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By Beckett W. Sterner

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**PKS Punished by IFC For Alcohol Violations**

By Kelley Rivoire

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**Hockfield Advisory Board Releases Report**

By Marissa Vogt

The Student Advisory Board to President Susan Hockfield is releasing its final report today, as well as an abridged executive summary to be distributed around campus. Among the recommendations of the report are an analysis of core requirements and “balancing quality and quantity of the student workload.” The report also mentions the concern of “profiteering” of the commens, the pricing of basic services, and the squeezing out of vibrant traditional providers.

**Lecturer in Concourse Is Accused of Plagiarizing**

By Hanhan Wang

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Today: Mostly sunny early, then increasing clouds, 64°F (18°C) Tonight: Light rain, 61°F (16°C)

TOMORROW: Rainy, windy, 61°F (16°C)

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The bank that the United Nations hired to handle finances for the Oil-for-Food program handled millions of payments to companies in a way that violated the bank’s internal rules, a top executive testified Thursday before the House Committee on International Relations.

"Some mistakes were made," said the witness, Everett Schenk, chief executive of the North American branch of BNP Paribas, a global-investment bank based in Paris. "They should not have occurred.

In 403 of the 54,000 payments that BNP Paribas handled during the six-year program, he said, instead of the funds going directly to the companies that had been designated by the United Nations to deliver goods to Iraq, the money was improperly paid to third parties or their bank accounts.

But Schenk said the supplies that these payments financed were in fact delivered as intended, according to documentation the bank has looked over, and these payments, he said, appeared to have been corruptly diverted, such as kickbacks to Saddam Hussein’s government.

Iraqi Oil Vests to Save Social Security Future

By David S. Cloud

WASHINGTON

President Bush called on Thursdays night for cutting Social Security benefits for future retirees to put the system on sound financial footing, and he proposed doing so in a way that would demand the most sacrifice from upper-income people while insulating low-income workers.

Saying the retirement program is headed for "bankruptcy," a term his opponents use as an exaggeration, Bush edged tentatively — but for the first time explicitly — into the politically explosive aspect of the debate over how to assure Social Security’s long-term health. The benefit cuts or tax increases needed to balance the system’s books as the baby boom generation ages and life expectancy increases.

"Social Security’s provided a safety net that has provided dignity and peace of mind for millions of Americans in their retirements," Bush said in a statement at the beginning of a news conference at the White House. "Yet there’s a hole in the safety net because Congresses have made promises it can’t keep for a younger generation.

"And we must prevent Social Security’s system from collapsing into a political quagmire," he said in remarks prepared for delivery at the start of a day-long national tour to convince workers and retirees that Social Security has to be addressed now and that investment accounts should be part of the solution.

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**Iraqi Assembly Accepts Shiite**

By Robert F. Worth

Almost three months after nationwide elections, Iraq's National Assembly has overwhelmingly approved a new government, throwing into sharp focus the country's future and how the United States wants it to unfold.

Iraq's leaders have been divided on the issue of who should head the new government. Chancellor Saddam Hussein, who has been in power since 1979, was the deciding factor in the country's affairs, and his rule has been marked by repression and violence.

The new government is expected to be headed by a coalition of political parties, including the major Shiite, Kurdish, and Sunni groups. The government is likely to be led by a prime minister who will oversee the day-to-day operations of the country.

The approval of the new government is a significant step forward in the country's transition to democracy. However, challenges remain, including political instability, security concerns, and economic development.

The new government is also expected to address issues such as the rule of law, human rights, and corruption. It will face the challenge of rebuilding the country's infrastructure and economy, which has been devastated by years of war and sanctions.

The approval of the new government is a sign of progress in the country's transition to democracy. However, it is also a reminder of the challenges that lie ahead for Iraq and the international community.

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**Commerce Department Concludes Economy is Slow in First Quarter**

By Eduardo Porter

The economy braked sharply in the first three months of the year, the government reported Thursday, extending a slowdown that began two years ago and raising the prospect of another recession.

The Commerce Department lowered its estimate of how fast the economy grew in the first quarter to 0.1 percent from 0.2 percent, which had been estimated a month ago. The revision cut growth to the slowest pace since the first quarter of 2003.

Inventors in financial markets were taken aback by the unexpected sluggishness, sending stocks tumbling and pushing bond yields sharply higher.

The change in the government's estimate raised expectations that the Federal Reserve would cut interest rates by another quarter of a percentage point at its meeting on Tuesday even as growth is decelerating.

On Wall Street, the Standard & Poor's 500 Index fell 1.4 percent to close at 1,143.22, and the Dow Jones industrial average declined more than 37 points to 10,076.70.

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**International Criminal Court Faces First Test With Sadan Investigation**

By Maritise Simons

Almost three years after the International Criminal Court opened over U.S. opposition, the U.N. tribunal is set to investigate atrocities in Sudan and, in particular, to question a warlord suspected of crimes against humanity.

The court's judges are to decide whether to proceed with an arrest warrant for Tumës Sadan, a Sudanese warlord, who is accused of using child soldiers to commit atrocities.

The court is expected to hear evidence from witnesses and experts, who are likely to testify about Sadan's alleged involvement in the Darfur conflict.

The court's decision will be watched closely by the international community, as it is the first major test of the court's ability to investigate and prosecute war crimes.

The court's ability to investigate and prosecute war crimes in Sudan is seen as a crucial step in bringing justice to victims of the conflict.

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**Scientist's Call for Expanded Volcano Monitoring**

By Les Blumenthal

Armed with a new report, federal scientists are asking Congress to expand their monitoring of active and potentially dangerous volcanoes, including Mount Rainier, Mount Baker and Glacier Peak in Washington.

The report, prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey, listed 18 "high threat" volcanoes in the nation, many of them in the Cascade Mountain range.

The bill includes several provisions that have never been tried in any other state. It would require that there be "conclusive scientific evidence" before a state could be put on the list.

The bill, which would reinstate the death penalty in a state that abolished it in 1984, would restrict capital punishment to murders that involve torture, prolonged multiple killings, or the killing of police officers, judges, witnesses or others involved in the criminal justice system.

The bill would also allow a defendant to plead no guilty before the trial judge, but, once convicted, to admit guilt and show remorse before the sentencing judge.

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**U.S. Reports on Piracy in China**

By Chris Buckley

The U.S. trade representative will not immediately press for World Trade Organization action against China over widespread unlawful copying of patented and copyrighted products when it announces the results of an investigation today, a U.S. executive informed of the decision said Thursday.

The $80 billion surge in counterfeiting and piracy of intellectual property on Friday, but they declined to discuss details.

The Bush administration has not taken its dispute with China to the WTO, which seems likely to disappoint business organizations and members of Congress who have advocated action to stamp out the counterfeiting of films, music and software.

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**Massachusetts Governor Presents New Death Penalty Proposal**

By Parri Belluck

Gov. Mitt Romney introduced a bill Thursday that would bring back capital punishment to Massachusetts, and would do so by creating a death penalty that he said would be virtually "foolproof."

The bill includes several provisions that have never been tried in any other state. It would require that there be "conclusive scientific evidence" before a state could be put on the list.

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**Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said Thursday that he might issue emergency decrees to strengthen his image as an "unbeatable" national intelligence agent in Iraq by American troops if American and Italian officials could not agree on who was responsible.

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**Tensions between Italy and the United States, close friends and allies in Iraq, have been rising over a joint inquiry into the shooting death of an Iraq-employed Italian bodyguard, Alberto Magnelli, in Baghdad. There has been a furor among politicians and the public in Italy about the ineptitude of the American soldiers, and Berlusconi twice visited the American ambassador here, Mr. Sembler, on Tuesday to discuss the report.

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Some of the immediate pressure lifted Thursday, after a final concensus vote in Parliament approved the new governing coalition that Berlusconi assembled.
OPINION

Letters To The Editor

It Has to Be Earned

Nick Baldasaro’s opinion [“Privileges, Not Rights,” April 26] is self-contradictory. Now it is the time to answer Mr. Baldasaro’s question, “How can a right change in time and place?” Unfortunately, a right does change in time and place, because it is not just given, but it has been earned and has to be earned.

Joungkeun Lim G

When It’s Time To Let Go

Last week, I passed a poster hanging opposite the Muslim prayer room of W11 advertising “Palestinian Awareness Week,” which is being held this week. “The Intifada Goes On” was typed in large block letters right below a dramatic picture of a Palestinian in mid-action as he hurls a rock, presumably at an Israeli soldier, in the classic “David vs. Goliath” pose for which this Intifada is now so famous. “Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” is that those radicals fought for such privileges.

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The new chapter has opened in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, one which may very well be the best chance for relative peace in the Middle East in our lifetimes. Israel is currently in the process of making painful concessions by evacuating 8000 of its own citizens from the Gaza Strip and Northern Samaria. At the same time, the Palestinian government is trying to contain the influence of radical Islamic groups such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad in its own territories. That is the very time to be declaring that “The Intifada Goes On!” It is both sad and disturbing to think that students on this campus would actively promote war propaganda and that normally peaceful groups like the Muslim Student Association would publicly associate themselves with such vile hatred. I hope that all MIT students will dissociate themselves from this campaign to keep alive a dying conflict, a conflict which will hopefully be buried for the last time in the very near future.

Chaim Kuminick ’07

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 staff.

Guest columns are written by members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial. Letters to the editor, columns, and 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 397925, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-9729, 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.
Nick Baldaaro presents an interesting psychological, not political, argument in his opinion piece “If You’re Over 40, and You’re Not Conservative …” which ran on April 22. His argument boils down to the following: older people are more knowledgeable, older people tend to vote more conservatively, hence conservative ideas are probably better. Let us first debunk the political fallacy before going into why it still seems to me to be an interesting argument. I ask the reader for indulgence in my using words like “the young” in place of “the small average preference of people under age 35” in the rest of this text.

In Cuba, older voters tend to favor communism more than younger voters. How does this fit in? I don’t have the numbers, but when women were granted voting rights, it was probably a less favorable position, among older voters than younger ones. Is this just a fluke in an otherwise sound argument? My point is that it is not a particular political system that is endorsed by older voters; it is whatever the current established system is.

I am not saying that尼古拉斯’s arguments, and again I’ll take a sidestep to point them out before getting to the main point: He asserts that 45–50 is the age at which people are “at the apex of their energy and knowledge.” Older people, he catego- cizes that, for example, “two-thirds [of all sci- entists] will have made their most significant contributions before their mid-30s.” (See

Journal of Research in Personality 37, (2003), 257 or Evolution and Human Behavior 21 (2000) 317). He asserts that the young represent the least well-read portion of the electorate, thus correlating knowledge with conserva- tivism, and supports this by the fact that 52 percent of voters aged thirty to fifty-nine voted for Bush, whereas 45 percent of voters 18–29 voted for him. But from the same poll, we see that 52 percent of people with only a high-school degree voted for Bush, whereas only 44 percent of the people with post-gradua- te degrees voted for him, so well-read hardly translates into support for Bush.

However, the fact remains that voters prefer- ences do seem to change with age. Is it just due to advancing definitions of “center”?
If someone wanted same-sex civil unions ten years ago, she was a liberal; if in ten years someone wants only civil unions, she will probably be deemed a conservative. But still, society doesn’t advance fast enough for it to be the only explanation. This has probably been studied in detail by psychologists and political scientists, but as a layman it seems an interesting ques- tion. Nick’s answer is that the young have “smaller roots in society” and hence can turn to new ideas and political innovations more quickly than the old. But the beauty of his line of thought is that the conclusion is not that the old know better what’s best for all, but that the old care more about, say, health care. But I’m grossly oversimplifying on two counts. First, perhaps some of the young are not as idealistic at all, but just going for what’s best for them: if you are 25, you are far more likely to want the option of an abortion than if you are 55, and you are more likely to directly benefit from government scholarships than from corporate tax breaks. Second, many voters probably don’t know in either case the exact cost or benefit to them or society of any given policy. Of course, some benefits are more evident than others: two percent of my income is more visible than a corresponding advance in medical technology.

The reason I called it a psychological problem is that the reason might be something akin to fear of the dark. Think about scientific progress; as Max Plank put it, “An important scientific innovation rarely makes its way rapidly winning over and converting its oppo- nents; it rarely happens that Saul becomes Paul. What does happen is that its opponents gradually die out and that the growing genera- tion is familiarized with the idea from the beginning.”

New scientific theories, like evolution or quantum mechanics, have been supported by the young and rejected by the old, not because of their greater experience, but because they have invested a lot of effort in the previous theories and are emotionally attached to them. Is it possible that the effects of long-run campaigns are not the individual cases but the sum of the effects of all the candidates, thus correlating knowledge with con- servatism, thus correlating knowledge with con- servatism, thus correlating knowledge with con- servatism, thus correlating knowledge with con- servatism.

Let us first debunk the political fallacy that the young would be more willing to go for a policy that would be costly to them but better for future genera- tions. One last example: we are stuck with our current inefficiently arranged keyboards, because changing them would be too costly. But if they were to be changed to a rational design, I would expect far greater opposition from those that have typed for twenty years than from those who have typed for two.

To summarize, in this simplistic analysis, policies supported by the young are not “prob- ably flawed,” they are probably conducive to what’s best for society, whereas policies supported by the old are probably beneficial to the old or designed to prevent change or reduce immediate cost. And perhaps we should trust me, since I’m fifty years older, and therefore wiser, than he is.

John-Paul Ferguson is a graduate student in the Department of Physics.

Lack of Transparency Alarming

I am leery of someone using my response that I have never used, say, the MIT Infirmary as evidence that I would not mind the infirmary’s being closed.

Given the contents of the task force’s survey, I view the as we stu- dents can reasonably be suspicious of its motives. I think we should demand that the task force say a) whether it is consider- ing moving various medical services off campus and b) whether it plans to use responses from this survey to construct support or opposition to that idea. Even if it has no such intentions, the task force should confirm that it is neither trying to mislead respondents nor planning to take their responses out of context.

John-Paul Ferguson is a graduate student in the Department of Management.
The opinions expressed here do not represent those of WMGBR

KRT Crossword
Solution, page 17

ACROSS
1 Touches down
6 Small vipers
10 Flows back
14 Greek market
15 Simpson boy
16 Sign on for another hitch
23 Castle protector
24 Tuesday gid
25 Part 2 of quote
30 Superman foe
31 Squiggly swimmer
32 Inundated
36 Fashionable as pie?
39 General pardon
41 Rolling Stones bassist Bill
42 The Greatest
43 With it
44 Part 3 of quote
45 Indian title
52 Stridex target
53 Tell it like it isn't
54 Flipped out
55 Antipasto staple
56 Speech impediment?
57 Damaged a bit
58 Kilauea flow
59 Potato features
60 End of quote
61 Humdinger
62 Form droplets
63 Up a cornered
64 On high
65 Band together
66 "Auld Lang _"
67 Mocking birds?

DOWN
1 Thailand neighbor
2 Water in Andalusia
3 Norse goddesses of fate
4 Deeper as a channel
5 Antipasto staple
6 Kindergarten recitation
7 Gained a lap
8 Big house
9 Visit
10 Formerly, once
11 Humdrum
12 Big and strong
13 Stalk of asparagus
14 Rolling Stones bassist Bill
15 Indian title
16 On high
17 Start of Bill Stern quote
18 Jubilant
19 Mr. Detroit
20 Strapped footwear
21 Mixing utensil
22 Letters for ABC's daily program
26 Depend on
27 Pop quiz
28 Told you so
29 Rain's lady
30 Armenian
31 Antler of tennis
32 Begin moving
33 Arthur of tennis
34 Asad. type
35 Promotional excess
36 Fashionable as pie?
37 Damage a bit
38 Kind of play
39 PC key
40 Put in the wrong place
42 Tavern brew
43 Wham employee
45 Wagon train
46 Off guard
47 Tepee cousin
48 Brambly means
49 Biblical queendom
50 "Bolero"
51 Perfect
52 Williams or Gibb
53 Tickled-pink feeling
54 Informed about
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Splatfom
by James Biggs

Ties allow me to express my fun, creative side.
ACROSS
1 Entreaty
5 Hindu teacher
10 Crooned
14 Korea/China border river
15 "... of Athens"
16 Zest of
17 Take a big chance
20 Nice summer?
21 Deputy
22 Countertenors
23 Upper limb
24 Three in Trieste
25 Take a big chance
33 H.S. dances
34 Meara and Bancroft
35 Bagel topper
36 Dumbo’s wings
37 Gather gradually
38 ‘Finding ____’ (2003 animated hit)
39 Perform
40 Rude ones
41 1st letters
42 Take a big chance
45 Aged
46 Church sister
47 9th letter & short
50 Book div.
52 Book div.
53 Election winners
55 Take a big chance
59 Part of ABM
60 Wynona’s mom
61 Malayan outrigger
62 Part of a hammerhead
63 Thus far
64 Hiking housing

DOWN
1 Combustible pile
2 Cafe au __
3 Word in a threat
4 Arctic seabird
5 Mark of infamy
6 Marriage partner
7 Prayer closer
8 Ring around a fortress
9 Travelers’ stop
10 Merchant
11 Stepped down
12 “Finding ____” (2003 animated hit)
13 Chatters
14 Capsers
15 Pub game
16 Malayan outrigger
17 Malayan outrigger
18 Ring around a fortress
19 Pub game
20 Part of a hammerhead
21“Finding ____” (2003 animated hit)
22 Marriage partner
23 Donations for the poor
24 Subsequently
25 Destruction
26 Principal artery
27 Eagle’s claw
28 Like some gases
29 Grind, as one’s teeth
30 Derived from oil
31 __, cocheh
32 Alimony recipients
33 Little legumes
34 Like some gases
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36 Dumbo’s wings
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29 Grind, as one’s teeth
30 Derived from oil
31 __, cocheh
32 Alimony recipients
33 Little legumes
34 Like some gases
35 Take a big chance
36 Dumbo’s wings
37 Gather gradually
38 ‘Finding ____’ (2003 animated hit)
39 Perform
40 Rude ones
41 1st letters
42 Take a big chance
45 Aged
46 Church sister
47 9th letter & short
50 Book div.
52 Book div.
53 Election winners
55 Take a big chance
59 Part of ABM
60 Wynona’s mom
61 Malayan outrigger
62 Part of a hammerhead
63 Thus far
64 Hiking housing

DOWN
1 Combustible pile
2 Cafe au __
3 Word in a threat
4 Arctic seabird
5 Mark of infamy
6 Marriage partner
7 Prayer closer
8 Ring around a fortress
9 Travelers’ stop
10 Merchant
11 Stepped down
12 “Finding ____” (2003 animated hit)
13 Chatters
14 Capsers
15 Pub game
16 Malayan outrigger
17 Malayan outrigger
18 Ring around a fortress
19 Pub game
20 Part of a hammerhead
21“Finding ____” (2003 animated hit)
22 Marriage partner
23 Donations for the poor
24 Subsequently
25 Destruction
26 Principal artery
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COMPETITION

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7:00 pm
Kresge Auditorium
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

$50K Final Awards Ceremony
“Unleashing Potential Through Collaboration”

OPENING SPEAKER:
Susan Hockfield
16th President of MIT

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
David Edwards
Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Biomedical Engineering at Harvard University
Scientific Co-founder of AIR/Alkermes, Pulmatrix, & MEND

Introduction by Tom Leighton, co-founder of Akamai, 1998 Finalist
An Action-Packed, But Ultimately Lacking, ‘Demolition’

Is Intelligibility Preferable to Chaos? No, Says This Work

By Ken Nevinth

The Demolition Downtown

MIT DramaShop

By Tennessee Williams

Directed by Jay Scheib

April 21–22 and 28–30

Explaining what I do is actually an insurmountable task, in some ways,” said Jay Scheib, director of the MIT DramaShop play “The Demolition Downtown,” at a recent MIT arts colloquium. After seeing the play performed last weekend, I’m inclined to agree. Though crowded with the shadows of meaning and profundity, there is ultimately little to nothing to this work; it is almost entirely comprised of the coherence or meaning that is a precursor to intelligible discourse.

I’d tell you about the play that Tennessee Williams wrote, but the script was only a small detail in the experience, so we can save that for later. On stage, behind a silver, plexiglass screen separating the stage from the audience, actors leap about, exploring an explosive physical dialogue that usually supplanteds, rather than complemented, the context of the play. Often, the line of dialogue seemed arbitrary. As if someone had just thought of these movements and then added the spoken dialogue later.

Individually, if a domain emerged, this was it — the arbitrary collection of perceives, the random sampling of elements of human physical, emotional, and spoken discourse, these are guaranteed any longer, not even for white people.

Scheib owns up to the problem, one of the things that is hard to do is to thing of doing something, or set aside the movement of actions, and simply add them up to the play, letting the children around the text fall into place after the fact. Richard Feynmann observed, “What I cannot create I do not understand,” to which Scheib might reply that this is the only haphazard (and unnecessary) way to random creation.

Sometimes, Scheib’s approach works, the choreography of the play works on its own, cohering into something intelligible and meaningful. Other productions of his, like “The Picture of Dorian Gray,” also put into practice Scheib’s technique, nontraditional means of crafting characters, recreating abstractions and praddling at their limits in a complex but coherent, ever insightful and rewarding, multimedia dialogue: “Downtown” just doesn’t cut it — the process doesn’t work early on.

The play begins again from the beginning, but this time, the characters speak an impressionistic, one-dimensional dialogue, meant to blend the worlds of film, reality television, and theatre. The camera zooms in on its drizzly bath, watching as the cold, wet spet steadily falls to the floor in front of him, in what may be a metaphor for the work we’re about to see.

Then, we have an opening scene of a wife returning home, and an interplay of emotions and reactions between husband and wife; this scene is repeated around five times (I stopped counting for us, with slight differences, each beginning with the dinosaur dual)

It’s going to be good — not amazing, but it’s going to be good.

I’d like to tell you about the great, convincing characters the actors built, but there really weren’t any. I’d like to say the actors weren’t given the chance. Characters were broken not into understandable human beings with emotions that matter, but into purely mechanical, illusory automatons possessing arbitrariness, dictated (but to the actors’ actresses) credit, usually convincing emotions, selected and substituted with no cause or continuity. Upon concluding, the play begins again from the beginning, this time, the viewer didn’t know this was coming, it might take him or her a while to recognize the repetition of events, but if recognized from the outset, it’s a bit less interesting, since there’s less fog of confusion to fight off and keep the mind busy. Some viewers might find this interesting, since this affront to text as a privileged way of the world.

It’s a shame that all of the interesting dilemmas in this text weren’t given room to breathe, except by accident. An apparently tailored cast of actors could have given us an absorbing enactment of uncertainty, of the shaking and compulsion of post domestic life in the face of resurgent militancy and barbwire. Mrs. Kane (Virginia Corless ’03) could have explored the interplay between society’s breakdown and the destruction of the sexual and emotional mores of civil relations.

Miss Nebraska (Ashlie Brown ’07) could have more starkly contrasted naive upper-class beneficence with a global reality of conflict. Instead, lots of things got knocked over, and lots of emotions happened. Now, unlearning? I’m barely familiar with Williams’ work, but some critics apparently regard his later plays as a satire of avant-garde theatre’s minimalism and nihilism. This production, an awkwardly switching together of half-baked drama ideas and experiments, might be a candidate for just such a critique. I don’t mean to be a Negative Nancy, and maybe I just missed the boat. You might find a way to enjoy this play. I couldn’t.

The Scoop on Eyes, ‘Housewives’, Google

By Akshay Patil

“Uncancelled” is the “resurrection” of television

The beloved return of my, and seemingly every college student’s favorite television show, “Family Guy,” is happening this Sunday, May 1st at 9 p.m. on FOX. The first episode has already been leaked onto the internet, the ether probably being where “Family Guy” episodes feel most at home. It’s not going to be good — not amazing, but solid. Certainly better than what we’ve seen of late. Seth MacFarlane’s new series “American Dad.” As usual, the small dogs are the best part, and there are cameos by the evil monk, sketchy-old-popular guys, and my favorite weather forecaster, Ollie White. I’m not forward to watching it on Sunday, eventually with Seth McFarlane’s pointless, and profane audio commentaries.

So bad, it’s good

Probably the best and worst television you’ve heard nothing about, ABC’s new show “Eye” (Wednesdays at 10 p.m.), has got me hooked. Now let me just say that I don’t like “Desperate Housewives” and hate the “OC,” but I’ve totally understood why people watch those shows. If I were in a different demographic, maybe I’d love those shows, but

I’m a geek who wishes he were sexy and suave, and so I watch “Eyes.” The acting is marginal, the dialogue cliched, and the plots cheesy, but somehow I find guilty pleasure in it — much in the same way “Housewives” and “OC” fans do with their own addictions. The show is about a “risk management” firm that investigates and rectifies for the client whenever that ends up being (by the end of each show) anything — blackmail, extortion, hate crime, government corruption, embezzlement. It’s an hour of fast talk, deal making, power flexing, and unexpected plot twists that looks way more entertaining than computer programming. As long as you can forgive yourself for watching television that’s so bad, it’s, well, it’s okay.

My unasked two cents

Google (and a few other services) will soon be launching an online system that will allow users access to and easy editing of a database of video programs. Creators maintain copyrights, can limit access, and can charge for viewing. Could this lead to the iTunes of TV? And if so, will we pay for television, or are we willing to put up with enough advertisements if it means television when and where we want it, without the TiVo? I think I could handle a few commercials if it means HDTV when and where I want it.

TV REVIEW

Up, down, charm, strange, top, bottom.

Work it any way you want in Quark.

The Demolition Downtown, a play by Tennessee Williams.

Mr. Lane, played by Ryan Low ’04, holds the hand of Mrs. Lane, played by Youngsun Cho ’05, during explosions after revolutionsaries take over the government in The Dramashop’s production of The Demolition Downtown, a play by Tennessee Williams.
Concerts! Movies! Restaurants! Oh my!

INTERVIEW

and financially. Look to the Hungry Beaver to accessible to students both geographically.

Petit Robert Bistro

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APRIL 29, 2005

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and looking at the environment geo-

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Remembering Vietnam:
Commemorating the 30th anniversary of the end of the war in Vietnam
Saturday, April 30, 2005
11AM–1PM in Kresge Auditorium

Ngo Vinh Long  Noam Chomsky

2PM–4PM in Twenty Chimneys, Student Center

FILM SCREENING
The Cu Chi Tunnels
with director Mickey Grant

PERSPECTIVES
Moderated by Linda Pinkow
MIT WMBR

ARCADE at MIT
The MIT Fund
MIT History Faculty

http://web.mit.edu/thistle/www/vietnam

BE LESS PRODUCTIVE AT THE OFFICE.

The office has always been a place to get ahead. Unfortunately, it’s also a place where a lot of natural resources start to fall behind. Take a look around the next time you’re at work. See how many lights are left on when people leave. See how much paper is being wasted. How much electricity is being used to run computers that are left on. Look at how much water is being wasted in the office vending machines. And how much solid waste is being thrown out in the trash cans. We don’t do it on purpose. Now, here are some simple ways you can produce less waste at work.

- When you’re at the copier, only make the copies you need. Use both sides of the paper when writing a memo. Turn off your light when you leave. Use a lower watt bulb in your lamps. Drink your coffee or tea out of reusable cups.

IT’S A CONNECTED WORLD, DO YOUR SHARE.

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Friday, April 29th
9:00pm, @ No6
(Located between MacGregor and Burton Conner)

Sponsored by
son, and when Technology Review discovered it could not locate U.S., it opened a broader investigation.

Infoworld's computer news publication, has removed sources, which could not find the sources that were used to create, from four stories written by Delio. Delio did not reply to multiple requests for comment. Previously, Delio has told the Associated Press that “I certainly didn’t make up sources.”

“Leaving aside the huge issues of ethics,” she told the sources. “I certainly didn’t make up sources.”

Delio has told the same that “I certainly didn’t make up sources.”

But it does raise some questions about the ethics of the New Republic.

“In general, I think there are some problems at the moment” about online news publications, said Jason Pontin, Editor in Chief of Technology Review. “Editors and publishers need to develop high standards online.”

“All online and print publications have standards,” he said. “We’ve had high standards, and we trust that the accuracy and honesty of our reporters is very, very important.”

Successful online reliance on freelancers in online journalism is problematic, he said.

Tech Review stories retracted

A recent article in Technology Review by Hewlett-Packard about the anonymity of sources in computer science, about the company’s former CEO, Technology Review hired Susan Russo to fact-check Delio’s other stories. Russo is a professor of journalism at the University of California-Berkeley.

In her report, published on Technology Review, Russo claims that a memo written by Hewlett-Packard is actually a memo. The memo had grown out of a meeting by current and former graduate assistants at private universities.

Program Administrator for Concourse Cheryl A. Butters and Concourse Director Robert Michael Rose, as well as other members of the Concourse program, declined to comment on the accusation.

Committee will review charges

According to a statement from Denise Brehm of the MIT News Office, MIT’s policy for academic misconduct is to appoint a committee to review the facts and to discuss the accusation. Actions are taken only at the conclusion of the investigation.

The Christ-
Congratulations to Stephanie Dudzic for being selected as a Microsoft scholar!

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Science Group Offers Stem Cell Guidelines

By Alex Barnum
San Francisco Chronicle

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., welcomed the report, saying she hoped it would lend support to a bill she and others reintroduced in the Senate last week that contains many of the same provisions. But political opponents of stem cell research slammed it.

“These so-called guidelines for destructive human embryonic stem cell research try to put a good face on an unethical line of research,” said Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan. “We should not be destroying young human lives for the benefit of others.”

Stem cells, which form in the first few days of a developing embryo, are capable of becoming any type of cell in the body. Researchers hope that one day the cells can be used to regenerate many types of cells and tissues damaged by disease and injury.

Typically, the embryos used in the research are left over from fertility treatments and donated by couples who no longer need them. The cells are cultured in the lab after they’ve been removed from the embryo.

The new guidelines deal largely with ensuring ethical creation of new stem cell lines, and they establish standards for obtaining donor consent, ban payment for donated embryos and standardize methods for handling and sharing stem cell lines between research labs.

In all cases, the guidelines recommend, donors should give their consent before any material — eggs or sperm — can be used to create an embryo that would generate stem cells. The effect of that rule would be to eliminate some stem cell lines already in use because they were obtained from embryos created with sperm from anonymous donors who were not informed about their use.

The National Academies panel did not deal with the issue of cloning, except to reiterate the conclusion of a 2002 report that cloning for reproductive purposes is unethical and should not be done.

The panel’s guidelines would, however, cover a cloning technique used to create cell lines for therapeutic purposes. Researchers say that ultimately the technique, called nuclear transfer, may be needed to cultivate a patient’s own stem cells to treat rejection by the body’s immune system.

The guidelines also deal with how far scientists can go in using stem cells in animals, which may be needed to test the potential of stem cells for treating disease.

The panel recommended that while it may be permissible to use human embryonic stem cells in mice, researchers would be prohibited from introducing human stem cells in the brains of monkeys and other primates because of concerns about how it might affect their mental function or brain structure.

Implants of human cells into animals should be viewed cautiously, and no animal receiving human stem cells should be allowed to breed, the panel said.

At Stanford, stem cell researcher Dr. Irving Weissman recently asked an ethics panel to review a proposal to create mice with brains containing human neural stem cells. The panel recommended moving forward carefully and ensuring that the mice don’t take on an altered brain structure.

Although Weissman says he isn’t planning to pursue the research, he noted that both Stanford and the National Academies came to the same conclusion.

“I welcome both recommendations as they are thoughtful and well considered. I would fully comply with them,” he said in a statement.
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PKS Under One-Year Probation for Alcohol Violations

PKS, from Page 1

can impose. Child said. Members of the chapter must perform 1,000 hours of community service before the fraternity can hold a rush, as well as an additional 1,000 hours, he said. Fraternity members must also make a presentation to the IFC Presidents Council about how to hold a safe retreat.

At an initial April 15 hearing, JudComm had set the number of community service hours to 4,000, an appeal by PKS on Monday, formalized on Wednesday, cut that amount by half.

PKS appealed the initial decision with respect to facts, procedure, and severity of punishment, Batten said. The appeal was successful, with the original punishment being found “particularly severe with regard to number of community service hours required,” Batten said. The current punishment is final, he said.

Headquarters imposes sanctions

has also placed the MIT chapter on probation for one year, which became effective the week of March 21. The fraternity must show satisfactory progress toward meeting the stipulations of the probation and at the end of the year must petition for the probation to end, Smith said. Headquarters is fining the fraternity $50 per member of the organization, Smith said. In addition, the fraternity will be required to provide alcohol training for all members, send four members to a leadership conference in January, supply two members to coordinate a regional retreat, and co-sponsor an alcohol awareness program on campus, he said.

The allegations relative to the fraternity “came down as a total precipitate,” Smith said. The alumni board had set the number of community service hours required, “particularly with regard to ‘upholding the law relative to alcohol consumption,'” Smith said. Headquarters “primary concern was for the safety and well-being of the members,” he said.

Headquarters was notified about the incident March 14 by the Fraternity, Sorority, and Independent Living Groups Office, Smith said. David N. Rogers, assistant director and dean of FSILGs, said that informing the national office and alumni board of a fraternity “could lead to extinction” of the fraternity. The alumni have reinforced the national policy of not having alcohol in the house, which is stricter than MIT’s rules for fraternity, he said.

The alumni have placed “emphasis on the amount of trouble that could have occurred,” reminding members about the alcohol-related death of MIT Phi Gamma Delta freshman pledge Scott S. Krueger in 1997. “We’re going to follow up and keep pressure on the house,” and the alumni expect the house to “straighten up and fly right,” Denhard said.

PKS alumni disappointed

William Denhard, 42, president of the PKS board of alumni, who owns the PKS house and serves as landlord, said he learned about the incident from MIT. Bruce W. Reddick ’56, house manager of the alumni board and an MIT lecturer, said that news of the incident “came down as a total shock and disappointment” and that the alumni had been at the house shortly after the retreat, and “nobody said one word to us about this.”

Denhard said that since learning about the incident, the alumni have met with members of the house, warning them that such behavior “could lead to extinction” of the fraternity. The alumni have reinforced the national policy of not having alcohol in the house, which is stricter than MIT’s rules for fraternities, he said.

“nobody said one word to us about this.”

Police Log

The Tech will be printing a weekly summary of incidents reported to the MIT Campus Police every Friday:

4/22: Lot 2, 20 Albany Street, car keyed while parked. Bldg N52, laptop stolen, Bldg 10, electrical equipment stolen, Bldg 3, projector stolen.

4/24: Bldg W3, wallet stolen.

4/25: Bldg W30 (Student Center), cell phone stolen, Bldg 66, damage to tapestries in lobby; Bldg 26, bicycle stolen from rack.

4/26: Bldg 1, trespass notice issued.

POLICE LOG

THE TECH

April 29, 2005

Page 16

The MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players present

The MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players present

Yeomen of the Guard

Tickets
S6 - MIT Students
S8 - Other Students, Seniors, Children
S10 - MIT Community
S12 - General Public

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May 5-7 @ 8pm
May 1 and 8 @ 2pm

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Dear MedLink:
The cleaning lady threw out my birth control pills when I was halfway through taking them. I heard it’s okay just to start another pack and skip my period. Is that true?

—Cleaned Out

Dear Cleaned:
That is a great question!

Everyone knows you are supposed to take the pill every day, at the same time, without missing pills. But pill packs can be thrown out intentionally or left behind when traveling. And what about those times when your period is going to coincide with a vacation or sports competition? Is it okay to use another pill pack back to back?

I took these questions to MIT Medical OB/Gyn physician Dawn Anderson, M.D, and MIT Medical health educator Laura Stuart. Both emphasized the importance of talking with your clinician about the instructions for your specific prescription, but they were able to provide some general answers to these questions.

First, they told me, if you lose your pack of pills, it is always okay to start another pack—either in the same place, or, if you don’t remember where you left off, from the beginning of the pack. As long as you haven’t missed any days of taking pills, your risk of pregnancy is not increased by continuing on from the same spot in a new pack.

In addition, Anderson said, it’s often safe to skip placebo week and just go on to the next pack of pills. “With most types of birth control pills,” she noted, “you can actually take active pills daily for up to 12 weeks and schedule a withdrawal bleed at your convenience.” (After 12 weeks, she cautioned, one would risk the overgrowth of uterine lining cells—a condition known as endometrial hyperplasia—which can cause unusually heavy menstrual flow and bleeding between normal menstrual periods.)

Many physicians have begun advocating modified pill regimens of this sort, Anderson noted, because recent research indicates that experiencing fewer periods a year can actually cut your risk of ovarian and endometrial cancer. Why? Because fewer ovulations mean fewer cell divisions, and that means fewer opportunities for cancerous cells to be activated. “In fact,” Stuart added, “the new brand of birth control pills, Seasonale, is not a new hormonal formulation at all, but a simple repackaging of a commonly used pill that covers three months’ time, instead of one.”

Remember, it’s never safe to make changes in your oral contraceptive routine without first talking with your physician, but I hope this answer gives you some idea about your options and a few potential topics for discussion with your clinician. And on your next visit home, I’d also recommend tucking away your current pack of pills in a spot the cleaning woman is unlikely to stumble upon!

—Ingrid ‘06

My birth control pills got trashed!

Dear MedLink:
The cleaning lady threw out my birth control pills when I was halfway through taking them. I heard it’s okay just to start another pack and skip my period. Is that true?

—Cleaned Out

Dear Cleaned:
That is a great question!

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The Boston Red Sox played the Baltimore Orioles on Tuesday night in Fenway Park. The Sox lost 11-8.

(top) Sox pitcher Matt Clement pitches against the Orioles on Tuesday. Clement, 2-1, gave up twelve hits and seven earned runs over 4 2/3 innings.

(bottom) Luis Matos of the Orioles makes it to home plate on a dive, moments ahead of the Sox throw to home plate. Photography by Liang Hong
This intensive paralegal class is designed for recent college graduates considering law school. Upon completion of this two-week course you will receive a certificate in paralegal studies from Boston University.

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Boston's only authentic Bengali Cuisine restaurant
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11:30 am – 11:30 pm
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Reasonably Priced Dinners
Unique Bengali fish dishes include Paabda maachher jhol, Rui maachher kalia, Moehar gauto, Shorshe Ilish
Take-out, platters, and catering available. Delivery with minimum order.
10% Discount on $30 (or more) order with MIT ID.

Solution to Bonus Crossword

The Tech wants you.
The pineapple wants you, too.

join@the-tech.mit.edu

(He's really quite harmless - mostly.)
MIT Celebrates Earth Day With Festival in Kresge Oval

The Earth Day Festival was held yesterday in Kresge Oval. (above right) Jose H. Soltren '07 trues a bicycle wheel. Soltren and other bike mechanics helped fix bikes that owners brought to Kresge Oval during the Festival.

(above left) Steven M. Lanou, from the Environmental Programs Office, reads excerpts from the results of the 2005 RecycleMania competition. MIT placed 10th out of 34 with 40.29 pounds per student in the traditional competition. The Institute did not compete in the recycling rate competition, which compared recycling weight to trash weight.

(below left) Professor J. Meejin Yoon oversees Eric Howeler (left) and Lisa Smith (center) as they help install the "White Noise/White Light" interactive display that she created for the 2004 Olympics. The display will operate from the evening of Monday, May 2, to Friday, May 6.

(below right) Ross Donald explains the practical uses of solar heaters to a passersby. Photography by Omari Stephens

Alan R. Millner '69 shows a small transformer to (left to right) Jeremy S. Hurwitz '08, Yue Yang '08, Yingdan Gu '08, and other students of 8.022 in the Experimental Study Group on Wednesday, April 27. Millner explained the transformer design process during a supplementary design seminar for the class.
UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

**Saturday, April 30**

Men’s Lightweight Crew vs. Rutgers University

Men’s Lightweight Crew vs. Boston University and Radcliffe

NEWMAC Men’s Tennis Championship Tournament

Women’s Openweight Crew vs. Western New England College

Steinbrenner Stadium, 11 a.m.

varsity sailing grigier trophy

Women’s Openweight Crew vs. Boston University and Radcliffe

NEWMAC Men’s Tennis Championship Tournament

Women’s Lacrosse vs. Western New England College

Steinbrenner Stadium, 1 p.m.

du Pont Tennis Courts, 11 a.m.

NEWMAC Men’s Tennis Championship Tournament

Women’s Openweight Crew vs. Boston University and Radcliffe

Varsity Sailing Geiger Trophy

Charles River, 9 a.m.

Charles River, 9 a.m.

Charles River, 8 a.m.

du Pont Tennis Courts, 11 a.m.

Steinbrenner Stadium, 1 p.m.

TKD League Champs

By Alicia Zhou

MVP for his outstanding season as the leading lightweight in the division.

Ren was awarded the league male MVP for his outstanding season as the leading lightweight in the division.

Every Patriots fan knows that after winning for the third time, it’s a dynasty. This past Saturday, April 23, marked the beginning of a new MIT dynasty in the Ivy Northeast Collegiate Taekwondo League (INCTL). MIT Sport Taekwondo sent a group of almost 40 competitors to the final tournament of the season, hosted by Columbia University. Nine months of intense training, four previous nail-bitingly close INCTL tournaments, and a half-decade rivalry against Cornell University all came down to twelve hours of fierce competition to determine the best. At the end of the day, the MIT athletes emerged victorious, clinching a first place win at the tournament and securing the title of INCTL League Champions for the third year in a row.

Saturday, April 30

Charles River, 8 a.m.

Men’s Lightweight Crew vs. Rutgers University

Charles River, 9 a.m.

Women's Openweight Crew vs. Boston University and Radcliffe

NEWMAC Men's Tennis Championship Tournament

Women's Lacrosse vs. Western New England College

Steinbrenner Stadium, 1 p.m.

du Pont Tennis Courts, 11 a.m.

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