



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Students ask Smith College professor Eric Reeves (right, seated) questions after a lecture entitled "A Long Day's Dying: Genocide by Attrition in Darfur."

CI Curriculum Survey Still in Initial Phase

Survey Results Obtained; Awaiting Review

By Swetha Kambhampati
STAFF REPORTER

The Communication Requirement program assessment, launched in fall 2005 by the Subcommittee on the Communication Requirement, is still within its first phase of data analysis following a survey given to both faculty and students. Although the CR program data has been collected, the SOCR is still in the process of sifting through the results and statistically analyzing what the data signifies.

The survey analysis process is taking longer than expected, said Anna Frazer, the assistant dean of the Office of Faculty Support. Surveys were conducted with faculty and students to chart attitudes, impressions, and conclusions about the CI-H and CI-M classes, as well as gauge the impact of CR classes on the student community. The survey results will be used to understand the effectiveness of this part of the MIT curriculum, and discern where and how it needs to be improved. Though the data has been obtained, "it takes time to understand these statistics with different ways to cut it," said Frazer.

The survey consisted of 65 multiple-choice questions, for which answers ranged from strongly disagree to strongly agree, and two open-ended written response questions. Those questions, along with a comment section, will be factored into the survey's final results.

The assessment study will occur in three phases — student and faculty surveys, round table discussions as a more in-depth investigation of the undergraduates' CR experiences, and an analysis of the impact of the CR on the overall educational experience of students.

"The assessment is intended to be formative, taking [from] what we have learned to change and improve the program," said Frazer.

The first priority of the SOCR is

to analyze the results from the faculty survey in order to craft questions for the faculty round table discussions, which are planned for the spring of 2007. These discussions will explore faculty views on both the implementation and effectiveness of the CR, and will involve both CI and non-CI faculty members. Separate student round table discussions are planned for the spring, said Frazer.

The CR, which consists of Communication Intensive courses, is a set of classes required to graduate. CR classes come in two flavors, CI-H, within the humanities, arts, and social sciences, and CI-M, within the major. Every undergraduate must complete at least four Communication Intensive subjects, two CI-Hs and two CI-Ms as specified by the student's major.

The committee is simultaneously involved in several other aspects of the program assessment.

"Another student survey will be launched in a couple of weeks which will focus on what students are doing in the CI classes," said Frazer in an interview last week. The committee hopes to incorporate the data obtained from this newly released survey with the previously released student survey and analyze the data next spring.

The committee is also hoping to do an "impact study to look at changes or lack of changes in students' oral communication skills and tie them to the CI-H," said Frazer. As this is one of the first impact studies directed at the CR, and to facilitate further studies into the curriculum, the SOCR is currently in negotiation with outside centers and sources to test and develop a pilot.

CI-H classes, the first taken by undergraduates, are writing classes in which students plan, draft, and revise assignments based on course material, according to the CR Web site. CI-M subjects attempt to teach the specific forms of communication appropriate for the field's academic culture.

Fire Doors Modified In New House

After a Cambridge building inspector cited New House for leaving fire doors from individual houses to the lobby propped open, fire doors were ordered to be left closed at all times, according to New House Housemaster Sandra B. Harris.

News Briefs

Since all fire doors locked upon closing, students were required to use their keys to gain access to the building from the lobby. Door stops were removed from fire doors, and non-locking mechanisms were ordered, but many students felt inconvenienced during the interim period.

New House resident Mahalia K. Miller '09 said during the transition that she was "not happy with the current door situation," and fellow resident Clinton C. Blackburn '08 called the locked doors "annoying" and "a nuisance."

"Some people have gotten around it by putting stuff in the doors," Blackburn added.

"I think that the closed doors make for an unfriendly atmosphere," Miller said.

Non-locking latch mechanisms have now been installed on the house entry fire doors, allowing access without a key. The gate that provides access to Memorial Drive has also been outfitted with a push bar mechanism to allow exit to the street.

— Benjamin P. Gleitzman
and Joanne Y. Shih

Bexley to Swap Keys For Cards

Bexley House is currently in the process of moving from key to proximity card access on all doors. The switch is "part

News Briefs, Page 12

Five Countries May Try \$100 Laptop

By John Markoff
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

When computer industry executives heard about a plan to build a \$100 laptop for the developing world's children, they generally ridiculed the idea. How could you build such a computer, they asked, when screens alone cost about \$100?

Mary Lou Jepsen, the chief technologist for the project, likes to refer to the insight that transformed the machine from utopian dream to working prototype as "a really wacky idea."

Jepsen, a former Intel chip designer, found a way to modify conventional laptop displays, cutting the screen's manufacturing cost to \$40 while reducing its power consumption by more than 80 percent. As a bonus, the display is clearly visible in sunlight.

That advance and others have allowed the nonprofit project, One Laptop Per Child, to win over many skeptics over the last two and a half years. Five countries — Argentina, Brazil, Libya, Nigeria and Thailand — have made tentative commitments to put the computers into the hands of millions of students, with production in Taiwan expected to begin by mid-2007.

The laptop does not come with a Microsoft Windows operating system or even a hard drive, and the screen is small. The cost is now closer to \$150 than \$100. But the price tag, even compared with low-end \$500 laptops now widely available, transforms the economic equation for developing countries.

That has not prevented the effort, conceived by Nicholas P. Negroponte '66, a prominent computer researcher, from becoming the focal point of a debate over the value of computers to both learning and economic development.

The detractors include two computer industry giants, Intel and Microsoft, pushing alternative approaches. Intel has developed a \$400 laptop aimed at schools as well as an educational program that focuses on teachers instead of students. And Bill Gates, Microsoft's chairman and a leading philanthropist for the Third World, has questioned whether the concept is "just taking what we do in the rich world and subsidizing its use in the developing world."

Negroponte, the founding director of the MIT Media Laboratory, said he was bemused by the attention his little machine is getting. It is not the first time he has been challenged for proclaiming technology's prom-

ise. "It's as if people spent all of their attention focusing on Columbus' boat

One Laptop, Page 11



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Brian Wong '09 (left) and Albert Park '08 (second from left), members of the team Atmosphere, discuss their idea for the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnology's annual Soldier Design Competition with ISN Director John Joannopoulos (center) and Captain Blair of the US Army (right).

In Short

¶ Preregistration for spring semester and non-lotteried IAP subjects begins online on WebSIS today. Visit <http://student.mit.edu> for more information.

¶ The MIT Student Furniture Exchange will hold two open houses

on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Building WW15 (350 Brookline St). An MIT ID is required to make a purchase.

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

ARTS

Comedian Paula Poundstone explains why she misses the good old days of analog answering machine messages.

Page 5

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Arts	5
Comics	8
Sports	16

WORLD & NATION

Dissent Weakens Coalition Pressuring Iran on Nuclear Program

By Helene Cooper

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DEAD SEA, JORDAN

After months of missed deadlines, threats and counterproposals in the effort to rein in Iran's nuclear ambitions, the fragile coalition of six world powers that has been facing down Tehran may be about to splinter.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice sounded fed up Thursday with Russia's refusal to sign on to the list of Security Council sanctions the United States would like to see enacted against Iran.

A senior administration official in Jordan with Rice said the United States would soon be ready to force the issue by calling for a vote.

"Unity is not an end in itself," Rice told reporters, in answer to a question about whether the United States was willing to sacrifice a tough sanctions resolution in order to keep the Russians on board. "I'm all for maintaining unity, but I'm also all for action."

Rice's comments came during a roundtable with reporters on the outskirts of a democracy meeting with Arab leaders in Jordan.

Scientist Says Concrete was Used in the Pyramids

By John Noble Wilford

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In new research on the great pyramids of Giza, a scientist says he has found more to their construction than cut natural limestone: Some original parts of the massive structures appear to be made of concrete blocks.

If true, historians say, this would be the earliest known application of concrete technology, some 2,500 years before the Romans started using it widely in harbors, amphitheatres and other architecture.

Reporting the results of his study, Michel W. Barsoum, a professor of materials engineering at Drexel University in Philadelphia, concluded that the use of limestone concrete could explain in part how the Egyptians were able to complete such massive monuments, beginning around 2550 B.C. They used concrete blocks, he said, on the outer and inner casings and probably on the upper levels, where it would have been difficult to hoist carved stone.

"The sophistication and endurance of this ancient concrete technology is simply astounding," Barsoum wrote in a report in the December issue of *The Journal of the American Ceramic Society*.

Ripples Keep Spreading in a Chinese Bribery Case

By David Barboza

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SHANGHAI, CHINA

Three multinational companies were named in a court verdict this month that sentenced the former head of China Construction Bank to 15 years in prison for accepting more than \$500,000 in bribes, according to a copy of the court verdict.

IBM, NCR and Hitachi of Japan were named and identified as having worked through a Chinese middleman or consultant named Zou Jianhua in an effort to sell information technology services to the state-owned Chinese bank in 2003 and 2004.

The 20-page court verdict from the No. 1 Intermediate Court in Beijing said that while he was serving as the chairman of China Construction Bank, Zhang Enzhao met with senior managers from IBM and NCR on multiple occasions with his longtime friend, Zou, who was acting as a middleman between the bank and several companies.

The court verdict said the middleman, Zou, collected large "service fees" from IBM and NCR and that Zou later passed valuable gifts on to the bank chairman, including a massage chair, a pair of Tiffany watches and a luxury apartment in Shanghai worth about \$330,000.

For Exiting Iraq, Consensus Seems to Favor Brisk Stroll

By David E. Sanger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

In the cacophony of competing plans about how to deal with Iraq, one reality now appears clear: Despite the Democrats' victory last month in an election viewed as a referendum on the war, the idea of a rapid US troop withdrawal is fast receding as a viable option.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff are signaling that too rapid an US pull-out would open the way to all-out civil war. The bipartisan Iraq Study Group has shied away from recommending explicit timelines in favor of a vaguely timed pullback. The report that the panel will deliver to President Bush next week would, at a minimum, leave a force of 70,000 or more troops in the country for a long time to come, to train the Iraqis and to insure against collapse of a desperately weak central government.

Even the Democrats, with an eye toward 2008, have dropped talk of a race for the exits, in favor of a brisk stroll. But that may be the only solace for Bush as he returns from a messy encounter with Iraq's prime minister, Nouri Kamal al-Maliki.

In the 23 days since the election, the debate in Washington and much of the country appears to have turned away from Bush's oft-repeated insistence that the only viable option is to stay and fight smarter. The most talked-about alternatives now include renewed efforts to prepare the Iraqi forces to defend the government while preparing to pull US combat brigades back to their bases, or back home, sometime next year. The message to Iraq's warring parties would be clear: Washington's commitment to making Iraq work is not open-ended.

Yet if Bush's words are taken at face value, those are options still redolent of timetables — at best, cut-and-walk. Standing next to al-Maliki on Thursday morning in Amman, Jordan, Bush declared that Iraqis need not fear that he is looking for "some kind of graceful exit out of Iraq."

But a graceful exit — or even an awkward one — appears to be exactly what the Iraq Study Group, led by James A. Baker III and Lee H. Hamilton, tried to design in the compromise reached by Republicans and Democrats on the panel on Wednesday.

The question now is whether

Bush can be persuaded to shift course — and whether he might now be willing to define victory less expansively.

"What the Baker group appears to have done is try to change the direction of the political momentum on Iraq," said Stephen P. Cohen, a scholar at the Israel Policy Forum. "They have made clear that there isn't a scenario for a democratic Iraq, at least for a very long time. They have called into question the logic of a lengthy US presence. And once you've done that, what is the case for Americans dying in order to have this end slowly?"

In the days just after the Republican defeat on Nov. 7, Bush had suggested that he was open to new ideas about Iraq. "It's necessary to have a fresh perspective," he said in nominating Robert M. Gates to succeed the ousted Donald H. Rumsfeld as defense secretary.

But more recently, the president has, if anything, seemed to harden his original position. In Hanoi, Vietnam, nearly two weeks ago, he suggested that he would regard the recommendations from the Baker-Hamilton group as no more than a voice among many.

Microsoft Unveils New Desktop Software, For Business Clients

By Steve Lohr

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Microsoft on Thursday rolled out new versions of its dominant desktop programs, Windows and Office, beginning a series of new offerings that the company will introduce over the next year to combat a rising challenge from Internet-based software.

The products, led by Windows Vista and Office 2007, are being made available immediately to business customers, but they will not arrive in the consumer market until after the holiday shopping season, on Jan. 30. Vista has suffered repeated delays, coming five years after the previous version of the Windows operating system, a lengthy gap Microsoft has vowed will not happen again.

At a marketing event for businesses held in New York, Microsoft emphasized not only its desktop

products, but also how they will work with its server software to increase productivity by making it easier for workers to collaborate in online teams, retrieve and reply to e-mail messages by phone using voice-recognition software, and easily search for information inside their laptop or across their corporation.

"This is by far the biggest wave of products we've ever introduced," said Steven A. Ballmer, chief executive of Microsoft.

Some customers have been working with early, or beta, copies of Windows Vista and Office 2007, for several months now. A few of them appeared with Ballmer on Thursday to discuss the advantages of the new products — like improved 3-D graphics and better security in Vista, and collaboration capabilities in Office.

PC makers, software developers and others who rely on Microsoft's

Windows technology were disappointed by the delay past the holiday season in the consumer market, and their sales will most likely suffer this year.

Yet the next Windows and Office cycle of buying is now on the horizon, and they are positioning themselves for advantage. Dell, for example, has stumbled over the last year. But it is strongest in the corporate market and it hopes to benefit from helping business customers make the transition to Windows Vista and Office 2007 relatively quickly and inexpensively. "This should work to Dell's advantage," said Brad Anderson, a Dell senior vice president.

In its new products, Microsoft is acknowledging the importance to customers of Internet-based software — a technology direction symbolized by Google, which in addition to search is also offering other services, including Web-based document processing.

WEATHER

Tenacious C

By Brian H. Tang

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Cold! It's coming despite yesterday afternoon's record-breaking temperature of 68°F (20°C) at Logan Airport. We are in a pattern of extremes. The board is set and the pieces are moving. One of the strongest cold fronts in recent memory is currently marching eastward through the US. If you have family or friends living west of the Mississippi and have talked to them recently, undoubtedly you have heard about the weather doing strange things, especially in the Midwest. For example, places in Oklahoma and Kansas went from about 70°F (21°C) with thunderstorms to 25°F (-4°C) with snow and ice in about 24 hours.

While the change won't be as extreme here, the cold weather that will funnel in behind the front will certainly feel out of place given the abnormally warm November we just enjoyed. Scattered light showers will wet the ground during the morning and afternoon hours. As the front approaches from the west, the rain will become steadier and there may even be a few thunderstorms with strong gusty winds in the evening. The front will pass through a couple hours on either side of midnight and will be marked by a sharp decrease in temperature and strong winds out of the west. The arctic air, however, will take a couple of days to fully become entrenched in the area, and it'll be here to stay for awhile. This will open the door for our first chances of snow next week.

Extended Forecast

Today: Unseasonably warm with morning and afternoon scattered showers, evening wind and rain. High 67°F (19°C).

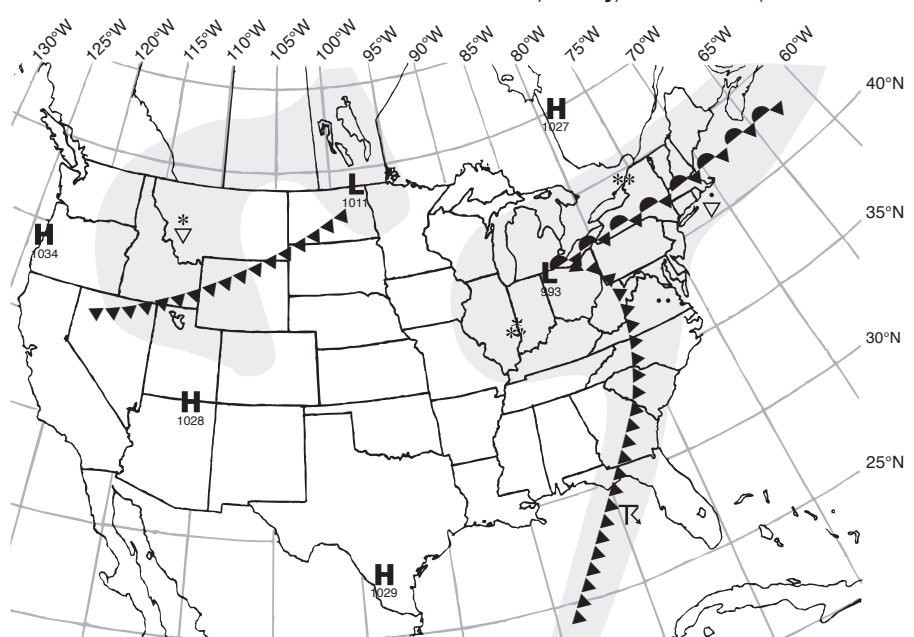
Tonight: Clearing after midnight. Windy and turning colder. Low 41°F (5°C).

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and windy. High 47°F (8°C).

Sunday: Mostly sunny and chilly. High 44°F (7°C).

Monday: Cloudy and cold with a chance of snow. High 38°F (3°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, December 1, 2006



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

New Citizens Will Need Deeper Knowledge For Naturalization

By Holli Chmela
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The federal government rolled out a new citizenship test Thursday to replace an exam that critics say has encouraged prospective Americans to simply memorize facts, rather than fully understand the principles of a democracy.

The exam will be assessed in a pilot program in 10 cities beginning early next year.

Gone are these questions: "How many stripes are there in the flag?"; "What color are the stripes on the flag?"; "What do the stripes on the flag represent?"; and the obvious, "What are the colors of our flag?"

The new exam rephrases the questions to focus on what the stripes represent, asking, "Why do we have 13 stripes on the flag?" or "Why does the flag have 13 stripes?" (The answer: Because the stripes represent the original 13 colonies).

"Our goal is to inspire immigrants to learn about the civic values of this nation so that after they take the oath of citizenship they will participate fully in our great democracy," said

Emilio Gonzalez, director of the Citizenship and Immigration Services, which has been working since 2000 to develop a new test.

The result is 144 questions on civics and history. (All the questions are available on the agency's Web site, www.uscis.gov).

The exam will be administered in the same way, with an applicant asked to answer orally 10 questions chosen by the examiner. Six correct answers are required to pass. According to the citizenship agency, about 600,000 immigrants pass the test and are naturalized each year.

The revised test will be introduced in a pilot program in 10 cities chosen for their geographic range and high percentage of immigrants. Applicants will be asked to volunteer to take the pilot exam and will have the option of taking the current exam if they fail the new one.

Officials say the goal of the pilot program is to assess the effectiveness of the exam and refine the exam's questions or answers. Before the new test is implemented nationwide in 2008, it will be pared down to the current number of 100 questions.

The exam will be tested in Albany, N.Y.; Boston; Charleston, S.C.; Denver; El Paso, Texas; Kansas City, Mo.; Miami; San Antonio; Tucson, Ariz.; and Yakima, Wash.

In developing the revised exam, the agency worked with test development contractors, history and government scholars and experts in English as a second language to improve ways to focus on an analytical understanding of the acceptable answers.

"The current exam did not elicit enough civics knowledge and values we as Americans hold true," said Chris Rhatigan, a spokeswoman for the citizenship agency. "At the end of the test, there was no demonstrable knowledge that the new citizens were ready to participate in our government on the federal, state or community level."

Ellen Mercer, a senior program officer at the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, an advocacy organization that was part of a focus group about the revisions, said, "The purpose of redesigning the test is to make it more meaningful — and also to update it — for the people applying for U.S. citizenship."

French Government Sells Historic Properties to Curb National Debt

By Craig S. Smith
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

For sale: history, with a view.

France is selling dozens of historic properties in Paris and the provinces, using the proceeds to move government bureaucrats into less expensive properties and to help pay off the national debt.

So far it has unloaded dozens of chateaux, villas and "hotels particuliers," the stone mansions of the golden age of Paris.

Foreigners, American pension funds and private equity firms are the biggest buyers so far. For all their Gallic pride, the French seem happy to have anyone take them off the hands of taxpayers.

"All the locations are great, and they are all beautiful pieces of real estate," said Eric E. Sasson, European head of real estate for the Carlyle Group, the global private equity firm that has bought several properties.

Soon on the block: the Hotel Majestic, once a huge luxury hotel in central Paris that Hitler seized for his military government headquarters in occupied France. France's foreign ministry took over the building after

the war and used it for diplomacy: The Paris Peace Accords ending the Vietnam War were signed in its chandelied ballroom.

France is overburdened with its opulent patrimony. The state has more castles, manors and monumental buildings than it knows what to do with, and can hardly afford to properly maintain them. The country already spends 2 billion to 3 billion euros (\$2.65 billion to \$4 billion) a year to maintain its properties.

It has transferred some property to provincial governments, along with the headache of upkeep. Work on hundreds of other sites has been suspended for lack of funds.

Because they are merely users, not owners, individual ministries have had little incentive to spend on periodic renovations. When budgets get tight, building maintenance gets cut. The result is worn interiors and crumbling facades.

The gothic Saint-Jacques Tower in the Fourth Arrondissement of Paris has been covered with scaffolding and sheeting for years, in part awaiting money to finish its refurbishment. Other buildings are maintained on the

outside but are a wreck on the inside.

"There are castles in the Loire that are practically in ruin," said Jean-Louis Dumont, a Socialist parliament member.

So acute is the crisis that in September, the prime minister of France, Dominique de Villepin, pledged 70 million euros (\$92 million) a year in emergency funds to help cover the most critical work of keeping France's heritage from falling down.

The government, meanwhile has embarked on a program to sell some of the buildings used by its ministries. According to a 2006 government study, the state holds more than \$50 billion worth of property, not including those buildings considered priceless, like Notre Dame. About \$20 billion of the state-owned property is used for government offices. The Finance Ministry concedes that their valuation of the properties may be "slightly below the market."

It has already sold buildings worth more than \$1.6 billion, including more than \$800 million last year. Daniel Dubost, the finance ministry official overseeing the property sales, expects the program to continue at the current pace for years.

Mexico's Besieged New Leaders Face Tough Challenges Following Election

By James C. McKinley Jr.
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MEXICO CITY

It is a measure of the problems Felipe Calderon will confront as president when he is sworn in on Friday that both his conservative supporters and leftist opponents have camped out on the dais in Congress where the ceremony is to take place.

The leftists swear they will stop Calderon from taking the oath of office. The conservatives vow to ensure that he does. The standoff has become comic, as legislators from both sides have stayed up all night singing ranchero songs in between hurling fists and insults.

But the antics in Congress reflect a real gulf between people throughout this country that opened during the hotly contested national elections in July. They also reveal the paralysis that Calderon will have to overcome to deal with a range of pressing issues from job creation and poverty relief to a worsening war between drug cartels and violent social strife.

Calderon won by a bare 240,000 votes, and his main opponent, Andres

Manuel Lopez Obrador, a populist former mayor of Mexico City, has never conceded defeat, charging that the presidential election was rigged against him by a powerful alliance of businessmen and President Vicente Fox, who belongs to Calderon's conservative National Action Party.

That Lopez Obrador's supporters do not recognize him as president is only one of Calderon's woes. More than 2,000 people have died this year in an underworld war between drug cartels, among them scores of police officers and other law enforcement officials.

The United States, meanwhile, has hardened its position against illegal immigration, a traditional escape valve for the unemployed. And the southern state of Oaxaca continues to be crippled as leftist protesters seeking the ouster of the governor have clashed repeatedly with government paramilitary groups, leaving more than a dozen people dead and scores wounded.

What is more, Lopez Obrador, the candidate of the leftist Democratic Revolutionary Party, has declared himself "the legitimate president"

of Mexico. He has set up a shadow government and has promised to call mass protests any time Calderon makes decisions on policy that the leftist party does not agree with.

While Lopez Obrador is clearly running the risk of becoming a professional political gadfly, he also threatens to be a permanent thorn in the side of Calderon's presidency.

Calderon, the man who must take on these challenges, even his admirers admit, possesses little charisma. But he is a stubborn and pragmatic politician, even though he has not worked in the private sector for decades.

"He lacks worldliness, he lacks vision, but it is nothing that cannot be learned, and there comes into play his tenacity," said German Dehesa, a writer and columnist. Political analysts say it would be a mistake to underestimate Calderon, who holds advanced degrees in law, economics and public administration. The son of one of the Nation Action Party's founders, he has been active in politics since he was a youth and became the party's youngest leader in its history in 1993.

10,000 Get Grant Letters on Rebuilding in Louisiana

By Leslie Eaton

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In a sign of painstaking progress for Louisiana's biggest rebuilding program, the state has sent letters to more than 10,000 families stating how much money they can receive to rebuild their homes under the \$7.5 billion housing program Congress financed this year, state officials said Thursday.

But fewer than 50 families had actually collected the money as of Tuesday, prompting renewed concern among homeowners and some government officials about the pace of the program, which is called the Road Home and is widely considered the most important factor in rebuilding areas damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The spate of "award calculations," as the program calls them, represents a big increase from early last month, when fewer than 2,000 families — out of almost 79,000 applicants at the time — had been told how much they were eligible to receive.

On Nov. 6, Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco ordered the private contractor managing the program for the state to reach the 10,000 mark by the end of November. On Thursday, the governor said she would require the contractor, ICF International, to send out 15,000 more award letters before the end of the year.

"The Road Home program is making progress, but I will not rest until 100 percent of our homeowners receive the money that we have made available to them," Blanco said in a statement.

The awards, which are based on the value of a house before the storm and are capped at \$150,000, are reduced by the amount of money homeowners receive under their insurance policies. ICF says it has been slowed by the difficulty of getting information from insurance companies and is now sending out award letters without waiting for insurers' verification. This decision has speeded up the process but may mean that the size of the awards will be adjusted before homeowners receive them.

The number of homeowners who have actually received Road Home grants has increased by just 26 in the last month, to a total of 48. Those homeowners received an average grant of \$50,715, according to the most recent statistics from the program.

Pfizer Likely to Seek Approval of New Heart Drug in 2007

By Alex Berenson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GROTON, CONN.

Pfizer executives told investors Thursday that they hoped to ask federal regulators next year to approve torcetrapib, a heart drug crucial to the company's future, despite evidence that the drug increases blood pressure.

Pfizer also slightly raised its profit projections for 2006, while promising that it would triple the number of drug compounds in late-stage development by 2009 and introduce four new medicines a year beginning in 2011.

In addition, Pfizer said it would make it easier for the public to track its development program by offering twice-a-year updates on the progress of almost all the drugs in its pipeline.

Shares in Pfizer, the world's largest drug company, rose 42 cents, to \$27.49.

Jami Rubin, an analyst at Morgan Stanley, said that investors were hoping that Jeffrey B. Kindler, Pfizer's new chief executive, would be able to cut costs while freeing the company's scientists to bring drugs to market more quickly.

Still, Pfizer shares are trading at a lower price-earnings multiple than other big drug stocks, a sign that investors believe Kindler has a difficult road ahead, Rubin said.

"Pfizer is an incredibly-low-expectations story," she said. Pfizer estimated that it would earn at least \$2.05 a share in "adjusted diluted" earnings for 2006, a nonstandard measure of earnings that excludes certain charges, compared with its earlier estimate of at least \$2 a share. Using standard accounting rules, Pfizer projected earnings of at least \$1.68 a share.

Home Prices are Slowest Since 1998

By Vikas Bajaj

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Home prices rose in the third quarter at their slowest pace since 1998, and were essentially flat when adjusted for inflation, according to a government price index released Thursday.

The data suggest that prices, especially for the existing single-family homes that the index focuses on, continue to weaken across much of the country and particularly in formerly hot coastal markets. Nationally, prices rose 0.86 percent from the second quarter and 7.73 percent from the third quarter of 2005.

Prices fell in five states, including New York and Massachusetts, and in 15 of California's 25 metropolitan areas, the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight reported. Nationally, prices declined for the third quarter in 92 of 379 metropolitan areas, up from 87 in the second quarter.

"We have a pretty clear evidence — if anyone was confused about it — that prices have decelerated in most parts of the country," said Patrick J. Lawler, chief economist for the agency, which oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the large mortgage buyers. "But we are not looking at a bubble bursting across the country."

The biggest declines were seen in cities in the Midwest, where manufacturers have been laying off workers. Among states, prices fell 0.52 percent in Michigan and in four Northeast states — New York (0.33 percent), Massachusetts (0.49 percent), New Hampshire (0.14 percent) and Rhode Island (0.37 percent).

Still, several pockets of strong growth remained. Five Western states — Idaho, Utah, Oregon, Arizona and Washington — had the biggest price increases, ranging from 1 percent to 4.7 percent. And on the Gulf Coast, a shortage of housing and the slow pace of rebuilding sent home prices soaring in markets that were affected by Hurricane Katrina. Prices rose 15.8 percent from a year earlier in New Orleans, 23.3 percent in Gulfport-Biloxi, Miss., and 17.5 percent in Mobile, Ala.

OPINION

On Divestment

Mustafa G. Dafalla

MIT's Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility is currently considering the issue of whether MIT should divest from Sudan or not.

This column is not intended to be a history lesson on the people of Sudan or an in depth account of the conflict. Its purpose is much more narrow in scope and addresses the issue of divestment specifically. When discussing divestment, there are two cases we must explore: first, the issue of divestment in general, and second the narrow nature of the divestment policy which only targets "offending" companies.

To begin with, let us look at divestment in general. Some may argue that divestment would send the government of Sudan a strong humanitarian message and thus aid in influencing their policies. The only historical divestment campaign that proponents use as an example in favor of divestment from Sudan is the campaign aimed at ending apartheid in South Africa.

However, after closer inspection we see that even in this case such measures had primarily negative effects. In his speech, on behalf of the former South African President F.W. de Klerk, to the Institut Choiseul, David Steward outlines how sanctions and divestiture not only harmed

the people it was intended to help, but also strengthened the oppressive regime's hold on the government. The entire speech can be found at: http://www.fwdklerk.org.za/download_speech/04_06_14_DWS_Institut_Choiseul_S_PDF.pdf.

Further, examples of the negative effects of divestment — which are similar to economic sanctions — are plentiful. For example, in Iraq after the first gulf war, UNICEF reported that economic sanctions were directly responsible for the deaths of up to half a million children. In addition, the United States has had an embargo on Cuba since 1962, yet Cuban policies have not changed. Sudan faced sanctions during the 1990's and still faces limited economic sanctions. The sanctions have done nothing to allay the civil war between the north and south or the subsequent Darfur conflict.

This demonstrates the overall negative effect of divestment. Let us look more closely at the concept of a targeted divestment supported this past Monday by the Undergraduate Association. We will ignore the fact that the proponents of this policy have never actually been presented with a list of what companies MIT currently invests in, nor what companies MIT ought to avoid invest-

ing in — we don't even have a definition for what "targeted" means. Does it mean that we should divest from companies that include genocide in their business model? Of course. We should not be investing in these companies in the first place. Such a position is not unique to Sudan. Clearly MIT shouldn't do business with arms companies, whether they are Chinese arms companies operating in Sudan or US arms companies that supported the warlords of Somalia. If, however, "targeted" means that we should broaden the scope of divestment to include oil companies operating inside the country, then we are entertaining a proposition that will potentially destabilize the already very fragile economy, as the oil sector is primarily responsible for halting inflation in the country.

In conclusion, although well intentioned, the proposal will either have deleterious effects on the people of Sudan, or will be so narrow that it will have no effect at all. In either case, the campaign for divestment is seriously flawed.

If you agree with the foundation of this column, please demonstrate your support by signing an online petition that can be found at <http://www.petitiononline.com/invest/petition.html>.

Dafalla is a member of the class of 2009.



Chairman

Zachary Ozer '07

Editor in Chief

Marie Y. Thibault '08

Business Manager

Jeffrey Chang '08

Managing Editor

Michael McGraw-Herdeg '08

Executive Editor

Rosa Cao G

NEWS STAFF

Editors: Benjamin P. Gleitzman '09, Angeline Wang '09; **Associate Editor:** Kirtana Raja '09; **Staff:** Curt Fischer G, John A. Hawkinson '98, Waseem S. Daher '07, Ray C. He '07, Tongyan Lin '07, Hanhan Wang '07, Valery K. Brobbey '08, Michael Snella '08, Jiao Wang '08, Daniela Cako '09, Mei-Hsin Cheng '09, Gabriel Fouasson '09, Hannah Hsieh '09, Diana Jue '09, Laura Nicholson '09, Ji Qi '09, Yinyao Qian '09, Yi Zhou '09, Swetha Kambhampati '10, JiHye Kim '10, Joyce Kwan '10, Apoorva Murarka '10, Manisha Padi '10, Joanne Y. Shih '10; **Meteorologists:** Cegeon Chan G, Robert Korty G, Jon Moskaitis G, Michael J. Ring G, Roberto Rondanelli G, Scott Stransky G, Brian H. Tang G, Tim Whitcomb G, Angela Zalucha G.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Editors: Tiffany Dohzen G, Austin Chu '08; **Associate Editors:** Rong Hu '08, Jessica Witchley '10; **Staff:** Emily Ko '08.

OPINION STAFF

Editor: Aditya Kohli '09; **Staff:** Hector H. Hernandez G, Barun Singh G, Josh Levinger '07, Justin Wong '07, Ali S. Wyne '08, Krishna Gupta '09.

SPORTS STAFF

Editor: Travis Johnson '08; **Staff:** Chris Bettinger G, Ryan Lanphere '06, Albert Ni '09, Caroline J. Huang '10.

ARTS STAFF

Editors: Jillian Berry '08, Nivair H. Gabriel '08; **Staff:** Bogdan Fedeles G, Kapil Amarnath '07, Tony Hwang '07, Andrew Lee '07, Nikhil S. Nadkarni '07, Alice MacDonald '08, Mirat Shah '08, Sarah Dupuis '10.

PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Editors: Christina Kang '08, Omari Stephens '08, Ricardo Ramirez '09; **Associate Editor:** Yun Wu '06; **Staff:** Melanie Miller G, Stanley Hu '00, Scott Johnston '03, Gheorghe Chistol '07, Fred Gay '07, Dmitry Kashlev '07, Stephanie Dudzic '08, Scot Frank '08, Tiffany Iaconis '08, Nicole Koullis '08, Mary-Irene Lang '08, David Reshef '08, David M. Templeton '08, Kenneth Yan '08, Connie Yee '08, Sally E. Peach '09, Eric D. Schmiedl '09, Jerzy Szablowski '09, Yalu Wu '09, Mindy Eng '10, Catherine Huang '10, Bea Jarrett '10, Samuel E. Kronick '10, Diane Rak '10, Aaron Sampson '10, Jongu Shin '10, William Yee '10.

CAMPUS LIFE STAFF

Editor: Bill Andrews '05; **Staff:** Bruce Wu G, Kailas Narendran '01, Elizabeth Zakszewski '06, Victor Cabral '07, Ruth Miller '07, Matt Zedler '07; **Cartoonists:** Scott Burdick G, John David Payne G, Emezie Okorafor '03, Jia Lou '07, Andrew Spann '07, Ash Turza '08.

BUSINESS STAFF

Advertising Managers: Cokie Hu '08, Tai Ho Kang '08; **Staff:** Julia Ye '09, Neeharika Bhartiya '10, Jennifer Chu '10, Heymian Wong '10.

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Director: Shreyes Seshasai '08.

EDITORS AT LARGE

Contributing Editor: Brian Hemond G; **Senior Editor:** Keith J. Winstein G.

ADVISORY BOARD

Paul E. Schindler, Jr. '74, V. Michael Bove '83, Barry Surman '84, Robert E. Malchman '85, Deborah A. Levinson '91, Jonathan Richmond PhD '91, Saul Blumenthal '98, Frank Dabek '00, Ryan Ochylski '01, Satwiksai Seshasai '01, Rima Arnaout '02, Daniel Ryan Bersak '02, Eric J. Cholankeril '02, Jordan Rubin '02, Nathan Collins SM '03, Akshay R. Patil '04, Jyoti Tibrewala '04, B. D. Colen.

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

Editors: Tiffany Dohzen G, Michael McGraw-Herdeg '08; **Associate Editor:** Jessica Witchley '10.

The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 2006 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Zachary Ozer, Editor in Chief Marie Y. Thibault, Managing Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg, Executive Editor Rosa Cao, and Opinion Editor Aditya Kohli.

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter let-

ters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing eic@the-tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. *The Tech* can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.

ARTS

THEATRE REVIEW

*“Children of Eden” is Sinfully Good**You’ll Laugh, You’ll Cry, You’ll Quote Scripture at MTG’s Fall Show*

By Bill Andrews

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

“Children of Eden”

MIT Musical Theatre Guild

Dec. 1-3 and 7-9

La Sala de Puerto Rico

MIT is a school known for many things, but religion and music are not usually among them. And yet here we have a show, made up almost entirely of MIT folks, filled with both. And, best of all, it succeeds brilliantly on all counts.

Now, you’re probably thinking “Children of Eden?” Is it really a case of “Bible: The Musical!”? Well, yes. The first two stories in Genesis, the Garden of Eden and Noah’s Ark, comprise the events in the first and second act, respectively. There is a God, only he is listed instead as Father. Why not just call Him God? Because, surprisingly, that’s not what this show is about.

Instead, “Children of Eden” is a show about relationships: Adam and Eve’s, Adam and Cain’s, and of course God’s relationship with all of them (and, through metaphorical extension, us). We see the innocence of youth tainted by the necessary rebellion that accompanies maturation, both literally when Cain wants to live his own life and leave his parents, and symbolically when Eve eats that sinful apple. Thus, the religious aspects are downplayed in favor of the familial aspects, to which everyone can relate; so God’s called Father, and everyone else (including, to a lesser extent, us) are His Children of Eden.

Lofty goals indeed, but did MTG pull it off? Already, before anyone goes on stage we can tell we’re in for something special. Platforms at varying heights and depths, a stairway to heaven, and even a real waterfall greet us as we step inside La Sala; the magnificence of the stage suggests vastness, while its cozier corners are ideal for more isolated actions. The actors make full use of the space, too, at times filling it to capacity with frenetic action; at others times making a character’s loneliness physically felt.

But, helpful as the stage is to the actors, one gets the impression that all they need to dazzle us is a space to perform. The ensemble starts the show out in darkness, singing along with the God/Father (Darrell D. Cain ’08) as creation begins. Right away we can see the greatness of the ensemble, of which everyone (except God) is at some point a part. The energetic and expressive dancing, choreographed by Laura Espy, took center stage as different parts of the world are created; at one point a whale came to life on stage, clearly, and rather beautifully. In general, the choreography was great, adding another dimension and layer of depth to each song; the

dancing would range from animals roaming everywhere in seeming chaos, to perfectly organized dance moves, just like that.

Upstaging even the choreography, however, was the singing. Never have I been so impressed with an ensemble’s performance. More than once, the sheer beauty of the chords, and the thick musical tapestry which all the varying motifs and themes wove, sent shivers down my spine. That’s a pretty awesome feeling. Of course, there are times when a soloist is a little rocky or the chorus holds a note too long, but this is true of all musical theater, and the remarkable skill with which the vast majority of the numbers are sung makes this a very minor point. In fact, the very notion that 23 of the 26-person cast are engineers or scientists makes their feat even more impressive.

Individually, the singing was just as rich and beautiful. Cain’s God/Father was well played, and subtle enough to go from the loving, noble God to the wrathful, vengeful God at a moment’s notice. Adam (Terral R. Jordan ’07) was able to bring us through the long story of his life; he was charming on stage, and convincing throughout as a guy who’s just trying to do what he thinks is right. The final father figure in the show, Noah (Carlos Cardenas ’09), kept up the tradition of greatness established in the first act; he is the only father to let his children grow up with kindness, and thus we get the impression that Man is learning from his mistakes. We also get a happy ending.

While I wish I could go on mentioning how great everyone was (and they were), space only permits me to mention a few more. Mama Noah (Brooke A. Jarrett ’10, also a *Tech* photographer) had a great (but all-too-brief) voice in “Ain’t It Good”; when she sang, my ears dropped everything else just to hear her better, and my eyes weren’t too disappointed either. Yonah (Krista Sergi), the socially inferior servant with whom Japheth (son of Noah) falls in love, played very compellingly the lover trapped by circumstance; her voice was true, her emotions believable, and I rejoiced every time she was on stage. Further, Steven L. Flowers ’06, who played both Cain



GHEORGHE CHISTOL—THE TECH

Adam, played by Terral R. Jordan ’07, and Eve, played by Danbee Kim ’09, are expelled from Eden in MTG’s “Children of Eden.” The show will run on Dec. 1–3 and Dec. 7–9 in La Sala de Puerto Rico.

and Japheth, was able to humanize the infamous inventor of murder, bringing a depth and soul to his characters that everyone else could feel and react to. Lastly, and most spectacularly, Danbee Kim ’09, also a *Tech* Arts staff writer, was fantastic as Eve, the notorious woman to whom we owe our fall from grace. Seeing her grow up with Adam highlighted not just their great chemistry, but her ability to convey pain and suffering. Her voice, rich and passionate, belied a wisdom beyond Kim’s few years, and I just couldn’t get enough. Even if everyone else had sucked (and they didn’t at all), it would be worth it to see this show just for her.

Enough stroking of the actors’ egos, though, there was other stuff in this show, too. Most notably, after the beautiful singing, was the beautiful music supporting it. The orchestra, 14 members strong and many of them students as well, provided just the right musical undertone to highlight and temper the actors’ voices. The large number of electronic instruments made it sound even more professional and Broadway-ish (to me). They also did a great job of making an already great show even greater, whether in a Fosse-type dance number, an exotic African-type number, a soaring love ballad, or a crushing smite-heavy piece.

Lastly, the show is also quite pretty to look at. The costumes are bright and vibrant, and feature more cute and fluffy animals than you can shake a staff at. And the lighting, too, brings to life not just the thunder and lightning we expect from any Bible story, but the ethereal quality of the afterlife and the harsh realities of daily life as well.

In the end, this is flat-out an incredible show. Not only is it a joy to see and listen to, and not only is it heart-warming just to know that MIT kids are capable of such beauty, but it’s a show to which everyone can relate. There’s happiness when Adam and Eve are first naming the animals, and sadness when Adam, then Abel, then Noah are each forced to choose between things they cannot bear to lose. We see it’s not at all a show about religion, but about life itself, and what makes that life both wonderful and terrible. It is our relationships to one another (and, if you want to see it that way, to God too) which really matter, and which make the biggest difference, in the end.

So whether you want a religious experience, an artistic experience, or just a fun time away from problem sets and final projects, “Children of Eden,” unlike so many other children, won’t disappoint.

INTERVIEW

*Laugh it Up!**Paula Poundstone Reflects on the History of Stand-Up and Her New Book*

By Benjamin P. Glezman

NEWS EDITOR

Comedian Paula Poundstone has been performing stand-up comedy for over 25 years, and her whirlwind career has traversed television, radio, and, more recently, literature. Poundstone was the voice of Brendon’s mother on *Cartoon Network’s* “Home Movies,” and is a regular fixture on NPR’s “Wait Wait ... Don’t Tell Me!” Her book, *There’s Nothing in This Book That I Meant to Say*, was released in early November. The *Tech* called Poundstone at her home in a Santa Monica, Calif. to discuss her comedic inspirations, unique style, and upcoming book release.

The Tech: The *Tech* wrote a review of your stand-up performance at “Play it Again, Sam’s” in Brighton in 1986. Has it been a struggle to keep your comedy fresh?

Paula Poundstone: No, not too [difficult]. I don’t sit down and write for my act, per se. From living and reading newspapers and day to day stuff, it’s sort of like a best friend that you talked to fairly frequently.

TT: A consistent theme is audience interaction in your stand-up performances. Are you an improv comedian at heart?

PP: Well, everyone’s really an improv comedian. Every joke or story you think of had to have been thought up on the spur of the moment at one time or another. I just repeat the spur.

It’s my favorite part of the night, talking to the audience. I have an act — I have regular jokes that I say and told for years — but I think the thing that really breathes life into the evening and capitalizes on the magic of everyone being together in the room is just the old fashioned “What do you do for a living?”

TT: Do you have a favorite place to perform stand-up?

PP: I love to go to Boston, mostly because I’m from Massachusetts. Generally I have friends come out and it’s awfully nice.

TT: You’re a regular panelist on NPR’s “Wait Wait ... Don’t Tell Me!” If you could have any marginally famous person on your answering machine, who would it be? Editor’s note: The prize on the radio show is Carl Kasell’s voice on your home answering machine.

PP: Oh gee, let me think a minute.

TT: Are you on your answering machine now?

PP: No, actually, I’m not. It’s my daughter, and people have complained about this ... Back when they had the little mini-cassettes I went to great effort, every month or so, to dub off a videotape a little piece of dialogue that was some-

how autobiographical. When I first fostered my oldest daughter, who is now 15, and she was four when she first came to live with me, I put a little clip from *Annie*, when Annie first goes to Daddy Warbucks’ house, and the maids and the staff of the house are singing.

Unfortunately you can’t do that with the new answering machines, so it really took away an important part of my life.

TT: You’ve said before that you shy away from technology, but you seem to put a lot of effort

into your answering machine. Has the Internet affected your routine?

PP: I don’t even know how to turn the computer on, actually. I have a Web site for which I do the writing and take the pictures, but my manager is the one who has an obsession with the buttons and doing it all ... The truth is the Pony Express is the faster way to communicate with me. If you see a guy with horses that were freshly watered, give the message to him.

TT: Do you look to anyone in particular for your comedic inspiration?

PP: I bumped into a guy at the bagel place today. He was a comic that I opened for a thousand years ago. I learned a lot about my job from this guy. Not so much about how to be

on stage, but being an affable “go along to get along” employee.

TT: Who was the comic?

PP: A guy named Larry Wilson. I believe he got the cinnamon raisin bagel ... I think I’m probably a mixture of lots and lots of influences. I know that I am able to do the job that I do, and most comics of my generation are able to do what they do, pretty much because of one person, and that’s because of Robin Williams ... He was all over the place, mostly because of the kind of energy that guy has. He was in every city in the country. You can’t go to a comedy club without finding a picture of Robin Williams on their stage that they covet and talk about the time that he stopped by. That really made people start going out to comedy clubs. Even if he wasn’t there on the night that they went out ... they saw a bunch of different acts that they very much enjoyed. I developed certainly my own following, but the guy that sort of led the path to the door was Robin.

TT: How do you feel about the state of contemporary comedy?

PP: I don’t really know anything about it. I work not in clubs anymore, thank goodness. Mostly in theatres, and when I do a club I’m the only performer on the bill. I don’t mingle and I don’t go out to that kind of entertainment, because I have kids. Given that I travel for a living, they would really frown on my coming home and saying, “And now I’m going out to a night club.” That wouldn’t go over so well.

TT: Your TV special, “Cats, Cops, and Stuff” got a lot of airplay in the ’90s. Are you ever going to release it on DVD?

PP: Yes, I’m not quite sure why we haven’t. I don’t know how to make DVDs, so I think there would have to be another company involved. I think at one time or another that will

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★★★

Dancing Penguin Saves the World

"Happy Feet" Brings Warmth From the Coldest Reaches of the Globe

By Tyson C. McNulty

"Happy Feet"

Starring: Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Brittany Murphy, Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman

Directed by George Miller

Written by Warren Coleman, John Collee, George Miller, and Judy Morris

Rated PG

Now Playing

Up to this point, the producers of "Happy Feet" have been selling the film as a children's movie that has the occasional joke or two that will make parents laugh but still go over kids' heads. This is, in general, an accurate portrayal. The content is certainly suitable for the PG crowd, and the overall "save the environment" message is duly predictable. However, this advertising strategy misses out on a very important quality of Happy Feet that could have drawn in another substantial demographic: "Happy Feet" kicks ass. Let me tell you why.

The very idea of this movie is unparalleled in brilliance. Essentially, "Happy Feet" is a cleverly disguised excuse to create a jukebox musical involving antarctic wildlife. This film lets you forget your worries and cares for two hours while you follow the life of a daring, lovable, tone-deaf, tap-dancing emperor penguin. Since the penguin society is based around music, his peers ridicule him from an early age. After being exiled for his differences, he jour-

neys around the world and eventually reunites with his brethren towards a greater purpose. Oh yeah, and he single-handedly saves the Antarctic ecosystem from impending doom by convincing humanity to abandon the worldwide fishing enterprise at all latitudes below Tierra del Fuego. How? The power of dance. Imbued from birth. See this movie.

The animation is beyond spectacular. The penguins are lifelike, not distractingly anthropomorphic, and undeniably cute. The scenery runs the gamut from beautiful to breathtaking. Live-action shots transition seamlessly to and from the animated sequences. I personally appreciated how the artists employ a dramatic change in scale when the penguins come into proximity with man-made machinery or natural cliff faces. The effect is like something out of anime or perhaps a cutscene from a video game, which is fitting, since "Happy Feet" is the first full-length computer-animated movie from Animal Logic, the studio responsible for many of the special effects in "The Matrix" and "Hero."

"Happy Feet" carries a star-studded cast to boot. Elijah Wood and Brittany Murphy voice major characters. Even Fat Joe makes an appearance. Being an Australia-based company, Animal Logic recruited some locals as well. Australian celebrities include Hugo Weaving, Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman ("Happy Feet" and "Moulin Rouge!") grant her near-monopoly status over jukebox musical films), and even

the late great Steve Irwin. Robin Williams is the icing on the cake, voicing the two funniest characters in the movie himself.

Most of the actors even sang their own musical numbers, true to the jukebox musical style. Much of the plot centered around the penguins' realization of their own "heart song," which would manifest itself as anything from "The Message" by Grandmaster Flash to "Boogie Wonderland" by Earth, Wind, and Fire to "Shake your Bon-Bon" by Ricky Martin. During the mating season in the film, these heart songs would coalesce into an all-out pop medley.

The writers managed to sneak in numerous science-fiction undertones. Humans are frequently referred to as "mystic beings" or aliens, and contact with humans is often compared to abduction. When at one point the protagonist wakes up to find himself in a zoo, the scene is reminiscent of "2001: A Space Odyssey," and another penguin in his habitat even provides a HAL 9000 impression. When machinery looms near, it evokes the motif of a spacecraft approaching through the fog. To top it all off, the beginning and end credits cycle through a set of still frames in space that includes a mock-up of the Horsehead Nebula but with the familiar shape replaced with the silhouette of a penguin.

Sci-fi rules. Pop covers rule. Robin Williams rules. Anime rules. Antarctica rules. "Happy Feet" owns.

Stand-up Skills Sharpened at Open Mikes

Poundstone, from Page 5

happen.

TT: In Cartoon Network's "Home Movies," you play the voice of Brendon's mother, but only in the first five very unscripted episodes.

PP: I made another show before that, which was originally called "Science Court," with the same company. "Science Court" was a show with a script, although sometimes it was somewhat unscripted — improvised and sort of jazzed up a bit. In the process of doing that show, I used to go to the studio where I did that recording, and by the time I got there I always had some sort of frazzled parenting story that I had to get out before we could begin recording. So Loren [Bouchard], who eventually made Home Movies — he was the director of Science Court — said would you mind if we tried to make [a show] about you talking like that?

TT: Was that how the character of Paula was

born? Was that based on you?

PP: Yes.

TT: Tell me a bit about your new book.

PP: It took me nine years to write it ... It's a series of biographies of towering historic figures. And in the telling of their stories I tell my own. It is a memoir of sorts. It will be sold in the humor section, and I'm told by those who read it in the process of making it that it's funny.

TT: Do you have any suggestions for budding college comedians, or those aspiring to a career in comedy?

PP: My first suggestion would be to finish college. You know, if I don't do this job, I don't know how to do anything else. Fortunately, I love this job and I have the opportunity to do this job, but isn't that a lucky break? The odds of that going away are really as good as any other kind of outsourced work. There's nothing saying that people from India trained to do our

accents couldn't replace me as well.

Stand-up comedy is a relationship with the audience, and really nothing more complicated than that. Every now and then there will be a place that has stand-up comedy classes. I feel that's ridiculous. When you're in a stand-up comedy class, where is your audience?

It's like teaching Spanish to Spanish speakers. There's no way to tell whether your teaching technique was really brilliant, or they already knew how to say "leche" when they sat down. My problem is every Spanish speaking person I talk to knows how to say milk, so I can no longer bridge the gap after that.

The way I started was doing open mikes in Boston ... There's no other way to do it. It's not like being an airline pilot where you can sit in front of a computer screen and make it look like you're doing it. You have to go do it, and the place to go do it for someone who is just starting out is open mike night.

CONCERT REVIEW

Night of Fire

BSO and Bronfman Fill Symphony Hall With Passion

By Tanya S. Goldhaber

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Schumann Symphony in E-flat, Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 4 with Yefim Bronfman, Stravinsky Suite From The Firebird
Friday, Nov. 24, 2006
Symphony Hall

Last Friday's BSO concert ended with one of the most amazing live performances I have heard in recent memory, of the well-known Suite from The Firebird by Stravinsky. The two other pieces on the program were the rarely performed Schumann Symphony No. 3 in E-flat and the even more rarely performed Piano Concerto No. 4 by Rachmaninoff, performed by renowned pianist Yefim Bronfman. Although Bronfman lived up to his reputation and the BSO played beautifully, one could see exactly why these pieces tend to be neglected.

The BSO performed with guest conductor Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, who showed off a talent for taking advantage the incredible acoustics in Symphony Hall. Especially during the Firebird Suite, he stretched the BSO to the very softest it could play, but the audience could still hear every note, and it was very effective. Burgos also conducted completely from memory, with the exception of the Rachmaninoff concerto, making it apparent that he was very familiar with the piece. His familiarity with the works contributed to the depth and spirit of the performance, and I hope that he conducts with the BSO again soon.

One would be hard-pressed to find a performance of the Firebird Suite done as well as it was last Friday. It was spine chilling, emotional, heart-wrenching, awe-inspiring, and, of course, fiery. The performance was filled with those rare moments when the entire orchestra comes together and seems to play as one instrument. While the performance was not technically error-free (there were some interesting entrances by the horns, for example), mistakes seemed to make almost no difference. The BSO played with such power and passion that any momentary blips were cancelled out.

Earlier in the program, the performance of the Schumann Symphony was excellent, although I found the piece itself unsatisfying. The first movement is passionately frenzied, rushing madly towards the final cadence, and ending in a spectacular euphony of sound. The rest of the symphony is almost unnecessary; it was as if the first movement were an overture to the concert, but audience members then had to sit through four additional movements before getting to hear the rest of the program. Nonetheless, the BSO's performance of the work was captivating and technically sound. A special mention must go to the horn section, which gave some remarkable solos in the later movements. Where principal and assistant horns played in unison, passages were so clean, synchronous, and effortlessly beautiful that it defied belief.

Perhaps two of the most difficult, but indisputably ingenious and beautiful, piano concertos are Rachmaninoff's Second and Third. Both concerti are stunning, and emotionally moving, especially when given the touch of a truly great pianist. Unfortunately, the Fourth Concerto, which was performed by the BSO in this concert, can only be described as an inferior amalgamation of the other two.

However, I knew I could not pass up an opportunity to hear Yefim Bronfman in concert, and he does live up to his reputation as a stunning pianist. The sheer number of notes in the Rachmaninoff concertos is astounding, and even the most virtuosic pianists tend to muddle them somewhat. Bronfman, who is also famous for his chamber music, was, in my opinion, as clean as possible, although he probably could have been more in sync with the orchestra, which seemed to be having a little bit of trouble staying together through some of the trickier passages. Indeed, Rachmaninoff is intensely difficult not only for the pianist, but also for the orchestra, who must accommodate the endless series of rubatos for which Rachmaninoff is famous.

Whatever might be said about the virtues of highlighting underplayed pieces, it's too bad in this case that such a talented and emotional performer as Bronfman was not playing one of the other Rachmaninoff concertos, which would have benefited from his technical finesse and passionate interpretation. Nonetheless, it was still amazing to hear Bronfman perform, and the concert as a whole was very enjoyable.

We need someone with the confidence of a surgeon, the dedication of a marathoner and the courage of an explorer.

We have a unique opportunity for someone very special.

A chance to spend two years in another country. To live and work in another culture. To learn a new language and acquire new skills.

The person we're looking for might be a farmer, a for-ester, or a retired nurse. Or

maybe a teacher, a mechanic, or a recent college graduate.

We need someone to join over 5,000 people already working in 60 developing countries around the world. To help people live better lives.

We need someone special. And we ask a lot. But only because so much is needed. If this

sounds interesting to you, maybe you're the person we're looking for. A Peace Corps volunteer. Find out. Call us at

(Collect) 617-565-5555 x598

Peace Corps.
The toughest job you'll ever love.



This space donated by The Tech



pretty girls.

Tae Kwon Do.

fan dance.

breakdancing

NOT ANOTHER KOREAN DRAMA

Watch your friends show off Korean culture, eat Korean bbq.



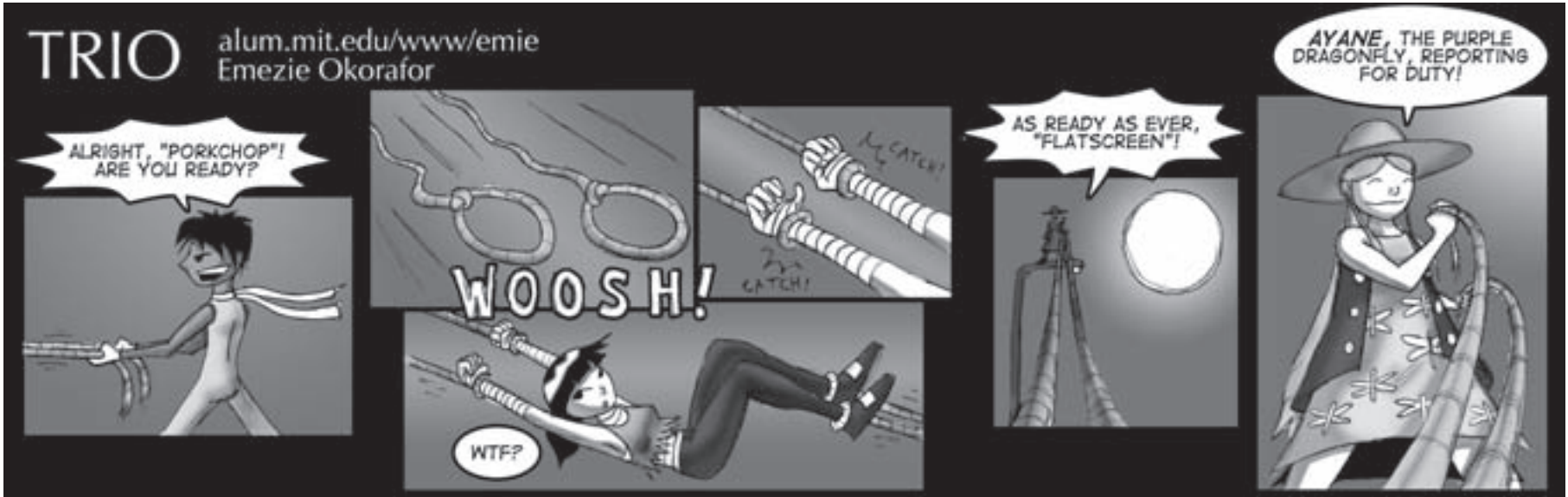
Sunday December 3, 2006 7pm-8:30pm
Walker Memorial Hall@ MIT



Tickets @ Lobby 10, Mon-Thurs. 11/27- 11/30

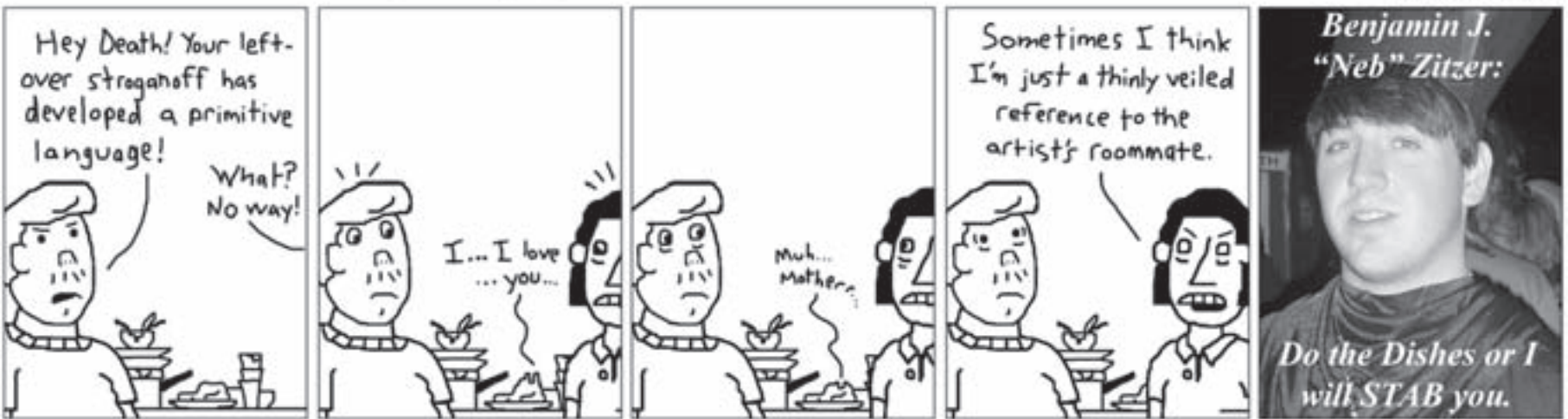
Tickets @ Student Center, Fri. 12/1

MIT and Wellesley KSA



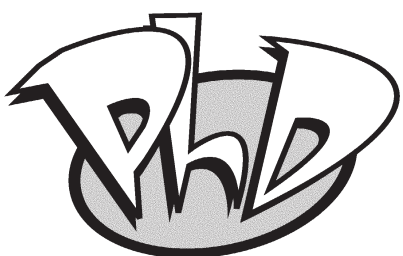
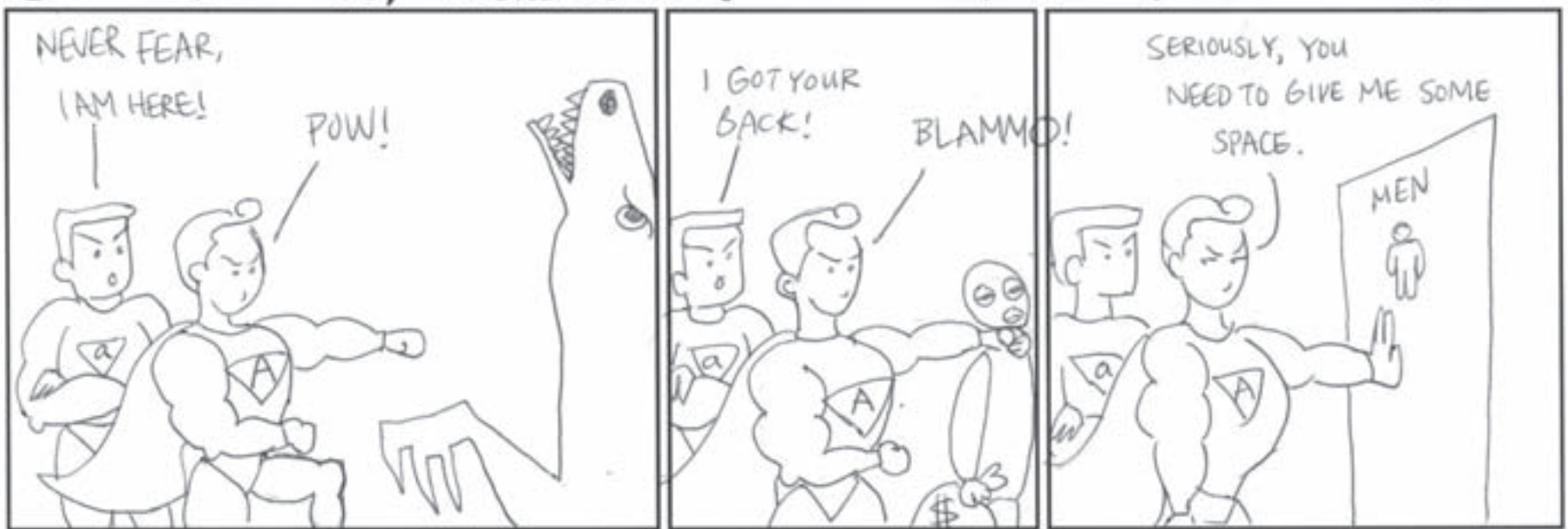
THE ADVENTURES OF MAN

By Scott Burdick
sburdick@mit.edu



BIG CLOCK, small hands

By Ali Ghajarnia & Nancy Hua



PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER



FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

Global Indus Technovators Awards

Recognizing Innovation and entrepreneurship



Keynote:
Ray Kurzweil
Founder, Kurzweil Technologies

Bartos Theater, E 15, MIT
Dec 4, 6:00 - 9:30 pm
Networking and dinner 6:00-7:00 PM

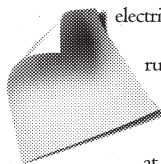
Register Online
<http://technovators.mit.edu>

Free for MIT students and affiliates

Presented by: Indian Business Club

BE LESS PRODUCTIVE AT THE OFFICE.

The office has always been a place to get ahead. Unfortunately, it's also a place where a lot of natural resources start to fall behind. Take a look around the next time you're at work. See how many lights are left on when people leave. See how much paper is being wasted. How much



electricity is being used to run computers that are left on. Look at how much water is being wasted in the restrooms. And

how much solid waste is being thrown out in the trash cans. We bet it's a lot.

Now, here are some simple ways you can produce less waste at work. When you're at the copier, only make the copies you need. Use both sides of the paper when writing a memo. Turn off your light when you leave. Use a lower watt bulb in your lamps. Drink your coffee or tea out of mugs instead of throwaway cups.

IT'S A CONNECTED WORLD. DO YOUR SHARE.



Set up a recycling bin for aluminum cans and one for bottles. And when you're in the bathroom brushing

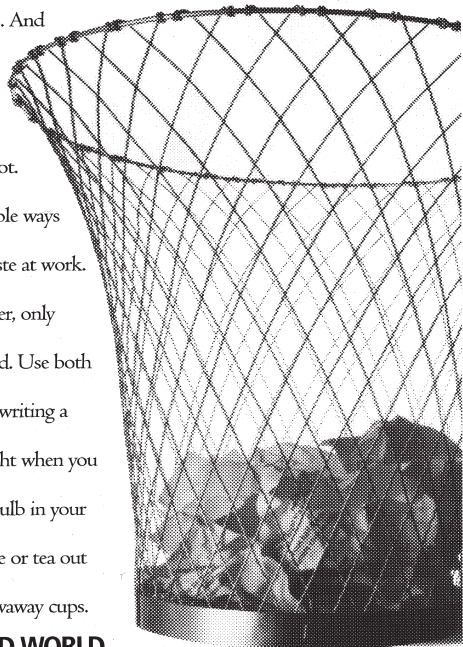


your teeth or washing your face, don't let the faucet run. Remember, if we use fewer resources

today, we'll save more for tomorrow. Which would truly be a job well done.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TIPS

CALL 1-800-MY-SHARE.



This space donated by The Tech



free tickets for MIT Students!

made possible by the Council for the Arts at MIT

American Repertory Theater's

Wings of Desire

stage adaptation by Gideon Lester and Dirkje Houtman

Tuesday December 5, 2006 at 7:30pm

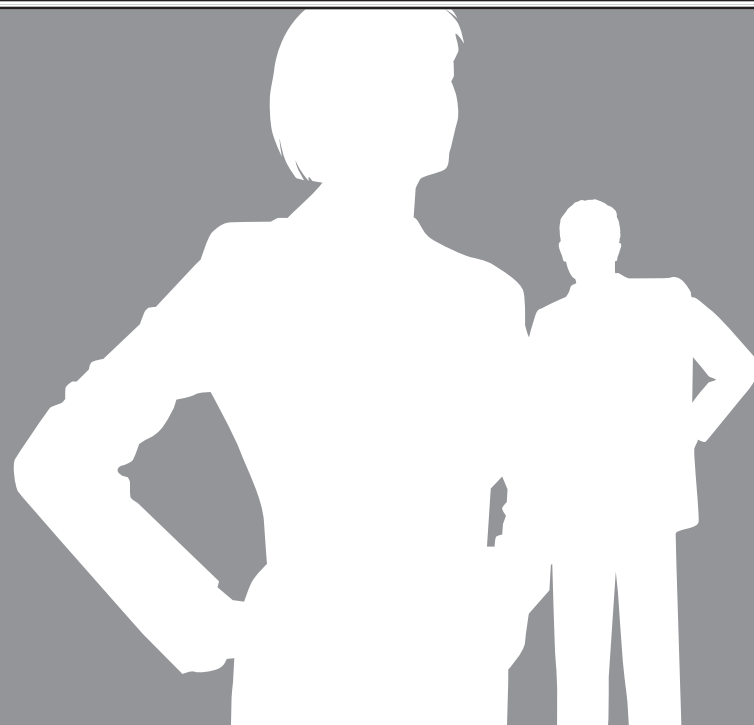
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge

Based on Wim Wenders' unforgettable film, **Wings of Desire** is about the borders, visible and invisible, that divide us – borders between East and West, between angels and people, between two human beings. Daniel, a guardian angel, falls in love with a lonely trapeze artist, sacrificing his wings and his immortality to join her on earth – and to taste human life.

For this stunning new stage adaptation the A.R.T. is partnering with Toneelgroep Amsterdam, the Netherlands' premier theatre company. **Wings of Desire** is staged by Ola Mafaalani, one of Europe's most celebrated young directors, whose productions are contemporary, passionate, physical, and intensely alive.

**Pick up your tickets at
the MIT Office of the Arts (E15-205)
Monday through Friday, 10:00am - 4:00pm
Two tickets per valid MIT student ID
No phone calls please**

ARE YOU MORGAN STANLEY?



We Invite You to Find Out.

Morgan Stanley is a global community dedicated to achievement. We help corporations, governments and others to solve the most complex problems in finance, including restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, and privatizations. From conference room to trading floor, we can show you a career from different angles. And we'll put you side by side with the best in the business — people who challenge your thinking and who listen when you challenge theirs. Sound interesting? Then Morgan Stanley might just be the right place for you.

VISIT AND APPLY ONLINE AT
WWW.MORGANSTANLEY.COM/CAREERS/RECRUITING

Come learn about a day in the life of an analyst at Morgan Stanley

**SUMMER ANALYST
FIRMWIDE PRESENTATION
FOR JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES**
Tuesday, December 5, 2006
7:00–9:00 p.m.
Marriott Cambridge

Morgan Stanley is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to workforce diversity. (M/F/D/V) ©2006 Morgan Stanley

Morgan Stanley

OLPC OS Linux-Flavored; Mesh Network For Wireless

One Laptop, from Page 1

and not on where he was going," he said in an interview here. "You have to remember that what this is about is education."

Seymour A. Papert, a computer scientist and educator who is an adviser to the project, has argued that if young people are given computers and allowed to explore, they will "learn how to learn." That, Papert argues, is a more valuable skill than traditional teaching strategies that focus on memorization and testing.

The idea is also that children can take on much of the responsibility for maintaining the systems, rather than relying on or creating bureaucracies to do so.

"We believe you have to leverage the kids themselves," Jepsen said. "They're learning machines." As an example, she pointed to the backlight used by the laptop. Although it is designed to last for five years, if it fails it can be replaced as simply as batteries are replaced in a flashlight. It is something a child can do, she said.

That philosophy, at the heart of the project's world view, has stirred criticism for its focus on getting equipment to students rather than issues like teacher training and curriculum.

"I think it's wonderful that the machines can be put in the hands of children and parents, and it will have an impact on their lives if they have access to electricity," Larry Cuban, a Stanford University education professor, said in an interview. "However, if part of their rationale is that it will revolutionize education in various countries, I don't think it will happen, and they are naive and innocent about the reality of formal schooling."

The debate is certain to enter a new phase when the machines go into full-scale production by Taiwan-based Quanta Computer, the world's second-largest laptop maker. (The manufacturer, unlike the project itself, will make a profit.) Overnight, even though it will not be available to consumers, the laptop could become the best-selling portable computer in the world.

The project now has tentative commitments for 3 million computers and will begin large-scale manufacturing when it reaches 5 million with separate commitments from at least one country each in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Based on current negotiations, Negroponte says he expects that goal to be reached by mid-2007.

It got a significant boost on Nov. 15 when the Inter-American Development Bank signed an agreement to supply both loans and grants to buy the machines.

"Several years ago, I thought it was an illusion or a utopian idea," said Juan Jose Daboub, managing director of the World Bank and an independent economic-development expert. "But this is now real and encouraging."

Negroponte said that the manufacturing cost was now below \$150 and that it would fall below \$100 by the end of 2008.

One factor setting the project apart from earlier efforts to create inexpensive computers for education is the inclusion of a wireless network capability in each machine.

The project leaders say they will employ a variety of methods for connecting to the Internet, depending on

local conditions. In some countries, like Libya, satellite downlinks will be used. In others, like Nigeria, the existing cellular data network will provide connections, and in some places specially designed long-range Wi-Fi antennas will extend the wireless Internet to rural areas.

When students take their computers home after school, each machine will stay connected wirelessly to its neighbors in a self-assembling "mesh" at ranges up to a third of a mile. In the process each computer can potentially become an Internet repeater, allowing the Internet to flow out into communities that have not previously had access to it.

"The soldiers inside this Trojan horse are children with laptops," said Walter R. Bender SM '80, a computer researcher who served as director of the Media Laboratory after Negroponte and now heads software development for the laptop project.

Each machine will come with a simple mechanism for recharging itself when a standard power outlet is not available. The designers experimented with a crank, but eventually

discarded that idea because it seemed too fragile. Now they have settled on several alternatives, including a foot pedal as well as a hand-pulled device that works like a salad spinner.

Jepsen's display, which removes most of the color filters but can operate in either color or monochrome modes, has made it possible to build a computer that consumes just 2 watts of power, compared with the 25 to 45 watts consumed by a conventional laptop. The ultra-low-power operation is possible because of the lack of a hard drive (the laptop uses solid-state memory, which has no moving parts and has fallen sharply in cost) and because the Advanced Micro Devices microprocessor shuts down whenever the computer is not processing information.

The designers have also gambled in designing the laptop's software, which is based on the freely available Linux operating system, a rival to Microsoft's Windows. Dispensing with a traditional desktop display, the software substitutes an iconic interface intended to give students a simpler view of their programs and documents and a maplike view of other connected users nearby.

A video-camera lens sits just to the right of the display, for use in videoconferencing and taking digital still photos of reasonable quality. The computer comes with a stripped-down Web browser, a simple word processor and a number of learning programs. For e-mail, the designers intend to use Google's Web-based Gmail service.

Only one program at a time can be viewed on the laptop because of its small 7.5-inch display.

Negroponte has been a globetrotting salesman for the project, winning Libya's participation when he was summoned by Col. Moammar Gadhafi to a meeting in a desert tent on a sweltering August night. But there have also been setbacks. The Indian Education Ministry rejected a proposal to order a million computers, noting that the money could be better spent on primary and secondary education.

Negroponte said he had been reenergized by the recent arrival of the first 1,000 working prototypes. The prototypes, he said, will give him new ammunition to convince government leaders that his tiny machines can be a positive force for social development. ((On a visit to Brazil on Nov.

24, Negroponte presented one of the prototypes to President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.))

He said a program would be created to enable those in the developing world to underwrite a laptop for a child in a designated country and to correspond with the recipient by e-mail as a sort of "glorified pen-pal program." But however attractive the idea of a \$100 or \$150 laptop, he said there were no plans to make it generally available to consumers.

"They should buy Dell's \$499 laptop for now," he said. "Ours is really designed for developing nations — dusty, dirty, no or unreliable power and so on."

In his two decades as director of the Media Laboratory, Negroponte often faced criticism because the institution's impressive demonstrations of technology only occasionally led to commercial applications.

"He has spent his whole career being accused of being all icing and no cake," said Michael J. Hawley PhD '93, a computer scientist and one of Negroponte's former students. To that kind of scoffing, he said, the laptop's success would be Negroponte's best retort.

A program would be created to enable those in the developing world to underwrite a laptop for a child in a designated country.

"However, if part of their rationale is that it will revolutionize education in various countries, I don't think it will happen ..."

— Larry Cuban

Come join the Undergraduate Economic Association for a lecture by one of Time Magazine's "100 People Who Shape Our World":

Steven Levitt

author of

New York Times Bestseller

FREAKONOMICS



"If Indiana Jones were an economist, he'd be Steven Levitt."
—Steven E. Landsburg, Wall Street Journal

"Steven Levitt has the most interesting mind in America..."
—Malcolm Gladwell

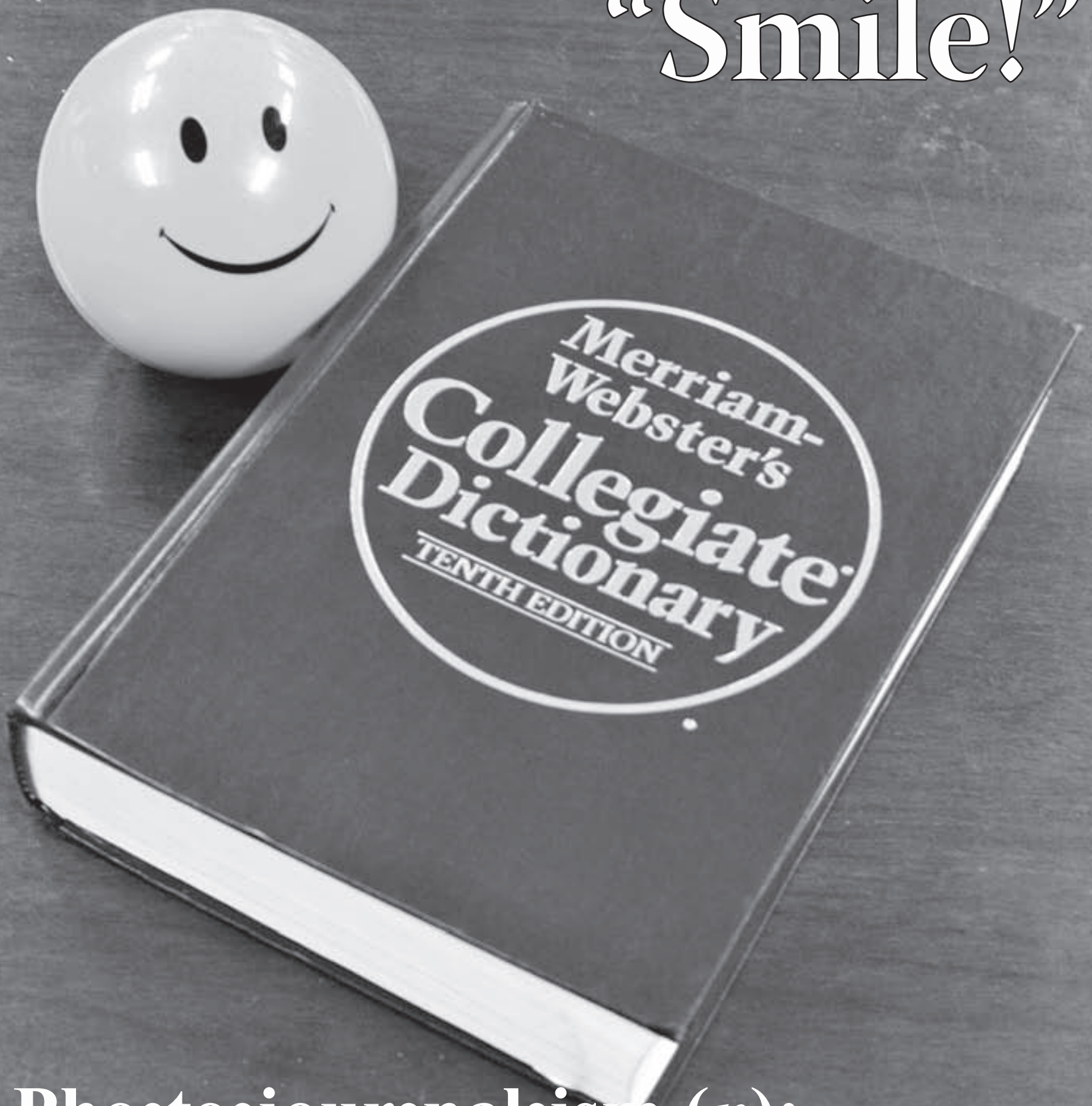
Solution to Crossword
from page 9

Monday, December 4th

12-1 pm E51-395

Questions? Contact uea-officers@mit.edu

“Smile!”



Pho•to•jour•nal•ism (*n*):

1. journalism in which written copy is subordinate to pictorial presentation of news stories
2. publishing photos in *The Tech* while enjoying high-end photographic equipment, exclusive developing facilities, free dinners, and good company

photo@the-tech.mit.edu

Learn from, challenge, and be challenged by leaders.

Change the world.

Make a difference.

Attention Class of 2008
Come learn about Summer Opportunities with McKinsey & Company
 Thursday, December 7
 6:00 p.m.
 Cambridge Marriott

www.mckinsey.com/summerba

McKinsey&Company

got sperm?

SPERM DONORS NEEDED Up to **\$900** a month!

Healthy MEN, in college or with a college degree, wanted for our anonymous sperm donor program at our Cambridge facility.

Help people fulfill their dreams of starting a family. Receive free health and genetic screenings.

APPLY ONLINE:

www.CRYOBANKDONORS.com

SUMMER 2007
RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR UNDERGRADUATES (REU)
MIT HAYSTACK OBSERVATORY

Undergraduate science, mathematics, engineering, and computer science students are invited to apply for summer research positions at the MIT Haystack Observatory in Westford, MA. Research projects include radio astronomical studies, atmospheric physics investigations, and hardware and software development for data acquisition and processing. The program extends from June 4 to August 10, 2007 and carries a weekly stipend of \$400.00. Women, minorities and students with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For further information and application materials, see <http://www.haystack.mit.edu/edu/reu/>.

Application deadline is 1 February 2007.

ARE YOU MORGAN STANLEY?

We Invite You to Find Out.

2007 SUMMER INTERN POSITIONS AT MORGAN STANLEY ASIA PACIFIC

We invite interested students to apply for 2007 **Investment Banking** Summer Analyst positions.

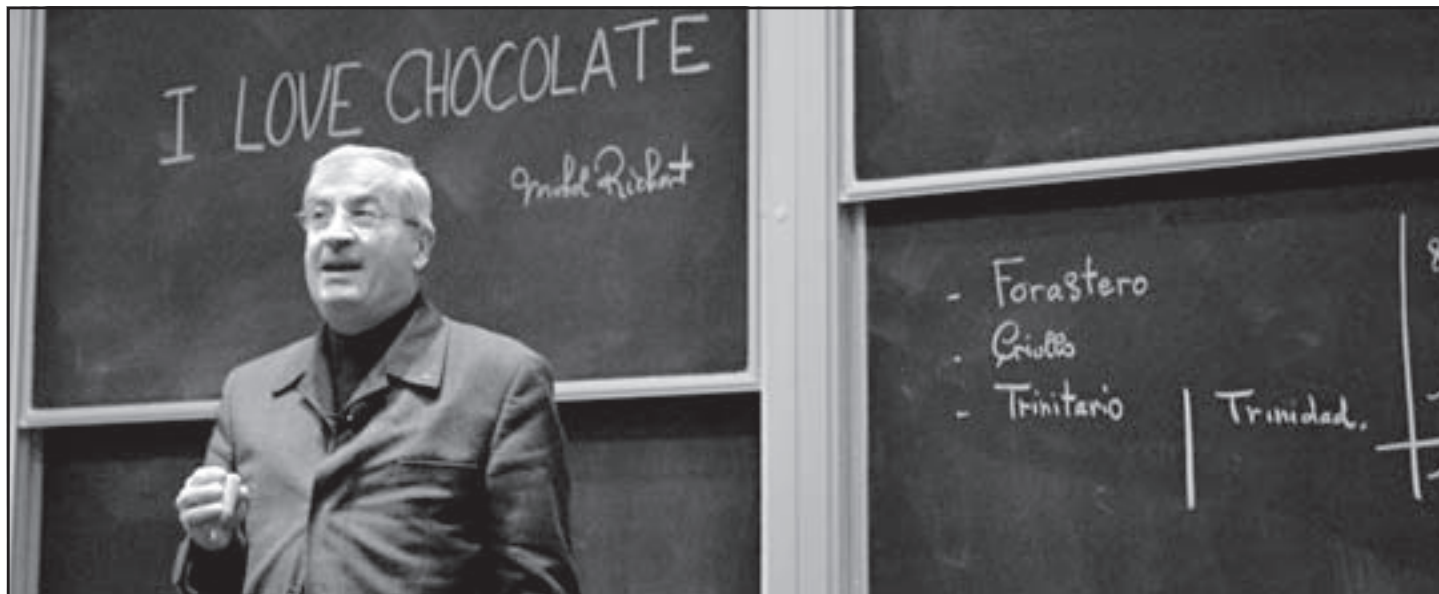
Deadline for application submission: December 15, 2006
 For inquiries, contact asia.recruit@morganstanley.com.

For more information on these opportunities, please visit our website: www.morganstanley.com/careers/recruiting.

VISIT AND APPLY ONLINE AT
WWW.MORGANSTANLEY.COM/CAREERS/RECRUITING

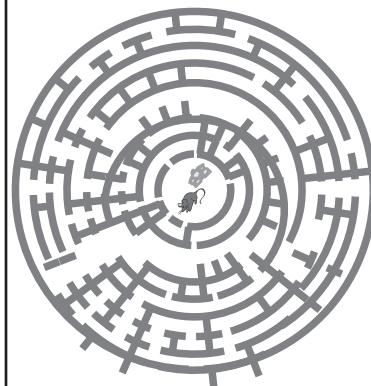
Morgan Stanley is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to workforce diversity.
 (M/F/D/V) ©2006 Morgan Stanley

Morgan Stanley



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Internationally-known French chocolatier Michel Richart lectured on chocolate science Thursday evening. The lecture, which also gave students a chance to taste Richart's chocolates, was hosted by MIT's Laboratory for Chocolate Science and MIT-France.



What's Going On?

MIT can be a bewildering place if you don't know what's going on.

Don't be a confused panda!
Instead, be a smart panda.
A happy panda.

Tech reporters hunt down the news; photographers get exclusive shots; and production staff see the entire issue—even the parts that don't make it to press—long before we print.

Want in? Join *The Tech*!



join@the-tech.mit.edu

There Are 1000+ Class 2007 Seniors. Only 529 Had Their Senior Picture Taken.

Are You One of Them?

MIT Technique brings you one more week of Senior Portraits. We recommend that you sign up online in advance. If no more slots are available, just come by and we'll do our best to fit you in. Our office (W20-451) will be open on December 4-8 from 11am until 6pm. There will be no more photo sessions after this week.



Why Take the Photo?

- * Show your face to the world
- * Prove that you are not lazy
- * Make your mom happy
- * Why not?
- * Get in the MIT Yearbook
- * You get to dress up (or not)
- * You can bring your puppet monster too
- * You get to try on the cap and gown early
- * Become a little piece of MIT history
- * Duh!

technique
the yearbook of MIT

Your Last Chance.
Sign Up Online NOW!
<http://web.mit.edu/technique/www/seniors.html>

SUMA Internship Panel

Let panelists and recruiters from top Consulting and Finance firms offer Resume and Interview tips to help secure your Summer Internship.



Monday, December 4th 5:30pm
Room 3-270



Dress is Business Casual

SPORTS

Bartollota Free Throws Clinch Engineers' Third Win of Season

By James D. Kramer
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

James M. Bartolotta '09 connected on two high-pressure free-throws in the waning seconds to lift MIT (3-2) from one-behind to defeat host Lesley College 80-79 Tuesday night. Bradley H. Gampel '09 stole the ball on the ensuing play as time expired to seal Tech's second

straight win.

MIT comfortably led most of the first half, ahead by as many as 13 with three minutes to go. Despite trailing most of the frame, the Lynx (2-2) never lost their composure and repeatedly climbed within six or seven before the Engineers pushed the advantage back to double figures.

Erich W. Bracht '10 continued his incredible play Tuesday, leading the Engineers with 17 points and 12 boards in the first half to help Tech enter the break with a 47-41 edge.

The Cardinal and Gray maintained a steady command in the first five minutes of the second half, building a 55-45 lead.

Lesley answered with a seven point run behind the strong play of

Joseph Chatman and Mark Stevens that closed the gap to three.

MIT's Patrick S. Sissman '10 converted a three-point play to end the run, and the Engineers lead swelled back to 10 midway through the period.

Lesley made a push for the win with just over a minute left in regulation. Trailing 77-71, James Parker hit a free throw after which the ball was stolen on the in-bounds pass and Francis Cusick drained a three. The flurry brought Lesley within two and set the stage for a free-throw battle down the stretch.

Chatman made four consecutive free throws, including a pair with less than 10 seconds on the clock to give the Lynx a 79-78 lead, their first since the opening minutes of the game.

On MIT's final possession, Bartolotta drew a whistle on a strong move to the basket that enabled the second-year standout to once again showcase his final-second heroics. He calmly sank the two free throws, putting his team ahead by one.

Bartolotta, who entered Tuesday's tilt as the leading scorer in the NEW-MAC, finished with a team-high 26

points in addition to 10 boards and four assists. One of the key reasons for Bartolotta's consistent offensive production has been his ability to get to the free-throw line, where he was 10-of-12 on Thursday.

Bartolotta's strong effort was overshadowed a bit by Bracht's performance, one of the best by an MIT rookie in recent memory. Bracht didn't let up after a strong first half, finishing the game with 25 points on 11-of-16 shooting and 22 boards, tying the highest single-game rebounding total since William Eagleson '64 set the Institute record in 1963.

Although the Engineers received most of their offensive spark from Bartolotta and Bracht, they continued to display balance and great team chemistry. All nine players appearing against Lesley scored, while seven of the nine were credited with a steal or a rebound.

Chatman led Lesley with a game-high 32 points, while James Parker and Mark Stevens added 16 and 15, respectively.

Paced by its double-double duo (Bartolotta and Bracht), MIT finished the night with a 52-36 rebounding edge.

Wentworth Dominates Women's Hoops 63-46

Prange's 17 Second Half Points Not Enough
By Mindy Brauer
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

The MIT women's basketball team (2-2) fell to non-conference foe Wentworth Institute of Technology (2-1) 63-46 on Tuesday night in Rockwell Cage.

The early stages of the game were closely played and featured three ties and two lead changes. A lay-up by Cheyenne Noble at 14:41 put Wentworth ahead for good.

MIT stayed within striking distance, trailing by three (16-13) with 6:43 left in the half. However, a jumper by the Leopards' Emily Cring ended a seven-minute scoring drought from the floor and sparked a 13-5 run to close the first frame.

Wentworth carried the momentum into the second half as its lead eventually grew to 19 (51-32) with 6:36 remaining in the game.

The Engineers responded with eight unanswered points over the next two minutes that cut their deficit to 11. The Leopards ended the comeback attempt with back-to-back three pointers from Cring and Chelsea Proulx.

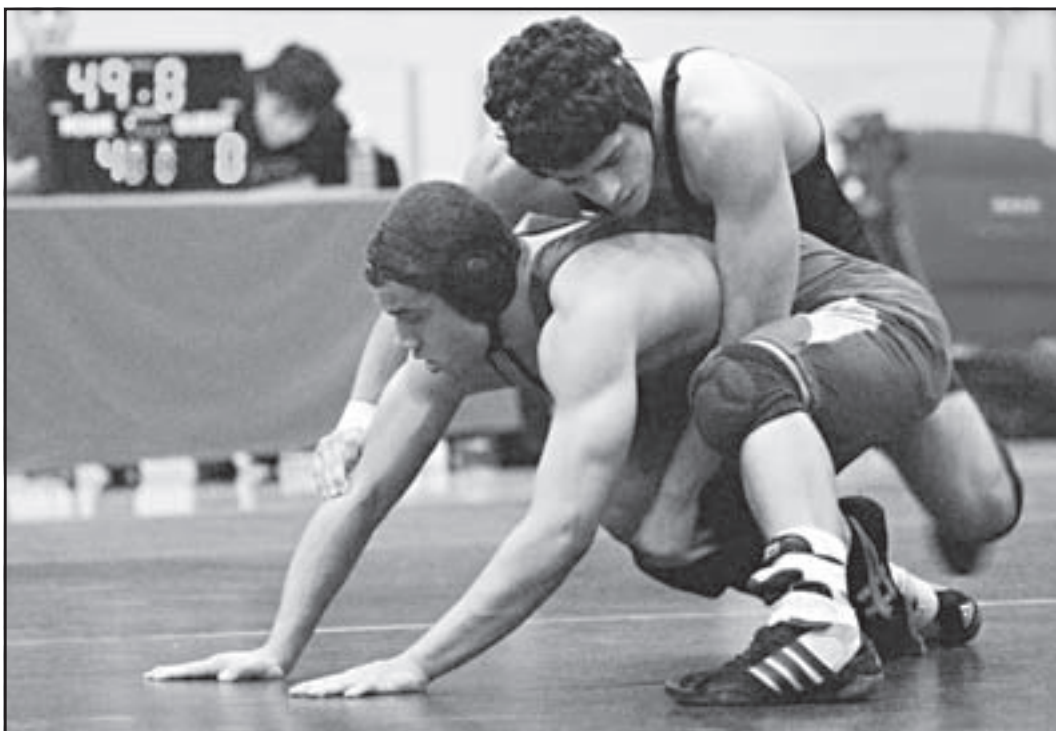
Sharon M. Prange '07 scored 17 second-half points en route to a career-high total of 19 to go along with nine rebounds. Kimberly E. Soo Hoo '08 bolstered MIT's offense with 12 points and four assists.

For WIT, Cring notched a double-double on 15 points and 10 rebounds while Noble totalled 16 points, nine boards, and four steals. Michelle Fauci grabbed a game-high six steals while Julie Scheel dished out four assists.

Next up for MIT will be its first road game of the season on Thursday, Nov. 30 when it travels to Emerson College for a 7:00 p.m. game.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Dec. 1, 2006 Pistol vs. Coast Guard Squash vs. Tufts	6:00 p.m., duPont Athletic Center 6:00 p.m., Zesiger Center
Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006 Pistol vs. Coast Guard Squash vs. Northeastern Men's Basketball vs. Tufts Women's Basketball vs. Albertus Magnus	9:00 a.m., duPont Athletic Center 10:00 a.m., Zesiger Center 2:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage 4:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Sunday, Dec. 3, 2006 Rifle vs. Mass. Maritime	9:00 a.m., duPont Athletic Center



GHEORGHE CHISTOL—THE TECH

Marvin M. Arnold '09 wrestles an opponent from Johnson & Wales University on Wednesday. MIT fell to the Wildcats, 39-0.

Do you want to buy some snazzy gifts this holiday season?



offers paid staff positions in two departments:

- Technology
- Business

join@tech.mit.edu

T-SHIRTS ...a necessary fact of college life



ph - 617-625-3335
fx - 617-625-0404
email - info@qrsts.com
www.qrsts.com

-serving the M.I.T. Community since 1989

- Deal direct...no middlemen
- Fast turnaround
- Award winning & computer literate art department
- Free delivery & Reasonable prices
- Most major organization logos on file for easy art work at no charge
- Full color heat transfers - no minimum!
- Web, print & graphic design
- ...and best of all - no boring lectures

