

Notorious Teenagers Hack into Plasma Fusion Center at MIT

Krista L. Niece
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Two teenage boys are suspected of having illegally broken into the computer system at MIT's Plasma Fusion Center.

The boys are members of a group of hackers in northern California which is believed to have broken into four Navy and seven Air Force systems, as well as dozens of less sensitive facilities.

Although the computers contained only unclassified information, the mass violations have raised concerns about the possibility of electronic sabotage as a means of terrorism.

In addition to the eleven military systems, several federal laboratories, including facilities performing nuclear weapons research, were compromised. Several uni-

versities besides MIT, including the University of California at Berkeley, were also invaded by the group.

On Wednesday, FBI agents seized computers, software, printers, and other equipment from the boys' homes, located north of San Francisco. However, none of the teens has been arrested. The FBI has not released any of the boys' names.

MIT's role in the story was really a "very small part of the whole picture," said Donald R. Nelson, the computer system manager at the PFC. The teens' packet sniffer programs were identified and shut down within twenty-four hours of their being planted.

The break-in "did not have a very wide scope of influence," Nelson said. The computer they broke into has been taken out of

service, he said. It was running an old version of the Linux operating system, he said.

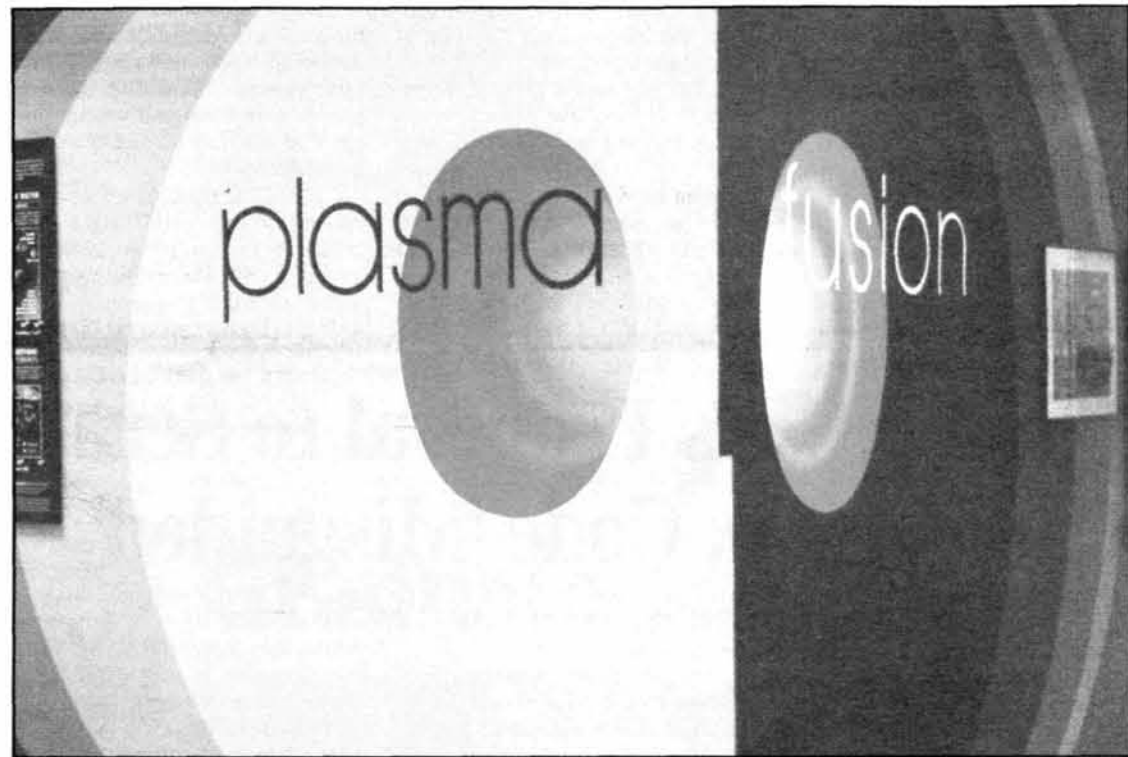
There was nothing "particularly secret" being housed on that machine, said Martin J. Greenwald '72, head of the Office of Computer Services at the PFC. However, it did contain "a vast variety of experimental data."

In some cases, break-ins can lead to a loss of data. However, that wasn't an issue in this case, Greenwald said.

"We do a pretty good job of backing everything up," he said. "The concern is more loss of service and loss of time."

Nelson agreed that there was a possibility that the hackers' program would "use too much bandwidth and slow down the

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T. LUKE YOUNG—THE TECH

The Plasma Fusion Center was one of many targets of two San Francisco hackers arrested by the FBI.

Plan to Register Dorm Accounts Delays Release of House Taxes

By Brett Altschul
NEWS EDITOR

Dormitory tax funds should be released tomorrow after a short delay. With the funds, dormitories governments will receive a memo asking them to register their outside bank accounts and reminding them of MIT's current policy on spending Institute funds on alcohol.

The checks normally go out early in the semester, said Dean for Student Life Margaret R. Bates. This year they were delayed slightly because the new cover letter had not been written, she said.

"We all have a little too much on our plates," Bates said. The administration was not deliberately trying to withhold the money, she added. When the administration was notified about the delay on Monday, "Immediately, people said, 'We need to get this out,'" she said.

The memo will remind dormitory governments that they need to register their outside accounts with the Office of Residence and Campus Activities, which oversees student activities' finances.

"These funds, as with activities funds, are Institute funds," said Associate Dean for Residence and Campus Activities Andrew M. Eisenmann '70, and thus fall under

the current MIT policy, which requires that all money either be in internal MIT accounts or in registered outside accounts.

Originally, the administration intended to withhold the funds until the dormitories registered their outside accounts, Eisenmann said. However, the delay in writing the memo made this impossible.

"Because of the delay, we're going to release the funds," Eisenmann said. The March 31 deadline was set to give dormitories time to respond, he said.

MIT needs account information

Eisenmann said that it was important that MIT keep accurate records of dormitories' funds. "There's an institutional responsibility here," he said.

Eisenmann said that MIT is responsible for all money in accounts filed under the Institute's non-profit taxpayer identification number. "What's important is that these are Institute funds and that MIT's tax ID number isn't jeopardized," Eisenmann said. "It's in tune with MIT's need for control of funds in general," he said.

The memo is mostly a reminder to dormitories, not a threat of punishment, he said. "I don't think that

we want to be punitive," he said. "Our preference is to have people do the right thing."

Delay worries some dormitories

"We're running kind of low on money," said Robin Chiu '00, vice-president of McCormick Hall.

Although McCormick hasn't canceled any events, the dormitory will effectively run out of money by the end of the week unless they receive their house tax funds, Chiu said. "We're getting to that stage," she added.

While McCormick was waiting for their money, Chiu said she asked to the dormitory's study break and social chairs to watch their spending. "We're being careful," she said.

"I'm relieved that the money should be here soon," she said. Without it, dormitory officers would have needed to start paying for events out of their own pockets, she added.

Chiu was upset that RCA never informed them that the funds would be released late this year. The government of McCormick didn't find out until they called to ask why hadn't gotten the money, she said. "It wasn't very nice of them not to tell us," she said.

Eisenmann admitted that the

delay could have caused problems for some dormitories. "I know it had some adverse effects," he said. "Our hope had been to get the letter out early enough."

Other dormitories were in better shape. "Right now, we have a lot of money left," said Edgardo J. Jimenez '00, the treasurer of MacGregor House. MacGregor has enough money for three to four more weeks, he said.

Ashesh P. Shah '98, the president of the Dormitory Council, also felt that students should have learned about the delay earlier.

"I don't think it's good for them to stop the funds moving," he said. "It seems sort of odd to me that they would do this out of the blue and on top of that not tell anybody," he added. "If they told me a week ago, then it wouldn't be a surprise to anybody," he said.

However, Shah said that the delay itself shouldn't really be a problem. "If they're just composing a letter and sending it along, that's fine," he said. "If anything, they've been delayed by a week, which is not a big problem."

Shah emphasized that if RCA was going to actively require dormitory's to register their outside bank accounts, then other student groups

should be treated the same way. "If they're sending it to us they should send it to everybody — every house, every organization," he said.

Dan McGuire and Douglas E. Heimburger contributed to the reporting of this story.

Institute Considers Self-Help Changes

By Naveen Sunkavally
ASSOCIATE OPINION EDITOR

A number of MIT's peer institutions have announced measures to decrease the financial burden on their students. This Friday, the MIT Corporation will respond to these changes by deciding the size of the self-help contribution that MIT students will pay next year. It will also decide the tuition level for next year.

The issue of self-help is of vital importance to the Institute. Even before other universities approved plans to decrease self-help, "we recognized that self-help was getting too high," said Stanley G. Hudson, director of student financial aid.

Hudson said that MIT "would be completely out of the ballpark" compared to other institutions if it continues along its current path of self-help increases. He added that although MIT students have the lowest default rate on loans in the country, that fact might change as the self-help amount increases.

Hudson said the proposed changes in self-help levels range from a substantial decrease to an increase 2 percent greater than the percentage increase in tuition. Marilee Jones, the dean of admissions and a member of the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid said that the CUAFA met with the Academic Council and recommended a decrease in self-help. They also proposed only a modest increase in tuition, "to keep some leverage against our competition this year," she said.

Peer institutions decrease self-help

Princeton University, Yale University, and Stanford University have all announced specific measures within the last two months to decrease self-help levels.

Princeton released its new financial aid budget late in January. It has replaced student loans with scholarship aid for families making less than \$40,000, removed or reduced the contribution of home equity to financial aid calculations, and increased its scholarship budget for international students.

Princeton also announced a 3.7 percent increase in tuition for the coming year, the lowest percentage increase there in thirty years.

At Yale, where 42 percent of the students receive financial aid, administrators announced a plan two weeks after Princeton did. Most significantly, Yale has increased the allowance of protected assets considered for financial aid, which include home equity, to \$150,000.

Tuition at Yale will rise by 2.9 percent next year, its lowest percentage increase in 30 years also. Yale's aid to international students will rise by 50 percent.

According to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Stanford also has adopted some measures. Stanford will no longer count the full value of the family home in considering financial aid, replacing that value with one equal to three times a family's income. The university will also no longer consider outside scholarships in determining self-help levels.

Despite the pressure applied by other peer institutions, it is unclear

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WORLD & NATION

Israel Signals Readiness To Leave Occupied South Lebanon

THE WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM

Nearly 13 years after declaring it was occupying part of southern Lebanon as its "security zone," Israel is signaling it is ready to withdraw its military forces from its neighbor to the north — if Lebanon supplies requisite security guarantees.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu '76, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and other Israeli leaders have said in recent days that Israel will pull its troops back inside its own territory if Lebanon promises to take tough action to prevent cross-border guerrilla attacks by forces of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah movement.

"The moment a promise is made that Hizbollah will be disarmed in south Lebanon and will not pose a threat to the northern communities" of Israel, Netanyahu said Monday, "we will be willing to leave."

Lebanon rejected the overture, insisting that Israel's withdrawal be unconditional and that any negotiations are out of the question. "Lebanon's mere acceptance of sitting down at the negotiating table would constitute a backing down on the case of (U.N.) resolution 425," said Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez, referring to a resolution passed in 1978 in response to an earlier Israeli occupation. It called for unconditional withdrawal.

Nonetheless, the Israeli statements appear to represent a slight shift of policy and, perhaps more significantly, reflect a growing domestic uneasiness about the costs of Israel's long struggle in Lebanon.

New Jersey Court Rules Boy Scouts Can't Ban Homosexuals

LOS ANGELES TIMES

NEW YORK

An appeals court in New Jersey ruled Monday that it is illegal for the Boy Scouts of America to ban homosexuals.

The court overturned a decision barring James Dale, 27, an Eagle Scout and assistant scoutmaster, who earned 30 merit badges during his 12 years with the organization.

Dale was expelled from the Monmouth County Council of the Boy Scouts in 1990 after local scouting officials learned from a college newspaper story he is gay.

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which supported Dale's suit, said Monday's decision was the first time any appeals court in the nation had ruled against the scouts.

A spokesman for the Boy Scouts said the organization would appeal to the New Jersey Supreme Court.

"We're disappointed," said Gregg Shields, a spokesman for the national office of the Boy Scouts of America.

"A person who engages in homosexual conduct is not a role model for [traditional] values, and, accordingly, we don't offer leadership or membership in the Boy Scouts of America to avowed homosexuals," Shields added.

In the United States, the Boy Scouts has 5.8 million members, about 100,000 of whom live in New Jersey.

In its decision, the Superior Court appellate panel said "there is absolutely no evidence before us... supporting a conclusion that a gay scoutmaster, solely because he is homosexual, does not possess the strength of character necessary to properly care for, or to impart BSA humanitarian ideals to the young boys in his charge," the court decided.

U.S. Slashes Anti-Drug Aid to Bolivian Government

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The United States has slashed counter-drug aid to Bolivia, a leading producer of cocaine, by 75 percent this year, a move that senior Bolivian officials Monday warned could severely strain relations between two governments with a long-standing record of cooperation in the international war on drug trafficking.

Bolivian Vice President Jorge Quiroga, who is visiting Washington, told reporters the U.S. decision to cut the aid from \$46 million in 1997 to \$12 million was "very difficult to digest or understand" and could lead his country to reject U.S. aid altogether. Bolivia's allocation was cut, according to a State Department official, to allow a sharp increase in aid to Colombia, which the United States has not certified as an anti-drug ally for the past three years and which only last week was exempted from U.S. sanctions.

"If that decision is not changed, we will say, 'Thank you very much, but take your money and take a hike,'" Quiroga said. "We will continue our (counter-drug) work because we are doing it for ourselves."

"The signal is clear," Quiroga said. "If you are certified with flying colors, you lose your funding. It is the wrong message to send."

However, Peru, once the world's largest producer of coca, has seen its overall production drop by 40 percent in the past year. As a reward for its progress, U.S. aid to Peru grew from \$26 million in 1997 to \$31 million this year.

WEATHER

National Weather Service

Today: Rain and drizzle, especially in the south and east. Brisk along the Massachusetts and Rhode Island coast. Rain may also be mixed with snow at times over high terrain. Highs around 40°F (4°C).

Tonight: Cloudy with a low of 30°F (-1°C).

Wednesday: Continued mostly cloudy with a chance of showers in the west. High 45°F (6°C).

Thursday: Partly cloudy. Temperatures between 25°F (-3°C) and 40°F (4°C).

Divided U.N. Security Council Issues Severe Warning to Iraq

By Craig Turner and Marc Lacey
LOS ANGELES TIMES

UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. Security Council unanimously warned Iraq Monday of the "severest consequences" if Baghdad violates the agreement on unrestricted U.N. weapons inspections negotiated last week with Secretary-General Kofi A. Annan SM '72.

Despite the tough language, the long, behind-the-scenes debate that preceded Monday's meeting again exposed fundamental divisions between the United States and most other Security Council members over how to deal with Iraq.

Many council members agreed to vote for the measure only after its two sponsors, Great Britain and Japan, assured them that the warning of "severest consequences" did not imply approval, in advance, of a U.S. airstrike on Baghdad at the first sign of Iraqi noncompliance.

Although much of the debate had an arcane quality — arguing, for example, over whether the wording should be "most severe" or "severest" — it was another reminder to the Clinton administration that few other countries are eager to embrace the U.S. threat of force to get Iraq to cooperate with the U.N. inspectors who are charged with eliminating Baghdad's ability to wage chemical, biological and nuclear war.

The United States is nearly alone, for example, in asserting that existing U.N. resolutions give it the authority to launch an attack on Iraq without a Security Council vote. U.S. Ambassador Bill Richardson repeated that contention Monday as he declared the United States "very

pleased" with the resolution.

More typical of the majority on the 15-member council was the comment by Fernando Berrocal Soto, Costa Rica's delegate, that most nations oppose anything that could be considered a "blank check" for a U.S. attack on Iraq. Brazilian Ambassador Celso Luis Nunez Amorim also asserted that only the council as a whole could authorize the use of force against Iraq.

As is often the case here, council members patched over their differences in the interest of maintaining a facade of unanimity. The insertion also of an ambiguous phrase saying the council would continue to monitor the issue "to ensure implementation of this resolution and to secure peace and security in the area" let all sides claim a measure of victory.

British Ambassador John Weston, who with Richardson is the most hawkish member on Iraq, said that phrase meant the Security Council would be scrutinizing Iraqi actions to assure compliance. In contrast, a spokesman for the Chinese, who are generally sympathetic to Iraq, suggested it meant the council would have to vote to confirm any alleged Iraqi violation of the Annan agreement.

The resolution gives a formal endorsement of the accord signed by Annan and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tarik Aziz in Baghdad reinstating weapons inspections to eight "presidential" sites in Iraq that the government in Baghdad had declared off-limits. The pact led the United States and Britain to call off a planned airstrike on Iraq.

In an address to the council

Monday, Annan defended the agreement and warned Iraq that it would be responsible for its success or failure. "The government of Iraq must now fulfill, without obstruction or delay, the continuing obligations that it reaffirmed last week at the very highest level," he said. "With today's Security Council resolution... the government of Iraq fully understands that if this effort to ensure compliance through negotiation is obstructed, by evasion or deception, as were previous efforts, diplomacy may not have a second chance."

The blunt warning seemed in part a response to complaints by some Republicans in the U.S. Congress that Annan caved into Iraq in the Baghdad talks.

On Capitol Hill, there continued to be tough talk as lawmakers discussed methods for toppling Iraqi President Saddam Hussein at a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee hearing.

A prominent Iraqi dissident recommended that the United States openly back the opposition Iraqi National Congress and let it marshal dissent. "The Iraqi people ask you to give us the tools and let us finish the job," said Ahmad Chalabi, president of the opposition group's executive council. "Saddam is the Iraqi people's problem and we are prepared to bear any burden to remove him from power."

He asked for U.S. air cover in setting up opposition zones and access to Iraqi government money frozen in the Persian Gulf War. He criticized the U.S. government for failing to support previous uprisings against Hussein.

Clinton Calls Proposal to Scrap Current Tax Code 'Misguided'

By Jonathan Peterson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Facing an unexpected stampede in Congress to wipe out the U.S. tax code and replace it with a radical overhaul, President Clinton on Monday denounced the approach as "misguided, reckless and irresponsible," and warned that it would imperil the economy.

In an unusually pointed attack, Clinton and his top advisers assailed popular legislation in the House and Senate that would have the current tax code expire on Dec. 31, 2001, to make way for a wholly new version.

"No one concerned about fighting crime would even think about saying, 'Well, three years from now we're going to throw out the criminal code, and we'll figure out what to put in its place,'" Clinton told the National Mortgage Bankers Association. "No one would do that. That is what this proposal is. That is exactly what some people in Congress are proposing to do."

At the same time, Clinton acknowledged he was on risky terrain, given public disenchantment with the Internal Revenue Service and the widely panned tax system it oversees.

He too gets "outraged" by IRS abuses, he said, and has supported reforms, including a Taxpayer Bill of Rights designed to help the public cut through red tape and recover costs in lawsuits.

Noting that no one "ever wants to say" anything positive about the IRS or the tax code, Clinton conceded, "This is a hazardous discussion that it's easier to enter into maybe because I'm not on the ballot anymore."

The plan to "sunset" the nation's

tax code sounds "almost irresistible," Clinton said, "but so was the siren song."

The president's comments were prompted by a surge in support for identical House and Senate proposals intended to spark a nationwide debate on eliminating the tax code.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.), backed by the entire Republican leadership of that chamber, has pledged that a measure to wipe out the tax code will be brought up for a vote this year. The House version, sponsored by Rep. Steve Largent (R-Okla.), now has 143 co-sponsors.

Meanwhile, the National Federation of Independent Business, an influential small-business lobby, has embarked on a campaign to scrap the tax code, and is collecting what it hopes will be 1 million signatures for the cause.

Confident that they have struck a vein of popular sentiment, the anti-tax code advocates quickly shot back at Clinton Monday: "With less than six weeks left before Americans must file their tax returns, President Clinton has once again shown himself to be out of touch with the plight of the American people," said Sen. Tim Hutchinson (R-Ark.), a sponsor of the Senate bill.

"We anticipate that it will be voted on this spring, and it will pass," Largent aide Terry Allen said of the proposal.

Under the legislation, a replacement tax code would be passed by July 4, 2001, several months before the current system would expire, and it could be phased in gradually. But legislators have yet to agree on what the replacement would look like, other than that it would be sim-

pler than today's model. Calls for a national sales tax or a flat tax, in which brackets and deductions would mostly be eliminated, have champions as well as critics.

Proponents of a new tax system maintain that the current jumble of rules suppresses economic growth and prosperity.

"Starting from scratch, Congress, the president — and most importantly, the American people — would be able to design a fairer, simpler tax code," Hutchinson said.

Republicans also argued that their plan to set a deadline for the tax code served a practical benefit, by creating pressure for change of a system that has been resistant to major reforms.

Clearly, the White House is aware of the sensitivities of the issue.

We "are making changes, and must continue to do so," Clinton said of reforming the IRS.

Still, the president and his aides argued that the proposals threatened to wreak havoc with the economy, because uncertainty about taxes could inhibit all sorts of investment decisions.

"Scrapping the home mortgage deduction, scrapping other middle-class tax cuts without presenting a clear alternative is simply reckless for the economy, reckless for businesses, reckless for families' budgets," said Clinton, deriding the "sunset" approach as an "irresponsible" and "misguided" one that he would not permit if he could help it.

"With no ability to predict the consequences," he added, "businesses might decide to postpone, cancel or pare back on plans to buy new computers, build a new factory, hire new workers."

North Korea Says Food Stocks Will Be Depleted in Two Weeks

By Kevin Sullivan
THE WASHINGTON POST

TOKYO

North Korea issued its most dire assessment yet of its food shortages on Monday, saying that a hungry population already living on starvation rations could run out of food in as little as two weeks.

The official state news agency reported that daily rations for most people had already been cut to seven ounces a day, far below what is generally considered necessary for survival. It said that even if that ration is cut in half, "the stock will run out in mid-March."

Because of North Korea's secretive nature, it is virtually impossible to know whether its statements about the shortages are accurate. If true, millions of people could be at immediate risk of famine and starvation. But Pyongyang also is capable of inflating its woes to win inter-

national sympathy or even to test the new government that just took office in South Korea.

International aid officials immediately called for the world to react "quickly and generously" to Pyongyang's call for help to avert a "humanitarian catastrophe." The United States, which last month pledged an additional \$75 million worth of emergency food aid for North Korea, urged other nations to join the appeal, but said it would not promise any new aid.

South Korea had no immediate official reaction, but Kim Dae Jung, its new president, has indicated he intends to be far more generous than his predecessors in granting humanitarian aid to the Stalinist North, despite South Korea's own financial hardships.

Still, some in South Korea privately said that North Korea's statement could be simply a "public rela-

tions ruse" to win more international aid. The situation is delicate for Kim, who must balance his desire for more engagement with the North against the fears of a South Korean population that is deeply skeptical of Pyongyang's motives and honesty.

Although the extent of the immediate problem remains murky, North Korea's chronic food problems are well known. The U.N. World Food Program has been warning for months that last fall's harvest and several large shipments of international aid would run out by spring.

Then last month, the United Nations said that food aid alone would not be enough to solve North Korea's problems, so it raised the U.N. program's appeal to \$415.6 million to include projects to improve water supply, sanitation and food production.

Post Office May Delay Next Increase in Stamp Prices

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The U.S. Postal Service's plan to increase the price of a first-class letter to 33 cents has run into a problem: the agency is making too much money.

As a result, the independent postal rate commission has suggested that the 32-cent stamp should stick around a bit longer.

When the Postal Service's board of governors requested the one-cent increase on July 10, it was projecting the agency would lose \$2.4 billion in the current fiscal year.

Thanks largely to the robust U.S. economy, the agency has continued to make money at a clip that has surprised some postal officials. It recorded a profit of nearly \$1 billion in the first quarter of the current fiscal year, well ahead of its 1997 profits, and prompting revised projections that fiscal 1998 will be the agency's fourth year of \$1 billion-plus in postal profits. The mailing industry has questioned the need for an increase, citing the profits.

Last week, members of the rate commission sent an unusual letter to the board of governors citing "a unique confluence of events" that called for "unprecedented action to maintain public confidence in the system for setting postal rates."

In short, the commission suggested the governors delay the current rate case by allowing the commission to base its decision on fiscal 1997 results instead of those from fiscal 1996, which had been the basis for the proposed increase. The commission must approve any rate changes before the board of governors can implement them.

Scientists Report Physiological Difference in Lesbians

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Scientists Monday reported the first strong physiological evidence that lesbian and bisexual women may be biologically different from heterosexual women.

The researchers at the University of Texas in Austin found that, compared with heterosexual women, the hearing of homosexual and bisexual women tends to be a bit more like that of men.

The findings suggest that homosexual and bisexual women develop in subtly different ways than heterosexual women. Therefore, their brains may also form differently, accounting for their sexuality, the researchers said.

"It's an indication that other brain sites have also been masculinized," said Dennis McFadden, a professor of experimental psychology who led the study in today's Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Like much of the previous research, the new findings immediately sparked criticism. "All of this research perpetuates stereotypes — in this case that lesbians are more masculine than heterosexual women," said John De Cecco, a professor of psychology and human sexuality at San Francisco State University.

"The results support the theory that differences in the central nervous system exist between homosexual and heterosexual individuals and that the differences are possibly related to early factors in brain development," said Sandra Witelson of McMaster University.

Senate Leaders Make Highway Deal, Raising Funding 40 Percent

By Eric Pianin
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Senate leaders from both parties struck a deal Monday to increase highway spending to \$173 billion over the next six years, a more than 40 percent jump over previous years.

The deal, which was made under pressure from state governors, industry lobbyists, and other senators, clears the way for passage of a new highway bill by the full Senate this month and enhances the prospects for a compromise with the House.

The House leadership has supported spending in the same range as Monday's Senate deal. However, influential House members and some Senators have pushed for even more transportation spending.

Although the increased spending exceeds limits imposed by last year's multi-year balanced budget agreement, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete V. Domenici (R-N.M.), who attended the final bargaining session in the office of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., pledged to find offsetting cuts in other programs.

"We have made a good faith effort to secure additional transportation funds, but the additional money cannot come at the expense of the good faith efforts to balance the federal budget," said Sen. John H. Chafee (R-R.I.), chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee.

The deal also changes longstanding regional inequities in the formula for distributing highway funds by assuring that no state gets

back less than 91 cents in aid for every \$1 of taxes paid into the Federal Highway Trust Fund. Under the current formula, some so-called "donor" states, especially in the South, get back as little as 71 cents for every dollar they pay into the highway system.

The National Governors Association and other state and local officials have urged Congress to act swiftly on new legislation before a looming May 1 deadline, warning that 42,100 jobs could be lost for every \$1 billion of road contracts canceled because of congressional delays. Officials from northern tier states with short construction seasons are concerned that they will have to postpone many highway and bridge projects on the drawing board now unless Congress acts soon.



Graduate Student Council

Walker Memorial, 50-220

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gsc-request@mit.edu

www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

Nominating GSC Officers

Want to have an impact on MIT graduate student life? Want to be more involved with MIT other than your lab? Come to our March General Council Meeting and nominate the Officers: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. All graduate students are eligible. The election for Officers will be at the April Meeting.

For details, check out <http://www.mit.edu/activities/gsc>, or email your questions to gsc-officers@mit.edu.

The Graduate Student Council is also open for nomination of the Graduate Teaching Award and the Perkins Award for Graduate Advisor. Be on the look out for our mails or check out our web site.

MARCH

- 3 MCP Board of Governors Meeting *
- 4 General Council Mtg. *
- 4 Open Forum with the Visiting Committee for the Office of the Dean of Students, 7:30-8:30pm, 10-105.
- 11 Activities Meeting*
- 13 Boston Celtics vs. Detroit Pistons game. 7 pm, Fleet Center, \$25
- 31 Housing & Community Affairs Meeting*

APRIL

- 8 Officer Election*

* at 5:30 PM in Rm. 50-220. All graduate students are welcome. Food is provided.

OPINION

MIT's Counterproductive Alcohol Policy

The continuing confusion over MIT's alcohol policies demonstrates that they are insufficient and inappropriate to meet the MIT community's need for a strong and reasonably understandable policy. It is time for MIT to step back from its initial

attempt at policy-making and take a fresh look at the situation. The most appropriate way to deal with alcohol on campus is to return to

the administration's previous rules: MIT should require nothing more than proper event registration and the enforcement of applicable state laws.

The current tangle of individual and group alcohol policies is having a detrimental effect on the MIT community. The policies have generated widespread confusion among students, faculty, and staff about which events are allowed and which are not. The new rules also contain a number of loopholes and omissions that make it unclear whether certain common types of events can ever be judged on anything other than a "case by case" basis. Confusion about the new, stricter policies is more than an inconvenience: if students are deterred from seeking medical assistance for fear of punishment, lives may be at risk. This is exactly the risk that new policies should be tailored to avoid, rather than exacerbate. Although the administration made an effort at reassuring students through a "good samaritan" clause, which makes calling for medical assistance a mitigating circumstance when considering punishment for violations, the provision has done little to alleviate the prevailing atmosphere of fear and confusion about the policy.

In addition, the new alcohol policies are also beginning to have a chilling effect on the campus social life, particularly on much needed faculty-student interaction. In the past, faculty and students interacted at departmental social functions, but, under

the current policy, departments are now effectively faced with the choice of going dry, not inviting undergraduates, or simply choosing not to hold events at all. These are the types of social events that students have the most to gain from, and it is truly unfortunate that faculty and staff have been all but scared away from holding them.

The rules that have been adopted are a counterproductive response to the problems that arose last fall, and there are other solutions that would better fit MIT's needs. However, the sanctions that have been proposed for violating alcohol policy rules are constructive in that they clarify what disciplinary actions will be taken under what circumstances. Although the current alcohol policies are unsatisfactory, the idea of spelling out the punishments for violations is a good one and should be maintained no matter what the alcohol policy is.

The administration can also continue to tolerate groups that wish to impose more stringent rules on themselves. Living groups, for example, may choose to go dry or impose extra rules on who can be present at a given event. Such individuality should be encouraged, but not forced.

Most importantly, the administration should emphasize non-coercive ways for changing thinking about alcohol on campus. Specific education programs for Orientation or for living groups have been helpful in the past, and may be augmented in the future. Even better, increased faculty-student interaction — especially interaction on the social level — would go a long way toward meeting the current need for dialogue on alcohol.

These positive steps would be the first on a long road toward a more productive policy on alcohol use at MIT. But before they can be taken, MIT must first cast aside its current policy. The sooner this change is made, the sooner real dialogue can begin.



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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

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AND NEED WE POINT OUT THAT LIBERAL SOCIAL PROGRAMS SUCH AS WELFARE AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION HAVE NOT BEEN 100% SUCCESSFUL?



AND SKULK THEY SHOULD! WHY, JUST CONSIDER THE LUDICROUS LIST OF CAUSES THEY HAVE CHAMPIONED OVER THE YEARS!



IT'S A SAD SPECTACLE...BUT PERHAPS SOMEDAY THESE POOR DELUDED SOULS WILL RECOGNIZE THE WISDOM OF CONSERVATIVES SUCH AS GEORGE WILL --WHO ONCE EXPLAINED THAT A RETURN TO LIFE AS IT WAS IN 1900 IS "A SERVICEABLE SUMMATION OF THE CONSERVATIVE'S GOAL..." *



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All the President's Men and Women

Unfortunately for the Pundits, There Is Little To Learn From Harding's Foibles

Anders Hove

"Harding may not have been a great President or even a good one, but he deserves to be judged on the basis of his actions, not on hearsay and innuendo."



So writes Columbia history graduate student Michael Pierce in the March 1 issue of *The New York Times*, under the rather questionable headline, "Harding Wasn't a Slacker."

Strong stuff indeed. You wouldn't expect

Warren G. Harding to many defenders these days. He has been dead for 75 years, and his legacy is bereft of ideological fervor or legislative or diplomatic accomplishments. (He is famous for coining the word "normalcy," but this fact is usually used to mock rather than extol his memory.) But after Thomas Fleming penned an inflammatory anti-Harding column in the February 23 issue of *The New York Times*, at least a few historians' interest was piqued, and Pierce was even moved to reply.

"[Fleming] uses the same sort of rumor, hearsay and innuendo to criticize Harding that many of President Clinton's opponents are using against him," writes Pierce. Pierce mainly takes issue with Fleming's discussion of Harding's sexual relations with women other than his wife, and his alleged passion for golf and poker.

Unfortunately for the points Fleming and counterpart Pierce were trying to make, history is very complicated, and often does not support quick and easy judgments. More importantly, it can be dangerous to draw parallels between current events and the past.

"Harding has come to be regarded right, left, and center as the worst President this country has ever had." That judgment was rendered by Harding biographer Francis Russell. Writing in 1969, four years before Watergate, Russell's judgment stands to this day as the worst judgment history can render on a political figure. Although he was revered by many during his own time, Harding's reputation was shattered by scandal in the years following his death in 1923.

Harding is most remembered for his scandals, of which Teapot Dome is the most notorious. In an interesting parallel to the current

Clinton scandal, Teapot Dome implicated the Interior Department and its head, former senator and New Mexico political don Albert Fall. Fall had allegedly sold off invaluable Naval oil reserves to "oil interests" in exchange for kickbacks. The Teapot Dome investigation dragged on years after Harding's death, and featured all manner of silly hijinks that could not have been better contrived to titillate the press of the day. Fall and other witnesses tried to claim illness to avoid testifying, and they doctored evidence, including dummy check receipts, to cover their tracks. The Interior Department tried to snowball the investigation by handing over truckloads of documents, in the hopes that it would take the Senate years to review them. In one of the most bizarre twists, unknown individuals tried to frame Senator Burton Wheeler of Montana, one of the gang's accusers, in a hotel room with a woman.

The Teapot Dome investigation dragged on years after Harding's death, and featured all manner of silly hijinks that could not have been better contrived to titillate.

Teapot Dome gradually came to ensnare all sorts of other politicians, including William Gibbs McAdoo, a Californian who was running for president under the Democratic banner, as well as a clutch of Harding cronies, including the Attorney General Harry Daugherty. Daugherty and McAdoo escaped jail terms, but their careers withered.

Teapot Dome was a scandal very much suited for the 1920s. It concerned one of the central issues of the day, conservation of natural resources. Harding had pledged support of conservation, thus healing the decades-old rift between the old-line conservatives he represented and the followers of former President Theodore Roosevelt. At the crux of Teapot Dome was bribery, a crime anyone could understand. To use the press jargon of our own time, Teapot Dome had "legs" — political leaders found it compelling and the public found it understandable.

Harding's alleged affairs were a different matter. The public knew nothing of them at the time, and the press and political leaders did nothing to bring them before the public eye. Nan Britton, Harding's main accuser, only came forward after his death, when his family refused to help support the child she claimed the president had fathered. She responded by writing a book chronicling their affair; refused publication by all publishing houses, Britton eventually put the work into print by allying herself with an illustrator of Bibles who was outraged at the way the Hardings had treated her. Bookstores that had refused to stock it changed their tune in the bat of an eye as the book, *The President's Daughter*, became an instant national best-seller.

The Harding family also worked hard to deny the president's other alleged tryst with Carrie Phillips. Unlike Britton, Phillips was an elegant woman who Harding turned to for intellectual stimulation. Believing Harding would divorce his ailing wife, "Duchess," to marry Phillips, the Republican National Committee supposedly shipped her and her husband to Germany to keep the nomination on track. This particular story is probably apocryphal, but if the RNC didn't protect Harding in this instance, the Harding heirs did him one better: By launching a million-dollar lawsuit, they prevented publication of the Harding-Phillips letters which would have proven his intentions once and for all.

As far as histrionics are concerned, Harding's alleged improprieties are something of a nullity. The public was unaware of them during his life, and because of his death, as well as widespread disgust with his administration in general, the public never really had to come to terms with what the allegations might mean for the presidency or democracy. During the years immediately following Harding's death, his name was gradually effaced from public buildings and structures that had been named for him. In a sense, Harding was the president who wasn't.

The fact that Clinton's alleged sexual wrongdoing came to light during (and before) his presidency makes his case unique. The allegations have been and will continue to be investigated during his own tenure in office. There is no historical precedent for such an investigation, and no prior record to help us predict how it will all end up. Like it or not, we must make our own way through this part of our nation's history.

Make Much of March Madness

Dan Dunn

Is your ear close to the ground? Can you hear the murmur, the rumble, the approaching roar? The NCAA Basketball Tournament is coming.

For those of us who are closer to the armchair than the court, the month of March is one of the more exciting of the year. Yes, I did just write a column about baseball's spring training, but the sports section needs more pages anyway. And I need something to carry me through to Opening Day.

How excited am I about the tourney? Some would definitely describe me as having a medical condition. A few years ago at this time of year I was living in an apartment in Cambridgeport, down by the BU Bridge. I had discharged all of my responsibilities for the weekend, and was ready to settle in for four days of unrelenting basketball. My roommate and I sat down on the futon a few minutes before tip-off and turned on the TV. We had every channel except for ESPN, which was total static.

I doubt the guy who answered the repair and complaint line will ever forget that phone call. I certainly won't. And the repairman was there so quickly that we only missed the first half of the first game.

This NCAA fascination of mine is out of character. I usually only follow sports that I can play, and I certainly don't play basketball well. I don't like watching the NBA. What is it that makes college basketball so appealing to me?

Most of all, I love the emotion that the players feel and show. You rarely see such emotion from professional athletes.

It seems like these students should be less involved. This sport isn't actually their life; theoretically they have classes and academics to attend to as well. A professional has one thing: his sport. But for whatever reason, college athletes are less jaded. They pour their souls into the performance of their team.

Two years ago, while the tournament was in full swing, I happened to be in London, Ontario, visiting some fraternity brothers at the University of Western Ontario. I was all set to watch the tourney. They knew that I was waiting for it and, just to tease me, they outvoted my pleas and watched a different channel. In particular, they made me watch the World Junior Curling Championship — Canada versus some Scandinavian country. When the curling was over, they relented and changed to basketball. Most of them stood to leave, but hung around for a minute as the second half of underdog Princeton against defending champion UCLA began.

As the half went on, they sat back down, one by one. They were transfixed by the performance of the severely under-talented Princeton team as it simply outplayed UCLA. Princeton controlled the pace, and the score swung back and forth. In the end, Princeton pulled off the win and went on to the next round of the tournament.

That game made my Canadian friends reconsider all the jokes they had made before. They watched people play as if their lives hung in the balance, not just a paycheck. They saw the passion and excitement that makes the tournament so exciting.

So who is playing this year? Who is going to be providing the adrenaline and tears? Selection for the tourney has already begun. The guaranteed way into the tournament is to win your league's championship. There are 30 leagues with that privilege, and those tournaments are in full swing.

The rest of the spots are determined by a committee. This committee does not have an enviable job. The teams' schedules vary widely. The committee has to compare the team with a 29-0 record against patsies to the team that is 16-12 against the top ten teams in the country. One of the tools that this committee uses is the fabled Rating Percentage Index. The RPI takes into account schedule and wins, rather than one or the other.

The selection committee will be meeting this weekend and watching the league championships finish up. As they watch, they will consult their rankings, ratings, and RPIs, and fill out the list of the 64 teams that will give us some of the more exciting days of the sports year. Sunday, it all begins.

Squishing the Worms of Spring

Jennifer Lane

I have never really been friends with earthworms. My mother, an avid gardener, used to try and acquaint me with the slimy fellows. She'd say that they helped to make the vegetables and flowers grow, and that they kept the dirt soft and nutrient-rich.

The reality of the situation never escaped me, however. I could see through her exaltations on behalf of the writhing critters. The worms help the dirt by basically making the entire world their toilet. Furthermore, their disgusting appearance and unpredictable wiggling always put me off. I wanted nothing to do with them, and avoided digging or fishing as often as I could.

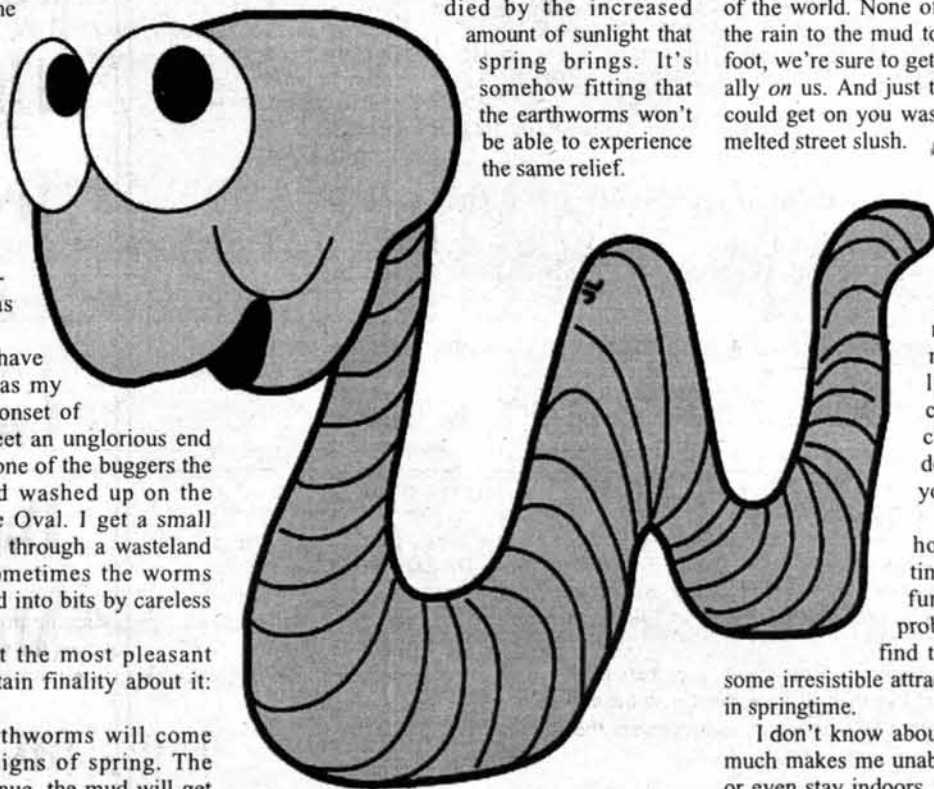
Maybe this is why I have chosen the earthworm as my personal signal for the onset of spring. They tend to meet an unglorious end this time of year. I saw one of the buggers the other day, bloated and washed up on the pavement along Kresge Oval. I get a small sense of power walking through a wasteland of worm carcasses. Sometimes the worms have even been shredded into bits by careless passers-by.

Admittedly it's not the most pleasant image, but it has a certain finality about it: Spring is definitely here.

Along with the earthworms will come other equally earthy signs of spring. The incessant rain will continue, the mud will get muddier, the birds will make more noise, and bugs will start to appear. Ordinarily, all of these signs could be construed as one big nuisance. At the beginning of spring, however, all of this teeming life makes a wonderful and welcome contrast to the dreary winter months

when the hearty rats along Memorial Drive were the only nearby representatives of all things living.

Better than any earthworm or birdsong, however, is the fact that the sun will begin to stay out longer. Doctors and psychologists have long attempted to explain the effect that more sunlight has on all of us. It remedies seasonal affective disorder, they say. The depression and lethargy experienced throughout the stark month of February is remedied by the increased amount of sunlight that spring brings. It's somehow fitting that the earthworms won't be able to experience the same relief.



Regardless of clinical explanation, the increased sun-time simply makes everything, well, brighter. Going out in the evening is no longer an exercise in night vision. It doesn't feel like the world closes for business shortly after 4 p.m. And, if you're a

student who sleeps until well into the afternoon, you're no longer in danger of completely missing the sun for the day.

There's even a certain unmistakable smell that comes in with spring. Something a little like mist, a little like mud, and a little like flowers that are just about to be. This adds to the totality of the spring experience. Just walking outside, you are encompassed by the spring fog and spring scents.

All in all, spring marks the giant defrosting of the world. None of us can escape it. From the rain to the mud to the earthworms underfoot, we're sure to get some of the world actually on us. And just think, in January all you could get on you was some dirty, salty, half-melted street slush.

There is a kind of primordial joy in rolling in mud, or splashing in puddles, or running naked in a torrent of rain. None of which, I might add, can you really do from inside the confines of an Athena cluster. And all this outdoor activity only gives you more energy.

While you might have hoped that your spring-time energy boost could be funneled into doing your problem sets, I think you'll find that impossible. There's some irresistible attraction to the out-of-doors in springtime.

I don't know about you, but spring pretty much makes me unable to work, concentrate, or even stay indoors. In fact, I can't even finish writing. I wish you luck over the next month or so in discovering your favorite springtime activity. Revel in it. As for me, I have already put on my galoshes and am ready to go step on some earthworms.

Squish.

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I/S Surveys Community, Considers Clusters in Dorms

By David D. Hsu
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Information Systems is conducting an online survey to understand better how students use the computing environment. The results of the survey will help determine future MITnet changes, including the possibility of installing Athena workstations in dormitories.

The survey, located at <http://web.mit.edu/acs/www/survey.html>, aims to collect a "baseline profile of how students do computing at MIT, including use of student-owned machines," said Naomi B. Schmidt, manager of educational planning and support at I/S.

The Institute conducted a similar survey in 1996, leading to the installation of Quickstations around campus. However, that survey was accomplished through interviews conducted by I/S in Athena clusters.

"In the intervening two years, the number of students with computers connected to MITnet in their own rooms has grown, and the time has come to do a survey that is more inclusive, including students who may never even enter an Athena cluster," Schmidt said.

The survey asks students about their usage of Athena, Athena software, and personal computers.

The main question for I/S is, "What are the requirements of the environment to support education at

MIT?" said Vijay M.S. Kumar, director of Academic Computing at I/S. I/S needs to consider what changes are necessary to meet the community's educational needs.

"Rather than rushing in with the solutions, we need to understand the need space and the problem space," Kumar said.

On the the proposals I/S is considering is changing the makeup of the clusters, Kumar said. For example, maybe there is a need for a specialized cluster with machines geared toward one type of application, he said.

Dorms could receive workstations

I/S is also looking at the possibility of putting Athena workstations in dormitories. Both Burton-Conner House and McCormick Hall expressed interest in having Athena machines, Kumar said.

However, IS/ does not want to put just an Athena cluster in the dormitories, since that might not meet their specific needs, Kumar said.

"Rather than just addressing these specific requests, we want to look at this in the larger context of extending computing to residential space and public areas in general," Schmidt said.

Representatives from dormitories have been meeting with I/S. They are trying to find out the optimal way to put computers into dor-

mitories is, said Charles Stewart III, McCormick's housemaster.

"This includes the possibility of Quickstations, clusters, and network drops in public areas," Schmidt said.

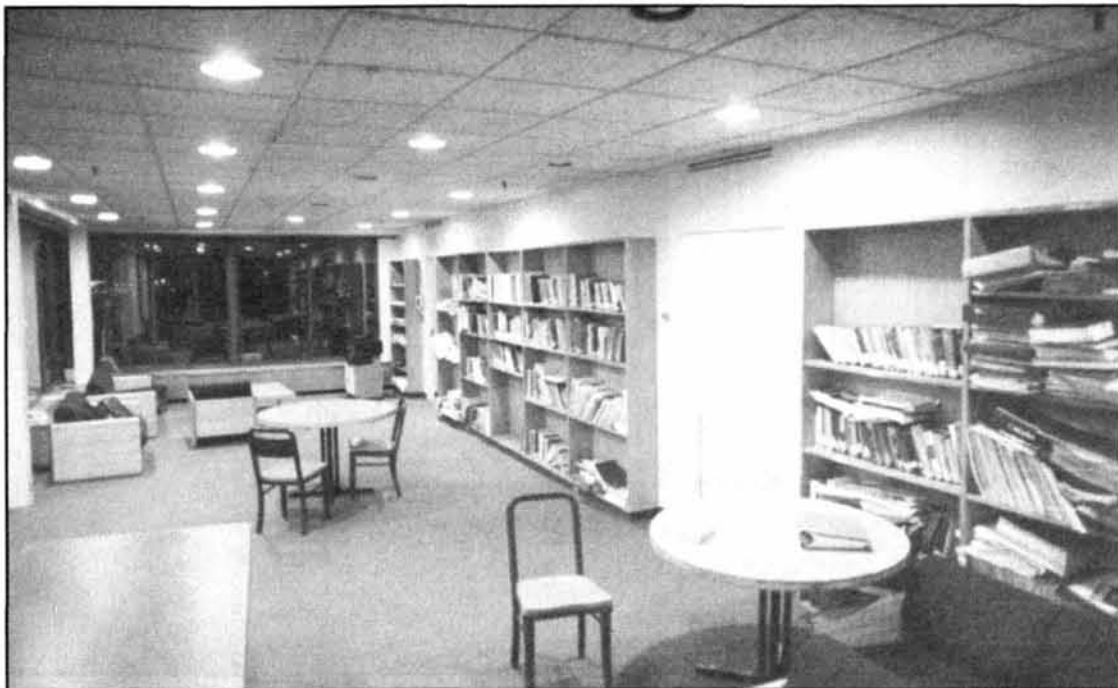
"It's very preliminary," Stewart said. "The survey is part of the whole series of consultations."

Once I/S gets receives more information, they could create a pilot cluster in one of the dormitories, Kumar said.

"Once we agree on modifications to our environment, we'd just as soon see them happen sooner rather than later," Schmidt said. "The most practical time to effect such

changes, especially those in public spaces, would be over the summer."

Currently, I/S plans to install additional Quickstations at the intersection of Buildings 8 and 16 when Building 16 reopens. It is also planning to upgrade all Quickstations to Sun Sparcstation 5s this summer, Schmidt said.



I/S is considering installing Athena Quickstations in dormitories. McCormick Hall's library is one probable location.

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Ten Days in Dhaka

Photography exhibition by Arifur Rahman in the Wiesner Student Art Gallery (Student Center 2nd floor)

Arifur Rahman, a PhD candidate in Electrical Engineering at MIT, was born in Bangladesh and currently lives in New York. His exhibit opened on Sunday and we caught up with him later that day. He selected these photographs from the exhibited material. The exhibition was funded by a grant from the Council for the Arts at MIT.

The Tech: You are wearing a robe.

Arifur Rahman: It is a "Panjabi," a traditional garment for special occasions.

TT: How long did you live in Bangladesh? Was this the first time you went back?

AR: I lived there for about 19 years. I first went back two years later, and then again now.

TT: Did you see things differently? Did your viewpoint change?

AR: Absolutely. Things struck me differently. I was more sympathetic. I felt guilty realizing what these people were going through and how fortunate I was to live here in the States.

TT: Do you know these people?

AR: No, they were mostly unknown to me, yet they were very cooperative. Sometimes they showed me things that they otherwise would not reveal. For example, I arrived at the pottery village during a religious holiday. They were not supposed to work. So I told the man that I came from very far away. He laid everything out to show me what he does.

TT: Tell us a little about each of these pictures.

AR: "Sadar ghat" is a river port in old Dhaka. These are like taxis or ferries shipping people to and from the old part of the city. The guy with the snakes is a fortune teller. He is in complete control and he is a little bit authoritarian. It makes it more convincing. He tells you what your future is and that is it.

TT: Have you received any reaction to the exhibition?

AR: Actually, one person wrote to me who was very unhappy with my selection of photographs and the portrayal of the city. She is also from Dhaka.

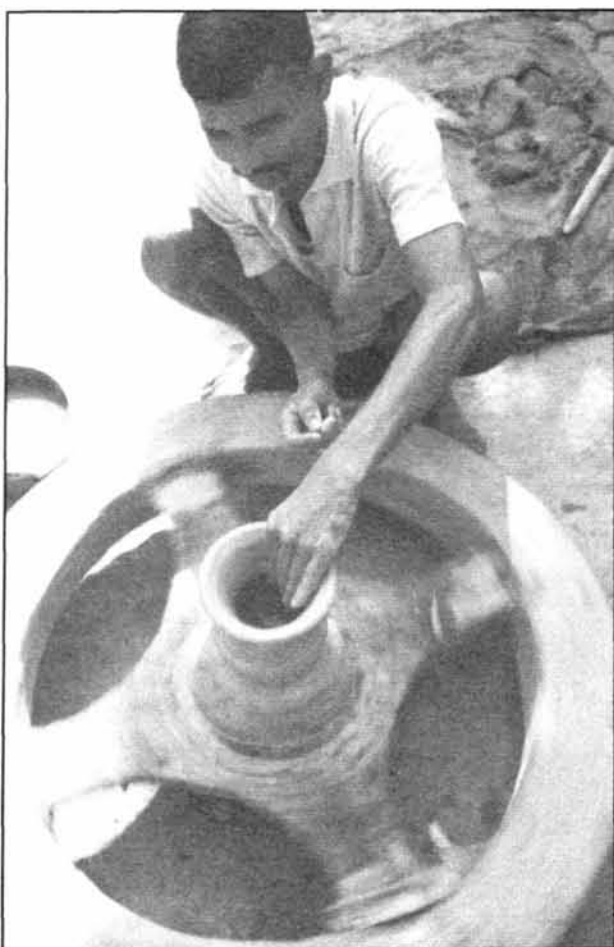
TT: What did she not like?

AR: She said that there are other things to show, like the beautiful sites of the country, and a lot of wonderful scenery that accompany the misery and poverty. She said that these are the same type of "tragedy pictures" that the media always uses to portray third world countries.

TT: But some of these people look so happy.

AR: That is my point. These people live in slums and on the street. They do not know what tomorrow will be like and yet they are happy and satisfied with their lives for the moment. I want people to react to this — I want the viewer to be curious. If I can achieve that, I will be very satisfied.

Gábor Csányi

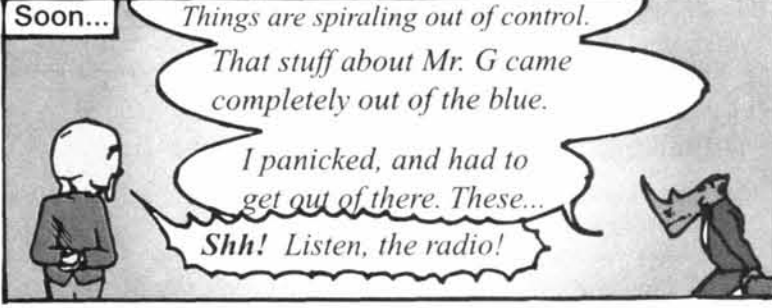


dammed for life
by Jessica

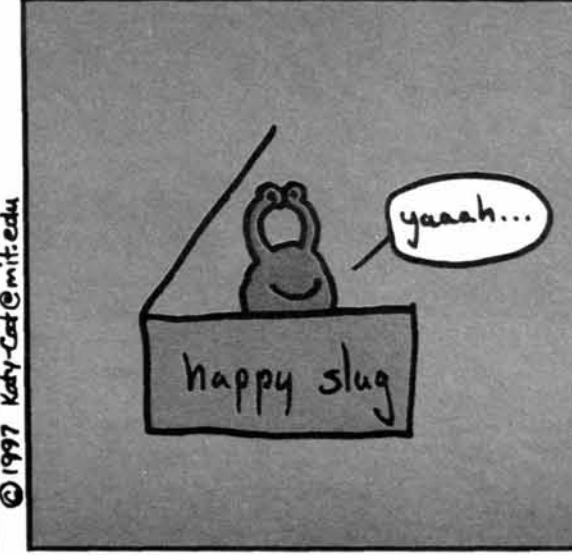
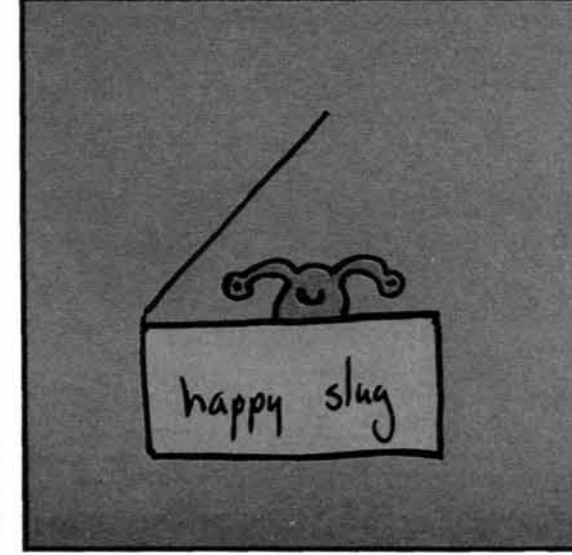
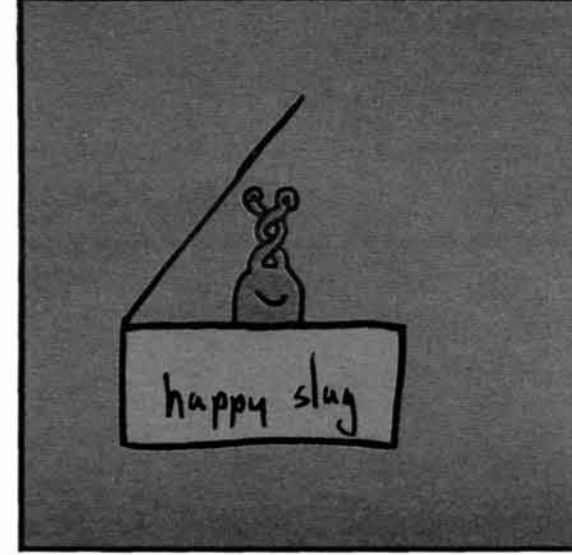
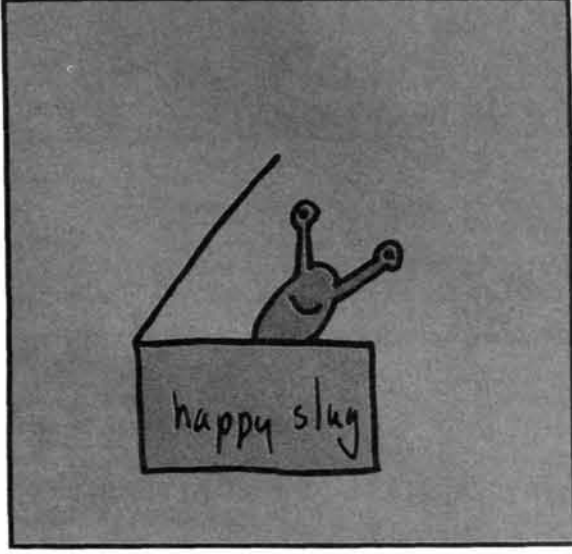
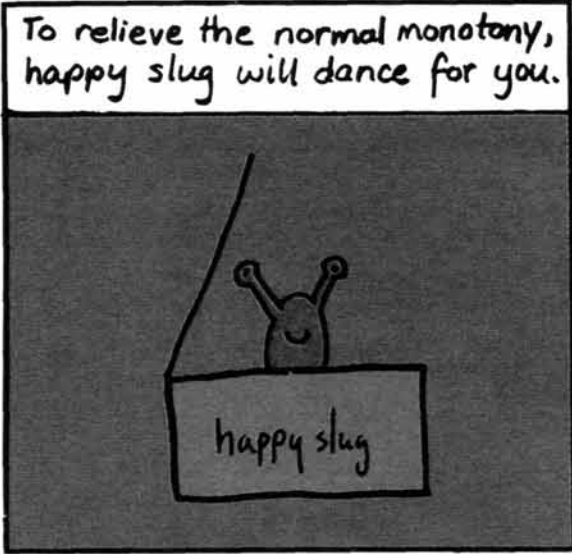


THE STORY SO FAR: While appearing on a talk show to defend his reputation, Rhino-Man is rocked by that he looted the home of an old enemy, Mr. G.

by Zachary Emig



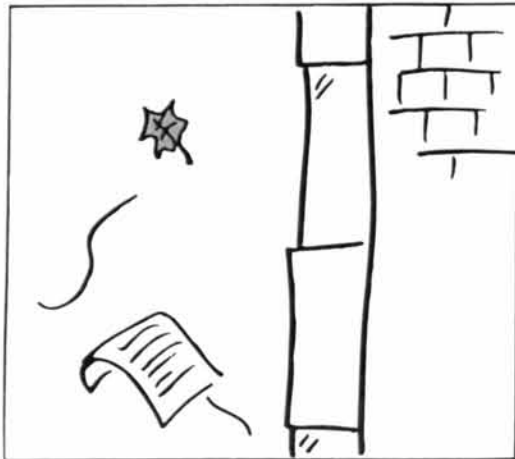
Noun Poetry
by Katy-Cat



Off Course by Hugo



Perhaps...



... The MacGregor windtunnel could be useful...

By Jennifer DiMase



Trivia Corner

Many popular figures are more familiar to us under their nicknames rather than their real names. Wink Martindale, the long time host of such game shows as Tic-Tac-Dough, High Rollers and Bumper Stumpers, was actually born Winston Martindale. When he was just a boy, a neighborhood friend of his couldn't pronounce 'Winston' so she called him "Winkie," which he later shortened when he went into show business.

By what nickname is the cowardly and unkempt animated

character Norville Rodgers better known?

This week's winners will each win two LSC movie tickets and one large tub of popcorn, courtesy of LSC.

Showing this weekend:

Friday 7:30 p.m. in Room 10-250
The Man with the Golden Arm
Friday 7 and 10 p.m., Sunday 7 p.m.
in Room 26-100
Kiss the Girls

Nicknames

Saturday 7 and 10 p.m., Sunday 10 p.m.
in Room 26-100

James Bond: Tomorrow Never Dies
Send your answers to trivia@the-tech.mit.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday. Two random drawings from all of the correct entries will be held to determine this week's two winners.

This feature was brought to you by the CAC Program Board. Today's factoids are by the MIT Quiz Bowl team. Members of the quiz bowl team, LSC, and The Tech are not eligible.

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- The cross-sectional area must remain within 2.5%.

2

INTO THIS ENCLOSURE



- $2\frac{1}{4}$ " H x $2\frac{1}{4}$ " W x $3\frac{3}{16}$ " D.
- The port – along with the transducer – must be fully enclosed in this space.

3

WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS

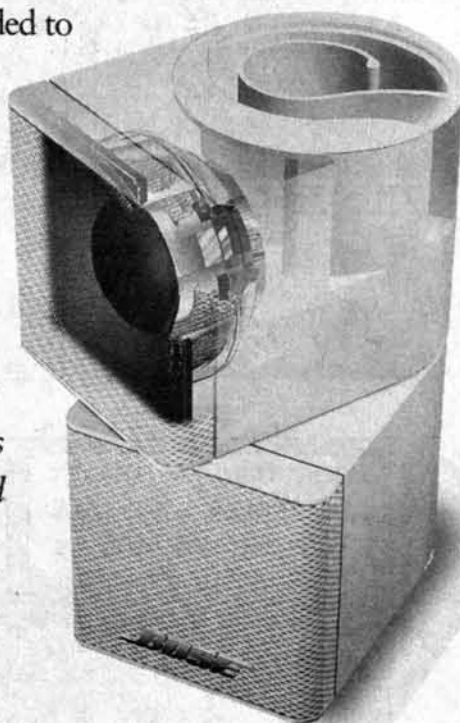


- Air will travel through this port at peak speeds exceeding 150 mph.
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While bending the tube would allow it to fit inside the cabinet, any bend – even a slight one – would create uneven airflow. And with the air moving at such high velocity, avoiding unwanted port noise was a constant challenge. The extreme precision needed to engineer the contours of the folds required meticulous research involving mathematical models, computer simulations and prototypes.

Bose engineer Laura Schroeder, the development team leader on the project, describes the experience. *"With the amount of research that was required, I don't think you could have done this anywhere else."*

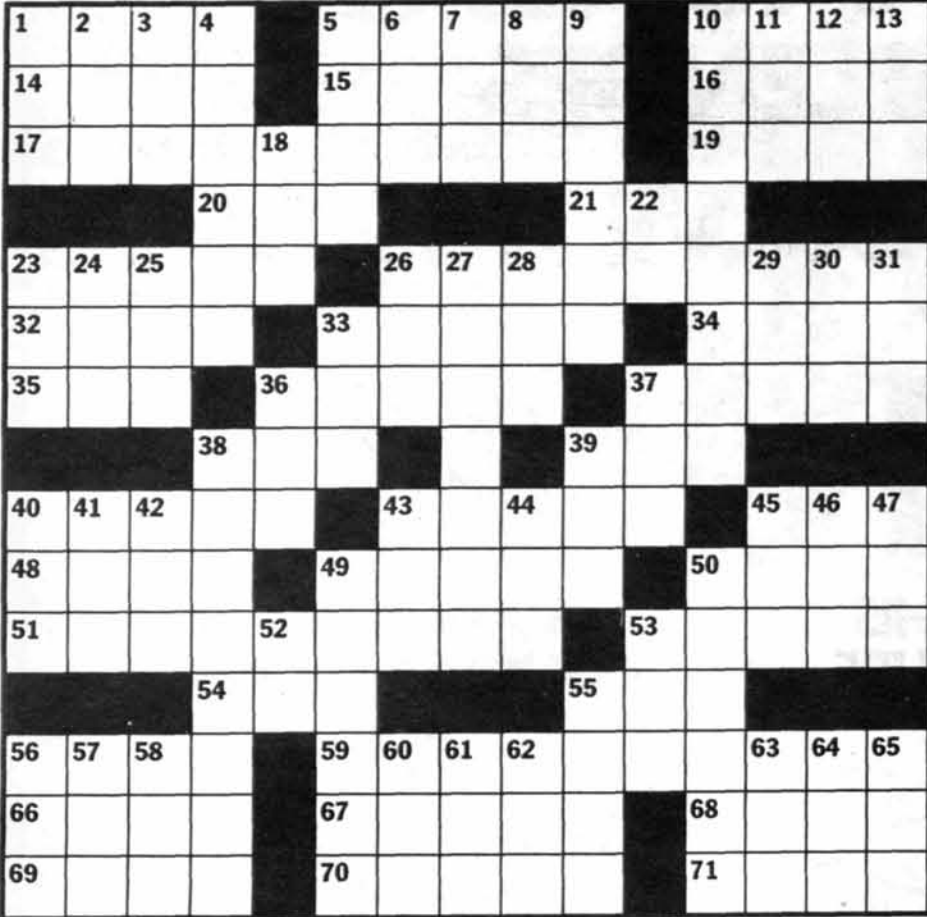
The company believes in research wholeheartedly, and they understand what that kind of commitment means in terms of time and money. Just look at the track record; it has been so successful, so many times."



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 - 5 Unites
 - 10 Lasso
 - 14 Dawn, on a compass
 - 15 Music genre
 - 16 Expel
 - 17 Pioneer of nuclear physics
 - 19 Great Lake
 - 20 Make a mistake
 - 21 Vase
 - 23 Top of the cake
 - 26 4th dimension
 - 32 Unit of substance
 - 33 Transformation, invariant change in E&B field variables
 - 34 Flying pest
 - 35 007 gun, Walther
 - 36 Bald, e.g.
 - 37 Physicist, or newton per amp meter
 - 38 Elusive quark
 - 39 Sunning color
 - 40 Subatomic particle
 - 43 Coherent beam of light emitter
 - 45 Photographic abbr.
 - 48 A cheese
 - 49 Weird
 - 50 Duo
 - 51 Approx. 2x10²¹ kilograms
 - 53 Enchanting quark?
 - 54 A 5-Star general, familiarly
 - 55 Past
 - 56 Dancing Queen group
 - 59 Positron, e.g.
 - 66 Cat's sound
 - 67 Watery, to the eye
 - 68 Paris airport
 - 69 Acme

- DOWN**
- 1 Poetic contraction
 - 2 Torque, in Greek
 - 3 Alphabetic trio
 - 4 C2H4
 - 5 Pressure unit
 - 6 Frequency range useful underground, abbr.
 - 7 Hubbub
 - 8 Space station
 - 9 Entice
 - 10 Discoverer of X-rays
 - 11 Plural pronoun
 - 12 Wave amplitude function, in Greek
 - 13 Nice Summer
 - 18 Unit of work
 - 22 Rhenium, to Mendeleev
 - 23 Mischievous child
 - 24 Police officer, slangily
 - 25 Category
 - 26 Droop
 - 27 Pulsating radio stars
 - 28 Iron or ice, e.g.
 - 29 12 in a ft.
 - 30 de mer
 - 31 Type of meson
 - 33 Space
 - 36 Geological time
 - 37 Roofing substance
 - 38 Indian weapon
 - 39 You drive from one of these
 - 40 Personal pronouns
 - 41 Tokyo, once
 - 42 Cape Verde Island

By Anthony R. Salas

- 43 Meadow
- 44 Sibling, for short
- 45 Auto club
- 46 British title
- 47 Limb
- 49 Emotionally sentient person
- 50 Massless particle
- 52 Egyptian Sun God
- 53 Monitor resolution
- 55 Class of alcohol
- 56 Unit of current
- 57 Honeycomb maker
- 58 Type of snake
- 60 Prefix with -lithic or -classical
- 61 Tit-for-
- 62 Anger
- 63 Three, prefix
- 64 Building annex
- 65 Canadian whiskey

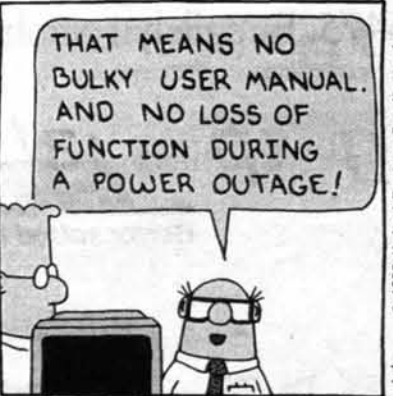
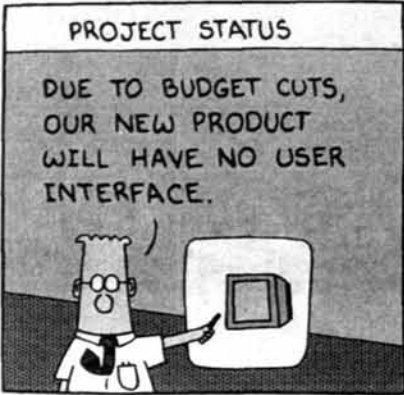
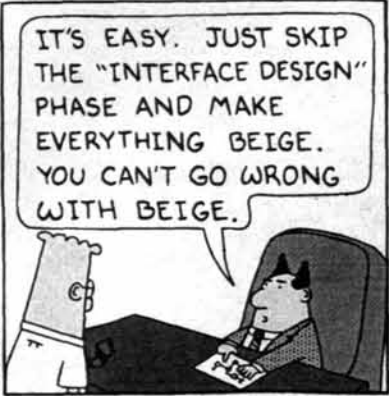
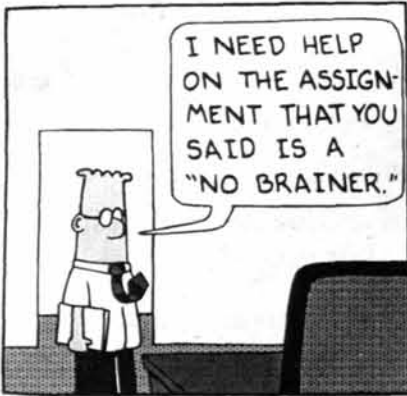
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Campus Activities Complex
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Grants Guidelines and application forms are available at E15-205.

Grants Guidelines are also on the web at
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Call Susan Cohen at 253-4005 to set up an appointment or for more information.

* your results may vary

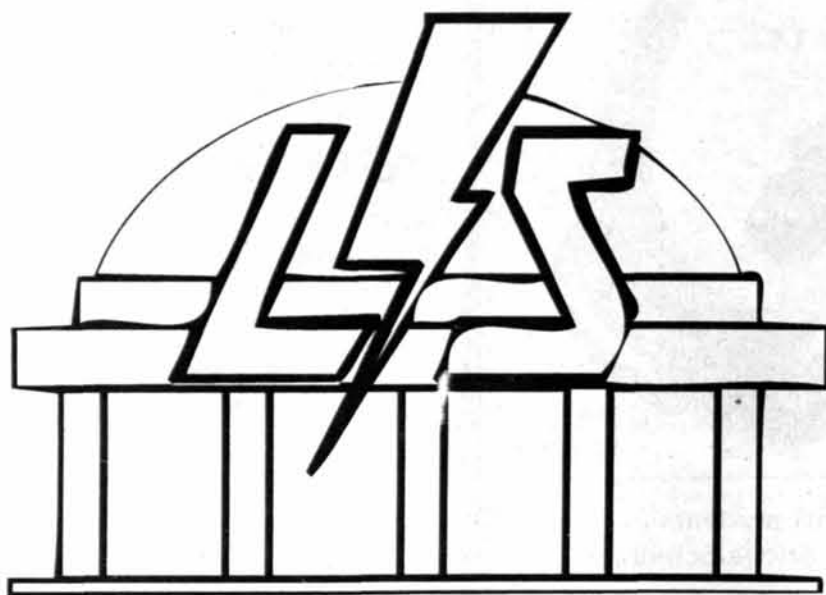
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Research Funding Affects Self-Help

Financial Aid, from Page 1

whether MIT can afford to decrease or keep fixed self-help levels.

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Harold Abelson PhD '73, chair of the CUAFA, said that "MIT has a lot more budget constraints" than other institutions. "We would like to keep self-help fixed... but I don't know if we can," he said.

Hudson said that support of graduate student research and changes in federal rules regarding research will be one important consideration regarding self-help levels.

Jones did not know how MIT's yield for next year would be affected by the moves of other colleges. She said that MIT does not typically lose many students to Princeton, but that the cumulative effect of Princeton's changes on other colleges would be of concern.

"Princeton started this after the application deadline, and we don't know how other colleges will respond this year," Jones said.

"What you can anticipate as a likely outcome is a serious consideration of the size of self-help and serious consideration of the aggressive moves of Princeton and Yale," Hudson said.

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H I D I N G

Mark C. Taylor

speaks about his new book

Hiding

and his CD-ROM

Motel Réal: Las Vegas, Nevada

published by University of Chicago Press

Wednesday, March 4 5:30 p.m.

MIT Wong Auditorium

corner Amherst & Wadsworth
near Kendall Sq T, Cambridge



"Taylor takes it to the limit, pedal to metal. . . . His designers take the book-as-machine – the ink-on-paper codex as a text-storage unit – to its physical limit. He himself takes a set of two-hundred-year-old ideas to their intellectual limit and finds that they carry him to corners of our science-shaped culture that no other vehicle can reach. Sit back, reader – no, buckle down: You're in for a wild ride."
– from the foreword by Jack Miles

The age of information, media, and virtuality is transforming every aspect of human experience. Questions that have long haunted the philosophical imagination are becoming urgent practical concerns: Where does the natural end and the artificial begin? Is there a difference between the material and the immaterial? In his new work, Mark C. Taylor extends his ongoing investigation of postmodern worlds by critically examining a wide range of contemporary cultural practices.

Nothing defines postmodernism so well as its refusal of depth, its emphasis on appearance and spectacle, its tendency to collapse a three-dimensional world in which image and reality are distinct into a two-dimensional world in which they merge. The postmodern world, Taylor argues, is a world of surfaces, and the postmodern condition is one of profound superficiality.

For many cultural commentators, postmodernism's inescapable play of surfaces is cause for despair. Taylor, on the other hand, shows that the disappearance of depth in postmodern culture is actually a liberation replete with creative possibilities. Taylor introduces readers to a popular culture in which detectives – the postmodern heroes of Paul Auster and Dennis Potter – lift surfaces only to find more surfaces, and in which fashion advertising plays transparency against hiding. Taylor looks at the contemporary preoccupation with body piercing and tattooing, and asks whether these practices actually reveal or conceal. Phenology and skin diseases, the "religious" architecture of Las Vegas, the limitless spread of computer networks – all are brought within the scope of Taylor's brilliant analysis. Postmodernism, he shows, has given us a new sense of the superficial, one in which the issue is not the absence of meaning but its uncontrollable, ecstatic proliferation.

Mark C. Taylor is Cluett Professor of the Humanities and director for the Center for Technology in the Arts and Humanities at Williams College. He is also Director of the Critical Issues Forum at the Guggenheim Museum in New York.

This event is part of authors@mit, a series sponsored by MIT Humanities and Dewey Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore. FREE. Open to the public. Wheelchair accessible. Refreshments served. Info: 617.253.5249 or authors@mit.edu

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Group Information
Session 3/9/98
6:00-8:00pm
Room #4-149

On Campus Interviews
Tuesday, 3/10/98



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INQUIRIES

Contact Mary Cabral in the
Music and Theater Arts
Office, 14N-207, 253-5623,
mcabral@mit.edu, for
1997-98 rules and
guidelines

Winning essays from past
years may be viewed either
in the Music and Theater
Arts Office, or in the
Institute Archives
(14N-118)

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All entries must be submitted to the Music
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than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 9, 1998



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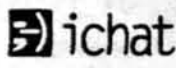
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ichat, one of Computerworld's Hot 100 companies and Fortune Magazine's Top 25 Cool Companies is actively recruiting top computer science majors to develop world class software products in Austin, TX. To learn more, please contact Jeanne Chauvin, iChat Campus Programs Manager at (512) 425-2202 or email jeanne@ichat.com.

Interviews, Tuesday, March 17. Please schedule through the Career Center.



Hackers Used Only Amateur Methods

Fusion, from Page 1

machine."

This incident is just one of many recent attempts to gain unauthorized access to MIT's computers. There have been "many, with capital letters" attempted break-ins, Nelson said.

According to the *The Washington Post* the California teens probably did not have the expertise to invent new techniques for breaking into systems. Like many amateur computer criminals, they were frequent visitors to sites

on the Internet where other hackers post instructions detailing how to break into secured networks.

Their motive for the invasions is not currently known. *The Post* reported that students at the perpetrators' high school speculate that they did it simply for fun.

Incidents such as these should remind all users to change their passwords regularly and to avoid unencrypted systems, Nelson said. Owners and administrators should plug holes in their security systems as soon as they are discovered, he added.

A SPECIAL INVITATION FOR STUDENTS

Interested students are invited to attend a meeting with members of the ODSUE Visiting Committee on

Wednesday, March 4, 1998
7:30 P.M.- 9:30 P.M.
Bush Room 10-105.

The purpose of this meeting is to help Visiting Committee members understand ways in which ODSUE is supporting student needs, and ways in which ODSUE could make changes and improvements. The dialog in this meeting will be candid and confidential.

No RSVP is required - Please attend.

Age 7, 1982



Age 18, 1993



Elizabeth Suto.

Killed by a drunk driver
on February 27, 1994, on Bell Blvd.
in Cedar Park, Texas.

If you don't stop your friend
from driving drunk, who will?
Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

U.S. Department of Transportation

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The Coop Announces MIT Public Service Awards:

Eligibility: MIT students and recognized, well established student organizations involved in public service projects.

Nominations: A letter may be submitted by individuals or organizations, describing their involvement in public service no later than Friday, March 20, 1998 to:

The Coop c/o Allan E. Powell
1400 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02238-9103
aepowell@thecoop.com
(617) 499-2025

Selection: The Charitable Contribution Committee will review and select from all nominations received.

Awards: A plaque in recognition will be awarded to two recipients, as well as a \$1000.00 donation to the public service organization or project designated. Selection to be announced by mid April.



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ATTENTION SENIORS

POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE AS AN ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

The Office of Admissions is now accepting applications for the position of Admissions Counselor. This is a one-year full-time position beginning in July, 1998. Duties include:

- conducting question and answer sessions
- interviewing prospective applicants
- visiting secondary schools
- coordinating MIT student involvement in reception area
- participating in admissions committee decisions

Applications are available in the Admissions Office, 3-108, with Millene Hahm and should be returned no later than April 1, 1998.

Note: This is for 1998 (January or June) MIT graduates.



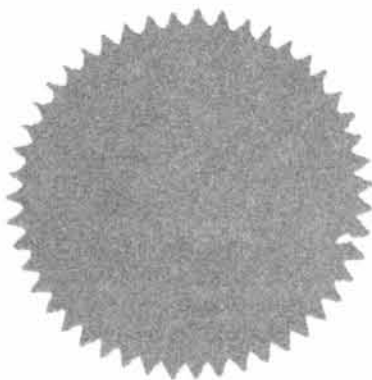
Beta of
Be it Known, *That in recognition of exhibiting distinguished scholarship and exemplary character while a student at*
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology
and having been duly elected by the above Chapter
Massachusetts

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Keith Amonlirdviman '99, Aero. Astro. | Ana Isasi '99, Chem. E. | Antonio Ramirez '99, E.E.C.S. |
| Eladio Arvelo '99, E.E.C.S. | Leiter Kang '99, E.E. | Sandia Ren '99, C.S. |
| Matthew Blum '98, C.S. | Sabra-Anne Kelin '98, C.S. | Christopher Rohrs '99, C.S. |
| Fabio Brunet '98, Mech.E. | Amit Khetan '99, C.S. | Dennis Ruhl '99, C.S. |
| Brigitte Burnell '98, Civ. E. | May-Li Khoe '99, C.S. | Russell Sammon '98, E.E. |
| Elaine Chen '99, Mech. E. | Tina Kim '98, Civ. E. | Keith Santarelli '99, E.E. |
| Cheng Cheng '99, C. S. | Eric Kuo '99, C.S. | Alexander Sherman '98, C.S. |
| Andrew Chiu '99, E.E. | Jessica Lai '99, M.S.E. | Afreen Siddiqi '99, Mech. E. |
| Petra Chong '99, E.E.C.S. | Long Le '99, Chem. E. | Valentin Spitkovsky '99, C.S. |
| Anita Chung '99, M.S.E. | Edmond Kayi Lee '98, C.S. | Jeffrey Steinheider '99, E.E.C.S. |
| Matthew Debski '99, E.E.C.S. | Evie Lee '99, Chem. E. | Andrew Takahashi '99, E.E. |
| Anand Devendran '99, Mech. E. | Seungyong Lee '98, C.S. | David Ting '99, Chem. E. |
| David DiFranco '99, C.S. | Michael Leonida '99, E.E.C.S. | Christine Tsau '98, E.E. |
| Benjamin Douts '98, E.E. | Jonathan Lie '99, C.S. | Elliot Waingold '99, C.S. |
| Robin Evans '99, Mech. E. | Allie Lin '99, Chem. E. | Lukasz Weber '98, E.E.C.S. |
| Winston Fan '98, Mech. E. | Ming-Hokng Maa '99, E.E. | Sarah Webster '99, Mech. E. |
| Yuan Feng '98, E.E. | David Manowitz '98, E.E.C.S. | Eric Wilhelm '99, Mech. E. |
| Carina Fung '99, Chem. E. | Kira Marciniak '99, Chem. E. | Hoi Wong '99, C.S. |
| Mila Getmansky '98, Chem. E. | Hansie Mathelier '98, Chem. E. | Jonathan Wong '99, Aero. Astro. |
| Ivan Gonzalez-Gallo '98, E.E.C.S. | Anne Mitzel '99, E.E. | Steven Wong '99, Nuc. E. |
| Brian Graham '99, E.E. | Yuka Miyake '99, E.E.C.S. | Kum Ming Woo '98, Chem. E. |
| Joyce Hahn '98, Env. E. | Angie Nishimoto '98, E.E.C.S. | Heemin Yang '98, E.E.C.S. |
| Carla Heitzman '99, M.S.E. | Paul Oppold '99, Mech. E. | Tammy Yap '99, E.E.C.S. |
| Tracey Ho '99, E.E. | Akash Patel '99, C.S. | Ruogu Zhang '98, C.S. |
| Kristy Hong '99, Chem. E. | Jeffery Pearlman '99, C.S. | Ying Zhang '99, E.E. |
| Joon Suk Hor '98, Civ. E. | Tsetomir Petrov '98, C.S. | Tim Zue '99, Mech. E. |
| Steven Huang '99, Chem. E. | Muhammad Qubbaj '98, Chem. E. | |

are hereby declared and certified members of



and are granted all the honors, insignia, and privileges of this Association
On this 21st day of February, 1998



Congratulations!

Charles Vest, TBP member

SPORTS

Athletes of the Week

This week's athletes of the week are Nora Szasz '99 and Craig Heffernan '01. Szasz recently led the fencing team to a second place finish at the New England Championships. Heffernan won the Constitution Athletic Conference Rookie of the Week for the week of Feb. 9-16 while scoring a career high 37 points and grabbing 16 rebounds against Clark University.

The Athletes of the Week feature is sponsored by the MIT Varsity Club.



Nora Szasz '99
Fencing

Age: 20

Major: Electrical Engineering
and Computer Science

Hometown: Paty, Hungary

Years playing sport: 2

Most memorable moment:

Placed 17th in National
Junior Olympics last year

Future plans: Competing in the
NCAA nationals

"Fencing taught me a lot, but
there is still a lot to learn."



Craig Heffernan '01
Basketball

Age: 18

Major: Electrical Engineering

Hometown: Red Bluff, CA

Years playing sport: 9

Most memorable moment:

Defeating Babson for the first
time in 17 years.

Future plans: Get to the NCAA
tournament

"I had a great time this season.
We have one of the best records
in MIT history."

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Free Info Session Wed. March 4th @ 7:00 pm, Sheraton Commander, Harvard Sq.



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GREGOR**
CONVENIENCE

WEEKLY SPECIAL

Buy a loaf of any bread
and get 25¢ off the
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offer good Wednesday, March 4 through Tuesday, March 10

Ballroom Dancers Place Well
At Terrier Dancesport Tourney

By Vikas Bhushan

TEAM MEMBER

Newcomer and beginner level dancers from seven colleges and universities, all of whom have been dancing for only about one year or less, competed Saturday at the new Terrier Dancesport Competition, held at Boston University.

In the newcomer level American style events, Martin Szummer G and Kate Mahoney '92 placed first in the waltz while Eugene Bae G and Propa Ghosh '98 placed third. In the tango, Bae and Ghosh placed second while Szummer and Marleigh Norton '99 took third. Mark Herschberg G and Tammy Yap '99 placed second in the swing.

In the newcomer level international style events, Bae and Ghosh took first in the waltz, Szummer and Mahoney placed second, and Pubudu Wariyapola G and Viktoria Kheifets '00 finished fifth. Meanwhile in the quickstep, Wynn Sanders G and Catherine Sanders G placed first, Bae and Ghosh second, Szummer and Mahoney third, and Wariyapola and Kheifets sixth. Kar'en Pivazyan '98 and Elena Sapozhnikova placed third in the rumba while Yedil Workeneh '98 and Lily Cheng '00 placed seventh.

In the beginner level American style events, Bae and Ghosh placed third in American style waltz/foxtrot and second in the tango. Workeneh and Misha Dewan '99 placed fourth in the tango. Meanwhile, Herschberg and Yap placed third and Workeneh and Norton finished fifth in the swing. In the International style beginner events, Wynn Sanders and Catherine Sanders placed second in the waltz/quickstep event while Bae and Ghosh took fourth place and Szummer and Mahoney took fifth. Bae and Ghosh won the foxtrot/tango event, while Szummer and Mahoney placed fourth, Wariyapola and Kheifets sixth, and Workeneh and Norton seventh. Workeneh and

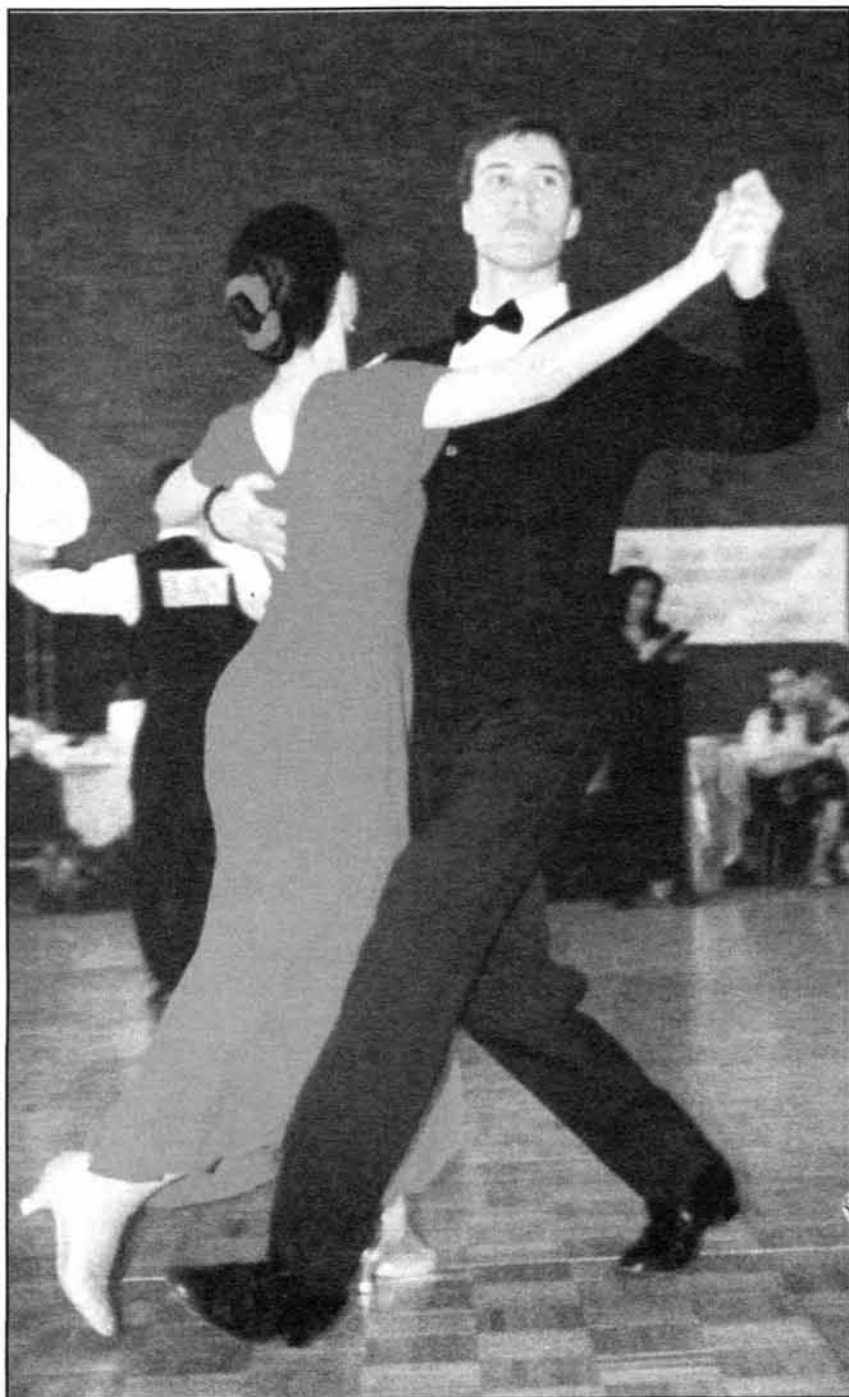
Cheng also placed seventh in the cha cha/rumba and eighth in the samba/jive events.

A number of rookie and veteran events were also held, in which beginning dancers paired up with more experienced dancers on their teams. Both Bae, dancing with Marta Lipinski G, and Herschberg made it to the final round of the American style Tango, while Feng Li '97 and Christine Tsien G placed in the final round of the international style waltz.

At the end of the day, a number

of non-competitive fun dance events were held. Michael Posner and Deirdre Pierotti placed first in the Lambada, Mambo, Merengue, and West Coast Swing, second in the hustle, and third in the Polka. Herschberg and Yap, Vikas Bhushan G and Yuying Chen G, and Bae also made it to the final rounds of several fun dance events.

The next major collegiate competition will be hosted by MIT on April 4 and 5 at the DuPont Center. This competition will feature competitors at all levels.



Kathleen Mahoney '92 and Martin O. Szummer G danced their way to the top at Boston University's Terrier Dancesport ballroom dance competition.

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