**Iranian MIT Students Register with INS**

By Jenny Zhang

Seven Iranian MIT students went to the John F. Kennedy Federal Building in Boston to undergo registration with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service yesterday. Students reported varying degrees of questioning from the INS. Mehdi Yahyaejad G was asked for a United States contact, driver’s license, and social security number. “They were not very invasive with me,” he said. “I think that people were treated differently based on English proficiency.” Hazhir Rahmandad G went to the INS last Wednesday. During the interview, he was asked personal information such as his cell phone number, contacts in the United States, relatives’ addresses, and social security number.

“They asked other things such as what airline and flight I used to enter the U.S.” he said. “If I couldn’t answer some things, they did not push. They were very polite.”

The interviewer also requested very private information such as his credit card number, and even looked at his wallet for numbers on other cards. “I’m uncomfortable with the fact that they have this information about me. I don’t know where it will be and how it will be used,” Rahmandad said. Mehdi Alighanbari G also said his wallet was searched.

Students have mixed feelings

Some students find the entire process wrong and are unhappy with the singling out of certain countries and invasiveness of some interviews. Others think that there is some use to it.

“This is unfair, and it won’t prevent anything,” said Peyman Khor.

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**Thanksgiving Means It’s Time for Travel, Turkey**

By Beckett W. Sterner

Three days can seem like an eternity right before Thanksgiving break, made worse by the fact that many of us already have tickets to freedom — anywhere off campus.

Some had the foresight to buy early and cheap, while others are piecing together plans at the very last moment. Margaux S. Randolph ‘04 is one of the unlucky ones stuck on campus. She said she was staying here because of a late attempt to buy tickets and the consequent lack of money to pay for them. Luckily for her, all of her work is due the Thursday and Friday of next week, so she said, “I’ll find some stuff to do.”

For some, the idea of Thanksgiving is deeply tied to the image of a juicy, lightly-browned turkey, while for others the chance to visit parents and old friends is just as valuable.

Heading home to New York early, Kelvin Chan G said that he has “tied up all the loose ends” and so will punt his full schedule of Wednesday classes and leave on Thanksgiving.

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**Colleges Collaborate on Alcohol Abuse**

By Nathan Collins

MIT recently signed an agreement to work with 47 other Massachusetts colleges and universities, but the agreement serves merely for guidance and does not bind MIT to any action.

The Massachusetts Statewide College and University Coalition on Underage and Problem Drinking "will use the Action Plan developed by its members as a guideline," and "commit to address issues of alcohol abuse," according to the agreement, called the "Commitment to Collaboration." Member schools will also "explore prevention steps appropriate for each campus" and share successful strategies.

Agreement non-binding

Massachusetts schools are "committing to work together," said Daniel Trujillo, associate dean for alcohol education and community development, but they are not bound to the Action Plan. However, the "Commitment to Collaboration." Member schools will also "explore prevention steps appropriate for each campus" and share successful strategies.
Bush Signs Bill, Creates New Dept. of Homeland Security

By John Miotz

WASHINGTON

President Bush Monday signed into law the long-awaited bill to create a new Department of Homeland Security, the cabinet level superagency that will bring all 22 separate federal agencies to bear on combating terrorism, and named former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge as its secretary.

Bush nominated two other senior members of his administration to join Ridge in the new agency: Navy Secretary Gordon England to be Ridge’s deputy secretary; and Asia Hutchinson, currently the administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and formerly an Arkansas congresswoman, to head the division that oversees border and transportation security.

Bush initially resisted calls to establish a homeland security department, but changed his mind last summer as congressional pressure grew and as criticism mounted of the performance of the CIA and FBI before the Sept. 11 attacks.

Ridge will take office on Jan. 24 and begin appointing top subordinate, and on March 1 a number of the component agencies will be transferred into the new department. All the agencies will be merged into the department by Sept. 30, 2003.

The goal was to put all investors on equal footing rather than let some be put out of business, McNulty, and to Raytheon Co. and its chief financial officer, Greg Lawson, and Nikki Prive

Judges Order Archdiocese To Hand Over Sensitive Records

WASHINGTON

In a pointed rebuke to Catholic Church officials here, a judge on Monday ordered the Boston archdiocese to release 11,000 previously classified documents pertaining to 65 priests charged with molesting children over a 30-year period.

A separate ruling Monday by Judge Constance Sweeney requires the archdiocese to turn over psychiatric records of 30 priests alleged to have child abuse victims here, held the decisions as a “huge victory for us, the most significant rulings that have been handed down in any church abuse case in Massachusetts in terms of potential liability” for the archdiocese and for Cardinal Bernard Law.

Yielding to an earlier court order, the archdiocese delivered the documents late Friday to lawyers for the alleged victims. A request from church lawyers that the documents be sealed from public view until at least January brought sharp criticism from Sweeney.

By yourself to Catholic Church officials here, a judge on Monday ordered the Boston archdiocese to release 11,000 previously classified documents pertaining to 65 priests charged with molesting children over a 30-year period.


The biennial report to Congress includes a 31-page summary of emergency communications.

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U.S. Uncovers Theft of 30,000 Identities, Millions of Dollars

By Anthony M. DeStefano

In a nightmare case for American consumers, federal investigators said Monday they uncovered the largest identity theft ring ever seen, which victimized more than 30,000 people and led to millions of dollars in losses.

The scam allegedly involved a former employee at a Long Island software company who, with nothing more than a laptop computer and some passwords, worked with New York street criminals to steal credit and financial information of victims around the country.

"With a few keystrokes, these men essentially picked the pockets of tens of thousands of Americans," U.S. Attorney James B. Comey said at a Manhattan news conference.

Three men, Comey said, have been charged, and investigators are pursuing leads to more than 20 suspected accomplices.

The scheme involved the fraudulent accessing of the computer systems of the three major credit reporting companies — Experian, Equifax and TransUnion — Comey said.

Philip Cummings, 33, a former employee of Teledata Communications Inc. of Bay Shore, N.Y., was arrested Monday on charges that over a two-year period, he used unique client passwords assigned to Ford Motor Credit Corp. and some banks, which allowed him to access credit bureau files and then sell the information to his cohorts.

The company provides software that allows clients to obtain credit histories of consumers from credit reporting agencies. Cummings worked at Teledata's "help desk" and had access to computer passwords of clients like Ford, which provided access to the credit bureau files, prosecutors said.

"Our men, Linus Baptiste and Hakem Mohammed, were charged earlier as the investigation gathered steam over the last eight months," said Mohammed, 37, a Nigerian national, pleaded guilty last month to related charges; Baptiste was arrested Oct. 29, Comey said.

FEC Decision Allows Candidates To Be Paid with Campaign Funds

By Thomas B. Edsall

WASHINGTON

The Federal Election Commission voted Monday to allow challengers in congressional races to turn past rulings, as a way to level the political playing field for middle class Americans wanting to run for the House and Senate.

Republican and Democratic parties have described the 5-1 vote, which overturned past rulings, as a way to level the political playing field for middle class Americans wanting to run against a senator or representative, whose annual salaries next year will grow to $155,000.

"This is a very significant," said Sam Popkin, a University of California-San Diego political scientist who has advised several Democratic presidential candidates.

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There's nothing worse than classes that last forever. Except a battery that doesn't.

That's no longer a problem thanks to the N-Charge™ Power System - a revolutionary, rechargeable and completely portable external battery system that provides up to 10 hours of easy-to-use, anywhere and anytime power for your laptop.

Plus, the N-Charge™ system can simultaneously power up to two devices, including your PDA or cell phone. Whether in class or doing your homework, make sure both you and your laptop survive with plenty of power. Get in charge with the N-Charge™ Power System.

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Opinion

MIT Can Prevent Dormitory Fires

Recently, frequent fire alarms have been a problem for many dormitories. Regardless of whether these alarms are false, MIT needs to pay serious attention to the issue of fire safety.

In many cases, most dormitory residents do not even know the cause of the particular fire alarm. Certainly, MIT has this information on record. Students have a right to know the cause of such alarms, and it should be made readily available. It would not be burdensome for MIT to disseminate such information.

Since alarms sound so frequently, many students have begun to dismiss them as merely false alarms. In the January 2000 seton Hall University fire, which killed three freshmen, fire alarms at the particular dormitory had been faulty for some time, and students had become so accustomed to the false alarms that they didn't even notice when the alarm went off. This particular case might seriously frighten both students and administrators.

Furthermore, MIT's reticence in the face of the consistent alarms makes it appear they have not addressed the issue. If MIT is doing anything, officials should inform students. Residents are entitled to know what dangers their living environments pose and what measures are being taken to mitigate these threats. If, for some fact, the fire alarm system should be repaired. If MIT can spend millions of dollars on projects like Simmons Hall and the Stata Center, can it not ensure reliable fire alarm systems?

MIT administrators must also realize that MIT students are by nature strongly adverse to blindly following instructions. When six alarms go off over seven days, and students are not told that the system has been fixed, students have no reason to heed the alarm system. If students are told the reasons for fire alarms, whether they are false or legitimately triggered, as well as exactly what causes a dorm-wide alarm to be set off, students would be more likely to improve the situation. For example, if the incessant alarms are caused by carelessness on the part of residents, such as cooking or candles, then students could take corrective action.

Students must take active responsibility in ensuring the safety of themselves and their neighbors. Residents should exercise their common sense when cooking, and they should obey all dormitory fire safety rules. Although these rules may seem annoying and inconvenient, they are essential precautions to minimize the risk of high-pressure and extensive consequences.

Some dormitories do not have serious fire alarm problems. Some have reliable alarm systems that are only set off in the event of cooking fires or scheduled drills. There are also some dormitories that house managers and other officials on the duty of e-mailing residents about each fire, so students are kept informed. But that is not enough. Effective mechanisms for notifying residents are necessary now in all dormitories.

The time to address the issue of fire safety is now. MIT has been lucky that nothing horrible has happened, given the apparent well-defined steps to solve the problem. Administrators and officials should act before MIT faces an all too preventable tragedy.

Letters to the Editor

Opinion Policy

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

Editorials are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to the Tech's automated response system. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-685. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and editorials must bear the author's signature, address, and phone numbers. Unsolicited letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior permission of the author. The editor reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech and will not be returned.

The Tech makes every effort to print all the letters received.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to editorial@technet.mit.edu and it will be directed to the appropriate person. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at the uniform address protocol.
A Dark Policy on AIDS

Shefali Ozar

This World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, 40 million people across the world will be among those none-of-our-affairs—possessed by the promotion of new AIDS prevention campaigns—because they are already at the bottom of the developmental ladder. More than 95 percent of whom have no access to antiretroviral drugs, have joined counterfeiters and trade Agreement (NATAP) for the rest of the Western Hemisphere. The patent protections in this agreement are far beyond the reach of the WTO; they provide 20-year patent protections in each country, and they can produce a number of new exclusive arrangements, much like the U.S. Free Trade Agreement with other countries in the Western Hemisphere. Just a month after proposing this new free-trade arrangement, the U.S. Trade Representative flew to Sydney, Australia, to push trade ministers to ratify the Doha Declaration’s mandate by forcing a ratification of the agreement despite the non-existent exportation laws. That fight is continuing behind closed doors today, and we will see the results at the WTO council meeting on Dec. 10.

All of this marks a major step forward for the research and development of future drugs. After all, isn’t that what the pharmaceutical industry has been telling us for years about the promotion of new antiretroviral drugs, and multinational companies operating in Africa have started to rethink their priorities and make an effort to save on U.S. policies on AIDS.

Andrew C. Thomas

I just had this hilarious. Last week, the communications director for Colin Powell, the U.S. Secretary of State, was quoted as calling President Bush a moron. The context of the quote is, of course, unnecessary in the eyes of global newswriters who seize upon the story. Since this issue is fairly black-and-white, the following responses could be—either that most of the comment is impromptu for an official of the Canadian government than the Canadian prime minister, or that the fact took extreme bravery. I, for one, would like to applaud Francois Dufour, the Canadian prime minister, for his response, because it was an appropriate response to the prime minister of one of the minds of many citizens of this planet, and not just a howler of an pertinent to the prime minister of the whole country. The comment was made in the middle of the recent NATO conference in Prague. When Prime Minister Jean Chretien said that several countries formerly under the Iron Curtain—Russia, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia—to begin talks to join this organization. It follows a recent trend in Russia’s own efforts to cooperate with NATO, beginning with the creation of the NATO-Russia Council in May 2002. It is clear that this move represents the greatest intentions of international cooperation, at least symmetrically.

In typical Dufya fashion, the President used the opportunity to express his vision for a new era, the same one he has forced the world with little break for breath. At least in the past he has been within his respectable limits, both as the Commander-in-Chief of the United States of America, and as the Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations. But today he uses his speech to talk about the same thing: the world who would die without it, access to a key. The catastrophes of AIDS will not be solved by prevention alone.

As the government of Brazil has shown by providing antiretroviral treatments, constituting dramatically reduced stigma, and improves prevention efforts by taking the death sentence of the AIDS epidemic.

On Saturday in Romania, Bush said, ‘The world has suffered enough from fascists who seek to impose their will through fear and murder.’

On November 28, 2002, the Wall Street Journal reported that the government of Brazil has shown by providing antiretrovirals to all of its infected persons, that treatment dramatically reduces stigma, and improves prevention efforts by taking the death sentence of the AIDS epidemic. As the government of Brazil has shown by providing antiretrovirals to all of its infected persons, treatment dramatically reduces stigma, and improves prevention efforts by taking the death sentence of the AIDS epidemic.

For the nearly 40 million people who would die without it, generic access is key. The catastrophes of AIDS will not be solved by prevention alone.

Not only should we all refrain from buying anything this Friday, Nov. 29, but also we should strive to make this holiday season less materialistic.

Mark Their Words

Write opinion for The Tech

Gretchen K. Aleks

Finaly! The Thanksgiving holiday is upon us. For an MIT student, Thanksgiving is the last item on the to-do list before the final exams begin after the Thanksgiving break. For the rest of the population, the weekend with family can also mean food guilt and the realization that we have to account for everything else, including the amount of sugar and fat we eat. Thanksgivings past have been filled with so much food and so many people that we always feel the need to不停地, and often buy and develop new cures...
Chanukah Sale

Chanukah is coming...Don't be left in the dark!
Stop by to purchase candles, menorahs, dreidels, and everything else Chanukah!!!!

Friday 11/22
Monday 11/25
Tuesday 11/26

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One lucky winner will receive a beautiful Menorah...
Winner selected on final day of sale

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Try your luck at our raffle!
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NIGHTLINE

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$3,000!!

...YOUR ideas for improving public policy in:

Special Education  How can schools meet the needs of special education students and satisfy legal requirements without unduly harming mainstream education programs?

State Budget Deficit  Other than further tax increases and cuts to important services, how can we address Massachusetts' long-term structural budget deficit?

Small Business Regulation  How can government improve its processes to encourage the establishment and growth of businesses in Massachusetts cities?

Medicaid Costs  Describe your proposal to rein in the cost of the Medicaid program, or any part of it, without dramatically decreasing the quality of care afforded our neediest citizens.

One $3,000 prize will be awarded in each category

Entry deadline: February 24, 2003 • 4 pm
Details: www.pioneerinstitute.org/bgc

Jay Gomez draws blood from Abraham E. Wel '06 yesterday. The American Red Cross' two-day blood drive continues through today in La Sala de Puerto Rico.
Concert Review

Theorème: Chorallettes Superb in Fall Concert

By Keith J. Winsten

The Chorallettes of MIT

54-100, Nov. 22, 8 p.m.

The Chorallettes treated MIT to their fall concert last Friday, packing 54-100 and pushing the limits of a capella with an impeccable concert. Their guest group, Brown University’s Harmonic Motion, was almost as good and had the crowd goggling throughout.

As my colleague Pey-Hua Huang ’04 observed, it is unique for a group that is a capella with an impeccable concert. Their guest group, Brown University’s Harmonic Motion, was almost as good and had the crowd goggling throughout.

As my colleague Pey-Hua Huang ’04 observed, it is unique for a group that is. The Chorallettes performed with Harmonic Motion, in May 2001, the Motion can suffer from a lack of balance. Their songs all hover around the same volume, and the background was sometimes not quiet enough to let a soloist be heard over 15 voices singing “doonoo,” something the Motion’s arrangements featured too often.

Nonetheless, the Motion put on a good show and had the crowd laughing uproariously with their Celebrity Leopard-dressed skin and a rendition of the Divinyls’ “I Touch Myself” that most prominently featured lots of teaching.

Vocal highlights included James L. Ollen-Smith on Jan Wayne’s “Only You.” The Harmonic Motion arrangement was uncharacteristically subtle, and Ollen-Smith is clearly a very talented singer who was backed up by an excellent soprano in the background. The performance would have been even better, though, if Ollen-Smith and the rest of the group had been able to agree on a tempo that didn’t have the audience fighting it out during the choruses.

The Motion finished their set with John Denver’s “Leaving on a Jet Plane.” It was almost paralyzing to hear the lilting voice of the previously unassuming Indrani R. Halady harmonize with the Motion’s pristine, almost gospel version of the arrangement. The high solo in John Ondrasik’s “Superman.”

After giving us something completely different from what came before, the Chorallettes performed with a voice soaring on top of a top flavor background and hopping choreography to boot. Playing off of each other and the rest of the group and taking-all sorts of crazy ornamental risks, Vin- cent and Prema made it look effortless. The bootleg I made sounds like it could be one of the Chorallettes’ CDs.

The Chorallettes finished up with a venerable group staple — the group’s rendition of the Engineers’ Drinking Song. And Kristin- nassar redeemed himself on the group’s encore, an enigmatic version of Billie’s “Blowin’ in the Wind.” The crew would not be placated by just one encore, though, forcing the Chorallettes to come back and sing what they insisted was an unenhanced version of Shaka’s “So Long” with Prema as the soloist.

The next song was surprisingly on the Chorallettes’ otherwise well-prepared set. Abhisheka K. V. was a great voice, but he just was not able to hit the high notes in “Bohemian Rhapsody.”

Newbie Alexander S. del Nido ’06 did a generally fabulous job, though, with the unshaded super-high solo in John Ondrasik’s “Superman.” The audience, so eager to applaud, even inter- rupted the song in the middle.

The Chorallettes astounded with their final set. Paul Jabara and Paul Shaffer’s “It’s Raining Men.”

Vincent and Leah K. Premo ’04 displayed an astonishing array of vocal talents on top of a top flavor background and hopping choreography to boot. Playing off of each other and the rest of the group and taking-all sorts of crazy ornamental risks, Vin- cent and Prema made it look effortless. The bootleg I made sounds like it could be one of the Chorallettes’ CDs.

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The next song was surprisingly similar to the one on “Listen to Your Father,” and included Butch Taylor’s piano and Leroy Moore’s saxophone solos for an impressive song. Unfortu- nately, the mood in the audience was shattered in the next two, older tracks, “Warehouse” and “This Train.”

The band plays these well, but once the majority of their playing time dedicated to tracks from Everyday. Without the solos, I imagined this to be the case, I would recommend buying “Everyday” instead. It’s a better album and will give you a better idea of where the band is headed than “Everyday.”
AARON D. MIHALIK-THE TECH

MIT students and affiliates perform in Dance Troupe's biannual concert last weekend.

1. (Left to right) Amy C. Fisher '05, Enid W. Chol, Nikki Johnson, Jessica Vechakul '05, Ji Han '05, and Justine C. Wang '06 leap across the stage in "Conjunction Junction."
2. Michelle K. Cheng '04 dances in "Heavenly."
3. Erika N. Chol TD performs in "Worship."
4. (Left to right) Irene E. Brisson '05, Taly Dvorkis '04, and Michelle S. Machen '04 artfully pose in "Silent All These Years."
5. (Left to right) Juliana D. Olmstead '05, Justin M. Schmidt '06, and Jennifer L. Wong '06 leap to the beat in "Lyrical Dance."
6. Ralltsa I. Kalmukova displays a talent with ribbons in "Rhythm and Fire."
7. Irene M. Rahman '06 and Alycia G. Hillman '03 kneel on either side of the glowing figure of Amber R. Jaycocks '04 in "Tribute."
8. Sherry C. Kan '04 (left) and Enid W. Chol run in "Tribute."
9. Lights bring out the silhouette of a dancer in "Tribute."

dance troupe!
The Pirate King (Graham T. Wright G, center) Is paraded around by two pirates (Rob Morrison '96, left, and Gregory J. Lohman G). The Pirate King (Graham T. Wright G, center) is paraded around by two pirates (Rob Morrison '96, left, and Gregory J. Lohman G). The first act featured a mix of songs ranging from a drinking song, "Pour, O Pour the Pirate Sherry," to a love song, "Poor Wand'rung One," to pure comic silliness, "I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major-General." With the exception of the love duets and the finale at the end of the act, most of the numbers were also either entirely female or male ensembles. The singing abilities of the chorus as a whole were decent; however, the incredibly fast pace of the lyrics, the volume of the orchestra, and lack of perfect diction made it very hard to understand what they were singing, especially in faster songs such as "Climbing Over Rocky Mountain." The romantic leads, Frederic and Mabel (Miranda E. Knutson '06), were also hard to understand, but for different reasons. Knutson had amazing projection and high soprano range, but she seemed to have difficulty controlling pitch and tone to words. Her singing was in harmony with the rest of the chorus as a group, which was also quite good. Stanton's performance suffered from the opposite problem. He had good pitch and diction, but he lacked projection. Edith (Vanessa H. Quinlivan '06) and Samuel (Jonathan E. Blum '06) had the same projection problems. In contrast, Major-General Stanley (Evan Xenakis) was delightful, pompous and pitiful, with all of his solos easy to understand.

After a 20-minute intermission, which seemed to this writer unnecessarily long for a two-hour show which began almost a half-hour late, the second act began. It was decidedly more exciting than the first act, featuring an attack on a castle, love lost and found, the hardships of being a policeman, the joys of being a pirate, and lots of physical comedy. The singers seemed to have used the first act as a warm up, as the real performances kicked in during the second act.

The Sergeant and Police in "When a Felon's Not Engaged," were highly entertaining, especially when the bass section demonstrated just how low their voices could go. The Pirate King (Graham T. Wright G) and Ruth, the pirate maid, were also vivacious as they danced about and triumphantly announced to Frederic that he was born on the 29th of February during a leap year and therefore, much to his dismay, was actually still indentured to the pirates. "With Catlike Tread," which involved the pirates singing about how quiet and stealthy they are while stomping heavily across the stage, was also a highlight of the evening. The costumes were fairly simple but effective, and the set was just elaborate enough to allow for depth of movement on the stage and some comic moments involving disguises. The less-than-subtle beaver sculpture in the middle of the Castle Garden was also an amusing addition. The lighting was basic and there didn't seem to be any changes in color swatches; nevertheless, the necessary characters were spotlighted when needed and kept the show pleasing to the eye.

What this show lacked in substance, it made up for in enthusiasm. I think I would have enjoyed the show more if I had read the libretto first and been familiar with the songs so I could understand what the actors were singing. All in all, G&S succeeded in developing the character of a "Rollicking Band of Pirates" who still love Queen Victoria. The Pirate King (Graham T. Wright G, center) is paraded around by two pirates (Rob Morrison '96, left, and Gregory J. Lohman G). The Pirate King (Graham T. Wright G, center) is paraded around by two pirates (Rob Morrison '96, left, and Gregory J. Lohman G).

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The Tech

Recycled Clip Art
By Katie, Kailas, Karen and Jason

After dinner we can rape your women and chase you down to Oklahoma!

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams
Charles Pub located in the Walker Memorial Building. What will be there for you? $1 drafts, a variety of beers, wines and
8:00 p.m. - Weekly Wednesday @ the Muddy Charles Pub. Meet your fellow social graduate students at the Muddy
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Buddhist Meditation: Guide to Bodhlsattvas Way of
Student Council. Students for Global Sustainability.
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - film: FOOD, USA 2000. Among others hear about a place where healthy food is considered a
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open. MIL’s resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgendered
10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Children’s Skating Registration. Room: W35-297X. Sponsor: Physical Education.
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - The Magic of Materials: From Metals and their Applications...
**Some Gobble Up Early Feasts**

**Thanksgiving,** from Page 1

Tuesday. In any case, he said that his family’s dinner will not be a traditional one; there will be “getting up early in the morning to make the turkey,” although they have dinner together. Rather than that, he said, the point of the weekend is “hanging around with old friends” around the city.

President Charles M. Vest will be among those heading away from MIT for the holiday. Vest said that there is “nothing like small grandchildren to make one thankful,” and that he is very happy to be visiting them over the holiday.

Along with children, however, he also said that “in our family, I revel in taking the major role in cooking the traditional turkey dinner, including my secret recipe for stuffing.”

Find an on-campus turkey binge

Often the sleepy, satisfied feeling of the holiday is made worse by Thanksgiving dinners the weekend before. Some dormitories schedule their special dinners for the Saturday and Sunday before the break, to make sure dinner is served before half the floor has departed.

Jean Marie Downing said that although she will not make it home this year, the dinner held by her and her family have helped to make one thankful,” and she said that after such a long day they “just chill.”

Christine P. Fleming ’04 serves a slice of ham to Shawntel B. Hines during a Thanksgiving dinner organized by the Black Students Union in New House on Sunday night.

Among others, said that he is very happy to be visiting his family on Thanksgiving, and sometimes credit card numbers. "I think it’s good to know who is entering and leaving the country. However, they are going too far in asking for parent contacts and sometimes credit card numbers," Yahyanejad said. "I don’t know how effective it will be because those who have something to hide may just not show up, and take the risks.”

Yahyanejad also questioned the list of countries from which people must register with the INS.

"The selection of countries whose citizens are required to go is very political, not necessarily based on national security," Yahyanejad said.

New countries added to list

Originally, only males born on or before Nov. 15, 1986 who were citizens of Vietnam, Laos, or Cambodia required to appear at the INS by Dec. 16. On Nov. 22, the INS added Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen to the list. Those with citizenship from these countries must register by Jan. 16, 2003. "My registration took 50 to 55 minutes. I think that with more people due to the recent addition, the process is a little faster because they want to get through everyone," Rahmandad said.

"I waited over two hours, but actual registration took about 40 minutes," Yahyanejad said. "The line moved pretty slowly, it seemed that they were being very inefficient.”

The actual registration process includes a photograph, fingerprints, and an interview under oath.

Yahyanejad said he thought that many people may not know that they are supposed to register. "We were notified by e-mail, and some people don’t have access to the Internet," he said. "Some students have relatives that did not know this was going on.”

INS contact ongoing

Those who register with the INS must report back for an interview every year and inform the INS in person if they leave the U.S. Those who do not register by a given date may be subject to fines, arrest, or deportation.

According to the INS Web site, registration is being carried out because "in light of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001 and subsequent events ... the Homeland Security Council has determined that certain nonimmigrant aliens require closer monitoring.”

**Questions Asked Vary Among MIT Students**

**INS, from Page 1**

Christine P. Fleming ’04 serves a slice of ham to Shawntel B. Hines during a Thanksgiving dinner organized by the Black Students Union in New House on Sunday night.

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Volunteering for the holidays

Ivan L. Sturdvant ’04 will go with his family on Thanksgiving day to volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House in her neighborhood. She said that for seven years, she and her family have helped to help prepare the food on Wednesday and then serve breakfast, lunch and dinner to the hungry. She also said that after such a long day they "just chill.”

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MIT Department of Facilities
CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
Vassar St. Utilities
For several weeks, due to an underground telecommunications ductbank project, doors exiting to the rear between Buildings 34 and 38 will be closed. There will still be one exit from the Building 34 lobby in the direction of Building 26. The pedestrian route from the Albany St. garage through Building 34 to the main campus will not be available. People should enter the campus using the pedestrian walkway under Building 39.

State Center
Waterproofing inspection and window installation are ongoing. Construction of the ramp is underway. Some odor may result from this work. Air fresheners are available for offices that experience problems. Preparation for utility work between Buildings 56 and the Alumni Pool has begun.

Vassar Streetscape
Paving in front of the State site is complete. Curb-placement on the south side of the street is underway. Traffic to Building 39 will use the normal exit and entrance lanes once again. These lanes will stay in effect for 3 or 4 weeks until the next phase of the project. The lanes will again change to one-lane in and one-lane out from one entrance as construction sequencing dictates. North side sidewalk construction will begin in December.

Building 7 ADA accessible entrance
Concrete removal to prepare for installation of entranceway will take place shortly. Some noise resulting from jack hammering may occur.

North side sidewalk construction
Landscape north of the main steps will take place in the spring, after construction sequencing dictates. North side sidewalk construction will begin in December.

Building 39.
Paving in front of the Stata site is complete. Curb-placement on the south side of the street is underway. Traffic to Building 39 will use the normal exit and entrance lanes once again. These lanes will stay in effect for 3 or 4 weeks until the next phase of the project. The lanes will again change to one-lane in and one-lane out from one entrance as construction sequencing dictates. North side sidewalk construction will begin in December.

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WMBR Hits $75K Donation Goal
By Keith J. Wilstein

WMBR, MIT's campus radio station at 88.1 FM, achieved its goal of raising $75,000 after this month's week-long drive for donations.

David J. Etlin G, the station's general manager, said, "WMBR's 2002 fundraiser was our most successful yet, receiving pledges from around 1,300 listeners and passing our $75,000 goal set by last year's fundraiser," Etlin said.

WMBR appears to have met its annual fundraising goal in most of the past several years, even as the station's goal increased from the past several years, even as the station's goal increased from $35,000 to the current $75,000.

The station is principally supported by listener donations, with some financial support, plus free studio space and electricity, coming from MIT.

The fundraising drive was supported by local restaurants, who provided food to fundraising volunteers, and by the Cambridge Trust Company, which waived credit card processing fees on donations to the station, Etlin said.

Station upgrades to continue
In the upcoming year, WMBR will continue to maintain its studio and upgrade its equipment in the basement of Walker Memorial, said Juliet L. Outten G, the station's treasurer.

"The equipment wears out and breaks and dies, and we have to get new equipment," she said.

Also, Outten said, "We maintain an extensive record library. We always need to update and keep up top of current music."

"We are an all-volunteer organization, so listener contributions go directly to capital expenses instead of salaries," Etlin said.

Student involvement increases
Student involvement in WMBR has doubled this year, Etlin said, and more than 30 students now have weekly shows on the station.

Etlin encouraged students seeking their own WMBR shows to take the group's class during the Independent Activities Period in January, "How To Be A Giant In College Radio (Learn To Be A DJ)."

"Several students who attended our last IAP course got their own radio shows the following summer," he said.
Bon Appetit adds feedback board

Simmons, from Page 1

Benefit announced that nutritional information would be provided to residents, after some voiced concerns regarding dietary restrictions. Other concerns regarding early posting of menus and food restrictions. Other concerns regarding early posting of menus and food qualities were addressed in a message from Bon Appetit the following day.

Bon Appetit adds feedback board

In an e-mail message sent Nov. 5:30pm sharp, December 10th, 2002, 617-547-7434

Of campus dining, told Simmons residents that the Office of Campus Dining "deeply regrets the recent lapses in service with your dining program. Our communications must and will improve to ensure the active involvement in menu planning and other aspects of service that was promised to you all." One means to improve communication was the addition of a "Tell the Chef" comment board, where comments and suggestions would be passed along to Griffin.

The first "Tell the Chef" comment sheets were distributed on Sunday, and early feedback was positive, said Kathie Hanwell, Bon Appetite general manager for MIT. "We've done a little bit of changes in our menu mix as well as the presentation. So far, we got a lot of positive feedback from students."

Firing interns dismissed

In the discussion leading up to last week's Simmons Dining Committee meeting, rumors circulated among students that Bon Appetit had fired staff. However, Hanwell said that "no permanent employees have left." "We had temporary staff in place," Hanwell said. She said that Bon Appetit hired temporary staff at the beginning of the fall expecting to be fully settled in the Simmons dining hall by November. With the dining hall delayed until January, food will continue to be transported to Simmons from West House. "We are just looking forward to moving into the actual dining hall, working at the kitchen and using the facilities there," Hanwell said.

DormCon to Discuss Drinking Agreement

Alcohol, from Page 1

Trujillo said the plan has "promising strategies." MIT has already implemented programs similar to those suggested by the Action Plan, including alcohol training for graduate resident tutors and a student advisory board, Trujillo said.

The original intention was for schools to commit to the Action Plan, but MIT had concerns about "committing without student support," Trujillo said. Other schools had expressed similar concerns, he said.

Trujillo said that MIT also didn't want to sign up for "a cookbook approach" that did not necessarily address MIT-specific concerns.

Substance-free housing disputed

DormCon Council Vice President Tyler J. Broder '03 said he was concerned about substance-free housing, a provision of the Action Plan that asks colleges to provide "substance-free or wellness housing" to students who request it.

Broder said that divisions between substance-free and other areas could "start to really separate themselves from each other. I think the last thing anybody wants is for a freshman to pick a room solely because it's in a 'non-substance-free' area," he said.

DormCon President Grace R. Kessenich '04 said that Trujillo was coming to the next meeting on Dec. 5 to discuss the agreement. DormCon members were concerned with the provision for substance-free housing, which was inaccurately reported in The Boston Globe.

FSILGs already taking action

Mira E. Wilczek '04, Interfraternity Council external relations chair, said that JFC conducts its own training programs and has worked to improve its alcohol responsibility. "The JFC has taken many steps to ensure that alcohol is being used responsibly," she said. "We've definitely taken great strides."

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CEO Bezos Discusses Amazon

Jeff Bezos, the founder and CEO of Amazon.com, spoke to members of the MIT community last night about using technology to distinguish his company.

“Amazon.com is to be the Earth’s most customer-centric company, to be the place to find, discover, and buy anything you want online, and to use technology to drive innovation.”

Personalization helps site grow

The company has grown tremendously since it was launched in 1995, and Bezos credited this to a combination of invention, innovation, and personalization.

“You can’t really run a business of any kind if you’re not going to listen to your customers,” he said. “We’ve done a tremendous amount of invention and our goal is to build a place where each individual customer has his or her own Web site.”

Robert A. Frederick, manager of Amazon.com’s Web services and mobile device access group, also addressed the audience and demonstrated various ways of accessing Amazon.com’s services from other Web sites.

Friedrick said his goal is to define a capability to interact with Amazon.com and get search results from outside sources.

“The more people that are interacting with our products, the more products we’ll sell,” Frederick said. “We try to understand what our customers are doing, where they’re coming from.”

Frederick demonstrated different tools that their software developers have created to enable people to link to products on Amazon.com. Among these were Amazon Lite, a method of linking Amazon search results to other Web sites; Mockerybird, which lists products from book watch, Google, and Amazon; and “Yes bar,” a tool that displays the song that is currently playing on the radio on any station and has links for people to buy the music on Amazon.com.

Variety of products help business

Bezos also credited the company’s success to “incredibly eclectic” line of products available on Amazon.com and the variety of product recommendations.

Customers find the personal recommendations and reviews particularly useful, and often quite humorous, Bezos said.

“We do sometimes have people write spoof reviews. We’ve had God review the Bible, and last year somebody started posting customer reviews pretending to be Emily Bronte, saying, ‘I hate Jane Austen,’” Bezos said.

The talk, entitled “Earth’s Most Customer-Centric Company: Differentiating with Technology,” was sponsored by the MIT Association for Computing Machinery and the MIT chapter of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

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