presents Greenhouse Gas Plan

To Give Tax Incentives for Reductions

By Eric Planin

WASHINGTON

President Bush Thursday for the first time outlined an aspirational and descriptive description of his vision for combating global warming, one that would gradually phase out carbon emissions by relying more on voluntary efforts and market forces than on mandatory restrictions.

The speech, delivered shortly before he left for a weekend spent for a lengthy swing through Asia, was aimed at addressing rising concern overseas and on Capitol Hill that the United States had shrunk its responsibility for dealing with a threat that contributes to environmental problems on a global scale.

The president called for a voluntary approach to cutting greenhouse gases and pointed forward to a legislative approach to curbing emissions over the next five years for research and to encourage voluntary reductions by individuals and manufacturers.

Bush also vowed to take "the most significant step America has ever taken" to cut power plant emissions of other pollutants, including sulfur dioxide and mercury, that are major factors in urban smog, acid rain and asthma.

The president said his approach would result in reductions of greenhouse gas emissions at current levels by two-thirds to three-quarters over the next ten years, but some environmental groups disputed those claims and warned that the reductions may be less than what could be achieved under legally binding rules.

The speech drew largely predictable responses, with industry groups including the Edison Electric Institute, the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Mining Association, praising the president for bold leadership and a flexible approach.

Powell's Advocacy of Condom Use Has Religious Right Fuming

WASHINGTON

Secretary of State Colin Powell strongly advocated condom use to prevent the spread of AIDS Thursday, setting himself apart from President Bush's views on sex education and angering some of the president's closest supporters on the policy.

"It is important that the whole international community come together, speak candidly about it, forget about taboos, forget about conservatism," Powell said in a speech. "What you are telling young people about." Powell told an MTV audience. "It's the lives of young people that are at risk by unsafe sex. And, therefore, protect yourself." Powell's remarks, aired last night on MTV and scheduled for rebroadcast around the globe, are consistent with U.S. support of international AIDS prevention programs. But they appeared to diverge from the message delivered by the president and other administration officials that abstinence from unmarred sex is the principal weapon against the spread of the deadly human immunodeficiency virus.

The secretary of state's comments prompted a round of boos and cheers. [column continues]

Trouble Is Calling for 'Miss Cleo'

The static on the psychic lines Miss Cleo promotes increased significantly Thursday; a federal agency announced a consumer-protection suit against the companies she represents.

The Federal Trade Commission didn't name Miss Cleo as a defendant, but Florida Attorney General Bob Butterworth did in a civil suit filed Thursday, identifying her as Youree Harris of Davie, Fla. The FTC civil suit filed in U.S. District Court in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., seeking a temporary restraining order and consumer refunds, charges Psychic Readers Network Inc., and Access Resource Services with deceptive advertising. The "psy-chic" services are heavily promoted on the Internet and television.

"This is an operation that appears to be fraudulent from start to finish," said J. Howard Heaslev, director of the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection. "It starts with a fraudulent promise of a free reading, continues with lies that you won't be charged while the meter is running and ends with misrepresentations in billing and collections.

"Miss Cleo," he said, "is just a spokesperson, the way we see it." The FTC suit said that many of the ads for Miss Cleo are illegally forming readings and giving advice on everything from personal finances to relationships. Beales said the psychic service probably has had about 6 million customers within the past two years.

In a statement, a law firm for Access Resource Services agreed that the business is "Better known for its spokesperson, Miss Cleo," but denied the FTC charges.

2002 Winter Olympic Games

Medal Standings

Source: <espn.go.com>
Letters To The Editor

The Shin Lawsuit And the Media

Your analysis on Friday ["Shin Family Lawyer subpoenas Students," Feb. 8] of the lawsuit filed by the parents of Elizabeth Shin against MIT may inadvertently have left the false impression that MIT or we, as its counsel, disclosed Ms. Shin's medical or psychiatric records to the press. Neither MIT nor we did so.

After The Tech's article appeared, I spoke with the Shin's attorney, and he confirmed that they had given the media a CD-ROM with certain of her medical records on it, including her records from the MIT Medical Department. He said that a discharge summary from McLean Hospital, the psychiatric hospital, was in those MIT records, and that he believed it was that record, possessed by the Shin's attorney, that was the source of the information quoted in The Boston Globe that Ms. Shin "had suffered from serious emotional problems that began at least as early as high school." I explained to him that the Globe article had omitted the portion of my statement to the press on behalf of MIT that explained that this information came to MIT from the family's lawyer.

The confusion surrounding these matters only confirms that the facts about Ms. Shin's case should be developed in court in the proper forum, and not in the media.

Jeffrey Swope

Palmer & Dodge LLP

Krueger Also Blamed

In his recent guest column ["Unfair Attacks On Shin," Feb. 8], Peter Jung says the following: "It's funny that I never read anything about personal or parental responsibility during the Krueger aftermath."

It sounds funny to me, too. Were Jung and I living on different planets? I read about Krueger's (and the Kruegers') responsibility in campus publications, on various e-mail lists, and even on forums.mit.edu. Since Jung's column appeared in The Tech, I will assume he reads The Tech at least occasionally. A brief look at the results of a search on "Krueger" on The Tech's web site reveals that at least four people commented on the subject there, in letters running under pretty clear titles, such as "Krueger's Personal Responsibility" and "The Responsibility of Krueger's Parents."

I understand that this is tangential to the Shin discussion, but if Jung has to ask where the outrage was in the Krueger aftermath, he wasn't paying attention.

Laura Dean G
Supporting Sanctions On Iraq

Dan Torricere

Before Sept. 11, support for the Iraqi sanctions seemed to be dwindling. More and more Americans were becoming aware of the suffering of innocent Iraqi people and questioning the efficacy of the sanctions. But in the desire for revenge post Sept. 11, this growing voice has gone silent. While this voice may have quitted for the wrong reasons, I believe the American people, now more supporting of sanctions, are moving in the right direction.

The Iraqi sanctions are necessary for the protection of our country and its citizens. This the sanctions, while killing millions of innocent people, have not been successful in removing Saddam Hussein from power. This is probably the best example of this fact. But it is clearly equally clear that sanctions make a country poorer than it would be without the embargo. Making Iraq poor, unfortunately must be a goal, not result in ousting leaders from power; Castro and some of its citizens prosperous.

If some Saudis were willing to fund terrorism against the United States, how much more likely are we to find Iraqis willing as well? Are we to pump our money into their economy when some of the funds are likely to be used for our destruction?

Now I doubt that Saudi Arabian citizens have a much deeper hatred for the United States than does the rest of the Muslim world. But what these citizens do have is money, vast wealth created from 50 years of oil trade with the Western world. The oil industry brought riches to the dozens of Saudi Arabia, creating even more industries and more wealth and wealthy citizens. And some of these citizens decided to use their money to kill American people.

If Saudi Arabia became an affluent country, so could Iraq. Granted Iraq has only half the oil reserves of Saudi Arabia, but they have the world’s second largest amount of oil. The Iraqi sanctions are necessary for the protection of our country and its citizens. The history of Valentine’s Day is in fact a fascinating story, filled with love and romance. But let us not forget what the day has now been made independent of both biology and altruism. The idea that the celebration is purely about love has become drowned in a sea of heart-shaped candies. If anything, the leads of love in all its forms should be upheld year round. However, if we were to seriously believe that all people were capable of being respectful and loving to one another all the time (which is the basis for true love in all its forms) then I’d be in a dream world. But even so, love is made by the pursuit of dreams.

So I say go back to biology. Buy flowers or chocolates year round for those people you care deeply about, and hug or compliment the rest on a regular basis. And when the warm weather hits, embrace your hormones. And for those who wish to make the day an homage to love and romance. But this leaves me equally unsatisfied, since it seems that the day has now been made independent of both biology and altruism.

I do not doubt the genuine motives of those who wish to make the day an homage to love and romance. But this leaves me equally unsatisfied, since it seems that the day has now been made independent of both biology and altruism. The idea that the celebration is purely about love has become drowned in a sea of heart-shaped candies. If anything, the leads of love in all its forms should be upheld year round. However, if we were to seriously believe that all people were capable of being respectful and loving to one another all the time (which is the basis for true love in all its forms) then I’d be in a dream world. But even so, love is made by the pursuit of dreams. So I say go back to biology. Now that it’s past, forget about Valentine’s Day but not your Valentines. Buy flowers or chocolates year round for those people you care deeply about, and hug or compliment the rest on a regular basis. And when the warm weather hits as it will no doubt do several times in the next two months, embrace your hormones. For while they may not have the power to make you love your neighbor or prospective spouse, they do make a wonderful bouquet, card, or gift that they’ll make you love life.

Andrew C. Thomas is a member of the class of 2004.
the crass rat

WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED TO YOU?

I WAS TOO SCARED TO ASK OUT NANCY ON VALENTINE'S DAY...

EATING CHOCOLATE CAN'T SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS

THE RUN Filled KIND CAN.

INTEGRAL FORCE

SCALAR - YOU NEED TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE.

WE DON'T NEED TO BE SEEN - WE DON'T WANT TO BE SEEN.

I GET IT.

AHWONG

SHUT UP!

However...

and he's male, AND it turns out, he ISN'T gay! none of them are, ok?

Ohhh, hmmm..... no.

Oh, come on, I know, I'd do it if I could.

Ten bus!!!

T - Ten bus? T - Ten bus? It's ridiculous, I don't have a ten bus!!!

Fine, Paul, I'm close, don't worry.

ok, go to the tree lab and meet me, will know who he is - they don't know who he is, he needs all Athens, red and when he goes, we need 2 size 4 numbers 2 3,2, 070. He went to see you. I know it's asking too much, but I'll tell u... don't think you'll get there, oh...
Overheard.
Events Calendar

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

Friday, February 15

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Spring 2002 UROP Direct Funding Deadlines. All students requesting UROP Direct Funding (funding provided by the UROP office) for spring 2002 UROP must submit proposals and signed documents by the Office in Room 7-150 by 5 p.m. today. Free. Room 7-104. Academic Resource Center, UROP.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Workshop: المشهد في البلد. Schedule and new students will be introduced. Participants will be given a list of what is offered and ask questions. Free. Room: W36-101. Sponsor: Information Systems.


3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Seminar: Frankel's Theorem: Connections to Codes. Presented by D. V. Beresteyn. Free. Room: Room 1-131. Sponsor: Department of Mathematics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Student Poster Session. Free. Room: 56-110. Sponsor: Department of Mathematics.

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Welcome Reception for Spring 2002 UROP Participants. Free. Room: Room 1-131. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center, UROP.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Behind Enemy Lines. $3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, February 16

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Behind Enemy Lines. $3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Sunday, February 17

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Behind Enemy Lines. $3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
The Arts

FEBRUARY 15 - 22

Carnegie Hall
154 W 76th St., New York, 212/247-7800
Performances at Symphony Hall, 211 Prudential Tower, Boston.
Concerts at the Tsongas Center, Lowell. Call 369-3770.

Ode to the River
Sundays and Tuesdays

The Gods and Heroes of the Iliad
Greek Film Series

The Arts on the Green

CHROMES Y Skybar.

with Avalon.

the lives of the saints, and his
dead tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m.; "Euro-

Walks" begin at 2:30 p.m.; "Euro-

Walks" begin at 12:30 p.m.; "Euro-

including Kristen Scott Thomas, Lily

and the intensely difficult decision
to leave his only child

at the notorious - Orteans

who make a daily tour of the
danced in.

to leave his only child

the intensely difficult decision
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Other
The Film of Frederick Wiseman
The Museum of Fine Arts offers a screening of Frederick Wiseman's film In Jackson Square (1996), with a Q&A following the screening. The museum will also host a screening of Wiseman's film Night Work (2004), with a Q&A following the screening. Both screenings are free and open to the public. For more information, call 426-7000.

Harvard Film Archive
405 Huntington Ave., Boston, (617) 324-2050, admission varies. For more information, visit <http://www.hanrardfilmarchive.org>.

March 23
Mo`olele Hawaiian Dance Company presents a free community event at the Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston.

The Theater

The Playhouse
555 Columbus Ave., Boston, 617/491-7689, <http://www.celebrityseries.org>
Ticketmaster, please call 369-3770.

The City Theater
Ticketmaster, please call 369-3770.

The City Theater
Ticketmaster, please call 369-3770.

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Harvard Looking to Revise Grading, Honors Policy

By Brian Loux

In the film With Honors, a Harvard student works his tail off in hopes of getting a Harvard diploma “with honors,” but in the end, he fails short of his goal. Of course, life is never like the movies. In reality, he would have almost certainly received his Harvard degree with honors, along with 91 percent of his fellow classmates. National media scrutiny over this fact has pushed the Harvard community to make a panicked rush for grade reform. Harvard administrators and faculty are hoping to alter the school’s grading policy to stop what has widely been termed as an inflation of student grades.

Today, all departments of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard will submit grading practice summaries to the Educational Policy Committee, which will use them to determine how to make grades less skewed towards higher letters. The committee is expected to form policies by the end of Harvard’s spring term.

“Fundamentally, the EPC sees the grade as a pedagogical tool—a tool that both distinguishes between work of differing quality and motivates all students to work their hardest,” said Andrea Shen, a member of the Harvard News Office.

Recent reports show that Harvard student grades are at their highest ever, with half of all undergraduates getting either an “A−” or “A.” At the meeting of the Committee on Undergraduate Education on Jan. 90, a proposal was made to eliminate the “cum laude” honor for general studies, which was awarded to over 25 percent of Harvard graduates last year. The meeting also discussed the current status of grade inflation.

In addition to a massive volition to reform policy, some students have said that because of the debates and media focus, some professors have vowed to grade harsher in the future regardless of what formal reforms take place.

Students oppose faculty opinion
While most students feel unsettled about the large numbers of their schoolmates graduating with honors, many disagree with the notion that grade inflation is a serious problem. In a recent poll administered by The Crimson, a student newspaper at Harvard, fewer than 25 percent of Harvard students felt that grade inflation was significant enough to warrant an administrative response.

“At a school with a cut-throat admissions department that only accepts about 10 percent of its applicant pool and maintains an average incoming SAT score of over 1500, it is not at all surprising that a large percentage of the student body might submit high-quality work on a regular basis,” wrote Arianna R. Cohen in an editorial for The Crimson. “Students should receive the grades they deserve. If half those grades are ‘A’s, so be it.”

“I hear both from The Crimson and people here that most are against changing policy, so I am in the minority here,” said Harvard sophomore Margaret B. Hopkin, who said she was amazed that other students are not behind grade reformation. “If you compare grades to 20 years ago, they are much higher. ... It would be much more interesting to work in an environment that reflects the quality of your work,” Hoppin said. “I think the system would be so much more effective for us, our employers, and our parents if we changed this.”

Grade inflation hard to change
Many proponents of grade reform cite “grade compression,” or limiting grades to a range of “A” to “B−,” as detrimental because it negates the value and purpose of rated work.

“The range of a legitimate grade is ‘A’ to ‘A−’—where in other countries the range would also include ‘C’ and ‘D’,” said William G. Redwine, a member of MIT’s Academic Council. “In European school is something that does not equate to total failure, yet ‘C’s are hard to come by here,” Hopkin said.

Sorenson said that stricter standards and grading curves will hurt the students who are familiar with the present system. “If the grades change now and the mentality stays the same, the competition would rise, and it would be bad for the first round of students.”

Presumably, a change in grading policy will cause a change in the number of degrees given with hon- ors. Since Harvard has a multi-disciplinary system, on one level, one can receive an honors degree in his or her concentration. However, it is also possible to graduate with honors based on overall grade point average, which is a broader honors degree.

Many are upset that this yields too high a percentage of students and belittles the achievements of those who excel in their concentration. Faculty members continue to discuss honors degrees and the criteria for such a degree at Harvard, Shen said. “They will continue in serious consideration of this matter as this semester unfolds.”

Harvard students against honors
Student opinion on this issue is also split here at MIT, though most students are against the way things presently worked at Harvard.

If they’re going to use the honors system, they need to make it mean something,” said Chuck J. Ray, Jr. Othergons agree with most Harvard students. “I don’t know that anyone should fail a class when they go to Harvard because they have been working hard since high school,” said Amanda R. Sorrenson ’04. “Har- vard has to keep producing top-notch students. Perhaps they should use objective tests to see how students are performing.”

“Like that MIT does not have an honors diploma,” Ray said. “It is already a competitive school. To make students compete even more would be the good.”

By long tradition MIT has not honors degree,” said Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine. “An MIT degree in an honor by itself, and we encourage our students to view other students as colleagues in learning and not rivals.”

Raj said that an altered honors diploma might work for MIT. “Maybe there could be one here,” he said, “but only for the very elite well rounded kids who have also done community service and extracurricular activities.”

Sorenson disagreed, saying that the grades our students receive “do not equate to total failure, yet ‘C’s are hard to come by here,” Hopkin said.

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By Keith J. Weinstein

Akamai Technologies Inc. and MIT have sued Speedera Networks Inc. of Santa Clara, Calif. on Feb. 4, the federal complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. The complaint alleges that Speedera's "Universal Delivery Network," infringes on an MIT-owned patent exclusively licensed to Akamai and used by its "Proximity" product, the site's income server, and its 18-month-old federal lawsuit against Digital Island.

"We intend to vigorously defend against these complaints," Smith said, pointing to a Dec. 6, 2000 article in an industry newsletter brought to court by ComputerWire as the source of the dispute.

"In the article, Smith is quoted indirectly as saying that "30 former Akamai customers have moved to Speedera in the last 12 months," naming iFilm Corp. as its only example.

A spokesperson for Akamai is quoted as replying that he was "not aware of any customers lost to Speedera," and that rather than Akamai having "lost" film, the company had instead chosen not to renew its contract with Akamai after it expired.

"I don't think that means a very common sense definition of what losing a customer means," said Smith.

Akamai and MIT seek an injunction against Speedera for forfeit from infringing the patents, monetary damages for past infringement, and triple the profits Speedera allegedly incurred as a result of its unfair competition and false advertising.

Sony, IBM, Lotus sued dropped MIT's patent infringement lawsuit against Sony Electronics Inc. on Feb. 7, which was set to return in ten minutes to file an answer to MIT's complaint. MIT had filed the lawsuit on Aug. 23, 2001, asserting that Sony was infringing four MIT-owned patents believed to be necessary to implement the U.S. digital television standard.

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Ian S. Lim '74 is listed as the inventor on the four patents.

MIT was a member of the "Grand Alliance" which designed the new television standard in the mid-1990s.

The lawsuit appeared to follow a pattern established by previous MIT lawsuits regarding the same four patents.

In nearly-identical complaints against Sharp Electronics Inc. in October 2000 and against Toshiba America Inc. in April 2001, MIT dropped the lawsuit after reaching licensing agreements with the companies. MIT spokesman Robert Sales told The Associated Press in August 2001.

However, it was not immediately clear that a licensing agreement has also been reached in this case.

In unrelated matters, MIT and Electronics for Imaging Inc. dropped their patent infringement complaints against IBM Corp. and Lotus Development Corp. on Jan. 9 and Jan. 14, 2002, respectively. Lotus is a subsidiary of IBM.

The lawsuits, which were filed on Dec. 29, 2001, continue against 90 other companies on complaints of infringement of a 1992 MIT-owned patent, "Color reproduction system."

It was again not immediately clear whether the complaints were dropped because IBM and Lotus had reached a licensing agreement. A representative of Electronics for Imaging did not return calls seeking comment.

Laura Stuart of MIT Medical explains the use of dental dams to Joan Decker G. Health Education Open from 7 am to Midnight Monday through Saturday and 8 am to 11 pm on Sundays.

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Coop Student Board Election Update

The following student Coop members have been nominated by the Stockholders as candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2002-03 academic year.

M.I.T. UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS:
- Michael Levinson
- Pius Utumuru
- Paul Konorowicz

HARVARD UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:
- Walter Bell
- Thao Dua
- Virginia Merson

HARVARD GRADUATE STUDENTS:
- Yair Hadari
- Rodrigo Ravelo

For Information call or email:
- Allan Powell, 499-2025
- apowell@mit.edu

Any student Coop member may still petition to be on the ballot. Petition papers are available at the customer service desks at all Coop locations or at the Members Services Office, 4th floor, Harvard Square Bookstore, Monday thru Friday, 9am-5pm.

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McDonald’s Sending Student to Olympics

Olympics, from Page 1

ability,” Royer said.

Dara T. Jeffries ’02, co-captain of the MIT women’s ice hockey team, described Pachkevitch as “tough, honest, intimidating, very good, a friend off the ice, and a coach on the ice.”

“She is just the greatest coach I’ve ever had,” Jeffries said. “[Pachkevitch] does all for the sheer love of the game.”

Team members no small fliers

Fitzmaurice said that qualifying for the McDonald’s Olympic team was no easy feat. “It was a pretty extensive application process,” Fitzmaurice said.

He received the news that he was going to the Olympics during Rush this past fall. McDonald’s is sending four hundred of its finest to staff five restaurants in Salt Lake City for the duration of the games.

McDonald’s is paying for his flight, lodging, and also for tickets to Olympic events. Fitzmaurice left for Salt Lake City this past Wednesday and will return on Feb. 26.

Fitzmaurice has been working for McDonald’s since he was sixteen. “It was my first summer job, and I’ve been working [on and off] for five years since then,” Fitzmaurice said.

This past summer, Fitzmaurice took a technical job in Boston during the week, but committed to his home in New Hampshire on the weekends to work at McDonald’s.

“I’ve said goodbye a few times, but for some reason I keep coming back,” Fitzmaurice said. “I really enjoy the company of the people that I work with.”

Fitzmaurice says that he will try to maintain his studies while in Salt Lake City. “Fortunately my professors have been very accommodating,” Fitzmaurice said. “They recognize this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

He has taken extra measures this term to be able to keep up with his classes while he is away. “I got my problem sets early, and this is the first term that I bought all my textbooks,” Fitzmaurice said. “I’m going to read on the plane and mail my problem sets home.”

Students run Olympic technology

Yu is an Assistant Venue Information Services Manager at Soldier Hollow, the venue for biathlon, cross-country, and Nordic Olympic events.

“My work group is basically responsible for the technology behind the Olympics like timing and scoring, the data feed, and even the administrative computers,” Yu said.

Working behind the scenes at the games, Yu has many perks for Yu and her co-workers.

“Because of my accreditation, I am able to access more areas than the spectators,” Yu said. “For example, yesterday during the women’s 7.5K biathlon, I was able to stand about fifteen feet behind the shooters and watch them hit the targets.”

“I also like to hang out at the finish line during cross country races,” Yu said.

She has had many unique opportunities to experience the Olympics up close. Yu watched the dress rehearsal of the opening ceremony and also sees athletes on a daily basis.

“I am able to access the athlete, press, and broadcast areas, but I think it’s better to give [the athletes] their own space — I usually just say hello when I’m around them,” Yu said.

She feels that her professors have also been very accommodating to her situation, but admits that there will be a lot of work to make up when she gets back to MIT.

“Since I came out during final exam week for training, I missed my 15.501 final, so I have to take that when I get back,” Yu said. “I’ll definitely hit the ground running when I get back to Boston.”

Huang received his MEng this past December and is a Technical Services Supervisor (TSS) at the Peaks ice Arena which hosts some Olympic hockey matches.

“I pretty much provide tech support and oversee a group of volunteers who work the IS Help Desk, which includes answering phones and troubleshooting computer-related problems,” Huang said.

He is also enjoying his time in Salt Lake City away from the games. “I try to go snowboarding whenever I get a chance,” Huang said. “The snow here is great and there’s some awesome terrain to ride.”

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Scott Adams Discusses Dilbert, New Comic and Book Projects

Scott Adams, from Page 1

of me in all of them, like Dogbert.

The Tech: Do Dogbert and the other non-humans reflect your views on animals?

Adams: Well, Cubert does. I’m a cat owner and as the head of Human Resources, a cat doesn’t care if you live or die. That was a good blend of career and animal.

The Tech: If Dilbert married any female cartoon character, what would it be?

Adams: I think Broom Hilda is about as good as he could get. But he’d be holding out for Blondie. Ah, Blondie. The best female comic strip character ever made. At least the most well-proportioned.

The Tech: Speaking of which, some women in the department want to know why Dilbert’s tie sticks up.

Adams: The women always want to know that. He’s either glad to see you or an ironing mishap. You call.

The Tech: Often times you have a series of strips that break from the pace of the usual ones. Have you ever thought about doing a spin-off strip, or an entirely different one?

Adams: It was only a project I was doing with my readers and I just wanted to see where it went. But I’m doing it look right now so it’s just on hold.

The Tech: What did you feel the reader’s response was to the TV show on UPN?

Adams: It depends. I felt the first few shows of “Dilbert” were [the same as] the first few shows that you grew to love like “The Simpsons” and “Seinfeld.” They all really sucked. They didn’t even deserve to be aired. But once their writers got into a groove the series began to improve dramatically. I think we had the same thing going. We became rather successful during the second season, but we moved nights and people really just weren’t interested in finding the show anymore.

The Tech: What are you up to these days?

Adams: I currently own a restaurant and am building a second one right now. It is called Staci’s Cafe. And then I’m promoting the Dilberts. Finally there’s the book I’m writing, God’s Debris is the first one. Dilbert book I’ve done. It’s not a regular book; it’s a thought experiment as I like to call it. Since I’m a trained hypnotist, I tried to write a book to screw with people’s heads. What I’ve gathered from test audiences is that it will either freak you out or make you very angry at me, which is a good sign. It’s part science and part religion. None of it is right, it’s just for you to figure out what’s working.

The Tech: Does being a popular cartoonist noticeably increase your chances with women?

Adams: Not according to my girlfriend. I’m in a long term relationship, so I can’t say that I enjoy the cartoonist groups if such things exist.

The Tech: Are there any strips you look to for inspiration?

Adams: Not inspiration, really. Nothing is really similar enough to the strip. When I was young, I was inspired by strips like Doonesbury, Mad Magazine, and Peanuts. It’s pretty good not to look at other comics when you write them. If you really like a joke, it could be the idea you have that afternoon may have come from the morning paper.

The Tech: So are there any strips that you admire?

Adams: Yeah. Most of the ones I like are new or recent. I’m a fan of Pearls Before Swine, Get Fuzzy, and Randolph Itch 2 a.m.

The Tech: When you sit down to write, do you feel like you are being funny or like you are being a vengeful cynic?

Adams: A little of both. Honestly, there’s nothing better than being angry for a strip. I’ve always said that as a cartoonist, there will never be a completely bad day because the guy that screws you over the night before becomes your fodder for the next morning. All in all that’s a wonderful feeling.

The Tech: Estimate the percentage of this year’s MIT graduates that are satisfied work-life engineers.

Adams: I’d say half of the people that become engineers. See, half is one of those fractions that doesn’t scare anybody. They always think they’re going to be in the other half so they don’t fear whatever it is. That’s why people still get married today.

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Munhoo Sohn ’04 drops a superball from the third floor of Lobby 7 to her partner Danielle S. Chou ’04, standing below. The drop was part of a Systems, Modeling and Dynamics (2.004) lab in which students measure the trajectories of different balls dropped from various heights in order to develop models of the balls.
Xue'en Yang admires the roses at the flower booth in the Student Center on Thursday. Peter Medaglia of Gold Medal Growers has been setting up his booth in the Student Center on Valentine's Day for the past eight years.

Course X, from Page 1

men that this course was created to make the introduction to Course X more palatable to freshmen," said Candace Jantzen-Marson '95. "The professor is really welcoming, and he seems very approachable."

Bio requirement added for grade

Course X graduate requirements are also changing this year, with the addition of a biology requirement. Green said that the requirement was added since graduate students in Course X often come from schools without an undergraduate biology requirement. "Biology is a big part of chemical engineering," Green said. "About one third of the field is related to biological things."

However, at least one student disagreed with Green's assessment. April Ross G, a third-year graduate student in Course X, said that she considered a biology requirement unnecessary for graduate students. "It depends on what you research," Ross said. "Biology is not in every part of chemical engineering." Green said the requirement can be fulfilled with a number of classes, including Introductory Biology (available as 7.012, 7.013, and 7.014).

In addition, Course X PhD candidates will be required to take Numerical Methods Applied to Chemical Engineering (10.34) starting next year. Ross said she thought the new math requirement was "a good idea."
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X-NELO

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WHERE: La Sala de Puerto Rico, 2nd floor of the student center

WHEN: Tuesday February 19th, 1-4pm

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Interested? Send your resume and/or questions to: olc-hiring@mit.edu

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<td>Ms. Peggy Garlick</td>
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* If your department is not listed above, please contact cmi@mit.edu or see the CMI Exchange Program Coordinator, Jason Shumaker, in 7-133.
To qualify, you will help Confidential screening, minor donation. The ideal candidate is a Special woman for anonymous Egg Infertile couple is seeking a person with the greatest of ease, winning 9-5, 9-2, 9-2. Sarun was tested slightly more rigorously and needed four games to dispose of his foe by a score of 9-6, 9-3, 9-5. After crushing through his first two games (9-5, 9-4), Goaum slumped in the following two games, losing by scores of 8-10 and 3-9, and he was forced to play a fifth game. He slammed the door in the deciding game, winning by a healthy margin of 9-2.

Despite the fine performances by the top seeds, MIT lost the overall match because none of the lower six seeds could muster a win.

Top line strong against Tufts Against Tufts, six of the nine players claimed their victories in only three-games. Five of those six players yielded fewer than ten points to their opponents. Captain Robert A. Finn '02 and Bradbury led the way by allowing only six points from their Tufts competitors. Their scores were 9-3, 9-2, 9-1 and 9-3, 9-1, 9-2, respectively. Topensed Sarun won 9-4, 9-2, 9-7, seventh seed Rita E. Monson '04 won 9-5, 9-2, 9-2, and eighth seed Rodney E. Huang '03 won 9-4, 9-3, 9-2. Third-seeded Goaum added the other three game wins with a score of 9-5, 9-7, 9-6.

Uncanny come back for MIT Perhaps the most unexpected match of the Tufts blowout came at the sixth seed. Robert A. Aronstam '02 came into the match with only one win on the season, against a far inferior Fordham squad. Aronstam's match against Tufts began similarly as many of his previous losses had, with two weakly contested games.

Entering the third game, he was faced with a 3-9, 5-9 deficit. Aided by a miraculous change in momentum, Aronstam rebounded to take the final three games by scores of 9-7, 9-3, and 9-3. Aronstam's five-game win was the first of his career, but only one of three five-game wins for MIT over Tufts. The other two five-games came from Wesley O. Jim '05 and Simon C. Adelman '05. Jim and Adelman won by scores of 6-9, 9-0, 6-9, 9-7, 9-2, 9-1, and 6-9, 5-9, 9-7, 9-2, respectively. Steve S. Liu '04 won his match in four games, with a score of 9-7, 5-9, 9-4.

ITNM Nordic Team hosts Invitational By Timothy G. Garnett SUPERIOR, Wis. - Last weekend the MIT Nordic Ski Team hosted an invitational two-day meet at Prospect Mountain, Vermont. Although the MIT men recorded no team scores for a lack of a third member, the women's team placed third overall.

Saturday morning's 10km skate technique race featured moderately hilly terrain on two laps of a 5.5km course. The MIT skiers started slow, but came on strong during the second lap. The MIT team members posting negative splits on the second lap. MIT's Timothy G. Garnett '03 and Karl-Mangus W. McLeitch '02 finished fifth and 11th respectively, but lacked a third person needed for a team score. The MIT women placed a strong third with Marissa L. Yates '03 taking fourth, Ivana Medos '03 taking 13th, and Aleksandra M. Sabeli '03 taking 16th.

MIT's Adam J. Gibbons '05 nalls a three-pointer during Tuesday night's 78-73 win over Wheaton College.