Twenty-One New UA Candidates Sign Up
Some Senate Seats Still Lack Candidates

By Mathilda Cheng

To fill vacant positions remaining after last Thursday's candidacy petition deadline, the Undergraduate Association extended the deadline to 5:00 p.m. yesterday. With the addition of 21 Senate candidates since Thursday, each constituency has at least one candidate. The online ballot is open at http://vote.mit.edu.

The deadline Monday was final for those who wished to be official candidates, with their names appearing on the ballots.

Two Senate constituencies, Baker and New House, have fewer official candidates than senator positions, but write-in candidates have historically been common. In the case that a Senate position remains unfilled after elections, the president of the living group is asked to choose a representative, said Andrew T. Lukmann, UA senator.

‘Big Jimmy’ Scholarship Created

By Diana Jue

Since the death of James “Big Jimmy” E. Roberts, East Campus and Senior House security guard, last January, students and family have worked together to establish a memorial fund in his name. The first scholarship from the “Big Jimmy” E. Roberts Sr. Memorial Scholarship Fund will hopefully be distributed late October or early November this year, said Alumni Fund Officer Jennifer Wilinsky. The amount of the scholarship has not yet been determined. “Big Jimmy” E. Roberts, East Campus stove, food, bike parts, 2 frames, 4 cassettes, 5 chains, ending the following day at 11 p.m. just north of Santiago, Chile. It is the last stretch of his journey to catch up with his girlfriend and friends; he has been averaging 150 miles a day for the past five days.

Move over, Lance Armstrong. That week alone, Orian Z. Welling ‘08 completed more than a fifth of his 15,000 mile bike trip — 1,000 pounds of gear 15,000 miles from Alaska to Argentina in 2004.

Orian Z. Welling ‘08 stands with his bike, which he rode along with 100 pounds of gear 15,000 miles from Alaska to Argentina in 2004. Argentina is the longest longitudinal route of the world. Commenting on its popularity, Welling said approximately twenty cyclists and one hundred motorists of various ages travel the entire route every year.

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Afghanistan Says It Is Considering Licenses to Grow Opium

By Carlotta Gall

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan, the world’s biggest producer of opium and its deriv- ative, heroin, acknowledged that it has considered licensing its vast illicit crop and using it to produce opium-based medicines, though it ruled out such a move in the near future.

The government said it welcomed the release on Monday of a fee- sibility study about the subject by a European-based drug policy re- search organization, the Senlis Council. But Afghanistan’s counternarcotics minister, Habibullah Qaderi, ruled out adopting such a program until security conditions in the country improve.

The idea of licensing poppy cultivation completely goes against current counternarcotics policy in Afghanistan, designed with Britain’s help, which seeks to discourage the poppy and heroin businesses by persuading farmers to adopt alternative crops through assistance programs, much of it fi- nanced by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Spain Issues First Prison

Sentence for 9/11

By Rember Mclean

WASHINGTON, D.C.

A Spanish court Monday sentenced a Syrian man to 27 years in prison for conspiring to commit the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States and leading a cell of the terrorist network al-Qaida in Madrid. He was arrested last year in connection with the attacks.

To add to the main defendant, Iyad Eddin Barakat Yarkas, 41, also known as Abu Dahdaleh, 17 other men were found guilty of either belonging to or aiding his terrorist cell. Those men, including Tayser Alon, 46, the Syrian pavilion’s correspondent for the Arabic satellite network Al-Arhanter, received sentences of from six to 11 years.

Though the conviction came after a victory for Spain’s ag- gressive campaign of anti-terrorism arrests since the attacks, it fell short of prosecutors’ goals. They had sought a sentence of more than 74,000 years for Yarkas, based on an estimated death toll of nearly 3,000. When hijacked jetliners were crashed into the World Trade Cen- ter in New York and the Pentagon in Washington on Sept. 11, 2001.

The three-judge panel rejected the prosecution’s charge that Yarkas was directly responsible for the attacks, agreeing only that he had partici- pated in the plot’s “criminal formation.”

In an interview after the verdict was read, Jacobo Treqelo Casanova, a lawyer for Yarkas, said he will advise his client to appeal the decision.

IRA Destroys Its Weapons

By Brian Lavery

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

THE NEW YORK TIMES

By David Leonhardt, Jad Mouawad and David E. Sanger

With tears mounting that high energy costs will crimp economic growth, President Bush called on Americans on Monday to conserve gasoline by driving less. He also is- sued a directive for all federal agen- cies to eat their own energy use and to encourage employees to use public transportation.

“We can all pitch in,” Bush said. “People just need to recognize that the storms have caused disruption,” he added, and said that if Americans are able to avoid going “on a trip that’s not essential, that would be helpful.”

Bush promised to dip further into the government’s petroleum reserve, if necessary, and to continue relaxing en- vironmental and transportation rules in an effort to get more gaso- line flowing. On Capitol Hill, senior Republicans called for new legisla- tion that they said would lower en- ergy costs by increasing supply and expanding oil-refining capacity over the long run.

Even though Hurricane Rita caused much less damage to the oil industry than feared, the two recent hurricanes have disrupted produc- tion in the Gulf of Mexico enough to ensure that Americans are facing a winter of sharply higher energy costs. The price of natural gas, which most families use to heat their homes, has climbed even more than the price of gasoline recently.

Two Americans are on pace to spend an average of $4.500 on energy this year, but about $5000 from last year and $900 higher than in 2003, ac- cording to Global Insight, a research firm.

Bush’s comments, while similar to remarks he made shortly after the disruption from Hurricane Katrina pushed gasoline prices sharply higher, were particularly notable because the administration has long emphasized new production over conservation. It has also opted out to impose higher mileage standards on automobiles.

In 2001, Vice President Dick Cheney criticized conservation as “a sign of personal weakness.” Also that year, Ari Fleischer, then Bush’s press secretary, responded to a question about reducing American energy consumption by saying “that’s a big no.”

“The president believes that it’s an American way of life,” Fleischer said, “and that it should be the goal of policy makers to protect the American way of life.”

Bush, speaking Monday after he was briefed at the Energy De- partment, did not use the door tone or cardigan-wearing imagery that proved politically deadly for Jimmy Carter during the oil crisis of the 1970s. Nor did Bush propose new policies to encourage conservation.

But he was more explicit than in the past in saying that Americans should cut back.

Oil companies spent much of Monday assessing the damage from Rita, which seemed to spare many oil and gas facilities. Still, the gulf’s entire oil output and about four-fifths of its natural gas production re- mained shut down Monday, less than a month after Katrina left the indus- try stretched thin.

The Gulf of Mexico produces about 7 percent of the oil consumed in the United States and provides 16 percent of the nation’s natural gas needs.

Bush, Shifting Gears, Urges Americans to Conserve Fuel

By Greg Myre

THE NEW YORK TIMES

IRA SAYS IT IS CONSIDERING LICENSES TO GROW OPIUM

Belgian court sentences Syrian man to 27 years in prison for conspiring to commit the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

Tonight:

- Tonight’s rainfall is expected to total about 0.25 to 0.5 inches across the lower Mississippi Valley. Baton Rouge, LA recorded a rainfall total of 9.30 inches over the past three days.

- The system that brought yesterday’s rain will exit the area and leave behind pleasant weather today and tomorrow as high pressure moves in from the west.

Tomorrow:

- Mostly sunny with a chance of showers. Highs in the low 60°F (20°C).

Extended Forecast:

- Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 70°F (21°C).

- Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers. Highs in the low 60°F (20°C).
Men Disguised As Police Kill Five Shiite Teachers At School

By Sabrina Tavernise

KANDARIYA, south of Baghdad, when 
of seven counts of conspiracy and 
up of five male Army officers, 
made 
time, the jury, made 
room and shot them dead.
The killings took place while 
some children were still at the 

In the past, teachers have rarely if 
ever been singled out, and this attack 
raised fears that Iraqi schools, largely 
unprotected, could become targets. But the killings appeared to have been motivated more by sectarian hatred than any animosity toward the profes 
sion, said the official, who identified himself as Capt. Abu al-Hars.

He said the gunmen were dis 
guised Sunni Arab fighters. Shiite ci 
vilization of all types have been victims of insurgent attacks in recent weeks.
The killings were the most star 
ting in a string of attacks in and 
round Baghdad that left at least 16 people dead, including Oil Minis 
try workers, day laborers and three 
American soldiers. On Monday night 
attackers struck again in Iskandariya, detonating a suicide bomb that only 
lessly. Six people were 

A strike would have direct repercussions for the company’s factories 
and dealers in the United States. GM’s main assembly plant in Oshawa, 
Ontario, from Toronto. “The only problem we still have is there are still some 
offers we find offensive.”

Workers from around the world.

Camelot, the union’s president, told reporters during a conference call from 
Toronto. “The only problem we still have is there are still some 
offers we find offensive.”

would have direct repercussions for the company’s factories 
and dealers in the United States. GM’s main assembly plant in Oshawa, 
Ontario, where up to 1 million cars are built a year, is the company’s only 
producer of several Chevrolet, Buick, and Pontiac cars. It also makes 
full-size pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles, mostly for American 
buyers. Similarly, parts and engine plants in St. Catharines, Ontario, and 
an automatic transmission factory in Windsor, Ontario, supply compo 
nents to several assembly operations in the United States.

Want to Work for a Hedge Fund?

AQR (Applied Quantitative Research) Capital 
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oriented hedge fund. Based in Greenwich, CT (a 
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Global Warming: Lukewarm Policing of Red-Hot Politics

Barun Singh

Over the past decade, there has scarcely been an environmental issue as concerning to the general population as the threat of global warming. With two of the worst hurricanes on record now having hit the U.S. within weeks of each other, one is likely to experience global warming once again. 

One cycle of above-average intensity hurricanes is far from conclusive evidence to prove any assertions regarding the impact of global warming, but it is more than enough ammunition for those looking for it. 

Evidence to date shows that the policy decisions of our oil-loving government dooming us to increasing weather-related catastrophes, or is global warming just an over-hyped excuse to push against the political right-wing that can’t do much about anyway? The existence of global warming is now a well accepted fact by (almost) everybody (except the Earth that has in fact warmed over the past century by about 0.7 degrees Celsius). Any statement beyond this seems to me just a political position taken. As is always the case, politicians and interest groups relay portions and stretched versions of the true situation through their public statements and appearances. This time around, many in the science community have also gotten in on the act, playing saloons to the masses.

For those of us who have not devoted our lives to the study of global climate change, it is still possible to come to some understanding about the true situation, but one must research both sides of the debate and be willing to read between the lines. It is obvious that we can accept with great certainty that global warming is real, and that deforestation and emissions have had a noticeable effect on greenhouse gases, the same level of certainty does not exist regarding the extent of human activity’s role in causing the warming to occur. 

Science is less certain still regarding what we can expect for the future, and even how much of an effect temperature variations will have on our civilization.

Given the lack of certainty regarding global warming, how can policy makers ever hope to make any realistic decisions? On one side we have the lack of proper conclusive evidence, it would be unreasonable to make any sort of policy decisions (why hurt our economy because of a science-fiction fantasy?). Another side argues that we need to moderate our actions: it is crucial to act (if the worst case scenarios are true, couldn’t it mean the potential destruction of our entire civilization)? Such binary reasoning is, however, a result of extreme over- 

simplification of the situation. 

Putting the politics aside, a policy maker must make decisions through risk analysis, and global warming is no exception to this general approach. Given all of the available evidence, a rational agent whose goal is to produce the most optimal policy must analyze things in terms of their probability. How probable is it that the actions proposed will have any meaningful impact? What is the expected cost and benefit? If we fail to act, what will the expected cost be? For those of a 

more, there are many conflicting claims about how helpful Kyoto would actually be. 

Let’s expand our consideration beyond Kyoto. What do this administration’s other environmental policies tell us? This administration has severely weakened or eliminated numerous clean air and water provisions, removed countless animal and habitat protections, allowed illegal logging and fishing, and previously protected from such abuses, failed to provide the public at large with adequate information about many cases drastically reducing funding) towards the development of sustainable energy — and the list goes on and on.

All of the evidence from the previous five years points towards a distinct disregard for environmental concerns by this administration, and strongly suggests that its various policies regarding global warming have, in fact, been driven more by various political interests than the desire to make decisions that are optimal for the future of the nation. The result? — we all end up as losers. After all, not everything that we do to our environment is necessarily reversible. One can only hope that if conditions for Kyoto do not go on and on. 

Barun Singh is a graduate student and former president of the Graduate Student Council.

Singh welcome comments at his Web site (http://barunsingh.com)
The Boston Consulting Group
cordially invites all M.I.T.
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New animations added to intro page: ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE
by Emezie Okorafor

I can’t believe that meathead left YOU for some crazy chick. Well, good riddance, I say...

Rick didn’t ‘leave’ me. We were never “together” in the first place.

Oh, right. So, seeing this Mina girl hang around him doesn’t bother you at all?

Nooo. Rick is just a friend. His other relationships are his business.

So, you two aren’t dating. You aren’t an item. You’re simply friends.

That’s right.

Great! Then you won’t mind going out with this guy I know. I set you up on a blind date tonight. Let’s go.

And, that, ladies and gentlemen, is what we call a “checkmate”.

Moons of Uranus
by Juan Pablo Mendieta

IT’S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL, “BUILD YOUR OWN CAR” MEETUP!

WHERE’S JASON? WOW. WELCOME TO MY LIFE. Guess everyone knows you around, would it SHOCK you if I had a car?

WHAT KIND AND CAN I BORROW IT TONIGHT?

THE HECK IT AIN’T DOMESTIC! WHAT IS IT?!

IT’S MY OWN CAR! I’M THINKIN’ ‘BOUT GETTING SPINNERS.

Piled Higher and Deeper

More Cowbell

by Jia Lou

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 17
By Kailas Narendran

The Bluetooth Desktop MX offers an easy way to configure wireless keyboard and mouse. The keyboard and mouse are battery powered, with the computer. The reception and reliability of Bluetooth is fantastic, and I've never had a glitch with the connection. Both the keyboard and mouse are apple battery powered, with the rechargeable cradle for the mouse integrated.

Bluetooth Blues
My biggest disappointment with this system was my education about how non-standard the Bluetooth standard is. The keyboard and mouse come with all the extra buttons that let you do everything from pull up a "shopping" Web page to targeting impoverished third world countries for U.S. invasion and neo-colonialist policies. Unfortunately, if your computer comes with Windows and has an integrated Bluetooth card, you can use neither the supplied hub and software, nor the special features of the mouse and keyboard. While this was an annoyance, the quality of the keyboard and mouse make up for it. With my new glasses at work, I am able to do my extensive typing without fear of RSI. Given how small and sleek notebooks are nowadays, an external keyboard is needed more than ever before (run less a you're a giant... or a giant with midget hands).

The Bottom Line
Getting your hands on this desktop setup will cost you about $100. While the loss of an extra key functionality due to incompatibility with Windows is a bummer, if I found it to be more of an annoyance than a show stopper. If you exclusively use your laptop for extensive typing, a full sized keyboard and mouse will save you a lot of wrist-ache. One that connects automatically and without wires is sure to impress the ladies (and an amazing convenience). You can find out more at http://www.logitech.com/.

By Bill Andrews

Usage
The convenience of connecting the Desktop MX to a laptop with an internal Bluetooth card is incredible. One can literally set down one's laptop on the desk, hit the keyboard, shuffle the keyboard, and... have been involved in immoral activities, for which I must now be penitent? No! The sightings are a direct result of trying to live a better life, of doing something for myself and, in the end, of being a better person. I have started exercising. Despite years of previous experiences with exercise doing the answer was in the back of the book, I was unprepared for the consequences of my new activities. As is all too often the case in life, I was sucked in, with sweet talk of losing weight and looking and feeling good, how could one refuse? Never was there as much as a hint of penis, even after reading the fine print. But what does penis have to do with exercise, you might be asking yourself? If so, I suspect your upbringing was similar to mine, and locker rooms were a place not for nudity, but merely changing clothes for P.E. Sure, you stayed a bit smelly after class, but it was only for a semester or two and you sure weren't gonna strip down to the buff in front of other people right, certainly not people you actually know. "The showers" was nothing more than an idiom, like "this book weighs a ton" if I'm going to kill you. In fact, even if you wanted to shower, we were too afraid the spiders that had built elaborate networks of webs around the drains would catch us and torture us, possibly with forced nudity. Well, my friends, I'm afraid we have some spying neighbors things are different here.

I thought I had prepared for my trip to the Z-Center pool; I'd brought my swimsuit, goggles, and towel. Did I know what I was pole dancing every night, and if not, then general gatherings. But in the midst of my readings, class discussions about career fairs, and anything that could beally refer to something that is difficult, rather than employing a phrase such as finding "a needle in a haystack," “a Democrat in Upson County, Georgia,” or “parking in the North End,” I will now casually refer to “a political science job” or "an MIT career fair." It was depressing. For one, all the cool kids are at the software engineering tables. Unfortunately, I'm not desperate enough for a pen that I'm willing to lie, so I have to walk around and by and sort through piles of the new freshers’ "pre-sters." While I was pa- tiently waiting on a friend, a recruiter for the Boston Consulting Group asked me, and out of pity gave me a sweet Nalgene bottle. When I was looking for a job, I ended up doing much better in the wooly hunt. Walking past every booth proved in- efficient — a decision perhaps beffitting my eventual humanities degree. I finally realized that I was missing a term, that "politics," is too broad a field, so I started being specific. My group that noticeably perked up when I men- tioned my major. Act or not, they earned them- selves an application.

In the future, when I colloquially refer to "a political science job" or "an MIT career fair." This made me good. For one, all the cool kids are at the software engineering tables. Unfortunately, I'm not desperate enough for a pen that I'm willing to lie, so I have to walk around and by and sort through piles of the new freshers’ "pre-sters." While I was pa- tiently waiting on a friend, a recruiter for the Boston Consulting Group asked me, and out of pity gave me a sweet Nalgene bottle. When I was looking for a job, I ended up doing much better in the wooly hunt. Walking past every booth proved inefficient — a decision perhaps beffitting my eventual humanities degree. I finally realized that I was missing a term, that "politics," is too broad a field, so I started being specific. My group that noticeably perked up when I mentioned my major. Act or not, they earned themselves an application.

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Working for an investment bank is demanding enough without having to constantly prove you’re better than the next person. Particularly when it’s much more rewarding to learn from each other, pool ideas and build on combined strengths. If you thrive on teamwork, you’ll get on faster, whatever your background, nationality, culture or degree discipline.

1st and 2nd Year Firm-wide Presentation
Date: Thursday, September 29, 2005
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Hotel at MIT, 20 Sidney Street, Taylor Room
Reception to follow.

www.csfb.com/standout
E-Mail Lists: Banes and Gains

By Drake Bennett

Kurzweil Technologies takes up two floors of a low office building in Wellesley Hills, near where the Charles River crosses and then recurses Route 128. In the reception area, a company-owned Edison dictation machine and a large flat-screen monitor on which Kurzweil synthesizers execute computer programs draw angular, cartoon-like portraits. Across from the window is a display of Kurzweil paraphernalia — like man made of wax, beaded and brandishing a pipe as if in conversation (announcements of MIT’s lecture series on the Human Computer Interface), and a pair of explanatory free-food. More obscure lists cater to students with more specific interests; these include edtech, gnu, perlmonks, xkcd, and lcs-subjects (where you can take an MRI, look at your brain, and get paid for it). Mailing lists can be ultimately helpful to their subscribers, as long as proper etiquette is recognized.

A major bane of many students is internal spam — dormitory lists appear to be most heavily infected, with requests for everything from French horns and T-shirts to hammers and course books.

One wayward soul made a sketchy request to the Baker forum, requiring a listing of all PMF, preferably Asian and over 21, for a weekend of general debauchery. Dormitories, living groups, and clubs typically have mailing lists created specifically for event notification, and students should take care before sending an email to such a large number of people.

Freshmen and even upperclassmen have particular trouble after being enrolled with mail from lists they casually signed up for during Orientation. However, even if you don’t know how you got on a mailing list, you’re not stuck with its spam if you understand how to manage list memberships.

The most commonly used list types at MIT are Moira and Mailman. Moira lists, otherwise known as Athena lists, can be accessed by everyone, whether or not they are members of the Athena prompt. Users can also access Moira accounts by using MIT certificates at http://moira.mit.edu/mailman/listinfo/

A key issue concerning mailing lists involves proper procedure regarding removal and addition. The appropriate method of removal is not to e-mail the entire list asking to be removed — this often causes an avalanche of similar requests, followed by another one of angry e-mails informing the guilty to stop. The same applies to subscribing to a list.

According to the Student Information Processing Board, “to add yourself or to remove yourself from a Mailman list, you can visit http://moira.mit.edu/mailman/listinfo/ listname (replacing listname with the name of the Mailman list). An alternative is to type the blanche command into an Athena prompt. Mailing lists can be easily created by anyone with an Athena account via http://web.mit.edu/accounts/www/write-a-list.html.

Mitt has a lot to offer, and staying away will help make the most of your time spent inside this nebula. Use lists responsibly, and maybe you’ll keep your neighbors and from blowing down your door with that French horn you so desperately wanted.

To help develop the system, Google consulted Hal R. Varian, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley. Varian (who also writes the Economic Scene column for The New York Times) said that the final product was not entirely what he anticipated. “I was a little surprised,” he said. “I expected this to be accurate because there’s a lot of literature and experience with these systems. But the result has been even better than I expected.”

Google has not offered public data on the system’s accuracy, but a chart posted on the company’s blog that showed the numbers so far does not make any more than other thinkers to make the case for both the desirability and the importance of the Singularity. According to Dog in a Mimetic Barn, resident of the Singularity, “Ray is one of few people who can step back and see the cultural, intellectual, and economic shifts in front of us.”

Kurzweil synthesizer, stumbled, first few measures of a Beethoven symphony, Gettysburg Address. He played the violin, which he readily showed them off. He had a crowd of students, and he was a student when he was a high school student. He was still a high school student when he was 16 years old; sometimes it is hard to believe how long ago that was. He was 15 when he made music in a machine that composed music in the style of Chopin, Mozart, and other great composers. In the early 1970s he invented the first flatbed scanner and the first practical character recognition software, paving the way for everything from digital photography and graphic design to online banking. Ever since, he has been thinking about these two technologies with the self-consciously “artificial intelligence” (another of his inventions), he made the Kurzweil Reading Machine. He sold his first book, What to Live Forever — for whom he then developed the first music synthesizer and built it into a fool professional musicians into thinking they were listening to real musicians. In 1987 his company, Kurzweil Applied Intelligence was the first to market large-vocabulary, speech-recognition software.

By any measure, Kurzweil has had a successful career. Of course, however, he has a new project: to be the world’s first artificial intelligence (another of his inventions), he made the Kurzweil Reading Machine. He sold his first book, What to Live Forever — for whom he then developed the first music synthesizer and built it into a fool professional musicians into thinking they were listening to real musicians. In 1987 his company, Kurzweil Applied Intelligence was the first to market large-vocabulary, speech-recognition software.

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Humans Destined for Immortality, Kurzweil Predicts

with full cheeks, a small smile, and a knot-like nose drooping toward a broad chin. The tone of his voice, deep and deliberate, is somewhat at odds with his eyes, which narrow and furiously blink as he talks. He is 57 years old, nearly the age at which his father died of a heart attack. According to a battery of controversial tests administered by Terry Grossman, the anti-aging expert who co-wrote Fantastic Voyage, Kurzweil has not aged appreciably in the past 17 years.

Every day, Kurzweil takes hundreds of nutritional supplement pills, and once a week he takes several intravenously. He is, as he puts it, “reprogramming my biochemistry” and claims to be doing so to have conquered his Type 2 diabetes. More importantly, he insists, he is stretching his natural lifespan until either genetic therapies, microscopic “nanobots” (hypothetical robots on the scale of single atoms and molecules that Kurzweil believes will be able, among many other things, to take over some of the vital functions of the human body), or simply the ability to download one’s mind onto a computer make immortality a reality.

What links all of Kurzweil’s creations is the concept of pattern recognition: recreating the human ability to distinguish signal from noise. As he sees it, the predictions he’s making are simply pattern recognition applied to history.

The pattern he sees is a simple one: He calls it the law of accelerating returns. To explain, Kurzweil uses the example of Moore’s Law, the storied 1965 prediction by Intel cofounder Gordon Moore that the power of computer chips would double roughly every two years. In 1972 there were 2500 transistors in an Intel chip, in 1974, 4500, and by 2004 there were 592 million.

For Kurzweil, however, the explosive power of exponential growth goes far beyond transistors: Human technological advancement, the billions of years of terrestrial evolution, the entire history of the universe, all, he argues, follow the law of accelerating returns. He has put a team of researchers to work gathering technological, economic, historical, and paleontological data. All of it, he claims, graphs neatly onto an exponential plot, starting out slowly, then nosing sharply upward through the “knee of the curve” into higher order and greater complexity, arcing toward infinity.

“Ultimately,” he promises in The Singularity Is Near, “the entire universe will become saturated with our intelligence. This is the destiny of the universe. We will determine our own fate rather than have it determined by the current ‘dumb,’ simple machine-like forces that rule celestial mechanics.” How he is not sure, but he trusts his math.

At such moments, Kurzweil’s predictions have the ring of eschatology, of half-cocked end-times rapture. For him, though, it’s surreal to hear people talk about the size of the Social Security shortfall in 2042 — by then, he believes, advances in nanotechnology will allow us to ward off disease and senescence and to manufacture all the goods we want for a pittance. By then, in other words, aging and poverty may hardly exist and people may not retire or even work in a way that’s recognizable to us.

For Kurzweil, stubbornly linear habits of mind explain why, for example, so few neuroscientists share his conviction that we will soon be able to reverse-engineer the brain. “A lot of scientists,” he told me, “Nobel Prize-winners included, take a linear perspective. They just intuitively do the mental experiment of what will it take to achieve certain goals at today’s rate of progress, with today’s tools.” Kurzweil points to the skepticism that greeted his forecast, in 1990, that in as few as nine years a computer would beat the world chess champion. He was too conservative, as it turned out. Deep Blue beat Garry Kasparov in 1997.

MDT Advisers is a small, rapidly growing investment management firm located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. We are currently seeking a few very creative, detail-oriented, and energetic individuals to join our investment team. These exceptional individuals will contribute to all aspects of our process including software development, investment research, and portfolio management.

Dr. David Goldsmith, Chief Investment Officer of the firm, will be interviewing candidates on campus on Tuesday, October 18. Candidates should submit their resume, cover letter, transcript, and SAT scores by October 4 through MIT MonsterTRAK.
On Friday, Sept. 23, groups of people gathered in front of Kresge for the annual Great Glass Pumpkin Patch sale. The intricate and unique designs, made by the MIT Glass Lab, were completely sold out by the end of Saturday. Clockwise from top left:

Kent Edwards '67 and Laury Edwards gaze upon a beautiful glass pumpkin in the annual Glass Pumpkin Patch in Kresge Oval Friday evening.

A traditional orange pumpkin sits surrounded by green pumpkins.

Frances Choi '08 examines one of the hand-blown glass pumpkins at the exhibition.

Each pumpkin is individually hand made and blown, with a unique color, shape, and pattern.

Blue tinted pumpkins glitter in the afternoon sunshine.
Concerned about a friend?  
(please check all symptoms)

- feeling sad or empty
- sleeping problems
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Get them checked.

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Wed., Sept. 28, 2005
4 – 7 p.m.
Lobby 10
Bush Room

Get screened and enter to win a free iPod mini!

For more information, or for information about MIT resources, contact Zan Barry at the MIT Center for Health Promotion & Wellness at bare@med.mit.edu or 617-253-3646.

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ToniGht, September 27, 6:00 p.m.
University Park Hotel @ MIT

Resume Drop Deadline
Wednesday, September 28

To learn about Citadel, including a day in the life of new college hires, please visit our website at www.citadelgroup.com

Jimmy Fund to Help EC, Sr. House ‘Kids’

Big Jimmy, from Page 1

and late night snacks, helping them through difficult times, standing up for them when he could, and making them laugh,” Thompson said. “He looked out for everyone.”

East Campus and Senior House residents wanted to find a way to pay tribute to him following his death in January, so the decision was made to set up a scholarship fund.

“The fund is one of the best memorials,” said Thompson. “It is a way for us to honor his memory, to thank him for everything that he has done for the students, and to allow him to continue helping the community that he loved so much.”

The residence-based restriction was placed on the scholarship because the students who helped create it “felt that it was appropriate for ‘Big Jimmy’s’ memorial to benefit the students he thought of as ‘his kids’ now that he is no longer here to watch over them himself,” she said.

Over 100 contribute to fund

So far, the Jimmy Fund officially has $19,915 of the $50,000 that is necessary to consider the scholarship fully sustainable, meaning the scholarship would be paid by annual interest off of this principal amount, Thompson said.

Most of the money came from 125 individual donors to date, which include parents, students, alumni, and staff from the Dorm Patrol and the Service Employees Intern Unit, Wilinsky said.

Students also initiated fundraisers to raise money for the fund. Jones and Christopher M. Vogt ’06, hosted multiple “Hot Dogs for Jimmy” events in the East Campus courtyard over the summer that raised $300 for the fund. Other events, including a sushi night, contributed $300, bringing the total unofficial amount of money in the fund to $20,515. Individual donations have ranged from $5 to $1,000.

Contributions and gifts of any amount can be directed to the Jimmy Fund via https://giving.mit.edu/give-now/GiftStart.dyn.

Big Jimmy would have wanted to give some of the scholarship to as many people as possible, and in order to do that, “we need as large a principal as we can get for the fund,” Thompson said.

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The Coffeehouse Features ‘An Evening of Vietnamese Guitar’

This past Friday, Sept. 23, “An Evening of Vietnamese Guitar” was held in the Coffeehouse.

(above) Vu Thanh Binh plays the vietnamized guitar with Nam Chin (not pictured). Binh finished the Evening with a classical guitar exhibition.

(right) Dang L. Vu ’06 of the band Living Incense plays the guitar with Ben Enos and David Enos (not pictured). During the performance, Vu combined elements of traditional Vietnamese music with rock.

Photography by Omari Stephens

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 sinks. And how much solid waste is being thrown out in the trash cans. We here it a lot.

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 lamp. Drink your coffee or tea out of mugs instead of throwing away cups.

IT’S A CONNECTED WORLD. DO YOUR SHARE.

This space donated by The Tech
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Along with competitive salaries, IDA provides excellent benefits including comprehensive health insurance, paid holidays, 3 weeks vacation and more — all in a professional development environment that encourages individual thinking and produces concrete results. Applicants selected will be subject to a security investigation and must meet eligibility requirements for access to classified information. US citizenship is required.

IDA will be on campus interviewing qualified candidates on September 28. For consideration, submit your resume to resumes@ida.org.

Visit our website for more information on our specialized opportunities.

Share your space, but live on your own.

Bottiglia Treasured Music, Opera, Ballet

Bottiglia, from Page 1

Born in Bernardsville, N.J., he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa during his junior year at Princeton and graduated summa cum laude in 1934. He earned his M.A. and PhD from Princeton in 1935 and 1948, respectively, and belonged to the Phi Beta Kappa Society and the Dante Society of America. Bottiglia was appointed an Officer in the Société des Palmes Académiques by the French government and has been listed in Who’s Who in America since 1964.

He was an avid reader and writer and enjoyed classical music, opera, ballet performances, museum exhibitions, playing the piano and taking long walks.

Bottiglia was the husband of the late Mildred (MacDonald) Bottiglia. He is survived by his daughter, Janet Bottiglia of Needham; a stepdaughter, Martha Morris of Ripon, Wis.; a sister, Adele Molinaro of Bernardsville, N.J.; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

M.I.T.

Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar

PROFESSOR NILÜFER GÖLE

Visiting Professor, Foreign Languages and Literatures Section, MIT

Ecole des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris

“EUROPE’S ENCOUNTER WITH ISLAM: WHAT FUTURE?”

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

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Get everything for your dorm room at Walmart.com and still afford tuition.
Meet admissions representatives from The Harris School of Public Policy Studies, University of Chicago, Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania, and Goldman School of Public Policy, UC-Berkeley.

Date: September 29, 2005
Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Place: Boston University Career Services Office, Room #317, 19 Deering Street

Open to the public | Pizza will be provided

Elections, from Page 1

Meet admissions representatives from
The Harris School of Public Policy Studies, University of Chicago
Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania
Goldman School of Public Policy, UC-Berkeley

Date: September 29, 2005
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Place: Boston University Career Services Office
Room #317, 19 Deering Street

Open to the public | Pizza will be provided

the number of open positions. For example, Baker, which has two Senate positions, would get four write-in slots if it had zero or one official candidates.

Public Relation chairs worked on spreading the news of the extended deadline through posters and e-mails sent to all undergraduates, said UA President John M. Cloutier '06. Candidate platforms for the UA and the 2009 Student Council are posted on the voting Web site, and on the last day of voting, the UA will provide printed packets of the candidate platforms in Lobby 10.

Senate allocations roughly same

This fall marks the first election in which members of Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living groups who live in dormitories could choose to vote or run with either their FSILG or residence; in the past, they had automatically been designated with their residence.

As of the deadline last Friday for choosing a constituency, 317 eligible undergraduates were designated with their FSILGs, and 230 with their residence, according to Gary L. Sivek, technical coordinator of the election commission.

Those who had not designated voting constituency by Friday were assigned randomly with equal probability into one or the other. Sivek did not have information on how many of the 537 dual members had actively chosen a constituency.

Despite the influx of constituents into the FSILG's with this change, the number of UA representatives assigned to each constituency, which is based on number of members, did not change much from last year. The only difference is that McCormick Hall lost one Senate representative because its number of residents dropped slightly, Lukmann said.

The electronic ballot closes on Thursday, September 29, 2005, at 11:59 PM. Paper ballots will be available on Friday, September 30, 2005, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Lobby 10.

Class of 2009 Council

President
Akash A. Chandawarkar
Gil D. Zaninovic-Perez

Vice President
Steven L. Camina
Angelsa G. Weiner

Secretary
Deepika Singh

Treasurer
Alex G. Alford

Social Chairs
Chris C. Hansen & Wesley W. Koo
Aditya G. Kohli & Julia Saxonov
Jeremy E. Smith & Tina P. Srivastava

Publicity Chairs
Ting Ting Luo & Wendy Wen

Source: Tiffany L. Seto '06

Class of 2009 Senate

Baker House (2 positions open)
Joy Liang '07

Bexley Hall (1)
Stephanie E. Nix '09

Burton-Conner (2)
Benjamin Navot '07
Ali S. Wyne '08

East Campus (2)
Christopher J. Varenhorst '09
Ruth A. Sherman '08

McCormick Hall (1)
HyeMee Shin '09
Namrata Verma '08

MacGregor House (2)
Martin F. Holmes '08
Heather M. Construe '07

Next House (2)
Andrew S. Clare '08
Ali Farinhamchi '07

New House (2)
Hans E. Anderson '08
Ali Farinhamchi '07

Random Hall (1)
Kevan E. Caldwell '08

Senior House (1)
Alessandra Z. Weibus '07
Dennis V. Perpetula '08

Simmons House (2)
Agustina R. Melta '08
Jennifer L. Wong '06

Interfraternity Council (5)
Zain A. Gulamali '06
Steven M. Kelch '08
Humberto Evans '08
Forrest J. Funnel '09
Pravin R. Palanapram '07
Keith A. Yost '08

Living Group Council (1)
Dylan A. Combs '07

Panhellenic Association (1)
Jor M. Dunn '08

Off-Campus (2)
Adam J. Miller '07
SOURCES: TIFF ANY L. SETO '06, ANDREW T. LUKMANN '06

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Bike Traveller Lived On Sparse Resources

average of 53 a day for food, using his own pots and pans to cook rice, pasta, potatoes, onions, and split pea soup. He bought whatever was cheap, and drank mostly tap water. Clothes were hand-washed in rivers, and air-dried as he rode his bike.

He spent a total of $3,000–$4,000 on his year-long trip, some of it on boat rides from La Paz on the Baja Peninsula to Mazatlan in Mexico and from Colon, Panama to La Isla Fuerte, Columbia, and on a plane ride back from Ecuador to Chicago at the end of his journey.

Welling, who took two years of Spanish in high school, initially resorted to using hand motions to communicate with locals, who helped him by providing clothes and sometimes housing. In populated towns, the natives' curiosity about the guy on the bike often paved the way for overnight stays at local homes.

“People could see I was living on my bike. I wasn't just going home for the day,” said Welling. However, for the most part, he camped alone in his tent, slept on hammocks, and hid from the rain in abandoned houses, drainage ditches, and baseball dugouts.

He used hotels very infrequently, once on the Baja Peninsula in Mexico, twice in Columbia because of the civil war, and a few times in southern Argentina due to the cold, he said.

On road conditions, Welling usually rode six and a half to seven hours per day, covering an average of 75 miles.

So how did someone who planned to go to MIT live without a computer or cell phone?

“As soon as you get out of the United States, every town has an internet cafe,” said Welling. He said it was easier to find an internet cafe in South America than a Starbucks in Seattle. There was a public phone and internet source every five blocks, he said. He carried very little cash with him as his U.S. debit card allowed him to withdraw local currency from almost any ATM in Latin America.

During the summer in 2002, Welling biked from Oregon south to California, west across the United States to New Jersey and finally back to Wisconsin, a total of 6,000 miles, in 3 months. The following summer, he biked 2,000 miles from Stevens Point, Wisconsin to Seattle.

For Info and Registration visit: web.mit.edu/idf

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Universities Ponder Facebook Etiquette

By Sarah Schweitzer  schweitz@bu.edu

Last school year, Brandeis University junior Emily Arosnoff tapped this sentiment into a computer: “I enjoy the festive greens.”

The reference to marijuana became part of her profile on Facebook, the online student catalogue that allows Arosnoff and tens of thousands of colleagues to share photos and pneumatic notes and ends of their lives, intended for viewing by other students.

But others were reading as well — including “an individual in the community,” she said, who shared the reference with her parents in Marietta, Ga. Eventually, word reached her grandmother.

“My Hubie,” she said, using the Yiddish word for grandmother, “told me her seniors home was abuzz with the news, and I was like: ‘I hate the Facebook.’”

As the Facebook has become a phenomenon at schools across the country — a virtual bible for campus socializing and networking — the unintended consequences of overly comprehensive, brutally frank, or mischievous entries are surfacing.

Colleges and universities are increasingly taking steps to help students avoid pitfalls — most critically, those that put students at risk for stalking and harassment. At Tufts University this year, freshmen-orientation leaders encouraged students to omit detailed personal information from their profiles, such as dormitory room numbers and class schedules. Boston College plans to do the same next year, and Boston University has instructed residential advisers on offering guidance on Facebook matters.

Meanwhile, Brandeis held an hour-long seminar last week on Facebook savvy — recommending safety tips, but also telling students to consider future employers, professors, or family members who might read Facebook entries. Indeed, some Brandeis administrators said at the meeting — to open-mouthed reactions of students attending — that they have begun reading Facebook entries before hiring a student for campus positions.

School officials noted that they are in an odd position when it comes to the Facebook. The online site is privately operated and not officially affiliated with colleges or universities. Some administrators say they believe the site should be a student domain in which young people feel free to express themselves in language and photos that are authentic representations, and not dressed up for adult eyes.

“This is a community forum, and I don’t want to good it up,” said Kenneth Elmore, dean of students at Boston University. “I think that would put some people in a real tough spot.”

And yet, administrators say they feel some obligation to ensure that students do not unintentionally step into an online minefield — such as the rants or brusque language on blogs, personal Web sites, and public message boards that have led some businesses to fire or discipline employees.

“It’s not appropriate for us to policing the site,” said Althea Bennett, the associate dean of students at Brandeis. “But we do need to educate them about how to make good choices and foresee consequences.”

Inflamed in the Facebook, launched in February 2004 by Harvard undergraduates who started the same service for high school students this month, have propelled some students into trouble.

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Concerned about yourself or a friend?

Come learn more about depression and resources on campus that can help at

**Depression Screening Day**

Bush Room (off Lobby 10)

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

4 - 7 p.m.

Fill out a depression screening form and enter to win a free iPod mini.

For more information, contact Zan Barry, Health Educator, at bars@med.mit.edu or 617-253-3646.

Ask a MedLink

I am NOT pregnant; why do they keep asking?

**Dear MedLink:** Whenever I see a male doctor at MIT Medical, they always ask me if I’m pregnant. I’m sick of this question. I haven’t had sex yet, so I know I’m not pregnant. Why do they keep asking? It’s embarrassing. —Feeling Pestered

**Dear Pestered:** I’ve also been asked this question by MIT Medical clinicians—both male and female. Like you, I wondered why they were asking me. So I asked them!

Turned out, it wasn’t just me. Clinicians routinely ask this question of all female patients, because the answer can often determine decisions about diagnostic tests or treatments. For example, if your doctor is considering something as simple as an x-ray or certain prescription drugs, he or she absolutely needs to know if there is any chance you might be pregnant. Certain drugs taken during pregnancy can cause health problems in a pregnant woman and birth defects in a baby; radiation from an x-ray can also harm a developing fetus.

I totally understand that it is not always easy for people to discuss more intimate issues with their doctors (or their parents or friends, for that matter). That’s why it’s so important to choose a personal physician with whom you feel comfortable. Once you’ve met with your personal physician a few times and developed some trust, it will be easier to discuss all your health concerns.

—Pam
**MIT Shoots for Katrina**

The MIT Pistol and Rifle team held a Fun Shoot in the DuPont Pistol and Rifle range last Thursday and Friday evening, a charity event to raise money for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Five rounds sold for $1.

*Left* Waldo Szczupak '07 trains his eye upon the target as he prepares to shoot a .22 caliber pistol.

*Below* Andrew Muth '07 lies prone, trying to steady a .22 caliber rifle.

Photography by Ricardo Ramirez

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**Information Session**

Thursday, September 29, 2005

7:00 p.m.

Cambridge Marriott

**Coffee Chats**

Friday, September 30, 2005

10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Au Bon Pain

245 Main Street, Cambridge

RSVP to sarah_drinkwater@mckinsey.com
The coming showdown between the two has not highlighted as much as the Red Sox and the Yankees, but it will be just as exciting. I still look for the White Sox to end up on top in the division.

AL West: The Angels have put the youngster Al’s back in their place. Billy Bean’s genius almost paid off. As they say, close but no postseason.

AL Wild Card: It’s between the Indians, the White Sox, the Red Sox and the Yankees. I think the Indians, playing Kansas City before hosting the Southpaw, have the easiest schedule and should take this away, leaving one AL East team home for the festivities.

National League East: Do we ever need to worry about the Braves? Regular season superiority, but postseason mediocrity.

NL Central: Two words: St. Louis.

NL “Worst”: Not much has changed in this pathetic little world. The leader, San Diego, is still haver ing around .500, looking to wrap it all up.

NL Wild Card: Houston is still the leading candidate. The Phillies are trying to make a push, but with the Astros’ rotation for last couple of games, it will be difficult to overtackle them. I still think Roger Clemens, Andy Pettitte and Roy Oswalt are the best 1-2-3 punch in the majors.

The Sox are probably going to throw David Wells, Curt Schilling and Tim Wakefield against the likes of the Yankees’ Chien-Ming Wang, Randy Johnson. He has dominated their pitching is off and on, but he should bounce back. The one super-staple to the team in terms of their pitching is Randy Johnson. He has dominated the postseason.

Chacon has been solid, and so has Andy Pettitte and Roy Oswalt are the best 1-2-3 punch in the majors. I still think Roger Clemens, Andy Pettitte and Roy Oswalt are the best 1-2-3 punch in the majors.

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**Red Sox, Yankees Fight For AL East Victory**

By Yongyi Zhu

With three games to go until the big showdown between the Yankees and the Red Sox, the question on everyone's mind is who will win the American League East? It is somewhat surreal how the Yankees, for the first time in ages, are trying to gain their way through the competition into the lead. The looming possibility that no New York team will make the postseason is shocking. The Yankees are still struggling to find their starting rotation. Jaret Wright was devastated during his loss on Tuesday, Sept. 27, when he suffered his worst loss in 15 years as Worcester State pulled away with a 49-6 victory.

**(Left)** Wide receiver Thomas J. Kilpatrick '06 leaps for a long throw. **(Below)** Running back Robert C. Utz '09 runs downfield. Utz had 54 yards on 16 carries.