

Language Houses Struggle for Members

By Kathy Lin
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In a year when the dormitory selection process was turned on its ear, language houses saw a significant drop in the number of new residents and had problems retaining freshmen who did join.

The houses, French House, German House, Russian House, and Spanish House, are working with the administration and their first-year housemasters to discuss the freshman housing lottery system, which they see as the source of their recruitment problems.

"I really think the administration is fucking us over," said Sven H. Chilton '05, German House president. "First they fucked over the frats, and now they're fucking over the dorms and cultural houses," he said. The administration is trying to homogenize the MIT student body

by not supporting dormitory and fraternity rush, he said. "A huge part of our culture is being able to find your niche," especially within the unique living communities, Chilton said.

Others have found the administration more helpful. Administrators have offered to help the cultural houses develop strategies to attract more students in the future, said Michael J. Childress '05, president of New House.

Houses face recruiting crisis

Overall, the four language houses had fewer freshmen interested in joining their houses this year, as well as a harder time retaining the freshmen that did join.

One problem was the lack of extensive personal interaction between current residents of the language houses and prospective freshmen before the freshmen were asked to choose where they would like to live.

Edgar A. Torres '04, one of Spanish House's rush chairs, said that a 10-minute phone conversation with a prospective resident is far from the equivalent of the hour or

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MIT Cable Provider Bankrupt; CNN, MTV Go Blank

By Beckett W. Stemer
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT Cable no longer carries popular channels including MTV, ESPN and CNN after its content provider declared bankruptcy.

The free basic service for channels 6 through 36, including network television and the MIT cable channels, were unaffected by the outage, which began on Feb. 28.

Although the monthly rate for the remaining channels in the subscription service dropped from \$24.99 to \$13.99, so far 70 out of 369 "living groups" such as individual students and floors in dormitories cancelled their service, said Randall W. Winchester, Team Leader of MIT Cable Television.

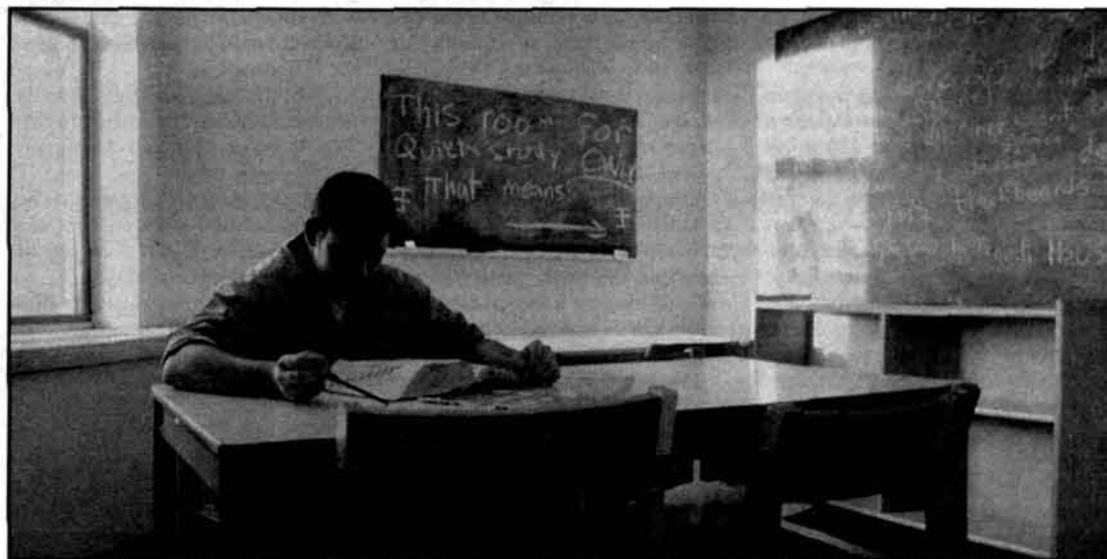
Because MIT's content provider, WSNet, was the only company offering a digital subscription-based service for universities, it is unlikely a replacement company will be found in the short term, Winchester said.

Jerry Barnes, president of Falls Earth Station, Inc., the intermediary between MIT and WSNet, said that the new \$13.99 monthly fee for the reduced number of channels "just barely covers [expenses] if I was providing zero programming."

Few replacement options open

WSNet was the "sole source" in

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JOHN CLOUTIER—THE TECH

Erik Garcia '05 of German House takes advantage of an unoccupied French House bedroom converted into a study room. Because of a lack of residents in the language houses, many rooms have become vacant. (The study room has since been closed because of an unrelated dispute about use of the room.)

Group Urging Walkout To Protest Iraq Invasion

By Jia Xing

MIT's No War Coalition is advocating a campus-wide anti-war walkout should the United States invade Iraq.

If a war begins, 300 participants have pledged to walk out of classes at 11:30 a.m. on the following school day and congregate in front of 77 Massachusetts Ave. They then plan to join a larger rally at Government Center, according to the No War Coalition Web site.

The rally will include anti-war coalitions from area universities including Harvard University, Boston College, Boston University, Simmons College, Wellesley College, and Northeastern University. Similar protests will be held on other campuses across the country.

The group is holding a drive to solicit pledges to walk out of classes. Currently, over 300 MIT students have pledged to walk out of classes, said Stephanie Wei Wang '03, a member of the coalition.

Members feel responsible

The members of the MIT No War Coalition are determined to be heard.

"Last time MIT students got together to rally, it was very effective. People really paid attention. MIT receives a lot of military funding; we're here to say that we're not cogs for war. We're not going to let this happen," Wang said.

"People at MIT feel socially responsible for the war. We are a part of military research and projects. We're an institution for making better bombs. So when Bush decides to drop those bombs on innocent people, we have a say against it," said Jeff Duritz G, a member of the coalition. "People tend to assume that MIT is not socially conscious. We're trying to expand people's consciousness and try to introduce the idea that it's ok to be against war," he said.

"We're not people to commit to registered discontent. We need to express a serious, deliberate response," said Aimee L. Smith PhD '02, a member of the MIT Social Justice Cooperative.

MIT community responses vary

The coalition has received varied responses from the MIT community.

"There's a mixed feeling from professors. Several professors pledged and many donated the financial support to us, and some are speaking at the rally. Others are more hesitant," said Julia K. Steinberger G, a coalition member.

Wang said some professors have discussed the possibility of a no-penalty policy for participants in the walkout.

"We are planning in the event of a war; we're not sitting around waiting for war to happen. We'll be heading a variety of events," said Gan Golan G.

Event Regulations Force 'Bad Taste' to Start Early

By Marissa Vogt
STAFF REPORTER

MIT regulations regarding events on campus will force the Chorallaries' annual Concert in Bad Taste to change its traditional midnight start time and will limit when people can begin lining the halls outside 10-250 to reserve a spot for the show.

Chorallaries President Ross I. Runnion '04 said that the major change this year is moving from the traditional 11:59:59 p.m. start to 9:59:59 p.m. to accommodate an MIT regulation that registered events on campus conclude by 1 a.m.

MIT event guidelines (available at <http://web.mit.edu/campus-activities/guidebook/regulations.html>) state that events must conclude by 1 a.m. and that organizers should "should schedule the music or performance to conclude by 12:45 a.m."

Additionally, students will not be allowed to line up to wait for the concert until the close of business on Friday. "In the past, people have begun to line up anywhere from a day to four days ahead of time," Runnion said. Last year, he said, people began lining up on Wednesday afternoon.

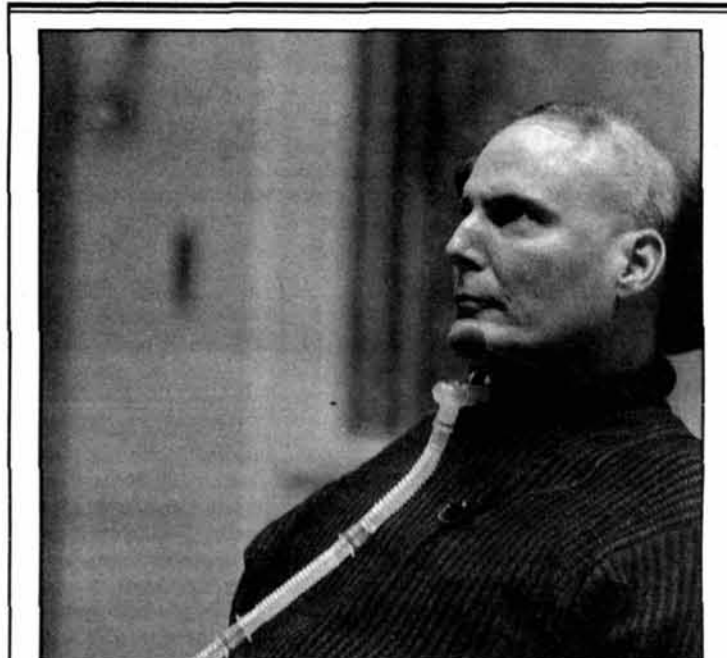
"This year ... they're not going to let people camp out in the hallway because of the proximity [to offices]," Runnion said, "namely President Vest and the people who work in that area."

President Charles M. Vest said

that he had "not been involved in any discussion" about the enforcement of regulations surrounding the concert.

Runnion said that the group received word that complaints about last year's concert had been filed with the MIT Police through a "very anonymous chain of information."

Bad Taste, Page 11



MICHAEL LIN—THE TECH

Christopher Reeve, star of the Superman series of films, speaks at the 2003 Harvard-MIT Conference on Neuroscience last weekend. Reeve sharply criticized President Bush's policy towards stem cell research and therapeutic cloning.



Electronic voting for this year's UA elections begins Thursday.



Comics

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NEWS

Fall depledge and inter-dormitory transfer numbers are a first measure of impact of new rush system.

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WORLD & NATION

Russian Arms Safeguards Found Lacking

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A decade-long U.S. effort to safeguard stockpiles of Russian nuclear, chemical and biological weapons is faltering because of bureaucratic obstacles, federal auditors warn in a draft report that faults leaders in both countries.

The problems already have delayed the destruction of thousands of Soviet-made chemical weapons, while raising the risk that nuclear bomb components or deadly germs could fall into the hands of terrorists, the General Accounting Office concludes in a report due to be released to Congress this week.

The United States has spent \$6 billion since 1992 to help Russia destroy or secure Cold War-vintage weapons. But basic security improvements still have not been made at dozens of Russian military installations where more than 60 percent of the country's weapons-grade uranium and plutonium are kept, the GAO found. The biggest obstacle is Russia's continuing refusal to let U.S. officials visit the facilities where the upgrades are to take place, the report says.

Death Penalty Still Option In Teen's Sniper Case

THE BALTIMORE SUN

FAIRFAX, VA

A request by lawyers for teenage sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo to have Virginia's death penalty law declared unconstitutional was denied Monday by a Fairfax County circuit judge, clearing the way for the possibility of execution if he is convicted of capital murder.

The ruling by Judge Jane M. Roush was expected by the defense, which is building a record for appeals, and prosecutors.

"The Supreme Court of Virginia has rejected exactly the arguments that were just made," Commonwealth's Attorney Robert F. Horan Jr. said, noting that the state's 1977 death penalty law has not been overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The challenge was one of 13 defense motions, most of which were addressed Monday.

Roush approved hiring a psychologist and three investigators for the defense — but not the five sought by Malvo lawyer Michael S. Arif. They will be paid by the state. Roush also agreed to limit the uniformed officers in the courtroom to avoid leading jurors to think that Malvo is unduly threatening.

Capital One CFO Resigns, Faces SEC Charges

THE WASHINGTON POST

Capital One Financial Corp., one of the country's biggest credit card issuers, said its chief financial officer resigned after the Securities and Exchange Commission staff told him he could face civil insider-trading charges.

The SEC staff notified David M. Willey that they will recommend the commission file a lawsuit against him, alleging he sold shares of Capital One ahead of a public announcement last summer that drove the stock down 40 percent.

"We're in the midst of a constructive dialogue with the SEC staff," said Willey's attorney Richard Morvillo. "We hope to be able to persuade the staff that any charges against Mr. Willey would be unwarranted, but if the SEC decides to proceed with the case we're prepared to take this one the distance and defend this rigorously."

Capital One officials, after releasing a statement on his resignation Monday, declined to comment on the matter, according to spokeswoman Liz Mather.

North Korean Jets Intercept U.S. Plane over Sea of Japan

By Bradley Graham and Glenn Kessler

THE WASHINGTON POST

Four North Korean fighter jets intercepted a U.S. Air Force reconnaissance plane in international airspace over the Sea of Japan early Sunday, U.S. officials said Monday, calling the action a serious provocation.

The incident was the first hostile act by North Korean aircraft against a U.S. plane since the 1960s and came amid mounting tensions between the two countries over North Korea's intensified pursuit of nuclear weapons.

According to a Pentagon account, an RC-135S aircraft on a "routine mission" about 150 miles off the coast of North Korea was approached by two North Korean MiG-29 fighters and two other North Korean aircraft thought to be MiG-23s. The North Korean planes, which were armed, "shadowed" the American plane for 22 minutes, starting at 10:48 a.m. local time (8:48 p.m. Saturday EST), the Pen-

tagon account said.

The North Korean aircraft closed to within 50 to 400 feet of the U.S. plane, defense officials said, and were flying at the same altitude as the four-engine RC-135S. At least one of the North Korean planes directed its radar to identify the U.S. aircraft as a target and may have "locked on," a step just short of shooting a missile, defense officials said. But none of the planes fired.

After the North Korean aircraft turned away, the U.S. plane aborted its mission and returned unharmed to its home base at Kadena Air Base on Okinawa. Pentagon spokesmen said they had no indication that U.S. fighter jets had been scrambled to protect the reconnaissance plane.

Commenting on the North Korean action, several U.S. officials appeared stunned by its audacity. They said the Bush administration was still mulling a formal response, adding that it was likely the United States would lodge a protest.

The two countries have no for-

mal diplomatic relations, but they traditionally exchange protests at Freedom House, a building for meetings at Panmunjeom, on the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.

"It's a very serious incident," a senior defense official said. "Our indications are that it wasn't an accidental event."

According to another official, the North Korean pilots were in close radio contact with controllers on the ground. When they came alongside the American plane, the North Koreans could be seen motioning to the U.S. crew.

"They were trying to get us to fly to North Korea," the official said. The Americans ignored the signals and stayed on course.

"It is a dangerous game to be playing" because of the chances of a misstep or miscalculation by one of the pilots, a third official said.

The United States regularly flies intelligence-gathering missions in northeast Asia to monitor North Korean military activities.

'Light Benches' Project Chosen To Honor 184 Pentagon Victims

By Elizabeth Levin

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The 184 people who died at the Pentagon in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks will be commemorated by benches and pools of light honoring each victim, the Department of Defense announced Monday.

An 11-member committee, selected by the Pentagon, chose "Light Benches," by New York architects Julie Backman and Keith Kaseman, from 1,126 entries submitted by an international group of designers.

"It's a contemplative design in its conception, which I think means that it will put people in the appropriate state of mind," said Terence Riley, the committee chairman and chief curator of design and architecture at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The memorial will be built by the Pentagon renovation team on a

2-acre site near the spot where American Airlines Flight 77 plowed into the western face of the building. Its scheduled dedication is Sept. 11, 2004.

Each of the 184 benches will be engraved with a victim's name and cantilevered over a pool of light. Clusters of trees will be planted to provide shade for visitors.

The benches will be positioned according to the age of the victims, progressing from the youngest, age 3, to the oldest, age 71. The names of the 125 military and civilian workers who died will be inscribed so that the Pentagon is their backdrop. The names of the 59 passengers and crew members aboard the Boeing 757 jet will be placed with the sky as their background.

The construction of the memorial, which is estimated to cost between \$4.9 million and \$7.4 million, will be funded by donations to the Department of Defense.

Harold Brown, a former secretary of defense and a member of the selection committee, said he wanted a design that would "memorialize the individuals who died in the attack and ... somehow represent the survival, the prevailing of the U.S.A."

Jim Laychak, one of two family members of victims on the committee, said he wanted the final design to honor the memory of his brother, David, an Army budget analyst, and all the other victims.

"I like that it is a collective memorial, but still has an individual feel to it," Laychak said. "In an elegant way, the memorial tells the story of what happened at that place at that time."

The decision on the Pentagon memorial comes less than a week after officials in New York City chose a design by Berlin architect Daniel Libeskind for the World Trade Center site.

WEATHER

In Like a Lion...

By Nikki Privé
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

March got off to a rough start this week, with heavy rain and high winds this weekend, followed by bitterly cold temperatures yesterday. Midweek will see a return to more seasonable weather, but with the rapid changes characteristic of this fickle month. As the arctic high which presided over Boston yesterday moves out to sea today, the winds will shift to the south, bringing milder temperatures with highs tomorrow making it into the upper 40s F. However, rain showers throughout the day on Wednesday will usher in another cold front by tomorrow evening. This front will leave in its wake cooler temperatures and windy conditions that will persist through the end of the week.

The extended range forecast for the second week of March calls for continued colder-than-average temperatures, with higher-than-normal precipitation. Will March go out like a lamb, or will winter hold on into April? The long-term forecast for the entire month of March is uncertain for the Boston area, so we'll just have to wait and see.

Extended forecast

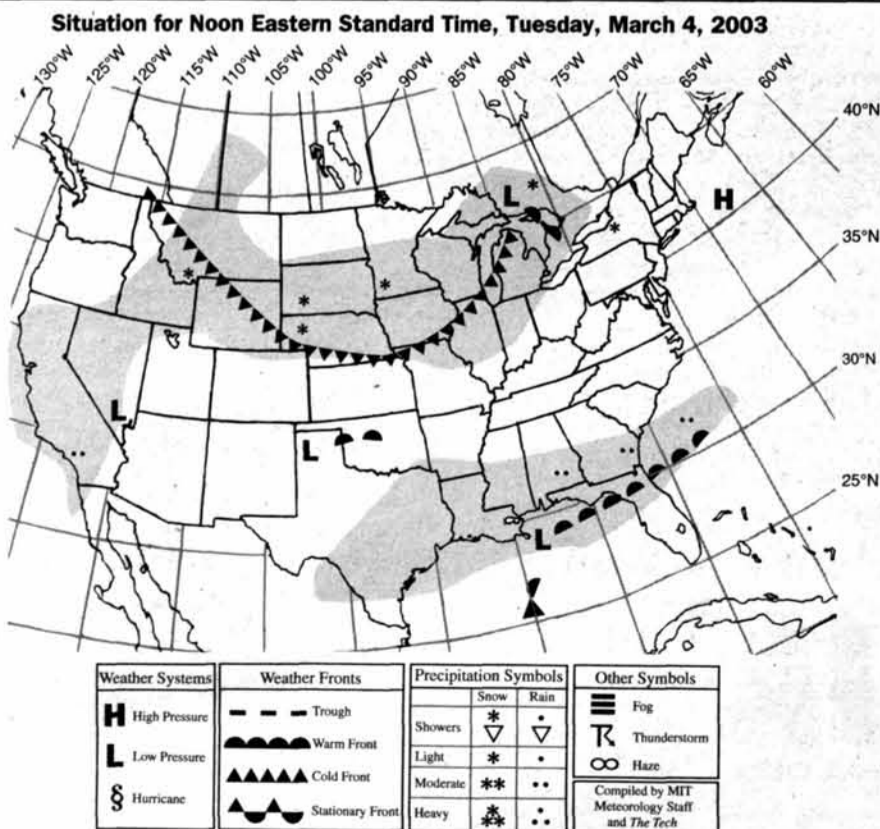
Today: Warmer, partly sunny. Highs around 35°F (2°C).

Tonight: Cloudy, chance of rain, temperatures in lower 30s F (-1°C).

Wednesday: Windy with showers, highs in the mid to upper 40s F (8°C). Overnight clearing with lows near 25°F (-4°C).

Thursday: Increasing cloudiness, continued winds, highs in the lower 30s F (0°C).

Friday: Gradually clearing skies, windy, highs in the mid 30s F (1°C).



U.S. Commander Claims Turkey Not Essential for Iraq Offensive

By Peter Baker and Thomas E. Ricks
THE WASHINGTON POST

CAMP DOHA, KUWAIT

The U.S. ground commander who would lead an invasion of Iraq, Army Lt. Gen. David D. McKiernan, said Monday he was prepared to attack "with or without Turkey," asserting that a full-fledged northern front is not critical to defeating President Saddam Hussein's forces.

McKiernan, who leads all U.S. and British ground forces assembled here awaiting orders to move north, said he remained hopeful Turkey would relent and accept troops on its soil for a northern front. But he said the outcome of an offensive against Hussein did not hang in the

balance.

"From an operational standpoint, with or without Turkey, if the president makes a decision, the military will be ready," McKiernan said in an interview at his headquarters here. "If a decision is made to conduct combat operations, when you put together all the pieces of air, ground, maritime, special operating forces, I will tell you it will be more than a one-direction effort and it will be an effort that comes at the time and location of our choosing."

The Pentagon had hoped to send as many as 62,000 troops to Turkey, including the Army's 4th Infantry Division. But the Turkish parliament refused permission in a vote Saturday, despite promises of bil-

lions of dollars in grants and loans in return.

Officials in Turkey's ruling party said Monday the government might seek a second vote but called for a bigger aid package to persuade reluctant members of parliament.

Signaling plans to insert combat forces directly into northern Iraq in case Turkey's parliament holds to its refusal, the Pentagon asked the Turkish government about flying troops through Turkish airspace, sidestepping the controversy about stationing troops on Turkish soil.

"That is going to be discussed in the hours and days ahead," Osman Faruk Logoglu, the Turkish ambassador to the United States, said in an interview with *The Washington Post*.

Inspectors Overlooked Flammable Walls in Nightclub, Reports Show

By Michael Powell
THE WASHINGTON POST

For three years, fire inspectors visited the Rhode Island nightclub that exploded in fire two weeks ago without noticing the highly flammable polyurethane foam covering the walls of the roadhouse.

City inspection reports released Monday in West Warwick reveal that fire inspectors spotted a number of smaller violations — a fire extinguisher due for service or an exit sign not working — but never commented on the egg-crate insulation put on the walls to muffle the sound of heavy metal bands.

Town manager Wolfgang Bauer did not return phone calls Monday. During a Feb. 20 concert, the

heavy metal band Great White shot off pyrotechnics and ignited a fast-moving fire that consumed the 50-year-old nightclub and left 98 dead and 180 people suffering from smoke and burns. It was the fourth-worst such nightclub fire in the nation's history.

The band insists it had permission from club owners, a fact denied by one owner, Jeffrey Derderian. Recent attention has focused more on the decision by Derderian and his brother and partner, Michael, to put cheap insulation on the walls.

Inspectors believe the flammable insulation acted like dry tinder, as a video shot that night shows flames crawling the walls and running across the ceiling. A state grand jury

is reviewing the case and will resume hearings Tuesday.

Set along a small commercial strip but backing onto residential lots, the nightclub had long drawn complaints from neighbors who said the sound of the bands rendered a good night's sleep impossible. In May 2000, West Warwick Police Chief Peter Brousseau told club owners that their entertainment license would not be approved if the club did not address its noise problem, the *Providence Journal* reported.

The next month the brothers put up the flammable insulation. But Michael Derderian's attorney, Kathleen Haggerty, told the *Associated Press* on Monday that the brothers had no idea it was dangerous.

Boxer Offers Bill Seeking EPA Standards for Perchlorate by 2004

LOS ANGELES TIMES

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., introduced legislation Monday that would require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop quickly new public health standards for perchlorate, a toxic rocket-fuel component that has infiltrated water supplies used by about 20 million people in many parts of the United States.

The lower half of the Colorado River, which furnishes drinking water to California, Nevada and Arizona, is tainted with perchlorate from a former Nevada rocket-fuel factory.

Perchlorate can affect the thyroid and has been linked by government scientists to numerous health problems, including cancer.

The EPA is working to develop new health guidelines for perchlorate, but not fast enough, according to some environmental groups and municipal water agencies. Boxer's bill calls for the EPA to put standards in place by next year — much sooner than the agency's current plans.

"Perchlorate is a clear and present danger to California's public health," said Boxer who noted that under its current timetable, the earliest the EPA could set new standards is 2006. "We can't wait to address this threat. EPA needs to get moving and protect our drinking water sooner rather than later."

ImClone Founder Admits Tax Evasion

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

ImClone Systems Inc. founder and Martha Stewart pal Sam Waksal pleaded guilty to federal charges Monday, admitting he evaded paying \$1.2 million in New York sales tax on nine fine art paintings.

"The information in this case demonstrates this really wasn't about art, it was about greed," U.S. Attorney James Comey said, "because Mr. Waksal could well afford to pay the taxes on these paintings."

Waksal, appearing in federal court in Manhattan, faced a count of conspiracy and wire fraud. He admitted he had the \$15 million in paintings from an unnamed gallery shipped to his Manhattan apartment while the bills were sent to a New Jersey ImClone office.

"He's getting hit in more than the pocket," Comey said. "You'll have to come to the sentencing."

Last year, Waksal, 55, pleaded guilty to six of 13 counts on which he was indicted, admitting he had committed insider trading after a Food and Drug Administration source tipped him that government regulators would not approve of ImClone's cancer drug, Erbitux.

The former ImClone chief pleaded guilty without a cooperating agreement with the government. Prosecutor Michael Schachter warned Waksal his office was pursuing allegations that he had tipped off others, who then dumped ImClone stock.

GSC General Council Meeting Tomorrow!

March 5th Wed 5:30pm GSC Office 50-220 Walker Memorial

Agenda

Cost of Living Task Force, April Elections(Officer Roles/Responsibilities,

Voting Procedure, Nominations Open for candidates, Brainstorm questions for candidates)

Representatives Update: (Heath Insurance, CAC Update), Lobby Day in DC

Dinner will be provided! Enjoy a beer at the Muddy Wednesday!!

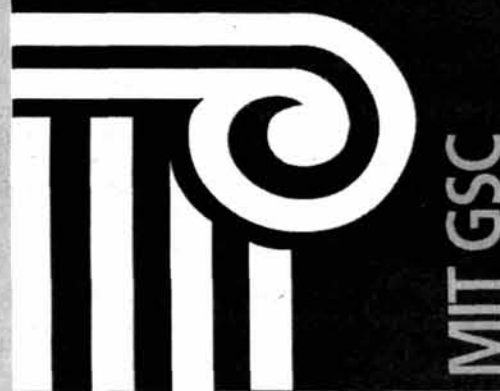
Lead Change at the Institute!

GSC Committee Chair elections: March Committee Meetings

GSC Officer elections:

Nominations open March, Elections at April GCM

50th Anniversary



<http://gsc.mit.edu>

GSC Institute Awards

Graduate Teaching Awards (for each school)

Frank E. Perkins Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising

Edward L. Horton Fellowship Award

Irwin Sizer Award for Most Significant Improvement to MIT Education.

Deadline for Nominations: March 21, 2003

<http://web.mit.edu/gsc/www/Committees/ARC/Awards/awards2003.html>

GSC Meetings:

3/5 Wed 5.30p.m. General Council Meeting (GCM)

3/6 Thurs 5:30p.m. Orientation

3/6 Thurs 6:30p.m. Graduate Student News

3/11 Tue 5:30p.m. Activities

3/12 Wed 5:30p.m. Housing & Community Affairs

3/18 Tue 5:30p.m. Academics Research and Careers

Email gsc-request@mit.edu for details!

OPINION

Uzamere/Faber for UAP/VP

Because Pius A. Uzamere '04 and Jacob W. Faber '04 have distinguished themselves as the candidates who will most deftly but assertively represent the interests of undergraduates, *The Tech* chooses to endorse them for President and Vice President of the Undergraduate Association.

Editorial

Uzamere and Faber offer a combination of qualities that make them superior leaders in campus politics. Their platform reflects a nuanced consideration of the concerns that affect students on an everyday basis, such as financial aid reimbursement timeframes, in addition to those issues that traditionally gain attention. They've proposed a detailed, workable, and cost-sensitive plan for a daytime SafeRide service, and they seek to address questions of card use policy, campus dining, and coordination between the UA, the Interfraternity Council, and the Panhellenic Association.

Besides possessing a more than sufficient grasp of MIT undergraduate issues, Uzamere and Faber alone have shown the vision and initiative needed to assess the serious questions facing the undergraduate community. Faber's work on ILTFP demonstrates that his pledge to fix Dorm Rush is not idle talk. Fraternities will benefit from Uzamere and Faber's campaign to slow the elimination of fraternity subsidies. Although it will

likely not be resolved this year, the candidates' attention the campus segregation problem demonstrates their insight, as does their push for better relationships between MIT and the press.

With a visible and assertive style, this ticket is a departure from past UA leadership that make it harder for administrators to impose their spasmodic whims upon students. While past leaders have worked almost exclusively behind the scenes, with varying efficacy, that too often means that student interests are quashed.

Faber and Uzamere will not sit quietly in the face of such attempts. They have shown a desire to react to campus concerns through thoughtful action rather than backroom conversation. Uzamere has taken on the burden of watchdog over SEVIS, the federal international students monitoring system. Faber has founded a popular Web discussion forum and has played an important role in the resurgence of ILTFP. They express their care for this place through their actions, not through their seats on a laundry list of committees.

The next year will demand strong leadership from undergraduates. Importing inexperienced Greeks from Boston is not the best solution; neither is looking to the current stale, unimaginative leadership. Uzamere and Faber, though, earn our endorsement not by default, but by their merit.



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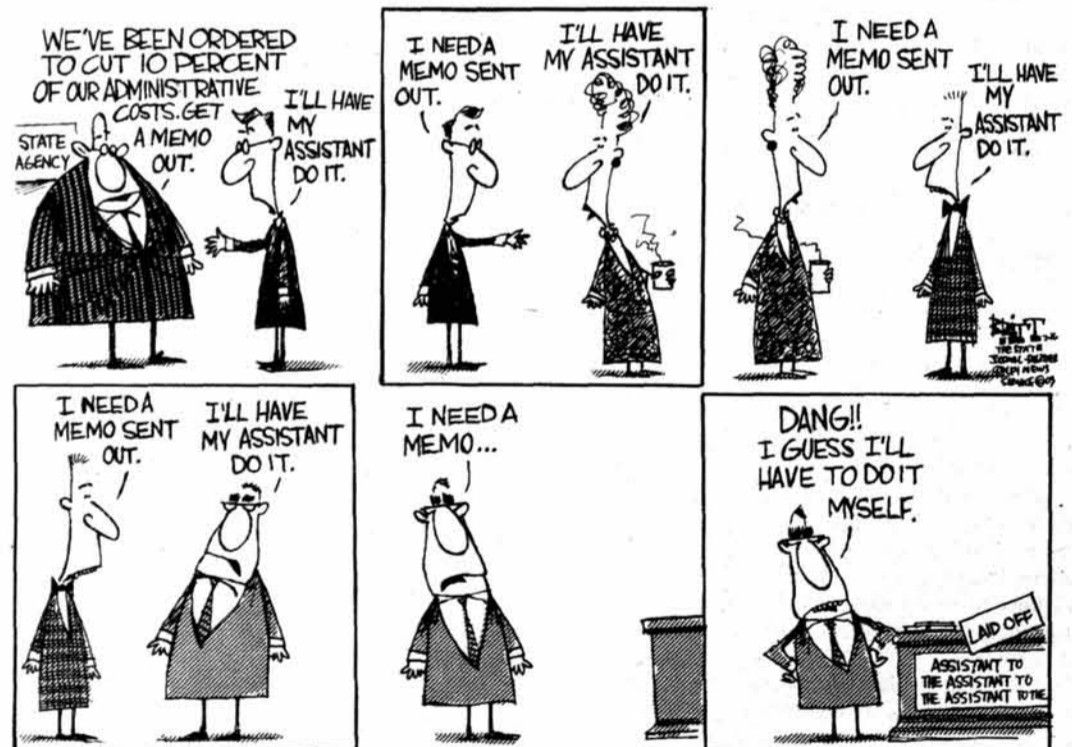
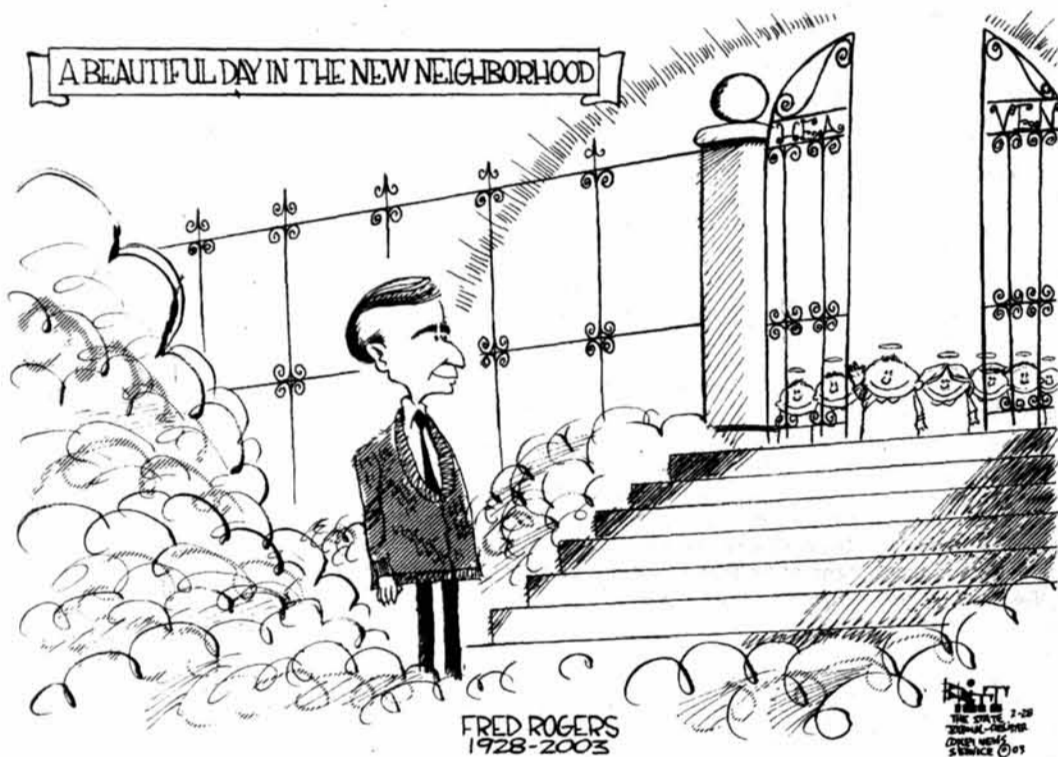
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Speak Freely

Vivek Rao

Until a couple weeks ago, few Americans had ever heard of Manhattanville College. Though set in prosperous Westchester County about 30 minutes from New York City, the small liberal arts school remained hidden from the public eye. Until, that is, the national media got wind of the actions of one Toni Smith.

Smith, a senior at Manhattanville and a captain of the women's basketball team, has recently garnered vast amounts of attention for her actions prior to each game she plays. Unlike just about every other person in the gym (teammates, coaches, opponents, fans, mascots, and more), Smith refuses to face the American flag during the playing of the national anthem.

While Smith has been engaging in this routine for quite some time, it was only recently that it spread among the media. But spread it did. Soon after the first story was published, Toni Smith found herself the subject of articles and reports in outlets ranging from CNN to the Philadelphia Daily News. Though the sociology major had intended her protest to be nothing more than a personal political statement, it has ended up causing a stir across the nation, eliciting a variety of reactions and debates far from the close-knit Manhattanville campus.

So what, you ask? Isn't this just another overblown construction of the media that should be allowed to entertain us and stimulate us for a short while before leaving our collective conscious? There's no problem with concerned citizens criticizing Smith's misguided actions, is there?

Wrong, wrong, and wrong. The response by large segments of the American public and the national media to the story of Toni Smith has been thoroughly frustrating and disheartening. It is time that this country woke up to the great corruption of the most basic values upon which it is built, and that words like "patriotism" and "freedom" cease to be cheapened by people who fail to

understand their true meaning yet still use them to stifle healthy dissent, discussion, and debate.

For those of you relatively unfamiliar with Smith's story, now is probably a good time to let you know exactly why she decided to turn her back to the American flag, and who better to explain that than Smith herself. In an eloquent three-paragraph statement released to the press, Smith fully exposed her thought process, writing, "For some time now, the inequalities that are embedded into the American system have bothered me. As they are becoming progressively worse and it is clear that the government's priorities are not bettering the quality of life for all of its people, but rather on expanding its own power, I can no longer, in good conscience, salute the flag."

Ok, now that you have been exposed to Smith's stance on the flag, forget it. Trust me, there is a point here, and it doesn't involve my insanity. Never mind that you agree with her or disagree with her. Prevent yourself from wondering what you would do in the same situation. Now ask yourself whether you respect Smith's right to not face the flag, and whether or not you think that action should be considered patriotic?

You might think that Toni Smith is about as patriotic as one of Osama bin Laden's underlings.

If you're like many Americans, you might think that Smith is about as patriotic as one of Osama bin Laden's underlings; that it what is so tragic about the current political climate. Ever since the Sept. 11 attacks, the notion that patriotism and dissent are two mutually exclusive terms has spread wide. Consider when *Politically Incorrect* television host Bill Maher said on his show that the attacks may have been consistent with certain justifiable political motives. Soon after, Maher got the ax from ABC for allegedly unpatriotic comments. Now think about all of those blanket statements made by politicians and everyday citizens alike that in a time of crisis, to the effect that it is our patriotic duty to give our president and our nation our full support and

backing. Finally, ponder the perplexing case of Smith.

In the circus atmosphere that has accompanied her in recent weeks, Smith has received a wide array of jeers and criticism. In a game against Mount St. Mary's, opposing fans waved small flags and sang "God Bless America." Then, in a contest versus the United States Merchant Marine Academy, midshipmen chanted "USA" and "Leave our country." Later, in a poll conducted by ESPN.com, over 70 percent of all respondents suggested that they disagree strongly with Smith's methods, regardless of their opinions of her views.

This cannot be activity the Founding Fathers had in mind when they penned the Constitution over two centuries ago. If they had some clairvoyant inkling of Smith's actions, they no doubt would have wanted her dissenting opinions to be respected and tolerated, even if they were also assailed in debate. After all, it was dissent against England rather than blind allegiance to the monarchy that spurred on the American Revolution and paved the way for the founding of the United States.

There are some out there who will learn of Toni Smith and conclude just one thing: Toni Smith is unpatriotic because she does not face the American flag—her own country's flag—during the national anthem. But true patriotism is not simply a matter of waving a piece of cloth or singing a song; instead it is a matter of fundamentally supporting this nation's founding principles. In the case of the United States, it is largely about respecting fellow citizens' inalienable rights and liberties, none of which is more powerful than freedom of speech. After all, there is no better society than one comfortable with the free and unhindered expression of dissent.

So the next time you think about criticizing a Toni Smith for turning away from the flag or expressing views contradictory to those of the American government, do not label her unpatriotic, but instead congratulate her for being so dedicated to her beliefs and willing to share them in a peaceful manner, and pat yourself on the back for helping to create an atmosphere that fosters such dissent and healthy protest. Then, you will truly be an American patriot.

European Irrelevance

Basil Enwegbara

Since the end of the cold war, nations around the world have become very concerned about America's military buildup and how the U.S. exerts power with that buildup. Most frightening to most of these nations are not the threats of military might and pressures of economic power that accompany this buildup that consume over \$400 billion annually, but America's rising role as the world's sheriff and its international unilateralism.

The question many are asking is, who is it whom America is truly competing with and/ or afraid of that forces us into the present defense spending? Is it Russia, no longer interested in any confrontation with America since the demise of the Soviet Union? Or should it be China, a country now more interested in economic growth than military expansion? I don't see that it is. Who then? It's not Europe, when European citizens cherish building socialism, not weapons. In fact, everything that matters in today's Europe is how to revive and reclaim the present economic and political power from America.

Without any Russian threat, Europeans now seek a European way different from America's. All a gulf war presents is the opportunity to truly showcase a Europe ready to confront America on the economic and political battlefield in decades ahead. France and Germany are already counting the euro as one of their weapons. They are certain that without weakening if not replacing the dollar as the sole currency for all international trade and finance, there is little Europe can do to level the economic playing field. Britain's refusal to use the

euro seems to be counted as more American handiwork designed to undermine European reemergence.

This currency war is now shifting to the control of oil around the world. America's invasion of Iraq is believed to be an attempt to force Europe into a secondary position in the scramble for oil. But Europe's leading analysts are warning European governments about the economic consequences if Iraq stops success in this war: whoever controls Iraqi oil wealth wins this scramble. America feels it has the military might and the argument of disarming Iraq as a way to be in charge in Iraq. France and Germany, for their own part, believe that exploiting

What will happen to NATO if the invasion of Iraq takes place without France and Germany?

international diplomacy and global public opposition will yield them that power. Even the Russian position is not neutral. But Russia can perhaps not afford to be a spectator, given its multi-billion dollar interests in Iraqi oil and infrastructure development, currently yielding hundreds of millions of dollars of profits annually.

Encountering all these diplomatic roadblocks built by France and Germany in conjunction with Russia and China is frustrating to Washington. Government leaders like Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld are expressing their anger to France and Germany, seen as the

"Old Europe," even though the so-called "New Europe" is only made up of countries seeking American dollars.

The Gulf nations are not left out in fierce opposition to America. Among Arab nations and the oil-producing nations in the Middle East, the fear that the invasion of Iraq will not only further destabilize the already fragile Middle East but also hasten the demise of OPEC is strong. If the U.S. controls and sells Iraqi oil to itself, the days of OPEC are likely numbered.

These possibilities force one to wonder whether the current debates about the war with Iraq are missing a vital argument. Nearly everyone seems to agree on the pros and cons of this potential war but at the same time fail to discuss what happens after the war is won.

One important question is what will happen to NATO if the invasion of Iraq takes place without France and Germany. Mightn't it degenerate into European countries withdrawing from NATO and demanding removal of American military bases in Germany and Europe? What if the weakening of the United Nations triggers its demise and forces like-minded nations to look for an alternative to the U.N. without the American membership?

It is in America's best interest for its politicians and government leaders to carefully weigh these questions before embarking on a war that most people around the world strongly oppose. Diplomacy remains the best weapon for resolving complex world problems. Those who are against war are not simply anti-American; they deserve attention, just like the hawks. We all know that war is to be left to the generals alone. We must hide the truth that the war on terrorism is going to be severely hurt without the international coalition built after Sept. 11.

Uncivilized Arabs

Atif Qadir

Arab nations hate democracy. They are run by dictatorial powers bent on building their own glory and producing their largest export, hate. This is the truth; all you would need to do to learn so is take a glance at the blue posters dotting the MIT campus. They advertise "Mideast Elections and International Politics: A Series of Panel Discussions." Listed with blaring exclamations of "cancelled-no elections" are a group of Arab nations spanning the entire political spectrum. All are labeled identically, obfuscating the truth and encouraging the development of the popular anti-Arab stereotypes. Worse, though, is that for at least six of the eight nations listed, the "elections cancelled" comment is either a lie or a proud and open expression of ignorance, assuming that the advertisement is referring to all elections. (It is unclear whether presidential and/or legislative elections were the intended targets.)

The MIT Students for Israel, the group organizing the event, declares on the poster that Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon all cancelled their elections. Beginning with Saudi Arabia, the only nation in the group which has never had a representative democracy, this is untrue. Elections have never occurred in the nation, so it is impossible for them to have been "cancelled." In this nation, the current scion of the House of Saud, King Fahd, has held both the throne and the office of Prime Minister since 1982. Saudi Arabia has no parliament, nor are political parties allowed in this totalitarian nation, though there is an appointed consultative body of 90 members called the Majlis as-Shura. This makes it all the more strange that the nation is continuously courted by Israel's most important ally, the United States.

Libya and Iraq, the American government's long-term bogeymen, and Syria and Kuwait, are better. Libya is led by Muammar Khadafi, the de facto leader since 1962, and has a general congress made of party-less appointees. The second has had an unelected executive as well since 1979, though its government-controlled multi-party legislature was last elected in 2000 and is due again in 2004. Kuwait's government is formed by royalists and current prime minister who has been in office since 1978 was chosen by them. There are legislative elections, but only government-sponsored candidates are allowed to run. The next is due for July of 2003.

Syria has a legislative body which was due for reelection in 2002, so elections have in fact been suspended in this nation. The president, who is appointed by the legislature for a four-year term, was last chosen in 2000. Egypt and Yemen both have elected legislative bodies that are on schedule for reelection in the coming years. Although they are dominated by the official parties who form the government, a number of non-governmental parties hold seats. Like all the previously mentioned nations, Egypt has an appointed executive, but Yemen has a president that was elected in 1999 by the people for a seven-year term.

Lebanon has a multiparty elected legislative body independent of a government-sponsored group. Although the President and other top offices are not directly elected by the people, there are seats reserved for the three major religious groups, preventing domination by the most populous group. In a letter to MITS from Rep. Michael Capuano, D-Mass., posted last Tuesday, Feb. 25 in *The Tech*, Capuano comments on the Israeli supreme court's reinstatement of Arab candidates for upcoming elections who suffered attempts at removal from the ballot, saying that "It is hard to imagine a court elsewhere in the region accomplishing anything comparable." The statement gratuitously stereotypes Israel's neighbors as uncivilized racists; Capuano fails to realize, of course, that a governing body in the region has done a lot more than kindly allow a name on a ballot as required by law. Lebanon actually ensures that all parties will have a powerful say in government affairs — a far cry from the status of the Israeli Knesset, where Arab members are made permanently irrelevant.

It is far easier to cast the Arab world as an evil universe of ignorance and barbarism than it is to portray the web of alliances, U.S.-sponsored dictatorships, and alternative civil societies that a careful consideration of these nations will find. Doubtlessly the designers of the posters thought they'd make a clever point about the virtue of Israel's democracy by these signs. A bit more forethought would have served them well.

Atif Qadir is a member of the Class of 2004.



Have a lot to say?

Write Opinion for The Tech!

Call 3-1541 or stop by W20-483 and ask for Andrew or Ken or e-mail opinion@the-tech.mit.edu.

THE ARTS

RENTAL ADVISORY

Three Rhyming White Guys

Thumbs Up for Beastie Boys Video Anthology

By Amandeep Loomba
STAFF WRITER

In many ways, DVD (Digital Video Disc or Digital Versatile Disc, depending on whom you ask) technology is a great gift for film lovers. We no longer have to deal with the atrocity of VHS picture and sound quality, the tyrannically imposed linear viewing and searching scheme, the degradation of quality over time, or the unsexy bulk of a big black cassette tape.

At the same time, DVD technology has failed to deliver on some of its greater promises. Being able to turn subtitles on and off is nice, but why would you ever watch a film with its audio in a language other than the one in which it was made? And what's up with this "alternate angle" business? Has anyone ever used that feature?

Well, apart from the porn industry, there has been one very interesting use of multiple-angle technology, as well as multiple audio tracks and subtitles. It was a landmark release from the Criterion Collection series of classic films and it was a two-disc feature-filled set of

Beastie Boys videos.

That's right. One of the best releases so far on the DVD medium comprises three white guys jumping around spitting out tired rhymes.

Consider 18 videos, each with an average four audio and three video tracks, all of which can be recombined as you see fit. Determining the exact number of unique video experiences a viewer may have with all of the possible combinations is left as an exercise for the reader.

These permutations don't even include the numerous commentary tracks, in which you can hear the directors or the Beasties themselves try to remember why they were jumping around in the forest lip-synching. Some sample band commentary (from the "Sure Shot" video):

"You look good in a suit, Mike."

"Thanks."

"I lost that frog shirt."

"I don't remember any of this stuff."

So the commentary tracks are only as good as commentary tracks on any DVDs out there, which means they're just an absolute waste of time.

On the other hand, the alternate video and audio tracks are simply amazing. For instance, you can watch the immensely entertaining "Body Movin'" video without having to listen to the immensely irritating Fatboy Slim remix of the tune. You can watch the (unreleased) "Three MCs and One DJ" video from any one of six camera angles, choosing to focus solely on the wizardry of Mixmaster Mike's turntablism skills if you so desire.

You can separate the different plotlines that make up the "Sabotage" video and sort them out at your own pace. Or you can just take some time to kick back and watch extremely strange featurettes such as "Ciao L.A." and "The Robot vs. the Octopus Monster Saga."

Some reasons why you might not already have seen (or purchased) the Beastie Boys Video Anthology addressed:

1) "I only listen to real hip-hop." Please — if you can stomach what gets played on the radio these days as hip-hop, rap-rock, Eminem or whatever other garbage Clear Channel got paid to play — stick with your Hot 97 and

avoid this DVD. As Adrock says, "Goatee metal rap, please say good night."

2) "I'm not too excited about frat boy humor." You've got to remember that the Beastie Boys' early material was an act, not reality. They started out as a hardcore band, not frat-rockers. Like a party called Jellophilia, it seems obnoxious and sophomoric, but it's all in good fun. Nevertheless, you're in luck, because *License to Ill* is not represented on the video anthology.

3) "Those fools will never save Tibet." You can't blame them for trying.

4) "Their rhyme schemes just aren't very interesting." You're probably one of those people who don't like limericks, right?

Easily the best DVD in my collection so far, the Beastie Boys Video Anthology is almost a perfect release. You can put it on in the background of a party, watch it casually to read the subtitled lyrics, or dig deep into its remixes and video tracks to find the perfect combination and sound and sight. I hope very much that this will be challenged soon by another release from some equally dynamic artist. For example, Björk's DVD video releases are always filled with compelling material, but they never take advantage of the technology. I suppose we'll have to continue to rely on the Beastie Boys to push the envelope and broaden the vocabulary of music and entertainment.

DANCE REVIEW

When Modern Meets Ballet

'Breakthrough': A Breakout Performance by the Kinaesthetics Lab

By Sonja Sharpe
STAFF WRITER

Breakthrough
Kinaesthetics Lab
Kresge Little Theater
Feb. 27-28, 8 p.m.

Fans of both ballet and modern dance found something to like in "Breakthrough," the first performance of a new choreography group at MIT, called Kinaesthetics Lab, a student group with the goal of studying the process of creating dance. The students participating in the Lab hope to raise public awareness of dance as an art form and to promote support for the serious pursuit

of choreography at MIT. This past week, the Kinaesthetics Lab and Rebecca Rice presented an informal performance of their work, which was intended to highlight the diversity of the creative choreographic process.

Many Kinaesthetics Lab members have studied the basic elements of choreography with Rebecca Rice, who encourages dancers to find their own voice and to create innovative, original works. Having extensively studied Denishawn dance and classical ballet, Ms. Rice possesses a strong foundation in both ballet and modern dance, which she now draws upon for her own technique and choreographic work.

Since 1988, Rice has performed her works throughout the New England area; in addition,

she is a teacher of modern dance and choreography at the Boston Ballet School and is currently a faculty member at MIT. The Kinaesthetics Lab resulted as an offshoot of the Tech and Choreography Class that Rice has been teaching here over the past three years.

"At MIT, I'm trying to develop creative thinking with students in the classroom," states Rice. "You don't have to be a trained dancer to enjoy the classes and learn a lot from them."

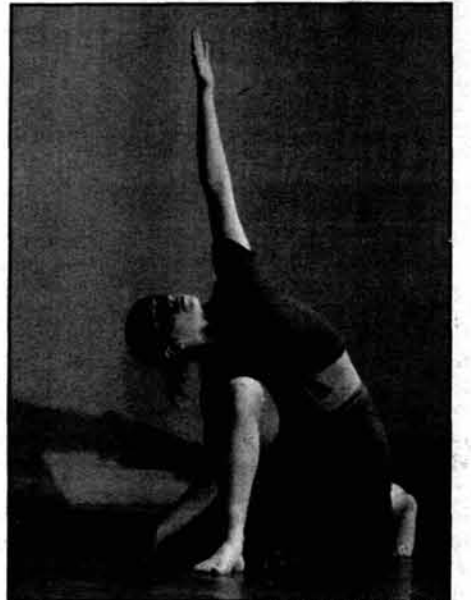
"Breakthrough" was, in a sense, a release of energy, says Irit Rappley, one of the show's producers. "We decided to name the show 'Breakthrough' because we've been working towards this show for a couple of years now, and it is wonderful to finally see it happen. It's really been in the works for a long time."

Rappley said that "it is hard to compare the work required for each of the pieces, since choreographed works and improvised works are very different. But feeding ideas off of each other and eventually putting it all together was a lot of fun."

Collisions Abound in 'Entropy'

"Breakthrough" highlighted many themes, exploring shape, space, time, abstraction, and improvisation. The third work performed, "Entropy," was an especially good example of their free style. A purely modern improvisation piece, "Entropy" featured dancers who were releasing their energy by dancing into each other, then dancing together in full contact, almost like dance wrestling, and then breaking apart and winding down.

The show was even enhanced by audience participation. Martin Case, the musician, worked collaboratively with the choreographers to develop original scores for many of the pieces. In particular, "Entropy" included the use of triggers taped to the floor in front of some of the audience members. By pressing the triggers, the audience released a wave of sound that melded together and created some of the music



DONG WANG—THE TECH

Yael E. Marshall '05 performs "Theme and Variations" during a recent performance of "Breakthrough."

that the performers danced to. It was a wonderfully innovative way to get the audience directly involved in the performance, and it helped to add even more energy to the piece.

"Journi," the fourth piece to be performed, was a lovely contrast to "Entropy." The work relied heavily on the graceful, flowing movements of ballet but included a few elements of modern dance as well. This piece explored the energy of a male dancer and a female dancer, each alone at first, but then coming together, demonstrating that the combined energy of two can be greater than each person individually. In this way, the dancers were allowed to explore stability and instability, gravity and antigravity.

Three other pieces also served to demonstrate the wonderful talents of the dancers. In "Tanya Wants to Join the Circus," the second work of the evening, Tanya Burka '03 performed her audition piece for *Ecole Nationale de Cirque* in Montreal, in which she weaved together her multi-faceted background in modern dance, gymnastics, and contortion to create a fun and entertaining piece.



DONG WANG—THE TECH

Michelle S. Machon '04 (foreground), Mara S. Daniel '04 (left), Yael E. Marshall '05 (hidden) perform "Array."



DONG WANG—THE TECH

Jessica Donnelly G waves a cape during her performance of "Amani!"

Chorallaries Clean Up At Regional Competition



This past weekend at Elms College in Chicopee, Massachusetts, the Chorallaries of MIT placed first in the International Championship of Collegiate A cappella (ICCA) quarterfinals. The competition featured six a cappella groups from the New England area, which had been selected from a pool of about three dozen, based on an audio submission. Groups were judged on many aspects of their performance including musicality and visual presentation.

In addition to winning the overall competition, the Chorallaries received numerous awards, including "Best Soloist," to Bo S. Kim '04; "Best Arrangement," to Sebastian Hua-Yu Cherng '04 for his arrangement of "Wherever You Will Go," by The Calling; "Best Duet," to Emily C. Vincent '04 and Leah K. Premo '04 for their performance of "It's Raining Men;" and "Best Transitions," to the entire group, for their entertaining skits in between songs. The Chorallaries will continue on to the ICCA semifinals, which will be held on March 22 in Kresge Auditorium.

Clockwise from top:

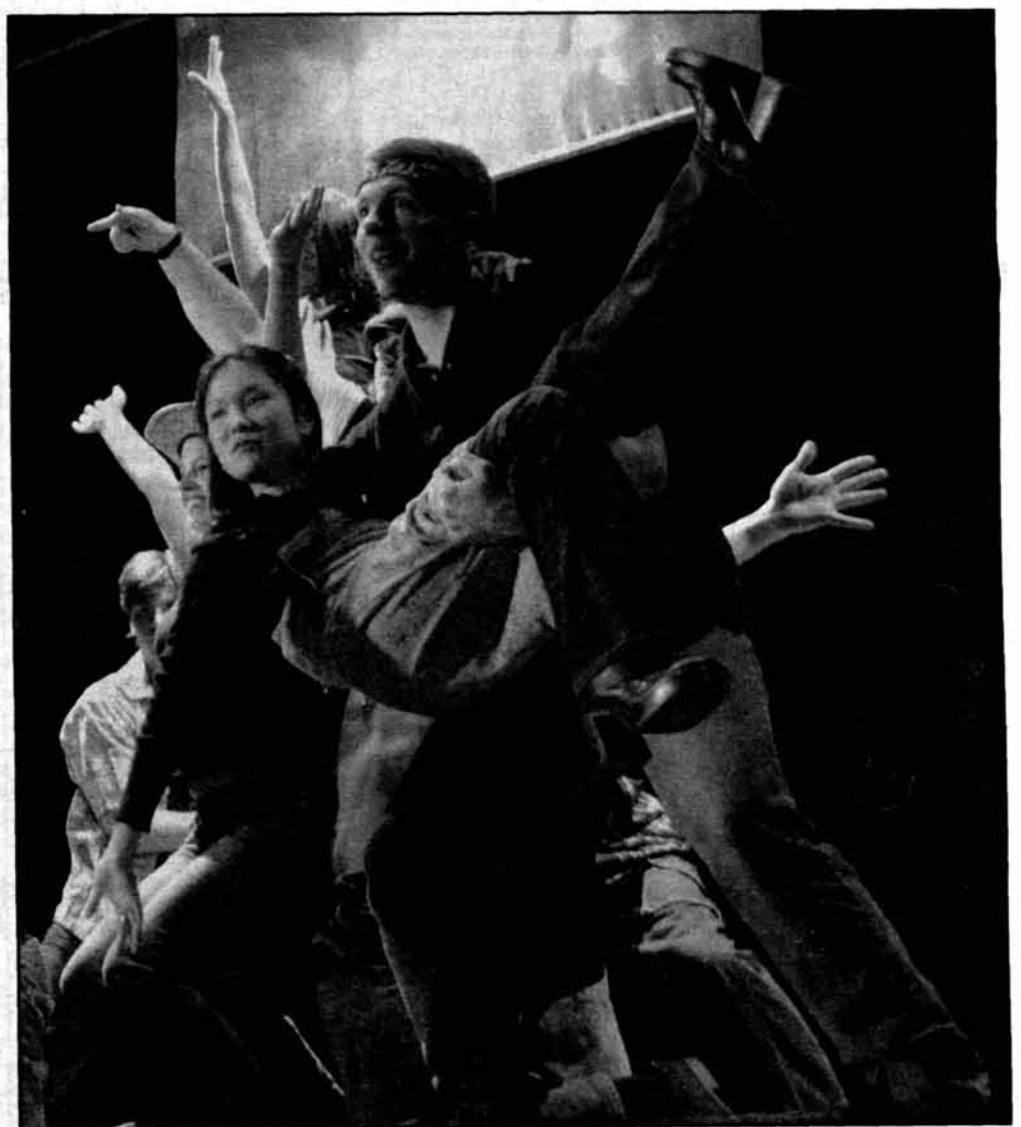
Kuangshin Tai G belts out Hoobastank's "Running Away" during the group's encore. Only the winning group was invited to give an encore performance.

Ross I. Runnion '04 holds Charlene Chuang '05 as they pose at the end of "It's Raining Men," finishing off the Chorallaries' competition set.

Bo S. Kim '04 emotes during her award-winning performance of Tori Amos' "1,000 Oceans."

Daniel O. Bates '05 lays down the percussion for a bonus performance of "Talula" by Tori Amos. The Chorallaries were asked to sing several songs after the official competition sets in order to allow the judges more time to deliberate.

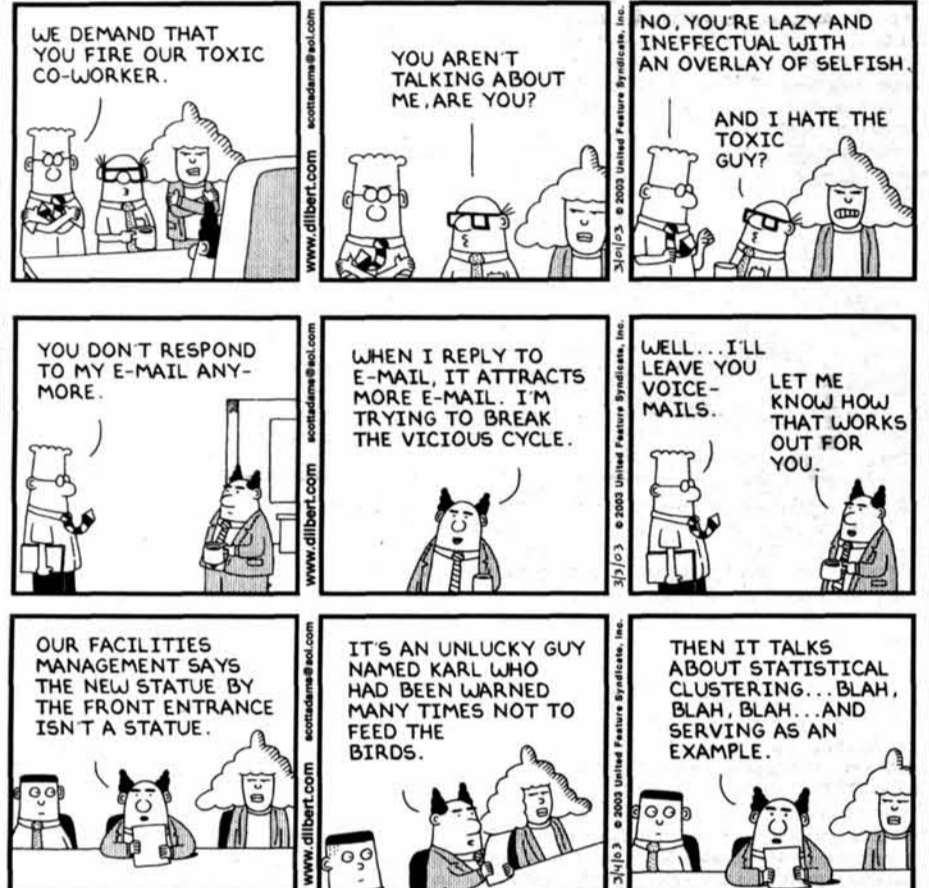
Photography by Jon Hyde



FoxTrot by Bill Amend



Dilbert® by Scott Adams

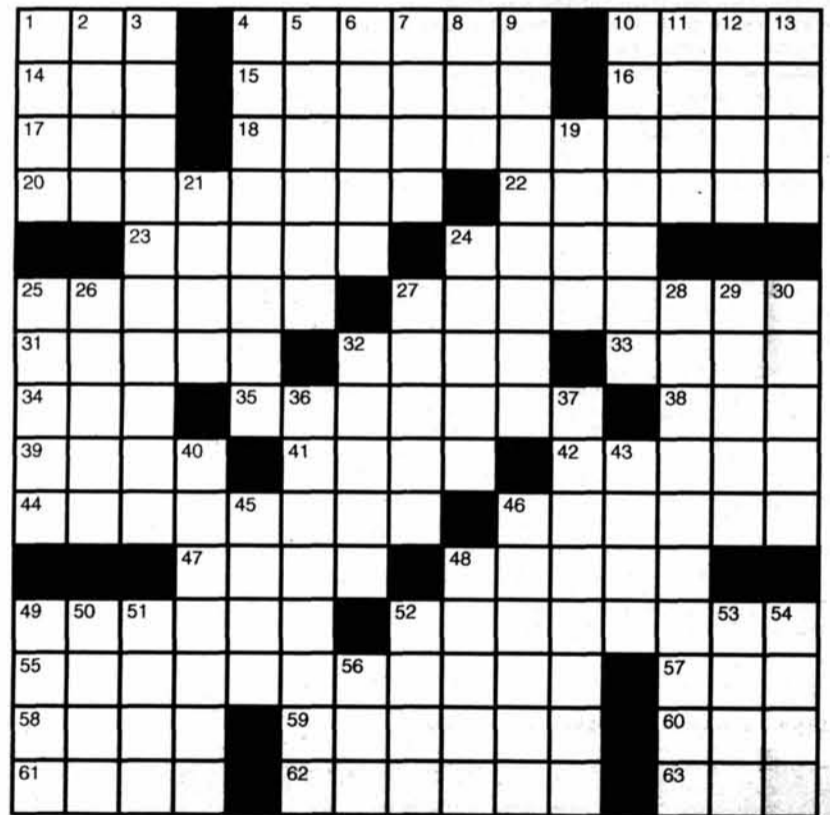


Careless napping can sabotage your progress! Be careful!

P.H.D. PROPAGANDA

Crossword Puzzle

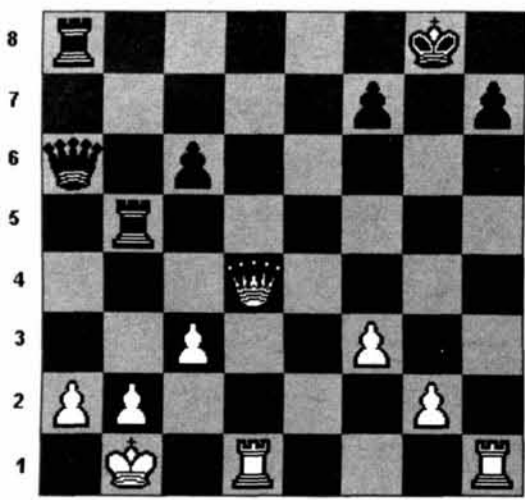
Solution, page 12



ChessMate

Composed by Elina Groberman

Difficulty Level 1
White to Move and Checkmate in Two



Comments? E-mail chessmate@the-tech.mit.edu
Solutions on page 12

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Sock's extremity | 1 Mausoleum | 28 King who died at Bosworth Field | |
| 4 Archer | 2 Redolence | 29 So long, senior | |
| 10 Palo __, CA | 3 Duke of Windsor | 30 Lauder of cosmetics | |
| 14 Offbeat | 4 Like a fillet | 32 Smith and West | |
| 15 Baltimore batter | 5 By mouth | 36 Head shrinkers | |
| 16 Visible trace | 6 Uses a dishcloth | 37 Muscle-building hormones | |
| 17 Cut | 7 Debatable | 40 Triangular hat | |
| 18 Last emperor of France | 8 Each and every one | 43 Genesis shepherd | |
| 20 ID carrier, perhaps | 9 Most in want | 45 Narrow valley | |
| 22 Silt remover | 10 Loss of memory | 46 Resister | |
| 23 Turns over and over | 11 "The best __ plans..." | 48 Shoot from hiding | |
| 24 Claim to a share | 12 Math subj. | 49 "Lelia" author | |
| 25 Australian city | 13 Ma Joad, e.g. | 50 Appeal | |
| 27 Day of wrath: Lat. | 19 Eyes, in poems | 51 Over the horizon | |
| 31 Affluent ones | 21 Traffic diverter | 52 Montreal ballplayer | |
| 32 __ and crafts | 24 Air-headed | 53 Once, once | |
| 33 Helps out | 25 Bundle | 54 Display model | |
| 34 Samuel's teacher | 26 Black Sea resort | 56 Gee! | |
| | 27 Gearshift setting | | |

Events Calendar

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

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

Tuesday, March 4

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

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Beyond Bollywood: The Cultural Politics of the South Asian Diasporic Cinema. Jigna Desai. Tuesday, March 4th, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Building 1, Room 150 Beyond Bollywood: The Cultural Politics of the South Asian Diasporic Cinema. Jigna Desai. In conjunction with Prof. Tommy Defrantz's class, "Traditions in American Concert Dance: Gender and Autobiography." free. Room: Building 1, Room 150. Sponsor: Office of the Arts, Women's Studies Program. Theatre Arts.

11:55 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - VCPIA Lunch Meeting. Weekly lunch meeting sponsored by the MIT Venture Capital & Principal Investment Association. free. Room: Tang Center. Sponsor: MIT Venture Capital and Principal Investment (VCPI) Association, MIT Entrepreneurship Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Self Assessment: Finding a Place to Start. Get an introduction to some concepts to help you think about your future career decisions; see some techniques for career decision-making, and receive a framework for understanding your needs, wants, values, skills and priorities. Please register for this workshop at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/>. free. Sponsor: Career Services Office.

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Spam Filtering Quick Start. This discussion will cover the basics of e-mail spam screening that has been implemented at MIT through the use of SpamAssassin. Discussion will include how to configure different e-mail clients to filter messages considered to be spam, as well as how to set your spam scoring threshold and how to use allow/deny lists. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

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

3:30 p.m. - Walter Milne Memorial. A memorial service for Walter Milne has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 4 at 3:30pm in Killian Hall. Milne, a former aide to six MIT presidents, helped develop many Cambridge institutions as MIT's liaison to the city. He died on Dec. 27 at the age of 80. Room: Killian Hall (1st Floor, Bldg. 14W). Sponsor: President's Office.

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - Media Lab Colloquium Series. free. Room: Bartos Theater, MIT Media Lab. Sponsor: Media Lab.

4:00 p.m. - MIT Astrophysics Colloquium: BOHDAN PACZYNSKI. "Optical Gravitational Lensing Experiment (OGLE)." free. Room: MIT Center for Space Research, Room 37-252. Sponsor: Astrophysics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - MTL VLSI Seminar Series. Process, Environmental, and Design Contributions to CMOS Delay Variation. free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: MTL VLSI Seminar.

4:30 p.m. - Middle East Stability: New Organizing Concepts. The Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar. free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Part Four of the Politics and Technology of Motherhood Lecture Series. Tuesday, March 4th, 4:30pm Building E51, Room 149 Part Four of the Politics and Technology of Motherhood Lecture Series. Women as Egg Factories? The Health and Freedom of Choice of Women in the Face of Stem Cell Research and Cloning, a talk by Cynthia Cohen and In Pursuit of the Ivy League Egg: Ethics and Egg Sales in the U.S., a talk by Andrea Gurmankin. free. Room: E51-149. Sponsor: Women's Studies Program, MIT Medical, the MIT Workplace Center, the Technology and Culture Forum, LGBT Programming, the Science, Technology and Society Colloquium.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Toastmasters@MIT Evening Meetings. 77 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge, Building 2, Room 2-131. free. Sponsor: Toastmasters.

6:30 p.m. - Architecture Lecture. "This Will Kill That: Architecture and the Media." Lecture by Terence Riley, chief curator of Architecture and Design, Museum of Modern Art, New York. free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - International Film Club- Film Seminar. Educational Film Screening. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

Wednesday, March 5

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

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Introduction to Email at MIT. This quick start gives an overview of how email works at MIT and the different email protocols that are available. Supported programs for use at MIT are described, along with pros and cons of choosing one over the other, brief instructions on getting started, and pointers to more information. The "spam" email problem — and what can and can't be done about it — will also be presented." Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - TechTime: MIT Personal Calendar Quick Start. Demonstration of the web client for Techtime, MIT's newly supported personal calendar program, based on Oracle Calendar (formerly known as CorporateTime). The session will include opening your account and signing in, working with your calendar entries, working with other users, and setting preferences. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open. MIT's resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgendered members of the community offers a place to hang out, various activities, and a lending library during its open hours. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Oceanography and Climate Sack Lunch Seminar.

"The maintenance of sea ice extent in the climate system." free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - CRE - Career Profiles Series: Real Estate Finance. William McPadden, John Hancock Financial Services, Michael Lindgren, LJ Melody & Co., and Susan Winston Leff, KeyBank. free. Room: W31-301. Sponsor: Center for Real Estate.

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Web Requisition Heuristic Review. SAPWeb Requisition change/approval pages tested by authorized user. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.

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

3:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - "Radio Astronomy Using Multiple Antennas for High Spatial Resolution." free. Room: 37-212. Sponsor: AeroAstro, Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - SMA - HPCES Seminar. "The Simplex Method for Semidefinite and Second-Order Cone Programming". free. Room: MIT Room 4-237. Sponsor: Singapore-MIT Alliance/HPCES.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Start-up Clinic. Discover how to present a plan to potential investors at the MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge's Start-up Clinic. Two pre-selected companies present their business plans and receive feedback from a panel of experts and the audience over an informal dinner. The key learning points include how plans and presentations are evaluated; what investors and evaluators look for, and how to fine-tune plans and presentations. The event will be held at 6 PM the MIT Faculty Club. Registration fee is \$35 for Forum Members and \$45 for Non Members and includes dinner. Pre-Registration is Required. For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.mitforumcambridge.org/calendar/index.html> or call 617-253-8240. free. Room: MIT Faculty Club. 50 Memorial Drive 6th Floor. Sponsor: MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge, Inc.

7:00 p.m. - An Engineer's Quest for Musical Bliss. Free. Room: MIT Killian Hall. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Sangam-MIT FLL Movie. Movies screened as a part of MIT FLL course. Email was sent out on sangam-request@mit.edu. free. Room: Variable, was sent out in email. Sponsor: Sangam. MIT FLL.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Bible Study. Weekly Bible study held by the Baptist Student Fellowship. free. Sponsor: Baptist Student Fellowship, Baptist Campus Ministry.

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - HTC Film Series. Theme is documentary films. click on link for titles. free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture and Art.

8:00 p.m. - Weekly Wednesdays @ the Muddy Charles Pub. Meet your fellow social graduate students at the Muddy Charles Pub located in the Walker Memorial Building. What will be there for you? \$1 drafts, a variety of beers, wines and sodas, lots of free wings, Sox on the screen. Bring IDs. free. Room: Muddy Charles Pub. Sponsor: Edgerton House Residents' Association, MIT Entrepreneurship Center. TechLink, Wing It.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar. Screening of a movie followed by a discussion. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

8:00 p.m. - Carlos Prieto, cello. Prieto, who graduated from MIT in 1959 with degrees in metallurgy and economics, has been named associate conductor of the Houston Symphony. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Swing Dancing. No partner required. Beginners welcome. free. Room: Student Center 2nd floor. Sponsor: Lindy Hop Society.

Thursday, March 6

12:01 a.m. - UA Elections, Electronic Voting Begins. Vote for YOUR UAP/VP and class council officers on-line! free. Sponsor: Undergraduate Association.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - UPA Mini-Conference. free. Room: Fidelity. Boston. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Leaders in Real Estate. free. Room: W31-301. Sponsor: Center for Real Estate.

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

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Orientation to Computing at MIT. This seminar provides basic information about the MIT computing environment, presented in language accessible to anyone. Topics include: help resources; supported operating systems; supported software and recommended hardware; the campus network (MITnet and more); security issues and how to address them; telephones and voice mail; computer-related health issues. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - MIT Chapel Concert. Phillips Consort of Viols. Michael Hamill, treble; Hannah Davidson & Sheila Beardslee, tenors; Sarah McManaway, bass; Andrei Caracoti, countertenor, A program of Italian music ca 1550-1600. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Conversational English Class. Join us for a free conversational English class for international students and spouses at MIT. Most attendees are women able to speak freely who desire to increase their English skills. Class covers a variety of topics including American culture and holiday descriptions. Free. Room: W11 Board Room. Sponsor: Baptist Campus Ministry.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Weight Watchers at Work! free. Room: Women's Lounge-Room 8-219. Sponsor: Weight Watchers.

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Rainbow Lounge Open. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: lbgt@MIT.

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

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Physics: Quantum Games with Trapped Atomic Ions: Whither Quantum Computation? Among a number of possible physical implementations of quantum information processing, trapped ions are attractive because the basic elements of quantum computation have been experimentally demonstrated. A skeptic can perhaps justifiably classify these accomplishments as parlor tricks; nevertheless, the trapped-ion system also has a straightforward path to scaling to large qubit numbers. Some of the technical hurdles to achieving this scaling, including seemingly mundane things like understanding metal (electrode) surfaces at a mesoscopic scale, will be discussed. In the meantime, some simple implementations of quantum computation could have important applications before large-scale quantum computation is practical, for example, for efficient quantum-limited measurements. Work supported by ARDA/NSA and NIST. free. Room: 4-370. Sponsor: Physics Department.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - Robust Airline Crew Scheduling. ORC Spring Seminar Series. Seminar reception immediately following in the Philip M. Morse Reading Room, E40-106. free. Room: E56-270. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Nanostructures Seminar Series. Applying Macro Machine Design Experience to Dinky Designs. free. Room: Building 1, Room 190 (Refreshments beginning at 4:15 pm). Sponsor: Nanostructures Laboratory. Co-Sponsored by the Tiny Tech Club and Techlink.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - authors@mit - Victor McElheny - Watson and DNA - a panel discussion. Please join us for a lecture and panel discussion celebrating the publication of Victor McElheny's new book *Watson and DNA* and in recognition the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the double helix. Panelists will include: Victor K. McElheny, distinguished science journalist; Phil Sharp, Institute Prof. & Director of the McGovern Institute for Brain Research, MIT; Nancy Hopkins, Professor Of Biology, MIT; and others to be announced Introduction by Rosalind Williams, Director of MIT's Program in Science Technology and Society. *Watson and DNA* is published by Perseus, 2003. free. Room: Location TBA. Sponsor: The MIT Press Bookstore, MIT Libraries.

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Basic of Business Plans for Scientists and Engineers. An introduction to the Business Plan for scientists and engineers. What is it, why do I need it and what is it used for? Practical do's and don'ts in preparing a Business Plan. Things to keep in mind in writing a Business Plan which will improve your chances of obtaining funding and running a successful business. Joseph G. Hadzima, Jr. is a Managing Director of Main Street Partners LLC, a venture development and technology commercialization firm. He practiced law for 17 years and he was involved in various capacities in the founding of over 100 companies and advised entrepreneurs, high-growth businesses and venture capitalists. free. Room: MIT Room 35-225. Sponsor: Science and Engineering Business Club.

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Basic of Business Plans for Scientists and Engineers. An introduction to the Business Plan for scientists and engineers. What is it, why do I need it and what is it used for? Practical do's and don'ts in preparing a Business Plan. Things to keep in mind in writing a Business Plan which will improve your chances of obtaining funding and running a successful business. Joseph G. Hadzima, Jr. is a Managing Director of Main Street Partners LLC, a venture development and technology commercialization firm. He practiced law for 17 years and he was involved in various capacities in the founding of over 100 companies and advised entrepreneurs, high-growth businesses and venture capitalists. Joe Hadzima is also a Senior Lecturer at MIT Sloan, was a Founding Judge of the MIT\$50K Entrepreneurship Competition and is a Director of the MIT Enterprise Forum internationally and of the 20+ United States MIT Enterprise Forum Chapters Dinner will be served after the talk. free. Room: MIT Room 35-225. Sponsor: MIT Entrepreneurship Center, MIT Science and Engineering Business Club.

7:00 p.m. - poetry@MIT: Joseph Torra and Gerrit Lansing. Torra, the author of "Keep Watching the Sky" (poems) and "Gas Station" (a novel), lives in Somerville, MA. Lansing, whose poetry has been collected in "Heavenly Tree / Soluble Forest" (Talisman House), has worked as editor of the poetry magazine SET. He lives in Gloucester, MA. free. Room: Rm 6-120. Sponsor: Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Nobel Laureate Lecture. Nobel Laureates Eric Chivian and Mario J. Molina to present "Global Environmental Issues: Effects on the Atmosphere and the Biosphere" Reception to follow in Lobby 13. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: MITAC, Community Services Office, MIT Lecture Series Committee, Graduate Student Council, Undergraduate Association, Office of the Chancellor.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Panchatantra Class. Classes in Indian Folklore. free. Room: 4-144. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Sangam. South Asian Center.

8:00 p.m. - Rose McClendon: Black on the Great White Way. Workshop production of one-woman show written and performed by activist/actress/writer Vinie Burrows about Rose McClendon (1884-1936), premier African-American actress of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s and 1930s. Burrows received the 2002 Eugene McDermott Award in the Arts presented by the Council for the Arts at MIT. Seating limited. free. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Associate Provost for the Arts.

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Coffee Hour. Food and drink - an Ashdown tradition. free. Room: Hulsizer Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown House.

10:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. - Movie Night. Movie and food - free for all!! free. Room: Big TV Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown House.

11:59 p.m. - Campus Disc Golf. Do you like tossing a disc? Do you enjoy friendly competition? Or if you're just up for midnight antics, then come on out! Meet outside the Student Center on the front steps, and don't forget to bring a disc! Don't hesitate to come, newcomers are always welcomed - We meet every Thursday at midnight. Questions, contact Daniel Turek, macgver@mit.edu. bring your own disc!. Room: Student Center steps. Sponsor: Campus Disc Golf.

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New Rush System Leads to Cultural House Problems

Language Houses, from Page 1

hour-and-a-half conversation that would have been possible under the former rush system.

Rush this year was "very unpleasant" for Russian House, said Pavlo M. Pylyavskyy '03, who handled Russian House's rush for the class of 2006. "What happened previously was that more people found out about our existence ... during rush, and they liked us and stayed here," Pylyavskyy said.

"We managed to get almost as many freshmen as usual [this year], but it was very complicated," Pylyavskyy said, adding that unlike past years, there was no need for a lottery to get into Russian House this year.

"We got a lot fewer students this year," Torres said. "In the past, there was so much interest in Span-

ish House that you had to enter a lottery to get in," he said, but, like Russian House, no lottery was held this year.

Many leave language houses

Although there were no empty beds when first semester began, six out of about 11 freshmen left German House at the end of first semester "because they didn't like it" or because of the high level of commitment involved in the cooking system, said Eugenia A. Trusova '03, German House's class of 2006 rush chair.

"Six people have left" French House, said Miriam L. Sorell '04, French House president. Two rooms that had previously been used as triples are now doubles, and one room that had previously been borrowed from German House has now been returned, she said.

"Some people came for other reasons" than because they truly enjoyed the atmosphere of German House, Trusova said.

"There were a lot of factors that affected the housing assignments, ... and we are encouraging students to try moving to different places if they feel more comfortable there," said Denise A. Vallay, assistant director of undergraduate housing. Some cultural houses have experienced vacancies as a result of moves between dorms, she said.

Houses want to see changes

The cultural houses are in the process of negotiating with the administration for changes in the housing system.

"I think we would like at least to be partially back to what it was before, so that students and freshmen have the chance to meet people

and see the place before they have classes," Pylyavskyy said. The administration "made some minor changes so that people could make some choices at the end of orientation, but I don't know how much they're going to change the system," he added.

"People who weren't ready for the commitment of cultural houses were passively squatting their rooms," Sorell said. Living in language houses includes significant cooking duties, among other things, she said.

It is important to emphasize the commitment involved in joining a cultural house in the housing materials that are distributed to incoming freshmen over the summer, Vallay said.

"The best solution is to have no squatting at all" so that cultural house members are given the freedom to identify students who they believe are good matches for their houses, Sorell said, "but that's not going to be option."

As a compromise, she is hoping that in the future, "all freshman will be required to log on [to the housing lottery Web site] and say 'yes I want to keep my room,'" she said. Doing that will "force freshmen [who aren't particularly suited for a cultural house] to realize that staying where they are isn't automatic default," and perhaps increase the chances that they'll look into other options, Sorell said.

Part of what is needed is a "fail-proof system for interviewing the [prospective residents] and making sure they understand the commitment" involved in joining a cultural house, said New House housemaster Sandra Harris.

The cultural houses were asked to submit lists of students that they wanted before being told who wanted to live in the houses, Sorell said, which proved to be a very ineffective system. "It might be a matter of time, but even if we had half an hour to look at a list of students who wanted to live in our house, that would make a difference," she said.

However, "it's hard to change housing without changing rush," said Shaunna S. Stanton '05, one of French House's three rush chairs.

Students, administrators meet

Representatives of the cultural houses, New House, and the administration met Monday night to discuss the housing process for the class of 2007. "The purpose of this meeting [was] to evaluate how residence exploration went for cultural houses and to see if we can improve matters for upcoming years," Sorell said.

About half of the meeting was spent discussing how rush went for the cultural houses, and the other half was spent discussing strategies for the future, said Caroline A. Niziolek '05, one of French House's rush chairs.

Improving the housing situation for cultural houses is "mostly our responsibility," Childress said, "although the administration is offering us support."

"We thought that we should take measures to promote the idea of living in a cultural house rather than just as individual houses. We also wanted more time to talk to the pre-fresh over the summer to ensure they really do know what the houses are like before they commit," Niziolek said.

The administration "said they would look into ways of doing this, but didn't make any promises," Niziolek said. They agreed to look into making the Web site less confusing, she said.

The administration "said that the cultural houses needed to do a better

job marketing to freshmen," Chilton said, but "they didn't offer very many suggestions for how to do that."

One suggestion was that the cultural houses not list the responsibilities involved in being a resident on the first page, Chilton said. "We don't want to falsely advertise, but ... we should at least say 'this is what's cool' first, then 'this is what it takes to be a member' afterwards," he added.

"Gresh and Vallay both expressed willingness to get us in touch with people who can help us, like a publishing service who can tell us what is good or bad about our publications," Childress said.

Although he thought the administration was helpful, he agreed that "the cultural house experience is really something that you need to see first-hand," and that not having rush is a "big detriment" to the cultural houses.

"Frankly, I don't think much was accomplished at this meeting," Chilton said. "It basically just went in circles."

Members of the administration could not be reached for comment after the meeting.

Houses will focus on CPW

"During CPW, we'll really try to get the name of Spanish House out more, not so much as a rush tactic but so that people know that we exist," Torres said.

Almost every room or student in Spanish House will be hosting a prospective student during Campus Preview Weekend, Torres said, because in the past about one fourth of those housed in Spanish House during CPW eventually decided to live there.

"Personally, I don't support CPW as a time to rush students for dorms," Sorell said. "It should be a time to bring kids to MIT, not to rush them. Unfortunately, we don't have time during orientation to do rush."

German House is planning on sending flyers to Cambridge University with Denise Vallay when she travels there later this year, in hopes of enticing some Cambridge-MIT Institute students to live with them next year, Chilton said. He expects the other cultural houses will do the same.

Chocolate City not affected

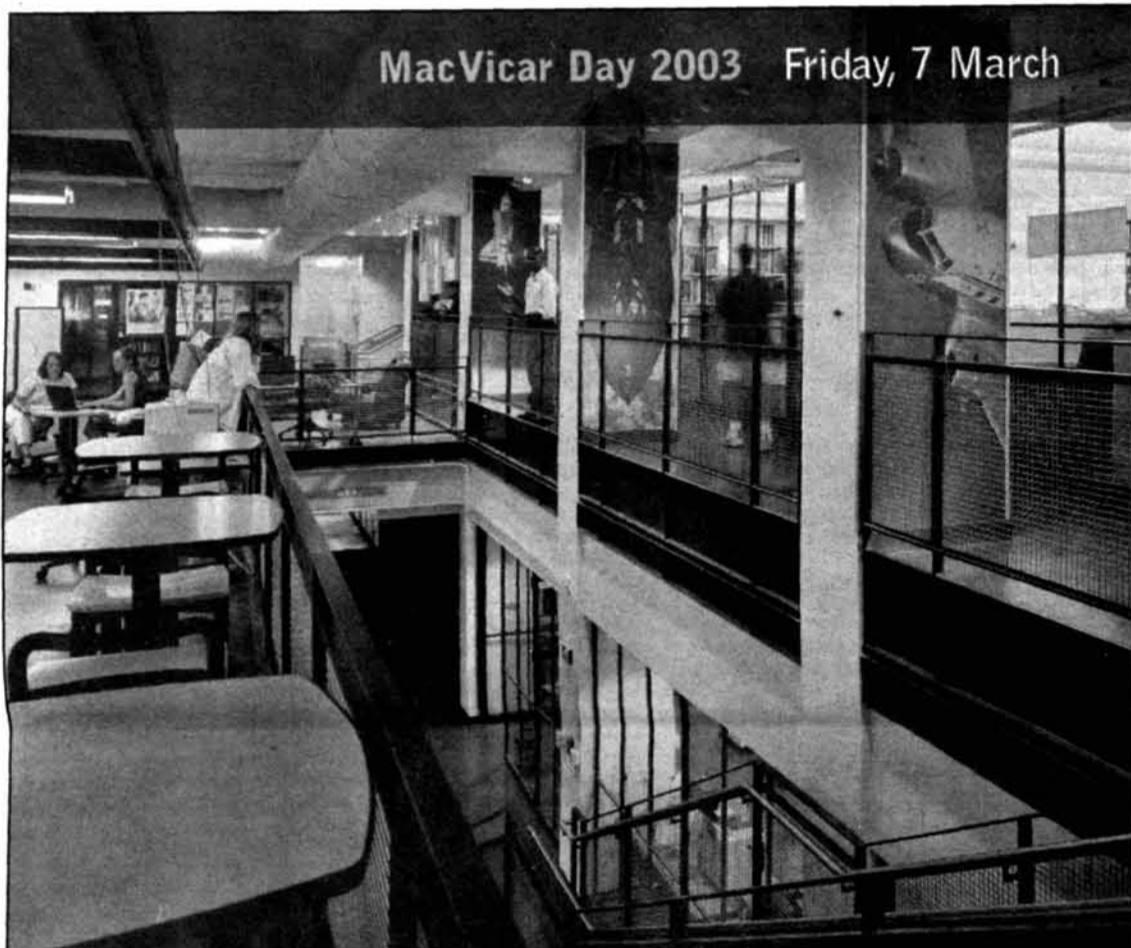
"During my four years here, we've never had a problem" recruiting or retaining freshmen, said Tarik A. Ward '03, senior co-chair of Chocolate City, adding that he also doesn't know of any such problems from the years before he has been here.

Only one student has left in the last four years, for reasons not related to the house, said Anthony H. Thomas II '03, a member of Chocolate City. That student later moved back in.

"I don't know enough about other cultural houses or dorms to say what's different," Ward said, "but we spend a lot of time selecting our freshmen. The way it works here, we try to have a lot of personal interaction, as much as possible given the circumstances."

Ward said that Chocolate City is "very active during CPW," during which they "throw a lot of events and are very visible." Chocolate City also "keep[s] members in the house over the summer to meet any freshmen who happen to be on campus," and speaks to all prospective residents either on the phone or in person, Ward said.

"We show them a lot of information so that there are few surprises and they understand the commitment," Ward said.



MacVicar Day 2003 Friday, 7 March

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Presentation: Places for Learning: New Functions and New Forms

3:00pm - 4:00pm 10-250
William J. Mitchell
Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning

Open House: Visit the new learning spaces

4:00pm - 5:30pm 3-370 Mechanical Engineering / Park Room for Innovative Education

4-231 The Shakespeare Electronic Archive

7-432 Undergraduate Architecture Studio

10-337 TEP / Teacher Education Program

26-152 TEAL / Technology Enabled Active Learning

33-116 Aeronautics and Astronautics / Learning Laboratory

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NIGHTLINE

'Bad Taste' Will Retain Spirit

Bad Taste, from Page 1

They were only told that complaints had come from "within the administration" about fire codes and the "mess in the hallway." The group was encouraged to contact the administration when they registered a concert in the fall semester, he said.

Runnion and Emily C. Vincent '04, director of the Chorallaries, then met with administrators and MIT Police throughout the past few months to work out details of the show.

"As far back as November we began to discuss ... what kind of

changes would need to be made to ... accommodate the concerns," Runnion said.

Vincent said that the MIT Police had "been an incredible help" in organizing the show.

Location change considered

The concert will still be held in 10-250, though fire codes regarding seating capacity limits will be strictly enforced at this year's concert. Runnion said that the Chorallaries chose to keep the event in 10-250, rather than move the concert to Kresge Auditorium or 26-100.

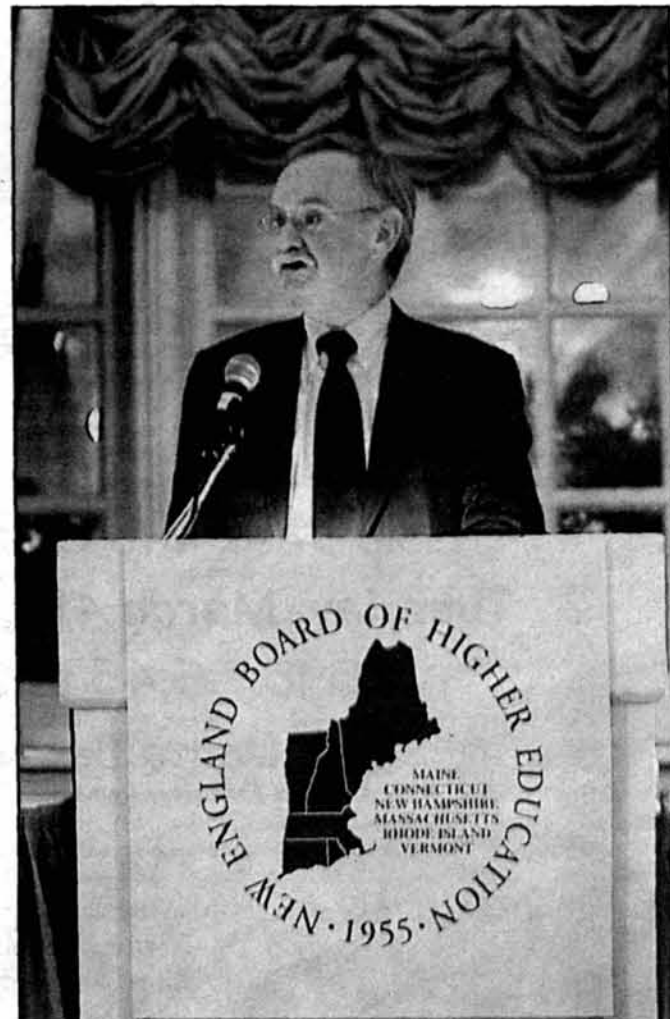
"We considered a whole variety of other venues on campus such as Kresge, 6-120, and 26-100," Runnion said. Kresge is "very hard to get," and poor acoustics make 26-100 a "not very practical" option for the concert.

Despite the changes, Runnion said that the Chorallaries hope that the show will be able to maintain the spirit that has made it so popular. "Our basic goal this year is to keep with regulations while keeping with as much of the spirit and tradition of the show as possible," Runnion said. "We're very optimistic."



TECH FILE PHOTO

Audience members throw various objects at the Chorallaries during their Concert in Bad Taste last March. Concerns over cleanliness, fire codes, and the enforcement of event policies have caused a number of changes in the logistics of this year's Bad Taste concert.



EDWARD PLATT—THE TECH

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Thursday, March 6, 2003

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Solution to Crossword

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| D | A | R | N | | S | H | O | E | R | S | | I | T | O |

from page 8

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MIT Department of FACILITIES

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

- Building E19 Renovations**
 The new McGovern Institute for Brain Research (MIBR) space on the third floor is substantially complete. The construction of the fifth floor laboratory space is on schedule for completion in April.
- Building 12 Fire Protection Main**
 Work is underway near Buildings 12, 4, and 8 to repair a ruptured fire protection main. Traffic should not be affected, but pedestrian access to this area will be limited. The work will take approximately three weeks. Some jackhammering may occur.
- Vassar St. Utilities**
 Installation of new drainage piping running from Mass. Ave. to the Johnson Athletic Center is in the final stages of completion. Pedestrians now walk behind Building 48 on a newly constructed temporary walkway for several months to allow Vassar St. work to continue.
- Dreyfus Chemistry Building**
 Repair work on the east concrete façade is nearing completion. Installation of mechanical systems continues. Demobilization of the construction staging area is being planned and removal of most of the trailers will take place later this spring.
- Vassar Streetscape**
 Work is underway on the north side of the street. Traffic will continue to flow one-way westbound along the southern side of the street. All major crosswalks and driveways are accessible; crosswalks will occasionally shift as work progresses.
- Brain and Cognitive Sciences Project**
 Demolition of Building 45 is expected to take place later this spring. The decorative butterflies will be transferred from the exterior of Building 45 to Building 44 soon.
- Building 7 ADA accessible entrance**
 Concrete for the ramp and steps will be installed soon.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>. This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.

Search for Provider Likely to be Difficult

Cable, from Page 1

the nation offering the standard cable channels in digital format via a subscription service that allowed living groups to sign up on an individual basis, Winchester said.

Barnes said that "there wasn't a good alternative" before WSNNet, and "there won't be one a year from now" in terms of providing the type and format of service MIT needs.

"People are looking at resurrecting [the WSNNet] platform as we speak, but it's a pretty chancy" prospect, Barnes said. "At some point, all these basic services will be available in digital format."

In the meantime, because MIT requires digital formatting to provide more than a small service, there are no equivalent alternatives currently available.

As a temporary solution, Winchester said that it may be possible for dormitories to acquire a satellite television dish, which could then be wired into televisions in common areas and floor lounges. He said that it would be prohibitively expensive in some cases to completely rewire the dormitories to allow satellite service for individual rooms.

Cable at MIT faces challenges

The two major obstacles to finding a new provider for the core cable services are that it is not reasonable to buy a bulk-rate subscription for the entire campus and without digital content the cable package would be limited to many fewer channels, Winchester said.

With a bulk-rate subscription, every television set would automatically receive the full cable service, making it impossible to charge specific groups a subscription fee. Since the bulk-rate charge would then come out of MIT's operating expenses, every student would subsidize the cost of cable.

Finding a new cable provider is difficult because "MIT does not want to take on a bulk-rate commitment," and "there's nobody who wants to offer a subscription-based service," Winchester said.

Winchester said that the best offer MIT has received for a replacement would cost \$30,000 for a bulk-rate subscription providing just ten channels in analog. He said that even this offer did not satisfy current MIT budgetary constraints and MIT Cable would not be able to pay for it on its own.

Ash Wednesday Service



March 5
5:10
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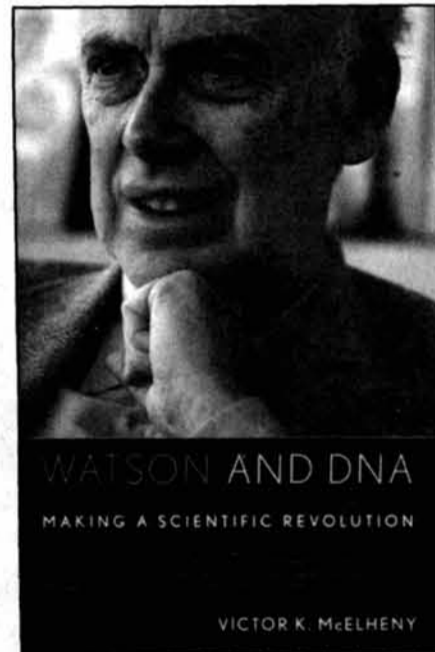
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Victor McElheny
Distinguished science journalist

Phillip Sharp
Director of the McGovern Institute, MIT

Nancy Hopkins
Amgen, Inc. Professor of Biology, MIT

intro. by **Rosalind Williams**
Director of the STS Program, MIT



Thurs., March 6th,
6:00pm, MIT E51
Wong Auditorium
70 Memorial Dr.



Please join us for a lecture and panel discussion celebrating the publication of Victor McElheny's new book *Watson and DNA* and in recognition the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the double helix. Panelists will discuss the life of James Watson, the legacy of his research, and the future of the biological revolution he helped begin.

Victor K. McElheny is a distinguished science journalist who has covered the revolution in molecular biology for the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and *Science* for over three decades. He was the inaugural director of the Knight Science Journalism Fellowships at MIT and now is a Visiting Scholar in the MIT STS Program.

Watson and DNA is published by Perseus, 2003.

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All MIT undergraduates are eligible, including those whose planned research begins the summer immediately following graduation.

How to Apply: A well-written proposal presenting a concise research plan should be submitted by the deadline to the UROP Office, 7-104. At least one letter of recommendation or support for the proposed research is needed, from an MIT faculty member. This letter may accompany the proposal or be mailed separately. A budget should be included with the proposal. Award Winners are chosen by the Eloranta Fellowship Committee at the end of April.

Contact: Staff in the UROP Office, 7-104, x3-7306, <urop@mit.edu>. For additional details, please see the Eloranta website, <web.mit.edu/eloranta/>.

Deadline: April 4, 2003.

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Thursday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.
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Program:
New Love Song Waltzes - Music by Johannes Brahms
Going Away Party - Music by Bob Wills & His Texas Playboys
Foursome - Music by Erik Satie & Johann Nepomuk Hummel
V - Music by Robert Schumann

All Choreography by Mark Morris

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Friday, March 14, 8:00pm
Somerville Theater Davis Square

Hailing from Tuva, an autonomous Russian republic on the border of Mongolia, Huun Huur Tu perform an otherworldly vocal technique called khöömei in Tuvan, or "overtone singing" in English – a single vocalist produces two or three notes simultaneously.

Depledge Numbers Reflect Residence System Changes

By Lauren E. LeBon
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

An increase in the number of students who depledged fraternities suggests that a few kinks remain in MIT's new residence system, though few students transferred between dormitories.

Lawrence W. Colagiovanni '04, the president of the Interfraternity Council, estimates that around 50 students depledged fraternities last fall.

That number comes from the between 290 to 300 students that Colagiovanni said pledged a fraternity this year. The number of pledges is down from around 350 in previous years.

Colagiovanni said that the number of depledges was higher than in previous years, but that the difference was not dramatic. "Since people are paying attention to the numbers [this year], it seems like it's a lot more," Colagiovanni said.

David N. Rogers, assistant dean and director of fraternities, sorori-

ties, and independent living groups was more optimistic about the direction of the number of students who would depledge. "Last semester, we knew of 35 [depledges] and there could be more for a variety of reasons," he said.

Rogers said that though the hard numbers are not available yet, depledge numbers are likely to be lower than usual. In previous years, most freshmen depledged because they were living in a fraternity house that they did not feel fit them. This year, that factor is absent, and freshmen are depledging for reasons such as medical or religious restrictions over which the fraternities have no control, he said.

The fraternities hope to have a firm list of pledge and depledge numbers by April 1.

Many fraternities planned to begin recruiting upperclassmen more heavily to make up for the loss of freshmen pledges. However, the fraternities only received about

half a dozen upperclassman pledges. Out of these, only one moved into a fraternity house, Rogers said.

"We need to get out of the freshman mentality; there are plenty of sophomores, and even juniors, who, given the chance, would join a fraternity or sorority," Rogers said.

Rush chairs seem open to the possibility of recruiting upperclassmen. "We've never been exclusive as far as recruiting," said Zeta Psi Rush Chair Ian P. Spivey '05. "Since fewer freshmen joined this year there might be more sophomores who want to join next year," he said.

Few change dorms

Between Aug. 30 and Dec. 20, 2002, 44 students requested a dorm reassignment. Of these, 29 were reassigned to new dorms, and ten cancelled their requests. By January of 2003, five students were not yet reassigned, said Denise Vallay, assistant director of undergraduate,

summer residential services, and guest housing.

These numbers include regular requests for housing changes as well as the requests in the new December adjustment lottery.

"It's hard to compare [this year's numbers to last year's numbers], due to the many changes in the assignments process and lotteries, plus we have vacancies this year in many of the dorms," Vallay said.

More students are able to transfer between dormitories because of the vacancies. "There are more people moving, but there were the same number of requests," she said.

The inter-dormitory transfers did not show any specific trends, nor did any one dorm show large losses. However, Vallay said that there were many students moving from west campus to east campus and vice-versa.

The new end-of-term lotteries have been implemented as the result of a 1999 report by Lawrence S. Bacow '72 that

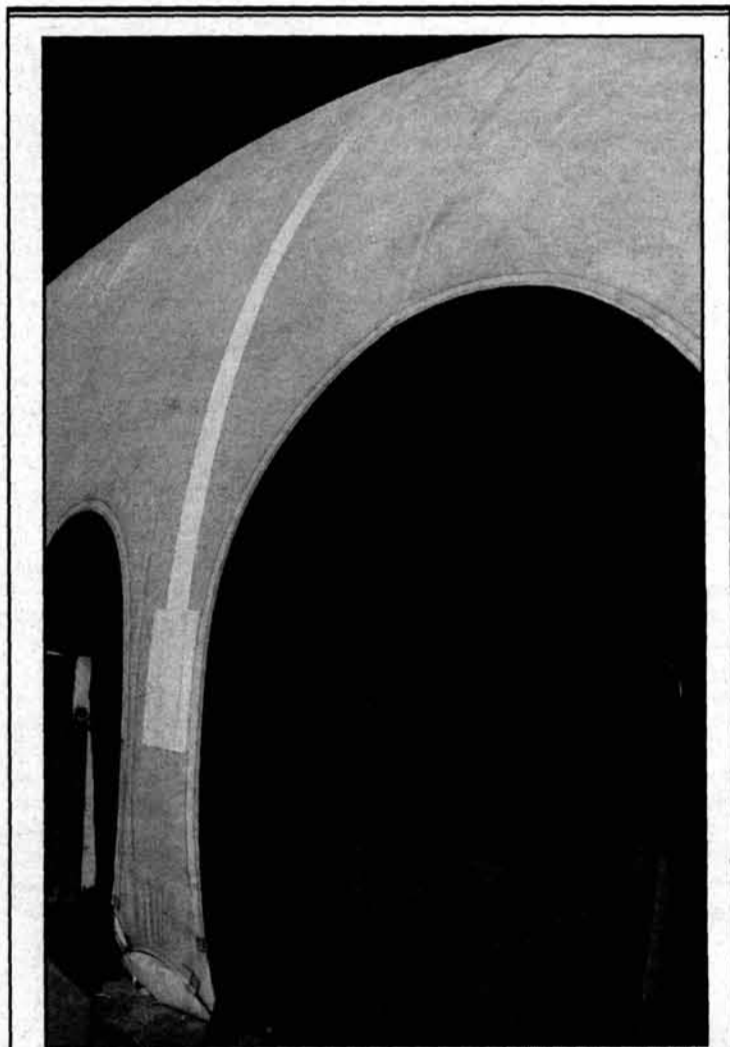
required all freshmen to live on campus. The new lotteries were designed to "provide liquidity" and to allow students to move easily among dorms, according to a January 2003 report prepared by the Residence System Implementation Team

Sorority recruitment a success

Kaya Gerberich, the coordinator for fraternities, sororities, and living groups, said that "our numbers are very similar from last year, and we're having better retention," Gerberich said.

Rogers said that the Panhellenic Association did "very well" with this spring's recruitment. The sororities received roughly 100 bid acceptances, about 20 fewer than last fall, Rogers said.

The Panhellenic Association is not as concerned about reduced pledge numbers as fraternities because, unlike fraternities, sororities do not rely on freshmen pledges to fill vacancies in houses.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

The reinflated Jennis B. Carr Tennis Center sports a large patch to the left of the main doors. Last week's record snowfall caused the "tennis bubble" to collapse and tear.

| Mes Latino 2003 | | | | | | | http://web.mit.edu/meslatino/www |
|--|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Lunes | Martes | Miércoles | Jueves | Viernes | Sábado | Domingo | |
| 2 Multicultural Mardi Gras Celebration 7-9:30 PM Walker Memorial | 3 Gala Tickets on Sale Lobby 10 | 4 Gala Tickets on Sale Student Center Película: Como Agua Para Chocolate 6PM 4-237 | 5 SHPE General Meeting 5:45-7PM 4-231 | 6 Noche Caliente Gala 8PM-Midnight La Sala de Puerto Rico | 7 TGIF OME 3-4PM | 8 MAES Science Extravaganza 10AM-3PM LUChA BBQ | |
| 9 Inauguration of Latino Cultural Center 11AM-10PM | 10 Study Break Latino Cultural Center 9PM-10PM | 11 Película: Midaq Alley 6PM 4-370 | 12 Make Your Own Burrito Study Break Bexley Basement 7-9PM | 13 | 14 LUChA Symposium TBA | 15 LUChA Symposium TBA | |
| 16 Spanish Mass 1PM MIT Chapel Almuerzo W11 2-3PM LUChA Soccer tournament | 17 Festival de las Américas Lobby 10 11AM-1PM | 18 Colloquium Colombia: The Best Kept Secret 5PM 4-231 BSU Affirmative Action March | 19 SHPE General Meeting 5:45-7PM 4-231 | 20 Película: Y tu Mamá También 6PM 4-370 | 21 | 22 | |
| 23 SPRING BREAK | 24 SPRING BREAK | 25 SPRING BREAK | 26 SPRING BREAK | 27 SPRING BREAK | 28 SPRING BREAK | 29 | |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | | |

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SPORTS

Gymnasts Victorious
In Last Meet of Year

By Caitlin Dwyer-McNally

TEAM CAPTAIN

Winning isn't everything, but it certainly feels good.

The MIT gymnastics team hosted a three-team meet against Springfield and the University of Vermont on March 1. It was a unique meet in that both the men's and women's teams from all three schools competed against each other. Since this competition was the last regular season meet for the women's team, the seniors on the team were honored by their coaches and fellow teammates.

With their families and friends there to support them, they were put last in the line-ups of each event. All five seniors, Tanya I. Burka, Deborah J. Dryer, Caitlin P. Dwyer-McNally, M. Carrie Garceau and Lindsey L. Wolf have completed successful four-year athletic careers. There isn't a better way to end a season than breaking a school record and beating a team that you've never beaten before.

The overall team mark fell for the fourth meet in a row and is now at 182.025.

MIT starts strong on vault

The lady Engineers started on vault, posting a solid score of 44.5 highlighted by sophomore Whitney E. Watson's tuck tsuk, and sophomore Merritt S. Tam's tucked yurchenko. Springfield led off on bars managing only a 42.425, while Vermont started with a bye.

The second rotation proved to be a turning point in the meet: MIT posted an all-time high score on the uneven bars with a 45.375. After many years of struggling on bars, it's been nice to see the team put up consistent high scoring routines this year.

Senior Carrie Garceau increased the difficulty of her routine, and even after a "surprise" dismount scored 8.80. Ashley R. Rothenberg '05 also displayed new skill, allowing her to

post her season high at 9.275.

At the halfway point in the meet MIT led the competition with 89.875 to Vermont's 88.525 and Springfield's 88.30.

Floor goes well for MIT

The second half of the meet was just as exciting as the first half. MIT moved on to beam and Springfield to floor exercise; Vermont was on a bye. Whitney E. Watson '05 led off for the Engineers and hit a solid routine, with a little extra spirit, posting a 9.275. Freshman Francesca E. Demeo, who has been very consistent this year, performed well on the beam for a score of 9.35. This pleased both her teammates and coaches as well as her fans from her former gym.

Merritt Tam put up the best routine of the meet, showing everyone exactly why she placed second at nationals on beam last year. Tam scored an impressive 9.70. The rest of the beam team counted one fall each, but helped the team towards a season high score on beam of 45.70. While MIT was on beam, the Springfield women were hitting their floor routines and tallied a 46.575 as Vermont finished on beam with a 44.875 score.

On the last rotation of the evening, Springfield missed more routines than they hit on beam and even though MIT did not have their best floor day, the team still came away with a 46.450 total. Junior Cindy Chung posted the highest floor score of the night with a 9.575. She now holds four out of the top 10 highest floor scores in MIT's history. Tanya Burka also performed on the floor, using a dance piece she recently choreographed for a circus school audition.

The stage is set for a showdown at the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference East Regional competition, which will be hosted by SUNY-Cortland on Friday, March 14 at 1 p.m. That meet will determine not only the conference and regional champions, but also the four teams advancing to the National Championships.



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL—THE TECH

Susannah M. Dorfman '05 scores a touch on Yale foilist Justine Aw in Saturday's Intercollegiate Fencing Association championships at Boston College. Dorfman finished fourth in the women's foil individual competition, and helped lead the women's team to finish third out of 12 competing schools, behind Princeton and Columbia.

Figure Skating Collects 9 Medals

By Diana Cheng

TEAM MEMBER

The MIT figure skating team's eight skaters earned a total of nine medals at the United States Figure Skating Association's intercollegiate figure skating competition on Saturday, March 1, 2003 held at Boston University.

Skaters from 17 universities on the East coast competed in the last of three qualifying intercollegiate competitions this season, for the top three team spots to compete at the National Intercollegiate Team Figure Skating Championships at the University of Denver on March 28-30. Delaware, Dartmouth, and Cornell earned those spots. MIT's team is currently too small to qualify for nationals and placed eighth, but the individuals on the team fared well against the other skaters.

Pre-Intermediates earn medals

Kristin M. Jonker '03 agreed to skate at the Pre-Intermediate A level, though she was eligible to compete at Pre-Intermediate B, since the team already had the maximum of three entries for Pre-Intermediate B. She placed fifth in the individual compulsory moves after withdrawing from her free skate event because of sickness.

Jessica A. Eisenstein '06 earned a silver medal in the Pre-Intermediate B Group B free skate with her two-minute program to music from the "Mask of Zorro" soundtrack. Her artistry stems from her background in dance, and her power comes from her cross-country running experience. She has a consistent camel-sit spin, with the sit spin very low. She also placed second at the Individual Compulsory Moves Group A event.

Delphine Dean G competed in the Pre-Intermediate B Group B, where her free skate program included a circular footwork sequence with backwards power three-turns and twizzles. Her

camel spin has improved greatly since the beginning of the season, and she threw on a toe loop at the end of her lutz for an extra jump combination. She placed fourth in this event, receiving her first individual medal. She used the same footwork sequence for her individual compulsory moves and placed fourth in Group B.

Diana S. Cheng '04 skated her Pre-Intermediate B program to a medley from *Les Misérables*; the program was choreographed by her coach Cyndi Jackson '04 and classmate Margaret H. Cho '04. Her program has several ballet attitude positions in between her jumps, and a straight-line footwork sequence. She earned a pewter medal in Group B.

Adriana Tajonar '06 skated to the music of Benny Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing" in her Pre-Intermediate C Group A free skate, placing sixth. Her program has a camel-change-camel spin and ends with a sit spin into a lunge.

Intermediate, junior level awards

In her first skating competition for MIT, Amy R. Wu '06 placed eighth in her Intermediate free skate to music from a trailer for *Lord of the Rings*. Her Intermediate short program, where she placed sixth, was skated to the music of Bolero from *Moulin Rouge*.

At the junior level, Lindsay E. Kuo '06 earned a bronze medal in the free skate and a pewter medal in the short program. Her short program was 2 minutes and 40 seconds to the music of Astor Piazzolla's "Libertango," and included a flying sit spin and two double jumps.

Tech places in ice dance category

Sheila Tandon G skated the swing dance in the Pre-Intermediate B solo ice dance event and placed fifth. The swing dance is a set pattern dance and is part of the USFSA Pre-Bronze ice dance test. It includes forward and backward

chassés, swing rolls, and mohawks.

On Saturday, March 15, the MIT figure skating club will hold its annual exhibition at Johnson Rink featuring team members, national and international competitors, and skaters from the MIT community. Admission to the exhibition is free.



XIAOWEI YANG—THE TECH

Nick Sidelnik '05 swims the butterfly portion of the men's 400-yard individual medley in the NEW-MAC Men's Championships. Sidelnik won the competition with a time of 4:05.62. The Engineers won with a score of 920, over Coast Guard Academy's 149 and Springfield College's 263.



ERIC J. CHOLANKERIL—THE TECH

Samuel N. Korb '05 (left) gets entangled with Princeton epeeist Soren Thompson after an attempted fleche at Saturday's Intercollegiate Fencing Association championships at Boston College. Korb finished sixth in the individual men's epee competition, leading the epee squad to a fourth place finish out of 11 schools.