New Grad Dorm NW35 Budget Increased

By Rosa Cao

In a rapid reversal from their position of the last month, senior administrators in charge of overseeing the budget and scope of the new graduate dormitory NW35 have reinstituted the fourth floor of the building, which would house 97 out of 548 students. The floor was already under construction and is scheduled to be open in Fall 2008. The unexpected changes to the original plan provoked an outcry from students who had been involved in the initial design process, during which administrators had committed to include students and maintain transparency in the decision making process.

Then-Interim Executive Vice President Sherwin Greenblatt ’62 decided in early January to address rising costs by eliminating the fourth floor from what had originally been designed as a five floor building. The Feb. 8 decision to reinstate the fourth floor is one of Theresa M. Stone’s 76 “first in her new role as Executive VP.”

The administration has not yet decided where extra funds to cover the increased costs will come from. “The EVP needs to find those funds,” Kirk D. Kolenbrander, vice president for Institute affairs and secretary of the Corporation, said. The only assurance is that “we’re not going to raise rents to pay for the increase in the cost of the building,” because the otherwise advisable for grad students,” said Nilsson.

Research, community projects

Chief Facilities Officer William J. Anderson, Jr. presented a varied selection of the Institute’s most recent research on cancer as well as projects in environmental engineering and brain and cognitive sciences.

Town Gown, Page 13

Sorority recruitment experienced a boom this fall, with a record 154 bids being given out to women who went through the recruitment process, a 12 percent increase over last year’s 137 bids. Most of those bids were spread out evenly among four of the five chapters.

Alpha Chi Omega had the most, with 35. Alpha Xi had 17, followed by 15 Alpha Phi and 13 Sigma Kappa. This year saw a large increase in the number of bids given compared to last year’s 117. The Cambridge Student Society (CSS) approved the chapters for the coming academic year.

Town Gown

She added that costs will also not be spread out across system rents.

Breakdown in communication

Criticism of the settlement proposal was not new; disagreements about the design of the residence came close to shutting down the NW35 project last spring.

“Universities operate on understandings, ” said G. Weese in the general council meeting of the Graduate Student Council on Wednesday. “We had an understanding, and they didn’t follow it — our recourse is to do what we’re doing here, which is to complain loudly.”

Kolenbrander said that while students “should expect to have some input, how that will actually be made real is not simple.” He acknowledged that “finding the right balance is something we need to work on, and that balance has not been achieved.”

Still, past input remains relevant. As the result of last minute compromises, student concerns about common space and affordability of rooms were incorporated in a final design that allowed the project to move forward last spring.

“The final design was good,” said West. “Lots of common space, low rent rooms, we were quite happy.”

“We kept in mind always that we didn’t want the reduction in scope to adversely affect the opportunities for community. Community harm- ing was off the table,” said Nilsson. “We’re confident that all the pro- grammatic elements can be delivered, ” said West, “we’re referring to common space for community events.

Although a subcommittee was created in March 2006 specifically to enhance communication between administration, faculty, housemasters and students concerned with issues in the new building, efforts to maintain it appear to have withered since “I was a chair of the communications subcommittee — we’ve been cut out of the process,” said Andrak Eekomancy G at the meeting. “Our biggest concern is that we weren’t even asked,” said Ashdown House (Executive Com- mittee) President Sian Kleidenst G. “We are worried about the process because next time something worse could happen.”
Illegal Immigrants Target in Rash of Shootings as They Cross

The New York Times

LOS ANGELES

Three illegal immigrants were shot to death Thursday and three others wounded near Tecate, Calif., after they attempted to cross the border from Mexico. The shootings came as the United States sees an influx of illegal immigrants wearing ski masks and carrying assault-style rifles robbed 18 people who had crossed illegally on Wednesday 70 miles to the south, near Sasabe. On Jan. 28 a man driving illegal immigrants from the border several miles from the scene of Thursday’s killings was ambushed by armed men and shot to death as the migrants fled. Federal and local authorities were investigating whether the spat of shootings was related.

Illegal immigrants crossing the border often encounter bandits, armed civilian patrols and rival smugglers bent on robbing or stopping them. The border violence has been particularly acute in Arizona, which in recent years has become the busiest crossing area for illegal immigrants.

Judge Imposes Death in Killing of North Dakota Student

The New York Times

By Libby Sander

WASHINGTON

A convicted sex offender was formally sentenced on death Thursday in the abduction and murder of a North Dakota college student as he was making her way home from school.

It was the first time that a death sentence was handed down in North Dakota in nearly a century. The state no longer has the death penalty, but it was allowed in federal cases. The case was heard in U.S. District Court in Fargo, N.D., because the victim, Dru Sjodin, was taken across state lines.

Sjodin was a 22-year-old student at the University of North Dakota when she disappeared from the parking lot of a shopping center in Grand Forks on Nov. 2, 2004. Her body was found in a ravine near Crookston, Minn., naked from the waist down. She had been beaten and raped and her throat was slit, said Dr. H. W. Schneck, the U.S. attorney who prosecuted the case.

Last August, a jury convicted Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., 35, of Crookston, of kidnapping resulting in the death of a woman. Rodriguez had been released six months earlier after serving 20 years in prison for other assaults against women.

NBC’s Rusterr Wraps Case For Prosecution in Libby Trial

The New York Times

By Neil A. Lewis

WASHINGTON

The prosecution finished presenting its case in the perjury trial of Libby Lewis Libby on Thursday, leaving his defense lawyers try to undo the government’s contention that Libby lied under oath during an investigation into the leak of a CIA officer’s identity.

Libby’s legal team will begin with a parade of Washington journalists as witnesses for the defense when the proceedings resume Monday. But lawyers for Libby, the former chief of staff to Vice President Dick Cheney, said they would call all the star attor - neys on their list as they continue to set aside divisive decisions over war financing and troop redeployments.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and other party leaders met private -ly late last week to discuss their strategy for the coming vote, which is set for Friday. They concluded to set aside divisive decisions over war financing and troop redeployments.

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The last day of the prosecution’s case was largely consumed with an intense interrogation of the chief defense witness, Kenneth W. Wells Jr., and the final prosecution witness, Tim Russert of NBC News.

Before the jurors left for a long weekend, they were bombarded with more than 20 minutes of news. Before the jurors left for a long weekend, they were bombarded with more than 20 minutes of news.

As they have been each day with a fast-moving and complex torrent of information.

But lawyers for Libby, the former chief of staff to Vice President Dick Cheney, said their resolution would express support for the troops, but reject the plan to send 21,500 more of them to Iraq.

The American people “called for a change in direction,” Pelosi said, and “no place do they want that direction to be more clear than in the war in Iraq.”

The debate in the House, set to begin Thursday, comes after considerable acrimony in the Senate. Republicans and Democrats quarreled over a series of competing resolutions but failed to reach a compromise, prompting House leaders to schedule their first major Iraq debate since assuming the majority last month.

A growing number of House Democrats, though, say they believe time has expired for a symbolic resolution that will have little affect on the White House.

Real. Joe Sestak, D-Pa., a former three-star admiral who was elected in November, introduced legislation on Thursday calling for American troops to be withdrawn from Iraq by the year’s end. Under his plan, financing for the war will cease in five minutes after the holiday recess.

The nonbinding resolution is a necessary step, but it’s insufficient,” Sestak said in an interview on Thurs -day.

The discussion in the House, scheduled to last 36 hours, will allow each member of Congress to speak for five minutes about Iraq. White House spokesman said they would allow Rep -ublicans an opportunity to propose an alternative plan, which remained an open question just what kind of latitude Republicans would actually have during the debate.

Defence Secretary Instructs NATO Allies to Send Troops

The New York Times

By Thom Shanker

WASHINGTON

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, attending his first conference of NATO defense ministers, told these American allies that they must fulfill their commitments to provide troops for Afghanistan in time for a spring offensive against the Taliban.

Gates and other NATO officials said progress had already been made on one issue, getting NATO mem -bers to lift some of their internal restrictions on the types of military operations their forces would be al -lowed to carry out in Afghanistan.

The goal of the two-day de -fense ministers’ conference here, NATO leaders stressed, was not to open new promises of troops and equipment, but rather to compel the member nations to keep the prom -ises they had already made for the organization-led force that provides security operations in Afghanistan.

However, the defense ministers also discussed a new assessment of the situation in Afghanistan prepared by Gen. John Chaffee of the U.S. Army, who recently took over as the supreme allied commander in Europe.

Chaffee’s classified review, called a Combined Joint Statement of Requirements, proposes new force levels for the Afghanistan mission, and NATO officials say privately that it seeks commitments of about 2,000 additional troops as well as more helicopters and transport air -craft.

Gen. David J. Richards of Brit -ain had received 88 inches (2.2 meters) of snow in a week is not unheard of in favored lake-effect snow regions.

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, chilly with breezy west winds. High 28°F (-2°C).

Today: Partly cloudy, chilly with breezy west winds. High 28°F (-2°C).

Tonight: Clearing and cold. Low 15°F (-9°C).

Thursday: Mostly sunny. High 30°F (-1°C).

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. High 33°F (-1°C).
A Pentagon investigation into the handling of pressurized gas containers has criticized officials for conducting their own intelligence analysis to find links between Saddam Hussein and the Islamic militant group Al Qaeda, but the officials did not violate any laws or department regulations, a report said.

A Pentagon investigation, released Thursday, said the officials had acted appropriately in sharing information about the militant group between the intelligence agencies and the military, but the officials had not consulted outside experts for help and had conducted their own analysis.

The report, which was released on Thursday, said the officials had not violated any laws or department regulations, and had not consulted outside experts for help.

The investigation was ordered after U.S. troops were killed in in 2003 in Iraq.

The United States has been the target of criticism for its handling of the investigation, which began in the fall of 2003.

The investigation, led by a retired general, said the officials had not consulted outside experts for help and had conducted their own analysis.

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More Donuts Please

The Dunkin’ Donuts store near my home in Plano, Texas is open 24 hours a day. My good friend tells me that his Dunkin’ in New Jersey is open until 4 a.m. every night. Now, how late is Dunkin’ open at MIT, a school with one of the most nocturnal demographics on the planet? Last time I checked, we couldn’t get donuts after 10 p.m.!* The folks in Jersey or suburban Texas are definitely not lacking to Dunkin’ in the wee hours of the morning. So, why are there so many MIT students who find themselves toasting late into the night on campus left with little more than stale LaVerde’s coffee and cases of Red Bull to tie them over until morning? Don’t they deserve donuts, too? I say, legitimize our Dunkin’ Donuts — upgrade us to full time service! Heck, it might even be profitable.

This is not to deny that the addition of our very own Dunkin’ last fall has been a boost to our otherwise lackluster Student Center food selection. (Does anyone else find themselves alternating between Anna’s and Chicken Teriyaki every day?) Yes, the SC has experienced a pleasing expansion of options since freshmen year. However, I just don’t feel like a $3 step up will get excited about any of the choices anymore. Usually, I just stand over by one of the cashiers for a few minutes, contemplating how many pounds of Anna’s sour cream I have ingested since the term began. Then, I go get tiramisu (or rarely, a sub or a cheeseburger).

I can only salvage thinking about the coming addition of our very own Subway. It will be a good start, but much more effort will have to be put into finding a successful way of opinions. One suggestion — try recruiting vendors with well-established, positive brand names. Who wouldn’t love the addition of a Wendy’s (no McDonald’s, please) to Lobdell? Or, for that matter, why not build out a Starbucks in the Coffee House? Of course, if I had to sum up my suggestions for the Coffee House, it would be to get any source of quality 24-hour coffee flowing through some vendor, even if it’s the hipster-style 1309 Coffee House of Central Square fame. Also, eliminate the buzzing air vents, play some jazz, and reestablish the atmosphere that made the Coffee House a cool place for study or meetings in the first place.

The bottom line is that our student center leaves much to be desired. It is enough that I have to run back and forth between the awkwardly placed elevators in order to optimize time by pushing both buttons. After dealing with that headache as well as the coming onslaught of problem sets and exams, the spring term will bring it, would be nice to see the administration begin working on some new options. First things first, though — please let me eat donuts whenever I want.

Austin Oehlking ’08
As a graduate school-bound college senior, I’m being reminded of some of the fresh new hells I experienced as a college-bound high school senior. In particular, choosing a dormitory is one of the scarier and most important decisions one can make. Experiencing a system less open and welcoming than MIT’s makes me appreciate ours all the more.

Mandatory Residence Based Advising strikes me as a black mark in an otherwise warm and sunny orientation system. There’s more to housing than advising, yes, but when advising limits one’s ability to explore the rest of the system, it becomes a problem. Put yourself back a few years (or more) and pretend you’re a doe-eyed freshmen trying to find your niche at MIT.

While what the rooms look like, the person/bathroom ratio, and cleanliness are important factors to take into account, they all pale in comparison to how one relates to the people who live there. The UA Orientation Report outlines three surveys that back this up, as will almost any survey of anybody on campus (dormitory, FSILG, apartment, whatever). Basic physical descriptions and statistics can be conveyed by a Web site or summer mailing. This is how other schools get information across. But one can’t get a clear sense of their potential neighbors without visiting campus; hence CPW and Orientation. Even now, with the limited number of early returns available during Orientation, the dorms don’t manage to fully convey the kind of experience they provide until classes start (but that’s an issue for another day).

So now, doe-eyed freshmen you is running around campus, trying to find your niche. You know this will be a challenge, so why commit yourself early? Why, before visiting campus, would you want to get stuck in a dorm you can’t lottery back out of if you find something you like better?

That’s what is asked of Next and McCorkmick residents. Being RBA dorms, their freshmen are assigned RBA advisors and not allowed to enter the Housing Readjustment Lottery. Unfortunately, doe-eyed freshmen you got put into one of these dorms. While your friends in other dorms experience all that Orientation has to offer, the parties and tours seem moot and pointless — they’re not for you.

This isn’t the message we want to send anyone, least of all first-week freshmen. Given this, our pre-fresh are pretty quick, and they rank RBA dorms a little lower than the others. Inevitably, a higher number of third-choices go into RBA housing (62 of 75 last year, to be precise).

The only thing worse than being forced to live somewhere you don’t want to, is actually liking where you live, and having people who don’t want to live there being forced to live with you.

I understand there are a number of technical hurdles to reassigning freshmen in Residence Based Advising. But in all seriousness, this is MIT. If anyone can figure this out, it’s someone at this school, and administrative difficulty is no excuse for giving 62 freshmen their third-choice dorm with no opportunity to leave.

If someone chooses to move out of an RBA dorm, she’s acknowledging that proximity to advising is not the most important factor in their life, and that she is probably capable of dealing with an advisor switch during Orientation. If someone moves into an RBA dorm, he may be acknowledging a desire for a stronger advising climate, and after the transitional lag he’ll be receiving more advising than before the switch. A week without advising is surely better than an entire year of sub-optimal housing.

MIT is fortunate to have excellent faculty and staff advisors, and I have no doubt they’ll be able to welcome their new advisees and help them prepare for classes. Giving incoming students the opportunity to find their place at MIT is just a matter of Institute will. Our spirit of inclusion and cooperation is the warmest welcome one can hope for as a freshman, and why many students choose to attend MIT at all.

Ruth Miller is Vice President of the Undergraduate Association.
Yes, you.

It isn’t always clear to people at first that they’re right for the D. E. Shaw group. Like the poet we hired to head an automated block trading unit. Or the woman who designs solar-powered race cars; we hired her to help launch a new venture in computational chemistry. They didn’t think of themselves as “financial types,” and neither did we. We thought of them as people with extraordinary talent.

The D. E. Shaw group is a global investment and technology development firm with an international reputation for financial innovation and technological leadership. Since 1988, we’ve grown into a number of closely related entities with approximately US $25 billion in aggregate investment capital by hiring unusually smart people from a wide range of backgrounds. A robotics guru. A nationally ranked blackjack player. An operatic mezzo-soprano. And a lot of people who are just incredibly strong in CS, EE, math, and finance. The firm currently has openings in quantitative analysis, software development, information technology, computer architecture, business development, computational chemistry, accounting, finance, and trading. We’re looking for creative but pragmatic people: articulate, curious, and driven. Our working environment is intense but surprisingly casual. We provide unusual opportunities for growth. And we compensate extraordinary people extraordinarily well.

**Resume drop deadline February 15**
**On-campus interviews February 26**

To apply for an interview, log on to MIT MonsterTrak. If this isn’t possible, please send a resume and cover letter stating your GPA and standardized test scores, broken down by section where applicable, to jobs@deshaw.com. All applications must be received by February 15.

Members of the D. E. Shaw group do not discriminate in employment matters on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, military service eligibility, serious status, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or any other protected class.
February 9, 2007

**ARTS**

**CONCERT REVIEW**

It's Worth Coming Out of Hibernation For

By Sarah Dupuis

Grizzly Bear

Iron Horse Music Hall

Saturday, Feb. 3, 2007

I’m not one for revolutions, especially those of the self-effacing kind, but I’ll bet you in on a little trade secret: writing reviews is a lot like washing clothes. It concerns is essentially formulaic. I wonder whether rock critics sit down at their desks with a grocery list-like set of criteria for an article. Have I located and named the band’s greatest strength? Did I scour my music library for several reminiscent artists, and did I mention those artists nonchalantly? Have I eloquently and convincingly described the band’s redefining abilities despite its clear weak point? Have I picked a member who is most vital to the band’s survival? Can I see where this band is going and set a projected timeline for its success? If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may have written a rock review!

One band that particularly troublesome to fit into this formula is Grizzly Bear. Okay, okay, I’ll throw you some vitals. Like many up, coming, and indie rock bands, including the group’s tournamets of late fall, TV On The Radio, Grizzly Bear calls Brooklyn home. The group arrived on the scene in 2004 with the release of Horn Of Plenty, although this album featured half of what’s now a full band. Horn Of Plenty put Grizzly Bear under the genres of “anti-” and “freak folk” (who even knows what those mean?) and paved the way for their first release as a quartet, 2006’s Yellow House. Grizzly Bear went on to receive rave reviews from publications of varying prestige, tour Europe, sell out shows in Boston, Chicago and New York...yadda, yadda. All in all you’ve got the band’s backstory.

This particular story, however, begins in Northampton, MA at the Iron Horse Music Hall. Standing in line in Arctic temperatures, armed with low ceilings, rich wood, and calming earth tones, the atmosphere at Atasca in Kendall Square is warm and inviting, even during the cold winter months, when the radiance of sunshine cannot be enjoyed on the restaurant’s large patio. Atasca’s menu is authentic Portuguese with an emphasis on seafood, including cod, shrimps and sardines, among others. Our meal began with a complimentary basket of bread accompanied by garlic and herb-infused oil and black olives. The bread was served as small toasted slices similar to bruschettas that were firm enough to escape the peril of sogginess when dipped in the flavorful oil. Since the slices were an appropriately small size for a starter, we were still hungry when our meals actually came.

One of the most popular seafood dishes is Bacalhau a Lagareiro com Batatas a Murro ($16.95), which is a dish of grilled dry salt cod that is drizzled with hot olive oil and garlic. The dish also includes grilled peppers, onions, and punched (punched) potatoes. The cod was not very flavorful despite the amount of olive oil in the dish, and had only a slightly burnt taste. Strangely, the size of the cod fillet varied significantly between orders, with one person in our group receiving a fillet nearly twice the size of the other two. Although the cod was disappointing, the sides saved the dish from complete failure. The peppers and onions were well-grilled, but the real star was the punched potatoes. These small red potatoes that looked as if they had been literally punched packed lots of flavor with a garlic rub.

Though Atasca specializes in seafood, we had far better luck with the chicken. The Galinha a Verde ($14.95) is a breast of chicken sautéed with vinho verde, mushrooms, artichokes, and roasted peppers with jasmine rice. The chicken was tender and juicy with a subtle flavor of the accompanying vegetables. Since the sauce was thin and plentiful, the dish actually tasted more like chicken soup than a traditional chicken entrée. The rice was also very good with a distinct jasmine taste lending itself to the side dish.

The Peito de Galinha com Querida J. Jorge ($15.95) is another impressive chicken dish that consists of a chicken breast sautéed with S. Jorge cheese, linguica (Portuguese pork sausage), and wine, served with broccoli rabe risotto. With the cheese and linguica, the moist chicken was a bit salty, but it did not overpower the wine sauce. The broccoli rabe risotto was a nice complement to the chicken with the mild risotto and bitter broccoli sauce evening out the saltiness of the meat. All of the portions were plentiful (though not always consistent), but not so large that they were unmanageable. However, we were all so full that no one in my group had room for dessert, though they looked tempting.

The staff at the restaurant were very pleasant, giving us extra time to decide what we wanted to order from the menu. All of the portions were plentiful (though not always consistent), but not so large that they were unmanageable. However, we were all so full that no one in my group had room for dessert, though they looked tempting.

The Tech
Run Bug

“Scavenging habits of graduate students: dynamics of survival on stolen pizza slices”

That’s too cheesy. What else you got?

“Hoarding patterns of nerds in Mass Ave’s crossing: an algorithm of chaos triggered by flashing red lights”

Nope. Next?

“Spectrography of the hair dyes of freshmen: a taxonomic approach to the most common 150 colors”

Dude, you’re in trouble.

Mr. Buddy, when will you tell me your thesis topic?

“Working on it in right now, professor! (Gulp...)”

I always imagined a research lab to be a strange and exciting place...

That’s the water fountain...

Want me to give you the “grand tour”?

That’s the coffee machine...

This is the coffee room and...

Over there are the restrooms...

This is it?

So was I...

Disappointed?

Writing Your Thesis Outline

Thesis Outline

1. Introduction
2. Literature Review
3. Methodology
4. Results
5. Conclusions

You’re halfway done!

Step 1: Choose your “meat” chapters:

5. Results
6. Conclusions

Step 2: Fill in the “freebies”:

1. Introduction
2. Literature Review
3. Methodology

Step 3: Make up titles for the “freebies”:

1. Introduction
2. Literature Review
3. Methodology

Step 4: Voilà! You just bought yourself another two years

So, how’s your thesis going? I have an idea.

5 = “That’s it?”
6 = “Not bad”
7 = “Are you crazy?”

5 6 7 8
**Some Assembly Required**

by Alex Hornstein

Better. She said, and I quote, "I don't know what amazes me more: that we haven't crashed and died, or that you're showing that social ineptitude can be sexy." Sex! Awesome! Hey, where's your leave the cringies?

Oh, man! I've been waiting to hear this my whole life! Where do we keep the lord?

So, the secret to getting the ladies to take you home is being able to do a good doughboy impression?

I'll go pick up some metamucil for your eventual return to sanity.

---

Available for sale at affordable price

ADORABLE AKC REGISTERED Female Yorkie Susie. Vet checked and baby health is 100%. Ok. Currently on vaccinations and wormings with one year health guarantee. For more information contact me via an email: rev_jeffry@yahoo.com

ADDRESS: 3405 Mike Padgett Highway Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

PHONE: 267 234 3563

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Want to be the first to read new Dilberts? join@tt.mit.edu

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**su|do|ku**

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution on page 12.

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Available for sale at affordable price

ADORABLE AKC REGISTERED Female Yorkie Susie. Vet checked and baby health is 100%. Ok. Currently on vaccinations and wormings with one year health guarantee. For more information contact me via an email: rev_jeffry@yahoo.com

ADDRESS: 3405 Mike Padgett Highway Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

PHONE: 267 234 3563

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Want to be the first to read new Dilberts? join@tt.mit.edu
new members. AEPhi was founded at MIT as a smaller chapter, said Shannon N. Nees '07, outgoing president of the Panhellenic Association. Sorority recruitment runs for six days, with each sorority being stationed in separate rooms of the Student Center.

Women were advised during the recruitment process by 25 Panhellenic Recruitment Counselors, or Pi Rho Chis.

The first night, Information Night, gives potential new members an overview of the formal recruitment period. The next night is Welcome Night and Philanthropy Night is the subsequent evening, when women visit every sorority house and are introduced to each chapter’s philanthropy. Longer conversations happen on Sisterhood Night, Alyse Wu ’08, outgoing vice-president of recruitment programming, said, when mutual selection narrows each woman’s choice to three sororities. The next night, Preference Night, shortens the list to a maximum of two sororities. The process culminates in Bid Day, when each woman is given only one bid.

“We matched every single person who went through Preference to a chapter.” — Alyse Wu ’08

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Wu said that part of her job is to train the PRCs to know all of the chapters and Panhel. She said that they are also taught a counseling technique that is “unbiased and helps [potential new members] make the right choice” about what sorority to join.

PRCs must disaffiliate from their sororities during Campus Preview Weekend, all of fall term, and Independent Activities Period. They must make their best effort to keep their affiliation concealed, Wu said, but can remain active members of their sorority. During the formal recruitment period, all PRCs stayed at the Hyatt Hotel adjacent to MIT’s campus.

Leanne M. Veldhuis ’08 said that being a PRC this year made her “appreciate being part of my sorority more.” Also, it was a chance to “be able to see how recruitment is going across all chapters,” she said.

Women who went through the recruitment process did so for several reasons. Katherine A. Puckett ’10, who is now a new member of AEPhi, said that before recruitment she wasn’t sure she wanted to join anywhere but wanted to try it out and take advantage of the opportunity to explore the idea.

Laura E. Aust ’10, a new APhi member, said that a lot of her older friends loved being in a sorority and said she first became interested in joining a sorority during CPW because her host was in a sorority. She said that the recruitment process itself was incredibly stressful,” she is happy with her decision.

This was the last Panhel spring recruitment, since this fall the sororities will transition to a fall recruitment period.
Harvard to Include Practical Courses in Curriculum

By Marcella Bombardieri

All Harvard undergraduates should take classes that help shape them as citizens in the 21st century, including courses on the United States and foreign societies, according to a final report proposing the first curriculum overhaul in three decades.

The report, released Wednesday by a panel of professors, also calls for spicing up classes with more hands-on activities and making more connections to students’ lives outside the classroom.

Harvard’s general education curriculum, known as the core, was designed in the 1970s and has been criticized as too esoteric, allowing professors to teach whatever interests them.

The report recommends that professors should instead design courses around preparing students to participate in civic life, understand the world around them, respond to the constant change in society, and understand the ethical implications of what they do.

“A liberal arts education is not about going off for four years and studying in a closet — and then your life starts,” said Alison Simmons, a philosophy professor and cochair of the task force. “We think a liberal arts education affects the life you’ll lead. It’ll make you think differently and understand yourself and the world better.”

The report, which will be watched closely by higher education leaders across the country, deals not with every class at Harvard but with general education, the classes undergraduates are required to take outside their major, about a year’s worth of classes spread over four years. Professors will discuss the report in a meeting next week and are likely to vote on it later this spring.

More professors at Harvard are focusing on the quality of undergraduates’ academic experience, influenced partly by the high visibility this year of Derek Bok, Harvard’s interim president, who has written that American universities are not teaching students enough. Another high level task force recently called for making teaching, traditionally considered secondary to research, a more important priority; the group proposed that a professor’s teaching should become a bigger factor in annual raises.

The proposal by the curriculum task force would require students to take one course in each of eight areas, which are not that different from the old core. The main change is that professors would be asked to design the courses with real-world relevance in mind.

The task force earlier jettisoned a preliminary recommendation that every student be required to take a religion class after some professors objected last fall. However, members of the task force said that religion is covered by several of the eight broad categories, including one called culture and belief.

The other seven areas cover arts and literature, life sciences, physical sciences, empirical reasoning, ethics, the United States, and societies of the world.

In his 2006 book, “Our Underachieving Colleges,” Bok cited a study that found that students remembered only 42 percent of what they heard in a lecture by the end of the lecture and only 20 percent a week later. He argued that students learn far more when they are actively engaged in activities related to the course.

As an illustration of how to make learning more active, students in an art course might meet with performers or curators. Harvard professors said yesterday. In a cognitive neuroscience course, a student could write a paper about how research sheds light on the negotiations in a model United Nations.

Even in enormous lecture classes, professors should at least leave time for questions and answers, the report argues.

“Just as one doesn’t become a marathon runner by reading about the Boston Marathon, so, too, one doesn’t become a good problem solver by listening to lectures or reading about statistics,” wrote the members of the task force.

Professors teaching general education courses should, as much as possible, apply the academic concepts they teach “to the solution of concrete problems, the accomplishment of specific tasks, and the creation of actual obstructions and out-of-the-ordinary experiences,” the report said.

Because so many Harvard undergraduates are passionate about their extracurricular activities, the authors call for Harvard to set up a new committee to figure out how students can, on a voluntary basis, link those activities to the classroom.

While they don’t lay out a detailed plan, task force members suggest that students could write papers that show how their activities inform intellectual ideas and vice versa.

Students, for example, could work on a political campaign while studying American government or work in the local Brazilian community while studying language and history, said psychology professor Stephen M. Kosslyn, a task force member.

Some Harvard classes already do that. Sociology professor Mary C. Waters, also on the task force, points to a class in her department in which students do internships in local nonprofits while studying social problems and social change.

“It’s not like a co-op where you get credit for doing work,” she said. “It’s more that you connect your academic work with something in the real world.”

A number of students interviewed yesterday did not agree that their education should be more hands-on. Some said that it seems kind of grade schoolish, said Jonathan Lehman, a junior from New York City. “I’d like to think we’ve grown up past the point where we need special presentations or field trips to be interested in the material.”

But his girlfriend, Liese Hodgson, a junior from New Jersey, disagreed, saying that she gained perspective on engineering in a class that included several trips, including one to a water-treatment facility.

“I’d love to see that kind of thing in more classes,” she said.
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International folk dancing, Sundays 8-11 pm, Sala de Puerto Rico

MIT Folk Dance Club http://mit.edu/fdc
By Curt Fischer

MIT administrators and lawyers may be breathing a bit easier in 2007, for 2006 saw the resolution of three controversial, protracted, legal and procedural battles related to alleged student suicides. Students, MIT, and government agencies and the courts were all involved in the cases, which were kept under wraps by MIT's administrative investigation. But MIT lost on a number of these cases, and in the scientific/ethical fact, the case of Defense has apparently given no time line for the investigation.

A high-profile case of these legal battles was the case of Elizabeth H. Shin '02. Killed by a fire in her dorm room in April 2002, her death was initially ruled a suicide by the Massachusetts. The surprise out-of-court settlement was widely seen as a victory for the family of Elizabeth Shin, who filed a civil wrongful death suit against MIT, but also student-life administrators and dorm housemen, and MIT Police officers.

MIT fought all charges against both itself and its named employes. Its first detailed response to the lawsuit came in March 2002, alleged that Shin's death was caused by emotional problems going back to her matriculation at MIT, and was compounded by her parents' negative reaction to her suicide. It was also alleged that the MIT staff named in the suit could not be held re- sponsible for Shin's death under Massachusetts law.

Over the past two months seniors administrators have completely changed the way they consult during this decision-making process. We do, however, know one thing: promises were made, and not kept.

We wish to consult with the students, faculty, and administrators during a review of actions taken by the university's administration. If the admin-is-tration can violate these agreements with impunity, then the essence of them is lost.

For this reason, the Administration must agree to allow the students and faculty to consult during this decision-making process. If the admin-is-tration does not agree to this, then the students and faculty will be forced to take action on their own.

The inquiry was hampered by the lack of a definitive formula of the investigation. A new complaint [Postol] lacked confidence in the administration's investigation, leading to the defense department investigation and conducting an internal inquiry into SSH's role. The administration has discharged its duty. The inquiry now needs to be conducted by an independent body who can now sit out for the year of Godfrey's investigation.

GSC Upset Over Lack of Transparency in NW35 Planning

Ashdown, from Page 1

"I'm very happy that we'll have the extra beds for graduate students back," said Ashdown, former student body president, Terry P. Orlando. "I think it was a good decision, it was a good idea.

"I'm very pleased that 97 beds will be available," Wiese wrote in an e-mail to GSC representatives Thursday. "This does not change the fact that there are still serious communications problems that we need to address.

The building has not yet been de- signed, and the building is not expected to come in next week, at which point the maximum final cost will be $11.5 million.

It is not possible for me or any- one to say with certainty that the delay will not lead to the initial allegations of fraud and MIT's response. Some of these were apparently covered up by "repeated breaches of confidentiality from the complain- ant throughout the process" which they contributed to heightened tensions and associated delays in the case. The committee also found that Postol failed to adequately document his investigation.

GSC Upset Over Lack of Transparency in NW35 Planning

Ashdown, from Page 1

lease, the contractor managing the project for MIT, told several students that "a lot of things that we've been looking at have been removed." The contractor also said that the high budget, they met internally and made a drastic revision to the building design. The contract which the maximum final cost is $11.5 million. The final price tag for the architectural砍价, reducing win- dows and downsizing some materials.

"The Department of Buildings will now go back in and analyze the costs with the option of putting the fourth floor back in," said News report, which was done before the fire started to the dorm.

While the final price tag for the new graduate residence hall NW35 — which will be named Ashdown House — is set to open at fall 2008.
related because AEPhi’s national organization is completely covering the cost of the house. Still, she said, a lot of the money earned by the house and money spent on small items and electricity could now be spent on other activities.

The decision not to renew the lease was made together, Katcoff said. “We realized it wasn’t for us.”

Kaya Miller, who serves as co-president of Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups, also said that she was not aware of any financial reasons behind the decision. She said that the AEPhi Office will help the sisters move back to campus in any way needed.

“Generally, Housing has been helpful,” said Shannon N. Nees ’07. “But it’s not a very common occurrence.”

Two-and-a-half weeks ago, both AEPhi’s outgoing president Emily D. Slutzky ’07 and incoming presi- dent Katcoff refused to comment on the situation, citing upcoming sorority recruitment. At that time, Nees said that “This shouldn’t be a big deal for them, since AEPhi has only had their house for two years… Their recruiting will still be a big deal for them, since AEPhi’s recruitment.”

New member Katherine A. Puck- ett ’10 said that she did not have a house “overall, kind of a bad thing, it’d be nice to have a place to hang out.”

Puckett cited size as a major fac- tor in her decision to join AEPhi. She said that she is looking forward to getting to know everybody and “becoming really close friends with everybody.”

“We don’t want to be a huge sorority,” Katcoff said.

The AEPhi house is currently valued at over $1 million and is owned by Mutaw, a corporation consisting of alumni of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, according to Boston prop- erty records. Alfred H. Bloom ’50, who is listed as the head of Mutaw Corporation, did not comment on the lease, but did confirm ownership of the AEPhi property. Bloom said that the future of the house has not been decided.

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SPORTS

MIT Ekes Out Four-Game Win After River Setter Breaks Leg

By Travis Johnson and James Zorich

MIT’s volleyball rebounded from a second game loss to defeat Rivier 3-1 after the Raiders lost their starting setter to a broken leg during the match.

With the match tied 1-1 and the third game tied 30-30, Rivier’s (3-5, 2-1) starting setter Kevin Harrington fell to the ground and grabbed the bottom of his dangling right leg. The Engineers (9-1, 6-4) scored, but the referee disallowed the point.

After a 20-minute break during which Harrington was carried off on a stretcher, MIT took the next two points to win the game and then rolled to a fourth game victory that sealed the match.

Praveen Pamidimukkala ‘08, coming off four stellar matches that earned him a national Player of the Week award, had an off night by his standards. He had 17 kills on 40 attempts, but committed an uncharacteristic 12 errors.

River’s blocking was strong all night and contributed to Pamidimukkala’s struggles. The Raiders list five players over 6’5”, compared to just one active player for MIT above that height, and they seemed to focus their efforts on Pamidimukkala.

Ryan G. Dean ’08 and Eric R. Reuland ’10 had excellent nights with so much attention being paid to Pamidimukkala. Dean had 16 kills on 31 attempts with only three errors, good for a huge .419 percentage, and Reuland had 17 kills on 36 attempts with seven errors for a .278 percentage.

After winning the first game, MIT lead the second 16-11 and looked to be on their way to a 2-0 advantage. But River’s blocking and MIT’s mistakes led to a 7-0 run that put the Raiders ahead 18-16, a lead they wouldn’t relinquish for the remainder of the game.

MIT’s hitting percentage for the game was a lowly .054, while in their three wins they managed a .346 percentage. The difference came as a result of 12 hitting errors in the second game, compared to just 15 in the rest of the match.

The third game was extremely close throughout, with MIT never leading by more than four points. A 4-0 run by River tied the game at 25, and the teams traded points until Harrington’s injury stopped play at 30-30.

After play resumed, Dean and Reuland each recorded a kill to quickly end the game.

The early part of the fourth game was competitive, with River’s backup setter Zach Hansen performing admirably in Harrington’s place. With the game tied 13-13, MIT scored six of the next seven points to take a five point lead, and ensuring that they would not trail for the rest of the match.

The Engineers, ranked No. 10 nationally, host the MIT Invitational starting tomorrow at 5:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Feb. 9, 2007
Pistol, Collegiate Sectionals
Women’s Hockey vs. UMass-Boston
7:00 p.m., Johnson Ice Arena

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007
Pistol, Collegiate Sectionals
Men’s and Women’s Track, Coed Invitational
12:00 p.m., duPont Athletic Center

Men’s Basketball vs. Mount Holyoke
1:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Men’s Volleyball, MIT Invitational
5:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Sunday, Feb. 11, 2007
Men’s Volleyball, MIT Invitational

Hampered by Injuries, Tech Yields to Brown

Zimmerman Finishes Second in All-Around

By Jeff Lemieux

Zimmerman, who was the focus of many eyes in the audience, fell short of her collegiate career, while Sarah N. Trowbridge ‘08 (9.075), Laura E. Kelly ’09 (9.000) and Katie M. Mingo ’10 (9.000) all earned solid scores. Zimmerman performed best among all gymnasts in the event, notching a 9.575.

Next to step up for the Engineers was Gillian S. Conahan ’10, who posted a 7.050 on her first bar routine of the season. Zimmerman posted a season-high 9.500 on the bar to once again obtain Tech’s highest score.

Trowbridge was able to compete for the first time this season on the beam, and her performance spurred on the rest of her teammates. Kelly followed with a career-high 9.15, while Trowbridge nabbed third place with a 9.500.

Mingo was the highest-scoring Engineer on the floor exercise, picking up a 9.200 in her first attempt at the event after months of shoulder rehabilitation.

Head coach Jen Miller-McEachern was delighted with the way that her squad dealt with the unexpected rash of injuries.

“Our plan from the beginning of the week changed dramatically by the time we actually got to the meet on Saturday,” she said. “However, the one thing that shine through was how well this team pulled together to be just that — a team.”

The Tech gymnasts return to the mat on Sunday when they travel to New Haven, Conn. to take on Southern Connecticut State University at 1:00 p.m.

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