

Yield For Class of '11 Reaches 69 Percent

Percentage of Admits Enrolling Sets Record

By Angeline Wang
NEWS EDITOR

As of yesterday, a total of 1,053 students of the 1,533 who were admitted to the Class of 2011 had chosen to enroll, giving MIT a record 69 percent yield, Interim Director of Admissions Stuart Schmill said in an e-mail. According to Schmill, a more final yield number will be available next week. "There are still some outstanding offers out there," Schmill said.

With a target class size of 1,070 students, Schmill said it is likely that Admissions will be able to admit a small number of applicants off the waitlist. According to Schmill, just under 500 students were placed on the waitlist, with most of them choosing to remain on the list.

Yield, or the percentage of admitted students who choose to enroll, has steadily increased in the past few years up to 67 percent for the Class of 2010 and 69 percent for the Class of 2011. Yield for the Class of 2007 was approximately 59 percent.

"The increase in yield is likely attributable to our doing a better job getting our applicants to see what MIT is all about," Schmill said in the e-mail. "Through the Web site, through campus visits, and through personal connections, ... more stu-

dents are seeing the excitement of the campus and the opportunities that they'll have here."

Schmill also pointed to the record number of students that attended this year's Campus Preview Weekend. Approximately 80 percent of those who attended CPW chose to enroll, he wrote.

Schmill said he does not believe that the resignation of former Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones affected the yield this year. Jones was forced to resign in late April after it was discovered that she misrepresented her academic credentials.

"For the most part, parents and students were respectful of Marilee and our process, recognizing that the whole affair was unfortunate," Schmill said in the e-mail. "On the whole, people we heard from retained confidence in our process and know and appreciate that we are moving forward."

Last year, MIT accepted 40 students off the waitlist for the Class of 2010, marking the first time MIT has gone to the waitlist since 2002. Higher-than-expected yields and MIT's pledge to eliminate crowding in dormitories prevented MIT from accepting students off the waitlist in

Class of 2011, Page 14

Shinkansen Exterminated After Complaint of Cockroach Activity

By Diana Jue
STAFF REPORTER

A March 21 complaint against Lobdell's Shinkansen Japanese restaurant prompted an inspection on the same day that found minor cockroach activity in the restaurant, according to health reports from the Cambridge Inspectional Services Department. The restaurant was exterminated the following day and three follow-up reports, including one from May 9, found no evidence of roaches, said Richard D. Berlin III, director of Campus Dining.

A *Cambridge Chronicle* article, published May 7, stated that a parent of an MIT student complained about "cockroaches in the sushi and Japanese bugs in other foods and the bubble tea," as well as roaches in the basement kitchen. According to Berlin, these complaints are "inaccurate" and "exaggerated." Berlin said that Shinkansen does not have a kitchen in the basement.

The article did not "represent the situation correctly," Berlin said, stating that the situation was "non-critical," contrary to what the complaint suggested. Additionally, Berlin said that the *Chronicle* article had many inaccuracies. Erin Smith, the *Cambridge Chronicle* reporter, could not be immediately reached for comment.

According to a copy of an ISD report provided by Berlin, although



PETER H. RIGANO—THE TECH

Health inspectors from the Cambridge Inspectional Services Department visited Shinkansen in Lobdell after a complaint on March 21.

the health inspector recorded some cockroach activity, a full inspection of the restaurant revealed zero critical errors and three minor infractions. ISD could not be reached after repeated calls for clarification.

Ultrafast Pest Control exterminated Shinkansen on March 22, said Berlin.

Three subsequent visits by the

health inspector found no evidence of cockroach activity, according to copies of ISD reports provided by Berlin. On March 28, the health inspector found "no evidence of roach activity in rice or bubble tea," addressing the initial complaint mentioned in the *Chronicle*. The inspec-

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Team From Baker House Walked For Hunger, Raised \$5K For Project Bread

By Kristina M. Holton
STAFF REPORTER

Would you walk 500 miles to fight hunger? How about 20 miles?

Baker House did just that on May 6. Assembling a team of 22 — including freshmen through seniors, alumni, graduate resident tutors, and a Harvard student — the Baker House team walked 20 miles from Baker to Baker, by way of Boston, Brookline, Newton, and Cambridge in the Walk for Hunger. The official route started and ended at Boston Common.

The Baker House team blew their goal of \$3,500 out of the water, raising over \$5,200. Proceeds from the Walk for Hunger go toward Project

Bread, an organization founded to fight hunger caused by the high cost of living and heating bills in Massachusetts. Project Bread supports Massachusetts food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks, and food salvage programs. In total, this year's Walk for Hunger raised \$3.3 million through the efforts of corporations and 43,000 walkers.

GRT Christopher A. Cassa G brought in the most money single-handedly for the Baker team, with \$1,023.21. "It was really inspiring how generously the donations poured in from MIT students, alumni, and faculty for this worthwhile cause," Cassa said.

While the individual walkers raised money, the whole of Baker House did its share as well. Baker

House held a Battle of the Floors Penny Contest to support the team, run by Nathalie M. Pinkerton '08.

Running from April 25 to May 4, the goal of the Penny Contest was to earn the most points and win a floor study break. Each floor had a coin collection bottle, with pennies (worth +5), nickels (-5), dimes (-15), and quarters (-20), according to advertising for the contest. Effectively, it was a game of strategy and loose change.

Rumors floated around Baker House that someone had changed \$100 into pennies at the Student Center's Bank of America. People on certain floors hoarded copper and silver in their own bottles, waiting for last-minute, 11:59:59 p.m. sabo-

Walk For Hunger, Page 14

Charles D. Paton

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Charles D. Paton, retired director of the Electrical Engineering Laboratories, died April 29. He was 78.

Paton arrived at MIT in 1968 and taught graduate and undergraduate classes until his retirement in 1993. He also founded Paton Engineering Research, where he conducted innovative research that advanced battery technology.

Before coming to MIT, Paton designed and built electronics for RCA, Sylvania, LFE, and other corporations. He held a bachelor's degree from Tufts University.

He enjoyed skiing, playing tennis, sailing, and working on his home. Born in Athens, Greece, he had lived in Lexington, Mass., for 51 years.

The husband of the late Constance (Conaxis) Paton, he is survived by two daughters, Mena C. Paton of Beverly, Mass., and Dawna L. Paton of Carlisle, Mass.

A memorial service will be held today at 1 p.m. at Douglass Funeral Home, 51 Worthen Road, Lexington. Burial in Westview Cemetery, Lexington, was private.

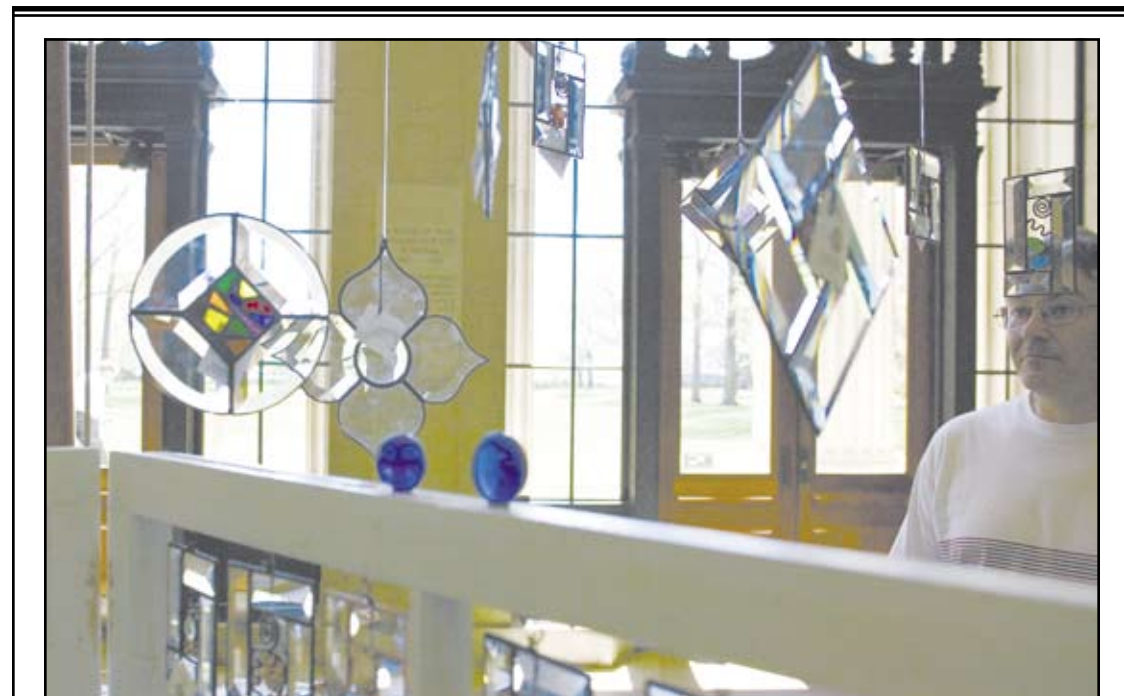
In Short

¶ **The Campus Energy Task Force** of the MIT Energy Initiative is calling for student project proposal submissions. The deadline for summer proposals is May 15. See <http://sustainability.mit.edu/CampusEnergyTaskForceRFP>. Also visit the Initiative's newly-launched Web site at <http://web.mit.edu/mitei/>.

¶ **Randall Munroe**, former NASA roboticist and creator of the xkcd Web comics, is speaking in 10-250 on Monday at 7 p.m. Cost is \$1 for MIT students and \$2 for general admission. See <http://lsc.mit.edu/schedule/current/desc-xkcd.shtml>.

¶ **A suspension bridge** will be constructed between the Stata Center alumni pool and Bldgs. 16 and 56. According to Professor Heather N. Lechtman, the bridge will be constructed by students in her class this weekend and will be ready next week.

¶ **Michelle D. Christy**, currently of Princeton University, will be the new director of MIT's Office of Sponsored Programs starting July 16. **Lori Gross**, the director of the Museum Loan Network at MIT since 1995, will become the director of arts initiatives and advisor to the associate provost on July 1.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Peter Guilday of Guilday Glass looks over his display of suncatchers in Lobby 10 last Friday, May 4.

NEWS

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WORLD & NATION

Under Pressure, Bush Concedes on Benchmarks

By Carl Hulse
and Jim Rutenberg

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

As the House approved a plan on Thursday to finance the Iraq war only through midsummer, President Bush offered his first public concession to try to resolve the impasse on war spending, acknowledging rising pressure from his own party and the public.

After a briefing at the Pentagon, Bush said he had instructed Joshua Bolten, the White House chief of staff, to reach "common ground" with lawmakers of both parties over setting firm goals, or benchmarks, to measure progress in Iraq. Bush had previously insisted he wanted about \$95 billion for the military with no strings attached.

"It makes sense to have benchmarks as a part of our discussion on how to go forward," Bush said, even as he threatened to veto the House plan, approved on a 221-205 vote Thursday night, to require him to seek approval in two months for the balance of the war money.

The bill approved by the House would provide \$42.8 billion total, with about \$30 billion directed to the war effort for the next two months. It requires the president to report by July 13 on how the Iraqi government is performing in building its military and moving toward achieving political unity in the battered country. Congress would then vote a second time on whether to give the administration the remainder of the money — about \$50 billion — to maintain operations in Iraq through Sept. 30 or to restrict that money to deployment.

Makers of Painkiller OxyContin Plead Guilty to Charges

By Barry Meier

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ABINGDON, VA.

The company that makes the narcotic painkiller OxyContin and three current and former executives pleaded guilty Thursday in federal court here to criminal charges that they misled regulators, doctors and patients about the drug's risk of addiction and its potential to be abused.

To resolve criminal and civil charges related to the drug's "misbranding", the parent of Purdue Pharma, the company that markets OxyContin, agreed to pay more than \$600 million in fines. That is the third-highest amount ever paid by a drug company in such a case.

Also, in a rare move, three executives of Purdue Pharma, including its president and its top lawyer, pleaded guilty Thursday as individuals to misbranding charges, a criminal violation. They agreed to pay a total of \$34.5 million in fines.

U.N. Security Council to Review Draft on Kosovo Independence

By Warren Hoge

THE NEW YORK TIMES

UNITED NATIONS

The United States and its European allies will circulate a draft U.N. Security Council resolution Friday to endorse a plan granting Kosovo supervised independence, Zalmay Khalilzad, the American ambassador to the United Nations, said Thursday.

The plan, brokered by Martti Ahtisaari, the U.N. mediator, is favored by the ethnic Albanians, who make up 90 percent of the population of Kosovo, but it is fiercely opposed by Serbia and its veto-bearing ally on the Council, Russia.

"Forcing a decision on Kosovo would be counterproductive," Vitaly I. Churkin, the Russian ambassador, said Thursday after a Security Council briefing on a fact-finding mission that Council ambassadors made last month to Kosovo and Belgrade, the Serbian capital.

Churkin said Russia still had problems with the plan that "clearly cannot be reconciled," and he refused to rule out a veto. He said Russia sought further negotiations on the future of Kosovo, a Serbian province that has been under U.N. administration since 1999.

Prosecutor Firings Justified, Gonzales Tells House Comm.

By David Johnston

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

House Democrats pressed Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales at a hearing on Thursday to provide specifics about why federal prosecutors were dismissed, but he stuck to his past assertions that, although ineptly handled, the dismissals were justified and appropriate.

Democrats at the hearing of the House Judiciary Committee tried but failed to elicit greater clarity about the specific reasons for removing individual prosecutors. Gonzales offered little new information, testifying again that his role in the firings was limited.

Rep. John Conyers, a Michigan Democrat and chairman of the panel, seemed to voice the frustration among Democrats over Gonzales' testimony, saying, "Tell us, just tell us how the U.S. attorney termination list came to be, and who suggested putting most of these U.S. attorneys on the list and why."

Gonzales replied by repeating his assertion that the firing list represented "the consensus recommendation of the senior leadership of the department."

"OK, in other words, you don't know," Conyers said.

Gonzales signaled at the outset of the hearing that there would be few bombshells. He said that since he testified three weeks ago at a Senate hearing on the firings, "My feelings and recollections about this matter haven't changed."

Rep. Linda Sanchez, a California Democrat who has led the House inquiry, expressed frustration over the inability of the Justice Department to fully explain the dismissals. She said that congressional investigators had interviewed most of the Justice Department officials involved, but added, "Not one has been able to recall or take responsibility for how and why these U.S. attorneys were added to the firing list."

Republicans on the House committee were more supportive of Gonzales than their counterparts in the Senate, where some Republicans were scathingly critical after his testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Several House Republicans asked no questions about the firings, instead praising Gonzales' performance or quizzing him on unrelated issues like illegal immigration, copyright policy,

cyber crime and terrorism.

Rep. Lamar Smith of Texas, the ranking Republican on the panel, said, "As we have gone forward, the list of accusations has grown, but the evidence of genuine wrongdoing has not," adding, "If there are no fish in this lake we should reel in our lines of questions, dock our empty boat and turn to more pressing issues."

Gonzales at times expressed contrition for his mishandling of the dismissals, including his earlier misstatements about the process, but insisted he had acted correctly. "What I have concluded is that although the process was not as rigorous or as structured as it should have been, and while reasonable people might decide things differently, my decision to ask for the resignations of these U.S. attorneys was not based on improper reasons and therefore the decision should stand."

Several Democrats asked Gonzales about news reports on Thursday disclosing the dismissal of a ninth U.S. attorney, Todd P. Graves in Kansas City, Mo. Graves said in interviews that he had been forced out by Justice Department officials in March 2006.

Blair Announces Plans to Leave Post as Prime Minister in June

By Alan Cowell

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

After months of coy hints and fevered speculation, Prime Minister Tony Blair announced Thursday that he would leave office on June 27 after a decade in power in which he sacrificed his popularity to the war in Iraq and struggled at home to improve schools, policing and hospitals.

With stirring oratory cast as a personal testament, he declared: "I ask you to accept one thing. Hand on heart, I did what I thought was right. I may have been wrong. That's your call. But believe one thing: I did what I thought was right for our country."

The announcement, in Blair's home district of Sedgefield in northeastern England, was part of a closely choreographed and pro-

tracted farewell that is not quite over yet. Between now and his final departure, Blair plans to attend major European Union and international summits in June.

The prime minister's aides have sought to detail Blair's agenda between now and his resignation to counter taunts from the opposition Conservatives that he is leading a lame duck administration. According to British media reports, he has also scheduled trips to France, Africa and the United States and will seek to press laws through parliament before handing over to a successor — almost certainly Gordon Brown, the chancellor of the exchequer.

"Today I announce my decision to stand down from the leadership of the Labor Party. The party will now select a new leader. On the 27th of June I will tender my resignation

from the post of prime minister to the Queen," he said.

"I have been prime minister of this country for just over 10 years. In this job, in the world today, I think that is long enough for me, but more especially for the country.

"Sometimes the only way you conquer the pull of power is to set it down," he said.

Blair stood before 250 cheering supporters in a local Labor Party club-house, his words relayed by banks of television satellite vans drawn up outside. His tone was personal and partly elegiac. His wife, Cherie Booth, the source of much controversy during his tenure, was in the audience as he spoke and he paid tribute to her. He did not, however, endorse Brown as his successor.

"It's difficult in a way to know how to make this speech," Blair said.

WEATHER

Cooler Weekend Ahead

By Angela Zalucha
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Unstable air associated with a cold front to the west will give us a chance for an isolated shower or thunderstorm today. Temperatures will remain unseasonably warm for one last day, as part of our mini-heat wave of this past week. As the high pressure over central Canada moves to our southwest, the associated clockwise circulation will bring in cooler air from the north. This will bring the weekend's high temperatures back to the mid-60s, which is more normal for this time of year. The good news is that the friendly high pressure will bring sunny conditions Saturday through Monday, continuing the dry pattern we have been in for the past two weeks.

As dry as it has been lately, it is hard to believe that around this time last year northern New England saw its worst flooding in 70 years. Over the weekend of May 13-14, 2006, the city of Boston received over seven inches of rain. Places in New Hampshire and Maine fared worse, with many rivers overflowing their banks, causing damage to nearby homes and businesses.

On a final note, the 2007 Atlantic Hurricane season kicked off early with the formation of Subtropical Storm Andrea off the Florida coast Wednesday morning. Andrea dropped to tropical depression status yesterday and continues to deteriorate into a remnant low pressure system that poses little serious threat to land.

Extended Forecast:

Today: Mostly cloudy, chance of a shower or thunderstorm. High 78°F (26°C).

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, then clearing late. Low 55°F (13°C).

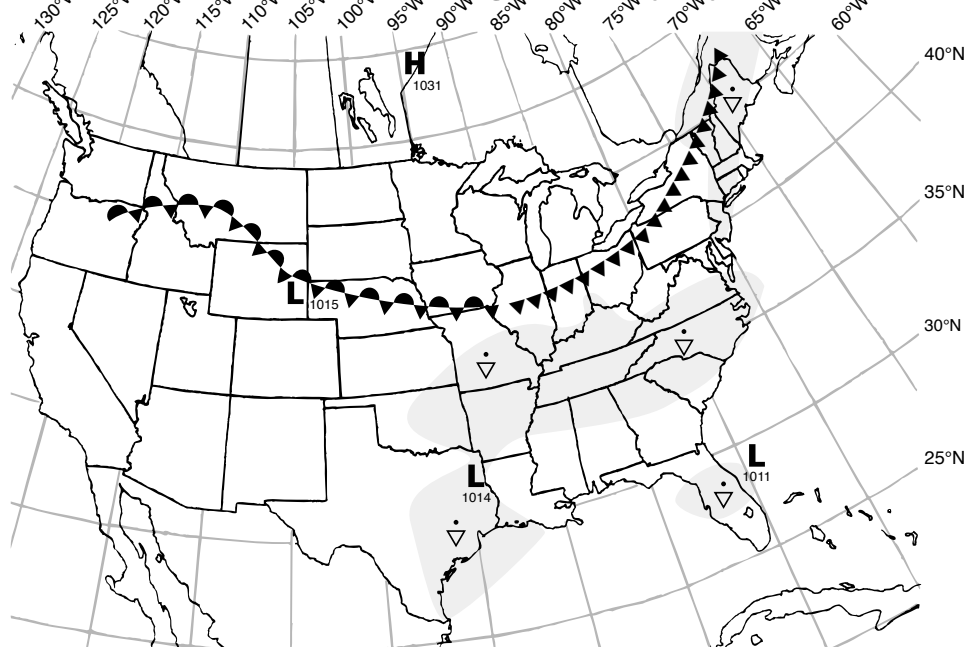
Tomorrow: Partly sunny. High 62°F (17°C).

Tomorrow night: Mostly clear. Low 48°F (9°C).

Sunday: Sunny. High 62°F (17°C).

Monday: Sunny. High 66°F (19°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, May 11, 2007



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

House Republicans Lobby Bush To Act Against Sudan Violence

By Helene Cooper
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

In the latest attempt to exert pressure on Sudan over the killing in the Darfur region, a group of conservative-to-moderate Republicans in Congress demanded Thursday that President Bush impose sanctions against the government for its failure to rein in the violence.

In a three-page letter sent to the White House, 15 members of the House urged Bush to "follow your instincts" and "authorize the actions you outlined on April 18," when Bush promised that the United States would impose sanctions on Sudan if its government did not take action soon on Darfur.

The letter came a day after 108 members of Congress sought in an-

other letter to press China to flex its muscles in Sudan to try to end the violence in Darfur. The two letters underscore the mounting frustration in Washington with the government of Sudan. On Thursday, Liu Guijin, a former ambassador to Zimbabwe and South Africa, was named China's special envoy assigned to the Darfur issue, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, Jiang Yu, said.

"The time is at hand to reassert the resolve of the United States that the atrocities taking place in Darfur cannot stand," the Thursday letter said. "We urge you to do everything within your power to inflict serious economic pain upon those who act as obstructionists to peace, and to take the other actions as necessary, to halt the continued assault against human dignity in Darfur."

Representatives who signed the Thursday letter include Eric Cantor of Virginia, the deputy whip; Thaddeus McCotter of Michigan, chairman of the Republican policy committee; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida; and Tom Tancredo of Colorado.

A senior official of the Bush administration said Thursday that the United States may move toward sanctions within days. Bush said April 18 that he would give Sudan's president, Omar Hassan al-Bashir, "a short period of time" to meet several conditions. The United States wants Bashir to agree to a full deployment of U.N. peacekeeping forces, to end his support for the janjaweed Arab militias that have been carrying out systematic killings of civilians in Darfur, and to allow aid to reach the region.

Secretary of State Rice Supports Embattled World Bank President

By Steven R. Weisman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Bowing to pressure from the Bush administration, the World Bank board agreed Wednesday to give Paul D. Wolfowitz, the bank's president, slightly more time to defend himself against charges of misconduct before the board decides his future.

In a development that might help Wolfowitz's fight to remain as bank president, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has lobbied European foreign ministers in the last two weeks, expressing support for him.

"She has spoken with several European foreign ministers about her

positive impressions of Paul and the job he's doing at the World Bank," Sean McCormack, the State Department spokesman, said Wednesday when asked whether Rice had become involved in supporting Wolfowitz.

Despite Rice's efforts and the board's decision to give Wolfowitz more time, bank officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the deliberations are confidential, said they saw no indication that the board was any less determined to oust him from the presidency.

Wolfowitz was given until Friday evening — two additional days — to make his case to the board, and it was expected that he would appear

before the board as early as Monday. The board is to vote on whether he deserves a reprimand, a vote of no confidence or outright removal.

But even those plans could change. Discussions continued Wednesday on whether to proceed with a vote next week. Many bank officials continue to hope that Wolfowitz will resign, making a vote unnecessary.

Last weekend, a special committee of the board concluded that Wolfowitz violated bank rules and the terms of his contract by directing that Shaha Ali Riza, his companion, be awarded a large pay raise and promotion package when she was transferred to the State Department in 2005.

Questions Raised on Afghan Death Toll

By Carlotta Gall

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HERAT, AFGHANISTAN

The death toll of civilians killed in bombing by foreign forces on Tuesday night was much higher than the official figure of 21, and may be as high as 50 or even 80, residents reached by telephone said Thursday.

The tally differed from that given by a government administrator of the Sangin region, Ezatullah, who uses only one name. He said he had spent four to five hours in the village of Sarwan Qala on Thursday and said the civilian death toll remained 21. Some Taliban were also killed in the bombing, he said, but he did not specify how many.

The U.S. military has stuck with its original news statement, which said that it had called in the airstrikes on Taliban insurgents after a heavy 16-hour battle and destroyed three militant compounds.

But residents of the area, some of whom said they had also visited the village and helped bury the dead, said three houses were destroyed and put the number of dead variously at 56, 60, and 80.

On Wednesday, villagers brought the bodies of 21 people, mostly women and children, to the Sangin district center to show them to government officials and NATO troops stationed there.

Movie Ratings Panel Will Start to Consider Smoking

By Michael Cieply

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Warning: Smoking may be dangerous to your movie rating.

In a significant change to its movie ratings system, the Motion Picture Association of America on Thursday said portrayals of smoking would be considered alongside sex and violence in assessing the suitability of movies for young viewers. Films that appear to glamorize smoking will risk a more restrictive rating, and descriptions of tobacco use will be added to the increasingly detailed advisories that accompany each rated film.

Anti-smoking groups, already successful in much of the country in banning smoking in bars, restaurants and other public places, have ratcheted up the pressure on Hollywood in recent years to purge movies of images that might promote tobacco use. Some have even demanded that virtually any film with smoking be rated R, shutting out those under 17 unless they are accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.

Under the new policy, a film's rating will consider all tobacco use, rather than just teenage smoking, as in the past. But the board stopped short of guaranteeing that tobacco use would be considered as heavily as sex, violence or drug use in assigning a rating. (Film ratings are assigned by a panel of about a dozen parents through an apparatus called the Classification and Ratings Administration, and overseen by both the Motion Picture Association and the National Association of Theater Owners.)

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'On Broadway' Review Inaccurate

It was unfortunate to read such a miscalculated review of "On Broadway" in the May 4 edition of *The Tech*. It is clear that Alice MacDonald '08 must have departed the film early and did not realize that the voiceover narration and flashback were only within the first two minutes of the film. Moreover, she states the film looked crappy due to it being shot on digital — clearly mistaken, as it was shot on film. Lastly, Alice states that the writing was rigid. Fair enough. But I find Dave McLaughlin's writing to come from a place of honesty which isn't seen in these wannabe hipster films that are so often hyped or seen at festivals. Stories are what seem to be missing, not some clown in hipster clothes and haircuts speaking nonsense. Go rent a John Cassavetes film!

Lance Greene
Producer, "On Broadway"

Please Do Not Water Down An MIT Education

Several years ago MIT halved its core physics and math requirement from two years to one year. Now a faculty task force has proposed to further reduce the physics requirement to one semester. The task force has violated the Lewis principle of emphasis on fundamental concepts. If the faculty continues to water down the undergraduate curriculum, MIT graduates will be less successful in competing for jobs and admission

to graduate school than engineering graduates of other schools which offer a more comprehensive foundation in engineering science.

The faculty task force should seek input from MIT alumni and from people outside MIT in industry and at other universities. Furthermore, the task force should examine the list of topics included on the national Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam administered by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE). All MIT engineering seniors and graduate students should be encouraged to take the FE exam, the first step toward license as a Professional Engineer (P.E.).

Theodore J. Sheskin '62

Cohen Suggests Far-fetched Changes

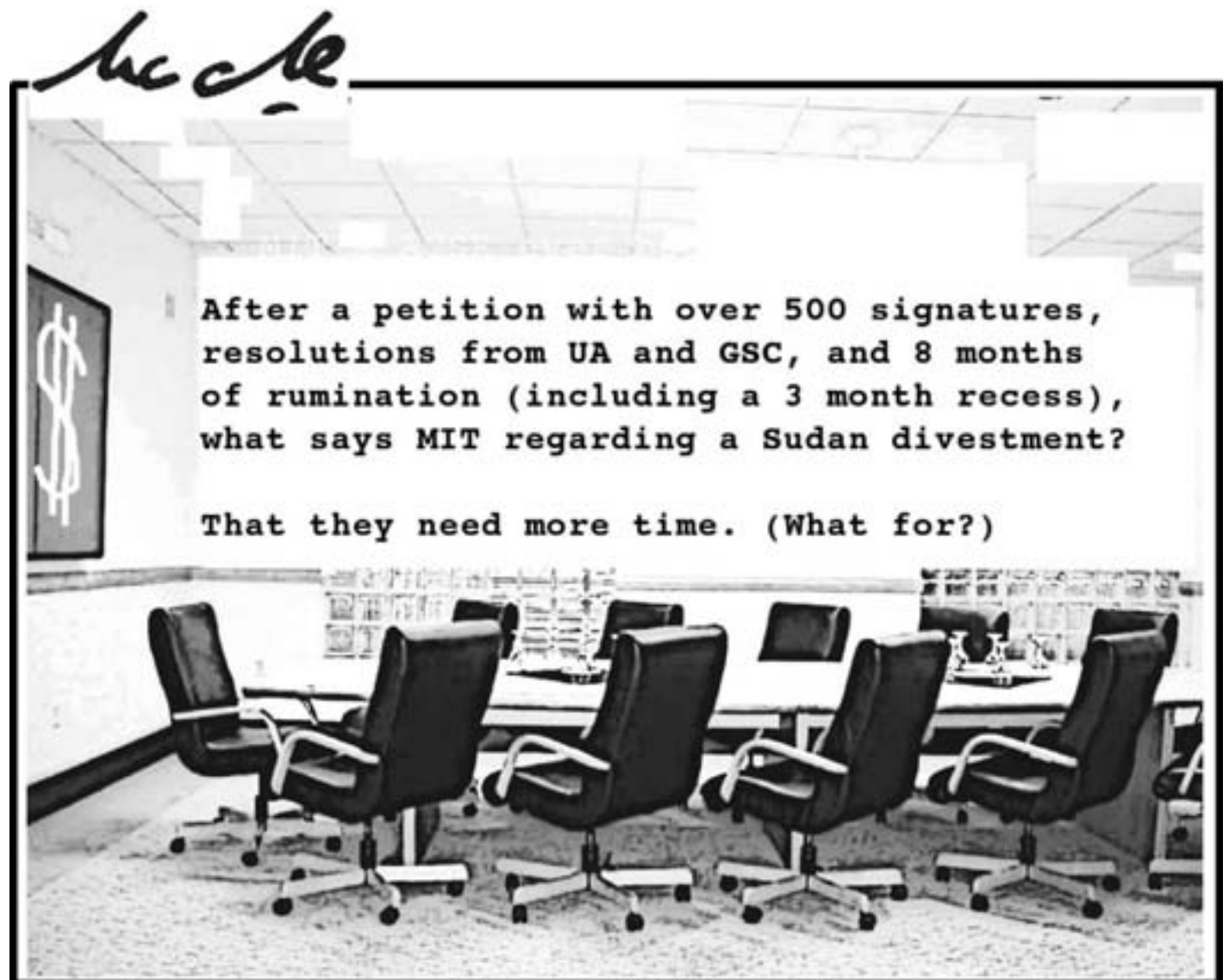
Jeffrey S. Cohen '06, responding to my opinion article [Friday, April 27, 2007] calling for our government to shut down the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, writes at length about all the various ways that the threat terrorists pose to society are different than those our country has faced before, and so the critically important change we must make is not closing Guantanamo but changing our laws to address this new threat. There are two problems with this argument, one practical and the other more philosophical.

Practically speaking, someone who wants to see our laws reformed in response to the threat posed by terrorists should be even more dedicated to closing Guantanamo. As it stands, the legal black hole that Guantanamo has become is obstructing the process of genuine reform because it gives the executive a *carte blanche* to

do whatever it wants to detainees. The executive is then left with no incentive to go to Congress and push it to bring the process of trying terrorism suspects on a firm constitutional footing that at least respects traditional notions of *habeas corpus* (which was eliminated by the Military Commissions Act of 2006). As it stands, Congress is likely to first go back and undo the damage inflicted by the administration and its collaborators in the 109th Congress and only afterward take up the issue of reasonable reform in response to terrorism. Closing Guantanamo will force Congress to speed up its deliberations on how to reform our laws.

The second problem I have with the argument Cohen makes is the scale of the changes he is defending. While it is obvious that the threat posed by terrorists is different from those once posed by the Soviet nuclear arsenal, it is unclear to me that the terrorist threat is at all as dangerous as the nuclear threat. In fact I cannot understand how terrorism can possibly pose the kind of existential threat once posed by nuclear warfare between our country and the Soviets. So how is it that the terrorist threat is forcing us to change our laws so that *habeas corpus* can be suspended by a single individual with no oversight when the existential threat of nuclear warfare did not? I can understand some changes to the law in response to a heightened risk from terrorism, but I will never understand the gross violations to the spirit of our laws that Cohen is defending by siding with the administration's view that the fight we're currently engaged in necessitates a complete restructuring of 800 years of common law jurisprudence. It may be a different kind of war, but it's not different enough to go back to a pre-1215 legal framework.

Shankar Mukherji G



Roberto Perez-Franco G

2007-May-09

McChe.com

Opinion Policy

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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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May 11,
2007

COMICS

The
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FUN

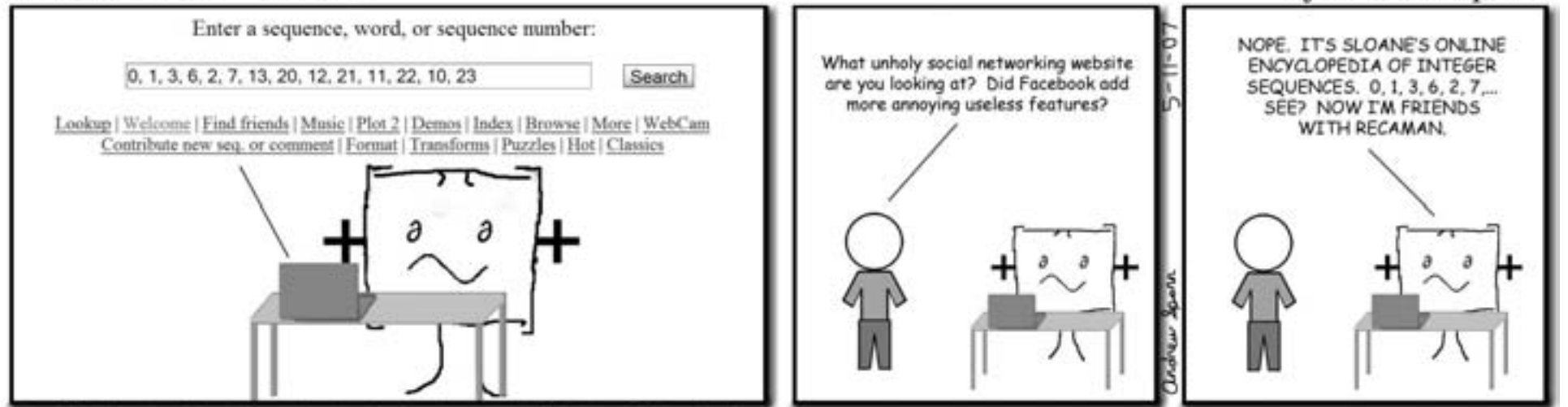
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5

PAGES



PROOF OF FALSE

by Andrew Spann



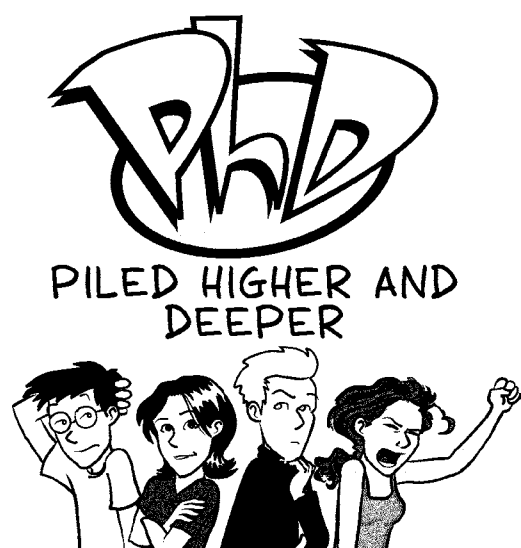
Proof of False Archive: <http://web.mit.edu/spann/Public/ProofofFalseComic/>

Run Bug

by Roberto Perez-Franco



www.runbug.com



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

BIG CLOCK, small hands

By Ali Ghajarnia & Nancy Hua



Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer

Class attendance profile during the Spring '07 term

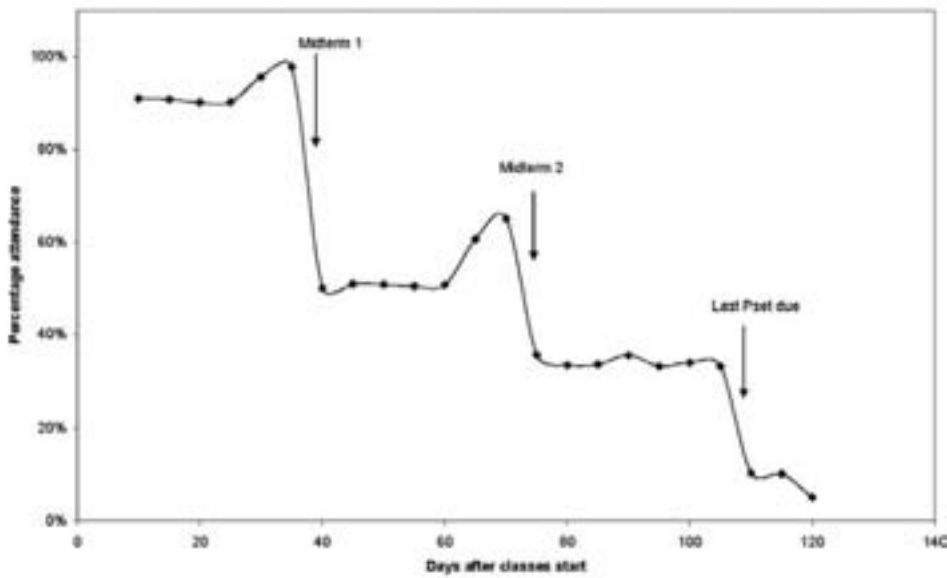
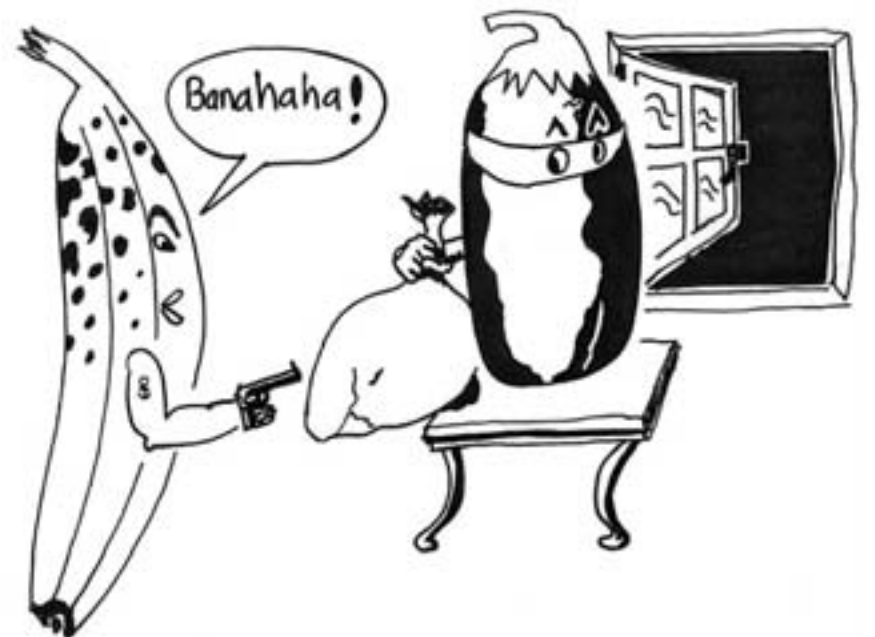


Figure 11. The above shows the average student turnout for lectures in freshman Chemistry. Significant drops in average attendance follow all instances of major examinations, preceded by a temporary increase in turnout probably fueled by panic attacks. One last discontinuity in attendance is observed after the last problem set of the semester is due, when little can be done to improve overall performance. Note: the data does not distinguish between awake and unconscious students (see, for example, Fig. 4)



by Alan McNeil Jackson



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ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

*30th Anniversary Bash**Chorallaries Crank Out a Fun Evening of Music*

By Kevin Wang

STAFF WRITER

Chorallaries 30th Anniversary Concert
Friday, May 4, 2007
10-250

Lots of things have recently turned 30: Shakira, Orlando Bloom, Pamela Anderson's breasts, and, of course, the MIT Chorallaries.

Throughout their two-hour set last Friday, the MIT Chorallaries drop-kicked an eclectic mix of old and new pop music into the waiting ears of a packed crowd in 10-250. They were joined by two groups of alumni, including members of the original group as well as more recent members. All in all, the Chorallaries delivered a series of very impressive performances to usher in their next 30 years as an a cappella group.

The Chorallaries started off their 30th birthday concert with "Rainbow Connection," which despite its title is neither the jingle for a Skittles commercial nor the theme song for a PBS special on diversity, but a catchy "Sesame Street" song. Yelena S. Bagdasarova '10 belted out an excellent performance, doing justice to Kermit the Frog's musical oeuvre while expanding on the muppet's somewhat limited vocal range. The rest of the Chorallaries' set ventured through a series of entertaining pop songs, such as "Mambo No. 5," "Candyman," and that Journey song that was in every 80's teen movie ("Don't Stop Believing"). While the current Chorallaries did a solid job with the first few songs that they sang, some of their performances in the middle of the set fell a bit short and failed to truly stand out from one another and demand individual attention. Given the smaller selection of songs that they performed, the alumni were able to make their individual performances a bit more memorable. As I was unable to listen to the radio as a fetus, I'm not quite sure which songs they sang — aside from my personal theme song, "It's Raining Men" — but they delivered a strong showing of good, fun tunes.

Towards the end of the set, the group took a few moments to say goodbye to their graduating seniors. Zachary J. Watts '07, Benjamin M. Schwartz '06, and Holly R. Johnson '07 all received gifts from the current members, and delivered solid performances of their first solos with the group. Immediately following, the former Chorallaries launched straight into performances of "Africa" (Toto) and the unofficial MIT theme song, "Engineers' Drinking Song." The much-requested "Africa," aside from being a great song in its own right, was made even better by the group's excellent harmonies and faux bird calls. While a room full of people imitating wild animal calls is usually a clear sign to run like hell and head for shelter, the Chorallaries alums did a great job with the song and the synthesized savannah noises.

It was the "Engineers' Drinking Song," however, that was the highlight of the night. Performed by all of the current and former Chorallaries, including the founders of the group, this



KRISTINA M. HOLTON—THE TECH

The Chorallaries perform "The Candyman" (originally by Christina Aguilera) during their 30th anniversary concert last Friday.

tour-de-force transformed MIT's simple theme/drinking song into a massive ode to the school, encompassing all of the pride and bitterness that the Institute inspires. "Engineers" meandered through a number of styles and verses, brilliantly incorporating elements of fugal counterpoint, classical hymns, and specially written verses to create a veritable masterpiece. With such additional lyrics as "and they shall tool forever and ever" (sung in multi-part harmony to the tune of the Hallelujah chorus) and verses comparing MIT to hell, "Engineers" was funny, musically stunning, and wholly entertaining.

And of course, following the concert the Chorallaries provided a massive orgy of cake, in the form of a 5-by-5 foot dessert item that could have fed a small village for a week. And nothing that ends with free cake is ever anything but awesome.



KRISTINA M. HOLTON—THE TECH

Zachary J. Watts '07 performs Coldplay's "In My Place" during the Chorallaries' 30th anniversary performance last Friday.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

*Not Just Any Lunch — Brookline Lunch!**Central Square Eatery Serves Good Food Cheap*

By Alice MacDonald

STAFF WRITER

Brookline Lunch
19 Brookline Street
Central Square
Cambridge, Mass.
(617) 354-2983

At first glance, Brookline Lunch doesn't look like much. It looks a little cruddy, and it isn't in the most charming of locations amidst the liquor stores and homeless of Central Square. But more important than the décor is the food, of course!

Brookline Lunch serves breakfast all day. That's right — you can get hearty omelettes, eggy French toast, and syrupy pancakes served with orange juice or a cup of coffee anytime you want. They also offer lunch foods such as salads, sandwiches, soup, and other dishes — but to be honest, I never actually ventured onto that side of the menu. They have pancakes, for Pete's sake!

I recommend either the spinach and cheese omelette or the tomato and feta. Both are

served with toast and a potato-vegetable medley. Unlike many diner-like breakfast joints, Brookline Lunch opts to serve a sort of pan-fried mix of vegetables and potatoes instead of just home fries, which can be greasy, gross, and tend to make me feel dirty and smelly after eating them.

In addition, the portion sizes seem more in line with what a normal person would actually want to eat in one sitting. If you are expecting a plate filled with several potatoes, a half dozen eggs, half a pig's worth of bacon, and buttery toast, you might be disappointed.

One thing you should definitely go for is the homemade jam and spicy sauce that come with your meal — it is inexplicably good and you can't get it anywhere else. If this doesn't sound good, you can't go wrong with standards like pancakes, French toast, and eggs Benedict.

Besides, the restaurant has character. Once you climb the steps and enter the open door, you are greeted by a kooky and crazy interior. There are mis-matched booths on both sides of the restaurant with a few small tables with dusty fake flowers between them.

You can see the kitchen in the back behind a retro cash register on a cluttered counter-top. On the brick walls, there is usually funky artwork from a local gallery that I suppose one could purchase if so inclined. My recent favorites are the portraits of cats in bowties, adorned with glitter. And take a gander at the ceiling decorations if you go.

Also, you can't go wrong with these prices: for just a little more than Delicious Lunch Box, you get a meal that doesn't come in a red and white Styrofoam box and that you don't have

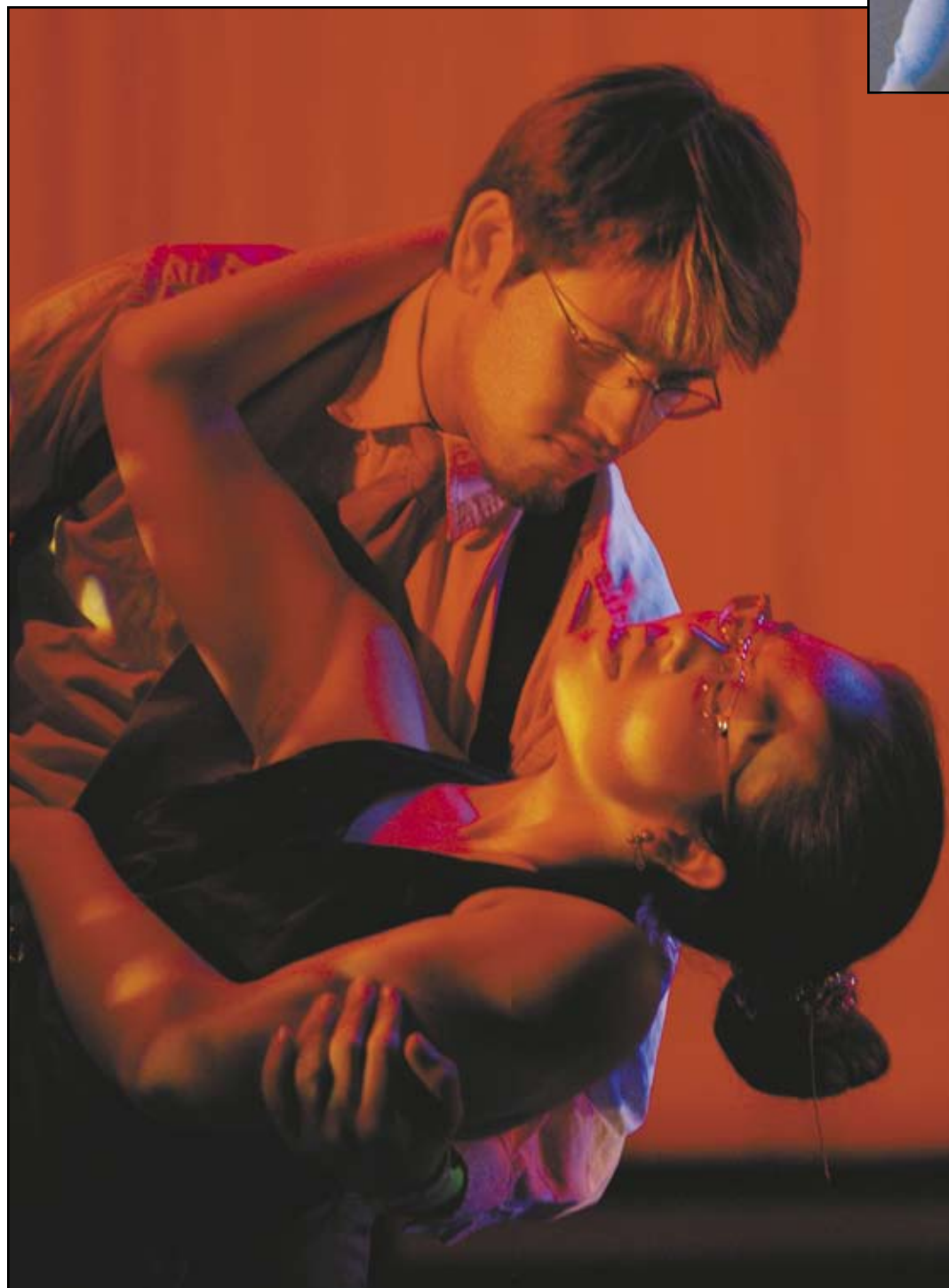
to eat with a plastic fork in the Student Center. Prices are low and represent what I believe to be an excellent value. You will get lunch with tax and tip for around \$5-7!

One thing that turns some eaters off Brookline Lunch is the service — but this isn't Newbury Street. You are getting food for under four bucks, and when you do get a server's attention, she is friendly and happy to take your requests.

As far as logistics, even the most campus-bound of students should be able to locate and get to Brookline Lunch without a problem; it's even close enough that you can get there and back during lunchtime. Weekdays, I have never had a problem securing a table or getting my repast in a timely fashion, but weekends are another story when folks line up outside to get a table.

So next time you are feeling hungry but can't stomach another burrito, Boston cream donut, or LaVerde's sandwich, check out Brookline Lunch. It may not be for everyone, but those of you who enjoy no-frills food in a quirky environment will not be disappointed.

Brookline Lunch serves breakfast all day. That's right — you can get omelettes, French toast, pancakes served with orange juice or coffee anytime you want.



Dance Troupe Lights up Kresge

MIT Dance Troupe holds its spring show through Sunday, May 13 in Kresge Little Theater. Clockwise from top left:

(left to right) Kapil A. Dilwali '10, Tarikh C. Campbell '09, Emanuel P. Borja '09, Kamo Jurn '10, and Neal D. Miller '10 jump and dance in "DT Bhangra."

(left to right) Sebastian Castro '09, Alejandro P. Ojeda '10, and Silverio Garcia '07 toss off a drink before joining their women in a quick salsa number called "Hasta Que Se Rompa el Cuero."

Thaddeus R. Cybulski '10 (left) and Bettina H. Tso '08 dance together in a piece called "A Cob Web Sky."

Members of MIT Imobilare dance in the dark outlined in red and green neon in a piece entitled "A Troupe of Dancers."

Fernando Funakoshi '09 and Mary Hong '10 dance together in "The Name's Bond, James Bond."

Daphne D. Hao '07 (front, left) and Qian Qian S. Tang '10 (front, right) dance in a piece called "Strategy."



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CAMPUS LIFE

Scott's Travels

Forget Soggy Wieners, Never Eat Sliced Cucumbers

By James Scott Berdahl
STAFF COLUMNIST

MIT undergraduate Scott Berdahl spent a year traveling the world to see what all the fuss was about. Over seven months, he traveled from Moscow to Delhi by train, bus, horseback, and on foot, finding his share of adventure along the way.

Now in the Western world, the concepts of privacy and personal space seem to be fairly well ingrained in the public conscience. Such is not the case in Mongolia, where the largely nomadic people see to it that every space on every moving platform is packed with the utmost efficiency.

This is how I found myself, sandwiched between rows of Mongolians in a rickety Soviet van bumping along the similarly rickety dirt roads of the nation's highway system.

As the drive wore on, my fellow passengers wore out, and the man next to me tipped in his slumber to rest his head on my left shoulder. I looked over to Will, who was himself sandwiched between a large ice cream-loving woman and the window. "Looks like you've made a friend," he chuckled. As I considered waking the man, I felt a weight on my

other shoulder. The boy to my right had set up in a similar fashion. Feeling awkward, I looked around the van for help, but nobody seemed to notice.

Across from me, an old man had begun to slump forwards out of his seat. We were packed facing each other, knee-to-knee, so when his knee slid between mine, I experienced no small degree of alarm. With each bump of the road he slumped further, his knee coming closer to my particularly personal space. I couldn't maneuver my way out of it, so I knocked his knee with mine, hoping he'd wake up and realize his mistake. He stirred briefly and looked around, then closed his eyes and slumped further. Time was running out.

Momentarily forgetting I had Mongolians on my shoulders, I leaned forward to try to push his knee away. The two bodies avalanched down behind me, wedging into the seat and propping me forward. That was it. Hunching out from the bottom of a Mongolian dog pile, and with an old man's knee firmly

planted in my crotch, I passed the rest of the ride in silence.

Sometime in the wee hours we reached Tsetserleg, the destination of the van and a

town in which we were hoping to buy a couple of horses. We spent the next day exploring the grassy little town, talking philosophy and doing whatever else it is travelers do all day long, before we finally stopped in at what looked to be a makeshift nightclub of some sort for a bite to eat.

Sheep kebabs. They were delicious, and I quickly cleaned my plate. Will did not. "Aren't you going to eat your cucumbers?" I asked. "No," he said, "meat's usually alright, but you shouldn't eat raw vegetables at a place like this." Huh. "You'll probably be fine though."

I spent a great deal of that night curled up on the cold floor of the run down hotel bathroom between episodes of violent expulsion from the various ends of my digestive system. At last I was able to return to my bed; sleep felt good.

Will woke me up some time later. It was light. "Here," he said, offering me a bottle of water. Luckily for me, Will had had some experience with this sort of thing before. "Do you want some food?" I nearly puked again at the mere thought of it. "All right, well then have this." A Pepsi! "Drink the water too though." With shaky hands I accepted the drinks and

forced down a few sips.

While I nursed my beverages, Will filled me in on the developments in our pursuit to buy horses. He had asked around the town, a difficult task as he didn't speak a word of Mongolian, but he hadn't found too many available horses. Those that were available ran for a similar amount in Tsetserleg as they had in Ulaan Baatar.

The word now was that the place to buy horses was out in the countryside, where nomadic breeder families raised small troops of them. Will had, however, met a lady who spoke some English, and she had offered to provide us with a pair of horses for \$5 per horse per day and offered the services of her brother as a guide for the same price. If we found horses out in the country, we could send the rentals back with our guide. With my consent, things were all set for us to head out the next morning. We even had food and a cooking pot each.

I was incredulous. "Wow, that sounds really good." Outside it looked to be mid-afternoon. "How'd you get all that done so quickly?" Will looked confused. "Quickly? Uh..."

And then it hit him. "Dude, you've been asleep for almost two days."

I spent a great deal of that night curled up on the cold floor . . . between episodes of violent expulsion from the various ends of my digestive system.

We were packed facing each other, knee-to-knee, so when his knee slid between mine, I experienced no small degree of alarm.

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A complete job description is available from Rosheen Kavanagh. Cover letter and resume should be emailed by **May 15**:

Rosheen Kavanagh
rosheen@mit.edu
MIT Alumni Fund, 10-110

Solution to Crossword

from page 7

S	T	U	N	G		H	U	N	T		P	S	S	T		
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Solution to Sudoku

from page 7

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Government Probes College Ties to Loan Companies in Boston

By Tracy Jan and Marcella Bombardieri
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Wading into a roaring national controversy, Attorney General Martha Coakley is investigating whether Massachusetts colleges have improper relationships with loan companies, her office said yesterday.

"Every prospective student deserves a fair chance of financing a college education," she said in a statement.

Several other attorneys general, most notably Andrew M. Cuomo of New York, as well as Senator Edward M. Kennedy and other politicians, have been hammering colleges for alleged conflicts of interest. Those conflicts include taking payments in exchange for recommending a lender or allowing loan company employees to answer students' financial aid questions by telephone without disclosing that they don't work for the college.

Wednesday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill aimed at curbing conflicts of interest and corrupt practices in college lending.

In March, Cuomo's office singled out six Massachusetts public and private colleges for making revenue-sharing arrangements with one lender, Education Finance Partners. Boston University, Bridgewater State College, Emerson College, and Berklee College of Music accepted amounts ranging from \$1,500 to \$23,000. Mount Holyoke said its loan volume was never large enough to receive any payment, and Becker College would not say how much it accepted.

Bridgewater officials said they would return the money to students, and BU said it would give it back to the company. Education Finance Partners settled with Cuomo's office for \$2.5 million and agreed to stop the payments, which Cuomo called kickbacks.

Coakley was unavailable for comment yesterday. Spokeswoman Amie Breton said that Coakley's office began the investigation several weeks ago "to determine whether there had been any inappropriate or illegal behavior in the student loan industry."

Coakley's office will be looking for evidence of various questionable practices, including lenders making payments to colleges in exchange for preferential treatment, lenders making payments to university financial aid staff, and colleges allowing lenders to use financial aid exit interviews to promote their products.

Because the investigation is in its early stages, Breton said she could not name the institutions the attorney general is investigating or say how many there are.

Patricia F. Plummer, chancellor of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, said yesterday that the board plans to issue a code of ethics at its next meeting in June. The board did not find questionable practices among the state's four-year colleges when it checked in March, other than Bridgewater State's revenue sharing.

Plummer said she hopes that Coakley's investigation will help set standards in the Commonwealth. She said that the attorney general informed presidents of private colleges in Massachusetts of the investigation at a meeting last week.

"She said it was a concern but not to the extent of New York," Plummer said. "She was looking into it to make sure we have good policies in Massachusetts."

Several college officials said they were not surprised about Coakley's inquiry, because the issue has gained so much public attention.

Emerson officials answered questions in a telephone interview with Coakley's staff last week, said spokesman David Rosen. Emerson received several thousand dollars from Education Finance Partners,

Rosen said.

"We look forward to working with the attorney general's office to remove any questions that might exist and come up with agreed-upon practices that protect students and maintain the public's trust in our institutions," he said.

Bridgewater, a target of Cuomo's investigation, put the \$18,000 it received from Education Finance Partners into financial aid, said spokesman Bryan Baldwin. But since Cuomo's investigation, the school decided to end its relationship with Education Finance Partners and return the money to the Bridgewater State students who borrowed a total of about \$5 million from the lender.

"The college doesn't want the students to have any doubts about the relationship the college has with any outside vendor," Baldwin said.

Kennedy has been investigating the student loan industry since January. In a letter sent last week to higher education associations, he highlighted a number of "disturbing practices," and urged colleges to establish guidelines to avoid conflicts of interest.

Two classes in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering recently exhibited the fruits of their labor as their final projects were put to the test outside of the Stratton Student Center.

(clockwise from right)

Professor Herbert H. Einstein measures the height of a loaded bridge for 1.031.

Anna J. Simon '10, Ilan S. Rotmensch '09, and Elizabeth L. Labuz '09 (left to right) demonstrate their creation for 1.102.

Sanusi A. Dantata '07, Aaron S. Sarfati '07, and Thomas A. Hopkin '07 load the final concrete block on the bridge built for 1.013.



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| Robert Moran | L'après-midi du Dracoula, for sound-producing instruments (1966) |
| Peter Askim | Vital Signs (1998) |
| Lisa Bielawa | Synopsis #4: I'm Not That Kind of Lawyer (2007) |
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Teaching Lacking at Harvard, Say Undergraduates

By Sara Rimer
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Joshua Billings, 22, says he did not come to Harvard for the teaching.

"You'd be stupid if you came to Harvard for the teaching," said Mr. Billings, who will graduate this spring and then go to Oxford as a Rhodes scholar. "You go to a liberal arts college for the teaching. You come to Harvard to be around some of the greatest minds on earth."

And that is pretty much how the thinking has gone here at Harvard for several decades. As one of the world's most renowned research

universities, Harvard is where academic superstars are continually expected to revolutionize their fields of knowledge. Cutting-edge research is emphasized, and recognized with tangible rewards: tenure, money, prestige, prizes, fame.

But now, with strong support from the university's interim president, Derek Bok, nine prominent professors are leading an effort to rethink the culture of undergraduate teaching and learning. Headed by Theda Skocpol, a social scientist, the group has issued a report calling for sweeping institutional change, including continuing evaluation and assess-

ment of teaching and learning, and a proposal that teaching be weighed equally with contributions to research in annual salary adjustments.

"It's about the pursuit of excellence in teaching," said Professor Skocpol, the dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. "We need to put our money where our mouth is. We can't just mention excellent teachers occasionally. We have to notice and reward their efforts consistently."

The report, at http://www.fas.harvard.edu/home/news_and_events/releases/taskforce_01242007.pdf, is among the initiatives that Drew Gilpin Faust is expected to address when she takes over as president in July.

"It's well known that there are many other colleges where students are much more satisfied with their academic experience," said Paul Buitenen, a psychiatrist and author who is a member of the Harvard Board of Overseers, and who favors the report. "Amherst is always pointed to. Harvard should be as great at teaching as Amherst."

As Professor Skocpol put it, "People at Harvard are concerned when they hear that some of our undergraduates can go through four years here and not know a faculty member well enough to get a letter

of recommendation."

The effort here comes as the federal government and state accrediting agencies, as well as students and parents, press universities nationwide to provide more accountability for how well their faculties are teaching. "If we don't do it ourselves," President Bok said of the government pressure, "they're going to make us do it their way."

The nation's leading research universities have been looking for ways to better balance research and teaching for the past decade. Some institutions, like Yale and Princeton, are known for their commitment to both. Columbia is reviewing its undergraduate curriculum, including evaluating the teaching.

But because of Harvard's standing, its effort is being closely watched around the country.

"They've staked out a position that other people have to pay attention to," said Robert Connor, president of the Teagle Foundation, which gives colleges and universities money to encourage innovation in teaching.

Columbia is taking the Harvard report into account as it moves through its own review, said Alan Brinkley, Columbia's provost. "If we're going to ask some undergraduates to pay

as much as \$47,000 a year to come to these elite universities," he said, "then we have an obligation to make sure they get a great education."

One of the most significant aspects of the report, Dr. Connor said, is the stature of the professors who worked on it. In addition to Professor Skocpol, the group includes Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, a Pulitzer-Prize-winning historian; Xiao-Li Meng, the chairman of the statistics department; and Eric Mazur, a physicist who is known for his innovative teaching as well as his research.

The aim of the report is not to demphasize research in any way, but to bring about a greater institutional focus on teaching, Professor Ulrich said. "This is not a report that says we're going to hire teachers who are not also scholars," she said. "We want both."

Still, despite the perception that some of the greatest minds at Harvard are not all that committed to teaching, Professor Skocpol said the reality was more complicated.

"In all our meetings, faculty would tell us, 'I enjoy teaching, I find a lot of satisfaction in contact with students, in improving my courses, but I don't feel the institution values it or rewards it or cares about it,'" she said. "It's about institutional culture and reward."

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Admissions Office Hopes to Take Students From Waitlist This Year

Class of 2011, from Page 1

those intervening years.

According to Schmill, there is a very high matriculation rate for students admitted off the waitlist.

Schmill said in his e-mail that planning to admit students off the waitlist is important, because it is the only way to control class size given how difficult it is to accurately predict yield. In March, Jones said that the Admissions Office was an-

ticipating a yield similar to that of the Class of 2010, approximately 67 percent. Jones said in March that the target size for the freshman class was 1,020. The number of students who have chosen to enroll so far is already higher than that number.

There were a total of 12,443 applicants to the Class of 2011 with a total of 1,533, or a record-low 12.3 percent, admitted. The admit rate has steadily decreased from 16.4 percent for the Class of 2007 to 13.3 percent

for the Class of 2010. This year's admitted students spanned 50 states and 66 countries, with 48 percent women and 24 percent underrepresented minorities. Demographic information for the matriculating students will be available at a later date.

According to Schmill, of the accepted students who chose not to enroll, more of them chose to attend Harvard University than any other school. Exact numbers will also be available at a later date, Schmill said.

Team Raises Money Via Penny Contest

Walk For Hunger, from Page 1

tage on Friday, May 4.

In total, the Penny Contest raised \$618.31, with the fifth floor leading in points with 106,650 points and raising \$240.60. The fourth floor, howev-

er, raised the most money, at \$281.89, but their 73,400 points paled in comparison. They clearly had the most silver and were sabotaged the most.

Jeannette L.A. Fiala G, a GRT for Baker's fifth floor, founded the Baker House Walk for Hunger team. "Project Bread is an organization that we choose to support because of what it stands for," Jeannette Fiala said. "It's not just giving away food, it's advocating change in the community. [Fellow GRT Joshua C. Fiala and I] did our first walk four years ago; then we decided we could do much better with a whole team of people."

To assemble the team, Josh Fiala said, "We recruited walkers through repeat contact, and they joined by good will. We posterized the dorm, e-mailed out, added a dinner incentive, and the coin drive helped as well."

Jaime C. Kentosh '07 donned her walking shoes for the third time because "it's for a good cause and it's a lot of fun."

Musical entertainment, supporters and snacks rallied the walkers on. "The first part of the route was Back Bay and the city, then we went out to Newton along main streets," said Nina L. DeBenedictis '06. "As we got further out, it became scenic and we walked along a lake and ran up a hill together. The second half was more suburban, and we came back along the Charles River past Harvard. We were really tired when we got back to Baker, but it was fun and well worth it."

The Baker House team hopes to set the fundraising goal even higher next year. Here's hoping for clear weather.



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floor Student Center)



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Professor Harold F. Hemond PhD '77 (left, also the photographer's father) of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering receives the Bose Award for Excellence in Teaching from Professor Steven R. Lerman last Wednesday evening in 10-250 during the 2007 Awards Convocation.

Students at Harvard on Hunger Strike For Security Guard Wages

By April Simpson
THE BOSTON GLOBE

A Harvard University sophomore was hospitalized early Tuesday after going on a hunger strike to lobby for fairer wages and working conditions for campus security guards.

Javier Castro, a member of the Harvard Stand for Security Coalition, was admitted to Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge after lab tests showed low levels of sodium in his bloodstream. In a telephone interview from the hospital, the 19-year-old said he will continue fasting despite a doctor's recommendation that he stop.

"We still have, in my view, a good chance of winning this, and I'm more confident now than ever," said Castro, who began the fast on May

3 with nine other students. An 11th student has since joined the group.

For several weeks, the Service Employees International Union Local 615 has been in contract negotiations with AlliedBarton Security Services, whose security officers are contracted by Harvard. The labor union is seeking a fair discipline process and wages and healthcare identical to other campus service workers.

Lauren Jacobs, the union's director of organizing, said the union did not organize the hunger strike, but supports the students.

"We see this as a call to conscience," Jacobs said.

AlliedBarton and the union continue bargaining this week.

"We believe we are making real

progress toward a contract which will serve the interests of all involved," said Larry Rubin, a company spokesman, who would not discuss specifics on the talks.

In 2002, Harvard became the first university to enact a policy that seeks to ensure that contract workers receive compensation comparable to university employees.

But the students argue that the contract officers' hourly wages, roughly \$12.62, are far below some campus service workers, who start at \$14.40.

The students marched on campus yesterday and presented a petition in support of the union's demands to the university's head of labor relations. University officials said they will meet with students this week.

Shinkansen's Decline in Business May Have Resulted From Roaches

Shinkansen, from Page 1

tor returned April 12 and reported "no evidence of roach activity."

The health inspector again returned on May 9 and reported "no evidence of roach activity in either upstairs or basement kitchen," again addressing the initial complaint. Other Student Center vendors operate basement kitchens although Shinkansen does not.

Berlin said that Campus Dining "responds very aggressively to any complaint." "This situation has been thoroughly dealt with," he said.

Daniel Jang '10, who was interviewed late last night, said that he found a dead cockroach in the rice of a Shinkansen meal less than a week

ago. He spoke with a man behind Shinkansen's cash register and said that the man was shocked and offered him a reimbursement. Jang said he declined the reimbursement. He hasn't eaten at the location since and added that he probably wouldn't go there for at least a little while longer.

Campus Dining could not be reached for comment on the situation late last night.

Inaccuracies in the *Chronicle* article included the misspelling of the food vendor's name. Also, an MIT employee, not a parent, filed the initial complaint, Berlin added.

Shinkansen sales have declined since the *Cambridge Chronicle* article was published, Berlin said. Kenny Tang, who, along with his wife

Mimi, have operated Shinkansen for two years, attributes the recent slow business to the warm weather and students' preference to be outside and not to the roach complaint or the article. Tang also provides the Stata Center's sushi.

"I'm not happy about it," Tang said in response to the complaint. But, he said he didn't mind that the complaint was made if it was indeed true.

"[Shinkansen] is a very well-run place with a very good track record," said Berlin. "[Tang] is a good operator who deserves better. ... It's so easy to damage the reputation of a restaurant, and it's hard to restore it. Even something not necessarily substantiated can do harm."

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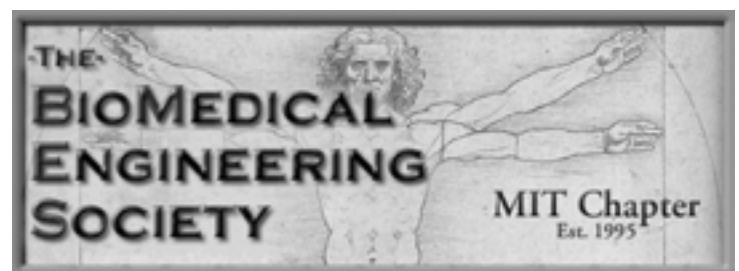
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SPORTS

Witzberger Smacks Seven RBI in MIT's 16-2 Victory Over Fitchburg

By James Kramer

DAPER STAFF

MIT ensured its fourth consecutive winning campaign with a 16-2 victory over Fitchburg State on Tuesday at Briggs Field. Playing in the final game of his collegiate career, Jason T. Witzberger '07 enjoyed a monster day at the plate, stealing three bases while driving in a career-high seven runs. The Engineers (18-16) plated runners in six of the first seven innings, while Jay M. Turner '08 and Christopher M. D'Annunzio '09 combined to hold the Falcon offense to five hits.

After drawing a one-out walk in the first, Stewart J. Park '10 etched his name into MIT lore by swiping his league-leading and Institute-record 24th base of the season. Witzberger followed with an RBI single to left before stealing his 20th base in 2007. Matthew D. Loper '09 also

delivered a two-run single just past the third baseman. Witzberger added another run-scoring single in the second to give MIT a 5-0 lead after two innings.

Fitchburg's (17-18) Jason Rashid hit a sacrifice fly as part of a two-run third that cut the Engineers' advantage to 5-2, but the MIT offense exploded during the middle innings to earn its fifth win in the last six games.

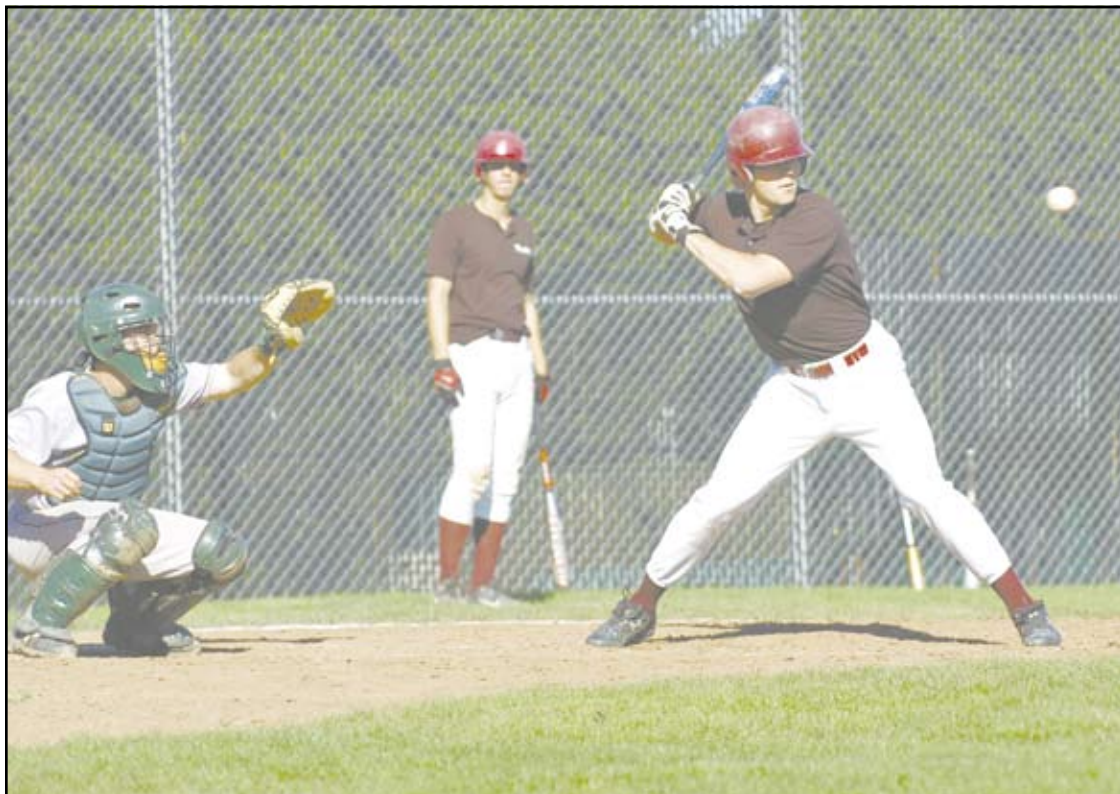
Park sparked the bats with a triple to left center to lead off the fourth. Witzberger plated Park for the third time of the game in the next at-bat, while Thomas M. Phillips '09 followed with a two-run homer to left field. Witzberger orchestrated more damage in the fifth with a bases-clearing double. He then knocked in a run for the third consecutive inning in the sixth.

Turner (6-3) started on the mound for MIT, surrendering two runs and three hits in five and two-thirds in-

nings. D'Annunzio was even sharper in relief, giving up only two hits en route to the multi-inning save. Making his first start of the year, Corey Donovan suffered the loss and dropped to 2-4 on the season.

Witzberger, who holds Institute career records for hits and stolen bases, finished 3-for-6 with three runs scored. Park crossed the plate four times after going 2-for-4 with the bat. Despite the offensive outburst, Kevin R. Wheeler '08 was the only other Engineer to finish with multiple hits after serving up a 2-for-3 performance in addition to three walks. Jim Abreau finished 2-for-5 to pace Fitchburg.

Witzberger retires from the collegiate ranks as the first MIT player to ever be a part of four winning teams. Head coach Andy Barlow has led the Engineers to their best four-year stretch in program history. MIT also finished the season a perfect 8-0 in home games.



AARON SAMPSON—THE TECH

Stephen C. Toth '09 gets a hit during the third inning of the MIT baseball game against Fitchburg State College. The Engineers ran away with a 16-2 win over the Falcons to finish out the season with an 18-16 record.

Diving, Gymnastics, Pistol, Rifle Should Not Be Called Sports

By Travis Johnson

SPORTS EDITOR

I have a much more restrictive definition of "sport" than most people. So restrictive, in fact, that four

MIT varsity teams and six summer Olympic events don't qualify.

Diving, gymnastics, pistol, and rifle should not be labeled as sports because they fail to meet one of the following four requirements:

1) A sport must require cardiovascular fitness, which is a generally accepted principle. For example, chess and poker are not sports because they only require the fitness of a chain smoker who can lift a bishop or a few chips.

Pistol and rifle fail here as well. Since aiming a rifle doesn't exactly strain your heart or lungs, it fails to meet this requirement.

2) A sport must not require participants to use an internal combustion engine. Boat racing, dirt-bike jumping, and NASCAR are out. This is a bit more controversial, particularly since NASCAR is America's fastest growing "sport," but this is basically a special case of Rule One. I realize that NASCAR drivers a) sweat in the car and b) need some strength to turn the wheel, so I'm clarifying this point with a separate rule.

3) A sport must be competitive, and there must be an outcome that ranks the participants. If a group of joggers go for a run, that's not a sport. Only during a race does running become a sport. This seems intuitive, but many martial arts groups will meet with other clubs, practice together, and call it a sport. Competition is the essence of sport; everything else is just an activity.

4) The outcome must be determined by the participants instead of an observer. Referees, officials, and judges must enforce the rules, but they can't decide the outcome.

This is where gymnastics and diving drop out, and it's also where most people stop agreeing with me. Think

about this, though: without Rule Four, the TV show "So You Think You Can Dance" qualifies as a sport. Dancing is hard work, doesn't use any motors, and the show has a clear winner.

Even with Rule Four, some people may think "So You Think You Can Dance" is a sport. If that's the case, what about "American Idol"? They sweat on that show too. Why not "America's Got Talent" or "America's Next Top Model"? A line must be drawn, and I draw it where judges tell me who won.

Furthermore, Rule Four explains why everyone gets upset when a football referee or baseball umpire's blown call decides the outcome of the game (see: Reggie Bush illegally pushing Matt Leinart across the end zone). On those days, football and baseball are not sports.

I came up with these rules by trying to capture the feelings I experience when I watch or play a sport. Competition and physicality demand are key. The thrill of victory. The sting of defeat. Sacrificing the body to win.

The fourth rule resulted from climactic athletic experiences: when someone hits a walk-off home run, hits a jumper with time running out, or pulls away in the last 10 meters. That dramatic conclusion instantaneously tells me which team claimed victory. I didn't wait 15 minutes to hear a judge tell me who won.

That feeling, the excitement and agony, is the best thing about sports. It doesn't have to happen every game for something to be a sport. God knows April baseball doesn't make my skin crawl, but the potential has to be there. With judges, it is not.

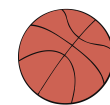
Games like diving, which can't easily remove judges from the equation, can become sports in my eyes (clearly, this is every game's dream) by adopting a publicly known scoring system. Dive X is worth Y points with a clean vertical entry and Z points with a slanted entry. Spectators should be able to say, "That was a 9.1," before the score flashes on the screen.

I know gymnastics, diving, and figure skating are moving in this direction. However, there are still judging scandals and major disagreements about scores, so Rule Four is still violated.

Further improvement will make these games, already more enjoyable to watch than sports like long-distance running, certifiable and entertaining sports.

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