As Funding Drops, Young Researchers Suffer Most
By Sara Shipley Hiles
THE TECH STAFF

The physics department at MIT accepted only 25 graduate students this year, down from 50 in years past. Several job candidates turned down the prestigious school for work in other countries where science funding is considered more stable. And two MIT contracts with NASA — that PhD candidates rely on to pay for their work — were trimmed by 91 percent.

After years of steady support for science funding and a spurt in health sciences research over the last decade that drew many young people into research labs, federal funds are now flat or declining in many areas. Researchers in nearly every field are finding it harder to win competitive grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and other research agencies. But those hurt most by the utra-competitive climate, say academicians at MIT and elsewhere, are young researchers who are just starting their studies or their careers.

## Top Salaries at MIT for 2003–2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Compensation</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles M. Vest</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>$661,882**</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allan S. Butfield '59</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>$167,539</td>
<td>-1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert A. Brown</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>$306,128</td>
<td>19.1**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John B. Carty</td>
<td>Executive Vice President</td>
<td>$411,343</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald L. Ledford</td>
<td>Deputy Dean, Professor of Management</td>
<td>$447,994</td>
<td>22.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas L. Magnanti</td>
<td>Dean of Engineering</td>
<td>$433,301</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Schmaltz '65</td>
<td>Dean of Sloan School</td>
<td>$428,295</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David L. Briggs</td>
<td>Director of Lincoln Laboratory</td>
<td>$414,010</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven D. Engerman</td>
<td>Deputy Dean, Sloan School</td>
<td>$359,714</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip L. Clay PhD '75</td>
<td>Chancellor</td>
<td>$326,375</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine R. Willmore</td>
<td>Vice President, Secretary of the Corporation</td>
<td>$237,798</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana G. Mead PhD '97</td>
<td>Chairman of the Corporation</td>
<td>$194,707</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Salaries include compensation and benefits for the fiscal year of 2004, the most recent available. The percent increase is from the previous fiscal year. The salaries include MIT’s executive officers and top five highest-paid employees. Engerman and Mead were not listed in FY 2003, although Mead’s predecessor as provost, Charles M. Vest, received the comparable amount of $194,505.

*Does not include $5,000 from an expense account, which compares to $8,094 in fiscal year 2003.
**Brown received $44,100 from a Children’s Scholarship Benefit that he did not receive in fiscal year 2003.

## Student is Arrested On Assault Charges

By Marie Y. Thibault
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT graduate student Dong Zhang was arrested last month and charged with assault and battery of his ex-girlfriend, who is also a student at MIT. He faces three counts: assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and threat to commit a crime. Assault and battery with a dangerous weapon is a felony charge in Massachusetts, and if found guilty, Zhang could face a maximum of 10 years in state prison.

The incident is one of three on campus aggravated assaults that occurred in 2005. Zhang declined to comment last week.

According to the Cambridge Police incident report, the victim had been in a relationship with Zhang for five years but had broken up with him over the phone in July. According to the report, the victim said that in early December, Zhang tried to renew the relationship, but she made it clear that she was not interested.

On Dec. 18, Zhang “acting nervously,” came to the victim’s office to pick up a personal belonging, the victim later told MIT Police, according to the report. He asked her what she was dating, but she told him that he was none of his business, the report said. The incident report states that Zhang then kicked the victim in the chest with his shoe foot, and fell off the chair to the floor. Zhang also threatened to kill the victim, according to the report.

After calming Zhang, the victim told him that he needed to go to MIT Medical because her chest hurt, the report states. He insisted on accompanying her, and she told him they should both go to the police station.

## iCampus Selects Final Recipients of Funding

By Benjamin P. Gleitzman
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In its last year of funding, projects funded by iCampus, a $25 million partnership between MIT and Microsoft Research, are going international.

If OpenAfrica, a project by Mohamed A. Haji ’06 is successful, more students in Africa may have the chance to take the SAT’s and apply to colleges around the world. iCampus has championed the funding of sustainable student and faculty-led projects to revolutionize the practice of higher education using the tools of information technology.

Grants from iCampus were available to MIT students for one year of funding, and to faculty for two.

OpenWetWare, created by Jason R. Kelly G, a Web site that can be edited by the public, also known as a wiki, designed to promote the sharing of information, know-how, and wisdom among researchers and groups working in biology and biological engineering. OpenWetWare allows labs, groups, and individuals to organize information and collaborate easily with others, according to the “Campus Web site.” The project was inspired by the interactive online encyclopedia Wikipedia and OpenCourseWare, an MIT initiative that posts course material for hundreds of MIT classes on the internet for public use.

## Two Tulane Students Remain At MIT

By Angeline Wang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Two of the 10 students hosted by the Institute last term after their universities were temporarily shut down by Hurricane Katrina are staying on for at least another semester, with at least one hoping to permanently transfer to MIT.

The two students, Luke H. Harris ’09 and Shae Elany ’08, both hail from Tulane University, which re-opened its doors this month while cutting back its academic programs, and engineering, to help its other eight students who have returned to their home institutions, said Julie B. Norman, associate dean of academic re- sources.

Harris said his academic performance in the spring semester will help to determine whether MIT has decided to admit him as a permanent student. If he earns A’s and B’s he will be admitted as a transfer student, he said.

Transfer admission is typically far more competitive than freshman
Alito's Confirmation Certain
Given Likely Party-Line Vote

By David D. Kirkpatrick

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted along party lines on Tuesday to approve the Supreme Court nomination of Judge Samuel A. Alito Jr. as senators turned the occasion into a broader and sometimes heated debate over the rancorous and partisan nature of the confirmation process.

Republicans threatened retaliation against future Democratic nominees, saying that Democrats had rallied party members to vote against Alito's confirmation for political reasons unrelated to his qualifications. Democrats said that a close vote would warn President Bush not to name such conservative judges.

Recalling the overwhelming bipartisan majorities that approved President Bill Clinton's Supreme Court nominees, justices Ruth Bad- er Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer, several Republican senators said that their party had evaluated the qualifications of nominees in less ideological terms. They said that the Democrats' opposition to Alito could alter the judicial confirmation process.

Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., warned: "I say to my Democratic friends, think carefully about what is being done today. Its impact will be felt well beyond this particular nomi- nation."

Democrats countered that the Bush administration had put the court's confirmation process by nomi- nating a roster of staunch conserva- tives to the federal courts.

"It's a very different day and time" than during the Clinton ad- ministration's nominations, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said. "There was not the polarization within America that is there today and not the defined move to take this court in a singular direction.

The committee vote, with all 10 Republicans voting to confirm and all eight Democrats voting to reject the nomination, sets the stage for an equally contentious if predictable debate beginning Wednesday on the Senate floor. Many Democrats have indicated they are unlikely to vote to confirm Alito.

But as the end of the relationship with Disney and we looked at our future, we were at a fork in the road," said Jobs. And he said, "Disney is the only company with animation in their DNA.

As part of the agreement, Disney will issue 2.3 shares for every share of Pixar stock. Pixar has $1 billion in cash. That would value the deal at $59.78 a Pixar share based on Disney's $25.99 closing price on Tuesday.

Six Powers to Meet in London To Seek a Common Policy on Iran

By Elaine Sciolino

WASHINGTON

The foreign ministers of Britain, France, Germany, Russia, China and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will meet in Lon- don on Monday in an effort to resolve their differences on how best to punish Iran for its nuclear activities, three diplomats said Tuesday.

The United States and the Europeans believe that the U.N. Secu- rity Council must begin to pass judgment now on Iran for its nuclear behavior. The decision was triggered by Iran's decision earlier this month to suspend plant operations despite a voluntary agreement freezing such activity, although the behavior being criti- cized also includes violations of Iran's treaty obligations over the years.

But Russia and China are resisting entreaties to move immediately, arguing that Iran should be pleased to close the plant but should be given more time to comply with the demands being made before the Security Council acts.

Disney Agrees to Acquire Pixar In a $7.4 Billion Deal

By Laura M. Holson

The Walt Disney Co. said Tuesday that it would acquire Pixar Animation Studios for $7.4 billion in a stock deal that not only gives Pixar's chief executive, Steve Jobs, a powerful role in Hollywood, but also stirs hopes for rekindling the animated storytelling tradition at Disney.

As part of the deal, Jobs will become a nonindependent director at Disney as well as its largest shareholder, ahead of Iger's predecessor, Michael D. Eisner.

"We approached the end of our relationship with Disney and we looked at our future, we were at a fork in the road," said Jobs. And he said, "Disney is the only company with animation in their DNA.

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Attorney General Defends Surveillance Without Warrants

By Eric Lichtblau

WASHINGTON

Continuing the Bush administration's stepped up defense of the National Security Agency's eavesdropping program, Attorney Gen- eral Alberto R. Gonzales Tuesday cited a long history of military surveillance conducted without warrants, going back to George Wash- ington's reading of captured mail between the British and Americans during the Revolutionary War.

In a speech at Georgetown University, Gonzales also said that it was crucial for the president to be able to act quickly on the pro- fessional judgment of intelligence experts to gather information on potential plots.

The warrantless only involved calls or e-mail between someone in the United States and someone in another country "when experi- enced intelligence experts have reason to believe that one party to the communication is a member of Al-Qaeda or has an affiliation with it," Gonzales said.

Gonzales' speech follows up a letter given on Monday by Bush, in which he labeled the wiretaps a "terrorist surveillance program."
Google Excludes E-mail and weblogs In Chinese Version of Search Engine

By David Barboza

Google is bringing a special version of its popular search engine to China, leaving behind two of its most popular services - e-mail and weblogs - to Chinese users.

In an effort to cope with China's increasingly pervasive Internet control, Google decided to stop supporting the services on Tuesday. The move would introduce a search engine here that is different from the one used in its other Chinese-language sites.

In his remarks, Obama said the biggest challenge facing Israel was defining the country's political borders in ways that assured a continued Jewish majority. While maintaining his and Barak's "historic homeland" he said demographically realistic requirements handed border issues to the Palestinian side. They captured during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

The choice between allowing Jews to live in all parts of the land of Israel and living in a continuous Jewish majority mandates giving up parts of the land of Israel," he said. "We will not be able to continue ruling over the territories in which the majority of the Palestinian population lives.

Olmert did not offer new proposals, but said the time was come to revive peace-making efforts, with the Palestinians holding parliamentary elections on Wednesday and with Israel holding its legislative elections on March 28.

"The elections tomorrow in the Palestinian territories, of course, are an opportunity for the Palestinians to take a giant step toward realizing their goal to achieve national independence," he said. But he added, the key to the political process forward is for the Palestinians to abandon the path of terror.

The Palestinians could have a state in all of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, with a capital in East Jerusalem. Islamic faction Hamas, which has waged a successful campaign in the territories against Israel, is poised to make a strong showing, and Israel and Hamas have agreed to deal with each other.

"It's not a question of whether we should, but it's a question of how we should," said Olmert. He went on to say that he backed the creation of a Palestinian state, which would eliminate as many as 30,000 jobs over the next six years, and it would reduce the number of white-collar employees in Germany, with 25 percent in the United States.

The company said it would save $1.8 billion a year after this and started to streamline the core processes in our divisions," Dieter Zetsche, the group's head of white-collar cuts, 30 percent would come from the management level.

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By last spring, the Class of 2005 addressed a great student need with their choice of gift to the Institute: a student lounge in the old cashiers' office. The notion of a central social space was well-received, and details of the future space were printed on the front page of The Tech. This plan included a glass-etched memorial to the current dollar mural. People read and acknowledged the mural, but somehow, the concept of replacing (and therefore removing the mural) didn't quite click with everyone.

The dollar mural is a campus landmark, but it’s not a State, or a Simmons, or even a borrowed design, after all. Yet somehow, the dollar mural is a spectacle for everyone passing by as it sits in their first trip down the Infinite. And when Susan Hoakfield became president, the mural's temporary update served as an easy front-page picture for the campus and alumni newspapers.

What is even more impressive is that the mural was made by students. Sure, Frank Gehry can make a big impression on campus, but the dollar mural was painted by members of the Class of 1970. Some of the best pieces of MIT folklore are the ones that students created. Yes, MIT is a well-designed space will be inviting by itself. It is possible that deep down, most students, undergraduate and graduate, think replacing the mural is a bad idea. Yet when the plans were announced last spring, there was little public outcry. Not until the fall late did one of my Undergraduate Association senators e-mail me, citing dormitory looking for feedback, and even then, I don’t know what became of my comments.
Over our winter break, a single stroke of misfortune drastically changed the political situation in the most volatile region of the world. The tragic incapacitation of former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon sent shock waves across the globe and left only questions regarding the future of Israeli policy.

For those who have not been following Israeli politics, a brief recap is in order. Sharon, after an initial hawkish ascent to the position of prime minister in 2001, has in the past couple of years adopted more of a middle path filled with the potential for compromise with the Palestinians. His defining action in office, which occurred this past August, involved the complete Israeli pullout from the Gaza strip, a move that angered several members of his own hard-line Likud party. Actions began to grow within the party in subsequent months, the under-fire Sharon this past November boldly announced the creation of a new centrist party called Kadima, loosely translated as Forward, to which several of his friends and foes defected. This latest maneuver paid off quite well, as the polls predicted Kadima would easily win the elections scheduled for March. But the recent tragedy has put a hold on all of these plans. Sharon was the face of Kadima, and without him, opponent parties can now secretly breathe more comfortably.

There is a distinct chance that the man who will gain the most from Sharon’s removal is one whose name the MIT community should recognize quite well: Benjamin Netanyahu ’75. Indeed, he received an SB in Architecture and Urban Planning from MIT, and then an MS in Management from MIT, and then shared his vision for the development of space exploration.

He is not a picture of autonomous robotics preparing a landing site and habitat for humans to settle, and make sure to note both benefits and pitfalls of such exploration. Although he made clear the importance of robots, Brooks asserted that their ultimate purpose was to assist humans in their exploration of space.

Brooks then moved on to the role of robotics on earth, explaining how our lives are being enhanced by new developments in robotics and sensor technologies. He explained how research in CSAIL, and other areas is working toward developing robots better able to perform tasks outside of the manufacturing and office sector.

Following the talk, individuals broke off and formed groups to discuss and formulate questions, which Brooks answered informally but formed groups to discuss and formulate questions, which Brooks answered informally but

The setting for the talk, the robotics gal-

Image was provided by the author.

The problem with Netanyah

us is that he may well reverse everything Sharon worked so hard recently to gain.

As foreign and finance minister intermittently since then. Now, as a path to the peak of Is-

rael’s political hierarchy opens up, Netanyah may be well-positioned to return to his position atop the Knesset.

The problem with Netanyah is that he may well reverse everything Sharon worked so hard recently to gain. Some critics have at-
tacked the Gaza removal as a ploy by Sharon to further delay negotiations for the creation of a Palestinian state for years to come, hence destroying any real chance of peace in the re-

region.

But at this point, who cares? Even if the ex-
cution of the Gaza evacuation carried with it hidden, sinister motives, it was crucial to keep the discussion flowing in the right direction. Now, given the compromise, the current lead-

ship has the chance to embark on the path that seemed so distant only a couple of years ago.

Netanyahu is a hard-line politician, with little inclination to give an inch to the oppon-

ent, chiefly personi-

fied by the Palestinians. Netanyah has previously said, “If they give — they’ll get. If they don’t give — they won’t get.” Will he promote progress, or will he re-

gressively retreat? I have my doubts.

Yet, I am not much in favor of Kadima com-

ing to power. What has defined politics in the Middle East is the emergence of singular, bril-

liant leaders, be it David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin, Gamal Abdel Nasser, Aung San Suu Kyi, or, for that matter, Ariel Sharon, among countless others. Ehud Olmert, the act-

ing prime minister and Sharon’s successor in Kadima, doesn’t quite have the same power in personality to effectively lead the region into happier times.

The only ones who can really command the stage at this seminal moment are Amir Peretz of the Labor Party, or, of course, Netanyah from Likud. With his extensive experience and ability to command respect from all par-

ties, Netanyah seems more qualified to take over the country. While Peretz is a superlative choice if the dynamics remained solely domes-

tic, the addition of the international arena gives Netanyah a clear advantage. The burning question in Israeli politics now, however, is whether Kadima will be able to carry on the legacy of Sharon without the man himself. Currently, Kadima is gaining ground in polls, the latest numbers suggest that it will take anywhere from 42 to 44 seats in the 120 seat parliament, well ahead of the Labour and Likud parties.

But, the situation could be very delicately dependent on Sharon’s condition. Should Sha-

ron be declared officially incapacitated, how will the public respond? Coupled with an en-

ergetic and sympathetic campaign from the op-

position, this declaration might well prompt a loss of confidence in Kadima, and a Labour or Likud victory. Even though the polls currently favor Kadima, one must feed Big Ben’s words — “I always lose the election in the polls, and I always win it on election day.”

If the does win the March elections, unlikely at this stage, Netanyah will still have to deal with the current Kadima, and to a lesser extent, Labour. Likud should not consider Sharon’s fall to be an opportunity to improve their hard-line stance on the Middle East; rather, they should take the chance to move forward in the peace process using the track Sharon has already laid. If Netanyah does progress his predecessor’s policies, I’m confident that not only will the situation between Israel and Palestine improve, but also that his party will gain significant po-

litical capital for the years to come.

If, however, Netanyah decides to revert to his uncompromising stance, we could eas-
ily witness a complete breakdown in law and order, particularly as the Palestinians are all-
together with Renu. The choice could be in an MIT alum’s hands and I hope I can say that I rather like that way.

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Are they getting tired of it?

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Credit Suisse | Thinking New Perspectives.
Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 15

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that every column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contain exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.
Solution on page 15.

Solution, tips, and computer program at http://www.sudoku.com
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This is where you need to be.
Cubism Explained
Museum of Fine Arts Offers Simple, All-encompassing Exhibit

By W. Victoria Lee

FACES OF CUBISM
Museum of Fine Arts
Through April 16
45 Huntington Ave., Boston

C ubism is a word so familiar and yet so confusing. It is a term you've heard, but what does it mean? To find out, try a visit to the exhibit "Faces of Cubism," now on view at the Museum of Fine Arts. A small but varied collection, it occupies a medium-sized gallery; but the facets of Cubism provide more than a glimpse.

The artistic liberation exemplified by Paul Cézanne and exotic aboriginal art from Africa and South Pacific is celebrated in the display of Cubism. Cubism was the brainchild of Pablo Pi- casso and Georges Braque, it came into being at the dawn of the 20th century and subsequently became arguably the most popular “ism” of art at the time. To delve into the full account of the history of Cubism would be like the cubic strokes — hard. Analytic Cubism, Synthetic Cubism: the types of Cubism and their influence can be difficult to elucidate. But the exhibit is well or- ganized and does not dwell on artistic jargon, so anyone can follow the twists and turns of the Cubist tale with relative ease.

A series of Picasso’s early works are placed in chronological order, showing the progress of his development. As he evolved, Picasso moves from figures looking like humans to figures that look, well, cubic. Not only did the Cubists fragment their subjects, but they also made the colors that palette even more earthy, the execution of their figures more physical. Evidence of scratchy, not fluid, strokes is often visible on the canvases. People are also not the only subjects that are “cubized.” Many everyday objects, like bowls and cups, did not escape the attention of the great Cubists. The result is a strange and at times chaotic indeed, but it also has an underlying stability and sense of equa-
tion. The tension of order and disorder is one key aspect of what makes the Cubist paintings so captivating.

Cubism, though, is not limited to paintings. The exploratory Cubists, who besides Picasso and Braque included Fernand Léger, Juan Gris, Jacques Lipchitz, Robert-Victor-Félix Delaunay and Christian Merattend, who progressed from human to machine, and many others, ventured into other media, such as sculpture. Quite a few Cubist sculptures are display-

ed in the middle of the gallery alongside the African and South Pacific masks which heavily influenced Cubism. The Cubist paintings and sculptures and the indus-
tial objects are shown in the light that they were formed to endow the Cubists’ work with a modern vernacular quality.

The exhibit also includes samples of Cubist books with illustrations of, you guessed it, more Cubist figures. TheMuseum of Fine Arts is a great way to learn more about Cubism and experience the world that is Cubism.

Film Review

‘Glory Road’ Worth Traveling
Inspirating Sports Movie Inaccurate but Heartwarming

By Brian Chase

Rated PG-13
Produced by Jerry Bruckheimer
Written by Eugene Jarecki
Directed by James Gartner
Glory Road
By Brian Chase

Don Haskins (Josh Lucas) creates an integrated championship team in “Glory Road.”

The most dramatic themes in the movie are the personal challenges and changes that the players go through during the course of the season. Willie Cager (Damaine Radcliff) struggles with his desire to play basketball despite having hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a heart condition that threatens his life. Nevil Sheldon (All Shearer) learns gradually how to overcome his own self doubt and play with strength in both life and his post. Indeed, the whole team comes together in the face of racial hate, from trash, food, and spit being thrown on them, to getting beaten in restrooms, and worse. Even though each player only has a little screen time focused on his problems, the terrific acting makes it count, and the movie gives you a sense of how every one of the seven black players, and a couple of their white teammates, grow during the season.

Unfortunately, though, a few problems keep the movie from being its best. There is too much of a focus on international history in the movie. "Why We Fight" offers no empowerment, no alternative to America policies. Still, it is a drama, and it does an admirable job of telling a story about the military during World War II. The movie/movie/tv show, it is simply false to claim that America only goes to war for freedom and democracy. If you scoff at the idea that America fights only for its ideals, then it is worth asking why does America fight in the first place. The movie consistently engages with all of the substance of its opposing thesis. At some level, this is unfair because it is impossible to do any complicated topic full justice in 90 minutes, and Jarecki cov-

ers more than I expected possible.

Josh Lucas plays the same task master throughout the entire movie, and almost never cracks a smile. True, the movie did have a whole team who needed to developed characters, but the coach is also one of the most important people in the story. The most emo-
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Woody Allen Aces ‘Match Point’
Unusually Young, Sexy Flick Offers British Twist

By Kapil Amarnath

March Point
Directed by Woody Allen
Written by Woody Allen
Starring Brian Cox, Matthew Goode, Scarlett Johansson, Emily Mortimer, Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Penelope Wilson
Rated R
Now playing

I wouldn’t want Chris Wilton (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) to be my tennis coach. His forehand has poor form, all backswings and no follow-through. His grip doesn’t allow him to obtain the topspin required to become a great player. Fortunately, however, he’s just a fictional character — a very good one — burdened by the need to fulfill every written directive. The result is a beautifully crafted film that tells a story strikingly similar to some of the oldest tales of love in our society. (Andrew Guerrera)

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe
★★★

Set in 18th-century Venice, this romantic comedy is not only a chick flick, but the perfect date movie of the season. This story of finding true love via mistaken identities is rife with prettiness, and features some good acting. Heath Ledger as Casanova is surprisingly sympathetic, and Jeremy Irons deserves a helluva lot just for himself and his like a stage when you have the TV as the backdrop in this small role and will be the lead in “Scoop,” Allen’s second film in Britain, due out next year. Woody Allen Aces ‘Match Point’
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January 25, 2006
The test has revealed extensive manipulation of the human embryonic stem cells made by Dr. Hwang Woo Suk. At the Journal of Cell Biology, the test has revealed extensive manipulation of photos. Since 2002, when the test was put in place, 25 percent of all accepted manuscripts have had one or more illustrations that were manipulated in ways that violated the journal's guidelines, said Michael Rossner of Rockefeller University, the executive editor. The editor of the journal, Ira Mellman of Yale, said that most cases were resolved when the authors provided originals. "In 1 percent of the cases we find authors have engaged in fraud," he said.

The two editors recognized the likelihood that images were being improperly manipulated when the journal required all illustrations to be submitted in digital form. While reformulating illustrations submitted in the wrong format, Dr. Rossner noted that some authors had yielded to the temptation of Photoshop's image-changing tools to misrepresent the original data.

In some instances, he found, authors would remove bands from a gel, a test for showing what proteins are present in an experiment. Sometimes a row of bands would be duplicated and presented as the controls for a second experiment. Sometimes the background would be cleaned up, with Photoshop's rubber stamp or clone stamp tool, to make it prettier.

Some authors would change the contrast of an image to eliminate traces of an algorithm that had been used to enhance the image, Dr. Rossner said. They would also hide it with a patch of nearby background. This involves a duplication of material, which may be invisible to the naked eye but can be detected by mathematical analysis.

If an object is enlarged beyond the proper resolution, Photoshop may generate extra pixels. If the object is rotated, another set of pixels is generated to maintain a characteristic pattern.

An object introduced from another photo may have a different angle of illumination. The human eye is largely indifferent to changes in lighting, Dr. Farid said. But the conflicting sources of illumination in a single image can be detected by computer analysis and are a sign of manipulation.

"At the end of the day you need math," Dr. Farid said. He hopes to have a set of algorithms available for beta-testing by Dr. Rossner.

Journals depend heavily on expert reviewers to weed out papers of poor quality. But as the Hwang case showed again, reviewers can miss the story. The much-delayed reviews of researchers is not to check for concocted data but to test whether a paper's conclusions follow from the data presented.

The screening test addresses an issue reviewers cannot easily tackle, that of whether the presented data accurately reflect the real data. Because journal editors now have the ability to perform this sort of quality control, "they should do it," Dr. Rossner said.

The scientific community has not yet come to grips with the temptations of image manipulation. Dr. Mellman said, and he would like to see other journals adopt the image-screening system, even though it takes 30 minutes a paper. "We are a poor university press," he said, without the large revenue enjoyed by journals such as Nature, Science and Cell. "If they can't bear this cost, something must be dreadfully wrong with their business models," he said.

Science, in fact, has adopted The Journal of Cell Biology's guidelines and has just started to apply the image-screening test to its own manuscripts. "Something like this is probably inevitable for most journals," said Katrina Keeler, a deputy editor of Science.

She became interested as a quality control measure, not because of the concocted papers of Dr. Hwang, two of which Science published. For the latter, Dr. Mellman says the system would have caught at least the second of Dr. Hwang's fabrications, since it "popped out like a sore thumb" under the image screening test.

But other editors are less enthusiastic. Emilie Marcus, editor of Cell, said that she was considering a system, but that she believed in principle that the ethics of presenting true data should be enforced in a scientist's training, not by journal editors.

The problem of manipulated illustrations, she said, arises from a generation gap between older scientists who set the ethical standards but don't understand the possibilities of Photoshop and younger scientists who generate a paper's data. Because the system is new, Dr. Marcus said, "I'm not sure it's working."

"If they can't bear this cost, why say, 'We trust you in this one area, not in the other?"' Rather than having journal editors acting as enforcers, she said, it may be better to threaten responsibility, back to scientists, requiring the senior author to sign off that the images conform to the journal's guidelines.

Those guidelines, in her view, should be framed on behalf of the whole scientific community by a group such as the National Academy of Sciences, and not by the fiat of individual editors.
Some Student, Faculty Projects
Face Obstacles or Opposition

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the medical staff that she had been injured playing sports. But according to the report, she went back to MIT Medical the next day and told MIT Police Sergeant Jamie G. DiGregorio about the incident because she was afraid of what Zhang might do.

Besides the three aggravated assaults that occurred, 11 simple assaults were also reported last year, bringing the total number of on-campus assaults reported last year to 14 and marking a decrease from past years. In each of the three previous years, 21 on-campus assaults were reported, according to the Safety, Security, and Crime Prevention Handbook published by the MIT Police. Zhang’s pre-trial hearing will take place on Jan. 27 at the Middlesex County Courthouse in Cambridge.
A 24-year-old conservative alumnus who announced earlier this month that he planned to pay students at the University of California, Los Angeles, to tape-record the lectures of left-leaning professors backed down after U.C.L.A. officials informed him on Monday that he would be violating school policy.

The alumnus, Andrew Jones, said he abandoned the plan to save his student supporters from possible legal action by the university, even though he believed they would be engaged in a “newsgathering” effort protected by the First Amendment.

Mr. Jones says he is confident that students will volunteer to tape lectures or take detailed notes in an effort to expose their professors as liberal partisans who do not tolerate dissent in their classrooms.

But a U.C.L.A. official said Monday that even without the monetary incentive, students who passed tapes of lectures to Mr. Jones would be in danger of sanctions by the university and possibly the professors who were recorded without permission.

The university sent Mr. Jones a letter last week stating that the taping of lectures for political purposes violated school policy and could be subject to claims of copyright infringement by professors.

“The only thing he’s rescinded is the offer of money and not in any way the statement that students are encouraged to consult him,” said Lawrence H. Lokman, assistant vice chancellor for university communications.

Responding to the university’s statement, Mr. Jones said, “We will take whatever future action in consideration of U.C.L.A.’s regulations and in consideration of our and our students’ First Amendment rights.”

Mr. Jones started a nonprofit group called the Bruin Alumni Association to combat what his Web site terms “U.C.L.A.’s continued slide into political partisanship and indoctrination,” enumerating a “Dirty Thirty” list of professors whose liberal leanings he considered egregious.

The plan to pay students for documenting what those professors said in their classrooms generated national news media attention last week and prompted accusations of “witch hunting” from opponents.

Mr. Jones, a 2003 U.C.L.A. political science graduate and former president of the campus Republican group, had offered students $100 for tape recordings and lecture notes from a full quarter, $50 for just the handwritten notes and $10 for course handouts.

At least three members of the Bruins Alumni Association’s advisory board have resigned since Mr. Jones posted details about the plan on his Web site.

Opponents of the plan, which include some conservatives, said that while the monetary incentive was one of the most offensive aspects of the plan, its essential nature remained intact.

“He had gone over the line legally, but in terms of the repugnance, the sorts of things he said, the attempts to engage in character assassination and defaming people who have earned positions as tenured professors, that really hasn’t changed,” said Sondra Hale, a U.C.L.A. anthropology professor who is No. 6 on Mr. Jones’s “Dirty Thirty” list.
Students From Tulane At Other Area Colleges Head Home for Spring

Tulane, from Page 1

admission; in the last two years, only about two percent of transfer applicants have been admitted compared to about 16 percent for freshman applicants, according to data available online from the Provost’s office. MIT was Harris’ top college choice when he initially applied to college. When interviewed in November, Harris said that he was discussing the possibility of staying at MIT for the spring semester with Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones.

“I think they wanted to allow me to have some sort of stability, rather than bouncing me around to a different school every semester,” Harris said in reference to MIT’s decision to extend his special student status for another semester. “Even if that wasn’t what they were thinking, they’ve certainly done that for me anyway.”

He also speculated that MIT’s decision was affected by Tulane’s cancellation of almost all of its engineering majors, as well as his intention of transferring out of Tulane after his first year. Harris declined to be interviewed for this article.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, several engineering departments will be eliminated in 2007, giving sophomores and juniors a chance to complete their studies. Tulane freshmen will be encouraged to explore other majors, and those interested in transferring to other schools in the fall will be given $2,000 from Tulane in relocation assistance.

The same article states that 88 percent of Tulane undergraduates were expected to return to campus last week for the beginning of the spring term. Most Tulane students that were staying at neighboring Boston-area universities have returned to the New Orleans campus, but not always without a fight. In early December, a small rally was held by representatives of the Harvard Undergraduate Council and eight displaced Tulane freshmen who attended Harvard University. According to The Crimson, Harvard’s student newspaper, the students demanded that administrators allow the Tulane freshmen to apply for transfer admission to Harvard for the spring semester. All 25 Tulane students at Harvard returned to New Orleans, including the eight freshmen.

Boston University took in 320 Tulane undergraduates in September, who were granted BU student status for one semester only. As of mid-December, according to the BU student newspaper The Daily Free Press, only three visiting Tulane students had filed transfer applications to stay in the spring.

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Study Abroad Information Session

Thinking of studying abroad? Have your questions answered by students who have!

Monday, January 30, 2006
2:30 - 4:30 PM
56-114
MAC)

Yuan and Prange joined Kinna -
man in double-figure scoring with 11
and 10 points, respectively. Margos-
ian grabbed 10 boards and SooHoo
dished out a game-high seven as-
ists.

For Wheaton, Hickey totaled 13
points while Casey Sebaras and
Kim McCormack each amassed
five steals. Amy Johnson notched a
game-high four blocks.

The next game for MIT will be
on Thursday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. when
Tech travels to UMass-Dartmouth.

Women's Ice Hockey

A late rally by MIT fell short as
St. Michael's College emerged with
a 5-3 win in Eastern College Athletic
Conference (ECAC) East women's
ice hockey action on Saturday.
The opening frame was a defen-
sive battle: both goalies combined
for 28 saves. St. Michael's (4-12-0,
3-8-0 ECAC East) struck first with
an unassisted goal by Kelly Adams
with 58 seconds remaining in the pe-
riod. Within 13 seconds, the Purple
Knights found the back of the net
again when Melissa Gagne connect-
ed on passes from Bourgeois and
Michelle Miaskiewicz.

St. Michael's carried the momen-
tum into the second period as Shan-
non Murphy recorded her first goal
of the season by converting a feed
from Leslie Pomponi. She then set up Amanda P. Hunter '07 for a
two-goal lead. Bourgeois then
connected on a pass from Marissa
Deegan.

Brennan recorded her first goal
of the year on a power play when
she converted a feed from Mary P.
Harding '07 after 5:16 expired. She
then set up Amanda P. Hunter '07 for
a third goal, bringing the Engineers
(0-10-0, 0-7-0 ECAC East) within
one (4-3). St. Michael's closed the
scoring with 1:03 left to play when
Molly Dever found Murphy.

All of the Engineers' scoring came
from power plays. Brennan lead the
way with two goals. Shannon Mur-
phy paced the Purple Knights with
two goals while Gabrielle Bourgeois
contributed one goal and one assist.

In net, Sally W. Simpson '09 col-
lected 28 saves for Tech. Melanie
Cullen posted her first win of the
season as she made 47 stops.

MIT will host the UMass-Am-
herst club team in exhibition action
on Friday, Jan. 27 and Saturday, Jan.
28.
MIT Volleyball Starts ’06 With 2-1 Record
By Paul Dill
The MIT men’s volleyball team opened its 2006 campaign by defeating Mount Ida College 30-15, 30-22, 30-14, and Elms College 30-17, 30-13, 30-21 in North Eastern Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA) action.
Against Mount Ida, the Engineers controlled the match from start to finish and were never in any danger of losing any of the three games. Praveen Pamidimukkala ’08 paced the Engineers with 12 kills while recording a hitting percentage of .611 in addition to 10 digs.
In his collegiate debut, T. Scott Pollom ’09 notched eight kills and a match-high three blocks along with a .684 hitting percentage. Robert G. Aspell ’08 also had a fine hitting performance, tallying seven kills and a percentage of .531.
Ryan G. Dean ’08 anchored the defense with 13 digs while Matthew Ng ’08 totaled 12 digs. Jordan X. Wan ’06 distributed 34 assists and earned three aces.
In its final match of the weekend, MIT faced no-conference and nationally ranked Nazareth College. This was a tightly contested match going down to the fifth game to determine a winner. Unfortunately, after the first two games 30-27, 30-26, MIT lost the final three 20-30, 16-30, 15-17.
Pamidimukkala led MIT with 30 kills and Pollom notched 10 kills and five total blocks. Dean finished with a match-high 16 digs to go along with seven assists and two aces. Michelangelo A. Raimondi ’06 also picked up two aces while Wan dished out 45 assists.
MIT is currently ranked 6th in the 34-team NECVA Conference and 150th nationally. The next home match for the squad is Thursday, Feb. 2 against Endicott College at 7 p.m. in Rockwell Cage.

Upcoming Home Events
Thursday, Jan. 26, 2006
Varsity Women’s Basketball vs. Lesley University
7 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Friday, Jan. 27, 2006
Varsity Women’s Ice Hockey vs. UMass-Amherst Club Team
7 p.m., Johnson Ice Rink
Saturday, Jan. 28, 2006
Varsity Rifle Beaufort
8 a.m., MIT Rifle Range
Varsity Men’s Swimming and Diving vs. Amherst College and Connecticut College
1 p.m., Zeiger Center
Varsity Women’s Swimming and Diving vs. Amherst College and Connecticut College
1 p.m., Zeiger Center
Varsity Squash vs. Fordham University
2 p.m., Zeiger Center
Varsity Women’s Ice Hockey vs. UMass-Amherst Club Team
3 p.m., Johnson Ice Rink
Sunday, Jan. 29, 2006
Varsity Rifle Beaufort
8 a.m., MIT Rifle Range
Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006
Varsity Men’s Basketball vs. Springfield College
6 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Varsity Women’s Basketball vs. Babson College
8 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Sports Women’s Hoops Lose to Wheaton
By Mindy Brauer
Trailing Wheaton College by 14 points with 1:48 left to play, MIT out-scored the Lyons, 16-7, but could not overcome the deficit, resulting in a 65-60 loss in New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) women’s basketball action on Tuesday.
The first half was a tightly fought battle which featured three ties and three lead changes. A lay-up by Tech’s Kimberly E. SooHoo ’08 was answered by a trey from Kristin Hickey. SooHoo then set up Clara J. Yuan ’09 for a three-pointer, giving MIT its last lead of the game, but Hickey quickly answered with a lay-up.
Wheaton’s advantage eventually grew to six points on two occasions, but the Engineers remained within striking distance, tying the game at 21 with 6:03 remaining in the half. The Lyons tacked on five more points, before Tech came within one (26-25) with 34 seconds left on the clock. A three-point play by Anchison gave Wheaton a 29-25 edge at the intermission.
Anchison opened the scoring in the second half with a three-pointer, which was answered by a lay-up from Yuan. Hickey then sank her second shot from behind the arc. On the ensuing possession, Christa M. Mar- goisian ’07 set up Sharon M. Prange ’07 for a lay-up, bringing the score to 35-30 after three minutes had expired.
While the Engineers got to within three (37-34) at the 16:09 mark, Wheaton went on to outscore MIT, 20-10 over the next 14 minutes to establish its largest lead of the game (58-44). But the Engineers held the Lyons without a field goal during the final 3:17, thanks to some keysubstitutions.
At the same time, a pair of free throws and a trey from Yuan sparked Tech’s late rally. Karen A. Kinnaman ’06 sank a lay-up, a three-point play, and drained a three-pointer around the 1:04 mark, building the score to 38-42 with 26 seconds remaining in regulation.
SooHoo closed the scoring by sinking a shot near mid-court as time expired.
Kinnaman notched her second double-double of the year with 19 points and a game-high 17 rebounds for the Engineers (5-4, 0-4 NEW-MAC). Becky Anchison led all scorers with 20 points and collected 12 boards for the Lyons (7-2, 1-4 NEW-MAC).