Carpenters Sue MIT

In Third Wrongful Death Suit, Parents Say Failure to Stop Harassment Led to Suicide

By Keith J. Weinstein

The parents of Julia M. Carpenter '03, who committed suicide in April 2001, have filed a wrongful death lawsuit against MIT, several Institute officials, and Charvak P. Karpe '04.

Carpenter's parents will seek more than $20 million in damages for her death, which they say resulted from MIT's failure to stop a string of harassment by Karpe, who lived in the same dormitory, Random Hall, as Carpenter.

Karpe allegedly became obsessed with Carpenter, and, according to the lawsuit filing, made vague references to a plot against her and her boyfriend, camped out and slept on a couch in the lounge outside her room, monitored her instant message conversations, and stole a video of Carpenter having sex with her boyfriend, which he allegedly showed to other students.

"I didn't mean any harm, and it wasn't meant to be doing anything to hurt her," Karpe said in an interview last week. "I feel that many of the things I did back then don't make sense to me anymore. I look back, and I'm confused now, and I don't understand the things I did anymore."

But, Karpe stressed in a later e-mail, "I had absolutely no contact with Julie for 3 months before she died, I hadn't even heard from her, or tried to communicate with her, or done anything to hurt her, or tried to communicate with her."

\[\text{Carpenters Sue MIT} \]

Health Premiums Up 60 Percent

By Nathan Collins

Kirk D. Kolenbrander, the special assistant to the president and chancellor, said in a Friday e-mail that the individual Extended Hospital Insurance premium will increase to $1,440 a year from $900 a year.

The increase in $545 per month, he said. The $440 premium increase is for non-dependent and other affiliates and will also increase by 60 percent.

"The S440 health fee, which is built into tuition and covers basic care at MIT, will not increase," he said.

The premium increase will be partly offset by an increase in graduate student stipends. MIT announced Friday a $30 increase in the graduate student stipend over the $1,950 per month stipend set in February, adding up to a net $15 per month increase in the cost to a graduate student.

Kolenbrander said that the cost to undergraduates on financial aid will be "largely offset," and for undergraduates not on financial aid or undergraduates who pay their own way, the increase will be the equivalent of "a tuition increase." He said that about half of MIT undergraduates use the extended insurance plan.

In addition, "we've committed to turning this into a monthly payment," without interest, Kolenbrander said. At the second of two Graduate Student Council-sponsored town meetings in late May, MIT officials suggested using a bursar's office payment plan — with interest — to mitigate the impact of the premium increase, but the idea did not appear to go over well with students in attendance.

With monthly payments, MIT has "lessened the bump in September," Kolenbrander said.

\[\text{Health Premiums Up 60 Percent} \]
Hamas May Return to Talks With Palestinian Authority

By Greg Myre

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Grand Juries Investigate Houston Crime Lab

Two grand juries investigating reports of shoddiness and ineptitude in Houston's police crime laboratory have widened their inquiry to include local prosecutors, asking about their potential criminal culpability for winning convictions with weak evidence.

Rejecting the coy defense that grand juries typically put to district attorneys, the Houston grand juror who presided over the investigation said Tuesday: "We are looking at all the facts."

The grand juries operate in secret, supervised by judges, though the indictments and occasional reports they issue are typically public. Ted Poe, a district judge in Harris County, who supervises one of the grand juries, said the precise scope of the inquiries is unknown.

"All we know is that two grand juries are investigating the DNA lab here," he said. "Both are bringing in witnesses and both have not requested help from the district attorney and both have not said why. It's very unusual." Witnesses who appear before Texas grand juries are forbidden to talk about their testimony. But the people called to testify so far, including journalists, scientists and lawyers, suggest that the inquiry is wide-ranging.

Two witnesses interviewed before they testified described what they understood to be the scope of the inquiry and what they intended to say.

"In general," said one witness, William C. Thompson, a professor of criminalistics at the University of Houston, who has studied the Houston police laboratory's work, "they are looking into criminal misconduct in the crime lab and in the prosecution of cases relying on evidence from the crime lab."

Chinese Dam Closes Gates Flooding 350-Mile Stretch

There's an odd calm along this part of the Yangtze, no jubilation and no weeping, as the tawasy waters lap several feet higher each day and a 350-mile stretch of this mightiest of rivers is finally transformed into a long narrow lake.

After decades of bitter debate, years of heavy construction and the uprooting of 400,000 people, the Three Gorges Dam has closed its gates.

On June 13, the reservoir will be filled to its interim level of 135 meters, or 443 feet above sea level. The next day, the first commercial ships will pass through the locks, heralding the eventual passage of ocean vessels hundreds of miles upstream to Chongqing, a booming metropolis in central China.

In August, two initial turbines from what will be the world's most colossal array of generators are to start spinning electricity — a down payment on the promised riches from a $25 billion megaproject with gains and perils that may be forever disputed.

"For the country as a whole, this project might be worthwhile," said Yang Hongwen, who runs an ailing small business in Fenjing, a city some 150 miles upstream from Chongqing, a booming metropolis in central China.

"But from the perspective of the ordinary people around here, it was a mistake," he said, surveying what had been the lower half of a lively bustling city of 500,000 people. "It's going to bring a lot of problems for us, including the air pollution, dust, the noise, the cost of living...

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Medicare Drug Benefits to Star In Congress Debate This Week

By Robert Pear

WASHINGTON

As Congress begins a wrestling, politically polarized debate over prescription drug benefits for the elderly this week, a central issue is whether the new Medicare plans can deliver better care, at lower cost, than the traditional Medicare program.

Much of the debate will focus on the merits of private plans: Will the new competition reduce drug prices? Will they work? They will certainly provide choices that may improve the quality of care?

If Congress wanted just to add drug coverage to Medicare, it could do so by adding a few words to Section 1322 of the Social Security Act, which defines the "scope of benefits." But Congress is beginning a much more fundamental debate about the future of Medicare and the role of every government-run or privately run program that defines the philosophical differences between the Republicans and the Democrats.

President Bush, most Republicans in Congress and some Democrats are determined that Medicare not pay for prescription drugs the way it pays doctors, hospitals and other health care providers: with a rigid, complex statutory formula that is tied to the realities of local health care markets.

They plan to speak to doctors in Illinois on Wednesday and visit a senior center in Connecticut on Thursday to explain their legislation adding drug benefits to Medicare. The full Senate and House are expected to vote on legislation on Monday.

The legislation will cover the uninsured for the first time in Medicare history, the Department of Health and Human Services announced Tuesday, and that later provides them before the disease appears on the head, which is supposed to be a tough season for the world's largest importers of crude oil. They expected demand for petroleum to look weak, Iraq's return to the oil market after the war to be strong, and possibly a "substantial" rise in stock.

But none of that has come to pass. So when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meets on Wednesday in Doha, Qatar, oil industry analysts said, it is likely to do nothing about curtailing the production levels.

"We are getting a somewhat murky picture of the situation from the senator," Will Hart, the spokesman.

The soldiers had completed a six-month tour of duty and were on their way to the Kabul airport to fly home when the attack occurred, he said. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the bombing.

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Institutional Wisdom Watch

Letters To The Editor

MIT Has Musical Talent

In the May 6 issue of The Tech, Dovid Madjus explained that the singing in the Musical Theatre Guild’s production of ‘Clue’ bordered on skit. He later stated that the singing was MIT’s answer not only to MTG but to the entire MIT musical community. While I cannot defend MTG’s performances, I have since never have seen any of their productions. I can defend MIT’s music perforation. The students and community members of MIT have exceptional talent when it comes to singing and playing. Our Resident Director, William Cutter, has prepared various challenging works of music, ranging from Handel’s Messiah to Broadway. The Chamber Choir has had members who hold music degrees from various colleges and conservatories.

Sullilvan Players’ show was a solid two hours of the best musical theater I’ve seen at MIT so far. MIT recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences showing the world that those areas are strong and thriving here. The singers of MIT have great gifts, and have been oppressed by people who still believe in the stereotypical view that MIT should stick to science and engineering because we have no talent in the humanities. They could not be more wrong.

Sonia Tang ’04
President, MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players

Opinion Policy

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the author’s signature, address, 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 the property of The Tech, and will not be returned. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Moral: theatrical entertainment is not always the domain of professional actors nor is it restricted to professional theaters. It is possible to find theatrical performances in unexpected places and settings. As for MIT’s “answer” to MTG’s production of ‘Clue’, it is a commendable effort by MIT’s musical community. Their performances indicate their potential to contribute to the broader theatrical landscape. They are not only capable of showcasing their musical talent but also their dedication and commitment to providing quality entertainment to the MIT community. Their efforts are truly commendable and值得 their praise.
Take Pride in Tech

Ken Nesmith

As this year's graduating class walks away with MIT degrees, it's worth considering what these degrees represent both for those who are done and those who remain. For those who remain, to whom shall be given... whom toll remains. At commencement cere-
monies, MIT, as a whole, is not done. Despite the con-
ventionally dubbed important work, unthoughtful techies and fosters ignorance of the materials are available to any
to do what we want to do. At this school, we deny the truth that a grade or degree is not merely a letter or a number, but a recognition of one's efforts and powers. Some of your future Old Stagers and friends will not find employment without the work they have done here, when they use the prod-
crime, difficulty, and worth of the world. The materials are available to any

The name of MIT can't
legitimately grant us anything; instead, we have to continue to build the name of MIT by the work we do here and beyond.

The Ombudsman

Salary Cuts:, Insurance, and Zephyr

By John A. Hawthornson

An Ombudsman's work is never done. Since it appears that the privileges of this unedited column extend to such ostentation as boldface, I'll keep including headings so you can pick and choose what to read. As always, I'll try to give a little more space to people with any concerns.

Salary cuts: Reader A wrote me about the rank one (top) story's headline last issue, "MIT Budget Tight, Salary Cuts Pos-
sible," suggesting that it seemed needlessly alarmist. I think that is a fair criticism, and that the"pressures will likely be sufficiently high that there can be no more assurances than that salary cuts are an option," Vest said "[emphasis mine]." Perhaps you'd get the "same news" from a New York Times or Washington Post story, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Anchorage Daily News, or Baked Alaska for dinner in 2005? Where was the real news in this story? How impor-
tant was it?

Insurance: The Tech missed the boat completely (Monday, May 12), as last issue was a story about the insurance crisis, and not student health costs would increase 70 per-
cent. It's good to have a big, bold title to grab the attention of those who skip Tuesday's Tech. The increase was announced at 11:18 p.m., maybe the news was too good to wait. But how about something about the ar-

The Reality of Inequality

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legitimately grant us anything; instead, we have to continue to build the name of MIT by the work we do here and beyond.
Philip Burrines

Jay Mathews has been on the staff of The Washington Post for decades. He is the author of several books on secondary level schools, and has his own column dedicated solely to education. So when heformula for ranking the best public high schools was introduced by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the Wall Street Journal, it caused a stir. But for Dow New Trier, whose entrance to the Brooklyn Bowl is just down the street from the school, saying, “Oh really? Well, I have a stake in this,” is not enough. Although it is not perfect, the AP Exam program has established itself as a definitive measure of a student’s knowledge and skills. One might question whether it is still accurate, or if it is merely an exercise in futility. But it is clear that the AP Exam is here to stay, and it is important for students to take it seriously.

Why Is Africa Unstable?

Basil Enwengwa

The term “Afro-pessimism,” coined by Robert Kaplan in the 1990s, quickly became popular among political commentators. By the end of the decade this has turned into a real fear of what is referred to as “Africa’s oncoming doom by chaos and instability” -- became unquestionably its defining characteristic. The widespread fear of the inevitable historical naivete, concerned that the ethnic and religious conflicts that have historically shaped Africa have been conquered by African leaders, has been especially feared as a trend that is likely to cause more conflict.

But there are obvious questions to ask why Africa conflict-ridden and incessantly unstable? Is Africa’s conflict situation historically unique? Or is it simply an extension of challenges that have accompanied societies that have no place to go. As far back as 1492, there was already conflict in Europe, with no less than 20 million Russians, 10 million Germans, and 1 million French, fighting each other. In the 20th century, with the infiltration of foreign arms and ammunition, the increase in technology, the rise of nationalism, and the rise of terrorism, the conflict has been exacerbated.

North America was not free from inescapable warfare. As far back as 1492, there was already conflict in Europe, with no less than 20 million Russians, 10 million Germans, and 1 million French, fighting each other. In the 20th century, with the infiltration of foreign arms and ammunition, the increase in technology, the rise of nationalism, and the rise of terrorism, the conflict has been exacerbated.

But do we really need to explore the very distant past to see how warfare was the order of the day, and how it shaped Western civilisation? Europe has never been free from warfare. The 20th century was not only the 20th century - it was the 20th century of a Europe that still enjoyed warfare, and that is certainly the European one in which it always was. The Cold War era, with the infiltration of foreign arms and ammunition, the increase in technology, the rise of nationalism, and the rise of terrorism, has exacerbated.

North America was not free from inescapable warfare. As far back as 1492, there was already conflict in Europe, with no less than 20 million Russians, 10 million Germans, and 1 million French, fighting each other. In the 20th century, with the infiltration of foreign arms and ammunition, the increase in technology, the rise of nationalism, and the rise of terrorism, the conflict has been exacerbated.

While the American unemployment rate in 2002, but only 1317 offered the E&M portion of AP classes even when they are available. A similar lag occurs amongst low-income students of all demographics, in no part small because even the AP exam fee — which is around a tenth of their annual income — is subsidized — can be economically prohibitive.

Even assuming that APs and IBs are indeed good measures of success for students in general, the experience of high school, the AP experience, the IB challenge, requires the students to make sacrifices and sacrifices. There is no question that these sacrifices are worthwhile.

The Center for Education, in its 2002 Annual Report on the State of Education, pointed out that “The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the Wall Street Journal, it caused a stir. But for Dow New Trier, whose entrance to the Brooklyn Bowl is just down the street from the school, saying, “Oh really? Well, I have a stake in this,” is not enough. Although it is not perfect, the AP Exam program has established itself as a definitive measure of a student’s knowledge and skills. One might question whether it is still accurate, or if it is merely an exercise in futility. But it is clear that the AP Exam is here to stay, and it is important for students to take it seriously.”

The AP Exam is not the only measure of success. Schools which select a majority of their seniors were taking APs, that 85 percent who do not also take IBs are both a moral and economic burden on society.

We try to divide it.

Disagree. I expect nothing less from you. Seek the truth but never believe that you have found it.

Disagree. I expect nothing less from you. Seek the truth but never believe that you have found it.

Find perspective, and if you do, please give me some.

In a big debate, it’s always both. Choose the one that suits you. The unknown doesn’t get smaller.

There are never enough boxes to fit everything.

Labeling the boxes adds to the confusion.

If we are all Sisyphus, we are at the bottom of the hill.

Youth is thinking about the questions that can’t be answered.

"Supposed to” is a figment of our imagination.

Nothing is mandatory.

Destabilize the status quo for something better.

Reality is in the eye of the beholder. So is beauty, order, and all the other inescapable concepts.

Our existence is based on the rest and it is up to us. 42 is better than nothing.

"But there is no time to focus. Balance is overrated. The jury is still out on happiness.

If you did not like kindergarten, those lessons will be learned.

Wisdom doesn’t come with age but with experience.

It is one world no matter how many ways they are to travel.

There is no "fill in the blank" so don’t worry for the proof.

There are no things never change. Hold onto those things.

Some advice better get with age; the rest you have to work for.

Expect nothing. Imagine everything. Love the unexpected anything in return. Dare to dream the impossible. Celebrate deviance.

Achievement change. Reward change.

Be passionate. Make every moment count.

Question everything.
“You can prevent colon cancer, even beat it.”
—Hillary Rodham Clinton

Colon cancer is the second leading cancer killer and everyone aged 50 and older is at risk. More than 50,000 Americans will die from colon cancer and 131,600 new cases will be diagnosed this year.

Colon cancer is an equal opportunity disease that affects both women and men. This silent killer frequently begins without symptoms and those with a family history are at even greater risk.

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Colon Cancer Roundtable

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Harold J. Pettegrove Award
Richard A. Hovan '03

Betsy Schumacker Award
Kelly A. Martens '03

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Sean P. Nolan G

D. Reid Weeden, Jr. '41 Alumniae Relations Award
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Christine M. Ortiz '04
Lauren E. Owens '03

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William C. Hanson, Leaders for Manufacturing

Frank E. Perkins Award
Professor Randall Davis, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

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Professor Gilbert Strang, School of Science
Emanuela Binello G, Whittaker College of Health Sciences and Technology
Professor Eran Ben-Joseph, School of Architecture and Planning

Micah O'Halloran G, School of Engineering
Professor Joseph Dumit, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

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Jeffrey A. Bowers G, Physics
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Kristin E. Finnegan Prize
Alexander F. Brown G
William J. Turkel G

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I Waited Four Years For This

"Enter the Matrix" Goes Straight to the Bargain Bin

By Chad Sargent

Published by Atari for the PC, Microsoft XBOX, and Sony Gamecube, and Made for PlayStation.

Rated T

My Golden Rule of Gaming: Eighty percent of licensed games fail. When a video game is based on a movie, comic book, or television show there is a good chance it will fail to deliver the fun and excitement that the property it is based on promises. Unfortunately, Enter the Matrix follows the Golden Rule. Hand gameplay, questionable graphics, and little fan service will (after the hype wears off) blunt this game to the bargain bin.

The story of Enter the Matrix runs concurrently with the story of Matrix Reloaded. Enter the Matrix stars Niobe, and her partner, Ghost. Instead of going into character development, or their own interesting subplot that coincidentally helps the primary group, Enter the Matrix follows the minor details that were not covered in the movie.

This game has the player control Niobe or Ghost as they go through the Matrix. Along the way, they have to fight cops, SWAT teams, and other enemies. The battle system is, unfortunately, not exciting. Niobe knows their kung fu, and the game gives several ways to punch, kick, disarm, and throw opponents. Unfortunately, there is little reason to pound the enemies, as they have better range, and disarming both throws the opponent and grabs his weapon. Kung fu quickly turns into button mashing.

There are of course a lot of firearms to pick up, and during gameplay the player may see just like kung fu, quickly becomes tedious and unrewarding. Each stage has plenty of cover, and the enemy AI is fairly weak, so gameplay turns into "wait for the AI to screw up and pump them full of lead." Another problem is the lack of ammo available. For the number of weapons the game has, almost all of them run out of ammo too quickly. Only the MP5 seems to last throughout a whole mission, because every cop apparently has one. So the main question: Will you be able to cope with cool slow motion effects and bullet trails?

Enter the Matrix calls this "Focus." It is a regenerating bar that, when activated, speeds up the player and allows them to shoot nearly infinite rounds. The gameplay is dodge bullet, run on walls, car-wheel around, perform ludicrously long jumps, and essentially perform the same moves repeatedly. Fill up the regen bar, then go to a spin kick, sport cool looks. With the loss of the Focus bar, you might as well not play the game at all.

Because the Focus bar regenerates at a very rapid rate, the flying and slicing you have seen in The Matrix turn into a game of hide-and-seek. Similar to bad drivers who abruptly start a sudden death, quick becomes tedious and boring. There are a few missions that are different and far from the picture. JT Petty's Soft for Digging starts out as his graphic thesis, film was when he was 20 years old. Soft for Digging tells the story of an old man, who, when looking for his cat, finds instead a girl and a murder — and a lot of lines of dialogue. Kind of reminds one of that Buffy the Vampire Slayer episode, "Hush."

The Documentaries

While some of the narrative features may have been less than stellar, the documentaries more than make up for it. Particularly impressive are Jesse Moss' Con Man and Speedo. In Con Man, Moss presents a fascinating account of the street corner sideshows and in and extraordinary talented runner, who apparently also enjoyed "torturing" recipients of his work. The body is a true work of art at Palo Alto High School, then at Princeton University. Moss' entry for the Sundance Shorts Festival, Speedo, follows legendary demolition derby driver Ed "Speedo" Jaguar's life and career. As in the film festival, the film festival, Speedo, follows legendary demolition derby driver Ed "Speedo" Jaguar's life and career. No one in the film festival, Speedo, follows legendary demolition derby driver Ed "Speedo" Jaguar's life and career. Niobe and Ghost battle in the Matrix, and in first-person mode, she can only strafe and shoot. The player can either run forward and get shot by the snipers waiting in ambush, or the player can strafe into the ambush. Poor level design choices like these confuse and frustrate a player.

The graphics won't win any awards, but on the plus side, the character models are well detailed, and the "agent takes over someone's body" animation is cool. On the minus side: everything else. Every cop and SWAT team officer looks the same. Even the Matrix is extremely blocky and monochrome. The fire textures remind me of "the liquid escape" issue in Doom. Some of the animations for Niobe and Ghost (running and ladder climbing, in particular) look too robotic. There's no motion blur when an agent starts dodging bullet. They all seem to lose momentum when they leave the Matrix and regain consciousness, (conveniently, the lights flicker out as the body disappears).

The sound won't win any awards, either. There is good voice acting from Niobe and Ghost. Every gun sounds the same — alas, pistols and shotguns do not avoid this fate. The music incoherently bristles about at inappropriate times — it reminds me of Mundy's Report — and is too repetitive. To top it off, Enter the Matrix was a pro- ject four years in the making. Shiny Entertainment, the developer, should have done something in that time. Max Payne, released in 2001, used Focus, or "Bullet time" to create a still-life super-speeder-like action, and in the marketing beats better products, I guess. Doesn't anyone remember Superman 64?"
RESTAURANT REVIEW

The Hot Spot for People-Watching

Though Trendy, Newbury's Sonsie Has Only So-So Selection of Food

By Caroline Tien

Sonsie
327 Newbury St.
(617) 351-2500

Sonsie, the mahogany bar, is the center of attention after dinner. It's open for lunch, while empty for lounge section, with linen covered tables for formal dining. The atmosphere, from both the sunlit street and the interior of the restaurant. The decor was warm and contemporary, with rich wood paneling and contemporary, with rich wood paneling and the history and biographical material in even ones, but you buy-preview a full-text, searchable version or buy a downloadable PDF online at www.nap.edu. To order: Call toll-free 1-888-624-765

Parts of Prime Obsession read almost like a novel, others like a mathematical text. Its author, Derbyshire, segmented the book so that most of the math falls into odd chapters and the history and biographical material in even ones, but the math is as interesting as the rest."

"A remarkable book."

—— John F. Nash, Jr.

1994 Nobel Prize winner in Economics

Available from

Prime Obsession
Bernhard Riemann and the Greatest Unsolved Problem in Mathematics

John Derbyshire

"Riemann and his colleagues come to life as real characters and not just adjectives for conjectures and theorems. . . ."

Parts of Prime Obsession read almost like a novel, others like a mathematical text. Its author, Derbyshire, segmented the book so that most of the math falls into odd chapters and the history and biographical material in even ones, but the math is as interesting as the rest."

—Scientific American

To order: Call toll-free 1-888-624-7651 or browse before you buy—preview a full-text, searchable version or buy a downloadable PDF online at www.nap.edu

From Joseph Henry Press

An imprint of the National Academies Press

448 pages, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2
Hardcover $27.95
Eta Kappa Nu Congratulates Its Newest Members

Congratulations, Class of 2003!

Thank you to the 250 seniors who chose to leave their mark on the Institute by making a contribution to the 2003 Senior Gift Campaign.

Seniors

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Anch Nigam
Kane Nishimoto
Andrea Noronha
Martha Nortiwidijo
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Colleen O'Shea
Miina Oh
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Deborah Pan
Laranya Parachuru
Tarash Patel
Joshua Peters
Gabriel Phifer
Purnwa Pradasapna
Krisan Pratt
Justin Ravache
Juan Reyes
Karen Riesenberg
Chinthar Prithviraj
Efrain Rodriguez
Maritza Rodriguez
Benjamin Ross
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Natalia Singh
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Gina Ann Yi
Dacheng Zhao
Michael A. Zivich
Mengyu Zhou
Wan Li Zhu
David Patrick Ziegler

The problem sets are done, the finals have been taken.
Now explore all the benefits of being an MIT alumnus or alumna by visiting the Alumni Association on the Web at http://alum.mit.edu/
CONCERT REVIEW

Rave On, River Rave!
Who Cares About Going Deaf?

By Allison Lewis
ARTS EDITOR
WBCN River Rave
Tweeter Center
May 25

Rave On, River Rave! was quite a crowd at the WBCN River Rave — mostly white Boston high school students — drunk and screaming on a rainy summer day at the Tweeter Center. On the big stage were the big bands: in order, The Donnas, The Used, Evanescence, AFI, Jane’s Addiction, Saliva, Jack Johnson, Beck, Good Charlotte, and the Dropkick Murphys. There’s no label to describe this array of bands and music — alternative rock, perhaps? Some contemporary, some more ancient (Jane’s Addiction).

Overall, the music was dark and slightly angry — an edgier rock than I’m used to. These bands took the stage with attitude and commanded the crowd to jump, scream, and get crazy. A moon hat was friendly and active near the stage, throwing people around; the security guys in front were busy. The musicians and the crowd alike sported similar fashions: black-dyed hair, piercings, tattoos. I was scared — and thrilled. But no one was sacrificed, thank goodness. The wildest thing I saw were two high school girls — hoisted up on their boyfriends’ shoulders — making out with each other in the front row. How cliche.

For me, the notable bands were Evanescence, Jane’s Addiction, Saliva, Jack Johnson, and Beck.

Evanescence was my favorite of the night. The band’s sound was hard, dramatic, and beautiful. Amy Lee’s voice is powerful, with a slightly haunted, tuneeful edge. With long black hair, and belly poking through the bottom of her shirt, she was both sexy and intimidating. Evanescence played loud and strong; their sound was commanding and furious.

Evanescence gave a show that Jane’s Addiction, despite their popularity with the crowd, could not live up to. They were good but not amazing. The tune, slightly monotony anyway, sounded especially boring and unchanging on stage, drowned out by the harsh backbeat.

Still, Jane’s Addiction was fun to watch. Despite their age, the band members had a youthful quality; they were lively and bubbly on stage, like boys who never grow old. They hopped and hopped around. With colorful vests, tight pants, nipple rings, and lots of smiles, Jane’s Addiction danced, played, and had fun with the crowd.

The lead singer of Saliva scared me with his long hair and big belly. He shouted into the microphone punctuating the beat with a throw of his head or his body. The band ran and jumped around the stage, shaking sweat everywhere. The speakers shook. This music was loud.

I caught the eye of one of the Saliva guys, with shorter hair and sweeter eyes than the others. With one sudden sharp bang on his guitar, he flung sweat everywhere, especially on me (I was between the mosh pit and the stage).

“Sorry,” he said, and threw his guitar pick to me.

Jack Johnson had a beautiful voice and beautiful, baby face. His music — simple, tuneeful lyrics, and strumming guitar — were the most mainstream and pop-culture of the night, yet undeniably some of the best. His sound and voice were like a lullaby. I wouldn’t mind having him sing me to sleep.

Beck was amazing — very obviously and insanely talented — playing more types of instruments and music than I knew existed. He mixed his turntables with his harmonica; he mixed hip-hop, rock, and blues. His voice was beautiful and energetic — almost cartoon-like. He had amazing rhythm, great stage presence, and very pretty blonde curls. In his gray suit, he was dignified, fun, and impressive.

The others were good, but not as notable. The AFI band members are cross-dressers (the tattoos and leather pants don’t really match the eye shadow and lipstick). Dropkick Murphys get the most original award for bringing about 50 bagpipe players onstage.

After watching for 8 hours, the music began to blur and sound the same — mostly pounding bass and throbbing ears. But I was satisfied — this music had had me. And though I’ll be deaf by the time I’m fifty, at least I know it’s from loud rock music and not old age.
At times like this, you really think about who your friends were. Your REAL friends.

Who were the ones that thought of you even when you weren't in front of them... or made sure you were never too lonely... or let you know that you honestly made a difference in their lives...

Who were the ones that never forgot you existed...

So, here's to all you friends out there...

On this day of farewells, when it feels like the end...

May all your friendship and love live on forever.

Yours truly,

Rick Szeszy

I've been dead for a month now... but today, I finally get to go to heaven... and, I'll never return to earth again. Today, I embark on a journey to a better place... but... unfortunately, I will have to leave all my friends behind...

I may never see them again...

"It's bittersweet... both sweet and bitter, bitter and sweet..."

One thing's for sure, though: if you're ever lucky enough to find yourself in the warm embrace of true friendship, you damn sure better cherish it...

You never know when you'll have to say goodbye...

I've been dead for a month now... but today, I finally get to go to heaven... and, I'll never return to earth again. Today, I embark on a journey to a better place... but... unfortunately, I will have to leave all my friends behind...

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You never know when you'll have to say goodbye...
Dilbert® by Scott Adams

THE CORNER CUBICLE OPENED UP. I PLAN TO MAKE IT MINE.

THAT'S RIGHT. I'LL BE SITTING IN THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS CUBICLE IN THE ENTIRE ROW! FEAR ME!

BULAHJAI FROM THERE. I WILL CONTROL THE JUNGLI SHADES AND HARNESS THE SUN!

LET'S CAN'T AFFORD TO HIRE QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES.

MY PLAN IS TO HIRE DUMB PEOPLE AND BE ANGRY AT THEM.

I FORGET - WHAT'S THE WORD FOR PRETENDING THAT PEOPLE CAN CHANGE THEIR BASIC NATURE?

BUT THAT IS ONLY AN ANALOGY. PLEASE DO NOT MAKE ME EAT A ZEBRA.

FROM NOW ON, MY STAFF MEETINGS WILL BE TWO HOURS LONG.

THE TRICK IS KNOWING WHICH ONE YOU'RE JUST MAKING ME MAD.

I FIRED OUR PLANT-WATERING SERVICE AND HIRED A LESS EXPENSIVE ONE.

THAT'S THE SORT OF LEADERSHIP THAT WILL TURN THIS COMPANY AROUND.

IF YOU WANT TO HAVE TIGERS, YOU MUST FEED THEM TIGER MEAT.

THE CORNER CUBICLE OPENED UP. I PLAN TO MAKE IT MINE.

ALICE MOVED INTO THE CORNER CUBICLE AND CLAIMS CONTROL OVER THE WINDOW SHADES!

OUR LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF A MAD-WOMAN!

LONG TERM, I HOPE TO CONVINCE OUR BOSS THAT I HAVE THE POWER TO BECOME INVISIBLE.

THEN I CAN JUST SIT HOME AND GET PAID. OH, IT WILL BE SWEET.

WALLY IS THAT YOU? RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.

WHAT IS YOUR HEAD TOO WARM? MY HEAD IS TOO WARM.

MY JOB IS NOT STIMULATING MY MIND.

IF YOU WANT TO HAVE TIGERS, YOU MUST FEED THEM TIGER MEAT.

BUT THAT IS ONLY AN ANALOGY. PLEASE DO NOT MAKE ME EAT A ZEBRA.

IT'S NOT A DEATH RAY. I USE IT ONLY TO BURN OFF TOUPEES.

IS YOUR HEAD TOO WARM? MY HEAD IS TOO WARM.

MY JOB IS NOT STIMULATING MY MIND.

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Events Calendar

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

Monday, June 9

9:00 a.m. — Comment Connecting. PLEASE NOTE! This year's COMMENIENCES EXERCISES ARE BEING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 9 IN ALL AUSTRALIAN STUDENTS. Closing Ceremony for Degree Completion Occurrence on Sunday, June 2, 2003. Location: MIT Convocation Hall.

12:00 p.m. — Graduation BBQ. Free. Open to all. Location: Tang BBQ Pits. Sponsor: Hellenic Students' Association. 4:00 p.m. — DEDS Commencement Reception. Location: Dewey Library. Open to all. Location: Dewey Library.

2:00 p.m. — Bugapalooza. Build a computer bug in the Thinkapalooza exhibit, and contribute your ideas for improving the MIT campus. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:15 p.m. — Powerpoint can do. Find out how to create slide shows. The session includes demonstrations by the MIT Press, sponsored by V arying Environments. Fee: $75. Location: N42 Demo Center.

2:30 p.m. — Capturing the Friednas. Snoopy Straussy a non-flyingfeature film that explores the evolution of jump through the prism of one of the strangest criminal cases in American history. The Friednas seem at first to be a real person and a fake product, a metaphor for the world of 21st century marketing. Together, they raise their three boys in the affluent Long Island town of Great Neck. One Thanksgiving, the family gathers at home for a traditional meal and boasts the presence of the formula, the oldest son old son boy is too young to his athletic prowess, and the middle son is a poet. The family celebrates the holiday,姀e time to find out what it's like to be a Friednas.

8:00 p.m. — SWing Dancing. Free and open to the public. No partner reqUired. Beginners welcome. Sponsor: The Lindy Hop Society. Location: Student Center 2nd Floor.

Tuesday, June 10

Paul Gunning. 12:00 p.m. — Vescape Luncheon Meeting. Sponsored by: MIT Venture Capital and Private Investors Union (VCPI), MIT Planning Office. Fee. Location: Tang Center.

12:00 p.m. — TSM Backup Service Quick Start Lecture. Joint lecture from MIT Information System Services and User Support. Learn how to download, install, and configure TSM (formerly ACDM), a program for backing up your files to a secure server over the network. The backup service itself has a small monthly fee, but the software is free to MIT users. Disclose your TSM questions to the MIT support staff. Fee. Location: N42 Demo Center.

6:00 p.m. — The MIT E-Club Weekly Tuesday Meeting. The regular weekly Tuesday meeting of the MIT E-Club, a group for students interested in entrepreneurship, innovation, and social change. The meeting will include a presentation by Andrew Jarecki, director of the film (and founder of Moviefone). Location: 142.5. Sponsor: LSC.


7:00 p.m. — Meeting of Boston PDA User Group. Free and open to the public. Sponsor: MIT User Groups. Location: 3-139.

7:00 p.m. — Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at http://events.mit.edu

Wednesday, June 11

12:00 p.m. — PowerPoint Quick Start Lecture. Lesley Ridge of MIT Information Services to teach how to put together a presentation. Fee. Location: MIT User Groups. Fee. Location: N42 Demo Center.

3:00 p.m. — TECH Idea Factory: Learning to Think at MIT. The first professor to have a degree in what he called "the things I don't know," but MIT would teach him how to think. This is the story of how one student learned how to think.

4:00 p.m. — TOY, Inc. Meeting. Location: C-15.

5:30 p.m. — Investor Seminar for Retirees Lecture. Paul Gunning of Fidelity Investments will discuss retirement planning with a focus on Social Security. Sponsored by: Fidelity's Tax-Exempt Services. Open only to the MIT community. Fee. Location: MIT Press, 2nd Floor, office.

8:00 p.m. — Swing Dance. Free and open to the public. No partner required. Beginners welcome. Sponsor: The Lindy Hop Society. Location: Student Center 2nd Floor.

7:00 p.m. — SWing Dancing. Free and open to the public. No partner reqUired. Beginners welcome. Sponsor: The Lindy Hop Society. Location: Student Center 2nd Floor.

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. Contact information for all events is available in the Events Calendar web page.

Celebrating MIT & MIT authors @ The MIT Press Bookstore

The MIT Press Bookstore is pleased to celebrate MIT and its authors. MIT Press authors include John Horgan, John Brockman, Robert Lifton, and many others. Event highlights include a new exhibit dedicated to the history of MIT Press, a new book signing and talk with Andrew Jarecki, director of the film "Beyond the Law." The film is about the Friedmans, a family of four who were accused of murder and suicide in the 1980s.

The Tech Press, 2003, paper, $19.95


An Annotated Chronology of MIT's Campus Development

by O. Robert Simha

A concise and accessible guide to the evolution of the MIT campus and surrounding neighborhood during the period of Charles's tenure as director of the MIT Planning Office. 40 major development projects are chronicled.

The MIT Press, 2003, paper, $23.95

MIT PEACE FEE

designed by John Monda

A student-designed design for MIT students. Monda, a red and white MIT "star" and the word "FEE" on the back. The design features are available in gay and colorless colors.

X.S. 3, 11-11. $12.95 XL. $14.95

M.I.T. PRESS BOOKSTORE

Annual Authors" Night

A History of Hacks and Pranks at MIT by Institute Historian T. A. Peterson

An evening of stories and jokes about MIT's hacking tradition, covering the past 20 years, reflecting the special milieu of MIT hacking and hacking culture.

The MIT Press, 2003, paperback, $17.95

Thanks for your support!
Bridge City Council is likely to enact a ban on smoking in all bars and restaurants at tonight's meeting. Cambridge's proposed ban comes as the statehouse debates a state-wide measure. Boston's ban has been in effect for several weeks.

Councillor Denise Simmons is widely seen as the lone undecided council member. Of the remaining eight councillors, four are in favor of the ban and four are against it. Although Simmons has not made an announcement about her vote, Councillor David Maher said at last Monday's meeting that he is optimistic the smoking ban measure will pass tonight.

Simmons did not return requests for comment.

Momentum for a vote on the issue had been building at last Monday's meeting, but the measure was tabled for comment. At the meeting, Maher, co-chair of the city's ordinance committee, said that the implementation details under consideration include how the ban will be enforced, when it will be implemented, and what, if any, assistance the city will provide to bar owners.

Vice Mayor Henrietta Davis, the other committee co-chair, said that the council did not want to implement the measure "in a draconian fashion, but with a cooperative spirit." The implementation committee may include bar owners, she said.

According to the city's chief public health officer, Harold Cox, the city will also work with the police to allay concerns about the enforcement of littering laws and with the licensing commission on issues of permitting for ashtrays outside of bars. "I hope we are closing the ranks on the concerns [the councillors] have," Cox said.

The current measure before the council exempts private clubs such as Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts and the Polish-American club from the ban in certain circumstances. Cox said that an amendment to remove the exemption has been discussed.

Cox acknowledged the difficulties in drafting a ban. It's "been incredibly difficult for the councilors," he said. Cox said that he chose to pursue a smoking ban through the council rather than the board of health because of potential legal entanglements relating to such a process. Framingham's smoking ban was enacted via its board of health and was delayed by an ultimately unsuccessful legal challenge.

State-wide ban in conference A state-wide measure to ban smoking in all workplaces, as the measure under consideration by Cambridge does, was added as an amendment to the state Senate's budget bill. Because the House did not include such a provision in their version of the bill, the fate of the ban will be worked out in conference between the two houses.

Cox said that he hopes a ban in Cambridge, like the ban in Boston which went into effect on May 5, will have a "tilting effect" on the state legislators considering a state-wide measure.

Bars in communities across the state "make it easier for the legislators to do their jobs," Davis said. "Each community that comes forward puts more pressure on the state," Maher said.

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A state-wide ban was supported by all the councillors, Maher said. Such a ban is easier for councillors to support because local businesses are not as threatened by the possibility of patrons taking business to nearby towns.

If Cambridge does enact a ban tonight, it will be after substantial debate on the issue. "It's been a year," Cox said. "I'm ready."
MIT, Vest, Karpe Named in Wrongful Death Lawsuit

Lawsuit, from Page 1

her, I think that’s important.”

“I don’t think [what I did was] reasonable,” he said. “I guess I wasn’t thinking thoroughly about actions.” But “I don’t think I’m responsible for her death,” 01 said.

The suit is the third in a line of pending wrongful-death lawsuits against MIT in the wake of 1999 drug-related asylumship of Richard A. Guy Jr. ’99 and the 2000 and 2001 suicides of incredibles of Elizabeth H. Shin ’02 and Carpenter. The suit was expected to go until 2005 or beyond.

JudConn, panel heard allegations

Karpe did not dispute Carpenter’s allegations against him in front of a Random Hall judicial committee to whom he had complained on April 3, 2001, according to the suit. The panel subsequently determined that he had known a few days before he was going to a birthday party and ate chocolate-chip cookies on the Random Hall roof deck, a student would be allowed to take Christine Carpenter’s body into the courtroom.

When she returned to MIT, Car-

It was the body’s decision that she felt the committee that he had known a few days before she was going to a birthday party and ate chocolate-chip cookies on the Random Hall roof deck, a student would be allowed to take Christine Carpenter’s body into the courtroom. Carpenter’s death was a tragedy that has deeply affected her family, her friends, and the MIT community at large, the family lawyer, said.

He also did not dispute them in front of an MIT administrative review panel, overseen by Assistant Dean Carol Orme-Johnson, in April, 2001. The (which was formed before Julie died) and the signifi- cant substance abuse mean the Carpen- ters have a strong case against MIT, he said. Medical examiner Dr. Josephson’s warning and Dr. Josephson’s conclusion that Carpenter had a drinking problem, students say, and her statement that her daughter-in-law, Julie’s death, or of the concern and hard, I felt, for Julie and for the stu- dents. The suit is the third in a line of pending wrongful-death lawsuits against MIT in the wake of 1999 drug-related asylumship of Richard A. Guy Jr. ’99 and the 2000 and 2001 suicides of incredibles of Elizabeth H. Shin ’02 and Carpenter. The suit was expected to go until 2005 or beyond.

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The following is the Carpenters' factual narrative, verbatim from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, No. SU/2003/2005 (Suffolk Superior Court, April 6, 2004):

June 9, 2003

M. Julia Hayes

The Tech News Hotline x3-154

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Hot news? Call The Tech News Hotline x3-1541.

The Committee

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MIT Police Chief Driscoll claimed

to be

Hot news? Call The Tech News Hotline x3-1541.

Factual Allegations Made in Carpenter Family Suit

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renewing

ject to destroy Julia, only care her.

The Panel displayed a disturb-

ing concern for ensuring Karpe's well-being and the appropriateness of the MIT's response, as well as recom-

izing the severity of his admitted conduct and its impact on Julie. The Panel advised Dr. Josephson of the view of the case that Karpe needed to be removed from Random Hall for the immediate future.

On April 20, 2001, the Panel submitted its final decision. Karpe accepted the charges of harassment, invasion of privacy and assault.

His sanctions were: (1) attend three sessions with a counselor selected by the Panel’s determination, in an unstated room and signed for it.

At the hearing with Julie concerning the contents of the decision or monitored her reaction to it.

Given the impending end of the academic year, a stay-at-home sentence was tantamount to banishing Karpe from Random Hall for approximately two years.

On information and belief requesting her help by the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, Julie’s laptop computer revealed that after April 25, 2001, Julie logged onto at least one computer from which she sought out cyanide, a highly poisonous chemical.

On March 30, 2001, Julie was found dead in her room due to her ingestion of cyanide.

While no cyanide was found in Julie’s room at the time by her body, toxicological studies showed that approximately five weeks after Julie’s death, on May 3, 2001, Driscoll turned over a package containing a white crystal powder, later identified by the State Toxicologist as cyanide. The State Police, under the lead of Dr. Josephson, was conducting research into the causes of Julie’s death.

On March 2, 2001, Julie filed her complaint against Karpe with the Administrative Review Panel.

Julie requested that Dr. Josephson be allowed to present his evidence and testimony, support or follow up with any other witness. The Panel noted that this claim was unali

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plagiarism, from Page 1

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The apology e-mail also con-
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Senior Class President Kevin

Nazenl said he is "pretty excited,

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"It's just been an amazing time

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Network Security Log

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After Lin's resignation, several of the members sent another e-mail requesting Gidwani's resignation. When the platforms were due, Lin made what he later described as a "very, very stupid mistake" in decid-

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Insurance, from Page 1

The cost of providing care is only partly reflected in the premium increase. Students originally faced a 15 percent premium increase that was later reduced to 70 percent. Kolenbrander said that MIT will "eat" the ten percent difference to bring the increase to 60 percent. "We cannot expose our students to an "abnormally high" increase," he said. "It is significant increase" as originally proposed, he said.

Graduate students "can live with" the effective 5% increase, said GSC President R. Brian Caulfield, and "monthly billing is a win for everybody."

Caulfield said that he and administrators continue to be concerned about rates for families, since these are not offset by stipend increases. "I think that's everybody's biggest concern," he said.

Increase larger than expected

"We knew there was going to be a whopping increase" and thought it would be closer to 22 percent, said Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colborn, but administrators did not learn from MIT Medical of the insurance problems until after graduate student stipends were set.

Usually, administrators set next year's stipends receive information about insurance premiums in January or February and include that information in determining the stipend, Colborn said. He said last year's increase was about 17 percent, and that "no one expected such a huge increase."

Caulfield said that the GSC found out about the increase Monday before the first town meeting on May 14. GSC Vice President Michael R. Kettyle said that the announcement was a surprise. He said that "everyone was working" with the 22 percent figure.

"We're sensitive" to the decision timing and that the decision came late "out of phase" — Kolenbrander said. "The administration takes one was working" with the 22 percent figure.

MIT Medical had large deficit

MIT Medical Director William M. Kettyle said that several factors went into the increase. About five years ago, MIT Medical had accumulated a several million-dollar surplus and decided to expand prescription drug and mental health care coverage. Increase in demand for these services led, in part, to a "more rapid depletion of the surplus that subsidized new benefits."

Access to outside providers limited

The rate increase comes with some changes in health care benefits. Instead of the current indemnity plan, MIT will use a preferred provider organization, which limits the number of doctors a student can visit for care. The number of available doctors will still be "very high," about 75 to 80 percent of providers currently available to MIT students, Offner said.

This will be a "wrong co-insurance" payment — a percentage of the cost of a service to be paid by students — for outpatient services not provided at MIT, and will be a $1,000 limit on the amount students must pay out of pocket per year, Offner said.

Mental health services will also shift further inside MIT Medical. At the town meeting, Offner announced a limit of 24 visits to a non-MIT therapist, 12 of which come with a coinsurance payment. Students will have to pay for any additional visits. To counteract that benefit reduction, Offner said that MIT has hired three full-time therapists and is "actively pursuing" several more part-time therapists and mental health outreach staff.

Kettle said that the outside mental health benefit was sufficient for most students, and that it would be too expensive to provide insurance. "We have to average out" in order to offer affordable insurance, he said, and emphasized the increase in MIT's mental health care capacity.

Kolenbrander said that a key recommendation of MIT's Mental Health Task Force was to bring mental health care inside, since dedicated MIT providers would better understand MIT problems. "We'll start to see our ability greatly enhanced to treat students" on campus. Offner described the current mental health care benefit as an "interim measure," meant to deal with students mental health care needs while MIT sought new staff.

"We're grateful for the leadership of the GSC," Kolenbrander said. Offner said that "we made a substantial commitment" to working with graduate students "every step of the way.

Caulfield said that "the process over the last few weeks has been a good model," with the GSC and administrators working closely on the insurance problem. He said he hopes for more such work on other issues of concern to graduate students. "Students would be happier," and administrators benefit as well, he said.

Congratulations Class of 2003!

Welcome to the MIT Alumni Association!

Your class officers will be working with Association staff to support your class.

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Jyoti Agarwal
Vice President
Ellen Kim
Executive Committee
See website

Kwaku Abrokwa, Thomas Becker, Adi Chalikin, Joanne “Jojo” Chang, Rebecca Deng, Cesar Espitia, Shelli Farhadian, Vladimir Fleurima, Monica Gupta, Mike Hall, Alex Karnal, Xian Ke, Nicholas Kim, Jenny Liao, Shogo John Miyagi, Zhenya Trusova

Angela Won and Aileen Wu

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Joseph Carlucci
Adem Champa
Alain Chung
Maya Dobuzhskaya
Anmal Dori
Michael Harvey
Sanjiv Parekh

Congratulations on joining one of the fastest growing investment banks in the world.
Sloan Women Finish Season Undefeated

By Emily Craparo

The Sloan Crew women's eight rowed their way to another first place finish in their final race of the season on Saturday, May 17. The victory came after a season-long winning streak in races that included the World Graduate Rowing Championships, in which Sloan finished several boatlengths ahead of its nearest competitor.


The Sloan men made vast season improvements in their rowing technique, but were unable to compete in World Graduate Rowing Championships but were eliminated in their heat by a boat from Cornell containing two U.S. national team rowers.

Baseball Commencement

By Phil Janowsicz

Seattle PI -- The Red Sox won 9-6, and Sox pitcher Derek Lowe threw a complete game.

"Strasburg" Bradley rounds out the top three in the AL.

Juni Awards

Batting: Jeff DaVaino of the Anaheim Angels. Jeff DaVaino "Haley" has done everything for the resurgent Angels. He's made outstanding plays in center field but most impressively in the batters box. In the past week alone, DaVaino has 12 runs, 6 home runs, 10 RBIs, and a .458 average. He had three consecutive multi-homer games in Anaheim and in Puerto Rico.

The only problem for DaVaino is that Darin Erstad is coming off the DL soon, and Mike Scioscia will have a big decision to make regarding DaVaino's playing time.

Honorable Mention: Morgan Ensberg of the Houston Astros. The past week, he has 9 runs, 4 home runs, 12 RBIs, 1 SB, and a .643 average.

Pitching: Dontrelle Willis of the Florida Marlins. Dontrelle "What's Talkin' Bout?" Willis has been just what the Florida Marlins needed: a non-injured starter. He's done even more than that by allowing only one run in his past three starts but allowing a cream pie to sneak up behind him and smack him during a post-game interview.

Involved in the salary-dump trade in 2000 that involved sending Willis, Julian Tavares, and two other prospects to Florida and sending Matt Clement and Antonio Alfonseca to the Cubs, Willis has shown that the Marlins actually made a smart trade. In 2000, Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria said, "Next year or two years from now, when you see Dontrelle Willis ... you're going to understand why we did that trade." Now we understand.

Honorable Mention: Eric "Monsieur" Gagne of the Los Angeles Dodgers. How can you not be given an honorable mention when you haven't blown a save all year and you average 2 strikeouts an inning?

Utility: Jody Gerut of the Cleveland Indians. Called up from Buffalo to fill the spot of injured Karim Garcia, Jody "Spans the" Gerut has done nothing but impress the Indians organization. The past week, he has 4 runs, 2 home runs, 5 RBIs, and a .368 average. The adopted son of ESPN's Baseball Tonight crew, Gerut has made diving grabs in the outfield and come up with clutch hits whenever needed. With Garcia starting his rehab assignment, manager Eric Wedge will hopefully sit Matt Lawton and not Gerut.

Honorable Mention: Ricardo Rodriguez of the Cleveland Indians. After striking out Jay "Mohr" Payton of the Colorado Rockies, "Kicky" Ricardo Rodriguez taunted Payton from the mound. Payton had already made his way to the dugout when Rodriguez started waving at him to come take him on at the mound. At least Indians games are interesting this year.

Boner of the Week ... er weeks: Tommy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs. Everyone already knows about his whole corked bat controversy that is being dubbed "Baggage." Even though I believe him that he just picked the wrong but out of his 77 bats, it was still a stupid thing to do.

Honorable Mention: The New York Yankees defense. Errors errors errors. You're the freaking Yankees! Steinbrenner bought all of you because you're the best individual players in baseball money can buy, and you commit so many errors. I'm not telling you to stop. I'm just telling you that you suck.
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Dasha Lymar
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