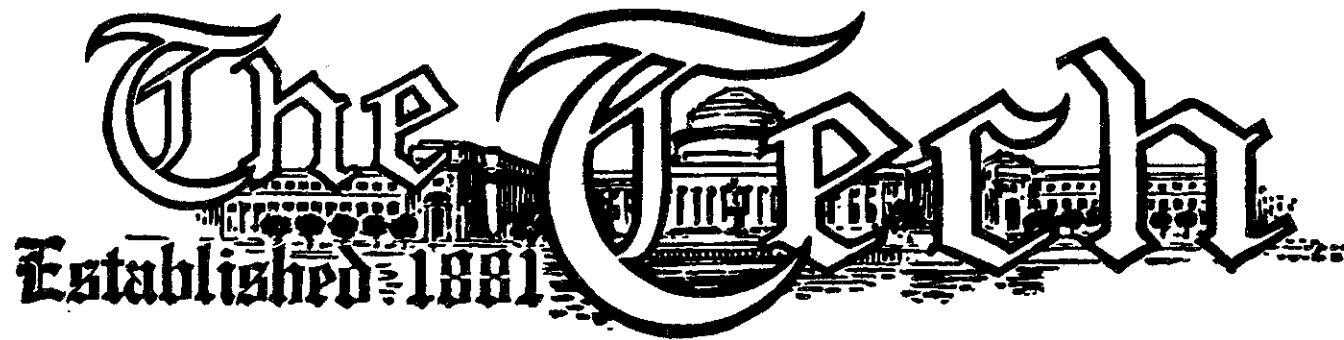


Drop Date Today!

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather
Today: Clear, 42°F (6°C)
Tonight: Becoming cloudy, 36°F (2°C)
Tomorrow: Overcast, 52°F (11°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 112, Number 59

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, November 20, 1992



A Campus Police officer restricts access to 77 Massachusetts Ave. Wednesday.

Bomb Threat Clears Main Institute Buildings

By Eva Moy
NEWS EDITOR

A bomb threat resulted in the evacuation of Buildings 3, 5, 7, and part of Building 1 at around 11 a.m. Wednesday, according to Campus Police Lt. James P. Cappucci. No bombs were found after a room-by-room search of these buildings by Campus Police, he said.

People were allowed to return to the buildings about 90 minutes later, at 12:20 p.m., said Robert C. Dilorio, associate director of the MIT News Office.

The threat was made when a female caller tipped off the Registrar's Office at about 10:45 a.m. The caller said, "There are seven bombs that I planted at 77 Massachusetts Ave. I'm not kidding," according to Dilorio. The caller also said she did not want to see anybody get hurt.

A second call with a similar message was

received a few minutes later in Building 3, Dilorio said.

The main objective was just to get everybody out of the building, Cappucci said. "We didn't have the luxury of talking to everyone individually, so we got them out by fire alarms, bullhorns, shouting, and knocking on doors," he said.

Initially, only the 77 Massachusetts Ave. entrance was blocked off, but the Campus Police quickly extended the secured area to include all floors of Buildings 3, 5, and 7, Cappucci said.

While these buildings were being evacuated, the fire alarm in Building 4 went off. Physical Plant workers were deployed to the scene and told to handle the alarm as they would any fire. They found no fire, however, and determined that someone had sim-

Threat, Page 8

Faculty OK Minors, Discuss New Degree

By Brian Rosenberg
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The faculty formally authorized the creation of minors in subjects other than the humanities and social sciences at their meeting Wednesday. The faculty also discussed two proposals: the first would create a Master of Engineering degree in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, while the second suggested an expanded Institute calendar.

The motion to allow undergraduates to minor in any academic field

was unopposed in a voice vote by the approximately 70 faculty at the meeting. The approved proposal does not create any specific minor programs — it merely allows departments to offer such programs if they wish.

"It's about time that we had minors in the sciences," said Undergraduate Association President Shally Bansal '93. "I'll be interested to see which departments actually follow through and create a program," she added.

Faculty, Page 8

Wolff Suit Settled

By Sarah Y. Keightley
NEWS EDITOR

Provost Mark S. Wrighton recently announced the resolution of Professor of Literature Cynthia G. Wolff's lawsuit against MIT. The parties have agreed to the following joint statement:

"Professor Wolff and MIT have reached an agreement to resolve the action brought by Professor Wolff and have agreed not to disclose the terms of that agreement. The parties believe that a resolution at this time is in the best interests of MIT and the individuals involved, before the need to determine the merits of the action and in order to move forward as a community. The fact that a resolution was reached, therefore, does not mean that either party attributes blame or concedes merit to the other's position."

Wrighton refused to comment beyond this publicly-released statement, and neither Wolff nor her lawyer could be reached yesterday.

In the suit, which was filed last April, Wolff charged that MIT had allowed a "hostile work environment" to continue by permitting a "persistent and continuing pattern of professional, political, and sexual harassment . . . in the workplace."

The suit alleged other professors in the literature section isolated Wolff because of her stance on particular personnel decisions. When she reported this to the administration, they failed to act, she said.

Wolff also said in the suit that Professor David M. Halperin had harassed another professor. "For me, the whole affair won't be over until I find a way of clearing my name," Halperin said last night.

"I do have a lawyer, and we're reserving all options," he said.

"MIT's lack of a formal Institute-wide grievance procedure for handling sexual harassment enables charges and counter charges to be used for partisan political purposes by faculty who are fighting with one another," Halperin said. "The exploitation of sexual harassment for partisan political purposes, used in these cases to damage the reputation of one's enemies, is a shocking trivialization of a very serious issue."

Halperin stressed this "points to the need for a strong and consistent Institute-wide procedure" for dealing with sexual harassment.

Robert O. Preusser

Robert O. Preusser, a prominent visual artist who headed the Center for Advanced Visual Studies, died in the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Monday after battling with cancer for several years. He was 73.

Preusser came to MIT in 1954 at the invitation of his former teacher, Institute Professor Emeritus Gyorgy Kepes. That one-year invitation evolved into a 31-year tenure as a professor of architecture in the field of visual design.

At MIT, Preusser brought non-artists into the studio for the first time, and he urged his students to take advantage of their scientific and technical skills to create two- and three-dimensional forms. The first computer-generated design to grace the cover of *Fortune* magazine was created by a team of his students.

Preusser was born in Houston, Texas, and it was there that he began his art career in 1930. His artwork was first exhibited while he was in his teens.

Before coming to MIT, Preusser taught at the Institute of Design in Chicago and the University of Houston. He co-directed the first museum of contemporary art in Houston and was associate curator of education at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts. During World War II, he served in the Army's 84th Engineer Camouflage Battalion as a

Preusser, Page 8

Reading Room Attracts Outside Students

By Deena S. Disraeli
STAFF REPORTER

Not only does the reading room, located on the fifth floor of the Student Center, provide a quiet study environment for MIT students, it is also attracting students from other area schools.

According to a group of Tufts Medical students, students from their school, Harvard Medical School, Northeastern University, and Harvard University like to study in the room because it is open 24 hours a day.

The reading room reopened in April 1991; it was closed in 1988 when renovations on the lower floors of the Student Center forced offices to move to the fifth floor. The room provides cubicles for individual study, tables for group study, and a separate area with couches and chairs for reading or group study.

Usually, non-MIT students use the reading room only during exam periods "because people stay up real late," said Roy Lin from Tufts Medical School. "But we're here a lot," he added.

"We've been here every night for the past week until 3 a.m.," said Vaivhav Khasgiwala, another Tufts Medical School student.

Many students noted the convenience of having a study room that is open all the time.

"One of the reasons I came to MIT was the 24-hour libraries," said Dean K. Christakos '96. He studies at the reading room almost every night and has occasionally come close to falling asleep in his cubicle, because "it is impossible to study in my fraternity."

"We come here because it's open past midnight," said Jin Seung from Tufts Medical School.

The Tufts Medical students live

in the Back Bay area. They come to study at MIT for many reasons, including their inability to get any work done at home or at Tufts.

"The hours [at the Tufts library] are very inconvenient. It's open until 11 p.m. during the week and from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends," Khasgiwala said.

"Plus, we're [at Tufts] all day.... It's a change of environment," Seung added. "And, we have no place of our own."

The Tufts Medical students were introduced to the reading room by another Tufts Medical student who had graduated from MIT. She came back to the room because it was quiet and brought friends with her. Since then, third-year students have told current second-year students about the room and its advantages.

Among these advantages are the

Room, Page 9

WORLD & NATION

U.S.-Europe Talks Break Without Agreement on Farm Subsidies

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

American and European trade negotiators broke off talks Thursday night without resolving a bitter and frustrating dispute over agricultural subsidies.

Officials had hoped to settle the issue this week to clear the way for a broader agreement on liberalizing global trade, but they could not come to terms on an acceptable level of government support for European oilseed producers.

U.S. Trade Representative Carla A. Hills, speaking to reporters outside the presidential guest quarters at Blair House, where the discussions had been held, said that the two sides were "quite close together" on the longstanding oilseed dispute. She said that there would be further talks, but did not specify when or where.

A European diplomat who has been following the talks said that the negotiators appeared to have reached agreement late Thursday afternoon, but the deal suddenly evaporated and the two envoys from the European Community abruptly left for the airport to return to Brussels, Belgium.

"We thought there was an agreement and then there wasn't," the European official said. "The Americans are now asking for more data. Things may change tomorrow when they reflect on it. We're willing to talk again if necessary, but it may not be necessary. We were that close."

Leaders of the European Community meet Friday in Brussels to review the talks' progress and could approve a deal without ordering new negotiations, the official said.

The United States is demanding that European governments reduce the level of support paid to farmers who grow oilseeds such as rapeseed and sunflower seeds used in cooking oils and animal feeds. Washington claims that the subsidies cost U.S. soy growers \$1 billion a year in lost sales in Europe and elsewhere because subsidized European oilseeds are cheaper.

U.S. Again Leads in Computer Chips

THE WASHINGTON POST

TOKYO

U.S. semiconductor chip firms have caught up with their Japanese competitors and regained global supremacy in the booming world semiconductor market in what industry analysts see as an important comeback for U.S. competitiveness.

Semiconductor technology, which has been described as the crude oil of the high-tech era, was invented and pioneered by American firms. But the Japanese electronics giants came on strong a decade ago, sweeping the market and dropping America to a distant second — a development cited around the world as proof of U.S. industrial "decline."

But now American firms, many based in California's Silicon Valley, are gaining an advantage in investments and marketing over their Japanese competitors. Industry executives and analysts say final sales figures for 1992 are expected to show that:

- American semiconductor makers will pass, or at least tie, the Japanese in global market share.
- American makers of semiconductor manufacturing machinery, a crucial feeder market, will clearly lead in global market share.
- For the first time since 1984, the biggest microchip maker in the world will be an American firm—Intel, the San Jose company that makes the microprocessor chips at the heart of nearly all the personal computers in the world.

While industry analysts say American firms have rebounded thanks largely to aggressive investment, innovation and marketing, they have had help. In 1986 the Reagan administration weighed in, pushing Japan to sign a bilateral agreement that opened Japan's market to foreign — essentially U.S. — chip makers.

The Americans also were aided by a Japanese blunder in choosing to invest heavily in making computer memory chips, a relatively simple type of chip that is no longer so profitable. Japanese firms have been surprised by competition from Koreans, who have been cutting into Japanese sales for memory chips.

"We're number one again," said G. Dan Hutcheson, president of VLSI Research, Inc., which analyzes the semiconductor industry. His firm predicts that the United States will end up with about 44 percent of the global semiconductor market for 1992, to about 43 percent for Japanese firms.

WEATHER

Cloudy and Warmer

By Yeh-Kai Tung
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It looks like the stage is set for a battle between a high-pressure cell located offshore and a large batch of moisture located over central portions of the U.S. The high-pressure cell, which is responsible for our current clear, cold weather, will be moving offshore but will still probably be able to hold off much of the approaching moisture from the west, thus keeping precipitation over our area to a minimum. In addition, winds will shift to the south and southwest, bringing warmer weather. In contrast to our recent cold weather, temperatures in the 50's over the weekend will feel especially warm.

Today: Clear. High 42°F (6°C). Light winds shifting from north-west to northeast.

Tonight: Clouds arriving towards dawn. Low 36°F (2°C). Winds turning to the southwest.

Saturday: Generally overcast with occasional breaks in the clouds. Widely scattered showers possible. High 52°F (11°C). Low 41°F (5°C).

Sunday: Mostly cloudy. High 56°F (15°C).

Clinton Promises Congress Economic Plan, 'Open Door'

By Dan Balz and Eric Pianin
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President-elect Clinton barnstormed Capitol Hill Thursday, offering "an open door" to Republicans and Democrats alike while indicating to lawmakers that he will have the draft of his economic plan ready for discussion next month, with a formal unveiling immediately after his inauguration.

Clinton also told Democratic leaders at a private breakfast that he would like to show the public some legislative results early in his administration. He encouraged them to pass anew the Family Leave Act and the so-called "motor voter" registration bills that were vetoed by President Bush this year so that he could sign them while his economic package is still being debated.

During an afternoon news conference, Clinton appeared to soften his positions on two foreign policy matters involving China and Haitian refugees.

On China, he tempered past condemnations of the Chinese government, saying that while he favored some restrictions on China's most-favored-nation trade status, "We have a big stake in not isolating China." On Haiti, he said that while he intends to reverse Bush's ban on Haitian boat people, "It would be very unwise for anybody to think I'm going to articulate a policy that would promote mass migration."

Clinton also vowed to review U.S. policy on arms sales abroad and promised to raise the issue with

other nations as part of a broader effort to prevent "the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction" from falling into the wrong hands. He said the proliferation issue — including chemical and biological as well as nuclear weapons — would be one of his biggest challenges and that he wanted to "lay this marker down for the rest of the world."

Completing his two-day tour of Washington, Clinton got a warm reception from members of Congress, including top Republicans, who praised his willingness to work cooperatively and his hands-on grasp of the issues.

With an eye on his constituency outside the capital, Clinton also managed to find time to mingle with the people of the city during a 6 a.m. jog along the streets of downtown and around the Washington Monument, ending up at a McDonald's for a cup of decaffeinated coffee and some handshaking with other early risers.

Clinton had breakfast at the Capitol with top Democrats from the House and Senate and lunch with a bipartisan roster from both houses. In between, he talked privately with the Senate Republican Leader Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.), who had warned earlier that he would be the chaperon at Clinton's honeymoon in Washington, and House Minority Leader Robert H. Michel (R-Ill.).

Clinton also courted three of the biggest powerbrokers in Congress, meeting individually with House Ways and Means Committee

Chairman Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman John D. Dingell (D-Mich.), and Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.).

Later he was briefed at his hotel by Gen. Colin L. Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, met with his transition planners, and conducted other business.

After a dinner at the Georgetown home of Democratic contributor Pamela Harriman, Clinton was scheduled to return to Little Rock, Ark.

At his afternoon news conference after the luncheon, Clinton said he would "pledge to (Congress) an open door" and regular communication, saying he hoped there would be "bipartisan cooperation" to get the country moving.

"The sense I get from the American people, which I got again (Wednesday) from the thousands of people that were there on (Georgia Avenue) is they don't expect miracles of us but they do expect progress and they do want us to work. They want the finger-pointing and the blame-placing to stop."

Although he and Vice President-elect Gore were effusive in their praise for the members with whom they had met, Clinton, in response to a question, said Congress too is on the spot. "I think what Congress has to prove that ... we're capable of decision-making, of coming to closure on the difficult issues of the day."

Clinton Sets a Different Pace During Visit to Washington

By David Von Drehle
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The moment was rich with historical importance: In the Oval Office, President Bush guided President-elect Clinton to the straight-backed chairs beside the fireplace. America's most powerful men settled into the nation's most prestigious seats.

As they prepared to discuss the woes and dangers of the planet, a door quietly opened. A waiter padded softly across the thick carpet, bearing coffee.

Flash! Clinton was on his feet, clasping hands and trading small talk with the surprised, tray-toting man. Not even the rarefied air of the Oval Office can stop the RoboCandidate.

Clinton, as America has learned, is a virtuoso in the art of campaign schmoozing, a Horowitz of the handshake. But what does that mean for a president? Under Bush, the country has been encouraged to think such gifts are irrelevant to running the country; Bush built a wall between "campaign mode" and "governing mode."

On his triumphal visit to Washington this week, Clinton tore down the wall.

Strolling and chatting his way along Georgia Avenue in northern Washington on Wednesday, a wireless microphone booming his remarks to scores of reporters on flatbed trucks and to C-SPAN viewers across the country, Clinton gave a glimpse of the future. It is a future in which campaign-style events might become tools to shape and sell national policy.

Jawboning about his legislative agenda outside an auto parts store, pausing in a fast-food joint to praise

a general who does not like his plan to permit gays in the military, Clinton showed how the new tactics and technologies of the '92 campaign may become instruments of government.

If ordinary people have become sufficiently media savvy to ask the basic questions of the day — and this year proved they have — then why not use a crowd at McDonald's to get the daily message across, minus the buffer of the White House briefing room? If Minicams and wireless microphones make it possible to give a policy speech in the guise of a neighborhood saunter, then by all means, get out among the people.

On Georgia Avenue, Clinton cooed over a little girl in a beauty queen's sash and tiara. He scarfed scallops from a box of Chinese food offered by a neighborhood restaurant owner. He posed in a Washington Redskins cap. It looked like an typical day in, say, the New Hampshire primary.

Except that along the way, in unscripted exchanges with shopkeepers and homeowners, Clinton laid out a sketchy, but ambitious, commitment to pass legislation through the new Congress in support of small businesses. "I'm gonna give Congress a bill that, if passed, would dramatically increase the amount of capital available to small business," he promised one store owner.

To another, he talked about a revitalized Small Business Administration and described a network of inner-city banks that would invest in minority areas where credit is tight. He put a timeline on the idea: "In the next two years," he said, "I hope we'll be setting up a community development bank in

every community that needs one."

If the plans seemed sketchy, they were no more vague than the plans he has mentioned in his formal press conferences since the election. The difference was how well the whole thing played. While reviews of Clinton's formal statements have been mixed so far, he got nothing but raves for his walk among the common people.

One minute, the president-elect was talking policy; the next minute he was grabbing the hand of a shoe-repair shop owner and saying: "Great lookin' place you got here! I tell you, I run through shoes faster 'n anybody you know."

The same technique was at work Thursday morning. Jogging past a McDonald's, Clinton decided to duck in for a cup of decaf. While chatting with his fellow patrons, he was able to mouth a few platitudes about bipartisanship, react to the latest story on the search of his passport files, express his admiration for Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Colin L. Powell, and talk about his policy for the homeless.

When Clinton met local school board president David Hall on Georgia Avenue, he grabbed Hall by the arm, reminisced about an earlier meeting years ago, then said smoothly: "I want you to call me."

Just call ol' Bill at the White House! Such scenes recall the pioneering spirit of the '92 campaign. New media — like open-line talk shows, televised town hall meetings, the Clinton-Gore bus trips, the Phil Donahue-style presidential debate — stripped away the intermediaries, roughed up the photo opportunities and threw the whole process open to questions from the general public.

Former Official Helped Write Capitol Hill Query on Clinton

By Guy Gugliotta
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Steven K. Berry told investigators he was "raised" on Capitol Hill, but helping a congressman hunt for dirt on Bill Clinton cost him his job as an assistant secretary of state and helped blacken the eye of the State Department.

The department Thursday told the independent Office of the Special Counsel that it was forwarding materials for a possible civil suit under the 1939 Hatch Act, which could charge that Berry unlawfully facilitated a search of Clinton's passport files during the election campaign, Associate Special Counsel William Reukauf said.

But since Berry as a political appointee will leave the department in January when the Bush administration departs, it is unlikely that a Hatch Act case, whose strongest penalty is dismissal, could be carried to a conclusion, knowledgeable legal sources said.

Still, the Clinton passport file search and Berry's role in it dramatically illustrate how appointed officials can tempt fate when their duties give them an opportunity to score points for a partisan cause.

It was Berry who in late September helped Rep. Gerald B.H. Solomon (R-N.Y.) draft a request to search State Department files for a purported Clinton letter renouncing his U.S. citizenship or seeking information on dual citizenship. Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs Elizabeth M. Tamposi was fired earlier this month for her role in the affair, while Berry was relieved of his duties but allowed to

remain in the department.

The Hatch Act, intended to keep middle- and low-level civil servants away from partisan politics, says "an employee in an executive agency . . . may not use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election."

In investigating the passport affair, Sherman M. Funk, the State Department's inspector general, found Berry "probably in violation" of the Hatch Act, but unable to "draw the flat conclusion that Mr. Berry was fully aware of the inappropriateness of his actions," according to Funk's report released Wednesday.

Berry, a longtime congressional staff member, had become acting assistant secretary of state for legislative affairs when his boss, Janet G. Mullins, went to the White House last summer with former secretary of state James A. Baker III. Berry, the inspector general's report said, maintained strong ties with both Mullins and his former associates on Capitol Hill.

"As Mr. Berry noted, he was 'raised on the Hill,' " the report noted. "Mr. Berry stated that his job was to maintain a close relationship with Congress, and he related he had discussed, gossiped and speculated about the Clinton matter."

Among the items piquing congressional interest in the early fall, the report said Berry told investigators, was "what might be in the (State) Department's files concerning Gov. Clinton."

Solomon "in particular," was interested, the report said. A tough-talking ex-Marine, Solomon had an

abiding interest in the methods public figures had used to escape the draft as young men. He had known Berry since the days when Berry served as minority staff director of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, of which Solomon was a member.

Solomon wanted to get into Clinton's passport records, the report said, and "Berry freely admitted that he assisted Solomon in writing a letter to Tamposi as 'the person best able to respond.'"

The report said Tamposi told investigators that Berry on Sept. 28 asked her to search consular files for a Clinton letter renouncing citizenship, but Tamposi refused. Berry then asked Tamposi if she would respond to a congressional inquiry. Tamposi said, and Tamposi said she would "consider it."

The next day, Sept. 29, Tamposi received a letter from Solomon asking for "a careful search" for "information and documents" regarding U.S. citizens inquiring about dual citizenship. On Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, Tamposi's staff searched Clinton's files.

Solomon spokesman Dan Amon said Solomon's letter did not respond to a direct request from Berry for help in prodding Tamposi. Instead, Amon said, Solomon had been thinking about such a letter for some time and simply happened to write it Sept. 29.

"Mr. Berry appears to be convinced that the actions he took on behalf of Congressman Solomon were legitimate . . . " the report said. "We believe he is dead wrong."

Catholic Bishops Adopt Statement On Sexual Misconduct by Priests

By Frank P.L. Somerville
THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Goaded by widespread publicity of priests' sexual abuse of children, the nation's Roman Catholic bishops adopted their first public statement on the problem Thursday, calling on dioceses to deal with allegations promptly and "as openly as possible."

The resolution, passed unanimously by a voice vote, grew out of a meeting between Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles and sex-abuse victims who demonstrated Monday in front of the Omni Shoreham Hotel here as the National Conference of Catholic Bishops began its four days of annual deliberations.

Thursday's resolution was immediately criticized by three national organizations of priests' victims as not going far enough. They had called for a strict and uniform policy on pedophile priests to be mandated in every Catholic diocese, claiming that in some dioceses such priests are still being shielded from prosecution.

The bishops endorsed a suggestion by Bishop John J. McRaith of Owensboro, Ky., that the bishops create a national task force "to deal with difficult situations" involving sex abuse.

"This task force would be most effective if survivors are included in its membership," the group said. Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk, concluding his three-year term as president of the bishops' conference, predicted that any diocese without an announced policy to deal with the pedophile issue would be "putting one together sooner rather than later." But he also said that the National Conference of Catholic Bishops did not have the authority to require every diocese to follow the same policy.

"I understand their urgency," Pilarczyk said of the sex abuse victims, but he said that criminal statutes vary from state to state and

must be dealt with individually.

The bishops' resolution, prepared in executive session, was an adaptation of a statement made by Pilarczyk in June at the University of Notre Dame after closed-door discussions by the bishops of the sex-abuse issue.

The total of the financial settlements and other costs to the church in the United States over the last decade related to priests' abuse of children has been estimated at \$400 million.

"I am humiliated and embarrassed that priests are involved in this kind of behavior, and we can't tolerate it," Pilarczyk said Thursday.

After Monday's meeting with 10 men and women who had been sexually abused as children by priests, Mahony told the conference that the victims were "people who bear the scars of pain, hurt, alienation and abandonment . . . who are now pleading to be heard, to be recognized, and to be a part of the healing and rebuilding which our church needs."

President Bush's Mother Dies at 91

By Ann Devroy
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Dorothy Walker Bush, 91, the mother of President Bush and matriarch of the Bush family, died Thursday at her home in Greenwich, Conn. The president had made a rushed trip to visit her Wednesday afternoon after learning Wednesday night she had suffered a stroke.

The wife of a senator, Mrs. Bush lived to see her son inaugurated the 41st president of the United States. Seated on the inaugural platform four years ago, she smiled as he bent to kiss her and tell reporters, "Many of our family are here, and they all, as does this son, worship the ground she walks on."

In his autobiography, Bush called his mother and father, the late Prescott Bush, the "most important people in my life," and spoke often of his mother with love and pride. As vice president and president, Bush visited her often at the homes she maintained in Florida in the winter, in Greenwich where he grew up, and at the family compound in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Mrs. Bush died shortly after 5 p.m. at the Greenwich house, where family had gathered after her stroke Wednesday. The president had been informed of her illness by his sister, Nancy Ellis, and left Washington in a small Air Force jet Thursday morning for a rushed visit. He was in the White House when she died.

The president will attend memorial services in Greenwich on Monday, according to the White House.

Although Mrs. Bush had been in declining health after suffering a series of small strokes and pneumonia, her 90th birthday in July 1991 brought the huge Bush family together in Kennebunkport for an extended celebration. All of the Bush children spoke of her with awe and affection, echoing the president's words in his autobiography about the old-fashioned upbringing his father and mother had offered their four sons and daughter, an upbringing that blended "generous measures" of love and discipline with an emphasis on good sportsmanship.

NASA Requests FBI Investigate Problems at Calif. Research Center

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

At NASA's request, the FBI is investigating possible criminal and national-security problems at the space agency's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif., NASA officials announced Thursday.

The investigation is a follow-up to an internal NASA review last summer, according to FBI spokesman Rick Smith. That review found what NASA administrator Dan Goldin called "a major, major indication of potential violations of national security." He then turned the problem over to the FBI. The NASA inspector general also is continuing his investigation.

Goldin said in an interview that his review team told him that security procedures were inadequate at Ames to prevent "hostile intelligence activities" there.

Neither Goldin nor the FBI would be specific about the potential offenses or the nature of the security lapses. Smith cited two areas of investigation: "criminal activity and national-security concerns."

He added, "We don't want to magnify the importance" of the investigation. He emphasized that no arrests have been made and no conclusions reached. He said the probe may find only a potential for, rather than actual, violation of law.

The research center specializes in computer science, aerodynamics, flight simulation, hypersonic aircraft and other research. It supports military and civilian programs.

NASA officials said they do not believe that the problems are occurring at other NASA facilities.

The Ames "culture and environment were found to be the underlying cause of NASA's vulnerability," a NASA statement said. "The culture is strongly biased toward maintaining an academic reputation, rather than meeting U.S. industry and national needs."

Scientists Find Evidence In Favor of Black Hole Theory

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Scientists using the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Hubble Space Telescope have found the most compelling evidence yet produced for the existence of stupefying massive objects called black holes.

Saying that they now have a chance to resolve the debate as early as 1994, the scientists released space telescope photographs of a swirling disk of dust, shooting jets of energy across 88,000 light years of space.

"It is the best look we have ever had at the workings of the nuclear engine at the center of an active galaxy," said Walter J. Jaffe, an astronomer at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. "We haven't seen a black hole itself, but we are seeing as close to a black hole as we have ever seen before."

A black hole is predicted by both Sir Isaac Newton's and Albert Einstein's laws of physics. It should form when intense pressure, such as a supernova explosion, makes an object extremely compact, resulting in a surface gravity so powerful that nothing can travel fast enough to escape. Outside, no part of the black hole is visible, because even light is trapped. Inside, time and space act in utterly unfamiliar ways.

Jaffe told a news conference he believed that there was a black hole with a mass perhaps 10 million times that of the sun at the center of the disk. He theorizes that the enormous energy, streams of electrons flowing out at nearly the speed of light, is generated when material sucked into the hole is converted into energy by temperatures thousands of times hotter than the sun.

The disk photographed by the space telescope is at the core of an elliptical galaxy of 100 billion stars about 45 million light years from Earth in the galactic cluster Virgo.

Some 300 light years across, the outer fringe of the disk is rotating at about 50 miles per second, Jaffe said, while the inner region is rotating at perhaps 3,000 miles per second, under the influence of its massive core.

"It is almost certain," Jaffe told reporters, "that this disk is the material that is feeding the black hole, and it is almost certain that it is the spinning of this disk that provides the orientation of the two jets (of energy)."

Pennsylvania State University Professor Daniel W. Weedman, who remains an agnostic in the black hole debate, said, "We are really seeing into the fiery furnace, finally, after all these years. We have gotten the door open."

Yeltsin Seeks Better Economic, Security Ties With S. Korea

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

With an apology for the past and promises for disarmament and business opportunities for the future, Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin Thursday told South Koreans that Russia wanted to become an active player in both the economies and security of Asian-Pacific nations.

His apology was offered for the downing of a Korean Air Lines jet with 269 people, including 63 Americans, aboard a New York-to-Seoul flight in September 1983. He also handed over to President Roh Tae Woo the flight data and voice recorders from the airliner, shot down by a Soviet fighter's missile southwest of Sakhalin Island.

His disarmament promises included a statement that Russia in a few years might halve, then halt its production of military submarines. That statement, which came as a surprise to many officials in Moscow, was reported in Russia in a single sentence by the Itar-Tass news agency. It mirrored Russia's mounting economic troubles, its vastly changed military and security needs and disenchantment with the submarine as a cost-effective weapon.

On economic issues, Yeltsin said that Russia wanted to develop a "cooperative partnership" with the United States in Asia. Moscow wants to participate in the 12-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation organization.

OPINION

It's Time to Get Serious About Safety

This semester's tragic incidents of crime have highlighted a continually worsening problem for the Institute: MIT remains unprepared to deal with the consequences of its location near a

Editorial

relatively dangerous area of Cambridge. The time has come for Institute officials to take decisive action to increase the safety of the community, particularly students.

We urge MIT to install automatic locking devices with card readers programmed to read MIT identification cards on every main entry door on campus. These card readers should be active from 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. every day. Secondary entrances should be completely locked by the Campus Police during these hours. The reasons are simple, and the potential benefits far outweigh the costs.

Card-reading locks will first and foremost make the corridors of MIT safer. Despite the efforts of the Campus Police, suspicious people continue to roam MIT's halls and courtyards, loitering and sleeping in unlocked rooms. With card readers, these people will find entering the Institute more difficult.

But perhaps a more important effect is the increased security awareness these new locks will create. One of the drawbacks of MIT's open campus is the false sense of security it instills in students, an attitude that prevails even a few short weeks after the murder of a student. Locked doors and card readers will remind every member of the MIT community to about the importance of security each time they enter or leave a campus building at night, immensely increasing awareness.

One drawback to this plan is the cost of such a system. Each lock would cost around \$3,000; student and staff ID cards would have to be encoded. Essential entrances such as the ends of the Infinite Corridor, the point of Building 66, and the main Killian Court entrances should be equipped with card readers. A few other doors might also be included, bringing the possible cost close to \$50,000. This is a pittance, however, compared to the potential savings in human misfortune.

Admittedly, this plan is not a complete solution to the campus crime problem. But it will add a practical dimension to MIT's handling of the problem that many other inner-city college campuses have already embraced.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Harassment Protests Improper

Professor of Management Gabriel R. Bitran has been through enough torture already. It is disgusting that after enduring a lawsuit and having his reputation challenged he should be confronted by protesters in his own class ["Students Protest Outcome of Sexual Harassment Trial," Nov. 17].

Bitran was found not guilty in a court of law. Despite this fact, Kyra Raphaelidis '94, one of the protesters, still insists that he needs to be "punished."

Disrupting the classes of fellow schoolmates because of this view is inexcusable, and it is truly amazing that the culprits involved in the disturbance were not arrested.

David Sukoff '95

the real exam, they will be helpful. I do not see anything wrong with knowing what to expect come test-time.

I think most people will agree that practice exams are a good idea. It's time we see them in all classes.

Jimmy M. D. Hsu '95

Computer Pornography Offensive

You recently published a complaint regarding the inappropriate homosexual activities in the public bathrooms at MIT ["Sexual

Activity in Public Bathroom Disturbing," Nov. 3, 1992]. I would like to register my complaint against similar activities in the public computer terminals.

I don't understand why certain guys don't enjoy pornography in the privacy of their own homes instead of having to subject the rest of us to their VDT turn-ons. I'm not even specifically referring to the nude women so many use as a background at their terminals, but to the displays of oral copulation that I observed on a computer screen this morning in the Athena cluster in E51. Please guys, how about a little common courtesy?

Judy Harper G



Restore the Health Resource Center

We are writing to express our extreme displeasure with the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs for taking the Student Health Resource Center on the fifth floor of the Student Center away from the students of MIT.

The Student Health Resource Center provided a crucial service to students. It was a place where students could pick up information about health issues such as sexually transmitted diseases, diabetes, and nutrition or speak to the Health Educator on campus. Instead of providing these valuable health services to students, the Resource Center is now being converted to an assistant dean's office and a conference room for deans.

It has been suggested that the Registrar's Satellite Office in the Infinite Corridor be shared with the Student Health Resource Center or that the reading room on the fifth floor house the health pamphlets. Neither of these locations would be appropriate, because they are too public and may deter students from picking up information.

It is crucial that the Student Health Resource Center have its room back.

Melanie Babb
for the Women's Health Network

Professors Should Provide Practice Tests

Lately, many professors have been giving out practice exams. Some are sets of exam-type problems, and others are just photocopies of previous exams. Releasing these sample problems is a good practice, and should be made mandatory in all classes.

For people without bibles, publicly available practice exams make classes fair, and allow all students to study more efficiently. Providing such resources creates little burden for professors, since photocopying old exams requires very little time, and making extra problems is not exactly time-consuming.

Some will argue that practice exams cause students to study only for the test and therefore not learn the material as well. Well-written questions can easily avoid this situation. Some will argue that practice tests might not improve performance in the class. I think that if the questions are anything like the ones on



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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 letters@the-tech.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.

It's That Time of the Term: Get Your Caffeine and Run

Column by Bill Jackson
OPINION EDITOR

We're at that point in the term where nobody has the time to slap themselves out of their brain-fuzzed stupor and think for a minute. We've all got that *Night of the Living Dead* attitude, moving in straight lines from point to point on campus without thinking, just constantly moving onto the next class, the next test, the next problem set, with our eyes slightly dazed, occasionally stopping to eat the brains of passersby — whoops, sorry, analogy got out of control there.

Time takes on an ultimate importance all of a sudden. I find myself annoyed with anyone who wants to walk down the Infinite Corridor at any speed less than that of a sprinting Jackie-Joyner Kersee. Unfortunately, not everyone wants to move this quickly, and I inevitably have to make the universal sound for "let me by, you idiot" (it sounds like an exasperated sigh) or simply shift into the passing lane, risk the oncoming traffic, and make the daring move in high gear.

Of course, this is exactly the type of

behavior that I would laugh at in *others* about any other time of the year. But dammit, now I'm busy, and the 8.7 seconds I save each time I walk through the Infinite Corridor add up. There's more to it than that, though. Has anyone else noticed that there is some kind of proportional relationship between the slow pace of any group of people and their sheer *wideness*? You never get a group of skinny people walking really slow in single file; nope, it's always a group of wide human beings walking, minimum, three abreast, leaving you to pull an Indiana Jones squeeze along the side or suffer along behind them.

A similar trick which saves myself and others hundreds of milliseconds each day is the half-step onto Mass. Ave. when waiting for the light to change. By waiting on the edge of the street rather than up on the curb, you can get the big headstart and inevitably win the race across the street to be the first one accosted by the Krishnas or the overly friendly guys with the three-ring binders.

We're willing to do almost anything for a few extra conscious hours per day, including substance abuse. Caffeine is the drug of

choice to achieve this end. I used to wince a little when calling caffeine a "drug," because although it is technically correct it has all sorts of nasty connotations. I don't have these hesitations anymore. You see, I recently had two tests on the same day. Familiar scene to all of you, I'm sure: It's 2:30 a.m., and I'm making myself more coffee. Well, I look down at my hand and it's *shaking*.

I mean, it's the middle of the night and I'm seeing myself with Frank Sinatra in a movie remake called *The Man With The Golden Mug*. Half of me wants to spoon the stuff right into the Mr. Coffee and the other half of me is thinking "Get out the tea, we'll freebase!" I'm now a strong advocate of legalizing drugs because I've realized that, if the government made coffee illegal tomorrow, I'd gladly sell my sister to the Kurdish military for a kilo of Maxwell House.

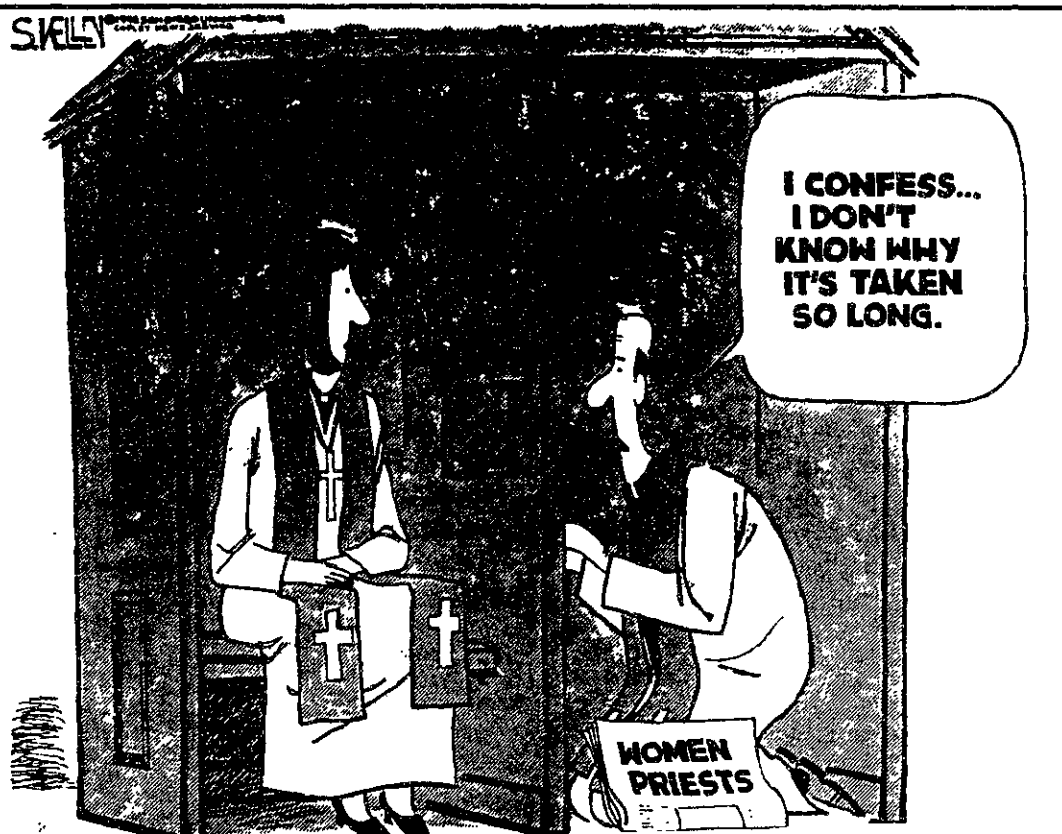
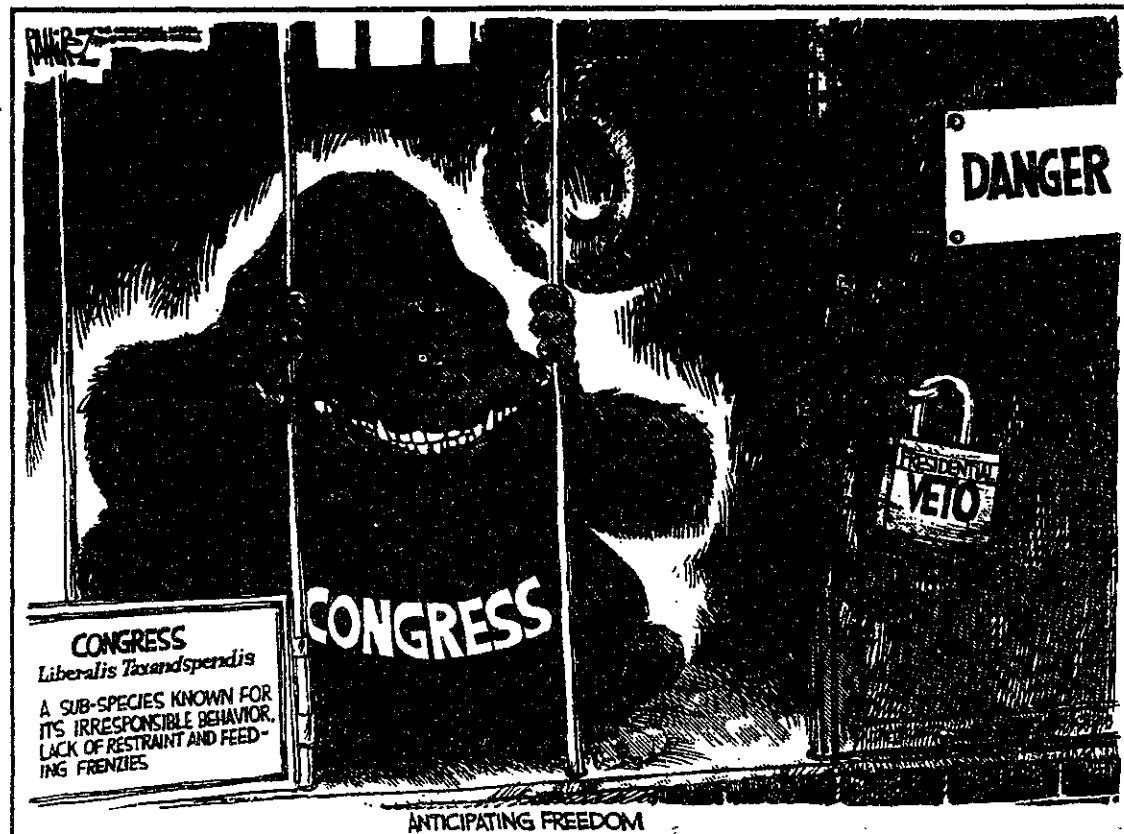
By 4 a.m. I'm down to the bottom of the canister, licking up the remaining grounds, pouring scalding hot water into my mouth, swishing it around, and swallowing hard. At 5 a.m. I'm in the Student Center, struggling to keep a straight face as I request the 24-Hour

Coffeehouse's "gourmet" coffee, which is kind of like ordering a "chef's salad" at McDonalds. I gulp it down quickly and I can make it to my breakfast coffee fix.

As it is, my coffee purchases this term alone have put two of Juan Valdez's grandchildren through college. I am, however, proud to now call myself a survivor. I've enrolled in the Mrs. Folgers Clinic for Chemical Dependency and I'm on herbal tea and doing fine.

There's yet better proof that people will do anything for a caffeine hit. Caffeinated sodas are a favorite. Jolt seems to do it for a lot of people, but I suspect Jolt is just for show, and it's not a soda you'd commonly find in a store. Besides, Jolt just has an ordinary cola flavor; more impressive to me is Mountain Dew. It kills me that we'll drink carbonated urine if a company cans it and adds caffeine.

Caffeine and the above time-saving techniques have bought me enough time to write this very column. Now you've wasted time reading it. Don't you have a test you should be studying for?



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Simple Men is proof of incompetence in filmmaking

SIMPLE MEN

Written and directed
by Hal Hartley.
Starring Robert Burke,
William Sage, Karen Sillas,
and Elina Löwensohn.
Coolidge Corner Theatre.

By John Jacobs

The movie *Simple Men* opened at the Coolidge Corner Theater last Friday, but that's hardly important. Even a bored person could think of, offhand, hundreds of better ways to spend his or her time than to sit through this film.

In the opening scene, two men and a woman rob a computer warehouse. One of the men gets double-crossed by his partner and his girlfriend, who abscond with the money and goods. Now a depressed unemployed criminal and a fugitive, he and his brother (Bill and Dennis, played by Robert Burke and William Sage) decide to search for their father.

Their father is a former pro shortstop. On the side, he dabbles in radicalism, a bad habit he picked up in, of course, 1968. Also in that year, he was convicted for planting a bomb in the Pentagon, a bomb which killed seven people. For the sake of the plot, he escapes from prison by faking a stroke, allowing him to be transferred to a low-security hospital. Dennis (the younger brother) hears of the prison break and discovers in himself a strong desire to know if his father is really a terrorist/murderer. According to director Hal Hartley, "He feels he will lack an identity until he confronts the truth about his father's life." Thanks for sharing that, Hal, really. None of this identity crisis is conveyed through Sage's third-rate acting.

The brothers' search takes them to a small town, where Bill, even though he is in his post-relationship woman-hating phase, falls in

love with Kate (Karen Sillas). With all the believability of a movie character, Kate supports herself by working at a diner that no one eats at. Her only apparent hobby is planting trees to save the environment. Bill, fearing the risk involved in love, consults a bottle of alcohol and little brother (both of whom know less than he does) about his troubles. The two brothers have a mildly interesting conversation about love and they wonder what women really want from them. No one really knows, though, so how should they? They come up

empty-handed, but not before Bill unconvincingly commits himself to womanizing. He tries to make Kate fall in love with him in order to use her for sex and then dump her. But Kate's not that stupid and Bill can't keep up his mysterious-and-experienced-yet-modest facade. He proposes to her, saying (oh, so romantically) that he would "plant an entire orchard for her."

Meanwhile, Dennis falls in love with a Bulgarian girl (Elina Löwensohn) whom he discovers is his father's girlfriend (even

though she is at least 50 years younger), following his anarchist teachings like a cult member. She is waiting for the father to come back for her. In time, he does, and Dennis confronts him. He finds out that his father is innocent. But wait! His father also says that even if he knew who did it, he wouldn't snitch. Of course, this doesn't make the son any happier about his dad's innocence. The son leaves and his murderer-accomplice old dad escapes to Europe in a boat that really wouldn't make it from Boston to Cape Cod. It is a movie, after all.

Throughout the movie, the actors step out of character to offer social statements on behalf of the director. The director justifiably lacks faith in his ability to convey his message any other way. The best actor in the film is Damian Young, who plays the sheriff. Not coincidentally, the sheriff's character happens to be the most consistent and convincing medium for social commentary. "Why do women exist?" he asks, staring off into space and smoking his cigarette. "We hurl ourselves into the cauldron of passion, the bottomless pit of desire," he says. However, the director, apparently finding no reason to start making the film interesting, didn't give him more than a total of five minutes screen time.

I guess the director also recognizes talent where there isn't any.

The movie is replete with bad acting (or no acting). The plot isn't interesting and the "musician" who does the soundtrack needs a few more years of practice before he will be qualified even to do beer commercials. I highly recommend this movie to anyone who isn't aware that there are third rate artists in America, damn it. And something should be done about it.

This is your self-sacrificing public movie critic saying, "Stick a fork in me: I'm done."



Bill McCabe (Robert Burke) kisses his double-crossing girlfriend, Vera (Mary McKenzie) in front of a security guard (Richard Reyes) in *Simple Men*, written and directed by Hal Hartley.



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THE ARTS

Visually impressive *Dracula* lacks coherent plot

BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA

Directed by Francis Ford Coppola.

Screenplay by James V. Hart.

Starring Gary Oldman, Winona Ryder, Anthony Hopkins, and Keanu Reeves. Loews Cheri.

By Chris Roberge
ARTS EDITOR

The biggest shock in *Bram Stoker's Dracula* isn't a clever plot twist or a jarringly horrific scene, it's that director Francis Ford Coppola has crafted such an unusual and unconventional film.

Coppola has been fairly frank in stating that his primary goal with *Dracula* is to gross enough money to finance *The Cure*, a movie about AIDS which he obviously feels to be far more important. But rather than make a "safe" film, merely illustrating Bram Stoker's novel and allowing the inherent drama and terror in that story to work for guaranteed effects, he uses a frenetic pace and ubiquitous visual tricks in a style that is closer to that of MTV and the work of *Batman* director Tim Burton than it is to gothic horror. This turns out to be *Dracula's* curse as well as its blessing. The movie's appearance dominates its plot and characters so much that most of the film is simply an attractive muddled mess. But the effects, sets, and costumes are so vivid and excessive that *Dracula* manages to be engrossing even as it frustrates with a lack of coherence and sense.

Bram Stoker's Dracula begins with a prologue describing the exploits of Prince Vlad The Impaler, a 15th-century Romanian king whom Stoker based his lead character upon. Vlad/Dracula (Gary Oldman) leaves his wife, Elisabeta (Winona Ryder), to fight in the name of the Christian church against Turkish infidels invading Europe. On a darkened battle-

field under a crimson sky, a silhouetted Dracula is seen piercing the bodies of his foes with a spear before swinging their bodies wildly in the air in a wonderfully realized scene. Angered by the success of the warrior, the Turks shoot into his castle an arrow bearing a note falsely proclaiming the king's death. Elisabeta reads the letter, is overtaken with grief, and throws herself out the



Mina (Winona Ryder) is seduced by Dracula's (Gary Oldman) eternal charms in *Bram Stoker's Dracula*.

window to the moat far below.

When Dracula returns home to discover that his wife is dead and, according to the clergy, denied divine salvation because of her suicidal sin, he swears that he will live an eternal life of vengeance on the God and society who

have betrayed his loyalty.

Centuries later, the ambitious young Jonathan Harker (Keanu Reeves) is sent to the Transylvanian castle of Count Dracula by his London-based company. After arriving at the home of Dracula, now a weak and decaying man with two large mounds of white hair growing above his fleshy face, Harker begins to realize that Dracula is not a typical client. Soon, the old man catches sight of a photo-

graph of Harker's fiancée, Mina Murray (Ryder). Believing Mina to be a reincarnation of his Elisabeta, Dracula traps Harker in his castle and begins to plan a journey to London to reclaim his long-lost love.

The plot of *Bram Stoker's Dracula* is clearly of minor importance, however, to the makers of this film. The true emphasis lies on the unending onslaught of imaginative and over-the-top visuals that are truly unlike anything seen in any other recent movie. In mak-

ing *Dracula*, Coppola made a decision to rely on naive and primitive effects in an attempt to create a mythical and magical tone. Forced perspective miniatures, double exposures, mirrors, and low-quality filmare used to produce results that seem "new" to an audience that has grown accustomed to the more realistic effects of computer generated work seen in films such as *Terminator 2*. Some of these stylish shots, particularly those that pile layers of images upon one another in rapid succession, have a magnificent effect. Others, such as those of Dracula and Mina dancing among a myriad of candles, seem recycled out of old music videos.

A bit of the film's visual excellence is used to suggest certain themes. In one scene in which Dracula is beginning to seduce Mina, who finds herself drawn to the Count in unexpected ways, an image of champagne bubbles is graphically matched to one of red blood corpuscles. In another, a wolf-like form of Dracula begins breathing heavily upon seeing the target of his obsession, his fluorescent vascular system becoming more and more visible with every inhalation. Scenes like this push reference to the links between romance, sex, and death well over the top, but this type of excess is the one truly enjoyable element of *Dracula*.

Amazingly, Coppola has said that he intended the look of his movie to be small and unobtrusive compared to the attention commanded by his cast. It may be a fortunate thing that he never followed through on this desire, because the acting in this picture deserves very little attention of its own. Oldman and Ryder give the only two truly good performances in the film — the scenes in which only they appear come closest to being more serious than silly. Anthony Hopkins, as the metaphysical doctor Abraham Van Helsing, provides an amiable and ridiculous character who is intended for comic relief more than anything else. And Keanu Reeves, who apparently as an actor can not advance beyond Bill and Ted, remains so wooden throughout the entire picture that his total lack of skill manages to provide a few laughs as well.

Along with the performances, the general structure and narrative pull of the film are also quite unremarkable. After a genuinely compelling first third, the film begins to drag a bit, and the logic of the story becomes

somewhat cloudy. I realize that we are supposed to see Dracula both as a cruel and vicious killer and as a thwarted romantic, but despite the sizable talents of Oldman, the character usually appears as either one or the other, and rarely as a complex combination of the conflicting two.

Despite all of these flaws, it can not be denied that *Bram Stoker's Dracula* is an amazing film to look at. It may not be a very good movie, but it certainly is a very interesting one.

THE TECH PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

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MIT price: \$7

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Do you like to see films, plays, musicals, operas, concerts, or other arts events?

Review these events for *The Tech*. Call Chris Roberge at 253-1541, or stop by for pizza any Sunday at 6 p.m. at Room 483 in the Student Center.

Faculty Discuss MEng Degree, Institute Calendar

Faculty, from Page 1

Dean of the School of Engineering Joel Moses PhD '67 formally presented the faculty with a motion to create a five-year Master of Engineering degree in EECS. The new degree would become the primary degree for students wishing to become practicing engineers, according to Paul L. Penfield Jr. ScD '60, head of the

EECS department.

The proposal also includes a provision directing that the MEng program will be reviewed in 1998 by the Committee on the Undergraduate Program, the Committee on the Graduate School Program, and the School of Engineering.

This provision was included as part of a compromise by the proposal's authors to address the concerns of many faculty members about the

program's content. Of particular concern is the inclusion of courses dealing with issues related to the practice of engineering, including the effects of technology on society and ethics in the workplace.

Several faculty questioned this aspect of the program during discussion of the proposal. Penfield responded by saying the department has "not reached a definite conclusion on where to insert the profes-

sional material, but we are looking at several options."

If the new degree is approved when the faculty vote on it at their December meeting, approximately 60 seniors will enter the program as graduate students next fall.

Requirements for the MEng degree would include the General Institute Requirements, making the degree available only to MIT undergraduates.

Penfield focused on three reasons why the EECS department feels the MEng degree is necessary. The first was that "the masters level of education is needed for the practice of engineering."

He also cited the increasing complexity of the fields of electrical engineering and computer science. "We've tried to fit more and more material into four years, but it's not enough time," he said.

Third, Penfield emphasized the lack of space for professional material in the current program.

Calendar proposal presented

Robert J. Silbey, chair of the Committee on the Institute Calendar and head of the chemistry department, presented the committee's preliminary recommendations for a new academic calendar. Silbey said the recommendations would be

finalized within a few weeks.

Silbey said the committee surveyed a variety of faculty to explore the weaknesses in the current calendar. He said most faculty cited variations in the length of the terms, both between the fall and spring terms and between succeeding years, as a fault. Almost everyone who spoke to the committee expressed a desire for more class days, he added.

In response to these concerns, Silbey said the committee designed a calendar very similar to the one currently in place, but beginning one week earlier in the fall. Though this has the disadvantage of beginning the semester before Labor Day, "extra days have to come from somewhere," he said.

The proposal would retain IAP in its current form, but the committee recommended that the "academic experience of IAP be broadened," particularly to include the offering of required courses, Silbey said. He emphasized that the committee did not endorse offering required classes only during IAP, however.

Travis R. Merritt, associate dean for undergraduate academic affairs, objected, saying it would create "difficulty in getting freshmen and faculty involved in Residence/Orientation Week to participate."

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NYU SUMMER

Bomb Threat Interrupts Tests

Threat, from Page 1

ply pulled the alarm.

Threat interrupted tests

Several tests were interrupted by the bomb threat. Jac H. Roh '93 was taking an Electromagnetism II (8.07) exam in 3-370 at the time. "I thought that [the fire alarm] was really surprising," he said. Because of the evacuation, the class was given 40 minutes to finish the test elsewhere. Students were then expected to turn the tests in to the Undergraduate Physics Office in Building 4.

Sera B. Markoff '93 was also taking the 8.07 exam. "It was just

not a good scene," she said, referring to the fact that the exam had to be completed outside. "But there really wasn't anything else that they could have done," she added.

The Advanced System Dynamics and Control (2.151) exam was also interrupted by the evacuation, according to Neal A. Mitra '93. Many students taking the test complained about others working, studying, and talking about the test during the evacuation, he said. Under the circumstances, all they could do was postpone the exam until next week, he said.

Brian Rosenberg '93 contributed to the reporting of this story.

Robert O. Preusser, 73, Dies

Preusser, from Page 1

camouflage technician.

A retrospective of Preusser's work was showcased in the MIT Museum last year, and his work hangs in the Archives of American Art at the Smithsonian Institution.

Preusser will be buried in Mount

Auburn Cemetery following a private graveside service. A memorial service will be held in February.

Preusser is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen, a son, Eric O. Preusser of Boston, a daughter, Alison G. Perroni of Billerica, and a granddaughter.

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8.01 Students Compete in 'Shoot the Hoop Contest'

By Michael A. Saginaw
STAFF REPORTER

Around 300 Physics I (8.01) students converged on Twenty Chimneys in the Student Center yesterday afternoon to face the challenge of "The Great 8.01 Shoot the Hoop Contest." Each had built a machine that tried to launch a ball from a table through a hoop and into a trash can.

Professors Walter H. G. Lewin and Michael S. Feld, who teach 8.01, announced the extra credit contest about two weeks ago. Students interested in participating were given a kit containing rubber bands, dowel rods, two blocks of wood, and other simple items with which to make their devices.

The contest rules required that the machine sit on a table 21/2 feet above the ground. The machine had to launch a small, hard ball into the air. The ball had to pass through a circular hoop 6 inches in diameter placed 2 feet above the surface of the table. Then, the ball had to land in a trash can which sat on the floor 5 feet beyond the table. The trash can was 14 inches in diameter.

Most students enjoyed the challenge. "I never had the opportunity before for my ideas to come to physical form," said Anthony D. Stewart '96, whose machine was successful. He added that he liked seeing engineering in action.

The three most common designs were a catapult, a device similar to

the handle of a pinball machine, and a slingshot. These machines shot the ball up and at an angle. Lewin made computer graphs which showed that the initial velocity of the ball was far more critical than its initial angle of elevation. For example, people typically placed their machines 5 feet in front of the hoop. At this distance, the initial velocity of the ball had to be 480 centimeters per second, with an allowable error of 4 percent. But the launch angle could be 37 degrees, plus or minus 11 percent, according to Lewin's graphs.

Four judges walked around the room during the contest, looking for designs that were original, unusual, and well-crafted. These special machines and their creators were videotaped. After the contest was over, the judges decided on awards for some of the machines.

Students win special awards

Hsienchang Chiu '96 launched his ball 37 feet, making him the clear winner in the distance category. Second place went to Fonjui Tsai '96, who launched the ball 28 feet and 2 inches. Nate Jackson '96 took third place with a distance of 24 feet and 9 inches.

Gary M. Rubman '96 won the first place award for originality for his apparatus, which made the ball drop down a long tube and bounce against a tightly stretched balloon. The ball bounced off this trampoline and flew through the hoop into the

trash can. Bobby A. Apodaca '96 was the runner-up for originality.

The judges awarded Kley L. Achterhof '96 the prize for best craftsmanship. "It's like a machine made by Leonardo Da Vinci!" Lewin exclaimed when he saw Achterhof's device, which was a pinball-type machine with knobs that could adjust the angle of launch and the initial velocity of the ball. The runner-up for craftsmanship

was Keith G. Fife '96.

In the category of mechanical design, Ryan J. Bryla '96 won first place. He calls his device a "pitching machine," because it has two wheels which spin in opposite directions. The ball is placed between the wheels in contact with both. Friction between the wheels and the ball propels the ball forward. Sissela S. Park '96 was the runner-up in this category.

Finally, the judges gave Marc J. Carlin '96 the award for best overall machine. Carlin made his device in the MIT Hobby Shop.

In addition to these awards, any student with a functional device earned extra credit points in 8.01. For some, this was a true blessing. "This is a comeback story! I was over the edge; I was failing physics," said Ellen Lee '96, whose machine worked successfully.

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Students Flood Reading Room

Room, from Page 1

close proximity of the SCC 24-Hour Coffeehouse, Lobdell, LaVerde's, and the video games. "It is safe, and we don't have to bundle up to get food or take a walk," said one Tufts Medical student.

"I come here because the coffee shop is open 24 hours. It's seriously key. There are other places that are open past midnight, but then around 2 a.m., you have to move," Khasgivala said.

MIT students don't seem to mind the invasion. Terrence L. Evans '95 didn't even know that some students in the reading room were not from MIT. He uses the Reading Room about three times a month for typical reasons. "I guess I come here because it's convenient. You have Athena here, you have the

eating places," Evans said.

"I really have no problem with [non-MIT students] being here as long as they keep quiet," said Kevin T. Hwang '93, who uses the reading room two or three times a week.

"Rarely has the room been totally full, but it's been crowded enough so that it was loud," said Pierre E. Jalkh G. He uses the reading room four to five times a week and always on weekends.

The Tufts Medical students say that it's not normally loud in the reading room, but even when it is loud, the MIT students are the ones talking. "It's not that bad. If it were, we would go someplace else," said one student.

Seung said, "Especially at two in the morning on Friday night, there are more Tufts people here than MIT people. It's our second home."

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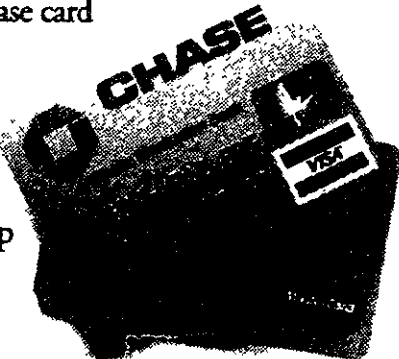
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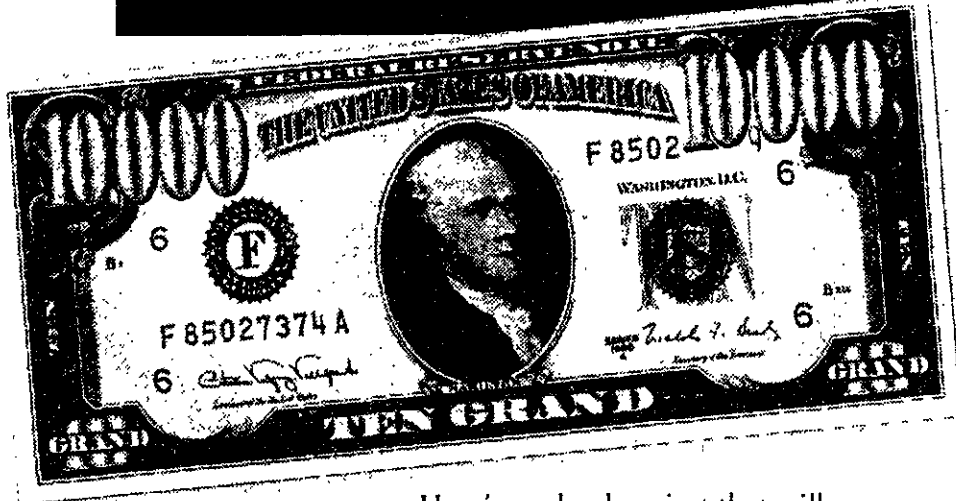
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A GREAT FIND SINCE 1919.



MIT Hosts First U.S. UNIHOC Tournament

UNIHOC, from Page 12

East Campus 7-1, and Nu Delta defeated Senior House 4-2.

In the final match, Nu Delta started out strong with two quick goals by Levente Egry '95. A beautiful save by Darryl Hemingway '94 kept Heineken 'R Us from scoring until well into the first period. Christine Brastad started the ball rolling for Heineken 'R Us with a wicked wrist shot from half court to score their first goal. Excellent play by John Sieh '92 and Martin brought HRU ahead 4-2. At the end of the two 10-minute periods, the game was tied at 4 all taking the teams into an intense sudden death overtime. Sieh, eager to get on with the post-game festivities, quickly scored off a pass from Martin to

pronounce Heineken 'R Us the first ever UNIHOC Champions in American history.

UNIHOC is a sport for everyone. Jennifer Majernik '96 and Martin officially started the first North American UNIHOC club at MIT on November 16, 1992. The club has already attracted over 30 people, a number which is expected to increase over the coming months. The club's goals are simply to have fun, to create an atmosphere of friendly competition, to provide good exercise, and to spread the sport to other campuses, according to Martin. The club also has a standing invitation to a number of UNIHOC tournaments all over Europe, he added.

The club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

and on Sundays from 4 p.m.-6 p.m. in Dupont on Court 2. Martin emphasized that everyone in the

community is encouraged to try out this new sport, and that all equipment is provided.

Men's Hockey Starts Season With 3 Wins

Hockey, from Page 12

Erik Norton '93 as an excellent back-up.

High morale and strong leadership from the tri-captains has kept the team together during all the position changes. Coach Quinn was especially pleased with the way the team pulled together in the WPI game, where MIT had only two defensemen. Souza and Pearce were the only defense who could make the game and ended up playing for over 50 minutes with a little relief from Mini, who had never played defense before. Successes like this prove that the team is determined and wants to win.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, November 21

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Wheaton College, 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 22

Women's Ice Hockey vs. Yale University, 3 p.m.

Monday, November 23

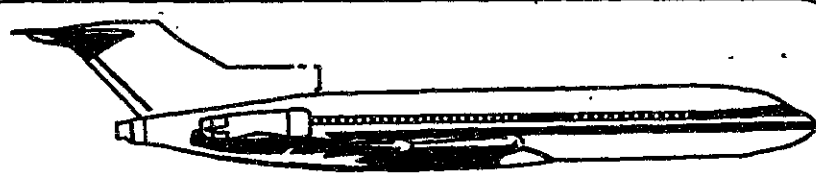
Squash vs. Trinity College, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, November 24

Women's Basketball vs. Gordon College, 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Babson College, 8 p.m.

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The purpose of education is to develop basic thinking skills and to obtain a basis of knowledge in our chosen field. This provides the foundation for problem solving abilities across a range of disciplines.

However, development of better solutions to challenging problems requires dimensions beyond basic thinking skills and knowledge of the field; it requires creativity in conception and in approach.

The ability to be 'creative' is often regarded with a sense of mystery and apprehension. Sometimes it is considered the exclusive purview of artists or others with the 'right' aptitudes.

Of the many studies of creativity there is one common conclusion: If we give creativity enough attention, we get better at it. This suggests that creativity is a challenge like any other, a 'problem' to be solved. It also suggests that, as with any other challenge, our attitude towards it, our desire for a solution, and our belief in the intrinsic worth of the task are the most important ingredients for success.

The principle obstacle to achieving creative breakthroughs is a premature conclusion that a better solution is not possible. For a 'creative' solution is by definition one that is different from those that have preceded it and one that often runs counter to accepted knowledge.

To overcome this obstacle we need to add to our basic thinking skills and technical foundation the following elements of attitude:

1. A strong desire for a creative breakthrough.
2. Confidence in our ability.
3. An expectation that many false starts may be necessary.
4. Sufficient immersion in the problem to engage all our faculties.
5. A willingness to pursue solutions until a breakthrough is achieved.
6. Analysis of each attempt to aid in the development of insight.

In these cases where a task appears to be routine, we may also need to intentionally 'spark' the creative process. We do this simply by asking how the task can be done better, for 'better' implies a different approach, which in turn requires creativity.

There are, of course, other considerations. Especially important are the environment within which we work and the caliber of our associates. As with every other part of the problem solving process, interaction with capable associates can be an important catalyst.

However, most important is the awareness that the foundations for creativity rest inward with our attitudes. This includes a recognition that superior creativity is something we must intensely desire and that success does not without effort and many false starts.

During our education, we usually are faced with solving problems that have two characteristics: 1) we know that a solution exists; 2) we know that the solutions can be obtained with the techniques under study. When we begin work, these conditions do not hold, and yet we face the challenge of finding solutions. If we are aware of the foundations of creativity during our education we can better prepare ourselves for this challenge.

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SPORTS

UNIHOC: Brought to You from Sweden



The first American UNIHOC Tournament took place in Dupont two weekends ago. Heineken 'R Us defeated Nu Delta, 5-4.

By Lynn Albers

ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Check this out! The newest addition to the MIT athletic department is called UNIHOC, and it's fun, fast, and just what you need to stay in shape.

UNIHOC originated in Sweden some 20 years ago. The Swedes wanted a relaxed indoor

alternative to hockey that was safe, gender neutral, and aerobically demanding. UNIHOC fulfilled all those requirements and grew quickly in popularity. It has now conquered 20 countries throughout the world. Now, UNIHOC has come to the United States, and MIT is its first landing ground.

Henrik Martin '93, who helped bring the sport to MIT, describes UNIHOC as having its roots in field hockey and ice hockey. The sport is played on a flat surface and the rules have been tailored to minimize the number of interruptions, thus creating a fast-paced and potentially exhausting game.

Two weekends ago, the first-ever American UNIHOC Invitational Tournament took place in our very own backyard on Courts 1 and 2 of Dupont Gymnasium. Eight MIT teams participated in very intense competition for the illustrious first prize and title of American UNIHOC Champions. Competition began at 11 a.m. and concluded with the final match at 1:30 p.m.

The eight teams were separated into two divisions, and play within each division took place in a round-robin fashion. The top two teams in each division then advanced to the semi-finals, where Heineken 'R Us defeated

UNIHOC, Page 11

Men's Hockey Starts Season Undefeated

By Lynn Albers

ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The men's hockey team has an objective this season — to defend last year's New England Collegiate Hockey Association championship title. So far they've done just that, starting the season with three strong wins over Keene State College (6-4), Worcester Polytechnic Institute (5-4), and Springfield College (12-5).

With the loss of last year's three starting defensemen, Mike Quinlan '92, Gene McKenna '92, and Noel Nistler G and no fresh or returning defensive players, Coach Joe Quinn has had to move players around like pieces in a chess game to complete the lines. So far he's been putting together winning combinations. He has also received tremendous leadership from tri-captains Mike Mini '93, Rob Silva '93, and Nick Pearce '94.

The first line of Mini, Silva and Jonathon Shingles '96 has proved a dominant force in all three games.

Mini and Silva have returned better than last year. Shingles is improving a great deal and has already scored two goals, both in the Springfield game. MIT has three new defensemen in Rob Souza '95, Steve Schleuter '96, and Nick Pearce '94, who played right wing last year. Souza and Pearce scored two goals and one goal, respectively, against WPI.

The second line of Dan Lee G, Lloyd Johnston G, and Jason Biedermann '95 has been working well as a unit. Johnston and Biedermann connected for two assists and two goals, respectively, in the Keene State game. Johnston also had two more assists in that game and two goals at WPI.

A third line has not been established, but four or five skaters play very well and are working hard for those positions. The team fields two strong goalies in John Simmons '95, who has started all three games, and

Hockey, Page 11

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