

CLC Issues Warning to Simmons for Party

By Kelley Rivoire
NEWS EDITOR

The Cambridge License Commission issued a warning last Friday to Simmons Hall for an unregistered party held last October that involved underage drinking.

The warning requires Simmons to work with the Campus Alcohol Advisory Board and to lead an initiative to create a social host training program for Simmons and other dormitories, said Simmons President David A. Nedzel '07. The ruling also mandates that underage Simmons residents not consume alcohol in the building and that Simmons report to the CLC in six months on their progress, Nedzel said.

Daniel Trujillo, associate dean for community development and substance abuse programs, said that he believes the decision by the CLC was "one of the best outcomes you can have" and reflected the efforts of Simmons to "make sure the entire community was aware of how to prevent this in the future... That's what the CLC wants," he said.

The CLC could have revoked Simmons' housing license.

Simmons to lead training program

Social host training is currently only available for members of fraternities, Trujillo said. Nedzel said that the new social host training program will be developed by considering which aspects of the fraternity training are applicable to dormitories and what additional components might be useful.

By developing a training program for dormitories similar to that of fraternities, Simmons can "provide something that's valuable," Trujillo said.

The training program will be implemented no later than next fall, Nedzel said.

Some component of the program Simmons creates might be used during



STEPHANIE LEE—THE TECH

The Cambridge License Commission recently issued a warning to Simmons Hall regarding an unregistered party involving underage drinking.

an orientation for freshmen who move into the dormitory this fall, he said.

As part of the charge to become involved with the CAAB, Simmons Chairman Andrew T. Lukmann '07 said he would appoint a resident to attend CAAB meetings.

The CAAB, a coalition between MIT and the City of Cambridge, deals with alcohol issues both on and off campus, Trujillo said. One focus of the CAAB is to educate students about the process for event registration and to encourage students to register parties, he said.

Regarding the component of the CLC decision forbidding underage students from consuming alcohol, Lukmann said that he does not know

whether Simmons will institute any changes to its current policies.

"I don't think anyone has the interest of becoming a police force for the dorm," Lukmann said. He suggested that graduate resident tutors might take a stronger role in addressing the issue "so that people can keep a better eye out."

Nedzel said that the Simmons government is still in the early planning stages regarding the stipulations made by the CLC, and he expects Simmons will work with the Dormitory Council in developing the programs.

The details of the CLC warning will be discussed by Simmons officers at a leadership seminar this

weekend, Lukmann said.

Simmons making progress

Simmons residents have become more educated about party registration and underage drinking since the incident in October. "I think the CLC has made residents much more aware of the seriousness of underage drinking," Nedzel said.

The CLC decision reflects the understanding that Simmons has taken positive steps following the party, including holding mandatory community forums, Nedzel said.

"It's important for Cambridge to remind the Simmons community of the standards of not only MIT, but the city around us," Lukmann said.

"This is Mike Lin" Victorious In 6.270

By Kelley Rivoire
NEWS EDITOR

Around 500 members of the MIT community braved a snowstorm that had caused a campus closure to watch the finals of 6.270, the Autonomous Robot Design Competition, on Wednesday night.

Team "This is Mike Lin," composed of David M. Carpenter '05, Ron Ron Cheng '07, and Michael J. Gebauer '06 were victorious over almost sixty other teams in this year's Star Wars themed competition, entitled "Attack of the Drones: May the Torque be with You."

Competition more complex

This year's competition featured more difficult scoring rules than last year's, said 6.270 Organizer David C. Wang '05.

The game featured a board with three scoring areas for each team and red and green balls which the robots would maneuver. Robots could "vote" by depositing balls of either color into either the red or green bins located on the two sides of the table. The vote count was determined by number of balls in each color bin, regardless of their color. The winning bin was the one that had more votes, or, if neither team voted, was predetermined. Balls of the same color as the "winning" bin were worth 2

6.270, Page 7

Colleges, Boston Police Discuss Students' Safety

By Marissa Vogt
NEWS EDITOR

Student leaders and administrators from Boston area colleges met with the Boston Police Department last night to discuss the Operation Student Shield initiative launched in early January.

The initiative is a partnership between the Boston Police and college administrators with the idea of improving on and off-campus safety by increasing communication between the groups.

Boston Police Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole said that the department is trying to get involved in college housing fairs, orientations, and student meetings to promote safety and improve student quality of life. Each institution has identified a liaison with the Boston Police within its administration, she said, and some administrators are participating in "ride-alongs" where they assist the police in responding to complaints.

O'Toole said that it is "important to keep the dialogue open" about "challenges we will face, not just on Super Bowl Sunday, but over the course of the year." She said that as part of Operation Student Shield, the department wants to encourage collaboration and "enforce as a last resort."

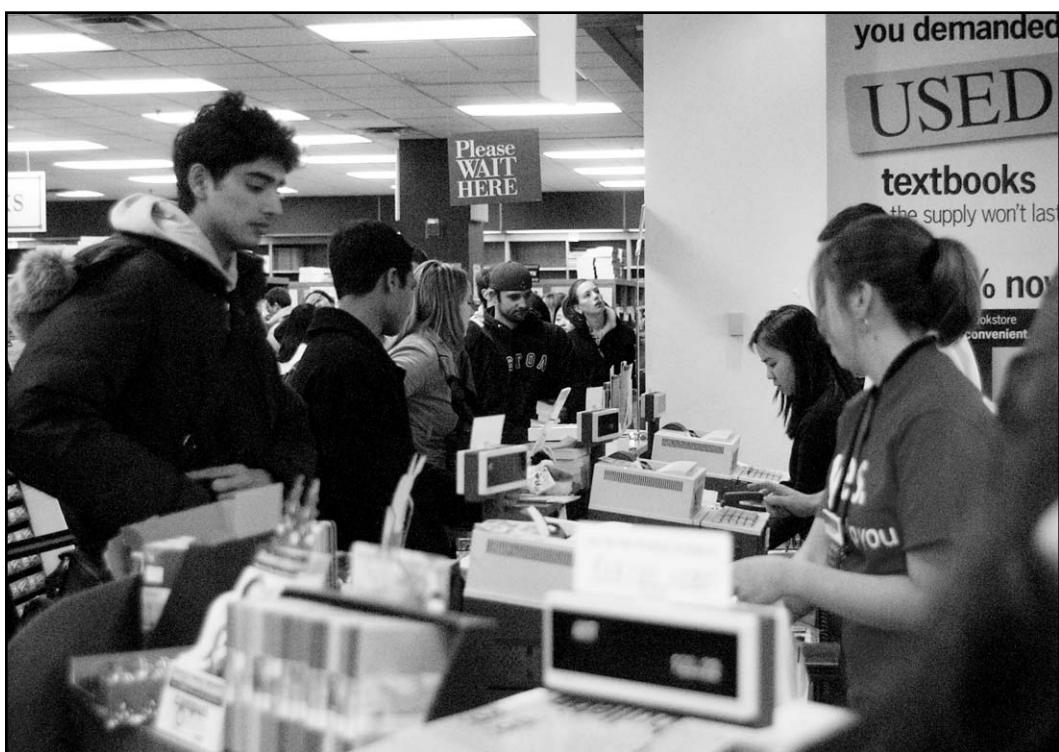
Undergraduate Association President Harel M. Williams '05 and Interfraternity Council President Christopher P. Child '06 represented the MIT student body at the meeting. Associate Dean for Student Life Programs Barbara A. Baker and Detective Sergeant Mary Beth Riley were also present.

Operation Student Shield is led by Boston Police Captain William Evans, who was not present at the meeting last night.

Safety a priority for Super Bowl

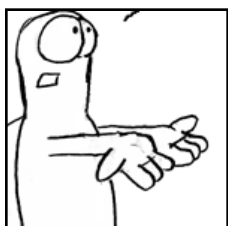
Much of the discussion centered

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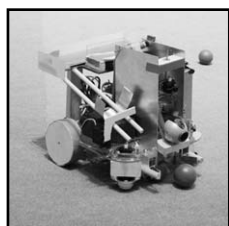
CHRISTINA KANG—THE TECH

Students stand in one of three long lines at the MIT COOP in Kendall Square on Monday, Jan. 31. Many students purchased books for their classes on registration day.



Comics

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"Order of Random Cauchy" Wins MASLab

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NEWS

Largest 6.370 Competition Ever
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New UA Secretary, Treasurer
Appointed

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WORLD & NATION

Britain Not Yet Confirming C-130 Was Shot Down

By Lizette Alvarez
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

British officials said Monday that they were investigating the crash of a British C-130 plane in Iraq on Sunday and could not confirm any connection between the crash and Islamic militants.

Two militant groups took responsibility on Monday for downing the plane, but neither claim could be substantiated. The first statement was issued on an Islamic Web site by Ansar al-Islam, a group that has been loosely linked to al-Qaida. It said it had shot down the RAF C-130 Hercules on Sunday, election day in Iraq. "A group of young mujahedeen from Ansar al-Islam managed to detect a C-130 Hercules flying at low altitude from Baghdad to Balad, and downed it with a guided rocket," the statement said.

Later in the day, Al-Jazeera television broadcast a video that appeared to show the downing of the British transport plane, with a claim that the "Islamic National Resistance in Iraq" had filmed the attack and claimed responsibility for it.

Senate Democrats Cool to Bush's Social Security Plan

By David E. Rosenbaum and Richard W. Stevenson
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Six of the seven Democratic senators from the states where President Bush plans to campaign for his Social Security plan this week say they are unalterably opposed to his main principle of diverting tax money into personal investment accounts.

Sen. Bill Nelson of Florida takes an unequivocal stand typical of what others have expressed in interviews and public statements. "I will oppose diverting money from the Social Security trust fund," Nelson said in a speech at a luncheon in West Palm Beach on Monday.

He continued: "I will fight against cuts to Social Security benefits. I will fight against any plan that relies on massive borrowing and increases the debt. And I will fight to protect this program that provides a safe and reliable source of retirement income for millions of Americans."

The one exception among the seven was Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska, who said in an interview he could not make a commitment on Social Security until he saw the specifics of the president's plan.

A New Language Arises, And Scientists Watch It Evolve

By Nicholas Wade
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Linguists studying a signing system that spontaneously developed in an isolated Bedouin village say they have captured a new language being generated from scratch. They believe its features may reflect the innate neural circuitry that governs the brain's faculty for language.

The language, known as the Al-Sayyid Bedouin Sign Language, is used in a village of some 3,500 people in the Negev Desert of Israel. They are descendants of a single founder, who arrived 200 years ago from Egypt and married a local woman. Two of the couple's five sons were deaf, as are about 150 members of the community today.

The Al-Sayyid clan has long been known to geneticists, but only now have linguists studied its sign language. A team led by Dr. Wendy Sandler of the University of Haifa says in Tuesday's issue of *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* that the Al-Sayyid sign language developed spontaneously and without outside influence. It is not related to Israeli or Jordanian sign languages, and its word order differs from that of the spoken languages of the region.

Tabulation of Ballots Begins As Attacks in Iraq Continue

By John F. Burns
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Teams of Iraqi election workers sat down behind banks of computers in Baghdad's tightly guarded international zone on Monday and began tabulating millions of ballots that will determine the makeup of the country's 275-seat transitional assembly.

Iraq's interim prime minister, Ayad Allawi, led many of the country's leading political figures in a buoyant assessment of the elections on Sunday that saw large turnouts across many parts of the country, especially in Shiite and Kurdish areas, and surprising numbers of voters casting ballots even in Sunni areas in central and northern Iraq where a paralyzing boycott had been feared.

"The terrorists know now that they cannot win," Allawi said in a brief appearance before reporters here. "We are entering a new era of our history, and all Iraqis, whether they voted or not, should stand side by side to build their future."

The celebrations were jarred, however, by the deaths on Monday of three Marines south of Baghdad and a statement from the U.S. military command that American troops had killed four detainees at a deten-

tion center in southern Iraq.

The Marines were killed in combat during a security operation in Babil Province, the military said, according to Reuters, giving no further details. In an earlier statement on Monday, it reported that a Marine from the First Expeditionary Force was killed Sunday in Anbar province.

The deaths of the four detainees came during an effort by American soldiers to suppress a riot on Monday at the Camp Bucca detention center outside Basra, where the detainee population, as at Abu Ghraib prison, has been swollen by more than 2,500 arrests of suspected insurgents in the last month, part of a nationwide pre-election crackdown.

The command's statement said the riot began when guards were searching detainee quarters for "contraband," with detainees in four of the camp's compounds "throwing rocks and fashioning weapons from materials inside their living areas." Six detainees were hurt.

The command said it was investigating the cause of the riot, as was Army's criminal investigations division, a standard procedure.

"Guards attempted to calm the

increasingly volatile situation using verbal warnings and, when that failed, by use of nonlethal force," it said. "After about 45 minutes of escalating violence, lethal force was used to quell the violence."

In another reminder that the elections have done nothing that promises Iraqis any early relief from the insurgency, Al-Jazeera television broadcast a videotape on Monday in which one of the main Islamic militant groups, Ansar ul-Sunna, claimed to have shot down the British C-130 military transport that crashed 25 miles north of Baghdad on Sunday, killing the 10 Britons aboard.

The big questions left hanging by the elections — those of turnout and the breakdown of seats among the parties — remained unanswered on Monday as 200 election workers set out in three round-the-clock shifts to begin the computer tabulations of the ballots. Iraqi election officials said final figures for the turnout, which is crucial to the elections' legitimacy in Iraq and abroad, would be announced within 48 hours, possibly on Tuesday. No final party-by-party breakdown of the vote was likely for as much as 10 days.

Federal Judge Extends Rights For Detainees at Guantanamo

By Neil A. Lewis
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A federal judge ruled against the Bush administration Monday, declaring that detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, were clearly entitled to have federal courts examine whether they have been lawfully detained.

The judge, Joyce Hens Green of Federal District Court in Washington, rejected the argument that federal courts could not issue writs of habeas corpus for Guantanamo that would require the government to justify the detentions before a judge.

Green said that although the Guantanamo base was in Cuba, the Supreme Court definitively ruled in

June that it was not out of the reach of American law as administration officials have argued.

"American authorities are in full control at Guantanamo Bay, their activities are immune from Cuban law," leaving no reason to contend that American law does not apply, she wrote.

"Although this nation unquestionably must take strong action under the leadership of the commander in chief to protect itself against enormous and unprecedented threats," the judge wrote, "that necessity cannot negate the existence of the most basic fundamental rights for which the people of this country have fought and died for well over 200 years."

Green also declared unconstitu-

tional the tribunals that the military established over the summer to review the detentions in the hope of satisfying the Supreme Court ruling. In addition, she questioned whether some of the information used against the detainees had been obtained by torture and was thus unreliable, the first time that problem has been brought up in a judicial opinion.

The Justice Department has contended that federal courts should steer clear of involving themselves in the detention of terror suspects because that is left to the sole discretion of the president in his constitutional role as commander in chief.

But over the last few years, some federal courts have rejected that sweeping assertion.

WEATHER

Winter part deux?

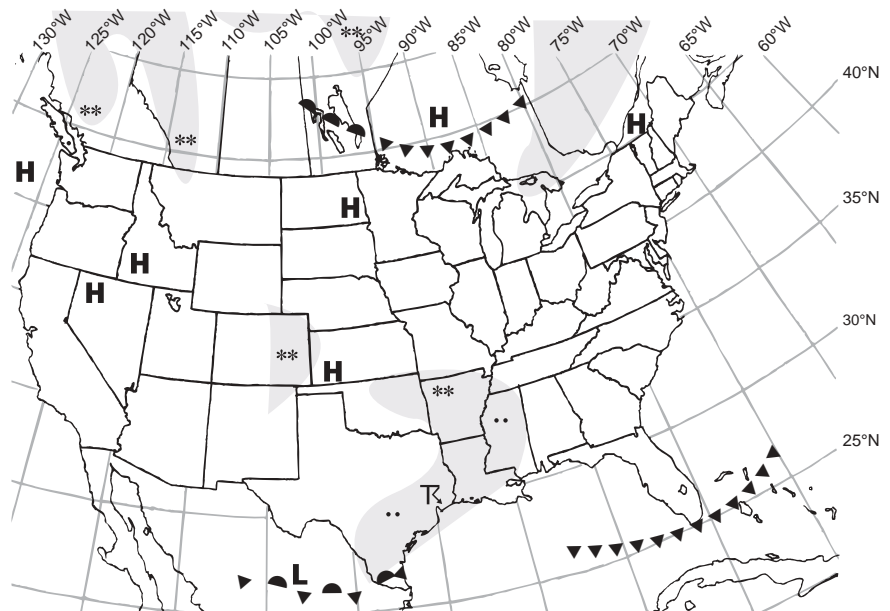
By David Flagg
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Yesterday was the coldest day in Cambridge since last January, as biting Wednesday, Feb. 2 is Groundhog Day. According to legend, this peculiar tradition derives from the early Christian observance of Candlemas Day, also seen as a mid-point of the winter season. The old Scottish rhyme: "If Candlemas Day is bright and clear, there'll be two winters in the year" is one example of this folklore. After the Romans imported this concept to the Teutons in modern Germany, they chose to identify "bright and clear" with the appearance of an animal shadow (a hedgehog). They also dictated that the "second winter" would be six weeks long. German settlers in the state of Pennsylvania introduced this custom to the U.S., where groundhogs were plentiful and used in place of the hedgehog. Groundhog Day was born. Each year since 1887, revelers in Punxsutawney, PA observe this celebration by yanking the helpless creature, named "Punxsutawney Phil," out of a tree stump to the delight of several thousand on-lookers and declaring his prognosis. I recommend joining the celebration at least once in a lifetime!

Extended Forecast:

- Today:** Sunny. High: 39 (4°C)
- Tonight:** Clear. Low: 20 (-7°C)
- Tomorrow:** Partly cloudy, seasonal. High: 37 (3°C)
- Tomorrow Night:** Partly cloudy. High: 25 (-4°C)
- Thursday:** Increasing clouds, light snow possible. High: 35 (2°C)
- Friday:** Overcast, possible light rain/snow. High: 36 (2°C)

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, February 1, 2005



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

HP Researchers Develop New Logic Device of Molecular Size

By John Markoff
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

A group of Hewlett-Packard researchers will report Tuesday that they have created a molecular-scale alternative to the transistor. The new device could increase the viability of a new generation of ultrasmall electronics that may one day be smaller than what is possible with today's silicon-based technology.

In an article to be published Tuesday in the *Journal of Applied Physics*, three researchers at the quantum science research group of Hewlett-Packard Labs, based in Palo Alto, Calif., describe how they have designed a device called a "crossbar latch," making it possible to perform a type of logic operation that is essential to the functions of a modern computer.

The advance is significant, according to scientists, because for the first time it provides molecular computer designers with a complete array of logic devices to develop the new technology.

"Their latch demonstration experiment is significant and a big step forward for molecular-scale electronics," said James C. Ellenbogen, a scientist and member of Mitre Corp.'s nanosystems group in McLean, Va.

The new device consists of a wire that is crossed by two other wires. The resulting junctions serve as switches that are only a few atoms across and can be programmed by a repeatable set of electrical pulses. Standard electronic devices require conventional transistors to perform the same operation.

After a burst of progress in molecular electronics in the late 1990s, there has been some industry skepticism about whether the field might ever be refined to the point that it could replace conventional microelectronics.

While the technology is not ready for commercialization, the Hewlett-Packard announcement is certain to re-energize the field. The researchers, Philip J. Kuekes, Dun-

can R. Stewart and R. Stanley Williams, said they believed their technology could be available after the end of this decade.

Currently, the semiconductor industry's most advanced manufacturing process is based on a 90-nanometer minimum feature size: About 1,000 transistors made using this process would fit in the width of a human hair.

The Hewlett-Packard researchers said they began to focus on molecular electronics a number of years ago because they realized that traditional semiconductor manufacturing techniques would eventually be unable to produce the ever-faster speeds that advanced computing requires.

"As things shrink, it gets hard," Kuekes said, referring to problems of heat and quantum mechanics that plague manufacturers of the smallest transistors. Not only do these devices leak current in the form of heat, but it also becomes increasingly difficult to determine whether a switch is on or off.

Fears Lead US to Plan Expansion In Radioactive Material Tracking

By Eric Lipton
and Matthew L. Wald

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Fearing that the nation remains too vulnerable to a "dirty bomb" or nuclear weapon, the Bush administration intends to announce a significant expansion in February of federal efforts to monitor the importing of radioactive material and its movement around the country, officials said Monday.

The office for domestic nuclear detection, set up at the Department of Homeland Security, would coordinate a growing but fragmented network of radiation detection equipment, administration officials said.

The security department is the biggest player in this field, installing more than 400 radiation monitors in the past two years at ports, border crossings and post offices that handle international mail. Cities like New York have also been buying detection equipment.

"The threat is very real," said Rep. Heather A. Wilson, R-N.M., who led a recent study that called for better coordination of nuclear security efforts. "The possibility of nuclear material falling into wrong hands may be small, but it would have devastating consequences."

The new federal office would coordinate research into new detection technologies, improve training on how to use them and help decide where to place them, administration officials said. If radioactive material is found, the office would also take charge of the federal response.

The program would include representatives from the Department of Energy, the FBI, the State Department and the Department of Defense.

Bush intends to include about \$100 million of new financing for the program in the budget he is to release next week, along with another \$100 million directed from other programs, an administration official said.

A Homeland Security spokesman, Brian Roehrkasse, said he could not comment on the effort until the budget was released. But even before the details have been disclosed, some people question whether the new spending will significantly enhance security.

"In theory, it is a great idea," said James Jay Carafano, senior fellow for defense and domestic security at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative research group based in Washington. "The real question is, Will this office actually have the

authority to make budget decisions, set priorities and establish requirements for nuclear detection activities? It is a very open question."

Detecting radiation in shipping containers or trucks is fairly easy, experts say, but it is much harder to use that information as a clue to the presence of a nuclear weapon, or a dirty bomb, which is intended to contaminate a small area with radioactive material using a conventional explosive.

The most prominent recent case cited by the shipping industry involved a vessel called the Palermo-Senator, which Navy Seals and Energy Department technicians identified as a possible threat on the basis of radiation emissions when it was in port in Newark, N.J., in September 2002.

The Coast Guard ordered the vessel back out to sea. Two days later, the source of the radiation was found to be naturally occurring trace elements contained in ceramic tiles.

Such false alarms are less frequent now but still occur. On Saturday, Customs and Border Protection officers at the Port of Los Angeles found cobalt-60 in an engine storage room on the container ship Toledo, which was under charter to Maersk Inc.

Insurance Broker Marsh & McLennan Fined \$850 Million for Rigging Prices

By Joseph B. Treaster
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Marsh & McLennan Cos., the largest insurance broker in the world, agreed Monday to pay \$850 million to settle a lawsuit accusing it of cheating customers by rigging prices and steering business to insurers in exchange for incentive payments.

Although the company did not formally acknowledge any wrongdoing, Michael G. Cherkasky, the chief executive of Marsh, apologized for what he called the "shameful" and "unlawful" behavior of "a few people" at the company. But he said, "We don't believe that our corporate entity has ever been involved in a pattern of covering up or a pattern of criminal behavior."

The \$850 million, which Marsh will pay over a four-year period, will be used to compensate about 100,000 corporations and smaller businesses whose commercial insurance was arranged by Marsh from 2001 and 2004.

In the days after the charges were filed in October, Marsh stopped taking incentive payments from insurers and its chief executive, Jeffrey W. Greenberg, was forced to resign. The company agreed Monday to fundamental changes in the way it does business.

The lawsuit, brought by Eliot Spitzer, the New York attorney general, maintained that Marsh received kickbacks from insurance companies that increased the cost of coverage for its customers and did not serve as an unbiased broker. He has also been investigating other brokers and insurance companies around the country for similar activities, and attorneys general and insurance regulators in many states have joined in with their own inquiries.

Spitzer said in an interview Monday that the settlement "captures our best effort to bring principles of integrity to this industry." He said he hoped that the settlement would serve as a template for bringing his

other investigations to a close "in the next several weeks to months." None of the other attorneys general or insurance regulators participated in the settlement with Marsh.

Spitzer said the \$850 million was largest settlement with a single company since he began investigating corporate wrongdoing three years ago. He has negotiated billions of dollars in penalties and restitution from banks and mutual funds for cheating customers. But the largest single payment until now has been the \$300 million paid by Citigroup, whose analysts were accused of providing misleading advice on stocks.

In the settlement Monday, Marsh agreed to return about half of the \$1.7 billion in incentive payments that it had received over four years from insurance companies. Cherkasky did not acknowledge that the incentive payments increased the cost of insurance but he said Marsh agreed to the settlement to "put this behind us."

Aneurysm Scans Urged for Older Men Who Smoked

By Gina Kolata
THE NEW YORK TIMES

In a sharp change from current policy, an influential medical advisory group is recommending that all men aged 65 to 75 who have ever smoked have an ultrasound screening test to see if they are developing a condition that could kill them in minutes by bursting a major artery in the abdomen.

The group, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, is an independent panel of medical experts that advises the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Its recommendations help set government policy and are generally followed by primary care doctors.

The task force last looked at the condition, abdominal aortic aneurysms, in 1996 and concluded that there was insufficient evidence that a screening test would save lives. But now, it said, four large clinical trials have provided the evidence it needs, at least for those most at risk.

Finding aneurysms early, with a scan that can cost \$350 to \$400, and repairing them with an operation that can cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 if there are no complications, can cut the death rate by a third. Although the surgery can itself cause death, the risk that a large aneurysm will suddenly rupture and kill the patient is greater, the group said.

The condition kills at least 9,000 people a year in the United States. With screening, "the science comes down to saying this is worth doing," said Dr. Ned Calonge, chairman of the task force and chief medical officer of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Special Forces Allowed to Pay Informants and Recruit Soldiers

By Douglas Jehl
and Eric Schmitt

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Congress has given the Pentagon important new authority to fight terrorism by authorizing Special Operations forces for the first time to spend money to pay informants and recruit foreign paramilitary soldiers.

The new authority, which would also let Special Operations forces purchase equipment or other items from the foreigners, is spelled out in a single paragraph of an 800-page defense authorization bill passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush in October. It was requested by the Pentagon and the commander of Special Operations forces as part of a broader effort to make the military less reliant on the Central Intelligence Agency, according to congressional and Defense Department officials.

A Pentagon spokesman, Bryan Whitman, said the new authority was necessary to avoid a repetition of problems encountered in the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001. During that conflict, Special Operations troops had to wait for the CIA to pay informants and could not always count on timely support, the Pentagon concluded.

Russian Inflation Magnifies Sting of Welfare Changes

By Erin E. Arvedlund
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

More than ever, painful changes in Russia's economy are hurting citizens on government assistance, and the effect is being magnified by inflation. Russia missed its 10 percent inflation target for 2004, ending up with 11.7 percent. That has cast doubt on the feasibility of this year's 8.5 percent target.

"I believe that it is possible to achieve the 8.5 percent target," Russia's economic development and trade minister, German Gref, told the Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, in remarks carried by news agencies on Friday. He admitted in the same speech, however, that inflation in January would exceed 2 percent.

The higher inflation comes as President Vladimir V. Putin is embarking on some of the most difficult economic changes since the fall of the Soviet Union. Benefits for pensioners, veterans and disabled people, including free transportation, telephone calls, housing and medicine, were replaced at the beginning of this year with monthly cash payments. Those payments, to be paid to 32 million people, start at \$7.

Economists are already skeptical of the government's war on inflation, saying prices will rise 11 percent to 15 percent in 2005.

"There's a substantial potential for inflation this year, and the target of 8.5 percent is wishful thinking," said Peter Westin, economist at Aton Capital, a brokerage firm and investment bank. "Inflation is unfortunate, but it's also a necessary consequence of adjusting prices and wages."

Pulitzer to Be Acquired By Lee Enterprises

By Jacques Steinberg
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Pulitzer Inc., the publisher of The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Arizona Daily Star and 12 other daily newspapers in the Midwest and West, has agreed to be acquired by Lee Enterprises, a newspaper chain based in Davenport, Iowa, for nearly \$1.5 billion.

The deal brings together two like-minded companies. Lee's 44 daily newspapers stretch from Glens Falls, N.Y., (where it publishes The Post-Star) to Oceanside, Calif., (The North Country Times), but are largely clustered in the Midwest. The company publishes The Wisconsin State Journal and The Capital Times in Madison, Wis., and The Sioux City Journal in Sioux City, Iowa. The two companies announced the deal late Sunday night, in an unannounced e-mail statement sent to reporters who cover the industry, as well as in articles that appeared Monday in their own publications.

By Lee's tally, the 58 daily newspapers owned by the combined company, which would be known as Lee, would make it the fourth largest in the country, behind Gannett, Community Newspaper Holdings and Liberty Group Publishing. As measured by its combined weekday circulation, the company would rank seventh, Lee said.

OPINION

Letters To The Editor



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Co-Pay Clarifications

In response to the Jan. 26 Letter to the Editor, ["Viagra vs. Mircette"], we would like to clarify facts regarding the costs at MIT Medical pharmacy for oral contraceptives and erectile dysfunction agents. Before discussing the specific drugs and their tier placement, it is important to note that the tiered co-payment structure mentioned in Ms. Roberts-Kopp's letter applies only to members of the MIT employee health plans. It does not apply to student health plan members.

MIT Medical places drugs in tier categories based on clinical effectiveness and the availability of alternatives. For example, most generic drugs are Tier 1 (\$8 co-pay), brand-name drugs without an alternative generic equivalent are mostly in Tier 2 (\$25 co-pay), and brand-name drugs with an alternative generic equivalent are generally found in Tier 3 (\$40 co-pay).

Ms. Roberts-Kopp's letter stated that while Viagra, a brand-name drug for erectile dysfunction was a Tier-2 medication, birth-control prescriptions such as Mircette were Tier-3 drugs. In fact, 10 of the 18 oral contraceptives in the MIT Medical pharmacy formulary are in Tier 1 (\$8), six are in Tier 2 (\$25), and two are in Tier 3 (\$40). Mircette, the oral contraceptive cited in Ms. Robert-Kopp's letter, is a brand-name drug with a generic equivalent. The MIT Medical formulary places Mircette in Tier 3, however, the generic equivalent to Mircette is available in Tier 1 for a co-pay of \$8.

The MIT Medical pharmacy formulary lists three erectile dysfunction agents. Viagra is in Tier 2 (\$25), while Levitra and Cialis are in Tier 3 (\$40).

MIT Medical is committed to working with all our patients to find the most cost-effective care for their needs.

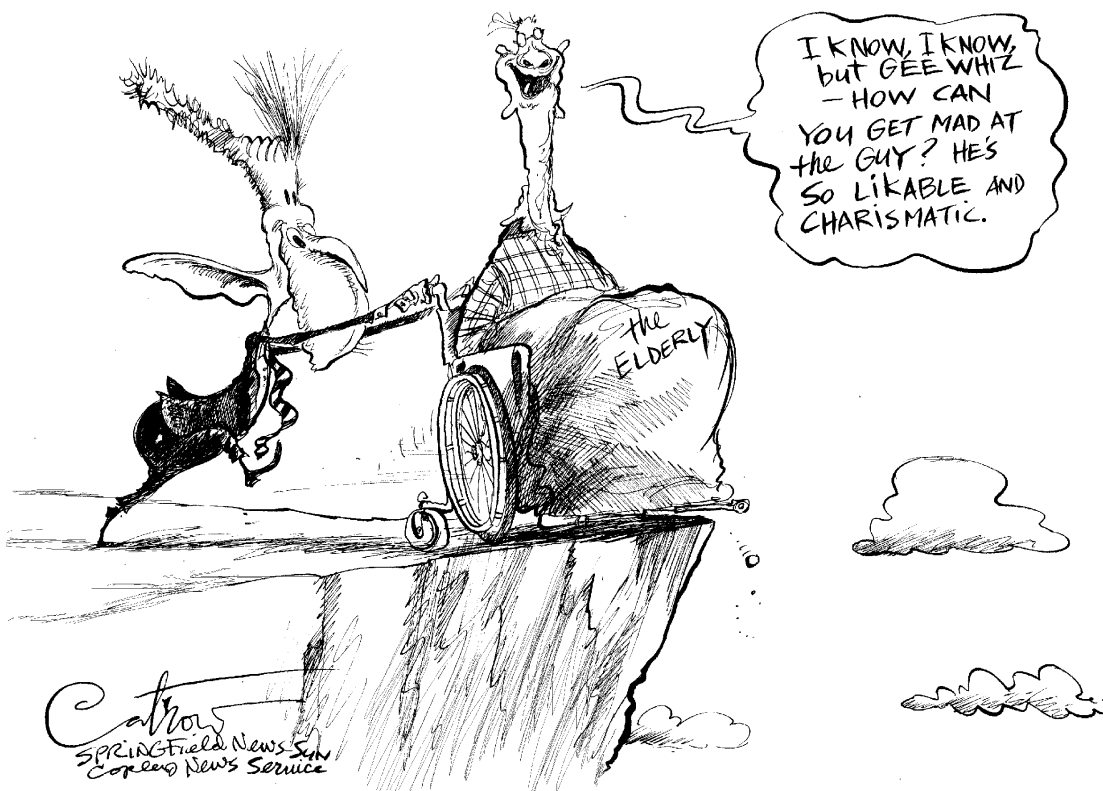
William Kettle, MD, Medical Director

Ratna Bhojani, RPh, Chief Pharmacist

Viagra, Mircette Both Difficult to Justify

Ms. Roberts-Kopp's Jan. 26 letter, which compares the relative importance of "getting a hard on" and "preventing unwanted pregnancies," demonstrates her acutely biased perspective on the entire matter. Viagra and Mircette are in fact identical in purpose; they allow recreational sex. Women can avoid unwanted pregnancies without Mircette by not having sex, just as men can avoid erectile dysfunction without Viagra by doing the same. If one accounts for the benefit of Viagra for procreational sex, perhaps its lower co-pay is justified. Personally, I think the drugs should be treated equally.

Amal Dorai '05



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, opinion editors, a senior editor, and an opinion staffer.

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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

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February 1,
2005

COMICS

The
Tech

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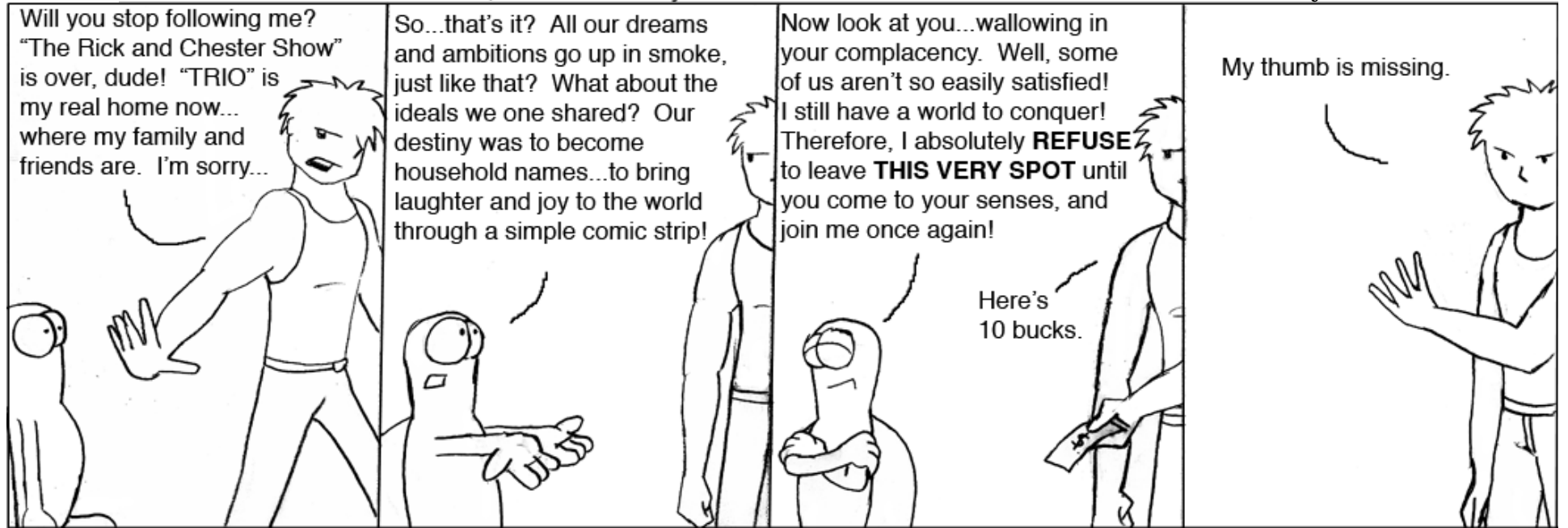
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PAGES

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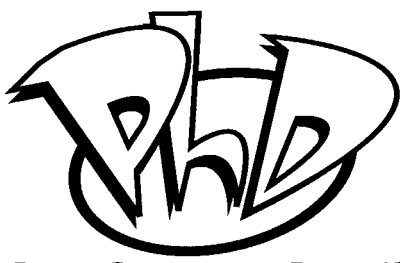
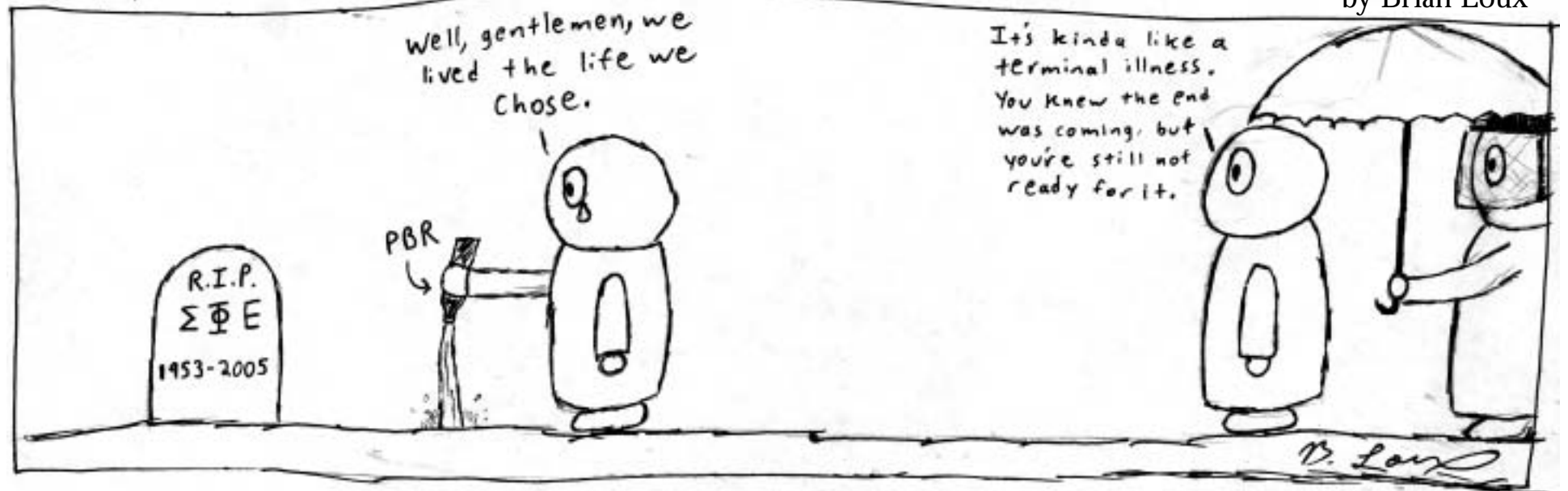
MUSIC FANS, check out Bobby's Picks! ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

by Emezie Okorafor



Gone, and kinda forgotten, too.

by Brian Loux



PILED HIGHER AND
DEEPER



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KRT Crossword

Solution, page 17

- ACROSS**
- 1 Workout locations
 - 5 Brushes the surface
 - 10 Falls back
 - 14 Muddy the waters
 - 15 Synagogue scroll
 - 16 Stead
 - 17 Goggle at
 - 18 Poetic Muse
 - 19 Slight advantage
 - 20 Roomy areas
 - 23 Post-larval stage
 - 24 Illuminated
 - 25 Well-mannered
 - 28 Really dry
 - 30 Decorative vase
 - 33 Soon
 - 34 Bowie's weapon
 - 35 Natal lead-in
 - 36 Soupcons
 - 40 Fit out
 - 41 Recital pieces
 - 42 Improve a road
 - 43 Green card org.
 - 44 Small-ish deck member
 - 45 Fingered a rhythm
 - 47 Jiffy
 - 48 Move merchandise
 - 49 Confining locations
 - 56 Way out
 - 57 Indian royalty
 - 58 Asian range
 - 59 Calendar period
 - 60 Roast host
 - 61 Only fair
 - 62 Contrary current
 - 63 Back ends
 - 64 Blunted sword
- DOWN**
- 1 Increase
 - 2 Lawrence Peter
 - Berra
 - 3 Balmy
 - 4 Nighttime activity
 - 5 Vast Asian expanse
 - 6 Divided Asian country
 - 7 Persia, today
 - 8 Tangled masses
 - 9 Take a five-finger discount
 - 10 Chosen ones
 - 11 Tarry
 - 12 Panhandles
 - 13 Bring legal action
 - 21 Not in the running
 - 22 One who helped out
 - 25 Singer Page
 - 26 Gazpacho ingredient
 - 27 Nia and Shelley
 - 28 Irk
 - 29 Shakes off
 - 30 Flip a lid off
 - 31 "Superman" star
 - 32 Nuzzled
 - 34 Leafy green vegetable
 - 37 Statesman Kefauver
 - 38 Wizard
 - 39 Ovation
 - 45 Sioux shelters
 - 46 Omni's meaning
 - 47 Pitiful
 - 48 Haughty gaze
 - 49 College student
 - 50 Freight weight
 - 51 Lord's lady
 - 52 Ancient Peruvian
 - 53 Riding whip
 - 54 Life of Riley
 - 55 Wild plum
 - 56 Salon supply

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Dilbert® by Scott Adams

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

6.270 Features New Sensors, Technology

6.270, from Page 1

points, while balls of the "losing vote" were worth -1. Teams could score for themselves or give other teams negative points by putting balls of the losing color into the opponent's scoring areas.

Winners use simple strategy

The winning team employed a relatively simple, "non-intelligent" strategy, aiming to produce a reliable robot rather than risk complications, said Cheng. Their robot would first determine its orientation, then straighten out and knock four balls into the scoring zone, guaranteeing at least two points. In their strategy, the robot would then commit the side of the table opposite the other team's robot, and collect all the balls on that side. The robot would then check the vote and guess, according to where it was located on the board, what color balls it had. If the robot determined that the balls were the same color as the vote, it would move into its scoring area; if the vote was opposite, the robot would deposit the balls in their opponent's scoring area, he said.

They made the robot have "as few moving parts as possible" so that "not much could go wrong," Cheng said. The robot "did what it was told to do very well."

Cheng said the team was "very surprised to see our robot do very well." He said that the team decided to enter the contest because Gebauer had recently switched to Course 6 and needed the credits.

Features added to competition

This year's competition included many "new technological advances," said Wang. In previous years, robots had a "very hard time navigating around the playing field." This year, the contest organizers implemented an interactive system in which robots received real-time information about the positions of the two robots and the status of the vote from radio frequency sensors, said 6.270 Organizer David P. Ziegler G.

The goal of the changes was to "make it so that teams can have more flexibility in what kinds of designs are good and worthwhile,"

Team "CDG" Takes First In Programming Contest

By Kathy Lin
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With over 250 students on 127 teams, this year's 6.370 software engineering competition was the largest yet. At Saturday's finals, team "CDG," comprised of members Clifford A. Frey G and James M. Roewe, came away victorious.

This year's competition was similar to last year's, although the organizers changed the rules, objective, and types of robots "enough so that people could get credit again," said Aaron B. Iba '05, one of the competition's two chairmen.

In the competition, teams were challenged to "combine battle strategy and software engineering... to write the best player program for the computer game Robocraft," according to the 6.370 Web site. In the competitions, two teams of virtual robots controlled solely by software vied for resources and attacked each other, according to the Web site.

There were "lots of cool strategies," Iba said. For example, some robots "snuck up from behind" on other robots, said David L. Greenspan '06, the other chairman of the competition.

One "big challenge" was that each team had "multiple robots that communicated with each other," and the teams had to figure out

he said.

The more complicated scoring mechanism was a trade-off, Ziegler said. It allowed teams to "be more inventive and creative," but was also "a little more difficult for audience members to understand," he said.

The scoring rules also encouraged a wider range of strategies than in previous years, leading to a greater dependence on good coding, said Wang.

Teams were also allowed free reign in modifying their electronics, Ziegler said. One team chose to replace both their motors and batteries, he said.

Ziegler said that, as in other years, the key to success in this year's competition was having a reliable robot. "If you want to be one of the top five teams, you have to be reliable," he said, though he added that winning the competition also involved a certain amount of luck.

Contestants had mixed emotions

Participants in the 6.270 contest praised the accomplishment they felt when their robots functioned correctly, while lamenting their lack of sleep.

The robot created by the team including Omar S. Bashir '05 was seeded in the top five, but ran into difficulties after some last-minute changes, Bashir said. He said the team had a "really risky strategy" in which his team's robot immediately moved to the other team's side of the table. They were "sure it would have paid off," but because of an error in programming, the robot ended up "crashing and burning pretty early," he said.

David E. Tobias '06 said his team constructed a robot in which two smaller components would separate, with one component going to their scoring area to score positive points and one component going to their opponent's area to score negative points for the other team. However, their sensors began to malfunction on the day of the impounding, and the team had to pull out of the competition. Tobias also said that because of all time spent in lab, it was easy to become friends with members of other teams.

good methods for communication, Greenspan said.

Iba said he likes to call 6.370 the "Super Bowl for nerds," and Greenspan added that there is "play by play commentary."

Andrew W. Houston '05, who took fifth place as a one-man team, participated because it "seemed like a fun thing to do," he said. Although many teams had two or three people, Houston said it is harder to work with more than one person because it is "tough to coordinate."

Houston said his strategy was to "try to do all the core things really well," whereas other teams had really complicated strategies.

This was 6.370's fifth year as a software robotics competition, Iba said. Iba and Greenspan, who ran the competition for the second time this year, had the "ambition of growing it," Iba said. When they won the competition two years ago, there were 30 to 40 teams, and they won a 300 dollar prize, Iba said. Since then, the competition has grown to over 12 thousand dollars in prizes and 127 teams this year, Iba said, with many companies sponsoring the competition. 6.370 was a good opportunity for finalists to meet recruiters from sponsoring companies and "get to know them," Houston said.

6.270 Fun Regardless of Results

By Jenny Zhang
NEWS EDITOR

We first decided to try out 6.270 just for kicks because we thought it would be pretty cool to build a robot and maybe even get it to move. Plus, we were thrilled with the possibility of naming it

Reporter's Notebook

"Poop-bot" or "Fart-bot." We all had other commitments and vowed that 6.270 would NOT take over our lives, as others had claimed it certainly would. The team consisted of two math majors and one then-chemistry major. Eventually, especially during the last week, we began spending entire nights in lab save for a couple hours of napping in the Tech office. The funny thing was we willingly did this because we liked hanging around each other and also are nerdy MIT students with no lives or better ways to spend our Saturday nights.

6.270 started on Jan. 3, the first day of IAP, or Jan. 2 for one team member, who did parts sorting because his teammates didn't get back in time. The first couple days weren't so tough, just a mix of 10 a.m. lectures and workshops which taught the basics of Lego-building and programming. During one of the lectures, our organizer Vimal showed us why shorting out Hawker batteries is bad by doing precisely that. The batteries began to emit sparks and smoke. They smelled really good.

During one of the evenings, the 6.270 organizers and TAs held a crash course in C programming. Two of us (myself included *embarrassed look*) fell asleep, and then I woke up because I heard someone fart. It may or may not have been me. *Looks around innocently*. My laughter woke up my teammate Kathy (read: Yeuwahai K. Lin '06), and I told her the story. She then fell out of

her chair laughing, and everyone stared at us. Just kidding.

Back on topic. One of the workshops on soldering was especially fun because we got to melt stuff together and breathe a toxic fume called flux, which for some reason or other helps the solder material work well. Our expansion board (which goes onto the robot's brain) didn't work at first, so like kids with a broken toy, we brought it crying to Vimal and asked him to fix it. He basically fixed all of our crappy soldering and then woohoo! It worked! Both Kathy and I have longer hair than our third team member, so we got to experience the pleasant odor that resulted from burning our hair on the soldering iron.

Our first major assignment was called "Romeo and Juliet." Our robot was supposed to find a spot on the game board by knowing its coordinates, as communicated by radio frequency.

It seemed really simple: just drive from point A to point B, but of course it wasn't. My teammates, being math whizzes, quickly figured out a nifty angle-checking program through which our robot learned how much it needed to turn to align itself to the straightest path to the other point, a.k.a. Romeo.

During the month of January, we spent hours and hours in lab, breathing that appetizing solder and singing songs with new lyrics that we made up. Towards the end, the staff held "marathon" hours and lab was open 24 hours a day. To entertain themselves and us, they played movies continuously. We brought in a laptop with my playlist, which consisted of songs by Billy Bob Thornton, Hanson, Beach Boys, and Michael Jackson. We also really like the song "Stacy's Mom," because it's really cool. Maybe we annoyed the heck out of our neighbors, but nobody to the best of our knowledge told us to quit singing along to the

beautiful music.

Robot impounding was around 5 p.m., and around noon we began realizing that we would not be able to get most of the things we had planned to work. We were sad for a while, but too tired to really care how we did in the competition. We all genuinely were glad we had participated, even with the knowledge that our robot might not work at all.

As 5 p.m. approached, we were running out of time for coding so we just pasted together random code we already had and hoped for the best. We had never tested the final code we loaded into the robot, so on the morning of competition day, we were thrilled that the robot actually moved during the qualifying rounds, even though it was in a very twitchy manner. Very soon after, it got stuck into a wall near the voting area and stayed there for the rest of the one minute round. At least it looked like it was attempting to vote, though we had never tried to make it do so. The competition was double elimination, but so many teams lost in the morning (a double loss is possible if both teams don't score) that the staff decided to allow all the teams to participate in the finals round that evening.

The evening round was really exciting, even though we had low expectations for our robot. We were being webcast live, and Kathy managed to pick her nose on the big screen. Although we lost in the first round of the evening even after luckily shoving one ball of the right color into our scoring area, we stuck around for the duration of the competition. After going through the experience ourselves of trying to build a functional robot, it was much easier to appreciate how well other teams must have designed, built, and programmed their robots to get them to work consistently. After having worked alongside these teams all January, it was fun to see some of their designs work out.

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Samuel A. Worthington, National Executive Director, Childreach with a sponsored child in Tarija, Bolivia.

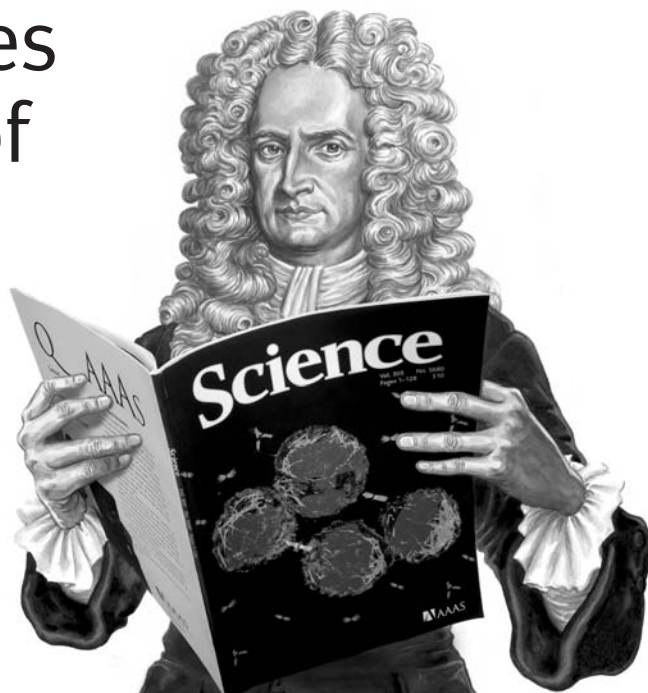
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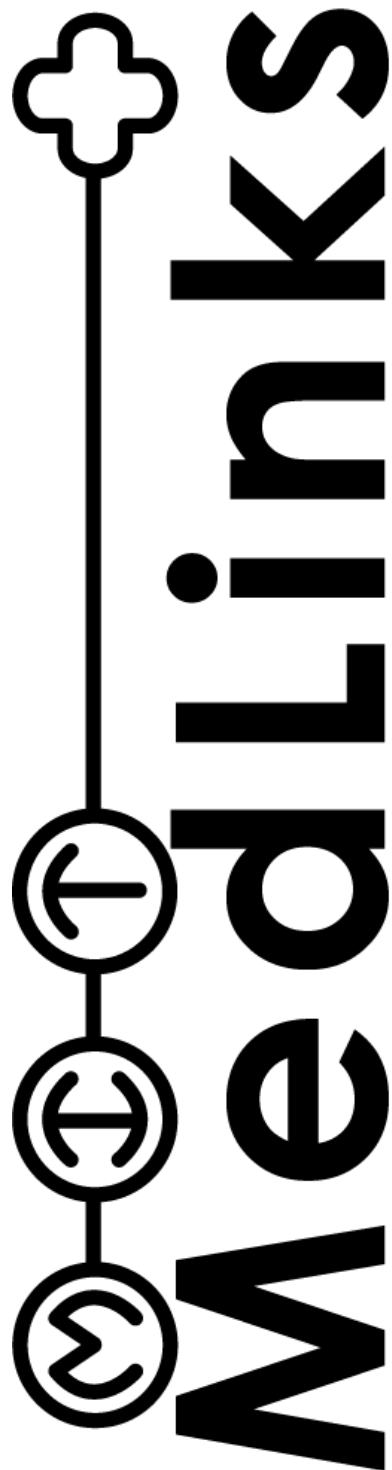
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A member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority welcomes back her re-affiliated sisters with a banner and a smile. Following the end of the sorority recruitment period on Monday, Jan. 31, members dis-affiliated for recruitment purposes were re-affiliated in Kresge Auditorium.

CHRISTINA KANG—THE TECH

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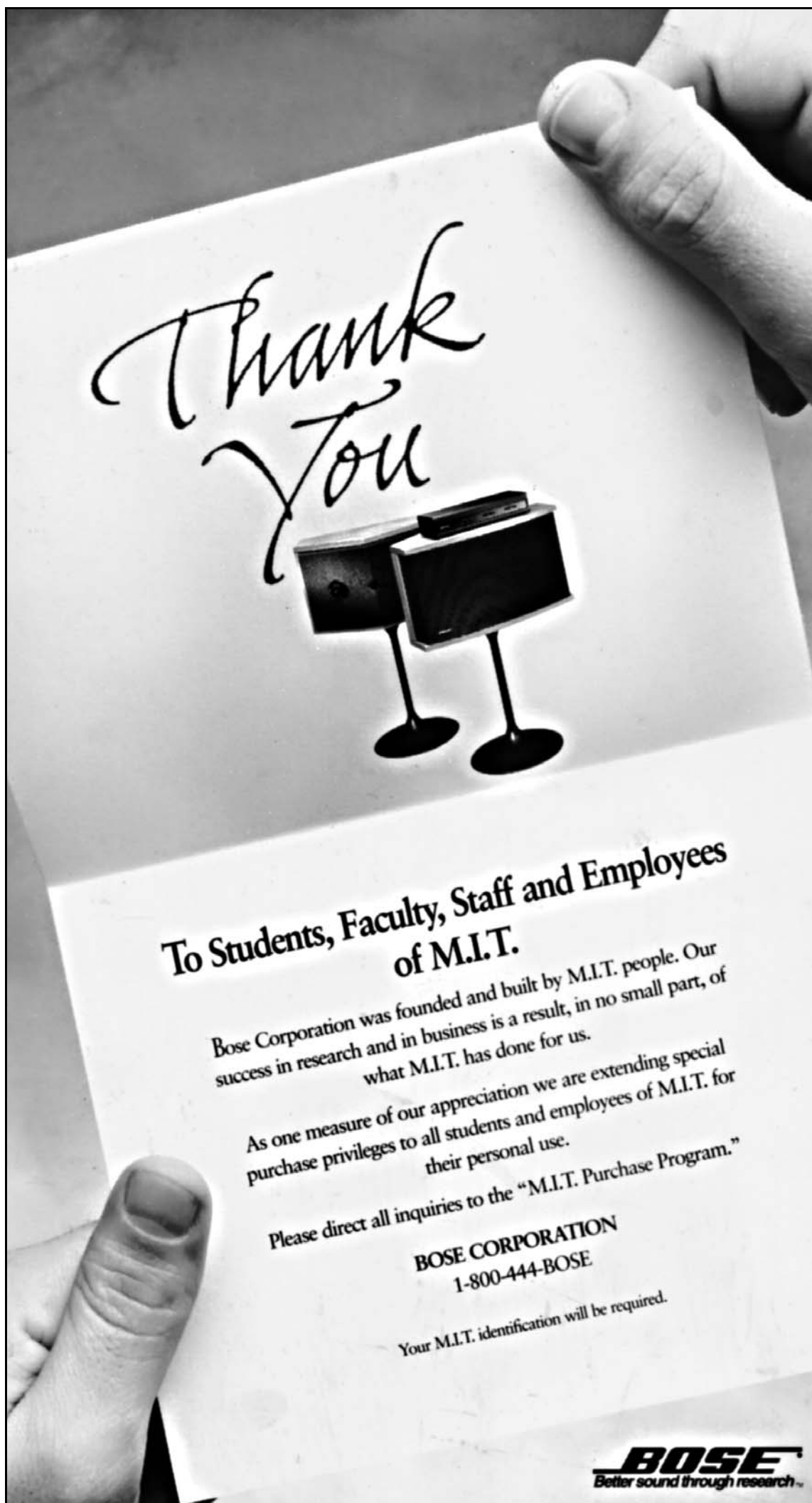
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UA Fills Positions of Secretary, Treasurer

By Kathy Lin
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A new Undergraduate Association treasurer and secretary general have been appointed by UA President Harel M. Williams '05, pending approval by the UA Senate.

Yao-Chung King '06 has been appointed treasurer, replacing Janet Y. Zhou '06. Zhou resigned to replace Phillip A. Vasquez '05 as the UA Vice President.

Tulasi Khandan '06 has been appointed secretary general, replacing Amelia L. Laughton '06. Laughton resigned near the end of fall semester because she "wanted to focus on other things," Williams said.

Neither has prior experience working for the UA, and both were selected through an application and interview process.

Both candidates bring experience

King "has a lot of background in finances," including serving as treasurer of the Chinese Student Club, going through treasurer training, applying for funding through the UA's Financial Board, and doing similar work for his fraternity, Williams said.

Through working for the CSC, he "has the perspective of a student group" applying for funding, which will help him with the job of treasurer, Williams said.

Khandan's main experience that prepared her for the secretary general job is her term as the secretary of the House Committee of MacGregor House, she said.

"She's clearly energetic about improving student life," Williams said.

As the secretary general, Khandan will be "the communications liaison" of the UA and will be responsible for maintaining communication between the UA and outside individuals and groups, according to the UA Web site. She will also be the UA's primary archivist, according to the Web site.

"I have to get used to what the UA does and how they go about doing their work," Khandan said. "Mostly, the aim is to make sure that all the proceedings are well-documented and carried out in the right way," she said.

She also plans to work with other UA members on planned projects, such as the launching of an online forum.



CHRISTINA KANG—THE TECH

Katherine H. Aull '08 stamps registration forms in Dupont Gymnasium on Registration Day, Monday, Jan. 31. Aull is a member of Alpha Phi Omega, which volunteered its services for the day.



CHRISTINA KANG—THE TECH

A pirate ship sails in front of Kresge Auditorium on the morning of Monday, Jan. 31. The hack was in honor of the Department of Ocean Engineering, which merged with the Department of Mechanical Engineering on Jan. 1.

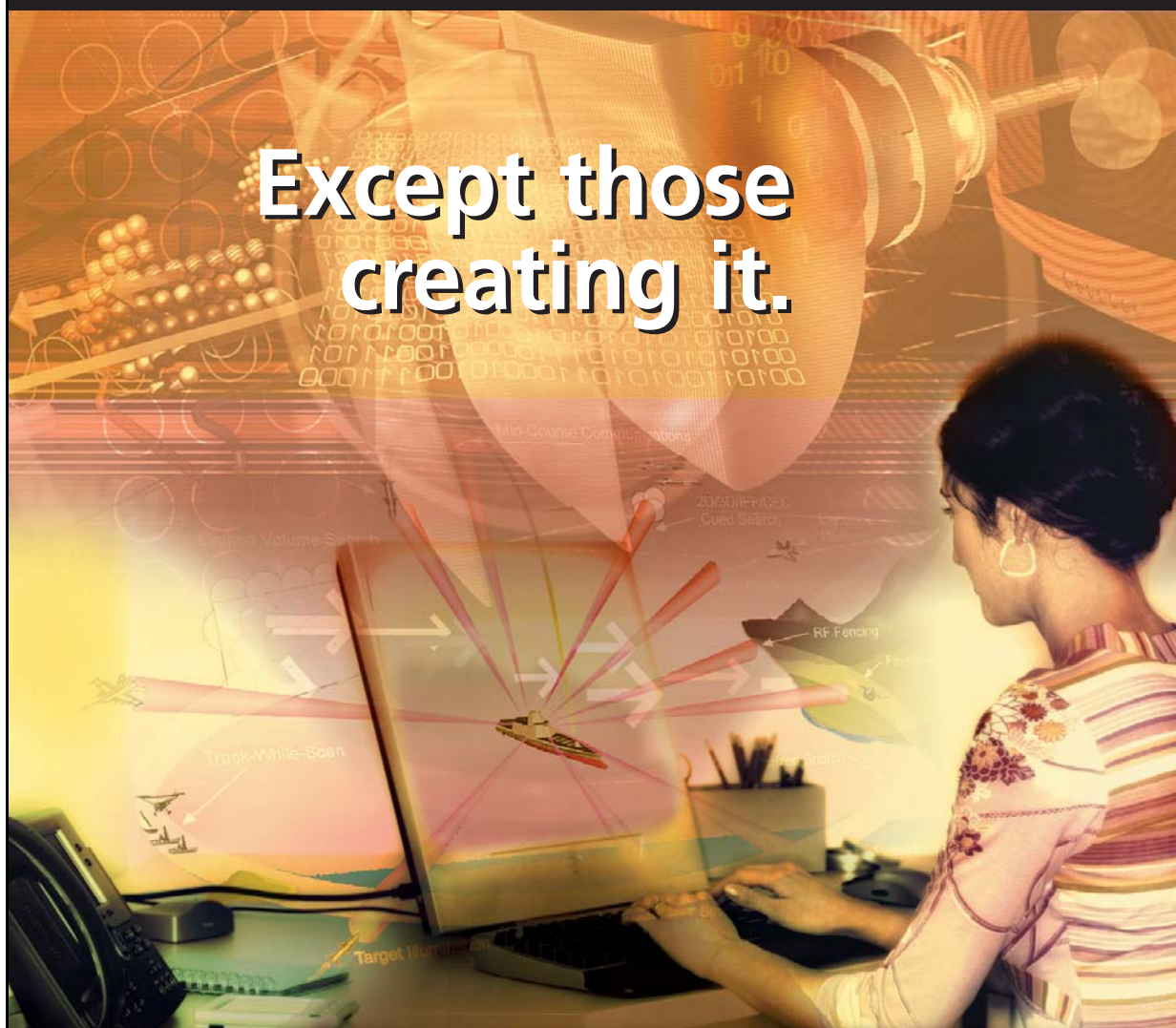
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MIT Students Enjoy the Winter Blizzard Creatively



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH



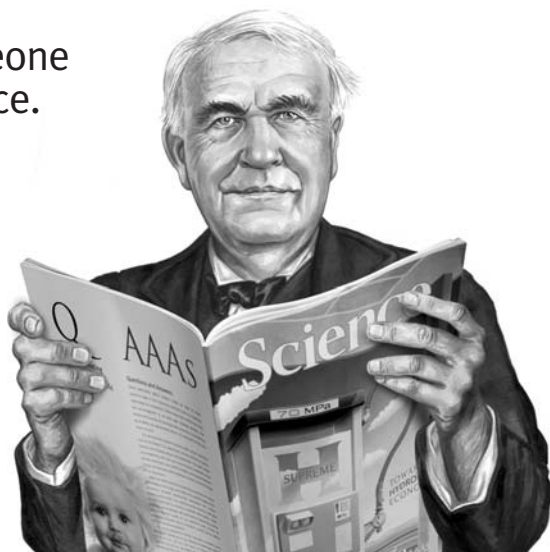
GRANT JORDAN—THE TECH

(left) Yushan Kim '07 leaps onto a pile of snow ahead of Christine Fanchiang '07 as Ryan E. Pester '07 takes a picture Sunday afternoon Jan. 23. The three met in the New House 3 courtyard to frolic in the mounds of white stuff.

(right) Scott D. Torborg '07 (right) stands next to Steve Brown of the Cambridge Fire Department Dive Rescue Team during an ice diving class held last Sunday. Both Torborg and Daniel Nedelou '06 participated in the course at Glen Lake in Goffst, NH.

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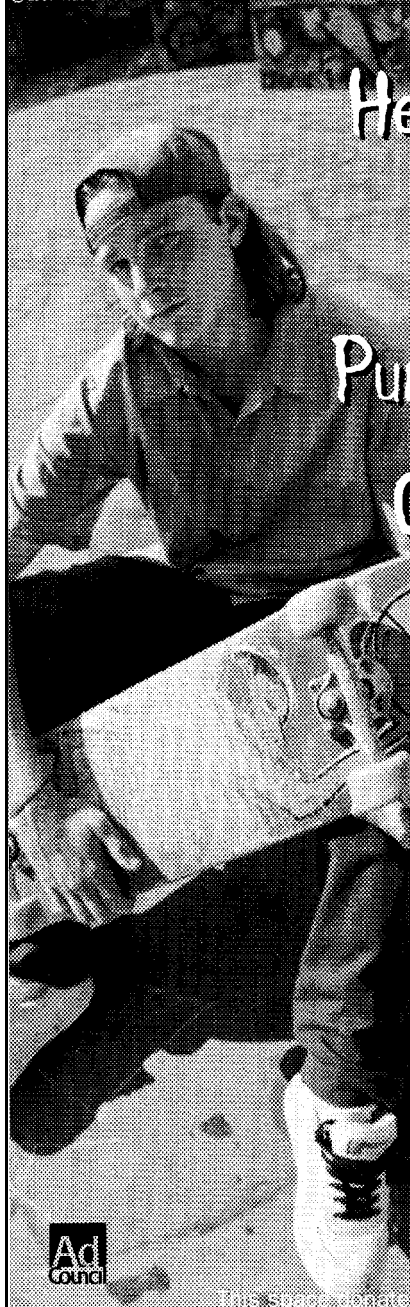
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Heroin Addict
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...all kicked out with the help of kids like me.
-Billy, age 15

Everybody loves to trash teenagers, right? Maybe they don't realize that we do care. That we can make a difference. Get involved in Crime Prevention. Clean up parks. Teach younger kids. Start a school or neighborhood watch. And help make your community safer and better for everyone. Together, we can prove them wrong by doing something right.

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The last challenge of a socially conscious society?

Depression strikes millions— indiscriminately. Depression is simply a suppression of brain activity that makes life unbearable. And even though depression is readily treatable, only 1 in 5 ever seeks treatment. Why do so many just drag themselves along or eventually seek relief through suicide? First, there's the lack of awareness of depression— as an illness and as the threat that it is to each and every one of us. Second, there's the unwarranted negative stigma attached to it. You know, the 'mental' thing. It's time to collectively face depression. To know it's an illness, not a weakness. And it's a challenge that's long overdue. It's taken too many of us already.

UNTREATED DEPRESSION

#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SA VE (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>

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17.433/434 Spring 2005 International Relations of East Asia

Is the 21st Century the Pacific Century?
Will there be war in the Taiwan Straits?
How strong is al-Qaeda in Southeast Asia?
Why did Nixon go to China?
What is ASEAN?

Professor Fravel
Tues. & Thur.
3:00 - 4:30pm
E51-361

This course will attempt to answer the questions above as it analyzes the international relations of East Asia. During the Cold War, East Asia witnessed intense competition and conflict between the superpowers and among the states in the region. In the post Cold War era, East Asia has been the engine of the global economy while undergoing a major shift in the balance power whose trajectory and outcome remain uncertain. This course will examine the sources of conflict and cooperation in both periods, assessing competing explanations for key events in the region's international relations.

For more information contact Prof. Fravel, fravel@mit.edu

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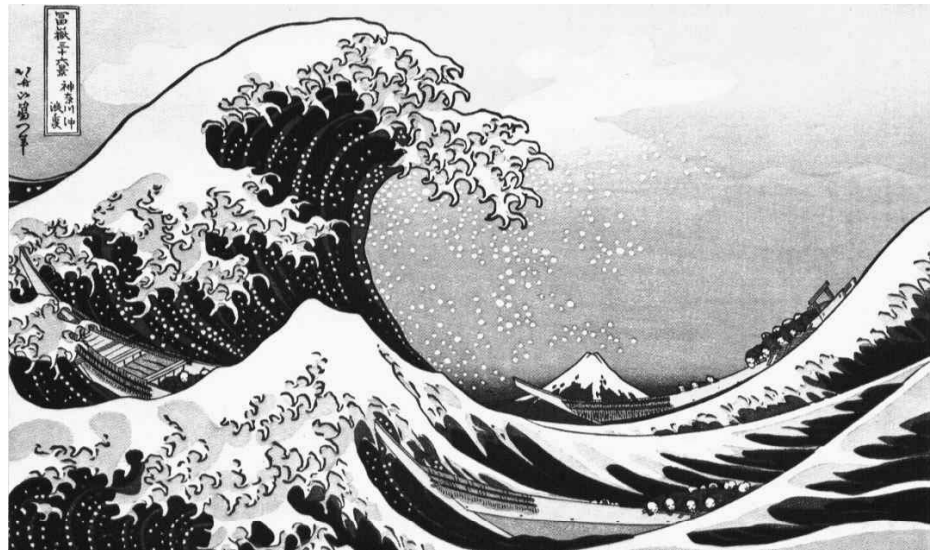
W20-483, x3-1541
join@the-tech.mit.edu



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Chris L. Cary '05 catches some air off a ramp he built with Jiengju J. Lin '05, Jonathan J. Parks '05, and others. The ramp was located in front of Kappa Sigma fraternity on Amherst Alley.

MIT Hillel Presents... A Tsunami Benefit



Concert

Saturday February 5, 2005
MIT Chapel
8pm

Proceeds go to AJWS Tsunami Relief Fund
For more info check out www.ajws.org
Suggested donation: \$9

This program is sponsored by MIT Hillel, Hillel Schusterman International Center, MIT Council for the Art Directors Fund,

MIT Office of the Provost of the Arts, AEPi, Tzedek @ MIT



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For 30 ways to help the environment, write Earth Share, 3400 International Drive, NW, Suite 2K (AD4), Washington, DC 20008.



Earth Share

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I want to work where a brilliant solution pops into my head while I'm getting a massage in the office.

Send your resume and unofficial transcripts with the subject line "Software Engineer - MIT" to collegejobs+mit@google.com

Google has multiple openings at all degree levels (BS/MS/PhD) in computer science or related technical fields.

Submission deadline is **Friday, February 11, 2005.**



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computers



You are
probably
Course 6



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Tech

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Summer Analyst
Résumé Drop
Monday, February 7

Please submit cover letter,
résumé and transcript to
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for internship positions of:

Risk Management
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Resume Drop Deadline:
Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Interview Date:
Friday, February 11, 2005

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Super Bowl Sunday Security Stepped Up

Safety, from Page 1

on the riots that followed last year's Red Sox and Patriots victories and how to increase safety for celebrations following the Super Bowl.


O'Toole said that every available Boston Police officer will be working on Sunday night, and they will be collaborating with the Massachusetts State Police and Campus Police from the local colleges and universities.

Boston Police Captain Robert M. Flaherty, whose district includes the

Kenmore Square area, asked the student representatives to impress upon their constituents that they should not go to Kenmore Square on Sunday evening. "It's not in [student's] best interests," he said.

Baker said that the office of Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict will be providing funds for food to dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

"Our focus really is for students to provide awareness about safety," Baker said. She also said that alternative events will be encouraged.



We are **The Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago**, whose mission is to achieve international impact through world-class education and research in fundamental Computer Science and Information Technology.

We are now accepting applications for programs leading to **Master's and Ph.D. degrees** in Computer Science. Programs begin Fall Quarter 2005. Located on the University of Chicago campus, students are able to cross-register for University courses. Tuition assistance/stipends for living expenses are available in the Master's program. Ph.D. students receive full support without teaching requirements. The Ph.D. program is highly selective — only a small number of positions are available. Our On-Line Student Application is available at: <http://www.tti-c.org/apps/student/student.htm>

We are also accepting applications for **summer interns** at the undergraduate and graduate levels for Summer 2005. Email your resume for summer intern positions to: jobs@tti-c.org.

As a small institution, we offer students and summer interns the opportunity to interact closely with faculty renowned in their field.

For our On-Line Student Application, further information, or to contact us, please refer to our website:
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*Martedi Grasso * Carnaval*

Mardi Gras!



Food!
Drinks!

Free Beads!

Pinata!

DJ!

Face

Jugglers!
Masks!

Sunday, February 6th

12:00– 3:30 pm

Walker Memorial

Colombian
Association
of MIT

Tech Catholic Community



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LAST CHANCE TO APPLY!**

RESUME DROP DEADLINE
Monday, January 31, 2005



Music and Lyrics by Pete Townshend
 Book by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuff
 Additional Music and Lyrics by
 John Entwistle and Keith Moon



MTG PRESENTS TOMMY

Performances on January 28-29 at 8PM \$6 MIT/Wellesley Students
 January 30 at 2PM \$8 Students, Seniors, MIT Faculty & Staff
 February 3-5 at 8PM \$10 General Public

in La Sala de Puerto Rico For Reservations and Information:
 2nd Floor, MIT Student Center web.mit.edu/mtg, mtg-tickets@mit.edu
 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge or 617-253-6294

Solution to KRT Crossword

from page 6

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



Ask a MedLink

What will they tell my parents?

Dear MedLink: Before I access the services at MIT Medical, I want to know about my privacy rights. What medical information is and is not disclosed to my parents? — **Confidentially Yours**

Dear Con: That's a great question! Many people wonder about the same thing and don't know who to ask for an answer.

To get the facts, I spoke with psychiatrist Kristine Girard, associate chief of MIT Medical's Mental Health Service. Dr. Girard answered your question quite simply: "MIT Medical holds medical information in the strictest confidence and does not release any records to parents or guardians without a student's consent." This is true even if you are under the age of 18, she explained, because college students are considered "emancipated minors," which means they have the same privacy rights as legal-age adults. "If a student is assessed to be imminently in danger of harming himself or herself, is seriously injured, or is medically unable to consent to necessary medical care, parents may be contacted," Dr. Girard added. "But MIT Medical does not disclose information about a student's relationships, sexual activity, or substance use."

You may also be wondering how your privacy is protected when you fill prescriptions at MIT Medical and charge them to your student account. Rest assured that pharmacy charges are not itemized on the account statements sent to your home; rather, those charges are just listed as "Pharmacy" on your bill.

Hope this helps!



Do you have a question?

Submit questions by:

email: askamedlink@mit.edu
anonymous online form: <http://web.mit.edu/medlinks/www>
campus mail: Ask A MedLink, E23-405

We can't respond individually, but we'll answer as many questions as we can in this space. And you can always talk with a MedLink in person; see web.mit.edu/medlinks/www/ to find the MedLink(s) in your living group.

Don't worry. Be happy!



Career Fair 2005

Find internships and full-time positions!

Thursday, February 3
9am to 3pm
Rockwell Cage

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February 3, 2005

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Men and Women Compete at Weekend Track Meets

The MIT Men's track team attended and won a meet hosted by Bowdoin College last Saturday, Jan. 29. (right) Kenneth K. Rosche '08 hands off MIT's baton to David A. Blau '06 during the 4x400m relay. (bottom right) Zachary J. Traina '05 pounds out of the blocks at the start of the 4x400m relay. (below) Fivos G. Constantinou '06 runs MIT's anchor leg during the 4x800m relay.

Photography by Omari Stephens



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Christine Fanchiang '07, center, leads Amy S. Ludlum '08, left, and Caitlin Moore of Holy Cross en route to winning her heat for an overall fourth place finish in the 55m hurdles on Saturday at the TechTrack Invitational in Johnson Athletic Center.

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E.MERGING

Submission Deadline
February 15th

E.merging, a student literary journal, seeks writing and artwork that reflect the bicultural and bilingual experiences of MIT students. Poetry, short stories, creative non-fiction, and artwork that explore issues of identity and being part of "more than one" culture/nation/race/language are encouraged.

Submit now!
web.mit.edu/emerging

Fit Males Needed For Nutrition Research Study.

A research study is being conducted by the US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM), Natick, MA, to evaluate the effect of fitness level on protein requirements during an increase in exercise. The 13 day study involves consuming a specialized diet and following a specific workout routine for 11 days. All food will be provided to participants during the study. Data collection will include questionnaires, blood, urine, stool samples, and hi-tech measures of fitness, energy expenditure, and body composition. All data are coded and strictly confidential. To participate, interested persons must meet screening criteria. If you are very fit and between the ages of 18 and 35 years please email Usariem.proteinstudy@na.amedd.army.mil or call (508) 233-5140 for more information.

SPORTS

Winter Off-Season Teaches Us Several New Baseball Lessons

By Yong-yi Zhu
SPORTS COLUMNIST

What baseball lessons did we learn over that month and a half when many of you took a break from the stressful routines of school and indulge in the pleasures of everyday life?

For one thing, we learned that running a baseball team is among the many tasks at which Harvard graduates don't excel. They might be more arrogant than we are, but when it comes to making decisions, I wouldn't trust them with the important ones.

A perfect example is the general manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Paul Depodesta, a Harvard graduate. He was entrusted with the task of making the Dodgers successful but has both ruined his own reputation and severely hindered the chance for LA to win another National League West title in this upcoming year.

His first mistake was taking part in a three team trade with the Yankees and the Diamondbacks. He was willing to give up big name players like pitchers Brad Penny, Kaz Ishii, and outfielder Shawn Green for money. Depodesta doesn't realize that he is no longer an Oakland Athletic and now works in a large market city with lots of cash to play with.

His second error was backing out of that trade, as it destroyed his reputation and precluded him from other trades during this off season.

His third mistake was signing outfielder J.D. Drew and former Red Sox pitcher Derek Lowe to monster contracts when they are both suspect in their abilities at best. Drew is very injury prone and Lowe did not have the best of regular seasons last year.

Well, what can you expect from a Harvard alum?

The second lesson learned this winter is that the song "New York, New York" stands for two New York baseball teams, and we can never forget about the NY Mets. Oftentimes, we fans are impressed by the Bronx Bombers' \$200 million payroll, but now that the Mets have snagged two of the Yankees' most coveted free agents this off season, we know that Mets General Manager Omar Minaya is taking a stab at not only the NL East, but potentially at the World Series.

Everyone short of Gerry Hunsicker thought that pitcher Pedro Martinez and center fielder Carlos Beltran were both going to New York. But a \$53 million and a \$119 million dollar deal later, the Yankees payroll wasn't any bigger while the Mets were two steps closer to getting out of fourth place in their division.

Sure, the Yankees got pitchers Randy Johnson, Carl Pavano and

Jaret Wright, but it just shows that even Yankees owner George Steinbrenner has a ceiling when it comes to payrolls and Yankees GM Brian Cashman is not willing to take the same kinds of risks as Minaya is with those two (probably very over-paid) players.

Another lesson we learned is that we can no longer separate the financial factors behind baseball from the game itself. Teams no longer sign players just to make their roster better or to win a championship. Take pitcher Roger Clemens and the Houston Astros. There is no way that paying \$18.5 million per year (Clemens' new salary) for one player significantly improved the Astros' chances of winning the NL Central; it was merely a way to fill the stadium with fans every fifth day.

Another money-oriented move was the Orioles trade for Sammy Sosa. They had lost out on pretty much every major free agent on the market, so the only plan to attract fans was to bring in someone well known through a trade.

Cubs outfielder Sammy Sosa seemed to be the perfect candidate, as he is a fan favorite and the Cubs are desperately trying to get rid of the slugger. What it comes down to is the Orioles trying to fill the stands while not making a large effort at winning anything substantial.

Even in a winter month, there are still many lessons to be learned in the world of baseball.



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Meredith N. Silberstein '05 soars into the air during the long jump competition at Saturday's TechTrack Invitational in Johnson Athletic Center. Silberstein placed fourth with a jump of 15 feet and 11 inches and also placed fourth in the 55m dash and third in the 200m dash. The women's track team placed third overall (113.50 points), behind Holy Cross (209.50) and Colby College (140.50).

NEWMAC SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball

Place	Team	NEWMAC		Overall	
		Wins	Losses	Wins	Losses
1	WPI	7	0	16	1
2	Wheaton	5	2	14	4
3	Springfield	4	2	14	5
4	MIT	3	4	9	8
5	Coast Guard	2	5	10	8
6	Babson	1	4	7	11
7	Clark	1	6	5	13

Latest Games: MIT def. Wheaton 71-62 on Jan. 25, Coast Guard def. MIT 67-62.

Women's Basketball

Place	Team	NEWMAC		Overall	
		Wins	Losses	Wins	Losses
1	Babson	6	1	10	8
	Mount Holyoke	6	1	13	3
3	Springfield	6	2	13	5
4	Coast Guard	5	3	11	7
5	Wellesley	4	3	9	6
6	WPI	3	4	8	10
	Wheaton	3	4	7	11
8	Clark	2	5	9	9
9	Smith	1	6	5	11
10	MIT	0	7	3	12

Latest Games: Springfield def. MIT 81-62 on Jan. 27, WPI def. MIT 56-42 on Jan. 29.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, February 1

Varsity Women's Basketball vs. Babson College
.....Rockwell Cage, 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 3

Varsity Men's Basketball vs. Newbury College
.....Rockwell Cage, 7 p.m.

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STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Christopher A. Chapman '08, front, fights to break loose against an opponent from the University of Southern Maine during Thursday's tri-meet against Bridgewater State College and USM. MIT wrestlers lost to Bridgewater 48-6 and to USM 39-15.

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