The MIT Card Office has posted an explanation of the card problems on its Web site, at <http://web.mit.edu/its/WebSite/mcard/techcash.html>. Several students said they were suspicious after significant charges appeared on their accounts when they were sleeping or not using the card. John M. McDonald, the assistant director of enterprise services, said, "It's up to us to make sure this doesn't happen again."
**WorldCom to Lay Off 5,000 More Employees, Cut Spending**

By Nikki PrivEt

WorldCom Inc. announced Monday that it will lay off 5,000 more employees and reduce operating costs in an effort to cut spending by $2.5 billion a year.

The nation's second-largest long-distance company is cutting costs as it prepares to emerge from bankruptcy later this year. Most of the layoffs will be in the corporate and administrative staff, the company said in a statement.

WorldCom spokesman Brad Burns said details of the workforce reduction are still being worked out and it is not yet clear how many of the roughly 6,000 Washington area employees will be included in the latest wave of layoffs. But he said the company expects to continue to have a more than 80 percent unemployment rate in the D.C. area. Last year WorldCom laid off 17,000 employees, reducing its workforce to 60,000.

In addition to cutting 8 percent of its workforce by the end of this month, the company plans to trim $1.5 billion in costs by shutting down parts of its vast fiber-optics networks and rerouting data and voice traffic through underused facilities. WorldCom said customers will not be affected by changes in its network.

**U.S. Airways Posts $794 Million Loss**

By Ken Florman

U.S. Airways Inc. said Monday that a "substantial" portion of the airline's annual loss was narrowed to $1.667 billion from $2.12 billion, or $17.07 per share, in 2001. But the airline's revenue was still nearly 10 percent, or $6.9 billion, during the year, from $8.29 billion in 2001.

U.S. Airways, the nation's seventh-largest carrier, said it expects revenue to continue to decline because of the drastic fare cuts it has implemented along with several other major airlines.

**Russia Puts Space Tourism Program on Hold**

By Eric alnlc and Matt Lait

LOX Angeles Times

A group of Russian officials said Monday they have put the country's space tourism program on hold because of the space shuttle catastrophe, but vowed to continue flying tourists to the International Space Station on a "limited" basis.

"This is good money for Russia, and we do not plan to end tourist flights pending the results of the investigation," said Vladimir Smirnov, chairman of the Russian Space Tourism Corporation.

President Unveils $2.23 Trillion Budget, Projects Huge Deficit

By By Eric alnlc and Matt Lait

NASA investigation focuses on heat build-up insulation.

By Ericinalc and Matt Lait

The Bush administration on Monday unveiled a proposed $2.23-trillion federal budget for 2004 that would cut taxes anew, boost spending for the military and homeland security and Congress in the largest deficit in history.

Administration officials blamed the projected $370-billion deficit for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 on a confluence of several factors beyond their control, especially the need to beef up spending on security in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks.

They said the deficit, while a record in absolute terms, was relatively small as a percentage of the total economy and would shrink over the following four years as economic growth strengthened.

"The president has chosen as his top priority the safety of America's sons, " said Mitch Daniels, the White House's top budget official. "A balanced federal budget remains an important priority for this president and the budget that is present today, even with all the new initiatives, shows deficits bottoming in this year and moving back in the direction of balance."

But Daniels and other officials made no predictions of a return to fiscal surplus any time soon, at least by a major measure. They also acknowledged that their proposal did not include any spending for a possible war in Iraq, which could further swell the deficit by tens of billions of dollars.

Democrats immediately attacked the proposal as the product of "the most fiscally irresponsible administration in history," as Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) put it. They complained that President Bush was asking for sacrifices from the middle class in the form of constrained spending on many domestic programs while showing no interest in the wealthier Americans.

Sen. Daniel S. Inouye (D-Hawaii), chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said he "critically view[ed] the president's budget for the fiscal year 2004 that was requested by the administration." Two weeks after the Clinton administration projected a surplus of $152 billion for fiscal 2004, Inouye said he "will vigorously question any requests for new spending and return to the Clinton administration's goal of a balanced budget for fiscal 2004."
Powell to Share Iraqi Military Intelligence with United Nations

By Robin Wright

WASHINGTON

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell will share intercepted conversations among Iraqi officials about their weapons programs and photographs of suspected mobile biological weapons labs while he takes the U.S. intelligence dossier on Iraq to the United Nations this week, U.S. officials said Monday.

"We've got a strong case. We'll convince a lot of folks and move many off the fence. The lay of the land will look very different after Powell has made his presentation," a well-placed U.S. official predicted.

In his presentation on Wednesday, Powell may reveal intercepted discussions in which Iraqis talk about moving weapons-related material and brag about inspectors missing items, U.S. officials said. The administration on Monday was still deciding which material to declassify.

Intercepts are one of the most sensitive forms of U.S. intelligence, in part because they reveal means of data collection that might tip off subjects and close off ways to gather vital information.

Iraq's suspected mobile biological weapons laboratories have been a focus of U.S. intelligence efforts for years, locating them has become a top concern of Pentagon planners. But little is known publicly about their number or appearance.

Experts have said Iraq may have installed fermenters, spray dryers, centrifuges and other supporting gear with refrigeration capacity in the labs. The vehicles have distinctive characteristics that would be visible in the sort of satellite photos Powell is expected to present, according to a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

He declined to elaborate. U.S. intelligence agencies claim the Iraqi regime uses mobile labs to hide biological weapons by disguising them as ordinary tractor-trailers or even recreation vehicles, which have been dubbed "Winnebagos of Death."

Bush Vows to Continue Exploring Space, Increasing Shuttle Funding

By Anne Q. Hoy

WASHINGTON

President Bush Monday vowed to continue space exploration in the wake of the Columbia shuttle tragedy, as Congress raised questions about whether cost overruns at other NASA programs hampered the shuttle's safety.

"While we grieve the loss of these astronauts, the cause of which they died will continue," Bush said during an appearance at the National Institutes of Health in suburban Maryland Monday. "America's journey into space will go on."

But little is known publicly about their number or appearance. Experts have said Iraq may have installed fermenters, spray dryers, centrifuges and other supporting gear with refrigeration capacity in the labs. The vehicles have distinctive characteristics that would be visible in the sort of satellite photos Powell is expected to present, according to a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity. He declined to elaborate. U.S. intelligence agencies claim the Iraqi regime uses mobile labs to hide biological weapons by disguising them as ordinary tractor-trailers or even recreation vehicles, which have been dubbed "Winnebagos of Death."

Quarantine on Donated Blood Expanded

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Non-emergency surgeries were postponed and hospital officials in parts of the South kept a close eye on blood supplies Monday after the American Red Cross expanded a quarantine issued when an unidentified white substance was discovered in bags of donated blood.

Federal health officials worked to identify the particles, which first were spotted in 110 bags of donated blood in Atlanta late last week, prompting the Red Cross to quarantine almost all of its inventory across Georgia and parts of South Carolina.

On Sunday, officials in Nashville quarantined about two-thirds of the agency's blood supply for the Tennessee Valley region — covering mid-Tennessee and parts of Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri — after a similar substance turned up in 10 bags there. The quarantine applied to blood that was stored in bags manufactured by Baxter Healthcare Corp. of Deerfield, Ill., which also produced the collection bags in which the substance was discovered in Georgia.

Testing by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicated that the particles were not infectious, officials said. The Red Cross said it had received no reports of harm to any patients.

AOL Time Warner Warns of Increased Debt

THE WASHINGTON POST

AOL Time Warner Inc. has notified credit rating agencies that its $25.8 billion of debt will increase by several billion dollars in coming months, prompting a warning from Standard & Poor's Corp. that the media giant will face mounting financial pressure and a possible drop in its creditworthiness this year.

In the next few months, the company must add $2.1 billion in debt to restructure the finances of its cable television operations, up to $800 million in debt to purchase an outstanding stake in America Online's European operations, and $800 million in debt linked mostly to development of AOL Time Warner Center, the company's new, 53-story Manhattan headquarters.

The company's efforts to reduce its massive debt binge on raising billions by selling a portion of its cable television operations, up to $3.9 billion to Time Warner Cable Inc., and $2.2 billion, a level included in the fiscal 2004 budget sent to Congress Monday. The president's budget proposal requested a smaller overall increase for NASA, seeking $13.9 billion, a $469 million increase, for fiscal 2004. The added shuttle funding would come from planned cost savings in other NASA programs.

Fleischer did not rule out possible requests for additional funding. He said the administration "is making no conclusions" whether funding affected safety.

Interested in spending your junior year at a Canadian university?

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Applications for this prestigious undergraduate award are now available!

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NO Greater Hero

Chances are, when we see MIT students were very small, we thought NASA was something amazing. The space agency embodies our own spirit, the passion to explore, to learn, to see what's out there. As we grew up, most of us decided we would pursue other things than outer space.

Maybe computers fascinated us, or we couldn't stop thinking about how we think, but a few of us looked up at the night sky and couldn't take our eyes away. Most of us at MIT because we like exploring, and so we understand instinctively those who do not remove their gaze from the stars. Some where in our minds, the part of us that still sees with four-year-old eyes, there is little as moving as a Saturn V launch and no greater hero than an astronaut.

There are those who think the astronaut's time has passed. Some critics claim that space travel is unsafe. Two major accidents haunt even young minds, and the space program has seen many lives lost. Indeed, there can be no doubt that space travel is dangerous. It has been said that the most dangerous travel is the time from just before liftoff to the time just after landing. Others argue that the science is of little value. Who cares, after all, what happens to mice finding their way through a maze while orbiting the earth?

As scientists and engineers, we should constantly ask, "what happens if I do this?" Columbia carried eighty experiments that asked this question. It is at the core of our human curiosity. Our worst trait is our fear of things new and different — the instinct that allows "what happens if I do this?" to overwhelm "what if?" Our greatest heights are achieved in the wonder and the joy of discovery. Space travel embodies this, the finest expression of humanity. Many have suggested we abandon manned spaceflight. Such ideas ignore our past and deny our best instincts. We would accept defeat in the constant struggle to improve as a species.

With the events of last Saturday, we must be vigilant to maintain wonder over fear. The President has expressed his support for the space program, but there can be no doubt that NASA will yet again come under fire. At MIT, we know the value of exploration for its own sake. We must show our support for our childhood heroes and what drives them, lest we forget what drives us, too.

Seven astronauts died high over Texas Saturday morning. Seven men and women, heroes all — let's do right by them, and keep exploring everywhere there is something wonderful and new, and do it for the sake of discovery.

Opinion Policy

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

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

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, 2205 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become the property of The Tech, and will not be returned.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://the-tech.mit.edu
What Happened To George W. Bush? This Space For Rent

Andrew C. Thomas

Our society is blessed with the power of free speech, and yet for some, it can also be a source of great discomfort. This is not some mere tangle of chatter, however; it represents the freedom of thought that we enjoy in this country. As the stewards of this freedom, we must guard it jealously.

Just over a year ago, 800 million people across the world sat down to read in their favorite newspapers what their leaders had to say. Bush and his West European counterparts had just discussed the issue of food prices. The German Chancellor, for one, was critical of Bush's approach to the problem. Bush's response was to point out that Europe had imposed high prices, and each with noble goals.

In my view, the government's role should be to support the people in their efforts to increase food prices. But this is not the same as increasing food prices.

While I disagree with the German Chancellor, I do support his position on this matter. It is important to note that the government's role is not to increase food prices, but rather to support the people in their efforts to increase food prices.

One crucial aspect of this is to understand the dynamic between food prices and political power. Bush's approach to the issue of food prices was misguided, and it is clear that his policies have not been effective in addressing the problem.

I believe that the government should focus on increasing food prices in a way that is beneficial to all people, rather than simply trying to increase food prices for their own gain. Only then can we truly make progress in addressing the issue of food prices and political power.
So... I thought as much.

And it comes with a “Perfect Jucie!” Gosh!
Don’t even get me started with the “Pasta Pot” and “Stir Fried”!!!

Knowing that you’ve been in class all this time, I’ve never felt more satisfied.

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

February 4, 2003

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February 4, 2003

**Events Calendar**

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

**Tuesday, February 4**

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Utopia Auditions. free. Room: Student Ctrl Frm 491. Sponsor: Gilbert and Sullivan Players, MIT.

10:45 a.m. - Campus Tour. Student Led Campus Tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Informations Session. The Campus Tour begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

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 Civic Assmllabillty and American Immigration Policy. A lunch meeting sponsored by the MIT Venture Capital & Principal Investment Association. free. Room: Tufts University, 160 Packard Avenue (Murdock Center). Sponsor: MIT Venture Capital and Principal Investment Center. Summit on Sustainable Development has been described as disaster avoided: opportunity lost. The press were unkind to the Summit, but this was perhaps unfair. Such meetings compel governments to address sustainability issues and, despite the attitude of countries such as the United States, some genuine progress were unkind to the Summit, but this was perhaps unfair. Such meetings compel governments to address sustainability issues and, despite the attitude of countries such as the United States, some genuine progress was made, notably on fisheries, sanitation, biodiversity, renewable energy, and harmful chemicals. Nonetheless, Johannesburg was in many respects a monumental failure. It did not recognize the character of the threats facing the Earth as a whole, nor suggest ways of coping with them. Where should we go next with sustainability? We invite you to bring your lunch. Light refreshment will be provided. free. Room: E40-496. Sponsor: Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, The Environmental Programs Office.

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

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - From Immigrants to Refugees: Civil Assimilation and American Immigration Policy. A session of the Rosemarie Rogans Seminar Series, hosted by the Inter-University Committee on International Migration. Professor Ueda's talk will be followed by a dialogue with Dr. Westy Egmont on "The Obligation and Opportunity of Public Education Regarding Immigration," free. Room: Tufts University, 160 Packard Avenue (Murdock Room). Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Toastmasters@MIT Evening Meetings. 77 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge, Building 2, Room 2-331. free. Sponsor: Toastmasters.

10:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - International Film Club — Film Seminar. Educational Film Screening. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

**Wednesday, February 5**

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Utopia Auditions. free. Room: Student Ctrl Frm 20. Room: Cambridge Building 2, Room 2-331. free. Sponsor: Toastmasters.

10:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Deshpane Faculty Workshop. The Deshpane Faculty Workshop provides practical advice and a forum for discussing issues unique to faculty considering starting companies. Lunch will be provided. free. Room: Contact us for an invitation. Sponsor: Deshpane Center for Technological Innovation.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Web Accessibility: Making Web Sites and Software Accessible to Persons with Disabilities. Learn about MIT's new policies and guidelines for insuring accessibility to online information and services for people with disabilities. This session shows examples of accessible and inaccessible design, and covers HTML coding techniques and tools that can help make your site or application ADA-compliant (i.e., in conformance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and similar regulations). Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Center.

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: lgbt@MIT.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development and Its Aftermath. The World Summit on Sustainable Development has been described as disaster avoided: opportunity lost. The press were unkind to the Summit, but this was perhaps unfair. Such meetings compel governments to address sustainability issues and, despite the attitude of countries such as the United States, some genuine progress was made, notably on fisheries, sanitation, biodiversity, renewable energy, and harmful chemicals. Nonetheless, Johannesburg was in many respects a monumental failure. It did not recognize the character of the threats facing the Earth as a whole, nor suggest ways of coping with them. Where should we go next with sustainability? We invite you to bring your lunch. Light refreshment will be provided. free. Room: E40-496. Sponsor: Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, The Environment at MIT Web Site.

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

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Opening Reception: Bethany Cutler: Day Dreams. Reception for opening of exhibit of black & white photographs captured on infrared film and printed on watercolor paper to create dream like imagery. Show: 

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Events Calendar, from Page 7

on view through March 12. free. Room: The Dean’s Gallery, Sloan School of Management, RM ES2-466. Sponsor: The Dean’s Gallery, Sloan School of Management.

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. Presentation is Required. For more information or to register, visit: [link]

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - BizRover Quick Start. Learn how to download, install, and set up BizRover on your desktop. Learn how to download and process a standard report. An overview of the features and capabilities of BizRover will be given. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Informa-
tion Systems.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Mucho Latin. Join us for a free conversational English class for inter-
national 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 related to American culture and living in the USA.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Swing Dancing. No partner required. Beginners welcome. free. Room: Student Center 2nd floor. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation.

Thursday, February 6


2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - BrizoQuiz Quick Start. Learn how to download, install, and set up BrizoQuiz on your desktop. Learn how to download and process a standard report. An overview of the features and capabilities of BrizoQuiz will be given. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Informa-
tion Systems.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - DiaCT. free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: Labora-
tory of Systems.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - HTCC Film series. Theme is documentary films, more information to come. free. Room: 3-120. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architec-
ture and Art.

8:00 p.m. - Weekly Workdays at the Muddy Char-
bles. Meet your fellow social graduate students at the Muddy Char-les 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 Charbles Pub. Sponsor: Edgerton House Residents’ Association, MIT Recreation Center, TechLink, Wing It.

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

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. - Swing Dancing. No partner required. Beginners welcome. free. Room: Student Center 2nd floor. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation.
February 6, 2003
Thursday
Rockwell
10 am - 3pm

http://web.mit.edu/tbp/careerfair
The Environment at MIT website has been redesigned and is now open to visitors.

Preview and link to environment, health and safety information at MIT, including MIT's commitment, research and education at MIT, how you can do your part, and the wide array of EHS services and programs.

Visit mit.edu/environment and let us know what you think. And bookmark these special sections:

- MIT's Commitment: mit.edu/environment/commitment/index.html
- Doing Better: mit.edu/environment/better/index.html
- Research and Education: mit.edu/environment/education/index.html
- Environmental Programs: mit.edu/environment/environmental/index.html
- Environment, Health and Safety Office: mit.edu/environment/environmental/ehs_services/index.html
- MIT EHS Policy: mit.edu/environment/commitment/policy.shtml

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**GSC General Council Meeting Tomorrow!**

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

**Agenda**

Vote on Budget Changes, Advocacy: Rents, Stipends, Dental Lobbying for Tax Exemption on Stipends, Representative Updates

Announcements: GSC Elections, Career Symposium, Gender Identity Proposal

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

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**Resistant to Future**

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**Be a leader! Contest in GSC Elections**

Committee Chair elections:
Nominations open Feb, Elections at March Committee Meetings
Office elections:
Nominations open March, Elections at April GCM

Email gsc-request@mit.edu for details!

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**Spring ORIENTATION 2003**

**RESISTANCE IS FUTILE**

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You just can't miss GSC Orientation!!
Sorority Rush Draws Freshmen

By Tiffany Kosola-Charnoe

About 150 freshman women are participating in sorority rush, which is taking place primarily in the spring for the first time this year. The number of participants is down from the 200 students who registered for sorority rush in the fall 2002.

"Moving the [recruitment] to February has a very different atmosphere. Everyone has more money and is more outgoing," said Sara Pierce '03, the Panhellenic Association's vice president of recruitment. "Everyone has an idea of the campus and the sororities' image, so they can make a more informed decision."

During sorority rush, 126 women were offered bids into sororities. "We expand the number of girls to do [sorority] who are interested," Pierce said. "The number of students registered as of last Saturday is about the same as last year."

Some freshmen reluctant to move

Of the freshmen rushing sororities, many have shown reluctance to move into the houses because of the timing of this year's recruitment.

"Once you get settled down in the dorms and know people, there is no way you could find someone else," said Catherine Bjelkengren '06. Recruitment "would have been nice to have after the beginning of the year during the fraternity rush because everyone is more settled into a different room," she said.

"I had something going on during sorority rush, and it was too stressful," said Sanda Yv '06. "I was in Burton Corner and joined the Asian Christian Fellowship, which I met a lot of my friends.

"To get up and move to a sorority right before this new semester would be too much of a hassle," said Christina A. McEvilly '06. "Sororities should recruit at the beginning of the year when we are trying to meet new people."

Other freshmen have found that they no longer wish to join a sorority. 

In addition to initial grief, "given the way it happened, there was a dis-belief" because Liftoff was considered the most probable time for an accident, Hoffman said. "We can never forget that space is a harsh environment" that doesn't tolerate error, he said.

Re-entry, Hoffman said, is usually a wonderful time. Re-entry is "spectacular ... you're in a fireball." Astronaut experience "an incredible light show" combined with "this bizarre feeling of weight coming back," he said.

While not close with the Colum- bro crew, Hoffman knows them all, he said. "It's like a big family down there," he said. "It's horrible for everybody." Hoffman said he is happy the investigation is being done openly. "Everyone's determined" to find and fix its problems.

Covert served on Challenger panel

Professor Emeritus Eugene E. Covert '58 was a member of the Rogers commission, which investigated the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger in 1986.

"Word of Saturday's accident came to him as he ran morning errands. When he got home around 11 a.m., "suddenly the telephone started ringing and it rang incessently ever since" from calls from the news media, he said.

"I never imagined meeting so many people," said Tracey L. koo '06, who participated in several Panhellenal events. "If they had it at the beginning, maybe I would have been more interested. I am already satisfied with my friendships.""Women explore new friendships

"I hung out at my friend's sorority, and they are close with a sorority, so I want to join," said Alice K. Zeller '05. "Satified with her dormitory, Zeller said, "I'm definitely taking the nonresidential option," because East Campus is a nasty place and I'm really happy there.""Zeller, who does not prefer a formal recruitment, "There is too much going on in the fall for a freshman to make an informed decision about joining a sorority."

"I never imagined meeting so many people in such a short amount of time," said Min Deng '06. "Some people might not be interested in a sorority because they have already established themselves in their way, but I'm still seeing if a sorority is right for me.

Recruitment process new this year

In addition to moving the dates from February, sorority rush has undergone several other changes.

"Compared to the [first-year] Orientation, the events are separated by a week in the middle, so we have to adjust events based on the schedule," Pierce, the vice president of recruitment, said.

"The thirteen recruitment counselors are disaffiliated with their sororities throughout the first semester to give freshmen a more unbiased view of the sororities," said Assistant Recruitment Chair Karen A. Ritter '04. "To stay impartial throughout the first semester, 'we weren't allowed to wear our sorority shirts and I did not attend as many of the social events in my sorority," Ritter said.

"I dined in the Panhel office these past few nights because I have to keep my affiliation secret," Pierce said. "Although it was hard initially, it is really rewarding to help other [freshmen] women find a home away from home.""She said.

Instead of the traditional Women's Convocation following Killian Kickoff to mark the start of the sorority rush, freshmen women attended an information night at Walker Memorial last Friday. Freshmen were assigned to a recruitment counselor, then gathered again on Saturday for the first round of rush, where women visited each of the sororities to narrow down their choices.

During the recruitment, potential members are urged to attend all rounds to be in contention for bids, which will be issued on Feb. 10.

The MIT community reacted with shock and disbelief to the遇难 of the Columbia space shuttle. Hoffman said he "knew right away it was bad. It's not like an airplane."

"Moving the shuttle's [recruitment] to February would be better if it were held at the end of the year during the fall recruitment, and the process is going to be a lot of work," Hoffman said. "I think it's a bad accident," but it is important "to go even further," Hoffman said. "I've been there and seen the worst of it."

"I think it's a very bad accident," but it is important "to go even further," Hoffman said. "I've been there and seen the worst of it."

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"I'm moving the [recruitment] to February has a very different atmosphere. Everyone has more money and is more outgoing," said Sara Pierce '03, the Panhellenic Association's vice president of recruitment. "Everyone has an idea of the campus and the sororities' image, so they can make a more informed decision."

"I never imagined meeting so many people in such a short amount of time," said Min Deng '06. "Some people might not be interested in a sorority because they have already established themselves in their way, but I'm still seeing if a sorority is right for me."
The annual 6.270 robotics competition Thursday. The display was accompanied by literature demanding the repeal of Isaac Asimov's Second Law of Robotics, which states, "A robot must obey the orders given It by human beings." (1) "The Bane" narrowly misses the Island in the lava pit. Placing the appropriate ball into the cup netted teams four points. "The Bane" was one of only two robots to approach the Island. (2) "The Bane" was one of only two robots to approach the Island. (3) "The Bane" was one of only two robots to approach the Island. (4) "Fork & Off," created by Alex Boutaud '04, and Brian Mazzeo '03, transported a robot to the Island in the lava pit. (5) "Kamikaze Puppy," built by Jaime Lien '05, Yuran Lu '05, and Shuang You '05, succeeds in the Island for four points. The only robot to succeed in placing its ball into the cup was "Kamikaze Puppy." (6) Organizer Emily Chi '04 assists "Ziggurat," a placebo built by Samuel I. Davies 3 '04, and Jensen against "Victor," a robot created by Alex Boutaud '04, and Brian Mazzeo '03. (7) Rhett Creighton '02 and Kenneth J. Jensen '03 celebrate their victory over "Kamikaze Puppy" in the final round of the competition. (8) "Victor" also went faster, Jensen said, because they ran it on the Handy Board, which ran off a battery. Jensen also made the change while Jensen was editing. Creighton said in the process, "I blew up the Handy Board" and had to get a new one, Creighton said. "Victor" did not actually qualify for the contest. "Basically, the only thing that could go wrong was that the wires could get tangled," and it did in the first round, Creighton said. "Victor Watson Brar," the name of Creighton and Jensen's robot, is based on Victor Brar '04, this year's Undergraduate Association Student Body President. "Victor Brar '04" is the second round. The playing field was a three-tiered hill, according to the contest specification, he said. Creighton competed in both 2.007 and 6.270, he said. Creighton also competed in both 2.007 and 2.019, winning the latter. "But I don't think anyone has as a loss to the Handy Board's power, but Creighton made the change while Jensen's robot, is based on Victor Brar '04, this year's Undergraduate Association Student Body President. "Victor Brar '04" is the second round.
Have an insatiable drive to take on whatever challenge awaits? Welcome. Working with us is a high-energy experience that can help you find the best place for your talents. You'll be surrounded by like-minded teammates who share a passion to succeed. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming campus visit.

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British Night at the BSO

Sir Neville Marriner Finally Returns to Boston

By Jeremy Baskin

Boston Symphony Orchestra Sir Neville Marriner, conductor

Lynn Harrell, cello

Jan. 28, 8 p.m.

In England, something funny happened on the way to creating the world’s most romantic and light-hearted Maestro. The military history of England somehow never ushered in a similar symphonic era. Whatever, just like fried tomato slices and uncooked fried eggs, the world’s best wheat toast at 6:30 a.m. in the morning (which, by the way, I did have once, and it was back 6/5).

**FILM REVIEW *½**

**Confessions of a Deranged Mind**

Cloney's Directorial Debut as Dopey as its Subject Matter

By Jed Horne

Directed by George Clooney

Starring Sam Rockwell, Drew Barrymore, Julia Roberts, and George Clooney

Rated R

What do you do if you’re middle-aged, unhappy, and your legacy is the most abysmal of two mediocre TV shows hailed not for their vision but for being the death of the medium?

Chuck Barris, apparently, secured his ticket to posterity by alleging in his memoirs that he was a contract hitman with CIA. Not to be outdone, George Clooney, tired of acting in losely remakes of movies from the 1960s, shifted to directing a movie about losely TV shows from the 1970s. The results are predictable: a soporific new-wave piece with occasional flashes of Dar that provide intermittent entertainment but are ultimately as empty as the subject matter they pretend to illuminate.

Confessions of a Deranged Mind is a liberal adaptation of Barris’ memoirs, chronicling his rise from deserved mediocrity to contract killer to infamous TV producer of The Dating Game and The Gong Show, widely considered the nadir of American television entertainment. Sam Rockwell (Welcome to Collinwood) plays Barris — a smirking asthmatic from Philadelphia who has about as much difficulty selling his program ideas as he does keeping them clean. His career wallops in the toilet until he’s offered a job by CIA operative Jim Byrd (George Clooney). Inexplicably, his shows take off at the same time, and Chuck is left juggling his collapsed girlfriend (Drew Barrymore) and the woman-of-mystery from his alter ego’s life (Julia Roberts).

**DANCE REVIEW**

**Storks, Tutus, and Children**

Anna Myer and Dancers Present Two World Premieres

By Fred Chol

Jan. 11, Feb. 1

Tsai Performance Center

The Boston-based troupe Anna Myer and Dancers presented two world premieres this past weekend at the Tsai Performance Center. Having founded her company a little more than a decade ago, Anna Myer provided a program that gave a compelling review of her idiosyncratic yet personable work thus far and generated anticipation for future projects.

The program opened with “Unlocking,” a work commissioned by the FleetBoston Celebrity Series, which featured a generally bright, Tolkienesque score by Boston composer Dan Bryant. On the dimly lit stage a solo dancer in black immediately presents Myer’s instantly recognizable vocabulary, comprising gestures which oftentimes appear to be abstracted representations of death or natural movements.

From Myer’s seemingly inexhaustible supply of eye-catching, surprisingly eloquent gestures, this piece included an upraised arm with the hand curved to suggest a beak, accompanied by a stilt one-legged “stork” pose, suggesting awkwardness and tension; an arm with a half-closed hand folded and placed on the chest, close to the nearest shoulder, as if holding and stroking a wounded animal; and a torso bent back with arms outstretched, unfolding towards the sky as if in ecstasy.

Myer’s language takes some getting used to, but once it is more familiar her works resonate with depth, intelligence, and heartfelt emotion. It became apparent as the first piece unfolded that the colors of the costumes are significant. The opening section features a dancer in white and in black; then the stage becomes populated with several dancers in gold and translucent white, and finally all in red, who spend the majority of her first moments on stage simply watching the others. The dancer in black repeatedly jumps on the backs of others in a gesture that could be interpreted as playful but in this context, curiously sinister. Although the work, one of Myer’s most concrete narratives, was intended to be grounded on death, life, and love, it also allows for other convincing interpretations, as an examination of the ideas of evil, purity, and passion.

“The Presence of that Absence,” featuring dancer Thomas Poulard, was directed by Boston composer Dan Bryant. On the dimly lit stage a solo dancer in black immediately presents Myer’s instantly recognizable vocabulary, comprising gestures which oftentimes appear to be abstracted representations of death or natural movements.

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Rabbi-proof Fence

**Rabbit-Proof Fence**

**Director** David Cronenberg

**Based on the book by Doris Pilkington Garimara**

**Directed by Philip Noyce**

Starving Everyman Sammi, Tanya Saracho, Laura Monaghan, David Gulpilil, Kenneth Branagh

Rated PG

**Rabbit-Proof Fence** tells the story of three Aboriginal girls who have been taken away from their families to become domestic servants.

**FILM REVIEW

Racism Down Under**

**Rabbit-Proof Fence Chronicles Treatment of Half-Castes**

By Julie J. Hong

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Director David Cronenberg Identifies With Protagonist In His Latest Flick

By Robin Hauck

**Spider Weaves Discomfort**

Director David Cronenberg Identifies With Protagonist In His Latest Flick

By Robin Hauck

**Spider**

Directed by David Cronenberg

Written by Patrick Mcgrath

Starring Ralph Fiennes, Miranda Richardson, Gabriel Byrne

Rated R

It's never comfortable seeing the inside of a damned man's head. Whether cooped up in a shabby room with Raskolnikov or sitting in a blood-spattered Manhattan apartment with Patrick Bateman, we usually see the reader's fascination. David Cronenberg's Spider, an adaptation of the gothic novel by Patrick Mcgrath, does not apologize for or alleviate that discomfort. Rather, it is the point, embedded in the eponymous protagonist played by Ralph Fiennes, and in the lonely London he inhabits.

Like Crime and Punishment, American Psycho or Neil Jordan's The Butcher Boy, Spider endeavor us to see into heroic or hellish depths of the human psyche. Spider (a nickname from his mother) is Dennis Cleg, who appears to be a character from London's seedy, sleazy years in a mental institution. Cronenberg follows Cleg as he returns to his home and way to a barren halfway house run by the brave Mrs. Wilkinson, (Lynne Redgrave).

Fiennes' performance is so complete that the viewer can see the rebirth of a man through the struggles within his body. With the exception of the Oscar-winning music for Fellowship of the Ring, the music of this film is more the need for a documentary; however, Rabbit-Proof Fence remains one step away by focusing on the plight of three girls, sisters Molly and Gracie and their cousin Daisy, half-caste and hunted like animals when they escaped. The irony, however, is that Molly, the eldest of the three girls, though explicitly not thought of as more clever, resourceful, and ingenious than Neville had anticipated.

Cronenberg's cinematographer, Peter Richardson, chooses a stylish yet minimalistic look for the film while Cronenberg's costume design complete the treatment of the Aborigines, making the audience feel they are a part of the film. The film also successfully depicts the traditions of the Aborigines people, safely catching the art of tracking, their belief in the spirit knowledge, and how they were trained for domestic work with the eventual goal of eliminating this unwanted third race.

"But the clothes maketh the man," Terence fittedly argues, "every man in the house is insulted of Rodrigo's Wilkinson and the less there is of the man, the more the need for clothes."

Once inside his dingy room, Spider begins to unravel. Writing in a tiny notebook, in obsessive, incomprehensible hieroglyphics, "I am Spider."

The girls are prey to the government, reminiscent of the slaves in America who were also hunted like animals when they escaped. The irony, however, is that Molly, the eldest of the three girls, though explicitly not thought of as more clever, resourceful, and ingenious than Neville had anticipated.

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The film's best lines come when Spider is sitting beside Terrence (John Neville) in the halfway house. Mrs. Wilkinson protests when she sees "Mr. Cleg" is wearing four collared shirts under his vest and coat.

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THE ARTS

Star Wars For Out
MTG Presents Musical Edition of Cult Classic
By Erik Blankenship and Sagana Wrickamakerehka

Opening night for Star Wars — new, old, or special edition — has been a festivity and a camping fest for the other-than-costumed fans. Activities to pass the hours include trivia contests, trading tips, cus-tomizing Costumes (some folk singing a la fandom — think homemade Dr. Demento and you are cleared for hyperpace). On opening night of the Musical Edition it was quiet compared to the intergalactic hubbub surrounding the opening of any of other Star Wars "Editions." Then we were ushered into the theater and beheld an elevated, to-scale Millennium Falcon cockpit. The opening revue num-ber, "Trilogy Tonight" to the music of ond-1, 7, 8, 8.

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February 4, 2003

THE TCH Page 19

It's go time.

This ad brought to you the UA Election Commission

2003
Undergraduate Association
Elections

Call
Nightline
3-8800

Solution to Crossword
from page 7

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2-bedroom resort condo & sleeps six. On-site downhill skiing, indoor pool, & health club, amenities. Cross-country skiing nearby. $1500. 860-649-1183 \\
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\end{tabular}

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
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S P R I N G B R E A K & S P R I N G B R E A K \\
A couple desperately wanting a child looking for a black or hispanic egg donor between 20 and 33 years old. Compensation provided. Call Daniel at 781-942-7000 x613 between 9-12 noon. Reference #303 \\
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AP credit processing deadline: March 31

Check your websis record now!

Undergraduates have until MARCH 31, 2003 to have outstanding AP credit processed. Please make an appointment with the Admissions Office in 3-108.

After June 1st, the process will convert to an electronic system. Students will need to contact the Educational Testing Service to request that a new electronic record be sent to MIT. ETS's charge will be $14.

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Thursday, February 6th.
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Seeking 2004, 2005 and 2006 Class Council and UA President/Vice President candidates.
For more info, visit web.mit.edu/ua/elections/

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Sponge Dining Opens, Atrium Lounges Close

By Jenny Zhang

Four large lounges in the upper levels of Simmons Hall, previously open to students, have been closed off because inspectors from the City of Cambridge believed that their atria would be unsafe in the event of a fire.

Safety rules require that the windows can be opened for ventilation purposes in case of fire. This rule and "the unusual shape of the atria required that mechanical opening devices be put on the windows," said Simmons Housemaster John M. Essigmann.

The building's design calls for the fire alarm to automatically open the windows, allowing smoke to escape. But this system has not yet been fully installed.

"Hopefully it will be ready by the end of the week," said Housemaster Ellen Essigmann. "It is my understanding that the control boxes for regulating the windows are in and hooked up with mechanical parts that open the windows," she said.

Students had been using the lounges since the building opened last fall, until Cambridge inspectors found out.

"Some students were a bit upset and put up signs, because these were spaces we had last term," said Simmons President Vikash Gilja '03. "We just have to wait it out."

"We had been using the atria because there was a miscommunication with inspection people," Ellen Essigmann said.

"We had believed that we could use the large atria as long as we kept the windows open for ventilation and blocked off the stairs with unsafe railings," she said.

"We found out one and a half weeks ago that they did not want students in those areas," she said. "They were serious, and inspected last week to make sure the spaces were clear."

Simmons dining hall to open

Meanwhile, the Simmons dining hall partly opened on Sunday, with full operation expected to begin in a week.

"After receiving our certificate of occupancy from Cambridge on Friday, the space was set up for dining on Sunday," said Housemaster John M. Essigmann. "The students found the food very good, the turnout was excellent, and people seemed to enjoy the overall feel of the dining hall," he said.

The Simmons dining hall is currently serving food buffet-style. "We look to opening the full kitchen this coming Sunday," John Essigmann said.

The opening of the dining hall, originally set for mid-November, was delayed because of "the unusual architecture of the building, combined with difficulty scheduling contractors," John Essigmann said.

"I'm a big fan of dining halls because everyone can see them and get together," said James Humphries '03. "This is important especially when the term starts."

Multipurpose room not yet open

Construction on the multipurpose room on the first floor has been delayed because of water leakage. "The stage is designed for many purposes, ranging from lecture to dance performances," Gilja said.

"Because of water leakage in some lower parts of the bleachers, we had to stop installing the audio and visual equipment," Ellen Essigmann said, adding that she hopes the room will be complete by the end of February.

Simmons can only receive temporary occupancy certificates until the entire building is complete.

"The lack of communication bores me," Humphries said. "I don't feel they are getting information to us promptly, but understand that some things aren't ready because it's the first year."

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The Best Way to an MIT Degree? Major in Charm

By Ricardo Roque

When it comes time to leave MIT, you can flunt your brass rat to the outside world, impress them with your knowledge, and shock them with your maestrositic work ethic. But do you have what it takes to master the intrincies of social etiquette and charm?

From flarting and table manners to walking, Charm School opened its doors last Friday, filling the Student Center with soothing jazz while educating the nerdy masses of the MIT community in the dos and don'ts of social interaction, networking, etiquette, and even dating.

In its tenth year, Charm School featured over 30 classes with 50 volunteers consisting of faculty, staff, and students.

While polishing social skills, students earned one "credit" for each class and redeemed those credits later in the day.

"Charm School is something an MIT student must accomplish before they graduate," joked Rebecca Deng '03, who earned her PhD in charm.

Charm School also sought to polish the rhythm and beat of students, as the MIT Balloon Dance Team volunteered its talents and offered lessons in swing, waltz, merengue, foxtrot and rumba.

"The waltz was so much fun. Now I'm really interested in doing more dance," said Emily P. Wang '06, who took both the waltz and foxtrot classes.

Students master art of etiquette

Etiquette classes were not limited to the usual class in table manners and formality, but also covered the fine points of cell phone and PowerPoint etiquette. With Valentine's Day inching closer and closer, the dating etiquette class received much attention.

"It was very interesting and helpful," said Chip Vaughan G. "It was nice to get some of the girls' opinions on dating."

The class covered the sensitive issues of dating such as who should take the check, where to go on the first date, what not to talk about over dinner, and whether or not you should give that first date kiss.

"It really depends," said Lincoln Lab staff member Ryan Parks. "All in all, it's really important to be yourself."

"You could tell that the class was mostly geared towards guys," said Sasha R. Manoonsingh '03, who offered her own suggestions during the class. "It helps the guys a lot, especially the clueless ones."

Show fashion bigger than ever

After a long day of classes, Charm School took over Lobdell Food Court for its Fashionably Loud Fashion Show, complete with a catwalk, DJ, and clothes donated from the Coop, Tello's, Kezer's, and Jacob. Katie Clapp of the Campus Activities Complex, one of the fashion show coordinators, also featured her handmade handbags in the show.

The show had 14 student models strutting across the catwalk in a variety of ensembles, including business, casual, and eveningwear.

"It's weird to see people you know in a completely different context," said Elise A. Suh '05.

Commencement followed the fashion show, with the graduation address given by "Dean of Charm" Larry G. Benedict.

"Charm school is very helpful to the students here," Benedict said. "It offers everyday kind of advice."

Charm School an MIT tradition

Founded a decade ago by Professor of Literature Travis R. Merritt, Charm School has become an MIT tradition, promising a lasting future in the community.

"Charm School teaches the community important lessons that everyone needs to know," said Linda D. Noel, a Charm School co-coordinator. "It's also a fun way for faculty and staff to interact with students in a way that they may not normally get to interact with them."

Charm School has also received much outside attention.

"High schools have called us, telling us that they want to start their own charm schools," Noel said. "Our Charm School has also inspired other universities."

"When some people find out that I work at MIT, they immediately ask me if I've ever attended Charm School," said Thomas E. Robinson. "It's funny to tell them that I actually organized it."

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