

MINDY ENG

A full-size replica of a fire truck appeared on the Great Dome during the night between Sunday, Sept. 10, and Monday, Sept. 11, commemorating the five-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks. The firetruck is scheduled to be taken down between 10 and 11 a.m. today. For a more detailed photograph, turn to page 19.

## MIT Cable Reviewed With Student Surveys

Group Formed to Investigate Viewing Needs

By Apoorva Murarka

In response to requests from members of the student body regarding recent proposed changes to the MIT Cable channel lineup, an interest group named Cable-storm was formed in late spring with the aim of improving programming on the MIT Cable service, Cable-storm member Natalija Z. Jovanovic G said.

Cable-storm is comprised of representatives from the Undergraduate Association, Graduate Student Council, Dormitory Council, MIT Cable Television, and Housing, said Jovanovic.

The current proposal is to drop a few analog channels and add new ones in their place. A new survey opened late in the summer and will continue to run through Sept. 30, Jovanovic said. The survey offers a

choice of channels that can possibly be replaced and channels that the students may want included in the new lineup. This survey is being managed by both the UA and the GSC, and it is being hosted by the Sidney-Pacific graduate community, said Gerald E. Dalley G, GSC Housing and Community Affairs Committee co-chair.

Natalija Jovanovic said that the survey has received "a very good response from both the graduate and the undergraduate students."

"Cable-storm is looking for more responses so as to establish the survey results more firmly," Jovanovic said. All students are encouraged to participate in the survey.

ESPN and Comedy Central are probably the top undergraduate choic-

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## CSAIL Director Brooks To Step Down by 2007

By Jihye Kim

Rodney Brooks, the current director of MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, is stepping down after a 14 year career in pursuit of further research and teaching opportunities at the CSAIL. Brooks is scheduled to step down by end of June 2007, after 10 years of serving as director and 4 years as assistant director.

"Right now I get to work with all of the faculty, always meeting this one and that one. Later, it will be lonelier," said Brooks of his resignation.

Under Brooks, CSAIL has been involved in many smaller collaborative projects with companies. In spite

of this collaboration, Brooks said that one of the biggest challenges the program faces is obtaining funding for long-term research projects. Another goal he has in mind for this program is to recruit more women, as the percentage of women at CSAIL is notably lower than the overall Institute undergraduate population.

Brooks said he has decided to step down as director because he wants to return to teaching as well as start work on a theoretical and a practical project that he has devised.

Brook's theoretical research, which he calls "adaptive computation," is inspired by the extreme

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## MIT Museum to Relocate After Planned Renovation

By Irene Lee

With an unassuming exterior marked by dusty window displays and a lone red banner, it is no wonder that the MIT Museum is not drawing an ideal audience. This is something the museum hopes to change by a series of renovations topped off with a complete relocation to The Metropolitan Storage Warehouse, located on the corner of Vassar St. and Massachusetts Ave., within the next five years.

Beryl Rosenthal, director of exhibitions and public programs, believes that the overhaul in the mu-

seum's image is necessary in order to establish a larger presence in the community.

"We are looking at becoming a much bigger voice in communicating the work of MIT," Rosenthal said. "We want to make research and innovation accessible to everyone, and our new [plan] sets some pretty ambitious goals for recreating the museum as a gateway to MIT."

The first step of this plan has been to create programs that reach out to a more diverse audience than

MIT Museum, Page 20

## TechNomads Tackle Trans-Continental Trek

By Rosa Cao  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

In a daredevil implementation of the 21st century corporate credo to "do good by doing well," four MIT students took the low road (when there was a road) and a one liter Renault across Eastern Europe and Central Asia this summer, ready to do good by having a blast.

The so-called race of a Mongol Rally revels in absurdity; getting from Point A (London, UK) to Point B (Ulan Bator, Mongolia) fast is not the point at all: doing it in the most ridiculous and inefficient way possible while collecting some good stories is closer to the idea. As a convenient footnote, should anyone challenge you to justify what you did with your summer (or perhaps, "you did what with your summer?!"), participants are required to raise money for charity by way of their trip, to the tune of £1,000 (that's about \$1,900 for any provincial Americans out there) per car.

Syed F. "Fareed" Ahmed '08, Abdulbasier Aziz G, Javad Golji '06, and Nadeem A. Mazen '06 got a promis-

ing start in Paris when they found a Renault with just under 75,000 miles on it for the bargain price of 500 euros (around \$650). It took them a week or so to learn to drive a manual, but "we're all pretty good drivers now ... you have to be a decent driver to

get across Iran — everyone's driving wherever they can over there."

In addition to the mad driving skills, the self-styled TechNomads also spoke five languages between

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SYED F. AHMED

Syed F. "Fareed" Ahmed '08 sits in the driver's seat waiting for the car to refuel at a gas station in France. Javad Golji '06 stands by the pumps and Nadeem A. Mazen G sits in the passenger seat.

## William A. Garnett

By Philip Geffer  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

William A. Garnett, who elevated the genre of aerial photography to a form of artistic expression with his sweeping pictures of forests, sand dunes, agricultural crops and suburban grids, died at his home in Napa, Calif., on Aug. 26. He was 89.

His death was confirmed by his son, Bill.

For more than 50 years and 10,000 hours of flying time, Garnett piloted his own 1955 Cessna 170B as he photographed out the window, using a variety of camera formats, with both black-and-white and color films. He flew above every state in the country, as well as in other parts of the world.

"The polished aluminum two-seat Cessna was his studio, a private place where the imagination was released from everyday reality," Weston Naef, curator of photographs at the J. Paul Getty Museum, said

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### In Short

¶ The MIT Vendor Fair will take place under the big white tent near Bldg. 54 on Thursday, Sept. 14. Sponsored by Procurement, over a hundred of MIT's vendors will be present.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.

### NEWS

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# WORLD & NATION

## After Official is Killed, His Funeral is Bombed

By Carlotta Gall

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

A suicide bomber blew himself up Monday at the funeral of the assassinated governor of Paktia province, killing at least seven people and wounding as many as 40. Five of the dead were policemen, and two were children.

The funeral was for Hakim Taniwal, a tribal elder and provincial governor who was killed in a suicide attack outside his office on Sunday. He was buried in his home district of Tanai, in Khost province, where he had also served as governor after the fall of the Taliban.

"The number of wounded is very high," the provincial police chief, Gen. Muhammad Ayub, said by telephone. "Actually, we don't know how many people were wounded yet."

President Hamid Karzai, who was a close friend of Taniwal, denounced the attack as a "heinous act of terrorism" and "an act against Islam and humanity."

"The enemies of Afghanistan, by carrying out a terrorist attack on the funeral ceremony of Hakim Taniwal, showed that they are not only against the traditions and culture of Afghans, but also against Islamic law," Karzai said in a statement issued by his office.

## OPEC to Hold Production Levels — For Now

By Jad Mouawad

THE NEW YORK TIMES

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

OPEC said on Monday that it would keep its current production levels unchanged for the time being but hinted that it was ready to cut production as some delegates voiced concerns that high oil inventories and slowing demand might ignite a plunge in prices.

OPEC's decision, which was widely expected, means that oil supplies will remain ample for the time being, despite losses from BP operations in Alaska, chronic shortages in Iraq and attacks on Nigeria's oil exporting terminals. Oil inventories in the United States have been building and are now above their five-year average.

But OPEC said firmly that it would monitor the market more carefully in coming months for signs of further price declines. Some ministers are worried that a new dynamic is taking hold, ending a rally that has led to a tripling of oil prices in five years.

The group's final statement said that OPEC would cut production if prices fell more. It did not indicate a price level at which the cut would be made.

## Mysterious Migration of Swans Linked to Spread of Avian Flu

By Donald G. Mcneil Jr.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tracking avian flu sometimes comes down to moves that have a lot of slapstick potential, like sprinting down a muddy Mongolian beach trying to tackle a scared but temporarily flightless swan. "They're pretty fast, even when they can't fly, and the 100-yard dash is not my specialty," said John Takekawa, a research wildlife biologist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Takekawa was part of an international team that spent part of August on the shores of Lake Khorin Tsagaan in Mongolia catching whooper swans and strapping tiny transmitters to their backs. If all goes well, the transmitters will help unveil an ornithological mystery: which way whoopers migrate.

The issue became more important last year when field veterinarians from the Wildlife Conservation Society who were investigating the deaths of hundreds of migratory birds on remote lakes in China and Mongolia found that whoopers were among those infected with A(H5N1) influenza. Their migration patterns are poorly understood, but they may have played a role in the brief appearance of the disease all across Europe early this year.

# September Terrorist Attacks Remembered at Ground Zero

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg  
and Christine Hauser

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Americans observed a solemn day of remembrance Monday in memorials around the United States to mark the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, pausing at ground zero in New York City and the two other 9/11 sites for moments of silence, tributes and a recitation of the names of those who were killed.

"It surely cannot be easy to come to this site," said Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, speaking at ground zero, after a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. marking the moment that the first plane struck the World Trade Center.

"Who can know what is in your hearts," he said.

In the silence, under a clear blue sky, families and friends of people killed in the attacks lowered their heads. Some clutched flowers and photographs as tears fell.

Gov. George Pataki quoted from "Dirge Without Music," by Edna St. Vincent Millay:

"Gently they go, the beautiful,  
the tender, the kind;

Quietly they go, the intelligent,  
the witty, the brave.

I know. But I do not approve. And I am not resigned. "Surrounded by police and firefighters at a firehouse in lower Manhattan, President Bush observed the anniversary with back-to-back moments of silence, 17 minutes apart, each marking the precise time that terrorists flew hijacked planes into the twin towers.

The president and Mrs. Bush did not speak during the ceremony but bowed their heads solemnly during the moments of silence, one at 8:46 and the other at 9:03. The morning sun bathed them in a warm light reflecting back off the red of the firehouse doors.

In Shanksville, Pa., the sonorous toll of a bell sounded after each name of the 40 passengers and crew was read out at a remembrance ceremony of United Airlines Flight 93 in which speakers praised the courageous behavior of those who fought the hijackers.

Expressions of grief were etched on the faces of family members as they listened. American flags snapped in the breeze, a backdrop to the words of Gen. Tommy Franks, the retired head of Central Command, as he called 9/11 a day when America was "shaken to her core."

"But in this place we are inspired by a light of patriotism," Franks said. "We honor the 40 passengers and members of the crew of flight 93 who were, as has been correctly said, one moment ordinary citizens, and the next heroes forever."

As at other memorials, the solemn strains of bagpipes infused the ceremony at the Pentagon, where Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld mixed sympathy for the survivors of attack victims with defiance toward the attackers and their sponsors. He said "grief soon hardened into resolve" to prevent more attacks and to punish those responsible.

Vice President Richard Cheney struck a similar tone. He quoted an unnamed lieutenant colonel who called the smashing of an airliner into the Pentagon as "cheap, dirty and senseless."

Bush is scheduled to attend wreath-laying observances in Shanksville and at the Pentagon in Arlington, Va. It would be the first time since the first anniversary of the attacks, on Sept. 11, 2002, that Bush has observed the anniversary in all three places. He will then return to Washington, where he plans to address the nation from the Oval Office Monday night.

# Genocide Trial Continues After Three-Week Hiatus For Hussein

By Paul Von Zielbauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

The trial of Saddam Hussein on charges of genocide against Iraq's Kurds resumed Monday following a nearly three-week hiatus, while sectarian violence continued on Baghdad's streets, killing more than a dozen people in the suicide bombing of a crowded bus downtown.

At a meeting of Parliament inside the fortified Green Zone here, meanwhile, an effort by a group of Shiite lawmakers to promote legislation that would allow Iraq to be partitioned into autonomous regions appeared to lose some momentum Monday after a rival Shiite bloc dissented.

Also Monday, Prime minister, Nuri Kamal al-Maliki said in a statement that he plans to make his first state visit to Iran on Tuesday, to dis-

cuss security and political issues.

In the trial, Saddam and six other former officials in his government face charges that they killed more than 50,000 Kurdish Iraqis during a 1988 campaign in northern Iraq, in which the government used conventional and chemical weapons against civilians. Saddam also faces the charge of genocide.

He and his co-defendants maintain that the campaign was military, to support Iraqi troops who were trying to suppress Kurdish militias backed by Iran.

On Monday, three Kurdish witnesses described attacks in 1987 and 1988 in which chemical gas attacks in Iraq's mountainous northeast region by Iraqi troops left villagers blinded and desperately ill.

Katrin Michael, 56, a Kurdish woman who said she now lived in Virginia, said she and several other

villagers saw Iraqi military planes drop bombs that issued white smoke that smelled of garlic. Villagers who did not die from the chemicals developed large blisters, she said.

A second witness, Ahmed Abdel Rahman Ahmed, described Iraqi troops who razed his village in September 1987. "They evacuated the village and burned the houses," he told the court, adding that they also stole 100 of his sheep and goats.

Defense lawyers characterized those raids as a necessary reaction to the Kurdish villagers' refusal to leave their homes after being ordered to relocate to a new, restricted area by the Hussein government.

As has become his custom, Saddam spent part of his day lecturing the chief judge, Abdullah al-Amiri, about what he characterizes as the illegitimacy of the charges against him.

# WEATHER

## Free Fall

By Cegeon J. Chan  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Just like the Red Sox, temperatures have plummeted. The calendar may say summer, but we're getting a free preview of fall-like temperatures, at least for one more day. With forecasted high temperatures in the upper 60s°F, this will be another anomalously cool day compared to climatology (approximately 100-year average.) This colder than normal pattern can be dated back to the previous month. For August, Boston averaged about one degree Fahrenheit cooler than the monthly average.

Will this cool trend continue? The National Climate Prediction Center (CPC), which is responsible for long-term forecasts (defined to be between six day to three month outlooks), is actually predicting a slightly above-average chance for temperatures to be warmer than climatology for the next couple of weeks. As for rain, the CPC is going with a high chance to be wetter than normal. So, despite the cooler temperatures, better enjoy the sunny skies while it lasts!

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s°F (20°C).

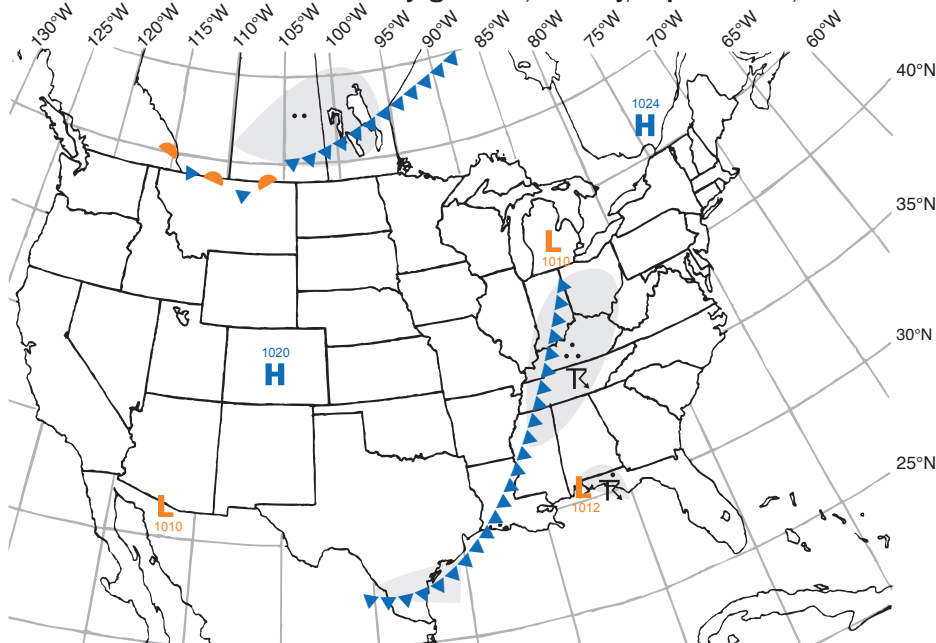
**Tonight:** Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s°F (9°C).

**Wednesday:** Partly cloudy. Highs in around 70°F (21°C).

**Wednesday Night:** Partly Cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s°F (13°C).

**Thursday:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s°F (20°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, September 12, 2006



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	- - - Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	—•— Warm Front	Light Rain •	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Moderate Rain **	Haze
	▲▲▲ Stationary Front	Heavy Rain ***	
		Light Snow *•	
		Moderate Snow **•	
		Heavy Snow ***•	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

# Agreement Reached Following Meeting Between Hamas, Abbas

By Steven Erlanger and Greg Myre  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

GAZA  
The Palestinian Authority president, Mahmoud Abbas, said Monday that he had reached a tentative agreement with Hamas to form a national unity government in an attempt to end the international isolation and the cutoff in Western assistance.

In a speech on Palestinian television, Abbas said that it would still take several days to finish the deal and provided no details of how Hamas and Fatah had resolved their considerable differences.

"We have finalized the elements of the political agenda of the national unity government," Abbas said in his speech. "Hopefully, in the coming

days we will begin forming the government of national unity."

While the two factions have agreed on a political program, its details were unclear. It is expected to be limited to this unity government and not commit the Hamas movement to its words. A national unity government will also have representatives of other Palestinian factions like Islamic Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said Ghazi Hamad, the spokesman for the current Hamas government.

"We're trying to make a balance between the requirements of the international community and Palestinian factions," Hamad said. "For everyone to sit at the same table won't be easy, but we need to do this. We hope it will break the international

siege and minimize the tensions on the street."

Fatah says it is prepared to negotiate with Israel and seeks a Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders, which would include all of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with a capital in East Jerusalem.

Hamas, which has always refused to recognize Israel, says that all the land in the region belongs to Muslims. However, Hamas has said it would consider a long-term truce with Israel if a Palestinian state is established on the 1967 borders.

Aides to Abbas said Monday that he hopes to be able to disband the current Hamas government within the next 48 hours, but that the two factions still disagreed over important portfolios.

## Asian Ox Feared Extinct May Never Have Existed

By Mark Derr

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the 1930s, the kouprey trotted like a revelation out of the forests of central Indochina and into the world of modern science. Here was a large wild ox with the speed and grace of a deer and an impressive set of horns, and it had been hiding in plain view, having never been officially discovered by science.

But now, just 70 years after the first captive kouprey was sent to France from Cambodia for study, the last species of wild Asian cattle to become known scientifically may become the first to vanish in modern times — and not necessarily through extinction.

Rather, three biologists from Northwestern University and the Cambodian Forestry Administration have proposed a taxonomic demotion. In a paper published online in July by The Journal of Zoology, they say the kouprey (koh-PRAY) is probably a domestic hybrid that became feral, a zoological poseur, not a valid species.

The biologists' proposal has met stiff opposition within the small group of scientists who study Asian wild cattle. Several say the paper misinterpreted the genetics and history of the kouprey, which may still exist in domesticated form.

Although rare, elusive and enigmatic, kouprey are recognizable: longer-legged, more graceful, faster and slightly larger than the closely related banteng, and slightly smaller than the gaur, the largest of the wild cattle.

## For Some, Acceptance or Support Is Answer

By Andrew Pollack

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONG BEACH, CALIF.

Ken Koroll, a 32-year-old compliance officer for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, stutters so badly that he often writes his questions to the companies he inspects rather than speaking them. But Koroll, who lives in Peoria, Ill., said he had come to terms with his inability to speak fluently.

"When I was 27 or 28, I actually stopped fighting it and started embracing it," he said. "This is who I am and what I am, and I accept it. If anyone else can't, that's their problem, not mine."

Such an attitude appears to be rare among people who stutter. Many become "covert stutterers," avoiding jobs and social situations in which they have to talk.

Koroll's attitude of what might be called stutterers' lib is fostered by the National Stuttering Association, which runs support groups around the nation. The group's three-day annual meeting, which took place in a hotel here at the end of June, attracted about 525 children and adults.

"A lot of people who stutter don't want to be viewed as a person with a disability," said Michael Sugarman, a social worker from Oakland who co-founded the organization in 1977.

# Bin Laden Deputy Warns of Attack On Anniversary of Terrorist Strikes

By Mark Mazzetti

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Osama bin Laden's top deputy used the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on Monday to urge fellow Muslims around the world to take up arms against the United States, and warned of new attacks by al-Qaida throughout the Middle East.

Dressed in a white robe and turban and seated in front of shelves filled with books, the deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri, said American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan were "doomed to defeat" and pledged that the U.S. military would be expelled entirely from its bases in the Persian Gulf region.

Zawahiri criticized America's military support for Israel during the

country's recent war with Hezbollah, and he called on the Muslim world "to rush with everything at its disposal to the aid of its Muslim brothers in Lebanon and Gaza," according to a full transcript of the video provided by the SITE institute, which tracks violent Islamist groups.

Zawahiri said that al-Qaida would strike again in coming weeks, but he gave no indication of the type of targets or specific locations.

"The days are pregnant and giving birth to new events with Allah's permission and guidance," Zawahiri said in the video, during which he is asked a series of questions by an anonymous interviewer.

Running more than an hour, the Zawahiri video, broadcast on CNN and

the Internet, was unusually long compared with previous videos released by As-Sahab, al-Qaida's clandestine media production arm based in Pakistan.

Terrorism experts in Washington were examining the tape on Monday to find any coded messages that Zawahiri might be sending to his followers. American government officials did not appear to be concerned that the tape might signal an impending attack.

"It's one tape of what they said was going to be a media blitz. We take it as propaganda," said an American intelligence official, who spoke on condition of anonymity under ground rules imposed by his agency. "We take all these tapes seriously, but over the years they have been propaganda and not substance."

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## Corrections

The article "Students Embark On Institute 'Road Trip'" in the Aug. 28 issue incorrectly reported that there were four new Freshman Pre-orientation Programs this year. There were actually five new FPOPs this year: architecture, biking, hiking, electrical engineering and computer science, and literature.

## Development Disillusionment

By Matt Zedler

It was over 30°C, the sun was burning down on my exposed flesh, and I was sitting in a hole full of muddy water. Another student and I were testing a small-scale hydropower turbine and generator in Sri Lanka, hoping to determine why system conversion efficiency was an abysmally low 15 percent. This summer was my second spent in a "developing" country, and the experience taught me several lessons.

I got into international development while at MIT through Amy Smith's D-Lab class (SP.721) during my sophomore year. It was something I thought I could feel good about doing, through which I could sidestep the evils of the capitalist rat race and help "save the world." It sounded so good: simple technologies, like hand-driven water pumps, paper brick presses, and biogas generators, could vastly improve the lives of millions who lack the opulent lifestyle most of us enjoy here in the United States.

In the words of a conservative talk-show host, I became a "liberal do-gooder," selflessly foregoing the comforts of home to travel to "exotic" countries, naively expecting to change the world for the better by doing so.

Of course, no one told me that many of those poor souls who I felt needed my help would already have devised their own solutions to fulfill their basic needs, wouldn't speak English, and would generally regard me as an over-eager tourist rather than as a savior come to rescue them from the ravages of their traditional lifestyle.

My summers in Lesotho and Sri Lanka slowly showed me that development is something that takes time and cultural investment. I found that my own development in terms of

self-awareness, global awareness, and skills as an engineer far exceeded the benefit to anyone I met in the developing countries. I wasn't able to accomplish nearly as much world salvation as I had hoped, though I gained a greater appreciation for life in the US and found clearer perspectives on several issues.

Some of the luster has worn from my "do-gooder" attitude, and I have even acquired a few conservative ideas. Money does drive things, and even (especially) in a developing country, one must consider the economic feasibility of an idea. Private sector investment and small-scale entrepreneurship have a large if not paramount role in stimulating economic and social

*Changing the world demands that one develop a sense of global understanding and self-awareness.*

development. I now believe that individual dependence on government welfare must decrease for a country to prosper, and capitalist business sense can be used to improve NGO efficiency.

Organizations such as the Gates Charitable Trust are rooted in capitalist business successes, and they can have a substantial impact on solving large-scale, world-changing problems. Without private sector profits, I wouldn't have even been able to afford visits to developing countries, as the majority of grants used for such projects are either sponsored by the private sector, or funded by hard-working taxpayers through government programs.

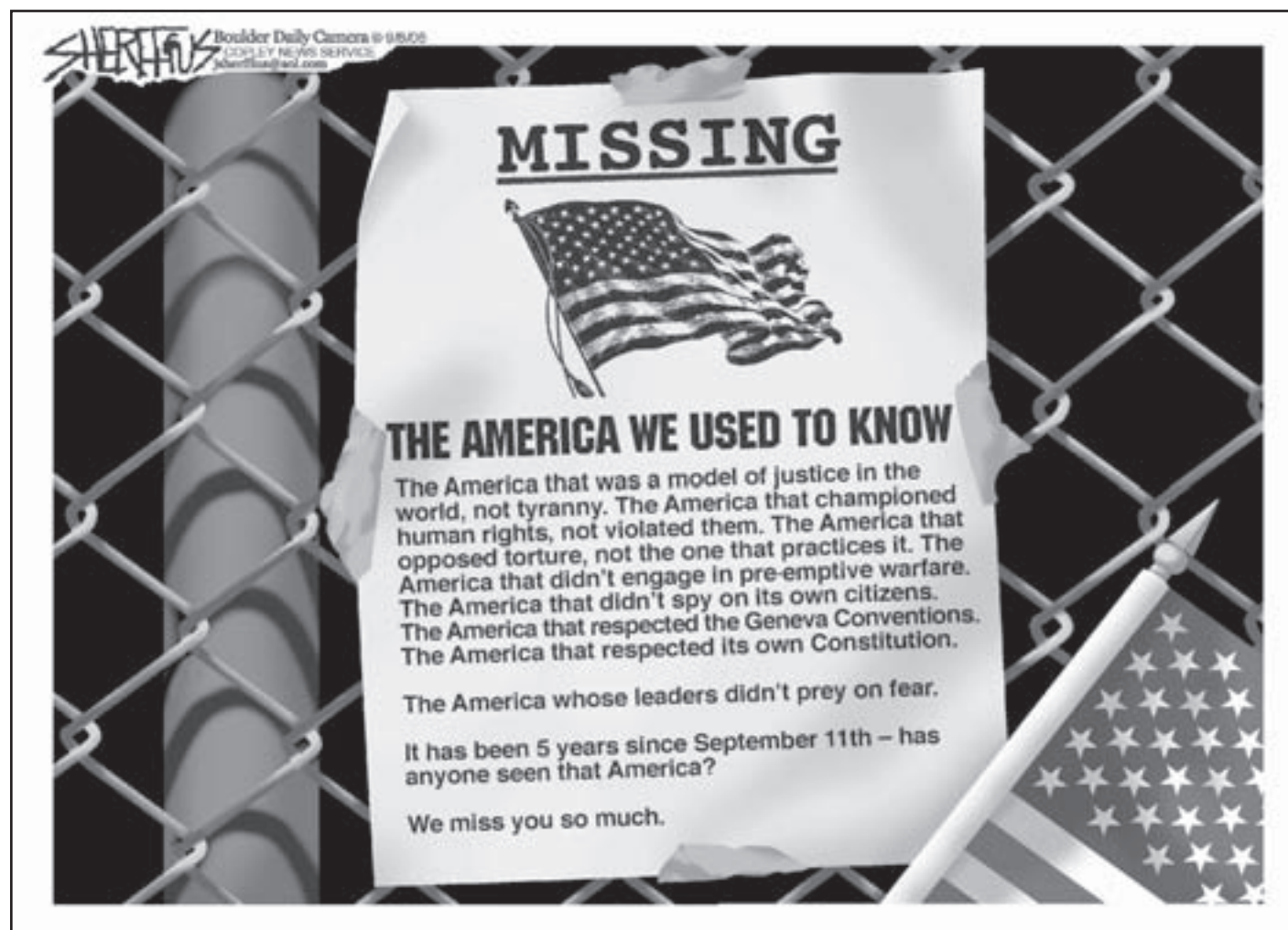
The purpose of this article is not to dissuade those interested in international development

from pursuing that passion. Instead, I hope to impart a kernel of wisdom into some other young "do-gooder," highlighting the importance of looking at a larger picture of how to approach development. Changing the world demands that one develop a sense of global understanding and self-awareness. International development work is an exciting, often frustrating, sometimes rewarding way to start on that path. As with most things, there are multiple ways to make a difference, and one must make sure that one's approach to the problem is the most effective.

Many fall prey to the myth that international development is an exhausting, fruitless career path that leaves one destitute, disillusioned and far from one's home country, but the reality can be quite different. There are four billion people who earn less than \$1,500 annually, while only 100 million earn more than \$20,000 annually. College graduates often want to go into the seemingly more lucrative world of high-end technology and consultancy, marketing their skills to an already saturated market. Instead, simple, cheap solutions marketed to the people at the bottom of the financial pyramid could prove even more profitable, as the number who could purchase such products is significantly greater.

There are several other examples of how existing economic and management skills can be applied to developing countries' markets, in a win-win situation for both those who see the opportunities and those living in the developing countries. While a career in international development may not be for everyone, the impact of living in an increasingly connected world ensures that it makes sense to understand the world that exists outside of the "bubble" of MIT.

*Matt Zedler is a member of the class of 2007.*



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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 let-

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# CAMPUS LIFE

## Making it Work

### Facebook and the Evolution of Stalking@MIT

By Ruth Miller  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Rarely do MIT students keep up with current events, but in the last week, the universal conversation starter (“Man, I’m so hosed”) has been replaced by “Have you seen the Facebook News Feed? It’s so creepy!”

People I never considered fervent Facebook users were up in arms about the newest addition to the two-year-old Website. When you log into Facebook, the first thing to come up now is the News Feed section — a detailed list of the most recent actions taken by all of your friends. A girl from your high school left the group Gay Rights. Guy from 3.091 is working in the music library. Phil Vasquez is now in Boston.

Innocent enough, right?

The nearly one million members of Students Against Facebook News Feeds (The Official Petition) and Mark Zuckerberg’s personal letter of apology suggest otherwise. Somehow, News Feed managed to cross the line between convenience and sketchiness. Suddenly, the formerly most blasé of Facebook users are screaming privacy violations. Even the recently added privacy controls aren’t sufficient to completely turn off the feature — who knows what the final News Feed will resemble?

The Facebook and privacy are, at best, an unstable marriage rife with alcoholism and spousal abuse. “It’s so cute and personalized, and it’s on the Internet! I’m going to put all my information on there and be 100 percent accessible to all my friends!”

The *Boston Globe* ran a story several months ago about an area college student whose nursing-home bound grandmother found out about the student’s pot-smoking through a friend and Facebook. Yeah, sucks to be her, but “duh!” It’s difficult to muster sympathy for someone who could be so naïve. If employers are screening applicants on Facebook, that’s just one more chance for the portion of the applicant pool with common sense to shine. The moral: if you don’t want the whole world to know, don’t put it online.

But what I find most shocking is how the perception of “stalking” has changed in my

short time at MIT. Now, anybody can look up a class schedule, hobbies, interests, favorite media, etc. Forget stalking — some marketing gurus are probably already exploiting this.

When I was a freshman, we didn’t have the Facebook to investigate people. We had to walk through 15 inches of snow and risk frostbite to get to an Athena cluster and finger people. At best, we’d Google someone, and hope the subject’s name was obscure enough to provide relevant search results. (For example, I am neither as well-worded as Ruth Miller the South African poet, nor as comely as Ruth Miller the silent film star).

Beyond these rudimentary stalking techniques, there were more advanced tools. I know a girl who was stalked by a fifth-year undergrad. He purportedly beat his ex-girlfriend and his senior project was on stalking — he wrote a program that recorded Athena log-ins to determine patterns and recommended locations and times for potential “interaction”. Of course, she only learned all this by stalking him a bit. All this occurred in the archaic days before Facebook.

This only goes to show that true stalking is a serious matter, and that it is only made less

serious by free and easy access. News Feed was designed to make this information access casual — thus further desensitizing users to privacy concerns.

I realize that my class is the last class of undergrads at MIT to have entered college without the Facebook. And maybe I’m old-fashioned, crusty, or both, but it’s just a little appalling when freshmen arrive at MIT with over 700 friends. Or when people save themselves the time to personally catch up with friends by saying, “just check my Facebook.” Or when people ask out other people on Facebook, or worse, consider “poking” to be flirting.

Facebook is just so warm and inviting that people have dropped their guard. News Feed is shocking them back into the reality that they may have exposed more private information online than they intended. So in this way, News Feed might actually be a positive, because if people are willing to boycott over the change, they might realize they’re spending too much time online as it is.

*Somehow, News Feed managed to cross the line between convenience and sketchiness.*

## Ask Nutty B!

By Bruce Wu  
STAFF COLUMNIST

Nutty B is currently a graduate student at MIT who tries to give his two cents worth to his readers’ questions regarding anything and everything. Please e-mail him with whatever question you would like someone to listen to, and help him have an excuse to procrastinate at 3:00 a.m. Please send all questions to [askNuttyB@yahoo.com](mailto:askNuttyB@yahoo.com)

Dear Nutty B,

I am a new graduate student here at MIT, and I started my research back in June. I’ve heard about you and thought I’d give you a shot. My question is about advisor-advisee etiquette.

I bumped into my advisor on my way to the airport three hours ago. He stopped me and asked me about my research for three hours. My flight will leave in 30 minutes, and I am still in Building 5. Should I have told him that I had a flight to catch? Would that have offended him and jeopardized our relationship, thereby ruining my chances of becoming a post-doc at a prestigious institution and eventually a tenured professor here in a few years?

— Worried about Future

Dear Worried about Future,

If your flight leaves in 30 minutes, what on earth are you doing writing me this email? It seems it’s not advisor-advisee etiquette you should be worrying about, but rather your ability to choose what’s important at the moment! You sent me this email three weeks ago. Have you been at your computer waiting for my reply ever since?

I am sure your advisor didn’t stop you on purpose to test your “loyalty” or work ethic when you saw him. Yes, perhaps you were pulling a huge suitcase behind you, but with the common lack of fashion sense here, he might have thought it was simply your backpack. You should have told him you had a flight to catch. No one would have considered you “impolite” if you had, and you could always talk to him once you returned. If it’s really something urgent (and if so, why didn’t he talk to you earlier?!) you could always have offered to communicate via email. There are lots of ways to be a good graduate student without losing yourself!

And as to your chances of becoming a post-doc in some great place and all that blah, the only thing I can suggest is that you figure out how to be a good graduate student first. Baby

steps, my friend, baby steps!

Dear Nutty B,

As a tourist in the US I happened to pick up a copy of the May 16th issue of *The Tech* while on a recent visit to the beautiful Museum at MIT in Cambridge, MA. I read with interest your sound advice to one ‘Getting Blue’ (see <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V126/pdf/N26.pdf>) with his PhD program, which according to him is still not getting anywhere eons after starting. I was dumbfounded seeing (in the Museum) the amazing display of achievements of the many scientists who brought glory to their Alma Mater through dedicated work, and pride to their country through international recognition and Nobel prizes.

It seemed to me that the scientists worked simply for the joy of working, driven by the scientific spirit of inquiry alone and not at all for rewards of recognition. This is a great lesson for all aspiring researchers everywhere. Of course it is too much to expect every scholar to produce results of such colossal magnitude, but anyone can put in his bit and it will only add to the glory of the Institution. I would like to read *The Tech* regularly from now on - maybe I’ll try the electronic edition on the MIT Website when I am back home.

— Prabhakaran

Dear Prabhakaran,

Thank you very much for your kind note, and on behalf of everyone working here at *The Tech*, I’d like to welcome you to this great community of writers and readers. (Hey, Chairman of The Tech, do I get paid to say this?) Indeed, every issue of *The Tech* is online, and the web address is [www.the-tech.mit.edu](http://www.the-tech.mit.edu). Remember also to sign up for the Nutty B fan club!

I am glad you enjoyed the MIT museum. There is no point in denying that the scholarship at this Institute is world-class, but there is also no reason to hide the unfortunate fact that for the whole Institute to maintain that prestige, some people also lose their happiness here. The silver lining, though, is that there are lots of resources available (like Nutty B, for instance) for those who seek help to make their lives more enjoyable. There are bright people here, but what makes MIT great is, as you say, every bit of contribution from every single individual on this campus.

Once again, thank you for sending me this message from across the oceans. Keep reading and e-mailing me!

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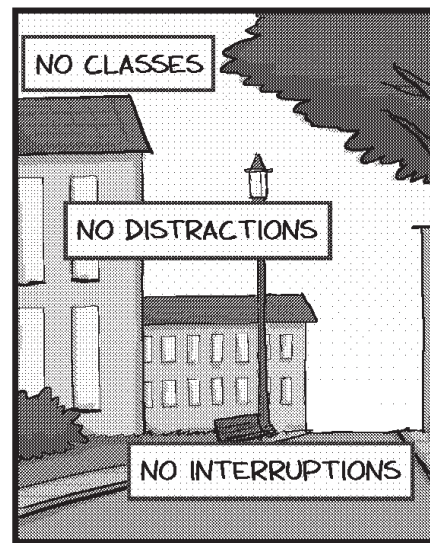
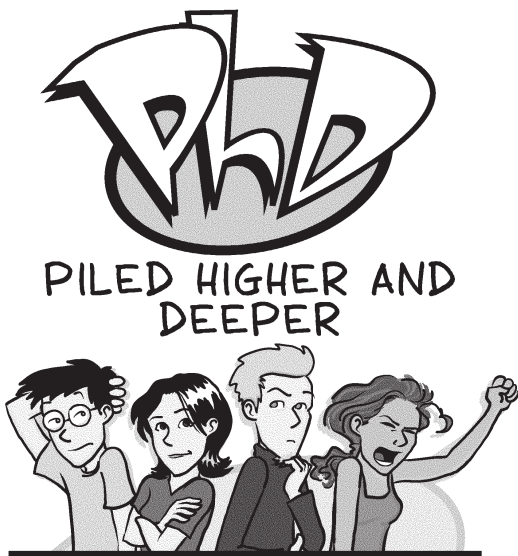
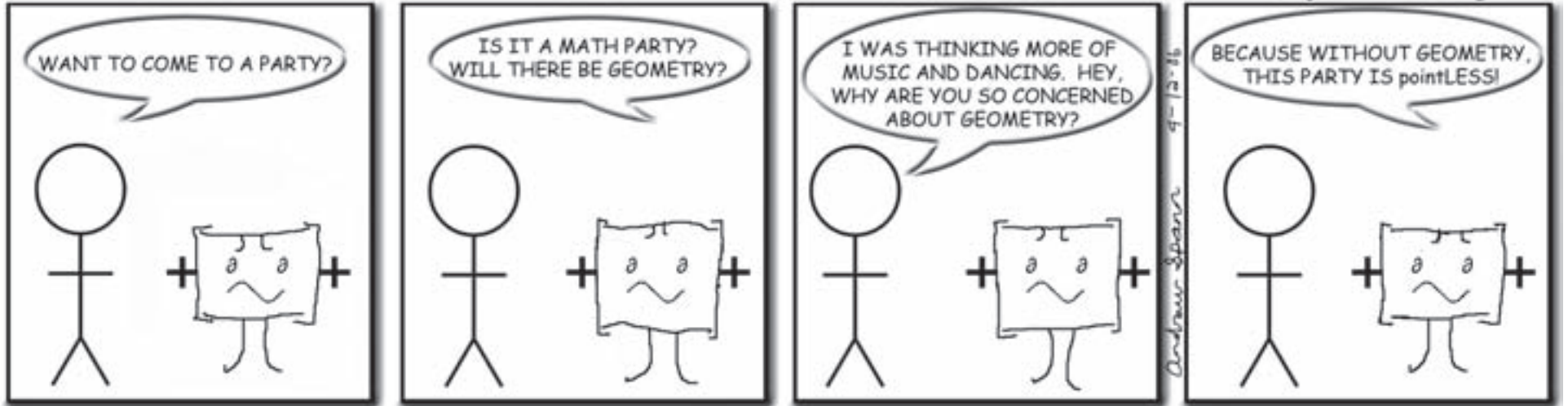
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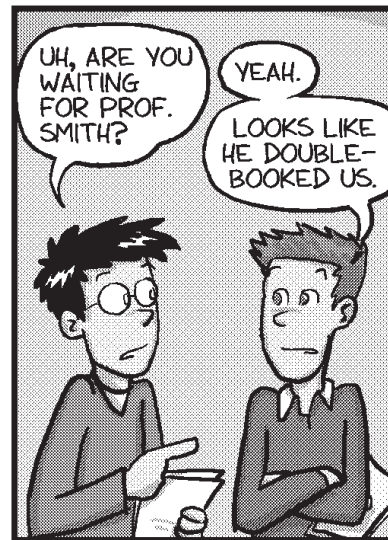
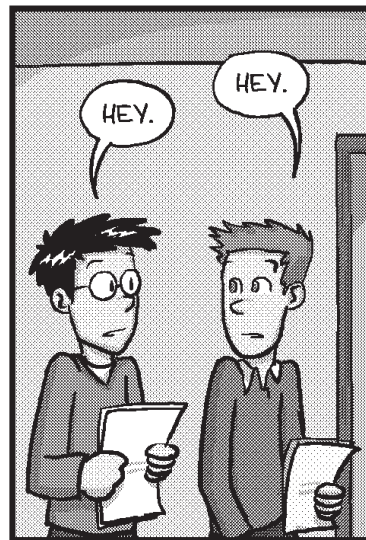
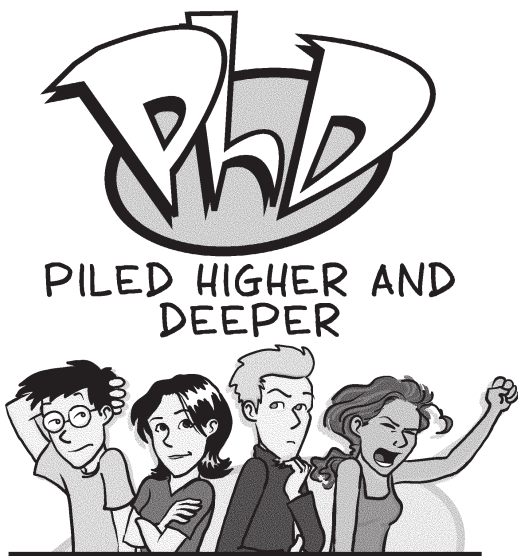
# PAGES

## PROOF OF FALSE

by Andrew Spann



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Crossword Puzzle  
Solution, page 15

# FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.  
 Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>.  
 See also solution on page 17.

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**ny** | **op** | **ns**


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**LaVerde's to Return to 24-hour Service**

LaVerde's Market, which was sold to 660 Corporation in early August, plans to return to 24-hour operation on Sept. 17, according to Chris Christensen, director of operations for 660 Corporation.

Prior to the sale of LaVerde's, Christensen said in August that students would not notice many immediate changes to the business and that the store would keep the same hours as before the sale. However, LaVerde's has yet to return to its 24-hour schedule for weekdays during the term.

LaVerde's current store hours are Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to midnight and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"We're just trying to get the staffing right," Christensen said last week, adding that there are a core number of people who work in the summer and that the store needed to hire additional help before resuming the 24-hour operation.

Christensen also said that the 24-hour schedule "isn't particularly profitable" but will be continued because students want it.

LaVerde's manager Mark Semon, who confirmed that the store will resume 24-hour operation but could not specify when, said that they were waiting to finish training help before increasing hours of operation.

660 Corporation is a subsidiary of Boston University and owns 11 locations in the Boston area, including LaVerde's in the Student Center and MacGregor Convenience. "We specialize in the college market, with six locations on the BU campus, one on the [Boston College] campus, and two at MIT," Christensen said.

—Ji Qi

**Macintosh Cluster Upgraded**

The cluster of Macintosh computers in Building 26 has been upgraded to 13 new G5 Apple Macintosh computers as of August, according to David G. Wyman, who manages hardware for the Academic Computing division of Information Systems & Technology. The cluster is in 26-139, across the breezeway from 26-100. It is called the "New Media Center," and its Web page is at <http://web.mit.edu/nmc>. It is primarily intended for multimedia projects, and has several commercial graphics and multimedia software packages installed.

Wyman said that the operating system "has been integrated with Athena, so you can now use your Kerberos credentials to log in, and AFS is mounted as a drive." The AFS filesystem provides access to Athena home directories and Web pages. Wyman also said that the network has been upgraded to gigabit ethernet, up from 10-megabit ethernet.

According to Philip D. Long, senior strategist for Academic Computing, the Macintosh upgrades were prompted by a series of thefts over the summer. Academic Computing spent about \$19,000 on the upgrade, Long said. That money comes from the Academic Computing budget that also funds Athena clusters, as well as ad hoc faculty projects, Long said. That budget has declined from about \$1.5 million a few years ago to around \$600-700,000 this year, according to Long. One of the items stolen over the summer that has not yet been replaced is the cluster's video projector.

IS&T will be deploying a new laser printer in the cluster in the next few weeks, Wyman said. The new printer will be black-and-white; previously the cluster had a color printer, though it was not replaced after it stopped working several years ago. Wyman and Long indicated that IS&T is thinking about ways to install a color printer in the cluster, while managing the cost of consumables. Currently IS&T operates two public color printers, one in the W20 Copytech center (printer *w20color*), and one in the 37-312 Windows Athena Cluster (printer *echo*).

In order to make it easier to reserve the cluster, a touch-panel scheduling system has been installed outside the room, Wyman said. The screen features bright green (available) and red (in-use) lights on its side that are visible from as far away as Lobby 16. When the cluster is not reserved, it is available for walk-in use. Long said the scheduling system will be linked from the cluster's Web page soon.

Long said that Academic Computing is looking for more feedback about the cluster and is considering relocating it to a larger space in the basement of Building 4 (4-035) if there is sufficient usage to meet demand. He requests feedback emailed to [acis-help@mit.edu](mailto:acis-help@mit.edu).

—John A. Hawkinson

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# MIT Medical Grant Enters Second Year

## Violence Against Women Grant Sees Progress

By Kirtana Raja  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Violence Against Women Act grant program is entering its second year after an initial year of basic planning that included creating a Community Response Group, programs to train MIT undergraduates, training MIT staff and police on harassment protocols, developing a new campus policy on sexual violence, and developing a new MIT Medical protocol to treat violence victims.

The \$200,000 grant from the Department of Justice Office on Violence against Women was first announced in August 2005 by William M. Kettyle, director of MIT Medical.

Then-health educator Laura A. Stuart and Clinical Director for Campus Life Maryanne Kirkbride were key players in obtaining the grant. Julie Halverson, graduate assistant with the MIT medical department, is primarily in charge of the program this year and plans to reapply for the grant at the end of 2006.

Kirkbride said that the VAWA program has accomplished at least 80–85 percent of the goals that they set out to complete at the beginning of last year but are still looking to develop more training programs for faculty, staff, and students.

Among VAWA's other plans include formulating rape aggression defense classes to be given by the MIT police department, developing a better freshman advising program which would give freshman a chance all year long to discuss harassment issues, creating a life skills curriculum, and offering more programs to increase awareness on campus.

VAWA created an active CRG which meets about every month and

raises awareness of violence in the community and includes students, faculty, and outside community partners such as the Boston Rape center. Both Kirkbride and Halverson said that they want to include MIT student groups more actively in this year's meetings, in the hopes that students will give their input regarding possible VAWA initiatives for their next grant proposal.

VAWA has also formulated a protocol for MIT medical workers to follow when an assault victim comes to them in need of assistance, which can be found on the MIT medical Website as well as the newly developed VAWA brochures. Protocols for the MIT police department to follow when dealing with harassment cases have also been outlined, said Halverson.

A VAWA subcommittee was responsible for making an addendum to the harassment section of the MIT rule book on conduct, adding several key terms such as "sexual harassment," "rape," and "assault." Halverson said that these definitions would be something that the Committee on Discipline could refer to when looking at cases of sexual harassment.

A new freshman orientation program entitled "Sex Signals" replaced the speech given by a rape victim from previous years. Halverson said that general consensus indicated that the new program was well received.

Halverson said that she has heard that more students are coming out to talk about their harassment experiences.

"It's good to have more awareness of these issues and to be able to give people a safe venue to come and discuss what has happened to them if they feel like it," Halverson said.

# CSAIL Head to Focus On Personal Projects

CSAIL, from Page 1

adaptability of biological systems.

"It'd be like taking a processor chip — although now Macs and PCs are the same as of a year ago — from a Macintosh and putting it backwards on a PC and having it work." Brooks said that he applies this adaptability of biological systems to computation work.

Brook's more practical, long-term project involves eventually designing a cost-effective, personal robot worker analogous to user-friendly personal computers that can perform daily tasks and increase the overall productivity of the individual.

"Ordinary people can become robot programmers," Brooks said. Brooks has much experience in this field as he has worked extensively with human-like robots.

During the last 10 years, Brooks has led and co-led many vital CSAIL projects as well as initiated big shifts in research funding. Since all of CSAIL's funding comes from external parties, the lab has been involved in many joint research projects with various outside companies.

CSAIL currently has a joint lab with Nokia in Kendall Square, where they work on technology for the development of cell phone software and hardware. Brooks has also led an ongoing collaborative project with Quanta Computers, a Taiwan-based manufacturer of 40 percent of the world's laptops that has outsourced to Dell, Sony, Macintosh, and other laptop companies. With Quanta Computers, Brooks said that CSAIL is interested in researching "beyond the laptop."

CSAIL was created in July 2003 with the merging of the Laboratory for Computer Science and the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. Before

the CSAIL merge, Brooks had been director of the AI Lab for 6 years and associate director for 4 years, and became the founding director of CSAIL when the two programs merged.



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THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP

# Graduate Students & Undergrads Disagree On TV Programming

Cable, from Page 1

es to join the MIT Cable lineup, said UA Vice President Ruth Miller. She also added that news channels offered in the current service will likely stay.

Since graduate students have already signed their housing contracts, it is unlikely that the cable changes will be implemented this year, said UA President Andrew T. Lukmann '07.

"Only the channels for which the funding comes through Housing are currently eligible for replacement," Jovanovic said.

"In the housing contract there is no list of channels, so there is some ambiguity and it could be used to argue for the change this year. However, the GSC will not push for any changes this year unless there is a very broad and very strong push from the graduate student body," Dalley said.

MIT Cable TV cannot implement any changes until the survey results are in and all the legalities have been sorted out. Once the results are in, changes could be implemented within a month, according to Randall W. Winchester, team leader of MIT Cable Television.

In May this year, a call for feedback on cable options was sent by Miller to the undergraduate student body via e-mail regarding changes in channel programming and subscription fee billing options. Students were given the choice between either keeping their current programming or getting new digital channels at an increased cost. Due to bandwidth concerns, 10 analog channels would also be removed to allow for 100 additional digital channels.

The cost of the new channels was put at \$35 a month, per outlet, with premium channels being available for an additional \$15 per month, per outlet, according to the e-mail to undergraduates. Since the new service would involve transmission of channels digitally, most televisions would require a digital converter that would cost around \$70.

Two options were considered for billing the subscription fee. Either the Housing office would handle the

account, and the subscription cost would be absorbed into the price of on-campus housing, or the students would be allowed to handle their own subscriptions. Either way, students would still have to find digital converters. In addition, students that decided not to subscribe would have to purchase a digital converter in order to access the current MIT Cable programming, minus the 10 channels that would be removed.

A survey of the student population was carried out in May this year. An overwhelming 72 percent of the graduate students who participated in the survey preferred keeping the existing channels instead of the proposed \$35 subscription service, said Dalley. Conversely, 73 percent of the undergraduate students preferred the subscription service to the current programming, Miller said.

This comes in stark contrast to 2003, when the bankruptcy of the country's only supplier of digital channels, WSNt, left graduate students without an option for digital cable even though they were will to pay the monthly \$25 subscription fee, as previously reported in *The Tech*.

The polarity between graduate and undergraduate student opinions meant that changes to the cable service could be stalled. Nonetheless, "the student organizations chose to search for another alternative that would have minimal costs, but allow for a small number of channels to change," according to Dalley.

Undergraduate students were interested in only a few select channels, Miller said, and a compromise that involved dropping the \$35 subscription service option from the proposed changes was reached. The subscription service option may be considered again in the future.

"We haven't given up yet and we are still looking for a more feasible solution," Miller said.

For more information on the MIT Cable Survey, visit [https://s-p.mit.edu/officers/surveys/MIT\\_Cable2.php](https://s-p.mit.edu/officers/surveys/MIT_Cable2.php).

Ricardo Ramirez contributed to the reporting of this article.

# MIT Sailing Finishes 7th in The Women's Man-Labs Trophy

The Women's Man-Labs Trophy was held on the Charles River on Saturday, Sept. 9. MIT placed 7th out of 12 teams.

(right) Keeping the main sail of her Tech Dinghy into the light wind, skipper Elizabeth L. Palmer '09 waits for a speed-boosting gust of wind while Ashley N. Cantieny '08 controls the rudder to keep their boat on course.

(below) Skipper Ellann Cohen '08 (left) holds her Flying Junior boat on a downwind course while Leigh C. Casadaban '10 maintains the jib and main sail in the light wind.

Photography by Arthur J. Petron



# Snapshots of Fraternity Rush 2006

Fraternity rush officially began on Saturday, Sept. 2 and will officially end on Wednesday, Sept. 13. Bid Day was on Friday, Sept. 8 and pledging began on Saturday, Sept. 9.

(right) Posters advertising different rush events for various fraternities lined Amherst Alley on trees, poles, and the sidewalk.

(below) Brothers, pledges, and biddees of Phi Delta Theta surround new pledges after sprinting down a beach in Doxbury, Massachusetts on Saturday, Sept. 9.



JOSEPHINE I. DUH



WILLIAM B. YEE

# daily confusion

Tuesday,  
September 12, 2006

11:00

11:45—**Fenway House**—We may be non-sequitur, but at least we like corn.

16:00

16:29—**Fenway House**—Come relax in the Fens and throw some Frisbees at trees. Or people. Whatever. Call 617-437-1043 for someone to walk you over from campus (don't be shy).

18:00

18:00—**WILG**—Sweet and Sour Chicken Dinner  
18:21—**Fenway House**—Randomized Dinner Selection. Hungry? Have dinner at Fenway. What are we making? Spin the Wheel O' Cuisine so we'll know what to make. [web.mit.edu/fenway/](http://web.mit.edu/fenway/) for randomness!

20:00

20:00—**WILG**—Knitting Study Break with Desserts from Finale  
20:14—**Fenway House**—Games Insane More games! Play some cheaters' pool or sadistic twister! Board games galore! Poke your head

into our toy box!

21:00

21:00—**Fenway House**—Dude, come punt all your work due tomorrow at Fenway. Or come work with us, and we'll help you with those freshman GIR's. Call 617-437-1043 for a ride or a walk (your choice).

Wednesday,  
September 13, 2006

01:00

01:00—**Fenway House**—How many licks to the center of a Fenbeing?

18:00

18:00—**WILG**—Ribs Dinner

19:00

19:01—**Fenway House**—The Best Damn Pizza on the Planet! Come enjoy the products of Crazy Dough's, the finest gourmet pizza you will ever see! 617-437-1043 for a ride or a walk.

21:00

21:13—**Fenway House**—Homework Help! Come talk about the HASS paper or latest pset

you're procrastinating doing with Fenbeings who are also procrastinating.

23:00

23:21—**Fenway House**—Bobbing for Hostess Products! It's like bobbing for apples, but you get a twinkie instead! Call 617-437-1043 for a ride or a scenic walk (your choice).

Thursday,  
September 14, 2006

17:00

17:20—**Fenway House**—Beware of attack penguin. Last seen on the third floor.

18:00

18:00—**WILG**—Burrito Dinner  
18:13—**Fenway House**—Burritos! Join the Fenbeings for some inspiration. Boloco's inspired Burritos are a five minute walk from the house! [web.mit.edu/fenway/www](http://web.mit.edu/fenway/www) for directions to our super-secret headquarters. Or, if you want to keep them secret, call 617-437-1043 for a ride.

20:00

20:00—**WILG**—Mike's Pastries Study Break!!

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# Removal of Harvard Early Admissions Planned For '07

By Alan Finder  
and Karen W. Arenson  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Harvard University, breaking with a major trend in college admissions, plans to eliminate its early admissions program next year, with university officials arguing that such programs put low-income and minority applicants at a distinct disadvantage in the competition to get into selective universities.

Harvard will be the first of the nation's prestigious universities to do away completely with early admissions, in which high school seniors try to bolster their chances at competitive schools by applying in the fall and learning whether they have been admitted in December, months before other students.

Some universities now admit as much as half of their freshman class this way and many, though not Harvard, require an ironclad commitment from students that they will attend in return for the early acceptance.

Harvard's decision — to be announced Tuesday — is likely to put pressure on other colleges, which acknowledge the same concerns but have been reluctant to take any step that could put them at a disadvantage in the heated competition for the top students.

"We think this will produce a fairer process, because the existing process has been shown to advantage those who are already advantaged," Derek Bok, the interim president of Harvard, said Monday in an interview.

Bok said students who were more affluent and sophisticated were the ones most likely to apply for early admission. More than a third of Harvard's students are accepted through early admission. In addition, he said many early admissions programs require students to lock in without being able to compare financial aid offerings from various colleges.

Bok also spoke about reducing the frenzy surrounding admissions. "I think it will improve the climate in high schools," he said, "so that students don't start getting preoccupied in their junior year about which college to go to."

Many admissions deans and high school guidance counselors greeted Harvard's decision — which is to go into effect for applicants in the fall of 2007 — with astonishment and delight.

"Wow, it's incredible," said Marilee Jones, the dean of admissions at MIT, which has a nonbinding early admissions program.

Jones has spoken widely about reducing the pressure and stress of admissions. "It has the capacity to change a lot of things in this business," she said. "It's bold enough for other schools to really reconsider what they're doing. I wish them so much luck in this."

Lloyd Thacker, the executive director of the Education Conservancy, a nonprofit group created to lobby for an overhaul in admissions procedures, said his eyes had teared up when he heard the news. "I'm so glad," Thacker said. "I can't believe it."

"The most powerful institution in the country is saying, singularly, yes, something is wrong with this and we're going to try to act in the public interest," he added.

The University of Delaware announced a similar move last May.

For three decades, Harvard has offered a particular form of early admissions, in which students who are accepted early still have the freedom

to go elsewhere. Various forms of early admissions are offered by hundreds of colleges and universities, with many requiring applicants to commit upfront to attending the university if offered early admission.

The popularity of the procedure grew significantly in the 1990s, as colleges tried to increase their competitive advantage by locking in strong candidates early. It also gave an edge to students willing to commit early to an institution. In some cases, admissions rates are two or three times higher for students who apply early. But at Harvard and many other universities officials have grown concerned that early admissions present a major obstacle to low-income and working-class students.

Such students have also been hurt by steep tuition increases and competition with students from affluent families who spend thousands of dollars on college consultants and tutoring. "I think there are lots of very talented students out there from poor and moderate-income backgrounds who have been discouraged by this whole hocus-pocus of early admissions by many of the nation's top colleges," said William R. Fitzsimmons, Harvard College's dean of admissions and financial aid.

Thacker and other critics said that under binding early admission programs, students have to commit to a college long before they know how much aid they will be offered. Students who apply for admission in the regular cycle are able to compare financial-aid offerings from various colleges before making up their minds in April.

Under Harvard's early admissions program, which is known as early action, students do not have to decide until May 1 whether to accept an admission offer. Even so, many potential applicants did not understand the distinction between Harvard's program and those that require an upfront commitment and were discouraged from applying, Bok said.

"We think the more schools abandon this process, the healthier the admissions process will be," he said.

Of the 2,124 students admitted by Harvard last year, 813 were granted early admission, or 38 percent, Fitzsimmons said.

Under Lawrence H. Summers '75, the Harvard president who left office in June, the university took a number of steps to make itself more accessible to poor and working-class students. Among other things, families with

incomes below \$60,000 a year are no longer required to pay for a student's education.

The idea of abandoning early admission was developed after Bok became interim president in July, said John Longbrake, a Harvard spokesman. Early admission will remain in effect during the current academic year, which is already under way.

Several educators said that only a university with Harvard's reputation could take the risk involved with eliminating early admission because it will continue to be the first choice for so many top students.

"The one thing that always seemed

commonly agreed was that no college could give up its early application program if the others didn't, too," said Christopher Avery, a Harvard professor and a co-author of "The Early Admissions Game: Joining the Elite" (Harvard University Press, 2003). "This seems to move to do just that."

Bruce Hunter, director of college counseling at the Rowland Hall-St. Mark's School, a private school in Salt Lake City, said he hoped other universities would follow Harvard's lead, but he was not confident that they would.

"I think that Harvard has calculated that they will not suffer any com-

petitive disadvantage in the process," Hunter said. "I'm not sure that there are more than a handful of other places that could make the same claim."

Janet Lavin Rapelye, dean of admission at Princeton University, applauded Harvard's decision, but said she could not predict how Princeton might respond. Princeton has binding early admission, and Rapelye said there had been questions about whether early admissions limited diversity.

"All of us who sit in these seats have always worried about that," she said. "Yet we have worked very hard to broaden and deepen our applicant pool at every step in the process."



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### Solution to Crossword

from page 7

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# Languages Important On Four Week Foray

TechNomads, from Page 1

them: English, Persian (Farsi), Urdu, Chinese, and Arabic. "Farsi was definitely the most important one" for most of the trip, Ahmed said. Better still, they came up with \$15,000 of corporate sponsorship for the adventure, leaving them with only about \$5,000 in out-of-pocket expenses to pay for gas, supplies, and flights to London from Boston, and then back to the United States from China at the end of the trip.

Though their vehicle broke down (permanently) in Kyrgyzstan near the Chinese border, more than a thousand miles short of their goal, the 'Nomads did have some good luck along the way as well.

"There were lots of checkpoints on the way from Herat to Kandahar [in Afghanistan] ... they wave their guns at you, and if you stop then they take all your money. We kept driving and never got shot at."

The friends (former roommates at MIT) also managed to stay friends, despite spending six solid weeks in a small enclosed space, unbathed, lost, or about to be lost. "There were arguments about which roads to take, but we all got along pretty well," Ahmed said.

Even after the poor abused Renault had given up the ghost with two flat tires and a broken fuel line in the Himalayas, there was the Kyrgyz trucker who picked them up, drove them to the Chinese border, left them with friends who gave the 'Nomads food and shelter, and even paid them \$500 for what was left of the car.

Strangers into friends seemed to be

the rule, one large two-by-four-wielding Serbian notwithstanding. (Our intrepid travelers didn't stick around to figure out who had wronged whom in that Balkan minefield: "We're like, 'move move move!' as he came up to the car window" Ahmed said.) Generosity prevailed, as "people found us rides, people gave us food."

A faint self-congratulatory air hangs about the TechNomads. After all, it's not everyone who can say they've gone to most of the 'stans and Iran and didn't get shot at once. And of course, there's the \$6,500 they've raised for charity so far, about a dollar for each mile they drove. (For comparison, a Boston Marathon runner for Dana Farber raises about \$270 per mile run during the marathon.)

So was it worth it?

"It definitely changed the way that we treat strangers," Ahmed said. "No way we can say no to anybody who wants a place to stay now, or food for a night."

What about the environmental impact? "Well, our car didn't use much gas ... it's not like taking a trip across the U.S. in an SUV." (A typical SUV would release about 3,000 pounds in carbon emissions on an LA to Boston road trip).

As an optimistic Ahmed put it: "We grew a lot, [had] some really profound experiences. I like to think that it helped everyone."

#### TechNomads Stats

Total cost of trip for four people:	\$20,000
Total raised for charity:	\$6,500 and counting
Total corporate sponsorship:	\$15,000
Total out-of-pocket expenses:	\$5,000
Miles driven:	about 6,500
Miles flown (to and from MIT):	~14,000 per person (not every participant returned)
Emissions from flying:	about 4,000 lbs of CO <sub>2</sub> per person
Amount raised for charity per mile driven:	\$1
Amount raised for charity per mile traveled per person:	10 cents

SOURCE: WWW.CARBONNEUTRAL.COM

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# Garnett Remembered For Original Photos

Garnett, from Page 1

in an e-mail message yesterday.

Garnett's work falls into a tradition of landscape photography that includes the meticulous western landscapes of Ansel Adams and Edward Weston's pristine studies of organic form. As landscapes, Garnett's photographs do not have the conventional grounding of a horizon line. Often, the natural terrain he photographed from the air is made up of surprisingly ordered geometric patterns or ambiguous organic shapes that are not observable from the ground.

"Aerial photographs that possess true coherence of intention and resolution are rare, and a remarkable number of those that hold firm in our memories were made by William A. Garnett," John Szarkowski wrote in his definitive book, "Looking at Photographs: 100 Pictures from the Collection of The Museum of Modern Art."

In 1953, at 37, Garnett received the first of his three Guggenheim fellowships, having been encouraged to apply for the grant by his friend Edward Weston. The following year, he was included in the landmark exhibition "The Family of Man" at the Museum of Modern Art. In 1955 he was one of four photographers in a show at the George Eastman House in Rochester that included the work of Alfred Stieglitz. That year, *The New York Times Magazine* published a portfolio of Garnett's work from the exhibition.

Garnett published two books, "The Extraordinary Landscape" (1982), with an introduction by Ansel Adams, and "William Garnett Aerial Photographs" (1984). Over the years his photographs were published in many books and magazines. His first published picture essay, entitled "Over California," appeared in *Fortune* in 1954 in a layout designed by Walker Evans. That led to 20 years of work for Time-Life that took him across the United States, and to Asia and Australia.

His photographs, widely exhibited, are in the collections not only at The Museum of Modern Art, but also at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Getty Museum and the Smithsonian Institution.

In 1968 Garnett was hired as chairman of the department of design at the University of California, Berkeley, where he taught photography until his retirement in 1984. He was also on the faculty at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and taught at the Ansel Adams Workshops at Yosemite.

Garnett was born in Chicago in 1916. His family moved to Pasadena, Calif., when he was four. His father

left his mother not long after that, and he and his siblings grew up in modest circumstances. He became interested in photography as a teenager and with his brother set up a darkroom at home. At John Muir High School in Pasadena, he was chief photographer for the school yearbook, where his first published aerial photograph, the school campus taken from a biplane, appeared.

After graduating from high school, he studied photography at the Art Center School in Los Angeles, but financial circumstances forced him to drop out. He worked as a commercial photographer for several years, and, at 24, took a job with the Pasadena Police Department, where he was in charge of crime-scene photography.

Joining the Army Signal Corps in 1944, Garnett trained as a motion-picture cameraman. On his discharge, he took a cross-country flight home in the navigator's seat of a troop transport. Inspired by the majesty of the landscape below, he decided to get his pilot's license and start photographing from the sky. He learned to fly on the G.I. Bill and bought his first plane in 1947.

In addition to his wife of 64 years, Eula, who toured the United States as a concert contralto in the 1940s and later managed her husband's photographic records, Garnett is survived by three sons, Bill, of Pleasanton, Calif.; Jay, of Hoosick Falls, N.Y.; and Don, of Sonoma, Calif.; and three grandchildren.

"William Garnett is a vastly underrated and misunderstood photographer, whose quiet and expansive images are not only useful but conceptual and beautiful as well," Naef said.

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 from page 8


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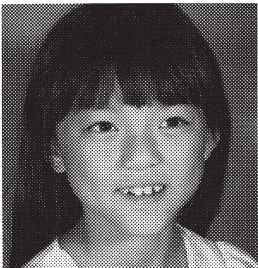
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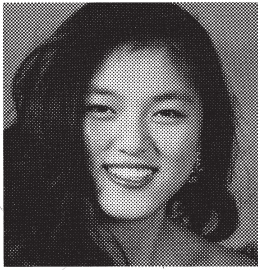
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**Nancy Khalil**, Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, Wellesley University  
**Rabbi Moshe Waldoks**, Temple Beth Zion, Brookline, MA

Questions: [ora@mit.edu](mailto:ora@mit.edu)  
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Addir is a word in Ancient Sumerian which means "bridge". In the Addir Fellows Program we aspire to build bridges of dialogue and understanding. The Addir Fellows MIT Interfaith Dialogue Program is sponsored by Office of Dean for Student Life and MIT Hillel in cooperation with the Board of Chaplains

## Cell-shaped Building Boasts Mitochondria, Membrane in China

By John Schwartz

NEW YORK TIMES

The blob is coming to Chengdu. A biomedical research institute in Chengdu, China, is planning to show true commitment to scientific principles by erecting an innovative building inspired by cells.

Bulges on the surface are meeting rooms and are intended to represent the proteins embedded in a cell membrane. The interior pools, shaped like mitochondria, border on the surreal.

The design may seem playful or even bizarre, but the intention is serious, said Shuguang Zhang, associate director of the Center for Biomedical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who worked with two MIT graduates, Sloan A. Kulper '03 and Audrey M. Roy '04, to bring his dream of "bio-inspired architecture" into being.

"Nature has built this kind of thing for billions of years, and finally humans caught on," said Zhang, who is founding adviser to the Institute for Nanobiomedical Technology and Membrane Biology in Chengdu.

To many who do not share his enthusiasm, it might look as if somebody tried to make an office tower out of nougat and it melted in the sun. But to Zhang, standard buildings, with their straight lines and conventional boxy shapes, are "boring," and the more imaginative works like those of Antoni Gaudi and Frank Gehry resonate.

"People will turn their head regardless," he said, whether "they like it or hate it," and children will be inspired to learn biology.

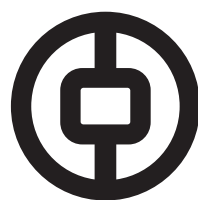
He said he rejected about a dozen designs from Kulper, a former student, before approving the current plan. "Some of them looked like Swiss cheese," Zhang said. "Another looked like a cake."

He expects the building to cost \$12 million and is still in the fundraising phase, he said.

He said he doubted that people would actually hate the building. "It's biology," he said. "How many people hate trees? How many people hate seashells and mushrooms?"

"When the Eiffel Tower was built," Zhang added, "most of the people in Paris hated it. Now it has become a symbol of Paris."

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You & Us





OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Toy dalmations sit on the firetruck and a painted seal on the door of the firetruck appears "Mem-nimus," the Latin word for "We remember." The firetruck commemorates the fifth year anniversary of the terror attack on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

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MIT Folk Dance Club

<http://mit.edu/fdc>



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- Relaxation Group
- Returning to MIT
- Sexual Identity Support Group
- Skills for Effective Living
- Spouses & Partners @ MIT
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- Undergraduate group

For more information about these and other support groups, please contact the Mental Health Service at 617-253-2916 or visit us on the web at [web.mit.edu/medical](http://web.mit.edu/medical).

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## New Museum Events, Discussions Planned For Adult Audience

MIT Museum, from Page 1

the one the museum has seen in past years, Rosenthal said. One of these programs is the "Soap Box" events, which are a monthly series of discussions led by some of MIT's renowned researchers in a casual setting supplemented with cheese and wine. The discussions are usually centered around topics that lead to interesting debates among the adult audience. The next three "Soap Box" discussions will focus on energy and global warming, Rosenthal said.

For the more youthful crowd, the MIT Museum is partnering with local channel WGBH, the city of Cambridge, Harvard University, the Cambridge public school system, Cambridge Public Libraries, and the Boston Museum of Science to hold the first annual Cambridge Science Festival from April 21-29 next year, said Josie Patterson, director of public relations and marketing.

"The goal of the festival is to

showcase science in community, and to increase awareness about opportunities available in the community," Patterson said.

Another significant transformation slated to take place soon is the extension of exhibits to the first floor of the current museum building, according to the museum's brochure. Currently, exhibits are mostly located on the second floor. Next summer, visitors will be able to walk around the ground floor, which was previously occupied primarily by classrooms.

Within five years, the museum is expected to make the biggest change of all by moving to The Metropolitan Storage Warehouse. Location-wise, it is closer to the MIT campus and also has significantly more room for a greater number of displays. The modifications are estimated to cost upwards of \$2.5 million, Patterson said.

Rosenthal said that a surprising majority of the way people hear about the museum is through word of mouth.

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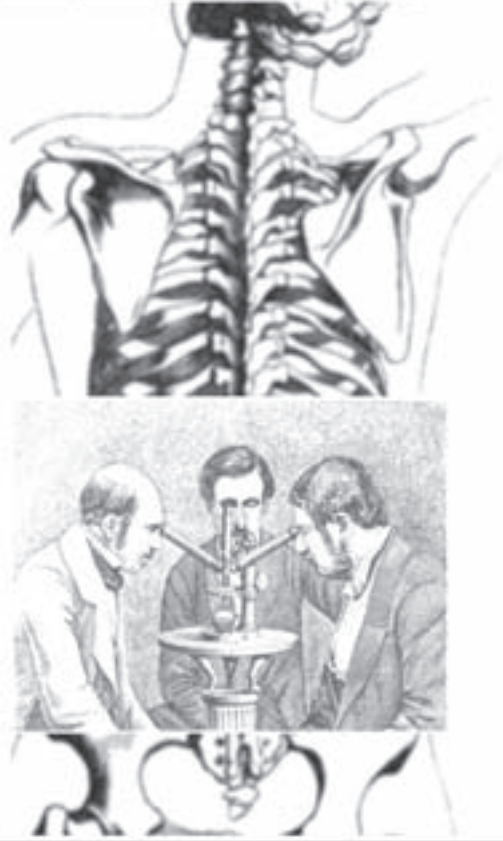
Tuesday, September 12  
7:00–9:00 p.m.  
Building 6, Room 6-120

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Want to know more? Come to an info session (**food will be served!**):

**Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in 32-141**

**Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in 32-155**

**Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in 32-155**

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**Information session September 13, 7:00 pm  
34-401A (Grier Room)**

**On-campus interviews October 12**

To apply for an interview, log on to <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/jobs/monstertrak.html>. If this isn't possible, please send a resume and cover letter stating your GPA and standardized test scores, broken down by section where applicable, to [jobs@deshaw.com](mailto:jobs@deshaw.com). All applications must be received by September 28.

Members of the D. E. Shaw group do not discriminate in employment matters on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, military service eligibility, veteran status, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or any other protected class.

# Yards Gained Nearly Even, But 4 Turnovers Cost MIT

Football, from Page 24

cusos '09 and two fumbles kept the wary Engineer defense on the field for almost ten minutes longer than the opposition's.

The Engineer's defensive effort was highlighted by senior linebacker and co-captain Alfredo M. Rivera '07, who led the team with eight tackles and one sack. The Engineers secondary also came to play on Saturday with junior safety Joseph T. Goldschmid '08 (eight tackles, one forced fumble), cornerback Ryan L. Brunswick '09 (six solo tackles), and safety David O. Kalk '08 (seven tackles, one sack) contributing significantly to an Engineer defense that held the Buccaneers to only 254 total yards.

With the game still scoreless, the nail in the coffin for the Engineers ultimately came in the second quarter when the Buccaneers drove the ball 94 yards on 16 plays eating up 8:24 in the second quarter. Starting from their own six yard-line with 12:13 left to play in the first half, the Buccaneers quickly gave themselves room to work when sophomore running back Tom Stralka started the drive with a 19-yard carry up the far sideline.

The Engineers missed a big opportunity on that play when Stralka fumbled the ball at the end of the rush but the Engineers were unable to come up with anything. The drive was capped by a one-yard touchdown run by Buccaneer freshman running back Jeff Pirri, the first of his two scores.

The Bucs' offense was led by Stralka, who carried the ball 11 times for 65 yards and one score and sophomore quarterback Joe DeFrank who was an efficient 11 of 13 for 63 yards. On defense, sophomore linebacker Kyle Audette led the Bucs with eight tackles, five of the solo variety and one for a loss. The Bucs' secondary was also solid coming up



DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TECH

**Defensive back Kevin J. Foley '09 (#31) sacks Massachusetts Maritime Academy's sophomore running back Thomas Stralka (#32) during the first quarter of MIT's home opener Saturday, Sept. 9. Mass. Maritime's win broke their fifteen-game losing streak that dated back two years.**

with two interceptions and limiting MIT's main deep threat and 2005 NEFC all-conference honorable mention, sophomore receiver Kevin

T. Vogelsang '09 to just 38 yards on four receptions.

The final interception was caught by the Bucs defensive back Sam

Sirrico with just over three minutes remaining, sealing the Engineers' fate.

MIT plays its first road game of

the season next week on Saturday, Sept. 16 when the team travels to Framingham, Mass. to play Framingham State College at 2:00 p.m.



WILLIAM B. YEE

**Amy S. Ludlum '08 (#17) sends off a pass to her teammate in the front field during the women's soccer game on Wednesday, Sept. 6 against Simmons College. MIT won 4-0.**

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# SPORTS

## Offense Sputters in 19-0 Loss

By Ryan Lanphere  
STAFF WRITER

The difference on Saturday for the Buccaneers of Massachusetts Maritime Academy was their ability to keep possession and finish in the red zone. Scoring on three of their four trips to the red zone and winning the turnover battle four to one allowed the Bucs to blank MIT football 19-0.

The Engineers of MIT (0-1) opened their 2006 season against Massachusetts Maritime Academy

(1-0) at Steinbrenner Stadium to a respectable home crowd this past Saturday. It was a non-division contest for the Engineers since the teams are in different divisions of the New England Football Conference. The victory was a career first for Buccaneers coach Jeremy Cameron in his second year with the program. The win also broke a 15 game losing streak for Mass. Maritime for the first victory over the Engineers in six years.

An efficient running game was not enough for the Engineers, whose rushing attack was led by running-

back Thomas C. Scotton '08 who ran for 67 yards on 16 carries. Despite two trips inside their opponents' six-yard line in the first quarter, the Engineers were unable to score or do much of anything else for the rest of the game.

The Engineers did not put together any significant drives, mainly because they failed to hold onto the football on offense. Four turnovers, including two interceptions by sophomore quarterback and NEFC 2005 Rookie of the Year Richard A. Man-

Football, Page 23



Running back Thomas C. Scotton '08 (#4) leaps out of the arms of a Massachusetts Maritime Academy defenseman during the second quarter of MIT's home opener 0-19 shutout loss at Steinbrenner Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 9. Scotton rushed for 67 yards on 16 carries, the best of the game.



Oliver C. Venn '07 (#13) makes a pass during MIT's 10-9 win over Washington & Jefferson College in game one of the team's double header in the Zesiger Center pool on Friday, Sept. 8.

### UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2006  
Men's Soccer vs. Tufts

4 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

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Technology Associate

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Thursday, September 21  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm  
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Info Session  
After Career Fair  
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32-155

Resume Deadline:  
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