

Elections Underway With Focus on Rules

Commission Seeks to Avoid Past Scandals

By Jessica Zaman

A meeting of prospective Undergraduate Association officers set the stage for an election with a stronger focus on campaign rules.

Candidates commented on a distinct change of agenda in this year's meeting. "I noticed there was an increased focus on election rules this time," said Reuben Cummings, a candidate for Class of 2004 president.

Previous election disasters have prompted several reforms. Last year's election controversy would surprise even Florida residents. Everything from bugs in the electronic voting system to campaign controversies plagued the election. In 2000, voting was conducted a total of three times before results were accepted to be valid.

"Past elections have obviously not run very smoothly," said Helen H. Lee '02, current chair of the UA Elections Commission. "We've done a lot to change it this year."

New policy changes include revamping MIT's original voting software, designed by Aaron M. Ucko '00. Lee said the changes MIT students are making in the software

will speed up the tallying process and help fix previous problems.

Other steps have also been taken to make encourage a spirit of "friendly competition," said Jaime E. Devereaux '02, current UA President.

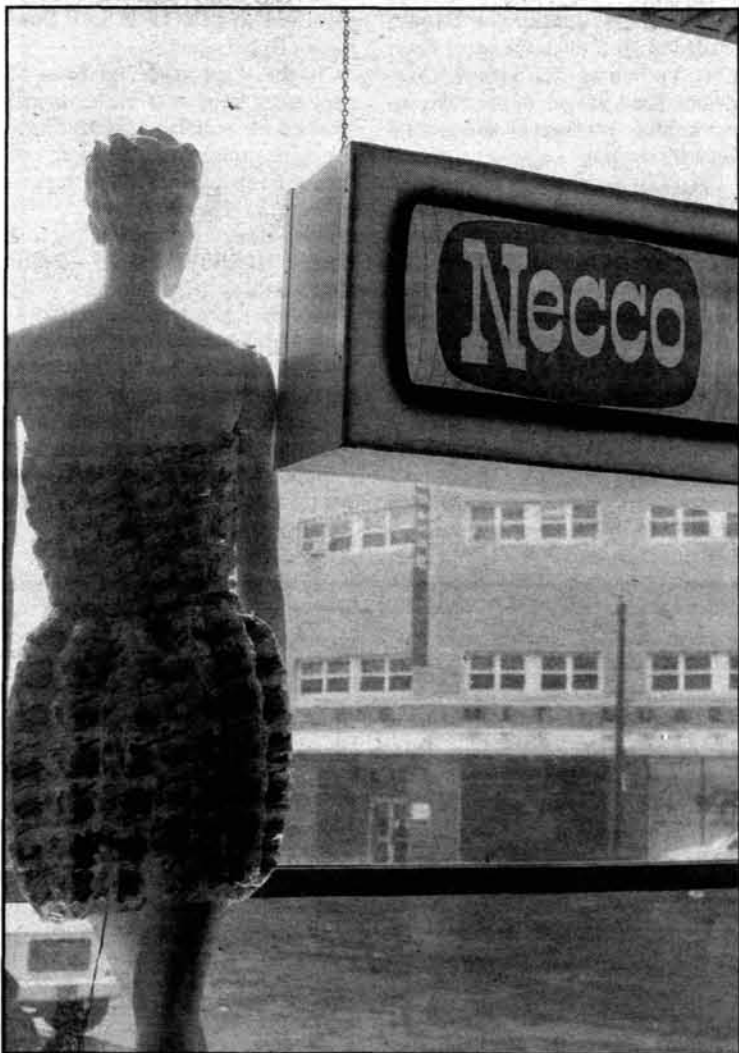
New board to hear complaints

The UA Judicial Board will no longer be the first to hear of UA election controversies. A new Rules Board, composed of three members of the Election Commission, has been established to deal with this area.

"Two years ago, hearing duties were passed to the Judboard to help the commission out," when the commission was overwhelmed, said Victoria K. Anderson '02, speaker of the UA Council. "However, we found that this was unfair, since Judboard hearings carry formalities that are not appropriate to election regulations and a greater number of appeals could not be made."

Steps to prevent regulation problems themselves have also been taken. There has been a greater emphasis on publicity this year, Lee said.

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ERIKA BROWN—THE TECH

The latest rage in Valentine's Day fashion adorns a mannequin at the Necco factory at Massachusetts Avenue and Albany Street. The New England Confectionery Company's Sweethearts Conversation Hearts, which were made into the dress pictured here, have been a trademark item since 1866.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

The Undergraduate Association election meeting on Tuesday was packed with prospective candidates. Current UA officers described guidelines to ensure fair, friendly competition for the upcoming election.

Weak Economy Claims ArsDigita, Makes Arthur D. Little Bankrupt

By Kevin R. Lang

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Out with the old, out with the new. Two companies with MIT roots have fallen on hard times lately — Arthur D. Little, Inc., founded in 1886 by Arthur D. Little 1885, and ArsDigita, co-founded in 1997 by MIT Affiliate Philip G. Green-spun '82.

Arthur D. Little announced on Feb. 5 that it signed an agreement, subject to bankruptcy court approval, to sell the company's assets to an acquisition company managed by Cerberus Capital Management for approximately \$71 million. The company is currently pro-

tested under Chapter 11 bankruptcy laws while it restructures. Arthur D. Little filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 on Feb. 5.

David R. Lampe SM '76, director of marketing and communications for Arthur D. Little, said that "this whole reorganization means that Arthur D. Little will be able to continue."

The company hit hard times in recent years when several initiatives failed, including the planned spin-off and initial public offering of its telecom consulting venture, C-quantial, which was withdrawn in late 2000.

In addition, Lampe said that the company was restructuring its management consulting businesses, "which weren't as profitable as they could be." The company's technology divisions, however, "have actually remained profitable throughout," Lampe said.

Arthur D. Little founded by alum

Arthur D. Little has more than 2,000 employees in 30 countries worldwide, including its world headquarters in Cambridge. The company laid off approximately 400 employees last year, but Lampe said

MIT Companies, Page 19

Hearts, Homework Fill Valentine's Day for MIT

By Qian Wang

STAFF REPORTER

The day of cupids, conversation hearts, chocolate candies and furry stuffed animals is fast approaching.

Feb. 14: Valentine's Day, a day that makes lovers gush and others hurl, will soon be on everyone's mind, like it or not.

Burning the midnight oil

Some MIT students do not have much planned for this Thursday. Complex differential equations, fluid mechanics problem sets and long-winded philosophical essays will be at the heart of many students' Valentines' Day.

"My social psychology study group might be meeting," said Rachana D. Oza '04, looking nonplussed about her evening on the day of love.

Not surprisingly at MIT, she is not alone in her plans to toil away at a desk to complete her assignments. "I'll be studying and working in the lab," said Herman L. Lelie '03 as his friend laughed at his misfortune.

Showing your love

Luckily for many of MIT students and administrators, Valentine's Day means more than problem sets and study sessions. Kale D. McNaney '05 is flying to Florida to visit his girlfriend. Also to pamper his girl, McNaney has bought two tickets to *The Phantom of the Opera*, as well as rented a hotel room in New York for a night in March.

"I just do a continuous stream of nice things," he joked.

Many MIT administrators also have events planned for Valentine's Day. Daniel Trujillo, the associate

Valentine's Day, Page 17

Breakfast Celebrates MLK Day

By Richa Maheshwari

STAFF REPORTER

Political commentator and author Tavis Smiley was greeted by a diverse crowd at the Twenty-Eighth Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Friday morning.

As he approached the podium, Smiley humbly took a moment to comment on the events which preceded him.

"Everything's been said, it's been sung. I don't know how I was expected to run in the grand slam after two or three choirs, Eric, and 45 minutes behind schedule," he said.

The presentations before Smiley spoke were impressive. South Central Mass and Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School Choirs start-

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Seachange
explores
immigration
and America.

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OPINION

Guest columnist Kai-yuh Hsiao discusses the implications of self-policing at MIT.

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WORLD & NATION

Bush Makes a Case for His Brand Of Health Care Reform

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MILWAUKEE

America's health care system is "in need of urgent reform," President Bush said Monday as he laid out an array of principles that he said would provide greater patient choice, reduce costs and expand coverage.

"We must reform health care in America," Bush said in a speech at the Medical College of Wisconsin. "We must build a modern, innovative health-care system that gives patients more options and fewer orders and strengthens the doctor-patient relationship."

But the president offered few new specific ideas. Instead, he blamed lawyers for many of the ills in the system.

Most of the principles that he espoused here enjoy broad bipartisan support in Congress, including a patients' bill of rights, but opinions diverge over how best to achieve those goals.

Among those who leveled a blast at Bush on Monday was Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., who was the president's key congressional ally on education reform.

"For senior citizens, the administration's budget is just another broken promise. Its commitment to prescription drug coverage under Medicare is less than for new tax breaks, less than the Republican Congress supported last year, and far less than is needed to give the elderly the protection they need," Kennedy said in a statement issued in Washington.

U.S. Men Sweep Halfpipe Medals

THE WASHINGTON POST

PARK CITY, UTAH

A new definition of what's cool about the Winter Olympics was created on a snow-covered Utah mountain slope Monday by a trio of America youngsters, who swept the gold, silver and bronze medals in the men's halfpipe competition at the 2002 Winter Games.

Through their gravity-defying acrobatics, the U.S. snowboarding team gave the United States its first Winter Games medal sweep in 46 years, doubled the U.S. medal total — from three to six — and vaulted their country nearly halfway toward its all-time Winter Games medal total (13) on just Day 4 of these Games.

Afterward, the three described their feat in typical snowboard-ese. Ross Powers — at 23 a grizzled veteran of Olympic snowboarding — won the gold medal, improving on the bronze he took at Nagano in 1998, when snowboarding made its Olympic debut.

"To have the guys up here is just awesome!" Powers said, flanked by silver medalist Danny Kass and bronze medal winner J.J. Thomas. "I'm not dissing on any other countries, but to have the three of us do well today where it really matters is huge for all of us."

President Keeps Low Profile In Campaign Finance Battle

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

As the House battle on campaign finance reform legislation starts Tuesday, frantic Republican leaders are warning their troops that the future strength of the GOP is at risk if the bill passes.

But a key party warrior has been missing from the battlefield: President Bush, who has been keeping a low profile in the House's pivotal debate on limiting special interest contributions to politics.

Bush is under pressure from House Republican leaders to change his posture and help their effort to kill or cripple the bill. If Bush stays on the sidelines, they warn, the bill is far more likely to pass, aided by substantial defections from Republican ranks.

But Bush has made no secret of his desire to steer clear of an issue that has bedeviled him since it was central to his presidential primary fight against Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., a leading proponent of the bill coming before the House.

Rumsfeld Seeks Investigation Of Mistreatment Allegations

By Esther Schrader

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

U.S. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has asked for an investigation into allegations that a group of Afghans mistakenly taken prisoner by U.S. Special Forces last month were beaten and mistreated, but senior Pentagon officials said Monday that so far there is no evidence that such abuse took place.

At a news conference at the Pentagon, officials also defended a CIA missile strike last week near Zhawar Kili in eastern Afghanistan amid reports that civilians had been killed.

The strike by a Hellfire missile from an unmanned Predator drone hit its intended target, the officials said. The people killed were "not innocents," said Rear Adm. John D. Stufflebeem, deputy director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The reports are part of an increasing drumbeat of accounts of misfires and mistakes by U.S. forces in Afghanistan. Pentagon

officials say the situation in Afghanistan is increasingly murky, with former Taliban and al-Qaida fighters switching sides or seeking to blend into the general population.

"To say that conditions in Afghanistan are confusing is an understatement, you know," said Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke. "And it's impossible to say these people are on this side and these people are on that side. People are on multiple sides, and they switch sides. So there is a great deal of confusion about information in general. And we do always try to get to (the) truth."

Local officials in Afghanistan say there is a growing body of evidence that the United States has, in several cases, captured or killed the wrong people.

A U.S. investigations team trekked up to the mountainside site of the Hellfire missile strike late Sunday and left Monday morning, taking with them small pieces of human flesh and bone, communications equipment, documents, small weapons and ammunition, defense

officials said.

A report in *The Washington Post* on Monday said people killed in the strike had been peasants collecting scrap metal. U.S. officials have said they believed the targets were al-Qaida members, in part because of their Arab-style dress.

"We do not know who the individuals were at the strike site," Stufflebeem said. "The indications were there that there was something untoward that we needed to make go away."

Stufflebeem did not elaborate, citing concerns about the secrecy of intelligence operations. He said forensics experts plan to conduct DNA testing on the human remains to try and determine the identities of those killed. U.S. officials reportedly have collected DNA samples from members of Osama bin Laden's family.

The CIA continues to believe that the missile attack "was a good strike on an appropriate target," a U.S. intelligence official said, although there is no hard evidence suggesting bin Laden was among those killed.

Israel Continues Gaza Strikes After First Use of New Rocket

By Mary Curtius

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israel launched a second day of retaliatory airstrikes on the Gaza Strip on Monday, blasting a security compound housing imprisoned Islamic militants as politicians debated how best to respond to the Palestinians' first use of a new rocket.

Right-wing ministers clamored for the government to oust Yasser Arafat and destroy his Palestinian Authority. But Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer backed away from earlier warnings that Israel would respond massively to the use of the Kassam-2 rocket.

"I said that it would be hard to put up with this," Ben-Eliezer said of the rockets, whose range of three to five miles makes them a threat to cities in the heart of Israel's coastal plain. "The meaning of this is that we'll try to deal with this in various

ways — intelligence, interception and operations (to destroy suspected missile factories)," Ben-Eliezer told a committee of the Knesset, Israel's parliament.

The target Monday was a large, walled quarter in the heart of Gaza City known as the Saraya compound, headquarters of the Palestinian military intelligence and general security service.

Apache helicopters carried out Monday's first strike shortly before noon as the morning shift of the school day ended and the afternoon shift began. Hundreds of schoolchildren were on streets crowded with pedestrians when the first missiles slammed into the compound.

Officials at Shifa Hospital in Gaza City reported that 37 people were injured in the attacks.

Hundreds of angry Gazans converged on the compound and demanded the release of prisoners

kept there, many of them affiliated with the militant Islamic group Hamas. Palestinian police fired in the air to drive the mob back. Police sources later said they moved some prisoners to keep them safe from further Israeli attacks.

In the West Bank, relatives of prisoners held in a Hebron jail stormed the building Monday, freeing an unknown number of detainees. Palestinian police reportedly did not resist the assault.

The airstrikes in Gaza were a familiar Israeli response to a Palestinian attack; the same security compound has been hit before. Although Monday's strikes were unusual because they were carried out midday, they were not the sort of dramatic, conflict-transforming retaliation that Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Ben-Eliezer had said would come if the Palestinians dared to use the Kassam-2.

WEATHER

Persisting Under Shifting Patterns

By Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

According to the National Weather Service, last month was the fifth-warmest January on record; December was the second-warmest on record (the records extend back to 1872). February appears to be following this trend as well. Why has it been abnormally warm in New England lately? There is no easy answer, but it should be noted that these local trends do not necessarily reflect a global trend.

In fact, December and January saw abnormally cold air over most of Europe, and several countries are still suffering under an awful drought. These anomalies are results of a shifted global weather pattern. The jet stream has not been tracking and developing storms over the Northeast in the classical patterns that it has in recent years' memories. Also, there is a large, strong stationary region of high pressure over the northern Atlantic Ocean which is blocking the upper level flow and causing most of Europe's problems. It is easy to see the causes; it is difficult to explain them.

Yet we persist here in New England. A strong low passed out to sea last night clearing the stage for a large region of high pressure to settle in to the region. We will have clear nighttime skies allowing for chilly overnight temperatures — and frost, were it not so dry. The large pressure gradient between our high and a strong nearby low that will pass to our north tomorrow will make for some strong gusty winds. It looks like we should remain dry until possibly the weekend.

Extended Forecast

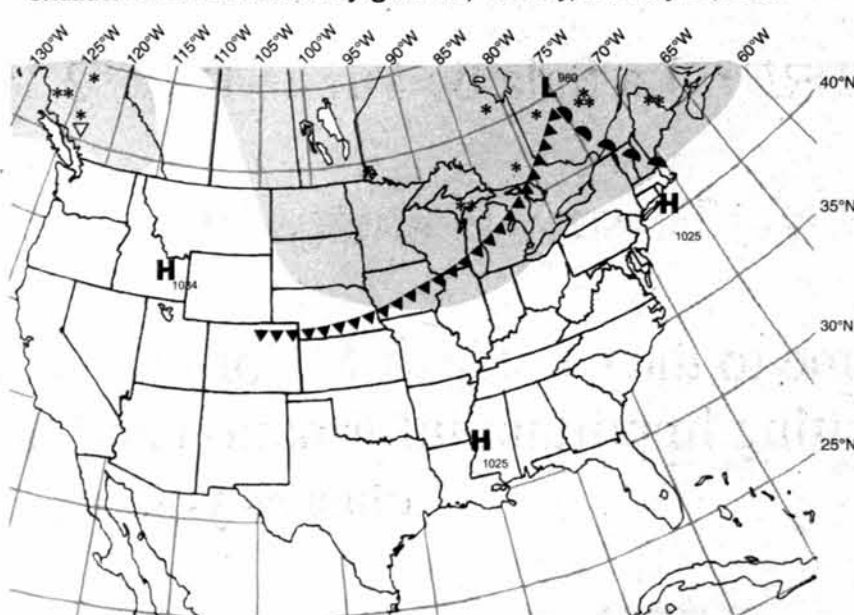
Today: Partly cloudy. Strong southwesterly breeze. Daytime high of 40°F (4°C).

Tonight: Scattered clouds. Continuing winds. Low just below freezing.

Wednesday: Clear skies. Dry air. Strong, gusty winds. High 35°F (2°C), low 15°F (-9°C).

Thursday: Partly cloudy. Lighter winds. High in the mid to upper 30s F (2° to 4°C). Low in the mid 20s F (-5° to -3°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, February 12, 2002



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

Compiled by MIT
Meteorology Staff
and The Tech

Lawmaker Challenges Denials By Former Enron CEO Skilling

By Susan Schmidt
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The sworn testimony of the bankrupt Enron Corp.'s former chief executive came under attack again Monday as the company's former chairman prepared to cite his constitutional protection against self-incrimination and refuse to testify at a Senate hearing Tuesday.

Rep. John D. Dingell, D-Mich., ranking minority member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, challenged Jeffrey K. Skilling's denial last Thursday that he knew of any arrangements at the company "designed to conceal liabilities or inflate profitability."

Dingell sent a letter to Skilling

asking about his attendance in October 2000 at a partnership meeting of LJM Investments, a key Enron-related partnership run by Andrew S. Fastow, the company's chief financial officer. The disclosure last fall of losses in two LJM partnerships and another partnership run by Fastow triggered a loss of confidence by investors that led to the company's bankruptcy.

A document prepared for the partnership meeting shows that LJM was created to "accelerate projected earnings and cash flow" to Enron. It cited large expected profit margins from LJM investments with Enron.

The document also said Enron needed to bring in equity through

transactions with LJM because its energy and communications investments did not generate earnings or cash flow in the early years. Among the investors listed are Merrill Lynch & Co., General Electric Capital Corp., Morgan Stanley and 11 other institutional investors. Individual investors were not listed in the documents.

A report by a special committee of Enron's board said the company's dealings with two LJM partnerships "resulted in substantial recognition of income and the avoidance of substantial recognition of loss."

Dingell said the "extraordinary document" raised questions about "the nature and extent" of Skilling's knowledge.

States With Most Death Sentences More Likely to Overturn Verdicts

By Henry Weinstein
LOS ANGELES TIMES

A disproportionately high percentage of death sentences tend to be reversed in states where death verdicts are rendered the most often, according to a comprehensive study to be released Monday.

All but one of the 10 states with the highest death-sentencing rates had overall reversal rates that exceeded 68 percent — the national average — according to the review of more than 5,000 capital cases covering a 23-year-period by Columbia University law Professor James S. Liebman, assisted by criminologists and statisticians.

"Heavy and indiscriminate use of the death penalty creates a high risk

that mistakes will occur," said Liebman, who has argued on behalf of defendants in several death penalty cases at the U.S. Supreme Court.

The study is being released at a time when support for capital punishment has diminished significantly in national polls, with legislation being introduced at the state and federal level to reform the death penalty process and even two Supreme Court justices — Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg — having recently expressed doubts about whether the process is working fairly.

In a speech last summer, O'Connor said, "if statistics are any indication, the system may well be allowing some innocent defendants to be

executed." Ginsburg said last April that in dozens of instances where she has reviewed requests for stays of executions on the high court, she has yet to see one "in which the defendant was well represented at trial."

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., who has introduced a package of capital punishment reforms, says Liebman's study shows that "the death penalty is riddled with errors and inconsistencies nationwide."

"When the legal machinery of the death penalty is broken, practice does not make perfect," said Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Leahy, commenting on the study's finding that states which render the most death verdicts per 1,000 homicides appear to be the most error-prone.

Archives Employee Charged With Selling Stolen Artifacts

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

It began when an astute federal worker was shopping on eBay and came across a treasure that should not have been for sale anywhere, much less in an Internet auction house: a pardon signed by an American president.

It ended Monday when a veteran employee of the National Archives was charged with stealing priceless historical treasures and selling them on the open market, including a pardon signed by Abraham Lincoln and an autographed photograph of Neil Armstrong on the moon.

Shawn P. Aubitz, 45, had worked at the archives' downtown Philadelphia branch for 14 years, and part of his job was to sift through some of its 120 million pieces of history for display in rotating exhibits, authorities said.

But prosecutors allege that he spent three years pilfering as many as 100 American artifacts and selling them for an estimated \$100,000, in what is believed to be the first case of employee theft in the archives' 68-year history.

The precise number of documents taken is not known and some of the items that were sold have not been recovered, said Patrick L. Meehan, U.S. attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania.

"This is not just value measured in dollars — these were authentic documents, the actual records of events that were part of our American history, and when they are removed from the collection the value is incalculable," Meehan said. "This wasn't just a crime against the National Archives. This was a crime against future generations and their access to American history."

New Visual System Discovered

THE WASHINGTON POST

Scientists have discovered another circuit that the eye uses to communicate with the brain.

Previously, the only cells known capable of translating light into electrical impulses were the well-known rods and cones in the retina.

But two teams of researchers at Brown and Johns Hopkins universities, studying rats and mice, showed that so-called retinal ganglion cells are sensitive to light and connect with the superchiasmatic nucleus, a part of the brain that acts as a 24-hour body clock, the researchers reported in the Feb. 8 Science.

Researchers assume the cells are also present in human retinas, and could help explain how blind people still have their biological clocks reset by being exposed to light.

"It is a visual system that runs parallel to the one we have been thinking about all these years," Brown neuroscientist David M. Berson, one of the researchers, said in a statement released last week.

2002 CHOICE OF MAJOR FAIR

WHO:

CLASS OF 2005 and Undeclared Students!!

WHAT: Associate Advisors and departments giving first hand information about all majors.

WHERE: La Sala de Puerto Rico, 2nd floor of the student center

WHEN: Tuesday February 19th, 1-4pm

Come to the Choice of Major Fair with some friends and have a great time getting important information and talking to students that have taken the classes you want to know about.

RAFFLE PRIZES FOR THOSE THAT ATTEND!!!!

A Matter of Trust

Guest Column
Kai-yuh E. Hsiao

In reading about the situation on Fourth West at East Campus last week, I noticed a disturbing quote; the hall chair said that "MIT was disappointed that some students on the hall knew the marijuana plant existed and did not report it to administrators" ["Fourth West, MIT Working to Avoid Future Incidents," Jan. 30].

To give the benefit of the doubt, no administrator was named as the source of this disappointment, so I have no fingers to point. But what the statement implies bothers me greatly. It suggests that some portion of the administration expects that members of the MIT community should police each other.

This is silly. This is tantamount to being expected to call the police when your friends are speeding. It never happens. It doesn't even matter if your friend is doing 120 in a 35 zone. You might tell him to be careful and slow down. But calling in the authorities on your friends simply doesn't happen, not to mention the adverse effects it would have on your own life. Community self-policing isn't going to work. People haven't complied in the past, and they aren't going to start now.

Lately, I can see that three potentially con-

flicting values are at work in the student life-related offices of MIT. On one hand there is an emphasis on building community, on the other is an emphasis on improving mental health, and on the third hand there is an emphasis on staying clear of legal difficulties.

However, expecting students and members of the MIT community to blow the whistle on each other ultimately furthers none of these goals. It even hinders an additional goal, which is to develop an environment where students, most of whom are already legally adults, can complete their maturation into responsible members of society.

One of the cornerstones of any community is trust. If I cannot trust my living group to respect my privacy, to allow for my personal development, and indeed to help me sustain the sanctity of my lifestyle, then I will see little reason to remain part of that community. I will retreat into my room, allowing no glimpses into my personal space. Furthermore, even if anything I do also happens to present a danger to myself or

others, it will go unseen by anyone in my environment. Now, which situation is more dangerous, one in which danger is present and is exposed to at least the judgment of those nearby, or one in which the danger is hidden outright?

So, let's say students calling the cops (or just calling in the administration) on each

which looks all good until something inevitably pops up out of the woodwork and all hell breaks loose, all over again.

On a realistic level, the best I believe MIT can hope for is that students simply help each other. If people do things that are dangerous, then MIT should learn to trust the judgment of the students around them to keep the danger from getting out of hand. Indeed, it might be possible for administrators to meet personally with students and help shape their judgment. As in my speeding example above, if your friend is speeding, you might point out that it's dangerous and that he should slow down. But if you call the cops on him, you can bet he'll still speed when he gets his license back. But none of your friends will ever

If I cannot trust my living group to respect my privacy, to allow for my personal development, and indeed to help me sustain the sanctity of my lifestyle, then I will see little reason to remain part of that community. I will retreat into my room, allowing no glimpses into my personal space. Now, which situation is more dangerous, one in which danger is present and exposed, or one in which the danger is hidden outright?

other became the norm. This pretty much precludes any possibility of having a thriving community. It certainly destroys any possibility of people reaching out to others to help maintain their emotional health. And what's even funnier is, it will even further promote the hiding of illegal activities,

drive you anywhere anymore.

Thus, an open community that engenders trust is worth far more than a fearful community that doesn't. The kind of enforcement attitude displayed by the administration is not going to solve any problems. I can already envision students' interactions shifting from "Dude, lay off the smack a little, you've had enough," to, "Hey, close that in your room and make sure nobody can see, okay?" — except when they have a chance to get people they don't like in big trouble. Then you've potentially opened up a can of worms into a world of harassment and subtle discrimination.

Unless, of course, MIT is trying to teach its students to be really damn good at hiding things, which I can't rule out, but I don't think it will help the overall environment around here. In fact, I for one would really like it if the administration would meet and decide on a set of goals and values for MIT to pursue, and then pursue them consistently. And to tell the students, so they know just what to expect and how they can fit into the plan.

Yes, a student was caught with a plant. Yes, the student was punished. I have no objections with that part. Beyond that, though, the mere prospect of punishing the entire floor for the actions of one student violates some of the founding principles of our nation's legal system. And the expectation that students police each other, barring imminent danger to themselves or others, is simply a bad idea.

There are a number of conflicting values at work around here nowadays. I think it would benefit all of MIT if people would be careful to check their decisions to ensure that they *realistically* improve MIT's stated values. As with all the other student life difficulties in the past god-knows-how-many years, engendering trust between students, and between students and administration, would go an incredibly long way towards improving all aspects of life on campus.

Kai-yuh E. Hsiao is a graduate student in the Department of Media Arts and Sciences and a former president of East Campus.



We're No Experts On Shin

W.S. Wang

While I hesitate to criticize the words with which another expressed his opinions, I must take exception to the comments made by Peter Jung '01 in his guest column ["Unfair Attacks on Shin," Feb. 8]. I am willing to show "some freaking respect" to his thoughts on the Shin lawsuit and I might even agree with some of his points, but his attempts to iterate and strengthen these points only made me cringe and shudder.

He suggested that Perlner's and Salib's "ignorance of such issues as being Asian-American" is a reason for their position on the case. He then proceeded to assume the role of an enlightened Asian-American culture authority and educate the ignorant masses on what it means to be an Asian-American. How ironic, that the although he suspects his assertions of being bad generalizations, he is not deterred from making them.

Being an Asian-American myself, I certainly don't appreciate his presumptuous perpetration of insidious stereotypes that have plagued Asians in the U.S. for generations. "The Shins look pretty hardcore"? Given that they were discussing their daughter's death and the events surrounding that tragedy, did

Mr. Jung still expect them to exude that Brady Bunch brand of happiness and warmth? "Communication is often reduced to updates on the children's latest achievements"? Is Mr. Jung such an "enlightened skeptic" himself that he refuses to believe Asian parents do indeed care about their children's physical and emotional, rather than just academic, well-being?

can parents and delineates a bleak scenario of impasse in the intergenerational relationships, he is only exacerbating the very misunderstandings which he laments.

Moreover, I found some of Jung's tangential musings to be somewhat "incoherent and irritating." Unless he was living under the proverbial rock, he should know that there was plenty of outrage specifically

addressing the issues of personal and parental responsibility after the Krueger aftermath. More importantly, why should that case be of concern to him when trying to understand this entirely different situation?

He is also convinced that no school has as many "messed-up kids" as MIT does when calling for a larger Medical Center staff. Is it

really constructive to belittle the mental and emotional state of the student body? I'm sure that those suffering from depression or other emotional problems with whom Jung purports to empathize would not relish the glibness with which he characterizes them.

Jung decided to address Salib's claim regarding public opinion by citing O.J. and

"The Shins look pretty hardcore"? They were discussing their daughter's death and the events surrounding that tragedy. Did Mr. Jung still expect them to exude that Brady Bunch brand of happiness and warmth?

He was much more accurate when stating that "If her parents knew how deep her problems ran, they would have done everything they could to relieve the pressure and stress on their daughter." "Think Christians and 'God,' Old-Testament style"? Pardon my theological inadequacies, but I simply don't get the idea. Frankly, when Mr. Jung vilifies Asian-Ameri-

Rodney King. Can you say counter-examples to this? How about admitting that public opinion is a force, but effectively questioning its influence for this specific case?

I suspect that Jung actually wanted to convey a sensitive, sympathetic view on the Shin matter, but did he? Although his column is titled "Unfair Attacks on Shin," Jung himself ostensibly attacks Shin's choice with a holier-than-thou attitude by stating that he'd want his parents to know if he wanted to hurt himself. The use of the callous phrase "decides to bite the dust" to describe such a grave ordeal did not help his cause either.

Most of all, his flippant use of language throughout the column and worse than bad generalizations again dehumanize and obscure the real tragedy. As for me, I know this column will be viewed as having the same flippant air as his and perhaps you will be just as offended by mine as I was by his. However, I was compelled because of the loathsome ways with which people have attempted to "expertly" deconstruct Shin's psyche or this case. I recognize I don't know enough about this complex situation to make anything close to a judgment and most likely, I never will. If Jung really had no intentions of playing the "blame game," then I certainly agree with him.

A Look at Color-Blindness

Philip Burrowes

Most of us have been taught that, ideally, all institutions should be "color-blind." Otherwise, they would be perpetrators of racism, attaching significance where there should be none. It seems a worthy hope at first glance, and appeals especially well to the notion of opportunity which this nation has somehow come to represent.

Yet no doubt most of us have also heard requests for extreme sensitivity to race. Without such vigilance, the special needs of disadvantaged groups may be too easily overlooked. Considering how much we overlook domestic and international problems, this desire may seem understandable, but doesn't it preclude us from attaining "color-blindness"? Does the inherently idealistic nature of the former make the practicality of latter more obvious, or should we always strive for the best?

You might care more right now about why "color-blind" is in quotes (in wish case you're way too into this article but that's forgivable). Okay, it's a setup; the hope for "color-blindness" is demonstrably foolish. As with any physical characteristic, skin tone elicits a response from the viewer. Even if preconceptions of intellectual capacity, morality, etc. were not linked to complexion, there would remain the simple superficial preferences that all humans possess.

While the obsession with lightness which seems to appear in every culture (every one that sends women to international beauty pageants, anyway) may become merely a matter of individual perception, the perceptions would still exist. Hair color, for example, becomes less important to life every day, but there will always be those gentlemen that — for whatever reason — prefer blondes.

Color and race are not the same thing, however, as the billions of people with vari-

ous shades of brown skin can attest to. The point of that digression was to illustrate an incorrect assumption both sides are prone to make; some things cannot be ignored and some matters do not any extra attention. In other words, the philosophies are not mutually exclusive.

For example, they support each other on the issue of racial profiling. Whether for the purpose of identifying a specific individual or targeting a group with a high proportion of suspects, searching for criminals on the basis of race will turn up law-abiding citizens as well. Those who espouse racial sensitivity can oppose this because it will make individuals feel mistrusted. Proactively racially-blind individuals — those who make a concerted effort to overlook it — would oppose the race-based process of profiling. One side is afraid of the ends, the other can never justify the means.

Being at an institution of higher learning, our first question could concern how either side reacts to affirmative action. Immigrants may wonder how this meshes (or conflicts) with U.S. immigration policy. Let's not be so selfish here, though; how about a topic which affects everyone (and is less dependent on individual characteristics — like one's own race — that may easily skew the issue)?

Race-based hate crimes are something which, when most egregious, cannot be ignored but at the same time may be paradoxically exacerbated by increased attention. Perpetrators can easily gain an impact from increased media exposure, yet to treat them as any other criminal ignores the natural effect they have on others. The question is, does giving them stiffer penalties depending on their intent (assuming that we can determine intent beyond a reasonable doubt) aid either the cause of the race-blind or the race-sensitive?

Here it seems relatively obvious that there is a split between the two. Race-blind

individuals would seek to mitigate the fear a crime can create by overlooking the racial characteristics of culprits and victims; the fewer people that know who did what, the less cause a person has to feel especially threatened. If this approach seems unprecedently foolhardy, realize that it is indeed practiced within some foreign news media, as well as domestically at times of war (both for purposes of secrecy and to keep support of military action high).

Sensitivity proponents, however, are all for increased penalties for hate crimes. Like the rationale for capital punishment, not only does a hate crime demand harsher punishment, but there must be a deterrent from letting such events happen again. Unlike capital punishment, it seems reasonable that someone who believes he can "get away" with targeting certain races would think twice given a stiffer penalty, at least for crimes that would otherwise be misdemeanors (such as theft or simple assault).

Then again, what if the race-blind want to preserve their ideal by prosecuting on the basis of intent, thereby using someone's already preconceived notions against him? Or what if, in an effort to counteract the effects jury biases can create, the race-sensitive seek to censor all mentions of race in court cases? It is not clear which way either side will go, despite their clear fundamental objectives.

Even if you accept either philosophy in general terms, may have overriding concerns during specific events. We haven't delved considerably into the constitutionality of either conception, for example, which is often the principle argument used by detractors of *de jure* race-sensitivity. In any case, not everybody falls into either category, as many lack personal reasons to ever consciously consider race. Maybe we all should, maybe not, but it must be realized that the options are neither obvious nor always distinguishable.

The World's Golf Center

Michael Borucke

In a one-mile stretch of a certain street in my town, there are 19 car dealerships, each with their own car lot. When you think about it, it's a rather impressive sight — one solid mile of cars. It's also quite representative of a town whose water towers boast Orland Park as the "World's Golf Center." Yes, I grew up in the suburbs. Having just visited for the holidays, I thought I'd share some observations of my hometown. I've left out plenty in the following description, but the salient characteristics have been included, in my opinion.

What I find perhaps most peculiar on trips home to Orland Park, Illinois, is the lack of people actually outside. Driving down my subdivision, I see house after house with an SUV in the driveway, perfectly manicured landscaping and pesticide-laden lawns, but no people. Sure, there are people on the golf courses, people driving and walking from their cars to the stores, but the signs of intelligent life apart from this are few and far between.

There is no poverty in my town; accordingly, there is little crime. On a certain Web site that rates the relative crime level of any town in the nation, Orland Park ranks a very safe zero. This apparent sense of safety, along with the relative opulence that is the white affluent suburb, has ushered into Orland the latest in suburban living — the gated community. After all, shouldn't the rich have the freedom to fence themselves into only the safest neighborhoods?

If there were one idea that best exemplifies my town, that idea would be the mall. We have got two of them, in fact. Practically next door to each other, these gargantuan edifices, these bastions of commerce, these hallmarks of civilization were built upon what was previously farmland, which in turn was once occupied by buffalo and Native Americans. The indigenous society may be gone, but the malls and surrounding stores now provide everything today's middle-class nuclear family could want.

You've already heard about the car lots (it's required that everyone have at least two cars), so there should be little surprise that on nearly every corner is a gas station. Those corners lacking gas stations or automotive centers invariably have a Walgreens (read: CVS). One store near my house was built over the last little section of "undevel-

oped" wetland in Orland. They cut down all the trees, drained the land, moved the resident animal species into the apartments in back of the store (I'm assuming), and planted exotic saplings around the store's perimeter. I guess the suburbs really are environmentally friendly.

Indeed, there is every indication that the man-made cancer known as urban sprawl has found a willing host in Orland Park. We've got your Wal-Marts, K-Marts, Shop Marts, Stock-Up Stores, and Warehouse Clubs. For the more "alternative" tastes there are World Markets, StarBucks, Borders, etc. We've got 50 million McShits serving billions and billions everyday; just under half that number of Murder King's and Taco Hells. The number of movie theatres has dropped while the number of

from old growth forests.

Of course my town isn't special in this regard; the ubiquity of these stores in the suburbs and really everywhere in society has become the norm. This is partly because the average citizen doesn't really care how products are produced. In the suburbs I believe this apathy is much greater. A Trader Joe's recently opened in Orland, and it will be interesting to see if a socially conscious store can compete with the rock-bottom prices of the superstores.

On a geopolitical level, the suburbs have removed an influential section of American society — the predominantly white, middle-class — from the real world — the world of increasing disparities in wealth, of war, of crime and poverty, of environmental degradation. Sure the suburbanite knows these problems exist (they have TV don't they?), but they exist somewhere else where they are someone else's responsibility. So it's not that the suburbs render people impotent to affect change; the suburbs simply support apathy to a remarkable extent.

More and more, I think we're seeing that the suburbs are no longer a safe haven from the problems of the rest of the world. I know personally that the suburbs are not immune to the national trend of the downsizing of the middle class. Suburban high schools, including my own, are seeing more of a gang presence. Columbine and other such school shootings remind us of the violence that can pop up anytime, anywhere. And there will inevitably come a point when the suburbs are no longer rich enough, to send their pollution away to poorer towns.

One of the more popular justifications for the white flight phenomenon is to secure a safe environment in which to bring up children. While the suburbs may not be as safe as they once were, as suggested above, this seems a reasonable excuse for those who can afford it. My problem with this though, is that the kids are likely to grow up with messed up values. Do suburban children grow up with a strong sense of community, a sense of responsibility to take care of fellow humyn beings or of sustainable living? Or will they learn how to run up credit card debt and drive everywhere in their monstrous SUVs? Of course, as a product of the suburbs myself, I might be an example of the opposite, someone who came to resent the excess and isolation of suburban life. Well, whatever.

MIT, PhD, ZZZZZ

Akshay Patil

Sometimes people ask whether MIT is worth the high price of tuition we pay. What do we really get out of the time we spend here? Is there one ability that every student walks away with? A tool that will allow them to achieve great things in life? The answer is obviously yes.

As I embark on my fourth term, here at the Institute that allows us to spell naughty words with a *v* instead of a *u*, I have come to realize that there really is something that we all have when it comes time to walk off into the sunset. There really is a fundamental skill that any MIT student must learn in order to survive their four (or more) years. This is, of course, the ability to sleep anywhere, at any time, and in any position.

As opposed to other, lesser learning disciplines, the skill of sleep is rigorously taught from the very moment as student steps on campus. Freshmen are given what we like to call "weeding out" classes — classes taught in 26-100. After a semester of hard, wooden, ergonomically-incorrect chairs, most freshmen are ready to pack their bags and run home to their soft, supple beds.

It's a tough ordeal, but those that are able to slumber through it can look forward to a demanding, but more comforting undergraduate education. After surviving 26-100, most students are promoted to easier seating situations such as those found in 10-250. Sure, legroom is still scant and it's easier for the lecturer to catch you dozing off, but the seats have cloth on them. Those who have yet to be hardened by their years at MIT can testify to the ecstasy they experienced when they discovered that their butt cheeks would no longer be subjected to bare, unyielding lumber.

As the years progress, the ordeals become easier. I'm sure we all remember the pure titillation that washed over us the first time we entered 6-120. Oh, to be an upperclassman and take classes in that temple of the bottom!

But we must remember that 26-100 and 10-250 are only the General Institute Requirements here at MIT. Some departments require more out of their students. While I can't speak for other departments, in Course VI, students must learn how to sleep in lab or in Athena clusters (hence the distinction between VI-I and VI-III). This is, of course, why all engineers feel superior to management majors. Stupid Sloanies with their "cushions."

Graduate students have it the best. They spend most of their sleeping time in reading rooms and libraries. Instead of hard chairs, they lounge on sofas, snoring gently with research papers strewn about them. Sometimes you'll find undergraduates in a reading room too — seeking refuge in a soft rear receptacle. But these envious undergraduates can partake in this graduate learning only as a "listener;" classes in lecture halls are still mandatory. Only after completing their necessary education can they advance beyond the basics of narcolepsy.

It is in this crucial sleep area of education that I am deeply envious of my roommate. The man is a genius when it comes to falling asleep in the strangest of situations. Often I will find him asleep at his computer, right hand on the mouse, left hand on the keyboard, head tilted to the side, and drool dribbling out of the middle of his mouth — ha ha, I'm kidding, the drool really comes out of the side of his mouth. I know that I have many intense years ahead of me before I can achieve the level of mastery he exhibits.

But when the time comes for me to walk up on that stage and pick up my diploma, I know I'll be ready. I will have the skills needed to sleep on the steps of Killian, in the seats of 26-100, even in the halls of the Infinite Corridor. I will sit there, among my peers, and be confident in estimating that at least thirty percent will be snoring by the end of commencement. Interviewers will see my brass rat, and they will know what I have been through. They will know I've survived the cricks in my neck, the keyboard imprints on my cheek, the circles under my eyes, and the cracks in my coccyx.

It's a tough ordeal, that's for sure, but no one ever said MIT would be easy. And when you emerge from this campus and embark off into the world, know that you are prepared. Whenever adversity should rear its ugly head, you will be able to sleep through it like a pro. No task will ever seem too daunting, no chair too uncomfortable, no bed too lumpy. So keep your chin down, your eyes closed, and your mouth ajar; if MIT has taught us anything, it's that great things come to those who nap.

Whether intended or not, the suburb has evolved into an innocuous, isolated bubble of humanity. My little town is really a microcosm of the biggest problems in America: rampant consumerism and little understanding of how that consumption affects the rest of the world.

screens has increased thanks to the megaplex (when's the new Schwarzenegger coming out?). For the less adventurous, there are five or six video stores in the immediate vicinity to keep people distracted and superficially happy.

Whether intended or not, the suburb has evolved into an innocuous, isolated bubble of humanity. My little town is really a microcosm of the biggest problems in America: rampant consumerism and little understanding of how that consumption affects the rest of the world. The only time the outside world seems to affect the suburbs is when actions in the Middle East affect "prices at the pump." Then it's only a matter of complaining enough until leaders take corrective actions to get prices back down to near a dollar per gallon. My town has many of the most egregious and socially reprehensible corporate stores; Wal-Mart having already been mentioned, is the worst sweatshop abuser. Also vying for the title we have Nike, JCPenney, Reebok, GAP Inc. — pretty much every apparel store uses sweatshop labor today. Home Depot is selling Orland Park lumber

[illegible]

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THE ARTS

THEATER REVIEW

Seachange

The Immigrant Experience

By Amy Meadows

STAFF WRITER

MIT Dramashop

Feb. 14, 15, and 16 at 8:00 p.m.

Kresge Little Theater

Directed by Brenda Cotto-Escalera.

Choreographed by Isaura Oliveira.

Produced by Debora A. Lui '02, Amy V.

Mueller '02, Anand D. Sarwate '01.

With Usman O. Akeju '04, Annamarie

Bautista '02, Ishani R. Das '03, Rani F.

Matuk '02, Kim Khanh D. Nguyen '03, Rosa

Elena Obregon '04, Tawanda C. Sibanda '05,

Melina Smirniou, Hillary B. Stanton '05, and

Chris A. Toepel '03

What does it mean to be an American? What about an immigrant? Does it matter how or when or why you came into the country? Should you be viewed any differently because of the language you speak or your appearance? *Seachange*, Dramashop's "collective theater creation," explores the complex issues surrounding the identity and nationality of American immigrants.

As one performer noted, America is the "melting pot, the beef stew of the world." Indeed, the hundreds of millions of residents of the United States have a diverse heritage: the backgrounds of those involved in the production of *Seachange* reflect this and range from Russian/Polish to Cuban to Lebanese/Jordanian.

Seachange combined these varied elements in an explosion of music, poetry, dance, and drama. Even though the lively production was consistently engaging, it may not be well suited to all tastes. The form is highly creative and abandons most typical structures like plot and temporal narrative. For the first twenty minutes or so, *Seachange* felt aimless and drifting, but as I gradually became more engaged and more interested in the constant themes and ideas, my experience was transformed.

The individual performer's narratives brought home the message about the diverse experiences of immigrants. Each chose to act or tell, along with the other performers, a story about their first or second-hand experiences with immigration into America. Anna V. Bautista '02, for example, imagined writing to her Filipino father who spent years in the American military. Ishani R. Das '03 dramatized trying on a sari and dancing traditional Indian dances. By the end of Das's piece the sari was tied like a super-man cape and she had concluded "me encanta la salsa." Hillary B. Stanton '05 also memorably recre-



Actors explore martial arts and cultural dance themes in a sequence from *Seachange*, a "Collective Creation" that explores the immigrant experience in America through dramatic segments, monologues, and dance numbers. The Dramashop production plays Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Kresge Little Theater.

ated her great-great-grandmother's bootlegging operation during the Depression.

While the experiences of the performers and their families were funny, touching, and filled with both positive and negative emotion, one of the most striking pieces was by Rani F. Matuk '02. Standing in stark contrast to the rest of the play and performers, he played the devil's advocate, angrily demanding action on the topic of illegal immigrants. "We're being ambushed," he challenged. "Are we going to sit around and watch our country rot from the inside or are we going to do something about it?" The language and tone were startling after the fluidity of the previous performances, but his soliloquy was one of the most thought provoking of the night. Do we continue to let immigrants into the country because we are the "melting pot" or do we limit our diversity to those whose ancestors have already come into the country? Like all of the questions raised by the play, there was no

clear answer, only more questions.

Many elements of the production were constantly changing, reflecting the differences between stories and personal experiences with immigration. The live music — mostly percussion, steel drums, and guitar — converted frequently, adapting to the pace of the acting and dance. The lighting, too, went from blue to red and green to other shades of the rainbow. The white screen at the back of the stage as well as the performers' light clothing highlighted the ever-changing lighting.

The production was minimalist, using only that which was immediately available for props and wardrobe "changes." In the beginning, all the clothing and props stood off to one side of the stage, but as they were used, they migrated to the opposite side. The performers offered them to a statue of Yemaya, "the Yoruba mother of the sea and all life that comes from the sea."

Seachange offered more than just its props to the sea goddess; the stories were all anchored by another reference to Yemaya. The inspiration for the show came via a news clip reporting that a boat full of immigrants survived for two weeks on one woman's breast milk. Likewise, Yemaya was described as breast-feeding her children of the sea.

In all, *Seachange* is a creative, fluid, and dynamic production; it combines multiple art forms and styles in a product as rich and diverse as the performers themselves. Although it is not a typical play, *Seachange* is an experience worth having. Gradually, one comes to think about the experiences of those who are new to the United States and how it relates to many of the social and political debates on the topic. Although one of the constant themes is "You have to live in somebody else's country to understand," *Seachange* tries to help its audience to understand.

MUSIC REVIEW

The Chemical Brothers, Remixed Yet Again

Come With Us

By Dana Levine

STAFF WRITER

Come With Us

Chemical Brothers

Astralwerks

By 1999, the Chemical Brothers had hit it big. Although their first two albums, *Exit Planet Dust* and *Dig Your Own Hole*, aroused much more than just a cult following, their third album, *Surrender*, brought their unique electronic sound to the mainstream with such unforgettable (and overplayed) songs as "Hey Boy, Hey Girl" and "Out of Control." Almost overnight, the Chemical Brothers became the next cool thing, and *Surrender* went platinum several times over.

Three years later, the London-based group's fourth original CD (no, DJ mixes do not count), *Come With Us*, has finally hit the market. How does it stack up to their previous releases and the rest of what is out there on the electronic market?

The first thing that jumped out at me when I listened to this album is how polished and smooth the sound is. Everything on the CD sounds as if it has been carefully engineered, remixed, and filtered until only a careful selected subset of frequencies reach the listener's ear. Unlike many electronic albums, which can be somewhat cacophonous at times, this is as close to easy listening as electronic music can get.

The next thing I noticed is that nothing on this album is actually new. Just about everything on the disc is directly or stylistically derived from something that I had heard before, whether one of the group's earlier albums or the work of another artist. Even those passages that weren't immediately familiar came across as being surprisingly similar to some-

thing that I had heard before. Yes, electronic artists tend to sample the work of other artists and pass the products off as something new, and this is even an accepted practice by this point, but this album is an exceptionally phenomenal remix of earlier efforts.

"Come With Us," the album's namesake, follows in the Chemical Brothers' recent tradition of putting the worst song first on the album. It sounds like an experimental session gone awry, much as "Music: Response" did on *Surrender*. "Come With Us" probably should have ended up on the cutting room floor (unless the artists were going for something similar to what "The Art of Noise" did in the mid-90s).

Say "It Began in Afrika," and repeat the syllable "ka" for about five more minutes, insert a few African-techno sounding beats (some of which bear striking resemblance to "Out of Control" from *Surrender*), and you pretty much have the second song on the album. "Hoops" also uses the old Chemical Brothers trick of taking a sample, repeating it for several minutes, and inserting some oddly familiar electronic drum beats. The effect almost worked the first few times, and it is tolerable here, but the Chemical Brothers are precariously close to falling into a stereotypical sound.

"Galaxy Bounce," which follows as a logical successor to the previous song, "It Began In Afrika," is very well mixed, but offers very little in the department of originality. "Star Guitar," track number four, begins as a logical exten-



sion of "Galaxy Bounce," but finally evolves some pleasant beats, segueing into the second major theme of the album. A pleasant voice sings along with the drum beats, smoothing everything out and providing a mellowing effect.

"My Elastic Eye" begins as a demo of the group's drum machines, turning into a pleasant mix that follows from the end of "Galaxy Bounce." The rest of the album continues in this vein, devolving into a quiet, mellow, and surprisingly pleasant techno lullaby. (Is "The State We're In" something other than sobriety?)

And although it isn't what you would expect, the extremely mellow

final four songs are hands down the best of the album. "Denmark," undoubtedly the best song on the album, works into a particularly mellow rhythm near its finale. "Pioneer Skies" continues upon this, and almost reminded me at points of the Beatles' trip masterpiece "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds." "The Test" is also a good song, although it reminds me quite a bit of BT's *ESCM*, which did the organic techno sound somewhat better (although the Chemical Brothers do manage to add something, probably in the form of voiced over lyrics).

Come With Us is not a bad CD, but I'm sure that I have heard better. Although it has everything required of a good album, it somehow lacks that originality that we should all expect. *Surrender* by the Chemical Brothers was a large part of what made me a fan of electronic music, and although this album will appeal to many existing electronic enthusiasts, it is not going to win many new converts.

CONCERT REVIEW

Rufus Wainwright

'Popera' Star Delivers Eclectic, Authentic Music

By Nina Kshetry
and Devdoot Majumdar
STAFF WRITERS

Rufus Wainwright, Teddy Thompson
Avalon Ballroom
Feb. 8, 2002

For a moment, all in a packed house at Avalon could see nothing and hear nothing but opera streaming through the speakers as they awaited the appearance of Rufus Wainwright. As the music receded, out came the members of the band, followed by a cardigan-clad Wainwright.

"Rufus, I love you," shouted a member of the audience.

"Yeah, I love me too," he unabashedly replied, leading into an evening of sass and eclectic music from his first and second albums.

It was the debut concert of his national tour, but Wainwright dismissed it, saying "Yeah, it's kind of a rehearsal." Despite some confusion with the setlist, misplayed notes, and a subtle lack of memorization, the concert remained unscathed and delivered a few hours' worth of musical enchantment.

Over the past four years, critics have dubbed Wainwright's music "popera," shedding light

on his classical background. Not by any stretch of the imagination is he to be confused with the PBS opera types (Charlotte Church, Andrea Bocelli); he's defined his own unique genre — a blend of folk, pop, and opera.

Wainwright performed his entire second album, *Poses*, selected tracks off his first, more sentimental record, *Rufus Wainwright*, and songs from a few movie soundtracks. In all, it was a variegated concert showcasing the different musical innovations characteristic of Wainwright.

The current favorites — "California," "Cigarettes and Chocolate Milk," and "April Fools" — were not missed among Wainwright's large set. "California" was delivered true to CD quality with little improvisation. Keeping to an acoustic guitar, Wainwright and company managed to deliver the pop favorite to an audience awaiting that song.

Another notable landmark in Wainwright's set was his version of "Evil Angel." Recorded, the song is at best subtly sinister. Live, however, Wainwright took a plunge and decided to go Marilyn Manson on the unsuspecting audience. A tapestry of stars shone through Avalon's bleak background as Wainwright commanded a bright blue spotlight. This was lighter music, or



—KEN SCHLES

Rufus Wainwright commanded a bright blue spotlight at Avalon this Friday with his unique blend of musical enchantment.

at least a semi-sarcastic version of it, with Wainwright even striking the occasional Satan-ic rock star pose (with a smile).

Delivering a cover of his father's "One Man Guy," Wainwright managed to stray into the world of folk. Loudon Wainwright III,

Wainwright's father, enjoys quite a bit of his own eminence in Canadian folk circles. What made the performance so unique in this case was in Wainwright's approach to the song. Sharing the vocals of the song with his sister Martha and his guitarist Teddy Thompson, the song came off as more Fleetwood Mac than Rufus Wainwright. Wainwright shared the spotlight with his band members with the intention of recognizing their talent.

As a Valentine's Day treat, one encore song was "April Fools," a favorite from the first CD. Performed quite differently from the recorded version, the band improvised promiscuously. Guitarist Thompson added a riff that accentuated the melody with his electric guitar.

The band was composed of six members including Wainwright. Among the members were his younger sister, and Thompson, the opener from England. Throughout the concert the distinct voices of each of the backup singers could be heard clearly and they added to the fullness of the musical sound in lieu of the typical filler that is hard rock. In particular, Martha Wainwright's voice stood out as being the most evocative, soaring above the rest of the voices. Thompson's opening act was charming because of his impressively strong and versatile voice, and catchy melodies.

While pop music today sees Alicia Keys as its last claim to classical roots, Rufus Wainwright certainly one-ups the sampler of *Moonlight Sonata*. Wainwright, treated the audience to poetic, witty lyrics accompanied by extraordinarily electric tones, a rare combination in music today.

THEATER REVIEW

Proof Proves Itself

Math + Mental Illness + Four Characters = Afterglow

By Devdoot Majumdar
STAFF WRITER

At the Wilbur Theatre through Feb. 17

Written by David Auburn

Directed by Daniel Sullivan

With Robert Foxworth, Chelsea Altman,

Stephen Kunken, and Tasha Lawrence

When a play leaves you with a euphoria — an *afterglow* — diminished only by the dinginess of the subway ride home, you know you've found a winner. Twice now I've had the pleasure of submerging myself in the world and characters of David Auburn's *Proof* and I would repeat the experience in a heartbeat.

On the heels of its successful reign over Broadway, Auburn's psychological snapshot of mad mathematical genius has an extended stay

The engaging plotline appeals to the champions of soap-opera melodrama. Catherine, the seemingly aimless daughter of the math prodigy, eventually must "prove" her own genius to a sister who thinks she has "tendencies toward instability" and a lover who thinks she might be looking for attention.

Altman does justice to the angst-ridden Catherine. Her disarming acting charms the audience with its unguarded wit and sparks of vulnerability. Her once-promising future in mathematics set back by years spent at home nursing her ill father, Catherine must fight a personal war with her own insecurities, symbolized by the magazines strewn across the patio.

Auburn's writing provokes a distaste for Catherine's abruptness and shrewd but unsuccessful attempts at sarcasm. We begin to think either Altman can't act or the writing is just that trite. Gradually, both cases are proven wrong as Altman garners sympathy for Catherine's problems and Auburn's writing overtakes the audience with the afterglow that characterizes the whole play.

Perhaps the grandest of scene stealers, Catherine's sister Claire presents a metropolitan counterpoint to Catherine's intellectual bohemian. A currency analyst, she's the stereotypical New York executive, delivering both comic relief and some much needed maternal blather. Claire is the type to recommend special shampoo that she insists makes her hair healthy — to which Catherine retorts, "Hair is dead."

Her dress suits and bagels-and-coffee demeanor add a nagging but essential component to Auburn's play. Lawrence's portrayal is astoundingly savory, demanding human sympathy for a character who could easily be dismissed as pure vapidity.

One of Catherine's father's grad students, Hal, also plays an intricate role in the story. With academic charm (jokes about *i*, whining about passing his mathematical prime at

25), he manages to seduce Catherine into a position of trust and vulnerability, exposing her to the audience quite in the raw. As Hal, Kunkren seems to have mastered the abrupt awkwardness that typifies the dysfunctional relationship between Hal and Catherine.

Catherine's dead father, Robert, appears in a series of flashbacks and imaginary conversations. Foxworth's gruff sentimentality mimics that of the motorcycle riding, Bible-toting, asymptote-finding math teacher you had in high school, or at least the one I did.

Proof's script is the centerpiece of the experience. Auburn manages to bring reality to characters who would have otherwise flopped into the stereotypical monoliths with which we commonly associate them. With superb acting and directing, *Proof* leaves us with a profound experience that resonates for days on end.



—CHRIS BENNON

Chelsea Altman stars as the angst-filled Catherine in *Proof*.

at the Wilbur Theatre. On its way to Boston, the play, helmed by a sizzling Mary Louise Parker, laid claim to a Pulitzer and a Tony.

Proof is little more than a character study disguised as a simple story. For the duration of his life, Robert (Robert Foxworth) was a gruff, seemingly stolid, and uncompromisingly cynical mathematician. He also "revolutionized" the field twice before succumbing to mental illness.

Catherine (Chelsea Altman), Robert's daughter, lives in solitude after her father's death. Robert is reincarnated as a figment of his daughter's imagination, their relationship typified more by camaraderie than dictation. As his funeral approaches, the breadth and depth of Catherine's psyche is examined through her dialogue with her dead father, her sister Claire (Tasha Lawrence), and one of her father's students, Hal (Stephen Kunken).

EVENT REVIEW

The Boston Wine Expo

A World of Wines to Tempt Your Palate

By Sonja A. Sharpe
STAFF WRITER

11th Annual Boston Wine Expo

Feb. 2 & 3, 2002

World Trade Center Boston

200 Seaport Boulevard, Suite 125

For those of you who were not able to take Professor Hobbs' IAP wine tasting class (*In Vino Veritas*) but still have an interest in wine, the city of Boston offers a great substitute in the form of the Annual Boston Wine Expo. The expo is famous for being the nation's largest consumer wine event, and was held this year from Feb. 2-3 in the World Trade Center Boston.

The Boston Wine Expo is like no other event in Boston. It is a two-day wine extravaganza that includes not only wine tasting, but seminars, chef demonstrations, food specialties, wine accessories, and more. The most popular event in the Wine Expo is the public Grand Tasting, which is held on both Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. Tickets for the Grand Tasting are \$70 for one day (\$60 in advance) and \$92 dollars for both days, and can be purchased online at the Wine Expo's web site.

Although certainly not cheap, the Grand Tasting really lives up to its name. If you have even a remote interest in wine, the entrance ticket is actually a bargain. Over 450 wineries from countries all around the world are represented, lined up in an enormous hall filled with table after table of vintners eager to tempt you with their wines. Sample a bordeaux from France, a riesling from Germany, a chardonnay from California, or even a sauvignon blanc from New Zealand. Champagne and port selections are also offered for those looking for more than just traditional wines. With such a large selection, even the most discriminating oenophile is bound to find something interesting at the expo.

To enhance your wine tasting experience at the Grand Tasting, however, you need to come prepared. You will spend more time tasting and less time waiting in lines if you bring your own bread (a baguette works really well for this) and a bottle of water. While bread and water are provided at the Grand Tasting, the lines are usually long, and they sometimes run out by the end of the afternoon. There is no need to bring a wine glass, though, as one is included in the price of the ticket. You can even obtain a replacement should yours drop to the floor and shatter into a thousand pieces.

Aside from wine, the Grand Tasting also offers a large selection of specialty foods. Cheeses are provided by The Great Cheeses of New England; breads and various dips and spreads are provided by Bread & Circus as well as other vendors. Sample hummus, salsa, honey, pasta sauces, butter and other treats from the many tables that line the perimeter of the hall. There are also cigar, glassware and wine accessory vendors, ready to provide the serious wine enthusiast with every possible wine need, from small wine racks and novelty items to custom designed walk-in cellars. Chef demonstrations are also given throughout both afternoons, providing samples of delicious delicacies to complement the abundance of available wines. So much goes on at the Grand Tasting that it is incredibly difficult to experience everything in one afternoon alone, so, if you can afford it, definitely go both days.

If your pockets are extra deep, the Wine Expo also offers two more formal affairs, complete with music, wine, first-rate meals, and even dancing. The Vintner's Dinner, held on the Saturday evening of the Expo, showcases the vintages of a particular wine with a multi-course dinner. Tickets to this event are \$135 each. If a slightly less formal occasion is more to your liking, the expo also offers a Sunday Brunch, which is a two-hour event accompanied by wine and classical music performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Tickets to this event are \$70 each.

In addition to wine and food, the Boston Wine Expo also offers various seminars on everything from entertaining with wine and spotting bargains to tasting specific wines or those from specific regions. There are even seminars on cheeses and cigars, and how they can complement wine. Tickets for individual seminars range from \$20 to a pocket-emptying \$125 for an Opus One vertical tasting.

The Boston Wine Expo is a fantastic event that should be fun for anyone who has even a passing interest in wine. Some words of caution about the expo are in order, however. Most importantly, you must be 21 to enter, and ID is checked at the door. Also, Massachusetts law prohibits anyone from buying a bottle of wine at the expo. You can not even take a bottle outside if one of the vintners gives you one. Massachusetts state police are present in significant numbers at the event, so do not expect to be too successful if you plan on breaking any of these policies.

That said, the Wine Expo enables you to sample so many wines that you are bound to walk away with a list of fantastic ones that you can legally purchase at any number of liquor stores in the Boston area. If nothing else, the Boston Wine Expo will provide you with a relaxing and entertaining afternoon full of fine wine and excellent fare, and leave you with a broader appreciation for the large variety of wines produced throughout the world.

CONCERT REVIEW

Audra McDonald

Natural Talent, Consummate Skill

By Fred Choi

STAFF WRITER

Ted Sperling, Music Director
Lee Musiker, Piano
Symphony Hall
Feb. 3, 2002

The depth and variety of young Audra McDonald's achievements grow with each new project she undertakes. In less than a decade, following her graduation from The Juilliard School in 1993, McDonald has become the first three-time Tony Award winner under the age of 30 for supporting roles in *Carousel* (1994), *Master Class* (1996), and *Ragtime* (1998). She originated the title role of the challenging musical tragedy *Marie Christine*, a retelling of the myth of Medea written for her by up-and-coming composer Michael John LaChiusa; performed with major orchestras in major venues such as Carnegie Hall and at events such as the London Proms and the Ravinia Music Festival in Chicago; and was recently nominated for an Emmy for her supporting role in Emma Thompson's adaptation of Margaret Edison's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Wit*.

Her latest effort finds her expanding her list of achievements yet again. McDonald is touring the nation to support her upcoming album, a celebration of generally optimistic music dedicated to her new daughter.

As evidenced by the impressive list of her achievements, McDonald clearly has staying power. Her performance at Symphony Hall exemplified the work that has left critics and audiences alike eagerly anticipating her next move. The program showcased her technically virtuosic, thoughtful, and stirring interpretations. The 19 songs she performed with a 14-piece big band were a survey of music from the late 1920s to the early 1950s, garnished with a few contemporary songs. McDonald herself demonstrated her strong artistic integrity, her conscious dedication to exploring new territory, and, via her light-hearted stage banter, her easygoing, approachable personality.

McDonald's concert was a near-perfect combination of familiarity and freshness. The songs fell into three categories: songs which McDonald has performed previously, songs which were mostly obscure, and "standards,"

with which most in the audience were familiar. To say that McDonald has a tremendous, innate talent for "selling a song" would be an understatement. It is telling that listeners embraced the unfamiliar songs as strongly as the familiar.

McDonald's performance of comedic numbers was astonishingly natural, as in Koehler and Arlen's "Tess' Torch Song" in which McDonald related the tale of her "man" who she thought was a "good" man" and her "friend" who she thought was a "good" friend," and in Leonhart's soul-tinged "Beat My Dog," in which a long-suffering woman catalogues her problems with her lover: "Now I ain't one to put down fun, but this time you gone too far/You smoke my hash, you steal my cash, who the hell do you think you are?"

No less effective was her treatment of dramatic numbers such as Irving Berlin's "Supper-time," in which a woman wonders how she'll be able to tell her children that their father has left; and Rodgers and Hart's poignant "Little Girl Blue." "Sit there, and count your little fingers/Unlucky, little girl blue." She tackled fun and light-hearted numbers with the same level of concentration. Shand and Eaton's "I Double Dare You" was endearing but not cloying, and the Brazilian folksong "Babalele" sparkled, perfectly conveying the breeziness of the song despite the language barrier.

In addition, her reading of the Gershwin favorite "Someone to Watch Over Me" was noteworthy because it shunned the usual melodrama of lines such as "Tell me where's the shepherd for this lost lamb," for a shy and innocently hopeful infatuation which was completely intelligible and convincing. McDonald's performance exceeded all expectations, even such that there were noticeable, although minute, improvements on numbers she has performed previously, such as Jerome Kern's "Bill" and "Beat my Dog."

McDonald clearly has the vocal talent to support her magnetic stage presence. Gifted with a gorgeous voice, McDonald has a beautiful, controlled tone quality from her much-touted classical background, like Dawn Upshaw's clear soprano but with a much darker, more mature and malleable tone. She juxtaposes this sound with an earthier, more soulful side which she uses to great effect in sassy and bluesy numbers, in the manner of such greats



—BARRON CLAIBORNE

Audra McDonald continues to challenge herself and her audience with her newest concert series.

as Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday.

Unlike other operatic singers who have made forays into musical theater repertoire, McDonald's voice is versatile and she judiciously applies the wide-range of colorings of her voice to the songs she performs. At times this combination is a bit startling, as in LaChiusa's "See What I Wanna See," which featured McDonald taking on the voices of a girl and a man as they argue. Additionally, McDonald's bluesy voice tends to be accompanied by vocal idiosyncrasies which take some getting used to, but in general they do not detract from McDonald's rare combination of artistry and intelligence, natural talent and consummate skill.

After two best-selling albums — one of challenging music by the "new" generation of musical theater composers and the second more centered on standards and ballads — fans and critics eagerly await McDonald's third release. From her concert's program it appears that in addition to being an entertainer, McDonald may become the artist we count on to challenge herself and her audience by covering a broad spectrum of musical theater works and "discovering" little-known gems, perhaps not to the extent of the mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli, but to a level which certainly goes beyond mere lip service. Audra McDonald's talent truly earned her the standing ovation she received after her performance at Symphony Hall.

FILM REVIEW

Beatniks and Poets

Embodying the Free Spirit

By Jonathan Choi

The Source

Directed by Chuck Workman

Starring Johnny Depp, John Turturro, Dennis Hopper

The Museum of Fine Arts kicks off its new film series, Beatniks and Poets, with a brilliant piece of filmmaking by Oscar winner Chuck Workman. Workman's new film, *The Source*, chronicles the far-reaching impact of the Beat Generation on Americans today. An intense visual bombardment seamlessly combined with the sounds of Parker, Monk, and Dylan and inspired readings and performances by Johnny Depp, John Turturro, and others, *The Source* is a searing portrayal of the high-strung, life-hungry spirit of the Beats. It is an adventure that passionately rediscovers the source of the American counterculture that is very much alive today.

The film begins with the meeting of writers Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, and William Burroughs as Columbia undergraduates. Rejecting the accepted values of the time, they strove to create their own meaning in life. Jack Kerouac wrote the American classic, *On the Road*. He called his generation the Beat — the downtrodden and poor, but the beatific as well, the givers and indicators of great joy and bliss.

On the Road portrays an American dream of wandering, drugs, sex, jazz, love, sunsets, dawns, soul-searching, expression and joy. The embodiment of this American dream was Kerouac's friend and inspiration, Neal Cassady. The grainy 1940s clips of Cassady are striking. The clips Workman uses are of Cassady doing everyday things, from driving a car to explaining a story. It is the energy that exudes from his eyes, his body, from every cock-eyed movement of his limbs that gives the viewer the sense that this is a different type of man. A close friend of Neal comments, "Cassady was the art and fire."

Perhaps the best description of Cassady comes from *On the Road*. "The only people for me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous yellow roman candles exploding like spiders across the stars and in the middle you see the blue centerlight pop and everybody goes 'Awww!'"

This was the life of the Beatnik, the life of the cultural dissident and joyous bohemian. Kerouac gave Americans a new consciousness to question imposed values and meaning-deprived duties: "Dare to Dream!"

The highlight of Workman's film is John Turturro's reading of Allen Ginsberg's famous poem, "Howl." The poem — highly controversial when it was published — bravely portrays the harsh realities of Beat life. Opening with the lines, "I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness, starving hysterical naked," Turturro spectacularly interprets the emotion and mindset of the poem's speaker. Workman treats the film medium as a poetic device itself, phrasing images with Turturro's lines and reinforcing tones and shifts with appropriate changes in scene. The serenity of Turturro's opening lines on a quiet Brooklyn rooftop quickly descend into the horror and frenzy that Ginsberg describes with horrid intensity. The tumultuous performance ends with Turturro painfully whispering his last lines through the grating of a fence in the dark, empty streets of Brooklyn.

After these powerful segments on Kerouac and Ginsberg and another equally powerful segment on Burroughs, Workman concludes the film by showing the Beatniks' lasting impact on American culture from the hippie generation to the youth of today. Workman captures this legacy in a single clip showing Neal Cassady shirtless, smiling at the camera, bursting with joy and voiced over with Kerouac's words, "Our existence is so brief, life is a dream almost over."

Photos are cool.
join@the-tech.mit.edu

FILM REVIEW

Stalled at the Side of the Road

By Megan K. Ginter

STAFF WRITER

Supertroopers

Directed by Jay Chandrasekhar

Written by Jay Chandrasekhar, Kevin Heffernan, Steve Lemme, Paul Soter, and Erik Stolhanske

Starring Jay Chandrasekhar, Kevin Heffernan, Steve Lemme, Paul Soter, Erik Stolhanske, Brian Cox

Rated R

Super Troopers is a movie that starts off ambitiously, but loses direction as it progresses. The writers — the comedy troupe Broken Lizard — create a clever, absurd atmosphere reminiscent of *Wet Hot American Summer* or *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, but fail to maintain the level of absurdity throughout the movie. The movie's faults do not result from lack of talent, but rather lack of experience, as this is only the group's second feature film.

The movie begins with the zany antics of a group of bored Vermont state troopers. The characters have rather one-dimensional personalities: the rookie, the annoying fat one, the nerdy lover, the Indian, and the goofy one. Although great character depth isn't necessary in this type of movie, some of the characters could use more charm. Oddly enough, the captain is played by serious dramatic actor Brian Cox (*L.I.E.*, *Braveheart*, *Manhunter*) who tries his best with the weak material he is given.

Most of the pranks are quite funny and seem designed to amuse ornery college students. To amuse themselves, the troopers play mind games with the people who get pulled over. In the opening scene, they frighten a group of stoners by acting like they are going to pull them over, then harmlessly pass them. When the stoners are relieved that they are not getting caught, the troopers swing their car around and harass them. The troopers also dare each other to say "meow" ten times while giving a ticket to a speeding driver.

Unfortunately, the writers seemed to use up their creativity in the first 40 minutes of the script. At this point, the movie shifts from absurdity into an uninspired plot about trying to save their station from being disbanded. Since the troopers are too busy being jokesters to actually catch any lawbreakers, their station will be shut down and their job taken over by the Evil Local Cops. Luckily, they stumble upon a murder and a marijuana smuggling ring! Can they catch the

baddies and save their sorry asses? Will wackiness ensue? You bet!

The movie also makes some rather untimely Afghanistan jokes. Broken Lizard, who were at the screening I attended, were quick to point out that they had written and filmed the movie long before Sept. 11. However, since they won't be present at every showing of the movie, it would have done them well to take out the references. There was absolute dead silence in the theater when these lines were said, which isn't surprising because they came off as exploitive.

Overall, the directing and style are very professional for a low-budget comedy. Unfortunately, there are a few amateurish moments that definitely detract from the atmosphere. The extras seem to be all too aware that they are in a movie, and can occasionally be seen laughing at the jokes. It also becomes all too obvious that a few jokes were ad-libbed because the other actors break role and seem to be holding back a chuckle. Also, the title is not very interesting or compelling.

It was refreshing to actually see an Indian-American actor play a main character. Nope, he wasn't even playing a doctor or an engineer either. Aside from Lucy Liu, the Asian actors in Hollywood are overwhelmingly typecast. I hope this is a sign of a positive trend toward including Asian-Americans in films as ordinary people.

What sets successful sketch-comedy groups such as Monty Python, The Kids in the Hall, and The State apart from Broken Lizard is confidence in the group's "voice." Perhaps Broken Lizard's disadvantage comes from their lack of a background in television. The other groups were able to test out their ideas on an audience to see what worked and what didn't. If a sketch wasn't funny, there would be a completely different one in 5 minutes. Thus, these groups had a rather repercussion-free medium to test their ideas. Broken Lizard has jumped straight into movies from theater. What works on a stage is enormously different from what works on screen, and Broken Lizard hasn't had the time to make mistakes and learn from them. Hopefully, the group will study its blunders in this film, because they have the talent to make a great absurd comedy.



Jay Chandrasekhar, Paul Soter, Steve Lemme, Erik Stolhanske, and Kevin Heffernan in "Super Troopers."

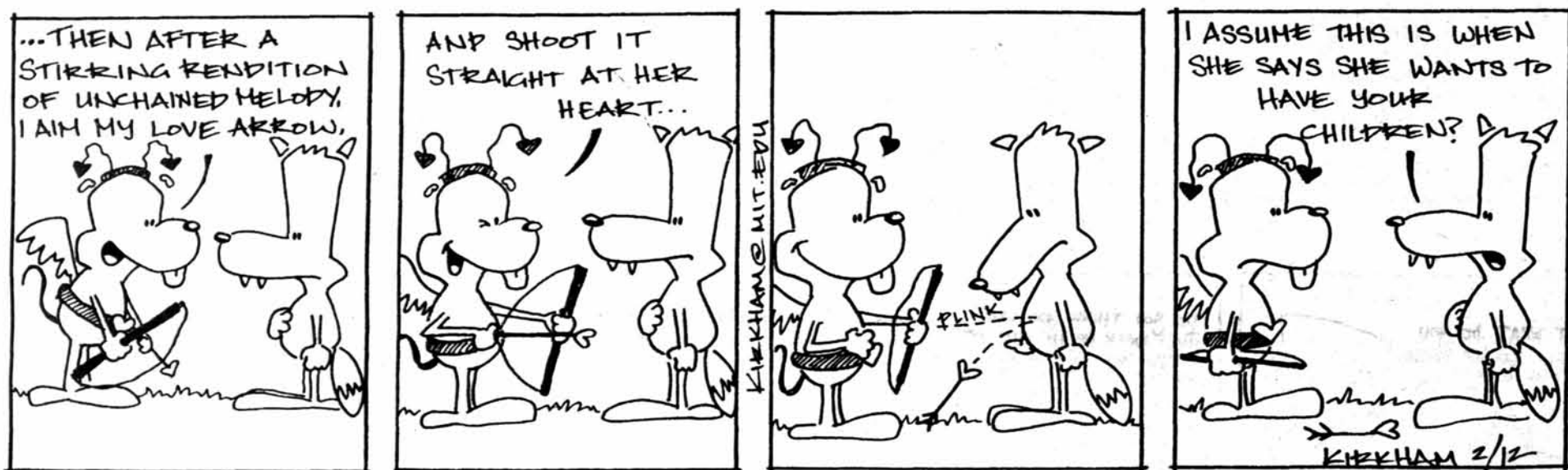
FUN PAGES

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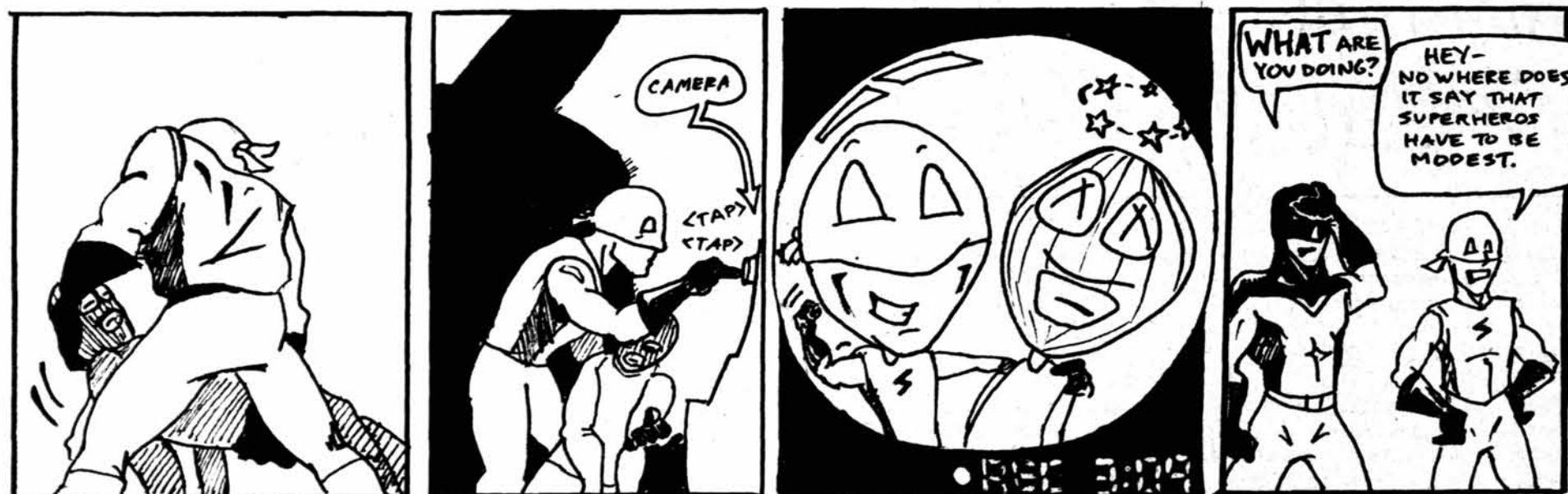


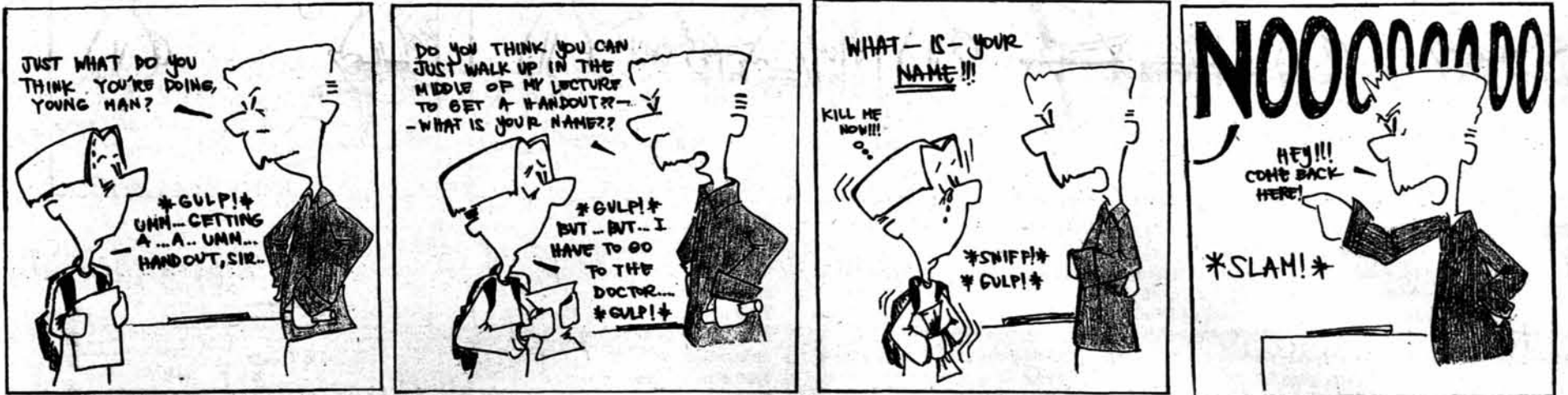
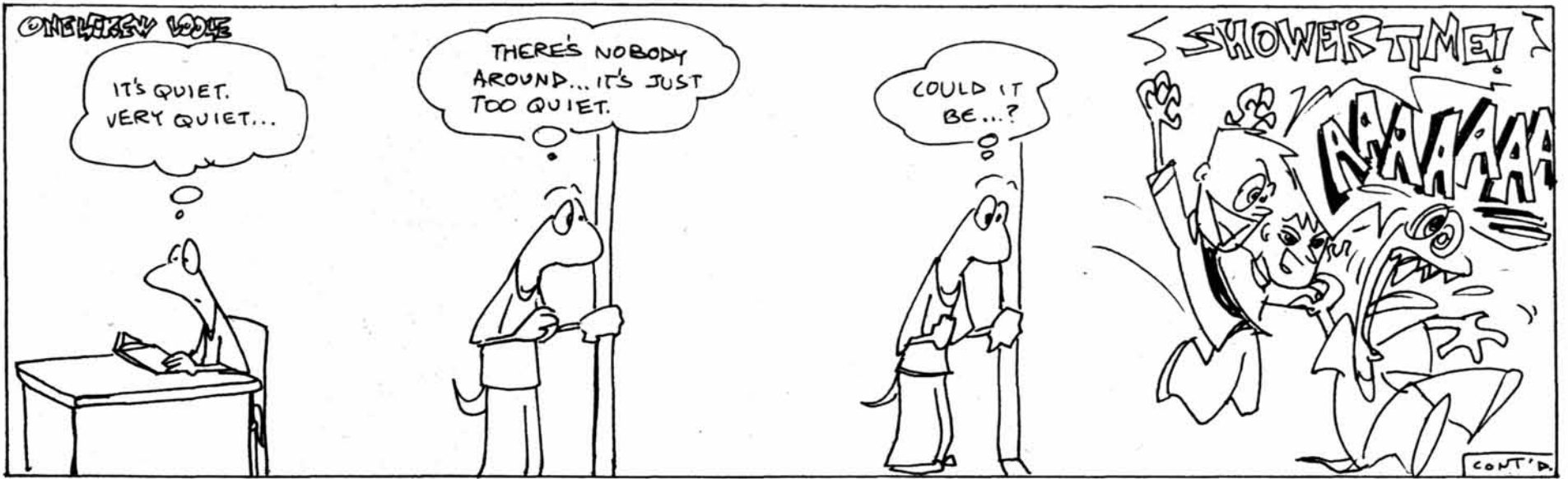
the crass rat



INTEGRAL FORCE

AHWONG





people & pooplings
by: Nancy Phan '05

YEAH... UHM... I'M NOT SURE MY SPRING TERM STARTED OUT TOO WELL, MCM. WHY? NO REASON.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 19

- ACROSS
- 1 In this place

5 Separate

9 Torn tickets

14 Above

15 Small combo

16 Painter Matisse

17 Packs heat

19 Ryan or Tatum

20 Waiting in the wings

21 Crow's cry

23 Picnic invader

24 SUV's ancestors

29 Irk

30 Iroquois tribe

33 Truck compartment

36 Cafeteria stack

38 Water pitchers

39 "Ben _"

40 "And I Love _"

41 _ Vegas

43 Ready to go

44 Delete

46 "Thou _ not..."

48 A couple

49 Japanese horseradish

51 Climbing plants

53 Fire-safety device

58 Unruly group
- 60 Hanoi holiday

61 Figure of speech

62 Unsuitable

64 Became more severe

68 Kiel or Suez

69 Needle case

70 Rachel or Simon

71 Dawson or Gide

72 Latvian

73 Bump off
- DOWN
- 1 Tramps

2 Phenomenon

3 Ranch name in "Giant"

4 Listed mistakes

5 Sch. group

6 Schedule abbr.

7 Edge

8 Puccini opera

9 Carry a big stick

10 Sawbuck

11 Superlatively apprehensive

12 Husk of grain

13 Sediment

18 Kissing game

22 Earlier
- 25 Fairy-tale monster

26 Draws closer

27 Sardonic

28 Innovative

31 Sketched

32 Concerning

33 Masticate

34 Surrounding glow

35 Parade group

37 Great _ Lake

42 Came down to earth

45 Newsman

Donaldson

47 Concealed

50 Likable '50s candidate?

52 Threaded fasteners

54 Lucy's landlady

55 Of musical sounds

56 "Martha" or "Norma"

57 "I Am Woman" singer

58 Isinglass

59 Son of Judah

63 _ excellence

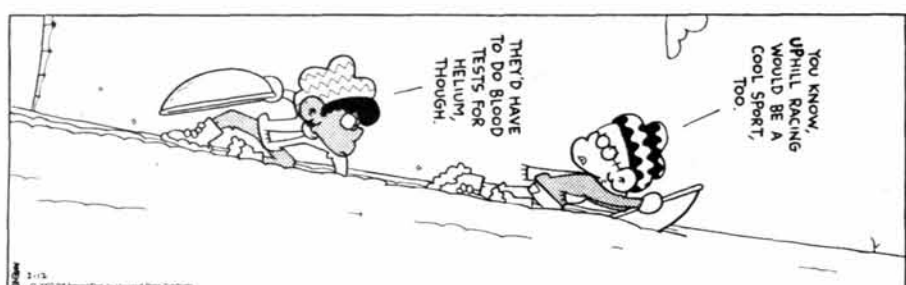
65 Goddess of criminal folly

66 Same old same old

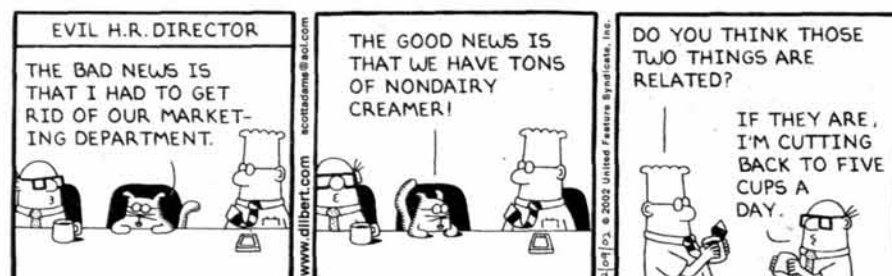
67 Mind the children

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FoxTrot by Bill Amend



Dilbert by Scott Adams



Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Tuesday, February 12

- 8:30 a.m. – Visiting Committee for Media Lab/Media Arts and Sciences.** Biennial visit of the Corporation Visiting Committee for the Media Lab and the Program in Media Arts and Sciences. Room: E15 - Wiesner Building. Sponsor: Corporation Office.
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Windows 2000 Quick Start.** This session demonstrates the new features and functionalities of Windows 2000 for the desktop user. In this session, we will: tour the Start Menu enhancements summarize the differences between the new My Network Places and the previous Network Neighborhood meet the Active Desktop, Power Management, and Windows Update features see how many Control Panel functions have been consolidated see where NT profiles and Administrative Tools now reside learn how to set up a printer. We will also explain why Active Directories are not currently allowed at MIT. (System administration not covered.) Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:02 p.m. – Energetics and sizes of tropical cyclones and polar lows. Some statistics and risk assessment.** Free. Room: 54-1512. Sponsor: MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars.
- 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – The Apparent A Priori and Four Things to Do About It.** Dibner Institute Lunchtime Colloquium. Free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.
- 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Blood Drive.** Come help save lives by donating blood or volunteering to help with our drive! See our Web page for more information or to make an appointment to donate. Free. Room: La Sala. Sponsor: American Red Cross Team and Network, Blood Drives.
- 12:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – Real Deals: New Urbanism in a Mixed-Use Format.** The developer of City Place, West Palm Beach, FL will discuss strategy and financials. Free. Room: W31-301. Sponsor: Center for Real Estate.
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – MTL VLSI Seminar Series.** Divide the Evil! or: How to Stop Worrying and Make Better Distributed Circuits. Free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: MTL VLSI Seminar.
- 4:15 p.m. – Gas Turbine Laboratory Seminar.** "Near Wall Reaction Effects on Film-Cooled Heat Transfer." Free. Room: MIT, 31-161. Sponsor: AeroAstro.
- 4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – GTL Seminar Series.** "Near Wall Reaction Effects On Film-Cooled Heat Transfer." Free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Gas Turbine Laboratory.
- 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Inter-University Committee on International Migration.** "Ambivalent Diasporas: Last Resort for the Poor or Peddlers of Illusion?" Free. Room: CIS Conference Room - E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.
- 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Despots and Democrats: Political Islam's Prospects for a Democratic Future.** A session of the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar. Free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.
- 7:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. – Ladies Night at The Ear.** Every Tuesday is Ladies Night at The Thirsty Ear Pub, with special Tuesday-only beverages. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the Ashdown House basement. Enter through the courtyard. Hours: Monday: 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.
- 8:00 p.m. – Hart's War (Free Sneak Preview).** Free. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Wednesday, February 13

- 8:30 a.m. – Visiting Committee for Media Lab/Media Arts and Sciences.** Biennial visit of the Corporation Visiting Committee for the Media Lab and the Program in Media Arts and Sciences. Room: E15 - Wiesner Building. Sponsor: Corporation Office.
- 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Blood Drive.** Free. Room: La Sala. Sponsor: American Red Cross Team and Network, Blood Drives.
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Getting a Job in a Tough Economy.** Discover ways to look for a job or internship through the traditional methods and the hidden job market during a tough economy. Pre-registration is required. Free. Room: 2-190. Sponsor: OCSA.
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – spouses&partners@mit: The American Presidency: A Window into American Values.** In honor of President's Day, Anne Copeland, Director of the Interchange Institute, will share legends and stories about U.S. presidents and how they reveal the values of American culture. Childcare provided. Free. Room: W20-400. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit.
- 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. – Reciprocity Theorems for Enumeration of Perfect Matching.** Reception at 3:30 p.m. in Room 2-349. Free. Room: Building 2, Room 338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.
- 5:30 p.m. – authors@mit-Prof Ellen T. Harris: "Handel As Orpheus: Voice and Desire in the Chamber Cantatas."** Professor of Music Ellen Harris on her new book, discussing Handel's chamber cantatas written from 1706-23, from a social point of view, exposing the exclusive and secret homosexual society in which they were created. The compositions were written when Handel lived

Events Calendar 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 Events Calendar web page.

in the homes of aristocratic patrons, first in Italy and then in Germany and England. Harris concentrates on the texts, including for the first time complete translations of all 67, and discusses them in terms of their classical meanings, social context, and secret codes and private references. Free. Room: Lewis Music Library (Rm 14E-109). Sponsor: MIT Press Bookstore, MIT Libraries.

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Careers in Energy - Alumni Panel. Panelist include: Dr. Bahman Daryanian, TPP '86 - Principal Consultant, PA Consulting, Karlynn Cory, TPP '98 - Analyst, La Capra Associates. Light refreshments will be served. Preregistration is required. Free. Room: 3-270. Sponsor: OCSA. Technology and Policy Student Society.

7:00 p.m. – Colombia's "Dirty War" Against Trade Unions. Two years ago, 130 labor union activists were murdered in Colombia. Last year another 169 were slaughtered. This year, in the first three weeks alone, 6 more were killed. Since 1985, over 3,800 union workers and leaders have been assassinated in Colombia, making it by far the most dangerous place on earth to fight for workers' rights. What is going on? Free. Room: MIT Room 1-236. Sponsor: MIT Western Hemisphere Project.

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – The 2002 Global Health and Policy Lecture Series. Arresting Epidemics: Global Efforts to Combat Infectious Disease. Free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Hippocratic Society. United Trauma Relief.

7:00 p.m. – His Girl Friday. Free. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC, Comparative Media Studies.

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. – Renaissance Dancing. There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice. From Italian balli to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. Free. Room: W20 (Sala or 407 or 491). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

Thursday, February 14

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Working Group on Support Staff Issues. Monthly meeting of the Working Group on Support Staff Issues. This month: support staff colleagues from Harvard University tell us what it's like to work there. Free. Room: 34-401A. Sponsor: Working Group on Support Staff Issues.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Java User Group. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. – MIT Chapel Concert: A French Baroque Valentine: Romantic Suites and Airs. John Tyson, Voice Flute, Fourth Flute; Carol Lewis, viola da gamba; Miyuki Tsurutani, harpsichord. Works of Francois Couperin, Charles Dieupart, and others. Free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Blood Drive. Free. Room: La Sala. Sponsor: American Red Cross Team and Network, Blood Drives.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Weight Watchers at Work meetings at MIT. New and returning members are always welcome at this weekly meeting on weight control. Friendly, relaxed lunch hour meetings. More info: tpriest@mit.edu. Room: Building 8-219. Sponsor: Information Center.

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. – Winning Interview Techniques. Learn how to prepare effectively for an interview and practice with your peers. Pre-registration is required. Free. Room: 12-196. Sponsor: OCSA.

4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Structural and Electronic Transitions of Lithium Transition Metal Oxides in Lithium Rechargeable Batteries. Special Seminar in the Department of Mechanical Engineering/Sloan Automotive Seminar Series. Free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Mechanical Engineering Dept., Sloan Automotive Laboratory.

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. – A General Equilibrium Model for Decentralized Supply Chains with Price and Service Competition. ORC Spring Seminar Series. Seminar followed by reception in the Philip M. Morse Reading Room (E40-146). Free. Room: E51-145. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

4:15 p.m. – Physics Colloquium. The David and Edith Harris Distinguished Lecture "Organic Molecular Crystals: New Perspectives for Science and Technology." Free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

8:00 p.m. – Seachange. Dramashop's unique creative "immigration project" directed by Associate Professor Brenda Cotto-Escalera in collaboration with Lecturer Isaura Oliveira. Using a wide variety of performance styles and traditions, project participants will create an original theater piece about immigration in contemporary U.S. society. Talents from student artists of many disciplines will be used to tell immigration stories from different cultures. Most of the specific immigrant groups explored will be determined by the interest of the participants, but one of the main areas of exploration is the African diaspora in the Americas. \$8, \$6 w/student ID. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dramashop.

UA Discusses Plans To Better MIT Card

Elections, from Page 1

The commission members want candidates to "get started off on the right foot" in terms of knowing the rules of the election, said Daniel D. Liston '04, a member of the Rules Board.

Approximately 70 potential candidates attended yesterday's meeting. Five people indicated that they were planning to run for UA President.

Candidates will be given two weeks to finalize position decisions and complete petition forms. Campaigning officially begins on Monday, Feb. 25, and voting will take place from March 11 to March 15.

LaVerde's may soon accept card

In her "State of the UA" address at last night's UA Council meeting, Devereaux discussed the status of several long-term projects.

In particular, students may soon be able to pay for their purchases at LaVerde's Market with their MIT ID cards, Devereaux said.

"The current MIT card system is undergoing drastic changes as well," said Josiah D. Seale '02, co-chair of the UA Committee on Student Life.

Seale, who has been in close contact with Director of Enterprise Services Stephen D. Immerman, said Immerman has promised that

some major changes in the card system will be in effect by the end of this semester, including the potential addition of LaVerde's to the MIT card system.

The main concern, Devereaux said, was to get Information Systems to agree to the addition, since personal information is transmitted with each swipe of the card.

Other proposed changes include the institution of a new "key" list. Seale said that at some point, residents might be able to create a list of guests who would be able to enter dormitory or housing establishment using non-resident cards. This change could also be implemented by the end of this term.

"LaVerde's is just a start," Seale said.

Progress made on other projects

Devereaux also noted that kinks in the draft schedule for Orientation 2002 had been worked out. Now, she said, the UA and related groups can focus on the lottery and other details.

Also, the Microsoft iCampus Project recently gave the UA funding for the Interactive Introduction to the Institute (I3), Devereaux said, providing funds for the project through the summer.

There will be a town hall meeting on dining on Feb. 20, where the latest proposal by the Campus Dining Board will be discussed.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

UA President Jaime E. Devereaux '02 speaks on plans to expand acceptance of the MIT Card across campus. The Institute may implement new equipment to allow the Card to be accepted at new locations, including LaVerde's and at LSC events.

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Ellen Harris

Head of Music & Theater Arts, MIT

Handel as Orpheus:

Voice & Desire in the Chamber Cantatas

Wednesday, February 13, 5:30 pm
MIT 14E-109, Lewis Music Library

Handel wrote over 100 cantatas, compositions for voice and instruments that describe the joy and pain of love. The works were written while Handel lived in the homes of his aristocratic patrons, first in Italy and then in Germany and England in the early 18th century. In *Handel as Orpheus*, the first comprehensive study of these cantatas, Ellen Harris investigates their place in Handel's life from a social point of view, exposing the exclusive and secret homosexual society in which they were created. Harris concentrates on the texts, including for the first time complete translations of all 67, and discusses them in terms of their classical meanings, social context, secret codes, and private references.

Ellen T. Harris is Class of 1949 Professor and Head of Music and Theater Arts at MIT.

Handel as Orpheus is published by Harvard University Press, 2001..

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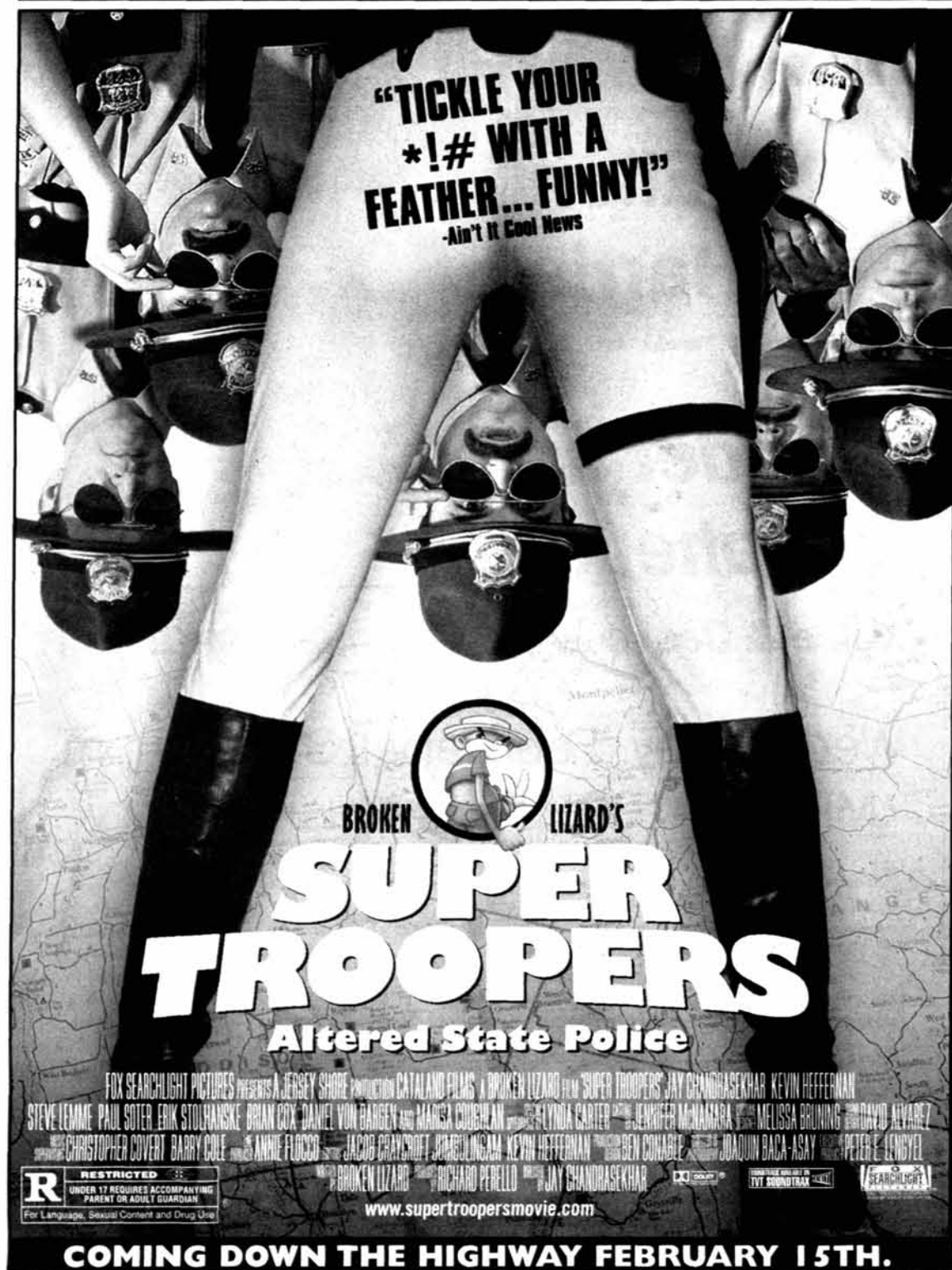
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ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 13
5:10PM

MIT Chapel
Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry at MIT

Informal dinner to follow

IAP Design Seminar Commemorates King

MLK, from Page 1

ed the celebration with inspirational songs. They were followed by speeches by Georgette M. Charles '03, and R. Eric Caulfield G. Both speeches emphasized the importance of not only commemorating the man, but remembering his vision.

"As I look around at this celestial cornucopia of colors I know that I am seeing an illusion," Caulfield said, hitting on the theme of this year's program: "From Dreams to Reality: The Illusion of Full Inclusion." He then went on to illustrate the low numbers of African-Americans and Hispanic students at MIT.

Charles touched on the importance of unity within the African-American community.

"Together we will break through the barriers and rise through the glass ceiling together," she said. She was followed by the recipients of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership awards for 2002. The awards were presented to Dr. Paul E. Gray '54, Dr. Randal Pinkett '98, Sgt. Cheryl Vossmer of the Campus Police, and Tamara Williams G. Despite the length of the presentation, the audience responded positively to all the speakers.

Smiley encourages questioning

Smiley addressed a multitude of issues within his brief and engaging speech. He rejoiced in the progress made for African-Americans, but also pointed out that after Sept. 11, hate has found a new target.

"I do not feel safer because people from Arab descent are now the target. King would encourage us to reexamine our assumptions," he said.

He later went on to make a distinction between patriotism and nationalism.

"Patriotism encourages us to ask questions, it demands debate and dissent. It encourages us to be better Americans by being a better neighbor in the world," he said.

"We found ourself this mess because of the way we treat people around the world," Smiley said. He encouraged people to ask tough questions about the government and media.

Smiley is now in the process of making sure that African-Americans are not left out of the Technological Revolution. With Bill Gates as a partner, he is traveling around

the nation to educate people on the Internet and other technology.

In alignment with the title of his book, "How To Make Black America Better" he encouraged others to "pick up the pace" in their efforts.

Students involved in celebration

Although a 7:30 a.m. breakfast is not the most appealing idea to most MIT students, many were involved in the celebration of Dr. King. Long before the day of the breakfast, a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Design Seminar met in an IAP class led by Tobie F. Weiner, an undergraduate administrator in the Department of Political Science, and William Lark '03, a student in the seminar last year.

"I was impressed with the energy of this year's group. Usually there's a lot of talk and big ideas, but things don't end up happening like that. This year, the students were working so hard at the end to run to Home Depot and make sure the installation was perfect," Lark said.

The first two weeks of the IAP seminar were devoted to watching films and discussing race. Later, the group split into three groups with different responsibilities.

Alexandra F. Awai '04 and Raymond Morales '02 led the installation group which assembled the display in Lobby 10. Terrence R. Strader '04 and Aden M. Allen '02 led the Media group which was in charge of making the videos of their events and a slide show that is displayed in Lobby 10 this week. John W. Pope '03 and Carl E. Patten '02 led a kids' group which designed an activity for Cambridge after school programs to educate them on King's vision.

"We were surprised with how much the kids knew about King. In one activity we played with them we split them into two groups and treated one very well, and one badly. Later, we asked the how they felt and the ones who were treated badly said it made them want to give up. Then, we talked about racism and prejudice," said Bukola Aina, a member of the kid's group.

The IAP class size grew to 42 people this year, and the only complaint with the forum was the lack of diversity.

"I hope to get more people that aren't minorities to participate in the class so more people can be educated about MLK and discuss solutions to race relations and equality," Strader said.

Only 16% of MIT students drank or used drugs the last time they had sex.



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MIT Groups Provide Songs for Valentine's

Valentine's Day, from Page 1

dean for alcohol education and community development is planning a romantic dinner for his wife and himself. "My in-laws are babysitting, so my wife and I will get to have dinner alone, the first time in two years," he said happily.

Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict also has an elaborate evening planned. He is taking his wife to her favorite restaurant. "My wife calls the shots on Valentine's Day. This week is also her birthday, so we really have to be extravagant," he explained.

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 is flying to sunny Florida with his wife for the weekend. "We're taking a winter break," he said.

Singles plan for fun

Even those who do not have significant others plan on having fun on Feb. 14. Ryan S. Chavez '02 and his friends have plans for a full night. "I'm going out for margaritas and Mexican food with all my single friends, which I guess is actually all my friends," he laughed, unaffected by his single status.

Audrey M. Schaffer '05 is arranging a night of excitement with just the girls. "We're going to eat pizza and ice cream, then go frat hopping," explained Schaffer, not letting her single status on Valentine's Day dampen her spirits and prevent her from partying and meeting guys.

MIT gifts to send your love

For those students who are still trying to figure out what to do on Feb. 14, many MIT clubs are offering great Valentine's Day services.

The Shakespeare Ensemble is new on the list of clubs performing Valentine acts. They will allow you to send a sweet, moving, or even bitter, nasty sonnet to anyone you

love or detest. "A couple of the Ensemble's members have actually been dumped on Valentine's Day so we thought it would be nice to have the option of a harsh poem," Ensemble Treasurer Brandy L. Evans '01 explained.

Singing groups, including the Logarithms, the Toons, and the Muses, will serenade your loved one anywhere on campus. The Toons can even sing to that lucky Wellesley girl you so adore.

"We can embarrass any loved one in any lecture hall, over the phone, or even in the girls' bathroom on the 3rd floor," advertised Logs member P. Tyler Johnson '05. Last year, the Logs even sang to man in LaVerde's.

Roadkill Buffet will perform improvised serenades, loving or angry to whomever you desire.

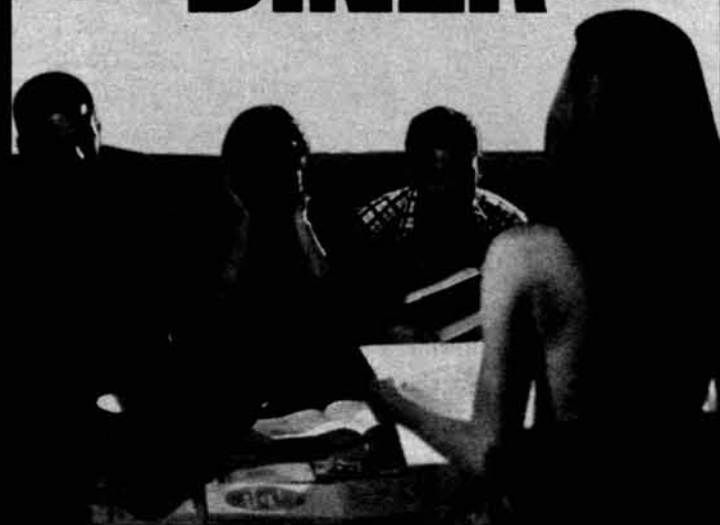
Those more adventures types can purchase Vagina lollipops for that special someone and help a good cause at the same time. "How often can you buy a vagina for \$1.00? And even better, it's made out of chocolate. By buying a vagina you are helping charity," explained Ruth M. Perlmutter '04, one of the producers for *The Vagina Monologues*.

Finding the perfect match

Finally, for those of you yearning to find that perfect mate, the Undergraduate Association and Class of 2004 are offering match-making services. By answering survey questions about yourself and your mate on the UA's Heart to Heart at <http://loveconnections.mit.edu> or on the Class of 2004's Let's Get It On: Valentine's Day Lovematcher at <http://web.mit.edu/tbronder/www/heart/index.html>, you could potentially find the man or woman of your dreams. Your closest matches will be e-mailed to you and hopefully love will come knocking (or e-mailing) in no time.

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or see the CMI Exchange Program Coordinator, Jason Shumaker, in 7-133.

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Red Hat Acquires ArsDigita

MIT Companies, from Page 1

that “we don’t expect any further significant reductions.”

Little was also one of the founding editors of *The Tech* when it first published in 1881. He never graduated, but rather left MIT to found the company that bears his name, Lampe said.

The company started out as a chemical research firm, but branched out during the 20th century. Notable achievements include the patent for the first synthetic penicillin, the design for Nasdaq stock exchange system in London and Tokyo, and pioneering work on options pricing theory which won the 1997 Nobel Prize in Economics, according to the company’s Web site.

ArsDigita sells parts to Red Hat

ArsDigita, the open-source software company founded by Greenspun and others from MIT in 1997, was partially acquired by Linux distributor Red Hat, Inc. on Feb. 5. According to several published reports, the company’s doors were shut and at least half of ArsDigita’s 119 employees lost their jobs. Approximately 40 employees joined Red Hat.

Greenspun declined to comment. He is not allowed to discuss the company per a June 2001 settlement with investors which resulted in him relinquishing all ties to the company. He is currently teaching Software Engineering for Internet Applications (6.171) with Professor Harold Abelson PhD ’73 and Andrew E. Grunet SM ’94, who was also involved with ArsDigita.

Greenspun has said previously in published reports that the company recorded \$20 million in revenue in 1999, while he was CEO. After venture capitalists put \$35 million into the company, he was replaced by Allen Shaheen, while Greenspun remained on the board of directors.

The new management shifted the company toward proprietary enterprise software rather than open source, but a planned new software package never launched.

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from page 13

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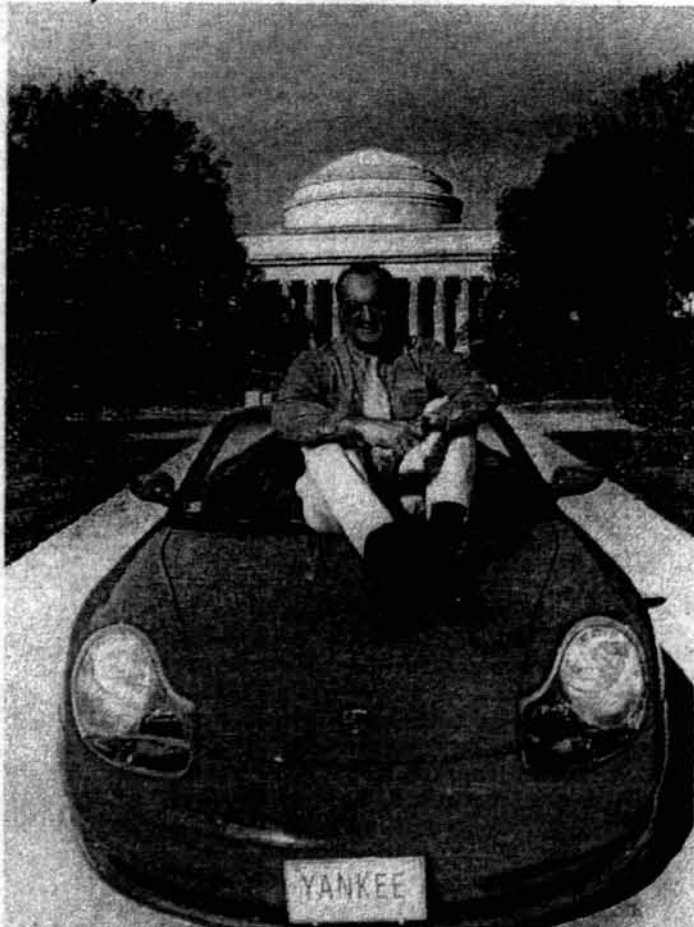
Presented by Sloan Professor
Howard M. Anderson

Wednesday, February 13, 2002
2-4 pm, 2-190

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Lecturer
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Background:
Anderson, founder and president of The Yankee Group, has 30 years of experience in the operations of a high-technology market research firm. He is also a cofounder of Battery Ventures, a venture capital firm in the Boston area, and most recently, YankeeTek, an incubator of high-tech ventures in Cambridge.

General Expertise Entrepreneurship/new ventures, venture capital, communications industry, Internet industry



**MIT Department of
FACILITIES****CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE****Kendall Hotel**

The Kendall Hotel, across the street from the MIT Coop, will open on February 22. For information and reservations, call (617) 354-3600.

NStar Transmission Line project

Work continues on construction of a 115 kv transmission line along Memorial Drive from Pleasant Street (near Howard Johnson's) to the Longfellow Bridge. This work will conclude at the end of March. Lane restrictions may cause traffic delays.

Memorial Drive Traffic Signals

The Traffic Lights at Wadsworth and Endicott Streets are fully installed. Power to the lights should be connected and the signals activated shortly. Landscape work will begin in the spring.

Simmons Hall

Installation of waterproofing, insulation, and windows is in progress. Permanent roofing has been partially installed. Excavation of the west end of Vassar St. for utility installation continues. This may affect traffic flow.

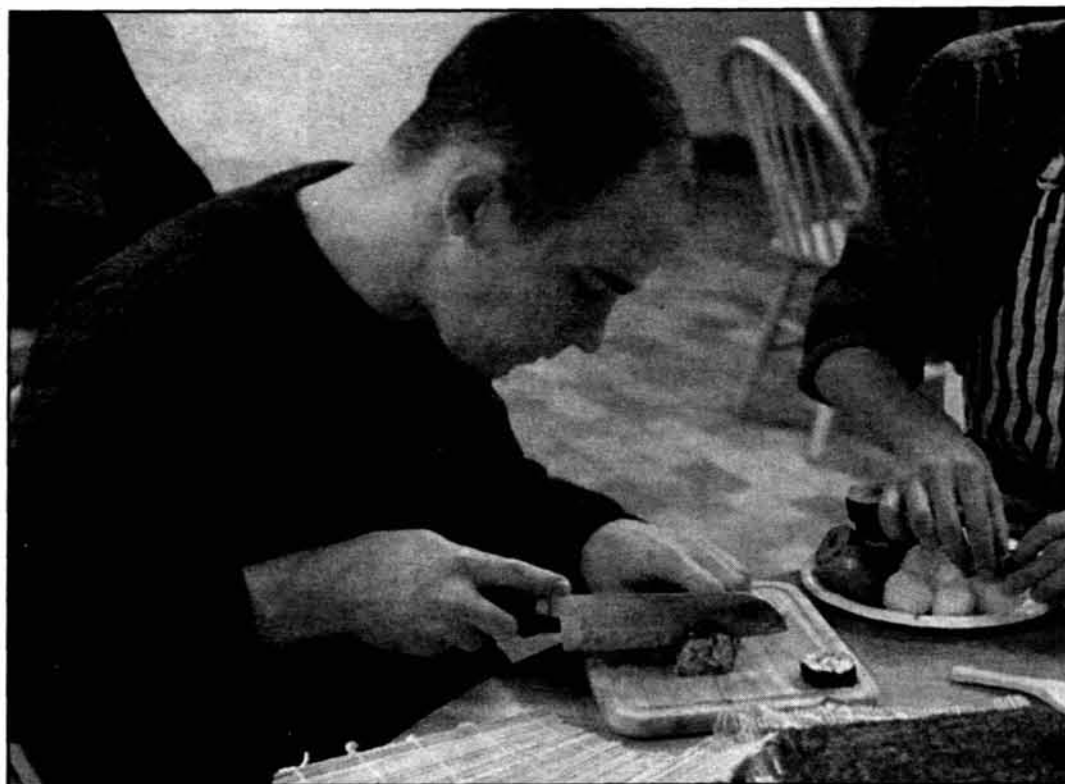
W31 Roof Repair

The rebuilding of the battlement is now complete for the winter. The next phase of the project will begin in late March. This last phase will consist of installing new roofing on W31 and will be complete in the spring.

Vassar St. Utilities

The crosswalk at Vassar St. from Building 38 to 44 is blocked due to drain work. A new walk has been constructed according to ADA requirements, crossing from Building 36 to 45. Pedestrians should use this new walk and not cross through the construction zone.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>
This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.



ERIKA BROWN—THE TECH

Julius Kusuma G slices sashimi tuna for the MIT Epicurian Club's "Sushi Soiree" on Sunday night. The club meets monthly to explore new cuisines and cooking techniques.

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SCOTT JOHNSTON

Usman O. Akeju '04 sings of the nasty Ross (his boss) as The Resonance of MIT covers the Moxy Fruvous song "I Love My Boss." Resonance opened for the a capella group The Bobs Friday night in Kresge.

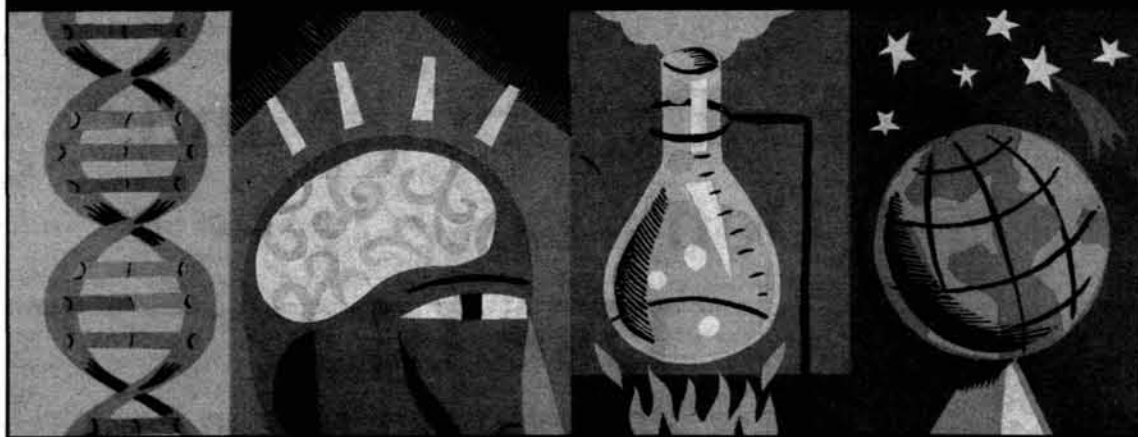


SCOTT JOHNSTON

Amy Bob and Matthew Bob attempt to distract Joe Bob during "Singing with The Bobs" last Friday in Kresge Auditorium. Resonance, an MIT a cappella group, opened at the Dormitory Council-sponsored event.

a capella

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Tuesday, February 12th
7:30 pm in 2-105

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Relay Team Breaks MIT Varsity Record

Men's Track, from Page 24

gave the team a scare when he took a bad step and had to pull out of the race. Fortunately, Rajter's leg was okay, and he had already qualified for championships in the pentathlon, high jump, and hurdles.

Runners have strong Invitational

MIT runners continued to perform well as the meet progressed. In the 600m, Russell A. Moriarty '04 ran a strong 1:29.58 to get third. Gabriel N. Sanchez '05 won the 400m with a relaxed 52.82 effort. In the 55m, MIT took 2-3-4 as Robert H. Gray '02, Marc R. Washington '03, and David E. Kloster '05 ran 6.84, 6.87, and 6.88, respectively. George R. Hanson '03 ran an exciting 2:38.43 in the 1000m, winning by 0.03 seconds. Taku Iida '04 ran a season best 2:07.24 in the 800m to earn fifth. In the 200m, Washington earned second with a time of 23.93, while Brandon Hohm '04 ran a very strong 24.02 to get third place from a slower heat. Rounding out the running events, Albert S. Liu '03 and Craig B. Wildman '03 took 1-2 with times of 15:44.90 and 15:48.65, respectively.

Khan wins weight throw

The throwers also had a good day, led as usual by Christopher J. Khan '04 in the weight throw. Khan threw 52'11" to win the event, while Marios Michalakos '04 and David P. Saylor '04 earned second and sixth with performances of 49'6.5" and 45'4", respectively. The second place throw for Michalakos was a huge personal best, and all three competitors have qualified for championships next week. In the shot put, Francisco U. Cruz '04 came through

with an effort of 44'2.5" to earn him second. The mark also qualified him for championships, where he will compete alongside Khan.

The jumps also went well for MIT. Vaulters Nathan B. Ball '05, Nestor F. Hernandez '05, Dan Kwon '02, and Daniel G. Walker '05 went 1-4-5-6, with Hernandez and Walker achieving personal bests. Ball, who won the event with 14'6" and narrowly missed 15'1", will lead Kwon, Hernandez, and Daniel F. Opila '03 to the championships next weekend. Craig D. Mielcarz '03 won the high jump with clearance over 6'8".

In the horizontal jumps, Gray won the long jump with a qualifying mark of 21'6.5". Austin K. Neudecker '05 also leapt over 21 feet for second place, and leapt an impressive 45'1.75" to win big in the triple jump and increase his qualifying mark. Oneil G. Bhalala '05, coming off a leg injury, jumped a very impressive 41'10.25".

Relay team breaks MIT record

While the performances at home were impressive, the highlight of the day came from BU. MIT runners Brian C. Anderson '04, Yuval Mazor '02, Jesse R. Alejandro '05, and Sean J. Montgomery G, smashed the varsity record in the distance medley relay and ran the fastest time in the event this year by a Division III team. Anderson started the race with a solid 3:00 split in the 1200m. Mazor ran a 49 second 400m leg, handing off to Alejandro, who gave a 1:59 effort in the 800m. Montgomery ran an incredible anchor leg of 4:03 for 1600m meters, equivalent to a 4:05 mile, to finish the incredible race for MIT in a time of 9:53.16.

Lady Engineers Break Personal Bests at MIT

Women's Track, from Page 24

eighth respectively with personal record-breaking times of 12:15.82 and 12:23.52.

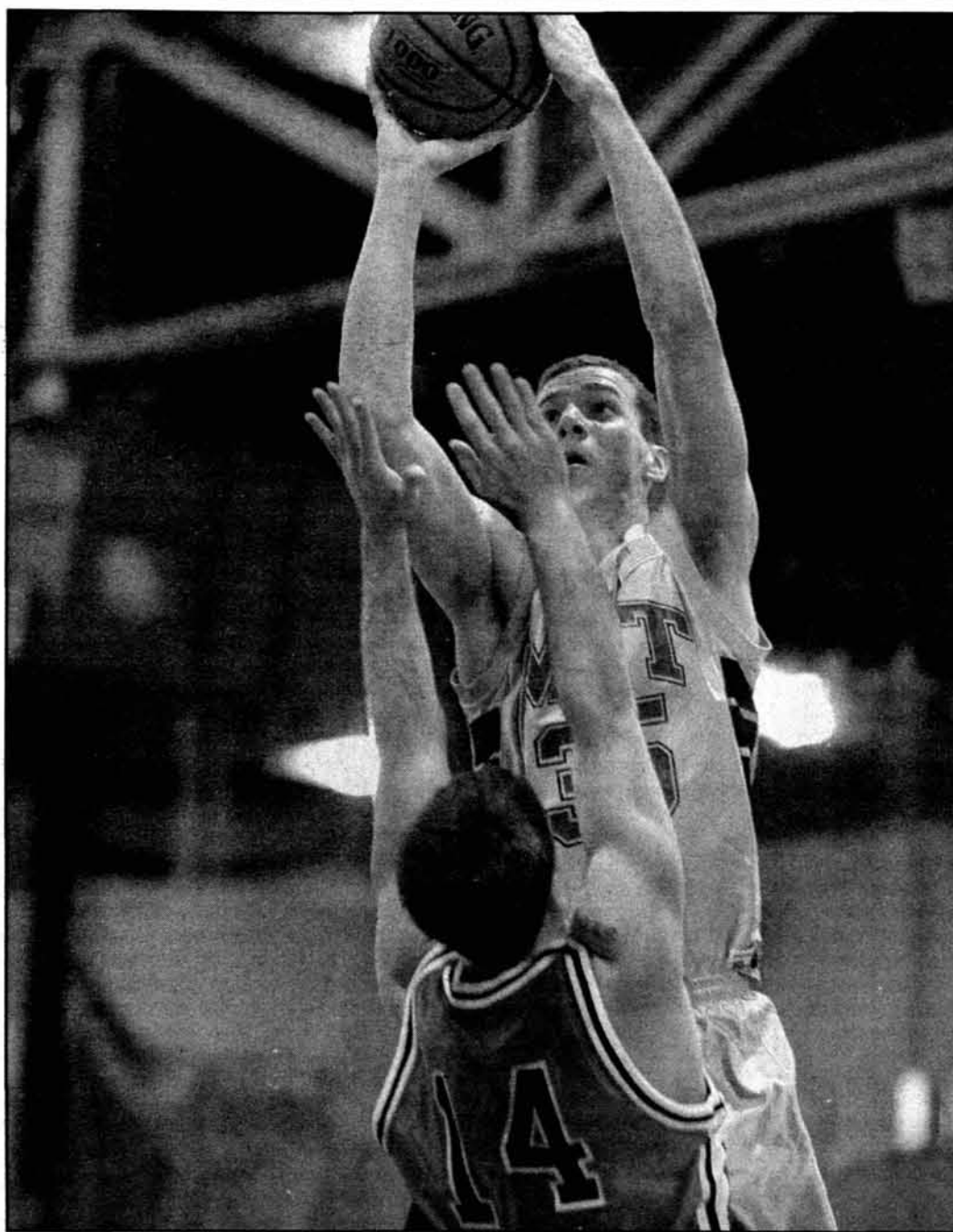
New personal records set in sprints

In the sprints, personal records were also ever-present. Nalini Gupta '05 debuted in the 55m dash and finished in fifth in 7.87 seconds. Ngozi A. Eze '05 and Colleen A. Horin '05 ran personal record times of 8.13 and 8.67 respectively. In the hurdles, Horin ran a near-personal record time of 9.72 for a seventh place finish. In the 200m, Shauntel L. Poulson '05 finished in sixth place with a time of 28.62. Eze and Melanie A. Miller '04 ran in the same heat and pushed each other to personal record times of 29.45 and 29.63 seconds. Middle distance runner Shirlen Poon '05 decided to explore

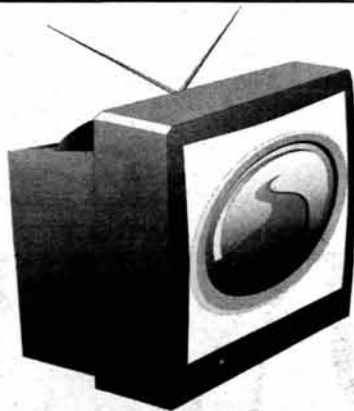
the 400m on Saturday. Battling with the sprinters during the first lap, Poon then took command in the second lap with her middle distance endurance and finished in 68.06 seconds.

Horizontal star jumper Gupta was successful in the long jump. Leaping to a near-personal record distance, Gupta won the event with a 16'1.5" and once again qualified for the ECAC championships. Returning in the triple, Gupta finished in third with three leaps totaling 34'6.75", another ECAC qualifying mark. In the triple jump, Sandra S. Quinlan '05 qualified for the New England Division III Championships, by thrice leaping a personal record distance of 32'10.5".

The meet ended with the 4x200m relay. With sprinter Adeline Kuo '02 injured, a freshman squad consisting of Poulson, Quinlan, Gupta, and Eze finished in fourth, with the a rookie record time of 1:55.02.



Kyle T. Doherty '04 takes a jump shot over a Clark player during the team's 82-90 loss on Saturday. Doherty led the Engineers with 16 rebounds, three blocks, and 33 points.



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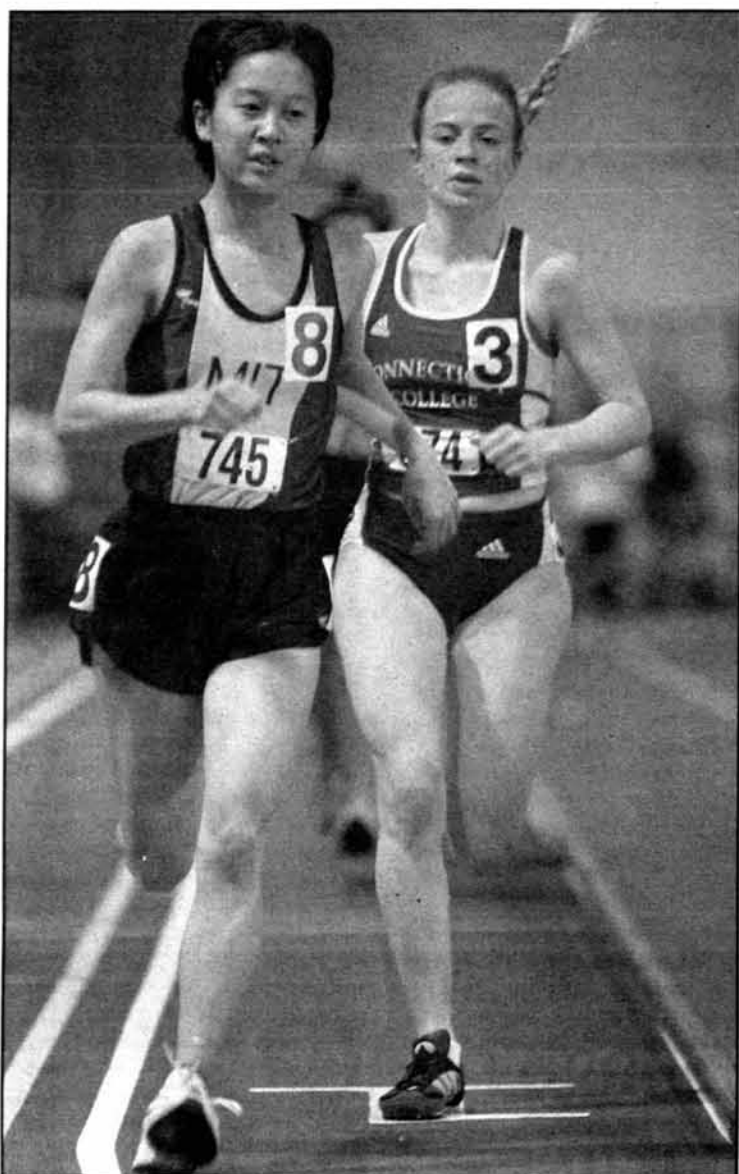
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SPORTS



Mealani Nakamura G, left, races into second place in the 1500m run at Saturday's MIT Co-ed Invitational. She clocked 5:23.91 and capped the day with a fourth place finish in the 1000m (3:26.52), earning her spots on the top ten MIT indoor times. The women's track and field team heads into the championship season next week at the New England Division III Championships at the University of Southern Maine.

Two More MIT Women Hit Provisional Marks

By Adeline Kuo
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday, MIT hosted its annual Co-ed Invitational, a last chance qualifier for post-season championships. The meet was a non-scoring event for the team, but two more MIT athletes reached NCAA provisional marks.

In the throwing cage, success was widespread. In the 20lb weight, Akua A. Asa-Awuku '03 launched her weight to an NCAA provisional qualifying and personal record distance of 46'8". Immediately after her incredible fourth place throw, she sprinted over to the start of the 55m dash and won the throwers heat. Also in the spotlight was Princess Imoukhuede '02, who not only won and bettered her NCAA automatic qualifying mark in the weight throw to 55'11", but also finished second in, set a personal record in, and qualified provisionally for the NCAA championships in the shot put with a varsity record distance of 41'6".

The rookie throwers also had outstanding success. In the weight throw, Emily Schwartz '05 bettered her personal record by over seven feet, throwing the weight 35'4". Kelly M. Johnson '05 also set a personal record in the event with a 33'0" toss. In the shot put, Johnson again set a personal record with a

put of 29'7.5". Joining the personal record club was Bukola Aina '03, who put the shot 27'1".

Li wins pole vault in jump-off

On the other end of the infield were the pole vaulters. Vanessa Li '02 not only won the event but showed her consistency as she cleared 11'0.25" in a two-jump jump-off against the eventual second place competitor. Catherine A. Tweedie '04 finished in fourth with an ECAC qualifying height of 9'9".

On the track, star of the day Mealani K. Nakamura G ran both the 1500m and 1000m and slaughtered her personal records in both events. In the 1500m run, Nakamura started out strongly and finished strongly, passing a number of competitors on her way to a second place finish. Nakamura took over 10 seconds off her time in the 1500m to finish officially in 5:23.91. In the 1000m run, Nakamura repeated her success, as she again took seconds off her time to finish in a fourth place time of 3:26.52. Also setting personal records on the track were Jelena Spasojevic '02 in the 1500m run and Jennifer A. Gaugler '05 in the 1000m. Spasojevic finished in 5:40.79 and Gaugler took seventh in 3:31.37. In the 3K, Jessica E. Karnis '05 and Patricia M. McAndrew '03 finished in seventh and

Women's Track, Page 23

Men's Track Strong at BU, Invitational

MIT Qualifies More Athletes For D-III Championships

By Robbie Gray

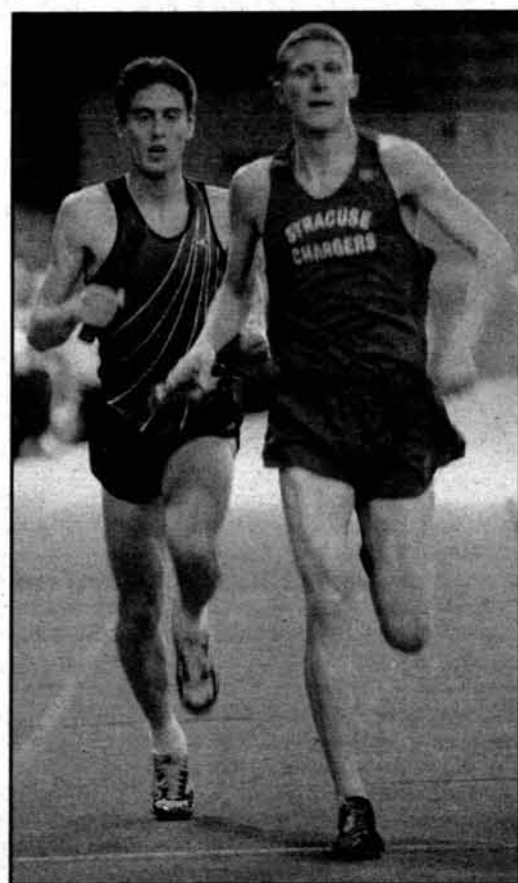
TEAM MEMBER

The MIT Men's Indoor Track and Field team continued its successful season this weekend at two venues. While most of the team was at home at the MIT Co-Ed Invitational, a few members took advantage of Boston University's banked track at the Valentine's Classic.

At the Invitational, the Engineers began their day with the pentathlon, where MIT hoped to qualify four additional athletes for next week's New England Division III Championships. Peter J. Bluvus G led the way, scoring a strong 3118 points. Junius K. Ho G, Thomas M. Hoover '05, and Adrian E. Townsend '04 followed suit, going 2-3-4 in the event and each exceeding the qualifying mark of 2900 points. MIT has now qualified a total of seven pentathletes and is poised to dominate the event at championships.

The first running event of the day was the 3000m, where Jeffrey J. Billing G ran a season best time of 9:16.42. MIT runners Daniel R. Feldman '02, Sean P. Nolan '03, and Benjamin A. Schmeckpeper '05 put forth a good effort in the 1500m to sweep the top three places. In the 55m hurdles, Richard F. Rajter '03

Men's Track, Page 23



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Sean J. Montgomery G, left, anchors the distance medley relay with a stunning 4:03 1600m to smash the varsity record at the BU Valentine's Invitational on Saturday. The relay team, composed of Brian C. Anderson '04, Yuval Mazor '02, Jesse R. Alejandro '05, and Montgomery, clocked 9:53.16 and automatically qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships with their performance.



JASON LAPENTA—THE TECH

The MIT women's gymnastic team lost by a breathtaking tenth of a point to the University of Vermont on Saturday, 177.2-177.3. The mens team also lost to UVM 131.8-156.15.

Women's Gymnastics Edged by UVM

By Eduardo Ovalle

TEAM COACH

MIT's Women's Gymnastics team was barely topped by Division I opponent University of Vermont Saturday, as the Engineers lost 177.3 to 177.2.

MIT started off the afternoon with a solid vault set of 43.70, which included a team high from Merritt S. Tam '05 who performed a front handspring front tuck for a 9.2. UVM had difficulty with the uneven bars as many of their competitors had trouble landing their dismounts in the bright sun coming in through the windows.

MIT had the early lead as UVM managed a 42.15 total on the rails. The teams switched events for the second rotation, where UVM clearly had the stronger vaulting team as four of their competitors scored over a 9.0 with Katie Domenico winning the event with a 9.3. As a team, UVM scored 45.075 on vault while the engineers did everything

they could on uneven bars to come away with a 42.35. Tam came away with a meet high 9.0 on the event which could have been won by fellow classmate Ashley R. Rothenberg '05 (8.8) had she not fallen on her dismount. At the half way mark, UVM led 87.225-86.05.

MIT finishes strong on beam

UVM scored high on their floor set, amassing a 45.75 with Alex Chalat posting a 9.45 to win the event. MIT in the meantime got off to a wobbly start on beam with Cindy Chung '04, who fought to stay on the apparatus and scored a 9.0. The next two competitors fell off, but MIT rebounded with senior captain Amy M. Shui '02 who performed a solid routine for an 8.7. Tam closed out the event with a season and meet high score of 9.5 for an outstanding routine which helped MIT to a 44.8 total on the event. Leading into the fourth rotation, UVM had a commanding lead of 132.975 to 130.85. Lindsey L. Wolf '03 led off the

floor exercise for the Engineers and unfortunately fell to the floor when the mat she landed on slipped from underneath her. After that, though, it was one nailed routine after another starting with Shui (9.05), Cecile E. LeCocq '02 (9.2), Rothenberg (9.35) and Whitney E. Watson '05 (9.4). Tam overrotated her double pike mount and stepped out of bounds for an automatic 0.1 point deduction, but still managed a 9.35 to close out a season high 46.35 floor set for MIT.

UVM edges MIT after beam

Vermont put together a 44.325 total on beam, bringing their total to 177.3 to MIT's 177.2, for the Engineers' second straight 177 point meet. Tam won the all-around competition with a 37.05. MIT will try to break the five-year-old school record of 177.625 against the top gymnastics team in the state, UMass Amherst, and one of the top Division II schools in the country, University of Alaska, on Feb. 19.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, February 12

Men's Basketball vs. Wheaton College, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 13

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Harvard, 7:00 p.m.

Squash vs. Brown, 7:30 p.m.

