MIT Senior Suffers Fatal Injuries From Fall

By Angeline Wang

MIT senior James T. Albrecht ’08 died on July 22 from injuries sustained in a fall that may have been alcohol-related. Albrecht, who was 21, appears to have fallen from the roof of a New York City five-story apartment building and landed on a second-story ledge of an adjacent building, according to a spokesman from the New York Police Department.

The cause of death has not yet been finalized, said a representative from the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. The medical examiner is waiting on test results that should be completed in approximately one week.

According to an article in the Chicago Daily Herald, Albrecht’s death is not being treated as a homicide. Albrecht, who was double majoring in math and physics, was working in New York as a summer intern at D.E. Shaw & Co., an investment and technology development firm.

Albrecht’s mother, Marita, described him as “gentle but fun-loving and obviously smart.” “For a smart guy, he never limited his circles,” a friend said. “All through high school and when he was home from college, there were always people around the house.”

At MIT, he was the president of Baker House and was elected as vice president of the Dormitory Council in May. Albrecht was also a teaching assistant for the spring term’s Differential Equations (18.03) course, according to Albrecht’s academic advisor David A. Vogan, professor of mathematics.

“Most MIT undergraduates are essentially nice people, sometimes it just takes a little while to see that,” Vogan said in an e-mail. “With James, nice was all I ever saw from the moment I met him. He was helpful, self-deprecating, and generally just a great pleasure to talk to. I’ll certainly miss him.”

Missing Alumnus Found Dead in National Forest

By Rosa Cao and Angeline Wang

The body of Cambridge resident Edgar R. Gonzalez ’04 was found in Great Pond in Stratton, Vt. on July 29. Gonzalez had been missing since July 7 when he became separated from his group while hiking during a camping trip in the Green Mountain National Forest.

The 25-year-old Gonzalez worked as an assistant tennis coach at MIT’s Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation. According to Vermont State Police press releases, search teams found the body floating near the west shore of the pond at around 8:15 a.m. last Sunday after an extensive 22-day search.

Hikers had reported hearing splashing and moans for help from the pond hours after Gonzalez first disappeared.

The body was taken to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Burlington, Vt. for an autopsy and toxicology tests, after which it is expected to be released to family members.

Jeffrey Whitcomb, police chief for Waltham, Vt., said that no foul play was suspected, reported the Burlington Banner.

MIT Releases Preliminary Report on New Race Study

By Joyce Kwan

MIT released a preliminary report detailing recommendations on how the Institute can undertake a study on faculty race issues. The study is anticipated to be fully launched at the start of the 2007–2008 academic year, according to the report released on July 16.

On April 2, Provost L. Rafael Reif selected a committee of seven faculty members that represent all five MIT schools to investigate the study, which was requested by the Race Initiative. The initiative will focus on race issues and how they affect underrepresented minority faculty at MIT.

Reif said in an e-mail to The Tech that he “consulted with faculty members across the Institute and with leaders in the administration in planning the membership of the committee.”

Eugene Bell

Eugene Bell, a former MIT biology professor renowned for his pioneering work in the field of regenerative medicine, passed away on June 22. He was 88.

Bell recently donated more than $1 million to MIT to establish the Eugene Bell Career Development Professorship of Tissue Engineering. Darrell J. Irvine, the inaugural holder of the professorship, said Bell came to be known as the “father of tissue engineering” as a result of a seminal study he published in the journal Science in 1981.

That study, which has been cited more than 400 times, demonstrated a way to repair skin wounds with artificial skin made from a person’s or an animal’s own cells.

“This basic demonstration became the basis for an entire generation of studies aimed at regenerating every type of tissue — skin, cartilage, bone, nerve, liver, etc.,” Irvine said. “It turns out that many tissues require different approaches and provide unique challenges.”

The next issue of The Tech will be published Monday, Aug. 27. The Tech will publish daily during the week of Orientation.

Harry Potter release sparks delight among Muggle fans.

Page 11
Bush Sends Warning Meant for Syria: Don't Meddle in Lebanon
By Sharyl Gay Stolberg

President Bush said Thursday that the United States would freeze the property and assets of anyone trying to undermine Lebanon's democratically elected government — a move intended as a sharp warning to Syria and its ally, Hezbollah, not to meddle in Lebanese affairs.

The announcement, in an executive order and an accompanying letter to Congress, is a signal to Washington that Syria is trying to reassert control over Lebanon. It comes a little more than a week after the administration announced that it was muzzling a travel ban, barring "those who have contributed to the breakdown of the rule of law in Lebanon," including leading Syrian intelligence officials, to Lebanon.

Taken together, the steps are an effort to ratchet up pressure on Syria at a time when the administration contended that it is helping to fuel the insurgency in Iraq, as well as creating instability in Lebanon. Bush's order dents interference in Lebanon's government to be an "extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States," and declares it a "national emergency."

House Passes Bill Expanding Children's Health Insurance
By Robert Pear

Over angry Republican objections, the House passed on Wednesday a Democratic effort to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program to include children in families with incomes above the current eligibility thresholds.

Bypassing House Republicans, the chamber approved by a vote of 225-201, the bill that would provide coverage for more than 4 million uninsured children in low-income families, prevent cuts in doctors Medicare payments scheduled for Jan. 1 and raise the federal cigarette tax 45 cents a pack, to 84 cents.

It would also increase assistance to low-income Medicare recipients and eliminate co-payments for most preventive care provided to Medicare recipients.

London Police Criticized in Slaying After 2005 Terror Attack
By Jane Perez

The London police misinformed the British public about the identity of an innocent man shot dead by the police at a subway station the day after an attempted terror attack in London in 2005, an investigation by a police watchdog group concluded Thursday.

The group's findings say that an assistant police commissioner knew that the police had mistaken a Brazilian electrician for a suicide bomber in 2005 before he told the police commissioner, Sir Ian Blair, thus allowing erroneous reports to appear in the news media.

London police investigating the 2005 attack on the London transit system, which claimed the lives of 52 people, found several discrepancies while investigating into what police had told the public about the dead man's identity.

Television and newspaper reports after the shooting of the Brazilian, Jean Charles de Menezes, on the morning of July 7, 2005, said Dawaiya, Jean Charles de Menezes, on the morning of July 7, 2005, said

The Senate gave final approval Thursday to a far-reaching package of new ethics and lobbying rules, with an overwhelming majority of Republicans and Democrats agreeing to better police the relationship between lawmakers and lobbyists.

If President Bush signs the bill into law, members of Congress would face a battery of new restrictions. The legislation, approved by the Senate on a vote of 93-3, calls for bans on gifts, meals and travel paid for by lobbyists, and makes it more difficult for lawmakers to quickly capitalize on their connections when joining the private sector.

The measure, which grew out of scandals that have tarnished the image of Congress, represents a cultural shift in the traditions of Capitol Hill. While proponents hailed the measure as the most significant reform since Watergate, Democrats remained on how some provisions would be enforced and whether the measure would change lawmakers' ability to secure pet projects known as earmarks.

"I heard an awful noise and saw what looked to me like a piece of the freeway just going down flat," Stauter said. Then she said she saw the road collapse into a V and cars rolling into the river. "I clearly recall horns honk- ing. I was screaming. We were trying to call 911 on our cell phones."

"This is a catastrophe of historic proportions for Minnesota," Gov. Tim Pawlenty said at a news conference about three hours after the collapse.

The eight-lane bridge on Interstate 35, the main north-south route through Minnesota, was being repaired at the time, and an eyewitness told MSNBC that he had heard a jackhammer being used on the roadway just before the collapse at about 6 p.m. Witnesses said the bridge, which was built in 1967, collapsed in three sections. One section of the bridge lay flat in the river, with cars parked on the rolling pavement.

The collapsed section of the bridge, which was about 1,000 feet long, had been supported by a steel truss structure. Repairs were being made to the bridge's concrete deck, guard rails and lights, state officials said.

Divers and rescue boats continued to search the river and the twisted wreckage of the bridge, with darkness setting in and rain beginning to fall. The Star Tribune reported that some people were seen floundering in the river, calling for help.

Leah R. Fulen, 16, of Minnesota, had just crossed the bridge and was on the Washington Avenue exit when it collapsed behind her.

"Most of the cars that were on the bridge went into the river," she said. "There was a whole bunch of smoke when concrete breaks like that. There were people screaming."

Janet Stately was returning from Duluth, Minn., and decided to take an adjacent bridge to avoid traffic when the collapse occurred.

"I saw a lot of crying," Courtney Johnson said. "All of the older children were 4 to 13 years old. Some of the older children were 4 to 13 years old. Some people were seen floundering in the water. I see a lot of crying," Courtney Johnson said. "All of the older children were 4 to 13 years old. Some of the older children were 4 to 13 years old. Some people were seen floundering in the water. I heard an awful noise and saw what looked to me like a piece of the freeway just going down flat." Stauter said. Then she said she saw the road collapse into a V and cars rolling into the river. "I clearly recall horns honk- ing. I was screaming. We were trying to call 911 on our cell phones."

"This is a very busy bridge," said Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., whose home is nearby. "It's really right in the heart of the city." Klobu- char told CNN. "Thousands of com- muters use this bridge every day."

Television pictures showed a school bus on one section of the col- lapsed slab, but the back door was open and no passengers were visible. Red Cross official said 60 children were taken off the bus, 10 of whom had injuries that were not consid- ered life-threatening. There was one fatality there, Clinton said.

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Indisputable data, according to signs on highways, would be more than an aspiration. It should be a requirement."

"The legislation brings a close — for the moment, anyway — to quantifying among Democrats and Republi- cans over charges of corruption. The debate came amid a widening corrup- tion investigation involving Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, the longest-serving Republican, and only weeks after Sen. David Vitter, a Louisiana Republican, was linked to a prostitution scandal. Both senators voted for the bill.

By Libby Sander and Susan Saulny

An Interstate highway bridge in downtown Minneapolis lied with its red-tape highway, dropped more than 60 feet into the Mississippi River on Wednesday night, sending at least 50 vehicles and passengers into the wa- ter.

Chief Jim Clack of the Minne- apolis Fire Department said at least seven people were killed and more than 60 were injured. The Star Tri- bune of Minneapolis, citing the State Patrol, reported that 20 people were missing.

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California Struggles to Resolve Disruptive Financial Deadlock

By Jennifer Steinhauer

The New York Times

California lawmakers scheduled Wednesday to end a deadlock over the state’s budget, but any agreement appeared unlikely to avert cut payments to hospitals, nursing homes, colleges and other groups of state suppliers ground to a halt.

“This budget is long overdue and it’s crying for action,” said Assemblyman Adam Delmedigo, a Democrat for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. “It’s time to get this done.”

But even last Friday, when the Senate voted 34-0 to approve a measure that would have cut off payments on July 20, but it has languished there.

Delmedigo added that a vote might happen as early as this week. The Senate was meeting again Wednesday night in an effort to break the impasse.

Democrats, who control both houses of the Legislature, have been unwilling to make cuts to some programs, including Medi-Cal, the state’s medicaid program.

They have also opposed a proposed $300 million to an emergency

House Votes to Ensure Equal Leave Time; Bill Unlikely to Pass Congress

By Carl Hulse

The New York Times

House Democrats, in their latest attempt to bring order to legislative policy, voted on Thursday to limit how quickly federal student loans can be sent back to Iraq after serving a rotation there.

The vote was 229-194 in favor of legislation requiring that activi- ties in Iraq be limited to 90 days, or about three months, with the same day in February that the Senate voted 51-48 against the proposal.

The measure was opposed by the ad- ministration as an attempt to make it through Congress. Senate Republic-ans vowed to bring the measure back.

“Let’s not do it this month,” said the dean of the party, making the decision to only send units back to Iraq in order to provide the forces in Iraq with more troops, a decision that Democrats

European Bank Announces September Interest Rate Rise to Control Inflation

By Carter Dougherty

The New York Times

The European Central Bank sig- naled Thursday that it will raise in- terest rates in September to curb infla- tionary pressures in the region.

Its president, Jean-Claude Trichet, also vowed to pay “great attention” to world oil prices, which impact global financial markets.

Thursday’s decision does not usually speak to the news media in August, made an appearance after the bank voted to keep interest rates unchanged. He said the bank would not exceed the 2 percent limit to ensure that higher inflation does not appear. The Bank of England also left interest rates unchanged Thursday, at 5.75 percent.

The main reason the Fed and the European Central Bank have represented fall. Inflation is now running slightly lower than the bank’s target of, but close to, 2 percent.

“Doing our job as a monetary authority, we are sitting on a very coherent picture,” Bang of Denmark said. “We have a high degree of confidence in the growth of the economy.”

Trichet also said that the policy “will apply the interest rate increases are very confident of the fundamen- tals,” said Erik Nielsen, chief Euro- pean economist at Goldman Sachs in London. “They could have gotten away with it if they wanted to, but the market reaction showed they do not need to.”

Trichet also struck a succinct note about recent financial market turmoil, repeatedly calling it the “normalization” of risk assessments by investors who had ignored the risks of high asset prices.

Markets moves in the United States, Europe and Asia have been shaken this week by fears of a global financial crisis as the European financial problems linked to the floundering subprime lending market.

Trichet said, however, that the bank is monitoring market turmoil as it makes decisions. “We will con- tinue to observe and have great at- tention for the developments in the market in the period to come,” he said at a news conference.

Trichet said inflation risks have increased as factory output has nosed up capacity, which can create supply bottlenecks and lead compa- nies to raise prices amid strong de- mand — and oil prices have hit at least slightly from their highs of $78 a barrel, making them unaffordable. “The situation has led to adverse effects on inflationary pressures,” according to analysts.

The European Central Bank has previously called on investors to price in higher rates. Trichet be- trayed some anxiety that the current market turmoil would not result in the same outcome that the bank had envisioned.

“Were conducting for an orderly and anchored inflation,” Trichet said, “and we asked markets and inves- tors to price in these risks.”

Trichet, echoing comments made earlier this week by Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr. and the World Bank president, Robert B. Zoellick, said most economies are still expand- ing, and that the best central banks can do is to respond.

“All we do is pave the way for economic growth to be as sustainable as everyone hopes,” Trichet said.
Opinion Policy

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

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of The Tech or MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by staff. Letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech's Web site and/or printed in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, the fifth movie in the series based on J.K. Rowling’s novels, published by Scholastic Inc. and directed by David Yates, was released on July 11, 2007. The movie hit the stores two weeks ago, breaking sales records left and right (although not before pictures of each of the American version’s 79 pages had been leaked online). That it tops the best-seller lists was no surprise to the fans for years are finally given, and plot threads that remain and will allow us to visit the world of Harry Potter once more. J.K. Rowling has said she will write, a compendium that may answer some of the many questions that remain and will allow us to visit the world of Harry Potter once more.

Harry Potter, played by Daniel Radcliffe, and friends gather to take on Death Eaters in the Ministry of Magic’s Department of Mysteries. “Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix” opened in theatres on July 13, 2007.

Like the last “Harry Potter” film, I felt the movie did not suffer so much from plot compression, but from the opposite problem: a sense of the long, rambling, torturous, but necessary backstory needed to set the stage for the battle to come. There are genuinely heart-wrenching scenes and shocking deaths (I admit it: I cried like a baby). Answers to questions that have plagued fans for years are finally given, and plot threads — some originating all the way back in the first Harry Potter book, which was published 10 years ago — are woven together to form a most fitting conclusion, even if it is a predictable one.

As with each of the previous Harry Potter books, Rowling’s creativity, imagination, and attention to detail are impressive. Each location explored by the Trio is well developed and relevant to the story. Though I wouldn’t describe the first two-thirds of the book as boring — it is certainly filled with enough adventures and death struggles to keep even the most casual reader entertained — the Horcrux hunt does drag on. If not for the promise of the inevitable and likely explosive showdown between Harry and Voldemort at the end of the book, much of the exposition and build-up would be difficult to plod through.

Overall, the movie was about what I expected. While I was secretly hoping that it would impress me (because it could have), I wasn’t holding my breath. If you haven’t seen the film yet, I would recommend waiting until it comes out on DVD.

BOOK REVIEW

Harry Potter Ending Predictable But Fitting
Long-Awaited ‘Hallows’ Adequately Caps Memorable Series

By Angeline Wang
Published by Scholaric
Now available

The most anticipated book of the last decade perhaps — certainly the most talked about of the year — the final book in the series, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, was released last Friday. The second and darkest book in J.K. Rowling’s popular fantasy series, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows follows the title character’s quest to bring about the downfall of the Dark lord Lord Voldemort. Harry must search for Horcruxes, objects housing pieces of Voldemort’s soul, and destroy them before the Dark wizard himself can be killed.

Meanwhile, war rages on in the Wizarding world (though we only see glimpses of it throughout most of the book), characters — some we hardly know, others whom we have grown to love — meet their deaths, and a few are reborn. Events make up this first part of the series.

I flipped open the cover of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, the prequel to the book, and found the folio that was put out for the first time in the series.

While I dare not give away the answers to the first two questions for fear of potential back-lash from the few fans who have not yet finished reading (and I consider myself quite the Harry Potter fan, so I know just how scary we can be), the answer to the last question is, Well, sort of. Though I wouldn’t describe the first two-thirds of the book as boring — it is certainly filled with enough adventures and death struggles to keep even the most casual reader entertained — the Horcrux hunt does drag on. If not for the promise of the inevitable and likely explosive showdown between Harry and Voldemort at the end of the book, much of the exposition and build-up would be difficult to plod through.

The isolation of Harry and his two friends, Hermione Granger and Ronald Weasley, from the rest of the Wizarding world, while necessary for the plot, is also limiting in many ways. As a result, we do not get to see as much interaction between Harry and other characters, though the friendship and interactions between the Gryffindor Trio are wonderfully written and realistically portrayed in this book.

The reader also keenly feels the absence of the magical school where most of Harry’s adventures in the past six books have taken place. The heart of the books has always been Hog-warts, J.K. Rowling’s School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, and it isn’t until finally Harry returns to the school and is reunited with his classmates and profes- sores that things really get interesting. I would even say the final third of Deathly Hallows makes up for everything that may have been wrong or lacking in the 500 or so pages previous. (Everything except the spelling errors. There is no excuse for those, not in the most anticipated book of the decade.)

The final battle breaks out at Hogwart’s with everyone and his mother joining in to fight. There are genuinely heart-wrenching scenes and shocking deaths (I admit it: I cried like a baby). Answers to questions that have plagued fans for years are finally given, and plot threads — some originating all the way back in the first Harry Potter book, which was published 10 years ago — are woven together to form a most fitting conclusion, even if it is a predictable one.

As with each of the previous Harry Potter books, Rowling’s creativity, imagination, and attention to detail are impressive. Each location explored by the Trio is well developed and relevant to the story. While I was secretly hoping that it would impress me (because it could have), I wasn’t holding my breath. If you haven’t seen the film yet, I would recommend waiting until it comes out on DVD.
Sudoku
© 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, tips, and computer program at http://www.sudoku.com; see also solution, page 10.

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MITFCU to Open Branch in W20

Students who bank at the MIT Federal Credit Union will no longer have to trek to the Technology Square office as renovations to place a new branch office in the former Game Room on the first floor of the Student Center nears completion.

The new branch office will open for business Monday, Aug. 6, according to MITFCU CEO Brian W. Ducharme. A larger opening event is scheduled mid-September. Services provided at the branch will be the same as those currently offered at Technology Square, Ducharme said.

The credit union applied to occupy the space last August after MIT re-negotiated its contract with Bank of America, according to Ducharme; the new contract allows competing financial service institutions in the Student Center for the first time. Bank of America also has a branch on the first floor of the Student Center.

"It's something that we've been looking to do for 15 to 20 years," Ducharme said.

Ducharme said that he expects student membership in the credit union to increase with the more central presence on campus. Currently 26 percent of credit union members are students, with about 2,500 of those being undergraduates, he said.

No representatives of the Campus Activities Complex were available this week to comment on the re-opening date of the downsized game room. CAC officials have previously said that the game room is expected to return in its most popular games, including Dance Dance Revolution.

—Rosa Cao

2,000 Students Elect to Pay Summer Athletics Fee

Approximately 2,000 MIT students have chosen to pay for summer access to the Zeiger Center and other Department of Athletics and Physical Education facilities. According to Tim J. Moore, manager of the Zeiger Center, 1,707 students paid $40 for the entire summer, 286 paid $25 for a single month, and 34 paid $15 for a single week.

DAPER initiated the fee for the first time this summer, during the term, and in recent years, during the summer, access to athletics facilities has been paid for by the mandatory Student Activities Fee. The fee is currently $280 per year, but is going up to $236 for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Julie Soothe, DAPER's new director, said that there was currently no timeframe for deciding whether the summer athletics fee would continue in summer 2008. She said that she expects there to be further discussion and communication on this issue.

—John A. Hawkinson

Weekend Power Outage Affects 18 MIT Buildings

An NSTAR generator failure left six MIT buildings, including undergraduate dormitory Random Hall (NW61), without power Saturday night. A failed cable splice caused a power interruption, which was followed by the generator failure, according to Michael Durand, a spokesperson for NSTAR.

The initial interruption occurred around 6 p.m. on the night of Saturday, July 28, according to Durand. The power failure occurred during Saturday night's lightning storm, Durand said. "We can't say for sure, but it was likely storm-related." The generator failed around midnight.

According to Smitten Garland, an administrative assistant for the Department of Facilities, power was out for an extended period of time in six buildings: NW61, N42, N51, N52, N57, and NW62. Garland said the earlier interruption affected 12 buildings (N78, W33, W92, W85, 32, 50, W13, W15, W91, W11, and W15). Power was restored to all buildings by 7 a.m. Sunday morning.

—Angeline Wang

The Department of Facilities is in the process of replacing the automatic door mechanism for MIT's front door, the main double doors into Lobby 7. The work began on July 16, and currently the doorway is covered by a large plywood board. Joseph P. Veila, Jr., supervisor of Carpenter for Facilities, said that he hopes the doors would be complete by Friday, Aug. 17.

According to Facilities Communications Manager Ruth T. Davis, when the project is complete, the doors will appear unchanged but will "open and close more easily and quickly."

The new door mechanism is a "TN Operator" electro-hydraulic mechanism from TORMAX Technologies, with adjustable opening and closing speeds, adjustable opening pressure, adjustable holding force, and adjustable damping.

In the past few years, Facilities has blocked the main doors during the coldest months of the year because of complaints about temperature from offices near Lobby 7. According to Peter Cooper of Facilities, the cold air in Lobby 7 was bad enough to make people uncomfortable. In April of 2006, Cooper estimated that the Institute saved $20,000 per year in energy costs by disabling the automated mechanism on the Lobby 7 doors.

Davis said that the new doors are intended to "reduce the amount of cold and warm air that enters the building," and that the new mechanism would "eliminate the need to block off the doors because of mechanical problems."

—John A. Hawkinson

An explosion in a Building 18 chemistry lab on the evening of July 23 drew a large response from the Cambridge Fire Department. According to bystanders, the explosion was caused by acids in a lab used for teaching. The Cambridge Fire Department said that the explosion was caused by acids stored behind a fume hood and no personal injury resulted from the accident.

—John A. Hawkinson

Lobby 7 Doors: Two More Weeks of Plywood

Davis said that the earlier interruption affected 12 buildings (N70, W53, W92, W93, W102, W121, W123, W134, W136, W140, W172, and NW61), and that the new mechanism would continue to be used on the Lobby 7 doors.

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Davis said that the new doors are intended to "reduce the amount of cold and warm air that enters the building," and that the new mechanism would "eliminate the need to block off the doors because of mechanical problems."

—John A. Hawkinson

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—John A. Hawkinson
The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between June 9 and July 21, 2007. These summaries reflect actual reports of crime but may contain some inaccuracies, false alarms, general service calls, lacunae, or medical shuttles.

June 20: M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 10:14 a.m., Party reports two laptops stolen from office; no suspect.

June 20: W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 12:19 p.m., Stop of homeless person on the second floor; trespass warning issued.

June 22: D1 (21 Rear Ames St.), 4:34 p.m., Party reports male exiting third floor women’s restroom; MIT Police dispatched, check and inquiry on individual conducted.

June 24: Lot 15 (22 Windsor St.), 11:29 a.m., Report of a male that entered the building from the roof.

June 26: W4 (320 Memorial Dr.), 11:29 a.m., Check and inquiry of individual in W20 Coffee House; trespass warning issued.

June 29: W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 8:44 p.m., Check and inquiry of individual in W20 Coffee House; trespass warning issued.

July 2: W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 3:48 p.m., MIT Police with MBTA Bus No. 2275 due to emergency lights being activated.


July 17: E23 (25 Carlton St.), 8:06 p.m., Reporting person reports her vehicle was broken into while parked on Carleton St.; GPS system stolen.

July 22: Lot 15 (22 Windsor St.), 2:59 a.m., Reporting person reports window of motor vehicle; no further damage, nothing missing from vehicle.


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Police Log

Bell Fought in Second World War, Laid Foundations For Tissue Engineering

By Jhiee Kim

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Suresh Becomes the New Dean of Engineering; Magnani Steps Down

By Jhiee Kim

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Suresh, a Subra Suresh PhD ’81, professor in the Department of Material Science and Engineering in June, effective July 23, Subrahmanyan Suresh became a professor at Brown University for 10 years and editor-in-chief of the Journal of the American Chemical Society. He is also the director of the Institute for Nanotechnology Materials. At MIT, Suresh was appointed to DMS as the head of DMSE, starting in 2001. According to Suresh, he has previously held many leadership positions in academic and industrial positions, including as professor of physics at MIT. He was a recipient of the National Academy of Sciences Award in 15783J Product Design and Development, a course for graduate students. He co-authored the book Product Design and Development with Karl T. Ulrich. Currently, he is researching how product development processes are distributed and how complex engineering projects can be structured. He is a faculty advisor, the MIT News Office, and the Education Committee. He is also an associate professor in the field of mechanical engineering. He is currently working on putting more practical manage-
Circumstances of MIT Senior’s Death Still Under Investigation

Albrecht, from Page 1

A memorial service will be held at MIT in the fall.
Albrecht was found on the roof of 243 East 14th Street at approximately 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 22, according to the NYPD. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to an article in the New York Post, a witness told the police that she saw Albrecht standing on the roof of the five-story apartment building at 3 a.m. on Sunday. Albrecht appeared to be intoxicated, the witness said.

Albrecht attended a birthday party the previous night, Saturday, July 21, according to The New York Sun. The party was held at Bunc Café on 30th Street and Third Avenue. “People who were at the party told me he wasn’t crazy,” David Huang, a childhood friend of Albrecht’s, told The Sun. “They said nobody was drinking excessively.”

Huang told The Sun that Albrecht left the birthday party around 2 a.m. on Saturday to meet some friends. The Sun article said that Albrecht’s friends are not sure how he ended up at the five-story apartment building near Union Square.

MIT Pell Matching Program Allows Students to Work and Borrow Less

Pell Grants, from Page 1

truly a dollar for dollar difference,” said Barkowitz. “In the past, [outside scholarships] wouldn’t have changed the amount that students had to borrow or pay. A nice little wrinkle in the Pell Matching Grants program now is that not only is the Pell grant amount matched, but outside funds are allowed to offset the amount that students have to borrow or work for.”

Outside scholarships include Massachusetts State grants (MASSGrant), MIT faculty or employee benefits, scholarships given through the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps, and those given by outside organizations.

On a larger scale, 90 percent of all Pell undergraduates were offered financial aid in the form of grants, loans, and work from a total of $87.8 million for the 2006–2007 academic year, an 8.9 percent increase from two years before, according to Barkowitz.

The numbers for the upcoming 2007–2008 academic year have not yet been released. Barkowitz said. For more information regarding Pell grant historical figures nationwide, see http://www.finaid.org/educators/pellgrant.html.

Professor Sherley Questions Content, Timing of Preliminary Race Report

Race Initiative, from Page 1

Of the seven committee members, four are underrepresented minorities.

Both quantitative and qualitative data on the experiences of underrepresented minority will be gathered, according to the report. Quantitative data will include “salary and salary merit increase data, rates of promotion, involvement in labs and centers,” and “interviewing and hiring processes by department and School.” Qualitative data will consist of mostly in-depth interviews with minority faculty.

The report states that for now, it will focus on a select number of recommendations that can be immediately implemented in the 2007–2008 year. The recommendations include examining MIT’s previous efforts over the past several decades to increase diversity and looking through “the large body of existing data and literature on minorities in academia.”

The initiative may last one to two years, according to the report, because the committee was encouraged “to generate a deep and penetrating review of the issues at MIT.”

The report stated that initiative objectives and framework were presented at a minority faculty dinner in late April to receive input. Paula T. Hammond, professor of chemical engineering and a member of the committee, would not reveal specific responses to the initiative given at the dinner, but said that the initiative received “good suggestions and a ‘good deal of interest.’” Hammond, an African American, said that she is “protective of [our] ability to meet the word ‘tenure’ in its entire contents.”

Sherley was also concerned about the timing of the report’s release and the amount of publicity MIT has given the release. The document “was not given full notice on the MIT homepage, was announced in the middle of the summer when faculty, staff, and students are away and less aware of MIT spam news,” Sherley said. Sherley would not provide further comment when inquired by The Tech.

The preliminary report was head-lined on the MIT home page from July 20 to July 23, according to Patricia Reif of the MIT News Office in an e-mail. Also, news of the report appeared in “the Campus News section of the MIT News Web site, as it is news that is most relevant to the MIT community,” Reif said.

In the e-mail response to The Tech, Reif said, “As they move forward with their work I expect that the team members will define the focus of the Initiative in particular, and I am confident that they will include all important areas.”

Currently, according to Hammond, the committee is gathering input from the entire MIT faculty to further shape the study.


Solution to Crossword

from page 6

Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

S $ CASH IN A FLASH! $ S

The MIT Behavioral Research Lab (BRL) is extending a special invitation to individuals who are on campus this August to participate in an upcoming nonmedical research study.

You will be compensated $15 in cash for your participation. Plus, your name will be entered to win one of three $100 lotteries to be held for participants.

Each session lasts up to 1.5 hours. No prior experience or long-term commitment is required. A variety of timeslots are immediately available, including evenings, Mondays through Fridays.

Please visit the BRL web site at http://web.mit.edu/brl to learn more and to sign-up to participate in a study.

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Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, the seventh and final book in the epic series by J.K. Rowling, was released to fans across the world on Saturday, July 21. The night before, millions of fans crowded around bookstores in anticipation of the midnight release. The book is the last in the Potter series, which started on June 26, 1997, with the release of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone. For a review of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, see page 5.

(clockwise from above)

Harry and the Potters perform on stage at Harvard University July 20.

Hackers put a Dark Mark on top of the Student Center on the morning of the release of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.

Fans dressed as characters from Harry Potter swarm Harvard Square the night of the release of the seventh and final book of the series. The woman on the left is dressed as the Fat Lady, a talking painting that guards the entrance to Gryffindor Tower, complete with a frame in which to reside.

A crowd estimated between 10,000 and 15,000 people gathered at Tercentenary Theatre for a Harry Potter release concert.

Hackers installed a broomstick parking spot, complete with brooms, in the Stata Center’s Student Street July 20.

Photography by Eric D. Schmiedl
Usually I open Mozilla Firefox and expect to find typical sporting news on ESPN.com: the Red Sox won; the Celtics’ front office did something horrifying. In other words, I expect to find news causing the average fan to smile a little wider or groan a little louder.

Lately, however, all that anyone hears about are the scandals and tragedies. The nightmare of every person involved in sports: National Basketball Association referee Tim Donaghy’s gambling problem and subsequent betting. The soap opera that is Barry Bonds flirting with subsequent betting. The soap opera that is Barry Bonds flirting with that reality begins to feel even more apparent.

I’m not asking the sports world to turn a blind eye to betting, steroids, or deflating, nor do I advocate ignoring the deaths of great sportspersons. However, I do miss the balance struck between sports and amusing features, such as interviews with Shaq regarding his television show (Shaq’s Big Challenge), which tackled childhood obesity.

Sports are often a reprieve from the real world. For the duration of a game, or even an article, small frustrations — hell, even significant frustrations — evaporate until it’s just the fans, the players, and (sometimes) the officials. Unfortunately, when the integrity of professional sports is repeatedly questioned, there is no respite, just the unwelcome reality that the sports world is exactly like the rest of the world. When death is thrown into the mix, that reality becomes even more apparent.

What’s the upshot of all this? It actually feels like I’ve navigated to CNN.com instead of ESPN.com every time I launch Firefox. (The rare exception falls on days like this past Tuesday, when Kevin Garnett and Eric Gagne both miraculously landed in Boston. Shocking, the Celtics did something right.)

Granted, this news clearly needs a massive dose of context. I’m not asking the sports world to turn a blind eye to betting, steroids, or deflating, nor do I advocate ignoring the deaths of great sportspersons. However, I do miss the balance struck between sports and amusing features, such as interviews with Shaq regarding his television show (Shaq’s Big Challenge), which tackled childhood obesity.

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