

## Aramark Manager McBurney to Leave

By Yaron Koren  
STAFF REPORTER

In a move that has been hailed by students and administrators alike, Aramark General Manager Robert McBurney announced last week that he will be leaving his post at MIT to become human resources director for Aramark's Eastern region.

McBurney will officially resign and accept the promotion "probably before the end of May," according to Lawrence E. Maguire, director of the Office of Housing and Food Services. Assistant General Manager Elizabeth Emery will step up to replace McBurney as soon as a new assistant general manager is found, he said.

Associate Director of Food Services John T. McNeill called the move "good for MIT and good for Aramark."

"From my point of view, [McBurney] was a numbers-orient-

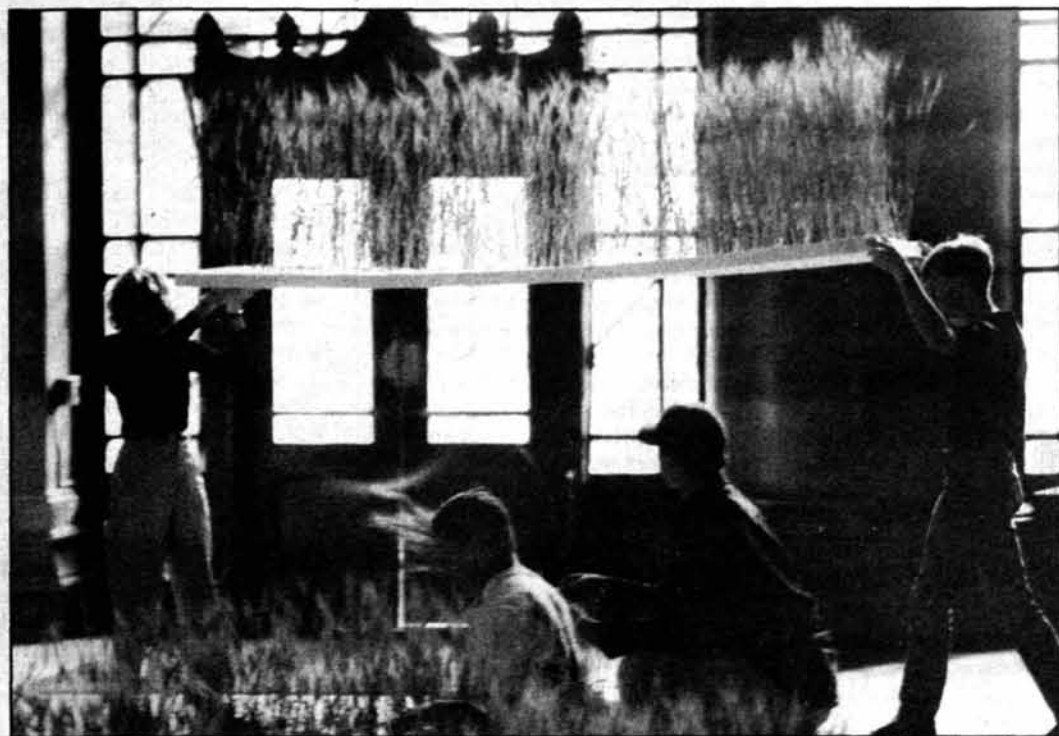
ed person, and did that job, but Aramark saw that MIT now needed a customer services-oriented person to produce the best food services for MIT," Maguire said.

Most students expressed similar, if harsher, views. "I found McBurney to be abrasive and too set in conventional monopoly food service practices to be able to address MIT's food service market," said John S. Hollywood '96, a member of the Committee on Student Affairs.

Baker Dining Committee Chair Albert L. Hsu '96 said McBurney lacked a personal connection. "He doesn't listen to students. He wasn't there to improve food services. He's been an obstacle," Hsu said.

McBurney angered a number of students and administrators last year with his decision to fire "Fast"

McBurney, Page 11



Students help ready an 60,000-stalk-strong wheat field Sunday night in Lobby 7. The agrarian art project was on display for curious passers-by yesterday. See article and photos, page 10.

## Students, Administrators Meet To Discuss CEG's Shaky Future

By Timothy K Layman  
STAFF REPORTER

In response to concerns about recent problems with the *Course Evaluation Guide*, several administrators and faculty met with CEG staff members last Friday to discuss the future of the guide.

There are no plans to produce a Spring 1997 edition of the CEG in any form, said Editor in Chief

Heather M. Norton '96. The staff is still busy finishing the Fall 1996 guide for next semester, so there are no plans to collect and process evaluation forms this term for a Spring 1997 guide, she said.

The Fall 1996 CEG should be online in a week, Norton said. Hard copies will be available later, but there will only be enough for departments and living groups, she said.

In the meeting, the parties discussed a number of different options aimed at getting the guide back on track, Norton said.

The groups will "meet over the summer to re-engineer the guide so it doesn't overburden students who are putting it out," Norton said.

### Loss of CEG would hurt faculty

A number of faculty members have expressed their concern that the CEG is not coming out next spring, said Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs Margaret S. Enders, who called the meeting.

The CEG is "one, but not the only, source of data" for evaluating the quality of teaching, said John B. Vander Sande, associate dean of engineering and professor of materials science and engineering. "The CEG is important to us in the School of Engineering."

Departments have come to expect a lot out of the guide, Enders

CEG, Page 11

## Fraternities Vote to Change Rush Rules

By Orli G. Bahcall  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Interfraternity Council voted last week to tighten restrictions on alcohol use during rush and lay down new regulations for Thursday Night Dinners.

Fraternities must comply with current dry rush rules, but the new requirements advance the partial restriction so that no fraternity can serve alcohol to non-fraternity members at any rush function or event.

The rules were adopted with the intent that rushing freshmen should focus on other aspects of the house, said IFC Rush Chair Joseph M. Lee '97. "The decision will emphasize to freshmen the importance the IFC places on residence choices," he said.

While alcohol is an important part of the social program at some houses, "we feel that it is more important that you are able to make the best decision you can when deciding where to live," Lee said.

An earlier, more stringent proposal that called for the flat-out prohibition of all drink did not pass at an IFC rush meeting two weeks ago.

The major concern with the previous proposal was that keeping people of legal drinking age from drinking did not serve the main goal of "minimizing freshmen's exposure to alcohol," Lee said.

Dry rush will be enforced by IFC's judicial committee. Violations will be referred to the Judcomm chair. There will be an automatic fine based on the severity of the violation, Lee said.

Dinners, Page 15

## MacGregor Debates Windows' Safety

By Shawdee Eshghi  
STAFF REPORTER

Window restraints in the lounges of the upper 12 student floors of MacGregor House will be reinforced this summer in order to make the windows safer for residents, according to Dean for Residence and Campus Activities Margaret A. Jablonski.

Latches that limit the windows' opening were installed in response to the suicide of Younes Borki '92 in 1990, one of three students who have jumped to their deaths from MacGregor's tower in the past several years. Since then many restraints have been removed or damaged.

This summer's repairs are prompted by the death of Melissa N. Ronge '98 just over two months ago, Jablonski said. The restraint had been removed from the 14th floor window from which Ronge jumped.

The idea for repairs was initiated by Macgregor Assistant House Master John Wilson, who voiced concern to RCA regarding possible

alterations on the windows, including replacing them altogether.

A group consisting of Jablonski, Assistant Manager in the Housing Office John J. Ahern, Macgregor House Manager Robert T. Ramsay, House President Suma Dutta '97, and House Secretary Elaine H. Wong '97 was formed to discuss the matter and explore different options.

"We wanted to get a lot of perspectives on the issue and bring different people together to try and preserve ventilation [to the tower rooms] while maintaining safety," Wilson said.

### Different changes explored

The group talked over a variety of options at its first meeting on April 17. Possibilities discussed included putting up bars and screens or completely replacing the single-paned windows with double-paned or triple-paned windows to restrict access.

Dutta and Wong later presented those ideas to a meeting of the Mac-

Gregor House Committee. All entries in the dorm have representation at House Committee meetings.

The possibility of a drastic change was ruled out by the students immediately, Jablonski said.

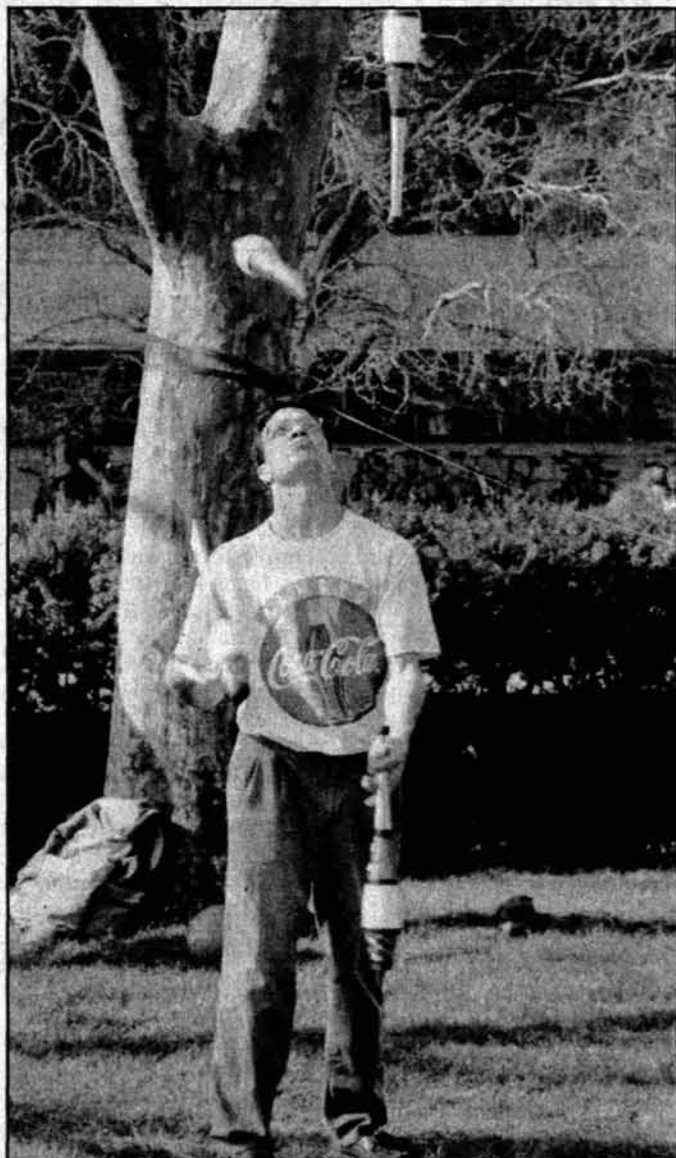
Windows, Page 11

## INSIDE

■ Though common and dangerous, RSI is an avoidable injury. *Page 8*

■ Toons deliver impressive concert. *Page 6*

■ BTG's *Home* soars on strength of words. *Page 6*



A juggler takes advantage of the beautiful spring weather to practice tossing clubs.

# WORLD & NATION

## Israel Denies Targeting U.N. Camp

NEWSDAY

UNITED NATIONS

Israel's artillery chief denied Monday that his troops deliberately targeted a U.N. peacekeeping camp before shelling it and killing 102 Lebanese civilians. But U.N. officials insist that an amateur videotape taken by a peacekeeper near the camp contradicts him because it allegedly shows an Israeli surveillance plane surveying the camp prior to the shelling.

Brig. Gen. Dan Harel, the Israeli Defense Forces head of artillery, was sent here Monday to answer questions from U.N. peacekeeping officials who are investigating the April 18 shelling of the camp, which was staffed by Fiji peacekeepers near Qana in the hills of southern Lebanon. Their preliminary findings are that Israel knew it was targeting the U.N. camp — and that Hizbollah fighters had fled into the camp after firing rockets into Israel moments before, according to U.N. sources.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's military adviser, Dutch Maj. Gen. Frank van Kappen, is conducting the investigation. Israel asked last week for time to address the question of intent before he releases his report, which U.N. sources said would be finished Monday night and given to Boutros-Ghali, who is expected to brief the Security Council Tuesday.

Harel insisted to reporters that the camp was shelled by accident and that Israel did not target the Hezbollah fighters who had fled into it. He said the surveillance plane — a pilotless drone — did not fly over the area until after the shelling, and then only to investigate U.N. claims that the camp was under fire.

But Timor Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. peacekeeping force in Lebanon, said Monday that the videotape, shot by a U.N. peacekeeper with his personal camera, proved Israel knew what it was doing.

## Study Finds That Progesterone Might Increase Risk of AIDS

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

Researchers in New York City have found that giving progesterone to female monkeys as a contraceptive dramatically increases their risk of getting AIDS, opening the possibility that women given the same synthetic hormone for birth control could face the same increased risk.

That's important, experts say, since birth-control methods that use progesterone — such as depo-provera and Norplant — are growing in popularity worldwide because they can be administered as time-release implants or injections to allow a woman freedom from pregnancy for months on end.

And because the technology is relatively cheap, hormone implants have quickly become the contraceptive of choice for family-planning groups working with U.S. adolescents and women in developing countries with male-dominated cultures. It is these groups, experts said, who are most likely not to use condoms as a protection against AIDS, if they already feel they are protected against pregnancy.

In a telephone interview from Geneva, Dr. Peter Piot, head of AIDS efforts at the United Nations, said the data suggests that people involved in birth-control efforts "have to be extremely alert and vigilant" in following through on the research. "We've got to be as open and honest about the data as possible."

## Former CIA Chief's Body Found

THE BALTIMORE SUN

ROCK POINT, MD.

The body of former CIA director William Colby washed up near a southern Maryland beach Monday, eight days after he disappeared while canoeing in the murky waters near his summer home.

Police said they found no signs of foul play, and believe the 76-year-old Colby drowned after falling into the mouth of Neale Sound during a solitary outing at the southern tip of Charles County.

"This is being investigated as a fatal boating accident," said Lieutenant Mark Sanders with the state Natural Resources Police. "The reason he was found this morning is quite simply that nature took its course and his body floated up."

The medical examiner's office in Baltimore is expected to release the results of an autopsy as early as Tuesday.

## WEATHER

### May to December

By Gerard Roe  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

An intrusion of cold air left us nearly 20 degrees shy yesterday of our normal high at this time of year. The clouds have pushed out to sea as a big high pressure system slides in from the northwest generating subsiding air and clear skies. The drier air means a cold start to the day, but the sun will take hold and with a shift of the winds to the south, the temperature will push back up to the more respectable figures of the mid-60s. High clouds should spread over the area toward the evening. Wednesday looks a little less pleasant with scattered showers in the morning. Some brief clearing is possible in the middle of the day but with a low pressure system following in from the Midwest, it is likely to be at least late Thursday before the rain threat diminishes much.

**Today:** A brisk start, but becoming warmer. Sunny but high clouds building up. A south wind of about 10 mph (16 kph). High in the late afternoon of 63°F (17°C).

**Tonight:** Clouds with a shower possible late. Low 47°F (8°C).

**Wednesday:** Cloudy start with scattered showers. Rain likely towards night. High 62°F (16°C). Low 47°F (8°C).

**Thursday:** Cloudy with chance of rain. High around 65°F (18°C). Low around 45°F (7°C).

# Yeltsin Says Presidential Vote Will Be Held in June

By Richard Boudreaux

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

President Boris N. Yeltsin chided his top security aide for urging postponement of Russia's June 16 presidential election and promised yesterday the vote will be held on schedule.

"I trust in the wisdom of Russian voters," Yeltsin told the Interfax news agency. "That is why elections will be held in the time determined by the constitution."

Politicians across the spectrum welcomed Yeltsin's pledge and scorned the advice of his security chief, Lt. Gen. Alexander V. Korzhakov, who predicted in two interviews Sunday that the election will push Russia toward violent conflict. But they warned that the threat to a fair election is not over.

Russia has held one democratic election in its history, when voters in 1991 elected Yeltsin, a Communist maverick-turned-reformer, in the dying months of the Soviet Union. Now the unpopular incumbent is fighting an uphill battle for re-election against the resurgent Communist Party.

Noting that the electorate is deeply polarized, Yeltsin said yesterday that "several people" agree with Korzhakov's view that a victory by Communist leader Gennady A. Zyuganov "would be the beginning of a civil war."

But he said he ordered his powerful aide "not to meddle in politics and not to make such statements anymore."

Despite the retort, many Kremlin watchers believe that Yeltsin must have cleared the remarks by one of his closest confidants, perhaps to test public reaction. Some speculat-

ed he wants to sow fear of unrest in the hope of persuading one or more of his rivals to drop out of the race and support him.

"I don't think it is profitable for Yeltsin to postpone the election, but his staff is preparing various scenarios," said Nikolai Petrov, a Russian political scientist at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "For example, some of them are saying it would be easier to falsify the results than to call off the vote."

*"His staff is preparing various scenarios. For example, some of them are saying it would be easier to falsify the results than to call off the vote."*

— Nikolai Petrov

Other analysts said the presidential staff is split between those who believe Yeltsin can win a fair election and pessimists who agree with Korzhakov that Yeltsin needs to cut a deal with the Communists or put off the vote in order to stay in power.

A leading member of the optimist camp, Sergei A. Filatov, said yesterday that speculation about deals and delays is demoralizing Yeltsin's campaign workers at a time when their candidate is catching the Communist front-runner in most voter surveys.

"When there are positive dynamics, when [Yeltsin's] ratings are growing, such statements are harmful," Filatov said, commenting on Korzhakov's remarks. "It is wrong to slacken the pace of the electoral campaign. Our team is deployed and in a combative mood."

Yeltsin's violent dissolution of a hostile parliament in 1993 and the intensity of his anti-Communist message this year have fed doubts about his willingness to accept defeat. He harped on the campaign theme in the interview, saying: "Those who dream of the past, if they happen to grab power, will be prevented by nothing from establishing their own rules."

Retired army Gen. Alexander I. Lebed, a leading candidate among 10 others in the race, said he is still uncertain the election will take place, despite Yeltsin's assurances.

Zyuganov, meeting in Germany with political and business leaders, said he welcomed Yeltsin's statement but called for a meeting of all parties in the race to "sign an agreement that the outcome of the election as expressed by voters will be sacred."

Meanwhile, in a flashback to the Soviet era and the Cold War, Russia's Federal Security Service said Monday that an unspecified number of British diplomats were being expelled for spying after a Russian citizen now under arrest here admitted working for British intelligence.

British Ambassador Andrew Wood was summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Moscow to hear a "stern protest" over what Russia believes is the use of his embassy as a cover for "illegal spying activities," a spokesman for the security agency told Interfax.

# Report Claims Guatemalan Army Did Not Kill American

By Art Pine

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration said yesterday that it believes senior Guatemalan army officers ordered the detention and interrogation of American innkeeper Michael DeVine in Guatemala in 1990 but were not involved in his killing, despite allegations to the contrary.

Secret State Department documents declassified yesterday also suggest that Guatemalan Col. Julio Roberto Alpirez, who has been widely cited as possible instigator of the slaying, was not in on the decision to kill DeVine but was instrumental in covering it up later.

The administration's conclusions were the latest twist in a 14-month investigation of the death. The killing spawned a scandal that damaged U.S. relations with Guatemala, embarrassed the CIA and prompted President Clinton to order an investigation.

The documents relating to the slayings of DeVine and 17 other U.S. citizens in Guatemala since 1984 were made public by the State Department under the Freedom of Information Act and after pressure from the families of DeVine and other victims.

The disclosures came as an American nun who has said that she was tortured and gang-raped in a clandestine prison in Guatemala, on yesterday released composite sketches of four men she charges were involved and filed suit against the U.S. government for full disclosure in the case.

The nun, Dianna Ortiz, said she

was dissatisfied with the scope of documents given to her voluntarily by the State Department. She said they did not disclose the identity of her alleged assailants.

Ortiz, who had been teaching Mayan children to read, said she was abducted at gunpoint in November 1989 and taken to a prison in Guatemala City. There she alleges she was repeatedly raped, burned with cigarettes and lowered into a pit containing human remains and rats.

Michele Arington, one of Ortiz's lawyers, said she was filing suit against the Central Intelligence Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the State Department and the departments of State and Defense to obtain more documents about the case.

Ortiz has charged that an American citizen who may have been involved with the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala was present when she was raped.

State Department documents made public yesterday said U.S. Embassy officials in Guatemala considered her account to be a hoax but investigated it anyway for fear that ignoring it would lead to adverse publicity.

However, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters yesterday that, while the department has no evidence "that would corroborate" her allegation, "we have no reason not to believe her." He said that her charges are being investigated.

The president's Intelligence Oversight Board, which is conducting the inquiry ordered by the White

House, still has not made its final report. It is expected to determine whether American officials mishandled the U.S. effort to investigate DeVine's killing.

Devine, a U.S. citizen, was abducted near the entrance to his farm in a remote village in Guatemala in June 1990 by a group of Guatemalan soldiers dressed in civilian clothes. After he was questioned and beaten, his head was severed with a machete.

The incident took on new importance after it was disclosed that the soldiers who allegedly killed DeVine had been members of an elite unit that once had received training and equipment from the CIA for the Guatemalan government's war against guerrillas.

The document on the DeVine killing, dated March 1995, said U.S. officials believe that "senior officials of the Guatemalan army ordered the detention and interrogation of DeVine" in connection with a stealing incident.

It said that despite months of investigation, both by the U.S. government and by investigators working for DeVine's family, the United States has "no evidence" that the army officers either ordered him killed or knew in advance that he would be killed.

But it added that it still is not clear whether the execution order, apparently issued by an army captain, "was an impromptu decision" or "directed from above." And it said that it was "virtually certain" that Alpirez and two other colonels were involved in the cover-up.

# China Will Let American View Conditions at Prison Facility

By Steven Mufson  
WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

China, which long has rebuffed inquiries into its human rights policies, allowed a U.S. Customs Service official to inspect a prison facility last month and said it would consider an appeal by an American businessman for China to release more information about political prisoners.

Chinese officials last week told business consultant John Kamm that they had allowed a U.S. Customs agent to visit a prison facility in Shanghai on April 21. A U.S. official yesterday confirmed that a Beijing-based U.S. Customs official made the inspection.

The inspection should be routine under procedures to which China agreed as part of a memorandum of understanding on prison labor with the United States, but the last visit took place approximately a year ago.

China failed to live up to the accord after relations with the United States deteriorated last year. In a telephone interview, Kamm said that Ministry of Justice officials told him they would not schedule another prison check until they saw the report from this one, which is due within 60 days of the visit.

The Ministry of Justice also accepted from Kamm a list of prisoners about whom he is seeking information. For years, Kamm has waged a personal campaign to prod the Chinese government into improving its human rights practices. He said officials advised him to "wait for the dust to settle" on certain controversial issues. A former Occidental Petroleum Corp. executive, the San Francisco-based Kamm runs a consulting firm for companies investing in China.

Although China has agreed to discuss human rights with the United States, it adamantly has refused to meet with the State Department officials in charge of rights issues since bilateral relations worsened in a dispute over the status of Taiwan. China views Taiwan as a renegade province, though it long has been self-governing and held its first fully democratic presidential election in March.

"It's quite clear that it's a partial resumption of the human rights dialogue. They have moved a little bit," said Kamm, who met with officials from China's Supreme Court, Foreign Ministry, Justice Ministry and several influential government-sponsored think tanks.

But any movement was little, indeed. Chinese officials also said the government would not resume a human rights dialogue with the State Department's Bureau of Human Rights until the State Department dropped efforts to get resolutions passed by the United Nations Human Rights Commission condemning China's rights record.

Any gesture toward a more compliant human rights stance would be timely for China, because the U.S. Congress is preparing its annual debate on whether to strip China of its most-favored-nation trading status with the United States.

Commissioner David A. Kessler. The statements about nicotine measuring were potentially damaging to the company, since the Clinton administration is basing much of its attempt to regulate tobacco products on the FDA's assertion that the industry manipulates nicotine levels in its products.

In Rivers's original declaration, obtained by FDA investigators and made public during the comment period on the agency's proposal for regulating tobacco products, the former Philip Morris employee stated that in creating the tobacco filler product known as reconstituted tobacco, "we frequently monitored the alkaloid content" of the various components of cigarettes.

"Alkaloid is another name for nicotine," Rivers went on to say, and added that if the nicotine content was "out of spec," it would be adjusted.

In a deposition taken April 30 in Mississippi, however, attorneys for the industry pressed Rivers about the alkaloid issue and about whether he had any first-hand knowledge of "specs" for nicotine. "In fact, you don't know whether there is a spec, isn't that right?" asked a Philip Morris lawyer.

"I have never seen one," Rivers said.

## Families of Victims in Pan Am Bombing File Suit Against Libya

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Relatives of the victims of the Pan Am 103 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, have begun taking advantage of a change in federal law that allows them to sue Libya for its alleged role in the December, 1988 terrorist attack that killed 270 people, including 189 Americans.

In Washington, lawyers for M. Victoria Cummock of Coral Gables, Fla., whose husband, John, was killed in the attack, filed a class action lawsuit last Friday against Libya, the two alleged bombers, Libyan Arab Airlines and the Libyan External Security Organization. Last week, lawyers for relatives of 91 of the bombing's victims filed a civil case in Brooklyn's federal court.

The lawsuits were filed after President Clinton signed the Anti-Terrorism Bill, which contained provisions that allow victims of terrorist acts abroad to sue foreign countries in American courts. In the class action suit filed in Washington, Cummock's lawyers are asking for \$1 billion in punitive damages for the attack.

Previously, the federal Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act doomed such lawsuits. But even with the major change, the victims' relatives face a tough fight. The Anti-Terrorism Bill allows the attorney general to avoid turning over information about the bombing while U.S. authorities are pursuing a criminal case against two Libyan intelligence agents who have been charged in the case but who remain in Libya. The Justice Department could argue that airing evidence in the civil cases could jeopardize the criminal case if it ever came to trial. If the attorney general takes that stand, the civil cases could come to a virtual standstill.

## Japan, U.S. to Form Research Partnership to Study Earthquakes

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Japanese and American science officials have agreed on a new earthquake research partnership between the two countries, significantly expanding two 20-year-old science pacts.

One of the earliest projects of the Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Partnership will be a Japanese-financed but jointly designed shake table in Japan that will be the world's largest to date.

Costing at least \$600 million and able to shake a prototype five-story building, the 75-by-25-foot shake table will be finished shortly after the year 2000, a White House science official said.

The largest shake table in the United States is only about 20 feet square and is capable of testing only small models, which can behave differently in an earthquake than actual structures.

Stephen Mahin, a structural engineering professor at the University of California, Berkeley, who is a leading quake-motion expert, said Monday that after the Japanese build the shake table, the United States will spend millions of dollars to build some of the structures to be tested.

The partnership was developed at a two-day conference at Stanford University in March and approved at a Washington, D.C., meeting Thursday of the Japanese minister for science and technology, Hidenao Nakagawa, White House science adviser John H. Gibbons and other administration officials.

# Tobacco Company Tries to Show Employee's Charges Unfounded

By John Schwartz  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Attorneys for tobacco giant Philip Morris yesterday released a deposition by a former employee in which they said he recants potentially damaging charges against his former employer: that the company routinely measures and adjusts nicotine levels along its production line.

"Mr. (Jerome) Rivers admitted that each of these statements in his sworn declaration (to the Food and Drug Administration) was not true," wrote attorney Peter T. Grossi Jr. of the Washington-based law firm Arnold & Porter in a letter to FDA

Commissioner David A. Kessler.

The statements about nicotine measuring were potentially damaging to the company, since the Clinton administration is basing much of its attempt to regulate tobacco products on the FDA's assertion that the industry manipulates nicotine levels in its products.

In Rivers's original declaration, obtained by FDA investigators and made public during the comment period on the agency's proposal for regulating tobacco products, the former Philip Morris employee stated that in creating the tobacco filler product known as reconstituted tobacco, "we frequently monitored

## Graduate Student Council

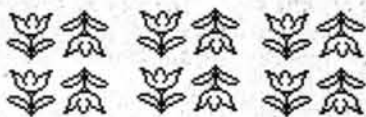
### Next meetings:

General - May 8  
APPC - May 9  
HCA - May 14

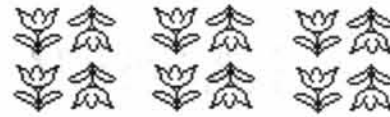
## The GSC is there for you!

If you are having problems, would like to see something done about it, or just want to improve life in general for grad students, come to the GSC meetings or stop by our office and we'll help!

The Graduate Student Council and Graduate Alumni Program present:



## Spring Swing



May 17, 1996  
6:30pm-12:30am  
Morss Hall (Walker)



\$25.00 - Dinner and Dancing



Tickets Available until May 10th  
11am-1pm in the student center  
1:30-3pm in the GSC office



All Graduate Students are invited to all our meetings. Meetings 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](mailto:gsc-request@mit)

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# OPINION

## Rush Changes Are Hypocritical

The Interfraternity Council and the Residence and Orientation Committee have made some important changes for the upcoming rush. These changes, which involve Thursday Night Dinners and alcohol policy, are a step in the right direction. Yet

they do not go far enough toward eliminating the hypocrisy of rush.

Last year, a mob of upperclassmen, primarily from fraternities,

sororities, and independent living groups, eagerly rushed to Briggs Field to invite freshmen to Thursday Night Dinners, interrupting Project Move Off Your Assumptions. Campus Police had to be called in to contain the crowd.

This year, the administration has been working to ensure a more controlled atmosphere. Despite the fact that Thursday Night Dinners is not a rush event, the administration gave veto power to any changes to the IFC. When the IFC balked at major change, only slight modifications to the dinners were made.

The Institute bills Thursday Night Dinners as a chance for freshmen to get out and dine on local cuisine while socializing with a few helpful upperclassmen. Few freshmen realize that the dinners are a rush event. The Institute doesn't tell freshmen that FSILGs use both the dinners and Project MOYA as major rush events.

The public discussion has revealed that both the administra-

tion and the IFC consider Thursday Night Dinners essential for rush. If that is so, it is hypocritical to advertise them otherwise. Freshmen should be told that rush begins Thursday night and that the events are not mandatory.

The second change in FSILG rush this year involves alcohol. While the administration had pressured the IFC to adopt a dry rush, the IFC rejected proposals that have limited consumption of alcohol to private rooms. In stead, the IFC limited consumption to members of the fraternity. This will probably end the practice of holding large parties where alcohol is served. "Dead week" events would not be changed. While the new rules are a step in the right direction, they represent only minimal change.

The IFC has long claimed to have a policy of "dry rush." In the past, this has meant little more than that the IFC would abide by state laws. Now fraternity rush will be arguably more dry than before, but that's not saying much.

Many incoming students find Residence and Orientation Week stressful, deceptive, and unpleasant. The hypocrisy of Thursday night rushing and "dry rush" contributes to the atmosphere of negativity that pervades the week. If the administration and the IFC want to improve the experience for incoming students, they could come clean on Thursday Night Dinners and alcohol.



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## Institutional Wisdom Watch

by The Tech editorial board



**R. McBurney:** Much-maligned MIT Aramark head promoted out of Cambridge. Fast Eddie's revenge?



**2.70:** The class lamely changes its name to 2.007. No wonder Harvard nearly won it.



**IFC:** Will continue to vote "dry" as long as they can stagger to the rush meetings.



**SCC:** Embroiled in debt, student group to be assimilated by CAC. Don't kill the front step noise!



**CEG:** This is student apathy. This is the CEG on student apathy. Any questions? Or aren't you listening?



**ROTC:** Muddling through with new task force proposal. Better luck next year. Ho, hum.



**S. Schiamburg:** Installs Lobby 7 field of dreams. IWW demands crop circles!



**L. Berenson:** Peruvian nasties clap MIT alum in prison. What'd you expect for rebellion?

## Letters To The Editor

### Campus Police Should Publish Intruders' Photos

I was interested to learn in your story about the Baker House trespasser ["Campus Police Arrest Suspicious Trespasser at Baker," May 3], that arrestee Sean Driscoll is, according to Campus Police Chief Anne P. Glavin, "a known thief."

While I'm glad that Chief Glavin knows it, think how much more helpful it would be to the residents of Baker House, or to the rest of the campus, if she would be kind enough to share that information ahead of time.

After Driscoll pays his fine (if any), I assume he'll be right back here on campus, along with Glavin-only-knows how many of his colleagues, doing his best to fill the Police Log box in future issues of *The Tech*.

Why not give the students and staff a chance to protect themselves? Is there some legal reason that *The Tech* cannot regularly publish photos of the people arrested on-campus for trespassing? I imagine that the arrest

photos produced by the Cambridge police at booking would be suitable for the purpose. I'd like to put some faces on the dozens of "Baker House, computer stolen" and "DuPont men's locker room, wallet stolen" reports we see every month.

If the Police Log got smaller, I'm sure *The Tech* could find something else to fill the space. I'd even settle for more of *Jim's Journal*.

Gary L. Dryfoos

### MIT Community Should Revive Social Scene

I have to say I'm a little confused by the "parties" I've been to recently, especially Steer Roast — what is happening to the social scene at MIT? Perhaps I'm just completely naive, being a freshman, but it seems to me that there is definitely something wrong with the recent parties at MIT. I would put the blame on both the students and the Campus Police for the failure of the various events over the past weekend as well as the general anti-social atti-

tude that has seized the campus in its iron grip with the ending of the events moratorium.

I'm sure the folks at Senior House are just as disappointed as the rest of the MIT populace. It was their job, after all, to throw MIT's best party of the year. And I have to say that the Campus Police presence at Steer Roast was the major factor in its meagerness, but a large part the citizenry of MIT are equally to blame. We all know that great parties can be thrown, and have been thrown, and that at MIT attendance to these parties is usually the key issue. It shouldn't be.

We as a student body need to put a more concerted effort towards being social. I'm not demanding that you go to a party that you really don't want to — but why lurk in Athena all night wasting your time drooling over pics on the World-Wide Web when you can be out having fun?

Well, I do want to end this rant on a constructive note, so I'd like to make a pledge to the MIT community. The former Student Center Committee "program board" is planning many events which can be great successes if

Letters, Page 5

## Opinion Policy

**Editorials**, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, and opinion editors.

**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.

**Letters and cartoons** must bear the author's signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

## To Reach Us

*The Tech's* telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Electronic mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. Mail to specific departments may be sent to the following addresses on the Internet: ads@the-tech.mit.edu, news@the-tech.mit.edu, sports@the-tech.mit.edu, arts@the-tech.mit.edu, photo@the-tech.mit.edu, circ@the-tech.mit.edu (circulation department). For other matters, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person.

# Letters To The Editor

Letters, from Page 4

we can get the MIT community to come out and have a little bit of fun. These will include Strat's Rats and Concerts but also new events such as raves or D.J. nights, à capella competitions, drag queen contests, and other activities that will convince more members of the MIT community to be social. You, the person holding this *Tech* in your hand and glancing over this article, have the responsibility literally in your hands. You can make MIT a fun place to be, and a much less stressful place to be. So let's get together and revive the social scene, put the events moratorium behind us, and look forward to a great 96-97 year.

Jeremy L. Warner '99

## Intruder Arrests Show Failure of MIT Card

The recent arrest of an intruder in Baker House this past Tuesday illustrates the growing crime problem on campus. In a crime alert bulletin issued on May 1, Sergeant Cheryl N. deJong-Vossmer of the MIT Campus Police noted that, "The 1995 MIT Campus Police Annual Report statistics for larcenies from Living Groups show an increase of 173 percent compared to 1994. This accounts for 183 thefts valued at \$63,039."

The intruder, who was known to the CPs for committing numerous larcenies on campus, easily gained entry to Baker and other build-

ings by simply following someone through the entrance. The crime bulletin strongly emphasized, "Never allow someone you don't know to follow you into your living group as you enter with your MIT Card." Many students, however, ignore this often repeated advice for the simple reason that they know how inconvenient the card is. The many problems with the card — including the need to remember to carry it at all times, the risk involved with taking out your wallet to retrieve the card in unsafe areas, the poor design of the card itself, the difficulty experienced by non-MIT-affiliated friends in visiting MIT students and activities — have all been elaborated in detail many times. These problems have not been adequately addressed by the MIT Card Office.

The MIT Card is a failure. The MIT administration needs to recognize that the substantial increase in larcenies on campus is directly related to the card. The card is certainly not entirely responsible for increasing crime on campus, but it does give many more opportunities to criminals than the old key system. MIT should abandon its current card program and seriously re-evaluate how to manage security on campus.

Richard J. Barbalace '96

## Medea Review Lacked Intellectual Rigor

At the request of a friend I saw *Medea* last week. I was very dismayed at the review that I read in *The Tech* ["Strong scenery adds nice touch to plain *Medea*," April 30] about the production. As a avid theater-goer, I sometimes depend on reviews to prevent me from wasting my money on bad productions. Luckily I didn't consult *The Tech* before seeing this play.

The review seemed intellectually lazy. It blithely called the *Medea* portrayed in the play an unbalanced, static character, and it did not fully realize the value of the dialogue between *Medea* and Jason. The audience should be well aware of what type of person *Medea* is before seeing the play. In Greek mythology, *Medea* is a classic example of one who goes to hell despite good intentions. She commits crimes not for herself, but out of a pure, selfless, divine love for Jason. She is a visitor from a dark land, trying to fit in with the "good" land of the Greeks. Yet the enormity of her acts make them unforgivable. *Medea* is naturally disaffected, the only thing that has made her break out of this is love. The audience does not even need to know this before seeing the play, all of this is clearly stated in the script. *Medea*

should not be written off as unstable, period.

Further, *Medea* is anything but a static character in this play. If she were, then there would have been no reason for her to call upon evil to purge any natural good from her. If she were static, then she would have not called on Jason to express any doubt. If she were static, would she have so clearly broken at the news of Jason's marriage? *Medea* may seem static because much of her character has been developed before the play begins. In fact, the play begins at the end of the story of *Medea*. It is a picture of the transformation of *Medea* being for someone else to *Medea* being for herself. She is literally breaking away from Eros' arrow.

I won't even comment on the importance of the dialogue between Jason and *Medea*. Some of the monologues were theatrical devices called soliloquies. One is not expected to be able to hear a character think. With the common attention span of the average American, some of them may have been a little long.

Dramashop did a decent job of performing the play. The device of the motion picture backdrop was fabulous. It was like the persistence of memory among two people who have had love turn to bitterness and hate. Personally, I didn't get too distracted by it. The stage play basically stopped during it, and I had no problem listening to Jason's narrative. Among other pluses, the casting was clever. Generally, the play was all right.

Please be more careful when writing reviews. Keep in mind that this is a college performance, not a Broadway production. I hope that I am not being too offensive, but I think it isn't very just to the people who worked hard to put on the performance to blow the production off without some more careful analysis. I, at least, would like to trust the reviews a little more.

Joel P. Johnson '97

## ERRATUM

Harvard University students were wrongly thought to have been behind the hack that interrupted the 2.70 design contest last Tuesday ["Busch Wins 2.70 'Niagara' Contest," May 3]. The mathematical formulae that flashed up on the 26-100 projection screen were actually incorrect; the joke was actually on Harvard.



# Disappearance of Philly™ from Lobdell Is Disgraceful

Column by Saul Blumenthal and Dan McGuire  
STAFF REPORTERS

*Tech* policy bars staff members from writing letters to the editor, so we're going to have to resort to the form of exposition known as the column to make our perhaps silly comments known. But we hope you take us just as seriously as if we had been writing a real letter.

The object of our derision is the cream cheese served at the Lobdell Food Court. This is something that most of you probably don't give much thought to, but as Saul is a New Yorker and a qualified bagel connoisseur, and Dan is a southerner who knows Grits (and kind of misses them, along with biscuits with sausage gravy), this is something we take seriously.

Back in the good ol' days, one could go to the Lobdell bagel stand, pick up a (hopefully not stale) bagel, walk a few feet to the salad bar, and grab a pack of Philadelphia™ cream cheese; it came in long silver blister packs that you could effortlessly rip open and splat out on your bagel.

This system worked great, except when you picked up a stale bagel by accident. The method Dan prefers to use, by the way, is to give a bagel at the bagel counter a quick squeeze with the tongs. If the bagel gives, it's either fresh or wet. If it fails to give or shatters, it's a good bet that it's not fresh.

This procedure may take some practice because the tongs are unwieldy. Don't be discouraged, though. If you drop the bagel simply discreetly kick it under the cash register so no one notices until it ripens. If you fling it into the salad bar, try to bury it in the Thousand Island dressing. If you hit someone, flee on foot.

Anyway, enough about the bagels themselves; a whole column could be written about them alone. The point is that several months ago the packs of Philly™ cream cheese disappeared, and no one knows where. Our pet theory is that aliens from another dimension took them to fuel their great war machines and then proceeded to take over the minds of Aramark staffers. While we all can probably offer anecdotes that support this idea (again, worthy of a column on its own), a irrefutable and intuitively obvious proof will be furnished later (at least of the alien part, as no one who has seen the great war machines has lived to tell the tale).

"Out with the Philly™, in with the with Pauly™" seems to have been embedded in the minds of those same Aramark staffers. Pauly™ cream cheese comes in bricks covered in foil, whose outside is attractively festooned with dry cream cheese. Both of us really detest this stuff. No New Yorker in his right mind should have to stand for this, and even the Southerner amongst us doesn't like the cheese because it has an aftertaste that resembles what you might get if you burned a frisbee.

Both of us submitted complaints to Aramark. The response, which we now have framed as conclusive proof that aliens walk among us, is that "Lobdell changed cream cheese brands

because we had many complaints that it was difficult to get the cream cheese out of the packet and much of it was wasted," according to Aramark's Paula DiBiase. We suppose that this is a legitimate gripe, but our thought is that the ketchup packs are exactly the same as the old Philly™ packs, and yet as far as we know Lobdell has not yet resorted to serving its ketchup in little bricks wrapped in tin foil.

Perhaps one way to make MIT even more selective would be to have students demonstrate their cream cheese package opening abilities at their admission interviews. Surely admissions would drop by half.

Much time has passed, and miraculously we have survived the alien invasion. Lobdell has even made some amends. The Pauly™ is still there, unfortunately, but it is occasionally supplemented with Philly Lite™ cream cheese, which comes in little tubs. Our theory is that the aliens can't use Lite cheese the same way most cars these days can't use leaded fuel. Granted, this stuff tastes better than the Pauly™, but it is less filling than the leading brand of cream cheese and it still tastes dreadful compared to normal, silver, Philly™ cheese.

So that is where we stand right now. We urge you all to stagger out of bed tomorrow

morning at 7:30 a.m. and take your complaints directly to the staff at Lobdell, who will probably look at you strangely because you haven't brushed your teeth and because you're only wearing a bath robe (if that). Also feel free to send mail to [meal@mit.edu](mailto:meal@mit.edu) and to mention *The Tech* in your mail.

Failing that, we ask that you write letters to your respective state representatives, or governments back home for the international students, urging them to establish a Strategic Philly™ Cream Cheese Reserve in one of those square states near the middle of the country, so that we can preserve this vital national and trans-dimensional resource.

Also, Lobdell folks, to dispel the myth that you're actually alien puppets sent here to rob us of our dairy products, you must return the Philly™ cream cheese. Otherwise, it's off to the government lab with you.



# THE ARTS

## Toons and company croon to Madonna, Scooby Doo

### THE MIT/WELLESLEY TOONS

Also featuring The Brown Jabberwocks and the Smith College Smithereens.  
Room 6-120.  
May 4.

By Teresa Huang  
STAFF REPORTER

On Saturday, the MIT/Wellesley Toons gave MIT yet another evening of à capella packed with humor, energy, and good music. Both of the Toons' guest groups, the Brown Jabberwocks and the Smith College Smithereens, were excellent in their own ways and added to the spirit of the evening.

First to take the à capella floor were the Brown Jabberwocks, Brown University's oldest all-male à capella group. Their long history showed in their mastery of their repertoire. They sang a great set of songs from artists like David Bowie, Prince, and Crowded House. From their first song, "I Want You Back" (originally by the Jackson 5), their immediate energy and motion showed that the evening was going to be entertaining. Probably the highlight of their set was a fantastic Scooby Doo skit, in which Scooby and the gang solved

the mystery of the giant tarantula. The Jabberwocks gave a terrific imitation of a complete episode, from Wilma losing her glasses right down to the reference to Scooby snacks. Their set was completed by a choreographed rendition of Madonna's "Vogue," which was filled with steps almost identical to the video, made even more humorous by the fact that it was a bunch of guys in suits singing Madonna.

Next to take the floor were the Smith College Smithereens, an all-female group who began their set with "As I Lay Me Down" by Sophie B. Hawkins. Though as a whole they were slightly less energetic than the Jabberwocks, their musicality and enthusiasm were still evident. Their Madonna contribution to the evening was a sufficiently haunting rendition of "Secret." The Smithereens also sang the Indigo Girls' "Ghost," which seems to be popular among area à capella groups lately. When they began singing "When Doves Cry" by Prince, I noticed that though the Smithereens were excellent, they received considerably less audience response. It seemed that for some reason, the audience was more uncomfortable by the all-female group singing a song by a male artist than they were when the Jabberwocks, an all-male group, sang "I

Will Survive" by Gloria Gaynor, a song not only by a female artist, but known as a somewhat feminist song. The Smithereens ended their set with a lively rendition of "Let Love Rule" by Lenny Kravitz, sung by soloist Ingrid A. Howard. Despite the slight gender-swapping in repertoire, both guest groups were excellently sung and energetic.

At last, it was time for the Toons to take the floor. They began their set with a fantastically animated "Birdhouse in Your Soul" by They Might Be Giants, sung by Jon Santos '97. The subtle choreography was extremely effective in conveying their energy and in setting the mood for the rest of their set, which was filled with great soloists, energetic back up singers, and yet another song by Madonna. Among the best soloists of the night were Margaret W. Ansbacher '97 on Mary-Chapin Carpenter's "I Feel Lucky," which showed the ease with which the Toons handled a different genre of music, and Eric Lindauer '98 on Boyz II Men's "Water Runs Dry," whose voice was so incredibly refined and romantic, he clearly retained the heart-melting quality of the original recording. By far the true highlight of the evening was the Toons rendition of 80s classic "We Got the Beat," originally

sung by the Go-Go's. With the female members of the group all in high ponytails doing the famous go-go girl head shake, the group's energy was at its height, led by soloist Juli Schmidt W '98. The Toons ended their set with the third Madonna song of the evening, "Express Yourself," a song which has been sung by the Toons many times before, but which seems to gain something each time. For their encore, the Toons performed "Always Something There to Remind Me" by Naked Eyes, another reliable oldie that just gets better every time, as it was sung with great dynamics and sensitivity by soloist Rick Villanueva G.

The entire evening was impressive and the audience clearly couldn't help but take in some of the energy all of the groups exuded in their songs and movements. Perhaps the only thing I didn't like about this concert was the low attendance. There is no reason any of the fantastic à capella groups on campus shouldn't be able to fill at least Room 6-120. Come on, there are other à capella groups besides the Chorallaries that have great concerts, so check the bulletin boards around campus for upcoming concerts and don't miss another great à capella concert again.

## BTG's first production, *Home*, matches substance with style

### HOME

By Samm-Art Williams.  
May 3, 4, and 11 at 8:00 p.m.; May 5 at 3:00 p.m.  
Room 1-390.

By Teresa Esser  
STAFF REPORTER

**H**ome, the first production by MIT's new Black Theatre Guild, provides a genuinely entertaining look at the life of a North Carolina man, Cephus Miles (Kearne Pendergast '98), the struggles of growing up, and the joys of coming home.

Told through a delightful combination of

song, dance, and lyric poetry, the play's strengths are many and varied. The actors deliver their lines in a smooth and flowing succession of rapid-fire observations that alternately amuse and provoke the audience. The actors shine in their roles. It is good to see the extreme confidence with which the characters approach the play's erotic scenes. The voice of Kenya Taylor '97 rises and falls like a melody; the robust solos of Cheryl D. Oates G are worth the price of admission on their own.

The best part of the play, however, has got to be the script. The play is a collage of words, a chorus of prose explanations. "Cephus Miles, dead in the grave. Cephus Miles, can't be

saved." Sad, displaced faces. The Cornerstone Baptist Church. A ticket back to the land. Is Cephus a Christian or a Voodoo Man? Each soliloquy is a poem in itself. Molasses bread. Bootleg whiskey. Strong black coffee. Oates' character convincing Cephus to leave the farm and go work in the city. "The subway rolls. Take it to the city. Get a factory job." Oates' voice makes the poetry come alive. "Steak, salad and champagne instead of red-eye gravy and black-eyed peas."

Born in the small town of Crossroads and raised primarily by his grandfather, Cephus spent his young life getting in and out of trouble. He played craps on the cement vaults in the graveyard on Sunday morning and was

whipped for it with a switch from the backyard. He spent time courting Pattie Mae (April M. Griffin '98), but she went off to college in Virginia. So he sat in his rocking chair while his peers went off to fight in Vietnam; he served four years in prison for refusing to go with them. He lost the farm, left home.

There are plays, and then there are plays. And every so often a play comes along that is head and shoulders above the rest. This play is *Home*, and it's only around for one more weekend. Student-run, student-produced, and student-acted, the Black Theatre Guild has definitely carved out its own niche in the mad puzzle of the MIT entertainment scene. *Home* is a gem. Watch it. Watch it for the words.

In this newspaper, it's a serene scene of a gazelle grazing in the brush.

In your room, it's a serene scene of a gazelle grazing in the brush suddenly caught off-guard by a 500-pound lion that chases the fleeing gazelle down and rips out its jugular. Hyenas soon follow.



For more information visit us on the Internet at <http://bed.info.apple.com/>

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# Three new collections have something for everyone

## PIPELINE! LIVE BOSTON ROCK ON WMBR

Various Artists.  
Kimchee Records, 1996.

## SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK! ROCKS

Various Artists.  
Lava Records, 1996.

## RED

God Street Wine.  
Mercury 1996.

By Joel M. Rosenberg  
STAFF REPORTER

For the past seven years, MIT's radio station, WMBR, 88.1 FM, has been the venue for lots of different alternative bands. In the basement of Walker Memorial, somewhere in Studio A, groups have set up shop and broadcast their tunes to the community using all 720 watts the station has to offer. In case you've missed these shows, however, the station has put together a 2-CD set, *Pipeline! Live Boston Rock on WMBR*, that has songs from 40 different bands.

Any time you get that many different sounds together, there are bound to be some that you like and some that you don't. What's good about this collection is that it's basically a sampler of young, Boston-based alternative groups. You listen to it, and if anyone interests you, there's a good chance you'll catch them around here and maybe make it into their still early following. With that many bands, you've got to come up with at least a few you like.

Some of the bands are already doing well for themselves, including Morphine, who will be playing at H.O.R.D.E. this summer, and the Dirt Merchants, who have a new album, *Scarified* (Zero Hour, 1995), and who just headlined the Middle East last Friday. Granted, the liner notes themselves indicate that 11 of the bands no longer exist, but that's still a pretty good track record for seven years of recording. Maybe if this album came out seven years ago, those bands would have gotten enough support to stick around. Check it out; it's worth it.

## Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks

"As your body grows bigger/ Your mind must flower/It's great to learn/ 'cause knowledge is power!" Straight from the seventies, the theme from *Schoolhouse Rock* brings back some pretty good memories of waking up early Saturday morning and parking in front of the TV set for six hours. While many of us haven't seen a Saturday morning cartoon in years, some of the songs can be heard again on a great new cover album called *Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks*.

I'm not a big fan of seventies retro stuff, but *Schoolhouse Rock* is different. It's part of what got a lot of us here — a love of teaching and learning. The new album has Blind Melon explaining about how "Three Is a Magic Number," and Biz Markie singing "The Energy Blues." The album is a great idea, since lots of people will still get excited when hearing "I'm Just A Bill," performed by Deluxx Folk Implosion, and Conjunction Junction, redone by Better than Ezra.

It's fun listening to these songs, because they're written for elementary school kids. You keep expecting the lyrics to get more sophisticated and more complex, but some of them just keep repeating the same idea over and over, trying to teach the stuff to the kids. Maybe it's not all for kids, though: Some of us could probably benefit from the grammar songs. They've got all kinds of *Schoolhouse Rock* stuff now, including reissues of all of the original episodes on video, a book with all of the lyrics, and a forthcoming 4-CD box set with all of the original songs. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Children's Defense Fund, so if for nothing else, buy the album for a good cause. "It's Schoolhouse Rocky/ A chip off the block/ Of your favorite Schoolhouse/ Schoolhouse Rock!"

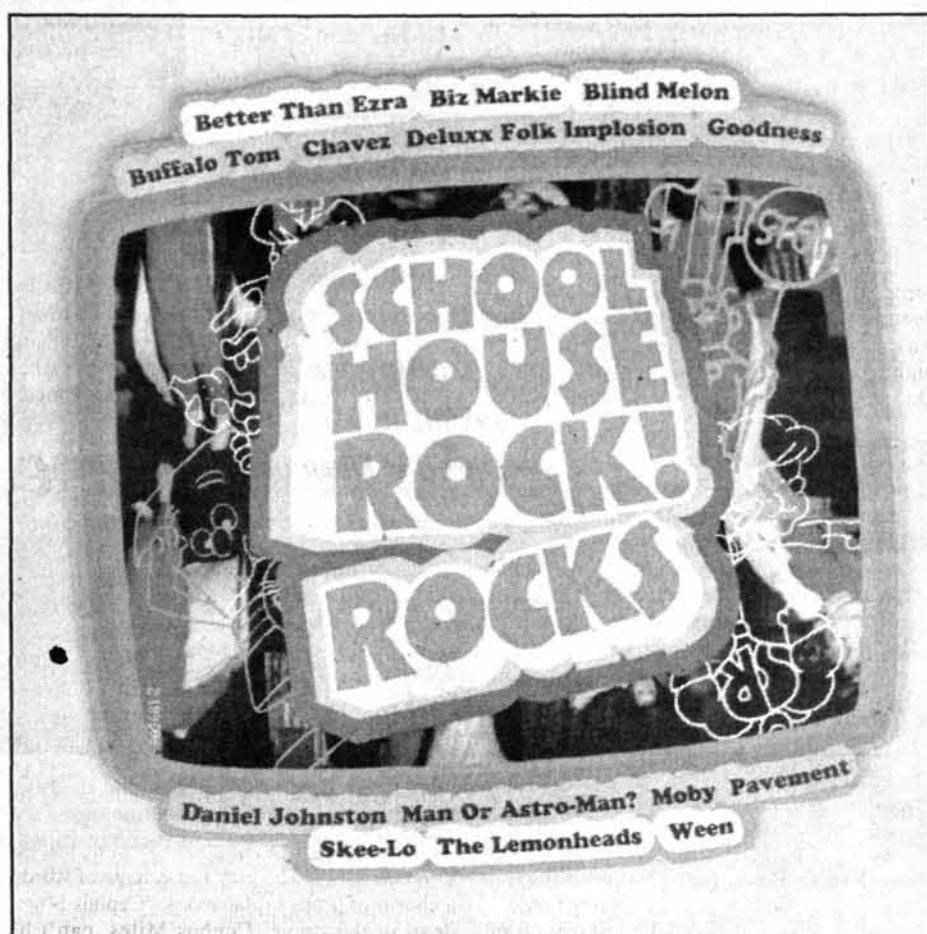
## Red

Something's Phishy. God Street Wine has been compared to Phish in the past, and the first song off their new album, *Red*, would certainly lend credence to that comparison. They've also been compared to Bob Dylan, which is what the second song sounds like. The Grateful Dead influence is apparent in track six, U2 in the fourth, and in concert they

play what sounds just like a Pink Floyd song. They sound a little too much like too many other people.

While these guys from NYU and Manhattan School of Music do have some interesting points, like dual guitars which make them a bit more folk sounding (like the Allman Brothers), as well as a pretty cool rock pianist, they come up a little short of their own sound — even with two lead vocalists. Technically they're great musicians, and have a pretty wide arsenal of styles, which is why they can pull off all of these different comparisons. But there comes a time when others must start being compared to God Street Wine.

Their live show at the Paradise last month was kind of interesting. They didn't interact with the audience at all, and just segued from one song into the next, often changing genre but hardly exciting the crowd to where I had expected. They played a few cover tunes, including "A Day in the Life," as their encore. While a nice touch considering *Anthology II* had just come out, it didn't do much to distinguish the group after I already thought they weren't original enough. Given some more time, they might be able to merge all of these different influences together to get what they're looking for. Right now, though, they're a little too Phishy, Dylinish, Deadish, and so on.



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# Dangerous Work: Repetitive Strain Injury at MIT

Heavy computing can lead to serious — and maybe irreparable — injury if warning signs are ignored

By Thomas R. Karlo  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

It can start with a stiff feeling in your fingers, or maybe a loss of strength in one hand. Subtle as they may be, these symptoms often signal the onset of a serious medical problem. If ignored, that problem can eventually lead to loss of the ability to type, or even of use of a hand at all. The subtle progression from a chronic ache to a serious permanent injury is only one of the factors that make repetitive strain injuries such a danger at MIT.

"The first thing I noticed was kind of a tingling; it didn't really hurt me. It was like my hands were falling asleep," recalled Catherine G. Preston G, a senior studying urban studies and planning. She first experienced RSI in the spring of her junior year.

The problem subsided temporarily over the summer, but in the fall, "the number of pages I had to write in a term increased significantly," Preston said. "It started out bad and only got worse," she said. She finally sought help in the winter of 1994 after watching a presentation about RSI given to MITnet employees.

Holly L. Grabowski '97, an electrical engineering and computer science major, had a similar introduction to RSI. "My wrists had gotten tired before," she said, but it didn't get really troublesome until Independent Activities Period, when she worked 12-hour days at an Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program project and another job. "My wrists got really bad, and I just felt like I should leave."

The next day, Grabowski found herself unable to type, her fingers numb. She made a doctor's appointment and waited a week for her visit. "Every day I'd try to check my e-mail and I would feel pain... my hands felt so weak," she said.

The problem became critical for Grabowski this spring while she was doing work for a software design class required of EECS majors. She spent 15 hours a day programming and writing documentation for the project. "About nine hours before the problem set was due, I couldn't type any more," Grabowski said.

Experiencing pain, she e-mailed her teaching assistant. "I've done my coding," she wrote. "I've just got some documentation left to do,

I'm going to hand it in late, and if I get penalized, fine, I can't type any more right now."

## RSI is a major problem at MIT

RSI is most commonly associated with prolonged work at computer keyboards, but it is a risk for anyone who performs highly repetitive manual tasks. Both musicians and athletes fall prey to RSI, as do people who work with vibrating machinery like sewing machines and power tools, said David V. Diamond, the medical department physician who sees most of MIT's RSI patients.

*"In terms of injuries, there's nothing else that comes close to what these computers are doing to people at MIT."*

—David V. Diamond

RSI is a class of injuries to the muscles, tendons, and nerves that result from chronic overuse or misuse. Repetitive actions, especially small rapid movements like typing, poor working posture, strenuous movements, and working without taking regular breaks all contribute to the problem.

Unlike many injuries, RSI builds up slowly over time as thousands of tiny microtraumas that wear away gradually at the body. "I think it poses a major — probably the major — risk to students' health," Diamond said.

"I've seen several hundred people in the last few years; students, staff, faculty — [people] who use computers in large amounts," Diamond said. "In terms of injuries, there's nothing else that comes close to what these computers are doing to people at MIT."

The stress RSI puts on students differs from other injuries because it directly interferes with the most common of tasks, like writing and typing. "It was really scary, especially because I'm kind of a workaholic," Grabowski explained. "It's driving me crazy to be near computers and not be able to type. ... Even now, after resting a few weeks, just typing a few keys really sets it off."

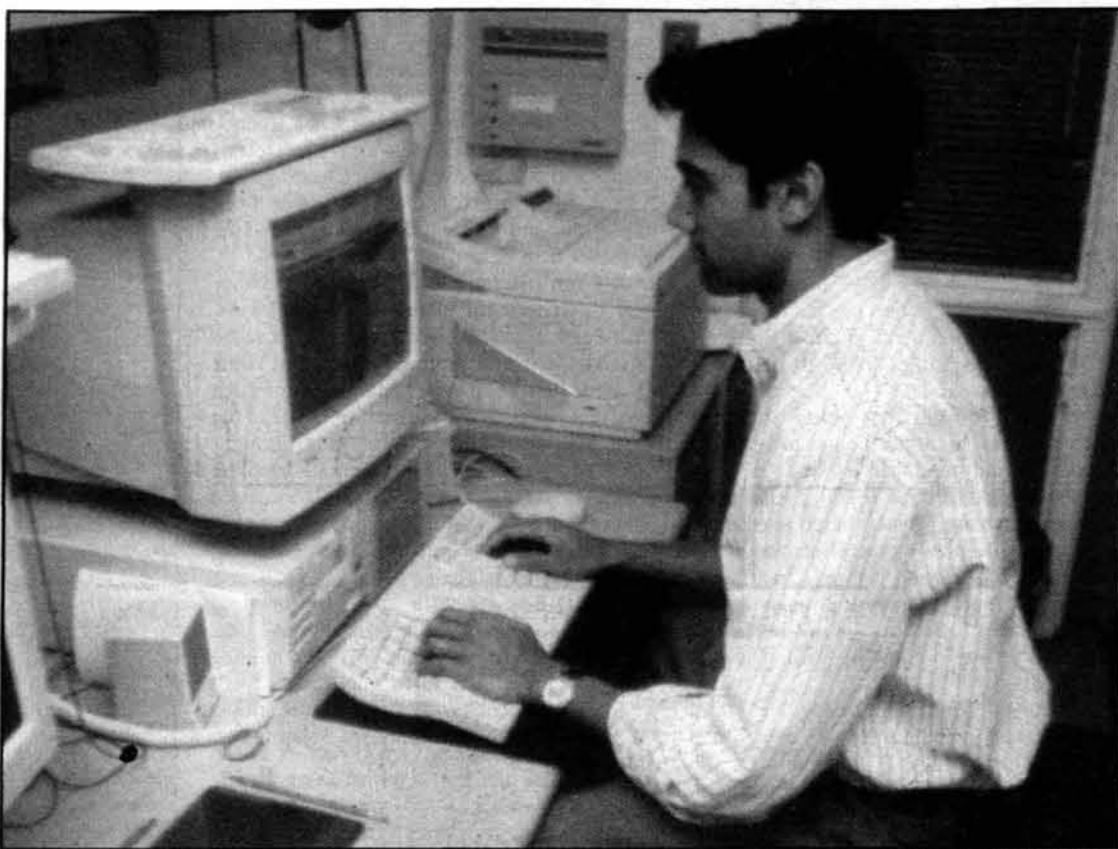
"They tell you 'type slower, take more breaks' and you think 'I can't, I have to get this done, I have to do it this fast,'" Preston said. "I don't want to type slower. If anything, I

lem, Diamond said.

RSI is of particular concern to students in majors that depend heavily on computer use. An extremely serious case of RSI can even set back a career. "I'm in computer science; this is my life," Grabowski said. "I have so much typing to do... here I am in pain, and the implications aren't just for this term."

under deadline pressure, Diamond said.

But it can be crucial. "The problem comes in for workaholics who work like crazy and feel guilty for taking a break," Grabowski said. "Some people really have that mentality. People really need to not feel guilty for taking time off from typing if their wrists are tired. Or



THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

Mukund C. Venkatesh G demonstrates one of the ergonomic keyboards available for use at the Access Technologies for Information and Computing Laboratory. The keyboard is one of a number of innovations geared towards helping people avoid dangerous and potentially debilitating repetitive strain injuries.

want to type faster, because I'm thinking even faster. When you've gone to doing all your work by typing as you think, it just feels like there's this wall in front of you; you can't do the think you want to do. It's extremely frustrating."

Computer users most often experience RSI in the arms, wrists, and hands, which bear most of the stress of typing on a keyboard. Other people, like architecture students building models in studio, are more likely to stress their upper arms, shoulders and neck. Damage to the back from poor posture or lack of support is also a significant prob-

Bad cases of RSI have forced a handful of employees and graduate students to leave MIT, Diamond said. "I don't know of any other condition that has led to more people having to modify... their careers than this," he said.

Taking pain killers or working through minor pain might seem like an acceptable way to deal with the aches many people see as simply part of long-term computer work. But ignoring the warning signs of RSI can lead to serious — and sometime irreparable — damage. "People tend to type until it hurts, and then they take a break. But by the time it hurts, the damage is done," Diamond said.

telling a professor that they really have a problem, they need to protect their wrists, and have another day on an assignment. But people are afraid to do that."

Grabowski recommends against taking two programming courses at once so as to reduce exposure to stress from the strenuous coding and debugging those courses often demand.

End-of-term pressure can be especially dangerous, Diamond said. "People crashing into their thesis or writing a paper have a combination of psychological stress, physical stress, and lack of sleep, which tends to really flare," RSI, he said.

While prevention is the best way to avoid RSI, early attention to symptoms makes for an able second line of defense.

"If you think you're having problems, don't wait until you're sure [before you] seek out help, because it does take a couple weeks to see anyone at the Medical Center who deals with RSI," Preston said. "You want to look into it if you think there's a chance you have a problem, before you get to the point where you can't do anything."

## Bad desk design contribute to RSI

Although conclusions aren't yet clear, work by doctors and other safety personnel suggests that an ergonomic work environment is very important in preventing RSI. Adjusting a work station to help prevent RSI means more than simply adding a wrist rest in front of the keyboard.

Some Athena cluster workstations sit on adjustable work tables, but there are not enough of these especially towards the end of the term when cluster usage rises.

"The first thing is positioning yourself and your computer, mouse, and possibly telephone in a way to minimize angle and force, and to give good support," Diamond said. "Most people tend to have their keyboard a little too high, have their monitor off-center... their mouse way out of reach. These contribute to the problem."

## Prevention's the best defense

Although many products on the market promise to end RSI problems, Diamond recommends examining work habits first. Pacing computer work is especially important, and something MIT students often neglect.

"You want to [take a] break before the damage is done, otherwise the damage comes back quicker and easier. So we recommend a short microbreak of a minute or so every fifteen minutes, and a mini-break every hour of a few minutes," Diamond said.

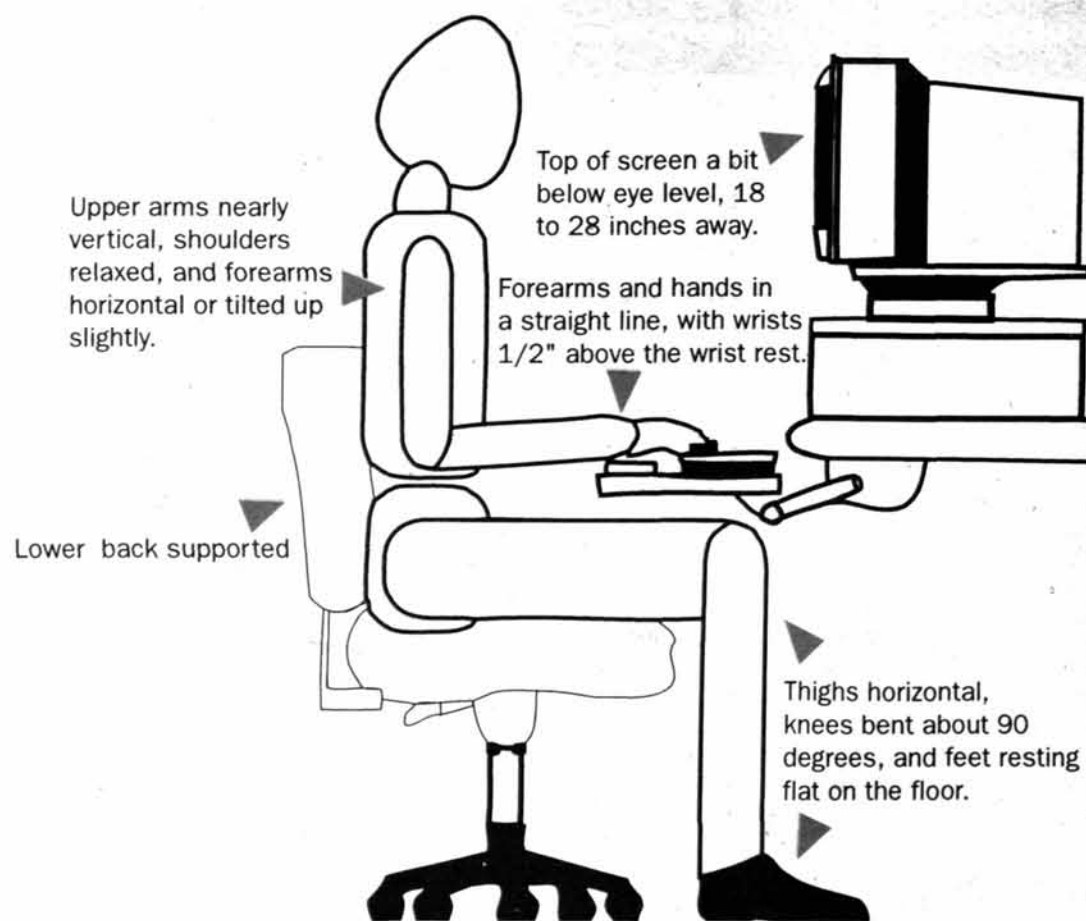
Diamond also recommended getting up from the computer and stretching for awhile every few hours, to allow the muscles and tendons to restore circulation and relieve pressure on nerves.

In a June 1994 memorandum, the ad hoc Task Group on RSI recommended that people spend no longer than six hours per day working at a computer, particularly if that work involves steady typing. The guidelines also recommended taking five-minute breaks every 40 minutes or so.

While a six-hour max may seem unrealistic given students' regular work habits, it does provide a realistic goal and a good benchmark beyond which people should be especially mindful of the risk of RSI, Diamond said.

Changing work habits is not easy, especially when people are

## Adjusting Your Work Area



SOURCE: HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR COMPUTER USE AT MIT

People working at Athena clusters or at their personal computers can reduce the risk of repetitive strain injuries by setting up their workspaces properly and adopting correct posture.

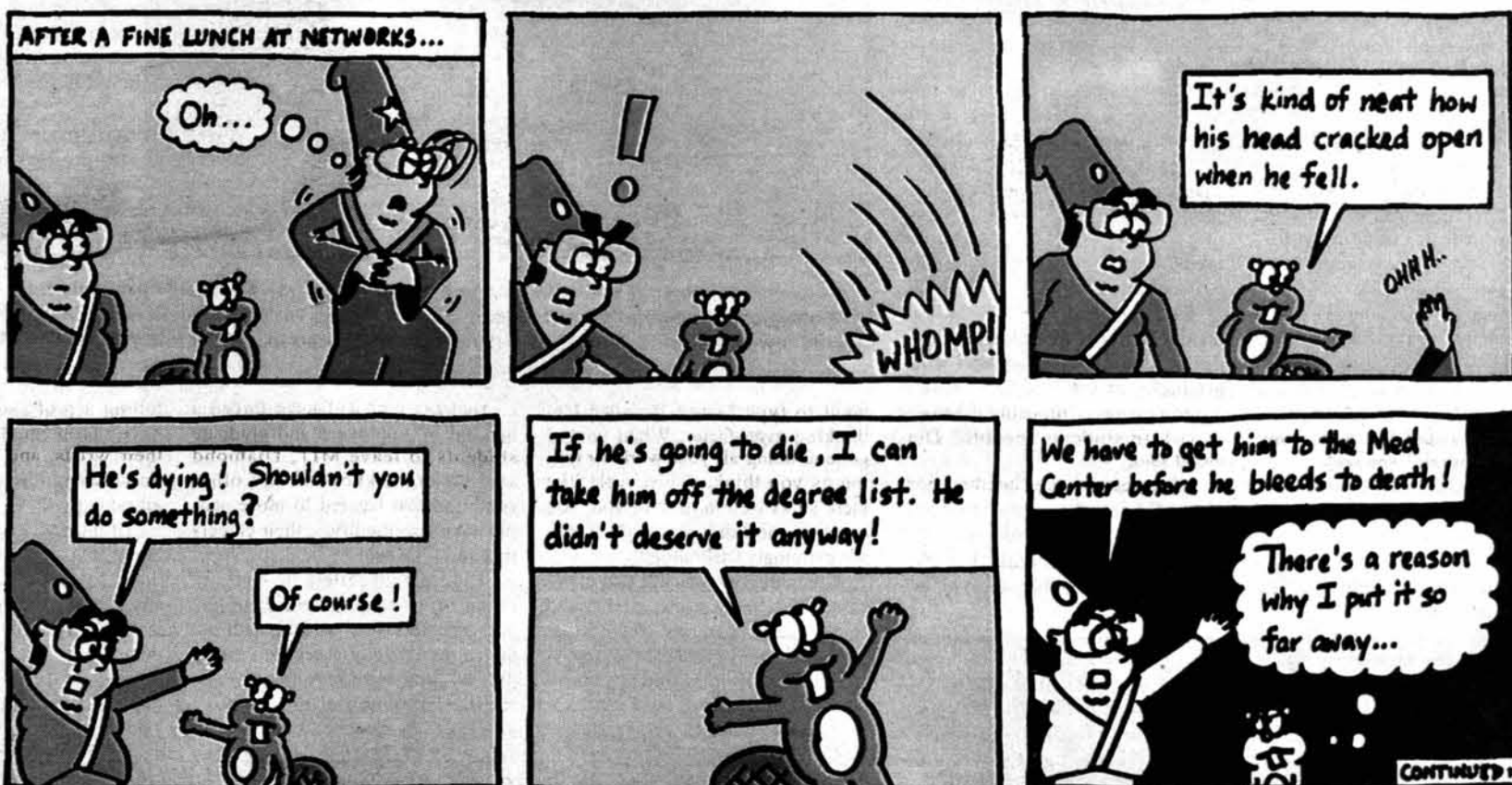
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Massachusetts Biotechnology Council

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Panelists:

Dr. Ross Tubo, Genzyme Corporation  
Dr. Philip Noguchi, National Institutes of Health  
Dr. Jonathan Dinsmore, Diacrin, Inc.  
Dr. Julia Greenstein, BioTransplant, Inc.

#### Genomics

Chair:

Dr. Phillip Sharp, MIT

Panelists:

Dr. David Page, MIT, Whitehead Institute  
Dr. Frank Lee, Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Dr. Jim Gusella, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School  
Dr. Donald Moir, Genome Therapeutics Corp.

### Afternoon Session:

2:00PM - 4:30PM / Kresge Auditorium

#### Tissue Repair Factors

Chair:

Dr. Steven Clark, Genetics Institute, Inc.

Panelists:

Dr. Elisabeth Morris, Genetics Institute, Inc.  
Dr. Seth Rudnick, Cytotherapeutics, Inc.  
Dr. Kevin Pang, Ontogeny, Inc.

#### Targets for Immunosuppression

Chair:

Dr. Una Ryan, T Cell Sciences, Inc.

Panelists:

Dr. William E. Paul, Office of AIDS Research  
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# The Garden in the Machine

By Andrew Maywah  
Photos by Gábor Csányi



*Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain...*

Most of Lobby 7 was transformed into a vast field of wheat yesterday, bringing a little of the country to the urban confines of MIT.

This was no hack. Behind the 60,000 real stalks of wheat is Scott R. Schiamberg G, whose vision was to invoke the great American pastoral tradition and to bring his own "garden in the machine."

Schiamberg wanted to juxtapose nature — the wheat — and technology — MIT — in an urban environment. He hoped that this project would invigorate the images of American folklore and legend that surround the pastoral ideal. The connotation of cultivating and farming, center around the theme of "living close to nature."

The pastoral ideal developed mainly from the belief of some 18th century philosophers that America's natural agrarian way of life was being tainted by industrialization. During that time, many Europeans moved to escape industrialization and start anew in a pure, agrarian society. But ironically, even from the nation's birth, there were some people who believed that industrialization could not be avoided.

In modern days, places like New York City's Central Park and the Boston Commons are an attempt to regain some of that pastoral ideal. In a sense, the MIT wheat field "is just a small way of doing the same thing," Schiamberg said.

The project was funded through a \$1,800 grant from the MIT Council for the Arts as well as donations from the Department of Architecture, the Dean of Architecture, and President Charles M. Vest's office.

The 60,000 stalks of wheat were donated by a professor at Texas A&M University. Schiamberg had to pay for the harvesting and shipping costs. A harvesting machine recovers grain, but "I wanted the whole stalk, so they had to go out and cut it by hand," Schiamberg said.

In preparation, Schiamberg sprayed the wheat with fire retardant at the insistence of the MIT Safety Office. The foam panels covered about 80 percent of Lobby 7, with paths to allow people to walk through it.

A few signs were posted around the field displaying quotes relating to the pastoral ideal; Thomas Jefferson's glorification of the American farmer as, "Those who cultivate the earth are the chosen people of God," for example.

The baseball team, of which Schiamberg was a member as an undergraduate, and some of Schiamberg's friends helped plant the field Sunday afternoon. He estimated that setting up took 90 man-hours.

Schiamberg grew up in the heartland states of Iowa and Michigan. It is "calming and pleasing when you drive somewhere [and] see the red barns and cornfields," he said.

He was initially inspired to do this project after reading the book *The Machine in the Garden* by Science Technology and Society professor Leo Marx. In addition to his personal interests in both baseball and urban planning, Schiamberg is going to receive a dual Masters degree in Architecture and City Planning this year.

Lobby 7 was chosen because of the potentially large exposure to the MIT community. Schiamberg had initially thought of using corn, but the logistics of setting up a field of corn were too large.

Students were generally appreciative of the setup, although few seemed to take it seriously. "I felt like I was back home on the farm," said Shaka J. Thornhill '98.

Other students felt a few changes could have been made. "It would have been cooler if it had been a hack instead of art," said Joseph Kaye '99. Thomas Louie '94 felt the display was taken down too soon. "It really should have been left overnight," Louie said.

A. Arif Husain contributed to the reporting of this story.

AGRICVLTVRE

# Students Welcome Emery as Manager

McBurney, from Page 1

Eddie Cogliano, a former manager of Aramark's West Campus services.

Cogliano was widely perceived by students to be caring and responsive, as well as willing to cut some of Aramark's profits to reduce costs. "Eddie was very popular with the students," Hollywood said.

## New director emphasizes feedback

Emery said she is very excited to be assuming the position of Aramark General Manager. "My mission is to [make Aramark] a customer-driven, profitable food service program."

Emery considers being in touch with student feedback her greatest overall concern. "My plans are to work closely with MIT students, employees and administration to solicit their input as we make Institute food service decisions," she said.

"I will make attempts to get to know personally... many interested members of the Institute community so that they feel comfortable approaching me with a question, comment or suggestion. My door is always open," Emery said.

Students and food service workers who have worked with Emery in the past were generally very happy with her promotion.

"Beth Emery has been associate director for several years here and done great things in that role both with students and committees... producing great programs like the vegetarian program. I think the move is a timely one all around," Maguire said.

Hsu called Emery "an amazing person. She originally worked with the McCormick dining hall... so she's in touch with the students [and] knows how MIT works. Students really approve of her."

Adam P. London G, a partner in Baker dining, said that Emery "has always consistently been a good person to work with. She works well with students," he said.

One of Emery's main responsi-

bilities will be turning a profit for Aramark, which is solely licensed as MIT's food service provider. Aramark currently runs campus operations at a loss of \$280,000 a year, Maguire said.

Aramark's entire MIT budget is on the order of \$9 million. "I certainly have my work cut out for me," Emery said.

"We will all do what we can to help her succeed, since success means both happy food service customers and a program that pays for itself, which is what we all want," Maguire said.

Ramy A. Arnaout and Shang-Lin Chuang contributed to the reporting of this story.

# Residents Opt for Minimal Change

Windows, from Page 1

"The students were against putting up bars or screens due to ventilation and aesthetic concerns," she said.

"We were adamant about not having new windows," Wong added.

"However, the students understand that there have been a few suicides from the same entry in the past few years," Wong said, and that perhaps some kind of change could act as a deterrent.

With that goal in mind, the MacGregor House Committee presented RCA last week with a proposal outlining minor adjustments in favor of increased safety, Dutta said.

The proposal states that all the latches on the windows in MacGregor's A-, B-, C-, and D-entry lounges will be adjusted to limit how far they can open to four inches. Currently the windows open up to six inches. The windows in individual rooms open to four inches at the present time, but they will be rechecked this summer, according to Dutta.

The proposal also suggests that the windows in the lounges be checked on a monthly basis beginning in the fall, Jablonski said.

"The proposal strikes the balance between ventilation and safety that was sought after," Wilson said.

"Residents are happy with the plan," Wong said.

In general, the solution process was a smooth one. "We were very pleased to see the students' opinions taken so seriously," Wong said. "Significant input was taken from the students at the meeting," Wilson said. "We felt genuine concern and interest in our opinions from RCA," Dutta added.

But some residents are unsure how much of a difference proposed changes would make.

"I don't see how fixing the windows is going to help in any way to deter someone who is set on doing something like" jumping, MacGregor C-entry resident Paul W. Pine '99 said. "They're just going to find another outlet."

A. Arif Husain contributed to the reporting of this story.

# CEG Will Not Print In Spring Of 1997

CEG, from Page 1

said. The work that is expected of editors is "out of proportion," Enders said. "Most students who get involved in doing CEG really have to cut back on schoolwork. It's a massive time demand."

People "expect far too much from editors," Norton said. "A good deal of faculty forget that the people producing the guide are just students. They expect perfection."

One of the ideas being discussed would have departments take on some of the work currently being done by CEG staffers.

"Most schools do it differently, so that the administration is doing the bulk of the paperwork — particularly getting the forms around to departments, collecting them, [and] analyzing them," Enders said.

"The important thing is that the students always feel their data is secure and uncensored," Enders said. "That would take some sort of student/faculty oversight group. All this needs to be worked out with the students."

Another idea involves looking



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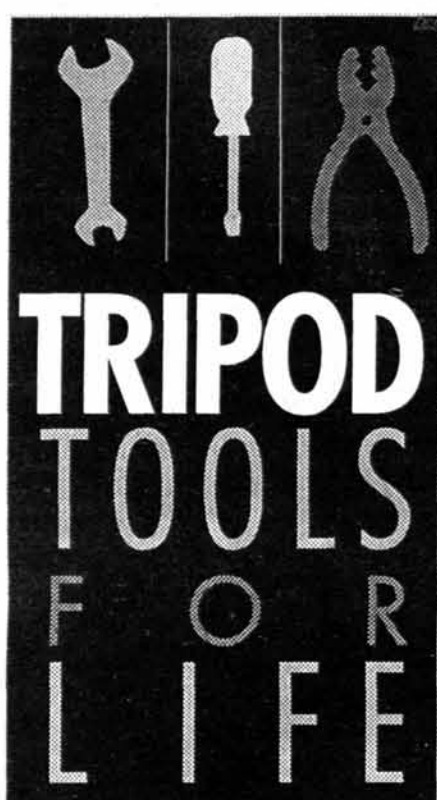
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# Resources Assist Students Suffering Strain Injuries

RSI, from Page 8

Although students have more control over the configuration of the setup in their dormitory room, they also start with a somewhat poorer set of equipment there. The standard dormitory desks are writing desks, generally too high for computer work as well as too narrow to allow proper monitor placement.

The standard-issue chairs are poor by ergonomic standards as well; they don't let students adjust the height or angle of the chair's back.

Following the completion of renovations this summer, Senior House will become the first dormitory with modern desks that better accommodate computer use. The desks were chosen after discussions between MIT, the architects behind the renovations, and Senior House residents.

"At least half the students have their own computers," explained Jagruti S. Patel '97, one of the students on the committee. "The current desks are very narrow. We explained how we need wider desks to accommodate 17-inch monitors," Patel said. Monitors of that size are fast becoming the industry standard.

MIT also consulted the student group about the problem of RSI, and as a result the new tables will also have keyboard trays designed to allow students to place their keyboard at a better height.

Although Senior House will be receiving ergonomic furniture, no upgrade is in the works for other campus dormitories, according to Carl A. Seagren, general manager of budgets and accounting in the housing office.

"I hadn't thought about it. We replace a certain amount of furniture in dormitories every year. That is something we should take into consideration," Seagren said.

The issue is further complicated by the individual structure of each dormitory. "Baker House has built-in furniture, and that's all being done over in the original," Seagren said. Also, with a working life of 15 to 20 years, the replacement cycle for the solid wood desks is extremely slow, he said.

Still, Seagren said he intends to examine the problem in the near future. "I would like to get some guidelines. We would like to put a program in place over time," he said.

## Proper typing, exercise important

But furniture shouldn't be students' only concern. Diamond also suggests students be aware of typing technique, and even warns that the amount of exercise a person gets can be important to avoiding strain injuries while typing.

"Some people have typing techniques that are very awkward and very stressful to the hands," he said.

"They tend to plant the palms and move the fingers, which causes compression of nerves and weakening or straining of tendons. People hit the keys hard, thinking they're going to type faster."

Typing with wrists held approximately one-half inch above the wrist rest and moving the entire hand rather than stretching across, helps reduce this damage, Diamond said.

For its part, aerobic exercise helps blood circulation generally; good circulation can mean improved recovery time in the arms. "Weight lifting is not helpful," Diamond said. "Particularly in the symptomatic phase, it will tend

to stress the tendons that need to rest."

## Resources help injured students

Students injured so badly that they can no longer type or carry out tasks necessary for their schoolwork, are referred to Disability Services Coordinator Barbara A. Roberts. Roberts arranges the reconfiguration of computer setups and provides scribes and typists to students unable to write or type. Usually, students are referred to Roberts either by their doctor or academic advisor.

A major goal in helping someone recover from RSI is reducing

stress on the affected area by avoiding painful tasks. For people who get RSI from typing, this means dictating to a typist assigned by Roberts. This arrangement allows students to keep pace with classes and continue their academic work with as little interruption as possible.

Other forms of assistance students can get include having extended-length examinations arranged for students unable to write at a normal pace. An additional resource available is the Access Technologies for Information and Computing Laboratory, where students can test-drive new ergonomic hardware.

Although having a typist allows students to return to doing basic computer work like word processing and e-mail, it is at best an awkward solution for those doing more complex work such as programming.

"It takes between two and five times as long to do my work through someone else," Grabowski said. "Coding through someone else, debugging through someone else — they don't know what I'm thinking. It's really, really hard and I can't be as productive as someone else in those areas."

Moreover, lecturers and teaching assistants can at times lack an understanding of the serious nature

of this problem, especially because RSI often disables a student without the easily visible symptoms of some other handicaps.

Grabowski recently had a problem while working on a group project for her programming class. Following an oral presentation on her project, she left early to head to a class while the rest of her group continued to discuss the project with their TA. After she left, the TA asked her group if they felt she was pulling her weight despite "her wrist thing."

"That upset me so much," Grabowski recalled, "because I'm doing everything I can, and have been pulling my weight by doing everything possible not involving typing in the project and doing as much typing as I can through a typist."

"I'm trying hard and it really upset me that he did that," Grabowski said. "Maybe they're not as understanding as they could be."

Even with all the tips and resources available to students and staff, the problem of RSI is not about to disappear; if anything, it is growing as computer use on campus increases.

RSI "is an endemic problem," Diamond said. "Most of the people here are at risk. In some ways, MIT is not unique, but [here] it's right on the cutting edge."

*"I don't want to type slower. If anything, I want to type faster, because I'm thinking even faster."*

*"When you've gone to doing all your work by typing as you think, it just feels like there's this wall in front of you; you can't do the think you want to do. It's extremely frustrating."*

— Catherine G. Preston G

## Campus Activities Complex's "New" Program Board INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The Campus Activities Complex and The Student Center Committee are forming a new Board to sponsor and develop activities and events for the MIT Community.

If you have ideas for programs, looking for something to do or just want to have fun....

Join Us for an Informational Meeting and find out how to get involved!

May 9

7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Mezzanine Lounge



Pizza and Refreshments



Applications are being accepted for Student Coordinator Positions.

Deadline: May 10th.

For more information contact the CAC Office, W20-500, 3-3913.

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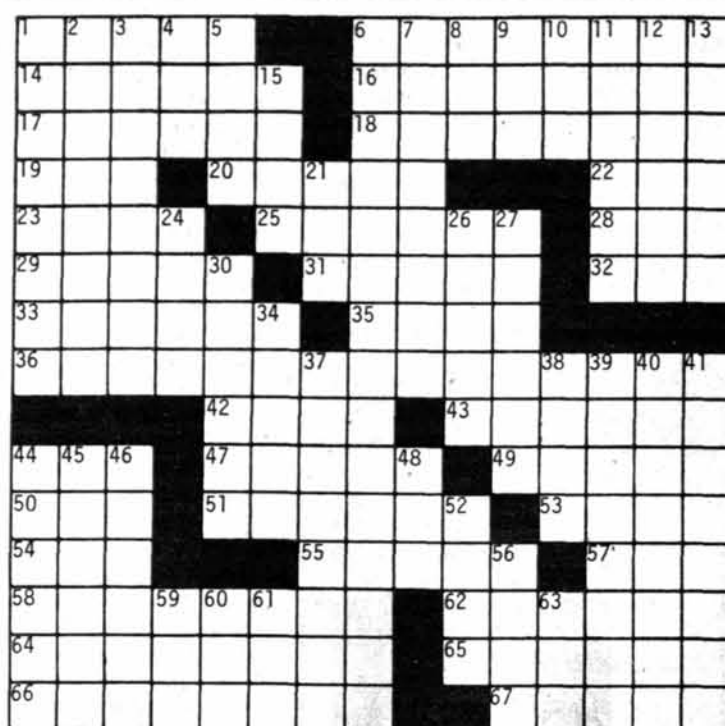
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### ■ Information

**June Degree Candidates** - Candidates with Federal and/or MIT administered student loans must have an Exit Interview with a Bursar's Office loan counselor before graduation. Call 253-4007 or e-mail ewolcott@mit.edu to schedule an appointment.



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### ACROSS

- 1 Cowboy's panatela
- 6 Footwear component
- 14 One-celled animals
- 16 Dealer in women's hats
- 17 Cut into small pieces
- 18 Distance from the x-axis
- 19 Suffix for differ
- 20 Military headdress
- 22 Mr. Rather
- 23 Miss Carter
- 25 "— so many children..."

- 28 Prefix: wine
- 29 Virgil hero (var.)
- 31 Flaming
- 32 Kitty's cry
- 33 Quite a few
- 35 Ending for ham or sem
- 36 Certain part of Congress (2 wds.)
- 42 Mr. Bellow
- 43 Spiritual meeting
- 44 Have title to
- 47 Salt trees
- 49 "Darn it!"
- 50 — volente

- 51 Slangy head
- 53 "And mine — one" -- Shakespeare
- 54 Pulver's rank (abbr.)
- 55 Metallurgy device (var.)
- 57 Organization for Greg Norman
- 58 Legato's opposite
- 62 Organized massacre
- 64 Actor who played Gene Krupa (2 wds.)
- 65 Calm
- 66 Concisely witty phrase
- 67 Lock of hair

SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE TECH

### DOWN

- 1 Uniformity
- 2 High rank or position
- 3 "— My Mind"
- 4 As easy as —
- 5 Actress Charlotte, and family
- 6 A speakeasy, nearly always (2 wds.)
- 7 Emporer of note
- 8 Like Methuselah
- 9 Mr. Wallace

- 10 — Yutang
- 11 Wreath for the head
- 12 Fuel hydrocarbon
- 13 Before this time (poet.)
- 15 Old-English letters
- 21 Shout of discovery
- 24 Zhivago's love
- 26 Oratorio solos
- 27 All dressed up
- 30 — example
- 34 Alliance acronym
- 37 Divided skirt
- 38 — avis
- 39 Painting the town red (3 wds.)
- 40 Stop sign shapes
- 41 French ladies
- 44 City in Texas
- 45 Started a fight (2 wds.)
- 46 — diet
- 48 Road sign
- 52 Napoleon and Haile Selassie (abbr.)
- 56 Robert Burns, for one
- 59 Roman 901
- 60 Armed forces head (abbr.)
- 61 Black cuckoo
- 63 Dog's snarl

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



## Notice to All Students Planning to Take Fall '96 Sloan (Course 15) Subjects

To better manage increasing enrollment demand for its classes, the Sloan School is again implementing a subject prioritization process during pre-registration for its Fall subjects.

- Students will be given priority if:

they pre-register for Course 15 subjects and submit their registration form to the MIT Registrar between 5/6 and 5/24/96,

**AND**

they fill out a Course 15 Prioritization Form between 5/14 and 5/20/96. The form will be available on-line by accessing the Educational Services Course Prioritization System Home Page on the Web (<http://sloanbid.mit.edu/es/>) from any Athena cluster on campus or at the Sloan Educational Services Office in E52-101.

- Students will find out their Sloan class enrollment status which will be posted on the Web May 22 (use the same URL as above).

For further details, refer to the Fall Term Class Schedules Booklet included with the registration material available 5/6/96) or contact the Sloan Educational Services Office in E52-101 @253-1510.

# IFC Sets Rules to Limit Early Rushing

Dinners, from Page 1

"Most of [the ruling] is based on common sense and what is [and is not] in the spirit of rush."

## Dinners will be less chaotic

The rules adopted for Thursday Night Dinners will restrict host groups in a number of ways. First, the number of living group representatives present on campus at the start of the evening will be limited. Similarly, the number of members from a group at a single restaurant will be limited.

In both situations, "blatant" rushing will be prohibited, Lee said. Groups will also be required to

return from dinner before 11 p.m.

Blatant rushing refers more generally to those activities that "go against the spirit of R/O," Lee said.

The major concern behind the administration and R/O Committee over last year's Thursday Night dinners was that "the IFC is taking steps to address the issue of what happened last year, especially the mob scene and flagrant rushing," Lee said.

"Rush chairs were very receptive and feel that these are positive steps in making R/O better for the freshmen."

The rule limiting the number of IFC living group representatives

will also benefit the freshmen. "In the past, it was 80 percent IFC groups at the dinners — now it will be more representative and give the freshmen a broader view of the different groups at MIT."

A Greek presence at the dinners benefits the freshmen in showing "not just the IFC people, but a big cross-section of MIT," Lee said.

"Also, in the spirit of rush, no house will have an advantage of having more people there," Lee said.

## Students favor Dinners event

Despite the concern of IFC, some students did not seem to favor the new restrictive legislation.

Dorm resident Shounak Lahiri '96 felt Thursday Night Dinners are a good idea. "I never felt it was a rush event. I don't think [the restrictions] will make a difference."

Susan Lee '96 appreciated the dinners as a chance to meet with clubs and other non-living groups. "If you were interested in a certain group, you could kind of get to know the people better," she said.

With regard to illicit rushing, Lee did not feel threatened. "I know some people who were rushed by frats [while at Thursday Night Dinners] even though they weren't supposed to. I thought that was kind of bad, but I don't think that is the majority" of people, Lee said.

The IFC submitted a petition of 700 signatures that protested the abolishing of Thursday night dinners to the R/O Committee.

The overall feeling was that if "upperclassmen did not have the chance to meet the freshmen before rush, it would make rush even more intense."

Thursday Night Dinners are important in providing freshmen with a "more well-rounded experience," and time for them to get to know upperclassmen, Lee said.

It would also be very hard if the R/O Committee comes up with a big event for the IFC to enforce, Lee said.

"The idea behind the petition was that IFC has a say into what is going to happen during next year's R/O, instead of the administration and R/O coming up with the whole thing," Lee said.

The R/O Committee agreed to a meeting with student groups, as a result of the petition, Lee said.

Representatives of the Association of Student Activities and Dormitory Council were also present at the meeting.

A. Arif Husain contributed to the reporting of this story.

# Staff and Financial Problems Dog CEG

CEG, from Page 11

for regular students to join a committee to redo the CEG, Norton said. The committee would work out something so the "faculty get what they want [and] students get what they want," she said.

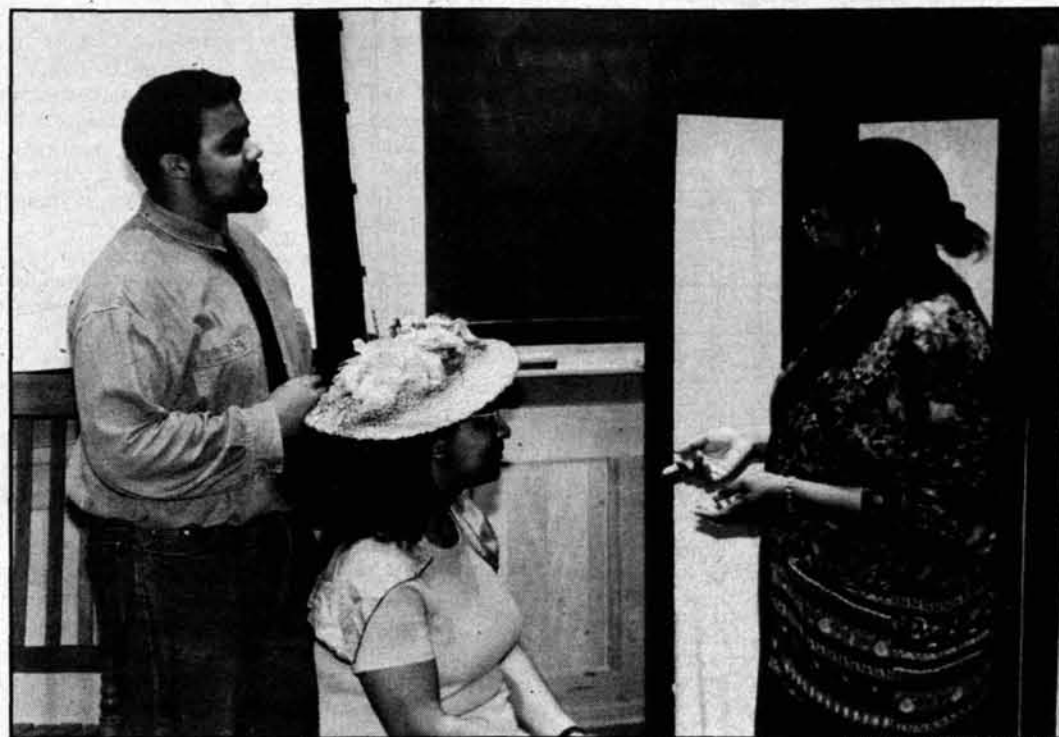
While the CEG is not currently suffering from a lack of staff, many of the people working for the guide will be graduating, Norton said. The guide has "no new blood," and Norton said she is not sure where the guide is heading.

The CEG also is dealing with financial problems. After running deficits of several thousand dollars for the past few guides, the CEG was forced to move online for the Spring 1996 edition. "But money is the least of our worries," Norton said.

The CEG's financial problems will be fixed only if someone "bails them out," said Undergraduate Association Treasurer Russell S. Light '98. "But that's out of students' hands."

The goal is to get the guide back to hard copy, Norton said. There are no complaints about its being online, but people would like to have hard copies, she said.

Students would like to see the guide continue, preferably in hard copy. "I couldn't get access to it" online, said Karen W. Seto '98. "I'm definitely for it to go back to paper."



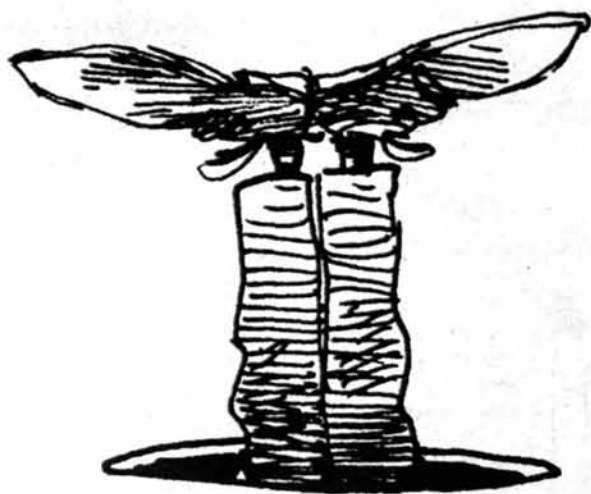
ADRIANE CHAPMAN-THE TECH

Michael K. Dowe '99, as Uncle Sam, Kenya Y. Taylor '97 as Aunt Hannah and Cheryl D. Oates G as Reverend Dorris participate in *Home*, a Black Student Theater production.



The 1998 Brass Rat will be delivered  
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## SPORTS

# Golfers End Season On a Low Note with Two Losses to CMU

By Morten W. Hoegh

TEAM MEMBER

On Sunday, April 28 the varsity golf team hosted a match at Crystal Springs Golf Club against Carnegie-Mellon University and Springfield College. It is a tradition that the CMU and MIT teams meet for a match the day before the Engineer's Cup.

The conditions at Crystal had been improving in the nice spring weather, and the course had dried considerably. The Engineers, however, did not take full advantage of the good conditions. In the match against CMU, four out of five scores counted. MIT lost the tough battle by four strokes, 333 to 329.

Captain Tom Kawamoto '96 was the medalist of the day with a solid 75. This was the last round Kawamoto would play at Crystal as a member of the team, and he was definitely satisfied with his own performance. Unfortunately, the rest of the MIT team did not follow in the footsteps of the captain. Brian Schuler '96 and Jay Grayson '97 both shot 85, and Jay Grabeklis '96 came in with an 88.

In the match against Springfield, five out of seven scores were recorded. Joe Baca '96 contributed 90 strokes to give the Engineers a

total of 423, seven strokes ahead of Springfield's 430. Young E Kim '98 and Morten Hoegh '98 also played admirably, though their scores did not count.

### MIT third at Engineer's Cup

On Monday, April 29 MIT hosted the Engineer's Cup at New Seabury Country Club on Cape Cod. Only four schools participated this year. The condition of the course was, as always, excellent, but the weather gave the players a real challenge; it rained heavily throughout the round.

The Engineers struggled on the difficult blue course. Kawamoto shot 88, while Schuler, Kim, and Grayson all finished with scores of 91. A total score of 361 placed MIT third after CMU and the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Only the Wentworth Institute of Technology finished behind MIT. This was disappointing compared to last year when MIT won both the individual and team titles. The departing seniors and Coach Jack Barry, who is retiring at the end of the year, deserved a better end to the season.

MIT's record for the year was 12-9-1, the 22nd consecutive year that the team has had a winning record.

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