

iHouse Slated to Open In Fall at New House 1

Community to Replace Defunct Russian House

By Valery K. Brobbey
and Angeline Wang
STAFF REPORTERS

A new living and learning community will open in New House in the fall to undergraduates. iHouse, a way to "bridge living and learning at MIT," according to Professor of Urban Planning Bishwapriya Sanyal, who is involved as a faculty member, will open in New House 1, which used to be the home of the now defunct Russian House. There will be 21 residents.

Sanyal said that the purpose of iHouse is to focus on international development and to "create a student at MIT who will see themselves as a citizen of the world ... who cares about issues not bounded by territories."

In the dormitory, the planners are hoping to bring in faculty to discuss international issues, show movies about development, and think about how to solve problems, Sanyal said.

For current undergraduates interested in living in iHouse, a housing request must be submitted by tomorrow at <http://web.mit.edu/housing/undergrad/application.html>.

iHouse will be linked to the D-Lab international development course, with D-Lab lecturer Amy B.

Smith residing in the house.

Because of its link to academic programs, iHouse "meets all the requirements of a cultural house without being a cultural house," Harris said.

"MIT is a very international place," Sanyal said. "International is nothing new ... the goal is to create a setting of living and learning that will sustain a constant engagement with international issues."

Initially, the house was intended to be a cultural house to celebrate internationalism, "but after discussion with the housemasters we decided to focus on international development," said Raja H. R. Bobbili '07, a resident of New House 1 who said iHouse was his idea.

Bobbili said he conceived the idea in Spring 2005 when Russian House was "disengaged." According to Bobbili, the initial idea was to call the house "global village," but the house voted and chose to call it "international house." At that time, about half of the residents of New House 1 were from outside the United States, Bobbili said.

Bobbili said that implementation has taken two years because the

iHouse, Page 14

Candidates Vie For Prize of Big Screw in Annual Contest

By Swetha Kambhampati
STAFF REPORTER

The annual Big Screw contest, a charity fundraiser sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega, began this Monday and will continue through Friday.

"The main purpose of Big Screw is to raise money for charity, but [it] also has added the bonus of bringing the greater MIT community together," said Sarah C. Hopp '08, the service vice president of APO. "The winner is awarded a four foot, left-handed aluminum wood screw that they have the

honor of keeping until the next year's Big Screw." Professor of Mechanical Engineering John G. Brisson II, last year's winner, will pass the screw to the 2007 champion.

APO will be accepting monetary votes this week for members of the MIT community that deserve a big screw.

"Though one penny equals one vote, people have been known to put in rolls of \$20 bills for candidates who

Big Screw, Page 17

Freshman's Location Unknown

Student Was Last Seen at Mount Holyoke College at End of March

By Nick Semenkovich
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A freshman, apparently required to withdraw from MIT as part of a secretive disciplinary process, has been missing for over a week, according to the South Hadley, Mass. Police Department.

Ryan M. Davis '10, a resident of the third floor of East Campus's east parallel, was last seen on March 31 at the Mount Holyoke College campus, according to a missing persons press release.

Davis withdrew from classes on March 13, according to the MIT Registrar's office. His withdrawal followed a March 12 incident in which MIT police deconstructed a chemistry experiment and allegedly found illegal drugs in Davis's room.

Davis's disappearance prompted a statewide search conducted by the Mount Holyoke College Department of Public Safety. The search is being led "primarily by the South Hadley Police Department, state police, and ... people who work for the Holyoke state park," said Kevin McCaffrey, associate director of the Mt. Holyoke College Communications Office.

Davis was first reported missing to officers at the Mt. Holyoke College Department of Public Safety, who then "thoroughly searched" the campus, said McCaffrey.

The Department of Public Safety turned the case over to the South Hadley Police Department on Wednesday,



MISSING PERSONS SECTION OF MT. HOLYOKE POLICE DEPT. WEBSITE
Ryan M. Davis '10, shown here in his driver's license photograph, was declared a missing person by the Massachusetts State Police and the Mt. Holyoke Campus Police department. Davis was apparently forced to withdraw from MIT following his March 15 arrest on three misdemeanor charges and one felony.

April 4.

On Thursday, April 5, the police department interviewed a convenience store clerk who thought she saw Davis on Sunday, April 1, according to an article published in *The Republican*, a local newspaper. The clerk stated that Davis asked for directions to a section of the Mt. Holyoke Mountain Range.

An article printed in *Mount Holyoke News* stated that on Tuesday, April 3, officers discovered that someone tried to break into Mt. Holyoke College's Outing Club cabin on Skinner Mountain (part of the Mt. Holyoke range), though it did not appear that

Missing Student, Page 15

Uncontested GSC Candidates Elected

Relations With New Graduate Dean, NW35 Construction Involvement Are Goals

By Joyce Kwan
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Graduate Student Council's new officers have been elected and say they are looking to improve communication between the MIT senior administration and the GSC. President-elect Leeland B. Ekstrom G and Vice President-elect Johnna D. Powell G won uncontested elections on April 4 and will take office on May 2 at the GSC General Council meeting.

According to Ekstrom, one goal will be to earn the respect of the new

dean for graduate students, and to cultivate a rapport similar to the one that exists between the GSC and the current Dean for Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert, who will retire this June. Current GSC President Eric G. Weese G called Colbert "a tireless advocate" who "caused MIT to think more seriously about graduate student life."

Another goal will be to stay updated on the construction of NW35, Ekstrom said. NW35, the new graduate dormitory scheduled to open in Fall 2008, will house the residents of Ashdown, the oldest graduate dormitory on campus. Ashdown offers low-cost housing and a convenient location. Tension between Ashdown residents and MIT administrators ensued after MIT announced its revised plans for the new dormitory before

the Cambridge Planning Board in February without much consultation with the graduate community.

The GSC will remain interested in the remainder of the construction of the new dormitory and will try its best to ensure that agreements between the GSC and MIT regarding the construction of NW35 will be followed, Ekstrom said.

Powell said that as vice president, her role will include being "the primary liaison" on the NW35 issue. She said she will strive to preserve the current Ashdown community in the new dormitory, working to keep housing costs low and requesting more feedback from Ashdown officers.

Other primary goals are focused

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Tech Web Site Receives Facelift

SPECIAL TO THE TECH

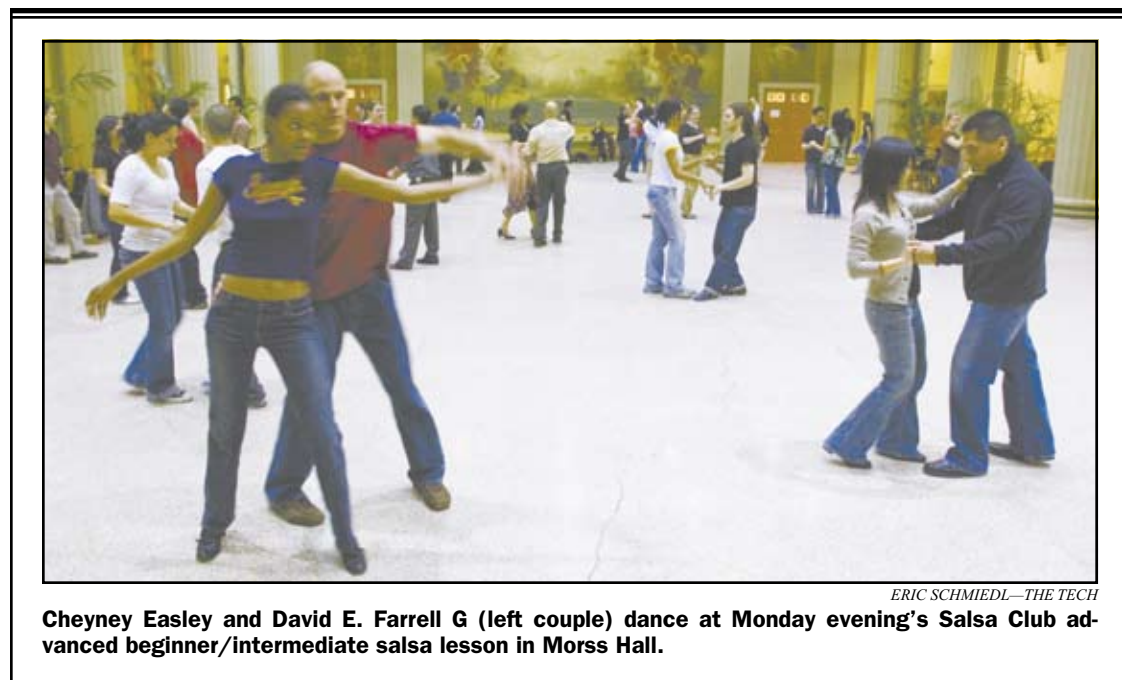
In 1993, *The Tech* proudly became the first newspaper published on the Web, taking the lead in providing news content to the online masses. However, despite being the public face of one of the leading technological universities in the world, in recent years *The Tech* would be the first to admit its Web service was lacking in style, timeliness, and usability. Well, not anymore.

On Friday, April 6, as the newspaper slipped to the presses in the

early hours of the morning, *The Tech's* new Web site was launched, completely redesigned from the outdated layout which had gone primarily untouched for almost a decade. The site debuted with many marked improvements, including a new layout (powered by CSS, a stylesheet that formats the site), pages for individual sections, and photos with better integrated content.

The site also contains a few

Web Site, Page 13



ERIC SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Cheyney Easley and David E. Farrell G (left couple) dance at Monday evening's Salsa Club advanced beginner/intermediate salsa lesson in Morss Hall.

In Short

¶ Undergraduate Association Finance Board applications for the 2007–2008 school year are due this Friday at 11:59 p.m. See <http://web.mit.edu/finboard/www/> for an application. Completed applications should be sent to finboard-request@mit.edu.

¶ Confirm or cancel housing for 2007–2008 by tomorrow's Housing deadline. See <http://web.mit.edu/housing/undergrad/confirm.html>.

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

NEWS

Consumers get "short end of the stick."
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Tufts lab will fight disease.
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NEWS

Harvard asked to reduce student expenditures.
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Marketing to aid officers.
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WORLD & NATION

China Dissident Says Confession Was Forced

By Joseph Kahn

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

Gao Zhisheng, one of China's most outspoken dissidents until his conviction on sedition charges late last year, said in a recorded statement made available over the weekend that while his confession had resulted in a light sentence, it had been made under mental and physical duress.

Gao's remarks, recorded by a close friend and offered to journalists in Beijing, were his first public statement since he was convicted in December. He was given a suspended sentence.

His confession brought criticism from some other human rights advocates.

Gao lives in Beijing with his wife and children. But he said he remained in nearly total isolation, surrounded by plainclothes security forces and forbidden to leave his home, use his telephone or computer or otherwise communicate with the outside world.

He also said a lengthy confession letter released to the public by the authorities after his conviction, while genuine, had come only after he had been subjected to torture. He said his interrogators repeatedly threatened to punish his wife and children unless he admitted the crimes they said he had committed.

Bush Ties Drop in Illegal Immigration to His Policies

By Robert Pear

THE NEW YORK TIMES

YUMA, ARIZ.

President Bush said Monday that tougher enforcement and a new fence at the Mexican border had sharply reduced the influx of illegal immigrants, and he pressed Congress to pass a sweeping revision of the nation's immigration laws.

"It's amazing progress that's been made," Bush said on a return visit to a section of the border that he inspected 11 months ago.

In the last six months, the White House said, Border Patrol reports showed that apprehensions of illegal immigrants along the Mexican border fell by 30 percent, to 418,184, from 594,142 in the comparable period a year earlier. In the Yuma sector, which spans parts of Arizona and California, apprehensions fell by 68 percent to 25,217, from 79,131 in the comparable period a year earlier.

There are now 13,000 Border Patrol agents, up from 9,000 a year earlier. The number will reach 18,000 by the end of next year, Bush said.

Former Students Are Sentenced For Burning Rural Churches

By Jim Noles

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Three former college students who set fire to churches in rural Alabama in February 2006 were sentenced to prison Monday on federal arson charges.

The defendants apologized for the fires, with one of them saying the incidents followed a night of drinking and deer poaching.

"This is the close of a chapter, but not of the book," Judge R. David Proctor of Federal District Court told the young men. "I hope that you will all find a way that, when that last chapter of that book is written, some good will come of this."

Two of the defendants, Benjamin N. Moseley and Matthew L. Cloyd, were sentenced to eight years and one month for setting nine fires over two nights. The third defendant, Russell L. DeBusk Jr., who was involved in only the first five fires, was sentenced to seven years.

All three were also sentenced to five years of supervised release, 300 hours of community service and \$3.1 million in restitution payments to the burned churches.

Iran Says It Can Now Enrich Uranium on Industrial Scale

By Nazila Fathi

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NATANZ, IRAN

Iran claimed on Monday that it is now capable of industrial-scale uranium enrichment, a development that would defy two U.N. resolutions passed to press the country to suspend its enrichment program.

The announcement was greeted with skepticism by Western diplomats and nuclear experts, who said the declaration seemed to have more to do with political showmanship than technical progress. While reporters were invited to the country's main nuclear complex at Natanz, they were not shown any evidence that enrichment of uranium, the step needed to make reactor fuel or weapon-grade fuel, was under way.

In a speech on Monday, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad warned that if the West did not end its pressure against Iran to halt the production of uranium, Iran would review its policy of cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear monitoring entity.

It was unclear whether that was a threat to withdraw from the Nuclear

Non-Proliferation Treaty, as North Korea did four years ago, but Ahmadinejad said that the West "should know that the Iranian nation will defend its rights and that this path is irreversible."

"With great pride, I announce as of today our dear country is among the countries of the world that produces nuclear fuel on an industrial scale," Ahmadinejad told government officials, diplomats, and foreign and local journalists at the Natanz site. "This nuclear fuel is definitely for the development of Iran and expansion of peace in the world."

The government had decreed April 9 national nuclear technology day. Monday was the first anniversary of Ahmadinejad's announcement that Iran had produced enriched uranium at a pilot plant.

The spokesman for the National Security Council, Gordon Johndroe, told reporters traveling with President Bush that the administration was "very concerned" about Iran's declaration, adding, "Iran's decision to limit even further its cooperation with the IAEA is unacceptable." But the administration has carefully avoided making specific

threats about how it might respond, other than to press for tightening sanctions through the U.N. Security Council.

The Security Council on March 24 unanimously passed a resolution to expand sanctions on Iran in an effort to curb its nuclear program. The resolution barred all arms exports and froze some of the financial assets of 28 Iranians linked to the country's military and nuclear programs.

The United States and some European governments have accused Iran of having a clandestine weapons program, but Iran contends that its program is peaceful, for energy purposes, and that it wants to produce fuel for its reactors.

Talks between Ali Larijani, Iran's chief nuclear negotiator, and Javier Solana, the European Union's foreign policy chief, resumed last week after Iran released 15 British sailors and marines who, Iranian officials contended, had strayed into Iranian waters. Solana negotiates on behalf of the permanent members of the Security Council — Russia, China, Britain, France and the United States — plus Germany.

Loyalists to Militant Cleric Rally Against U.S. in Massive Protest

By Edward Wong

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Tens of thousands of protestors loyal to Muqtada al-Sadr, the Shiite cleric, took to the streets of the holy city of Najaf on Monday in an extraordinarily disciplined rally to demand an end to the American military presence in Iraq, burning American flags and chanting "Death to America!"

Residents said the angry, boisterous demonstration was the largest in Najaf, the heart of Shiite religious power, since the American-led invasion in 2003. It took place on the fourth anniversary of the fall of Baghdad, and it was an obvious effort by al-Sadr to show the world the extent of his influence here in Iraq, even though he did not appear at the rally. Al-Sadr went underground after the American military began a new security push in Baghdad on Feb. 14, and his where-

abouts are unknown.

Al-Sadr used the protest to try to reassert his image as a nationalist rebel who appeals to both anti-American Shiites and Sunni Arabs. He established that reputation in 2004, when he publicly supported Sunni insurgents in Fallujah who were battling U.S. Marines, and quickly gained popularity among Sunnis across Iraq and the region. But his nationalist credentials have been tarnished in the last year, as Sunni Arabs have accused al-Sadr's militia, the Mahdi Army, of torturing and killing Sunnis.

Iraqi policemen and soldiers lined the path taken by the protestors on Monday, and there were no reports of violence during the day. The U.S. military handed security oversight of the city and province of Najaf to the Iraqi government in December, and the calm atmosphere on Monday showed that the Iraqi security forces

could maintain control, keeping suicide bombers away from an obvious target. In March, when millions of Shiite pilgrims flocked to the holy cities of the south, Iraqi security forces in provinces adjoining Najaf failed to stop bombers from killing scores of them.

Vehicles were not allowed near Monday's march, and in Baghdad there was a daylong ban on traffic to prevent outbreaks of violence. During the protest in Najaf, al-Sadr followers draped themselves in Iraqi flags and waved them to symbolize national unity, and a small number of conservative Sunni Arabs took part in the march.

"We have 30 people who came," said Ayad Abdul Wahab, an agriculture professor in Basra and an official in the Iraqi Islamic Party, a leading fundamentalist Sunni Arab group.

WEATHER

The Day After Tomorrow

By Michael A. Yee

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Following the cold Easter weekend, we can expect warmer temperatures for the near future. A high pressure system is sweeping across the New England region, accompanied by clear skies and smooth sailing. For today and tomorrow, expect daytime highs in the high forties and overnight lows near freezing.

Elsewhere in the country, a small patch of light snow in the Great Lakes region poses no threat to the Boston metropolitan area, as it will be displaced by the high pressure system bringing the current sunny weather. Another larger snow system covers the Pacific Northwest, crossing the Plains into the South. As the snow cuts across Kansas, the precipitation gradually shifts to moderate rainfall, heaviest over northern Florida.

Heading into Wednesday night, the storm system will sweep east and north, hitting Boston sometime early Thursday morning. Beginning as wet snow, precipitation will progress into a wintry mix before noon, giving way to rain as temperatures approach a high in the mid thirties. Snowfall may resume as temperatures drop Thursday night.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, with brisk winds. High 49°F (10°C).

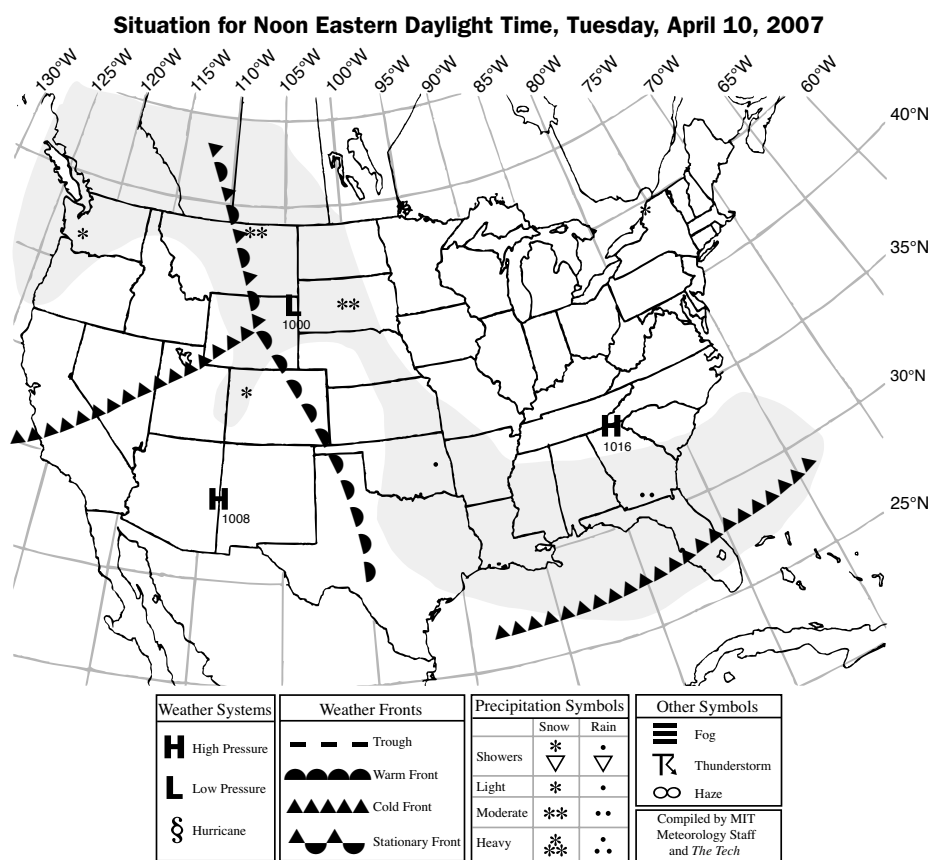
Tonight: Scattered cloud cover, with weaker winds. Low 34°F (1°C).

Tomorrow: Partly sunny, with light winds. High 48°F (9°C).

Tomorrow night: Cloudy skies, progressing to overcast. Low 32°F (0°C).

Thursday: Snow early, changing to rain by the afternoon. High 38°F (3°C).

Thursday night: Continuing rainfall, possibly punctuated by snow. Low 33°F (1°C).



Pfizer's Inhaled-Insulin Diabetes Drug Falter in Domestic Sales

By Alex Berenson
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Exubera, the first and so far only commercially available inhaled-insulin diabetes treatment, is on the verge of turning into an expensive flop for its maker, Pfizer.

At one point, the company regarded the drug as a potential blockbuster. But despite six months of marketing to doctors, Exubera receives only about one of every 500 prescriptions for insulin written in the United States.

A new diabetes pill, Januvia, which is made by Merck and was approved after Exubera, is already prescribed about 40,000 times a week in the United States, 25 times as often as the Pfizer drug.

And so Wall Street analysts are cutting their sales estimates for Exubera, which has been dogged by questions about its safety, cost and convenience.

Pfizer says it has not given up on Exubera and last week started a new marketing campaign to persuade doctors to prescribe the medicine. In January, the company projected that despite its slow start Exubera would eventually achieve worldwide sales of \$2 billion. But doctors and ana-

lysts are skeptical.

"I don't think the drug can be saved," said David Risinger, an analyst at Merrill Lynch, who last week cut his estimates for Exubera sales. Risinger now expects that Exubera will have \$310 million in sales worldwide in 2012, down from his previous estimate of \$800 million. Other analysts have also cut their forecasts.

Exubera's problems add to the uncertainties facing Pfizer, whose shares have lost almost half their value since 2000. While the company remains very profitable, its health is increasingly tied to Lipitor, a best-selling cholesterol-lowering medicine that faces competition from cheaper drugs and in several years, patent expiration.

In interviews yesterday, Pfizer executives acknowledged Exubera's problems but said they believed that a new sales push would spur the drug's sales. The company will work to convince doctors that insulin, in both inhaled and injectable forms, is underprescribed. And this summer, Pfizer plans to begin directly advertising the inhaler to patients.

"Sales have been slower than expected," said Olivier Brandicourt,

general manager for Pfizer's metabolic and cardiovascular division, which includes Exubera. "It takes time to educate the physician."

Rochelle Chaiken, Pfizer's vice president for global medical affairs, said almost 60 percent of diabetes patients had overly high blood sugar levels despite being on standard oral diabetes medications. Many of those patients should be taking Exubera, she said.

But Pfizer's marketing may not be enough to overcome the medical, economic, practical and legal concerns that have hurt Exubera. In theory, the drug's biggest advantage over standard injectable insulin is that it is more convenient and does not require needle pricks.

In reality, though, the Exubera inhaler is bulky and can be hard to use, doctors say. The device is nearly as large as a tennis ball can when it is open, and must be repeatedly pumped before the insulin can be inhaled. Making matters worse, Exubera comes in different doses from standard insulin, and converting doses can be complicated, the doctors say.

Challenge Over Emissions Rule Set To Begin in Vermont Federal Court

By Danny Hakim
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The fight over cars and carbon dioxide moves Tuesday from the Supreme Court to a federal courtroom in Burlington, Vt., in a case that automakers say could reshape vehicles sold on the East and West coasts.

The industry is suing to block a 2004 California regulation involving global warming. The rule would require a 30 percent cut in emissions of greenhouse gases from cars and trucks sold in Vermont and New York, which follow California's air quality rules, to be fully phased in by the 2016 model year.

In court filings, automakers have argued that regulating the emissions will increase pollution, cause more traffic deaths and lead domestic automakers to stop selling most of their passenger models in states that adopt such regulations.

The companies have disputed that global warming is a problem, even though they have acknowledged it in different forums as a serious problem. And they tried, mostly unsuccessfully, to close much of this case to the public.

"This is a huge issue to consumers, because it may well determine what vehicles are available for them to purchase," said Gloria Bergquist, a spokeswoman for the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, which includes General Motors, Toyota and most other large automakers. "If it's a big issue for consumers, it's a big issue to us."

Environmental groups and the offices of the attorneys general in Vermont and New York, which is a party to the case, say the automakers are overstating the complexity and hardship of such a regulation.

"It's that sky-is-falling approach, but the sky didn't fall with catalytic converters," Attorney General William H. Sorrell of Vermont said, referring to the anti-pollution technology forced on the industry in the 1970s.

Last week, in a 5-4 decision in Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency, the Supreme Court ruled that the agency has the authority to regulate heat-trapping gases in automobiles. The Bush administration has long opposed that.

Instead, more than 12 states, including California, Massachusetts,

New York and Vermont, have already or are in the process of moving to regulate such emissions.

California has the authority to set air-quality rules, and Northeastern states have long chosen to follow those rules instead of Washington's. The Supreme Court victory was important for the states, because the approval of the environmental agency is needed before California can regulate emissions involving global warming.

Automakers have sued to block the California regulation in federal courts in California, Rhode Island and Vermont, though only the Vermont case has gone forward. That case is scheduled to enter the trial phase Tuesday.

The battle has exposed fault lines among automakers. Two trade groups representing the major manufacturers are involved in the suit, one dominated by domestic producers and one by foreign.

They have clashed over their legal strategies, and only GM and DaimlerChrysler, two of the more outspoken companies opposing the new regulation, are directly listed as plaintiffs.

In Reversal, Britain Says Ex-Captives Can Not Sell Stories to Media Sources

By Alan Cowell
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

After howls of protest from former military commanders, opposition politicians and relatives of service personnel who had been killed, Britain's defense secretary, Des Browne, on Monday abruptly reversed a decision to allow some of the sailors and marines captured by Iran to sell their stories to the media.

The ban came too late to prevent two of the 15 captives, released last week after 14 days, from recounting their experiences in return for payment.

One of them, Leading Seaman Faye Turney, 25, the only woman in the group, said she had been stripped to her underwear, thrown into a tiny cell and had been given the impression that she was being measured for her coffin. She had also been asked whether she wanted to see her 3-year-old daughter again.

Another sailor, Arthur Batchelor, 20, the youngest in the group, said he cried himself to sleep after one of the guards "kept flicking my neck with

his index finger and thumb," making him think of video-recorded executions of hostages in Iraq. His captors mocked him for his youthful looks, calling him "Mr. Bean" after a comedy character played by the British actor Rowan Atkinson.

The decision to allow the sailors and marines to sell their stories elicited avowals of distaste among many people, including Kelvin MacKenzie, a former editor of the tabloid newspaper The Sun, who called it a "catastrophic error." The Sun and The Daily Mirror paid for the two captives' stories.

Michael Heseltine, a former defense minister for the opposition Conservatives, told the BBC, "I have never heard anything so appalling."

As the debate built to a fever pitch, Browne, the defense secretary, said the Royal Navy had faced "a tough call" in permitting its captured personnel to accept payments.

"I want to be sure those charged with these difficult decisions have clear guidance for the future," he said in a statement. "Until that time no further service personnel will be

allowed to talk to the media about their experiences in return for payment.

"Many strong views on this have been expressed, but I hope people will understand that this was a very tough call, and that the navy had a duty to support its people. Nevertheless, all of us who have been involved over the last few days recognize we have not reached a satisfactory outcome."

The Sun and The Daily Mirror did not specify how much they paid for the stories. Turney reportedly turned down an offer of around \$200,000 for her story and accepted a lower combined offer from The Sun and the ITV television network. Part of the money, she said, would be donated to a charity for her fellow service personnel aboard the frigate Cornwall.

In the Sun account, she was quoted as saying: "One morning I heard the noise of wood sawing and nails being hammered near my cell. I couldn't work out what it was. Then a woman came into my cell to measure me up from head to toe.

Clerics Issue Fatwa Against Pakistan's Female Tourism Minister

By Salman Masood

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

A group of radical clerics has issued a religious decree against Pakistan's tourism minister after some local newspapers printed photographs showing her holding onto a male colleague after landing from a parachute jump in France.

The decree, or fatwa, was issued by a religious parallel court set up last week by a group of activist clerics in the Lal Mosque here. The clerics have also demanded that the government enact Islamic law, or Shariah.

The decree issued Sunday accuses the minister, Nilofer Bakhtiar, of un-Islamic behavior. The clerics urged the government of President Pervez Musharraf to "punish and fire her from the government."

Pakistani officials dismissed the fatwa, saying it had no legal, religious or moral authority. Human rights and political activists and many other Pakistanis have condemned the action and expressed support for her.

Bakhtiar also dismissed the criticism and, in an interview Monday, said the photographs were taken out of context and show her being congratulated for making the jump at a charity event.

After the photographs were published, incensed radical clerics and some other conservative Pakistanis latched onto the opportunity to not only criticize her but also to attack Musharraf for what he calls his approach of "enlightened moderation." The pictures, in their view, violated acceptable moral norms in this Muslim country.

Italy's Prime Minister Criticized Over Hostage Swap With Taliban

By Peter Kiefer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ROME

The government of Prime Minister Romano Prodi came under fierce attack on Monday after the Taliban said it had killed an Afghan hostage who was a colleague of the Italian journalist freed last month in a controversial prisoner swap.

That journalist, Daniele Mastrogiacomo of La Repubblica, was freed on March 19 in exchange for five Taliban fighters released by the Afghan government. Italy had lobbied Pakistan to make a deal. At the time, the Italian government spokesman said, "We think that the life of a person is very precious."

But on Sunday, the Taliban said it killed Mastrogiacomo's translator, Ajmal Naqshbandi, after failing to arrange another prisoner swap. Taliban fighters had already killed the men's driver.

The swap that led to Mastrogiacomo's release was roundly condemned by the United States, Britain and other allies, which argued that deals with terrorists only make civilians more vulnerable.

On Monday, there were fresh complaints in Italy by opposition parties and by a charity group that claimed that the government had paid millions of dollars to free an earlier hostage in Afghanistan. That group, Emergency, acted as a mediator in the case of Mastrogiacomo.

Gino Strada, the leader of the group, said Monday that Prodi's government paid \$2 million in ransom that freed Gabriele Torsello, a journalist kidnapped in October.

McDonald's to Allow More Unions in Its China Outlets

By David Barboza

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SHANGHAI, CHINA

A year after Wal-Mart Stores unionized all its stores in China under pressure from the government, McDonald's is cooperating with China's large state-controlled union to allow the formation of more unions in its 750 outlets here.

A McDonald's spokesman said on Monday that the company was working with union officials to help establish a union at its stores in southern Guangdong province, one of the country's wealthiest regions.

The announcement comes nearly two weeks after a state-controlled newspaper in Guangdong reported that some McDonald's, KFC, and Pizza Hut restaurants in Guangdong were violating the law by paying employees less than minimum wage and denying some workers full-time benefits.

Officials at McDonald's and at Yum Brands, which operates nearly 2,000 KFC and Pizza Hut outlets in China, say they obey the law. But McDonald's officials say they are now investigating the allegations.

Guangdong labor authorities quickly announced an investigation into the matter, and the country's largest state-run union, the All China Federation of Trade Unions, accused McDonald's and Yum of underpaying their workers.

Defaults Rise Among Safer Mortgages

By Vikas Bajaj

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Some of the problems afflicting mortgages made to borrowers with weak, or subprime, credit increasingly appear to be cropping up in loans made to home owners who were thought to be less risky.

The latest sign of possible further deterioration in the credit market came Monday as American Home Mortgage, a lender based in Melville, N.Y., said that it would earn less and pay out a smaller dividend because it was being asked to buy back and write down the value of loans known as "Alternative A," or Alt-A, that were made to borrowers with decent credit. Shares in the company tumbled 15.2 percent, to close at \$21.92.

The announcement followed a disclosure last week by M&T Bank, a regional bank based in Buffalo, which said it would write down Alt-A loans that it would no longer sell because bids for the mortgages came in lower than it had expected.

Since the subprime mortgage market began deteriorating late last year, investors and analysts have kept a close watch on Alt-A loans, worrying that problems in higher-grade loans would prove to be a greater threat to the housing market and the economy.

OPINION



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © 2007 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.

Corrections

The April 3, 2007 news article about the Department of Defense investigation into MIT's Lincoln Laboratory did not make clear the role of Brandon B. Godfrey from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. He was the DoD investigator and author of the report.

The April 3, 2007 news article about the William Lowell Putnam Math Competition incorrectly named the three MIT students who were Putnam Fellows in 2005. Oleg I. Golberg '08, Daniel M. Kane '07, and Matthew M. Ince '08 were Putnam Fellows. According to Professor of Mathematics Hartley Rogers Jr., Ince was unsure about his availability for the 2006 competition. Thus, Kuat T. Yessenov '08, who had the next highest 2005 score, was named to the 2006 MIT team in Ince's place.

Letters To The Editor

Pro-Choice or Prohibit Developmental Alteration: Choose One, Not Both

Science may be close to identifying the biological basis of sexual orientation. Dwight M. Chambers, in his Friday column, argues that a pregnant mother should not be able to alter a fetus in order to stop it from becoming homosexual later in life, offering as a reason the effective genocide of homosexuals; an atrocity which would unfortunately be permitted under current jurisprudence. In fact, the law does not prohibit alteration of a fetus; it even allows its termination under the "right to privacy."

Because life is a pre-requisite to the exercise of all other rights, it follows that all other rights are subordinate to the right to life. Then, for there to be a prohibition on altering a fetus, there would first have to be a prohibition on abortion. It would be difficult to argue that the right to privacy empowers us to destroy completely the fetus in the first trimester, but not

merely to alter it (or the hormonal environment in which it develops).

Though banning abortion would save a baby that would grow up to be homosexual from death, it would not save it from alteration. While a mother would not have liberty to terminate the baby, she could still have the smaller amount of freedom required to modify the baby. Protecting the baby from alteration on the basis of its anticipated sexual orientation requires an additional prohibition on such an alteration.

However, can we prohibit interference of fetal development for sexual orientation assignment, but allow it for the prevention of genetic illnesses which may be more easily treated during gestation? A ban on abortion enables society to recognize the rights of the fetus, including the right to be free from developmental interference, except when necessary to treat a legitimate disease. Any attempt to classify homosexuality as an illness would likely fail due to the current medical consensus that homosexuality is not a disease.

To be sure, it might be simpler just to prohibit doctors from disclosing to expectant parents that their fetus possesses benign conditions which do not impair the normal functioning of an individual. Such a prohibition would allow those who wish to prohibit alterations to a fetus

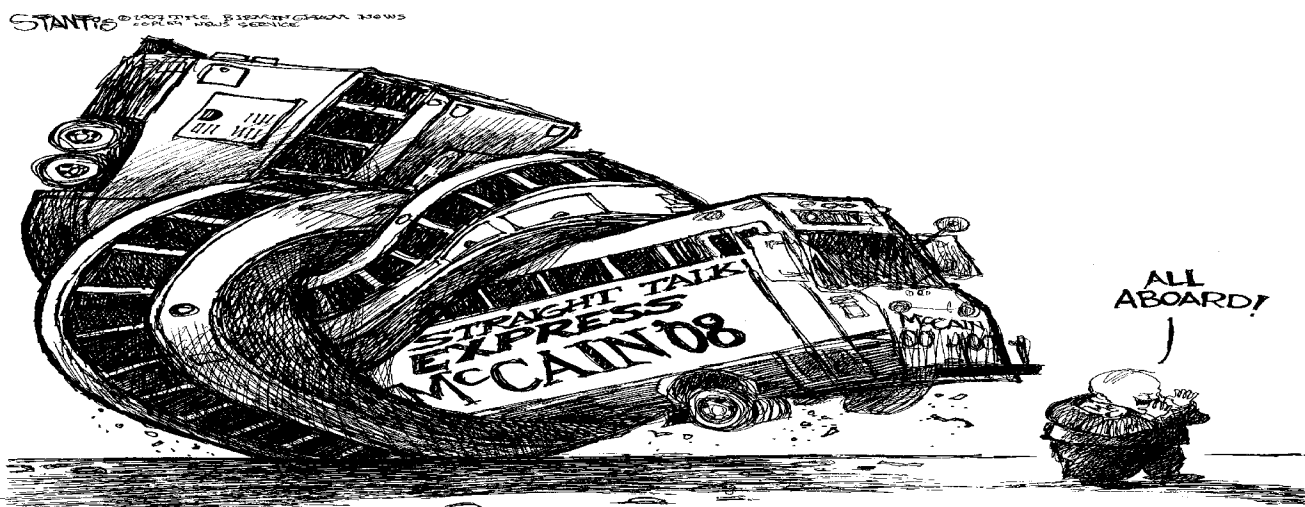
while still standing up for a right to abortion to have their cake and eat it too.

Under such a prohibition of disclosure, homosexuality would be considered a benign condition. If the parents do not know the baby is gay, they cannot take action on the basis of that knowledge.

While such a ban may seem to sidestep the necessity of banning abortion, it does not. If the mother has a right to know, then only if her right to know violates the rights of another can we possibly forbid telling the mother her fetus is gay. By prohibiting disclosure, we must then concede that the fetus has rights, and thus cannot be terminated.

If a fetus is disposed to homosexuality, expectant parents cannot be denied this information. However, parents should expect to be able to use this information to eliminate the homosexual tendencies of the fetus so long as abortion is legal — it is inconsistent to argue that the mother has a right to terminate the fetus, but not to make changes which not only preserve the life but also maintain almost all of the normal characteristics of the fetus. Outlawing abortion enables us to assert a right on behalf of the fetus to prohibit certain changes, like ones for non-illnesses like sexual orientation.

Justin Wong '07



The road to the White House

Opinion Policy

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

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

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

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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

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Learn how wavelets deconstruct sounds and images into a mathematical analog of a music score, and how they can be used in a multitude of ways, from the restoration of old recordings to the study of birdsong, fingerprints, and earthquakes.

Presented by the Clay Mathematics Institute and hosted by the MIT Math Department.

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



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Free tickets for MIT students!

Lyric Stage Company of Boston: *Miss Witherspoon*

Saturday, April 21 at 4pm
140 Clarendon Street, Boston

By Christopher Durang; directed by Scott Edmiston

Known for his eccentric humor, Durang's Pulitzer-Prize-finalist begs the question "does life get any better after death?" Veronica, after committing suicide, is destined to return to earth, reincarnated over and over, learning that the "other side" offers no respite. Navigating through the rough seas of fate and free will (and large objects falling from the sky), she searches for truth and peacefulness, questioning ideas of faith in a "waiting room" between death and rebirth.

Theater Offensive: *Surviving the Nian*

Sunday, April 22 at 3pm
Roberts Studio Theater at the BCA, 527 Tremont Street, Boston

Music and lyrics by Melissa Li, book by Li and Abe Rybeck; directed by Patrick Wang.

The musical follows the journey of Kaylin, who returns home to Hong Kong after a five-year absence to introduce her lover, Asha, and her new life plan to her family. The musical explores Kaylin's relationships and loyalties as well as her ability to deal with her family's own plans for her.

Boston Secession: *Mother Tongue: The Music and Meter of the English Language*

Friday, April 27 at 8pm
First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, 11 Garden Street, Cambridge

Calling Commoners and Kings! Join Boston Secession on a witty journey—from Handel and Purcell to Gilbert and Sullivan—exploring the pitfalls, pratfalls and pleasantries of setting the English language to music. Secession has commissioned three brilliant composers Byron Adams, Ruth Lomon (composer-in-residence), and Scott Wheeler to write short choral pieces that demonstrate the inherent elegance, rhythm and beauty of the English language itself.

Aardvark Jazz Orchestra: *Jazz in Film: Ellington & Beyond*

Sunday, April 29 at 3:30pm
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

Special guest: Ran Blake, piano. In honor of Ellington's birthday, Aardvark offers a unique program of film music composed by Ellington, a Ducal piano tribute by Ran Blake, and a rarely screened short film *Date with Duke* featuring the Maestro and animated perfume bottles! Extending this theme, contemporary animated films will be shown with improvisational soundtracks, and original music by Mark Harvey inspired the will round out the festivities.

Tickets available at the MIT Office of the Arts (E15-205)

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm in person, first-come, first-served only.

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CAMPUS LIFE

Scott's Travels

Of Horse Shopping and Fear

By James Scott Berdahl

So, now we're in Mongolia. It's late August 2005. After a few days in Ulaanbaatar, the capital and, well, the only real city in that country, I meet Will, a fellow traveler looking to buy a horse and head out into the vast Mongolian steppe, in search of adventure of some sort. Will was about twice my age and a hardened traveler. Some time ago, he had been a graduate student working on a PhD in history, until one day he realized he wasn't doing what he wanted in life. He discontinued his studies, broke up with his girlfriend and took what money he had to travel the world. When that ran out he found work as a chef on a sight-seeing vessel that operated off the British Columbian and Alaskan coasts; hardly work at all by the sound of it, until he had enough money to do it all over again. He's been living like that ever since.

As we were already stationed there, Ulaanbaatar seemed like the ideal place to begin our search for horses. Somebody at Will's hotel said he knew of some breeders and offered to take us around to a few places. We happily agreed, and piled into his sedan. As we left the city, the roads rapidly deteriorated. Soon, we were crossing open steppe in the tiny car. Finally we pulled up to a typical Mongolian tent

dwelling, a ger, with a few horses out behind.

We were offered a hard white brick-like substance and a white liquid, both of which we hopefully accepted. Smiling at our hosts, I tried to take a bite of the brick. It didn't budge. I gnawed violently in, and upon breaking off a piece, immediately regretted it. A rancid taste of potent decay filled my mouth, expanding exponentially with each chew. I'm sure at this point my eyes were watering terribly, but I did my best to keep a friendly face and act as though I was enjoying the treats offered. But the taste was simply too overpowering; if only there was something to wash it down ... the drink! I reached desperately for the strange white bowl of liquid and took a large swig. I gagged. A new taste filled my mouth, unique but equally horrible. I found out later that this white beverage was fermented mare's milk, a delicacy in those parts. For relief from the mare's milk, I turned back to a bite of the white brick, and from that back to the milk. After a few panicked minutes of repeating this process, all the while smiling pleasantly to our hosts and making "mmm, delicious" sorts of gestures, the bricks and the liquid were gone. We were ready to negotiate.

Unfortunately, after all Will and I had been through in those few short moments, the hors-

es proved to be too expensive. We tried a few more places with similar results, until eventually our stomachs dictated a temporary surrender. Next we decided to head further out west to a town called Tsetserleg, where prices were allegedly cheaper. No rides were leaving that day though. Overnight, I decided to try out my newly acquired camping gear by walking into the mountains south of the city. It would be better to find whatever glitch there might be in my setup while I was still in town rather than out in the distant countryside somewhere. I made plans to meet Will in the morning and set off.

The mountains themselves were pleasant enough. Nice forests covered grassy slopes, eagles and ravens played in the updrafts, and peculiar Buddhist rock-stick-and-prayer-flag constructions called ovoos prominently capped every significant feature. I was at one such ovoos, overlooking the extensive cityscape carpeting the valley floor below, when the sun began to set. I veered off the path a ways into the woods for privacy, and found as flat a spot as I could to set up my tent. Everything seemed to be in order. In my new sleeping bag, I drifted off to sleep listening to the evening wind whistling up the mountainside.

Suddenly there was a new sound. It was very dark; I had no idea how long I'd been asleep.

The sound was strikingly similar to what one might expect to hear if something were slowly and carefully unzipping my tent door. I lifted my head quietly, peering over my feet. Sure enough, the zipper was moving. Without much thought, I kicked as hard as I could, through my sleeping bag and through the tent door, at whatever was causing the unzipping. I connected, and a set of footsteps ran off into the night. Now I was at a loss as for what to do. I couldn't go back to sleep, but I wasn't sure I'd be able to stay awake. It crossed my mind to tie the door shut. Ah yes, safe inside my highly flammable fortress of 0.5 mm fabric, doors tightly locked down with dental floss.

My thoughts were interrupted by an eerie, unnatural howl drifting in on the night wind. I couldn't place it; it didn't sound like a dog's howl, but it hardly sounded human. It was answered shortly by another similar howl, and then another, farther away. Whatever I'd kicked, there were a lot of them. I'd have to hold off on the sleep for the time being. With no idea of what was ahead for me, I readied my flashlight. My hand passed thoughtfully over my pocket knife. After a moment's hesitation, I pulled out the blade and set the knife within reach. It all seemed so surreal. Had my trip really come to this?

Gadget Review

G-Tech 'The Professional' Messenger Bag

By Waseem S. Daher

Pros

- Durable construction
- Reasonably weatherproof
- Built-in speaker and iPod controls

Cons

- Hard to access iPod in bag
- Slightly heavier because of speaker
- Features you probably won't use

The Lowdown

I almost died when I first heard about this product. A messenger bag with a built-in iPod remote on the shoulder strap? And it has a built-in speaker, too? My head whirled with potential ways my life would improve thanks to this bag: I'd be strolling down Massachusetts Avenue in the dead of winter, listening to my music, when suddenly I'd want to adjust the volume or change the song. While other chumps would be taking off their gloves, pulling their iPods out of their pockets, and pressing buttons, I'd be a mere button-press away from sheer audio bliss. The ladies would notice, and they'd all flock to me. We'd then have a dance party, with music provided by the bag's built-in speaker.

Yes, it sounds pretty incredible. Unfortunately, the reality does not quite live up to the scenario described above, though the ladies did still flock to me. (Okay, that's not true either.) After using the bag for a month and a half, here are my thoughts.

The iPod remote functionality comes with five buttons: Previous, Play/Pause, Next, Volume Up, and Volume Down. The placement is not bad, but not terrific. It's accessible while walking, but a bit harder to operate while bik-

ing (controls right over the chest would probably have made me happier).

The buttons are "ElekTex Smart Fabric" and incorporated into the bag right where the shoulder strap meets the base. They're reasonably responsive, and the bag correctly responds to button presses even when I had my winter gloves on. However, the biggest problem with the iPod remote is that your iPod is tucked in your bag the whole time. Sure, this is a feature when you're walking around, but when you get home and want to connect your iPod to your computer, or you decide you really want to hear "Total Eclipse of the Heart," it becomes a problem. Now, instead of just reaching into your pocket to retrieve your iPod, you have to open the bag and try to get past all of your books and things to get to it. This was enough of a turn-off for me that after the first few weeks, I just started carrying my iPod in my pocket again, and didn't use the remote at all.

Another annoying "feature" of the iPod remote is that in order to make sure you don't accidentally press buttons, you first have to "unlock" the buttons by holding down the back button for a few seconds, which then activates the buttons. The remote is then re-locked a few seconds later. This leads to a bit of confusion when you want to do a few things at once, like skip to the next track and turn up the volume, because if you're not fast enough, the remote locks up again.

Next up, the built-in speaker (which requires three AA batteries — not included). This is about as much of a novelty feature as you could possibly have. I literally only found occasion to use it once (and unfortunately, it wasn't for a dance party). Incidentally, the

speaker will work with any device with a headphone jack, not just your iPod.

Well, it can't hurt to have that speaker, right? Wrong. It adds weight to the bag, and also constrains the shape of the front pocket to be thin and flat, which is annoying. I'm just not convinced that your average MIT student ever needs a portable set of speakers. That said, if you want to skateboard around town, blasting your opera music, this is exactly what you're looking for. (I once saw a guy doing this in downtown Seattle, I swear. I'll recommend this to him if I ever see him again.)

Last, let's talk about the bag itself. As messenger bags go, I was fairly impressed by this part. The construction is definitely solid — I didn't notice any problems after biking in the rain, and it still hasn't torn at all (which is more than I can say about some other messenger bags that I've used for a month and a half). It has a laptop compartment, which I use with no complaints, and a tiny quick-access pocket at the front of the bag that I like a lot. It's held closed by a magnet, and I'll occasionally keep my phone or keys there. There are some extraneous pockets that I just don't use (like one on the very back; putting anything besides papers there would make them jut into my back), but I have very few complaints here.

The Bottom Line

As far as I'm concerned, the iPod remote and speaker functionality of these bags are just gimmicks.

The bag retails for about \$105, which is a substantial amount to spend on a bag, but also not an unreasonable price for a higher-end messenger bag. If you intend never to remove your iPod from your bag, or you often need speakers on-the-go, this is a bag for you. Otherwise,



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL MCGRAW-HERDEG—THE TECH

The G-Tech "The Professional" messenger bag.

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- Visit the Student Services Center (11-120) to request a free unofficial transcript.
- Submit completed application with unofficial transcript to E52-116 or E52-117.



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April 10, 2007

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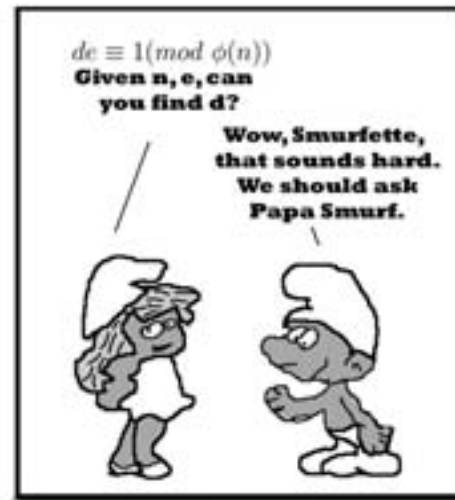
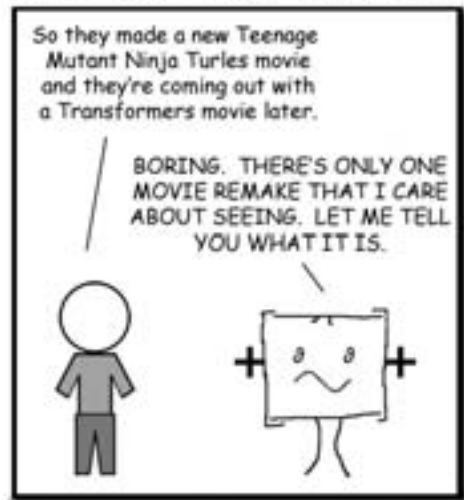
FUN

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PAGES

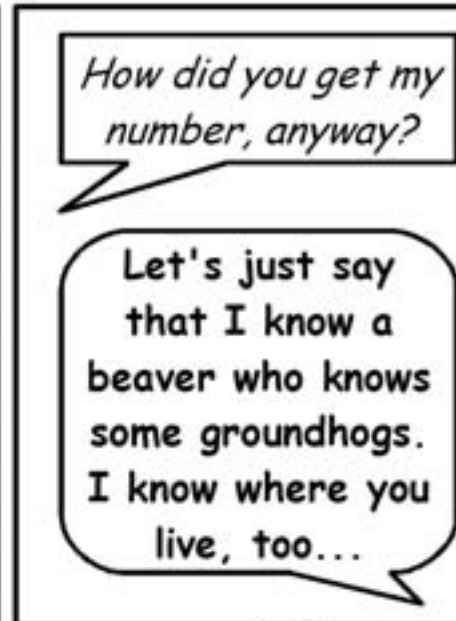
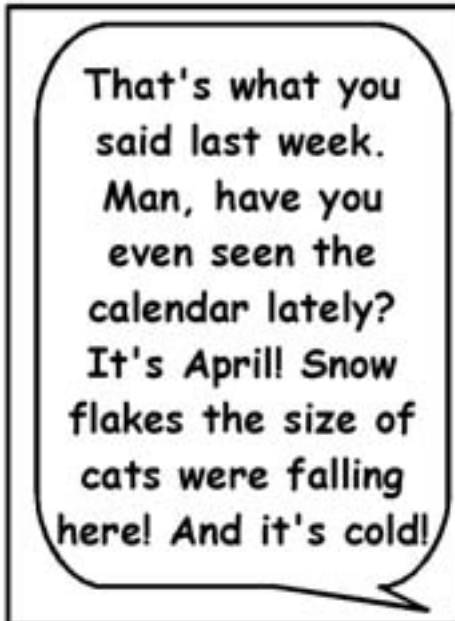
PROOF OF FALSE

by Andrew Spann



Run Bug

by Roberto Perez-Franco, G

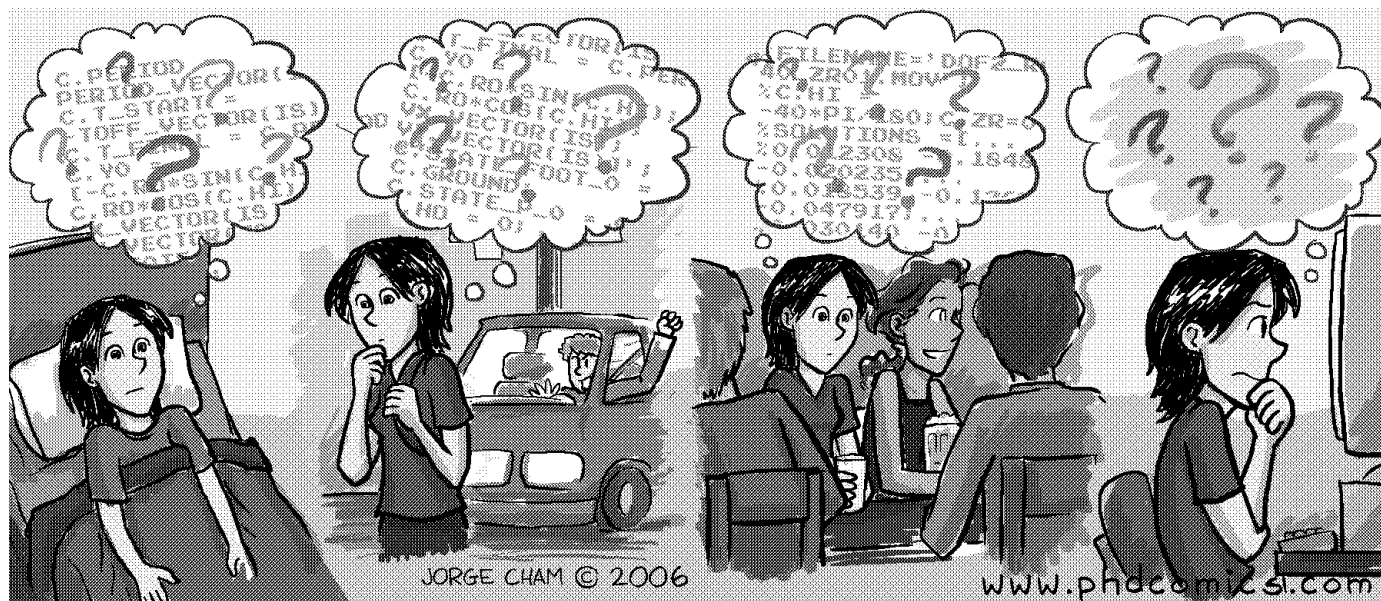
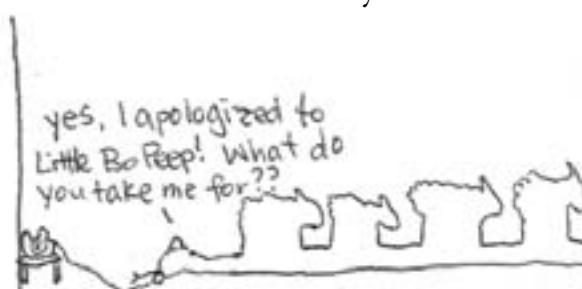
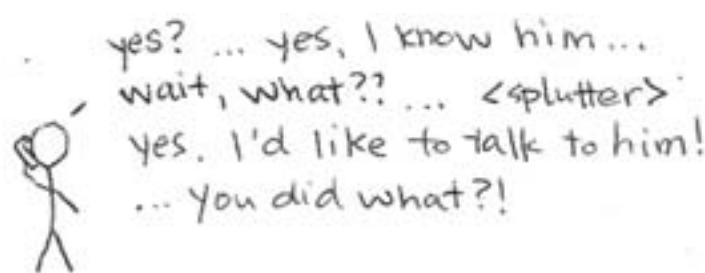
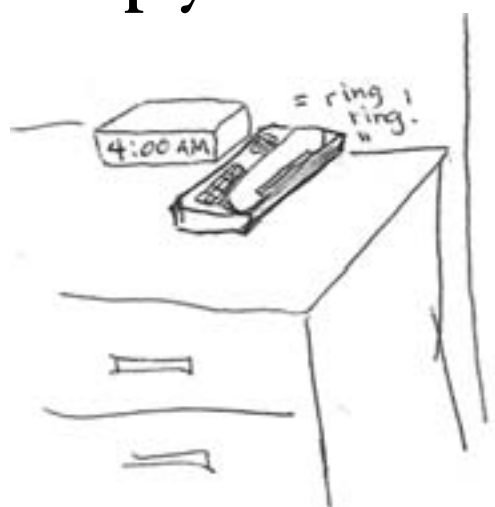


2007-Apr-04

RunBug.com

Simply Geometric

by Danbee Kim



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 16

ACROSS

- 1 Be in front
- 5 Melville's captain
- 9 Ferber and Best
- 14 Sax type
- 15 Cable
- 16 French pancake
- 17 Illinois stream?
- 19 Downgrade
- 20 Not connected
- 21 England's Seven Years' War acquisition
- 22 Royal residence
- 23 Bring brunch
- 24 Opens stoppages
- 27 Cipher code
- 30 On the wagon
- 34 Aesop's loser
- 35 Corset cord
- 36 Swabbie's wave
- 37 Gray wolves
- 38 Goes wrong
- 39 Like Nestor
- 40 Elvis ___ Presley
- 41 Bunk
- 42 One off the wagon
- 43 Add water
- 45 Stackable snacks
- 47 Unbroken
- 52 Inhabitant of ancient Crete
- 54 Summit
- 56 John Jacob or Mary
- 57 Carolina smoked entree?
- 58 Takes by theft
- 59 ___ mater
- 60 Stately display
- 61 Sound judgment
- 62 Dog tired
- 63 Fair

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DOWN

- 1 Drink like a cat
- 12 Copied
- 37 Strike repeatedly
- 2 Actress Verdugo
- 13 Blood parts
- 41 Coloring agent
- 3 Coral reef
- 18 Sustain
- 43 Mortician's vehicle
- 4 Andrea, the dictator of Genoa
- 21 Kennel units
- 44 Helmet
- 5 Come alive
- 23 Light circle
- 46 Chambers
- 6 Take on
- 25 Multi-tone harmonies
- 48 Packs down
- 7 Like Death Valley
- 26 Blair's party
- 49 Sneeze sound
- 8 Actress Arthur
- 28 Buff color
- 50 Quahogs
- 9 Conspicuous successes
- 29 Old affirmative
- 51 Relative speed
- 10 Unchanging intonation
- 30 Adages
- 52 Time and Life, briefly
- 11 New Jersey haven?
- 31 Buckeye State
- 53 Guernsey or Anglesey
- 32 Massachusetts heavy weight?
- 54 Whimper
- 33 Look and see
- 55 "___ la Douce"
- 35 Actor Gorcey
- 57 Pat lightly

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.

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

UNDERCLASSMEN GIVING CAMPAIGN

2006/2007

Kudos to the Class of 2010 members who participated in the Underclassmen Giving Campaign. Thanks to you, the Class of 2010 led the way with 30% participation, the highest of any class in the campaign.

30%

Congrats also to the sophomores and juniors who did a great job fundraising. With help from the Alumni Association, our combined efforts raised enough money to fund five PSC Expedition Grants!

It was great to see our donations put to good use **immediately** during IAP, and we can't wait to see where the summer grant awardees go.

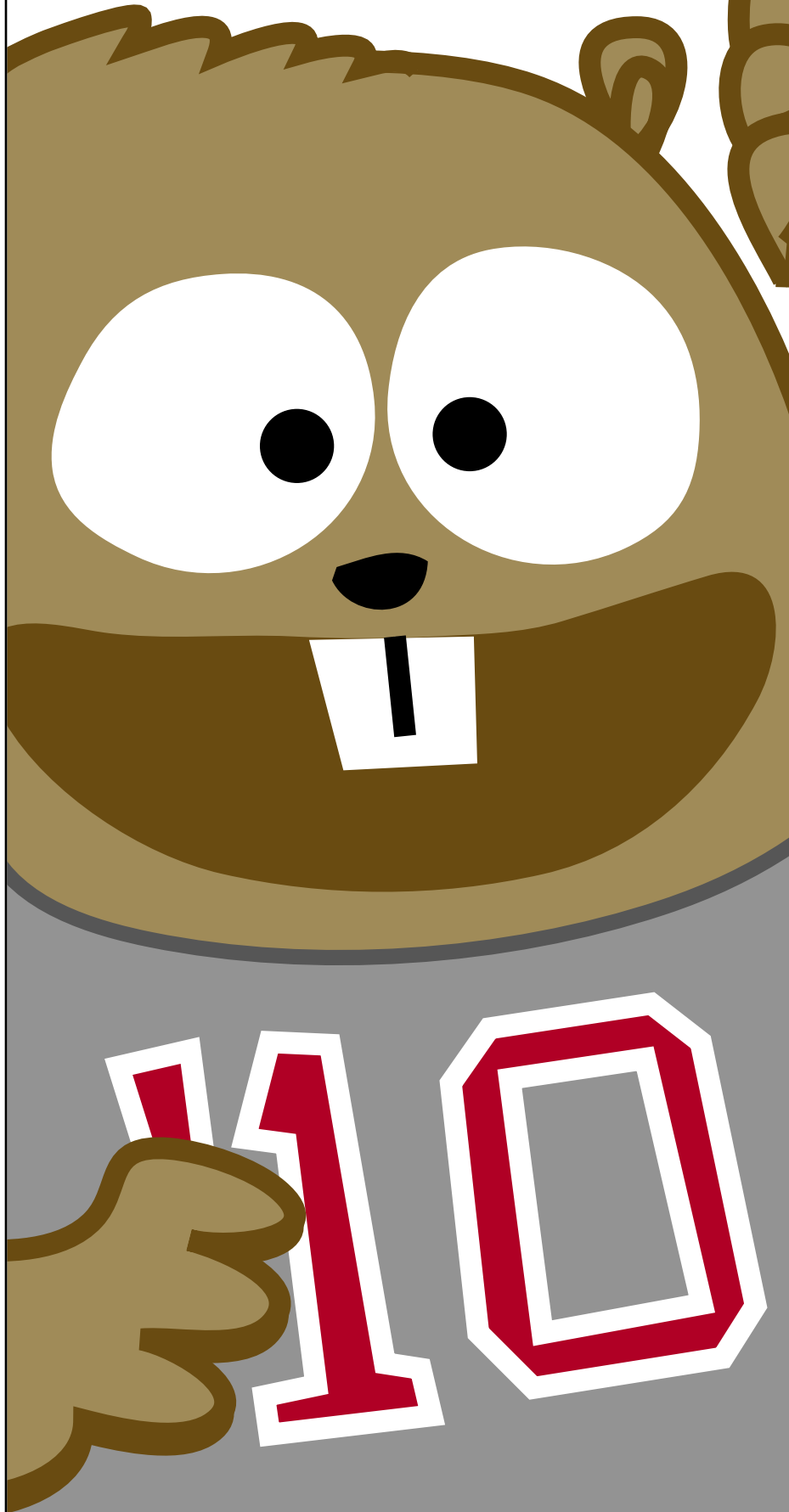
For more details on the campaign, visit: <http://giving.mit.edu/underclassmen-campaign/>

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25%

20%

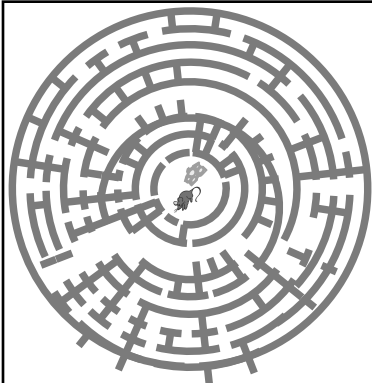


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Thank you very much to all donors from the Class of 2010 for making our Freshmen Class Gift a big success. And a special thank you to those who gave twice!

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Preferential Treatment May Impact Buyers

'Relative Mistreatment' of Customers Can Spark Attraction For Specialized Products

By Robert Weisman
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Envy is a powerful force in the human psyche — and a tool to be exploited in marketing.

While marketers have long been aware that consumers clamor for products endorsed by celebrities or people with whom they identify, new research suggests businesses can stoke the enthusiasm of some potential customers by giving preferential treatment to others.

The promise and perils of this slight-the-customer approach are explored in a recent *Journal of Marketing Research* article titled "How to Attract Customers by Giving Them the Short End of the Stick."

It draws on a half dozen experiments conducted at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, where student volunteers from the master of business administration program were presented with a range of products and scenarios. The authors conclude that, under the right circumstances, "consumers judge the same offer to be more attractive when a seller offers a better price or more benefits to another group than when the seller treats everyone equally."

The article is based on the dissertation of Alison K.C. Lo, a recent doctoral graduate of Fuqua. She cites a number of examples of how

the theory has played out in the real business world.

Swimwear maker Speedo International used the "relative mistreatment" of customers to its benefit when it stimulated demand for its Fastskin bodysuits by giving them away to Olympic swimmers. Millennium Import Co., which sells superpremium vodka from Poland, did the same when it launched its Belvedere Vodka by hosting free tastings exclusively for bartenders.

The Coop in Cambridge boosts sales of its Harvard and MIT sweatshirts and T-shirts by discounting them to alumni of those schools. "Doing this authenticates the brand," suggested Lo, who was a lecturer last year at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Management.

Lo, a Hong Kong native, currently works in Seattle as a consultant to Internet companies. She is a student of psychology who is fond of the Groucho Marx maxim, "I would never join a club that would have me as a member." This week, Lo is traveling to France, Denmark, and the Netherlands to discuss her research at academic forums.

"People always love to compare themselves to others," Lo said in an interview. "Companies can use this to their advantage."

At the same time, the marketing

journal article, authored by Fuqua professors John G. Lynch Jr. and Richard Staelin, makes it clear that preferential treatment of some consumers is a risky strategy that can backfire easily.

Victoria's Secret provoked a backlash, for instance, when it distributed catalogs with different prices for the same clothing based on ZIP codes. And airlines have felt the wrath of passengers who wait while "gold club members" board early.

Lo said the successful campaigns set up their favored customers not as a class of prima donnas but as discriminating experts who send "a quality signal" to others.

"It's also about how people want to feel about themselves," she said. "For me, if I drive a Toyota Camry, I might not qualify for a free test drive of a BMW. But this doesn't mean I will never drive this car. If I hear that drivers of luxury cars are eligible for a free test drive, I may think that someday, if I have more money, I'll buy this car."

Andy Aylesworth, associate professor of marketing at Bentley College in Waltham, said creating advantaged customers is a form of the "aspirational marketing" that is growing in popularity.

"The idea is to try to associate a product with an expert or with someone the consumer wants to be like,"

Aylesworth said. "The ultimate consumers want to be Olympic swimmers, even if they know they're never going to the Olympics. Nonstudents see the T-shirt and want to be associated with Harvard. They see the brand name rubbing off on them. If I buy Nike shoes because Michael Jordan endorses them, I get some value out of believing that swoosh makes me better."

A key factor in how slighted customers react to two-tier pricings or promotions is their own confidence as shoppers, according to the Fuqua authors. In general, envy is likely to overwhelm resentment in cases "when consumers are uncertain about quality and when quality differences are substantial," the article contends.

Many consumers are insecure about their ability to judge the quality of certain kinds of products, such as wine, jewelry, electronics, or financial services, said Lynch, a Fuqua marketing professor. When shopping for such products, he said, these buyers will tolerate favorable treatment for others regarded as authorities if they can use those authorities as touchstones to make more confident purchases.

"Consumers really want to identify with a target group of people who know what they're talking about," Lynch said.

APRIL 14

2007

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Elected Ekstrom Will Work to Make Council Events More Sociable

GSC, from Page 1

on improving the representation of the graduate community. Ekstrom said that the new officers will work on attracting students to fill representative positions on Institute committees.

The GSC will also focus on funding travel grants and events such as the Grad Gala and the Delano Party. Ekstrom said that this year has been successful financially, a record which the GSC will strive to maintain. One funding priority will be the Medium Event Fund, which allocates money to events that are not large enough to qualify for the Large Event Fund. Eight allocations have been made using the Medium Event Fund. Events receiving funds include the MIT Open Ballroom Dancing Competition, the Earth Day Fair held by Students for Global Sustainability, and the Easter Celebration held by the Hellenic Students' Association.

Ekstrom also said that he will work on making the GSC more fun. Instead of only gathering at business meetings, Ekstrom said he would like members of the council to inter-

act in more sociable settings to improve interpersonal relations.

Ekstrom was the co-chair of the GSC's Housing and Community Committee, which deals with graduate living and medical issues. He also served as President of Edgerton House and as the GSC's representative at the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology.

As Vice President, Powell said she will work on improving relations between student groups and dormitory groups. Her experience includes serving as the President of the MIT chapter of Eta Kappa Nu, the national honor society for students in electrical engineering and computer science, President of the MIT chapter of Tau Beta Pi, National Engineering Honor Society, the orientation chair of the GSC, and an officer at Sidney-Pacific.

Powell said that her position as orientation chair of the GSC allowed her to gain insight on how the GSC functions. As orientation chair, she oversaw fall orientation and a budget of \$100,000.

Other elects are Secretary Oaz Nir G and Treasurer Mireille K. Akilian G.

iHouse Fits Vision of 'Global Leadership'

iHouse, from Page 1

planners were waiting on the committee on cultural houses to finish its report before going further.

Bobbili explained that iHouse will be defined as a "living and learning community," not as a "cultural house."

Bobbili said that the current students in New House 1 who are not interested in iHouse have already started moving out of the house.

Some of the assets of iHouse, according to a series of "iHouse agreements" sent out by Sally Sunowitz, director of the Public Service Center, include \$40,000 in PSC funding for iHouse residents' international development projects, four research spots in D-Lab for iHouse residents, dinners and study breaks featuring international cuisine and guests, and assistance with project needs.

In return, iHouse residents are expected to complete five requirements during their residency. This includes completing at least one class related to international development, involvement in an international development project, and participating in the planning of one international development event on

campus, the agreements continue.

iHouse fits into President Susan Hockfield's "vision of global leadership," Harris said. "It's the right thing to do at the right time."

Harris said that New House 1 has already begun having seminars in which students who have done international development projects speak to residents of the house.

Bobbili said he believes in the sustainability of iHouse because of the house mission. "The students will be involved in projects on international development, working in teams to accomplish something that we believe they will be passionate about," Bobbili said. "The interest that they have, combined with the resources that PSC and [the International Development Initiative] will make available to them, should sustain the mission of the house." Bobbili said that iHouse has a \$50,000 grant from 484 Phi Alpha foundation.

iHouse will have space for 21 students, according to Harris. "We now have 12 of the spaces filled and we want to get three or four more upperclassmen." Harris said that there would be space for about five freshmen from the Class of 2011 and that "we have a big campaign coming up."

Avian Flu, SARS in Tufts' Sights

By Charlie Russo

THE BOSTON GLOBE

GRAFTON

The idyllic setting of Tufts University's central Massachusetts campus, where for 30 years students have trained to become veterinarians, will soon become a new frontline in the fight against diseases such as Avian flu and SARS.

After more than a decade of planning and negotiations, Tufts plans to break ground this summer on a biocontainment lab, the first of what the school hopes will be a spate of new life sciences buildings on a 106-acre site adjacent to its veterinary campus. The lab will study diseases animals transmit to humans, known as zoonotics, and those spread through food and water.

The research will focus on microorganisms that could be used to infect large numbers of people and animals, such as E. coli, Cryptosporidium and the Norwalk virus. Earlier work by the school in this area has led to antibody treatments of the E. coli bacteria and a new method for detecting parasites (cryptosporidia) in municipal water supplies.

Despite the deadly materials that will be studied there, school officials said the lab poses no danger to residents because of the safeguards prescribed by federal regulations. "The real public health threat is not from having this kind of lab in town. It's from not having these kinds of facilities to engage in necessary research of infectious diseases," said Joseph McManus, associate dean of Tufts' Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine.

The facility will be a level 3 regional biocontainment laboratory, the second most serious safety rating under guidelines set by the US government; the highest are level 4 facilities, such as the one planned by Boston University in Boston's South End, that handle highly infectious and lethal materials; a level 1 is the equivalent of a high school science lab.

The veterinary school already has a level 3 lab on campus. Research in such facilities is conducted in airtight enclosures and includes clothing decontamination, equipment sterilization, and air filtration systems to prevent the spread of any infectious agents. Gates, key passes, and 24-hour alarms will provide additional security.

The lab remains controversial in Grafton; Town Meeting voted in 2005 to oppose the project, though the vote remains largely symbolic -- Tufts had previously won special zoning from the town in 1992 that allows such uses on the property.

Bob Carroll worries about exposure to nearby residents and students at North Grafton Elementary School, less than a mile away, if any toxic substances or infected animals escaped the lab. "It's a way to bring in more money and more prestige for the university, and I can't blame them for that, but at what cost?" Carroll said. "It's too close to the school and too close to the train station and if something bad happened it would be a disaster."

Grafton's Planning Board is examining plans for the lab's building to ensure it meets town guidelines. Tufts is paying Grafton \$55,000 annually for 10 years, starting in 2005, to mitigate the development's impact upon town services.

Even so, Grafton town administrator Natalie Lashmit said the lab is not the greatest threat the town faces. "Frankly, we have hazards that are probably more difficult to manage than a level 3 biolab," Lashmit said, citing potentially hazardous accidents on the Massachusetts Turnpike or the nearby railroad line.

About 75 percent of the nearly \$26 million lab project is funded by a grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The 37,000-square-foot lab is expected to open in spring 2009. McManus said Tufts hopes the lab and adjacent development space will attract commercial companies and spark collaborative research activity.

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BY THORNTON WILDER DIRECTED BY JAY SCHEIB

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As Holyoke Searches, Some at MIT Do Not Deem Davis Missing

Missing Student, from Page 1

the attempt was successful.

According to Lieutenant Steven Parentela of the South Hadley Police, the search for Davis continues.

In addition to searching their campus, Mt. Holyoke College police publicized a missing persons flyer and administrators sent a community-wide e-mail. MIT has currently done nothing similar, and few officials or students seem to be aware of the missing freshman.

Senior Associate Dean for Students Barbara A. Baker was unaware of any search efforts by MIT.

MIT's Chief of Police John DiFava said that Davis was considered missing in Western Massachusetts and that MIT had not filed a missing persons report since procedurally, only one missing persons report is filed per case.

"We don't have the type of search that was going on in Mt. Holyoke — we don't have helicopters and police beating the bushes," said DiFava. "But all our patrols are aware of him, they have pictures of the individual ... anybody that knows anything about him will certainly notify us," DiFava said.

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay, however, said MIT did not consider Davis a missing person. "We haven't done anything because as far as I know he isn't, from our point of view, missing," said Clay.

DiFava also said that a detective was in contact with Massachusetts State Troopers and that Detective Jay Perault was in charge of the Davis case. Reached by phone, Perault said he was not in charge of the case, and stated that Lieutenant Albert F. Pierce Jr. and Detective Willard J. Boulter III were covering the case. Neither responded to voice messages.

Davis's disappearance comes less than three weeks after his March 15 arrest on two misdemeanor counts of possession of a class B controlled substance, one misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct, and one felony count of possession of a class B controlled substance with intent to distribute.

According to criminal docket filings obtained by *The Tech*, Davis's charges stem from an incident at East Campus on Monday, March 12. That evening, Joseph F. Graham Jr., House Manager for East Campus, discovered an unknown container in the basement hobby shop room. The container was plugged into an outlet and was marked with "DO NOT OPEN," and "WARNING CAUSTIC SOLUTION DO NOT TOUCH," according to the legal filings. The device was also generating chlorine gas.

Graham then contacted the campus police, who notified the Cambridge Fire Department, the bomb squad, and MIT's Environment, Health, and Safety Office. Graham suspected that the device belonged to Davis, prompting a detective and an officer to question Davis.

Davis stated that the suspicious device belonged to him and that he was attempting to perform electrolysis of sodium chloride and potassium chloride. A third-party environmental agency was then contracted to remove the device.

During the course of the evening, Davis waived his Miranda rights and consented to a search of his room. During the search, officers discovered a bag of marijuana, 2C-T-7 (a hallucinogen), 5 grams of cocaine, and "several liters" of lysergic acid amide (a hallucinogen similar to LSD). Davis told the detectives that he obtained the cocaine on a recent trip to Colombia, swallowing the bag to pass through border inspections.

MIT police then filed for an arrest warrant with the Cambridge District Court. Davis was arrested on Thursday, March 15, and released on \$300 cash bail. In the warrant application, Davis was considered a "flight risk due to his behavior in the past and recent trip to Colombia." The court ordered Davis

to surrender his passport by noon on Monday, March 19; it is unclear if he did so. A pre-trial hearing for Davis is scheduled for May 9, 2007.

According to records from the Office of the Registrar, Davis is no longer a registered student. His last official day of attendance was March 13, 2007, one day after the East Campus incident.

Chancellor Clay declined to comment as to whether Davis had been suspended from MIT, however, Detective Perault of the MIT Police stated that Davis "was asked to leave MIT."

Clay did say, however, that he had the power to temporarily suspend students and that permanent judicial decisions came from the Committee on Discipline.

Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of Davis is urged to contact the South Hadley Police Department at (413) 538-8231.

Court documents regarding Davis's warrant, booking, and criminal docket are available on *The Tech's* Web site at <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V127/N17/davis/>.

Michael McGraw-Herdeg contributed reporting for this article.

Harvard Seeks Cheaper Textbooks

Deans Ask University Professors to Reduce Financial Burden on Students

By James Vaznis

THE BOSTON GLOBE

CAMBRIDGE

Two top deans have asked Harvard University professors to reduce student expenditures on textbooks and other course material by putting those items on line or by deciding earlier if they plan to use the same textbook in subsequent semesters.

Jeremy R. Knowles, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences, and Benedict H. Gross, dean of Harvard College, said the average amount Harvard students spend on textbooks, compact discs, course packets, and other related materials is pushing \$1,300 a year.

"Many of our students either skimp on daily expenses to purchase course materials or skimp on their books to make ends meet," the deans wrote in an e-mail to staff last week.

Many Harvard students interviewed yesterday applauded the effort and said they hope it leads to a universitywide initiative to reduce student spending on course materials.

"I personally don't buy all the texts because prices are absurd," said Roy Cohen, 22, of Israel.

"I feel if Harvard is trying to open it's door more to people with diverse financial backgrounds, they could do more to help subsidize book costs," said Cohen, who has not declared a

major.

The deans said they sent the e-mail this year because of concern over the growing cost of textbooks, as well as to remind faculty that more written material is available on line and licensable for institutional use.

The deans estimate that students collectively spend \$8.5 million a year on textbooks and other course materials.

The move by Harvard deans follows attempts in Congress and state legislatures in Maryland, New York, and elsewhere to rein in rising textbook spending.

A US Government Accountability Office study two years ago found that textbook prices have been increasing about 6 percent a year since the 1987-88 school year because of the frequent updating of editions and bundling textbooks with materials such as CD-ROMs.

The study found students spend about \$900 a year.

State Representative Steven M. Walsh, Democrat of Lynn, has filed a bill this year requiring publishers distributing textbooks in the Bay State to make them available for sale without forcing students to buy CD-ROMs, workbooks, and other materials.

But complaints about costs, particularly among students, go beyond materials sold by publishers. Students also are annoyed by the cost of course

packets, which are compiled by professors and include photocopies of copyrighted materials, such as academic journal articles. The packets can run more than \$100 at Harvard, students say.

"The course packets have no resale value," said Rick McKellar, 18, a freshman from Tennessee who has not declared a major. "I'd rather spend more on a hard cover book."

The deans said that faculty could help students by deciding in early spring whether they intend to use the same textbook in the fall.

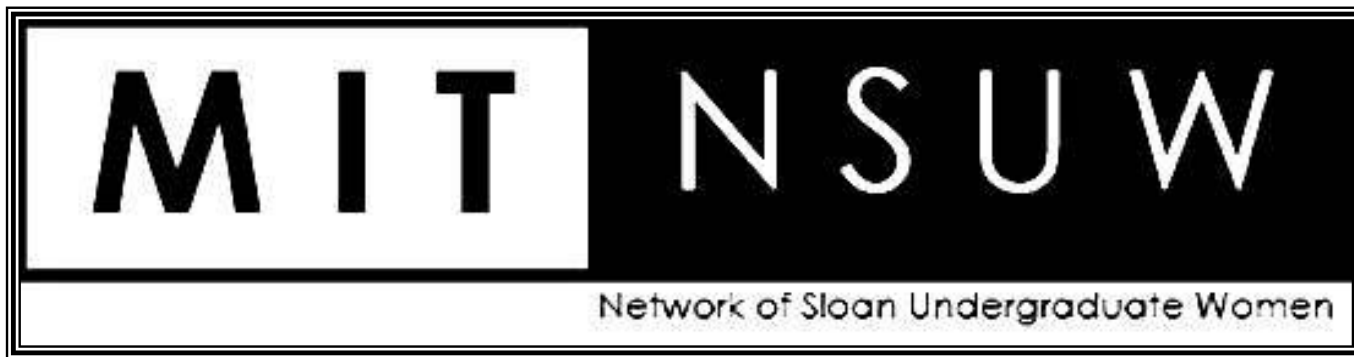
A quicker decision could allow the Harvard Coop to buy back books from students enrolled in spring classes.

The students would receive about 50 percent of their payment back, while students next fall would have the benefit of buying a used book at a discount.

Some Harvard students, outraged by textbook costs, have created Web sites that list required readings for various courses and links to such places as Amazon.com, where students can buy books for less than area bookstores charge.

But even buying online has its pitfalls, one student said.

"Sometimes, when you buy online, the books don't get here on time," said Stephanie Shing, 18, a freshman from Cambridge.



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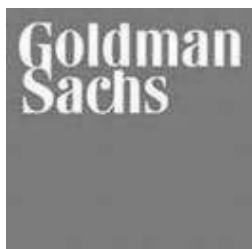
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Student Lender Had Early Plans to Court Officials

By Jonathan D. Glater
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The founders of Student Loan Xpress had an explicit plan for corraling a bigger share of the lucrative student loan business: "market to the financial aid offices of schools."

That was how Robert deRose, Michael H. Shaut and Fabrizio Balestri set out, according to a 2002 regulatory filing by the company, a strategy to use university financial aid offices as the gateway to coveted placements on the lists of lenders recommended to students.

Five years later the company says it is the eighth-largest player in student lending — and it found many ways to court university financial aid directors. It put them on a company advisory board, paid at least two as consultants and sold stock in the venture to others, investigators and university officials say.

On Monday, aides to Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo of New York provided new details, saying that financial aid officers at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and Capella University, an online for-profit institution, served as paid consultants to the lending company. The company also picked up part of the graduate school tuition for Ellen Frishberg, the Johns Hopkins official, Cuomo's office said.

At another university — Widener in Pennsylvania — the lending company sent executives to a conference organized by a consulting firm run by the dean of financial aid. It paid the dean's firm \$80,000, according to Cuomo's aides.

These were just the latest in a series of revelations that have already shown that financial aid directors at three universities — Columbia, the University of Texas at Austin and the

University of Southern California — held stock in the company, as did an Education Department official who helps oversee student lenders.

On Monday, the three executives were put on leave by the parent company of Student Loan Xpress.

It is not clear whether the company or university officials have done anything illegal. Cuomo's aides say they are looking into deceptive business practices, a civil matter. Cuomo has said that the relationships between lenders and the officials whom students rely on for unbiased financial advice, pose a conflict of interest.

Some tactics like using financial aid officers as advisers and consultants are used by other companies. And universities that recommended Student Loan Xpress to students say its loan rates are competitive.

Still, deRose, Shaut and Balestri were all put on leave Monday by the CIT Group, which bought Student Loan Xpress in 2005. That company and the broader student loan industry are now under scrutiny by Congress, the Department of Education's inspector general in Washington as well as by several state attorneys general.

"As a company that holds itself to the highest standards of business ethics and integrity, we take the allegations raised by Attorney General Cuomo very seriously," said Jeffrey M. Peek, chairman and chief executive of CIT. DeRose, Shaut and Balestri have not returned repeated calls seeking comment. The quick rise of Student Loan Xpress offers a window into an industry in which profits have exploded along with tuition and student debt.

"All the companies are out there scrapping," said Richard Lee Colvin, director of the Hechinger In-

stitute at Teachers College at Columbia University. "This may be an outlier, but every single company is out there trying to increase its market share."

All three executives worked in the student loan industry during the 1990s. DeRose ran the student loan business for American Express from his base in San Diego, where Balestri, who had been a longtime executive at Sallie Mae, the nation's largest student loan company, joined him to direct sales operations. In the 1990s Shaut had worked at companies involved in the student loan market, too.

By 2002, they were all working together in a new company, Education Lending Group, which had Student Loan Xpress as a student loan marketing subsidiary. Balestri was the president of Student Loan Xpress. Balestri knew hundreds of loan officials at universities all over the country, and he had built a reputation in the industry as a natural salesman.

"He was very good at sales, always upbeat, talking about how great everything was," said Dan Davenport, director of admissions and financial aid at the University of Idaho.

Otto Reyer, director of financial aid at Western University of Health Sciences in California, worked with deRose and Balestri at American Express in the last decade, and remembers Balestri in the same way. "He has a great smile," Reyer

said. "He's somebody you can sit down and talk with, easily. He could sell anything."

In his work to build Student Loan Xpress' business, Balestri used some novel marketing tactics to get the company's name before students. In one initiative, he arranged for the company to help sponsor a coast-to-coast "Scholarships for Everyone" tour by Ben Kaplan, a 25-year-old Harvard graduate who had written a book outlining tactics for obtaining scholarships.

Kaplan said he first met Balestri, whom he knew by his nickname, "Breeze," at conventions of college lending officers, and that on the tour he would occasionally mention Student Loan Xpress as a potentially helpful financial resource for students.

"Ben's heartfelt mission is consistent with ours," Balestri said in a news release at the time.

Balestri was also wooing university officials. People with experience in the student loan industry said that some of the company's tactics were common. Many student loan companies, for instance, establish advisory boards composed of university financial aid officers, as did Student Loan Xpress.

But in at least one case, Balestri encouraged a university loan official to buy stock in the company, a practice that several university loan officials say they had never heard of previously.

Lawrence Burt, director of the

financial aid office at the University of Texas at Austin, said Balestri encouraged him to buy shares in Education Lending Group and he bought 1,500 shares for \$1,000 in late 2001.

Balestri, Burt said, told him "this is kind of a risky venture, we think it will end up turning a profit but we don't really know for sure." Burt said he believed his purchase was not a conflict of interest because the company at the time was focused more on loan consolidation and only later began expanding its business of originating loans. Burt said he sold his shares in 2003 when the company was raising more money through the sale of additional shares. The shares of Education Lending Group were worth roughly \$10 each. That translates into a profit of about \$14,000 for him.

Others who put stock up for sale at that time, according to Securities and Exchange Commission filings, included the financial aid director for Columbia's undergraduate college and its engineering school, David Charlow; Catherine Thomas, director of financial aid at the University of Southern California, and Matteo Fontana, who is general manager in a unit of the Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid and a longtime friend of Balestri's, according to a person who knows them. Fontana planned to sell about \$100,000 in stock up for sale in 2003. In the last few days, all of these officials have been put on paid leave pending investigations.

Last week, in an interview, Frishberg of Johns Hopkins said she, too, had been encouraged to acquire stock in 2002, at a dinner she and other members of the company's advisory board attended. She turned it down, she said.

"I told them it was not allowed in my position," Frishberg said. "It breaks ethics rules."

Johns Hopkins put her on leave after learning that she had received payments from the company. Cuomo's office wrote that she received \$43,000 for consulting and \$22,000 in tuition reimbursement for a doctoral program she was enrolled in.

Tim Lehman, director of financial aid at Capella University also served as a consultant to the company, earning more than \$12,000, according to Cuomo's office. And Walter Cathie, dean of student financial aid at Widener University in Pennsylvania, runs a consulting firm that holds conferences on student aid, which representatives of Student Loan Xpress attended at a cost of \$80,000.

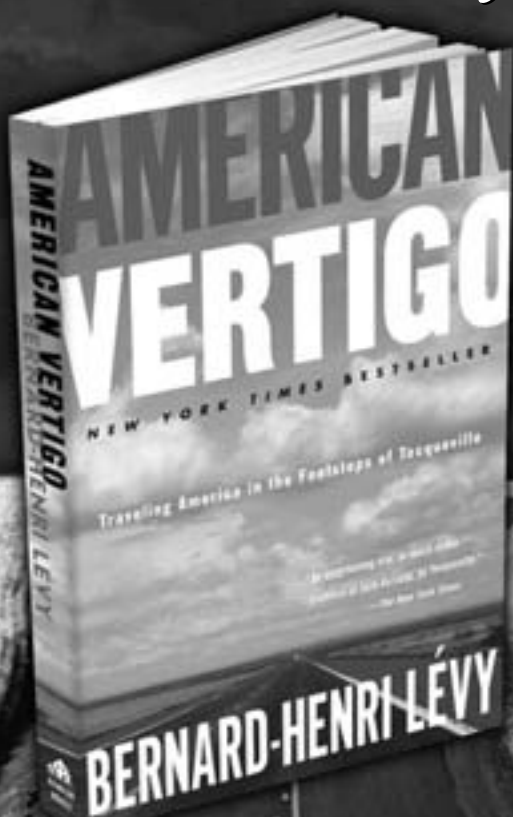
A spokesman for Widener on Monday said the university was looking into the matter. Irene Silber, director of public relations at Capella, said Monday that the university had known of Lehman's consulting arrangement and was reviewing it. She said he did not put Student Loan Xpress on Capella's list of preferred lenders; the company was there when he arrived.

Profits at Student Loan Xpress did not materialize overnight. The company lost \$28.3 million in 2002. But by 2003 its portfolio of loans had tripled to more than \$3 billion and in the first nine months of 2004, it had profits of more than \$10 million. The real payback came in 2005, when the CIT Group bought the company for \$318 million.

Balestri knew hundreds of loan officials at universities all over the country, and he had built a reputation in the industry as a natural salesman.

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Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between March 27, 2007 and April 4, 2007. This summary does not include incidents such as false alarms, general service calls, larcenies, or medical shuttles.

- Mar. 28:** NW62 (310 Mass. Ave.), 8:36 a.m., Facilities reports destruction of tire valves on new equipment. W79 (229 Vassar St. Room 665), 5:40 p.m., Reporting person reports returned from spring break and room looks disturbed.
- Mar. 30:** N10 (155 Mass. Ave.), 12:33 a.m., A report of a suspicious person by a trailer. When suspicious person saw reporting person, he left the area. Trailer was checked and found secure.
- Apr. 2:** M62 (21 Ames St.), 1:28 p.m., Lucien Carmichael, 82, Fells-way West, Somerville, Mass. Arrested on default warrant. W16 (48 Rear Mass. Ave.), 11:28 p.m., Reporting person reports vehicle windshield broken by softball.
- Apr. 4:** E15 (20 Ames St. Room 448), 10:37 a.m., Reporting person states the professor she works for received a suspicious package. Massachusetts State Police and Cambridge Police bomb squad on scene.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 10

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

Wide Selection of Charities Selected by Candidates

Big Screw, from Page 1

really screwed them somehow," Hopp said.

Michael D. Ernst, who teaches the Laboratory in Software Engineering (6.170) and is an associate professor of electrical engineering and computer science, had the highest earnings yesterday — \$202.75. He is donating to the St. Mark Community Education Program.

"I think it's fantastic!" said nominee Professor Christopher C. Cummins of the department of chemistry, who was also nominated a few years

ago. "It is difficult to get recognition in MIT, and this is one way to get it."

Physics Professor Krishna Rajagopal said, "I take it as a compliment and in the good spirit that this competition is intended. ... I'm glad my students thought my class was challenging."

Maureen R. Lynch, the course administrator for 2.007, was initially shocked at her nomination, but then felt honored as "there haven't been many support staff people nominated before."

"I am five feet tall, but the award is four feet! ... If I do win, I will need some help carrying it!" Lynch added.

Money raised by each candidate goes to the charity he or she represents. This year's charities include education programs and homeless shelters, among others.

Emery N. Brown, professor of brain and cognitive sciences, is representing the Codman Academy. "This particular school is a charter school in Rochester that creates real educational opportunities for underprivileged students who really need it. A lot of shootings have taken place there, and this is a great way to contribute to people who really need it," Brown said.

"Professors have been known to go pretty far in their campaigning" in order to screw students, Hopp said. "One year a candidate professor gave a lecture entirely in French even though he wasn't teaching a language class."

APO has been contacting nominees suggested by students since the beginning of last week and will continue through this week. When nominations are received, APO members contact the nominees who may accept or decline their nomination.

Voting will occur Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday in Lobby 10, and Wednesday in W20.

"Running as an official candidate is

voluntary and only official candidates can be given donations because we want this to be fun for the contestants and not mean-spirited. The nominees choose their own charity, and we try to put as few restrictions on the charity as possible," Hopp said.

The Big Screw, previously called "the Institute Screw," started as a Spring version of APO's older fundraiser called Ugliest Man on Campus, which has now evolved into its own event, Hopp said. The first Institute Screw was held in 1967 and the winner was Mathematics Professor Arthur P. Mattuck, who is still teaching at the Institute today.

Big Screw Day One Totals

Candidate	Title	Charity	Amount
Stephen Ansolabehere	Professor of Political Science	Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition	\$0.15
Emery N. Brown	9.07 Professor	Codman Academy	\$0.20
Brett D. Parker	18.100B Professor	MASSPIRG Education Fund	\$0.85
Keith A. Nelson	5.60 Professor	The Home for Little Wanderers	\$1.27
Christopher (Kit) C. Cummins	5.111/5.112 Professor	TBA	\$5.19
Krishna Rajagopal	8.05 Professor	Union of Concerned Scientists	\$21.70
Maureen R. Lynch	2.007 Course Administrator	Make-A-Wish Foundation	\$35.80
Richard D. Berlin III	Director of Campus Dining	The Richard D. Berlin Center for Cell Analysis and Modeling at the University of Connecticut Health Center	\$90.74
Michael D. Ernst	6.170 Professor	St. Mark Community Education Program	\$202.75
Total			\$358.65

SOURCE: SARAH C. HOPP, '08, ALPHA PHI OMEGA

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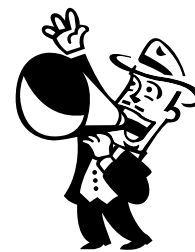
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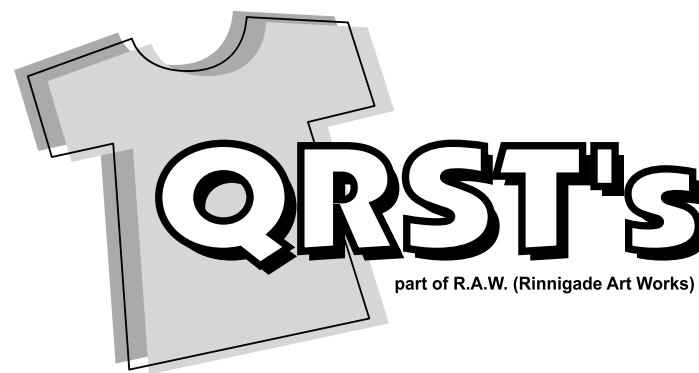
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Wearing MIT Colors, Enjoying the Energy In the United Center

NCAA, from Page 20

(Seriously though, how could Wisconsin fans boo a 15-seed like Texas A&M-Corpus Christi? It brought back memories of Philadelphia Eagles fans booing Santa Claus.)

The theme of the tournament was school pride, and nowhere was it more evident than the sweatshirts fans wore with aplomb. I must have seen apparel from 30 or so schools, from Kansas to UCLA to Syracuse. (Clearly, wearing your heart on your sleeve — or your school name on your chest, as the case may be — is not limited to those Division I schools participating in this year's tournament.)

Apparently, I missed the memo for the Friday session and showed up wearing a label-free long-sleeved shirt and jeans. For the Sunday session, however, I thought it would be amusing to wear an MIT sweatshirt and show some Engineer love.

I received and appreciated strange looks from college students and middle-aged adults alike, wondering what a computer geek was doing at a basketball tournament. I contemplated making a sign: "Yes, MIT does have a basketball team, and unlike at your school, every member actually attends classes." We certainly don't have many athletes enrolled in History of Rock and Roll or Ballroom Dancing (Greg Oden of OSU basketball and Matt Leinart of USC football, anyone?).

That oddity aside, I hadn't been to an atmosphere so charged or enjoyable since I attended a Duke-

Temple men's basketball game a year ago. The only difference is that this time, there were far fewer obscenities toward players. Really, who knew that people didn't like Blue Devil J.J. Redick?

On another note, I'd swear that every set of cheerleaders performed the exact same stunts over and over. Back flips after free throws have a short shelf life for impressing people — I'd say about three times.

If this sounds like your idea of paradise, I have three recommendations for any potential spectators: First of all, the games are fantastic alone, but almost certainly better if you bring a friend (or five). Second, it's absurdly fun to root for a team that has approximately 40 other supporters (the Islanders), or even 400 (the UNLV Runnin' Rebels). Everyone knows one of the best parts of March Madness is seeing upset after upset, so why not encourage one in the making?

Lastly, entering a stadium is roughly equivalent to passing through the TSA at the airport, so don't even think about bringing liquids or gels. (Actually, the United Center won't allow even a small backpack or water bottle, so in some ways it's worse than the airport, and who knew that was even possible anymore?)

All in all, I adored the shift from a dimly-lit lecture hall to a sweat-soaked stadium. Yes, a weekend at the NCAAs was a true indication that I Have Truly Found Paradise: no problem sets or papers, just game after game of basketball.

MIT Pulls Within One In 2nd Half, But Pride Respond With 3-1 Run

Lacrosse, from Page 20

F. O'Keefe '09 and Laura C. Watson '08 posted unassisted goals to even the score for the first time. Then Lily He '09 was fouled by the Springfield goalkeeper on attack and easily converted the open net free position attempt to put MIT back in the lead.

But the Pride's Lampros quickly tallied the equalizer with 1:27 remaining before halftime. Springfield continued to roll after the break, with two quick goals by Martell that put the Pride up 7-5. But once again MIT fought back, this time with a free position goal by Amanda P. Hunter '07 that narrowed the Engineers' deficit to one (7-6) with 24:20 to play.

After 10 minutes of scoreless play, Lampros found the back of the net to add to the Springfield advantage. Flynn converted her second free position shot of the day, but Lampros and Lisa Thomas each tacked on a goal that gave Spring-

field its largest lead of the game (10-7) with 8:01 left to play.

A free position shot by Julia N. Roberts '10 brought the Engineers within striking distance two minutes later. The teams traded goals during the next 1:31, as Flynn scored in between goals from Eidse.

Roberts notched a game-high five draw controls as O'Keefe, Annamaria E. Ayuso '07, and Clara S. Bennett '10 each collected three groundballs. Ayuso led MIT with two caused turnovers while HeeJay Kang '07 made 12 saves in goal.

Both teams will continue NEW-MAC action on the road today. MIT will travel to Babson College while Springfield will make the trip to Smith College.

Daily Meditation

"Put your trust in God, and commit your affairs to His keeping." --Bahá'u'lláh

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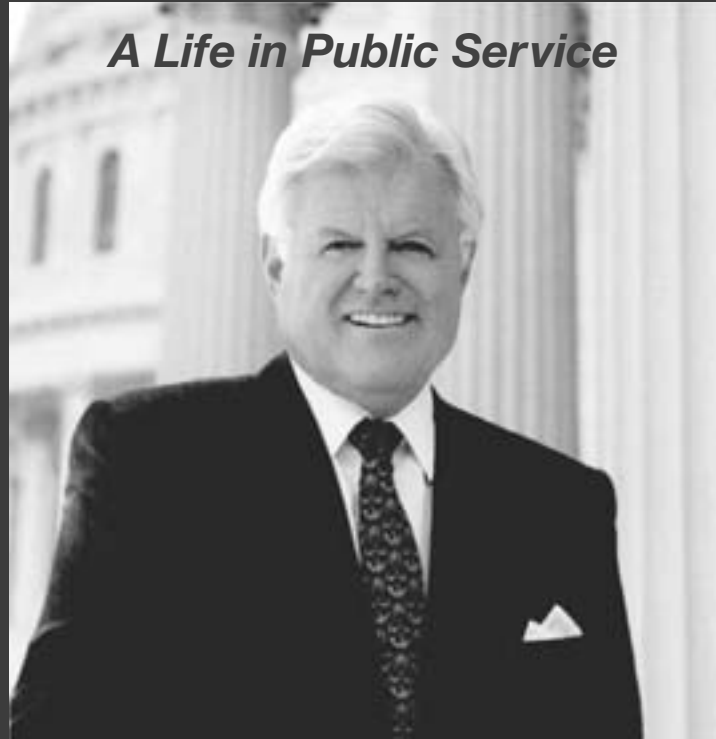
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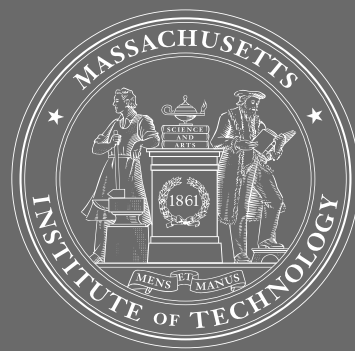
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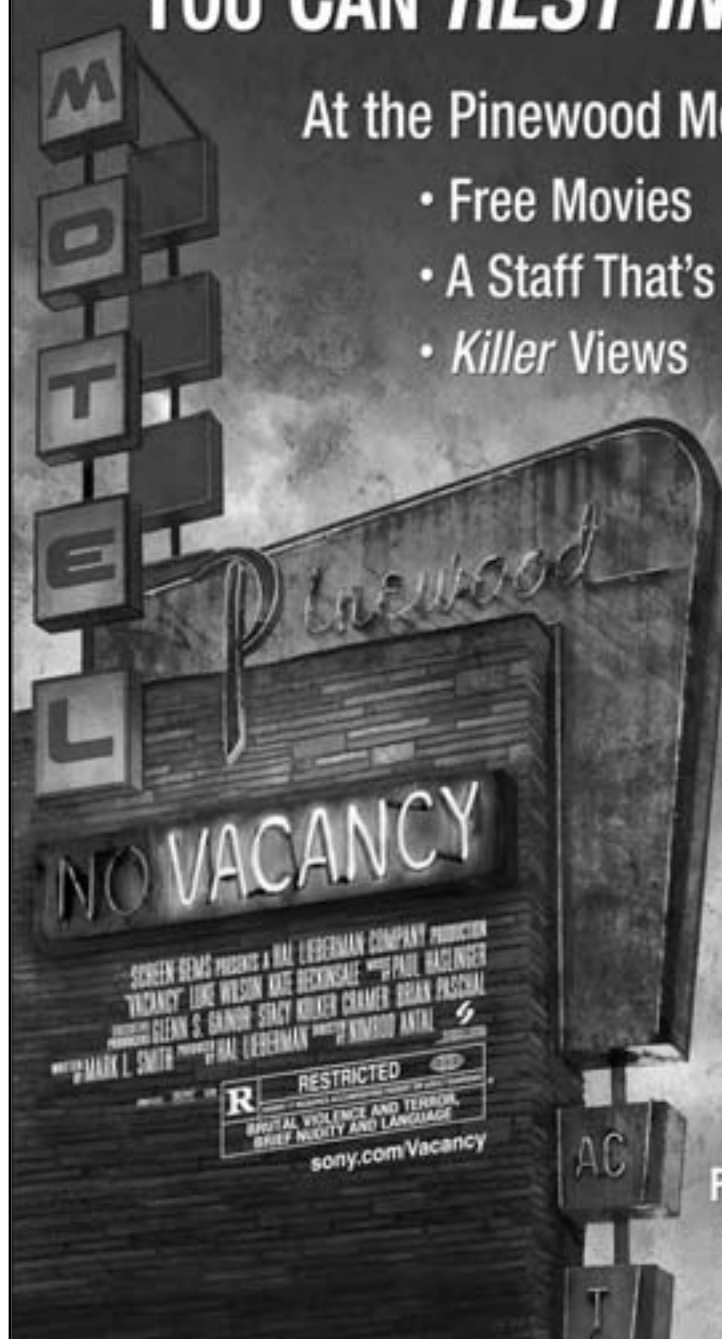
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SPORTS

Spring Break at NCAA Tourney A Great Choice For Sports Fans

By Caroline Huang
SPORTS EDITOR

Tired of sunburns, mosquito bites, and long plane rides? Regretting those eight margaritas you downed in Miami Beach, Honolulu, or Cancún? Perhaps you're just eager to gain respite from the dimly lit lecture halls affectionately called the gates of hell.

Column

Whatever the reason, there may

be a solution to your spring break woes: next time, watch the NCAA tournament in person instead. Lucky for you, it occurs during spring breaks all around the country.

I tested the waters at the Chicago Regional, curious about the atmosphere surrounding the games. Since the tickets ran \$225 for six games, I wondered if the environment would be completely commercial or actually enjoyable for an avid

sports fan. After all, a \$10 movie ticket is steep enough for a penny-pinching college student. Could a \$225 ticket even begin to live up to the March Madness hype?

To my delight, the regional was far from corporate and sterile. There was enthusiasm aplenty, mostly from cocky Badger and Jayhawk fans proclaiming their teams' assured places in the Final Four.

NCAA, Page 19

Lacrosse Loses Back-and-Forth Game

Casey Flynn Scores Four Goals For MIT, but Pride Pulls Away For a 12-9 Win

By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

Springfield College recorded a 12-9 victory over MIT in a New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) women's lacrosse game on Saturday afternoon.

Rachel Lampros scored a game-high six

goals for the Pride (6-4, 2-1 NEWMAC) as Casey M. Flynn '10 led the Engineers (2-5, 0-2 NEWMAC) with four goals. Flynn opened the scoring with a free position shot after only 2:21 had elapsed. Lampros registered the next two goals for Springfield, with Heidi Eidse earning the assist on the first strike.

MIT evened the contest a minute later at the 20:44 mark when Flynn

scored an unassisted goal. The Pride quickly regained the lead when Martell found Alexandra Bazzano. Springfield extended its advantage to 4-2 after Eidse recorded an assist on a Lampros goal.

The Engineers responded with three unanswered goals in a 10-minute span to take a 5-4 lead. Samantha

Lacrosse, Page 19

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

Men's Tennis vs. Clark University
Baseball vs. Wesleyan University
Men's Lacrosse vs. Lasell College

3:00 p.m., duPont Tennis Courts
4:00 p.m., Briggs Field
4:00 p.m., Jack Barry Field

Thursday, April 12, 2007

Men's Tennis vs. Tufts University

4:00 p.m., duPont Tennis Courts

Men's Tennis Falls to Bowdoin But Returns With Sweep of Babson

By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

In a pair of weekend matches, nationally-ranked No. 22 MIT fell to No. 16 Bowdoin College, 5-3, on Friday

and then defeated NEWMAC foe Babson College, 9-0, on Saturday. The split moved the Engineers' record to 8-5 on the year and 2-0 in conference play.

Against Bowdoin, Thomas H.

Dohlman '07 and Eric A. Beren '08 collaborated for an 8-2 win in the top doubles spot while Mark D. Egan '07 and Peden P. Nichols '09 outlasted their No. 2 foe, 9-8 (5). The Polar Bears picked up the final doubles point following an 8-4 loss by Melvin C. Makhni '07 and David E. Iba '09.

Beren registered the lone singles victory for the Engineers as he defeated his No. 2 opponent, Alex Cauchron, 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-2.

In Saturday's sweep of Babson, the doubles tandems of Dohlman and Beren, and Iba and Makhni recorded a pair of 8-3 wins. Egan and Nichols wrapped up doubles play with a hard-fought 9-8 (5) victory.

Egan led off the singles portion of the match with a 6-2, 6-1 win in the No. 3 spot while Beren and Makhni each posted victories of 6-1, 6-3. Michael Price won a 6-3, 6-1 decision in the No. 6 slot.

Following a 7-5 win in his No. 1 singles match, Dohlman shut out his opponent in the second set to continue the Engineers' dominance. Nichols closed the day with a 7-5, 6-2 victory for the Engineers.

Next up for MIT is a home match tomorrow against NEWMAC foe Clark University, which is currently 1-4 overall and 0-2 in conference play.

MIT Campus Preview Weekend
April 12-15, 2007

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Choice of Majors Fair

Thursday, April 12

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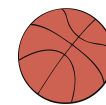
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