

## Self-Help Amount May Change

*Hockfield Will Consider Aid Proposals at Corporation Meeting*

By Marissa Vogt  
NEWS EDITOR

President Hockfield is expected to discuss possible changes to the self-help portion of financial aid awards with members of the MIT Corporation at next Friday's quarterly meeting.

Senior Advisor to the President Kirk D. Kolenbrander said he expects that Hockfield will be ready to make a decision following the meeting. Hockfield was unavailable for comment.

All of the proposals currently under consideration would lower the amount of self-help, said Director of Financial Aid Daniel Barkowitz.

Self-help is the amount students who receive financial aid are expected to contribute through loans or work during the academic year.

Barkowitz said that a proposal made in December to lower the amount of self help from \$5,500 to \$4,500 is no longer being considered. That proposal had been presented at a meeting of the Academic Council in December by then-Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine.

Barkowitz declined to give further details about the current proposals and how they would reduce self-help.

The self-help amount has de-

creased over the past decade from its peak of \$8,600 in the 1997-1998 academic year to the current \$5,500. Ultimately, Redwine said, the goal is to reduce the self-help amount to \$2,500.

A \$1,000 fixed reduction in self-help, such as the one Redwine proposed in December as the chair of the enrollment management group, would cost MIT \$2.3 million, he said, calling it a "non-trivial decision." Under Redwine's proposal, the \$1,000 taken from self-help would have been added to the MIT grant the student receives.

Self-help, Page 11

## Westgate Will Receive Power Through Tieline

*Power to be Provided by Tang Hall Connection*

By Jenny Zhang  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

MIT Facilities is switching the building power source for the Westgate highrise apartments to an electrical tieline connected to nearby Tang Hall yesterday evening or today, said Director of Housing Karen A. Nilsson. An electrical fire Sunday morning had left Westgate highrise apartments relying on a generator for power. Additionally, Nilsson said, Housing had provided much more support to residents than reported in *The Tech* on Feb. 21 ["Westgate Fire Due to Broken Steam Coil"].

Westgate had first been powered by a natural gas generator, and then on a larger generator that provided full functionality until installation of the tieline. Nilsson said the switch would require a shutdown of power late yesterday or today for one to

two hours. The tieline will be used for three to four months so that the transformer can be replaced. It will offer "no difference to the user," as more power will be sent to Tang to provide energy for Westgate as well. Nilsson said the tieline will be able to work for six months to one year.

Westgate president Georgia Bettin G said "everything is back to normal."

Nilsson said residents were provided with free laundry this week, since clothing may have been contaminated by the smoke. Also, the graduate coordinator who bought food for his fellow residents Sunday, when residents evacuated, was reimbursed by the Housing Office, she said. Westgate house manager Michael J. Collins came in and checked every apartment on Sunday, Nilsson said.

## Media Lab Director Moss Shares His Plans

By Mei-Hsin Cheng  
STAFF REPORTER

It's relatively crowded in 26-100, and you start flipping through your backpack for that notebook. As the professor begins to go over triple integrals, a loud, embarrassing ring tone fills the room. Darn — you forgot to shut off your cell phone again. Wouldn't it be nice to have one that knew when not to ring?

A "smart" cell phone that knows when to silence itself is one of the many plans in store for the Media Laboratory, which recently came under the direction of Frank Moss PhD '77.

Moss replaces Nicholas Negroponte '66, a co-founder of the Media Lab, who according to the *Boston Globe* stepped down to devote more of his time to One Laptop per Child, a nonprofit group working to distribute computers to developing nations.

*The Tech* sat down for an interview with Moss, and he described his plans to reach out more to the other parts of campus and pursue innovations in three main areas: health care, education, and technology.

Currently, society is in what Moss calls the "digital lifestyle" in which the presence of technology is pervasive in communication, entertainment, and commerce. Moss said the media lab will help society move on to the next phase of technology, the "digital society" in which even more people have access computers, and health care and education become increasingly self-managed.

In the health care area, the media lab seeks to improve the quality of life for the aging population. Moss said that his goal is to not only have the elderly live more healthy life-

Media Lab, Page 12



STEPHANIE LEE—THE TECH

Jonathan K. Santiago '09 examines "Vash the Stampede" and "Nicholas Wolfwood," two figures created by Brian Chan G for the annual origami competition sponsored by the Office of the Arts. See more photos on page 14.

## Teamspot Technology Now Appearing Across Campus

By Hannah Hsieh  
STAFF REPORTER

Over the past two weeks, new wide-screen monitors have been popping up around campus. Not only do they look

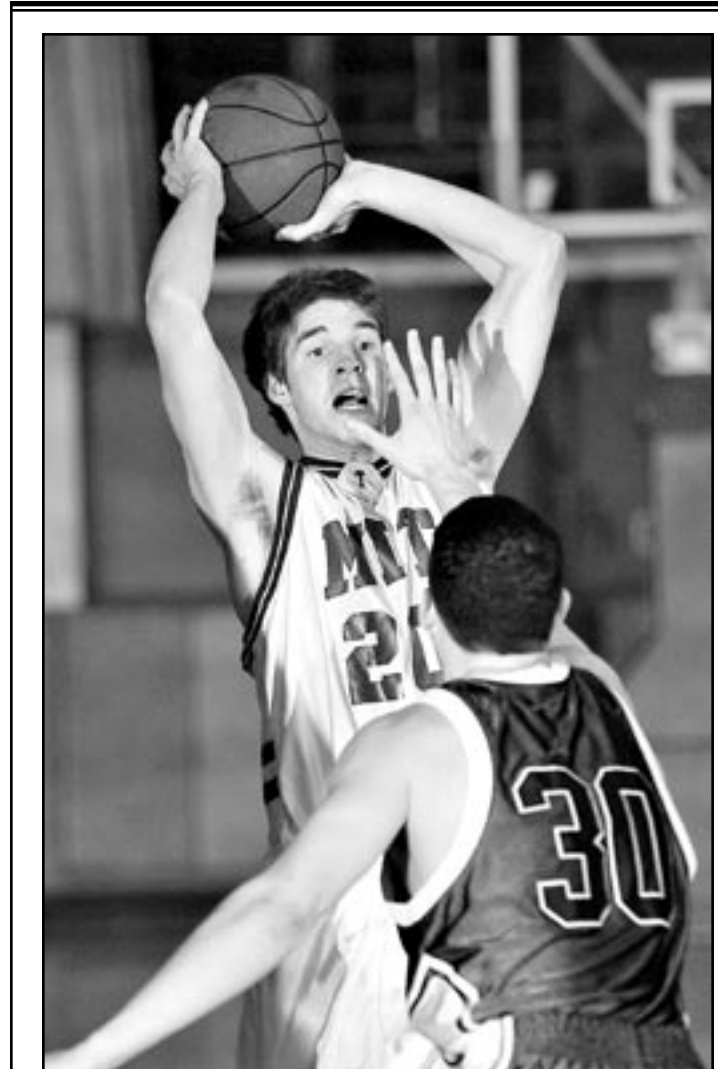
### Feature

cool, they're actually here for the MIT community to play with. These monitors are part of a pilot installation called Teamspot, a new technology developed at Stanford University

and brought to MIT through Information Systems and Technology's Residential Technology Initiative, which tries different experiments involving technology support for students in residence halls.

A Teamspot consists of a computer that can be wirelessly controlled through a personal laptop. By installing a small program, multiple users can connect to one Teamspot

Teamspot, Page 13



DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Phillip E. Murray '06 tries to find a teammate to pass the ball to while being guarded by Babson's Gregory Bush during the first period of the Engineers' 49-40 NEWMAC quarterfinal win over the Beavers.

## Pedestrian Hit By Saferide Sunday

A Saferide van hit a pedestrian, Marcos Brizuela, on Sunday evening at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Albany Street. Brizuela, who is not listed in the MIT directory, had a broken left humerus and was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital, said MIT Police Chief John DiFava. According to an MIT Police report, the driver of the bus stated that he did not see the pedestrian in time to avoid the collision, DiFava said. When MIT Police arrived at the scene, Cambridge Police had already responded. The Cambridge Police office declined to give information about the accident outside of the police report, which was not available yesterday afternoon.

—Jenny Zhang, Marissa Vogt

## GSC President Slaby Resigns

In an e-mail sent to Graduate Student Council representatives on Tuesday, GSC president Emilie F. Slaby G announced her resignation, citing academic reasons. Slaby did not respond to calls requesting comment yesterday afternoon and evening.

According to the GSC Web site, the next election for officers will take place on April 5. It is unclear whether a new president will be elected to serve for the next two months. According to the GSC Constitution and Bylaws, available at <http://web.mit.edu/gsc/www/about/constitution/>, "The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the President's absence."

—Jenny Zhang

### NEWS

Freshman-Sophomore Career Week Begins Monday

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Fun	6
Arts	8
Sports	16

# WORLD & NATION

## Moscow Market Roof Collapses Under Snow, Killing 56

By Andrew E. Kramer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

A roof laden with snow collapsed over a vegetable market in an outer district of Moscow early Thursday, killing at least 56 people, mostly young men from Central Asia and the Caucasus who worked as laborers and produce traders.

The roof came down on the Basmany Market, one of the Moscow area's largest, around 5:20 a.m., before it opened for retail sales but while some wholesale buyers from restaurants and grocery stores were inside, survivors said.

"Glass was falling and people ducked under their stalls," said an herb trader from Uzbekistan who was inside when the roof fell in. "The lights went out and I heard people yelling, 'Help!'"

The man, who gave only his first name as Uktam, said he groped in the dark toward an exit and later helped a woman escape from a car partly crushed by a block of concrete.

By nightfall, about 500 rescue workers were swarming over the pile of rubble in a search for trapped survivors.

Officials at the emergency management agency said late Thursday that at least 56 had been killed and 32 injured. President Vladimir V. Putin appeared on television and urged a thorough investigation. "Rescuers are doing all they can to help survivors," he added.

## New Hope Seen for Global Trade Agreement

By Katrin Bennhold and Graham Bowley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

The conditions are in place for resolving in the first half of this year the most contentious issues in negotiations for a world trade agreement, paving the way for a final accord before the end of 2006, a world trade official said Thursday.

In his most optimistic assessment yet, Pascal Lamy, director general of the World Trade Organization, said in an interview that negotiators realized in recent weeks that a deal must be struck before elections in the second half of the year in critical member countries, including the United States, Brazil and Mexico.

Also pressing the agenda is President Bush's waning fast-track trade negotiating authority, which is set to expire in July 2007. Lamy, who visited Washington last week, said his talks with members of the finance and agricultural committees in both houses of Congress had made clear that those powers would not be extended.

## Israeli Troops Kill Five in Nablus

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israeli troops shot five Palestinians to death on Thursday during clashes in the West Bank city of Nablus, the Israeli military and Palestinian medical workers said.

Israeli troops have been pursuing militants in the Balata Refugee Camp, on the edge of Nablus, for several days, and the fighting has been some of the heaviest in recent weeks.

The Israeli soldiers killed three wanted members of Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades in a shooting exchange with the gunmen, who were holed up in a house, Palestinian witnesses and medical workers said.

A fourth Palestinian man, who the Israeli military said was armed, was shot dead on the roof of a house. The fifth Palestinian killed was part of a group of stone-throwing youths, Palestinians said, though the military said he had been shot after throwing a firebomb at the soldiers. Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian Authority, in a statement called on the Israeli government to end "its aggression against the Palestinian people, because this escalation will lead to a further deterioration and undermine efforts at preserving the climate of calm."

# Iraqi Violence Straining U.S. Political and Military Plans

By Steven R. Weisman and Robert F. Worth

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The violence in Iraq following the bombing of a Shiite mosque this week has abruptly thrown the Bush administration on the defensive, and there were signs on Thursday that American officials recognized new perils to their plans to withdraw troops this year. The American enterprise in Iraq seemed beleaguered on two fronts, political and military.

Senior administration officials in Washington and Baghdad said the next few days would test American and Iraqi resolve, as the U.S. military, despite pressure to intervene and facing angry accusations that they stood by while Iraq erupted in revenge killings, holds back to see if Iraqis can quell violence by themselves. An unusual daytime curfew in Baghdad scheduled for Friday Prayer could help, the officials said.

Iraqis and some American officials also said the Bush administration might have to rethink its political strategy in Baghdad.

The U.S. ambassador, Zalmay Khalilzad, has reached out to Sun-

nis, pushing to include them in the government and pressing Shiite leaders hard to keep politicians with ties to Shiite militias out of sensitive security posts. Sunnis have accused these Shiite leaders of running death squads. But Khalilzad's stance has infuriated Shiites.

Khalilzad said Monday that the United States would not "invest the resources of the American people" in Iraqi security forces if they were "run by people who are sectarian." The comment provoked unusually direct criticism from Shiite leaders, some of whom suggested that maligning the Iraqi security leadership led to the attack on the mosque in Samarra on Wednesday.

Because sensitive negotiations are continuing and because officials fear that American comments could further inflame a volatile situation, few officials interviewed here or in Baghdad would be quoted by name.

For the moment, American officials said they doubted that Khalilzad would change course. They said the Americans were pressing Iraqi leaders not to go forward with political negotiations without Sunni participation.

Since the major Sunni party has

suspended its participation in the talks, officials hope waiting a few days may allow tensions to recede.

Iraqi security forces were unable — or, Sunni leaders suggested, unwilling — to quell the violence after the bombing. In many cases, the American military was either not present or not able to stop Shiite mobs exacting revenge killings across Iraq.

Military officials said the Pentagon was in effect watching and waiting to see what the next 48 hours will bring before deciding on whether a more visible American presence might be needed — in effect, sending American forces back into areas that they had turned over to the Iraqis.

A senior official said there was no thought being given now to changing the "trajectory" of pulling American forces back and eventually withdrawing part of them this year.

But other administration officials said expanding the American presence might be necessary to contain the violence, partly because despite strenuous efforts, the Iraqi armed forces are still divided along sectarian lines. In particular, Iraqi Sunnis see Shiite-dominated troops as part of the problem, not the solution.

# Under Proposal, Disaster Duties Shared With Homeland Security

By Eric Lipton

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Acknowledging the multitude of Hurricane Katrina failures, the Bush administration advocated on Thursday giving federal agencies from the Pentagon to the Department of Justice a greater role in the nation's disaster response playbook.

If adopted through both legislation and executive order, the recommendations would reverse some of the steps taken after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to centralize responsibility for responding to natural disasters or terrorist attacks at the newly created Department of Homeland Security. And the plan could require the White House to play a larger coordinating role in future disasters.

Frances Fragos Townsend, President Bush's domestic security ad-

viser, said that enlisting help from federal agencies made sense.

"There's a lot of expertise resident in the federal government," Townsend said at a White House briefing, where she released the report she and her staff had prepared.

But some critics worry that diffusing responsibilities among agencies could leave no one clearly in charge and not produce results.

"This may simply be rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic," said Michael Greenberger, a law professor and domestic security expert at the University of Maryland.

The Homeland Security Department and its Federal Emergency Management Agency will continue to be the lead federal player in disaster response efforts, according to the blueprint proposed by Townsend.

But the Pentagon may take over the commanding role during catastrophes "of extraordinary scope and nature," like a nuclear attack or "multiple simultaneous terrorist attacks causing a breakdown in civil society," the report says, citing examples even more extreme than Hurricane Katrina.

More routinely, the military will be expected to provide logistical support, including sending troops to deliver supplies or rescue victims.

The Justice Department, which now shares responsibility for disaster law enforcement efforts with the Homeland Security Department, would be primarily charged with that even in less severe disasters. The reassignment was attributed to the slow and disorganized response to lawlessness in New Orleans.

# WEATHER

## Wind Chilled Weekend

By Jonathan R. Moskaitis

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The wind chill will play a prominent role in weather reports over the next five days, as New England becomes firmly lodged in a regime of cold, blustery conditions. Conceptually, wind chill quantifies the skin's heat loss rate as a function of wind speed and air temperature, and thus is most naturally expressed in watts per square meter. However, in National Weather Service and media forecasts, it is typically expressed as a "wind chill equivalent temperature," which is the still-air temperature at which the skin's heat loss rate would be the same as it is for the ambient temperature and wind speed.

The history of wind chill calculations is a bit more interesting than one might expect. The original formulae were developed from data obtained during the U.S. Antarctic Expedition of 1939-41. Expedition members recorded the time it took for water in a small plastic bottle to freeze under different combinations of ambient air temperature and wind speed. From there, they calculated heat loss rates, assuming the rates were grossly similar to those of facial skin. This rather crude methodology was not updated until five years ago, when actual measurements of facial heat loss made on hardy Canadian volunteers supplanted the old plastic bottle values!

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Mostly sunny, windy. High: 36°F (2°C), Wind Chill: 23°F (-5°C)

**Tonight:** Clear and blustery. Low: 20°F (-7°C), Wind Chill: 6°F (-14°C)

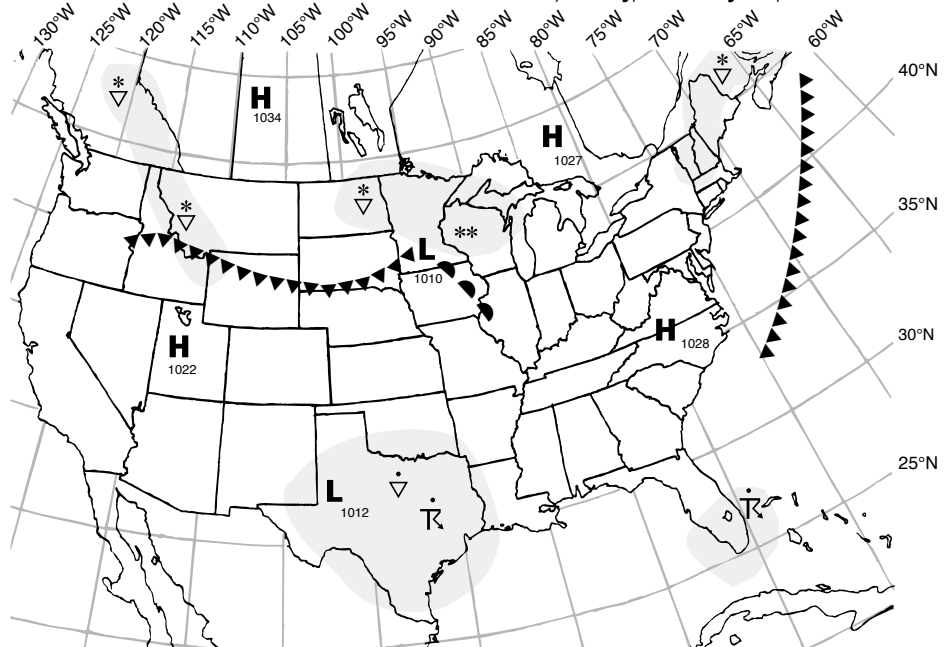
**Saturday:** Light snow likely, especially in the afternoon. High: 31°F (-1°C), Wind Chill: 21°F (-6°C)

**Saturday Night:** Light snow likely early, then turning colder and windy. Low: 16°F (-9°C), Wind Chill: -3°F (-19°C)

**Sunday:** Cold and windy. High: 22°F (-6°C), Wind Chill: 5°F (-15°C)

**Monday:** Continuing cold and windy. High: 22°F (-6°C), Wind Chill: 4°F (-16°C)

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, February 24, 2006



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

# Administration Trying to Calm Congress After Port Deal Clash

By David S. Cloud  
and David E. Sanger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Bush administration signaled on Thursday that it was seeking a way to delay, at least briefly, a Dubai company from taking over operations of terminals at six major American ports, in hopes that the additional time might allow the White House to assuage angry Republicans and Democrats in Congress who are threatening to block the deal.

The bid for a compromise came as administration officials and Senate Democrats clashed in a public hearing on Capitol Hill about whether allowing Dubai Ports World, a state-owned firm in the United Arab Emirates, to assume management of American ports would represent a national security risk.

In an effort to calm Congress, the administration released a confidential letter sent on Jan. 6 in which the Dubai firm committed to continuing its participation in a range of American-led initiatives to close gaping security holes in ports around the world, including an agreement with

the Department of Energy a year ago to use new equipment in Dubai's own seaports intended to sniff out radioactive shipments.

Among the ports in the United States where the company hopes to take over terminals, only one, in Newark, N.J., is similarly equipped with nuclear detectors. On Thursday afternoon the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns the Newark container port, said it would terminate the lease of the P & O Ports, the current, British-based manager of the terminal, in an effort to stop what it termed an illegal transfer to the Dubai company.

Critics of the deal were skeptical Thursday about the proposed deal. White House officials say that because the deal was formally approved by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States in mid-January, the administration has no legal channel to reopen its review of the acquisition, a step being pressed by Congress, unless it determines that the company misled the federal government.

But with members of Congress threatening to enact legislation to block the deal, the White House sig-

naled that it would welcome an agreement by Dubai Ports to delay final closing of the deal, which is scheduled to take place next week. Congressional aides said representatives of the company were testing that idea on Capitol Hill on Thursday afternoon.

Karl Rove, the deputy White House chief of staff and President Bush's chief political adviser, said in an interview with Fox News that while the acquisition by Dubai Ports World would pass its final regulatory hurdles next week, "There's no requirement that it close, you know, immediately after that."

Rove added: "Our interest is in making certain the members of Congress have full information about it, and that, we're convinced, will give them a level of comfort with this."

A senior White House official said, however, that Bush would stand by his threat to veto any legislation designed to kill the deal. "He's completely adamant about this," another of Bush's aides said. If a Dubai company is treated as less trustworthy than a British one, the aide said, "he thinks that the signal in the Mideast would be disastrous."

# After Fraud, HealthSouth Reaches \$445M Settlement With Investors

By Kyle Whitmire

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

HealthSouth, which runs a chain of outpatient rehabilitation hospitals, said on Thursday that it had agreed to pay \$445 million to settle investor lawsuits filed after federal investigators uncovered accounting fraud at the company.

Under the terms of the agreement, which is subject to approval by the federal judge overseeing the case, HealthSouth's insurance carriers will pay stockholders and bondholders \$230 million in cash. The company will pay the remaining \$215 million with common stock and warrants.

In addition, the plaintiffs will receive 25 percent of any future judgments the company receives from Richard M. Scrusby, its former chief executive; Ernst & Young, its former auditor; and UBS, its former investment bank. The company admits no wrongdoing, and all executives who have not pleaded guilty or been accused of a crime are freed from liability.

"This proposed settlement represents a major milestone in Health-

South's recovery and a powerful symbol of the progress we have made as a company," HealthSouth's chief executive, Jay Grinney, said in a statement Thursday.

In March 2003, federal investigators raided HealthSouth's headquarters here and exposed what was then estimated to be a \$2.7 billion accounting fraud. More recent restatements have estimated the fraud to be in excess of \$4 billion.

After the fraud was exposed, 15 HealthSouth executives pleaded guilty to criminal charges, including all five of the company's chief financial officers. One former financial executive, Hannibal Crumpler, known as Sonny, was found guilty at trial.

In June 2005, a jury in Birmingham acquitted Scrusby of all criminal charges that he participated in the fraud. He still faces numerous civil suits in the case.

The New York Stock Exchange delisted the company and the stock plummeted to a low of 8 cents a share in the spring of 2003. For almost a year, the company teetered on the brink of bankruptcy as it negotiated with creditors and replaced

nearly all of its senior executives and board members.

HealthSouth's stock price rose 8.4 percent on Thursday, to \$5.31 a share, a level it reached just before the fraud became public in 2003.

The settlement is another costly step for the company in its long climb toward recovery. In June 2005 it settled a lawsuit by the Securities and Exchange Commission for \$100 million. Other costs, including forensic audits and restatement costs, have totaled more than \$479 million, according to figures provided by HealthSouth.

Late last year, the company filed a final restatement, and in December it held its first shareholders' meeting since the fraud was exposed. At that meeting, Grinney, the chief executive, told investors the company had completed the first year of a three- to four-year process of "paying for the sins of the past" and that HealthSouth would make its future filings with the SEC on time.

"With the support of our dedicated employees across the country, HealthSouth is on the verge of putting another issue from the past behind us," Grinney said Thursday.

# Wal-Mart to Expand Employee Health Insurance Plan and In-Store Clinic Use

By Michael Barbaro

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Wal-Mart Stores, facing a raft of state bills that would require it to increase spending on employee health insurance, plans to ease several long-standing — and heavily criticized — restrictions on who is eligible for benefits, the company said Thursday.

Wal-Mart said that for the first time it would permit part-time employees to enroll their children in the company's health insurance plan, and it pledged to significantly reduce the waiting period before a new part-time employee is eligible for benefits, though it declined to specify how much.

The new eligibility rules are intended to increase the number of employees who can participate in the insurance plan, but it was unclear how significant the impact would be because Wal-Mart gave little detailed information about its plans.

Even with the new plan, Wal-Mart's workers, whose average pay is less than \$20,000 a year, will pay monthly premiums and hefty annual deductibles.

The changes, which Wal-Mart's chief executive, H. Lee Scott Jr., plans to formally announce Sunday before a meeting of the nation's governors, underscores how big a political and public relations threat the health care issue has become for the nation's largest private employer.

Wal-Mart insures less than half of its 1.3 million employees in the United States, and it has come under fierce criticism for skimping on benefits and shifting the cost of health care to state governments.

In the last two months, the Maryland Legislature has passed a law that would force Wal-Mart to improve its benefits, and a dozen other states, including California, Colorado and Rhode Island, have begun considering similar bills.

Wal-Mart originally planned to announce the new benefit rules later this year, but it rushed the news out this week before the governors meeting in Washington.

The new eligibility requirements are notable because, until now, Wal-Mart offered health insurance to the children only of full-time workers,

and it required part-time workers to wait two years before enrolling in a plan. Full-time workers must wait six months.

Wal-Mart also said it would expand the use of in-store clinics to treat employees and nonemployees. Such clinics, which the company set up in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Indiana as a test six months ago, are designed for routine, nonemergency medicine, like a strep throat or an earache.

So far, Wal-Mart has established nine clinics. They are operated by third-party medical providers who rent space from the company, much like hair salons or banks do. By the end of the year, there will be 59 clinics, a Wal-Mart spokeswoman, Mona Williams, said. On average, she said, visits to the clinics cost about \$45, which some insurers may cover.

At the same time, Wal-Mart said it would make a new health care plan, with premiums as low as \$11 a month for an individual, available to half of its employees by next year. Under the plan, which was introduced this year in several regions, the premiums are \$9 more a month for children.

# Three Indian Scientists Protest Delay in Getting U.S. Visas

By Somini Sengupta

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI

Just days before the arrival here of President Bush, complaints from three Indian scientists about visa applications for the United States have stirred a diplomatic tempest.

All three said they were rebuffed by officials at the U.S. Consulate in Chennai, which is also known as Madras. While visa delays are common, the scientists' stories have prompted two unusual statements from the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi expressing "regrets."

The applications have not been rejected, the embassy said. It added that the scientists were required only to submit additional information as part of a standard post-Sept. 11 safeguard against people whose work could be connected to weapons research.

One scientist, Goverdhan Mehta, an organic chemist and the former director of the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, is to lecture next month at the University of Florida at Gainesville, then address an international conference.

Mehta said he applied for a routine visa interview at the consulate on Feb. 9, only to be questioned about whether his research could be used for "chemical warfare."

Speaking Thursday from his home in Bangalore, he said it could not. He said he remembered being told he was not being honest. "To tell a scientist of any standing he is deceptive about his research — there cannot be a bigger affront," Mehta said. "I certainly felt very humiliated."

# Bush, On Campaign Trail, Raises Money for Midterm Races

By Raymond Hernandez

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CINCINNATI

President Bush plunged into the 2006 midterm elections Thursday, headlining back-to-back fundraising events for Republican candidates in states where his party is vulnerable.

Bush's sprint through Indiana and Ohio brought in at least \$1.6 million, party officials said, underscoring his standing as a major fundraising draw, even as his job-approval rating suffers.

The Republican National Committee said that Bush was kicking off a year of fundraising for candidates in the 2006 elections and that the president's schedule would accelerate over the next months.

Bush's entry into the campaign season does entail some risks for his party: While Republican candidates are eager for his help raising money, some have been distancing themselves from him politically, mindful of his lackluster standing in the polls.

Bush's first stop was in Mishawaka, Ind., just east of South Bend, where he appeared at a reception on behalf of Rep. Chris Chocola, who may face a tough re-election fight.

In speech of roughly 30 minutes in an auditorium at Bethel College, Bush returned to a theme that has been one of his greatest strengths — that he is protecting the nation from terrorist attacks.

# In Surprise Stop in Lebanon, Rice Snubs Pro-Syrian President

By Joel Brinkley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIRUT, LEBANON

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice made a surprise visit here Thursday, a stopover whose most notable feature was her decision to snub Emile Lahoud, the pro-Syrian president of Lebanon.

"I've already met him," Rice explained with a shrug and a coy smile, referring back to her last visit here, six months ago.

Rice's stated purpose for flying several thousand miles out of her way for a four-hour tour near the end of a Middle East visit was to show "support for the Lebanese people and the Lebanese government as they continue to recover their sovereignty," as she put it on the flight here Thursday morning. Rice also frequently cites Lebanon as one of the administration's successes in its call for greater democracy in the Middle East.

She met with every manner of political leader here — Christian, Muslim and Druze — in a country long riven by religious rivalry and warfare. But the new great divide, as the State Department sees it, is between the Lebanese politicians who supported Syria during its long occupation of Lebanon and those who did not.

The assassination early last year of Rafik Hariri, the popular anti-Syrian politician, sparked an uprising of resentment that helped force Syria to withdraw its troops from Lebanon. An election a few months later put Fouad Siniora, a protégé of Hariri, into the prime minister's office. But Lahoud lingers on, his term extended by a constitutional amendment Syria forced through the Lebanese Parliament.

# Fossil Finding Spurs New Thinking On Evolutionary Order of Jurassic

By John Noble Wilford

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the conventional view, the earliest mammals were small, primitive shrewlike creatures that did not begin to explore the world's varied environments until the dinosaurs died out 65 million years ago.

But scientists are reporting on Friday that they have uncovered fossils of a swimming, fish-eating mammal that lived in China fully 164 million years ago, well before it was thought that some mammals could have spent much of their lives in water.

The extinct species appears to have been an amalgam of animals. It had a broad, scaly tail, flat like a beaver's. Its sharp teeth seemed ideal for eating fish, like an otter's. Its likely lifestyle — burrowing in tunnels on shore and dog-paddling in water — reminds scientists of the modern platypus.

Its skeleton suggests that it was about 20 inches long, from snout to the tip of its tail, about the length of a small house cat.

The surprising discovery, made in 2004 in the abundant fossil beds of Liaoning province, China, is being reported in the journal *Science* by an international team led by Qiang Ji of Nanjing University.

In the article, Ji and other researchers from the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences in Beijing and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh said the fossil skeleton showed that some mammals occupied more diverse ecological niches than had been suspected in the Jurassic Period, in the middle of the age dominated by dinosaurs.

# OPINION

## Fuzzy Math = Hairy Tax System

Jeff Cohen

In his article "A Better Way to Tax" (*The Tech*, Feb. 21) Justin Wong advocates a tax plan that would spell disaster for the United States.

### Letter

Mr. Wong suggests eliminating all current Federal taxes and replacing them with a single national sales tax. The main problem with this plan is that such a tax would be regressive — the poor would pay a higher percentage of their income than the rich. Several of the benefits Mr. Wong describes also simply would not occur if such a tax were implemented.

Presently, the rich pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes than the poor. This has been necessary to support a Federal budget of the size that we currently have without placing an insurmountable burden on the most disadvantaged Americans. While some people make an incentive-based argument in favor of a flat tax (e.g. one where everyone pays the same fraction of his or her income), surely we can agree that a regressive tax (one where the poor pay a higher percentage of their income) is a

bad idea.

But Mr. Wong's "fair tax" would create just such a tax. The poor spend a higher percentage of their income on consumption, so they would pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes, as well. Mr. Wong asserts that the current progressive tax structure is actually responsible for the rich-poor gap by penalizing people for

*The poor have an incentive for upward mobility as it is: making more money would help them stop being poor!*

earning more, and his regressive tax would fix that problem. I don't know where to begin responding to that argument other than to say that it's patently ridiculous. The poor have an incentive for upward mobility as it is: making more money would help them stop being poor! We don't need to hit them with an extra-heavy tax burden to make that even more true.

A number of Mr. Wong's other claims are

false, as well. He says that as taxes levied at each stage of production and transportation are removed in favor of a sales tax, prices of goods will fall. This cannot be the case. If the sales tax is to keep the Federal budget at its current level, it must be equal the sum of all current taxes. That includes the ones levied during production and transportation of goods to their final consumers, income taxes, corporate taxes, capital gains taxes, estate taxes, and all other taxes. When I buy a loaf of bread, the price I currently pay is pushed up by some taxes. If this sales tax is to make up for those and my income taxes, too, it must be greater in magnitude than just the taxes I pay for the bread today.

Mr. Wong also claims that the sales tax will save us all on the amount of tax we pay. Unless he's trying to sneak through a massive budget cut, that can't be true: if everyone is saving on taxes under Mr. Wong's system, tax revenue must be lower!

These, and other flat tax plans, are based on fuzzy math and incorrect assumptions that would leave us bankrupt and devastate poor members of our society.

Jeff Cohen is a member of the class of 2006.



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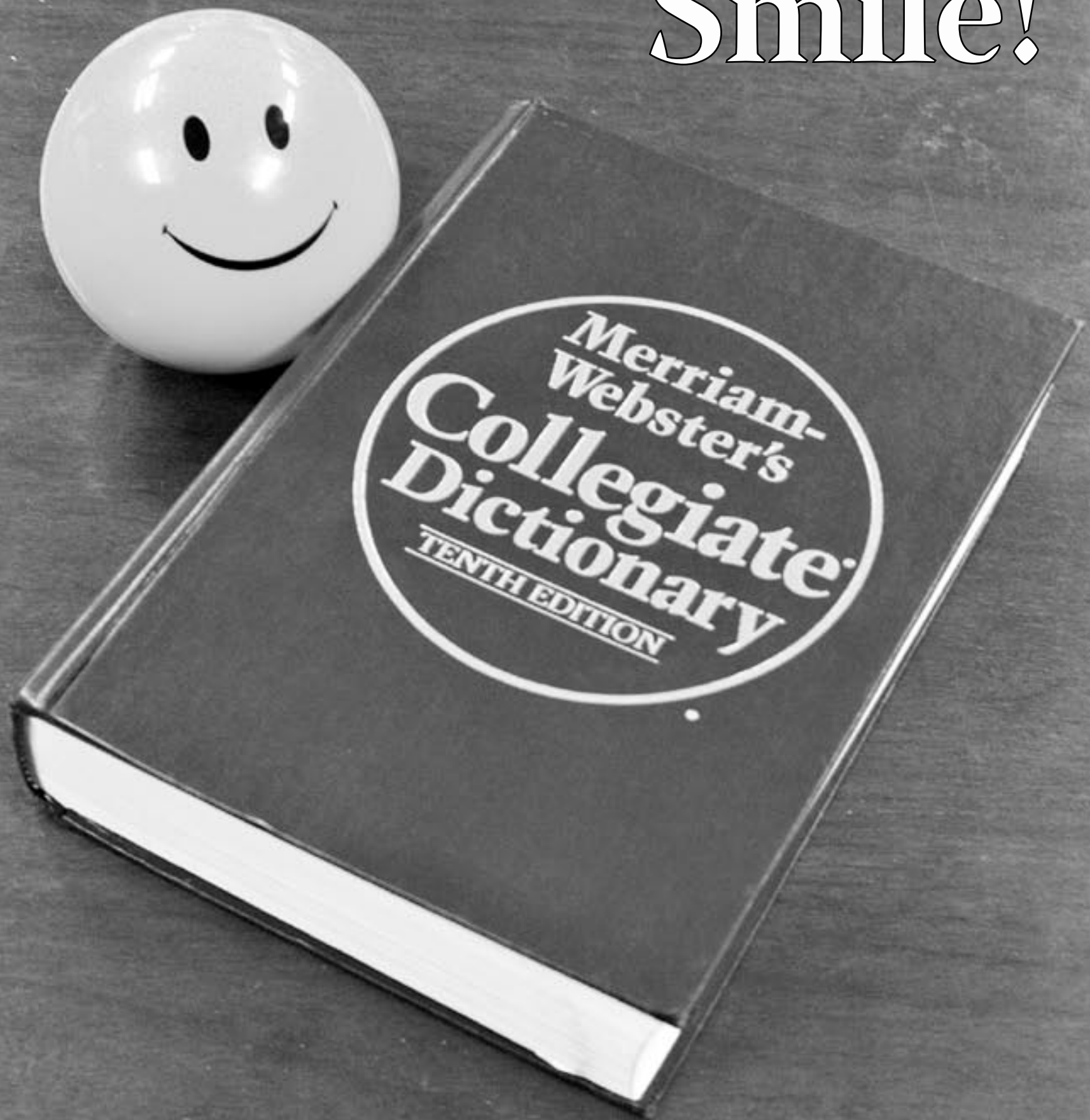
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## ARTS

## THEATER REVIEW

*Vaginas Proclaim Happiness, Sorrow**Annual V-Day Show Provokes Reflection and Laughter*By **Natania Antler**

STAFF WRITER

*The Vagina Monologues*

Feb. 16th-18th

Directed by *Albert Oppenheimer, Betsy Eames, Nat Twarog*

**M**y vagina was happy to be in 10-250 on Thursday night, and I'll explain why. MIT's 2006 production of the *Vagina Monologues* opened there on Thursday, Feb. 16, to a giant audience. I would have been very surprised if it weren't packed, considering the volumes of e-mail the group sent out about the event. My vagina was a bit angry for a while, as the show started nearly half an hour late, but it busied itself admiring the red curtains attached skillfully to the front blackboards, which transformed the lecture hall.

The show began to pick up speed with "The Flood," an interview with an old lady sporting a Southern accent played very cutely by Kavita Kothari '07. Next was "The Vagina Workshop," the gem of the first act. Katrine Sivertsen '08 had the audience nearly rolling on the floor laughing, as she described in a nuanced British accent how she got back into touch with her vagina at a workshop for that sort of thing. Both actresses pulled off their accents well, so that despite the somewhat homogenous cast, the audience was reminded of the diversity of women. Later on, accents briefly donned by less experienced actresses were a bit distracting.

*What saved this show from being a fluffy piece of feminist comedy was that it had a dark underside that made the audience aware...*

After "Vagina Happy Fact" (in which a cartwheeling Kate Weston '06 delivered the news that the vagina has twice the number of nerves that the penis does) the show took a more serious turn. With "Because He Liked to Look at It" (well done by Jocelyn Rodal '06), the mood temporarily became discordant and depressing. What saved this show from being a fluffy piece of feminist comedy was that it had a dark underside that made audience aware of ongoing violence against women.

The serious side of the show began with a piece done by three women that illustrated the spectrum of experiences during their first menstruation ("I was 12. My Mother Slapped Me"). The next piece described the abuse, rape, collateral damage, and mass murder of women. I wasn't hugely thrilled with "The Memory of Her Face" because it referred to the Iraq war — though the piece made a valid statement, its politically charged nature was distracting. In "My Vagina Was My Village" Mary-Irene Lang '08 dealt with the highly graphic and disturbing subject of protracted gang rape in a war zone with amazing depth and skill. The monologue still haunts me, as it should.

After "Village," the show took a slightly lighter turn, although it still contained a piece about the plight of the "comfort women" taken by Japanese soldiers during World War II. One monologue, about the reclaiming of a certain pejorative word to describe female genitalia, was not particularly effective. It concluded with the actress trying to get the

audience to shout out the word, but perversely, I only heard male voices participating in jest.

The show closed with "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy," about a female sex-worker who does business only with other women (played with gusto and hilarity by Leora Maccabee). This piece featured the entire cast on stage illustrating the varied sounds women can make before having orgasms, and again, the hilarity was nearly unbearable. The final monologue, featuring Amy S. Brzezinski G as playwright Eve describing the awe of witnessing her granddaughter's birth, brought a poignant close to the show.

This was the fifth annual show, part of the college campaign for V-Day, an international day to stop violence against women. The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center and The Boston Chapter of the Polaris Project were the recipients of the proceeds from this year's performances.

If you missed it this year, I encourage you to go next year. It's a fun show that also makes you think, and it's for a good cause. How could you lose?



FRED S. GAY—THE TECH

**Mariya Gusman '09 fakes an orgasm during MIT's production of "The Vagina Monologues," which ran from Feb. 16-18 in 10-250.**

## THEATER REVIEW

*Confessions of a Miz Fit**Expressive Cast Shows the Joy of Performing Classic Musical*By **Elizabeth Zakszewski**

STAFF WRITER

*Les Misérables*

Broadway in Boston

The Opera House

Feb. 15-26, 2006

I will admit: I have been a raging fan of "Les Misérables" since the age of ten, and Friday night marked my seventh viewing of the live show. However, I never tire of seeing the musical performed, and this Boston tour is no exception.

"Les Misérables" is the story of a man, Jean Valjean, who after spending 19 years in prison for stealing a loaf of bread finds redemption against the backdrop of human cruelty, suffering, and rebellion in 19th century France. The

story is at the same time depressing and uplifting, comical and touching, and has been brilliantly adapted for the stage by writers Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg, and directors Trevor Nunn and John Carid. After 20 years of worldwide performances, it has suffered playful mockery in the musical theater community, cuts in the epic script to bring it down to a mere three hour runtime, and a recent Broadway closing. But the orchestra and cast of the Third National Tour proves that there is still great power in performing "Les Mis," even today.

The performance opened with the dramatic overture played by a 15-member orchestra of local musicians, which, to my delight, featured real strings and brass (much better than synthesized orchestras). The main characters, the fugitive Valjean and Police Inspector Javert, were performed expertly by Randal Keith and Robert Hunt. Keith had played the final Valjean on Broadway and showed a consistent mastery of the role that was most noticeable in the soaring second act's heart-rending ballad "Bring Him Home," which he sang with as much passion as Colm Wilkinson, the original London Valjean. This was my first time seeing Hunt, and he is one of few actors who really digs into the part of the contemptuous slave to law and order that is Javert. His dominance over the stage wavered, but came on full force during his ballad, "Stars."

In fact, with few exceptions, the entire cast fully took possession of its roles, making some untraditional choices that added new life to a show that's been around long enough to risk getting stale.



JOAN MARCUS

**With Victor Wallace as Enjolras, The Company performs "One Day More."**

Joan Amidilla could have easily portrayed Fantine as nothing more than the sad and innocent leading lady, but instead gave her the right amount of fury for a woman who has been abused by men in both love and work. One of my favorite characters is Enjolras, the revolutionary leader, who can easily become just another chorus member overshadowed by the romantic lead Marius. Victor Wallace was the first live performer I've seen give Enjolras the fire, passion, and energy needed to make us believe he can inspire college students to fight to their death for the rights of the poor. Another first for me was the performance by 9-year-old Austin Myers in the role of Gavroche, the spunky street urchin who joins the revolutionaries. I'm used to cast recordings that use a 13-year-old veteran in the role, and too often touring performers lack the maturity to go beyond cute boy reciting lines. Myers, by contrast, knew his character well and had the audience laughing more than once.

Even the ensemble members (cast size is over 30), especially the female ensemble, gave life to their characters and set a perfect back-

drop. However, not all performances were the most refreshing. Melissa Lyons as Eponine fell into the trap of playing a ditsy schoolgirl with an unrequited love, ignoring the psychotic street girl stalker side I love. The cast as a whole lacked energy for much of the first act — for example, "Master of the House," the innkeeper's song that usually has the whole audience in stitches, was too slow, and it wasn't until the orchestra's conclusion that the conductor was able to bring the tempo up.

But on the whole, I am still convinced that "Les Mis" is an epic any fan of the theater should see. The roaring chords bring you to the heart of a rebellion, the 12,250 pound barricades set piece will make you forget you're watching a traveling show, and the wonderful lighting design will take you through the sewers of Paris and outside. The musical tells a story about life, virtue, death, and the conflict between authority and the redemption of a convict. It's no wonder then that producer Cameron Mackintosh couldn't resist bringing it back to Broadway for a limited engagement later this year.



JOAN MARCUS

**Randal Keith as Jean Valjean performs "Bring Him Home."**

# ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

★★★★: Inspired brilliance  
 ★★★: Solid filmmaking  
 ★★: Mild entertainment  
 ★: Embarrassing dreck

★★★★ **Brokeback Mountain**  
 Ang Lee's gritty and realistic film has been called revolutionary for being a mainstream movie about cowboys who fall in love with each other, but the story is in truth incredibly simple. At its heart, "Brokeback" is a beautifully crafted film that tells a story strikingly similar to some of the oldest tales of love in our society. (Andrew Guerra)

★★ **Curious George**  
 The question is whether we, as adults, can sit through an hour and a half of watching a non-talking monkey and a man in a bright yellow suit voiced by Will Ferrell. The answer, surprisingly, is an emphatic yes. What really sells the movie to adults is the amount of emotion generated with such a simple plot, although the most delightful aspect by far is the music. Before long, you may find yourself buying the soundtrack to a movie that is quite funny and enjoyable, even to those over the age of five. (Yong-yi Zhu)

★★ **Eight Below**  
 "Eight Below" is a nature movie riding the waves of last year's successful "March of the Penguins" and "Grizzly Man." Disney decided to hop on the bandwagon, but had to bastardize the genre with their requisite gag-inducing

scenes. I am happy to say that even Disney can't completely ruin a good thing; if you need an escape and some brain candy, not to mention beautiful scenery and some terrific canine acting, you could do worse than this Antarctic adventure film. (Alice Macdonald)

★½ **Firewall**  
 Boasting equivocal baddies, a potboiler script, and cookie cutter performances, "Firewall" is a film that'll see the second-run theaters by Valentine's Day. Harrison Ford plays Jack Stanfield, a bank security expert whose life and family are threatened when robbers force him to commit electronic theft from his own employers. A great deal of acting talent is wasted on this picture, and unless something great comes along, Ford's career is essentially over. (Kevin Der)

★★ **A Good Woman**  
 Set in the 1930s, Mike Barker's "A Good Woman" addresses the issue of what defines a good woman relative to rules of societal morality. Based on Oscar Wilde's play "Lady Windermere's Fan," it is a movie with an interesting premise, but one that could have been far better presented. Helen Hunt is only given a few obvious attempts to develop her character, and Scarlett Johansson delivers an average performance — disappointing, considering her reputation. The film falls into the Hollywood trap of building up conflict and then giving every character an easy way out. (Parama Pal)

★★★½ **Match Point**  
 This film deviates from the usual Woody Allen offering. It boasts young, sexy stars and is set in upper-class London instead of his beloved New York. Jonathan Rhys Meyers plays a young tennis coach who marries into an upper-class British family but falls in love with his brother-in-law's fiancée, Nola (Scarlett Johansson). The biggest surprise is that this film is a thriller, with each scene building unbearable tension. (Kapil Amarnath)

★★★★ **Munich**  
 Inspired by the very real events of the 1972 Olympics, when eleven Israeli athletes were killed by Palestinian terrorists, this perfectly executed film advocates peace and wisdom. With this film, Spielberg intends to show that any conflict affects the globe, and that events in the Middle East are as relevant to our country's future as those within our own borders. (Kevin Der)

½ **Something New**  
 It's the story of a Kenya McQueen (Sanaa Lathan), the driven black businesswoman who can't seem to find time for love, and Brian the Landscaper (Simon Baker), the gentle white gardener who can't help but love everything he touches. Despite playing the race card, this plot is as conventional as any other romantic comedy; the film includes the awkward boy-girl meeting, the falling-in-love-to-music montage, the other man, and the inevitable marriage at

the end. "Something New" brings little new material to the conversation on race in America, and may even degrade the debate with its cast of utterly one-dimensional characters. (George S. Zaidan)

★★½ **Syriana**  
 Writer and director Stephen Gaghan, who penned "Traffic," discusses the energy crisis and the war for oil in this new drama. Part of an ensemble cast, Bob Barnes (George Clooney) is a CIA operative in the Middle East who must protect U.S. interests in oil, but he starts to question his government's motives. Though Gaghan presents a convincing, albeit pessimistic world view, he does not provide an artistic vision. Ultimately more enjoyment comes after the final reel, from thinking about the questions that the film raises. (Kapil Amarnath)

★★★½ **Why We Fight**  
 Director Eugene Jarecki paints a convincing portrait of how hidden backroom deals turn the government into an oligarchy of elite interests. This political documentary ties together a coherent narrative from a set of perspectives, key facts, and historical contexts. The movie features an NYPD cop who lost a son on 9/11, neoconservative leader William Kristol, the pilots who fired the first salvo in the Iraq war, and more. (Beckett Sterner)

Compiled by Kevin Der, Jacqueline O'Connor, and Nivair H. Gabriel

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

### Henrietta's Breakfast Food Not Worth the Price

#### Menu Lacks Consistency in Quality

By Chen Zhao, Erica Koval, Jiji Gu, Yaa-Ling Tu, and Sally Lou

Henrietta's Table  
 The Charles Hotel  
 One Bennett St.  
 Cambridge, MA 02138  
 (617) 661-5005  
<http://www.henriettastable.com/>

As freshmen, five pajama-clad MIT students began a tradition of starting off their weekend mornings with coffee, eggs, waffles, and friendly conversation. Two years later, after consuming more plates of chocolate chip pancakes than we can count, we've decided to share our experiences with the rest of the MIT community by reviewing the many restaurants around Boston that offer their patrons hearty brunches.

This Monday, the five of us took advantage of the extra day off to pay a visit to Henrietta's Table, a hotel restaurant in Harvard Square popular with tourists and the business crowd. Henrietta's bills its own food as "Fresh from the Farm and Honest to Goodness Home Cooking."

The menu contains all the expected traditional breakfast fare, with entrees ranging from \$4.25 for a combo that includes one egg, breakfast meat, potato, and bread to a \$14 sirloin steak and eggs meal. If you care to splurge, the juices (though pricey at \$3.25 a glass) are freshly squeezed and delicious.

We started our meal with a basket of assorted pastries of our choice for about eight dollars, which was a real deal, considering each would have been almost half that price anywhere else. We chose the sticky bun, croissant, Danish, pumpkin break, and banana walnut bread. The croissant was soft and melt-in-your-mouth light, while the sticky bun (something like a syrupy Danish with walnuts) will sweeten your teeth with caramel goodness. The banana walnut bread was also particularly good, and reminiscent of a grandparent's special treat. The basket was filling enough not to require a main meal but inexpensive enough to give us the option. This was everybody's favorite, and highly recommended for dining with friends.

For our entrees, we ordered separate meals. After the great success of the pastries, the waffles and French toast paled in comparison. Erica chose the malted Belgian waffle with a side of homemade apple butter (\$8), which came with the traditional powdered sugar and maple syrup. The waffle was pretty good — though slightly flaky — but the waiter never brought the butter, which might have made the difference. Chen ordered Henrietta's cinnamon cranberry French toast (\$9), but it unfortunately did not measure up to less fancy versions that are available elsewhere. The toast was too soggy

in the middle, and the flavor of the cranberries was overbearing.

On the other hand, the meat and eggs meals were more satisfying. Ling had the one egg combo, served with applewood smoked bacon, potatoes, and cranberry walnut bread. The potatoes were cooked with a good blend of crispy outside and soft inside, and though they were slightly under-salted, they provided a perfect balance for the slightly over-salty bacon. Jiji had the house smoked salmon, tomato, onion, chive cream cheese and toast (substituted for the bagel) for \$10.50. The burnt toast was a disappointment, but the other parts of the meal were quite appetizing, especially the chive cream cheese, which was very flavorful, but light enough not to overwhelm the various breads it accompanied.

Sally ordered the red flannel hash, poached eggs with hollandaise sauce, and cranberry walnut toast (\$9). This was an interesting old-fashioned meal. The hash was somewhat dry but still good, and though Sally discovered too late her dislike for poached eggs, they were appreciated by other members of the group. Her toast was the best part of the meal. This sentiment is echoed by Henrietta's dinner patrons, who have created such a demand for the complimentary cranberry bread that it is now sold separately in the front marketplace.

Supposedly named for a 1200-pound pig at Martha's Vineyard, this place uses unmistakably Cape Cod décor to create an atmosphere that is vaguely upscale, but bright and cheery enough to fend off stuffiness. Artistic photographs of various wildflowers and cooking herbs, together with the lovely open kitchen and bar, are illuminated in the warm sunlight that shines through the large glass windows from the courtyard outside. A statue of Henrietta greets you at the entrance, and many more cute stuffed imitations line the small market not far within. Kids can read one of the various children's books while adults browse the jars of homemade jellies and bars of fragrant soaps. With reservations, especially recommended for lunch and dinner, we were seated quickly.

Henrietta's service was acceptable, but certainly not remarkable. We waited about half an hour for our food, but the waiter, other than forgetting the butter, made up for this by being attentive with the juices and coffees.

Overall, Henrietta's is a good choice for taking parents or out-of-town guests out for breakfast or brunch, but not great for a group of friends looking for a easy way to fill up. The food quality, excluding the exceptionally tasty pastries, did not quite justify the prices.

In addition to a daily breakfast, Henrietta's also serves a pricey \$39 Sunday brunch buffet, a slightly more affordable \$24 three-course brunch, and daily lunches and dinners.

## THEATER REVIEW

### 'The Old Law' of Dramashop Holds True Off-kilter Comedy is Well-acted and Visually Elegant

By Parama Pal

*The Old Law*  
 Dramashop  
 Directed by Max Hafler  
 With Kenneth Roraback '06, Elvie Stephanopoulos '07, Ryan Hendrickson '07, Yuri Podpaly '07  
 Kresge Little Theater  
 Feb. 9-11 and 16-18, 2006

Based on a play from the 1600s, Dramashop's production of "The Old Law" explores what happens to a fictitious society when it creates a new law decreeing that all men over the age of 80 and all women over the age of 60 are to be put to death. What follows is materialism and chaos run amok in the form of youth, with a small minority struggling against a world that seems to have been turned upside down. One son hides his father, while another rushes his to the grave in anticipation of inheritance. A young wife begins entertaining suitors before her husband actually reaches his critical age. Young people begin to fill many influential positions in society, as their previous occupants are put to death. The play, though it did have an important point, was too repetitive in emphasizing it. It became predictable, and even the twist at the end did not come as a shock.

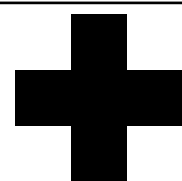
The cast did an excellent job in spite of the pedantic script, conveying emotions well and keeping the audience focused with good ex-

pression and excellent use of the set. Despite being three hours long, the story was well told; scenes flowed quickly, preserving an element of surprise and keeping exhaustion at bay. One notable touch was the versatile set, which gave the audience the feeling of being involved in the show: actors entered through the back of the room and passed directly by the viewers.

Speaking of notable, Kenneth Roraback '06, Elvie Stephanopoulos '07, and Ryan Hendrickson '07 deserve special applause. Roraback in particular was successful in making his character sincere and sympathetic, crucial to the role. Yuri Podpaly '07, by contrast, was over the top. He deserves commendation for his enthusiasm and humor in a difficult role as the villain, but sometimes went too far, so that the portrayal became two-dimensional.

The colorful, bright, and sharp costumes complemented the stark set perfectly. The minimalist set encouraged the audience to focus on the actors and story. Dramashop's music and choreography were also enjoyable, effectively lightening the atmosphere of an otherwise highly dramatic and tragic play. With these touches, it's clear that the show is above all a satirical comedy.

Dramashop's performance thoroughly proves the point raised by "The Old Law": the elderly deserve respect, and the wisdom garnered from life experience is essential to the functioning of society. Though the script's message was overemphasized, the actors did an excellent job with what they had.



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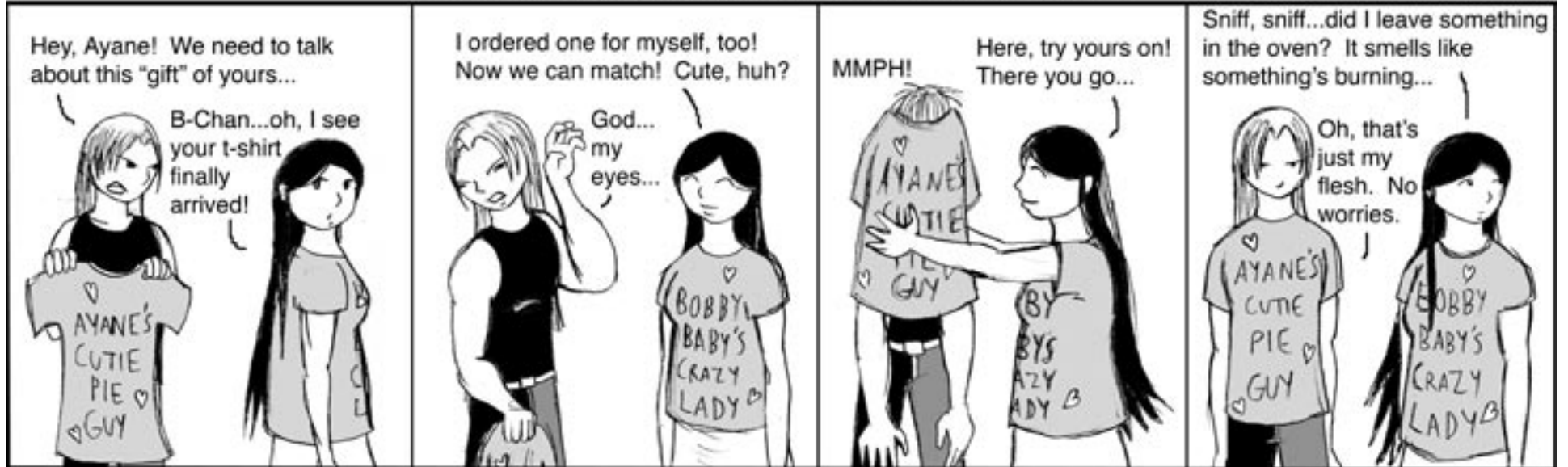
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## Trio

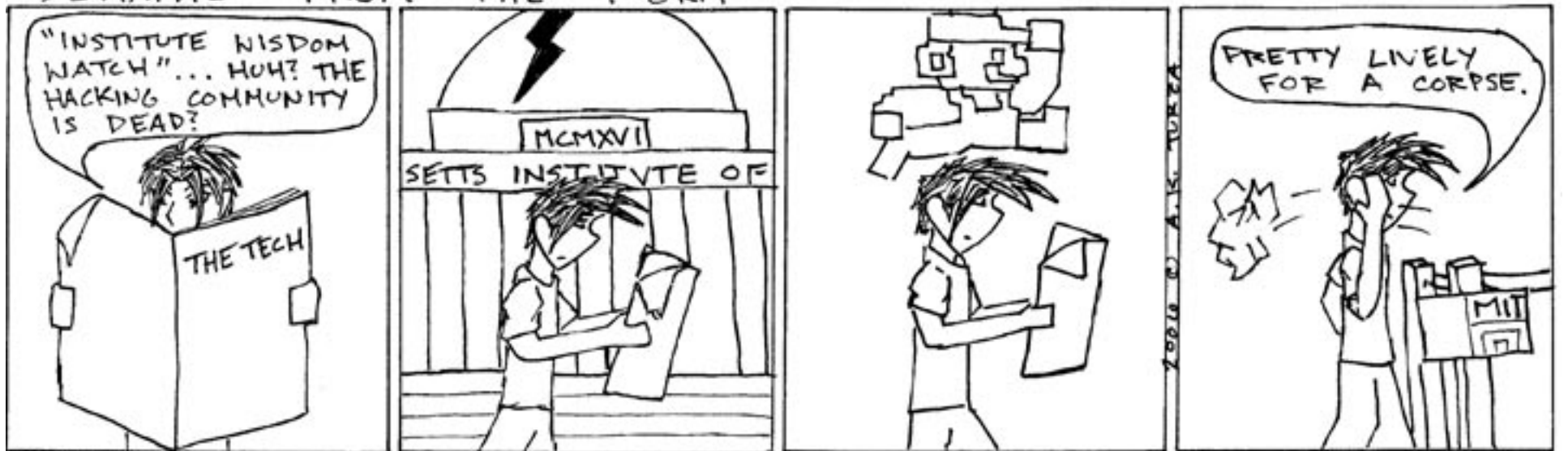
TRIO character profiles: [ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE](http://ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE)

by Emezie Okorafor



## DEVIANTS FROM THE NORM

by A.K. Turza



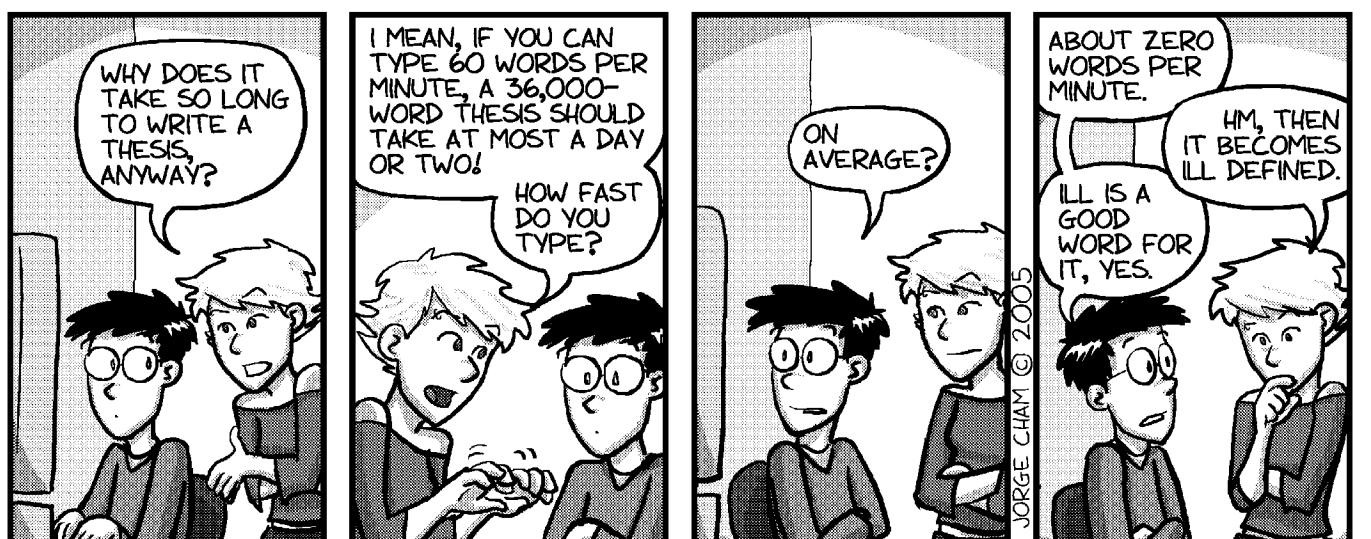
[036] HACK JOB

## Moons of Uranus

by Juan Pablo Mendieta



PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER



JORGE CHAM © 2005

Crossword Puzzle  
Solution, page 11

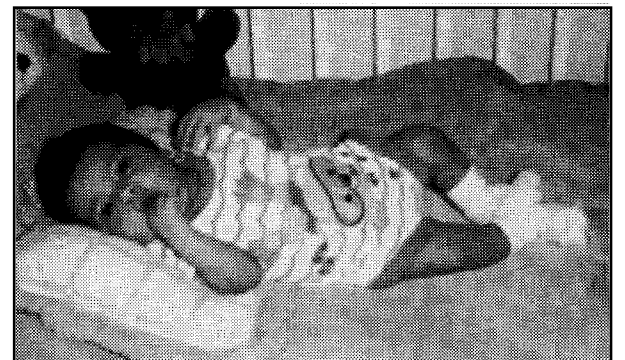
FoxTrot by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

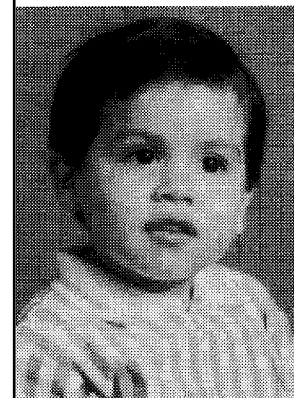
Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.  
Solution on page 12.

**sudoku**  
© Puzzles by Pappocom

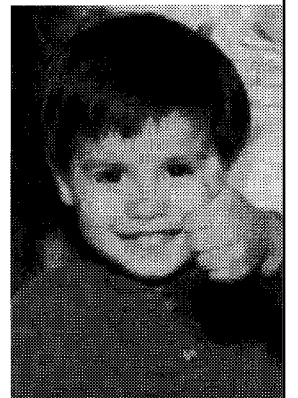
Solutions, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>



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1 year old, 1991



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# Career Week to Begin Monday For Freshmen and Sophomores

*Networking With Faculty, Resumé Workshops on Week's Agenda*

**By Benjamin Gleitzman**  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

On Monday the MIT Careers Office will present the first annual Freshman-Sophomore Career Week, exposing "opportunities inside and outside of MIT to help students in their career exploration," according to the Careers Office Web site.

"We want to bring career issues on the radar of younger students," said Shonool Malik, assistant director of the MIT Careers Office, who called underclassmen "the pulse of the Institute."

FSCW, extending from February 27th to March 4th, will feature career exploration, networking events, resume workshops, and a keynote address from Niel Robertson '96, CTO and co-founder of the software company Newmerix. The career week will also allow underclassmen to "practice talking to employers and not feel pushed out by juniors

and seniors," said Heather Bruskin, freshman/alumni summer internship program director.

Robertson, the week's keynote speaker, sold his software company for \$280 million after graduating from MIT.

"Two things sparked my interest in technology: my best friend's Commodore 64 and a book from my father about the MIT Media Lab," said Robertson.

FSCW will also focus on networking with faculty, especially in regard to Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programs. Robertson established the Meryl and Stewart Robertson UROP Fund through a donation in 2000 encouraging "communication in presentations," a skill that Robertson said he struggled with as a student.

"I discovered my first UROP out of poverty," said Robertson, who proposed his own UROP. "I worked

75 percent because I liked it and 25 percent so I could live in Boston for the summer. MIT is cognizant of the reality of the world they are sending their students into, where preparation will get you your first job and experience will get you the second and third."

Robertson admits that many of his successes stemmed from luck as well as preparation and experience. According to Robertson, students need to "take a look around and take advantage of opportunities."

Located in 12-170, The Careers Office provides "walk-in hours, resume critiquing, and self assessment tools so students are never without a source of support," said Bruskin. More information about the Careers Office, a schedule for the Freshman-Sophomore Career Week, and undergraduate advising can be found online at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/fscw/>.

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# Revised GRE Release Delayed Until Fall '07

**By Tamar Lewin**  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Educational Testing Service, the maker of the Graduate Record Exam, is delaying its rollout of a revamped test until the fall of 2007. The revised exam was supposed to go into effect in October.

The overhaul is to be the biggest in the test's history. Although the exam will still include sections on verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning and analytical writing, every section is being revised, and the test lengthened to about four hours, from two and a half hours.

E.T.S. began field-testing the new exam last October, and the reason for the delay, officials say, is not any problem with the new version, but rather with setting up enough Internet-based test centers to provide access to test-takers.

"The test is ready," said Mari Pearlman, the testing service's senior vice president for higher education, "but what we've discovered as we roll out our Internet-based network for the Toefl is that any bottleneck in the system is perceived as very serious, which is understandable since this is a life-altering experience for students taking the tests."

Toefl is the commonly used name for the Test of English as a Foreign Language, also administered by the testing service. A new version of Toefl was introduced this year at Internet-based test centers around the globe. These centers are usually college computer laboratories, which are taken over on test dates with special security measures.

"Establishing the Internet-based tests centers has taken longer than we have anticipated," said Tom Ewing, a spokesman for E.T.S., which is introducing the new English test on a gradual basis, country by country, over the next six months. "Until we have the network we need, we will run both paper tests and computer-based ones. We had access problems in November and December in part of Italy, France and Germany. We're sort of learning with the Toefl what we need for the G.R.E."

About three-quarters of those who take the Toefl are foreign students, and about a quarter are Americans; on the G.R.E. the proportions are reversed. The graduate-school entrance test, taken by almost half a million students a year, is required for entrance to most graduate-school programs in the arts and sciences, education and journalism.

"There is absolutely no room for error when you're dealing with people who are extremely anxious and believe rightly or wrongly that their whole academic future is at stake," said Robert Schaeffer, the public education director at FairTest, an advocacy group critical of standardized testing. "E.T.S. has had a history of difficulties with rollouts, where the technology just wasn't ready."

The revamping of the G.R.E. was prompted in large part by security concerns, stemming from the fact that questions were reused.

In 2002, an undetermined number of students in China, Taiwan and Korea raised their verbal scores by logging on to Web sites in those countries and memorizing questions and answers posted by previous test takers. Later that year, two Columbia University undergraduates were arrested for using high-tech transmitters to send out test questions.

After the overhaul, every student taking the test on a particular day will get the same questions, and those questions will not be reused.

The revamped exam will also change the verbal reasoning section so that it will consist of two 40-minute sections rather than one 30-minute section, and will place less emphasis on vocabulary and more on higher cognitive skills. The quantitative reasoning section will grow from one 45-minute section to two 40-minute sections, with fewer geometry questions and more on interpreting tables and graphs. And the analytical writing measure, which had a 45-minute essay and a 30-minute essay, will now have two 30-minute essays.

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# Self-Help Decrease Planned For Near Future

Self-help, from Page 1

Kolenbrander said that the protocol for financial aid changes involves the president considering the proposal "in the context of institutional needs" by balancing the benefits against other interests for the budget.

For the 2004-2005 school year, 56 percent of undergraduates received a grant from MIT as part of their financial aid packages. According to Barkowitz, everyone who receives a grant as part of their financial aid package from MIT would be affected by changes to self-help amount.

Barkowitz said that total financial aid awarded to undergraduates was \$80 million for the 2004-2005 academic year, the most recent for which official statistics are available. The number includes loans, outside scholarships, MIT grants, and federal work study. The money coming from MIT, including grants, loans, and work study, amounted to \$55.3 million, with about \$50 million in grants alone. Barkowitz said it is likely that even more aid was awarded for the current academic year.

Redwine said that the motivation for reducing the amount of self-help is to produce a financial aid package that will encourage students "to come to MIT and succeed." MIT competes for students with Harvard, Princeton, and Yale, all of which "tend to have lower self-help levels," he said. Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones could not be reached for comment.

MIT has a higher percentage than its competitors of students who are the first in their family to go to college, Redwine said, and though this is something "we should be proud of," it also means that for some students, the financial burden of tuition is especially heavy.

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**Nice cleats. Wanna ruck?**

**Solution to Crossword**  
 from page 9

P	A	C	K	S	C	A	P	A	C	A	F	E	
A	C	H	E	T	A	L	O	N	O	M	I	T	
P	T	A	M	E	E	T	I	N	G	A	F	R	O
P	E	O	P	L	E	S	T	U	N	T	M	E	N
Y	D	S	S	L	O	T	L	E	E	R			
			D	E	E	M	R	A	W	D	A	T	A
A	T	T	Y	R	E	V	E	R	E	D	O	N	
L	O	V	E	S	L	I	P	R	A	I	T	T	
E	T	A	T	E	E	M	E	D	D	O	E	S	
C	O	N	T	E	X	T	A	R	I	Z			
			C	H	I	C	A	L	I	S	S	A	T
A	T	H	E	N	I	A	N	V	I	S	I	T	S
D	I	O	R	T	B	O	N	E	S	T	E	A	K
I	N	R	E	E	L	L	E	R	O	G	L	E	
T	E	S		D	E	E	D	S	W	E	L	D	



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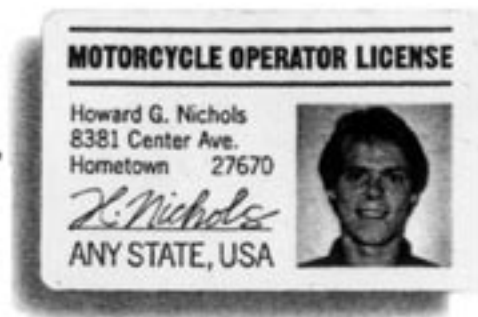
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# Smart Limbs Among Plans for Media Lab

Media Lab, from Page 1

styles, but also be able to lead more productive lives.

For education, he said he hopes to implement a project called the "Brain Gain" in which people are raised immersed in the digital world, so that creativity and innovation come "from the bottom up."

Machines with "common sense" would possess the ability to assess situations and put the power of a

supercomputer into everyday technology. A cell phone with a "common sense chip" would "know" to silence itself in certain settings, such as movie theaters and lecture halls. It could also provide advice, for example suggesting that the owner to pick up her phone if an elderly person calls during an unusual time. This could be expanded to the creation of sociable robots that would be able to work as part of society not only as functioning workers, but as "partners."

Other projects that the media lab seeks to produce in the long run are more sensitive and "smart" artificial limbs, even cheaper laptops, and cell phones with the capabilities of laptops.

Moss was previously an entrepreneur of software and computer industries for 25 years. He said his experience in industry will allow him to fully understand sponsors' needs. Moss said he is impressed by the "creativity and inventiveness of MIT students." According to the Media Lab Web site, Moss obtained his bachelor of science degree in aerospace and mechanical sciences from Princeton, and master's and PhD degrees from MIT.

### Solution to Sudoku

from page 9

3	9	5	1	2	8	4	7	6
1	7	8	5	6	4	9	2	3
4	2	6	7	3	9	5	8	1
2	5	9	3	1	7	6	4	8
6	3	1	8	4	2	7	9	5
7	8	4	6	9	5	3	1	2
8	6	3	4	7	1	2	5	9
5	4	2	9	8	3	1	6	7
9	1	7	2	5	6	8	3	4

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Capital IQ is interviewing Software Engineer candidates on Tuesday, February 28, 2006.

Interview slots are still open. To RSVP for this event, please e-mail: [campusrecruit@sandp.com](mailto:campusrecruit@sandp.com)



### About Capital IQ

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# Teamspot Showcases Common Screen And Quick File Transfers

Teamspot, from Page 1

simultaneously and drive that computer, each using his own mouse and keyboard.

This technology was created to facilitate group projects and team collaboration. Users can put files on the common computer and send files to others who are also connected.

The idea is "to have a place where you can work on a common screen with quick file transfer, but still have your private space on your own computer," said Phillip D. Long, senior strategist in Academic Computing.

ResTech is an IS&T supported proposal to try different experiments involving technology support for students in resident halls. He mentioned that the price of the Teamspots would decrease significantly once a larger market is defined, but declined to comment on the current price.

The limitation to this technology is that the Teamspot computer must have the necessary software to open the user's file, a compatibility issue the group is working on, said Long. Teamspot is currently compatible with both Windows and Macs, and the user only needs to download a plug-in for a browser. Long said the ResTech group is advocating for Linux compatibility.

Since the technology is useful for

tasks such as executive presentations, the original model for Teamspot was targeted at business schools. "We think it might have more widespread applicability than the [Stanford] group originally thought," not only useful for collaboration in residence halls, but also in classrooms, Long said.

Teamspot originates from a Stanford University research project called iRoom, headed by Terry Winograd. The project evolved into a collection of different activities and software tools to facilitate efficient face-to-face collaboration.

One branch of that work, which later became Teamspot, focused on how to easily move among different computers that wanted to share information.

The group searched for a way to quickly share the keystrokes and mouse-clicks between computers, essentially sharing the control of one computer.

Several graduate students in the Stanford research group saw a potential for this technology in the market, and created a company called Tidebreak. This technology was brought to MIT through Long, who made Teamspot a part of the ResTech Initiative. Other projects include a Wiki server, still in a pilot phase, created especially for the Dormitory Council.



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E-merging, a student literary journal, seeks writing and artwork that reflect the bicultural and bilingual experiences of MIT students. Poetry, short stories, creative non-fiction, and artwork that explore issues of identity and being part of "more than one" culture/nation/race/language are encouraged.

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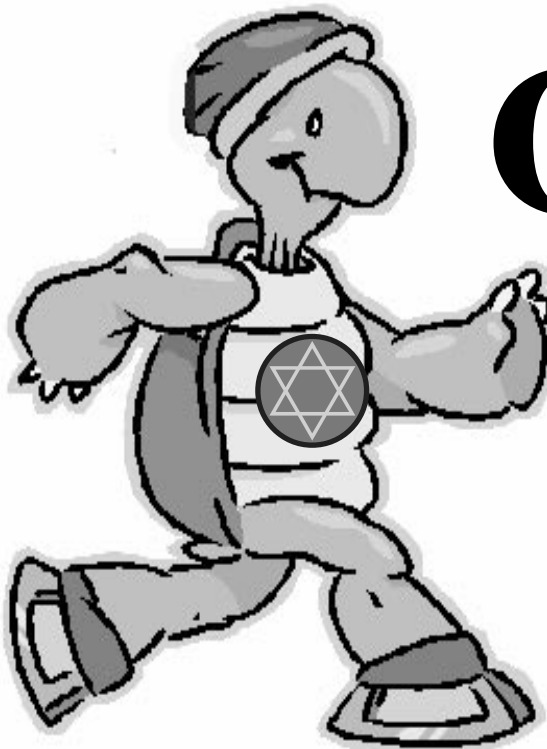
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# Summers' Resignation Divides The Harvard Campus

By Patrick D. Healy  
and Alan Finder

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Officials at Harvard University faced a divided campus yesterday along with fear that a search for a new president could put in limbo ambitious plans for an expansive new campus in Boston, an overhaul of undergraduate studies and a fund-raising campaign for \$5 billion or more.

One day after Lawrence H. Summers announced he was resigning as president in a standoff with the prestigious Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the campus seemed torn anew. Professors who had hoped for his ouster expressed relief. Yet supporters, including students, saw only lost opportunities, and some were moving to hold campus rallies or publish opinion articles in support of Dr. Summers.

Sinking in, too, was that a new, unpleasant chapter had been added to the 370-year history of Harvard, a university that takes its history very seriously.

Dr. Summers had been widely seen as a president who would serve 10, maybe 20, years and usher in landmark changes. Instead he lasted five years, and some of his grandest ambitions — like the new science, arts and professional school campus in Boston — are far from realized or have been scaled back.

The idea that Harvard had ar-

rived at some indeterminate crossroads was reinforced by the fact that the university's governing corporation had turned to a soothing elder — former Harvard President Derek C. Bok, who served from 1971 to 1991 — to take over on July 1 on an interim basis.

"It's very hard to say where Harvard goes from here — it's an unprecedented situation," said Steven Pinker, a professor of psychology and a supporter of Dr. Summers. "I think all the major projects are in limbo right now, which can't be good. At the same time, Derek has given a great deal of thought to what works and what doesn't in education. That's exactly the kind of expertise we need for the ongoing curriculum reform, which a lot of us feel is a massive failure."

In a brief interview yesterday, Dr. Bok said the corporation had asked him "only a few days ago" to become interim president.

He said he expected to serve for a year and acknowledged that he had a lot of catch-up work to do. Dr. Bok is a prolific author on education issues and works on the Harvard faculty, but he has not been actively involved in university affairs for 15 years.

"This whole thing came up very late and very unexpectedly, and I don't want to say too much because the stage belongs to Larry and the corporation," Dr. Bok said by phone from his home in Florida. "I have

not been involved in Harvard business for some time and will do an immense amount of reading over the next few weeks on the curriculum change, the new campus plans and other issues."

Several faculty members and administrators described Dr. Bok as a popular figure who will help soothe the anger toward Dr. Summers and help close some major fund-raising deals. It is unclear whether he will be able to do much more than that from a temporary perch, those observers said.

Harvard announced plans last week for a 500,000-square-foot science complex and a temporary museum space in Boston, across the Charles River from the Cambridge, Mass., campus.

Alan J. Stone, a university spokesman, said yesterday that the Boston campus has significant momentum and that he does not believe it will be slowed. "It allows for university growth, it will help the regional economy, it has the support thus far of business and political leaders, and it has excited donors," Mr. Stone said.

But bigger decisions on housing, science buildings, a permanent arts complex and campuses for the Graduate School of Education and School of Public Health have yet to be made.

Dr. Summers had also been expected to lead a \$5 billion fund-raising

campaign that is in the planning stages.

And Harvard's largest school, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences — which led the rebellion against Dr. Summers — may be without a permanent dean this summer, officials said, because Dr. Summers is not expected to pick a successor to the current dean, William C. Kirby. Dean Kirby announced his resignation last month under pressure from Dr. Summers, setting off a chain of events that led to the president's resignation.

The revision of the undergraduate curriculum, initiated three years ago by Dr. Summers, was delayed last year by the uproar over his remarks that intrinsic aptitude could help explain why fewer women than men reached the highest ranks of science and math in universities. Dr. Summers, an economist, had sought a major revision that he hoped would set a standard in American education. But many professors have dismissed the proposal as it has evolved as modest, at best.

In place of the core curriculum now required, Harvard would require undergraduates to take three courses in each of three broad areas: arts and humanities, the study of societies, and science and technology. The plan would also push back by a semester — to the middle of sophomore year — the date by which students must declare a major.

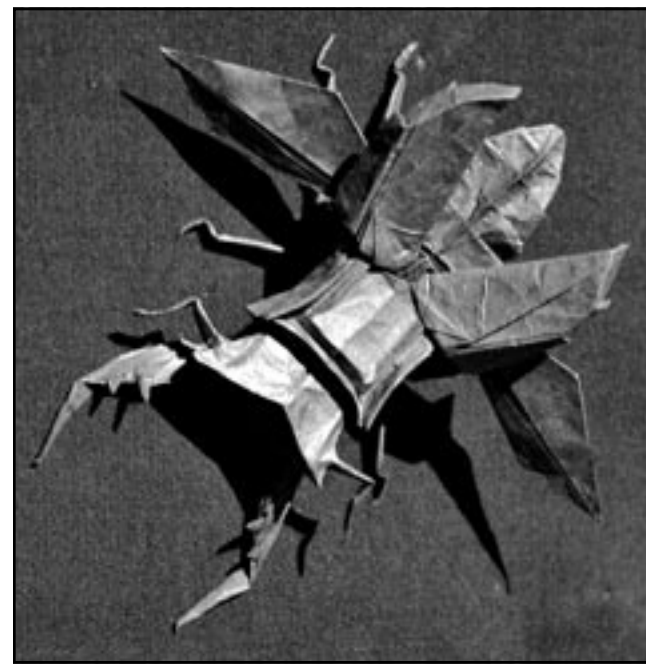
Dr. Kirby, who will remain as dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences through June 30, still intends to seek approval of the curriculum this semester, said a spokesman, Robert Mitchell. The faculty council decided yesterday that it, too, would like to proceed, Mr. Mitchell said.

But some professors question whether, with a lame-duck president and a lame-duck dean, the faculty will approve the plan. "With the dean leaving, who is going to force agreements?" said Peter K. Bol, a professor of East Asian languages and civilizations.

If uncertainty defined the mood among some on campus, others argued about why Dr. Summers had resigned. Some of his critics insisted that the school's governing corporation, concerned by his eroding support among faculty, pushed him out, despite his assertion that the decision was his own. Other professors said a small faculty cabal had undermined him.

Critics and supporters of Dr. Summers said the polarization on campus would probably recede. "I think the repair will be virtually instantaneous," said Peter T. Ellison, a professor of anthropology and former dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, who has been sharply critical of Dr. Summers. "I think the problem has been essentially President Summers himself."

## Student Gallery Displays Original Origami Sculptures



An exhibit featuring submissions for the Office of the Arts' annual origami contest opened on Thursday, Feb. 23, in the Weisner Student Art Gallery of the Student Center.

(Above) "Flying Stag Beetle" was one of several origami submissions on display by Jason S. Ku '09.

(Left) Grace Y. Kim G looks at a display case containing "Nazgul," winner of the award for Best Original Model.

Photography by Stephanie Lee

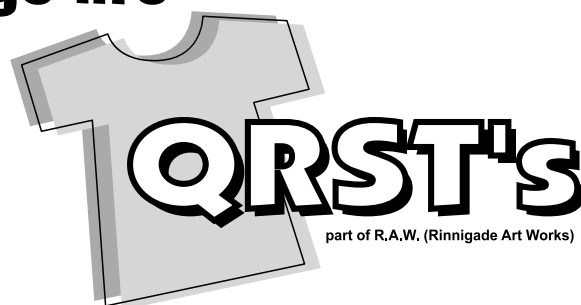
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# Swimming and Diving Takes NEWMAC Second Place

By James D. Kramer  
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

MIT women's swimming and diving closed out an outstanding effort at the 2006 NEWMAC Championships on Sunday, earning two more national cuts and setting two additional Institute records while securing second place in the team standings. National power Springfield College won an unprecedented sixth consecutive team crown 220 points ahead of MIT, and Wellesley College finished 140 points behind the Engineers for third.

During the three day competition, the Engineers set 10 Institute records and qualified four swimmers and a diver for the NCAA Championships. Kate C. Thornton '07, Doria M. Holbrook '08, Sasha B. Brophy '08, Juliana K. Edwards '08 and Nicole M. O'Keefe '09 each etched their names into MIT lore with record-breaking

performances. Thornton smashed the Institute record en route to a first-place finish in the 500 freestyle, while O'Keefe executed the performance of the meet by breaking the championship record in the 400 IM by seven seconds. Edwards picked up her school record and NCAA cut in the 200 back, while Brophy powered to victories in the 100 and 200 free.

Holbrook, the reigning NCAA Diver of the Year, finished second with record-breaking efforts on both boards over the weekend, and she wiped out the oldest standards in the MIT logs (Lori Peterson '85) en route to runner-up honors.

#### Orji closes in on national title

Uzoma A. Orji '06 took another step toward a third national title after leading the Engineers with a commanding performance at the New England Division III Track and Field Championships. The Engineers finished fourth overall out of 25 teams, although MIT garnered most of its

points behind the dominating efforts of its six-time All-America thrower.

Orji set championship meet records en route to a first-place finish in both the 35-pound weight throw (629.25) and the shot put (5710). Orji is currently ranked first in the nation for the shot put and fourth in the weight throw.

#### Men's basketball wins 62-61

Mike W. D'Auria '06 scored an eight-foot one-handed runner with 2.1 seconds left in regulation to lift MIT past Springfield College, 62-61, in men's basketball last Saturday. Coupled with a loss by Coast Guard, MIT secured the No. 2 seed for the NEWMAC Tournament and completed its best season ever in league play.

#### Wrestler Cutting takes 5th place

MIT Men's wrestling captain Alex C. Cutting '07 closed out the season with three wins, and took fifth place in the 174-pound weight class at the New England College Conference Wrestling Association (NECCWA)

Championship hosted by Wesleyan University.

Cutting was the bright light for MIT, scoring a 7-2 decision over Norwich University's Steve Celino before pinning Jeremy Stuart of Wesleyan at 5:10.

Cutting finally bowed out to third-place finisher Jerome Owens of Johnson & Wales, however he managed to finish fifth by defeating Jim Durkin of Western New England College 9-5.

#### Women's gymnastics beats RI

Women's gymnastics overcame

an injury-depleted lineup to sweep the season series with Rhode Island College over the weekend. Last week, the Engineers posted a team total of 182.525 points, the highest Division III score in the nation.

MIT's average meet total of 178.787 ranks third across the country, while four members of Tech's gymnastics unit are ranked nationally. Freshman standout Julia C. Zimmerman has paced the MIT attack and is currently ranked first in the nation in the all-around and balance beam.

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Henry Cowell Concerto No. 1 for Koto and Orchestra (1962)

Tan Dun "Yi" Concerto for Orchestra (2002)

.....  
Boston Secession presents:

## Jean Cocteau's Orpheus

Saturday, March 11, 2006 at 3:00 pm  
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A mesmerizing mélange of 1950's high fashion and surrealism, Cocteau's realization of Orpheus' journey to the underworld is no toga-draped affair. Rather, Cocteau's Orphée pits a dreamy, alienated Left Bank poet, Orpheus, against the wiles of the dark temptress of Death — whose turned-out entourage includes a mostly-dead chauffeur with a heart of gold, and a classic Rolls Royce whose radio spontaneously declaims surrealist non-sequiturs.

The Boston Secession underscores the dream-like qualities of the film with its own gorgeous and hypnotic performance of live music including excerpts from Fauré's *Pavanne*, Monteverdi's *Orfeo*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, Mozart's "Laudate Dominum," Stravinsky, Bach, Handel and more.

**Tickets may be picked up (in person only) at the MIT Office of the Arts (E15-205)**

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## SPORTS

## Soumare's Five Blocks Send Men's Hoops to Semi's

By Albert Ni  
STAFF WRITER

Hamidou Soumare '08 showed that defense still matters in MIT's 49-40 victory over Babson College (9-17) in the first round of the NEW-MAC Men's Basketball Tournament. In a game where offense on both sides looked

listless at times, Soumare put the nails in Babson's shooting coffin with a remarkable five blocks in the last six minutes of the game.

Neither team managed to get going offensively at any point in the game. A combination of good defense, turnovers, and missed opportunities from both sides kept the score low.

After the first ten minutes of the game, the score was tied at 10, and neither team had scored for several minutes. As both sides continued to miss almost all of their rare open looks, Tech (19-7) clung to a 22-20 lead at halftime.

When the second half rolled around, both teams decided to step it up ... defensively. With the officials permitting plenty of contact at the perimeter, Tech struggled to get good looks against a team they had already beaten handily twice this year.

Babson's game plan to stop Tech from scoring seemed to be working as they snuck ahead 27-26 a few minutes into the second half.

Perhaps the most fitting descrip-

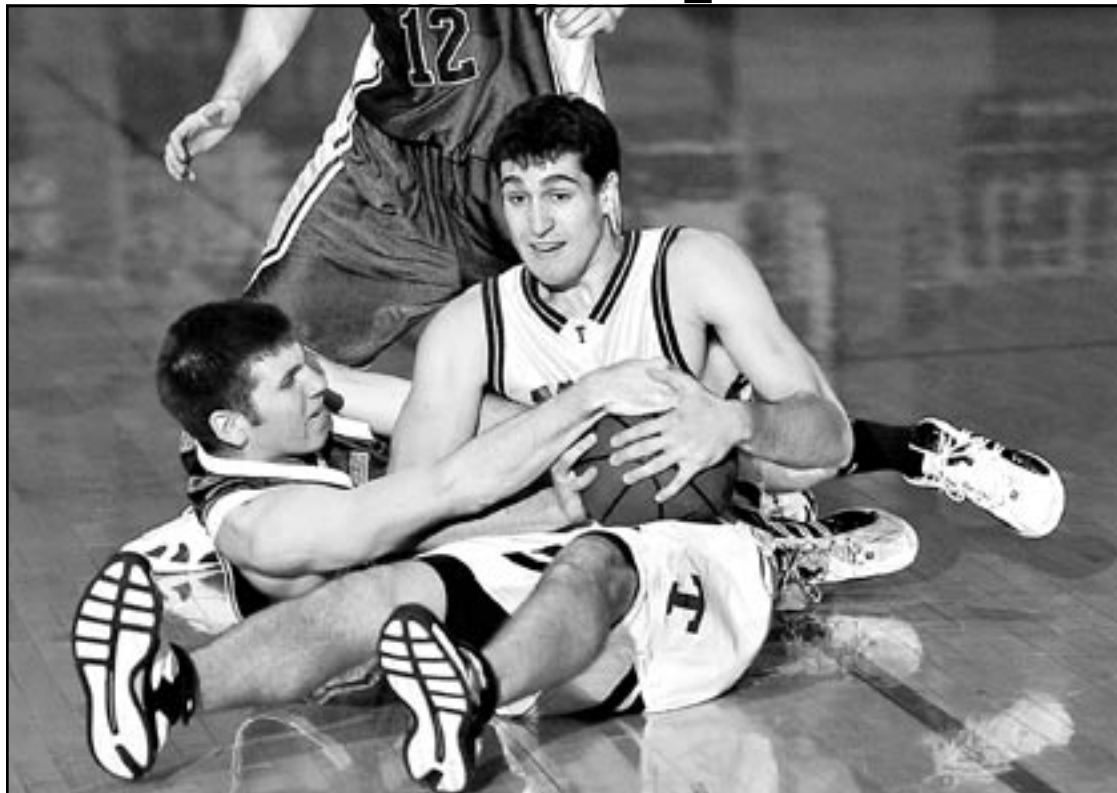
tion of the game to this point would be "struggle," and what was possibly the largest home crowd of the year for the Engineers seemed unable to get into the game vocally. By the 6:30 mark, Tech had barely pulled ahead again 35-31. It was then that the Hamidou Soumare show hit the air, literally.

After missing the last seven games, Soumare seemed to be everywhere, rejecting shot after shot. In the process, he gave the Engineers a jolt of much needed energy, and they pulled ahead 41-33 with three minutes left in the game.

Babson never quite recovered from the shock of Soumare's performance. Only end game free throws and a few baskets after the outcome was sealed brought the score up to 49-40. Babson would end up shooting 22.6 percent in the second half, while Tech did only slightly better at 30.4 percent.

Michael W. D'Auria '06 led the way for MIT with 15 points. D'Auria and Daniel F. Kanamori '06 added 4 steals apiece. However, it was undoubtedly Soumare who made the biggest plays down the stretch. He grabbed 9 boards to go with his 5 blocks in the second half. Soumare, who scored just a single point, showed that it doesn't always take offensive flair to put on a crowd-pleasing display while turning the tides of a game.

With the win, the No. 2 seed Engineers advance to the NEW-MAC semi-finals to face No. 3



Alexander G. Krull '07 takes part in one of the game's many fights for possession of the ball.

Coast Guard, to whom they lost both games this season. Even though Babson played well defensively, Tech will most likely need to find a way to put together a better offensive display to have a chance at the title. Then again, Soumare might just block 10 more shots next game.



Coach Larry Anderson goes over plays with the team during a time-out in the second period.



Michael W. D'Auria '06 dribbles down the lane during the second period. D'Auria lead all scorers with 15 points.

## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2006

Varsity Men's Volleyball Tri-Match 11 a.m., Rockwell Cage

Sunday, Feb. 26, 2006

Varsity Men's Gymnastics Quad Meet 1 p.m., du Pont Gymnasium

Monday, Feb. 27, 2006

Varsity Men's Volleyball vs. Lasell College 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

MIT Fencing Wins Combined Title,  
Men Take Second Straight Crown  
Freshman Igor Kopylov Wins Individual Gold in Sabre EventBy Suki Dorfman  
TEAM ASSISTANT COACH

This Sunday, Wellesley hosted fifteen fencing teams for the largest ever New England Fencing Championship. MIT fencing was recognized as the best combined six-weapon team for the sixth consecutive year.

The men's fencing team claimed its second consecutive New England Championship title. All three men's squads, foil, epee, and saber, placed in the top three to edge past Brandeis for the win.

Each team fields nine fencers, "A," "B," and "C" for each weapon, who are matched with their counterparts from the other schools in round-robin matches. The top fencers from the team rounds proceed to

individual competition.

Igor Kopylov '09 won individual gold in his first New England Championship, and the men's saber squad of Kopylov, captain William T. Walsh '06, and Brian J. Quattrochi '06 placed second overall, aided by Walsh's finish at the top of the "B"s with a 10-2 record.

Epeeist Trevor T. Chang '07 had the top record of "A" epeeists, 10-2, in the team rounds and earned a silver medal as an individual. Chang, Mike N. Beregovsky '06, and Matt L. Gethers '09 combined for third place in epee squad.

Women's fencing took second place among the fifteen teams in a heartbreaking loss to Boston College. The MIT women had been the New England champions for seven consecutive years until Sunday.

At the beginning of the individual rounds, Shauna Jin '06 overcame the gold and silver medalists from Tufts, the Zoucin sisters, to force a three-way barrage for first place. Fellow saber wielders Lynn H. Wang '06 and Yuhsin "Joyce" Chen '08 finished third among the "B"s and "C"s respectively to achieve a second place rank for the squad.

Epeeist Joanna W. Tong '08 was the only undefeated MIT fencer on Sunday, winning all 14 of her bouts in the C pool. With Mika A. Tomczak '06 and Lele Yu '06, the women's epeeists finished fourth.

Next weekend the men and women will travel to University of Pennsylvania for the Intercollegiate Fencing Association Championships, one of the oldest competitions in collegiate sports.

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