

Last Day of Classes Tomorrow

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Sunny, dry, 28°F (-2°C)
Tonight: Clear, cooling, 16°F (-9°C)
Tomorrow: Maybe snow, 34°F (1°C)
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Volume 115, Number 63

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, December 12, 1995

Student Funding Debate Continues

Corporation members' ouster proposed

By Dan McGuire

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

On Friday, the student-backed Committee for Social Justice presented Chairman of the Corporation Paul E. Gray '54 with a petition demanding the ouster of two lifetime corporation members.

The group recommended that both Lawrence A. Hough '72, president and CEO of Sallie Mae and John S. Reed '64, chairman of Citibank be removed from their positions because of their firms' role in moving away from the currently used model to get federal loans awarded indirectly.

That indirect method would see the loans administered by the Family Education Loan Program, whereby the federal government guarantees loans made by banks.

As part of its re-engineering effort, MIT has been trying to move in the opposite direction — toward Stafford direct loans, in which the government gives funds directly to institutions and states — in order to save time and money, said Stanley G. Hudson, director of student financial aid.

"Citibank and Sallie Mae have both been... in favor of ending direct loans," said Nina C. Shapley G, a member of the Committee for Social Justice.

At issue is the relationship of Hough and Reed to the national debate on how to allocate the \$6.1 billion dollars the federal government spends each year on student loans, not whether those funds will be distributed, as posters in Lobby 10 may have suggested a few weeks ago.

"There's nothing in this debate between the Administration and the Republicans that threatens access to educational loans," Hough said.

Conflict of interest cited

"We feel that there's a direct conflict of interest," Shihadeh said.

Direct lending "forces the banks giving students loans to be more competitive with the government program... it keeps the costs down and improves service for students," said Shapley, a member of the Committee.

Loans, Page 13



The non-denominational holiday shrub, in all its non-denominational holiday splendor, sits aglow on the Student Center steps.

JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Ayer Named Rhodes Scholar

By David D. Hsu

NEWS EDITOR

Toby H. Ayer '96, a student double majoring in physics and linguistics, was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship on Sunday. The scholarship provides two full years of support for study at Oxford University in England.

Ayer plans to study for a masters degree at Oxford and hopefully switch to doctorate status later.

The announcement was made in person in front of the 12 regional candidates. Four Rhodes Scholars from the New England area were chosen.

"After that, it's cycles of accepting it and not accepting it," Ayer said. "It's very hard to deal with the fact that the whole process is over."

"There was so much tension," Ayer said; the decision gave him a "great sense of relief."

Only 32 out of 1,041 American applicants were selected as Rhodes Scholars, according to *The Boston Globe*.

Ayer called a 'Renaissance Man'

Besides studying physics and linguistics, Ayer also juggles and rows heavyweight crew.

Ayer learned to juggle at 8, joined a juggling club at 10, and juggled for a New England circus for six years, he said. Ayer continues to juggle once a week for the MIT Juggling Club.

Ayer also rows heavyweight crew at MIT and would like to row for the Oxford varsity boat team.

"He is in some sense, the ideal candidate," said Lecturer for the Experimental Study Group Peter A. Dourmashkin '76. Dourmashkin has often met Ayer through ESG and has as an informal adviser.

Ayer is "someone who has an interest in several fields simultaneously," fulfilling a Renaissance ideal, Dourmashkin said.

"He's a student who has really pronounced interests," said Writer-In-Residence Barbara Goldoftas. Goldoftas has taught Ayer in scientific writing classes.

Cooking is also one of Ayer's interests, Goldoftas said. In one class, Ayer "would bring a home-cooked lunch to class everyday, and

Rhodes, Page 14

NRC Finds Radiation Poisoning Deliberate

By Brett Altschul

STAFF REPORTER

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has officially concluded that the ingestion of an unusually high level of radioactive phosphorous-32 by a Center for Cancer Research employee in August was "most likely" a deliberate act performed to poison him.

The conclusions, released in a 130-page report Friday, were drawn by the investigative team formed in November to determine if the poisoning of Post-doctoral Fellow Yuqing Li was intentional or accidental ["Radiation Ingestion Prompts Concerns," Nov. 3].

The report showed that Li ingested between 500 and 750 microcuries of P-32, perhaps slightly higher than MIT's estimate of 579 microcuries ["Researcher Exposed to Above Normal Radia-

NRC, Page 16

This is the last scheduled issue of *The Tech* for 1995. *The Tech* will return for the four Wednesdays of Independent Activities Period: Jan. 10, Jan. 17, Jan. 24, and Jan. 31. Advertising and letters for these issues are due on the Monday before the issue at 4:30 p.m. Regular Tuesday-Friday publication will resume on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

FSILGs Serve Community in Holiday Season

By Jean K. Lee

Amidst the holiday bustle and final exam preparations, many Independent Living Groups are showing their spirit by participating in various community service activities.

One of the biggest activities serving the community for the holiday season this year is the Giving Tree Program, whose goal is to provide toys for needy children in the Cambridge and Boston areas.

Jointly sponsored by the MIT Panhellenic Association and the Public Service Center for the past four years, the program collects gift pledges and monetary donations from a variety of organizations, ranging from campus dormitories and faculty administration to fraternities and sororities.

In addition, the Junior Interfraternity Coun-

cil brought together volunteers from different houses last Sunday for a pie-making event, held to donate food to community shelters. The event is also geared toward improving relations between the houses, starting with the freshmen.

"Activities like these give people a chance to become friends without thinking about any rivalries or stereotypes," said Lisa E. Tatterson '98, one of the coordinators of the event.

Participating fraternities and sororities included Alpha Phi, Delta Tau Delta, Delta Upsilon, Kappa Alpha Theta, Lambda Chi, Phi Kappa Theta, Pi Lambda Phi, Theta Xi, and Zeta Psi.

ILGs also organize independent activities

Various ILGs have organized independent service activities as well. One special event

administered by Phi Delta Theta was Toy Day, when the brothers spent a day at the MIT Hobby Shop making 430 wooden toys for distribution to shelters and orphanages.

Phi Sigma Kappa organized "the Teddy Bear Gifts," in which the brothers purchase and distribute teddy bears to underprivileged children.

"It's a great event," said Roy E. Swart '97, PSK philanthropy chair. "The sparkle in those kids' eyes when they receive a teddy bear during a traumatic time is priceless!"

This Sunday, Phi Gamma Delta and Alpha Chi Omega jointly hosted a Christmas party for the children of the Boston After School Program, where they decorated Christmas trees and interacted with the children through games.

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■ End of term plan causes confusion. Page 14

■ Gaggle cops 116th manboard. Page 19

WORLD & NATION

Working Conditions in Senate Ideal For Career-Minded Young People

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Working as a Senate staffer is a rewarding job where career-minded young people — especially women — can learn a lot and get ahead fast. It's not so hot, however, for those who want to make a lot of money or spend time with the family.

In a study released Monday, the nonpartisan Congressional Management Foundation found that the average staffer working in a senator's personal office in 1995 will earn \$37,209 per year, virtually unchanged from 1993 and a full 30 percent lower than the \$51,376 paid to the average Washington-area executive branch employee.

Foundation Executive Director Rick Shapiro blamed the salary stagnation on the Senate's decision not to give staff cost-of-living increases for the last two years, and he warned that continued belt tightening may cause a hemorrhage of good employees to better jobs elsewhere in government or in the private sector.

"The Senate is setting a positive example," as it tries to shrink government, Shapiro said. "But from a management perspective, if you're taking good, smart, capable people and telling them there is very little pay growth, you're going to see a thinning of the ranks."

Foster Documents A Possible 'Smoking Gun' in Clinton Whitewater Case

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The chairman of the Senate Whitewater committee said Monday that the committee had discovered a possible "smoking gun" indicating that White House deputy counsel Vincent Foster had documents potentially embarrassing to first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in his possession, and that the White House may have sought to conceal them immediately following Foster's suicide in July 1993.

Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato, R-N.Y., quoted from a November 1993 letter from the Clintons' personal attorney, David Kendall, in which Kendall described three files of documents "among Foster's files" that pertained to controversial savings and loan work Hillary Clinton did for her Whitewater business partners.

The committee has been trying to determine whether White House aides concealed or removed embarrassing documents from Foster's office after his death, and why aides blocked a search of the office by Justice Department officials.

Kendall's letter, addressed to the Rose Law Firm in Little Rock, Ark., refers to the files on Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan. D'Amato said the reference would explain why White House aides appeared to have been so anxious to block the Justice search.

Gingrich Case May Spur New Rules

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The ethics investigation of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., is far from over, but it has already produced a proposal to change House rules about outside income.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct plan to jointly introduce legislation this week amending House rules to include book royalties under the limit on outside income House members may earn each year, effective Jan. 1.

In 1989, the House voted to bar its members from keeping more than 15 percent of their annual base salary in outside earned income each year. The base salary in the House is \$133,600 and the limit on outside income is \$20,040.

House rules specifically exempt "copyright royalties received from established publishers pursuant to usual and customary contractual terms" from the outside income cap. But, the committee wrote, the speaker's \$4.5 million advance from HarperCollins, owned by media magnate Murdoch, "greatly exceeds the financial bounds of any book contemplated at the time the current rules were drafted."

The panel unanimously ruled that Gingrich's book contract was "in technical compliance" with House rules, but sternly noted that it "strongly questions the appropriateness of what some could describe as an attempt by you to capitalize on your office."

The rules, the committee wrote, "permit a member (of Congress) to reap significant and immediate financial benefit which appears to be based primarily on his or her position. At a minimum, this creates the impression of exploiting one's office for personal gain. Such a perception is especially troubling when it pertains to the office of the Speaker of the House, a constitutional office requiring the highest standards of ethical behavior."

WEATHER Winter Blues

By Gerard Roe

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

While we escaped relatively lightly over the weekend in terms of precipitation, the wind and air temperature combined to give wind chill of 10° below zero (-23°C) on Monday — more reminiscent of a mid-winter arctic blast than early December. Things look to improve slowly throughout the week as moderating westerly and then southerly winds slowly push the surface temperature back up above freezing. The coastal storm has been replaced by a strong high pressure ridge producing mostly clear skies which will in turn be supplanted towards week's end by a cyclone out of central Canada promising perhaps some precipitation.

Today: Mostly sunny, dry, winds biting then lessening in strength, and from the west. High 28°F (-2°C).

Tonight: Clear skies and strong cooling. Low 16°F (-9°C).

Wednesday: A few clouds. High 31°F (-1°C). Low 23°F (-5°C).

Thursday: Mostly sunny, then clouds, maybe snow. High 34°F (1°C). Low 29°F (-2°C).

Serbian Officials Indicate French Pilots Still Alive

By Dean E. Murphy

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

A potentially explosive obstacle to the upcoming Bosnia peace-signing ceremony in Paris appeared closer to resolution Monday as officials here indicated that good news is imminent about two missing French fighter pilots.

The first word of the airmen since they were shot down over Bosnia-Herzegovina in August came from the head of a visiting NATO delegation after a meeting with Yugoslav officials.

Karsten Voigt, president of the North Atlantic Assembly, told reporters that Yugoslav Defense Minister Pavle Bulatovic told him that a statement would be forthcoming from the pilots' Bosnian Serb captors that Bulatovic expected "would satisfy the families of the pilots."

Voigt did not elaborate, but independent Belgrade radio B-92 reported that a French aircraft was standing by at Belgrade's airport, and state-run Serbian television broadcast upbeat comments by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

"We are doing our best to help clarification of that, and I hope successfully," Milosevic said when asked about the plight of the pilots.

The developments raised hopes that the airmen, Capt. Frederic Chifot and Lt. Jose Souvignat, are alive and that heightened tensions over their capture will not sour the Thursday signing of last month's Dayton, Ohio, peace agreement. A recent confidential U.N. memo suggested that the two men were dead,

and radio B-92 reported last week that they had been executed shortly after their capture.

In Washington, Clinton administration officials said they are hopeful that a breakthrough in the crisis is near. President Clinton said the French expect the ceremonial signing to go ahead as scheduled.

"We are in very close touch with the French," Clinton said. "They are working very hard on this."

Also Monday, Clinton formally asked Congress for an "expression of support for U.S. implementation in a NATO-led Implementation Force in Bosnia," the 60,000-strong international peacekeeping force that will include 20,000 Americans.

The request came in a letter to Senate Minority Leader Thomas A. Daschle, D-S.D. The Senate is expected to vote on a resolution of support Wednesday that has been drafted by Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., after consultation with senators from both parties.

"I believe congressional support for U.S. participation is immensely important to the unity of our purpose and the morale of our troops," Clinton wrote.

"America has a responsibility to help to turn this moment of hope into an enduring reality. As the leader of NATO — the only institution capable of implementing this peace agreement — the United States has a profound interest in participating in this mission, which will give the people of Bosnia the confidence and support they need to preserve the peace and prevent this dangerous war in the heart of Europe from resuming and spread-

ing."

Despite the favorable signs about the French pilots Monday, there was no confirmation from the Bosnian Serbs, who captured the airmen alive after their Mirage warplane was downed over Bosnian Serb territory Aug. 30 during heavy North Atlantic Treaty Organization bombing raids. Their whereabouts have been a mystery since then, with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic saying they were abducted from a Bosnian Serb hospital by unknown assailants.

Voigt, whose assembly is NATO's parliamentary organization, said a Bosnian Serb statement was expected Monday. But officials in Pale, the Bosnian Serb headquarters near the capital, Sarajevo, indicated that nothing was in the works.

A government official in France, which had threatened unspecified retaliation against the pilots' captors, said "intense contacts" were continuing with Belgrade.

The Bosnian Serbs are believed to be hanging on to the Frenchmen as collateral, perhaps to get more lenient treatment for Karadzic and Bosnian Serb military leader Gen. Ratko Mladic, both of whom have been charged with war crimes. There was speculation Monday in Belgrade that the delay in obtaining the expected statement from Pale was because of intense last-minute jockeying among the Bosnian Serbs.

"He thinks this was a matter of tactics, that some people there tried to get a higher price for certain conditions of the peace process," Voigt said of his meeting with the Yugoslav defense minister.

West Bank Town Confronts Difficult Transfer to PLO

By Mary Curtius

LOS ANGELES TIMES

NABLUS, ISRAELI-OCCUPIED WEST BANK

No tougher challenge awaits Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in the West Bank than this ancient, violent city, once a bastion of armed resistance to Israel's military occupation, now a jungle of street gangs and lawlessness.

On Monday night, the last Israeli troops will pull out of Nablus and officially hand it over to the Palestinian police. Leader of the "intifada" against Israeli rule that erupted in the West Bank in 1987 and paved the way for Israel's negotiations with Arafat, Nablus is both a prize and a curse for the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman.

Prize, because some of the West Bank's wealthiest and most powerful families live here. They have traditionally provided much of the merchant class and political leadership of the Palestinian people. They are likely to be important builders of the future Palestinian state.

Curse, because the merchant class went into eclipse during the intifada, replaced by the likes of Ahmad Tabouk, intifada hero turned street vigilante, a man who specializes in killing and maiming Palestinians.

Tabouk, leader of the armed militia group Fatah Hawks, and men like him have been ruling Nablus for months. All of Nablus is waiting to see how Arafat will handle Tabouk, his followers and the eight other armed militias prowling Nablus.

"The first step for the authorities is to arrest all the people making problems," said Amin Makboul, who belongs to Fatah, the largest

PLO faction, and is a Fatah Higher Committee member for the northern West Bank. "It is what the people expect."

Well, not all the people.

Tabouk has gained almost legendary stature among the poor of the Casbah, his home turf. They regard him as a Robin Hood, a poor man brave enough to attack even members of wealthy and powerful Nablus families if he believes them guilty of collaborating with the Israelis, drug dealing or committing "moral" offenses.

But to the merchant classes and the old families, Tabouk embodies the breakdown of Palestinian society. He is the sad and dangerous result, Palestinians who fear him say, of decades of military occupation and years of intifada, which is Arabic for the uprising against Israel.

Thousands of young men like Tabouk who were heroes during the intifada now pose a threat to the society that Arafat is trying to rebuild. They are unemployed, uneducated and frustrated by their sudden marginalization. Re-integrating them into Palestinian society may be Arafat's most difficult task.

Tabouk and the Fatah Hawks have enthusiastically filled the power vacuum that grew after Israel and the PLO signed their framework peace accord in September 1993.

In Nablus, Israeli soldiers disappeared first from the Casbah, then from most of the city's streets. There was no police force, no authority to impose law and order.

The Hawks began to stalk alleged miscreants through the city's streets.

Insisting that they were acting in

the name of Arafat, they settled squabbles with the other militias by engaging in running street battles. But they came to specialize in gunning men down in broad daylight.

They shoot lesser offenders — drug users or men accused of committing "moral" crimes — in the legs. They kill people who they believe have provided the Israeli army with information that has led to the death of wanted Palestinians.

"Because we have no Palestinian judicial system, there's a lack of security," Tabouk said in an interview. "There is no law, there is no order. So we are the balance that brings law and order and justice. We are the judge and we are the jury."

Tabouk said he is willing to relinquish that role as soon as the governing Palestinian Authority arrives here with its 1,200-strong security force.

In fact, he is looking forward to joining that force, he said.

"When the sulda comes," he said, referring to the Palestinian Authority, "there will be law here. It won't be chaos, like today. We will be on the side of the sulda."

Arafat's dilemma is whether to incorporate men like Tabouk into his security force — or to jail them.

In the city of Janin, where the Palestinian Authority took control last month, it did both. It arrested and jailed for nine-year prison terms two Black Panthers, another armed group, for kidnapping two Israeli border police officers who were subsequently released unharmed.

The authority then accepted the "surrender" of about 90 Panthers who turned in their weapons and were accepted as police cadets.

U.S. Soldiers On Their Way to Bosnia Undergo Mine Training

By Rick Atkinson
THE WASHINGTON POST

SCHWETZINGEN, GERMANY
Mines that maim and mines that kill. Mines that can blow off toes and mines that can rip open a 70-ton tank. Mines detonated by the magnetic force field of a passing vehicle and "bouncing" mines that leap chest-high before spewing hundreds of metal splinters.

For the U.S. combat soldiers who will begin deploying in large numbers to Bosnia within a week, land mines have become an obsession.

Mines are the subject of training exercises, barracks bull sessions and more than a few nightmares.

U.S. intelligence estimates that 3 million mines have been strewn across Bosnia in four years of fighting, Lt. Gen. Howell Estes, operations director for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said last week. "Could it be

double that? Yes, sir," he added. "I don't think anybody really knows how many mines are there."

Between April 1992 and April 1995, 19 U.N. peacekeepers were killed by mines in former Yugoslavia and 190 wounded. Last month, Defense Secretary William J. Perry told soldiers training for Bosnia duty that mines pose the greatest threat to U.S. forces — more than hostile Serbs or Muslims, or icy roads.

A report last week by the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation estimated that Bosnia and Croatia combined have 4.5 to 6 million mines, including some that are among the world's most difficult to detect. The sector of Bosnia where the Army's 1st Armored Division will operate has at least three major minefields — including an infested area around Tuzla airfield — but is less saturated than some other parts

of Bosnia, Estes said.

The Army is working feverishly to minimize risks. Armor units have been outfitted with heavy metal plows and rollers, as they were in the Persian Gulf War. Mounted on the front of an Abrams tank, the plows cut furrows beneath buried mines and flip them to the side of the road; rollers detonate the mines in place, although after a few explosions the devices are reduced to scrap and must be replaced.

The Dayton peace accord calls for the warring parties in Bosnia to provide NATO commanders with maps and information about minefields, to mark the fields and to render them "inert." But few soldiers have high expectations of compliance, given the haphazard way in which mines have been strewn.

"The law of averages says that there are mines out there waiting for a convoy," Bradley said.

Clinton Joins Peres in Reviving Syrian-Israeli Peace Negotiations

By Robin Wright
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON
President Clinton announced Monday that the United States will launch a new effort to revive deadlocked negotiations between Israel and Syria aimed at concluding the final stage of a Middle East peace.

After talks with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Clinton said that Secretary of State Warren Christopher will fly to the region this week to discuss new ideas put forward by Peres.

"We agree that to close the circle of peace, it will take more intense and more practical negotiations," in which both sides will have to make a greater effort, Clinton told a joint news conference with Peres. "I am determined that nothing, nothing will deter us from

this task in the weeks and the months ahead."

The president indicated that he is optimistic about the prospects for movement, in part because the atmosphere in the region has changed since the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last month by a Jewish extremist opposed to territorial concessions.

"Sad as it is to say, the Syrian leader and the Syrian people now see the exceptional price that former Prime Minister Rabin and Prime Minister Peres are willing to pay in their search for peace," the president said. "I think that is the fundamental new reality here."

Clinton also talked by telephone Monday with Syrian President Hafez Assad, who told him that he is committed to moving the peace

process forward and reaching an early agreement with Israel, Clinton said.

Administration sources said that Peres feels strongly about concluding a peace treaty with Syria and Lebanon within the next six months — and before Israeli elections in 1996.

At the news conference, Peres said that Israel seeks "an opening of a new, maybe a final, chapter — the end of war in the Middle East in its totality. Peace between Syria and Israel and between Lebanon and Israel will leave no reason whatsoever for the continuation of beligerency."

Peres stressed the urgency of renewed peace efforts. "There is no time now for political vacations. ... We intend to continue the momentum full speed ahead," he said.

Vote Approaches on Internet Pornography Legislation

NEWSDAY

As members of a House-Senate conference committee prepared for a final vote this week on overhauling the nation's telecommunications laws, free speech activists began a large last-ditch lobbying effort to kill an amendment aimed at limiting pornography on the Internet.

The protest comes as the conference committee takes up a measure that imposes fines and prison terms for publishing "indecent" material on the Internet. Free speech activists say the amendment violates the First Amendment.

Leaders of the conference committee have said they want to have telecommunications reform completed quickly. But opponents of the Internet-pornography provision declared a "day of protest" Tuesday, asking Internet users to write, fax or e-mail their members of Congress.

The debate began earlier this year after Sen. James Exon, D-Neb., attached an amendment to the Senate telecom bill restricting indecent material on the Internet.

Less drastic measures have since emerged. But last week, legislators reversed course and endorsed a measure similar to the Exon amendment.

Many opponents of the measure are looking to House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., who has expressed reservations about the constitutionality of speech-restricting legislation.

"He's long shown a deeper knowledge of potential for the medium than a lot of people have," said Mike Godwin, counsel for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a group advocating free speech in cyberspace. "And I think there's a real possibility he'll turn out to be one of the heroes."

It is unclear what effect the cyberspace debate will have on the larger telecommunications reform package, which would allow local and long-distance telephone companies into each others' markets and deregulate cable TV rates.

Federal Retirement Funds Grow

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Federal workers with money in their in-house 401(k) plans' stock fund have had a very, very good year. For the 12-month period ending in November they've earned a remarkable 36.83 percent, pushing many of their accounts well above the \$100,000 mark. Their bond fund investments earned 17.48 percent. Those in the treasury fund, where most who can't stand the ups and downs of the market park their funds, earned 7.22 percent.

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is an option open to all employees. Those in the old Civil Service Retirement System can invest up to five percent of salary via payroll deduction.

Workers under the newer Federal Employees Retirement System can invest up to 10 percent. Those who put in at least five percent get a total five percent match from their agency. FERS employees who invest nothing still get a one percent match from Uncle Sam.

Many nervous workers bailed out of the C-fund (stocks) late last year when the market dipped. But those whose stayed and continued to buy prospered.

Graduate Student Council

Next meetings:

HCA Dec. 12, 5:30
Activities Dec. 14, 5:30
General Jan. 10, 5:30

Jesus Christ Superstar
at the Wang Center
Friday, Jan. 12, 8pm
Tickets only \$25

The GSC will accept orders until Dec. 13 for this show so sign up early!






THE GSC HOLIDAY PARTY

December 15 in 50-222 at 5pm



Will you be here over IAP?

Try these events...

Graduate Students: Reengineering Affects You

Can We Talk? A Communication Workshop for Men and Women

check out the IAP guide for more info

All Graduate Students are invited to all our meetings. Most are held at 5:30pm in 50-222 and dinner is served.

Stay informed about all our events! Check out our web page <http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/gsc/gsc.html>

Add yourself to our mailing list by sending email to gsc-request@mit

Questions, comments, ideas? Give us a call at 3-2195 or send email to gsc-admin@mit

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Institutional Wisdom Watch

by The Tech editorial board



Non-Denominational Festive Shrub: OK, but where's the non-denominational menorah?



E. Cogliano: "Fast Eddie" becomes campus martyr in anti-Aramark non-denominational holy war.



R. McBurney: Sacks Eddie. Better be on the noon train out of Tombstone.



Dormcon: "Hear us roar!"



Young Republicans: Did we say Gingrich? Dole? Morry who?



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Student Aid: Well, that's where it's going.



RCA: ASA, Dormcon, and shootings, oh my! Deans ducking bullets right and left.

Why It's Time to Can Aramark – Competition

Guest Column by Albert L. Hsu and Brian D'Amato

Students and faculty agree that Aramark simply has to go. Yet some students have asked if any other food service company wouldn't be just as bad. Indeed, any monopoly of MIT's food service market is a problem, and Aramark is not the only hated food service company out there. Tufts University recently told Marriott (its food service company) to leave in 30 days.

Aramark's management of MIT food services has been particularly bad, however. Instead of being close to the students, they manage from afar. Before delving into

specifics, perhaps we should take a moment to look at MIT from Aramark's point of view.

Aramark is a national corporation with \$4 billion in annual sales. It runs food service operations on both sides of the Charles River — at MIT (a \$9 million account) and at Boston University (a \$30 million account). The MIT account is especially nice because everyone recognizes and respects the MIT trademark. Aramark really cares about keeping its operation at MIT.

The relationship between MIT and Aramark is quite complex: While the exact details of the MIT-Aramark contract are closely guarded, MIT gives detailed and extensive directives to Aramark. In the past, for exam-

ple, MIT has insisted that Aramark provide declining meal balances and the MacGregor House and Pritchett convenience stores. For its part, MIT had reimbursed Aramark's losses here until last year to the tune of \$8 million

Hsu, Page 5

The Twelve Months of Re-Engineering

By Anders Hove
OPINION EDITOR

Re-engineering has been with us now for quite some time. Since taking up quarters at MIT, the re-engineers have promised to lasso the moon, and managed only to delivered some mail. Perhaps the MIT community needs to be a little more forthright with what it expects to get out of the re-engineering effort. Here's what I anticipate, set to the tune of a familiar Christmas carol:

On the twelfth month of re-engineering, Stephen Immerman gave to me:

Twelve task forces,
Eleven new web pages,
Ten management consultants,
Nine pilot programs,
Eight "team captains,"
Seven distributed mail centers,
Six handlebar mustaches —
Five focus groups! —
Four associate deans,
Three hokey surveys,
Two huge town meetings,
And Dean Randolph, nude in a non-denominational festive shrub.



Opinion Policy

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Dissents, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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Competition Is the Real Way to Improve Food Services

Hsu, from Page 4

over nine years.

Aramark is especially bad for us because it buys goods from suppliers affiliated with their parent corporation. It is also unsympathetic to students' needs because it doesn't understand the specialized MIT market.

Sysco, a national subsidiary of Aramark, is a primary supplier for Aramark. This means that MIT's dining halls and convenience stores are required to buy goods from Sysco, rather than shopping for the best prices at local discount warehouses. When students at Next House wanted Chinese snacks at their convenience store, Sysco would ship them in from New York. Eddie Cogliano [former manager of Aramark's West Campus services] called this situation preposterous, jump-

ing into his pickup truck to buy the snacks from Boston's Chinatown — until his Aramark boss put a stop to it. Three years ago, when MIT was losing money on food service, Sysco was making a profit. Should Sysco and Aramark be making money on operations where MIT is losing money or struggling to break even?

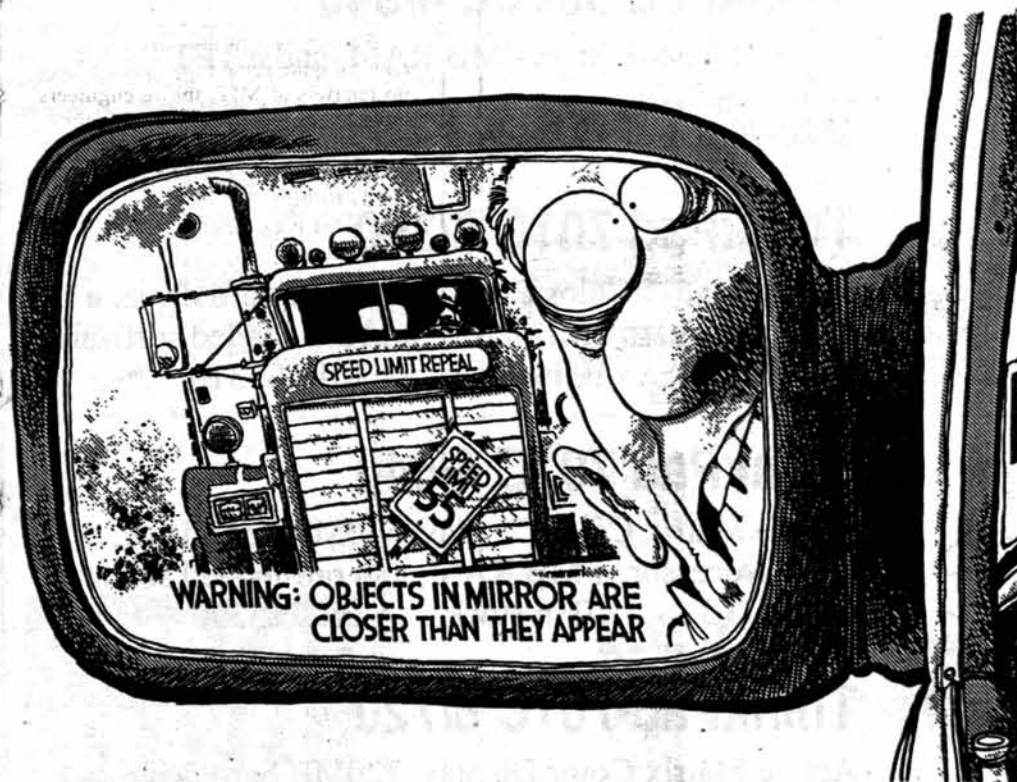
Worse than the Sysco problem, however, is the fact that Aramark just doesn't get it. At Boston University, Aramark can tell the students that "milk will be whole, it will be white, and you will like it." At the smaller market of MIT, students are much more empowered and much more demanding. Aramark tries to make money by consolidating costs. Two years ago, for example, Aramark told Baker House residents that they would like to have all students on the west side of

campus eat dinner at the Student Center or, failing that, at a centralized dining hall. Dormitory dining halls are very important to MIT. They foster a valuable sense of community in the dormitories, helping students get through the firehose mentality of MIT academics.

Even in its present form, MIT food service does not need to lose money. The food trucks bring in \$2 million in annual net sales while LaVerde's brings in \$3 million. When Aramark was projecting huge losses and being reimbursed by MIT, there was no reason for them to try to lose less money. Last year, however, when the department of Housing and Food Services negotiated an end to the subsidies, Aramark actually came moderately close to breaking even. It is possible to make money in MIT food service.

Aramark's style of management from afar is inappropriate for MIT. As far as replacing Aramark on campus, managed competition is key. Businesses exist to generate wealth. Companies with a monopoly on food service will try to do anything to make money, from raising prices to cutting hours, so MIT must be very watchful.

Under MIT-managed competition, companies cannot win by raising prices; that would only make customers flock to their competition. The only way to make money will be for companies to compete for customers; therefore, they will try to do everything that MIT wants them to do: More variety and higher quality of food, lower prices, more hours of service, and better responsiveness to student suggestions. MIT food service under managed competition would meet student needs.



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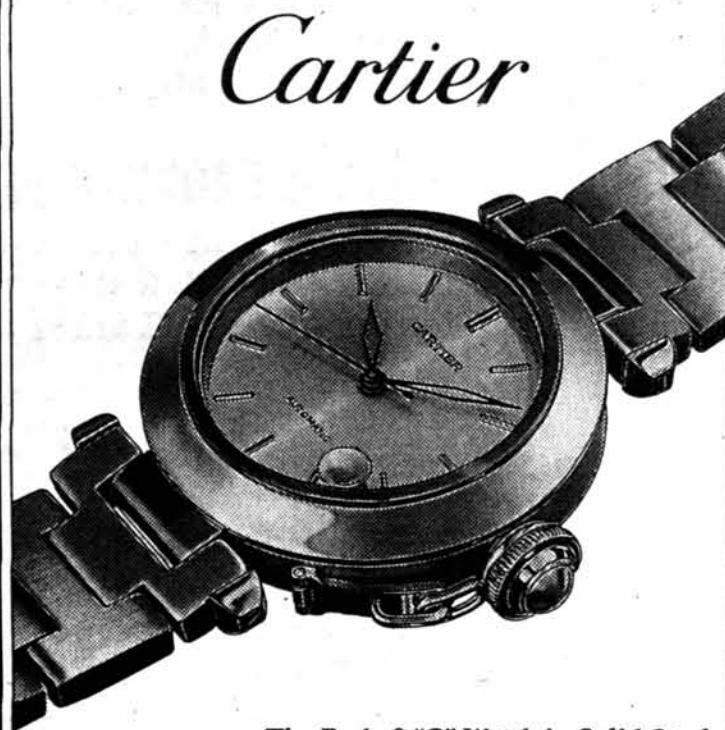
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THE ARTS

Campus Pick

New quartet Sonos to debut on Beethoven's birthday

SONOS

Featuring Bayla Keyes, violin; Marcus Thompson, viola; Andres Diaz, cello; and David Deveau, piano.

Works by Beethoven, Schnittke, Hindemith, and Brahms.
Saturday, Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. at Kresge Auditorium.

By Craig K. Chang
ARTS EDITOR

On Beethoven's birthday this Saturday, Sonos, a new quartet featuring two Music and Theater Arts faculty, will debut in Kresge Auditorium. Together with Boston University faculty members Bayla Keyes (violin) and Andres Diaz (cello), Senior Lecturer David Deveau (piano) and Professor Marcus A. Thompson (viola) have created a remarkable ensemble built on musical chemistry. Fate brought together all four local musicians through smaller collaborations and a pivotal, electric reading of the chamber works they love.

The shared love for particular works that forms Sonos' glue is indeed eclectic, as their program this weekend demonstrates. The birthday performance will include Beethoven's *Trio in E-flat for Violin, Cello, and Piano, Op. 1, No. 1*; Schnittke's *String Trio (1985)*; Hindemith's *Duet for Viola and Cello*; and Brahms' *Piano Quartet in G Minor, Op. 25*. Admission is free with an MIT ID.



Sonos, a new quartet featuring Senior Lecturer of Music and Theater Arts David Deveau, Boston University's Bayla Keyes and Andres Diaz, and Professor of Music and Theater Arts Marcus A. Thompson

Brilliant *Estampas* and soloist make concert a gem

THE MIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conducted by David Epstein.

Featuring Douglas R. Abrams, piano.

Works by Brahms, Beethoven,

and Jose L. Elizondo.

Last Saturday in Kresge

By Thomas Chen

STAFF REPORTER

Student compositions, a recurrent motif for the MIT Symphony Orchestra these days, have made its concerts much more lively. Following hard on the heels of Alan Pierson's *Music for Orchestra*, the MIT Symphony Orchestra under Music and Theater Arts Professor Emeritus M. Epstein premiered *Estampas Mexicanas*, written by MIT graduate José Luis Elizondo '95 last Friday night in Kresge Auditorium. Although the Beethoven *Piano Concerto No. 2* and Brahms *Symphony No. 1* were capably performed and enjoyable to listen to, the highlight of the evening was certainly Elizondo's *Estampas Mexicanas*.

The outset of *Estampas* makes one immediately aware of the fantastic colors and rhythms which imbue this work. The piece follows a basic tempo scheme of fast-slow-fast, where the slow movement is notable for an *ostinato* percussion pattern, a minor variation of a theme from the first movement,

and a surprising bird call (*à la Respighi*). The program notes include a page of text written by Karina Melendez and Elizondo himself. The text, which focuses on Spanish colonialism and the discovery of a new Mexican identity, is divided into three sections that correspond to the work's three movements.

While I found the text difficult to penetrate, I was easily won over by Elizondo's colorful orchestration and rhythmic flair. His gift for melody was faithfully executed by the orchestra members, who really animated the joy in the music. I have never heard the violins sing as well as they did in the first and third movements, and the winds seemed to provide an endless flow of sunshine that reflected the Latin American origins of the musical landscape.

As with *Music for Orchestra*, percussion plays a central role in *Estampas*. The MITSO percussion played with characteristic vitality and brought to life a dimension of music that is so rarely heard in "traditional" European classical music. Elizondo received a standing ovation from members of the audience who clearly enjoyed the piece as much as I did.

Featuring student composers with a student orchestra is completely logical. In fact, it

is such a good idea that it begs one to wonder why it was not implemented earlier. Consistent with bringing more student composers to the MIT community's attention, the MITSO has recently presented several student soloists of high musical talent. The latest is pianist Douglas R. Abrams '96, whose nimble fingers have little to fear as they traverse Beethoven's rapid passages. If memory serves me correctly, Beethoven's second piano concerto was written before the first one and carries the number "two" because it was published later. As Epstein points out in the notes, this concerto is the least frequently performed, perhaps because it lacks the overt drama of the other four and is more akin to the temperament of Haydn.

Whatever the reason, Abrams certainly played it as if it were the most important of all Beethoven concertos. He achieved the requisite clarity and manual dexterity for this piece and was quite effective in the first movement's cadenza, where what seemed like a massive slow-down after the initial fugue really grabbed my attention. For all the sincerity that he obviously holds for the work, I find his interpretation somewhat humorless, especially in the last movement; I expect the little "hiccup" figuration to bring a smile to any curmudgeonly face. Perhaps a tad sedate as far as

musical highjinks are concerned, Abrams impressed with a flexible tonal palette and admirable musical integrity.

The orchestra's contribution to the Beethoven and Brahms was markedly less successful than their brilliant showing in the Elizondo. In vivid contrast to their expertly prepared Schubert and Mozart several weeks ago, the orchestra skipped over details like ensemble and intonation. And in the Beethoven, Abrams was required to deftly negotiate some mid-air collisions with the orchestra.

The MITSO players played well where it counted most. The great horn melody that introduces the chorale-like melody in the violins in the fourth movement of the Brahms is one of the great moments in that piece. The horns and winds were rock steady as they prepared the strings for the beautifully played final theme of the symphony. Distinguished solos included the expressive oboe and absolutely radiant playing of the concert master in the symphony's slow movement. Hearing that horn melody in the last movement alone made the concert worthwhile; hearing *Estampas Mexicanas* made the concert truly satisfying. I hope the orchestra program keeps a good thing going by regularly featuring talented student composers.

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ROADKILL BUFFET

Last Friday in Room 66-110

By David V. Rodriguez

STAFF REPORTER

Roadkill Buffet, MIT's "best and only improv comedy" group had their first and only performance of the semester last Friday in a packed 66-110. The show consisted mostly of the group getting ideas — or challenges — from the audience for the players to act out,

such as asking for a non-geographical location (outer space, in an elevator, bottom of the sea), or a relationship (mother and child, a man and his car). Two of the skits involved the use of single lines of dialogue written by the audience before the show, which were randomly inserted into a conversation ("I just wanted to say to you... Meow").

Overall, the show was quite funny — as funny as anything currently in the theatres; as

a free show you only have to walk across campus for, it's definitely worth it. The show did have a few weaknesses, though; but none that can't be improved. The largest problem was that much of the material they got from the audience didn't have much potential. The players would do what they could with it, but some skits were doomed to fall a little flat. And the problem was sometimes made worse by the players trying to stick to what they

were given, however weak it may have been.

Perhaps they could have chosen the topics a little more carefully, even if it might have reduced some of the spontaneity of the show (of which there was plenty). Roadkill Buffet's next show, Carrion Casserole, will show during Independent Activities Period. For those who want more — or perhaps think they can do better — they will be also offering the Son of Improv Comedy Workshop over IAP.

Yimou's *Triad* casts Oriental mobsters in a new light

SHANGHAI TRIAD

Directed by Zhang Yimou.

Written by Bi Feiyu; adapted from a novel by Li Xiao.

Starring Li Baotian, Shun Chun, and Gong Li. Opening Dec. 22 at Sony Theaters.

By Audrey Wu

STAFF REPORTER

While the novelty of the mobster flick has long since worn off, *Shanghai Triad*, director Zhang Yimou's (*Ju Dou*, *Raise the Red Lantern*) latest film, is absolutely stunning. Set in the westernized Shanghai of 1930, the film strikingly portrays the mob's power over eight-days. However, unlike conventional mobster movies, which focus on violence between Mafia gangs, *Shanghai Triad* deals primarily with the fate of a woman living in a society controlled by the Mafia. The result of this shift of focus is refreshing — rest assured that there is not a bloody horse head to be found. Although there are impressive perfor-

mances all around — most notably Li Baotian in his role as Mr. Tang, the ruthless godfather chief of the Tang family-run underground Green dynasty, and Shun Chun as Song, his backstabbing no. two man — it is the incomparable Gong Li's performance as Xiao Jinbao that grips the audience's attention for almost two hours.

Gong Li's performance as the conceited, hot-tempered, but ultimately heroic Xiao Jinbao is absolutely breathtaking. Xiao Jinbao is a prostitute/singer who uses her charms and talent to become Mr. Tang's mistress and a prominent singer in his nightclub. She is also the secret mistress of Song, who plots to take control of the gang and, consequently, the opium and prostitution trade in Shanghai. It soon becomes evident that Xiao Jinbao's luxurious lifestyle is just a facade for who she really is — a prisoner of the Green dynasty, used by both Mr. Tang and Song as nothing more than a pawn in the struggle between the Mafia gangs. Both Mr. Tang and Song deny

Xiao Jinbao respect or freedom. Sadly, the only person to whom she can talk openly and whose relationship with her is not motivated by power or greed is her servant, fourteen-year-old Tang Shuisheng (Wang Xiao Xiao). She is unable to rise above the stigma of being a prostitute, and becomes spiteful and cruel in an attempt to protect herself from the Mafia. It is only while Mr. Tang holds her captive on a small, heavily guarded island after a gang execution that the generous woman she is underneath surfaces.

The most interesting aspect of *Shanghai Triad* is the contrast between styles at the beginning and end of the film. During the first part of the film, the cinematography is nothing less than truly lush. The camera makes no attempt to hide the ornate luxury of Mr. Tang's mansions and Xiao Jinbao's lavish wardrobe. It is also during this time — among opulent material possessions, power, and wealth — that Xiao Jinbao's demeanor is portrayed at its worst. Not to be missed are her sensational hys-

terics (which include a lengthy string of Chinese curses) when she is shunned by Song, which give new meaning to the phrase "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

However, when Xiao Jinbao is held captive on an island, the cinematography becomes simple and natural. Living in a shack and bored out of her mind, Xiao Jinbao's truly generous, unselfish nature takes command. It is also then that she realizes, too late, that the men in her life will not hesitate to sacrifice her when she is of no further use to them.

"There is something more important than power and mere material possessions. What counts most in life is man's capacity for love and generosity," says Director Zhang Yimou of *Shanghai Triad*'s message. Although the message is admittedly ubiquitous, the movie is remarkably unique. And although some of the scenes seem crude and gratuitous (they could have done without the diarrhea scene), on the whole, *Shanghai Triad* is, in my opinion, the most tastefully done mobster movie to date.

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By Anne Marie Chomat
and Hur Koser
STAFF REPORTERS

With the year's first snowfall Boston Ballet once again has begun celebrating the holiday season with the magic of *The Nutcracker*. This is the company's 30th production of the Christmas fantasy and marks the start of a new era: This year, the ballet is presenting a beautifully restored and enhanced production with new costumes, scenery and choreography.

The story starts Christmas Eve, 1830. At the Silberhaus home, Clara's family is preparing for an extravagant celebration. Guests arrive. The highlight of the young girl's evening is the arrival of her mysterious uncle, Dr. Drosselmeyer, who demonstrates his magical creations — including a tiny toy theater — and gives Clara a little soldier nutcracker. Later that night, Clara steals downstairs to get her nutcracker from under the tree. However, her uncle has cast a spell on the room (which suddenly triples in size) and Clara is met by a battle between an army of mice, trying to invade the room, and a troop of toy soldiers, led by the nutcracker who has suddenly come to life.

After having won the battle — thanks to

Clara, who throws her slipper at the Mouse King — the nutcracker turns into a handsome young prince who leads the girl out on a sleigh into an enchanted world. A balloon appears and carries them off to the Palace of Sweets, where they are greeted by the Sugarplum Fairy. An elaborate ceremony is prepared to honor Clara's courage against the Mouse King, and in which dancers from far-away lands perform. When it's time for Clara and her nutcracker prince to leave, the inhabitants of this magical land all gather to bid them goodbye.

It is a whole new look for *Nutcracker* this year. The setting has been changed from Late Victorian to Early Romantic, thereby matching the time period in which E.T.A. Hoffmann actually came up with the original story. Additions include the toy theater in the second act and the individual backdrops of the divertissements. Choreographer Daniel Pelzig has produced a new *Snow Scene* and *Waltz of the Flowers*. Also, there is a new character introduced this year: Dr. Drosselmeyer's nephew, who acts as sorcerer's apprentice to his uncle. However, the rest of the performance and the choreography is mainly the same.

All through the performance, elements of the decor present the audience with an extraordinary and imposing world of fantasy. Once again this year, a magical Christmas tree grows from sixteen to forty feet in height in less than a minute. Oversized sets and props match the growing tree as Clara shrinks down to the size of the toys. A double-depth stage has been built for the snow scene and especially for the creation of the grown-to-life-size tiny toy theater, first presented to Clara at the Christmas party.

Each Act II divertissement comes with its

own scenic backdrop and miniature stage setting: sparkling gold pagodas, a spectacular mosque-and-minaret backdrop, soaring domed Russian palaces, an elegant French garden, and more. There are also a stack of three luxury boxes added on either side of the stage — the lowest level is occupied by Clara and the prince Nutcracker during Act II; this gets them off stage and focuses attention on the divertissements. It is actually the hand-carved details that make the entire decor so real and the richness of colors that make it so breathtaking. The sugarplum fairy palace on the clouds, for instance, seems more real than Clara could imagine. Special effects such as the snow fall, the balloon in which Clara and her nutcracker fly off, and the flying Dr. Drosselmeyer, are all among those features that contribute to the magic of this year's performance.

This year, the costumes are brand-new and more colorful than ever. The Nutcracker himself appears in shiny white uniform this season. The new mice costumes look pretty convincing with brown tulle and huge tails — indeed, if the mice lacked a sense of humor, they would appear scary instead of cute. The same goes for the Mouse King, in his new green, authentic Turkish outfit with golden ornaments. Drosselmeyer, however, wears the most striking costume: a handsome outfit of Prussian-blue velvet and a Napoleonic hat.

Indeed, there is a great deal of emphasis placed on these special effects, props, and costumes, sometimes to the extent that the audience tends to be drawn to marvel at the extravagant scenery rather than at the actual dancing. Nevertheless, the dancing is full of vitality, energy and emotion. Especially in the second act, the different divertissements (the

Arabian, Chinese, Russian and Flower dances, among others) all bear the touch of authenticity. Choreographers Daniel Pelzig and Sydney Leonard have mingled beauty, grace, and the delicacy of some dances of the professional staff with the cuteness and smallness of the younger dancers, dressed up as cuddly white lambs, little white reindeer, toy soldiers, or baby mice.

Throughout the performance, it is quite striking to experience scenes which delicately shift from sheer expressiveness to simple storytelling — for instance, the incredibly emotional and expressive Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy compared with Clara's travel from one world to another. Dancing and acting intermingle throughout the performance — that is what makes the ballet dramatic. One may occasionally wonder whether *Nutcracker* is too dramatic, in the sense that the first act is almost entirely acting, with bits and pieces of short dancing sprinkled in some places. That might be true to some extent; nevertheless, the drama of Act I is nicely balanced with the magic of the dances (especially in the Palace of the Sweets) in the second act. In fact, the scene where the Sugar Plum (Pollyana Riberio) and her Cavalier (Patrick Armand) appears is definitely worth waiting for.

The performance overall is extraordinary and represents an incredible amount of work; over 100 performers dance to the enchanting music of Tchaikovsky this year. No wonder why about 140,000 people from all over New England are transported each year into the world of Christmas magic by the sides of a nutcracker, a magician and a young girl named Clara. Do not miss this year's *Nutcracker*; it is definitely worth seeing — more than once, if possible.

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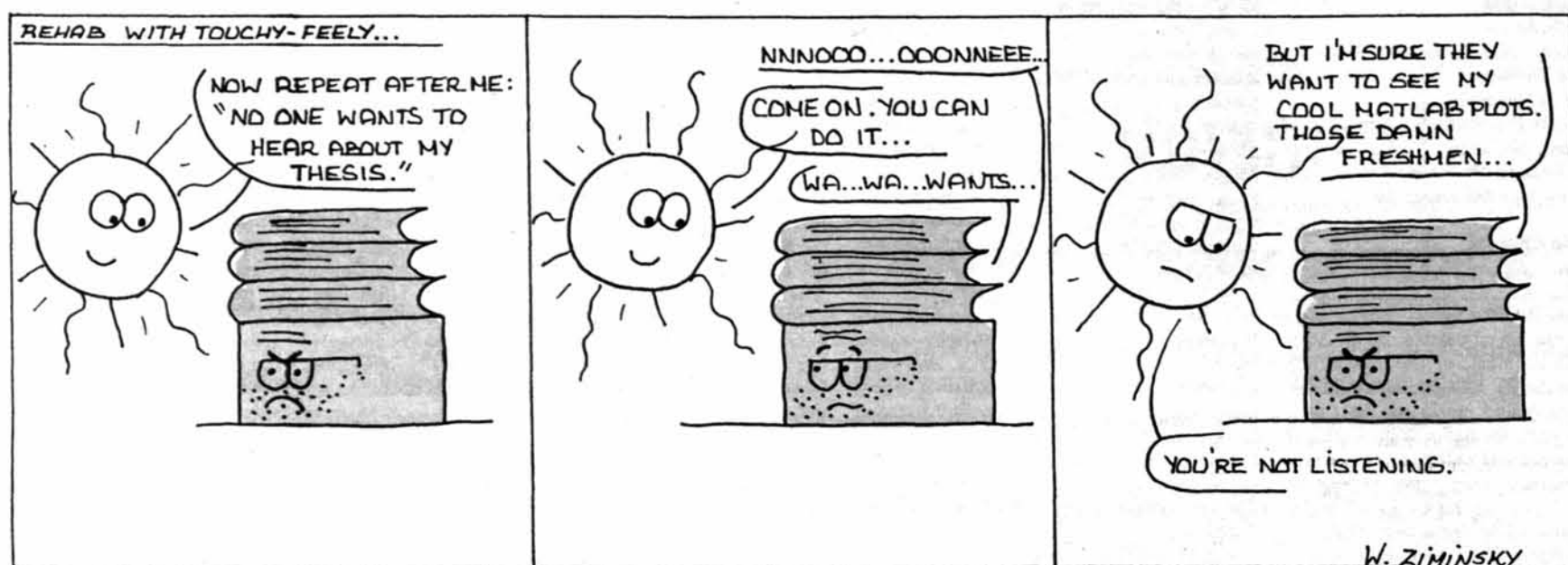
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OLS Closure Meets With Mixed Success

Some labs decry changes; others indifferent

By Cristián González
STAFF REPORTER

Laboratories and offices around campus have had varied reactions to the July 1 closing of the Office of Supplies. The closing was the result of the ongoing re-engineering effort to cut costs at the Institute.

The OLS had been in charge of supplying laboratory apparatuses and supplies, office supplies, gas cylinders, and furniture to MIT offices and laboratories. As a result of the closing, MIT now buys supplies from a few large vendors who carry products from different manufacturers.

The decision to close OLS was made last term by the Re-engineering Steering Committee, which is made up by the Institute's administrative vice presidents and Provost Joel M. Moses PhD '67, who was then dean of the School of Engineering.

Their decision was based mainly on the work of the Supplier Consolidation Committee, a re-engineering team that studied how OLS worked and how to make it function more smoothly at a lower cost. By closing OLS, and purchasing supplies from independent vendors, the team hopes to save the Institute approximately \$1.8 million every year.

"A lot of people make use of OLS," said Eileen Nielsen, Administrative Officer for the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, in an interview last May. "We feel that [closing OLS] will have a large impact in terms of convenience."

Closing piques some lab workers

These concerns still hold, as the the closing of OLS does seem to be inconvenient for several labs. Under OLS, they were often able to obtain what they wanted within the same day they asked for it.

Under the present system, things must be purchased explicitly, so that a lab ordering supplies will often

have to wait more or less three days before getting what it needs.

At present, one of the major inconveniences for labs seems to be the procurement of office supplies. Under the new regulations, it takes an office much longer to get supplies that many times are needed quickly.

"It stinks! You can't get what you want anymore. They had three times as many supplies at OLS. You can't even get Kleenex anymore," said Neal Silverman G, who works in the laboratory of Professor of Biology Leonard P. Guarente '74.

"It's absolutely the most absurd thing, and significantly more work for us. For example, I had to go to the supermarket yesterday to buy Carnation milk," Silverman said.

Most problems with this system were encountered when it first started to function. "I think they were making a lot of mistakes at first," said Daniel C. Lin G, who works in the laboratory of Associate Professor of Biology Alan D. Grossman.

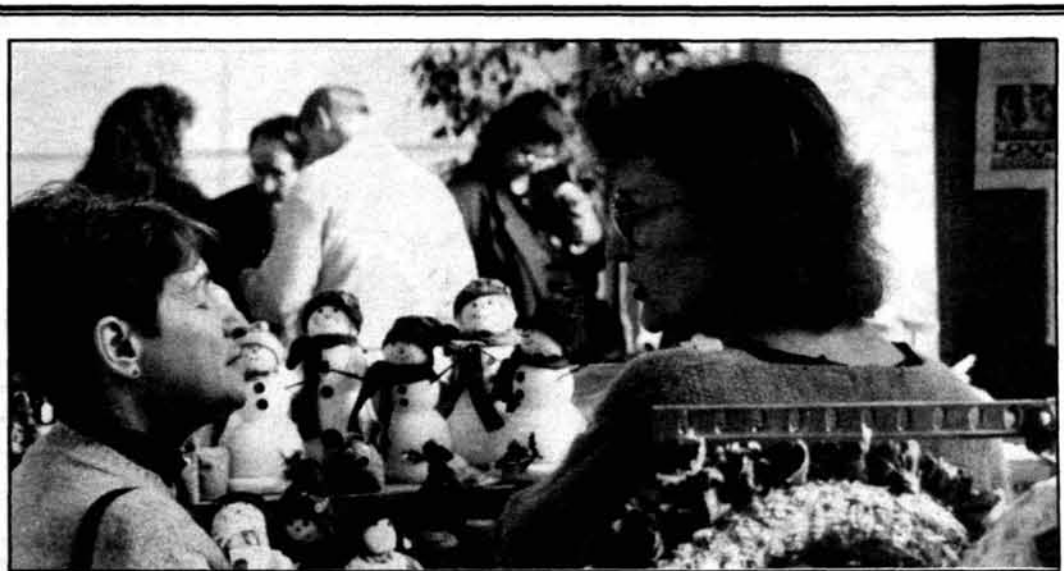
But despite several complaints, other labs have found the conversion smooth, and without problem.

According to Wenglong R. Lin, a postdoc in the Fermentation Microbiology Laboratory, "we don't really see anything that is different from before. We even find some of the items much cheaper."

"It's been inconvenient, but it hasn't exactly shut us down. It's slowed things down a little bit and things you should be able to get the same day you now can get in a day or two, especially secretarial supplies," said Ann Sacra G, who works in the lab of Associate Professor of Chemistry Mouni G. Bawendi.

"In all respects I think it's okay. I find no inconvenience at all," said Lin.

Stacey E. Blau contributed to the reporting of this story.



Merchants sell their crafts at the holiday bazaar in Lobby 10 last Wednesday.

Direct Student Aid Threatened

Loans, from Page 1

"We chose to go into direct lending because the process [to obtain indirect loans] was too cumbersome and had too many players," said Hudson, director of student financial aid.

"We saw [moving to direct loans] as part of the re-engineering process that would make our life easier... it saves hundreds of thousands of dollars," Hudson said. He added that the procedures governing indirect lending have been streamlined since the Institute switched to direct lending.

"There is not a conflict of interest in my mind," Hough said. "Sallie Mae offers a lower interest rate for those who make their loan payments on time than the direct loan program and it's lower by two percent after the first 48 payments," said Hough. Private lenders "can build in incentives that the federal government" cannot match, said

Hough.

Hough cites federal regulations that favor direct lending over indirect lending, giving what he calls an unfair advantage to the direct lending program. Hough said Sallie Mae was lobbying congress to adopt a stance that would make "the rules that control delivery and the rules that control repayment programs... the same."

"The Department of Education and the last Congress advantaged direct lending at the expense of the private programs. [We want to] level the playing field," he said.

"Any discussion has to build from a basis of facts... it is not clear that the debate is proceeding making full use of the available facts," said Hough.

Posters cause confusion

Several weeks ago, the Committee for Social Justice placed posters in Lobby 7 and the Infinite Corridor informing students that direct

Stafford loans were in danger of being cut.

"The posters are very misleading. They suggest that students are going to lose 75% of their loans," Hudson said. "If direct loans went to 10 percent [of the total volume of loans issued by the government] students would get the same loans and the same rates," he said. The posters do give a definition for direct loans.

"The posters simply state that direct lending has been cut by 75 percent," said Alan L. Shihadeh G, a member of the Committee for Social Justice. "There was never any question over whether we were confusing Stafford direct loans with Stafford loans."

At the meeting advertised by the poster "we specifically pointed that out," Shihadeh said. "We said that 'One is direct and one is indirect.'" The posters, however, do not define the distinction between the two terms.



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Students view crafts at the holiday bazaar in Lobby 10 last Wednesday.

JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Faculty Committee's End-of-Term Policy Confuses Once Again

By Yaron Koren
STAFF REPORTER

The Committee on Faculty Policy's stipulation that no assignments may be due in the six days before the end-of-term reading period has again resulted in planning problems and general confusion for at least one professor.

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Clifton G. Fonstad Jr. PhD '70, who teaches Electronic Devices and Circuits (6.012), ran into problems with assigning the class' last problem set, — due last Friday — which he had to reassign.

But this particular problem is far from unique, the committee's policy caused the cancellation of a Linear Algebra (18.06) exam last year. "The issue that arose this year was not the fault of Professor Fonstad," said Faculty Chair Lawrence S. Bacow.

Instead, the crux of the problem is that the committee's final due date — last Thursday — is in conflict with the registrar's calendar. What the conflict boils down to

for students is that no subjects with a final examination can have a large assignment due this week.

For his part, Fonstad said he was just following the academic calendar for the year sent out by the registrar this fall which lists last Friday as the last day for assignments and exams.

Fonstad said he had been very careful to check the syllabus for the final date this term because "I got my students upset at me a year ago for a similar problem," he said.

Fonstad ended up making the problem set officially moved back to Thursday, but told students they could still hand it in on Friday as a compromise that even he admitted "is not the right way to go about things."

Several problems in years past

Bacow said that in order to ensure compliance with the policy, "each year the Chair of the Faculty sends out a letter at the start of the term to a faculty members describing the regulations and stressing the importance of complying with both the letter and the spirit of the rules."

"I don't have any problem with the policy itself; it makes things a little awkward, but it makes a certain amount of sense," Fonstad said. "I think it's just a bug in the system that I hope will get fixed next year... at least they're not going to throw me out of MIT."

Student Named Rhodes Scholar

Rhodes, from Page 1

everybody wanted to know what he cooked."

Student sets example

Many students ask, "Do I major in this? Do I major in that? You can say, look at Toby. He sets a good example," Dourmashkin said. "For people with a variety of interests, they have to pursue them."

In addition to his talents, Ayer is extremely modest and thoughtful, Dourmashkin said.

"I think he deserved to win," Goldoftas said.

At the same time, "every time you try to label him, he surprises you," Dourmashkin said. Dourmashkin was astonished when Ayer first told him about his involvement with the circus.

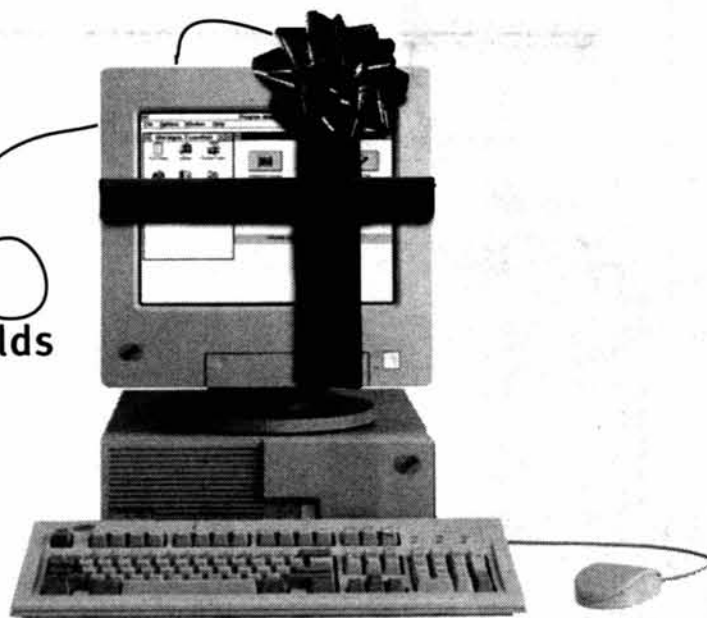
Ayer encourages students to apply for the Rhodes Scholarship. "If people are interested, people should definitely do it," Ayer said. There are "people who are qualified who don't know it."

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be under 24 years of age. Applicants apply through their home state, and approximately 10 to 12 people are selected for an interview.

Two state representatives are chosen to advance to the regional level, which consist of six or seven states. Finally, four Rhodes Scholars are chosen.

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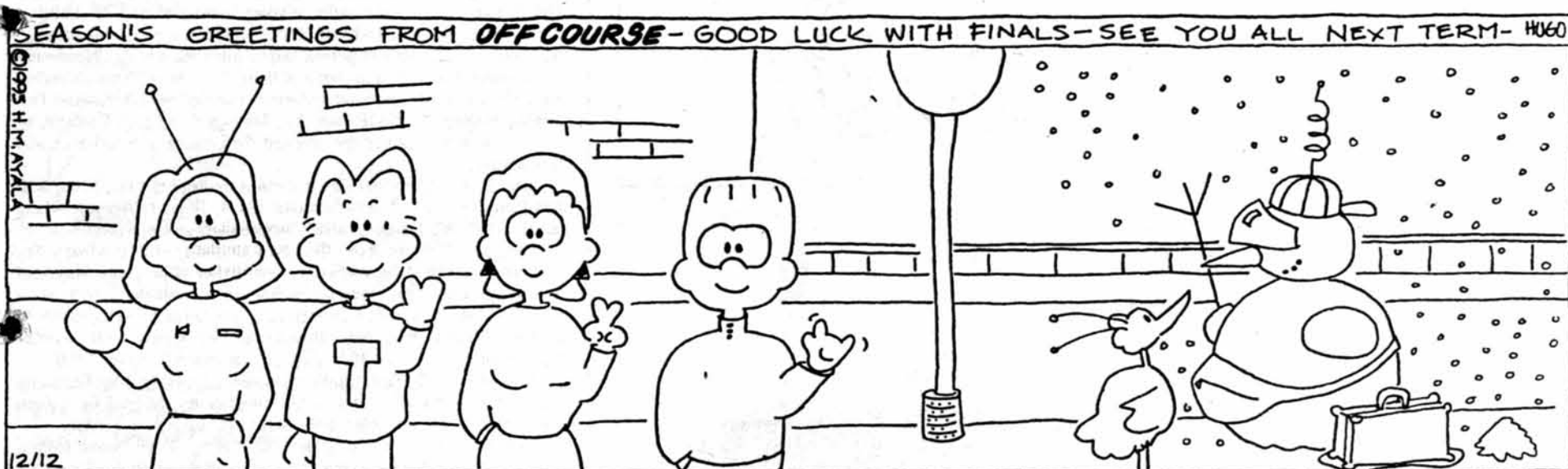
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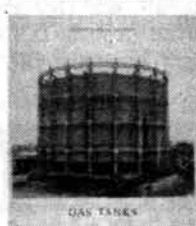
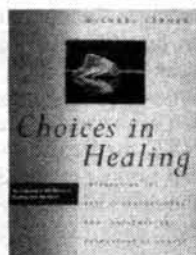
By H. Ayala



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POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between Nov. 30 and Dec. 7:

Nov. 30: Senior House, Backpack stolen, \$190; Bldg. 2, Friedrich Lu, of 65 Pearson Ave., Somerville, arrested for trespassing and disorderly conduct.

Dec. 1: NW16, suspicious activity; Bldg. E40, bicycle stolen, \$250; Bldg. 7, disturbance; Bldg. 18, suspicious activity; Bldg. NE43, harassing phone calls; Walker Memorial hall, a shooting occurred on the front steps of Walker Memorial as a student party was ending. An unknown person had an altercation with a Northeastern University student and shot him in the leg. The victim was treated and released at Massachusetts General Hospital; 471 Memorial Dr., Freddy Bernier, of 111 Babson St., Mattapan and Jean Fontaint, of 332 Franklin St., Cambridge arrested for causing a disturbance and trespassing.

Dec. 2: 428 Memorial Dr., malicious damage to tires, \$600; Kilian Court by Bldg. 2, bicycle stolen, \$471; Bldg. 13, bicycle wheel stolen, \$100; W20 student center, bicycle parts stolen, \$100.

Dec. 3: 275 Mass Ave., Christine Driscoll, of 240 Albany St., Cambridge arrested for malicious destruction of property; Hayward St. Parking Lot, radar cable stolen from motor vehicle, \$1600; MacGregor House, cash stolen, \$40; Bldg. 5, vandalism to wall cabinets.

Dec. 4: Bldg. E38, coat, gloves, and cash stolen, \$140; Burton Conner, bicycle stolen, \$300; Bldg. 26, hammerdrill stolen, \$300.

Dec. 5: Bldg. 7, wallet and cash stolen, \$25; Bldg. 14E, harassing mail; Bldg. 9 malicious destruction of property; Bldg. E18, wallet, credit cards, and cash stolen, \$60; Bldg. 14E, suspicious activity.

Dec. 6: Bldg. 7, wallet stolen, \$20; Bldg. 1, keyboard stolen, \$100; Bldg. 14E, harassing mail.

Dec. 7: Bldg. 14N, suspicious activity; Bldg. 2, bicycle stolen, \$120; Bldg. E52, computer stolen, \$2600; Bldg. 14N, video camera stolen, \$1500; Bldg. 7, bicycle stolen, \$60; Bldg. W20, vandalism, unknown value; Bldg. 14, bicycle stolen, \$220.

Institute Promises to Tighten Security at Cancer Research Lab

NRC, from Page 1

tion Levels," Oct. 20].

The legal annual exposure limit for personnel working with radioactive materials is 600 microcuries.

According to the report, the MIT Radiation Protection Office's final calculations were accurate, but the uncertainties involved prevent the calculation of an exact figure.

An NRC medical consultant stated that no symptoms or acute effects should result from an intake of this level.

Report decries inadequate security

The report criticized the Center for Cancer Research and the Radiation Protection Office for inadequate security in the lab and weak oversight of the storage and control of radionuclides.

In response to the incident, the Institute has tightened security and locked freezers containing radioactive materials, said Director of the News Office Kenneth D. Campbell in a recent article in *The Boston*

Globe.

Although it concluded that MIT's security was lacking, the report found that the Radiation Protection Office's response to the poisoning was acceptable.

The NRC also found that its own failure to release information about similar poisonings might have contributed to this event.

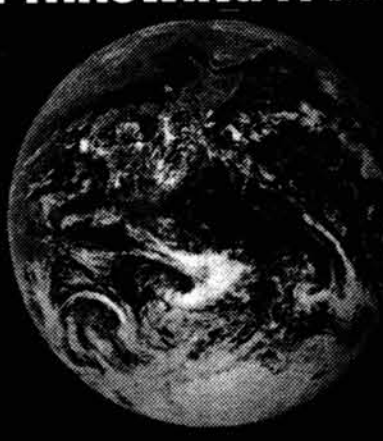
The report confirmed the NRC's preliminary finding that the contamination had probably occurred as the result of a deliberate act by a knowledgeable person because there was no evidence of any other contamination in the lab where Li worked.

Investigators have not ruled out the possibility that the poisoning was accidental or self-inflicted, according to the *Globe*.

The NRC is also still unable to determine either the precise circumstances of the poisoning or a person who might be responsible.

The incident remains under investigation, and Li could not be reached for comment.

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Jim's Journal

by Jim

Ruth was over today when I got my mail.



I got some kind of catalog that I would normally throw away.



But Ruth said, "Oh, can I see it?" and started paging through it.



"This is my favorite catalog," she said. "I wish I could order everything in it."



Campus Race Relations

announces the next round of the

Race Relations Grants Program

Proposals are now being accepted for projects aimed at enhancing racial and cultural relations in the MIT community. All members of the community -- students, faculty, staff -- are encouraged to apply.

Deadline for proposals:
December 15, 1995

For applications and more information, please call Ayida Mthembu (3-4861) or Liz Connors (3-5882) or drop by room 3-234.

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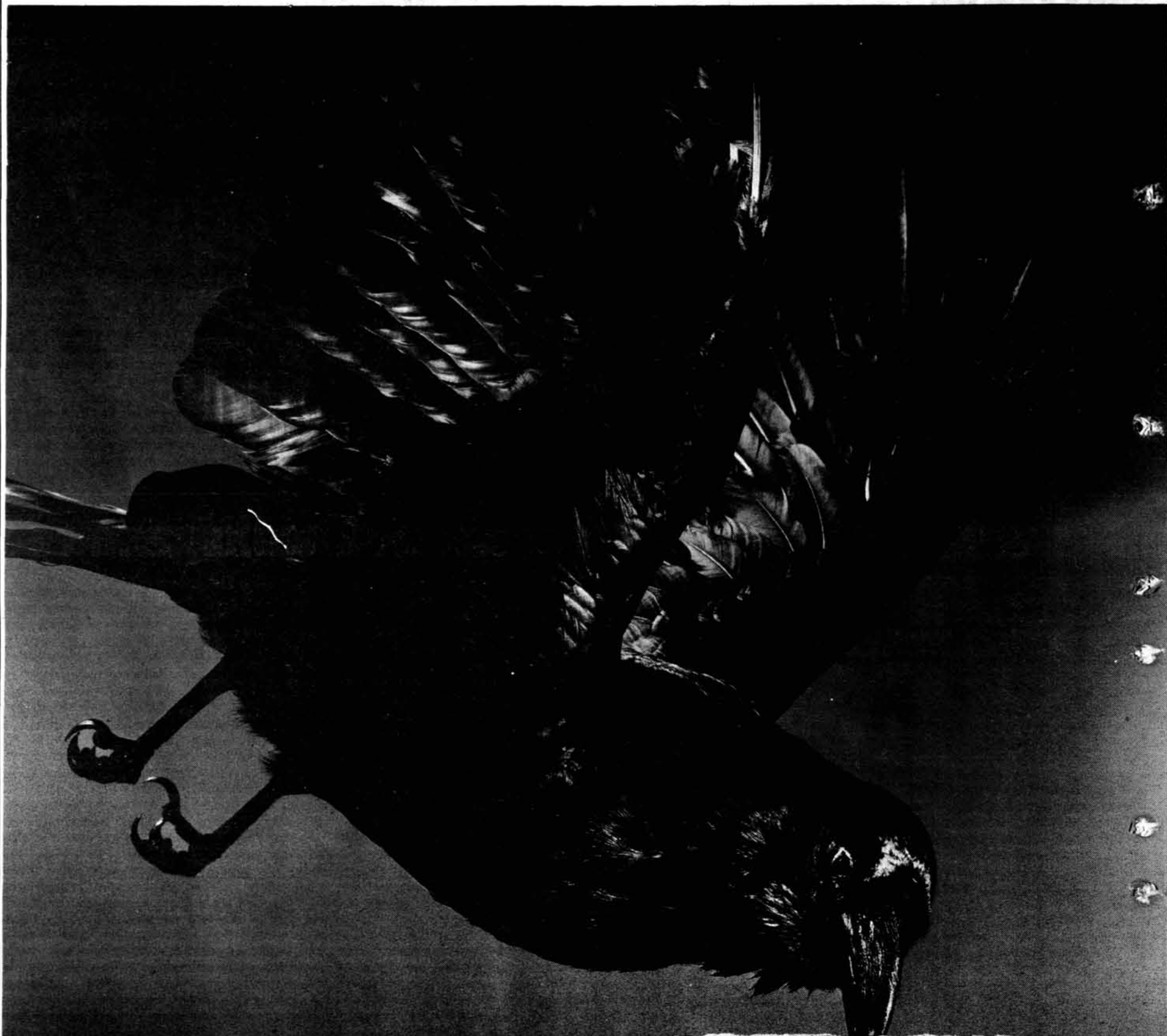


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Gaggle Cops Election of 116th Tech Managing Board

By Anders Hove
OPINION EDITOR

Saturday afternoon I was blithely strolling across campus when I was overtaken by a throng of hunch-backed Tech managing board members outside the Student Center. Dazed by the flickering light from their torches, I fell in with the rude crowd.

Before I could figure out what had happened, the herd had corralled me up to the fourth floor. There some urchins strapped me to a chair in the corner, stuck a pipe in my mouth, and began all manner of other insidious preparations for the managing board's annual elections.

The Tech office, also known as "Svenson's Sadistic Sex-Shoppe," was soon filled with unenlightened electioneering. The first candidate, Scott "Goldeneye" Deskin '96, vigorously attacked his opponent for being unwilling to debate on the floor. In spite of this flagrant mudslinging, the board deigned to reelect Deskin to the chairmanship.

Before the board could congratulate Deskin, a spate of gunfire erupted from a dark corner of the room.

Dressed in a full suit of combat gear, Ramy "Der Bogglemeister" Arnaout '97 emerged from the fog of battle, promptly pronouncing his intention to wrest (rest, west,...) control of the newspaper from the previous establishment. Arnaout further declared that a junta under the thumbs of of himself and Eva "Tight Ship" Moy G would assume power next month. Seeing they had little choice, the board grudgingly approved Arnaout's bloodless (less, loss, loose, looses, boodle,... oh wait) putsch.

There was little need for debate about the business-like Christine "No Holes" Chan '98, who had whipped her "Cavern of Carnal Delights" into shape over the last term. Similarly, the board gave the nod to Strategic Tosci's Planning Committee Chair Saul Blumenthal '98, who said he would punt just about everything after 11:29:59 p.m.

Minister of Ideological Warfare Anders "Ace Ventura" Hove '96 then took the floor, arguing that the paper should relocate to Sarajevo. Grudgingly, the board's gray heads nodded to Hove's demand, on the condition that Radovan would continue to roam the Opinion department.

Following a brief romp in the snow, the board reconvened to hear the Warsaw News Pact make its plea. Stacey "Cracker Ass" Blau '98 (perched painfully on a sideways black chair), Shang-Lin "Shedang!" Chuang '98 and David "Imagine" Hsu '98 eked out reelection; the board also knocked up A. Arif "Dexfenfluramine" Husain '97 as a virgin news editor.

Having had done with the newsies, the board turned it's thumb screws on the two ladies of the evening: "Mother" Teresa Lee and Jen "I'm Too Nice" Peltz were named to the night watch, and ordered to open fire on any strag-

gling news writers.

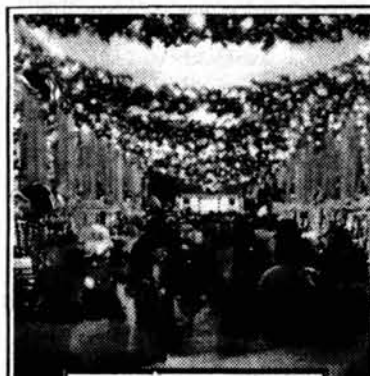
But the board had gotten bored, and decided to take a break from words and move to pictures. The members ordered Craig "Fabio" Chang '96 to take charge of all things artsy, whereas Adrienne "Ha Ha! I'm On Nitrous" Chapman '98 and Indranath "Black Box" Neogy '98 were told to take pretty pictures. In addition, the board abruptly told Jen "Table-Dancer" Lane '98 to "contribute," along with Moy and Thomas "In Absentia" Karlo '96.

Finally, Pamela "Fire In The Belly" Shade '98 was sent to manage the operating table, and Angela "Glamour" Liao '98 reassigned to Christine's Cavern of Carnal

Delight.

As dawn broke, Dan "Buttmaster" Stevenson had hardly opened his mouth to speak when the board acclaimed him resnet coordinator and technology director. The members paid Stevenson no heed as they tramped out the door, heading for the Royal East.

Once there, the surviving board members sat down to a fine, succulent meal. "You guys just like dressing up and getting wasted," Stevenson said, as he put his red lips to a glass of Vouvray, which he had inadvertently mixed with a nasty Sauvignon Blanc. Still strapped to my chair in the corner, my pipe burning low, I could hardly dissent.



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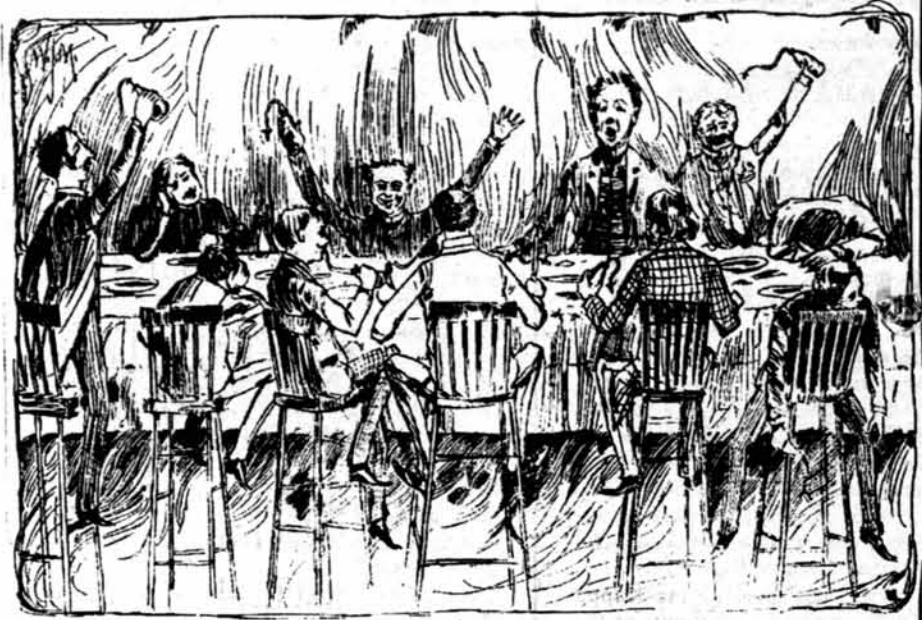
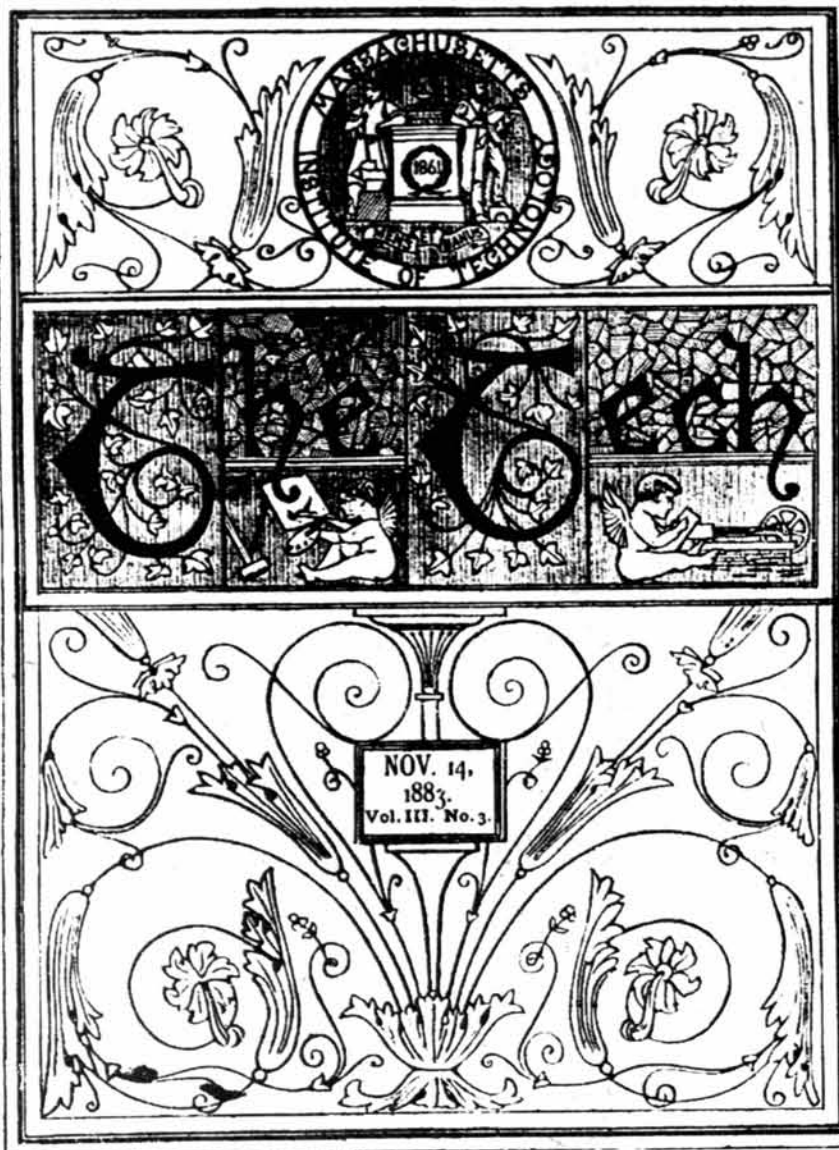
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Chanukah begins Sunday evening, December 17

Sponsored by M.I.T. Hillel, 253-2982



40

THE TECH.

Athletic Notes.

An effort is being made to form a Base-Ball Association in the Institute. Considerable interest has been displayed, and there is every prospect of our being represented by a first-class nine next year. About twenty-five men have already signified a willingness to practise during the winter.

A meeting of those interested in the formation of an association will be held Thursday, Nov. 15. If there is enough interest taken, it is proposed to hire some place in the city which shall afford opportunity for practice in batting and throwing. All men who are interested in base-ball are earnestly requested to come to the

The College World.

Howdoin is trying the experiment of self-government among the students. A jury has been made up composed of one representative from each class, one from each inter-collegiate society, and one from non-society students, and it is before this tribunal that all cases of discipline must be brought. The president of the college stands in the relation of a judge to this jury, and the penalties are to be awarded by him. Though in the higher colleges this method of administration may do very well, yet in colleges where a majority of the lower classes consists of "men" under twenty years of age, whose immature judgment cannot be relied upon, the

MANY THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE 1881...

The Tech has been providing news, opinion, arts, and sports to the MIT community since 1881. A lot has changed since then — we now have photographs, not sketches; we use state-of-the-art publishing equipment; we print twice a week and have several different sections, including a World-Wide Web edition; and nobody dropped pepper on the floor during the freshman dance.

THE action of certain men who dropped pepper upon the floor of the gymnasium during the Freshman dance was as contemptible as it was ungentlemanly, doubly so by being perpetrated in the presence of so many ladies. The affair is particularly unfortunate, inasmuch as it lays open to suspicion a number of men who, however zealously they may support the decision of the recent mass-meeting, would be incapable of so small an act.

BUT ONE THING HASN'T.

One thing hasn't changed — *The Tech* is still looking for aspiring writers, reporters, photographers, columnists, reviewers, and designers. And just like it was 115 years ago, no experience is necessary.

So stop by our offices in Room 483 of the Student Center every Sunday at 6 p.m. for pizza, and become a part of the next 115 years of *The Tech*.

The Tech
Established 1881

Students Spread Seasonal Goodwill

Service, from Page 1

In the same vein, Sigma Phi Epsilon held the Greater Boston Big Brother/Little Brother Association Annual Christmas Party. About 100 children played games like scavenger hunts and received gifts donated by the brothers.

The sisters of Sigma Kappa baked cookies for patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

A number of ILGs — including Phi Beta Epsilon, Kappa Alpha Theta, Sigma Kappa, and the Women's Independent Living Group — are involved with community service at the Margaret Fuller House, where volunteers tutor, entertain, and care for children. Last Friday, PBE, Kappa Alpha Theta, and WILG gathered to give the children of the House a campus tour of MIT.

Next Saturday, Kappa Alpha Psi will hold a Christmas party and provide gifts through the Sponsor-A-Child Program for the children of St. Joseph's Elementary School. The brothers of Delta Epsilon helped with the Santa Claus Anonymous Snowball Event that raised funds for inner-city youth organizations.

ILGs including AP, Alpha Tau Omega and DTD are involved with the Greater Boston Food Bank in providing food for more than 900 food banks and shelters. Many other ILGs are participating in several clothing, food, and toy drives this winter. Non-student groups, such as the Campus Police and the Aramark Food Services have joined in a food drive to serve the community.

Many students have found their participation in community service activities to be rewarding. "Our tests and problem sets seem very petty when you walk by a homeless person," says Kenneth J. Michlitsch '98, the community service chairman of ZP. "Getting involved at least lets us feel as if we're trying to make a difference... especially at Christmas."

Public Service Center Director Emily B. Sandberg agrees. "Through service activities, students have made an immeasurable impact in the community. I'd like to urge more students to use the PSC as a vehicle in making that difference," she said. "The hardest part is finding the time, but students really do care."

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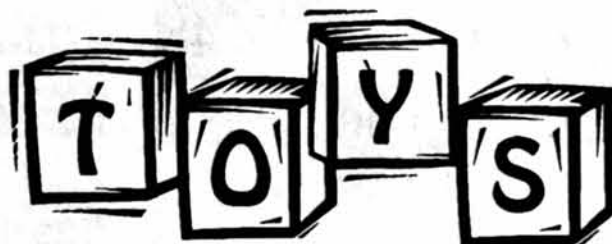
*Dean of Students at MIT, 1947-1950.

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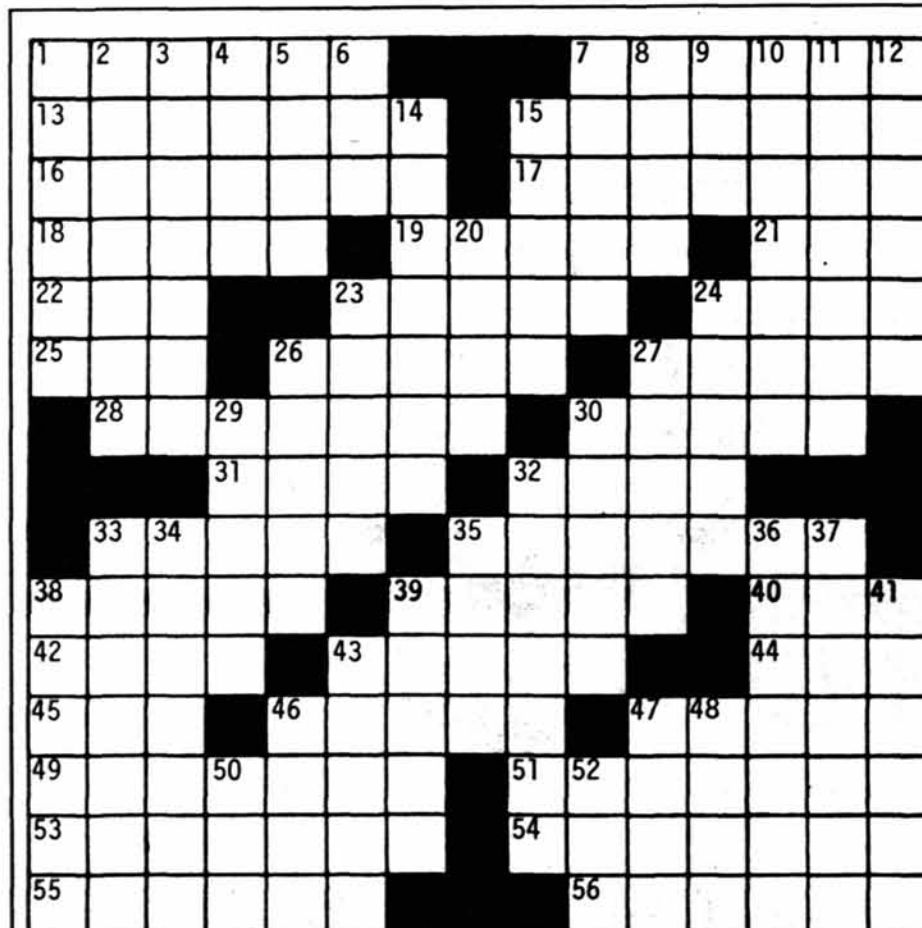
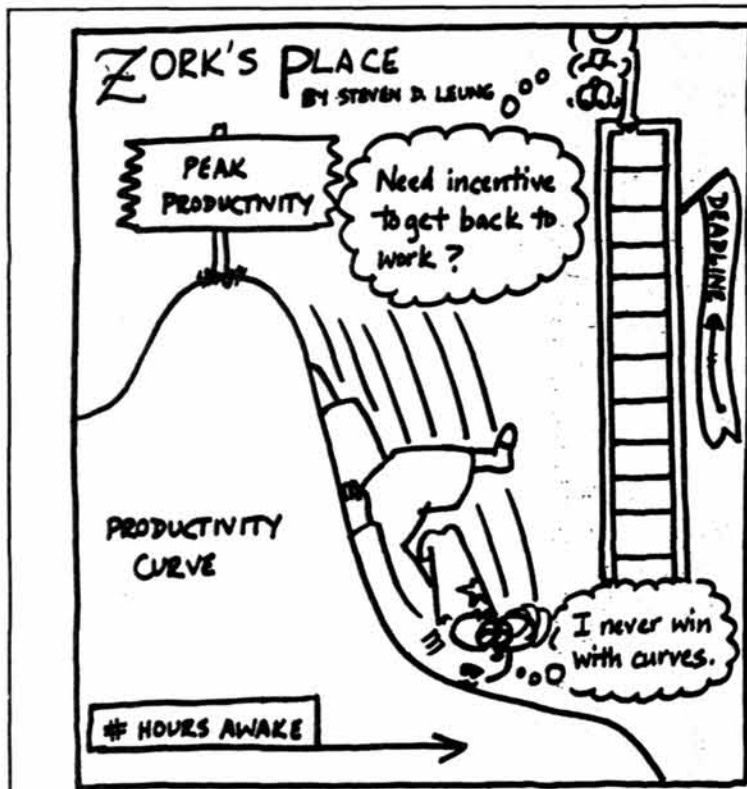
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ACROSS

- 1 Roller-coaster ride sound
- 7 Fundamentals
- 13 Feeling of failure
- 15 Pickering or Hogan
- 16 Resort or car
- 17 Straighten again
- 18 Wrong
- 19 — in one's side
- 21 Lao—
- 22 State —
- 23 Well-known club
- 24 Public disturbance
- 25 Before
- 26 "Stompin' at the —"
- 27 Bartletts
- 28 Was ambitious
- 30 Gives out cards
- 31 Breakfast dish
- 32 Henry, John, or Glenn
- 33 Treeless plain
- 35 Revives (2 wds.)
- 38 Roger or Dudley
- 39 Openings
- 40 World War II agency
- 42 "It's —!"
- 43 Stuck in mud
- 44 Tease
- 45 Part of NNP
- 46 Wrestling holds
- 47 Pertaining to birth
- 49 Hydrogen, for one
- 51 Testimonial
- 53 Vehement speeches
- 54 Obtains
- 55 Proceed in a gliding manner
- 56 Hate

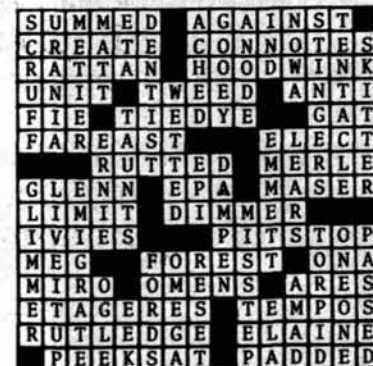
DOWN

- 1 Predicament or fight
- 2 Imaginary monster
- 3 Gorges
- 4 Sponsorship (var.)
- 5 Greek Mars
- 6 "Bei — Bist Du Schoen"
- 7 Dutch Africans
- 8 Astronaut Shepard
- 9 Spanish for sun
- 10 First
- 11 Bleeps
- 12 Rains frozen raindrops
- 14 Original inhabitants
- 15 Chum
- 20 Juvenile delinquent
- 23 "Key —"
- 24 Studies
- 26 Actress — Hasso
- 27 Fathers, in France
- 29 Arctic explorer
- 30 Like St. Peter's
- 32 Wooded areas
- 33 Flowering plant
- 34 Pillagers
- 35 Irish city
- 36 Severe pain
- 37 Pain relievers
- 38 Valuable French paintings
- 39 Ancient Britishers
- 41 Most competent
- 43 Bank inventory
- 46 Mother of Clytemnestra
- 47 French resort
- 48 Touch on
- 50 —-jogg
- 52 Buttons or Barber

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FOR THIS ISSUE



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



Firewall Goaltending Helps Hockey to Win

Hockey, from Page 24

the backhander, Tetsu turned himself almost completely around so he could hammer home the big forehand slapshot.

Inada, who has always been known for his quickness and puck-handling, has clearly matured in the last two-and-a-half years. His leadership has obviously brought out the best not only in himself but in his fellow linemates as well.

Of course, the once-again brilliant goaltending of John Zehren '99 also made the victory easy. There hasn't been a team yet that

has managed to take the wrecking ball to the brick wall that Zehren has put up in front of the Engineer net.

With the Engineers still undefeated at the season's halfway point, the possibility of going all the way does not seem as outrageous as one might have thought six weeks ago. Everyone knew that this year's team has the most talent varsity's had in years, but no one expected them to totally dominate every single team that they've played. Let's hope the Engineers can keep up the good work throughout the second half of the season.



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Tickets are offered for the following BSO performances only, *subject to availability*:

- Tuesday evenings at 8pm
- Friday afternoons at 1:30pm
- Wednesday evening Open Rehearsals at 7:30pm
- Thursday morning Open Rehearsals at 10:30am

Tickets are available on the day of the concert only, at the BSO box office window. A total of two tickets may be obtained with two current, valid MIT student IDs (your own plus a friend's)

A schedule of BSO concerts for the year may be obtained at the MIT Office of the Arts (E15-205), by calling the BSO at 617/266-1492, or by calling the BSO concert line at 617/266-2378

For current ticket availability, call the student information line on the day of the concert after 10am at 617/638-9478.

Please note that student tickets will not be offered if there are fewer than 100 tickets available on the morning of the performance.

For general information about the BSO, such as handicap accessibility, directions, and box office hours, please call 617/266-1492

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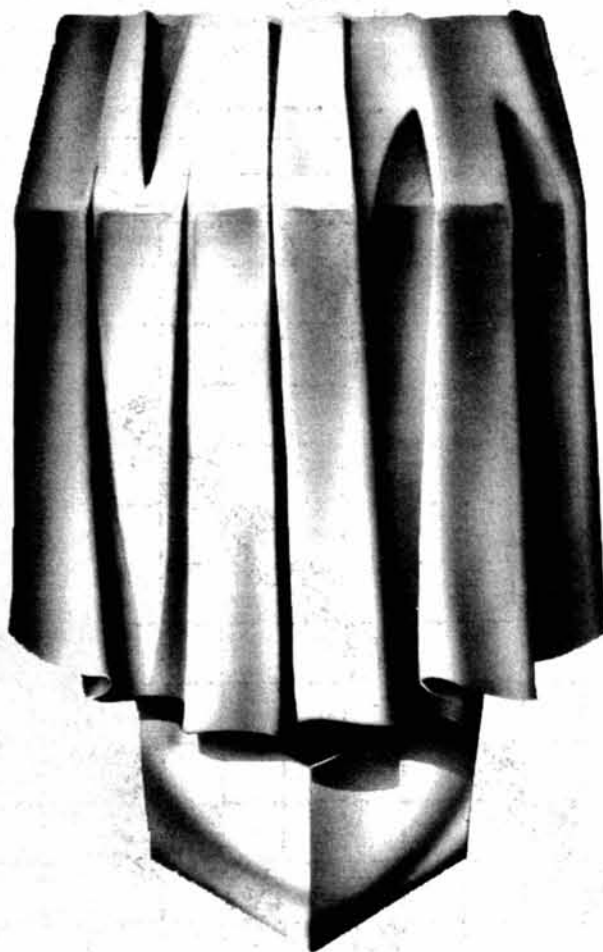
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1998 Brass Rat "It's a Classic"

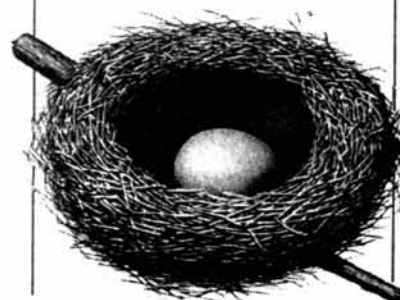
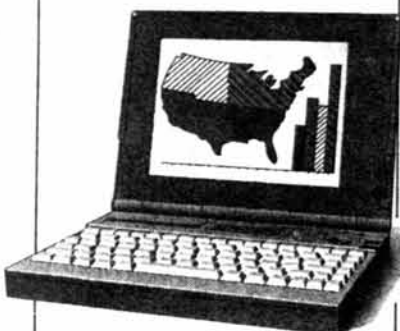


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SPORTS

Undefeated Hockey Slams Johnson and Wales with 9-1 Win

By Jason Weintraub
STAFF REPORTER

The MIT Varsity hockey team chalked up its eighth win of the season with a 9-1 drubbing of Johnson and Wales College Saturday afternoon.

At the start of the game, the team from Johnson and Wales seemed to be just a shade faster and a touch more aggressive than some of the teams MIT has faced off against so far this year. They were clearly not intimidated by MIT's undefeated record.

However, MIT still cashed in on its first scoring chance, with a goal coming from the stick of defenseman Stephen J. Schlueter '96 in the opening minute of play. After that, things settled down until about ten minutes later, when the Engineers would go on the power play.

Once again MIT was quick to capitalize. From the corner, Tetsu Inada '97 would find freshman John J. Rae '99 to the left of the net, who

in turn would find Matthew G. Yurkewych '98 on the opposite side. Matt would put the puck in the open side to give the Engineers a 2-0 lead. With one more added by Captain Jon Shingles and another by Schlueter, MIT took a 4-0 lead to the locker room at the close of the first period.

In the second period, with Johnson and Wales demoralized, the Engineers decided to run up the score a little. Rae and Yurkewych, who have found each other on more than one occasion this year, worked a pretty two-on-one up the ice and into the goal. Inada, a perennial crowd favorite, went on to put in the game's final four goals himself, showing that he's still got a big game or two left in him, as well.

The hat trick was completed when Inada found himself alone with the puck about twenty feet in front of the net. Instead of fluffing

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Despite Effort, Track Falls to Alumni Team

By Todd N. Chamoy
TEAM MEMBER

Last Saturday, the varsity indoor track team took part in the annual Alumni Meet. Although the team competed well, the meet was anything but close, as the alumni ran away with the victory, 73-49.

MIT showed great depth but couldn't overcome a star-studded alumni team. Led by William E. Singhose G, the alumni won the first

12 events of a 14 event competition. Singhose showed what made him a champion decathlete by winning five events, placing second in two others, and taking two third-place finishes as well.

Another strong contributor for the alumni came was John-Paul B. Clarke G, an All-American weight thrower who won both the 35-lb. weight throw and the shot put. Andy Ugarov G, the third highest point scorer in MIT track and field history, cleared 6' 6" to win the high jump and also placed second in the triple jump and third in the long jump.

The alumni had two other athletes win two events each. Ethan A. Crain '95, the 1994 national champion in the 1500m outdoors, won both the 1500m and the 1000m. Malik King won the 55m dash and the 200m. Alumni Terrance J. McNatt '87 ran hard in the 5000m, but couldn't keep up with Arnold H. Seto '96, who won one of two events for the varsity team.

Even against such strong alumni competition, the varsity had several strong performances and showed great depth. MIT had six New England Division III qualifiers to go with four from the previous year against the Naval Academy Prep School last Wednesday. Seto qualified with his victory in the 5000m, as did Joshua D. Feldman '97. MIT had three qualifiers in the pole vault; Paul D. Ogagan '97 qualified this past Saturday to join Jason Melvin '97 and Andrew Jamieson '99.

Other qualifiers at the alumni meet were Daniel S. Helgesen '97 in both the 1500m and the 100m, and Ravi V. Sastry '98 in the long jump. Last Wednesday, Jared K. Miller '99 also qualified in the long jump, and Morio Alexander '96 qualified in the triple jump.

Such performances give MIT hope for the rest of the season, when they compete against teams that don't have as quite many all-Americans and national champions as the alumni team. Coach Halston W. Taylor seemed satisfied with the performance of the team, although in the future he hopes for more team unity and support. The team has good potential, and that the team will be competitive once again.

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