

Hip-Hop Artist Busta Rhymes To Headline Spring Weekend

By Steve Hoberman

It's official: as of Friday, Busta Rhymes is booked to perform April 23 as part of the MIT Spring Weekend. Rhymes, a rising star in the world of hip-hop, is probably the weekend's most prominent singer in several years. Rhymes will be paid \$32,000 for his appearance.

Rhymes, an east coast rap artist, debuted in 1990 as a member of Leaders of the New School, a rap group. Last year, Rhymes launched his career as a solo artist with the hit album "The Coming." He has collaborated with Boyz II Men, TLC,

and Tribe Called Quest. Most recently he has worked with Janet Jackson and appeared on Saturday Night Live. His most recent album is "When Disaster Strikes."

Two months ago, Busta Rhymes was arrested and charged with a third degree felony for weapons possession. Rhymes says, however, that he is trying to "maintain my focus" and move on.

Increased funding for student activities helped to secure Busta Rhymes. Last year administrators tripled the student activities budget, bringing the total funding to about three hundred thousand dollars.

From this grant, \$50,000 have been set aside by the Undergraduate Association and the Graduate Student Council for one major event each semester. Spring Weekend represents this semester's event. Pubudu Wariyapola G, a member of the Graduate Student Council, said that Busta Rhymes' contract with the Institute is worth \$32,000.

Students Divided

Students' responses to Busta Rhymes were mixed. While nearly everyone interviewed had heard of

Busta Rhymes, Page 14

Mike Capuano Addresses Student Apathy at Social Security Forum

By Kristen Landino
STAFF REPORTER

Despite the fact that the majority of college students are probably more concerned about finding a job than about retiring, the MIT College Democrats held a Social Security forum Sunday in 6-120. U.S. Representative Michael Capuano (D, Somerville) headlined the event.

Brandi Fisher, a representative from Americans Discuss Social Security, Susan Harding, the Deputy Regional Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, Bob Hannon, the New England Regional Director of the Concord Coalition; and Hillary Wenner from the regional office of

Economic Security 2000 also spoke.

Capuano discussed his views regarding the imminent problems facing social security, before he gave the floor over to the other speakers, all experts in the field of social security reform. Speakers at the forum expressed the common desire to engage citizens in the democratic decision-making process.

"Think about it. Talk about it. This social security program is your program — not a program for the government. An educated, thoughtful public is the most important thing we in Congress can stress. If there is one issue that deserves a national debate —

it is social security," Capuano said.

Speakers emphasize role of young

The speakers also emphasized the effect social security reform will

Social Security, Page 14

Course 2 Instructor Sues Institute, Professor Over Alleged Mistreatment

By Zareena Hussain
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In a letter addressed to Nam P. Suh, head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Professor

Emeritus David G. Wilson has alleged MIT of mistreating an instructor within the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Wilson had met with Suh on Feb. 10 to discuss a situation involving James Grinnell, an instructor who was hired by MIT in 1981 to teach 2.701, a drafting course in the Mechanical Engineering department.

Grinnell says that, while initially hired to teach a drafting course, he was later been forced to teach a section of 2.70 now named Design &

Manufacturing I (2.007), a task normally reserved for Course 2 professors.

After one year teaching the course, Grinnell received the lowest evaluations of any 2.70 section instructor in the Course Evaluation Guide and asked that he no longer be required to teach the course. His request was not granted.

Grinnell was a shop teacher at Norwell Junior High School prior to coming to MIT and held a master's

Grievance, Page 14

Class of 2001 Shows Lack Of Interest in UA Offices

By Karen E. Robinson
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Undergraduate Association elections will take place next month, from March 10-15.

Before then there will be at least three candidate study breaks, said Ryan K. Pierce '99, UA floor leader. The first will take place at East Campus this Wednesday, and two others will be scheduled in West Campus dorms, most likely Burton-Conner and Baker.

In addition, there will be debates between the two presidential-vice presidential tickets just before the election, said Elections Commissioner Gong K. Shen, '99. "The teams are pretty well-matched," Shen said. "It should be

an exciting debate."

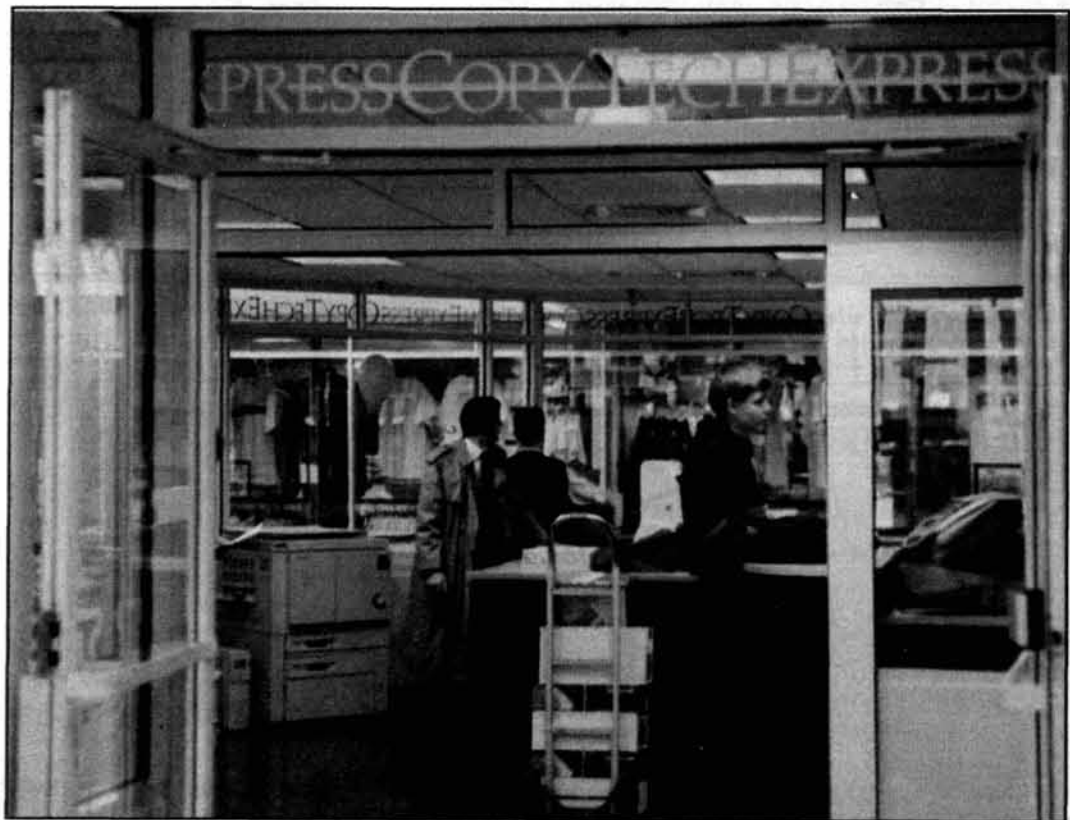
Candidates sparse in '01

No candidates have registered for the offices of class of 2001 secretary, social chair, or publicity chair. There are also no candidates yet running to be publicity chairs for the class of 2000. The UA will be accepting petitions for these positions until next Friday, according to Shen.

"If there are any open slots then we'll decide what to do from there," said Pierce.

There is one person running for each of the remaining positions for class of 2001, Shen said.

UA, Page 15



Members of the MIT community visit the new CopyTech Express in the Student Center during yesterday's opening. See story p. 12.

The MIT Center for Cancer Research receives a \$25 million grant.

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Comics

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A new study finds that MBA students and prison inmates have comparable ethics.

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WORLD & NATION

Republicans May Abandon Tax Cut

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Less than a month after vowing a confrontation with President Clinton over the issue, House Republican leaders Monday signaled they will likely have to abandon their 10 percent across-the-board tax cut proposal because of stiff opposition within their own ranks.

The leadership faces strong resistance from a coalition of about 15 GOP moderates and conservatives who argue that the plan is too costly and politically risky. GOP leaders said they will consider more modest tax relief, including a plan that would scale back the "marriage penalty" paid by many two-income couples and provide other targeted tax relief more in line with Clinton's approach.

House Majority Leader Richard K. Armey, R-Texas, told reporters that while he still considers the across-the-board tax cut to be the overall best idea, "It's clearly not the only idea," adding: "We've got a large number of Republicans with a large number of different ideas about how to best cut taxes."

Legislators Increasingly Support Voting Rights for Felons

THE WASHINGTON POST

TAMPA, FLA.

Alarmed by the staggering number of people who are barred from voting because of past criminal convictions, legislators in an increasing number of states are advocating proposals to allow felons to return to the voting booth.

The issue, long touted by prisoner rights advocates, is finding support among mainstream civil rights organizations and political leaders. They argue that the crazy quilt of state laws barring felons from voting not only constitutes unfair punishment but also has the potential to shut entire communities out of the political process because such a large proportion of their citizens cannot vote.

That is especially true for African-American men, 13 percent of whom are ineligible to vote because of criminal convictions, according to a recent study conducted jointly by the Sentencing Project and Human Rights Watch, both well-known research organizations. In 10 states, more than one in five black men are barred from voting because of their criminal records.

AOL Abandons Marketing Plan in Effort to Reduce "Spam"

THE WASHINGTON POST

DULLES, VA.

Don't expect to be attending a Tupperware-type party for AOL any time soon.

Fearing it could set off an embarrassing flood of "spam," or electronic junk mail, America Online Inc. has canceled a plan to recruit ordinary people to market its online service and other technology products, according to sources close to the company.

The AOL Select program, which had been slated to begin this month, was to be much like those popularized by Amway Corp., Mary Kay Inc. or Excel Communications Inc. These companies hire neighborhood people as "network marketers," paying them commissions in a pyramid system for their sales and for the sales of other people they enlist.

Selling the service this way "seemed to make sense," said a source close to the program. "... AOL is very word-of-mouth."

But, after contracting with marketing company Monument Communications Inc. of McLean, Va. to help create AOL Select and signing on 60 or so people as agents, AOL decided to scrap the plan. "There was the potential of this to become a problem with spam," said a source close to the deal, referring to unsolicited mail that the agents might send to others to pitch the service. AOL has declared itself against spam.

Thousands Flee Kosovo after Serbs and Albanians Clash

By Peter Finn

THE WASHINGTON POST

PRISTINA, YUGOSLAVIA

Heavy fighting erupted in north-west Kosovo Monday between Serbian forces and ethnic Albanian guerrillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army, forcing thousands of civilians to flee villages and underlining the gathering tension in this Yugoslav province in advance of a final half day of peace talks in France.

Between the towns of Vucitrn and Mitrovica, there were sustained engagements between the two sides, and 3,000 villagers fled their homes as the fighting escalated, according to Western monitors. There were also skirmishes to the east of Mitrovica, outside the town of Podujevo.

By this evening, civilians were reported to be returning home as the shooting abated. But it is unclear if there were any casualties because Serbian forces prevented reporters and monitors from entering the area.

The latest fighting follows an assault on two unarmed international monitors by Serbian police Sunday evening. The monitors, citizens of Luxembourg and Lithuania, were watching Yugoslav troop movements when they were

approached by two uniformed police officers who exited a civilian bus, according to a spokeswoman for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which is monitoring Yugoslav compliance with an October agreement to scale back its military presence in Kosovo.

As the police approached the monitors' vehicle they put on black masks and demanded identification. They then asked the driver of the vehicle to get out and he refused, officials said. One of the police officers punched him, dragged him out of the vehicle and punched him again as he lay on the ground. The second monitor was also assaulted as he called on a radio for help, the officials said.

"We consider this a very serious incident," said Beatrice Lacoste, a spokeswoman for the OSCE, who said the organization was lodging an official protest with the Yugoslav government.

OSCE officials have said that tension between police and monitors has been rising in recent days. A military extraction force stands ready in neighboring Macedonia to remove the monitors if the peace talks fail.

Some journalists also have

reported receiving threats from Serbian police who told them they would be targeted for retribution if NATO attacks Yugoslavia.

West of Pristina Monday, in a Kosovo Liberation Army compound in the village of Likovac, guerrillas monitored television and radios for news reports from France.

"With Serbia it's very difficult to make a deal," said Habib Morina, 42, dressed in fatigues and carrying a rifle. "We don't have great hopes. ... If it fails we are going to continue the war."

Morina and other guerrillas said they were willing to accept autonomy for Kosovo within Yugoslavia provided there is a referendum on independence after three years.

But they refused to remark on how they would react if the ethnic Albanian negotiating team in France signs on to something less.

"We trust our representatives," said Mistar Shala, 41, as dozens of guerrillas milled around in the background. "They know what they are doing."

The Kosovo Liberation Army announced Sunday that following an election among the members of its general headquarters, its principal commander is now Sylejman Selimi.

Scores Reported Dead In Iraqi Protests over Slain Shiite Cleric

By John Daniszewski

LOS ANGELES TIMES

CAIRO, EGYPT

Iraqi security forces fought for the third day Monday to quell demonstrations ignited by the murder of a senior Shiite Muslim cleric, opposition spokesmen said, and some reports indicated scores of people dead and more than 700 arrested.

Reports from Iraqi opposition groups in neighboring countries and the West spoke of a string of spontaneous protests — from the Shiite slums of Baghdad to a half-dozen predominantly Shiite cities and towns in central and southern Iraq — in what appeared to be the most significant internal challenge to President Saddam Hussein's regime in eight years.

In Baghdad, the government continued to reject as "completely

unfounded" all claims of unrest. "A figment of the imagination," Uday Tai, director of the state-run Iraqi News Agency, said Monday.

The regime's public reactions — barring journalists from areas of reported unrest, broadcasting television footage designed to refute the allegations of disturbances, and laying the blame for the cleric's murder on foreign forces — nevertheless suggested a government at least concerned about an overflow of public anger following the killing of Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Sadeq Sadr.

According to the opposition, there have been riots or disturbances outside Baghdad in the cities of Najaf, Karbala, Nassariya and Hilla and in many smaller towns and villages in Basra and Babil provinces. Government forces have withdrawn from some sites, including Haniya

near Basra and Majer in Mara province, in order to avoid clashes with demonstrators.

These disturbances are the first sign of widespread unrest in Iraq since March and April of 1991, when Hussein's Republican Guards put down a Shiite uprising in southern and central Iraq that followed Baghdad's defeat in the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Although the unrest so far does not seem to constitute a serious threat to the regime, it comes at a time when Hussein's government's usual iron grip on power is under strain and may be in danger of fraying.

Just two months ago, the regime endured a four-day Anglo-American bombing campaign that hit at strategic assets across Iraq in retaliation for Iraq's blocking of U.N. weapons inspections.

WEATHER

Did I Mention It's Winter?

W. Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

After failing to bring us snow this past weekend, winter will now try to make its presence known through its temperatures rather than its precipitation — this time we might actually have to acknowledge it. There is a large arctic high to our northwest responsible for ushering in the frigid air we have been experiencing of late. Unfortunately, there are very weak steering currents driving it and it is situated over a very cold surface, so it will take its time in leaving us. This means we will have temperatures of freezing or below persist through to late Thursday morning when we will finally get some relief from a low-level short wave as the high slowly moves out to sea. At least the winds which gave us a wind chill advisory last night will die down as the off-shore low to our east drifts away. This will leave us with crisp, chilly air for the next two days. We'll have mostly clear skies with some occasional cirrus and light northerly winds shifting to easterly as Thursday approaches.

Some thicker clouds should precede the short wave's arrival though there will not be any major precipitation associated with it, only a slight chance of flurries. In any case, the temperatures will again rise above freezing. Though it is too early to say with any real certainty, there appears to be a chance for some real precipitation on Friday. If so, it would probably be rain given the temperatures.

Today: Chilly. Mostly sunny. Light northerly winds. High 25°F (-4°C).

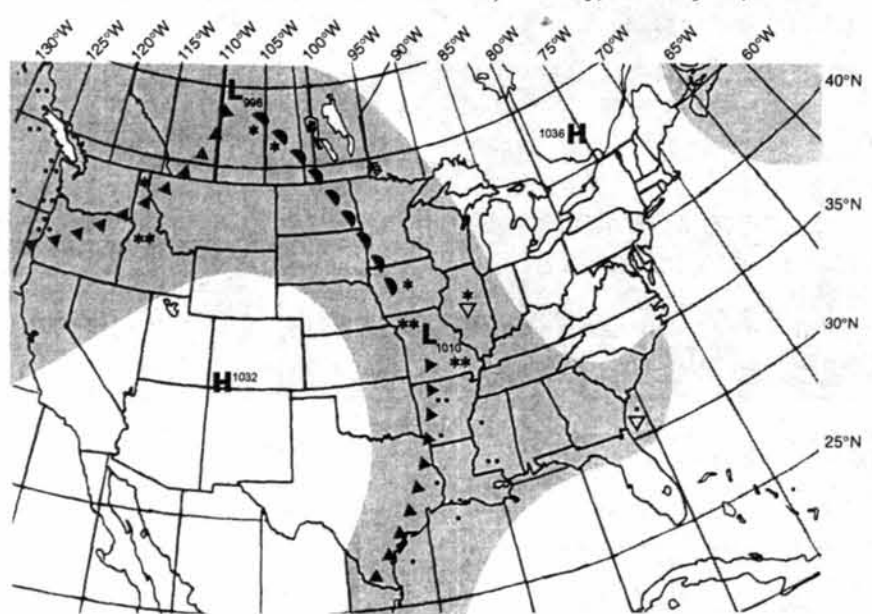
Tonight: Very cold. Mostly clear skies. Low 15°F (-10°C).

Tomorrow: Still chilly. Clouds roll in as day goes on. Winds shifting to easterly. High 32°F (0°C). Low 25°F (-4°C).

Thursday: Partly to mostly cloudy. Slight chance of flurries. Relief in temperatures. High in upper 30s/lower 40s (4-6°C).

Friday Outlook: Rain perhaps? Still above freezing.

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, February 23, 1999



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	--- Warm Front	Shower ∇	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲ Cold Front	Light *	Haze
	▲ Occluded Front	Moderate **	
		Heavy ***	

Compiled by MIT
Meteorology Staff
and The Tech

Clinton Pitches Federal Strategy For School Reform to Governors

By Nick Anderson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Clinton made his case Monday for a new federal strategy of school reform to perhaps the toughest audience in America — a roomful of governors who all style themselves experts in overhauling public education.

And when the governors emerged from the White House, the Republicans among them — who made up the majority — offered pointed critiques of Clinton's plan to hold schools accountable for improved performance and students accountable for mastering their course work.

Some called it a misguided intrusion of Washington bureaucracy into the affairs of local school officials. Many complained that the federal government is failing to reimburse states in full for complying with federal rules for teaching stu-

dents with learning disabilities and other special needs.

Even some Democratic governors, who generally lauded Clinton's plans, asked him to give state officials more flexibility in how they can spend federal dollars.

All of the state chief executives attending a four-day conference of the National Governors' Association agreed that whatever policy Washington adopts at a time when education tops the to-do list of most voters and public officials should complement, not complicate, local reform initiatives.

"Let's have a national agenda for improvement of education, not a federal agenda," said Utah Gov. Michael O. Leavitt, a Republican. "There's a big difference."

Whatever the debate's outcome, analysts say school superintendents, principals and teachers should prepare for another flurry of get-tough directives this year as political lead-

ers gravitate to the issue of school reform. Some warn that such mandates can backfire unless schools get adequate resources.

"It's probably going to increase the pressure to do better — without putting any infrastructure in place to say how to do better," said Frank Smith, an education professor at Columbia Teachers College in New York.

States across the country in recent years have toughened their standards for what children should learn and added new tests to make sure schools are up to the task, all in the name of "school accountability."

In his speech Monday, Clinton told the governors that he understood their concerns. But he challenged them to work with Washington to improve the nation's schools. "Some will say the federal government should be giving states more flexibility, not demanding more accountability," Clinton said.

Democrats Look to Gain Ten Senate Seats in 2000 Elections

THE WASHINGTON POST

In the wake of President Clinton's impeachment and acquittal at a Senate trial, Democratic campaign strategists have targeted 10 Republican senators for defeat. The Democrats are determined to portray these incumbents as trapped in a renegade party controlled by an ideological right wing and defiant of voters who twice elected Clinton.

All 10 senators represent states that cast 1996 pluralities or majorities for Clinton, and seven found Clinton guilty of one or both articles of impeachment. The top six targeted are Senators Rod Grams (Minn.), Spencer Abraham (Mich.), John D. Ashcroft (Mo.), Rick Santorum (Pa.), Slade Gorton (Wash.) and Mike DeWine (Ohio). They are joined by Sen. William V. Roth Jr. (Del.), who voted "guilty" on both articles.

"They had a choice" between voting to acquit the president and risk a primary challenge from their right, or voting to convict and face a tougher general election, said Sen. Robert G. Torricelli (N.J.), who heads the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. "They took the risk of a general election, and my job is to accommodate that risk."

The three other targeted senators, who voted to acquit the president of both articles of impeachment, are Sens. John H. Chafee (R.I.), James M. Jeffords (Vt.) and Olympia J. Snowe (Maine). Defeating Snowe, Torricelli acknowledged, would be a long shot for Democrats.

Physical and Mental Exercise May Increase Growth of Brain Cells

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Regular running and intensive mental exercise may revitalize the mind by spurring the growth of new brain cells responsible for learning and memory, new animal experiments suggest.

The research, made public Monday, sheds light on how the effects of daily experience can foster new brain cells in adult mammals from mice to human beings. In essence, the research suggests that an active life — physical or mental — can have a positive impact on the brain.

In separate studies published in Nature Neuroscience, scientists at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego and at Princeton University discovered that some kinds of physical and mental exercise promoted the growth of new neurons, while also measurably prolonging the survival of existing brain cells. The changes took place in a part of the brain called the hippocampus, which is crucial to the formation of new memories.

"That is terribly exciting, given that we know the hippocampus plays a role in the memory of new facts and new events," said Neal J. Cohen, a cognitive neuroscientist at the University of Illinois. "It is clear the adult brain continues to be modified structurally and functionally by experience."

The Salk researchers, to their surprise, found that adult mice exercising on a running wheel regularly developed twice as many new brain cells in the hippocampus as mice housed in standard cages. The scientists had designed their experiment to test the effects of learning and had only included the running wheels as one of several different variables.

GAO Critical of Program Aimed At Jobs for Russian Scientists

By Walter Pincus
THE WASHINGTON POST

The General Accounting Office criticized a four-year-old U.S. program aimed at developing nonmilitary jobs for Russian weapons scientists at home so they do not leave to work for Iran, Iraq or other countries unfriendly to the United States.

The GAO said Monday in a report that Russian scientists received only 37 percent of the \$63.5 million spent through June 1998 on the program, which is run by the Department of Energy. About 51 percent of the money went to DOE national laboratories, whose personnel administered and oversaw the individual projects.

In addition, GAO investigators said some program funds in the 79 projects they specifically reviewed went to Russian scientists still working on Moscow's weapons pro-

grams and other support went to nine so-called "dual-use" projects which "could unintentionally provide useful defense-related benefits to Russian and other (former Soviet republic) scientists."

But the GAO report said officials at Russian institutes they visited reported they were "not aware of any scientists emigrating to countries of concern to provide weapons-related services" and DOE officials said the program was considered a success because it has temporarily employed "thousands of scientists at about 170 institutes and organizations throughout Russia and other Newly Independent States."

Overall, however, the GAO concluded, "Although in general the program is employing (Russian) weapons scientists on a part-time basis, it has not achieved its broader nonproliferation goal of long-term

employment through the commercialization of projects."

The report recommended that DOE review the roles played by the national laboratories, require more accurate data on the Russian scientists being supported and hold off expanding a new program to support nuclear scientists living in the so-called nuclear cities where Russian warheads are designed and produced.

The report drew quick support from Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., who had originally requested the review. Helms said in a prepared statement that failure of DOE to undertake the suggested reforms will "jeopardize continued support" of the program and "cast doubt" on Clinton administration plans to put a further \$4.5 billion into expanded nonproliferation programs.



Graduate Student Council

OFFICE: Walker Memorial, 50-220

PHONE: 253-2195

EMAIL: gsc-request@mit.edu

WEBSITE: www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

Professional Development Series Wednesdays, 3:30-5 PM, Hulsizer Room

Feb. 24 Educating Others (Lori Breslow & Miriam Diamond)

March 3 Oral Presentations (Lori Breslow)

Officer Nominations for 1999-2000

will begin at the General Council meeting on Wed., March 3 and will remain open until Tues, March 30. Elections will be held on Wed, April 7. For more information see: <http://www.mit.edu/activities/gsc/About/Roles/roles.html>

Free Jazz Every Wednesday Night



Activities Social - March 4: Muddy Charles Pub. Free pizza will be served. Bring your ID.

Graduate Student News
Send submissions to Constance Lai (con@mit.edu) by Feb. 23 for March 1 issue.

Housing & Community Affairs Meetings: Feb. 24 Housing Crisis

- The latest in the new graduate residence
- Housing rent increases
- Alternatives to new housing

March 11 Alcohol Policy Reform

- Discuss restrictions on campus drinking
- Consider a sensible, alternative policy for graduate students

Sunday River Day Ski Trip

Wed, March 24. Tickets are \$40 (transportation and lift ticket). Tickets on sale beginning Mon, Feb. 22. Contact Jeremy Gregory (jgregory@mit.edu) for more information.

Celtics vs. Pacers
Sun, March 28, 12:30 PM

Tickets are \$20 and sales begin on Wed, Feb. 24.

PLEASE CALL 253-6195 BEFORE
PICKING UP TICKETS AT 50-220.

02 03 Calendar

► FEBRUARY

- 23 - Academics, Research, & Careers *
- 24 - Housing & Community Affairs meeting *
- 24 - Professional Development seminar, 3:30 - 5 PM, Hulsizer Room, Ashdown
- 24 - Muddy Charles Board of Directors, Muddy Pub
- 25 - Funding Board meeting *

► MARCH

- 03 - General Council meeting *
- 03 - Officer Nominations Begin
- 03 - Professional Development seminar, 3:30 - 5 PM, Hulsizer Room, Ashdown
- 04 - Activities Social at Muddy Pub, 5-7 PM
- 08 - Activities meeting *
- 09 - Publicity board meeting *
- 10 - Professional Development seminar, 3:30 - 5 PM, Hulsizer Room, Ashdown
- 11 - Special HCA Meeting on "Alcohol Policy Reform"
- 15 - Funding Appeals due

* = at 5:30pm in Room 50-220. All graduate students are welcome. Food is provided.

OPINION

The Other Housing Protest

There is an activist student body on campus, and that body is the Graduate Student Council. MIT's undergraduate governments would be well served in following the GSC's example.

Editorial

Concerned that the construction of a graduate dormitory will be delayed, the GSC bombarded the administration with e-mails expressing its concern. The GSC fears that the graduate student dormitory promised to be built by 2002 will be axed from this year's budget.

Graduate students, who already spend about 50 percent of their income on housing, will probably face the brunt of the administration's decision to house all freshmen on campus by 2001. For the last decade or so, graduate students have been promised a new dormitory, only to find their promise deferred every year.

Several years ago, 1999 was supposed to be the year graduate students would see a new dormitory. Instead, the administration has crowded undergraduates into Tang Hall, and the Stata Complex and renovations to Baker are currently at a higher priority than the graduate dormitory. *The Tech*, like graduate students, is skeptical that the administration's current promise of

building a graduate dormitory by 2002 will be fulfilled.

If only the Undergraduate Association would be as activist as the GSC. For instance, the UA conducted a poll last year to chart student discontent with the decision to house all freshmen on campus, and despite finding that 90 percent of those who replied disapproved of the administration's decision, the UA did nothing to follow up. It let the administration steamroll student concerns. Even the somewhat well-attended, Fall Registration Day Housing Protest and the much lesser-attended Spring Registration Day Housing Protest were ostensibly sponsored by the UA "because students' voices should be heard", not because the UA was taking a stand in the face of the Administration, or attempting to rally undergraduate students under a specific issue.

The squeaky wheel gets the oil — this is the lesson graduate students have learned over the years, and this is the lesson undergraduate governments must learn as well. Administrators don't hear unless students make themselves heard. While the GSC has risked the administration's wrath for appearing whiny and unconstructive, the administration typically leaves students little other choice in getting their concerns heard.

Letters To The Editor

Work Hard, Play Hard

I have to make a confession. This weekend, I went to Mardi Gras... er... I had a "job interview in New Orleans." Yeah, that's it. So it turns out they're having this big five-day party called Mardi Gras. And, since in New Orleans you do as the New Orleaners do, I decided to join in the festivities.

Before leaving I listened to the warnings about how dangerous it would be. Scared out of my pants, I braved the journey anyway. The basic setup is the following: You watch parades during the day and into the evening, and then at night you go out to Bourbon Street. The premise is to have fun; there isn't much in the way of rules other than common courtesy and common sense.

Yes, there is alcohol. In fact, there is a great deal of alcohol. People seem to be sipping something day in and day out. I must have seen tens of thousands of people drinking. Beer, margaritas, hard liquor, daiquiris... whatever. Old people were drinking, young people were drinking... I'm sure people much

younger than my ripe old age of 22 were drinking. And you know what? No one seemed to mind.

Coming from the "alcoholic" MIT community that I've been in for the past two years, it was certainly a culture shock. Not that I condone such wanton behavior, but it's hard not to. People were having fun. Sure, there was an occasional awkward moment when your beer fell on someone's shoe, and there weren't enough places to go to the bathroom, but it was fun.

Police were there doing their duty, but they didn't mind posing for the occasional picture and chatting with the passers-by. There wasn't an adversarial mentality anywhere. As an MIT student, I was wondering why the party wasn't being shut down, why people weren't being sent home... after all, it was 2:01am, and then 3:01am, and so on. I mean, people were D-R-I-N-K-I-N-G! The contrast between the carefree atmosphere at Mardi Gras and the current MIT atmosphere suddenly became very sharp. And it wasn't New Orleans that seemed out of hand.

We at MIT are too paranoid. Too afraid of having a good time. Too guilty over the events of past to think about moving on. We are too worried about our image to the point that we hide the MIT "work hard, play hard" attitude, which brought us here in the first place. We try, in batches and spurts, to "redesign" and "reinvent" our social structure... yet, all we get are rules and restrictions which put gray patches on the quilt of colors that we're made of. How long will it be before we're left with nothing but a drab gray quilt, free from risk and random experience?

Like Mardi Gras, MIT is supposed to be colorful, vibrant... not only in the classroom but also outside of it. Paranoia and guilt should not triumph over common sense. I love this f----- place, but I hate what we're doing to it. It is time for us to move on, to work hard and play just as hard, and to stop being so self-immolating to the point that we lose our identity and destroy who we are.

We need to remember the cheer of youth that brought us here in the first place.

Marco A. Mena '99



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Barbarism Made Legal

Michael J. Ring

When a state chooses to carry out the death penalty, one of two horrible outcomes is assured. Either the life of an innocent person is taken by the state, or the life of a guilty person is taken by the state.



Last week the state of Ohio, for the first time in 36 years, performed the latter act. And this month, we have learned how perilously close the state of Illinois came to doing the former.

Anthony Porter was freed from an Illinois penitentiary on February 5 after another person confessed to the 1982 murders for which Porter was convicted. Last September, Porter came within two days of execution. His sentence was delayed because of worries over Porter's mental fitness: with an IQ of 51, Porter would have been the person of lowest intelligence executed since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976. In this time of reprieve, evidence was produced clearing the man.

Porter's case is by no means an exception. Researchers have found 23 cases in this nation since 1900 in which the person executed was innocent of the crimes of which he was convicted. In the past 23 years, 76 people have been freed from death row after exonerating evidence was produced. In fact, the Illinois Supreme Court last Friday overturned yet another capital murder conviction, this time because of unreliable prosecution testimony.

Who knows how many of the 519 people executed since 1976 may have been innocent as well? Recent court decisions speeding executions and limiting *habeas corpus* only increase the risk that an innocent person will be killed by society's vengeance. Virginia outrageously limits the period after a capital conviction during which a defendant can introduce new evidence to 21 days. After three weeks, no new exonerating evidence may be introduced, and after that point, as a former Virginia Attorney General argued, "Evidence of innocence is irrelevant." Yet a bill to repeal this dangerous and heinous provision can never make it out of the Virginia legislature. It seems the execution of an innocent person is only a matter of time.

Innocence was not an issue in Ohio's execution of Wilford Berry: He had confessed to the murder of a Cleveland baker and even expressed his desire to be executed. But his execution was by no means justified by either of these factors. Indeed, the killing of Berry

makes the state of Ohio guilty of the same crime for which it sought to punish Berry.

Some would say that by killing Berry, the state of Ohio set the ultimate example that murder will not be tolerated. But one need only scratch the surface of an overwhelming body of factual evidence to show the death penalty is far from an effective deterrent. Violent crime rates in Canada and Europe, where the death penalty has been abolished, are drastically lower than they are here. The United Kingdom has a murder rate one-sixth of this nation's. In the United States, the lowest per capita murder rates are found within the Northeast and Upper Midwest, where most of the 12 states which do not have a death penalty are found. The highest murder rates are in the South, where four out of five post-Furman executions have occurred. (*Furman v. Georgia* was the case in 1972 which suspended the use of the death penalty nationwide for four years.) The violence of the death penalty has not stopped the violence of murder, because the two acts in fact are one and the same.

And let us not forget either that the death penalty is indiscriminately applied across race and class. Minorities and the poor, groups without access to excellent legal representation, are the victims of this barbaric punishment. Rich whites who can afford the best attorneys can escape the death penalty.

A death penalty process which guarantees fairness across socio-economic strata and assures that no innocent people will be executed will never be created. But suppose for a moment that it were. Would society then be justified in demanding this punishment? I shout absolutely not, for capital punishment is morally rotten to the core.

The death penalty is a vestige of barbarism in our criminal code, truly indicative of "an eye for an eye" mentality. Civilized nations have long rejected this penal system. We do not cut off the hand of a person who steals; why do we kill those who kill?

The death penalty is a violation of the most basic tenet of human rights: Each and every person has an inalienable right to life. This is a right so valuable and precious it may never be abridged, even by the most horrific of cases. International organizations have long recognized the affront and challenge to human rights presented by the death penalty, and each year the list of countries ending this cruel practice grows longer.

Across Eastern Europe, nations such as Russia, Poland, Ukraine, Estonia, and Azerbaijan have recently abolished or are seriously debating abolishing the death penalty. In our use of the death penalty we frequently run afoul of the human rights treaties and conventions we seek to enforce upon other

nations. The United States stands with such rogue states as China, Iraq, and Libya in a widespread and indiscriminate embrace of capital punishment.

Given all the evidence to prove the death penalty does not deter crime and violates the most basic notions of human rights and international covenants, politicians should make its immediate appeal a priority. But in our own backyard, Governor Paul Cellucci has renewed his troglodytic call for the reinstitution of capital punishment in Massachusetts with a new bill.

Massachusetts already has a mandatory sentence of life without parole for first-degree murder. This sentence already insures that the most violent defenders in our society will not walk the streets again. But it also insures that if we discover our criminal justice system has made a mistake, we are able to give back to the wrongly accused the precious gift of freedom.

Already in this past year, we have seen a case which should prove once and for all why Massachusetts does not need a death penalty. After the discovery of the body of 75-year old Irene Kennedy in a Walpole park, Walpole resident Edmund Burke was charged with her murder. However, after a closer look at the evidence and the conduction of a DNA test, Burke was freed. The system did not work in this case; it miserably failed. Burke was lucky evidence showing his innocence was so quickly found.

For Bobby Joe Leaster, convicted by Massachusetts for the 1970 murder of a store owner, exoneration did not come so quickly. But in 1986 the bullet killing the victim was matched to another gun, proving Leaster was not the killer. He spent nearly 16 years in prison for a crime he did not commit, but at least he was alive to taste freedom again. In many states 16 years would have been enough time to execute this innocent man.

The death penalty holds much initial appeal for a public sick and tired of violent crime. But when alternative punishments such as life without parole and restitution for victims' families are considered by the public, support for capital punishment consistently drops. Representatives should keep this in mind and make an informed choice on, not a knee-jerk reaction to, Cellucci's bill.

For invariably the more one studies the true effects of the death penalty, the louder one clamors for its abolishment. As Massachusetts already demands the justifiably severe punishment of life without parole for first degree murder, there is no need for the commonwealth to play the role of executioner, abrogate its traditional respect for human rights, and risk the execution of an innocent person.

Preserving Cultural Ties

Elaine Wan

Kendo — is the way of the sword. Last Wednesday, eighteen people and I attended a kendo practice in which we repeatedly struck our imaginary opponent's head with a shinai and screamed out "Men." We steadily jumped back into ashi-gamae, a stance in which the feet are positioned slightly apart, tightened our arm muscles and gradually but forcefully, swung our shinai from our foreheads to our torso. "Men!"

In kendo, the weapon is a batch of bamboo sticks, known as shinai, which emulates a sword. Our target for attack is not members of the male sex, but our opponents' heads, called "men" in Japanese. This was the fourth kendo meeting I attended, but the first in which I observed femininity in the clouded air of Japanese culture and male egos encapsulated within navy blue, wire framed masks and heavy armour known as bogu.

Kendo at MIT is currently being instructed by Sensei Junji Himeno, a 7th dan master at the martial art and a visiting scholar at Harvard University. It was upon his last visit to MIT, in which I had the pleasure of meeting his daughter, Masako. She calmly explained in short fragments of English that she was visiting her parents from Japan for spring break. She had practiced kendo for three months, and she was just as capable as her male counterparts in taking the correct stance to attack and block her opponent, although she screamed out "men," at a slightly higher pitch.

Today's national and international societies have been greatly modified with the increase in equal rights and civil liberties. The financial and political power of women are slowly increasing. Ninety percent of the women in the U.S. have had jobs outside of the home. When Bill Clinton was on trial for his sex scandals, the Democratic party was afraid that it would lose the support of women. The media has promoted Xena, "the warrior princess," and Disney's Mulan, "the legendary, Chinese, filial daughter who went to war for her father." Although most third world countries in Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East still prefer their women to stay in the household, there have been increased rights and respect for females.

Many females today believe that with the increased rights for females and the opportunity to have a career, women are expected to even more accomplished. They say it's a conspiracy. We are now expected to graduate with a college degree, work an 8 hour job, maintain a balanced family life raising two kids and a dog, while we maintain fair skin, silky hair and a hugable waist. And the *New York Times* reports that females from more traditional and conservative backgrounds fear that the advance of feminism means that they will be losing their cultural ties. The truth is that feminism is not a radical phenomenon that happened overnight, that women can maintain careers and still remain beautiful, and that our attachments to our culture are not severed.

Throughout history, feminism has been a part of all culture and has many times helped further develop it. Molly Pitcher manned a gun at Valley Forge in 1778 and risked her life to tend to wounded soldiers. With her amazing story-telling power, Scheherazade saved the lives of many maidens and transformed the character of the sultan through many "Arabian Nights." In China, there are ancient historic accounts of the four patriotic women who sacrificed their lives and happiness for their country. They were all later named the four most beautiful maidens in Chinese history.

I was drawn to kendo to strive to do what men do, and learn more about the Japanese culture, which has many strict formalities and a defined female societal role. Masako has shown me that it is possible to be a feminist, cultural and "beautiful." But beauty isn't something always focussed upon. Under the bogu in kendo, your opponent can hardly distinguish your face and bodily figure. The only thing that will help you win a match is your concentration and technique. It is necessary to learn from your sensei ji-geiko, the training needed to build a solid foundation and for yourself to develop confidence and self-worth which is only embellished externally.

Today, women are fortunate enough to have a chance to gain a broader education and better ourselves. It would be a loss if we let the opportunity to enhance our education, experience and cultural ties just because we believe that this will make us less attractive, or be more tasking on our personal lives.

Trendy Tailfins and iMacs

Eric J. Plosky

"Nah," an American Airlines executive will one day say to a Boeing representative. "We'll order the Airbus instead."

"Why?" the Boeing person will ask. "Our plane is bigger, has a greater range, and is cheaper to buy and operate."

"Yeah," the American executive will rejoin, pointing a finger at a picture of the Airbus, "but *that* plane looks faster."

What may one day happen to airplanes has already happened to most high-technology products — style has become paramount. In these days of mature technology, when competing goods all have a full complement of desired features, checkbook-happy Americans are free to buy on the basis of looks, image and social cachet. Functionality has dwindled in importance and is no longer the primary consideration at purchase time (if, in fact, it ever was).

Apple's successful iMac provides a colorful illustration. Launched only last summer, the translucent, egg-shaped computer is already in the hands of a million customers, largely thanks to an advertising campaign that emphasized style over functionality. Now, Apple, aiming to continue the iMac's sales momentum, has released the machine in five different colors ("flavors"), and recent marketing has drawn attention to nothing else — the computer's tech specs have just about been dismissed as unimportant.

That's because mainstream consumers aren't particularly interested in tech specs, not as long as the machine simply does what it's asked to do. Buyers seem to be taking for granted that iMacs can write letters, play games and access the Internet — but why? Something must have convinced the masses of the machine's ability, and it couldn't have been Apple's own advertising. It is instead the general societal perception of personal com-

puters as a maturing technology. Jane Q. Public feels reasonably assured that any computer she buys will meet her needs; different computers therefore compete mainly in style and price, not features, and the iMac sells precisely *because* it offers style over function.

The same maturation process visited automobiles beginning in the 1920s. Henry Ford was eventually forced to replace the Model T with the updated Model A because Ford lost its sales lead to Chevrolet, which introduced an innovation to the industry — a stylish mainstream car. In later decades, marketing continued to appeal less to functionality and more to style, and 1990s auto advertising, at least within a given "class" of car (e.g., mid-size sedan), almost always puts style first.

None of Volkswagen's new ad campaigns, for instance, does anything other than portray the company's cars as trendy. Automobile features, and value for money, are generally mentioned only in ads for the cheapest cars, for which low profit margins provide manufacturers little incentive to increase style. The list of such examples is endless and will probably, given American consumer trends, continue to be endless.

Is it really so far fetched to imagine functional criteria being replaced by style in the aircraft industry, or in the space industry? "No," NASA might one day say to Lockheed, "I think we'll go with this other company's rocket — theirs looks so *cool*!" If the same maturation happens in the space industry, why, given our evidence in other fields, wouldn't we expect exactly that dialogue?

Society somehow obliges us, as consumers, to stay stylish, to keep up with the Joneses. (This concept is the subject of another column.) We owe it to ourselves as citizens, though, to make sure that the goods we purchase meet our functional expectations. With so many technologies reaching a relatively

mature state nowadays, with so many industries now free to ignore tech specs in favor of colors and flavors, we are especially vulnerable to a sort of parasitical advertising that can force us to pay more for style and style alone. Goods prices should rise only when new features are innovated, not just when fashions change.

Style sells, of course, and clever manufacturers sometimes change product designs solely to capitalize on people's thirst to remain current. The phrase "planned obsolescence" comes from the auto industry of the 1950s; carmakers plastered more and more chrome and higher and higher tailfins onto each year's models while leaving the cars' mechanicals the same, and style-conscious, functionality-ignorant suburbanites snapped them up at great cost.

We are very much in danger of another such scenario today. The maturation of many modern high-tech products, and the huge variety of goods available, causes many consumers' eyes to glaze over when it comes time to make a purchase. Confused consumers are easy prey for advertisers, who attempt to instill "brand consciousness" based on style in order to immediately resolve product confusion. That such advertising often causes consumers to pay more than they should is easily overlooked.

It shouldn't be. Consumers must educate themselves to make sure the computers and other high-tech goods they buy aren't unnecessarily laden with chrome; iMac buyers should make sure to choose that machine based on its functional suitability, not just on the height of its virtual tailfins. The typical American consumer of the next millennium, no matter how style-conscious, should keep an eye out for the filament, not just the flash, lest she go blind. I hope, at least as a first result of such education, that the next-generation space shuttle never has tailfins it doesn't need.

FEATURES

Social Dancing

A Modern Spin Revives an Old Step

By Katharyn Jeffreys

STAFF REPORTER

After years of greasy hair and flannel shirts, style is making a comeback. Along with martinis, cigars, and Gap khakis comes the revival of social dances, most notably swing. Around Boston, and even on MIT's campus, social dancing is quickly growing in its popularity.

While the style may be vintage, the attitude has a modern kick. Fueled by bands such as Cherry Poppin' Daddies, Squirrel Nut Zippers, and the Brian Setzer Orchestra, the swing of the forties is infused with electric guitars and other ska influences.

"To many Californians I'm sure the swing craze seems very outdated, but it's never wrong for anyone, especially a guy, to know how to dance," said Carly R. Klein '00, a member of the MIT ballroom dance team.

VIEWPOINT

This week's question:

Where do you think MIT should put its housing priorities, the new undergraduate dormitory or the graduate dormitory?

"I think there should be higher priority for undergrad dorms and MIT should also review the current system for grad housing."

Sawaka Kawashima '01

"I think it should be the grad dorm because I disagree with the decision to not let freshmen have housing choice."

Jon D. Demerly G

"Undergraduate dorm. No doubt. I think it's important for undergrads to have a decent place to live and MIT should focus on their settling into the Institute. Also, it's the undergrad community that makes up the character of the Institute, not the grad community."

Alton J. McFarland '01

"It should be equal. Don't focus on either undergraduate or grad students because it will force a line to be drawn that will separate the two communities."

Brian P. Clarkson G

"I think the undergraduate dorm, reason being the undergrads are more involved with the people in their dorms and they might not have the option of moving off campus like graduate students because they are younger and have less income."

Chia Y. Wu G

"I think they should focus on the undergrad dorm because I think the grads already have a place to live and undergrads in Tang are getting kicked out."

A. Nicole Spooner '00

"The undergrad dorm because as an undergrad, I think they're probably not as ready to make such a drastic decision about where to live because I know for example that grads are usually four, five, or six years older than undergrads, so their maturity level is such that they can make a better decision on where to live."

Erwin K. Lau G

"The undergrad dorm, because grad students are paid and live off campus whereas undergrads don't have the money and it's more convenient to live on campus."

M. Mohsin Naqvi '01

"Both, I feel that the university should be able to provide good quality, affordable housing near campus for all students. Some students may not want to live on campus but they should have the option to."

Anthony T. Chobot G

"Graduate student dorm because every two years we have to reapply for housing. Sometimes we have to move out. That's what happened to me.... We have a baby now and we might have to move out again. That's really problematic."

Marcela A. Natalicchio G

Compiled by Andrew J. Maywah

Outdated or not, Boston is a definite hub for social dance. Many clubs have swing nights, including the Roxy, on Tremont Street, which is a popular stop for those accustomed to the club scene. However, this popularity has its drawbacks.

Klein said, "The only thing that annoys me about the swing craze is how crowded the dance floors are at clubs like the Roxy, where the room is full of couples who think that to look good one must take up a lot of space and elbow and shove. The truth is, you look the best, in East Coast swing, if you take up very little room on the dance floor — you have more control that way."

For a more relaxed atmosphere, Roger N. Nielsen '01 recommends the Cosmopolitan, in the North End. "For big events and concerts like Cherry Poppin' Daddies, you can't beat the Roxy. But for small time dance and relaxing with my girlfriend Ellen, I like to head to the Cosmopolitan."

Swing draws a dedicated group

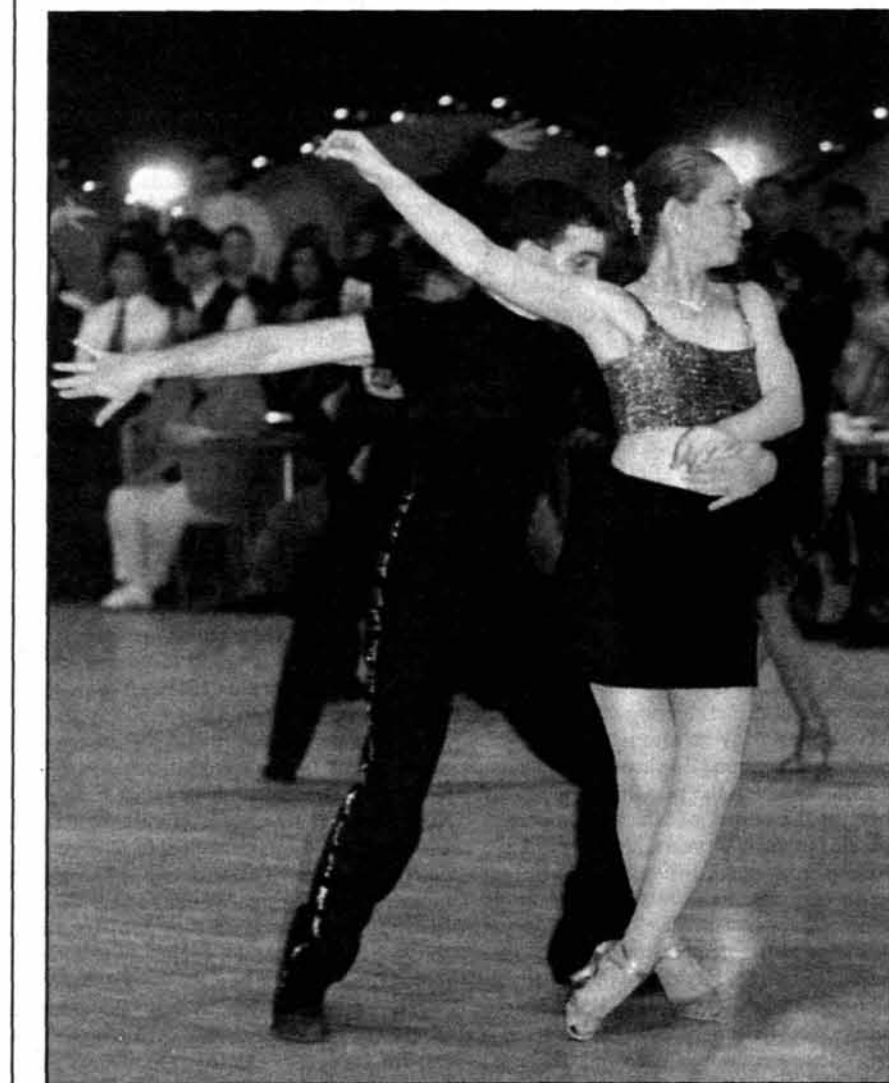
For people who swing, dance can take up a significant amount of time. Jennifer A. Healey G, an avid swing dancer, has a particularly hectic schedule. "A typical swing dancing schedule includes (not always but sometimes) private practice on Monday, Ken's Place in Central Square on Tuesday, a group practice on Wednesday in Harvard Square, dance lesson with Ravitte at the YWCA and then dancing at the Upstairs Lounge on Thursday, the Roxy on Friday, and either the IC dance (once a month at St. John's Armenian Church in Watertown) or Ryles on Saturday and on the seventh day we rest (or practice aeriels). Occasionally we see our friends who don't swing (usually when we're doing laundry)."

This affection for dance is not uncommon. "If you hang at these places enough, you'll see the same people over and over. It's cool," Nielsen said.

"It's a strangely intellectual crowd," said Healey, who adds that swing dancers are "much more interesting than people I've met at other clubs."

Other dances become popular

In addition to swing, Latin and standard ballroom dances, such as tango and salsa, also



KRZYSZTOF GAJOS—THE TECH

Salsa, performed here by members of the MIT Ballroom Dance Team in a competition at Harvard, has witnessed a resurgence in popularity along with other social dances such as swing.

have a large following. Some clubs such as the Roxy hold Latin dance nights each week. The popularity of these styles are not fueled by big name American bands, but remain a welcome alternative to regular club attendees.

Bassam G. Kassab G finds an alternate appeal to these dances. "I learned Argentinian tango for several months back in 1995. Then I found out it would be useless for me in social occasions because my date would not be a woman. However, when I saw a couple of men dancing it together in a very

charming way, and I read that originally in Argentina it was a men's dance, I realized that nothing becomes obsolete or useless in our lives if we know how to put it on the right track!"

The resurgence in the popularity of partner dances has given people the chance to hone their social skills, meet new people, and hear different types of music. "For me, the ballroom dancing was a great way for me to be able to dance and perform again. It is a nice social outlet too," Klein said.

Spotlight of the Week
Association of Taiwanese Students

By Jean K. Lee

STAFF REPORTER

In celebration of the Year of the Rabbit, the Association of Taiwanese Students (ATS) held their annual New Year's banquet last week.

The new year celebration actually spans a two week period, beginning on the new moon of the first month of the lunar calendar and ending after 15 days with a full moon.

The Chinese New Year marks the gathering of families and friends for many. For ATS, it is a time for members to come together

and celebrate the new year with friends. "We encourage our members to share their experiences with others and even fill in gaps in each other's familiarity with the cultural significance of the Chinese New Year," said Min-Hank Ho '00, president of ATS.

As one of the largest events run by the ATS, the banquet was open to the entire MIT community and other schools in the Boston area. Members formed cooking groups to prepare traditional dishes such as dumplings and fish for the occasion.

The New Year's banquet was just one of the many activities that

ATS is involved with. In the spring, ATS participates in the International Fair and sponsors a dragonboat team for the annual Boston Dragonboat Festival, where members help to train teams and run the event. In addition, the group sponsors a radio show on WMBR radio that broadcasts Chinese music.

Most recently, ATS helped to initiate the Boston Intercollegiate Taiwanese Student Association (BITSA), in an effort to organize various cultural and social events to gather students from the Boston area.

"For students with a strong Taiwanese heritage, we try to provide a home away from home," Ho said, "For those who just would like to know more about Taiwan, we offer a cultural outlet for them to get a glimpse of Taiwan as our members know it."

Currently there are about 60 members in ATS. Another Chinese cultural group, the Chinese Students Club, also celebrated the new year with their annual banquet this past weekend.



KRZYSZTOF GAJOS—THE TECH

Members of the Association of Taiwanese Students and guests enjoy a feast at the ATS-sponsored Chinese New Year celebration in Edgerton House.

TechCalendar

TechCalendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>

Tuesday's Events

- 12:00 p.m. – **Who is the Expert on the Human Soul?** Psychology and Law Circa 1900. Tal Golan, Dibner Institute Lunchtime Colloquia.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Associate Advisor Information Session.** Required session for all new applicants. Refreshments will be served. Room 5-233. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Origin of the Earth/Moon System.** Dr. Robin Canup, Southwest Research Institute. EAPS Department Lecture Series. Refreshments, 3:30 pm, Ida Green Lounge. Room 54-915. Sponsor: EAPS.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Complexity in Integrated Fluidic Circuits.** Luc Bousse, Caliper Technologies. MTL VLSI Seminar Series. Refreshments in lobby of room 34-101 at 3:30 p.m. Room 34-101. Sponsor: MTL.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Accurate Models of Complex Chemical Systems.** Professor Richard Friesner, Columbia University, Dept. of Chemistry. Arthur D. Little Lectureship in Physical Chemistry. Room 6-120. Sponsor: Chemistry.
- 4:30 p.m. – **Achieving Safety with Data Analysis.** Mr. Alan Weaver, Pratt & Whitney Senior Fellow. Gas Turbine Seminar Series. Refreshments 4:15. Room 31-161.
- 5:00 p.m. – **Agent-Mediated Electronic Commerce.** Prof. Pattie Maes, Associate Professor at the Media Laboratory. Media Lab, Bartos Theatre. Sponsor: Technology Review.
- 6:30 p.m. – **Louis I. Kahn: Unbuilt Ruins.** Kent Larson, research scientist, MIT Dept of Architecture. Architecture Lecture Series. Room 10-250.

Wednesday's Events

- 12:00 p.m. – **Taps at the Millennium: Saving Private Ryan and the Thin Red Line.** Professor Thomas Doherty, Film Studies, Brandeis University. Brown bag lunch. Room E38-615. Sponsor: Security Studies Program.
- 12:10 p.m. – **Long's Experiment in a Rotating Channel.** Larry Pratt, WHOI. Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminars at MIT. Room 54-915.
- 3:30 p.m. – **Lecture on Communication for Professionals: Educating Others.** Lori Breslow and Miriam Diamond, MIT. Professional Development Series. 1 hour 30 minutes. Ashdown House, Hulsizer. Sponsor: GSC.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Associate Advisor Information Session.** Required session for all new applicants. Refreshments will be served. Room 5-233. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Computational Modeling of Prosody for Automatic Speech Synthesis and Understanding.** Prof. Mari Ostendorf, Boston University. Special EECS Seminar. Refreshments at 3:45 p.m. Room 34-401A. Sponsor: Research Lab of Electronics with Dept. of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sci.
- 4:30 p.m. – **Living in Two Languages Series—Eva Hoffman.** "Between Words, Between Worlds: On Bilingualism and Hybrid Visions." Presentation by the author of *Lost in Translation: A Life in a New Language*. Followed by book signing. Room 14N-304.
- 5:10 p.m. – **Weekly LEM Service and Supper.** Eucharist in the Chapel, followed by a free fellowship supper and discussion. Chapel and W11. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.
- 6:00 p.m. – **Anatomy of Policy: The Contribution of Anthropological Method to Policy Studies.** Prof. Janine Wedel, George Washington University. A Ford Methodology Workshop. MIT graduate students are invited to an informal dinner immediately following the talk. Room E38-714. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

Thursday's Events

- 7:30 a.m. – **Technology Review's Innovator's Breakfast Series.** Meet Eric Raymond, a leading authority on open source software & author of *The Cathedral and the Bazaar*. Univ. Park Hotel at MIT. Sponsor: Technology Review.
- 12:00 p.m. – **MIT Chapel Concert: Danzi Trio.** Douglas Worthen, flute; Elizabeth Abbate, violin; Joan Esch, cello. Trios by Danzi, Pleyel and Haydn on period instruments. MIT Chapel.
- 12:00 p.m. – **The Telecom Boom in China: A Changing Market.** Greg Caltabiano, Vice President of the Asia Business Group of Comverse Network Systems. George Buchi Lecture Series. Room E51-095.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Associate Advisor Information Session.** Required session for all new applicants. Refreshments will be served. Room 5-233. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center.
- 4:00 p.m. – **An Aesthetic Occupation: Jerusalem Architecture in Conflict and Thought.** Prof. Daniel Bertrand Monk, SUNY Stony Brook. Room 56-114. Sponsor: History Theory Criticism Forum, Department of Architecture.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Simulation-Based Optimization of Markov Reward Processes.** John

Tsitsiklis, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, MIT. Refreshments to follow in Room E40-106. Room E40-298. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

4:15 p.m. – **Keeping the Focus on Bose-Einstein Condensates.** Prof. Wolfgang Ketterle, MIT. Physics Colloquium. Refreshments in Room 4-339 at 3:45 pm. Room 10-250.

5:00 p.m. – **Computational Methods for Protein Structure Prediction.** Professor Richard Friesner, Columbia University, Dept. of Chemistry. Arthur D. Little Lectureship in Physical Chemistry. Room 6-120. Sponsor: Chemistry.

5:30 p.m. – **African American and Latina/o Living History Museum.** Asst Profs Thomas Defrantz & Brenda Cotto-Escalera direct a staged pageant celebrating Black History Month (Feb) & Latin American History Month (March). This year's theme is artists & writers. Bush Room (10-105).

Friday's Events

- 12:10 p.m. – **GABLES Monthly Lunch.** A social get-together of the MIT Gay, Bisexual, and Lesbian Employees and Supporters group. Send e-mail to dfitz@mit.edu for location. Sponsor: GABLES.
- 3:00 p.m. – **Simulating Molecular Transformations over Catalytically Active Surfaces.** Matthew Neurock, University of Virginia, Department of Chemical Engineering. Reception held before seminars at 2:45 p.m. Room 66-110.
- 3:30 p.m. – **The "Chunnel" Fire: Thermal Spalling due to chemoplastic softening in rapidly heated concrete.** Franz-Josef Ulm, Professor, CEE. Engineering and Environmental Mechanics Group Seminar Series. Refreshments at 3:30. Room 1-350.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Associate Advisor Information Session.** Required session for all new applicants. Refreshments will be served. Room 5-233. Sponsor: Academic Resource Center.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Sediment Subduction and Consequences for the Continents.** Professor Terry Plank, University of Kansas. EAPS Department Lecture Series. Refreshments, 3:30 p.m., Ida Green Lounge. Room 54-915 Sponsor: EAPS.
- 5:30 p.m. – **African American and Latina/o Living History Museum.** Asst Profs Thomas Defrantz & Brenda Cotto-Escalera direct a staged pageant celebrating Black History Month (Feb) & Latin American History Month (March). This year's theme is artists & writers. Bush Room (10-105). 8:00 p.m. – **MIT Guest Artist Concert: Avalon String Quartet.** Haydn's String Quartet Op 1, No. 1; Schuller's String Quartet No. 3 (1986); Beethoven's String Quartet, Op. 130. Kresge Auditorium.

Saturday's Events

- 7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – **The Other Y2K: An Ebony Affair.** A semi-formal evening of drama, comedy, music, and dance sponsored by the Black Graduate Student Association. Admission 12. Walker Memorial - Morss. Sponsor: Black Graduate Student Association.
- 8:00 p.m. – **The Bala Ensemble.** Laxmi, Bharat Natyam dance; T. Viswanathan, flute; D. Knight, mridangam. MITHAS (MIT Heritage of S Asia) & the New Eng Hindu Temple presentation. Admission \$15, \$12—MITHAS/NEHT members/students. Kresge Little Theater.
- 11:59 p.m. – **Chorallaries Annual Concert in Bad Taste.** The Chorallaries of MIT step out of their cappella shells for an evening of raucous entertainment lightly sprinkled with raunchy spice. Room 10-250.

Monday's Events

- 3:30 p.m. – **Inertial Confinement Fusion.** Riccardo Betti, Associate Professor, University of Rochester, N.Y. Refreshments in Room NW12-222 at 3:00 pm. Room NW12-222. Sponsor: Nuclear Engineering.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Asia's Coming Energy Wars? Energy as a Source of Conflict or Cooperation.** Robert Manning, Director of Asian Studies, Council on Foreign Relations. A session of the Working Group on Asian Energy and Security. Room E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.
- 4:00 p.m. – **Environmentally Benign Semiconductor Manufacturing.** Prof. Raphael Reif, MIT, EECS and MTL. MIT-EECS 1999 Spring Semester Colloquium Series. Refreshments served at 3:45 p.m. Room 34-101. Sponsor: EECS.

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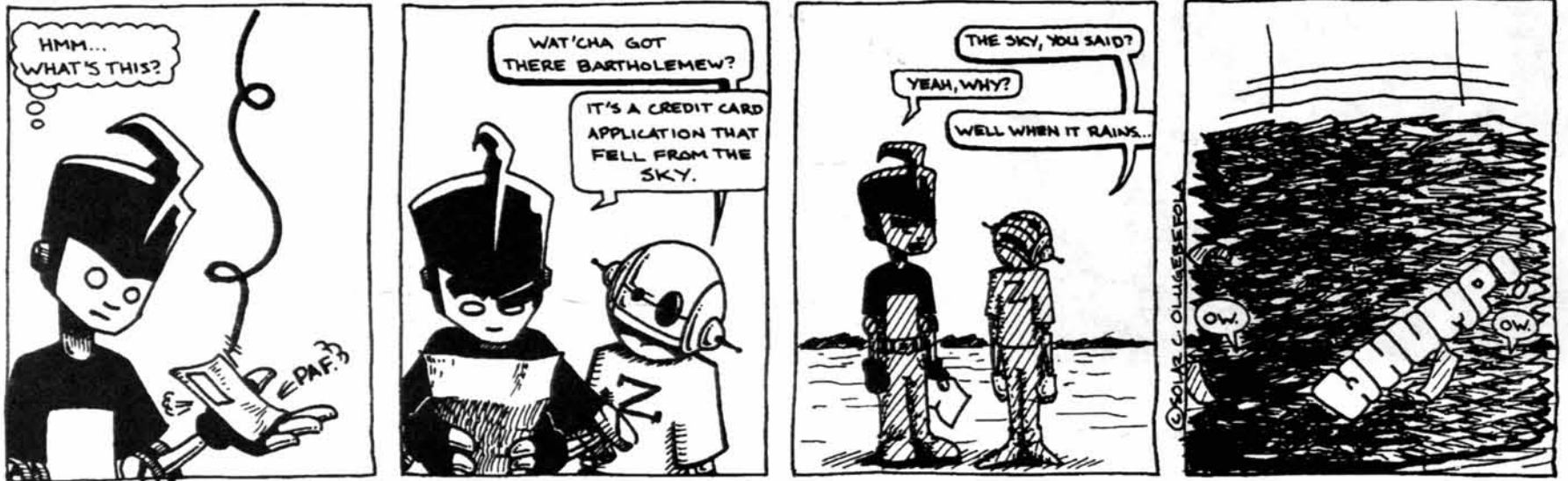
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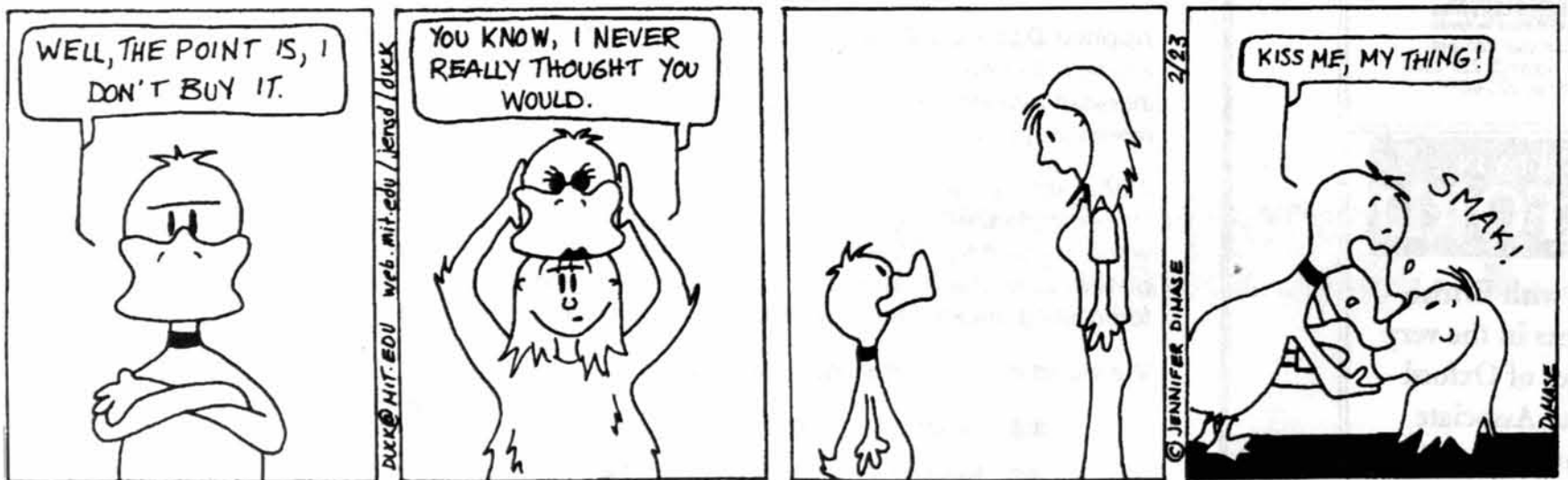
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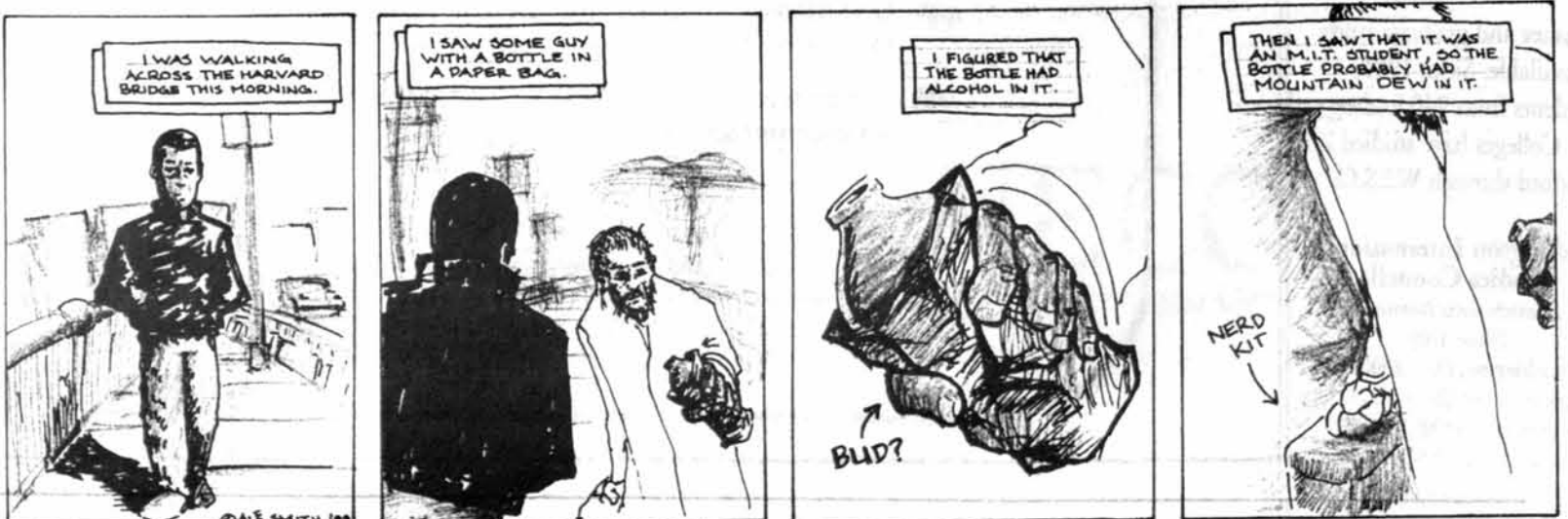
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W20 CopyTech Will Offer Twenty-Four Hour Copy Services

By Jane Yoo
STAFF REPORTER

CopyTech Express opened its doors on the first floor of the Stratton Student Center Monday, offering twenty-four hour copying and Athena quickstations.

The new branch is still working out staffing and logistical issues, but for the time being CopyTech Express will be staffed from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eventually, the official hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to midnight, and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Copy machines will be available 24 hours a day.

The opening of CopyTech Express has stirred excitement among students. Joia K. Spooner '00 thought the new CopyTech was "Great. It's another way for me to get my work in on time."

Students are especially pleased by the 24-hour photocopying facility. "If you don't work in an office or a lab, then you don't have many places to xerox," said Vanessa A. Bhark '01.

In addition to the 24 hour access to copy machines, there will also be Athena quickstations on hand. June Milligan, Marketing Development Manager for MIT Copy Technology Centers, emphasized the expediency of the new CopyTech, noting that "students often need a single copy, a single binding, a fast poster, and a quick option to print."

The new CopyTech is equipped with computer workstations networked to a Canon 700 Color Copier and a dye sublimation printer. With opportunities to bind and laminate materials as well as fax documents, students literally have an office with them at all times, Milligan said.

Currently, one staff member will be present at CopyTech at any given time. Realizing that many students like to do things on their own "the philosophy is self-service. The staff will be on hand to guide students through their jobs or to make suggestions to help them reach their desired final product," Milligan said.

Express caters to conferences

In addition, the copying facility will not only be an asset to students but also to members of the non-MIT community, in particular visitors who come for conferences on campus. Milligan says that she "anticipates that speakers and coordinators will be happy to find such a location which will enable them to create last minute presentation materials."

She imagines that these people "will be able to walk in and plug in their lap top computers, sit at the computer workstations or be at a copy machine."

Like the other three branches on campus, CopyTech Express customers may pay by cash, check, VISA, MasterCard, MIT Student Card, MIT Procurement Credit Card, SAP Requisitions, or through authorized accounts.

The creation of new CopyTech Express in the Student Center is very much a response to the demands of MIT students. Last year, the CopyTech Centers conducted a survey to find out how best they could serve the needs of the student population. One of the questions posed to students concerned the possibility of incorporating a CopyTech in the Stratton Student Center. According to June Milligan, "95 percent [of the students who filled out the survey] requested a CopyTech Center in W20."

Alumnus Donates \$25 Million For Cancer Research at MIT

By Priya Prahalad
STAFF REPORTER

David H. Koch '62 has donated \$25 million to the Center for Cancer Research at MIT. Donations from a separate fund will enable the center to provide summer UROP projects.

The \$25 million will be distributed at \$2.5 million per year over the next ten years. "It is a very generous donation that can have a big impact. The money will be used in the CCR and other departments to conduct innovative cancer research," said Richard O. Hynes '71, director of the Center for Cancer Research.

While no definitive decision has been reached on how to distribute the funds, the donation might also be used to support postdoctoral work and to sponsor chairs for cancer research. Although Koch has not stipulated the exact type of cancer research he wishes to fund, he has expressed a great interest in the study of prostate cancer, Hynes said.

President Charles M. Vest said, "I am extremely pleased that David Koch has made such a magnificent commitment to enhance cancer

research at MIT. Major funding with such flexibility will enable us to very significantly strengthen our world-class basic cancer research."

Vest particularly praised the size of the gift: "The level of this gift in support of research is unprecedented in modern MIT history," he said.

"We are extremely grateful for this donation. It shows the strength of MIT and cancer research at MIT," Hynes added.

Koch received both his bachelor of science and master of science degrees in chemical engineering.

Ludwig fund to provide UROPs

The CCR will also be using a one million dollar endowment from the Virginia and D. K. Ludwig Chair Fund at MIT to sponsor cancer UROP projects this summer.

This fund was established by Daniel K. Ludwig, a New York real estate magnate. Similar funds founded by Ludwig benefit Harvard University Medical School, the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, and Memorial Sloan-

Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

CCR a pioneer in cancer therapy

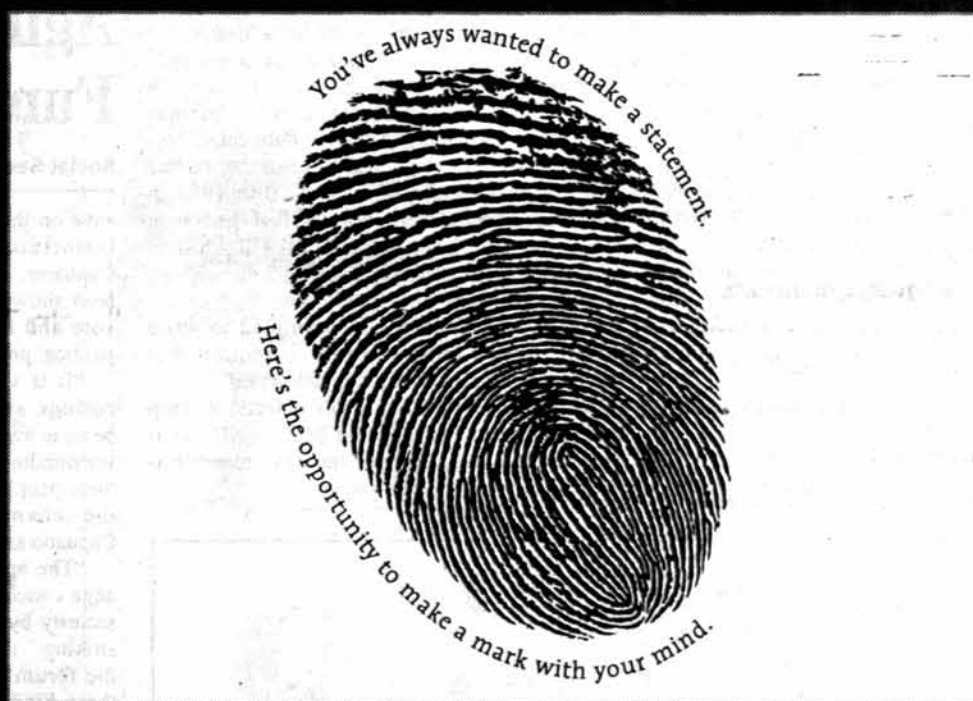
Since its inception 25 years ago, the MIT CCR has been responsible for major advances in the field of cancer research. The laboratory of Robert A. Weinberg '64 was the first to clone an oncogene from a human tumor. The CCR faculty includes Nobel Laureates Alfred P. Sloan Professor Emeritus of Biology & Chemistry Har Gobind Khorana, Professor of Biology Susumu Tonegawa, and Professor of Biology Phillip A. Sharp.

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Study Compares MBAs' Ethics To Those of Convicted Felons

By Karen E. Robinson
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A recent study by James Stearns of Miami University and Shaheen Borna of Ball State University found that prison inmates and MBA students have comparable ethics.

The authors chose to study ex-convicts since they are a group whose ethics are traditionally considered unsuited to business. "The general public's perception of convicted felons is that they adhere to a different set of values, are generally untrustworthy, and constitute a great risk for employers," the study report reads.

Stearns and Borna attempted to show that inmates do not operate with significantly different morals, they said.

"I've been a little dismayed" about the press coverage, Stearns said in response to the fact that some news sources and others interpret the study to mean that MBA students are unusually sleazy. "We didn't find that MBA's are unethical... Every major newspaper gives a different twist" to our research, said Borna.

Assistant Director of Undergraduate Programs and Assistant Director of Educational Services for the Sloan School Heather

Madnick found the question of MBA students' ethics "curious." "We have a great group of students," Madnick said. Sloan offers two classes which focus on ethics, and use many case studies with ethical questions in other classes. "It's definitely a topic stressed here."

The MBA students' data was used only as a control for the inmates' response. The data was taken from another study a few years old, which asked MBA students in various schools ethical questions. "We used their mechanics, and applied it" to the felons, Borna said.

Students Both Cheer, Jeer Spring Weekend Act Busta Rhymes

Busta Rhymes, from Page 1

the singer, not all of these students were familiar with his music. "I'd go," said one junior, "[but] I don't listen to that kind of music that often." "I might stop by," said Jim Matysczak '99.

Other students know and love his work. "Busta Rhymes, whoa!" said Gabe A. Reinstein '02. Another freshman, Eduardo L. McLean '02, is also a big fan. "I guess 'Gimmie Some More' is his best song," said McLean. Miguel Rivera '02 agreed.

Patricia R. Morales, a sophomore, was enthusiastic — "He's phat," she said.

Many students would rather listen to other singers during Spring Weekend. Favorites of those polled included Aerosmith, U2, and Dave Matthews Band. However, preferences were diverse. "Yeah, Phish!" said one senior. Rachael A. Butcher '99 replied that she would rather listen to "Anybody else."

While Busta Rhymes' appearance has been anticipated for a month, contract negotiations and legal issues delayed the final agreement until last week. Other details of the Spring Weekend are also beginning to take shape. Tickets to the concert will be ten dollars in advance and twelve dollars at the door. One thousand students are expected to attend the event.

If Spring Weekend has waned in the last two years, this upcoming event could herald a new beginning. In 1996, Soul Coughing was the featured band, and several years before They Might Be Giants performed. The 1997 and 1998 bands were not as well known, and attendance and enthusiasm for the event dropped accordingly.

Letter Also Accuses Woodie Flowers of Perjury

Grievance, from Page 1

degree in education. He did not hold an engineering degree. In addition, Grinnell says he had not been strong in high school physics or calculus.

According to the initial job posting, the position which Grinnell ultimately took did not specify teaching a section of 2.70 as a responsibility.

Grinnell files suit

In 1994, Grinnell filed a civil suit against MIT and Professor of Mechanical Engineering Woodie C. Flowers, who had been in charge of 2.70 while Grinnell had been an instructor of the course, for discrimination, intentional affliction of emotional distress, and violation of a contract. The case is still pending.

In addition, to being denied his requests to no longer lead sections in 2.70, Grinnell had been denied pay in the summer of 1992 for designs he had produced, according to Wilson's letter. Eventually, Grinnell was paid after Wilson had advocated on his behalf.

However in the course of filing suit, Grinnell allegedly suffered further discrimination.

"His paycheck was stopped without notice for one year from

July 1994. He was denied unemployment compensation because MIT stated he was still employed," Wilson wrote in his letter.

Grinnell had filed a letter of resignation for one of his two posts that was ignored by the department, according to Wilson's letter.

According to the letter, Grinnell was also falsely accused by Suh of breaking into Mechanical Engineering headquarters to illegally copy his personal record.

Juliet Drennan, a secretary who worked in the headquarters at the time, said that when Grinnell asked for his personal record she allowed him to photocopy it after examining the contents and seeing that none were labeled secret.

"He thanked me and left the office. I had had no orders that the staff were not allowed to look at their own files nor did I ever receive such directives. I had been told very specifically that people were not allowed to look in other people's files. That was scarcely the case here," Drennan said in a letter to Wilson.

"I was really really shocked when I heard about what was happening to Jim at MIT, because I knew/know that much of the basis

of the argument was false. I had been at MIT for five years and change before I moved to the Pittsburgh area. I must say that this dirty-dealing makes me ashamed to have worked so hard for one of the principal players," Drennan told *The Tech*.

Letter alleges Flowers perjury

The letter also alleges that Professor of Mechanical Engineering Woodie C. Flowers "has perjured himself at least four times in order, apparently, to deny justice to a nonfaculty subordinate."

In a signed affidavit filed in the civil suit, Flowers claimed that Grinnell was hired to teach both 2.70 and 2.701 — a claim that Grinnell and Wilson both deny.

Flowers also claimed that he had originated Course 2.70 in 1972 in the affidavit, when in fact the course had been founded in 1970. Flowers did not begin teaching 2.70 until the 1974-75 academic year.

Wilson was prompted to write the letter in order to request that Grinnell's case be arbitrated.

"[Grinnell] has offered to drop his suit against MIT totally if it agrees to take the case to arbitration," Wilson wrote.

Aging Nation Complicates Funding of Social Security

Social Security, from Page 1

have on the young people of today. Unfortunately, according to Capuano, people in their 20s have been shown to be the least likely to vote and become involved in the political process.

"It is vitally important for the college students of America to become aware of the reform options surrounding social security, as it is these people who will be affected by the changes in the system," Capuano said.

"The apathy and lack of knowledge concerning the issue of social security by most college students is striking," Fisher said. Attendance at the forum was fair, but typical of these kind of events held at other college campuses, according to Fisher, who travels around the country talking to students and hosting political discussions.

The speakers also outlined problems facing social security in the future as well as the current solutions being considered by Congress. "The primary concern of politicians, economists, and social security experts is the 'aging' of America. As the United States edges toward the year 2000, the number of people over 65 is dramatically increasing. The fastest growing age group in America is those over 85," Hannon said.

Since the program's inception, the Social Security Administration has been collecting a surplus of funds in order to build a reserve trust fund. The SSA created this trust fund so enough money would be available to provide the baby boomer generation with social security benefits. The SSA will be forced to begin using this reserve

fund in 2013 due to the increasing number of retired Americans. By 2032, the funds in this account will be exhausted.

A number of responses have been mounted by different groups to this impending crisis, but as Capuano said, "There is no single answer to this problem." Some politicians have advocated an increase in the retirement age, but this short-term remedy has been met with significant opposition from special interest groups including the American Association of Retired Peoples.

CDS has education as goal

MIT-CDS organized the forum as part of their mission to increase political awareness on campus. Aaron B. Strauss '02, MIT-CDS co-president, served as master of ceremonies for the forum.

"We held this forum because social security is a hot issue in Congress right now which significantly affects young people," said Areej Hassan '99.

This political forum was not the first organized by MIT's College Democrats. Last year, Scott Harshbarger, a Massachusetts gubernatorial candidate in 1998, and Robert Reich, former U.S. Secretary of Labor, spoke at MIT.

Strauss considers MIT-CDS a fairly active group of about ten core members. "The primary goals of the College Democrats are to educate MIT students about current political topics and encourage them to vote. We are in the process of planning for a voter registration drive in the spring," Strauss said. The group meets monthly to plan for future events and write letters to members of Congress.

Easter 1987, Age 5



Easter 1988, Age 6



Easter 1989, Age 7



Lorien Lea Denham.

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E-mail Campaigning Legalized This Year

UA, from Page 1

Traditionally the class of 2001 has been "one of the more involved class councils," but "a lot of people who have held offices aren't running for reelection," said Pierce. This year is similar to most years, however, in that the lowest interest is in junior offices, and highest for sophomore positions, said Pierce. "There are a lot of freshmen running for reelection," said Pierce. "It's good to see so many freshmen interested," said Pierce.

Policy clarifications

Several changes were made this year in the election code to avoid the ambiguities which encumbered last year's UA elections. This is the first year email campaigning is not restricted. "It's hard to define what's an appropriate email or not," said Pierce. Candidates are therefore allowed to do "anything they wish within Athena rules of use...if candidates want to email an entire dorm without necessarily knowing everyone in the dorm they will do so," said Pierce. "I expect candidates to be pretty careful about what they're sending out," said Pierce, although he "can see toward the end of the campaign, candidates sending wide emails." "The number of signatures a can-

didate may receive is limited to 110 percent of the required number. "The idea is that receiving several multiples of the number is viewed as campaigning," which is not allowed while getting signatures, Pierce said. Eventually the UA may allow people to campaign as early as they wish, but this year early campaigning is still a direct violation of the election code. Pierce added that this year candidates were given a signature form, so they could not "write their platform at the top of the form" or ask for email addresses to compile a campaign list.

Paper ballots to complement web

The web-based voting system that the UA has used in the past two elections will be complemented by paper ballots the following Monday, Pierce and Shen said. Web based voting will last from Wednesday, March 10 to Sunday, March 14; five booths with paper ballots will be set up around campus from about 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on March 15. "We've worked on the online voting... we worked on it for the freshman elections in the fall but there were still a few bugs to work out," said Pierce. The same system will be used for this election, so students will have to type 'add ua' and 'vote' at the athena prompt to bring up the correct version of netscape, he said.

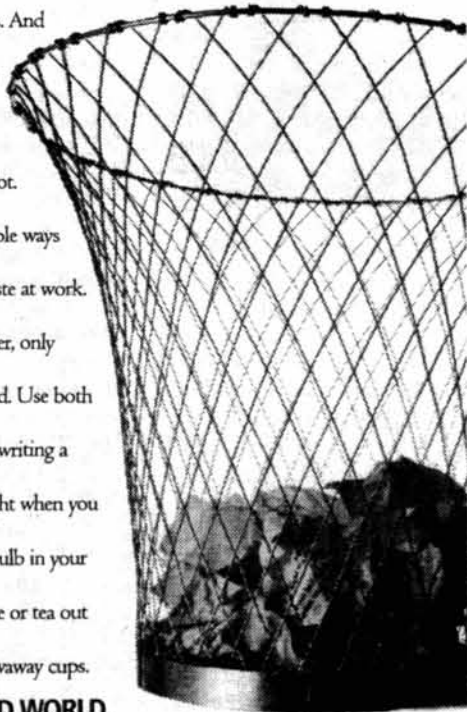
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Drink out of mugs instead of throwaway cups.



The deadline to apply for on campus summer and fall 99-00 vacancies in

family and single graduate student apartments and dormitories is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 1999.

On March 1, 1999 there will be a housing lottery for any fully-registered continuing graduate student wanting on-campus housing for the 99-00 academic year.

Applications are available in Graduate Housing in E32-133, and must be returned by the deadline to the same office. Any questions, call 3-5148.

The Graduate Housing Office will be closed on Monday, March 1, 1999 due to the lottery.

Coop Student Board Election Update

The following student Coop members have been nominated by the stockholders as candidates for the Board of Directors for the 1999-00 academic year.

M.I.T. Undergraduate Students:
Oreoluwa Adeyemi George Berkowski

M.I.T. Graduate Students:
John Hollywood Larry Sass

Harvard Undergraduate Students:
Natalie Carnes Elena Schoenberger
David Nicoll

Harvard Graduate Students:
Carlos Lopez Tiziana Dearing
Carrie Owens

Any student Coop member may still petition to be on the ballot. Petition papers are available beginning Feb. 16 at the customer services desks of any Coop location or at the Member Services Office, 4th floor, main building at the Coop at Harvard Square. M-F, 9 AM-5 PM

For Information Call or e mail:
Allan Powell, 499-2025,
aepowell@thecoop.com

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HTTP://www.thecoop.com

PURIM!

Megilla Readings at MIT Hillel
Monday, March 1, 6:30 p.m.
Egalitarian and Orthodox Readings

Tuesday, March 2, 7:15 a.m.
Orthodox Reading

Purim Celebration
Monday, March 1 7:45 p.m.
Live klezmer music, food, and more

Hamentashen Sale
Friday, February 26 Lobby 10

Purim Baskets
Feb. 23 deadline, March 2 delivery
Order a basket for a friend or colleague
\$1.50 & \$10.00 sizes

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Building W11
For information contact 253-2982
hillel@mit.edu

HAPPY PURIM

SPORTS

Men's and Women's Ski Teams Finish Season at Smith Meet

By Jonathan Shefftz
HEAD COACH

The men's and women's varsity alpine ski teams closed out their regular season February 13-14 at Berkshire East, Massachusetts. The women's team finished seventh in the cumulative season-long team standings, while the top MIT woman took 15th in the cumulative individual standings. The men's team also turned in some strong individual performances, but continued to lag as a team.

MIT competes in the Eastern Collegiate Ski Conference's Osborne Division, which contains the second-most competitive collection of NCAA teams in the Eastern U.S.: Boston College, Plymouth State College, University of

Massachusetts Amherst, Smith College, Babson College, St. Anselm's College, Brown University, Colby-Sawyer College, New England College, and University of Connecticut. Since NCAA skiing competition is non-divisional, skiing is one of the few sports in which MIT competes against Division I and II schools, in addition to its more typical Division III rivals.

Smith College hosted the final regular season race at Berkshire East. The Lady Engineers entered the weekend solidly entrenched in seventh place out of 11 teams, but the men remained mired in last place out of ten teams, despite team finishes as high as sixth this season. Both teams were well prepared for

this final weekend after four days straight of training at the nearby Blue Hills.

Still to be determined, however, was whether captain Brooke Baker '99 would qualify for the regional championships of the Eastern Collegiate Ski Conference (ECSC), the qualifier for the NCAA national championships. Baker would have to finish among the top 15 skiers for the season to qualify. With a small lead over two rival women from sixth-place Smith College, Baker had a fair chance to qualify for the ECSC.

The women skied well in Saturday's short but challenging slalom course, with Baker in 11th, followed by Monica Taylor '01 and Marianne Okal '02. Lisabeth Willey '02 also put together two clean runs. The women's team finished all four of their starters to take seventh place team, ahead of St. Anselm's, Babson, NEC, and UConn. In the individual standings, Baker's took 11th place, but her two rivals from Smith had even better showings, placing the three in a dead heat in qualifying for the ECSC championships.

By contrast, the men's team turned in an assortment of hooked tips, crashes, hikes, and other mishaps for a last place team finish. The only highlights were clean runs by Todd Dumond '00, Sanjay Raman '01, and Jeremy Gerstle '99.

In Sunday's giant slalom, the women's team lost their form and concentration. Baker crashed on the steep top part of the course, broke her ski binding, badly bruised her lower leg, and dashed her hopes of qualifying for the ECSC championships. Next up was Taylor, who leaned in for a brief hip slide within sight of the finish, although she still managed to finish with a respectable time for 33rd place. Okal then failed to negotiate a difficult corridor gate, and had to hike back up to avoid a disqualification. Willey posted a clean run, which helped the team avoid complete disaster to take 10th place, ahead of UConn. Despite the disappointing showing for the day, the women still held on to seventh for the season, and Baker finished 15th in the individual standings to qualify for the EISA championships.

The men's team improved on Saturday's race to turn in their best performances all season. Brett Vasconcellos G tied for 44th, with co-captain Ryan Maupin '00 right behind in 47th. The other three scoring times were contributed by Dumond, Raman, and Jay Fucetola '01. The team took ninth for the day, ahead of UConn. On another positive note, Vasconcellos's earlier 25th place finish in the season placed him in 47th for the cumulative individual standings.

With the alpine regular season concluded, all that remains is Baker's trip to the EISA Championships, to be held at Middlebury College's Snowbowl ski area. The challenging giant slalom race trail features many rolls and knolls unfamiliar to most commercial areas. Another challenge is competition from ski racing powerhouses such as Universities of Vermont and University of New Hampshire, as well as Dartmouth College. Adding to the interest will be the presence of Harvard University. Finally, also of note for the remainder of February is Taylor's crossover to MIT's nordic squads, making her the first MIT skier in many decades to compete during the same season in both the alpine and nordic disciplines.



MIT guard Quincy Scott '00 jumps for the rebound during Saturday's game against Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The Engineers lost 57-62.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Thursday, February 25

Women's Ice Hockey vs. University of Connecticut, 7:00 p.m.

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Saturday February 27

8:00pm

Wang Center

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