A basement electrical fire forced residents of the Westgate apartments to evacuate the building around 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Westgate President Giorgia Bettin G said that no one was injured. Water leakage in the high-voltage area shorted out a transformer, filling the basement with smoke and causing the building to lose power, said Stephen Lemieux, a generator mechanic at the MIT Department of Facilities. The leakage came from a broken steam coil, according to the MIT Information and Technology Web site 3DOWN (http://3down.mit.edu), which documents the status of some services at MIT.

Emergency power was not restored in the building until around 9 p.m. Sunday, said Lemieux. A small natural gas generator was used to provide emergency lighting and functionality for the fire alarm systems, he said. Heat and hot water, powered by a steam boiler at the MIT power plant were also unavailable. Westgate residents could not return until after 10:30 p.m.

After evacuating, the residents initially waited inside the lobby of the adjacent Tang dormitory, the designated evacuation area, “without wallets, in pajamas, carrying babies,” Bettin said. When the lobby overheated, Bettin and other members of Westgate government organized a move to a lounge on the twenty-fourth floor of Tang.

Bettin said firefighters told her that they had difficulty extinguishing the fire because a possible live current in the high-voltage room prevented the use of water, and thick smoke also contributed to the trouble. Gray smoke could be seen rising from a grate near the building’s entrance until at least 4 p.m., she said.

A Cambridge deputy fire chief on duty Monday afternoon declined to comment about the fire.

Westgate, Page 12

Jet Stream Plays Role in Warm Weather

By Brian Keegan

Senior Lecturer Lodovica C. Illari and Jonathan R. Moskaitis G of the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences, explained some ideas as to why Boston has experienced 35 days of above average temperatures so far this year.

The jet stream, the invisible hand that makes our courses of action extremely unpredictable, can be blocked by a relatively constant latitude. Alternatively, this flow can be blocked by meridional flows that run in the north-south direction, he said.

In a zonal flow, the jet stream operates in essentially two modes: zonal and blocked. In a zonal flow, the jet stream flows uninterrupted around a relatively constant latitude. Alternatively, this flow can be blocked by meridional flows that run in the north-south direction, he said.

A Cambridge deputy fire chief on duty Monday afternoon declined to comment about the fire.
**Weather**

**Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, February 21, 2006**

**Sunny becoming partly cloudy. Calmer wind. High 38°F (3°C).**

**Dark, clear, windy. Low 24°F (-4°C).**

**Today:** Sunny, clear, windy. Low 25°F (-3°C).

**Tonight:** Dark, clear, windy. Low 24°F (-4°C).

**Tomorrow:** Sunny becoming partly cloudy. Calmer wind. High 38°F (3°C).

**Tomorrow night:** Overcast becoming scattered clouds. High 42°F (6°C).

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**Alerts of Deadly Landslides**

**Weather Fronts**

- A stationary front is affecting much of the Eastern United States, bringing a chance of rain and snow.
- A cold front is moving in from the northwest, bringing colder temperatures and a slight risk of snow showers.
- A trough of low pressure is developing over the central states, bringing a chance of showers and thunderstorms.

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**U.S. Warns Iraq About Political Factions With Sectarian Plans**

By Sabrina Tavernise and Robert F. Worth

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The U.S. ambassador to Iraq is issuing an unusually strong warning on Monday about the need for Iraq’s political factions to come together, hinting for the first time that the United States would not be willing to support crucial public institutions plagued by sectarian agendas.

“The United States is investing billions of dollars...”

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**Philippines Did Not Enforce Alerts of Deadly Landslides**

By Carlos H. Conde

THE NEW YORK TIMES

According to official records, the government of the Philippines knew as early as last May that this village in the eastern part of the country, where more than 1,000 people may have died in a landslide Friday, was in grave danger.

Police were even in place to avert a pending disaster. Area villages were evacuated late last year and a logging ban, to address the deforestation at the root of the problem, had been adopted more than a decade ago.

But reality was another matter. According to government officials and environmental groups, problems ranging from government corruption and ineffectual laws to a lack of money and the political will to enforce the laws contributed to the collapse of the mountainside here in the first place, and allowed it to become a large-scale human tragedy in the second.

“This is a failure of the implementation of laws and a failure of policy,” said Von Hernandez, the campaign director for Southeast Asian Environmental Advocates.

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**Is It Time For Spring Yet?**

By Tim Whitecomb

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A weekend or two later that week left most of the Eastern United States picking up branches, garbage cans, and small dogs, we have been experiencing a fairly calm spell of weather. Temperatures are climbing out of the teens and the days are bright and clear. Complacency is misleading, however — beautiful as the past few days have been, Murphy’s Law and basic fluid dynamics state that they cannot last forever.

The upper-level flow has remained in a straight west-to-east swath across most of the U.S. with jet stream velocities peaking over 100 m/s in some areas. This type of pattern is very unusual — as such, the atmosphere model shows several short-wavelength disturbances propagating over us over the next few days, starting later this afternoon. This pattern will continue until late next weekend, where a trough of low pressure should deepen over us, bringing more unsettled weather.

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**Iraqi Insurgent Attacks Kill 20, Including a U.S. Marine**

By John M. Broder

THE NEW YORK TIMES

At least 20 people were killed in insurgent attacks Monday, including a Marine, as Iraqi political factions remained at odds, and the American ambassador expressed concerns about the formation of a government based on militias and sectarian movements.

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**Police Raid in Italy Shakes Up Olympics**

By Lynn Zinser and Ian Fisher

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In a rare display of unanimity that cuts across partisan and geographic lines, lawmakers in virtually every statehouse across the country are advancing bills and constitutional amendments to limit use of the government’s power of eminent domain to seize private property for economic development purposes.

The debate is in direct response to the U.S. Supreme Court’s 5-4 decision last June in a landmark property rights case from Connecticut, upholding a state’s right to condemn homes in an aging neighborhood to make way for a private development of offices, condominiums and a hotel. It was a decision that one justice, who had written the majority opinion in the earlier case, later said he had already apologized for.

The reaction from the states was swift and heated. Within weeks of the decision, South Carolina and Delmarva passed laws. At whelming bipartisan margins limiting the right of local governments to seize property and turn it over to private developers.

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The reaction from the states was swift and heated. Within weeks of the decision, South Carolina and Delmarva passed laws. At whelming bipartisan margins limiting the right of local governments to seize property and turn it over to private developers.
For six hours of oxygen in small tanks of the miners, who were pumping air into ventilation, but it remained unclear what effects they were having on the trapped men.

A key family member of the trapped men kept a desolate vigil outside the gate to the coal mine, where miners were sealed in at 3 a.m. Monday. (El Barilada,) said: "Like all operations, like all dangers, it is too little. When there is gas you can feel your ears rattle..."

The miners were equipped with six hours of oxygen in small tanks of the miners, who were pumping air into ventilation, but it remained unclear what effects they were having on the trapped men.

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Conflation in the West

In Basier Aziz’s Feb. 14 opinion piece, “When Violence Begets Violence and Tolerance is Forgotten,” the author willfully ignores important facts and conflates language and intent. First, the author conflates the 12 caricatures published in the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten with “the West.” This is similar to the reported response that some Arab countries have reactions against the government of Denmark, to sanction the newspaper, as though the government had any such power. In “the West,” as Mr. Aziz clearly knows, free speech and open press laws prevent such censorship.

Second, I am intrigued by his comment about protestors and the “presumed Zionist underpinnings of the oppression inflicted upon Muslims.” Where exactly are “Zionists” persecuting Muslims in Saudi Arabia or Iraq? I don’t think so. Though I question how that could unilaterally be called “Muslim land.” Or perhaps Mr. Aziz means the war in Iraq. Does he assert that the war is under the auspices of some large Zionist conspiracy? Or does he simply write from an illusionary perspective of the average protestor? I wish the Mr. Aziz could clarify that point.

I thought the stories Mr. Aziz wrote about the tolerance of the Prophet Mohammed were frightening, and would love to learn more. Such tolerance should be a lesson to all of us. However, members of a free and lawful society cannot tolerate the burning of embassies, or threats of violence, such as the protestors in London who carried placards saying “7/7 is on its way,” and threatening a Holocaust against the United Kingdom.

Mr. Aziz speaks woefully of the War on Terror, and an American failure to capitalize on possibilities of rapprochement. It is clear, I think, to most Americans and MIT students, that America did not begin this War on Terror. Mr. Aziz’s only concession to another perspective is that “the Muslim world could be criticized as well for its shortcomings.” Clearly, then, it is not simply “premature judgments” that have led some Americans to hold misguided views. Is it clear, then, that “Islamists” are not simply referring to Israel, but to the lack of symbols. I think, to most Americans and MIT students, judges get drunk.

Letters To The Editor

Correction

A Feb 17 article about enrollment in the new biological engineering major incorrectly gave the number of students who took the subject BE.110 (Thermo-dynamics of Biomechanical Systems), which is required to apply for the BE curriculum. A total of 100 students took the class, of which 75 were sophomores, and 40–45 of those expressed interest in the major at the start of the term. There were not 75 students in the class as reported in the article. The same article incorrectly also described MIT’s BE curriculum. While MIT’s faculty did look at the undergraduate curricula offered by other schools, the Institute’s curriculum was created from scratch and differs significantly from programs offered at other universities.

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairmen, editor in chief, managing editor, opinion editors, a senior editor, and an opinion staff.

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily the opinion of The Tech.

Letters should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 500 words.

The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author’s name in italics. Columns without italics are written by Tech staff.

To Reach Us

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February 21, 2006
Knocking the Keg Ban Down a Peg

Aditya Kohli

Fraternity XYZ is throwing an open party this weekend (which means 5:00 A.M. and a well-organized, invitation-only guest list, right?). The social chairs, working on a tight budget and aware of the upcoming Spring Fling, are looking for ways to cut corners. Alcohol represents the bulk of the party’s cost, and thus, alcohol expenses are the best way to cut back. There are two ways to save money: the first is to lay off the alcohol—a highly improbable solution. The second is to buy it in bulk; however, what seems practical to college students seems deadly to Boston lawmakers.

Last fall, Boston passed a law requiring all kegs sold at liquor stores in the city to be registered with the Boston Police. The police hoped to keep track of large college parties in the city and thereby regulate underage drinking. But they overlooked some major holes in the law. First, while kegs must be registered in Boston, they do not need to be registered in neighboring cities, such as Cambridge. Second, while kegs are the cheapest source of alcohol, beer balls, which contain about 30 beers, are a feasible alternative. While the ban has good intentions, its loopholes have been exploited to the point of making it useless.

Having dealt with so many thirsty college students, how naïve does he think we are to think that this ban would limit underage drinking? Kegs are used at parties, and parties are not going to stop. Instead, the use of kegs will stop. Kegs are used because they are a cheap way to get a lot of alcohol. Boston kegs will no longer be used because the “danger” associated with registering the party with the police will outweigh the dollars saved with a keg. Beer balls and Cambridge kegs are an easy solution to the half-hearted ban. If the city really wants to curb underage drinking, it should focus its efforts elsewhere.

Kegs are used at big parties; big parties generate more revenue for the city. Mint funding flow to the federal government, but surely there must be a less insidious and more transparent way to do so. Is there a way to do it that also lets us keep 100 percent of our paychecks? Yes. We can get rid of all current federal taxes: personal and corporate income taxes, the capital gains tax, the death tax, the alternative minimum tax, the Social Security tax, the Medicare tax, etc. We then replace them with a single national retail sales tax. The price of goods will actually drop dramatically once the cost of taxes added in each stage of production disappears.

If you’ve ever worked for pay, like for a UROP or an internship, you are familiar with the statements that arrive in regular intervals, detailing the numerous taxes withheld from your pay. The government knows that we can’t miss what we never had, and so the withholding mechanism helps us forget the magnitude of our tax burden (and its direction—towards the federal government). It’s a well-proven psychological mechanism helps us forget the magnitude of our tax burden (and its direction—towards the federal government).

The social chairs have a tight budget and are given a tight budget and are given a tight budget. They are looking for ways to cut corners. Alcohol represents the bulk of the party’s cost; and thus, alcohol expenses are the best way to cut back. There are two ways to save money: the first is to lay off the alcohol—a highly improbable solution. The second is to buy it in bulk; however, what seems practical to college students seems deadly to Boston lawmakers.

The keg ban is an insincere and frivolous piece of legislation that is superficial at best. It has an agenda, but no objection. I know Mayor Menino can do better.

A Better Way to Tax

Justin Wong

If you’ve ever worked for pay, like for a UROP or an internship, you are familiar with the statements that arrive in regular intervals, detailing the numerous taxes withheld from your pay. The government knows that we can’t miss what we never had, and so the withholding mechanism helps us forget the magnitude of our tax burden (and its direction—towards Washington).

Those who get a refund might think the current system is an awesome deal, but the refund conceals how much is still kept by the government. For example, the government always keeps the Social Security and Medicare taxes. Don’t get me wrong, we must fulfill our duty to fund the federal government, but surely there must be a less insidious and more transparent way to do so. Is there a way to do it that also lets us keep 100 percent of our paychecks?

Yes. We can get rid of all current federal taxes: personal and corporate income taxes, the capital gains tax, the death tax, the alternative minimum tax, the Social Security tax, the Medicare tax, etc. We then replace them with a single national retail sales tax. The price of goods will actually drop dramatically once the cost of taxes added in each stage of production disappears.

If you’re even slightly frugal, the sales tax would save you on taxes and would also be more transparent.

Consider a loaf of bread. The wheat farm has to pay the payroll tax for its workers and income tax on its profits when it sells the wheat to a mill. The factory that bakes the bread must pay payroll and income tax on the bread when it ships it to a grocery store. The grocery store pays payroll and income tax on its profits. The consumer pays the sales tax. The distributor that pays payroll and income tax on the distributor’s profits. The farmer, manufacturer, electricity provider, etc. All these taxes are passed on to you and embedded in the final retail price, and you pay this price with income that has already been taxed. Removing all those taxes would lower the price of goods by 28 to 30 percent, according to the Americans for Fair Taxation (AFT). Even if you slap a national sales tax on it, at worst you’d be paying the same as before, but the net benefit is keeping all of your paycheck.

The new plan is revenue neutral; it will fund the federal government at current revenue levels, including Social Security and Medicare. To do so, it replaces the income tax with a national sales tax equal to the average sales tax. If you earn between $29,000 and $70,000 a year, your total tax rate in the present system is about 31 percent. If you spend all your income and maintain a zero bank account balance, you wouldn’t be worse off. If you’re even slightly frugal, the sales tax would save you on taxes and would also be more transparent.

What about the lowest wage earners? The AFT plan for implementing the sales tax would actually translate to a huge tax cut for them. Right now, they still have to pay the Social Security and Medicare tax. Under the new plan, they wouldn’t have to pay any of those taxes, and their sales tax gets refunded through a rebate. The government would send every American, regardless of income, a check payable in the amount of their income tax. The rebate would be equal to the sales tax on an average person’s typical consumption of life’s necessities.

Some worry that the rich-poor gap would increase under the new plan, because the rich spend more of their income on goods. It is the current income tax, however, that actually causes the rich-poor gap. It penalizes people when they earn more, lowering the incentive for upward mobility. To bring people up, it gives them no more sense to reward earning and to discourage unnecessary spending. The new plan does both.

In fact, by levying the same tax rate on everyone, the new plan unites the interests of the rich and poor. A decrease in the tax rate benefits everyone. The new plan gets rid of the income tax, whose complexity and size has made it easy for politicians to hide the favored tax treatment given to wealthy special interests. The transparency of the new sales tax makes it difficult for politicians to lie to voters in the greedy at the expense of the needy.

If the new plan is such a tax boon for everyone, how is it really revenue-neutral? It isn’t. The sales tax rate that matters so much as the dollar amount it multiplies. Rich people buy more expensive things. The new plan would tax spending on an economy whose growth rate would quadruple without the shackles of an income tax. According to AFT experts. The sales tax also broadens the tax base, reaching parts of the economy the current income tax can’t reach. Under the new plan, people won’t pay income tax on their profits right now, but the sales tax makes them pay a share whenever they buy something. Tourists who don’t currently pay income tax in the U.S. would also be taxed under the new plan when they buy souvenirs, stay in our hotels, etc.

No income tax, no tax return, and thus no more IRS. The national sales tax would be administered through the states, which are already tasked to collect a sales tax. Re-programming cash registers is easy; it’s done all the time. The federal government would reimburse the states for administrative costs.

This bold proposal is already a bill in both houses of Congress. It’s called the FairTax, and Rep. John Linder, who is the primary sponsor of the H.R. 25, wrote the FairTax book with Neal Boortz. This column doesn’t do justice to the book, which makes a far more comprehensive case, even explaining how eliminating the income tax attracts jobs and investments back to America, and makes American products competitive overseas. You can also find out more at http://www.fairtax.org. Say goodbye to the IRS.
The Tech COMICS FUN PAGES February 21, 2006

Trio

TRIO character profiles: ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

by Emezie Okorafor

More Cowbell

by Jia Lou

Moons of Uranus

by Juan Pablo Mendieta
### Instructions:
Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of the digits 1 through 9.
Anzolini Challenges Musicians With Modern, Abstract Pieces

Rush, from Page 1
ceived three pledges, all of which were freshmen. Those pledges were the first freshmen to join WILG this year. Lisa M. Morin ’09, rush co-chair for Epilon Theta, did not comment on how many pledges they received.

Morin said that “This was defi-
nitely the best IAP rush we’ve had in years.” Epilon Theta so far has 20 residents out of a total capacity of 26. “It’s been a wonderful year.” “We’ve had time to adjust to fresh-
man on campus,” she said, referring to an MIT policy that requires all students to live on campus during their freshman year.

Takusagawa, who was less opti-

mistic, said Fenway House is oper-
ating at approximately half-capaci-
ty and hasn’t seen any changes in that statistic for the last two years. “Our house is not especially do-
ing that well,” said Takusagawa.

He said IAP rush was disappoint-

ing, because Fenway was “putting in a lot publicity but getting a low return,” as only ten students visited the house during IAP rush. Last year, only one person showed up at the scheduled rush events.

Takusagawa claimed that the problem was two-fold: students were “too hosed” and it is all too easy under the MIT housing system for students to ignore alternative housing options, since they are not forced to move.

Student House gained two new members this year, compared to ten last year. The house has a current total of 21 occupants out of a capacity of 28 to 30. Though “the budget for Student House looks okay,” the house needs to have 23 to 25 occu-
pants, Olejarczyk said.

“We’ve had 32 people living in the house this year, which is full ca-
pacity,” Avenner said about pika. “At this point we’re fairly confident that we are financially sustainable.”

Chodzie said that she was hap-
pier with the numbers for WILG’s fall rush. Rush chairs employ varied strate-
gies to attract more students. Fen-
way House has looked into other artistic centers in Boston, such as Berklee College and the Museum of Fine Arts, Takusagawa said Fenway’s residents were students who had gone abroad or taken a year off and no longer wanted to live in a dormitory. Because of its close proximity to artistic centers in Boston, such as Berklee College and the Museum of Fine Arts, Takusagawa said Fenway House presents “lots of opportuni-
ties for students in arts,” and that it would use this angle for future pro-
motion. They have already begun to hold weekly arts group meetings, he said.

In the past, Epilon Theta’s pro-
spective members had two years to accept their bids. This year, bids expired after one week. Morin said the house as a whole put in more ef-
fort in planning rush this year. They chose as the background for all their postings and advertisements across campus a yellow, signature cheddar cheese yellow to create high visibil-
ity garnered after the fact that they live in a yellow mansion and “have a certain fondness for ducks,” as their web site stated. She said that a big focus for Epilon Theta has been to emphasize the notion of the living group as a home. “When people pledge, we say, ‘Welcome home.’”

In contrast to Epilon Theta, pika had gradually become less focused on a fixed rush and a quick accep-
tance of interest. Avenner said that it was easier for pika to rush this year be-
cause the house was full and mem-
bers had had time to adapt to the freshmen on campus policy. Before freshmen on campus, prospective pikans pledged immediately after rush, and then moved in. Since the policy took effect, many freshmen interested in moving into pika their sophomore year have not pledged immediately after rush. Avenner said that members of pika had to learn to get less discouraged if a freshman who displayed interest in joining the house didn’t move in immediately.

In an effort to attract more stu-
dents to Student House, Olejarczyk said, “We’re trying to hold more events this year … We have a week-
ly game night event … We want to hold more events on campus and at Student House this year.”

Most ILG’s Under House Capacity

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tions apply. Seats are limited.
Sadoway Researches Ways To Produce Clean Energy

By Carolyn Y. Johnson

Years before climate change, greenhouse gases, or oil addictions broke into the popular consciousness, Donald R. Sadoway had a gut feeling: He did not want to spend his life studying oil.

"I wanted to find a place where I could express my love of chemistry, but I didn't want to be involved with this black goo," the 55-year-old materials science professor recently recalled. So he went into metallurgy instead.

Now, as a growing body of scientific evidence indicates that carbon dioxide and fossil fuels are driving global warming, what started as an instinct has become a full-blown crusade against carbon and oil. Sadoway, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, works to make metal smelters environmentally benign. He invents materials and batteries that will help the world transition from a fossil-fuel-powered world to an "electro-chemical" world where energy will be produced and stored cleanly. He tries to incorporate ethics into engineering.

"People are beginning to realize that climate change is the number one problem facing humanity, and I want to be in the cadre of engineers and scientists who come up with solutions," he said.

Activism isn't new to Sadoway, who grew up in Oshawa, Canada, the grandson of Ukrainian immigrants. In college, he staged demonstrations and practiced civil disobedience to fight for human rights in the former Soviet Union. He led protests and fought for a multicultural Canadian identity — beyond just British and French. His worldview was shaped by professors who fled the United States because of McCarthyism.

"The stereotype of engineers in the 1960s is these guys with brush cuts, pocket protectors, skinny ties, and slide rules who were very apolitical, and if they had any politics they were conservative. They liked order. They like discipline," Sadoway said. His professors showed him that engineers could be social activists, too.

Sadoway is the first to admit that his present day crusades seem mundane at best to the average listener. He's seen people glaze over and look for escape routes when he starts to talk about his work. Cleaner metal smelters? The next frontier... of batteries?

His latest attempt to help people through science lies on a table in his office: a thin blue square that produces about as much energy as a quadruple-A battery, but has the look and feel of a potato chip bag folded in half. The Slimcell as Sadoway calls the flimsy battery, is basically made of thin foils — a radical departure from traditional batteries, which are typically heavy and filled with liquids.

One day, powerful but lightweight batteries like the Slimcell prototype will set people free of power outlets and the gas pump, powering everything from laptops to electric cars, Sadoway said.

That, in turn, will allow environmentalism to move forward. Electric cars will no longer be limited by heavy batteries with brief lives, and a "green" choice won't mean a sacrifice.

Current batteries keep people on a short leash, Sadoway said. "We are tethered in the wireless age."

When he is not working in the lab, Sadoway spends much of his time teaching chemistry — and more — to half of MIT’s freshman class. He connects basic science concepts to culture, music, and politics. His lesson on the structure of the atom, for instance, comes with a discussion of the role scientists played in the nuclear bomb; when the class discusses DNA, he brings up "the abuses visited upon Rosalind Franklin" by her co-discoverers of DNA, Watson and Crick.

Sadoway hopes to give his students a sense that chemistry affects culture, politics and society, as well as science.

"It’s really an elegant way of starting a conversation between policy and hard-core engineering — not by having a class, ‘ethics for engineers,’ but [by] getting the student interested from the outset," he said.
17th Annual
Diversity Career Fair

Wednesday, February 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 2006
10:00am – 3:00pm
DuPont Athletic Center

Over 40 companies, including:
Apple Computer, Applied Materials, Guidant, Hewlett-Packard, IBM,
Lawrence Livermore Labs, Lockheed Martin, Qualcomm, Schlumberger,
Teradyne and more!!

Everyone is welcome!!

For more information visit:
http://web.mit.edu/ome/www/careerfair

Presented by the Office of Minority Education and:

\textbf{AISES} \hspace{1cm} \textbf{MAES} \hspace{1cm} \textbf{NSBE} \hspace{1cm} \textbf{SHPE}
Explain Causes Of Warm January

Weather, from Page 1

treme conditions, because they tend to enhance mixing of cold polar with warm tropical air, Illari said. Blocks can persist for a few days to several weeks, she said.

Illari believes that the moderate weather in January can be attributed to the lack of blocks over the northern Pacific. She says this zonal flow allowed the jet stream to remain farther north, insulating us at MIT from the cold arctic air, while allowing warmer tropical air to push up across the country.

At the same time, a persistent block over the northern Atlantic caused severe disruptions in the jet stream in the eastern hemisphere. Illari said this block allowed cold air to rush southward and caused record-low temperatures over Russia, central Europe, and her home country of Italy.

Moskaitis said January is typically the “top month for blocking events” in the north Atlantic and Pacific, so “we were fortunate this January.”

The conditions that cause blocks remain an “active area of research,” said Illari. She said that sea surface temperatures affect long-term jet stream behavior.

According to the NOAA Climate Prediction Center Web site, the Pacific Ocean is experiencing La Niña conditions, a pattern of cooler-than-normal sea surface temperatures near the equator. La Niña conditions, to which Illari says Pacific zonal flows are closely tied, are expected to continue for up to 6 months.

Illari cautions that there are many interacting variables that complicate forecast models, including predictions of the formation of blocks. According to the Climate Prediction Center Web site, the difficulty in providing general forecasts beyond a few days is a result of the “inability of numerical weather prediction models to simulate the onset and evolution of blocking flows.”

Moskaitis said that while blocks are created randomly, they become more persistent as passing storms reinforce them. “Once you stop feeding it storm systems, it breaks down.”

The jet stream will give way to a “more typical winter pattern” with more variable temperatures and conditions, according to the Web site. A persisting major block developed over the north Pacific between February 6th and 13th, and this was a factor in last week’s winter blizzard, Illari said.

Moskaitis is a Staff Meteorologist for The Tech.

Lack of blocking by North–South airflow contributed to warm January weather.

Smile!

Maybe he’s smiling because The Tech’s business office offers an incredible nighttime view of 77 Mass Ave. Or maybe he’s happy because Tech business staffers get paid $10/hour to help run a $250,000 student organization.

Experts Explain Causes Of Warm January

Solution to Sudoku from page 7

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

News • Arts • Campus Life
Photography • Production • Sports
Opinion • Business • Technology
Evacuees provided free meals at Next House and Tang, provided by MIT dining.

Bettin said that smoke traveled up into the floors above and “got trapped in the carpets,” but was contained to apartment hallways. Cleaning crews worked on Monday to eliminate the smoke residue on floors and walls, he said. By Monday afternoon, though, the smell of smoke was still strong throughout the building.

It is not clear if the smoke will pose health problems for the residents, which include young children. The Westgate child care facility on the first floor of the building was not damaged.

### Soln. to Bonus Crossword

- Idaho
- Idaho
- Montana
- Idaho
- Montana
- Idaho
- Montana
- Idaho
- Montana

Evacuees

Housing Did Not Provide Evacuees Food

Westgate, from Page 1

restore full power to the apartments. Residents were allowed to remain inside their apartments during the transition. It is unclear whether Westgate has since gone off the larger generator to its normal power source.

On Sunday, residents bought food and supplies without assistance from MIT Housing in order to subsist throughout the day. “I was surprised there was no immediate response from the housing office,” said Bettin. She said that Karen A. Nilsson, associate dean and director of housing, and a representative from the Environment, Health, and Safety Office arrived at around 6 p.m. to update residents.

Flyers posted around the building yesterday instructed residents not to use stores and microwaves. The Westgate government coordinated free meals at Next House and Tang, provided by MIT dining.

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As Harvard University president Lawrence H. Summers faces a no-confidence vote and the university’s governing board considers whether to remove him from office, some of his biggest supporters on the faculty are questioning his ability to lead the divided university.

“I’m a little sad and a little nervous,” said Larry Katz, an economics professor and a friend of Summers. “Here is someone I think is a brilliant scholar, and a person of great skill and integrity, but he seems to have failed to connect with so many other bright scholars on campus.”

Asked if Summers could still govern successfully, Katz said, “I think it’s unclear. Everyone has to think about what’s in the best interest of the university, not the specific interests of any one person.”

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences, home to almost half of the university’s professors, has scheduled a no-confidence vote on Summers for Feb. 28. The vote is only symbolic, but some professors expect it to pass by an even wider margin than a similar measure last year. Many of Summers’ opponents have been pushing the governing board, known as the Corporation, to remove Summers before the meeting.

Two professors and a senior official who have spoken with Corporation members say the board is considering doing so, although board members have been publicly silent. One board member reached at home Sunday declined to comment, and others did not return phone calls.

Kennedy School of Government professor David Gergen said he hoped Summers, arts and sciences professors, and the Corporation could work out “an amicable agreement on how to proceed.” But Gergen didn’t know exactly what that would be.

“My sense is that there are significant reservoirs of support for him, including in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences,” said Gergen, a confidant of Summers. “But all of us can see the realities. These are difficult times.”

Summers had done many good things for Harvard, from planning its dramatic expansion into Allston to hiring strong deans at the Kennedy School and Law School, Gergen said. But he stressed that he didn’t know the full story behind the grievances of Summers’ critics.

The governing board, known as the Corporation, “is going to have to consider its fiduciary responsibility, to consider what’s in the best interests of Harvard,” he said.

Some Summers supporters say they are frustrated by the president’s attempts to appease critics. Summers was so chastened by faculty criticism last year that he is no longer offering the bold leadership he once did, said psychology professor Steven Pinker.

For example, Pinker said, Summers removed himself from a curriculum review committee on which they both served. Without Summers’ vision, the results of the committees work were “thin gruel,” he said.

“If he’s just going to be accumulating enemies and not advancing curriculum reform or other initiatives, it makes it a little harder for his supporters to articulate why we are his supporters,” Pinker said. “No one can deny there is a crisis. For people who think he’s been treated badly … he’s got to give everyone a reason to put their trust back in him.”

In some quarters outside the faculty, Summers’ future is still viewed optimistically. He remains popular with undergraduates, and the Crimson, the student newspaper, has recently editorialized in his favor. In one piece, the student newspaper wrote that the new accusations against Summers, such as complaints over the departure of a dean, appear “underwhelming.”

“If the faculty does have other legitimate, timely concerns with Summers, it needs to enumerate them … rather than continue to blast the president in the face with water that was long ago under the bridge,” the Crimson wrote.

Jack Corrigan, an alumnus of Harvard College and the law school who is also a longtime friend of Summers, cited several projects designed to benefit the public, such as the new Harvard Stem Cell Institute, a project with Google to digitize Harvard’s library, and a program that ensures that low-income parents do not pay for their children to attend the school.

“These are very significant and aggressive steps,” he said. “The bottom line is that students still want to go to Harvard, and alumni still give money.”

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

We need someone special. And we ask a lot. But only because so much is needed. If this sounds interesting to you, maybe you’re the person we’re looking for. A Peace Corps volunteer. Find out. Call us at 617-565-5555 x598

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Events This Week

http://50K.mit.edu
Check our website for further information.

Panel Discussion: Panel discussion: How to win $50K

Panelists: Past winners of $50K

Thursday, February 23, 2006

Development Track:

Team-Building Dinner

Wednesday, February 22, 2006

Auditorium

Outside State Kirsch

Speaker: Joe Hadzima

7-9 PM, 4-237

Tuesday, February 21, 2006

Executive Summary

Class: How to Write an

Trends

Creating tomorrow's

MIT $50K

Entrepreneurship Competition
Engineer Hockey Gets Shut Out For The First Time This Season

Hockey, from Page 16

For the first time this season, the MIT Engineers were blanked 3-0 by the Harvard Crimson in the opening round of the NEWMAC playoffs.

Ten seconds after the end of MIT’s fifth power play, a Bulldog forward charged into the zone. Flying toward the goal, he passed across Hopkins’ stick to Jim Ross, who was perfectly positioned to tap the puck into the net, putting the Bulldogs up 2-0.

The second and third periods came and went much like the first. The Bulldogs played more defensively, and the Engineers played more energetically, but it all came to nothing. Bryant managed to kill penalties after penalty, clearing the puck and running out the clock on more than 10 MIT power plays. In the final minutes of the third period, the Bulldogs silenced the crowd and closed the door on an Engineer comeback as Bryant’s Erik Brouillard slipped another shot past Hopkins.

Defenders Nicholas J. Maietta ’07 and Jeremy D. Myers ’08 played aggressively, and fought for every possession, but the MIT offense was listless and unimpressive. Despite outshooting the Bulldogs 45 to 33, MIT placed every shot straight on, no fakes, no dekes, and no surprises. Freshmen Nick R. LaBounty and Ryan W. Ballestine, who have been miracle workers for the Engineers this season, were silenced by Bryant’s defense. The Bulldogs outshot, outplayed, and outscored the Engineers.

This loss leaves MIT with a record of 9-5-3. Next for MIT are the Northeast Collegiate Hockey Association Eastern Conference playoffs. The first round will be held tomorrow at the University of Connecticut.

Kwan Injury and Miller’s Crashes Force NBC to Change Marketing

Olympics, from Page 16

The face of U.S. Figure Skating for the past decade, dropped out after she felt she couldn’t compete because of injury. Considered by many as the greatest American skater never to have won an Olympic gold medal, American viewers will once again miss out on the opportunity to see Kwan atop the podium.

American skier Bode Miller came into these Winter Games as one of the biggest names in alpine skiing, and he’s failed to deliver. After finishing out of the medals in the Downhill, he put up a great run in the first leg of the Men’s Combined, only to be disqualified for straddling a gate.

Miller then followed that up with a near crash on the Super G, barely managing to stay on his skis. Short Track speed skater Apolo Anton Ohno, the beloved and controversial gold medalist from four years ago, didn’t even qualify for the finals in his first event, the 1500m, although he did capture the bronze this weekend in the 1000m.

NBC and the media focused on athletes that no one has heard of. That and my continuing appreciation for Curling as the greatest sport that has yet to cross the border from Canada.

MIT Height Deficit Contributes To Final Game Loss

Basketball, from Page 16

Smith’s offense exploited a big size advantage over MIT’s forwards and worked the ball inside as much as possible. Helena Charmon in particular was able to use her size and good footwork to lead the Pioneer’s in scoring with 16.

Kimmann saw her first action in the second half. She hobbled up and down the floor on her ankle, and contributed a point, two rebounds, and solid defense during her final game at MIT.

Samantha F. O’Keefe ’09 played heavy minutes at the forward position and played well at times and poorly at others. She led the team with a 66 percent shooting and grabbed six rebounds but committed nine turnovers that cost her team dearly.

The 2005–2006 season was an improvement for MIT, with seven wins and two in conference, compared with last season’s four wins and none in conference. Had there not been so many injuries, the team would have been competitive for a post-season tourney slot to all but the bottom two teams in the NEWMAC.

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Streak Ends at Nine
To Bryant, Unbeaten
early penalty, giving MIT its first
defeats in 15 out of their last 16 games, the Engineers were blanked
goals in 15 out of their last 16
nine game unbeaten streak.

Going into their last home game of the regular season, MIT had been
defeated by just two teams in their conference, the Endicott
Bulldogs, who beat the Engineers earlier this season.

Then at New Year’s Week, the Engineers were
Bryant and exercise the
ghost of their earlier loss. But in a heartbreaking defeat, the Engi-

ties in the first period, including
ruling that the puck had been blown
dead seconds before it entered the
net. That was the closest MIT came
to scoring all night.

The crowd lit up, and the players
began to celebrate, but the officials
ruled that the puck had been blown
dead seconds before it entered the

Thaddeus J. Wozniak ‘06 runs in the preliminary round of the
men’s 200 meter dash during the New England Indoor Division
II Championship on Saturday, Feb. 18. Wozniak completed his

Aartsjepsen and McClean.

stressed that the U.S. missed out on
other medals in snowboarding.

The result for Yuan was 3-16 shoot-
ing night for her even when set.

Injured, Women’s Basketball

Loses 34-41
By Travis Johnson

Clara J. Yuan ‘09 was the last
woman standing for MIT Women’s Basketball on Saturday. Among the
five players that start-
ed their first game in November, Yuan was the only one unjured
at the end of their sea-
son-ending 34-41 loss to
Smith.

Without usual starting forwards
Christa M. Margossian ‘07 and Sara-

By Caitlin Murray

While the fans have results
ahead of time and often turn in
that the U.S. missed out on
other medals in snowboarding.

It’s the competition itself that
should create the drama, not the
television analysts trying to probe
too deeply into story lines that
aren’t really there. While there may
be a tilt within the U.S. Speed Skat-
ing team due to Shani Davis’ deci-
sion not to race in the Team Pursuit
event, we don’t have to hear about it
time every speed skating is shown.

If I really wanted fictional drama or
mindless amusement, I can switch
off the TV and go or go to the
movies. I don’t have to watch
snowboarding at all. After all, it’s
just a race, and it just hap-
pended.

Three minutes into the game, the Bulldogs
took the lead again.

Taking a pass from teammate
Teresa M. Aartsjepsen, McClean
rushed the goal for her third goal of the game.

The crowd got loud, and
the Bulldogs
took the lead again.

The crowd lit up, and the players
began to celebrate, but the officials
ruled that the puck had been blown
dead seconds before it entered the

The crowd got loud, and
the Bulldogs

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dead seconds before it entered the

Engineers were unable to capitalize.

The Bulldogs gave them count-
less chances, drawing five penal-
ties in the last 10 minutes, and
the Bulldogs outscored the

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