Tuition Increase Set; New UROP Funding Program Announced

By John Kim

Tuition will increase by 4.1 percent to $34,986 and a total of $68 million will be allocated for financial aid, an increase of $7 million, for the 2007–2008 school year. Additionally, $400,000 of Institute funds have been budgeted for a new program offering guaranteed direct funding for the UROP program to help financial aid students fulfill their “self-help offer” costs in their financial aid packages.

MIT’s Oldest and Largest Newspaper

Volume 127, Number 12
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Friday, March 16, 2007
By Tim Whitecomb

**WEATHER**

**Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, March 16, 2007**

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**California Joins Move To Earlier Primaries**

By Jennifer Steinhauer

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**Senators Reject Democrats' Call to Pull Troops Thursday**

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**China Moves to Protect Private Property Rights Amid Discord**

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**Weather Fronts**

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**Effy, Brace Yourself**

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The U.N. Security Council received on Thursday a draft of a new resolution concerning Iran for its defiance of demands that it suspend its enrichment activities and return to negotiations over its nuclear program.

The text of the document is an earlier resolution specifying a roster of countries that would impose sanctions on Iran for a failure of negotiations, and the text is too long to freeze to a assets of freezes. Among them are Bank Sepah, four groups controlled by the Revolutionary Guards Corp, an elite military force, and others identified as "key persons in the corps.

The draft also says that Iran is prohibited from importing any equipment or material related to its weapons programs and that other countries should make sure that any such material is transported or use by Iran. Alejandro D. Wolff, the acting U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said the draft was "good, balanced, incremental step," while Tony Eades, the British ambassador, said it was "a ratcheting up of restrictions" in the last resolution on Iran. That measure, adopted Dec. 23, called for Iran to cease nuclear ac- tivities within its Excellency with a freeze of assets. Among them are Bank Sepah, four groups controlled by the Revolutionary Guards Corp, an elite military force, and others identified as "key persons in the corps.

The Human Rights Watch, said he was pleased with this result. "It could open a new page in relations with the international community," he said. But he also called for the immediate release of Shalit and for an end to "all futile attempts to block his return and his citizens."

The official American government representative, Solana, said the European Union would want to see the letter as approved by the political legislature, expected on Saturday, and the political docu- ment that governs it. A State Department spokesman, Sean McCormack, said similarily that Washington "will wait until the gov- ernment of Israel is in place and we have an understanding of what their platform will be before we make any statements of this nature."

The document was slowly negoti- ated on the basis of a unity statement put together by Palestinian prisoners in Israel jails and was pushed along early in the day at a meeting being called by the Saudis in Mecca.

Hamas Aligns With Fatah But Fate Of Other Palestinian Forces Remains in Doubt

By Steven Erlanger

The Hamas-led Palestinian govern- ment announced on Thursday a unity accord with the more moder- nist Fatah movement, a major turning point in its efforts to form a government that could govern the territory it dominates by Hamas, contains some principles.

The new government, still led by Prime Minister Ismail Haniya and the president of the Hamas movement, Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah, known as Abu Mazen, "who does accept the three principles," said David B. Rivkin, an official in the Bush administration. "The other administrations of Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush, said Rivkin, "were correct in supporting the decision to freeze the assistance connected to such weapons."

The opposition candidate, Atiku Abubakar, the current vice president, was greeted with relief by ordinary citizens. "I'm going to court to fight to get my name on the ballot," he said. "It is a great conspiracy, which has been going on for a long time now," he said by phone from Nigeria's capital, Abuja. "There will be a trial of the morality of the opposition."

The trial of the immunity of the opposition can open a new page in relations with the international community, he said. But he also called for the immediate release of Shalit and for an end to "all futile attempts to block his return and his citizens."

The European Union's foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, saw the European Union's foreign policy chief, saying that Clinton's discussions with Hamas were "unacceptable." "We want to see the letter as approved by the political legislature, expected on Saturday, and the political docu-ment that governs it."

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Terrorist Confession Shoulders Blame But Complicates United Prosecutions

By Adam Liptak

The admissibility of the confessions of the accused in the cases against him, and the other Qaida leaders, will be determined by the courts, not by the defense, said David S. Baer, an attorney for the defendant in the case.

"It makes strategic sense because it allows a sharper focus, which could result in better business performance," said David Lang, an ana- list for the New York Times. "It looked to me like it was a public relations move through which you can get the admissibility of a confession in the cases against him, and the other Qaida leaders, will be determined by the courts, not by the defense, said David S. Baer, an attorney for the defendant in the case.

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Other Undergraduate Association President and Vice President election is upon us. Unfortunately, this year’s candidates, through their platforms and performances at Monday night’s debate, have exhibited no long-term vision.

Steven M. Kelch ’88 and Lauren E. Oliff ’08 are the best of the three tickets; however, they are merely mediocres. Rather than ambitiously advancing new ideas, they have chosen to continue ongoing projects and to concentrate on restructurizing the existing organization. And there is certainly something to be said for increasing the legitimacy of the UA. But aside from this commitment to continuity, their campaign lacks imagination. They boast plans for making textbooks cheaper, creating an alcohol policy for small events, and increasing the smoothie selection on campus — but while these are good ideas, an exceptional pair of candidates would offer some more substantial and forward-looking ideas.

Martin F. Holmes ’08 and Ali S. Whyte ’08 present a platform that is superficially ambitious and promising. Some of their ideas — like a series of dinners between fraternities and police — make sense. However, cutting through the platform’s rhetoric reveals that much of it is shortsighted or misinformed. The platform’s centerpiece, a proposed Committee on Institutional Communication, would virtually recreate the existing (and unconstituted) Student Communication on Administrative Transparency and Relations. Holmes and Wyne seem to think that the administration has trouble soliciting student input; but in fact, administrations simply choose not to. “Thou shalt not traduce;” they’ve offered little substance — just hand-wavy praise of the backroom com-
munity and friction free. A revealing point for this ticket is that when asked about their top priorities, they proposed putting priority readers in dorms to save students the unbearable hassle of swiping their cards.

Nanasa-Mammonah ’08 and Fernando Fernando ’09 simply present an unelectable ticket. Their performance and campaign thus far suggests that they don’t know what they're doing and they do not seem to be taking their campaign seriously. They struggled to answer the major-
ity of their debate questions. They clearly demonstrated little working knowledge of the functionality of the UA, or the roles played by those who lead it.

We wish that there were a better pair of candidates to vote for. How-
ever, under the circumstances, we grudgingly endorse Lauren Oliff and Steven Kelch for 2007 UA President and Vice President.

Letters To The Editor

Veritas Forum Appropriate at MIT

Several people have already responded to the philosophical arguments in Rahmat Mahmood’s March 9 column on the Veritas Forums at MIT. Rather than continue in the format of dialogues between a Christian and a non-Christian member of the MIT or Harvard faculties, and plenty of opportunities were given at the end for the audience to raise questions and objections. It may be that some may still be feeling uneasy about these factors to be invited to think and discus-
sing on meaning, I would like to respond to Ms. Mahmood’s characterization of the Veri-
tas forum and her suggestion that such forums are inappropriate for the MIT community. I applaud Ms. Mahmood for bringing aware-
ness to the possible pitfalls that might occur at the interface of science and religion. However, I feel that Ms. Mahmood’s article misrep-
resented the nature of the Veritas worldview in God as salvation; the truth in these assertions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

Ms. Mahmood criticizes the forum for trying to “impose Christian values” and promote “passive submission to an established religion.” The Veritas forums are indeed rooted in the Christian faith. However, the structure of the Veritas talks were planned so as to encourage discussion and critical thinking.

Two of the three major Veritas events took the format of dialogues between a Christian and a non-Christian member of the MIT or Harvard faculties, and plenty of opportunities were given at the end for the audience to raise questions and objections. It may be that some may still be feeling uneasy about these factors to be invited to think and discuss on meaning, I would like to respond to Ms. Mahmood’s characterization of the Veritas forum and her suggestion that such forums are inappropriate for the MIT community. I applaud Ms. Mahmood for bringing awareness to the possible pitfalls that might occur at the interface of science and religion. However, I feel that Ms. Mahmood’s article misrepresented the nature of the Veritas worldview in God as salvation; the truth in these assertions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

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Oldja and Kelch Most Qualified

James R. Peacock IV

I’m going to be quick and I’m going to be blunt: I support Lauren Oldja and Steve Kelch for President and Vice President of the Undergraduate Association. Why? They are best positioned to get the most done. End of story. You do not need to read further unless you want to know my basis for this opinion.

I currently serve as the Treasurer of the Association of Student Activities (the ASA for those acronym fans). Furthermore, I also sit on both the undergraduate and graduate funding boards and serve as Chairman of the LEF and ARCADE funding boards. What I have learned from serving in these capacities is that one is only able to effect change when one has a solid understanding of the current system. With so many committees, student governments, funding boards, student groups and events, few individuals are actually exposed to a wide enough set of nodes to actually understand how the network fits together.

Lauren came into the UA as an outsider and hit the ground running. As UA Treasurer, she had to learn the various committees of the UA. She is an ex officio member of the UA Senate, and she has also served on LEF, ARCADE, and the UA Finance Board (Finboard) with me. Furthermore, she had been appointed by Andrew Lukmann, the current UA President, to serve as the UA Representative to the ASA, a voting position on the ASA Executive Board. Unlike all the other candidates, Lauren has seen a little bit of everything and as such is best positioned to make constructive changes to “the system.”

Since I have served on many boards with Lauren, I have noticed many important characteristics about her. She listens to everyone’s opinions and is very good at finding a middle ground. Combine this with her persistence and you can see how she will get a lot of good things accomplished next year.

Lauren is also not a slave to the political system; she voices her opinion when things are not quite right. When the Baker Foundation, a student-run board, awarded a grant to a sorority whose sisters make up two of the Foundation’s five voting members, Lauren was the first to question the possible “conflict of interest.” I have met few people who genuinely cared for their fellow students, had the experience to actually suggest positive change, and the drive to get such change done. I support Lauren Oldja and Steve Kelch because they have the necessary traits, skills, and experience to improve undergraduate student life at MIT.

James R. Peacock IV ’08 is Treasurer of the Association of Student Activities
**CONCERT REVIEW**

**British Film Fails to Find Focus**

By Alice Macdonald

Fort Nightly Has No Magic Tricks, Just Great Music

By Sarah Dupuis

**FILM REVIEW**

**‘Starter for 10’ More of a Six**

British Film Fails to Find Focus

By Alice Macdonald

‘Starter for 10’ is the perfect coming-of-age goes by very quickly and with hardly any exposition, but then the end drags on eternally. We see Brian’s childhood, his admittance to college, but then the end drags on eternally. We see 10” is the pacing — the beginning goes by too! This has certainly never been done in a classical cliché way. Thirty of their six songs best can be described as a cliche ditty. The main love song ‘When I Was In Love’ was in tune for all of the songs, the only proper word mentioning is their rendition of the ‘90s classic ‘Are You Gonna Be My Girl’ (James N. Pacella ’07 and Tyson C. Homan ’08, who is an All-Arts staff writer).

Although the first two groups were fine with technically sound performers, when the MIT Logs come on after a short intermission, they steal the show. Singing some of their classics, including Jeter’s ‘Are You Gonna Be My Girl’ (James N. Pacella ’07 and Tyson C. Homan ’08, who is an All-Arts staff writer) and Damien Rice’s ‘The Blower’s Daughter’ (S. Schoener ’07, along with two new pieces that ‘they’ll officially’ premiere at the spring concert). The Logs showed off their vocal range and a well-developed ability to entertain and allure.

After they had a few difficulties with one of the newer songs, they sealed their position at number one with their amazing rendition of the Gorillaz’ ‘Feel Good, Inc.’ (Michael R. Miller ’09 with Stephen B. Nicholson ’08 and Michael J. Fagone ’08) and the ‘Famous Window.’

The audience loved the performance so much that the group received three separate ovations. In fact, the judges collectively declared it would become their new favorite, that you “can’t grade [them] on a curve.”

As some of the best in the area and included the MIT Logarithms along with the Brandeis Vocalmeisters, Harvard Low Keys, and the Taste of Boston, the A Cappella Competition had judges, they only provided comments; it was the live audience of 1200 that would actually decide the afternoon’s winner.

The first group to come on stage was the Brandeis Vocalmeisters. This eight member all-male group is a bit small for a typical a cappella group, and it came through in their singing, which lacked the depth compared to the others, but it’s obvious that one flaw that could have been overlooked had me a major complaint with “Starter for 10.” I was concerned that the film had its moments. I enjoyed the fake-out. They seemed a lot more, rock musicians and have since signed to Say Hey Records, on which the band is releasing Fort Nightly. This debut album opens with a catchy piano riff, bright guitar, spunky vocals by Frontman Michael Epstein.

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CD REVIEW

Metallica, Dion, and an Italian Composer Film Composer
CD Pays Homage to Master Film Composer

By Roberto Perez-Franco

We All Love Ennio Morricone
Sony Classical
2007

A

ndita and Sony Classical have re-

cently presented an homage to Ennio

Morricone’s masterpieces, interpreted

by a surprisingly heterogeneous group

of musical masters, from Yo-Yo Ma to Meta-

lica. The anthology could hardly have a more

guaranteed auspicious timing: it comes on the heels of the

same Oscar Night that the composer re-

ceived his first Academy Award for “The Ecstasy of Gold”

from “Cinema Paradiso.” The anthology could hardly have a more

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The album opens with “I Knew I Loved You,” the same song that Celine Dion sang on

the same Oscar Night that the composer re-

ceived his first Academy Award for “The Ecstasy of Gold”

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auspicious timing: it comes on the heels of the

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ceived his first Academy Award for “The Ecstasy of Gold”

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Morricone gained international fame

through his scores for spaghetti westerns, a

1960s low budget film sub-genre often filmed

in Italian. However, this defining feature of

Morricone is poorly represented in the present

collection. The few well-soudned jazz segments

are not enough to save Quincy Jones’s take on

the classic “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” which

could very well have been the tour de force in this production. Rather forgettable, a

little too heavy on the “marble in the bottle”

type of percussion, and with extravagant vo-

cal effects, the piece seems a blend of Andreas

Vollenweider and Chic Corea. Likewise, the

cover of “Once Upon a Time in the West” is no

triumph either. The lush orchestration suf-

fices Bruce Springsteen’s barely-audible gui-
tar, creating the sensation that the piece never

quite takes off, blending indistinguishably with

the orchestral transitions that Morricone com-

posed to connect the different tracks.

As the works of a writer are translated into

many languages, so have the compositions of

Morricone been adapted to different musical

sub-genres. Some work wonderfully, while

others fall flat. In this collection, Metallica’s

“The Ecstasy of Gold” passes without pain

or glory, with the sole merit of making Mor-

ricone’s diversity of styles more tangible, al-

beit less convincing. A better testimony to his

full spectrum are a young Bocelli’s operatic

take of “Addio Monti” by Taro Hakase. The

second half of the disc also contained what

might be the biggest surprise; Morricone’s

orchestration of music for the poem “La Luz

Prodigiosa,” a dark and evocative text, with

flamenco undertones, sung masterfully by

Dulce Pontes. This piece alone makes the al-

bum worth buying. I would add Morricone’s

“Cinema Paradiso” to this list of gems if it

were not cut so short that it could not flourish

completely.

In spite of several weak moments, the al-

bum, overall, is very good. Collection might

be interested in it because it is, to a large ex-

tent, unique; many of the recordings are new,

and were conducted by Morricone himself.

He also orchestrated the transitions between

tracks, although not always convincingly.

Labeling him as the world’s greatest liv-

ing composer is certain to elicit heated dis-

cussions about tastes. But admittedly, when

measured in sheer output, Ennio Morricone’s

production is second to none. He is one of

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HEM, I’M NOT AFRAID TO ADMIT IT, AYAN. I THINK YOU’RE A VERY PRETTY YOUNG LADY. SHYNESS AND ALL... BUT, THE PROBLEM IS... YOU THINK I JUST COMPLAINTED YOU! I DIDN’T.

THE SHAPE OF YOUR FACE... THE SHAPE OF YOUR BODY... THIS "PRETTYNESS" I HAD TALK SO MUCH ABOUT... IT'S SWEETNESS ONLY GOES DEEP...

NO, MY FRIEND, "PRETTYNESS" MEANS MORE TO ME THAN "REALITY".

BECAUSE, WITH YOUR REALITY, THE SWEETNESS LIES IN THE EYES... WHERE IT COUNTS.

THE GENTLE LAPPS OF THE SEA ON A BEAUTIFUL BEACH...

THE SOUND OF CHILDREN LAUGHING...

I CAN’T BELIEVE YOU FORGOT MY EARPLUGS...
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 15.

Solution, tips, and computer program at http://www.sudoku.com
Harvard Ups Pay For Doctors Who Teach

By Liz Kowalczyk

Harvard Medical School will increase by millions of dollars a year its payments to doctors for teaching students, a recognition of how difficult it has become to persuade busy physicians to devote time to educating the next generation of care givers.

The medical school, Harvard University, and three major Harvard teaching hospitals — Massachusetts General, Brigham and Women's, and Beth Israel Deaconess — have agreed to double the funds for hospital-based instructors from $8 million to $16 million a year starting July 1.

There is wide variation in what the roughly 7,000 full-time instructors at Harvard Medical School are paid to teach the school's 771 students in classrooms, labs, and hospitals. Some are paid at well below going rates for doctors' services — $50 an hour for some courses — and many who provide on-the-job teaching at the hospitals are not paid at all. Under the new plan, the goal is to pay doctors $100 an hour to teach.

The amount is comparable to the hourly rate that a typical primary care doctor earns, though far less than what some surgeons and other specialists make.

Medical school faculty are required to teach or volunteer on committees 50 hours a year, but Harvard does not have nearly as many doctors teach and does not actively enforce the policy.

The agreement comes as the medical school implements significant changes to its curriculum that will require even more intensive teaching by the faculty.

"The pressures of clinical practice make it harder for faculty to free up their time for teaching," said Cynthia Walker, executive dean for administration of the medical school. "Now it will be easier for them.

All the medical school's courses and hospital rotations have teachers, Walker said, but other faculty said course directors spend too much time trying to recruit teachers, and more doctors are saying no to requests. In some cases, residents or fellows, who are junior doctors still in training, or even faculty from other universities, have been enlisted to teach.

"It's the single biggest problem facing virtually every course director," said David Cardozo, a neurobiologist who headed a medical school task force created to study the problem. "In order to get faculty to teach, you have to offer sufficient financial compensation. It's very significant that this change is happening."

Cardozo is course director for the study of the human nervous system, a course that students take during their second year. As in most Harvard Medical School courses, the students are divided into small groups of six to 10, requiring about 50 teachers.

In addition to Harvard faculty, Cardozo works with residents and fellows, a neuronomist from the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and neurologists in private practice to teach his students. Because many residents and fellows are not teaching at Harvard temporarily, there is a high turnover rate. The job pays $1,500 for 48 hours of work over eight weeks — about $30 an hour.

"It's almost embarrassing for course directors to tell tutors and lab instructors what it pays," Cardozo said.

The task force was appointed three years ago by the medical school's dean, Dr. Joseph Martin, who was frustrated that more doctors were not willing to teach. Based on its findings, a committee headed by Walker and Peter Slavin, the president of Mass General, developed the plan for higher payments. Another committee will recommend how to give doctors more credit for teaching when considering promotions.

Medical schools across the country have struggled with this issue. As fees from insurers and government medical programs have stagnated and patient demand has grown, academic medical centers have pressured doctors to squeeze more appointments into the day. And doctors themselves have wanted to see more patients to boost their incomes, leaving them less time to teach. Many doctors also have felt compelled to spend more time on research, as grants and promotions have become more competitive.

"If a doctor is spending three hours a week with a group of third-year medical students, that's three hours not in an ambulatory clinic generating income or in the lab doing research," said Dr. Michael Epstein, chief operating officer at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

At the same time, hospitals are discharging patients faster, often after just a few days, discharging some patients little time to understand what they were given during their hospital stay. Discharging patients faster, often after just a few days, discharging some patients little time to understand what they were given during their hospital stay.

"Virtually every medical school is facing this problem," said Dr. Darrell G. Kirch, president of the Association of American Medical Colleges. "Historically they have all relied on the volunteer efforts of physicians to do teaching in the clinical setting. In the current economic climate, that model is breaking down."

He said the problem has contributed to the rise in medical school tuition, as medical schools try to raise money in order to pay doctors more. Some schools have undertaken philanthropic campaigns, while others have significantly expanded their facilities.

Harvard has a particular interest in attracting more doctors to teach, as it embarks on the most dramatic changes to its curriculum in 20 years, including requiring third-year students to spend the year in one hospital, following some of the same patients and developing long-term relationships with faculty. Traditionally, third-year students have rotated from hospital to hospital. Medical students spend most of their last two years in hospitals, observing doctors, performing basic medical tasks, and discussing cases with physicians.

The unusual relationship between Harvard Medical School and its 18 affiliated teaching hospitals and research institutes makes the teaching crunch more challenging in Boston. Many medical schools have closer ties to their teaching hospitals, some even owning them and paying part of doctors' salaries.

But Harvard's teaching hospitals function independently. The physicians get salaries from the hospitals or earn their pay in private practice. The medical school operates on what is essentially a good-will system. In return for the Harvard seal on their stationery and the name on their resume, faculty are supposed to teach or do committee work.

Mass. General, the Brigham, and Beth Israel Deaconess each will contribute about $1 million for the higher payments. The remaining roughly $13 million comes from Harvard University and Harvard Medical School.

Walker said the medical school will talk with the other affiliated hospitals about contributing to the effort.

Slavin said he hopes the new pay system will enable physicians to spend more time with students.

March 16, 2007
Atkins, an attorney. “It’s a nice mix attracted to Riverside who could afford on the neighborhood’s rental market.

Meantime, Riverside’s combination of convenient location and rich, quirky architecture are drawing attention of some Cambridge residents. The neighborhood was also among the most affordable in the city, setting prices as low as $500 a month for a house on Franklin Street after living there for years.

Free spirit or not, developers are providing the neighborhood with additional housing should ease pressures.

Some residents refer to Riverside as a place where you can paint your house whatever color you want.”

March 16, 2007

The Tech

Trent Renzo Piao in 2002, now the vice president of undergraduate studies and graduate student dorm designed by architect Kyou Sung Woo on the old Massachusetts Hall site, is a former Cambridge resident. A concrete wall on the corner of Western Avenue and Memorial Drive, is “one of the most distinctive buildings in the city,” said Brouillette, who has lived in Cambridge for years.

“Harvard is also retrofitting older, less low-rise brick buildings in townhouse-like buildings within mid-Cambridge and it’s completely transforming the neighborhood with 250 students and other affiliates.”

Once these are built, Lucey said, “we have a sense of goal of housing 50 percent of its campus wide graduate students in Riverside.”

Harvard is also retrofitting older, lower-rise brick buildings in townhouse-like buildings within mid-Cambridge and it’s completely transforming the neighborhood with 250 students and other affiliates.

Cambridge officials appear to be pleased by the university’s community-friendly stance. Roger Bohte, director of urban design for the city, said, “Harvard had a plan before that was not built.”

As big as it is, even the Harvard development was not the neighborhood’s essential character — one that gives it its residential a curious kind of bragging rights.

“Like the idea that the neighborhoood was pasted onto a neighborhood near Harvard Square, here it’s not all about good taste.”

The point of the program is to bring in seven buildings that all face inward to a landscaped parking court. Each unit features a small garden and two balconies ranging from $464,900 for a two-bedroom, one-and-a-half bath to $539,900 for a three-bedroom, two bath unit. The first phase is nearing completion and the second phase has not yet started, but 50 percent of the units in each phase are already under agreement.

“The price has been non negotiable and demand has been quite remarkable” said Sanan Desheune, a vice-president at Cambridge Real Estate, leasing agent for the complex. “People are buying two-phase units without even seeing them. I’ve been amazed at the demand from the biotechnology sector especially. All you have to do is get on Me- morial Drive and you’re in Kendal Square in five minutes.”

In an interview with The Tech, Lukmann responded in an e-mail to a complaint that the JudBoard was acting too quickly and the candidates were being denied their right to appeal.

That complaint was denied by JudBoard Chairman Mark A. Stegg and a decision to accept Dilwali as a candidate was made by the JudBoard as “warranted and necessary,” considering the “extremely limited time constraints,” he wrote. In an interview with The Tech, Lukmann said the board had to get the appeal out of the way quickly because of the possibility of a last-minute appeal from a presumptive candidate.

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Lawmakers from both parties are pressuring the Education Department to explain why it let a student loan company keep $278 million in subsidies that an audit found improper.

The pressure indicates that both parties are focused on the increasing costs of higher education. The loan company, Nelnet, received the payments through a subsidy program that guaranteed a 9.5 percent interest rate on student loans. In an accord reached in January, the department allowed Nelnet to keep the $278 million it had received but suspended future payments of more than $800 million until a future audit could determine whether the company was eligible for the money.

Ten Democrats on the House Education and Labor Committee, as well as a separate bipartisan group of 10 members of Congress, sent letters to the department last week seeking an explanation of that decision.

Two weeks ago, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democrat who is chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, asked the department for copies of all communications with the company since last August on the decision not to seek recovery of the money.

A spokesman said Mr. Kennedy planned a full investigation into the case.

“I am interested in the rationale underlying your decision to reject the recommendation by the department’s inspector general that the chief operating officer for Federal Student Aid ‘require the return of the overpayments’ made to Nelnet,” Mr. Kennedy wrote.

He asked the department to provide the documents by March 31.

In a follow-up letter, Mr. Kennedy asked March 7 whether the department had received a necessary approval from the Justice Department before reaching the agreement.

A spokesperson for the Education Department, Katherine McLane, said the agency was reviewing the letters.

The letter from the 10 Democrats on the House Committee was sent on March 7 to Education Secretary Margaret Spellings. It also asked for a description of actions that the department might take toward other parties that might be receiving similar payments.

“The Nelnet example represents a serious misuse of federal funds, and it is likely that this is not an isolated case,” the letter said. “It is critical for you to conduct full oversight.”

In their letter sent on March 6, the bipartisan group of lawmakers — seven Republicans and three Democrats, none of whom signed the Wednesday letter — criticized the decision to settle with Nelnet, of Lincoln, Neb., as fiscally irresponsible and warned that it set a poor precedent.

The letter asked the department to revisit this decision and give an explanation if it did not try to recover the money.

The guaranteed interest rate was established in the 1980s, when rates were high, to keep lenders in the loan business. Congress tried to rein in the program in 1993, but the loans ballooned as lenders found ways to increase portfolios that they said were eligible for the guarantee.

A spokesman for Nelnet, Ben Kiser, said, “We reached an amicable agreement with the department on this issue in January and consider this matter closed.” Representative Thomas E. Petri, a Wisconsin Republican who signed the group letter, said in a telephone interview, “I don’t think any of us think we should sit by by and let people just game the system.”

Mr. Petri noted that the overpayments could help finance efforts to make college more affordable, perhaps by increasing grants for poor students. “That’s not liberal or conservative,” he said. “That’s just a basic responsibility that we have.”

Advocates for students hope the letters may be the first step in a broader review of the loan industry, and hailed the pressure on the department.

“The fact that you have requests from Democrats, but then also people like Jeff Flake, who is one of the most fiscally conservative members of the Republican Party — that breadth is significant,” said Luke Swarthout, higher-education associate with U.S. Public Interest Research Group in Washington.

Mr. Flake signed the March 6 letter.

Senator Kennedy sent letters to Education Department officials and contractors involved in Reading First, a $1 billion-a-year program in which he demanded to see all correspondence and contracts between Reading First and the White House, the department and other entities.

The letters went out hours after the department’s inspector general found that the program’s main contractor had failed to screen for conflicts of interest.

The loan company, Nelnet, received but suspended future payments of more than $800 million until a future audit could determine whether the company was eligible for the money.

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New DAPER Head to Arrive in July

DAPER, from Page 1

Capone stressed that the new director should have experience in a variety of roles, including that of student athlete, coach, and athletic director. At the same time, Capone said, it is important that the new director is flexible and “recognizes that MIT is a unique place.” It should be someone who “understands how it functions as a large organization,” Soriero said. “I hope that it will continue to show up in athletics and DAPER.”

“The athletics department is a rather large organization,” Soriero said. “I want to understand how it functions and where its functional strength lies before I make any changes.”

Capone said the search committee looked for somebody “who really had a passion for athletics, someone less of an administrator and more of a visionary.” Soriero said that one of her philosophies is always having an open door: “I hope students will come in and introduce themselves,” she said. “I like to go to games, support activities on campus. You’ll see me around a lot.”

Soriero has been at Colorado College for nine years and “brings to MIT a great wealth of experience leading a Division III institution with strong Division I and Division III programs, as well as comprehensive club and intramural programs,” the DSL press release states.

Soriero grew up near Philadelphia, attended Pennsylvania State University, and did graduate work at Temple University in sports psychology, she said. She enjoys bicycling, skiing, travelling, and reading.

The previous director of athletics, Senior Associate Dean for DSL, Can- dace L. Royer, was promoted to deal with DSL fundraising, specifically for DAPER, Capone said. This is part of the restructuring of DSL, which took effect in January.

Blog posts about the search process are available at http://web.mit.edu/dsl/football/announcements.html.

Angels and Airwaves

To Play MIT Concert

Biodiesel, from Page 1

The competition is a “great way to promote environmentally friendly technology,” said Britta Barrett, a GE representative who also surprised the candidates. “The MIT team submitted a fantastic biodiesel proposal,” she said.

There was applause and cheer by the search committee in October as the mtvU crew entered biodiesel team’s meeting. The footage of the team being surprised by the news that they will win an mtvU and not-U Award on March 28.

“We never expected to get $25,000 today,” said Matthew R. Zedler ‘07, a Biodiesel@MIT team member.

The money will be used to purchase a biodiesel processor, which has a $15,000 price tag as set forth in the team’s original proposal. In that proposal, Biodiesel@MIT claims that biodiesel produces 68 percent less carbon dioxide than petroleum-based diesel and eliminates sulfur dioxide emissions. (Nitrogen oxide emissions, however, increase by 4 percent.) The net result is a greener, cleaner, more environmentally-friendly fuel. According to Zedler, the MIT group is unique compared to other colleges that use biodiesel fuel because they plan to use solar panels to power the biodiesel processor.

Katrina M. Ellison ’10 was optimistic about the grant money. “We could potentially start by this May,” she said. Ellison. “We could eventually scale up to 5,000 gallons of biodiesel per year,” she said. According to the mtvU press release, the MIT team was selected as the winner by mtvU, GE, and a panel of environmental experts from GreenForYou, with input from college students casting online votes.

The competition, which is sponsored by mtvU and General Electric, is a part of GE’s commendation initiative to promote sustainable technology. More information about the contest and the top 10 teams can be found at http://www.ecocollegechallenge.com/

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Take-out, platters, and catering available. Delivery with minimum order. 10% Discount on $15 (or more) order with MIT ID.

http://www.royalbengalrestaurant.com

Christianity: One Religion or Many Faiths?

Wednesday, March 21st at 6:45 pm

Main Dining Room, W11
40 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge
(Corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Amherst Street)

Professor Mark Burrows
Professor of the History of Christianity at Andover Newton Theological School and a member of the joint doctoral faculty of Boston College

MIT Interfaith Dialogue Program

Is there something we can confidently speak of as “Christian” amid the crises, diversities, and challenges facing Christian communities in our day? Christians affirm that they are worshiping one God, but (as with many other religions) the variety of theological styles, and forms of pietism vary dramatically across the spectrum of churches. Dr. Burrows will address such questions in historical and theological context.

Questions: ora@mit.edu
Website: mit.edu/dsl/addis/

Addir Fellows

Community Lecture Series

Jacob G. Benstein ’07 has his blood drawn by Neeta Vora MD of Tufts-New England Medical Center on March 14. Hillel, MIT Medical, AEPhi, and the Victor Outreach and Screening Program sponsored an event to screen for nine common Jewish Genetic Diseases. More information is located at http://www.jewishgeneticscreening.org.

Reasonably Priced Dinners

11:30 am – 11:30 pm

Lunch Buffet $6.95
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Electrochemical Pathways Towards Sustainability

Prof. Donald R. Sadoway
John F. Elliott Professor of Materials Chemistry
Department of Materials Science and Engineering

Donald R. Sadoway obtained the B.A.Sc. in Engineering Science, the M.A.Sc. in Chemical Metallurgy, and the Ph.D. in Chemical Metallurgy all from the University of Toronto. After a year of postdoctoral study at MIT as a NATO Fellow, Dr. Sadoway joined the MIT faculty in 1978. He has authored more than 125 scientific papers and holds 14 U.S. patents. His basic research centers on electrochemical processes in molten salts, liquefied gases, and polymers. With a markedly environmental focus, his applied research is directed towards the development of high-performance, solid-state, rechargeable lithium batteries as well as environmentally sound technologies for the extraction, refining, and recycling of metals. From 1995 to 2005 he held a MacVicar Faculty Fellowship, MIT’s highest award for excellence in undergraduate education. In 1999 he became the John F. Elliott Professor of Materials Chemistry. In 2001 he was elected Member of the Norwegian Academy of Technological Sciences.
Stowell Arrested Weeks Before Death

Stowell, from Page 1

today at 3 p.m.

The Somerville Journal reported last month that Stowell was arrested and charged with sexual assault and battery for allegedly attacking his wife on Feb. 12. According to the Somerville Journal article, Stowell’s wife told police that Stowell became angry with her when she did not say “thank you” at the dinner table. He then allegedly “ripped off her shirt, punched her in the stomach and dumped sauce on her,” the article states.

Stowell’s wife also said that Stowell had become increasingly angry with her mother who was also at the apartment, the article continues. Stowell allegedly told the police that “he had had enough of his mother-in-law always coming first and just lost control.”

It is not known whether Stowell’s arrest and charges were related to the suicide.

Stowell came to MIT with a 2005 PhD from Princeton University’s Program in Plasma Physics. Professor Arthur P. Mattuck, instructor for 18.03 this term, said in a March 4 e-mail to students that Stowell was “highly knowledgeable about the subject and deeply concerned with how best to teach it.” Stowell’s wife, Xiaoran F. Stowell, a postdoctoral associate in the Biology Department, said in a subsequent e-mail to 18.03 students that Stowell “was always concerned about how well his students do in the class.”

—Joyce Kwan

Solution to Bonus Crossword
from page 9

Solution to Sudoku
from page 9

Commonly Unbearable.
Dangerously Believable.
Subsequently Fatal.

#1 Great of Nordic
UNTREATED DEPRESSION
This space donated by The Tech

Let’s nominate!
Deadline extended to March 23
web.mit.edu/awards

Awards Convocation 2007
Nuclear Science and Engineering
Open House
Ice Cream Social

Open to all Freshmen
• Check out research opportunities and career paths in Nuclear Science & Engineering

Tuesday, March 20th
Bush Room (10-105) 2:00 – 4:00pm

Call for Nominations
2007 Student Art Awards

LAYA and JEROME B. WIESNER STUDENT ART AWARDS

Layo and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a $1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/wiesner.html

LOUIS SUDLER PRIZE IN THE ARTS

The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts is presented annually to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence or the highest standards of proficiency in music, theater, painting, sculpture, design, architecture or film. The Prize was established in 1982 by Mr. Sudler, a performer in the arts and an arts patron from Chicago. An endowment fund provides a $1,250 award to the honoree.

http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/sudler.html

Please send nominating letters (via email) to Council for the Arts at MIT- E15-205 cohen@media.mit.edu
Four members of MIT's men's ice hockey team -- forward Nathan P. Wang '08, forward Christine M. Lee '09, goalie Jaroslaw Labaziewicz G, and defenseman Nicholas J. Maietta -- are expected to be key players on the MIT hockey team for the 2007-2008 season, according to Coach John W. Gaffney. The team is expected to be a strong contender for the ECAC regular season championship and has high hopes for a strong showing in the ECAC playoffs and the NCAA Tournament.

Maietta, a senior, played in 32 games for MIT last season and was named to the All-ECAC Team. He led the team in points with 37 (12 goals, 25 assists) and was second in the ECAC in points per game with 1.16. Maietta also led the team in power play points with 16 and was third on the team in short hand shots with 13. He was named to the All-Tournament Team at the ECAC East Tournament.

Wang, a senior, played in 35 games for MIT last season and was third on the team in points with 34 (12 goals, 22 assists). He was second on the team in assists and had a team-high 16 power play points.

Lee, a junior, played in 30 games for MIT last season and was fourth on the team in points with 24 (six goals, 18 assists). She was third on the team in power play points with 14 and had a team-high 12 short hand shots.

Labaziewicz, a senior, played in 36 games for MIT last season and was fifth on the team in points with 22 (seven goals, 15 assists). He was third on the team in assists and had a team-high 15 power play points.

The men's team is expected to be a strong contender for the ECAC regular season championship and has high hopes for a strong showing in the ECAC playoffs and the NCAA Tournament.