



Samara L. Firebaugh G throws a pot in the Student Art Association's Intermediate Potter's Wheel class last night in W20-431.

INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH

Phi Gamma Delta Suspension Forces Brothers into Dorms

By Douglas E. Heimbarger
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

As a grand jury investigation into the death of Scott S. Krueger '01 continues, residents of Phi Gamma Delta are preparing to move out of their house at 28 The Fenway and into rooms in MacGregor House, Westgate, Tang Hall, and Ashdown House.

In November, the Boston Licensing Board suspended Fiji's dormitory license from January 15 through August 15. In addition, Fiji was prohibited from having alcohol on its premises until at least the year 2000.

Of the 37 residents of Fiji, 10 freshmen and 13 upperclassmen have requested on-campus dormitory housing to date, said Program Director for Residential Life Philip M. Bernard.

Residence and Campus Activities was working to assist in

moving Fiji students into their on-campus housing before the deadline, Bernard said.

MacGregor House will receive eight of the ten freshmen in four converted lounges, Bernard said. The remaining pair of freshmen will live as roommates in another dormitory.

"We want [the freshmen] to have a roommate that's another pledge" of the fraternity, Bernard said.

The rooms in which some freshmen will be housed are by no means spartan. The lounges are "probably [some] of the nicest doubles on campus," said MacGregor House Manager Robert T. Ramsay Jr. When the rooms were last used as crowding relief during the 1980s, "they [were] very difficult to move [the] students out of because they liked it" so much.

One pair of students will live in each of the MacGregor tower

entries in a suite determined by the current residents, Ramsay said.

Several of the upperclass students of Fiji will be accommodated in pairs in Westgate, Tang Hall and Ashdown House, Bernard said. The remaining seven or eight students will be housed where space permits in the residence system, like others moving on campus from off-campus accommodations.

Students indifferent to changes

Many students at MacGregor House, where the most visible effects will occur, seemed unphased by the loss of the lounges.

The hardest part of the change is deciding in which lounges to house the freshmen, said Dylan H. Rivas '98, B-entry chair at MacGregor. "We really don't know what they're like," he said.

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MIT to Pay Victims \$1.85 Million In Fernald Radiation Settlement

By Zareena Hussain
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT and Quaker Oats Co. agreed last week to pay \$1.85 million to children at the Walter E. Fernald State School who were subjects of nutrition studies during the

1940s and 1950s as part of an out of court settlement. The students were fed breakfast cereals laced with minute amounts of radioactive iron and calcium tracers. Children were encouraged to take part in the testing with promises of gifts or trips to

Red Sox games. Fernald had been officially designated as a school for retarded children, although some of the residents at the time of the experiment were not retarded.

Following the declassification of federal records on post-war radiation experiments in 1993, a state task force investigating postwar radiation experiments throughout Massachusetts found children at Fernald were used in experiments without the informed consent of parents. A class action suit against MIT and Quaker Oats was filed by former students in December 1995.

MIT to pay most in settlement

A statement issued following the settlement said that the money will come primarily from MIT.

"I look on it as the tuition of 20 students," said Vice President for Research and Dean for Graduate Education, J. David Litster PhD 65, who investigated MIT's involvement in the Fernald experiments and presented his findings to the state task force in 1994. The Institute is not insured for such a liability so the money for the settlement will come directly from Institute funds, Litster said.

The amount of money going to each individual subject to the exper-

Fernald, Page 15

Once an IAP Tradition, Charm School Fades Away

By Eric Sit
STAFF REPORTER

The MIT community will need to search elsewhere to discover charm and grace, as MIT's charm school drops off the list of activities being offered during this year's Independent Activities Period.

Charm School was a fun and lighthearted part of the January term. It provided a fun way for students to ask some serious etiquette questions, polish their social skills, and have a bit of fun. Students could go from booth to booth and earn a charm coupon for each lesson completed — 6 subjects would yield a bachelor's degree, eight a master's, and twelve a PhD in charm.

Former Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs Travis R. Merritt founded the school in 1993 because he was tired of hearing the generalization that MIT people can't function socially. Merritt has since retired and could not be reached for comment.

Lack of resources kill activity

The closing of charm school can be traced at least in part to the many transitional problems created by Reengineering at MIT said Program Administrator of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Marshall Hughes. The office which coordinates IAP has been acutely affected as a result. "We've become so understaffed," he said.

Organizing charm school last year was an overwhelming effort, Hughes said. The understaffed IAP office and the lack of student organizers were main factors in the closing of Charm School, he said.

"If a student had stepped forward and volunteered to organize charm school, then there would be a charm school this year," Marshall said.

Students miss Charm School

Disappointed students were surprised to hear that there would be no charm school this year.

Many students complained that they did not even know that charm school needed a student

organizer this year.

"Charm school was a good idea," said Catherine M. Bambenek G. "They taught you things that you don't normally learn in a classroom," she said.

Even Charm School's national reputation failed to earn it a backer. The event was covered by news departments around the world, said Maitreya J. Dunham '99. CNN once did a segment covering the event.

Credit courses encroach

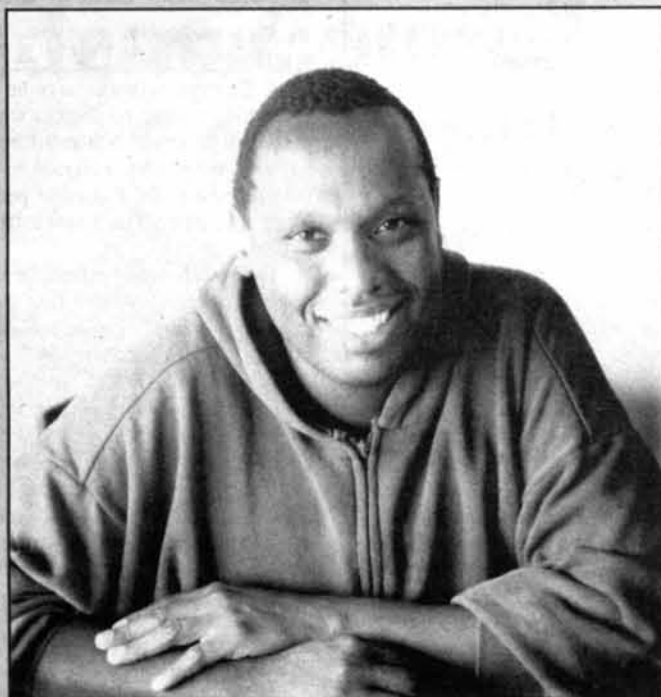
Even though Charm School may have disappeared momentarily, IAP has found a niche in the MIT curriculum, and the MIT community seems to be happy with it, Hughes said. However, its reputation as a time for exploring of extracurricular activities to round out a student's education may be slowly fading.

Since its inception, there has been a steady increase in the number of credit courses offered during IAP.

There has also been concern about the increasing number of of required classes offered only during IAP. Both Mechanical Engineering and Physics require majors to take certain classes that are only offered during IAP.

Hughes agrees with these student concerns. The twelve unit credit limit prevents students from overworking themselves during IAP, he said. It also serves to prevent the faculty from requiring too many credit courses during IAP.

"I would have liked to have seen more humanities classes offered," Marshall said. This would better aid in rounding out an MIT education, he said.



Marshall Hughes

TECH FILE PHOTO

Another significant administrative development of this year was the IAP guide's move to the world wide web, Hughes said. In this form, it is much easier to search for activities and post updates. Current IAP information can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/iap/www/iap98/>.

Unique IAP activities are offered

Students disappointed by the disappearance of the MIT Charm School may be able to seek consolation through the many other offerings held during IAP.

The seductively named Flirting 101, which explores the relationships between men and women, will be offered on January 20.

Those interested in learning how to program should consider Crash Course in C -

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■ Arlo Guthrie entertains at the House of Blues. *Page 6*

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WORLD & NATION

GOP Leadership Attacks Abortion Procedure Litmus Test

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Republican Party leaders Tuesday began a full-scale drive to kill a proposed party resolution that would prohibit giving financial support to any candidate who opposes a ban on a controversial late-term abortion procedure that opponents call "partial birth" abortion.

In a statement sent to all 165 members of the Republican National Committee 10 days before the party is expected to debate the proposal at its winter meeting, RNC chairman Jim Nicholson said: "The question before us is whether we should establish a litmus test. The answer to that question is no. It's a slippery slope that only serves to divide our great national party."

Three former RNC chairmen, Richard N. Bond, Haley Barbour and Frank J. Fahrenkopf, lined up behind Nicholson. "I think this would be incredibly destructive to the Republican Party should it pass," Bond said.

Tim Lambert, a Republican National Committeeman from Texas, has proposed the resolution that appears certain to dominate proceedings at the RNC meeting in Indian Wells, Calif. and to revive the split between the conservative populist and country club wings that has plagued the party for party for 20 years.

Lambert would establish as RNC policy that no money or in-kind support could go to "any candidate or nominee of this party who opposes measures to end so-called partial-birth abortion."

He said Tuesday rejecting his proposal because it creates a litmus test fails to recognize the seriousness of a procedure that he said amounts to "infanticide. ... There are some things so bad that we can't support them."

Tobacco Settlement Money Already Spent in Upcoming Budget

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

In the budget he will release next month, President Clinton plans to spend \$10 billion from the national settlement of legal claims against the tobacco industry.

The only trick: The settlement has not actually been settled.

By including the money in the budget even before tobacco legislation is crafted, the White House is taking a calculated risk that pressure will increase on the Republican-led Congress to pass the comprehensive multibillion-dollar package — or risk taking the political heat in the fall mid-term elections if it does not.

"There's a good prospect we will get a national tobacco settlement," said Rahm Emanuel, Clinton's senior adviser. Yet even as they seek to turn up the heat on lawmakers, some White House aides acknowledge they have put more at stake for the president. With his budget now counting on the money, they believe, Clinton must make the tobacco issue a high priority for the upcoming congressional session.

The fiscal 1999 budget the administration will send Congress in early February assumes that the federal government will collect \$10 billion from whatever legislation ultimately is passed, whether it be in the form of excise taxes or "voluntary payments" from cigarette manufacturers. The administration's budget will outline how the money should be spent — mostly to tobacco-related initiatives previously envisioned by negotiators, such as increased regulatory enforcement, anti-smoking campaigns and biomedical research.

U.N. Food-Aid Officials Call for Help to North Korea

THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

Warning that North Korea could run out of food by April, the United Nations World Food Program appealed to the world Tuesday for \$378 million in emergency aid to avert widespread starvation and malnutrition in the isolated communist country.

In making its largest-ever appeal for help, the Rome-based WFP said it needs 657,972 metric tons of food to distribute to 7.5 million people in the months ahead. During 1997, the WFP gave food aid to 4.7 million North Koreans. The total North Korean population is about 23.2 million.

"We got through last year by the skin of our teeth and managed to avert a major disaster," Katherine Bertini, the WFP executive director, told a news conference in London. "The international community has been very generous, and we are calling on it to be more generous to prevent food shortages from becoming a famine."

WEATHER

Rainfest

By Gerard Roe

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The next few days will be a generally miserable start to the new year, offset partially perhaps by temperatures that will be about ten degrees warmer than normal. A large low pressure trough at middle and upper levels sitting over the center of the country has spread record warmth over the eastern US. The trough is gradually beginning to move away northeastwards, but its slow progress will bring unsettled conditions for the rest of the week. The omnipresent clouds and ocean winds will keep temperatures almost constant around the mid-40s.

Today: Fog clearing, then drizzle and showers. Winds weak and variable. High 47°F (8°C).

Tonight: Rain likely. Low 44°F (7°C).

Thursday: More rain, slowing towards day's end. High 46°F (8°C), Low 43°F (6°C).

Friday: Even more rain. High and low in the 40s (5 to 9°C).

Indonesia Bailout Criticized Following Continued Plunge

By Paul Blustein and Sandra Sugawara

THE WASHINGTON POST

The \$43 billion international rescue plan for Indonesia's economy is in danger of coming unstuck, government officials and private analysts warned Tuesday, as the Asian nation's currency plunged to a record low and its government announced a budget that failed to meet targets set by creditors.

Indonesia's troubles are the latest sign that Asia's financial crisis is worsening despite more than \$100 billion in international bailouts that have been mustered by the International Monetary Fund for several of the region's once-prosperous economies.

The currencies of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines have hit new lows on each trading day of the new year. And Tuesday the Indonesian rupiah — which lost 56 percent of its value against the dollar last year — fell the furthest, dropping 15 percent.

The relentless turmoil in Asian markets is intensifying worries that the IMF-led rescues are failing to reverse the region's slide toward economic and political chaos. South Korea's \$57 billion bailout, the biggest ever, had to be strengthened two weeks ago because capital was continuing to flee the country, forcing the IMF and the world's richest countries to speed loans to Seoul ahead of schedule. The free-fall of the rupiah is raising the prospect that Indonesia's rescue package will also have to be supplemented or altered in some significant way.

IMF officials acknowledged Tuesday that the Indonesian situa-

tion is becoming particularly worrisome, but they said the fault lies mainly with the Jakarta regime for failing to follow through on pledges to restructure the nation's economy that were made in exchange for the bailout.

Clinton administration officials, who have been heavily involved in designing the IMF packages, hold similar views, although they refused to be quoted Tuesday.

"We would like to see the senior leadership in Indonesia stand up and be counted on the reforms," a senior IMF official said. "I think the markets are asking themselves the question of just how much the senior Indonesian leadership is committed to this program, and particularly to the major reform measures that affect the family" of Indonesian President Suharto. A number of Suharto's relatives own or control giant companies that would lose lucrative subsidies and benefits if the IMF's prescriptions were followed faithfully.

One possible outcome is that the IMF, which disbursed \$3 billion in loans to Indonesia in November, will refuse to approve a second installment of \$3 billion that is scheduled to be advanced in mid-March following a review of Indonesia's performance.

Government sources stressed that a decision is far from being made, but the senior IMF official said, "It will be a key moment for all of us — not just the Indonesians, but for all of us trying to think through how to deal with this situation successfully."

Analysts said the budget unveiled Tuesday by Suharto made

a suspension of IMF assistance much more likely, because Jakarta was failing to fulfill promises to run a budget surplus and was balking at cutting spending on politically popular items that the IMF views as inefficient, such as gasoline subsidies.

IMF and U.S. officials are anxious to restore stability in Indonesia, partly because of the impact an economic collapse there would have on the economies of its neighbors and partly because the archipelago has a history of bloody conflict between the Muslim majority and the small ethnic Chinese minority that controls the bulk of the wealth.

"Indonesia could move from a financial crisis to a political crisis to an ethnic pogrom," said David Hale, an economist at Zurich Kemper Investments in Chicago. "This thing is still very serious."

A collapse of the Indonesian rescue wouldn't necessarily raise the same risks of an international financial crisis that IMF and U.S. officials have feared in the South Korean case.

Indonesia holds substantial currency reserves, according to IMF officials, and much of the \$60 billion that it owes to major foreign financial institutions is owed by private conglomerates and companies rather than banks. Many of them have reportedly gone into virtual default to foreign creditors because, as the rupiah tumbles, they become less able to pay debts owed in dollars. But pursuing bankruptcy claims in the nation's courts is notoriously difficult, so many lenders have refrained from pressing the matter, at least for the time being.

Chicago Physicist Announces He's Ready to Clone a Human

By Rick Weiss

THE WASHINGTON POST

A Chicago scientist says he has assembled a team of doctors that is prepared to clone a human being before Congress has a chance to ban the procedure, and that eight people have already volunteered to be cloned.

The scientist, G. Richard Seed, is a PhD physicist who has been involved in fertility research since the early 1970s but currently has no university or research laboratory affiliation. Several people familiar with Seed said that he is known for his eccentric views and doubted he would follow through with his plan. But others said Seed has the technical and entrepreneurial expertise — and philosophical commitment to radical science — to accomplish the feat.

"Richard is a brilliant man," said Harrith Hasson, chairman of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Chicago's Weiss Memorial Hospital, who has worked with Seed. "He is a little crazy but we all have to be a little crazy to get to that level. And if anyone can make [human cloning] happen it would be someone like Richard Seed."

Seed appears to be the first scientist to state plainly that he has both the means and the intention to clone a human being. President Clinton last year banned the use of federal money to conduct human cloning experiments, and has requested that privately funded enterprises adhere to a voluntary ban on human cloning.

A national bioethics commission last year recommended that Congress enact a law that would make human cloning illegal, saying

it posed unacceptable medical risks and raised deeply troubling ethical questions.

Cloning is an experimental method for replicating adult animals that was made famous last year when scientists in Scotland used it to make Dolly the sheep, the first cloned mammal.

In humans, the method would start with a single cell — any cell may do — taken from the adult who wants to be cloned. Using an electrical jolt, scientists would fuse the genes from that cell with a specially treated donor egg cell whose own genes had been removed. That cell would be allowed to grow into an embryo in the laboratory. The embryo would be implanted into the womb of a surrogate mother, where it would develop into a person genetically identical to the original donor.

Seed first announced his intentions at a Dec. 5 symposium on reproductive technologies in Chicago. "I've got the team together," he said then to a visibly uncomfortable audience.

Tuesday, in a telephone interview, he said that his preparations had since progressed "from 50 percent complete to 90 percent complete" with the assemblage of several physicians — whom he would not name — willing to work with him. He said the group had selected four couples from an initial pool of six that had volunteered to be cloned.

Three of the couples have one infertile partner each, Seed said, and the "first choice" couple is comprised of a man and woman who are both infertile. "The only way they can transmit any of their genes is by cloning," he said.

The work would be done in rent-

ed laboratory space until a new lab is built, said Seed, who acknowledged that one reason he was announcing his intentions was to help attract venture capital. He said they hadn't decided whether to charge for the first efforts.

Mark Sauer, chief of reproductive endocrinology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York, said he was concerned about Seed's plan. "There's little question that it can be done. The question is, should it be done and, if so, under what conditions? It's hard to think of a clinical scenario that's warranted other than doing it for the sensational value."

Joe B. Massey, co-director of Reproductive Biology Associates, a fertility clinic in Atlanta, said "it would be a disservice to our field" to clone a person.

No doctors have stated publicly their willingness to cooperate with Seed, although Hasson said he might be willing if Seed got approval from an ethics review board.

In any case, even that level of review is unusual, said Lori Andrews, a professor of law and bioethics at Chicago-Kent College of Law who has criticized the fertility industry's lack of regulation. Andrews said she would not be surprised if Seed tried to follow through on his plan. "He has a history of applying animal reproductive techniques to humans," she said. But she said there were many reasons to oppose it.

Seed said he would move his operation overseas if Congress or the Food and Drug Administration — which has said it believes it has the power to regulate cloning — tries to impede his work.

California Ski Accident Kills Representative Sonny Bono

By William Claiborne
THE WASHINGTON POST
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CALIF.

Rep. Sonny Bono, R-Calif., the easygoing half of the Sonny and Cher singing duo who evolved into an activist mayor and a respected congressman, was killed in this mountain resort Monday afternoon when he slammed into a tree after skiing off an intermediate slope for a solo run through the pines.

Bono's swift death — a coroner's report said he died immediately of massive blunt trauma — resembled the accident that killed Michael Kennedy, the 39-year-old son of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy as he played football with family members on Dec. 31 along an intermediate-level slope in Aspen, Colo.

Douglas County Sheriff Ron Pierini said Tuesday that Bono, an avid and experienced skier, died

about 2 p.m., five hours before the body was found partially obscured by a thick grove of trees about 150 feet off of the Upper Orion trail of the Heavenly Ski Resort on the Nevada-California state line.

Resort officials said that Bono, 62, who had skied here for more than 20 years, was alone at the time of the accident. After riding a gondola to the top of the mountain with other family members, he skied ahead and was not observed leaving the trail, authorities said.

Bono was skiing here with his wife, Mary Whitaker, and their two children, Chesare, 9, and Chianna, 6, who lagged behind after one of the daughters stumbled.

Pierini said the family waited at the bottom of the trail for two hours and contacted authorities when Bono failed to show up. Resort officials said they first contacted the operators of shuttle buses that run

between the mountain at local hotels and when there was still no trace of Bono, ski patrols mounted a search.

Pierini said officials estimated that Bono was going between 20 and 30 miles per hour when he hit the tree. He said the autopsy by the Douglas County coroner showed "no indication of any substances or alcohol."

Experienced skiers here described that part of the Upper Orion trail as "easy-to-intermediate" with hard-packed snow that tends to become icy in the late afternoon shadows.

But they said many skiers veer off the trail into the tree line, either in search of powder snow or to connect with other trails. The wooded area where Bono's body was found had about a foot of powdered snow and "trees all over the place," Pierini told reporters at a news conference.

Clinton Unveils Plan to Expand Medicare by Additional 1 Million

By Judith Havemann and Helen Dewar
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton Tuesday proposed the largest expansion of Medicare in a quarter century, offering early retirees at age 62 and displaced workers as young as 55 the opportunity to buy coverage under the government's health care program for the elderly.

The plan, which must be approved by Congress, is designed to make health insurance available to millions of potential retirees age 62 up to 65 and another 700,000 dislocated workers 55 and older who either can't afford or lack access to comprehensive health care.

In order to receive the Medicare benefits, the early retirees would be

required to pay a premium of roughly \$300 a month, and for those who involuntarily lose their jobs the tab would be \$400. In part because of the costs, the administration estimates that only about 300,000 of the millions who would be eligible will actually take advantage of the offer.

A separate component of the proposal would target people who retired early but were left uninsured when employers reneged on promises to provide them health insurance.

Prominent Republicans and many business leaders immediately criticized Tuesday's Medicare initiative as fiscally imprudent at a time when the long-term solvency of the entire Medicare system is in jeopardy.

"When your mother is on the Titanic and it's sinking, your first preoccupation ought not to be get-

ting more people on the Titanic," said Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, chairman of the Finance Committee's subcommittee on health.

But the more circumspect response of Senate Finance Committee Chairman William V. Roth Jr., R-Del., suggested that the political popularity of the plan in an election year may make it difficult for the Republicans to dismiss it out of hand. Roth said only that Clinton had highlighted an important health care issue and that he is eager to see more details.

Administration officials contend that the new proposal would not add significantly to Medicare's costs because the new enrollees would pay premiums that would cover their costs over time.

'Snow of Mercy' Blankets Nagano

THE WASHINGTON POST

TOKYO

In Nagano, they are calling it the "snow of mercy." The first significant snow in weeks fell Tuesday night covering muddy Olympic ski slopes with a blanket of white just one month before the Winter Games begin.

In Hakuba, a mountain town that will host the downhill races, a glorious eight inches of snow fell, enough to wake up village ski chieftain Tadaaki Matsuzawa, who ran outside at dawn and danced.

"I have waited for the sound of snow on my roof for one month," said the giddy official in charge of the downhill course. "Finally, finally, we got it!"

"If this keeps up, we will somehow manage," he said.

If it doesn't, the downhill and other key events may have to be canceled. And Japan, which has spent billions of dollars and most of this decade preparing for next month's Winter Games, could find its dream of a Winter Wonderland praised around the globe washed away by unseasonable warm rain.

An unusually warm winter, which some blame on the El Nino weather pattern and others say comes with selecting the most southerly site ever for the Winter Games, has left four out of five ski resorts around the Olympic area shut or empty for lack of snow.

Officials here hope the Games will prove uniquely Japanese in their simplicity, style and high-tech bent. And they hope to prevent the Games from being too commercial, a criticism leveled by some toward the summer games in Atlanta. Japanese organizers have been careful about limiting advertising, even paying \$25,000 to snap up outdoor advertising space near the stage where medals will be awarded, which they will leave blank to avoid the possibility of an eyesore for television viewers.

Cuban Players Head For Nicaragua

THE WASHINGTON POST

With their welcome in the Bahamas wearing thin and the Major League free-agent market beckoning, two star Cuban baseball players and five companions Tuesday appeared headed to Central America in a deal brokered by a Cuban American congressman from Miami.

Nicaraguan President Arnoldo Aleman informed the Bahamas that he had agreed to grant temporary visas to the Cubans for "humanitarian reasons," the Nicaraguan Embassy here said. The deal represents the newest attempt to allow the entire group to escape deportation back to Cuba, rather than just the three who last week were granted permission to enter the United States.

The visas, valid for up to three months, also will give the defectors a safe haven while agents for the ballplayers work out residency arrangements with the government of Costa Rica, congressional sources said.

The deal, hastily patched together Tuesday with the help of Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., came as the Bahamas ordered the two players to leave the country by Wednesday. The players, pitcher Orlando Hernandez and catcher Alberto Hernandez, who is no relation, were granted "humanitarian parole" by the State Department last week along with Noris Bosch, the pitcher's girlfriend. That status allows them to enter the United States and seek eventual permanent residence here. Bosch took up the offer and flew to Miami on Monday.



Graduate Student Council

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Smuggler's Notch Ski Trip

Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 1998
\$140 for transportation, three-day lift tickets, and accommodation.
Sign-up at the GSC office, 50-220.
Check out the website for details:
www.mit.edu/activities/gsc



The Graduate Student Newsletter will be out on Feb. 15. Stories, comments, feedback, opinions, and announcements that are pertinent to graduate students are welcome and will be accepted until Jan. 23. Electronic submission to gsc-secretary@mit.edu is preferred, otherwise please mail to GSC Secretary at Room 50-220.

OPINION

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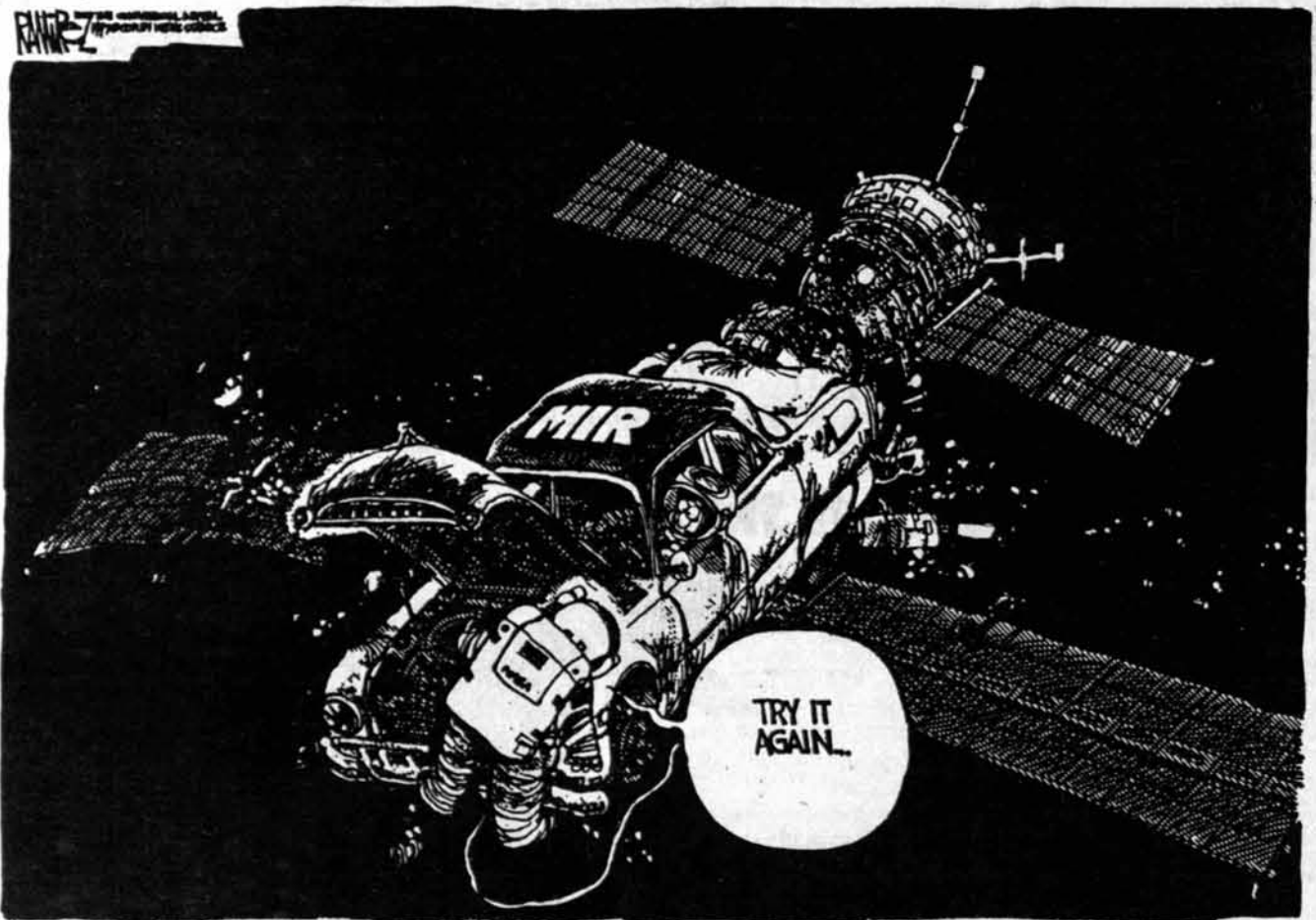
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A Time For Living

The Press of Work and Time Can Strip Our Lives of Meaning

Naveen Sunkavally

Leaving home the second time is a lot harder than leaving the first time. So I discovered after my two week vacation in California during the winter break. Somehow the butterflies in one's stomach fly a little bit more furiously and seem to acquire fangs — somewhat more like bats rolling out of control inside a dark cave.

I believe there are three types of languages in the world: those that are spoken, those that are written, and those that are felt. And while spoken language can be put into written language and vice versa, the language of feeling, though universal, can rarely be translated to either. Thus it is hard to explain why I feel the way I do.

Perhaps the first time I left home I had a mission to explore a new frontier: to see how an east coast city like Boston compared to California, to see how the architectural styles differed, how much louder or softer the fans cheered for their basketball and football teams, or how much more citizens participated in city elections. This exploratory bent wasn't there the second time I left home. Not to mention that I also knew what I was missing by the second time I returned home.

"Sweet memories are the paradise of the mind," read the message in a fortune cookie I picked up at dinner not too long ago after coming back to Cambridge. Rarely are fortune cookies very accurate or timely in their statements. The previous one I received employed a slightly incisive tone, reading, "Everyone thinks you are the best." In contrast, this message really hit it home. In my paradise, I go flower to flower through the garden as sprightly butterfly, picking and stowing them away in memory's basket.

The fortune cookie I cracked open reminded me of an Ernest Dowson poem I once read as a child and committed to memory:

Vitae Summae Brevis Spem Nos Vetat

Incohere Longam [The Brief Sum of Life Forbids Us the Hope of Enduring Long

They are not long, the weeping and the laughter,

Love, Desire, and Hate,

I think they have no portion in us after

We pass the gate.

They are not long, the days of wine and roses,

Out of a dream,

Our path emerges for a while, then closes

Within a dream.

The passage of time is a theme as old as history itself, and everyday it confronts us square in the face. In a sense, to an observer, the concept of time is utterly ludicrous, since time is a human invention, and nature

is not so one-dimensional. The entire experience of leaving home and reliving past memories has given me perspective to see how fast life veers towards its end and how quickly the threads that bind people, civilizations, cultures, and history can snap.

Here at MIT, we are often too embroiled in studies and life in the fast lane that we do not take time step back to enjoy what will be the best years of our life. How many of us, for instance, have read a good book lately, exploring the world of Proust and Henry James and Dickens? I haven't, and I long for the feeling of reading a good book in bed. Since coming here, I haven't bought a single book outside of classes.

And how many of us have gone to the Boston symphony, a museum, or

seen a good movie

— one not merely

rehashing the

same old plot

line of terrorists

and love triangles

but touching

us on a spiritual

level? I know I

haven't, and I also

know that such

opportunities will

not come so freely

later in life. As

William Wordsworth

said, "The world is too

much with us; late and

soon, getting and spending,

laying waste to our

powers." Unable to

behold the outside from

the inside, we have become

caught up in the intensity of

a culture that feeds intensity.

All of reason in a sense is

nothing but another religion.

But memories, emotions, feelings

— these live on for eternity.

E.B. White once wrote about the

sensation of letting "your mind

return into the grooves that lead

back" to past memories: What

grooves shall we have to return to,

what memories will we have to

relieve if we spend a good portion

of our time burning over our studies.

This year I resolve to do a little

bit more exploring and memory-

making, to be a bit more

religious and strong, than in the

year before.



Pushing the Limits of Science and Technology

Guest Column
Sevgi Ertan

In the Dec. 9, 1997 issue of *The Tech*, Brett Altschul '99 ["Other-worldly Media Lab Doesn't Amount to Much"], Douglas E. Heimburger '00 ["Smoke and Mirrors"], and Anders Hove G ["Negroponte's Wacky Columns Embarrass MIT"] all seem to come to the same conclusion about the Media Laboratory: that it is nothing but fluff and contributes nothing to the MIT community. I disagree with this conclusion. Rather than talk in generalities as the opinion writers have, however, I would like to offer my personal experience as testimony.

Last summer I was looking for a UROP. I'd heard a lot about the Media Lab. Most of it was negative and said the lab had done little real research. I sought out and obtained a Media Lab UROP just to see what it was like and I discovered that it was not at all like what I had heard about.

The Media Lab does not do much conventional research into fundamental physical principles. Instead it pushes the limits of existing technology. There were some projects that did seem a bit wacky to me at first, and I could not see the point in pursuing them. For example, I don't buy the idea that giving everyone a little television screen and wearable computer worn constantly like a watch would be a positive thing. The high profile, wacky projects attract interest because of their eccentricity. Many projects are not like this, though, and are useful.

I am mostly familiar with my own group, so I will only comment on our work. I work in the Perceptual Computing division with tactile wearables. My work specifically focuses on developing tactile communication schemes that could be used for blind navigation. The

military is interested in using tactile wearables for pilot-orientation problems and night operations. When the donors came last October to look at the projects, many other useful ideas for tactile communications came up. By the end of the spring term we hope to have a working blind navigation system built. I don't think anyone could argue that trying to build a

The Media Lab is a hotbed for new and interesting ideas.

The lab encourages engineers to think

freely about how to

use their skills to build a

beneficial system.

Just because a system does not seem to be good for society does

not mean it should not be

pursued.

system to help the blind is fluff or useless research.

Tactile wearables represent just one example of a project that is beneficial to society. Even the more controversial or seemingly useless projects do in fact have a real benefit; they push the limits of technology and bring ideas for new systems and ways of doing things. Some teams are doing remarkable things with speech and pattern recognition.

In his column Heimburger asks, "What

does the Media Lab do for the Institute community as a whole?" Let me answer: The Media Lab is a hotbed for new and interesting ideas. The lab encourages engineers to think freely about how to use their skills to build a beneficial system. Just because a system does not seem to be good for society does not mean it should not be pursued. Consider the case of Dolly, the genetically-cloned sheep. Genetic cloning is controversial, but does that mean that no one should look into the science behind it? It is for society to debate whether it is good to clone sheep, or whether to rig everyone with a computer for that matter.

MIT students should not dismiss Media Lab UROPs as "cushy." In my UROP I learned about how to expand my mind, to constantly try different things and ask "What if?" questions. I have been given free reign to explore many different ways of building and designing my project. At the Media Lab, my ideas are not shot down right away. Instead, the lab empowers me to show that they can work — I can and do influence the direction of projects. I have been given a lot of responsibility for ensuring that the projects I'm involved in get done.

Before MIT students condemn the Media Lab or ask that it be split from MIT, they should first take an honest look at what the Media Lab stands for and what it does. Stereotypes are the bullets of the unknowing. In showing only a minute fraction of what the Media Lab is about, the columns by Hove, Heimburger and Altschul have done injustice to all those who tire, sweat, and work to do good things for the world at the Media Lab.

Sevgi Ertan is a member of the Class of 1998.

Negroponte's Substantive Esoterica

Guest Column
John Dakss

In his column in the last issue of *The Tech* ["Negroponte's Wacky Columns Embarrass MIT," Dec. 9, 1997], Anders Hove G criticizes Professor of Media Technology Nicholas P. Negroponte. Hove's column condemns Negroponte's essays in *Wired* magazine as "goofy," "fluff," and "total insanity," yet he fails to critique or even state any of Negroponte's beliefs regarding the future of technology and society. Instead, Hove chooses to insult Negroponte's idiosyncratic style of writing and mock excerpts of his monthly column out of context.

Admittedly, Negroponte's writings are unusual and off-beat. He often intertwines his knowledge of American pop culture, foreign cultures and Internet culture, but always with a point in mind. In his 1995 book, *Being Digital*, Negroponte uses an example from *Star Wars* to explain holographic video, and uses a ski lift analogy to explain the concept of bandwidth. As a result he is able to write about technology in a manner which appeals to both the readers of "Dilbert" and the readers of "Doodlesbury." How else could a book which explains ADSL (Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Loop) technology, discusses the merits and drawbacks of fiber versus twisted pair and describes the origin of words like "pixel" become a *New York*

In his 1995 book, Being Digital, Negroponte uses an example from Star Wars to explain holographic video, and uses a ski lift analogy to explain the concept of bandwidth... There is no reason why substantive publications concerning technology and society must be esoteric and understandable by only the technical elite found at institutions like MIT.

Times bestseller? In Hove's own words, "to most Americans, bits are things that come in orange juice." There is no reason why substantive publications concerning technology and society must be esoteric and understandable by only the technical elite found at institutions like MIT.

Hove's column would have been an enlightening and worthwhile read if he had provided thought-provoking and intelligent criticisms of Negroponte's unconventional ideas regarding the future. Rather than provide scientific evidence which challenged the man's predictions of innovations like paper-thin, flexible, lightweight, waterproof electronic displays, or philosophical scruples which attacked his predilection towards a digitally-enhanced society, Hove instead took shallow pot-shots at isolated sentences penned by Negroponte.

As an example, Hove chose to facetiously mock the quote "Nations today are the wrong size" by attributing it to be antipathy towards cartographers. Hove should have instead critiqued the meaning behind Negroponte's words, which are a prediction that global digital networks will generate communities which defy physical boundaries and that telecommuting will eliminate the need for people to function in cities and other products of the industrial age. Many pundits have already debated the likelihood of this phenomenon and its positive and negative ramifications. Hove, on the other hand, flouts Negroponte's sense of humor but does not even attempt a tête-à-tête with his beliefs.

How utterly ironic that Hove, after criticizing Negroponte's style but not his ideas, chose to end his column with the statement that fluff by any other name is still fluff.

Jonathan Dakss is a graduate student in Media Arts and Sciences.

THE ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW

Amistad

Spielberg turns towards American history for his latest trials-of-life epic

By Vladimir Zelevinsky
STAFF REPORTER

In 1832, the African slaves aboard of the ship *La Amistad* break their chains, murder their captors, and sail back and forth across the Atlantic for two months before landing on the coast of Connecticut, where they are captured. They immediately become the center of a tempestuous legal, moral, and philosophical struggle. The state wants to try them for murder; the Spanish monarchy wants them returned (the *Amistad* was a Spanish ship); the people who captured the slaves claim salvage rights; and two of the surviving crew want their property restored to them. The ensuing legal battle draws in lawyers, abolitionists, slavery advocates, heads of state from the United States and Spain, and, most importantly, the Africans themselves. Steven Spielberg takes this spellbinding story and makes it into an excellent movie, although one

that falls somewhat short of his 1993 drama *Schindler's List*.

Let's get the problems out of the way first, since they are easy to spot and list. The film starts with a cinematically electrifying sequence depicting the slave rebellion on board of the *Amistad*, but after that seems to wander aimlessly for the next half hour or so while trying to find its tone. Eventually *Amistad* decides to become a classical courtroom drama. It is compelling, but it certainly does not rank among the best (it's mighty hard to top *Twelve Angry Men*). In addition the movie puts *Amistad* squarely in the middle of this overused genre turf, a trap that *Schindler's List* managed to avoid.

Schindler's List excelled as a piece of a powerfully visceral narrative and was fully engaging emotionally. *Amistad*, on the other hand, is much more of an intellectual experi-

ence: there are long legal speeches, multiple — albeit entertaining — courtroom scenes, and complex metaphors (most of which are apt and inspired, and even those that don't work, like the comparison of the Africans' plight to that of Jesus, provide enough material for some arresting images). This is strong material, but the emotional impact often feels diluted.

Amistad is also not as good as fleshing out the characters that we should feel sympathetic for. By the end of *Schindler's List* all the Jewish characters were clearly defined and distinct characters. I still remember more than a dozen of them, although I haven't seen the movie for three years. I saw *Amistad* three hours ago and already I the characters are beginning to blend together. This is especially the case with the slaves, which don't seem to have been well distinguished, with the important exception of Djimon Hounsou's Cinque.

While these lessen the impact of the movie somewhat, *Amistad* remains an excellent piece of work. There's an extended flashback in the very middle of the movie, when Cinque relates the whole mechanism of slave trade, that is brutally effective — I expect to have nightmares of it in the days to come.

The story itself, which in the end uses the *Amistad* case as a springboard to ponder the

link between American ideology and history, is simultaneously engrossing, shocking, and blissfully non-obvious (unlike some recent movies, such as *Rosewood*, that tried to explore the same topics). Acting is excellent across the board with the possible exception being Morgan Freeman, who has one profound scene early in the movie, but practically disappears after that.

Technical aspects are similarly well polished: John Williams provides a singularly non-Williamsian (read: subtle) score, editing is top-notch, and cinematography is as unusual as it is effective.

Most unexpected for me was the major comic element: the Africans' struggles to understand the alien world. Their sarcastic comments to each other are frequently funny, and Anthony Hopkins somehow manages to make his John Quincy Adams (who came out from retirement to be the slaves' legal advisor) to be simultaneously heroic, senile, and comical.

Oh yes, "Amistad" is Spanish for "Friendship". Life creates all the best plots.

Directed by Steven Spielberg.

Written by David Franzoni.

Starring Morgan Freeman, Djimon Hounsou, Anthony Hopkins, Matthew McConaughey, and Nigel Hawthorne

CONCERT REVIEW

You can get anything you want at Arlo's restaurant

By Joel Rosenberg

STAFF REPORTER

"Arlo Guthrie? I thought he was dead." That's how Arlo introduced himself at the House of Blues last December during his three-night stay in Cambridge. By the end of the night, he had proven he was most certainly still living.

For those unfamiliar with Arlo, his career was launched in 1967 when the then 20-year-old folk singer released what was to become his signature song, "Alice's Restaurant Massacre," in which he cut on small town law enforcement and Vietnam, two topics that the public appreciated, especially in Guthrie's unique storytelling style.

That style, with flawless timing and just enough humor, has kept them coming for more ever since. Last summer Arlo emceed the Further Festival, a Grateful Dead tribute concert, and when he returned to Boston last month, he hadn't missed a beat.

Backed by his son on synthesizer, Arlo spent a few hours entertaining the packed crowd on guitar, harmonica, keyboards, and even a bit of ukulele towards the end. But it was the stories about his life were what made the show truly compelling and richly entertaining.

In one story he described how he had been doing some charity work a few years ago, making rounds in a hospital with his guitar and a friend. At one point, his friend asked one of the patients if there was anything she could do for him; he said he had always been a fan of Arlo Guthrie and would really like to meet him. After telling the patient to close his eyes, he nearly died when he opened them to find Arlo standing before him.

Another story was about the time he snuck into the studio where they were recording a promo for his latest record. When he made a suggestion to the guy doing the voiceover, the guy became enraged, stormed out, and left Arlo to do it himself. Stepping up to the challenge, he put on the headphones and did the

best Bob Dylan impression he could. Next day Arlo was called into the "Big Office," where a bunch of suits were sitting around a large wooden table with a lone audio cassette on it.

"Arlo, you can't do this," they said to him.

"Why not?" he questioned.

"We don't have permission," they told him.

So Arlo went and gave the tape to Dylan's people. A few days later he got a call from Bob himself, who said, "Arlo, when my record comes out will you do a promo for me?"

Arlo often blurred the line between his singing and his storytelling. He explained "The Motorcycle Song" as a moment-of-truth vision he saw written across the sky in the split second following an accident he had on his bike. "Ring-Around-A-Rosy Rag," he explained, was inspired by a heavily intoxicated trip to the park with his friends. "Alice's Restaurant" was impeccably done, and had additional material describing how he has first hand knowledge that Nixon owned an opened copy of Alice's Restaurant, and that the original version was eighteen

and a half minutes long. He recited *Moses Come Walking*, a poem he wrote about how the creatures are moving into his western Massachusetts homestead, and how happy he was to find out that mooses is correct. And his encore cover of Steve Goodman's *The City of New Orleans* brought a tear to the eye.

Talking about Woodstock as a first hand participant, discussing memory lapses from the drugs, and sporting long hair and a goatee, Arlo remains a vintage hippie, a title he is most proud of it. "I'm not real smart," he told the audience. Anyone who saw him singing and telling stories without missing a beat or pausing a moment would most likely disagree, and would certainly testify to the life Arlo still has left in him.



Speed, starring Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock, shows at LSC Friday night at 7 and 10 p.m. in 26-100, and again Sunday night at 7 p.m.

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

The Vegetarian Gourmet

By Steven R. L. Millman

Welcome back from break friends and neighbors! The Vegetarian Gourmet had a good break including a trip to Aspen and the Restaurant at the Little Nell, one of the fourteen best restaurant/hotels in the United States and winner of the Wine Spectator Grand Award for excellence.

Now don't even think about drinking if you're underage, in fact (in keeping with the new alcohol policy), don't even read to the end of this paragraph. I mean it youngsters! For those more mature readers still following, I shared a demi of 1983 Fonseca Vintage Port. Astoundingly mellow, with raspberry and plum tones and a finish that melts you. Served alongside a simple chocolate cake and vanilla bean ice cream, I thought I'd just have to move in.

MARY CHUNG RESTAURANT

494 Mass Ave.
864-1991
Sun., Mon., Wed., Thurs. 11:30 AM - 10:00 p.m.
Fri., Sat. 11:30 AM - 11:00 PM
Dim Sum Menu: Sat-Sun 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Closed Tuesday
Vegetarian Dinner Entrees Priced \$5.50-\$6.95
Credit Cards not accepted

This week the Vegetarian Gourmet reviews Mary Chung Restaurant. As is so often the case with Chinese restaurants, a boring or shabby appearance stands in stark contrast to the glorious food served within! A nondescript storefront opens into a clean but drab restaurant featuring little other than a mirror on one wall in the predictable attempt to make a small place look larger. The tables are clothed in the standard reds one is used to seeing in Asian restaurants and the booth seats have more tears than the backseat of your parents old wood paneled station wagon. Except for the actual Chinese music (not piped in 70's technopop as is so often the case) the overall impression is that you've walked into the

Chinese equivalent of any greasy spoon in middle America. The bathrooms certainly won't dismiss this sensation.

Menu selection took quite some time with nearly thirty vegetarian entrees to select from (some need meat excluded). The appetizer menu was more disappointing with only two meatless selections. We started with the vegetarian spring rolls which were a full six or seven inches long and perfectly cooked, although perhaps a bit too oily. The filling was satisfying, but not extremely flavorful, and was overpowered rather than accented by the accompanying duck sauce.

The entrees were an absolute delight. After much soul searching, we ordered two of the house specials, Yu Hsiang tofu and Ma Paw tofu (without pork), along with the vegetable lo mein and bean curd with peapods. The Yu Hsiang tofu was practically a religious experience in bean curd. Fried soft tofu, scallions, water chestnuts and a bit of seaweed in a brilliant gently sweet and genuinely, but not overpoweringly spicy sauce. If Larry's Chinese Restaurant was Yu Hsiang at its worst ["Vegetarian Gourmet", Dec. 5, 1997], Mary Chung is Yu Hsiang at its best. The Ma Paw tofu is a spice lover's fantasy. Soft tofu set simply in a red hot chili sauce with pepper. Eaten with rice, it makes an elegant dish. The vegetable lo mein was mostly lo mein and very little vegetable aside from the stray mushroom and carrot. Fine, but on the oily side, it was a disappointment compared to the quality of the rest of the meal.

If you're looking for good Chinese at a reasonable price, Mary Chung can't be beat in Central Square and stands up admirably in Boston at large. It's no small wonder then that Mary Chung has gained a wide and devoted following. My fortune at the end, written by a great Vulcan-Chinese philosopher read, "You love Chinese food. Live long and prosper." Easy to do at Mary Chung's. Highly recommended!

Next week: **The Royal East** (and then no more Chinese for a while, I promise!)

Scoop

By Teresa Huang

It's IAP! Hip hip hooray! Time to do all those little things you never did fall term. I'm not talking about cleaning out your inbox. I'm talking about exploring Boston, seeing the latest Julia Roberts flick on video, learning how to make Western omelets, and shopping! Unless you're taking 10.001 or 6.270, you have no excuse for not attending all the seminars you've circled on your IAP Guide and using the rest of your time to have fun. You still haven't seen *The Full Monty*? Tsk tsk. Get to it.

Hershey Kisses are for wimps. If you're feeling plagued by a chocolate craving, indulge it with gusto. Witness the amazing and creative ways Pastry Chef Gina Cosentino uses 50 pounds of chocolate at the Le Meridien Hotel on 250 Franklin Street in Boston. Visit the hotel's Cafè Fleuri any Saturday between 1 and 3 pm and behold perhaps the biggest **all-you-can-eat chocolate dessert buffet** in existence. Among the treasures are chocolate hazelnut crepes, chocolate raspberry mousse cake, orange chocolate tarts, and the hotel's signature chocolate croissant pudding. Admission is expensive (\$15.50 per person) but the chocolate bar is sure to satisfy your chocolate cravings until next millennium.

Malls of the world, Part 2. If you've checked out the shopping centers listed in the last *Scoop* you might want to move on to other malls in the area. A good first stop is the **Burlington Mall**. If you like leather products, shop away at stores like Enzo Angiolini, Coach, Wilson's Leather, Sheepskin Leather, and much more. Visit the Laura Ashley store if you want to make your boring room seem more cozy, or stock up on electronics at Tweeter, Etc. Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Burlington Mall features over 170 specialty stores and restaurants and can be reached by taking the red line to Alewife and taking the #350 bus directly to the mall's entrance.

Happy spending!

We scream for Ben & Jerry's. Don't feel guilty about breaking your no-ice-cream New Year's resolution, because your transgression will help others. For every pint of **Ben & Jerry's** you eat from now until June 30, 1998, Ben, Jerry, and Yahoo! will donate 10 cents to NetDay, a grass roots volunteer initiative that helps connect schools in the U.S. to the Internet. If you send in the pint container's lid you'll also be entered in the Lids for Kids Contest, where you could win a lifetime supply of Ben & Jerry's, a trip to Vermont, or one of over 25,000 prizes. If you pride yourself on your ice cream will power but still want to enter the contest, you can visit the Ben & Jerry's Web site at <http://www.benjerry.com>. Happy ice cream eating!

Groovy, baby, yeah! When you and your friends walk into a video store this IAP, head for the new releases rack and grab **Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery**, starring Mike Myers as both secret agent man Austin Powers and his arch nemesis Doctor Evil. Elizabeth Hurley adds a model performance, and cameos by Tom Arnold, Carrie Fisher, and Burt Bacharach are terrific. It was released in theaters in 1997, but has a certain trashy 80's humor to it. Case in point: the Fembots. *Austin Powers* is hysterical and perfect for watching with large groups of groovy friends. BBC Peace!

Skates of Gold. We're less than 30 days from the opening of the Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan and the competition that decides who will skate for the gold on the U.S. figure skating team is currently taking place in Philadelphia, PA. Watch live coverage of the men's competition on ABC (WCVB-5) on Thursday, January 8 at 8:00 p.m. and the ladies competition on Saturday, January 10 at 8:00 p.m. Tara Lipinski and Michelle Kwan are already hoping to challenge each other for Olympic gold, but this event will decide whether or not they will skate in Japan at all. If watching figure skating competitions stresses you out, relax with pros Katarina Witt, Kristi Yamaguchi, Scott Hamilton, Paul Wylie, Kurt Browning, and Ekaterina Gordeeva in Discover Card's "Stars on Ice" exhibition, airing Saturday, January 10 at 2:00 p.m. on NBC (WHDH-7).

**BMW Driver
Arrested After
Kendall Crash**

**Air Force Secretary Widnall
Leaves Post, Returns to MIT**

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Under Proposed Revenue Bill**

Find out what really goes on at MIT ...

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The News department is actively recruiting new writers.

Absolutely no experience is necessary.

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**New Year's
Resolution!!!**

**1998
MIT Programming Challenge**

**Write Code,
Win Prizes,
Gain Glory!!!**

Sponsored by MIL 3, Inc. & MIT IEEE student branch

**January 17th,
12:00 p.m. in 34-101**

The competition will involve writing a fragment of code in C or C++ in a two hour period that will play "MITosis", a game where guts and smarts determine who survives. A basic code framework will be provided for interfacing to the game. All submitted entries will then play against each other in a tournament style competition.

Prizes

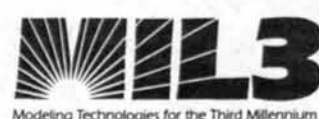
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Modeling Technologies for the Third Millennium

3400 International Drive NW, Washington DC 20008

New Director of Admissions Jones Appointed at Year End

By Susan Buchman
STAFF REPORTER

The beginning of the new year also marks the changing of the guard in the MIT Admissions Office. On New Years Day the office's interim director, Marilee Jones, stepped up to her new position as Director of Admissions for MIT. The search to fill the job began in late last spring when former director Michael Behnke left to become dean of admissions at the University of Chicago.

One of the first challenges Jones faced was a significant increase in the number of early action applications. The number of students applying for early action grew about 10 percent this year to 2,084.

There were 2,084 early applications, compared to 1,900 in 1997, 1,751 in 1996, 1,669 in 1995, and 1,247 in 1994. 514 were admitted early this year; 214 of those were female and 78 were traditionally underrepresented minorities.

Associate Director of Admissions Elizabeth S. Johnson says that the increase in applications is probably due to a nationwide feeling among high school students that "they need to make their choice [of a school] early or they won't get in," although she adds that this is not true of MIT. MIT does not admit any international students early action.



Marilee Jones was named Dean of Admissions on Jan. 1.

vision for admissions at MIT and nationally," Vander Sande said.

The committee was comprised of Vander Sande, Professor Harold Abelson PhD '73, Professor Lawrence S. Bacow SB '72, Professor Evelyn M. Hammonds SM '80, Dean of the School of

Science Robert J. Birgeneau, Tony Chao '99, Michael Wong G and a three member search support team.

Jones first came to the Institute in 1978 as a graduate resident tutor. She has an SB and an SM in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Veteran Jones Retains Head Job

Jones was chosen for the position because of the work she had put into improving the admissions office during her time as interim director.

"I feel confident that I can speak for the committee in saying that in Marilee Jones we have gained for MIT the best Dean of Admissions in the country," said Associate Dean of Engineering John Vander Sande who headed the search committee.

During her time at MIT, Jones has worked with transfer admissions, international admissions, and the recruitment of women. She has also been involved in the Women in Engineering Programs Administrators Network and the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors.

Her energy, knowledge, and long range goals for MIT, paired with her experience at MIT, convinced the committee that she was the best candidate for the position, Vander Sande said.

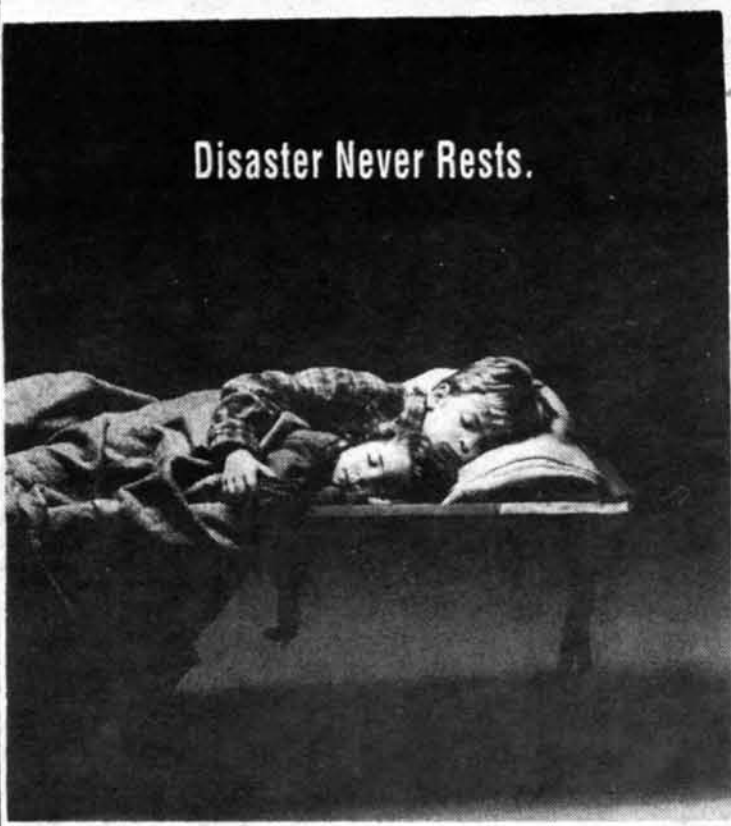
She began her career in the admissions office in 1979. Since that time, she has been witness to many changes, most notably the soaring female enrollment at the Institute.

When she arrives the student body was only 17 percent female. It has now climbed to 39 percent. The mean SAT scores in both categories of admitted students have risen, as has the percentage of freshmen who were valedictorians, hitting 42 percent for this year's freshman class.

Director faced stiff competition

A total of 64 applications were submitted for the position Vander Sande said.

The committee was looking for candidates "who had demonstrated success in undergraduate admissions, were knowledgeable of the admissions process, had strong records of managing a large office, and who were capable of conceptualizing and articulating a dynamic



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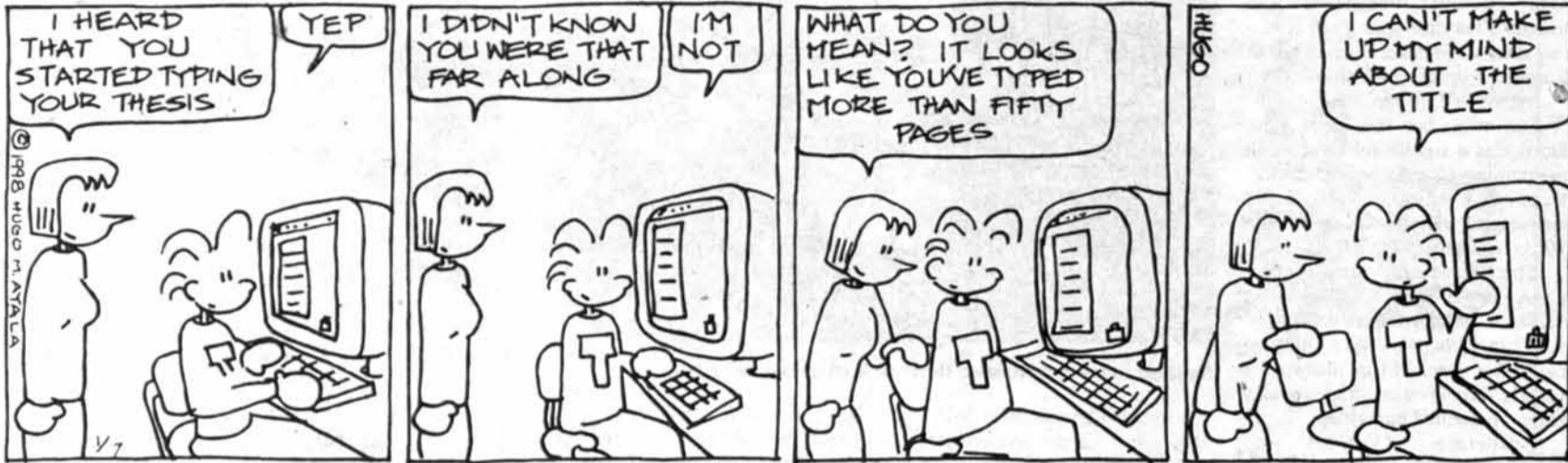
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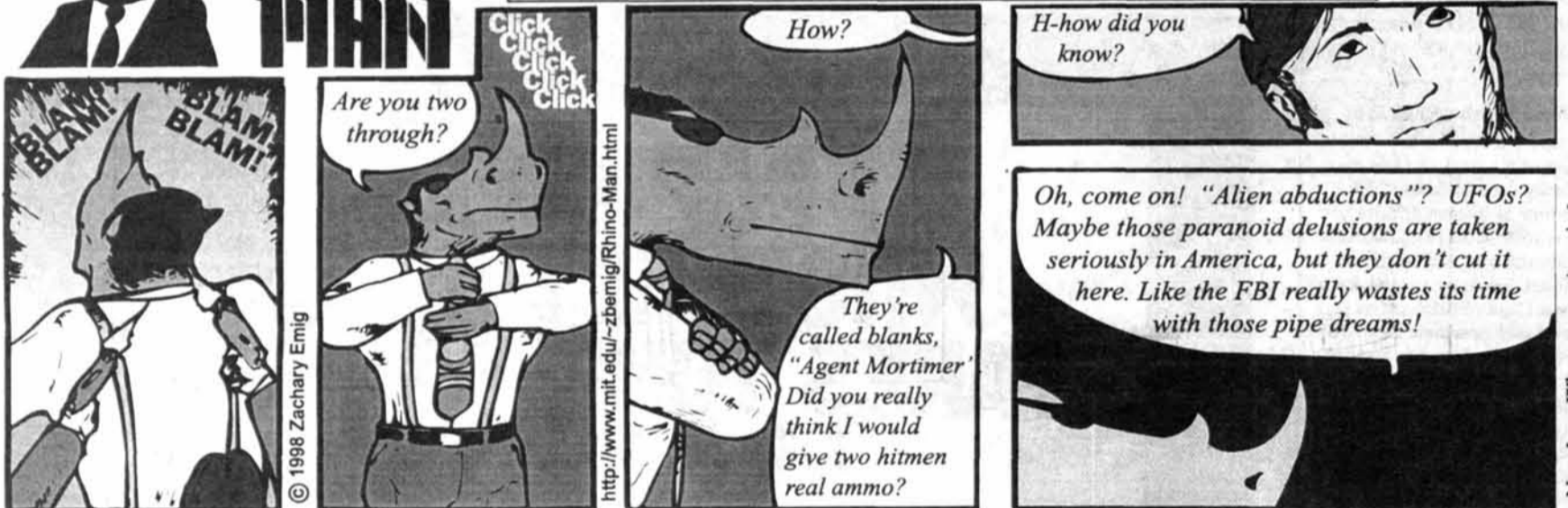
Off Course by Hugo



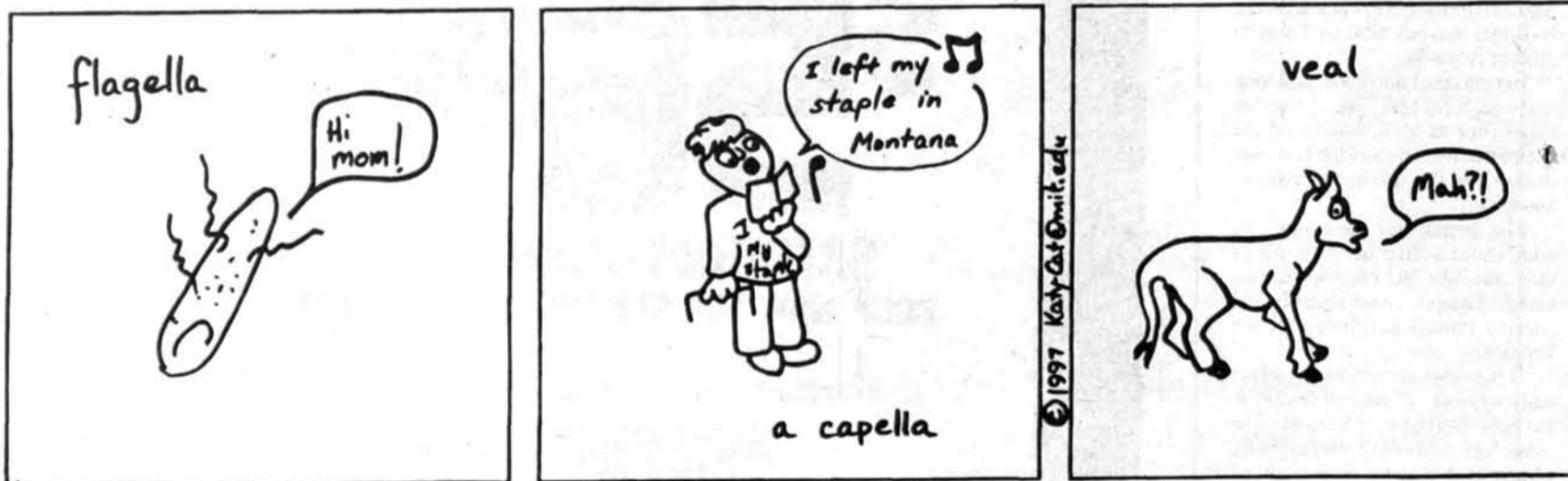
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THE STORY SO FAR: Rhino-Man has been lured to a deserted island by two people claiming to be FBI agents investigating a "U-File". But when his back is turned, they level their pistols and fire!

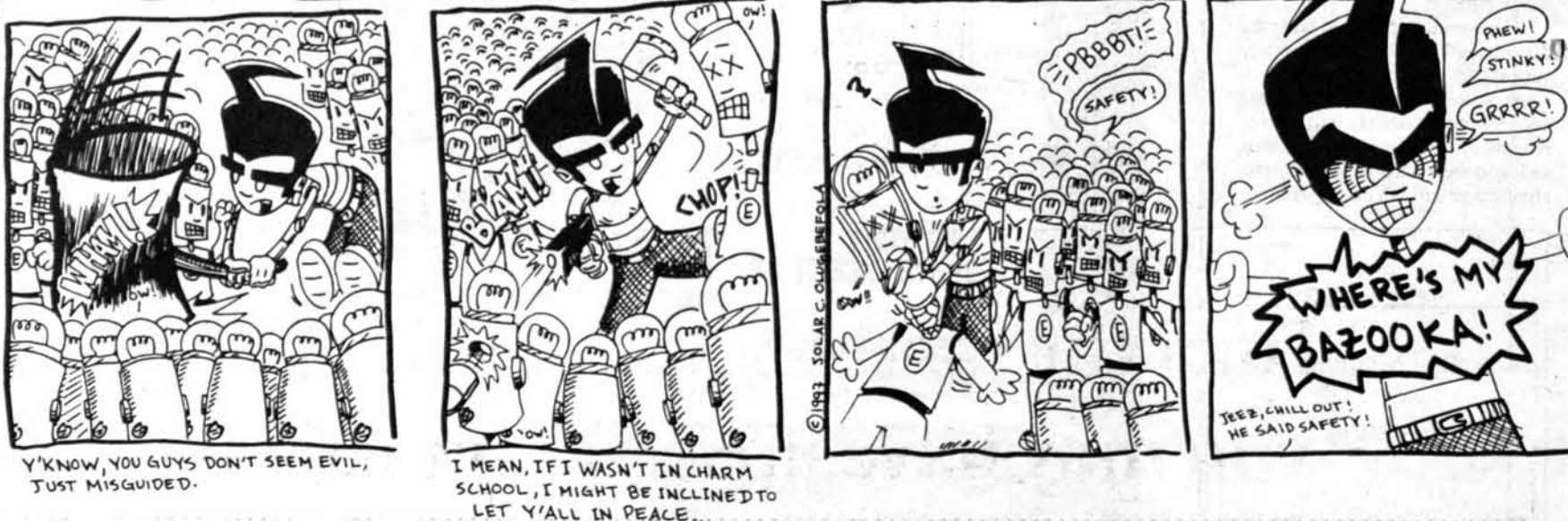
by Zachary Emig



Noun Poetry by Katy-Cat

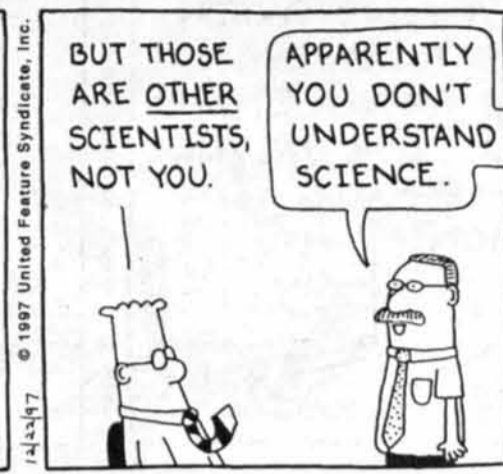
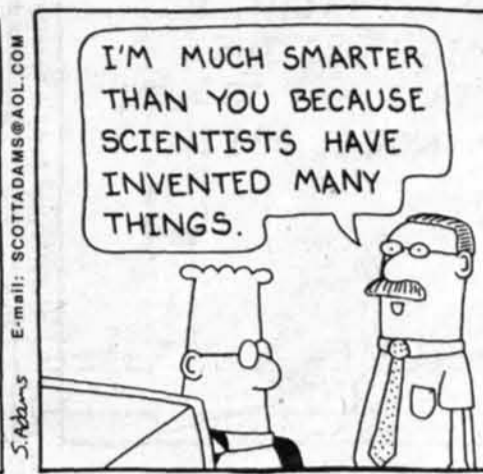
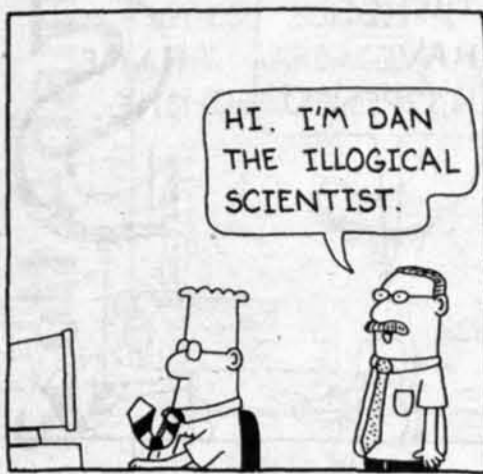


THE EVIL ROBOT SAGA SQUAK



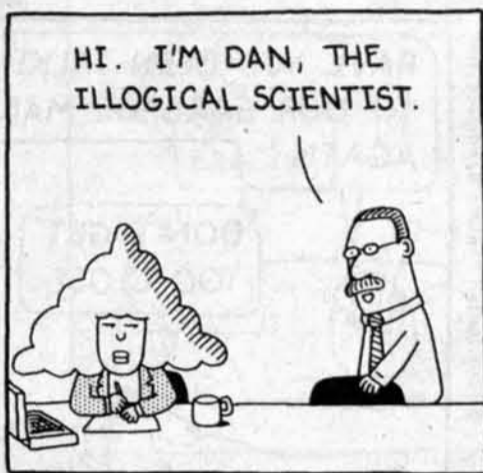
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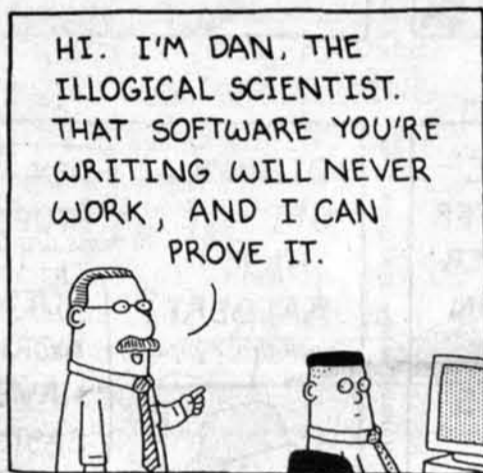
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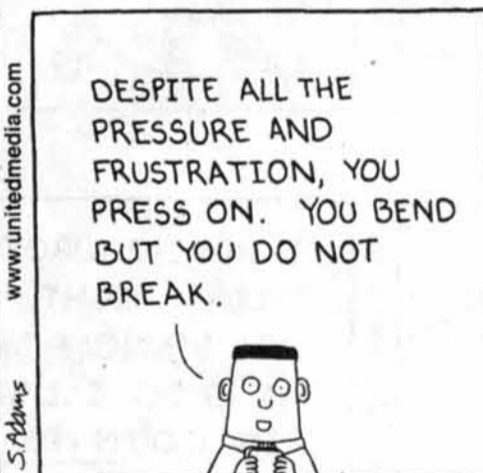
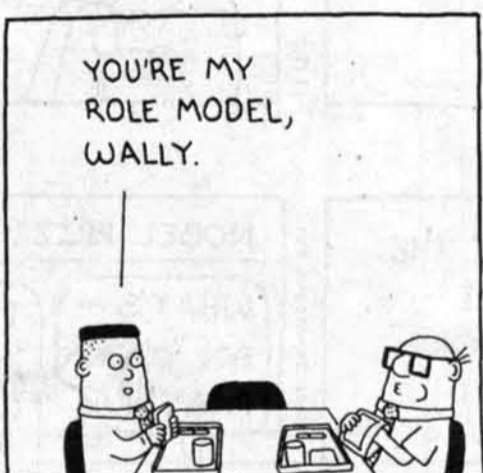
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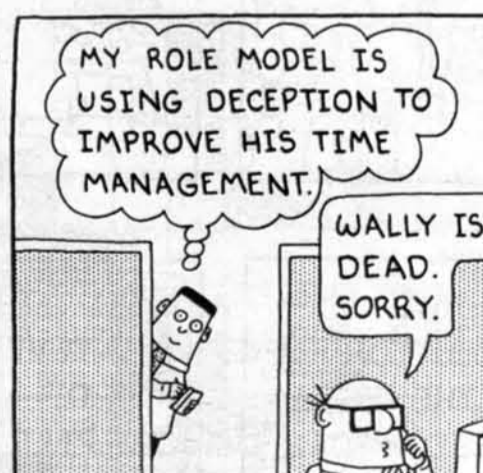
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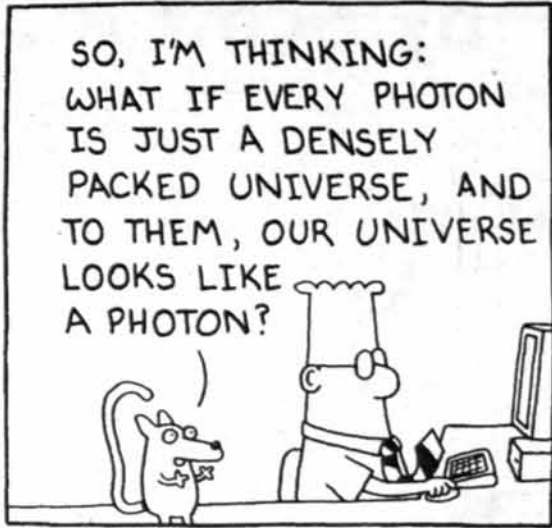


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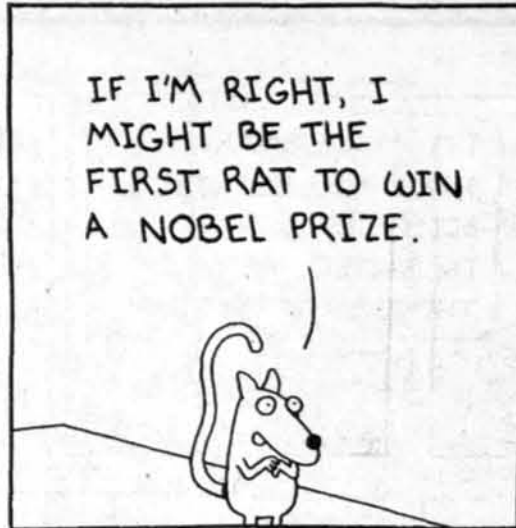
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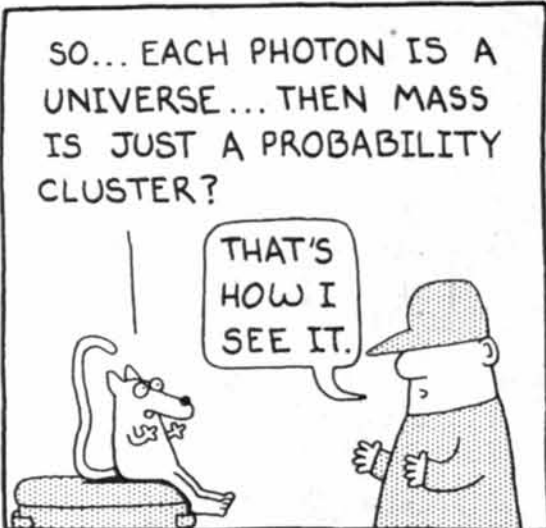
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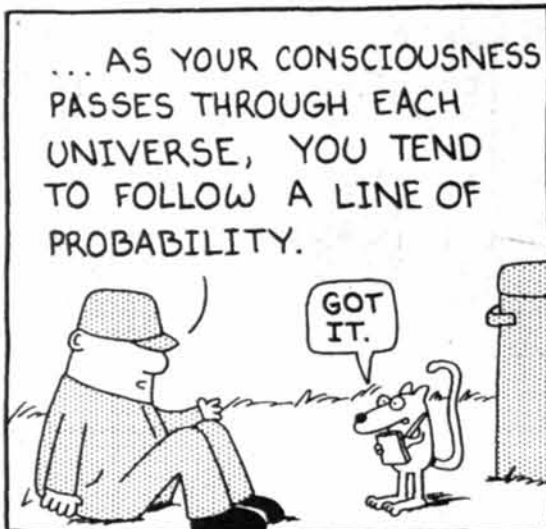
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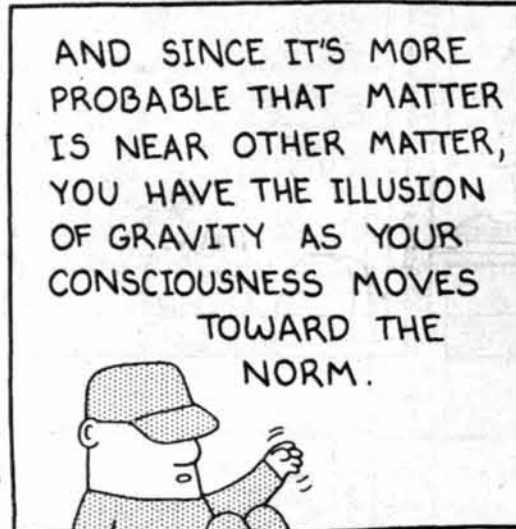
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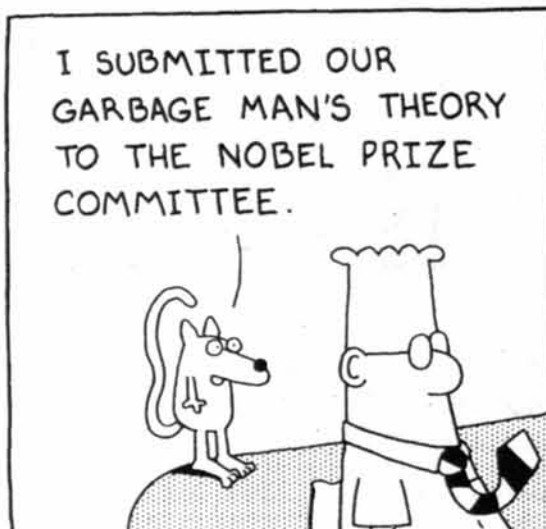
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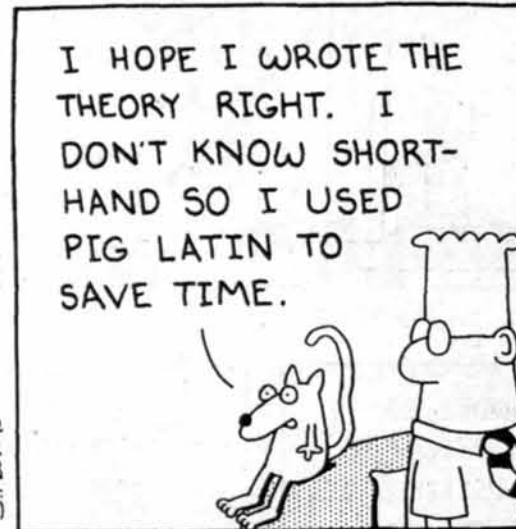
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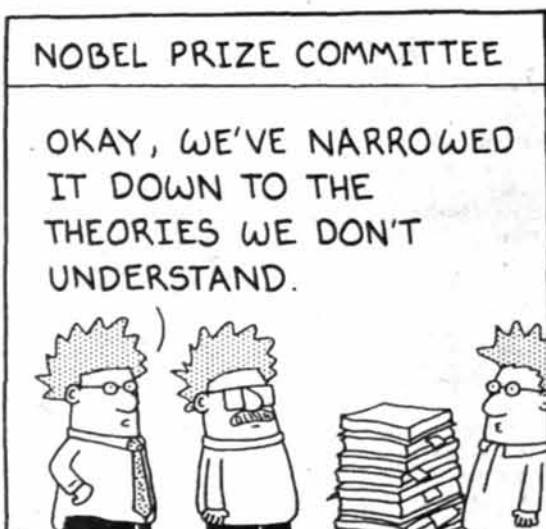
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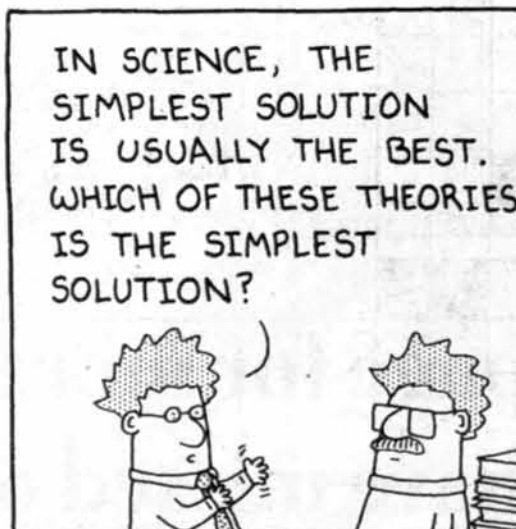
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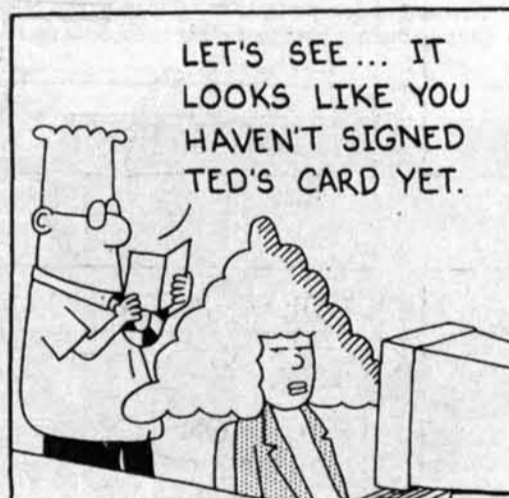
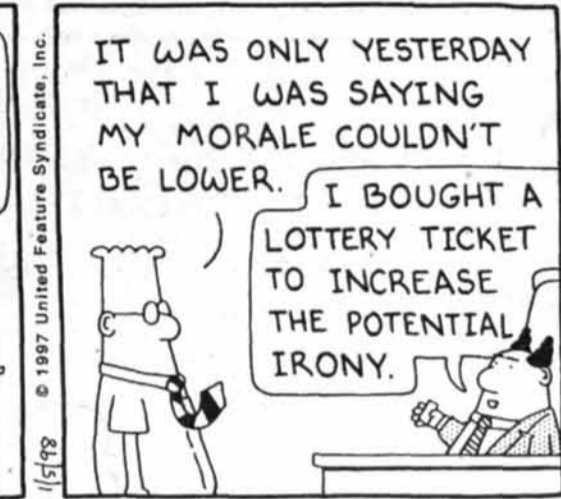


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by Scott Adams

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Across

- Moccasin
- Show clothes
- Run slowly
- Rock band
- Banishment
- Avenue (abbr.)
- Group discussion
- Not artificial
- Gait
- 14th Hebrew letter
- Erode
- Rotate
- Egyptian sun god
- Men's group (abbr.)
- Popular Mexican food
- 7th Greek letter
- Soft drink (slang)
- Teacher's group (abbr.)
- Falls off to sleep
- Twinkler
- For
- Regarding (Scottish)
- Hardened adhesive
- Painting
- Dash

- New York waterfall
- Snake
- Play division
- Minus
- Unit
- Stinging insect
- Weird
- Marry

- Sea
- Cook bread
- Canvas bed
- Swiftly
- Summer drink
- Rough edge
- Tell a story
- Sell
- Angry

- Provide with money
- Sycamore
- Arrest (slang)
- Frozen water
- Had supper
- Abridged (abbr.)
- Direction (abbr.)
- Color
- Two (Roman)

Down

- Vigor
- Winglike structure
- Control (abbr.)
- Tune
- Beast of burden
- Noise
- Style
- Slow down
- Shake
- Eggs
- Set; jelly
- Period of time
- One
- Temperature (abbr., pl.)
- Fighting area
- Director's stick
- Covered truck

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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P	A	N	E	L	M	A	T	R	A	L	
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IAP 1998 CAREER PROGRAMS

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STUDY ABROAD - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

No pre-registration required.

Weds., Jan. 28, Room 10-105 (Bush Room), 1-3 pm
Hear from several undergraduates who have studied abroad, as well as representatives from several offices at MIT that promote and assist with study abroad. Refreshments served.

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT SCIENCE - SCIENCE JOURNALISM. No pre-registration required.

Thurs., Jan. 29, Room 2-190, 4-6pm
Speakers from NOVA (television), NPR (radio), as well as magazine and newspaper journalists will talk about their work and answer questions about how to pursue a career in science journalism.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PhDs OUTSIDE THE LABORATORY. No pre-registration required.

FINANCE - Thurs., Jan. 8, Room 4-270, 4pm
J.P. Morgan

MANAGEMENT CONSULTING - Tues., Jan. 13, Room 6-120, 4pm, Boston Consulting Group

STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS - Thurs., Jan. 15, Room 2-105, 4pm, Stephen D. Fantone, Ph.D., President, Optiko Corp.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING Tues., Jan. 20, Room 2-105, 4pm, Laura Green, Ph.D., President, Cambridge Environmental, Inc.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY Thursday, Jan. 22, Room 2-105, 4pm, Sam Pasternak, Esq., Choate, Hall & Stewart

POLICY ANALYSIS Tues., Jan. 27, Room 2-105, 4pm
Dr. Robert Roberts, VP, Research, Institute for Defense Analysis

For more information on these workshops, please see
<<http://web.mit.edu/career/www/calendar.html>>
or contact <hannahb@mit.edu>

IAP 1998 CAREER PROGRAMS

Sponsored by the Office of Career Services

RESUME CRITIQUES

Please sign up for a time in the Career Office, space limited, but still available.

Jan. 9th, 12th, 14th, and 16th, Room 12-170

Learn what it takes to write a resume that will win you interviews, and have your resume critiqued. Employers and career services staff will offer perspectives and advice. Please bring your resume to be reviewed.

MOCK INTERVIEWING

Pre-registration in the Career Office required, space limited, waiting list available.

Fri., Jan. 9th and Mon. Jan. 12th, Room 24-121, 4-5:30pm

Improve your interviewing skills through role playing with employers and career services staff.

INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES

No pre-registration required.

Weds., Jan. 14th, Room 6-120, 5-7pm

Traditional, behavioral, case and competency-based interviewing methods used by employers will be discussed. This workshop will be presented by career services staff and representatives from Arthur D. Little, Entergy, Cambridge Strategic Management Group, and Deloitte & Touche.

HOW TO EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS BEYOND ON-CAMPUS RECRUITING

No pre-registration required.

Fri., Jan. 16th, Room 1-390, 4-5pm

This workshop will be presented by staff from the Office of Career Services and representatives from:

- Cambridge Systematics, Inc. - Transportation Planning
- One ZeroMedia, Inc. - Internet Publishing
- Wolf, Greenfield, & Sacks, P.C. - Patent Law
- McGraw-Hill - Publishing/Communications
- Hill Holliday Connors Cosmopolos Inc. - Marketing/Communications /Advertising

For more information on these workshops, please see
<<http://web.mit.edu/career/www/calendar.html>>

Void Left By Charm School Filled By Other IAP Activities

IAP, from Page 1

Caffeinated. "It's the entire C programming language in three hours," said Kai-Yuh Hsiao '99. "I know SIPB people who are coming just to watch me speak," he said.

Students looking for intellectual stimulation and salivating for adventure can participate in the institute wide IAP Mystery Hunt on January 16. They will compete to find a hidden coin by solving mind-bending paper, audio, video, and Internet puzzles.

The IAP Mystery Hunt has traditionally been organized by the winner of the previous year's mystery hunt. This insures very unique and ingenious adventures every year, said organizer Deborah A. Levinson '91.

"It's the longest running IAP event at MIT," Levinson said.

The hunt often involves uncovering MIT trivia, exploring obscure parts of the campus, and not sleeping. More information on the IAP Mystery Hunt can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/puzzle/>.

The artistically inclined should be sure to seek the Beginning Glassblowing class. Participants will learn to make beautiful blown objects such as glasses and vases.

Those interested in the mystical

and abstract may wish to look towards the course in Palmistry. By studying the lines and markings on

the hand, participants will attempt to better understand themselves and others.



AIJ BHARADWAJ—THE TECH
Instructors demonstrate the Swing at the MIT Ballroom Dance Club gathering held last night in La Sala de Puerto Rico.

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Experiments May Not Harm But Subjects Still Embittered

Fernald, from Page 1

iments will depend on the number of people who file claims, said Michael K. Mattchen of Dangel, Donlan, & Fine, an attorney for the plaintiffs in the case. If 40 to 50 people file a claim the average settlement will vary from \$20,000 to \$30,000, Mattchen said.

As many as 54 children institutionalized at Fernald were subject to radiation tests, according to former Fernald resident Ronald Beaulieu, who was named as a plaintiff in the case against the Institute.

Radiation exposure levels low

The work primarily involved ingestion of radioactive iron and calcium tracers with farina and oatmeal. A third experiment also involved the injection of minute amounts of radioactive calcium.

Although children were exposed to radiation, all levels of exposure were lower than the standards used the time as well as today's more stringent guidelines.

The highest exposure for any single youth involved in the experimentation was 330 millirems, less than the yearly background radiation in Denver.

"MIT's position all along has been that none of these" experiments involved a large enough dose of radiation to harm subjects, Litster said. However he regretted that proper procedures for consent were not followed, Litster said.

Institute apologizes early in case

After reading accounts of radiation experiments by MIT in *The Boston Globe*, President Charles M. Vest apologized for the Institute's involvement in those experiments.

Plaintiffs however still harbor resentment about what was done to them 50 years ago. "The fact of the matter is that they used these kids as guinea pigs," Mattchen said. The actions of the researchers "violates Nuremberg" and "rules of decent society," he said. "They were bla-

tantly lied to in my opinion," Mattchen said.

"We didn't know anything at the time," said Fred Boyce, who was one of the Fernald subjects and part of the class action suit, "we just thought we were special."

He said that the fact that researchers from one of America's most prestigious institutions were taking an interest in those institutionalized in the school raised spirits of students at Fernald.

"It was like, 'Wow' someone was taking an interest," Boyce said, "All of a sudden we had some of the elite people."

The later realization that the experiments were done through bribery — more food and promises of trips to baseball games — caused many to become disillusioned, Boyce said.

"It's a funny type of animosity," Boyce said about his feelings toward the Institute and the researchers. "It's a disappointing type of feeling," Boyce said.

Rebuffs from the government also fueled subjects' bitterness.

In late 1995, President Clinton apologized to the subjects at Fernald after an advisory committee's ruled that the tests were "morally troubling." Although the government formally apologized no financial compensation was offered to victims.

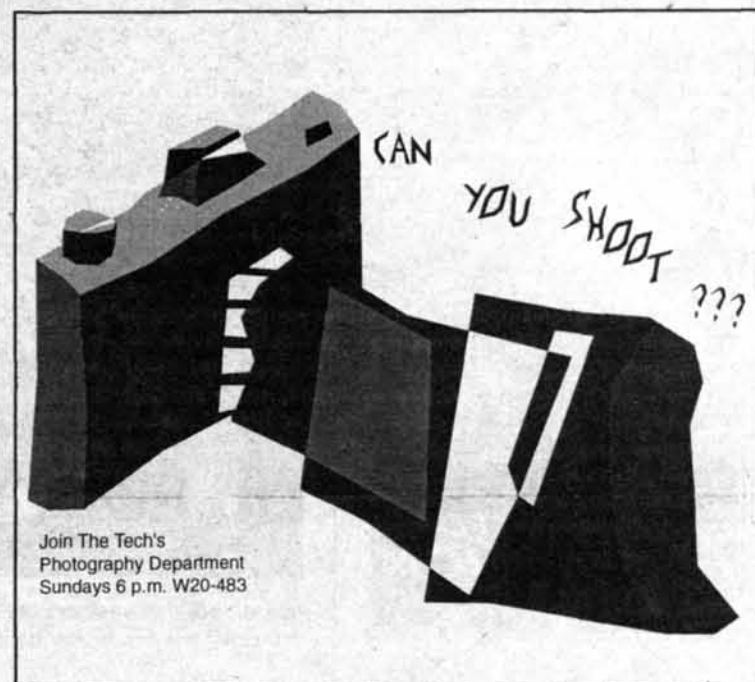
"To me it was like saying nothing was wrong," Boyce said.

Final hearing set for spring

The settlement was approved by the US District court of Massachusetts at a preliminary hearing held in late December and encompasses all claims against the Institute involving the nutrition experiments. The final hearing on the settlement is scheduled for early April.

Claimants have until January 31 to either stake a claim in the settlement or file for exclusion from the class in order to file individual lawsuits.

The Institute placed advertisements in newspapers throughout the state informing the public of the settlement.



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 Cambridge (617) 225-2555

12 Eliot Street, 2nd Floor
 Cambridge (617) 497-1497

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The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program accepts applications for funding three times annually. All currently enrolled MIT students, MIT faculty members and MIT staff people are eligible to apply.

Since the program was founded in 1974, over 1,000 grants totalling over \$1 million dollars have been awarded.

The next deadline is January 16, 1998.

Read the Council for the Arts at MIT's Grants Guidelines on the web at: <http://web.mit.edu/arts/grants.html>

Application forms (and printed copies of the guidelines) are available at the MIT Office of the Arts at E15-205. For more information, call 253-4005 or email cohen@media.mit.edu.

Cheer up! Apply to the Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program!



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Holiday Break Confusion Slows MIT's Investigation of Incidents

Fiji, from Page 1

"Generally [residents] were a little bit surprised but no one's too upset or angry about it," said Michelle Girvan '99, A-entry chair. "Some people are actually looking forward to having two new people in the entry." A-entry plans to use its' least-used entry to house its new freshmen.

Criminal investigations continue

Meanwhile, a Suffolk County grand jury continues its investigation into the alcohol-induced death of Krueger at Fiji in September.

Last month, Appeals Court Judge Mel Greenberg threw out an order requiring Fiji treasurer Daniel A. Hermann '99 to turn over the fraternity's financial records dating back to 1990.

Hermann's attorney, Alan M. Spiro, argued successfully that Hermann was not obligated to turn over the records because of his constitutional protection against self-incrimination. Hermann was not a specific target of the probe, said Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney Pamela Wechsler.

At an earlier court hearing, Wechsler said it was unclear

whether Krueger drank voluntarily or if he was forced to drink during a hazing incident.

The grand jury has been meeting since early November. However the jury may not meet every day and can be called back to hear additional evidence as time goes by, said Suffolk University Law Professor Marc Perlin.

No charges in other incidents

Meanwhile, the Boston Police and the Suffolk County Prosecutor's Office have decided not to prosecute anyone in the other two incidents of underage drinking at MIT fraternities during the fall semester.

"There are no investigations into either" the incident at Sigma Phi Epsilon in early December or the incident at Theta Chi in November, said David Falcone, a spokesperson for District Attorney Ralph Martin. "There's nothing turned over to this office" by the Boston Police, he added.

The Boston Police has conducted "no investigation into these incidents," said Sarah Witherell, a spokesperson for the Boston Police department.

The Campus Police have finished their internal investigations into the matters, said Chief Anne P. Glavin, who declined to comment on what action MIT will take.

Officials in the Office of the Dean for Students and Undergraduate Education were unable to provide any information on the status of the overall investigations of the incidents.

"Both students and administrators have been in and out" as a result of final exams and the holiday break, causing the investigation to slow, said Dean for Student Life Margaret R. Bates.

"Over the next week or so we'll be looking at [the incidents] carefully and also how to respond to the

situations," Bates said, adding that it was important to maintain consistency between the incidents. "We have our preliminary investigation... but we need to bring things together."

Discussions about the future alcohol policies of the Institute will likely begin again within the next week, Bates said.

CPs investigate medical incidents

When there is evidence of illegal underage drinking, such as in the incidents at Theta Chi and Sigma Phi Epsilon, the Campus Police sometimes work with the Dean's Office in determining whether to file criminal charges or to deal with the matter through MIT's internal disciplinary system, Glavin said. "It's not etched in stone."

When the student involved in the Sig Ep incident was transported to the Medical Center, the Campus Police conducted an investigation because of evidence that "something above and beyond the [need for] medical transport" was involved in the incident.

Only a few police departments operate their own ambulance service, as the Campus Police do, but most police departments regularly send cruisers to check for illegal activity when an ambulance is sent to a location for medical reasons, Glavin said.

"If we get a medical call that someone had overdosed on drugs and we respond and find a wild drug party on campus we'd obviously deal with that medical emergency," Glavin said, "but we're still dealing with illegal activity and then we have to conduct an investigation."

However, such checks may not be made public knowledge. "We work hard to protect an individual's name. We've certainly done that," Glavin said.

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