

## UA Senate Leadership Bill Passed

By Marissa Vogt  
NEWS EDITOR

The Undergraduate Association Senate approved a bill last night to establish and fund the Student Government Leadership Conference Initiative. The bill will make available \$20,000 for sponsoring UA attendance at national leadership conferences, \$5,000 of which will come from the UA Reserve Account and \$15,000 of which is a donation from the Office of the Dean for Student Life and the Chancellor's Office.

UA Senator from Fraternities John R. Velasco '05 sponsored the bill. He said the funds will be available for a period of two years for members of the UA to attend national conferences, which can cost up to \$1,000 per person.

Velasco attended such a confer-

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## Concert Causes Disputes, Still Entertains

By Brian Loux  
STAFF REPORTER

Despite a number of concerns regarding the tardiness of both feature performers that occasionally spilled over into disputes, the Spring Weekend Concert featuring Fabolous and Lloyd Banks was able to entertain and enthrall the modest-sized crowd this weekend.

According to Chris Barber of Pretty Polly Productions, the event planners for Spring Weekend, Fabolous was scheduled to perform at 9:15 p.m. Friday night but did not go onstage around 9:40 p.m. Lloyd Banks was scheduled to perform at 10:40 p.m., but appeared onstage around 11:20 p.m., about ten minutes before the anticipated closing time for the concert.

The crowd occasionally booed in disapproval as the waits between the acts sometimes stretched past half an hour. Some people left before Banks appeared as midnight drew closer.

Still, the frustrations of the crowd seemed to melt away once the two headliners appeared on stage. Fabolous opened first, per-

forming *Breathe* and *Baby* off his newest album *Real Talk*, in addition to some songs off his earlier two albums. Lloyd Banks spent much more of his time dialoguing with the crowd, but performed G-Unit hits such as *Stunt 101* and *Soldier*.

The crowd filled approximately one-quarter of the Johnson Athletic Center, including the seats. While final tallies of ticket sales have not been completed, Spring Weekend Committee Chair Cindy X. Yuan '06 said that an estimated 1,400 tickets were sold for the concert. This number is on par with the results from the concerts of the past two years, though concerts three years ago and earlier occasionally attracted crowds as large as 3,000.

### Lateness, behavior causes stir

The late arrival of Banks raised concerns, as it appeared unlikely that the group would be able to complete its contract to perform a 50 minute set. However, tardiness was not the only issue to cause concern backstage.

According to sources close to the concert, Banks and other members



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Encouraging the audience to respond to his music, hip-hop artist Lloyd Banks holds his microphone in the air while the crowd echoes his lyrics back during the annual Spring Weekend concert, held last Friday, April 22, in Johnson Athletic Center. See photos, pages 8-9.

of G-Unit arrived after 11:00 p.m. with three girls the sources believed to be "underage." According to the sources, the girls were not immedi-

ately let in, and this angered Banks and his group to the point that they

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### Newly Elected Undergraduate Association Senate Officers and Representatives

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Andrew S. Clare '08

**Representative to the Finance Board**  
Hans E. Anderson '08

## Nearly All Senior Segue Applicants Are Accepted

By Jenny Zhang  
NEWS EDITOR

Eighty-one juniors entered the Senior Segue housing lottery for the 2005-2006 school year, and 78 were assigned graduate housing, said Denise A. Gray, assistant director for undergraduate housing.

As in previous years, the numbers of available rooms were determined before the lottery. All available Sidney-Pacific and Warehouse slots were filled, but many from Tang Residence Hall and Ashdown House were not. These open rooms will be

offered to graduate students and the three students who were not assigned to their original preferences.

### Timeline for phaseout uncertain

The Senior Segue program, which gives undergraduates the opportunity to live in graduate housing for their senior year and guarantees them graduate housing the following year, was first implemented in the 2002-2003 academic year. The original intention was to use it as a temporary solution to crowding in the undergraduate dormitories.

Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict said that although Senior Segue will eventually be phased out, the schedule has not been determined. He said it would be run for at least one more year, but beyond that, its existence is uncertain.

The issue, Benedict said, is that although Senior Segue participants have generally been very satisfied with the experience, graduate students feel that it takes already limited housing away from them. "Senior Segue is not going to be here forever," he said.

Anthony E. Gray, project director for the graduate assignment process, said that although the graduate community understands that the Senior Segue program is part of a broader goal "which helps to support the Institute's goals," there is the universal understanding that graduate housing is for graduate students, and Senior Segue is going to be phased out.

He said that graduate student demand for MIT housing is higher

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OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Nirav B. Shah G poses a question to Kevin A. McComber '05, chair of the Student Advisory Committee to the Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons, about the committee's preliminary report. Last Friday, McComber and Christopher A. Suarez '06 discussed the report at the Experimental Study Group's Friday lunch.

## Philip Morrison

MIT NEWS OFFICE

MIT Institute Professor Emeritus Philip Morrison, a distinguished theoretical astrophysicist and interpreter of science and technology for the general public, died Friday, April 22, at his home. He was 89.

A member of the Manhattan Project who went on to become a vocal critic of the nuclear arms race, Morrison was widely known for his research and professional contributions in quantum electrodynamics, nuclear theory, radiology, isotope geology, and, since the 1950s, in cosmic-ray origins and propagation, gamma-ray astronomy, and other topics in high-energy astrophysics and in cosmology.

"The world has lost one of the major voices of social conscience in science. For more than 50 years, since his involvement in the development of the first atomic bomb, Philip Morrison has been a leading participant in the efforts to control and eliminate nuclear weapons," said Charles Weiner, MIT Professor Emeritus of the History of Science.

"He was a dear, dear person whose impact was not just on MIT, but on the world," said Weiner, who has been working to document Morrison's life through archival materials and oral-history interviews.

A member of the MIT faculty since 1964, Morrison has held the rank of Institute Professor, the highest honor awarded by the MIT faculty and administration, since 1973. The title is reserved for those who have demonstrated exceptional distinction by a combination of leadership, accomplishment, and service in the scholarly, educational, and general intellectual life of the Institute or wider community.

He was among the first scientists (in 1959) to call upon the professional community to begin a coordinated search for interstellar communications using a microwave search. His many publications and speeches, beyond research and

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# WORLD & NATION

## Oil Output is Main Topic as Bush Meets with Saudi Leader

By Richard W. Stevenson  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CRAWFORD, TEXAS.

President Bush discussed the surge in oil prices with Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia on Monday, but focused on an existing plan by the Saudis to increase their oil-pumping capability over the next decade rather than on any short-term efforts to bring prices down immediately.

The two leaders talked for three hours here at Bush's ranch, trying to restore some normalcy to a relationship that has been tense since the emergence of Saudi terrorists' role in the Sept. 11 attacks. Bush and the crown prince discussed a variety of issues, including the Arab-Israeli conflict, fighting terrorism, a trade deal, and Bush's call for more democracy in the Middle East, and the men made every effort to portray the relationship as back on track.

Bush even held the crown prince's hand, a traditional Saudi sign of friendship, as he guided Abdullah up the steps through a bed of bluebonnets to his office, the very picture of Saudi-American interdependence.

## Russia is Following Its Own Path To Democracy, Putin Declares

By C. J. Chivers  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

After facing months of criticism for Russia's crackdown on freedoms and its concentration of presidential power, President Vladimir V. Putin said on Monday that encouraging democracy was the main task before the nation and that human rights, freedom and a secure business climate were essential for the health of the state.

In his annual address to parliament, Putin offered a vision that at times, and on the surface, appeared to embrace the language of some of his most prominent critics.

"The main political and ideological task is the development of Russia as a free and democratic state," he said.

He seemed to try to calm the uneasy private sector by saying that "tax agencies have no right to terrorize business," a reference to the effort to collect vast sums in back taxes from companies, which has caused consternation abroad and a flight of capital from the country.

## Afghan Tribal Leader Arrested, Linked to Vast Heroin Ring

By Julia Preston  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

An Afghan tribal leader designated by the Bush administration as one of the world's most wanted narcotics dealers was arrested this past weekend in New York, federal authorities announced on Monday.

The leader, Haji Bashir Noorzai, is accused of building a multi-million-dollar heroin trade through an "unholy alliance" with the Taliban, the former fundamentalist Islamic regime in Afghanistan, according to an indictment unsealed Monday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan.

He is charged with importing more than \$50 million in heroin from Afghanistan and Pakistan to the United States and other countries. In 2004 the administration added him to its roster of international narcotics kingpins. At a press conference on Monday, John P. Gilbride, the special agent in charge in New York for the Drug Enforcement Administration, called Noorzai the "Pablo Escobar of heroin trafficking in Asia," comparing him to the Colombian cocaine lord who was killed in 1993.

## Deadly Japanese Train Crash May Be Due to Excess Speed

By Norimitsu Onishi  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

TOKYO

The packed commuter train that crashed into an apartment building in western Japan on Monday morning, killing at least 71 passengers and injuring well over 400 more, may have been speeding to make up for a brief delay, survivors said. The authorities here described the train accident as the deadliest in four decades.

The train had been running 90 seconds behind schedule. Five of its seven cars derailed at about 9:20 a.m. at a curve in Amagasaki, a suburb of Osaka. The survivors said the train seemed to have been speeding as it approached the curve.

The first two cars slammed into a nine-story apartment building just 20 feet from the tracks, with the front car hurtling into a first-floor parking garage and the second car twisting itself around a corner of the building.

Rescue workers continued to comb through the crumpled wreckage, trying to extricate four passengers trapped inside the first car and believed to be alive. Early Tuesday, they rescued one — a seriously injured 46-year-old woman — from

a train car and rushed her to a hospital.

The condition of the driver of the train, which was carrying about 580 passengers, could not be confirmed.

Officials at West Japan Railway Co., which operates the line, said at a news conference that they had yet to determine the cause of the accident. Investigators, however, were focusing on the driver, an inexperienced 23-year-old man who had been reprimanded once during his 11 months on the job.

The officials said that the speed limit at the curve was 44 miles per hour, and that derailments could occur at speeds over 83 miles per hour. But they said they did not know exactly how fast the train was running and surmised that other factors, including pebbles on the tracks, might have contributed to the accident.

"They must respond to this firmly in order to prevent future accidents," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said.

The accident shook Japan, which has one of the world's most comprehensive railway networks; most people in urban areas commute by train. In Japan's densely built urban and suburban areas, houses and

apartment buildings often stand several feet away from railroad tracks, the same way elevated subway tracks and apartment buildings stand only several feet apart in certain neighborhoods in New York City.

Trains usually run with such precision that riders can plot complex itineraries on Web sites, secure in the knowledge that they will not miss connections because of delays.

Survivors of Monday morning's crash and witnesses told television networks that the train's driver, Ryujiro Takami, appeared to be speeding just before the accident.

At a station called Itami, on the way to the site of the accident, the driver overran the platform by 26 feet and was forced to back up. Last June, Takami had been reprimanded for overshooting a platform by 328 feet.

On Monday, he apparently failed to negotiate the curve and braked suddenly, tossing passengers around inside the cars. The first two cars jumped the tracks about 200 feet from the building, struck a passenger vehicle in the way, and eventually hit the building, though injuries inside the building appeared limited by the fact that the first car crashed into the parking garage.

## On His First Official Day, Pope Expresses Support for Muslims

By Elisabeth Rosenthal  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ROME

On his first official full day as pope, Benedict XVI on Monday reached out for the first time to Muslims, saying he was "grateful" for their presence at his investiture ceremony and hoped for a "growth of dialogue between Muslims and Christians" at local and international levels.

There were many such surprises during Benedict's public appearances on Monday, giving the world its first glimpse perhaps of the priorities and style that will define his papacy.

A man who had been widely criticized as a narrow-minded theologian reached out to other reli-

gions. A man who previously talked about creating a purer, smaller Roman Catholic Church was talking about offering Catholicism to the world. A man whose previous public face was stern and remote turned funny, personal — physical even.

Comparing being elected pope to being beheaded by a guillotine, he said he had prayed during last week's conclave of cardinals that he would not win the job.

"As slowly the balloting showed me that, so to speak, the guillotine would fall on me, I got quite dizzy," he told an audience of 5,000 German pilgrims Monday morning. "I had thought I had done my life's work and could now hope for a peaceful end of my days.

"So with deep conviction, I told

the Lord: 'Don't do this to me! You have younger and better men, who can do this work with different verve and strength.'"

Then he said, with a sigh, "This time he didn't listen to me."

Benedict, formerly Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, has been a conservative fixture of Vatican life for more than two decades as chief of the church's office for doctrine, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Many liberal-leaning Catholics have worried about what his reign would be like. But as has become increasingly clear in the days since his election last Tuesday, his priorities as pope are likely to be broader and more outward looking than those of the cardinal he was.

## WEATHER

### Rainy Roller-Coaster

By Nikki Prive  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

April is the cruelest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.  
—T. S. Eliot

Today will offer a brief respite before another period of rainy weather midweek. Any lingering showers should clear out this morning, with partly cloudy skies in the afternoon. Temperatures will approach 70°F, except along the immediate coast, where the sea breeze will keep things chilly. On Wednesday, a low pressure system will bring showers and possibly a few thunderstorms during the evening, with potential for as much as an inch of rain. Skies will clear out later in the week, with daytime temperatures near 60°F.

#### Forecast

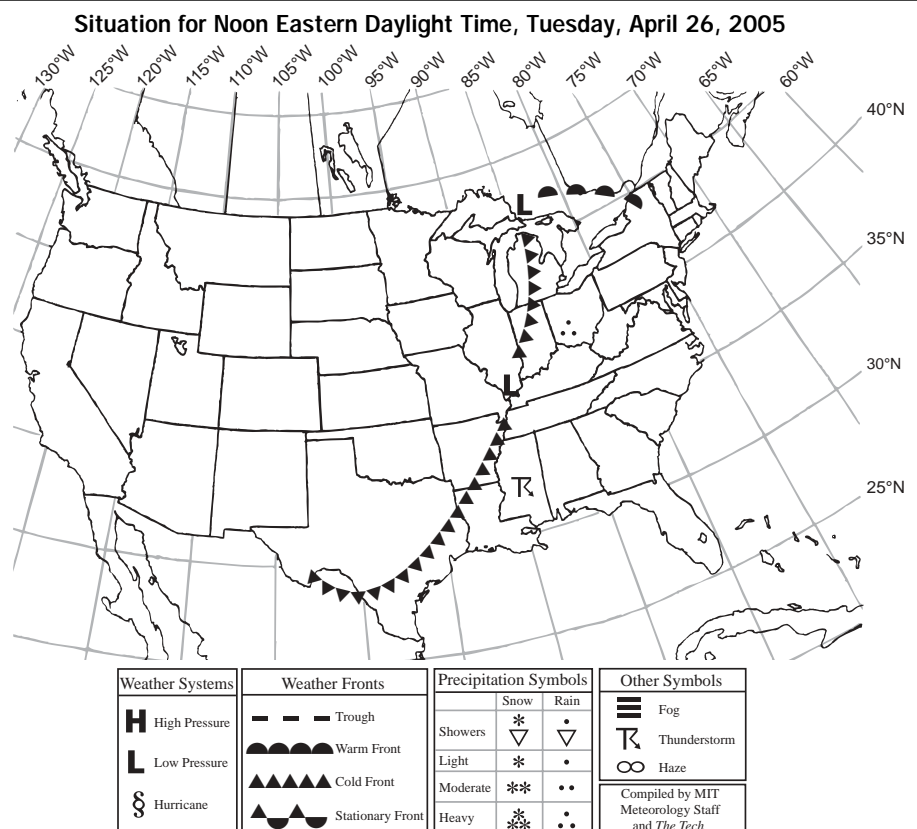
**Today:** Slight chance of showers in the early morning, partly cloudy. High near 68°F (20°C).

**Tonight:** Chance of rain late. Low near 41°F (5°C).

**Wednesday:** Showers likely during the afternoon, cloudy and breezy. High near 60°F (16°C). Rain tapering off after midnight with a chance of an evening thunderstorm. Low near 45°F (7°C).

**Thursday:** Partly cloudy and breezy with highs in the lower 60s°F (16°C). Overnight low near 45°F (7°C).

**Friday:** High in the upper 50s°F (14°C).



# Chicago Police Arrest Fourteen On Connections with Murders

By Monica Davey  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHICAGO

The names read like a who's who from some faded blotter left behind at the Chicago Police Department's old State Street headquarters: Joey "the Clown" Lombardo, Frank "the German" Schweis, Frank "Gumba" Saladino, and on and on.

But on Monday, 14 of these accused Chicago mobsters, including several who have for years been reputed to be in the city's top level of organized crime leaders, were being rounded up in connection with 18 murders that stretch back over four decades and had gone unsolved and, in some cases, had been nearly forgotten.

Several of the accused are in their mid-70s now, and one, though only 59, was found dead, apparently of natural causes, when the authorities arrived on Monday to arrest him in the hotel room where he lived. A few of the others accused, meanwhile, had moved away, to places like Florida and Arizona, better known for retirement.

Describing the 9-count, 41-page racketeering conspiracy indictment as putting a "hit on the mob," Patrick J. Fitzgerald, the U.S. attorney here, said in a written state-

ment, "After so many years, it lifts the veil of secrecy and exposes the violent underworld of organized crime."

While arrests of organized crime figures are hardly unique in a city where Al Capone once worked, rarely have so many of its reputed high-level leaders been charged all at once or has the entire "Chicago Outfit" been officially deemed a criminal enterprise under federal racketeering laws.

"This really lays out the whole continuing criminal enterprise that is still going on," said Thomas Kirkpatrick, president of the Chicago Crime Commission, a nonprofit anticrime group created in 1919 by Chicago business leaders who were increasingly worried that it could become too dangerous to conduct legitimate commerce in this town.

"People tend to forget what these guys are about," Kirkpatrick said. "They watch 'The Sopranos' or some of these movies about the mob, and they think it's just some colorful characters. The thing is, they're still doing this. These characters are still doing this."

Among the most notorious murders the authorities say they have solved with Monday's announcement: the 1986 death of Tony "The Ant" Spilotro, the organization's chief enforcer in Las Vegas, and his

brother, Michael, who were buried alive in an Indiana cornfield. (Joe Pesci portrayed a character based on Tony Spilotro in the 1995 movie "Casino.")

The authorities here say the indictment, which was returned by a federal grand jury on Thursday and unsealed on Monday, was years in the making. The FBI called its inquiry "Operation Family Secrets," and agents from the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service began arresting the accused in Illinois, Florida and Arizona on Monday morning.

The indictment reads like a grade school textbook on Chicago's organized crime web, laying out its command structure (a boss, an underboss and crew bosses), its business endeavors (absurdly high interest loans, sports bookmaking and video gambling enterprises), and its methods of avoiding the police (listening to police radios, talking on pay phones and using remote control devices to keep away from actual murder scenes).

Among those indicted were men the authorities say guided three of the city's crucial neighborhood "crews": James Marcello, 63, of the Melrose Park crew; Frank Calabrese Sr., 68, of the South Side/26th Street crew; and Lombardo, 75, of the Grand Avenue crew.

# Some U.S. Security Agents Chafe Under Imposed Speech Limitations

By Eric Lipton  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

It would be natural to expect that, as president of an employee association that represents more than 1,000 federal air marshals, Frank Terreri would be a reasonably outspoken guy.

But since Terreri became association president two years ago, he has been effectively prohibited by the rules of the Federal Air Marshal Service from speaking in public about airline safety matters. That means he has never been quoted in a newspaper article or written letters to the editor or to members of Congress outside his district.

These limitations — based on a ban imposed on all federal air marshals to keep them from speaking about their work without explicit permission — set off a feud last year between Terreri and the marshal service, a division of the

Department of Homeland Security.

Terreri, who was suspended from active duty in October after sending a personal e-mail message to another air marshal that was critical of a colleague, picked up his badge and gun Monday after being told that he would soon be back patrolling the skies.

Four days earlier, the American Civil Liberties Union, filed a lawsuit on Terreri's behalf in U.S. District Court in Riverside, Calif., claiming that the department was violating his free-speech rights and jeopardizing public safety by preventing agents from serving as a whistleblowers.

"He has serious concerns about policies that he believes threaten the effectiveness of the federal Air Marshal Service that make us more vulnerable to another 9/11-type attack," said Peter J. Eliasberg, a civil liberties lawyer representing Terreri, 38, who lives in the Riverside area.

The case may end up serving as a test of restrictions imposed on workers throughout the Department of Homeland Security, whose rights to speak out publicly are often compromised, employee leaders say, because of excessive concern over the possibility that their comments might compromise public safety.

"They are abusing the power they have under the guise of national security," said Shawn Moran, vice president of National Border Patrol Council local in San Diego.

The rules given to air marshals are quite explicit. A 2002 employee policy statement says they may not "criticize or ridicule" the agency "by speech, writing or other expression," and they may not "address public gatherings, appear on radio or television, prepare any articles for publication" or release any information about it unless explicitly authorized to do so by management.

# Senate Finance Committee is Divided On Social Security Overhauling Plans

By Robin Toner  
and David E. Rosenbaum  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

After months of political maneuvering, presidential campaigning, advertising and ultimatums, the 20-member Senate Finance Committee plans to start grappling this week with overhauling the Social Security system.

So far, the committee has proven to be just about as divided — and stalled — as the Senate at large. Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa., the chairman of the committee, says somewhat ruefully that most of his committee members simply wish the issue would go away. Instead, with the Senate expected to go before the House on Social Security, Grassley's committee could play a decisive role in President Bush's drive to create private investment accounts in the government pension program.

The committee has a long tradition of bipartisan deals, with close

personal friendships across party lines and a membership that includes some of the last remaining centrists in the Senate. Over the years, on issues from revamping the tax code to restructuring Medicare, "they've always been able to go into a back room and get things done," said former Democratic Sen. John Breaux of Louisiana, who was a longtime member of the panel.

But Bush's private accounts may be the ultimate test for a committee that prides itself on being above the partisan wars.

In a hearing on Tuesday, the committee plans to showcase the political arguments of both sides. Four experts on Social Security from outside Congress were invited to present their plans for achieving "sustainable solvency," which means that the system would remain in balance after 75 years. Grassley called the hearing, a member of his staff said, to illustrate that any changes to strengthen Social Security financially, with or without pri-

vate accounts, would have to include lower benefits, higher taxes or both.

Three of the four plans include individual or private accounts. Robert Pozen, an investment company executive from Boston and a supporter of private accounts, is scheduled to testify about his proposal, viewed with interest by the Bush administration, to improve the program's solvency by focusing benefit reductions on wealthier retirees.

Even as the panel prepared for its hearings, Democratic leaders were holding rallies in New York on Monday and planning another outside the Capitol on Tuesday to highlight their opposition. While Democrats were planning staunch opposition on Social Security, Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., was thought to be readying a proposal to allow votes on some judicial nominees if Republicans pull back from plans to change rules to prevent filibusters.

# San Diego Mayor Resigns

By John M. Broder  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN DIEGO

The mayor of San Diego, Dick Murphy, caught up in federal investigations into the city's finances and questions about his political legitimacy, announced Monday that he was resigning, effective July 15.

Murphy, 62, is less than five months into his second term, which he won in a disputed election last fall over a largely self-educated environmental activist and self-described "surfer chick," Donna Frye, a member of the San Diego City Council, who ran a last-minute write-in campaign. Within minutes of Murphy's statement, Frye announced her intention to run again.

The City Council can appoint someone to serve all or part of the rest of Murphy's term, which runs through 2008, or set a special election for November. In the meantime, the interim mayor will be Deputy Mayor Michael Zucchet, a member of the City Council who is under federal indictment on charges that he received payments from a Las Vegas strip-club owner in exchange for a vote to relax the no-touching rule at San Diego's topless clubs.

Zucchet's trial is scheduled to begin next week. He said he expected to be cleared of all charges.

"I'm confident that there will be a recognition that this was madness by the U.S. attorney," Zucchet said.

# Mysterious Viruses, As Bad as They Get

By Denise Grady  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

UIGE, ANGOLA

Traditional healers here say their grandmothers knew of a bleeding disease similar to the current epidemic of hemorrhagic fever that has killed 244 of the 266 people who have contracted it. The grandmothers even had a treatment for the sickness, the healers told Dr. Boris I. Pavlin of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But the remedy has been lost. The old disease was called kifumbe (pronounced key-FOOM-bay), the word in the Kikongo language for murder.

But kifumbe did not seem to be contagious. And so, Pavlin said, though he did not doubt it was real, it was probably not the same as the disease in Uige today. The current disease, caused by the Marburg virus, is contagious. Like the Ebola virus, to which it is closely related, it is spread by bodily fluids like blood, vomit and saliva.

No one can say for sure what kifumbe was, and in some ways the Marburg virus is almost as mysterious. More than a month has passed since it was identified as the cause of the deadly outbreak here — the largest Marburg epidemic on record — but some of the most basic questions about the epidemic have yet to be answered. How and when did this rare virus get here? Why have so many victims been children? And how could so many have become infected before the disease was recognized?

# Andersen Proposes \$65 Million Worldcom Settlement

By Jonathan D. Glater  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Arthur Andersen, the once-venerable accounting firm, has agreed to pay \$65 million to resolve a class-action lawsuit brought by investors who bought WorldCom stocks and bonds before the company filed for bankruptcy protection in 2002.

According to the terms of the proposed settlement, Andersen, in addition to the cash payment, would give the investors 20 percent of any amount it paid to distribute its remaining capital to its present and former partners.

Andersen, whose 2002 conviction on obstructing the Enron investigation led to its demise as an accounting firm, would also pay the difference between the \$65 million and any larger settlement in any other lawsuit it may settle in the future — in essence guaranteeing that members of the WorldCom class would receive as much down the road as other claimants.

This provision, which lawyers called a "most favored nation clause," is unusual in these kinds of settlements and suggests that the plaintiffs were not sure how much money Andersen had available.

"What this says to me is they pleaded poverty; they pleaded that they have all these other liabilities out there," said Dan L. Goldwasser, a lawyer in the New York office of Vedder, Price, Kaufman & Kammholz. "It seems like a reasonably small settlement, considering the size of the losses in WorldCom, which were monumental."

# General Motors Issues Recalls For More Than Two Million Cars

By Jeremy W. Peters  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

DETROIT

General Motors issued several wide-ranging recalls on Monday involving more than 2 million vehicles, including some of its most popular and profitable sport utility vehicles, the Cadillac Escalade, GMC Yukon and Hummer H2.

The largest recall covers 1.5 million pickups and SUVs with defective second-row center seat belts. GM told the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration last week that the belts fasten too high above a passenger's hips and increase the risk of injury in a crash, particularly to smaller passengers. In a letter to the safety administration, GM said the defect could expose passengers "to more risk of abdominal and internal organ injury."

The recall was voluntary, and GM said it knew of no injuries resulting from the defective belts. The safety administration is not investigating the matter.

The recall, GM's largest this year, involves 2003 through 2005 models of the Chevrolet Silverado Crew Cab, Suburban, Tahoe and Avalanche; the Cadillac Escalade, Escalade ESV and Escalade EXT; the GMC Sierra Crew Cab, Yukon XL and Yukon; and the Hummer H2.

# OPINION

## Letter To The Editor



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## Baldasaro's Circular Logic Flawed

Nick Baldasaro's opinion piece ["If You're Over 40, And You're Not Conservative ...," April 22] is complete nonsense, because it is based on the equation of political experience with political interests. Creating policy requires the former, but voting only requires the latter. The 18–25-year-old population has legitimately different political interests than the 45–50 year old population, which is part of why it votes differently.

In addition, I was impressed by Mr. Baldasaro's refusal to let logic prevent him from making any argument he likes. According to him, the younger population is ignorant both because they don't vote and because they are politically active in support of causes of which he doesn't approve. And who wouldn't be charmed by the circular argument that

young people vote for the wrong causes, so they must be confused, and that younger voters are ignorant, so their causes must be wrong?

If the rest of us suffer from "ideologies

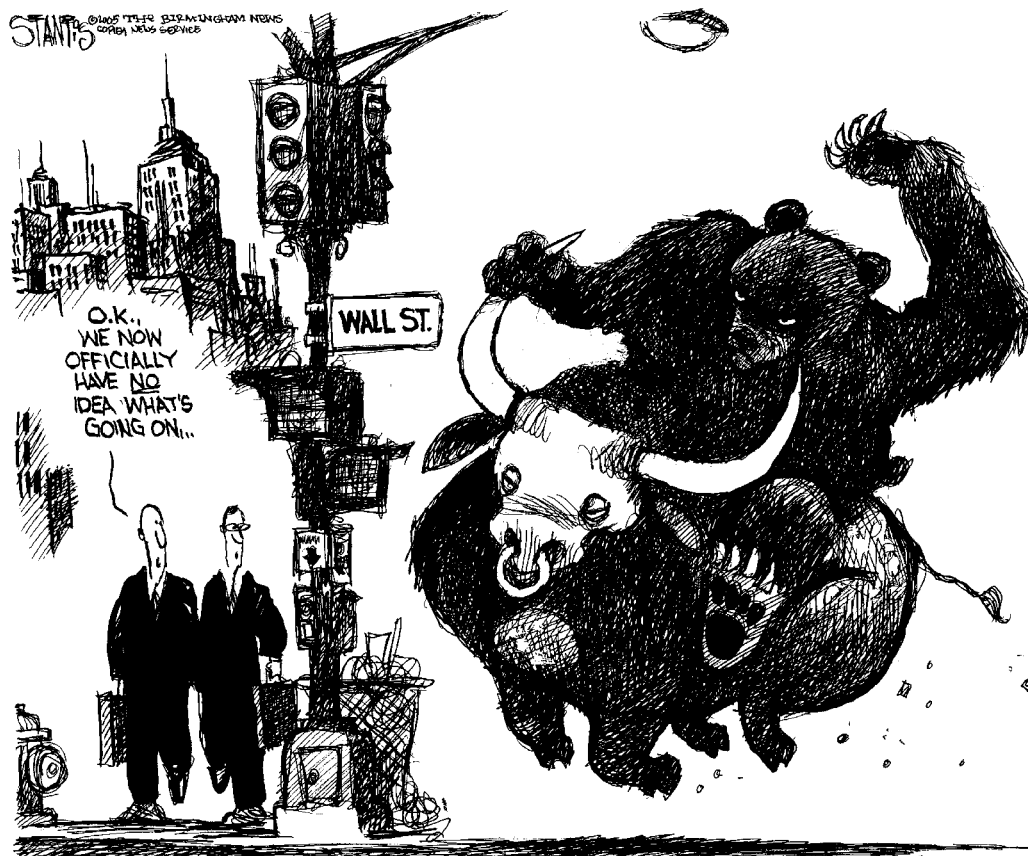
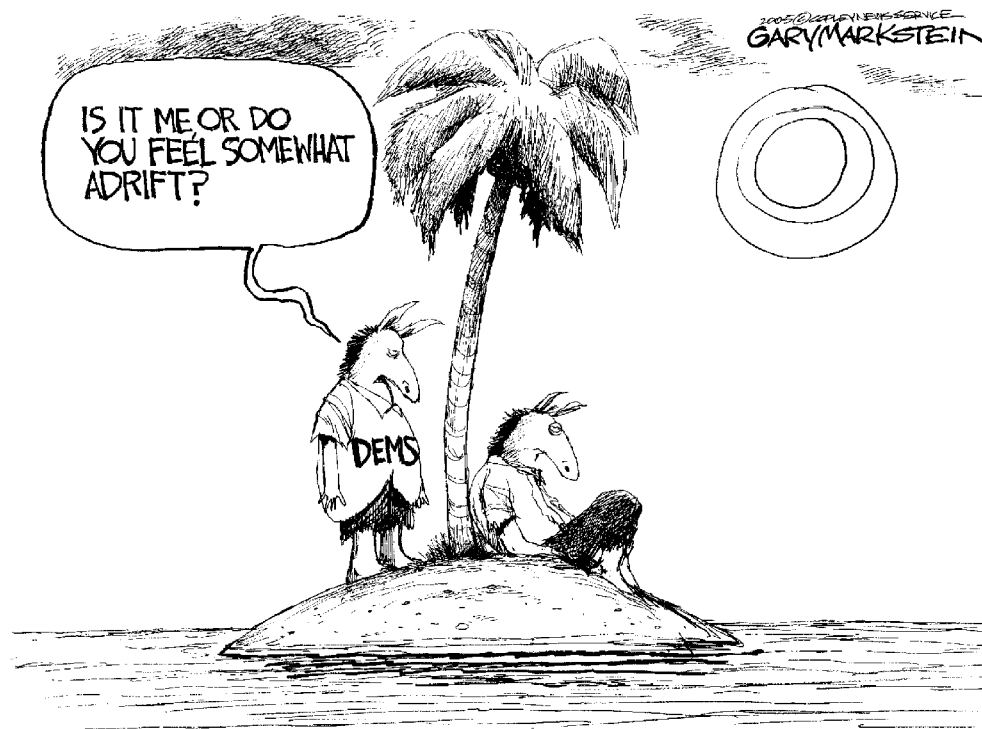
that don't line up with economic realities," I think Mr. Baldasaro suffers from shaping his opinions to justify a misperceived social reality.

Katherine Rorschach '05

## Errata

A headline and article printed on Friday ["RIAA Sues 22 Dorm Residents For Sharing Copyrighted Songs"] referred incorrectly to the 22 MIT IP addresses listed by the record industry in a copyright infringement lawsuit. One of the 22 addresses — from MIT's "virtual private network" remote access service — may not belong to a dormitory resident.

The article "With Memories of Victory, Fenway Is Festive and Fun" [April 22] misstated the number of children Jason Varitek has. He has two, not three, children.



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**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](mailto: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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*The Tech*'s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to [general@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:general@the-tech.mit.edu), and it will be directed to the appropriate person. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to [news@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@the-tech.mit.edu). Letters to the editor should be sent to [letters@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:letters@the-tech.mit.edu). *The Tech* can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.

# Privileges, Not Rights

Nick Baldasaro

As a state becomes better endowed with riches, older, more self-reliant citizens pass away, and new generations are born without knowledge of earlier, harder times. These younger citizens, lacking perspective from earlier times, mistakenly come to regard their predecessors' hard-won privileges as inherent rights. By way of example, America's Depression generation endured a yearly income of \$7,500 with a per gross domestic product government spending of five percent. Most Americans today could not fathom this hardship; our GDP is currently \$33,000 with a per GDP spending of 20 percent (all figures adjusted to year 2000 dollars). Amazingly, though, many Americans believe that ours is a country where poverty and want are widespread. Compared to what?

More amazing still is the call by major political forces for yet more "rights" (government spending) in the name of escaping "poorness." We are told we have a right to clean air, a right to education, a right to free health care, and that if we don't get them, then we are being persecuted. What nonsense. The fact that these "rights" did not always exist clearly designates them as privileges, which can be won or lost depending on the industry and cleverness of the populace. What a lack of appreciation, what an insult to those who came before. It is clear that as riches and privileges increase, so too do relative expectations, with the end result being that each gen-

eration is increasingly rich, yet no closer to satisfaction. How does this harmful cycle perpetuate? If you allow me that absolute, rather than relative, standards of wealth control well-being, then I will demonstrate how the belief in rights rather than the appreciation of privileges dooms some Americans to a cycle of unfulfillment.

First off, it should be defined that rights do not change in time, whereas privileges adapt to reflect absolute wealth levels. This is the critical thinking that so eludes the "right to health care" crowd. Two hundred years ago, an American farmer would have had no idea what you were talking about with free health care. Nor would a contemporary resident of a third world country. How can a right change in time and place? If it can, then we today in 2005 are necessarily denied many of the rights of the poorest Americans in 2200, just as the farmers of 1800 were denied a right to health care, education, and the living wage. We are indeed suffering hardship relative to our descendants. Yet interestingly, I never hear people complain seriously about their lack of futuristic rights. Why is that? How important can these future rights be if we don't even care about them today? By the same turn, how much of a right can free health care (free housing, etc.) be if our ancestors did not consider the absence of these things from their lives?

The only way to reconcile attitudes across the centuries is with the obvious conclusion that all these so-called universal rights are in fact extra privileges that can exist only if sufficient wealth arises and which additionally are

not necessary for fulfillment. Furthermore, as if claims of relative poverty weren't enough nonsense, many citizens have taken it to their heads that rights arise out of the wealth of others, i.e. that the relatively less wealthy have a right to the wealth of the better off. What silliness. Behind every single rich person that ever existed on planet Earth, if one goes back far enough, is a poor person who spent his or her life working hard so that his or her children might avoid hardship. If a citizen wishes to vote for legislators who pass bills reallocating

wealth in the name of public good, that is a citizen's privilege. But no one has any right to any other's self-produced or self-maintained wealth. So many things that we take for granted fall under this reasoning. Good examples abound in what are commonly deemed civil liberties (rights). I will discuss only one of them, the woman's "right" to abortion. I, like many others, am in favor of choice (I love that euphemism for abortion.) However, it is a privilege bestowed by the hard work of a generation of activists, and not a right. It can be taken away, and talking about it as if it is invulnerable is unhelpful and arrogant and actually makes it more likely to be lost due to a lack of proper vigilance. What is most annoying to me, and I suspect other males, is

the idea that a woman has a "right" to total control over her own body, because this is the inherent right of all citizens. I, like half the country, have a draft card that says otherwise. My draft card says, in fact, that if the national legislature and the president say so, my body can be sent to exotic locales in order to stop fast-moving lead. Not exactly what you'd call privacy. And it is definitely not control over my own body; that control is a privilege of relative peacetime, which my fellow citizens and I work to uphold.

*My draft card says, in fact, that if the national legislature and the president say so, my body can be sent to exotic locales in order to stop fast-moving lead.*

Believing in rights rather than privileges is naïve, dangerous, and depressing, and it saps one's ability to both comprehend real problems and enact change for the better. It should be understood and embraced by every citizen that there exist no rights, only privileges. Each person in this government can feel entitled to three things only: his or her life, freedom from the mischief of fellow citizens, and the ability to work towards personal fulfillment. If the three goals from the preceding sentence sound radical to anyone, I suggest they check out a publication known as the Declaration of Independence. It is an old but charming document with a stirring preamble containing the ideals of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," there for all to see.

Albert Huang

I recently had the pleasure of playing in a unihoc game against a group of fraternity brothers. For the uninitiated, unihoc is a Swedish game much like floor hockey but with shorter sticks, smaller goals, and a wiffle ball. Players run around the court in sneakers, batting the ball back and forth, trying to score as many goals as possible. Having played ice hockey for 19 years now, I found it endearing and quaint. Naturally, I was quite terrible at unihoc and ended up tripping over myself at least twice.

As with most fast-paced team games, physi-

cal contact and accidents are inevitable. Sometimes players feel wronged and voice their frustration; other times, they hide their anger and unleash it when the referee isn't looking. During our match, there were certainly a number of questionable collisions and falls, but nothing extraordinary. A few tense moments passed, but the game ended amicably, and, in MIT intramural tradition, both sides gave the ritual "rah! rah! rah!" chant in support of the opposing team.

What struck me most was that sometime in the middle of the game, the opposing team decided to name me Bruce Lee. "Watch out for Bruce Lee!" "Bruce Lee's in front of the net!" "Don't let Bruce Lee get by!" To be blunt, I found this distasteful, disrespectful, and

just a little racist. It didn't bother me at first, as I just shrugged it off the same way I've learned to disregard the other racial epithets that have been tossed my way in the past. But later on, I thought, "I am not walking through the streets of Boston, I am immersed in an institute of higher education. What the hell is wrong with this place?"

Am I being hypersensitive? Perhaps. I did do my undergraduate years at Brown, where there are maybe three Republicans on campus and the entire student body rose up in arms when a university officer (seemingly) randomly asked a black student for proof of identification. Maybe I do bear more than the superficial Asian resemblance to Bruce Lee. He was 5'7", 140 lbs, I'm 5'8", 140 lbs. He had abs of steel and could perform amazing feats of strength and agility. I have ... maybe a 3-pack and can only dream about performing amazing feats of strength and agility. Brown eyes, black hair. Close enough. I admit that I've been holed up in my lab and dorm for a while tooling away on my coursework and master's thesis, so I may have missed a few cultural shifts in the past

few months. Has this recently become acceptable?

Something inside tells me that the answer is still no. I sure as hell don't see anyone going around tossing "Mike Tyson" around as a nickname for people they've never met. So let me be explicit. I don't care if your cute little ethnic nickname is supposed to be pejorative, descriptive, or honorific. If I don't know you, don't call me Bruce Lee. Don't call me Jet Li. In fact, if you're going to refer to me at all, either call me the guy-who-keeps-tripping-over-himself, or ask for my name. And along the way, take some cultural enrichment classes.

In all fairness, I don't know if this was a group decision on their part or the harebrained idea of one unfortunate soul who, caught up in the moment of the game, didn't really think about what he was saying. But I'd hope that one of his brothers would at least have the courtesy to steer him in the right direction, which did not happen. Either way, it was poor form.

*Albert Huang is a graduate student in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.*

*I admit that I've been holed up in my lab and dorm for a while tooling away on my coursework and master's thesis, so I may have missed a few cultural shifts in the past few months. Has this recently become acceptable?*

## Check one:

- Stick it to the Man
- Apply gingerly to the non-gender-specific Authority Figure

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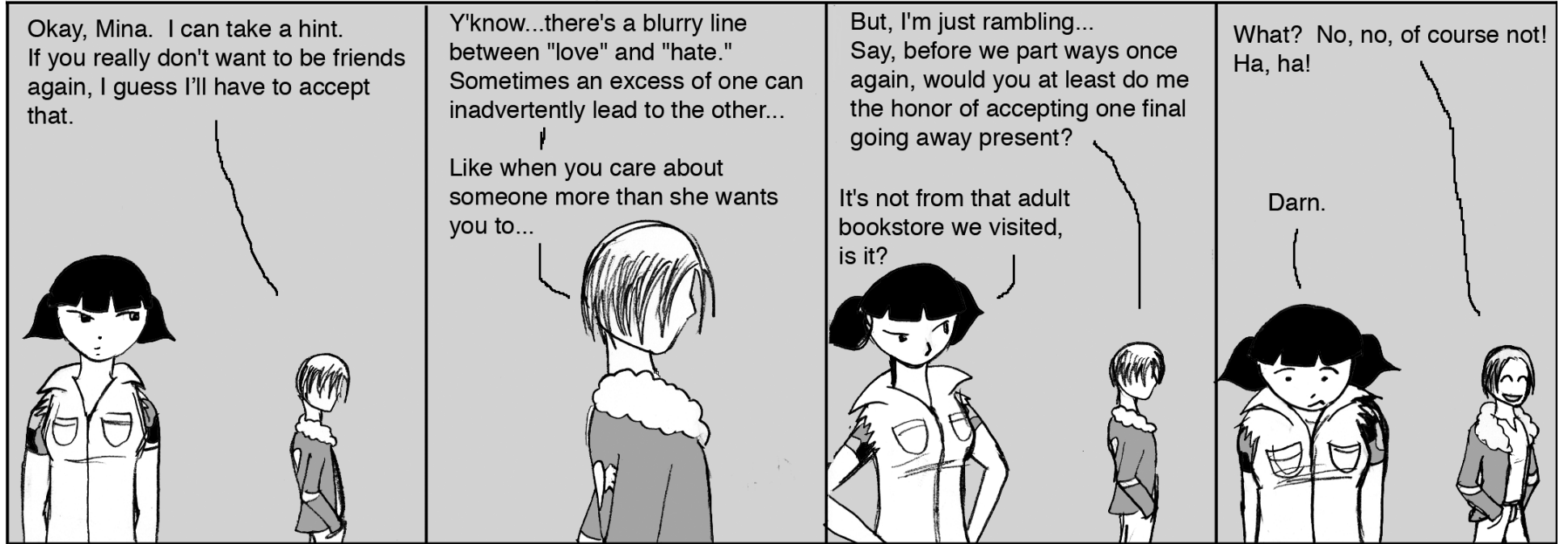
or ask for Ruth

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## Trio

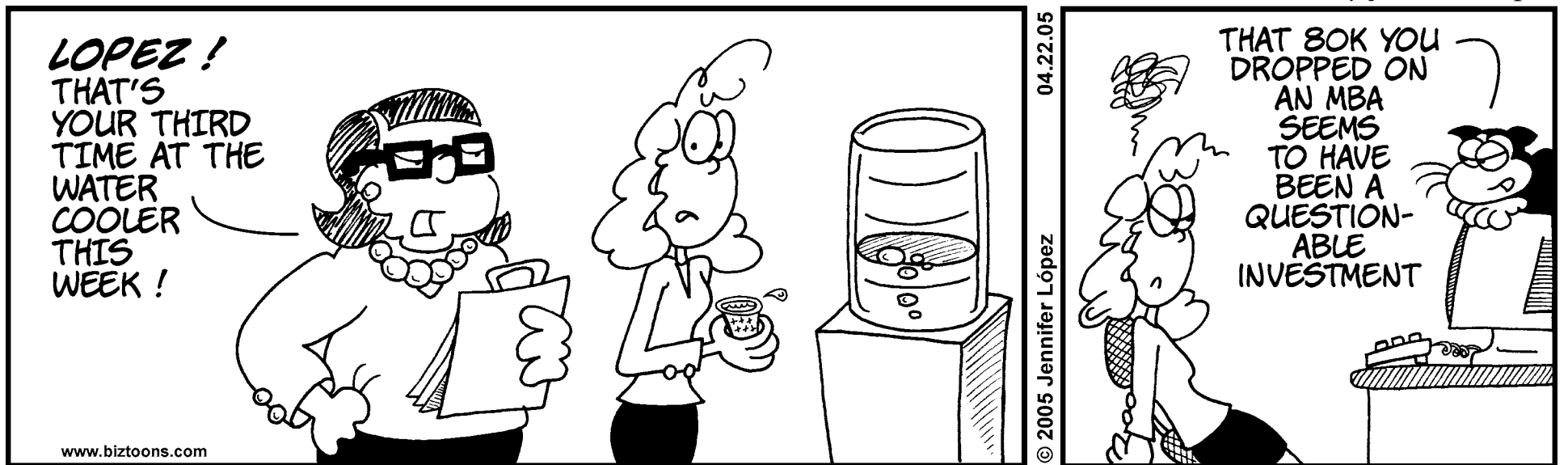
One EXTRA comic posted at [ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE](http://ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE)

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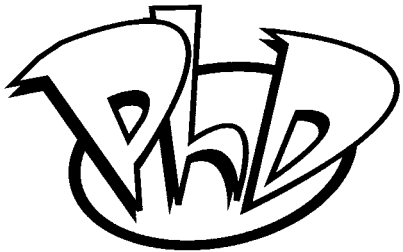
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 by Bill Amend

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 by Scott Adams



PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 11

ACROSS

- 1 Peal
- 5 Pedro's house
- 9 Jack who ate no fat
- 14 Ron Howard role
- 15 Many years
- 16 Use a scale
- 17 Criminals' policy platform?
- 19 Boredom
- 20 Party conservatives
- 21 Emblems
- 22 Nile bird
- 23 Muslim women's quarters
- 24 Wards off
- 27 You there!
- 28 "Peter Pan" pet
- 31 Japanese porcelain
- 32 Gram or rail lead-in
- 33 Old ruler
- 34 Varnish ingredient
- 35 Rowers' reduction?
- 38 Spam

DOWN

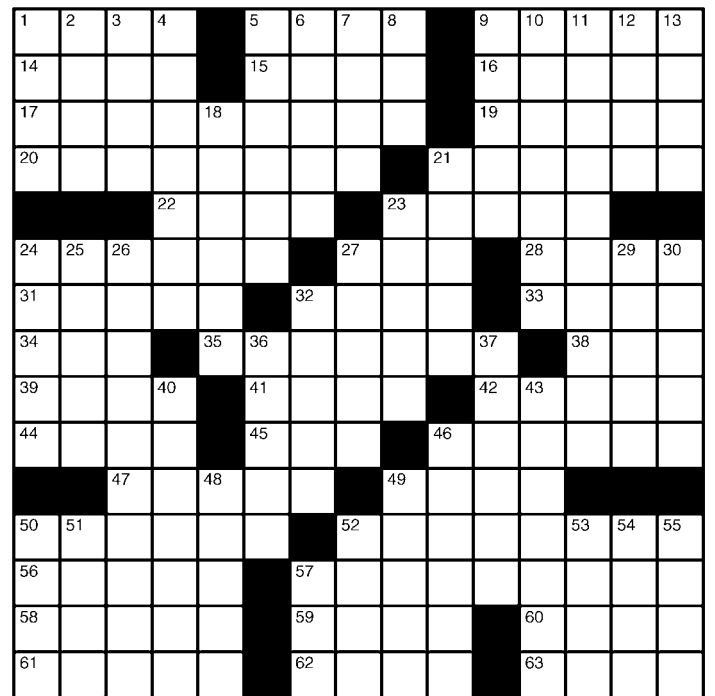
- 1 African nation
- 2 October stone
- 39 Enjoy
- 41 Archipelago member
- 42 Advil rival
- 44 Bridge coup
- 45 CIA forerunner
- 46 Terrified
- 47 Dapper
- 49 5th Avenue store
- 50 Enlaces
- 52 Poe story, "The \_\_\_ Heart"
- 56 Chart anew
- 57 Flea on kittens?
- 58 Seething
- 59 Adams or Brickell
- 60 Gymnast Korbut
- 61 Fracas
- 62 See after
- 63 Uninvited plant

ACROSS

- 3 The Swedish Nightingale
- 4 More long-shanked
- 5 French port
- 6 Thickening agents
- 7 E-mail button
- 8 Inquire
- 9 Take an oath
- 10 Supported from above
- 11 Mafia don?
- 12 Chills and fever
- 13 "\_\_\_ Gun for Hire"
- 18 Open to all
- 21 Wetlands passage
- 23 From this place
- 24 Lunar valleys
- 25 Messages by computer
- 26 Wolf?
- 27 Cries loudly
- 29 Gullible
- 30 Bowed
- 32 Disorderly

DOWN

- 36 Public disturbances
- 37 Take on or take down
- 40 Send forth
- 43 Final line of seats
- 46 Like some nuts
- 48 Native American dwelling
- 49 Become established
- 50 Neat and tidy
- 51 Existed
- 52 Ocean motion
- 53 Competent
- 54 Sport sled
- 55 Mild oath
- 57 Allow to



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The annual Spring Weekend concert was held Friday, April 22, in Johnson Athletic Center. The concert featured local artist Nemiss, MIT's RiDONKulous, and hip-hop artists Fabolous and Lloyd Banks. Clockwise from top left:

Following Nemiss' performance, MIT's RiDONKulous takes the stage and struts its stuff.

Nemiss stirs up the crowd before Fabolous and Lloyd Banks take the stage.

Fabolous and his group blast out some heavy lyrics.

A member of MIT's RiDONKulous strikes a pose.

Fabolous gets the crowd up and moving with the music.

Fabolous' DJ lays down a beat.

Lloyd Banks' backup singer leans back with the mic.

Lloyd Banks throws bottled water over the audience.

(center) Lloyd Banks speaks his words of wisdom regarding MIT, the police, and illegal substances, to the crowd.



LIANG HONG—THE TECH

# spring weekend 2005



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH



LIANG HONG—THE TECH



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

# Morrison Worked On Manhattan Project

*'An Inspiration,' He Received Many Awards*  
**Morrison**, from Page 1

astronomy, center on two large issues: nuclear and conventional war and American policy; and the teaching and public understanding of physics and science in general. He has authored or co-authored many books on these subjects, including "The Price of Defense," which he co-authored with five other students of the arms issue. The book, published in 1979, was the first to propose a detailed alternative defense posture for the United States.

A regular reviewer of books on science for Scientific American since 1965, Morrison had also narrated and helped script films on science for Charles and Ray Eames. He appeared widely on radio and on British, Canadian, and American television in a number of science programs and series, most visibly as author-presenter (with his wife, the late Phylis Morrison) of a six-part national Public Broadcasting System series, "The Ring of Truth," which first aired in 1987. He and his wife co-authored a book, "The Ring of Truth: An Inquiry Into How We Know What We Know" (Random House, 1987) as a companion to the series.

"He was an inspiration not as a scientist who also did other things, but as someone who defined his role as a scientist by being involved in these other things," Weiner said.

Philip Morrison was born in Somerville, NJ, in 1915. He attended Pittsburgh public schools and received the BS degree from the Carnegie Institute for Technology in 1936. In 1940 he received the PhD in theoretical physics from the University of California at Berkeley, under the supervision of J. Robert Oppenheimer.

For the next two years he taught physics at San Francisco State College and at the University of Illinois before joining the Manhattan Project. In 1946, Morrison joined the physics faculty at Cornell University, where he remained until he came to MIT in 1964.

From 1943 to 1946, Morrison was associated with the Manhattan Project, which was responsible for the development of the first atomic bomb. He joined the Metallurgical Laboratory of the Manhattan Project at the University of Chicago toward the end of 1942. He was a physicist and group leader there and later at Los Alamos from 1942 to 1946.

In 1945, it was Morrison, riding in the back seat of an automobile, who brought the bomb's plutonium

core from Los Alamos to the New Mexico desert site for the first test. He also was at the island air base of Tinian, from which two bombs were launched against Japan. He later witnessed the aftermath of the explosion at Hiroshima in a visit immediately following the war.

In 1984, Morrison's faculty colleagues named him the James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Achievement Award Lecturer for the academic year 1984-85. The citation read, in part, "Philip Morrison is more than a distinguished scholar. He represents an attitude, a way of life, a symbol for what one might call 'joy of insight' or 'thirst for knowledge.' No one has better demonstrated, or rather embodied, what it means to the human soul to perceive or recognize a new scientific discovery or a new theoretical insight. Scientific knowledge and understanding is not a purely cerebral affair; it is soaked with emotion, excitement, and nervous tension, as everyone knows who has heard Philip Morrison talk. He has a gift for language and a wide-ranging intellect which allow him to draw upon insights from different fields to help illuminate a subject."

His memberships included the American Physical Society (fellow), the Federation of American Scientists (chairman, 1973-76) the American Astronomical Society (council, 1977-79), the International Astronomical Union, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia.

Among his many awards are the Pregel Prize of the New York Academy of Sciences, the Babson Prize of the Gravity Foundation, the American Association for the Advancement of Science Westinghouse Science Writing Award, the Oersted Medal of the American Association of Physics Teachers, the Priestly Medallion of Dickinson College, the Presidential Award of the New York Academy of Sciences, 1980; the Public Science Medal of the Minnesota Museum of Science, the American Institute of Physics' Andrew Gemant Award and the Wheeler Prize (with Phylis Morrison) of the Boston Museum of Science.

He is survived by his stepson, Bert Singer, and by Singer's wife, Angela Kimberk.

Funeral services will be private.

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# MIT Walks in the Relay for Life



On Saturday, April 23, groups of students from many local institutes, including two groups from MIT, participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of All Cambridge All-University. One member from each team was on the track from the beginning to the end of the event, which lasted from 8 p.m. on Friday until 11 a.m. on Saturday at the Gordon Indoor Track at Harvard University and raised a total of \$108,790.

(above) Cancer survivors start the relay by taking the first lap around the track.  
 (right) Nathan P. Wang '08 and Leah A. Bogsted '08 walk a lap. Luminarias (bags filled with sand and a small source of light) bearing cancer survivors' names are lined up around the track.  
 Photography by Christina Kang



## Solution to Crossword

from page 7

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



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## stata events



Stata Center Amphitheater  
 Rain location: TSMC Lobby  
**Thursday, April 28**  
 10 am-3:30 pm  
 Celebrate the Earth and MIT's many Environmental options!

**Live Music and entertainment**  
 10am - New England Guitar Circle  
 11am - Bellydancers  
 12pm - Steve Gilligan (guitar)  
 1pm - Renaissance Troupe  
 2pm - Central Artery Project

**Free Food**  
 Coupons for the Steam Café  
 WGR Flower Seed Bookmarks  
 Plant-your-own-seeds  
 Recycle bins

**Special drawings for**  
 T-Pass  
 Office Depot items  
 Z Center Day Passes  
 Japanese calligraphy  
 and other great gifts!

**View Videos on Sustainability and the Environment**  
 (Oil on Ice, The End of Suburbia, The Politics of Food, etc.)

**Solar Design Contest entry submission/ awards ceremony**  
 (for more info see <http://hubevents.blogspot.com/>)

**Clothing swap** (bring your old clothes, get new ones!)  
**Plant-your-own-seeds giveaway** (sponsored by LFEE)

**Portrait-drawing**  
**SFGS and SAVE travel mugs on sale**  
**Great vegetarian food**  
**Meet MIT's environmental groups!**

## plus!

**Extend your Earth Day celebration!**  
**Friday, April 29th, 12 pm**

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# Initiative Funds Limited To UA

UA, from Page 1

ence in November along with UA Senate Speaker Rose A. Grabowski '05 and said the experience was "absolutely" useful.

"It gives us perspective," said Velasco. He said the conferences are beneficial because the student leaders have the opportunity to discuss common problems such as working with the administration and student apathy with student leaders from other schools.

Velasco said that the conference in November was paid for by the Student Activities Office.

### Initiative funds only for UA

The donation from Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict has not yet been finalized, Velasco said.

Benedict said that he plans to meet with members of the UA to determine whether the conferences attended so far have been helpful. "We're trying to be more systematic" by creating well-defined leadership programs, Benedict said.

The bill states that "student leaders from the UA Senate and Cabinet should have the opportunity for professional development outside of the typical MIT opportunities," and Velasco said that the funds will be reserved for UA use. However, Benedict said that there will be other opportunities for student leaders from other organizations.

Grabowski said that there was some debate at the meeting over whether the conferences would only benefit those in attendance. However, the Senate ultimately decided that was not the case and passed the bill with a 17-2 vote.

"Clearly we're looking at other student leaders as well," Benedict said, citing opportunities for leaders such as the Chancellor's Summit in the fall, which was open to all student government leaders. Benedict called the \$20,000 a "good investment in student leaders."

While conferences or meetings with nearby colleges and universities would be less expensive, they also do not have the same benefits as the national conferences, Benedict said. Most meetings of Boston area student leaders focus on crisis and government issues, he said, while national conferences are well-established and provide specific workshops and broad participation.



# PASSOVER

2005 / 5765 @mit



## SEDER OPTIONS

**ALL-HILLEL SEDER - 1st Night**  
Saturday, April 23, 8:15 p.m.  
A traditional participatory seder  
\$26. MIT students; \$36. others  
*Reservation mandatory with [kosher@mit.edu](mailto:kosher@mit.edu)*

**SEDER - HOME HOSPITALITY**  
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Contact Hillel by Thursday, April 14.

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Hosted by the Reform Chavurah  
Contact Michael Simon <[masimon@MIT.EDU](mailto:masimon@MIT.EDU)>

**AEPi SEDER - 2nd Night**  
Sunday, April 24  
Hosted by AEPi Fraternity at their house. MIT students welcome.  
Reserve with Michael Star <[starm@mit.edu](mailto:starm@mit.edu)>.

## PASSOVER MEALS

**DINNERS**  
Tue, Apr 26, 6pm Friday, Apr 27, 7pm  
Wed, Apr 28, 6pm Saturday, April 30, 6pm  
Thurs, Apr 29, 6pm

\$18.50 students; \$22.50 others

**LUNCHES**  
Prepackaged Lunches of Kosher for Passover Tuna Salad, dessert, and salad will be available nightly at dinner for \$6.

Sat, Apr 30, 12-1:30 pm  
Sun, May 1, 12-1:30 pm

\$15.50 students; \$18.50 others;

### RESERVATION POLICY

All Passover meals and the first seder must be reserved by **Monday, April 18th** with [Kosher@mit.edu](mailto:Kosher@mit.edu). Payment can be with MIT Meal Card or check to Bon Appetit.

## PASSOVER ETC.

**PRE-PASSOVER PIZZA**  
Saturday, April 16 9:30 pm  
Rabbi Dovid Shapiro of the Maimonides School in Brookline will be speaking about the importance of \*re-enacting\* the story of the Exodus from Egypt on Passover in light of the daily commandment of \*remembering\* the Exodus.

**SPICE UP YOUR SEDER**  
Thursday, April 21 6:00 pm  
Change things up this year! Come to a workshop to find new & different ways to make your seder exciting!  
*Rabbi Ben Lanckton, instructor*

**PASSOVER THROUGH THE AGES**  
Thursdays April 14, 21, 28 7:00 pm  
How do we celebrate Passover? How is it different from the way Jews observed 500, 2000, 3000 years ago? As we trace the development of Passover, we will see how the essential elements remain the same and yet take different forms as Jewish civilization evolves.  
*Rabbi Ben Lanckton, Instructor*


**MATZAH HOUSE BUILDING CONTEST**  
Wednesday, April 27, W11, 8-10 p.m.  
Come celebrate the holiday by using engineering and design skills to construct a structure completely out of Passover foods. Prizes will be awarded to the most structurally sound/creative "matzah house".  
Contact Liz Katcoff <[katcoff@mit.edu](mailto:katcoff@mit.edu)>

**PASSOVER PICNIC**  
Thursday, April 28th, Killian Court, 11:30-2  
Meet us on Killian Court and make yourself a Matzah Sandwich, have some salad, and enjoy the glorious Spring weather.  
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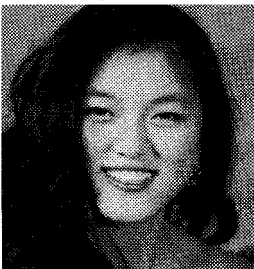
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# Most Segue Applicants Accepted

Senior Segue, from Page 1

than what can currently be provided, but the chances of getting housing "vary widely depending on preference." A student willing to live with a roommate, for example, has a much better chance of being assigned MIT graduate housing than one who does not.

In addition, graduate students, unlike undergraduate students, are not guaranteed housing the subsequent year through squatting. In fact, graduate housing is more difficult to obtain if a student is "continuing," or has been an MIT student the previous year, rather than "new."

For the last three years, Tony Gray said, about 90 to 95 percent of new MIT graduate students requesting housing have received it. However, continuing students, or any students who have previously attended MIT, have an overall 30 to 50 percent chance of getting MIT housing, although their chance is heavily influenced by their individual flexibility, because of the lottery design.

Housing Year	Senior Segue Lottery Results				Seniors Not Assigned
	Ashdown	Sid-Pac	Warehouse	Tang	
'05-'06	4	48	15	11	3
'04-'05	4	48	15	8	39
'03-'04	14	48	15	12	17
'02-'03	6	28	15	15	4
Available	15	48	15	25	—

The number of rooms available per graduate dormitory remained constant over the four years.

SOURCE: DENISE A. GRAY

Tony Gray, who designed the lottery, said that the goal, unlike for undergraduate housing, is to maximize the number of people assigned to housing rather than maximize the number of people placed into their top choices, since supply is lower than demand.

### Less than 2/3 stay in grad housing

A main incentive of Senior Segue is to guarantee first-year graduate housing for MIT undergraduates who anticipate going into an MIT graduate program. For exam-

ple, it is ideal for those who plan to remain at MIT for five years and earn a Masters degree, Tony Gray said. However, last year, less than two-thirds of senior segue participants remained for the following year, he said.

Tony Gray said he is aware that some juniors apply to Senior Segue with the intent of just getting a nice room for their senior year, but also that there are "lots of extenuating circumstances" that are unpredictable and affect whether students can or will stay the next year.

## 2005-2006 Housing Rates

Graduate Dormitory	Senior Segue Rate Per Semester	Graduate Semester Rate Estimate (4.5*monthly rate)
Ashdown House Double	\$2,309	\$2,309
NW30 (The Warehouse) Single	\$2,926	\$4,316
Sidney-Pacific 2-Bedroom Double	\$2,926	\$3,834
Sidney-Pacific 2-Bedroom Quad	\$2,561	\$2,561
Tang Residence Hall	\$2,926	\$2,745-\$2,921

SOURCE: HOUSING WEB SITE



Fortunately, "Fifi" was on a chain.

LIANG HONG—THE TECH

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-Saint Augustine 354 A.D.

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Free Admission



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**BOSTON**  
UNIVERSITY

# Lloyd Banks Arrived Late and With Guests

## Crowd Pleased With Spring Concert Despite Delays, Long Waits Between Performers

Concert, from Page 1

got into an argument with an MIT student serving as a security guard. *The Tech* overheard an argument during this time but could not identify the parties involved.

Yuan confirmed that there were guests of Lloyd Banks that the committee "didn't know were coming," but said that the issue was soon settled.

The sources close to the concert also claimed that Lloyd Banks and the members of G-Unit were "visibly high and drunk" as they entered the building. Yuan and other members of the planning committee had no comment on the allegations.

At 11:15 p.m., MIT event staff informed everyone in the backstage area that they needed to leave the area immediately. Three members of *The Tech*, including the author of this article, were backstage and forced to leave at that time.

While sources close to the concert said the clearing may have been a "safety concern," Yuan said that it was more an issue of clearing the area "to be sure Lloyd Banks could get on and perform as quickly as possible." These comments were echoed by Barber.

While the situation did appear tense to some degree, Deputy Chief John Driscoll, who oversaw the event for the MIT police, said that the incident was "uneventful from our standpoint." Driscoll declined to confirm or deny details regarding the incidents backstage.

### Banks to MIT: Fuck you

Within five minutes after the backstage area was cleared, Banks and his crew went onstage to perform. The source close to the concert described Banks as "very energized, probably because he was angry."

"They're tellin' me I have to get off at 11:30 ... you all want me to leave?" Banks asked the crowd. After a resounding no, Banks told the crowd he would "stay here as long as I want."

Banks went on to start a "Fuck MIT" chant at least twice and called on Spring Weekend organizers to come onstage and explain the situation to the crowd.

Yuan declined to comment on Banks' actions onstage.

The three girls who had arrived with the performers later got

onstage and watched the performance from the right rear of the stage.

Banks continued to perform until between 11:45 p.m and 11:50 p.m., slightly shy of his 50-minute contract.

Despite the troubles, all audience members and nonintegral concert staff had left the concert premises by the designated time of midnight, according to Barber.

While Fabolous also ran late, the consequences were not nearly as severe. Once Fabolous and his team did arrive, "he rushed to get on stage and was very compliant in doing so," according to Barber. Additionally, Barber said the 25-minute delay "would not have affected the ability of the show to run as scheduled," given the short amount of time needed to perform the set changes between Fabolous' and Banks' acts.

### Most pleased with concert overall

Despite the waits and disputes, most concertgoers still loved the concert.

Many of the students took Banks' "Fuck MIT" attitude to be G-Unit's version of "IHFTP" and eagerly chanted along with him.

Nina Kshetry G said she had originally attended to see a friend in



**G-G-G-ROUPIES?** The three allegedly underage girls accompanying G-Unit stand on the back right-hand side of the stage behind Lloyd Banks during his performance.

the dance group RiDONKulous but arrived too late to watch the performance (the schedule had RiDONKulous performing before both headline acts, but Kshetry and her friends had heard otherwise.) She called both headline acts "enter-

taining and amusing," but found Banks' set to be "15 minutes of hatred harvesting."

As of publication time, the Spring Weekend Committee had not made plans to pursue the matter of the contract fulfillment.

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**LETTERS to THE TECH**  
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## SPORTS

## Markov Processes, Applied to Bellhorn's Strikeouts

By Christopher Bettinger  
COLUMNIST

The title of "Strikeout King" is typically reserved for dominant pitchers such as Nolan Ryan, Roger Clemens, or Randy Johnson.

## Column

But Red Sox second baseman Mark Bellhorn is on a strong campaign to claim that title for himself, albeit in a more dubious context.

Bellhorn is on pace to obliterate the current single-season record for strikeouts by a batter (set at 195 by Adam Dunn last year.) As a Red

Sox fan, I'll admit, it's frustrating to watch Bellhorn struggle at the dish, especially when the bases are loaded or the game is on the line. His ridiculous strikeout rate raises an important question: "How is offensive production impacted by a strikeout relative to other types of outs such as groundouts, popouts, and flyouts?"

It is useful to apply the concept of Markov processes in answering this question. In other words, the number of runs scored in an at-bat depends on the state of the ballgame immediately before the at-bat.

In baseball, there are 24 possible, discrete states in an inning (eight ways to distribute baserunners and either zero, one, or two outs.) Each of these states has an expected run value (ERV) associated with it. For example, if there are no men on and zero outs, the expected value of runs scored for that inning is approximately 0.51 (These are well-documented empirical values.) The result of each batter's plate appearance (hit, groundout, homerun, etc.) results in a number of runs scored as well as a change in the state of the inning, and, as a result, the ERV for the rest of the inning.

For example, consider the example case when a batter flies out when there are men on first and third with one out (ERV: 1.185). The two most likely resulting states

are: 1) Men on first and third with two outs (ERV: 0.524) or 2) Men on first with two outs with the man on third base tagging and scoring (ERV: 0.2271, one run scored.) This analysis could be repeated for every possible result.

For our analysis, we are only concerned with the relative run differential as a function of the type of out. This analysis can be repeated for different types of outs (strikeout, groundout, popout, and flyout) across all the possible states to attain a total run differential. This aggregate run differential is normalized both by the frequency of each initial state as well as an estimated probability of the three most likely resulting states.

The final results are that each type of out results in an amount of lost runs (both realized and expected.) The respective costs of a strikeout, groundout, popout, and flyout are -0.290, -0.308, -0.290, -0.254. This actually means that the worst kind of out is a groundout, mainly because of the chance for double plays.

This result can be used to determine the effect of a batter who gets out via strikeouts frequently (<cough> ... Bellhorn ... <cough>.) A player who makes every out by strikeout costs his team 0.290 runs per out, and a player who makes outs exclusively by the other three types of outs with equal frequency

costs his team 0.284 runs per out. This difference (0.006 runs per out) is negligible over the course of a season. In conclusion, the effect of a strikeout is just about equal to other types of outs.

This result explains a lot about why Bellhorn is still in the major leagues. Although he does strike out a lot, Bellhorn supporters such as his immediate family are quick to point out that his batting average of balls put in play is somewhere around 0.400. This simply means that Mark gets a disproportionate amount of his outs via the "K," because what balls he does put in play rarely turn into outs. I'm pretty sure that if his batting average on balls in play were any lower, his on-base percentage would be in the cellar, and he'd be in the minors faster than the Yankees could lose four ALCS games in a row.

With this knowledge in hand, I encourage each of you to wear that Mark Bellhorn jersey to Fenway Park with pride and show your support. Cheer him on when he's batting and fear not the absurdly high chance that he'll strike out, for an out is an out is an out. If your faith in him ever waivers, simply ask yourself, "Who would I rather have on my team? Someone who sets the record for strikeouts while making \$2.7 million, or someone who sets the record for slapped balls for \$26 million?"



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Erika M. Erickson '08 rounds the corner ahead of teammates Andrea Staid '07 and Alisa P. Lehman '05, clocking 2:24.38 to win the 800-meter run at the MIT Coed Invitational on Saturday, April 23. The non-scoring meet served as a tune-up before heading into the championship season, which begins this Saturday at the NEWMAC Championships at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

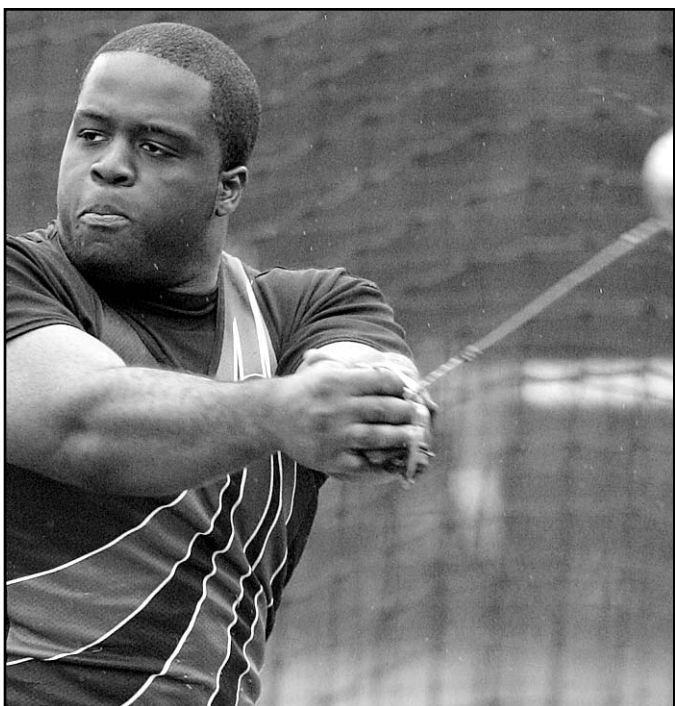
## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, April 26

Varsity Men's Lacrosse vs. UMass-Dartmouth, Steinbrenner Stadium, 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 28

Varsity Men's Lacrosse vs. UMass-Boston, Steinbrenner Stadium, 4 p.m.



STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Uzoma A. Orji '06 looks downfield as he spins during the hammer throw competition before winning with a toss of 173' 7" on Saturday, April 23, 2005, at the MIT Coed Invitational. Orji, the 2004 NCAA Indoor National Champion in the weight throw, was ranked sixth in the nation in the hammer at the start of the day.

## MIT Hosts Coed Invitational



On Saturday, April 23, the MIT Coed Invitational was held in Steinbrenner Stadium. The men's track team heads into its championship season on Saturday, starting with the NEWMAC Championships at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

(top) Omari Stephens '08 (right) clears a hurdle just ahead of Robert Allen of Emmanuel College before winning the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.09 seconds.

(bottom) Nestor F. Hernandez '05 makes a splash as he lands in the long jump pit to win the event with a jump of 20' 2.5".

Photography by Stanley Hu