



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Undergraduate Association Vice Speaker Hannah K. Choe '06 (left) supervises students as they register to vote in the 2004 presidential election last Tuesday in the Johnson Athletic Center. The UA encouraged students to register by providing the necessary paperwork for nearly every state in the country.

Magnanti Endorses Course XIII Merger

By Kelley Rivoire
STAFF REPORTER

Dean of the School of Engineering Thomas L. Magnanti has issued a recommendation to President Charles M. Vest and Provost Robert A. Brown to consolidate the Department of Ocean Engineering, Course XIII, into the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Course II.

If approved by Vest and Brown, Vest would then bring the recommendation to the executive committee of the MIT Corporation for the final decision, said Magnanti, who estimated that this process would take two to three more months.

The recommendation is the result of the work of three committees over the past several years, said Magnanti. If adopted, the undergraduate degree in Course XIII

would be replaced by an ocean engineering track within Course II. The graduate programs in ocean engineering would remain, but would be administered by Course II, Magnanti said.

Low Enrollment Main Factor

Magnanti cited decreasing undergraduate enrollment in Course XIII as the primary reason for the merger.

Mary A. Mallowney, an administrative assistant for Course XIII, said 17 undergraduate students and 128 graduate students are enrolled in Course XIII.

Professor Rohan Abeyaratne, department head for Course II, said that enrollment in Course XIII has dwindled and may continue to

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Fewer Frosh Requested Housing Reassignments

By Jeffrey Chang

The percentage of freshmen requesting a move in the housing adjustment lottery was the lowest since Orientation 2002, the first year that freshmen were allowed to enter a summer housing lottery followed by an adjustment lottery during orientation.

Of the 1,084 members of the Class of 2008, 140 requested a move, or about one in eight freshmen. One in five freshmen requested a move in last year's adjustment

lottery, up from one in seven in 2002.

Over 75 percent of the freshmen requesting a move were able to change dormitories, or 107 of the 140.

Last year, 200 students entered the adjustment lottery, though only 110, or 55 percent, were able to move.

New House, Senior House, and Random Hall had the largest percentages of assigned freshmen requesting a move.

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Administrators in SLP Leave MIT

By Jenny Zhang
NEWS EDITOR

Several administrators from Student Life Programs have left MIT over the past three months, primarily to take new jobs.

Among those who left are Steven J. Tyrell, former associate dean for student discipline; Carol Orme-Johnson, assistant dean for student discipline; Katie O'Dair, assistant dean for residential life programs; and Ricky A. Gresh, administrator for residential programs.

Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict said that turnover is typical in the department because the staff members, many of whom are young, often leave to take better job positions or pursue educational degrees.

Administrators take new positions

Tyrell is now the Vice President of Student Affairs at Alfred State College, a member of the State

University of New York system.

"I had a wonderful experience at MIT and I will truly miss the faculty, staff, and students at MIT," Tyrell said.

O'Dair has taken a position as Boston College Assistant Dean of Graduate Student Life. "I just loved MIT," she said. However, she said she left because of the appeal of the opportunity presented to her and her interest in working with graduate students.

Gresh is now Brown University's Director of Student Activities.

Orme-Johnson said that she is currently in the job-search process for a non-profit organization because "it's where my heart is."

Committee finds replacement

Benedict said many of the positions have already been filled by promotions within MIT, and the replacement for Tyrell should be

announced within the next week.

The search committee for Tyrell's replacement, co-chaired by Associate Dean for Community Development and Substance Abuse Programs Daniel Trujillo and Associate Dean for Student Life Programs Barbara A. Baker searched for candidates this past summer, Trujillo said.

Trujillo and Baker also temporarily took over the duties left by the vacancies in the Office of Student Discipline, Trujillo said.

"It worked out really well," Trujillo said of the search process.

Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Deal Close To Completion

By Marie Y. Thibault
and Beckett W. Sterner

After almost a year and a half of intermittent negotiations, the written Payment In Lieu Of Taxes agreement is nearing finalization, said Vice-President John R. Curry.

Sarah E. Gallop, co-director of the MIT Office of Government and Community Relations, said the draft agreement will be finalized in the very near future, and she said she is "anxious" for it to be finalized.

Curry declined to comment on what the agreement would include, although the agreement would likely increase MIT's payments to Cambridge.

Cambridge City Councillor

Timothy J. Toomey Jr. said he had requested as part of the Council's instructions that City Manager Robert W. Healy negotiate for more money as well as "getting MIT involved with the public schools."

The Payment In Lieu Of Taxes agreement began in 1928 as MIT's "voluntary gift" to Cambridge, Gallop said. As a non-profit organization, MIT is exempt from property taxes.

The original impetus for a written PILOT agreement came from MIT's purchase of Technology Square in 2001.

Initially, this purchase threatened relations with Cambridge because

PILOT, Page 26



JINA KIM—THE TECH

Phi Delta Theta brother Tony Q. Wu '06 (center) introduces Adam P. Rosenfield '08 to Matthew J. Abrahamson '06 during a rush event at their house.



Jesus Christ Superstar is good but not heavenly.

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FEE results constant, physics pass rate drops.

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WORLD & NATION

U.S. Forces Enter Samarra To Assert Civilian Rule

By Dexter Filkins
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

U.S. forces entered the city of Samarra for the first time in months on Thursday, taking what appeared to be a small but significant step in their effort to regain control of contested Sunni areas north and west of the capital.

U.S. commanders said their forces, accompanied by members of the Iraqi police and by national guard soldiers, drove into the city Thursday morning after gaining assurances from local Iraqi leaders that they would not be fired on. The local leaders said they sensed divisions within the insurgents' ranks between those who favored some accommodation with the Americans and those who rejected it, and felt secure enough to issue the temporary guarantee.

U.S. soldiers and the Iraqi police then convened a meeting of the U.S.-backed council, which chose a new mayor and police chief. After a few uneventful hours, the U.S. soldiers and the Iraqi police left the way they came.

Once the Americans departed, witnesses said, the insurgents reappeared, conducting their own patrols on Samarra's streets. There were no immediate reports of reprisals against the newly installed officials.

A New Tape, Taunting, Promises Al-Qaida Will Attack in U.S.

By James Risen
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Osama bin Laden's top deputy appeared in a new videotape broadcast on an Arab television network on Thursday, taunting the United States for becoming mired in unsuccessful campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan while vowing that al-Qaida would attack the United States again.

In the tape, excerpts of which were shown on Al-Jazeera television, Ayman al-Zawahiri said that al-Qaida plans to follow up with more suicide attacks.

The timing of the tape seemed intentionally to come just two days before the third anniversary of the attacks of Sept. 11. It is the latest in a long series of audio or videotapes issued by the Qaida leadership, but unlike some others did not include an appearance by bin Laden.

"Bush, reinforce your security measures," the message said in Arabic. "The Islamic nation which sent you the New York and Washington brigades has taken the firm decision to send you successive brigades to sow death and aspire to paradise."

Powell Calls Sudan Killings Genocide in Senate Hearing

By Steven R. Weisman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell, seeking to raise pressure on Sudan to stop the atrocities in the region of Darfur, declared Thursday for the first time that the killings, rapes and destruction that have forced 1.5 million people from their homes amounted to genocide and should be treated as such by the United Nations.

In toughly worded testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Powell said he had concluded that genocide had occurred after studying the findings of experts sent to the area in July to interview victims of violence in western Sudan, much of it carried out by the government-backed militia known as the Janjaweed.

"When we reviewed the evidence compiled by our team," Powell said, "we concluded — I concluded — that genocide has been committed in Darfur and that the government of Sudan and the Janjaweed bear responsibility, and that genocide may still be occurring."

Dozens of Prisoners Hidden By CIA In Abu Ghraib Prison

By Eric Schmitt and Douglas Jehl
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Army jailers in Iraq, acting at the CIA's request, kept dozens of detainees at Abu Ghraib prison and other detention facilities off official rosters to hide them from Red Cross inspectors, two senior Army generals said Thursday. The total is far more than had been previously reported.

An Army inquiry completed last month found eight documented cases of so-called "ghost detainees," but two of the investigating generals said in testimony before two congressional committees and interviews Thursday that depositions from military personnel who served at the prison indicated that the real total was many times higher.

"The number is in the dozens, to

perhaps up to 100," Gen. Paul J. Kern, the senior officer who oversaw the Army inquiry, told the Senate Armed Services Committee. Another investigator, Maj. Gen. George R. Fay, put the figure at "two dozen or so," but both officers said they could not give a precise number because no records were kept on most of the CIA detainees.

The disclosure added to questions about the CIA's practices in Iraq, including why the agency took custody of certain Iraqi prisoners, what interrogation techniques it used, and what became of the ghost detainees, including whether they were ever returned to military custody. To date, two cases have been made public in which prisoners in CIA custody were removed from Iraq for several months and held in detention centers outside the country.

Another question left unanswered on Thursday was why Col. Thomas M. Pappas, the military intelligence officer who oversaw interrogations at the prison, agreed to let CIA officers use the prison to hide ghost detainees. Kern said that when Pappas raised questions about the practice, a top military intelligence officer in Baghdad at the time, Col. Steven Boltz, encouraged him to cooperate with the CIA because "everyone was all one team."

Still, Kern said Pappas should have challenged the practice. "If I was instructed to hold a CIA detainee in a U.S. Army facility that I owned, I would make sure that he abided by our rules, not someone else's rules," Kern told the House Armed Services Committee. "If that didn't happen, I would have asked for a very clear explanation."

Survey Shows 11.2 Percent Rise In Cost of Providing Health Care

By Milt Freudenheim
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The cost of providing health care to employees has risen 11.2 percent this year, according to the results of an authoritative national survey reported Thursday.

It was the fourth consecutive year of double-digit increases in health insurance premiums, which has resulted in a steady decline in the number of the nation's workers and their families receiving employer health care coverage.

The annual survey of 3,000 companies, conducted between January and May by the Kaiser Family Foundation and Health Research and Educational Trust, is considered a reliable indicator of health care costs paid by companies and their workers.

Perhaps the only good news in the report was its indication that the rate of increase slowed from the record 13.9 percent in 2003, turning down for the first time since 1996. But this year's jump was still more than five times the 2.2 percent increase in wages from the spring of 2003 to spring 2004, as reported

by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Small businesses are being especially hard hit as the average family coverage in preferred provider networks, the most common type of health plan, has risen to \$10,217, with employees paying \$2,691 of the total. In response to the soaring costs, many small companies are simply no longer offering coverage of a worker's spouse and children.

"Small employers just cannot afford to spend the bulk of \$10,000 on a family health plan for a \$30,000 employee," said Kate Sullivan Hare, the executive director of health care policy for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. That same family coverage "used to cost \$4,500 about six years ago," she noted.

The survey found that the share of companies of all sizes offering health benefits to their workers declined to 61 percent from 65 percent in 2001. As a result, an estimated 5 million fewer workers have access to employer health care coverage than the 127 million reported in 2001, said John Gabel, vice president for Health Research and Edu-

cational Trust.

With health care high on the list of voter concerns in election year polls, the Bush and Kerry campaigns quickly jumped into the fray.

Sen. John Kerry blamed Bush administration policies. "It's wrong to allow skyrocketing health care costs to choke off new jobs, eat up family incomes and leave millions uninsured," Kerry, the Democratic presidential candidate, said Thursday during a campaign stop in Des Moines, Iowa.

The Census Bureau said last month that the nation's total number of uninsured people had risen by 1.4 million in 2003, to a record 45 million.

Reed Dickens, a spokesman for the Bush-Cheney campaign said: "This administration has helped slow the rate of increase for the first time in seven years. The president's approach to this is a consumer-driven approach, and John Kerry's philosophy is to shift the decision-making power to the federal government and shift the financial burden to the taxpayer."

WEATHER

Ivan the Terrible

By Jonathan R. Moskaitis
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

As the rain and humidity associated with the remnants of Hurricane Frances finally make their way off the east coast today, focus again returns to the tropics for the next major weather event. This would be Hurricane Ivan, which is currently churning westward through the Caribbean Sea with sustained winds estimated at 160 mph (256 km/hr). Upon its entrance to the Caribbean on Tuesday, Ivan devastated the island nation of Grenada. The storm is blamed for at least 13 deaths on the island, and is believed to have damaged 90 percent of the available housing stock.

Ivan subsequently intensified, and is expected to overrun Jamaica this afternoon, followed by the Cayman islands on Saturday. Thereafter, the track and intensity forecasts are both quite uncertain. All that can be said right now is that a major hurricane is likely to be approaching the southern coast of Florida or entering the eastern Gulf of Mexico early next week. In fact, the Florida Keys have already begun to be evacuated. After weathering Hurricane Charley last month and Hurricane Frances last week, another major landfalling hurricane is not what Florida needs right now!

Extended Forecast:

Today: Slowly clearing skies; still warm, but less humid. High 80°F (27°C).

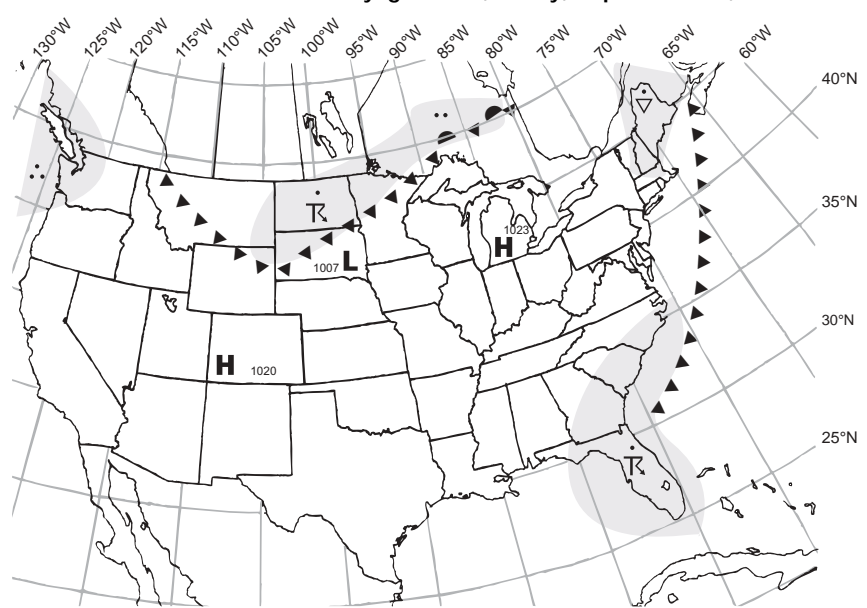
Tonight: Clear. Low 60°F (16°C).

Saturday: Partly cloudy, cooler. High 70°F (21°C).

Sunday: Partly cloudy, showers or thunderstorms possible late. High 77°F (25°C).

Monday: Mostly sunny. High 68°F (20°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, September 10, 2004



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	- - - Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Rain ·	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Light *·	Haze
	▲▲ Stationary Front	Moderate **	
		Heavy ***	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Florida, Jamaica Await Arrival Of Powerful Atlantic Hurricane

By Joseph B. Treaster

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KINGSTON, JAMAICA

Packing winds of up to 160 mph, Hurricane Ivan, the third powerful storm to boil up out of the Atlantic this year, was bearing down on Jamaica on Thursday evening after devastating Grenada, and the authorities were already evacuating the Florida Keys in anticipation of those islands being hammered this weekend.

Hurricane Ivan killed at least 13 people on the island of Grenada as it ripped through the southern Caribbean on Wednesday, wrecking thousands of homes, including Prime Minister Keith Mitchell's official residence, and breaking open a cen-

tures-old prison and freeing inmates.

The storm clipped the northern coast of Venezuela and the island nation of Trinidad and Tobago, killing at least two other people.

Here in the capital of Jamaica, a tourist island of 2.7 million people that appeared to be directly in the path of the storm, schools were closed, businesses and government offices began shutting down at noon and people along the coasts, many in lightly constructed homes, were encouraged to move to higher ground.

With a direct hit on Jamaica looking inevitable, Prime Minister P.J. Patterson urged people to secure their homes and pray.

"We can avert unnecessary

tragedy and minimize damage if we act sensibly," he said in a broadcast address. "The forces of nature can change in a short time but we have constantly to be prepared for the worst-case scenario."

In Florida, where residents were still cleaning up the wreckage from Hurricanes Charley and Frances, Gov. Jeb Bush told reporters that bracing for a third storm in less than a month seemed surreal.

"Maybe someone in Hollywood could come up with something like this," he said. "But this is past my imagination."

Hurricane Ivan was expected to hit Jamaica early Friday, then move on to Cuba and arrive in the Florida Keys by as early as Sunday morning.

Bush May Have Received Special Treatment in Nat'l Guard Service

By Katharine Q. Seelye and Jim Rutenberg

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A day after memos emerged suggesting that George W. Bush received favorable treatment when he was in the National Guard during the Vietnam War, the son of Bush's squadron commander said he doubted the authenticity of some of the memos his father was said to have written.

The White House, meanwhile, for the second day in a row dismissed renewed questions about Bush's service as "recycled" and said they were part of a "coordinated attack" by Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic presidential nominee, and his associates.

The new fracas over Bush's service began after CBS News and its program "60 Minutes" reported on four memos they said were from the file of Lt. Col. Jerry B. Killian, who died 20 years ago. The memos said Bush had disobeyed a direct order to go for a physical in 1972 and that Killian had felt pressure to "sugarcoat" Bush's record.

In an interview with The Associated Press on Thursday, the officer's son, Gary Killian, said he doubted his father wrote some of

the memos. "I am upset because I think it is a mixture of truth and fiction here," Gary Killian said.

CBS said in a statement that it stood by its story and the memos' authenticity. "As is standard practice at CBS News, the documents in the '60 Minutes' report were thoroughly examined and their authenticity vouched for by independent experts," the statement said. "As importantly, '60 Minutes' also interviewed close associates of Col. Jerry Killian. They confirm that the documents reflect his opinions and actions at the time."

The news organization declined to say how it obtained the memos.

Gary Killian, who served in the Guard with his father, said one of the memos looked legitimate. But he said he doubted his father would have written the one referring to sugarcoating Bush's performance record.

"It just wouldn't happen," he told The AP. "The only thing that can happen when you keep secret files like that are bad things." He could not be reached for comment Thursday.

The White House itself did not contest the memos' authenticity and handed them out to reporters. It continued on Thursday to handle questions based on the memos, par-

ticularly about the accusation that Bush failed to take a physical "as ordered." The physical was required in order for Bush to remain a pilot.

Asked about a passage in one memo saying Bush had failed to take the ordered physical, Scott McClellan, the White House press secretary, deflected the question and told reporters on Air Force One that such attacks were expected because Kerry was "falling behind in the polls" and because Bush had had "a very successful convention."

Asked again about the order, McClellan said that Bush had been "seeking to transfer to a unit in Alabama because he was going there to work in a civilian capacity," suggesting that he did not need to maintain his status as a pilot at that time and therefore did not need a physical. Asked if the president did or did not defy the order, McClellan said the Democrats were engaging in "recycled attacks."

Joe Lockhart, a spokesman for the Kerry campaign, said: "Rather than deal with real issues with real candor, Mr. McClellan is resorting to hurling nonsensical, inaccurate and baseless charges at the Kerry campaign."

U.S. To Pay Fliers 1.5 Million Dollars For Stolen or Damaged Checked Bags

By Matthew L. Wald

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Transportation Security Administration will pay more than \$1.5 million to some 15,000 airline passengers who claim that items in their checked baggage were stolen or damaged in the last 18 months, the agency will announce next week.

Since airport security was tightened after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, checked baggage is handled by federal inspectors as well as airline employees. Fliers reporting stolen or damaged items have found themselves in a no-man's land with both the government and the airlines refusing to take responsibility for compensating them. Months of negotiations failed to resolve the impasse because of differences in how the airlines and the government handle such claims.

A spokesman for the agency, Mark O. Hatfield, said, "Passengers have been caught in the middle long enough and the TSA decided it's time to settle these claims, even in the absence of a long-term agreement with the airlines."

According to Hatfield, the average payment in cases where a pay-

ment is made will be about \$110.

The agency has finished processing about 18,000 of the 26,000 claims that have been filed, according to agency officials. It has settled only about 1,800 claims in the last 22 months.

Historically, the airlines have had problems with pilferage by their baggage handlers. But since June, more than 20 TSA baggage screeners have been charged with stealing from checked bags.

Since the start of the inspections, which often take place in secluded, windowless rooms at the airports, passengers have complained about missing items as diverse as golf umbrellas, silk underwear, laptop computers and prescription painkillers, and about damage to cameras and other sensitive equipment. A New York woman complained recently that when her daughter arrived for a visit from Salt Lake City, her bag included "a large man's ski clothes," including helmet, boots, and gloves.

According to passengers, airline customer service agents say the problem is security screeners. Security agency personnel have blamed airline baggage handlers.

"The proverbial 'chain of cus-

tody' has been broken," said one executive, on condition that his company not be identified. "The airline has possession of your bags when you check them in. But from that point to the point where it's delivered on the baggage carousel, it could be intercepted by the TSA or a baggage handler."

The airlines had sought a system in which they would share the claims with the government. Many said they wanted a system in which they would process the claims, using their insurance adjusters and their historical databases, which can help track possible passenger fraud. They also wanted to know whom the government was paying, so customers could not try to collect twice.

But government officials said that letting the airlines know who was receiving claim payments could violate federal privacy laws. And the government has stricter standards for paying damage claims than do private businesses, which often try to accommodate their best customers.

In addition, airline executives said that the agency was trying to put a cap on its share of the payments.

NASA Hopes To Salvage Samples From Crashed Capsule

By Warren E. Leary

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Scientists are optimistic that they will retrieve useful information from the smashed capsule that fell to earth in the Utah desert after three years in space, officials said Thursday.

NASA officials said the crushed sample canister holding billions of solar particles collected 930,000 miles out in space was being assessed in the controlled environment of a laboratory clean room at the Army's Dugway Proving Ground. Peeking through a crack in the container, officials said some of the collector plates holding the solar samples appeared to be intact while others were pulverized on impact.

The \$264 million Genesis mission, which had gone smoothly since its launching in 2001, ended in disappointment Wednesday when two parachutes failed to open after the sample capsule returned on schedule from space. The 450-pound, disc-shaped capsule slammed into the sand and mud of the desert at 193 mph, cracking open at the seams as it buried itself halfway into the ground.

"There was a lot of damage done," Dr. David Lindstrom, NASA's Genesis program scientist, said in a telephone news conference. "We have a mangled mess of a spacecraft."

Lindstrom said experts were taking their time examining the sample capsule to determine how badly dirt and other materials had contaminated it. Scientists want to move carefully to prevent further damaging the samples and to develop a plan for opening the capsule while causing the least harm.

After Siege, Russia Begins To Reorganize Security Services

By Seth Mydans

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

The Kremlin reorganized its local security services on Thursday in the region where hundreds of people were killed last week in a school hostage-taking, the first public step in a program of heightened security announced earlier by President Vladimir V. Putin.

The minister of transport said that tighter security measures were being prepared for airports and that special "search groups" had already been organized.

A week after gunmen took over the school, in North Ossetia, leading to the deaths of more than 300 people — about half of them children — Putin moved forward with a hard-line anti-terrorism policy that has brought him into public conflict with some Western governments.

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said the United States and European nations were employing "double standards" in the struggle against terrorism by maintaining contacts with and giving shelter to moderate leaders of the separatist movement in Chechnya.

In a gesture apparently meant to underscore the similar threats faced by Russia and the United States, Lavrov was reported to be meeting Thursday with New York's former mayor, Rudolph W. Giuliani, who is visiting Moscow.

Following what seemed to be a U.S. playbook, Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov repeated an assertion Wednesday by the military chief of staff that Russia was ready to strike pre-emptively against terrorists outside its borders. "A war has been declared against us and we have to use the means available to us for self-defense," Ivanov said.

Putin, in a speech on Saturday about the attack, said, "I consider it necessary to create a new system of forces and means for exercising control over the situation in the North Caucasus."

He was shown Thursday on television meeting with his interior minister, Rashid Nuraliyev, who told him, "Working executive groups have been formed that will coordinate the activities of the security forces to avert the threat of terrorism and also to prevent attacks by illegal armed groups."

DuPont Agrees To Settle West Virginia Pollution Lawsuit

By Michael Janofsky

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

DuPont has agreed to settle a class-action lawsuit in which West Virginia residents accused the company of having contaminated local water supplies with a toxic ingredient used in making Teflon products.

The settlement, which is subject to approval from a circuit court judge, would include cash payments and other expenditures valued at \$85 million as well as \$22.6 million in legal fees and as much as \$235 million for a medical monitoring program if an independent panel finds a link between the chemical, perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, and human health.

"After two years of discussions, we are pleased to reach an agreement that places our combined priorities where they belong — on the community and not on lengthy and contentious legal proceedings," DuPont's general counsel, Stacey J. Mobley, said in a statement, adding that the settlement implied no admission of liability by DuPont.

But Ken Cook, president of the Environmental Working Group, an organization that has focused on what it says are the adverse affects of chemicals used in making Teflon and a vocal critic of DuPont, contended the company would not have settled "if officials didn't think they were guilty of polluting local tap water and the people themselves."

The settlement grew out of a 2001 lawsuit against DuPont filed on behalf of people living in and near Parkersburg, W. Va., where DuPont has been making Teflon for 50 years. They charged the company with having knowingly contaminated land, air and water around the plant and said that excessive amounts of PFOA had been found in public drinking water.

The company responded to the lawsuit by saying neither PFOA nor Teflon posed any health risks to human beings.

In addition to the financial terms of the settlement, DuPont has agreed to provide six water districts in the Parkersburg area with water-treatment equipment to reduce the amount of PFOA to levels prescribed by the water districts. Also, the company has agreed to create a panel that will study any potential link between PFOA and human illness.

OPINION



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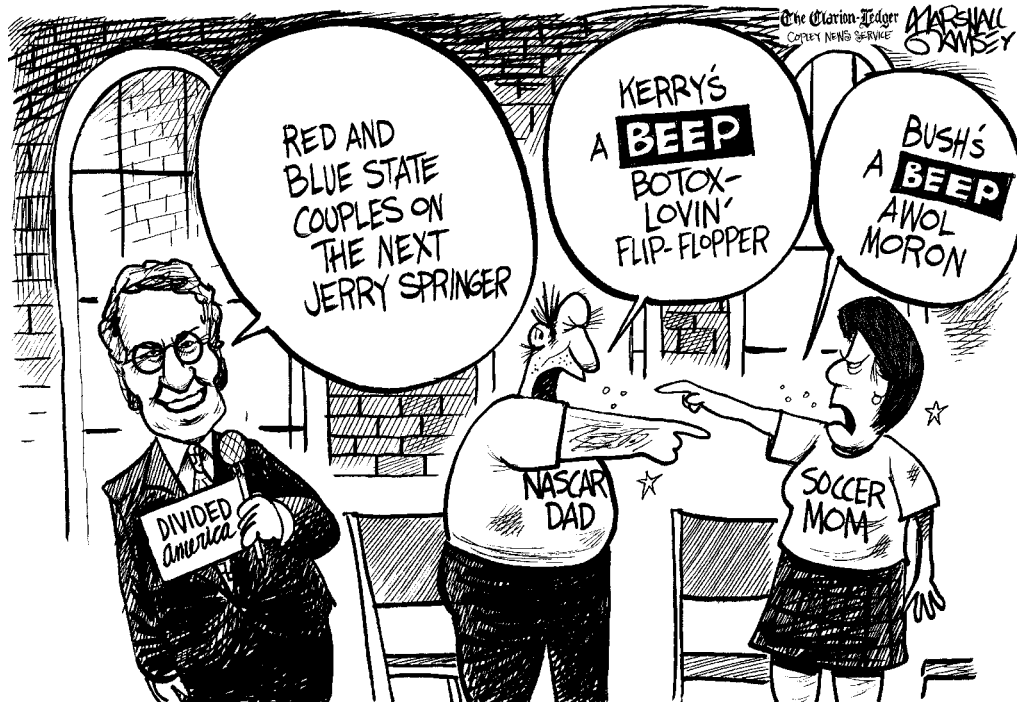
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Letters To The Editor

Can't Ignore Widening Poverty Gap

Mr. Baldasaro's recent commentary from Sept. 1 ["What is Poverty?"] on the definition of poverty is as amusing as it is appalling. In a thoroughly condescending tone, he summons the anachronism of a Middle Ages middle class to explain how well off the poor are today in the United States of America. It may be helpful for Mr. Baldasaro in reviewing his conclusions to consider some numbers from the Federal government. In 2003, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated that 12.5 percent of the U.S. population was considered impoverished, earning below \$8,980 for a single person or \$18,400 for a family of four. In addition, in 2002, the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimated that 11.1 percent of the U.S. was "food insecure," almost a third of which was "with hunger." With numbers like those above, I hope that in the year 3000 people will marvel at the high levels of poverty we live with in the U.S. and especially in other countries. Whether you're a plebeian in the early Republic, a peasant in the Middle

Ages, or an impoverished laborer in South Boston in 2004, hunger is hunger.

I am fortunate not to be in poverty, and I would never pretend to know what it is like to live in poverty. However, I do believe social services are necessary and that a discussion about division of wealth is healthy. Social services like Welfare, Medicaid, and reduced-price school lunches exist because we have compassion for those who are not as well-off as ourselves, whether by birth or by misfortune. Similarly, the recent calls for universal health care in the U.S. stem less from entitlement than from a desire to help the 40+ million in the United States who cannot afford basic health care.

We pride ourselves in the U.S. for balancing fulfillment of personal desires with magnanimity. We cannot achieve that balance without discussing the gap between "rich" and "poor" and proper distribution of wealth.

Scott Bradley G

Humanities for Engineers

I think it's great that Ruth Miller in her

[Friday, September 3] article "Surprise! MIT has Humanities" encourages students to take more classes in the Humanities and to major in these fields, and she should be commended. For all its Science and Engineering prowess, I think MIT could use some diversity and strength in the Liberal Arts. Unfortunately, none of the fields (with the exception of Linguistics/Philosophy) that Ms. Miller listed are considered humanities. Only at a school like MIT could Social Science fields like Economics, Political Science, and Urban Studies be dubbed "Humanities," as if these fields are the only conceivable option if a student feels that Science and Engineering are not for him or her. I was shocked that Ms. Miller neglected to mention ANY major in Course 21 (real Humanistic fields): Literature, Foreign Languages, Writing, History etc. While Ms. Miller may think herself a "Bona Fide Humanity major" (and I suspect she truly appreciates these subjects), Course 17 ain't gonna cut it... except maybe to a Physics major.

Mahni Ghorashi '05
Course 21L, 21M

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, opinion editors, a senior editor, and an opinion staffer.

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. 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, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

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 the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

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. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. *The Tech* can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.

Small Town Feel in the Shadow of Big City Lights

Ali Wyne

I was shopping for school supplies at Wal-Mart (well, Super Wal-Mart, to be precise) one evening a few weeks ago, and when I placed everything on the counter, the cashier asked me if I was starting college.

I thought that he was going to ask me if I was starting high school, since I am rather short for my age. I imagine that my noticeably unshaven face made me look older.

"What school are you going to?," he casually asked.

"MIT," I replied.

Now perhaps MIT is not instantly recognized like its neighbor, Harvard, but I can say with reasonable confidence that the average person, after a few seconds of contemplation, will recognize it as "that techy school" up in Massachusetts, even if he or she does not know what MIT stands for.

Anyway, the cashier nodded for a few seconds, and then, as he put some of my pens and pencils into the bag, he said, "Great school."

"Thanks," I said.

Then he asked me, "Where is MIT, somewhere out in Central Illinois?"

Understandably, I was taken aback.

When I informed him that MIT was located in Cambridge, he vigorously nodded, almost as if to say that Cambridge was his second guess.

There was something charming and comforting about this exchange. Although MIT is one of the most recognized schools in the country and in the world, it still has a little "privacy," because not everybody knows that it exists and, as I found out, some people think

that it is located in the Midwest. As such, MIT still maintains a vestige of quaintness. Ivy League schools, to the contrary, are like people in the public eye, known and judged by all, often unfairly.

Admittedly, I was intimidated by MIT's campus — partly because many of the buildings which I thought to be corporate skyscrapers were actually dormitories, and partly because of its sheer size. Just today, because I was unaware of the Tech Shuttle's schedule, I walked a good two blocks down the Charles River to meet my advisor. Yet, MIT's campus does not seem impersonal or imposing. I think it's because MIT takes on the flavor of Cambridge, just like ribs take on the flavor of the barbecue sauce with which they are brushed (I love analogies involving food). Cambridge is sort of like a bigger version of my hometown, Fredericksburg, Virginia, a place where people are good-natured and indulge life's simple pleasures: reading a good book, sampling ethnic cuisine, biking early in the morning, chatting with friends at a café, catching the latest flick, or watching a sporting event.

On the night that my dad and I arrived here for Campus Preview Weekend, we decided to pick up dinner at a pizza joint. There was a customer in front of us, and I noticed that he

and the man preparing the pizza were having an intense chat about the baseball game between the Red Sox and Yankees. Even though I have never been much of a baseball fan, I have decided to be a Sox fan, because I see no reason to bring upon myself undue pain. I heard a story of a poor man who was stupid enough to wear a Yankees cap in Cambridge — I presume that having a beer bottle broken on the back of his head sufficed in teaching him to act more prudently. Anyway, after the customer got his pizza, the cook warmly asked my dad,

"What kind of pizza would you like?"

He told us about some of the specials, but we decided to stick with our trusted favorite: veggie lovers. As he made our pizza, we struck up a conversation — about Boston sporting events, the Charles River, and a few other random topics. Sensing that we were not natives of Boston, he told us where some of the nearby drugstores and 7-11s were in case we needed anything. You generally find such generosity and hospitality in small towns, even though Cambridge is anything but a small town.

No commentary on Boston's people would be complete without a snippet about Vincent, the portly Italian gentleman who was kind enough to give me a haircut at a moment's notice a couple of days ago. Before he started

cutting my hair, he placed my head upright. Feeling uncomfortable, I moved my head back. He in turn placed my head upright once again, and after I had moved my head back two more times, he stopped. With a self-assured, Brandoesque tone, he chided me —

"You gotta trust me. I've been in business for 25 years. You don't trust me, I give you bad haircut."

For fear of coming to school with a shaved head, I heeded Vincent's admonition, and I must say that I was quite pleased with the way that the haircut turned out. Vincent told me that his door was always open if I ever again needed a good trimming.

And of course, there are the people at MIT. The prevailing stereotype of MIT students, one in which I admit that I believed, is that they talk about calculus all day, wear huge-rimmed glasses (not that there is anything wrong with glasses), and walk like they always have sun in their eyes — kind of like John Nash in the movie *A Beautiful Mind*. All of the people that I have met completely defy this mold. They ask you if you want to come along to the next Orange Tour, tell you what's going down at this or that dorm, inform you where to go to get free food, and recommend that you register at thefacebook.com. Even though I have only spent a few days at MIT, I can say with absolute certainty that the next four years of my life will be some of the best. After all, it is rare to find one individual who is at once humble but confident; laid back but motivated; "nerdy" but athletic; dorky but brilliant; and perceptive but non-judgmental. It is, of course, much rarer to find 1,084 such individuals together under one "roof."

Ali Wyne is a member of the Class of 2008.

Although MIT is one of the most recognized schools in the country and in the world, it still has a little "privacy," because not everybody knows that it exists and, as I found out, some people think that it is located in the Midwest.

Dissent is Patriotic

Josh Levinger

"Whose streets? Our streets."

The chants at the massive demonstrations against the Republican National Convention in New York City last Sunday were usually as short, but rarely as true as the above. I joined a half million people in taking over two miles of Seventh Avenue from Union Square to Madison Square Garden. Several thousand then made their separate ways to Central Park for a gathering in defiance of a city ruling that a demonstration would destroy the grass. The biggest demonstration during a political convention showed that some in this generation haven't succumbed to apathy.

Various actions continued through the week, including a day of "direct action", a code name for civil disobedience and anarchic action, on Aug. 31. While the New York City Police had been remarkably restrained for the first two days of the convention, they lost patience as small groups harassed delegates all over the city. As soon as a few people gathered on a street corner and unfurled signs or began to legally march on the sidewalk, the police simply wrapped the entire area in orange netting and arrested everyone inside. Many members of the press, civilians merely in the wrong place in the wrong time, and peaceful protesters were wrongly detained.

Nearly 1,700 arrestees were taken in city buses to a dirty pier on the Hudson, made to

lie on an oily cement floor without padding, and held in excess of the legally mandated 24 hours. The rationale for this long wait is either incompetence or a desire to keep protesters locked up until the President left the city. Either excuse is unacceptable. On Thursday, a New York State judge ordered the release of those prisoners held for more than 24 hours and fined the city \$1000 per illegally detained person.

I had left the city before the mass arrests began, but did experience some action. I narrowly missed an arrest and perhaps a beating in front of the Broadway

Theater where my state's delegates saw the play "Bombay Dreams." I was able to converse peacefully with delegates and members of Congress attending a party at a bowling alley late on Sunday night, until the police showed up and cleared the sidewalks under threat of violence.

Some at the Republican Convention questioned the patriotism of the demonstrators. Zell Miller, a renegade Democrat who gave the keynote address on Wednesday, claimed that Kerry's protest of the Vietnam war "weakened our military." He said "it is the soldier, not the agitator, who has given us the freedom to protest." While the soldier defends that right with blood, the right itself is given to all by the Constitution, and expected as the behavior of an active citizen by our founding fathers. No less a

man than Thomas Jefferson stated that "dissent is the highest form of patriotism."

While Zell Miller may compare me with a terrorist, dissent is our most important political right, enshrined in the First Amendment. Whatever your views — speak up. Dissent has been curtailed in previous times of war, and it is often the first right to go in dictatorships. To truly honor those who sacrificed themselves defending our freedoms, practice the rights guaranteed to you in the Constitution. Silence is the ultimate act of condonation, defiant dissent its antithesis.

Both political parties claim that this is a defining moment in our history. That couldn't be more true. While both candidates use remarkably similar language on certain issues, particularly the war, we are faced with a choice between two radically different visions for the future of the United States. Unlike the last election, where it seemed we were given the choice between Tweedledee and Tweedledum, the choices these two candidates make, and the people they surround themselves with, will take this country in different directions.

Which future you support is your decision, but participation in democracy is not. I don't care who you vote for — just vote. Request an absentee ballot from your state, read a real newspaper, and make an informed decision. Thanks to the peculiarities of the electoral system, your vote in Massachusetts is meaningless, because the state is guaranteed to go for Kerry. If you want your vote to count, vote by mail.

You don't have to risk arrest or bodily harm to be a patriot, but you do have to vote.

Josh Levinger is a member of the Class of 2007.

Silence is the ultimate act of condonation, defiant dissent its antithesis.

Errata

The Sept. 2 Letter to the Editor "Comparing Apples and Oranges" misstated Shankar Muherji's class. It is G, not '08.

The Sept. 3 Letter to the Editor "The Real Gwinnett County" misstated the author's name. The author is Justin Wong, not Jason Wong.

In a Sept. 2 news article ["Percentage Female Freshmen Declines"], the percentage of females in the Class of 2007 was incorrectly stated. Females make up 45 percent of the class of 2007, not 49 percent, making for a three percentage point decline rather than a seven percentage point decline.

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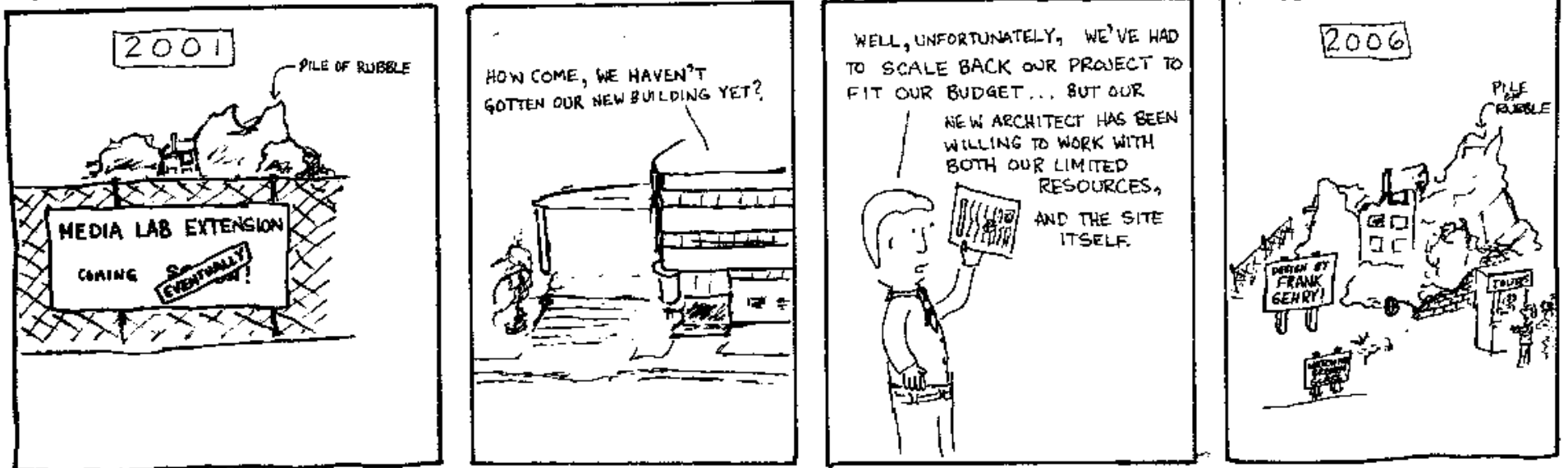


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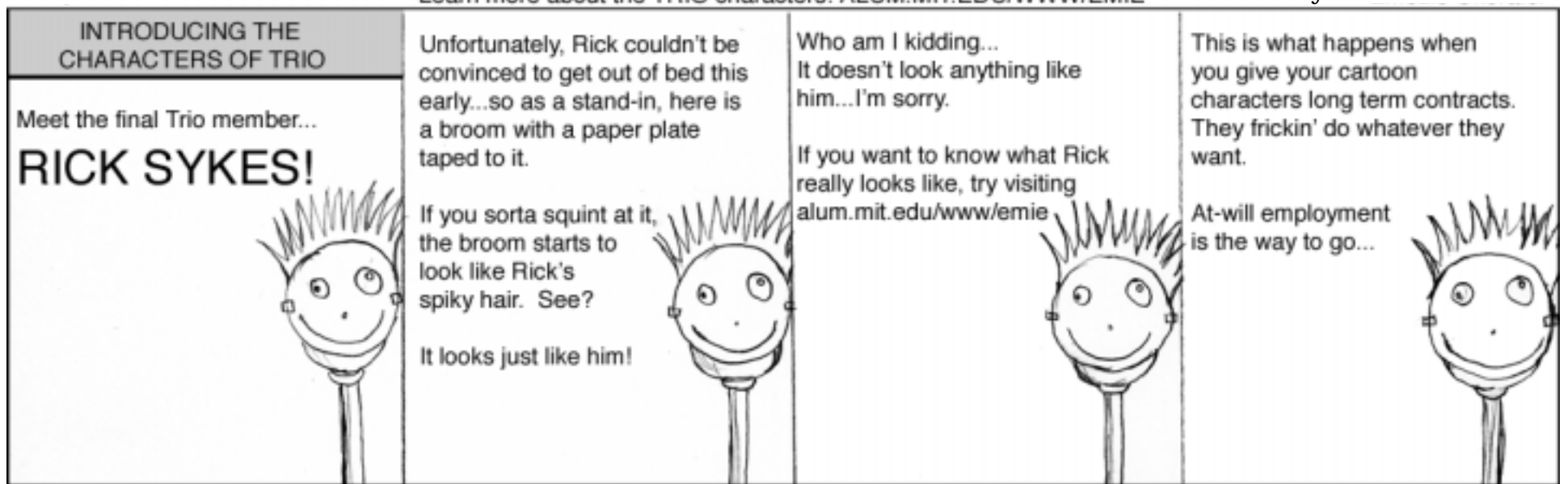
by Jason Burns



Trio

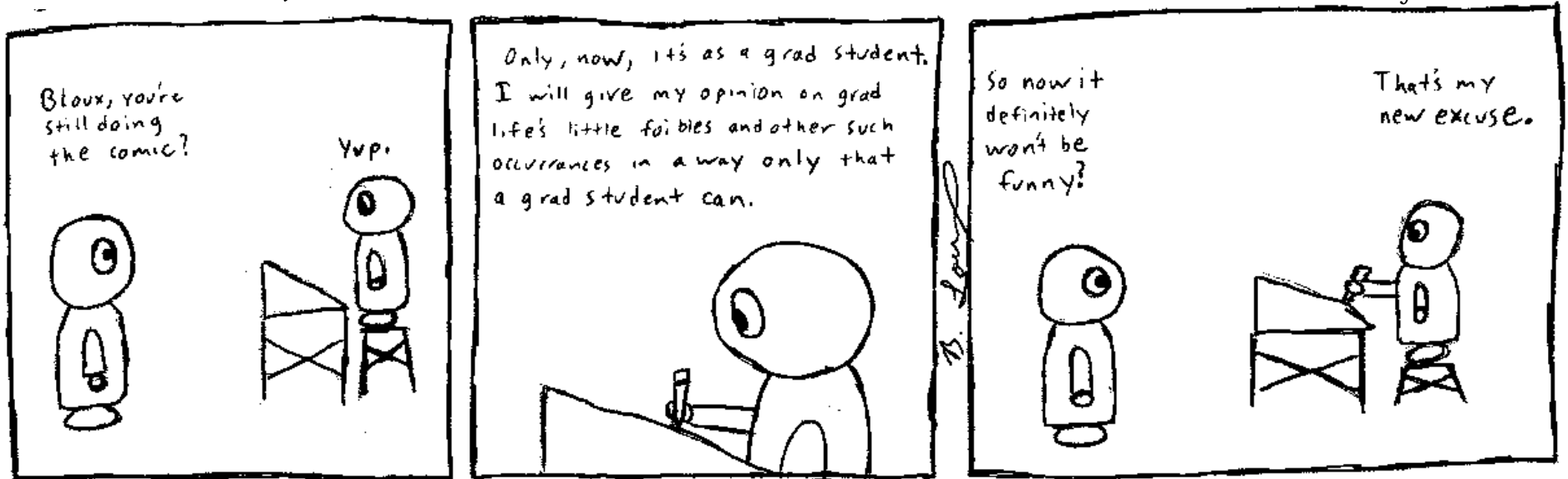
Learn more about the TRIO characters: ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

by Emezie Okorafor



I've Told You, There is No Title: Back in the Sack

by Brian Loux

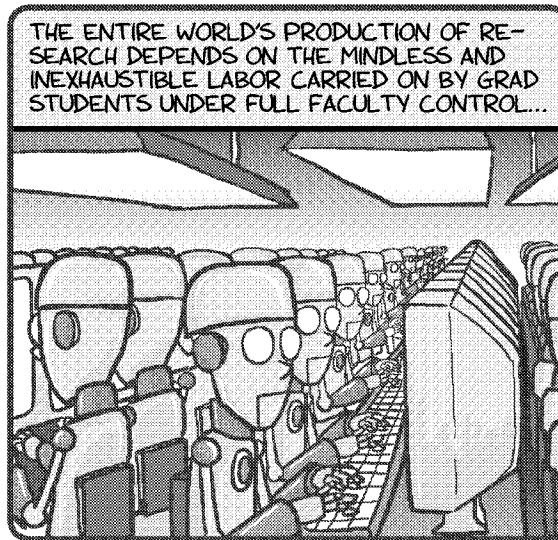
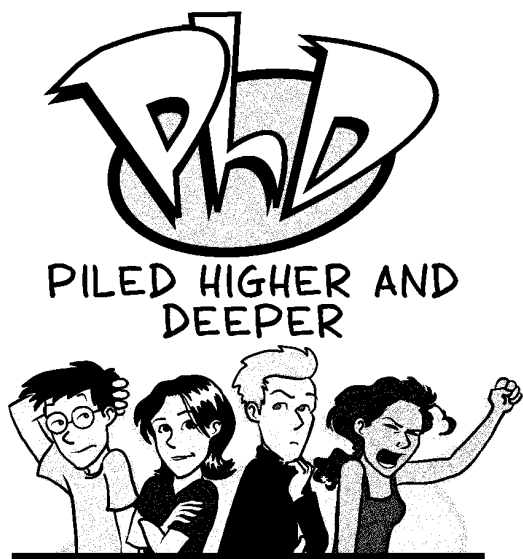


Splatform

by James Biggs



Stan's heartburn was often mistaken for patriotism.



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FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

Crossword Puzzle

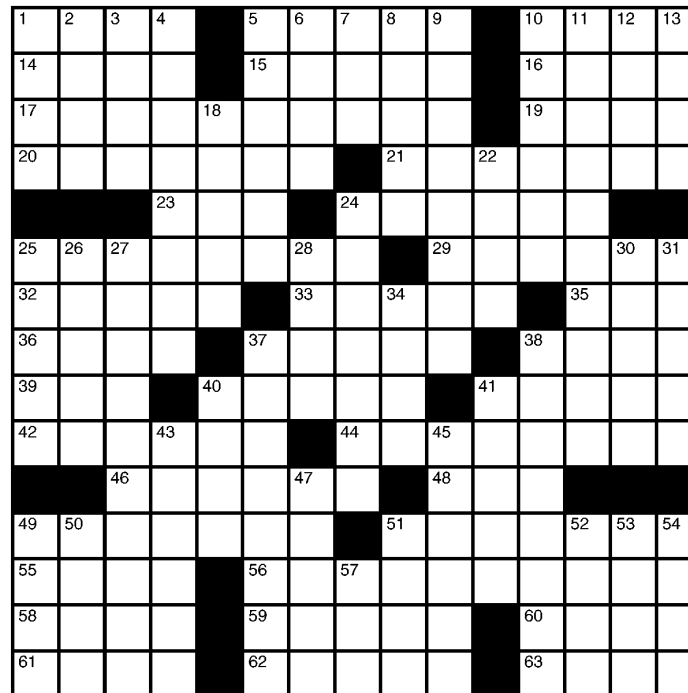
Solution, page 12

- ACROSS
- 1 Periods
 - 5 Feudal peons
 - 10 U.S. tennis great
 - 14 Anderson of "WKRP..."
 - 15 Vinegar vessel
 - 16 Dutch artist Mondrian
 - 17 One using crude coercion
 - 19 Singer Brickell
 - 20 San __, CA
 - 21 Roof protuberances
 - 23 Maximum limit
 - 24 In dreamland
 - 25 Illegal marriages
 - 29 Poe's lady
 - 32 Habitué
 - 33 Titled ladies
 - 35 Half a dance?
 - 36 Convent crowd
 - 37 Belushi biography

- 38 Lose traction
- 39 Loud noise
- 40 Book before Philemon
- 41 "Harlem Nights" co-star
- 42 Fashioned
- 44 Mourned
- 46 Greek goddess of the moon
- 48 Cry of discovery
- 49 '50s-revival group
- 51 Lunar features
- 55 Muscle spasms
- 56 Boob tubes
- 58 Sommer of "A Shot in the Dark"
- 59 Simpleton
- 60 Saturn feature
- 61 Playwright Hart
- 62 Bill of Microsoft
- 63 Editor's command

- DOWN
- 1 Maxwell or Lanchester
 - 2 Motley horse
 - 3 Miller and Jillian
 - 4 Motorcycle adjuncts
 - 5 Garlic shrimp dish
 - 6 Cogito __ sum
 - 7 Runner, e.g.
 - 8 Nourishes
 - 9 Moseyed
 - 10 Tarzan wannabes
 - 11 Billiards target, perhaps
 - 12 Will VIP
 - 13 Somme summers
 - 18 Accuse
 - 22 Jed or Roger
 - 24 In general
 - 25 Tight spots
 - 26 Greenland Eskimo
 - 27 Burlap containers

- 28 Perfect prose, perhaps
- 30 Lift
- 31 Finished
- 34 City near Phoenix
- 37 Divergence
- 38 Former Washington nine
- 40 Brain tissue
- 41 Ford Clinic, e.g.
- 43 Parts of spectacles
- 45 Robbins and Feldman
- 47 First name in gymnastics
- 49 Staunch
- 50 Hawaiian port
- 51 Geometric solid
- 52 Egress
- 53 M. Descartes
- 54 Certain NCO
- 57 \$ from a bank



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Adv. Standing Pass Rates Vary By Dept.

By Jiao Wang

The results from several recent Advanced Standing examinations and the Freshman Essay Evaluation have been reported, with pass rates varying widely among departments.

Of approximately 200 students who took the Advanced Standing Chemistry exam, 12 percent were able to receive credit for Principles of Chemical Science (5.111).

Twenty-five out of 59 students who took the Calculus (18.01) advanced standing exam received

credit, and 42 out of 64 students who took the Calculus (18.02) advanced standing exam received credit.

Kathleen M. Long of the Biology Education Office said that that of the 15 students who took the Biology Advanced Standing Examination, 3 passed.

The percentage of students who received credit for Physics I (8.01) and Physics II (8.02) through advanced standing examinations

FEE, Page 11



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Freshman take the Advance Standing chemistry exam on Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Apply your engineering skill and creativity to the challenges of the American Soldier

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FEE Designed As 'Experience,' Not Exam

FEE, from Page 9

dropped significantly. This year, 32 percent of students who took the 8.01 advanced standing exam received credit, compared with 59 percent in 2003 and 24 percent in 2002. Sixty-one percent of students who took the 8.02 advanced standing exam received credit this year, compared with 70 percent last year and 39 percent in 2002.

Brian E. Canavan, academic administrator for the physics department, said the cut-off score for the physics advanced standing examinations varies from year to year because a different group of faculty writes the exam every year.

As a result of their performance on the Freshman Essay Evaluation, approximately 72 percent of the 900 freshmen who took the FEE will be allowed to take Communication Intensive subject within the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CI-H), compared with 74 percent last year.

About five percent of the freshmen who took the FEE must take Expository Writing for Bilingual Students (21F.222) as their first CI subject, while 23 percent must take a CI Humanities Writing (CI-HW) class as their first CI subject.

Students who received a score of 5 on either of the Advanced Placement Language and Composition or AP Literature and Composition exams did not have to take the FEE and can also take any CI-H class.

FEE an "educational experience"

Leslie C. Perelman, director of writing across the curriculum, said the FEE, which is often a student's first encounter with MIT academics, is "not a test, but an educational experience." He does not believe

that the FEE should be a "pass" or "fail" exam, but rather a way to place incoming students in the appropriate introductory HASS classes.

He said his department is reconsidering whether or not it will accept the AP examinations as an automatic exemption. Perelman said AP composition examinations force students to write quick and impromptu essays on a variety of subjects without really thinking in depth about the topic. Instead, he would like all students to take the FEE, which he believes allows for the development of intelligent argu-

ments in response to complex issues and is a good approximation of what writing at MIT is like.

The structure of the FEE is based upon the philosophy of Paul Deitrich, who developed the Educational Testing Service's current method for evaluating writing ability. Deitrich believes that the composition of two essays of different types at different times gives a reliable demonstration of the test-taker's knowledge in a particular field of writing. In this respect, the FEE consists of an expository essay and a narrative essay.

One of the greatest difficulties

that the department faces when choosing a FEE topic is dealing fairly MIT's extreme diverse population. According to Perelman, the department must choose an article that gives "equal access to all people." Many good articles about popular American pastimes have been ruled out in the past due to their culture-bias.

Most of the articles selected are about education, science, or technology since most students at MIT will move on to become scientists and engineers. Past sources include *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's* and *New York Times*.

Word.

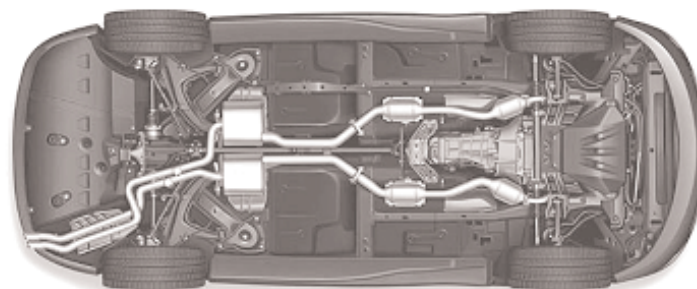


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Sixty Rooms Remain Crowded After Housing Lottery

Housing, from Page 1

Less than ten percent of the freshmen at Baker House and MacGregor House requested a dormitory change in the lottery.

"There was a larger variety of preferences this year ... there was no particular building" that was favored largely over others, said Denise A. Vallay, assistant director for undergraduate housing. "I think this speaks to how well rush went," she said.

Most freshmen get first choice

The majority, 58 percent, of the students in the lottery received their

first choice, 24 percent got their second choice, 16 percent were assigned to their third choice dormitories, and the remaining two percent were assigned to their fourth choice dormitories.

Of the 33 students whose requests to move were unsuccessful, 32 of them had only selected one other dormitory in their preferences list, said Vallay.

Filling in all four preference slots in the lottery, Vallay said, lets the housing office know that the person is extremely anxious to leave his or her dormitory.

All of the students with three or more choices in the lottery were

able to move, she said.

Students that were unable to move can still fill out a change request on the undergraduate housing Web site, <http://web.mit.edu/housing/undergrad/application.html>, and be added to the waiting list. Changes will be made as rooms free

up during the year.

Vallay said that overcrowding remains in seven of the eleven residences: Baker House, Burton-Conner, East Campus, MacGregor, McCormick, New House, and Next House. East Campus and McCormick are the

most crowded dormitories, while MacGregor is the least crowded, she said.

About 60 rooms across campus are housing an extra student, though the crowding should go down over the year as some students move off campus, Vallay said.

Dormitory	Requested transfers	Percent of dorm	Moved out	Moved in
Baker	8	7	7	7
Bexley	4	10	4	4
Burton-Conner	35	23	19	19
East Campus	28	22	22	22
MacGregor	10	9	9	9
McCormick*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New House**	25	32	21	21
Next House*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Random Hall	8	27	8	7
Senior House	16	31	11	12

* McCormick and Next House participate in Residence-Based Advising, and their residents are not eligible to enter the adjustment lottery.
 ** The numbers for New House include the Cultural Houses



Despite the rain yesterday, brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon prepare a barbecue in front of their rush RV.

JINA KIM—THE TECH

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The Production Department's Word of the Day:

se-gue

Pronunciation:
'se-(")gwA, 'sA-

Function:

verb imperative

Etymology:

Italian, there follows, from seguire to follow, from Latin sequi

1 : proceed to what follows without pause -- used as a direction in music

2 : perform the music that follows like that which has preceded -- used as a direction in music

Solution to Crossword
from page 7

E	R	A	S	S	E	R	F	S	A	S	H	E	
L	O	N	I	C	R	U	E	T	P	I	E	T	
S	A	N	D	B	A	G	G	E	R	E	D	I	E
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			C	A	P	A	S	L	E	E	P		
B	I	G	A	M	I	E	S	L	E	N	O	R	E
I	N	U	R	E	D	A	M	E	S	C	A	N	
N	U	N	S	W	I	R	E	D	S	K	I	D	
D	I	N	T	I	T	U	S	R	E	E	S	E	
S	T	Y	L	E	D	L	A	M	E	N	T	E	D
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S	H	A	N	A	N	A	C	R	A	T	E	R	S
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ARTS

THEATER REVIEW

New 'Jesus Christ': Not a Superstar

MTG's Production of the 1971 Classic Fails to Impress

By Beckett W. Sterner
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Jesus Christ Superstar
MIT Musical Theater Guild
Kresge Little Theater
Sept. 9-11, 8 p.m.

In times like these, when pop culture freely explores the emotional difficulties of an adolescent Superman, the notion that even our greatest idols have problems is no longer controversial. Back in the day (1971), the greatest impact of *Jesus Christ Superstar* was exactly that Jesus was as much human as god, and that meant he could sing angsty rock just as well as anybody else. The MTG production lacks this punch through little fault of its own, and though it reaches for something new, the show's success derives more from a few well done scenes rather than the musical as a whole.

The obvious controversy of the production, of course, is that Jesus, played by Wellesley student Allison Linker '05, is a girl. But because the script remained unchanged, even to he versus she, the choice seemed driven far more by singing range than reinterpretation, excepting the hard-to-miss differences (Mary Magdalene, who knew?). Linker did an excellent job of singing, hitting Jesus's difficult entrances right on target, although at times she was overpowered by the orchestra and ensemble and also does not seem to have done enough smoking in her life to scream like a real punk rocker.

In general, Linker and Director Peter G. Chambers G seem to have envisioned Jesus as a passive, introspective character whose importance on stage comes more from her relative inaction than dominance. However, the most successful and moving scene of the entire show features Christ in the center of

the stage, vainly struggling to heal the writhing and moaning crowd of sick and injured at her feet. Ultimately overwhelmed by the task, she is finally forced to scream them away and acknowledge she is not God in full. It is the directness of Christ's pain that makes this moment, and the impassivity during the rest of the play hinders the audience from connecting with Jesus's plight.

The other top moment of the show, impressively entertaining and funny, was King Herod's (Aaron P. Moronez '04) brief appearance and dance number, ultimately judging Jesus as too boring and sending him back to Pontius Pilate (James L. Kirtley, Jr. '94).

Chambers did everything right here, capturing Herod's decadence with a liberal mix of fishnet, disco lighting and kitsch, culminating in a Broadway sign flashing out "HEROD" in time with the music. He also kept the dancing simple and good, eliminating onstage disasters and "what next?" looks of confusion.

Phillip A. Burrowes '04, playing the infamous traitor Judas, was the standout of the play, portraying his character the most passionately, and is the only one with a real rock singing voice. Unfortunately, Judas' death scene, in which he slowly proceeds to the top of the stage and hangs himself behind a backlit curtain, had to be one of the most cliched

of the show, going out not with a bang but a shake of the head.

As with most MTG and MIT productions, other smaller errors abounded. Luckily, they were more frustrating than truly obstructive in enjoying the show. The pit orchestra, as usual, could have used another few weeks of practice, with the winds and brass section sounding particularly unsure of themselves at times. And while giving the actors microphones seems a wise decision when they have to compete with a large pit orchestra, it was somewhat disheartening to sit through moments of sound-system feedback. Watching the actors run around the stage, having to hold on to their mikes lest they detach and fall to the ground, wasn't much better.

Completely inexplicable, however, were the vague connections made between the Romans' persecution of the Jews in Jesus' time, the Nazis, and the current U.S. occupation of Iraq. Lacking follow-through, the audience was seemingly supposed to make meaning from an image of the Third Reich's eagle insignia hanging on a curtain at the back of the stage, a random terrorist bombing after Judas' intro song, and the appearance of Pilate in a soldier's uniform. Besides the fact that the Romans, Nazis, and Americans are simply not comparable (the first persecuted the Jews and Christians but gave them substantial autonomy, the second slaughtered millions of Jews, and the third has killed thousands of Iraqis, a sizeable portion of whom were actual combatants), nothing in the rest of the play helped the audience to understand this new spin. While it is heartening that Chambers reached to put a current events meaning into a classic, it ultimately rang hollow as a new, broader meaning for the play.

In the end, MTG has produced a show with a number of very good scenes strung together with more decent ones, but it falls short of being more than well-done entertainment. While MTG's production is certainly worth going to see, the 1971 *Jesus Christ Superstar* must await resurrection on another day.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

King Herod (Aaron P. Moronez '04) taunts Jesus before his trial.



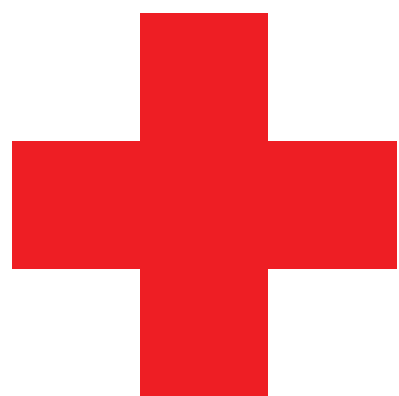
JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Judas Iscariot (Phillip A. Burrowes '04) sings "Superstar."



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Jesus (Allison Linker, Wellesley '05) dines at the Last Supper with her disciples.



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CAMPUS LIFE

Deep Conversations

Dean Benedict — Remember Kids, It's With a 'G'

By Zach Ozer

CAMPUS LIFE COLUMNIST

The Tech: So long ago, before this humble reporter was actually working here at MIT, you made the statement "Overcrowding is not an option as far as I'm concerned, not if I'm going to work here." So, did they actually stop paying you or something?

Dean Benedict: (laughs) No, they did not actually stop paying me, I am still working here. What I wanted to do at that point in time was make it clear that as a matter of policy, crowding would not be an option, and in fact, as a policy it is not. What's happened this year is that we've had a wildly successful admissions program, enrolling more freshman than we ever dreamed was going to happen. So as a matter of policy, we have a no crowding policy. Now what we need to do is bring our enrollment policies in line with our housing policies in order to get ourselves out of this situation.

TT: So does anyone compliment you about getting the Z-center built or are they too busy telling you how ugly and expensive Simmons was?

Benedict: Great question. I'm gonna answer a little differently. People at MIT are not in the custom of congratulating or thanking anyone for anything, unless every now and again a Nobel Prize comes along and then it's kind of the attitude, "Well he certainly deserved it, so there." So MIT is a place where people expect you to do what you're supposed to do. It's only when you don't do what people think you're supposed to do that people start commenting on it. I still get complaints about how expensive Simmons was, although I had nothing to do with the price tag.

TT: Speaking of Simmons, if a tree falls in the woods, is Simmons still hideously ugly?

Benedict: (Chuckles) Where did you think these questions up? (Thinks a moment) Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, to quote various kinds of adages. Many people find it very interesting. I wouldn't say beautiful, but I also wouldn't say ugly. And, in fact, the people who I talk to, my colleagues, find it very interesting both aesthetically, but also functionally.

As I talk to students who live there, they're happy there, they like it, their building works for them, and you've got some problems like cold in the winter until you work the radiators out. But by in large, it's becoming our second most popular residence hall on campus. So in all honesty, I find it very interesting. I used to live over on Commonwealth Ave and from my apartment I could see Simmons across the river. It's a very unique structure, made a real nice statement. And as far as I'm concerned, if it works for students, it works for me. Do you think it's ugly?

TT: Do I personally think its ugly? At first, I actually thought, "it's hideously ugly," I couldn't stand it, and I didn't understand it. But as I got more accustomed to being here, you sort of learn to love it, I guess...

Benedict: Just like MIT. ILTFP.

TT: I have a page of meanings here for IHTFP (<http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/mjbauer/ihtfp.html>). What would you say is your favorite and have you ever come up with your own?

Benedict: I haven't come up with one of my own, I've not actually tried. I like the one: "I Have Truly Found Paradise." I've heard a lot of students talk about that.

The whole concept is an interesting one. It's taken me, really, several years to fully understand the phrase. Since you raise the question, I'm gonna tell you a little bit more about it. I went to an ESG meeting my second year, people want to see the Dean, and I raised the question, "what is this IHTFP?" I don't understand this concept. You're all here, I've talked to you each individually, you're having a great educational experience, what exactly is it?

The answer came back and it was very interesting: MIT is the kind of place you love to hate, but you really don't hate it. What you hate about it is the enormous pressure that people put on you here and which you also put on yourself. What you love about it is the enormous pressure people put on you and you put on yourself and that you can accomplish and succeed and produce and learn.

So it's a very interesting love hate relationship. And that's why I think another group of students has formed the ILTFP. These are people who really do love the place and love the way it is here and they don't want us in the administration to mess it up. Part of the challenge of being a dean at MIT is working with students in ways that are collaborative and



JINA KIM—THE TECH

Dean Benedict shows his MIT pride with Tim the Beaver at his side.

cooperative to make progress without messing up those things that are really important to students here.

The Princeton review has just come out and they actually give a very good rating to MIT. I've spent a lot of time talking to students individually, one on one, and almost without exception, students are telling me they're having a great experience here however you look at it. They're exhausted, they don't sleep enough, they don't eat enough, they get frustrated and depressed, but at the end of the road, they have a fabulous experience, but they hate how hard it was to get there.

TT: Are you a Star Wars or Star Trek fan?

"That's the last thing you want associated with you. Serial murder and child pornography."

Benedict: Star Wars. Absolutely. I thought the first Star Wars movie was just... Even to this day it holds up well, the technology at the time was revolutionary when I first went to see it, never seen anything like it in my life. It was fabulous. I've probably seen it 25 times since, at least.

TT: If you imagined yourself as any Star Wars character, who would it be?

Benedict: You gotta love Han Solo, either that or Chewie.

TT: Just gotta grow a little more hair...

Benedict: Yeah... and wear some higher shoes.

TT: So you're here at MIT, a very technology oriented place, I'm sure you're on the internet a lot doing Google searches. Do you ever Google yourself?

Benedict: Actually I did and I was surprised and appalled at how a relatively obscure dean would have so many different references out in Google-land. I was just amazed at how many things get archived... I don't know where Google gets all these things, but these things that are archived are absolutely phenomenal.

I understand they just go scooping databases around the universe and do it all the time and I can't imagine how much they've got in their database. But I was surprised I was in there and with so many references. And I wasn't pleased to be honest with you. When I was growing up there was some sense of privacy in the world. It's clear to me now that there is no sense of privacy anywhere. You have no privacy. It's just astonishing that so much is available. You have no private life anymore.

TT: So if you Google "Larry Benedict", I actually did this, the first two entries are about a guy who was arrested for child pornography.

Is that upsetting for you?

Benedict: (laughs) Wait a minute! I haven't Googled myself for a long time, but I didn't see that one in there. Wrong Larry. Are you sure you had Larry G?

TT: No, just had "Larry Benedict."

Benedict: Alright, you have to go Larry G. I use my middle initial. Check that out. That bothers me even more now. That's the last thing you want associated with you. Serial murder and child pornography... What's worse?

TT: What is the pimpest thing about your ride?

Benedict: (pauses) You're gonna have to explain that question to me.

TT: Umm... So, ya know, your ride is your car... and the pimpest thing is the coolest thing about your car... The new terminology is "I'm gonna go pimp my ride," which means put on rims and like 24's, and get it painted a hideous color pink with the sparkle paint...

Benedict: Do you have one of these cars?

TT: No. I drive in a little Focus.

Benedict: I have a Saab. It's a very boring car, but the thing I like about it is the wonderful electronic system in it that tells me how many miles I have to go to my destination. It tells me mileage I'm getting on my gasoline, the outside temperature, the inside temperature, everything; it's a neat little feature. The problem is, you're driving down the highway playing with all these gadgets, because they're very interesting to play with, and I'm always doing this (*jerking imaginary steering wheel*) with the car to pull myself back into the lane. Not a good habit though.

TT: So if you could, would you put like 8" lifts on your car?

Benedict: If I could, I probably would not. I might stuff an extra loud stereo in the trunk and blare it out the windows, in terms of loud music.

TT: What kind of music do you listen to?

Benedict: It depends. I have a very eclectic listening taste. If you were to go and look at the CD's in my car right now I think I have Warren Zevon, Bob Dylan, Mary Black, Rachmaninoff, a little of everything.

TT: Do you have an iPod?

Benedict: I do not. The chancellor does. You didn't ask him.

TT: Do you deans compare gadgets? You have got to have the coolest gadgets of anyone...

Benedict: When we get gadgets we do tend to share them around, but on the other hand, at MIT, students tend to have newer gadgets faster than the deans have gadgets here. We're a little behind the eight ball, behind the curve.

I'm still in the age of technology where CD's are pretty neat to me, I still like them, and my car has a CD player, and it works for me.

TT: Now this is a very personal question... How many times do you fold your toilet paper, or do you crumple it?

Benedict: (Pause)

TT: Someone once said you can categorize people into two categories, those who fold and those who crumple.

Benedict: Folding or crumpling... I suppose I fold. I've never counted. Does that give you great insight into my personality?

TT: I've actually never met anyone who crumples, not that I regularly ask this question.

Benedict: How do we know that this is a real, live alternative then?

TT: I don't know. Apparently it is. So we're winding down here. Matthew McGann wrote an article for *The Tech*, making 12 recommendations, and there are a few I am particularly interest[ed] in knowing if you actually did. (See <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V120/N29/col29McGan.29c.html> for the complete list) Did you ever rush? Did you visit at least five fraternities, four dorms, and three independent living groups?

Benedict: Actually I did. My first year here I did. I went along with the chair of rush that year and also with the Judcom chair, and we went to 8 or 9 fraternities, and I came back on campus and went to most of the residence halls, and I also went to Student House and WILG, those are the only two ILGs I went to. So I did, yes. I went to Killian Court and went to the great Killian Kickoff.

TT: Did anyone rush you?

Benedict: Mostly they try to keep me out of their buildings when I go there. So I walk in and they say, "Oh. Who are you?" I mean clearly, I was a little bit older than some of the other people, so it's kind of a give away. I think the grey beard did it. So they'd try and keep me down on the first floor while they bring their Alumni Advisor to try and preoccupy me with inane conversation while they went and did their business. And then I would go off to the next house.

A couple actually did take me through their houses. But since then, what I've done is gone over to see many of the groups for dinners, visits, and had a chance to see their houses. It's been a really good experience. There are some really neat houses.

TT: Did you go to the water polo game against Harvard? Did you mock the opposing team and then justify the level of funding for athletics?

Benedict: (laughs) This is a very interesting story. My first semester here, the night of the MIT Harvard water polo match was on my schedule. That night I was talking with the speaker of the UA, we were chatting and I said "I've got to go to the water polo match," and she said "Oh, is that right now? I'm gonna go too."

So we walked over and we get there a day late. So, believe it or not, I put it on my schedule, we go over there, and we'd missed the whole thing. However, I did use that opportunity to lobby hard for an increase in the athletic budget and since then we have significantly increased the athletic budget and opened the Z-Center, so it had a happy ending even though I missed the game.

TT: Do you, the Chancellor, and the President get special ID cards, like gold status?

Benedict: I have the same ID card you have. There are no perks here. I don't even get a parking space of my own.

TT: Do you have a rocket pack then?

Benedict: (chuckles) I walk from Commonwealth. Unless it's really bad, like this last January was unbelievably cold, so I ended up I take the bus more often than not. But it's a great walk. So when people at Next House complain to me, as some of the freshmen did over the weekend, or their parents, that Next House is so far away, I point out that I live even further away than that and I think it's great exercise.

It's interesting, some mornings I'll be walking across the bridge and I'll be meeting students literally walking back after being here all night long.

TT: Have you ever shown up in black jeans and a black t-shirt and late at night on campus and followed people around the Institute?

Benedict: I did show up in black, on a couple of different occasions, late in the evening. Just to follow people around and see what's going on. And it seems like people are doing pretty much what they are doing during the daytime: people eating, sleeping, drinking, visiting, studying, and playing.

TT: Final thoughts?

Benedict: It's a lot of fun working here. It's just a great place to be. Maybe by the time I leave here, I'll finish Matt's list of things I should have done.

Worlds Beyond the Mackerel

If I Haven't Seen It, It's New To Me

By Akshay Patil
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Over the last year or so, I've taken to watching a lot of television and having opinions about it.

Actually, I lie when I say "television" because in all actuality, I just have a TV tuner for my computer so what I'm really watching is my computer monitor. The dirty truth about my "little habit" is that I download most of the shows, so "watching TV" is a bit of a stretch if you want to get technical about it. So just get off of it already, will you? Geez. Why are you even bugging me about this to begin with? What do you mean I just sprung off? You totally started it. Let's just forget about it, alright? Fine. Yeah, well you too, buddy.

Anyways, as I was saying, it's hard to stare slack-jawed at your computer monitor for long periods of time and not form well-thought-out opinions like "I should totally get a bigger screen" or "dude, a projector would be so freaking awesome." Sadly, television watching doesn't quite pay as much as it used to, so action has not been taken on these revolutionary ideas, but they indicate the quality of mental processes resulting from intense cathode ray meditation.

But I do have some worthwhile ideas, I swear. First of all, if you watch reality television shows, someone needs to take away your remote. Now, I understand there are a lot of you out there — I can tell by the exponential (yes, *exponential*) growth in reality shows on television — but trust me, it's for your own good. I don't care if you only watch "The Apprentice" or if you've been an avid fan ever since "Real World," put the clicker down and step away from it. This is starting to get ridiculous. Are we really such a voyeuristic society that our ultimate source of entertainment is the well-edited surveillance film? Half the time it's almost like I'm not getting MIT cable but some closed circuit feed instead.

Secondly, I think we should pass an Institute law dictating that you are not allowed to watch television until you're at least a fourth year. Seriously, it's dangerous stuff. Underage drinking? Sure I could see how the 'stvtc might worry it was affecting student health and thus productivity, but television poses a far greater threat to the academic well doing of the typical college student. I have the script of every Family Guy episode memorized, but for some reason, I can't even remember what classes I took fall of my junior

year without consulting Websis. It's pathetic what this stuff does to you.

Fourth year is pretty generous too. You're still placing yourself at risk of getting sucked into a world of quality programming and not emerging until after all those pesky graduation-related deadlines. I speak not only as a self-proclaimed expert, but also as a former (and oft relapsing) addict. I wouldn't have graduated if it hadn't been for an "intervention" on the part of my friends. Their touching stories about how my television watching habit was destroying our relationships made me realize the error in my ways. As it was, I could only muster enough academic momentum to graduate, but not actually leave campus, which is why I'm still here in orbit as a desk-less grad student.

So don't let this sort of thing happen to you. If a friend drops by your room and asking if you want in on a little television action, just say "no." Even if it's something innocuous sounding, like "the Weather Channel," be firm. These gateway stations will inevitably lead to more dangerous ones like CNN and Cartoon Network. You might even have a seriously addicted friend with a premium provider supplying him/her with exceedingly potent stuff like Comedy Central and HBO. Trust me, once you start doing those sorts of stations, you're pretty much as good as dead to the world. Some people say they do their best work while watching "The Daily Show" but don't believe them, they're delusional.

It's hard to believe that MIT pipes something this dangerous into every dormitory room on campus with-

out some sort of access control system, but it's because they trust you to make the proper decisions about these things. It may be tempting to partake at a young age, but for your own sake, please only use it for medicinal pur-

poses like treating serious diseases like senioritis. It may sound harsh, but you'll thank me someday.

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Faculty, Students Disagree About Merger Benefits

XIII, from Page 1

shrink. He added that Course XIII has been unable to add new faculty positions and has been difficult to maintain.

Magnanti also expressed concerns about the core areas in ocean engineering, some of which have only one or two faculty members. Combining the departments, he said, will increase collaboration leading to "more flexibility and less fragility" in the ocean engineering program.

Magnanti stated that this merger would not necessarily lead to a similar trend of consolidation in other departments with low undergraduate enrollment.

Course II Best Match

Although initial committees considered merging Course XIII with Course I or Course XVI, Course II was chosen as the best match, said Magnanti, citing intellectual similarities between the two disciplines in structures, controls, fluids and robotics.

Abeyaratne noted that the course requirements in the two departments

are similar, with both emphasizing fluid mechanics and structures.

Changes in programs ahead

Under the conditions of the recommendation, the undergraduate degree in ocean engineering would be dissolved into a track in Course II, said Abeyaratne.

This change would go into effect with the undergraduate class following adoption of the recommendation, Magnanti said.

The graduate programs would not change, though on paper they would operate under Course II, Magnanti said.

The collaboration between Course XIII and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute would continue under the merger, Magnanti said. He hopes "that the merger will lead to an even stronger Woods Hole program."

Students wanted more input

Magnanti said a forum was held by the Graduate Student Council last spring in which he spoke with Course XIII students. He also said that the initial committee met with undergraduate students.

Both undergraduate and graduate students in Course XIII, however, expressed concern that their opinions have not been adequately solicited.

"They haven't really told us anything," said Tadd Truscott G, the treasurer of 13SEAs, the student group in Course XIII. Many students feel they were not informed properly, he added.

Truscott said that applicants to the department also have not been informed adequately. In the spring of 2003, he was told about the possibility of a consolidation of Course XIII by the faculty at another university he considered attending, but was not informed by MIT.

Michael Jordan Stanway '06, a Course XIII student, agreed, saying that until now, there had not been much chance for input beyond the GSC-led forum, though he said his professors had kept him "in the loop" about the possibility of the merger.

Magnanti said that beyond the forum, all other communication was the responsibility of Course XIII. Acting Department Head of Course XIII Professor Henrik Schmidt

declined to comment about the merger, stating that the current situation is "very delicate" as negotiations are ongoing.

Earlier this week, an e-mail was sent to the entire department on behalf of Schmidt informing students of a possible merger, and requesting feedback to satisfy the procedural requirement that student opinions were sought.

Biological Engineering Professor Steven R. Tannenbaum SB '58, chair of a committee created to review the recommendation, will evaluate this student feedback.

According to the e-mail, "the goal is to contact everyone who might be affected by such a merger to request feedback on it."

Truscott said that the e-mail requesting input seems to indicate merely an interest in assuring that procedures were followed correctly, rather than looking for the opinions of students regarding the merger itself.

Student, faculty reactions differ

Generally, faculty members and students have opposing opinions about the consequences if the merg-

er proceeds.

"What we're trying to accommodate is to make science and technology studies... in the long run stronger than ever at MIT," said Professor of Ocean Engineering J. Kim Vandiver Ph.D. '75, who co-chairs of the committee to merge Course II and Course XIII.

Magnanti said that he is "very optimistic about this" and hopes that "we will have an even more vibrant and successful ocean engineering" program if the merger succeeds.

He anticipates that the merger would lead to more collaboration between faculty members and encourage undergraduates in Course II to study ocean engineering.

Course XIII students, on the other hand, feel that the department may suffer as a result of the merger.

"For the most part, most of us don't want it to happen," said Truscott. He believes fewer prospective graduate students will apply and be accepted to ocean engineering if the merger occurs.

"If they hadn't had this department, pretty much none of us... would be here," he said.

Stanway said he thinks that talk of the merger is already discouraging students. He said regardless of the outcome, it feels to him "like they've already killed the department. A lot of the incoming freshmen are being told the department is already gone" by other students.

Decision process slow

Last September, Magnanti said in *The Tech* that a summary of the findings from the original committee would probably be made public within several months; however, no such public document exists.

Magnanti said that the committees have taken longer than expected to produce recommendations, prolonging the process.

For the merger to take place, Vest and Brown, and subsequently the MIT Corporation, must approve it. In addition, all of the procedural requirements for removing a department must be completed and verified.

—Jenny Zhang contributed to the reporting of this story.

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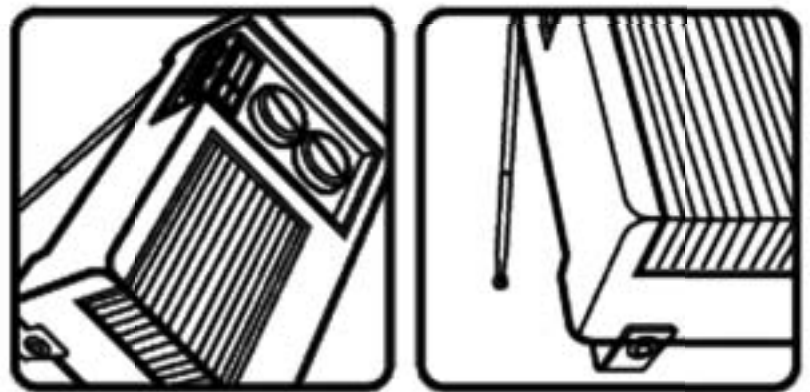


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News Summary from Summer 2004

Over 200 Frosh Crowded

SEPTEMBER 1

MIT is currently short 70 on-campus undergraduate housing spots, resulting in the most crowding an incoming class has seen since before Simmons Hall opened in 2002.

In total, over 200 people could be affected by crowding since each "crowd," or student above dormitory capacity, needs to be put into a room with other students. For example, each of the missing spots that are accommodated by a double becoming a triple will cause three people to be crowded.

This year's crowding is largely the result of a high yield for last year's admitted class, said Denise A. Vallay, assistant director for undergraduate housing. It is hard to get exactly the right number of students for the vacant housing spots, Vallay said, since the size of the incoming class depends not only on the number of admitted students, but also on the number that matriculate.

—Kathy Lin

Bhuvan Singh's Death Ruled a Suicide

JUNE 4

The death of Bhuvan Singh G has been ruled a suicide, said Emily LaGrassa, spokesperson for the Middlesex District Attorney's office. Singh was found dead in a storage room near his Building 13 lab and office on May 7.

Seth Horowitz, press officer for the Middlesex District Attorney, told *The Tech* in May that Singh died from asphyxiation.

The Boston Herald reported that Singh suffocated himself with a yard-waste trash bag.

—Kathy Lin

MIT Grad Crowned Miss Massachusetts

JULY 7

Erika Ebbel '04 became MIT's first Miss Massachusetts on June 26.

This was her third try at winning the pageant, which Ebbel said she had initially decided to enter after seeing the competition on television and being encouraged by a friend. She said she is now preparing for the Miss America pageant, which will take place in Atlantic City on Sept. 18.

Ebbel majored in Chemistry and minored in music at MIT. She also participated in the MIT Dancetroupe and the varsity co-ed pistol team.

—Beckett W. Sterner

Stata Dining Opens, MIT Talking With Anna's for W20

AUGUST 31

The Forbes Family Cafe, the new dining facility in the Stata Center, began full operation yesterday, serving hot entrees and pizza in addition to the cafe-style foods that have been offered since July.

Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin III said the cafe will be open until 10 p.m. after Labor Day. The pizza, hot entrees, and sushi offered for lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Also, MIT is currently in negotiations with Anna's Taqueria regarding the space in the student center vacated by Arrow Street Crepes, said Berlin.

He said that Anna's Taqueria was the "very strong, overwhelming favorite" in a survey last spring asking students what they would like to see replace the creperie. He said that nearly half of the over 1,000 responses mentioned Anna's Taqueria as a top choice.

Anna's Taqueria is the only establishment that MIT is negotiating with at this point. "They're the ones," Berlin said. Anna's seems to be responding favorably to MIT's terms, Berlin said.

Potential Buyer for Talbot House Found

SEPTEMBER 2

MIT has found a potential buyer for the Talbot House, Campus Activities Complex Director Phillip J. Walsh said.

"There's an agreement underway which

would see the closure towards the end of September," he said.

He said that the closing price was "certainly within the range that we were hoping for," about \$400,000 before closing costs and fees.

MIT and the Undergraduate Association are currently developing a list of possible alternative sites for student retreats, including the Endicott House, a conference center in Massachusetts.

—Beckett W. Sterner

Aimee Smith Arrested At Commencement

JUNE 11

Campus activist Aimee L. Smith PhD '02 was arrested on Friday, June 4 outside of Killian Court and charged with disorderly conduct and disturbance of a school meeting, according to the Cambridge Police Department Arrest/Incident Report.

Smith and three other members of the Social Justice Cooperative, an MIT student group, were distributed single-sheet leaflets on the sidewalk outside of Killian Court to guests attending commencement.

The leaflets discussed the proposed biosafety laboratory that will be built in Boston by Boston University and funded by the National Institutes of Health. The commencement speaker was Elias A. Zerhouni, director of the NIH.

The charges against Smith were later dropped at the request of MIT President Charles M. Vest.

—Christine R. Fry

Smith Arrested Again, Files Complaint

SEPTEMBER 1

Aimee L. Smith PhD '02 was arrested on the afternoon of Wednesday, Aug. 25, outside the Student Center by Officer Joseph D'Amelio. She was charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, according to the MIT Police log. This is her second arrest in three months by D'Amelio.

Smith has "filed a complaint with MIT," she said. As for D'Amelio, he has been "placed on administrative duty," and an "independent, third-party investigator" has been brought in to study the situation, said Arthur L. Jones, director of the MIT News Office.

Smith was "speaking with MIT police officers outside the student center about First Amendment rights," according to an e-mail sent to several MIT mailing lists by the MIT Social Justice Cooperative, a group of which Aimee is a member.

One of the officers present was D'Amelio, who allegedly "attempted to intimidate Aimee by taunting her about the fact that he had arrested her before." According to the e-mail, D'Amelio then allegedly said "I should arrest you again". Aimee responded by asking whether this was a threat designed to intimidate her and then expressed her view of police officers who make such threats.

—Waseem S. Daher

Employee Alleges Harassment, Sues MIT

SEPTEMBER 1

An employee at MIT's Lincoln Laboratories, Mark A. Peterson, has filed a lawsuit against MIT and Lincoln Labs alleging harassment and discrimination because he is a Christian.

Peterson alleges that he was harassed by his coworkers and several superiors over a period of about fifteen years, according to the lawsuit filed in the District Court of Massachusetts.

The suit also names the Research Development and Technical Employee's Union as a defendant, claiming the union "participated in the harassment and did not perform its duty of fair representation."

The lawsuit lists a number of incidents including "assaulting [Peterson] with a chemical, vandalizing and stealing his property, tampering with the machines he was working on and making verbal threats against him."

—Beckett W. Sterner

DKE Regains House, Some Rush Privileges

SEPTEMBER 2

The Interfraternity Council Judicial Committee and Cambridge Licensing

Commission allowed the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity members to move back into their house on Aug. 15, said DKE Vice President Kurt Josephson '06.

DKE had originally been suspended from their house until the end of Rush on Sept. 17 as punishment for holding an unregistered party with alcohol in Aug. 2003.

DKE will also be permitted to begin rushing on Sept. 13, Josephson said, five days before the end of official fraternity Rush.

These changes came about as a result of good behavior on DKE's part, as well as the consideration of logistical matters.

—Jenny Zhang and Beckett W. Sterner

Rafael Reif Named New Head of EECS

SEPTEMBER 3

The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science recently appointed Professor Rafael L. Reif, an award-winning microelectronics researcher, as head of the department.

"Professor Reif is a great choice for department head and he will continue to maintain this department's role as the number one EECS department in the country," said Professor W. Eric Grimson, a newly-appointed associate head of EECS.

Reif joined the MIT faculty one year after graduating with a PhD in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University in 1979.

—Jon Liu

LAMP to Return in Oct.

AUGUST 4

The Library Access to Music Project, shut down last October for legal reasons, will likely return this October, but changed.

The new LAMP format, which will require students to select groups of songs to play rather than a single song, will be "50 percent as cool," said Keith J. Winstein G, co-creator of LAMP with Joshua C. Mandel '05

—Tongyan Lin

Thirsty Ear to Reopen With Changes

JUNE 11

The Thirsty Ear pub will reopen this fall under the administration of the Campus Dining office and the Ashdown House Executive Committee, administrators announced this summer.

However, it "won't be the same every-day operation," said Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin III. Instead, the pub will be oriented towards events and special programs, he said.

Berlin said that the Thirsty would probably continue to host events like Monday night trivia nights and that it would be "available to be reserved for events" on other nights.

—Jennifer Krishnan

Late-Night Food Truck Opens on Mass. Ave.

JULY 7

A nighttime food truck, Marty B's Mobile Meals, now serves food on Massachusetts Avenue, in front of Building 7, four nights a week.

Marty B's menu includes a variety of sandwiches, hamburgers, salads, and entrees. "Everything is fresh and cooked to order," said owner-operator Martin Berry.

—Ray C. He

MIT Sues ImClone, Dispozo Products

JUNE 4

MIT sued ImClone Systems on May 4, alleging that the company's recently-approved cancer drug was the product of a line of genetically-engineered cells that infringed an MIT patent. The lawsuit was filed at the request of Repligen Corp., a Waltham, Mass. pharmaceutical company that licensed MIT's patent and will be paying for the lawsuit.

On the same day, MIT also sued Dispozo Products Inc. of Fountain Inn, SC, a manufacturer of disposable plastic plates and cutlery. That lawsuit — filed at the request of an MIT spinoff, Trexel Inc. of Woburn, Mass. — seeks to halt sales of a line of plastic school lunch trays that, MIT and Trexel allege, infringe four MIT patents licensed to Trexel.

—Keith Winstein

Grad Arrested for Arson in Baker

JUNE 11

Baker House was evacuated early Saturday morning after a fire ignited on the roof. According to the Cambridge Police Department's public logs, at "4:30P Zachary Ruhe ... was arrested at 362 Memorial Drive (MIT/W7) and charged with Arson."

"I have no comment" about the incident, said Zachary C. Ruhe '04.

Jonathan F. Nolan, house manager for Baker, said "There was some minor damage" to the building.

—Tongyan Lin

Course 20 No Longer An Option

JUNE 11

When the last graduate student remaining in Course XX, Biological Applied Sciences, dropped out of contact with MIT over the past year, the final vestige of the historic department finally disappeared.

Formally disbanded in 1988, the department has had neither faculty nor an undergraduate curriculum since then, said Peter C. Dedon, professor of biological engineering.

The last graduate student in the department was Bruce Woodson, said Dalia R. Gabour, assistant director of educational services for biological engineering. She said that MIT has been unable to contact him for about a year, and that he did not graduate but simply disappeared.

—Beckett Sterner

Mullainathan to Leave For Harvard

JULY 7

Economics Professor Sendhil Mullainathan will be leaving MIT this year to accept an appointment at Harvard.

Mullainathan said that the primary reason for his decision was "having more access to the psychology department" at Harvard, which has a stronger emphasis on behavioral psychology than MIT's program does.

—Beckett W. Sterner

Most Frosh Receive First Housing Choices

SEPTEMBER 1

Nearly 95 percent of freshmen received their first or second choice dormitories in the fall housing lottery held over the summer, said Denise A. Vallay, assistant director for undergraduate housing.

Of the 1,084 students in the Class of 2008, 1,083 will be living in on-campus housing and one student will be commuting from home, Vallay said in an e-mail.

Of the students who entered the lottery in early July, 70.2 percent received their first choice dormitories and 24.6 percent received their second choice dormitories. Only 41 freshmen (3.8 percent of the class) were placed in their third choice dormitories, six (0.5 percent) in their fourth choice dormitories, and one (0.1 percent) in his or her fifth choice dormitory.

—Marissa Vogt

Networks, Athena Clusters Upgraded

SEPTEMBER 2

The summer has seen several changes to residential networking, clusters, and the Athena computing environment.

"This summer, Housing and IS&T partnered together to bring wireless to all undergraduate residence halls that did not have access to wireless," said Karen A. Nilsson, director of Housing. "We brought wireless service to first floor common areas and lounges," she said.

IS&T has also renovated and reconfigured parts of several Athena clusters, including room W20-575D, in the back of the largest cluster, and the 56-129 cluster.

Release 9.3 of the Athena computing environment was deployed in July. The most visible changes include updates to a number of popular software packages, as well as the addition of the Nautilus file manager to the desktop.

—Mike Rolish

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PILOT: A Couple Months Away

PILOT, from Page 1

then the land could be reclassified as tax-exempt, since it would belong to MIT. MIT ultimately did not switch its status from taxable to tax-exempt.

Negotiations long but going well

Initially predicted to be done in the spring or summer of 2003, the process of negotiation, drafting, and finalization has taken about 15 months longer than expected.

However, there have not been any pitfalls, Gallop said. She said that the city manager and MIT have very similar goals in the negotiations.

It was "not a tremendously difficult negotiation," she said.

Curry said that the agreement had faced "no sticking points."

"The city recognizes we have our own financial difficulties," Gallop said, referring to MIT's budget cuts.

Since beginning the negotiations, Curry said that MIT has continued its prior pattern of payments of approximately one million dollars increasing with inflation at about two to three percent a year.

Curry said he expects the PILOT agreement to be signed in the next few months. "I think the city would like to see it done."

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NFC Prospects: Good Teams Hard to Find

By Brian Chase
SPORTS EDITOR

This is the second part of *The Tech's* predictions for the NFL season, this time focusing on the winners and losers in the **Column** NFC.

NFC East:

Somewhat like the AFC East, the NFC East has just one heavy hitter likely to make noise in the playoffs, and that's the Philadelphia Eagles. Every year the last three years, the Eagles have reached the NFC Championship game, and three times they have lost. But the team stays in contention year after year, and it's likely they will get to the NFC Championship again this year, although their defense might not be as strong because of off season losses. Having Terrell Owens on the team will provide a constant off-field circus to follow as an additional plus.

The rest of the NFC East is a mishmash of different problems. The Dallas Cowboys have a defense, but no offense, and their starting Quarterback, Vinny Testaverde, is nearly certain to go down with injuries sometime this season. The Washington Redskins have power Running Back Clinton Portis, but with no offensive line to speak of, Portis might find it harder to gain yards in the district than in the mountains of Denver. The defense will also not help that team.

The New York Giants don't have really anything going for them this season, because new QB Eli Manning won't get the protection he needs, and they don't have a good running game to take the pressure off. They're just plain bad, on both sides of the ball.

NFC West:

The NFC West is a tale of two halves: the half of the division that could be good, and the half of the division that will be really, really bad. Between the San Francisco 49ers and the Arizona Cardinals, the sucking in this division won't stop for a while. I feel worse for the Cards though, because they had the makings of a very good receivers squad before the lot of them went down with injuries. That's not poor management; it's just bad luck.

Anyway, both the St. Louis Rams and the Seattle Seahawks are going to be at least decent this year. The Rams still have the same group of key playmakers, including QB Marc Bulger and RB Marshall Faulk they have always had, but it seems that every year that squad slips a little bit, and their defense is only average. Plus, Mike Martz loses them at least one game a year with his bad play-calling. They'll finish second in the division, but may challenge for the Wild Card.

The team to watch in the West is the Seattle Seahawks, who by all accounts have improved as a play-off team by tightening the offense and making the defense faster. I don't like all the Super Bowl hype this team is getting, because those kinds of trends almost always doom teams before the season starts. However, they do look strong in the division, so I think they'll win it and go one and done in the playoffs again.

NFC South:

This division has provided the last two NFC representatives to the Super Bowl, and it could definitely do that again this year. Aside from the Atlanta Falcons, who are maybe one year of healthy Michael Vick (their QB) away from playoff contention, any of the teams in this division could be the one that goes all the way if it gets hot at the right time, like the Carolina Panthers did last year.

Speaking of the Panthers, they should finish second in the divi-

sion, because their run defense will again be strong, and their offense will improve over last year as QB Jake Delhomme develops. They got lucky in a number of close games last year, though, and that trend isn't likely to continue. They won't go to the Super Bowl again, but they will get a Wild Card and enter the playoffs.

That leaves the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the New Orleans Saints as the remaining teams. I like the Saints over the Bucs because of their better team cohesion and talent. The problem is that even though the Bucs grabbed a variety of players in the offseason that may or may not click, they actually have a coach that can motivate them.

The Saints always put out quality teams and then underachieve. If Saints' Coach Jim Haslett can't light a fire under their butts again this year, it may be time for a new guy. This pick will either look great or really, really dumb in a few months. It's Haslett that will make the difference.

NFC North:

Of all the NFC divisions, this one might be the most cut-and dried, because all the teams involved stack up on each other clearly. Of course, this may also mean it will be the one with the most surprises. But for now, I will pick the Minnesota Vikings to win the division. Like the KC Chiefs, the Vikings had a great offense and no defense last season, but unlike the Chiefs, the Vikes added defensive playmakers to make the squad faster and tougher over the offseason. You will see that difference in the standings, while the Vikes go on to win their division and the Chiefs finish second in theirs.

The next team down is the Green Bay Packers, who are almost the Vikings without the defense, and a QB that is slowly falling apart at the seams (Brett Favre). They didn't do much in the offseason, having gotten one play from the NFC Championship, but that was a mighty lucky run they had to get there, and it won't happen again. The defense will let them down, and leave them out of the playoffs.

The Detroit Lions, surprisingly, are no longer the doormat of this division, after the last football college draft, which the Lions

absolutely aced. If their rookies pan out, they will vastly improve a very bad offense, and even if the defense isn't coming along, the Lions will at least be respectable now.

Since the Lions have moved up, someone had to take their place, and that team is the Chicago Bears. This team has no QB, no offensive weapons, really, and the weakest linebacker this side of anyone. There's no way the Bears even get close to contending in this division.

Playoffs:

So now that I have predicted

both conferences, how will the playoffs shake out? The AFC Championship game will be between the Broncos and the Patriots, with the Pats moving on. The NFC Championship will have the Eagles (yet again) against the Minnesota Vikings, who appear to be the strongest of the frontrunners. I think the Eagles, on a stronger defense than the Vikes, will advance to the Super Bowl with the Pats and then beat them, finally ending their drought, just in time for Terrell Owens to blow up his vast ego some more.

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- Counterintelligence Threat Analyst
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SPORTS

Red Sox Start Strong But Just Barely Beat Rangers

By Yong-yi Zhu
COLUMNIST

The Red Sox's ten-game win streak is over, but another game Sunday potentially means the start of another. The Red Sox got a good start that Sunday as they beat up on the Texas Rangers, 6-5 in front of a crowd of 34,652 at Fenway Park.

The game was somewhat of a scare to the Sox as Texas got 4 runs in the top of the ninth to get within one run. But Kevin Mench finally flew out to end the game and give the Red Sox their 81st win of the season.

The game featured great pitching by Curt Schilling. He retired the first ten batters of the game, but a 3-2 pitch to Michael Young in the fourth inning promptly ended the perfect game, no-hitter and shutout all in an instant. Young deposited that pitch over the Green Monster for his 17th home run of the year. He would later hit his 18th in the ninth inning to straightaway center field. Schilling would finish with ten strikeouts.

In the ninth, just when it looked like the Red Sox had the game all sealed up, Young drove in the two runs to bring Keith Foulke into the game for the Sox.

After Foulke retired Hank Blalock, the Rangers began their own run of hits from Mark Teixeira, Alfonso Soriano and Dave Delucci, driving in two runs. But finally, Kevin Mench lined out to Mark Bellhorn to end the Ranger threat.

The Red Sox had a somewhat scary moment in the seventh when Bill Mueller looked to be in pain after being hit by a pitch on the left foot. After a visit by Terry Francona, Mueller stayed in the game. Francona said that the ball just hit Mueller "on the big toe. I bet you it hurt. He's okay."

The pitching for the Rangers was a bit shaky the entire day, as were some of the decisions made by the players. In fact, the game got off to a rough start when Rangers' Pitcher Ryan Drese let Dave Roberts get on with a walk and hit Mark Bellhorn with a pitch on the right arm. Drese then settled down and struck out the side.

The second inning was not as lucky for Drese as Kevin Millar scored after reaching base with a

single.

Again in the third, Drese gave up hits to Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz and allowed two runs to score. There was also a questionable call on a 2-2 pitch to Kevin Millar which was called a ball even though it looked to be in the strike zone which ended up walking Millar and walking in a run.

Buck Showalter said after the game that "the game kind of turned on that 2-2 pitch."

In the fifth inning, the Rangers exhibited more of their poor decision making. Gary Matthews Jr. seemed almost determined to be

picked off. After he got on base with an infield single to third base, he consistently took big leads at first. Schilling threw over three times and came close to getting Matthews Jr. out, but on the fourth throw, the runner slipped trying to get back to first base, and was easily picked off.

The only real negative for the day was that the Yankees won on a walk from Jorge Posada. The boos filled the air as the scoreboard at Fenway park was being updated to show the result. The booing promptly progressed to chants taunting the Yankees.



The Boston Red Sox defeated the Texas Rangers 6-5 last Sunday to stay two games behind the Yankees in the AL East.

(clockwise from upper right) Catcher Jason Varitek gets a single.

Orlando Cabrera (right) and Gabe Kapler do a celebratory dance after the Red Sox's 6-5 victory over the Texas Rangers on Sunday. Cabrera recently joined the Sox from the Montreal Expos in a four-team July 31 trade.

Kevin Millar attempts to tag out Ranger Gary Matthews at first base. On the next play, Matthews found himself caught between first and second after Schilling made another pick-off attempt.

Outfielder Manny Ramirez confers with third base coach Dale Sveum.

Outfielder Dave Roberts grabs a fly ball to end the top half of the 8th inning.

Photography by Jonathan Wang

