

## BE Professor Threatens Hunger Strike to Protest Tenure Denial

By Joyce Kwan  
STAFF REPORTER

An African-American associate professor has threatened to go on hunger strike unless the provost resigns and his tenure is granted, protesting what he claims were racist motives behind the denial of his tenure. The Department of Biological Engineering decided not to advance BE Associate Professor James L. Sherley's case for tenure on Dec. 13, 2004. Since then, Sherley has asked senior administrators to overturn his department's decision.

Sherley has announced that his hunger strike will begin on Feb. 5 if MIT fails to take action. Based on an independent review by senior faculty

members, MIT has deemed that the denial of tenure was fair, according to a statement from the MIT News Office.

In a December letter sent to MIT faculty members calling for support, Sherley argued that his case for tenure was handled carelessly and that Douglas A. Lauffenburger, director of the Biological Engineering Division, performed a racist act by asking "an African-American head who is not in my field of research" to sign off on his decision "not to advance my tenure case for review by Engineering Council in December 2004."

According to Provost L. Rafael Reif, after Sherley filed a grievance, a committee of senior faculty mem-

bers from different MIT departments was appointed to address the issues Sherley had identified. The committee "gathered information from many sources and carefully considered the facts of the case," Reif said. "This is the same process that has been followed in other tenure cases in which a grievance has been filed," Reif added. "The committee reported that the tenure process conducted in Professor Sherley's case was fair."

In his letter, Sherley argued that there were two acts that should have been sufficient justification to overturn Lauffenburger's decision to deny him tenure. According to Sherley, he

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## Magazine To Change Because of Financial Difficulties

By Manisha Padi  
STAFF REPORTER

After publishing a plea for help in the December issue of *Counterpoint*, the MIT-Wellesley student publication is less than \$1,000 in debt and well on its way to financial stability, according to *Counterpoint* editors. The publication has decided on changes in printing style and circulation to decrease costs.

The Undergraduate Association Finance Board implemented changes made last semester to assist *Counterpoint* in improving its financial plan.

Finboard connected *Counterpoint* with the Start-up Restructuring Fund, created by Finboard for new groups and for groups in financial need who must re-organize in order to get funding to continue. *Counterpoint* was told to come back with a plan in Dec. 2006 outlining how they would cut down on expenditures.

Each issue of *Counterpoint* costs approximately \$1,350 to print. The magazine puts out eight issues in a normal year. The article in December's issue of the magazine states that a typical annual operating cost is \$14,000. According to *Counterpoint* Managing Editor Kristina Costa, a sophomore at Wellesley, the magazine had been thousands of dollars in debt at the time of their appeal to Finboard. The treasurer from the 2004-2005 school year failed to apply for money from MIT and Wellesley and forgot to pay bills to their publisher for many months, Costa said.

Unused money from Finboard and Wellesley's counterpart, the Student Organization Funding Committee, was re-absorbed by these sources, which is standard procedure.

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## Investigation Complete In One Broadway Fire

Building Expected to Be Open Soon, MIT Says

By Rosa Cao  
and Eric S. Wang

The Dec. 8, 2006 explosion of an NSTAR transformer at One Broadway was a "tragic accident," states the report from a joint investigation conducted by the Cambridge Fire Department and Massachusetts State Fire Services. According to the press release, the investigation team ruled out any criminal act but could not determine if the accident was due to "human error, procedural error, or malfunction of safety mechanisms."

One Broadway was acquired by MIT in 1999 and is currently run by the MIT Investment Management Company (MITIMCO). The building has been officially closed since the explosion, which caused a major electrical fire and killed one NSTAR worker, though tenants have been al-

lowed limited access during specific hours. According to the MIT News Office, MITIMCO has offered tenants temporary office space and full rent abatement while cleaning of the building and the construction of electrical and mechanical systems towards a "temporary solution" for occupancy progress.

Though its 800 occupants are primarily commercial tenants, the building also houses the OpenCourseWare department and some Sloan offices.

On Jan. 5 MITIMCO released the final report from consulting firm Environmental Health & Engineering, which concluded that "the building is safe for re-occupancy based on postcleaning sample re-

Fire, Page 13



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

On a night shortly before finals week, students executed several hacks with a "Where's Waldo" theme. Here, Waldo's hat, glasses, and cane were placed on the north side of the Stata Center.

## Congressional Budget Delay Stymies Scientific Research

By William J. Broad  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The failure of Congress to pass new budgets for the current fiscal year has produced a crisis in science financing that threatens to close major facilities, delay new projects and leave thousands of government scientists out of work, federal and

private officials say.

"The consequences for American science will be disastrous," said Michael S. Lubell, a senior official of the American Physical Society, the world's largest group of physicists. "The message to young scientists and industry leaders, alike, will be, 'Look outside the U.S. if you want to succeed.'"

Last year, Congress passed just 2 of 11 spending bills — for the military and domestic security — and froze all other federal spending at 2006 levels. Factoring in inflation, the budgets translate into reductions of about 3 percent to 4 percent for most fields of science and engineering.

Representative Rush D. Holt, a New Jersey Democrat and a physicist, said that scientists, in most cases, were likely to see little or no relief. "It's that bad," Mr. Holt said. "For this year, it's going to be belt tightening all around."

Congressional Democrats said last month that they would not try to finish multiple spending bills left hanging by the departed Republican majority and would instead keep most government agencies operating under their current budgets until next fall. Except for the Pentagon and the Department of Homeland Security, the government is being financed under a stopgap resolution. It expires Feb. 15, and Democrats said they planned to extend a similar

Funding, Page 12



DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Stephanie V. Brenman '09 passes to a teammate as MIT's offense sets up a play during the Engineers' 1-7 loss against Amherst College at the Johnson Ice Arena on Monday.

During January's Independent Activities Period, *The Tech* will publish once a week on Wednesdays. Regular publication will resume Feb. 6, 2007.

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### ARTS

*The Tech* interviews "Beauty and the Geek" contestant Matthew A. Herman '06.

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# WORLD & NATION

## Bush Chooses Fielding For White House Counsel

By Jim Rutenberg

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush has chosen Fred F. Fielding as the new chief White House lawyer, adding to his team a longtime Washington legal hand and veteran of the post.

Fielding forged his skills in politically charged episodes like Watergate and the air traffic controllers' strike in 1981.

White House officials said Bush would announce as early as Tuesday that Fielding would return as White House counsel, succeeding Harriet E. Miers, who announced her resignation last week. The officials insisted on anonymity to discuss an unannounced personnel decision.

Fielding's agreement to take the job surprised some of his closest friends. The friends said last week, when his name surfaced as a contender for the position, that they would be surprised if he would give up a successful corporate practice for another stint of what promises to be heavy partisan battle at age 67.

Fielding was deputy counsel to President Richard M. Nixon under John W. Dean III and was White House counsel for the first five years of Ronald Reagan's presidency.

## Yahoo Introduces Mobile Search Software

By Miguel Helft

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

After falling behind Google in Internet search and advertising, Yahoo is trying to remain No. 1 in the battle to deliver information and online services to mobile phones.

Yahoo's latest weapon is software that will let users find information like weather, news, stock quotes and sports scores more quickly on their cell phones. The software, called Go for Mobile 2.0, was unveiled Monday at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, just as Google announced a partnership to put its own mobile software on Samsung cell phones.

Internet services on mobile phones remain a tiny market today, especially in the United States. But industry analysts and Internet companies believe they will eventually outgrow the market for computer-based Internet services as the capabilities of cell phones and the bandwidth of wireless networks expand rapidly.

"We view the mobile Internet today as entering an era where the PC-based Internet was in '96 or '97," said Steve Boom, Yahoo's senior vice president for broadband and mobile. "It is just on the cusp of taking off."

## Second Church Official Resigns In Poland

By Craig S. Smith and Ian Fisher

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WARSAW, POLAND

The Catholic Church in Poland was in turmoil Monday as a second prelate stepped down because of his Communist-era secret police ties, after Sunday's resignation of this city's archbishop over similar allegations.

Questions spread about just how broad and deep a stain secret-police collaboration has left on a church long regarded as a beacon of faith and freedom. Many people also have asked how or why the Vatican could have invited the storm by appointing a man to such a sensitive post despite knowing that he had a clouded past.

"The people responsible for the procedure of appointing such candidates applied the traditional way of doing it, which means it was without an investigation and was based on their confidence in the truthfulness of the candidate," said the Rev. Dariusz Kowalczyk, head of the Jesuits in Warsaw.

In short, church officials from Warsaw to Rome suggested that the archbishop, Stanislaw Wielgus, alone was to blame.

# US Forbids All Transactions With a Major Iranian Bank

By Steven R. Weisman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The United States, moving to raise pressure on Iran, on Tuesday barred American financial institutions from doing business with a major Iranian bank after concluding that it had been involved in illicit weapons programs.

The move against Bank Sepah, announced by the Treasury Department, also affected North Korea, which U.S. officials said had used the bank to facilitate payments to a North Korean group that exports missile technologies.

The announcement applies to domestic and foreign branches of American banks, as well as to U.S. citizens working at overseas banks that deal with Bank Sepah anywhere in the world. The department also said that no American bank can transfer dollars to Bank Sepah or its branches and subsidiaries in Rome, London, Frankfurt and Paris.

The Treasury announcement was the second time in the last year that a major Iranian bank had been barred from any dealings with the American financial system. It is the first specific

move against an Iranian bank since the imposition of sanctions on Iran by the U.N. Security Council on Dec. 23.

Last year, the United States took similar action against Bank Saderat, another of Iran's major institutions, citing its alleged involvement in financing terrorism. Both Bank Saderat and Bank Sepah, cited for financial transactions linked to weapons proliferation, are state-owned or controlled.

Though the two banks have virtually no direct links to American banks, the designation means that no American bank can help facilitate — by transferring dollars, for example — any transaction between a European bank and Bank Sepah. Thus if an Italian or German bank wanted to supply dollars for a transaction involving Bank Sepah, it would be unable to do so because American banks would be barred from transferring them.

American experts say these steps effectively extend the reach of U.S. law to other countries, though only to a limited degree.

"By taking this action, the United States is putting immense pressure on our allies and trading partners to treat

Bank Sepah the same way we do," said Judith Lee, a partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher specializing in sanctions law. "It is an effort to make U.S. actions against Iran extraterritorial."

European countries have opposed moves by the United States to apply the principle of extraterritoriality, a term referring to cases when U.S. law can affect dealings entirely within another country. But the Bush administration recently has stepped up its use of various laws and directives to press forward with the concept.

For example, since oil is traded in dollars, the reach of U.S. directives could be significant, many banking experts say. In theory, Tuesday's action would prevent Bank Sepah from facilitating an oil sale in which dollars are used. Iran has already announced that, because of U.S. directives, it has begun selling oil for euros rather than dollars.

"Bank Sepah is the financial linchpin of Iran's missile procurement network, and has actively assisted Iran's pursuit of missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction," said Stuart Levey, the Treasury undersecretary for terrorism and financial intelligence.

# Somalia Says Dozens Slain by US Airstrike, Qaida as Target

By Jeffrey Gettleman and Mark Mazzetti

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

Somali officials said Tuesday that dozens of people were killed in a U.S. airstrike on Sunday, most of them Islamist fighters fleeing in armed pickup trucks across a remote, muddy stretch of the Kenya-Somalia border.

U.S. officials said Qaida terrorists had been the target of the strike, which they said had killed about a dozen people. But the officials acknowledged that the identities of the victims were still unknown.

Several residents of the area, in the southern part of the country, said dozens of civilians had been killed, and news of the attack immediately set off new waves of anti-American anger in Mogadishu, Somalia's battle-scarred capital, where the United States has a complicated legacy.

"They're just trying to get revenge for what we did to them in 1993," said Deeq Salad Mursel, a taxi driver, referring to the infamous "Black Hawk Down" episode in which Somali gunmen killed 18 American soldiers and downed two U.S. helicopters during an intense battle in Mogadishu.

The country's Islamist movement swiftly seized much of Somalia last year and ruled with mixed success, bringing a much-desired semblance of peace but also a harsh brand of Islam.

Two weeks ago that all changed after Ethiopian-led troops routed the Islamist forces and helped bring the Western-backed transitional government to Mogadishu. Ethiopian officials said the Islamists were a growing regional threat.

The last remnants of the Islamist forces fled to Ras Kamboni, an isolated fishing village on the Kenyan border that residents said had been

used as a terrorist sanctuary before. Starting in the mid-1990s, they said, the Islamists built trenches, hospitals and special terrorist classrooms in the village and taxed local fishermen to pay the costs.

On Sunday a U.S. AC-130 gunship pounded the area around Ras Kamboni, and also a location father north where U.S. officials said three ringleaders of the bombings in 1998 of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were hiding. Somali officials said those bombings had been planned in Ras Kamboni after a local Somali terrorist outfit invited al-Qaida to use the village as a base.

According to Abdul Rashid Hidig, a member of Somalia's transitional parliament who represents the border area, the U.S. airstrike on Sunday wiped out a long convoy of Islamist leaders trying to flee deeper into the bush.

# WEATHER

## Cold Today, but Warm Winter to Continue

Cegeon J. Chan

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

There are, of course, many definitions, but what do meteorologists precisely mean when they say it's cold? (I suspect most readers of this column will find today cold, regardless of how it is referenced.) Some meteorologists will often say it's colder than normal (usually defined with respect to long-term averages.) Others will call it cold relative to a temperature trend, e.g. today's temperature is lower than yesterday's. Finally, some might call it cold when an uncomfortably strong wind chill makes it difficult to keep one's body warm. For today, the first one does not apply, while the latter two are valid. Thus, temperatures today are actually above normal, but feel colder due to the combination of the wind and the comparison with the mild weather of the past couple of weeks.

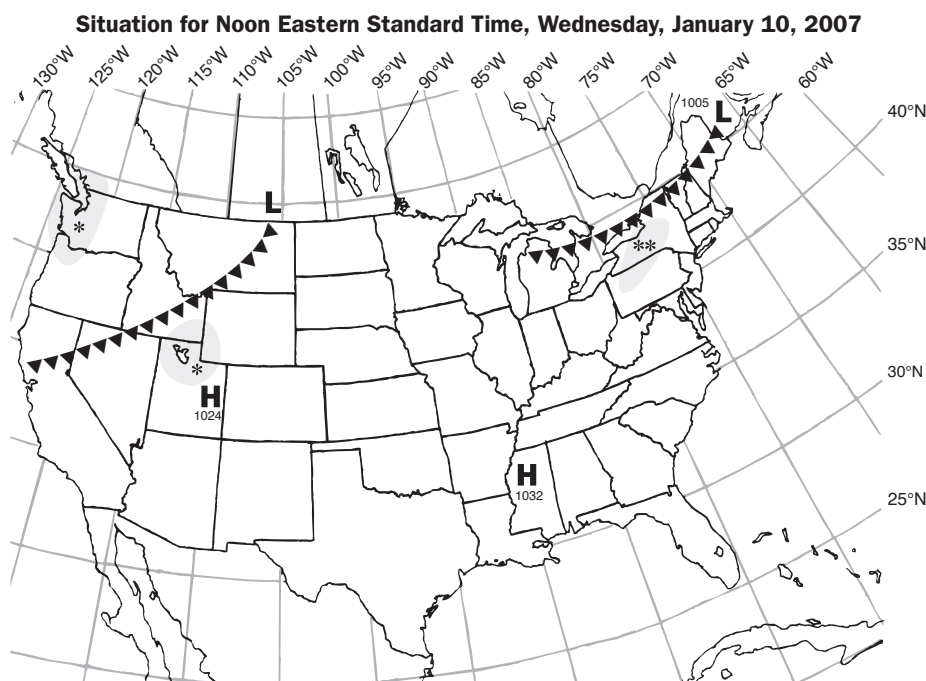
After smashing the record high temperature by seven degrees Fahrenheit on Saturday, will this warm winter continue? In the short-term, the answer is yes. This weekend, high temperatures are forecast to be about 10 degrees above the climatological averages. In addition, with the jet stream staying to the north of New England, the National Climate Prediction Center is predicting a greater than 40 percent chance of above-normal temperatures in New England for next week.

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Mostly cloudy with scattered flurries. Windy. Highs in the upper 30s °F (3°C). Winds remaining steady at 20 to 25 mph.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 20s °F (-4°C). Windy with gusts up to 30 mph.

**Tomorrow:** Mostly sunny. Not as windy. Highs in the mid 30s °F (2°C). Winds 10 to 15 mph.



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

# Congressional Democrats Split Over How to Stop the Iraq War

By Jeff Zeleny  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The new Democratic majority in Congress is divided over how to assert its power in opposing President Bush's plan to send more troops to Baghdad, as leaders explore ways to block financing for a military expansion without being accused of abandoning American forces already in Iraq.

While Democrats find themselves unusually united in their resistance to a troop increase, party leaders are locked in an internal debate over how far to go in objecting to the administration's Iraq strategy. The White House has invited some Democrats to meet with Bush before he gives his Iraq speech on Wednesday, even as others have scoured the history books to find cases when Congress has reined in the commander-in-chief.

In the most aggressive of the new tactics, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., has said he will introduce legislation on Tuesday to require the president to gain new congressional authority before sending more

troops to Iraq. The bill is the first proposal in the Senate that would prohibit paying for an increase in American troops over their level on Jan. 1.

"Is there any American in this country who thinks the United States Senate would vote to support sending American troops into a civil war in Iraq today?" Kennedy said Monday in an interview. "Is there any American that believes this? I don't think so, but that is what's happening, and we have to do everything we can to insist on accountability."

The Kennedy plan is designed to provide Democrats with a roadmap for how to proceed in Iraq. Kennedy, as he begins his 45th year in the Senate, recalled that Congress interceded during conflicts in Vietnam and Lebanon, and he said Democrats should not hesitate to do so in Iraq.

The new House speaker, Nancy Pelosi, has similarly suggested Democrats should consider blocking financing for a troop increase, and the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid, vowed Monday "to take a look at it."

But the House majority leader,

Steny Hoyer, has not endorsed the idea. Other Democrats, either looking ahead to a possible presidential candidacy or their own re-elections, have also distanced themselves from such a proposal, fearful of being cast as opposing the troops.

"I don't think we should be pulling back any funds," said Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., who was elected in November. She said she would oppose a proposal to block money for a troop increase.

The Democratic Party sailed to victory in last fall's midterm elections on a promise to change course in Iraq. Still, there is little consensus over how to proceed.

Some Democrats are urging an immediate withdrawal of troops and a drastic reduction in war spending. Others are calling for a gradual redeployment of troops to move them out of Iraq. Still other Democrats are questioning the wisdom of a troop increase, but are waiting for Bush to present his plan before criticizing it.

The expectations set by the elections, Democrats say, present a complicating challenge as they begin to govern.

# Thailand May Impose Tightened Regulations on Foreign Investors

By Thomas Fuller and Wayne Arnold  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

HONG KONG

Thailand warned Tuesday that it might add further restrictions on foreign investors, ignoring warnings that the move was ill-timed and damaging for a fragile economy already struggling to overcome the stigma of a military coup and the instability caused by recent bombings in Bangkok.

News of stricter foreigner ownership laws, which were approved by the Cabinet but still need the agreement of two government bodies, sent the Thai stock index down 2.7 percent, the latest setback for a market that plunged last month after a botched experiment with rules limiting the flow of foreign money into the country.

"Thailand has shot itself in the foot," said Ping Chew, a regional analyst at Standard & Poor's in Singapore. "I know there are domestic pressures but they have to be sensible and rational about it."

The decision by the military-appointed Cabinet, if upheld, would

require some foreign investors to sell holdings that exceed 50 percent in companies based in Thailand and give up voting rights in excess of 50 percent, according to the finance minister, Pridiyathorn Devakula.

American companies would be largely exempt from this rule because of a treaty with Thailand that dates to the Vietnam War, said Kiti-pong Urapeepatanapong, a partner at Baker & McKenzie in Bangkok. "American investors do not have much to worry about," he said.

European and Japanese companies, however, have complained loudly in recent days that any law should not be retroactive. It remained unclear Tuesday exactly which categories of foreign companies would be forced to reduce their stakes or find Thai partners. Pridiyathorn said the limits would apply to companies operating in telecommunications and other sectors vital to national security.

The Foreign Business Act bans foreigners from owning majority shares in businesses as diverse as the media, rice farming, the production of images of the Buddha, legal

services and many types of construction. Foreign businesses have often skirted these laws by appointing Thais to serve as proxies, a gray area that the proposed laws seek to clarify.

Although legal analysts say changes have long been needed, the announcement caused widespread confusion. Affected companies will have two years to comply with the new rules. But retailers, insurers, banks and brokers would be exempt, the commerce minister, Krikkrai Jirapaet, told Reuters.

It also comes at a time when Thailand's image around the region is suffering. Last month the government announced capital controls to stem the rise in the baht but partially rescinded them the next day after the market plunged 15 percent.

Confidence in Thailand was further shaken when eight bombs exploded around the Thai capital on New Year's Eve, killing three people and wounding more than 40. With foreigners already wary of investing in Thailand, the last thing the country needed, say analysts, was a new law perceived as anti-foreign.

# Bush Drops Plans to Resubmit Three Judicial Nominees, Calms Democrats

By Neil A. Lewis  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

In an apparent effort to lower the temperature in the fierce battle over federal judges — and in a concession to political reality — President Bush said Tuesday that he was dropping plans to nominate three of his choices for the federal appeals courts who have been vigorously opposed by Senate Democrats.

The White House announced that the three candidates, all conservatives, had themselves asked for their names to be withdrawn. But the announcement was widely taken to mean that the president had decided that renominating them would be a needlessly provocative act, one that would anger Democrats without sufficient political payoff from conservatives for sticking by the nominees.

Days after the November election that gave the Democrats control of Congress, Bush pledged to renominate the three. His words prompted denunciations from Democrats that he had not taken any lessons from the election and that he was not, as

he had claimed, prepared to engage them in a bipartisan way.

Democrats were able to block the confirmations of the three — William J. Haynes II, William Myers III and Terrence Boyle — in the last Congress. With the Democrats now in control of the Senate, the three's chances to be confirmed were reduced further.

After Tuesday's announcement, some Democrats expressed appreciation for the decision.

"It's the first whiff of conciliation we've had on the issue of judges," said Sen. Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., a Judiciary Committee member who has been vocal in his complaints that Bush has sought confrontation on the issue of judges.

"The election demanded much more bipartisanship than they've been giving," Schumer said. "But this might be the beginning of a path we can walk down together."

Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., who formally assumes the chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee this week, praised Bush for not resubmitting the three nominees. "This new

Congress presents an opportunity for a fresh start on judicial nominations, one that emphasizes qualifications and bipartisan consensus over game-playing," Leahy said.

In addition to the three, a fourth federal appeals court nominee who had been opposed by the Democrats, Michael J. Wallace of Mississippi, withdrew last month.

Democrats had vowed to block the confirmations of all four.

Haynes, who was nominated to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in Richmond, Va., has been the Pentagon's general counsel and was deeply involved in setting the administration's interrogation and detention policies. Haynes wrote or supervised memorandums that secretly authorized harsh treatment for detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and Iraq.

Myers had been nominated for a seat on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The circuit, based in San Francisco, covers nine states and is frequently at the center of disputes over environmental laws and regulations.

# Taxpayer Advocate Wants To End Use Of Private Debt Collection

By Lynnley Browning

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The national taxpayer advocate called on Congress on Tuesday to repeal the authority of the IRS to use private debt collectors.

In her annual report, the taxpayer advocate, Nina E. Olson, said the private debt collection program was economically inefficient and prone to abuse. In particular, she faulted the IRS for not disclosing certain "psychological techniques" used by the private firms when trying to collect unpaid taxes.

The office of the taxpayer advocate was created by Congress to identify problems within the IRS that affect taxpayers and to promote their interests before the agency and Congress, which writes the tax code.

Olson's office provided its most extensive review yet of the private debt-collection program, which it has been monitoring for two years since plans for it were announced. The program, which formally started in September, is meant to farm out easily collectible tax bills, typically owed by low-income taxpayers, to private collection agencies. When the IRS announced the program, it said that the private entities would abide by the same publicly disclosed rules as IRS employees.

Private debt collection has drawn criticism that it is not cost-efficient and that some of the private firms hired by the IRS have questionable business practices.

# Bush's Task: Thrusting New Strategy On 'A Sovereign Nation'

By Helene Cooper

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

It's a refrain that President Bush and his top deputies have uttered many times over:

"Iraq is a sovereign nation, and we stay because they have asked us to be there," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said in October.

"Iraq is a sovereign nation which is conducting its own foreign policy," Bush said in November.

"It's a sovereign nation; it's their system, they make those decisions," Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, the American command's chief spokesman in Iraq, said last week.

Now, as Bush prepares to unveil his new strategy for Iraq on Wednesday night, the question is this: Can American officials compel the Iraqis to follow the new American plan?

"Let me put it this way: At the end of the day, we're going to have to do some forcing," said Kenneth M. Pollack, an expert on Iraq at the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution.

"We have to make it impossible," he said, for Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki "not to do the right thing — for him to say, 'Look, we have no choice, the Americans are forcing us.'"

But Pollack and other foreign policy experts said that might require American ultimatums that, thus far, the Bush administration has been unwilling to issue.

# Doctors Fault Designers' Stance Over Thin Models

By Eric Wilson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The response of American fashion designers to the problem of dangerously thin models on the runway is to propose educational reform and better working conditions. The response of eating disorder professionals is to suggest that those models should not be on the runways at all.

The Academy for Eating Disorders, an international doctors' organization based in Northbrook, Ill., planned to release a series of recommendations on Tuesday that contrast sharply with the proposals discussed on Friday by the Council of Fashion Designers of America in a meeting led by the designer Diane Von Furstenberg.

While designers have resisted age and weight requirements, the doctors' group insists that they are necessary.

Dr. Eric van Furth, the clinical director of the Center for Eating Disorders Ursula in Leidschendam, the Netherlands, and the president of the Academy for Eating Disorders, criticized the designers on Monday because they did not solicit medical opinion beyond that of a panel assembled by the editors of Vogue magazine. Van Furth said he was concerned about the industry's ability to monitor itself.

"We believe the fashion industry should take responsibility for the health of its models," van Furth said. "The way they are presenting their guidelines really shows they are not acknowledging the seriousness of the problem of eating disorders at all."

# Judge Sends Public Defender To Jail

By Christopher Drew

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW ORLEANS

The chief judge in the city's juvenile courts had a top public defender arrested Tuesday in a bizarre escalation of a fight over changes in the city's troubled program for representing indigent defendants.

The judge, David Bell, was upset that no public defender was in his courtroom when he was ready to start on Tuesday morning, and he drove to the defender's office and waited outside for Stephen Singer, the chief of trials, to arrive.

The judge took Singer to his courtroom, where he found him in contempt for not being prepared to provide representation and ordered him jailed for 36 days, three days for each of the 12 items on Tuesday's docket. Singer then spent about five hours in jail before a state appeals court stayed the order.

The incident was the latest in a series of confrontations between judges and the public defender's office, which has long been overwhelmed and went broke after Hurricane Katrina.

A new board has shifted how the office uses its 30 lawyers to try to provide more thorough representation on the most serious cases. But the changes have made the day-to-day coverage more spotty, and the criminal court judges also have threatened to hold the office in contempt over the problems.

After his release, Singer said the dispute with Bell arose because the defender assigned to his court was on her honeymoon, and her replacement was trying to handle four courtrooms at once.

# OPINION

## Helping Darfur: Is Divestiture Really Effective?

Paul E. Gray

For more than three years the world has watched the developing horror in the Darfur region of Sudan. Militias, supported openly by the national government, have robbed, raped, brutalized and murdered the civilians of Darfur. Millions have been driven from their homes and hundreds of thousands have died. Relief efforts have been thwarted and there is widespread famine and malnourishment. The illegitimate, corrupt, duplicitous, genocidal government of Sudan continues to ignore the pleas and demands of the civilized world. The African Union peacekeeping force in Darfur is too small and too weak to inhibit the genocide. The Chinese government (which also has large investments in Sudan) continues, with characteristic insensitivity to human rights, to prevent the UN Security Council from taking stronger actions that would ameliorate the suffering.

What can be done to help the people of Darfur?

The Tech reports that both the Undergraduate Association and the Graduate Student Council have approved a joint resolution that urges the Institute to undertake "targeted divestment" of the securities of companies doing business in Sudan. Divestment in this context means selling stocks or bonds of target companies with the intent of depressing prices of those securities to such a degree that the affected companies would be forced to discontinue operations in Sudan, that is, to disinvest in that country. The comments that follow are based on my experiences with the divestment movement as it was expressed twenty years ago with reference to South Africa.

Is there any evidence that the strategy of divestment — *qua* divestment — works, that it produces changes in the country of focus?

The strategy was adopted in the 1980s by a majority of colleges and universities, including MIT. Also, some large pension plans and some other investment vehicles such as mutual funds participated. The securities of targeted companies trade almost 24/7 in markets accessible worldwide. I saw during those years no evidence that divestment per se on a reasonably large scale made any difference at all to the targeted companies, or to the country of South Africa.

About 200 US companies did close down operations in South Africa and leave during the 1980s. IBM, Eastman Kodak and General Motors are notable examples. The pressure of divestment did not drive these actions. The example I know best is Eastman Kodak. In the 1980s the Kodak CEO was Colby Chandler, an MIT alumnus. He met with me personally to explain their decision. Many towns and cities and some states were imposing restrictions on purchases of products made by companies with operations in South Africa. Churches and church organizations encouraged consumers to boycott the products of companies doing business there. These "people's sanctions" had genuine power. The pressure of falling sales of commercial and consumer photographic products in the US caused Kodak to close all operations in South Africa. It is ironic that it took only a few weeks for Fuji Photo to fill the demand in South Africa created by the departure of Kodak. The net effect of Kodak's action on that brutal government was nil.

If divestment in South Africa was an ineffective strategy for change, what led to the collapse of the government run by and for the benefit of the creators of apartheid, the release of Nelson Mandela in 1990, and the advent of democracy for all? I believe that the principal driving forces were the actions taken by the U.S. Congress (over the veto of President Rea-

gan) and some European governments that prohibited loans to South Africa or to commercial enterprises there, as well as the "peoples sanctions" imposed in the US by local governments and by consumers.

Divestment alone is, in my view, a weak strategy for influencing a foreign government. Its value may be as an organizing idea that motivates individuals outraged by the persistent brutal, inhumane actions of that government to attempt to raise public awareness or consciousness of an insufferable situation to which many people in the US would otherwise pay little or no attention.

Are there other things to be done that might be effective in stopping the brutalization and murder? Reflect on the situation in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s. The Serbs embarked on a program of "ethnic cleansing" in Kosovo in an effort to keep that province in the Serbian orbit. The outrage in the US and Europe over the killings in Muslim Kosovo led to a NATO campaign of airstrikes on Serbian infrastructure. Certainly many innocent Serbs died as a result, but the attacks caused the Serbian government to cease its genocide in Kosovo.

Is it possible that an unmistakable groundswell of outrage — a grass-roots insistence that the US government do something to stop the genocide — would cause our government, together with other civilized governments, perhaps under the umbrella of NATO, to take forceful action, as was done in Kosovo?

My personal view of that possibility is that the odds are against it. Nevertheless, energy expended in promoting divestment might have greater value if it were employed in a broader effort to engage the American public in support of more forceful means of ending the genocide in Darfur.

Paul E. Gray is Professor of Electrical Engineering and President Emeritus.



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

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# ARTS

INTERVIEW

## MIT Alum Plays the 'Geek'

### Herman Discusses Role on 'Beauty and the Geek'

By Jillian A. Berry

ARTS EDITOR

Matthew A. Herman  
"Beauty and the Geek"

Wednesdays at 8pm on the CW

**O**n Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2007, the third season of "Beauty and the Geek" premiered. One of the "geeks" is MIT alum, Matthew A. Herman '06. As he is still living in Boston, I was able to sit down with Herman to discuss what it was like being on the popular show.

*The Tech:* What was your major at MIT?

*Matthew Herman:* I was course 18.

*TT:* What made you decide to audition for the show?

*MH:* It was kind of like a joke at first. The summer before last – I lived at Theta Xi, and we had this list for random stuff – one of the guys from the house forwarded this e-mail to us . . . from the casting people from "Beauty and the Geek," and he changed the title to "I nominate Matt Herman." I was like that sounds like fun, but the day they were doing their casting call in Boston I couldn't go. But the following December, I watched the show and it was a lot of fun. Then, the following April, it was my senior year, and I had just finished with a lot of job interviews, I was walking around campus and I see these flyers for casting for season three. I went back to Theta Xi and other people had seen the flyers as well. So two other people went with me, and it was a lot of fun. I just kept on getting called back and called back and called back and got on to the show.

*TT:* When you got selected for the show were you thinking "wow, yes, I got on the show" and at the same time, "oh no, I got on the show?"

*MH:* Definitely. I knew I was really happy



CW TELEVISION NETWORK

MIT alumnus Matthew A. Herman '06 appears on the popular reality show "Beauty and the Geek" this season.



CW TELEVISION NETWORK

Matthew A. Herman '06 (left) vies to become more than just another geek in "Beauty and the Geek."

that I was cast because it's kind of an accomplishment. It's almost similar to getting into some prestigious school or whatever – there are lots and lots of people who try out who are all very qualified, but for some reason they chose you – so I was really excited about that. Though it looks like the premise of the show is going to make the beauties and the geeks look like there's something wrong with them, but they're actually really nice to you on the show, and they make everybody look reasonably good. But at the same time, you're obviously wondering what you're going to look like, how is this going to influence your life.

*TT:* Did you feel that you were portrayed accurately?

*MH:* I feel, to a certain extent, it's accurate. There are obviously some inaccuracies. When there are 16 people and you have two hours to show them, each person doesn't get very much time. So obviously they're creating a story that's going to be funny and going to be a good show. I was very happy with the way I looked. . . You have to be very careful on the show, and this was something I wasn't expecting. They want to make you look a little geekier and stuff. It's for the show and it makes sense. They want you to compare things . . . and it starts to get very hard when they want you to compare things to something mathematical, and you have to make what you're saying about something mathematical very funny, but at the same time also accurate so you don't look like an idiot.

*TT:* What did you learn from the experience?

*MH:* A lot of the stuff I learned from the experience I can't tell you because it's behind the scenes things. I always loved watching TV,

so the main thing that I learned is how TV is made; how reality TV particularly is done, but also what it's like to be on a show and after the experience what it's like to have been somebody who was on a reasonably popular show. Obviously "Beauty and the Geek" is not like "Desperate Housewives" or "Grey's Anatomy". . . I think one of the coolest parts of the experience is just seeing a lot of girls who aren't dumb – they're not dumb at all, and I think this season they're not even portraying them as being morons, they're actually incredibly smart – they just have incredibly different priorities. It shocks me how these people were in reasonably good colleges, but several of them dropped out. Others who now have degrees, but don't have steady jobs because they're modeling or doing whatever, or could be doing some very cool things, but they're working in bars instead. I was baffled by that. They were great people, and half of them were more articulate than the guys. They were amazing speakers, they dressed well, they looked good, they didn't say stupid things more than any of the rest of us, and that's something that I've never seen before.

*TT:* Do you think you've improved your social skills by being on this show?

*MH:* I think I improved my social skills while I was at MIT. I don't think I went in there concerned about my social skills. Going into situations where there are a whole lot of new people, and meeting new people, it's something that's very tough for me. I think the show helped a little with that, but not that much, it only forced you to do it because if you didn't get to meet the people, you were going to be at a disadvantage.

*TT:* The show portrays the "geeks" as hav-

ing problems with confidence when it comes to women. Do you think you are more confident around women since the show?

*MH:* Maybe a little. I don't really feel that I was ever uncomfortable around women. I don't date very much, but that's more of a priority thing and not really wanting a commitment thing, than anything else. A lot of my friends are girls. I have no issues talking to girls. On the show you'll notice that there was no problem if I needed to talk to a girl. The girls, I liked them a lot. Sheree and Erin were my favorites, and there was nothing wrong with approaching them and talking to them. They're nice people too. Maybe it encouraged me more to go up and maybe go out on dates with somebody but other than that, it didn't really.

*TT:* Obviously you can't tell us the outcome, knowing what you know now, and based on your experience, would you do it again?

*MH:* I'd definitely do it again. I had a great time. It was a huge amount of fun. It was an experience that most people don't get a chance to do, and I think it's very important for everybody to do some things even if it's at the expense of making a fool out of themselves. You never know how you're going to look, and you're never going to know what's going to happen. So much of this show depends on your partner, how you and your partner are going to interact. So much of the show you don't have control over so you need to go in there knowing that you might not come out looking the best.

Matthew Herman will be watching the next episode of "Beauty and the Geek" tonight (Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2007) at 8pm in 4-270. A Q & A session will follow the show.



GHEORGHE CHISTOL—THE TECH

The Muses sing "Santa Baby" to a lucky volunteer from the audience at their Fall concert on December 15 in 10-250. Impulse also sang at the concert.



SAMUEL E. KRONICK—THE TECH

Kevin P. Schoenfelder '09 (foreground) performs with the Logarithms during their fall concert on December 17 in Kresge.

**TRIO** [alum.mit.edu/www/emie](http://alum.mit.edu/www/emie)  
Emezie Okorafor

**PROOF OF FALSE**

by Andrew Spann

**Run Bug**

by Roberto Perez-Franco

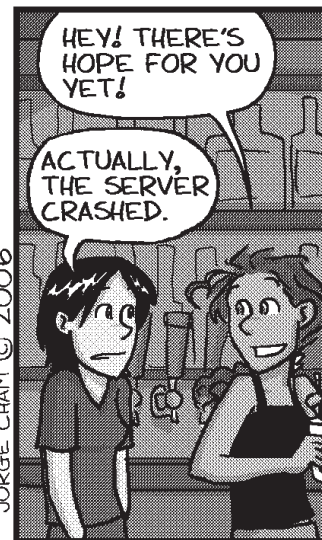
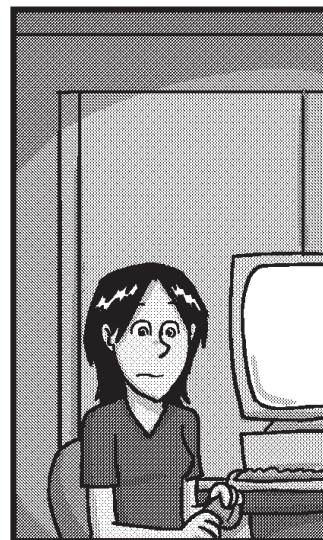
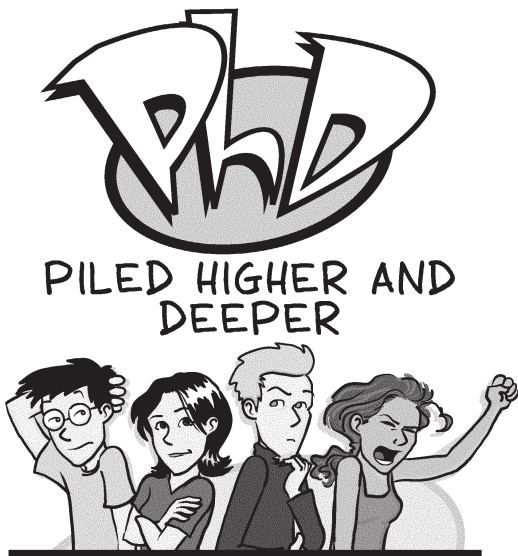
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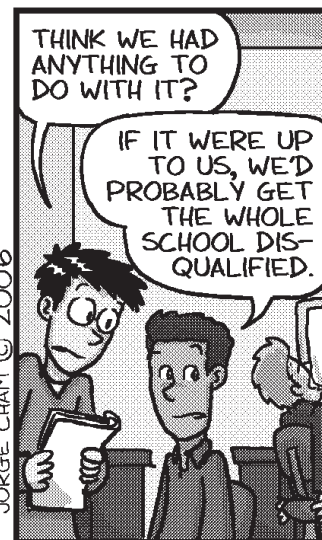
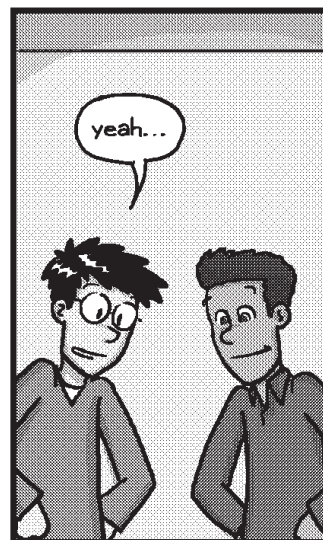
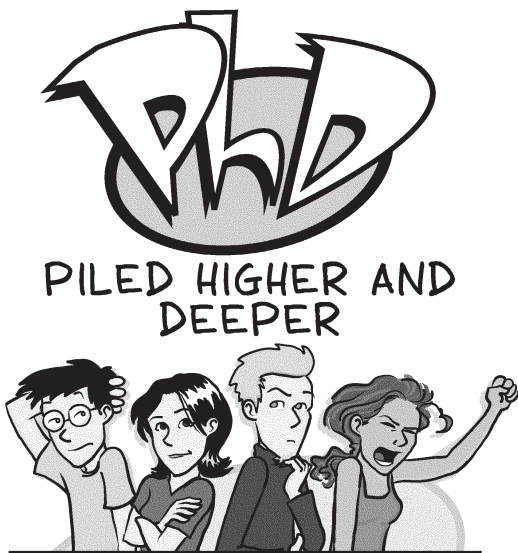
**Crossword Puzzle**

Solution, page 13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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47					48					49	50		
51					52				53				
54									55				
56									57				



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# Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

## su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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 13.

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

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

Check out more Dilbert on page 8.

# FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

# Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

Check out earlier Dilbert on page 7.

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The Council for the Arts at MIT and the MIT Graduate Student Life Grants present:

## A special **Boston Modern Orchestra Project** concert for MIT graduate students and alumni/ae

**Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 7:00pm**

The Moonshine Room, Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Avenue, Boston

\$10 for graduate students and their guests (with MIT student ID)

\$25 for MIT Club of Boston members

Ticket price includes buffet dinner

**For ticket information, please call 617-253-4005 or email [cohen@media.mit.edu](mailto:cohen@media.mit.edu)**

Lisa Bielawa, host

Special guest: MIT Music faculty member Keeril Makan

Experience brand new music in a back room setting, headlined by BMOP musicians

Doors open at 6:00pm, concert starts at 7:00pm

### Program

<b>Lisa Bielawa</b>	<i>"Synopsis #1: It's Over (But It Was Fun)"</i> for solo piano (2006) <i>"Synopsis #2: In the Eye of the Beholder"</i> for solo percussion (2006)
<b>Daniel Felsenfeld</b>	<i>Air That Kills</i> (2000)
<b>Keeril Makan</b>	2 (1998)
<b>Roshanne Etezady</b>	<i>Unsafe (At Any Speed)</i> (2001)
<b>Aaron Trant</b>	<i>Dictit</i> (2001)
<b>Gordon Beeferman</b>	Excerpt from <i>West of Winter</i> (2004)
<b>Jocelyn Morlock</b>	<i>QUOI???</i> (1998)

### ARTISTS

Sarah Bob, piano

Gabriela Diaz, violin

Aaron Trant, percussion

club  
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# UA Finance Board Articulates Allocation Policies

Counterpoint, from Page 1

According to Costa, the magazine was kept afloat through the 2005-2006 school year thanks to Emergency Funding from the SOFC. "We got a bunch of the debt paid off with ad revenue," Costa said. "This year, though, we missed the deadline to apply for Emergency Funding."

In Sept. 2006, *Counterpoint* applied to appeal the Summer/Fall 2006 funding from Finboard because it received less than it had asked for during spring allocations. According to the December article, the magazine had \$1,800 in its account. After the appeal, the magazine received \$2,640 from Finboard.

"They asked for something like \$6,000, and that's more than we can give any one student group," President of Finboard Hans E. Anderson '08. "It didn't seem like *Counterpoint* was being as efficient as possible with their resources."

In IAP/Spring 2006, *Counterpoint* received \$1,060.

Finboard and *Counterpoint* began meeting last month to plan and negotiate. "When we first met with them in early December, their plan was highly inadequate," Anderson said.

"We went back and forth a few times and got a lot of helpful advice from Finboard," *Counterpoint* Editor

in Chief Edward K. Summers '08 said. A mutually acceptable plan was developed.

*Counterpoint* decreased the amount of money requested to about \$1,500 per term, which Finboard would like to establish as a norm for all publications. "Finboard prefers if publications get most of their revenue from ads," said Anderson.

"We're making a few changes," Summers said. "We're going to stop printing with a glossy cover and use one color instead of many. Also, we've decreased circulation by cutting out about 1000 issues that were usually never even picked up."

## Finboard spells out changes

Its dealings with *Counterpoint* marks some changes in Finboard's policies that will be affecting many student groups in the future. The Start-up Restructuring Fund, which assisted *Counterpoint*, is an experimental program designed for new Association of Student Activities groups and groups undergoing major changes. Being accepted to the program means that the group has to provide a complete list of expenditures and income and that Finboard can access all the group's accounts. Finboard hopes to get the Start-up Fund working consistently, Anderson said.

## UA Finance Board Supplemental Policies

### Finboard will no longer fund:

- ¶ No food under operations
- ¶ No Membership dues to external groups
- ¶ No Intramural sports fees

### The Start-up Restructuring Fund:

- ¶ Will no longer contain a separate capital portion available to all Finboard groups (things of this nature will be handled as regular capital).
- ¶ Will require main account access for all start up groups as a condition of application (submitting an application gives consent to Finboard to view main account balance and transactions).
- ¶ Will require categorization of all income and expenditures from the main account; it must be submitted as an attachment to the capital start-up application.
- ¶ Is available, through an application process, to new groups and groups going through reconstruction as deemed by Finboard.

### With regard to allocations:

- ¶ As conditions for applying for funds, current main

account balance, current reserve account balance, actual gross income and actual gross expenditures for the last two funding periods shall be provided by the Student Activities Finance Office; the group shall provide gross estimated income.

- ¶ The purpose of appeals is to give money to groups that did not receive an allocation and on rare exceptions increase allocation amount at the discretion of Finboard; nearly all Finboard funds will be distributed at allocations.

### With Regard to Capital:

- ¶ If a capital line item costs \$200 or more, at least two quotes must be provided to Finboard.
- ¶ Finboard funding given to a specific capital line item can only be used for that line item.
- ¶ No more Finboard funding can be used on a specific capital line item other than what has been allocated to that line item without the permission of the Finboard Chair.
- ¶ Finboard reserves the right to ask for at least one quote for any capital line item.

SOURCE—UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION FINANCE BOARD

"The start-up fund would be great for new publications to get on their feet," Summers said. "It would be tough to expect small publications to get much advertising revenue without having much circulation."

Moreover, this also spells a move toward Finboard getting involved in the financial organization of groups.

"We're trying to do more hands-on work with different groups," Anderson said. "It's helpful especially for new groups, or those that are in some sort of trouble, to get input from Finboard."

Other changes that are being made include further restrictions on what Finboard money can be used

for. (See table on page 10 for complete list of Finboard's new policies.)

According to UA Senate Speaker Steven M. Kelch '08 in an interview last month, many of these policies have been followed by Finboard in the past, but they have now been written down and made official.

## UA Finboard Allocations for IAP and Spring 2007

Name of Group	Amount Received	Original Request	% Received of Request
<i>Academic</i>			
American Medical Student Association	\$1,855	\$2,355	78.77%
Association of Puerto Rican Students	\$1,240	\$2,916	42.52%
Black Students Union	\$1,530	\$2,785	54.94%
Brain and Cognitive Sciences Society	\$720	\$895	80.45%
Chess Club	\$600	\$600	100.00%
Experiencing Health Policy	\$1,030	\$1,030	100.00%
Group 0	\$0	\$200	0.00%
Hindu Students Council	\$2,038	\$3,568	57.12%
Hippocratic	\$1,000	\$9,247	10.81%
LDSSA	\$550	\$1,050	52.38%
MAPS (Minority Association of Pre-health Students)	\$853	\$2,291	37.23%
MIT Debate Team	\$1,500	\$3,190	47.02%
MITERS	\$500	\$1,500	33.33%
MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players	\$1,174	\$2,139	54.89%
MIT Model United Nations	\$1,010	\$1,060	95.28%
MIT Quizbowl Team	\$800	\$1,400	57.14%
MIT Science Fiction Society	\$600	\$3,440	17.44%
MIT Undergraduate Biochemistry Association	\$600	\$770	77.92%
Mock Trial	\$910	\$1,680	54.17%
National Society of Black Engineers	\$950	\$2,735	34.74%
Pershing Rifles C-12 (ABN)	\$275	\$1,000	27.50%
SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space)	\$510	\$1,240	41.13%
Sloan Undergraduate Management Association	\$1,040	\$3,170	32.81%
<i>Cultural</i>			
African Students Association	\$950	\$1,300	73.08%
Anime Club	\$1,390	\$2,250	61.78%
Asian American Association	\$1,825	\$2,325	78.49%
Association of Taiwanese Students	\$2,365	\$3,860	61.27%
Chinese Students Club	\$1,991	\$2,931	67.93%
EASE	\$125	\$640	19.53%
GaMIT	\$1,108	\$1,497	74.01%
Hong Knog Student Society	\$680	\$2,380	28.57%
Imobilare	\$815	\$1,805	45.15%
JSU	\$0	\$885	0.00%
Korean Students Association	\$945	\$1,545	61.17%
La Union Chicana por Aztlan	\$1,193	\$1,393	85.64%
Mes Latino	\$500	\$1,850	27.03%
MIT Bhangra Club	\$2,000	\$2,950	67.80%
MIT Chamak	\$1,220	\$2,120	57.55%
MIT Hapa	\$720	\$980	73.47%
MIT Hawaii Club	\$462	\$462	100.00%
MIT Lion Dance	\$1,110	\$1,868	59.42%
MIT Natya	\$890	\$1,415	62.90%
Mocha Moves Dance Squad	\$500	\$1,281	39.03%
Oori	\$600	\$652	92.02%
PaksMIT	\$900	\$2,500	36.00%
Societo por Esperanto	\$200	\$275	72.73%
South Asian American Students	\$2,000	\$2,575	77.67%
Students for Israel	\$1,175	\$3,850	30.52%
Vietnamese Student Association	\$680	\$830	81.93%
<i>Musical</i>			
Chorallaries of MIT	\$750	\$8,760	8.56%
Concert Band	\$2,024	\$2,325	87.05%
MIT/Wellesley Toons	\$900	\$1,090	82.57%
MIT Casino Rueda	\$860	\$1,490	57.72%
MIT Logarithms	\$1,500	\$1,650	90.91%

Name of Group	Amount Received	Original Request	% Received of Request
MIT Marching Band	\$1,240	\$1,400	88.57%
MIT Muses	\$1,700	\$1,900	89.47%
Resonance of MIT	\$1,600	\$2,780	57.55%
<i>Political</i>			
Amnesty International	\$586	\$586	100.00%
College Democrats	\$0	\$0	100.00%
Western Hemisphere Project	\$898	\$998	89.98%
<i>Publication</i>			
Counterpoint	\$1,769	\$6,257	28.27%
MIT Undergraduate Research Journal	\$550	\$600	91.67%
RUNE	\$570	\$2,000	28.50%
Voo Doo Magazine	\$1,750	\$1,810	96.69%
<i>Religious</i>			
Asian Baptist Student Koinonia	\$1,100	\$2,755	39.93%
Asian Christian Fellowship	\$1,250	\$3,001	41.65%
Campus Crusade for Christ	\$1,025	\$2,415	42.44%
Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship	\$1,000	\$2,380	42.02%
Cross Products	\$850	\$1,160	73.28%
Hillel	\$3,225	\$5,325	60.56%
MIT Chinese Bible Fellowship	\$400	\$400	100.00%
MIT Gospel Choir	\$1,550	\$1,650	93.94%
Pagan Students' Group	\$100	\$500	20.00%
Victory Campus Ministries	\$190	\$370	51.35%
<i>Service</i>			
Alpha Phi Alpha	\$225	\$2,494	9.02%
American Red Cross Team and Network	\$1,950	\$3,414	57.12%
Arnold Air Society	\$420	\$740	56.76%
Best Buddies	\$385	\$385	100.00%
Boston Intercollegiate Service Organization	\$75	\$75	100.00%
Circle K	\$495	\$840	58.93%
Design for Change	\$349	\$469	74.41%
Habitat for Humanity	\$1,150	\$1,900	60.53%
Hunger Action Group	\$191	\$363	52.62%
MIT-EMS	\$1,600	\$14,760	10.84%
MIT Africa Internet Technology Initiative	\$525	\$815	64.42%
MIT BrainTrust	\$1,225	\$1,605	76.32%
MIT Pro-Life	\$595	\$795	74.84%
National Society of Collegiate Scholars	\$1,035	\$1,780	58.15%
SAVE	\$690	\$690	100.00%
<i>Social</i>			
Assassins' Guild, MIT	\$1,475	\$1,755	84.05%
Black Women's Alliance	\$1,325	\$2,300	57.61%
mitBEEF	\$870	\$1,370	63.50%
MIT Student Juggling Club	\$475	\$706	67.28%
Mystery Hunt	\$950	\$1,925	49.35%
QWILLTS	\$750	\$750	100.00%
Society for Creative Anachronism	\$320	\$470	68.09%
<i>Sports</i>			
MIT Caving	\$1,216	\$5,029	24.18%
<i>Theater</i>			
MIT Dance Troupe	\$1,250	\$4,210	29.69%
Movements In Time Dance Company	\$690	\$1,490	46.31%
Musical Theatre Guild	\$822	\$822	100.00%
Shakespeare Ensemble	\$1,000	\$1,200	83.33%
<b>Average</b>	<b>\$961</b>	<b>\$2,014</b>	<b>60.52%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$97,069</b>	<b>\$203,434</b>	<b>—</b>

SOURCE—UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION FINANCE BOARD

Funding allocations for the IAP/Spring 2007 period took place last month. Appeals to the Finance Board to request additional funding will be accepted in February.



# Naked Parties Held At Many Universities Including Yale, MIT

By Rachel Aviv  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the unforgiving fluorescent light of Rosenfeld Hall, a dormitory on the periphery of Yale's campus, students crouched in a hallway and quickly stuffed their clothes into plastic grocery bags. Shirts were left inside out, socks balled in pant legs. Giggling, they hurried into a basement storage room, where some 40 people stood around, under stone arches and gargoyles, wearing nothing but shoes.

Lighted only by tea candles, the party had the afterglow of a literary reading: Students chatted in small groups, drifting toward the darkest parts of the room. Arms held tight to the body, eyes unwavering from face level, they drank and smoked and talked about the fact that they were naked: "I'm so pale." "You look radiant." "The air feels weird without clothes — skin is this big sense organ."

This was no bacchanal. A few students danced, with less body contact than normal, and the men seemed more self-conscious than the women. When a couple started making out in the back of the room, a barefoot member of the Pundits, the student society that threw the party, asked them to leave.

"Person-to-space ratio is very, very important," he explained dispassionately. (He would not give his name because the Pundits don't want the Yale administration to know who they are.)

"It's one of those things people feel they need to do before they graduate," says Megan Crandell, a senior who estimates that she has been to

a half-dozen naked parties during her time at Yale. "The dynamic is completely different from a clothed party. People are so conscious of how they're coming across that conversations end up being more sophisticated. You can't talk about how hot that chick was the other night."

The Pundits have been throwing naked parties since 1995. Students who throw them at Brown say naked partying began there back in the 1980s. Since then, the idea has caught on. Wesleyan, Wellesley, Columbia, MIT, Bowdoin and Amherst have all been host to parties with similar rules: before entering, take off your clothes. The parties are rarely associated with fraternities or sororities; more often, they're thrown by campus organizations or groups of friends.

At Brown, too, the nudity is described as more of an experiment in social interaction than a sexual experience, though people begin to loosen up as the parties progress. One year, students formed a back rub chain that sprawled up a flight of stairs.

Watermyn House, a living cooperative near the Brown campus that houses about 15 students, throws a naked party every fall.

"With this whole 20-something party culture, getting dressed to go out is such a big deal," says Kate Horning, a senior who went to the party. "But that whole part of the evening is purposely absent. My friends who didn't go were like, 'Oh, my God, were people just staring at each other's bodies all night?' And I said, 'No, people were just kind of chatting and playing pool and playing piano.'"

# Physical Scientists Hit Hardest As Funding Freeze Stalls Projects

Funding, from Page 1

resolution through Sept. 30.

Some Republicans favored not finishing the bills because of automatic savings achieved by forgoing expected spending increases. Democrats and Republicans alike say that operating under current budgets, in some cases with less money, can strap federal agencies and lead to major disruptions in service.

Scientists say that is especially true for the physical sciences, which include physics, chemistry and astronomy. When it comes to federal financing, such fields in recent years have fared poorly compared with biology. The National Institutes of Health, for instance, spend more than \$28 billion annually on biomedical programs, five times more than all federal spending for physical sciences.

For 2007, Congress and the Bush administration agreed that the federal budget for the physical sciences should get a major increase. A year ago, in his American Competitiveness Initiative, President Bush called for doubling the money for science over a decade. That prompted schools and federal laboratories to prepare for long-deferred repairs and expansions, plans that appear now to be in jeopardy.

Among the projects at risk is the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at the Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York, on Long Island. The \$600 million machine — 2.4 miles in circumference — slams together subatomic particles to recreate conditions at the beginning of time, some 14 billion years ago, so scientists can study the Big Bang theory. It was already operating partly on charitable contributions, officials say, and now could shut down entirely, throwing its 1,069 specialists

into limbo.

"For us, it's quite serious," said Sam Aronson, the Brookhaven director. For the nation, Dr. Aronson added, the timing is especially bad because the collider has given the United States a head start on European rivals, who hope to build a more powerful machine.

"Things are pretty miserable for a year in which people talked a lot about regaining our competitive edge," Dr. Aronson said. "I think all that's stalled."

Another potential victim is the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Illinois, where a four-mile-long collider investigates the building blocks of matter. Its director, Piermaria Oddone, said the laboratory would close for a month as most of the staff of 4,200 are sent home.

Congress and the Bush administration could restore much of the science financing in the 2008 budget. Scientists say it would help enormously, but add that senior staff members by that point may have already abandoned major projects for other jobs that were more stable.

Other projects affected by the budget freeze include:

¶A \$1.4 billion particle accelerator at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee meant to probe the fine structure of materials and aid in cutting-edge technologies. Its opening might be delayed a year.

¶A \$30 million contribution to a global team designing an experimental reactor to fuse atoms rather than break them apart. Controlled fusion, if successful, would offer a nearly inexhaustible source of energy.

¶A \$440 million X-ray machine some two miles long at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in California that would act like a microscope to peer inside materials, aiding sci-

ence and industry. Construction, begun last year, would slow.

"It's pretty bad," said Burton Richter, a Nobel laureate in physics. "There's going to be another year of stagnation. That hurts a lot."

The National Science Foundation, which supports basic research at universities, had expected a \$400 million increase over the \$5.7 billion budget it received in 2006. Now, the freeze is prompting program cuts, delays and slowdowns.

"It's rather devastating," said Jeff Nesbit, the foundation's head of legislative and public affairs. "While \$400 million in the grand scheme of things might seem like decimal dust, it's hugely important for universities that rely on N.S.F. funding."

The threatened programs include a \$50 million plan to build a supercomputer that universities would use to push back frontiers in science and engineering; a \$310 million observatory meant to study the ocean environment from the seabed to the surface; a \$62 million contribution to a global program of polar research involving 10 other nations; and a \$98 million ship to explore the Arctic, including the thinning of its sheath of floating sea ice.

Missions at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are also threatened, with \$100 million in cuts. Paul Hertz, the chief scientist at NASA's science mission directorate, said potential victims included programs to explore Mars, astrophysics and space weather.

Physicists said a partial solution to the crisis would let the Energy Department do what it wanted to do all along for 2007: move \$500 million left over from environmental cleanup accounts into the physical sciences. That would require Congressional approval but no budget increase.

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# MIT Reviews Tenure Process, Says Charge Of Racism Not True

Sherley, from Page 1

was denied laboratory space during his seven years at MIT because of his race. He also received a call from a member of the MIT Corporation regarding his "confidential outspoken criticism against Provost Robert [A.] Brown," who was the provost before Reif arrived in 2005, Sherley said. "I now know that for a member of the Corporation to contact an untenured faculty member regarding such important Corporation business is improper," Sherley wrote.

BE Professor John M. Essigmann PhD '76 said that he had never heard Sherley complain about lacking adequate lab space.

"Academia is a difficult place. MIT is a difficult place," said BE Professor C. Forbes Dewey, Jr. He mentioned that the faculty went through great deliberation, understanding that someone's life would be in their hands, but "[we] felt in every respect the process was appropriate and complete, and the result was appropriate." According to various BE professors, the review of tenure includes assessment of teaching ability, reputation, external and internal letters, community service, and grants received.

In a December letter sent out to MIT faculty calling for support, Sherley said, "I will either see the Provost resign and my hard-earned tenure granted at MIT, or I will die defiantly right outside his office. This is the strength of my conviction that racism in American [sic] must end. What better place to kill a small part of it than at a great institution

like MIT."

"I am saddened by Professor Sherley's statement," Reif said in an e-mail. "Although I respect Professor Sherley's right to disagree, I hope that he will find other ways to express his views. He is a promising scientist who has a great deal to offer to science and society."

Sherley considered the denial of tenure mostly a matter of racism, but he mentioned in his letter that hostility toward his research from BE Professor Linda G. Griffith also played a role. Whereas Griffith "and her supporters would tolerate and even celebrate such a challenge from a White faculty member," conflict ensued because they would never welcome it "from one who is Black," Sherley wrote in the letter. Griffith declined to comment for *The Tech*.

Known for his controversial position on stem cells, Sherley works with adult stem cells and opposes research involving human embryonic stem cells, which he believes amounts to killing human life, according to a December article in the *Boston Globe*.

The hunger strike "will seem rash to those who don't know me well, but it is not," Sherley wrote in an e-mail. "I hope that people will realize that my [letter] said 'Help me end racism at MIT,' and not 'Help me get tenure at MIT.' My motivation for this protest is not the fact that I have been denied an opportunity for tenure. It is because of the reason that I have been denied this opportunity... What I do now is not a rash reaction to disappointment, it is a well-reasoned self-sacrifice for change."

# Internal Investigations Into Kendall Sq. Fire Continue For NSTAR

Fire, from Page 1

sults and inspections." Retail stores on the first floor of the building (Wainwright Bank, Dunkin' Donuts, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Domino's Pizza) had received city safety approval to re-open by Jan. 2. The building has been expected to fully re-open to all tenants sometime this week, although the latest release from Marsh on Jan. 5 suggests there is still uncertainty as to the exact timeline.

Cambridge Fire Chief Gerard Reardon remarked, "it's probably the extensive electric damage" that is delaying the building's re-opening. A month after the fire, the building is still being powered by temporary generators located on Third St.

Calls to Steven C. Marsh, MIT's Managing Director of Real Estate, were not returned. Other members of MITMCO declined to comment, as did the Office of Vice President

for Institute Affairs Kirk D. Kolenbrander.

NSTAR has removed all three transformers from the building for examination. They could not comment on the progress of its ongoing internal investigation.

Jennifer Mieth from State Fire Services said, "Of course people [MIT and NStar] are being careful about what they are saying, since there will likely be litigation."

There do not appear to be long-term health threats to those who were exposed to smoke during the fire. A memo from David Diamond, Chief of Medicine at MIT Medical, concludes, "Although the smoke was intense and trace amounts of chemicals and metals were detected in the analyzed soot, the duration of inhalation would not lead to a significant increase in an average person's lifetime exposure to these potentially unhealthy airborne chemicals and particles."

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**Solution to Crossword**  
from page 6

**Solution to Sudoku**  
from page 7


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# Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between Dec. 1 and Dec. 31, 2006. This summary does not include incidents such as false alarms, general service calls, larcenies, or medical shuttles.

- Dec. 1:** W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 7:27 a.m., Michael Kreisel, homeless. Arrested for trespassing after notice.  
M68 (31 Ames St.), 1:59 p.m., Report of damage to a security device outside.
- Dec. 2:** BTP (119 Bay State Rd.), 1:49 a.m., Report of fight in the house. Police responding, reports issue currently resolved.  
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 4:49 p.m., Suspicious male in W20 lobby, Alpine Bagel area. Verbal trespass issued.
- Dec. 3:** W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 6:36 p.m., Reporting person reports person walked by her and grabbed her breast. Naham Getaneh, 2 Trotter Court, South Boston arrested for indecent assault and battery.  
NW12 (138 Albany St.), 7:56 p.m., Reporting person reports his car windshield was damaged while parked in the Mass. Ave. lot.
- Dec. 5:** M50 (142 Memorial Dr.) Basement, 1 p.m., Reporting person states there is homophobic graffiti on blackboard in men's room.
- Dec. 8:** M10 (122 Memorial Dr.), 3:02 a.m., Several individuals seen on the dome of Bldg. 10.  
W92, 11:03 a.m., Malicious damage to bicycle.  
E70 (1 Broadway St.), 11:13 a.m., Working fire, all units and ambulance en route to scene.  
M38 (50 Vassar St.), 12:04 p.m., Strong smell of chemical spill; Boston Fire Department on scene; floor wax.
- Dec. 9:** SPE (518 Beacon St.), 5:49 p.m., Received a call from party requesting ex-boyfriend be removed from residence 515 Beacon St.; police dispatched, subject removed without incident.
- Dec. 10:** TDC (372 Memorial Dr.), 12:40 a.m., Fire alarm at 372 Memorial Dr.; Cambridge Fire Department responding; police report pull station activation on the third floor.  
DTD (416 Beacon St.), 5:39 p.m., Reporting person came home and found suspicious person in house on third floor; suspicious person then fled onto back street from the rear door; police dispatched. Boston Police Department and Massachusetts State Police notified. Area checked with negative results.  
M16 (21 Rear Ames St.), 1:47 p.m., M16 lobby vending machine broken into.
- Dec. 11:** E25 (25 Carlton St.), 12:20 a.m., E23 basement vending machine broken into.  
NW62 (310 Mass. Ave.), 7:46 a.m., Cambridge fire en route; broken water pipe.  
M68 (31 Ames St.), 1:11 p.m., Reporting person states she has been stalked by an individual and he called her and said he was coming by.  
ADP (351 Mass. Ave.), 7:16 p.m., Homeless male rear of 351 Mass. Ave; routine check, individual sent on his way.
- Dec. 12:** M16 (21 Rear Ames St.) #151, 9:57 a.m., States there is a peeping tom in the ladies bathroom; light-skinned male, shaved head.  
W92 (3:29 p.m.), Reporting person reports his bicycle was vandalized in the W92 parking area.  
M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 6:36 p.m., Reporting person reports two suspicious males at vending machines. Arrested Shawn Morley, 78 Bowdoin St., Dorchester; arrested for trespassing and possession of burglariou tools.  
M8 (21 Rear Ames St.), 7:23 p.m., Arrest of Keith Morley, Gavin House, South Boston; arrested for trespassing, resisting arrest, and possession of burglariou tools.
- Dec. 13:** M32 (32 Vassar St.), 9:54 a.m., Vehicle occupied by two individuals, Level P1 of garage; suspicious activity involved marijuana.  
E53 (30 Wadsworth St.), 11:36 a.m., Reporting person states a suspicious person, bald head, black jacket is in the library across from the front desk on computer, harassing people and talking to himself.
- Dec. 14:** SN (523 Newbury St.), 1:46 a.m., Noise complaint; people waiting for the shuttle back to campus.  
E23-196 (25 Carlton St.), 4:08 p.m., Hit and run accident Hayward Lot.  
W71 (500 Memorial Dr.), 10:43 a.m., Report of fraud.  
E53, 12:13 p.m., Suspicious activity; unknown entering librarian's area.
- Dec. 15:** 100 Memorial Dr., 9:36 p.m., Routine check conducted at 100 Memorial Dr.
- Dec. 16:** N52 (265 Mass. Ave.), 19:14 p.m., Suspicious male at N52; trespassed off property.
- Dec. 17:** W79 (229 Vassar St.), 4:45 a.m., Received several calls fro a male screaming at the rear of Simmons Hall; police dispatched.
- M4 (182 Rear Memorial Dr.), 9:01 a.m., Facilities reports fire alarm at Bldg. 4 pull station activation on first floor.  
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 12:16 p.m., Routine check of individual.
- Dec. 18:** M66 (25 Ames St.), 2:31 a.m., Suspicious person stopped by police; routine check.
- Dec. 19:** M7 (77 Mass. Ave.), 6:32 a.m., Party reports hack, wrapped Christmas gifts on pedestal in Lobby 7.  
M16 (21 Rear Ames St.), 3:07 p.m., Caller states public threats were made against her by an office mate.
- Dec. 20:** W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), Male on third floor stopped for routine check.
- Dec. 21:** W89 (291 Vassar St.), 8:59 p.m., Student states someone hacked into his bank account.  
PIKA (69 Chestnut St.), 10:29 p.m., Carbon dioxide odor coming from kitchen; police and Cambridge Fire Department dispatched on scene.
- Dec. 22:** M50 (142 Memorial Dr.), 8:06 a.m., Reporting person states there is a homeless man sleeping on the stairs going into Walker Memorial; routine check.
- Dec. 23:** W1 (305 Memorial Dr.), 12:54 p.m., Reports suspicious activity; U-Haul removing computer equipment.  
M10 (122 Memorial Dr.), 6:43 p.m., Routine check of party in Lobby 10; party trespassed and was escorted off property.
- Dec. 26:** Memorial Dr. and Dewey Library, 12:12 p.m., Suspicious person given a trespass warning.
- Dec. 27:** N42 (211 Mass. Ave.), 2:46 p.m., Caller at N42 states that two males attempted to break into a Facilities truck; area checked; suspects gone.
- Dec. 28:** M10 (122 Memorial Dr.), 3:30 p.m., Reporting person states that an alarm sounded on the ATM machine and an individual ran away from the scene; police meet with reporting person and collect evidence.  
28 Fenway, 7:50 p.m., Reporting person states a person in the house, possibly stealing laptops; MIT Police respond with Boston Police to investigate; house cleared, no persons found.
- Dec. 29:** Student Housing in Cambridge, 5:58 p.m., Acquaintance rape reported.
- Dec. 30:** W61 (450 Memorial Dr.) Floor 16, 9:41 p.m., Cambridge Police requests assistance from MIT Police in serving papers.

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- To participate, you must be on campus for training during the end of IAP in addition to being available for four to six evenings in February or March for the presentations and meetings with CDSA staff.
- You will be compensated for all trainings, presentations and meetings.

If you're interested in learning more, please send a brief email about yourself and experiences you've had that would qualify you to lead group presentations to Rashmi Tiwari at CDSA: [rtiwari@mit.edu](mailto:rtiwari@mit.edu). Hope to hear from you soon!



## Boston Celebrates 'First Night'

More than one million people turned out for the "First Night" celebration on New Year's Eve. The event included the "Metro Boston Grand Procession," live music performances, and two fireworks shows — an early one for families and one at midnight. Last week also brought some changes: T fares were raised with the introduction of the CharlieCard, Deval Patrick was inaugurated as Massachusetts governor, and MIT Cable added 14 new channels to its lineup.

Clockwise from left:

¶ The State House on Beacon Hill is illuminated for the holidays.

¶ Partygoers enjoy the midnight fireworks.

¶ The Common is festooned with lights on New Year's Eve, when warm temperatures brought out a large crowd.

Photography by Gheorghe Chistol

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# SPORTS

## Foot Out of Bounds, Key Foul Cost Basketball in 56-57 Loss

By James Kramer

DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

MIT men's basketball (6-6, 0-1 NEWMAC) erased a 16-point deficit in the second half only to lose Saturday's conference opener to Springfield (6-7, 1-0) on back-to-back miscues in the final five seconds of regulation.

After the Engineers rebounded what seemed to be Springfield's final shot of the game, a foot on the base line gave the ball back to the Pride with the score tied 56-56. On the ensuing play, Springfield's Jamaal Gibbs drew a foul with one second left on an attempt from behind the arc. Although the junior guard connected on just the middle attempt, it proved to be enough as the Pride escaped Rockwell Cage with a 57-56 win.

MIT's James M. Bartolotta '09 paced all players with 18 points and 10 rebounds en route to his fourth double-double of the season. Alexander G. Krull '07 and Erich W. Bracht '10 also reached double figures for the Cardinal and Gray.

Krull was instrumental in the second-half comeback and closed with 14 points, while Bracht was 4-of-5 from the field en route to 11 points and seven rebounds.

Rookie Pat Crean's first three-point field goal midway through the opening half gave Springfield a

lead it wouldn't relinquish until the closing minutes of the game. The Engineers turned the ball over 14 times in the first frame and went ice cold from the field as Springfield stretched a 15-13 lead at the eight-minute mark with an 18-4 run to close the half.

Senior Damian Farley capped the run with a three as time expired and the Pride went to the locker room boasting a 33-17 lead.

MIT closed the gap to 10 several times in the first part of the second half, but Springfield answered with an offense that saw eight different players add to the score sheet. Another three by Crean put the Pride in front, 42-29, with 12 minutes on the board, but the Engineers refused to go away and slowly chipped away at the sizable deficit.

Bartolotta, Krull and Patrick S. Sissman '10 converted on shots from beyond the three-point line during a 15-4 run in a five-minute stretch midway through the period. After leaving the game temporarily with a cut above his eye, Bartolotta was especially impressive in the surge and, at one point during the run, scored seven straight.

MIT finally knotted the score with 2:01 remaining on another jumper by Bartolotta. Despite relinquishing the lead, Springfield kept its composure down the stretch and stayed in front with four consecutive points from Farley. A sweet step-

back by Gibbs with 1:01 left in the game stretched the Pride's lead to 56-50, but MIT once again battled back.

Bracht converted a traditional three-point play after drawing contact on a lay-up before MIT got the ball back with a chance to tie following a Springfield turnover. With 10 seconds left in the game, Krull buried a three after a kick-out by Bradley Gampel to make the score 56-50, setting up the furious finish.

Springfield forced MIT into 24 turnovers and scored 27 points off the mistakes. Saturday's game marked the second consecutive one-point battle between these evenly matched conference rivals. In last year's regular-season finale, MIT scored with two seconds left to up-end the Pride at Springfield, 62-61.

## Second Period Goals Key to MIT's Stumble

### Huskies Score Twice in One Minute to Win 5-3

By Mindy Brauer

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

In its first game following the holiday break, the MIT women's ice hockey team fell to the University of Southern Maine, 5-3, in ECAC East action on Saturday. The loss dropped the Engineers' record to 1-10-0 on the year and 1-7-0 in conference play.

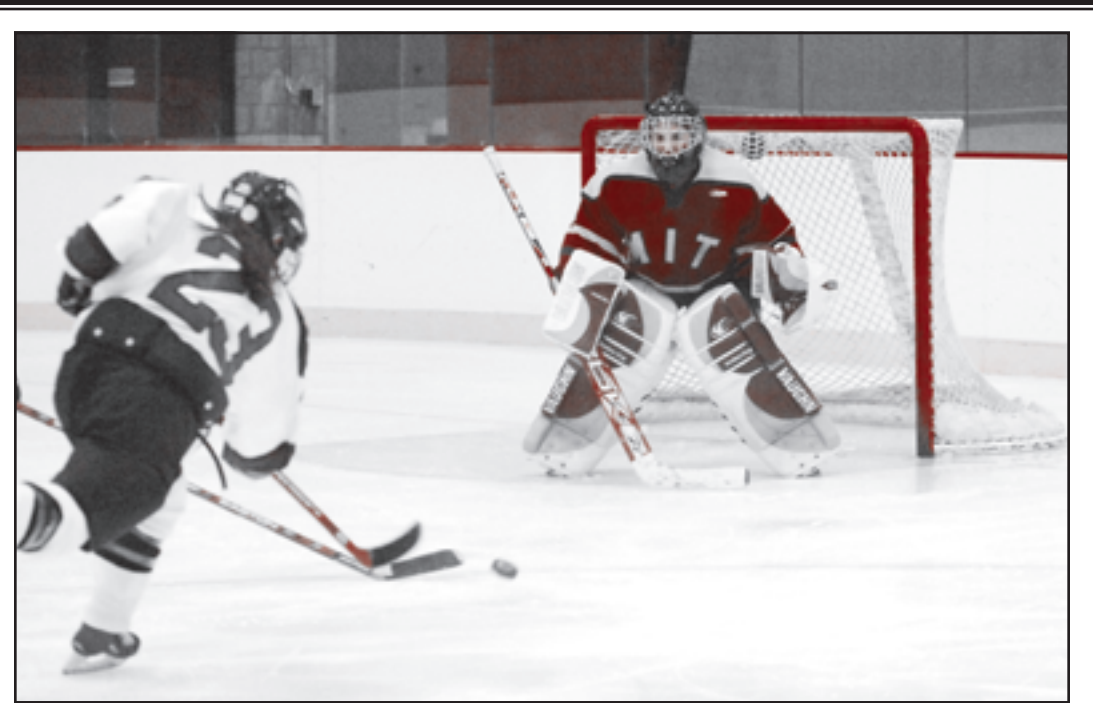
The Huskies opened the scoring after 5:41 had elapsed in the first period. MIT tied the game eight minutes later when Stephanie V. Brenman '09 set up Rachel A. Longley '08 for a short-handed tally. Longley's goal made her the first player in program history to score multiple short-handed goals in her career. Only four oth-

er Engineers have scored any short-handed goals during their careers.

Southern Maine regained the lead 1:05 into the second period, but Amanda P. Hunter '07 responded with an unassisted short-handed goal 2:25 later. The game remained scoreless until the Huskies went ahead for good at 14:31 and then posted what proved to be the game-winning goal within the next minute for a 4-2 advantage.

MIT cut its deficit in half on an unassisted goal by Mary P. Harding '07 at the 8:42 mark of the final period. The Huskies sealed the win with an unassisted empty net goal in the last minute of play.

Engineer goalie Maria N. Prus '10 had a busy night in net and collected 33 saves.



Maria N. Prus '10 defends the goal during MIT's 1-7 loss against Amherst College on Monday. JONGU SHIN—THE TECH

### UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

**Saturday, January 13**  
 Women's Basketball vs. WPI 1:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage  
 Men's Basketball vs. Wheaton 3:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage

**Sunday, January 14**  
 Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving vs. Coast Guard and Springfield 1:00 p.m., Zesiger Center

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