Coop Removes ‘IHTFP’ Shirt from Display

By Marissa Vogt

A shirt bearing the letters “IHTFP” was recently removed from display at the MIT Coop store in the Student Center after the store manager received a complaint reportedly originating from the Admissions Office.

The shirt was then moved from its position in the store window to a more discreet area toward the back of the store.

The shirt was then moved from its position in the store window to a more discreet area toward the back of the store.

Shirt not licensed by MIT

The shirt was removed from the display at the MIT Coop, a highly-visible position in the store in the Student Center who had been contacted by someone who works in the Admissions Office. The “IHTFP” phrase, this person said, represented a different image of MIT than the shirt bears. Because of that, the shirt was removed.

Aspiring entrepreneurs from MIT and the outside community gathered in Walker Memorial for the first workshop of the year.

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State Senator Jarrett Barrios speaks at the Justice for Janitors rally held on the steps of 77 Massachusetts Avenue on Thursday.

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Tropical October
By Samantha Hess

Lilli made landfall yesterday at Marsh Island, LA as a Category 2 hurricane with 100 mph winds. She was unpredictably weakening to a Category 4 hurricane with top winds of 145 mph, then just as quickly weakening. However, she still caused quite a bit of damage, including snapping trees, destroying roofs, and knocking out power to an estimated 700,000 people in Louisiana. She has also caused massive flooding. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Kyle is still meandering about the Atlantic Ocean, though he is not expected to threaten land any time soon.

If there were any doubts about the season around here, however, they were cleared up by the cool, damp day we had yesterday. This weekend will be breezy with an occasional shower, though temperatures will be unseasonably mild on Saturday and Sunday.

Extended Forecast
Today: Cloudy. High 65°F (18°C).
Tonight: Chance of showers. Low 58°F (14°C).
Saturday: High of 70°F (21°C), low of 56°F (13°C).
Sunday: Mostly sunny. High 73°F (22°C), low 52°F (11°C).
FDA Halts Gene Therapy Trials After Patient Develops Disease

By Aaron Zitner

A French boy who had been considered one of the few people cured by gene therapy has developed a leukemia-like disease, prompting the Food and Drug Administration to halt three gene therapy trials in the United States.

It is unclear whether the gene-replacement technique caused the boy’s new illness.

Still, the incident threatens to further dampen hopes for gene therapy, which has been under intense scrutiny since the 1999 death of a teenager in a University of Pennsylvania experiment.

In gene therapy, healthy genes are placed in a patient’s cells in an attempt to compensate for the faulty genes that cause disease. The technique is considered one of the most exciting ideas to emerge from the explosion of information about human genes, with prospects for treating cancer, hemophilia, AIDS and other ailments.

The French boy, now 3, had undergone the process as an infant to control “bubble boy disease,” a rare immune system disorder that is fatal if untreated.

The boy’s immune system rebounded, and he was able to leave a sterile hospital environment — or “bubble” — and live at home. He was one of four boys included in a French study, published this spring, that is considered the only definitive proof that gene therapy can work.

But in August, doctors found that the boy had developed a leukemia-like illness. It was the first time the illness appeared in any of the 32 or so patients treated worldwide by gene therapy for the immune system disease, including nine other children in the French study.

Still, FDA officials disclosed Thursday that they had halted three U.S. gene therapy trials earlier this week, days after learning that French authorities stopped trials run by Dr. Alain Fischer and colleagues at the Necker Hospital for Children in Paris, where the boy had been treated.

Police Launch Hunt for Suspects In Sixteen-Hour Shooting of Five

By Deborah Barfield Berry and Tim Higgins

Montgomery County, Md., police launched a massive manhunt Thursday for suspects who gunned down five people in what appeared to be a random 16-hour shooting spree in the usually quiet suburban community north of the nation’s capital.

The victims were doing routine activities such as pumping gas and grocery shopping when they were killed in five separate shootings that began Wednesday night.

Police say they have no motive for the shootings and acknowledge heightened concern that the suspect might be a “skilled shooter” because only one shot was fired in each fatal incident.

“Nothing like this has ever happened in Montgomery County,” said county Police Chief Charles Moose. “This is a very safe community. Our homicide rate just increased by 20 percent in one day. This is not what happens here.”

Police said there was no indication the victims knew each other or had any connections. There was no clear motive for the shootings, police said, but they believe the shootings were connected because a similar weapon was used in each incident. Police would not say what type of weapon was used.

Police have ruled out race as a motive in the shootings because the victims ranged from white to Hispanic, from the young to 54-year-old Indian cab driver.

“None of the individuals have not done anything. These are simply victims, and we need to figure out a way to stop this,” police said.

Police were looking for a white cargo van with black lettering and possible damage in the back of the van. A witness told police he believed two people were in a van that sped away soon after a shooting.

Attention School of Engineering Sophomores:

So you’ve got the technical skills, but do you have all that it takes?

Allow us to introduce you to:

UPOP is a unique program open to all engineering sophomores that will allow you to develop your engineering and business skills while providing you a taste of real-life work experience. Your summer could be spent working at a National lab, a leading investment bank, a cutting-edge software development firm, or many other fantastic companies.

Want to know more? Come to an info session (food will be served)

Wednesday, October 9th 7:30pm in room 56-114
Thursday, October 10th 7:30pm in 4-231

*UPOP is a program open to all engineering sophomores that will allow you to develop your engineering and business skills while providing you a taste of real-life work experience. Your summer could be spent working at a National lab, a leading investment bank, a cutting-edge software development firm, or many other fantastic companies.

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Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor-in-chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, features editor, and opinion editors.

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all letters received.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://the-tech.mit.edu.

Errata

It seems that Sidney-Pacific has achieved many of the things Simmons set out to do, but lower costs will be disastrous. The attackers on the state-religion dilemma prevalent in Chris-
the crass rat

IF I RENT ONE, ARE YOU MAKING BAGELS?
YES. I CAN HATCH CHICKENS, TOO.
LOOK SON, THE CRASS RAT.

WE HAD THREE TASTES IN THE LAST TWO DAYS, I CAN'T EVEN THINK STRAIGHT. MY MIND IS SO FULL, I THINK MY HEART IS GOING TO EXPLODE...

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE MENTAL LAUANTIVES?
LISTEN—I'LL BUY YOU A BAGEL SANDWICH.

“TILLER SPACE”

WELL, I'M SORRY, I'M JUST A LITTLE BOTHERED.

LITTLE HUGS, AND NOT AS FULL OF CRASS.

CRANKY AND IRRITABLE?

GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.

CHAPTER 18

THE SAGA OF THE CRASS RAT—PART III

AFTER A FIVE-YEAR SEASON WHERE ONE RIDER DIED EVERY WEEK AND THE REST RETURNED TO THEIR COMFORTABLE WAYS, CRASS RAT CHASING THE BUSHING CRASS RATS ARE NOW THE LEADERS OF A new LIFE FORM.

THE LITERATURE OF THE CRASS RAT has been studied for 15 years, and it's in the CRASS RATER. IT ENDS IN A STEAMY RAIL AND CALLED "CRASS DEFEND" WHICH MANY EXPERTS BELIEVE TO BE UNLIKELESS JUST GRUMPY.

FINALLY AS SEEN IN THIS ISSUE, NOTHING HOUR THE CRASS RATES WITH THE BAD BILLCRASS OVER THE DEPARTING CRASS RATER TERRITY AND OFFICE, IT IS FOLLOWED BY A REORGANIZATION OF FELLOWSHIP.

AND SO CONCLUDES ONE CRASS RATES LIFE, WHICH MIGHT END WITH A CRASS RATER'S CREATION OF AN UNREALISTIC ZONE THAT EXACTLY CHANGES ONLY HARDLY WILL SUCCEED.

www.phdecomics.com
Down The Hatchet
Reach Out and Touch the Answering Machine

COLUMNS

By Akshay Patil

Being at MIT has taught me that I am a bad son. I base this observation on the fact that, according to my mom, I never call home. I get this message every time I step out of my room for more than 30 minutes. In the usual scenario, I come back to find my door kicked in with yellow tape criss-crossing my door frame. Papers are strewn about everywhere and there are muddy marks on my carpet. Inevitably, I turn to my answering machine and see a large number (usually an exponential to my absence time) of unheard messages waiting for me.

*Beep* You have – 24 – new messages:

*Click* Hi Akshay, this is mom calling…

*Click* Hi Akshay, mom calling… it's 4:15 our time. Nothing important… I'll call back. It's 6:15.

*Click* Akshay, this is mom. Please call back. It's 6:15.

*Click* Akshay! Where are you? This is mom at 6:30. I'm getting really worried. Are you okay?

*Click* Hi Akshay, mom again… 5:30 our time. Could you give me a call when you get back? Thanks…

*Click* Hi Akshay, this is mom calling. I'm starting to get a little worried. Please call me back as soon as you have a chance. It's now 6:00 our time.

*Click* Akshay, this is mom. Please call back. It's 6:15.

*Click* Akshay! Where are you? This is mom at 6:30. I'm getting really worried. Are you okay?

*Click* Oh my god! Akshay! What happened to you? It's 6:35! Are you still alive? Please call!

*Click* Hang on Akshay! The police are on their way! If you've done something to my son, I'll skin you alive!

*Click* The SWAT team is on their way, Akshay! Don't worry, we're going to come get you!

*Click* Uhm, hi Akshay… the officials spoke to your neighbors and told me that you're in a computer cluster doing a lab.

Could you call me when you're done working? This is mom… 5:40… our time.

*Click*…

This has proven to me, once and for all, that those Disneyland commercials showing empty-nest parents out and about having the time of their lives are complete lies. Real college parents really do spend the majority of their time sitting at home waiting for you to call. Believe me.

Right now your parents have set up camp next to the telephone and are engaged in a discussion as to the probability that you're going to call. They have worked out complex algorithms that take into consideration a variety of factors such as: when you usually call, when was the last time you called, when you said you were going to call next, how busy you said you were last time you talked to them, the current phase of the moon in Cambridge, the position of Pluto, etc.

If home is where the dial-up Internet is, you can be sure that your parents are scared to go online for fear of you miraculously calling home only to find a busy signal. And if you have two phone lines, there's a 90 percent chance that they're using the other phone line to talk to other college parents about their children and how they never call either. This means that sending an e-mail home doesn't count as a phone call: using "But Mom, I sent you an e-mail yesterday" will never excuse you from your blatant neglect. At most it will grant you a 5 second pardon after which you're reminded that an e-mail isn't the same thing and that parents are too busy worrying about your health and general well-being to have the time to do silly things like check their e-mail.

Not that I can blame my parents. Heaven save me when any children of mine decide to go to college on the other side of the country. They aren't walking out of the house without a cell phone, camera, and GPS locating device embedded in their heads. God bless technology.

So go call your parents. It doesn't take that long, and it'll make their day.

The cost of the phone call easily offsets the potential property damage.

By Michael Short

WARNING: This trick, like almost all of the others, involves fire. This one in particular can involve quite a bit of fire. So please, for God's sake, do this one out-in-a very safe, open location like a barbecue pit with a concrete or dirt floor where nothing can accidentally catch fire. Be responsible and take extra safety precautions for yourself and others.

Materials:

- Non-Dairy Creamer, a Fire
- What to do:

Buy yourself some nondairy coffee creamer. This is sold under many brands, so it's up to you to find out which one works best for you. You might find Coffee-mate® nondairy creamer, or some other variety. I prefer the premium stuff (Carnation), but Shaw's™ brand is about twice as cheap.

Now start a fire going in your very safe fireproof location. The more flames you can see the better — we aren't grilling burgers here.

Take some of the creamer (about a handful), hold it high above the fire and let it go slowly, so a column of powder falls from your hand. The powder should be slightly dispersed in the air, so there is enough oxygen to get it roaring. When you see it start to catch fire, back a safe distance away. The column will combust quickly. Also, if you don't stand downwind you may get some of the stuff on you, which isn't harmful, but you'll smell like the inside of a horse by the time you're finished.

While this trick works very well, any fuel/oxygen combination will have a similar result. Try it with other kitchen powders — flour, powdered sugar, corn starch… who knows?

Fun With Fire II
Featuring Nondairy Creamer

Want $50?

Volunteers needed for a week-based study of physical activity among MIT students and staff. It takes only 10-15 minutes a day for four weeks (plus time for any additional exercise we can persuade you to do), and you can do it in your bathrooms (assuming you have a home computer with an internet connection).

Participants will receive $25 in cash and $25 worth of fitness-goodies. You must be in generally good health and interested in increasing your level of physical activity.

To see if you qualify, check out:
Events Calendar
Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at http://events.mit.edu

Friday, October 4
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0:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — Admission Information Session. Admissions Office Information Session will gather at the Admissions Reception Center (10-103) Enter via the main entrance, Lobby 77. 77 Massachusetts Ave (stored building withPlan). Proceed up the stairs. On the right, a SGA archway marks the entrance to the special reservations. Room: Admissions Reception Center, Building 10. 10:00 a.m. — Sponsor: Information Center.
12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. — Lunchtime Lecture. "The Role of the Childhood Cancer Committee in the Main Campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Room: Conference Center, Lobby 215. Sponsor: The Childhood Cancer Committee.
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. — Tour of MIT Media Lab. Room: 32-E50. Sponsor: MIT Media Lab.
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October 5
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12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. — What is the Future of Faith? The fist in a series of informal presentations by leaders of different religions on the future of faith in our era of religious strife and cultural change. Bring your lunch and join us for an open discussion. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: Office of International Student and Scholar Affairs.
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October 6
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2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. — Student Information Session. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: Student Information Center.
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October 7
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10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. — MIT Class of 1962 Career Symposium. Room: E51-152. Sponsor: STS.
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. — Support Staff Ice Cream Social. Dessert provided. All are welcome. Free. Room: Student Center Rm. 491. Sponsor: Episcopal Ministry at LEM. MIT Board of Chaplains.
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. — Orange County Tech Tour which begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Free. Room: Lobby 7. Sponsor: Orange County Tech Tour.
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. — Women's Cross Country vs. Tufts University. Free. Room: Franklin Field. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.
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October 8
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10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — Admission Information Session. Free. Room: Admissions Reception Center, Building 10. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. — The Great Glass Pumpkin Patch @ MIT. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: The MIT Glass Lab.
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — The Soundscape of Modernity: Acoustical Building Materials and the Culture of Listening in America, 1890-1935. RSVP required (lunch is provided). Free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. — The Great Glass Pumpkin Patch @ MIT. Free. Room: NW17-145. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar. Department of Mathematics.
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. — Admissions Information Session. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: Student Information Center.
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. — Chemical Engineering Dept Fall Seminar Series. TBA. Free. Room: 8-610. Sponsor: Chemical Engineering.
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. — Schebert Polynomials and Quiver Formulas. Free. Room: NW17-145. Sponsor: STS Colloquium.
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. — Presentation of the 2002 Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony and the Ig Informal Lectures. For more information on the 2002 Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony and the Ig Informal Lectures please see http://www.improbable.com/ig/ig-index.html. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. — Building Of All Fears. Not rated, but contains strong sexual content. Room: 30-201. Sponsor: MIT Society.
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. — Jugalbandi (duet). Free. Room: 77 Massachusetts Ave. Sponsor: STS.
7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. — Green Bay vs. Chicago. Hours: Monday: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.; Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m.; Friday: 4 p.m. - 1 a.m. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.
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October 9
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9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. — MIT Class of 1962 Career Symposium. Room: E51-152. Sponsor: STS.
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. — Jugalbandi (duet). Free. Room: 77 Massachusetts Ave. Sponsor: STS.
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — Open Club Fair. Free. Room: The Student Center M/C. Sponsor: Student Life.
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October 10
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2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. — Student Information Session. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: Student Information Center.
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October 11
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10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. — MIT Class of 1962 Career Symposium. Room: E51-152. Sponsor: STS.
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — The Soundscape of Modernity: Acoustical Building Materials and the Culture of Listening in America, 1890-1935. RSVP required (lunch is provided). Free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.
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October 12
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10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. — MIT Class of 1962 Career Symposium. Room: E51-152. Sponsor: STS.
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — The Soundscape of Modernity: Acoustical Building Materials and the Culture of Listening in America, 1890-1935. RSVP required (lunch is provided). Free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.
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October 4 – 11
Compiled by Devdoot Majumdar

If you’re willing to shell out the minimum $50 to get tickets (which are still available...)

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tickets: 617-266-1900.
Performances at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave. Boston, unless otherwise noted. Student rush tickets, if available, can be obtained at 5 p.m. on the day of the concert (one ticket per person) for $10. The Museum of Fine Arts
Admission with MFA ID.

If you’re willing to shell out the minimum $50 to get tickets (which are still available...)

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tickets: 617-266-1900.
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Admission with MFA ID.
FEATURES

Professor Steven Pinker

Pinker reveals the inspiration for his new book and how he deals with literary criticism

By Eun J. Lee
evanlee@brown.edu

The Tech recently had the opportunity to interview author and Course IX professor Steven Pinker. His new book The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature was released last week. Although Pinker is on sabbatical during the 2002-2003 school year, he teaches several Course IX (Brain and Cognitive Sciences) classes, including the popular class Introduction to Psychology (9.00). He is also the Tribe's Campus Features Editor.

The Tribe: How do you keep up with ideas for books? Do you have a big list or can you do it on the fly?

Pinker: One book leads to another. The final chapter of The Language Instinct (1994) was about how language fits into a picture of the mind as a whole. That picture had to be pretty sketchy to fit into one chapter, so I expanded it into my book How the Mind Works (1997). In that book, I had a section discussing the political and moral issues surrounding abortion and the ownership of women — in spite of the fact that human nature does not change. It would be called "The Blank Slate of Our Nature," after the ending of Lincoln's inaugural address.

TT: How do you deal with criticism and praise, without letting either get to your head?

Pinker: I carefully manage when I read critical pieces — never before eating, or going to bed, or spending time with my wife or friends, when it might make me anxious or grumpy. A long plane trip is a good time, because I'm not already enjoying myself, and any attack can't make it much worse. When I do read criticism, I try to pick out the parts that are justifiable and that can help me improve, and for the parts that are just nasty, I try to remind myself that they can do me no harm in the long run and that the sting will wear off. I also remind myself of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT.

TT: Is there any such a thing as a "typical" day for you?

Pinker: Not really. There are days when I stay at home to write — usually from mid-morning till 2 or 3 in the afternoon. There are days when I come to teach, with students, supervise research assistants and TAs, and do bureaucratic chores. When a book comes out, I fly around the country, speaking at universities, bookstores, on radio or print interviews.

TT: What do you like to do in your spare time outside of work? Any interesting hobbies?

Pinker: I like all kinds of bicycling — road, mountain, and track. I love looking at pictures of pristine landscapes and nature, and printing them digitally. I sometimes kayak, hike, jog or roller blade. And I read constantly.

TT: What do you love most about your job?

Pinker: Page 19

Planes, Trains and Chinatown Buses

How to get from Beantown to the Big A pple on a student's budget for time and money

By Arjun Narayanswamy

What's the quickest and cheapest way to go from Boston to New York?

When I first attempted the transit from Beantown to the Big Apple four years ago, I forked out $80 for a Greyhound round-trip bus ticket. That was a princely sum for a budget for most college students. I carefully manage when I read critical pieces — never before eating, or going to bed, or spending time with my wife or friends.

TT: How do you deal with criticism and praise, without letting either get to your head?

Pinker: I carefully manage when I read critical pieces — never before eating, or going to bed, or spending time with my wife or friends, when it might make me anxious or grumpy. A long plane trip is a good time, because I'm not already enjoying myself, and any attack can't make it much worse. When I do read criticism, I try to pick out the parts that are justifiable and that can help me improve, and for the parts that are just nasty, I try to remind myself that they can do me no harm in the long run and that the sting will wear off. I also remind myself of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT, of all the objective signs that I can't be a complete nincompoop — I did get a job at MIT.

TT: Is there any such a thing as a "typical" day for you?

Pinker: Not really. There are days when I stay at home to write — usually from mid-morning till 2 or 3 in the afternoon. There are days when I come to teach, with students, supervise research assistants and TAs, and do bureaucratic chores. When a book comes out, I fly around the country, speaking at universities, bookstores, on radio or print interviews.

TT: What do you like to do in your spare time outside of work? Any interesting hobbies?

Pinker: I like all kinds of bicycling — road, mountain, and track. I love looking at pictures of pristine landscapes and nature, and printing them digitally. I sometimes kayak, hike, jog or roller blade. And I read constantly.

TT: What do you love most about your job?
Rush Adds to Freshman Confusion

By Beckett Sterner

This year, rush is such as something a freshman physics problem set: you’re not sure exactly what everything means. It all seemed so new, I didn’t know how the math and symbols were going to work out in the end. Everything was new.

What follows is a brief chronicle of the daily confusion of the past two weeks, illustrating what really happens when you mix the very important decision of pledging to a fraternity with 8:02 homework.

First of all, fraternity names have been changed in a way with no more bearing on reality than my own twisted sense of humor.

Let the rush for free food begin

Everything began on Friday, Sept. 21, when I decided I was hungry and that fraternity was an appropriate solution to that problem. Unfortunately, almost thirty letters worth of fraternity names were offering free lobster dinners, and I didn’t know a single one. Fortunately, a friend living on the same floor of my dorm came to my rescue by having received an invitation to a fraternity sometimes known as Rappa Kappa Coppa (RKC). Gathering our group together, we went into one of their vans and rode off, having few intentions beyond a free lobster dinner. We returned that night.

Consuming a sizeable portion of steak and lobster, we suddenly looked up from our plates and realized that there were a good number of our friends sleeping in the beds of the half-female roommates, otherwise known as “brothers.” In particular, I realized that it was possible to own a pool table that doesn’t make everyone shoot off into the far right pocket, and moreover that it was a lot of fun to play pool with brothers. Filling the entire house with dorm games, passing the hours playing blackjack, foosball and what have you, my friends and I all agreed that we had had a ton of fun.

Things took a turn for the unexpected, though, when one of the brothers pulled me aside and asked if it might be even more fun for everyone if we were to leave. I had come for absolutely nothing more than lobster, and had now discovered a genuine choice to make.

Feeling confused (i.e. more than usual), I decided that since it was rather late, I would prefer to go to bed and I already knew. Of course, it appeared that RKC had events going that night, things that I was not aware of and might be best for me to come to those as well. Ignoring my conscience (Homework? What homework?) we all agreed later on that we had had a lot of fun.

Saturday, Sept. 22

There are a lot of worse things to do on a Saturday evening than eat dinner at the North End and have fun for free at Jillian’s.

On the way home, though, I found myself asking: “What would I gain, and what would I lose by joining a fraternity?”

There are currently eighteen freshmen in my immediate living group, making our class alone similar to half a frat (with girls)! We get along well enough that we travel in packs, sometimes mobbing innocent restaurants with as many as seventeen people.

I have been pledged by one might ask, would anybody really need to? And lest we forget, pledging would almost certainly mean exchanging our time for work in two frat quads at a frat. (How overcrowding in dorms pledging would almost certainly mean exchanging our time for work in two frat quads at a frat.)

So, what does this all mean? As a group, we decided it meant that we needed to see more fraternity. Unfortunately, I also decided to start my 8:02 homework and discovered Truth — that we were homework.

A week and two fraternities later

Fast forward to Saturday morning (approximately 1 a.m.). In fact, I was just managed to visit just two other fraternities, checking out Tau Upsilon Lambda (TUL) on Monday and Elia Feta Phi (NFP) on Friday. We (as a group, of course) visited TUL for football night and found them amusingly laid back, almost to the point that made us question whether or not “rush” was even happening. Did they have any other TULs there? Maybe. Next came NFP, where I discovered within an hour that there are some cultures I fit into and some I don’t.

That makes three frats in one week, but come Sunday, 8:012 once again sounded the death knell for my weekend/social life, and that brings me to the last stretch of my rush odyssey.

Towards the end, it seemed like lots of people were staying where they were already living. Just when my mind was set, though, I was offered a rather unexpected proposition.

I had no one to pick up and move to a fraternity.

I think my experiences in the past week and a half had led me to believe that I didn’t need one, some reason, though, they asked another question, something rather unexpected.

I don’t know if I was a non-residential member or nobody told me that there was going to be on the problem set.

For more information, look at <http://web.mit.edu/is/help/wireless/configuration.html>. The Computing Help Desk also maintains a set of stock answers for common Macintosh and Windows questions encountered by MIT community members, at <http://athena.mit.edu/>. The management of your wireless network (a.k.a. Hardware address, ethernet address) (3-8800)

SLIP Advice

For Macintosh and Windows, and offers limited support for Linux/VMS support by subscription. The Help Desk phone lines are open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekdays, and welcome in the office in Building B42 from 9:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. For Mac questions, call 617-253-1101; for Windows questions call 617-253-1102.

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In an effort to register for Web browser and go to <http://web.mit.edu/is/help/dhcp/dhcpstud.html>. After you’ve entered these in, in about 15 minutes, you’ll be able to use wireless ethernet in most parts of campus.

If you’re a faculty or staff member, then you must first get a MAC address (a.k.a. Hardware address, ethernet address, OI) of your wireless ethernet card. This is a set of 6 pairs of characters, often separated by colons or white space (i.e. ”11:23:76:fc:76:13” or “oe at 13 11 23 16”). The MAC address will be printed somewhere on your wireless card. If you have a Macintosh with wireless, you should go to the Airport Control Panel and look for the “AirPort ID.”

When entering the MAC address in, make sure you only enter the computer ethernet characters. For example, the above two sample MAC addresses should be entered as 7123:076f:76:13:06:20. After you’ve entered these in, in about 15 minutes, you’ll be able to use wireless ethernet in most parts of campus.

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Have a question about Athena? Visit the Athena help desk at <http://web.mit.edu/athena/helpdesk.html>. We’ll try to get back to you, and we might put your question in this column.

If you have a computing problem, new problems arise, let us know and we will be happy to help.

For more information, look at <http://web.mit.edu/athena/helpdesk.html>. You can also phone SIPB at x3-7788 or e-mail us at <sipb@mit.edu>. If you have trouble, see the instructions at <http://web.mit.edu/is/help/dhcp/dhcpstud.html>. You can also phone SIPB at x3-7788 or e-mail us at <sipb@mit.edu>.

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Alcohol poisoning?

If a friend has any of these symptoms of alcohol poisoning:
- Breathing slower than 12 times per minute
- Breathing faster than 20 times per minute
- Not acting or speaking
- Very sleepy, unconscious
- Breathing so shallow it cannot be heard

Check it out:

When in doubt, call 9-1-1 immediately. On-campus Dial 911 immediately. All calls are confidential. Call 515-296-5555 for NIM Medical Advice.

In the event of alcohol poisoning:
- Stay with your friend. Wake him up gently. If you suspect he has alcohol poisoning:
- Call 911. Ask if your friend is sleeping or drunk. If so, make sure he is on the life side, sit him up, and put a pillow behind his back. Do not call your friend home. Do not leave your friend alone. Do not drive your friend home. Do not drink yourself. Do not drive a car or operate any machinery. Do not drink any alcohol.

Alcohol poisoning can be caused by:
- Alcohol poisoning is a medical emergency. It can be life-threatening. It can cause:
- Death
- Seizures
- Coma
- Heart failure
- Respiratory failure
- Kidney failure
- Liver failure
- Gastrointestinal tract failure

Most ATU students drink safely. And many don't drink at all. Whatever your choice, these facts may help you or a friend in need.

Alcohol formula?

Is there a magic formula for alcohol? There is no magic formula. Alcohol is alcohol. It is the same no matter how it is served or consumed. Alcohol is alcohol. It is the same no matter how it is served or consumed.
At the facts

Your liver is a series of reactions occur that take place in the alcohol dehydrogenase enzyme. Alcohol dehydrogenase breaks down alcohol even before the liver can remove it. Alcohol is an active poison to the body, it is metabolized by the liver, and the rate of metabolism is constant. Increased activity in the liver leads to increased production of alcohol. The liver processes alcohol at a fixed rate. Similar efforts do not reduce the rate of metabolism. Some individuals may continue to drink alcohol at the same rate. Others may lower their intake.
"If I see any artwork on the Coop showroom floor that misrepresents the MIT name or MIT trademarks, I usually begin by contacting either the vendor, the Coop manager or both," said Magdalen Christian, legal assistant to counsel and trademark vendor administrator at the Tech Licensing Office.

In the case of the "IHTFP" shirt and other non-MIT insignia merchandise, "we couldn't tell them to remove it because it isn't our property," Christian said.

MIT controls Coop by lease
Jerry Murphy, the president of the Coop, said that the only way MIT has a relationship with The Coop is specifically in the Student Center store. If MIT felt a certain piece of non-MIT merchandise was offensive and violated the Coop's lease, they could ask to have it removed, depending on the exact terms of the lease.

"As a general rule there are very specific things we can and cannot do. If the MIT logo was on the shirt, they would have complete control," Murphy said. He said he was unsure if the vending of offensive material could be considered in violation of the lease.

'IHTFP' shirt will still be sold
Boyton said that she will continue to sell the shirt in the Student Center Coop.

"It's part of the history of MIT, and that's what the Coop is here for, to bring in what the customers request," Boyton said. "IHTFP," which stands for "I Hate This Fucking Place," has been an integral part of MIT vocabulary since before 1960. It has developed alternate meanings over the years, including "I Help Tutor Freshman Physics" and "Interesting Hacks To Fascinate People".

Though she acknowledged that some people might be offended by the meaning of the acronym, Boyton was quick to point out that the phrase is frequently published elsewhere, including in the hack book and on various MIT-related Web sites.

"Not one person has approached me to ask what it means," Boyton said. If they do, she said she'll tell them "I Have The Finest Professors."
Committee pursued stiffer sanctions after hearing feedback from member houses of the IFC. “The [IFC] community responded, they expressed their outrage,” Yue said, in response to the sanctions.

IFC pursues stricter policies

IFC ExecComm had previously announced a stricter approach to violations of risk management policies at a Sept. 4 meeting. “It was the best method to use to protect our community,” Yue said. Yue described the policy as “zero-tolerance” for freshman drinking.

Some fraternity presidents indicated frustration that subsequent sanctions were not as strict as had been earlier suggested, Yue said. Former IFC Treasurer Patrick M. McCane ‘03 described the sanctions as trying to work with fraternities to improve their compliance with risk management policies.

McCaney resigned earlier this week after learning of the decision to seek stiffer sanctions for the four fraternities. “More than wanting the sanctions to be harsher, ExecComm wanted it to go through the correct channels, … to do it right,” Yardley said.

The original hearing panel consisted of Rogers; FSILG Coordinator Frank S. Council; Sheldon Y. Chan ’03, chairman of the IFC Judicial Committee; and two other members of IFC JudComm. Rogers said that the accused fraternities acknowledged responsibility for some of the charges.

Hearing panel deemed unusual

Rogers and Yardley both described the panel as unusual. Ordinarily, IFC JudComm hears arguments from accused houses and the IFC chief investigator, Yue said. In many administrative hearings, no such arguments are made, and the panel relies on police reports or similar statements. Rogers said. In this case, the panel relied on an IFC report on the violations.

"There were no witnesses … to flesh out the details so the truth could come out,” Yardley said.

Rogers said that he was not bothered by efforts to impose stricter sanctions. "We have to go by the community standards," he said. "I think it would be irresponsible for any organization to not take a strict stance on alcohol," Rogers said.

Rogers said the hearing panel was assembled to deal quickly with the violations.

Other IFC officials resign

The events leading up to last night’s vote have resulted in at least one ExecComm resignation. In addition to McCaney, Bryan D. Schmid ’03 has resigned as IFC external relations chair. Schmid could not be reached for comment.

Yu Eric Zhang ’04, IFC new members program chair, resigned to participate in the Cambridge-MIT Institute.

McCaney, the current president of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, said that the ExecComm policy on alcohol violations was too harsh, and that seeking new sanctions amounted to “double jeopardy.”

McCaney was one of four members of ExecComm belonging to fraternities charged with alcohol violations. Yue and Risk Manager Larry Colagiovanni are members of Kappa Sigma fraternity. Vice President Amado Delkoyos is a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

Boston Symphony Orchestra Student Ticket Program 2002-2003

The Council for the Arts of MIT offers MIT students the opportunity to attend 20 Boston Symphony Orchestra performances during the 2002-03 season for no charge with the BSO College Card.

MIT students only need to show their valid MIT Student IDs at the BSO Box Office (331 Massachusetts Ave.) to pick up a BSO College Card.

Each BSO College Card offers a seat to up to 20 concerts and open rehearsals during the upcoming BSO season.

Beginning at 9:30am on the day of each concert offered through the card, student cardholders will be able to call a special designated phone number (617-625-5000) to confirm that tickets are available for that day’s concert. Tickets will be available for pick-up – one per cardholder, student ID required – at the Symphony Hall Box Office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on concert days. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis, but a minimum of 10 tickets will be held at each BSO college card concert.

Only one card per MIT student ID will be issued.

Last year’s program is subject to change.

For the list of eligible concerts, go to:
http://web.mit.edu/studentfest/OSO.html

Some IFC Members Fight Over Sanctions

Persons with cancer and their family members and friends are invited to attend the American Cancer Society’s upcoming “I Can Cope” series designed to address ways to manage the side effects of illness and treatment. This free workshop will take place on Thursday, October 31, 3:00-5:00 pm in the Wyman 3 Conference Room at Mount Auburn Hospital, 330 Mount Auburn Street in Cambridge. For more information, please call Beth Roy at (617) 499-5665 ext. 4656.

Why?

Because you can automate code generation天生优乐快乐彩 to conserve time.

Because you can use your statistical prowess to make sense of tens of thousands of data.

Because you can build a mathematical model to make optimal inventory decisions.

Because you can build a software system to test and deploy the next generation of virtual goods. That’s why.

Working at amazon.com means working alongside some of the world’s brightest software minds to build the premier e-commerce platform.

Take the first step toward becoming a part of it all.

Q & A Session

Tuesday, October 8th 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Room 4-153

Don't forget your resume... if you cannot attend, please submit your resume with MIT in the subject line to <sociologist@mit.edu>.
We're looking for innovative proposals for events, activities, and educational programs to enhance racial and cultural relations at MIT. All members of the MIT community—students, faculty, and staff—are welcome to apply. For information or an application, contact CCRR at x3-1706 or racerelations@mit.edu.

Got a question? Call Nightline at x3-8800.

This space donated by The Tech.

"It's almost shocking to pay this little for such good food, in surroundings this pleasant." —Sidney Bunds

Recruiting '03, '04 and '05 Classes for the new Academic Resource Center (ARC) Student Advisory Board

Are you interested in helping with Choice of Major, IAP, and UROP programming, as well as molding freshmen academics through Associate Advising, teaching Learning Strategies courses and writing for the web?

You can do all these things as part of the ARC Student Advisory Board. This new advisory board has been created to get students from all over MIT more involved with freshmen year activities, programming, and academics by working with the Academic Resource Center (7-103 and 7-104).

-To find out more about the ARC Student Advisory Board please come to our Info Session on October 9th at 4pm in 5-231.

-This info session will cover the application process, board member responsibilities, and meeting times. If you are unable to attend the information session, applications are available in 7-103.

-For questions please contact Rebecca Karmil '03 - rkarmil@mit.edu
  Elizabeth Yong - ecy@mit.edu
  Dan Chapman - dchapman@mit.edu

*Info Session October 9th at 4pm, Room 5-231

*Applications due on October 16th in 7-103.
The following incidents were reported to The Police at MIT between August 25 - September 15, 2002. This summary contains most incidents reported to the MIT Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, general service calls, etc.

August 25: Bldg. E51, male issued trespass warning; Bldg. E55 plaza report of skateboarders in plaza, gone upon arrival; Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, noise complaint.

August 26: Boston, Beta Theta Pi, report of sidewalk blocked by items; Bldg. E23, past larceny of credit cards; Student Center, report of male suspect in women's restroom, all areas checked negative results.

August 27: Bldg. 13 report of larceny of wallet, value unknown; Bldg. W51, report of suspicious male in area of fraternities; Bldg. W89, laptop computer stolen $1,100; Bldg. 54, bicycle stolen value unknown; Bldg. 42, larceny of backpack and wallet, $290, backpack later recovered minus wallet.

August 28: Bldg. 4, rooftop violation; Boston, Sigma Phi Epsilon, report of loud party; Ashdown House, well-being check on student.

August 29: Bldg. 7, report of suspicious male, trespass warning issued; Boston, Phi Kappa Theta, larceny of a bike $100; Amherst St., report of person sleeping in the back seat of a taxi cab, checked out okay.

August 30: Boston, Delta Tau Delta, loud party; Bldg. 7, Fredrick Harvey arrested for trespassing, Senior House, noise complaint.

August 31: Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, report of loud noise, area checked no cause found; Student Center, Christopher Ambrose arrested for trespassing.

September 1: Boston, Alpha Epsilon Pi, report of loud party; Pacific Lot, report of person sleeping in lot, escorted off property no further incident; Bldg. NW86 person reported sleeping in lot area, checked out okay.

September 2: Bldg. 4, larceny of backpack and a wallet, $290, backpack later recovered minus wallet.

September 3: Bldg. 66, homeless person found sleeping, escorted off campus; Bldg. W35, report of suspicious male loitering around bikes, gone upon arrival; Bldg. 32, laptop computer stolen, $5,000; Student Center, property damage to two windows, unknown value.

September 4: Bldg. 66, laptop computer stolen, $1,800; Boston, Sigma Kappa, report of unwanted guest, subject gone upon arrival of MIT PD.

September 5: Bldg. 42, breaking and entering of room and computer stolen, $2,000; Briggs Field, wallet stolen, $5.

September 6: Bldg. 3, vacuum cleaner stolen, $200, 50 Memorial Dr, bicycle stolen, $20.

September 7: Bldg. E51, bike stolen, $200; Student Center, noise complaint.

September 8: Bldg. W51, report of glass being thrown on the sidewalk.

September 9: Bldg. E51, laptop computer stolen, $3,000.

September 10: Bldg. E52, bicycle stolen $1,500; Bldg. 42, construction trailer broken into and tools stolen, $2,000; Bldg. W51, property damage to two windows, unknown value.

September 11: Bldg. E52, bike stolen, $1,800; Bldg. 3, laptop computer stolen, $10; Student Center, property damage to two windows, unknown value.

September 12: Bldg. E52, bike stolen, $1,500; Bldg. 42, construction trailer broken into and tools stolen, $2,000; Bldg. E51, laptop computer stolen, $3,000.

September 13: Bldg. E15, computer monitor stolen, $1,244; MIT Coop, stolen golf bag, $179; Bldg. 3, computer parts stolen, $400; Bldg. E51, laptop computer stolen, $3,000.

September 14: Bldg. E52, bicycle stolen, $602.

September 15: Bldg. 56, laptop computer stolen $4,000; Bldg. W31, report of wallet stolen, contents and value unknown, Hayden Library, computer parts stolen, $20; Amherst St. laptop computer stolen, $3,000.

September 16: Bldg. E51, bicycle stolen, $200; Student Center, property damage to two windows, unknown value.

September 17: Bldg. E52, computer monitor stolen, $1,244; MIT Coop, stolen golf bag, $179; Bldg. 3, computer parts stolen, $400; Bldg. E51, laptop computer stolen, $3,000.

September 18: Bldg. E52, bicycle stolen, $602; Bldg. 56, laptop computer stolen $4,000; Baker House, cell phone stolen and laptop stolen, $2,500; 33 Mass. Ave., bicycle stolen, $490.
"I think the lotteries, which were newly designed this year, seemed to have worked very well," said Larry G. Benedict, dean for student life. RSIT is in the process of analyzing and evaluating this year’s housing assignment process. In December, it will submit recommendations for next year’s process to Benedict and Robert P. Redwine, dean for undergraduate education.

Simmons among most popular
Dormitory preference was divided into three groups. The first cluster included the most popular dormitories that were ranked as first through third choices in the summer lottery. The second cluster were less in demand, and the third cluster had the least requests. Simmons Hall, Burton-Conner, Macgregor House, and Baker House were included in the first cluster. Next House, East Campus, and New House were in the second, and Ran- dom Hall, Bexley Hall, and Senior House were in the third. McCormick did not fall into any of the three groups because all residents participate in residence-based advising.

Except for the addition of Simmons, these results were consistent with last year’s results. "Of course it’s disappointing ... we would love to see more freshmen interested in living here," said Henry Jenkins, housemaster of Senior House. "However, we have the distinct challenge of communicating long-distance what Senior House is really like, because we’re not as mainstream as some of the other dorms."

The results of the questionnaire showed that the most important factors in residence selection were location, building facilities/services, and social atmosphere. Cost, special programs, and health/allergy concerns were less important according to the Orientation adjustment lottery results.

Housing lottery process changed
This year the process of dormitory selection was quite different from last year. Incoming freshmen ranked all the dormitories they were eligible for online or by mail over the summer and were assigned to dormitories and rooms before they arrived on campus. During Orientation, they entered the Orientation adjustment lottery to request either to stay where they were or move. Dormitory governments then readjusted room assignments according to this information. FSILG rush began three weeks later, although freshmen pledges will not be able to move off campus until next year. Last year, freshmen were assigned temporary rooms during the summer. FSILG and dormitory rush took place during Orientation, and at the end of that freshman either moved into a FSILG or entered the lottery for a dormitory assignment. Kevin R. Lang contributed to the reporting of this story.
As an MIT professor and also your field of work?

Pinker: I love being in a groove when a class is responding to my lecture — nodding at the explanations, raising their brows at the demonstrations, laughing at the jokes. I love figuring out an explanation for a puzzling pattern in experimental data. I enjoy going out for dinner with colleagues and a visiting speaker and sharing jokes and gossip and learning or debating interesting ideas.

TT: If you were stuck on a desert island and could only take one book with you, what would it be?

Pinker: The Encyclopedia Britannica.

TT: Do you have any children? If so, have you ever been tempted to do psychological studies on them?

Pinker: No children. If I did, I would certainly observe their language development and do little game-like studies with them. Since everyone gets the children they deserve, I am sure that they would refute every one of my theories. Maybe that's why I don't have children.

TT: As a native of Canada, what do you think about the recent decision to legalize marijuana?

Pinker: I am sympathetic to the decision. I don't think that the government should criminalize acts that do not harm other people. It not only is needlessly punitive to the actor, but it inevitably leads to mafias and gangs: if people want some illegal commodity, suppliers for it will materialize, and if they can't defend their interests by calling the police — which they can't if the commodity is illegal — they will cultivate a reputation for toughness and a hair-trigger for violent revenge.

TT: What's your favorite ice cream?
We’re good at fitting people to jobs.

And jobs to people.

It wouldn’t be clear to every firm that a man with an M.B.A. in poetry was the right choice to head an automated block-trading unit. Or that a designer of solar-powered race cars was the right woman to help launch a new venture in computational chemistry. But after we talked to them, it was clear to us.

The D. E. Shaw group is an investment and technology development firm. Since 1988 we’ve grown into a number of closely related entities with more than US$2 billion in separate capital, hiring smart people from a wide range of backgrounds and letting them implement—and manage—what they invent. A robotic guru. A nationally ranked blackjack player. A demolitions expert. An operatic mezzo-soprano. And a lot of people who are just exceptionally strong in C++, EE, math, and finance.

The firm currently has openings in quantitative analysis, software development, trading, business development, accounting, finance, and investor relations. We’re looking for creative but pragmatic people, articulate, serious, and driven. Our working environment is intense but surprisingly casual. We provide unusual opportunities for growth. And we compensate extraordinarily well.

The D. E. Shaw group will host an information session on Thursday, October 24, 2002, at 6:00 P.M. in Crane Forum, 3rd Floor. On-campus interviews will take place October 25. To apply for an interview, send a resume and a cover letter stating your GPA and standardized test scores to oncampus@deshaw.com.

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D E Shaw & Co
Sponsors of Competition Unfazed by Poor Economy

50K, from Page 1

related. Since then, entries in biotechnology have fared well in the competition.

“Science-based plans will continue to dominate the competition,” said Richard P. Kivel, CEO of Molecularware and 1999 $50K winner. He said that the medicine will remain a competitive category. However, Kivel said that social and developmental area is a new source for potential projects.

Ronald Chery SM ’88, whose company, Virtual Ink, won a $10K prize in 1997, said that ideas involving energy and fuel sources would be especially relevant in the future. “It could radically change the industry and be quite fundable,” Chery said. He added that most successful enterprises have a broad positive impact on society at large.

Economy has little effect on $50K

Despite the recent downturn of the economy this past year, competition sponsors and entrants have not been dissuaded from participating. “It’s a scary time to get funding,” said Ted Selker, a professor at the Media Lab and a $50K competition mentor. He added, “It’s a good time to start a company.”

“From an overall economic standpoint, this is a great time to [start a company]. There’s plenty of money out there, and no one’s spending it,” he said. “You can get people with real experience to join you in the early stages.” Selker said.

The economy “is not hurting entrepreneurship,” Kivel said. He said that now businesses must be built on fundamentals. Business projects must think long-term and plan for profitability sooner.

Sponsorship for the contest has also not been affected, said Christopher Bauserman G, a graduate student at the Sloan School of Management. He said that sponsors recognize the positive impact that $50K Competition winners have on the community, and as a result, retention of sponsors remains high.

In order to further guarantee funding for the competition, a $50K Competition endowment is being formed.

Turnout higher than expected

The event Wednesday night drew much larger crowds than anticipated, said Timo Somervo, the events team leader for the competition. He estimated that 150 people attended the session, more than last year. Attendees included students from Harvard Business School, Babson College, and MIT undergraduate and graduate programs, including the Sloan School of Management.

“There should be many more plans to enter the competition this fall.” Somervo said. A preliminary estimate of submissions for this year is 120 to 130, up from last year’s 100.

“There’s a lot of energy this year,” said Julie A. Smith G, communications team leader for the competition.

The competition organizers attribute the high interest to different factors. Somervo pointed out that this year’s events have been advertised more.

Smith said that many students are thinking seriously about startup companies at a time when jobs are less plentiful. Specifically, she noted an increase in interest in entrepreneurship at Sloan. She added that there are many more graduate students who have been involved with startups that failed three to five years ago.

Content in its 14th year

The MIT $50K Entrepreneurship Competition began in 1990 as the $10K Competition. The event was a collaboration between the MIT Entrepreneurs Club and the Sloan New Ventures Association to bring together the ideas and expertise of engineering and business students.

In 1996, the $10K Competition became the $50K Competition.

The entries are judged by a panel of entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and professionals. The competition has generated over 60 companies, with a total worth of over $10.5 billion. During the fall term, $1K “warm-up” teams will discuss ideas and strategies. Then, in Spring 2003, $50K teams will form. The $50K Competition offers $30,000 to the winning team and two $10,000 prizes to the runners-up. The prizes will be awarded on May 14, 2003.

JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Vishwesh Kulkarni G, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, talks to Karen Freeman G, a student in the Sloan School of Management, during Wednesday’s $50K Competition Team Building Dinner in Walker Memorial.

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The Class of 2006 has elected Jeffrey D. Hoff ’06 as class council president. The results of the council election were revealed Wednesday, after almost 500 freshmen voted online or on paper over the course of six days.

President-elect Hoff received nearly one-third of the votes, winning by a wide margin.

“I’m excited about the results,” Hoff said. “I hope this year is good, and I’ll do my best to make the year great.”

Although he did not reveal specific plans, he said, “our class has a lot of potential. I’ll use that potential to do good things.”

The position of the vice president went to Raphael Farzan-Kashani ’06.

“I feel very honored that my classmates are so confident in me that I could help lead a class towards a great year,” he said.

The freshmen class “should be prepared for a really, really memorable year,” Farzan-Kashani said. “I can’t wait until we get down to business.”

Lam elected secretary

The only candidate for the position of secretary, Amy R. Lam ’06, received over 350 votes.

“I enjoy being a part of the class leaders who get to make the decisions throughout the year,” Lam said. “I would like to bring some fresh ideas to the [Undergraduate Association].”

The Class of 2006 Treasurer will be Brendan J. Smith ’06, who edged out Timothy C. Davenport ’06 by 13 votes.

“I really appreciate everyone voting for me. I feel really honored and flattered that I was chosen as an officer of a class at not just any college, but at MIT,” Smith said.

Eiman Faramarzalian ’06 and Zachary M. Skolnik ’06 won the publicity coordinator positions. They met each other in the Freshman Leadership Program, a freshman pre-orientation program, and decided to run for the position because they want “to do something for the school,” Faramarzalian said. “Eiman and Zack will do the best job we can. You know, nothing going on at MIT is ‘EZ’ easy.”

The new social chairs will be Jameel S. Khalfan ’06 and Kimberly W. Wu ’06. They met each other in their dormitory and decided to run for the social chair positions “to make sure we have a very entertaining freshman year,” Khalfan said.

“We’re going to make this a wonderful year,” Wu said, in response to the election results. Khalfan added, “I feel good. Now, let’s party!”

Election method contentious

This year 472 of the fewer than 1,000 freshmen voted in the election, compared to 276 last year. The majority of the votes, 443, were cast online, rather than by paper ballot.

“It’s kind of cool that so many freshmen got involved with the election,” said Tanzeer S. Khan ’06, a candidate for president. However, the election also called attention to the potentially contentious preferential voting system. The system allows voters to rank their preferences of candidates for each position. When votes are counted, the votes for the person with the fewest are redistributed until someone has a majority. As a result, the candidate who receives the most first choice votes is not guaranteed to win.

Treasurer candidate Davenport received slightly more first and second choice votes, but he lost to Smith, who received 18 more votes for third choice and thus more overall votes.

“That’s how things work,” Smith said.

Davenport said that “it would be better” if the voting system was different. “Everyone [should] just get one vote.”

Candidates review strategies

Many of the newly-elected officials attributed their victories to active campaigning. “I tried to meet people and see them in person,” Hoff said. “People respect it.”

“We had a catchy model and well-organized platform,” Faramarzalian said.

The other candidates expressed regret over their campaigns. “I should have campaigned more,” Khan said. Still, he said is happy with the results of the election and would like to be involved with student government in other ways.

The UA election commission will have an election feedback meeting on Oct. 10 to discuss ways to improve future elections.
The MIT Women’s team dominated in pool play, falls to seasoned veterans.

The MIT Women’s Ultimate Team (sMITe) took fourth place at the New England Conference. The team was determined to avenge their loss to Dartmouth in the semifinals.

Defeats WPI

Women’s X-Country Comes Out on Top at Mt. Holyoke

Women’s X Country Comes Out on Top at Mt. Holyoke

by Angela Tong

The MIT Women’s Ultimate Team (sMITe) took fourth place last weekend at Yale’s Coffee Cup. Taking mostly rookies to their first tourney, sMITe dominated in pool play and only lost to veterans of team players.

Wombats, Quasars fall to sMITe

The first pool play game was against the Wombats from Skidmore. After starting the game late, the sMITe dominated in face conference nemesis Springfield College, at 11 a.m., for the first of five straight home games.

Bears roll to victory

The doubles final was once again a tiebreaker played in lieu of a third set. Pereverzev and Kolesnikov, seeded seventh in the tournament, lost first round to Boe-Weigaard 6–2, 6–2.

Players head to nationals

In the consolation game, sMITe faced the Wesleyles Whitetails in the quarterfinals. After losing the Whitetails played some good offense, Sarah Kamalang and Lila Young of sMITe helped to thwart Wesleyles’ attack by making seven huge blocks. The sMITe offense was led by tori Murray with two goals caught and by Becky R. Romatoski ‘06, who also displayed offensive ability by throwing three goals.

Spectators encouraged

Homecoming, from Page 24

team has away games this weekend, but its a good start,” Alberi said.

“We have a lot of good freshmen.”

“Hopefully the game will be really exciting, and maybe the people who just came for the food will realize how scintillating a good soccer match can be,” Morrison said.

The afternoon football game also gives the men’s football team the opportunity to encourage student attendance. This year marks MIT football’s 25th year, and Saturday’s allows the team the chance to return to the top echelon of Division III.

“We have new uniforms this year and they’re see-through. Maybe that will help draw more spectators,” Morrison said.

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By Jessica M. Morris

We have a lot of good freshmen.”

Spectators were encouraged at Steinbrenner stadium, which “usually has a couple people cheering,” Alberi said.

“We would be really great since sMITe’s 25th year, and Saturday’s allows the team the chance to return to the top echelon of Division III.

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**SPORTS**

**Tennis Sweeps New England Tournament**

By Jennifer DeBoer

Tennis made history last weekend at the New England Regional Division III tournament, taking the top two spots in the singles and doubles tournaments. Three MIT players will move on to compete in the National Championships later this month.

Ben W. Tindell '06 won the singles finals match against teammate Vitaly Pereverzev '05 6–2, 6–4. Pereverzev and Andrew V. Kolesnikov '03 defeated Tindell and Jeffrey P. Augustyn '03 in the doubles finals match 6–0, 6–2.

The tournament is the only New England Division III tournament and consisted of 48 players for singles and 26 doubles teams from 19 schools. MIT had five singles and two doubles teams compete in the tournament.

Freshman Tindell takes singles

Tindell, the highest ranked junior tennis player to come to MIT and seeded 12th in the singles tournament, worked his way through the tournament defeating higher seeded players.

In the round of 16, Tindell upset the number one seeded player Nathan Edmonds from Middlebury 6–3, 6–4. In the second round, Tindell upset Bowdoin's number two player Matthew Burke 6–4, 6–3.

In the semifinals, the closest match of the tournament and the only match in which Tindell lost a set, Tindell dropped the first set but grabbed a quick 5–1 in the second set to Bates College's Bill Ho-Weigaard. Tindell won the second set in a tiebreaker and went on to win the third set.

"It was a really fiercely contested match," said men's tennis coach Jeffrey Hamilton. "It was the match of the tournament."

Tindell started the match slowly and made a number of groundwater errors while Ho-Weigaard attacked and forced Tindell into a few errors. In the second set, Tindell got off to a strong 5–1 lead but Ho-Weigaard fought back to even the score 6–6. The turning point in the match was when Tindell won a decisive tie breaker 7–1 to close out the second set.

Tindell continued the forceful attack into the third set and held on to win 6–4, 6–3, serving out the match.

Tindell went on to defeat teammate Pereverzev in the finals 6–2, 4–6, 6–3.

"Evan is a great player," Pereverzev said. "I didn't think I'd win though I was able to do the kind of game I wanted to play and beat him. I basically played my game." Pereverzev, seeded 9th in the tournament, made a similar climb to the top by defeating Trinity's Andrew V. Kolesnikov '03 returns a backhand during the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Men's Doubles Championship on Sunday.

Women's Volleyball vs. Bab-...