Disputes Cause Q Bubble To End Service at Arrow St.

Dispute called “a matter of control.” New vendor sought.

By Joia Ramchandani

Because of an inability to reach an agreement on their new contract, the Q Bubble Tea vendor and Arrow Street Crepes have decided to terminate their partnership, leaving many students unhappy and without a truly authentic bubble tea, he said. The restaurant has plans to introduce a new line of bubble tea after the contract was “a matter of control” over its, Ancarani said.

However, Arrow Street Crepes Manager Noel Ancarani said that the restaurant has plans to introduce a new line of bubble tea after the contract was “a matter of control” over its, Ancarani said.

Q Bubble, Arrow Street clash

Chen said “greed, not quality” was the reason behind the termination of the partnership between Q Bubble and Arrow Street. "We have all the sign-offs necessary,” said Claude LeBlanc, general superintendent for Skanska USA Building Inc., the project management company in charge of the MIT Stata Center Project.

The temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) required to start moving into the building is “forthcoming,” said Claude LeBlanc, general superintendent for Skanska USA Building Inc., the project management company in charge of the MIT Stata Center Project.

The newly elected candidates will begin their terms when they are installed at the last UA Senate meeting of the term on May 3, said Rose A. Grabowski ’05, vice chair of the UA Senate.

Williams, Vasquez Elected as UA Pres, VP

Eighteen class council officers elected for ’05, ’06, ’07; 12 positions went uncontested.

By Kathy Lin

Harel M. Williams ’05 and Phillip A. Vasquez ’05 will be the next president and vice president of the Undergraduate Association. Williams and Vasquez said they attribute their win to “a strong effort to make personal contact, the clarity of our vision and platform, and the strength of our supporters,” Williams said.

Twelve of the 19 positions in Class Council and the UA seat that were open for election had only one registered candidate. No uncontested candidates were beaten by write-in candidates. In the contested class elections, Rehit Gupta won for Class of 2005 president, John R. Velasco ’05 won for Class of 2005 vice president, Alexis R. Desiato ’05 won for Class of 2005 secretary, Karen E. Hunter ‘06 and Uli L. Konwisch ’06 won for Class of 2006 social chairs, Melvin C. Maskini ’07 won for Class of 2007 vice president, and Sharmeen Browserek ’07 and Ivy Liang ’07 won for Class of 2007 social chairs.

Elections, Page 15

Stata Center Move Begins This Week

By Kathy Dobson

The official dedication of The Student Street, a long corridor running through the first floor of the building, is scheduled to open next week now that the Ray and Maria Stata Center by the end of the week.

Construction will continue around the building until late May or early June, said LeBlanc.

The official dedication of The Student Center will take place on May 7 and will be open to the public.

Student street to open this week

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Harel M. Williams ’05 and Phillip A. Vasquez ’05 were elected last week as vice president and president, respectively, of the Undergraduate Association. Williams and Vasquez “should definitely address the growing strength of dorm governments and the IFC,” said Chen. “Both are establishing themselves as strong student-oriented groups, and the UA needs to facilitate their direct representation.”

Opponents, leaders offer advice

Williams and Vasquez should definitely address the growing strength of dorm governments and the IFC, Smith said. “Both are establishing themselves as strong student-oriented groups, and the UA needs to facilitate their direct representation.”

Philippines’ President to present state of nation Tuesday

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will present the state of the nation address at the Malacanang Palace in Manila Tuesday. Macapagal-Arroyo is set to give her address at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

The Weather

Today: Snowy, 27°F (–3°C)

Tomorrow: Snow ends, 20°F (–7°C)

Details, Page 2

Online Degree

Your MIT Diploma: Coming to Singapore

By Tatiana Lugovskaya

MIT will soon begin granting Master of Engineering degrees to students from the National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University as part of the second phase of the Singapore-MIT Alliance. Starting next year, the students at the two Singapore universities will be able to attend MIT classes online via teleconferencing equipment, partly in the new Stata Center classrooms, and will also spend one semester on campus.

The Singapore-MIT Alliance has existed since 1998, and is currently in its first phase. Graduates from the program currently receive a Singapore-MIT Alliance certificate from MIT and either a masters or PhD from their Singapore university, but no degree from MIT.

Program to expand if successful

Alliance Co-Director Anthony T. Patera said that the program was
Atoning for Low Snowfall

By Michael J. Ring

After receiving nearly 17 inches of snow from a single stormswor in early December, it is surprising to find that the total snow accumulation for the season in Boston is currently lagging about nine inches below the climatological average. But two systems this week will probably make up for that gap.

Yesterday, a low pressure system pushed eastward from the Midwest to the mid-Atlantic region and is forecast to grow and move up the coast today. With the center of the low pressure to pass southeast of Nantucket, we will be on the cold side of the system, and with colder air now present above us in the middle troposphere where we will mainly see snow from this system. As this time accumulations of half a foot or more appear likely in the Boston area.

Thursday will be a day of respite from the wintry weather before the next storm moves up the coast on Friday. While there is naturally more forecast uncertainty surrounding this distant event, another half-foot or more in snow appears entirely possible at this point.

Extended Forecast

Today: Snow developing this afternoon. High near 35°F (2°C). Night: Snow in most of the area. Low near 25°F (-3°C).

Thursday: Mostly cloudy. High near 35°F (2°C). Low near 27°F (-3°C).

Friday: Snow likely. High near 35°F (2°C).

Weather Situation: For Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, March 16, 2004

JERUSALEM

Sharon Cancels Session With Palestinians After Bombings

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Monday ruled out political negoti-ations with the Palestinians for a month, saying his orders had repeatedly failed to halt attacks like a double suicide bombing a day ago.

In a speech to Parliament, Sharon said that the bombings on Sun-day in the southern port of Ashdod, which killed ten people, reinforce "the urgent need to preserve Palestinian leader with the courage, the ability, to struggle against terrorism."

Sharon had called before Parliament by opposition lawmakers seeking specific plans for unilateral Israeli action that could involve withdrawing soldiers and settlers from the Gaza Strip and part of the West Bank.

He gave no new details, but said he was continuing to pursue his "disengagement plan" because he saw no prospect of negotiations with the Palestinians under the current Mideast peace initiative. The effort began last June but stalled shortly afterward.

EPA May Tighten Mercury Emissions Proposal

Under pressure from environmental groups and state officials, the Bush administration is considering a proposal to tighten limits on mercury emissions from coal-burning power plants.

Administration officials have become uncomfortable with analy-ses indicating that if the proposal is adopted, the Environmental Pro-tection Agency could miss its own 2018 deadline for reducing those emissions by 70 percent.

Michael O. Leavitt, who took the helm of the environmental agency weeks before the proposed regulations were announced, was largely responsible in their initial development. But in the last several weeks, EPA employees say, he has immersed himself in briefings about the proposal, a step in line with criticism from scientists, state officials and environmental advocates.

"I've spent hours in briefings," Leavitt said in a Monday inter-view. "I've been reading through the blueprints of power plants. I've been meeting with people on technology."
International Officials Criticize Standards of Russian Elections

By Steven Lee Myers

International election observers on Monday criticized Russia's presidential election for falling short of basic democratic standards, even as President Vladimir V. Putin accepted congratulatory telephone calls from presidents and prime ministers of the world's leading democracies.

The observers — representing the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe — cited abuses of government resources, bias in the state news media and even instances of ballot stuffing on election day.

"The election process overall did not adequately reflect principles necessary for a healthy democratic election process," the head of the observer mission, Julian Peel Yates, said at a news conference. "Essential elements of the OSCE commitments and Council of Europe standards for democratic elections, such as a vibrant political discourse and meaningful pluralism, were lacking."

Putin swept to an entirely expected victory on Sunday, receiving 72.1 percent of the vote, after a campaign that featured overwhelming support of the incumbent from local governments and the state-controlled news media.

AFL-CIO To File Trade Complaint To President Bush Against China

By Steven Greenhouse

The AFL-CIO will file an unusual trade complaint on Tuesday to press President Bush to punish China, which it asserts has gained a commercial advantage through a systematic violation of workers' rights.

"This will put the onus on the Bush administration to explain that China is not respecting workers' rights, and to me that is an extraordinarily difficult case to make," said James Mann, a China expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "The record going back for nearly 40 years shows that China has persistently refused to offer independent trade unions and not enforcing minimum wage laws."

The AFL-CIO claims that China has lowered its production costs and unfairly undercut American companies. The AFL-CIO argues that this illegal repression of workers' rights translates into a 43 percent cost advantage on average for China.

"This will put the onus on the Bush administration to explain that China is not respecting workers' rights, and to me that is an extraordinarily difficult case to make," said James Mann, a China expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "The record going back for nearly 40 years shows that China has persistently refused to offer independent trade unions and not enforcing minimum wage laws."

This is the first case ever brought under the Trade Act of 1974 that seeks penalties because of violations of workers' rights. Some trade experts said the complaint could be vulnerable to challenge at the World Trade Organization because global trade rules do not protect labor rights.

Concerned about the loss of the United States since January 2001, the AFL-CIO is asking Bush to impose punitive taxes of up to 77 percent on China or to persuade China to pledge to halt all such violations.

AFL-CIO to File Trade Complaint To President Bush Against China
How to Stay Well-Rounded at MIT

I am writing in response to Dan Scollin's column, "The Ombudsman: A Letter to Dan Scollin" [Mar. 12]. Scollin, a freshman, whose thesis that MIT "institutionalizes" us students, somehow obtained a summary of a Web page on fighting, watching television, or being exposed to the outside world in general. Clearly this characterization is far from accurate. No MIT student was ever "unaccepted" because we were dimensionally unbalanced (unless we were studying students who study themselves in some kind of "bubble" and should rectify the situation with a mini-max amount of output.)

For starters, you could change your home page from "get-even-with-web.mit.edu" to "The New York Times" (download a pop-up blocker first) or your favorite news source. Instead of reading the unilluminating, poorly written slop in "Sex and the Safeeride," try reading, say, "The Well-Turned Egg." Four fun challenges in detecting media bias, try a few minutes a day to read some real pieces from your favorite news columnists (and I don't mean The Tech). take a little break from that day's 8.02 problem set and browse the op-eds of some online papers. For a fun challenge, detecting media bias, try a few minutes a day to read some real pieces from your favorite news columnists (and I don't mean The Tech). take a little break from that day's 8.02 problem set and browse the op-eds of some online papers. For a fun challenge, detecting media bias, try a few minutes a day to read some real pieces from your favorite news columnists (and I don't mean The Tech). take a little break from that day's 8.02 problem set and browse the op-eds of some online papers. For a fun challenge, detecting media bias, try a few minutes a day to read some real pieces from your favorite news columnists (and I don't mean The Tech). take a little break from that day's 8.02 problem set and browse the op-eds of some online papers.

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Corporations who hire workers in foreign countries have come under sharp attack recently. How can we shift perspective to the situation described by British novelist, William Golding, in his book "Lord of the Flies"? The problem is that the corporations hire workers in foreign countries for a fraction of the wages and conditions of employment that are not as good as expected. These workers may not be able to afford their own housing or food, which is often the case. Consequently, corporations are in a position to take advantage of workers in this way.

In conclusion, it is important to recognize the problem and work towards a solution. This can be done by raising awareness about the situation, advocating for better working conditions, and supporting workers who are affected by outsourcing. It is also important to hold corporations accountable for their actions and to take steps to improve the conditions of workers in foreign countries.
I've Never Met With a Career Counselor

By lan Ybarra

I write this week's title sound absurd! I write “What’s Next?” to expose the factors influencing our career decisions and to inspire you to find and pursue work that is personally rewarding and just plain fun.

For more than two years I have worked for UPOP (the Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program), whose headquarters are about ten feet from the MIT Careers Office. Yet I had my first meeting with a career development counselor on March 4, 2004. And it wasn’t even supposed to be about my career development.

I went to Building 12-170 to interview two people for my column. John Nonnamaker, Manager for Graduate Student Career Development, and Marilyn Wilson, Senior Career Development Counselor. I was planning a story on how career development services were under-utilized and under-appreciated despite being perhaps the most valuable of all MIT Careers Office functions. I found part of what I sought, but I also, unexpectedly, found my place in the story and benefited in several ways.

Ask anyone on campus to quickly tell you why you should go to the Careers Office and you’ll probably hear something like, “They’ll help you with your resume and stuff.” Truth be told, that doesn’t even begin to do the Careers Office justice.

What’s the problem? Enter 12-170 and to the left, copies of the Career Development Workbook are being advertised with the promise, “Has sample resumes, cover letters, and more!” Huh? Resumes and cover letters were about the last things Nonnamaker and Wilson mentioned when explaining what comprises the handbook, the Careers Office Web sites, and their services.

Still, the Careers Office staff probably feels forced to market their handbooks with such shallow benefits. Why? I suspect the shallow ones are what we students pay most attention to, that we ignore everything else the Careers Office has to offer.

In the 2002-2003 academic year, the office recorded 1,738 visits by undergraduates. Those weren’t even by distinct individuals. Assuming they were, though, we can see that less than 50 percent of undergraduates met with career development counselors last year.

What about the rest of us? We all have our excuses. Mine is that I’m too self-reliant. I do career development on my own. I read, think, and dream about what I want to do with my life. I meet people in careers that intrigue me. I create projects of my own and do various internships. Even so, it wouldn’t hurt me to regularly visit a career development counselor just as much as it would help me to instantly meet with my primary care physician even if I eat nutritious foods, exercise, and don’t smoke. There’s always something flying under your radar.

Your excuse might be that you’re too young or too old. Nonnamaker insists that isn’t so.

“You could have PhD students who for their whole lives thought they wanted to be authors. Then after they pass their quals, this moment, this epiphany, when they realize, ‘Whoa, I don’t really want to do that, but I don’t know what else to do.’”

Perhaps you feel like a career development counselor can’t relate to you. Besides being bona fide experts in their field, MIT’s career development counselors are quite understanding of issues specific to MIT and college in general.

I’m sure there is someone in the Careers Office that understands your unique perspective, whether you are an undergraduate or graduate student, an alumna (employed or unemployed, take your pick), a professor, or a professor’s 53-year-old administrative assistant.

If we were honest with ourselves, the real reason we don’t seek help from Wilson, Nonnamaker, and their colleagues is that we just don’t want to make time. They know we’re busy, though.

“It’s not about preaching to them that they should start visiting their counselors, it’s about choosing where they are,” Nonnamaker said.

If you’re like my friend Jack Willard ‘04 when he was an underclassman — you only come up for air every few weeks to avoid drowning by the MIT firehose — you can meet with them once a month. It’s still better than nothing. Or if you’re like Jack now, a final-term senior who is busier having fun than doing problem sets, you can accelerate the process and meet with them once or twice per week. Either way, they’ll be glad to see you. Trust me; they’re always ready to help.

When I met with Nonnamaker, I instinctively said, “No, thanks,” to his invitations to discuss my own career development. Despite that, he politely extended an open-ended offer in case I reconsidered.

Reconsider, I have and I urge you to do the same, especially if you think I did, that you don’t need to meet with a career development counselor. I met with two and, despite my desire not to talk about my career development, I still made valuable additions to my network and learned a fundamental lesson for my journalism career.

Within seconds of meeting Wilson, I found out that she used to be a freelance writer and that her husband spent several years working for the magazine I’ll be working for this summer. When talking with Nonnamaker, I noticed a plaque on his wall with a saying I wanted to use in this column. Later, I learned a journalism lesson the hard way: I shouldn’t have remembered the saying because I didn’t write it down, and my cassette recorder certainly didn’t pick it up.

Next time, I’ll have to meet with Nonnamaker again, if only to revisit the quote on his wall. After having so many excuses against going, it’s good to finally have an excuse to go.
Theater Review

Nothing Much to ‘Much Ado’
Shakespeare Ensemble Show Falls Flat in First Act, Redeems Itself in Second Act

By Sandra Galdamez

March 16, 2004

Shakespeare Ensemble
La Sala de Puerto Rico
March 13-15 and 18-20, 8 p.m.
Written by William Shakespeare
Directed by Wanda Strukas
Starring Ruda Q. Videle' 04, Nathaniel R. Tsueng '07, and Kay U. Sullivan G

A
t 1 entered La Sala on Saturday night. I had high hopes of being entertained for two hours. But I should have listened to my inner voice of doom that screamed “Caution!” when I looked into my program and noticed that the show was going to be two and a half hours long.

And what a two and a half hours it was. The first half of the play was, to say the least, uninspiring. There was a plot somewhere, I think, but it was lost in all the words. Claudio (Usman G. Akeju '05) did an alright job courting Hero (Miranda E. Knutson '06) and I think that’s about all that I understand. The sole hope for the second half was Friar Antonio (Walter G. Holland G). If there was redemption for the show, it was in this very spirited, hilarious little brother. He was the biggest reason that I stayed and watched the end of the show. To be fair, the second half of the show was exponentially better than the first half. I can’t say that it was a reason enough to watch the whole thing. But if there was one thing to highlight, it has to be Holland’s clarinet solo. What can I say? The man is talented.

Others that redeemed themselves were Friar Antonio (Mike A. Simon), Beatrice (Holly B. Laird ’07), and love-denial Benedick (Mike A. Simon) finally expressing their love in secrecy.

The first half ended strongly with a frenzied paced “Cotton Tail” by Duke Ellington. Unfortunately, the strong finish was followed by a weak open in the second half with two pieces by Gerry Mulligan. However, the ensemble recovered with its investigation of Duke Ellington’s “Caravan.” Nicknamed a “tonal portrait,” this piece was just as visually stimulating as it was auditorily. The piece started with an African beat provided by the percussion, bass, and piano. Then the trumpets and trombones chimed, mimicking the sounds of animals. Throughout the entire piece, the listening almost felt as if they were in an actual caravan, seeing the landscape around them and feeling the rhythm of the travel.

Continuing with the theme of transformations, “Caravan” was followed with its rearrangement “Dakakan.” Although it kept the percussion of “Caravan,” the rhythm was peppier than its predecessor.

Another thing that left me confused was the dancing. Dancing is a great way to pick up people at parties, but I hardly think it works in Shakespeare. It’s like brain surgery: excessive wiggliness can do more harm than good. The audience was left scratching their heads. At the end of the first act, I was left thinking, “Now what in the world was that ten minute intermission all about?” It hardly made sense that a two and a half hour play needs a dance sequence, especially when the time spent practicing the dances could have been spent practicing other important things.

What I don’t understand is what happened here. There were interesting set pieces, good lighting, good music, and great costumes, but something went horribly wrong. Considering that the Shakespeare Ensemble’s last production, “Antigone,” was such an amazing show, I was deeply disappointed in “Much Ado About Nothing.” Where did all that talent go?

Overall, I think I would have much rather have spent my time asking the production staff for a copy of the soundtrack of the show and listening to it. The same Shakespeare story — boy meets girl, romance, misunderstanding and confusion, and a happy ending — was all I got from the play. So much for inspiration. Save your six bucks and go watch “Monsters” at the theaters. I hear it’s good.

March 13, 8 p.m.

MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble
MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble’s Got Rhythm

By Ashley Robinson

MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble
Kresge Auditorium
March 13, 8 p.m.

On Saturday, MIT’s Festival Jazz Ensemble transformed Kresge into an intimate setting for Jazz. The concert, entitled “Transformations,” explored how musicians rearrange an already existing piece, thus transforming it into an original. To fully appreciate this concert, one needed a well-tuned jazz “ear” to pinpoint the differences and similarities of a piece and its transformation.

Through the entire show the musicians perfectly captured the music’s emotion. Even when there wasn’t a solo, each musician played with an almost tangible energy. The first half was filled with noteworthy pieces. The ensemble warmed up the audience with “All of Me.” The original composition, written by Seymour Simons and Gerald Marks, was flat and slow. However the rearrangement by Quincy Jones literally breathed life into the piece, with a great solo by Kevin T. Chen ‘05. The next piece, “Solitude,” was played with a slower tempo than the famous vocal version of the great Billie Holiday. The tenor saxophone solo by Alexander M. Mekelburg ’04 almost rivaled Billie’s. “Solitude” ended with a smooth transition into “Misty,” which opened with a flawless performance by Jorge Padilla ’05 on the flugelhorn.

In the next piece, “I Got Rhythm,” Ethan M. Fenn ’04 flexed his own arranging abilities. Using only a subset of the ensemble, Fenn created a unique variation of the famous tune. A highlight of the piece was the mini-duet between the bass and trombones. Fenn also made creative use of the trombones, saxophones, and trumpets with each instrument playing over the other but still sounding like a band. It was very exciting to see a fellow student share such creativity.

The first half ended strongly with a frenzied paced “Cotton Tail” by Duke Ellington. Unfortunately, this strong finish was followed by a weak open in the second half with two pieces by Gerry Mulligan. However, the ensemble recovered with its investigation of Duke Ellington’s “Caravan.” Nicknamed a “tonal portrait,” this piece was just as visually stimulating as it was auditorily. The piece started with an African beat provided by the percussion, bass, and piano. Then the trumpets and trombones chimed, mimicking the sounds of animals. Throughout the entire piece, the listening almost felt as if they were in an actual caravan, seeing the landscape around them and feeling the rhythm of the travel.

Continuing with the theme of transformations, “Caravan” was followed with its rearrangement “Dakakan.” Although it kept the percussion of “Caravan,” the rhythm was peppier than its predecessor.

Freddy A. Harris Jr., the director of Wind Ensembles and Lecturer in Music, conducts the band as Alexander D. McMath ’07 solos on the alto saxophone in a piece titled “Dakakan.” Foreground is Michael I. Mandel ’04 with the baritone saxophone.

Jorge Padilla ’05 playing the flugel horn in a piece titled “Rockin’” during the MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble concert at Kresge Auditorium last Saturday.
CONCERT REVIEW

MITSO Takes on Bold Fusion of Tango

By Bogdan Fedeles

The MIT Symphony Orchestra, with 676 Nuevotango performed exhilarating music.

The extended version performed also served as a “piece de resistance” for the group, of the first MITSO concert, having a few surprises as well as soft spots for solo improvisation. In the beginning, the double bass solo went the الموسيقى الممتعة, which featured piano and double bass, turned out to be a mistake only accompanied by the guitar. Even more, one can easily imagine the remarkable technical and expressive possi-

It is hard to describe the audience enthusiasm that “Adios Nonino” elicited; I can only say that it seemed difficult to contain oneself as it turned out to be a huge hit with the audience. Especially remarkable, the interplay between the dance and the orchestra was being imaginative and at times, spectacular.

The wild success of Piazzolla’s music transcended the boundaries of the tango, and 676 Nuevotango played an excellent role in promoting this music even more.

The MITSO concert was an opportunity to explore how cultural studies, concerts, and musical evolutions around the world could bring together disparate elements, including cultural挪移 and new techniques in performance.

The MITSO and 676 Nuevotango Perform Exhilarating Music

 MITSO Takes on Bold Fusion of Tango

MIT Symphony Orchestra, with 676 Nuevotango performs in "Ennobling Nonna," which recounts the story of her immigrant grandmother who arrived on Ellis Island in 1918 at the age of 19. As a young woman, she fled a loveless marriage and embarked on a new life in the United States, eventually becoming an accomplished dancer and choreographer.

The production of “Ennobling Nonna” subsequently began materializing in 2001 out of a series of conversations and experiments between the stage director and the music director. The collaboration between Porter and DeFrantz is an innovative new performance that extends discussions of the status and dignity of a noblewoman and the purest form of the tango.

The stage set consisted of a star-shaped image, sound montages, and texts projected on the screen, while the objects used were chosen under several criteria. DeFrantz created a collection of images that complemented and contextualized Porter’s performance. Porter offered an after-show audience that worked on the tango group and the orchestra. The presentation of this piece was free of unnecessary explanations and explanations.

The last work of the program was “Concierto de Nacar,” which presents Piazzolla’s version of the tango, and 676 Nuevotango performed an excellent role in promoting this music. Especially remarkable, the interplay between the dance and the orchestra was being imaginative and at times, spectacular.

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The wild success of Piazzolla’s music transcended the boundaries of the tango, and 676 Nuevotango played an excellent role in promoting this music even more.

The MITSO concert was an opportunity to explore how cultural studies, concerts, and musical evolutions around the world could bring together disparate elements, including cultural挪移 and new techniques in performance.

The MITSO and 676 Nuevotango Perform Exhilarating Music

The MIT Symphony Orchestra, with 676 Nuevotango performs in "Ennobling Nonna," which recounts the story of her immigrant grandmother who arrived on Ellis Island in 1918 at the age of 19. As a young woman, she fled a loveless marriage and embarked on a new life in the United States, eventually becoming an accomplished dancer and choreographer.

The production of “Ennobling Nonna” subsequently began materializing in 2001 out of a series of conversations and experiments between the stage director and the music director. The collaboration between Porter and DeFrantz is an innovative new performance that extends discussions of the status and dignity of a noblewoman and the purest form of the tango.

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Unfrozen Architecture: Young Musicians Delightfully Render Unfrozen Architecture

March 16, 2004

The young and passionate performers were all smiles at the Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT. The audience was captivated as the young musicians, dressed in traditional Arabic music attire, showcased their skills on a variety of traditional instruments. The music was a delightful mix of classical and modern Arab music, perfectly blending the old and the new.

**DANCE REVIEW**

Mark Morris’s Exuberant Pageant Comes to Boston

March 13-17, 10:30 a.m.; March 12-18, 8 p.m.; March 14, 3 p.m.

Mark Morris’s dance group, the company that he founded in 1980, has brought its exuberant Pageant to Boston. The group is known for its innovative and imaginative choreography, incorporating elements from various cultures and styles.

**SUGAR & SPICE**

There's More to Pies Than Apples

Create Your Own Version of Chicken Pot Pie

By Maritza Conch

Pie Day was brought to America by the Pilgrims. The first settlers would prepare simple pies using whatever ingredients they had on hand. The idea of pie was revolutionary as a convenient and satisfying meal. Today, we celebrate Pie Day on March 14, 2004.

**ARTS**

March 16, 2004

**THE TECH**

Page 9

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ACROSS

1  "It Happened One Night" star
6  Willowy
10 Willie Wonka’s creator
14 Bay window
15 Albacore
16 Carpeting measurement
17 Feline singer?
20 Accomplishes
21 Miner’s product
22 Show clearly
23 Witticism
24 Animal
25 Inn for youth
29 Churn up
30 Icy abode
31 Coors clear-malt beverage
32 Bone-dry
36 Canine newsman?
39 Shapes with an
40 Outdoor gala
41 Reefer material
42 Provincetown catch
45 Denver suburb
51 50/50 test choice
55 Ursine football coach
56 Marine shocker
57 Decompose

DOWN

1 Prod
2 Singer Guthrie
3 Digestive fluid
4 Wine sediment
5 Culbertson of bridge
6 Get the ball rolling
7 Sealant for pipes
8 and outs
9 Relevant
10 Ship’s crane
11 Looks... everything
12 From this time
13 Modern surgical tool
14 Unruflled
15 Villainous
16 Culvert
17 Calico call
18 Unruffled
19 Villainous
20 Protein
21 Winter ride
22 Otherwise
23 Calico call
24 Burger, fries and a drink, e.g.
25 "Noon"...
26 Beastly character
27 Deli side
28 Santa’s sackful
29 Engage in
30 Engage in ransacking
31 Poland’s currency
32 Load on board
33 Poet Pound
34 Admiral type
35 Perry’s creator
36 Chilled
37 Surgically correctable
38 Blaspheme
39 Part of RFD
41 Armed force
42 Dylan Thomas poem, "...Hill"
43 Filmbor flop
44 Infants
45 Make a meaningful impression?
46 Get out of bed
47 Pledged
48 Provincetown catch
49 Denver suburb
50 Hobo
51 It is not
52 Word after going or flat
53 Army group
54 Make a meaningful impression?
55 Ursine football coach
56 Marine shocker
57 Decompose

At the career fair

Hi, I’m a humanities major.

At the career fair

You’re also not wearing any pants.

The governors for independence in North Tuition would be the second one in the last year that’s just...

Meanwhile, his proposal calls for social programs like medical care for low-income families to be...

And all this because he reduced a stupid vehicle license fee, increasing the deficit by how much the man should be...

I’m so angry I want to take his gas-guzzling Hummer truck and...

by Brian Loux

Trio

by Emezie Okorafor

March 16, 2004

this comic dedicated to Dr. Godwin Sunday Okorafor

This comic dedicated to Dr. Godwin Sunday Okorafor

by Emezie Okorafor
If It Handles Like A Performance Car, That’s Because It Is.

Daytona. Watkins Glen. Road America. These are just a few of the racetracks the Team Lexus IS has performed on. And won on. Against competitors such as BMW, Porsche and Audi. But what’s more intriguing for us nonprofessional drivers is that the IS performs as well on the street as it does on the track. With its power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering, finely balanced weight distribution and sport-tuned suspension, you get the maximum in precision handling and cornering. So even driving down Fifth and Elm, you’ll feel like you’re behind the wheel of a race car. You may want to leave off the decals and the helmet, though. Ask your Lexus dealer about our lease or low APR financing.

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$3,429 due at signing

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THE IS E-SHIFT LEASE OPTION 2:

$399 per mo.  45 mos.*

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*Only a limited number of customers will qualify for the advertised terms. See your participating Lexus dealer for complete lease program qualifications and eligibility. Not all dealers will participate. 2004 LS 430 DE 344 with 17-in. 5-spoke alloy wheels, Leather Package, Moonroof, trunk mat, wheel locks, rear spoiler and cargo net, plus delivery, processing and handling fee. Option equipment may be ordered. The monthly payment is based on the advertised price of $39,990.00. The $3,99 due at signing is only for vehicles garaged in NY. APR, 3.99%, is for well qualified applicants and is subject to change without notice. All leases are for 36 months and are subject to change without notice. Excludes tax, license, Title, insurance, and registration fees. No security deposit required. Amount due at signing is higher in NY and FL. The optional equipment may be ordered. The optional equipment may be ordered. The optional equipment may be ordered. The optional equipment may be ordered. 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Construction To Finish in June

Stata, from Page 1.

this week, said Nancy Joyce, senior project manager of The Stata Center Project.

The Student Street will provide access to several classrooms, a new childcare center, the renovated athletic facility, and a food service facility, which will be moved from Walker: The childcare center, which will open in June, is the first on-campus childcare facility at MIT, said Joyce.

Not originally in the design, Joyce said that the Student Street will be “a great addition to campus.”

Construction to continue

Construction will continue on and around The Stata Center until the end of May or early June, said LeBlanc.

The final touches on the landscape will begin after the construction trailer is moved off the site in mid-April, said Joyce. Landscaping will continue until June.

Exterior construction, such as the installation of pavers, will also continue but may be delayed. “It looks like we’re falling behind due to the weather,” said construction worker Jay Rivera.

Building 57, which currently houses the alumni pool, will continue to be renovated and will open in June, said Joyce. The completed building will have a new locker room, a renovated lobby area, and an additional fitness and aerobics studio. The new facility will be run by the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation.

Joyce said that the athletics facility will be “a whole new asset” for the MIT community “that never existed before” and hopes that it will be an active and vibrant addition to the campus.

Construction crew, faculty excited

After six years of planning and construction, the construction crew and faculty are excited about the move. The Stata Center is “probably the best building I’ve worked on,” said Ed Dubois, a construction superintendent for Skanska.

“This is a once in a lifetime project,” LeBlanc said, “I’ve really grown to love this building.”

“I’m looking forward to [the move],” said Vincent Chan, director of the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems (LIDS). “Hopefully we will be closer” to the other labs.

The certificate of occupancy, a permanent certificate which will replace the TCO, is not expected until June.

The Department of Linguistics and Philosophy is scheduled to move into The Stata Center on Thursday while CSAIL, which currently occupies 200 Tech Square (Building NE43), is scheduled to move between March 19 to March 28, said Christopher J. Terman, associate director of CSAIL. LIDS is scheduled to move in over Patriots Day weekend. Most of the LIDS faculty currently occupies Building 35.

Free food every week.

Join The Tech.

NewseArtsSportsPhotoProdTech

MIT Rugby Club is an open club and invites Students, Grad Students, Staff and Professors to join.

New & Used Hayers Are Always Welcome
aiming to have 16 students per year in each of five programs. The cost of the SMA students will be funded by Singapore’s government, Patera said. “One of the primary things that SMA-2 is bringing on the academic side is” funding for MEng students, he said. When the first phase of the alliance began in 1998, Singapore’s government invested approximately $19 million in the first year. “The same amount of funding will be available for the first year of phase two,” said Dean of Engineering Thomas L. Magnanti. He said that any further expansion of the program into PhD degrees, for example, is dependent on the success of the current program. “It is true that Singapore has an interest in going even further,” he said.

Currently Norway, Kuwait, Venezuela, Brazil, and the Philippines have similar programs at MIT for MEng students that are government-funded, Patera said.

Distance learning worries students “There’s a feeling that MIT should be about MIT students,” said Patera. He said he thought that having the SMA students be full Masters of Engineering candidates would help them better integrate into the culture rather than having a separate program. “Some people have raised concerns over the dilution of the MIT degree,” Patera said. “There is no special SMA admission, so there is no dilution at the level of admissions,” he said.

“I feel it’s not the same,” said Electrical Engineering and Computer Science student Andrew E. Tsai ’04. “I feel the online materials should be a resource, but not a primary way of getting a degree,” he said.

“In addition, many schools have similar but lesser programs, such as Harvard’s Extension School that grants a degree of continuing education, he said. The first phase was a test of concept,” Magnanti said. “Could we provide MIT-class education at a distance? The performance is indistinguishable. In that sense, we’ve proven the concept of the first class education at a distance,” he said.

Singapore funds program According to the MIT News Office press release, the SMA-2 five-year initiative will be fully funded by Singapore’s government, primarily by the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Education. “We wouldn’t be able to run such a large-scale experiment without funding,” Magnanti said.

The five graduate engineering programs in the areas strategically important to both countries are Advanced Materials for Micro- and Nano-Systems, High Performance Computation for Engineering Systems, Innovation in Manufacturing Systems and Technology, Molecular Engineering of Biological and Chemical Systems, and Computer Science.

Classes include live interaction “SMA revolutionized the concept of distance learning,” said Alvin Teng ’90, a graduate of the program, in an interview with OpenDOOR, an online magazine published by the MIT Alumni Association. “Unlike most distance learning,” Teng said, “the classroom experience is interactive and students can interrupt the professor to ask questions or exchange ideas with their counterparts at MIT.”

According to a faculty newsletter, co-written by Patera and Steven R. Lerman, a professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, interactive sessions are held in the 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. time slots.

In a typical day, SMA holds three or four such classes each morning and each evening.
sentation of students. During the Independent Activities Period, “we built relationships that weren’t there in the first half of the year,” said current UA vice president Jacob W. Faber, referring to other student governments, and there are “more relationships to build.”

Williams said this was on their agenda, and that they are starting to form “personal contacts with student leaders and the administration,” he said.

Another current priority is “outlining the guidelines about accountability for student representatives, so that when we do take office, it’ll be pretty clear what our roles are and what everyone else’s roles are,” Williams said.

Communication needs to improve

“I feel that this year, the UA has become a lot more goal-oriented and focused on making concrete change in the student body,” said current UA president Pius A. Uzamere II. “I would like to see that trend continue.”

“The goals checklist was one manifestation of that,” Uzamere said. It “needs to be refined, but something along those lines should be continued.”

There needs to be “more student and community feedback on the list,” Faber said. “The whole purpose is to make people in the UA accountable, and I really think that it would be good if people who read the list would say, ‘that’s a project I’d like to see happen and contact that person,’” he said.

Two candidates appeal rulings

Two election candidates “appealed in some form or fashion, and we decided to hear both appeals,” said Johnny Y. Yang ’04, chair of the UA Judicial Review Board.

In the first case, Smith and Kanaga appealed the Election Commission’s decision to deny them “an extension in the deadline to submit the documentation necessary to become official candidates,” according to the board’s ruling.

The board overruled the Election Commission’s denial because “after reviewing the Election Code and associated rules document,” they found “no specific clause clearly prohibiting the granting of an extension to Smith and Kanaga,” according to the ruling.

In the second case, the board heard an appeal regarding a ruling that Eston M. Kimani ’05, a candidate for President of the Class of 2005, “gained an unfair advantage” through leaving his campaign posters up in Athena clusters after electronic voting had begun, “by sending a mass mailing via email to virtually all members of the Class of 2005,” both of which they ruled to be violations of rules set in the Campaign Rules Document, according to the board’s ruling.

According to Yang, the board lightened a more severe decision. This was done because the board did “not feel that Kimani blatantly violated the ‘spirit of the campaign,’” they ruled that he should “remain on the ballot as a candidate for Class of 2005 President with the phrase ‘Violated election rules’ next to his name on all ballots,” according to ruling.

Because the decision was made on Thursday, the last day of online voting, it is most likely that only those who voted by paper on Friday were affected by this change to the ballot, Yang said.

Solution to Crossword

from page 10

Even EZ -er than 1040EZ.

Introducing TeleFile from the IRS. If you are single and filed Form 1040EZ last year, you can file your tax return in ten minutes by phone. Anytime. Check your tax booklet for information.

This space donated by The Tech


Elections, from Page 1

Elections, from Page 1

UA Election Vote Counts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UA President / Vice President</th>
<th>412+36 = 448</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David B. Smith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noelle J. Kanaga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harel M. Williams</td>
<td>961+76 = 1037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillip A. Vasquez</td>
<td>694+5 = 74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class of 2005 President

Dexter W. Alt: 120+4 = 124 122+5 = 127 125+7 = 132 127+7 = 134 126+7 = 133 154+8 = 162
Rohit Gupta: 189+10 = 199 191+10 = 201 192+10 = 202 192+10 = 202 195+11 = 206 233+11 = 244
Eston M. Kimani: 105+5 = 110 107+5 = 112 105+5 = 110 105+5 = 110 110+5 = 115
Write-ins: 33+1 = 34
Write-ins: 90+10 = 100
Class of 2007 President

Dexter W. Alt: 225+25 = 250
Write-ins: 317+25 = 342
Write-ins: 105+10 = 115
SOURCE: UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

Each step lists the total of online and paper votes and their total for that candidate in that voting iteration.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program is accepting applications for its next deadlines

Please contact Susan Cohen (scohen@media.mit.edu) to set up an appointment to discuss your application

We STRONGLY RECOMMEND that you set up an appointment

(proposals submitted for this deadline cannot support projects with a start date before May 13, 2004)

Currently registered MIT students, MIT faculty and MIT staff are eligible to apply

All types of arts projects are supported: visual, literary and performing arts

For more detailed information, read the Grants Guidelines on the web at:

http://web.mit.edu/artsgrants/grantguide.html

You may also submit your application from the web at:

http://web.mit.edu/artsgrants/grantform.html

The Council for the Arts at MIT is a volunteer group of alumni and friends established to support the visual, literary and performing arts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Since its founding in 1972 by MIT President Jerome B. Wiesner, the Council for the Arts has worked "to foster the arts at MIT... [and] to act as a catalyst for the development of a telesized, highly participatory program in the arts." Appointed by the President of MIT to three-year terms, Council members serve as advocates and advisors to MIT’s Associate Provost for the Arts.
MIT Accepts 16 Percent of Class of ’08 Applicants

By Waseem S. Daher

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Letters of acceptance and rejection for MIT’s Class of 2008 were mailed on Friday, with 16 percent (1,664 out of a total of 10,464) of applicants having cause for celebration.

Of those admitted, 897 are male and 767 are female, or 54 and 46 percent respectively, according to an e-mail written by Edmund Jones, an administrative officer in the Admissions Office.

The 46 percent female number is a decline from the Class of 2007’s 49 percent. “It depends on the year,” said Marilee Jones, dean of admissions.

The Admissions Office expects a 61 percent yield on admissions offers this year, Jones said, which would lead to a class of roughly 1,016 students.

The predicted yield is an increase from last year’s of 78 percent, which ultimately proved lower than the true yield, in part leading to crowding in dormitories this year.

Jones said that these calculations were also made with the intent to admit students from the waiting list as well. “We made a calculated decision that we wanted to go to the waitlist this year,” she said.

The list of admitted students will be available for review in 10-100 starting Thursday, March 18, Jones said. As MIT ID is required to view the list.

‘08 admits are top of class, diverse

The students admitted for MIT’s Class of 2008 are at the top of their respective classes. Forty-two percent of the students admitted are valedictorians, and 91 percent are ranked in the top 5 percent of their high school classes, according to Jones.

The SAT I means for the verbal and math sections were 724 and 749, respectively. Seven percent of accepted students received 1600 on the exam, and 62 percent had at least one 800, according to the Class of 2008 Web site, at http://web.mit.edu/admis-
sions/index.

MIT has also made progress on the front of diversity, with 283 admitted students, or 17 percent, classified as under-represented minorities. “A few years ago, that number had dwindled to 11 percent,” Marilee Jones told The Boston Globe.

More ‘MIT-like’ applicants

There was a slight drop in the number of applications this year, compared to the 10,547 applications received last year.

Harvard, Stanford, and Yale all switched to single-choice early action admissions policies earlier this year, and Jones suggested that this change, as well as economic changes, may have decreased the number of applicants to MIT.

However, the students that did apply to MIT are a very good fit, she said. “We have more of our kinds of students in the applicant pool this year than we had in a long time,” she said, “and we are expecting a higher yield because of that.”

In addition, Jones said that the admissions process had been refined over the past few years. “We’re really focused on the basics, who really makes up the pulse at MIT,” she said. One criterion that used to be selected for was national and international recognition.

However, upon review, the admissions department decided to focus more on self-initiative, a certain real self-reliance, willingness to take risks, and emotional flexibili-
ty,” she said.

The change was made to find students that are “good MIT people and also really highly creative, that might not be recognized because they’re not in competitive venues,” she said.

Perceived low ‘quality of life’

On a somewhat different note, Jones said she has noticed a new trend in the Admitted Student Survey data. Students who chose to come to MIT or to attend another institution.

The response of ‘quality of life’ as a reason for not attending MIT has increased substantially over the last several years. “The difference between [the data for] 1990 and 2000 is when I first noticed that,” Jones said.

“Every year since, it’s increased in importance,” she said.

Jones said several explanations were possible, the first of which is that over the past few years, MIT has undergone a number of changes: the campus was and is undergoing construction, and students were displeased with the recent decision forbidding freshmen from residing in fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

In addition, Jones said that society has changed, as well, and that it’s not necessarily an indica-
tor that MIT is doing something wrong.

“The population of students now really are looking for ser-

vices,” she said. “They’re looking for high-quality living groups and good food, they’re looking for camaraderie with college students, and it’s just very different from the way it was ten years ago,” she said.

In light of this, Jones said that while the issue is one that does not necessarily deserve to be ignored, MIT should not rush to conform to society’s popular image of the per-
fect campus for everyone.

“MIT is what MIT is. MIT just needs to stay authentic. That’s it, and that’s who we are,” she said.

Have you seen birds fly at 150 mph

inside the MIT Rockwell Cage?

Boston Open 2004
USA Badminton Sanctioned National Ranking Tournament
March 19-21, 2004
MIT Rockwell Cage
FREE Admission to the public

Early Rounds: 2:30pm Fr Mar 19
Semi-Finals: 9:00am Sat Mar 20
Finals: 11:15am Sun Mar 21

Hosted by the Boston Open 2004 Committee
and the MIT Badminton Club (MITBeC)

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By Waseem S. Daher

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Letters of acceptance and rejection for MIT’s Class of 2008 were mailed on Friday, with 16 percent (1,664 out of a total of 10,464) of applicants having cause for celebration.

Of those admitted, 897 are male and 767 are female, or 54 and 46 percent respectively, according to an e-mail written by Edmund Jones, an administrative officer in the Admissions Office.

The 46 percent female number is a decline from the Class of 2007’s 49 percent. “It depends on the year,” said Marilee Jones, dean of admissions.

The Admissions Office expects a 61 percent yield on admissions offers this year, Jones said, which would lead to a class of roughly 1,016 students.

The predicted yield is an increase from last year’s of 78 percent, which ultimately proved lower than the true yield, in part leading to crowding in dormitories this year.

Jones said that these calculations were also made with the intent to admit students from the waiting list as well. “We made a calculated decision that we wanted to go to the waitlist this year,” she said.

The list of admitted students will be available for review in 10-100 starting Thursday, March 18, Jones said. As MIT ID is required to view the list.

‘08 admits are top of class, diverse

The students admitted for MIT’s Class of 2008 are at the top of their respective classes. Forty-two percent of the students admitted are valedictorians, and 91 percent are ranked in the top 5 percent of their high school classes, according to Jones.

The SAT I means for the verbal and math sections were 724 and 749, respectively. Seven percent of accepted students received 1600 on the exam, and 62 percent had at least one 800, according to the Class of 2008 Web site, at http://web.mit.edu/admis-
sions/index.

MIT has also made progress on the front of diversity, with 283 admitted students, or 17 percent, classified as under-represented minorities. “A few years ago, that number had dwindled to 11 percent,” Marilee Jones told The Boston Globe.

More ‘MIT-like’ applicants

There was a slight drop in the number of applications this year, compared to the 10,547 applications received last year.

Harvard, Stanford, and Yale all switched to single-choice early action admissions policies earlier this year, and Jones suggested that this change, as well as economic changes, may have decreased the number of applicants to MIT.

However, the students that did apply to MIT are a very good fit, she said. “We have more of our kinds of students in the applicant pool this year than we had in a long time,” she said, “and we are expecting a higher yield because of that.”

In addition, Jones said that the admissions process had been refined over the past few years. “We’re really focused on the basics, who really makes up the pulse at MIT,” she said. One criterion that used to be selected for was national and international recognition.

However, upon review, the admissions department decided to focus more on self-initiative, a certain real self-reliance, willingness to take risks, and emotional flexibili-
ty,” she said.

The change was made to find students that are “good MIT people and also really highly creative, that might not be recognized because they’re not in competitive venues,” she said.

Perceived low ‘quality of life’

On a somewhat different note, Jones said she has noticed a new trend in the Admitted Student Survey data. Students who chose to come to MIT or to attend another institution.

The response of ‘quality of life’ as a reason for not attending MIT has increased substantially over the last several years. “The difference between [the data for] 1990 and 2000 is when I first noticed that,” Jones said.

“Every year since, it’s increased in importance,” she said.

Jones said several explanations were possible, the first of which is that over the past few years, MIT has undergone a number of changes: the campus was and is undergoing construction, and students were displeased with the recent decision forbidding freshmen from residing in fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

In addition, Jones said that society has changed, as well, and that it’s not necessarily an indica-
tor that MIT is doing something wrong.

“The population of students now really are looking for ser-

vices,” she said. “They’re looking for high-quality living groups and good food, they’re looking for camaraderie with college students, and it’s just very different from the way it was ten years ago,” she said.

In light of this, Jones said that while the issue is one that does not necessarily deserve to be ignored, MIT should not rush to conform to society’s popular image of the per-
fect campus for everyone.

“MIT is what MIT is. MIT just needs to stay authentic. That’s it, and that’s who we are,” she said.

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Deadline Extended

The Eloranta Fellowship deadline has been extended to
Friday, March 19th

Eloranta Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships are $6,000 undergraduate fellowships to support challenging intellectual work in any field: science, engineering, humanities, social science, and the arts.

For more information
http://web.mit.edu/eloranta/

For further information please contact:

Dean Andrew Eisenmann, x3-8444, eisen@mit.edu
Or
Eric Thorsen, x3-7364, ethorsen@mit.edu

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"Hidden Under Our Hats" Monument

The MIT Braintrust is collecting new or used hats for the "Hidden Under Our Hats" Monument in Washington, D.C. to honor the lives of brain tumor survivors and to never forget those who have been overcome by these devastating tumors or related conditions.

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Sponsored by: MIT Braintrust and the UA Finance Board

* Includes primary and metastatic tumors

Voters present passports to their cast votes in the Russian presidential election, hosted by embassy workers, last Saturday in 5-134.
Above: Elizabeth C. Lin ’06 (left) moves around a Plymouth State defender during the women’s lacrosse match Saturday. MIT lost 18–3.

Left: Deanna M. Lentz ’06 wins a faceoff against Plymouth State during the women’s lacrosse match Saturday.

Photography by Peter R. Russo.

Below: Brendan T. Maddigan ’04 chases down the ball after a faceoff during the first men’s lacrosse game of the season Saturday afternoon. Tufts beat MIT 16–4.

Right: Thomas V. Hennessey III ’05 tries to swing around a Tufts opponent toward the net. Hennessey scored one goal and had an assist in the Engineers’ losing effort.

Photography by Peter R. Russo.

TheTech’s NCAA Brackets
Eastern Mediocrity

By Yongyi Zhu

There are about fifteen more games per team left in the NBA, and it has become evident that while the Western Conference has consistently produced memorable matchups and competitive divisions, the Eastern Conference has brought about a season of mediocrity.

It’s true: the East has become a home for second- or third-class citizens. Name any team from the West that’s in contention and most fans will be able to recognize a couple of big time players from that team. The Nuggets have Carmelo Anthony, the Suns have Shawn Marion, the Rockets have that big, tall Asian dude. They are all difference makers on their respective teams. Not only that, but often the supporting cast is recognizable too.

The East, on the other hand, not only lacks star power, but it cannot keep up in terms of bench players. Take the Orlando Magic, for example: Tracy McGrady is able to score 62 points, but what is the rest of the team able to do? Maybe they can score a few points, but can they stop other people from scoring on them? The Magic averages 95 points a game while their opponents average 101 points per game. I guess the supporting cast isn’t really putting enough offense or enough defense to win the games that the Magic needs.

Another main problem of the East teams is a lack of centers and big forwards. The only exception is the only team that has significantly distanced itself from the rest of the pack, Indiana. Jermaine O’Neal is the best big man in the league. His ability to score at will makes him the go-to guy for the Pacers. He doesn’t ever have to drive to the rim to be effective, because not only is he the big (6–11), but he also has superior shooting skills.

The West is filled with big men that can take over a game: Shaq, Duncan, Garnett, Yao, and Brand, for example. These guys are the staples for any team, because a dunk is usually a higher percentage shot than a long-range jumper. When the game is on the line, I’d much rather see my team jam the ball through the hoop than shoot a jumper and pray that it goes through. In addition, when the team gets into trouble, the big men are usually able to bail out the team by going inside and making some easy baskets, while playing solid defense and rebounding at the other end of the floor.

You can take the basketball game played Friday night at the Fleet Center as an example of both of these problems. I took full advantage of cheap Celtics tickets to go see them for the first time. They were playing against the Pacers, hands down the strongest team in the conference, who have locked up a playoff spot already. What I saw was a perfect example of what I expected from a game from the Eastern Conference. Early on, the game teetered-totered, as the Celtics came back from several large deficits early on. However, by halftime, the Pacers were already ahead by 9 and things seemed bleak. As the third-quarter wore on, the Celtics neither had the drive nor the ability to come back from the deficit and, in all practical sense, were gone by the beginning of the fourth quarter. (That’s when I found myself staring at the scores of the other games around the league more than the players on the court.)

How did it happen? Well, the Pacers had everyone contributing to begin with, there were five players in double figures. Jermaine O’Neal did not even have to be the star of the night, and it was okay that he shot only 3-for-11 for 8 points because the supporting cast did their job. The Celtics, on the other hand, did not have an answer when the Pacers went on their runs. Paul Pierce was not that dominant and, more importantly, the rest of the team did not do much to help him out. Things become bleak, the Celtics did not have the man in the middle to bail them out with easy buckets. As a result, the Celtics got their butts whooped.

Perhaps it’s time for the Eastern Conference go out and get some more big men. While the Spurs were busy this past off-season adding Rasheed Wallace to help Tim Duncan, and the T-Wolves were quick to get Michael Olowokandi to complement Kevin Garnett, the East just sat idly, watching. Perhaps it’s time that the Eastern Conference got their priorities straight. After all, to win an NBA championship, you need more than just chutzpah.

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First Session: May 26 - July 2
Second Session: July 6 - August 13
12 Week Session: May 26 - August 13
Consider Summer Study at Tufts University

First doubles player Evan W. Tindell ’06 returns a serve in Saturday’s match against Bowdoin College. MIT lost the match to Bowdoin 5–2.

Gymnastics, from Page 20

Christina Park dismounts from the balance beam during the Saturday matinee as part of the MIT Invitational Gymnastics meet. Christina is also a member of the MIT Track Club.

Eric J. Cholankeral—The Tech

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Gymnastics Defeats Southern
Women Manage to Break Team Beam Record, Win Meet by 0.35

By Alisha Schor

Despite competing with a host of injuries that shrunk MIT's already smaller-than-comfortable women's gymnastics squad, the Engineers managed to edge Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) by 0.35 points, 184.4–184.15, last Saturday in their last regular season meet. "It was our first time ever beating Southern; they're a division two school so it's a big thing," said Head Coach Eduado Ovalle.

The first rotation of the afternoon had MIT on vault and SCSU on bars. Although the Engineers had some troubles landing landings in their first event, SCSU appeared to have the same difficulty in the second rotation, when the two teams switched events. At the half, the score was a tight 90.525 to 90.00, with SCSU ahead. Rotations three and four had MIT first on beam and then floor, where they were able execute their routines and come out on top.

The victory was an appropriate farewell as the last home meet for not only MIT's lone senior (and co-captain) Cindy Chung '04, but also Ovalle. After nine years as head coach, Ovalle will be stepping back to an assistant position. Current assistant Jennifer Miller-McEachern will be next season's head coach.

Complementing the win was a new school team record on the beam. The MIT women totalled 47.35 points, bettering the old record of 45.95. While the record came from strong performances from every competitor, Ovalle noted that the leadership of co-captain Whitney E. Watson '04 and junior Lindsey Andus '06 "inspired the team. "Whitney led off beam, even though this was one of her first meets back from an injury. She has had rib troubles all season," Ovalle said. Teammates echoed this sentiment, noting that Watson and Chung have been a huge asset through the season.

"Cindy is one of the most talented people on the team," said Lara L. Herscovitch '07. "She also makes things for us and is really thoughtful." While defeating SCSU was an accomplishment for the team, they were currently focusing on their two post-season meets: the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships and the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) Championships. "We used this meet as an opportunity to prepare for the ECAC Championships," said Ava A. Lichtor '06, a national competitor studying mechanical engineering at Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

Orji Wins Shot Put At NCAA Nationals

By Ben Schmeckpeper

The MIT Men's Indoor Track and Field team sent two competitors to the NCAA Division III Championships March 12 and 13 at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Uzoma A. Orji '06 and Brian C. Anderson '04 qualified in two events each and were expected to place high in both. MIT had two other athletes, Nate B. Ball '05 and Ben A. Schmeckpepper '05, just missing qualifying in the pole vault and 5000, respectively.

Orji started the competition with the weight throw on Friday, an event he began just a year ago. Orji's considerable talent shone through as he launched a personal best throw of 60 feet 3-3/4 inches, a little more than a foot behind the varsity record. That throw placed him fifth out of the twelve competitors and bodes well for his success in the next two years.

Also on Friday, Anderson had qualifying heats in the 1500 and 5000. Dominant all year, Anderson has spent the past three weeks dealing with a lingering hamstring strain. To an uncharacteristic performance, Anderson faded over the final laps of both races and failed to qualify for finals in either event.

Sunday, Anderson had qualifying heats in the high jump and 1500. He finished the high jump well and did not qualify for finals. On the 1500, Anderson survived the field and placed tenth, bettering his varsity record, which Orji set his freshman year and repeated throughout this season. Orji's shot put victory and fifth place finish in the weight throw garnered him two All-America honors and gave MIT 14 points, enough to finish in eleventh place.

The most consistent performer of all season for the Engineers was Orji, and he ended his remarkable season with a spectacular performance on the national level.

Upcoming Home Events

Tuesday, Mar. 16
5 p.m., Varsity Women's Lacrosse vs. Gordon College, Jack Barry Field

6 p.m., Varsity Men's Volleyball vs. Harvard University, du Pont Gymnasium

Wednesday, Mar. 17
5 p.m., Varsity Men's Tennis vs. Bates College, du Pont Tennis Courts/JB Carr Tennis Bubble

3 p.m., Varsity Women's Lacrosse vs Endicott College, Jack Barry Field

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Skaters Score High at Home Contest

By Diana S. Cheng

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Also on Friday, Anderson had qualifying heats in the 1500 and 5000. Dominant all year, Anderson has spent the past three weeks dealing with a lingering hamstring strain. To an uncharacteristic performance, Anderson faded over the final laps of both races and failed to qualify for finals in either event. Running 5:59.48 and 1:36.78 for the 1500 and 8000, respectively.

The victory was an appropriate farewell as the last home meet for not only MIT's lone senior (and co-captain) Cindy Chung '04, but also Ovalle. After nine years as head coach, Ovalle will be stepping back to an assistant position. Current assistant Jennifer Miller-McEachern will be next season's head coach.

"Cindy is one of the most talented people on the team," said Lara L. Herscovitch '07. "She also makes things for us and is really thoughtful." While defeating SCSU was an accomplishment for the team, they were currently focusing on their two post-season meets: the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships and the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) Championships. "We used this meet as an opportunity to prepare for the ECAC Championships," said Ava A. Lichtor '06, a national competitor studying mechanical engineering at Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

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UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

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MIT hosted a United States Figure Skating Intercollegiate competition March 13 at Johnson Rink. MIT's team scored more total points at its home rink than at the other two intercollegiate competitions at Princeton and Boston University.

The figure skating team entered three individual events and one team event with a total of five strong skaters, all of whom contributed points to the team.

The high maneuvers team earned a bronze medal out of eight teams. Devan H. Manz '04, a former ice dancer, represented MIT in Canada now studying mechanical engineering at MIT, performed two jumps: a double Axel, and a double flip. Adriana Tajonar '02 did a flying camel spin and a camel-in-flight–nose spin. Phil A. Lachter '06, a national competitor at the junior level in ice dance, contributed a serrigate footwork sequence that he made up on the spot, and a double / double jump combination. Lachter used his ice dance skates to complete the freestyle jumps, a very unconventional decision that worked well because of his interdisciplinary abilities.

In the Pre-Intermediate B free skate event, Diana S. Cheng '04 skated her "Les Misérables" program and earned a bronze medal out of eleven skaters. It was her first medal for free skate in the seven intercollegiate competitions in which she has skated since 2002.

In the Pre-Intermediate A solo dance event, Cheng placed third out of nine skaters in Group 1. Delphine M.D. Dean G placed fifth out of eight skaters in Group 2. The dance both used were the "Rhythm Blues," a Preliminary level ice dance. Though both Dean and Cheng have been competing the "Rhythm Blues" for the past three seasons, neither has rarely mass qualified the dance test, a solo performance in front of U.S. Figure Skating judges meant to gauge the progress and skill of the skater.

In the Pre-Intermediate C free skate event, Tajonar debuted her program to "Forever Tango," placing eighth out of 12 skaters. Margaret H. Cho '04 choreographed the program for Tajonar.

This competition is the ninth annual competition at the MIT Rink. Skaters from across the nation compete. This year's competition was hosted by Bonny S. Kellermann '72. The competition was a preceded by the first U.S. Figure Skating competition at MIT nine years ago.

Next Saturday, March 20, the figure skating club will host its annual exhibition at Johnson Rink at 7 p.m. Several national competitors, along with MIT skaters, will perform their programs. Admission is free.