Power Outage Hits MIT, Surrounding Area

By Ray C. He

A transmission line equipment failure at the Putnam Street NSTAR substation resulted in power losses across the MIT campus yesterday afternoon, said MIT Superintendent of Utilities Roger Moore.

David Branda, a customer service representative for NSTAR, the natural gas and electricity supplier for Cambridge, said that “a large portion of Cambridge was without power for about an hour and ten minutes.”

Power at MIT was off for a longer period than in Cambridge because MIT needed to gradually return to the power grid in order to avoid overloading the system, said Bernard T. Richard, manager of mechanical, electrical, and piping services at the Department of Facilities.

Many classes were cancelled following the power outage and several laboratories experienced problems with experiments.

MIT generator stops functioning

After a 115 kilovolt cable fault occurred at the Putnam substation, “the generator station at Kendall was tripped,” said Moore.

The MIT Cogeneration project, which provides most of the power to the MIT campus, is “closely connected to that substation,” he said. “They lost their source and momentum we were pumping into the grid much higher than we could sustain,” he said.

Normally the generator at MIT will continue to power MIT even if NSTAR experiences short duration dips in voltage, but this was not the case yesterday, he said.

“We normally generate 18 megawatts of our own power,” Richard said. The plant can power 80 percent of the buildings on campus, said Peter Cooper, director of utilities. Any demand over this capacity is purchased from NSTAR, according to the cogeneration plant Web site.

The plant will need to be inspected for damage from the power failures before returning to operation, Cooper said. “We must be sure that we’re not doing more damage,” he said.

Moore said that power to MIT was restored by 4 p.m.

Emergency power not consistent

In most buildings, such as Building 10, emergency power turned on almost immediately after main power stopped. However, over fifteen minutes passed before backup generators started in buildings such as W20 and W4.

As of last night, the facilities department did not know what prevented the emergency power from turning on in these buildings, Richard said. “A delay is not normally supposed to happen,” he said.

Backup generators are in every building on campus, Richard said. “Primarily, the emergency generators power the lights so people can get out of the building,” he said.

“They also support critical operations,” like delicate experiments.

Some cold rooms used for cancer research in E19 were not part of the backup system.

Financial State of the Institute Likely To Improve

By Kathy Dobson

President Charles M. Vest, Provost Robert A. Brown, and Executive Vice President John R. Curry spoke to the MIT community yesterday at a State of the Institute forum on a number of topics, including the Institute’s budget and its changing research and curriculum.

As a result of yesterday’s power outage, which affected the entire MIT campus and much of East Cambridge, the forum was abbreviated and could not be held inside Krege auditorium, which lacked lighting, and was instead held in the lobby.

2006 budget will grow

After reviewing the budget constraints that faced the Institute in the past year, Brown said that there will be budget growth in next year’s budget, including raises, capital plans, and renovations. The cuts have caused “uniform pain across the Institute,” Brown said, but the Institute will “move ahead in the next budget year to the same tradition we’ve had.”

Cuts in the budget for the coming year included the elimination of eleven unfilled faculty positions, a salary freeze for those making $55,000 or more, reduction in the number of graduate fellowships, and a reduction in the Institute’s tuition subsidy for graduate students, Brown said.

Curry said that he is optimistic about the financial state of the Institute but has yet to see the impacts of the cuts made. “We are pleased we made it through this budget year,” he said. “We will all learn the impacts of the cuts as we look back on the year.”

Curry also said that the budget Institute, Page 17

MIT’s Oldest and Largest Newspaper

Volume 124, Number 24

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Power Loss, Page 18

Survey Helps Choose W20 Vendor

By Tanmay Lin

A backup power generator in Ashdown was brought online after yesterday’s campus-wide electricity failure and triggered the release of steam from piping outside the building. Concerned residents alerted the Cambridge Fire Department. See photos, page 12.

Student input an important factor

So far, the results, “seemed to vary from independent restaurants” to brand names, Berlin said.

Berlin said that a number of students had filled out Anna’s Taqueria as their choice of vendor, but that he was “not prejudging” any of the options.

The survey is important because it is “the vehicle we are using to evaluate our options,” Berlin said.

While he hopes to select the
Kerry to Spend $25M on Image Ads

John F. Kerry Monday announced a $25 million advertising campaign, the largest single buy by any presidential campaign this year and one that comes as some Democrats have expressed concern that many voters are not noticing President Bush’s ads.

Two new spots to air this month in battleground states are designed to introduce Kerry to voters as a lifelong public servant in the military in Vietnam, a prosecutor and lieutenant governor in Massachusetts, and a member in Congress. The ad buy is aimed at connecting voters with a story that hasn’t aired on radio, TV, and cable since early March. Most of those ads portray the Massachusetts senator as an equivocator who would weaken the country’s national defense if elected to White House.

That criticism is expected to find new voices Wednesday when a group of 20 veterans who served in Kerry’s commanding officers, plan to say at a news conference that they believe Kerry is unfit to be commander-in-chief. Three of the officers said in a statement that Kerry declared after serving in Vietnam that he and other American personnel had committed atrocities — a statement he has since said was too harsh.

Sharon Planning to Modify Gaza Withdrawal Plan

A day after his own party dealt him a resounding defeat, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Monday that he would modify his plan for an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and would continue pressuring for its approval, members of his party who met with him said.

Sharon’s right-wing Likud Party rejected the Gaza pullout proposal 60-38 earlier in the day, and Sharon was scheduled to return to Tel Aviv to re-evaluate the future of his main political initiative.

Sunday’s vote had no legal standing, and Sharon remains free to seek further concessions with his coalition partners as he tries to find a way to boost his sagging standing.

In talks on Monday with Likud members of Parliament, Sharon said he would not abandon the plan, though he acknowledged that it would be altered, participants in the meeting said.

“The people of Israel elected us in order to find the way to achieve calm, security and peace and to advance Israel’s economy, and this is what I intend to do,” Sharon said in a prepared statement.

‘Sasser’ Worm Exploits Windows Security Flaw

A malicious computer worm dubbed “Sasser” that exploits a security flaw in Microsoft Corp.’s Windows operating system has infected thousands of computers worldwide since it was first detected Friday.

“It’s pretty ugly,” said Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant for antivirus software maker Sophos Inc. Customer service facilities at Westpac, a major bank in Australia, were crippled as computers were overwhelmed by the worm. The Internet news service CNet also reported that more than 1,000 computers at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst were infected.

Sasser doesn’t do permanent damage to infected computers. Instead, Sasser launches what could be considered a “virtual worm” that has additional copies of itself. Unlike other recent computer worms, Sasser is not able to spread itself from one computer on a network to another. Looking for other computers with the same software flaw and infecting them.

Panel: Death Penalty Can Be Reinstated With Safeguards

The governor’s goal is to sway a reluctant Legislature — both Senate President Robert E. Travaglini, Democrat of East Boston, and House Speaker Thomas M. Finneran, Democrat of Mattapan, a Boston neighborhood, have said they oppose the death penalty — by turning the controversy over death-row exonerations on its head. If DNA can be used to prove the innocence of death row inmates, he argues, it can also be used to prevent wrongful convictions.

Dr. Frederick R. Barbar, an associate professor of pathology at Harvard Medical School and a medical geneticist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital who cochairs the commission, said the report has the potential to “influence things far beyond the borders of Massachusetts.”

“We’re humans, and you’re not going to find anybody who can tell you that humans could not make a mistake,” said Barbar, who declined to reveal his personal views on the death penalty. “But as much as is humanly possible, I and the others are of a common mind that if these recommendations were put in place in their entirety, we believe to a man, or woman, that the chance of an erroneous conviction and execution would be vanishingly small.”

Nevertheless, the safeguards envisioned in the 29-page report are not sufficient to satisfy many death-penalty critics.

The proposal “doesn’t hit at enough of the real problems in the system that causes false convictions,” said Harvey Silverglate, a Massachusetts criminal defense and civil liberties attorney who says he opposes the death penalty because of the possibility of wrongful convictions, rather than on ethical grounds. “It hits at some of them, but not enough of them and surely not all of them.”

Meanwhile, some death-penalty opponents, and supporters, say they believe the proposal is drawn so narrowly it will almost never result in a capital conviction.

Romney declined to comment before the official release of the report Monday, but when he created the panel last year he called for “a standard of proof that is incontrovertible.”

“Just as science can be used to free the innocent, it can be used to identify the guilty,” the governor said in announcing the formation of the commission.

U.S. Commander Orders First Punishment in Abuse of Iraqis

The senior U.S. commander in Iraq has ordered that military punishments in the abuse of prisoners by U.S. soldiers there, issuing severe reprimands to six who served in supervisory positions at Abu Ghraib prison and a milder “letter of admonishment” to another, the prime minister of Iraq said Monday.

The officers and noncommissioned officers who were punished Monday were described as “key players” that likely will end their military careers, although they were not demoted or discharged. They have not been charged with any criminal activity, but were disciplined as part of the military’s investigation.

The military’s investigative report into the abuses of detainees in Iraq, by Maj. Gen. Antonino M. Taguba, described broader problems in the prison system throughout Iraq, as well as pervasive flaws in the leadership, training and morale of military police assigned to guard Abu Ghraib and elsewhere in Iraq. It suggested that these problems had contributed to abuses of prisoners over many months, even after earlier instances were known.

The report found, for example, that after several detaine’s were beaten at Camp Bucca, another detention site in Iraq, in May 2003, nothing was done to make clear to military police elsewhere that this was not to be tolerated. Soldiers responsible for those earlier abuses were charged and punished late last year.

U.S. Commander Orders First Punishment in Abuse of Iraqis

Daniel J. Kurtz-Phelan THE NEW YORK TIMES

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, May 4, 2004

WEATHER

The Heat is Gone

By Michael J. Ring

After the summerlike weather of late last week, today’s forecast brings a return to reality with more seasonable temperatures and the threat of showers several days this week.

The meteorological conditions over the past few days have been a stark contrast at the different ends of the North American continent, thanks to the different weather systems in the interior and Gulf of Alaska, respectively.

The meteorological conditions over the past few days have been a stark contrast at the different ends of the North American continent, thanks to the different weather systems in the interior and Gulf of Alaska, respectively.

The heat dome that brought unseasonably warm temperatures west of the Rockies as the jet stream plunged southward, carrying with it a high pressure system in the interior and Gulf of Alaska, respectively.

In the interior and Gulf of Alaska, respectively, the jet stream plunged southward, carrying with it a high pressure system in the interior and Gulf of Alaska, respectively.

Partly cloudy and cool. Low near 44°F (7°C).

Other Symbols

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Precipitation Symbols

Light

Showers

Snow

Rain
Three-Fourths of Mass. Police Depts. Employ Profling to "Round Up" Minorities

By Bill Dedman

May 4, 2004

THE TECH

What's going on with Boston's bigoted police? Not much.

By Henry Fountain

May 3, 2004

THE BOSTON GLOBE

Frank P. Quattrocchi, the investment banker whose deal-making helped fuel the 1990s technology boom, was found guilty Monday of trying to impedeudge investigations into how stock offerings were completed and companies paid Wall Street figures to face prison since Michael R. Milken.

The former executive was convicted of one count of conspiracy and five counts of making false filings, though such a case was never brought.

Secret Warrant Requests Increased in 2003

WASHINGTON

The government's use of secret warrants to monitor and eavesdrop on terrorism suspects soared last year, with the Justice Department expected to announce Tuesday.

The total represents an increase of about 500 warrant applications from the year before, fueling hopes that the bleakest days of electronic surveillance and terrorism investigations, according to the new data.

States' Tax Receipts Rise, Leading To Some Surprises

WASHINGTON

States across the country are reporting stronger tax collections this spring for the first time in three years, fueling hopes that the bleakest budget-cutting days of the economic downturn are over, state officials and fiscal experts said.

No details were provided about the investigations.

Civil liberties advocates maintain that the sharp rise in the government's use of secret warrants, made easier by the antiterrorism law known as the USA PATRIOT Act, represents a worrisome trend toward the federal government's overreach in spying on suspects they than be in sitting traditional criminal warrant applications.
OPINION

Anna’s Taqueria in the Student Center

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To honestly defending Israel's actions one has to be comfortable with rehashing the consequences. On the other hand, defenders of Israel's actions openly profess as much.

Being a woman in politics is always an issue. Reporters have to muse over it, pundits will choose whether consciously or unconsciously. A man in the same position would be viewed as just his work, but for a woman her gender is also understood to be a factor in such a way that her gender is almost certainly be a reality that she can never legitimately be anybody else on the ground, and maybe give him back the pen. I could use — I mean, my camcorder to get a picture of him when I tell him that he just needs the boldness and courage to make things better.

As soon as a woman announces her intentions to run for public office, two questions immediately arise: she is capable of performing the duties demanded by the office, and she will be, as a woman, commanded the respect from her peers and international leaders? To be fair, the first question applies to men as well. Anyone of either gender will, or should, have their abilities scrutinized and will command when facing leaders of other countries. Even in her own office in this country, which we would like to believe is more progressive on the issue of gender equality, the woman important to the company by her peers in such a way that her gender is almost certainly be a reality that she can never legitimately be anybody else on the ground, and maybe give him back the pen. I could use — I mean, my camcorder to get a picture of him when I tell him that he just needs the boldness and courage to make things better.

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Hillary Rodham Clinton — Will she run for president? Will Kerry pick her as his vice president? If not, who will? There was a woman had something to do with the decision, and maybe give him back the pen. I could use — I mean, my camcorder to get a picture of him when I tell him that he just needs the boldness and courage to make things better.

The Production Department Word of the Day
Techno-geeky, because it pays good money too.

Join@tt.mit.edu

The selection of female presidential candidates

The question of whether we, as a country, are ready for a female president or vice president is begged to be answered. First, the general consensus seems to be that Hillary Clinton will run for president in 2008 if Kerry is not elected. In four short years, how will this affect the ground, and maybe give him back the pen. I could use — I mean, my camcorder to get a picture of him when I tell him that he just needs the boldness and courage to make things better.

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A CAPPELLA REVIEW

The Muses Find Their Tune

‘Real World’ Theme Works in Singing and Skits

By Zachary Ozer

MIT Muses
Wong Auditorium
May 1, 8 p.m.

When I think of MTV’s “The Real World,” what generally comes to mind is a group of strangers thrust together with the hopes that their differences will incite conflict. The Muses concert on Saturday night was no exception; it was a demonstration of quite the opposite.

Indeed, those watching in the nearly packed Wong Auditorium saw unparalleled displays of camaraderie and teamwork, rather than the manifestation of antagonism for which the MTV show is renowned. Rather than the unprecedented entity that the Muses, like all great inspiration at their own discretion.

The evening began with “On the Real World,” a reworked version of The Carpenters’ “Johnny Angel.” Although the new lyrics focused mainly on the interpersonal relationships of the group members, it was well received by the audience. The melody complemented the group’s natural harmony perfectly, and Sally’s “Don’t Let Me Down.” With a bit slower tempo than the original, the piece achieved new depths of meaning. Jennifer N. Fishe ’07 stole the spotlight as a soft spoken, but heart-siantic. Clearly this was a successful collaborative and a chance for the MIT community to experience a lively Senegalese tradition.

The RamBax MIT’s Spring Concert is this Saturday on the Student Center steps.

A second piece evidently was not well-rehearsed and came off as superfluous boobage. The great exception to this was another “Real World” skit byRodriguez ’04, who sang the Simon & Garfunkel classic “Sounds of Silence,” the only number of the evening that was not a part of the MIT Muses’ repertoire. It was an inspired performance by Sheena C. Hembrador ’06 of Wham!’s “Wake Me Up Before You Go.” Whileshe was reminiscent of Shania Twain, her performance was captivating.

The most impressive vocals which one could find at any a cappella concert, but rather than appearing when expected, the Muses, like all great inspiration at their own discretion.

The introductory arrangement seemed to reflect the pieces which the group members personally wanted to hear, rather than a specific genre or field of emotion. A sketch comedy piece meant to resemble a piece from “Real World” transitioned appropriately into Pink’s “Feel Good Time.” With its techno interludes and diva-like moments from Pink, it was definitively the most ambitious piece attempted throughout the evening. The group’s choreography captured the song brilliantly.

And then, seemingly directly from the roof-deck of Apple Studios, came The Beatles’ “Don’t Let Me Down.” With a bit slower tempo than the original, the piece achieved new depths of meaning. Jennifer N. Fishe ’07 stole the spotlight as a soft spoken, but heart-siantic. Clearly this was a successful collaborative effort. The rest of the evening was spent in the Student Center steps, followed by a lively Senegalese tradition.

The RamBax MIT’s Spring Concert is this Saturday on the Student Center steps.

The rest of the evening reflected thought in terms of the song arrangement, although the sketch comedy most definitely suffered. The spectacular vocal displays were followed by sketch comedy which made me wonder if perhaps the Muses themselves were relying on inspiration. A spoof on MTV News, Charlaine Sh ‘07 and Caroline S. Reilly ‘07 tried to reenact the incident at the Superbowl involving Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake. The piece evidently was not well-rehearsed and came off as superfluous boobage. The great exception to this was another “Real World” skit by Rodriguez ’04, which came to resemble the infamous scene from Katey’s Del in “When Harry Met Sally.” The skit dealt with the nightly ritual of group member S. Alki Delichatsios ’05, and then led into Blondie’s “I Touch Myself.” Much like Meg Ryan in the film, Delichatsios patronently enjoyed performing a little bit too much, because she continued even after her fellow Muses were quite done.

Other highlights from the evening included an a cappella performance by Ana C. Hembrador ’06 of Wham!’s “Wake Me Up Before You Go.” While the lyrics and melody were that of the original recording, Shenna and the Muses imparted a new soul into the song.

Unsurpassed was the performance of “Muses Never Get Over You” Natasha N. Rushing ’05. Her voice was reminiscent of Lauryn Hill, completely at ease and yet resonating throughout the room. She seemed so natural and so at ease one had to wonder whether she had been born in front of a microphone.

Later, Hembrador and Rushing performed a duet together of “You Thought Wrong” by Kelly Clarkson and Tammya. The duo’s astonishing voices blew the crowd away. As the song progressed, the duct became even more intense as they drew on other’s energy to provide one of the most spectacular moments of the evening.

What really made the concert amazing was not the impressive vocals which one could find at any a cappella concert, but rather the great bond the Muses share with each other. The Muses carried out their tradition of singing “How High the Moon” with their alumni, but the evening’s crowning moment was the tribute to their seniors. While the young group may not have quite perfected their ability to carry a tune throughout an evening, the friendship of the Muses would carry them until they find their tune.
The Toons: How to Conquer an Audience

When the Man Fail, the Women Still Do the Job

By Devdoot Majumdar

A CAPPPELLA REVIEW

The concert was part of the Virgin College MegaTour.

STAFF WRITER
By Petar Simich

Wellesley Audience Not Left Empty-Handed

May 1, 8 p.m.
10-250

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
By Devdoot Majumdar

May 4, 2004

The evening, though generally enjoyable, certainly demonstrated a marked discrepancy among the Toons’ singers. It’s fair to say that the women of the Toons hoist up the men. Thankfully, the coarser, off-pitch vocals delivered by some of these guys were more than offset by the remarkable mellifluous beauty of singing girls.

Spring concerts are known to be the last hurrah for some of these stunning voices, as they are essentially farewell concerts for seniors. With 2004, the Toons see the departure of, among others, MIT vocalists Nikhila Dec’04, and Neelima Teerdhala ‘04; and Wellesley vocalists Claire Gross, Heather Macdonald, and Kieran Pechter.

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Wrestling Justice Without the Spandex
Kaiju Big Battel Mixes Technical Wrestling Excellence with Bizarre Humor

By Brian Loux

Kaiju Big Battel
Meydey! Meydey! Boston SOS!
Saturday, May 1, 6 p.m.
Avalon

T

verse enough of Boston and you'll be sure to find a decal bearing a remarkably square frownie-face with crosstown. Ever wonder what underground movement it might represent? The answer is so bizarre, so outrageous, and so ludicrous, it could take root in no other place than the New England metropolis. Kaiju Big Battel, which describes itself as a "tongue-in-cheek hybrid of American professional wrestling, Japanese monster movies, and lowbrow pop culture," does indeed resemble the love-child of World Wrestling Entertainment producer Vince McMahon and an anime fanatic. Wrestling's masculine melodrama changes here into a ludicrous story about a battle for control of the universe as men in monster costumes duke it out in a steel cage (now termed the Danger Cage).

Kaiju does indeed take heavily from American professional wrestling organizations, including monster Unibouzu's "murky depths" move, a modified version of Brock Lesnar's "F5" maneuver in which the opponent is placed on one's shoulders, lifted above Lesnar's "F5" maneuver in which the opponent in developing a character's relationship with the fans, the monsters usually go the depths" move, a modified version of Brock Lesnar's "F5" maneuver in which the opponent is placed on one's shoulders, lifted above

one's head, spun around, and dropped. But there are attributes that set Kaiju above a backyard wrestling production mixed with humor, and to some extent, even above traditional professional wrestling.

First is the small venue in which battels are performed. The intimate setting helps rile the crowd more frequently and makes the high-flying maneuvers all the more impressive. Of course, the monsters follow that up with an impressive move repertoire. While the performers tend to be actors by trade, they are still able to pull off the eye-catching moves like tornado DDTs, sunsets, flips, and fisherman's suplexes. For myself, I was able to watch Dustin Bunny and Neo Teppelin perform moonsaults off the top of the Danger Cage all the while being an arm's length away from both. Then would come the colorful characters and storyline. Traditional wrestling stories tend to be ones of personal feuds. However, Kaiju permanently keeps itself in the World Championship Wrestling vs. New World Order days, with four factions (one good, one evil, two rogues) battling each other and no one ever truly gaining the upper hand. This is infinitely easier to understand and dive into for a fan.

And while the costumes do help exceptionally in developing a character's relationship with the fans, the monsters usually go the extra mile to show their personalities. The newly debuted Superwrong came out dancing to the internet-famous "Yatta!" song and took a good three minutes to perform before his matchup. Dr. Cube (the chief villain whose visage graces the Kaiju decals) will stamp around and salute his followers after gaining the upper hand. Gemi-man (a living pile of New Jersey garbage) comes out with a barrel of toxic waste and throws handfuls of it into the crowd.

In order to help direct the tempo, musical selections played throughout each match. Sometimes it is simple as playing a monster's theme song when he comes to interrupt a scheduled match. But usually, the music is able to express how the fight is going. When both monsters are getting slammed into the cardboard building props, you have typical streetfight music. Should the hero have the upper hand, something more upbeat or in the style of his theme song might play. The opposite is of course true for the villain.

The best musical accompaniment tends to come just before a high-risk maneuver is about to be executed. The music starts out soft, slowly building as one of the competitors scales the cage, then climaxes as the monster makes his fall back down to Earth. It's an innovation in wrestling that again helps the crowd get into it.

But one of the most important traits of Kaiju is the ability to never take itself too seriously. While the story does describe the battle for the universe and commentator Louden Noxious describes the battles with the sincerity and emotion of WWE announcer Jim Ross, there's never any doubt that it's a spectacle.

Two of the matches that night were one-punch knockouts; one because Superwrong was so weak, the other (the championship match) because Hell Monkey made his way to the ring drunk and barely able to stand. Los Plantanos were able to defeat Munatango (a giant tree) by taking axes to him.

This ultimately combines for a product that is truly captivating. No more than three hours after being introduced to the world and story of Kaiju I had become a "mark," or a wrestling fan who has forgotten that the entire thing is staged and is cheering as if it were real. I tried to start "Holy Shit!" chants after every flip off the top of the cage and booed when evil Dr. Cube walked away with the championship belt that night.

Wrestling, Godzilla movies, and anime all have their clear audiences. But if you enjoy a medley of any one of them, be sure to check out Kaiju the next time they're in town.
The Sloan Subject Prioritization System
Bidding Dates for Fall, 2004 Classes

http://sloanbid.mit.edu

Leave password field blank, create new password under 'Personal Information'

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan subjects:
Opens 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 12
Closes 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 21

Waitlist-Only Round for closed Sloan subjects:
Opens 9:00 a.m., Friday, July 30
Closes 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 7

Waitlists for closed Sloan classes are part of the Course Bidding System, beginning May 12. Please contact Tara Walor, twelor@mit.edu, if you have any questions regarding Sloan Course Bidding.

Successful bids appear on your Registration Form on September 7 and will be posted on the bidding website as of July 14 -- write down your password to check results!
Senior House’s annual steer roast was held last weekend.

(right) The steer roast barbeque pit erupts in flames to the delight of onlookers.

(below) Hani Sallum ’96 towers over steer roast attendees in a costume he designed employing mechanical stilts.

(below right) Senior House graduate resident tutor Andrew G. “Zoz” Brooks G displays the Sport Death shield. The tile was burned in the barbeque pit during the festivities.

Photography by Grant Jordan

Steer Roast

[above] The Sport Death banner adorns the front facade of Senior House during Steer Roast.

(right) Ross Lippert, PhD ’98, wrestles Steve Reinhardt at Senior House’s annual steer roast, held last weekend.
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Panelists: Frank Gehry, Steven Holl, and Robert Venturi
Moderator: William J. Mitchell
Respondents: John Curry and Kyong Park

Many universities, including MIT, are commissioning renowned architects to create extraordinary new buildings. The Forum explores this phenomenon and investigates how architecture can make a difference within the university culture.

The Annual Max Wasserman Forum on Contemporary Art was established in memory of Max Wasserman (MIT Class of 1926), a founding member of the Council of the Arts at MIT. This public forum addresses critical issues in contemporary art and culture through the participation of renowned scholars, artists, and arts professionals.
Trio
by Emezie Okorafor

Bobby. I found your "Angel of Love" jacket in a squirrel's nest a few months ago... I wasn't sure what to do with it... or why you got rid of it...

But, without it you seem to be missing an important part of you... kinda like an angel without its wings, y'know...

Psh...

Forget it, Mina. I'm not TOUCHING that thing! I don't BELIEVE in all that "love" nonsense anymore. And, besides, I'm no good at it! All I do is upset people! I'm not good at following the traditional rules of friendship and dating and stuff. I'm a love lawbreaker! I'm no "Angel of Love"! If anything, I'm more like a... "GANGLER" of Love!

Although, some people do call me a Space Cowboy from time to time. And, some other people call me Maurice... I'm really not sure why... maybe it's because I speak of the Pompatus of Love all the time... but that's really besides the point...

Woman. I KNOW you aren't rollin' those eyes at ME....

In which I act very liberal then ruin the moment
by Brian Loux

Hey, how was the lab? Did anyone actually experiment? SLAM

Hey, man. Expo is a serious crime. Don't cheapen it by comparing it to bombing some school assignment or test.

Post-post... No. Our assignment was to dissect a dead dog. My classmates opened their jugs through it. That restarted its heart. The damn beast came up on the table and looked at me with that glass in its eye. I need a beer.

I'm gonna have you for a walk after that one.

No! But you get why I ran home!

B Loux's new job: Fist of the North Star
by Brian Loux

The Tech... Excuse me

QED
by Brian Lewis

YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD REALLY TAKE A SUMMER COURSE WITH ME.

JERRY

NO WAY! IT'S SUMMER. I'M FUNDED, SO I DON'T NEED AN INTERNSHIP AND SO WITHOUT CLASSES, I HAVE NO DISTRACTIONS. I'LL BE ABLE TO FOCUS AND MAKE SOME REAL PROGRESS ON MY RESEARCH!

JERRY

YOU MEAN... WORK.

INTRO TO INTERPRETIVE DANCE MAY NOT BE SO BAD....
Fascist Popsicle Stand

I Live in a Giant Bucket

I Live in a Giant Bucket
A transmission line failure at the Putnam Street substation caused a blackout across eastern Cambridge including much of the MIT campus.

(above) The interior of the Student Center stands empty of students. They were forced to evacuate the building because of a reported gas leak and fears that the darkened halls of the building posed a danger to students.

(right) The 12-182 Athena cluster sits dark. Emergency power systems did not keep the clusters running.

(below) A police officer turns people away outside the Student Center following the evacuation.

State of the Institute: Tranquil in the Dark

A “closed” sign is taped to the door of the student services center in Building 3 yesterday afternoon, although the staff were still accepting some payments. Many institute offices were closed during the power outage.

(below left) Students walk down a darkened infinite corridor during the power outage.

(below) With no classes to attend and driving rain outside, many students chose to sit or nap on the floor of Lobby 7 to pass the time.
number one choice of the students, it depends on whether that vendor is “interested and agreeable to business with MIT.”

The vendor has a “niche to fill in the community,” Berlin said. He is not as concerned with the type of food offered because there are enough dining locations on campus that MIT does not “have to look at every location as satisfying every need.” He said the location is a good social space.

Vendor must satisfy several needs

The vendor must fit the community’s needs, MIT’s business needs, and be able to work well with the Office of Campus Dining as well, Berlin said. Berlin said the replacement should be “operationally and financially responsible.” He said it was important to have a “long term partner,” and to avoid another situation like the current one with Arrow St. Crepes.

Berlin said that the vendor must also “agree to a form of working with our office.” The Office of Campus Dining must approve the menu, prices, and hours of location of the vendor in order to protect student purchasing power, he said.

“The other thing we want to do is make sure it opens by the fall,” he added.

Q bubble hopes to take over space

Nancy Chen, the owner of Q-Bubble, the vendor that had shared space with Arrow St. Crepes until they were forced to leave, said she hopes to obtain this contract. She is submitting a proposal to Berlin to create a location that would service Taiwanese, Cantonese, and Szechuan cuisine.

She said that she is willing to work out arrangements to address reasonable prices and later hours, if it gives her the opportunity to open this restaurant.

Berlin said that the decision would depend ultimately on the survey, though he also said that the limited equipment available at this location may not be appropriate for Asian-style cuisine.
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Power Loss, from Page 1

NSTAR Uncertain of Outage Cause; W20 Evacuated

The critical systems, Richard said. These buildings had priority over buildings with backup power for experiments during efforts to restore electricity, he said.

Student Center evacuated

The Student Center was evacuated because of a reported gas leak, and Building E52 was evacuated by the MIT Police because the generators did not take over electric power.

“If there’s no light in the buildings, it’s not safe to be in there,” said MIT Police Chief John DiFava. “No building was supposed to be evacuated,” Richard said. “Buildings that were [evacuated] were instructed by the police and the fire department.”

“Trevor T. Chang ’07 noted that life seemed “a little less stressed” yesterday at what he called the “Massachusetts Institute Without Technology.”

Libraries remained open yesterday and books were checked out manually, said Deborah L. Helman, associate head of MIT libraries.

“Dining facilities across campus were closed during the outage, resulting in long lines at the lunch trucks,” said David B. Andre in the Student Service Center.

“I wandered by the student center, and it appeared to be evacuated,” said Sharon M. Prange ’07. “I don’t know where else to eat.”

The power loss also contributed to the cancellation of several afternoon lectures and recitations, including the Differential Equations (18.03) lecture.

“We waited here with amazing patience, they paid more attention to me than when the lights are on,” said Miller.

Some students, however, were not so pleased with the power loss.

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“I couldn’t get the class to leave the classroom,” said Professor Haynes R. Miller. “First I left and then they left.”

Some students, however, were not so pleased with the power loss.

“I can’t work when there’s no power,” said Michael J. Mori G. “I need my instruments.”

“I hope there’s power soon,” said George M. Eng ’06 during yesterday’s outage. “I wonder what the SIPB people are doing.”

“NSTAR uncertain of failure cause

As of last night, NSTAR had not determined the cause of the transmission line failures. “We have engineers that are looking into what exactly happened,” Branda said.

In addition to losing power in the Cambridge, NSTAR’s computer systems were down yesterday, said Mike Butler, a NSTAR customer service representative.

“I don’t think that the power failure is linked to the computer systems,” Branda said.

NSTAR was conducting some power tests when the equipment failure occurred. “Cambridge was doing a scheduled test and the generator did not come back on,” said DiFava. “They were doing a test at their Putnam location and that was the start of the issue.”

A power outage of this magnitude has occurred only once in recent history. “There was one in ’97 that was a city wide failure,” Cooper said. “When that fault occurred, we were tripped off of the grid.”

Kelley Rivoire and Marissa Vagi contributed to the reporting of this story.


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MIT’s power plant’s Web site, tracking generator output, shows the outage.

24 Hour Electric Demand

Athena clusters were deserted and students gathered together in Lobby 7 and on the steps of the evacuated Student Center, shielding themselves from the rain.

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Kelley Rivoire and Marissa Vagi contributed to the reporting of this story.

Page 18 THE TECH May 4, 2004
Getting my Brass Rat Friday night got me thinking about sports rings and sports championships. MIT is not so different from a sport anyway. It’s physically demanding, it’s mentally painful and if you can do well enough, you can get yourself a little ring to boot.

Okay, so MIT is not the NBA, NFL or MLB. But in a way, the Brass Rat is the championship ring of engineers. For us, the rat is a way of representing our life at MIT and showing all that we have endured in the quest for our degree. But our ring is distributed at the end of our sophomore year, not at graduation. In sports, that is the equivalent of giving everyone that makes the playoffs a championship ring.

But something else struck me considering sports rings: why give out rings at all? Don’t the athletes hoist an enormous trophy to signify their winning of a championship? Why make little pieces of jewelry that can be adorned on their fingers, but most will keep in a little velvet box?

Perhaps rings signify a sense of unity. The team won a championship together and therefore the team members should all wear something similar; a ring is an unobtrusive item that can be worn in any occasion. Wearing a ring identifies not the individuals on that championship team, but the team itself. Just think, after the San Antonio Spurs’ championship run last year, Tim Duncan gets the same ring as Mengke Bateer, even though Duncan was a tad more productive in the postseason. Anyone who owns a particular ring had to go through the same kinds of experiences as anyone else with the same ring. Perhaps that’s why championship rings are only advertised to the members of the team to which it is going.

But sports rings are publicized that little because they are designed for each team or group to appreciate. Who outside of MIT would understand Kresge or IHTFP? Better yet, who outside of MIT would appreciate those things? Maybe that’s why we never really explain our rings to outsiders. And maybe that’s why the sports teams don’t show their rings to us.
By Brian Chase
SPORTS
Not an Awful Curse: Sox Still Win
May 4, 2004

Column

Several fans of a given baseball team had to endure over the years. The article made me think about the long-suffering Red Sox fans, and their plight.

The Sox, trying to quantify how much they might suffer in September, the Sox It proved to me that as much as they end of the game. It was a really

Even though the Red Sox were win-
ning season for almost a decade, their
disappointment and despair. The Sox
fans can claim, they have “never loved at all.”

So I say to those Red Sox fans who

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