Welcome, Prospective Freshmen!

MIT's **Oldest and Largest** Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Sprinkle possible, 48°F (9°C) Tonight: Clear, cold, 32°F (0°C) Tomorrow: Clouding up, 45°F (6°C) Details, Page 2

Volume 112, Number 17

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, April 3, 1992

Jake M. Yara '93 and Diane M. Mulso '92 look off into the distance in Next Act's production of Fiddler on the Roof. Performances continue through Saturday night at Next House.

UA Ballots Recovered; Suspects Questioned by Campus Police

By Reuven M. Lerner NEWS EDITOR

A large number of Undergraduate Association election ballots, stolen along with a ballot box on March 11 from a Lobby 7 polling station, were returned in a cardboard box just after 12:15 a.m. today.

An anonymous female caller told The Tech that the ballots could be found "in Lobby 7, on the left-side pedestal, in a cardboard box." A subsequent investigation revealed a closed cardboard box containing a brown garbage bag. Campus Police later confirmed that the box, which was retrieved by Patrolman Paul V. Conway at about 12:30 a.m., contained UA ballots.

At press time, it was not known whether the cardboard box contained all of the stolen ballots, which numbered over 600.

The ballots' reappearance came just a few days after the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs revealed it, not the Campus Police, would take action against four students implicated in the incident.

Three of the four students — Ross A. Lippert '93, Valerie J. Ohm '93, and Peter S. Yesley '92 - said

yesterday that they each gave Campus Police a statement concerning the theft about one week before spring break.

Campus Police, the UA, and James R. Tewhey, associate dean for residence and campus activities, refused to release, confirm, or deny the names of any of the students involved.

Tewhey explained that he did not want to release the names of any students under investigation because

"this will probably be an ongoing case."

Tewhey updated UA President Stacy E. McGeever '93, Vice President J. Paul Kirby '92, and Election Commissioner Raainish A. Chitaley '95 on the thefts at a meeting earlier this week. While the Dean's Office has implicated a total of five students in the theft, only four had been questioned as of that

MIT Proposes National Standard for Digital TV

By Karen Kaplan

In the year 2000, high definition television sets will be in millions of living rooms across America. In fact, HDTV will revolutionize modern television the way color TV did when it was first introduced in the 1950's.

So says Jae S. Lim '74, a professor of electrical engineering and computer science who works in digital signal processing, speech processing, and image processing. Lim heads the MIT Advanced Television Research Program, and his research group has developed an HDTV system based on digital technology. The group's prototype, which was built by General Instrument in San Diego, is one of five models under consideration for adoption as the

official U.S. standard for HDTV. The MIT-GI model is currently being tested, along with the four other entries, at the Advanced Television Testing Center in Virginia. The ATTC, an industrysponsored group, will evaluate each system and provide technical results. An advisory committee appointed by the Federal Communications Commission will recommend one of the models for official approval as the nationwide HDTV standard by the middle of

next year. "Each HDTV system has different special features, and MIT's is not the best in every aspect," Lim said modestly. "But I would like to think that MIT has the best record overall in designing a system."

HDTV system models were also submitted by AT&T, Zenith, the Advanced Television Research Consortium, whose members include NBC, the European companies Philips and Thompson, and a Japanese firm. General Instrument also submitted a second entry.

Why HDTV?

High definition television has "very significant improvements relative to the National Television Systems Committee television service," which is the current standard for televisions, Lim said. These improvements include:

· Increased picture clarity. "The fine details are a lot better," said Lim. "It's an increase of about 400 to 500 percent." With NTSC television, the screen is divided into a grid of 340 by 420 pixels, or picture



CTR. FOR ADV. ENGINEERING STUDY PHOTO Jae S. Lim

elements. An HDTV screen's grid is 720 by 1280 pixels, producing a much higher resolution.

• Smoother motion. HDTV runs at 60 frames per second, twice the frame rate of NTSC, so figures move more smoothly on the screen.

· No "ghosting." Lim said HDTV eliminates the "ghost effects" and "snow in the background" that sometimes appears in NTSC television broadcasts. "With the new system, either you see it or you don't see it, and when you do it's spectacularly clear," he added.

• Better aspect ratio. The width to height ratio on current televisions is 4 to 3, and the dimensions were set 40 years ago when motion picture screens were more square. The aspect ratio for HDTV sets is 16 to 9, and the wider screens allow for panoramic filming. Also, because HDTVs have higher resolution, television screens can be bigger.

HDTV, Page 9

UAC Rejects Student Funding Plan

By Avik S. Roy

graduate Association Council defeated a proposal which would have allowed students control of funding for student activities. The vote, which took place Wednesday evening, was seven in favor and 13 against, with three abstentions.

UA Vice President J. Paul Kirby '92, a major supporter of the proposal, expressed disappointment at its rejection. "Council members were a little confused about the complexity of the bill," Kirby said. "Some people were tired and just wanted to go home," he added.

According to UAVP-elect David J. Kessler '94, however, there were

many valid objections to the propos- council members expressed concern al. "None of the people I talked to in that students were not competent In a surprising vote, the Under- my constituency were interested in enough to fairly determine the doing it. I personally didn't think it was a good idea ... no governmental body taxes by referendum."

Referendum format debated

Although most council members supported the idea of transferring control of activities' funding from the administration to students, there was wide disagreement on how to determine the size of the student life fee, as it is known.

The proposal provided for two referenda: one to determine if students want to control funding for activities, and a second to allow students to actually set the fee. Some

future of such a fee.

"I think some people were afraid that the students would set the fee too high or too low," Kirby said. "The effect was to say that the students couldn't vote. I'm disappointed that the UAC didn't give students the opportunity to decide for themselves. The idea that there is a question that should not go before the student body is wrong," Kirby said.

UA Election Commissioner Raajnish A. Chitaley '95 originally proposed that the UA form a tenmember elected committee to set

UAC, Page 7

Three Former MIT Professors Die



John C. Sheehan

By Vinu G. Ipe STAFF REPORTER

Three former MIT professors, each of whom made significant contributions to his field, died this past week. Hurd C. Willett, professor of earth, atmospheric, and planetary sciences, died March 26; John C. Sheehan, professor of chemistry, died Saturday; and Benjamin L. Averbach ScD '47, professor of material sciences and engineering, died Wednesday.

EAPS professor dies

A memorial service was held on March 30 in Littleton for Willett, who died at the age of 89 at a West Concord nursing home, according to Tech Talk. Willett, who taught meteorology, specialized in short-term climatic fluctuations, variable solar influences, long-range weather forecasting and pioneered efforts to develop five-day weather forecasting techniques.

Willett, who came to MIT in 1929, was instrumental in the development and adoption of the polar front theory of weather prediction by what is now the National

Weather Service.

Deaths, Page 9

INSIDE

House Speaker's resignation demanded.

Page 2

Reviews of Basic Instinct, White Men Can't Jump.

Page 11

 Alvin Ailey delights at Wang Center. Page 14

VORLD & NATION

66 Percent Dissatisfied With All Candidates, Poll Says

LOS ANGELES TIMES

A new nationwide poll shows that 66 percent of Americans are dissatisfied with all of the presidential candidates and that character attacks have seriously damaged Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton, the Democratic front-runner.

The poll, conducted by Times Mirror Co., gives President Bush a lead of only 50 percent to 43 percent over both Clinton and the governor's only opponent in the Democratic race, former California Gov. Jerry Brown. But the survey indicated Bush could increase his margin over Clinton by as much as eight points by attacking Clinton's character.

Leaving no doubt the Bush campaign is planning to do that, campaign chairman Robert M. Teeter said that he was operating on the assumptions that Clinton would be Bush's opponent and that character would be the dominant issue.

Although far in front of Brown and still heavily favored to win the nomination, Clinton is a long way from locking it up. Brown's recent victories in the Connecticut primary and the Vermont caucuses have given his campaign new momentum heading into Tuesday's New York primary.

Brown Gets Reminder Jackson Seen As Liability in N.Y. Primary

THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK

At a Greenwich Village rally Tuesday, Jerry Brown basked in the attention generated by a joint appearance with Jesse Jackson. Thursday in Brooklyn the former California governor got an equally clear reminder that his choice of Jackson as a prospective running mate is also a liability in next Tuesday's New York primary.

Brown was shouted down three times and hissed as he tried his defend his choice of Jackson during a meeting with Jewish leaders. His proclamations of support for Israel and calls to the Bush administration to release \$10 billion in loan guarantees to the Israelis seemed to be lost in the anger generated by his association with the controversial former presidential candidate, who has said he is flattered by Brown's offer but has not accepted it.

Appearing before the Jewish Community Relations Council, where Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton was warmly received earlier this week, Brown said he wanted Jackson on the ticket because "the No. 1 goal for survival of a free society is healing the division between

But before Brown could finish his sentence, he was angrily interrupted by Tov Hikind, a state assemblyman from Brooklyn who said, "You insult the Jewish community by picking Jesse Jackson."

U.S. Finds No Evidence of Israeli 'Patriot' Sales to China

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The State Department, offering Israel a "clean bill of health," said Thursday that U.S. inspectors found no evidence that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government had sold American Patriot anti-missile technology to China.

"We plan no further action on this question with Israel, and consider the matter closed," State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said in announcing the result of a week-long probe of intelligence reports accusing Israel of diverting the sophisticated technolo-

The announcement cleared up one issue clouding the Washington-Jerusalem relationship.

WEATHER

Is This Spring?

By Marek Zebrowski

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A winter-like pattern is one of April's surprises for us this weekend. A large ocean storm that will be positioned in the Gulf of St. Lawrence Friday night may actually prevent a late-season snow event in our area. This inclement weather will be caused by yet another Alberta clipper, forecast to pass just to our south late Saturday after causing snow eastward from the Great Lakes region all the way to the mid-Atlantic coast.

For New England, a slow moderating trend will begin on Sunday with a high pressure building, bringing fairer skies and more seasonal spring weather, with temperatures reaching the 60s by Tuesday.

Friday afternoon: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of local sprinkle or flurry. High around 48°F (9°C) with strong northwesterly winds 15-25 mph (24-40 kph).

Friday night: Mostly clear and quite cold. Low around 32°F $(0^{\circ}C)$; biting winds continuing.

Saturday: Clouding up with a chance of sprinkles or flurries late, especially to the south and over the Cape. High in mid 40s (6°C), winds backing to east-southeast.

Saturday night: Cloudy and cold with some flurries possible; most precipitation will pass to the south and east of our area. Low in mid 30s (2 °C).

Sunday outlook: Becoming fair and gradually warming up with the temperatures reaching low 50s.

Foley Urged to Step Down; Young Senator Will Bow Out

By William J. Eaton LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A veteran Democratic House member called publicly Thursday for Rep. Thomas S. Foley (D-Wash.) to step down as speaker this year, and one of the Senate's most highly regarded freshmen decided to end his congressional career as frustration and pessimism reached remarkable levels on Capitol Hill.

With House members doomed by the House bank scandal being joined by those simply choosing to give up, the exodus of members preparing to leave their seats began to swell to a crowd.

Six senators now plan to depart voluntarily, while a seventh — Alan J. Dixon (D-III.) — was recently defeated in his bid for re-election. In the House, five members decided just this week not to seek re-election, bringing the total retirements to 30 for the year.

The expressions of disgust and disappointment of those leaving mixed with the anger of those fighting to stay to feed an atmosphere darker than any in recent memory.

"We're absolutely in gridlock and it's frustrating," complained one Republican, Rep. John Kasich of Ohio.

Said 34-year House veteran Dan Rostenkowski (D-III.) "I've never seen partisanship the way we've seen it today, almost to the point of nausea."

Five-term Democrat John Bryant of Texas escalated the tension by

publicly declaring what some other colleagues have been grumbling --that Speaker Foley should face up to the disaster around him and give up his leadership post at the end of this congressional session.

"For him, political leadership is painful, and political combat, even when absolutely necessary in order to present the nation with the Democratic alternative, is to be avoided, if at all possible," Bryant said.

In a reference to the turmoil in the House bank and post office, he added, "For Speaker Foley, even management of the daily institutional operation of the House is an annoyance, making decisive management impossible.'

Bryant's move appeared unlikely to trigger any immediate action to oust the speaker this year, and Foley himself told a reporter he intended to run for another two-year term as leader in the next Congress.

But it placed the senior, personally popular Democrat under much greater pressure and further raised the spectre of an institution at war with itself.

Foley had been under fire from Republicans but had escaped public ridicule from members of his own party. This week, in addition to the new public slap, several of Foley's lieutenants in the Democratic hierarchy complained that the speaker's failure to crack down last fall on the casually-run House bank had exposed them all to strong voter resentment.

More stunning than Bryant's

blast was the announcement by 44vear-old Sen. Kent Conrad (D-N.D.) that he would leave the Senate at the end of his first term.

A former North Dakota tax commissioner who pressed for fiscal responsibility and eschewed some of the House's more partisan feuds, he was seen by colleagues as a member with a bright future in the Senate's new generation.

Friday, Conrad said that he felt he was getting little accomplished and should give up.

"The budget deficit is completely out of control," he said, noting that he had promised his constituents he would work to reduce it. "There is only one right course. ..."

Only last week, one of the Senate's most distinguished Republican leaders, Warren Rudman of New Hampshire, expressed similar frustration about congressional inertia in saying he would not seek re-election to a third six-year term.

In the House, confusion and bitterness have been reflected in the resounding defeat of several measures pushed by the leadership, including a proposal to shift billions of dollars in defense savings into domestic programs.

Congress has also failed to pass comprehensive bank reform legislation, a tax-cut program that President Bush would sign and has lost every veto battle it has fought with the White House, leaving virtual paralysis on some issues.

Security Council Condemns Libya for Embassy Attacks

By Trevor Rowe THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. Security Council issued a unanimous statement Thursday saying it "strongly condemns" attacks by Libyan protesters this morning on embassies of Council members that voted Monday to impose an air and arms embargo on Libya, including the Venezuelan Embassy, which was sacked and burned.

The Council called on Libya to compensate Venezuela, whose ambassador was president of the 15member body when it imposed the embargo. It criticized Libya's contention that the attack was not directed at Venezuela but was a spontaneous popular reaction to the embargo.

"Any suggestion that those acts of violence were not directed against the government of Venezuela but against and in reaction to Resolution 748 is extremely serious and totally unacceptable," the Security Council statement said. It also called on Libya to ensure the security of diplomatic personnel and diplomatic premises.

A U.N. spokesman said Libyan Ambassador Ali Houderi presented his country's apologies to the United Nations and to Venezuelan Ambassador Diego Arria for the attacks. But U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering dismissed the apology as "crocodile tears, and I'm not sure they're worth much at this stage."

News service reports said hundreds of protesters, many armed with rocks and gasoline bombs, also attacked the Austrian and Russian embassies and demonstrated at the French, Italian, Belgian and

favor of sanctions. Italy, which is not on the Security Council, represents British interests in Libya, and Belgium represents U.S. interests.

Diplomats said that whatever lingering goodwill toward Libya that existed among nonaligned countries in the wake of Monday's vote could be seriously compromised by the attacks. Nonaligned officials were said to view the attacks as a major diplomatic blunder by Libya, a country where demonstrations are tightly controlled.

"I think that this is so transparently and obviously directly related to bring pressure on members of the Council in an outrageous fashion that the Security Council has to take action," Pickering told reporters before the Council meeting.

The Libyan news agency JANA said the demonstrators demanded that the diplomats of the countries that voted for sanctions leave Libya and that Tripoli sever ties with those nations as well as expel their citizens. It reported that dozens of demonstrators were hospitalized after clashes with riot police but diplomats said there were no indications of injuries among the protest-

Arria, described the attack on his country's embassy as a "criminal act of terrorism" and said it was well organized.

"There were four Libyan policemen at the door of the embassy in Tripoli and the ambassador warned them and the police didn't do anything," Arria said. "They just stood there watching the whole process while (the mob) burned down ... and ransacked our embassy."

A diplomat said that at the

Hungarian missions — all of whom Russian Embassy, about 200 represent countries that voted in demonstrators tried to storm the building but could not get through the main door. They broke windows with rocks and damaged four cars

Belgian officials told Security Council members that several hundred demonstrators who arrived outside their embassy were brought in government-owned buses.

The decision to impose sanctions on Libya — effective April 15 was made after Tripoli failed to comply with a Council resolution adopted Jan. 21. It called on Libya to hand over two reputed intelligence agents wanted by the United States and Britain in connection with the 1988 bombing of a Pan American airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Five countries — China, Cape Verde, India, Morocco and Zimbabwe — abstained in the vote. They had argued in favor of allowing the International Court of Justice to rule on the validity of the extradition request. British Ambassador David Hannay told reporters that as a result of the attacks, Libya has "succeeded in two days in uniting the Council."

What little visible support remained for Libya was reflected in the successful efforts of some nonaligned members to alter a draft of Thursday's statement that would have characterized the attacks as "inadmissible acts of terrorism." Instead, Council members agreed to describe them as "intolerable and extremely grave events."

When asked if further action is contemplated, Pickering told reporters that "it's not possible for us to rule in or rule out any particular action."

Gotti Convicted of 13 Crimes, May Face Life in Jail

By Laurie Goodstein THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK John Gotti, the nation's most notorious mobster since Al Capone, was found guilty Thursday of murder and racketeering, ending a sixyear campaign by federal prosecutors to convict the man who had eluded them in three previous trials.

The jurors, their names kept secret even from the judge, deliberated just 11 hours on evidence presented over seven weeks.

Gotti was pronounced guilty on all 13 counts, and sentencing was set for June 23. He faces life in prison.

Government officials, giddy with victory over the man known as "The Teflon Don," quickly proclaimed the "death knell" of organized crime in New York. But Gotti's attorneys said overzealous prosecutors hampered their defense and tampered with the jury, and they vowed to mount a vigorous appeal.

"If John Gotti was acquitted, he ... would have achieved a status that not even Al Capone and others had achieved," said James Fox, who heads the FBI office in New York City. "I'm not saying it's going to

happen in a year, but the mob as we have known it in New York City is

on the way out." Gotti, 51, did not flinch as the verdict was read, his face frozen in the half-smile he wore throughout the trial. He looked at the jurors, but none met his gaze. Gotti's confidant and codefendant, Frank "Frankie Locs" Locascio, 59, also was convicted of murder and racketeering and faces a life sentence. He was acquitted on a single count of illegal gambling.

"Where's the proof? Where's the proof?" moaned Locascio's son, Salvatore, as the forewoman read the verdict. But Gotti told him to be quiet and later told supporters in the front row, "I'll be okay."

"They were more concerned with consoling us," defense attorney John Mitchell said of Gotti and Locascio. "They don't see it as being over. It's not over."

But Fox called the verdict a definitive turning point in the agency's war against organized crime. "The Teflon is gone, the don is covered with Velcro and every charge stuck," Fox said.

Gotti and Locascio were charged with murder, conspiracy to murder,

illegal gambling, loan sharking, obstruction of justice, bribing a public official and tax evasion.

Extraordinary efforts were made to maintain jurors' anonymity. Since being selected 10 weeks ago, the 12 regulars and six alternates were sequestered and referred to only by number. Three jurors were replaced by alternates during the trial, leaving seven men and five women to decide the case in Brooklyn federal court.

A female juror whom defense attorneys had deemed noticeably attentive to their arguments was dismissed at the request of prosecutors only a day before deliberations began, leading to the defense accusation of jury tampering.

Eluding prosecutors in court and enemies on the streets, his snazzy

studies.

attire inspiring a series of natty movie gangsters, Gotti reminds many observers of no one so much as Capone. King of the Chicago mob in the days of Prohibition, Capone frustrated prosecutors for years before being convicted on taxevasion charges in 1931.

Determined not to fail a fourth time, Gotti's prosecutors presented a colossal amount of evidence. including six hours of FBI tapes surreptitiously recorded in Gotti's hideaways. They called 38 witnesses, including Gotti's No. 2 man, Salvatore "Sammy Bull" Gravano, one of the highest-ranking turncoats in organized crime.

The defense called only one, an attorney who testified that he advised Gotti that not filing tax returns was legal. U.S. District

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Judge I. Leo Glasser disqualified five other witnesses willing to testify for Gotti.

'What happened to our defense?" Gotti joked that day with the same devil-may-care nonchalance that he maintained throughout the trial. "I should put on a little song-and-dance."

The inability to present more witnesses is likely to become part of the basis for an appeal, Mitchell said. "It was impossible to get evidence before the jury that would show the other side of these people."

Prosecutors said Gotti was responsible for masterminding the murder of Paul Castellano, head of the Gambino organized-crime family, then taking his place.

THE EMILE BUSTANI

PROFESSOR MICHAEL C. HUDSON

Seif Ghobash Professor of Arab Studies Georgetown University

"LEBANON: IS DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL POSSIBLE?"

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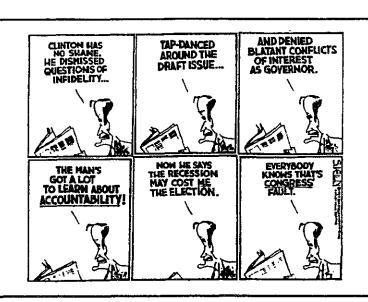
Bill's Journal



By Hillary

I went to England.
I smoked pet.
It was okay.

STAFF CARTOON BY JOANNA E. STONE



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pro-Choice Group Only Advocates Rights

The Tech received a copy of this letter addressed to John Rodkin.

Our name: "MIT Students for Choice and Reproductive Freedom." We believe that a woman should have a choice in aspects of reproductive freedom, including abortion. We do not "condone" abortion; calling us "students for abortion" makes it sound as though we want everywoman to get pregnant just so she can have an abortion. On the contrary, we hold only that a woman must have a legal right to have a safe, accessible abortion as one of her many options if she becomes pregnant.

Please consider a few facts concerning public support for abortion in the United States. Most Americans say that a woman should have the right to choose an abortion—in the first three months of her pregnancy, when her pregnancy threatens her life, when her pregnancy is the result of rape or incest, and for a host of other reasons.

Bush and Reagan are, indeed, strongly anti-choice. This in fact explains your observation ["Choice Group's Name is Misleading, Wrong," March 20] that the present extremely conservative Supreme Court is also packed with anti-choice Justices. The two statements are not unrelated; when Justices retire, the president is influential in determining who their replacements will be. Far from showing that choice is a minority opinion, the new Supreme Court merely confirms the effects of the Reagan/Bush anti-abortion "litmus" test for judicial appointments.

Consider also that all five of the original democratic candidates were pro-choice; President Bush is not a one-man majority. Does the fact that we have not had a prochoice president mean that the country does not believe in reproductive freedom? We have never had a woman president either, and only 5% of the Senate is women; of the 95% of them who aren't, most seem to see sexual harassment as something that can be tossed lightly to the side or ignored completely (e.g., the Anita Hill hearings). Are they representative of the people of this country in this respect?

Your observation that this country is short on money is correct; your analysis of the connection with abortion and reproductive rights is not. It is precisely because of the huge problem of welfare and poor women not being able to support another child, let alone subsist in their current circumstances, that we need to allow them the right to an accessible abortion, if they so choose. Because we do not have at our fingertips a way to allow all people to care for and support as many children as they want, we must allow them the right to make a decision not to have another child if doing so would make their lives a little more livable.

Currently, the "gag rule" prohibits facilities which receive Title X funds from even mentioning abortion as an option, even if a patient requests the information or if withholding it would endanger her health. There are many thousands of poor women who will suffer for this.

You complain that we want funding even though churches don't get any. There is such a thing as separation as church and state in this country. More importantly, "we" don't want money from the government; we want the government to make abortion safe, legal, and accessible for any woman who needs one, regardless of her socioeconomic status.

What is the nebulous "political correctness" to which you refer and what does it have to do with our belief that abortion and reproductive freedom are fundamental rights?

If you cannot see the difference between a woman choosing to have an abortion and a woman choosing to become a prostitute; if you cannot see the difference between abortion and drug use; if you cannot see the difference between "advocating abortion" and advocating that one should have the legal right to choose to have an abortion if one so desires, then I am sorry that you cannot see what is so very clear.

Emily T. Yeh '93

MIT Students for Choice
and Reproductive Freedom

Club Does Not Favor Abortion, Only Choice

We are writing in response to John Rodkin's letter ["Choice' Group's Name is Misleading, Wrong," March 20]. We suspect that Rodkin has confused the pro-abortion and pro-choice standpoints. The pro-abortion movement was started as an offshoot of the short-lived Pro-Death Club. After failing at repeated suicide attempts, the remaining Pro-Deathers decided to promote the termination of all fetuses. In contrast, pro-choice advocates support the right of women to choose to have abortions; they do not endorse the extinction of the human race. Further, the name "pro-choice" is not meant to condone drug abuse or prostitution, despite Rodkin's suppositions. Nonetheless, we sympathize with his confusion.

In fact, we have suffered similar difficulties with the term "pro-life." We recognize that pro-lifers are in favor of life, and thus we assume that they eat only plants and animals that have died of natural causes. We fail, however, to appreciate how pro-lifers can be in the majority, as Rodkin implies. Since their limited food supply can only support a small number of people, we are forced to conclude that pro-lifers are actually in the minority.

How, then, can Rodkin claim that pro-lifers are in the majority? He argues that since we have never had an ardent pro-choice president, pro-choice advocates must be in the minority. As members of a democracy, we probably all agree that we elect our president through single-issue voting. Rodkin, however, fails to identify the real issue governing our elections. In fact, Americans vote for the presidential candidate who has managed to find the most incompetent running mate; reproductive rights are of but secondary importance.

Despite his rudimentary understanding of the election process, Rodkin shows true pioneering spirit in his interpretation of our political system. Boldly disregarding personal rights and inclinations, he states that "As members of a democracy, we are supposed to allow ourselves to be governed by the will of the majority." We applaud his lack of self-will, but fear that others fall short of his standards. Unfortunately, many Americans feel

that they have the right to govern their own actions provided that they remain within the law. They selfishly expect the Bill of Rights to preserve their personal liberty. Until such a time as these people are eliminated, we can only envision the Utopia Rodkin describes. Only then can logic and facts be blithely ignored in order to deprive women of their rights.

Cynthia J. Holcroft '92 Rachel E. Obstler '92

Abortion Opponents Forget Women's Rights

I would like to thank John Rodkin for his letter to the editor ["Choice Group's Name is Misleading, Wrong," March 20]. I was glad to hear his opinion, but I must disagree with some of his ideas. I do not believe that Mr. Rodkin is in any way singling out MIT's prochoice group as being different from other pro-choice groups in the country, so I write my response to his letter not just as a member of the Students for Choice, but as someone who is pro-choice.

Rodkin's article goes beyond the abortion debate. Mr. Rodkin argues since "our country has never elected a pro-choice President" that the pro-choice movement cannot represent the majority viewpoint. He then argues that since the pro-choice movement is, in his opinion, a minority, "the group should not expect any money from the government." This is an incredibly dangerous political philosophy. The principle of democracy is majority rule with minority rights. The fact that minority groups have rights is the single most important part of democracy in America. Thinking that the President represents every majority in America is simply wrong. Only rich white males have been elected president, and rich white males have benefited the most from the programs of the White House, especially under the Reagan and Bush administrations. I am confident that Mr. Rodkin realizes that rich white males are not a majority in this country.

The abortion issue is part of the larger issue of women's rights. At MIT the ratio of men to women does not reflect the normal ratio in the country. If Mr. Rodkin adheres to his own political philosophy, and "allow[s] himself to be governed by the will of the majority," I urge him to remember the results of the 1990 census — in the United States, women are a majority.

Michael J. Lawler '93
MIT Students for Choice
and Reproductive Freedom

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Editorials, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors and opinion editors.

Dissents, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to *The Tech*, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge, Mass. 02139, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to tech@athena.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4 p.m. two days before the issue date.

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech. The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

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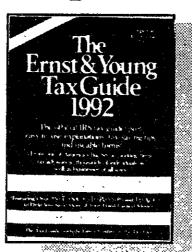
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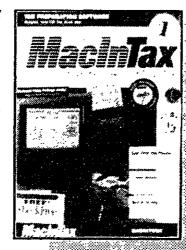
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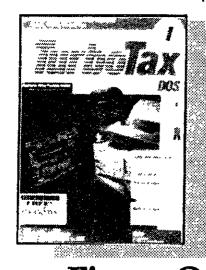


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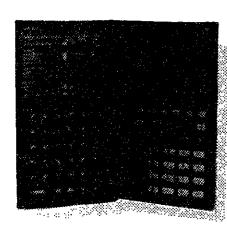
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| 7 p.m. | | Latex | | Intro | | MSO | | Latex |
| 8 p.m. | | Thesis | | Basic WP | | Matlab | | Thesis |

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UA Ballots Recovered

Theft, from Page 1

meeting.

According to Kirby, the UA Council will decide at its next meeting whether to press charges against any or all of the students under investigation. Any hearings resulting from such charges would be held under the auspices of the Dean's Office, rather than the Committee on Discipline, because "the COD is handling academic issues these days," Kirby said.

Neither Kirby nor Chitaley would speculate on what sanctions the UAC would seek to impose. "At the highest level, they can recommend suspension or expulsion," Kirby said. He added, however, that he doubts the council will take this route. "At the worst, they could put someone on probation, something on your transcript, make you work, make you write an apology, [or] make you serve on a UA committee."

The council, according to Kirby, might also ask the students for reimbursement of the \$400 spent on preparation for a special election in Lobby 7 on March 13.

"If they just take whatever names they've heard around and decide to fine everyone across the board, I'm not sure that's particularly fair," Lippert said.

"Then again, I can understand them having to recoup whatever losses they've had," he added. Lippert, Ohm, and Yesley said that they had not been contacted by Campus Police or the Dean's Office since giving their statements.

Split in the revolution

After giving the whereabouts of the ballots, the anonymous caller identified herself as a member of the Student's Revolutionary Government, which took responsibility for the theft. There has been a split among the membership, she added.

Yesley was shocked to hear that the ballots had been returned. "I don't know what happened to the ballots," he said. "I really don't. On the other hand, I was under the impression that they were destroyed."

"How can there be ballots?" Yesley asked. "Unless people are telling lies to me, I don't know what's going on. I guess I've been lied to. I'm starting to get angry."

The caller said the split had occurred because Yesley "doesn't know how to run a revolutionary movement." She added that several of the group's members thought of him as a male chauvinist.

But Yesley was surprised to hear that there had been a split in the movement. "The SRG is a government, and it's a government of students. ... I don't see how there could possibly be any hard feelings. They're my friends."

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Funding Plan Defeated

UAC, from Page 1

the activities fee, but now has a different view. "I do see the value in holding a referendum to set the fee. ... Perhaps there is a way to arrange things so that the fee can be set both by the electorate and a more informed body that can study the issue in depth," Chitaley said.

Kessler disagreed, saying that "the UAC would be much better able to determine the tax for the student body," he said, adding that he would not allow the council to drastically raise or lower the fee without student approval.

Some council members expressed concern that student turnout for the referenda would be low.

"I have not been given a proposal which is satisfactory enough to bring to the students," Kessler said. "People aren't going to vote for this if they don't have the incentive. Holding an election would be a waste of time and energy."

Some council members felt the proposal's presentation was rushed and did not give them enough time to carefully consider it. "We shouldn't

rush into this," Kessler said.

McGeever, however, said that many other issues hinge upon the student life fee decision. "We're planning to call the council into an emergency session next week because of the timeliness of this proposal," she said. If the bill is to be passed, McGeever said, "it has to be done next week. The tuition is going to be set, we need to hold two referenda, and the Finance Board structure might be changed on account of this," she added.

Kirby plans to "split the proposal into several pieces" in order to pass parts of it. "Despite the council's vote, there is a sizable amount of support for this proposal," he said.

FinBoard may be reorganized

In other business, a motion to freeze the current structure of FinBoard passed, 20-0, with six abstentions. The outcome of the student life fee proposal could significantly change FinBoard's role, Godfrey said. At the next council meeting, a massive reorganization of FinBoard will be proposed, he added.

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Volunteer Opportunities

Good Food Festival

The Cambridge Salvation Army Food Pantry is sponsoring a food festival to introduce area resident to inexpensive but nutritious eating. Chefs from local restaurants will prepare free food, while jazz musicians perform. Volunteers are needed Saturday, April 11 between 12 and 2 pm to bring equipment to the sight, set up, serve food, assist the demonstrators, watch children, and clean up. If interested, call Mark Pomerantz at 349-6340.

Project Extra

The Madison Park High School needs volunteers to tutor students **Tuesday**, **Wednesday** and **Thursday** from 1:30-3:30 in Math, English, Reading and Test Taking. Call Barbara Ogarra at 442-5200 ext 548.

Hunger Cleanup

The eighth annual cleanup organized by the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness is scheduled for Saturday, April 11. The Hunger Cleanup is a national work-a-thon to improve the community and raise funds for the impoverished. Ask friends to sponsor your volunteer efforts at a community service project, such as painting a shelter. Contact Jennifer Coken at 292-4823.

Friends of the Elderly

Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly seeks volunteers to help out during Passover and Easter. Volunteers are needed Sunday, April 19 to bring dinner (prepared by the organization) and offer company to elderly persons. Share the joy of the holidays with someone who would otherwise spend it alone. Contact Tim Stanley at 536-2404.



MIT Developing HDTV

HDTV, from Page 1

• Higher audio quality. HDTV is equipped with four channels of CD-quality audio, unlike current sets.

Watching a program on high definition television will be "almost as though you're going to a movie," Lim said.

Although most television watchers probably do not find very much lacking in the current NTSC sets, after seeing an HDTV demonstration, viewers will certainly appreciate the higher quality, Lim said. "Once you see it, you notice it. It's like the car — before there were cars, it didn't bother you that you didn't have one, but once you have a car, it changes everything," he explained.

Regular color television film can be converted into high-definition film with current technology, so "HDTV won't suffer from a lack of programming," Lim said. Broadcast networks will have to purchase new equipment, and so far they have been reluctant to do so. But Lim predicts they will come around soon: "If they don't do it, someone else will. Then they will, too, because they don't want to be left behind."

Digital vs. analog

The high-definition television standard developed at MIT is different from Japanese HDTV systems in one important respect — the Japanese system is based on analog technology, while MIT's is digital. By incorporating digital technology, the U.S. has regained the lead in this futuristic television field.

"This is part of a trend," Lim said. "Everything is going digital. Computers are digital. Clocks are digital. Television is just around the corner. Digital telephone services are coming up."

"A digital system erases the noise, in a sense," because digital signals are only zero or one, without a range of values in between, Lim explained. By contrast, an analog signal can be interpreted as having a fractional value. Because this value

can range continuously between zero and one, much more noise appears in the picture.

"A digital system gives you either a perfect picture or none at all," Lim explained. "People have designed digital systems so that most of the time they get it right, and even when they don't, they have a nice way of concealing it."

The real advantage of a digital high-definition television system is that it can be integrated with other technologies, like personal computers. This is tougher to do with analog HDTV, Lim said. For this reason, the Japanese analog HDTV entry is generally considered out of the running for adoption as the U.S. standard.

Only American sponsors

In addition to Lim, the Advanced Television Research Program consists of 10 to 15 graduate students and two or three research affiliates. In addition to HDTV, their research has other digital signal, speech, and image processing applications.

The research group has received about \$2.5 million in funding over the past three years, all from American sponsors like ABC, PBS, Eastman Kodak, and Motorola. With the growing "Buy American" sentiment, this may boost MIT's chances for selection as the U.S. standard. "I don't think this will hurt us," Lim said. "If everything else is equal, I think (the FCC) should adopt an American system, because every other country does it that way," he added.

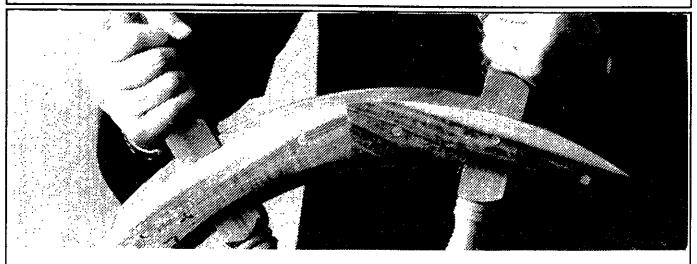
If the MIT-GI model is selected, "It will bring us prestige," Lim said. "MIT can also collect royalties based on the patents it holds." Even if the MIT-GI system is not chosen, the FCC "may use some of our technology, so we may still be able to collect some money," he continued.

But Lim was quick to add that he's not in it for the money. "We're in it because we like to contribute technology to the community," he explained. "If, as a byproduct, we collect some money to lower students' tuition, then that's fine too."

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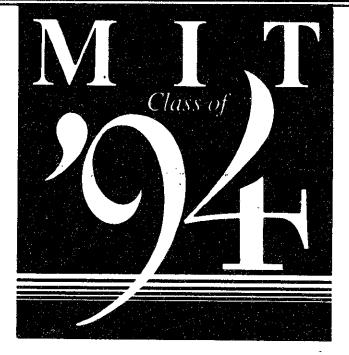
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Three Former Profs Die

Deaths, from Page 1

"Meteorologists have become convinced that climatic conditions on earth follow a cyclical pattern which will become clearer as our statistical records extend over longer and longer periods," he once said. Willett also suggested that cyclic changes in the sun might also influence the earth's climate.

Willett did extensive surveys of weather conditions, going back to prehistoric times, to back his theories.

Chemist synthesized penicillin

Sheehan, who taught organic chemistry, was well known for his research on the chemical synthesis of penicillin, research which led to the development of many tailormade forms of the drug. The production of synthetic penicillin in the laboratory solved one of the major problems of modern chemistry.

The natural mold process used to grow the lifesaving drug proved very time-consuming when it was desperately needed in World War II. Armies of scientists working through the war were unable to synthesize penicillin, leading some chemists to conclude that it could not be done.

Sheehan began working on the synthesis of penicillin at MIT in 1948 and achieved total synthesis nine years later, *Tech Talk* reported. He also produced an intermediate compound in the form of a basic penicillin nucleus. By adding various chemicals to this compound, he was able to make new, specialized penicillins for particular uses.

Sheehan also researched the synthesis of amin ids and

steroids. During World War II, he was co-developer of the large-scale method for manufacturing the important military high explosive RDX, or Cyclonite.

Sheehan died of heart failure at his home in Key Biscayne, Fla. He was 76.

Course III professor dies

Averbach died in his sleep at his home in Belmont after a long struggle with cancer. He was 73. He joined MIT in 1945 as a research assistant in what was then the Department of Metallurgy.

Averbach, whose research and teaching interests ranged from steel to shellfish, published more than 200 papers on a variety of materials subjects, including the determination of atomic arrangements in amorphous materials, developments in analytical techniques using X-ray, electron, and neutron diffraction. Some of these papers also dealt with transformations in steels, and fracture phenomena in ships, pipelines and aircraft.

For many years he was a leading worker in a national effort involving the MIT Sea Grant Program to develop uses for chitin and chitosan, the natural polymers derived from the shells of crustaceans. Averbach succeeded in turning these substances into a translucent film which is edible, biodegradable, and strong. The film had applications as a food wrap and surgical dressing.

Averbach was also active in the development of new materials with high-fracture toughness for bearings used in high-speed aircraft engines and in advances in magnetic and optical recording.

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THE ARTS

Spring Film Reviews



Woody Harrelson and Wesley Snipes in White Men Can't Jump.

White Men Can't Jump is funny both on and off the court

WHITE MEN CAN'T JUMP

Written and directed by Ron Shelton.
Starring Wesley Snipes and Woody Harrelson.
At Loews Cheri.

By Robert Cavicchio

hite men can't jump. Nor can they hear Jimi Hendrix, or rather hear Jimi Hendrix. At least that's what Sidney Deane (Wesley Snipes) tells Billy Hoyle (Woody Harrelson) in this often fast and funny film that concerns a little bit more than just basketball.

If you have sensitive ears or a soft spot for fairy tales, don't look for sympathy in this film. The setting is the streets and playground courts where fast-talking hustlers spout reams of obscenities and jokes about each other's mothers that one suspects are only in part intended to get their opponents off their guards. But these scenes are terrific — whatever the auditory analog of blinking is, if you do it,

you'll miss a punch line. The action is fast, and "slamming" is part of the game in more ways than one. As Snipes' character puts it, "It's hard work makin' you look so bad." But White Men Can't Jump is much more than funny. To Billy and Sidney, basketball isn't the only game being played, and the stakes are too high for comfort.

Billy is the white man someone who tucks his remarkable basketball skills under his backwards cap and baggy shorts and wanders quietly onto the beach court where Sidney is playing. In short order, this "chump" is called upon to show what he can do, and he proceeds to take Sidney for a sum that makes but a small dent in Billy's \$8,000 debt to the Stucci brothers, whom he hopes he can elude until he comes up with the balance.

Sidney has little in common with Billy other than talents for basketball and hustling, but he's impressed enough to ask Billy to help him pull the same stunt on someone else. Sounds like the beginning of a beautiful partnership, right? It doesn't last long. It seems that Sidney feels that one good con deserves another, and he throws their second game, leaving Billy flat broke and so dumbfounded that he needs his girlfriend Gloria (Rosie Perez) to tell him he's been taken. She also drags him to Sidney's house to demand the money

There are no true good guys in this film, just a pair of likeable couples who do what it takes to get by. When Sidney's wife Rhonda (Tyra

White, Page 13

Pornographic Basic Instinct rejects humanity

BASIC INSTINCT

Directed by Paul Verhoeven. Written by Joe Esterhas. Starring Michael Douglas and Sharon Stone. At Loews Cheri.

By Eric Blair

t's a plain fact: Basic Instinct is pornography! That some simplistic editing slight-of-hand alters the visual shaping of one sex scene by changing the manner by which an ice pick in a female hand is inserted into a male's head in order, literally, to climax a life and a sexual congress in no way alters this plain fact.

In his original Holland, Director Paul Verhoeven first made Soldier of Orange, an excellent World War II adventure flick

BASIC NSTINCT

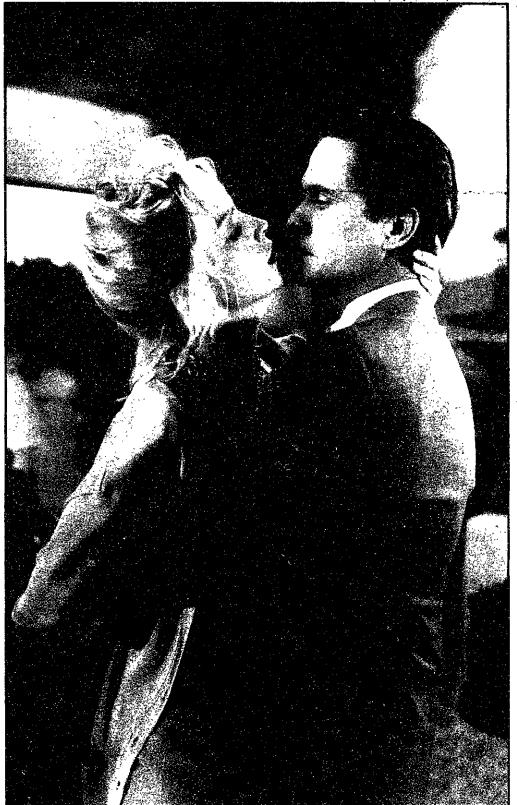
which was at once melodramatic and literate. He then made *The Fourth Man*, an admittedly murderous sex comedy, but one whose perversions were construed through indirection and even wit. Demonstrably, then,

Verhoeven is some type of artist, not a mere hack, and therefore must be accorded some benefit of the doubt. So when one encounters *Basic Instinct* and finds a new low in sleaze, one must recognize that Verhoeven has created no mere accident. Instead, this mega-budget, top-grossing film could be viewed as some kind of pop-culture benchmark.

In his book *The Studio*, John Gregory Dunne posited that Hollywood financiers entrust big-budget movies first and foremost to those who show they can actually spend the money. In his first American film, *RoboCop*, not only did Verhoeven spend money, he made some. In the process, he took that most expressive of actors, Peter Weller, and made a literal anti-human out of him — a robot.

Next came *Total Recall*. Here Verhoeven need not coat a real actor in chrome and tinsel, for he started with the artificial original, that inimitable product of pumped iron and steroids, Arnold Schwarzenegger. Visually, with its grotesque humanoid freaks, *Total Recall* represented one man's Boschian rendering of disgust not just at human life, but at the human life form. It was an antihuman message translated to the screen. Cinematically, *Total Recall* and its success represent the human equivalent of the proverbial dog eating its own vomit, for the movie was a monstrous hit which audiences ate up.

Eschewing, as it does, robots, mutations, and humanoids, *Basic Instinct* is more subtle — though the subtlety is that of an icepick to the head — for its characters are at least human. But they are



Instinct, Page 16 Sharon Stone and Michael Douglas embrace in *Basic Instinct*.

Chinese political struggles vividly symbolized in film Red Dust

RED DUST

Directed by Ho Yim.

Written by Ho Yim and Cho Chen De Quero.

Starring Ching-Hsia Lin, Han Chin, and Maggie Cheung.

Museum of Fine Arts, April 9, 5:45 p.m.

By Danny Su SPORTS STAFF

hen I first saw Red Dust, I thought it was a well-made movie that lacked something extra, but I did not know then what it was missing. The second time around, I realized that the film is too short (only 94 minutes). Instead of developing a love story that was torn apart by war, the director gets caught up in making a

political statement throughout his film. The end result is a hybrid of romance and subtle political outcry, with neither element complete or convincing. The critics apparently disagreed with me. *Red Dust* won an award for best picture in Taiwan's 1990 Golden Stallion Awards.

This is not an easy film to understand. You must have sufficient historical and political background to catch all the subtleties thrown at you. In Japanese-occupied northern China in 1938, Shao-Hua is an only daughter who grew up under the tyranny of her father and never saw a smile from her mother, who was a student in the States but reluctantly married her father in an arranged marriage and died at early age. Shao-Hua is able to escape from her family when her father passes away and her stepmother abandons her. She falls in love with Neng-

Tsai, a traitor who is working for the Japanese. But the relationship is doomed as their romance is forced to endure the hardships of World War II and then the Chinese Civil War.

There are many symbolic figures in the movie, but all of them are trying to make a political statement. Shao-Hua receives a clay tiger twice, once from her mother and once from Neng-Tsai when the two first meet. Both clay tigers are eventually broken by Shao-Hua. The first broken clay tiger (from her mother, a returning student) is the frustration many Chinese returning from overseas feel toward the nationalist (KMT) government. After a successful overthrow of the Manchu dynasty, many returned to China with high hopes,

On Video: Al Pacino is the old man in the Sea of Love

By Ernest Hemingway

of day that forces you to remember that outside it is not the dangerous summer, but winter with all its perils and merits. I felt very tired and I knew the night would come soon and I tried to think of other things. I thought of the big pictures, to me they were the gran pelicula, and I knew that I could rent Sea of Love across the street at the local video store.

Sea of Love is the story of a divorced New York homicide detective. In the city streets, where anyone could sense the sweet blood smell, they called him Frank Keller (Al Pacino) because that was his name and all his life the early sun has hurt his eyes. Frank is an old man, thin and gaunt with deep wrinkles in the back of his neck, assigned to a serial killing case in which the victim's record player is always playing the old fifties hit Sea of Love. Keller and his partner, Sherman Touhey (John Goodman) soon realize that all of the victims had placed rhyming personal ads in the periodico.

The two men place their own rhyming personal ad, inviting women to a moveable feast, in hopes of landing the killer. They set up meetings at a restaurant with those who answer the personal in order to collect finger-prints of various suspects. They meet many women, and are able to print all but one,



Helen Cruger (Ellen Barkin).

By accident, as if accidents were possible, Helen and Frank become lovers. She is kind and very beautiful. But she can be so cruel and it comes so suddenly and such women that love, dipping and fiercely, with their small sad voices are made too delicately for the city. Somehow they find passion. Like an angry sea they made love, recalling all the heat of summer and the torrents of spring. At her apartment, Keller notices a copy of *Sea of Love* and realizes she may be the killer, the

matador.

Director Harold Becker understands the hunt. He knows the torment and loneliness Frank must go through to continue his investigation of the murders. Becker presents this man's situation as an excruciating, winner-take-nothing dilemma. Becker's directing brings an element of humanity to the film that is matched only by Arsenio Hall's careful portrayal of the barber, who brings to the role the perfect combination of rhetorical irony and meticulous, light-hearted didacticism.

Like all true detectives, Keller and Touhey are fascinated with that which they must hunt and that which they must kill. "Serial Killer," Keller says, "I love you and respect you very much. But I will kill you dead before this day ends." The men have a job to do, and every-day they must go out into the city and do the job. "Qué va," Touhey says. "It is what a man must do"

Pacino's face is covered with deep-creased scars from handling heavy cases. But none of these scars are fresh. They are as old as erosions in a fishless desert. We understand his fate, his confusion, and how he is comfortable but suffering, although he does not admit the suffering at all. The intricacies of his character are played out with brilliance. "If the others heard me talking out loud they would think that I am crazy." he says aloud. "But since I am not crazy, I do not care."

In the end, Frank comes face to face with the killer, emerging victorious in a battle that is both epic and not epic. "I killed him in self-defense," Pacino says aloud. "And I killed him well." I do not understand these things, Frank thought. But it is good that we do not have to try to kill the sun or the moon or the stars. It is enough to live in the city and kill our true brothers.

Ernest Hemingway is a pseudonym for Glen Weinstein '92 and Hank Sawtelle '93.

Red Dust showcases political turmoil better than romantic subplot

Dust, from Page 11

only to find a corrupt government. The second broken clay tiger is the anger that many felt after the end of World War II. Seeking a peaceful life after the war, the peasants soon were caught in a civil war between the KMT and the communists.

Political statements are made through Shao-Hua as well as symbolic figures. She is a writer, and the movie interchanges freely between her life and her semi-autobiography. In it, she summarizes the plight of the Chinese people in the character of Jade Orchid. Jade was sold as a servant and raped by her master. She was then beat up by the master's wife.

When she fell in love with Spring Hope (a symbolic name, as he carries all the hope of China) he died in a War. When Jade tried to drown herself in water, she was rescued by a man wearing a red star hat. The master is the equivalent of the Manchu dynasty; Spring Hope is KMT; and the man who rescued her is Chinese communism.

Further political implications are also made through subtle comparison. Early in the movie, there is a scene where the Japanese set up roadblocks and search inspect for the Chinese rebellion force. Later on, in almost the exact same setup, the KMT sets up roadblocks in search of Chinese communists. Furthermore, the scene shows how the com-

munists risked their lives in order to accomplish their missions against the KMT. The scene is reminiscent of a similar scene from *The Godfather Part II* in which Michael Corleone says, "the rebels are going to win against the Cuban government because they are willing to risk their lives." The communists eventually overthrew the KMT.

The emergence of communism is also illustrated by the color red. In the aftermath of a student massacre ordered by the KMT, a custodian attempts to wash the blood off the steps. The moment he finishes, rain falls and the blood stains are washed off the banner left by the students, dripping onto the steps that were just cleaned. The movie then shows Jade having

a nightmare about a flood of not water, but blood.

Excluding these political statements, the development of the romance between Shao-

development of the romance between Shao-Hua and Neng-Tsai is minimal. After meeting a few times, they are quickly lost in each other's eyes. Although the setting is perfect for a tear-jerking love story, the director fails to take advantage of the situation. Instead, the romance is lost amid the political turmoil.

When this film was released in Taiwan, it received much criticism, especially from the die-hard KMTs, for its political implications. The film should be admired for its effort to speak out against the ruling KMT, but not for its ability to balance between romance and political subtleties.

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Janowski shows his skill and charm while leading BSO

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Marek Janowski, Guest Conductor. March 21.

Messiaen, Un Sourire.

Bartok, Piano Concerto No. 1.

Beethoven, Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Opus

March 28.

Spohr, Violin Concerto No. 8 in A minor, Opus 47.

Strauss, Metamorphosen, study for 23 solo strings.

Haydn, Symphony No. 99 in E-flat.

By Allison M. Marino

ARTS STAFF

arek Janowski, a regular conductor at Symphony Hall since 1989, led the BSO with style and finesse. His fine control of the orchestra was readily apparent, as was his comfortable approach; no musical genre fazed Janowski as he convincingly directed Classical, Romantic, and Modern works.

Composed in 1989 by Olivier Messiaen in honor of the 200th anniversary of Mozart's

death in 1791, the American premiere of Un Sourire opened the BSO's March 21 performance. Despite Janowski's conducting charm, the lack of substantial thematic content in this short work could not be masked. Un Sourire is a tenuous remembrance of a side of Mozart's life in its uncertain, lonely quality, but was not remotely reminiscent of Mozart's vibrant and exceedingly clever compositional style. The audience applauded only politely.

In contrast, the Bartok Piano Concerto had a definite character — colorful and intensely percussive. Soloist Zoltan Kocsis and the orchestra were thoroughly integrated — the piano was primarily treated as an extension of the percussion section, not a melodic vehicle. Timpani, side drums, bass drum, and cymbals crowded the piano for center stage. The tension and energy of this rhythmic fortress hung in the air as every raised drumstick portends the impending percussive expression, adding an enjoyable visual aspect to the throbbing aural sensations. Rhythmic precision and crispness reigned throughout the concerto, even in the emotional piano sections of the

In the final piece of the evening, Janowski and the BSO distinguished their performance of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony with intensely sensitive interpretation of the softer passages, notably the oboe solo of the first movement and almost all of the adagio second movement. Delicate, breathtaking, and exquisitely rich, the transition from the third to the final movements was not only the ultimate turning point in the symphony's development, but also the highlight of the concert. The performance accentuated the righteousness in the carved woodwork high above the orchestra bearing Beethoven's name.

Soloist and concertmaster Malcolm Lowe set the congenial atmosphere of the BSO's March 28 performance in Spohr's Violin Concerto No. 8. Louis Spohr, an early Romantic, wrote the piece for the opera-minded Italian audiences of the early 1800's, clearly mimicking operatic form with recitative and aria-like sections. Unlike the Bartok Concerto No. 1, the distinction between orchestral and solo sections was clear. Additionally, the bulk of the piece's emotional content resided in the violin, while the orchestra maintained a more Classical character. Lowe caressed his instrument through virtuosic passages, appearing casual, happy, and not the least bit self-absorbed. With Lowe and Janowski both on stage, Symphony Hall seemed more like a family gathering than an auditorium full of strangers. Richard Strauss's Metamorphosen followed the Spohr concerto, concluding the first half of the March 28 program in a melancholy mood.

Joseph Haydn's Symphony No. 99 appropriately ended Janowski's guest appearance. The symphony was marked by the full orchestral sound characteristic of late Haydn, as well as by Haydn's appealing use of rhythmic motif. Janowski truly appeared in his element. Conducting never looked more like pure fun as he swayed and gestured, massaging the orchestral sound to perfection. He gave the Vivace Finale just the right light character, evoking an audible giggle in the audience and even a few smiles on stage; Haydn's musical wit underlined this delightful movement with a "fake" ending and some cute call and response sections in the woodwinds as the symphony drew to a true close.

Woody and Wesley make *White Men Can't Jump* enjoyable

White, from Page 11

Ferrell) refuses Gloria the money, the two nevertheless get the men to enter a two-ontwo tournament with a grand prize of \$5,000.

It soon becomes apparent that Billy's perpetual state of poverty isn't just bad luck. Even Rhonda Deane recognizes that he has a problem. After he loses his half of the winnings to Sidney on a bet he proposed (and then insisted on), he returns home and dejectedly tells Gloria, "It happened again." Then she leaves him. Again.

Things only get more complicated from there. As Sidney and Billy run into more difficulties, a reluctant friendship grows between them — even if it is disguised as only a trading of favors. These men like each other, the audience likes them, and it's played well. It's not a sappy or unlikely relationship, and it's

not a back-stabbing one either. It's certainly fun to watch these two. Snipes portrays the perfect street-tough con artist with a real human being inside. The trick to the success of this character is that he's not the typical hard guy who's hiding a soft core that even he doesn't know about until (surprise, surprise) the end. Here, the man with the emotions and values isn't just hidden away beneath the hustler that Sidney's street buddies know. His love for his wife and his several jobs aren't secrets, but they don't stop him from letting his basketball skills turn him a buck every now and then. In fact, the money goes toward getting his family a house of their own in a good neighborhood. The hustler is only a small part of the man, and Deane treats it accordingly. Despite his methods on the basketball court, Sidney possesses an honesty that goes beyond the ethics of a swindle.

Billy is streetwise, but he has the aura of innocence one might expect from a Harrelson character. The part is cast well. Watching the film, you get the feeling that somewhere, down inside, there's a part of Billy Hoyle that believes everybody's basically a good person. And he counts on that in unconscious ways, like not expecting Sidney to turn the tables on him in a hustle. Ironically, that may be one of the qualities Sidney likes about him.

Though the focus of the story is on the men, the most intriguing character is Gloria Clemente, Billy's girlfriend. For one thing, she's a Jeopardy! fanatic who spends the first half of the film memorizing books of the Bible and foods that start with the letter "q." She tends to initiate philosophical discussions seemingly out of the blue, confusing the hell out of Billy. In one delightful scene, after trying to explain to him that you don't always

win when you think you do, she says, "Winning and losing is all one big organic globule from which one extracts what one needs." Billy's response? "I hate it when you talk like that."

It's good fun, and it's a good story. The beginning is somewhat predictable, but that's more than offset by the pace, and the ending may even surprise you. The Stucci brothers eventually catch up with Billy, but their methods of persuasion are somewhat unorthodox, to say the least. And yes, everyone's favorite game show host, Alex Trebek, makes an appearance. We even get to hear Harrelson sing part of a song that Billy writes for Gloria, which begins, "I'd never bring you water when you're thirstin' in our bed." Curious? If so, then watch the film. I think you'll enjoy it. THE DOT OF STATE HAVE SHEET BARREN

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By Josh Hartmann
CHAIRMAN

rdinary dance companies don't drive their audiences to stand up in their seats and dance along with an encore performance. But it is clear that the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is no ordinary company. At a March 26 performance at the Wang Center, the Ailey

troupe displayed some of the late Alvin Ailey's best original works. The result was a crisp, clean, and often stunning perfor-

Most dazzling was Revelations, a 1960 work that is considered Ailey's most monumental piece. In the half-hour composition, 18 members of the 29-member company explore the motivations and emotions of African-American religious music. Revelations was so remarkable because of the vibrant expressions of the dancers. Each clearly felt the emotions Ailey intended to present in the dance — a

requirement for performances at the level the Ailey company has been noted for. There are no "stars" in *Revelations*, for each member of the company plays an important part. But the finale, "Rocka My Soul in the Bosom of Abraham," was the most impressive; hence the crowd's reaction to the encore.

Revelations was only the last part of the program. Although it was a treat, its predecessors — "Ailey Classics" with eight dances, some excerpted, ranging in length from 2 to 10 minutes — were excellent as well.

In *Memoria*, Elizabeth Roxas, an eight-year veteran of the company, stunned the audience with her extensions. She was equally impressive as a soloist in *The Lark Ascending*, dancing to the musical romance for violin and orchestra of the same name.

But the lighter pieces were certainly more exciting than the more serious ones. Among them was Night Creature, from "Ailey Celebrates Ellington," an expressionistic and jazzy dance based on Duke Ellington's song of the same name. This was Ailey at his best, and dancers Sarita Allen and Andre Tyson excelled among the company.

In Opus McShann, Tyson, Renee Robinson, Gary DeLoatch, and Desmond Richardson proved they are convincing actors as well as dancers. Richardson and DeLoatch put on an entertaining performance as drunkards, while Robinson and Tyson, in an equally amusing play, portray a woman trying to

Alley, Page 16

Deborah Manning in Cry

PHOTO BY JACK MITCHELL

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Trinity Repertory's Macbeth is flawed but powerful

MACBETH

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Directed by Richard Jenkins.
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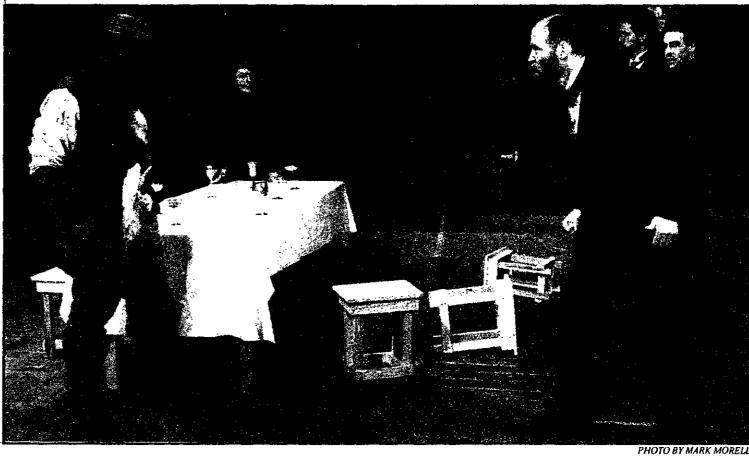
By Chris Roberge
ARTS EDITOR

hakespeare's Macbeth is as entertaining as it is thrilling, forging a tight chain of greed, corruption, and ambition that bind its tragic hero to a fate from which he can not escape. Trinity Repertory Company's current production of the classic play delivers all of the horrors and delights present in the tale of the celebrated General's descent into murder and deception in his attempts to ascend into positions of power. The cast and crew of the Providence, R.I. theater company do suffer from some missteps, and some of their production decisions are questionable, but Richard Jenkins' somewhat flawed Macbeth is still powerful.

The set design, by Eugene Lee, is extremely minimalist, consisting primarily of planks, staircases, and walkways resembling a construction site far from completion. The lack of a concrete and definitive setting did focus attention on the actors and the themes they raised, but a more inventive use of the stage would have created a greater impression. The floor was constructed with several removable sections, which hid a large room used to set many of the play's morbid actions. The Weird Sisters who predict and influence Macbeth's path to tragedy enter from these depths, Macbeth (Timothy Crowe) often mentally wrestles with the consequences of his amoral decisions while dangling over the edge of this drop, and the climactic duel between Macbeth and Macduff (Jack Willis) takes place entirely below the stage.

Another very interesting result of the sparse set is that many of the props are used for different purposes in different scenes, causing some clever juxtapositions. When Banquo (Ricardo Pitts-Wiley) is stabbed to death by two hired assassins, blood spurts onto a curtain in the center of the stage. The stained curtain is present in a majority of the scenes that follow, and often Macbeth stands directly before it, providing a striking visual reminder of the violence that he has used to obtain his power. A table used for a celebratory banquet hosted by the new Scottish rulers, Macbeth and Lady Macbeth (Anne Scurria), is allowed to remain on the stage until a later scene in which it is overturned by the Sisters and used as a cauldron, while the chairs are thrown into the potion. The comparison between the dealings of the corrupt rulers and the curses of the Sisters is masterful.

Like the design of the stage, the costumes by William Lane



Macbeth (Timothy Crowe, right) confronts Banquo's ghost (Ricardo Pitts-Wiley) as Lady Macbeth (Anne Scurria) looks on

do not suggest any individual time or place. The presence of Scottish kilts and sweaters, guerilla fatigues, and medieval gowns defeats any attempts by the audience to ascribe the play's message to a specific setting and give *Macbeth*'s themes the universality they require. Many of the costuming choices simply refer vaguely to war and militarism, but one evokes a very specific association. As Banquo's murderers leap onto their victim, played very well by the black Pitts-Wiley, they wear Klan-like hoods. The very unsettling reference to the oppression of minorities by selfish and ambitious whites is perhaps a bit overdone, but is nevertheless brave.

In the lead roles, Timothy Crowe and Anne Scurria give uneven performances. Crowe's Macbeth begins a bit too happy and pleasant, and only after his murder abruptly becomes manic and hysterical. After this sudden change, Crowe's acting is filled with intensity and energy, but too often he channels this energy in questionable directions. By the play's end this Macbeth is less of a dangerous psychotic than he is an innocuous nut. As Lady Macbeth, Scurria inhabits the role fully, providing a character who could very believably manipulate her weaker-willed husband. Scurria's Lady Macbeth demands the

audience's attention with great ferocity and sensuality.

Scurria's performance is not the only facet of Jenkin's production which adds a distinctively sexual tone to the play. From the first scene, the audience is cued by the use of a cross-dressing man as one of the Sisters to watch for issues of gender and sexuality. In a scene late in the play, Malcolm (Ed Shea) discusses the attributes which a leader may or may not possess with Macduff in a very suggestive manner. While Malcolm lists "luxurious, avaricious, false, deceitful," he repeatedly thrusts himself upon a nearby pole. But when he begins to talk of "justice, verity, temp'rance, stableness," he amuses himself with a small dagger between his legs. Malcolm manages to visually argue that Macbeth may not be making the most virtuous decisions, but he is gaining the most pleasure that he can from them.

By developing the links between sexuality, politics, and the tragic ambition of Macbeth, Richard Jenkin's production raises several interesting points. The acting, set and costume design do have their weaknesses, but the more apparent strengths make Trinity Rep's *Macbeth* gripping entertainment.





Truth, Justice, and Jim's Journal.

Basic Instinct has little going for it except steamy sex scenes

Instinct, from Page 11

such in representation only. No utterance within the \$3 million Joe Esterhazy script would pass a Turing test — the screen-play's every word is an insult to artificial intelligence. For example, Sharon Stone's Catherine Trammel says to Douglas' Nick Curran when he returns to being a detective, "I'm not gonna confess all my secrets, Nick, just because I have an orgasm." There are academic "insights," such as the police department's use of outside shrinks to question Detective Curran with such additions to the literature of practical psychoanalysis as "Nick, when you recollect your childhood, are your recollections pleasant to you?"

Ailey shines at Wang Ctr.

Alley, from Page 14

get her man.

But Dudley Williams demonstrated that Ailey's dance is as emotionally demanding as it is physically challenging. Williams, who has been with the Ailey company for 28 years, was perfect in A Song for You, an excerpt from Love Songs. His performance rivaled those of the dancers in Revelations.

The jazzy side of Ailey shone through in many of the other pieces presented. For Bird — With Love displayed a club scene, and Blues Suite took place on the railroad. These remarkable scene changes were accomplished through the media of many types of dance.

A presentation of Ailey's classics would be incomplete without Cry, which was specifically written for Judith Jamison, currently artistic director, in 1971, when Jamison was a member of the company. Dedicated to "all black women everywhere — especially our mothers," Cry featured Deborah Manning in the lead role, with Robinson and Debora Chase behind her. Cry was easily as impressive as the rest of the show.

While it is conceivable that even *this* script could be overcome by great acting, that possibility need not be entertained. In *Basic Instinct*, all performances are on par with the script.

To the extent that Sharon Stone demonstrates any talent at all, it would seem to be in her ability to assume a naked equestrian position, and then, in one rapid, highly stylized motion, pull from sight her slightly equine face whilst, with arched back, she brings her somewhat slight breasts into an all too prominent and improbable upright view.

Michael Douglas, while slimmed down for his role, nonetheless offers even less evidence of talent than does Stone. George Dzundza's screen time as Douglas' pudgy sidekick is considerable and never totally unpleasant. Jeanne Tripplehom as cop shrink and Douglas lover is akin to Stone in acting style. Then there is that Sharon Stone of yesteryear, actress Dorothy Malone, brought on screen seemingly for no other purpose than for Verhoeven to demonstrate that megabuck cinematic magic is not everything; in the ravaging of great beauty, age does very well on its own.

Indeed, in allowing Dorothy Malone to be her own mortal self, thereby drawing so stark a contrast to the artificiality of everybody and everything else, Verhoeven demonstrates the one bit of wit evident in this film. The rest of his characters move with the absolute lack of grace inherent in the worst of modern dance. Artist that he is, Verhoeven manages to make even the sex, which forms the bulk of this movie, simultaneously both silly and ugly. It is never the act of love, but instead an act of death, real people being in no way involved. It is a parody of sex and life both.

There may well be certain instances when consideration of what is pornographic requires fine, precise calculations. *Basic Instinct* is not one. Whatever the precise definition, "pornography" must be accounted anti-life, anti-love, and yes, anti-sex. *Basic Instinct* is all these — absolutely, unambiguously so.

That it is likely to provoke an audience reaction not so much of "prurient interest" as of revulsion and disgust means simply that, according to legal standards, the movie does not merit banning. But it remains pornographic, nonetheless.

Verhoeven has as misanthropic a vision of mankind as has ever made it to the silver screen. He takes Hobbes' axiom that "the life of man is nasty, brutish, and short," and because Hollywood has given him all the money in the world to play with, he has abandoned rendering it in visions of some wit and sensibility, as he did in his European films, but instead simply emits his nightmares flatly upon the screen.

There is a certain fascination in watching the fantasies of so gargantuan a misanthrope in color on the Wide Screen. But there is a limit. The fascination with Verhoeven's adventures in American cinema is the spectacle of his continuing ability to spend vast sums upon lurid visions.

Eventually his visions will combine the extremes of the banal and the revolting to such a degree that audiences will no longer spend to see. Thereafter, no further Verhoeven visions will be onanistically played out upon the screen. Basic Instinct's early box-office success would seem to insure that such time has not yet come. So Verhoeven's next must be an abomination way beyond the ratings R, X, NC-17, or whatever. Short of his somehow giving us Dr. Hannibal Lecter as vegetarian, one cannot imagine how he'll deliver.

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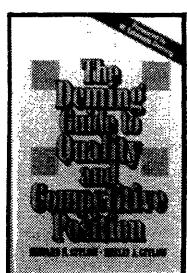
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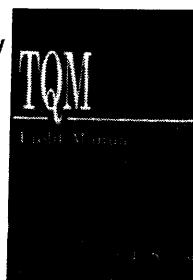
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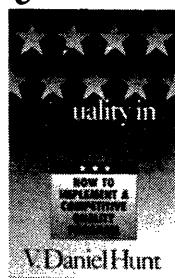


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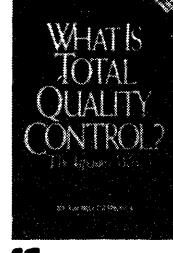
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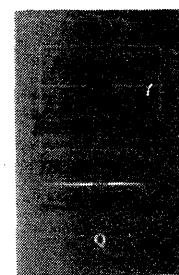


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MIT Cyclists Prepare to Defend ECC Championship

By Paul Stek TEAM MEMBER

The MIT cycling team is set to defend last year's East Coast Conference championship. They began this season with races at Penn State, Bloomsberg College, Columbia, and the University of Connecticut over spring break.

Despite sending only seven riders, MIT took second place at the races, run by Penn State. The race was contested over a flat fast loop where a strong wind helped break up the pack.

Karon MacLean G and Jill Sherwood '95 took first and second in the first prime but fell behind the hard-charging Penn State riders, finishing sixth and ninth respectively.

In the men's C race, Eddie Hernandez '95, Leon Wong '92, Andy Mor '94, Abe Stroock '95, and John Baur '94 used superior tactics to dominate a race against ten teams, including a much larger and stronger Penn State team. Mor, Baur, and Stroock took first, second, and third overall and the top three places in all but one leg of the race.

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The next day in Bloomsberg the racers were greeted by a snowstorm and a hilly and twisty criterium. In the women's race, MacLean missed the initial break, but worked hard to keep the gap between her and the two riders off the front from growing too big. The riders in the break crashed going through a difficult corner on one of the last laps, allowing MacLean to ride to a win in only her second race. Sherwood placed third to cap off a great race. The men's C race was a repeat of the day before, with Stroock riding

away from a splintering field and lapping everyone. Baur placed second and Mor third.

The following weekend a stronger MIT team finished third overall at the Columbia races. The Columbia Criterium was held on a beautiful course around Grant's Tomb in Manhattan, under strong winds. Many riders, particularly those thin riders with large surface area in relation to their mass, were blown off the course by the high

In the women's race, Kjirste Carlson rode away in a group of three. Clearly stronger than her companions, she took all but one of the primes and first at the finish. She was awarded first despite violating cycling etiquette in not throwing her hands in the air as she crossed the

In the men's C, Mor continued his successful first year by placing fifth in a pack sprint after winning every prime.

The men's A race marked the return to collegiate racing of former professional cyclist Peter Vollers. Vollers, racing for Cornell, demonstrated extreme strength in riding away from the pack in a group of six and then proceeding to drop all five of his companions to win alone.

The University of Connecticut Criterium was held on a tight, sixcornered course on the UConn campus. Difficult corners and high winds quickly eliminated half the riders in the three men's races and shattered the women's races.

In the women's A's, Carlson Park on April 26.

easily won again, riding away from the field after only 8 laps of the 30 lap race. This time she had 22 laps to remember to raise her hands in victory as she crossed the line. Meanwhile, MacLean continued her first-year success by placing 7th. In the women's B, Sherwood took second in a 20-rider field. Stroock placed third and Andy Parsons '91 placed fifteenth in a field of 80 in the men's B.

The men's C race was the first for Dave Mackoviak G, Chris Ekstom G, Scott Rickard '92, and Bruce Weinberg G. Each took turns going after and winning primes while Li and Baur took second and fourth respectively at the finish.

In the men's A, Jim Preisig PhD '92 and Morrell teamed up to take several primes. They also initiated several breaks, but high winds helped a hungry pack quickly chase them down.

Coming into the final lap, Preisig made a daring move, trying to lead Morrell out for the sprint. Unfortunately, Morrell and Paul Stek G collided while getting in position, with Morrell crashing. Preisig, whose staff status prevents him from scoring team points, managed to lead a faltering Stek to a top twelve finish. MIT placed second behind UMass.

This weekend, MIT races at UMass-Amherst in a tough threestage race. MIT will host the East Coast Conference championships here in Cambridge at University

A's Favored in AL West

Baseball, from Page 20

6. California Angels

After failing to sign free agents Danny Tartabull, Bobby Bonilla, and Otis Nixon, Whitey Herzog settled for Alvin Davis, Hubie Brooks, and Von Hayes. Herzog's moves only proved that the Angels will always trade away young talents for old washed-up players. Remember Dave Parker? How about Tony Armas, Don Sutton, Dave Winfield, and Bert Blyleven?

The strength of the team is its pitching. Last year, Jim Abbott, Chuck Finley, and Mark Langston combined for a 57-28 record. But the Angels still finished last at 81-81. In the bullpen, Brian Harvey had 46 saves, striking out 101 in 79

With the departure of Wally Joyner, Lee Stevens will take over first base. Second base is occupied

by Luis Sojo, who can neither run, hit, nor field. Dick Schofield returns at shortstop, and Gary Gaetti will cover third.

California has one of the better leadoff men in left field, Luis Polonia. Junior Felix is capable of superstar status if he stays off the disabled list. Brooks will be the designated hitter.

Rookie Chad Curtis is having a very impressive spring. He hit .316, drove in 61 runs, and stole 46 bases last year in AAA ball. I won't be surprised if Herzog trades Curtis, Felix, and some other young pitchers to the Pirates for Barry Bonds.

7. Kansas City Royals

The Royals made lots of noises in the winter meeting, but they didn't improve much. Kevin McReynolds can't match Danny Tartabuli's production. And nobody can replace Bret Saberhagen.

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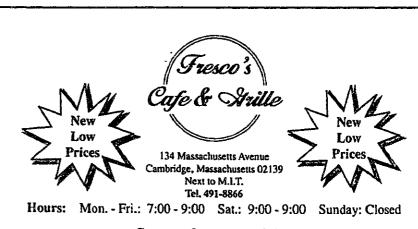
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MIT Information Systems

Toronto, Oakland Will Conquer Their AL Divisions

Column by Danny Su SPORTS STAFF

American League East

Boston and Toronto both have the same team they did last year, with each team adding a top quality pitcher. So nothing is going to change. Toronto will win the division in the last week of the season.

1. Toronto Blue Jays

This team is better than ever before, Jack Morris, Jimmy Key, Todd Stottlemyre, Juan Guzman, and Dave Steib are the best starting five in the division. Tom Henke, Duane Ward, David Wells, and Mike Timlin are the best in the

bullpen.

At age 40, Dave Winfield still hit 28 homers last year. And he will probably hit more this year now that he plays half of his games in the homer dome. Joe Carter and Kelly Gruber will provide additional power. Devon White, Roberto Alomar, and rookie Derek Bell should drive catchers crazy on the base path.

2. Boston Red Sox

A year ago someone asked who were the best right and left handed starting pitchers. I answered "The Rocket" and "Sweet Music." Now that Boston has both Roger Clemens and Frank Viola on the same pitch-

ing staff, could this be the year that the Red Sox win the World Series? I don't think so because the Sox lack pitching depth, can't steal bases. and have a power shortage.

Although Joe Hesketh finished with a 12-4 record last year, I don't expect him to last through the season. The last time he pitched over 100 innings was in 1985.

The bullpen may encounter some problems. Jeff Reardon had 40 saves last year, but his back could flare up anytime. Jeff Gray is recovering from a stroke, and Danny Darwin's comeback is uncertain. Greg Harris may be ambidextrous, but he was overused last year and could become another Rob Murphy.

Phil Plantier will get more playing time, and although Mike Greenwell does not live up to his superstar billing, he's still the best in front of the Green Monster. Tom Brunansky hit 16 home runs and drove in 70 more, but his average went down to .229. Jack Clark, the DH, strikes out too often and hits into too many double plays, but may hit 20 home runs.

Wage Boggs and Jody Reed were number one and two in total bases last year. You know you have a power shortage when your leadoff hitter and light-hitting second baseman led the team in total bases. Luis Rivera and Tim Naehring are competing for the shortstop job. Rivera is a good hitter, but led American League shortstops with 24 errors last year. Nachring has an excellent glove, but must overcome back surgery and his hitting problem. First base may be occupied by Mo Vaughn, but Vaughn has not proven himself in the majors yet.

The Sox will stay in the race until September, when the pitching staff will collapse. It will be difficult for them to win games when Clemens and Viola are not pitching.

3. Detroit Tigers

Detroit led the league in home runs and runs scored last year. But the Tigers have no pitching. Their team ERA of 4.51 last year is not going to improve — they didn't add anyone new and lost John Cerutti, Jerry Don Gleaton, and Jeff Kaiser.

4. New York Yankees

The person that will benefit the most from the signing of Danny Tartabull is Don Mattingly. Mattingly had his best seasons when Winfield was batting behind him and protecting him. I look for Mattingly to return to all-star form.

5. Milwaukee Brewers

The Brewers can't win the division without pitching.

6. Baltimore Orioles

The only bright spots for the Orioles are Carl Ripken Jr. and their defense, which was first in fielding percentage.

7. Cleveland Indians

Although you can turn a frog into a prince in fairy tales, you can't do it in real life. The Indians aren't going anywhere but the cellar.

American League West

The AL West is the toughest

division in baseball. Last year, 14 games separated first place from last place, and the last place team had a .500 record. This year should be no different. Look for Oakland to take the division back.

1. Oakland Athletics

The starting rotation of Dave Stewart, Bob Welch, Mike Moore, and Ron Darling is one of the best in the league this season. An outfield of Jose Canseco, Dave Henderson, and Rickey Henderson provides both speed and power. The infield of Mark McGwire, who is having a very good spring, Lance Blankenship, Walt Weiss, Carney Lansford, and Terry Steinbach is solid defensively. Harold Baines will provide much needed power and consistency from the left side of the plate. The bullpen of Dennis Eckersley, Gene Nelson, Rick Honeycutt, and Joe Klink will not blow many leads. This team has talent, depth, and speed.

2. Chicago White Sox

The speed of Tim Raines, Lance Johnson, Ozzie Guillen, and Steve Sax will score plenty of runs for the White Sox. And the tandem of Frank Thomas and Robin Ventura is ready to put up numbers matching those of Bonds and Bonilla. The starting rotation is only average. But the bullpen is secure with Bobby Thigpen.

3. Texas Rangers

The Rangers led the league in runs scored last year with 814, but they also led the league in runs given up, also 814. Things won't change much this year. Last year the Rangers finished 10 games behind the Twins because Jeff Russell blew 10 save opportunities. They will catch the Twins this year, but they won't catch the A's.

4. Seattle Mariners

The Mariners gave up their bullpen for Kevin Mitchell. And their once proud starting rotation of Scott Bankhead, Brian Holman, Randy Johnson, and Erik Hanson is half gone. The outfield of Mitchell, Ken Griffey Jr., and Jay Buhner is formidable.

5. Minnesota Twins

I don't think Chili Davis is going to repeat what he did last year. Neither will the Twins.

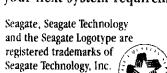
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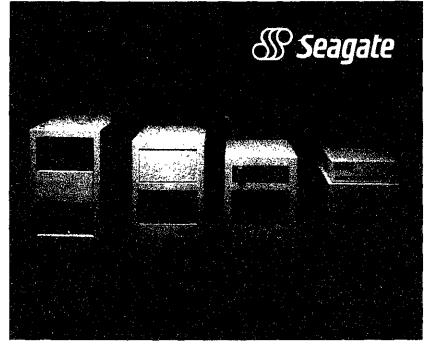
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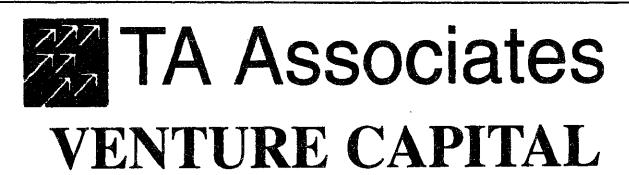




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