First-year Students Enjoy MIT Orientation

Hockfield Greets Freshmen at Convocation Sunday; Graduate Orientation Underway

By Jiyah Kim

Final Demographics For Class of 2011 Released

The demographic breakdown of the Class of 2011 has been released, with gender and ethnicity statistics comparable to last year.

Of the 1,069 freshmen expected to attend this fall, 8 percent were female and 54 percent are male, according to Interim Director of Admissions Stuart Schmill '86.

Of the 3,526 female applicants, 21 percent were admitted to the Institute. Only 9 percent of the 8,919 male applicants were admitted. Schmill said that these data are often misconstrued and that it is not any easier for women to get into MIT. “The women that apply are more self-selecting so the talents of the women that apply and enroll are every bit as comparable to that of the men,” Schmill said.

African Americans make up 9 percent of the class, comparable to the Class of 2010’s 8 percent but an increase from the 6 percent of the previous three classes. (See the tables on page 10 for additional statistics.)

The remaining Class of 2011 is 29 percent Caucasian, 26 percent Asian American, 7 percent Mexican American, 1 percent Native American, 2 percent Puerto Rican, and 3 percent other Hispanic. One percent is of other ethnic descent, 8 percent are international students whose ethnicity was not polled, and 5 percent did not respond.

The Class of 2011 represents all but one state (North Dakota) and 58 countries, with 8 percent of students arriving as international undergraduates. Ninety-two percent of the students are U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Freshmen Place in Top Four Housing Choices

A smaller percentage of incoming freshmen chose their top choices in this year’s Summer Housing Lottery compared with the last two years. The Housing Lottery placed the students of the Class of 2011 in their top four dormitory choices; the last two years, the freshman class was placed in their top three choices.

According to Robin Smedick, assistant director of undergraduate housing, 61 percent (654 students) of the Class of 2011 received their first choice dormitory. Ten percent (288 students) received their second choice, 9 percent (95 students) received their third choice, and 4 percent (41 students) received their fourth choice. Last year, 70 percent of the Class of 2010 received their first choice residence, 23 percent received their second, and 7 percent received their third. (See tables on page 10 for additional statistics.)

The Housing Office partners with Information Services & Technology on an algorithm that achieves the highest rate of satisfaction for freshmen dorm assignments according to Smedick. Said the algorithm and lottery process have been improved over the past two years. The lower percentage of students receiving their top choice in this year’s lottery is attributed to the fact that students were allowed to choose their first four choices.

Freshmen may enter the Adjustment Lottery until tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. Specific room assignments are determined Wednesday at each dormitory, and freshmen move into their new resident Thursday.

Although the events are not significantly different from those of previous years, West Campus parties for this year’s REX involve different combinations of dorms, Phadnis said. The Sunday evening “West Side Bash” includes Baker House, Burton-Conner and Phillips.

Assoc. Director of Admissions Discusses His MIT Experiences

By Angeline Wang

This is the first interview in a seven-part series introducing incoming students to some of MIT’s faculty, staff, and student leaders. Today, The Tech interviews Associate Director of Admissions Matthew L. McGann ’00 who discusses his job, the evolution of MIT’s culture, and opportunities for first-year students.

The Tech: What is your role at MIT and what does it mean to be an admissions officer here?

McGann: I am one of the associate directors of admissions, which is a senior level officer in the MIT Office of Admissions. My role has a number of different aspects to it. Like all of the admissions officers, I read applications and participate in the selection committee. I also do information sessions on campus, as well as information sessions in a variety of cities across the country. All the admissions officers perform those roles...
### World & Nation

#### Governor of Iran’s Central Bank Resigns

The head of the Central Bank of Iran resigned Sunday, bringing the number of key economic figures who have left President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s Cabinet to three this month. A government spokesman, Gholamhossein Elham, announced the resignation of the bank’s chief executive, Ehsan Sharifian, after weeks of rumors that he had resigned over his differences with Ahmadinejad. Elham said a former economy minister, Talaatmah Mazraheh, would succeed Sharifian, the francaine, in his ministry.

The resignation came after the departures this month of the minister of oil, Kazem Yazdi-Hamaneh, and the minister of industry, Ali Reza Tajeramaleh.

Sharifian had reportedly opposed Ahmadinejad’s unexpected intervention to lower interest rates to 12 percent from 15 and 17 percent.

Economists were shocked after the president dissolved the Money and Credit Council, a monetary policymaking body, this month.

#### Home Depot Unit Sells For Less in Tight Market

By Andrew Ross Sorkin and Michael J. de la Merced

Home Depot was forced to drop the sale price of its commercial supply businesses by nearly $2 billion on Tuesday, as salespeople involved in the negotiations, one of the first big buyouts to be renegotiated as a result of the recent credit squeeze.

Home Depot’s unit, the company that grew from a single store to a global home-improvement giant, is $20 million off the price it could have sold to a group of regional banks that backed those deals struck with billions in loans that cannot be repaid.

In cutting the price of the deal to $2.8 billion from $3 billion, Home Depot may have created a template for other buyout firms to drag sellers back to the negotiating table. It also could bring an end to the two-year buyout boom, which was fueled by cheap credit.

Home Depot’s board approved the deal in principle during a meeting on Sunday afternoon, people involved in the negotiations said. Home Depot’s board is planning to reconvene early Monday to complete the details of the agreement, which is tentative and could still collapse.

#### Mortgage Crisis Forces Sale of German Bank

By Nicola Clark

The eastern German state of Saxony was forced to sell a troubled state-run bank Sunday as the global liquidity crisis set off by the U.S. subprime mortgage problems claimed its first major European victim.

Landesbank Sachsen Girozentrale, which received an emergency $3.3 billion euro ($3.6 billion) line of credit from a group of regional banks last week, was forced to sell 85 percent of the bank’s shares to the state-run bank Sunday as the global liquidity crisis set off by the U.S. subprime mortgage problems claimed its first major European victim earlier this week.

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#### Civilian Deaths in Afghanistan Prompt Criticism of NATO, U.S.

By David Rohde

Afghan elders said Sunday that airstrikes had killed 12 civilians in the southern province of Helmand on Saturday night, but an American military spokesman blamed Taliban militants for the attack.

Exactly what occurred in the remote area Saturday was unclear, with local elders and American military officials giving conflicting accounts. But the charges and countercharges reflected growing tensions in Afghanistan over civilian deaths.

Afghan-Heh-Aqma Muhammed, an Afghan elder, said airstrikes had killed 12 civilians and wounded 17 others in a village of Urjub, a province of the Marja district. Saturday night, Muhammed said the dead included six children ages 3 to 6 and two women.

American military officials said most here in the Peloponnes — the government warned that little prog- ress was made Sunday in putting out the 44 separate fires. They contin- ued to rage, even as firefighters and water-airing planes began arriving from other European nations.

As firefighting planes arrived from France and Italy — with more expected from Germany, Slovenia and Portugal — the conservative Greek government announced a bounty of about 200 million euros for information leading to the arrest of arsonists. Two people have already been ar- rested, one elderly woman for start- ing a barbecue and a man on charges of arson.

When the government, led by Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis, has blamed arsons, and many Greeks have turned to dark conspiracy theo- ries against the communist government in the Greek news media has been high, a month before na- tional elections. In interviews along the stricken area, many residents ex- pressed frustration at a rescue effort that seemed uncoordinated at best but said the scale of disaster might have been beyond any the govern- ment’s ability to respond.

What else can they do?” asked Dimitrios Panayiotopoulos, 40, watching from a hilltop as flames engulfed Karsani. “They are doing their best.”

And there, the battle against the fire seemed to go as well as possible: an hour or so earlier, the police had evacuated the village — or tried to, since many people stayed to protect their belongings — and fire trucks, backed by small tractor crews, poured wa- ter on the flames.

Among the many problems were that the fire, once seemingly ex- tinguished, often breathed back to life. In Karsani, the danger seemed passed, but then one corner of the town suddenly reignited, shattering trees in flames and fringes the steep access road to the town with fire.

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#### Greek Forest Fires Continue To Advance; 12 More Killed

By Ian Fisher and Anthee Carassava

A fire raging through forested areas of Greece claimed its first major European victim earlier this week.

Mortgage Crisis Forces Sale of German Bank

By Nicola Clark

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#### Weather

**Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Monday, August 27, 2007**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>Chance of Showers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Mostly sunny with a high of about 80°F (27°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>Mostly cloudy with a high of about 78°F (26°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain States</td>
<td>Mostly sunny with a high of about 82°F (28°C)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extended Forecast

**Today:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70°F (24°C).

**Monday:** Mostly cloudy with some showers. Highs in the mid 70°F (24°C).

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70°F (24°C).

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 70°F (24°C).
President Bush's Iraq strategy faces a crisis of faith these days — from the American public to Congress and even to his own commanders. It is by no means certain how the situation will unfold, but it is clear that the focus is shifting from Bush and his generals to the idea of an early withdrawal of U.S. troops.

Bush, who was at the Prairie Chapel Ranch, went on to record a radio address that showed neither doubt nor any intention of reducing the American commitment in Iraq. On Tuesday, he will meet with a senior delegation in Riyadh, arguing that any withdrawal of troops would prove disastrous for the Middle East and for American security.

"We are still in the early stages of our new operation," Bush said in a radio address broadcast Saturday, as if there were not those who fervently wanted an immediate end to the war, as if there were not those who were prepared to go on fighting for as long as it takes, as if there were not those who have been preparing for this moment for some time. The White House strategy is as unsavory as it is familiar. In military terms, it can be seen in the "caged" — in this case for the military and the taxpayers who have been called on to fund the situation in Iraq, the "caged" have emerged as a major challenger to Musher in a Super Bowl that has long been a caged. If the history of a guide is true, Bush may well prevail, as he did in January when he made such a fateful bet to be able to claim a victory in the war on terrorism.

Statesman as if it belongs to this country, the country that the White House's campaign does not face obstacles. It is their ability to campaign for something, said Tara McGuinness, deputy campaign manager for Bush. For the Bush coalition of anti-war groups that has organized its own public-relations effort.

"If there's one thing that's good, it is their ability to campaign for something," said Tara McGuinness, deputy campaign manager for Bush. "For the Bush coalition of anti-war groups that has organized its own public-relations effort.

Bush has not been deterred from returning from exile. Tariq Aziz, a top civilian aide to Musher, is also in London to talk with Bush. Musher, who seized power in a bloody coup in 2001, is seeking to re-elect as a five-year term before Oct. 15 in a vote of the national and provincial assemblies. Musher, who is a former prime minister, has been in the news in the 1999 coup that has emerged as a major challenger to Musher after a Supreme Court decision last week said he could not be hindered from returning from exile.

"I never knew a man who had been in the Army," the bishops said as they voiced their support for the soldiers. "I have no one like you." The bishops also wrote to all of their soldiers, thanking them. "They are the joy of our lives," the bishops wrote. "We are proud of them and we are grateful to God for them." The bishops' letter was signed by Tariq Aziz, a top civilian aide to Musher, who seized power in a bloody coup in 2001 and served as premier for a decade before being forced to resign in the face of a boycott of his government. Musher, who seized power in a bloody coup in 2001, is seeking to re-elect as a five-year term before Oct. 15 in a vote of the national and provincial assemblies. Musher, who is a former prime minister, has been in the news in the 1999 coup that has emerged as a major challenger to Musher after a Supreme Court decision last week said he could not be hindered from returning from exile.

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Congratulations, your hard work and effort have been justifi-
ably rewarded by your admission to the Institute. Understand that
you are here for a reason — you fill a unique niche in the MIT
community. Many of you have left lasting marks on your home-
towns and high schools, and it is now time to start making a lasting impression on MIT.

Orientation and rush are times to find a home, find friends, and find a passion. In order to succeed here, you must be com-
fortable with where you live and be supported by those around you. When times get rough, a non-academic passion in the form
of a research project, sport, student group, or hobby is neces-
sary to keep you balanced. Over the next week, you will have to
pierce the facades of dozens of living groups, hundreds of stu-
dents, and a number of social cliques to determine what is right for you. There are more course options than you have time
to consider, more activities than you have time to enjoy, more
work than you have time to complete. Your primary task at MIT
will be to determine what things are important and what are not,
and to allocate your full effort to completing what is important
while learning to give less time and energy to what is not.

There are many undergraduate dormitories, each with its own dis-
tinct personality. Over the next few days, take the time to interact
with the residents of each and find the place you feel most comfort-
able. If you do not find a dormitory that suits you, be sure to check
outside fraternity and sorority rush. Find something you care about.
Attend Friday’s Activities Midway and listen to what students have to say. Use the Midway to find something, or many things, to
good about and stick with it. You will cherish the breaks extra-
curricular activities provide once classes get lit up.

Beyond Orientation, Pass/No Record will allow you a fair amount of extra time during your first semester; use it wisely.

Push your comfort zone. Say hello to that person you never would have talked to in high school. Take a class in a major you know
nothing about. Go to parties in both fraternities and dormitories,
east campus and west campus.

Be sure to take advantage of Boston and Cambridge — both
for the people and for the cities themselves. Hang out at Harvard,
Boston University, Boston College, Tufts, Emerson, Berklee, and
the dozens of other surrounding schools. Take a class at Welles-
ley or Harvard. Visit the Museum of Fine Arts, go to a Boston
Pops concert, or enjoy a Red Sox game.

Finally, understand that you are here to learn and to better
yourself. MIT will challenge you both emotionally and academi-
cally. Do not dwell on your failures and instead realize that they
happen to the best of us. Good luck.

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinions of The Tech. They are written
by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Michael McGraw-
Herdig, Editor in Chief Angelina Wang, Managing Editor Austin Chu,
and Opinion Editor Adriya Kohli.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the
MIT or local community and have the author’s name in italics. Col-
umns without italics are written by...
coming up, my parents drove a car with a trailer and camped out at the Tweeter Center. Moving Pictures, probably Rush's most popular album, on cassette. I wore that tape out; now all the songs a half step up, but I don't mind. Rush is a band that instantly made sense to me, and I remember my mental library and has been occupying and expanding it ever since. It's not as if I never knew Rush existed; I had at least five studio albums and five live albums in their catalog back in the late 1990s. Greeley Lee (bas, vocals, synthesizers), who is our manager and label owner, and he co-founded the band in early 2000. We're doing a couple of the songs we play live: "Blue Jays" and "One Light, One Night", which is a New Orleans street band tune. We started harmonizing. Practice helps.

6. We moved to New York probably about a year after [Matt] joined. Then we started making the record. We ended up putting a lot of drums on the album, which necessitated adding a second drummer, and that's where Jim [Levinson] comes in. He was moving to New York anyway and he was an old friend of Greg's — they went to kindergarten together lived on the same street growing up — so it seemed like a natural choice for him to join the band. That's how the six of us all came together.

7. What are the first shows you guys started off playing? I've heard you play Crashin' In.

8. We played Crashin' In at Galapagos and we haven't been invited back — I think it's because we stay late and damage to the dressing room. But the first show we ever played was in the lower East Side at a place called Fat Baby. That's why we're called The Fat Baby, because of what our manager and label owner, and he co-founded the band in early 2000. We're doing a couple of the songs we play live: "Blue Jays" and "One Light, One Night", which is a New Orleans street band tune. We started harmonizing. Practice helps.

9. We saw on Letterman that Adam plays a Squire (a kind of bass guitar), so is that the first one ever on network TV?

3. He used to have a habit of trading trash back. However, I was a fan of Greg's — they went to kindergarten together lived on the same street growing up — so it seemed like a natural choice for him to join the band. That's how the six of us all came together.

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ALLRIGHT, I PULLED THE LEVER AND PUSHED THE BUTTON.
WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO DO TO GET THIS THING TO WORK?

IS THERE A SPECIAL CALIBRA-
TION ROUTINE? DO YOU HAVE TO
CONNECT THINGS IN A CERTAIN WAY?
OR HACK INTO THE SYSTEM?

LIKE I SAID, BEING THE
"GO TO" GUY FOR A
LAB MACHINE HAS ITS DRAWBACKS.
YOUR ONLY HOPE:
CULTIVATE AN AIR OF UNHELPFULNESS.

YOU DON'T WANT TO BE OUTRIGHT UNHELP-
FUL, YOU JUST WANT
PEOPLE TO THINK
TWICE BEFORE ASKING
YOU FOR HELP.

GRAH! CAN'T YOU
FIGURE ANYTHING OUT
BY YOURSELF?
FINE! I'LL TELL
YOU HOW TO DO IT!
YEYEEEEE!

S-O-R-R-Y,

IF YOU WORK
HARD, SOON NO
ONE WILL EVEN
WANT TO TALK TO
YOU.

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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, tips, and computer program at http://www.sudoku.com; see also solution, page 12.

ACROSS
1 Velvety flora
5 "Name ___."
10 "Carmina Burana"
composer
14 Body or knock lead-in
15 Sub-Saharan region
16 Horizontal barrier
17 Obstinate
19 Height: pref.
20 Target sighters
21 Squealer
23 Buy a round
24 Cardiac cycle
26 Weekday abbr.
27 Fermented beverage
29 Pasture in poetry
30 Winter ATV, __-Cat
31 Korean apricot
33 Bro’s sib
35 Shabby
37 Youth org. and puzzle theme
41 Discharge from the RAF
43 Ellipsoid
44 Israeli weapon
45 Hopeful?
49 Pay extension?
50 DDE’s arena
53 Atmosphere
55 "__ Maria"
56 Surrenders
58 "In the neutral"
61 Stay at it
62 Comes about
63 Bikering
64 Kind of insurance
66 Pleasure trek
67 Cut in
68 Egyptian sun god: var.
69 Bakery worker
70 Works hard
71 Four posters

DOWN
1 Honcho for Gandhi
2 Long golf club
3 Flavor parts
4 Part one of a tape
5 Fast fliers, for short
6 Egt.-Syr., once
7 "__ Were the Days"
8 Car for hire
9 Tipper’s mate
10 Big name in toothbrushes
11 Most risky
12 Biting insect
13 Mr. Ziegfeld
18 Mexicali miss
22 Hakurado port
24 Will beneficiary
25 Miniature
28 She’s alma mater
32 Sci-fi craft
34 Chinese kingdom
36 Blood class, syst.
38 XXX large
39 ONI type
40 Half of DIV
41 Homer Simpson
43 Anthroid
58 Loaded with fat
59 "__ Whole in the Back"
59 As a friend. Fr.
60 1983 Mr. T movie
62 Baseball’s Mel and Ed
63 Hawaiian tuna
65 Adjective for Abner
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★ = ATM Locations  ■ = MITFCU Branch Locations

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- MITFCU Visa® Classic credit card
- Free online banking
- Free on-campus ATM Network
- Access to thousands of surcharge-free SUM® ATMs
Log onto www.mitfcu.org/studentpak for more details.

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- 700 Technology Square, Building NE48, 8:30 - 4:00, M-F
Musical Theater Guild
Presents Cabaret

The Musical Theater Guild premiered Cabaret this past weekend. The story, set in the late 1920s in Germany, follows the Master of Ceremonies of the Kit Kat Klub and visitor Clifford Bradshaw. Cabaret will have performances this Tuesday, Aug. 30 through Saturday, Sept. 1 and Tuesday, Sept. 6 through Saturday, Sept. 8. All performances begin at 8 p.m. in Kresge Little Theatre. For more information http://web.mit.edu/mtg/www/.

(clockwise from top left)

Cabaret character Sally Bowles (played by Mia A. Shandell ’10) flips through the pages of Mein Kampf, which she mistakenly assumes her new lover wrote.

Sally Bowles (Mia A. Shandell ’10) seduces Clifford Bradshaw (Barry M. Kudrowitz G) at the Kit Kat Klub.

The Master of Ceremonies (Carlos Cardenas ’09) and the Kit Kat Girls sing “The Money Song.”

Fraulein Schneider (Elizabeth V. Stephanopoulo’07) sings to Bradshaw (Barry Matthew Kudrowitz G) about choosing life over love after Schneider broke up with Jew when the Nazis rose to power.

A visitor at the Kit Kat Klub (Holly B. Laird ’07) mocks the mischievous calls made by the Kit Kat Girls.

Photography by Ana Malagon
We need someone with the confidence of a surgeon, the dedication of a marathoner and the courage of an explorer.

We have a unique opportunity for someone very special. A chance to spend two years in another country. To live and work in another culture. To learn a new language and acquire new skills.

The person we’re looking for might be a farmer, a forester, or a retired nurse. Or maybe a teacher, a mechanic, or a recent college graduate.

We need someone to join over 5,000 people already working in 60 developing countries around the world. To help people live better lives.

We need someone special. And we all ask. But only because so much is needed. If this sounds interesting to you, maybe you’re the person we’re looking for. Contact us at Earth Corps Volunteer Corps. Find out. Call us at (Collect) 617-565-5555 x598.

Tech coverage got you down? Write a letter to the editor: letters@the-tech.mit.edu.

---

Class of 2010, 2011 Demographic Breakdowns Similar

**Admissions, from Page 1**

The percentage of admitted students choosing to enroll has steadily increased since the 2003 yield of 58.8 percent for the Class of 2007. The fiscal yield for the Class of 2011 was at a record 68.8 percent, with 1,069 students of the total 1,553 admits expected to enroll, Schmill said.

According to Chapman, 81 percent of Early Action admitted students and 85 percent of students admitted from the wait list chose to enroll this year.

According to Schmill, those who chose not to enroll at MIT instead enrolled at Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, or Yale.

Geographically, the greatest fraction of students comes from the West Coast and Southeast region (including Puerto Rico); each area makes up approximately 19 percent of the incoming freshman class. Fifteen percent of students represent the Mid-Atlantic states, 13 percent the Midwest and Plains states, 12 percent the New England states, and 12 percent the South and Southwest states. The remaining 10 percent is distributed abroad.

Additionally, this year’s incoming class hails from 833 different high schools, a 5 percent increase from the previous year, according to Schmill. Sixty-nine percent of the class attended public schools while 14 percent attended private schools, 9 percent religious schools, 6 percent foreign schools, and less than 1 percent participated in home schooling.

**Secondary Schooling**, **Geographic Region**

**Ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Region / Fraction</th>
<th>Southeast &amp; Puerto Rico</th>
<th>West Coast</th>
<th>Mid-Atlantic</th>
<th>Midwest &amp; Great Plains States</th>
<th>New England</th>
<th>South &amp; Southwest</th>
<th>None (International)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2011</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2010</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2009</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2008</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ethnicity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican American</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Hispanic</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rican</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other / No Response</td>
<td>0%</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Non-U.S. Citizens (Not Surveyed)</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Graduate Student Orientation Gives More Focus to International Students**

**Orientation, from Page 1**

The coordinators for this year’s orientation will focus more on activities, athletics, and social life, the graduate orientation focuses on career options, resources around campus, and cultural assimilation of the international students.

**The City of Cambridge does not allow any fake tables or play money,** to mingle with students at the card day, and professors have been invited to be part of the whole “Tech Royale” theme.

**One of the GSC events that wasn’t done last year is the Inter- national Festival,” said Sabrina L. Sklarsky ’09, Ted A. Fernandez ’09, and Emily J. Onufer ’10.**

**We can’t hear you down? Write a letter to the editor: letters@the-tech.mit.edu.**

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**Additional Space For Frosh in Next House, Simmons Affect Lottery**

**Housing, from Page 1**

There were 1,073 incoming freshmen at the time of the lottery, Smedick said. With one student living off-campus, a total of 1,072 entered the Summer Housing Lottery.

By late last week, the number of incoming freshmen had decreased to 1,069.

The Adjustment Lottery opened last Thursday, Aug. 23, at noon and will close tomorrow, Aug. 28, at 6:30 p.m. The Adjustment Lottery is open to all freshmen who are interested in changing their fall dormitory placement except those who have been placed in McCormick Hall or Next House, which have Residence-Based Advising. Lottery results will be available Wednesday night at 6:50 p.m., followed by in-house rush.

---

What percentage of each dormitory’s new residents ranked it as their first choice in the summer lottery?

**Residence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Class of 2011</th>
<th>Class of 2010</th>
<th>Class of 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker House</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bexley Hall</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burton-Conner</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate City</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Campus</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French House</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International House</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacGregor House</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCormick Hall</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New House</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Next House</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Random Hall</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensor House</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simmons Hall</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaniard House</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
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Harvard Endowment Reports 23 Percent Gain For FY

By Geraldine Fabrikant

The Harvard Management Company, which oversees the endowment of Harvard University, reported Aug. 21 that the endowment had posted a 23 percent gain for the fiscal year ended June 30.

That brought the value of the nation’s largest university endowment to $34.9 billion. The endowment is overseen by Mohamed A. El-Erian, who formerly ran Pimco’s emerging market bond fund.

Together with other assets and related accounts, the total value at the end of June rose to $41 billion, from $33.5 billion a year ago. Its 23 percent total gain exceeded the Standard & Poor’s 500-stock index, which was up 20.6 percent for the same period.

The results reported Tuesday before problems with mortgage-related securities began to unsettle the markets in July and led to several hedge funds reporting substantial losses. In late July, one such fund, Sowood Capital Management, was forced to sell its portfolio and return $1.5 billion to investors. Harvard had been required to report a 6 percent decline in the fund, but that as a result of other investments that offset the loss, the endowment gained 0.4 percent in July. The Sowood loss is roughly $350 million.

Harvard’s performance is being closely watched not only by other endowments, but by money managers in general. For years under Jack R. Meyer, Harvard turned in strong performances, eclipsed only by Yale, under David Swensen. But Mr. Meyer left Harvard in 2005, and this is considered the first year that Mr. El-Erian is beginning to make his mark on the endowment.

Several specialists involved in the endowment world said that although Harvard’s figures were very good, they were perhaps not as stellar as what Yale is expected to report next month. Though few universities have reported, last week the University of Virginia said its endowment had returned 25.2 percent. That endowment has a value of $4.3 billion.

Like Yale, Harvard invests in a range of assets that include equities, real estate, commodities, private equity and hedge funds. It is an investment approach that is increasingly imitated by other endowments as well as wealthy individuals.

Still, “people want to turn this into the academic equivalent of a football game,” as one university investment officer put it. “But if you do well year after year, and avoid disasters, then the math is such that it will provide excellent results over the long term because of compounding.”

In an interview, Mr. El-Erian said that the biggest contributor to profit was the emerging markets investment, which last year accounted for 8 percent of the endowment, but rose 44 percent in value.

In the past Harvard has disclosed the gains of every asset group, but it now groups them together. Mr. El-Erian said that funds often require a multi-year lock-up. Though he declined to be specific, that raised the question of whether Harvard could have withdrawn its money before the Sowood loss, even if it wanted to.

He and others said that Harvard had a successful investment in Denham, a commodities fund started by a former Sowood trader. Though slightly less than half of Harvard’s assets are managed internally and the rest are run by outside managers, Mr. El-Erian has taken some money away from existing managers, including Highfields, a hedge fund run by a former Harvard trader, Jon Jacobson.

At least $2 billion is already being allocated to new managers. Mr. El-Erian wrote that one of his goals was to emphasize risk management at a time when markets and investment strategies seem so interdependent that diversity might not always provide protection in a downturn.

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McGann Discusses Changes in Admissions and MIT

Matthew L. McGann ’00

Eduational Background: SB in Management at MIT in 2000

Age: 30

Hometown: Hampton Bays, Long Island, New York

Years at MIT: Four-and-a-half years as a student, and six years as an admissions officer

Office: 2-A-107

E-mail: mcgann@mit.edu

Admissions blog: http://matt.mitblogs.com/

When I graduated from MIT, it was a very exciting time. It was the height of the dot-com boom, and there were so many exciting opportunities. I joined a group of the Harvard Business School, which was doing some e-education kinds of things. That was one of many projects that had come up because of this dot-com boom. And it was only a year later — that the bottom fell out of the market, and my job and the jobs of a lot of my classmates, who were looking at the same kinds of things.

So I pulled out of the finance jobs that I was looking at and started looking at MIT. I still had a lot of e-education — the opportunity to do something that was going to be good for my heart. …

I ended up in the Office of Admissions — you oversee the graduate admissions staff and the centralization to the decision-making process. I oversee the graduate admissions staff and some UROP kinds of things. But I think the biggest change is the ways in which we’re using the Web to communicate. For me, as a blogger, it has made my job more exciting and fulfilling. Even during the hardest parts of the year, the reading season, when we’re just reading application after application after application through the blog and through the blog program we hear from students in a more casual kind of way about what they’re going through at the time, on what’s on their mind about the application process, and some of the kinds of things. It’s a way that we can stay connected to the applicants throughout this part of the process where we don’t tend to see very many people at all…

And, have fun. Absolutely. Be-
Welcome, especially to freshmen and new graduate stu-
dents! Ask SIBP is a column published regularly by the Stu-
dent Information Processing Board, the volunteer student
group concerned with computing at MIT, to help students
like you learn more about the computing resources MIT
provides and how to make effective use of them.

I don't have a computer/printer/Scanner Where can I go?

MIT has a number of clusters sprinkled around cam-
pus, containing Athena workstations and printers. The
largest collection, in 26-139, is located in the Student
Center. In addition, there are several “quickstations,”
workstations with timeshares on a common user interface
and set of software in addition to access to the various
Athena systems (files, printers, etc.).

A small number of workstations instead run Windows
or Mac-based variants of Athena, which come with a
different selection of software. These are clusters of
Windows machines, one in the back room of the 20-575
cluster, and the other in 37-312. The New Media Center, in
26-139, is a cluster of iMac and G5 Power Macs with a
variety of multimedia hardware and software.

You can find a list of Athena clusters on the back of the
Athena Pocket Reference you received when you checked
in, or by typing:

    atlas@csail.mit.edu

...or get help online at http://www.csail.mit.edu/athena.

How can I get more help with computing at MIT?

MIT has two official help desks for computing-related
questions, both located in building N42. OLC, short for
On-line Consulting, is the Athena helpdesk, where you can
contact e-mailing at olc@mit.edu or calling (617) 253-4435.
The Computing Help Desk answers questions for personal
computers, including Windows and Macintosh systems; you
can e-mail them at comp-help@mit.edu or call them at (617) 253-1101. The help desks are open during normal business
hours.

Where can I get more help with computing at MIT?

The Tech for free ticket offers & deadlines for applications to the Council’s Grants Program!
For free ticket offers, bookmark this page: web.mit.edu/arts/see/freetickets/index.html
For information on the grants program, look here: web.mit.edu/arts/do/funding/grants.html
The next deadline for grant applications is August 22, 2007.

For more information, please contact Susan Cohen at cohen@media.mit.edu.

Welcome back!

Welcome to the Pierce Boathouse (W8) for:

COME TO THE PIERCE BOATHOUSE (W8) FOR:

http://web.mit.edu/arts/see/freetickets/index.html
http://www.mit.edu/~asksipb/
http://cluedumps.mit.edu/
http://www.mit.edu/~etw/estw@mit.edu
http://web.mit.edu/arts/see/freetickets/index.html
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Colen cancer is the second leading cancer killer and everyone aged 85 and older is at risk. More than 30,000 American will die from colon cancer and 131,600 new cases will be diagnosed in 2007.  Colon cancer is preventable—even every day. In fact, if cancer is found early enough, the patient has more than a 90 percent chance of survival.

Colon cancer screenings are safe and effective and are now covered by Medicare and an increasing number of other health providers. There’s even a test that can be used in the privacy of your own home.

Two Testing Companies Agree to Pay toSettle Error Lawsuit By Karen W. Arenson THE NEW YORK TIMES

Two leading testing organizations, the College Board and NCS Pearson Inc., said Friday that they had agreed to pay $2.35 million to settle a class-action lawsuit involving more than 4,000 students where SAT exams were incorrectly scored in 2005.

Under the proposed settlement, the students would receive $225 each, or possibly more if they can show they were damaged by the mishap. The case was brought by students who said that the scores had become moist, causing them to be misread when scanned for scor- ing. NCS Pearson, one of the coun- try’s biggest testing companies, had become the focus of much discussion among school administrators and students alike.

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MIT Can Be Hell, But the Pro Sports Scene Is Heaven

By Caroline Huang
sports editor

Welcome to MIT, a place often described by its students as challenging, rewarding, and, to put it politely, hell on earth. Don’t be discouraged, though—for one thing, upperclassmen love complaining about MIT, even though we wouldn’t have it any other way. For another, MIT is a sports fan’s heaven: there are 41 varsity sports, 30 club sports, and countless intramurals for those interested in working off academic stress. Look for preview articles and spotlights of these sports in upcoming issues.

Right now, however, I’m going to concentrate on the professional sports scene surrounding MIT. The MIT main campus is just a stone’s throw away from plenty of New England sports teams. In particular, there’s a team just across the Charles River, located right in front of the illuminated Citgo sign in Kenmore Square. Boston’s heart still belongs to the Red Sox, even with that New England football team developing a baseline of excellence. The Sox currently sport the best record in the majors, lead the American League East by seven-and-a-half games, and are set to begin a three-game series against the Yankees on Tuesday.

Talk of another World Series would be premature, given that it’s only August and there is plenty of baseball left, but it certainly is tempting given the four-game sweep of the Chicago White Sox. Knowing the Boston atmosphere and the media, it is a given that by this time tomorrow, the Red Sox will be annointed as the 2007 World Series Champions based on the White Sox series alone.

While on the subject of teams with outsized expectations, it would be a perfect time to talk about the New England Patriots. After Bill Belichick and Scott Pioli added Wes Welker, Donte’ Stallworth, Adalius Thomas, and Randy Moss — considered the strongest collective off-season acquisitions in the National Football League, with the contracts to show for it — there was widespread speculation that Belichick had suffered a midlife crisis and set about picking up trophy players to fill the void.

Whether or not that’s true remains to be seen, but that — along with Tom Brady’s second-string QB, to be named later — is about the juiciest gossip the media will receive about or from the Patriots. If you want to see scandal, you can turn on your television or open any newspaper and read about Michael Vick’s murky guilty plea.

Freshmen, you can also be grateful that you arrived in a year when the Boston Celtics’ front office found the personnel necessary for the team to be a well-oiled machine (yeah, I’ll believe that when I see it) rather than a guaranteed train wreck. Though the front office traded essentially the entire team (Al Jefferson, Ryan Gomes, Gerald Green, Sebastian Telfair, Theo Ratliff, and two first-round draft picks, not to mention cash) for Kevin Garnett, the team looks markedly improved, even if it is essentially a 3-v-5 game every time the Celts take the floor.

Oh, and then there are the Boston Bruins. God bless a new season for making me hopeful that this year will be different. I certainly hope that my low, low expectations are blown out of the water. But I’m not holding my breath.

There you have it — that’s the cynicism you should come to expect from Boston sports fans and MIT students alike.
Take a look inside your next four years at MIT.

Look to The Tech for campus, local, and world news and entertainment twice weekly during the term. The Tech will report on Orientation and your Commencement, your class elections and class hardships. In text and pictures, it will preserve the scandals, prizes, performances, sports events, and jokes that mark your time here. Years from now this newspaper will stand as a record of what MIT was like when you were here.

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Make the most of MIT. Read The Tech.