



MacGregor House residents Benjamin K. Lee '99 and Jason E. Miller '98 send friend James R. Morgan '98 head over heels on Briggs Field Tuesday. Having no classes, students filled the field and enjoyed the deep snow and bright sun.

Photo by Thomas R. Karlo

Snowfall Rolls Over MIT

By Frank Dabek
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Mother Nature played a huge practical joke on the Boston area Tuesday when the city was hit by the third largest blizzard in its history. The storm resulted in accumulations of over two feet, enough to cause the first regular-term closing at the Institute in over 10 years and wreak havoc on the J. B. Carr Indoor Tennis Center and trees on campus.

"It wasn't a very difficult decision," said Vice President for Human Resources Joan F. Rice, who made the choice to close MIT on Tuesday. "I decided that it was getting too difficult for people to get around."

Rice bases her decision to close on whether or not students and faculty are "able to get here," she said. She considers the state of roads, and parking lots, as well as the status of Lincoln Laboratory.

When Rice made the decision on Tuesday, "Cambridge roads were not cleared at all" and crews at MIT had not been able to keep up with the storm in clearing parking lots.

Tennis bubble collapses

Among the most serious instances of damage to campus was the collapse of the tennis bubble.

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MIT Team Garners Seventh Place In Annual Putnam Math Contest

By May K. Tse
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT placed seventh in the 57th annual William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition held in December, according to results released over the weekend.

"Although the MIT team of three students didn't do as well as last year's third place, the individuals as a whole did better than they have in

10 or 12 years," said Professor of Mathematics Hartley Rogers Jr., the team adviser. Rogers also runs Mathematical Problem Solving (18S34), a math seminar which helps students practice for the competition.

The test was taken by 2,407 students from 408 colleges and universities across North America and Canada. Each student who took the

test was ranked for individual prizes. Teams are ranked based on the scores of three students colleges designate before the test begins, although more than three people from each school may participate.

Duke University captured top honors, followed by Princeton University, Harvard University,

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ROTC Reinsurance Policy Gets Approval

By Zareena Hussain
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid recently approved a measure that would compensate ROTC students who lose scholarships because of their sexual orientation by providing supplemental Institute loans that would later be forgiven.

This move represents the first and only fully-implemented action taken by the ROTC implementation team, which is responsible for realizing the recommendations of the ROTC task force approved in a faculty resolution last April.

The resolution called for a modified ROTC plan that would be open to all MIT students, regardless of sexual orientation, in keeping with MIT's policy on non-discrimination.

As it stands, the Department of

Defense "don't ask, don't tell" enacted in 1993 prevents an openly gay person from participating fully in ROTC. The resulting discrimination conflicts with MIT's policy of non-discrimination.

"In its present structure, an openly declared homosexual would have to be excluded from parts of the program," said ROTC Oversight Committee Chair William B. Watson, an associate professor of history.

Under the reinsurance policy, ROTC students whose federal scholarships are taken away because of their sexual orientation may apply for need-based financial aid to help replace the lost scholarship.

Since the money offered in an ROTC scholarship often exceeds a student's need as determined by the

ROTC, Page 22



THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

Firefighters wearing protective suits work to contain a chemical spill on Massachusetts Avenue yesterday evening. The street was closed to traffic during the evening rush hour because of the accident.

INSIDE

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- Some positions left uncontested in GSC elections. *Page 12*
- Students try teaching grade schoolers during Spring Break. *Page 14*
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Spring Forward!

Daylight-saving time begins Sunday. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour forward at 2 a.m.

WORLD & NATION

Clinton Says Compassion Drove Aides to Help Hubbell

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Two senior White House aides were acting out compassion when they tried to line up lucrative employment for Webster L. Hubbell after his resignation from the Justice Department, President Clinton said Thursday.

Independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr is investigating whether money paid to Hubbell after he left Justice was intended to buy his silence in the Whitewater investigation.

The White House this week acknowledged that in 1994 two of Clinton's closest aides made calls to business contacts, encouraging them to hire Hubbell, who in March of that year announced his resignation as associate attorney general and nine months later pleaded guilty to bilking nearly \$500,000 from his clients and former partners at Little Rock's Rose Law Firm.

The aides were Thomas F. McLarty and Erskine B. Bowles, now Clinton's chief of staff. Clinton said Thursday he saw nothing improper in what Bowles and McLarty did.

"They were people who were genuinely concerned that there was a man who was out of work, who had four children," Clinton said. "And as I understand it they were trying to help him for no other reason than just out of human compassion."

Repeating an assertion offered earlier this week by other White House officials, Clinton said Bowles and McLarty had no way of knowing how serious the allegations were against Hubbell, who later went to prison for 18 months.

Study Shows Day Care Not Harmful To Child Development

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

As a group, children in day care learn to think and talk just as well as those cared for by their mothers, a long-term national study has found.

The study, being released Friday by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, did find, however, that the quality of care matters: Children whose caregivers respond and speak frequently to them perform better on thinking and language tests than those in settings where they have less verbal interaction.

The first phase of research, released a year ago, concluded that day care of itself did not harm children's emotional attachment to their mothers.

When it came to intellectual skills, it was clear that the number of hours in care did not have an effect, but quality of care did.

"One very important take-home message ... is that children in child care are not doing any worse than children not in child care" on cognitive and language skills, said Sarah Friedman, coordinator of the study.

Despite Authorization, DoD Fails To Pay Vietnamese Commandos

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The Pentagon has failed to pay restitution to a group of Vietnamese commandos who were left behind in prison camps at the end of the war, despite legislation authorizing it to do so.

Congress approved the legislation last year to compensate a group of about 280 former commandos who had taken part in U.S. spy missions during the Vietnam War.

The former commandos were captured in the 1960s and left behind at the war's end, when most other prisoners of war were freed.

Secret documents released last year at the request of the Los Angeles Times showed that the U.S. government had sometimes declared the men dead, even though government agencies had intelligence reports that they were alive and being held in North Vietnamese camps or prisons.

"This conduct is criminal," said Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa.

By a unanimous vote, the Senate authorized the Pentagon to pay the men \$40,000 each for the time they spent in prison. But Pentagon spokesman Susan Hansen said the Defense Department believed it could not pay the men, because the language in the bill was unclear.

"We need to ask Congress to clarify the language," Hansen said. "We want to move forward."

WEATHER Spring Meltdown

By Marek Zebrowski
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A cold front passing through early on Friday will bring a few clouds and usher in somewhat cooler air for the weekend. As the high pressure system crests overhead on Saturday, lighter winds will turn onshore in coastal locations — a sure sign of spring. Meanwhile, a large and potent cyclone in Southern Plains will advance slowly northward toward the Great Lakes, bringing lots of inclement weather, followed by substantial temperature drops in its wake for the central sections of the country. As this storm approaches New England, we may expect rainy and colder weather to begin early next week.

Today: Partly to mostly sunny, breezy, and mild. High 56°F (13°C).

Tonight: Clear and chilly, with diminishing winds. Low 36°F (2°C) in town, slightly below freezing outside the metropolitan area.

Saturday: Sunny and pleasant with light afternoon seabreezes developing. Midday high of 52°F (11°C) may drop down a few notches near the coast.

Sunday: Fair with slowly increasing high clouds throughout the day. Chance of rain after dark. Morning lows near 4°F (4°C); afternoon highs 55–60°F (13–15°C).

Israel No Longer Wants U.S. To Extradite Hamas Leader

By Barton Gellman

THE WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM

Israel gave up its bid for extradition of a senior Hamas leader from the United States Thursday, citing the same concerns over "security and the prevention of terrorist attacks" that inspired the initial request nearly two years ago.

The Israeli decision to drop a longstanding request for custody of the Hamas figure, Mousa Abu Marzook, left his fate in the hands of the Clinton administration. Expulsion seemed possible — and Abu Marzook predicted he will be sent to Jordan — but Attorney General Janet Reno said in Washington that Marzook will remain in a U.S. jail for the time being and "we are reviewing all our options."

With Israeli-Palestinian talks unraveling and daily clashes suggesting a return to something like the Palestinian uprising of 1987-93, Israel's army and secret-service chiefs had warned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu '76 that Abu Marzook's arrival could touch off a major escalation of violence in the deteriorating political climate.

"There is no doubt that Abu Marzook deserves to spend many years in jail until the end of his life," Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters in Washington. "On the other hand we are aware of the dangers and the significance of the project called Abu Marzook."

Israel's hand on the extradition request was forced by an American legal deadline. Abu Marzook, held

by U.S. authorities since his arrest at New York's Kennedy airport in July 1995, set a 60-day clock in motion by abandoning his objection to extradition earlier this year. Netanyahu and the Clinton administration raced the deadline — next Monday — to find a face-saving retreat.

According to Russ Bergeron, spokesman for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Abu Marzook, who had lived for several years in Falls Church, Va., was taken into custody as an "excludable alien" even though he is a legal permanent resident of the United States with a green card. He was charged with excludability under a statute that applies to any "alien who has engaged in a terrorist activity" or is considered likely by U.S. authorities to do so after entering the United States.

He was turned over to the U.S. Marshals Service when Israel requested his extradition and now will be remanded to INS custody so exclusion proceedings against him can resume, Bergeron said. Where he is sent will be up to an immigration judge. It could be the last country he left on his way to the United States, his country of birth, his country of nationality, or any country willing to accept him.

In an interview with Reuters news agency, Abu Marzook said he believes the United States, Israel and Jordan have struck a deal for his expulsion to Jordan — the country that forced him to leave in 1995 at Israel's request. The Jordanian prime minister, Abdel Salam Majali, said in Washington that if the Clinton administration asks Jordan

to accept Abu Marzook, "Jordan will look into it and try to help."

Part of Israel's reluctance to try him, officials said, stemmed from anxiety that it could not establish its charges.

Israel submitted more than 900 pages of legal briefs in support of its extradition request, and U.S. District Judge Kevin Duffy found probable cause to try Abu Marzook on charges that he helped plan and finance 10 attacks that killed 47 people and wounded 148. Many accused terrorists in Israel are tried in closed military proceedings under laws that do not require the government to provide defendants with access to the witnesses or the evidence against them. Many others are held without charge in renewable six-month periods of "administrative detention."

Irit Kahan, director of the Israeli Justice Ministry's international department, said in a brief interview Thursday that neither legal route was available in Abu Marzook's case.

Hamas political figures reached Thursday congratulated Israel on its choice and continued to imply that Abu Marzook's interrogation and trial would have resulted in further bloodshed.

"Israel could not have known what would be the reaction, either from the Palestinian people or from other Arabs and Muslims," said Ibrahim Ghosheh, the Amman-based spokesman for Hamas. "The case of Dr. Abu Marzook is a famous case. Everyone is following him, everyone is admiring him, and the Israelis took this into account."

FCC OKs Plan to Introduce Digital TV in December 1998

By Jube Shiver Jr.
and Michael A. Hiltzik

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Federal regulators on Thursday gave formal approval to a plan awarding new licenses to owners of U.S. television stations so they can bring razor-sharp images, CD-quality sound and an array of new services to American viewers beginning in December 1998.

The decision by the Federal Communications Commission clears the way for the most important innovation in U.S. broadcasting since the introduction of color TV in the late 1950s.

But it also sets the stage for an epic battle between traditional TV set manufacturers like Sony Corp. and Zenith Electronics Corp. and the computer industry for dominance of the huge consumer electronic marketplace.

It also raises questions over whether the broadcasters are receiving what the public-interest group Common Cause calls a "\$70 billion corporate welfare bonanza."

And it means that many of the nation's 280 million TV set owners will have to scrap those in favor of more costly digital televisions or buy special converters in order to receive the new signals.

Digital TV sets are expected to cost from \$2,000 to \$5,000 when they first appear on the market. Although their prices will probably drop sharply, they are likely to remain hundreds of dollars more costly than today's conventional analog sets. Converter boxes may cost only \$100 per set, however.

The most immediate effect of the FCC decision is to hold the major broadcast networks to an ear-

lier pledge to launch digital service at 23 of their owned-and-operated stations in the top 10 markets within 18 months. The rest of the network-owned stations in those markets must go digital within 24 months.

FCC Chairman Reed Hundt said Thursday that by Christmas 1999, about 53 percent of U.S. households will be receiving at least three digital stations.

Because the digital signal can be electronically compressed, allowing more data to be transmitted along the comparable bandwidth of the radio spectrum, broadcasters will be able to fit three to five channels on airwaves that now accommodate only one.

The digital signal can also provide distortion-free pictures and sound rivaling movies shown in theaters, as well as data such as that transmitted today among computers wired to the Internet.

That capability would allow broadcasters of sporting events, say, to deliver a stream of team or player statistics for viewers to call up during a contest.

One question is whether broadcasters will use the greater capacity to create a vaster wasteland. Hundt, for one, has publicly called for imposing higher public-service standards on digital broadcasters.

As for technical and financial issues, broadcasters say that some equipment needed for digital broadcasting has not yet even been designed. Conversion to digital format could cost \$1 million to \$3 million per station, according to Harris Corp., the leading manufacturer of digital equipment.

The logistics of converting to digital technology could pose an

immense problem for some broadcasters, said Bob Weirather, director of TV products for Harris' broadcast division. In congested and contentious areas like New York City, he said, the logistics for overhauling transmission are so troublesome that broadcasters may have to shut down their analog signals for part of the day in order to install new digital towers.

"It's likely that there will be some delay in some places" in the changeover in equipment, he said.

The FCC's decision to give away the digital licenses rather than placing them up for auction is highly controversial because FCC officials have estimated that an auction could bring from \$20 billion to \$70 billion in bids.

The giveaway was opposed by Hundt, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., chairman of a subcommittee overseeing the telecommunications industry, and such public-interest groups as Common Cause. They observed, among other things, that the FCC rules require broadcasters to provide at least one free digital channel over the air but allows them to use the rest of their expanded channel capacity for other fee-based services, such as subscription TV and data services.

Supporters of the giveaway argue that it is necessary to subsidize the cost of analog-to-digital conversion and to preserve today's system of free, advertiser-supported over-the-air TV.

"I do not agree with those who say this is a free giveaway to broadcasters," said Commissioner Rachelle Chong. "This is a technology transfer. You just can't shut off analog TV" and start digital broadcasting.

Independent Counsels Spent \$36 Million to Probe Officials

By Toni Locy
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Independent counsels investigating President Clinton, the first lady and other administration officials have spent nearly \$36 million in two years, logging their most expensive six-month period yet by spending more than \$10 million from April through September 1996, according to the most recent figures compiled by the General Accounting Office.

The GAO report provides further evidence that Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr is carving out a place in special-prosecutor history with his spending. In the six-month period ending Sept. 30, 1996, he spent \$5,049,625, bringing his total to \$22,298,708. His investigation began in August 1994, but is approaching the cost of a longer-running probe into favoritism in the Reagan administra-

tion's Housing and Urban Development Department.

Starr's expenses also are more than twice that of his nearest competitor, independent counsel Donald C. Smaltz, who is investigating former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy's acceptance of gifts. Smaltz spent \$2,826,010 in the six-month period, according to the GAO report. Since he began his probe in September 1994, Smaltz has spent \$8,672,212.

The costs outlined in the GAO report include travel, ordinary office expenses, salaries of attorneys hired by the independent counsels and the cost of borrowing investigators from such agencies as the FBI, Internal Revenue Service, and Customs Service.

Taxpayers forked over \$1,345,767 in the six-month period for another independent-counsel investigation, even though the target

of the probe died in early April 1996. That brings the cost of independent counsel Daniel S. Pearson's investigation of former Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown to \$2,682,538. No one was indicted in Pearson's probe, parts of which were referred to the Justice Department for further investigation.

The investigation into the search of then-candidate Bill Clinton's passport files during the 1992 campaign has cost \$2,864,356.

Under the law, targets who are not indicted can recover their legal fees. Those costs are not included in the GAO reports.

Since 1978, when the independent counsel authority was created by Congress, there have been 17 independent counsels. Counting GAO's latest figures, taxpayers have paid \$125,741,312 for operating and investigatory costs.

Mississippi Suit Against Tobacco Industry Gets Five-Week Delay

By Myron Levin
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The trial of Mississippi's landmark lawsuit against the tobacco industry was moved Thursday from June 2 to July 7, as the judge rejected a tobacco industry request for a delay of at least four months.

Chancery Court Judge William Myers, ruling in Pascagoula, agreed to a five-week delay over objections from Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, who sued the industry to recover hundreds of millions of dollars in Medicaid funds spent to treat indigent patients with smoking-related ailments.

But Moore said he expected some delay following a recent out-of-court settlement with cigarette maker Liggett Group, Inc. — which agreed to provide internal docu-

ments and witnesses to attorneys general who have sued the tobacco industry in return for being dismissed from the suits.

With a long delay, Moore would have lost the distinction of being the first attorney general to bring a Medicaid suit to trial. The Florida and Texas Medicaid cases are scheduled for trial in August and September, respectively. Twenty other states have also sued the industry in hopes of recouping health care expenditures.

"We feel good about it," Moore said, referring to the five-week delay.

"It holds their feet to the fire, and we'll be first up in July," he said.

Myers also ruled that each side will be limited to a maximum of 40 expert witnesses in the trial, which is expected to last about three

months.

Industry lawyers had argued that they needed an additional four months to take the depositions of the state's expert witnesses. They also cited the March 20 settlement with Liggett, and the extra time required to review thousands of pages of Liggett documents and to examine Liggett executives and scientists who may testify for the state.

Joseph Colingo, an attorney for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., said the state also had dragged its feet in providing medical records of 20 Medicaid patients deemed to represent thousands of smokers whose health-care costs Mississippi is seeking to recoup. A spokesman for Moore denied the state has delayed turning over the informa-

Kohl to Seek Unprecedented Fifth Term as German Chancellor

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BERLIN

Chancellor Helmut Kohl announced Thursday that he will seek an unprecedented fifth term when Germans go to the polls next year, cutting short a popular guessing game about whether Europe's most senior head of government would run again — and intensifying a more serious debate about whether Kohl will still have the dynamism to push through tough reforms that Europe's biggest economy needs.

Kohl revealed his plans for a fifth candidacy near the end of a half-hour session in which he broke little new ground on the subject foremost in German minds these days: jobs. Official unemployment here is 12.8 percent and rising every month, the highest percentage since the Great Depression.

Many analysts worry that a sizable percentage of these jobless are long-term unemployed — people who will never find work unless there are radical changes in Germany's generous pay structures, social benefits and working conditions.

Kohl said he decided to seek another term after more than 15 years because of the "difficult international developments" Germany is facing. He cited the eastward expansion of NATO, and the creation of a common currency for the European Union, scheduled for 1999.

Not surprisingly, opposition politicians jumped Thursday at the new chance Kohl was giving them to criticize his handling of the economy and predict that he would lose next year's election.

"Highly decent," said the left-of-center Greens' Juegen Tritten, of Kohl's announcement. "Now people will have the chance to call to account the person responsible for the highest unemployment since 1933, and vote him out of office."

Babbitt Calls on DuPont To Drop Plans For Strip Mine

THE WASHINGTON POST

OKEFENOKEE SWAMP, GA.

Coming to the alligator-infested swamp inhabited by the cartoon possum Pogo, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt said Thursday he has met the enemy and it is DuPont.

Babbitt flew over the site of a proposed DuPont strip mine, and declared the plan "not compatible" with the neighboring ecosystem.

Babbitt called on the chemical giant to make a "grand public gesture by simply withdrawing" its plan to extract titanium oxide from the edge of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.

Babbitt urged DuPont to avoid an expensive and protracted regulatory battle by "looking elsewhere" for titanium, which he said is in plentiful supply at many less environmentally sensitive places.

"Titanium is a common mineral," Babbitt told a supportive assemblage of environmentalists and local residents, "while the Okefenokee is a very uncommon swamp."

The swamp, covered with lush vegetation including cypress and pine trees, annually attracts 400,000 visitors, half of whom camp overnight on wooden platforms that they reach by canoe.

Babbitt's biggest stick is the Fish and Wildlife Service, an Interior agency that could stall the permit process by declaring the mine a threat to endangered species that grow in the swamp.

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Run for Office!

Graduate Student Council Officer Nominations

Nominate yourself or others for the position of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Nominations accepted through Wednesday, April 2, and at the April 9 Graduate Student Council meeting.

All graduate students are eligible for office.

More information at www.mit.edu/activities/gsc or by contacting the current officers at gsc-officers@mit.edu.

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Ban on Human Cloning Is for the Best

In his column, A. Arif Husain '97 ["Critics of Cloning Can't Accept Change," March 21] argues that President Clinton's decision to ban research on human cloning is a case of uninformed governmental meddling and obstruction of scientific research. Husain believes that fears of human cloning are founded in ignorance and an archaic fear of new developments in science. Upon more careful evaluation of the issue, however, a different picture emerges.

Husain suggests that selectively mating two animals is no worse than selectively cloning one of them. The issue at hand concerns not animal cloning but people cloning.

Equating selective mating and cloning on a moral level may or may not be valid, but it is a moot point because selectively breeding humans is an idea that repulses most people.

Arguing for the potential positive benefits of human cloning, Husain writes, "Cloning may allow us to weed out genetic disease, enhance desirable traits, even deliver made-to-order progeny." Some of these ideas are precisely what bother many people. During World War II, the Nazis implemented a program of eugenics with the aim of eliminating "undesirables" from the human gene pool. Setting ethics aside, from a purely biological point of view, when you begin to artificially manipulate the gene pool by cloning, you may lower diversity and place the population at an increased risk for death on a large scale because of environmental changes.

To condemn the scientific community as "stupid researchers" who should have put "a reasonable fight" against the human cloning ban is to misunderstand them. Many scientists believe that the ban is reasonable and we should proceed with caution.

There are genuine ethical concerns involved with the potential for human cloning. Currently, people have not come up with any compelling reason to pursue human cloning that would override these ethical concerns about using human clones. Husain writes, "I hope that the leaders in our community of science are stable enough to trust themselves with risky research." Does he have enough trust to let them to decide for themselves whether such risky research is inherently worthwhile?

Michael Y. Shao '97

EC Snowman Meets Unnatural Demise

Column by Timothy K Layman

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

Monday, March 31, 1997, started out as a big disappointment. After the surprisingly warm weather of the previous Friday, it just didn't seem right that we should have a cold, slushy rain after the beginning of spring.

However, with predictions of snow on the news, it looked like we had a chance of having a white April Fool's Day.

I stayed up Monday night with two of my friends watching the weather on TV and seeing the snow pile up on the ledge outside our windows. We called x3-SNOW periodically to find out if MIT would be up and running for April 1, but I gave up and went to sleep at about 4 a.m., fully expecting that things would be operating as normal in the morning.

Actually, I didn't find out that MIT was closed until about 1 p.m. I am a final-term senior taking a light load, so I didn't have any Tuesday classes to be canceled, but it still felt good to hear that the Institute was closed by the snow.

Maybe the recent blizzard wasn't as bad as the big one in 1978, but it was still a lot of snow for someone who has lived in Georgia for the past 17 years. With two feet of snow on the ground, it reminded me of the winter from my freshman year, which, if I remember correctly, had the highest snowfall for the entire winter ever in Boston.

Since this year's snowfall had been pretty pathetic up until Tuesday, I was despairing of ever seeing a decent amount of snow again before I left MIT. I decided that I shouldn't waste the day inside, so I bundled up in layers and went out into the whiteness with two of my friends (one of whom was notorious for a column about snow she wrote for *The Tech* three years ago).

We ran into a 10-foot-tall snowman outside of the East Campus desk. Obviously some other students had been more eager to take advantage of their free time to build sculptures. The courtyard in the middle of East Campus was actually littered with people's efforts, and most of the good building snow was taken, so we were forced to go in search of unclaimed territory.

It didn't take us long to notice that the tennis courts next to Walker Memorial were still untouched. There was plenty of fresh, virgin snow ready waiting for us.

We started out with some basic snow angels and a couple of snowballs, and we even considered building a snow fort, even though there was no one around us to fight. In the end we decided to follow the time-honored tradition of building our own snowmen.

Since we were on a tennis court, we thought it would be appropriate to build two snowmen opposing each other in a mock match, although I can't imagine trying to chase after a ball in snow that I could barely walk through. With my two friends happily going to work on their snowperson, I waded over to the far side of the court to work on mine.

I had never had a serious opportunity to build a snowman before. In the few years that we've been lucky enough to get snow in Georgia, we've only had a scant few inches, hardly enough for a few snowballs. Fortunately, it wasn't too hard to get the hang of rolling and packing the snow so that it could be stacked up into a vaguely humanoid figure. Vague memories of my days as a sophomore civil engineering major went through my head.

After a good 20 minutes of rolling and packing I had a five-foot-tall, but headless, snowman. My friends had gone from building a snowman to a more-or-less "anatomically correct" snowwoman. I was ready to top mine off, but the lack of sensation in my hands and legs suggested that it was time for a break.

After a short trip inside and some hot chocolate, we were ready to go back out to finish off our snowmen. However, we didn't even make it all the way to the tennis courts before we noticed that our figures had been desecrated. Apparently, one or more people had come by and wreaked havoc upon our sculptures, fatally wounding the snowwoman and totally demolishing my snowman.

We relocated to McDermott Court, where I built a snow obelisk with another friend, but it ended up being fairly small since the snow

there was already well-trod and not very suitable for building any large objects. The obelisk at least lasted longer than my snowman, but it too was gone as I walked out of East Campus on Wednesday, long before it should have melted.

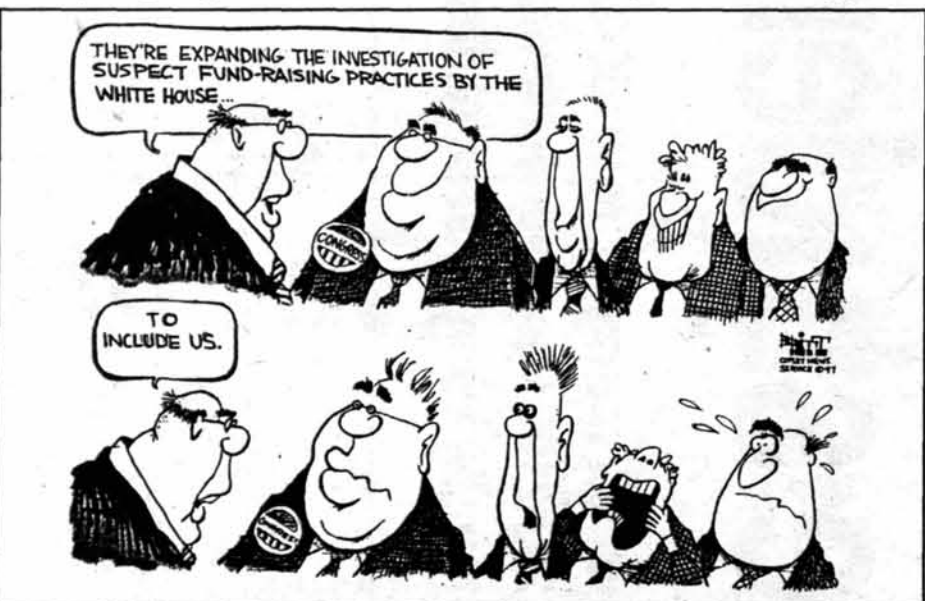
The fact that my snowman met an untimely demise didn't really disturb me that much. He was doomed from the start, destined for a brief life span of at most a couple of days. What did disturb me is that someone could walk by a snowman and think, "Hey, I feel like tearing that down!" for what might be no reason at all.

I am smart enough that I would know not to leave any of my possessions lying out in public, for fear of their being stolen, but I never would have thought that an unfinished snowman, worth no more than the water from which it is formed, would be vulnerable to attack in the open.

You may think I am strange in showing so much concern for a snowman, and yes, I'll agree that I am often strange, but not for that reason. You may think I am naive for not realizing that this is the way the world works, but I won't agree with you there.

I'll probably never build another snowman, since I'm going to be leaving for what I hope will be a warmer climate soon, one where there won't be a chance of so much snow. But if I do, I'll remember to finish it before I leave, so he can at least die with a head.

Timothy K Layman is a senior majoring in mathematics. All he is taking this term is a six-unit seminar. He spends the rest of his time eating and catching up on the sleep he missed over the past three-and-a-half years.



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Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions are accepted as well, although e-mail is preferable. Hard copy submissions must be typed, double-spaced, and addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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Belligerent CP Mars Capture the Flag Night in Killian

Guest column by Christopher D. Cilley

I originally intended to write this piece 30 days ago. Right after an incident with the Campus Police, I was ready to whip off an angry letter to *The Tech*. After a day of reflection, however, I realized that it would be only fair to let the system run its course. Or not.

The following is the text of a formal complaint I filed with Campus Police during the early morning hours of Saturday, March 1:

Last Friday (Feb. 21) with the warming weather, Bexley residents held a late night "Capture the Flag" (tag, not tackle) game in Killian Court.

Leading up to tonight, a friendly challenge was issued to residents of Senior House for a game, again late at night (starting about midnight) at Killian. About 50 people total showed up (to my knowledge, all residents of Bexley Hall, Senior House, or a few student hangers-on). At about 1 a.m., two individuals showed up who none of us knew. This became apparent when one of the young men began desperately trying to pick a fight. He started out on the Bexley half of the courtyard. No one gave him provocation, despite his harsh words and pushing.

Finding no one willing to fight back, he proceeded to the other side, repeating his performance. A number of people tried to diffuse the situation, including me and another graduate resident tutor from Bexley.

Despite numerous requests to leave, we

decided it would be best to call Campus Police to assist us and help avoid any injurious incident. Christopher (I don't remember his last name) called the CPs on the emergency phone near the entrance to Building 4. This was about 15 minutes after the apparently (obviously) drunk troublemaker showed up. The CPs arrived promptly (about three minutes) with two cars driving up to where we were.

I had no opportunity to explain any of the above to the officer who arrived first. His first words were to the effect of "Get out of here, what are you doing?" Despite calm, reasoned attempts to explain the situation (including the fact the troublemaker had 30 seconds previously entered Building 4), the officer seemingly ignored us. He repeated his demand for us to go back to our dorms and "get out." I politely asked for his name, to which he responded, "I don't have to tell you anything — get out of here."

He made no attempt to verify that we were MIT students. He said if I had questions, I could call the sergeant. I went to the emergency phone and did just that. Other choice quotes from this officer include, "The court is closed," "I'm going to call the wagon and start locking people up," and "Don't tell me how to do my job."

While I was at the phone, I know some of the other people (probably all at once) tried to reason with him. He got into his vehicle and drove a short distance away just as Sgt. William Rogers arrived. Sgt. Rogers was kind

enough to allow me to explain the situation. Just then some students reported the troublemaker was hassling students just inside the Building 4 entrance. He and another officer dealt with that situation and released the young man, hopefully satisfied themselves he wouldn't cause anymore trouble. Sgt. Rogers and another officer suggested we go through the CPs or Dean's Office if we want to hold a similarly "large" event in the future but allowed us to continue with the admonishment to be careful.

I can honestly say that the overwhelming consensus among us was that Officer Joseph Fratto (I was told his name after I began writing this complaint) behaved in an incredibly discourteous and belligerent manner. He made no attempt to address the situation for which he was summoned but instead tried to intimidate all of us into going home. He was unwilling to give his name upon a polite request. Is that CP policy? He just showed up and kicked apart an otherwise fun and harmless game among MIT students.

I'm left with the feeling that calling the CPs left us with more trouble than good and the sinking feeling that 50 more students have learned that lesson about the Campus Police. I am both angered and saddened. I look forward to the resolution of this incident. Finally, I find it almost as disturbing that the other officers present seemed more than willing to let Fratto conduct things as he did.

After filing the report, I sent e-mail to both

Chief of Police Anne P. Glavin and Senior Vice President William R. Dickson '56 imploring them to attend to the matter. Their responses indicated they had seen the complaint and were disturbed by it but said I would need to wait the 30 days to learn of its disposition (as indicated on the cover page of the complaint form).

About three weeks later, I received a phone call from the Campus Police lieutenant investigating my complaint. He wanted to know if there was anything I wanted to add to my statement. I said no. He then went on to explain that, while it is not an excuse for the behavior of the officers, the officers were probably on edge because just before coming to Killian Court, they had done a sweep of the Student Center to clear people out after an incident with "a minority sorority."

Thirty days have come and gone with no word to me or any effort made by the Campus Police to address what happened. The cover sheet to the complaint form states "MIT Campus Police prides itself with the courteous, professional manner with which it services the MIT community." As one professor to whom I related this story put it, the CPs are constantly telling us what a dangerous urban environment we live in on campus, and that is true. But it doesn't seem the most useful tactic for them to treat us like the very people they are protecting us from.

Christopher D. Cilley G is a graduate resident tutor in Bexley Hall.

Go see the latest movies for free and let us all know what you thought in *The Tech's* Arts pages! Call us at 253-1541 and ask for David, or send e-mail to arts@the-tech.mit.edu.

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THE ARTS

A brief history of
They Might Be GiantsBy Joel Rosenberg
STAFF REPORTER

It's a story of two guys who met in junior high, became friends while working on their high school paper, and started writing and playing songs together. It's the story of two guys who formed a band without a band, thanks to homemade taped rhythm tracks, later the magic of cheesy drum machines, four-tracks, and eventually an answering machine. It's a story of Johns.

John Flansburgh and John Linnell took the name They Might Be Giants from a film starring George C. Scott as a paranoid who thinks he's Sherlock Holmes and Joanne Woodward as his psychiatrist Dr. Watson. "We wanted a name that was outward-looking and paranoid," explains Linnell. The title is fitting.

They've sold over two million records with their unmistakably quirky sound and inane/funny/strange/obscure lyrics. With six albums, a whole bunch of singles and eps, and a B-side compilation to their name, they've recorded quite a bit. Their big break came with their "brand new record for 1990/They Might Be Giants' brand new album" *Flood* (that's from the intro track). It included many of what are now their most famous songs like "Birdhouse in Your Soul," "Particle Man," and certainly their most famous song, the remake of the 1950s Four Lads' "Istanbul (Not Constantinople)," which garnered them an MTV breakthrough award.

Before *Flood* came two other albums, their self-entitled debut and their second offering, *Lincoln*. Mostly four-track creations with a Moog synthesizer, an old drum kit, Music Minus One-type karaoke recordings, and baby drum machines, a bunch of the tunes were tested out on a TMBG creation that lives on today — Dial-A-Song. Always a free call to Brooklyn, always busy. Call (718) 387-6962 and the message will be one of their tunes. It made them start writing songs with clear voices and simple instrumentation (the only things that sounded acceptable on an answering machine), and if the caller didn't like it, they hung up.

These early albums have been largely overlooked, and have now been collected and re-released on a two-CD compilation called *Then: The Earlier Years* on Restless Records. In addition to the first two albums, the B-side collection *Miscellaneous T* and 19 bonus tracks (Dial-A-Song songs that too many people hung up on?) round out the box-set. The songs are a nice contrast to the band-backed offerings on the last two albums *John Henry*

and *Factory Showroom*, and finish off lots of TMBG collections that start with *Flood* (including my own).

The first song on the first disc, "Everything Right is Wrong Again," puts you right into the Giants mood, especially with the nice tempo change and quick pickup at the end. "Don't Let's Start," with the funk'n' drum track behind the distorted electric guitar is a great throwback to the beginnings of sequenced music. "Hide Away Folk Family" is one of the few songs in existence to combine a Rawhide-type theme with an accordion and a Casio-sounding bass-line. James Bond would be proud of the intro to "Youth Culture Killed My Dog," and "Kiss Me, Son Of God" (alternate version) is about as blasphemous as TMBG gets (but is only as offensive as *Jesus Christ Superstar*).

THEY
MIGHT
BE
GIANTS

The bonus tracks include "Critic Intro," a tape used to introduce the band (and do a sound check) at some of their early shows, and is a Twilight Zone-like intro which uses a bunch of soundbites from music reviewers like "If you hear only one song this year, there's something terribly wrong with you." "Fake Out in Buenos Aires" is a weird kind of rubato flamenco song that, like so many other songs, makes little to no sense, and "Greek #3" (Linnell claims to be one-eighth Hellenic) has what one Greek native calls "crappy" pronunciation. "I'm Def" sounds like "Was (Not Was)," and is probably as close to techno as



John Linnell (left) and John Flansburgh of They Might Be Giants.

TMBG comes. "Don't Let's Start" (demo version) is definitely a Casio special.

"Ana Ng" starts off disc two and also kicks off *Lincoln*, setting the stage for the second half. With standard upbeat Giants bridge and straight ahead rockin' 4/4, it's hard to not bob your head. "The World's Address" is a Latin tune that is more upbeat than the lyrics imply: "The world's address/A place that's worn/A sad pun that reflects a sadder mess." More close to home is the line, "Call the men of science and let them hear this song/Tell them Albert Einstein and Copernicus were wrong." In TMBG's defense, they sing an extremely technical song "Mammal on Apollo 18" and have an informative single, "Why Does the Sun Shine?"

"Hey, Mr. DJ, I Thought You Said We Had a Deal" is a cynical look at radio these days and how hard it would be to buy the number one song, and the whole thing ends with schoolchildren singling "Particle Man" with the generic third-grade music teacher accompanying on the piano.

The whole set is around \$24 right now. Is it worth it? If you have none (maybe one?) of the early albums, then it definitely is. More than that,

and you need to be a die-hard TMBG fan (although if you have more than one of the early albums, you're probably already a die-hard). It's a cool compilation, and the fact that it's on two discs makes it that much more portable. The liner notes have some cool history of the songs, and lyrics to them all. They did a nice job.

But wait — there's more! Not only have we been lucky enough to get *Factory Showroom* recently released (October 1996 on Elektra) which is a really good album (much better than *John Henry*, the first with-band attempt), but now TMBG is playing Avalon on Landsdowne on Saturday night. Tickets are \$15, available through Ticketmaster at 931-2000, and while it might seem a bit pricey, if you have any interest in the Giants this is not a show to be missed! They've been adding band members to their live show since after the *Flood* tour (1990), and as part of the release of *Then*, they're doing the first half of the show old-school style, with just the Johns on stage with a tape track behind them and a bunch of props on stage.

The second half brings out the band and tackles some of the more recent stuff. Boston is the only city other than Chicago to get this show, and it should be really cool. It's age 18 and over, doors at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m., and there are still tickets left.

Well, there you have it. A plot of intrigue, love, power, money, greed, and bad George C. Scott movies. Check out They Might Be Giants. They fill a very valuable, if off-beat, niche in one's musical knowledge.

MUSIC REVIEW

The Solo John

Mono Puff: Unsupervised

By Joel Rosenberg
STAFF REPORTER

You'd think that keeping busy with They Might Be Giants would be enough for John Flansburgh. Not so. Flansburgh also runs the Hello Recording Club, a subscription-only record company that releases 10 CD singles by different bands a year, each one made exclusively for Hello. Freedy Johnston, Soul Coughing, Andy Partridge, and John Linnell (of TMBG also, coincidentally) have been Hello artists. In addition, Flansburgh's solo Hello the Band did an EP, and it evolved into Mono Puff.

Flansburgh explains: "The name comes from an experience I had at the John Coltrane Church in San Francisco. There was a little girl there with a single puff of hair in a perfect circle on top of her head, and I thought if it had a name it would be called a monopuff." Same quirky John.

Anyway, in June 1996, Mono Puff put out an album on Rykodisc, *Unsupervised*, with a career objective "to spread sunshine into the world." It's easy to pick out the TMBG influence on the tunes, but there is a certain something, a certain *je ne sais quoi* if you will, that separates it.

The first track, "Guitar Was the Case," sports distorted guitars over a machinesque drum track (though this time it's an actual person) and a melody reminiscent of the *Kids in the*

Hall theme. The title track, "Unsupervised, I Hit My Head," doesn't depart much from the Giants either — upbeat, catchy, and fun. But "Hello Hello" (influenced by what, I wonder) has a really light feel which reminds me of some Euro kind of sound. Dr. Kildaire has some ska in it with a small Mexican feel (the lyrics are definitely Flansburgh).

"So Long, Mockingbird" is actually a ballad, and "Don't I Have the Right?" features Nancy Lynn Howell and sounds like a country song, completely incongruous to the rest of the album, (which I suppose is a very Gitanesque thing to do). It comes back with "To Serve Mankind" which features synthesized choral vocals on melody, as well as some bongo, and finishes off the half-hour plus disc with "Nixon's the One," a pleasant acoustic guitar introduced off-the-shelf-pop tune praising Nixon, as only these guys can.

It's not mainstream and is probably best for people looking to get

more Giants-related music, but it's not to be overlooked if you fall into this category, nor is the Hello Club (to join call 1-800-HELLO-41). Flansburgh is, after all, an "independent thinker with heightened creativity, strong entrepreneurial impulses and poor spelling habits" and is always looking to add one more person to the group that keeps his projects going.



FILM REVIEW

The Saint can't escape formulaic production

THE SAINT

Written by Jonathan Hensleigh
Directed by Phillip Noyce
Starring Val Kilmer, Elisabeth Shue, and Rade Serbe

By Jonathan Litt
STAFF REPORTER

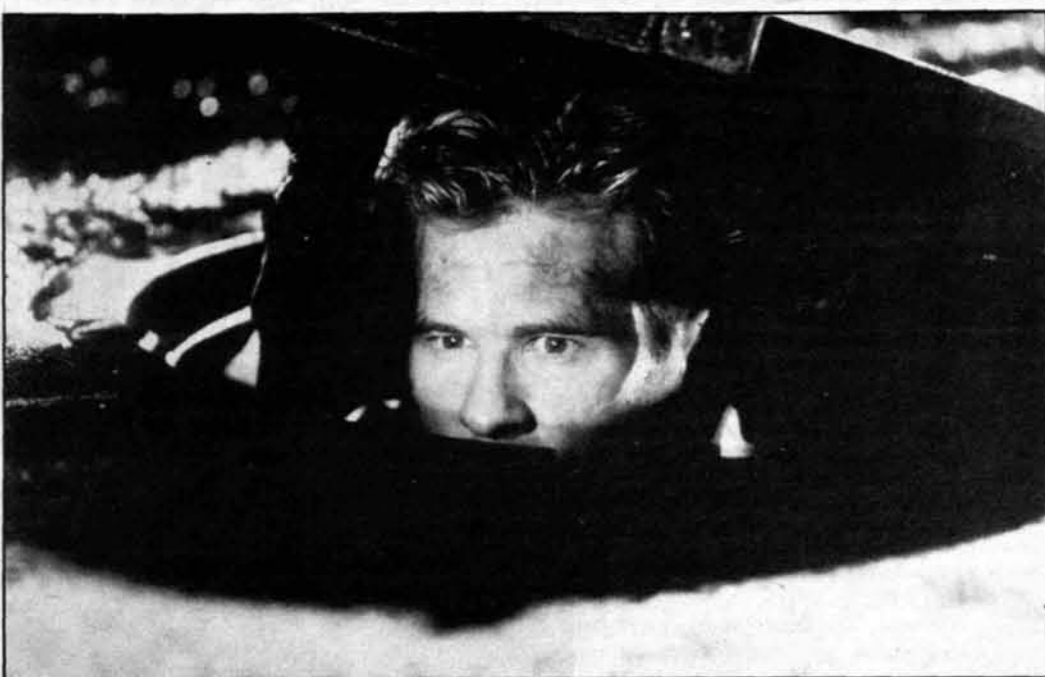
The Saint is the latest attempt by Paramount to bring a famous 1960s spy show on the big screen, in this case the 1962-68 British television series of the same name starring Roger Moore. (Their other recent attempt being last summer's hugely successful *Mission: Impossible*.)

Val Kilmer and Elisabeth Shue are mildly entertaining as the mysterious agent Simon Templar and Dr. Emma Russell, respectively, but their efforts are futile in the face of *The Saint's* corny plot and atrocious screenplay. Creating a successful movie franchise for this series is likely an impossible mission and will probably self-destruct after one film.

Templar is a high-tech thief with a penchant for disguise. In fact, Templar assumes over 11 different personas throughout the

film, although most of them have the same quasi-European accent. The opening heist starts off somewhat promising as Templar sneaks his way into a rally in Moscow for Russian billionaire and presidential-hopeful Ivan Tretiak, and then proceeds to break into Tretiak's vault to steal some kind of microchip. However, you realize that it is going to be another one of those insult-your-intelligence flicks when Templar escapes the clutches of the bad guys by jumping off the roof of a 20-story building, landing unharmed on the bed of a convenient truck.

Tretiak, impressed with this mysterious thief's ingenuity, proceeds to contact him through secret messages on the Internet in an extended World Wide Web browsing sequence complete with the gratuitous Apple Powerbook. (*Deja vu*, anyone?) We learn that Templar is eager to take up one last job and retire from his business as soon as his bank account balance reaches \$50 million. Just a few million short of 50, he then cuts a deal with Tretiak to pull off a job for \$3 million.



Val Kilmer revives the 1960s television series character of Simon Timpleton in *The Saint*.

The job, of course, is to steal the secretly discovered formula for cold fusion from a beautiful and young female scientist. Dr. Emma Russell is smart enough to discover the secret to cold fusion but apparently not smart enough to remember the equations off the top of her head, so she is forced to carry the equations around on small slips of paper stuffed into her bra. This proves convenient for Templar, although I'll leave it to your imagination to figure out how he gets his hands on

them, so to speak.

The fun begins here, as Templar and Dr. Russell both fall prey to the sinister plans of Tretiak. In a game of cat and mouse, they are chased through the streets, tunnels, rivers, and just about every other part of Moscow. The action culminates in Tretiak's attempt to become the president of Russia over the first-ever demo of a cold fusion device (which

The Saint, Page 8

FILM REVIEW

First Contact: proof the Enterprise still has some gas in it

STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT

Directed by Jonathan Frakes
Written by Ronald D. Moore and Brannon Braga.
Starring Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, James Cromwell, Alfre Woodard, Alice Krige.
Showing Saturday at LSC
3 p.m., 7 p.m., and 10 p.m. in 26-100

By Teresa Huang
STAFF REPORTER

Star Trek: *First Contact* is an exciting and intelligent film free of cheesy one-liners that provides further evidence that the "even/odd rule" still applies to *Star Trek* movies. (Ask a Trekker if you don't know it.) Directed by

"Number One" Jonathan Frakes, the movie presents fresh ideas and a new conflict between the ever peaceful Federation of Planets and the Borg, a man-machine race determined to assimilate other races into their collective.

First Contact doesn't waste any time getting right into the action. After a spectacularly rendered opening segment recalling Captain Jean-Luc Picard's abduction and assimilation by the Borg, the movie opens to find the entire Federation at battle with several Borg ships. The U.S.S. Enterprise-E, led by Captain Picard (Patrick Stewart), pursues an escaping Borg ship, traveling back in time to the 21st century, where they learn the Borg plan to sabotage and prevent the space mis-

sion in which humans made first contact with alien life. While an away team led by Commander William Riker (Jonathan Frakes), Lieutenant Commander Geordi LaForge (LeVar Burton), and Counselor Deanna Troi (Marina Sirtis) beams down to Earth to make sure the mission is completed, the crew of the Enterprise-E deal with problems of their own, namely Borg attempts to assimilate their ship. So much for the Enterprise-E.

The action in this movie was great. Even though there weren't any huge space explosions or chases, the close encounters with the Borg were frightening and suspenseful. The special effects were excellent, too, thankfully with no long, drawn-out inspection of the new ship.

The Borg are easily the most sinister and threatening force the Federation has ever encountered. They are connected as one being, and have the power to adapt to any weapon used against them, making them the most popular and complex adversary in *Star Trek* history. While the original *Star Trek* series held some degree of anti-machine sentiment, *Star Trek: The Next Generation* reflected a new attitude toward increased interaction with ship computers and the inclusion of Data (Brent Spiner), a constant reminder of the happy coexistence of man and machine. The Borg were introduced to challenge this notion by representing what

Star Trek, Page 8

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FILM REVIEW

Bad script? Feuding actors? No problem

THE DEVIL'S OWN

Directed by Alan Pakula

Written by Kevin Jarre, David Aaron Cohen,
and Vincent PatrickStarring Harrison Ford, Brad Pitt, Margaret
Colin, Ruben Blades, and Treat WilliamsBy Teresa Huang
STAFF REPORTER

The Devil's Own is an emotional look at the two sides of justice and rebellion. This quiet suspense drama contains strong character performances by Harrison Ford and Brad Pitt as two men whose personal and professional beliefs are at odds with each other and themselves.

The action takes place in New York City in 1992. Brad Pitt plays Frankie McGuire, an angry rebel in the Irish Republican Army whose hostility is driven by the memory from his childhood of seeing his father gunned down by a masked terrorist. As he grows up, the struggle in Ireland becomes much more symbolic for him than political. In order to help his cause and avoid capture by the British secret service, he travels to the United States under the alias Rory Devaney with intentions to purchase Stinger missiles that could change the balance of power in Ireland. Peter Fitzsimmons, a New York judge and Irish loyalist played by George Hearn (*Sneakers*), arranges for Rory to stay in the suburban Staten Island home of Sergeant Tom O'Meara, played by Harrison Ford, an unsuspecting New York police officer who thinks he's giving an Irish immigrant a place to stay while he gets settled in the United States.

The O'Meara family is warm, compas-



In *The Devil's Own*, police officer Tom O'Meara (Harrison Ford) takes in Rory Devaney (Brad Pitt) thinking he is a refugee from Ireland, but soon learns that he's a terrorist in the United States looking to purchase Stinger missiles.

sionate, and tender with each other and with their guest. For the first time in his life, Devaney sees what his life could be without constant war, and feels torn between his commitment to the beliefs which dictate his hazardous lifestyle and the affection and hospitality he receives from the O'Meara family. When O'Meara's family is threatened by his presence, the truth emerges and Tom O'Meara is faced with a conflict between his lifestyle of justice and his new-found friendship with Devaney. How can he arrest someone who he believed and trusted? Betrayals abound and the tensions climax as Devaney's mission to secure the weapons reaches completion.

The Devil's Own spends almost the entire movie developing the two main characters, showing how they deal with personal setbacks and professional problems. Pitt's character has an unpleasant encounter with arms dealer Billy Burke, played by Treat Williams (*Mulholland Falls*), and the way Devaney deals with him is contrasted by the way Ford's character deals with witnessing a fatal mistake by his friend and coworker Sergeant Edwin

Diaz, played by Ruben Blades (*The Color of Night*). The leading men seem like they should be complete opposites, but they find a camaraderie and bond that is so strong, not even Devaney's lies can destroy it.

Though this film has been criticized for being too character-driven and not violent enough, I believe that's what makes it a fresh and original movie. Devoid of exploding cars or bombs, the action is close enough to home that the conflict seems moving, yet it's impressive enough to fill the big screen. Both Pitt and Ford are compelling in their roles and the conflict that arises between them becomes almost inevitable as we see their characters develop.

The Devil's Own is a welcome change among an era of violent political blockbusters. Though both stars have been vocal about problems with the script, nothing seems out of place in this film, which is refined and powerful in its subtlety. *The Devil's Own* may be relatively subdued for a Hollywood movie involving the IRA, but it presents the struggle between destiny and duty in a real and heartfelt way.

FILM REVIEW

I expected more from the promised land

JERUSALEM

Directed by Bille August

Written by Bille August, based on the novel by
Selma Lagerlöf.Starring Maria Bonnevie, Ulf Friberg, Lena
Endre, Pernilla August, Sven-Bertil Taube,
Reine Brynolfsson, Olympia Dukakis, Max
von SydowBy Teresa Esser
STAFF REPORTER

Jerusalem is a gorgeous and fascinating film that proves the adage: Life is what happens to you as you're making other plans. Set in turn-of-the-century Sweden and Palestine, *Jerusalem* traces the lives of Ingmar (Ulf Friberg) and Gertrud (Maria Bonnevie) as they sort out complicated questions of love, faith, and filial duty.

Friberg is stellar in his role as Ingmar Ingmarsson, the first-born son of a clan that has ruled a small Swedish parish for ages. Cheated out of his rightful inheritance by a jealous brother-in-law, Ingmar leaves his fiancée, Gertrud, and goes off to work at the family's distant sawmill. While he labors at the task of turning trees into boards, the local townspeople grow desperate for a new church leader. Into this spiritual vacuum walks the American evangelist Hellgum, a messianic fire-and-brimstone preacher who can cure psychosomatic paraplegia by the laying on of his hands. Once Hellgum has recruited Ingmar's sister Karin, he takes over her farm and sets up operations in the Ingmarsson living room.

As Ingmar labors diligently in the woods, Hellgum convinces a number of the villagers to join his cult. "There are 30 of us living in a house in Chicago," Hellgum explains. "We share everything. Soon we shall build a new Jerusalem."

The other villagers don't take kindly to Hellgum's habit of discouraging his followers from associating with those outside the cult, especially when one woman grows ill and needs to see a doctor. After this medical request is refused and the woman succumbs to her illness, preacher Hellgum is forced to leave the village.

The central conflict of the movie emerges when Hellgum invites his followers to leave Sweden and to build their New Jerusalem in Palestine.

"Perhaps God deems me unworthy," says one parishioner. "He thinks I love our fields and pastures too much."

"Nonsense," says his wife. "Listen harder! He calls you, too."

The strength of the movie lies in exchanges like these, which help to make the outrageous plot twists more believable. In the end, some two dozen parishioners follow Hellgum to the promised land.

One excellent scene involves the parishioner's reactions to a summer rainstorm. After a youth dance is interrupted by a surprise downpour, the guilty dancers huddle together and pray fervently. "Oh Lord," they cry, "we meant no harm!"

Another outstanding scene involves Karin's decision to auction off the family farm in order to give the proceeds to the cult. Ingmar, who has promised his dead father that he will take over the management of the farm, feels obligated to remain on the land regardless of whatever this will cost.

Meanwhile, his true love Gertrud is making preparations to follow her personal Jesus to the promised land. Gertrud is convinced that she has seen Jesus on more than one occasion, and that he approves of her decision to travel to Palestine. "Do you want to know a secret?" she asks Gabriel, a fellow Hellgumite. "Jesus is coming!"

"Today?" Gabriel asks.

"No, tomorrow," she replies.

The film moves by leaps and bounds, transporting viewers from the icy rivers and pastoral fields of Sweden to the arid, rocky landscape of Palestine. Some of those who have sold everything and followed Hellgum to the promised land are disappointed to find themselves sleeping on stark cots in the single-sex bedrooms provided by the colony. The genders remain segregated even at mealtimes, where "Mother" (Olympia Dukakis) presides over the serving of bread and soup.

The three-hour film, which was selected as Sweden's official Oscar entry, was based on the novel by Selma Lagerlöf.

The Saint only an unfortunate return

The Saint, from Page 7

looked a lot like a spotlight pointing into the air).

An original ending involved the death of Dr. Russell, but test audiences gave it a thumbs down so a happy ending was reshot earlier this year.

The Saint might please a few die-hard Val Kilmer fans, but overall it is an entirely uninspired piece of filmmaking. With movies like this being the norm for Hollywood these days, it's no wonder that the major studios grabbed only five of the 24 Academy Awards last week. As always, should the movie fail to achieve success, the studio will disavow any knowledge of its existence.

Machine and man conflict in Star Trek

Star Trek, from Page 7

happens when technology loses its humanity.

According to *Star Trek* history, the Borg have never really wanted to be more human. They strive to be more perfect and view humans as flawed beings in fragile bodies. *First Contact* is interesting because the Borg here weren't just trying to assimilate into their collective, but we see that the Borg now strive for a partnership rather than a domination of the human race, a theory explained by the Borg Queen, played by Alice Krige (*Sleepwalkers*).

Alice Krige was sufficiently creepy as the Borg Queen. Even though the leader of the Borg collective was a woman and displayed plenty of feminine, human qualities, she was still frighteningly machine-like and cold, which gave an interesting contrast.

Patrick Stewart and Jonathan Frakes saw

their roles reversed: Stewart was the tough guy yelling at everyone while Frakes was rather likable. Patrick Stewart's performance was good, though not stellar. His role did, however, give the audience an opportunity to see the complexities of his character and show how his experiences with the Borg affected his command and his personality in ways he still hadn't realized himself.

Alfre Woodard (*Primal Fear*, *How to Make an American Quilt*) gives a terrific performance as Lily Sloane, the 21st century woman who accidentally awakens while in the Enterprise's sick bay and who gets caught up in the chaos on the ship. Though her role was not always clear, she provided most of the comic relief and stood as a layman's challenge to the future. The introduction of Captain Picard gives her to the ship and to the future is wonderfully visionary and also serves as an introduction to the non-devoted Trekker.

James Cromwell (*Babe*) was also great in his role as Zefram Cochrane, the man who invented the warp drive and made first contact with alien life. There were also plenty of terrific cameos by recognizable characters, including one introduced by Doctor Crusher that is sure to please fans.

First Contact isn't just another *Star Trek* movie, but a good action-packed drama as well. It's an effective mix of *Star Trek* culture, action, and suspense, serving as a good introduction to the technological and social utopia *Star Trek* depicts. If you're a Trekker, *First Contact* may be just what you've been waiting for from the *Next Generation* cast. If you're not a Trekker, go see it anyway — you may become one after all.

Nightline

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ON THE TOWN

Popular Music

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Popular Music

Jmoe

Somerville Theater. April 3, 8:30 p.m. Doors, \$12. Information: 931-2000.

Squirrel Nut Zippers

The Roxy Ballroom. April 4, 6:30 p.m. Doors, 21+, \$15.50. Information: 931-2000.

They Might Be Giants

Avalon. April 5, 6 p.m. Doors, 18+, \$15. Information: 931-2000

Classical Music

Boston Conservatory Chorale

St. Clement's Shrine, 1105 Boylston St., Boston. April 4, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 536-6340. William A. Seymour conducts Vivaldi *Gloria* and works by Heinrich Schütz, Tomás Luis de Victoria, Hovhanness, and Mendelssohn.

Boston Conservatory Chamber Players

First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston. April 6, 4 p.m. Admission: \$10; students

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
April 4 - 10

Compiled by Cristián A. González

Send submissions to ott@the-tech.mit.edu or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

and seniors, \$7. Information: 536-3063. Boston Conservatory Chamber Players, Michael Lwein, artistic director, perform Beethoven *Piano Quartet in E-flat, Op. 16*, Mussorgsky *Songs and Dances of Death*, featuring baritone Robert Honeysucker, John Clement Adams *New Work for Violin and Piano*, Moszkowski

Suite in G minor for Two Violins and Piano, and Arthur Smith *Dueling Fiddles*.

Gary Steigerwalt, piano

Sully Hall, 8 The Fenway. April 8, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 536-6340. Schubert *Sonata in A minor, Op. 42*, Copland *Piano Variations* and

Liszt *Valee d'Obermann*, Petrarch *Sonnet No. 104*, and the *Dante Sonata*.

Dominique Labelle and Boston Museum Trio

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. April 6, 3 p.m. Admission: \$18; MFA members, seniors, students,

\$15. Information: 369-3306. Soprano Dominique Labelle will join the Boston Museum Trio (Daniel Sepner, baroque violin; Laura Jeppesen, viola da gamba; and John Gibbons, harpsichord) for music of Jean-Philippe Rameau and Louis Nicolás Clérambault. The program will include Rameau's *Pièces de*

Clavecin en Concerts, and Clérambault's dramatic cantata, *Medée*.

Scubert/Brahms Vocal Ensemble
Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory of Music, 8 The Fenway, Boston. April 11, 8 p.m. Admission: \$15, \$20, \$25. Information: 266-3605. Soprano soloist Maragret O'Keefe and a Handel and Haydn Society ensemble perform under Handel and Haydn Society Associate Conductor Joh Finney. Program includes Schubert's *Miriam's Song of Triumph D942* and Brahms's *Liebeslieder, Op. 52*.

Film

The Museum at the John F. Kennedy Library

Columbia Point, Boston. Through June 1: Fri.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$6; seniors and students, \$4; ages 6-12, \$2; under 6, free. Information: 929-4523. Films run continuously during the day. *Cuban Missile Crisis*. Film documenting the October 1962 confrontation with the Soviet Union. Through June 1. *Fight Against Segregation*. A film on events leading up to JFK's national address on civil rights. *Son of Ireland*. Portrays Kennedy's visit to his ancestral home. Through June 1.

Whales

Museum of Science, Science Park, Cambridge. Through April 30. Admission: \$7.50; seniors and ages 3-14, \$5.50 (Tues., bargain nights for all shows 7 p.m. and later, \$5; seniors and ages 3-14, \$3). Information: 723-2500. Film follows the life cycles and travels of blue, humpback, and right whales from Argentina to Alaska.

Ongoing Theater

mAlice: An Improv Tabloid Odyssey

Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston. Through April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: \$10 if reserved in advance; \$12 at door; \$2 discount for students. Information: 887-2336. A foray into the surreal world of tabloid media, mAlice combines improvised scenes, music, video, and drawing as Alice negotiates the wonder world where personal tragedy has been repackaged as popular entertainment.

Rent

Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston. Through April 27. Tues.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 7 p.m.; matinees, Sat.-Sun., 2 p.m. Admission: \$25-\$67.50.

Continued on next page



Renee Zellweger plays Dorothy, a loyal secretary to sports agent Jerry Maguire (Tom Cruise) in *Jerry Maguire*, showing Friday at LSC.

FILM REVIEW

The good old days really weren't so easy

INVENTING THE ABBOTTS

Directed by Pat O'Connor

Written by Ken Hixon

Starring Liv Tyler, Joaquin Phoenix, Billy Crudup, Jennifer Connelly, Joanna Going, Will Patton, Kathy Baker

By Teresa Huang

STAFF REPORTER

Set in the 1950s, *Inventing the Abbotts* tells the story of three emotional years in the lives of five teenagers in the small town of Haley, Ill. For each of them, their days are filled with ice cream, fist fights, and heartache as their paths cross and their lives are woven together.

The story is told in *Wonder Years* style through the eyes of Doug Holt, played by Joaquin Phoenix (*To Die for*). The youngest of the two Holt brothers, Doug gets caught up in his brother Jacey's obsession to gain control over the rich and beautiful daughters of the affluent Lloyd Abbott, the town millionaire played by Will Patton (*Fled, The Client*). Jacey Holt, played with brute rage by Billy Crudup (*Sleepers*), blames his family's poverty on an unresolved matter regarding a product patent owned by Lloyd Abbott which Jacey believes is rightfully his late father's, and in revenge he seeks to infiltrate the Abbott family through the daughters.

Liv Tyler (*Stealing Beauty, That Thing You Do!*), Jennifer Connelly (*Mulholland Falls, Labyrinth*), and Joanna Going (*Wyatt*

Earp) play the Abbott daughters, each with their own personality, problems, and desires. Alice (Joanna Going) is the good daughter who listens to her father, even when he forces an unhappy marriage on her. Eleanor (Jennifer Connelly) is the bad one who manipulates Jacey's attraction to her to break out of her constrained, cookie-cutter lifestyle. Pam (Liv Tyler) is the youngest sister, whose relationship with Doug Holt is constantly upset by the chaos around her.

All five actors turn out fantastic performances in this tale of love and revenge. The chemistry between the youngest characters, Pam and Doug is the best in the film. His bumbling yet sensitive manner complements her down-to-earth innocence perfectly. The scene involving their first kiss is superbly done.

Their romance is sincere and simply cannot be broken by the transgressions of Crudup's character. Joanna Going is effectively delicate in appearance as the weak daughter, while Jennifer Connelly plays the mischievous daughter very well. All the actors give skilled performances as teenagers on



Joanna Going, Billy Crudup, Jennifer Connelly, Joaquin Phoenix, and Liv Tyler star in *Inventing the Abbotts*.

screen, acting older than they are in a believable way.

Kathy Baker is suited to her role of school teacher and mother to Doug and Jacey Holt. Her quiet devotion to her emotional children and her late husband are admirable. Will Patton's performance as the rich Lloyd Abbott is also filled with complexities and heart.

Inventing the Abbotts deals with many different themes, including the conflicting desires of rich and poor people to be in someone else's shoes (though not each others' shoes), young love and how fragile it is, and how the

affairs of the parents affect their children's lives in a time when "Elvis is hot, gas is cheap, and sex is ... imaginable." Films set in the 1950s usually try to remind you how simple life was back then, but *Inventing the Abbotts* actually shows you how simple it wasn't.

This absorbing drama about young love, sexuality, and integrity is excellently cast and well acted. The interactions are effective, the tensions are high, and the ending is heart-warming. Sure to be the sleeper hit of the season, *Inventing the Abbotts* is the spring's best date movie so far.

On The Town

Continued from page 9

Information: (800)447-7400. Musical based on Puccini's 1896 opera *La Bohème*.

Exhibits

MIT Museum

265 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission: \$3; non-MIT students, seniors, and under 12, \$1; MIT students, free. Information: 253-4444.

What's So Funny About Science? Cartoons of Sidney Harris offer a hilarious look at unexpected and incongruous moments in science. Through May 31.

Maps from the Age of Atlases. Rare maps from the Museum's Hart Nautical Collections illuminate the golden age of cartography. Through May 4.

Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson. Ganson's kinetic sculptures exude the wit of their creator, a self-described cross between a mechanical engineer and a choreographer. Ongoing.

Lightforest: The Holographic Rainforest. Large-scale hologram exhibit by Betsy Connors. Ongoing.

Holography. The exhibition explores the holographic universe from its inception in the late 1940s through its artistic and technical evolution and highlights works by the world's foremost holographers. Ongoing.

Math in 3D. Morton C. Bradley's mathematical sculptures inspire inventors of all ages to create their own structures in the adjacent Mathspace activity center. Ongoing.

MIT Hall of Hacks. Chronicling MIT's rich hacking tradition, this exhibition features historic photographs and a collection of artifacts. Ongoing.

Light Sculptures. Vivid interactive plasma sculptures by Center for Advanced Visual Studies alumnus Bill Parker. Ongoing.

Hart Nautical Gallery

55 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Mon.-Sun., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-4444.

Ships for Victory: American Shipbuilding's Finest Hour. Historic photographs and artifacts explore the shipbuilding programs of World War II, the vital and unprecedented contribution of women to these programs, and MIT's pivotal role in the shipbuilding effort. Ongoing.

Ship Models. Rare models illustrate the evolution of ship design from the 16th to 20th centuries. Ongoing.

On the Surface of Things: Images in Science and Engineering by Felice Frankel.

Compton Gallery, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Feb. 14-June 27: Mon.-Sun., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-4444. Stunning photographs communicate recent

research in a variety of disciplines at MIT and other institutions.

The Race to the Moon

The Museum at the John F. Kennedy Library. Off Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester. Through June 1: Fri.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$6; seniors and students, \$4; ages 6-12, \$2; under 6, free. Information: 929-4523. Exhibit on America's pioneering space exploration.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed.-Fri., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Admission: \$10; seniors and college students, \$8; ages 17 and under, free; Wed. after 4 p.m., voluntary contribution; Thurs.-Fri., after 5 p.m., \$2 discount. Information: 267-9300.

The Art of John Biggers: View from the Upper Room. Exhibit of the black artist's drawings, prints, paintings, and sculptures. Through April 20.

Beyond the Screen: Chinese Furniture of the 16th and 17th Centuries. The exhibit aims not only to explore the beauty of Chinese art forms, but also to carry the viewer into the physical surroundings of their time. Through May 18.

This is the Modern World: Furnishings of the 20th Century. The exhibit relates the look of objects intended for everyday use to the creative vision of the artist-maker or designer, and the demands of technology, function, cost, and the needs and desires of the potential buyer or user. Through September.

Botticelli's Witness: Changing Style in a Changing Florence

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston. Through April 6: Tues.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$9; seniors, \$7; college students with ID, \$5; ages 12-17, \$3; under 12, free. Information: 566-1401. Works by Sandro Botticelli, one of the most influential artists of the Italian Renaissance.

USS Constitution Museum

Navy Yard, Charlestown. Mon.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission: \$4; seniors, \$3; ages 6-16, \$2; under 6, free; under 16 when unaccompanied by an adult, free. Information: 426-1812.

Old Ironsides in War and Peace. Retrospective celebrating the USS Constitution's upcoming 200th birthday. Includes artifacts such as the sea bag and possessions of an 1812 crew member, hands-on activities, and photographs. Ongoing.

Strengthening Old Ironsides. Color photographs documenting the four-year rehabilitation and restorations of the ship. Ongoing.

Capturing Old Ironsides on Canvas. Works by artist Cheslie D'Andrea. Ongoing.

Living with Ants and the Science of E.O. Wilson

Harvard Museums of Cultural and Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge. Through April 30: Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Admission: \$5; seniors

and students, \$4; ages 3-13, \$3; Sat. 9 a.m.-noon, free. Information: 495-3045.

Inside Fort Independence: An Archaeological View of Military Life

Commonwealth Museum, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 727-9268.

The Pyramids and the Sphinx: 100 Years of American Archaeology at Giza

Semitic Museum, Harvard University, 6 Divinity Ave., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 1-4 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 495-4631. Collection of photos and artifacts. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission: ages 12 and up, \$9.50; seniors, \$8.50; ages 3-11, \$5; under 3, free. Information: 973-5200.

The Otter Limits. Construction relocation of aquarium's colony of harbor seals and sea otters to a new, enlarged habitat behind the aquarium.

Ponds: The Earth's Eyes. Self-guided tour of freshwater habitats. **Go with the Flow.** Problems and solutions for Boston Harbor.

Giant Ocean Tank. 187,000-gallon coral reef tank.

Rivers of Americas: Amazon and Connecticut.

Old State House Museum

State and Washington Streets, Boston. Mon.-Sun., 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$3; seniors and students, \$2; children, \$1.50. Information: 720-3290.

Trophies and Treasures: Two Centuries of Luxury at Shreve, Crump and Low. Through July 31. **When the Boys Came Marching Home.** Everyday life in post-World War II Boston. Through August.

Museum of Our National Heritage

33 Marrett Rd., Lexington. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 861-6559.

Collecting the Southwest: The Harvey Family Legacy. The Harvey Company was instrumental in opening the southwest to commercial tourism at the turn of the century. Premiere examples of native American weavings and paintings are found in two exhibitions. Through Sept. 14.

Over There: The Yankee Division in World War I. The story of the 26th "Yankee" Division is dramatized through military artifacts, documentary photographs, and memorabilia from the homefront. Through June 22.

Original Visions: Shifting the Paradigm, Women's Art 1970-1996

Boston College Museum of Art, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill. Through May 18. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 552-8100. Exhibit includes paintings, photographs and sculptures.



Endellion String Quartet

Kresge Auditorium, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 6, 4 p.m.; April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-2906. Andrew Watkinson, first violin; Ralph de Souza, second violin; Garfield Jackson, viola; David Waterman, cello. Program includes Haydn, *Op. 54, No. 3*; Britten, *Quartet #1 in D*; Schumann, *Quartet in A minor*.

On Campus

MIT Chapel Series

MIT Chapel, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 10, noon. Admission: free. Information: 253-9800. Brazilian and Spanish Music for guitar and soprano. Jay Rosenberg, guitar, percussion, voice; June Howe, soprano.

Architecture Lecture Series

77 Massachusetts Ave., Room 10-250, Cambridge. April 8, 6:30 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-7791. "The Impact of Digital Technology on Space and Place" talk by Micha Bandini, Georgia Institute of Technology.

Martini-in-Transit Poetry at MIT: William Corbett

Bartos Theater, 20 Ames St., Cambridge. April 8, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-6475. Poet William Corbett reads from his newly published memoir, *Furthering My Education*, published by Zoland Press (1997), followed by a book signing.

Music at the Coffeehouse

24-Hour Coffee House, Student Center, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 8, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-7972. Mortal Wombat (rock).

authors@mit Reading Series

77 Massachusetts Ave., Room 54-100. April 10, 5:30 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-5249. Paul Krugman will discuss his book *Pop Internationalism*. Co-sponsored by MIT Humanities and Dewey Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase.

Colored Girls with Pens: Writing by Women of Color

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. Admission: free. Information: 253-5683. Reading by Shirley Geok-Lin Lim. Will read from her memoir, *Among the White Moon Faces*. Presented by MIT Women's Studies, MIT Office of the Arts, MIT Humanities Library and the Committee on Campus Race Relations at MIT, in collaboration with Wellesley College.

Latin American Classical Guitar Concert: Pablo Ortiz

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 437-7300. Sponsored by MIT Club Latino and the MIT Council for the Arts. Pablo Ortiz will be the featured performer. He completed his guitar studies at the Real Conservatorio Superior in Madrid, Spain. Ortiz finalized his degree with Demetrio Ballesteros, a student of Andrés Segovia. Ortiz has performed in important concert halls and theaters in Europe, North America, and South America. Currently, he is a Professor of Music at the Universidad Nacional, in Heredia, Costa Rica.

Lecture Series Committee

77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Admission: \$2. Information: 258-8881.

Jerry Maguire

April 4, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., Room 26-100. Jerry Maguire (Tom Cruise) is a cutthroat sports agent whose sudden act of conscience costs him his job, his clients, and his fiancée. He then has to put his life back together with only one client, a football player with a serious attitude problem (Cuba Gooding Jr.), and one employee, a secretary who falls for him.

The Wild Bunch

April 4, 7:30 p.m., Room 10-250. Directed by Sam Peckinpah. Starring William Holden, Robert Ryan, Ernest Borgnine, Emilio Fernández. In Texas in 1914, Pike Bisho (Holden) and his gang rob a railroad office unaware that Deke Thornton (Ryan), Bishop's ex-partner, is now on the payroll of the railroad and has set an ambush for them. Their escape from the ambush takes them to Mexico, where events take the most unexpected turn. Peckinpah's portrayal of the decay of the values presented by more conventional Westerns is exhilarating.

Star Trek: First Contact

April 5, 3 p.m., 7 p.m., and 10 p.m., Room 26-100. In the latest of the Star Trek movies, the crew of the Enterprise must face their most dangerous enemy, the Borg. After a failed attack, the Borg travel back in time in an attempt to stop the defining moment of the Federation. Starring Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, Brent Spiner, and the rest of the TNG crew.



Double Team, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Dennis Rodman, opens today across Boston.

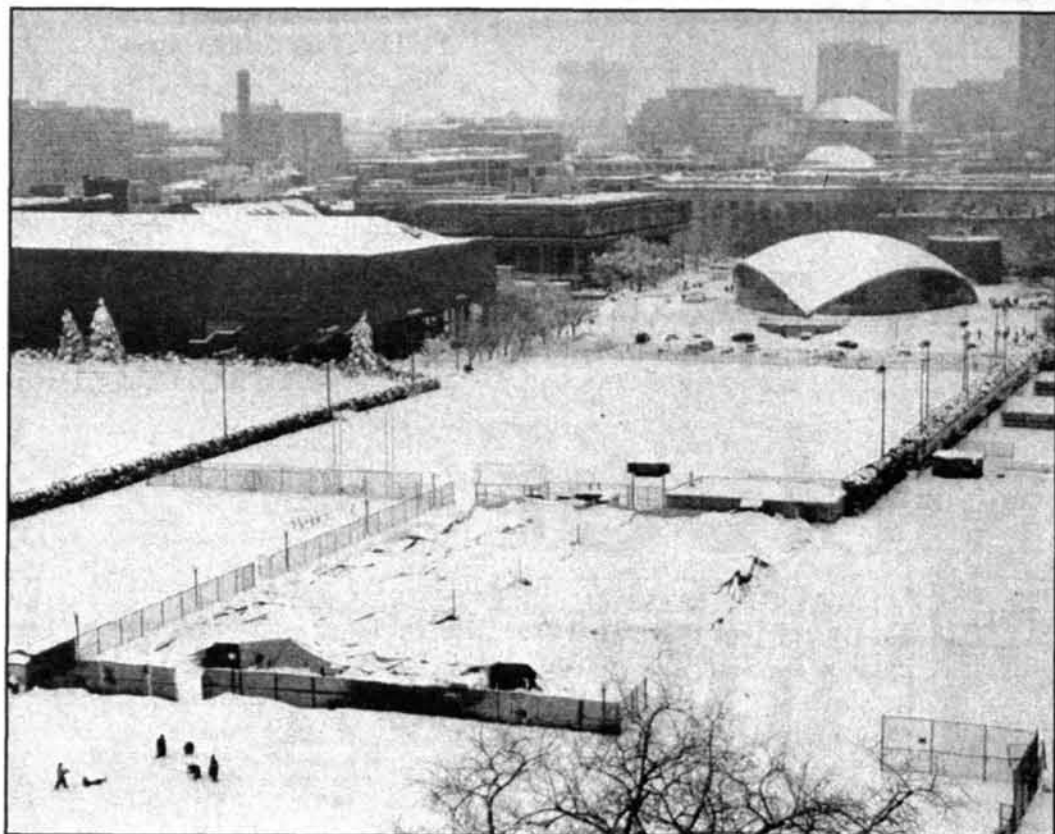
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THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH
The J. B. Carr Indoor Tennis Facility collapsed under the weight of the snow on Monday evening.

Three Positions Left Uncontested For Next Week's GSC Elections

By Dan McGuire
NEWS EDITOR

Graduate Student Council members may be presented with a relatively small list of candidates next Wednesday as they prepare to elect next year's officers. Three of the four open positions, including those for president, vice president, and treasurer are currently uncontested. The fourth position, GSC secretary, has no candidates.

Council members, however, may end up with two contested elections. "The nominations only close if a position isn't filled," said current GSC President Constantine A. Morfopoulos G. As a result, nominations for the president and trea-

surer slots are closed.

The vice presidential slot may prove more interesting, however. "We have a special situation in the candidate for vice president. The candidate isn't sure whether he's going to be around for a full term," Morfopoulos said. The GSC will accept additional nominees for the position at its meeting. The GSC will also accept nominees for secretary at the meeting.

Morfopoulos expects someone to come forward at the meeting to fill the secretary slot, he said. "I think someone will step up. I think that people are interested; it's just a question of convincing them to step up."

"If there is no secretary, that will

be a problem because there will be more work for GSC officers and committee chairs," said Geoffrey J. Coram G, the candidate for president.

Coram plans short commitments

Coram is trying to tackle the apathy problem by encouraging people to make smaller commitments to the organization, he said. We want "to focus more on people who don't make a year's commitment, but who can make a short commitment to cure a problem that's been bugging them," he said.

Coram plans to issue a survey to graduate students, allowing them to

GSC, Page 15

Chemical Spill near MIT Causes Scare

By Frank Dabek
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A chemical spill yesterday evening at around 5 p.m. on Massachusetts Avenue warranted a response by fire and hazardous materials teams and closed the street for several hours.

The truck spilled chemicals at 355 Massachusetts Ave., directly across from the Women's Independent Living Group, but no one was evacuated from the building. The truck was transporting chemicals to local businesses.

According to the Gerald Reardon, deputy chief of the Cambridge Fire Department, the spill was first reported by the driver of the truck who noticed a "pungent odor." The driver stopped the truck at University Park near the fire station at Main Street and Massachusetts Avenue and noticed a leak from a container labeled hazardous.

The driver was examined at the scene and did not appear to be injured, but was taken to a Cambridge hospital as a precaution.

The truck was carrying derivatives of ether, methanol, and ace-

tonitrile, which are highly flammable, Reardon said. In addition, the chemicals are "absorbed through the skin and respiratory system and can have long term effects with large quantities," he said.

The chemicals are used in local laboratories and pharmaceutical companies. Officials did not release the name of the company to which the shipment was bound, but Reardon confirmed that MIT was not the recipient of the shipment.

Hazardous materials teams on the scene worked to contain the spill. The plan for disposal, according to Reardon, was to place the toxic materials in a drum with an absorbent substance, add more absorbent, and then seal the drum. "Once the drum is sealed we will have mitigated the problem," he said.

The incident will be investigated by fire officials, but no particular violations were evident and that the spill was being treated as an accident, Reardon said.

Traffic was completely blocked in both directions while the spill was being cleaned and a crowd of onlookers gathered to watch the cleanup effort.



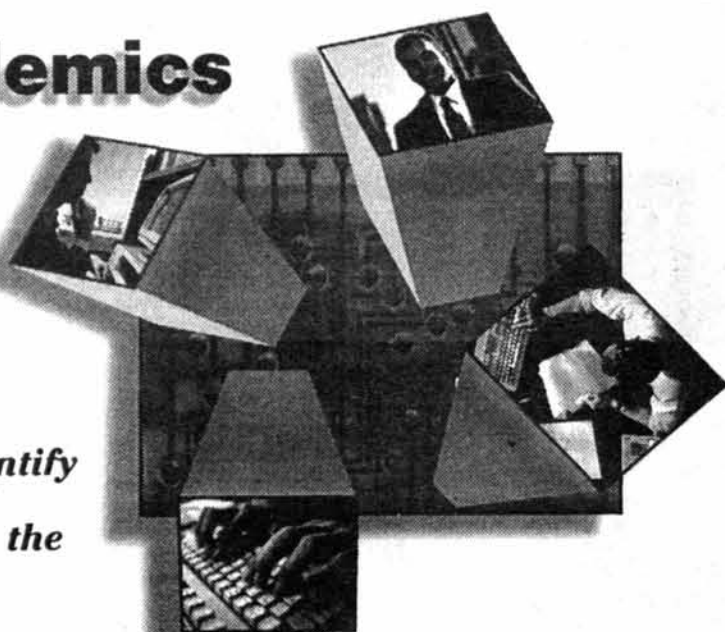
THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH
Firefighters wearing breathing masks stand ready with a firehose as others opened the rear gate of a truck containing leaking chemicals on Massachusetts Avenue yesterday evening.

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THE TECH
PRODUCTION

What were *you* doing last night?

You could have
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The Tech's

putting together
today's issue! Don't
worry if you missed
your chance last night.
Just stop by Sunday at
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the Student Center for
and see how
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COMICS

DAMNED FOR LIFE

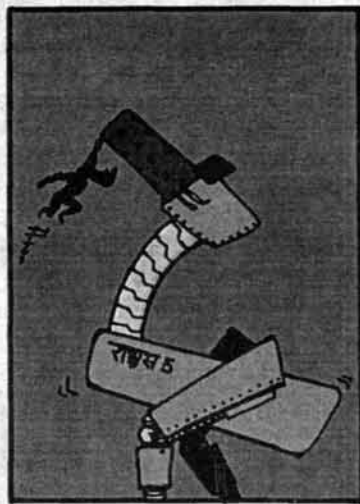
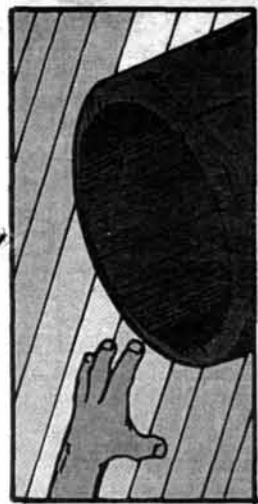
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STRIPS THAT ARE
UNBELIEVABLY
SAPPY.



by jessica

RHINO MAN

by Zachary Emig



email: zhemig@mit.edu



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To be continued...

Off Course



by Hugo

Students Spend Spring Break Teaching Science to Children

By Noémi Giszpenc
STAFF REPORTER

"How does a radio work?"
"What makes a plant grow?"
"If I drink vinegar and baking soda, will I blow up?"

Who better to answer these questions than MIT students? Last week, three

Feature

groups went to inner-city public schools in Newark, N.J., the Bronx, and Baltimore to help the volunteer program, Teach for America, as part of the Public Service Center Alternative Spring Break.

"It went great. ... The teachers were really supportive, the students enjoyed it, and MIT students had a great time," said Anthony J. Ives G, who has organized the trip for the past two years.

The groups undertook weeks of preparation that included a crash course on teaching from Brian T. White '85, a technical instructor in the Department of Biology. During the week, pairs of students introduced sixth-graders to electronics and genetics.

The children assembled and kept their own quiz boards, a simple circuit gadget whose materials were

provided by the Edgerton Center. They also played the "face lab," a game that displays the principles of inheritance and genetics. The sixth-graders were paired off into couples, with the "moms" and "dads" flipping coins to produce "children."

Experience went well

At the end of the day, MIT students would return to their hotel and discuss their experiences with each other, and this proved to be a valuable part of learning and having fun, Ives said.

Throughout the week, volunteers also met with people in Teach for America, a practice which "worked well, and I wished we had more of that," said Andy W. Su '97.

"We learned a lot about the state of the public schools, which is not as bad as you might think. But it takes an amazing amount of effort to teach 30 kids, and it would make a big difference if there were more resources and teachers, if society placed more of a priority on teaching," Ives said.

Su and his partner, Shan S. Huang '00, were deeply affected by the lives of the students in their classrooms, Su said. "The truth is, many of the kids can make it in life,

but it is also true that most of the kids won't. Now, that was a pretty bitter pill for me to swallow."

Huang, in helping a sixth-grader revise her autobiography, learned that her mother had died from using drugs but that she wants to go to college and make a life for herself, he said.

One kindergartner even asked, "Could I take you home to be my dad?" Su said.

Program broadened views

Beyond community service, the program was also an opportunity for MIT students to be exposed to things they would not generally encounter, Ives said. "We get kind of isolated in our ivory tower."

Because people from all across campus participated, students had a rare opportunity to meet each other and work with various organizations like the PSC and the Alumni Office, Ives said.

All sorts of reasons motivated the participants. Many were freshmen, with few other options and a willingness to try something fun and interesting, Ives said. Many were also interested in the opportunity to do public service.

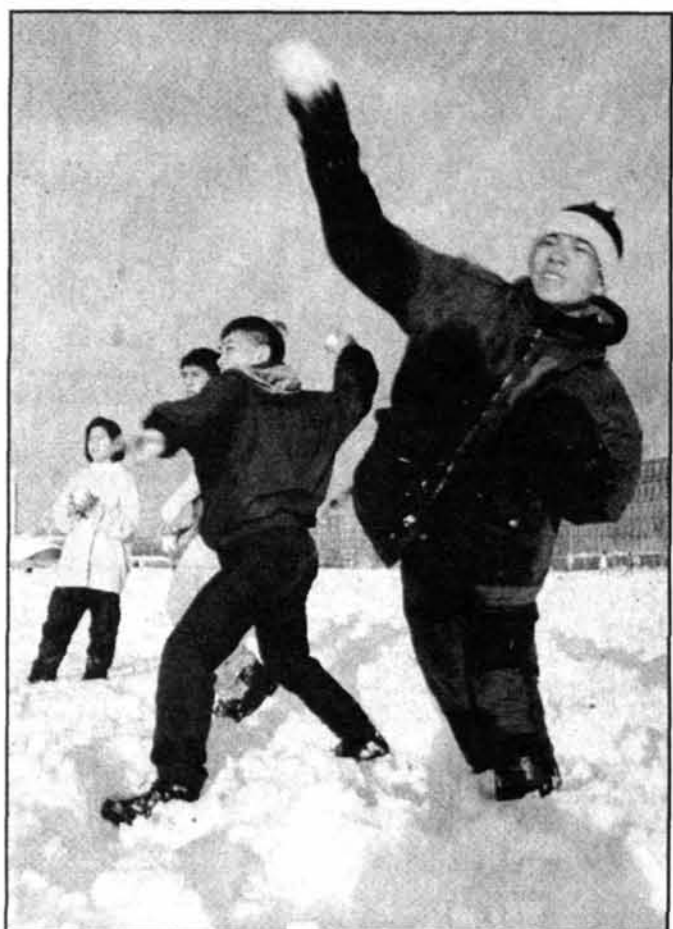
Su remembered that a similar service had been done for him in third grade and middle school and that he knew how much energy and excitement older students could bring to kids, Su said.

Ives has had fun seeing others learn what he learned in his years of helping in Cambridge public schools, he said. But "I would like to see it grow," he said.

Ives will not run the program any longer since he is graduating this year, but he thinks that in the future, the program may include volunteering in homeless shelters and AIDS wards.

"People could be doing all different types of service," Ives said. Even this year, a group this year participated in Habitat for Humanity in Maryland.

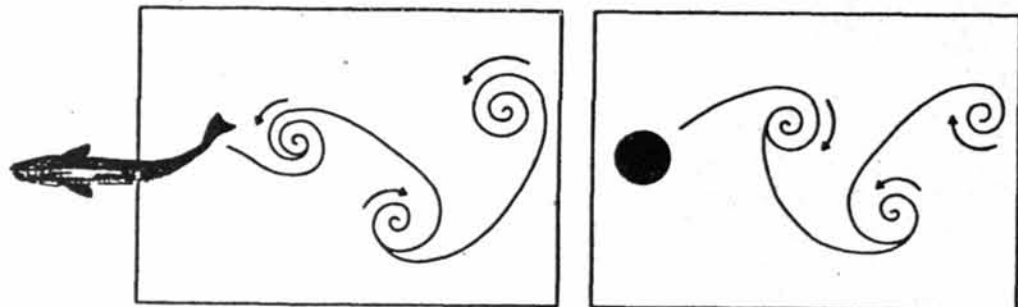
In addition to sponsorship by the PSC, the groups received financial support from the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning.



A combatant lets a snowball fly as another winds up during one of the many skirmishes on Briggs Field Tuesday afternoon.

THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

Discover Ocean Engineering!



The vortices left behind a flapping fish tail rotate in the opposite direction from vortices behind a bluff object. While the fish spurts ahead, the bluff body is slowed by the flow.

Freshman Open House
Friday, April 11th
3 – 5pm, Room 5 – 314
Meet faculty and students
Free food

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Helmets make riding more comfortable and fun. Not to mention safer. Protect your most valuable asset. Always wear a helmet.

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Coram Will Solicit Input from Students

GSC, from Page 12

list objectives for the organization. The survey will also encourage students to help the GSC resolve the issues they raise, he said.

"Anyone would tell you that we'd like more people," Coram said. "There are a lot of people who are doing more work than they should be. Any hour that you spend in an extracurricular activity is an hour that's taken away from research."

"The GSC is less about a platform that I or another candidate will bring forward, it's more of a resource that people can come to," Coram said. The GSC should help them resolve the issue by pointing out the appropriate administrators and help students find others who are also concerned about that problem.

Coram said that while the ad hoc committees would tackle issues that come up, the GSC itself would stay its present course. "The GSC will continue to serve its traditional mission: the officers will continue to interact with the administration, the standing committees will continue their missions, the representatives will continue to convey information from and graduate student input," he said in his campaign statement.

Much of Coram's previous experience comes from his work with the GSC housing and community affairs committee, where worked on the grocery shuttle. "I helped develop it from a service that ran only twice on Saturdays with around 40 riders, to one that runs four times on Saturday and (until recently) three times on Tuesday, and serves well over 100 people per week," he said in his campaign platform.

VP to increase involvement

Eugene Bae G, the uncontested candidate for the vice presidency of the GSC, said one of his primary responsibilities would be to increase the number of graduate students involved in the GSC, he said.

Much of this would come from old fashioned boosterism, Bae said. "We need to concentrate more efforts on pure and simple publicity, letting graduate students know that the GSC is there and involved," he said.

However, Bae said that it was important to demystify the sometimes arcane MIT committee names. "If you leave it in terms of names and titles, it creates nothing of interest, but if you convert it to topics such as parking fees ... or on-campus and off-campus housing, or to food services" one can generate a lot of interest in MIT and GSC committees, he said.

One of the best ways that a vice president could help the GSC was to increase the level of participation in GSC and Institute committees. The goal is to "help the committees do what they are already doing better," he said.

Committees are not new to Bae. "I got involved through the academic policy and projects committee, which by its area of responsibility does a lot of things that are related to Institute committees," he said.

Bugnion to help decide funding

The job of treasurer is a vital one for the GSC, said candidate Veronique Bugnion G. "It's a big responsibility, because there's a lot of money that needs to be dealt with," she said. The treasurer "keeps an essential activity of the GSC going" by managing the outlay of funds to student activities.

The position is also something of a tight-rope walk, she said. "Because the graduate student body is a very diverse body. ... We need to make sure that that money needs to be distributed fairly," she said.

In addition, "as a foreigner I can represent the third or so members of the graduate student body who" were born abroad. "A third or so of

the organizations" funded by the GSC are cultural organizations, she said. "It's nice to have the bit of a feeling of home."

"I think that the position of treasurer is where I can learn a lot ... and it matches my interests," Bugnion said. She came to the treasurer's position through her work on the GSC's budget priorities committee, which was charged with deciding how to allocate revenue generated by a recent career fair.

New council faces tough issues

Outgoing president Morfopoulos said that the new officers will inherit a difficult task. The GSC must "represent all of the interests in the graduate student body," he said. "Within the graduate student body there are many different voices. ... Representing them in one voice is a very different job."

The new officers will also tackle issues which have plagued the GSC for some time. "Many of the issues simply do not change over the years," he said.

One of the most important is "the issue of equity between resources between graduate and undergraduate student," Morfopoulos said. Noting that the Office of Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs is considering changing its name to remove the "undergraduate," he said that "even if that's just a name, I think that it's a significant step."

"The graduate students are the majority on campus, and some time in the next century, the graduate students will be a majority of living alumni," Morfopoulos said.

"The Institute favors the undergrads in many ways. ... It's blatantly obvious in some areas. The very fact that we don't have a full-time dean of the graduate school ... just goes to show you that there's a lack of emphasis on graduate students," Morfopoulos said.

The perennial issue of housing, however, seems to be improving. Morfopoulos approved of the handling of the proposed graduate dormitory at Sidney and Pacific streets, he said. In "a lot of the planning, graduate students had a voice. I think that the GSC has voiced its concerns, and I think it's starting to be heard."



A snowman in the making in front of a fraternity house on Bay State Road.

GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH



PASSOVER
1997 / 5757
at MIT



First Seder

Monday, April 21, 6:00 p.m.
MIT Hillel, W11 Main Dining Room
\$18. students; \$25. non-students
A traditional participatory seder

Deli Dinner

Thursday, April 24, 5-6:30 p.m.
MIT Hillel, W11 Small Dining Room
\$11.50 students; \$13.00 non-students

Shabbat Dinner

Friday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.
W11 Main Dining Room
\$14.50 students; \$18.00 non-students

Holiday Dinner

Sunday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.
W11 Main Dining Room
\$14.50 students; \$18.00 non-students

Reservation Policy!

All Passover meals require reservation and payment by Friday, April 11. Contact MIT Hillel, 253-2982. Payable with MIT meal cards or cash/checks at the Hillel office or at Hillel booth in Lobby 10 on Thursday, April 10.

MIT Hillel is the sponsor of the above events.
For additional information contact us at 253-2982 or <hillel@mit.edu>.

Hillel is located in the MIT Religious Activities Building, Bldg. W11, at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Amherst Street in Cambridge.

All food served at Hillel is kosher for Passover. The MIT Hillel kitchens are under the supervision of the Vaad HaRabbonim of Massachusetts.

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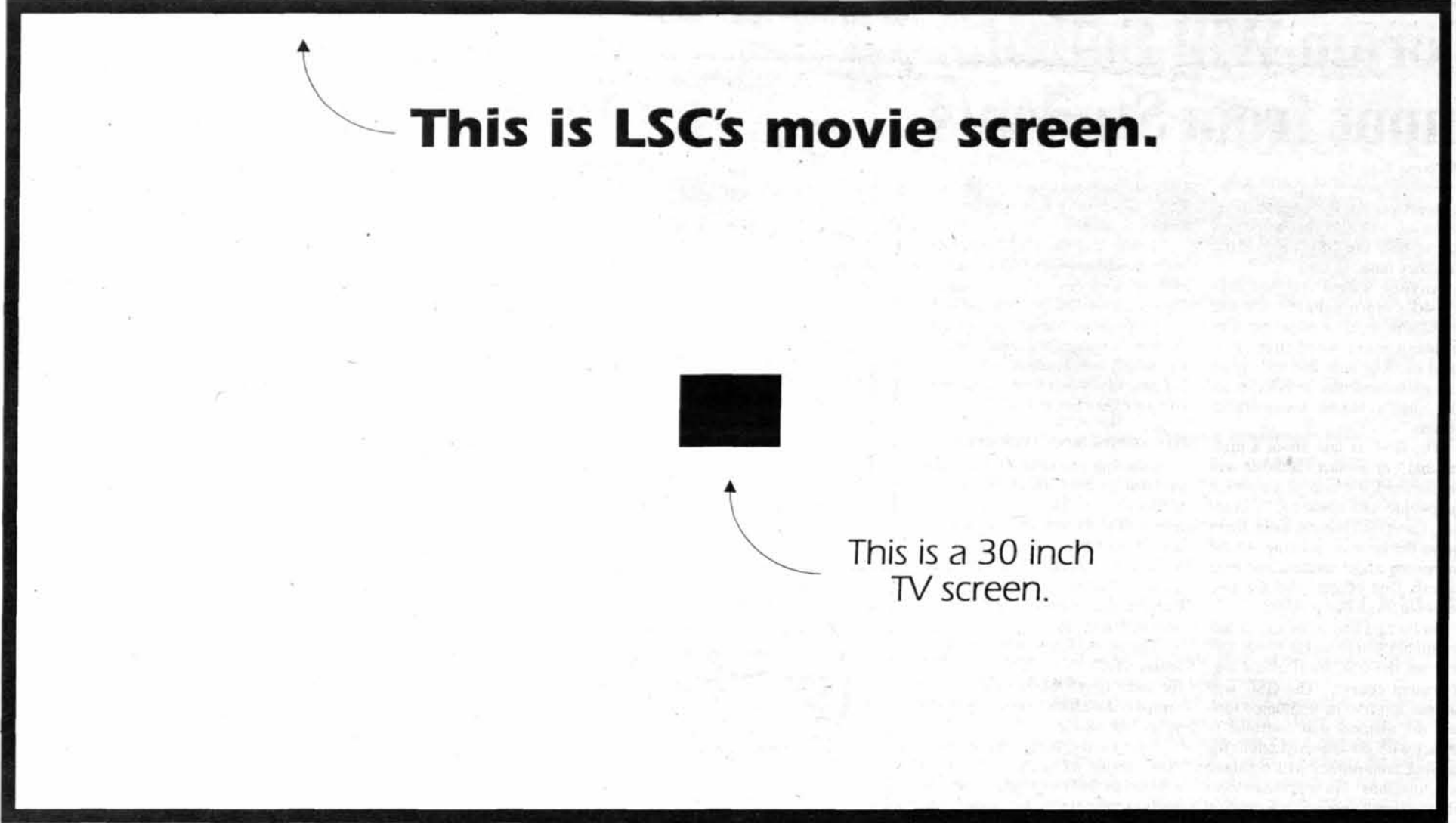
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For more information:
contact Crystal Harris (cmharris@mit.edu)

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call the PSC (3-0742)

DEADLINE: APRIL 7, 1997

SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS



This is LSC's movie screen.



This is a 30 inch
TV screen.

Where would you rather see a movie?



LSC



Jerry Maguire

Friday, April 4
7 & 10 pm in 26-100

Jeffrey

Friday, April 11
7 & 10 pm in 26-100

The Wild Bunch

Friday Classic, April 4
7:30 pm in 10-250

Last Tango in Paris

Friday Classic, April 11
7:30 pm in 10-250

Star Trek: First Contact

Saturday, April 5
3, 7 & 10 pm in 26-100

The English Patient

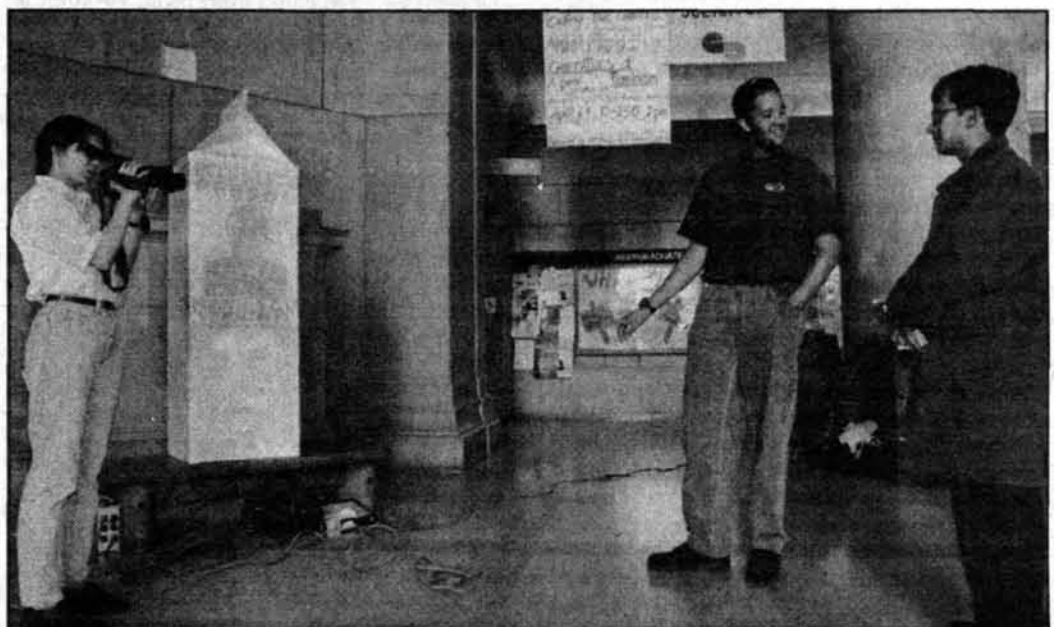
Saturday, April 12
7 & 10:30 pm in 26-100

Winner of 9 Academy Awards
Including Best Picture

All movies are \$2 with MIT/WC ID. Call the LSC Movieline at 258-8881
or visit the LSC web page at <http://lsc.mit.edu>



Students put Lobdell food trays to good use while sledding down the steps of 77 Massachusetts Ave.



Bonnie W. Tom '99 videotapes Paul W. Pine '99 as he asks another student to identify a picture of a prominent administrator projected on an oversized milk carton. Tom and Pine were filming in Lobby 7 yesterday as part of a video project for Foundations in the Visual Arts (4.301). Their five-person group also included Cynthia H. Kim '97, Alice W. Chau '00, and James A. Sanders '99.

Snowfall Closes MIT During Semester for First Time in Years

Snow, from Page 1

Daniel J. Martin, assistant department head for facilities and operations, said that the damage to the dome has not been fully assessed.

A new dome had already been ordered prior to the storm, Martin said. "If there is significant damage we'll bring the new bubble in."

MIT closed for the day during Independent Activities Period last year, but closing during the term is a rare occurrence. "Occasionally, we let people go early" if weather threatens, she said. The last time the Institute closed during the term was in September 1985 because of Hurricane Gloria.

Closing is a last resort, Rice said. "We try to keep [MIT] open. We should be here for" the students, she said.

Students enjoy break

While students were able to stay at home, employees designated as "essential" reported for work on Tuesday, Rice said. Essential personnel include the snow clearing teams, some network consultants, and some staff in the medical department.

Administrators, however, stayed at home. "I can't think ... who on the administrative group would be considered essential," Rice said.

Students enjoyed the break from classes.

Among studying and working, John Kymissis '98 said he built a snowman in Briggs Field. The activity "definitely was the most fun" of

"I can't think ... who on the administrative group would be considered essential."

— Joan F. Rice

the day.

Jessica L. Neu G said she braved the elements to make a difficult trek to the grocery store.

Joey Chang '97 said, "For once I didn't do any work, I just sat there."

Marj Rosenthal '98 was a bit more active. As a member of the women's lacrosse team, she shoveled the field yesterday with the rest of her team in order to hold practice.

Snow incapacitates state

The effects of this blizzard were felt far beyond MIT. As late as Wednesday, 200,000 people in the region were without electricity. Thousands more were without heat.

In addition, three deaths were blamed on the storm as well as several fires.

The slow performance of road clearing crews drew fire from Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, and the closing of some MBTA lines made morning commutes even more hectic.

Inland, the situation was even worse. In western Massachusetts, over three feet of snow fell as a result of the storm.

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OF THE MIT CORPORATION

Tuesday

8 April 1997

4:30 – 6:30 PM

Remarks at 5:30 PM

Walker Memorial

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■ Positions Wanted
■ For Sale

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■ Services Offered
■ Lost & Found
■ Greeks

■ Travel
■ Information
■ Clubs
■ Miscellaneous

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Classified ads are due at 5 p.m. two days before day of publication, and must be prepaid and accompanied by a complete address and phone number. Send or bring ads, with payment, to W20-483 (84 Mass. Ave., Room 483, Cambridge, MA 02139). Account numbers for MIT departments accepted. Sorry, no "personal" ads. Contact our office for more details at 258-8324 (fax: 258-8226) or ads@the-tech.mit.edu.

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Healthy men needed as sperm donors. Help others and earn up to \$120/wk. Must be between 19-34 & 5'9" or over. Call 497-8646 to see if you qualify! California Cryobank, Inc., Cambridge.

Advanced Internet Web site creation - VirtuFlex software offers aspiring web developers weekly training sessions every Thursday evening from 7 pm to 9 pm. People with a basic working knowledge of HTML can learn more advanced methods of creating web sites for most telecommunications via the internet. This training seminar is free. Please call for more information: VirtuFlex Software 930 Mass. Ave. Cambridge, MA 02139. 617-497-8006 ext. 32. Or find out more via the internet: <http://www.virtuflex.com>.

Visual C / Visual Basic Programmers wanted - work at school or our office. Exciting Global Positioning System software. Salary negotiable, full or part-time. <http://www.teletype.com/gps>, 734-9700.

Reliable daytime dog walker needed for M-F daily 15 minute walk in Cambridgeport. \$85/month. Call Chris at 876-2534.

Web page designer to help create new web site, must be experienced, motivated, creative. Resume & URL references to 259 Walnut St. #2, Newton, MA 02160. Fax to 617-527-7074.

■ Help Wanted

Web & graphic designers, business & marketing major. To be equity partner in on-line start-up team. Must be motivated, reliable, willing to commit time. Resume to 259 Walnut St., #2, Newton, MA 02160, or fax 617-527-7074.

College financial aid - Student Financial Services has information on 3,400+ public and private sector funding sources. A must for anyone seeking financial aid! For information: call 1-800-263-6495 ext. F50332 (We are a research and publishing co.)

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Internet internships in Washington! Association for Interactive Media is where companies like Disney, Dreamworks, CNET, MSNBC, Intel, Infoseek, and more turn for interactive media advice. Marketing, journalism, web design, PR, research, sales positions! Definitely the best internship you'll ever have. Call: 202-408-0008 or interns@interactivehq.org.

Students needed to pack and ship parcels to be sent via UPS at the end of the semester. \$10/hour call 1(888)654-SHIP or e-mail upsn444@aol.com

■ Help Wanted

Webmaster and database administrator positions available with Project Vote Smart, a Voter Information Organization based at Oregon State University. Check <http://www.vote-smart.org/jobs.html> for details or call 541-754-2746.

■ For Sale

8752 Integrity Five Station Brewer with faucet for sale. Comes complete with line strainer, brew basket, and 25 paper filters. 115/230 volts 60/hz. 3500 watt tank element, total wattage: 4435 watts, 20 amps. 17 1/4" deep (including faucet) 23 11/16" wide, 21 7/8" high. Requires 3 wire ground cord, single phase. Decanters not included. Practically brand new, hardly used. Questions? Call 225-1500 and ask for Erica. Worth ~\$300; best offer.

Seized cars from \$175. Porsches, Cadillacs, Chevys, BMW's, Corvettes. Also Jeeps, 4WD's. Your Area. Toll Free 1-800-218-9000 ext. 3797 for current listings.

1987 Volvo 240 SW metallic gray, one owner, runs excel, needs no work, excel cond, \$3900. Carol x8-5139 or (508) 392-9474.

■ For Sale

Memory for Macintosh PowerBook. 8MB memory upgrade chip for 5300/2300 models. Over \$400 new; 8 months old for \$100. Contact daniels@the-tech.mit.edu.

■ Positions Wanted

Person with 25 years of hands-on experience in metal casting, lost wax and sand. Has strong problem solving ability, would be interested in working a few hours per month as a consultant, call 508-653-9484.

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Roommate Wanted. Starting April 1 we will be subletting one room in an expansive, four-bedroom apartment in Winter Hill, Somerville. Rent: \$366.00 + utilities. Contact Anders at (617) 629-5949 or anders@mit.edu.

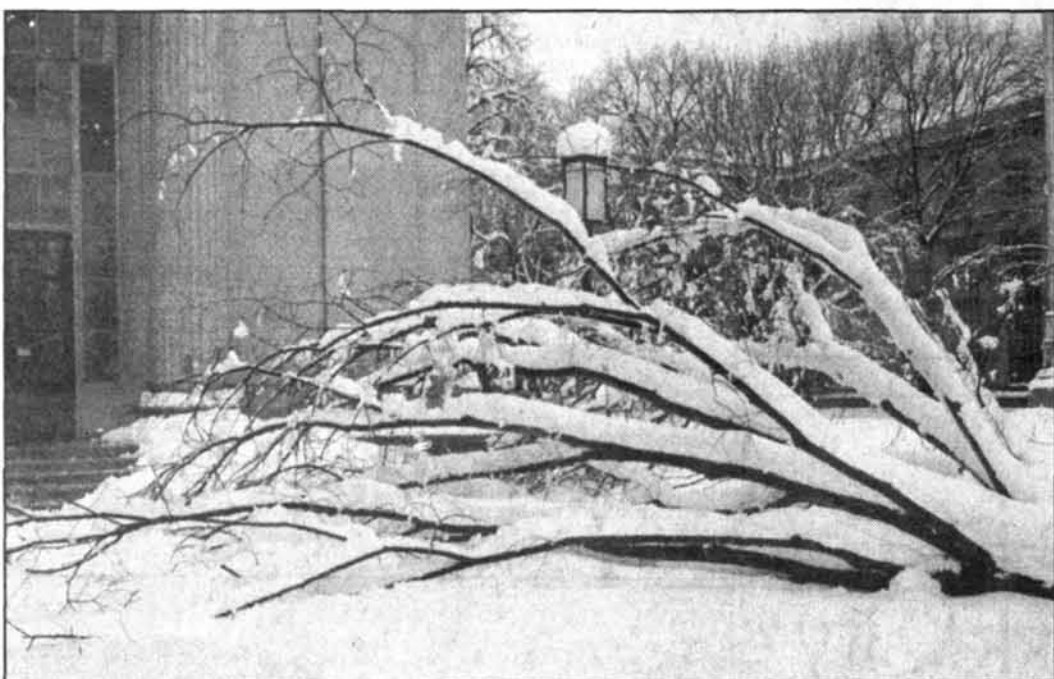
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Spring Break - Daytona Beach luxury oceanfront condo. Fully furnished, sleeps 6, beach, pool, jacuzzi, barbecues. March 22-29. All must be 21. \$700.00 Phone 561.589.1096 / CaptnJac@aol.com

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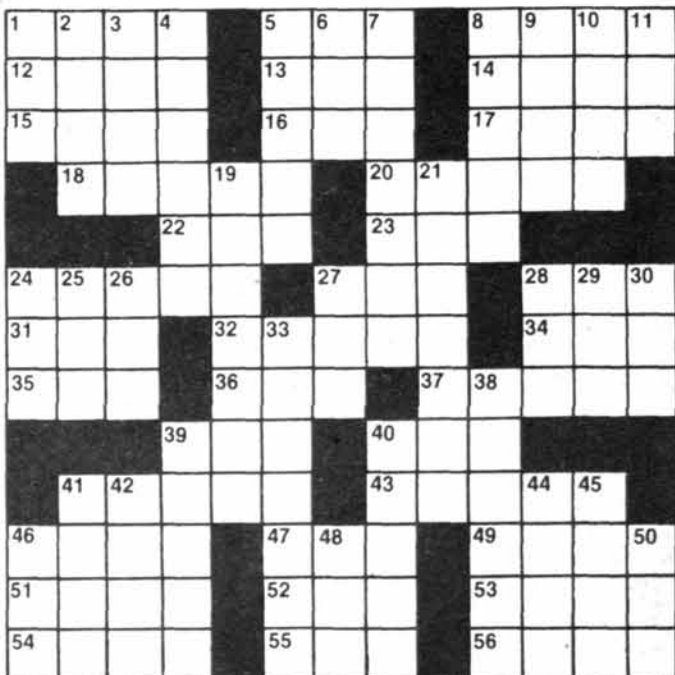
LONG N PHAN—THE TECH

The storm extensively damaged trees around campus. Many had broken branches dozens of feet long.



GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

Gary Critchlow sings a variety of classical and modern pieces yesterday at the Advanced Music Performance series in Killian Hall.



ACROSS

1. Teaspoons (abbr.)
5. Not hers
8. Tale
12. Narrative poem
13. Mineral
14. Paradise
15. Worker
16. Covered truck
17. Depression
18. Follow trail of
20. Pile up
22. Politics (abbr.)
23. Expose to sun
24. Tall structure
27. 2,000 lbs.
28. Hit sharply
31. Hail
32. Musical drama
34. Native (suf.)
35. Stop
36. Not (pref.)
37. _____ Pyle
39. Point in law
40. Edge of garment
41. Horses' movements
43. Place for contest
46. Indication
47. Mistake
49. Circuits
51. Abraham's nickname (pl.)
52. Take to court
53. Fencing sword
54. Inhab. of ancient media

DOWN

1. Spread to dry, as hay
2. Mark
3. Wharf
4. Rub with considerable pressure
5. Small, miserable dwelling
6. Ireland, political org. (abbr.)
7. Politician
8. Car
9. Sweetened drinks (suf.)
10. Marshes
11. Ear, Nose, Throat (abbr.)
19. Prince's crown
21. Person in charge
24. Projection
25. Eggs
26. Cyst
27. Number
28. Edge
29. Dined
30. Each
33. Has
38. Egg dish
39. Wash lightly
40. Moslem wives
41. Mocking remarks
42. Older
44. Back of neck
45. Highest point
46. _____ Snead
48. Remorse
50. Put
55. Seminary (abbr.)
56. Class book

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



Five MIT Students Finish In Top 25

Putnam, from Page 1

Washington University, the California Institute of Technology, and the University of Chicago.

Harvard had the most top individuals with six students in the highest 25. Five MIT students were in this group, and Duke had three of the spots.

"However, Duke's top three individuals were also their three team members," Rogers said.

A total of 71 students from MIT took the test. Federico Ardila '98 placed seventh, winning a \$500 prize, and Adam W. Meyerson '97 placed 15th, earning a \$250 prize.

Pramod N. Achar '97, Amit Khetan '99, and Constantin Chiscanu '00 also placed in the top 25, and Aleksey Zinger '97 made honorable mention.

Median score was two out of 120

The exam took place in two three-hour, six-question sessions. Each question was worth 10 points, for a maximum of 120 points, Rogers said. "This year, if you scored 55 or more, you were in the top 25 students."

The median score was two out of 120, which shows how tough the exam was, Rogers said. "Those who got two points got a little partial credit but not a whole question right."

"This test lasts for six hours — a grueling exam. It tests problem solving ability and how well you write your proofs. Very little partial credit is awarded," said Eric H. Kuo '99, who represented MIT in the team portion, along with Ardila and Meyerson. "Deciding which problems to work on and writing up solutions were the hard part. None of the questions are simple."

"With these types of problems, the hardest part is to get started. Once you make one intuitive leap, the solution often comes out, but this might be after a long time of staring at the problem and getting nowhere," Khetan said.

"The questions are very challenging in that you're not just tested on your knowledge of math but on how to be creative with that knowledge. The questions usually don't require much knowledge, they require ingenuity with limited tools," Ardila said.

Team experienced in test taking

A number of the students who participated in the exam took Rogers' seminar and looked at practice tests. Many have also participated in other math competitions. "I have competed in math contests since I was in 7th grade. The Putnam adds to that long list," Kuo said.

"The Putnam is a lot like the U.S.A. Math Olympiad test that I took in high school. They are both proof-based, extremely challenging exams," Khetan said.

"It's hard to prepare for it since you don't really know what's going to be on the test. ... I think one of the most important things is not to stress too much about it, just go there and do the best you can," Ardila said.



With a break from classes on Tuesday, students focused their energy on using the easily packed snow on Briggs Field for building or throwing.

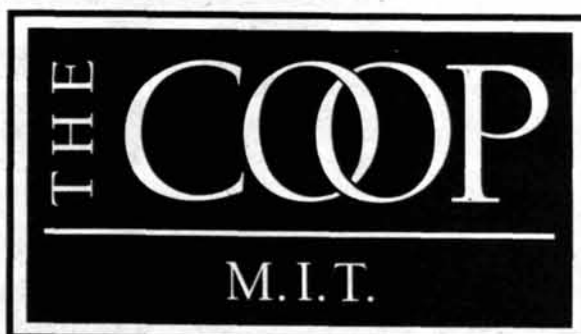
THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

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GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

Many snowmen appeared across campus, like this eight-foot one in front of Delta Kappa Epsilon.

PURE GENIUS



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we share common dreams of equality, justice and peace.

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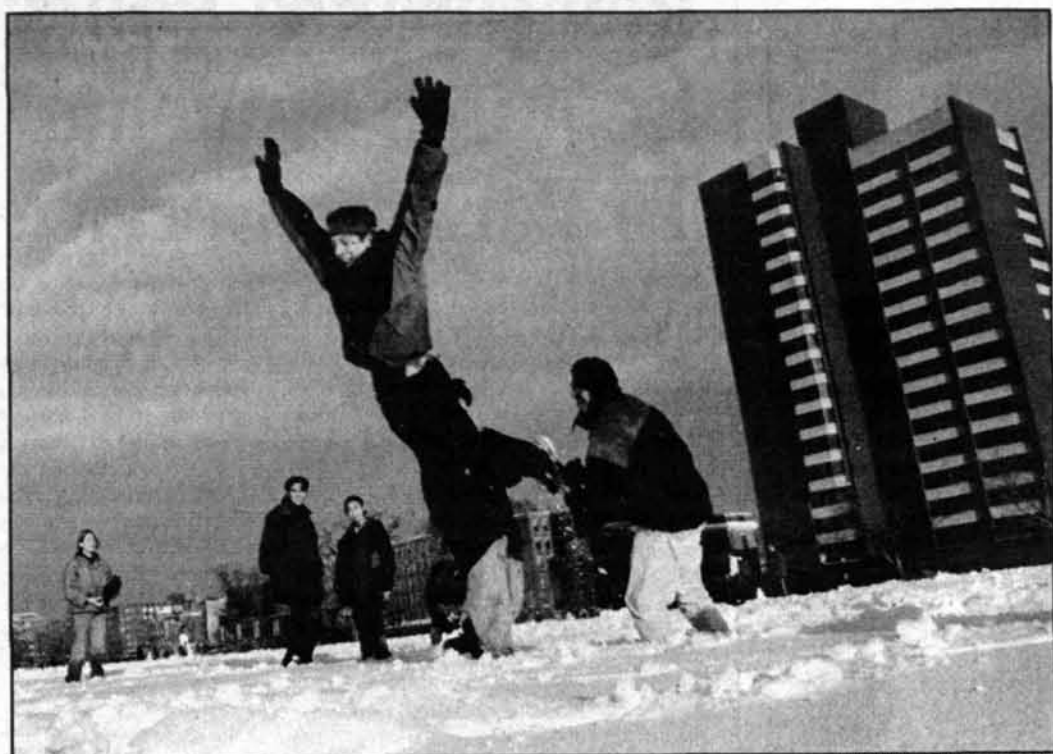
Freedom Banquet and Seder

Wednesday, April 16, 1997
5:30pm—8:00pm
The Hulsizer Room, Ashdown

The evening will include a festive meal, freedom speakers and music, and traditional and modern readings.

Please RSVP by April 11: 253-2982.
Or by e-mail: alklotz@mit.edu

All members of the MIT community are welcome.



A MacGregor House resident takes flight with a little help from his friends Tuesday afternoon on Briggs Field.

THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

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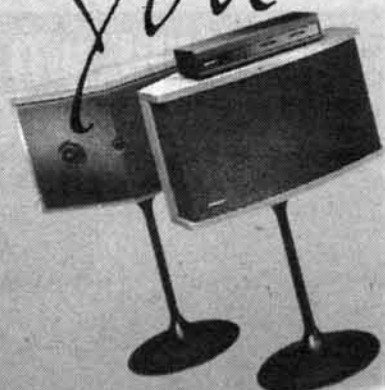
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Briggs Field was the closest thing to a day at the beach for these students, who buried their friend in the snow Tuesday afternoon.

THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

Reinsurance Policy Requires Students To Perform Service

ROTC, from Page 1

Financial Aid Office, MIT will offer additional supplemental loans to cover the gap.

Loans contingent on service

The Institute will forgive the supplemental loans to students who complete a full-time public service program upon completion of their studies.

A student who opts out of public service will be required to repay the loans plus interest. The director of the Office of Student Financial Aid and the chair of CUAFA will decide on the appropriateness of the proposed service.

So far this year, the approval of the reinsurance policy has been the only fully implemented component of the faculty resolution, said Sarah E. Gallop, assistant for government relations and official spokesperson for the ROTC implementation team.

"It's fair to say we are working and off-hand comments compromise the work of the implementation team," said Associate Provost Philip L. Clay, who is chair of the ROTC implementation team.

The team will present a report of this year's accomplishments at May's faculty meeting.

Resolution requires collaboration

The charge of the implementation team is to put together a strategy to carry out the recommendations of the faculty resolution, Gallop said.

While some components of the faculty resolution are internal to the Institute, such as the recently

approved reinsurance policy, other components require collaboration with the Department of Defense.

The changes outlined in the resolution that require such collaboration include eligibility to take part in the "Leadership Laboratory," curricular changes in the ROTC program, wearing of ROTC uniforms, and participation in ROTC off-campus activities.

The committee is currently looking for opportunities in the federal arena to advocate MIT's position on such matters. "Those opportunities have not shown themselves," Gallop said.

"The reality is that this is not an issue in the national venue that's a priority," Gallop said.

Cases not yet heard by Court

What might propel the issue into the national arena are four cases regarding the issue currently at the level of the federal circuit court. The Supreme Court opted not to hear the first of these four cases that reached appeal.

"The Supreme Court tends not to take first case on a new issue," Gallop said.

In the event that two federal courts rule differently, the Supreme Court would be more likely to hear an appeal, Gallop said.

MIT is prepared to file an amicus brief in the event that an appeal reaches the level of the Supreme Court. An amicus or "friend of the court" brief can be filed by any interested party in order to present a point of view on the case to the court. MIT might collaborate with other schools and the American Council on Education in filing such a brief, Gallop said.

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will be holding two workshops on

Monday, April 7th 7-9PM
"Deciphering the Male/Female Interface"
A workshop in male/female communication
Student Center, PDR I&II

&

Wednesday, April 9th 7-9PM
"Couples Workshop"
Improving intimacy and communication
Student Center, Mezz. Lnge

***PLEASE EMAIL dwarren@mit.edu by noon on the day of the workshop if you plan on attending.



LONG N PHAN—THE TECH

Unlike students and faculty, essential employees, including Physical Plant workers, had to report for work on Tuesday.

Just a fraction of our time watching movies could help bring many happy endings.

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Panel Discussion

Women on Wall Street

Please join J.P. Morgan professionals who will speak to MIT students informally about their experiences as women pursuing their careers in financial services and at Morgan.

Please plan to attend our panel discussion on:

Wednesday, April 9

7:00-9:00 pm

Conference Room

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The Department of Nuclear Engineering

presents

A Symposium on Advances in Nuclear Technology

April 7, 1997

Bartos Theater

Lower Level of E15, 20 Ames Street

8:00 am Registration

8:30 am Welcome
Dean Robert A. Brown
Professor Mujid S. Kazimi

8:45 am (Session #1): **Nuclear Medical Technology**
Chair, Professor Jacquelyn Yanch

Panel Members:

Boron Neutron Capture Therapy for Cancer
Professor Otto Harling, MIT

Functional Imaging of the Brain

Dr. Bruce Rosen, Director, Clinical NMR Laboratory, MGH

A New Radiotherapy Device: From Concept to Market

Dr. Peter Oettinger, Chief Operating Officer, Photoelectron Corp.

10:15 am **BREAK**

10:45 am (Session #2) **Industrial Applications of Nuclear Sciences**
Chair, Professor Lawrence Lidsky

Panel Members:

Quantum Computing Using NMR
Professor David Cory, MIT

Radiological Imaging of Materials

Dr. Richard Lanza, MIT

Magnetic Separation for Commission Control and Environmental Cleanup

Dr. Ilhan Olmez, MIT

Multiscale Materials Prediction

Professor Sidney Yip, MIT

12:15 pm **LUNCH BREAK**

1:30 pm (Session #3) **Nuclear Energy in the 21st Century**
Chair, Professor Neil Todreas

Panel Members:

Nuclear Energy in the United States

Mr. William McCormick, Chairman, CMS Energy Corp.

Energy Strategy in the Far East

Professor Shunsuke Kondo, University of Tokyo

The Challenge of Controlled Fusion

Professor Ian Hutchinson, MIT

3:00 pm **BREAK**

4:00 pm (Session #4) **Nuclear Systems Reliability and Management**
Chair, Professor Michael Golay

Panel Members:

Improving the Performance of Nuclear Power Plants

Dr. Zack Pate, President & CEO, Institute of Nuclear Power Operations

Managing Nuclear Wastes

Dr. Andrew Kadak, President & CEO, Yankee Atomic Electric Co.

Stewardship of Nuclear Weapons Materials

Dr. Stephen Younger, Program Director for Nuclear Weapons Technology, Los Alamos Nat. Lab.

April 8, 1997 Laboratory Tours:

Plasma Science Fusion Center
(Meet in NW17-218)

9:00 - 10:30 am

Nuclear Reactor Laboratory
(Meet at NW12 Reception Desk)

10:30 - 12:00 pm

For further information contact: Department of Nuclear Engineering, 253-3801



Comet Hale-Bopp, the brightest comet this century, is visible throughout April in the sky a few hours after sunset.

JENNIFER LANE—THE TECH

SPORTS

Players Earn National Honors As Winter Sports Season Ends

By Roger Crosley
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

The women's gymnastics team returned from the recent National Collegiate Gymnastics Association

Sports Shorts

Championships with a seventh-place finish and three athletes earning individual honors.

Sheila Rocchio '97 was co-winner of the Senior Athlete of the Year Award. Rocchio is the third

MIT gymnast to win or share the award.

First-year student Lee Knight '00 was named All-America in the all-around competition. She scored 35.575 of a possible 40 points in the four events.

Rocchio and Tasi Chiarenza '97, were each named to the NCGA national All-Academic team.

Field hockey players honored

Five MIT athletes were named to the National Field Hockey Coaches

Association National Academic Squad for the 1996 season. Seniors Ellen Hwang '97, Katherine Merrilees '97, and Laura Walker '97, along with juniors Stephanie Maifert '98, and Anshu Sinha '98 each qualified the team.

Softball pitcher throws no-hitter

Softball pitcher Amber Crabbe '00 began her collegiate career in style by pitching a no-hitter against Babson College. Only one walk sullied an otherwise perfect game.

Athletes excel nationally

Myong-Sin Yi '99 earned All-America status at the recent National Rifle Association Pistol National Championships in Colorado Springs.

In recent NCAA championships, marksman Thomas Schady '97, placed 16th in rifle.

In fencing, David Naumann '97, finished 19th in the foil competition and junior Meredith Rising '98, earned a 20th place finish in epee.

Crew coach coaches national team

Director of Crew Stu Schmill '86 was recently selected as coach of the 1997 U.S. Maccabiah Rowing Team. The team will compete in the 15th Quadrennial Games this July in Israel.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 4

Baseball vs. Babson College, 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 5

Women's Crew vs. Amherst College, Boston College, and Tufts University

Men's Lacrosse vs. Babson College, 1 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse vs. Wellesley College, 1 p.m.

Softball vs. Mount Holyoke College, 11 a.m.

Women's Tennis vs. Amherst College, 10:30 a.m.

Women's Tennis vs. Vassar College, 2 p.m.

Men's Outdoor Track and Field in the Engineer's Cup, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 6

Lightweight Crew vs. United States Military Academy, 9:30 a.m.

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April 7 - 11

This is your chance to get to know your Professor better!

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- You will receive a discount coupon (10% - 50% off) for MIT Dining Services or selected restaurants
- During the Week of April 7 - 11 take you Professor to lunch between 11 AM & 3 PM
- Have lunch and enjoy the conversation!

For more information contact: Afreen <furry@mit.edu> or Farheen <fqadir@mit.edu>

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