

## New R/O Messaging System May Change

By Douglas E. Heimbarger  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A proposed change to the Freshman Messaging System may limit freshmen to receiving messages only from dormitory terminals.

In addition, a quota may be imposed on the number of messages an Independent Living Group may send per day, and messages sent by ILGs may expire after a certain length of time, said Wesley T. Chan '00, logistics manager for Residence and Orientation.

The limitations on the number of messages sent from those other than Institute officials are designed to prevent living groups from sending messages in mass to freshman, Chan said. "The quota will be high enough to send messages to freshman that they're interested in, but low enough to prevent" mass e-mail.

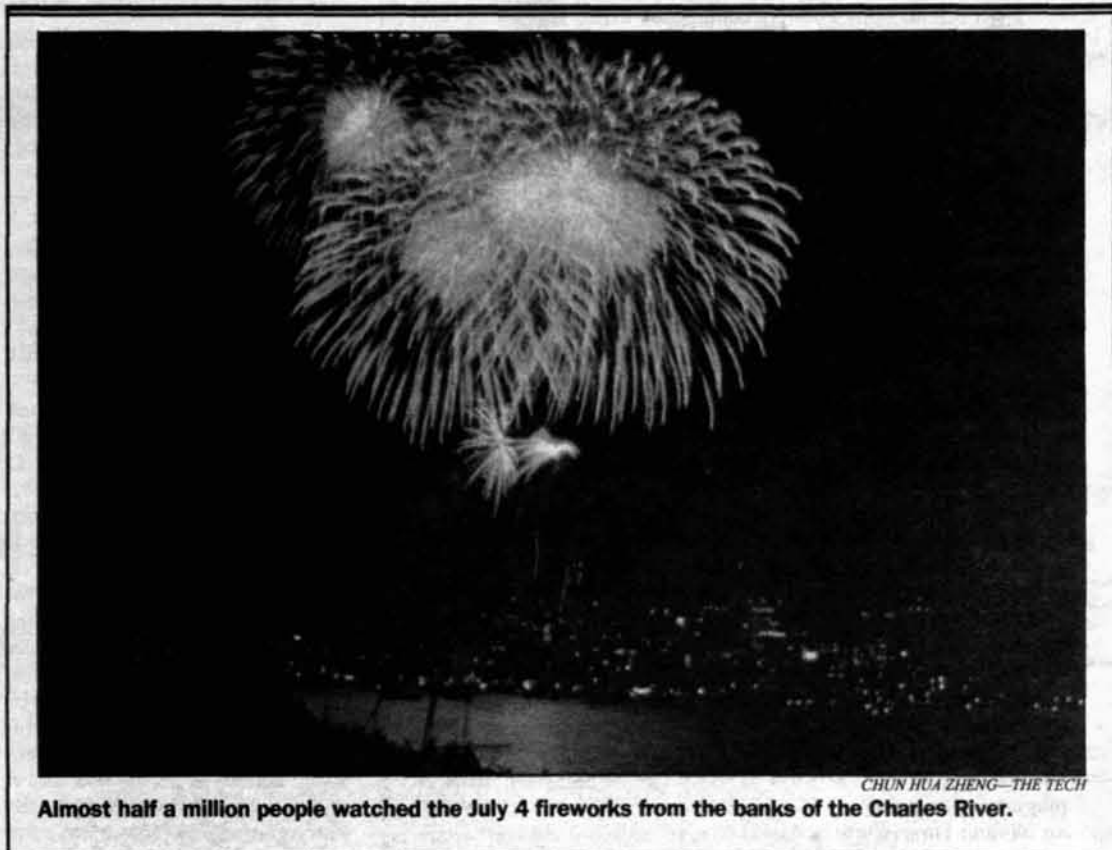
In addition, messages sent by ILGs may be limited to showing only on dormitory FMS terminals instead of appearing on Clearinghouse terminals so that other living group workers will not see the message, Chan said.

FMS and Clearinghouse are two separate systems, Chan said. "The primary mission of FMS is to effectively deliver messages to freshman."

Messages will be sent over the FMS from the R/O center, which will receive messages from parents; the administration; the office of Residence and Campus Activities; and ILGs.

"In no way is the FMS designed to be a Clearinghouse system," said IFC Rush Chair Jorge F. Rodriguez '98.

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Almost half a million people watched the July 4 fireworks from the banks of the Charles River.

CHUN HUA ZHENG—THE TECH

## Jablonski Leaving RCA in August To Accept Faculty Spot at UMass

By Dan McGuire  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Dean for Residence and Campus Activities Margaret A. Jablonski will leave her position at the middle of next month to take a faculty position at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Associate Dean for RCA Andrew M. Eisenmann '75 will assume her duties when she leaves.

Jablonski said that her experience teaching a freshman seminar at MIT was "thoroughly enjoyable" and said that she wanted to find some way to continue teaching. The move would also "bring coherence to the personal side of my life," she said. "I was recently married and I live in Amherst, so I've been commuting" between Amherst and Cambridge, she said.

Jablonski said that she will remain with MIT for up to another year as a consultant, working a "few days a month" on the Leadership Development Center, which is currently being planned.

No replacement expected soon

Officials said that there was no plan to conduct a search for a replacement right now. "We're going to make an interim arrangement," said Margaret R. Bates, dean for student life. "We're not going to do a search for a person at this time."

Part of the problem is that there is not enough time before the year begins to find a replacement, she said. In addition, the fact that Jablonski will be close enough to MIT to provide some support makes the need for a replacement less urgent.

The current plan is to distribute Jablonski's chores among other staff in the office. "It will be a series of people... in the next few weeks" it will become clearer how her tasks will be distributed, Bates said.

Jablonski's departure will also allow the Dean's office to examine the position, said Dean of Students

and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams. "Instead of looking for a immediate replacement, we're looking at all of the pieces... to figure out how to shape it for the long haul," added Bates.

However, "that's serendipitous. It's an unintended coincidence," Bates said. "The main issue was the timing."

Jablonski's tenure productive

Jablonski hit the ground running when she was appointed in early December of 1993. It was hoped

Jablonski, Page 8

## Summer Renovations Close Parts of Campus

By Douglas E. Heimbarger  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The summer has traditionally been a time of renovations on campus and this summer has proved particularly chaotic. Several buildings are being gutted, making travel through the Institute especially difficult.

Construction workers closed the lobby to Building 16 last week, shutting off one of the key routes to Building 26 and the buildings along Vassar Street. The lobby will remain closed until March, when Building 16 is scheduled to reopen.

"There's just a lot of work" to be done in that area, necessitating its

closure, said Beacon Construction Project Manager Nancy Joyce. "There's an elevator that's going in there" to connect Lobby 16 and Lobby 8 and to allow for handicapped access, among other projects taking place in the area.

In September, a new underground tunnel will open to connect Building 8 to Building 26, Joyce said. It will serve as the primary access route until the lobby reopens. "I think it'll be okay; it'll just be awkward" for those usually accustomed to walking through the other floors of Building 16, she said.

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## Hong Kong Changeover Met Differently In Former Colony and Mainland China

By Shang-Lin Chuang  
CHAIRMAN

The return of Hong Kong to China after 156 years of British colonial rule ranks as one of the most important historical events of the decade, and being a person of Chinese descent, I jumped at the chance to visit Hong Kong during this period of transition. I was abroad for 17 days, spending the

### Reporter's Notebook

last part of June and the first part of July in various parts of China and arriving at my final destination of Hong Kong on July 13, just two weeks into the new period of Chinese rule.

Upon arriving at my first destination, Shanghai's international airport, I was immediately greeted by signs joyously proclaiming the impending handover. On major streets, government buildings, private businesses, hotels, restaurants, and even buses were more signs "celebrating and welcoming the return of Hong Kong to the motherland." I saw signs promising the bright future that Hong Kong would have and which celebrating the conclusion of more than one hundred years of national shame, and expressing the joy of the Chinese

people. Signs on the street made of flowers, concerts featuring famous singers, slogans spelled out by lights strung in trees, firework displays, and signs written on the sides of buildings announcing discounts on clothing, food, and hotel rates to celebrate the occasion. It made me feel like I was in the middle of Times Square on New Year's Eve.

As one who was born and raised in Taiwan, I had mixed feelings about the handover. Taiwan, home of the Nationalist Chinese government that fled China after the 1949 Communist Revolution, is considered a renegade province by China. I couldn't get the common saying "First Hong Kong, then Macau, and next is Taiwan" out of my mind. Macau is a Portuguese colonial province near Hong Kong, mainly known for its casinos and entertainment, that will revert to Chinese control in December, 1999.

Having lived outside of China all my life, I've developed a healthy skepticism of the Chinese government and I was not entirely convinced by the joyous feelings expressed by everyone. But the local residents I met and the media tried to assure me all those feelings were genuine.

All of the ten or so local guides

who led us during the trip were very excited about the handover. It was usually one of the first things they talked about: about how great it is that Hong Kong is finally returning to China, about how happy everyone is, about how much of a celebration there will be.

Chinese excited about change

I spent the pivotal night of June 30 in Huangshan, a city in the Anhui Province about 250 miles west of Shanghai. I attended a celebration hosted by my hotel complete with dancing, singing, many television crews, and a great deal of jubilation.

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GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

Dean of Residence and Campus Activities Margaret A. Jablonski looks back on her time at MIT. See interview page 9.

## INSIDE

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# WORLD & NATION

## U.S. Document Suggests Vatican Role in Nazi-Plundered Gold

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Two months after a comprehensive U.S. study severely criticized Switzerland and several other neutral countries for dealing in gold plundered by Nazis during World War II, a U.S. government document that came to light Tuesday contains evidence that for the first time links the Vatican with such dealings.

The 1946 Treasury Department document states that the Nazi puppet regime in Croatia, the Ustashe, smuggled about 350 million Swiss francs (about \$295 million at today's prices) out of Yugoslavia "where Jews and Serbs were plundered to support the Ustashe organization in exile," apparently during the Third Reich's final months. The document said that "approximately 200 million (francs, valued today at \$170 million) was originally held in the Vatican for safe-keeping."

The document goes on to cite a rumor that much of this money was later funneled to Spain and Argentina through what it termed the "Vatican's pipeline" to finance the lifestyles of fleeing Nazis.

"This is an extremely significant development that fits into the pattern of the Nazi gold question," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress. "It is a pattern that involved not just Switzerland and other neutral countries, but, according to U.S. intelligence documents, went into the heart of the Holy See."

## Crime Swamps Brazilian Cities as Police Go on Strike

THE WASHINGTON POST

RECIFE, BRAZIL

In five chaotic days in this beachside metropolis, the daily homicide rate has tripled. Eight banks have been robbed. Gangs have run wild through a shopping mall and driven through upper-class neighborhoods shooting guns. And no one is obeying the traffic laws.

Recife, a city of 2 million in the poor northeastern state of Pernambuco, is just one of several cities and towns across Brazil ravaged by a rash of police strikes that have caused a national crisis. Army troops arrived here this weekend to keep the peace, but the 3,000 soldiers have been unable to do the job of 18,000 metro-area police officers out on strike, and gangs of roving bandits were marauding Tuesday on the outskirts of the city, terrorizing citizens.

## Cunanan's Hometown Tense as Gay Pride Parade Approaches

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN DIEGO

The FBI and San Diego police Tuesday sought to calm fears in the gay community here that suspected multiple killer Andrew Phillip Cunanan might return to Saturday's Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade with murder on his mind.

"There is an extraordinary amount of fear out there that he's coming back to continue killing," said Sgt. Mike Cash, the police department's liaison with the gay community. "We've been trying to do everything we can to dispel rumors and make sure everyone feels safe at the parade and can have fun."

Police will have uniformed officers, undercover officers, and the horse patrol at the parade, which is expected to draw 85,000 people to the Hillcrest neighborhood where Cunanan lived. FBI agents will also be mingling with spectators. "If this individual is here, we'll deal with him," said Cash, although he declined to reveal how many officers will be working the parade. "If anybody thinks they see him, tell the nearest cop. There will be plenty of them."

Among the rumors that Cash and other law enforcement personnel have tried to quash in recent days is that authorities have discovered Cunanan's "hit list" and have suggested that people on it go into hiding.

## WEATHER

### Ahoy, Danny Boy!

By Marek Zebrowski  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

With the high pressure system drifting off towards the Canadian Maritimes during Wednesday, our salubrious summer skies will give way to slowly increasing cloudiness, followed by rain. The focus for all weather action in the East will be a quasi-stationary front bisecting the mid-Atlantic region. To the south, moisture-laden air with remnants of a tropical storm Danny will begin to move towards our area. In the meantime, a strong high pressure over the Northeast will reluctantly retreat, causing a strong onshore flow with some coastal flooding during high tides on Thursday and Friday. Heaviest precipitation will fall from southern New England southwards. With rainfall totals well below average, farmers, gardeners and city dwellers alike will welcome this first substantial precipitation of the month.

A slowly improving trend is forecast for the weekend, when Danny will depart into the Western Atlantic on Saturday, allowing for return of fair skies for Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

**Today:** Mostly sunny early, with gradually increasing high overcast. Pleasant high of 75°F (24°C), with light to moderate onshore winds.

**Tonight:** Becoming partly to mostly cloudy and cool with some areas of fog near the coast. Low of 60°F (15°C)

**Thursday:** Mostly cloudy and cool with onshore winds. Some light rain will move in from south and west. High near 68°F (20°C)

**Thursday night:** Cloudy with rain likely, especially in southern sections. Strengthening onshore winds. Low 63°F (17°C)

**Friday:** Rainy, windy and raw with temperatures holding in the low to mid 60s (17-19°C).

# Greenspan Claims Economy Likely to Continue On Track

By John M. Berry  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Federal Reserve officials expect the U.S. economy's current favorable combination of moderate growth, low unemployment and low inflation to continue at least through the end of next year, Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan told Congress on Tuesday.

Greenspan's prediction fueled another explosive rally in the stock and bond markets. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 154.93 points to close at a record 8,061.65, a 2 percent gain.

Financial analysts took Greenspan's testimony before a House Banking subcommittee as an indication that central bank policymakers see no need to raise short-term interest rates any time soon to keep inflation under control.

"The recent performance of the economy, characterized by strong growth and low inflation, has been exceptional, and better than most anticipated," he told the committee. Moreover, Fed surveys of economic conditions have found that "economic activity is on the rise, and at a relatively high level, in virtually every geographic region and community of the nation."

However, Greenspan sounded a typically cautious note when he said it is not certain yet that economic growth, which ran at a torrid 5.9 percent annual rate in the first three months of the year but cooled noticeably in the second quarter, has moderated enough to be consistent with continued low inflation. If it has not, then interest rates may have to go up, he warned.

"I have no doubt that the current stance of policy, characterized by a nominal federal funds rate around

5.5 percent, will need to be changed at some point to foster sustainable growth and low inflation," the Fed chairman said, referring to the interest rate banks charge each other on overnight loans. While financial markets often react sharply to such changes in the funds rate, he called them a "routine aspect of responsible policymaking."

Nevertheless, Greenspan seemed more willing than he has in the past to entertain the notion that something fundamental may have changed in the American economy to make it less inflation-prone and more productive.

Greenspan cited several factors that may have contributed to allowing the nation to have a low 5 percent jobless rate without triggering large enough wage gains to add to inflation. On his long list were technological improvements, deregulation of a number of industries, a surge in business investment that has boosted production capacity and productivity, a heightened sense of job insecurity among workers, a strong dollar that has lowered the cost of imported goods and services, changes that have reduced health care costs and "the reduced market power of labor unions."

"Many of the forces are limited or temporary, and their effects can be expected to diminish, at which time cost and price pressures would tend to reemerge," he warned. But some of the changes, particularly technological developments, may have a more permanent impact.

"We do not now know, nor do I suspect can anyone know, whether current developments are part of a once- or twice-in-a-century phenomenon that will carry productivity trends nationally and globally to a new higher track, or whether we are

merely observing some unusual variations within the context of an otherwise generally conventional business cycle expansion," he said.

The true constraint on the economy, Greenspan told the committee, is that the nation does not have enough people who don't have jobs to allow employment to continue to rise as rapidly as it has since the end of the 1990-91 recession.

Some 13 million jobs have been added during this six-year period, he noted, and since early 1994 only about half the 2 million additional workers hired have come from the growing population of people aged 16 to 64. The other half have come from the ranks of the unemployed or from those who wanted a job but weren't actively seeking work and therefore were not counted as unemployed.

"The unemployment rate has a downside limit if for no other reason than unemployment, in part, reflects voluntary periods of job search and other frictional unemployment," he said.

Economists use "frictional unemployment" to refer to the joblessness that results when people either lose or voluntarily leave one job and may not be willing or able to move immediately into a new one.

Several subcommittee members, including Democratic Reps. Barney Frank and Joseph P. Kennedy of Massachusetts and Rep. Bernard Sanders, I-Vt., renewed their criticism of Greenspan for being too willing to raise interest rates to head off inflation.

Sanders accused Greenspan of being out of touch with working Americans and of favoring the wealthy by concentrating on keeping inflation under control.

# Russian Pres. Yeltsin Vetoes Bill Limiting Many Religions

By Daniel Williams  
THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

President Boris Yeltsin vetoed a law Tuesday that would have sharply restricted the practice of all but a few specified "traditional" religions in Russia. His action followed weeks of controversy and criticism by human rights activists that Russia was on the verge of returning to its authoritarian past.

The measure also drew strong protests from Pope John Paul II and the U.S. Senate.

Yeltsin said in a statement that "numerous provisions of the bill curb constitutional human and civil rights and freedoms, make confessions unequal and are inconsistent with Russia's international commitments."

Signing the bill could "trigger religious strife in the country," he added.

Yeltsin called his action a "difficult decision to make" and proposed unspecified changes in the measure to reach a compromise with parliament, the Interfax news agency reported. It also said Yeltsin felt some law was needed to prevent "radical sects" from harming public health and morals.

"There can be no democratic society where the interests of any minorities ... are not protected," Yeltsin said in an appeal to the legislature, which passed the bill by big enough margins in both houses to potentially override the veto.

Alexander Bulekov, a spokesman for the Orthodox Church, said, "It's possible parlia-

ment will take into account some of the criticism and amend it, and we expect the representatives will eventually overcome the president's rejection." Church officials were surprised by the veto, he said. "We were counting on the president to note that this law was supported by both the right and left in parliament."

Nonetheless, the church is not fully united on employing the state to hinder other faiths. "I think the solution is to become better Christians. In the end, the state usually means trouble for us," said Alexander Borisov, a prominent dissenter from the Orthodox hierarchy's policy.

In Soviet times, the Communist-ruled and atheistic state intervened mainly to persecute religion. "If the president signs," wrote Human Rights Watch, "it will be the first time since the Soviet era that Russia replaces a federal law which adequately protects the rights and freedoms of citizens with a highly restrictive one."

The vetoed bill would have restricted religious organizations that were not officially registered at least 15 years ago. Among those qualifying would be the Russian Orthodox Church, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism and the Baptist groups that cooperated with the Soviet state.

But for other organized religions, numerous bureaucratic steps would be needed to win permission to preach, proselytize or build and run a place of worship.

The Orthodox Church's most senior official, Patriarch Alexei II,

had backed the bill, arguing Russia needs protection from the kind of cult activity that produced the mass suicides of the Heaven's Gate group in California and the subway terror campaign of the Aum Supreme Truth cult in Japan. In its campaign, the church was joined by Communists and nationalists in parliament.

Religions left unprotected by the bill, including some with long histories in Russia such as independent Baptists and the Roman Catholic Church, avidly opposed the measure. "God heard our prayers," said Pyotr Konovalchik, president of the Union of Evangelical Christian Baptists of Russia.

In June, Pope John Paul sent a letter to Yeltsin protesting the bill. He said it would "be a real threat not only to the usual activities of the Catholic Church in Russia, but also its survival."

The U.S. Senate had amended a foreign aid bill to threaten a cutoff of \$200 million in assistance to Russia if Yeltsin signed the measure. That threat poured nationalist oil on the religious fire, and even some opponents of the bill now fear parliament might override Yeltsin's veto just to show that Russia can stand up to Washington.

Scores of missionary groups have poured in from abroad while already established religious organizations have sought to rebuild both their houses of worship and their congregations. It is not unusual to see Mormons, Hare Krishnas and evangelical missionaries proselytizing on the same street in Moscow.

# Pathfinder Resumes Research After Problems Are Resolved

By K.C. Cole  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

PASADENA, CALIF.

After a weekend of "troublesome" communications snafus, the Mars Pathfinder appears to be back in sync with its ground controllers, Mission Manager Richard Cook said at a news briefing Tuesday at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

The combination of new software beamed up to the spacecraft, along with the leisure to plan ahead, should prevent future miscommunications, he said.

During the first weeks of the Pathfinder's adventures on the red planet, mission controllers had to continually alter its instructions to

NASA's Deep Space Network, the antennas in Spain that pick up the spacecraft's signals. These signals shift frequencies as Mars drifts away from Earth, and as the type of data being sent down changes.

Until now, the network's antennas have had no advance notice of such changes, because JPL has been too busy reacting to events on Mars to think more than one day ahead. "We ask the DSN to do different things every day," said Cook.

Monday night, however, JPL was able to plan the activities for Pathfinder two days ahead, "a major accomplishment," he said, allowing the antenna network to make the frequency shifts necessary to stay in tune. The Monday transmission appeared to work perfectly, he said.

Meanwhile, the one-foot-high rover Sojourner wandered through a rocky field called the Cabbage Patch and took chemical analyses of soil. The data that couldn't be sent over the weekend was stored in Pathfinder for transmission at a later date.

Rover scientist Henry Moore reported that Sojourner said "she was having a ball" on Mars, but that it was "beginning to get the itches" to go and explore.

On Monday, Sojourner sent back its analysis of Scoobie Doo, a rock with a white crust on top, like a frosted cake. The same whitish material is seen in places where Sojourner has dug its wheels into the fluffy Martian soil, exposing rock underneath.

# In Letter, Arney Disavows Role In Failed Gingrich Coup Effort

By Janet Hook  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

House Majority Leader Dick Arney, under fire for allegedly abetting an effort to oust Speaker Newt Gingrich, Tuesday insisted he did not support the attempted coup but pointed an accusatory finger at other GOP leaders.

"Never have I said that I was in favor of any plan to remove the speaker," Arney said in a letter to his colleagues. But for the first time he clearly implied he believes other GOP leaders conspired with the rebels.

Although he did not mention anyone by name, the letter intensified focus on House Majority Whip

Tom DeLay, R-Texas, who has remained publicly silent on his role in the plotting but continued Tuesday to insist that he would not resign from the leadership over the matter.

The high-level finger-pointing made plain how hard it will be for Gingrich to quickly contain the controversy and continue running the House with the current leadership lineup.

On the eve of a closed-door meeting of House Republicans, Gingrich signaled that he would seek no further changes in the leadership — at least for now. He is expected to tell House Republicans Wednesday to put the controversy behind them and to address in pri-

vate any questions they have about GOP leaders' behavior.

"It is his preference today not to hold a special conference (to discuss the coup attempt) and that we not challenge the leadership in the next conference," said Christina Martin, Gingrich's spokeswoman. "He would prefer to keep the focus on the tax cut as opposed to any challenge to the leadership."

It is not clear whether angry members of the rank and file will comply. Rep. Ray LaHood, R-Ill., unpersuaded by Arney's letter declaring his innocence, said he would try to force a full meeting of the Republican conference and demand explanations from each of the GOP leaders.

# Bomb Threat Trial of ATF Informer Has Interest of McVeigh Lawyers

THE WASHINGTON POST

TULSA

On Monday, Carol Howe, 26, is scheduled to go on trial in federal court here for threatening to bomb federal buildings, and her relationship with the federal government has become the centerpiece of her defense. She had served as an informer for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

She has become a cause celebre for lawyers of convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy J. McVeigh and far-right conspiracy theorists, who claim that prior to the 1995 Oklahoma City blast, Howe had warned authorities that others were talking about blowing up federal buildings.

Because the government waited three months after that to indict Howe, her attorneys claim she was only charged to silence her on the eve of McVeigh's trial. McVeigh was condemned to death last month for truck-bombing the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, which killed 168 people.

Prosecutors counter that the Oklahoma City attack has no bearing on the charges against Howe, and have asked U.S. District Judge Michael Burrage to bar all references to it at her trial. Both sides declined to comment Tuesday because a "gag" order is in place.

# Head of Fund-Raising Inquiry Angry About Grants of Immunity

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., who is heading the Senate's campaign fund-raising inquiry, angrily criticized the Justice Department Tuesday for failing to endorse grants of legal immunity to five potential witnesses.

"I do not have any confidence any more in the Justice Department's ability to carry out a credible investigation," Thompson said, referring to the department's criminal probe of fund-raising abuses.

The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, which is holding hearings on fund-raising abuses by both parties, can grant immunity in exchange for testimony without the Justice Department's consent.

A grant of immunity prohibits prosecutors from using anything a witness tells the Senate in a criminal trial.

The committee will take up the matter again Wednesday and committee sources predicted there would be enough support to grant immunity to all five witnesses.

After aides to Attorney General Janet Reno balked at immunity in a closed-door meeting with committee members Tuesday, a frustrated Thompson — with several GOP colleagues at his side — suggested that the decision to oppose immunity is influenced by the Clinton administration's involvement in the fund-raising scandal.



## Graduate Student Council

Walker Memorial, 50-220 ☎ 253-2195 ✉ gsc-request@mit.edu 🌐 www.mit.edu/activities/gsc



Shear Madness is the comedy whodunit that lets the audience play armchair detective. Set in a unisex hair salon that is the scene of wacky murder, Shear Madness offers a different hilarious ending every night as audience members hear the clues, question the characters, and solve the crime. August 19, Charles Playhouse. Tickets on sale now at Room 50-220.

## 78 Calendar

### ▶ JULY

30 Academics, Research & Careers Committee Meeting \*

### ▶ AUGUST

5 Fall Orientation Committee Mtg \*

5 Muddy Charles Pub Board of Governors Meeting, 5:30 PM, 50-120

6 General Council Meeting \*

12 Housing & Community Affairs Meeting \*

19 Shear Madness, interactive mystery performance, tickets on sale now.

20 Activities Meeting \*

21 Fall Orientation Committee Mtg \*

### Help us prepare for the fair

Follow-up calls    Food selection  
Resume book        Advertisement

Company book  
Set-up on Oct. 3

### Submit to our resume book

A clean copy of your resume is due by Sept. 5

### Upcoming meetings

30 July                      14 August

# 2nd ANNUAL Graduate Student Career Fair

Friday, 3 October 1997 • 10am-3pm  
Johnson Athletic Center  
617.253.2195 • gsc-careerfair@mit.edu  
contacts: Sanith Wijesinghe, Maria Raposo

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

# OPINION



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## Letters To The Editor

### Grade Mailing Story Mislead Readers

The article "Registrar Accidentally Sent Grades to Parents" [June 25] was misleading in two respects.

First, the Registrar's Office did not send student grade reports to parents. The reports were addressed in the students' names. It has been MIT policy for many years to send grades only to students, not their parents.

The Registrar's Office maintains two basic addresses for students: a term address and a home address. Normally, spring grades are sent to graduate students at the term address and to undergraduate students at the home address. A student may, however, provide an alternate temporary address for the mailing of the grade report. This temporary address has an expiration date and time associated with it. The time was earlier than we assumed and so the mailing defaulted to the home addresses for 187 students.

Second, MIT Student Information System database programmers were not involved in the problems sending the reports. The Registrar's Office works with the MITSIS programs, but the responsibility for the data and use of these programs resides with the Registrar's Office.

It is important that students be reaffirmed in their understanding that grades were not and are not by policy sent to parents.

Elizabeth Bradley, Associate Registrar  
Mary Callahan, Associate Registrar  
Constance Scribner, Associate Registrar



## Pundits Should Stop Cynicism over Weld

Column by Anders Hove

OPINION EDITOR

Political courage, however tame, is so rare in this country that columnists and commentators don't quite know what to do when they see it. I'm talking about last week's episode with Bill Weld. Here's a man who stands up for himself, and all the pundits can do is holler for him to sit back down. What's up with that?

First, a little review of the Weld dossier. He'd been idling on the fast plane to Mexico City for one too many weeks, held hostage by Senator Jesse Helms. Helms refused to even call a hearing on Weld's appointment as ambassador to Mexico, calling him "soft on drugs." Soft, in this case, means approving of medicinal use of marijuana.

Nevermind that ambassadorships are diplomatic posts, not policymaking or law enforcement positions. After all, it's clear Helms has it out for Weld for reasons that have nothing to do with drugs and Mexico.

First, there's the ideological differences. Helms is a rabid, right-wing prick who can't stand Weld's relatively tolerant stands on gay-rights and abortion. Helms undoubtedly saw this as his chance to take Weld off the list of contenders aiming to capture the soul of the Republican party.

Then there's the grudge factor. Weld resigned from the Justice Department in disgust when Edwin Meese III, then Attorney

General, was a right-wing poster child. Weld's defection was seen then, and is remembered now, as a betrayal of Ronald Reagan. As Richard Nixon taught us, if there's anything an elephant never forgets, it's a stab in the back. Helms to Weld: Take that, Brutus!

Lastly, there's the temperamental differences. One one side you've got a crotchety, Southern geezer who has founded his entire political career on denouncing elite liberalism in its devious disguises, from Fluoride-treated water to Martin Luther King's birthday. And on the other side you have a young, soft-spoken, Harvard-educated Cantabrigdian who has spent his life placating the very liberal elites the other so despises. Now, it should hardly surprise anyone the two don't exactly mack on each other in the Senate cloakroom.

But what of Helms? He was born to block this nomination. What gets me is everyone else's reaction. There's Senator Trent Lott on one hand: This man refuses to intervene on Weld's behalf, even though the Senate could have been expected to approve his nomination had it been brought to the floor. Lott would rather leave Weld to twist in the wind, and, more generally, Lott would rather play to his reactionary constituents in Mississippi than build any national base for his own future presidential bids.

And on the other side of the aisle, there's

President Clinton, the man who nominated Weld in the first place. Of course, most people have long since dismissed Clinton as unabashedly spineless, but didn't the Weld fight seem perfect? Clinton couldn't really lose: If Weld goes down, it's no loss for the Democrats. And if he puts up a good fight, it might scar Helms, win or lose. Why pass up this cheap and potentially entertaining opportunity?

Most of the debate has centered on the central figure in the drama, Weld himself. What's his game? On one hand, critics have denounced his every move as plays for a national political audience. Now, his nomination effectively in the toilet, an office-less Weld stands up to fight; what do the pundits say?

"A vainglorious performance pitched to the adoring voters of Massachusetts," sniffed long-time Weld critic David Nyhan ("Weld's Undiplomatic Outburst," *The Boston Globe*, July 18).

"The only thing he can do is play to his own constituents in Massachusetts by creating a bogeyman in Jesse Helms," Stephen Hess, a Brookings Institution fellow quoted in the July 18 *Globe* article, concurred. "Nobody can claim Weld is fighting the good fight for moderate Republicans."

There you have it: Weld's move is an

*As Richard Nixon taught us, if there's anything an elephant never forgets, it's a stab in the back. Helms to Weld: Take that, Brutus!*

Hove, Page 5

## Opinion Policy

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# Family Antics Only Prove You Can't Go Home Again

Column by Stacey E. Blau  
OPINION EDITOR

I went home this weekend for the first time in more than six months. And it didn't take long for me to remember why it had been six months and why it's going to be a lot longer before my next trip back to the 'hood — that is, Great Neck, NY.

It's my family, it always is. It's also the glut of Mercedes and the endless succession of rhinoplastied women and their shrill children that rule the streets. It is, after all, Long Island. But I digress.

It's gotten to the point where my mother and I can barely speak to each other. Sometimes things are better and we can have a normal conversation. But most of the time, my mother gets worked up about next to nothing and talks about it at a damn near amphetamine-driven pace.

Me: So I went to do my laundry —  
Mother: Laundry? Really, you did? Uh-huh, tell me about it.

My knuckles were white gripping the steering wheel about five minutes into the drive home from the airport.

And it only got worse. Take, for example, the afternoon *causerie* in the backyard of my aunt's house. The conversation drifts to the topic of my love life.

Grandma: So, are you dating any boys?  
Aunt: Any boys we should know about? (Looks at me knowingly).  
Me: No.  
Mother: They don't 'date' these days. They 'go out.'  
Aunt: Are you going out with anyone?  
Me: No.

It gets more serious.

Aunt: Don't you care if you marry someone Jewish?

Me: I don't care if the person I marry is Jewish or not.

Mother: That's what they all say. Soon there'll be none of us left.

Me: I don't feel I have to carry the burden of 5,757 years of Judaism on my shoulders.

Mother: What do you know? Have you read Alan Dershowitz's new book?

The conversation segues into a matter even more serious: lunch.

Aunt: OK — time for lunch. What do you

# Commentators Should Praise Weld's Courage

Hove, from Page 4

undeniably Machiavellian move, unscrupulously designed to ingratiate him with the folks at home. Why else launch the fight in the Massachusetts Statehouse?

Far be it for me to point out that Massachusetts and its struggling news organs are the only public platform Weld has. Did anybody expect Weld to attack Helms from Durham?

And if Weld is anxious to play to the home folks, why scuttle his chances for any ambassadorship? That puts him out on the street. How Machiavellian is that? Nyhan suggests he's angling for a big race against Kennedy in '98, yet that seems like a long shot with or without the posturing.

But let's just consider the other possibility: Weld is acting out a very human drama. He knows he's qualified, and he's pitted against the vile but antiquarian opposition of reactionary Southern Republicanism. Weld did what we would do. He demanded Senator Helms at least grant him a hearing, because he thought he could win once given a fair chance to speak. He stood up — stood up to fight the good fight, one last time.

Are our columnists and pundits too jaded to recognize courage? Our papers' opinion pages solicit a wide range of views, from liberal to conservative. Our television networks recruit commentators from both sides of the aisle. These mechanisms guarantee a balance of ideology, but what about a balance of attitude? Who will speak for the optimists and the dreamers? How can we even have leaders when every potential act of leadership is undercut by such cynicism in the press?

want, Stacey?  
Me: That's okay; I'm not really hungry. I had a lot for breakfast.

Aunt: What do you mean you're not hungry. (Turns to my mother and grandmother). What does she mean she's not hungry?

Grandmother: Of course she's hungry. Stacey, aren't you hungry?

Me: No.

Mother: She's never hungry. She hasn't been eating.

Aunt: None of them eat. They go to college and they eat nothing or they eat junk.

Grandma: That's right. They *gnosh* on junk.

Mother: When I went to visit her, she had nothing in her room. She says, 'Food shopping? I'm too busy.' I don't even want to think about what she eats when she's up there.

Aunt: Well, you have to eat something, Stacey. We're going to be very upset if you don't have something. Look at the time — it's time for lunch.

Grandma: Please, Stacey. Have something for me. Have cantaloupe. You don't have to be hungry to have cantaloupe.

Later, on before a family jaunt out toward the sprawl:

Mother: Stacey, go to the bathroom.

Me: I don't have to go.

Mother: You should go anyway or you'll have to go when we're in the car.

Me: Mom, I do not have to pee. If I decide I have to, I'll go when we're there.

Mother: You should go now.

Me: Mother, I am 21 years old. I can decide on my own when I need to go to the bathroom.

Mother: Ooooooaaaaay, Stacey. You don't need to get yourself into a tiff about it.

If I was a drinker, I think I would have had a couple of shots of something and then a few more on the plane home, maybe followed later by a handful of Valium. But I don't drink, and I would not have had the heart to get Valium at the drugstore and take from the truly needy on Long Island.

The solution for me really is simple: Don't go home. Maybe after my mother reads this column, I won't have to. Maybe I'll be out of the will, too.

# Sprinkler System Inefficiently Spritzes Institute's Sidewalks

Column by Erik S. Balsley  
SPORTS EDITOR

You know the song "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," but have you ever felt those raindrops as you walk across campus? For the past two weeks or so, every morning as I walk along the sidewalk from Tang to campus, I have. However, the drops aren't from the sky but from MIT's own sprinkler system.

Normally, I wouldn't complain about getting heavily misted by a sprinkler on a humid day, but when I turned on the news to hear reports about a water emergency for eastern Massachusetts, my ears immediately perked up.

As a kid, I loved running through the sprinkler. However, the current sprinkling pattern bears no similarity to childhood fun. I must dodge moving streams of water on my way to work. On a humid day, sitting in an office waiting for the water to evaporate from my clothes is not at all fun and very uncomfortable.

I can stand this inconvenience, but I'm also very concerned by what's being watered and when. As I recently made my morning walk to work, I realized that the lawns are not the only things getting watered, the sidewalks along Amherst Alley and a good portion of the street are getting irrigated as well.

I also noticed that the sprinklers on Kresge Oval were watering the lawn and sidewalks at odd times of the day. They were on when I walked by at 4 a.m. the other day.

Most people have concerns about the times when lawns can be best watered, and the conventional wisdom is that watering during the middle of the day is a no-no. Others believe that one should not water lawns during the night. Given that MIT is watering its lawns at all hours of the day and night, it seems reasonable to conclude that some watering is occurring when it shouldn't.

Given the water emergency I began to ask, "What gives with the wasteful watering?" Normally the waste would catch my eye and just cause some concern, but given the circumstances, I became very upset.

Is MIT trying to set an example for the rest of eastern Massachusetts with its extravagant watering? Did re-engineering attack wasteful uses of resources in the dead of winter and therefore overlooked the sprinkler system? I have a funny feeling the answer to both questions is no. The waste continues.

I have some familiarity with the water and sewerage infrastructure of the greater metropolitan Boston area. I know that the water rates charged by the Massachusetts

Water Resources Authority to the 43 communities to which it provides water are the highest in the nation because of the Boston Harbor Cleanup. I also know that in most cases, Cambridge does not receive water from the MWRA and does not have to pay the same high rates for its water as the communities

around it. It is therefore perhaps cheaper for MIT to wastefully water than it is for another school in Boston.

But this isn't really an excuse. As I look at it, there are a few things that should be done to eliminate some of this waste. Watering could be done at one of the two optimal times of the day — right before dawn or right before dusk. However, this may be hard to do given the amount of greenery on this campus without causing a significant drop in the water pressure. Perhaps a watering every other day may be an option for many grassy areas on campus. But whatever is decided, MIT should not be watering the lawns 24 hours a day as it is now.

MIT should also stop watering its sidewalks, gravel, and streets. There must be ways to create more efficient watering patterns with the sprinklers. If they can drip irrigate large portions of some deserts, why can't MIT be more efficient in its water use?

Wasting water is inefficient. There is only a limited supply of water available for use, and it can be economically and environmentally costly to waste this resource. Given that MIT prides itself as an efficient institution of learning, can't we do any better on watering the lawn?

*MIT should stop watering its sidewalks, gravel, and streets.*

## THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

**AMERICANS WORSHIP POLLS AND STATISTICS... NEVER DOUBTING FOR A MOMENT THAT A FEW THOUSAND INTERVIEWS CAN BE USED TO ACCURATELY EXTRAPOLATE THE INNERMOST SECRETS OF A NATION OF 253 MILLION PEOPLE...**

HEY HONEY--WANT SOME COTTAGE CHEESE? 56% OF AMERICANS CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IT!

NO THANKS! LIKE 83.5% OF OUR FELLOW CITIZENS, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR BREAKFAST!

**...SO IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT THE RESULTS OF THE NEW SEX SURVEY HAVE BEEN SO QUICKLY EMBRACED BY RATIONAL THINKERS EVERYWHERE...**

**...INCLUDING THE EDITORS OF CERTAIN NEWSMAGAZINES...**

**...WHO SEEMED SUSPICIOUSLY PLEASED TO REPORT THAT BORING SEX IS THE NORM...**

**ACCORDING TO THE STUDY, ONLY 54% OF AMERICAN MEN-- AND 19% OF WOMEN-- EVEN GIVE A PASSING THOUGHT TO SEX ON ANY GIVEN DAY...**

SEX? SWEATY, PANTING, SHUDDERING SEX?!

NOPE, CAN'T SAY I THINK ABOUT THAT MUCH!

I'M MUCH TOO BUSY KNITTING MACRAME ANIMALS TO THINK ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING!

**FACT OR FICTION, THESE NUMBERS WILL BE BANDIED ABOUT ON NEWS PROGRAMS AND TALK SHOWS FOR YEARS-- OR AT LEAST UNTIL THE NEXT POLL IS RELEASED...**

WHY--IT SAYS HERE THAT 94% OF AMERICANS HAVE HAD SEX WITH THEIR KITCHEN APPLIANCES!

WELL, IF IT SAYS SO IN A SURVEY THEN IT MUST BE TRUE!

# Building 16 Architecture To Be Consistent With 56

Renovations, from Page 1

Construction is currently progressing on schedule in the building, Joyce said. Contractors have installed drywall on many of the upper floors, while the lower floors are being used to sort and store parts being used in the upper floors. New exterior walls are currently being installed on the eighth floor.

The renovated Building 16 will architecturally similar to Building 56, Joyce said. "We're trying to make the buildings seamless" since many offices are housed in both buildings.

The lobby of the building will feature an expanded vending machine area, and possibly a few Athena QuickStations, Joyce said.

When complete, the new building will house about half of the occupants of Building 20, including the Language Lab, the Concourse and Integrated Studies Program special freshman programs, and members of the toxicology, chemistry, and chemical engineering departments. "We have lots more folks to go from [Building] 20," which is scheduled to be demolished in the summer of 1998, Joyce said.

## Fishbowl Becomes Service Center

Over the last few months, the first floor of Building 11 has been transformed from a center of computing into a center of student services.

Construction workers are currently in the process of putting the finishing touches on the new Student Services Center, which is scheduled to open on August 18.

Computers and other equipment will soon be moved into the center as staff begin their training in early August, said Hillary H. DeBaun, a team leader in the Office of the Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education, who heads up the project.

Included in the project, which converted most of the first floor of

Building 11 into the new Center, is a revised and expanded Adaptive Technologies for Information and Computing Lab in 3-123, and a Athena QuickStation cluster featuring several Sun workstations and a printer.

A large entryway will hold the cards announcing job offers on campus which are currently located by the Financial Aid office, DeBaun said.

The new center will add a satellite MIT Card office and will make available representatives from the financial aid, Bursar's, and Registrar's Office to answer in-depth questions that cannot quickly be answered at the desk.

Next year, after Information Systems has relocated to building N42, the remaining workers from the Bursar's and Registrar's office will move into facilities in the upper floors of Building 11, said Ronald J. Catella, a project manager for Physical Plant.

"Whether there will be enough room for all of" the Financial Aid office is currently being determined, Catella said.

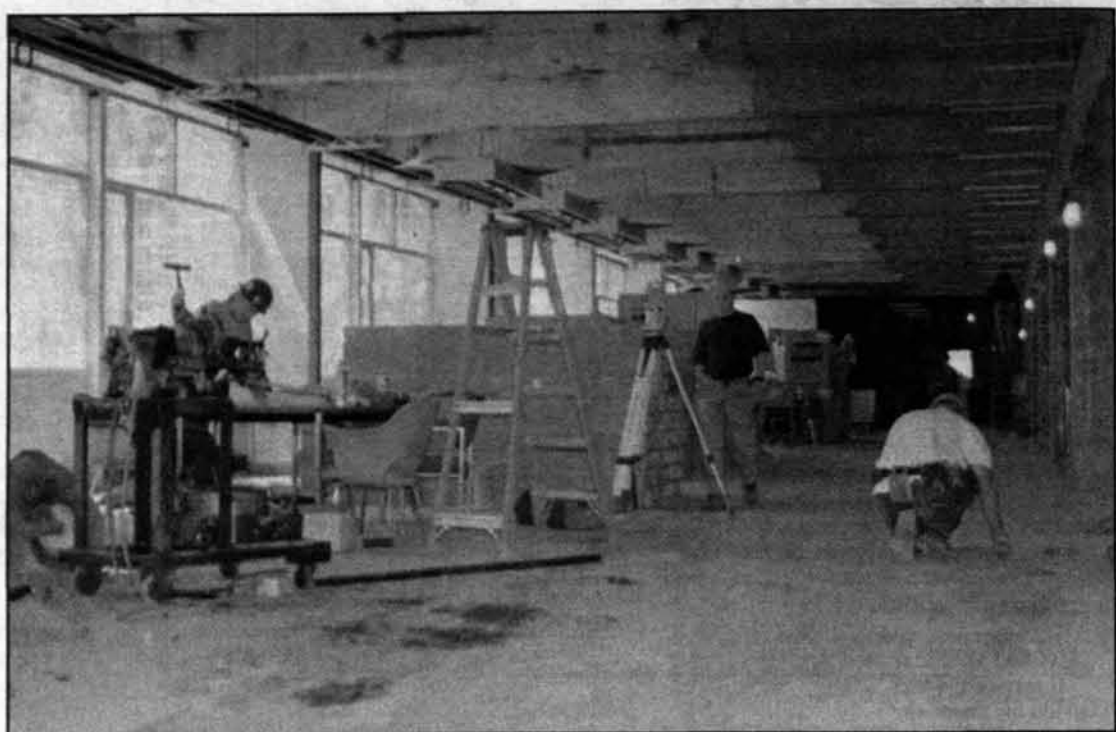
## Building 2 classrooms renovated

Ten classrooms in Building 2 are currently being renovated for use in the coming academic year, said Mary R. Callahan, assistant registrar for facilities and scheduling.

"We began to work in earnest [on the rooms] right after Commencement," he said. The rooms are getting new walls, chalkboards, lighting, heating and cooling systems, and tables and chairs.

All of the new rooms will feature permanent video projectors as well as overhead projectors, Callahan said. Eight of the ten rooms will be set up to allow projection from laptop computers brought into the classrooms.

"The remaining two rooms will be outfitted with a fixed Athena workstation" connected to the video projector as well as a computer at every student seat. These classrooms will not be ready for the fall



Construction workers prepare materials for installation in Building 16, currently under renovation. The building is currently scheduled to reopen in March.

semester, Callahan said.

"We're trying to determine the best furniture" to make the computer unobtrusive to the teaching process.

The remaining eight classrooms, though, are on schedule to be completed by the first day of classes, Callahan said. "I haven't heard word to the contrary," she said.

Because of the expense of the new equipment, the rooms will be locked at night like the new classrooms in Building 56, Callahan said.

## Renovation floods Building 7

Renovations to the Office of the Corporation caused major hassles for those at the Institute on Friday, June 27, when a construction worker demolishing a wall broke a sprinkler pipe.

Water from the pipe spilled down through the floor and into the

office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and forced an evacuation of the Infinite Corridor from Building 11 through the Lobby of Building 7 for much of that day, said Kim Ann Sutherland, construction manager for Physical Plant.

"We were certainly worried about the weight of the water and debris," said Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin. "It took the entire department" to ensure the safety of the area while the clean-up efforts began. Ceiling tiles had fallen in many of the offices, and the carpeting was soaked.

Those who worked in the offices where the flooding occurred lost mainly personal items, according to Elizabeth I. Cogliano, coordinator of student programs. "I lost a lot of stuff that you just can't put a value on," she said.

Still, the offices were made habitable over the weekend. "The way

[the office] looked on Friday and the way it looked on Monday was like night and day," Cogliano said.

"We had a contractor come in and deodorize the carpeting and wipe down the floors," said Robert L. Donaghey, manager of personnel and administration for physical plant. Metro West, who was doing the construction, replaced the damaged ceiling tiles in the offices.

"Had [the flood] happened a week earlier, we would have been in trouble," Cogliano said. The packets of information for incoming freshman were stored in the office and were mailed a few days before the flood.

Fortunately, the flood occurred during the summer, Glavin said. "As it was, there were a lot of onlookers and a lot of questions." Crowd control during the academic year would have been much more difficult.

# Handover Extravaganza A Television Event

Hong Kong, from Page 1

Like many other tourists and local residents, I tuned in to the 72 hour continuous coverage of the handover on television. The broadcast featured live coverage of the ceremonies and concerts held in celebration of the event and interviews with people from China, Hong Kong, Great Britain, Taiwan, Australia, and many other countries. Those interviewed all expressed the same sentiment: they were very much in favor of the handover and optimistic about Hong Kong's future with China.

Some of us in the tour group, including myself, doubted the validity of these interviews, especially given the wariness with which people around the world were watching the handover. All coverage about the handover was controlled by the government and the same news broadcasts aired on eight of the ten available channels.

## Attitudes differ in Hong Kong

We arrived in Hong Kong on July 13. There were some signs celebrating the handover, but significantly less than there had been in China. Our tour guide, Johnny, a Hong Kong resident, explained that nothing significant had changed since the handover, not even the uniform of the airport employees. Only things like the name of the Hong Kong Royal Jockey Club had been changed. It is now simply the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

Johnny did point out how the people in Hong Kong dislike the Bank of China building. Chinese people tend to be superstitious and the fact that the bank building, the second tallest in Hong Kong, is shaped like a dagger has fostered

some worries. They think that this dagger, located in the heart of Hong Kong, is cutting the city apart. The fact that the building is owned by the government only heightens their perception of hidden meanings.

Despite this, life in Hong Kong continued as it always had. People scurried about attending to their business. There was some tension, though. Unlike in China, where feelings were extremely open, it was very difficult for us to get anyone in Hong Kong to tell us their opinion of the handover. People in general seemed to not want to think about the event, nor about the

effects it is having and will have in their lives.

This superstition and the people's actions demonstrate their views toward China: they don't like the handover and the possible effects on the economy and human rights, but they have learned to deal with it. There is nothing they can do, so they are not going to fight it. The people who can leave the country have already left and those remaining will just try to make the most of it.

One interesting idea on the significance of the handover came from Marvin, a member of my tour group who was born in China but

spent time in Hong Kong and Taiwan, and now lives in the U.S. "Of course Hong Kong will change. How could it not?" he said. "Many people say that the future of Hong Kong depends on the Chinese government. I think instead the future of Hong Kong depends on the Taiwanese government," he said. "Hong Kong will be set up as a model for Taiwan to see. Hong Kong has been returned and Macau will be easy. Taiwan is the hard battle, and the Chinese government wants to show the world that having Taiwan under its rule wouldn't be so bad: 'just look at what is happening in Hong Kong'."



Clouds loom over Hong Kong, which was handed back to China on July 1, 1997 after over a century of British rule.

Age 7, 1982-



Age 18, 1993



Elizabeth Suto.

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

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

**FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.**

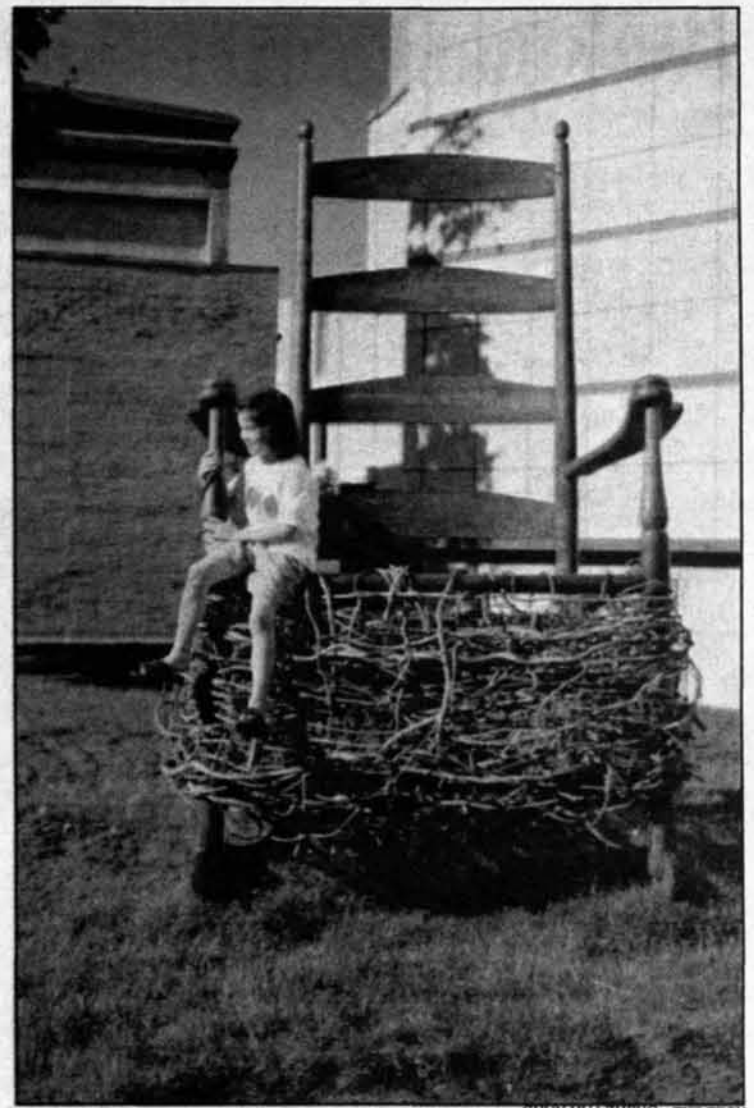
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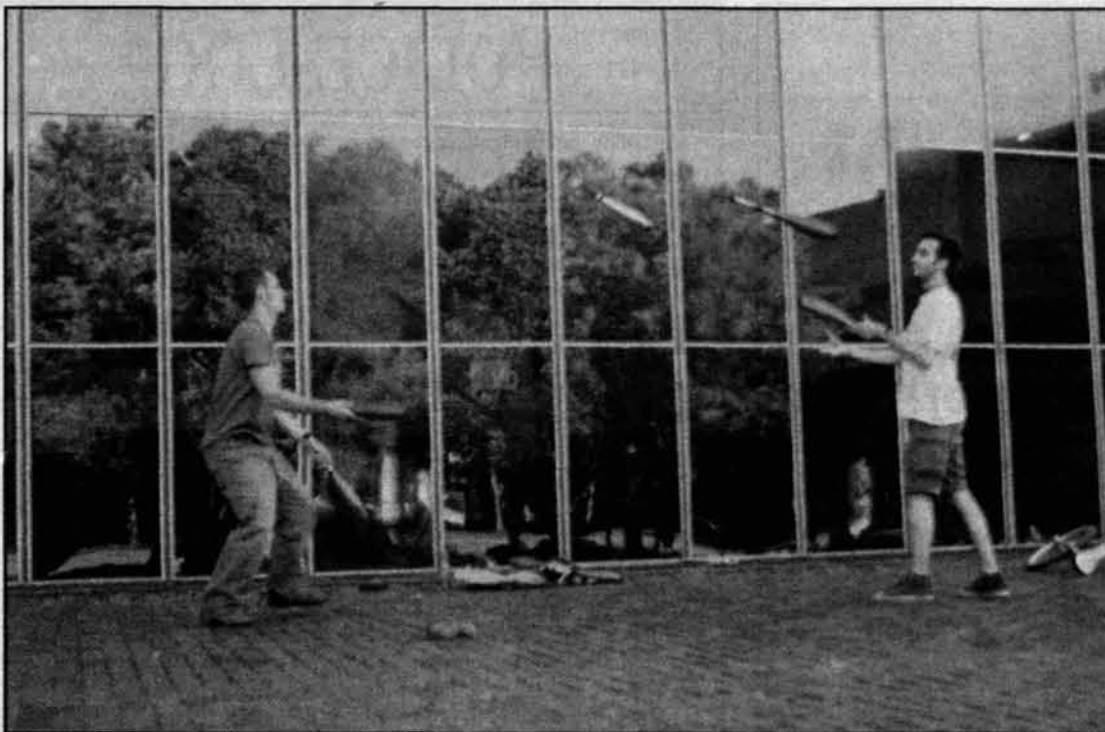
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CHUN HUA ZHENG—THE TECH



WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI

### Scenes of the Summer

Thomas C. Vales of St. Elmo's Fire demonstrates a levitating motor at last Sunday's Swapfest. (Above left)

MIT Juggling Club members practice juggling clubs outside Kresge Oval last Sunday. (Left)

A young visitor of MIT enjoys the view from the Harvest Chair, an art installation outside the Media Lab. (Above)

# Jerome Wiesner, 13th President, Is Dead at 79

Was Science Adviser for JFK

# Deans Consider Moving All Undergrads to West Dorms

# MITES Controversy Attracts National Media Attention

## Find out what really goes on at MIT ... write news for *The Tech*

The News department is actively recruiting new writers.  
Absolutely no experience is necessary.

Call the newsroom at x3-1541 and ask for Jen or Dan.

# Seniors Satisfied With Education

Only Half Pleased with Frosh Year

# Police Investigate Burton Fire Scare

# Clifford G. Shull Wins Physics Nobel Prize

# Jablonski's MIT Career Included Many Controversies

Jablonski, from Page 1

that she could bring order to the office of Residence and Campus Activities, which had been thrown into chaos by the resignation of former Dean James R. Tewhey. Tewhey left MIT amid charges that he had an affair with former Associate Director of Student Financial Aid Katherine M. Nolan.

"It was not the smoothest of transitions in that regard. She did step into an office at a difficult time," said Arthur C. Smith, then-dean for student affairs. However, Smith said that at the time he was confident that she would be able to restore the department's stature. "She's a very able person. She's had a great deal of personal experience," he said.

But Jablonski was faced with an

office in disarray whose connections with other organizations had been badly frayed. "The office had been without a leader for almost a year. The organization was in a state of some disrepair," said Smith.

Jablonski said that her first task "was restoring some sense of stability for the staff and for the students" while also working to "establish relationships with departments like the Campus Police, Housing," and the Campus Activities Complex.

#### Tenure touched by controversy

Jablonski's tenure, while marked by successes, was also touched on more than one occasion by controversy. In August, 1996 *The Tech* reported that then-Undergraduate Association Treasurer Russell S. Light '98 and then-Association of Student Activities President

Douglas K. Wyatt G had discovered accounting errors totalling \$140,000 in the books being kept by RCA on student activities.

Jablonski worked to resolve that problem, Wyatt said. "She was eager to solve the problem rather than patch it over."

"The assay system has been in shambles for years," he said. "I don't even know if it was working prior to the date" of the earliest records that were reviewed. "The problems were uncovered" and attempts were made to deal with them. Jablonski left the office's finances in better shape than she found them, he said.

The party ban initiated in the winter of 1995 after a Northeastern University student was shot outside of Walker Memorial was a more controversial decision. "There were

almost no large events for almost an entire term," he said. "I certainly want to do something if someone gets shot at a party" but a complete ban was too harsh, he added. "But most of that I put on the shoulders of the CPs. I think that was a bit of a knee-jerk reaction" on their part, he said.

"She definitely is tough to negotiate with," said former Dormitory Council President Christopher H. Barron '97, who worked with her during the Senior House renovations. "If anything, she knows what she wants and we know what we want and we should both be trying to aggressively uphold out interests because that's the only way a good compromise can come out," he said.

#### Colleagues bid farewell

"This is bittersweet," said

Williams. "Margaret Jablonski has been a superb administrator and an extraordinary member of the Dean's office and I'm sad to see her depart"

"She has an excellent faculty position out there. We absolutely understand why she's taking advantage of it," she said. "It's a real loss for MIT."

The UMass-Amherst position "is an excellent professional opportunity," said Bates, who added that her working relationship with Jablonski was "excellent... she's been a very good colleague."

"We're very happy its Massachusetts she's going to and not California so we can maintain the relationship."

Douglas E. Heimburger contributed to the reporting of this story.

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## POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between July 3 and 21:

**July 3:** Bldg. NW14, substance leaking from dumpster; Bldg. 18, 1) backpack stolen, \$45, 2) backpack stolen, \$45; Zeta Phi, graffiti.

**July 4:** Phi Beta Epsilon, wallet stolen, \$25; Alpha Delta Phi, laptop stolen, \$1,200; Phi Beta Epsilon, backpack stolen, \$35.

**July 6:** Bldg. 1, computer stolen, \$3,700; Burton bike rack, bike stolen, \$250; Bldg. 20, malicious damage; Bldg. 37, backpack/pocketbook stolen, \$100; Bldg. 18, bike parts stolen, \$50; McCormick, annoying phone calls.

**July 8:** Hayden Library, camera stolen, \$300; Bldg. 9, video camera stolen, \$200; Bldg. 36, "The Brain" cartoon character items stolen, \$70; Bldg. 7, wallet stolen, \$50.

**July 9:** Hayden Library, backpack stolen, \$230.

**July 10:** Alpha Tau Omega, laptop stolen, \$5,000; Bexley, annoying phone calls; Herman garage bike cage, bike stolen, \$100; MacGregor, 1) cash stolen, \$200 2) cash stolen, \$125; Vassar Street, vehicle stolen, recovered elsewhere; Rotch Library, assault and battery, victim interrupted suspect attempting to steal a backpack, in fleeing the area suspect shoved the victim.

**July 11:** Bexley, harassing phone calls; Bldg. E51, theft; Bldg. NW14, suspicious activity; Next House, bicycle stolen.

**July 12:** Walker, suspicious activity; Bldg. 4, theft from vending machine.

**July 13:** Bldg. 9, graffiti; Kresge Lot, window smashed on Acura Legend.

**July 14:** Bldg. E23, 1) harassing phone calls 2) problem with intoxicated student; Bldg. E15, theft; Bldg. E51, Dhaneesh Samarasan, of no known address, arrested on an outstanding warrant.

**July 15:** No. 6 Club, noise complaint; Burton, theft; Student Center, bicycle stolen; Complaint of SafeRide driving erratically; Pierce Boathouse, wallet stolen; Hayden Library, two thefts.

**July 16:** Bldg. 10, attempted break-in; Tang, theft; Amherst Alley, vehicle stolen elsewhere recovered; Pierce Boathouse, wallet stolen.

**July 17:** Bldg. 20, two thefts; Bldg. 68, theft; Bldg. E38, theft; Bldg. 39, theft; MacGregor, problem with resident; Bldg. 3, computer stolen; Bldg. E19, harassing phone calls; Bldg. E53, computer stolen.

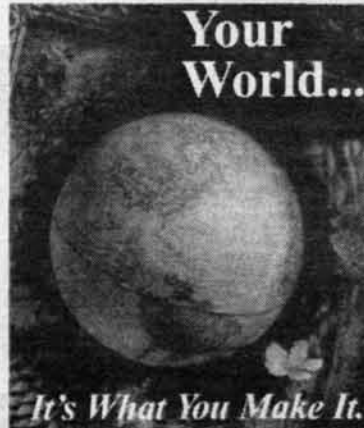
**July 18:** Bldg. 3, two wallets stolen; Baker House, drums stolen; Bldg. 13, backpack stolen.

**July 19:** Boston Police arrest two fraternity members at 536 Beacon St., Boston.

**July 20:** Bldg. 24, small trash fire.

**July 21:** Hayden Library, theft; Building 13, wallet stolen; Kresge Lot, damage to motor vehicle; Bldg. E40, wallet stolen.

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# Margaret Jablonski Reflects on Three Years at MIT

By Dan McGuire  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

"A lot of people who are administrators teach at one point, and vice-versa," said Margaret A. Jablonski, departing Dean for Residence and Campus Activities. "It's very common for practitioners, such as deans, to go to the faculty," she added.

Jablonski will be leaving MIT in about three weeks to do just that. She will be moving to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst to assume a faculty position at the School of Education. In fact, she is slated to teach five courses covering everything from the history of education to leadership theory to a class on women in education in the fall. "The last one may change," she admitted.

For the moment, Jablonski is spending her time wrapping up loose ends and open cases. "I'm working with [Dean for Student Life] Margaret Bates to sketch out what the next year should look like for staffing responsibilities," she said.

The administrative committees which Jablonski is part of will be distributed to others. "I gave [Bates] a list of 30 committee project teams that I'm on that need to be transitioned" to other individuals, she said.

Jablonski will remain with MIT part-time for the next academic year, returning a few days a month to work with the team planning the new Leadership Development Center and using what she learns from the project for her research. "Because I'm still coming in a few days a month, I'm not sure where I'll be physically housed."

Jablonski leaves her position with a good record, although she notes that her time at RCA has been busy. "I think it's always been in transition," she said. "It's only been in the last six months" that things have started to calm down.

Nevertheless, during her time she can point to some real achievements. "In the last year I played a very behind-the-scenes role in getting the gays, lesbians, and transgenders working group established. I'm confident that it will make a difference for gay and lesbian students at MIT," she said.

**Jablonski reflects on MIT housing**  
Housing remains a delicate mat-

ter at the Institute, which does not have enough space to house all of its graduate and undergraduate students. It depends on independent living groups to provide additional undergraduate housing. Graduate students are responsible for their own housing and many must find housing off campus.

Graduate students may see some improvements as plans for a new graduate dorm continue to be debated. "I do think that we do still have a major problem of... housing," Jablonski said. "We're moving forward with plans to build a new dorm for graduate students at Sydney and Pacific Street." Current plans call for the dorm to house up to 300 beds in the first building at the site.

Undergraduate housing sometimes proved more difficult, though, because of the constraints under which the MIT housing system operates. Since the success of Rush will decide whether dormitories will be crowded or not and because MIT guarantees housing for all four years to incoming freshmen who want it, finding rooms has always been a logistical nightmare.

It is here that MIT has not fared entirely well. In the past two years, the number of crowded rooms has been on the order of 150. "I think we've reached a kind of equilibrium. I think we've kind of accepted the idea of having 100 to 150 dorm rooms crowded," she said. "I think it should be much lower."

Efforts to create additional single sex housing, a major problem two years ago, have met with much more success, however. In 1995, RCA estimated that it would need 100 additional beds to meet all of the requests. The only dorm equipped to deal with these requests was McCormick Hall, so Jablonski worked to open a dialog with other dormitory governments to find more single-sex beds.

"We wanted more single-sex suites. We were able to work with the Room Assignment Chairs to get single-sex housing to all who wanted it," said Jablonski.

The system gained some much-needed additional flexibility as a result of systemic changes. "You can opt for McCormick [Hall] but you can also opt for single sex housing. You may end up on a co-ed floor, but now you will be in a single sex suite," she said.

One of the most difficult issues

has remained only partly resolved. Random Hall has been regarded as temporary housing by MIT since it opened almost 30 years ago, and how much MIT should invest in an admittedly temporary building has proved to be a tricky case of cost-benefit analysis.

Random Hall residents faced a number of perils over the past few years. In October 1995 sewer pipes overflowed, leaving sewage on the first floor and the trunk room. An unknown yellow substance also spurted from the sewer drain. In a meeting with officials, including Jablonski, held after the incident, many students criticized the way repairs were being handled, calling them haphazard.

"I think there were some basic maintenance issues that Physical Plant responded to once it was brought to their attention. It shouldn't have taken that level of dissatisfaction" to get a response, she said.

"I think that MIT does have a commitment to Random for the next decade or so according to the plans I've seen," Jablonski said.

While the physical condition of some dormitories might need improvement, Jablonski said that she was pleased with the housemasters hired during her time.

"I've been responsible for the hiring and recruitment of housemasters. We've had five to six turn over" in the past three years, Jablonski said. "John M. Essigman of New House, Munther Dahleh of MacGregor, and Henry Jenkins of Senior House are examples of very committed faculty involved in" dormitory life.

## Government issues pose problems

Student government proved to be a trickier issue as student governments underwent changes themselves.

Jablonski said that she had worked well with Association of Student Activities to resolve issues facing student groups. "I think we have a stronger relationship with ASA. For example, we got involved with them in the re-rooming of the Student Center and Walker. I think we came up with a reasonable solution."

She is also satisfied with the way the revised student accounts system handles funds. Bookkeeping errors amounting to \$140,000 forced a revised and more accurate electronic



GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

Margaret A. Jablonski

bookkeeping system for student group accounts a year ago, and also helped lend weight towards allowing outside accounts for student organizations. "Student groups can have some confidence that their accounts" are being managed properly, she said.

Relations with the Undergraduate Association proved more difficult. "I think we have been working to accomplish what they want to accomplish. For example, the UA took the lead on getting an additional \$40,000 from the Provost's Office," Jablonski said.

The revived Dormitory Council proved to be an important player, although not necessarily a stabilizing one at all times. "There was a blip on the radar screen... of dormcon becoming more active," said Jablonski.

In early 1996 Dormcon pulled out of Clearinghouse, the freshman tracking system used during Rush. The messaging system which replaced it last year was criticized by some as being slow and difficult to use. The Freshman Messaging System to be used in the dormitories this year looks to be promising, but Jablonski said that she was still wary.

"I think that there will always be a healthy tension between dormcon

and the [Interfraternity Council] given the way housing works at MIT. Our role is to resolve disputes — the disputes that break out every year."

## Party policy draws criticism

The revised party policy instituted in September 1996 followed the all-out large event ban instituted after the shooting of a Northeastern student outside Walker Memorial in December 1995. The policies have been met with anger by some student groups.

Under the newest policy, large events at Walker may only be held if they meet a stringent list of conditions.

"We had to make some concessions because we live in an urban environment," said Jablonski. "I think that we've done the best we can at this point," she added.

"I know not all students at this point... [agree] and I know we had to make unpopular decisions about the use of Walker," she said. However, "I did support the policy given the situation we're in."

"Throughout my tenure here I've had to make some difficult decisions. I've tried to be fair, but wherever you sit at MIT you may have a different perspective, and that's made it a challenge," Jablonski said.

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## ACROSS

- 1. Number
- 4. Tag
- 9. High card
- 12. Macao currency
- 13. Reduce
- 14. Month (abbr.)
- 15. Innate
- 17. Dog
- 19. Anger
- 21. Light
- 22. Crazy
- 24. Cagey
- 26. Window glass
- 29. Happening
- 31. Door opener
- 33. Easy
- 34. Southern state (abbr.)
- 35. A long time
- 37. Uncle —
- 39. Six (Roman)
- 40. Atlantic (abbr.)
- 42. Now
- 44. Motorist's hotel
- 46. Jump
- 48. High rock
- 50. Valley
- 51. Tub
- 53. Indian post
- 55. Prepared
- 58. Expand
- 61. English (abbr.)
- 62. New

## DOWN

- 64. Allow
- 65. Confederate general
- 66. Station
- 67. Age
- 1. Summer browning
- 2. One of the Gabors
- 3. Advertisement
- 4. Volcanic ash
- 5. Helps
- 6. College degree (abbr.)
- 7. And so forth (abbr.)
- 8. Skip
- 9. Beast
- 10. Criminal (slang)
- 11. Night before
- 16. Opposite literal meaning
- 18. Small bite
- 20. Wapiti
- 22. Within the law
- 23. Egg-shaped
- 25. Affirmative
- 27. Umbilicus
- 28. Enforced removal
- 30. Game
- 32. Sweet potato
- 36. Butterfly catcher
- 38. Show clothes
- 41. Washing out the stomach
- 43. Small child
- 45. Mexican food
- 47. Even
- 49. Cowboy event

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# Opinions Differ on Messaging Limits

**Messaging**, from Page 1

Clearinghouse exists to track the location of freshman during Rush and to prevent Rush violations.

Still, messages sent from R/O workers or administration officials over the FMS will appear when freshman are checked into Clearinghouse in an ILG.

### ILG opinions differ on system

Many living groups said that the proposed limitations on the FMS would not be cumbersome. "It's not necessary to use the FMS between the fraternities because... the IFC has rules regarding phone messaging and there's a decorum behind it," said Rodriguez.

"Since freshman don't normally go back to dorms they might not get a message for the entire Rush," said Zeta Psi Rush chair Christopher R. Laughman '99, who felt that the changes could have a negative effect on the system.

"I don't think [the changes] could affect my house very much... we don't do a very hard rush" said Student House Rush chair Aimee K. Horr '98.

Benjamin J. Moeller '99, rush chair for Phi Sigma Kappa, said that the system "would definitely be more useful than the system last year" when dorms didn't participate in Clearinghouse.

"There are some effects but it's not a major thing... a lot of time we try to talk to [freshman] in person or on the phone" said Delta Upsilon Assistant Rush chair Jeffrey L. Steinheider '99.

Assistant Dean for Residence and Campus Activities Neal H. Dorow, who advises fraternities, was out of town and could not be reached for contact.

### System to be simple, easy to use

While the features of the system are still under development, the FMS will be easy for incoming freshman to learn, Chan said.

"We're designing the system under the assumption that freshman won't have Athena accounts or won't be familiar enough with [Athena] to use it" for messaging.

The messaging system will feature only one-way communication to the freshman. "It's not an electronic mail system."

Security on the system will be maintained through passwords issued to freshman when they arrive on campus. "The messages sent will be as secure as any messages sent over the Internet," Chan said.

Still, the system will not be used if especially important messages are received at the R/O center. "If there are any urgent messages, the [Campus Police] will hand-deliver them," said Chan.

The FMS will include terminals located near each dormitory's desk and messaging when freshmen check into ILGs. Freshman will not be required to check their messages. Still, "we've thought of every possible thing to get freshmen to check their messages," Chan said.

Frank Dabek contributed to the reporting of this story.



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### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM PAGE 9



ARIFUR RAHMAN—THE TECH

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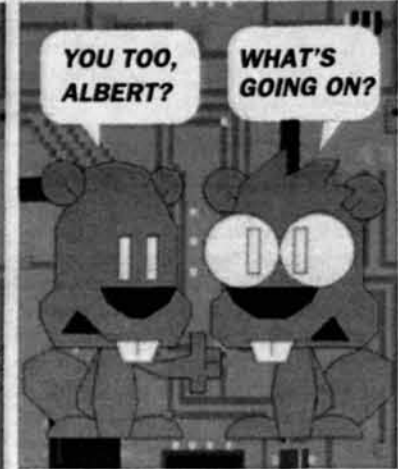
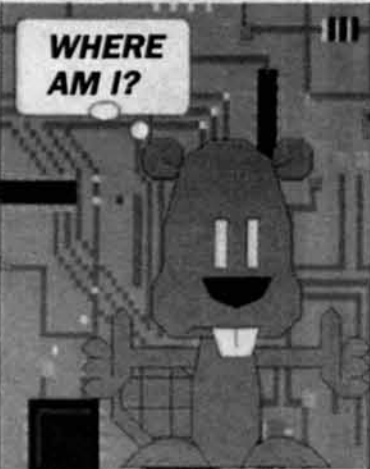
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by jessica

by Katy-Cat



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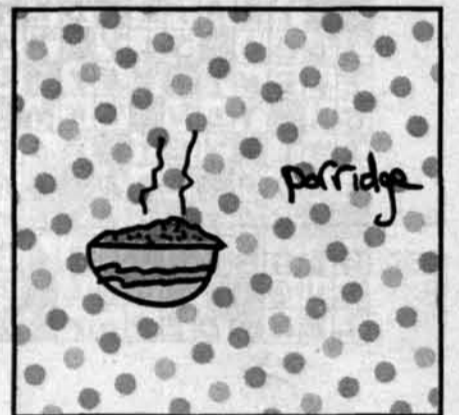
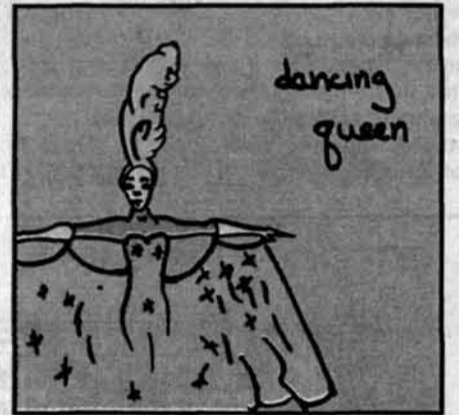
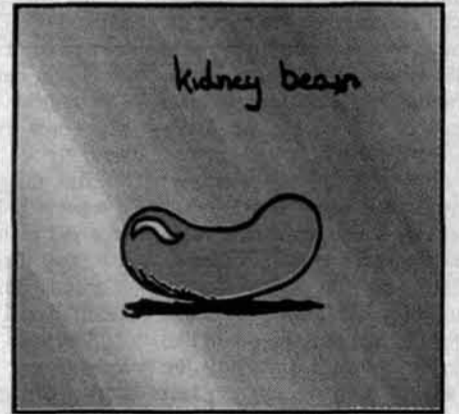
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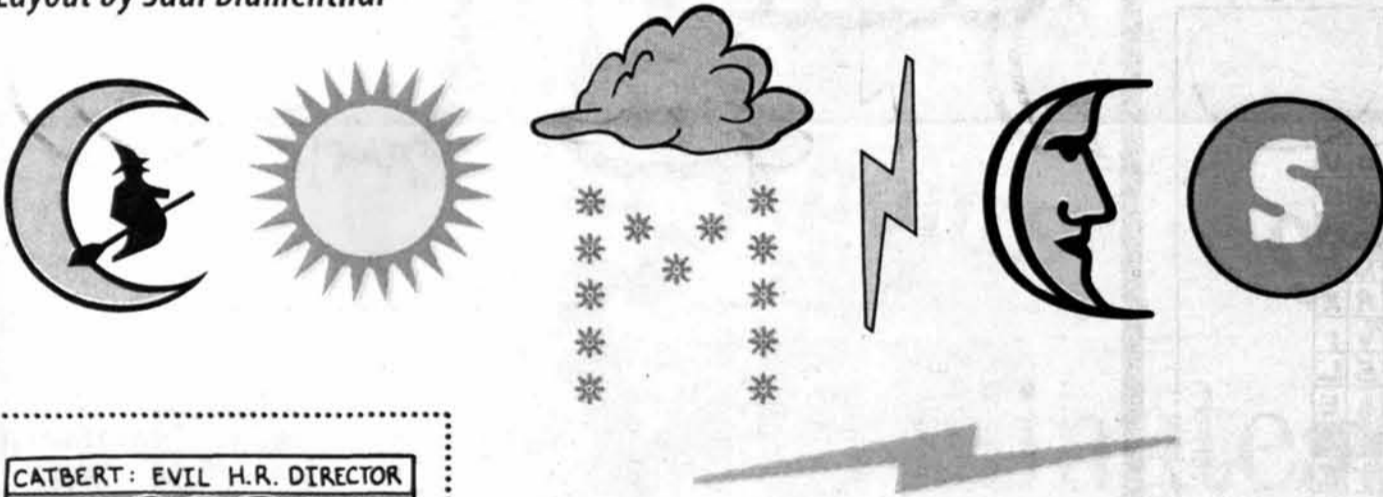
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by Zachary Emig



Layout by Saul Blumenthal



The Tech July 23, 1997

# DILBERT

by Scott Adams

