



The Weather

Today: Cloudy, showers, 78°F (26°C)
Tonight: Clearing, 60°F (15°C)
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, 78°F (26°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 124, Number 31

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Tuesday, August 31, 2004

MIT President-Elect Hockfield is First Life Scientist, First Female to Hold the Office

By Christine R. Fry
SENIOR EDITOR

The MIT Corporation unanimously elected Susan Hockfield as the new Institute president during a special meeting of the governing body last Thursday. Hockfield expects to take office in early December.

Hockfield currently serves as the provost of Yale University. According to the Yale Web site, the provost is the chief academic officer of the university, second only to the president. She is responsible for academic policies throughout the entire university, including Yale College and the graduate school. Hockfield is also a trained neuroscientist, who, until her appointment to the provost position in 2003, maintained an active laboratory at Yale. She also served as the dean of the Yale graduate school from 1998 to 2003.

President-elect Hockfield received her undergraduate degree in biology from the University of Rochester in 1973 and a PhD in anatomy and neuroscience from Georgetown University School of Medicine in 1979.

Hockfield will be MIT's first female president and the first life scientist to hold the office.

In honor of her new appointment, the Institute held a community meeting in 10-250 on Thursday to officially welcome Hockfield and her family to MIT. After being



ED PLATT—THE TECH

Outgoing Institute president Charles M. Vest presents MIT's incoming president, Dr. Susan Hockfield, with a can containing shredded money.

introduced by Corporation Chairman Dana G. Mead PhD '67, Hockfield addressed the standing-room-only crowd packed into the lecture hall.

"What do I want to see in MIT's future? ... I want MIT to be the dream of every child who wants to make the world a better place,"

Hockfield said.

Hockfield to learn about MIT

Hockfield was reluctant to present specific goals for her term as president of MIT.

"At this point I can't tell you where my attention will focus in the immediate weeks and months,"

Hockfield said at a press conference. "... In the positions I have held at Yale, I have learned that there is extraordinary insight that comes out of the community and I will be talking to the people in this community to learn from them where they see the

Hockfield, Page 17

Stata Dining Facility Begins Full Operation, MIT In Negotiations to Bring Anna's to Student Center



JOHN CLOUTIER—THE TECH

The Forbes Family Cafe, located in the Stata Center, opened for business Monday.

By Marissa Vogt
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The Forbes Family Cafe, the new dining facility in the Stata Center, began full operation yesterday, serving hot entrees and pizza in addition to the cafe-style foods that have been offered since July.

Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin III said the cafe will be open until 3 p.m. this week, and until 10 p.m. after Labor Day. The pizza, hot entrees, and sushi offered for lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The seating area in the Forbes Cafe is much smaller than that of the dining facility in Walker Memorial, which it is replacing. Berlin said that he does not anticipate this will be a problem.

Walker dining has been "declining in terms of its patronage over the past few years" and was often only one third full, Berlin said. The Forbes cafe has seating for 160 people, though it "probably looks smaller than it is," said Berlin. He

Dining, Page 19

Crowded Class of 2008 Arrives

By Beckett W. Sterner
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Over the past two days, the class of 2008 has arrived on campus to a new format for orientation, more crowding in dormitories, and all the free food MIT can offer.

With 1,086 enrolled students, this year's freshman class is the largest in at least eight years and is over 100 students larger than the smallest entering class in recent history of 980 in 2002.

Along with more students came more parents, leading to a record registration for parents' orientation, said Elizabeth C. Young, assistant dean in the Academic Resource Center. A total of 615 families had registered as of Saturday.

The enrollment in pre-orientation programs was comparable to previous years, Young said, with 335 enrolled and about 80 left over for whom there wasn't enough space.

Other students arrived early for intensive sports practice, often enduring two practices a day.

Ellen E. Sojka '08 arrived early to practice with the volleyball team and is already trying to recruit people to come to their games, she said. Her time at MIT and with the team has been "really fun" so far, she said.

Orientation has new format

The structure of orientation has changed drastically over the past three years, with both dormitory rush and fraternity rush becoming more and more separated from the Institute-planned events.

The Dormitory Council, a student group representing all undergraduate dormitories, has had to fight in the past few years to maintain the prominence of dormitory rush in the orientation schedule.

DormCon President Ian Brelinsky '06 said that DormCon had been too "reactive" in the past, only giving feedback after a rough draft of the orientation schedule had been made public. This year, however, they intend to be involved with the initial planning of next year's orientation.

"We're working hard with administrators ... to ensure that freshmen have the best orientation possible," he said, and "we will hopefully be writing the rough draft with [MIT administrators]" from the beginning.

He said that DormCon has been working very successfully with the

Orientation, Page 15

OPINION

Would you vote for a politician who changed his mind when he was wrong?

Page 5



Comics

Page 6

FEATURES

The AskSIPB column addresses the basics of computing and connecting at MIT.

Page 18

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Daily Confusion	9
Dining and Hotel Guide	13

WORLD & NATION

U.S. Envoy To Iraq Urges Shift Of Money To Security

By Steven R. Weisman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The new American ambassador in Iraq, concerned about the problems of unemployed Iraqis and by attacks on the country's oil fields, has urged the Bush administration to shift money away from infrastructure improvements and use it to improve security and job opportunities, Bush administration officials said Monday.

The officials said that under a proposal submitted last week by the ambassador, John D. Negroponte, more than \$3.3 billion in aid that had been set aside for improvements in Iraq's utilities, electricity, water and sewage needed to be spent for other purposes to show results that could be seen quickly by discontented Iraqis.

The Negroponte recommendation was seen in the administration as a sign of the State Department moving to take control of the non-military agenda in Iraq. During the occupation, which ended June 28, officials at the State Department were incensed over being sidelined by Defense Department officials then in charge of reconstruction.

"The recommendations are the result of a review that Negroponte did even before he arrived in Baghdad," a State Department official said. "He's reached the conclusion that a lot of the infrastructure improvements that Iraq needs simply cannot go forward unless the security situation is improved."

Role Of Cheney's Gay Daughter In Campaign Stirs Debate

By David D. Kirkpatrick
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Mary Cheney, the daughter and chief campaign manager of Vice President Dick Cheney, had just slipped out of the room at a town hall meeting in Davenport, Iowa, last week when her father publicly acknowledged for the first time that she was openly lesbian and that he disagreed with the president's support for an amendment banning same-sex marriage.

Social conservatives like Gary Bauer complain that Dick Cheney's public support for his daughter "demoralizes some sections of the base that they need in an election where we could all be counting chads again."

Gay rights advocates, on the other hand, accuse Mary Cheney of selling out gays and lesbians to aid her father's campaign.

Study Questions Value Of High Doses Of Heart Drug

By Denise Grady
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A study of a powerful cholesterol-lowering drug, Zocor, has surprised researchers by finding little or no benefit in greatly increasing the dose given to people who recently had a heart attack. People who took a high dose, 80 milligrams a day, also had an increased risk of muscle-related complications. The study was paid for by Merck, which makes Zocor.

Experts said that the findings suggested that some cholesterol-lowering drugs may be safer than others at high doses. The findings also raised concerns about the safety of the 80-milligram dose of Zocor, but researchers said that the more commonly used 40-milligram dose was safe and effective.

Zocor is the second-best-selling member of a class of drugs known as statins, which have been found to lower the risk of death, heart problems and strokes in people with high cholesterol or heart disease. Six statins are sold in the United States, and about 11 million Americans take them, though experts in heart disease say many more should. Recent studies have suggested that lowering cholesterol sharply with high doses of statins can offer increased protection.

GOP Approves Conservative Platform at NYC Convention

By Robin Toner
and David D. Kirkpatrick
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Republicans approved a platform Monday that puts the party firmly on the record against legalized abortion, gay marriage and other forms of legal recognition for same-sex couples, reflecting the political clout of social conservatives and setting up a stark contrast with the Democrats for the fall campaign.

The platform also hails President Bush's fight against terrorism, advocates making his tax cuts permanent and calls for the creation of personal investment accounts in Social Security as part of a new "ownership society" that Republicans assert would give Americans more responsibility and control over their financial lives.

The 93-page document, produced under the tight control of the Bush forces, attempts several political tasks: promoting and defending Bush's record, particularly on national security; sketching a domestic vision for a second term; and energizing the conservative base.

Democrats and their allies immediately denounced the platform as extremist and completely at odds

with the moderate image the party is trying to project this week. "It's the truth behind the facade of their convention," said Stephanie Cutter, spokeswoman for Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic nominee. "It reflects the divisiveness and extreme policies of the last four years, while the public speakers paint a very different picture."

Gay rights and abortion rights groups reiterated their dismay. Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign, a gay rights organization, declared, "It's one of the most discriminatory platforms in modern history." She added, of Bush, "He's counting on the fact that most people won't be reading the letter of the law of the Republican platform."

Sen. Bill Frist, the Republican majority leader and chairman of the platform committee, hailed the platform, titled, "A Safer World, A More Hopeful America," as a tribute to Bush when he presented it to the convention on Monday. "Our platform highlights the principles that unite our party," he said. "We stand squarely, fully and firmly with President George W. Bush in a time of profound national and historic consequence."

Reflecting the altered world since the last Republican platform was written four years ago in Philadelphia, half of the document is devoted to national security, and what it asserts are Bush's achievements in the fight against terrorism. "The president's leadership has achieved successes once deemed impossible to realize in so short a time," the platform declares.

Hailing the president's "steadfast resolve" in response to the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the platform declares that, "There is no negotiation with terrorists. No form of therapy or coercion will turn them from their murderous ways. Only total and complete destruction of terrorism will allow freedom to flourish."

The platform also describes the war with Iraq, which brought hundreds of thousands of protesters to the streets of New York this week, as justified and successful. "Iraq, which once had the worst government in the Middle East, is now becoming an example of reform to the region," the platform says. Republicans also used their platform to promote the ownership society and "reformed" government that are expected to be a highlight of Bush's speech Thursday night.

Terrorists Demand that France Lift Ban on Public Headscarves

By Elaine Sciolino
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

Two French journalists held hostage in Iraq urged the French government to give in to their captors' demand by revoking a law banning Muslim head scarves in public schools, the Arabic-language television station Al-Jazeera reported Monday night.

Otherwise, they said, they might be killed.

Quoting a written statement, the station reported that the Islamic Army of Iraq, the little-known group that kidnapped the two men, had decided to extend by 24 hours the deadline for Paris to lift the ban.

On Saturday night the group

gave France 48 hours to cancel the ban, although it did not issue a specific threat against the men's lives.

The journalists, Georges Malbrunot and Christian Chesnot, shown in a video broadcast by Al-Jazeera on Monday night unshaven and seated together, urged the French people to conduct protests to persuade the government to retract the law.

"I call on President Chirac and the French government to show good will toward the Arab and Islamic worlds by revoking the ban on wearing the Islamic veil immediately," said Chesnot, who works for Radio France Internationale and Radio France. "I also urge all French citizens to demonstrate against this law and demand its

cancellation because it is wrong and unjust."

He added: "Failure to revoke it might cost us our lives. It's a question of time — maybe minutes — before we are among the dead."

His fellow hostage, Georges Malbrunot, who writes for the daily newspapers *Le Figaro* and *Ouest France*, said, "I appeal to the French people and every Frenchman who appreciates the meaning of life to stage demonstrations demanding that the law banning the Islamic veil be revoked, because our lives are in danger and we might die any minute if this law, which I urge President Chirac to revoke, is not abrogated."

They spoke in English and their words were translated into Arabic.

WEATHER

End of Summer

By Nikki Prive
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

*"The day began uncertain,
With clouds low trailing and moments of rain that misted.
The young folk held some hope out to each other
Till well toward noon when the storm settled down
With a swish in the grass. 'What if the others
Are there,' they said. 'It isn't going to rain.'" — Robert Frost*

Tropical storm Hermine is expected to brush past New England overnight, bringing strong winds and rain to Cape Cod and showers to the Boston area. Showers will be possible through mid-day due to Hermine and the remnants of Gaston. A cold front will slowly push through the area during the day, keeping temperatures considerably cooler than the past couple of days, with highs in the upper 70s°F. Skies should clear overnight, with sunny skies for the rest of the week and daytime temperatures in the 70s. This return to seasonable temperatures marks the end of meteorological summer — meteorological fall begins Sept. 1.

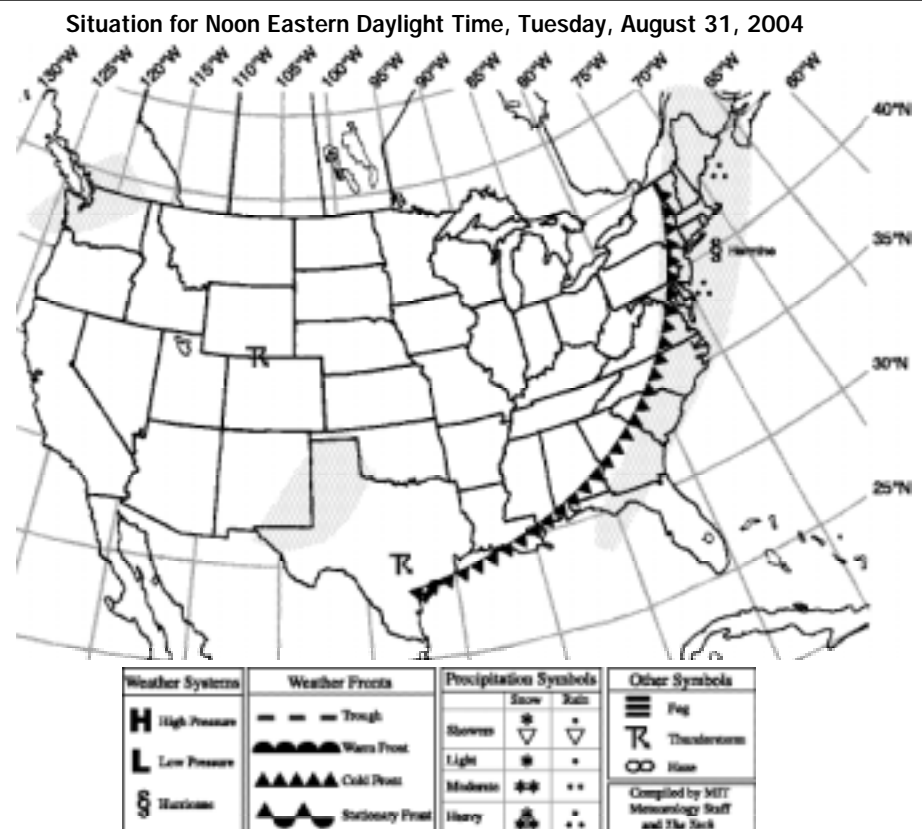
Extended Forecast:

Today: Cloudy, chance of showers, highs in the upper 70s°F (26°C).

Tonight: Gradual clearing, lows around 60°F (15°C).

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, high in the upper 70s°F (26°C), overnight lows in the mid 50s°F (13°C).

Thursday: Mostly sunny, high in the lower 70s°F (23°C).



Iran Asserts Right to Nuclear Energy But Disavows Warheads

By Nazila Fathi
THE NEW YORK TIMES

TEHRAN, IRAN

President Mohammad Khatami, in a rare news conference, said Saturday that Iran would not give up its right to have a nuclear program and that it was willing to guarantee it was seeking nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

"We have suggested that the Middle East should be cleaned of all kinds of nuclear weapons," he said.

"On the other hand, we want to be able to master nuclear technology," he said, to enable Iran to manufacture uranium as fuel for its nuclear plants. "We want it and no one can deprive us of having it."

In return, Khatami said that Iran

was willing to "provide any guarantee," to prove that its nuclear program was for peaceful purposes.

"We do not welcome tension," he said. "We do not welcome our case to be sent United Nations Security Council."

"We will do our best to resolve our differences through negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the international community," he added, referring to the U.N. international monitoring agency for nuclear programs.

Iran has allowed tougher inspections of its nuclear sites since October, but this is the first time the government has said publicly that it would provide a guarantee to ease international concerns.

The U.N. nuclear agency is expected to release its report about Iran's nuclear activities during the first week of September.

The United States has accused Iran of trying to develop nuclear weapons and has urged the U.N. agency to send Iran's case to the Security Council, which could impose sanctions.

Khatami also denied accusations that Iran was stirring chaos in Iraq, and said that his country wanted stability and security in Iraq.

He further warned the United States, saying that America must know it should not repeat "the unsuccessful experience" of invading Iraq and attack Iran, contending that the result would be even worse in the case of Iran.

Kremlin Loyalist An Easy Victor In Chechen Presidential Election

By C.J. Chivers
THE NEW YORK TIMES

GROZNY, RUSSIA

Maj. Gen. Alu Alkhanov, Chechnya's senior law enforcement officer and a Kremlin loyalist, was declared the winner of the republic's special presidential election on Monday, as had been assured since he declared his candidacy in June.

According to unofficial tallies released by Chechnya's election commission, Alkhanov received 73.48 percent of the ballots cast on Sunday, overwhelming six challengers in a manner reminiscent of the election of his predecessor, Akhmad Kadyrov, who was assassinated in May.

The results surprised no one. Kadyrov's election last year was derided by international analysts as a farce, and dozens of Chechen residents, in interviews before the latest election, said nothing would change.

Alkhanov had the Kremlin's backing, they said, which meant he would be imposed.

Alkhanov's closest competitor, Movsur Khamidov, received less than 9 percent of the vote. Khamidov, with a career in the FSB, one of the security agencies that emerged from the KGB, was regarded by some analysts as Moscow's back-up candidate in case Alkhanov was killed before election day.

Now that Alkhanov has won, the

more difficult task is at hand: leading the people that the government says have elected him.

After a decade that has seen two wars between the Russian government and Chechen Islamists and separatists, Chechnya is a land of horrors, a tiny corner of Russia that lies in ruin, plagued by battles in its southern mountains and ambushes and terrorist attacks on its urban streets.

Grozny, the capital, is rubble and occupied by both the Russian army and a variety of armed Chechen groups. Corruption is systemic, the economy devastated and crime unchecked. Abductions are common enough that few Westerners venture in.

Protesters' Encounters With Delegates Turn Ugly

By Randal C. Archibald
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Outside a hotel in Times Square, delegates to the Republican National Convention were swarmed by protesters dressed in black and swearing at them. Blocks away, delegates engaged in shoving matches with protesters seeking to spoil their night at the theater. And outside "The Lion King" on 42d Street, a delegate was punched by a protester who ran by.

Although the organized protests Sunday and Monday have been largely peaceful, there has been a starkly different tone to smaller incidents in Midtown and elsewhere: angry encounters and planned harassment of convention delegates as they go out on the town.

Sometimes the delegates answer back in toe-to-toe, finger-pointing shouting matches. Other times the police, who are guarding delegate gatherings, have dispersed protesters, who move on to other locations to taunt other delegates.

Since platoons of heavily armed police are guarding the convention site at Madison Square Garden, anarchists and other radicals are carrying out a coordinated plan to strike out at delegates at their hotels, breakfasts, parties, and on the streets.

The incidents are the result of months of planning by opposition groups, who report that they have obtained copies of plans and addresses for delegates' parties, caucuses and other functions.

Security Tightened In Kabul After Vehicle Bomb Kills at Least Seven

By Amy Waldman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

Security was tightened across Kabul on Monday in the wake of a vehicle bomb on Sunday that killed three Americans working for an American contractor and at least four other people.

Among those killed were at least four Afghans, including a child and an 18-year-old youth who was struck in the neck by a piece of glass.

The Americans worked for DynCorp Inc., which is owned by the Computer Sciences Corp. of El Segundo, Calif., and has a contract from the U.S. government to train the Afghan police. Mike Dickerson, a company spokesman, said that in addition to the three American employees who had been killed, two employees were missing. He said one was an Afghan, and the other a Nepali.

He identified the Americans as John A. Deuley, 36, of Rudy, Ark.; Robert J. Bifano, 57, of Panama City, Fla.; and Gerald W. Gibson, 57, of Bates City, Mo.

Afghan officials said at least 15 people had been injured, and Dickerson said they included five DynCorp employees, two of whom had been treated for minor wounds and released. One of the injured, Joseph Dickinson, 36, of Chesapeake, Va., was seriously wounded and was being flown to Germany for further treatment.

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OPINION

Setting the Tone for Student Life

Changing presidents is a momentous occasion for MIT, as the new president brings a different set of perspectives, goals and skills to the most powerful position at the Institute. Susan Hockfield seems a good choice for the job, based on her previous administrative experience at Yale and her work in neuroscience, a profoundly important new field that MIT has made one of its key research focuses for the next few decades.

But, as Hockfield has said herself, she does not bring much experience with MIT's unique culture to the job, something that would not be missing from an insider or alumnus. In general, the role of the president is primarily that of an external ambassador to the world, including fundraising and lobbying. We believe that to be successful as a president inside the Institute, though, Hockfield should explain this outside role to students and how tasks such as fundraising matter to students, in addition to actively encouraging her administrators to seek student involvement. While Hockfield will not realistically have much day to day contact with students, she will play the critical role of setting the tone for how the rest of the administration will deal with the student body.

As the transition from President Vest has already begun, Hockfield will no doubt be receiving a lot of input and suggestions from administrators, staff, and a few students from the Student Advisory Committee, which assisted the Corporation in understanding student perspective on the presidential candidates. Many of the projects and plans she will hear about are part of Vest's strong legacy, including his advocacy of science and scientific reasoning in national government. One of his lesser achievements, however, which Hockfield should avoid, has to

been to treat MIT students less and less like intelligent though still growing adults, and more like unruly children.

In the past few years, MIT has banned unregistered alcohol in dormitory lounges, even a casual gathering to watch football with some beers; it has banned smoking in anything but private rooms based on an overcautious legal interpretation of Cambridge city code that floor common areas are as public as sidewalk in Central Square; it moved all freshmen on campus based on the naive assumption that if they're not officially living in a fraternity they won't get drunk; and finally it has consistently downplayed the importance of dormitory culture by forcing the Dormitory Council to constantly fight for time for dorm rush in orientation.

The primary exception to this trend is the greater involvement of student government representatives with Institute committees, including the selection of the new president. However, the accountability of these representatives to the student body has not been strong, as with the committee considering the flag ban, where the sole Undergraduate Association representative ended up not working in the subcommittee focused on the new policy.

There are several steps Hockfield could take to improve student life, first and foremost encouraging administrators to take an active role in seeking student involvement and measuring the administrators on their success. She should also explain actions early and often, using all of the media outlets on campus, and she should also involve students in fundraising, especially in setting goals and priorities. Setting student involvement in administrative decisions as a priority is the best way to ensure the future of the culture that makes MIT students unique.



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Errata

The Aug. 4 story "Lamp to Return in Oct." misstated Joshua C. Mandel's class year. It is '05, not '04.

An Aug. 4 Reporter's Notebook ["Real and Unscripted at the DNC"] referred incorrectly to the handwritten signed copy of the Declaration of Independence held by the National Archives. It was written out and signed about a month after the typeset copies printed on July 4, 1776, not "months after."

The July 7 story "MIT Grad Crowned Miss MA" Erika Ebbel misstated Erika Ebbel's class year. It is '04, not '03.

How Much Candidate Honesty is Too Much?

Ruth Miller

Let's call him Carl. Carl is a nice man, and Carl is running for Congress out of my district. I met Carl at the Democrat table during "Meet the Candidate" day at my local farmer's market.

All the candidates I listened to that day introduced themselves with a touching emotional story about how someone is destroying this great nation of ours. Carl was no different. Carl told me how, if elected, he would fight those horrible Californians with tooth and nail to defend my interests. While there may be a Californian or two that I don't like, I like enough people from that state to know that they tend to be a pretty liberal bunch and this is a strange introduction for a Democrat, even by Georgian standards.

My interest which he was speaking of was my desire to protect the pledge of allegiance. Apparently, those Californians and their crazy, radical ways want to destroy my history and my way of life. I asked him why he felt so strongly about protecting something's historic value that isn't as old as him. He didn't seem to know what I was talking about, so I told him how Congress added "under God" to the pledge in 1956 during the fight against Soviet expansion. I explained how it's hard to unite a nation behind an economic system, but if you tell them that the atheists have come to take away their God, you can build fear and help the people work towards your goals. I told him that the original pledge was two lines long, but has been adjusted over the years to account for various social climate changes.

He didn't believe me, but he and the gathering crowd wanted to hear more. As proof, Carl asked me to say the entire pledge without "under God." I did. Everyone reflected over it, until Carl admitted it sounded familiar. I then planned to make my exit and leave a good impression.

Carl was so impressed he asked me more. I told him Georgia's controversial confederate banner wasn't its state flag until 1956, and that it was chosen as a rebuttal to the growing civil rights movement. Carl knew I wasn't old enough to remember this, so he asked how I could possibly know so much about 1956. I told him that 15 minutes a day on CNN.com

can go a long way.

At this point Carl put down his brochure and offered me a job. Carl was overcome by these revelations and I had changed his mind. This day, 11 days before the local primary, Carl wanted me to help him rewrite his platform. Carl was honest enough to admit his mistaken information and was willing to reconsider his views.

An employer expects honesty, and an employee can be fired for being dishonest. A significant other expects honesty, and dishonesty is reasonable grounds for a divorce. There are synonyms for dishonesty, and all of them are dripping with negative connotations: disloyalty, treachery, betrayal. These are all deeply engraved in our sense of right and wrong. Everyone loves honesty, but do voters want honesty?

Should I vote for Carl? He could embody all my ideals and go forth into the primary with facts and forthrightness. On the other hand, if Carl was so easily swayed by a girl at a farmers' market, imagine what would happen if he got to Congress. He'd be open to every new idea that came across his desk. His positions would rise and fall. He wouldn't stick to the opinions he had going into his campaign. He would become inconsistent. He would flip-flop.

An honest politician would have to admit fault. An honest politician would have to change his or her mind every time they're fed new information. An honest politician would have to publicly and proudly evolve, flip-flop, to address new circumstances. Do we want that?

What if George Bush admitted he lied and there never were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq? What if Dick Cheney admitted he was giving Halliburton preferential treatment for his own gain? What if Rick Santorum, Republican senator from Pennsylvania, admitted he had a boy scouts fetish? What if they apologized?

Would we, as a nation, forgive politicians because they told the truth, or would we take their testimonies as evidence? Would we accept a president's new direction, or would we cry out for more steadfast leadership? Is it more valuable as a politician to appear fickle or consistent? Accommodating or stubborn?

Would you vote for Carl?

Electoral College Tarnishes Presidential Election Process

Vivek Rao

While meandering around on the internet the other day, I came across one of those classic yard signs touting my presidential ticket of choice. For just a few bucks, I figured I could buy a nice weatherproof sign, hang it outside my dorm window, and maybe even influence a driver or two whizzing by on Memorial Drive.

But then it occurred to me that it would all just be a big fat waste of time, money, and effort, not to mention that MIT doesn't let us hang anything outside our windows any more. Fear not; I'm not about to rehash the flag debate. Instead, I'm writing to rail on the Electoral College, the entrenched institution that allows politicians to become president despite being the nation's second favorite candidate, makes a small town in Ohio more important than New York City, and suggests that all Americans are in fact not equal.

Now it doesn't take advanced statistics to figure out the inequalities generated by the system. Consider that in 2000, there were roughly 523,089 residents per electoral vote in the United States. In California, though, that number was significantly higher at 627,253, meaning that Californians had only 83% of the voting power of the average American. Alaskans, meanwhile, had roughly 250% of the voting power of the average American. That means that an Alaskan has three times the say in a presidential election that a Californian does. *Three times!* The system is simply absurd. Every American is a constituent of the president, and every American therefore should have equal voting power.

Yet it's not just the unequal weighting of votes across the country that makes the current system unjust. Perhaps more important is the winner-take-all methodology employed nearly universally. As most of us know, in all but two states — Maine and Nebraska — the presidential candidate who

wins the popular vote in a given state wins all of the electoral votes belonging to that state. The net result of such a system is that citizens supporting their state's minority party effectively have their votes nullified. Shouldn't it matter, for example, whether John Kerry defeats George Bush in Massachusetts by 40 percent or five?

New Jersey Republicans and Alabama Democrats, you have my sympathy. Unfortunately, most states are far too willing to accept the status quo for change to be on the horizon. One state that is at the very least considering a progressive change is Colorado. This fall, voters in The Centennial State will consider a ballot initiative that would split the state's allotted electoral votes proportionally according to results in the popular vote. Whether or not such a change would impact

An Alaskan has three times the say in a presidential election that a Californian does. Three times! The system is simply absurd.

the upcoming election should not matter; ultimately, the ballot measure would be a step forward in increasing the integrity and justice associated with America's presidential election system.

Sadly, short-term political agendas constantly impede

any possibility of long-term improvements. Consider recent events in Pennsylvania, a swing state that due to its relatively close presidential races would be a good candidate for a proportional system instead of a winner-take-all approach. A Republican co-sponsor of a proposed bill that would institute such reform listed as a key motivation the extra votes that Republican candidates would stand to receive. Meanwhile, several Democrats opposed the measure, no doubt for similar partisan reasons.

But equity and fairness in the election system are issues that should transcend party lines. Though this fall's presidential vote may very well be one of the most important in our nation's history, it still pales in comparison to the fundamental need to establish and ensure just voting methodologies. Eliminate huge disparities in the weighting of votes across states. Get rid of the winner-take-all format. Then talk to me about Bush vs. Kerry.

Hey Parents!

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Trio

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by Emezie Okorafor



Freshman Guide to Lesser Known Residential Halls



Kresge Auditorium Benches

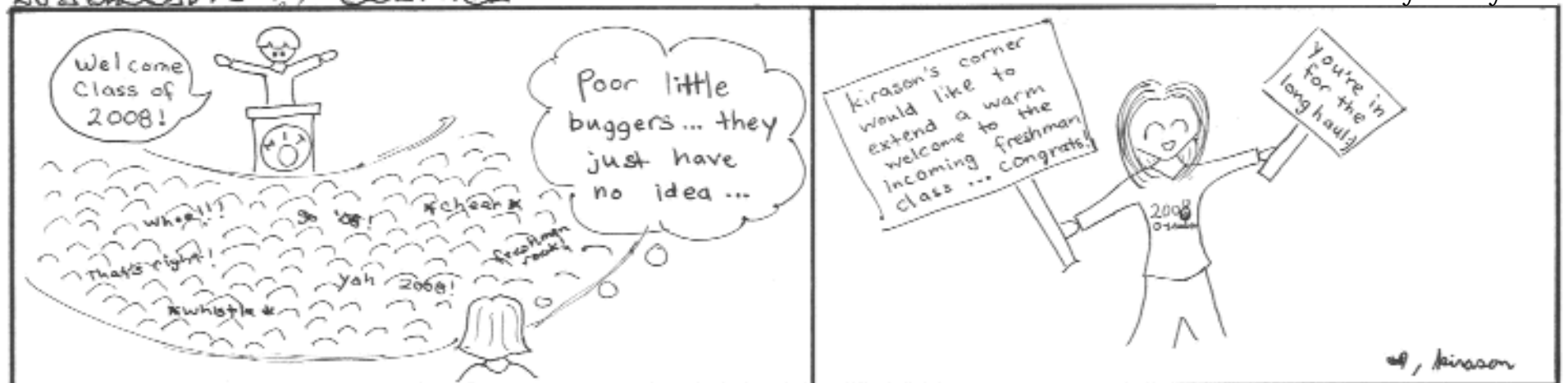
by Brian Loux

Good cheap option. Residents get to enjoy one of MIT's architectural experiments that didn't completely suck. Doors almost always open and cops seldom bother with sweeps through here. If they do, just remain clean-shaven and they won't mind. It is advised that one use the basement benches during the winter months. Wireless laptop also advised. Some residents complain about having to put up with the occasional butchering of a classical composer's masterpiece or a long-winded conference, so be prepared.

B. Loux

Kirason's corner

by Emily Yan



FoxTrot by Bill Amend

Dilbert[®] by Scott Adams

Daily Confusion, from Page 9

floor and look up into the shaft, you can kind of see the paint on a sunny day. *The more you know*

03:00

03:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Don't ameliorate. Defenestrate. Like first east's sofa and refrigerator. And over 100 monitors from fifth east.

03:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty report of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

03:12 — **French House** — At one point, we almost had our name changed to Freedom House.

03:33 — **Senior Haus** — That's a lot of threes!

03:47 — **Random Hall** — RHOP: the Random House of Pancakes, now open for all your breakfast needs.

04:00

04:04 — **EAsT campUS** — east campus. surprisingly close to all of your classes on campus. wake up with shiny breck hair and waltz into class bright eyed and bushy tailed.

04:17 — **Random Hall** — Late night, or early morning? Does it even matter? Probably not. What you really need is a good dose of pancakes! Eat at RHOP for some quality breakfast, smothered with quality chocolate syrup. And regular syrup. And powdered sugar. And maybe even a cherry on top...

04:30 — **Senior Haus** — It's getting light out. You might want to sleep. But it doesn't really matter all that much, as you'll learn in the coming months.

05:00

05:30 — **EAsT campUS** — Til the break of dawn, you got it going on. x3-2871

05:53 — **EAsT campUS** — Now, are you going to show that on television? Have all your housewives look at that? Instead of AS THE WORLD TURNS? I mean, what do you got for me? I want something for that.

06:00

06:00 — **German House** — guten nacht

06:00 — **EAsT campUS** — What do you mean, its a literary high? / Its a Kafka high. You feel like a bug. Infested. x3-2871

06:22 — **Senior Haus** — Unless you're asleep, you probably need caffeine about now. Don't worry, it's a noble addiction.

06:30 — **EAsT campUS** — it's nearly monistat 7 o'clock. tick tock. tick tock.

07:00

07:47 — **EAsT campUS** — I believe in America. America has made my fortune. x3-2871

08:00

08:00 — **Senior Haus** — Nope, no zombies here. ...seriously, put away the shotgun.

08:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Naked blonde walks into a bar with a poodle under one arm and a two-foot salami under the other. The bartender says, I guess you wont be needing a drink. Naked lady says OH SH**!

08:03 — **Senior Haus** — Oh man, they totally fell for it.

08:14 — **Simmons Hall** — Ommmm Try out Simmons' meditation room and enhance your calm.

08:17 — **Random Hall** — It's Saturday morning! Well, maybe it isn't, but we're watching cartoons anyway. Because we're just that awesome. Join us!

08:30 — **New House** — ***BREAKFAST *** Why are you reading this when you should be at New House? We have cool people, yummy breakfast, and the best rooms on campus.

08:47 — **Random Hall** — What's your favorite cereal? We like Chocolate Doom Crunch, now with 20% more destructive potential! Stop by Random Hall for cartoons, (more!) breakfast, and all manner of amusingly sleep-depped people.

08:59 — **EAsT campUS** — It's five oclock somewhere. x3-2871

09:00

09:00 — **MacGregor** — Breakfast-Just-Like-Home at MacGregor! Come by for good ol' breakfast food and even have a fresh waffle made for you. Kick back, read the Boston Globe, and just chill with our residents on our comfy sofas. We'll be in our pajamas, so feel free to come in yours.

09:00 — **New House** — Still serving up bagel, cereal, and coffee (the staples of college life) as well as fresh fruit for those of you who want something healthier.

09:00 — **New House** — Tours shouldn't be torture. And they're not at New

House. AC, gym, AC, big rooms, AC, kitchens, AC, tunnel to MacGregor Convenience, AC

09:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty report of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

09:02 — **Simmons Hall** — Crepe Extravaganza- The frenzy of crepe artistry begins at 9:02 and continues until 12:00. We'll have everything from chocolate to baked apple crepes all for your eating pleasure! Be sure to visit Simmons and enjoy some free food! 09:17 — **Random Hall** — Did you ever feel sorry for Wile E. Coyote, stuck on the wall of building 9 for eternity? But wait, he's in our lounge! Wow, that's odd 09:22 — **Senior Haus** — Some people at Senior Haus have cats. 9:22am is a pretty good time to pet a cat. Go find a cat. Go find a cat!

10:00

10:00 — **MacGregor** — Informal MacGregor tours and free snacks! Come by MacGregor to get a look around while munching on perennial college favorites. We're giving tours until 6 PM today, so be sure to get over here at some point.

10:00 — **Bexxxley** — Learn how to harass people without even meeting them.

10:17 — **Random Hall** — Instivte-furnished rooms getting to you? Take control of your life by way of your ceiling! Ceiling tile painting for great justice, only at Random.

10:25 — **Bexxxley** — Diversity brunch: serving turkey and cracker.

10:44 — **Senior Haus** — False alarm pending.

10:47 — **Random Hall** — Be the envy of your floor with a painted ceiling tile or three. We'll provide the paint...there's even shiny purple! Just what your boring old ceiling needs.

10:49 — **Senior Haus** — -APOCA-LYPSE- 10:51 — **Senior Haus** — Please disregard preceding apocalypse. False alarm.

10:59 — **EAsT campUS** — What this book presupposes is Maybe he didn't? x3-2871

11:00

11:00 — **Bexxxley** — Come by for some small talk no one cares about! Our living group is totally the coolest, and to prove it, we're going to kiss your ass, cook you waffles and pretend MIT is a nonstop carnival with Spin Art and a muthaf—ing dunktank!

11:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Brunch anyone? Yet another opportunity to have free food at Burton-Conner! We know that no one likes to get up exceptionally early, so let us feed you at a more leisurely time! Skip breakfast! Go for BC brunch!

11:00 — **French House** — Roll up your jeans, its the Boston Fountain Tour! See the sites of the city and splash around. Meet at the steps of the student center, and look for the French flag.

11:00 — **French House** — Nous allons explorer les fontaines de Boston. Soyez touristes avec nous, et si vous voulez, nous pouvons aussi nous baigner dans quelques fontaines. On va se réunir aux marches devant le Student Center cherchez le drapeau français.

11:17 — **Random Hall** — Giant bubbles! Of doom! On the roofdeck! If youre lucky, you might even get to be inside one! Childlike sense of wonder not provided.

11:22 — **Senior Haus** — Come play with our tire swing! Its super fun, and only mildly mortally dangerous.

11:47 — **Random Hall** — Blow a ceiling tile and paint a bubble! Wait a minute

12:00

12:00 — **Baker House** — Movies and Pac-Man tourney. Relax while watching movies or challenge a Bakerite in Pac-Man. Prizes for the top players, food and fun for all!

12:00 — **MacGregor** — MacGregor BBQ! We're holding a traditional MacG BBQ in our beautiful outdoor BBQ pits. Come enjoy the sunshine, the good food (veggie options available!), and the music. Join in a game of touch-football out on the field and have an awesome afternoon with us.

12:00 — **Senior Haus** — Those of us that went to sleep last night are probably still in bed. This is **folly**. Come wake us up! We'll give you tours and play music for you.

12:00 — **EAsT campUS** — BAR-BEQUE. Extra good for you!

12:00 — **German House** — let's go fly a kite. come have a picnic in the park with German House. we'll play games and eat in the sun. meet New House 6:

second floor: German House lounge. End of arcade, turn right, up the stairs, 2nd floor. Open door, step in, turn left. 12:00 — **French House** — Missed the fountain tour? Don't worry, people are still around French House. Sometimes things get a little messy around MIT, especially when finger paint is involved. Come create some art and chat with us. 5th floor, New House 6.

12:00 — **French House** — Vous n'avez pas besoin d'être Van Gogh pour faire des peintures à doigts avec nous. 5ème étage, New House 6.

12:02 — **Senior Haus** — Follow the white rabbit! ...and if you think this is a Matrix reference, follow, you have much to learn.

12:15 — **Burton-Conner** — Our Pedestal Jousting arena just arrived. Drop by and prepare for a fight to the death err...I mean a fight until the other person falls off! That sounds less exciting about Beat each other with sticks!! Yeah, that's more like it.

12:17 — **Random Hall** — Kids these days...sitting at their little tables with their puny little Jenga set. Back in our day, we played Jenga with 2x4s! Oh, hey, we still do. Wow. Check it out but don't you dare sneeze.

12:27 — **EAsT campUS** — Have you seen our statues? They're "public art" you know.

12:30 — **Senior Haus** — There are many viable topics of conversation, such as oriental rugs. Most oriental rugs are ornate. Call (617)-253-3191 for the oriental rug hotline.

12:30 — **New House** — Sushi and Hobo Pie Making Learn how to impress friends and dates as well as how to feed yourself a critical college survival skill taught by New House culinary talents. There will be (virgin) drinks too.

12:45 — **EAsT campUS** — Ewww, that smell. Can't you smell that smell? Meat and veggie burgers a grillin at E.C.

12:47 — **Random Hall** — 2x4 JENGA! A Bad Ideas production, brought to you by Random Hall. Better hope it doesn't fall

12:52 — **EAsT campUS** — Your parents are gone. A perfect time to have your hair dyed purple, right? We also have henna tattoos for those who enjoy their current hair color.

13:00

13:00 — **Senior Haus** — Feasting in the courtyard! Delicious tender or crisp or otherwise pleasing morsels which are *actually fresh*. Seriously, this isnt your average barbeque.

13:00 — **German House** — Playing games in the sunshine.

13:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Beans don't burn in the kitchen. Fish don't fry on the grill Cookout. All welcome.

13:17 — **Random Hall** — It's a gala celebration of cows, carrots, and piracy, also known as a barbecue on our most excellent roofdeck! Bring your own sacrificial goat (we'll provide the burgers).

13:37 — **French House** — Wondering about the banner outside New House? Yeah, we know its misspelled. We got them to fix it, too, but the fix seems to have faded away. En tout cas, ce n'est pas notre faute! Come drop by during the day anyway. La Maison FrançaisE, 5th floor, New Hous 6.

13:47 — **Random Hall** — BBQ! Come eat, drink, and sing cow songs on our roofdeck! Vegetarian foodstuffs and songstuffs provided.

13:55 — **EAsT campUS** — Ugly sculpture building in our courtyard. As if what we got aint ugly enough.

14:00

14:00 — **Bexxxley** — Free Rush violations! (Bring latex gloves)

14:00 — **Senior Haus** — Sidewalk chalk! Tire swing! Buckets of dead mice!

14:00 — **EAsT campUS** — You scream, I scream, we all scream for ice cream!

14:00 — **New House** — Beach Party! New House has a great river view, and if you have a good imagination, you can almost pretend it's the Atlantic. Water balloons, kiddie pool, limbo contests, and (of course) bbq and refreshments.

14:00 — **Burton-Conner** — We're going on a photo-safari! Come explore the dark secrets of Burton-Conner through the lens of a camera. Prizes awarded to those who decipher the most clues and get a picture of the answer. Sound a bit weird? It is, yet oddly fun... C'mon, you know you wanna discover BC!

14:03 — **Senior Haus** — Okay, we got rid of the mice. You can come over now.

14:03 — **Simmons Hall** — Who Dunnit? The Scream Caper- Edward Munch's famous painting has been stolen. The newspapers didn't tell you, but the thieves have decided to hide it in Simmons Hall! Come help solve this international mystery — all detectives will be duly rewarded.

14:05 — **New House** — For those of you who only speak math: New House + Water Balloons = You + Here + Now 14:17 — **Random Hall** — Come marvel at fresh-painted ceiling tiles and residents in all their paint-splattered glory! And make your ownhousemaster, it followed me home. Can I keep it? 14:17 — **Random Hall** — There comes a time during every orientation when you just want to beat your fellows - and some luckless upperclassmen - with foam swords. Follow Alex for some high-quality boffing!

14:23 — **EAsT campUS** — I am error Make your very own EC povoc.

14:30 — **MacGregor** — Karaoke and Sundaes with MacGregor! Indulge and make your own ice cream sundaes with all the toppings and delicious goodness. And take your turn singing your heart out on our Karaoke machine! Bring friends and watch them embarrass themselves.

14:43 — **EAsT campUS** — Have you seen our roller coaster? Did you know you have to sign a waiver to ride it?

15:00

15:00 — **Senior Haus** — Good music. Hot tea. Scones and cookies. A mercury-crazed mad hatter. Alice in Wonderland tea party!

15:00 — **German House** — Could they still be out? Yes, we are just having that much fun. Come with us and hit up downtown Boston as well.

15:00 — **EAsT campUS** — You spin me right round, baby, right round Giant Spin art and Pin art

15:00 — **Bexxxley** — The Fascist revolution has depended in the past and still depends on the bayonets of its Legionaries.

15:17 — **Random Hall** — It's the finest selection of romance novels around carefully selected, annotated, and declaimed aloud for your amusement by our very own vixen. Oh, my virtue! Oh, my innocence! Oh, what wickedly tight breeches!

15:30 — **EAsT campUS** — Watermelon toss. Supposedly first ever. that's what she said.

16:00

16:00 — **Senior Haus** — Did you go to the tea party? Have you talked with one of us yet? Do it. It's totally worth it.

16:00 — **Bexxxley** — hitting people with sticks is fun, but only if you draw blood. Large sticks generally cause more damage, especially if they're sharp...this moment brought to you by the United Way.

16:01 — **EAsT campUS** — Balance beam fighting in our courtyard colliseum. Can balance beam fighting possibly be a good idea?

16:17 — **Random Hall** — Hungry? Make your own pizza at Random Hall if you dare

16:20 — **Bexxxley** — Watch The Cosby Show the way it was meant to be watched.

16:23 — **Senior Haus** — Is the paint-by-numbers mural done yet? There are still bouncy balls everywhere, so thats pretty cool. Over 70% our house tours have completed without incident.

16:30 — **EAsT campUS** — jousting. Wrestling in something messy. Last year it was tapioca. What will it be this time?

16:47 — **Random Hall** — You've never seen pizzas like these! And maybe there's a reason...customize yours with chocolate chips, grasshoppers, or eye of newt.

16:50 — **EAsT campUS** — So its sorta social, demented and sad, but social. Right?

17:00

17:00 — **Senior Haus** — 24 hours till the housing lottery closes! If you dont enter it, I will cry and probably not eat for several days.

17:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Mikey P. has moved out. It's a sad day. Jousting! x3-2781

17:00 — **Burton-Conner** — The grape long toss? The watermelon relay? It's your chance to become an Olympian! True, you don't get to go to Greece and truthfully, NBC probably doesn't give a hoot, but it'll still be fun! Come to compete or come to watch whilst enjoying a BBQ. Just show up!

17:00 — **French House** — See what it's like to cook a real French House meal. Help us in the kitchen, and reap the rewards once weve finished. No cooking experience needed! 5th Floor, New House 6.

17:00 — **French House** — Venez nous aider à cuisiner, et regardez-nous préparer un de nos dîners quotidiens. L'habileté dans la cuisine est optionnelle! 5ème étage, New House 6.

17:03 — **Senior Haus** — Get it? We spelled housing hausing. That means we're rebellious or some such.

17:13 — **Simmons Hall** — Indoor Rock Climbing - We have crazy walls. You have crazy feet. You're at MIT...you can obviously do the math.

(aka tours)

17:30 — **German House** — Tired of campus food. Come eat out with German House in Boston. (bring your own money) Meet NEW HOUSE 6: second floor: German House lounge. End of arcade, turn right, up the stairs, 2nd floor. Open door, step in, turn left. 17:52 — **Senior Haus** — It was recently discovered that the supply of awesomeness for most of the east coast flows from directly underneath Senior Haus. Boggle at the implications! 17:59 — **EAsT campUS** — teenage suicide: dont do it.

18:00

18:00 — **Bexxxley** — Forget steak and lobster- come stuff yourself with Grape Nuts! I love you this much...

18:00 — **Senior Haus** — We can't schedule events for a while now because the administration wants you all for itself. And were fine with that. There definitely won't be anything fun happening anywhere near the Haus until 9, at least. *cough cough* Sorry, I have a cold.

18:00 — **French House** — What is the difference between "compare to" and "compare with"? When can you use "due to"? You probably don't care... but come hang out with us anyway! 5th floor, New House 6.

18:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty report of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

18:01 — **Senior Haus** — No, it'd be a horrible idea to come to Senior Haus while you're supposed to be learning about rape, because it will be a very meaningful talk, and it will be a lot better than deciding where youre going to live for the next several months.

18:19 — **German House** — MMM ... nothing beats dinner in boston.

19:00

19:15 — **French House** — Dinner is served! Even if you didn't help us cook, you're welcome to come enjoy an LMF-style feast with us. On the menu: salad, quiche, pizza, and a dessert. (Veggie options available.) Bring your appetite for food and conversation! 5th Floor, New House 6.

19:15 — **French House** — Dîner! Même si vous ne nous avez pas aidés à cuisiner, vous êtes les bienvenus à cuisiner. Au menu: salade, quiche, pizza, et un dessert. (Nous avons des options végétariennes.) Bon appétit! 5ème étage, New House 6.

19:17 — **German House** — We slowly make our way back to campus, this food coma thing is really making me tired.

19:20 — **Bexxxley** — In the future, we will all drive standing up. In the future, plates of food will have names and titles. In the future, it will be a relief to find a place without culture.

20:00

20:00 — **New House** — Goey marshmallows, crisp graham crackers, melt-in-your-mouth chocolate. Sigh. And then come by New House where we'll be outside making smores.

20:00 — **New House** — Some more smores.

20:00 — **French House** — Exhausted from orientation? Come laze about with us as we watch a French movie and eat popcorn and cookies. Don't worry, there will be subtitles at the 5th floor of New House 6.

20:00 — **French House** — Régardez un film français avec nous, et mangez du pop-corn et des biscuits, aussi! N'avez pas peur; il y aura aussi des sous-titres. 5ème étage, New House 6.

20:02 — **New House** — And more smores cause we all know you can never have too many

20:30 — **German House** — Bored? Come play Board Games. Good old german games and english games. NEW HOUSE 6: second floor: German House lounge. End of arcade, turn right, up the stairs, 2nd floor. Open door, step in, turn left.

21:00

21:00 — **German House** — MONOPOLY!!! German house lounge: NEW HOUSE 6, 2nd floor

21:00 — **EAsT campUS** — She came over. I lost my nerve. So I took her back and made her dessert. x3-2871

21:00 — **Senior Haus** — Oh man, what a great lecture! Now get back here. We're the cool kids.

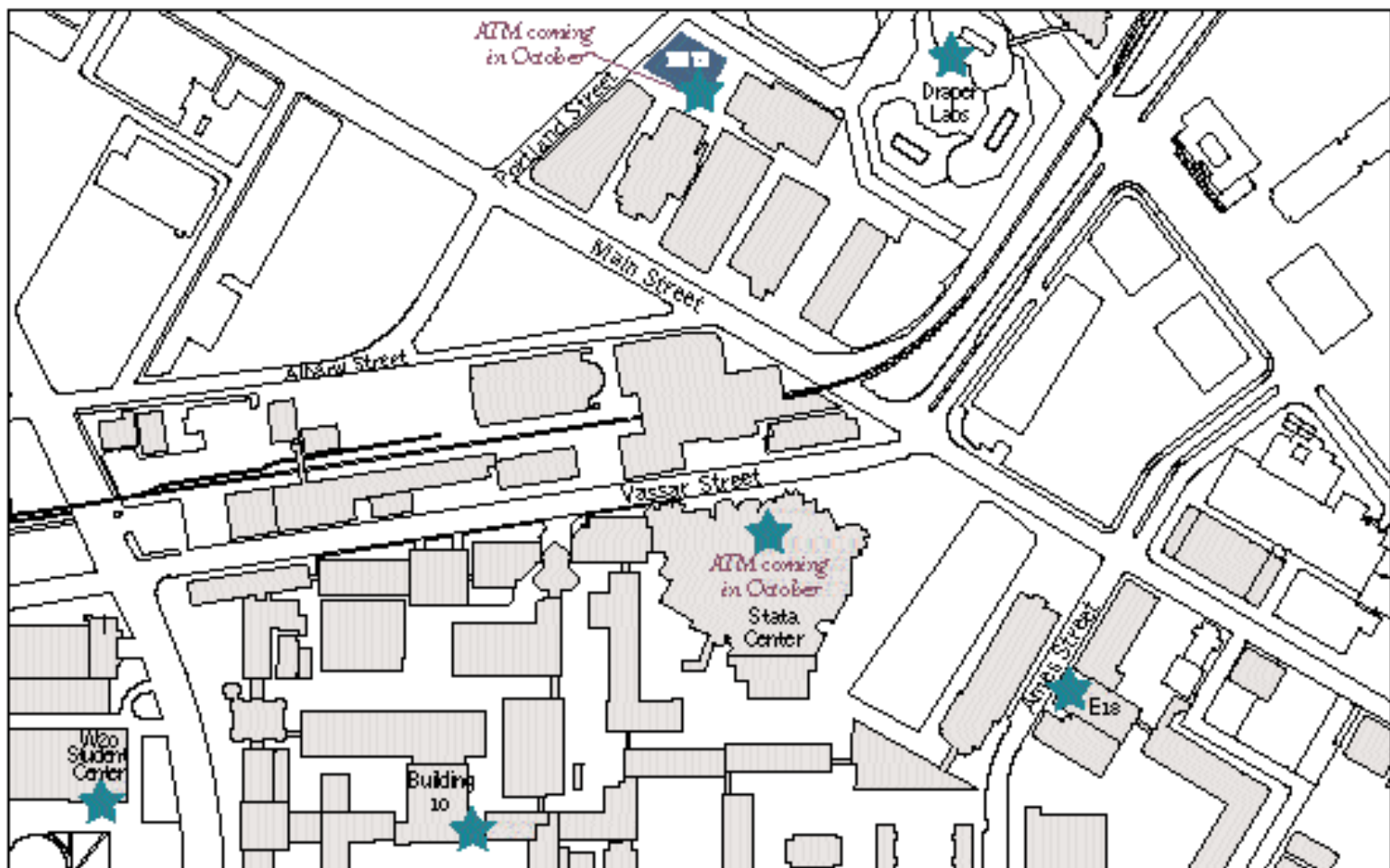
21:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Been a long night and you just want a smoothy? Does it seem odd we just so happened to mention smoothies out of the blue? Well it's not because we're having smoothies! It's hot out (if it's

STUDENT Power And Knowledge

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Daily Confusion, from Page 10

raining, oops!) and we're having smoothies set to some jazz in the back-ground.

21:02 — **Simmons Hall** — Indoor Antics- Join us for some mini-golf, chair races, and other field sports not designed for indoor practice. No ones around to tell you not to swing the golf clubs inside

21:15 — **Senior Haus** — Impress your mom! Come home with purple hair! We've got hair dye, clippers, and an urge to modify.

21:16 — **Senior Haus** — We will take your clothes apart, and put them back together again, making them harder, better, faster, stronger. Clothing modification in the courtyard.

21:17 — **Random Hall** — Listening to speeches always whets the appetite. How about some pizza? Choose your own toppings from our strange and awesome variety.

21:17 — **Random Hall** — Hey, its Rush! And suddenly the dorm's enormous collection of games has burst screaming from the closets to conquer any unwary lounges! Save the dorm: play games with us. Please?

21:17 — **Senior Haus** — Remember the 70s? Long hair, hippies, and tie-dyeing! Come tie-dye your clothes at Senior Haus. Its *groooovy*, MAN.

21:19 — **Senior Haus** — Okay, we found our glasses. C'mon, let us cut your hair now.

21:20 — **EAsT campUS** — If you're not here by now, you may've almost missed out on Sarah's famous cheese-cake. Get here fast!

21:22 — **Senior Haus** — Stop running! We can't chase you with these scissors in our hands!

21:30 — **Baker House** — Come on down to Baker and get leid! Luau at Baker House. Food, games, prizes, and FUN! (Baker Roofdeck - pending weather)

21:30 — **EAsT campUS** — F.B. aiyyai-iiii x3-2871 to pass the time.

21:47 — **Random Hall** — How about some mango on your pizza? Perhaps a dash of applesauce, or a few cheetos? Come make your own pizza, play a game, watch a movie with our awesome projector set up, conquer Belgium, or just hang out.

21:47 — **Random Hall** — We're gonna sing the doom song now! Doom doom doom, doom doom doom doooooooom, doom doom doom doomThis cryptic message brought to you by Random Hall. Come find out what it really means!

21:47 — **Random Hall** — At 77 Kelvin, we're way cool. So is our freshly made ice cream! Come hang out with us.

21:48 — **EAsT campUS** — I just can't get stretch princess off my mind! x3-2871 if you know what I'm talking about.

22:00

22:00 — **MacGregor** — Leftovers Eat-In! We're eating all the leftovers from today's events and relaxing after an exhausting REX day. Come to take a load off, talk to residents about topics other than your hometown and intended major, and to eat all the leftovers you didnt have room for earlier.

22:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Take your cup. Fill er up. A fish in the water's not thirsty. x3-2871 in case you're hoping there's some cake left.

22:00 — **Senior Haus** — t minus 22 minutes to happiness. Repeat, happiness approaching rapidly.

22:13 — **Senior Haus** — Shh, don't worry, they were only teasing. Come to Senior Haus. We love you here.

22:15 — **Senior Haus** — Cutlery appreciation seminar with Josh Powell in Suite 462. You can just walk in the door. The man's got some damn fine knives.

22:17 — **Random Hall** — Do you like penicillin on your pizza? We prefer pickles.

22:18 — **EAsT campUS** — Lite Brite was the coolest toy ever! Just imagine how cool giant Lite Brite could be. Or don't imagine, come to EAsT campUS and play with ours! x3-2871

22:20 — **Senior Haus** — Now's as good a time as any to try out the tire swing and maybe feed the tree a bit. Ask one of us if you're confused.

22:22 — **Senior Haus** — Happiness! I am grinning wildly but you probably cannot see it from where you are standing.

22:30 — **EAsT campUS** — Mulct (verb) to punish. Matt Brooks said he'd be over to hand out whips. Want to know if he followed through on another empty campaign promise? x3-2871

22:47 — **Random Hall** — Games games games! Games! Games are the lifeblood of Random Hall...well, one of them. Come play!

22:52 — **EAsT campUS** — the building may be 80 years old but we are barely legal at heart. east campus

23:00

23:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Hey kid, I'm a computer. Stop all the downloading x3-2871

23:11 — **Simmons Hall** — Simmons Waffle House- Relive the Southern tradition! Sims Waffle House waiters deliver your pancakes, toast, sausage, eggs, hash browns and, of course, waffles straight to you!

23:12 — **EAsT campUS** — In order to ride Jenny's spinning seesaw, you should find someone who weighs EXACTLY as much as you do.

23:17 — **Random Hall** — Random Hall: more fun than a frog in a blender.

23:19 — **French House** — Voulez-vous coucher avec moi ce soir? Si vous habitez ici, vous pourrez utiliser cette phrase!

23:22 — **Senior Haus** — If you accidentally ingest methanol, the only way to prevent poisoning is to drastically increase the amount of ethanol in your bloodstream, tying up the metabolic pathways while the methanol gets filtered out. I'd suggest that we test this theory, but that would be dumb.

23:30 — **EAsT campUS** — My set is amazing! It even smells like a street. En la esquina de main y windsor, iba en mi bicicleta con jeans y mi quezquemel. Manny me dijo, oye, pareces un gipsy. Eres un gipsy? Y le dije. No. not so much. x3-2871

23:59 — **EAsT campUS** — Ritualistic Virgin Sacrifice. Bring your temp roommate. You were never going to see shim after rush anyway.

September 3rd 2004, Friday

00:00

00:00 — **German House** — Are we still conversing? Who knows, come find out! GERMAN HOUSE LOUNGE: NEW HOUSE 6 2nd FLOOR

00:00 — **EAsT campUS** — IT'S FRIDAY. I'M IN LOVE.

00:00 — **Senior Haus** — Sushi builds strong teeth and bones. Meet in the lobby and we'll whisk you away to a magical land full of ponies or sushi.

00:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty raport of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

00:01 — **EAsT campUS** — Sorry, we are open. x3-2871

00:20 — **Senior Haus** — What if praying mantises grew in little pods on plants, and they were a food crop?

01:00

01:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Short people got no reason to live. Have a tour. x3-2871 (only if shes 53)

01:00 — **Bexxley** — Don't Come Home A Drinkin' (With A Lovin' On Yer Mind)

01:30 — **Senior Haus** — *sniff... what's on fire?

02:00

02:00 — **Bexxley** — Come paint my suite for me in "Dead Baby Blue" with "Red like the blood that comes out of your vagina" trim while I sit back and jerk off. Great team-building activity, learn to listen and serve your elders!!

02:01 — **EAsT campUS** — Who lives in a pineapple under the sea? x3-2871

02:15 — **EAsT campUS** — Do you remember when kids were young? And nudity came free? I love e.c.s hot tub.

02:23 — **Senior Haus** — Sorry. I thought my legs had turned to wood.

03:00

03:34 — **Senior Haus** — Enter the housing lottery! For future generations!

03:45 — **EAsT campUS** — Reach out and touch faith. x3-2871

03:47 — **Random Hall** — ARRRRRRRHOP is back with a vengeance. Pancakes, hash browns, bacon, eggs, and more. And, as always, there's plenty of chocolate syrup. Eat up!

04:00

04:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Half shark-alligator, half man. Half man, half shark. x3-2871

04:12 — **Senior Haus** — Y'know, come to think of it, salt is a pretty good seasoning.

05:00

05:02 — **Senior Haus** — Man, the trial period on this copy of WinXP expired over a month ago, but I've just kept the computer running since then. I hope the power doesn't go out.

05:18 — **EAsT campUS** — millions of peaches. peaches for me. east campus could have that for you.

06:00

06:00 — **EAsT campUS** — I even make the anti-choice granny's panties moist. x3-2871

06:00 — **Senior Haus** — There will be awesome angry live music in the courtyard in 5 hours. Better get to sleep now.

06:00 — **French House** — Ceci n'est pas une Rush Entry.

06:12 — **Random Hall** — It's time to play the ever-popular game of "are you just up, or still up?" Come see if there's anyone around to play, and watch the sunrise from Random's rooftop.

06:44 — **Senior Haus** — Ugh, pesky robot. Dont worry, we won't really let it crush you into your component bits. It only needs to let off a little steam. Radioactive steam. ...just stay away from the stairs.

06:56 — **Simmons Hall** — + 10 mins = Architect Burnination! Trogdor is a man a dragon man..

07:00

07:00 — **EAsT campUS** — It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. x3-2871

07:00 — **New House** — Breakfast New House rolls out the works. Pancakes, French toast, eggs and all the breakfast goodies to fill you up before you head out for CityDays.

07:17 — **Random Hall** — Doom! (cough) (ahem) DOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

07:32 — **Senior Haus** — Ever wonder what it would be like to eat like a cup of cornstarch all at once? I wonder if you'd die.

08:00

08:00 — **EAsT campUS** — For a relaxing time, make it Suntory time. x3-2871

08:00 — **French House** — There's a living group at MIT

08:01 — **French House** — Which is not quite a dorm nor an ILG

08:02 — **French House** — We cook and we speak French : mais oui!

08:03 — **French House** — Alors il faut venir ici!

08:04 — **French House** — French House is located on the 5th floor of New House 6.

08:15 — **Senior Haus** — Gatorade's cool because it has both salt and sugar in it. For each molecule of glucose you absorb, you also have to absorb two Na+ ions, to balance the concentration gradient. Then, since there's more solute in your cells, it forces hydration by osmosis. Science!

08:17 — **Random Hall** — It's Saturday morning again! Just like it was yesterday! With more great cartoons and sugar-filled cereal bowls! You didn't come all the way to college for nutrients, did you? (Don't worry, parents. Fruit and sane cereal is also available.)

08:30 — **New House** — Still serving breakfast for the sleeper-iners. Pancakes, French toast, eggs... you get the idea.

08:59 — **EAsT campUS** — The revolution will not be televised.

09:00

09:00 — **New House** — The housing lottery closes in 9 hours. Have you taken a tour of New House yet?

09:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty raport of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

09:20 — **EAsT campUS** — but just in case it is, you might want to try channel 14. or maybe PAX.

09:22 — **Senior Haus** — Nobody's awake. Or at least one would hope not.

09:30 — **EAsT campUS** — Marcos and ziggys found a Barbie in a plastic bag. And later that same walk, dunkin doughnuts by the side of the road; a b.u. student i.d.

09:30 — **New House** — And for those of you that have adjusted to MIT time (sleeping occurs well after 2am and ends no earlier than 9), this is your last call for warm, homemade breakfast a la New House

10:00

10:00 — **Simmons Hall** — The aesthetics of holes Celebrate nature's simplest creation...over 6 million times in one building!

10:08 — **EAsT campUS** — You missed city days. You didn't mean to oversleep, right? You really wanted to go out and help people and forgo some quality time with EC's roller coaster. Well, nothing to do now except go ride that roller coaster.

10:22 — **Senior Haus** — Happiness! Prepare for thrashing!

10:47 — **Random Hall** — How many cups of sugar does it take to reach the moon?

11:00

11:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Brunch anyone? Yet another opportunity to have free food at Burton-Conner! We

know that no one likes to get up exceptionally early, so let us feed you at a more leisurely time! Skip breakfast! Go for BC brunch!

11:00 — **Senior Haus** — Sugary breakfast cereal and delicious fried dough and highly caffeinated liquids and EARTH-SHAKING LIVE METAL. HEAVY METAL ESPRESSO BREAKFAST!

11:04 — **Senior Haus** — Oh man, nothing says heavy metal like gratuitous capitalization. We're so awesome.

11:32 — **Senior Haus** — Aaaaaaahahahahacaffeine. .mmmm*twitch.

11:47 — **Random Hall** — More math. You WANT to come here.

11:47 — **EAsT campUS** — the sod couch is still here. so is a mess of other projects in our courtyard. come relax with us.

12:00

12:00 — **Simmons Hall** — SB.101 Pirating with SpongeBob. Learn to pilage and talk like a pirate. Ahoy Matey!

12:00 — **French House** — Build and water-color your own kite! 5th floor, New House 6.

12:00 — **French House** — Construisez et peignez un cerf-volant! 5ème étage, New House 6.

12:26 — **Senior Haus** — You should never eat enough salt at once that it crunches when you chew it. That's just wrong. Also at least mildly hazardous to your health.

12:30 — **EAsT campUS** — Pork chop sandwiches.

13:00

13:00 — **Bexxley** — Bexley...where fun equals pizza explosions and burning fish underwater...never forget your futon!

13:00 — **Burton-Conner** — After a belly-full of scrumptious Burton-Conner brunch, what better way to spend the early afternoon than bobbing around on the mighty Charles? Wait. That doesn't sound good. Ahem, I say old chum, how about a delightful jaunt on the placid Charles after tea time? Come to BC!

13:00 — **French House** — Join us for a picnic-style lunch. 5th floor, New House 6.

13:00 — **French House** — Voulez vous déjeuner avec nous, cette après-midi? 5ème étage, New House 6.

13:04 — **EAsT campUS** — required hey ya reference: shake it, shake it, shake it like a Polaroid picture. Oh wait. It's a povec. What the hell am I talking about? East campus.

13:49 — **EAsT campUS** — Sometimes your mind gets on repeat Sometimes your mind gets on repeat Sometimes your mind gets on repeat

14:00

14:00 — **Senior Haus** — 3 hours to enter the lottery! Hurry!

14:03 — **Simmons Hall** — Simmons Movie Appreciation Club - If you like to watch movies on HUGE screens with wonderful sound systems, this is the place to be.

14:17 — **Random Hall** — Ever play DDR? Ever play tetris? Ever play DDR tetris? Come challenge our defending champion!

14:19 — **EAsT campUS** — There might be something cool going on. You'll have to come here to find out. If not, we promise you a free burger. And a matchbook. And a tattoo. And green hair.

14:47 — **Random Hall** — DDR tetris. Because we can. Come try it out.

15:00

15:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Isn't marcos just a cad!

15:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty raport of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

15:14 — **French House** — You're the smartest cookie in the jar! Evolutionarily, this means that you should eat the other cookies. Fulfill your destiny by making and eating cookies (and hey, possibly some pi) at the 5th floor of New House 6.

15:14 — **French House** — If you wish to live at French House, or become a social member, we very strongly encourage you to visit us now on the 5th floor of New House 6 so that we can tell you about the duties and responsibilities that come with being a residential or social member.

15:14 — **French House** — Créez et mangez des biscuits avec nous! Vous savez que vous en avez envie. Si vous voulez habiter avec nous, ou si vous voulez être membre sociale, nous vous invitent chez nous cette après-midi, pour discuter les rôles et responsabilités de la vie LMF.

15:28 — **EAsT campUS** — You can actually ride the spinning seesaw with

someone who weighs more or less than you. But this presents an occasionally complicated physics problem. We don't do physics at EAsT campUS.

15:47 — **Random Hall** — It's time for a deeply philosophical conversation with MegaHAL! Follow Spann as he explains and demonstrates the wonders of our very own interactive Markov chain engine (otherwise known as a cool computer that talks to you).

15:56 — **Simmons Hall** — The Great Debate: Smurf Chairs vs. Orange Chairs

16:00

16:00 — **German House** — YES! Dinner with the House again, only this time, we make it ourselves. Come join us to help make and eat dinner. (it's part of our ritual) NEW HOUSE 6: second floor: German House lounge. End of arcade, turn right, up the stairs, 2nd floor. Open door, step in, turn left.

16:00 — **EAsT campUS** — those kids are always after me lucky charms x3-2871 gently with a chainsaw. Water war.

16:00 — **New House** — There's still time to visit New House and see what you've been missing these past couple of days.

16:16 — **EAsT campUS** — Time is running out! Come to EAsT campUS now while you still have a chance before the lottery closes. If you don't make it...let's not talk about that.

16:17 — **Random Hall** — The Milk: were you this beautiful when you were almost ten?

16:20 — **Bexxley** — Beach Party Vietnam!

16:47 — **Random Hall** — Time to make a sacrifice to the housing lottery! May Ozok smile upon you.

17:00

17:00 — **German House** — eating. Come join us for some great food. New House 6: first floor. End of arcade, turn right.

17:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Exterminate all rational thought. That is the conclusion I have come to. x3-2871

17:00 — **New House** — With 1 hour to go before the housing lottery deadline, this is a public service reminder to log on now and rank New House as your first choice.

17:17 — **Random Hall** — Rock and roll will never die.

17:17 — **Random Hall** — What an excellent time of day! Dont forget to appease Ozok the Destroyer. You WANT to enter the housing lottery...!

17:31 — **EAsT campUS** — oh you're beautiful baby. beautiful. thats it, smile, smile smile. free portraits taken all year round. x5-6554

17:57 — **EAsT campUS** — east campus east campus EAsT campUS east east east cam cam cam pus pus pus!!!

18:00

18:00 — **Dormitory Council** — Housing Lottery Ends! Choose your future.

18:00 — **EAsT campUS** — Fat bottom girls, you make the rocking world go round. Baby got back! x3-2871

19:00

19:00 — **German House** — great amounts of food consumption and conversation. 1st floor NEW HOUSE 6

21:00

21:00 — **Bexxley** — The Bexxley Formal— because you missed your high school prom! Come dance the night away in Bexxley's "out-of-this-world" Space Center (and maybe even lose your virginity!). Music, refreshments, and access to building not provided.

21:00 — **German House** — Coffee and Tea, that sounds like the perfect thing to follow such a delightful dinner. Coffee and Tea and hanging out with the house. NEW HOUSE 6: second floor: German House lounge. End of arcade, turn right, up the stairs, 2nd floor. Open door, step in, turn left.

21:00 — **Burton-Conner** — Tours? Of Burton-Conner? Come enjoy the witty raport of an upperclassman as s/he takes you about the dorm showing you some of the oddities and wonderments. You probably won't cry, you better laugh as these shall be the best of times AND the worst of times. Or a time. Maybe.

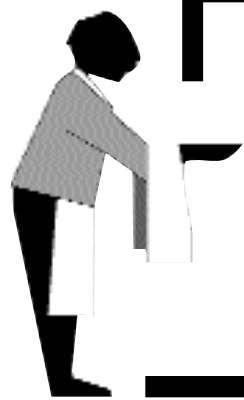
22:00

22:37 — **German House** — Still relaxing so come on over. GERMAN HOUSE LOUNGE: NEW HOUSE 6, 2nd FLOOR

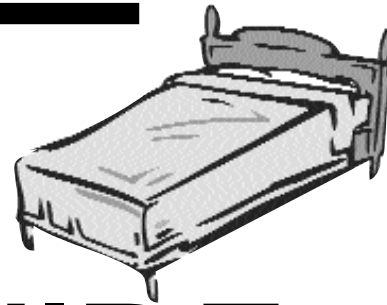
23:00

23:59 — **German House** — Remember in elementary school when the weekend rolled around. That's right, Saturday Morning Cartoons. German House likes them too. NEW HOUSE 6: second floor: German House lounge. End of arcade, turn right, up the stairs, 2nd floor. Open door, step in, turn left.

23:59 — **Bexxley** — REPENT!!!



HOTEL AND DINING GUIDE



With the beginning of another school year, *The Tech* welcomes students and parents to MIT. As Orientation and moving in can leave everyone hungry and sleepy, here are *The Tech's* listing of hotels and restaurants in the Cambridge area.

HOTELS

- | | |
|---|---|
| A Cambridge House
2218 Massachusetts Avenue
(617) 491-6300 | Hotel Marlowe
25 Edwin H. Land Boulevard
(617) 868-8000 |
| A Friendly Inn
1673 Cambridge Street
(617) 547-7851 | Hyatt Regency Cambridge
575 Memorial Drive
(617) 441-6430 |
| Amory Guest House
62 Amory Street
(617) 875-5950
www.amoryhouse.com | The Inn at Harvard
1201 Massachusetts Avenue
(617) 491-2222 |
| The Charles Hotel, Harvard Square
One Bennett Street
(617) 661-5046 | Irving House at Harvard
24 Irving Street
(617) 547-4600 |
| Hampton Inn Boston/Cambridge
191 Monsignor O'Brien Highway
(617) 494-5300
www.bostoncambridge.hamptoninn.com | Isaac Harding House
288 Harvard Street
(617) 876-2888 |
| Harvard Square Hotel
110 Mount Auburn Street
(617) 864-5200 | The Kendall Hotel
350 Main Street
(617) 577-1300
www.kendallhotel.com |
| Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
250 Monsignor O'Brien Highway
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- | | |
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| Residence Inn by Marriott-Cambridge
6 Cambridge Center
(617) 349-0700
www.marriott.com/boscb | Sheraton Commander Hotel
16 Garden Street
(617) 547-4800 |

Restaurants

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1369 Coffee House
1369 Cambridge Street
(617) 576-1369 | Bombay Club
57 JFK Street
(617) 661-8100
www.bombayclub.com |
| The Asgard Irish Pub & Restaurant
350 Massachusetts Avenue
(617) 577-9100
www.classicirish.com | Cambridge Brewing Co.
One Kendall Square, Building 100
(617) 494-1994
www.cambrew.com |
| Bisuteki
777 Memorial Drive
(617) 492-7777 | Daedalus
45-1/2 Mount Auburn Street
(617) 349-0071
www.daedalusrestaurant.net |
| Blue Fin Restaurant
1815 Massachusetts Avenue
(617) 497-8022 | The Elephant Walk
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(617) 868-3221

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(617) 661-3910

Polcari's
300 Technology Square
(617) 577-0555

Sandrine's
8 Holyoke Street
(617) 497-5300
www.sandrines.com

Takemura
18 Eliot St
617-492-6700

John Harvard's Brew House
33 Dunster Street
(617) 868-3585

Portugalia Restaurant
723 Cambridge Street
(617) 491-5373

Sidney's Grille
20 Sidney Street
(617) 577-0200
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Orientation Emphasizes Whole-Class Events for Unity

Orientation, from Page 1

Division of Student Life, and that "if it wasn't for them we would probably be very frustrated" with the planning.

The biggest change in orientation happened for the 2002 entering class. That year, fraternity rush became separate from orientation for the first time in decades. Previ-

ously, freshmen underwent an intensive three-day rush by fraternities, living groups and dormitories, at the end of which they either pledged and moved in with their group or chose a dormitory.

Instead, the 2002 fraternity rush was two weeks long during the middle of fall semester, a situation that led to many tired fraternity members, who had to juggle both class and rush, and also likely contributed to the significantly smaller total number of pledges.

In the past few years, orientation has put greater emphasis on informational or educational events intended for the entire class, in part to hold events building a common

experience for all freshmen.

This year's orientation, only four days long, is shorter than the past two years and does not feature dormitory rush events in the official orientation guide. Dormitory rush begins on Wednesday with events in the evening (see page 9). Fraternity rush will begin on Sunday.

Students testing already

Besides the crucial parts of orientation and getting to know new people, many freshmen have taken or will take one of the advanced placement tests offered by MIT yesterday and today.

Samuel B. Seong '08, though, said that "thank god no," he hadn't

taken an advanced placement test on Monday morning. He said that coming to a place with strong academics, he "might as well learn all the basics here."

Freshmen unhappy with crowding

One thing that has not gone over well with freshmen is the degree of overcrowding.

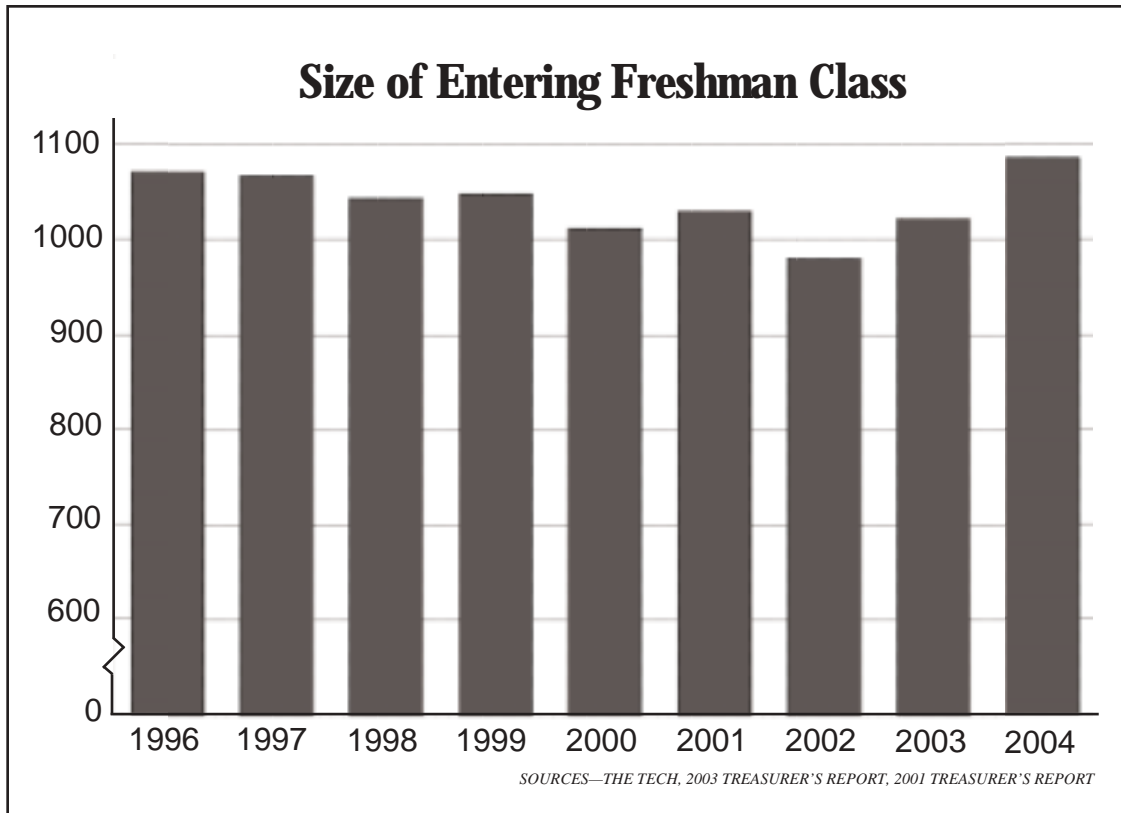
"I don't like the fact that they crowded a lot of the rooms," said Rose Zhong '08.

One of the common rooms in MacGregor House has been turned into a double, which Sojka said would be pretty disappointing to a freshman who had chosen MacGregor for its singles.



STEPHANIE LEE—THE TECH

Jenny Hu '05 and Edward S. Huo '08 work on constructing a rotating seesaw for orientation festivities. A roller coaster, a giant pin board, and a colosseum built out of dormitory furniture are among the other attractions currently at the East Campus courtyard.



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2 weeks old, 1989



1 year old, 1991



2 years old, 1992

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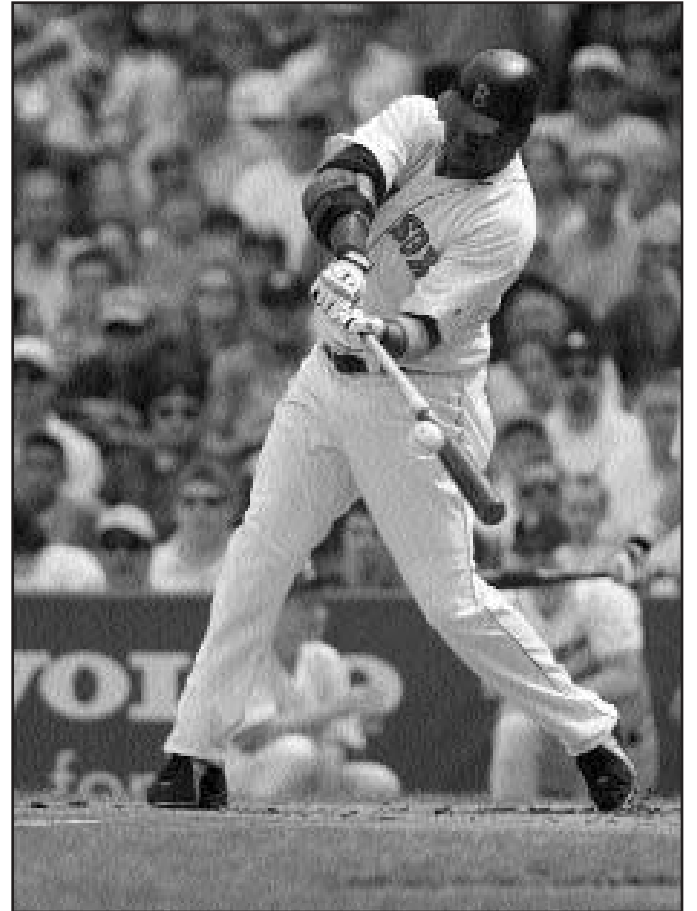
Thursday, September 16, 7:30-9:00 pm
Room 10-250

- Talk with experts from the U.S. Army about Soldier needs
- Hear about this year's design challenges
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- Network with other interested participants
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MIT Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies
<http://web.mit.edu/isn/>



ANDREW YIP—THE TECH

Red Sox batter David Ortiz connects with the ball during his first at bat Sunday night at Fenway Park. The Detroit Tigers' right fielder Marcus Thames caught the ball to close the inning. The Sox won the game 6-1.

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S	H	E	D	D	E	E	R	E	N	E	S	

from page 8

Student Advisory Group Pleased With MIT's Choice

Hockfield, from Page 1

greatest opportunities to be for MIT."

Hockfield said that she will learn more about MIT through both formal and informal interactions on campus.

"I know very little about how life at MIT is actually conducted and how work at MIT actually gets done and so I will, of course, be responsive to the cadence of life and work here as I figure out ways to really be in touch with the students, the faculty, and the staff," she said.

Hockfield identified three major challenges for MIT in the coming years: competition from peer institutions for faculty, students, and resources; obtaining federal funding for research from agencies such as the National Institutes of Health; and "the current tension between national security and the ability of our universities to bring in the best minds from around the world."

MIT's first female president

Hockfield will be the first woman to preside over the Institute,

as well as the first life scientist.

"It's a great honor to be the first woman to serve as president of MIT," Hockfield said. "It's an equally great honor to be the first life scientist to serve as president of MIT."

"One of my hopes is that by being the first woman president of MIT, there are going to be people around the world who will understand that there will be opportunities open for them that currently may not be there for people who look like them or come from their background. It's a big, important statement about America."

"The selection was, as much as possible, gender blind. ... We selected the best person for this job, for MIT going forward," said Mead.

Hockfield said that she is excited to be a scientist leading a school often perceived to be dominated by engineering.

"I think the sciences and engineering are two parts of the same endeavor. ... Right now the potential for collaborations between the engineering activities and the science activities are just remarkable,"

she said.

"MIT is poised with the terrific science and engineering that it has to really take advantage of the combination of the two," said Mead. "Bringing engineering disciplines and skills and analysis to the life sciences and bringing the insights of the life sciences back to engineering. ... [This is] one of the reasons we're so pleased to have a scientist who understands this combination and relationship in the future."

Hockfield said that she will not have time to maintain an active neuroscience lab at MIT. She also said that she probably would not have time to teach a class.

"That would be a fabulous thing, but I think that may be well beyond the ability of the president to do in a serious way," she said of teaching a class.

Students pleased with selection

Members of the Student Advisory Group, a committee of undergraduate and graduate students who provided the Corporation selection committee with a student perspec-

tive of the president's role, were pleased with the newly-elected president.

Bryan D. Owens '07, an undergraduate member of the committee, said, "Overall she has all the credentials," but more importantly, he said, "she has a genuine interest in learning about MIT."

R. Erich Caulfield G, co-chair of the student committee, said that if Hockfield is consistent with what she said in her interview, he foresees an "even better relationship between the student body and the administration."

"She seems to be very adept at being able to work with lots of different people," he said.

Caulfield said that the Student Advisory Group was given a great deal of opportunities to contribute to the search process. He said that members of the student group were allowed 90-minute interviews with the finalists for the position.

"We are very pleased with the level to which the students had input in this whole process," Caulfield said.

Caulfield said that a subset of the

Student Advisory Group will be active in the transition of the new president to MIT.

Hockfield family to move in Nov.

Hockfield's husband, Thomas N. Byrne, is currently a clinical professor of neurology, neurosurgery, and internal medicine at Yale's School of Medicine.

"He will be looking for some kind of situation here in Boston or Cambridge where he can continue to teach and practice neurology. We're hoping that there'll be an opportunity for him to teach at MIT," Hockfield said.

Byrne and Hockfield have one daughter, Elizabeth, who will be entering the seventh grade this year in New Haven.

"We're going to start looking for a school for her here. She has particular interest in math and science, which won't surprise any one here. We'll be looking for a school that will help her explore those interests," Hockfield said.

Hockfield said that her family plans to move to Cambridge some time in November.

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Ask SIPB

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in W20-557!

By Kevin Chen

Welcome, freshmen and new grad students! Ask SIPB is a column published regularly by the Student Information Processing Board (the volunteer student group concerned with computing at MIT), to help students like you learn more about the computing resources MIT provides and how to make effective use of them. This column is part 1 of 4 of introductory columns during orientation to help you get started with computing here at MIT.

I don't have a computer, printer or scanner. Where can I go?

MIT has a number of clusters sprinkled around campus, containing Athena workstations and a few printers. You can access the software and your files from any Athena workstation. These workstations run Unix, specifically Linux and Solaris, and provide a common user interface, regardless of where you log in. The New Media Center is in 26-139, and provides the tools necessary to produce multimedia projects, such as digital video, photo scanning and manipulation, web authoring, and more. The NMC is a "do-it-yourself" cluster of G4 Power Macs loaded with the latest multimedia software.

You can find a list of Athena clusters on the back of the Athena Pocket Reference you received when you checked in, or by typing

```
athena% cview.
```

How do I get into the Athena clusters or New Media Center?

The Athena clusters are protected by push-button combo locks. To find out the current cluster combo, on any Athena machine, type:

```
athena% tellme combo
```

The combo changes annually on October 1. Shortly before that time, you can use tellme combo again to determine the new combo.

Similarly, you can get into the New Media Center by typing

```
athena% tellme nmccombo
```

at any Athena machine.

Why are there couches and giant screens and whiteboards in corners of some of the clusters?

These are the newly deployed collaborative group spaces. They were designed to make working in groups at MIT both easier and more powerful. To learn more or provide feedback, check out this website: <http://edtech.mit.edu/times/archives/000027.html>.

Should I set up my personal computer now?

If you are an undergrad, in general, it is best if you do not set up your computer right away. Unless you live in McCormick, which has forced room squatting, you will almost certainly be moving to either another dorm or at least another room.

If you need to use a computer, there are always the Athena clusters easily accessible all over campus. Even though SIPB is a student group dedicated to improving computing at MIT, we encourage you to go out, and take part in the vast opportunities you have during Orientation and Residence Exploration.

When you finally set up your computer, you should apply any updates immediately. You can find more details at <http://web.mit.edu/net-security/>. If you are running Windows, you also must follow the directions at <http://web.mit.edu/net-security/prevent-reinfection.html> to avoid having your computer compromised and necessitating a format and reinstall of the operating system.

But I want my computer now. What do I do?

You'll need a network cable and settings. To set up DHCP, set your computer to get your IP address automatically (which is often the default), and then go to any Web site. For more details on this, you should go to one of the "Getting Connected" sessions: today 10-11 AM in 54-100, or Thursday, September 2, 10-11am in 26-100. After the "Getting Connected" sessions, the MIT Network Security team will also discuss preventing your computer from being compromised.

After you move to your permanent room, you can also choose to ask a Residential Computing Consultant for a static IP address, which will be tied to the dorm that you are in. Having one will not prevent you from using DHCP elsewhere on campus.

For a network cable, you can either ask an RCC or visit the Athena Online Consulting, abbreviated OLC, office in building N42. You can contact your local RCC by filling out a form at <http://rcc.mit.edu/>.

I forgot my password. What do I do?

You'll need to visit the friendly folks at Accounts. Go to N42 and ask for a password reset. You'll need to bring your ID.

Help! Something broke! Who can help?

Depending on what broke and how, there are a variety of groups that can assist you.

You can come ask SIPB in person or via e-mail. Our office is W20-557 (right next to the Athena cluster). Anytime members are in the office, the office is open to answer questions. You can also phone SIPB at x3-7788 or email sipb@mit.edu.

OLC is MIT's official support group for Athena related questions. They have an office in N42, and are usually open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OLC has a set of stock answers for Athena related questions on the web at <http://web.mit.edu/answers/>.

To ask OLC a question, first make sure the question isn't already answered in the Stock Answers, then type at an Athena prompt:

```
athena% olc
```

You can also call 617-253-4435 or e-mail olc@mit.edu.

MIT IS&T staffs the Computing Help Desk, which provides free support for Macintosh and Windows. The Help Desk phone lines are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; walk-ins are welcome in the office in N42 from 9:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. For help, call 617-253-1101, e-mail computing-help@mit.edu, or drop by N42.

The Computing Help Desk also maintains a set of stock answers for common Macintosh and Windows questions encountered by MIT community members, at <http://itinfo.mit.edu/answer>.

If you are having trouble getting your computer onto your dorm network, you can ask an RCC for help. RCC's are students who get paid to assist other students, usually residents of the same dorm. They can do everything from assigning IP addresses, to providing network cables, to helping you configure networking on your computer. To get in contact with your RCC, ask around your dorm or visit <http://rcc.mit.edu/> to submit a request.

What is 3-DOWN?

3-DOWN, which can be found at <http://is3down.mit.edu/>, provides information about both scheduled and unscheduled network and service outages. The same information can also be found via a recorded message at x3-DOWN (x3-3696). Before reporting an outage, it is useful to check 3-DOWN to see if it is already known.

How can I learn more about computing and computing at MIT?

During orientation and throughout term, there are a number of ways you can learn more about computing or computing specifically at MIT. IS&T offers minicourses and quick-starts, short (usually one hour) classes that cover a variety of topics, often on several levels. At the beginning of term, SIPB will be running our annual Computer Tours, which visits a number of machine rooms and cool labs around campus. Also, during the Independent Activities Period in January, a number of classes are offered by several organizations (including IS&T and SIPB).

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Anna's Considering Filling Spot in W20

Dining, from Page 1

added that there is available seating outside and along Student Street in the Stata Center.

Berlin also said that they are planning on renovating the former food service area in Walker Memorial to make it more comfortable for students. However, he said that the renovations will likely be low-key since they will have to take place during the term.

Anna's could fill Arrow St. spot

MIT is currently in negotiations with Anna's Taqueria regarding the space in the student center vacated by Arrow Street Crepes, said Berlin.

He said that Anna's Taqueria was the "very strong, overwhelming favorite" in a survey last spring asking students what they would like to see replace the creperie. He said that nearly half of the over 1,000 responses mentioned Anna's Taqueria as a top choice.

Anna's Taqueria is the only establishment that MIT is negotiating with at this point. "They're the ones," Berlin said. "If they don't work we'd have to go a plan B or C." Anna's seems to be responding favorably to MIT's terms, Berlin said.

Arrow Street Crepes announced in April that it would close permanently in June, and Berlin said then that he expected a new vendor would move in over the summer and be open by the fall.

Now, Berlin is hoping that Anna's will "come in at some point in October." However, "you never know until everything is signed," he said.

"It takes some time to identify and look at all the different options," Berlin said. In addition, the space will still need to be renovated after a contractual agreement is reached. "It takes time to put together a renovation plan," he said.

McCormick dining hall ready

Dining halls in dormitories, including the new facility in McCormick Hall, will open the day after Labor Day. Berlin said that renovations were completed as scheduled in McCormick and that the establishment will be open to the entire MIT community.

The food at McCormick will be prepared by Bon Appetit, the same company that serves the dining facilities in Next House and Baker House, but will focus on more healthful, vegetarian meals and will feature a larger cook-to-order station, Berlin said.

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http://web.mit.edu/arts/freebies/student_freebies.html

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