Minority Admits Recover Even As Selectivity Rises

By Benjamin P. Gleitzman

Applying to college is a tricky business, and it isn’t getting any easier at MIT. The Institute’s number of early applicants jumped 10 percent from 2,709 to 3,098 this year, while only 12 percent, or 377 students, were admitted, continuing a long-term increase in selectivity.

This year also marks a success for the Admissions office, which doubled the percentage of admitted under-represented minorities at MIT.

After the Class of 2009 had only 14 percent under-represented minorities, wrote Marilee Jones in an e-mail, “we redoubled our recruitment efforts for this cycle. We’ve reorganized our staff and added a few top admissions officers from competitor schools.” The Classes of 2006–2008 had about 20 percent, making this year’s statistic of 27 percent a recent record.

Jones said that the spike in the total number of applications is a result of “our increased recruitment practices, a big presence in cyberspace with our MyMIT site and the blogs within it, and also the early application and early decision rules of our main competitor universities, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Princeton, and Columbia.”

MIT operates under an early action program, a nonbinding commitment that allows students to freely apply to multiple colleges.

Facebook Profiles Become Handy Tool for Recruiters

By Jiao Wang

Join a group. Ever heard of People Named My Name a Lot, Mispronounce My Name a Lot, Bubba Tea Anonymous, Tsunami Relief Fund-Raising Dinner, or Poker Night? It’s not 2005! More and more, the Facebook has become a standard part of public life and reshaping college landscapes around the country. But how many of us realize that faculty, staff, and potential employers are trespassing on student territory?

The Facebook was first created as an online social network for college students as a means of expression. It was launched to the public on Feb. 4, 2004 by a Harvard sophomore named Mark Zuckerberg, and since then has expanded to high school students and hundreds of colleges.

In the beginning, students often opted to display their profiles only to confirmed friends or to members of their own school. Now, increasing numbers of people are using their Facebook pages to promote themselves and their universities to potential employers.

Early Action, Page 12

Facebook, Page 12

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Supreme Court to Hear Case On Texas Redistricting Map

By Scott S. Greenberger

More Spending, Income Tax Cut Unlikely As Tax Revenues Slow

By By Scott S. Greenberger

Iraq Prison Raid Turns Up New Case of Mistreatment

By Jad Mouawad

Iraq's Election Will Not End Violence, Bush Says

By Elisabeth Bumiller

Weather

Clear and Cold

By Michael J. Ring

The weather map will be unusually quiet over the next few days, as only a few areas of snow and rain showers will mar otherwise clear skies across the country today.

Today’s forecast is certainly a far cry from last Friday, when Cambridge received about 8 inches of snow from a fast-moving nor’easter that snarled traffic across greater Boston. The storm conditions were especially difficult as the precipitation did not fall completely as snow, but turned from snow to rain and back to snow.

The storm track greatly affects the type of precipitation that Boston receives from winter storms. As the circulation around the low pressure is counterclockwise, warm air is forced to the east of the center and cold air to the west of the center. Hence a storm center staying far offshore produces snow, while an inland track favors rain. In between these extremes, however, precipitation type which result during changing precipitation for Boston as the city passes from cold to warm to cold as the storm comes through. These nor’easters produce the icy roadways and marquees that travel so dangerous.

The storm track is worth keeping in mind as another coastal storm is expected to develop later Friday. Inland projections show it along an inland track, so the current forecast is for precipitation to fall as mainly rain.

Tuesday:

Clean and cold. High near 27°F (-3°C).

Wednesday:

Clear and cold. High near 29°F (-2°C). Low near 19°F (-7°C).

Thursday:

Cloudy and slightly warmer. High near 33°F (1°C). Low near 28°F (-2°C).

Friday:

Rain and snow likely. High near 34°F (1°C).

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By Michael Slackman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

An outspoken Lebanese lawmaker and journalist known for his anti-Syria-
ian views and his support of the Palestinian cause was assassinated on Mon-
tuey morning as he drove to his job on a famed boulevard lined here from Paris less than 24 hours earlier.
The police said an explosive-laden pickup truck exploded near the mayor of the town of Blat, Gibran, Tueni, 48, drove by, killing him and his driver and injuring a passerby. Gibran was careless with fire-
berry blast just outside the capital that catapulted his armored car off a nar-
row road into a deep ditch.
**Letters To The Editor**

**Advising: Some Advice**

Over the past term, the Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCoEP) has been studying the current state of the advising program at MIT. Last November, our committee conducted a survey, titled DormASteem, of 10 percent of undergraduates to get feedback on the advising system. There were several specific aspects that students identified as problematic in the current advising system:

- Lack of Consolidated Resources
- Poor Advisor Availability Level
- Low Advisor Contact
- Ineffective Evaluation Process

We also found that the satisfaction level of students declines with time. On a 1-10 scale, members of the Class of 2009 rated their satisfaction with the advising system as 6.7, Class of 2008 as 5.9, Class of 2007 as 5.7, and Class of 2006 as 5.4.

I believe that President Hodell has addressed the topic of educational opportunities for women and economically disadvantaged individuals. Whether in the presence of business

**Strides or Baby Steps?**

*An Reflection on Hodell's First Year*

December 6 was a quiet day at the Institute; life proceeded as it would on any other December day at MIT. It marked the one year anniversary of President Hodell taking office as MIT's 16th President. Now is a good time to step back and reflect on the first year of the presidency.

The election of a life scientist as the leader of a premier engineering institute sent the message that MIT and engineering as a whole were ready to continue the exciting and productive beginnings of the last century when physics and engineering converged to produce the advances in technology and innovation that contributed to MIT's rise as a national leader in research and development.

The community had reservations about the wisdom of choosing a life scientist to lead an engineering institute. There were those who questioned whether someone with such expertise would be able to assimilate into the community. Then there were those who wondered if the commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and information expected from MIT would be compromised.

President Hodell came in with a strong vision and set of ideals of what an alumnus this nation. The president, in the remarks of August 26, 2004, made it very clear that the hope was that MIT would become the place where all school children in America were living up to expectations. The better question is, “Is the president living up to expectations?” I believe that President Hodell is a quick study and has developed a deep understanding of the unique environment harbored at the Institute.

President Hodell has expressed deep concern for the state of education in this country. The president spoke of the responsibility to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers. Recent events in the U.S. have made it imperative that MIT and the Office of the President aggressively take on this challenge. President Hodell has addressed the topic of educational opportunities for women and economically disadvantaged individuals. Whether in the presence of business

**Opinion Policy**

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

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily of the newspaper. Incorrect or offensive submissions are not received, and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397492, Cambridge, Mass. 02239-7429, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W26-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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

The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become the property of The Tech, and will not be returned. The Tech makes no guarantee of publication. Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT community or invited outside columnists. Col-

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The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure who to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and we will direct the appropriate person. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.the-tech.mit.edu.
December 13, 2005

Trio

My friend is really mad at me right now, and I was wondering if you had any gift ideas...

Well, what did you do?

I laughed at her, called her a dork, told her she’d never get a date, and when she DID get a cute, I spied on her, and completely embarrassed her in a crowded restaurant.

Wait, I might have just the thing for your situation...

A bulletproof vest. Hilarious.

No, what’s hilarious is how you actually think I’m kidding.

Updated Bobby’s Music Pick: ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

Moons of Uranus

by Emezie Okorafor

by Juan Pablo Mendieta

Crossword Puzzle

Download, page 12

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From Concept to Business
Seeking ideas in need of VC insight and management support to take from concept to business. Early-stage fund eager to work with smart people with smart ideas! We’ve successfully backed wireless, software and Internet business concepts. Contact: MIT@cambridgeeight.com

Royal Bengal
Boston’s only authentic Bengali Cuisine restaurant
313 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
(617) 491-1988
T: Red Line, Bus #1 – Central Square
Unique Bengali fish dishes include Paabda maachher jhol, Rui maachher kalia, Mothar goaag, Shorshe Ilish
Take-out, platters, and catering available. Delivery with minimum order. 10% Discount on $30 (or more) order with MIT ID.

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that every column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contain exactly one of each of the digits 1–9.

Bonuss Crossword
Solution, page 14

Dilbert® by Scott Adams
Study in Canada and receive up to $20,000 towards tuition

Come to an information session on the KILLAM FELLOWSHIP Program to learn how you can spend a semester or a year at a prestigious Canadian university

Date: December 16, 2005
Time: 2:30 - 4:30 PM
Location: 2-136

Refreshments will be served!

http://web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/killam.htm  Contact: Jennifer Cook, jaco0k@mit.edu, x 3-0676

The MIT AIAA and JetBlue Airways proudly present a Paper Airplane Competition!

Wednesday, December 14
3 pm • MAC Court
(MIT’s Z-Center, 3rd Floor)

Grand prizes include free ROUND-TRIP flights on JetBlue Airways!

For rules and details, visit web.mit.edu/aiaa/www

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics at MIT has established the rules and logistics of this competition. This contest is limited to MIT students and affiliates. Through the CrewBlue student rep program, JetBlue Airways has furnished several prizes, including a round-trip ticket anywhere JetBlue flies and two round-trip tickets between Boston and New York/JFK. Visit JetBlue online at jetblue.com
**CLASSICAL REVIEW**

*An Evening Tour of Russian Mastery*

**Shabalin Leads MITSO Through Emotionally Charged Repertoire**

By Tony Hwang

MIT Symphony Orchestra
Kresge Auditorium
Saturday, Dec. 9, 2005, 8 p.m.

**M**ITSO’s assistant conductor Alexey Shabalin made his first appearance on Saturday night, leading the orchestra through a varied assortment of Russian pieces. The audience was treated to movie music, excerpts from operas, and well-known symphonic work. Despite the slapstick comic elements of sometimes impec- cably rigid rhythmic constancy, MITSO delivered another clean performance that captured the main points of the program.

The orchestra began with Georgy Svi- rodov’s “The Blizzard,” an orchestral suite adapted from his musical scores to a film of the same name. The movie tells the story of a girl named Marya and a young officer who falls in love with her against the wishes of their parents. After an unsuccessful attempt to elope, the officer goes to war and is killed in battle, causing Marya to fall ill. But she eventually recovers both physically and mentally, and is able to move on with life.

It was easy to follow the story through the various songs of the suite. The opening number treated between loud, tempestuous noise and sections of angular quiet, reflecting the emotional turmoil of the couple as they fled through the blizzard in the darkness of the storm. Other parts were more pleasant, like the graceful melodies that captured the joys of being in love. MITSO played with proper execution and, despite some initial intonation discrepancies between the wind and string sections, was able to present the contrasting tones through the various parts of the suite. The “Little Military March,” for example, was light-hearted and up-tempo, while the “Romance” featured earnest solos that tugged at the listener’s heartstrings.

Shabalin could have given the soloists more rhythmic freedom to sing through melodic and truly express the emotional intensity behind the notes. The many solos often felt pushed along by the conductor’s baton, and the music had the potential to be much more touching. All in all, a solid performance of a likeable piece: it was not hard to see why this suite has become widely performed in Russia, and from this concert audience’s positive reaction, perhaps it should be played more often by American orchestras as well.

Next in the program was a series of three opera excerpts performed with baritone soloist Anton Belov. The first two were from Prokofiev’s opera, “Queen of Spades” and “Eugene Onegin,” while the last was from Ser- gei Rachmaninoff’s “Aleko.” Again, the story themes centered on pure love that has been tainted by unfortunate circumstance. Belov’s stage presence was compelling, and the inten- sity in his facial expression and body language held the audience’s attention without let- ting go. It is not surprising that his emunciation was almost impeccable, as Belov is also a specialist in Russian lyric, diction. MITSO did a decent job of following the soloist, and played carefully to avoid covering him up. Granted, Belov’s deep voice was extremely powerful, so the orchestra did not need to worry too much about compensating for volume.

The last piece in the concert was Tchaikovsky’s famous Symphony No. 4. It was com- posed with the impression of Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony in mind, and thus similarly presents motifs of fate that repeat throughout the sym- phony. However, it was written at a time when Tchaikovsky was uncomfortable with his homo-
DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Pamela N. Luna ’09 of the Muses sings in their winter concert, held last Saturday in 10-250.

sexuality, and it follows that he also adds themes of regret and hopelessness into this piece.

The symphony is unique in several ways, including the use of grand pauses (complete silence from the entire orchestra). In the midst of a strong opening from the winds, there are two short but well-placed moments of silence that add to the effectiveness of the notes that follow. Also, in addition to clever use of rests, the first movement plays with the triplet versus dotted eighth and sixteenth rhythm to spice up the tune. MITSO had difficulty distinguishing between the two, but still managed to capture the spirit of the movement. The second movement was lyrical, but unmatched articulations and the again inflexible tempo kept the orchestra from truly sounding beautiful. Much livelier was the third movement, where MITSO truly came together and played as a unit with great contrasts in dynamics and sudden switches in mood at transitions. Finally, the finale pushed forth with abounding vigor, escalating in waves through fast passages in the strings and again the grand pauses. The players gave a last push and ended the piece with a blast of energetic enthusiasm.

The MIT Symphony Orchestra gave a satisfying last performance of the semester, and introduced us to a significant part of the history of Russian classical music. Shabalin did an admirable job standing in for Anzolini, and with this performance MITSO has taken yet another step forward in cultivating its sound.

MITSO, from Page 8

Dance Troupe
Turns Up the Heat
In Fall Show

Dance Troupe held its biannual show, entitled Fahrenheit, last Thursday through Friday in Kresge Little Theater.

(above) Members of MIT’s Dance Troupe perform a number. Slick choreography and matching costumes were combined with a showcase of style and agility.

(right) Ken T. Takasagawa G and Karima R. Nigmatulina G in a passionate duet called “Incidental Tango,” a dance based on the “Gotan Project” by Santa Maria. This dance is choreographed by Christopher-Paul Muise.

(left) Michelle S. Machon G dances in “Para Siete,” a ballet number choreographed by Jessica D. Luttkus ’08.

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fun as it sounds, the idea of putting on that kind of wrapping around your spine, and ended up with all fake, you're not really getting punched, and I...

After a few welcoming remarks, the show lands, lights, and giant snowflakes on stage. 'Syriana' Interviews — Part 2 of 2

Dec. 12–29, 2005

Keith Lockhart, conductor

STAFF WRITER

Soloist Kathryn Skemp Impresses With Enchanting Voice

Boston Pops Performs a Magical Holiday Show

Page 10

INTERVIEW

Talking With George Clooney

'Syriana' Interviews — Part 2 of 2

By Kapil Anamath

George Clooney is one of Hollywood's most well-known actors. He recently directed and starred in "Good Night and Good Luck," a po-

Q: I wouldn't say shocking, but I would say surprising, because it's hard. I had to learn no Latin to it, so it killed me. There wasn't so hard, but you spend a few

Q: I don't really look at politics necessarily. I've certainly been outspoken at times oth-

Q: The truth is I'm really not looking at anything about him making...

Q: You're moving away from your sleeker im-

Q: I think every movie I've ever been in is an ensemble. Unless you're doing a one-man

Q: You're talking about an arrangement of traditional

Q: I was wondering, when you are choosing your lines, with various different stylistic executions.

Q: Many of the films that you've made like "Syriana," "Good Night, and Good Luck," and "Three Kings" all have politically charged plot lines, with various different political outcomes. I was wondering, when you are choosing your projects, and you are interested in the style or the politics of the movie? I don't really look at politics necessarily. I don't do it as if, since I've been fairly

Q: I think every movie I've ever been there. Matt, he gets some flak every once in a while, too. I'm going to give him some flak later today.

Q: You are going to get away from the Syriana film, especially as "Intolerable Cruelty," where you're just trying to find the proper style for the

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Aeon Flux

Wang's action movie about a cold-blooded killer. (Beckett Sterner)

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

juxtaposes the dangers and the thrills. Easily the best film of the series to date, "Goblet of Fire" is delightful in its dangers and thrills. Easily the best film of the series to date, "Goblet of Fire" is delightful in its dangers and thrills. (Yong-yi Zhu)

The Squid and the Whale

is a film about the triumph of good over evil (and yes, the Second Coming of Christ, he warns that the sky is falling down. If you expect- (Yong-yi Zhu)

A Town Like Alice

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Facebook, from Page 1

numbers of students are opening up their entries to anyone with a Face-
book account, sometimes making cell phone numbers, addresses and
class schedules accessible with an online search or two.
The profiles and contact infor-
mation on the Facebook are public
knowledge. Although most faculty
are happy to be divorced from stu-
dent culture and are not interested
making it a big part of their lives, a
few do have real Facebook entries.
These are usually ones who want to
find out about student life and cul-
ture, said Charles H. Stewart, profes-
sor of political science and McCor-
mick Hall housemaster.
“Almost every faculty member
who has a Facebook entry under-
stands students and would not be of-
fended by its material,” Stewart said.
Assistant Director of Admissions
Matthew L. McGann ’00 said he was
first invited to join the Facebook by
students. “There are a lot of people
who knew me through admissions
and blogs,” he said.
McGann’s friends are mostly students that he has admitted
and old classmates from MIT. He said
he would confirm just about anyone
from MIT as his friend.
Physics Professor Eric Hudson
also joined the Facebook because his
students invited him.
“Often students have a very stand-
offish view of their faculty,” said Hudson. At the beginning of a term,
Hudson uses the Facebook to look up
the students in his 8.02T (Physics II)
class. He said he does not investigate
the private lives of his students.
Hudson said he faltered when he
found out about the existence of the
Facebook.
Eric Hudson Fan Club and said he
did not look at it membership un-
til after the term had ended. Stewart
joined the Facebook because it was
suggested to him by a faculty col-
league. He said it is an interesting
way to get to know students.
The fact that there are real fac-
ulty entries on the Facebook should
remind students that there are other
people besides students who are
looking at their profiles. Stewart
said. He cautioned that the Facebook
is increasingly being used by em-
ployers to evaluate potential student
employees. He said he helps students
find jobs and internships and is in-
terested in knowing how they present
themselves to the outside world.
Sometimes, employers are sim-
ply curious about the people that
they employ. Other times, they won-
er whether a particular candidate
would cause them embarrassment
or problems in the workplace that
they would have to deal with later on.
According to Stewart, employers do not like to see evidence of vigorous pur-
tying or people not very well dressed
or not dressed at all.
One employer that Stewart knows
has her secretary look up everyone
who applies for research positions
there to see what sort of personality
they have as a screening device.
Employers are looking for people
who are relatively sensible, have a
good sense of humor, creativity, and
are well-rounded, Stewart said.
Stewart said that it is probably in
the interest of some people to claim
their own entry for themselves on
the Facebook so people do not put up
things harmful to them.
No one wants to see unpleas-
ant things about them in public,” he said.
Saxon Chaired MIT’s Corporation in 1980s

Saxon, from Page 1

He joined the faculty of UCLA in 1947, and three years later was one of 31 faculty members dismissed for objecting to the requirement then in place that all faculty sign an oath of loyalty and declare they were not members of the Communist Party. After the California Supreme Court invalidated the loyalty oath requirement, Saxon returned to UCLA in 1952.

At UCLA, Saxon served as dean, vice chancellor and executive vice chancellor before becoming provost in 1974 and president in 1975, a position he held until 1983.

Saxon joined the MIT Corporation in 1977 and became its chairman in 1983. He was elected a life member and named honorary chairman in 1990, and became life member emeritus in 1995. He served with distinction on the visiting committees for chemistry, physics and sponsored research, and on the membership and corporation development committees.

After leaving MIT, Saxon returned to UCLA as a professor emeritus in physics and astronomy.

“California, and the University of California, have lost a great leader in David Saxon,” Robert C. Dynes, University of California president, said in a statement. “David was a passionate believer in the university and, during a period of severe fiscal challenge, a tireless advocate for public higher education and the benefits it conveys to society. He was a man of principle and vision whose outstanding scholarship and thoughtful leadership made a lasting contribution to the university and the state.”

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Shirley; six daughters; and six grandchildren.

Donations may be made to the David Saxon Physics Graduate Fellowship Fund, UCLA Foundation, 741 N. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024; or to the Braille Institute, 10920 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Multiple Factors Affect Office Space Distribution

ASA, from Page 1

graduate member at large, said that some groups were not granted space because they had requested space not controlled by the ASA. Others did not qualify for space through the ASA because they are sponsored groups, he said. One group, Students for Labor Justice, was not granted space because it had not recently turned in a constitution or anti-hazing form, Shaw said.

Shaw said that in making its decisions, the ASA considered the times that groups use their offices, the types of activity, the amount of square footage, and any special needs for privacy. “Essentially every question on the original application came into play,” he said.

Earlier in the fall, the ASA had categorized groups by priority in receiving office space. Groups were then allowed to appeal their prioritization before final allocations were made. At this point, Shaw said, the ASA is no longer accepting appeals, though if a group has serious demonstrated need for a reallocation, the group is encouraged to approach the ASA. “We’ve had groups requesting the logistics” of why they received their allocation, Shaw said.

Office moves will take place in January, and the ASA will be handling moves on a case by case basis, Shaw said. He said that the ASA will be working with the Campus Activities Complex to ensure offices gain access at the appropriate time.

For a complete list of allocations, seek page 14.

Bernanke Claims Expertise At Choosing Donuts, Bagels

Bernanke, from Page 1

maintaining the gold standard during the Great Depression had worsened America’s economic woes, contrary to conventional economics wisdom, according to the New York Times.

In a January speech, Bernanke took a lighthearted perspective on his time as department head at Princeton. “I served seven years as the chair of the Princeton economics department,” he said, “where I had responsibility for major policy decisions, such as whether to serve bagels or doughnuts at the department coffee hour.”

The most likely change that Bernanke will implement upon becoming Chairman of the Reserve is to implement public targets for inflation, partly clarifying Greenspan’s obscurement approach.

“Greenspan was an individualist with an eclectic, adaptive approach to monetary policy,” Bengt Holmstrom, head of the Economics Department, in an e-mail in October. “Unlike Greenspan, Bernanke believes in setting inflation targets and sticking to them.”

Discover the mechanism of gravity

The proton and electron are formed simultaneously and (at long range) their electrostatic fields balance each other except for the tiny separation of their fields caused by the ether particle size (the Planck length $10^{-35}$ m).

The separation of the electrostatic fields of the proton - electron pairs in effect causes the two fields to oscillate about each other at a half amplitude equal the ether particle radius.

The oscillation of the opposite fields relative to each other produces the long range (inverse square force) field similar to the electrostatic field. This is the gravitational field.

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Joseph M. Brown

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Got News? Let The Tech know!
news@the-tech.mit.edu

Hotel Services Center

The Tech: December 13, 2005

ASA Student Group Office Allocations

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Source: Association of Student Activities

Groups must move into their new offices during Independent Activities Period. Offices are located in the Student Center unless otherwise indicated. Italics indicate shared space.

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No excuses, only opportunities

Bonus Crossword Solution from page 6

This space is donated by The Tech.
KC Will Beat Giants, Colts Stay Unbeaten

By Yong-yi Zhu

December 13, 2005

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With a New Lineup, Men's Hoops Defeats Mount Ida Mustangs

By Erin Munsell

The MIT Men’s Basketball Team won convincingly last Tuesday night, defeating the Mount Ida Mustangs 62-49. With this win, the Engineers are now 7-1, while Mt. Ida dropped to 1-7. MIT was first to score as Daniel F. Kanamori ’06 drove the lane, and made a basket while being fouled, then made the free throw to complete the three point play. MIT was up 3-0 and never trailed at any time during the entire game. The Engineers maintained momentum after starting out strong, beginning the game on a 12-3 run. However, Mt. Ida fought back to 26-18, cutting the Engineers’ lead to 2, the smallest of the game. This was because of a few sloppy plays from the Engineers, trying to play too fast or making bad passes. MIT recovered slightly before the half was over, stretching their lead to 8 at half-time, 33-25. The Engineers started the second half as strong as the first. They opened with a 33-3 run, bringing their lead to 46-28. The Engineers played very well in the beginning of the second half, midway through their lead was 52-32.

Ballroom Rookies Dance to Win

By Shlomo H. Meislin

Last week, as the first lasting snowfall fell over New England, several members of the M.I.T Ballroom Dance squad switched their way through New Haven’s Payne Whitney Gym for the 14th Annual Yale Ballroom Dance Competition. Upon entering the massive Cathedral-like structure, they were greeted with the anachronistic scene of feather, sequin, and tailcoat-laden dancers on a backdrop of neoclassical arches.

The MIT rookies maintained their season-long dominance of the Newcomer level events at Yale. Vi- kram Chandrasekhar G and Jane M. Wolcott ’09 won the Newcomer International Waltz event, followed by Ran Yi and Olga Rastapoulova and Alex D. Salcianu G and Stefania P. Stancheva in second and fourth, respectively. Yi and Rastapoulova also came in second place in Newcomer International Chacha/Rumba. In American style, the Yale Com- petition pitted newcomers against more experienced bronze-level dancers in a combined “beginner” cat- egory. Despite the added challenge, MIT rookies fared well. In Beginner American Waltz/Foxtrot, Zhifang Zhang and Tracy A. Hammond G placed fifth and Yi and Rastapoulova, sixth, while Chandrasekhar and Wol- cott made it to the top 12 in a field of over 110 couples. All three couples reached the semifinals in Beginner American Chacha/Rumba, and in Swing, Yi and Rastapoulova placed fourth, while Adam Lerer ’09 and Marcelle Noble reached the semifinals.

Several more MIT rookies succeeded in making at least one cut, no small feat considering that a large number of their opponents had up to a year’s experience over them. As for the veterans, nearly every competing couple reached a final. In Silver Standard, Eric Sturtevant and Jin Zhou G placed second in Waltz; Quickstep and fourth in Tango. In Silver Latin, David Xie and Amy Y. Tang ’06 placed third in ChaCha/ Rumba and fourth in Samba/live. Meanwhile, competing in the international-style dances, Boris Berd- tchenek SM ’00 and Jessica R. Hsu ’06 placed second in Open Standard (Waltz/Tango); Vincenzo Waltz/Fox- trot; Quickstep and fourth in Open Latin (Chacha/Rumba/Samba/Paso Doble/live).

In the past several years, a num- ber of more advanced dancers have graduated or left the team, and current MIT/BIT members must rebuild the roster. With no flyingmagic to Breeze and yearnings competitive in Silver, the team’s future rests on good feet.

The Wiesner Student Gallery is now accepting submissions for our February Curated Show:

Amorous Intent: Looking for Love at MIT

We are looking for the cynical, the sweet, the humorous, the melancholy, the fuzzy, the bitter, and any other interpretation on the theme of love at MIT.

To apply visit http://web.mit.edu/saa/wiesner/ or email studentcurator@mit.edu.

Deadline January 13th, 2006

The Red Sox have had a busy off- season as they scramble to find a new general manager and piece together a complete team in preparation for the 2006 season. I know what you hard- core Red Sox fans are thinking. The recent hot stove action has the Red Sox looking less like the “Loveable Losers” of recent years and more like the diabolical “Evil Empire” of the New York Yankees.

First, team president Larry Luc- chino let Theo Epstein walk away and make a clean break from the Red Sox organization, at least for now. As if this weren’t bad enough, the Red Sox shipped off Hanky Ramirez, the keystone of the future of the Red Sox, for an injury prone pitcher and a sub-par corner infielder with a less than stellar performance record.

On top of that, the Red Sox are unloading two more underperform- ing and overpaid players in Rent- ria, who was recently traded to the Braves, and Matt Clement, who was last rumored to be headed off to Mil- waukee. These kinds of moves have the hallmark of George Michael Steinbrenner III. What’s even more puzzling and also troublesome is try- ing to figure out who is behind these moves.

From the outside looking in, it seems Lucchino is getting his hands deep into personnel decisions, which is in itself disturbing. Let’s not for- get who met with Pedro Martinez prior to the 2005 season. Was it Theo Epstein, the baseball organization’s general manager at the time? Absolu- tely not. Lucchino did the walking and talking. Selling championship souv to the Red Sox faithful for $100? That’s just plain evil.

I think it’s safe to say that there is a disturbance in the force around Yanke Way. Perhaps Lucchino is the embedded Sith Lord who is slow- ly but secretly turning our beloved Ga- lactic Senate into the dreaded “Evil Empire”?

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2005

Varsity Women’s Basketball vs. Westfield State College

7 p.m., Rockwell Cage