UAP VP Candidates Set for Wed. Debate
By Danier Aziz

The race is on, and not surprisingly the race for Undergraduate Associate President has a lot to do with rush.

Candidates, however, are thinking about a number of other issues, from the Coffeehouse to SafeRide, and begin the process of distinguishing themselves this week.

Presidential candidates Paral Deora ‘04, David B. Gottlieb ‘04, and Pian A. Uzamere ‘01 ‘04 will elaborate on their plans at the annual UA Debate tomorrow at 8 p.m. in the Student Center Lobby.

Housing dominates list of issues
Rush and housing are pivotal issues in this year’s election, and the candidates all said that the solution to the surging problems is campus unity.

“I really want for everyone in the community to get involved,” said Gottlieb, who is running with vice presidential candidate Karen Keller ’04. “Everyone in dorms, everyone in the FSILG community ... all 4,000 of us should submit a proposal.”

Deora, the current UA vice president, expressed similar sentiments. “There’s a problem within their own cultures ... we need a campus coalition, a group focused on integrating culture but maintaining unity,” said Deora, who is running with VP candidate Harri H. Williams ’05, chair of the UA Committee of Student Life.

Uzamere, who is running with Jacob W. Faber ’04, said that dorm rush needs to be saved.

Elections, Page 12

Class of 2005 Brass Rat Features Rush Tombstone, Traditional Seal
By Jay Cameron

Laughter and applause greeted the 2004 Brass Rat as more than 700 members of the class of 2005 gathered in Walker Memorial last Saturday for their Ring Premiere.

The latest Rat featured traditional features, traditional humor, and some new ideas.

The class shank features the prominent Great Dome, below which sits a cracked tombstone reading "Rush." Below the school initials on the seal shank lies the original two-man MIT Seal. Below this seal are an Erlenmeyer flask and a hip flask. The 2004 Brass Rat pamphlet says that Erlenmeyer flask and a hip flask; the Rush Tombstone, Traditional Seal is formidable and the prospect of being a lowly prefrosh at such a school is just a tad bit intimidating - yet we come anyway.

Little controversy on MIT seal
In recent years, students have debated the gender balance of the seal shank on one side of the Brass Rat, which this year features the official MIT seal. This year the mascot, now a more muscular beaver on the ring's bezel, represents a campus health-consciousness.

New Guidelines Outline Response to Visa Delays
By Beckett W. Sterner

Anticipating the potential consequences of a more stringent government visa policy for international students, a group of deans at MIT has completed a set of guidelines for how faculty should deal with international graduate students stuck outside the country due to delayed visas.

The guidelines attempt to work within the current procedures at MIT for short-term absences, Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Cohen said, but they leave the final decision to a case by case analysis. Long delays could mean a student loses a teaching assistantship or has matriculation postponed until the following year.

The guidelines distinguish between students delayed less than 60 days and those delayed for longer periods.

"Faculty are very generous on the whole with their students," Col- bert said, "and this policy gives them the maximum flexibility to use their resources" to help graduate students unable to return to classwork on time.

He said that of the 2,800 international graduate and undergraduate students at MIT, only about 100 have seen delays so far because of slow visa approval. "We want departments to have guidelines in advance," he said, and the intent is to "anticipate problems."

Reasons for visa delays unspecified
Currently, the specific reasons a visa approval could be held up are unclear. "A visa delay of days is on its way," he said. Additional delays, Page 16

First Encounter with MIT's Culture Proves Rewarding
By Allison Naaktgeboren

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: the dream school of everyone. I had this impression before ten hours had elapsed, I had eaten dinner with a French student and watched Friends with an Eng- Noteook, Page 18

The Weather
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Tonight: Clear, cold, 4°F (-16°C)
Tomorrow: Sunny, cold, 26°F (-3°C)

Details, Page 2

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Details, Page 2
**WORLD & NATION**

**United States, Britain, Spain Present New Iraq Resolution**

By Colm Lynch

The United States, Britain and Spain introduced a new draft Security Council resolution Monday declaring that Iraq has squandered its "final opportunity" to voluntarily disarm and laying the political and legal groundwork for a U.S.-led military invasion.

The introduction of the resolution, which recalls the 1441 U.N. council warned Iraq in November that it would face "serious consequences" if it did not scrap its banned weapons programs, marked the beginning of what Washington and British officials characterized as the final push to win council backing for a decision to go to war.

French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, who have been leading the opposition, responded with a diplomatic counteroffensive. Meeting in Berlin, they announced a new initiative that would ensure the continuation of U.N. weapons inspections in Iraq if there is a security Council resolution in the next two weeks.

Approval of Bush's handling of the Iraq situation has dropped six points, to 55 percent, since early February.

While critics mount for the president's handling of Iraq, there are even more skeptics of the United Nations. Fifty-six percent of those interviewed said they disagreed of the way it was dealing with Iraq and Hussein, while 38 percent said they approved.

A total of 1,024 randomly selected adults were interviewed Feb. 19-23 for this national telephone survey. Margin of sampling error for the overall results is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

**Powell Discusses North Korea**

**Situation with Chinese Leaders**

By John Pomfret

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell said Monday his phone conversation with the Chinese government Monday on a response to North Korea's nuclear weapons program and made no headway toward stronger support from China for the U.S. position on Iraq.

After meeting with Chinese leaders, Powell said at a news conference that the countries are not far off on the way to deal with North Korea.

Powell implied, however, that China was working through private channels to deal with the North Korean government. He said Beijing was eager to play a positive role in helping to resolve the crisis.

The secretary of state was in Beijing en route to Seoul, where he was to attend the inauguration of Roh Moo Hyn as South Korea's new president.

U.S. officials have been completing for weeks that China is not doing enough to solve the emerging nuclear crisis on the Korean Penins-

The Chinese have shown a hardening of its position. At his news conference Monday, Powell reiterated that such an issue "cannot sim-

**WEATHER**

**Cold. Again.**

By Samantha Hess

Although the weekend was a washout, temperatures were above freezing much of the day, allowing some sun and helping to thaw out. However, our brief fling with spring is now over as, once again, we are looking at the prospect of many days of sub-freezing temperatures and an inch or two of snow.

A statistically normal winter would have resulted in 32.3 inches of snowfall in Boston to this point. This is not a normal winter; we have been slammed with 60.5 inches, nearly double the normal value. This season-to-
date total may increase again soon as a storm will affect us on Thursday and Friday, it is highly likely.

When the recent snowfall fell in Boston to this point. This is not a normal winter; we have been slammed with 60.5 inches, nearly double the normal value. This season-to-
date total may increase again soon as a storm will affect us on Thursday and Friday, it is highly likely.
AIDS Drug Found Ineffective; Study Inconclusive for Blacks

By David Brown and Rick Weiss

The maker of the first AIDS vaccine to be widely tested in humans — a scientifically puzzling human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) — said it would continue working for licensure (of the vaccine). The question is whether we do it with this study or with other ones," said Donald Francis, president of VaxGen, the California biotech company that conducted the study, using about 5,400 high-risk volunteers in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and the Netherlands.

It was unclear, however, that it might be effective in black patients — a scientifically puzzling and socially provocative finding that several experts characterized as dubious but company officials described as promising.

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PAGE 4...THE TECH
February 25, 2003

Wasted Opportunities

It is clear that next year's orientation will be integral in defining the future of our residence system. Many important questions have arisen in the past month about how it will be designed and who will define it. Will students have any input into this decision? If the focus is not residence selection, then what is it? Why weren't these questions asked sooner?

The Dormitory Council has taken the Residence System Implementation Team's refusal to make any recommendations as an opportunity to offer its input. They have proposed a schedule that could serve as a good starting point for planning an orientation and rush that will satisfy students and administrators. However, if the students wish to see their input considered in this process, they must be more responsible and more organized.

The first petition Dormcon circulated on this subject was never presented to anyone, and the second petition failed to make any concrete requests.

Students greeted the administration's announcement, declaring the new focus of orientation to be "welcoming students to the Academy," with confusion. Aside from Rush, past orientations have been little more than a hodgepodge of rape awareness presentations, trust-building activities, and meetings with advisors. Focusing on introducing new students to academic life would be an improvement, but the administration's new plan seems to lack a commitment to truly make MIT part of the "Academy" that Plate envisioned.

If the administration is really concerned about academic life at MIT, it would be well served to look beyond orientation. Worrying about industry-faculty conflicts of interest and cracking down on cheating would do more toward this purpose than adding more professor-student dinners to orientation.

The problem is that it is now February and next year's orientation schedule should be decided by March. MIT certainly had an opportunity to radically improve orientation. With planning, they could have given orientation a new focus and at the same time improved the residence selection process. As a result of this delay the still unformed and unnamed committee planning this year's orientation week will have little opportunity to effect any significant changes. Instead of an opportunity to improve orientation and residence selection MIT is throwing around a new buzzword, students feel once more left out of the decision process, and we have just one month left to do something about it.

Keith J. Weinstein has recused himself from this editorial.

Peace in the Middle East

The following open letter was sent to the MIT Students for Israel.

Thank you for sending me a copy of the MITSI petition to "support Israel in her quest for peace." I read, with interest and admiration, the students who had seemingly no ethnic or religious connections with Israel signed this petition expressing their support.

I hope to see Israel living in peace with its democratic neighbors, all within secure and well-recognized borders. But it is hard to imagine a two-state solution without peace. The United States has not made up its mind about what a peace agreement would look like, so it appears indifferent to the suffering of any people.

Thank you for writing, and please do not hesitate to contact me if I or my staff can help you in any way.

Michael E. Capuano U.S. Representative (D-Mass.)
Capuano represents Boston and Cambridge.

Letter To The Editor

Opinion Policy

The Tech staff consists of the editors of the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, features editors, and cartoonists.

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

Commentary or editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Opinions expressed in the Letters to the Editor are the writer's own, and the newspaper reserves the right to edit or condense letters as space permits.

Letters to the Editor must be less than 150 words, written in English, and signed. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. Letters or cartoons will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters and commentaries. In no event will unsigned letters or cartoons be published.

Letters must be handwritten or typewritten in double spacing, and must be addressed to the editor-in-chief, The Tech, 33 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

Letters and cartoons are published in the order in which they are received.

Letters to the Editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to general@the-tech.mit.edu.

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 and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. Letters or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters and commentaries. In no event will unsigned letters be property of The Tech, and will not be returned.

The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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February 25, 2003

Religion and Democracy

Arjun Narayanswamy

"[It is an error to say that] it is praiseworthy in that certain countries it is provided for by law that people who immigrate from outside may publicly profess and practice their religious convictions. Socialism and democracy are not."

"Socialism and democracy are.

There were translations of an important religious document, which religion would you think that I was talking about? Judaism, Christianity, or the rotary press. But this is really similar to history's practitioners of the same. Overrulings and reinterpretations of the First Amendment, differences in the way the different religions of the world structure the world view of their adherents, have produced a public order that is perpetuated in the name of religion. Man has a way of accommodating all into the Word of God.

The second point is that organized religion acts as an important political entity. At this particular moment in history, this is not to be global. Right-wing Christian movements, fundamentalist Islamic parties and right-wing Catholic movements, the choice of religion as the primary determinant of public policy calls for a rethinking here. This polarization troubles democracy everywhere.

Religiously, democracy works on the basis of representation and competition. The citizenry nominally has the power of choice, the effective interest groups competing to elect their representatives. The various elected interest groups compete to elect their representatives. For example, in the name of "national security," the country to vote for a political party that favors strong labor rights. It is for this party that the democratic system, it is often the case, that the state elections represent the interests of its supporters in the state of compromise. Compromise is sometimes possible, groups can overcome their differences so that it is that it could have a campus-wide community that could provide the same kind of common experience.

Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view. Allowing freedom for the person to choose does not mean that the point of view.

Vandervel, the dean for undergraduate research, says a goal for orientation is to "make students feel comfortable. We're trying to give the students a sense of belonging."

Many students are disappointed and ethnic cleansing are already underway in the West Bank as a result of the massive evacuations of the population that occurred in the wake of the conflict. The United Nations has, so far, been unable to prevent the evictions, despite the fact that the UN Security Council has called for an end to these practices. The settlements are built in the West Bank and Gaza. The Israeli government seize land, often legally held by Palestinian citizens, and on it builds housing for Jewish Israeli citizens. The process of seizure is carried out by Israeli soldiers and settlement activists, who carry out evictions, force evictions, and use violence to maintain control over the land. The settlements are illegal under international law and the International Court of Justice has ruled that they are an violation of international law.

"In light of these arguments, I have a few suggestions for Bush. While alloting more time to the Suez war and ideal, would be consistent with the exposure to peppers that is expected to "widen the base of the economy," I understand that there is other value

Mishkin

I owe a "thank you" to the MIT administration.

My social and intellectual experiences at MIT have been overwhelmingly positive. I have been touched by the energy, integrity, and dedication of the faculty, who work tirelessly to support me and my peers in our pursuit of knowledge. I am grateful for their leadership.

Jessica Mishkin

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Boston Meets Vienna in Evening of Transcriptions

By Bogdan Fedeleo

Deborah Veale, piano
Krege Auditorium
Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

Have you ever wondered how entertaining the chamber music scene might be? You might have been surprised about last Saturday's Faculty Concert in Krege, featuring pianist and MIT senior lecturer David Deveau. The theme, "Music of Three Viennas," worked by Beethoven, Brahms, Schoenberg, and Webern, and even the image of Beethoven's death mask on posters told us we were in for a grave and sober concert.

And yet the concert was far from being an over powering experience. Instead, it came out as a light-hearted show: brilliant, exuberant, and even funny.

How entertaining can Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto be? You just heard the transcription for piano and string quartet. It is true that the transcription, which has surfaced recently (1993), is surrounded by stark controversy. Whether the piano part was intended to be given as a separate version or not, one might never know, yet the piece is incredibly different from the standard version of the concerto.

To contrast the orchestra's reduction to five mealy strings, the piano part - believe it or not - has been dressed up with a wide array of extra notes, scales, arpeggios, and trills, all of which are hard to get used to. For example the beginning of the development in the first movement. The piano utters the supreme question of the theme: four notes of a phrase that follow is crucial; it is a moment when time freezes, bewildered. Yet the transcription doesn't offer this moment. Instead, fortissimo octaves in the left hand quickly answer, dissipating the mystery, which the original pianist was unable to set free at the moment.

However, leaving aside all the technicalities of the performance, the performance was successful. A brilliant Deveau led the unusual piano sextet performing the Beethoven work with strong concern for rhythm and flow. The first movement was played fast and the third even faster than usual, highlighting Deveau's pianistic ability and sparkling piano technique.

The strings, modest in sonority (given the score), stood out through liveliness and great musical direction. Yet, we all know that the poor cello will never be able to replace the cello's unique sonority and double basses. Certainly, Krege Auditorium is too big a hall for such intimate arrangements of the concert, and that's why the overall impression is a bit unsettling. Perhaps, if played in Killian Hall, it might have been the ultimate Beethoven chamber music experience.

Beethoven big, but Brahms bigger

Brahms might have enjoyed large sonorities. He and Brahms, in the best sense, made a career using them. Then, it's natural to wonder what happens with Brahms' First Piano Concerto. The piano is a consummate part and add bits of it on top of the piano part. You guessed it: another transcription, this time arranged for piano duet by the composer himself. 

Cringing could be a normal reaction, even if the arrangement is Brahms' own. No, it's not because Brahms did a poor job in arranging his own piece. And no, it's not because of the poor Steinway & Sons piano that's not worth a cent. No, it's because Deveau didn't put out as much power as the music required. And certainly, the interpretation of the transcription is a minefield. Brahms, whose real-time aerobatics in switching hands and playing ten of keys at the same time was impossible and brilliant, is sim ply that the piece was not meant to be a confidant, its energies and potentials, and its Olympian architecture, are only suited for the grand orchestra.

The concert was not without its human faces. The concert was a tremendous success and it may just mean that these instruments primitive, they resemble the universal importance of music in all cultures around the world.

Boston Tech February 25, 2003
The Arts

The Arts

Hey Mercedes!

Pop/Punk Band Headlines A Rockin’ Night at TT’s

By Petar Simich

Hey Mercedes, Armor For Sleep, Panic In Detroit, Lost Pilot

The best thing about the show was the variety in the monologues. Having never seen The Vagina Monologues before, I wasn’t sure what to expect. I was slightly worried, but this was certainly not the case in the show. Taking the form of the basic rock quartet, the band started with a long introductory piece. The audience was very receptive, and there was even a member of MIT Medical available to discuss issues with people after the show.

The producer, Ruth M. Perlmutter ’04, kept saying that the show would have no intermission before it started. After watching a dress rehearsal before the show, I understood why. Each piece was placed strategically to keep the audience off balance, engaged, and most certainly awake. I have often been disappointed by the lack of projection in many MIT productions, but this was certainly not the case in this show. In fact, at certain points I wouldn’t have minded having the volume knob turned down a notch, and there were no body microphones.

The tone of the Vagina Monologues was similar to that of Bobbing for Cucumbers. It took serious issues and spun them from humorous angles; however, the message was still there. In a short interlude between two longer pieces, Heather Doering ’05 presented an “Outrageous Fact”: several states in the United States outlaw the possession and sale of vibrators, while the sale of guns is perfectly legal. Her next statement brought down the house: “We have yet to hear of a mass murder committed with a vibrator.”

Although all of the monologues were well-delivered, a couple were particularly outstanding. “Reclaiming Cunt,” delivered by Adrienne M. Irmer ’04, was a fabulous humorous angle; however, the message was perfectly legal. Her next statement brought down the house: “We have yet to hear of a mass murder committed with a vibrator.”

The audience was very receptive, and there was even a member of MIT Medical available to discuss issues with people after the show.

In short, The Vagina Monologues, though sparse in set (only chairs and a curtain) and simple in costume (only red and black), delivered a clear and powerful message: women should love their bodies, their vaginas, and most importantly, themselves.

Hey, Mercedes!

Hey Mercedes was the only band that night to use its other band members, guitarist Michael Shumaker and bassist Todd Bell, on backing vocals regularly, adding some pleasant vocal dynamics to the songs. Bell screamed up on one of the songs, but heck, everyone has their bad days. Right when I was going to start shouting one of the songs, the singer/guitarist said, “My Vagina Was My Village,” about a gang rape. The contrast between the flashbacks to innocence and the severe withdrawal of the present were completely manifested in Booshan’s expressive features.

The show closed with a monologue dedicated to the wonder of childbirth. It was a fitting ending and allowed the symbol of new life to close the show on a note of hope. The audience was very receptive, and there was a surprising number of males in attendance. There was even a member of MIT Medical available to discuss issues with people after the show.

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Hey, Mercedes!

Hey Mercedes was the only band that night to use its other band members, guitarist Michael Shumaker and bassist Todd Bell, on backing vocals regularly, adding some pleasant vocal dynamics to the songs. Bell screamed up on one of the songs, but heck, everyone has their bad days. Right when I was going to start shouting one of the songs, the singer/guitarist said, “My Vagina Was My Village,” about a gang rape. The contrast between the flashbacks to innocence and the severe withdrawal of the present were completely manifested in Booshan’s expressive features.

The show closed with a monologue dedicated to the wonder of childbirth. It was a fitting ending and allowed the symbol of new life to close the show on a note of hope. The audience was very receptive, and there was a surprising number of males in attendance. There was even a member of MIT Medical available to discuss issues with people after the show.

In short, The Vagina Monologues, though sparse in set (only chairs and a curtain) and simple in costume (only red and black), delivered a clear and powerful message: women should love their bodies, their vaginas, and most importantly, themselves.
It's Our Line, Baby!

Colin Mochrie Provides an Evening of Laughter

By Amandeep Loomba

**THE ARTS**

**February 25, 2003**

Colin Mochrie, with guest Jackie Harris and Plush Daddy Fly

Kenney Auditorium

Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.

Colin Mochrie, a star on ABC's "Whose Line is it Anyway," comedian Jackie Harris, and MIT's sketch comedy group Plush Daddy Fly entertained a crowded Kenney Auditorium on Sunday night, in an event sponsored by the classes of 2005 and 2006, the Undergraduate Association and the d'Arbeloff Fund for Alumni Engagement.

Ostensibly, the undergraduate population was supposed to engage the audience during a reception in the Kenney lobby, over bowls that appeared to have briefly contained baba ganoush. Unfortunately, the lobby was designed to comfortably hold and allow interaction between only a dozen or two dozen people. As one of 300 people crammed inside the small dark space, I regret to say that I received less than one job offer. However, I promise that when I return to MIT as an alumnus, I will be giving those things out left and right.

Plush Daddy Fly warms up crowd

MIT's own Plush Daddy Fly opened the show with its own brand of unique (insofar as Monty Python may claim to be unique) non-improvisational comedy. At the very least, they were perfectly straightforward with dialogue that the comedians worked into their act.

Colin Mochrie comes with a surprise of his own

Colin Mochrie came onstage with unannounced guest Jackie Harris, giving the crowd a taste of what "improv" was really all about. He announced that he and Harris would try to be funny based on audience suggestions, but it didn't really matter if they were, "because once we're dead, it'll be art."

The absurd, balding wit of Mochrie meshed remarkably well with the spunky vivacity of Harris. The duo ran through six pieces, each of which involved participation from the audience, most of which are performed regularly on "Whose Line is it Anyway." All of them were funny, many of them were hilarious and at least two of them embarrassed the audience members onstage in wonderful ways.

Some of the highlights of the show included the "Film Styles" game, whose premise required Mochrie and Harris to act out scenes from a movie in a variety of audience-suggested styles, "Sound Effects," which saw two shy MIT students providing the sound effects that accompanied the comedians' actions, and "Suggestions from a Hat" (or something), in which the audience provided lines of dialogue that the comedians worked into their act.

In all of these pieces, the baseline for everyone's enjoyment was actually provided by the audience. Improvisation is a fascinating form of performance because it is truly a way to gauge the collective subconscious of the group participating (or at least the collective subconscious of the loudest people in the group).

One of the talents MIT students have in spades is creativity. This is shown most straightforwardly in the creative acts of groups such as Plush Daddy Fly, or the Musical Theater Guild's performance of "Star Wars: Musical Edition," not to mention any show put on by improv comedy group Roadkill Buffet. But not everyone has the time or the talent to be in these groups. As such, it was great to sit in the audience and hear otherwise quiet students scream out absurd ideas in the darkness.

Mochrie's performance was apophasis. Jackie Harris was the icing on the cake as well as the shot of espresso afterward, and Plush Daddy Fly has a buttload of laughter to offer. But the best part of Sunday's show was seeing the hilarity drawn out of MIT students and cast onstage in a whole new light.

Class of 2005 President Daniel F. Kanamori's mother, Tamara Kanamori, and his brother, Ari Kanamori, pose

Colin Mochrie and Jackie Harris in the duo's first game of the evening.

Colin Mochrie interrogates Jackie Harris for throwing a pineapple at Great Velocity at Big Bird in the secret underground command bunker of her sorority house.

Jackie Harris meows as a cat handler in "Sound Effects."

Colin Mochrie dyes Jackie Harris in their "Film Styles" game, in which the duo performed in a variety of audience-suggested theatrical styles.
Friday, February 25, 2003

Hay Fever

I can speak in binary!
1011001

Heartbreaker looking for next victim

Uhh...
I guess I'll take the one with the flies.

THE RICK AND CHESTER SHOW

And now, for your reading pleasure, Rick Yxkes will tell you a joke from our "Book of 101 Incirably Funny Jokes."

Great, now what am I going to do?

Don't worry, I came prepared! I've got a rack-up joke!

What did the little boy say to the cat with no ears?

I don't know. What?

Hear, kitty, kitty! HA, HA...GET IT?

Well, what do you think of my joke?

Are you kidding me? Was that it? That's all you could come up with? That's pathetic!

That must have been the worst joke I've ever heard in my life. I think a portion of my soul just boiled away because I was so embarrassed. Sorry excuse for a sense of humor. I would eagerly give up ten, no, twenty years of my life if I would be assured of an existence devoid of such horrible jokes. You should reflect on your wrong actions and bow your head in shame for having ever uttered such pitiless speech. Shame on you, Rick Yxkes! SHAME ON YOU!

Want to see the full picture?

Join The Tech Production staff and read Dilbert and the rest of the paper before your friends do! Stop by Room 483 of the Student Center or call us at 253-1541 and ask for Joy.
ACROSS
1 Big rig
6 Cook
10 Left without words
14 Over 21
15 Word after town or dance
16 Culture medium
17 Vacillating
19 Long, fluffy
21 Commotion
22 Sea off Corfu
23 French cleric
24 Do in bad spree
26 Break in the action
29 Gear tooth
30 Gabs
34 Cove
35 Crisp toast
37 "Runaway" singer
38 Old-fashioned
40 Perform with a
41 Fury
42 Works with a
43 Cager Shaq
44 Croat's neighbor
46 You bet!
47 Huggable
48 Guessed figs.
50 Put on a scale
51 Very drunk
52 London gallery
53 Concerning action
54 Publicize
55 Horizontal barrier
56 Upper?
57 Fix
59 Dexterous
60 Top card
61 Narrow inlet
62 To be in Tours
63 In connection with
64 More aloof
65 "Doa, a...
66 Revoluntary time on earth?
67 Perplexed
68 "Doe, a...
69 Said further
70 Fable
71 Grant
72 Strider target
73 More aloof
74 Relegated
75 Curvature
76 Rascal
77 Synthetick rubber
78 Olympic metals
79 In connection with
80 Freeloader
81 "Doe, a...
82 Five
83 Storming
84 Lowdown
85 Characters
86 Long, fluffed
87 Middle
88 Overly
89 Routine
90 Perform with subtlety
91 Drinking spree
92 Wild blue
93 Impressed
94 You let me travel four hours to see an empty case?
95 Molt mentor
96 To be in Tours
97 "Doe, a...
98 Rascal
99 Fable
100 Rascal
101 Did you mean to?
102 Better
103 Do in bad spree
104 Perform with a
105 Perform with a
106 Quiver
107 Better
108 Better
109 Better
110 Better
111 Better
112 Better
113 Better

DOWN
1 Old adages
2 Actress Falco
3 Comic Martin
4 Doomed
5 Hog home
6 Reprove mildly
7 Sainly glow
8 Cornering pipe
9 Passing quickly
10 Faith
11 Mawer
12 Gravitating
13 Mawer
14 Overly
15 Jamaican fruit
16 Culture
17 Wild blue
18 Cornering pipe
19 Tourist target
20 Individual
21 London gallery
22 Granary
23 Medium
24 Do in bad spree
25 Olympic metals
26 Old-time music systems
27 Habituate
28 Wood for piling
29 Relegated
30 Rascal
31 Fable
32 Piano part
33 With guile
34 Gravitating
35 Actress Falco
36 In connection with
37 Better
38 Empty case
39 Empty case
40 Perform with subtlety
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43 Quiver
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FoxTrot by Bill Amend

I TAKE PAGE, SO YOU THINK... REMEMBER YOU ARE A LOONY. HOLD CONVERSATION AND THEN I OWN IT. SO YOU LEFT IT FOR SOMETHING ELSE?

THE ONE WHERE YOU AGREED TO LOOK AFTER MY SIGNED BACKPACKS WHILE I WAS AWAY.

WHAT. REALLY. I WAS JUST WORRIED YOU'D FORGOTTEN.

DO SOMETHING REAL TO ME. I UNDERSTAND THIS WAS A MISTAKE.

YOU PROMISED!

DID YOU THINK I'D BE BACK? A LITTLE REHEARSAL...

YOU NEVER WA... I WOULD HAVE LET ASK MY AGE, DREW UP A SAVIOUR CARDANO PHOTO?

I CAN!
Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar on [website address]

Tuesday, February 25

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 are subject to change as facilities are under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the previous tour.

4:00 p.m. – Rainbow Lounge Open. MIT's resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender-identified members of the community offers a place to hang out, socialize and enjoy refreshments during its open hours. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: bisgimt

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Oceanography and Climate Seminar. See the ocean from the air: extreme weather, climate system. free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Climate System.

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – CRE – Career Profile Series: Cosmo- cult, Curt Cornelissen, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Mecklenburg. Sponsor: Center for Real Estate.

2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – sponsors@partnerslimit: Mary Baker Eddy Library Speaker Series. "Exhibits at the Mapparium, the world's famous, three-story, stained-glass globe that you can walk inside, and the Monitor Gallery, to view the objects recently acquired for The New Englander Printing newspaper, the Christian Science Monitor. Meet in front of class. sponsor: Student Museum Tours. "To Green Line - Symphony stop. You can buy discount tickets at MITAC for $3.50 (regular price $5)." MITAC is located in the base. Event: sponsored by student Seminars and General Public.

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – "Extending Interoperability to Optical Networking Architectures." free. Room: 52-306. Sponsor: AeroAstro, Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Career Discussion/Support Group. The Career Development Team invites recent alumni and current students to participate with others in a confidential, facilitated group to discuss common themes of setting goals and taking action in your career. In the current economy, we often develop ourselves, whether they are satisfied or unsatisfied in their current positions. free. Room: Career Planning West Campus Annex (W5G).

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. – "Linearization Coefficients for some Nonlinear Control System." free. Room: 34-200. Sponsor:系

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – "Propositional Logic and Truth Tables." free. Room: 55-130. Sponsor: Math.

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – "Preparatory Event: Essay Writing for Medical and Law School Applications." This workshop is geared toward assisting families with the written essay/statement/essay for medical, dental, other health professions, and graduate school applications. free. Room: 4-337. Sponsor: OCSP.

7:00 p.m. – Working to Improve AIDS Education in Brazil. free. Room: 3-322. Sponsor: MIT Human Rights Commission.

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Bible Study. Weekly Bible study held by the Baptist Student Fellowship. free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: Baptist Student Fellowship.

7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. – Sango-MIT FLL Movie. Movies presented by the Sango-MIT Film Club. See screening details on MIT Event Calendar. free. Room: 5-250. Sponsor: Sango-MIT FLL.

8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – "How to Write a Winning Cover Letter." free. Room: 9-26. Sponsor: Undergraduate Students' Association. Refreshments will be served at 3:30.

8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – "The Importance of Women in Leadership Roles." free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture and Art.

9:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. – "The Shakespearean Act." free. Room: 2-106. Sponsor: Studentwadis Club Pub.

9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. – "How to Write a Winning Cover Letter." free. Room: 9-26. Sponsor: Undergraduate Students' Association. Refreshments will be served at 3:30.

9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. – "Coffee Hour, Food and drink - a shady tradition. Room: Hulsizer Room (W1). Sponsor: Campus Activities Board.

10:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. – "Movie Night. Movie and food - for all! Room: Big TV Room (W1). Sponsor: Ashdown tradition.

10:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m. – Carnaval 2003!!! free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: Undergraduate Students' Association.

11:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. – "The Importance of Women in Leadership Roles." free. Room: 3-133. Sponsor: History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture and Art.

February 27

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: Information Center.

12:00 p.m. – MIT Chapel Concert. Carla Christoph, soprano and Andrew Scott, organ. free. Room: 50-306. Sponsor: MIT Chapel. Music and Theater Arts Section.

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Campus Tour. free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave.). Sponsor: Information Center.

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – Department, Laboratory, or Center Annual Review Meeting. free. Room: Student Center 2nd floor. Sponsor: Center Lead Contacts. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.
Candidates Propose New Ideas, Discuss Platforms

Elections, from Page 1

"Some members of the administration seem to doubt the importance of residence selection," Uzamere said. "I do not condone this sentiment... It would be a shame to see rush go."

Some campus leaders have said they worry that the changing rush system will lead to fewer pledges and more failing houses, a sentiment Uzamere agrees with. "We're worried that under the current plan, in the next few years, we'll see a number of houses die off," Uzamere said.

A range of campus issues

Another highlight of all the platforms is UA reform with regard to efficiency. "Since MIT students become hosed so quickly, no one in the UA follows up on projects," Deora said.

The candidates suggested a more open route of communication as the solution. Deora mentioned that UA Update, the UA newsletter — and the UA Web site — are key in acquiring student feedback.

"We've already proposed our plan to Dean Benedict," Uzamere said. "Our plan should cost under $25,000 a year... We expect that the administration will react very favorably to our plan."

Gottlieb also intends to support a "dorm accessibility program" under which students can be given access to dorms they do not live in, but in which they have friends or business.

"Residents want their friends to come in," Gottlieb said. "We want to form a guest list recognized by desk workers. The current system... creates unnecessary hassle and inadverent security risks."

"Some are looking to bring in a Starbucks, or some other company," Deora said. "We're collecting business plans, especially from alumni."

Both Gottlieb and Uzamere said they support daytime SafeRide service. Uzamere said that the idea has been part of "practically every UA plan over the past several years."

Gottlieb responds to poster

Students may have seen flyers posted around campus that read: "A vote for David Gottlieb is a vote against the dorms." The flyers were apparently posted in response to an e-mail written by Gottlieb on the g-csaf mailing list. The e-mail suggested that the traditional dorm rush would be detrimental to fraternity rush and that Gottlieb's opponents favored the traditional rush.

"I said some stuff that wasn't correct," Gottlieb said in response. "It was stupid, but I just want to say that we want the freshman to have the best four years possible... It didn't come across the way I meant it to."

As a solution to the debate on dorm/fraternity rush precedence during orientation, Gottlieb said that he would push for a "united front."

"We need to get rid of that impression of mistrust," Gottlieb said.

Platforms

Deora and Williams' platform includes better dining for East Campus, increased UA-student interaction, and a campus coalition to foster student unity on their agenda. Deora and Williams, whom Deora describes as putting the UA before academics, hope to facilitate the office space needs of student groups. Deora said.

Gottlieb and Keller's leading issues are dorm room accessibility, UA efficiency, and community involvement in the UA. Moreover, the two propose an extension of TechCASH use to more restaurants in the Cambridge area. "Duke has access to 24 restaurants. Maybe we can get more than Domino's," Gottlieb also said that MIT's Confidential Medical Transport program is important and describes Keller as "an energetic and dedicated person... works really hard."

Uzamere and Faber's platform centers on "communication, concrete change, and community building." They also hope to build a "cultural group coalition" to ensure that cultural groups do not "splinter off into their own cliques." The two also say that they hope for better dining options around campus.

Elections will be held from March 6 to March 11.

UA Presidential, Vice Presidential Candidates

Parul Deora '04, candidate for UA President

Harel M. Williams '05, candidate for UA Vice President

Jacob W. Faber '04, candidate for UA Vice President

Karen M. Keller '04, candidate for UA President

Plus A. Uzamere '04, candidate for UA Vice President

Roshan Baliga '04, candidate for UA Vice President

Alpha Chi Sigma

Professional Chemistry Fraternity

Rush socials!

Come meet us!

Tuesday, February 25

Wednesday, February 26

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Room 4-149

Alpha Chi Sigma is primarily for sophomores, juniors, and seniors, but also rushes grad students and faculty involved in the chemical sciences in courses such as, but not limited to: 1E, 3, 5, 7, 10 and BME

Visit us on the web!

http://web.mit.edu/axe/www/

If you have any questions about AXΣ or membership in AXΣ, please e-mail rushaxe@mit.edu
Wednesday, February 26
Time 8 p.m.

UA Debate

Have questions for the candidates?
E-mail them to
letters@it.mit.edu

The Council for the Arts at MIT presents
FREE TICKETS FOR MIT STUDENTS!!!!!

Friday, March 7
8:00pm
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory
Boston Modern Orchestra Project presents
What's New?
An evening of world premieres
commissioned by BMOP
RUEHR Ladder to the Moon
PAULUS The Five Senses
YANNATOS Songs of Life, Love and Loss
FRAZELLE Concerto for Chamber Orchestra

Pre-concert symposium, 7:00 pm
Featuring the evening’s composers & artists
Open to all ticket holders

Friday, March 14
8:00pm
Somerville Theatre, Davis Square
World Music/CrashArts presents:
HUUN HUUR TU

Hailing from Tuva, an autonomous Russian republic on the border of Mongolia, Huun Huur Tu perform an Otherworldly vocal technique described as “a musical marvel” by the New York Times. In this fascinating vocal style—called khoomei in Tuva, or “overtone singing” in English—a single vocalist produces two or three notes simultaneously. Named Huun Huur Tu, or “Layers of Light” in their native Tuva language, the four-member ensemble demonstrates the subtly diverse style of khoomei while singing rhythmic cowboy songs accompanied by traditional instruments from the Tuva steppe.

Tickets may be picked up at the MIT Office of the Arts E15-205
Monday – Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm
One ticket per valid MIT Student ID

Help Desk Info Session
Tuesday, March 4th, 2003
5:15 - 6:45 pm
N42 Demo Center
211 Massachusetts Ave, across from NECCO

We’re Hiring Student Consultants

If you are
• a logical problem solver
• patient, friendly, motivated to help
• good at explaining technical topics
Come meet our staff at the:

We're Hiring Student Consultants

Help Desk

Attendence at the information session is required for all applicants. Candidates should also submit a resume by 5:00 pm on March 4th to:
hd-hiring@mit.edu

http://web.mit.edu/helpdesk/hiring.html

28th Annual
Ebony Affair

Saturday 3/1/03
6:30 pm – until
Morss Hall, Walker Memorial

Semi-Formal Attire, Live Entertainment, Dinner

$12 before 2/22 $15 at the door
Tickets and info contact samgee@mit.edu
Tickets also available at the Source
(1st floor Student Center)

Presented by: MIT Black Graduate Students’ Association, Sloan Minority Business Club, and the Black Students Union
Sponsored by ARCADE and weekends@mit
The audience response was tame when the original school seal was projected onto the two large screens in the front of the room. According to the pamphlet distributed at the Ring Premiere, the seal shank "features the MIT School Seal, unadulterated and in its purest form possible." Two men symbolically hold a book and a hammer to match the Latin phrase mens et manus directly below them.

"I'm glad that [the 2005 Ring Committee] stuck with that tradition," said William R. Fowler '05. "Since the founding of the Institute, we've had the two men symbolically hold a book and a hammer. It's just a tradition."

The committee received input from the class of 2005 via e-mail, through a committee Web site, and at a committee-sponsored study break. Controversy surrounding the seal began three years ago, when the class of 2002's ring included a woman on the MIT seal for the first time. Though most of the class was happy with the design, some were upset at the deviation from tradition.

The class of 2003 Brass Rat featured two men, but the controversy was revisited last year when an information leak from the 2004 Ring Committee prompted 2004 Ring Committee chair Douglas J. Rohat Gupta '05, the Ring Committee chair. ArtCarved will make 2005 Rats this year, the Ring Committee decided to order the rings from ArtCarved, a company that Ring Committee members had ordered from in the past, Gupta said. Last year, the 2004 Ring Committee ordered from Jostens, but Gupta said that Jostens was poorly organized, and after considering issues like pricing, warranty, and quality, ArtCarved was their top choice.

Despite the cold weather and moderate rain, hundreds of sophomores huddled together in a line outside the front doors of Walker before 5 p.m., some excited to see their class ring and others motivated to receive their free t-shirts and mugs.

Upon entering Walker Memorial Hall, members of the class of 2005 were checked for identification, then greeted with free food on one side and two projection screens on the other where dance music blazed.

Presenting in semi-formal attire, the committee members took their turns in an informal presentation with expletives embedded in occasional jokes.

At one point, Ring Committee member Rosa Grabowsky '05 appeared to spontaneously start a dance contest during the raffle. Two contestants in the impromptu contest, Alex and Ethan Cramlin '05, took off their shirts in an attempt to win a prize.

Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio said that he had "no problems with aiming new taxes at universities." but did not "believe this is a time to be looking at a new local tax." Galluccio favors a renewed effort to remove the tax-exempt status of large universities instead. "Large institutes are run like corporations and corporations don't deserve tax-exempt status," he said. The tax exemption was "created for fledgling universities," not those "with enormous endowments." A previous push to remove the tax-exempt status of large universities failed when Watertown struck a deal with Harvard University and withdrew tax support, Galluccio said.

Galluccio, along with Councillor Henrietta Davis, proposed looking at restraining spending before creating a new tax. Galluccio also said that he had "concerns about the impact [of the payroll tax] on the business community."

Tax requires home rule petition
The tax would also require a home rule petition or other action at the state level. Murphy said that while such a proposal on Beacon Hill were unclear, it had a better chance this year than in recent years because of fiscal problems. The legislature realizes it should "be giving localities tools" to deal with the current fiscal problems, Murphy said.

Galluccio tied the ongoing negotiations over MIT's payments in lieu of taxes to the Institute's tax-exempt status. It is "better for the universities and city to have consistency" in tax payments, Galluccio said. The current payment in lieu of taxes system "doesn't bring the level of dignity both institutions would like."

Murphy said that he had not discussed the proposed tax with local universities.

MIT officials could not be reached for comment last night.

Solution to Crossword

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Solution to ChessMate

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1. Re8+ Ne8 7. Qx7
dax
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Council Ponders New Tax
By Frank Dobek

A reduction in financial support from Beacon Hill has prompted the Cambridge City Council to discuss a payroll tax that would affect local universities.

City Councillor Brian Murphy initiated discussion at last night's council meeting of a proposal to create a 0.25 percent payroll tax that would generate $13M yearly and "tax universities as employers." The proposal is in response to state cuts in aid and the city's "dependent property taxes," Murphy said.

The city lost $4.2M in state funds this year, according to a report of the council's finance committee.

The future of the proposal, which is not yet a formal bill, is unclear as support remains spotty among fellow councillors and it would have to be approved by the state legislature.

Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio said that he had "no problem with aiming new taxes at universities," but did not "believe this is a time to be looking at a new local tax." Galluccio favors a renewed effort to remove the tax-exempt status of large universities instead. "Large institutes are run like corporations and corporations don't deserve tax-exempt status," he said. The tax exemption was "created for fledgling universities," not those "with enormous endowments." A previous push to remove the tax-exempt status of large universities failed when Watertown struck a deal with Harvard University and withdrew tax support, Galluccio said.

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dax
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Solution to Crossword

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Students Unconcerned With Seal Gender

It's 3 a.m. Your head is throbbing, your stomach is rumbling, your skin is itchy. It's thirty degrees outside, and MIT Medical might as well be on the other side of the world. Who can you call?

Find your nearest link at http://web.mit.edu/medlinksltrww
IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO START THINKING ABOUT Nominations 2003 Awards Convocation

http://mit.edu/awards • Nominations Deadline • March 21

*Carnival *Karnaval *Cropover *
*Martedi Grasso *Carnaval*

Mardi Gras!

Steel Drums!
Food! Drinks!
Jugglers!
Masks!

Live Band!
Pentolaccia!
DJ!
Face Painting!

Sunday, March 2nd
7 – 9:30 pm
Walker Memorial

Tech Catholic Community

Sponsored by ARCADE funding
CARNIVAL
2003

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27
10:00 pm - 2:00 am

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Elevator Have New System, Slow Doors

By Nathan Collins

The second of two student center elevator upgrades, which will modernize the 1960s technology currently in use, will be completed in the next week or two, said Campus Activities Complex Director Phillip J. Walsh.

"I think the elevators have been a concern here in the Student Center for some time," Walsh said.

The new elevator has experienced a few problems. Walsh said there were a few breakdowns last week "which were quickly responded to."

Additionally, some students have noticed that the new elevator doors open slowly and that thus has contributed to slightly slower service, but Walsh said that this could likely be fixed.

"There's always some tweaking to be done," Walsh said. He noted that having the crew that worked on the first elevator still around working on the second could expedite such work.

Bernard J. Richard, Department of Facilities manager for electrical, mechanical and plumbing operations, said that minor problems, such as those with the doors, should be relatively easy to fix. "Whether or not we can speed up the elevators, I'm not sure," he said in regard to the elevator motors.

The west elevator renovation was completed several weeks ago. Walsh said that the second effort would likely take about three weeks, instead of the anticipated four weeks, putting the completion date in early March.

Walsh said the two elevators were not renovated at the same time so workers could learn from work on the first elevator. The second renovation, he said, would take less time because workers were already experienced with an identical system.

Richard said the work required three weeks because "we're doing an extensive overhaul." A typical MIT elevator takes six weeks to renovate, he said. "We have to replace a tremendous amount of components."

A major reason for the renovations was the outdated electronics. The elevator cars were renovated in the 1980s, but the electronics remained the same as when they were first installed in 1965, he said.

Those electronics used many mechanical relays which had a propensity to get stuck, Richard said.

"When you have a problem, you have hundreds and hundreds of relays," and tracking down and fixing the stuck relay can be difficult, Richard said.

A key job was to replace the electronics with modern solid-state systems.

"It becomes much more dependable," Richard said.

The elevator cars, controls, and much of the other hardware will be replaced, and the elevators motors will be overhauled, Richard said.

In addition to the elevators, many fifth floor offices were recently renovated. Starting last December, the offices of Student Life Programs and Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups were extensively remodeled to change the arrangement and sizes of individual offices.
“Few Visa Delays Thus Far, Departments Say”

Delays, from Page 1 or weeks may be triggered by anything that a border agent deems to be unusual, "suspicious" or otherwise warranting further scrutiny," according to a report describing MIT’s guidelines. If the student is from one of the twenty nations subject to a "special registration" process, or if an application is sent to the U.S. State Department for administrative review, it can take months for the visa to be approved.

A student put under administrative review will often have to submit further information to the government, for example a transcript of classes taken at MIT.

Danielle Guichard-Asbrook, director of the International Students Office, said that the reason an application will be reviewed may be a combination of excessive travel and belonging to certain organizations.

Guichard-Asbrook said she would "presume what [classes] you’re taking is a factor." Nuclear engineering and cryptography have been cited as classes that might arouse suspicion.

She said that students in the nuclear engineering department run a higher risk of administrative review, but the State Department has also investigated "students from seemingly innocuous fields."

Faculty have final decision on help and may add a special clause to the student’s case.

Biological Department Head Robert T. Sauer said that students being unable to return promptly had not become a large issue for the Biological Department and that the issue had not yet required a systematic process.

Brian E. Canavan, academic administrator for the Physics Department, said that there had been "very few incidents" of delayed students in physics, and all of them were short-term hold ups. The department would deal with the issue on a case by case basis, he said, and "we are very open to working with students."

"To my knowledge, I don’t think we’ve had a problem," said Chemistry Department Head Stephen J. Lippard.

The guidelines report also states that circumstances such as paying bills can be spread out over future bills, but housing will not be guaranteed for longer delays for off-campus leases.

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*Applications for Pre-Orientation (FPOP) Coordinators and Counselors are now available in the ARC (7-103). For more information on the FPOPs, contact Dan Chapman, dwc@mit.edu. Deadlines for FPOP applications is Friday, February 28, 2003.

*City Days Coordinator position is now available. For more information, contact Jill Soucy of the Public Service Center, jsoucy@MIT.EDU or (617) 253-8968.

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Gymnasts Vying for Nationals Slot
After Upsetting SUNY Brockport

By Caitlin P. Dwyer-McNally and Lindsey L. Wolf

The Women’s 2002-03 Gymnastics team has exhibited marked improvement over last year’s performance, partly due to a talented crop of freshmen. Newcomers Francesca E. Demou, Chandler E. Hatton, and Jennifer E. Sauchuk bring a wealth of experience gained from their previous successes at the Junior Olympic level.

The squad got off to a strong start during IAP, opening the season with a team score of 173.45, compared to last year’s first meet score of 169.125. The team has shown even greater improvement over the course of the season. They have already shattered the entire team on vault and beam, events that had been preventing the team from doing as well during previous competitions.

MIT vying for bid to Nationals
The SUNY Brockport meet was a strategic win for the Engineers as the race for the one remaining spot at the National Championships heats up. Only the top four teams from each conference automatically qualify for the National Championships in Eau Claire, Wisconsin on March 28-29. MIT is in good shape after upsetting SUNY ranked fourth in Division III. The Engineers are currently ranked fifth in the nation and have held the first place ranking on the floor exercise for the last three weeks.

While New England suffered from freezing temperatures and blizzard conditions this past Presidents’ Day weekend, members of MIT’s Ballroom Dance Team were keeping warm at the Hot Cross Fifth Annual Ballroom Dance Competition. The team walked away from the competition with 20 first place finishes.

The Holy Cross competition was structured differently from most. In this competition, dances are judged separately. Typically a couple’s results are based on the compilation of their scores for all the dances in that event. However, the teams of Holy Cross and other recent competitions, have held the first place ranking on the floor exercise for the last three weeks. The team in recent weeks has been on a more intense schedule training for the upcoming national championships in March. Additionally, many of the teams have very high standings nationally and are expected to qualify individually. The team in recent weeks has been on a more intense schedule training for the upcoming national championships in March. Additionally, many of the teams have very high standings nationally and are expected to qualify individually. The team in recent weeks has been on a more intense schedule training for the upcoming national championships in March. 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