After Suicide, Many Search for Answers

By Katharyn Jeffreys
FEATURES EDITOR

Suicide, Page 16

New Dorm Construction Progresses Smoothly, Expected to Finish in Time

By Brian Loux

MIT's growth spurt to house a total of 1,100 undergraduate and graduate students in three new residence halls is so far running smoothly. Final approval for the Planning Board.

Construction, Page 17

High Salaries for Higher Education

A sampling of incomes from university administrators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Total Salary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harry Payne</td>
<td>Williams College</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Judith Rodin</td>
<td>University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>William Brody</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Richard Levin</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
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<td>George Rupp</td>
<td>Columbia University</td>
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<td>Allan Bufford</td>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Harold Shapiro</td>
<td>Princeton University</td>
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<td>Gerhard Casper</td>
<td>Stanford University</td>
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<td>Charles Vest</td>
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<td>David Baltimore</td>
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<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neil Rudenstine</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>$342,599</td>
</tr>
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SOURCE: THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Next House Will Face CLC Again

Second Appearance Will Focus on October Alcohol-Related Incident

By Jennifer Krishnan

Second Appearance Will Focus on October Alcohol-Related Incident

Page 18
By Greg Lawson

How well can we predict the weather? That is not such an easy question to answer. Personally, I am not that great at it, but the answer to the question does not really address individuals; rather it asks how well do the numerical models we run predict the weather. In practice humans provide a recount of some Florida ballots.

By Colum Lynch

Military Actions in West Bank

The selection of Immelt, 44, as the handpicked heir to one of the world's most successful corporations — Al Gore said on Monday night — a move that cost Gore as many as 200 votes.

By Robert Colby

November 28, 2000

U.N. Report Criticizes Israel's Military Actions in West Bank

In a tough-minded, worded report, the U.N.'s chief human rights official urged Monday to curb the military action against Palestinians and to accept international observers in the West Bank and Gaza.

...Bush said. "We will therefore prepare to use its superior force and strength, to prevent confrontation and to absolve the Palestinians of their responsibilities," said Robinson, the U.N.'s high commissioner on human rights, based in Jerusalem.

...Robinson, the U.N.'s high commissioner on human rights, based in Jerusalem, set off Palestinian street protests. A U.S.-sponsored fact-finding mission will soon travel to Israel to determine what sparked the violence and try to reduce tensions.

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Microsoft Asks Appeals Court To Dismiss Antitrust Lawsuit

By James V. Grimaldi

Arguing that the Microsoft antitrust trial had been “infected with error,” attorneys for the software giant Monday asked a federal appeals court to throw out the landmark case, including a judge’s order to break up the company for violating federal antitrust laws.

In its filing to U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, Microsoft denied that its Windows products amounted to a monopoly for personal-computer operating systems. The company said that the government had not proven its case that Microsoft had broken antitrust laws to protect and maintain that monopoly.

“Far from violating antitrust laws, Microsoft’s conduct was pro-competitive, producing enormous consumer benefits,” the Microsoft appeal said.

Microsoft attorneys also asked that if the appeals court does not reverse the judgment, as the company requests, that if any matter is sent back to district court that it be assigned to a judge other than U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson. After a 78-day trial, Jackson ruled this year that Microsoft partly in part to NetEscapes Communications’ creation of the Internet browser, had mounted an illegal campaign meant to protect its monopoly and attempted to monopolize the new market for Internet browsers. He ordered the company broken into two competing companies, one that makes Windows operating system software and another that makes software applications, such as Microsoft Office.

“Revealing a profound mis-
On Suicide Properly

I was quite disturbed by The Tech’s treat-
ment of the unfortunate suicide of Luc
dy D. Crespo Da Silva ‘00 [“Student Ends Life in
Jump from Dorm,” Nov. 21]. I am new to the
MIT community and have heard and read
about the many suicides that have been com-
mitted by MIT students. I am appalled by the
number of suicides, and I feel each should be
treated with a great level of respect and care. I
am saddened that this story was described in
an excessively brief article, put with equal
importance next to a photo of The Sorcerer
and adjoining a large article on students’ and
staff’s “Thanksgiving plans. I had never met
Da Silva, and would have liked to learn more
about her. Any student at MIT is unique and
deserves at least a full-page article devoted to
his or her life.

In addition, many related issues were omit-
ted from this article. More information should
have been included regarding warning signs
of suicide, not only specific to Da Silva’s case
(in the article, only one sentence addressed
this issue). Students describing how “friends expressed their surprise” at the event. It is important
to be able to detect and help potential suicide
victims by directing them to the appropriate
resources.

Another point of contention is the apparent
 treatment of suicides at MIT. The solution is
not to patronize students for not using coun-
selling services when they feel stressed. Seek-
ing counselling can be humbling and is a big
step for some students to take, and many feel
intimidated or embarrassed in getting help.
Although counselling is indeed important,
perhaps MIT should focus instead on why
suicide is such a pressing problem. Korea
would treat this issue with great impor-

Rebecca Reich G
Giving With Meaning

N ine Hints to Keep in Mind when Shopping for Presents

Veena Thomas

In recent years, society has deemed it successful to continue shopping off the holiday season the day after Thanksgiving. For those ambitious enough to battle a post-Thanksgiving hangover and another 6 a.m. early-bird shopping opportunities abound. Many major department stores are open 24-hours — "Up to 50 percent off" — for those bleary-eyed shoppers who want to get a head start on their holiday shopping. Why should you miss out on marvelous discounts? More than a month in advance of the holiday, carrying Whish Junior as he presents his list of his five "most-hate" toys of the season. Everyone knows by now that the real meaning of the season has been lost amongst the commercialism and heavy promotion during December. Gift shopping for friends, acquaintances, and enemies has become merely another chore and a hassle. Few people want to do it anymore. Short of starting an anti-gift-giving movement, there's some wiggle room. You can, however, rebel against the commercialism and attempt to put some meaning into the gift-giving gesture.

Not sure what to get your long-lost cousin twice removed? How about your ex-boyfriend’s roommate? Resist the urge to shop the day before Christmas — how will we ever survive.

Hint #1: Anyone, anyone. Anyone run over a new Razor Scooter has probably already heard to hate fads. From scottie/do and Poo-Who, to Beanie Babes and Tickle-Me Elmos, fads are a paren- der-shopping nightmare. It's the same story each holiday season. You can purchase a brand new product compel cranky mourners to wait in line at 4 a.m. for the latest shipment in order to please obsession and demand they make. He will, in turn, play with his new toy for approximately fifteen minutes before casting it aside and becoming enthralled with the cardboard box in which it was packaged. Save your self the trouble.

Hint #2: Can the wise one who reasons to buy a pet rock because you they won’t go too well with your other pets, but think it was the perfect gift. Do your part and make their shopping easier. I've already done so. Let them know that I've been listening.

Hint #3: The ideal gift connects the giver with the recipient in some way. This could be through shared attributes, popularity, a common interest, or an inside joke. Find something that represents the bond that you two share. If you're not quite sure what that bond is, buy something — anything — and enclose a card with a nicely written explanation of exactly how you chose the gift.

Hint #4: Avoid boring generic gifts. Get something that resonates with your recipient. Do you know someone who has been talking about doing a triathlon all year? Find a gift that would make their training easier. Do you know someone who is trying to lose weight? Find a gift that would help them stay on track. Be creative and think outside the box.

Hint #5: Avoid obvious. Does she like American football? Can she read a book in twenty minutes? Avoid generic gifts from people who may not know her as well as you do. Consider the recipient's interests and hobbies when choosing a gift.

Hint #6: Consider the recipient's age. Are they more into fashion or technology? Find something that is meaningful to them. Avoid giving them something that they already have.

Hint #7: Avoid giving the obvious. Does she like llamas or snakes? Check with her before buying her those latest hottest toys. As wonderful as she may be, if she's a huge fan, she probably already has it. If she doesn't want it, she'll only get upset with you for sending her copies of it from everyone else who thought it was the perfect gift. The bottom line? Before you make a purchase, make sure she has one fewer copy to return.

Hint #8: Don't get your dad ties or socks. Check with your dad before buying him those tacky Christmas ties. If this stage in his life, he probably has all the socks he could possibly wear. Take his present to all that he has done for you over the years. Shouldn't you get him something a bit more meaningful?

Hint #9: Resist the urge to get your brother whatever he would most likely buy himself. Plan that he can enjoy it until you return to school, at which point it's yours. He won't appreciate it. Try giving him something that's unique and same to your really cool gift next year.

Help others not as enlightened as you — make up a wish list of a few specific things they would really love to get. This will help them make their shopping easier. I've already started. See Hint #6.

Finding something that resonates with the bond that you two share is more important than any other aspect of the gift-giving process. It's not just about what you give, but how you give it. Do you want to be remembered as the person who made your recipient feel special, or do you want to be known as the person who gave the same gift as everyone else?

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This election fissio bears a striking resemblance to a fight between two immature children and should make us all ask ourselves a question: Do we really want either Gore or Bush in office?

Then there was a recount, and one candidate was the apparent winner. But the other was unhappy and so he started whining about los-
The Economy of Kindness

Economy is something that must be guarded against.

F orgetting people and places from home is understandable, but the loss of perspective, courtesy, and appreciation for generosity is something that must be guarded against.

We choose our courses, living conditions, and extracurriculars to suit our needs, and do the assignments and tasks as we wish. That's fine, as we should be able to direct our own lives. It's easy to forget, however, that our actions do affect others, and that we should be mindful of the consequences for others.

Students often share the belief that all people are free to do as they wish, as long as their actions don't harm others. Essentially, consider the courtesy, and the courtesy of going out of one's way to benefit others, aren't necessary. As a student's duty to clean up any mess we wantonly make, and refrain from cleaning up after them-selves. So spills are left uncleaned, litter is care-lessly strewn about, doors are left unopened for people with both hands full, and everyone passes by thinking, "Hey, it's not my problem."

Standing as a guest at a former teacher's house over Thanksgiving, I realized just how much courtesy is necessary, and how much it could be increased in college. When you're a guest, you not only clean up after yourself, but you must offer to help out. It's common courtesy to con-sider interests beyond immediate, personal interests. Heartfelt community service endev-ors are great, but we should also remember to show courtesy daily to roommates, dormmates, faculty and staff, and others in our lives.

The critical reader would comment that unlike guests, students have paid their own fare, and are recipients of no acts of generosi-ty or gifts that must be repaid through cour-tecy. I must admit, during my radical days of youth, I ventured such an argument in a high school column. As I reflect on the hospitality my former teacher showed me in having me over for the Thanksgiving weekend, and as I considered the compassion and generosity that my friends, family, and teachers showed me, I'm convinced that to believe oneself to be completely independent is inaccurate, and to strive to be so is needlessly anti-social.

Independence is good, but independently showing and returning kindness can only be a good idea. Isolationism works for neither coun-try or gifts that must be repaid through cour-tecy. I must admit, during my radical days of youth, I ventured such an argument in a high school column. As I reflect on the hospitality my former teacher showed me in having me over for the Thanksgiving weekend, and as I considered the compassion and generosity that my friends, family, and teachers showed me, I'm convinced that to believe oneself to be completely independent is inaccurate, and to strive to be so is needlessly anti-social.

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First of all, whose fault was it — honestly now — that Scott Krueger consumed some incredibly high amount of alcohol? Before submitting your final answer, bear in mind it was the decision of Krueger, and none other than Krueger, to physically ingest a substance...
Anything Is Possible

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Cleaning up that Dirty Water

Efforts Continue to Make the Charles River Swimmable by 2005

By Pey-Hua Hwang

Duck.

Being a freshman at MIT means trying out lots of things for the first time. For Jaryn S. Finch '04, crew seemed like the perfect way to start something new. Little did she know that the Charles River is not only good for rowing, but is also good for getting eye infections.

"I contracted a viral infection from that nasty river, which meant that I couldn't wear my contacts for approximately two and a half months. My eyes turned bright red, and I went to the doctors five times in the space of a week," Finch said. She said that participating in crew became difficult because of the blinding glare off the water. "I'll definitely be more careful in the future on that river," she continued.

Surprisingly, just this last April the Environmental Protection Agency upgraded its rating of the Charles River to a B. A B rating means that the water is clean enough for boating 90 percent of the time and meets swimming standards 65 percent of the time. Five years ago, the Charles River was failing with a D rating. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, it was only meeting bacteria boating standards 39 percent of the time and swimming standards 19 percent of the time.

Luckily for it, the Charles River had friends in high places, and the Clean Charles Coalition was put together to pull up its D grade in 1995 to an A in 2005. This organization consists of area colleges including MIT, corporations ranging from Polaroid to Stop and Shop, and Triunvirate Environmental Incorporated.

Denise Breault, one of the TEIs representative in the Coalition, said, "We work closely in conjunction with the EPA," and "went on frequent cleanups." Some of the things that have been found on these clean-ups include shopping carts, mattresses, hubcaps, and even whole cars. The Coalition is primarily focused on educating riverside industries about ways to reduce waste in stormwater.

MIT Environmental Officer and member of the Coalition Zhanna Davidovitz spoke about on how MIT wasn't afraid to get its hands dirty either. "There was a push before Earth Day last year to clean the banks of the Charles," she said.

The ten communities in the lower Charles also contributed greatly to the improvement of the water by evaluating their storm drains for illegal tie-ins from sewer pipes. Removing these connections reduced illicit discharges by one million gallons a day over a period of several years.

However, improvements aside, Bob Zimmerman, executive director of the Charles River Watershed Association, which is responsible for collecting water quality data, said that he still awaits the year when "pollution problems are history." Currently color coded flags are used at boat houses that he still awaits the year when "pollution problems are history." Currently color coded flags are used at boat houses that he still awaits the year when "pollution problems are history." Currently color coded flags are used at boat houses that he still awaits the year when "pollution problems are history.

This August a new type of barrier, called the Gunderboom, used for filtering suspended solids and bacteria, was instituted as a pilot program at Magazine Beach. Kristin Finn, the external relations coordinator for the CRWA, said that "unofficially the ‘Gunderboom’ did not perform as well as hoped." The EPA has not yet released official results of this pilot project.

The general opinion around the MIT campus about this issue is that the condition of the Charles has improved but that work still needs to be done. "I don't think that the water has been cleaned enough, and I definitely would not want to be swimming in it. However, I applaud the efforts of those who are cleaning it up," said Kimberly G. Chao '04.

The Charles River is not only good for rowing, but is also good for getting eye infections.
I

song included in the album uses the whole Pumpkins' music. The second version of the unusual, but welcomed approach to the piano melody, accompanying Corgan, is scratchy and somewhat shrill voice. The for the true power of this album. has encouraged an accurate and unfiltered rep electronic side of their late '90s releases. In many school Smashing Pumpkins to the more elect spectrum, from the hardcore approach of old albums. These captivating songs encompass songs, which have been redone from previous almost all new, with the exception of a few will be no CD pressing for this album. free through MP3 media. Consequently, there are breaking up at the end of the year. In a farewell release, as they have announced they Music

By Ryan Klimczak

Machina II: The Friends & Enemies of Modern Music

ALBUM REVIEW

The Smashing Pumpkins

Machina II: The Friends & Enemies of Modern Music

By Ryan Klimczak

T

he follow-up to their earlier release of Machina: The Machines of God comes the Smashing Pumpkins' final album Machina II: The Friends & Enemies of Modern Music, a blended mix of both hardcore thrash and smooth melody. It is also the band's farewell release, as they have announced they are breaking up at the end of the year. In a final "fuck you" to their exasperating record label, Virgin Records, the band hand-pressed and hand-numbered twenty-five copies of their album on vinyl to be bootlegged among fans with the intention to dispere it free through MP3 media. Consequently, there will be no CD pressing for this album.

The album consists of twenty-five songs, almost all new, with the exception of a few songs, which have been redone from previous albums. These captivating songs encompass the entire gamut of the Pumpkins' musical spectrum, from the hardcore approach of old school Smash Pumpkins to the more electronic side of their late '90s releases. In many ways, the side-stepped release of this album has encouraged an accurate and unfiltered rep-resentation of Corgan's work, which accounts for the true power of this album.

Songs such as the piano version of "If There is a God", feature some of the best vocals by Corgan, known for his usual scratchy and somewhat shrill voice. The piano melody, accompanying Corgan, is car- ried in the forefront of the song, which is an unusual, but welcomed approach to the Pumpkins' music. The second version of the song included in the album uses the whole band with a cryptic, eerie feel. An acoustic guitar plays forcefully in the background with loads of echo and reverbation, which lends a spooky but appealing effect. The album contains many other similarly smoothly flowing and softly vocalized songs such as "Go", "Real Love", "Slow Down", "Innossence", "Let Me Give the World to You", and "Home". "Real Love", "Home", and "Let Me Give the World to You" seem to be a continuation of the romantic rock feel of Machina I's "Stand By Your Love," with the same love-saturated lyrics and palpable affection. "Innossence" contains light and optimistic chords carried with the almost nimble and softly singing whispers of Billy Corgan. When accompanied with a light tambourine and occasional piano chords, the song gives rise to an almost tangible feeling of innocence. One of the only problems with the album

is the poor sound quality due to bad rips from people who lack the proper equipment to record the songs. This effect is most apparent in the song "White Spyder," which features a fast-moving bass rhythm throughout the track, which is consequently distorted. However, high quality recordings will soon be released — if they haven't been already — for straight download off the Internet. "Here's to the Atom Bomb" is a laid-back groove similar to "1979" and other songs from 1995's Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness. In this song, a simple rock drum coupled with a carefully hidden acoustic guitar accompaniments the voice of Billy Corgan as he murmurs his way down the lyrics. An alternate version of the version, and Machina II, is also available for Machina II and features a stripped-down mix with a similar melodic bar different lyrics. The song "Le Deus Machina" is the album's only wordless song, fea-turing an almost harpsichord-like feel with several repeating chords oscillating on the two-track. Songs such as "In My Body," "Lucky 13," "Saturnine," "Speed Kills But Beauty Lives," and "Glass" (alternate ver-sion) represent the album's more cerebral and electronic side, with voice-distorted lyr

ical brilliance music can- notic music. For more information about the album or to download songs, visit <http://www.spifc.org>.
Thanksgiving has passed quite peacefully. I had dinner at the family home of a friend whose parents do not eat meat (I am the only one in the family who is vegetarian) so a vegetarian Thanksgiving was a special treat.

Aside from the traditional rolls, mashed potatoes, salad, and cranberry sauce, we were served delicious sautéed green beans, soup, squash, and fruit salad. The "main dishes" served to replace the turkeys on the vegetarian plates were veggie burger patties and potato pancakes. Given my penchant for potatoes and the infrequency with which I encounter potato pancakes as an option, I chose that as my entrée. The pancake was complemented by the appliance-like consistency of the cranberry sauce.

In the long weekend we went out to dinner at Boston Beer Works, a far cry from the warm, quiet Thanksgiving dinner of a few nights before. The restaurant, located at 61 Brookline Ave., Boston, should perhaps pay much as attention to its menu as it does to its beers. My herbs, mushroom ravioli in wine sauce ($10) looked appealing on paper, but was less so on my plate. Aside from having a funny sauce, the pasta was unevenly cooked. The mushrooms, both sliced and mixed with the sauce and chopped in the ravioli filling, with the redeeming factor of the dish.

I also sampled the sweet potato french fries. This variation on the traditional fry is a personal favorite, and BWW's dish came highly recommended to me by friends. I was not disappointed by their fries, which were thicker and less greasy than those found at, say, Coutes. We were served with a raspberry vinaigrette, which was a surprisingly delightful companion to the salty and sweet fries. The fries were a lot thicker than an oyster can comprehend the thing than an oyster can comprehend the closure, and some of the dialogue tries too few threads are stretched too far to provide closure, and some of the dialogue tries too hard to be witty. Nonetheless, I urge you to read at least one book by Pratchett over winter break; you will not be disappointed by them. If you want a bad sausage, you won't get better than these."

Mr. Tulip: "It wasn’t that he had a drug habit. He was a bit of a hard man. He was a street where furtive people were selling Clang, Slip, Chop, Rhino, Skunk, Tripin, Floats, Honk, Double Honk, Gongers, and Slack. Mr. Tulip had an unequally way of finding the man who was retailing curry powder at what worked out as six hundred dollars a pound."

Pratchett is also fond of inserting Witticisms in his work, as a sort of ‘fast word’. Therefore, we get such gems as a description of society in terms of beer and glasses, a description of racism as it would be practiced in a multi-species society (where humans discriminate against dwarves, zombies, werewolves, golems, etc.) and a ragos-to-riches story involving naturally-produced phosphate. A talking dog calls itself ‘Deep Bone’ in homage to the X-files, and there are a number of references to horror movies.

Pratchett churns out wonderful books quite quickly (This is his second book published this year, the first was The Fifth Ele-

Emma Ormond points out with characteristic vigor that recent years have seen an increase in the number of vegetarians and vegans. She argues that this trend is partly due to environmental concerns, but also to a growing awareness of the health benefits of a plant-based diet.

Coffee Ice Cream Pie

26 chocolate sandwich cookies, finely crushed

Oreo (a good choice)

1/4 cup of margarine or butter

1 quart of cold coffee ice cream, softened

1 1/2 cups chocolate fudge sauce

Prepared whipped topping (Cool Whip is a suggestion)

In a small bowl, combine crushed cookies and melted margarine. Press onto bottom and side of 9 inch of pie plate. Spread ice cream into prepared crust. Top with fudge sauce. Freeze six hours or until firm. To serve, add topping to each slice.
the crass rat

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WIRELESS INTERNET MESSAGING, 2MB OF MEMORY, E-MAIL, MEMOPAD, DATEBOOK—wow! That's so professional! I didn't realize I had so many important things to schedule...

I DON'T REALLY, BUT THEY WOULDN'T LET ME INTO THE SLOAN SCHOOL WITHOUT ONE...

WELL IT LOOKS LIKE THE WEATHER IS FINALLY GETTING COLDER.

Y'KNOW, IF YOU WERE FROM NYC, YOU WOULD BE BETTER PREPARED.

AREN'T YOU SURE TO BE BACK?

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

ON, I'M PREPARED AT LAST.

END; BY DAVID

CHANNEL 5 ACTION NEWS

Hi, I'm Seymour Butler. In other news, a man was found dead at a T-subway station. The victim was found with severe burn marks. No cause of death has been determined. An investigation...

FLASHBACK

Hi, I'm David. In other news, the crass rat was caught on camera. He's being investigated for theft...

When another calls
Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page XX
Monday, November 28
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Word User Group. The MIT Microsoft User Group (WUG) was formed for people at MIT, from beginners to experts, who are using or interested in learning about Windows User Group software. free. Room: N42 Demo Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Agitate behind the Desk: Artists behind the Desk Concert: Bonnie Cochran, flute, French horn. Musical series featuring (both solo and group) vocalists, pianists, strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion etc. Ms. Cochran is a staff member in the Art Card Office. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Arts Behind the Desk.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Library Institute Lecture Series: Derivation and Revelation: the Legitimacy of Mathematical Models in Indian Cosmology. Dibner Institute Lunchtime Colloquium. free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Seminars on “things Italian”: Continuity and Change in Italian Politics. Sponsored by the MIT-Taly Program, this is our monthly lecture on “things Italian.” Professor Cotta, professor of Comparative Politics and Director of the Center for the Study of Politics at the University of Siena, Italy, and visiting scholar at the Harvard Center for European Studies has conducted extensive research on Italian politicians and politics. free. Room: Center for International Studies, E-38, 6th floor. Sponsor: MIT-Taly Program.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Seminars on “things Italian”: Continuity and Change in Italian Politics. Sponsored by the MIT-Taly Program, this is our monthly lecture on “things Italian.” free. Room: Center for International Studies, E-38, 6th floor. Sponsor: MIT-Taly Program.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Modern Optics and Spectroscopy: Ultraviole Quantum Control of Atomic and Molecular Systems. free. Room: Marlar Lounge 37-252. Sponsor: Research Lab of Electronics, Spectroscopy Laboratory. Rowland Institute for Science.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Transient Aeroacoustic and Heat Transfer Measurement of Shock Tunnel Driven flows. free. Room: 31.161. Sponsor: Department of Aeronautical Engineering.


1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Architecture Lecture Series. The Visiting Architects Ones to Watch lecture on “An Italian Day” will be given by Lucusts. Department of Architecture Lecture. free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Noon Chapel Concert. Per la notte di Natale.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - MIT Security Studies Program seminar series: Private Sector Perspectives on Future Threats. free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Security Studies Prog.


6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - The MIT Coop in Kendall Square at 2:30 p.m. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit, MIT Athletics.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - BUSA Interviewing Workshop. Come learn more about the interviews for graduate schools and medical schools. free. Room: 5.234. Sponsor: BUSA.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Men’s Ice Hockey vs. Bryant College.

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Knowledge of Central America is becoming well-known; documents outlining the U.S.-engineered overthrow of the Guatemalan government in 1954 (touching off a 36-year civil war) have recently come to light. This talk will discuss the kinds of opportunities that are available to both undergraduate and graduate students directly after graduation. free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Science and Engineering Business Club.

8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. -Exhumin the Truth: The Human Rights Information Act and U.S. Involvement in Central America. U.S. involvement with the dictatorial governments of Central America is becoming well-known; documents outlining the U.S. engineered overthrow of the Guatemalan government in 1954 (touching off a 36-year civil war) have recently come to light. This talk will discuss the kinds of opportunities that are available to both undergraduate and graduate students directly after graduation. free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Science and Engineering Business Club.

12:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Nutritious Lunch at the MIT Coop in Kendall Square at 2:30 p.m. Sponsor: spouses@partners@mit, MIT Libraries.

2:00 a.m. - 3:00 a.m. - Open Mic Night. Open Mic Night. bring your poetry, music or prose, or just come and be entertained! Signups start at 7:50pm. First come, first served! An accompanist and keyboardist will be available. free. Room: The Coffeeshouse, Third Floor Student Center. Sponsor: Pregnant Women Program.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - MIT Conference on Bioengineering & Health in the 21st Century. This conference will highlight current research at MIT in the Division of Bioengineering and Environmental Health that is tackling important challenges at the interface of engineering and biology with the goal of improving humanhealth in the 21st century. Presentations will cover Tissue Engineering, Protein Engineering, Drug Delivery, the Extracellular Matrix, Informatics in the Physical, Pharmacogenomics and Emerging Infectious Organisms. Sponsor: Room: MIT Student Center. Sponsor: Division of Bioengineering & Environmental Health, Office of Corporate Relations/ILP.

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - CLM Plastic Lunch Seminar Series: Regulations of Synchronous Transmission & Plasticity in Drosophila: Beyond the Neuromuscular junction. free. Room: E29-117. Sponsor: AID-Boston, Center for Learning and Memory.

12:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Noon Chapel Concert. Per la notte di Natale. 17th & 18th century noels and pastorales for the Christmas season, including music of Corelli, St. Luc, Delalande and others, performed by James Young & Eric Haas, recorders; Carol Lewis, viola da gamba; Chris Hennekens, archiche. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

12:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Retrieve Your MIT Email from AAR. If you’re away from MIT on vacation or travel, , or just leaving a laptop with someone, you’ll want to know your options for getting your email from afar. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.
Dealing with these private issues “can make their lives miserable and may lead to desperate behavior,” said Reich, who has been with MIT Mental Health Services for eleven years. “Suicide is a multi-determined event, and many things can happen to lead to it,” Reich said. He said that suicide often results from a combination of “an underlying vulnerability and a precipitating event.”

The scenarios can range from a strong underlying problem, which can make a small event seem traumatic, or a minor vulnerability which makes it difficult to handle a massive crisis. A break-up, for example, could be a significant event in someone’s life. “In one person this could be handled in stride,” Reich said. While that person may view the situation as a learning experience and grow from it, “in another it may be a devastating event,” which, when combined with vulnerability, could lead to a desperate act.

In Da Silva’s case, “she was doing everything she was supposed to,” said Randolph. “She was interviewing for jobs, she was doing well in classes, and she played hockey on Saturday. If you were to ask whether she was a person likely to commit suicide, the answer was ‘No.’” “The scary thing is people think someone is fine,” Reich said, “and then they’re not fine.”

MIT offers wide range of services
“I don’t feel we’re a special place as far as suicide is concerned,” Reich said. “People are concerned with the prevalence of mental illness on college campuses.” The trend nationwide is that college students are more frequently utilizing their campus mental health services.

MIT Mental Health services offer primarily psychotherapy, or “talking therapy.” Medication is prescribed when the doctor feels it is necessary and the patient is willing. For example, “anxiety problems are often a problem in student populations,” Reich said. These cases are often best treated with a combination of medication to ease the physical effects and talking therapy to uncover the root problem causing the anxiety.

Of the people visiting MIT Mental Health, eighty percent visit fewer than the average five times and the remaining twenty percent visit more. The number of visits is not limited, and can reach twenty or thirty. Dealing with both kinds of patients requires the department to manage its resources.

“You’d like to help everyone as much as they need,” said Reich. But he pointed out that Mental Health Services “has to deal with the acute needs as well as take care of the longer range needs.”

The services provided include general and relationship counseling and help with legal issues, family problems, or academic pressures.

“We keep confidentiality,” said Reich. “We don’t blow the whistle on people who are doing illegal things.”

Room for improvement exists
What responsibility does MIT have in a student’s death? Reich said, “It is hard to say that we are responsible in an individual case unless there was a failure.” However, it is the responsibility of MIT Mental Health Services to “provide the programs that students need to support them here,” he said.

The Undergraduate Association Task Force addressing the issue of Mental Health Services on campus will assist in improving these programs. “I think we could do better in making sure students know about the availability of helping care,” Reich said. “This is in addition to improving students’ self-care and raising the awareness of the signs and symptoms of distress.”

Reich said that students who are helping others through problems related to mental health should try to be good listeners “and really try to understand without assuming too much responsibility.” Additionally, a student can use MIT Medical as a resource in deciding how to approach a peer in need.

However Reich, “would not encourage people to do more than they can handle” but rather turn to deans, housemasters, or other administrators for help.

Students can access MIT Mental Health Services during their walk-in hours from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. or by a regular appointment 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays (Tuesdays until 8 p.m.). Other resources exist on campus as well, including Nightline (253-8800), which is staffed from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. daily. A dean-on-call is also available each night, accessible through the Campus Police (253-1212).
The conversion of the warehouse on 224 Albany St. to a graduate student residence is also on schedule, said John B. Hawes, the project manager for renovations in the Department of Facilities. "[We're] moving along on schedule. We haven't run into any major headaches," he said.

The building, expected to be ready by August 2001, will provide 120 efficiency units of housing. The building is being designed to accommodate plans to use it as hotel and conference space over the summer.

Graduate Student Council President Soulaymane Kachani said that the warehouse would primarily house MEng, first-year graduate students, and MBA students. A Founders Group consisting of six graduate students and led by Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Steven R. Lerman '72 was formed in early October to investigate ways to increase community in the residence, Kachani said.

Kachani said that one plan aimed at increasing community is to have eight to ten graduate students live in the dorm for multiple years, much as officers in Tang stay for multiple years in the dorm.

Grad dorm still awaiting approval

The other new graduate residence, to be located on Sydney and Pacific Street, is not faring as well: MIT is still awaiting approval from the Planning Board.

Last Tuesday, the Institute went before the Planning Board to discuss modifications to the plans requested by the Board after the first hearing in early September. Michael K. Owu '86, project manager for the new dorm, said that MIT made minor changes to the plans with regards to the location of the driveway, the size of the interior courtyard, and the number of parking spaces.

However, Kachani, who characterized the two-hour meeting as "very tough," said that the Board was not fully satisfied and that MIT will have to appear before the Board again, either on Dec. 5 or Dec. 12. Still outstanding are issues regarding the entrance to the courtyard, Kachani said.

The GSC is currently working on increasing the amount of planned community space on the upper floors of the dorm, Kachani said.

Sample dorm room being built

Daniel O'Connell's sons, the company building Simmons Hall, is constructing a "sample room" from the new dorm for students to see. The room is being assembled on the Vassar Street side of the West Gate parking lot and should be finished soon.

"When the room is completed," said Roberts, "we hope to make it available for students to look at."

Currently, a grid of the cement wall pieces has been put up. Roberts said, "The reflective aluminum coating, a floor, and possibly a ceiling will be added soon.

New dorm 'a very exciting place'

The new undergraduate dorm is not just for freshmen; all four undergraduate classes will be welcomed to move in.

In fact, the Founders Group has already begun the process of finding new residents. "The Founder's Group will be working, starting very early in the spring term, to get more people in the community involved in this project," Roberts said.

MIT has created the e-mail list sponge-talk@mit.edu for those who wish to voice their opinions or just keep informed about updates on the new dorm, which has been nick-named "The Sponge" for its unique architecture.

Benedict said the attraction of the new dorm is that it's a "brand new building" that is the "state of the art." The hall will feature its own auditorium, a restaurant, and many common spaces, he said.

The new dorm could have a large impact on student life at the Institute, though some are concerned that its location on Vassar Street will separate it from the other residences.

"I think it will add to MIT culture," Benedict said. "Every one of the dorms and FSILGs has its own culture and environment, even those that are far away."

Matthew Palmer and Naveen Sunkavalli contributed to the reporting of this story.
Among the other changes discussed was a group community service event and a wing sign-in sheet for all non-residents. In addition, on Dec. 12, the third floor wings will host an alcohol education study break with a doctor from the Medical Center.

Administration relaxes sanctions

Last Monday, the residents of the Third Floor invited Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict and Assistant Dean Carol Orme-Johnson to dinner. The students presented the changes they were making to the deans, as well as proposed amendments to their punishment.

"Dean Benedict and Dean Johnson were both really receptive to everything we presented to them," Riordan said. "They agreed to almost all the exceptions we asked for."

"The residents of the wing in question have done an excellent job of responding to the discipline imposed on them," Benedict said. "They’re acting responsibly, and responsibility is my bottom line."

As a result, several of the sanctions against Third East and Third West were relaxed. In particular, the maximum number of people allowed in a room was increased from six to ten, with exceptions made for family visits. Study groups will also be allowed in lounges.

CLC may further punish Next

One month ago, Next House received a written warning from the CLC. The warning was the result of a similar incident on Jan. 24 in which another intoxicated, underage female was hospitalized after attending a Next House room party.

MIT avoided serious action from the CLC after the June incident by introducing a multi-step plan to increase alcohol awareness and safety in all the dormitories.

"We’ve made good progress on that plan," Benedict said. "We’ve convened a working group and begun to survey other schools."

The group has created a job description and budget for a new administrative position, an Assistant Dean for Alcohol Education and Community Development. This dean will oversee alcohol education, training, and counseling. In addition, a quarterly report will be sent to the CLC shortly.

Benedict said that in this case he thinks the Institute’s sanctions against Third East and Third West are sufficient. "The CLC has no need to impose any further punishment," Benedict said. "The Institute and the residents of Next House have managed the situation very responsibly."

Morris said she expects more severe disciplinary measures. "I would be surprised if it were just another warning," she said.
State Releases MCAS Results
Cambridge Students Perform Poorly on Controversial Exam

By Shankar Mukherji

Although scores on the controversial Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) rose slightly overall across the state, scores at Cambridge schools fell sharply as the district finished 203 out of 208 districts according to The Boston Globe.

In a press release, Massachusetts Commissioner of Education David P. Driscoll said, “Overall, since 1999, we have seen improvement in the statewide results. Now, with the local results we can start to examine the information to find out what schools are doing well that is leading to the improvement overall across the state.”

In the scores released November 21, fourth-graders again outdid children in the eighth and tenth grades, with just 13 percent failing English and 16 percent failing math. At the eighth-grade level, 11 percent failed English, up from 12 percent last year, and in Cambridge, 74 percent of 10th graders failed the math exam, up from 61 percent last year. Still, the traditional suburban versus urban gap in scores remains.

Suburban schools top cities

The Boston Herald repots that there was evidence that the suburban boycott movement—with its taping of the testing system and its high-stakes graduation requirement—had boosted failure rates. In Lincoln-Sudbury, 19 percent failed English, up from 12 percent last year, in Arlington, 57 percent failed math, up from 34 percent last year; and in Cambridge, 74 percent of 10th graders failed the math exam, up from 61 percent last year.

Still, the traditional suburban versus urban gap in scores remains. Suburban school districts performed the best on the math and English sections of the exam, according to several analyses of the scores, while urban districts were at the bottom end of the spectrum.

The American Civil Liberties Union also voiced its opinion against the standardized test when the data showed a substantial race gap.

According to results released by the Department of Education yesterday, black and Hispanic students failed the 2000 MCAS exams in math and English at two to three times the rate that their white counterparts did.

“Any time you have a system of measurement that flunks kids of color at those kinds of rates, there’s something wrong that needs to be addressed,” said John Roberts, executive director of the Massachusetts ACLU, to The Boston Herald. “You just can’t blame it on the kids.”

Still, however, state officials stand behind the MCAS.

“You can’t say you have high standards for all students and then not have any opportunity for students to show what they’ve learned,” said Boston Superintendent Thomas W. Payzant to the Herald. “We’ve got examples we can do this. Give us the time and we can do it.”

Head & Tail of the Class

In a ranking of the best and worst scores on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System test, Cambridge placed sixth to last.

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<th>Rank</th>
<th>Town</th>
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<td>1</td>
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SOURCE: MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Salaries in Industry

Top University Pay

Salaries, from Page 1

$25,926 in benefits. Stein left MIT for the Harvard Economics Department last summer, said Sloan School Dean Richard L. Schmalensee PhD ‘70.

Frustrated with a $19,322 median base salary and $33,000 in benefits, he also trails the $330,000 median base salary and $25,327 in benefits earned by Medical School Dean Daniel C. Tufton. Vest cited his residence at the president’s house as a major contractual benefit.

At the other end of the scale, the minimum base salary for an MIT support staff member at the lowest grade is $17,720, assuming a 35-hour work week, according to the MIT Human Resources Office web page.

Management professors earn most

Salaries for professors of business or management tend to be at the high end across the board. At Harvard, Business School Dean Kim B. Clark earns the third highest salary at $255,000 with $27,327 in benefits.

Schmalensee said that at the Sloan school were high, but noted that “it’s the market, it’s supply and demand.”

He said that the salaries reported for the management professors included not only the base salaries for the nine-month academic year, but also sponsored research in the summer and extra teaching through the Executive Education program, which Schmalensee characterized as amounting to consulting on behalf of MIT.

Schmalensee said that because Harvard conducts its Executive Education program separately, their business school salaries appear lower.

Schmalensee said that the Sloan school was competing for professors not only with the business sector but also other schools.

“We’re not wealthy compared to other business schools so I feel pretty constrained” by budget concerns, he said.

Academic salaries trail industry

Leaders at research institutions such as MIT could make more in industry. Vest said that leaders of “corporate organizations in comparable complexity usually receive compensations that are a large multiple of those of university presidents or professors.”

Baffled agreed. “Compensation for treasurers and chief investment officers in other the investment management business or in other corporate entities are substantially greater than in the academy,” he said.

However, Vest added, “Major leaders in government service may receive compensations that are comparable or a bit less than academic officers.”

Schmalensee said that “it’s hard to know” what management professors could earn in industry because “they wouldn’t be doing the same thing in industry as in academia.”

However, he said that in the recent past, professors in the field of finance could “double or triple” their salaries on Wall Street.

“You have to love being an academic,” he said.

Corporation determines salaries

Merit increases for most high-level members of the Institute must pass through several phases before being implemented. Vest said.

First, the provost, executive vice president, or chancellor submit performance evaluations and increased recommendations to Vest for those members of the Academic Council that report to them,” Vest said.

Since the total increases must not exceed a pre-determined special budget, Vest said, “I fine tune these recommendations, iterate the entire package, and then make my own evaluation of the most senior officers and recommend their increases.”

MIT’s Corporation, through its salary subcommittee and executive committee, makes the final approvals.

The Corporation alone, in closed session, determines the salaries of the president and the chairman, Vest said.