

Institute Orders Two Students To Remove E-mails from Web

By Waseem S. Daher
STAFF REPORTER

In response to complaints from Diebold Election Systems, MIT has asked two students to stop publishing on the Web a series of internal Diebold e-mails discussing weaknesses in the company's voting machines. The students have complied for now, but say the dispute is not over.

More than 100 people across the country have posted copies of Diebold e-mails since last month, when they were first obtained from within the company. Many Internet service providers have received complaints from the company, whose voting machines are used by about eight percent of the population, *The New York Times* reported.

Diebold representatives and attorneys have argued that posting the company's e-mails, which run from 1999 through this year, is copyright infringement.

People posting the e-mails have replied that the public deserves to

read the internal correspondence, which appears to reveal embarrassing vulnerabilities in the company's equipment and other internal company details. Some argue that copyright law's "fair use" exemption protects those who post the e-mails.

Diebold did not respond to a request for comment. The company has said the e-mails were "stolen from a Diebold computer" but has not confirmed that the e-mails are authentic beyond asserting that it owns the copyright on them.

MIT asks two to remove e-mails

On Oct. 24, C. Scott Ananian G downloaded the trove of about 15,000 e-mails and published them on the Web, hosted by his computer at the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.

Four days later, Diebold wrote to MIT, saying the company owned the copyright on its internal e-mails and demanding that the documents be removed from Anan-

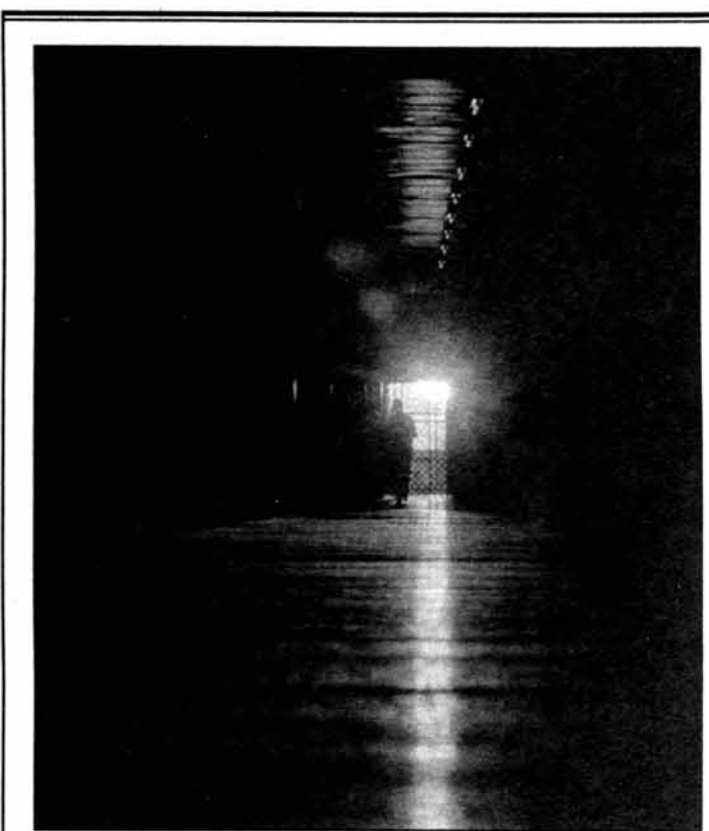
ian's Web page and from the Athena locker of David T. Meyer '06, another student who had posted the e-mails.

Timothy J. McGovern of Information Systems forwarded the complaints to Ananian and Meyer, writing to Meyer, "You have until 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct 30 to comply with this notice, or your Athena locker/volume will be unmounted to prevent further access."

Meyer complied, saying there are now already enough mirrors of the memos on the Internet. Ananian also removed his copy of the e-mails, but sent MIT a "counter notification" that will allow him to repost the e-mails today without risking liability for MIT.

Ananian said he will repost the e-mails on the Web soon. He continues to publish the Diebold internal e-mails using the "BitTorrent" file distribution system, which the company did not mention in its complaint to MIT.

Diebold, Page 14



FRANK DABEK — THE TECH

The sun shines down the length of the infinite corridor. Twice a year, the corridor lines up with the setting sun in an event often referred to as MITHenge.

THEATER REVIEW

A Ruddi-great Musical

By Jessica Young

Ruddigore or *The Witch's Curse*
La Sala de Puerto Rico
Nov. 7-8, 13-14, 8 p.m.; Nov. 9, 15,
2 p.m.

By Sir William S. Gilbert and Sir
Arthur S. Sullivan
Andrew Sweet, Stage Director
Katherine Bryant, Vocal Director
Thomas Dawkins, Orchestra Director

If great voices, vibrant costumes,
and an enchanting plot are all it
takes for you to consider a show

worthwhile, then *Ruddigore* (or *The Witch's Curse*) is your show... and then some. The show itself was eye-candy. The blocking was perfect, with the set being used to its fullest potential. The acting was good, full of well-timed one-liners that kept the audience laughing throughout. And most important, it was obvious that the cast truly enjoyed what they were doing, which is a sure sign of a good show.

Ruddigore, Page 7



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL — THE TECH

Sailor Richard Dauntless (Percy S. Liang G) searches for love and glory in the Gilbert and Sullivan production *Ruddigore*.

Daneshvar Elected IFC President, Grochow to be New Vice President

By Brian Loux
FEATURES EDITOR

The Presidents' Council of the Interfraternity Council elected Daniel H. Daneshvar '05 the new president of the IFC on Wednesday night. Joshua A. Grochow '05 was elected vice president.

Daneshvar is a member of Phi Kappa Sigma. Grochow is a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi.

The elections marked a recent change to the IFC constitution at a meeting on Oct 16 this year that reduced the number of positions on the executive committee from 11 to seven. The responsibilities of the old positions were consolidated into the new seven.

Two positions, executive assistant and program development chair, shoulder most of the responsi-

bilities of the six eliminated positions. The executive assistant serves as the secretary and treasurer, while the program development chair oversees most of the external activities that previously fell to four positions. Eric J. Konopka '05 (Sigma Nu) and Fahad H. Kajani '05 (Phi Beta Epsilon) are the new executive assistant and program development chair, respectively.

Additionally, William R. Fowler '05 (Pi Lambda Phi) was elected IFC Lambda Phi chair, Michael J. Ehrenberg '06 (Delta Tau Delta) was elected risk manager, and Chris P. Tostado '06 (Nu Delta) was elected recruitment chair.

Daneshvar hopes for big changes
After accepting his position,

Daneshvar hopes to make many changes in the rule-making process during his tenure as IFC president. "I've seen a slew of changes in the IFC within my time here," he said. "I think part of it stems from the fact that rules are changing without our input."

Daneshvar says that one of his primary goals will be to "bring the IFC back to the hands of the fraternities." Citing the involvement of "outside sources" in IFC rule-making, Daneshvar says that "through increased involvement, I would like to decrease the feeling of disenfranchisement of the average member of the average fraternity."

He specifically mentioned problems with the IFC Judicial

Elections, Page 12

Stephen A. Benton

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Stephen A. Benton '63, inventor of the rainbow hologram and a pioneer in medical imaging and fine arts holography, died of brain cancer at Massachusetts General Hospital on Sunday, Nov. 9. He was 61.

Benton was director of the MIT Center for Advanced Visual Studies (CAVS) and the Rudge and Nancy Allen Professor of Media Arts and Sciences at the MIT Media Laboratory.

MIT President Charles M. Vest said, "Steve brought to a joy and spirit of inventiveness to all that he did. He was a gifted

teacher, scientist, engineer and artist who personified the best of MIT."

Benton was known for his enthusiasm for all things optical — an enthusiasm, he said, that was ignited the minute he put on a pair of plastic 3-D glasses to watch the film "The House of Wax" at age 11.

"There was a realism and a sense of excitement like nothing I had ever felt before. Not only was I amazed; I determined then and there to figure out how it worked," Benton said.

Benton was born in San Francisco in 1941 and grew up in

Santa Barbara, Calif. He received his undergraduate degree from MIT in electrical engineering in 1963 and worked with stroboscopy pioneer Professor Harold "Doc" Edgerton. During this time, Benton also worked at the Polaroid Corp., participating in Edwin Land's vision research laboratory. Benton received the SM (1964) and PhD (1968) from Harvard University.

"Steve was not only a superb scientist who led his field for decades, he was also a wonderful practical craftsman of the holo-

Benton, Page 13



Gehri Dosti is a play about same-sex lovers in South Asia
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OPINION

John W. Belcher, an 8.02 instructor, tells what he has learned from TEAL.

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WORLD & NATION

U.S. Trade Act Benefits Uganda

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BUGOLOBI, UGANDA

Uganda is banking its future on 1,400 young women plucked from their villages around the country and plopped down in front of row upon row of sewing machines at a vast factory here outside the capital. These are the AGOA girls, as the Ugandans call them, named for the American trade legislation that lured their employer, Tri-Star Apparel, here from Sri Lanka.

To hear President Yoweri Museveni tell it, AGOA, the African Growth and Opportunity Act approved by the U.S. Congress in 2000, is the best thing the West has done for Africa since independence.

AGOA, which reduced or eliminated U.S. tariffs and quotas on more than 1,800 products, has drawn similar factories across Africa as foreign investors, mostly from Asia, seize upon its incentives to give this underdeveloped continent a chance.

For workers, the jobs can be as grueling as a day in the fields, still Africa's most common way of making a living. The Tri-Star workers, all new to formal employment, say their shoulders ache and their feet swell by quitting time, which bosses sometimes extend into the evening if a big deadline looms.

But at least they have work. Job creation has been dramatic. For the first time in some African countries, the largest employer is no longer the national government but a private enterprise. Kenya has projected 50,000 AGOA-related jobs.

Microsoft May Settle with EU

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Microsoft has given its strongest signal yet that it hopes to reach a settlement of the European Union's long-running antitrust case.

"We have come to Brussels not only to discuss the issues but to work things out," Microsoft's general counsel, Brad Smith, said Thursday. Microsoft made an eight-hour presentation during the second day of a three-day hearing over accusations that its dominance in operating software unfairly blocked rivals' products.

"We really do look forward, not just to the next day and a half," Smith said, "but to the weeks that follow, and we will bring to these weeks a great sense of energy and creativity to explore every possible way to come to solutions to the questions and concerns that people may have Smith."

Although Microsoft has said for months that it is cooperating with the commission in the hope of settling the case, there has been little evidence of any progress toward such.

But a person close to the European Commission's antitrust regulators said that the company's statement Thursday indicated that Microsoft was more eager to reach an agreement than it has been in the last four years.

Russia Affirms Rights to Property

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

The Russian government went on a charm offensive Thursday, with Kremlin aides and international financial aid officials saying the country was not headed toward a reversal on private property after the arrest of the country's wealthiest businessman.

"The president underlined that there would be no deprivatization," Andrei N. Illarionov, a senior Kremlin economic adviser, told the Interfax news agency Thursday. Illarionov, who is widely viewed as a liberal economic sounding board for President Vladimir V. Putin, said the arrest last month of Mikhail B. Khodorkovsky, the richest of Russia's billionaires, did not reflect selective justice. "There is no basis to suppose that the use of laws is selective or will be selective," Illarionov said, as reported by Interfax news agency.

Khodorkovsky was arrested on Oct. 25 on charges of fraud, embezzlement and evasion of \$1 billion in taxes, crimes that prosecutors contend were committed in Russia's privatization era in the 1990s.

U.S. Says New Iraq Offensive Will Send Rebels a Message

By Dexter Filkins

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

After the start of an offensive against Iraqi insurgents, American commanders said on Thursday that they were intent on sending the rebels "a message."

But here at the site of one of the operation's primary targets, local Iraqis said they were uncertain what that message was supposed to be.

On the southern edge of the capital, a large building that American commanders said was a "meeting, planning, storage and rendezvous point" for the insurgents still stood, despite the military's report that it had been destroyed in an airstrike the night before.

American soldiers came to the neighborhood several hours before the attack, local residents said, warning of the impending strike and making sure that everyone in the area was evacuated. Then an American AC-130 gunship strafed the building, knocking holes in the walls and wrecking much of the textile machinery arrayed inside.

After the strike, the Americans came back but detained no suspects, not even the owner of the building, and found no weapons.

The owner, Waad Dakhil Bolane, who said the Americans had warned his guards of the impending air raid, shook his head in befuddlement.

"Does this look like a military base to you?" he asked, standing inside his factory, which was still filled with textile machinery. "The Americans came here, told the guards to leave and then attacked. I don't understand."

American commanders, who have been threatening for days to crack down on the Iraqi insurgents, said later that they were certain that the building had been used to fire mortars at American soldiers. One local man seemed to confirm that. Told by a visitor that he intended to visit the factory, the man, Dervish Muhammad, waved his hand in warning. "Look out," he said. "There are bad people in there."

But the commanders conceded that their primary aim had been to impress the guerrillas as much as to kill them.

"We were sending a message," an allied official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "The message is, 'We're coming.'"

In recent weeks, military commanders have seemed to be judi-

ciously choosing targets that provide relatively benign opportunities to remind Iraqis of the firepower they have at their disposal.

Last week, after the downing of American helicopters in Falluja and Tikrit, American F-16s bombed rudimentary buildings that were suspected of harboring insurgents and materiel. Such planes had been used rarely, if at all, since May 1, when President Bush declared an end to major combat operations in Iraq.

Similarly, the AC-130 gunship, which was used on Wednesday night, seemed to bring far more firepower than was needed to shoot up the textile factory. Even after the attack, the building still stood — readily available, it seemed, to harbor the same enemy meetings and planning sessions that were suspected before.

For all the technologically advanced weaponry employed in recent days, it is not clear what effect it has had on tamping down the insurgency. Wednesday, the day the American offensive began, turned out to be one of the most intense yet for American soldiers, who were attacked 46 times by Iraqi guerrillas.

Panel Ousts Judge for Refusal To Remove Ten Commandments

By Jeffrey Gettleman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

A special ethics panel on Thursday ousted Alabama's chief justice, Roy S. Moore, who was lionized by the religious right for his refusal to remove a titanic monument of the Ten Commandments he put in the lobby of the building housing the state Supreme Court.

The head of the ethics panel, William Thompson, said he and his colleagues were given little choice because "the chief justice placed himself above the law" by adamantly defying a federal court order to remove the monument.

Moreover, Thompson said, "the chief justice showed no signs of contrition for his actions."

Indeed, just minutes later, Moore strode out of the courthouse into a crush of his supporters and announced, "I have absolutely no regrets."

"We fought a good fight," he said. "We kept the faith. But the battle is not over. The battle to acknowledge God is about to rage across the country."

The crowd exploded in cheers and chanted, "Roy Moore for Senate! Roy Moore for president!"

Moore, whose popularity seems to swell at each turn in this controversy, was coy about his next move, but implied that he would appeal.

That "brings on a whole host of delightfully interesting legal issues," because that appeal would go to Moore's former colleagues on the

state Supreme Court, said John Wilkerson, a spokesman for the Alabama judiciary.

Ever since 1995, when Moore rose from obscurity after he was sued by civil liberties groups for placing a homemade plaque of the Ten Commandments on the wall of his rural Alabama courtroom, his supporters have tried to paint the issue as God versus the unbelievers and Alabama versus "the feds."

But in the end, it was a panel of Alabamians from across the state — eight men and one woman, Democrats and Republicans, lawyers, judges, a county commissioner and the director of a nonprofit organization — who ruled that Moore had to go — after opening the proceedings with a prayer.

WEATHER

An Ill Wind

By Nikki Prive
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

*"A narrow wind complains all day
How some one treated him;
Nature, like us, is sometimes caught
Without her diadem."
— Emily Dickinson*

The low pressure system which brought windy conditions to the Boston area yesterday will slowly move off into the Canadian Maritime region today. Winds will persist throughout the day, although not as strongly as on Thursday, with northwest winds near 20 to 30 miles per hour. The wind will die down late this evening with clearing skies allowing nighttime temperatures to fall to 20°F (-3°C). High pressure building over the Midwest will keep things dry but chilly tomorrow, with highs near 40°F (5°C). A weak disturbance developing over the Great Lakes will bring clouds but no precipitation on Sunday, with temperatures slowly warming to 50°F (12°C) by the beginning of next week.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly sunny, continued windy, cold with highs around 40°F (5°C).

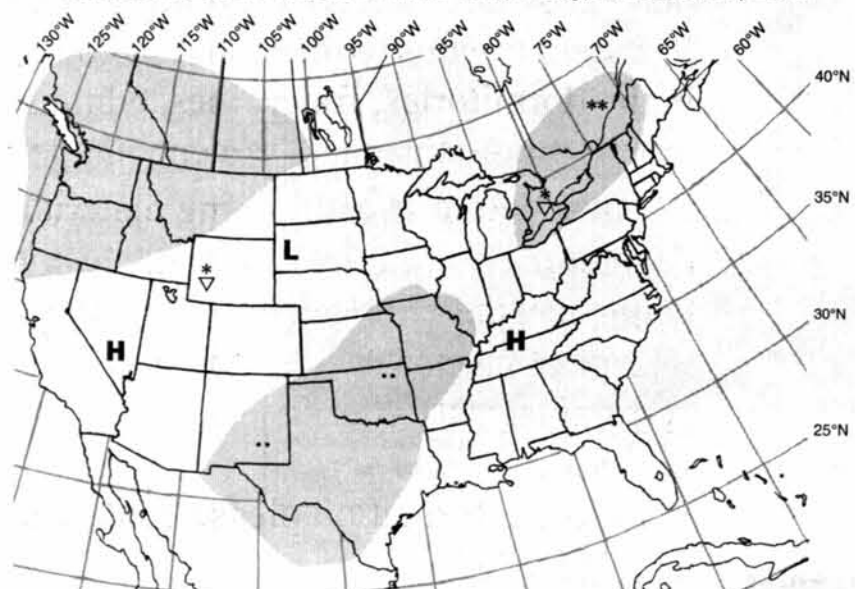
Tonight: Clearing and cold, lows around 26°F (-3°C).

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high of 48°F (9°C). Increasing clouds overnight, with lows near 30°F (0°C).

Sunday: Partly cloudy, high of 50°F (10°C) and lows around 32°F (0°C).

Monday: Partly cloudy, highs a little above 54°F (12°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, November 14, 2003



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	- - - Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Light Rain ▽	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲ Cold Front	Moderate **	Haze
	— Stationary Front	Heavy ***	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Mutual Fund Founders Leave After Insider Trading Discovery

By Gretchen Morgenson
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Trying to contain deepening investor mistrust, one large mutual fund company ousted its founders on Thursday and another settled a securities fraud case brought against it just over two weeks ago.

PBHG Funds, an 18-year-old fund company in Wayne, Pa., that ran some of the hottest investment portfolios during the 1990s, announced it had removed co-founders Harold Baxter and Gary Pilgrim on Thursday. The ouster followed the discovery that Pilgrim had invested in a private partnership that had been allowed to buy and sell frequently the shares of PBHG Funds between March 2000 and

December 2001. Such trading, known as market timing, often uses portfolio information not available to other shareholders, and the frequent trading also increases costs for other investors.

Baxter, who was not an investor in the partnership, was aware of its trading in PBHG funds, the company said.

Meanwhile, management at Putnam Investments in Boston settled on Thursday the securities fraud lawsuit brought by regulators on Oct. 28, agreeing to restrict its employee trading, heighten scrutiny of employees' practices and strengthen the independence of its fund directors. In its suit, the Securities and Exchange Commission

alleged that Putnam had failed to deter and disclose improper and opportunistic trading by a handful of its fund managers who bought and sold shares of funds they oversaw.

Both of the moves indicate how eager fund companies are to put their involvement in the widening scandal behind them. Both companies continue to be under investigation by state and federal regulators.

But even as federal regulators said they were pleased with the settlement they had struck with Putnam, state regulators in Massachusetts and New York who are continuing to investigate the fund company criticized the agreement, calling it a capitulation by the SEC.

DeLay Uses Charity Fund-Raising As Income Outside Funding Limits

By Michael Slackman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

It is an unusual charity brochure: a 13-page document, complete with pictures of fireworks and a golf course, that invites potential wealthy donors to give as much as \$500,000 to spend time with Rep. Tom DeLay during the 2004 Republican convention in New York City — and to have part of the money go to help abused and neglected children.

DeLay, R-Texas, the House majority leader, has both done work for troubled children and drawn criticism for his aggressive political fund raising across his career in Congress. He said through his staff that the entire effort is fundamental-

ly aimed at helping children.

But aides to DeLay acknowledged that a portion of the money will go to pay for late-night convention parties, a luxury suite during President Bush's speech at Madison Square Garden and yacht cruises.

So campaign finance watchdogs say DeLay's effort can be seen as a creative maneuver around the recently enacted law meant to limit the ability of federal officials to raise large donations known as soft money.

"They are using the idea of helping children as a blatant cover for financing activities in connection with a convention with huge unlimited, undisclosed, unregulated contributions," said Fred Wertheimer,

president of Democracy 21, a Washington-based group that helped push through the recent overhaul of the campaign finance laws.

And other lawmakers may well follow DeLay's lead. Already Sen. Bill Frist of Tennessee, the Senate majority leader, is planning to hold a concert and a reception in conjunction with the convention to raise funds for AIDS charities.

DeLay's charity, Celebrations for Children, Inc., was set up in September and has no track record of work. DeLay is not a formal official of the charity, but its managers are DeLay's daughter, Dani DeLay Ferro; Craig Richardson, a longtime advisor; and Rob Jennings, a Republican fund-raiser.

Rain and Hail Deluge a Slice Of the Los Angeles Basin

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Some say the world will end in fire, some say in ice.

Two weeks after the most destructive wildfires in state history blackened the skies over Southern California, a freak storm deluged Los Angeles on Wednesday night and left piles of hail more than a foot deep in some parts of the city.

In Watts, a neighborhood seldom visited by providence, residents saw the lightning lacing the sky, the water cascading down the streets and the hail pounding on their rooftops as some sort of sign.

"I haven't seen anything like this in all my years," said Tyrone Wright, 52, cleaning up the mud around his tiny home on Alvaro Street. "It's like the Lord said, 'I'm going to take Watts and make it snow.'"

National Weather Service officials said that 5.31 inches of rain fell at 96th East Street and Central Avenue in South-Central Los Angeles in less than three hours on Wednesday evening. Mark Lenz, a forecaster with the weather service's Oxnard, Calif., office, said that rain in that amount falls on Los Angeles once every 50 or 100 years.

Boyd Prosecution Focuses On Confession in Sniper Trial

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHESAPEAKE, VA.

Two hours of chilling audiotaped confessions are the heart of the case against Lee Boyd Malvo, the younger suspect in last fall's sniper shootings, a prosecutor told jurors here Thursday morning.

"You'll hear on those tapes his explanation of who he killed and why he killed them," the prosecutor, Robert F. Horan Jr., said in his opening statement.

Horan said Malvo's statements were both direct evidence of his guilt and a rebuttal of his main defense — insanity.

"He's glib," Horan said of the portrait of Malvo that emerges from the tapes. "He's articulate. He's knowledgeable. He talks about the killing power of the rifle he used and the damage it can cause."

Malvo, in a blue button-down shirt, looked grim as Horan spoke. He put his hand over his mouth, and he bowed his head progressively lower as Horan methodically matched Malvo's statements to the lives he is accused of cutting short, rifle blast by rifle blast. By the end of the Horan's hourlong statement, Malvo's head was near the table.

Craig S. Cooley, a lawyer for Malvo, made a crucial concession early in his own opening statement. "We are not suggesting to you that they got the wrong man," he said.

He also acknowledged that the tapes may have a powerful influence on the jury. "These statements are absolutely horrendous on their face," Cooley said.



5+ Conversations

The Committee on Campus Race Relations (CCRR) seeks proposals that will bring 5 or more people together for focused discussions on race and race relations around our campus and in our lives. This special call for proposals is meant to support the request from many MIT community members wanting more open dialogues on race. In support of this request, the CCRR has set aside funds (up to \$150 to support small grants) for materials and other cost associated with bringing people together for these conversations. We are particularly interested in conversations (or events) that will be held in the dormitories, fraternities, administrative offices, laboratories, and other less traditional venues. We encourage members of the community to use the CCRR videos and/or teaching materials and, if you would like help developing a program or event, we will be glad to assist you. Proposals are being accepted immediately. Funding decisions are made within 3 days of receipt of proposals. In order to be considered please submit a proposal to ccrrgrants@MIT.edu.

For more information please contact us at ccrrgrants@MIT.edu or at 617.253.1706

CCRR will still accept proposals for larger events through its regular grant process.

OPINION



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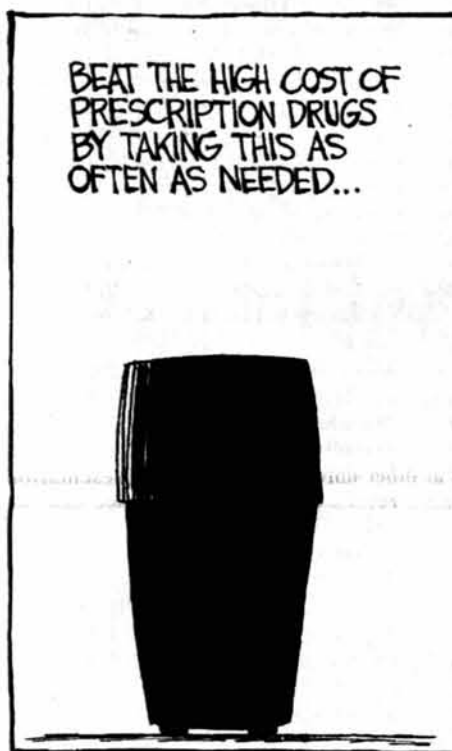
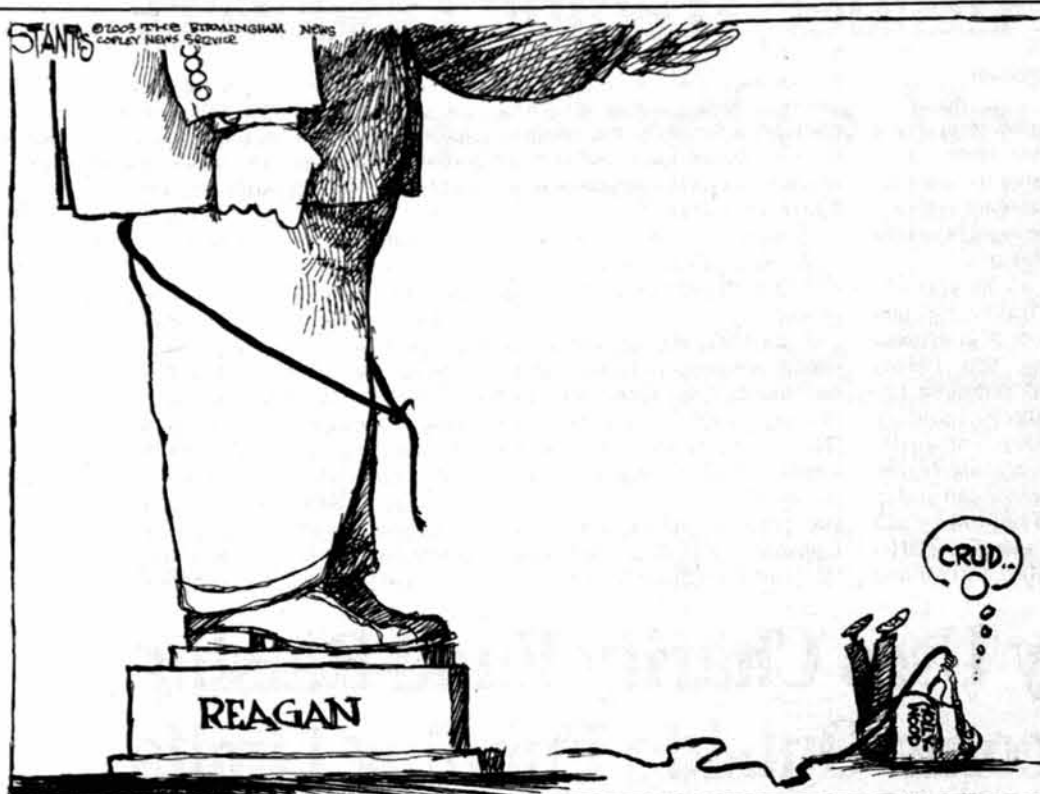
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Letter To The Editor

Open Discussion

To the Editor:

I would like to state my guarded approval of the statements made by the faculty and staff letter in Tuesday's issue ["Against Stereotype Propagation," Nov. 4], as well as Chancellor Clay's statement ["Chancellor's Statement," Nov. 4]. While both expressed intense disapproval of the "ghetto party" e-mail, they did not directly recommend administrative sanctions against the students involved, and in fact the Chancellor recommended open discussion, and I believe this is the way such things should work.

I say "guarded approval," though, because I am still wary of the possibility that people, in the heat of being offended, might use what power they have to inflict administrative punishment. This may mitigate emotions in the short term, but will only stifle and thus prolong the actual problem. People naturally lis-

ten to one another, and we will all benefit the most from open discussion, not official sanctions.

In response to one of the Chancellor's points, though, I would say that people are morally and legally entitled to their own opinion, including a lack thereof. Leave the bystanders to their own lives and problems. People cannot be directly taught to "do the right thing," but rather given an environment of open discourse and freedom, they will naturally grow to find their own sense of right and wrong.

Finally, I would also like to commend Stephen Friedenthal '92 for expressing his opinion against *The Tech's* article on oral sex ["Questionable Content," Nov. 4] without recommending official sanctions. I will add, however, that I believe journalism should reflect reality, and for as long as oral sex is happening all around us, it is only fair to allow its mention in our newspapers as

well. Besides, there have been plenty of *Tech* articles in recent memory more badly written than that one.

Kai-yuh Hsiao '99

Erratum

The subheadline of a Friday article on the results of the Cambridge election ["DeBergalis Falls Just Short of a Victory," Nov. 7] was misleading. A ballot question on rent control was defeated and received 39 percent of the votes cast. To have passed, the question needed one-third of Cambridge's 56,000 registered voters; the question received 7,832 votes.

Opinion Policy

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Supreme Court Takes Key Step

Chen Zhao

This past Monday, the United States Supreme Court rightfully decided to take up two appeals cases involving terrorist suspects who had been secretly taken custody after the Sept. 11 attacks.

In the past two years that have followed September 11, 2001, the Bush administration, in the name of national security, has changed numerous areas of civil rights including those that have to do with the right to counsel and the right for prisoners to challenge their confinement. Much of this has been done without the public's awareness, and, it has seemed, without the attention of the Supreme Court. This especially seemed to be the case after the Court decided earlier this year not to add to its docket a similar case that involved Guantanamo Bay detainees and not to hear a case that challenged government surveillance powers that were increased with the passage of the infamous Patriot Act.

In the war against the Taliban, the government captured hundreds of men on the battlefields of Afghanistan and Pakistan. The administration is currently holding about 660 men from 40 countries in Guantanamo Bay, interrogating them while deciding whether they should face a military tribunal or be sent back to their home countries. Many of these men have been held for as long as two years without any access to lawyers or family members, and often without even being given a reason for their imprisonment. The Bush administration contends that it can hold any person, even an American citizen, captive indefinitely — yes, indefinitely — as long as he or she is labeled as an "enemy combatant." Needless to say, this is an outrageous and egregious

breach of the civil rights that the Constitution guarantees to us all.

The lower courts have sided with the administration, however, and have cited a 53-year-old case as precedent for denying the detainees the right to have their cases heard in U.S. courts. The administration and the lower courts have insisted that Cuba has jurisdiction over Guantanamo Bay, not the U.S.

Now that enough time has passed for the "September 11th cases" to work their way through the judicial system, the Supreme Court, by choosing to add two such cases to its docket, is fulfilling its duty to the American public. We should applaud the Court for taking this important step in protecting our civil rights.

The next step, naturally, should be for the Court to make a crucial stand for our civil rights by ruling in favor of the men being held at the U.S. Navy Base in Guantanamo Bay. In the two cases being heard by the Court, *Rasul v. Bush* and *Odah v. U.S.*, the issue at hand is whether U.S. courts have jurisdiction over Guantanamo Bay, since the land is actually owned by Cuba and is only being leased by the United States. However, there is a larger, more important issue that is being decided and that is whether the government should be allowed to diminish our civil rights in wartime.

It has often been the case that in times of war, civil rights take a backseat to our national interests. After all, President Abraham Lincoln temporarily suspended the writ of habeas corpus during the Civil War, and the Supreme Court upheld the internment of the Japanese during World War II in the landmark case *Korematsu v. U.S.* Bush used the same logic of national security to justify increased government intrusion on our privacy and decreased rights for detained sus-

pects after the Sept. 11 attacks. However, I must note that, in light of what we know today, we cannot help but to regret the actions of the government in detaining Japanese-Americans during World War II. The Court must act now so that the measures taken by the Bush administration after Sept. 11 are not similarly regretted by later generations.

Chief Justice William Rehnquist has made it abundantly clear that he believes that civil rights should be reduced in wartime. However, the founders of this country wrote the Constitution to protect our civil liberties, in times of peace as well as in times of war. As Justice Stephen Breyer said, "The Constitution always matters, perhaps particularly so in times of emergency."

The Bush administration is hoping that the world will simply forget the hundreds of helpless men that are being held unconstitutionally in Cuba. After all, most of them are not American citizens. However, we cannot forget them. If the government can just completely take away their rights without any impediments, how do we know that the same government will not do the same thing to us?

The Supreme Court has moved in the right direction by ending its silence on these important matters and allowing the appeal cases to be heard. Now, it has an obligation to step in and assert that the Guantanamo Bay detainees, whether they are terrorists or not, have the same rights as everyone else, and that though we may be in the midst of a war — or two — the Constitution is still the supreme law of the land. Its words and principles cannot and should not be casually tossed aside.

Chen Zhao is a member of the class of 2007.

LAMP, RIAA, and Other Acronyms

Ruth Miller

What is it about college kids that scares people? I'm tired of being watched carefully when I enter a retail store with my friends. Why, when on an advising seminar trip to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, did a security guard stop and ask me if my entire group was with MIT, and then report this over his headset. What sort of reputation have we earned to necessitate the alert of art museum guards?

I ask this in response to a statement released by the Universal Music Group, a recording label, on the subject of the recent shutdown of the Library Access to Music system over copyright disputes. The gist of the situation is that two innovative MIT students created a server to legally play music over the campus cable system. Flags weren't raised until the MIT students launched the service with much fanfare. Apparently, Loudeye didn't have licenses for the tracks. MIT pulled the plug on the L.A.M.P. service until the issue could be resolved.

I'm no law student, but it appears the blame should be put on the people that sold the unlicensed products, the Loudeye Corporation. But whom does the Universal Music Group criticize for the situation? In a press release dated Oct. 24, UMG stated: "It is unfortunate that MIT launched a service in an attempt to avoid paying recording artists, union musicians, and record labels." Because I do not claim to be a law student, I do not feel restricted to legal terminology as I say, "Excuse me?"

It looks to me like the man is sticking it to a bunch of college kids again. Doesn't he ever get tired of picking on us? I've got a piece of advice for the UMG, the RIAA, and whoever else decided to start throwing around legal suits. We're broke college kids. Yeah, our school is rather expensive, but thanks to military-funded research and a little thing I like to call "massive amounts of financial aid," the children of public school teachers can attend this rather expensive school. What the creators of L.A.M.P. were trying to do was create a compromise between the people with the money, the people with the little people. The RIAA has yet to recognize these as three distinct groups.

At a leadership camp I attended a few years ago, they drilled into our heads not to criticize any idea unless we had another solution ready. That's exactly what the creators of L.A.M.P. have done. While the RIAA, Napster, and other groups across the country have been suing and getting sued over the digital music revolution, L.A.M.P. is a compromise. The beauty of L.A.M.P. is that it isn't sharing digital music. The music is shared over cable television so music files can't be downloaded. This system functions just like the radio: the artists (or their labels) get money and the students get music thanks to an intermediary with a checkbook, in this case MIT.

But no. What do the recording labels do? They criticize MIT for breaking asinine rules out of the analog age and aggravate their customers even more. L.A.M.P. may not have been perfect, but it was a huge step in the right direction; a direction that few have ventured until now. When blank cassettes came out, the RIAA freaked out because they were afraid that consumers would just tape songs off the radio. Yeah, I remember taping U2's "Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me, Kill Me" taped from the radio in the fifth grade, but I also bought the CD with my allowance later that year. Because the format is analog, the product cannot be as cleanly reproduced and is never as good as the retail album. Now the radio is the least of the recording industries problems because they see it as an advantageous marketing tool.

The recording industry just had to sit back and let MIT do the work as L.A.M.P. was born. After the press lauded the initiative of its creators, the UMG refused to recognize the innovation of L.A.M.P., instead choosing to wrongly place the licensing blame on MIT. Wake up and smell the revolution.

Lessons Learned from TEAL

John W. Belcher

Over the last three years, the MIT Physics Department has been introducing major changes in the way that freshman physics is taught through the Technology Enhanced Active Learning Project. TEAL is an "interactive engagement" approach which merges lectures, recitations, and desktop laboratory experiments.

Why is the department moving to this model for teaching introductory physics? First, the traditional lecture/recitation format for teaching 8.01 (Physics I) and 8.02 (Physics II) has had a 40–50 percent attendance rate, even with spectacularly good lecturers — Walter Lewin, for example — and a 10% or higher failure rate. Second, there have been a range of educational innovations for teaching freshman physics at universities other than MIT over the last few decades that demonstrate that using "interactive engagement" methods results in higher learning gains as compared to the traditional lecture format. Finally, the mainline introductory physics courses at MIT have not had a laboratory component for many years, which is a major disadvantage when teaching physics.

In the TEAL d'Arbeloff Classroom, students work at tables in assigned groups of three. Grades in the course are not curved, to encourage students with stronger backgrounds to help students with weaker backgrounds. A student who consistently does not attend class cannot get an A. This is because in our judgment: (1) the phenomena under study must be experienced first hand and (2) part of the reason for the traditionally high failure rates in 8.02 is the lack of student engagement with the course.

We have had a robust assessment and evaluation effort underway since the inception of the TEAL project, under the leadership of Professor Judy Yehudit Dori, a faculty member in the Department of Education in Technology and Science at the Technion in Haifa, Israel. We use a variety of assessment techniques, including the traditional in-class exams, focus groups, questionnaires, and pre- and post- course testing. Based on the pre- and post-testing, the learning gains in 8.02 last spring by standard assessment measures were about twice those in the traditional lecture/recitation format.

The fact that interactive engagement teaching methods produce about twice the average normalized learning gains when compared to traditional instruction replicates the results of many studies at other universities, including Harvard. These results are also consistent with the feeling of the physics faculty teaching the course that students were learning more with this method of instruction, and with the much lower failure rates for spring 2003 8.02 (a few percent) compared to 8.02 failure rates in recent years (from 7 percent to 13 percent).

In contrast to this overall increase in learning gains, student satisfaction with the spring 2003 course was mixed to negative. The Course Evaluation Guide overall course score for spring 2003 was 3.7 out of 7.0, a very low ranking. Why was this? In

hindsight, we made a number of missteps in the transition from prototype to the regular class in spring 2003. For example, almost all of our students in the prototype courses had seen the material before at some level, either because they had not

done well in physics in their freshman year (two-thirds of the students), or because they were freshmen with excellent physics backgrounds (one-third of the students). This was not the case in spring 2003, when many students entering the course had never seen the material before. Moreover, we use group work extensively in class, and in the prototype courses we grouped according to background; that is, every group had a range of prior knowledge based on the pre-test. In spring 2003, however, we simply assigned students to groups randomly, for efficiency. The result of these two factors was that some of our groups in spring 2003 consisted entirely of students who had never seen the material before. Thus, a frequent student complaint in our focus groups was that "the blind can't lead the blind" in group work.

Another factor in spring 2003 was that the sections were led by faculty who had not taught in this format before. Although we did train the faculty in the teaching methods in the course, in hindsight our training was not thorough enough to prepare them for the new environment in the d'Arbeloff classroom, both in terms of the technology in the room and the teaching methods used in "interactive engagement." In particular, we provided to the teaching staff Powerpoint presentations for the material to be covered

in a given class, and many students felt that the section leaders went through this material too rapidly. They preferred more traditional boardwork, which moderates the pace of the presentation of material. Students complained that they felt they did most of their learning outside class, and only came to class because they knew class participation was part of their grade.

Finally, we did not do enough training of the student groups themselves in collaborative work. Ideally, collaborative work is a positive experience for everyone in the group — the students with weaker physics backgrounds can learn from more advanced peers who have recently struggled with the same concepts, and the students who have stronger backgrounds find that the best way to solidify one's own understanding of the material is to explain it to others. We did not do a good job of setting out the mechanics of group work, and in particular we did not set up mechanisms for corrective action for groups that were not working.

For TEAL to succeed in the long term, it is crucial that we correct the missteps from spring 2003. Since we feel that class attendance is a central part of this teaching method, we must structure the course so that coming to class is seen by students as a profitable use of their time. The changes we are making in fall 2003 are: (1) heterogeneous grouping; (2) more extensive training for course teaching staff, both section leaders and graduate and undergraduate TAs; (3) an increase in course teaching staff, as students felt we were understaffed during class; (4) fewer experiments that are better explained and better integrated into the course material; (5) better planning of individual classes to break our active learning sessions into smaller units that can be more closely overseen by the teaching staff.

The lessons of the TEAL experience thus far for educational innovation at the Institute are, first, that any serious educational reform effort at MIT must be accompanied by a robust assessment effort. One needs some quantitative measure of the effectiveness of instruction to gauge whether any innovation is actually producing results that are superior to or equal to what it is replacing. Also, with hindsight we feel that our major misstep in this transition was not training course personnel and students adequately to prepare them for this new method of teaching.

This is a condensed version of an article that appeared in the MIT Faculty Newsletter, Vol. XVI No. 2, Oct.–Nov. 2003, online at <http://web.mit.edu/fnl/>.

John W. Belcher is a professor of physics and principal investigator of the TEAL project.

The Limits of "Teaching" Diversity

Maria Schriver

Last week, I attended the meeting where the creation of a diversity General Institute Requirement at MIT was discussed. This sounds like a good idea. During their undergraduate career, students should learn to understand people of diverse backgrounds in order to prepare them to better work and communicate after they leave. Unfortunately, two critical questions were left unanswered at the debate: What elements of "diversity" are important for students to learn? And what is the best way to learn these elements?

Although the first question might seem to present a formidable barrier to discussion, its answer is rather straightforward. "Diversity" is a broad term encompassing any systemic way in which individuals differ from each other. It spans socioeconomic, national, racial, gender, sexual orientation, religious, and other forms of diversity.

The discussion last Wednesday night seemed to focus on racial diversity. However, it is clearly more important to teach diversity in a generalized way. It is not important that students spend time studying the genetic origins for gender and sexual orientation differences or know in detail the history of the civil rights movement, but it is important that they are able to evaluate people they meet without any prejudices. If a student leaves diversity GIR class having shed racial stereotypes but still retaining gender stereotypes that they are unwilling to change, the class is a failure.

As for the best way to learn elements of diversity, two main models were proposed: one class that every MIT student would take or a selection of several different courses from which students would be able to choose. In this latter case, the curriculum of each course would be unique but have some focus on diversity.

There are some major obstacles to implementing a successful diversity appreciation class. Such a class requires more effort on the part of the student than many other classes do. In addition, it cannot be presented in lecture format or truly be evaluated based on graded assignments, like papers. While a good paper on the history of Southeast Asia may demonstrate that a student understands history, it is hard to come up with a similar model to demonstrate appreciation of diversity. A paper on marginalization experienced

by international students in the U.S. today or a written personal account of being stereotyped still may not demonstrate that a student has a true appreciation of diversity. The only way to ensure that people learn anything about diversity is for them to be actively and willingly engaged in discussions with people of backgrounds different from their own. Unfortunately, neither of the two models of learning elements of diversity accomplishes this goal.

As one professor attending the diversity GIR discussion pointed out, any class that is required of all students will be hated by many students. This is as much a result of people's innate tendency to rebel against being told exactly what is best for them as it is because no single class can appeal to a student population as diverse as MIT's. If students do not choose their classes, they often have little or no interest in them. Thus, even if class discussion was a graded component of the course, most students would not be engaged enough to benefit if a single course were required of every student.

Another key consideration is that "learning" diversity is impossible if the discussion does not involve people of diverse backgrounds. If students were given options of several classes with different diversity foci, those with similar backgrounds would inevitably choose the same classes. A lot of women would choose the class focused on gender issues, and a lot of international students would choose the class focused on national origin issues, with the overall result being that discussions in these classes would consist mostly of students with similar backgrounds discussing issues with which they already have experience. This would be successful at teaching the students more about a particular issue, but a complete failure at instilling a generalized appreciation of diversity.

So if these models will not work for many students, what about those for whom they do work? What harm could experimenting with the models do?

The most obvious answer is that the students would give up time that could have been spent learning something else. The subtlety of this argument lies in the fact that the class time taken up by learning diversity would have otherwise been spent in another HASS class. Most HASS courses have a discussion component. Many political science, history, literature, philosophy, and anthropology class-

es include in their curricula material that focuses on the understanding some facet of diversity. Because students choose these classes, they are interested and engaged in the discussion. A possible alternative to creating a diversity GIR would be to find the classes already offered at MIT that fit the above description and require all students to take one of them.

One important consequence that could come out of creating a diversity GIR is that in addition to not solving the problem, it may further cover it up. With a diversity requirement, MIT would be able to fend off criticism of diversity awareness problems on campus by pointing to a meaningless graduation requirement rather than by making more fundamental changes.

Finally, a diversity GIR that does not engage students could come to be seen as a joke and a bureaucratic requirement that doesn't really teach anything. If this happened, it would trivialize the concepts that the class would be trying to teach. The fundamental failure of the idea of a diversity GIR is that it tries to use grades as an incentive for students to open their minds and engage actively in discussion. Grades simply are not a good enough reason for most people to consider changing their opinions. Think of how many times you have heard someone say, "I got an A in that class, but I forgot everything I learned as soon as the final was over." Grading students on their understanding of diversity issues implies that MIT considers those issues only as important as the number of units the grade is worth, which are simply not important enough.

Discussions between students from different backgrounds happen on this campus daily in every living group, proving that issues like diversity awareness can be learned in a more meaningful context than by through a class. Dean Bob Redwine said at the diversity GIR meeting that MIT students today are more capable than they have ever been in the past. It is time to trust students to gain from their independent interactions rather than trying to grade them on forced discussions. MIT can foster these independent interactions by encouraging open forums such as student newspapers and by funding diversity events planned by student groups. It can be a role of the Institute to promote diversity awareness, but it should not be the role of the academic curriculum to do so.

Maria Schriver is a member of the class of 2005.

Betrayed by My Country

Aimée Smith

Like most students in U.S. schools, I went right along with the morning practice of standing to face the flag, putting hand on heart, and reciting an oath to my country. I estimate that I have pledged roughly 2,600 times, so often that it seems impossible for me to be objective when faced with events that run counter to this oath. I was systematically indoctrinated into nationalist blindness: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Sometimes events crash into these claims like a ton of bricks. I remember one such time several years ago when I heard Kathleen Cleaver tell her story of government surveillance, framings, and outright killing of people in the Black Panther Party back in the 60s and 70s. That night I went to sleep with a big headache and awoke to a world that was very different than the one I was in just the previous morning. Cleaver was speaking about real events that I could not dismiss as "conspiracy theories" or "mad delusions."

This past week another ton of bricks crashed down. On Nov. 6, my dear friend Amer Jubran saw the door of justice slam in his face. Maybe we should change the Pledge of Allegiance to "with liberty and justice for almost all."

It's a somewhat involved story, one that involves government surveillance of Amer and all of us who thought we had the right to protest U.S. and Israeli brutality in Palestine. This was Amer's second ordeal with a politically motivated trial. The first was a phony assault charge that was dismissed after a year of court harassment. The Brookline police on June 10, 2001, were in the employ of the Israeli Consulate for the Israel Day Celebration and used a fraudulent arrest of Amer to break up a peaceful, permitted demonstration for Palestinian rights. Before dispersing the rally, mug shots of each of the protesters — including that of a baby — were taken, with

special focus on Arab and Muslim men. Documents obtained through Freedom of Information Act requests reveal that police were given a premeditated order to arrest Amer Jubran and "clear the demo." Why was a peaceful, permitted rally including U.S. citizens cleared by police working for a foreign consulate? Maybe it should be "with liberty and justice for some."

On the morning of November 4, 2002, two days after another permitted, peaceful demonstration, Amer was arrested again. FBI and INS agents raided his home without presenting a warrant and detained him. They told him that if he would "please the ears" of the FBI agent he could be home in time for lunch. Otherwise, they threatened, he could rot in detention for 50 years. Amer took the principled stand of agreeing to answer questions with the benefit of counsel. Apparently not satisfied, the government detained him for 17 days, without any charges.

Finally, even though the interrogation focused on political questions, the charges that were brought had to do with immigration technicalities. He has been dragged through this process for over a year, and the government has dispatched 12 agents to interrogate former in-laws and friends. The judge and the government seem to have colluded to use the immigration court venue to pursue lines of inquiry that had nothing at all to do with the immigration charge at hand. The government would then be granted months to follow up on those irrelevant lines of questioning by dispatching agents all over the country to "interview" former colleges, friends, and associates.

Not only is this a poor use of government resources, it is illegal for the government to pry into people's lives unless there is probable cause — being Muslim or an Arab or having clear political views does not legally constitute probable cause.

When Amer went to court on November 6, 2003, he had the added burden of a lawyer who was cooperating with this illegal fishing expedition. Amer told the judge he wanted to dismiss his lawyer and have a continuance to

seek new representation. Judge Shapiro, after previously granting months-long continuances to the prosecution on the flimsiest of pretexts, and who already acknowledged he was going to continue after Amer was to take the stand, rejected this request and told Amer he could either keep his lawyer or he could represent himself. When Amer explained that he did not have the legal knowledge to represent himself, the judge told him that he could take the stand without a lawyer and the judge himself would carry out the direct examination! This is in a country that claims to be free and just? Amer then told the judge, "If there is no justice for me here in the United States, I'll take voluntary departure."

What was Amer's true crime? Speaking while Palestinian. His voice, his kind-hearted support and friendship will be deeply missed, but his message will not be silenced. The 56 year campaign of genocide that continues against the native people of Palestine will be exposed and loudly condemned. And just as apartheid South Africa fell, apartheid Israel will also fall. But whatever your level of understanding about the European colonial conquest of Palestine under Zionism, ask yourself how the U.S., a country that claims to be free and just for all, can politically target people for speaking their beliefs? How can courts in a free and just society be used as instruments of political repression — mostly focusing on immigrants, but also targeting U.S. citizens. Remember José Padilla? A U.S. citizen continues to suffer months-long detention in a military brig with no access to civilian criminal courts or the Bill of Rights. If we stand by and let the U.S. government fraudulently target immigrants, we will be next. Wasn't the tragic lesson of the brutal Nazi regime that our acceptance of intolerance makes every one of us vulnerable to intolerance? If an injury to one is an injury to all, then an honest Pledge of Allegiance to the United States will be: "with liberty and justice for none."

Say it with me, 2,600 times.

Aimée Smith PhD '02 is a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

ARTS

THEATER REVIEW

*South Asia's Homosexual Problem ; -)**Gehri Dosti, a Wrenching Play, Boldly Addresses Taboo Subject*

By Chikako Sassa

Gehri Dosti: Five Short Plays With a South Asian Bent ; -)
Leverett Old Library Theater, Harvard University

Thurs-Sat, 8 p.m.; Sun, 2 p.m., Oct. 23-Nov. 15

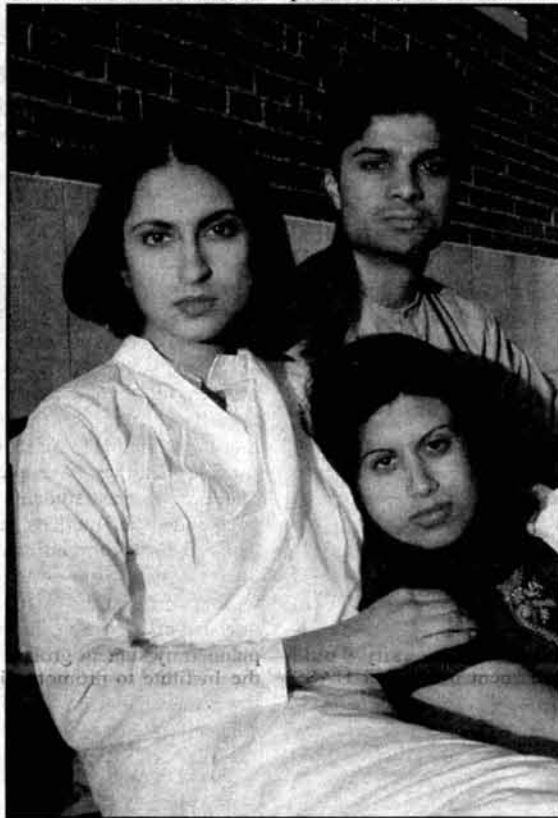
Written and directed by Paul Knox
Starring Sudarshan Belsare, Rupak Bhattacharya, Poorna Jagannathan, Anjali Khurana, Nitin Puri, Anita Raghuvanshi, Donald Ringuette, Weerawat Runguphan, and Fred Smith, Jr.

Anyone who has been to India can attest to the conspicuousness of same-sex couples holding hands in public, walking with arms and shoulders locked in intimate embrace. Had the same phenomenon been witnessed in Chelsea or P-Town, we would have no doubt that they are gay. These Indian *dostis*, however, are not gay. They simply invoke more physical intimacy during their daily interactions of friendship. And the silent minority of men and women who do fall in love with sweethearts of the same sex also do not consider themselves to be gay in our culturally specific sense of the term: they are men who love men, and women who love women.

Paul Knox emphasizes this distinction in *Gehri Dosti: Five Short Plays With a South Asian Bent ; -)*. Composed of five widely divergent vignettes, *Gehri*

Short Plays With a South Asian Bent ; -). His work sheds light on the complexity — and the contextual niceties — of the pain encountered by same-sex lovers in the face of persecution and intolerance. Because homosexuality in India is culturally and religiously offensive to the heterosexual mainstream, LGBTQs are rendered invisible and nonexistent, or else considered a subversive cultural import from the West. LGBTQs exist, but sometimes their freedom to express their homosexuality overlaps with the intolerance of those who do not love homosexually; occasionally, the consequences can be fatal. Hence, the homosexuals have little choice but to banish themselves underground or overseas in fear, burdened with guilt and shame. Many are ravaged by HIV and die uncared for.

But even more powerful than the pain of persecution, *Gehri Dosti* rises above the misery of LGBTQ Indians with a steadfast dedication to love life and live love. The intoxication of falling in love, the ecstasies of mutual affection, Quixotic acts that could only win the tender kiss of a lover, and the wistful and intense longing to know and understand their beloved other over cultural, social, and religious barriers — these are the forces that drive the characters in *Gehri Dosti*. The histrionic result is intensely gratifying, sincere, and memorable.



NARESH RAMARAJAN

N (Zehra Fazal), Moumita (Anita Raghuvanshi), and P (Rupak Bhattacharya) starred in 'I Am Mou,' the third play in a series of five in Paul Knox's *Gehri Dosti: Five Short Plays With a South Asian Bent ; -)*.

Dosti explores a series of unconventional relationships fraught with misunderstandings and failures. In "Loving Japamala," an Indi-



NARESH RAMARAJAN

Two Indian lovers, Sarath (Nitin Puri) and Hasan (Weerawat Runguphan), come together in yoga as they struggle to bridge their inner differences.

an nun falls in love with a gay stripper in the South Bronx. In "Eating Jain," a dashing Chelsea boy pursues his Indian lover halfway across the world, only to discover that his lover's Indian heritage is exerting tremendous pressure on him to forfeit his homosexual orientation. "I Am Mou" is particularly haunting in its sensitive reconstruction of a true-to-life tragedy that took place somewhere in Bengal, wherein an affluent but depressed wife of a well-reputed doctor falls in love with a young instructress, whom she employs, at truly tragic costs. "Two Men in Shoulder Stand" explores two indelible chasms between Sarath and Hasan: difference in religion, and difference in HIV-positive status. After the slew of tragic plays, the last and only intentionally comical play "Tara Tara Didi" is a welcome treat. (The plot is best left unexplained to encourage readers to discover it on their own.)

Knox's plays have a power to transport the audience into the raw, private, even secretive, and plaintive reality of his characters. The audience is allowed to live vicariously through them, and we privately watch from one end of the room as the actors publicly writhe naked under sheets or lose them-

selves in yoga meditation. Knox, who wrote the plays and also directed their performances, chose to furnish his stage with minimal set and props. He succeeds in recreating a plausible environment for the tragedies take place, and our hearts willingly sink into the scenes, alternately shattered and soothed.

At its finest moments, *Gehri Dosti* culminates in a remarkable chemistry of talented actors. Most notably, Zehra Fazal's performance in "Eating Jain" as N, the wealthy

doctor's wife, and Rupak Bhattacharya as P, the doctor, stirs profound emotions. Both already have built up impressive careers as undergraduate thespians at Wellesley College and Harvard College, respectively, and their experience definitely shines through in their mature, consistently riveting performances. Among pioneering thespians who have never been on stage before, Anjali Khurana as Sister Japamala is worthy of special mention for her outstanding interpretation of her character's innocence and warmth. At the other end of the spectrum, some plays fail to exude much theatrical brilliance beyond that of a high school drama experiment. "Tara Tara Didi," for all its comical satisfaction, fails to deliver its humor to its full capacity, mainly because of a paucity of coordination among actors and musical misadventures.

As if to recreate a macrocosm of the plight of its characters, *Gehri Dosti* has garnered a polar reaction from the press and the general audience. The Boston gay community warmly embraced it, while many members of the established South Asian community firmly rejected it. This reaction may well speak of its success in delivering its message on the difficulties of being gay and South Asian.

MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players Shine in 'Ruddigore'

Ruddigore, from Page 1

The show began with the traditional "God Save The Queen," a reminder that about three hours of British humor is to follow. Afterwards, the orchestra played a beautiful tune, and the stage lit up. The ladies' chorus, in coordinated dress, crooned to the audience, "Is anybody going to marry you today?" The theme of getting married, or perhaps not getting married, carried on throughout the show. *Ruddigore*'s plot concerns itself with the age-old troubles associated with love, ancient curses, and the undead.

The MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players offered the audience — in addition to the rich plot — a great cast. The adored Rose Maybud (Caitlin J. Smythe G), sang in a crisp soprano voice, and worked well with the company. Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd, disguised as Robin Oakapple (David Daly), was somewhat reminiscent of Nathan Lane, and won over the audience with his stunning voice and convincing acting.

A persistent Rose Maybud toted around an etiquette book, and often read to the audience from it.

The smaller musical numbers were also quite nice, and the orchestra, albeit a little underrehearsed, played them well. Unfortunately, because of the lack of proper sound amplification, it was hard to fully

understand the company's words over the orchestra. This was true of the entire show.



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL—THE TECH

The evil Sir Despard Murgatroyd (Jonathan Ichikawa) makes his frightful appearance in the town of Ruddigore.

Mad Margaret (Vanessa H. Quinlivan '06), was extremely convincing as a mad woman, and treated the audience to lines such as, "They sing choruses in public that's mad enough, I think." It was a good thing, however, that the company sang in public, because it gave them a chance to showcase their talent. One number had a capella sections tucked in, another had amusing choreography. Particularly entertaining numbers came from Richard Dauntless (Percy S. Liang G), who loved Rose Maybud almost as much as he loved himself, as well as the wicked Sir Despard Murgatroyd, of *Ruddigore* (Jonathan Ichikawa), who committed a crime in the morning, and atoned for it in the afternoon.

The second act began with the orchestra playing a now-familiar tune, and a new set. Appearing as ghosts, the men's chorus was absolutely fantastic at building up suspense while keeping humor in the picture. And Mad Margaret, returning with a man on her arm and never missing a beat, provided the audience with superb comic relief.



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL—THE TECH

The outcasts of *Ruddigore*, Mad Margaret (Vanessa H. Quinlivan '06) and Sir Despard Murgatroyd (Jonathan Ichikawa), appear in solemn atonement.

The company joined together for the final numbers, took their bows, and posed for publicity pictures. Smiling the whole time, it was yet again evident that they enjoyed presenting the show just as much as the audience enjoyed watching it. *Ruddigore* is a fantastic and memorable portrayal of a small town and its zany inhabitants.

CLASSICAL REVIEW

An Evening of Russian Classics

In the Midst of the Lunar Eclipse, BSO Enchants

By Sonja Sharpe

STAFF WRITER

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Hans Graf, conductor
Claudio Bohorquez, cello
Symphony Hall
Nov. 8, 8 p.m.

Under the auspice of the lunar eclipse, the Boston Symphony Orchestra delighted its audience this past Saturday evening with a wonderful concert consisting of three works from two celebrated Russian composers, Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich.

The evening began with Tchaikovsky's symphonic fantasy, "The Tempest." Inspired by Shakespeare's play, Tchaikovsky's version also begins at sea. The sea is unmistakable as such, beautifully rendered in musical form by the soft undulations of the strings. The power of the sorcerer Prospero, who controls the action in the play, is then represented in the music with horns and a grand tune as he commands the spirit Ariel to raise a tempest.

Just as the lunar eclipse outside reached its full grandeur, so did the orchestra, creating as real a tempest as can be musically described, with fast, punctuated music that relied heavily on brass and drums. As the tempest subsides, the love theme between Miranda, Prospero's daughter, and Ferdinand, the son of the King of Naples, takes shape, at first light and almost fluffy, then becoming more impassioned as the piece progresses.

The Tempest then ends where it began, on the sea, which was again wonderfully portrayed by the strings. The piece as a whole is loose in structure and moves much like a film score. Indeed, images from "Casablanca" often came to mind, particularly during the love theme. Overall, "The Tempest" is an engaging and enjoyable musical fantasy, and the half hour that it took the orchestra to play it felt much more like ten minutes.

In contrast, the next work performed by the orchestra was Shostakovich's *Cello Con-*

certo No. 1 in E flat. Although this piece also moves at times with both fast-paced energy and slower, more contemplative motion, it hardly evokes images of joy or lightheartedness. The draw of this work is without question the solo performance of the cello, which is really best experienced by viewing a live performance, to see the soloist at work in person. Soloist Claudio Bohorquez was mesmerizing in this piece, displaying an astounding range and technical capability that transformed the cello at times into a fiddle and at times into multiple cellos, as if the soloist were playing a duet with himself. It was truly an amazing performance.

The final piece of the evening was Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 2 in C minor*, or "Little Russian." Little Russia was a nickname given to the Ukraine by the Russian tsars, and since Tchaikovsky used several Ukrainian folk tunes in this symphony, the name was applied to this work, as well. The piece as a whole is energetic and exciting, alternating between light and majestic sections.

The finale is almost overly grand, moving between the splendid, imperial power of the horns and drums and

the frolicking lightness of the strings, which carry a folk tune called "The Crane." The entire piece ends with what can best be described as the musical equivalent of an exclamation point, and which also served as the perfect ending to the evening itself.



27-year-old cellist Claudio Bohorquez made his Boston debut last week with the BSO as the soloist in Shostakovich's *Cello Concerto*, with Hans Graf conducting.

CD REVIEW

A Star-Studded Tribute to a Fab Show

Hedheads Rejoice: 'Wig in the Box' is Great and for a Good Cause

By Frederick Choi

STAFF WRITER

Wig in a Box: The Songs from Hedwig and the Angry Inch
Various Artists
Off Records
Released Oct. 21

Fans of Hedwig, called "Hedheads," will be pleased to see that after five years, their favorite transsexual/transvestite is still alive and kicking her stiletto heels. The wonderfully tragicomic tale of Hedwig begins with a young boy named Hansel who undergoes a botched sex operation in order to marry and flee Communist Germany. The experience leaves him with a new name and the eponymous "angry inch," as well as an identity crisis bigger than the Berlin Wall. Hedwig is left clawing her way through the American Midwest in search of her self after several relationships go sour.

"Heady" material to say the least, but its success, Off-Broadway in 1998, as a movie in 2001, as well as in the numerous regional productions that followed (including in Boston) owes to the perfect marriage of a masterful and catchy set of songs by Stephen Trask with a rich book by John Cameron Mitchell (and, in the case of the play and the movie, having the multi-talented Mitchell in the tour-de-force title role certainly didn't hurt).

Hedwig's current incarnation is as a star-studded tribute album to benefit the Hetrick-Martin Institute entitled *Wig in a Box: Songs from and Inspired by Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Appropriately, the Hetrick-Martin Institute's mission is to provide safe havens for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth, and their locations include the Harvey Milk School in New York City. The list of contributors to the disc is impressive, including They Might Be Giants performing the lovely ballad "The Long Grift" from the stage show; "The Three Bens," Ben Kweller with Ben Folds and Ben Lee (formerly of Noise Addict); the Breeders; Frank Black; the

Polyphonic Spree; and in an amusing twist Stephen Colbert of *The Daily Show* reading a small excerpt from the script.

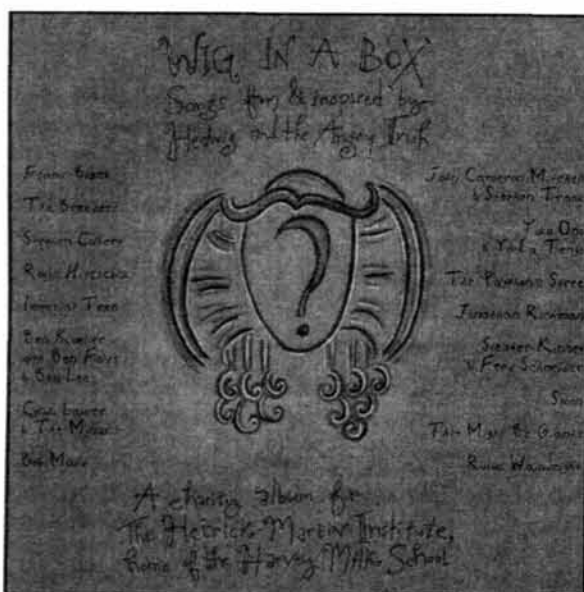
As with most tribute albums, many of the artists' renditions are competent but err on the side of being too close to their source. Still, there are quite a few notable exceptions. Spoon successfully spoonerizes "Tear Me Down," complete with horn section, and Imperial Teen nicely reworks "Freaks." Yoko Ono's personality shines through "Hedwig's

step is one of the best songs of the score, the power ballad "The Origin of Love." Rufus Wainwright's languid voice isn't quite suited to the song, which has a rock out bridge that Wainwright merely moseys his way through despite its get up and mosh accompaniment.

Unsurprisingly, the performances here reveal just how great these songs are. Because of slightly clearer enunciation than Mitchell's, Trask's genius lyrics also get a new chance to shine, such as the lyrics from "Angry Inch": "My sex change operation got botched/ My guardian angel fell asleep on the watch/ Now all I got is a Barbie doll crotch / I got an angry inch."

No doubt long-time fans will immediately skip to Mitchell and Trask's brand-new track "Milford Lake." Despite its use of water as its central image (yawn), the song is a put-it-on-replay ballad that would not be out of place on an indie record. The song leaves one wishing that Mitchell and Trask would drop everything and record a whole albumful of new songs. Jonathan Richman performs a fairly ho-hum version of "The Origin of Love" with alternate lyrics and Bob Mould (of Husker Du fame) improves "Nailed," probably the weakest song of the score, by remixing it and setting it to a house beat. Robyn Hitchcock performs an original entitled "City of Women," the only song not written by Trask and, like "Milford Lake," it bears little connection to the show despite being "inspired by Hedwig."

Despite the lack of John Cameron Mitchell and Miriam Shore's distinctive vocals, all in all *Wig in a Box*, as we've come to expect from Mitchell and Trask, is a great release. It's a smart blend of well-loved songs and arrangements, some new songs and new arrangements, inspired pairings of artists with other artists and songs, along with some excellent unseen artwork from Emily Hubley who contributed to the show and movie. Here's to five years of Hedwig, and hopefully many more to come.



OFF RECORDS

Lament/Exquisite Corpse" (paired with Yo La Tengo, probably due to a name game similar to that which combined the three Bens) and adds some memorable vocal stylings to the convulsive coda.

On the excellent power ballad "Midnight Radio" (which tastefully features youth from HMI on background vocals with the Minus 5), Cyndi Lauper's thin but passionate voice recalls the powerfully broken voice of Marianne Faithfull. Sleater-Kinney and the B-52's Fred Schneider, both of whom Trask has said in a *Rolling Stones* interview that he consciously tried to imitate, join forces to great effect on "Angry Inch." A slight mis-

RESTAURANT REVIEW

State of the Union: Delicious

New South End Restaurant Makes the Grade

By Lauren Nowlinski

Union Bar and Grill
1357 Washington Street, South End
(617) 423-0555
Sun-Wed, 5:30-11; Thurs-Sat,
5:30-midnight

Perhaps you have seen the countless full-page advertisements all summer in the local Boston magazines announcing "Union: Now Hiring." Every issue of every magazine had an advertisement like this: no information, no allusion to what Union is exactly, but simply an announcement that it will be opening this autumn. To end my piqued curiosity, I decided to find out for myself just what Union is all about.

Located in the South End on Washington Street on a corner of Union Park, Union fits the bill of a typical South End restaurant: dark, with a lively bar, and very, very crowded. Without reservations, the wait could have been easily an hour, even at 9:30 p.m., past the prime eating time. At the entrance, you encounter a full-length bar, complemented by a few small cocktail tables, not that you can see either of these through the immense crowds. Apparently there are others who were curious to learn more about Union as well.

Upon entering the bar area, you are instantly greeted by multiple hostesses who offer to check your coat for you to help relieve the heat generated by the countless bodies. The dining room to the right of the bar is a fairly small room, around 20 tables, all situated in darkness with a hint of dim light as well as candlelight. In the center of the room, there are quite a few circular booths to give the tables a more isolated feel despite their location in the center of it all. The setup is very typical of the South End, but it definitely works.

The service at Union is indeed outstanding. The waiters are all extremely comfortable with the menu, able to answer any question you may have. The busboys all carry crumbers to remove the mess you have made while eating to make your table always presentable. Everyone seems very delightful and happy to assist with any problems you may be having.

All restaurants can have great service and a fabulous atmosphere, but very few combine all of this with delectable food as well. The food at Union really makes this restaurant. The appetizers range from \$7 to \$14 and include fried calamari, sweet corn risotto, and lobster fricassee as its highlights. The entrees range from \$20 to \$30 dollars and include items such as wild halibut with sweet corn and squash, swordfish with Brussels sprouts, as well as more common items as pork chops and lamb chops. The entree list is fairly simple, with no really outlandish items, but each is prepared deliciously in perfect presentation.

The dessert list leaves little to be desired. From the warm Napoleon to the almond panna cotta, each dessert is quite pleasing, though perhaps a tad small in size.

All in all, Union is a very wonderful place, but be prepared to spend money. Fine dining does not come cheap, and a dinner for two without alcoholic beverages will run you around \$100. It is a great place for intimate conversation, delicious food, and wonderful service. The crowd is a little on the older end, average age around 30-35; however, Union is very accommodating to all ages and is a great place to go for a first, third, or 75th date.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 21

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Daneshvar Wants to Increase Presidents' Council Involvement



Daniel H. Daneshvar '05 was elected president of the Interfraternity Council Thursday night. Daneshvar, who lives on Beacon Street at Phi Kappa Sigma, will begin his term in the Spring.

New IFC President To Restructure Rush

Elections, from Page 1

Committee. "It is a serious problem that there are rules enforced, such as in JudComm, that are not voted on in the Presidents' Council," he said. "If there are any rules that outside sources deem necessary to enforce, those should be portrayed at the Presidents' Council."

According to Daneshvar, one major approach to realizing this goal will be through increased involvement of the IFC Presidents' Council.

Daneshvar to revamp rush

Another one of his goals is to restructure the rush system. "I never would have allowed rush to go to a system that begins five weeks into the term ... I'd like to change that," Daneshvar said.

"It's not likely to happen, I recognize that," he said, "but I'm coming in with a slew of changes that I'd like to see."

Daneshvar hopes to continue building relationships with administrators such as David N. Rogers, Assistant Dean and Director for Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups, saying that, "the administrators have put a lot of trust in the IFC."



DMITRY PORTNYAGIN—THE TECH

The moon was in total eclipse last Saturday over most of United States. During a total lunar eclipse, the moon isn't completely dark. Some sunlight, refracted by Earth's atmosphere, continues to strike the moon's surface, giving it a reddish glow. The next full lunar eclipse visible from the United States will occur on October 28th, 2004.

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Benton, Famous Holographer, Co-founded Media Lab

Benton, from Page 1

graphic image, and a Pied Piper for students, artists and designers who worked with advanced imaging technology. His influence on the art and design worlds has been profound and enduring," said architecture professor William J. Mitchell, who is academic head of MIT's Program in Media Arts and Sciences.

Benton had his first glimpse of a hologram in 1964. It was a "little coffee cup, but it was the most amazing thing I'd ever seen. I knew my life would never be the same," he said. Holography works like photography in that it records light wave patterns on chemically sensitive film or glass. Converging direct and indirect laser beams create its exciting 3-D effect.

Benton invented rainbow holography—a process that makes a

hologram visible using common white light, also known in its credit card iteration as "Benton holo-

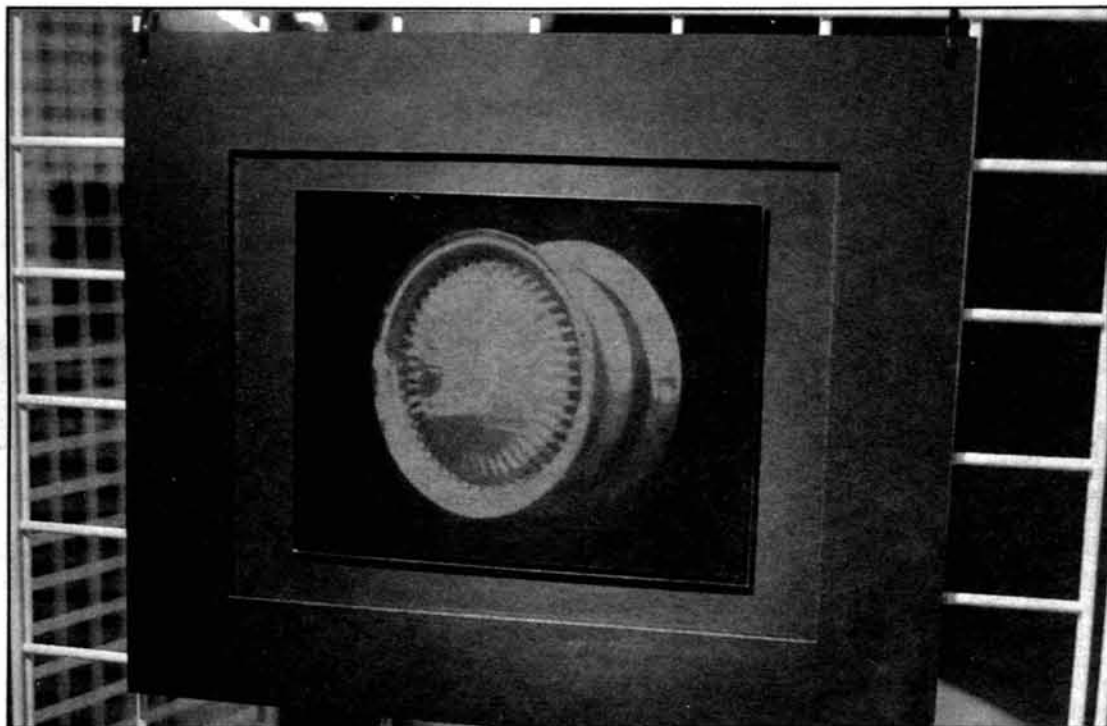
grams."

Benton returned to MIT as a visiting scientist in the Laser Research Center in 1980. He became founding head of the Spatial Imaging Group in 1982. A founding faculty member of the Media Lab in 1984, Benton delighted in both the scientific and aesthetic applications of holography. He held 14 patents in optical physics, photography and holography, and his own works in holography have been displayed at the Museum of Holography in New York.

In 1985, Benton began generating synthetic holograms from 3-D digital databases, initially creating a 3-D image of a green car floating in front of the Boston skyline.

He described holography as a true "intersection of art, science and technology." While he considered viewing a good hologram

to be a "magical experience," the rigor and depth of his research yielded far more than visual wiz-



White-light transmission holographic images were on display in the Media Lab outside the "Benton Vision" symposium on Tuesday. The event was in honor of the late Stephen A. Benton '63, who invented the process of rainbow holography.

ardry. Holograms have been used to create three-dimensional composites of CT and MRI scans that have been very useful in medical diagnosis.

"As a world leader in both technology and the arts, Steve Benton epitomized the Media Lab. Rather

than mere users of holography, he and his lab invented many aspects of it, including the basic science behind holographic video," said Nicholas Negroponte '66, chairman of the MIT Media Labs and the Jerome Wiesner Professor of Media Technology.

Benton is survived by his wife, Jeanne Lamphier Benton; a daughter, Julia Benton; a son, James; and brothers Nicholas and Chris. He was a longtime resident of Lincoln, Mass. Funeral arrangements were incomplete Wednesday.

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Leaked E-mails Point to Flaws of Voting Machines

Diebold, from Page 1

Christopher E. Kuklewicz G, has now also published the e-mails on the Web, at <http://www.mit.edu/~chrisk/>.

E-mails show flaws, Ananian says

"What I saw was pretty shocking," Ananian said. "Certainly this is something more people should know about."

One of the main security holes in Diebold's AccuVote-TS, a touchscreen voting machine, appears to be its dependence on a Microsoft Access database to store the votes, according to critics who cite the e-mails.

When administrators log into the Global Election Management Software provided by Diebold, their work is recorded in an audit log, designed so that individuals cannot make unauthorized changes to votes. Each user's actions are tracked and recorded in the audit log.

Both the votes and the audit log are stored in an unsecured Microsoft Access database, the e-mails said. Essentially, this allows anyone with physical access to the database's computer to edit vote counts and the audit log without being detected.

Furthermore, the e-mails indicate that Diebold employees know about this flaw but have consid-

ered leaving the security hole in because "being able to end-run the database has admittedly got people out of a bind," one employee wrote in 2001, according to the collection.

It is unclear whether this vulnerability remains in the company's equipment today.

The Diebold e-mails also discuss several flaws in the operation of the software.

The most notable one occurred during the 2000 presidential election. One customer appears to have written to the company, "I need some answers! Our department is being audited by the County. I have been waiting for someone to give me an explanation as to why Precinct 216 gave Al Gore a minus 16,022 when it was uploaded."

In most cases, election software has to be certified by the state before it can be used in actual elections. However, the e-mails suggest that in some cases, Diebold distributed systems running new code that had not been certified.

E-mails add to Diebold criticism

Those who have posted the e-mails are not the first to suggest that Diebold's voting machines are flawed. A July 2003 analysis of Diebold's software by researchers at Johns Hopkins and Rice Universities reported large vulnerabilities in the machines.

The report says that the software allows for individuals to vote several times by creating their own voter smart cards, a simple process because Diebold does not encrypt the contents of the cards.

The report goes on to say that malicious individuals could create an "Administrator Card" to end an election prematurely.

The report is available online at <http://avirubin.com/vote.pdf>.

Seriousness of issues

Professor Charles Stewart III, a member of the Caltech-MIT Voting Technology Project, said some of the vulnerabilities discussed in the e-mails can be cause for concern.

"The tabulation algorithms within the machines themselves, if they aren't done well, can cause problems," Stewart said.

"What we recommend is open-source software and a more modular approach to voting equipment" to prevent issues similar to the ones discussed in the Diebold e-mails, Stewart said, referring to recommendations made in the Voting Technology Project's 2001 report.

But Stewart says that some of the criticism against Diebold may be exaggerated.

"It's hard to imagine the problem of a rogue smart card being more compelling than stuffing ballot boxes," he said.

Related Links

Diebold Internal E-mails

From Christopher E. Kuklewicz G's Athena locker. <http://www.mit.edu/~chrisk/diebold>

C. Scott Ananian's Web Site

Select quotations from the Diebold memos. The site also has further content involving the Diebold issue, including DMCA counter notification. <http://cscott.net/Activism/Diebold>

Why-Vote?

Branched off *Why War?*'s site, Why-Vote? is specifically designed to cover the Diebold memos and contains several mirrors to the documents. <http://why-vote.org/>

Analysis of an Electronic Voting System

The analysis of Diebold software by Kohno, Stubblefield, Rubin, and Wallach. <http://avirubin.com/vote.pdf>

Caltech-MIT Voting Project

General overview of how elections should be run, including criticism of machines like Diebold's. <http://web.mit.edu/voting>

Charles Pence's (Princeton) Web Site

More quotations from the Diebold e-mails, nicely categorized. <http://www.princeton.edu/~cpence/diebold/>

Inside a U.S. Election Vote Counting Program

This article shows how simple it is to alter both the audit log and vote count in the disputed Diebold machines, while remaining undetected. <http://www.scoop.co.nz/mason/stories/HL0307/S00065.htm>

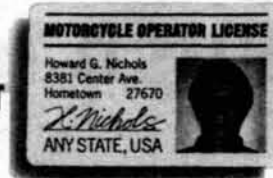
Free food after 11pm.



join@tt.mit.edu

W20-483, 617-253-1541

THE MOST FUN YOU'LL GET OUT OF THE DMV.



A motorcycle operator license is more important than you think. The fact is, unlicensed riders are over-represented in fatal crashes. So get your license. While an afternoon at the DMV isn't much fun, having a license is something you can live with. **MOTORCYCLE SAFETY FOUNDATION**

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Players

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Ruddigore

(or, The Witch's Curse)



La Sala de Puerto Rico
MIT Student Center

November 7, 8, 13, and 14 : 8 pm
November 9 and 15 : 2 pm

gsp-tickets@mit.edu
web.mit.edu/gsp/www

MIT students \$6
MIT Community, seniors, \$8
other students, children
General public \$10

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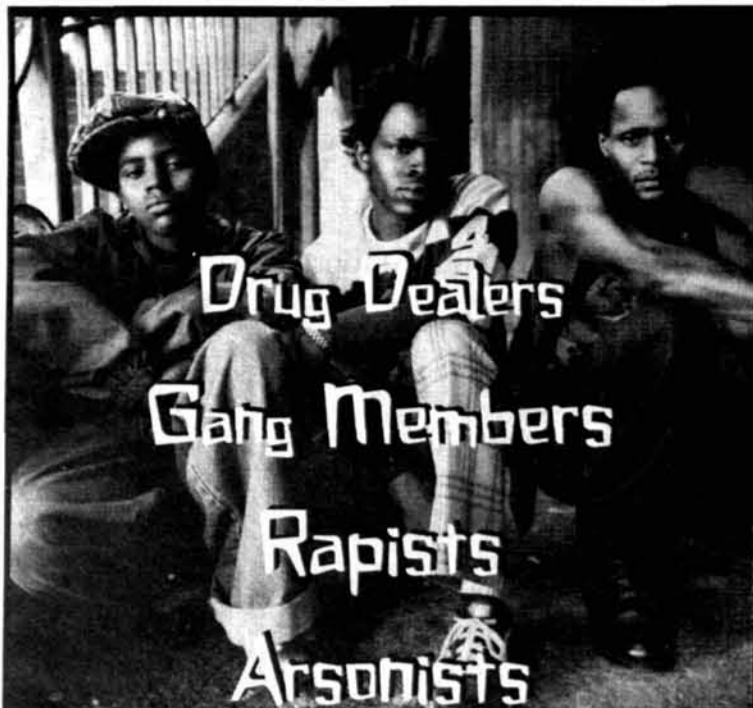
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... all kicked out with the help of kids like us.

- Jamal, age 15
- Khaleeq, age 16
- Malcolm, age 16

Everybody loves to trash teenagers, right? Maybe they don't realize that we do care. That we can make a difference. Get involved in Crime Prevention. Clean up parks. Teach younger kids. Start a school or neighborhood watch. And help make your community safer and better for everyone. Together, we can prove them wrong by doing something right.



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1-800-722-TEENS
www.weprevent.org



This space donated by The Tech



DMITRY PORTNYAGIN—THE TECH

Alexei A. Zykov '05 scores a goal against Harvard as a helpless defender looks on. The game took place at the Harvard Athletic Complex on November 1. MIT beat Harvard in the third overtime, 10-9, to the roar of a rowdy MIT crowd armed with pots and pans.

Got Talent? Looking for Tech Jobs?

AMD On Campus

@ MIT - Monday November 17th

- Info Booth in the Student Center
- AMD Company Presentation
- 6-7PM in Room 56-114
- Free food, drinks & giveaways!
- Now Hiring Full-Time, Interns, Co-Ops



Get \$5000 to Make Art

Open to MIT sophomores and juniors
Application deadline: Monday, January 26, 2004
For more info contact artsfellowship@mit.edu
Or go online: web.mit.edu/arts/special_programs

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-Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"BAWDY, SMART, COLORFUL!"
-ET ONLINE

girls will be Girls

"A LIKELY CULT CLASSIC!"
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EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT NOW PLAYING! KENDALL SQ

Your eyes will
re-adjust.
Eventually.

Tech Model Railroad Club of MIT Fall Open House

Saturday, November 22, 2-5 and 7-10 pm
Room N52-118 (First floor of the MIT Museum Building)
Free Admission

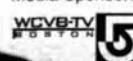


Meetings: Room N52-118, Wed. 7-10, Sat. 5-11
<http://tmrc.mit.edu> - tmrc-officers@mit.edu

Laser Rock Shows. A sight and sound spectacular. Featuring tunes from U2, Floyd, and more. Easy access from the Green Line. Shows after 6pm only \$5*
Info and tix at mos.org

Museum of Science
IT'S ALIVE!

Media Sponsor:



*\$5 Adults, \$4 Children & \$4.50 for Seniors tickets for all Omni films, planetarium and laser shows 6pm and later. Valid through 12/31/03.



Something to feel good about.

United Way

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Do you want to hit the beach or maybe volunteer in Central American? Book your Spring Break getaway today! Ask us how to go FREE!!

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Student Center W20-24
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STA TRAVEL
WE'VE BEEN THERE.

exciting things are happening @ www.statravel.com
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Free tickets for MIT Students!

made possible by
The Council for the Arts at MIT

Boston Lyric Opera presents:

Verdi's
RIGOLETTO
Tuesday November 18, 2003 at 7:30pm
The Shubert Theatre, Boston

Rigoletto will do almost anything to save his daughter from the Duke's heartless ill-use. But at what cost? His adversary controls his fate. His choices are desperate. How wrong can it all turn out? You can't watch. You can't not watch.

World Music/Crash Arts presents:

Drummers of Japan
WADAIKO YAMATO
Saturday, November 22, 2003 at 8pm
Berklee Performance Center, Boston

Yamato presents traditional taiko drumming of phenomenal beauty and power. Founded in 1973, the group comes from Nara, the ancient capital of Japan, where Japanese culture is believed to have started. Inspired by the power, warmth and tenderness of the heartbeat, the 10-member ensemble performs booming multilayered rhythms combined with precise choreography derived from martial arts.

THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA
The Blind Boys Family Christmas
Tuesday, December 2, 2003 at 7:30pm
Berklee Performance Center, Boston

Since meeting at Talledega Institute for the Blind in 1939, the Blind Boys of Alabama have thrilled audiences worldwide with their potent, impassioned renditions of gospel songs. Now in their seventh decade of performance, with a 2002 Grammy Award and 22 recordings to their credit, the Blind Boys of Alabama still send the spirit soaring to dizzying heights with their foot-stomping, hand-clapping celebration.

Tickets may be picked up (in person only)
at the MIT Office of the Arts (E15-205)

Monday - Friday 10am - 3:30pm

One ticket per valid MIT student ID

Dinner@SIX

MIT Student, Administration and Faculty Monthly Gathering
Food for Thought - Free for Students

Join us for a dinner and conversation in a very relaxed atmosphere. The next dinner is on **November 18th**. Guests in attendance are:

Mildred S. Dresselhaus - Institute Professor of Physics and Electrical Engineering
Thomas J. Greytak - Professor of Physics, Associate Department Head for Education
Katya Myer - Hillel Program Coordinator
Irwin A. Pless - Professor of Physics, Emeritus

We are inviting 22 students and 4 faculty, staff and administration members to the **Small Dining Room** at MIT Hillel (Building W11). Make your own menu from the sumptuous choices below!

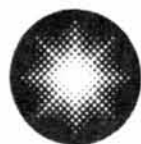
Salads Baby Boston Bibb, Julienne of Snow Peas, Toaster Almond Orange Segments and Poppy Seed Vinaigrette
Tender Field Lettuces with Poached Pears, Toasted Walnuts, Pear Tomatoes and Port Whine Vinaigrette

Entrees Stuffed Breast of Chicken with Green Apple and Cranberry Stuffing
Roast Stuffed Salmon with Portobella Mushrooms, Leeks and Baby Spinach

Deserts Silky Chocolate Mousse in a Crisp Almost Lace Tulip Cup
Flourless Chocolate Torte with Mango and Fresh Raspberries

Attendance is by reservation only. For a full menu and to sign up please contact Katya Myer katyam@mit.edu by November 16th.

The dinner starts at 6:00pm. See you there!



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 - Pricing and risk/gross margin management of power plants and similar synthetic transactions
 - Optimizing the use of natural gas storage facilities to manage time spreads in the short and long term.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BRIEF DISCUSSION AND DINNER

WHEN: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2003 @ 6PM

WHERE: ROOM 35-225

WHO: ALL UNDERGRADUATES AND GRADUATES INTERESTED IN WORKING IN A YOUNG, DYNAMIC AND HIGHLY CHALLENGING FINANCE-RELATED ENVIRONMENT

www.constellation.com

Korean CULTURE SHOW

**Saturday
November 15**

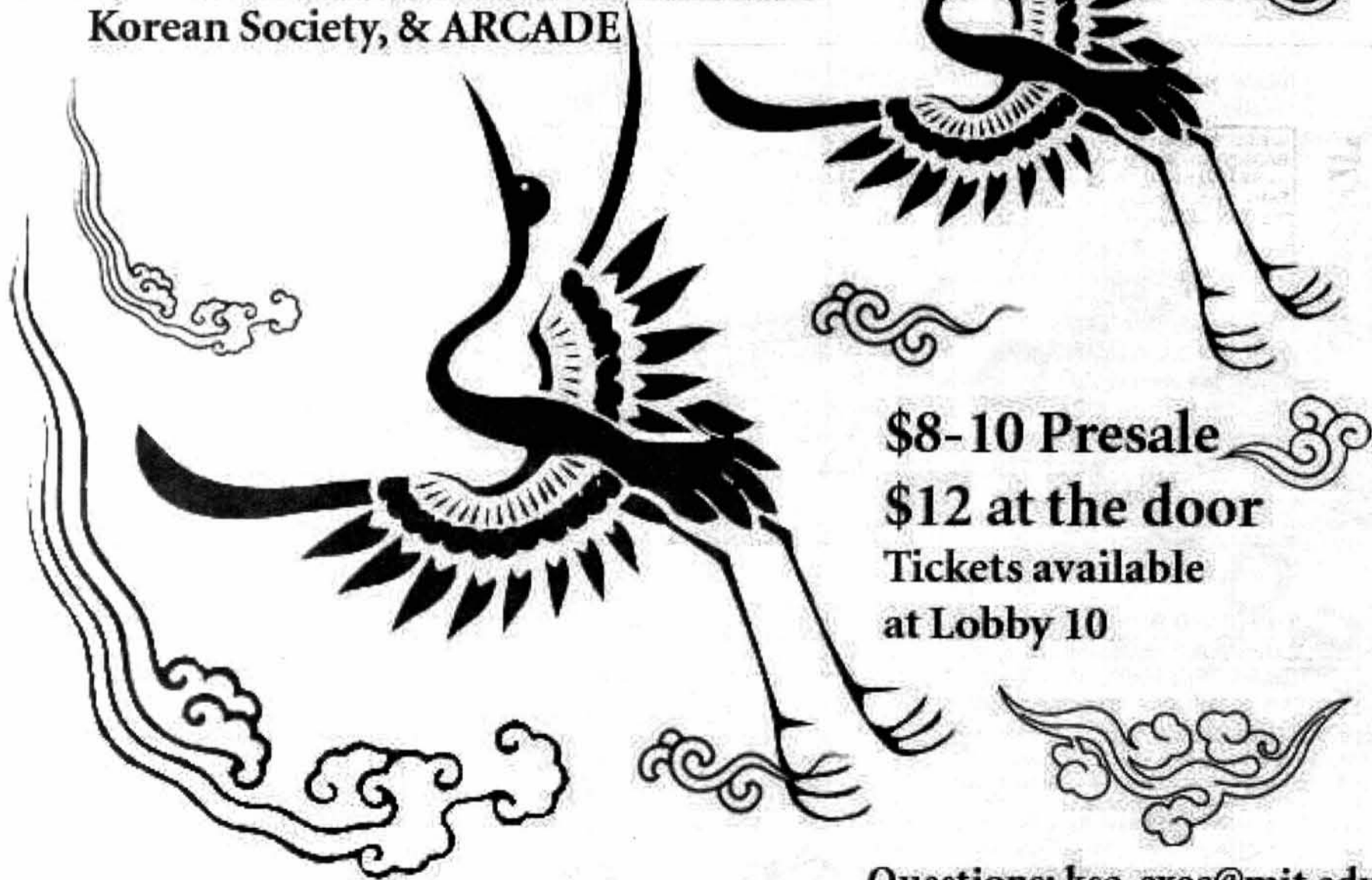
2003

6:30PM

Walker Memorial

Traditional Korean Dinner Served.

Sponsored by MIT KSA, KGSA, Sloan
Korean Society, & ARCADE



\$8-10 Presale
\$12 at the door
Tickets available
at Lobby 10

Questions: ksa-exec@mit.edu

Filler Space

CHEAP JOKES

"MIT FREEZES SALARIES, BUILDINGS."
HEH.
LAST TUESDAY'S "THE TECH"

AS YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW, MIT'S ENDOWMENT FELL 2 1/2% THIS YEAR. HOW IS MIT PLANNING TO HANDLE THIS LOSS OF FUNDING? (OTHER THAN RAISING TUITION INTO THE IONOSPHERE, I MEAN.)

COST-CUTTING MEASURES:

- SIMPLIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES.
FOR EXAMPLE, THE NEW HOUSING ASSIGNMENT PROCESS WILL BE A QUESTIONNAIRE ON quizzilla.com TITLED "What MIT Dorm Are You?"
- DEFERRED MAINTENANCE — FIX YOUR OWN DAMN TOILET!
- EXPENSIVE UNION CONTRACTORS ON BUILDING PROJECTS REPLACED BY SLAVE LABOR. (ON AN UNRELATED NOTE, THE FACILITIES DEPARTMENT WILL NOW OFFER UROP.)
- FIRE ALL ADMINISTRATORS.

FUNDRAISING MEASURES:

- DUNKING BOOTH.
- TARGETED KILLINGS OF ALUMNI WHO HAVE WILLED MONEY TO MIT.
- TARGETED TORTURINGS OF WEALTHY ALUMNI WHO HAVE FAILED TO WILL MONEY.
- BURN DOWN STATA CENTER, COLLECT INSURANCE MONEY. (REPLACE WITH CHEAPER, MORE FUNCTIONAL, LESS UGLY BUILDING)
- DISTRACT HARVARD, THEN WHILE ITS BACK IS TURNED, SWAP ENDOWMENTS.
- BINGO.

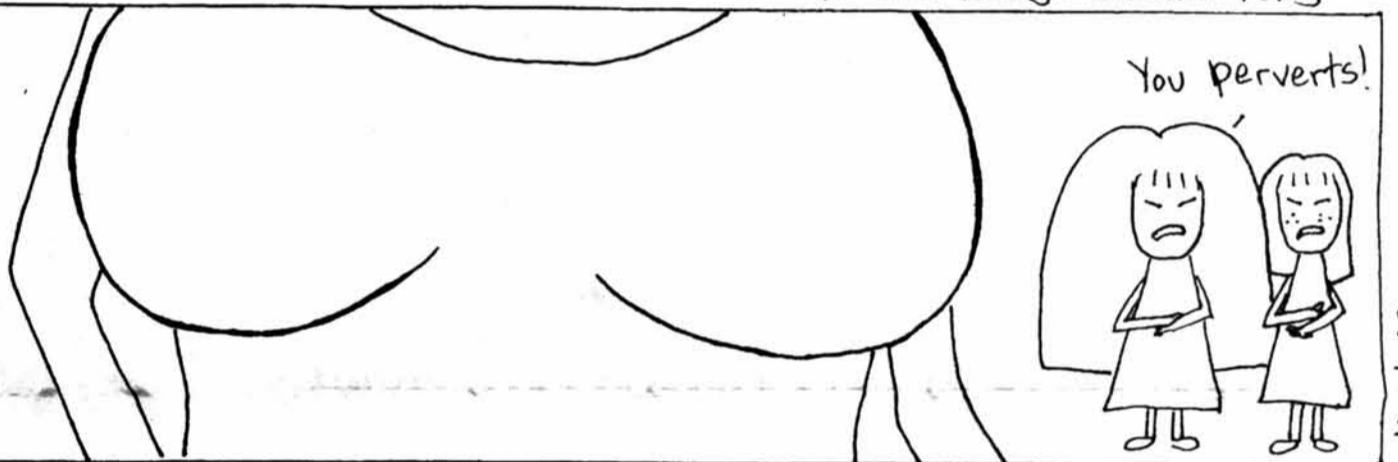


Hay Fever

by Qian Wang + Jennifer Peng

Frequently asked questions and comments

That Halloween comic was awesome!



11-14-03

-Jpeng

Mark & Solar

WELL THIS COMIC HAS BARELY STARTED AND WE ALREADY HAVE TONS OF FAKE FAN MAIL!

LET'S READ SOME!

"MARK AND SOLAR, THAT MARK GUY IS PRETTY HOT, IS HE REAL? WHAT'S HIS LAST NAME (SO I CAN WEBSTALK HIM)? -ATHENA JUNKIE"

WELL THAT'S SKETCHY...

HIS LAST NAME IS HISTED!! E-MAIL IS histed@mit.edu!!

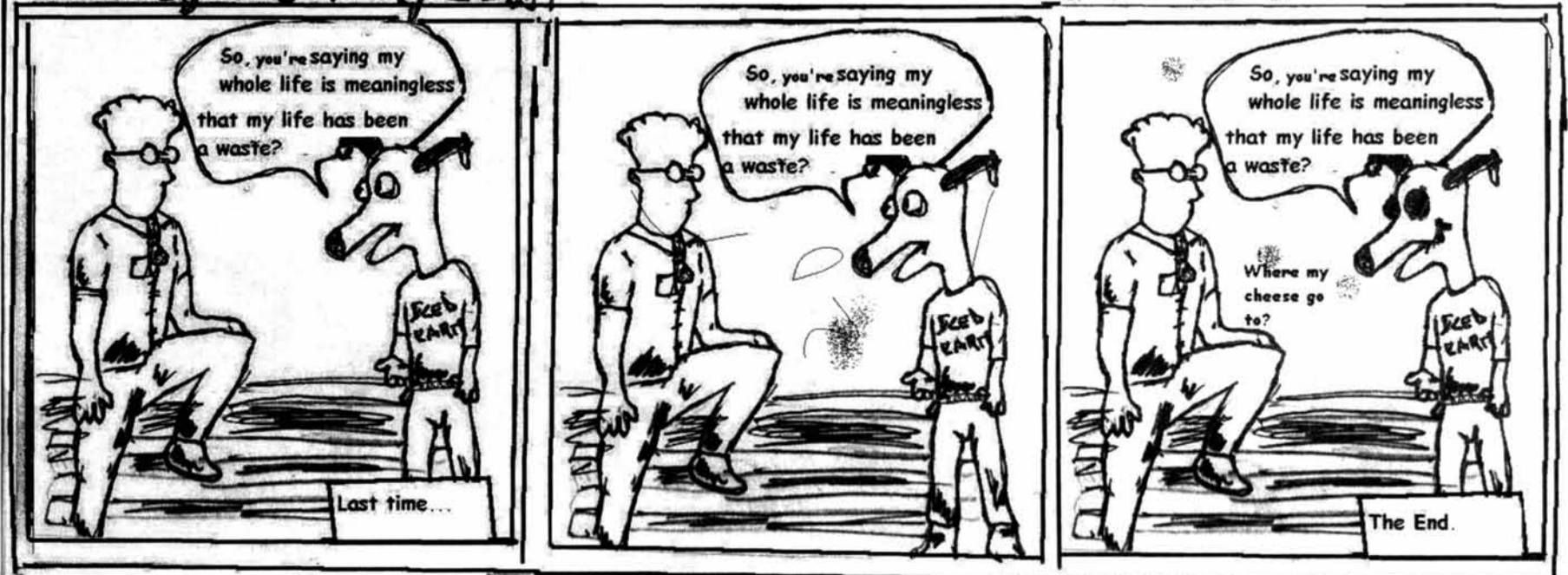
marky histed

HIS CELL PHONE NUMBER IS -

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
READING MY FAN MAIL... AHEM... SOME PRIVACY!

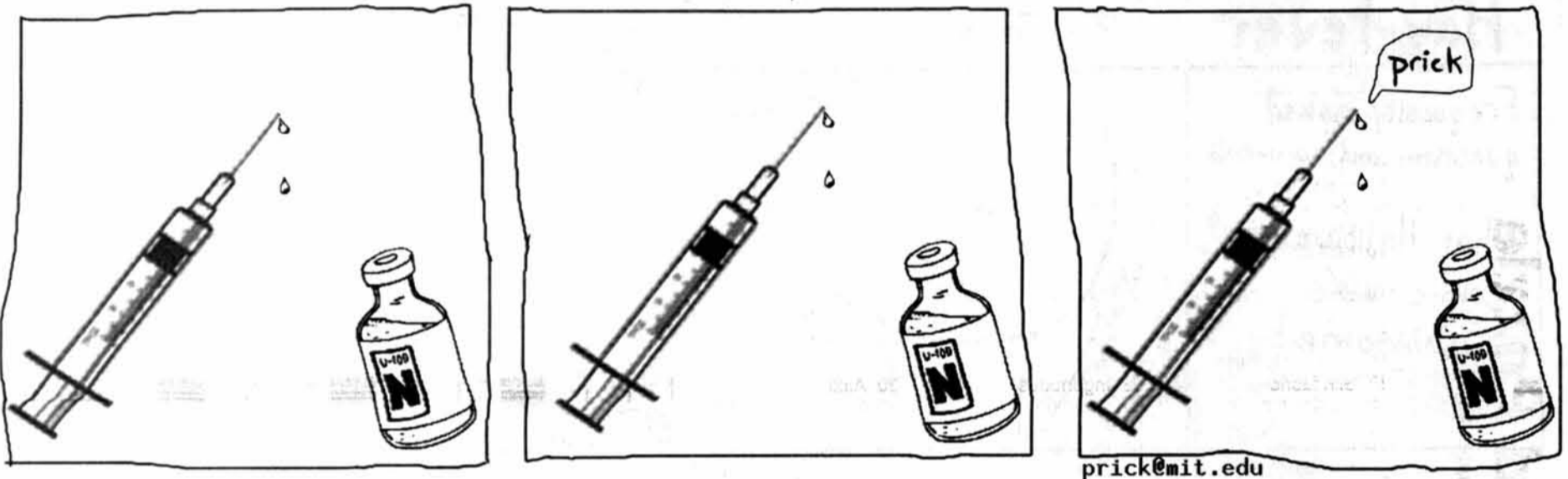
Mike, the Dog son! | can be Very Cheap...

BY: SERGEI A. BUNA

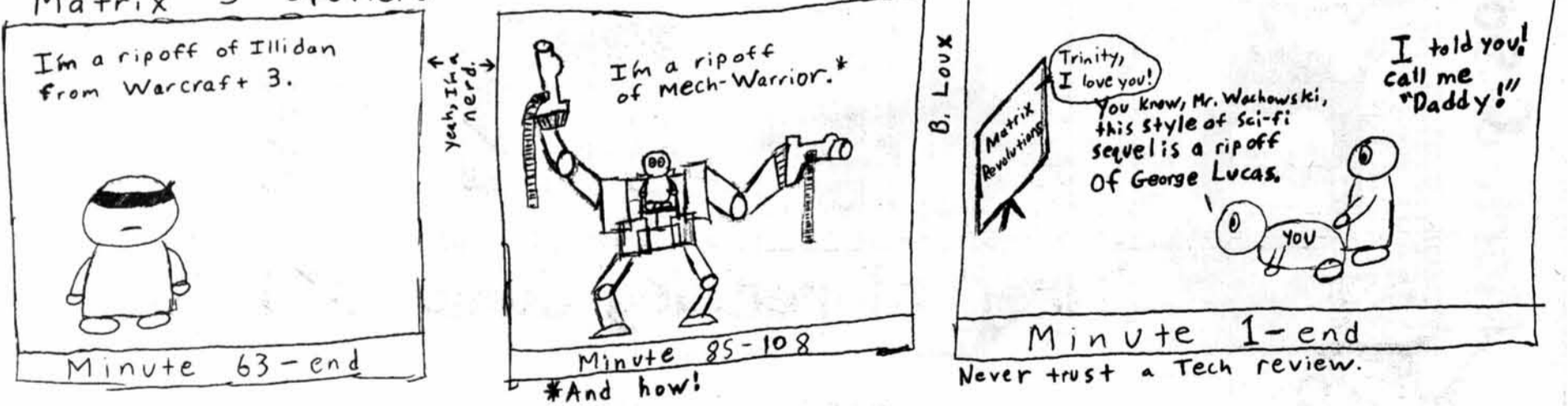


TRIO

members.aol.com/rickykes/trio/welcome.html



Matrix 3 Spoilers



PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER

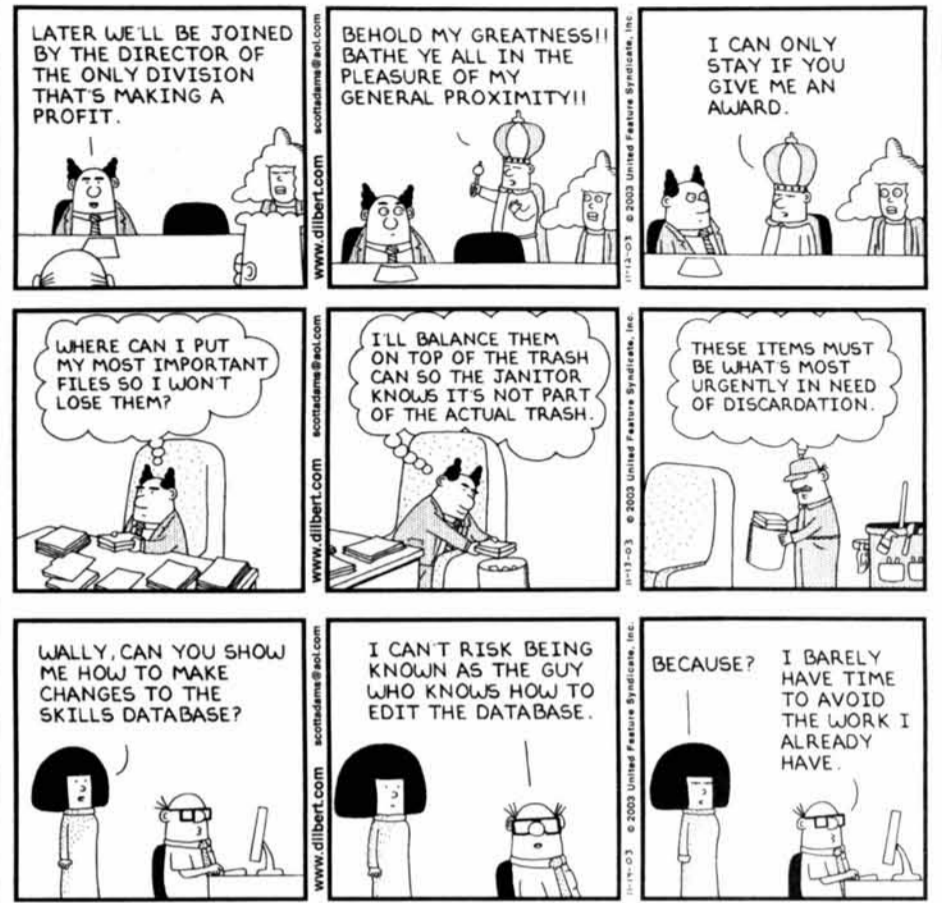


JORGE CHAM © 2003

FoxTrot by Bill Amend



Dilbert® by Scott Adams



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 10

ACROSS

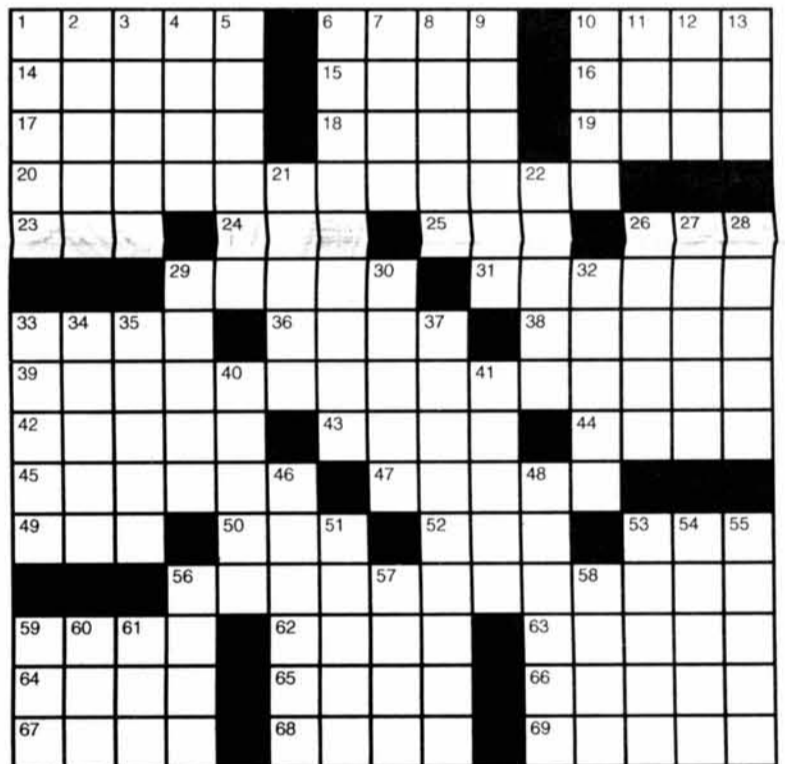
- 1 Destined
- 6 Use a rotary phone
- 10 Last blow in the ring
- 14 Sunshine State city
- 15 Sea eagle
- 16 Lend of tennis
- 17 Silk fabric
- 18 "Lucky Jim" author
- 19 Identical
- 20 Barbara Stanwyck title role
- 23 DDE opponent
- 24 Big Blue computer?
- 25 Letter opener
- 26 Sphere
- 29 Hawaiian porch
- 31 Paris tower
- 33 French priest
- 36 Once, once
- 38 Capital of Bulgaria
- 39 \$1,000 honoree
- 42 Spur shank insertion
- 43 Deli sub
- 44 Otherwise

- 45 Heckart or Herlie
- 47 Verily
- 49 The Loop loopers
- 50 Snare
- 52 Dead-eye
- 53 Mature
- 56 "Stand by Me" co-star
- 59 Departed
- 62 Jai
- 63 Ingenuous
- 64 Location
- 65 Bruce or Laura
- 66 Organic compound
- 67 Banana skin
- 68 Fires
- 69 Beginning

DOWN

- 1 Anatomical cavity
- 2 Sharp
- 3 Vetches
- 4 Israeli airline
- 5 Alan Ladd movie, "The Blue ..."
- 6 Funeral song " ... la Douce"
- 7 " ... la Douce"
- 8 Blue-dye plants
- 9 Nielsen of "Airplane!"
- 10 Smooch

- 11 Actress Gardner
- 12 Edible tuber
- 13 First of a count
- 21 Doubleday of baseball
- 22 Come up
- 26 Rubbish
- 27 Checks
- 28 Knife feature
- 29 Flood protection
- 30 Atoll
- 32 Square in the Big Apple
- 33 Consent
- 34 Cook over a grill
- 35 Soup servings
- 37 Maryland players
- 40 Nicholas Gage bestseller
- 41 Give a guarantee
- 46 Sagebrush State
- 48 Freetown moola
- 51 Fax precursor
- 53 Loos or O'Day
- 54 Donor
- 55 Put forth effort
- 56 Actual
- 57 Hard to find
- 58 Bridge hand
- 59 Opening
- 60 Mine find
- 61 French born



Tired of reading dumb MIT jokes?

Then draw comics for The Tech!

join@the-tech.mit.edu

The Production Department's WORD OF THE DAY

Eschew- avoid and stay away from deliberately; stay clear of; shun.
Prod is too cool to be eschewed. And to be is the root of $4b^2$.

join@tt.mit.edu

TO BE OR NOT TO BE, THAT'S THE ROOT OF $4b^2$.

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.

Events Calendar

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

Friday, November 14

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - IRMP Pre-UROP Application Deadline. IAP Research Mentor Program: Pre-UROP applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. today. Check out our Web site for more information. Free. Sponsor: UROP.

10:00 a.m. - Admissions Information Session. Admissions Office Information Session gathers at the Admissions Reception Center. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Free. Room: Admissions Reception Center. Sponsor: Information Center.

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. Free. Room: Lobby 7. Sponsor: Information Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Writers Group. New writers are invited to join our weekly Writers Group (sponsored by the Writing and Communication Center). Share a piece of your writing with other interested and supportive writers. Open to all MIT students, staff, faculty, and spouses. Free. Room: 14N-417. Sponsor: Writing and Communication Center.

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open. MIT's resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgendered, and questioning members of the community offers a place to hang out, various activities, and a lending library during its opening hours. Free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@mit.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - ACDL Seminar. Application of Output-based Adaptive Methods to Cruise and High-Lift Aerodynamics. Free. Room: 37-212. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

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

2:00 p.m. - Admissions Information Session. Admissions Office Information Session gathers at the Admissions Reception Center. Free. Room: Admissions Reception Center. Sponsor: Information Center.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Clay Mathematics Institute Annual Meeting. The Clay Mathematics Institute will hold its fifth Annual Meeting at MIT, featuring talks by Richard Hamilton and John Morgan. Hamilton will discuss his work on the Ricci flow and Morgan will discuss Grigori Perelman's work on the Poincaré Conjecture and geometrization of 3-manifolds. The meeting will open with the presentation of the Clay Research Awards. Awardees will be presented with a bronze replica of the CMI icon by sculptor Helaman Ferguson. Free. Room: MIT Media Lab, Bartos Auditorium, Lower level of Wiesner Bldg, 20 Ames St. Sponsor: Mathematics, Department of. Clay Mathematics Institute.

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Modern Times, Rural Places Seminar. Between North and South: The Alternative Borderlands of William H. Ellis. Free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: History Office, STS.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. Free. Room: Lobby 7. Sponsor: Information Center.

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - SSL Seminar (Sam Schweighart). Managing the Angular Momentum in EMFF Systems. Free. Room: 37-212. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - MIT Research Showcase. Come learn about exciting research going on at various labs at MIT and get a chance to network with MIT alumni and students from other departments! Graduate students and research staff from various MIT labs will give short talks about the latest technology their groups are working on, followed by a Q & A session. Free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Science and Engineering Business Club, Techlink.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - PSFC Seminar. Computational Methods for Lower Hybrid Current Drive. Free. Room: NW17-218. Sponsor: Plasma Science and Fusion Center.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - Spectra of Groups Generated by Finite Automata and the Atiyah Conjecture on L^2 -Betti Numbers. Refreshments beforehand. Free. Room: 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar, Department of Mathematics.

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Karaoke! Join the members of the MIT Anime Club for anime-inspired karaoke! Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

6:00 p.m. - Shabbat Services & Dinner. Celebrate Shabbat. MIT Hillel's three religious communities hold Shabbat services at 6 p.m. (Conservative, Orthodox, and Reform). A community Shabbat dinner follows at 7 p.m. Cost for dinner only. Room: W11. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Movie Night. Come enjoy snacks and some TV/Movie with your Bangladeshi friends. Free. Room: McCormick Hall, East Penthouse. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, MIT Bangladeshi Students' Association.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - GCF Large Group Fellowship Meeting. The Reliability of the Gospels — Come for worship, a stimulating talk, fellowship and snacks. Free. Room: Student Center Twenty Chimneys (W20-306). Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship, GSC Funding Board.

7:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - MIT Anime Club Showing: Apprentice sorcerers, steam-punk adventures among flying dreadnoughts, a team of young killing machines. The MIT Anime Club shows the best of both recent and classic Japanese animation. Showings are open to the public. Tonight we will be showing some episodes of "Sorcerous Stabber Orphen," a fantasy action/adventure/comedy; we'll continue following the adventures of Klaus Valca and Lavie Head in their aerial quest to cross the Grand Stream and find the "Last Exile;" and finally we'll show two episodes of "Gunslinger Girl," an examination of the trauma entailed when children are forced to be soldiers in a secret army. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT, UA Finance Board.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Bible Study. Is there more to life than grad school? We believe the answer is "YES!" Come study the word of God with us. There will be dinner provided and games afterward. Free. Room: 4-149. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Student Koinonia Graduate Division, GSC Funding Board.

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - Movie Night. Screening of "Son of the Bride" (Argentina, 2001). Free. Room: 35-225. Sponsor: Club Argentino, INFORMS Club.

8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Sangam Movies. Screening of popular movies. Please subscribe to sangam-request@mit.edu. Free. Sponsor: Sangam, GSC Funding Board.

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Invisible War: Depleted Uranium and the Politics of Radiation. (2002, 65 mins.) An excellent report on the attempts to expose the destructive effects of Depleted Uranium (DU) weapons which were heavily used for the first time in the 1991 Gulf War and later in Bosnia, Serbia, and Kosovo. Free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor: MIT Social Justice Cooperative.

8:00 p.m. - Riddigore or the Witch's Curse. \$10; \$8 MIT community, seniors, other students & children; \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Gilbert and Sullivan Players, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble. Frederick Harris, music director. "Beyond Boundaries." Exploring the music of important jazz innovators. Music of John Coltrane, Duke Ellington, Gil Evans, Herbie Hancock, Horace Silver, Guillermo Klein, and Magali Souriau. \$5. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

8:00 p.m. - Student-Written One Acts. Student-written and directed plays. "Maxwell's Equation" by Nancy Keuss '04, directed by Dimie Poweigha. "Tug of War" by Aaron Moronez '04, directed by Whitney Erin Boesel '04. "If the Crazy Man is Right" by Amy Fisher '05, directed by Kuipo Curry. Free. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

Saturday, November 15

9:00 a.m. - Varsity Rifle vs. VMI. Free. Room: MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in DuPont Athletic Center.

1:00 p.m. - Varsity Men's and Women's Swimming vs. Coast Guard. Free. Room: Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center Pool.

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Graduate Christian Fellowship Bible Study. Currently studying the gospel of Luke. Free. Room: Edgerton Apt. 221. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

2:00 p.m. - Riddigore or the Witch's Curse. \$10; \$8 MIT community, seniors, other students & children; \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Gilbert and Sullivan Players, MIT.

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - DDR party. Match your reflexes against the selections on our Dance Dance Revolution machine. Free. Room: TBA (check the Web page). Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

3:00 p.m. - Varsity Men's Ice Hockey vs. Lyndon State College. Free. Room: Johnson Athletic Center.

5:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Tech Model Railroad Club Meeting. An informal meeting where we design and build the layout and run trains. Visitors welcome. Students welcome to join the club. (Club members go to dinner between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., room may be empty at this time). Free. Room: N52-118. Sponsor: Tech Model Railroad Club (TMRC).

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Korean Culture Show. Come join MIT-KSA as we present a wide and interesting variety of Korean culture to the students of MIT. There will be delicious, all you can eat, Korean food and an eclectic mix of performances. Traditional Korean Drums, Tae Kwon Do, Fan Dance, and even pop-dancing. Pre-sale discount tickets are available, so buy your tickets early. \$8-\$12 (get you tickets early for discount price!). Room: Walker Dining. Sponsor: Korean Students Association. Sloan Korean Society, Korean Graduate Student Association.

7:30 p.m. - The Amaryllis Chamber Ensemble. Concert of chamber music for flute, oboe, violin, viola and cello. Works by Mozart, Schubert, JS Bach and Ginastera. \$5. Room: Yamawaki Art and Cultural Center, Lasell College, 47 Myrtle Street, Newton, MA 02466. Sponsor: The Amaryllis Chamber Ensemble.

8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Sangam Movie Special. Free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Sangam, GSC Funding Board.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Patrol. Travel to strange new classrooms. Meet interesting, unusual people, and kill them! Patrol is a high-action game of live combat with rubber-dart guns. Shoot your friends, then watch out as they try to take their revenge. Free. Room: 36-115. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - Riddigore or the Witch's Curse. \$10; \$8 MIT community, seniors, other students & children; \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Gilbert and Sullivan Players, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - Student-Written One Acts. Free. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

8:00 p.m. - MIT Chamber Chorus. William Cutter, music director. Claudio Monteverdi's "Lagrima d'amante el sepolcro dell'amata" (Tears of a lover at the tomb of the beloved); John Harbison's Motet: Concerning them which are asleep; Johann Sebastian Bach's "Komm, du süße Todestunde" (Come, sweet hour of death), BWV 161, for alto and tenor soloists, four-part chorus, and orchestra. Free. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: MIT Chamber.

Sunday, November 16

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Ashdown Sunday Brunch. Sunday Brunch. Free. Sponsor: Ashdown House, GSC Funding Board.

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - MIT Museum. Free. Room: N52-200. Sponsor: MIT Museum.

1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lessons. Beginning lessons 1-2 p.m.; intermediate 2:15-3:30 p.m.; advanced 4:30-5:30 p.m.; free general dancing 3:30-4:30 p.m. No partner required. Social focus rather than competitive. Check Web site for Winter ball. \$1-\$5 depending on level. Room: Lobby 13. Sponsor: Ballroom Dance Club.

4:00 p.m. - MIT Gamelan Galak Tika. Evan Ziporyn, music director. The opening concert of Galak Tika's 11th season will feature the premiere of a new work by Galak Tika's co-founder Desak Made Suarti Laksmi. The piece will combine the sounds and rhythms of our Balinese gamelan with MIT's African drumming group RAMBAX (directed by Assistant Professor Patty Tang along with master drummer Lamine Toure of Senegal.) The program will also feature other new pieces for gamelan, traditional Balinese works, and dance. \$8, \$4 for students/seniors, MIT Community and children under 12 are free. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Gamelan Galak Tika.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Hungarian Movie Night. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Hungarian Student Association of MIT.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - International Folk Dancing (participatory). International folk dancing. Teaching and beginners' dances from 8-9 p.m. A mixture of all skill levels from 9-11 p.m. Our repertoire includes dances from Eastern Europe (Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Greece, and others) as well as other parts of Europe and the rest of the world (Israel, France, Russia, even England and the US). Note: We will move to La Sala de Puerto Rico (on the second floor of the Student Center) if it is available. MIT/Wellesley students free; \$1 donation (or more) requested from others. Room: Student Center room 491. Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

Monday, November 17

10:00 a.m. - Admissions Information Session. Free. Room: Admissions Reception Center. Sponsor: Information Center.

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. Free. Room: Lobby 7. Sponsor: Information Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - MacPartners. Meeting of MIT MacPartners. Feature presentation will be: Top Utilities and tools every systems administrator should have. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: MIT User Groups.

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. - Can the Judiciary Prevent Massive Human Rights Abuses? Experience from India. Justice Verma, former Chief Justice of the Indian Supreme Court and former Chair of the National Human Rights Commission, will address the questions, "Can the judiciary prevent massive human rights abuses?" based on his experience in India. Free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies, Program on Human Rights & Justice.

2:00 p.m. - Admissions Info Session. Free. Room: Admissions Reception Center. Sponsor: Information Center.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Monday Research Seminar. Towards a complete theory of Gamma-Ray Bursts. Free. Room: Center for Theoretical Physics. Sponsor: Laboratory for Nuclear Science.

2:45 p.m. - Campus Tour. Free. Room: Lobby 7. Sponsor: Information Center.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Environmental Fluid Mechanics Seminar Series. Wave-driven currents and vortex dynamics on barred beaches. Free. Room: 1-350. Sponsor: Civil and Environmental Engineering.

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - At the Intersection of Public Health and Sociology: Early Tuberculosis Surveillance among African Americans, 1895-1920. STS Colloquium. Free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: STS, with Harvard University, History of Science Department.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - On mass and angular momentum of a body in general relativity. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar, Mathematics, Department of.

12:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Mechanics Seminar: Autoresonant Systems. Refreshments at 3:50 p.m. Free. Room: 3-370. Sponsor: Mechanical Engineering Dept.

5:30 p.m. - Designing Celebrations - Event Places Symposium: Karin Bacon, President and Creative Director of Karin Bacon Events, Inc. Participation in Fall Department of Urban Studies and Planning seminar. Respondent: David Guss, Associate Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Tufts University. Free. Room: 10-485. Sponsor: Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

NIGHTLINE

Have questions?

Call us.

Have comments?

Call us again.

Have complaints?

Call us some more.

JUST CALL

US!!!

FEATURES

Positive Sinking A Bit Off

By Akshay Patil

COLUMNIST

Hey ak,
Perhaps you could sign up for reuse...
just an idea.

Hey maybe you could turn positive sinking into an advice column. It'd be wonderful, it could be a mix of computer advice and love advice for those having affairs with their computers. I know some people who this would really apply to.

— lacking hong

Yes, reuse@mit.edu would most certainly solve my "lack of e-mail" problem. Much like... uhm... damn. I'm sure I can come up with a zany analogy there, but my brain doesn't seem to want to comply. Figures — they always break a week after the warranty expires.

We could have Positive Sinking's about old Sun Microsystems Sparc computer parts and unloved pieces of foam. That could work in an almost Seinfeld-like way:

George: Hey! So... uhm... how'd your date go last night?

Jerry: Great, great. And I almost lucked out too.

George: Lucked out? How?

Jerry: Well, as I was dropping her off, she invited me upstairs to see if I wanted some of her unused RAM.

George: Oh boy!

Jerry: I know! But when we got there, I realized it wasn't 168-Pin DIMM... it was 184-Pin!

[laugh-track]

George: I don't get it.

Kramer: [enters] Hey Jerry! [scratches head] You, uh, could I use your motherboard for a few hours?

Ahh, the computer jokes get old fast, don't they?

You know, you're not the first person to recommend that I turn this little gray box into an advice column. I mean, there seems to be a dearth of advice columns here at *Das Tech* and, according to a misguided few, I could really shed light into the woeful dilemmas of my MIT brethren.

What these people don't realize is that the kind of proverbial light I would proverbially shine would be a proverbial black-light which wouldn't really help people but would make their proverbial white articles of clothing glow. I don't see how that would really help them.

But, hey, who am I to argue? If you're seeking advice about relationships, computers, penguins, fashion, whatever, send sinking@mit.edu an e-mail and I'll do my best to turn your problems into 700 words worth of amusement for the MIT community. And make fun of your spelling and grammar.

Don't feel the need to limit yourself to

computer related issues. I mean, just because a lot of my jokes only seem to make sense to course 6ers ("The Few, The Proud, the Geeks"), doesn't mean I can't be funny about other things. Here, listen to this joke I picked up just last week:

Q: What do you call a dumb European in a space shuttle?

A: A simple Pole in a complex plane!
Hahahahaha! That's right... I went there.
So, yeah, I can be funny about EECS and Math. Uhm. I guess that's about it. That's kind of sad, actually. Moving on...

Why is Positive Sinking so negative? It should be called Negative Sinking.

— earth D

Touché. But that would be truth in advertisement, and we couldn't have that. Would you read a column called *Negative Sinking*? That'd be like calling Bugs Bunny "Effram the Retarded Rabbit." Is that the kind of message we went to send to the youth of Amer... MIT?

Think of the children.

If you're in the Boston area and would like free tickets to a filming of an upcoming Positive Sinking send e-mail to sinking@mit.edu or write to us at:

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Void where prohibited. Additional restrictions may apply.

Ask Nutty B

OBy Nutty B

COLUMNIST

Nutty B is currently a graduate student at MIT. Please e-mail him with whatever question you would like someone to listen to, and help him have an excuse to procrastinate at 3 a.m. Please send all questions to askNuttyB@yahoo.com.

Dear Nutty B,

I am a senior right now. As you probably can guess, I am among the thousands of students applying for grad school. Both of my parents got their degrees at MIT, and they would like me to stay here for grad school, too.

The thing is, I don't want to. I am what people would call a "good kid" that follows his parents' orders to the letter, and since I was very little, I have always obeyed my parents. ... However, this time I really want to make my own decision.

I tried talking with them, but they always ended the conversation with "of course we want you to make your own decision, but we both think MIT will be the best choice for you and we both strongly recommend you to stay." This is hopeless. What do I do?

— Good Kid No More

Dear Good Kid No More,

Phew... when you asked me to guess what you were doing, I was afraid you were going to tell me that you were in the process of putting a truck on top of the dome or panting the Harvard Bridge with all the digits of pi!

I don't think you should consider yourself no longer a good kid simply because you have a different opinion from your parents. There is no doubt that many people would

kill to have a MIT degree, and I can certainly understand why your parents would want you to carry on their legacy.

However, it's your life and it's you that will be walking on the path you choose, not your parents. Mindlessly following their order is simply foolish. You never know, maybe in two years your parents' favorite place will change, and what will you do then? Change your school every time your parents come to you and tell you that another place is nice?

Grad school is not something you can just waltz in and out in a year or two. It requires your total commitment both physically and mentally, and if you don't like the place you choose, trust me, your next few years will be hell!

There are places around the world that are equally prestigious and wonderful to study and to do research at. Don't simply let people's "You have to be here because we are number one" fool you. Wherever you go, people there are going to tell you they are number one! The most important thing is to face yourself and see what you want.

However, this is not to say that your parents' suggestion should be ignored. Think carefully when all the acceptance letters come in a few months and see what is the best for you.

If there is a place you have always dreamt of going, then by all means make sure to see the dream through. There may only be one chance in your life!

Anyway, I will close my answer with a suggestion for you to listen to Whitney Houston's new song "Try It on My Own." Perhaps the lyrics will inspire you somehow. Take care.

Dear Nutty B,

I can't stand this anymore! I live in one of dorms on campus and it is right beside a construction site. Every morning at 6 a.m. I am woken up by the construction workers' trucks and swearing and the noise goes on until noon. Not only is the noise level unbearable, the starting time of the noise takes away my already-limited sleep everyday. I am so frustrated. Help!

— Sleepless on Albany

Dear Sleepless,

Let me guess, you live right beside the old Necco Factory? Well, Nutty B does, too. The noise does drive one deaf and nuts. (What else do you think that makes me so nutty that I decide to write a column?)

However, what's different between you and me is that I am so used to the noise and the construction workers' loud swearing at 6:30 a.m. that I now know who likes to greet his colleagues with the F-word and who likes to use the S-phrase with his co-workers. It's actually fun to run this analysis.

Humor set aside, have you contacted the MIT Housing Office? You should definitely express your concerns both to your dorm student government and to the Housing Office and let them know this continuing problem. It's your right to make sure you get what you pay for from your rent, especially after the rent hike this year.

Make sure to get as many voices as possible when you contact the office, so that people there wouldn't think you are just contacting them because you are drunk. People in the Housing Office are usually quite helpful, when you present your case in a convincing way. Good luck!

Sex and the SafeRide Booty Calls

By Daniel Chai

COLUMNIST

"Why does he call me only when he wants sex?"

The answer is simple: you've become his booty call.

A booty call is someone that you use for sex. Booty call sex is straight forward; it's no strings attached and purely physical. Some of you may be wondering, "Why would anyone want that?" The rest of you are wondering, "How can I get a piece of that?" However, before you try to find yourself a booty call, make sure that booty call sex is the thing for you. How do you do that? Again, the answer is simple: read the rest of this column.

The booty call system generally works for three kinds of people: people with no time, no emotions, or no morals.

If you don't have the time for a committed and loving relationship, yet sex is a release from all the stress, the booty call system might be for you. If you lack the emotional fortitude to carry on a loving and committed relationship, but you're a nymphomaniac at heart, the booty call system might also be for you. Last, but not least, if you just haven't found the right person and are willing to forego everything your parents have taught you about loving and committed relationships, then the booty call system might be for you.

However, be cautious. The path you walk when you decide to have a booty call is rife with obstacles. Booty calls definitely aren't for everyone; if you're clingy, desperate, STD-infested, or emotionally unstable, it is the last thing you need. Do yourself (and your partner) a favor and stop having sex right now. I mean it.

How can you find yourself a booty call? You'll generally want to find a person with a cell phone so you can contact your hook-up 24/7. You never know when you'll get the urge. A booty call will usually appear in the form of an ex-boyfriend or girlfriend who isn't dating anyone and misses the sex. It can also appear in the form of a friend who is really forward with what they want. These are the most common situations, and they are also the most perilous.

Problems will arise in a booty call situation sooner or later. An ex might want to get back together, or you could end up ruining a friendship. The best that you could hope for is that someone will want to break off the deal because they've found someone else. The worst that could happen is that you'll want to get more serious and they won't. If this happens, break the deal off because you'll only hurt yourself in the long run. You'll be having sex with them to try and win them over; in actuality you're only deceiving yourself and maintaining the status quo.

If you find yourself in the same situation on the other end, be nice and break it off. The booty call has been compromised because they want more than just sex. You know very well that you don't plan on buying or wearing that wedding ring. Don't string someone else along because you're only thinking of your own hedonistic pleasure. Grow a spine.

The best situation for a booty call relationship is when the partners hate each other. You know that there isn't a chance that it'll go beyond sex and you can take all that aggression out on each other in a positive way. It's a little strange, I agree. But hey, it is achieving your purpose, isn't it?

Lastly, you should ask yourself a few questions before you engage in booty calls: Do I want more than just sex? Will my partner want more than just sex from me? Can I see myself being something more with this person? Do I want to be more than just a sex object?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you probably shouldn't be a booty call.

Is it wrong to have a booty call? You'll have to figure that one out for yourself. However, if you're going to have one, make sure emotions don't come into play. You don't want to get hurt over this. After all, it is just sex.

Daniel Chai is a pseudonymous male undergraduate student at MIT who writes a weekly column about sex and dating in college from a guy's perspective. You can contact him at danielchai@mit.edu.



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