

Bad Taste: Chorallaries' Raunchy Humor for a 'Better Community'

By Amandeep Loomba
STAFF WRITER

The only thing I could remember the morning after the Chorallaries' Nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste

Reporter's Notebook

was the bad smell. Bad Taste is just that kind of an event. You go out late one Saturday night thinking you're going to see an innocent capella performance by the Chorallaries, and you wake up the morning after lying between 120 pounds of Institute-issue toilet paper and a goateed man dressed as Jesus Christ.

Wait. Let me start over. I attended the Nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste with a notepad in one hand and a flask of mysterious liquid in the other. One was to help me remember, and the other to help forget. Using my notes as best I can, I will try to piece together the events of the night of Saturday, March 8, 2003 on behalf of anyone out there still recovering, waiting, and wondering how Bad Taste happened to them.

What would Jesus do? Not this

From what I can recall, the evening did begin with a bad smell. That would be the smell lingering outside of 10-250, which may have had something to do with the students camped out there, far from



Alexander S. del Nido '06 performs "Kermit" during the Chorallaries' Nth annual Concert in Bad Taste.

civilization and from showers. I never did find out why they were there, since I couldn't get close enough without growing light-headed. At the time, I suspected that they were just diehard a capella fans. In retrospect, I'd say the Chorallaries probably burned down their houses,

Bad Taste, Page 10

Freshmen Move Up In Record Numbers

By Kathy Lin
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

More than a hundred students declared sophomore standing, an eightfold increase over last year.

Of the 207 freshmen who qualified for sophomore standing, 121 accepted the status by the March 7 deadline. Of those students, 78 percent declared majors. Students on sophomore standing have no credit limit, as opposed to freshmen, who have a 57-unit limit.

The increase was largely because of MIT's new grading system, said Julie B. Norman, Associate Dean of Academic Resources and Programming. The Class of 2006 is the first class to have an ABC/ No Record grading system in the second semester, instead of the Pass/ No Record grading system.

In the class of 2005, only 15 of the 186 eligible students declared sophomore standing. "Historically, about 12 to 15 students per year have declared sophomore standing, although about 20 percent of the class every year qualifies," Norman

said. "In the past, with the grading system, very few students took it."

The most popular majors among new sophomores were Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (Course VI), Biology (Course VII), Physics (Course VIII), Chemical Engineering (Course X), Management (Course XV), and Mathematics (Course XVIII), and overall there was a fairly even distribution, Norman said.

"I declared [sophomore standing] because I had five classes in mind that I wanted to take," said Dheera Venkatraman '06. "I would also say I and probably a lot of other people took it because there wasn't much to lose between being on ABC/ No Record and being on grades," he said.

Administrators express concern

"I think freshmen are more adventurous" and register for harder course loads than might be realistic, Norman said. "Unfortunately, some

Sophomore Standing, Page 19

Faculty Unsure on Anti-War Walkout

By Lauren E. LeBon
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

As the prospect of war with Iraq looms, some MIT faculty support anti-war activities but are conflicted about a possible walkout.

On campus, professors are considering participating in the MIT Anti-War Coalition's walkout by either cancelling or re-scheduling their classes should a war break out.

Today, an advertisement placed by political science professor Joshua Cohen and the staff of MIT's

Boston Review will run in *The New York Times*. The advertisement includes the signatures of 14,000 intellectuals nationwide, including professors at MIT and Harvard, who oppose the war.

Signatures collected in a few days

Cohen sent an e-mail asking for the signatures of professors around the country to appear in a full-page ad in today's *New York Times*. The signatures were collected in the space of a few days, said Professor

of Brain and Cognitive Sciences Nancy G. Kanwisher '80.

The signatures will appear along with a short statement that reads, "Our government is proposing a war against Iraq in the name of American national security. But no compelling evidence has been offered of an imminent threat to our security that would justify the use of military force. A war with Iraq will be a war of choice, not necessity ... But we

Faculty, Page 19

CLASSICAL REVIEW

BSO Offers Premiere Of Harbison 'Requiem'

By Bogdan Fedeles
STAFF WRITER

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Bernard Haitink, conductor
Symphony Hall
March 6-8, 8 p.m.

Last week's series of concerts at the BSO featured the long-awaited premiere of Institute Professor John H. Harbison's *Requiem*. The well-received performance, full of intensity, represents the latest in a series of achievements for Harbison, one of the world's eminent living composers.

History is full of requiems, many of them — including Mozart's, Verdi's, Berlioz's — remarkable not only in the musical sense but in their deeper message.

Harbison's *Requiem*, the first major requiem of the 21st century, is a natural continuation of the tradition that flourished in the past few centuries. Not only is the harmonic language different, but strikingly, the message of the text acquires a slightly different mean-

ing in this latest requiem. Back in the days of Mozart, the eternal rest is pursued with pious distance and dignity. Harbison shows us a different facet of human emotion when facing divinity; his prayer is full of desperation, a hopeless and perpetual struggle to regain a certain relationship with God that seems lost long time ago. The immediate relevance of this struggle to our present is amazing and represents a remarkable attribute of the piece.

Musically, Harbison's *Requiem* is an enchanting experience, marking a refined, classicist's taste for tradition, wit and surprise. The orchestra required is not Mahlerian, yet still complicated, with the countless percussion instruments dominating in effects and numbers. As expected, the chorus and soloists are given the principal role in delivering the text, yet the orchestral transitions and interludes are a key element in setting up the right mood for each part

Harbison, Page 9



Max Van Kleek G and Kimberle Koile, a lecturer in electrical engineering and computer science, learn a physics lesson in the Technology Enabled Active Learning room, 26-152. The room was one of six featured spaces on MacVicar Day, which this year focused on the role of architecture in education. See story, page 18.

NEWS

MIT will raise tuition and fees by nearly five percent next year.



Page 14

Comics

NEWS

Bubble tea and a virtual jukebox may soon come to the Coffeehouse.

Page 6

Page 17

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Events Calendar	8
Arts	9
Sports	20

WORLD & NATION

Help on Horizon For Peanut Allergy Sufferers

LOS ANGELES TIMES

A new experimental drug can blunt allergic reactions to peanuts, offering the first ray of hope to 1.5 million Americans who are at risk of severe reactions from inadvertent exposure to the commonplace legume, researchers said Monday.

The drug, which blocks an immune system molecule, does not cure peanut allergies, but increases tolerance sufficiently that patients no longer need fear dying from accidental ingestion, which can occur from eating such common fare as Chinese food made with peanut oil, gravy thickened with peanut flour, or even cookies made on improperly cleaned baking equipment.

An estimated 50 to 100 Americans die from such reactions each year and thousands more are hospitalized, often from consuming the equivalent of half a peanut or less.

On average, people with peanut allergies are exposed once every three to five years, and almost a third will have an extremely serious reaction.

Supreme Court Props Up Asbestos Liability Claims

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The asbestos liability problem facing corporate America grew worse Monday, as the Supreme Court ruled that a worker's fear of developing cancer can be the basis for winning extra damages from his employer.

The 5-4 ruling came in a railroad case, but the logic of the court's decision will extend broadly, beyond even asbestos cases, business experts said.

"This is not a good result for us," said Stephen Bokart, general counsel for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "The fear of cancer has arisen in lots of cases involving not just asbestos but other toxic substances. We see this as opening a huge door with a potential for very large damage awards."

But a lawyer for asbestos victims downplayed the decision. "This principle (of allowing damages for fear of cancer) has become fairly well accepted in the state courts," said Brent Rosenthal, a Dallas lawyer. Paying for the damage caused by asbestos has spawned a new industry in law and driven at least 57 companies into bankruptcy, including 26 since Jan. 1, 2000.

New Al-Qaida Plots Linked to War

NEWSDAY

Al-Qaida cells are planning attacks on U.S. interests in the Middle East and elsewhere soon after the start of a military campaign against Iraq, possibly within a week, according to a senior Arab intelligence official.

Terrorists affiliated with Osama bin Laden's network also are plotting to strike American targets — such as embassies, businesses and tourists — in South Asia, and possibly in Europe, the official said. Some of the attacks are likely to occur simultaneously, a typical al-Qaida tactic used in previous terrorist strikes, including those on Sept. 11, the official said. He said he had not seen concrete information suggesting plans for attacks on American soil.

The official, who spoke on the condition that neither he nor his country be identified, said his own intelligence service had picked up indications of heightened activity — or "chatter" — among al-Qaida operatives, and so have other security agencies in the region. The official would not name those other countries. He said some specific information had been passed on to U.S. and other Western officials.

To forestall potential attacks, security agencies are looking for signs of heightened surveillance of American and Western embassies and "softer" targets, such as cultural centers, hotels and nightclubs frequented by foreigners, the official said.

WEATHER

Snow Likely on Thursday

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Tuesday: Sunny in the morning, then increasing clouds in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 30s F (1 to 3°C). Southwest winds 10 mph increasing early in the afternoon to 15 to 20 mph.

Tuesday night: Mostly cloudy. Early in the evening lows in the lower 30s F (-1 to 1°C). Temperatures rising into the upper 30s F. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. 30 percent chance of a morning shower. Warmer with highs near 50°F (10°C).

Wednesday night: Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 20s F (-4 to -3°C).

Thursday: Snow likely. Colder. Highs in the mid 30s F (1 to 3°C). Chance of precipitation 60 percent.

Thursday night: Snow likely. Lows 25°F (-4°C) to 30°F (-1°C). Chance of precipitation 70 percent.

British Alter U.N. Resolution To Increase Odds of Passage

By Karen DeYoung
and Colum Lynch

THE WASHINGTON POST

British officials sought urgently Monday to retool a U.N. Security Council resolution authorizing war against Iraq after a majority of council members indicated they would not vote for it in its current form, diplomats and Bush administration officials said.

Britain hopes that additions to the resolution, which declares Iraq has failed in its final opportunity to fully and immediately surrender its weapons of mass destruction, will garner nine of the 15 council votes necessary for passage. Diplomats engaged in near round-the-clock negotiations at U.N. headquarters in New York, in visits to capitals and in lengthy telephone consultations. But it was not at all certain that the proposed changes, including an extension of the resolution's March 17 deadline and the addition of "benchmarks" to judge Iraqi disarmament, would win a council majority.

The resolution appeared doomed in any case, as France and Russia, permanent council members with veto power, said Monday that no revision would satisfy them. "Whatever happens, France will vote no,"

President Jacques Chirac told reporters in a domestic television interview. In Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said that the resolution contains "unfulfillable ultimatum-type demands," and that Russia would vote against it. But British Prime Minister Tony Blair said he believes that even a vetoed resolution, as long as it has a council majority, would help temper strong anti-war opposition in his country. The Bush administration, which has deployed more than 200,000 troops to the Persian Gulf region and is ready to move against Iraq, sees any delay as playing into the hands of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and further undermining flagging U.S. public and political support for an invasion. President Bush said last week that he does not need U.N. permission to go to war.

On Monday, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer continued a line of argument that the administration began to use publicly last week, equating the "coalition of the willing" that Bush has said would join in U.S. military action against Iraq to the United Nations itself.

"If the United Nations fails to act," he said, "that means the United Nations will not be the international

body that disarms Saddam Hussein. Another international body will. ...So this will remain an international action."

Even if the resolution ends up failing because of a permanent member veto, Fleischer said, "from a moral point of view," the world was likely to see U.N. refusal to sanction military intervention in Iraq as akin to U.N. "failures" to stop tribal genocide in Rwanda in 1994 and ethnic cleansing in Kosovo in 1999.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan SM '72 saw the situation differently, saying at a news conference in the Hague Monday that the United States lacks the legal authority to launch a military attack on Iraq. "The [U.N.] charter is very clear on the circumstance under which force can be used," he said. "If the United States and others were to go outside the council to take military action it would not be in conformity with the charter."

While the administration has gone along with Britain's diplomatic efforts out of recognition of the opposition Blair faces at home, it has made clear there are firm limits on how far the concessions can go and how long discussions should continue.

One Thousand Reported Dead In Thailand War Against Drugs

By Alan Sipress

THE WASHINGTON POST

When Thailand's prime minister launched a campaign Feb. 1 to eradicate drugs from his country within three months, skeptics predicted the effort would prove no more successful than his earlier pledges to eliminate pollution and untangle Bangkok's notorious traffic jams.

But within days, the seriousness of the initiative became brutally clear. Police reported at least 300 drug-related slayings over the first two weeks, and by March 1, Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra announced that 1,100 people had been killed during the offensive.

Government officials say most of the killings have been the result of violence among rival drug gangs panicked by the crackdown. Police acknowledge responsibility for

only about 30 of the deaths, saying these were largely self-defense shootings.

Human rights activists, however, suspect that many of the killings have been carried out by Thai security forces and allied gunmen as they try to meet Thaksin's quota for reducing the number of drug producers and dealers on a government list of suspects.

"According to our research, most of them are killed by the police, because they want to meet the target," said Somchai Homlaor, secretary general of Forum Asia, a human rights group. "They think if the drug dealers are brought to court, they will be released again. A better way to solve the drug problem is to kill them."

His group reported it has uncovered at least three cases in which drugs were planted on victims

before their bodies were turned over to the coroner.

U.N. special human rights envoy Asma Jahangir recently added her "deep concern" to the mounting criticism, issuing a statement citing "allegations of excessive use of force resulting in extrajudicial executions."

Increasingly nervous about Thailand's international reputation, the Foreign Ministry called diplomats from more than 50 countries to a briefing last week to make the government's case. "It's necessary for the government to take decisive action to deal with the drug problem," Foreign Ministry spokesman Sihesak Pheungketkaew said after the session. "We are not insensitive to the concerns of the international community, but we want the international community to see our side of the story."

U.N. Investigators Surprise Iraqis Trying to Dismantle Illegal Drone

By Walter Pincus

THE WASHINGTON POST

Iraq tried to dismantle an undeclared new drone aircraft last week after it was discovered by inspectors from the United Nations, according to U.N. and U.S. officials.

Inspectors from the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) first discovered the remote piloted vehicle, or RPV, at the Samarra East flight-test facility north of Baghdad in mid-February, officials said. With a wingspan of almost 25 feet, the RPV could have a range far in excess of the 150 kilometers (93 miles) allowed by U.N. regulations.

The inspectors raised questions about the drone last Tuesday when they visited the Ibn Farnas Center in northern Baghdad, where RPVs and other unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are developed and produced. When they returned to the

flight-test site the next day for another look at the large drone, they found two such RPVs — and found the Iraqis dismantling one of them, as well as two smaller RPVs, according to a senior administration official. "They apparently did not expect the inspectors," the official said.

Under last November's U.N. resolution, Iraq was required to declare UAV and RPV aircraft because Baghdad had experimented with them in the 1980s and 1990s as delivery vehicles for chemical or biological agents. The RPV being dismantled had been fabricated from the fuel tank of one of those vehicles, an L-29 Czech-made small airplane. Hans Blix, UNMOVIC's executive director, reported Friday to the Security Council that his inspectors had raised questions with Iraq about its unmanned aircraft. But U.S. officials Monday took public issue with

his failure to disclose the problem encountered last week, calling it an example of Iraq's refusal to cooperate and disarm.

In a closed Security Council meeting Monday, Blix defended his handling of the issue, saying he does not report on all new findings by inspectors. Although the newly designed RPV should have been declared, he said, it was not certain it would be proscribed since it still may be just a "prototype."

The first public indication of the new RPV came Monday when UNMOVIC put on its Web site the 173-page document Blix gave privately to Security Council members last Friday, entitled "Unresolved Disarmament Issues, Iraq's Proscribed Weapons Programs."

In that document, Blix outlined dozens of other unresolved issues involving Iraq's weapons, and possible ways the Baghdad government could solve outstanding issues.

Senate Appears Ready to Pass Ban on 'Partial Birth' Abortions

By Helen Dewar
THE WASHINGTON POST

An eight-year struggle over legislation to ban what critics call "partial birth" abortions appeared to be nearing a climax Monday as the Senate took up the bill and its advocates claimed the votes to pass it, along with a president who will sign it.

"I think the odds are very good" that the measure will be passed by both houses of Congress and signed into law by President Bush, said Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who, with Bush and other Republican leaders, has made the measure a top priority.

Congress has been fighting over the issue since 1995. It twice passed a ban, but President Clinton vetoed it. Congress appeared ready to pass the ban again in 2000 but stopped short after the Supreme Court struck down a Nebraska law that was similar in many respects to the proposed congressional ban. The House passed a revamped ban last year, but the Senate, then in

Democratic hands, did not take it up.

The bill's supporters say they have rewritten it to address objections raised by the Supreme Court. But opponents contend it has the same constitutional flaws that led the court to strike down the Nebraska law and vow to challenge the legislation in court if it becomes law.

In its latest version, the bill defines the procedure as one in which a fetus is partially delivered alive and a doctor performs "an overt act that the person knows will kill the partially delivered living fetus." The ban would apply when the "entire fetal head is outside the body of the mother or, in the case of breech presentation, any part of the fetal trunk past the navel is outside the body of the mother."

Previous debates have involved grisly descriptions of the procedure (from ban advocates) and wrenching tales of reasons why women employed it (from ban

opponents). Comments Monday from the opposing camps indicated this debate may be little different.

Supporters of the ban have at least 60 votes, enough to deter a filibuster by its foes, said Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., chief sponsor of the bill. But he said he thought the vote may be "very close" on a proposal by Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., to drop Santorum's language in favor of prohibiting abortions of viable fetuses unless two physicians certify that continued pregnancy threatens a woman's life or "grievous injury" to her physical health.

The Santorum bill provides an exemption from the ban in cases where the partial birth procedure is necessary to save a woman's life. But it does not provide an exemption to protect her health, which abortion rights advocates say is necessary to pass constitutional muster. Instead, the bill asserts partial birth abortions are never necessary to preserve a woman's health.

Companies Bid for U.S. Contract To Reconstruct Iraq After the War

By Peter Slevin and Mike Allen
THE WASHINGTON POST

The Bush administration, preparing what would be the most ambitious U.S. rebuilding project since the aftermath of World War II, expects in coming days to award a construction contract worth hundreds of millions of dollars to begin remaking Iraq, U.S. officials said Monday.

The massive umbrella contract, the first to be awarded, would pay for construction and repairs to roads and bridges, as well as schools, hospitals and mosques, officials said. Other large deals are under negotiation to jump-start a reconstruction effort that would follow an overthrow of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

A handful of U.S. construction giants — including the Bechtel Group Inc., Halliburton Co. and Fluor Corp. — were invited to bid for the work on an emergency basis. Analysts said the companies hope to win the contract and position themselves for such future projects as the repair and development of the country's oil industry.

U.S. authorities, wary of a potential backlash to a U.S.-led invasion and military occupation, hope to persuade Iraqis, by show-

ing fast results, that the extraordinary attempt to overhaul Iraq merits their support. They believe they can win hearts and minds by feeding hungry Iraqis, delivering clean water and helping to pay teachers and health workers while a new government is being constructed.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking companies to handle such projects as renovating the country's airports, resuscitating electrical grids, and printing textbooks.

The administration will seek from Congress the billions of dollars necessary for the initial military and civilian post-war effort if the White House challenges Iraq with force. U.S. diplomats have been seeking financial commitments from other countries. Planners also hope Iraqi oil revenue can help pay for reconstruction.

The initial construction contract could be as large as \$900 million, U.S. officials have said. One planner called the number a ceiling and predicted the actual amount of the umbrella contract would be lower.

"The United States is probably going to have to pick up the bulk of what's going to happen in reconstruction, at least at the outset," said Bathsheba Crocker, co-

author of a report on post-Hussein Iraq at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "It's acknowledged even by them that it's going to be a drop in the bucket compared to what the overall costs will be."

To speed the project, USAID invoked special authority to solicit bids from selected companies, which include the Louis Berger Group Inc., a significant U.S. contractor in Afghanistan. The move bypassed the usual rules that would have permitted a wider array of companies to seek the contract, as reported by Time magazine and the Wall Street Journal.

Vice President Dick Cheney spent five years as chief executive of one competitor, Houston-based energy services company Halliburton. The Pentagon announced Thursday that Halliburton subsidiary Kellogg Brown & Root is developing a plan under an existing contract to fight Iraqi oil well fires.

The "urgent circumstances and the unique nature of this work" justify the procedures, said USAID spokeswoman Ellen Yount. Officials said the winner is certain to farm out work to other companies inside and outside Iraq.

Russians Declare Need for Funding To Keep Space Station Operational

By Sharon LaFraniere
THE WASHINGTON POST

Russian space officials are warning that the International Space Station will have to be mothballed unless the United States or another partner in the huge project comes up with \$100 million to pay for more Russian spacecraft to supply a skeleton crew on the station.

Alexei Krasnov, deputy head of international cooperation for the Russian space agency, Rosaviakosmos, said in an interview that Russia alone has been called on to keep the football field-sized station supplied after NASA grounded its three remaining shuttles last month. But "no one has come up with a suggestion on how to procure the funds" for extra supply ships required, he said.

Russia's assessment contrasted with a more positive picture that NASA officials have been painting of the space station's future following last month's loss of the shuttle Columbia.

NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe told a congressional panel two weeks ago that the 16-nation coalition that backs the space station has agreed that Russia will provide two more unmanned Progress cargo spacecraft to ferry water, fuel and necessities to the station for the next 18 months. That would enable a reduced crew of two to maintain the station in orbit while NASA investigates the Columbia accident, which killed seven astronauts, he said.

But Krasnov said in an interview that the financing for the additional Russian supply ships, which cost about \$50 million each, including booster rockets, is nowhere in sight. Time is fast running out, he said, if Russia is to complete a Progress to keep the station supplied this year and begin work on another to fly next year. It takes a minimum of 18 months to build the craft, he said.

"We need to start now," said Krasnov. "We are under terrific time pressure."

A NASA spokesman said today

he could not immediately comment on Krasnov's remarks.

With an annual budget for space of \$270 million, Russia is struggling to fulfill even its current responsibilities with the space station. Even as it devotes half of that money to the international project, the Russian agency can little more than serve as its coachman, ferrying crews and supplies to and from Earth, the agency's director, Yuri Koptev said in December.

Because of the new pressure on resources that followed the loss of Columbia, Russia has cancelled commercial and space tourist flights that would have brought in \$31 million this year, according to Krasnov. Not a ruble is left for extra supply flights, he said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin refused last month to give the agency more funds to service the space station, saying the agency should seek financial contributions from the 15 other partners in the project, he said.

Agricultural Companies Pledge Assistance to African Scientists

THE WASHINGTON POST

Four of the world's largest agricultural companies have agreed to share their technology free with African scientists in a broad new attempt to increase food production on that continent, where mass starvation is a recurring threat.

The companies, based in the United States and Europe, said they would donate patent rights, seed varieties, laboratory know-how and other aid to help African agricultural scientists who are working with small farmers to battle plant disease, insects and drought.

A new organization, the African Agricultural Technology Foundation, is being set up in Nairobi to spearhead the project. In an effort to cut through the thicket of patent rights and corporate interests that complicates many research projects in biology, the foundation will aim to identify crop problems in Africa that might be amenable to technological solutions. It then plans to negotiate with the Western companies for assistance and patent licenses and seek support from African governments to help put new resources — usually in the form of improved plant varieties — into the hands of small subsistence farmers across the continent.

About 190 million Africans south of the Sahara, a third of the population, routinely lack sufficient food. It is the world's largest remaining concentration of people who go to bed hungry at night.

Air Force Leaders Outline Steps To Deal With Academy Crisis

THE WASHINGTON POST

The top two leaders of the Air Force Monday outlined for the first time steps they expect to take in response to a sexual misconduct crisis at the Air Force Academy — among them, separating the dormitory rooms of male and female cadets.

Air Force Secretary James Roche and Gen. John Jumper, the Air Force's chief of staff, said they also intend to start providing victims of sexual assault with individual counselors who would track the handling of complaints. And they plan to grant greater authority to the school's officers and senior enlisted personnel to monitor relations between male and female cadets.

A growing number of allegations of sexual assault and administrative insensitivity at the academy has taken Air Force leaders by surprise, embarrassing the service and stirring congressional calls for an overhaul in the academy's policies and management. Although a special Air Force working group is due to recommend changes at the end of the month, Roche and Jumper made clear Monday in an interview with *Washington Post* editors and reporters that they already have several broad initiatives in mind.

They said their purpose is not only to ensure more responsive handling of complaints in the future but also an academy "climate" that reduces the prospect of any sexual misconduct occurring in the first place.

Lobbyists Circumvent Spending Limits With Trips

THE WASHINGTON POST

Faced with limits on how much dining and wine they can do in Washington, interest groups are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to take lawmakers and aides on out-of-town excursions to deliver their pitches on legislation.

These trips, which frequently include dinner at elegant restaurants and visits to tourist sites, have become an integral part of lobbying for many organizations. Some watchdog groups question why lawmakers and staffers are allowed to accept what the House ethics committee describes as "among the most attractive and alluring gifts" they can receive.

"These are basically gifts to the members and staff," said Larry Noble, executive director of the Center for Responsive Politics, an independent group that monitors the role of money in politics. The trip sponsors "are caring for and feeding them, both in terms of their daily sustenance and the ideas they need to buy into."

Under rules that apply to entertaining in Washington, lawmakers and their aides may not accept gifts worth more than \$50, with an annual cap of \$100 from any single source.

On supposedly educational outings, however, there are no such limits on food, lodging and transportation. That's why "educational trips" in attractive locales are popular with the recording industry, pharmaceutical firms and many other groups eager for face time with legislators and their top aides.

Mexican Consulate Decries U.S. Pursuit of Illegal Immigrants

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Mexican Consulate used harsh language Monday to criticize U.S. law enforcement agencies for their high-speed pursuits of vehicles carrying suspected illegal immigrants, after a chase Sunday ended with two deaths and 20 injuries.

Consul General Rodolfo Figueroa accused the California Highway Patrol and the U.S. Border Patrol of "gross negligence" for using spike strips in pursuits that have reached speeds of nearly 100 mph.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to know what the consequences are going to be, even if they don't hit the spikes," Figueroa said Monday. "This is not the first time that something of this sort has happened."

Sunday's crash occurred when a Chevrolet pickup truck swerved to miss a CHP spike strip, lost control and rolled over several times, ejecting most of the 22 occupants onto Interstate 8. The driver and one passenger, both men, died instantly. The other passengers — five women, 14 men and a 9-year-old boy — were taken to local hospitals. Two people remained in critical condition Monday, authorities said.

CHP Assistant Chief Steven Lykins insists that the accident was caused by the driver trying to avoid the spike strip — not the strip itself. But he acknowledged Monday that if the officers knew that there were so many people in the truck, they likely would not have made the decision to use the spike strip.

OPINION



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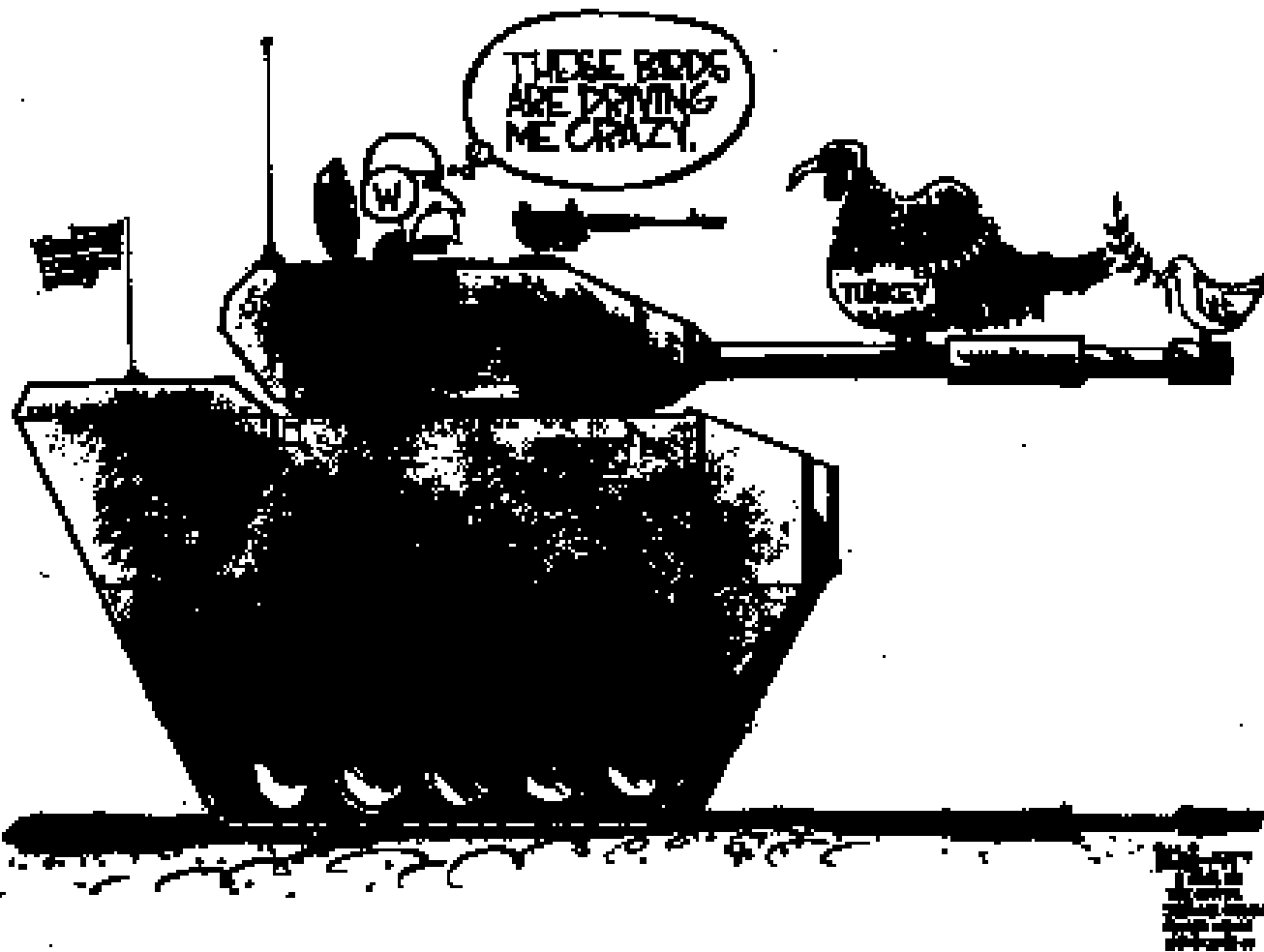
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Editor's Note

To our readers: On Saturday, *The Tech's* managing board voted to remove our news and features editors and director from the Editorial Board, the group that writes our editorials. *The Tech* has historically striven to keep our news and opinion departments

separate: news staff reporters are not allowed to write opinion columns, and our columnists can't write for the news section. But previously, journalistic propriety on the Editorial Board itself was resolved with an imperfect case-by-case system: news editors involved in reporting particular issues recused themselves from individual editori-

als touching on similar topics. Our new arrangement mirrors professional newspapers by completely separating the news and opinion staffs of the newspaper. For correspondence with the opinion department, please continue to write to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The news section can be reached at news@the-tech.mit.edu.



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, opinion editors, and an arts editor.

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 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, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures,

addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. *The Tech* can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.

Walk Out On War

Aimee L. Smith

Many people are deeply troubled by the Bush administration's insistence on a full scale invasion of Iraq. Many people feel that we don't need to go to war, that a war will make us less safe, and that a massive assault on Baghdad of the scale that has been described by some of the war planners will make Sept. 11 seem very minor in comparison. "There will not be a safe place in Baghdad," a Pentagon official told CBS News about the plan. "The sheer size of this has never been seen before, never been contemplated before." The campaign is called "Shock and Awe," and is said to call for up to 3,000 cruise missiles dropped over a two-day period, with estimates of up to 500,000 civilian casualties.

Most of the American population is against the war if we do not have U.N. support, and most of the world population is strongly against it. So what to do when an unelected madman has managed to take over the White House, is instigating armageddon, and no one seems to have the guts or authority to tell him that he has no clothes on and the jig is up?

Well, we are supposed to be living in a democracy, but if the 2000 Presidential election didn't convince you that our democracy is far from perfect, then this irrational push to war against the will of the world community ought to. But even if Bush would like to position himself as world dictator, there are still levers of power that are available so long as people are willing to work hard and muster up a shred of courage. In addition to fearless resistance and warfare by the people of Vietnam, American involvement in the invasion and conquest of Vietnam was brought to a halt by two somewhat inter-related domestic forces: massive public resistance, and the shifting perception of the worth of the war effort by the most powerful concentrations of the American business community.

The level of protest and disruption of "business as usual" created logistical difficulties for "keeping the peace" here at home. So much so, in fact, that it is said that when President Johnson requested 500,000 additional troops to send to Vietnam, the Pentagon responded that that was not possible because those troops would be needed here at home. Dissent in times of extreme moral corruption does make it more difficult for those carrying out their genocidal policies. Silence and complicity enable mass-murders.

But it wasn't just a popular-protest-induced troop shortage that served to end the war in Vietnam. The fact that the cost/benefit analysis

of the war shifted for the people in the most powerful sectors of the business world made continuing with the war impossible. Certainly the effect of a drawn-out war on the economy is part of what shifted the sentiments of the wealthiest Americans who include among their ranks those who own controlling shares in virtually all of the broadcast networks, newspapers, and other media outlets and thereby shape our perception of world and even local events.

The other effect of popular resistance is that people start getting together, talking, organizing, and asking each other all sorts of dangerous, deep questions about how society is run. This kind of climate of critique and social revitalization is exactly what those who own and control far more than their share of the country's resources don't want. No single war is worth a rethinking of the status quo and injustices of the American system. Some thirty years later, the wealth disparity is drastical-

The level of protest and disruption of 'business as usual' created logistical difficulties for 'keeping the peace' here at home. Dissent in times of extreme moral corruption does make it more difficult for those carrying out their genocidal policies.

ly more extreme and the emerging worldwide social protest movements represent a deep threat to this outrageous inequality. That means that any and every sign of people coming together across borders, across color lines, across gender lines, across language lines, etc. is a deep threat to the power that the world's wealthiest 0.1 percent holds. Walking out on war, if it does come to pass, is a great way to send the message that you will not be a tool in this machine of theft and bloodshed.

Personally, I have grave misgivings about U.S. policy in the Middle East since America took over the colonial lash from Britain after WWII. I am troubled by how Hussein treated Iranian soldiers and his own civilians with continual U.S. material support and even a nice handshake from Rumsfeld at the very time of the use of gas in the Iran-Iraq war. I am equally troubled by how America aided and armed Turkey to massacre thousands of Kurds within their borders during the 1990s. I am troubled by the first Gulf War under Bush, the subsequent imposition of a no-fly zone over much of Iraq,

which was allowed to be violated by Hussein's forces exactly once, to put down a democratic uprising from the South; the policy of the U.S. forces of deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure such as water and power generation in violation of the Geneva accords on war crimes; the pummeling of Iraq with "low level" bombing for the last 12 years; the use of depleted uranium-cased armaments which leave a toxic oxide dust in their wake; and the crushing sanctions imposed and maintained by the U.S. that led to two career U.N. officials charged with directing the "Oil for Food" program resigning in disgust. And what of the at least 500,000 Iraqi children already killed as a result of sanctions aimed at the Iraqi regime? When asked about this in 1996, then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright conceded the following: "We think the price is worth it."

On top of all of these concerns, there is the fact that members of Israel's government have threatened to use a war in Iraq as a cover for the completion of their genocide of the Palestinian people. Over 187 Israeli academics have signed a letter warning the world community about the grave consequences for the Palestinian people at the hands of the IDF under the "fog of war" against Iraq. MIT students heard with our own ears as Benny Elon, a minister in the Israeli Government, spoke

in 10-250 and called for a "creative solution" to the Israel/Palestine conflict: forced expulsion of Palestinians to Jordan, and then renaming Jordan Palestine. If the worst happens, we cannot tell Palestinians that we did not know that this danger was imminent. We must not let our silence, which amounts to complicity, enable such atrocities to continue and escalate.

Many of us have been working to raise awareness about these horrendous crimes against humanity, particularly because where our government is involved and directing these policies, we who support the government through our taxes and who benefit from these abusive practices at the gas pump and elsewhere are compelled to stand and be counted in our opposition. If Bush invades Iraq, there must be no business as usual. People of conscience the world over will refuse to be cogs in the war machine; we will walk out on war.

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

It's Not About Oil

Robert F. Eaton

Those opposed to the American liberation of Iraq validate their beliefs with poignant arguments. One cannot help but stop to reflect when confronted with the assertion that the looming war puts American lives at risk only to ensure access to cheap oil. More pragmatic objectors contend that an American invasion of Iraq will distract from and even set back the War on Terror, as well as the crisis on the Korean peninsula. These are inflammatory arguments indeed, but they are misleading and largely inaccurate.

If the Middle East were bereft of oil, dictators like Saddam would not wield the power they do, and we would not be going to war. But in reality, where the Middle East has bountiful oil reserves that fund tyrants and terrorists, it is incorrect to assume causality between Iraqi oil and an American attack. Were America motivated exclusively by the desire for inexpensive oil, a decade of sanctions and the threat of war would not be reasonable policies. Stifling Iraqi oil production for twelve years, and introducing into the oil market the uncertainty of war only increases the price of oil. Furthermore, once America liberates Iraq, ownership of Iraqi oil reserves does not thereby transfer to our nation. Rather, the administration has repeatedly said that oil revenue will be used to rebuild Iraq.

Conspiracy theories about an American desire to control the world oil market are as much nonsense as the accusation that the Afghan war served to ensure construction of a gas pipeline. It is much less of a stretch to say that France, Germany, and Russia — all heavily invested in Iraq — oppose the war for economic reasons than to accuse America of supporting war for the same reason.

More powerful than the oil controversy is the possibility that a war with Iraq will undermine America's war on terror. It is often said that we are attacking Saddam simply because he is easier to find than Osama and his cronies.

The recent arrest of top al-Qaida leaders, however, contradicts the notion that America cannot concurrently wage war against terrorists and tyrants in the Middle East. Opponents insist that an attack on Iraq has little to do with the war on terror, for it fails to address the root causes of resentment and anger among Muslim populations — namely, the absence of freedom, and American support of dictatorships. If those are indeed the goals, then a liberation and democratization of Iraq will do a great deal to attain them, by bringing a real Muslim democracy to the Middle East, and lessening American reliance upon the region's unscrupulous regimes.

It is easy to point out the flaws in others' arguments, especially when said arguments are so intrinsically flawed, but it is more important to identify what this war is about, rather than what it is not. This war should be carried out for two reasons: one noble, both necessary. The liberation of Iraq will result in the creation of the first liberal, secular democracy in the Middle East besides Israel, and it will send a message to those who fund and foment terror that the consequences of continuing such actions are severe.

Although post-modernism tells us that no government is "better" than another, I nonetheless declare that Western democracy is a superior system to any endemic to the Middle East. The citizens of Iraq, and of the world, would be far better off with a secular, liberal democracy than a dictatorship. In a police state, however, it is virtually impossible for a popular rebellion to manifest, much less to succeed. The men and women who could become an Iraqi Washington or Jefferson are jailed or murdered well before they can pose a threat to the tyrannical government. Thus, without the chance for an internal impetus, a revolution in Iraq must come from without, and the only nations willing to risk their sons and daughters for the freedom of others are America and her allies.

The Bush administration sees the liberation of Iraq as the fulfillment of America's

commitment to protect and extend democracy throughout the world, and as the beginning of a global revolution whereby the nations that subjugate their own citizens and threaten their neighbors will no longer be permitted to do so with impunity. This is a daunting task of immeasurable magnitude, but one that is necessary if the inalienable rights guaranteed to Americans are to be returned to people worldwide whose leaders have taken them away.

More immediate concerns also underlie the defeat of Saddam Hussein. Weakness and strength, defeat and victory are far different in the Middle East than in the West. At the conclusion of the Gulf War, Saddam declared himself a victor despite his shattered armies and decimated nation. The same is true of Yasser Arafat, who emerges from a leveled presidential compound without an ounce of legitimacy in the eyes of his own people and world, yet nonetheless flashes the "V" for victory sign (note: that's not a peace sign). Anything less than absolute victory is the Middle East is taken a sign of weakness on the part of the enemy, as an invitation to continue defiance.

The last two years of suicide bombings began when Israel withdrew from Lebanon, an act interpreted as weak rather than strategic or conciliatory. America's failure to respond to terrorist attacks before Sept. 11 sent the message that we were unable and unwilling to address the threat terrorists posed. Carter's botched attempt to rescue American hostages in Iran, Clinton's failure to adequately punish the perpetrators of the first World Trade Center attack, the assault on the USS Cole, and the embassy bombings emboldened terrorists to continue their assault. The liberation of Iraq and destruction of Saddam Hussein will send a clear message that America will no longer tolerate individuals, organizations, and nations threatening us, and that the consequences of doing so will be severe.

War, by its very nature, is bad. But it is not always wrong.

Robert F. Eaton is a graduate student in the Department of Chemistry.

Onward, Violent Hatred

Atif Z. Qadir

The University of Virginia had spring break last week, but everything isn't as quiet as you'd expect at the campus of one of the nation's elite public schools. Surely many recently returned from the typical beach/booze vacation haunts of the college set, but the university is still reeling from a possible hate crime that "insults and offends the community's core values," according to UVA President John T. Casteen III. The sole public reaction at MIT to this disturbing event was a large message written in the snow on a tennis court visible only from the higher floors of Baker House, declaring that "UVA Sux." Even more unbelievable is the scant attention this story received in the national press. This says too much about the sad state of race relations among Americans, who were only recently wrested from the comfortable grip of apathy and quiet consent by the University of Michigan affirmative action case.

The victim of this unofficial hate crime was Daisy Lundy, a 19-year-old UVA sophomore

I've been told that 'all brown people look the same,' called 'exotic' by an Institute employee, and been personally labeled an 'anti-American Islamicist.'

of Korean and black heritage. She reported that while walking towards her parked car near the university's historic lawn on Feb. 26, an unidentified white male grabbed her by the hair and slammed her head against the steering wheel. She subsequently fell to the ground, where a friend found her, setting into action a number of high-profile responses from the administration, and student groups, notably at the UVA Law School. Besides that this happened on a college campus, what makes it different than hate crimes that occur around our often intolerant and racist nation is that Lundy was running for the position of Student Council President, possibly explaining the attack and the racial epithet that the assailant uttered: "No one wants a nigger to be president."

The attack occurred during the 36-hour voting period, forcing university officials to postpone the remainder of the allotted time until after Spring Break, delaying its conclusion to at least this week. It may not be hard to speculate as to who the winner will be, as Lundy won a runoff election two weeks ago.

The attack is even more unusual in light of the fact that she would not have been the first African-American to be elected to such a prominent student government position at the university. In fact, since 1990, five student council presidents have been black. The attack is indicative of lingering racial problems at UVA, as well as at other campuses beyond the South.

MIT could be one of those universities. Our most recent failure in this regard has been the shameful controversy involving at least two members of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity who yelled a racial epithet at the hip-hop band The Roots, who were on campus for the Spring Weekend 2001 concert. Racial insensitivity can be more insidious, as well. From being told that "all brown people look the same" to being called "exotic" by an Institute employee, to being personally labeled an "anti-American Islamicist" I, as well as many other students of color, face similar comments. However, the opening of the Latino Cultural Center this past Sunday was one welcome development.

Our own student council elections, which end today, have had little attention to race relations, besides lip-service statements of getting "everyone in the community involved," forming "a campus coalition focused on integrating culture but maintaining unity," or a "cultural group coalition." Looking beyond our own campus, it is ironic that the possible hate crime at UVA happened as President Bush and many average people rally for an invasion of Iraq, invoking the American ideals of liberty, freedom, and justice. This highlights the fact that for minorities and immigrants in this nation, these ideals are as real as the white American Dream.

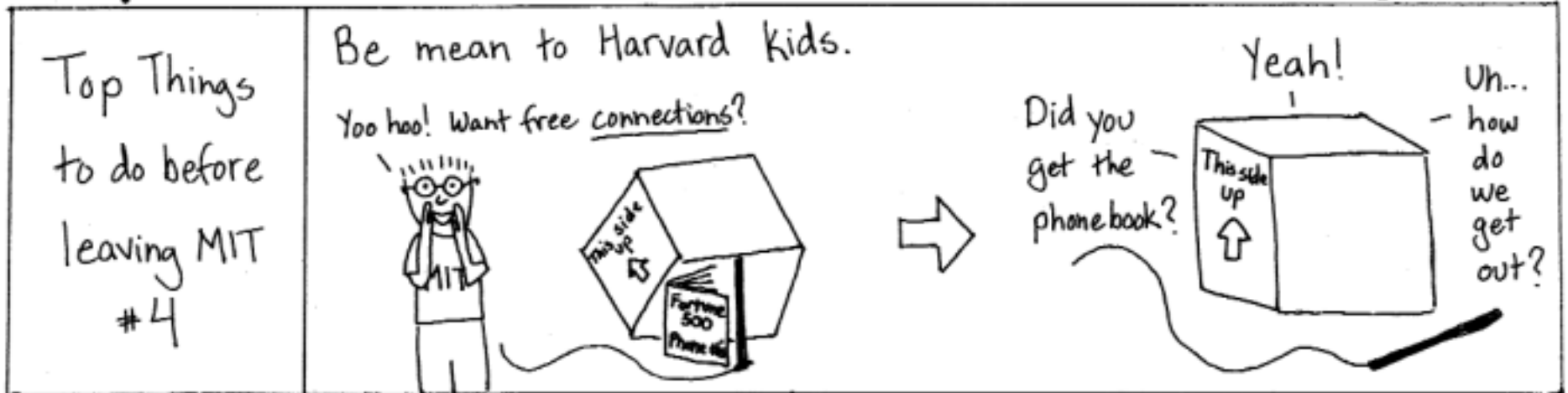
Atif Z. Qadir is a member of the Class of 2004.

INSTITUTE MADNESS



Hay Fever

By: Qian Wang + Jennifer Peng



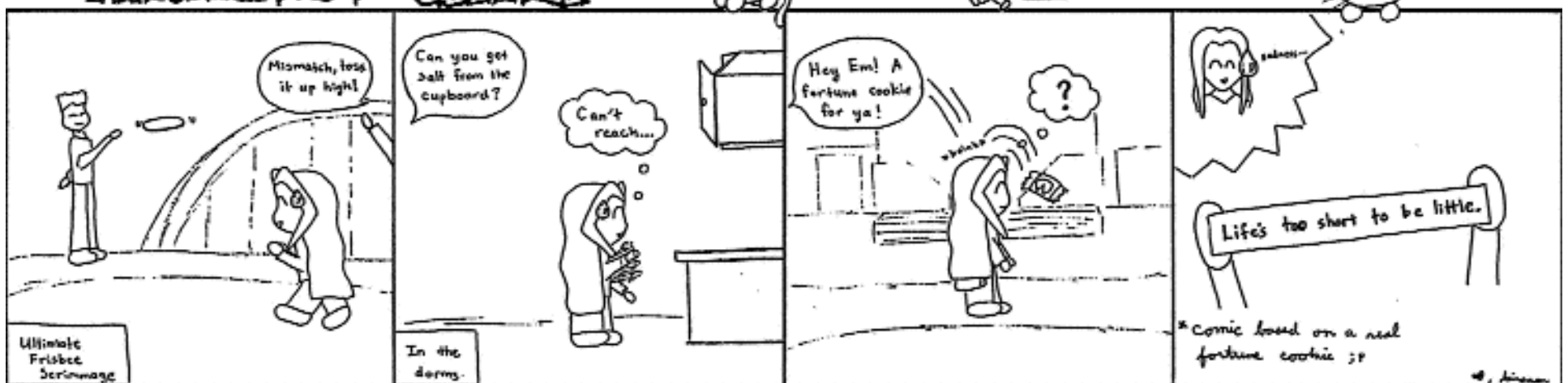
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Feel free to tell us what you think. -JPeng

THE RICK AND CHESTER SHOW

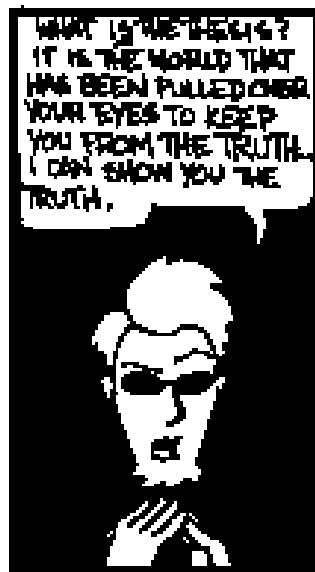
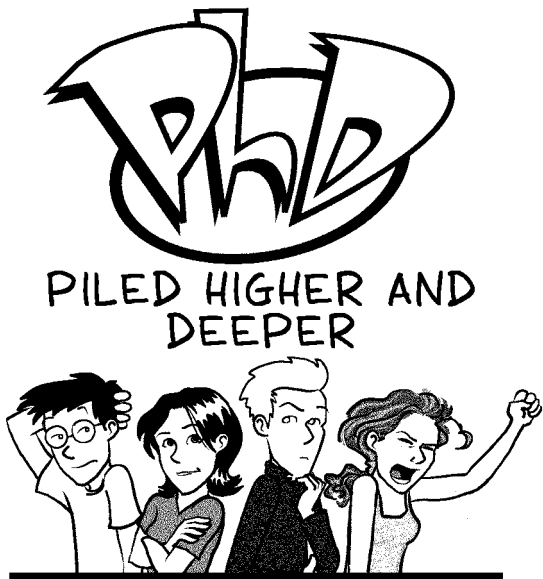


Kirby's Corner



*Comic based on a real fortune cookie :P

©, Kirby



FoxTrot

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Crossword Puzzle

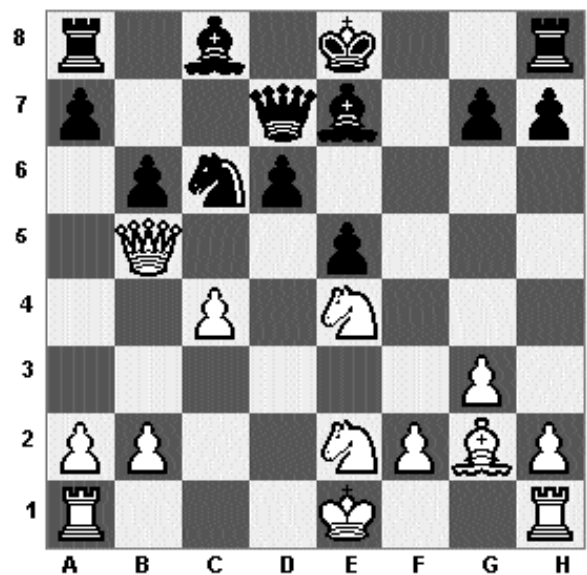
Solution, page 14

ChessMate

Composed by Elina Groberman

Difficulty Level 2

White to Move - Discovered Attack



Comments? E-mail chessmate@the-tech.mit.edu
Solutions on page 14



Think you can draw better? Send in a comic to *The Tech*! E-mail join@the-tech.mit.edu

Events Calendar

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

Tuesday, March 11

12:00 a.m. - 11:59 a.m. – Photography Contest. Deadline: March 15, 2003: Topic: free: Frist Prize: \$50; How to join: 1. send soft copies to photocontest@cssa.mit.edu, or 2. send hard copies to MIT CSSA Photography Contest, Ashdown House, 305 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139. free. Sponsor: Chinese Student and Scholar Association, Graduate Student Council.

12:00 a.m. – Awards Convocation - Call for Nominations. AWARDS CONVOCATION - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Don't Procrastinate - Nominate !! Go to <http://mit.edu/awards> for information on all the awards. Nominations deadline is March 21st. Questions?? e-mail awards@mit.edu or call Fran Miles @ 3-4051. Sponsor: Awards Convocation.

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – UA Elections: Paper Balloting. Forgot to vote online? Vote for YOUR UAP/VP and class council officers by paper ballot in Lobby 10!. free. Room: Lobby 10. Sponsor: Undergraduate Association.

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 Informations 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.

11:55 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 (VCP) Association, MITEntrepreneurshipCenter.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Congolese Refugees in Johannesburg. Mellon-MIT Program on NGOs and Forced Migration - Research Presentation. free, but RSVP for lunch. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – The Poor Man's Accelerator. Dibner Institute Lunchtime Colloquium. free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Mac OS X Quick Start. 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 Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – TMJ Dysfunction and Stress. An MIT oral surgeon will discuss the phenomenon of temporomandibular joint dysfunction (TMJ) and its relationship to stress and other factors. free. Room: E25-401. Sponsor: MIT Medical.

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. – Center for Theoretical Physics - Nuclear Theory Seminar. "Precision Electroweak Measurements and Supersymmetry." free. Room: Center for Theoretical Physics, Building 6, Third Floor Seminar Room. Sponsor: Laboratory for Nuclear Science.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Andrew and Shankar-Superconductivity. free. Room: 4-357. Sponsor: Physics Junior Lab Orals .

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

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Rebuilding after the Iraq war: Precautionary lessons from Kosovo. Dr. Kouchner was France's Minister of Health until picked by Secretary-General Kofi Annan as his Special Representative for Kosovo. In the humanitarian field, Dr. Kouchner founded Medecins sans Frontieres, a Paris-based non-profit humanitarian organization made up of voluntary medical personnel who contribute their time and expertise in assisting in situations of emergency or inadequate medical care in the developing world. free. Room: E51-395. Sponsor: MIT France Program, Program on Human Rights & Justice.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Smart Resumes and Cover Letters. Learn the fundamentals of creating strategie, resumes, coverletters and CVs. Please register for this event at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/>. free. Sponsor: Career Services Office.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – James A. Henderson Memorial Lecture Building a 21st Century Research University: The University of California, Merced. This presentation will cover the broad range of development activities including physical planning and permitting, academic program development, faculty hiring, government relations and funding. This is the ultimate higher-education project — current political and economic realities make this an extraordinarily challenging and exciting endeavor. free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: Engineering Systems Group, Civil and Environmental Engineering.

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – Media Lab Colloquium Series. "Interfacing the Digital" presents work at the Walker Art Center focusing on new physical interfaces, particularly for the presentation of digital art. Some examples include a freestanding revolving door portal for the exhibition "Art Entertainment Network"; a telematic table resulting from an international design competition; and a "temporary autonomous sarai" developed collaboratively by the new media artists Raqs Media Collective (New Delhi) and the architectural practice Atelier Bow Wow (Tokyo). These and other projects are prototypes for new, interactive social spaces and functions being developed for the Walker's new building expansion, designed by the architects Herzog & de Meuron. free. Room: Bartos Theater, MIT Media Lab. Sponsor: Media Lab.

4:00 p.m. – MIT Astrophysics Colloquium: ROBERT CALDWELL. "The Imprint of Dark Energy." free. Room: MIT Center for Space Research, Marlar Lounge, 37-252. Sponsor: Astrophysics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – MechSeminar: Localization of Nonlinear Surface Waves Over a Randon Seabed. Abstract In classical physics of one dimensional wave propagation in a random medium multiple scattering yields a complex change in the propagation constant of which the real part corresponds to a change of wavenumber and the imaginary part to spatial attenuation. The latter is effective for a broad range of incident wave frequencies and is similar to Anderson localization in condensed-matter physics. In this talk, we examine the effects of random depth variations on nonlinear surface waves with a narrow-frequency band. Attention is limited to narrow-banded waves over a randomly uneven bottom of gentle slope (the mean depth is taken to be constant, for simplicity). Room: 1-350. Sponsor: Engineering & Environmental Mechanics Group.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – GTL Seminar Series. "Near Wall Reaction Effects on Film Cooled Backward-Facing Step Heat Transfer." free. Room: 33-116. Sponsor: Gas Turbine Laboratory.

5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – IBM Innovations Tour. Please join several of IBM's Technical Experts for a panel discussion on Autonomic Computing. free. Room: Building 6 Room 120. Sponsor: Office of Corporate Relations/ILP.

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. – A Geoaarchaeological Approach for Detecting Prehistoric Aegean Harbors. In spite of great interest in prehistoric seafaring and contact along Mediterranean coasts, surprisingly little is known about the harbors or other landing points that sailors and coastal dwellers utilized. Such locations tend to be archaeologically elusive, because they may never have possessed built structures or facilities, and in the intervening millennia, most have undergone considerable landscape modification. This talk describes an interdisciplinary project that aims to rediscover and investigate Bronze Age landing points on the Greek mainland, using remote sensing, GIS modeling, geomorphological analysis, and archaeological surface survey. To date, we have discovered several harbors and associated settlements, including a large Mycenaean harbor town and an Early Bronze Age fortified coastal site. We hope to see you at M&A and invite you to join in the discussion after each presentation. free. Room: 56-154. Sponsor: Materials & Archaeology Lecture Series.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Medical & Other Health Related Schools Student Panel. This panel will provide students with the opportunity to hear from current medical and other health professional schools students. Panelists will be MIT alumni in local area programs from their first year in school to graduates of medical school, dental, etc. free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: OCSPA, Career Services Office.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Mexican Movie Night: Midaq Alley. Come and see the first and only good movie starring Salma Hayek. In Spanish with English Subtitles. free. Room: 4-370. Sponsor: Mexican Student Association.

7:00 p.m. – MIT Western Hemisphere Project: Open Meeting. We hold informal sessions throughout the year to discuss events in the news and to work on Project activities. If you want to just chat about these things, or if you want to join in and help organize, we'd love for you to attend. free. Room: MIT 4-231. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – Tuesday Night Wine Flights. Every Tuesday night features a particular wine region or variety. Tonight: Argentina Pub Hours: Monday: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the basement of Ashdown House. Enter through the courtyard. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Bisexuality 101. What is bisexuality? Is there no such thing as bisexuality or is everyone really bisexual? Or is it more complicated than that? In this workshop we will examine these questions as well as biphobia in lesbian, gay and heterosexual communities with the goal of better understanding bisexuality and bisexual identities. People of all sexual orientations are welcome to attend. free. Room: 5-234. Sponsor: Friendly Alliance of Queers and Straights.

Wednesday, March 12

7:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. – Wireless, Mobile & Voice Convergence Networking Breakfast. For Wireless, Mobile and Handheld Industry Professionals, Business Developers, Investors and Entrepreneurs. Each meeting is on the Wednesday before the second Thursday. Topic: Wireless Customer Acquisition Management. Speaker: Robert J Sama, President & CEO Closer Communication. A new form of wireless CRM finds its

first application at trade shows and exhibitions. Exhibitors can finally measure and manage their ROI at each show. A demonstration is planned, involving meeting attendees. The meeting is open to all parties interested in the wireless-related industry, including management team candidates and professional service providers. A continental breakfast is included. \$35/ \$25 pre-pay. Room: Office "Nesting" Space - for New Ventures, Consulting and Job Search 332 Second Ave, Waltham MA (1-781-890-1555, x206). Sponsor: MITEntrepreneurshipCenter.

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

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Wavelength and Coherence Combining of Fiber Laser Arrays. EECs/RLE - Optics & Quantum Electronics Seminar Series. free. Room: Grier Room B, 34-401B. Sponsor: Optics.

12:00 p.m. – UA Elections: Election Results. The newly elected UA Candidates will be announced. free. Sponsor: Undergraduate Association.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Excel Quick Start. This course presents an overview of Excel's basic functions, as well as some of its more powerful features and capabilities. 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: lbg@MIT.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. – FUEL CELL SYSTEM APPLICATIONS. FUEL CELL SYSTEM APPLICATIONS by John M. Deutch Institute Professor Wednesday, March 12, 2003 12 noon - 1:30 pm in the WONG AUDITORIUM —Rm. E51-115. ABSTRACT: Talk will address fuel cell systems and their applications with attention to the technical characteristics that limit performance of proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cells. I will assess the prospects for fuel cell system use in transportation and stationary power relative to alternatives. I conclude that fuel cell systems are an ideal subject for research and teaching at MIT. free. Room: WONG AUDITORIUM —Rm. E51-115. Sponsor: Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, The Environment at MIT Web Site.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Oceanography and Climate Sack Lunch Seminar. "Decomposition of the Deacon cell". free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – SAP Web Docs Heuristic Review. free. Room: N42 - Demo. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Morrison Award Seminar. Special Award Symposium: "What Limits Should be Placed on Biomedical Research in Response to New Security Concerns?." free. Room: Bldg. 2, Room 190. Sponsor: Physics Department.

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

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – The Politics of Welfare Reform. A panel with Rep. Anne Paulsen and Diane Dujon. free. Room: 10-401. Sponsor: Women's Studies Program, Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – spouses&partners@mit weekly meeting: Reflections on Marriage and Moving. We'll share our thoughts on this interesting topic. free. Room: W20-400. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit, MIT Medical.

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Application of Genomics Strategies towards Understanding of the Circadian Clock in Mammals. The genomics revolution has brought powerful technologies that can be applied in parallel understanding of gene function and physiology. Integrative strategies applying informatic tools, DNA arrays, cDNA and siRNA gene functionalization, and mammalian genetics offer a compelling way to explore brain function. Here we discuss the application of these strategies towards the understanding of the circadian clock in mammals. free. Room: E25-401. Sponsor: "Brains and Machines" Seminar Series, McGovern Institute. Artificial Intelligence Lab.

4:05 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Environmental Chemistry and Biology Seminar. Physical and Chemical Mechanisms of Mineral Dissolution. Room: 48-316. Sponsor: Parsons Lab (general).

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – Ramanujan Graphs and Random Walks on Trees. Reception at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. free. Room: Room 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Nanostructures Seminar Series. Liquids on Nanolandscapes . free. Room: Building 1, Room 190 (Refreshments begin at 4:15 pm). Sponsor: Nanostructures Laboratory. Co-sponsored by the Tiny Tech Club and Techlink.

5:00 p.m. – Women's Lacrosse vs. Smith College. free. Room: Jack Barry Turf. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

5:00 p.m. – AMP Student Recital. Aeronautics and astronautics graduate student Stuart Stanton, tenor: Karen Harvey, piano. Works of Purcell, Duparc, Wolf, Bliss, Niles. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. – Interviewing Skills for ESL/International Students. Are you interested in communicating to employers all the talent that you have already acquired? This workshop will support you in achieving your career goals. You will have the opportunity to enhance your interviewing skills and learn strategies to help you overcome language and cultural barriers. free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Career Services Office.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. – Through Women's Eyes: An Alternative American History. free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: Women's Studies Program. Program in History.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Homeland Security - New Opportunities for Business. Keynote: Mr. Martinez-Fonts will discuss the policies of the Department of Homeland security and the role of the Department of Homeland Security as it relates to the private sector. The event will also feature a presentation by Manchester N.H. - based AssureTec Systems, Inc., and a panel discussion with local business leaders, Suresh Shanmugham of Boston Millennium Partners, John Skinner of Adams, Harkness & Hill, and Steven Davis, CXO Management on the specific business challenges AssureTec Systems, Inc. faces in the security market. Students FREE with ID. Members \$20, Non-Members \$25. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge, Inc. Sponsored By: Wolf Greenfield Co-Hosted by: MassDevelopment.

6:00 p.m. – AIAA NEW ENGLAND MEETING - Human Spaceflight in the 21st Century: International Competition vs. International Cooperation. This lecture will provide a broad overview of the history of human spaceflight over the last 40 years and will forecast scenarios for the future of spaceflight in the 21st Century. Significant advances in human space exploration occurred in the first 15 years of the Space Age, driven by visionary dreamers, strong political leadership and Cold War competition. Beginning with Apollo Soyuz in 1975, the United States embarked on an era of international cooperation in space, best evidenced by the International Space Station currently under construction. Progress inhuman spaceflight will be characterized in terms of exploration, funding levels, safety and other metrics. Refreshments will be provided. free, but reservations required. Room: MIT, Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Room 33-116. Sponsor: AeroAstro. AIAA New England.

7:00 p.m. – Computers & Social Change in Chile: An Interrupted Experiment. free. Room: MIT 3-133. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – TMRc Build Time. These are our normal meeting times, when we build the layout!. free. Room: N52-118. Sponsor: Tech Model Railroad Club (TMRc).

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.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – MIT \$50K Semi-finalist Awards. free. Room: E51 Wong Auditorium. Sponsor: MIT \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition.

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. – Public Forum on Energy and National Security. What: Public Forum on Energy and National Security Where: 55 Vassar street, Room 101 MIT campus Cambridge, MA. When: Wednesday, March 12th 7:00 Cost: Free Website: http://www.nesea.org/buildings/be/be2003/public_event.html. Description: In conjunction with the Worldwatch Institute and the Building Energy 2003 Conference, there will be a public forum on Energy and National Security featuring some of the nation's leading experts on this topic. With the nation poised on the brink of war it has become more urgent to take steps to ensure America has an adequate, secure supply of energy and to make the nation's energy system less vulnerable to terrorism or other disruptions. Come out on Wednesday, March 12th and take part in this timely and relevant discussion. There will be an opportunity for questions and comments from the audience. This forum is free and open to the public. free. Room: 55 Vassar street, Room 101. Sponsor: The Environment at MIT Web Site.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Make Your Own Burrito Study Break. Come learn how to make your own Burrito with MAES. Meet our members and take a study break with us in this annual event. free. Room: Bexley Basement. Sponsor: Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists, Mes Latino.

7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. – HTC Film Series: Crumb. This movie chronicles the life and times of R. Crumb. Robert Crumb is the cartoonist/artist who drew Keep On Truckin', Fritz the Cat, and played a major pioneering role in the genesis of underground comix. Through interviews with his mother, two brothers, wife, and ex-girlfriends, as well as selections from his vast quantity of graphic art, we are treated to a darkly comic ride through one man's subconscious mind. As stream-of-consciousness images incessantly flow forth from the tip of his pen, biting social satire is revealed, often along with a disturbing and haunting vision of Crumb's own betes noires and inadequacies. As his acid-trip induced images flicker across our own retinas, we gain a little insight into this complex and highly creative individual. 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 Build-

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.

ing. 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, MITEntrepreneurshipCenter. TechLink, Wing It.

8:00 p.m. – "36 Chowringhee Lane." Film with Aparna Sen, being screened in conjunction with her upcoming residency (see film & talk on April 16). free. Room: Rm 4-237. Sponsor: MIT Office of the Arts Special Programs, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Program in Women's Studies and Comparative Media Studies.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – IFILM Film Seminar- 36 Chowringhee Lane. Screening of 36 Chowringhee Lane by Aparna Sen. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

8:00 p.m. - 9:45 p.m. – Singapore-MIT Alliance Video Conference . Sustaining Creative Communities— An architectural design studio provides a small-scale model of a creative community — a place where people work intensively together, interact in both formalized and informal ways, and produce creative output. At larger scales, we might think of a university campus, a city, or an entire nation as potential creative communities. In this seminar I shall discuss the role of architecture and urban design in establishing and sustaining creative communities, and the emerging roles of information technology in intensifying and geographically extending creative communities. I shall illustrate the discussion with examples of recent projects at MIT, and I shall discuss their relevance to the context of Singapore. free. Room: Building 3 Room 370. Sponsor: Singapore-MIT Alliance, Office of Corporate Relations/ILP.

8:00 p.m. – Gamelan Galak Tika Off-Campus. World premiere of "Ngaben (for Sari Club)" by artistic director Prof. Evan Ziporyn for Balinese gamelan and orchestra, performed by Gamelan Galak Tika and the New England Conservatory Symphony (Dante Anzolini, director). "Ngaben (for Sari Club)" is dedicated to the victims of last fall's Bali bombing. A 'ngaben' is a cremation, the last and most important ritual in Balinese Hinduism, in which both the loss to the living and the release of the soul are recognized. This piece — commissioned shortly before the bombing — is written not just to honor the victims but to affirm cross-culturalism, both as a source of artistic inspiration and as a primary mode of human contact and respect. . free. Room: Jordan Hall (290 Huntington Ave., Boston). Sponsor: Gamelan Galak Tika.

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.

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – Pelicula — Blood In Blood Out. LUCHA invites you to come see the first rendering of Blood In Blood Out on campus. Learn about the gang wars in Californian jails during the 1980s and the story behind the Paco, Cruz and their cousin Miklo. free. Room: TBA. Sponsor: La Union Chicana Por Aztlan, Mes Latino.

Thursday, March 13

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. – Hamentashen Sale. Enjoy a luscious hamentashen (a three cornered, fruit-filled pastry eaten on the Jewish holiday of Purim). Bake sale benefits MIT Hillel. price per cookie varies. Room: Lobby 10. Sponsor: Hillel, 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.

11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. – Deshpande Faculty Entrepreneurship Workshop. The Faculty Entrepreneurship Workshop provides practical advice and a forum for discussing issues unique to faculty considering starting companies. Lunch will be provided. Open to MIT faculty only. To be invited to this or future workshops, please contact Isadora Deese at deshpandecenter@mit.edu. free. Room: TBD. Sponsor: Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Wireless and DHCP Quick Start. This class describes how you can connect to MITnet from a variety of locations on campus. Learn what you need to do to set up your laptop computer for a wired or wireless connection. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. – Chapel Concert. Joshua Millard, classical guitar. Works by Piazzolla, Bach, Rodrigo and Albeniz. Joshua Millard has given concerts in settings all across the United States. His performances have been hailed by critics as being "truly stunning" (Oberlin Review, Dec. 11, 1998) and "secure and intelligent" (La Guitarra, Sep. 1997). free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

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. 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: lbg@MIT.

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

3:30 p.m. – Men's Lacrosse vs. Tufts University. free. Room: Jack Barry Turf. Sponsor: Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Hydrology Seminar: The Physical Origin of the Land-Ocean Contrast in Lightning Activity. free. Room: 48-308. Sponsor: Parsons Lab (general).

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – T.B.A. free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – Analysis of Exponential Coverage Processes with Application to Optical Communication which Avoids Clouds. 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.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. – Physics: Escher and the Droste Effect. One of M.C. Escher's most intriguing works depicts a man standing in a gallery who looks at a print of a city that contains the building that he is standing in himself. This picture, with the title Print Gallery, contains a mysterious white hole in the middle. Two years ago, Hendrik Lenstra discovered the mathematical structure of this print. Using well known mathematical results about elliptic curves, Lenstra showed that what Escher was trying to achieve has a unique mathematical solution. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

5:00 p.m. – UA Elections: Funding Forms Due. Election Funding Forms are due in the UA Office, W20-401 by 5pm. free. Sponsor: Undergraduate Association.

5:30 p.m. – authors@mit - Marcia Bartusiak - Einstein's Unfinished Symphony. Please join us as Marcia Bartusiak, former MIT Knight Fellow and winner of the prestigious American Institute of Physics Science Writing Award, presents her newest work to the MIT community: Einstein's Unfinished Symphony: Listening to the Sounds of Space-Time. About the book: In a handful of observatories around the world, scientists are waiting, and listening. Their quest: to be the first to detect gravitational waves, infinitesimal quakes that stretch and compress space-time and could add a brand-new dimension to our universal knowledge—allowing us to hear a sun going supernova, black holes colliding, and perhaps one day the remnant rumble of the Big Bang itself. This event is sponsored by authors@mit, a series cosponsored by MIT Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore. Einstein's Unfinished Symphony is published by Berkley Books, 2003. free. Room: MIT Humanities Library Reading Room 14S-200. Sponsor: The MIT Press Bookstore. MIT Libraries.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Teach-In #1. Teach-In's led by MIT Staff and Faculty to educate the community on what affirmative action means and why it was established in the first place. free. Room: 50-105 Walker Memorial. Sponsor: Black Students' Union, Committee on Campus Race Relations.

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Mutant Beauty and Ghostly Perception: Remediating Horror in the Works of Paul Pfeiffer and Matthew Barney. free. Room: Building 4-370. Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

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

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. – Meditation and Discussion. Meditation and Discussion on Shantideva's Bodhicaryavtara. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Buddhist Association at MIT, Buddhist Community at MIT.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – THE ON-GOING STORY OF THE PEOPLE'S HEALTH MOVEMENT: A Grassroots Perspective. The People's Health Movement (PHM) is a growing coalition of grassroots organizations dedicated to changing the prevailing health care delivery system, which is failing to serve the deteriorating health of most of the poor worldwide. The PHM process began with a series of networking and discussion activities worldwide to prepare for an international gathering - the first People's Health Assembly which was held in Bangladesh in Dec 2000. It is now a thriving international movement looking forward to the next Global Health Assembly in Brazil in 2004. free. Room: MIT 6-120. Sponsor: AID-Boston. South Asia Center, Doctors for Global Health.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – IFILM- Film Seminar - Ed Wood. Screening of a movie (Ed Wood, Tim Burton) followed by a discussion. Refreshments provided. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club.

8:00 p.m. – Antony and Cleopatra. Shakespeare Ensemble production done in the round, with a chorus of "watchers" who circle the action, interacting and constantly judging. \$8, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Room: Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Shakespeare Ensemble.

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, macygyver@mit.edu. bring your own disc! Room: Student Center steps. Sponsor: Campus Disc Golf.

ARTS

CLASSICAL REVIEW

A Thin Veneer of Musicality

Vermeer Quartet Fails to Reach Musical Heights

By Amy Lee

*Vermeer Quartet
Kresge Auditorium
March 7, 8 p.m.*

I thought the night couldn't get much more exciting when I noticed that Professor Arthur P. Mattuck sitting two seats over from me in Kresge. By the end of the concert, the Vermeer Quartet proved me right.

The heavily lauded string quartet admittedly has the requisite good technique professional musicians must have, but to truly stand out, the act of creating music should always go beyond training. Aside for a few rare times, the quartet never created a peak together, but instead worked against each other by reaching their own heights at separate times.

Nevertheless, the sound that came out was still of high quality, which is a potential explanation of why their CD of Haydn's "The Seven Last Words of Christ" was a Grammy nominee.

From the beginning, the Vermeer Quartet was noticeably anticlimactic. The four musicians looked like they were literally basking under the soft spotlight in the middle of the stage, lounging back in their chairs with their legs slightly sprawled out.

When they began, each musician's remarkable control of their tone quality and bow strokes was most noticeable. This was especially observed in the performance of Mozart's Quartet in A Major, K.464, where each note was delicately played with light *marcato*, and repeated eighth notes were

meticulously steady. Even when the musicians were playing high up on the fingerboard, the sound was pleasantly full. However, at many times, the piece was treated by the musicians as more of a procedural warm-up exercise than the gracefully poetic song that it is.

The players' intonation was showcased next in the Quartet No. 2, by Benjamin Britten, a chillingly melodic piece that utilizes dissonant parallel lines to create a haunting atmosphere. I especially liked the cello's cadenza in the third movement, which featured almost jazzy chords and improvisational feel.

Unfortunately, throughout the concert, communication between the members of the quartet was lacking. It was almost heart-wrenchingly disappointing to watch the first violinist restrain himself from jumping out of his chair from the emotional quality of the music while the other musicians kept their heads buried in their stands.

This was worst in Debussy's Quartet in G Minor. The remarkable bow stroke I raved about from the Mozart also came back to haunt me like coffee and onion indigestion in the Debussy. Where the musicians should have used a heavier bow stroke, the pervasive tenuto instead possessed every note, giving a much too languid feel to the piece.

However, of the three pieces, the Debussy quartet was still most well suited for these musicians, who seem to play best in solo situations.

Rolling pizzicato introduced the second movement, the charmingly secretive melody

of the upper strings supported by the viola's insistent eighth notes. The first violin then took over the repeating eighth notes, providing a mischievous pixie-like dance quality to the song. As the piece transitioned through trills into another one of Debussy's simple but exotically pleading melodies, the first violinist again took over the show, coupling well-placed hints of a glissando with the lingering notes.

The third movement was especially notable, where the whispery dream-like opening rippled along sensually until the viola boldly entered with a sweetly ambiguous line. The stirring theme was then taken by the first violinist, who played with a pleading intensity. This motif was then delivered to the cellist, who started off the richly deep reply with much potential, but then ended his line too quickly, with a disheartening, dull note.

This extreme contrast from the cellist's earlier virtuosity nagged at me for the rest of the concert; I have yet to understand why he went from playing with so much flair in the Britten to treating the Debussy theme so clumsily.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH
The Vermeer Quartet performs at Kresge Auditorium on Friday night as part of the MIT Guest Artist Series.

It was during select times like this one that I felt even more frustrated with the Vermeer Quartet, who clearly have potential to be amazing but instead refuse to show that they actually enjoy playing the music.

BSO: Harbison 'Requiem'

Harbison, from Page 1

of the piece.

The piece closely follows the traditional setting of the text, utilizing fugues and counterpoint in all the established lines and verses. Even the distribution of the text between chorus and soloists is fairly traditional. Despite that, the piece is full of surprises that come from the musical interpretation of the words. All the imperatives are generally treated as very loud, forceful *tutti*.

In the *introit*, "exaudi orationem meam" (hear my prayer) sounds loud and desperate. The same way, "salva me, fons pietatis" (save me, fountain of mercy) is repeated in a manner that denotes hopelessness. Notable effects are achieved by the tasteful use of brass. The "Dies irae, dies illa" passage is dominated by two chromatic scales in the trumpets.

"Tuba mirum spargens sonum" is not a victory trumpet call but rather a lamenting, jazzy trumpet and trombone duet, with mutes and bendings that frighten and confuse. A marvelous treatment of "mors stupebit et natura" (death and nature are stunned) features a *ritardando* in a syncopated melodic line on top of a scarce accompaniment.

All the fugues in the piece show Harbison's predilection for chromatic scales, aiming perhaps to the idea of restlessness and desperation. There is no center of gravity, the melody is mostly free floating. The "Kyrie Eleison" and the "Quam olim Abrahae" are

excellent examples, the first for the chorus and the second for the soloists.

Other special effects are achieved using the ultra-wide range of percussion. "Lux perpetua luceat eis" sounds very transparent and bright, by use of bells, triangles, vibraphone and harp. The same way, the ending section of the piece, "In paradisum," acquires ethereal qualities, concluding the piece in sublimation, by the use of celeste and vibraphone in an intimate collaboration with solo violin and harp.

Harbison's *Requiem* received a splendid performance by the BSO, under the direction of Bernard Haitink, the ensemble's Principal Guest Conductor. The intricacies of this new piece have been addressed with care, and the balance and overall dynamics have been worked out very well, delivering a noteworthy premiere of a remarkable *Requiem* worthy of its predecessors.

The other piece in the program, Beethoven's Symphony No. 4, received a pleasant performance, although it was not as refined as it could have been. Excellent dynamics and articulation through the fast movements were delightful, yet a too fast slow movement, with slight inconsistencies in the winds and brass sections, contributed to an overall good-but-not-great feeling.

Though the series of concerts in Boston has finished its run, the BSO will travel to New York to deliver another performance of the Harbison *Requiem* tomorrow night at Carnegie Hall.



MIT NEWS OFFICE
Institute Professor and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Harbison had his *Requiem* premiered at the BSO last week.

POP REVIEW

Enslaving the Masses

Audioslave Takes Command at Avalon

By Petar Simich

STAFF WRITER

Audioslave and Burning Brides

Avalon

March 3, 10 p.m.

Audioslave, the new band formed by the former musicians of Rage Against The Machine and the former vocalist of Soundgarden, came through Boston last week on their first American tour promoting their self-titled debut album.

Expectations have been high for this supergroup, and sure enough, they left the audience wanting more.

The opening act was Burning Brides, a Philadelphia-based metal band consisting of Dimitri Coats (vocals/guitar), Mike Ambs (drums), and Melanie Campbell (bass). Their sound had heavy hints of Black Sabbath, Slayer, and even the darker elements of Soundgarden, which was rather fitting for the occasion.

Coats handled the vocals very well, his singing accented with the occasional Tom Araya scream, and the guitar parts were rather dynamic with ample use of the wah pedal and other effects. Ambs' drumming was decent but didn't seem that natural or comfortable because of his stiff appearance. His arms didn't even look like they would bend at the elbow. And then there was Campbell, the token female bassist. Don't get me wrong, she played fine, but nowadays if there is going to be a female in a rock band she's most likely going to be the bassist. Where the heck are the girl lead guitarists?

Burning Brides ended their set to all-around cheers from the audience, and then I noticed how incredibly packed the room was. It took a 110-percent effort to get from one point to another, and I was stuck at not the greatest but a reasonable spot by one of the bars. Wow, and this was only the first night of Audioslave's stay in Boston. I also noticed that a large proportion of the audience members were in their thirties. I was doing the same thing that these guys did twenty years ago for Rage Against The Machine and Soundgarden. Man, did that make me feel young.

Chaos ensued when Audioslave took the stage. Tom Morello walked out in his pseudo Boy Scout uniform, strapped on his guitar, and launched into the opening riff of "Gasoline," while the ever-amazing Chris Cornell took the microphone and soon had the entire crowd singing along with him. That was the most remarkable thing about the show: practically everyone knew all the lyrics and was

singing along with Cornell. Audioslave hasn't existed for a year and their album has been out for only a few months, yet everyone was in a fit of fervor for this holy combination of Rage and Soundgarden.

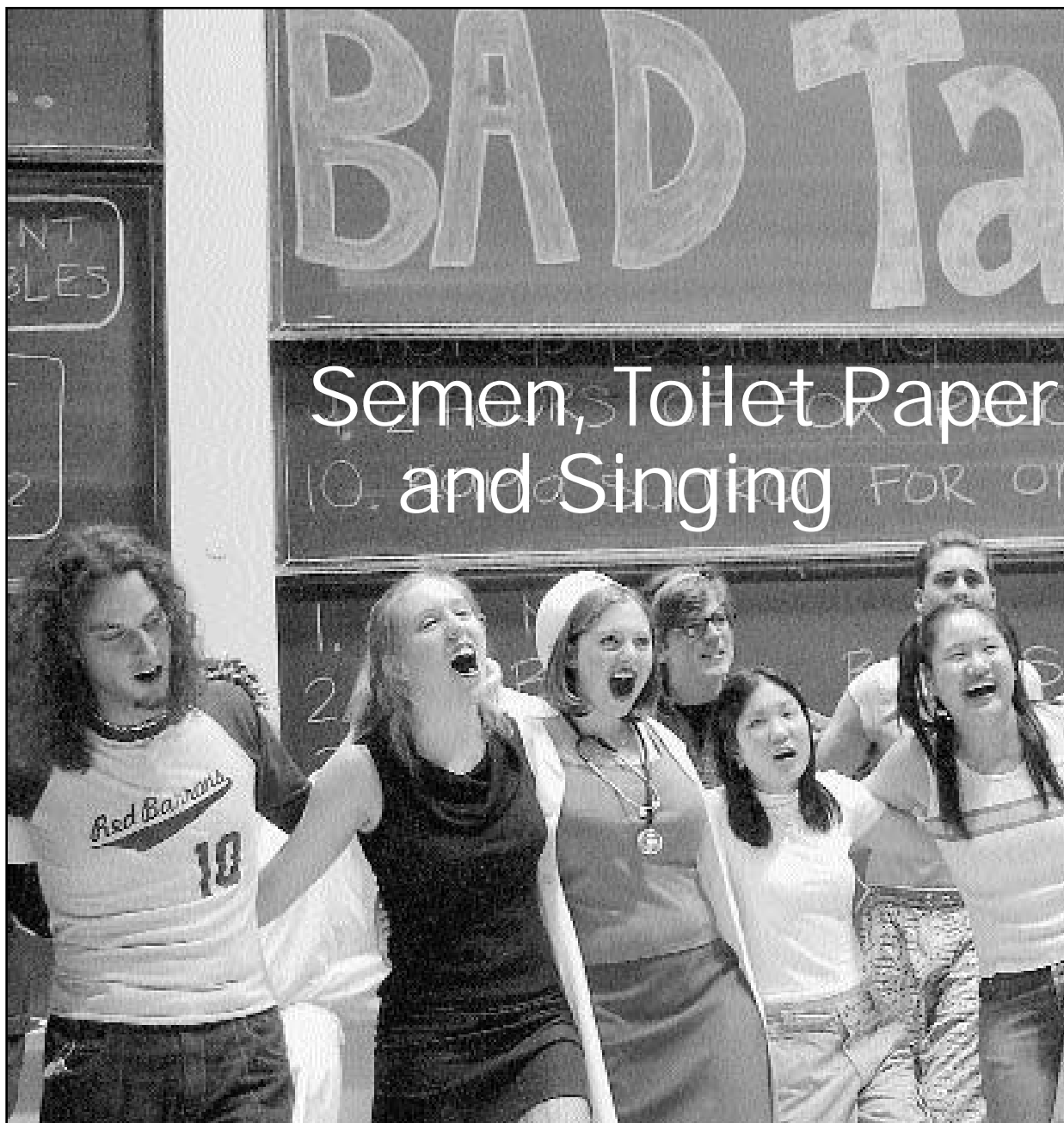
Tim Commerford bobbed along with his mad sans plectrum bass skills while Brad Wilk provided his unrelenting drumming. Morello was all over the stage cycling through the wide array of his trademark weird-yet-cool guitar effects and styles and flashing the occasional peace sign, not forgetting his responsibility as a musician to educate the masses on political matters. Cornell did an excellent job as a front man, commanding the audience with his powerful voice and smashing up his mike stand. Although he can't shriek like he did ten years ago, his singing that night was at the top of his game, even better than on many of the thirty plus Soundgarden bootlegs that I have.

The band went through most of the songs on their album including an unknown one, which the audience pretended to know the lyrics to. The best performances that night were also the best songs on the album: "Like a Stone" and "The Last Remaining Light." Ironically, the reason they are the best songs is because they are the ones that sound the least like Rage. Sure, Rage songs with those distinctive, imposing riffs are good, but it gets old and uncreative after hearing them in almost every Rage and in several Audioslave songs. The two mentioned above, however, take a slower and less muscular approach, resembling Cornell's solo material.

But whatever the song was, whether the fast-paced and danceable "Hypnotize" or the traditional quiet verse/ explosive chorus "Shadow on the Sun," the audience quickly devoured it and screamed for more. When Morello came back out for the encore he exchanged his scout uniform for a t-shirt of his alma mater, Harvard (I was tempted to voice my disapproval).

The show ended with the unexpectedly laid back "I Am the Highway," with Cornell strumming on an acoustic guitar and a fiery version of the radio favorite "Cochise." As the band left the stage, Morello flashed his peace sign again and the audience responded with peace signs and more cheers. If Morello jumped off of a cliff, so would the audience.

Audioslave put on an overall excellent live show. Despite the fame from their past connections and the middle-aged guy right behind me guy singing (very badly) along to every single frickin' Audioslave song, they have some real potential to be a remarkable band.



(clockwise from top left)

Daniel O. Bates '05 retaliates against a rowdy audience using the traditional Bad Taste weapon: a disc gun.

Current and former members of the Chorallaries perform "The Engineers' Drinking Song."

Emily C. Vincent '04 (in the role of criminal Magnetic Field) is bombarded by a roll of toilet paper during a physics-pun-filled skit entitled "Newtonian Law and Order" as Geoffrey A. Becker '05 looks on.

Daniel Bersak '03 solos during the Chorallaries final encore (given at the unusually early hour of 12 midnight): "Beastiality."

Bad Taste, from Page 1

leaving them homeless.

Because, you see, the Chorallaries came right out at the beginning of Bad Taste and informed the unruly lynch mob of an audience that they weren't going to hold back for fear of hurting anyone. Jesus himself (Daniel Bersak '03) strutted out and announced that all women, uncircumcised men, Jews, Catholics, circumcised men, Asians, and persons named Aimee Smith were going to be roundly insulted, assuming, of course, that the Chorallaries covered all their bases.

Throughout this introduction and well into the rest of the show, the audience members seemed to be producing unspeakable amounts of paper products, and they were not afraid to use them to express frustration with the Chorallaries' actions, express agreement with their sentiments, or just marvel at the sight of a whole ream of paper tossed into the air gently floating downward to cover the room.

And the toilet paper. Don't be surprised if you are unable to wipe your ass in the coming weeks anywhere in the Institute, unless you're shitting

somewhere in the first 10 rows of 10-250, where I'm sure you'll find plenty of TP.

So, that was how Bad Taste began.

From Jesus's introduction, the show descended into a chaotic frenzy of skits and music, solo and group acts. Like the elusive figures that come to you (or on you) in your dreams, one act blended into the next and the intensity ramped up until you found yourself screaming "AFRICA!" repeatedly in an agitated fury without really understanding why.

Technology enabled active licking

At their best, the sketches and songs were acerbic, dead-on portraits of everything wrong with MIT and the world. The opening musical piece "The Business" (a reworked version of Cake's "The Distance," performed by Benjamin M. Schwartz '05 and Jonathon R. Long '06) blasted MIT's uncaring, corporation-like behavior, mentioning everything from rising tuition costs to network outages.

In "Story Hour With the Administration," Ross I. Runnion '04 covered MIT's seemingly oblivious perspective on eliminating pass/ no record

grading for frosh. Emily C. Vincent '04, as a junior, responded perfectly to a freshman's request for help in 8.02: "Hah, I took 8.02 pass/fail, I don't know that shit!" Meanwhile, unhelpful TA "Vishnu" directed freshman with questions to "go to the Web site — it's SO easy!"

On a somewhat related topic, "Give Me an 'A,'" sung by Charlene Chuang in a duet with Vincent, saw a student wrestling with the age-old question of whether spitting or swallowing means the difference between getting a B or an A from your TA.

Throughout Bad Taste, the best comedy always came back to ways the MIT administration acted carelessly or cluelessly with regard to the undergraduate population and its needs. In fact, a theme of this year's bad taste was "Building a Better Community," a brilliant riff on MIT's perplexingly self-congratulatory attitude in all its endeavors to make students' lives miserable.

The Chorallaries, of course, have good reason to sing the administration's flaws to the world. Once upon a time (i.e., last year and every year before that), Bad Taste started at mid-





...d went as late as it damn well
 . This year, the group was
 to start earlier and was very
 forced to hold the event in a dif-
 foom. In truth, I would say the
 arries went easy on the Chuck
 l friends, all things considered.

Invitate to Newton

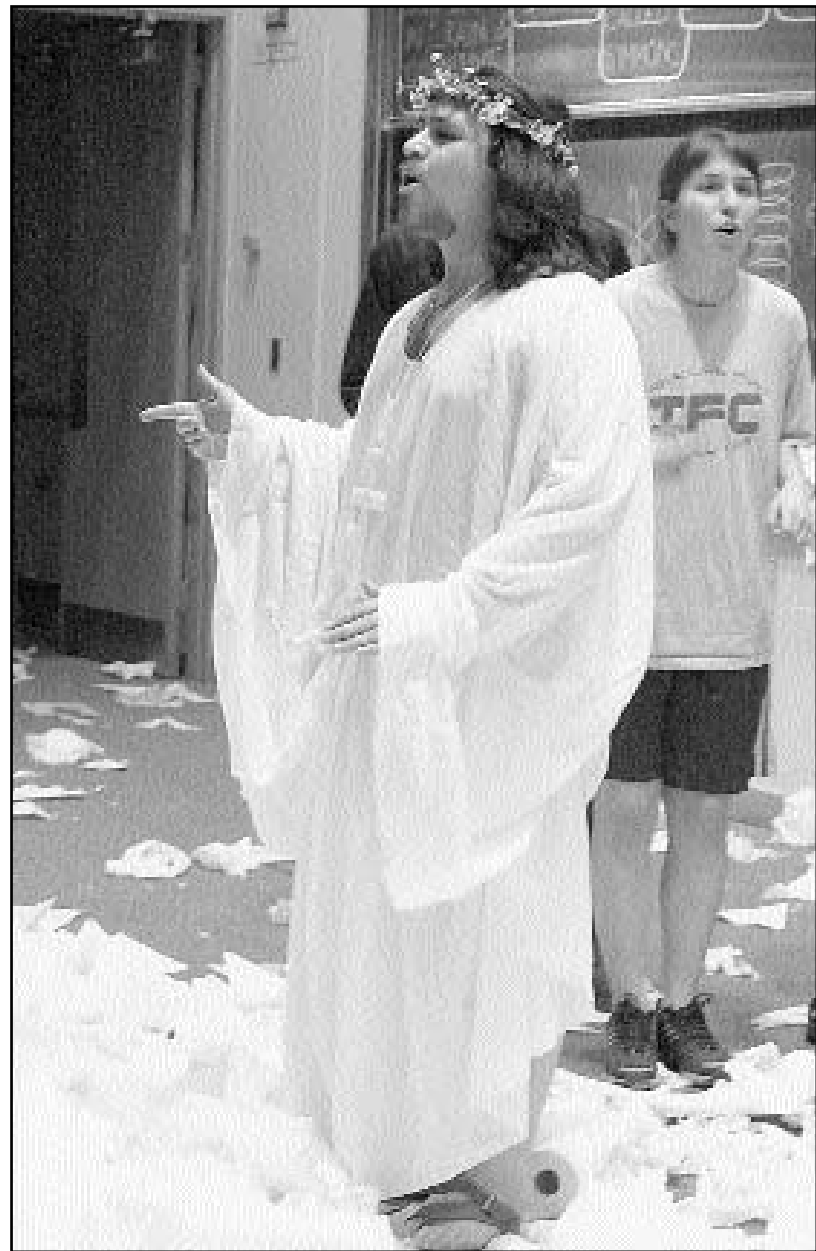
...ost cases, the Chorallaries
 d to show even worse taste
 e administration, and to great
 "Good Masturbator," sung with
 ent evocation of Sade by Leah
 04, gave some deserved atten-
 he acts of chronic onanism and
 ation, eliciting more than a few
 laughs from the crowd.

...of the evening's highlights,
 ...of the biggest draws of tossed
 and boos from the crowd, was
 ...nian Law and Order," the tale
 policemen (Archie Medes and
 ewton) trying to track down a
 electric field responsible for
 g some fundamental laws.
 found this sketch particularly
 he audience for the most part
 t of its way to make its groans
 Why would they do such a
 Your Gauss is as good as mine.



All in all, there were very few
 missed notes throughout the evening.
 While one or two of the sketches
 might have fallen short, the Chorallaries
 were, musically, absolutely pitch-
 perfect. For songs that were all jokes
 and parodies, it was clear that the
 group spent its time rehearsing and
 getting them right.

It is true that Bad Taste is a jarring
 experience. Anyone who sees the
 show for the first time will never be
 the same. However, it is quite pleasing
 that the show was kept alive despite
 the administration's attempts to stifle
 it, since MIT just wouldn't be the
 same without Bad Taste.



Call for Nominations!

2003 Student Art Awards

LOUIS SUDLER PRIZE IN THE ARTS

The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts is presented annually to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence or the highest standards of proficiency in music, theater, painting, sculpture, design, architecture or film. The Prize was established in 1982 by Mr. Sudler, a performer in the arts and an arts patron from Chicago. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 award to the honoree.

LAYA and JEROME B. WIESNER STUDENT ART AWARDS

The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

Please send nominations by Friday, March 21, 2003 to:
Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT
E15-205 - cohen@media.mit.edu

Tuition, Other Expenses to Top \$40,000 Next Year

By Nathan Collins
NEWS EDITOR

The estimated cost of a year at MIT will pass the \$40,000 mark next year.

Tuition and fees will rise to \$29,600, an increase of 4.9 percent, for the 2003-2004 academic year. Last year's tuition was \$28,230, and Student Financial Services estimated the cost of books and living expenses at about \$10,830, according to their Web site.

"This year's tuition increase enables MIT to maintain the high quality of its programs and the distinction of its faculty in a highly competitive environment," said Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine in a News Office statement.

Undergraduate Association President Josiah D. Seale '03 said that the competitiveness of MIT's cost was an issue in the decision. "A minor difference in price can make all the difference" for a high-school student deciding between two top schools, he said.

"They're trying to make sure they don't throw us out of the ballpark" with an excessive increase, Seale said.

The statement focuses almost exclusively on financial aid. In the next academic year, "undergraduates receiving financial aid will have increased flexibility in choosing

their student loan and term-time earnings amounts," said Elizabeth Hicks, executive director of Student Financial Services.

Students without scholarships must contribute \$5,500 in "self-help" from work-study, loans, and summer earnings in order to be eligible for financial aid.

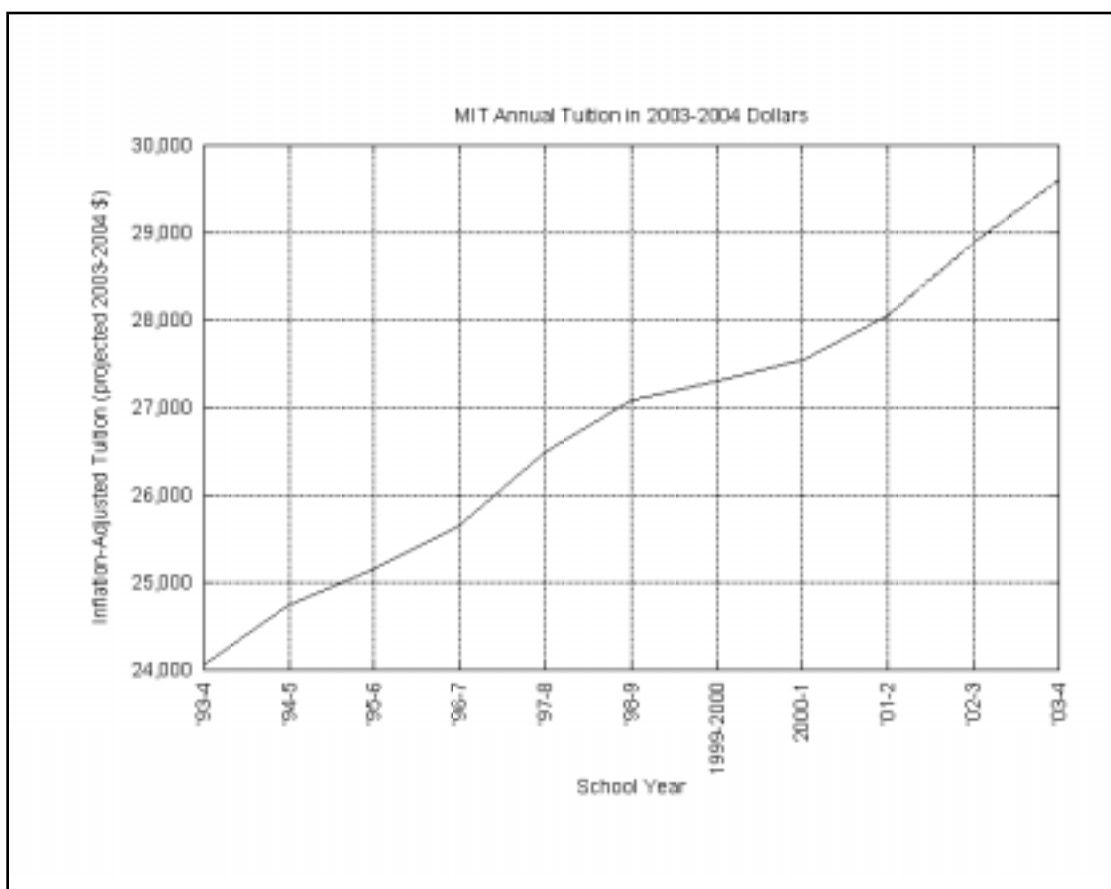
Seale said that MIT "is trying to revamp the self-help program to a more reasonable setup" where freshmen, who have fewer marketable skills, would have to contribute less than juniors or seniors.

The release said that, because of the current economic downturn, students "will have expanded options for borrowing and working in the event they are unable to meet their expected summer earnings expectation."

Financial aid payments will reach almost \$70 million next year and almost eighty percent of undergraduates receive some form of aid, according to the statement.

Seale said he asked Provost Robert A. Brown whether a tuition increase was linked to changes in the self-help requirements and was told the two were unrelated.

Tuition and fees increases over the last ten years have typically been three and a half to six percent. This year the increase is a little more than two percent in inflation-adjusted dollars.



SOURCES: MIT NEWS OFFICE, MIT PROVOST'S OFFICE, BANC OF AMERICA CAPITAL MANAGEMENT (CPI PROJECTION)

MIT's tuition will increase by 4.9 percent this year, or by 2.2 percent over inflation. The change is on par with the last decade of increases. Tuition accounts for roughly a quarter of MIT's operating expenses.

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Solution to Checkmate

from page 7

1. Nf6+ Bxf6 2. Bxc6 winning a queen

Solution to Crossword

from page 7

H	O	N	E	A	S	S	E	T	B	O	A	R		
A	V	I	D	L	E	A	S	H	U	G	L	I		
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N	E	T	S	T	R	I	E	D	L	E	A	N		
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- 9) Talk about anything
- 10) Staying healthy

Classes
studying
problem sets
boyfriend
girlfriend
pressures
workload

roommates
more classes
more studying
more

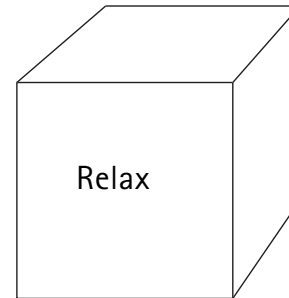


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'Treasures of Siam' Exhibits Thai Cultural Dances



Left, from left to right: Watjana Lilaonitkul G, Panitarn Wanakamol G, Temchit Tantikul, and Korntipa Boonyasatian perform Tareegeepas, a fan dance.

Above: Dalin Janpathompong (front) and Jaturada Aksharanugraha pose gracefully in the Sukhothai dance.

Above left, from left to right: Anilrat Nitisaroj G, Jaturada Aksharanugraha, and Pranisa Boonkham in the dance Rabum Sukhothai.

Treasures of Siam, a joint Harvard-MIT Thai cultural production, took place last Sunday night in Walker Memorial.

Photography by Dong Wang

Bubble Tea, Virtual Jukebox May Fill in Former Coffeehouse Space

By Keith J. Winstein
NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

An MIT graduate's bubble tea startup company is currently the leading candidate to occupy the Coffeehouse space in the Student Center.

Ping Ping Chai, a startup company founded by Gong Ke Shen '99 with outside investors, is seeking to open its "contemporary and casual tea cafe" in the Coffeehouse space, Shen said.

The company is so far the only contender to have made a formal proposal for the space, said Undergraduate Association Speaker Benjamin J. Zeskind '03, stressing that the selection process was still in its preliminary stages.

"We're really still at this stage of exploring different options and trying to figure out what students want and what's in the best interest of the majority of students," he said, referring to the Campus Activities Complex advisory board of student representatives that will make a recommendation for use of the space.

"I think they'd like to have something in place by when classes start in September," he said.

An online petition for bubble tea in the Student Center organized by Johnathan C. King '04, who also appeared before the advisory board, has garnered more than 400 signatures.

The board has also supported an effort by Mary K. Thomson G to survey student preferences for use of the space, Zeskind said.

MIT is not willing to fund new ventures in the Coffeehouse space, Zeskind said at yesterday's UA Senate meeting. A competing proposal for the space "would need outside

funding to be competitive, because [MIT doesn't] have any money to spare," he said.

Tea cafe plans modern ambience

Bubble tea is a sweet flavored tea originating in Taiwan in the early 1980s and commonly mixed with balls of tapioca, giving rise to an alternate name, "pearl tea."

"We hope to have a variety of offerings," Shen said in an interview. "Not just teas, but pastry, maybe some snacks, steamed buns or pork buns or something."

Pricing would be "reasonable," she said. "If we do go into the Coffeehouse, the advisory committee will probably be involved in the pricing," she said. For bubble tea in Boston, "the normal price is about three dollars."

"Instead of just serving tea," Shen said, "we also hope to have more technology focus. Not just because we're working at MIT, but because I think it would work pretty well with our modern casual theme."

"Something we're working on right now is a virtual jukebox connected to a touch screen," she said.

After working for Akamai, "I wanted to start my own company, but because tech is down right now, it's harder to get funding for tech," she said.

"I did some market research and found that Boston is pretty much a void for bubble tea," she said, adding that her company, at which she is so far the only full-time employee, is "getting funding from angel investors," private investors who function less publicly than venture capitalists.

"Our plan is probably to hire

non-students during most of our day hours," she said. "In the evening hours, we hope to be open fairly late, so we will definitely look into students."

"I think it would be good, you know, adding more variety to the drinks at the Student Center," said Torsak Luanphaisarnnont '04, who has tasted Ping Ping Chai's tea. "I like it."

UA votes against flag pin proposal

In separate developments last night, the UA Senate narrowly defeated a proposal by Zeskind and Matthew W. Bilotti '03 of MacGregor House to allocate \$375 to purchase 500 American flag lapel pins to distribute to students.

"This was conceived out of a notion of patriotism, pride in one's country," Bilotti said at the meeting. But many senators questioned what message the UA would give by distributing flag pins in the upcoming weeks.

"It's very likely we're going to be dropping bombs in like a week or a week and a half," said Jacob W. Faber '04, who is running for UA vice president.

Harel M. Williams '04, another VP candidate, suggested allocating money to buy "an equal amount of anti-war pins."

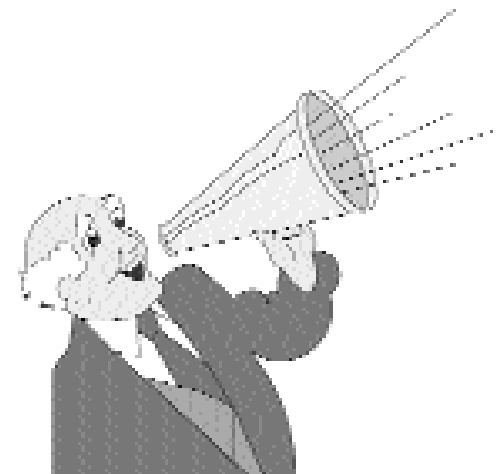
Bilotti said the comparison was not appropriate. "I don't consider the American flag a pro-war sentiment," he said.

The Senate voted against the proposal 8-12. Zeskind said several councilors had approached him and Bilotti after the meeting to discuss funding the flag pin purchases with private donations.

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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.

Learning and Design Join in New Spaces

By Muyinatu A. Lediju

Five principles — community, intensity, variety, flexibility, and ubiquity — underlie MIT's changing approach to architecture and learning, said Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning William J. Mitchell.

Mitchell described the approach in an address last Friday as part of MacVicar Day, an annual day focused on educational issues.

These five principles went into the renovation of six undergraduate classrooms, including the Technology Enabled Active Learning room that is home to 8.02, a class most MIT students must now take.

Expanding on his five principles for education, Mitchell said that there is a need for a sense of community at MIT. Although students are here to learn, students also need a social life to facilitate the learning process.

A university should also provide spaces that foster interaction, Mitchell said.

He said classrooms should be designed to support the variety of learning styles found at MIT. Part of the goal is to integrate such tools as audio-visual materials, video projectors, whiteboards, and laptops.

Architecture, he said, should be flexible so that it does not get in the way of learning. "If you build into the architecture the rigid presumption of how things should be done, it won't always work out," Mitchell said.

Learning takes place everywhere, he said, so a university's overall design should support teaching and learning 24 hours a day.

Helen Samuels, MacVicar Day coordinator, said that the changes were not made just to make classrooms look pretty. Instead, the changes reflect faculty members' belief that no single model for teaching is best, she said.

Samuels said that the renovations are still in an experimental phase, and that student reaction will help determine which spaces succeed.

TEAL designed for learning

Mitchell cited TEAL, the MIT/Wellesley Teacher Education Program, and the Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center as examples of these educational goals.

TEAL embodies variety in education, Mitchell said, by incorporat-

ing lecture, recitation, and hands-on experiments in one presentation.

Students taking 8.02 (Physics) use animated simulations designed to help them visualize concepts in electromagnetism and carry out experiments in groups during class. Each group has a laptop computer to view lecture slides and collect data from experiments.

So far, student reaction to the new format for 8.02 has been mixed, and the Student Committee on Educational Policy will consider the matter at its regular meeting this Thursday.

The Park Room for Innovative Education, Room 3-370, is similarly organized to make learning easier for students taking classes in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Tables in the room are designed to easily accommodate note-taking during lectures and table-top experiments.

Room 10-337, where the Teacher Education Program holds its classes, is designed to integrate work on and off computers. Kris R. Grymonpre '03, currently taking one of the Teacher Education Program courses, said that the room was beneficial to group discussions, a key aspect of his class.

Mitchell said the Zesiger Center helps make learning ubiquitous by bringing the entire MIT community together, noting that it is important to remember that teaching and learning also occur outside the classroom.

Further examples include the Aeronautics and Astronautics Learning Laboratory in Building 33. The space was renovated to teach with a methodology called CDIO, or "conceive, design, implement, operate."

The Undergraduate Architecture Studio in room 7-432 replaced drafting tables with computers and equipped the studios with network drops, CAD workstations, and ISDN lines for videoconferencing. The Shakespeare Electronic Archive in room 4-231 uses digital copies of original documents to aid in research.

Past MacVicar Day topics have included international education programs such as the Cambridge-MIT Institute, and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, founded by Margaret MacVicar '65, the day's namesake and a past dean for undergraduate education.

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Freshmen See Fewer Warning Flags in '02

Sophomore Standing, from Page 1

of them have to learn the hard way" what a reasonable MIT course load is, she said.

"The high number of students declaring sophomore status and getting rid of the credit limit seems to be a problem," said Professor Charles Stewart III, chair of the subcommittee that recommended that freshmen be put on grades second semester. "I worry that many of the students taking sophomore status are biting off more than they can chew," he said.

There are no credit limits for freshmen who declared sophomore standing, but "I hope their advisors reigned them in" and "are keeping their loads reasonable," Norman said.

"I think it's okay to declare sophomore standing as long as the person feels confident that they can take more classes," Venkatraman said, because "there are several opportunities for students to drop classes and lower their credit total if they need to."

Academic status main difference

"Sophomore standing is an academic classification," Norman said. In a December e-mail that she sent out to all eligible freshmen, Norman wrote, "if you elect sophomore status, you are not eligible to move off campus."

In addition to grading changes, this is also the first year in which MIT required first-year students – and not just academic freshmen – to live on campus.

Sophomore standing does give students some choices, however. Undergraduate Association Election Commissioner Seth E. Dorfman '05 said that those who declared sophomore standing were expected to vote for Class of 2005 officers by default,

but were given the option of petitioning to vote for Class of 2006 officers.

This year 38 students petitioned by the deadline to vote for '06 officers in response to an e-mail sent out by UA Technical Coordinator Mitchell E. Berger '03, and a few others responded later, Dorfman said.

In addition, freshmen who declared sophomore standing were invited to the sophomore formal, and one student who declared sophomore standing and plans on graduating early was allowed to purchase a Class of 2005 ring, Norman said.

In general, though, Norman said that first-term sophomores are still considered part of the Class of 2006 unless they go through a specific procedure to change that status.

Freshmen receive fewer flags

"This class did exceptionally well this fall as a group, academically. We saw fewer students on warnings or getting a letter from me. I think part of it was the motivation of knowing that they were going to be on grades this spring. Rather than just trying to get by, they tried harder," Norman said.

"Students need to have completed 25 percent of their undergraduate degrees, a majority of the General Institute Requirements, and at least one [Communication Intensive class] by the end of first term" to qualify for sophomore standing, Norman said. Credits earned during Independent Activities Period do not count towards this total.

"Traditionally students who declare sophomore standing don't graduate any sooner. They may pick up a minor or second major. It lets them pick up some other classes they're interested in rather than just graduating early," Norman said.

Morality, Teaching Concerns Leave Some Profs Conflicted

Faculty, from Page 1

believe that the decision to wage war at this time is morally unacceptable, and urge our government not to make it."

Anti-war group talks to faculty

Anne M. Pollack G, the faculty coordinator for the MIT Anti-War Coalition, said that the coalition has been approaching faculty with a letter stating the anti-war position. In addition, the coalition asks professors to cancel or reschedule their classes on the day of the walk-out, or to allow their students to participate in the walk-out without penalty.

"We're trying to create an environment where people can participate," Pollack said. "Faculty are at liberty to reschedule their classes."

Pollack added that some professors who are unable to participate in the walk-out but still support the cause have offered financial support for several rallies.

According to a press statement from the Anti-War Coalition, "dozens of faculty" have endorsed the statement.

Professors consider walkout

Many faculty have mixed feelings about a walkout and have heard little from MIT administrators.

Kanwisher supports the walkouts, but only if the professors have the option to reschedule their classes. She added that during the anti-Vietnam war protests, walkouts were permitted as long as the missed classes were rescheduled.

"I hope that any faculty who can do it will choose to do it, but that they will also reschedule," Kanwisher said.

"This war is the most dangerous thing the country has done in my

lifetime, but we faculty also have a responsibility to our students," she said.

"I haven't decided," said Professor of Mathematics Haynes R. Miller. "I have a responsibility to my students as well as to my conscience."

Professor of Nuclear Engineering Mujid A. Kazimi is involved in many anti-war groups, but will not participate in the walkout. "I think we can send a signal of our dissatisfaction without disrupting our productive lives," Kazimi said. "Let's do the protest outside of this."

"I'd certainly reschedule things, and I'd make it easier for students to participate," Miller said. But "I'd find other ways to oppose this political development."

Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Robert C. O'Handley is also considering walking out. "I'd have to think about it, and the impact it would have. Vietnam certainly impacted my classes," O'Handley said. "The administration doesn't seem to care to listen to anyone except for a few close advisors."

Professor of Urban Studies and Planning Duncan S. Kincaid will participate in the walkout. "It won't be an issue for me," said Kincaid, since he does not have classes that conflict with the walk-out.

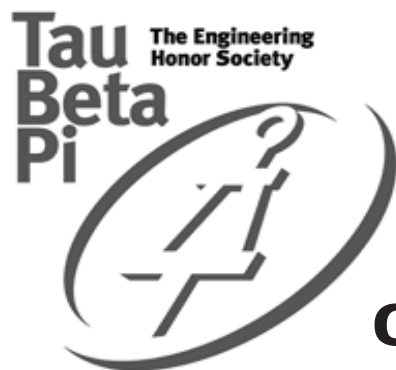
"I haven't thought about it," said Assistant Professor of Linguistics and Philosophy Daniel Fox. "I hope that my students participate. ... If the students decide to walk out, I will consider changing the classes, of course."

Kanwisher, the brain and cognitive sciences professor, travelled to New York City to participate in the large Feb. 15 protests there.

"There are many [faculty] who are involved in anti-war activities of all kinds," Kanwisher said. "There were eight others on the bus [to New York City] with me."

Last September, over fifty faculty signed a petition, titled "An Open Letter From The Academic Community Opposing a U.S. Invasion of Iraq." Kanwisher was involved with putting the petition on the Internet.

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