

Fall Planning Shifts Away from Housing 'Welcoming to the Academy' is New Focus

By Keith J. Winstein
NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

The focus of Orientation planning will shift further away from residence selection, following Monday's final meeting of the Residence System Implementation Team.

A new committee, chaired by Dean for Undergraduate Research J. Kim Vandiver PhD '75, will now examine "how best to welcome these new members of the community to the Academy," said Robert P. Redwine, the dean for undergraduate education, who is appointing the committee.

"Now that Rush is not a significant part at all of Orientation," Vandiver said, "we can focus the programming in Orientation on things that will add value to the academic experience of the students when they first get here."

"We would like to do a much better job welcoming students to the Academy," he said, echoing Redwine's words almost exactly. "That's really the principal notion behind this. Imagine activities involving more faculty."

The committee will look into "anything that will make it possible for students to connect sooner and better to faculty and ... people who can show them what the intellectual experience is all about," he said.

The membership and charge to the committee have yet to be established, Vandiver said. "We will have significant student membership," he added. "I'm presently working with student leaders to

choose student members."

The shift in planning follows a gradual shift in emphasis over the last 20 years, as the first days for freshmen have gone from "Rush" to "Residence/Orientation," and in 1997 briefly to "O/R" and then "Orientation."

It was another committee chaired by Vandiver, the Orientation/Residence Fall '98 Committee, that was responsible for the latter two name changes.

RSIT report sanguine as expected

The RSIT's final report, which closely mirrored a draft reported in *The Tech* this week, made no recommendations for changes in the residence system, and as expected was generally sanguine on the new system, sparked by the 1997 death of freshman Scott S. Krueger at a fraternity event.

"Those involved ... generally agree that the overall framework designed for 2002 is generally effective," the RSIT said in an executive summary.

"It really was a very successful transition," Redwine said, adding that dramatic changes in residence selection for next year were very unlikely.

"Clearly there remains some lack of unanimity on certain aspects of how to go forward," he said, but "we probably are not far away now from where we need to be. I think this system of having dorm squatting has worked out on the whole very well."

RSIT, Page 16



Colorful balloons decorate the student center, adding to the Valentine's day spirit on campus.

Suit Weighs on Admissions Policies

By Nathan Collins
NEWS EDITOR

The Minority Introduction to Entrepreneurship, Engineering, and Science program, or MITES, saw a

Analysis

major shift earlier this week after anti-affirmative action groups filed a complaint with the federal government.

The shift comes at a time when university affirmative action programs are under fire around the country. The Supreme Court will soon consider *Grutter v. Bollinger*, a case challenging the University of Michigan's race-based admissions policy, and Princeton University last week said it would end or modify a

summer program similar to MITES. MIT announced Monday that it has decided to allow high school students of all races and ethnicities to apply to MITES.

Race will continue to be a factor in making admissions decisions, said MITES Director Karl W. Reid '84.

Reid said that only twelve percent of engineering students were minorities, despite a national population that includes about twenty-five percent minorities. Therefore, he said, "we feel a need to have these intervention programs" to encourage minorities to consider science and engineering careers.

Groups filed complaint

MIT's decision to modify the

application procedure came after two groups filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Roger Clegg, a lawyer with the Center for Equal Opportunity, said that his group and the California-based American Civil Rights Institute filed the complaint after a student who applied to MITES was "excluded because she was the wrong skin color."

"A program that is open to disadvantaged children of all races ... would be perfectly permissible," Clegg said. "The mix of students [in the program] is irrelevant ... what matters is that the way stu-

MITES, Page 10

Institute Warns FSILGs Not to Let Frosh Move In

By Marissa Vogt
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The administration appears to be guarding against the possibility that freshmen who have pledged fraternities may attempt to move into fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

A recent e-mail to leaders of FSILGs stated that housing freshmen could cost them financial support from the Institute.

Associate Dean for Student Life Programs Barbara A. Baker, one of the authors of the message, said that the purpose of the e-mail was to "get the word out to remind fraternities" of MIT's policy of housing all freshmen on campus and outline possible disciplinary actions.

"Both freshmen and the fraternities that house them, will be in direct violation of this policy, and both the student and the fraternity will jeopardize their Good Standing with the

Institute and may be subject to a judicial hearing," the e-mail said.

Baker said the e-mail was sent in response to questions from parents and information from other students and the housing office, and was not the result of any particular violation of MIT's policy.

Financial support at risk

Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict said that any disciplinary action taken would depend on the fraternity and the individual, though the e-mail sent out by Baker and David N. Rogers, associate dean and director of FSILGs, threatened to revoke financial support from fraternities that are housing freshmen.

"[FSILGs] found responsible for violating this policy will also be in jeopardy of forfeiting their Financial Transition Reimbursement," the e-

Frats, Page 16



ANNIE DING—THE TECH

Students settle into the new version of 8.02 taught in the TEAL studio, leaving the traditional large lecture format behind. See story, page 10.



Departments cut back on class handouts.

Page 14



Comics

Page 7

OPINION

Capital punishment is just "simple revenge," says *The Tech's* Andrew C. Thomas.

Page 5

World & Nation 2
Opinion 4
Events Calendar 9
Arts 18
On the Town 19

WORLD & NATION

Rift Grows Between United States, Some Allies

NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

The split between the United States and some of its allies widened Thursday as they battled over the meaning of news that Iraq has missiles with a longer range than allowed under United Nations sanctions.

On the eve of another report by U.N. weapons inspectors Hans Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei, the United States and Britain say the finding by a U.N.-convened panel of arms experts shows that Iraq is in "material breach" of a Nov. 8 resolution ordering Baghdad to disarm or face "serious consequences."

"This is a serious matter," Secretary of State Colin Powell told the Senate Budget Committee Thursday. "It shows continued Iraqi non-compliance."

In London, Prime Minister Tony Blair added that the existence of the missiles "would be not just a failure to declare and disclose weapons but a breach" of the U.N. resolution.

U.S. allies who oppose military action against Iraq disagreed. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Fedotov called the arms panel's finding a "technical violation" that was a victory for the weapons inspection program. The missiles "should be regarded not as Iraq's violation of its disarmament commitments, but as proof of its cooperation with the inspectors and the fact that the inspections are effective," Fedotov said in New York.

President Bush, addressing troops at Mayport Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla., showed little patience for such talk.

He urged the Security Council to show the "backbone and courage" to enforce the resolution and not "fade into history as an ineffective, irrelevant debating society."

Administration officials also voiced displeasure with individual nations, particularly Germany, France and Belgium. The three NATO members have blocked a U.S. request for the alliance to aid Turkey should it come under attack by neighboring Iraq.

U.S., Britain Preparing Second Resolution on Iraq

LOS ANGELES TIMES

UNITED NATIONS

Friday's progress report to the U.N. Security Council by chief weapons inspectors Hans Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei marks the beginning of the end of efforts to disarm Iraq through inspections, diplomats say.

The United States and Britain are prepared to present a second resolution declaring Iraq in "material breach" and authorizing military force as early as Saturday, but more likely early next week after a final round of lobbying of council members.

On Tuesday, the Security Council will allow delegates from the U.N.'s 191 members to express their views on whether Iraq has failed the tests of Security Council Resolution 1441, which was passed in November, to declare any weapons of mass destruction and to cooperate with inspectors to destroy them. The session, supported by Germany, which holds the presidency of the Security Council this month, amounts to a diplomatic filibuster, and could continue through Wednesday.

The inspectors are expected to report that while Iraq has shown more cooperation in recent days, it is still not enough for inspections to be effective. Blix might also describe Iraq's refusal to destroy Al-Samoud 2 ballistic missiles that a panel of international experts found to exceed U.N.-imposed limits of 93 miles, as a violation of Resolution 1441.

House Passes Bill to Require More Welfare Recipients to Find Jobs

NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

Saying they hope to build on the success of the 1996 welfare overhaul, House lawmakers passed a measure Thursday that would require more recipients to find jobs and work longer hours.

The bill, which passed 230-192 in the Republican-controlled House, is similar to one approved last year. That measure, however, died in the Senate.

The House rejected two Democratic welfare measures, including one proposed by Rep. Benjamin Cardin (D-Md.) that would provide more money for child care, allow states to provide more education and training, and require recipients to work fewer hours than proposed in the Republican measure.

A more intense battle is expected in the Senate, where lawmakers are likely to debate child care funding, work requirements and controversial issues such as whether to fund programs to promote marriage and sexual abstinence and to provide benefits for legal immigrants. Unlike last year, Republicans now control the Senate by a slim majority.

The House bill, modeled after President Bush's proposal, would require recipients to work 40 hours a week, up from 30 hours. It would also require states to increase from 50 percent to 70 percent within five years the number of recipients who must be working.

U.N. Weapons Inspector Blix To Say He's 'Not Impressed'

By Walter Pincus and Karen DeYoung

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Hans Blix, the chief United Nations weapons inspector in Iraq, will tell Security Council members Friday that he is "not impressed" with Baghdad's cooperation with inspections since his last report in late January, U.N. officials said. But officials said that Blix will stop short of saying Iraq has been totally non-cooperative.

Blix's presentation is unlikely to resolve the deep disagreement between the United States and other members over whether inspections should continue, or whether the council should turn to consideration of disarming Iraq with military force. President Bush Thursday issued a fresh challenge to the council to "rise to its responsibilities," while other powerful members insisted they would not be bullied into war by the United States.

Secretary of State Colin Powell and the foreign ministers of the other four permanent council members will attend Blix's presentation, along with those of a number of the other 10 members. Permanent members France, Russia and China, along with Germany, the current council president, have advocated continuing the inspections. The Bush administration has made clear that it views the meeting as a final prelude to a war decision.

He will indicate that Baghdad has made some progress in arranging private interviews with weapons scientists and technicians, but will point out that only three of a number of requested interviews have so far taken place outside the presence

of Iraqi government minders. Blix will note that Iraq still has not unconditionally agreed to U-2 surveillance plane over-flights, and will indicate that documents recently turned over by Baghdad have provided little pertinent information.

But the most potentially explosive issue Blix will discuss is Iraqi production and deployment of missiles with ranges beyond limits set by the United Nations, and its possession of hundreds of prohibited engines to power them. Officials said Thursday night that Blix was still wrestling with whether to use his own authority to order Iraq to destroy them, or to simply report the missile violations to the council and await its decision on what to do about them.

Under his council mandate, Blix is authorized to inform Iraq in writing that prohibited weapons have been found, and order their destruction at a time and place of his choosing. Iraqi refusal to destroy the missiles would constitute the most direct and visible defiance of the United Nations since inspections resumed in late November after a four-year hiatus.

Ironically, while Powell last week presented the council with evidence of alleged concealment of weapons of mass destruction, both the missiles and the engines were among the few new items reported by Iraq in a Dec. 7 declaration presented to the council. The Iraqis said they had slightly exceeded the limits in test firings.

The missiles were among the first items inspectors investigated. Blix halted all further testing and placed those that had already been deployed with Iraqi military units, as well as the prohibited engines, under seal so they could not be

moved.

When he reported on the missiles to the council last month, Blix said he was still assessing whether their range exceeded a 150-kilometer (93-mile) limit imposed by U.N. disarmament resolutions that followed the 1991 Persian Gulf war. On Wednesday, a team of international experts helping with the assessment reported that the liquid-fueled Al Samoud 2 rocket, one of two ballistic missile programs under inspection, was capable of exceeding the allowed range. Experts were divided on the second rocket, the solid-fueled Al Fatah.

Blix plans to report that the Al Samoud 2 is "clearly capable" of going beyond the 150 kilometer range, and that the 380 missile engines purchased by Iraq over the past several years can power missiles "significantly longer than allowed," one official said. The ground-to-ground missiles in question would be a first line of Iraqi defense should the United States and its allies launch a land invasion of Iraq.

Anthony Cordesman, senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and co-director of its Middle East Studies Program, said Thursday that Iraq has in the past "successfully scaled systems up" by taking short-range missile systems and converting them to longer range, either by using multiple engines on a single missile, or limiting the size of the payload.

Cordesman said that should war break out, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein could be expected to use Al Samoud 2 and Al Fatah missiles that have already been deployed against the rear areas of any attacking U.S. forces.

NASA Panel Charter Rewritten Twice, Fails to Satisfy Gehman

By Eric Pianin

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe has rewritten the charter of the commission investigating the space shuttle Columbia disaster twice within a week to mollify congressional critics who say the inquiry needs independence from the space agency.

But the changes, eliminating any reference to NASA overseeing or reviewing the commission's work or setting a 60-day deadline for the investigators to complete their work, failed to satisfy key members of Congress or retired Adm. Harold Gehman, whom O'Keefe had handpicked to lead the commission.

Rep. Bart Gordon, D-Tenn., the ranking Democrat on the House Science Committee, and Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) a member of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, Thursday renewed their calls for the appointment of a presidential commission — similar to the one that investigated the 1986 Challenger accident — to supersede the Gehman commission.

"You still have a situation where you have the NASA administrator appointing the so-called independent review, and it's still virtually NASA staff (doing the work) ... which still doesn't pass the smell test of independence," Gordon said.

Dorgan said that while "I have great respect for the members of the group Mr. O'Keefe put

together, I think it should be a presidential commission reporting back to the president and the Congress. ... You don't want people later questioning whether there was independence."

The flurry of activity followed a four-hour joint congressional hearing on Wednesday in which lawmakers lectured O'Keefe repeatedly on the need to fully insulate the board from NASA officials' influence.

In a bid to further shore up the credibility of the investigation, O'Keefe intends to announce a third round of commission charter changes as early as Friday and has agreed to expand the nine-member panel to include non-NASA scientists and academics.

"There could very well be more modifications," said Glenn Mahone, NASA's assistant administrator for public affairs. "If Admiral Gehman wants to make additional changes or recommendations to assure the independence of the commission, he can certainly do that."

The 1986 Challenger disaster was investigated by a commission appointed by President Reagan and headed by former secretary of state William Rogers. That panel included numerous non-NASA scientists and industry experts. By contrast, the Gehman board was established by NASA the day of the Feb. 1 shuttle accident that killed the seven member crew, and it is dominated by military, Federal Aviation Administration and NASA officials.

Gehman completed more than 35 years of active Navy duty and

capped his career as commander in chief of the U.S. Joint Forces Command. Others on the commission include Air Force Maj. Gen. John Barry; Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hess, Air Force chief of safety; Rear Adm. Stephen Turcotte, commander of the Naval Safety Center in Norfolk, Va.; Air Force Brig. Gen. Duane Deal; Steven Wallace, director of the FAA office of accident investigation; and Scott Hubbard, director of the NASA Ames Research Center.

James N. Hallock '63, an aviation safety expert, and Roger Tetrault, the retired chairman of McDermott International Inc., are the only civilian board members.

A week ago, O'Keefe made several changes in the board's rules, including the use of independent laboratories and outside experts to review major technical work.

But those changes did little to dampen criticism from Gordon and other Democrats who are concerned that NASA is supplying the commission's support personnel and that the final report would go to O'Keefe. After initially backing the original charter, Republicans joined in the call for changes. On Wednesday night, O'Keefe made wholesale changes — removing any reference to NASA oversight and dropping the 60-day deadline. He left it up to Gehman to decide how and when to release the panel's final report. And he said that he would automatically approve the addition of new members recommended by Gehman and Congress.

WEATHER

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny and cold. High 15°F (-9°C).

Tonight: Clear and cold. Low 3°F (-16°C).

Saturday: Sunny. High 18°F (-7°C). Low 5°F (-15°C).

Sunday: Cloudy. High 18°F (-7°C). Low 10°F (-12°C).

Representatives Pass Largest Appropriations Bill in History

By Jim VandeHei
and Juliet Elperin
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The House Thursday hastily approved a 3,000-page, \$397.4 billion spending package, the largest appropriations bill ever, loaded with money for special-interest projects covering everything from shiitake mushrooms to beaver management.

While few members knew exactly what was in the bill, the House voted 338 to 83 to provide immediate spending increases for programs such as national defense, homeland security, space exploration and the Securities and Exchange Commission. Farmers, ranchers and students in poor school districts are big winners too. To make room for some of the new spending, the budgets for Treasury and Commerce were cut.

The Senate will approve the package as early as Friday, lawmakers say. With the threat of war in Iraq looming, President Bush has told lawmakers he will seek another \$20 billion for the Pentagon soon.

Democrats, meanwhile, vow to tack more spending for homeland security onto the president's request.

The \$397.4 billion bill touches virtually every part of government and covers fiscal year 2003, which began Oct. 1. Democrats, still stinging from their losses in November's elections and searching for issues to run on in 2004, accused Republicans of short-changing homeland security as country is on high alert for possible terrorist attacks.

Democrats also complained about several environmental provisions, including one approving money for "pre-drilling" in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and another clearing the way for more logging on federal land.

But Republicans, flexing the political muscles built by controlling the White House and both branches of Congress, beat back Democratic efforts to push spending even higher. While Vice President Dick Cheney played a key role in

the final talks, the White House didn't get everything it sought.

Republicans spent billions of dollars more than Bush wanted and, as part of the final deal, blocked funding for research for a Pentagon project — called Total Information Awareness — designed to monitor Internet e-mail and commercial databases as a way to track terrorists. Worried the project would invade Americans' privacy, conferees restricted further Pentagon research without first extensively consulting with Congress.

The project was started more than one year ago by former national security adviser John Poindexter, who was convicted of lying to Congress about weapons sales to Iran and illegal aid to Nicaraguan rebels. His conviction was later reversed because he had been given immunity for the testimony in which he lied.

In the end, House and Senate negotiators tucked in enough provisions sought by influential lawmakers to win passage easily.

Congressional Republicans Part From Bush on Taxes, Health Care

By Amy Goldstein
and Dana Milbank
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

After two years of largely lock-step unity, congressional Republicans are parting ways with President Bush on key domestic priorities, jeopardizing the White House's control over the legislative agenda in the months ahead.

Complaining that they have been inadequately consulted, as policy is designed by administration officials distracted by foreign concerns, GOP lawmakers have begun to draft their own proposals and to distance themselves from some aspects of Bush's plans for tax cuts, health care and other social policies.

The sharpest dissent has arisen over the White House's plans to restructure Medicare. Even before the proposal is completed, several senior Republicans have criticized Bush's anticipated suggestion to offer prescription drug coverage only to elderly people who join doctors' networks and other private health plans.

At a recent meeting with Vice President Dick Cheney, House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) and other GOP House leaders urged the White House to drop plans to issue

a detailed proposal and instead allow Congress to take the lead, according to congressional sources. And Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), who wields heavy influence over Medicare policy as chairman of the Finance Committee, said he, too, is no longer deferring to the White House.

Grassley said the White House had "botched" the development and announcement of its plan and caused "needless problems" by failing to confer with him early enough about pitfalls. "We've tried to be polite," Grassley said in an interview, but "I can't wait until the president presents a program to Congress ... any longer. I've got to start right now."

The congressional frustration comes just three months after Republicans regained control of the Senate and widened their House margin. While it is too early to predict the outcome of Bush's domestic agenda — a quick victory in Iraq could give the White House new leverage in Congress — lawmakers and outside analysts say the administration has lost early momentum through communication lapses, clumsy timing and, in some cases, policy decisions that many Republicans don't like.

The White House counsels patience. "We are only in the pre-game warm-up period," said deputy press secretary Scott McClellan. Bush aides said the lack of immediate progress reflects congressional rhythms. Lawmakers first must finish the 2003 spending bills held over from last year, and Senate rules make it difficult for Bush to push any contentious legislation before April. The White House strategy, one aide said, is to "lay a foundation" of domestic proposals to be pressed later in the year.

Still, the start has not been auspicious. Republican leaders have told the White House that the president's proposal to create new tax-free savings accounts has virtually no chance of passage. Republicans, including a Bush liaison to the House, Rep. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) complained that the idea was sprung on them without consultation.

Half a dozen Republican senators, citing deficit worries, raised objections to Bush's \$670 billion tax-cut proposal, particularly the elimination of taxes on stock dividends. Grassley warned last month that "we may not be able to sell it," although he sounded a bit more upbeat this week.

Enron Corporation Avoided Federal Tax Obligations with Stock Options

By Peter Behr
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Enron Corp.'s 200 highest-paid executives received total compensation of \$1.4 billion in 2000, more than triple the amount the year before and more than the company's \$979 million in reported corporate profits, according to a three-volume report the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation issued Thursday. The executives' compensation, mostly stock option awards, enabled the Houston company to wipe out nearly all its federal tax obligations that year.

While its compensation strategy was erasing tax bills in the late 1990s, Enron was turning its tax department into a profit center, the report found. Its senior executives joined with leading accounting, banking and legal advisers to manipulate tax laws through complex, concealed transactions that generated \$651 million in artificial profit between 1995 and 2001, the

report said. Enron paid these advisers \$88 million in fees in that six-year period in a relationship the committee called "incestuous."

Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said at a hearing on the report that he intended to introduce legislation that would bar other corporations and their outside advisers from imitating Enron's "tax schemes," effective with Thursday's hearing. "I don't care if it takes five years to get the legislation passed, the date will hold," he said.

Without new sanctions, the Internal Revenue Service will continue to be outwitted by corporate tax filers, as it was by Enron and its advisers, the report said.

The committee's top Democrat, Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) endorsed Grassley's pledge, calling the report a "wake-up call" on corporate tax abuse.

One Republican tax lobbyist said the Enron tax report has caused a rush of anxiety among Washing-

ton's law firms. Some worry that lawmakers will try to use the joint committee's loophole-closure recommendations to offset some of the cost of President Bush's \$665 billion tax cut plan, the lobbyist said. So the business community is gearing up for a major fight.

The joint committee's report, released after a yearlong investigation, "stunned" Lindy Paull, the committee's longtime chief of staff, she said.

Hundreds of pages of confidential flow charts describe how Enron engineered swaps of assets and securities between its divisions and some of its financial partners to accelerate billions of dollars in tax deductions.

In some cases, deductions were counted twice. Other deals allowed Enron to deduct loan principal payments, not merely interest. Other transactions appeared to shuffle paper between Enron units, with little of real value changing hands, the committee found.

Rumsfeld Endorses Shift, Possible Reduction in Troops in Korea

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld expressed support Thursday for shifting U.S. forces in Korea away from the fortified border between North and South and from the capital city, Seoul, adding that there might even be an overall reduction in the 37,000 U.S. troops stationed on the peninsula.

Disclosing that U.S. military officials have been working privately for months on a potential repositioning of U.S. troops in South Korea, Rumsfeld said bilateral discussions on the subject would soon begin at the invitation of South Korea's President-elect Roh Moo-hyun.

His remarks to the Senate Armed Services Committee came against the backdrop of recent strains between Washington and Seoul over how to deal with North Korea's intensified pursuit of nuclear weapons. The issue of alleged crimes committed by U.S. troops in the South also has become a subject of tension.

But Rumsfeld sought to couch the Korean review in the broader context of a general reassessment by the Pentagon and regional commanders of U.S. troop concentrations overseas, including the American military presence in Germany.

Rumsfeld appeared to favor some change in Germany as well. He noted with some frustration the difficulty that American troops are currently experiencing trying to travel from Germany to Italy — and on to the Persian Gulf for a possible war with Iraq — saying that Austria has blocked movement of the forces by rail through its territory.

AIDS Researchers Intrigued By Effect of Another Virus

THE WASHINGTON POST

BOSTON

Could the magic bullet against the AIDS virus be ... another virus?

AIDS researchers who gathered here Thursday got a slightly clearer look at one of the strangest actors in the AIDS drama — a microbe known as GB virus C.

The virus infects a significant proportion of humankind, at least 20 percent. Scientists have found no diseases or ill effects attributable to it, despite an intensive search since the virus was discovered in the mid-1990s. They have, however, noticed a benefit: People infected with the AIDS virus seem to live longer if they are also infected with GBV-C.

The good that GBV-C does may be equivalent to a large increase in the CD4-cell count, which is a measure of immune robustness that, for example, tends to rise with successful antiretroviral treatment of AIDS.

"This is really happening. There is a high attributable benefit if this virus is present. We really have to look at it," said Carolyn Williams, an epidemiologist at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

U.S. Plane Crashes in Colombia; Five on Board Missing

THE WASHINGTON POST

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

A U.S. government aircraft crashed in southern Colombia Thursday after its single engine failed. The fate of the four Americans and one Colombian on board remained uncertain as night fell in the guerrilla-controlled zone where the plane went down.

Colombian military officials warned that the crew may have been taken captive by members of the country's largest leftist guerrilla group, which regards U.S. government personnel as legitimate targets. The four Americans on board the Cessna 208 were contract employees of the Central Intelligence Agency at work on an anti-drug operation in southern Colombia, U.S. officials said.

Colombian soldiers arrived at the rugged crash site near the provincial capital of Florencia within 30 minutes of the 9 a.m. plane crash. Colombian officials said the soldiers found footprints in the vicinity of the crash but no sign of survivors or bodies. Officials raised the possibility that members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, an 18,000-member Marxist guerrilla group known by its Spanish acronym, FARC, could have arrived before the government troops, taking away any survivors. Officials also acknowledged that it was also possible that the men set off on their own, knowing they were in a guerrilla zone.

U.S., Turkey Haggles Over Economic Aid

WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

American and Turkish diplomats held intensive and inconclusive negotiations Thursday over the terms of a multibillion-dollar economic aid package designed to secure Turkish support for a potential U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and insulate Turkey from war costs.

After a day of discussions in Washington that included Secretary of State Colin Powell and Treasury undersecretary John Taylor, the two sides remained billions of dollars apart, said a senior Turkish official who described "slight movement, but not enough to satisfy the Turks."

Turkey, which shares a 218-mile border with Iraq, hasn't agreed to allow U.S. troops to use its facilities in the event of war, and Prime Minister Abdullah Gul told reporters in Ankara, the capital, Thursday that the decision would depend on the outcome of the aid talks.

Turkey received a commitment of military help Thursday from Germany and the Netherlands, which prepared to ship Patriot missiles there despite the NATO alliance's inability to agree to a Turkish request for protection against a potential Iraqi threat. Turkey continues to seek reconnaissance planes and units able to respond to germ and biological warfare.

U.S. officials say Turkey will certainly receive financial help from the United States.

OPINION

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Letters To The Editor

Jews Not Unwelcome At Concordia

In his column "Anti-Semitism in Egypt" [Feb. 7], Richard Kraus has unjustly accused Concordia University of "declaring Jews and Judaism unwelcome" by not bringing to light all the facts of the so-called "ban" on Hillel at Concordia. To begin with, neither Concordia University nor its administration "banned" Hillel. According to the Concordia University newspaper *The Link*, the Concordia Students Union (CSU) decided not to ban the group, but rather to suspend their privileges as a club pending an investigation of misconduct and possible illegal activity. The reason was that credible charges were brought against Hillel for possessing and/or distributing pamphlets that both violated CSU policy guidelines, namely for spreading racist ideas, and more seriously for potentially being in violation of Canada's Foreign Enlistment Act, which forbids recruitment in Canada for the armed forces of a foreign state. The former reference is to a poster comparing a Palestinian to a KKK member, the latter to a pamphlet for an outreach program that offered time training with the Israel Defense Forces.

Furthermore, the suspension was overturned within a week by the CSU, reinstating Hillel to its former status, requesting solely that Hillel, along with all other CSU clubs, sign an integrity agreement that demands that the groups be "fully committed" to "respect for all persons, ... non-violent behavior," to "not permit speech or materials that promote racism against any individual or group [or] that seek to recruit for any military or paramilitary organization," a commitment to "reasoned respectful dialogue" and "to protect the core academic functions of the University." Hillel refused to sign the agreement, choosing instead to file a lawsuit against the CSU.

Rafal A. Mickiewicz G

(Editor's Note: Two other Concordia stu-

dent groups have recently joined Hillel in refusing to sign the agreement, known at Concordia as "Appendix A.")

Seeking Equality

I am disappointed and concerned by the opinion presented in "When Should Race Matter in Decisions?" [by Ken Nesmith, Feb. 11]. Nesmith challenges affirmative action while at the same time defending racial profiling for the purpose of law enforcement. It amazes me that the author is willing to defend racial profiling on the basis that law enforcement can and should use all possible identifiers in their judgement, yet at the same time is not willing to justify hiring or admissions policies that consider ethnicity — even though ethnicity is as much an indicator of academic opportunity as it is of criminal intent. Equally bothersome is the opinion presented in the article that we should not seek "perfect equality of results between all races." A dedicated effort toward "equality of opportunity," which the author purports to support, would in fact achieve "equality of results." The author's distinction between the two makes me think that his real intention is to defend a society which benefits the majority at the expense of minority groups, with no real effort made to seek any sort of societal equality.

Why does Nesmith not support policies that at least attempt, albeit in a flawed and limited way, to reduce the real inequities among ethnic groups? Is it because he wishes to maintain the "indicators" that legitimize the profiling of innocent minorities?

Sandip Roy G

Israel Home To Variety Of Refugees

In his letter "Racist Israeli Policies Inspire Resentment" [Feb. 11], Bilal Zuberi implies that anti-semitism is an understandable response to Israeli policies. I must wonder if he would agree that discrimination against

Muslims is an understandable response to the Sept. 11 attacks.

The reason most Israeli Jews (or Zionist racists, as he calls them) are fearful of a government where they are not in the majority is very simple. In every country in the Middle East where Jews were not the majority, they were forcibly expelled when the state of Israel formed. There is no Jewish refugee problem because Israel took them in (about 600,000 Jews) and fully integrated them into its society, something that the much richer Arab countries are unwilling to do for Palestinian refugees.

On the other hand, the Arabs who are now living in refugee camps in the disputed territories left for the most part of their own free will. As proof of this fact, there are almost a million Arabs, who did not choose to leave at that time, now living in Israel and enjoying citizenship and the same rights as the Israeli Jews.

While I respect Mr. Zuberi's right to speak out, I am surprised that an opinion with name-calling instead of supporting evidence was published in *The Tech*.

Ilya Baran '03

Erratum

Because of an editing error, an article and headline regarding changes to the admissions policies for MITES and Interphase ["Interphase, MITES Eliminate Ethnicity As Criterion in Selection of Participants," Feb. 11] misstated the changes to the admission policies of the programs. MITES and Interphase will not eliminate ethnicity as a criterion for the selection of participants; the programs will now be open to students of all races, but race will continue to be a factor in admission decisions.

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Died: Pass/ No Record, 34.

W. Victoria Lee

I don't have time to eat, I don't have time to play my favorite computer games, I don't have time to hang out with my friends; heck, I don't even have time to sleep. And it's only the second week of class. One might wonder why I'm living an MIT upperclassmen's life while I'm still a freshman. I can only sigh and say that I have just parted with my best friend: pass/no record is gone.

The class of 2006 is the first class to receive only one semester of pass/no record in more than 30 years. At first I thought it was no big deal, but now I begin to realize the toil of it. Amid piles of problem sets, I miss terribly those insignificant but friendly "P"s on Websis, regardless of what they really are underneath. When the clock strikes five in the morning and I still find myself battling physics, I can't help but raise my arms and ask in anguish: Why, why, why did pass/no record have to go?

The pass/no record grading system for first-year students began as a four-year experiment in 1968 and became permanent in 1973. Except for changes regarding the standard of "pass" and the introduction of credit limits, the system remained unchanged until now. The consideration for doing so, however, surfaced in late 1999, when many felt that a lot of freshmen did not really learn the material or took harder classes without doing the corresponding amount of work. Some professors also felt that because the pass/no record grading system, many freshmen did not establish good study habits to prepare themselves for their significantly harder sophomore year. Indeed, last semester, when I had a choice between playing computer games and studying for next week's exam, I often found myself succumbing to the temptation of computer games because "it's only pass/no record." But I

have to admit, we had a great time together. Those sleepless nights of carpal tunnel syndrome-causing computer game playing, those endless hours of myopic glasses-thickening movie

watching, and those constant sounds of gossiping instant messaging are the beautiful memories that it left me. But our blissful moments did not come without a price. Struggling to recover from my deficient working habits last semester, as well as my frown-inducing grades, I realize the change is a wise one.

Compared to students from the past, who had the luxury of a full year of ease, I can't help to lament my misfortune as a member of the class of 2006, the first class to experience the change, and to mourn the early demise of

Over the years, our academic curriculum has proved to be one of the most rigorous in the world. Students often talk about surviving MIT, not just graduating.

our much beloved friend. But in earnest, I am already grateful for one semester of transitional adjustment. Most colleges do not even have a similar grading system for freshmen. Some universities, especially public institutions, even have pluses and minuses carry weight when calculating grade point averages. If an A minus is .3 points short of an A, to have a perfect 4.0 or 5.0 requires one to strive for solid As instead of just hanging on the border. I think I would easily perish in that environment.

But then again, MIT is not just any institution. Over the years, our academic curriculum has proved to be one of the most rigorous in the world. Students often talk about *surviving* MIT, not just graduating. To do well requires even more effort, superb time management ability, a superior work habit and probably an unusual brain. The pass/no record grading system provides a sheltered environment for freshmen, who come from widely different backgrounds, to adjust to the rigorous MIT lifestyle. Undeniably, without one semester of pass/no record, I would surely have died.

Nevertheless, there are many occasions when I wonder if I am doing the best I can, putting forth all my effort and absorbing as much as possible, or I am just doing the minimum to get me a passing grade. Of course, just because I was lazy, doesn't mean the rest of the freshmen were as unproductive as I was. But the temptation to do less is real. Whenever problem sets are due, I hear people who have not completed the work brag that they're not on grades. Whenever there is a conflict between the release of a new movie and the need for quiet study time for next day's exams, I see more people opt for the movie. Some also take a temporary break from their academic life in pursuit of their social life, because they feel if they don't do it during pass/no record period, there won't be any other opportunity for them to do so.

Looking at my classes for the spring semester and the amount of work they entail, I begin to regret that I grew a little too close to my friend, pass/no record. I have greatly enjoyed my time with it and I will always cherish the wonderful time we had together, but it is time to move on. Now is the moment to get my act together and do some serious learning. It will be hard to go through MIT without my friend by my side. I know there will be times when I feel like collapsing, there will be times when I feel like crying for its return, there will be times when I feel dreadfully lonely in its absence. But I have to be strong. I will make new friends. Look! Those resonance structures are already beckoning me to join their organic company. So, farewell, pass/no record, I'll miss you, but I know we've parted forever.

Pass/No Record was pronounced dead on February 4, 2003. It is survived by its only living relative, Jr. Sr. P/D/F.

William Li

Ask Dr. Fisk all you like, but for heaven's sake, don't get him started on documentaries!

Distinguished journalist Robert Fisk from London's Independent newspaper delivered a thoroughly engaging and emotional speech on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at MIT. He received a well-deserved standing ovation from an overcrowded 10-250, and an enthused applause from those in a packed-beyond-legal-capacity 34-101. However, despite such an immediately favorable response, there were definitely parts of his speech that clearly took away from the impact it would have otherwise had. Lengthy digressions from the topic, and a drawn out ending that included video clip after video clip, kept me from fully appreciating his message.

Dr. Fisk introduced the theme of his speech, "Ask All You Like About 9/11 — But For Heaven's Sake Don't Ask Why," by claiming that Americans left out the "why" in its reaction to 9/11. He accused the United States government of failing to look for a motive behind the terrorist attacks, when such practice is standard for investigators of any crime. He then went on to supply the audience, in great detail, with the motive as he sees it.

Dr. Fisk apparently had anticipated an event such as 9/11 as a result of pent up frustration and indignation that reached dangerous

levels, which ultimately led to a devastating expression of retaliation. He believes the Muslim world hates us with a vengeance because of the severe mistreatment they've received at the hands of America throughout the years, and that Muslims, forced out of homes despite holding legal title deeds, persecuted in Turkey (an act of ethnic cleansing some historians have called a Holocaust) by a government supported by the United States, and constantly misrepresented by American coverage of the Middle East conflict, have finally exploded. Through historical citations and movie clips, Dr. Fisk made a most impressive presentation of the "other side" in explaining the "why." For providing such enlightenment to those who have, until now, lived in America's bubble, the speech deserves great praise.

I am inclined also, however, to point out some of the less spectacular aspects of the speech. Dr. Fisk spoke a great deal about America's ever more serious standoff against Iraq, and the constant tug-of-war between Bush and the U.N. Security Council, with one side hotly impatient, madly seeking, even conjuring evidence, and the other side playing the wait-and-see game. I acknowledge that it would be unrealistic for Dr. Fisk, discussing foreign policy, to ignore the most important issue for American foreign policy today. However, the title of his speech should have limited Dr. Fisk to discussing the Iraqi issue

Debunking The Death Penalty

Andrew C. Thomas

The past month witnessed two incidents where the application of capital punishment came under fire. In his last days in office, Illinois Governor George Ryan emptied that state's death row, commuting 167 prisoners' sentences to life and pardoning 4 others. The bold move took many by surprise — it went against the Republican party line, and without the support of Ryan's aides or his wife. Ryan felt that the decision was more than one of conscience; he previously declared a moratorium on executions after 13 of a previous 25 Illinois death row inmates were exonerated.

There is no question that the move took chutzpah. It utterly enraged the families of the victims, who felt that they were entitled to some form of retribution for the losses of their loved ones. It enraged state prosecutors and judges whose jobs are to ensure justice is always served. And it apparently enraged John Ashcroft, who last week decided to force federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty in 12 cases in New York and Connecticut. His motivation? He wanted to ensure that it was applied evenly across the country in federal cases.

Leave alone the fact for a minute that there are other ways to ensure this — for example, lowering the number of people executed in other parts of the country. There are bigger issues at stake than Ashcroft's thirst for blood or Ryan's discomfort with Illinois' death row difficulties. Others have used these events to tackle the big question as to whether capital punishment is justified in our society.

To put it bluntly, it's not. And there's plenty of evidence to suggest that for whatever reasons Gov. Ryan pulled his strings, history and society will show that he was unquestionably right.

People seem to pay attention to issues involving money, and there seems to be a belief that to execute a criminal will save them money. According to Amnesty International, executions in Florida cost \$3.2 million, compared to a paltry \$600,000 for a life sentence. While this is an extreme example, the figures are similar in New York, California, Maryland and other states where formal studies have been conducted. The increased cost is largely due to a very high level of legal scrutiny in capital cases, a level necessary to prevent wrongful conviction and sentencing.

So where is this money going? By insisting on more executions, John Ashcroft certainly thinks that this is money well spent. Does he think we're paying for true justice? The families of the victims in Illinois do. They naturally believe that the act of execution will bring them closure after all the suf-

fering they've endured. Do they deserve relief? No one could possibly deny it to them if it were possible. But does execution accomplish this? It's a complicated question, and for many, the most important issue of why the death penalty is still active.

Consider that the urge to take a life to answer for another is simple revenge. To satisfy the bloodlust of a group of people is to condone the act of murder, no matter who pulls the trigger, flips the switch, or controls the syringe. The act of taking another life purely for the improvement of one's mood cannot possibly close any wounds.

And it is now equally pointless to argue that execution is the only "permanent" solution, preventing that particular criminal from repeating their offense. Penitentiary technology has improved dramatically over time. The likelihood that a convicted murderer can escape prison in the conventional sense is microscopic. Only in the past, when standards of living were lower and guards were more susceptible to bribery, did the human factor contribute to the penitentiary level. Only in the past were we required to shackle prisoners to each other and force them to work long, hard hours in the sun in order to minimize their chances of escape. Life sentences without parole do remove convicts from society at large, with the only viable escape mechanism removed.

The idea of the death penalty as a deterrent has also been discredited. Statistically, death penalty application does not remotely lower murder rates. Canada and all of Europe have abolished the death penalty, and show significantly lower per capita murder rates than the United States. The idea doesn't even hold within the country; a *New York Times* study in 2000 showed that individual states with the death penalty had murder rates of 48 to 101 percent higher than those without it, suggesting that the opposite effect: government-condoned executions encourage homicide.

But one fact remains clear; despite the best efforts of science, we have not yet reached the point where we can bring back the dead, nor will execution after execution bring us closer to this goal. We simply cannot trade the life of a murderer back for that of a victim, no matter how strongly we want it to happen. This idea, called the "closure myth" by psychologists, is well-documented yet evidently not well understood. And who can be blamed? If I were the family member of a victim, I would likely confuse the joy of revenge with the relief of closure as well. God knows that in that terrible position, I would need a system strong enough to force me not to consider this dangerous and self-destructive idea, which John Ashcroft and others sell like snake oil, masquerading it as a cure for one of the most virulent ills of the country.

We simply cannot trade the life of a murderer back for that of a victim.

Revisiting 9/11

as it relates to 9/11. Specifically, he should have expanded on the curious question of how Hussein has magically replaced Bin-Laden as the icon of evil, and how a war on terror has been turned into a war on Iraq.

Instead, the arguments quickly digressed into irrelevant criticism of the U.S. military, and an overplayed evocation of sympathy from the audience. Dr. Fisk went to great length to show the audience the devastating health effects of depleted uranium, which was used by the U.S. military in the Persian Gulf War. He cited numerous occurrences of cancer in the Iraqi population after the war as evidence of the effects of the radioactive material. Following the citation, Dr. Fisk showed us picture after picture of the faces of children who were suffering from cancer, and then informed us that none of the children survived. This was no doubt an emotional moment for the entire audience, who reflected on the costs of war. However, such a dramatic display was unnecessary and inappropriate for a speech on 9/11. A discussion on U.S. military irresponsibility is best left for another lecture, one that includes the dropping of the atom bomb, the air campaign against Afghanistan, and the bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Yugoslavia.

Apparently still in the spirit of overdoing things, Dr. Fisk showed four lengthy clips of documentaries based on his work. All four clips recorded Dr. Fisk's personal encounters with

the plight of groups of Muslims, who had been forced to give up their land and their homes. While Dr. Fisk may have been trying to drive home the images of scattered and lost people, the combined twenty-plus minutes of footage in a two-hour speech was clearly overkill.

It is indisputable that Dr. Fisk engaged the audience in an exciting and thought-provoking talk. His insights on history and the point of view from which he presented them, through his privileges as a world-renowned journalist, certainly provided a fresh breeze for many of his listeners, who have so far only heard tales woven by the American media. However, in relying on emotion to deliver the impact of the speech, his strategy backfired.

In America, 9/11 continues to be the most sensitive issue for the majority of the people. Anyone who attempts to play on emotions puts himself in a precarious position, particularly if he presents information contrary to popular sentiment. No visuals, however sympathy-inspiring, can compare with the images of the Twin Towers as they burned fiercely with thousands still trapped inside. No documentary could wrench the heart as HBO's "In Memoriam: New York City" did for the American public. The horror and tragedy of 9/11 stand out by themselves, and Dr. Fisk should not have attempted to equalize anything with the events of that day, as if suggesting that 9/11 was somehow justified.

History's Present

Philip Burrowes

In light of today's annual MLK breakfast, I originally wished to discuss the special relevance of Black History Month to MIT. With Monday's announcement that MITES and Interphase would cease to be "minority"-only programs, it would seem that news would supplant history as the topic of the day. Herein lies one of the reservations many have with a "History"-based celebration: it can obscure the conditions of the present. Such is, moreover, the perceived problem with the aforementioned programs; their focus on the racial iniquities of the past allows them to discriminate in the present. Can we truly understand their purpose, however, outside of a historical context?

MITES met the national spotlight in 1994, when one participant by the name of Cedric Jennings claimed that a warning — declaring that his chances of getting into MIT were slim — was a product of racism. Jennings has received attention before and since for his academic achievements in Washington D.C.'s "highest-crime area." As a result, much of the coverage surrounding his MITES experience contrasted him with the largely well-to-do attendees. It was just another example of how much racially-based affirmative action had outlived its usefulness, where only the wealthiest minorities — who ostensibly were no more disadvantaged than "mainstream" America — were being "creamed" off the top.

While it lacks a past incident of such caliber to highlight it, one can easily imagine Interphase having a similar, or worse, (given the more rigorous standards of admissions to MIT as opposed to MITES) income skew. Since Interphase students are effectively in school two months before other freshman, there is also fear surrounding the creation of racial cliques that will last throughout MIT careers. Concentrations of minority students in the halls of East Campus in the nineties actually led to the program's movement to Baker.

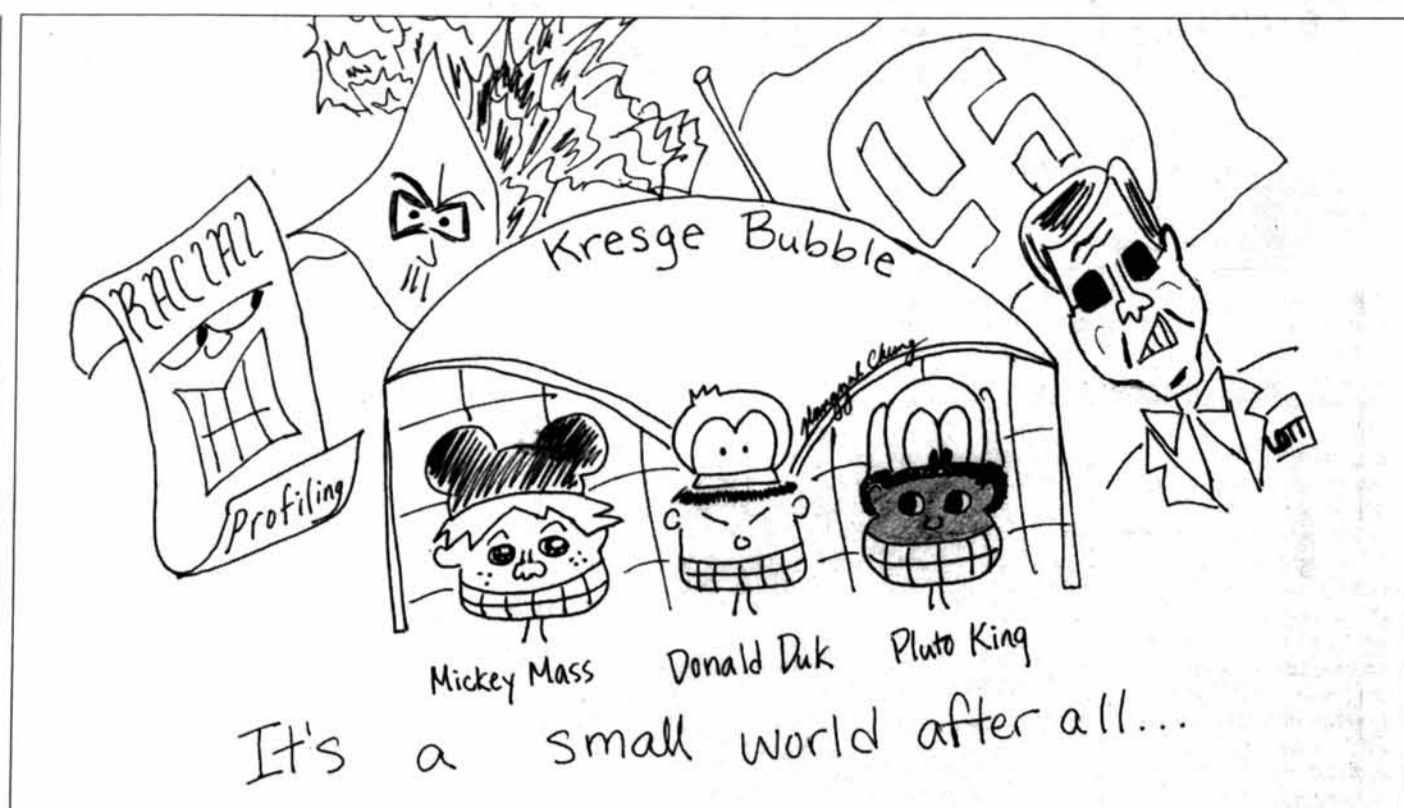
One would hope that by removing ethnicity from both programs, selection could be better focused on those who would most benefit. At the same time, there should be fears that they will lose their focus altogether. What will differentiate MITES from RSI? Might Interphase turn into an overextended Freshman Leadership Program (FLP), which is also oft-criticized for its participants' cliquishness? Then again, would they be that horrible?

If we could generate a demographic breakdown of those who have entered the Lobby 10 installation, what would we see? As it stands, segregation at MIT is supposedly well known emotionally, if not empirically. Students can easily rattle off which groups seclude themselves in which dorms. It is the in-class and extracurricular variations that escape our scorn. How often will an audience at the Institute — be it for LSC, a GIR lecture, or any of a myriad of student performance groups — approximate the diversity of the undergraduate body? The MLK breakfast itself will undoubtedly highlight this, for despite its appearance on the homepage Spotlight, it strikes many as just another discriminatory OME initiative. Earlier years' speeches were tailored as such, which ultimately undermines the point.

Black History Month is not made for the people who hold it most near and dear. It is made for the people who don't listen, who don't care, or who are even offended by its presence. The target, then, is almost always wrong. We'd be better served by having an impromptu speech by Julian Bond in front of a Roadkill Buffet audience than right next to the BSU. A minority-focused program must never be construed as for minorities alone.

This brings us back to the future of MITES and Interphase. Why not make them like RSI and FLP? It would effectively eradicate them, a sure case of throwing out the baby with the bathwater. Maybe the focus should be for all economically disadvantaged applicants. A more diverse mix of students cooperating (or arguing) would at least serve Interphase better, if it's truly about acclimation to MIT. Wholesale abandonment of the concept, however, will certainly not eliminate self-segregation, divergent academic success, or any of the other ills they attack, or are believed to be manifest.

Nor will we remember the good intentions of the programs in the earliest days. "Beneficiaries" and "disadvantaged" individuals in those initiatives need to communicate with each other to remember just why they should (or should not) be in their group.



Promoting Racial, Ethnic, And Cultural Education

Terrence Strader

Our society today suffers from a lack of education in the areas of race, ethnicity, and culture, the effects of which currently plague communities across the world. Using education as a tool to inform others in our society about the many diverse people in this world would help to eliminate the discrimination and prejudice that cripples our society on a daily basis. I propose that MIT students be the first to step up to the challenge.

During my first year here, I was amazed at the diversity of the campus. I saw people from many different racial, ethnic, and cultural groups, many of which I had never seen or heard of before. I did not know the best way to approach people of different backgrounds. I did not know whether they practiced some of the cultural rituals I did. Because I did not want to offend anyone with what I did or give a bad first impression of myself, I decided to stay around people I had been around all my life. I soon found out that I was not the only one who responded to their fears in this way. These actions lead to the self-segregation we see practiced all over MIT.

Though I began my diversity education freshman year, it was in my sophomore year that I enrolled in 11.023, Bridging Racial and Cultural Differences, taught by Dr. Clarence Williams. It taught me about my own background, while also teaching me about many others. I obtained a more in-depth understanding of the people who lived in my dorm, sat next to me in class, and who live in the many other countries of the world. The education I received in 11.023 caused me to strive to learn more; for the first time, I wanted to explore what I was learning on a variety of different levels. I am still seeking and will continue to explore different events and issues in the area of diversity.

With this said, I have a vision for MIT, a

vision that involves expanding diversity awareness. We have a very diverse campus; we have people from all realms of the world, of all different backgrounds, and nationalities. However, we seem to never take advantage of this great asset. Students continue to hide in their corners, concentrated with students of their own race, ethnicity, and culture. In their corners some students are making assumptions or developing negative thoughts about people of different backgrounds, and therefore never approaching them. As Dr. Beverly Ann Tatum, author of *Why are all the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*, says, "Sometimes the assumptions we make about others come not from what we have been told or what we have seen on television or in books, but rather from what we have not been told." It is time to educate the MIT community.

I have heard President Vest continually make statements supporting the idea of increasing our racial awareness. He has said, "We have much to do if we are to take true advantage of the rich variety of cultures and experiences we bring to this place." For years MIT has tried to use different approaches to promote awareness and understanding on the issues of diversity and race by offering a number of racial programs, extracurricular activities, workshops and discussions. Many students and faculty members have overlooked these opportunities. Now it is time to take a bigger step. As Civil and Environmental Engineering Professor Steven R. Lerman said, "As an institution, we will need to pay attention and be willing to increase our efforts over the coming decade if we are really going to succeed." It is time to increase our efforts.

This expansion could come from a required class. It could be a HASS-CI class, satisfying Phase I of the Writing Requirement. It would include alumni participation, improvements in advising and mentoring,

improvements in the first year educational experience and transition into other years thereafter, and allowance for the flexibility for new learning experiences on and off campus.

MIT Alumni are motivators and mentors for many students. I propose that alumni should play this role on a more active basis, speaking to these classes. Dr. Williams's book, *Technology and the Dream*, would be a great place to start searching for alumni dedicated to addressing diversity issues. They could come and reflect on their experiences here at MIT, and inform the students how much has changed, or even stayed the same, since they were here. Actual testimonials would be great exposure to what is going on or has gone on in our society, instead of simply reading articles or watching videos.

A list of alumni or current staff who wish to participate could be given out to students at the beginning of the term; students could then utilize them as resources for projects or papers. In this way, students and faculty could directly learn from each other. They would build a bridge of understanding.

A diversity class would not only improve the first year educational experience, but also the lifetime educational experience. Because most first year students come from high schools with homogeneous racial settings, they would be greatly benefited by heterogeneity. Taking this class will allow students to learn more about everyone around them and feel more a part of the crowd. They could begin taking full advantage of the environment MIT provides and develop into better leaders.

Our entire campus needs to be racially, ethnically, and culturally educated. We need to take advantage of the wonderful gift of diversity we have taken for granted for far too long.

Terrence Strader '04 is a member of the Committee on Campus Race Relations and the founder of *Advocates for Awareness*.

A Participant's Story

Kelvin Paulino

As we approach this new age of enlightenment and reason, now more than ever, we tend to forget the countless struggles that have existed in the past; those of sorrow and ignorance. As we commemorate Black History Month, it is disappointing to see that as we look into the horizon and take one step forward, we blind ourselves to the reality and take two steps back.

Although heartfelt by many at MIT, the changes made to the MITES and Project Interphase programs were shocking to say the least. As I write this, I remember back in April of 2001, still a junior in high school, when I received a large white envelope coming from 77 Mass. Ave. containing my admission to the MITES program. I would never have stepped inside that building had it not been for the program. Through the generosity of MIT and many corporate sponsors, and the tireless efforts of Karl Reid and fellow staff members, I shared an experience I will never

forget.

It was a program dedicated to increasing the number of underrepresented minorities in the statistically lopsided engineering profession. Not only did the program raise awareness, but it also created faith in a dream many of us students of color are rarely encouraged

to share the experience with 79 other individuals that were much like each other and yet so different. The bonds formed during that short six-week period are still amazingly strong. The program essentially created a family whose roots extend throughout the United States, and at almost every elite university on the map. In retrospect, I could not imagine my life without having gone through the experience. Although I have faith that the academic integrity of both programs will continue to hold strong, I fear that the sense of community is at stake. I put my

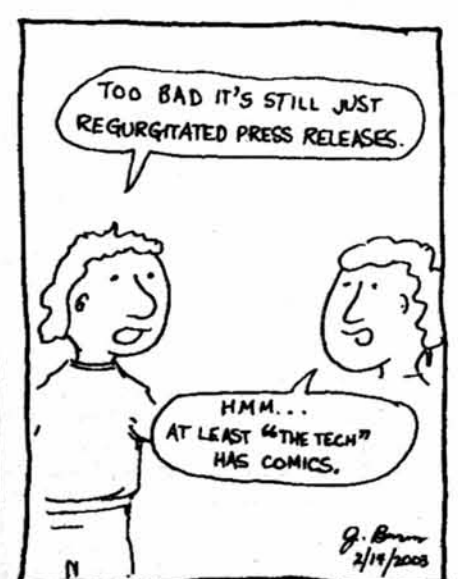
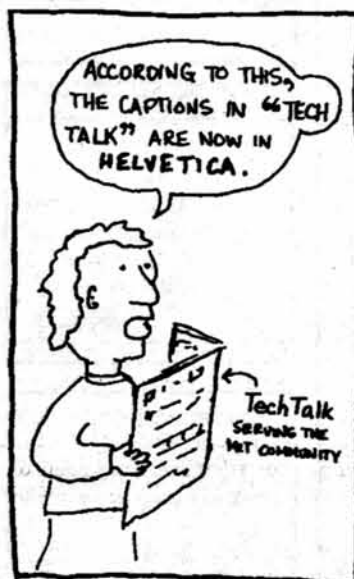
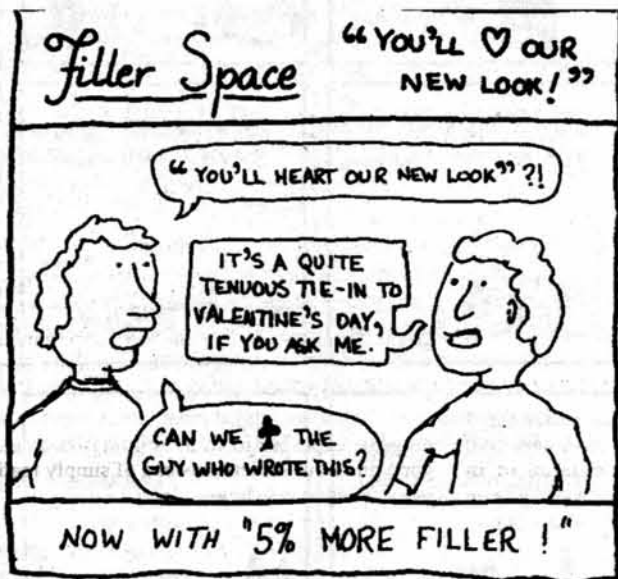
Not only did the program raise awareness, but it also created faith in a dream many students of color are rarely encouraged to pursue.

trust in the amazing staff of these two programs and in MIT, in hope that decade-old traditions of excellence and belief in a cause so great do not die, during such nebulous times for the heart of the MIT community and the nation.

Not only was it amazing to be at MIT, something all of us occasionally take for granted, but it was all the more enlightening

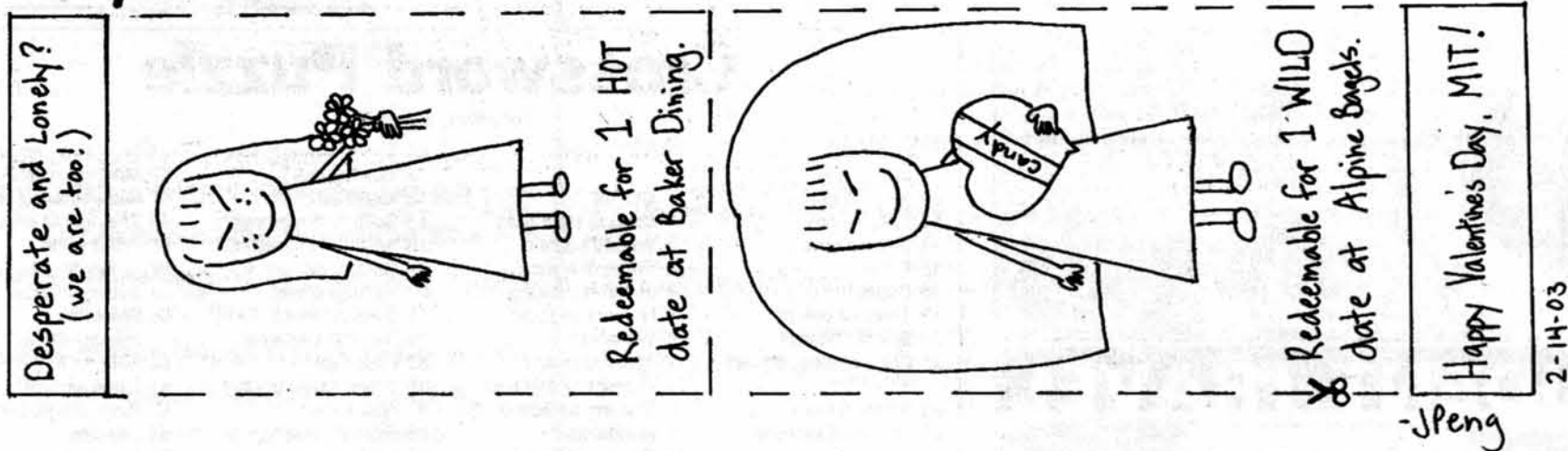
trust in the amazing staff of these two programs and in MIT, in hope that decade-old traditions of excellence and belief in a cause so great do not die, during such nebulous times for the heart of the MIT community and the nation.

Kelvin Paulino is a member of the class of 2006.



Hay Fever

by, Qian-nifer

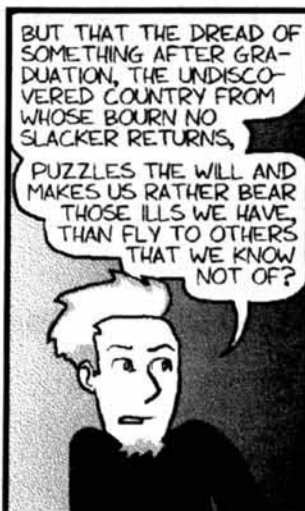


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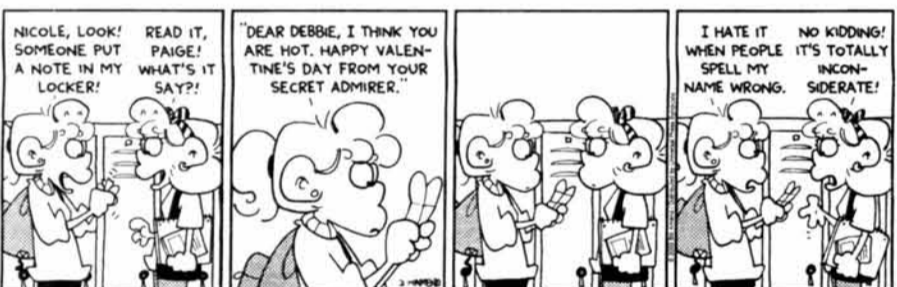
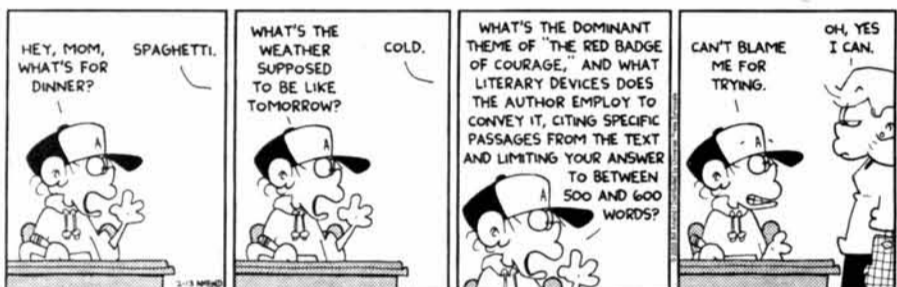
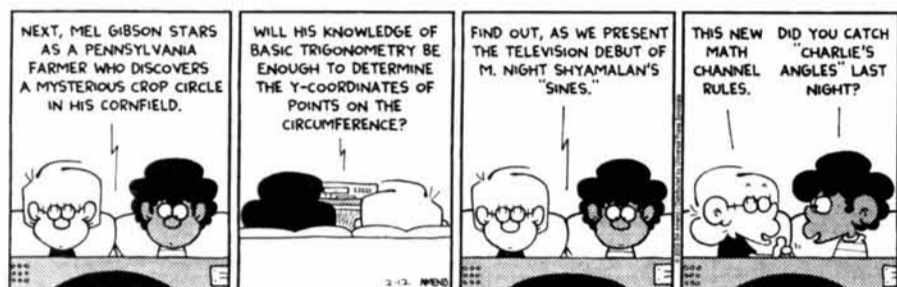
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Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 10

- ACROSS**
- 1 Spaghnum
 - 5 Rubbed out
 - 10 Cob or pen
 - 14 Solemn vow
 - 15 Part
 - 16 Couch
 - 17 Three of hearts
 - 20 Spirited board?
 - 21 Pope who negotiated with Attila
 - 22 Rabbit female
 - 23 Formula One racer Lauda
 - 25 Informer
 - 26 Dr. Tim's drug
 - 27 Joke or choke
 - 29 Eye part
 - 31 Writer Morrison
 - 33 ERs' neighbors
 - 34 Denims
 - 36 A single time
 - 39 Three of hearts
 - 43 Coin channel
 - 44 "Prince of the City" director
 - 45 Triumph
 - 46 Fellini film
 - 49 Costa
 - 50 Collection of anecdotes
 - 51 Chowded down
 - 53 Wile E. Coyote's supplier
 - 55 Hip ending?
 - 57 Gibson of "Lethal Weapon"
 - 58 Burn with hot liquid
 - 60 Not fulfilled
 - 63 Three of hearts
 - 66 Important times
 - 67 From then until now
 - 68 "Do ___ others as..."
 - 69 Umps' cohorts
 - 70 Hayworth film, "Miss ___ Thompson"
- DOWN**
- 1 Lorre in eight films
 - 2 Waikiki's island
 - 3 Three of hearts
 - 4 Japanese sliding door
 - 5 Harvest goddess
 - 6 White lies
 - 7 Three of hearts
 - 8 Pathogenic bacteria
 - 9 Meeting accepted standards
 - 10 Compass pt.
 - 11 Three of hearts
 - 12 '60s hairdos
 - 13 Identified
 - 18 Scott of "Enterprise"
 - 19 "Mikado" character
 - 24 Currier and
 - 27 Valhalla crowd
 - 28 Seed protector
 - 30 Daredevil Knievel
 - 32 Frisco hill
 - 35 Trailer truck, briefly
 - 37 Abel's killer
 - 38 Sicilian volcano
 - 40 Ike's arena
 - 41 Brief time periods
 - 42 Monument figure
 - 47 False face
 - 48 The right to enter
 - 51 Fossil resin
 - 52 Haute, IN
 - 54 Soprano Callas
 - 56 Follow as a consequence
 - 59 701
 - 61 External: pref.
 - 62 Ring rulings, briefly
 - 64 Silly billy
 - 65 "___ Haw"

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Events Calendar

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

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

Friday, February 14

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Muses Serenades. The MUSES will be serenading a sweetheart near you across the MIT campus, in classrooms, in offices, and for long-distance loves over the phone. Find us in the student center a few days prior to order your serenade! \$15 (\$10 - phone). Room: MIT Campus. Sponsor: Muses, The MIT.

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. Student Led Campus Tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Information Session. The Campus Tour begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

1:10 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. - Muslim Friday Prayer. Weekly congregational prayer for Muslims. People of other faiths welcome to attend. Email msa-ec@mit.edu for more information. free. Room: W11-110. Sponsor: Muslim students' Association.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

7:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - MIT Anime Club showing. Join us as we show a mixture of brand new and classic works from Japan's famed animators. Films about giant robots and big hair, but also films about romance, growing up, and some truly bizarre comedy. free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

7:30 p.m. - Women's Ice Hockey vs. University of Southern Maine. free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

8:00 p.m. - Hamlets. Dramashop's deconstruction of Shakespeare's drama, directed by Janet Sonenberg. A theatrical experiment designed to explore issues in Shakespeare's challenging play about existence, identity, memory, choice, responsibility, leadership, and relationships. We take the protagonist and make him truly central: there are only Hamlets on stage, and all of the other characters are played as projections of Hamlet's perception and

memory. \$8, \$6 students. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

Saturday, February 15

9:00 a.m. - Men's Indoor Track & Field Coed Invitational. free. Room: Johnson Indoor Track. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

11:00 a.m. - Women's Indoor Track & Field Coed Invitational. free. Room: Johnson Indoor Track. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

1:00 p.m. - Men's Basketball vs. Springfield College. free. Room: Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

3:00 p.m. - Women's Basketball vs. Springfield College. free. Room: Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

3:30 p.m. - Women's Ice Hockey vs. University of Southern Maine. free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Mic-Check. A campus-wide poetry slam featuring cash prizes. Show off your performance poetry skills or just come and watch. Recommended donations of \$5.00 or a children's book of your choice benefit the ReadBoston children's literacy fund. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Alpha Delta Phi.

7:30 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. - February Dance. Free lesson at 7:30 with admission. Featuring an evening of ballroom and latin dancing. Save the date! \$3-\$8. Room: Walker Memorial. Sponsor: MIT Ballroom Dance Team.

8:00 p.m. - Hamlets. \$8, \$6 students. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

Sunday, February 16

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - PAN-ASIAN LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION. Celebrate the arrival of the New Year in China ("Yuan Tan"), Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam ("Tet"/Nguyen-dan), Korea ("Sol-nal"), and other Pan-Asian countries with a festive Pan-Asian New Year's Celebration. This family event includes performances by The MIT Lion Dance Group (lion dances traditionally bring good fortune, prosperity, and longevity), Harvard Asian American Dance Troupe, the Harvard Chinese Yo-Yo Group, & American Chinese Art Society. Plus, refresh-

ments, song, dragon piñatas, cultural activities, arts/crafts /games native to each Asian country. Based on bringing luck, health, happiness & wealth until the next year, the Asian New Year is one of the most highly significant and celebrated holidays on the lunar calendar. Funded in part by the MIT Council for the Arts and MITAC. Purchase by February 14th. \$5. Room: Walker Memorial, Morss Hall. Sponsor: MITAC.

Monday, February 17

6:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. - eFair. An MIT/Caltech collaborative eFair event. A unique opportunity for students to search online for an internship. free. Room: monstertrak.com. Sponsor: OCSFA.

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Learning Together-Working Together. This course provides an opportunity for students to develop a deep understanding of the personal, inter-personal and institutional dynamics of race, ethnic and cross-cultural relations at MIT, practice in the skills needed to work effectively and lead diverse groups and teams, and an opportunity to participate in a focused project aimed at improving some aspect of campus race relations. Through the course participants will acquire an understanding of the history of race relations at MIT; 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; and identify resources available through CCRR and other sources to support efforts to improve race relations. free. Room: To be announced. Sponsor: Committee on Campus Race Relations.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - "Embedded curves in 3-folds and the GV conjecture" free. Room: 2-143. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

**"Anything you learn, you can unlearn."
- Jane Elliott**

Jane Elliot developed the "Brown Eyes/Blue Eyes" experiment for her 3rd grade class following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She believes the experiment proves that racism is a learned behavior and not a genetically inherited one.

Television documentaries of Jane Elliot's work include the Peabody Award winning "The Eye of the Storm," and "A Class Divided," as well as "The Eye of the Beholder" and a PBS Frontline Series, which both garnered Emmy Awards.

Elliot continues to guide the nation in unlearning the habit of discrimination.

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Presented by: Advocates For Awareness (AFA): Discussing Race and Diversity Issues on Campus**

Program Still to Consider Race

MITES, from Page 1

dents are chosen is non-discriminatory."

Reid said that race continued to be an important issue in selecting students. "First and foremost, it is about race," he said. "Minority students tend to be over-represented in lower socioeconomic levels," so race and socioeconomic status are not easily separable, Reid said.

MITES will be open to whites and Asians, in addition to blacks, Native Americans, and Hispanics, but the program will target minorities and use race as a selection criteria, Reid said.

"I'm looking for students who will benefit the most ... and we hope that large numbers of those will be underrepresented minorities," Reid said.

'Diversity' a contentious issue

Reid, and others at MIT, believe that encouraging minority students to pursue science and engineering is an important goal, and a core question in the *Grutter* case is whether achieving a diverse student population is a compelling state interest.

Clegg said that diversity is not a compelling interest. "I don't think a desire for diversity justifies discrimination," he said.

It is unclear what impact a decision in *Grutter* would have. Clegg said that if the decision affects

undergraduate admissions, it ought to impact other selection decisions as well.

"I don't know if it'll threaten the program," Reid said, noting that whether MITES will be affected depends on the details of the Court's decision.

A second issue is whether the Michigan admissions policy is sufficiently narrowly tailored. In addition to establishing the standard of compelling state interest, the 1995 *Adarand Corporation v. Peña* decision stated that affirmative action programs had to be narrowly tailored, meaning that the programs must be carefully designed and subject to judicial review.

"Requiring strict scrutiny is the best way to ensure that courts will consistently give racial classifications a detailed examination, as to both ends and means," wrote Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Debate began with *Bakke*

The legal questions about affirmative action programs in higher education started with *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, the landmark 1978 Supreme Court case that declared racial quotas unconstitutional. The case considered a U.C. Davis Medical School admissions policy that put some minority applicants into a separate admissions system. Four justices argued that race should not be used as a factor in the decision,

and four argued that Davis' policy was constitutional.

Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., wrote the key opinion. He argued that the Davis admissions method was not allowed under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, but that diversity was important and race could be considered in some circumstances, though it could not be the only consideration.

Powell wrote that "the goal of achieving a diverse student body is sufficiently compelling to justify consideration of race in admissions decisions under some circumstances," but he also wrote that "racial and ethnic classifications of any sort are inherently suspect and call for the most exacting judicial scrutiny."

With *Adarand*, the Court took a turn more toward the anti-affirmative action side. Twenty-five years after *Bakke*, the Supreme Court will reconsider affirmative action in college admissions and may well overturn the doctrine put forth in *Bakke*.

The particular question in *Grutter v. Bollinger* is whether the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibit the University of Michigan-style admissions system, which determines admissions by a points system. Extra points are granted if the applicant is a member of an underrepresented minority group.

All-TEAL 8.02 Leads To Freshman Gripes

By Jewel Nanda

Despite high hopes and initial success, the mainstream Physics II (8.02), now taught in the Technology Enabled Active Learning format, has left many students unhappy about the new format and unsure of what to expect for the rest of the semester.

The TEAL program, unlike the traditional lecture format, emphasizes a more active, hands-on approach, requiring students to collaborate with fellow group members in efforts to analyze experiments and solve problems.

Students have complained that although the system may show some promise, it is still in need of many revisions.

"I find it difficult to adapt to a system that I'm so unfamiliar with," said Suzanne E. Luther '06, a student currently enrolled in 8.02.

"Though there are some things I like about the program, there are other things that I'm rather skeptical about," Luther said. "I'm not convinced that this may be the best approach for everyone."

Physics professor and 8.02 instructor John W. Belcher, however, said that the TEAL version has proven to be a significant improvement over the standard lecture format.

"Students through the TEAL version have performed statistically better," Belcher said. "The program is still in its evolutionary stage, but much is continuously being done to improve the structure of the course."

Peter Dourmashkin, one of the directors of the 8.02 TEAL program, feels that the program is showing signs of success and that current skepticism generated by students currently enrolled in the course may simply be due to a lack of familiarity with the program.

"The system is very flexible and much is being done to accommodate the interests of all students," Dourmashkin said. "Our goal is to maximize long term retention of material by maintaining an interactive environment during class hours."

Students disapprove of groups

Many students said that the methods used to promote an interac-

tive environment and retain students are not too effective, and could use improvement.

Lele Yu '06, a student who took the TEAL version of 8.02 last fall, resented the group system in which students were divided into groups of three in efforts to encourage collaboration.

She said that "too much depends on the type of group members that you get and how much they participate." In her case, one of her group members rarely showed up to class.

Rob W. Grimes '05, who took the course in the fall of 2001, shared similar sentiments. "I was lucky to have group members who were actively involved with me," he said. "Had I not, I don't think I would have been able to get much out of the course."

Dourmashkin, however, said that this is only a temporary issue that may soon be resolved. In the future, he expects groups to be rotated to encourage more active collaboration.

Theory not emphasized

Students who enrolled in the course this term with little or no background in the subject material have also complained that not enough theory is being covered in each session.

"Most of my learning comes from actually reading at home rather than what goes on in class," said Shirley X. Li '06, a student currently enrolled in 8.02. "I feel that the two hours I spend in the TEAL room are not efficiently utilized."

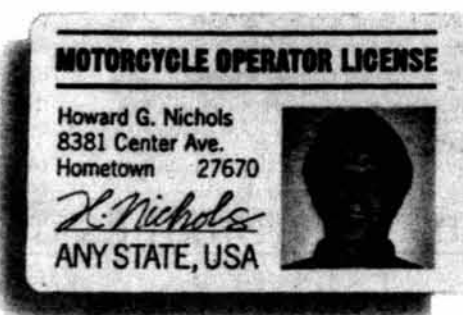
Min Deng '06 agreed, saying that "too much time was being spent applying concepts and not actually learning them."

Mubarik F. Imam '06, who is also enrolled in 8.02, said that it would be best if both the lecture version and the TEAL version were offered simultaneously.

"Not everyone should be obligated to learn through the TEAL program," said Imam. "Students who prefer the standard lecture format should be able to attend that version of the course."

If the TEAL program is successful this term, soon Physics I (8.01) may be converted into TEAL as well.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 8

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Write for *the Tech!*

News meetings are
Sunday at 5pm

Photo meetings
Sunday at 6pm

in
W20-483

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Graduate Housing Rent Increases by Over 6 Percent

By Kathy Lin
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Graduate housing rent will increase overall by 6.5 percent in 2004 and rents for some residences have also been restructured to correlate with the desirability of each room.

"The increase last year was about 5 percent, and a little less than that the year before," said Larry G. Benedict, Dean for Student Life. However, this year's deficits led to an abnormally large system-wide increase for graduate rents, he said, adding that "we're a small business and need to be self-sustaining."

Next year, however, the rent increase should be relatively small because "most of the contributing factors have been accounted for with this year's increase," Benedict said.

"We would have liked for more of the increases to be spread out over a few years, but we didn't see that carried through," said Barun Singh G, co-chair of the Graduate Student Council Committee on Housing and Community Affairs.

Several reasons for rent increase

The reasons for the increased rents include the operating costs of the dormitories, lingering costs of the new graduate dormitory (the Warehouse), less revenue than expected from rents and summer housing, lower rents for Senior

Segue students, revenue lost because of empty beds, a decrease in Pool C subsidies (money invested by the Institute to fund graduate student education), and reduced numbers of beds in Sidney-Pacific dormitory and Ashdown, Benedict said.

The Pool C subsidy for housing decreased by \$750,000, Singh said.

Rents correlated with desirability

"The administration and the majority of grad students believe that ... rents [didn't] correspond to the amenities" of the rooms, Singh said.

"We want to make sure that there's fairness and equity," Benedict said.

The GSC gathered input from graduate students and compiled the data to determine the relative desirability of each type of room in each dormitory. With this data, they created a proposal for price adjustments that was submitted to Benedict.

"Except in a couple of cases, we were able to restructure the rents the way the graduate students wanted," Benedict said.

"[The new] rents correlate to relative room and dorm amenities," said Christina E. Silcox G, co-chair of the Committee on Housing and Community Affairs, at a graduate housing "town hall" meeting Monday night.

As a result of the restructuring of

rents, the changes in rents for rooms ranged from 0 to 23 percent, rather than a uniform 6.5 percent increase, as would have been the case in past years, Benedict said.

Eastgate and Westgate, the two family dormitories for graduate students, did not have relative rent restructuring. The prices for doubles in Ashdown House, doubles in Green Hall, and quads in Sidney-Pacific also remained fixed.

The restructuring changes probably will not affect student choices about living on or off campus, but they "will affect choices about where they're comfortable living," said Lori Lerman, one of the Warehouse housemasters.

Student opinions collected

To collect the opinions of students, "the GSC did a survey, which we supported," Benedict said.

The GSC "examined different ways to restructure the rents without system-wide increases," Singh said.

The committee created thirteen different "rent structures," or lists of proposed rents for each type of room in each dormitory. The relative prices for each type of room varied in each rent structure, but the total revenue that would be produced for MIT by the rents remained the same.

Responses to these rent structures were then gathered through student responses to the graduate

student life survey that was given at the end of October.

Respondents to the survey who indicated interest in living on campus were given three of the 13 structures at random, as well as descriptions of the amenities that accompany each dormitory. They were then asked to rank their three top choices, given the price structure and the amenities, Singh said.

These data were compiled by the housing committee. They analyzed the data to produce a rent structure that they believe most fairly reflected the demand for each type of room in each dorm, Singh said.

Increases concern students

"As far as system-wide increases go, we weren't able to give as much input as we would have liked, and grad students aren't very happy with it as a whole," Singh said.

"Some of these rooms are as good as any room in Cambridge or Boston, and our rents are between 100 and 150 dollars less than in Boston or Cambridge, according to the survey," Benedict said.

Students at the Monday night meeting complained that the buildings are "much nicer than they should be." Although the students appreciate the amenities of the new dormitories, they are concerned about the costs associated with nicer facilities. The costs are more than students can afford, Singh said.

They also questioned why they have to pay for the empty beds, which are a planning mistake on the part of the administration rather than the responsibility of the graduate students.

"Our biggest concern is in Sidney-Pacific, where a lot of students will have to pay 100 dollars more [per month] next year," Silcox said.

"If it's costing a whole lot more for kids to live here than near other schools, then kids will go to other places," Singh said. "Stipends need to be correlated with the cost of living. Either stipends need to be higher or subsidies need to be higher."

The people who set the stipends aren't the same people who set the rents, Silcox said. Departments have not yet determined stipend levels for next year.

The GSC advises that concerned students speak with faculty, who "have very loud voices," Silcox said, and to e-mail administrators if students move off campus as a result of the price increases.

The cost for housing is directly set by Benedict. "We did our best to have as much input as we could, but the final decision" was Benedict's, Silcox said.

Graduate housing prices for next year can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/gsc/www/Committees/HCA/rents.txt>.

Beckett W. Sterner contributed to the reporting of this story.

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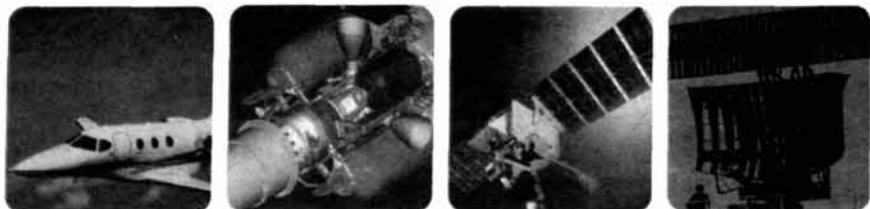
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Major Changes Made to Graduate Housing Lottery

By Matthew Kwan
STAFF REPORTER

The graduate housing lottery has been revamped to minimize the number of students getting their lowest choice.

"What the [new system] means is that fewer people get their first choices, but ... fewer people [will] get last choices," said Resident Life Associate Anthony E. Gray PhD '01.

In past years, a handful of graduate students got assigned their fifth and sixth choices, and a few received worse choices. In the new system, no students will get fifth or sixth choices, and many more students will get their second and third choices, compared to previous years.

The previous lottery assigned all graduate students a number, said Gray, who worked extensively to upgrade the system. The housing

office would then e-mail or call every student to offer them one of the rooms available. A student could then either reject or accept it.

There were two major problems with the old system, Gray said. One problem was the length of time it took. The second problem was that it "underutilized the housing supply".

"The [old system] optimized for highest preferences," Gray said. "It provided a maximum number of number one choices, but then it didn't really look at how unlucky other people got."

The large number of low choices assigned led to empty rooms. "We have a lot of empty spaces in the system, because they were offered too late or too low," Gray said. "Empty spots mean higher rent."

Penalty to be levied for withdraw
The housing office will also now

levy a \$250 fine on students who fail to accept an assignment.

"The fine is there to dissuade frivolous submissions," Gray said.

The fine will also apply when withdrawing from the lottery between the dates of May 19 and May 23.

The deadline for submitting preferences to enter the lottery will be on Feb. 28, but applicants will be able to change their preferences any time before May 19.

"There [will be] no fine before the May 19 deadline," Gray said.

Graduate students are guaranteed to be notified of their assignment no later than June 2, although the housing office will try to get the results in by May 23.

It "depends on when people are leaving or graduating," Gray said. "The sooner we know, the sooner we can get results out."

House to house switches allowed

House-to-house switches will also be permitted for next year, said Director of Housing Karen A. Nilsson.

"Currently, house-to-house switches are not permitted, ... something that will change in standard operation," Nilsson said.

Under the new system, graduate students will be able to sign housing license agreements electronically instead of sending a paper copy to the housing office.

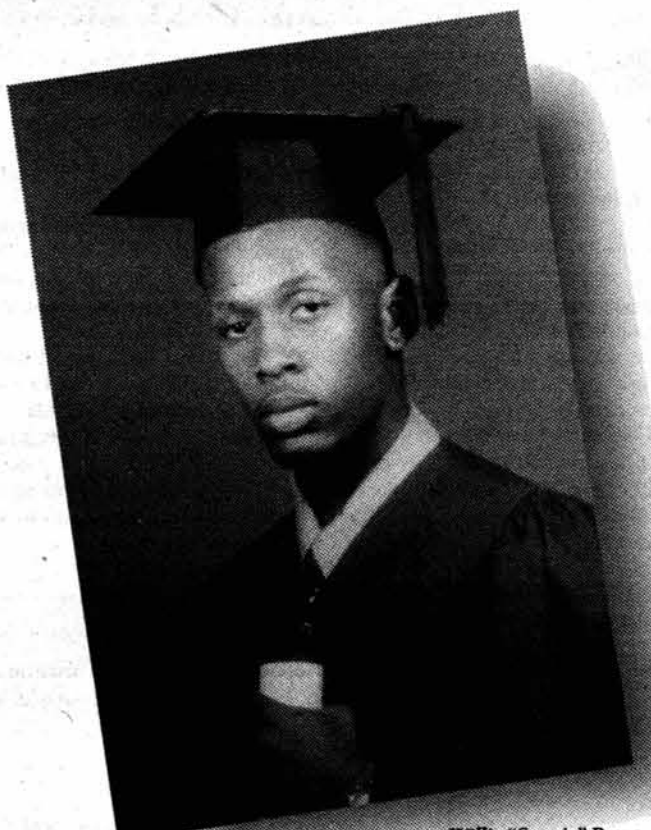
"When you add all that up, that's a lot of paper," Nilsson said. "We are not going to generate every single hard copy."

Graduate students will also be able to look up their housing assignment on a computerized system. In the past, the housing office sent e-mails to every graduate student informing them of their housing

assignment. "We are not going to send out 3,000 e-mails," Nilsson said. "What we're looking to do is create a more efficient and fair lottery process."

The lottery process will also be computerized and electronically-based. The new change was designed to speed up the housing assignment process and save lots of paperwork. "Our current process is labor-intensive," Nilsson said. "We wanted an electronic lottery system."

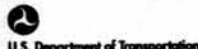
The process of computerizing the graduate lottery system follows the upgrades to the freshman undergraduate lottery system made last year. The GSC lottery system did have an electronic component in previous years, "but not enhanced to the level we want to make it next year," Nilsson said.



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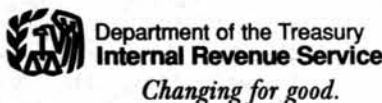
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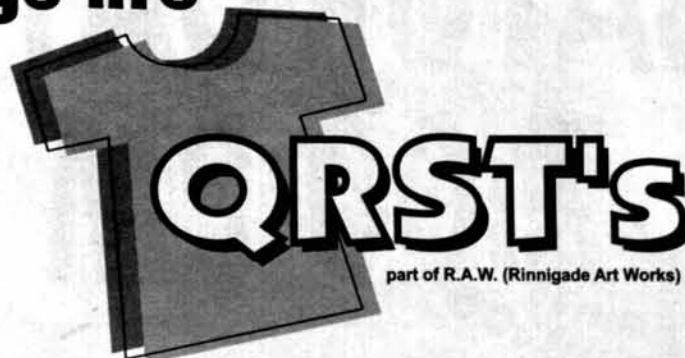
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Departments Post Class Materials, Syllabi Online

By Jenny Zhang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Some departments have begun posting class material online rather than distributing paper handouts, in an effort to lower paper and photocopier usage.

This change is part of school-wide effort to make as much information as possible available electronically.

The physics department has implemented a set of guidelines for materials that may be photocopied and ones that must be posted exclusively online.

The physics department paper policy, enacted at the beginning of last semester, includes such guidelines as putting solutions to homework and exams online, and having lecture notes on the Web, or having students buy them at CopyTech. Professors have the option of distributing the course information, syllabus, and calendar on paper.

"Our reasons are two-fold: to reduce cost to the department, and to conserve paper for EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] issues," said Associate Department Head for Education Thomas J. Greytak.

"The same money allotted to xeroxing also is used for other purposes including paying problem set graders and maintaining the physics reading room," Greytak said.

Greytak said that other departments have posted information online instead of printing it on paper.

"Our feeling is that students won't have to print everything posted online," Greytak said.

Greytak added that a small number of faculty members may have

continued providing handouts, using money from other sources.

Physics Professor Walter H.G. Lewin was unaware of the department policy, but puts course materials online out of convenience.

"In 1999, I realized that xeroxing — the hassle of sending things out to be copied and then brought back and carried to the classroom — was an incredible waste of energy on my part, so I thought, Why not make the students responsible?" Lewin said.

"I do this because I'm lazy. I never did it for economic reasons," he said. "I have never heard of such a policy. It cannot be the reason; the money saved is trivial."

Athena printing use rises

Athena printing increased steadily throughout the fall semester. Academic Computing purchased five new printers to compensate.

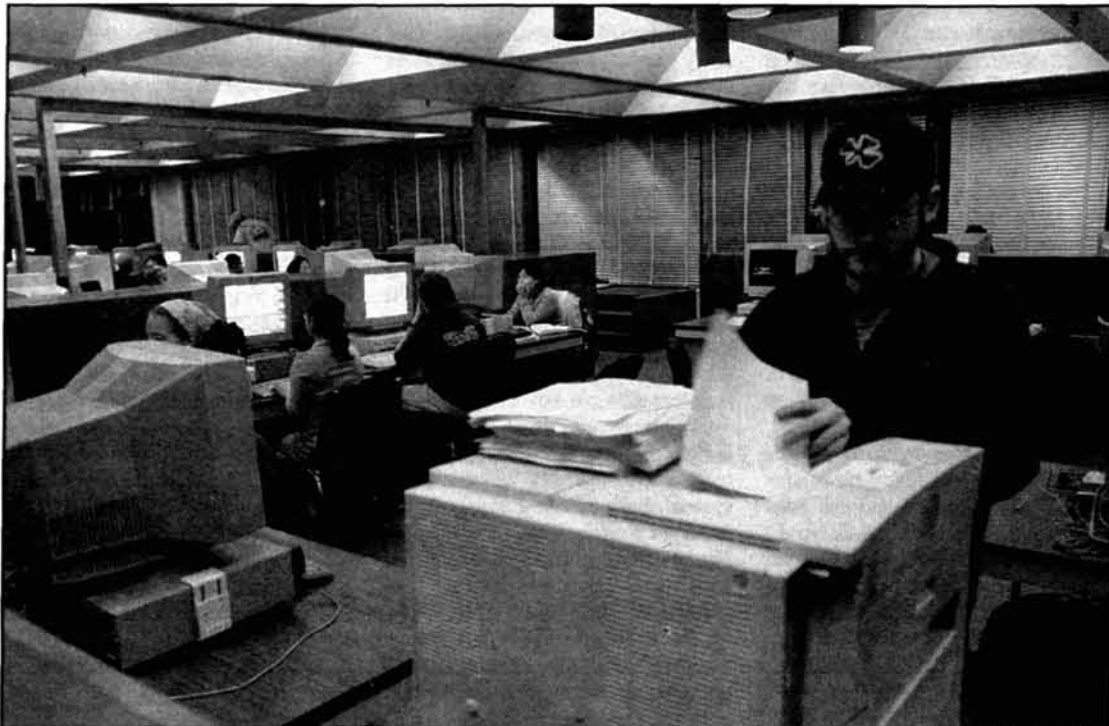
"I would guess that the overall increase in printer use is the direct result of more course material being posted on the Web," said Athena Systems Programmer Camilla R. Fox '00.

"There is no hard and fast limit on the number of pages that may be printed per term, but violations of Athena rules of use will be handled accordingly," Fox said.

Most departments lack policy

Many departments are beginning to post class material online, but do not have formal rules regarding paper handouts.

"We have no policy regarding this. We do try to get as much of the material as possible online; whether there are hard copies is up to the professor," said John V. Gut-



Christopher M. Grammer '06 prints out his Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs (6.001) notes. Recent Institute budget cuts have prompted some departments to stop photocopying handouts for students.

tag, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

"There has been the general tendency for things to be put in electronic form, but no requirement that they are made available only electronically," said Subra Suresh PhD '81, Head of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

The civil engineering department has been considering developing a handout policy.

"There has been discussion, but a policy may be more appropriate for certain programs than others,

rather than for the entire department," said department head Patrick Jaillet PhD '85.

Students pay for 21F handouts

For several years, the foreign languages and literature department has required students to purchase course readers, and has not made changes due to the recent general budget cuts.

"I've been here for ten years, and it has been done this way ever since I came," said Nancy D. Lowe, administrative officer for the department.

Except for syllabi and exams, the cost for copying is divided among the students.

Lowe said the foreign language department does this because it is small and does not have a large budget to support the amount of copying necessary.

"The cost is quite low for each student, but we have around 80 sections of courses and that adds up to a large amount for us," Lowe said.

Lowe added that some material is very difficult for students to find for purchase, so the solution is to assemble course readers.

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Entries received for each respective course of study during one Entry Period will not carry forward to subsequent Entry Periods. Entries will be judged by an independent panel of judges supervised by PST (an independent judging organization whose decisions will be final and binding in all matters relating to this Contest) based on the following criteria: 1) Originality: 0-40 points; 2) Creativity/Written Expression: 0-20 points; and 3) Relevance to the theme: 0-20 points. The likelihood of winning a prize will depend on the quality of each entrant's submission as compared to the quality of all other entrants' submissions as judged in accordance with the aforementioned criteria. In the event of a tie, all such tied entries will be judged based on Originality. 0-100 points. If a tie still exists, the remaining tied entries will be judged based on Relevance to theme: 0-100 points. Winners will be notified by telephone and/or mail on or about 5/20/03. 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Internship selection process will be based upon numerical scores awarded as outlined below per each student's participation in summer study program activities, including but not limited to, performance during study group activities and case study analysis, teamwork, attendance and overall participation, and compliance with summer study program and University codes of conduct as follows: Issue identification and case performance: 20%, Case study performance and study group interplay and cooperation: 50%, class and field study attendance/participation: 15%, and compliance with summer study program and university codes of conduct: 15%. Summer study program classroom/off-campus occurrence attendance is mandatory and winners must comply with all MasterCard rules and regulations relating to their participation in the summer study program. 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If any prize notification letter is returned as undeliverable, a runner-up will be awarded the prize. By participating, entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and 1) Attest that their entry is an original creation that has not been previously published or submitted to any other competition; and 2) Agree that Released Parties and their designees and assigns, a) shall own the entry (and all material embodied therein) and shall have the perpetual, worldwide right to edit, publish, exploit and use the entry (or any portion thereof) in any way and in any media for advertising and/or trade purposes and/or for any other purpose in any media or format now or hereafter known without further compensation, permission or notification from the entrant or any third party; b) shall have the right and permission (unless prohibited by law) to use entrant's name, voice, city/state of residence, photograph and/or other likeness for advertising and/or trade purposes and/or for the purpose of displaying their name as a winner and/or for any other purpose in any media or format now or hereafter known without further compensation, permission or notification; c) one of entry shall not violate the right of any third parties and shall not violate any applicable federal, state or local laws or ordinances; d) shall have the right, in their sole discretion, to display any entries that they deem to be obscene or otherwise not in good taste; e) shall have no liability and entrant will be deemed, indemnify and hold harmless Sponsor and the other entities named herein from and against any liability, loss, injury or damage of any kind (including attorney's fees) to any person or entity including, without limitation, personal injury, death or damage to personal or real property, due in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by reason of the acceptance, possession, use or misuse of a prize or participation in this Contest and any travel related thereto including, but not limited to, any claim that entrant's submission infringes or violates the rights of any person or entity. 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Rush Petition Never Shown to Committee

RSIT, from Page 1

"The great majority of first-year students got their first or second choice," he said. "There were relatively few who chose to enter the adjustment lottery [the post-Orientation dormitory selection process, previously mandatory for freshmen], which is an indication that they were somewhat satisfied where they ended up with."

Expanded dormitory rush unlikely

In November, the Dormitory Council circulated a petition for residence selection to be "brought back as an uninterrupted multiday event."

The petition received about 500 student signatures, said Grace R. Kessenich '03, the DormCon presi-

dent and a member of the RSIT, but was never presented at an RSIT meeting.

"We, being hosed students, dropped the ball on that," Kessenich said. She added that DormCon might present the petition along with a proposed schedule for Orientation, which the group intends to submit within a week.

Redwine said that a change in the length of rush was unlikely for next year. "I am aware that there are some members of our community ... who would like to see an expanded dorm rush, but I don't think we're going there," he said.

"The bulk of the evidence indicates that we've done a pretty good job setting up a system that works," he said.

Frats Mute About Live-In Frosh

Frats, from Page 1

mail said.

"There is no pre-determined sanction," Benedict said. "Our goal is to keep freshmen on campus and to support the fraternities. We cannot support them by having them move their freshmen into the house."

Baker said that her office is consulting with the Interfraternity Council to determine methods of enforcing MIT's policy.

IFC President Lawrence W. Colagiovanni '04 said that he is in the same position as Baker and Rogers regarding violations.

"I'm not about taking money away. If it comes to that, I'd like to see the IFC work with the Student Life office and the fraternities," said Colagiovanni.

Actions that violate policy unclear

The e-mail acknowledged that "it

is understandable for freshmen to sleep over or 'crash' at the house," but did not draw any specific lines between spending time at the house and living there.

"I haven't heard of a line. What I've been telling presidents is its about perception," Rogers said. "If it is perceived that they're living in the fraternity house we'll have to address that issue."

While both Baker and Rogers said that there have been no specific violations of MIT's policy, Rogers said there was one particular case where they did question a fraternity and an individual.

Presidents of several fraternities declined to comment on whether or not freshmen were currently living in the fraternity house, saying only that they were aware of MIT's policy.

Freshmen who recently declared sophomore standing are also not

allowed to live in fraternities because sophomore standing is only an academic status, said Associate Dean of Academic Resources and Programming Julie B. Norman.

"If this is their first year of being at MIT the issue has less to do with formal class standing and more to do with this being their first year living at MIT," Baker said.

In the meantime, the IFC is focusing its energy on keeping freshmen from taking the non-residential option for next year.

"In the past it's never really been an option. Now it's a lot more viable," Colagiovanni said.

Freshmen will have to confirm whether or not they will want Institute housing for next year by March 7, but the IFC wants to push that date back to give them more time to allow conversations with and provide financial incentives to freshmen, Colagiovanni said.

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Coop Student Board Election Update

The following student Coop members have been nominated by the Stockholders as candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2003-04 academic year.

M.I.T. UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS:

- Michael Leison (Graduate)
- Pius Uzamere (Undergraduate)
- Mark Kim (Graduate)
- Keren Rimon (Graduate)

HARVARD UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:

- Andreea Stefanescu
- Adam Gordon
- Christina Adams
- Joseph Bress

HARVARD GRADUATE STUDENTS:

- Yael Hadass GSAS
- Torarie Durden HBS
- Barbary Cook KSG



For Information call or email: Allan Powell, 499-2025, aepowell@thecoop.com

HTTP://www.thecoop.com

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

NIGHTLINE

Need to talk? Give us a call.

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Not getting your child all her shots is like leaving her out here alone.

At least 11 shots by two. How sure are you? Questions? Call 1-800-232-2522.

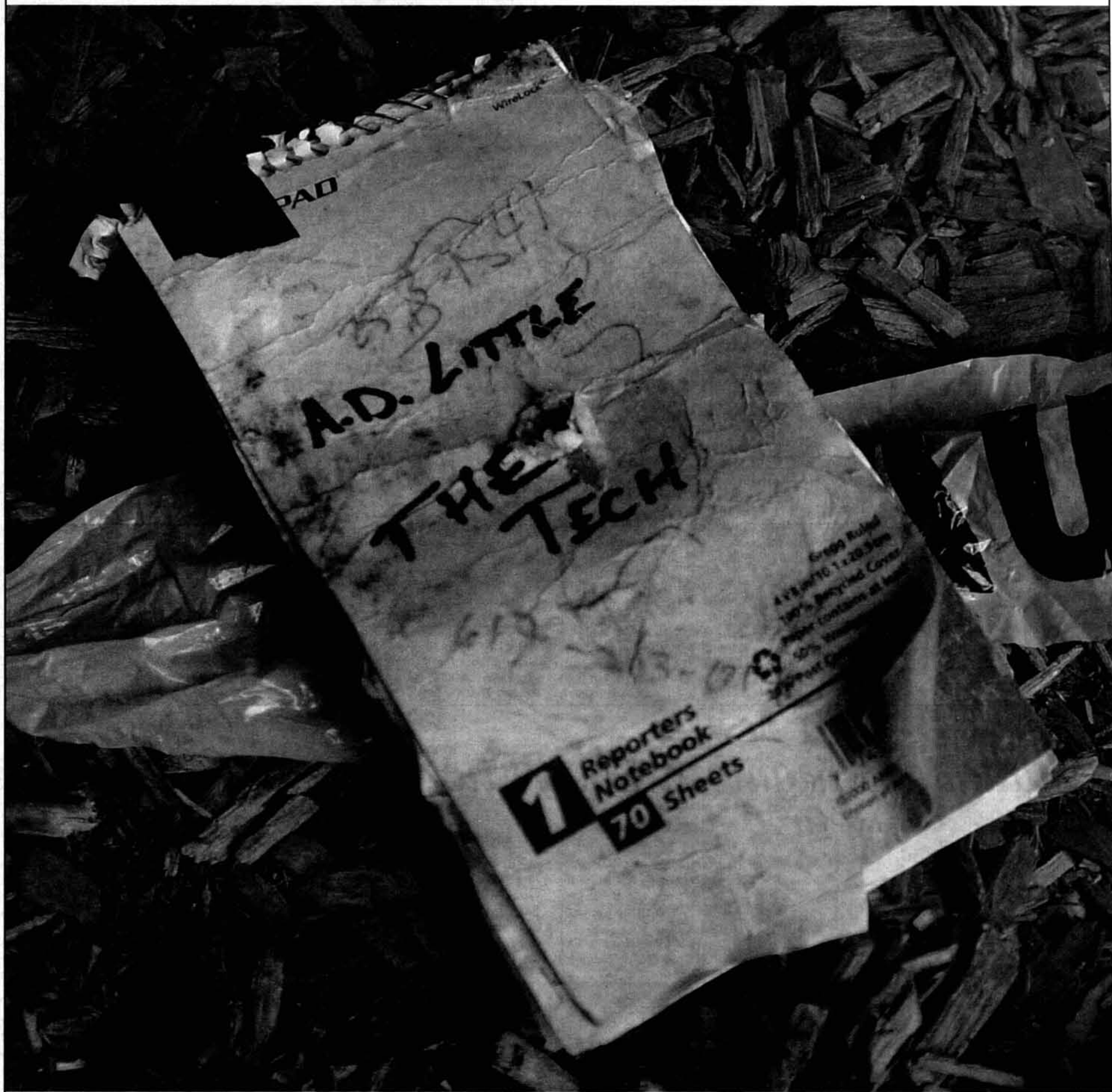
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



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THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW ★★ 1/2

*Don't Call Us, We'll Call You**'The Recruit': Your Average MIT Dork Saves the World*

By Brian Loux

ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

The Recruit

Written by Roger Towne and Kurt Wimmer

Directed by Roger Donaldson

Starring Al Pacino, Colin Farrell, Bridget Moynahan, Gabriel Macht, and Karl Pruner

Rated PG-13

I'll admit it. The reason I wanted to see *The Recruit* was that the preview explained that the main character was from MIT. And every so often I like to imagine that after four years of botched studies, I have the potential to attract women like Bridget Moynahan (*Coyote Ugly*) and get a job spying and beating the crap out of people.

This imaginary play-along scenario doesn't last too long. There are obviously some blatant flaws that make you realize it's not MIT. For example, at the MIT Job Fair, there are companies that want to recruit people. And while there is a good amount of spy action, and another great performance by Al Pacino (*Scarface*) as Walter Burke the CIA Drill sergeant, nothing else remains that makes you want to follow along with James Clayton (Colin Farrell, *Phone Booth*) on his mission to save the free world.

For the next 30 minutes, the movie paints a picture about how hardcore the CIA really is during their training at "the farm." These scenes, along with the "Republican interns are hot!" guy, make you wonder if our Congress got its greasy paws in the production of the movie. Speeches about choosing good over

evil, fun-looking training missions, long distance running, and a few spy traps just make the time seem to fly by while praising the merit of those in training. Not only are they seemingly pointless to the plot, but they also fail to develop and enhance the dynamics between James and Walter, James and Leyla (Moynahan), or James and his dead father, around all of which the movie is supposed to revolve. All they really do is remind us to give much respect to the CIA. And, I guess, young Republican women.

Finally, our real story begins. Walter fakes James's dismissal from the farm in order for him to be an uber-spy of justice. In typical Bond fashion, the attractive female lead who has an intimate relationship with the hero is actually a double agent. John's mission is to let her lead him up to her boss without arousing suspicion. The story picks up and leads us on an intense and intriguing chase.

The problem is that while the plot develops, the characters don't. Even good performances by Farrell and Moynahan and great tough-guy acting by Pacino can't shake the cookie cutter roles that they have been given. You care for John because he's a great spy. You care for Walter because he's Al Pacino. You care for Leyla because she's attractive. These are really good characters for a light, summer-read novel, but not necessarily for a movie.

On a more positive note, the movie contains one of the most suspenseful gunfights I've ever seen. Innovative lighting and use of closed space only add to the well-done scene. The director chooses not to let bullets fly, but draws out the tension of the scene by having only one volley and then making the assailant go into hiding. You are kept waiting in spectacular Hitchcock fashion.

One would expect a few plot twists to add a little suspense to the movie. And there are — but any person with high mental acumen would be able to see them coming. You will be able to see the big plot twist before it is laid out in the open, and the only surprises left will be the tricks that Mr. MIT has up his sleeve.

And while the movie pays homage to our school, it certainly



Walter Burke (Al Pacino) taps MIT student James Clayton (Colin Farrell) to work for the CIA in *The Recruit*.

KERRY HAYES—SMPSP

FILM REVIEW ★★

*'Shanghai Knights' a Good Flick**But a Timeless Classic it Ain't*

By Amandeep Loomba

STAFF WRITER

Shanghai Knights

Written by Alfred Gough & Miles Millar

Directed by David Dobkin

Starring Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson, Fann Wong

Rated PG-13

Writing film reviews is a funny business. Firstly, it's not a business. I don't get paid, though I do get to see movies for free. Secondly, I'm often amazed that the things I write even get printed. Then again, I'm always amazed that film reviews I see in other publications get printed. Thirdly, I'm torn about the perspective I should take when I review a film. It is very difficult to balance the pretentious bluster of the classic film critic ("Spielberg's meditation on the nature of humanity was an a priori puerile experience that ultimately left the viewer cold") with that guy who likes to tell people which movies sucked and which ones rocked ("*Mulholland Drive* is worth seeing just for the tits.")

Two of the four total people out there who read my reviews don't have the same last name as me. One of these two recently asked me how to distinguish a good film from a good flick. To this inquiry I replied: "You appreciate a good film. You enjoy a good flick." I thought that sounded pretty darn intelligent.

So I walked into *Shanghai Knights* with a solid understanding that I was about to see a good flick and not a good film. I greatly

enjoyed the flick's predecessor, *Shanghai Noon*. But I have no rational explanation for why a film like *Rush Hour* and its sequel, *Rush Hour 2*, would be so much more popular than *Shanghai Noon*.

In the end, I suppose it comes down to your personal impression of the on-screen chemistry of the actors. I don't really think Jackie Chan has any remarkable chemistry with Owen Wilson in the *Shanghai* films or with Chris Tucker in the *Rush Hour* films. However, Wilson and Chan are both made from such unique and volatile solutions that there's always chemistry in the air when they're on screen together. Tucker, however, just comes off as corrosive. I imagine that is why one set of movies is so much better than the other.

Shanghai Knights takes the tired fish-out-of-water/buddy flick formula and transplants it from the Old West to London. It's hard to pinpoint the exact time at which the film takes place, but it seems to be somewhere before the invention of long-distance telephone and after the invention of hair gel. The film's villain, Lord Rathbone (Aidan Gillen), has much less character than his hair, which takes on such a wild variety of shapes and sheens that each appearance it makes is

FILM REVIEW ★1/2

*No Love for 'He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not'**Don't Take Your Date to See This on Valentine's Day*

By Julie H. Hong

A La Folie ... Pas Du Tout ... (He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not)

Written by Laetitia Colombani and Caroline Thivel

Directed by Laetitia Colombani

Starring Audrey Tautou, Samuel Le Bihan, Isabelle Carré, Clément Sibony, and Sophie Guillemin

If you want to be at all romantic this Valentine's Day, do not take your date to see *He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not* (also known as *A La Folie ... Pas Du Tout ...*). While this film may have been intended to be a daring romantic thriller, in reality it is none of the above.

The film opens with Angélique (Audrey Tautou), a promising art student, under love's spell. The object of her affections is a married cardiologist (Samuel Le Bihan). Sound familiar? The story has been exhausted, and one wonders why they continue to try. This is nothing more than *The Crush* in French — and just as bad.

In addition to being generic, one of the film's major flaws is its script. The dialogue, often lame, displays no wit, cleverness, or even humor, and the consequence is weak central characters. Angélique is a feminist's nightmare, moping over a married man who promises to leave his wife but never does. Though he stands her up on multiple occasions, she continues to defend him and makes excuses for his behavior. But there is nothing particularly interesting about her, making her difficult to like or dislike, while Loïc never appears to have a personality at all. As a result, neither character is able to generate any sympathy. The supporting characters, comprising Angélique's friends, David (Clément Sibony) and Héloïse (Sophie Guillemin), and Loïc's wife Rachel (Isabelle Carré), are equally dull.

This may have been salvaged by an exciting plot; however, neither interesting nor suspenseful, *He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not* couldn't possibly be more tedious. Angélique is represented in the film by a delicate desert plant that can only survive in a controlled climate; and she, like the plant, lives in her own controlled environment, in which her fantasy is reality. As this "reality" breaks apart, her destruction of everything around her, including herself, sets in.

Audrey Tautou (*Amélie*) portrays the cute and naïve Angélique convincingly enough, though her naïveté at times feels forced. Samuel Le Bihan (*Brotherhood of the Wolf, Red*) is acceptable but hardly noteworthy as Loïc.

The only difference between *He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not* and its predecessors is its storytelling, which employs the use of different perspectives to unfold the plot. This might have been considered creative, if it hadn't already been done — and with greater success — in films such as *Hilary and Jackie*, *Run Lola Run*, and *Go*.

Ultimately, the storytelling is the film's downfall. The film relies too heavily on its presumed cleverness to make up for its weak story and dull script; and rather than unveiling an intriguing mystery, it merely creates blanks and, upon retelling the story from another perspective, fills them in. The result is a thin plot stretched beyond capacity. At the end, what you're left with is considerably less than the sum of its parts.

doesn't do justice to poor Pacino, who ends up being the big loser at the end of the movie. From Ray Liotta in *Narc* to Robert DeNiro in *Analyze That*, the tough-guy Old Guard is slow-

ly losing its status in Hollywood.

The Recruit didn't blow me away or give me the ego boost I wanted, but it was able to entertain me with a good story for two hours.

Jackie Chan's remarkably poor English. Chan himself is still the absolute best at what he does, namely, performing impossible stunts, using props in ingenious ways and getting the crap beaten out of him.

But Chan is clearly getting old. The hallmark of any Jackie Chan film is the climactic stunt that's so outrageous that the director will actually force you to watch it multiple times, from different angles, over and over again until you accept that Chan is some sort of low-order monkey god. For instance, the leap off the clock tower in *Project A*, or the leap between buildings in *Rumble in the Bronx*, or any one of a number of jaw-dropping scenes in *Police Story*. *Shanghai Knights* completely lacks a stunt of this order. Any stunt that could be of that order is for some reason edited to shreds.

In general, the film suffers the fate that most American movies that feature kung fu suffer. American directors and editors simply don't know how to frame and present Chan's style of graceful hand-to-hand fighting appropriately and respectfully. In other words, you never get the full picture of what is happening. In an effort to keep the action going, the camera never lingers on a single motion or attack to let the viewer really appreciate Chan's cleverness.

In spite of this, there are a few scenes that will impress. Foremost among them in my mind is the whimsical tribute to *Singin' in the Rain*, which finds Chan balancing on stacked boxes with an open umbrella in his hand, while kicking his opponents in the face. The scene is a perfect way to highlight Chan's grace and timing. Film kung fu has always had its similarity to dance in musicals, but seeing it made so explicit is quite entertaining.

To summarize the plot of the movie would be unfair, since its plot is obviously not its strong point. Instead, I suggest you go see the film for Wilson's charmingly crooked nose, Chan's famously endearing grimace and Wong's sensuously hot hotness.



Jackie Chan once again performs death-defying stunts in *Shanghai Knights*.

TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

bility all at once, taking a central role in the film as sign of identity as well as an all-purpose prop. This time around, unfortunately, there are no braided hair gags.

In fact, this time the whole outing seems less fresh and funny. Owen Wilson, I maintain, is still one of the great American comedic actors. He made *Zoolander* worth watching, and he's the only American so far who can act around

Clubs

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437
Sundays: See Avalon below.
Mondays: *Static*. Gay, casual dress. \$5, 18+.
Thursdays: *Chrome/Skybar*. Progressive house, soul, disco; dress code \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Avalon.
Saturdays: *X-night* (rock, alternative, techno, hip-hop) downstairs and *Move* (techno) upstairs.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424
Sundays: *Gay Night* (with Axis on long weekends). Featuring hardcore house and techno. \$10, 21+.
Thursdays: *International Night*. Eurohouse. \$10, 19+.
Fridays: *Avalandx*, with Axis. House. \$15, 19+.
Saturdays: *Downtown*. Modern house, club classics, and Top 40 hits. \$15, 21+.

Karma Club
9 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9595
Sundays: "Current dance favorites" by guest DJs. Cover varies.
Tuesdays: *Phatt Tuesdays*. With Bill's Bar, modern dance music. \$10.
Wednesdays: *STP*. Gay-friendly, house. \$15, 21+.
Thursdays: *Groove Factor*. House.
Fridays: *Spin cycle*. Prog. house. 19+.
Saturdays: *Elements of Life*. International House. \$15.

ManRay
21 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-864-0400
Wednesdays: *Curses*. Goth. Appropriate dress required. \$5, 19+; \$3, 21+.
Thursdays: *Campus*. Popular tunes, House. Gay, casual dress. \$10, 19+; \$8, 21+.
Fridays: *Fantasy Factory* (First and third Friday of the month. Features kinky fetishes and industrial music.) *Hell Night* (every second Friday.) 19+. Includes Goth music. *Ooze* (the last Friday of the month.) \$10, 21+. Reduced prices for those wearing fetish gear.
Saturdays: *Liquid*. Disco/house and New Wave. \$15, 19+; \$10, 21+.

Popular Music

Axis
13 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA. 617-262-2437

Feb. 14: Trust Company
Feb. 16: Clutch
Feb. 21: Big D and the Kids Table
Feb. 25: American Hi-Fi
Mar. 2: Killswitch Engaged
Mar. 5: Trapt
Mar. 13: CKY
Mar. 21: Hot Rod Circuit

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., Boston, MA. 617-262-2424

Feb. 15: Steve Earle and the Dukes
Feb. 19: Nick Carter, Justincase
Feb. 22: Hatebreed, Biohazard
Mar. 1: Hatebreed, Biohazard
Mar. 6: Interpol
Mar. 7: Sum 41
Mar. 9: Saliva, Hed (pe), Breaking Benjamin, Systematic
Mar. 14-17: Dropkick Murphys

Berklee Performance Center
Berklee College of Music, 1140 Boylston St., Boston, MA.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 617-266-2261.

Mar. 15-16: Sigur Ros

Club Passim

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
February 14 - 20
Compiled by Devdoot Majumdar

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

47 Palmer St., Cambridge, MA. 617-492-7679
Tuesdays: *Open Mic at 8 p.m.* (sign up at 7:30). \$5. See <http://www.clubpassim.com> for complete schedule

Feb. 14: Brooks Williams
Feb. 15-16: Kris Delmhorst
Feb. 19: Beth Amsel

FleetCenter
One FleetCenter, Boston, MA. 617-931-2787

Mar. 4: Bon Jovi, Goo Goo Dolls
Apr. 1: Tim McGraw

The Middle East
Central Square, 617-354-8238
Ticketmaster: 617-931-2787.
Venue has two floors. Upstairs (U), Downstairs (D)
<http://www.mideastclub.com>

Feb. 14: Babaloo's Family Circus
Feb. 15: Willie Alexander
Feb. 16: Grandmaster Flash
Feb. 17: Rasputina, Incus
Feb. 18: Confront, Dirty Water
Feb. 19: Nada Surf, Sondre Lerche
Feb. 20: Mr. Lif, Akrobatik
Feb. 21: J. Mascis + the Fog
Feb. 22: Jiggle, Psychedelic Breakfast, Mamacita
Feb. 23: Trocadero, The Juitter Project
Feb. 24: Irepress, Sunset is a Battle
Feb. 26: Cohead and Cambria, One Line Drawing, Hopesfall
Feb. 27: Max Creek, Uncle Sammy
Feb. 28: Sex Mob, Beat Science, Dresden Dolls

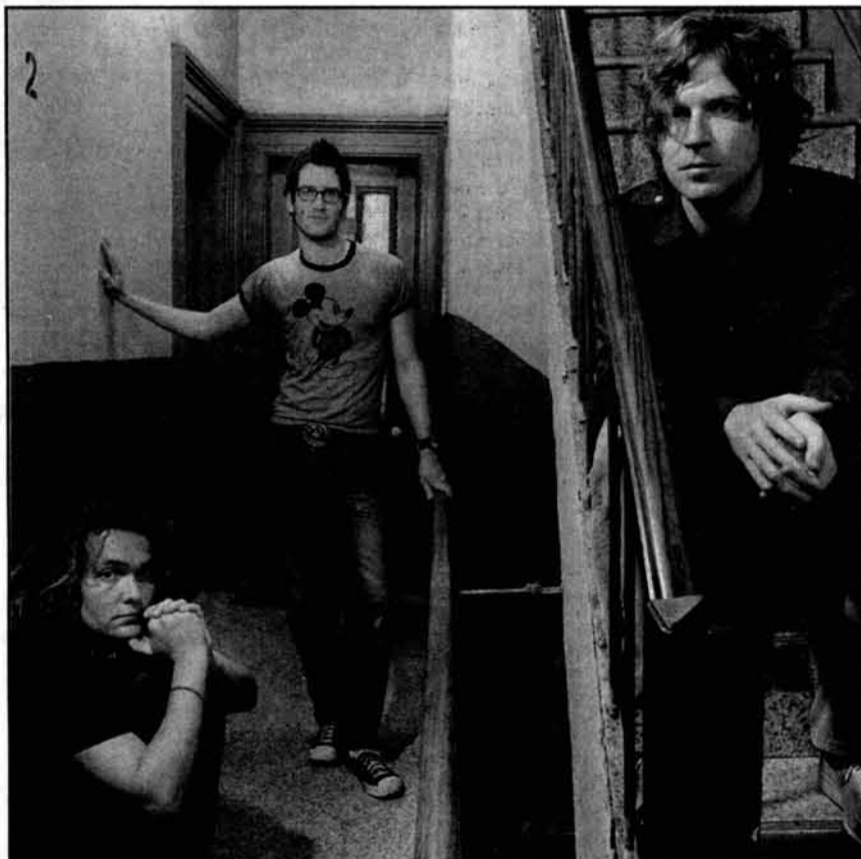
Mar. 1: Lustra, Causeway
Mar. 2: DJ Krush, Seishi
Mar. 4: The Dubnicks, Roxie
Mar. 5: Plain White T's
Mar. 6: Redshift 6

Orpheum Theatre
1 Hamilton Pl., Boston, MA. 617-679-0810

Feb. 22: Paul Weller
Mar. 3: Hall & Oates
Mar. 8: King Crimson
Mar. 9: Scorpions, Whitesnake
Apr. 13: Dave Chapelle
Apr. 15: Widespread Panic
Apr. 19: Ellen Degeneres

Paradise Rock Club
967 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA. 617-562-8804

Feb. 14: Vince Gill
Feb. 15: Witness Protection Program
Feb. 20: Jeffrey Gaines
Feb. 21: Ladytron
Feb. 22: The Music
Feb. 23: Sixpence None the Richer
Feb. 26: Blonde Redhead
Feb. 27: Machinery Hall
Feb. 28: Robert Randolph
Mar. 2: Gang Green
Mar. 4: Supergrass
Mar. 5: Idlewild
Mar. 7: The Frames, Josh Ritter
Mar. 8: The Sheila Divine
Mar. 9: John Parish
Mar. 12: Mason Jennings
Mar. 14: Reid Genauer
Mar. 16: Royksopp



Two-man duo Nada Surf of "Popular" fame will celebrate the release of their first album in four years at the Middle East on Feb. 19.

Mar. 21: Caexico
Mar. 23: The Soundtrack of our Lives
Mar. 27: Edwin McCain
Mar. 29: Particle
Apr. 3: Percy Hill
Apr. 4: Joe Jackson Band
Apr. 24: Adult
May 16: Steve Malkmus

Tsongas Arena
300 Arcand Dr., Lowell, MA. 978-848-6900.

Mar. 21: Disturbed, Chevelle, Taproot, Unloco

TT The Bear's
10 Brookline St., Cambridge, MA. 617-931-2000.
<http://www.ttthebears.com>

Feb. 15: Jim's Big Ego
Feb. 16: Five of One
Feb. 17: Phil Aiken
Feb. 18: Kathleen Edwards
Feb. 19: Steve von Till
Feb. 20: Tim Easton
Feb. 21: Rocketscience
Feb. 22: Hey Mercedes

Worcester's Centrum Centre
50 Foster St., Worcester, MA. 508-755-6800
<http://www.centrumcentre.com>

Feb. 26: Phish
May 2: Cher, Dom Irrera
Jun. 13: Bill Gaither Homecoming

Jazz

Regattabar
1 Bennett St., Cambridge, MA. 617-662-5000, <http://www.regattabar.com> Usually two shows nightly, call for details.

Feb. 14-15: A Valentine from Irma Thomas
Feb. 16: Boston Musical Theatre
Feb. 18: Guaranteed Swahili
Feb. 19: Marta Gomez and Friends
Feb. 20-22: Ron Carter Quartet
Feb. 23: David Zoffer, Adam Larrabee
Feb. 25: Michael Musillami/Mario Pavone Quintet
Feb. 26: Eric T. Johnson Quartet
Feb. 27: Mark Shilansky Ensemble
Feb. 28: Jose De Santos Flamenco Trio

Ryles Jazz Club
212 Hampshire St., Cambridge, MA. 617-876-9330
Venue has two floors. Upstairs (U), Downstairs (D)
<http://rylesjazz.com>

Feb. 14: Toni Ballard
Feb. 15: Planet Groove
Feb. 18: Peter Cicco
Feb. 19: SynCoPation
Feb. 20: Mice McAllister Group
Feb. 22: Groove Authority
Feb. 23: Amazon Poetry Siam

Scullers Jazz Club
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 617-562-4111. <http://www.scullersjazz.com>. Call for schedule.

Feb. 14-15: Jon Lucien
Feb. 25: Erica Leopold
Feb. 26-27: Guitar Summit: Bucky Pizzarelli, Howard Alden, John Wheatley
Feb. 28-Mar. 1: Marian McPartland Trio
Mar. 4: Shelley Neil
Mar. 5: Sai Ghose
Mar. 6: The Nicole Nelson Band
Mar. 7-8: Keiko Matsui
Mar. 12: La Timba Loca
Mar. 13-15: Abbey Lincoln
Mar. 19: Melissa Walker, Stefan Harris
Mar. 20: Stanley Jordan
Mar. 21-22: TS Monk, Jr. Sextet

Classical Music

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tickets: 617-266-1492.
Performances at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, unless otherwise noted. Student rush tickets, if available, can be obtained at 5 p.m. on the day of the concert (one ticket per person).

<http://www.bso.org>

Alan Gilbert conducts with violinist Midori in Kirchner's Music for Orchestra II, Schumann's Symphony No. 3 *Rhenish*, and Sibelius' Violin Concerto. Presented on Feb. 12 (7:30 p.m.), 14 (1:30 p.m.), 15 (8 p.m.), and 18 (8 p.m.).

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
20 Park Plaza, Suite 1032, Boston, MA 02116. 617-482-2595. Venues vary by concert, consult Web site for further details, <http://www.celebrityseries.org>

Feb. 14: Emerson String Quartet
Feb. 23: Richard Goode
Feb. 28: Vienna Philharmonic
Mar. 2: Tokyo String Quartet
Mar. 3: Ellis Marsalis & Sons
Mar. 8-9: Boston Marquee, Boston Musica Viva: "Chitra"
Mar. 11: Kudo
Mar. 12: The Chieftains
Mar. 13: Mark Morris Dance Group
Mar. 15: Boston Marquee, Margaret Lattimore
Mar. 21: Brandenburg Ensemble
Mar. 22: William Bolcom

Theater

Comedy Connection
Mon.-Wed. at 8 p.m.; Thurs. 8:30 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., 10:15 p.m.; Sun. 7 p.m. The oldest comedy club in Boston. At 245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston. Admission \$8-20. Call 617-248-9700 or visit <http://www.comedyconnection-boston.com>.

Exhibits

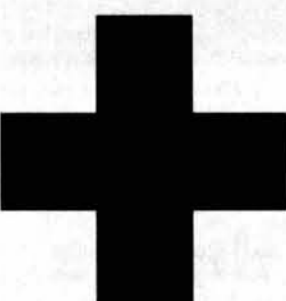
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston. (617-566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10 (\$11 on weekends), \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID (\$3 on Wed.), free for children under 18. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2,500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID. Currently on exhibit until Oct. 20 is "Jasper Johns to Jeff Koons: Four Decades of Art from the Broad Collections," an exploration of contemporary artists ranging from those named above to Warhol to Lichtenstein.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston. (617-723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors. The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors.

Other

Harvard Film Archive
465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (617-267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; check <http://www.harvardfilmarchive.org> for more details.



Give Life ...
Give Blood.

Where:
Tue, Feb 18, 12pm-6pm
Wed, Feb 19, 12pm-6pm
Thu, Feb 20, 12pm-6pm
Fri, Feb 21, 10am-4pm

When:
La Sala, Student Center

Call 461-2300, x5-2094, or x5-2099 to schedule an appointment. When registering, your donor card or positive identification is preferred but not required.
MIT Blood Drive

Sponsored by TCA

Your blood donation will help save the life of a patient with cancer, heart disease, gastrointestinal disease, anemia, fractures and trauma, liver, kidney and lung disease, or bone and joint disease.

SPORTS

Women's Fencing Ends Season With 18-3 Record, Men 11-8

By Lynn Wang and Shauna Jin
TEAM MEMBERS

At the culmination of the NCAA Fencing season, the MIT Women crushed four Division I schools on home ground, bringing their record to 18-3.

On Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, MIT hosted over 300 fencers at the Johnson Athletic Center for the MIT Invitational Meet. Thirteen schools from all over the Eastern United States arrived at MIT for the final meet of the NCAA season. Each school's fencing team competes in three different weapons, foil, epee, and sabre, and a total of 27 bouts are fenced to complete a match. Competition lasted all day. MIT faced five of the toughest schools of the season with intense competition.

Women's team reigns

At the MIT Invitational, the women's foil squad led the team, contributing 28 wins to the overall score. In an especially noteworthy bout, Gemma L. Mendel '06 closed an uncertain victory in MIT's favor against Duke University. With the score tied 4-4 and the entire team watching in anticipation, Mendel scored an attack in preparation against her opponent, sealing the victory for the women's team. MIT emerged triumphant with a 14-13 score against Duke, the closest win of the day for the women.

Women's epee dominated their competition yet again with a remarkable performance by freshman Lucy Mendel. Her 10 wins put her in a promising ranking for NCAA Regionals.

Sabre squad leader and team captain Priscilla del Castillo '04 led the entire women's team, finishing the day with a record of 13 wins and only 2 losses.

"I'm very proud of the confidence we've shown today against these tough opponents," del Castillo said. "MIT Fencing is definitely leaving [its] mark."

Having defeated Duke Universi-



LUCY MENDEL

Gemma L. Mendel '06 (left) fences at a competition earlier this season. Mendel secured a victory against Duke at a home meet on Feb. 2, where the MIT Women's Fencing Team also defeated Cornell, North Carolina, and NYU.

ty, Cornell University, New York University, and the University of North Carolina, the MIT women faced their final opponent, the University of Pennsylvania, finishing the day with a close loss of 10-17, and concluding the NCAA competition season with a record of 18-3.

Men succeed as well

Men's fencing also concluded their NCAA season at the MIT Invitational with a record of 11-8. Men's sabre ended the season with a strong finish, defeating four out of their five opponents and leading the men's team in total victories. Michael P. Pihulic '04 gave an outstanding performance, leading the sabre squad with 10 wins. Despite this being his first year as starter, Pihulic's exceptional fencing has earned him one of the best records in our region.

The men's epee squad captured an incredible 18 bouts for MIT, led

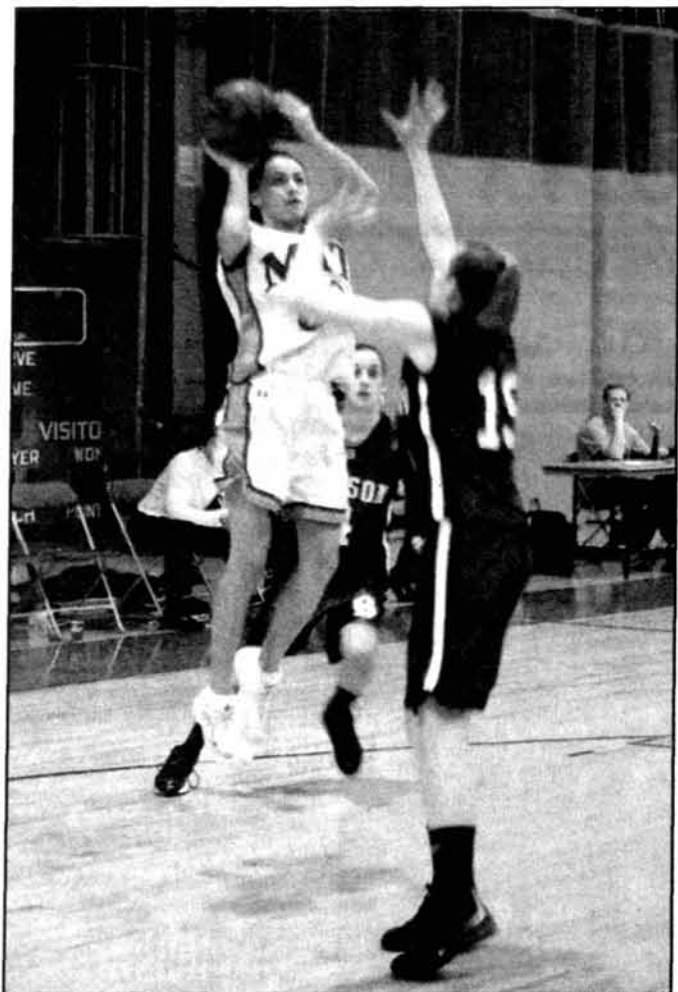
by nine wins by Samuel N. Korb '05. In men's foil, squad leader Vincent Chen '05 helped to rally the Men's Team by winning six bouts and leading the squad to victory against Yeshiva University.

After a season highlighted by victories over Brown University, Boston College, and an unprecedented win over St. John's University, the MIT men are poised to dominate at New England Championships.

Coach Koniusz pleased

"Both teams have done a wonderful job so far in practice and competition," said Coach Jarek Koniusz. "My coaching staff and I are very pleased and are looking forward to witnessing great results at this year's New England Championships, in two weeks."

For more information on fencing, check out the team's Web site, <<http://web.mit.edu/fencing/www>>.



XIAOWEI YANG

Maria E. Hidalgo '04 puts up a jump shot during the women's varsity basketball game on Tuesday. The Engineers lost to Babson College 41-61.

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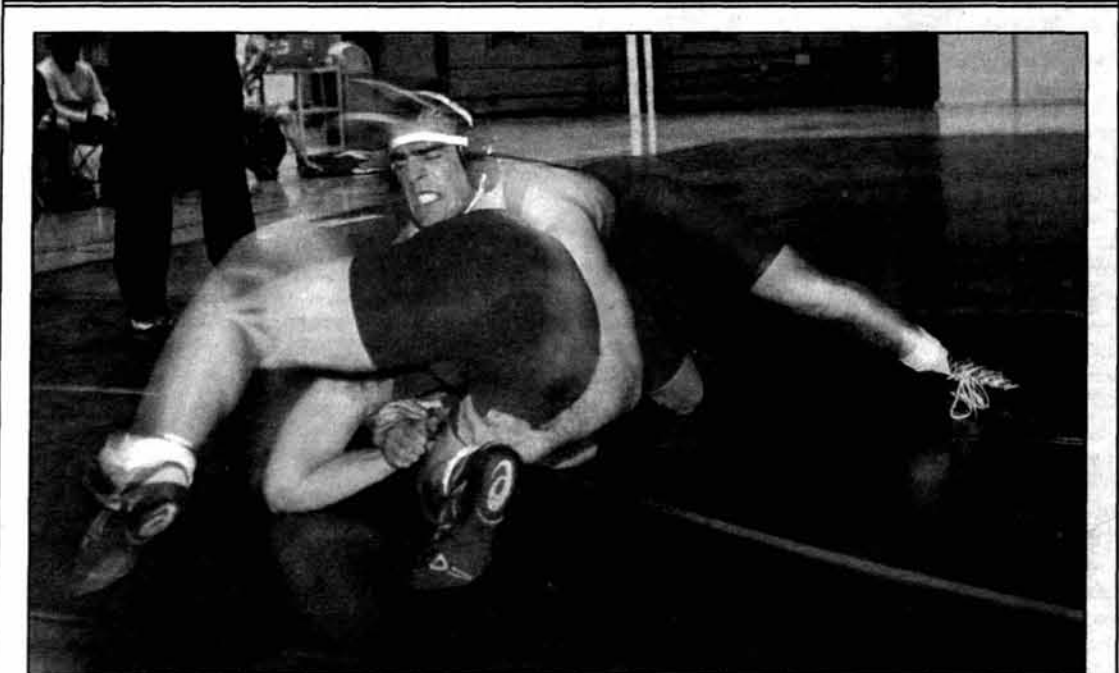
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DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH

William T. Hafer '03 takes control of his Johnson and Wales opponent during his match Wednesday night. The Engineers lost the meet 14-34.

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