LSC, Page 18

MIT LSC
To Begin Accepting TechCASH
By Matthew H. Kwan

The Lecture Series Committee will accept the MIT Card for tickets and refreshments at the end of the month.

"I am very happy that we are finally getting it," said LSC Chairman Alex Rolfe G. "LSC has wanted to have the card for a long time."

LSC will accept the Card starting with their annual Science Fiction Marathon Jan. 25, according to a press release.

Rolfe said LSC investigated using the MIT Card, also known as TechCASH, several years ago for the convenience of MIT students purchasing tickets to film and lecture events in 26-100.

Students will now be able to use their MIT Card to purchase tickets, cards with a fixed cash value for refreshments, and multipasses, according to the press release.

Security a concern

Security issues stood in the way of past efforts to use the MIT Card. A student group accepting the Card could, in principle, record information from a student's card, duplicate the card, and use it to make purchases on the student's account.

Assistant Director of Enterprise Services John M. McDonald said that there was nothing to stop a student group if they chose to steal from MIT student accounts. "They could absolutely do that if they wanted to," McDonald said.

However, McDonald also added that it was "very unlikely," because students can check their accounts online and check for irregularities. In the past, students could not check the balances online.

Rolfe said that stealing from accounts in this way would be quite difficult, and only ten or fifteen LSC workers have access to the card reader.

The Student Activities Office was also concerned about unauthorized refunds, Rolfe said.

However, it is possible to disable the card reader's refund capability, and McDonald is looking into additional protections, Rolfe said.

Expensive equipment was another barrier. A card reader costs about $1,500 and requires a dedicated phone line to operate. LSC went to the Undergraduate Association last November for funding and received $2,200 to cover a card reader, a receipt printer, and part of the phone line installation, Rolfe said.

LSG, Page 18

Music Dept. Shuts Out A Capella Groups
By Beckett W. Sterner

LSC's a capella groups may have to find new practice space.

Starting this spring, the three music practice rooms on the first floor of Building 4 will be open to non-department groups Monday through Thursday only after 9 p.m. All but one of the LSC a capella groups use these rooms to practice, often before the new starting time.

The Music Department needed the extra time because the Chamber Music Society, run by the department, had expanded and the groups were having trouble getting in, said John H. Lyons, administrative officer for the department.

"We've done our best to let [a capella groups] use this space," Lyons said, but "we have to take care of the music department first."

Few other spaces are available for the groups to practice in, as most rooms are either too small or don't have a piano. Some groups are looking into space in the Student Center, dormitories or the Walker Memorial Building, but none are as appropriate as the Building 4 rooms.

"The trouble is our program is growing," Lyons said, referring to the Chamber Music Society.

The Symphony Orchestra and Concert Choir have also held section practices in the music rooms, Lyons said.

The change was "not one we did lightly, nor one we like to do," Lyons said. He said that in the past, student groups could reserve the rooms at the Music department's discretion, but the department didn't want to be the judge of that anymore.

LSG, Page 18

Take the Blue Pill, Wake Up in Bed; Take the Red Pill, Stay in 2003 Hunt
By Marissa Vogt

I think I got too much sleep this past weekend.

Four hours a night, it seems, was way above the norm for most participants in the annual IAP Mystery Hunt. This isn't surprising, though, as this year's hunt was the longest (and probably the hardest) on record.

The hunt kicked off in Lobby 7 on Friday at noon, with the rather dramatic assassination of Mr. Adelphia, CEO of Acme Corp., the fictional organization created by Hunt organizers. The teams were told that to find who killed Mr. Adelphia, they had to solve certain puzzles.

My team consisted of a small group of friends and roommates, and was almost entirely made up of freshmen. We soon discovered that we were in way over our heads, as new puzzles were released before we had made any respectable progress on the first ones.

Surely our entire small group of 10 would not be able to contend with the large teams representing groups like Random Hall (a team called Bluntly Obscene) or East Campus' "Third East (a team called Kappa Sig, this year's winning team)."

Teams told to "take the red pill"

By Friday afternoon most teams had realized that the hunt was going to be much bigger than advertised.

"I'm one of the more rabid fans," Focht said. "Most people means guaranteed that someone who are generally fans or at least can be fans," Focht said. "Most people would have been watching the show for over 20 years."

"I'm one of the more rabid fans," Focht said. "Most people would have been watching the show for over 20 years.

Howan chosen to "come on down"

A year ago, Howan was 320, with fewer than 10 contestants on each show, the MIT students were by no means guaranteed that someone

Frank Daras - The Tech

Music Rooms, Page 15

The piano in room 4-556 sits unused Tuesday night. Starting in the spring term, the music department will no longer allow non-department music groups to use its rooms before 9 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

The Student Activities Office has expanded the rules surrounding the MIT Card, also known as TechCASH, to include refreshments and multipasses.

The Lecture Series Committee will begin accepting the Card for tickets starting Jan. 25.

 rtc Seminar, Monday: "Sociological Psychology of Terrorism: The Anarchist Tradition," by Will Biance, Ph.D., at 5 p.m. in 26-100.

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The Lecture Series Committee will begin accepting the Card for tickets starting Jan. 25.
Poll Shows Declining Public Support for War Against Iraq

By Karen DeYoung
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Seven in 10 Americans would give U.N. weapons inspectors months more to pursue their arms search in Iraq, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll that found growing doubts about an attack on Saddam Hussein.

In addition to the public's skepticism about military action against Iraq, the poll found that a majority of Americans disapproved of President Bush's handling of the economy for the first time in his presidency. The number of Americans who regard the economy as a top priority has been on the rise in the past year, and majorities opposed objections to the tax-cut plan Bush has proposed as a remedy.

Overall, support for Bush has dropped to levels not seen since before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, with 59 percent of Americans approving of his work. That's still a comfortable level of popularity, and Bush advisers and analysts expect Americans will rally to his side once hostilities begin in Iraq. Still, Bush's overall standing, buoyed by the 71 percent who approve of his work against terrorism, masks deepening concerns about Bush's economic and foreign policies.

Chinese Crackdown Leaves North Korean Refugees Few Options

By Robert Underbay Korty
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Cracking down on North Korean refugees, Chinese authorities have forcibly returned thousands of destitute people to their isolated Stalinist homeland and forced those who remain to risk their lives illegally crossing border areas to escape into China. The refugees, according to the new figures, include 1.3 million people who have fled North Korea over the past four years.

The administration plans to lay out the various elements of its case in speeches and presentations over the next several weeks. The effort began Tuesday with a speech by Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, who said that Saddam's "regime has very little time left. ... There is no sign, there is not one sign that the regime has any intent to comply" with United Nations demands.

On Thursday, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz will deliver the same message in a speech to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. Bush's State of the Union speech next Tuesday will include a heavy emphasis on Iraq, although senior officials said the president is not likely to make his formal public argument that the time has come for disarming Iraq by force, and removing Saddam from power, until next month.

Senior aides are anxious that Bush not appear to pre-empt a separate calendar of events at the Security Council, where Hans Blix, the head of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) director general Mohamed ElBaradei are due on Monday to make their first comprehensive report on Iraqi compliance with inspections that began two months ago. On Jan. 29, the day after Bush's State of the Union speech, the council will convene to debate the report and decide what further steps to take.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the strongest U.S. ally on Iraq in the council, has scheduled a one-day visit with Bush at Camp David on Jan. 31. U.S. and diplomatic sources said that Blair was aware that the two be seen to be having "a genuine consultation," something that would be difficult if Bush had already declared the inspections over.

"The moment will come when the administration will want to make its case before the court of public opinion as well as the Security Council," said one source. "They've got only one shot at it ... and there's a tradeoff between having the strongest possible evidence to present and "sitting by doing nothing so long that the moment passes."
Rumsfeld Apologizes for Recent Remarks on Military Draftees

By Vernon Loeb
WASHINGTON

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, responding to growing criticism for recent remarks about draftees adding “no value” to the U.S. military, offered a “full apology” Tuesday to veterans groups and their supporters on Capitol Hill.

“Hundreds of thousands of military draftees served over the years with great distinction and valor — many being wounded and still others killed,” Rumsfeld said in a letter sent Tuesday night to the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America and other veterans organizations.

“The last thing I would want to do would be to disparage the service of those draftees.”

Rumsfeld’s letter came in response to demands from those groups and lawmakers from both parties angered by his comment two weeks ago in response to a question about legislation calling for reintroducing the draft. In his remarks, Rumsfeld said he opposed the proposal, adding that draftees added “no value, no advantage really, to the United States Armed Services over any sustained period of time.”

Three leading Democrats who served in Vietnam, Sens. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., and John Kerry, D-Mass., and Rep. Lane Evans, D-Ill., said in a letter to Rumsfeld Tuesday that “we are shocked, frankly, that you were apparently willing to dismiss the value of the service of millions of Americans.”

The letter asked that he apologize to them and their families.

The Vietnam Veterans of America, the principal organization representing veterans of the war, also demanded an apology for what it called Rumsfeld’s “insulting” remarks. It distributed audio responses from veterans and the mother of one serviceman killed in action to several hundred radio stations across the United States.

The American Legion, in a letter to Rumsfeld posted on its website, asked the defense secretary for “a retraction and an apology to the families of those ‘draftees’ who served America with honor.”

FBI Seeking Access to ‘Orwellian’ Defense Department Data Project

By Tom Bruno
WASHINGTON

The FBI is already working on an understanding with the Pentagon to experiment with the controversial Total Information Awareness Project, a project that raises civil liberties concerns, Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) said Tuesday.

The revelation added to the already hot controversy about the Pentagon’s plan to mine data from transactions across the United States.

“Grassley said he is particularly concerned that technology that is already in the future will be used by domestic law enforcement and thus cannot comment.”

He said Justice Department and only heightens my concern about the blurring of lines between domestic law enforcement and military security efforts,” he said.

But some senators and civil libertarians depict the project, which has

an initial budget of $30 million, as “Orwellian” and a threat to citizens’ privacy. It is directed by Dean-Contrary figure John Poindexter and overseen by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

Graye said he particularly concerned that technology that is already in the future will be used by domestic law enforcement and military security efforts,” he said.

He said Justice Department spokesman Brian Sierra in November the Pentagon is required to report to Congress on the project’s progress. Graye said he is the lone potential candidate to speak in Washington Saturday at a major rally against a possible war in Iraq. Curbing, 48, joins a field of presidential hopefuls that includes former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean and Rep. Richard A. Gephardt of Missouri, the former House minority leader. In that group, only Dean has spoken against the resolution Congress approved last fall to authorize Bush to use military force against Iraq, the others all voted for it.

PUNT!

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXCHANGE • 2003-2004
THE CAMBRIDGE-MIT INSTITUTE

Department Information Sessions are taking place now:

Course 1 See Cynthia Stewart in Room 1-281 for an application form and details
Course 2 See Peggy Garlic in Room 1-104 for an application form and details
Course 3 Friday, January 24 @ noon in room 8-314
Course 5 Wednesday, February 5 @ 5pm in room 2-105
Course 6 Monday, February 10 @ 3pm in room 34-401B
Course 7 See Professor Kaiser in Room 68-533 for an application form and details
Course 8 Wednesday, February 5 @ 4pm in room 4-339
Course 10 Wednesday, February 5 @ 5pm in room 66-110
Course 11 Wednesday, February 12 @ 4pm in room E52-232
Course 16 TBA-see Marie Stupard in room 33-208 for details
Course 18 Thursday, February 6 @ 5pm in room 2-102

Please visit http://www.cambridge-mit.org/education or contact cmi-advice@mit.edu for more information.

Deadline for applications is early March! Check with your department.

* not that kind of punting, the kind you do in a boat with a long pole
MIT Could Do a Little More

Ever get that feeling you can never go home again? Our 2.7 million international students have reason to feel that way, thanks to a new student registration system from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the State Department’s braindead visa procedures. International students have good reason to be concerned, but some simple steps could go a long way toward alleviating international students’ uncertainty.

One: MIT should send international students copies of exactly what it will report to the INS’s new Student Visitor Information System before sending the information to the government, and give students a chance to correct inaccuracies in the reports. Better, MIT should develop a set of criteria to flag records that the government is likely to find suspicious, and help students who inadvertently get into such situations.

Two: MIT, whose internal policies aggressively guard students’ privacy in academic and disciplinary matters, should not knock under and violate those same policies when dealing with federal authorities. The ISO should scale back its disclosure to what is required by law.

Providing all disciplinary action and a complete listing of registration might be the easiest way to comply with the law’s mandate, but it is only the least intrusive disclosure MIT could make. Taking the easy way out shows a lack of conscience, and help students who inadvertently get into such situations.

Three: MIT should throw its weight around to help students sidelonged by the State Department’s bizarre and braindead visa procedures. President Bush has fashioned himself the “education president,” but it is clearly unacceptable when his administration forces students returning to MIT to sit at home for literally months on end, not knowing when they may return to school, as a result of a notoriously inept and broken bureaucracy.

We are surprised that Isaac M. Colbert, the dean for graduate students, has advised faculty not to call members of Congress on behalf of students who are delayed, apparently believing this could somehow slow the process down even more. Immigration is a political process, frequently lacking rhyme and reason, and intervention by members of Congress is precisely what our representatives love to do as part of “constituent services” all the time. Maybe individual faculty shouldn’t be calling in favors (fwiw Rep. Michael Capuano’s (Cambridge’s U.S. representative), but MIT’s priorities should be in the wrong place if it refused to use its Washington lobbying office to help returning students get back to school.

Finally, we are simply dumfounded that it is apparently impossible for international students to get visas to go abroad for academic conferences. Is there no way students could pre-apply for a re-entry visa before actually voyaging abroad, instead of the current system, where Iranian students traveling to a four-day conference in Paris have to fear that they might end up stuck in France for months, while their visa applications are inexplicably delayed? MIT and other schools should use their influence to work something out with the government to cure what seems like a ridiculous law-school toy paradigm, except real.

The federal immigration bureaucracy is a hopelessly convoluted and frighteningly arbitrary system, made even more so by the tightening of policy in the wake of Sept. 11. Providing all disciplinary action and a complete listing of registration might be the easiest way to comply with the law’s mandate, but it is only the least intrusive disclosure MIT could make. Taking the easy way out shows a lack of conscience, and help students who inadvertently get into such situations.

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It's easy to take reproductive choice for granted these days. After all, it's been thirty years since the landmark decision in the Roe v. Wade case that stated the right to privacy "broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy." Unfortunately, as the dark days of sometimes fatal back-alley abortion set in once again, the reality of the distant past, the Bush administration's policies and appointments increasingly threaten to redefine a woman's options. In the United States, but women worldwide. As a recent New York Times article pointed out, "the lengthening string of anti-choice executive orders, regulations, legal briefs, legislation, 'Press release. This first act in office was certainly a clear indication of the continuing erosion of women's reproductive rights. In fact, one could surmise that, rather than a mercenary, a person's belief on this may well be the driving force for deciding these appointments.

Furthermore, the Bush administration has stopped funds to such "devious" organizations as the World Health Organization and the United Nations. Let's hope that the "invincible" one brown-skinned fellow in a black outfit. The joke was that affirmative action had successfully produced this token color. Unfortunately, there is the group was still effectively Black. Rumors might suggest that Bush actually was "white" or that Sonny, the non-graduate student organization had a right to his own joke. Even so, just because affirmative action has worked doesn't mean you allow to be blaming perpetuating it. Right? Maybe a throwaway poster from over a month ago doesn't seem quite as empty a threat, but it's hard to imagine it's become so pervasive in this regrettably new cycle. Let's look at some things. Take for example a poster: "I, Dade, like it, so my color. One poster for the film produced by "Plush Daddy" which actually says "The Sims". The Sims Online have both products have joined in on the same thing is a really unfortunate situation. The first thing that comes to mind, is that it's unfair to connect the number of dollars that are spent on advertising. Even then, the products themselves have a fair share of the blame. The Sims Online are a perfect example of this. With millions of dollars spent on marketing, you can be sure that the game itself is well known. As a result, the company is able to charge a higher price for the product. This is not to say that the Sims Online are not a good product. They are, in fact, quite popular. However, the tactics used to promote the game are certainly not the same things that we would consider ethical.

Since we are supposedly too sophisticated in this day and age for unadorned pandering, to communicate this message that Plush Daddy Fly was actually "white" and that his "non-graduate student organization had a right to his own joke. Even so, just because affirmative action has worked doesn't mean you allow to be blaming perpetuating it. Right?

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The Tech FUN PAGES
January 22, 2003

PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER

by Bill Amend

FoxTrot

Hey, Casey! Can you come here?

But I want to show you something really cool! I said hold on.

Come onnnn! It's really cool!

Ooo, oh! What's this cool thing? It's top secret.

They are more savage than I expected. They come at me with their incessant chanting: "Why? Why?..."

I guess the natives, primitive creatures called Undergraduates, issued them Jim here to help them.

I found some cheat codes for "Nice City" on the Web. Who knows.

Woo-hoo! Let me have these guys off the Web.


Don't worry about them. There's more of these hordes of orcs.

And I thought the sunset was scary.

Peter, you're so glad you're not playing video games anymore.

If you try to make me quit playing video games altogether...

The tech guys are sending you to the North. You see 10,000 orcs charging your fortress. Prepared for epic battle.

My elf fires an arrow of eternal lightness.

You now see 10,000 balrogs charging your fortress.

Casey, I am only trying to protect the native orcs from your advances.

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Dilbert® by Scott Adams

I CAN EITHER SAVE YOUR LIFE OR THE CONSULTANT'S LIFE, BUT ONE OF YOU WILL DIE.

THE CONSULTANCY WAS SUCCESSFUL, BUT YOU LOST A LOT OF CASH.

WE'RE GIVING YOUR WIFE A TRANSPLANT. BUT WE NEED TO SEDATE AN UNWILLING DONOR.

WHOEVER THOUGHT OF HAPPY HOUR AT A HOSPITAL IS A GENIUS.

I'M PUTTING YOU IN CHARGE OF BUILDING OUR NEW TECHNOLOGY LAB.

YOUR CONSTRUCTION BID IS THE LOWEST. SO I HAVE TO AWARD YOU THE JOB.

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11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Godel and the End of Physics. Cambridge-MIT Institute (CMI) is delighted to announce a symposium to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kurt Godel. The symposium will feature talks by leading scholars on a variety of topics related to Godel's work. Free: Room 2-100. Sponsor: CMI.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. Free: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave.). Sponsor: Information Center.
**The Arts**

**FILM REVIEW 1/2**

**The Hours: Well Worth Your Time**

Nicole Kidman is Stunning as Virginia Woolf

By Kevin Der

**The Hours**

Written by David Hare
Based on the novel by Michael Cunningham
Directed by Stephen Daldry
Starring Nicole Kidman, Julianne Moore, and Meryl Streep
Rated PG-13

The Kangaroo Jack Hailed as Achievement of the Digital Age

Yet never would have thought it possible that I would enjoy a film about three women and a novel by Virginia Woolf. Ordinarily, such a picture would have carried an unsurpassable potential for boredom and malcontent. Yet there is no such thing as Harrison Ford in The Hours, which follows three women in three different time periods, who are connected by Woolf's novel, Mrs. Dalloway. The incredible acting talent of the entire cast makes The Hours, which won Best Picture (Drama) at Sunday night's Golden Globe awards, one of the best films of the year.

In Mrs. Dalloway, title character Clarissa Dalloway gets out of bed one day, prepares to throw a party, and suddenly realizes she is not happy. In The Hours, one woman writes this novel, another reads it, and the third lives it — but all three emulate the life of Clarissa in some way. These three storylines, which each span a single day, though occurring at different time periods during the twentieth century, are presented concurrently during the film.

Nicole Kidman plays the part of the first of three women, Virginia Woolf, whose mental illness and repeated suicide attempts led caring husband Leonard to bring the couple to a small country home away from London. The opening scene, one of the most disturbing I've seen with the exception of those from several Kubrick films, has Woolf wandering into a river with her coat pockets filled with stones, and establishing the gloomy and depressing tone that exists throughout the entire picture.

Kidman's performance as Virginia Woolf is extraordinary. She earned a well deserved Golden Globe award for it last Sunday. The author's silent broodings and preoccupation with her writing perfectly are captured perfectly as are the situations in which Woolf struggles to find the right words, both to speak and to put down on paper. Kidman is remarkable in the incredible amount of physicality in which she sees her character degenerate further. At one point, Woolf lies down on the ground and stares at a dead bird, as if examining death, a central theme in the film.

Julianne Moore's character, Laura Brown, is a housewife whose story takes place after Woolf's, in the 1950s. She is reading Mrs. Dalloway while preparing a cake with her son for her husband's birthday. Despite her loving family, Brown eventually contemplates suicide, feeling that her role as a housewife is trivial. The result is a portrait of a desperate mother and wife who feels imprisoned by life and cannot bear to face another day.

I feel this is Moore's best performance to date, although I have not yet seen Far From Heaven, for which Moore was nominated for a Golden Globe. She, like Kidman, perfectly conveys the emotional torment of her character. It is impossible not to be disturbed when Moore, crouched in the bathroom, stirs her sons from her worried husband as she ponders about abandoning her family.

The third and final story features Clarissa Virginia Woolf's (Meryl Streep), whom Woolf herself finds herself in her living Woolf's novel in the present day as the main character, and she is even called Mrs. Dalloway by her friends. Clarissa is preparing to throw a party for her life-long friend Richard (Ed Harris), an award-winning poet suffering from AIDS. Like the two women before her, Streep's character also becomes incurable. CLIVE COOTE-PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Virginia Woolf (Nicole Kidman) struggles to write her novel, Mrs. Dalloway.

**FILM REVIEW 6**

**Hollywood Cuts Costs With Computer-Generated Pictures**

Kangaroo Jack Hailed as Achievement of the Digital Age

By Amandeep Loomba

Editor's Note: Like the film it covers, this article is a joke.

On January 11, 2002, Hollywood ushered in a brave new wave of entertainment by releasing its first 100 percent digital motion picture. Kangaroo Jack, the story of two young men from Brooklyn chasing a kangaroo that stole $50,000 of mob money, from Brooklyn chasing a kangaroo to throw a party, and suddenly realizes she is suffering from AIDS. Like the two women before her, Streep's character also becomes incurable. CLIVE COOTE-PARAMOUNT PICTURES

On the other hand, there is the part of me that's moved on. The part of me that walked out on the freak-show a long time ago. And though the freak-show is pretty witty to let anyone in, I'm not sure I'll ever be going back.

Tim Burton's Ed Wood is easily one of the few films ever to go out there. Unlike those sophomoric geek nonsense such as The Revenge of the Nerds, films Ed Wood makes remain outside of our freaks and weirdos.

Wood himself, magnificently played by Johnny Depp, is the supremely irrepressible hero. And in spite of the utter crap he is throwing on screen in this film-making days, you can see a man who is, in fact, you know, he loves him and his whole carnival sideshow of friends. Together, they put together some of the best films ever made, and they had a freaking great time doing it.

Watching the film, you can't help but be at once repulsed and entirely engaged by Wood dressed as a belly-dancer entertaining his film crew at the wrap party for Bride of the Atom. It's not one of the strangest moments ever committed to film, but it is the sort of moment that makes you want to sit in your seat and wonder if this really ever happened. With the conclusion of the dance by pulling out his false teeth with a grand flourish, the crowd goes wild, and you're left wondering what the most appropriate way to react to this is.

In the end, you're in one of two camps. This film is either the most fantastic freaks ever or against them. Sarah Jessica Parker, playing Ed's girlfriend Dolores, figures out at just this moment that she's really not with the freaks. Out comes the tirade against them.

"You people are insane!" - Sarah Jessica Parker, playing Ed's girlfriend Dolores.

"I'm not too sure where my freak flag is flying anymore!" - Tim Burton's Ed Wood.

"I'm not too sure where my freak flag is flying anymore!" - Tim Burton's Ed Wood.

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"I'm not too sure where my freak flag is flying anymore!" - Tim Burton's Ed Wood.

"I'm not too sure where my freak flag is flying anymore!" - Tim Burton's Ed Wood.
Kidman
Golden in
The Hours
Hours, from Page 9

emotionally distraught and depressed, and feels her life has no purpose.

The interaction between Clarissa and Richard is one of the strongest bonds shown in the film. Richard’s tremendous suffering is disturbing and saddening. Eventually we see the dying man perched in an open window and ready to jump, in front of Clarissa’s eyes — the third attempt at suicide in the film.

These three storylines are linked in more ways than mere plot similarities. The most central idea is that the same mindset is shared by all three women, and that they experience the same emotions. It is an extraordinary fact that their entire lives can be wholly captured in a single day of storytelling. The film employs abundant and effective symbolism of flowers, eggshells, and shoes, among other things, which further connects these three human beings.

I feel the fundamental question of The Hours asks which of these three women was the happiest, and why. Indeed, this is difficult to answer, since none of them are very happy in the film. Richard’s tremendous suffering is emotionally distraught and depressed, and feels her life has no purpose.

The Hours makes us ponder, it makes us feel the fundamental question of human beings.

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The Hours makes us ponder, it makes us feel the fundamental question of human beings.

The Hours makes us wonder, it makes us probe at our own existence. It will deeply affect anyone who values thought in cinema. The Hours is a fantastic film with outstanding acting and an incredibly human theme.

Jack: Laughing All the Way to Bank
Jack, from Page 9
character has his shirt off in those scenes; we had to trust the computer on that one.

The computer also determined that the Fucci character would work best against a white male with an Italian name. Thus, the character of Charlie Carbone came into existence. While the computer did find that audiences found homosexuality in the media to be entertaining, it also discerned that the film required a heterosexual love story. Thus, the computer generated the compromise of having the Charlie Carbone character be a straight, but slightly effeminate, hairdresser.

The software was additionally configured to appeal to the age group of 5 to 55, and to maintain a PG rating. “We found that as you lowered the age factor, the chances of having fan jokes in the film were raised significantly. But having the camels do the farting, now that was pretty much genius on the part of the computer,” said Hayes.

Of course, some bugs still remain in the system. But the developers remain confident that they will soon be worked out. The film’s digital music consultant, Alan Touring, explained the difficulties they ran into while generating the score for Kangaroo Jack. “We were using the latest version of Windows Media Player to catalog music that would be used as a basis for the ‘new’ music in the picture. Unfortunately, we came across a bizarre copyright bug and were only able to digitize a single album.”

That album, Dr. Dee’s Chronic 2001, served as the sole source of musical inspiration for the computers that scored the film. “Actually,” Touring recalled, “we could only get it to accept two tracks off the album. So the whole film sounds like reworked versions of two Dr. Dee songs.”

“However,” he added, “they are pretty catchy.”

A digital picture, however, allows for perfect digital copies. When asked about the danger of the film being pirated on the Internet, Andrei Markov, Kangaroo Jack’s lead programmer, said that “while no anti-piracy method is foolproof, we have taken a number of measures to counteract pirating of the movie.”

“We worked on the ‘social engineering’ aspect of anti-piracy. That is to say, we needed to attack people’s reasons for wanting to pirate the film in the first place.”

To accomplish this, Markov and his development team tweaked the parameters of their custom software until the film achieved its goal of being almost 100 percent unwatchable. The research conducted by production company Jerry Bruckheimer Films showed that “movies with no human beings involved, Markov said, “well, we don’t expect human audiences to respond so well to Kangaroo Jack. But maybe some computers or high-end calculators will enjoy it.

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Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

Gilbert & Sullivan Players Present Their LAP Show

The MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players presented Sweeney Todd last weekend in Kresge Auditorium.

(top) Judge Turpin (Graham T. Wright G, center) and Beadle Bamford (David Daly, left) warn the young sailor, Anthony (Ben Holman, right) to stay away from the window of Judge Turpin's pretty ward, Johanna (Caitlin J. Smythe G, background).

(middle left) Sweeney Todd (Evan Xenakis) attempts to slit the throat of Judge Turpin before he is interrupted by Anthony, who has barged into the barber shop to tell Sweeney about his plans to marry Johanna.

(middle right) Having just failed to kill Judge Turpin, Sweeney Todd resolves in "Epiphany" that all people deserve to die, even him and even Mrs. Lovett (Kristin R. Brodie '03, background).

(bottom left) Sweeney Todd and Mrs. Lovett share a laugh as they sing "A Little Priest," a song about baking all types of people into their meat pies.

(bottom right) Sweeney Todd mourns the murder of the Beggar Woman (Noe Kamelamela '05) who is revealed to be his wife, Lucy. Lucy was raped by Judge Turpin 15 years ago.

Photography by Stanley Hu
By Shan Riku

MIT accepted 15 percent of early admission applicants this year, a percentage that has seen significant admissions policy changes around the country.

This year, 3,584 students applied to MIT for early admission, and 524 were accepted. Dean of Admissions Martin Jones said he expects between 56 percent and 60 percent of early applicants to accept MIT’s offer.

“It’s pretty close to last year,” Jones said. Last year, MIT accepted 520 of 3,608 early applicants.

Demographics also remain similar. “Both last year and this, we admitted 47 percent women,” Jones said. “Last year we admitted 21 percent minorities, this year we admitted 22 percent.”

Other schools go to early action

Yale University and Stanford University announced in November that they were moving from early admissions to a form of early action beginning next year.

Presently, both Yale and Stanford University admissions programs called “early decision” programs, which allow students to apply for early admission to only one university and require them to matriculate if the school offers admission.

Starting with the class of 2008, both schools will adopt non-binding early action policies. Students will still be required to apply to only one school for early admission.

“That’s not really truly early action,” Jones said. “They are doing their best to start another model of early action.”

“Everyone will want to watch what happens,” she said. “It’s to be continued.”

Changes could impact Institute

MIT expects to have more applicants next year because of Stanford’s change. “I wouldn’t be surprised to see more students applying here, because they’re applying to Stanford,” Jones said. She said that many students apply to both MIT and Stanford.

Still, Jones said she welcomes this change. “The good thing is that we get more talented people in the applicant pool,” she said. “In the end, it’s best for MIT to have 524 instead of 500.”

After outlining the other three contests on a dieline set, he became the third player on the show to make it up onto the stage for a pricing game.

Hovan lost the game, but had better luck in the “showcase showcase.” He had within $1,000 of the actual price of a set of three vacations, good enough to win the prizes.

Students studied for the show

These were not, of course, typical contestants. In true MIT style, Hovan and company rigorously studied prices of the products that are typically featured on the show.

The students noticed that the show often renuses the same items, and tried to remember the prices of the most common items. Hovan and his friends made flashcards of the items and got to work.

“The whole idea is to watch the show and get an idea of what things cost,” said Dennis O’Connor, director of program practices for CBS.

O’Connor said that specific models of prices are not reused, and for cars, the options change, changing the price somewhat.

Unfortunately, the MIT tradition of never-ending studying did not pay off for Hovan. None of the items he had studied were on the show, with the exception of the very first prize, which had been on the show the day before the group left Boston. Hovan did not win this prize.

Hovan looks to friends

Hovan told himself before the show that if he was a contestant, he “didn’t want to look like that guy that always turns around for audience help.”

“But as soon as I got up there, it was seriously impossible to think,” Hovan said.

Hovan turned to his friends for help, especially Focht, who helped him say “amazing at pricing.”

The group had agreed that if anyone became a contestant, they would all choose what to do with their prizes, rather than trying to split anything.

Because it is not possible to exchange prizes for money, Hovan now has to find time to take the three trips, and to put a new set of dishes in his apartment.

The students said that the trip was not just about winning the prizes.

Focht said he was “just really happy to see the show” and would not have been disappointed even if no one from the group was a contestant.

“Just to see it was insane,” Hovan said.

“Readapt is as fun as it gets. Even after 6,800 miles, we still didn’t hate each other,” he added.

Hovan said the best part of the show was when all of his friends rushed up onto the stage to celebrate with him.

Despite his memorable cameo role in the 1995 Adam Sandler classic Happy Gilmore, host Bob Barker was “really nice,” according to Hovan.

The students said the trip “is not just about winning the prizes.”

Hovan said the best part of the show was when all of his friends rushed up onto the stage to celebrate with him.

Behind the scenes

Ever wonder how contestants are chosen to “come on down?” The morning of the show, audience contestants line up outside the studio, and producers walk by and perform interviews. Producers choose the contestants, but do not inform them that they have been selected until the day they actually called down to the famed “contestants’ row.”

This process sounds tedious, but CBS officials have found it worth the trouble.

“If you go random, you might get someone who’s a snooze. You want people who are exciting,” O’Connor said.

Hovan said that most of the audience members and other contestants were college students. O’Connor said this is likely when shows are taped during a college break. Plus, “young people are willing to stand outside at 3:00 in the morning, waiting to get in.”

On the day of the show, audience members are chosen to “come on down” and compete with three contestants to guess the prices of the prizes. The contestant whose guess is closest to the actual price without going over moves up to the stage to play one of several games in which they try to guess the price of a prize or of household items in order to win a prize.

The game ends with a “showcase showcase” in which two contestants, selected by spinning a huge wheel, each bid on one of two showcases of several prizes each. The player whose bid is closest to the actual price without going over moves up to the stage to play one of several games in which they try to guess the price of a prize or of household items in order to win a prize.

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The show will air on Feb. 3 at 11 a.m. The group of students who comprised the MIT team will watch it in the second floor lounge of the student center, exactly where they have been watching it regularly for over a year.

Solution to Crossword

from page 15

Across

1. It’s right! You too can be part of an ARTS SUCCESS STORY! (7 words)

6. Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program (8)

9. I got the dresser. Now my apartment selection is run by my family and due to lack of funds! (18)


Down


2. Council at MIT Grants Program

3. It’s strongly suggested that you make an appointment to discuss your application

4. To schedule an interview or for general information, contact Susan Cohen at cohen@media.mit.edu

7. Solution to Crossword

11. My site visit with a Grantees Committee member went well. Enchanting! And now.

12. Will I convince that my college “screening” will have a great impact on my students...

13. Another Arts Success Story!!!! (Next Grants Deadline: January 31!!!)

14. Game Show, from Page 1

16. I spent by $100,200.

17. I applied to the Council at MIT Grants Program.

18. What about my resume? reevaluation?

19. One Dinette Set and 6,800 Miles Later, Price is Right Fans Happy

20. That’s right! You too can be part of an ARTS SUCCESS STORY! (Next Grants Deadline: March 14)

21. About one month after the deadline. It was time to meet with a member of the Council to talk about my project

22. I brought a tape on my “true budget for this project”, asked for

23. My days were filled with excitement – could anyone understand how I yearned to express myself artistically?

24. One day my office mate, a friend, was promoted....

25. My site visit with a Grantees Committee member went well. Enchanting! And now.

26. One day my office mate, a friend, was promoted....

27. That’s right! You too can be part of an ARTS SUCCESS STORY! (Next Grants Deadline: March 14)

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29. My site visit with a Grantees Committee member went well. Enchanting! And now.

30. Another Arts Success Story!!!! (Next Grants Deadline: January 31!!!)

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MIT Singing Groups

‘Scramble’ for Space

Music Rooms, from Page 1

ment had no obligation to make
them available.

Although non-department
groups will not be able to check out
keys for the rooms until after 9 on
Monday through Thursday, the
rooms will be open all day Friday,
Saturday and Sunday.

Groups look for new space

With the change going into
effect this spring semester, the a
capella groups have had to move
quickly to find alternatives. The
groups chose Julia P. Patriarco ’05,
a member of Resonance, to bring
their concerns to Dean for Student
Life Larry G. Benedict.

The change will have “a big
impact in a bad way on our
rehearsal schedules,” Patriarco said.
"Basically, we’re just going to have
to scramble to get rooms.”

“It’s tough,” said Michael M.
Yang ’05, director and member of
the Logarhythms. He said that the
Logs are currently looking for alter-
native spaces in the Student Center
or Walker.

Patriarco said she was currently
compiling a list of the times during
which the groups use the rooms to
practice and that she intended to
send it to Dean Benedict as evi-
dence of the change’s effect.

A capella groups currently use
almost all available time in the
Building 4 rooms, Lyons said. Only
the Muses currently practice else-
where. WeiFang Sun ’04, a member
of the Muses, said that even though
they don’t use the rooms, they are
actively supporting the other groups
“in case we would ever need it.”

New spaces possible

Lyons said the Music Depart-
ment was looking into the possibili-
ty of a new rehearsal space in the
next five years, but until then they
have no plans for expanding.

While it may be possible to put
pianos into other departments’
classrooms, they would have to get
permission and the departments are
often just as short on space as the
music department, Lyons said.

Although the Chamber Music
Society’s membership fluctuates
from year to year, Lyons said he
anticipates that “it will stay as it is,
or it will grow.”

The Music Department has 11
rooms for rehearsals in all, includ-
ing the three at issue, which are
used by about 400 to 500 people. In
general, he said, “space such as this
is almost nonexistent.”

Contact: 6.270-organizers@mit.edu
http://web.mit.edu/6.270/
Acme Hunt Lengthy, Rewarding

Hunt, from Page 1

found the piece to an important clue hidden within the first-round puzzles. The clue, "take the red pill," hinted at a Matrix-inspired second-world of puzzles.

Our team spent Friday night on various attempts at solving rounds 1 and 2, and reading through the many bits of spam sent to each team from Acme Corp. We established our team headquarters in Baker House and worked on the first few rounds until early on Saturday. I managed to solve an entire puzzle before finally nodding off.

Saturday

We woke up on Saturday morning after dreaming of puzzles, and started right in on another one, this time trying to assemble a document that had been divided into tiny pieces. Later, as we grew more and more frustrated, the team decided to split up so that we could work on as many individual puzzles as possible.

Emily Precote and I went shopping for our secret ingredient from puzzle 2,1, "A Company Picnic." Our task was to prepare a whole meal - appetizer, main course, and dessert - that obviously tasted like our secret ingredient: limes. After spending four hours making lime-flavored quesadillas, lime-flavored chicken, and lime pie, I don't ever want to see another lime again.

Late Saturday night Danielle and I went looking for different bathrooms across campus. One puzzle, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," had pictures of bathrooms from across campus, and it was our task to find a connection between them.

Teams start getting desperate, Desperation took over our team early Sunday morning, and we decided to spend various mailing lists in an attempt to gather some of the items for the scavenger hunt. Finding items like "a newspaper copy of the New York Times" seemed simple enough, until you looked closer and realized that they wanted one that is not from 2002 or 2003.

Acme released more and more hints as time passed, and the hunt broke records for length.

Later in the afternoon we met up with the members of the AEPi team, and we decided to combine our efforts and share some of the solutions we had made. We found some further progress, but nonetheless decided to retreat to bed early, in the hopes that some other team would find the coin before morning and the madness would end all.

"Kappa Sig" finds the coin

We woke to the news that Kappa Sig, the team representing Third East, had found the coin at 7:26 am. The coin had been hidden in Joefta's (Joseph N. Kaye's '98) pants, on the top of some pipes in the basement of building 16. Their team consisted of mostly under-graduates, whereas many past winners have been teams of alumni or professional puzzlers.

Finally, the coin had been found, and we could rest without being haunted by puzzles. After we all got some sleep on Monday, the puzzle organizers and hunters from all of the teams gathered in 4-370 to award prizes, share amusing stories of puzzle experiences, and explain solutions to some of the puzzles.

When all was said and done, I walked away from the hunt feeling tired yet accomplished, and amazed at the complexity of some of the puzzles. All of the teams who participated have earned my enduring respect, especially those who came close to finding the coin. I am already looking forward to next year's hunt, which Kappa Sig, this year's winning team, will organize.
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Spring 2003
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• Examine the origins of their own attitudes and history that inform their responses in cross-racial and cross-cultural dialogues
• Identify areas of personal strength and areas for improving how they contribute to and provide leadership in multi-racial groups and interactions.
• Develop, implement, and evaluate strategies for addressing a particular issue within MIT related to the theme of the course.
• Identify resources available through CCRR and other sources to support efforts to improve race relations.

Class Size limit: 30 students
Open to Undergraduate and Graduate Students
Cross listed in the Sloan School and the Departments of Linguistics and Philosophy, Political Science, and Urban Studies and Planning. 
Sponsored by the Committee on Campus Race Relations

For more information contact one of the following course instructors:
Francine Crystal [fcryystal@mit.edu]
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Tobie Weiner [tobiew@mit.edu]

http://web.mit.edu/ccrr/ccrr/courses.html
LaVerde’s To Correct ‘To Go’ Label Errors
Some Salads, Sandwiches Had Wrong Date

By Keith J. Weinstein

LaVerde’s Market, which for the past several weeks had been misrepresenting some of its locally packed foods as more recently made than they really were, will cease the practice.

Chris Silverio, LaVerde’s assistant manager in charge of produce, said that the store will no longer put salads and sandwiches in its “to go selections” area with a “Packed On” date later than when they were actually packed.

“I don’t know why that happens,” he said, adding that he had been unaware of the practice until alerted by a reporter and would stop it.

Silverio said it was possible the one-day postdating occurred because “sometimes the scale goes down and doesn’t boot up properly.”

Salad packed tomorrow, label says

LaVerde’s generally makes and packs a large number of salads and sandwiches during the day, but doesn’t immediately put them all out in its “to go selections” area because of space restrictions, Silverio said.

Instead, some of the items are reserved and not put out for purchase until 10 p.m. at night. It is apparently these items that LaVerde’s had been mislabeling as “Packed On” the next day, with a consequently later “Sell By” date.

Customers shopping in the evening may have noticed the phenomenon because their salads indicated they were “Packed On” a day that had not yet arrived. It is unclear how long the practice has persisted.

Shoppers untroubled by error

LaVerde’s customers shopping last night were generally untroubled by the mislabeling, but some indicated they might reconsider their purchases.

“It probably will affect my future buying” at LaVerde’s, said Boston resident Jane Erickson, who was about to purchase a tuna roll-up last night.

Had she known about the mislabeling, “I probably wouldn’t have bought it, because I did look at the date,” she said.

MIT Department of FACILITIES

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Simonds Hall

For enhanced security, the safety office has requested that the lowest row of windows on each floor be limited to a four-inch opening. Some new window hardware has been installed. A temporary card swipe has been installed at the front entrance of the building, and a more permanent system will be in place soon.

Vassar St. Utilities

As of Tuesday, January 21, pedestrians will walk behind Building 49 on a newly constructed temporary walkway for several months to allow Vassar St. work to continue. The parking lot and loading dock between Buildings 45 and 46 has been reduced in preparation for use on MIT parking.

Vassar Streetscapes

All pedestrian traffic now travels on the south side of Vassar St. to the west end of Building 36. Pedestrians cross the street and travel along a new walkway that begins near Building 45. New light poles are currently being installed along the south side of the street. Concrete work on the Building 34 steps is underway. Installation of drainage piping from Mass Ave. and Nassar St. intersection heading west is ongoing.

Traffic to Building 59 has again changed to one-lane in each direction.

Amherst Alley Steam Repairs

Work on a damaged condensate line in the area will begin soon. Pedestrian walkways should not be disturbed.

Building 7 ADA accessible entrance

Interior work is approximately 50 percent complete. Outdoor work is 40 percent complete. Concrete for the ramp and steps will be installed soon.

Lobby 7

Construction on Bosworth’s café in Lobby 7 is nearing completion. The café will open sometime in early February.

Building 189 Renovations

The fifth floor of Building 189 is being converted to laboratory space for new faculty associated with the McGovern Institute for Brain Research and the Pioneer Center for Learning and Memory. Construction includes new ducts for supply and exhaust and plumbing installation. Asbestos abatement will begin soon. All work in occupied areas will be accomplished either at night or weekends. The dismantling or moving of any equipment or furnishing is not uncapped.

For information on MIT’s building program, see http://www.mit.edu/aboutcampus/ This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.

LSC First Club to Take MIT Card

LSC, from Page 1

“We presented a proposal at one of their meetings and received an allocation,” Rolfe said.

MIT charges a fee of four percent of each purchase to use the system, but Rolfe was not concerned about the commission. “It’s small enough compared to the convenience the people get when using the card,” Rolfe said.

LSC first to use TechCASH

LSC will be the first student group to accept TechCASH. While other student groups may follow, no arrangements have been made.

“We’re doing this for the LSC,” McDonald said. “If things go well, other student groups will probably be able to use it also.”

Students were positive about the change and said that it would be more convenient. Some students said they were more likely to go watch movies at 26-100.

“I think it’s cool that they are accepting the card,” said Lisa B. Messeri ’04.

“Definitely,” said Jennifer A. Miller ’04. “Yeah, it’s definitely more convenient.”

Explore Educational Technology at MIT!

Come to the Ed Tech Fair

January 28th, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Lobby 10 and the Bush Room

MIT faculty and students will demonstrate educational technology projects and tools they have developed to improve teaching and learning. MIT professionals will be available to discuss their educational technology initiatives, media services and resources.

This IAP event is sponsored by the Council on Educational Technology, Academic Computing, Academic Media Production Services (AMPS), and the Teaching and Learning Laboratory (TLL).

Led by Paul E. Kasabian, G, enthusiastic students created this world of frozen wonder in front of Kresge last Wednesday.

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Combat tested.

<info@the-tech.mit.edu>
W20-483, x3-1541
Cheryl A. Texin '06 and goalie Regina M. Sullivan '05 react after the opposing team scores during Saturday's Ice hockey game, the second against Salve Regina. MIT lost 10-2.

Rayna B. Zacks '05 goes for a layup in last night's basketball game against Wheaton College. Wheaton lost to MIT 52-47, falling to make up the gap by fouling repeatedly in the final two minutes.

SMILE!