By Ivana Lucero

A university student reported she was sexually assaulted on the MIT campus in the early morning of Sept. 16.

In an e-mail sent to the MIT community, President Susan Hockfield said that “a Boston university student reported that she was sexually assaulted” after leaving a party at Senior House early Sunday morning. The student was reportedly attacked by a group of “5 or 6 nearly dressed white males in their early 20’s” near Amherst Street and Kendall Square around 3:45 a.m. Sunday morning, according an MIT Police bulletin.

“We do not currently have any indication that any MIT students were involved in the attack,” Hockfield said in the e-mail. “I am appalled and saddened at the thought that such an event could occur on or near our campus. MIT will continue to do everything that we can to help bring the police investigation and any resulting process to a timely and just conclusion.”

Cambridge Police declined to comment, saying that the MIT Police are handling the case. MIT Chief of Police John DiFava said he could not comment because Massachusetts law makes it illegal for him to divulge information on sexual assault cases due to the sensitive nature of privacy.

Assault, Page 18

By Nick Semenkovich

MIT has donated $6,000 to the Charles River Cleanup Boat, the volunteer organization faced with bills for decontamination and boat repairs after its volunteers picked up a chunk of sodium that caught fire and exploded.

The Institute made the donation “to express our ongoing commitment to achieving important efforts,” according to a statement from Pamela Dumas Serfes, executive director of the News Office. MIT has supported the cleanup boat since its inception, donating every year for the last four years, Dumas Serfes said. On Sept. 6, a block of sodium was recovered by the volunteer crew working on the boat. The volunteers, who were working near Boston side of the Charles River near Gloucester Street, placed the sodium in a trash container along with other wet debris. The sodium then caught fire and exploded, burning two volunteers and three paramedics who responded to the scene.

Tom McNichol, president of the Charles River Cleanup Boat, said the house, load it onto flatbed trucks, and ship it 400 miles to the National Mall. There, in the shadow of the Capitol Building, Solar 7 will be judged against 19 other solar homes that allow students more opportunities to “learn by doing,” increasing opportunities for students to customize their education and gear it toward their career goals; and further incorporating new knowledge created by business leaders inside and outside of MIT into the school’s curricula.

Regarding the undergraduate management program, Schmittlein said, “I want to increase visibility for the program both in Cambridge and the rest of the world … I am proud of the undergraduate program and I want to be sure that that part [of the school] feels valued and gets the attention it deserves.”

Schmittlein discussed possible ways that the undergraduate program could benefit from resources of the Sloan MBA and non-executive degree programs. “I see wonderful opportunity to create learning modules that can be used across sets of programs,” he said, explaining that expensive educational modules developed for non-degree executive programs may be modified for the
Iran Releases Scholar From Prison

The New York Times

The Iranian-American who was fired from detention here early Thursday was released after his family paid bail and has not yet been given permission to leave the country, a judiciary official said.

Fahri, 25, is a Kian Tajbakhsh, an urban planner with ties to Open Society Institute, which is associated with the George Soros Foundation, was arrested in May on charges related to his work and spent 131 days in solitary confinement at the notorious Evin prison. He is one of four Iranian-Americans detained here recently and the third among them to be released.

Fahri’s family posted bail worth nearly $107,000, a judiciary official told the IRNA news agency. But the official said Tajbakhsh would not be able to leave the country before the final sentences are announced.

“I am very happy that I am home,” he said in a telephone interview from his apartment in Tehran. “I am glad that any remaining part of the investigation will be completed with me out of prison.” He declined to discuss the charges against him.

Zimbabwe Political Standoff

May Be Easing

By Michael Wines

A wish of hope emerged Thursday that Zimbabwe’s ruling ZANU-PF party and its political opposition, long implacable enemies, were starting to edge toward a compromise in their nation’s deepening crisis.

Legislators from both sides met in Parliament in unannounced, unstructured meetings that cleared the way for Zimbabwe to hold presidential and parliamentary elections simultaneously next year.

The meeting, which was a clear concession by the opposition, the Movement for Democratic Change, which had called the proposal to move to joint elections from separate elections a plot to dilute the party’s power, was attended by 10 legislators to Parliament’s dominant lower house, the House of Assembly.

Those and other changes to the election system apparently arose from talks mediated by South Africa’s president, Thabo Mbeki. The Southern Africa Development Community, a body of regional leaders, asked Mbeki in March to try to broker a solution to Zimbabwe’s gridlock.

Zimbabwe has been gripped by an accelerating political crisis and economic decline since 1999, and its inflation rate — officially near 7,000 percent in March to try to broker a solution to Zimbabwe’s gridlock.

By Andrew E. Kramer

ZIMBABWE

Summer Holds On

By Jon Moskowitz

The passage of the autumnal equinox early Sunday morning, the summer season will soon draw to a close. Nevertheless, rather summer-like conditions will prevail through the middle of next week, as a ridge of high pressure stationary itself over the eastern portion of the country.

For the weekend, the wind will switch off shore from the recently prevailing onshore direction, allowing afternoon temperatures to rise above 80°F (27°C). The wind direction on Monday is uncertain, but if it stays offshore, the temperature will be warmer than currently expected.

The jet stream is not far south of the aforementioned high pressure ridge, as a storm is spinning in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. This storm originated in the mid-Atlantic, but it could transition into a tropical cyclone over the 80°F (30°C) water of the Gulf before it crosses the coast on Saturday.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny. High: 74°F (23°C).

Tonight: Clear and calm, fog possible late. Low: 61°F (16°C).

Saturday: Mostly sunny, warm and breezy. High: 83°F (28°C).

Saturday Night: A slight chance of showers. Low: 60°F (16°C).

Sunday: Sunny, less humid. High: 81°F (27°C).


Democratic Fundraiser Accused Of Running Illegal Ponzi Scheme

By Al Bean

and Mike McIntire

The New York Times

Norman Hsu, the Democratic fundraiser with a habit of fleeing the law, confronted FBI agents last week that he pressured investors in what he now admits were phony business deals to contribute to political campaigns, prosecutors said in an indictment that was unsealed Thursday.

The complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, accused Hsu of funneling at least $60 million from hundreds of investors in a nationwide Ponzi scheme, and using some of that money to illegally reimburse at least two people who made a total of $60,000 in campaign donations at his request.

While the complaint did not specify which candidates received the illegal or coerced contributions, federal authorities confirmed that one of them was Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Her presidential campaign has said it intends to return $500,000 to more than 200 people whose donations were hatched by Hsu.

If convicted of the three charges he faces — mail fraud, wire fraud and violating the Federal Election Campaign Act — he could face a maximum of 45 years in prison. Hsu, 59, an apparel industry executive and major donor to Democratic candidates and causes, surrendered to the authorities in San Mateo County, Calif., at the end of August after reports surfaced that, for the last 15 years, he had been a fugitive in a 1992 million-dollar fraud case. Hsu was released on $2 million bail, but a week later fled again. While riding an Amtrak train from California to Denver he fell violently ill and was taken to a hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., where federal agents eventually arrested him.

The indictment said that while in Colorado, Hsu reached out to FBI agents on three occasions and asked to speak to them without his lawyers present. He is said to have told the agents that his business deals involved no real investments but were in fact fraudulent, and “admitted that he made implied threats to his investors to pressure them to contribute to political candidates he supported.”

Working through two shell companies, Components Ltd. and Next Components Ltd., Hsu persuaded numerous investors from across the country to give him money ostensibly to help secure short-term loans for various companies doing business in the apparel industry, the government said.

The Ponzi scheme, lucrative as it was, had been intended not to generate political contributions but to use funds to buy investment. The funds in turn were needed to keep the scheme going, according to the indictment.

Working through two shell companies, Components Ltd. and Next Components Ltd., Hsu persuaded numerous investors from across the country to give him money ostensibly to help secure short-term loans for various companies doing business in the apparel industry, the government said.

The Ponzi scheme, lucrative as it was, had been intended not to generate political contributions but to use funds to buy investment. The funds in turn were needed to keep the scheme going, according to the indictment.

The mail fraud charge alone carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. Hsu’s bail hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.

By Carter Dougherty

The dollar climbed to a record high in midday trading Thursday, pushing the currency of the largest U.S. trading partner, the euro, to an all-time low against the dollar, a highly unusual development for a currency of the largest U.S. trading partner, the euro, that has been a traditional safe haven currency in times of crisis, evident as recently as early August, appeared all but forgotten.

“It’s pretty ugly right now for the euro,” said James McCormick, a foreign exchange dealer at Chase Manhattan, the hemisphere’s largest international bank.

But at the same time, ZANU-PF, the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front, its leader, President Robert G. Mugabe, made an unusual concession Friday by saying that the government’s power to appoint 10 ministerial positions in the Cabinet, now filled by about 23 people, should be trimmed to 18. Those and other changes to the electoral system apparently arose from talks mediated by South Africa’s president, Thabo Mbeki. The Southern Africa Development Community, a body of regional leaders, asked Mbeki in March to try to broker a solution to Zimbabwe’s gridlock.

Zimbabwe has been gripped by an accelerating political crisis and economic decline since 1999, and its inflation rate — officially near 7,000 percent in March to try to broker a solution to Zimbabwe’s gridlock.

The dollar also lost ground against the pound, with sterling now at a level not since the 1976, the dollar tumbled to one-to-one parity with the Canadian dollar, and the euro hit a low of $1.40 against the euro and Thursday, pushing it to an all-time low of $1.14 against the Japanese yen, driven growth for years, the dollar has weakened but was supported by the output of the largest U.S. trading partner, the euro, that has been a traditional safe haven in times of crisis.

While the complaint did not specify which candidates received the illegal or coerced contributions, federal authorities confirmed that one of them was Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Her presidential campaign has said it intends to return $500,000 to more than 200 people whose donations were hatched by Hsu.

If convicted of the three charges he faces — mail fraud, wire fraud and violating the Federal Election Campaign Act — he could face a maximum of 45 years in prison. Hsu, 59, an apparel industry executive and major donor to Democratic candidates and causes, surrendered to the authorities in San Mateo County, Calif., at the end of August after reports surfaced that, for the last 15 years, he had been a fugitive in a 1992 million-dollar fraud case. Hsu was released on $2 million bail, but a week later fled again. While riding an Amtrak train from California to Denver he fell violently ill and was taken to a hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., where federal agents eventually arrested him.

The indictment said that while in Colorado, Hsu reached out to FBI agents on three occasions and asked to speak to them without his lawyers present. He is said to have told the agents that his business deals involved no real investments but were in fact fraudulent, and “admitted that he made implied threats to his investors to pressure them to contribute to political candidates he supported.”

Working through two shell companies, Components Ltd. and Next Components Ltd., Hsu persuaded numerous investors from across the country to give him money ostensibly to help secure short-term loans for various companies doing business in the apparel industry, the government said.

The Ponzi scheme, lucrative as it was, had been intended not to generate political contributions but to use funds to buy investment. The funds in turn were needed to keep the scheme going, according to the indictment.

The mail fraud charge alone carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. Hsu’s bail hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.

While the complaint did not specify which candidates received the illegal or coerced contributions, federal authorities confirmed that one of them was Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Her presidential campaign has said it intends to return $500,000 to more than 200 people whose donations were hatched by Hsu.

If convicted of the three charges he faces — mail fraud, wire fraud and violating the Federal Election Campaign Act — he could face a maximum of 45 years in prison. Hsu, 59, an apparel industry executive and major donor to Democratic candidates and causes, surrendered to the authorities in San Mateo County, Calif., at the end of August after reports surfaced that, for the last 15 years, he had been a fugitive in a 1992 million-dollar fraud case. Hsu was released on $2 million bail, but a week later fled again. While riding an Amtrak train from California to Denver he fell violently ill and was taken to a hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., where federal agents eventually arrested him.

The indictment said that while in Colorado, Hsu reached out to FBI agents on three occasions and asked to speak to them without his lawyers present. He is said to have told the agents that his business deals involved no real investments but were in fact fraudulent, and “admitted that he made implied threats to his investors to pressure them to contribute to political candidates he supported.”

Working through two shell companies, Components Ltd. and Next Components Ltd., Hsu persuaded numerous investors from across the country to give him money ostensibly to help secure short-term loans for various companies doing business in the apparel industry, the government said.

The Ponzi scheme, lucrative as it was, had been intended not to generate political contributions but to use funds to buy investment. The funds in turn were needed to keep the scheme going, according to the indictment.

The mail fraud charge alone carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. Hsu’s bail hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.
IRAQ: Bush, Democrats spar over health care

President Bush and congressional leaders on Wednesday traded blame over the health-care legislation being considered by Congress, with the White House delaying a key immigration vote.

"I have a different view," Bush said. "I believe in a different approach." He suggested his administration had offered a "broad, principled" approach to health care but "the other side of the aisle" was offering "purely ideological" proposals.

"I think we should be careful of the kind of promises that we make," Bush said. "We have to be careful to recognize the real-world costs that are put on the American people every time we do this." He said that the Democrats were not being "straightforward with the American people" about what their proposals would do.

"The Democrats propose a bill that would add hundreds of billions of dollars to the deficit every year," Bush said. "This is a bill that would add $5 trillion to the deficit over the next 10 years. It is the most expensive health-care bill in the history of the country. And it would impose taxes on the American people." He pointed out that under the Democrats' plan, the government would be responsible for 65% of the money spent on health care.

"We will not let the American people be held hostage to this," he said. "We will not let a bill like this be voted on in Congress." He said he was confident that the Republican-led Congress would pass a bill that would be fiscally responsible and would provide quality health care for all Americans.

"We will not let the American people be held hostage to this," he said. "We will not let a bill like this be voted on in Congress." He said he was confident that the Republican-led Congress would pass a bill that would be fiscally responsible and would provide quality health care for all Americans.

"We will not let the American people be held hostage to this," he said. "We will not let a bill like this be voted on in Congress." He said he was confident that the Republican-led Congress would pass a bill that would be fiscally responsible and would provide quality health care for all Americans.

"We will not let the American people be held hostage to this," he said. "We will not let a bill like this be voted on in Congress." He said he was confident that the Republican-led Congress would pass a bill that would be fiscally responsible and would provide quality health care for all Americans.

"We will not let the American people be held hostage to this," he said. "We will not let a bill like this be voted on in Congress." He said he was confident that the Republican-led Congress would pass a bill that would be fiscally responsible and would provide quality health care for all Americans.
Opinion Policy

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

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board—choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial. Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are to be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, PO Box 397029, Cambridge, MA 02239-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W26-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors’ signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters, shorter letters may be given priority. Once submitted, all letters become the 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 published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author’s name in italics. Columns without italics are written by staff.

To Reach Us

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-151. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing editor@the-tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.the-tech.mit.edu.

Opinion

Institute Wisdom Watch

By The Tech Editorial Board

Freshmen rejected from 8,012 because they weren’t the best at the math diagnostic. The options to escape TEAL continue to dwindle …

The Interfraternity Council takes no action in response to numerous rush violations. At least this year’s rush was a little more honest about Greek life.

MIT falls from fourth to seventh in U.S. News college rankings. Now, if only we knew what these rankings mean …

MIT Community Picnic. Thanks for the cushion. How much did it cost?

Ashdown House bedbug infestation apparently quelled. Next stop, mice?

“The Institute Wisdom Watch is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations, midterms, midterms exams, midterms exams vacation, by the Library, Cambridge, MA. 02139-1129. To reach the editor of The Institute Wisdom Watch, phone the Tech at (617) 253-151. The Tech is available on the Internet at http://www.the-tech.mit.edu. Copyright © 2007 The Tech. All rights reserved. The Tech is published in English and distributes a property of The Tech. The Tech, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech’s Web site and/or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author’s name in italics. Columns without italics are written by staff.

To Reach Us

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-151. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing editor@the-tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.the-tech.mit.edu.
No Whistling on the Bus

By Andrew Lee

September 21, 2007

The night consisted of Díaz reading two excerpts from Oscar Wao, separated by a Q&A session “to break the monotony of one voice” as Diaz described it. But it was very quickly evident that there was nothing tedious about the way Diaz’s writing exploded with a striking diversity of voice, character, and even language. The two excerpts both detailed, with beguiling insight, aspects of the Dominican-American human being more appropriate to use different narratives with varying perspectives.

The first, a piece called “Wildwood,” introduced two key characters in the novel: the title character’s sister, Lola, and her ungifted mother, who is at once proud, brutal, and tragic. With almost theatrical voice when Diaz read from his first novel, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao, it was very quickly evident that there was nothing tedious about the way Diaz’s writing exploded with a striking diversity of voice, character, and even language. The second excerpt read was the opening of the novel: an engaging description of a curse that oppresses the minds and spirits of the Dominican people, the fukú. This curse weighs heavy on Oscar, the book’s awkward and over-weight protagonist, whose fixation with Tolkien’s Middle Earth is only rivaled by his desire to find love. The description of the fukú provides such a lovely blend of humor and honesty that the tragic pitch tucked within it is potent and surprising, it sometimes stings you with a quick jab and sometimes washes over you, slowly but undeniably. Diaz’s ability to combine ideas that are seemingly disparate, to blend languages and infuse them with bits of genres largely seen as “unruly” is a reflection of a unique relationship with language that was born out of his immigrant background. “You carry how you learned it, when you learned it. English as structure. Language as pedagogy,” Diaz explained, describing a language that was heaved up and then stems from English so late in life. The description of the fukú begs an inescapable question: what kind of novel can we call this? “We simultaneously love our categories and simultaneously love resisting them.” Diaz stated. He somewhat facetiously talked both of his two novels as transcendance genre and fulfilled attempts to characterize his book the jokingly suggested “multigenerational family saga” is a task of our desire to resist categorizing that is specific genres or novels pertaining to the condition of an ethnic group, are often assumed to have a limited scope. But Diaz stated that one cannot aspire to write in a manner that is universal and that “universal- ity from specificity from specificity.” He writes about being Dominican as if to his best Dominican friend, but the reader’s involvement is not mitigated by race or condition. The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao celebrates that expression of particular human experiences, which in its honesty, seeps into our conscience and becomes our own.

By Andrew Lee

September 21, 2007

The shepherd’s son or March Hare (Molly Goyer Gorman, back) is being tricked by Prince Florizel’s thievish servant Autolycus (Owen Holland, front), The Cambridge American Stage Tour visited this MIT week to perform Shakespeare’s “The Winter’s Tale.” For more information, visit http://castonline.org/.

Join the Tech.

News•Arts•Sports•Photo•Prod•Biz•Techno

September 21, 2007

Rush is over.

Free food isn’t.
By Josh Bails
The English Beat
Sept. 13, 2007
The Middle East

Two-tone era ska legend Dave Wakeling and the current rendition of touring band The English Beat headlined a horns extravaganza at The Middle East Downstairs concert venue last Thursday night. With exceptional reggae bands Destroy Babylon and Pressure Cooker opening the show, this was not a night to miss for any lovers of the genre.

Four-piece reggae group Destroy Babylon opened up the night with a much louder, harder sound than is usually associated with the genre. It did not surprise me when I discovered vocalist/guitarist/horn player John Beaudette and drummer Marc Beaudette were twins because the band stayed coordinated during very complicated pauses without ever missing a beat. They are definitely worth seeing live, and will be back at the Middle East on the eighth of October.

The night continued with nine-piece Boston reggae ensemble Pressure Cooker whose impressive horn tri-fecta gave them an old school big band feel with a new school ska twist. Lead vocalist Craig Fujita's style and energy coupled with the raw talent of the rest of the band came together nicely to make for a fun live performance. The entire club started dancing soon after Pressure Cooker's set started and only stopped when they finished. The entire house erupted in excitement when The English Beat, the band they'd all come to see, finally took the stage, and it didn't take long for the band to prove that the crowd's excitement was well warranted. With over 25 years of stage experience behind him, lead man and '80s ska legend Dave Wakeling has shown barely any signs of aging. He was fully energetic and led the band through a more than impressive two-and-a-half hour set. Their performance had many high points, but particularly notable was their remarkable performance of "Can't Get Over Losing You," which they dedicated to recently deceased ska icon Desmond Dekker.

All three performances made for a very enjoyable night, and I can only hope that such impressive ska shows come by The Middle East more often.

CONCERT LISTINGS

September Shows

Tuesday, Sept. 25
Devendra Banhart *
The Roxy, all ages, $18
You could love him for combatting the ever-irritating new term “freak folk,” or you could love him for his endless support of his contemporaries, but mostly love him for his wonderful acoustic folk songs, which he constructs with all the care of a fine artist.

Wednesday, Sept. 26
Rocky Votolato
The Middle East (Downstairs), 18+, $12
If you’re into new folk music, check out Rocky Votolato. His simple melodies and pure voice make his smooth but sad songs a real treat.

Thursday, Sept. 27
MF A College Night, 7 p.m. to midnight
Museum of Fine Arts, free with college ID
The annual MFA College Night brings together live music, DJs, dancing, and art for area college students. This year’s main act is Thurston Moore on his “Trees outside the Academy” Tour. And it’s all FREE with a college ID. The concert is first come first serve.

Freezepop
The Middle East (Downstairs), 18+, $12
Less talk, more rock! Bust out your Guitar Hero axe and celebrate these Steer Roast alums’ album release party featuring Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Woman as well as Provocateur.

Saturday, Sept. 29
Fujiya & Miyagi
Middle East (Downstairs), 18+, $12
NME called them “brilliant,” and Time Out lamented them as “criminally overlooked.” So be an upstanding citizen and check out this electronic rock trio as a final hoorah for the month of September.

—Jillian A. Berry and Sarah Dupuis

Your Idea Could Start a Movement. And You Could Win $75,000.

Enter Rucker Nation – the online competition to get kids moving.

We’re looking for ideas for products that will increase physical activity among middle-school-aged kids (ages 11-14). And we’re awarding more than $300,000 in cash and prizes for winning entries. Plus, your idea could become a real product. HopeLab, sponsor of Rucker Nation, will support the development of products based on the best ideas.

Visit our website for details.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS NOVEMBER 20, 2007

www.ruckusnation.com

Sponsored by

Coppertown Portfolio of six

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
The beacon in multi-million dollar investment decisions

Bain Capital is one of the world's leading private investment firms, managing more than $50 billion of leveraged buyout, public equity and credit funds. Sankaty Advisors, the credit affiliate of Bain Capital, is one of the nation's leading private managers of high yield debt obligations. With approximately $22 billion in committed capital, Sankaty is a world-class team of over 65 investment professionals with extensive experience analyzing and managing high yield investments.

Representatives from Sankaty Advisors will be visiting campus throughout the year, speaking with undergraduate students about internships and full-time positions that will put your education to work on global, multi-million dollar investment decisions.

Please look for us on campus in the coming months to learn more about the great opportunities we offer in Boston and London.

Info Session:
Tuesday, September 25th
Hotel @ MIT, 6:00pm

Resume Deadline:
Tuesday, September 25th

1st Round Interviews:
Thursday, October 4th

For more information, visit us at www.sankaty.com.

Educational opportunity for all can be realized through dedicated and talented teachers.

"Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it."
- JAMES BALDWIN

urban teaching  @YALE

• 1 year M.A. in Urban Education Studies with full tuition scholarship plus stipend
• Includes Connecticut Teaching Certificate Gr 7-12 in English, Social Studies, Spanish, Math, or Science
• Guaranteed teaching placement in New Haven Public Schools and 3 year teaching commitment
• Praxis II and GRE General tests required. Register for Praxis II by October 18. Program begins June 2.

Apply Now

Yale Urban Teaching Program
www.yale.edu/urbanteaching  urbanteaching@yale.edu  203.432.4631
Moons of Uranus
by Juan Pablo Mendieta

I cannot believe they stole Homer!

What Homer?

The Homer Simpson statue that was on display in the window of an MIT office on Vassar...

Why do you care?

Doesn’t it bother you? I mean, don’t you think that such an act speaks volumes about some members of the MIT community?

Dude... we throw sodium into the river just to see the fireworks... that ship has sailed!

Touché.

OVNI
by Roxana Safipour

You see, I don’t expect my students to have a life outside the lab. I didn’t, and neither should you.

Um, then why did the grad school application form ask about extra-curricular activities?

Because I didn’t write the application.

Is crying considered a hobby?
Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 12

ACROSS
1. Related
5. Formal response to "Who's there?"
10. Rowers
14. Shoe string
15. Same here
16. Tons
17. Ret., honorary title
18. Mardi Gras
20. Water transportation option
22. Sawyer or Lane
23. Cordon ___ (master chef)
24. Superman's girl
26. Theatrical makeup
30. Warner Bros. rival
33. Actress Berry
34. Mothers of Mlles.
35. Exist
36. Track shape
37. Little swabs
39. Pitcher Hershiser
40. Harden
41. Club fees
42. Doctor's target
43. Half a fly?
44. Cause of long lines at the pumps
47. Hid off
48. Norwegian saint
49. Poultry entree
52. Not just ajar
56. Restaurant table item
59. Medical shot?
60. Coup if...
61. Lake formed by Akosombo Dam

DOWN
1. Actor Guinness
2. "____ Sutra"
3. Bakery worker
4. Soft toy
5. Song by The Who
6. Rip to pieces
7. ___ witty
8. Drunkard
9. Debtor's letters
10. Desert refuge
11. Alan of "M*A*S*H"
12. Colorful mount
13. Eye problem
19. Revises a text
21. If all ___ fails...
24. Droopy
25. Singles
26. Wealth
27. Great reviews
28. Overjoy
29. Off the mark
30. One of The Donald's eyes
31. Shorthand system
32. Brawl
37. Quick test
39. Gets the better of
41. Blackmore heroine
42. Scottish hillside
45. Uses a crane
46. So last year
47. Bonkers
49. Good buddy?
50. Prefix for biography
51. School orgs.
52. Like a coyote
53. Hunted animal
54. Devise
55. Wall St. initials
57. Letters for motor homes
62. Auction ends?
63. Flushed
64. Speaks biblically
65. "Auld Lang ___"

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 18.
Logic will get you from A to B.  
Imagination will take you anywhere.  

- Albert Einstein

We’re not your typical consulting firm. We fully expect our people to shape the future direction of the company every day—through collaboration, creativity, and initiative. At Oliver Wyman, you’ll have exposure to global clients from day one, early opportunities to work internationally, and regular interaction with industry experts and senior directors. You’ll have the chance to make your mark from the moment you walk through our doors. We’re not a two-year program with a definitive beginning and end. Where you go and how fast you rise at Oliver Wyman is entirely up to you.

Get there faster. Start here.
Army ROTC, MIT Flying Club Give Helicopter Rides

MIT Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps and the MIT Flying Club hosted two Black Hawk helicopters on Briggs Field Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2007 as part of a ROTC training exercise. All MIT students were eligible to go for a ride in the helicopters after signing various forms and completing a short briefing.

(counterclockwise from left)

The streets of Boston lie below the eight-minute aerial tour route flown by the Black Hawk helicopters.

A helicopter comes in for a landing on Briggs Field just as the other is ready to take off.

The two helicopters take off almost simultaneously in front of MIT’s undergraduate dormitory Simmons Hall.

MIT Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD ’75 awaits takeoff after being strapped into a helicopter.

Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict (fourth from left) and Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD ’80 (fifth from left) pose with a group of MIT Army ROTC cadets and officers after the deans completed their flight.

Photography by Eric D. Schmiedl
Sodium Investigation Ongoing
Cleanup Boat President Satisfied With MIT's Response

Sodium, from Page 1

Local media have speculated that the sodium found on the bank of the Charles River is related to sodium drops, a tradition involving MIT students throwing blocks of reactive sodium metal into the Charles River for its violent reaction with water. While most students on campus associate the idea of a sodium drop with the annual drop run by East Campus, other groups, including the fraternity Tau Epsilon Phi, have been known to throw sodium into the Charles River.

McNichol said he hoped that sodium drops would end for good at MIT. "MIT 'has always supported us,'" McNichol said. He would not disclose how much money MIT donated to the Boat's Web site.

"In fact, the first boat that reached us … was from the MIT boating pavilion with fire extinguishers," McNichol said. "The MIT administration … they're doing the right thing."

Sodium Investigation Ongoing
Are You in a Fraternity or Sorority? 
Do You Need a Job??

Be An Entice Presenter!!

The Office of Community Development and Substance Abuse (CDSA) Programs is seeking FOUR MEN AND TWO WOMEN to lead group presentations for our new ENTICE program.

ENTICE is a program developed by Panhel and IFC leaders to address alcohol use in the FSILG communities.

You must be able to attend a training period in October, and be available on evenings throughout the school year to facilitate presentations and for meetings with CDSA staff.

You will be compensated for all trainings, meetings, and presentations.

If you are interested in learning more, please send a brief email about yourself to Rashmi Tiwari, Program Director, at rtiwari@mit.edu. Look forward to hearing from you soon!
Solar 7, from Page 1

But before it gets to compete, the team must first finish building the house. As it stands, with a little more than a week to go, Solar 7 is not quite finished. The bathroom needs fixtures, not to mention a toilet and a tub. Walls stand unfinished, doors are missing, and there’s no plumbing. At the site, volunteers paint and seal in panels while a team checks the wiring, stepping numbly over stray tools strewn across the house’s half-finished floor.

“I’m stressed about everything,” load builder Tom Pittsley said. “We’ve got — days to build a house and tear it apart.”

“Take a deep breath before the storm,” Corey P. Fucetola G, the project manager, said. Pittsley laughed. “This is the storm,” he said.

Solar powered

The challenge of the Solar Decathlon, a contest that occurs every two years and is sponsored by the Department of Energy, is not just to build an energy efficient house. It’s to build an energy positive one: a house that can provide its own heating and cooling and electricity, year-round, from the power of the sun.

So it’s no surprise that Solar 7 sports a hefty array of 42 solar panels on its roof, providing a total of over 9000 watts to 800 square feet of living space. “It’s way more than a house this size needs,” the team’s technology adviser Jim Dunn said. “We over-designed it to have plenty of power for the competition.”

Solar 7’s panels gather so much electricity that, in fact, two had to be taken offline, or the combined output would have blown the inverters which route the electricity to appliances in the home, Fucetola said. Last Friday, the house switched over to running completely on solar energy, making it the first officially off-the-grid building in Cambridge. The reality of this milestone has not yet set in for all of the team. “Hey, that’s a live panel there!” Dunn said to a volunteer near an exposed knob of wiring in the wall. “It’s running 230 volts.”

At the competition, the electricity will power appliances and charge an electric car. To demonstrate that Solar 7 is livable, team members will cook meals in the house for four days, using stores running off solar energy. They will wash and dry laundry, do the dishes, watch TV and run a computer — all typical household tasks, performed in a house that is anything but.

Aside from solar panels, Solar 7 takes advantage of the sun’s power in other ways. On the south-facing wall, rows of black pipes use the sun to heat up water that will run through small tubes under the floorboards. Not only does this technique save heating costs, it also heats the house more comfortably, Fucetola said.

On the same south-facing side, a large, milky white panel heats up during the day and radiates warmth at night — a traditional green building feature called a “travertine.” But Solar 7’s wall is comprised of a layer of water sandwiched between white strips of an advanced aerogel that insulates while letting light through.

The aerogel wall is not the only technological flourish in Solar 7. Although competition rules limit teams to commercially available materials, Fucetola said the MIT team enjoyed the support of industry leaders eager to work with the Institute. Several components of the house, including the power inverters and the warm wall, were obtained before they were commercially available. Others, like the washing machine and kitchen appliances, were donated outright. “[Companies] want to work with MIT students, that’s what we have to sell,” Fucetola said.

Building a house of the future

To call Solar 7 a purely MIT effort, however, would be ignoring the wide community support the project has garnered and grown to depend on. Although the project began under the auspices of the MIT Department of Architecture and Planning in 2005, it was dropped by June 2006 over concerns on Institute funding. Fucetola said. Eight months into the project, no funds had been raised outside of what MIT could provide, so the department decided to call everything off, Fucetola said. Though the Department of Energy gives $100,000 to every team that is selected to compete, the sum is only a fraction of what a competitive team needs to build a house.

“The architecture department thought if we were going to fail, we should choose to fail fast and early,” Fucetola said. “We’re not going to fail.”

That June, Fucetola turned to the Solar 7 Team on Tight Deadline to Complete House

Kevin Horne, one of the architects for the project, calls the team “the most committed of money crews.” Horne, who is himself a student at the Boston Architectural College, joined the team in January looking for experience with green building. “People come for all kinds of reasons,” Horne said, “but we’re all interested in sustainable architecture. [Solar Decathlon] gives us the chance to experiment, to play, to share ideas.”

Plans for Solar 7 were finalized early this year through a series of difficult negotiations. “The house probably went through 50 major redesigns,” Fucetola said.

Despite conflict over the details, Fucetola said that the team agreed early on to make good use of natural light, a commitment that led to the numerous skylights tucked between Solar 7’s sloping roof, as well as the translucent, aerogel-lined warm wall. The team also strive to use only environmentally friendly methods and materials. Instead of virgin lumber, they used particleboard, which is made from wood scraps and sawdust. The floor and ceiling are bamboo, the wall panels are made from recycled wheat. The roof is covered in tiles made from recycled tires.

As the competition day nears, Fucetola said he is not as concerned about how well Solar 7 will do. He said he only hopes that the house will help persuade politicians and the public the viability of sustainable architecture using renewable energy. “Solar 7 will go in front of people who decide policy,” he said. “If we can make it work, then they can make appropriate decisions about the environment.”

The building site for Solar 7 is at the intersection of Portland St. and Albany St. and is open to the public. See http://web.mit.edu/solar7/ for more information.

Only at Oracle

2,216 Products + 100 s of Projects = 10 Choices

It’s simple; at Oracle your success is in your own hands. With 2,216 products that power over 275,000 businesses worldwide, your opportunities will only be exceeded by your potential.

When you join Oracle, you’ll have the option of choosing one of over 100 start-up development teams where you will be challenged to solve the most critical problems that business faces today—as well as the ones it will face tomorrow. It’s what you’ve been waiting for. And we’ve been waiting for you.
Your address might be a dorm, but we know that’s not where you live.

College Students
Get 15% OFF full-price items.
Must show valid college ID. Restriction apply; ask store for details.

Harvard Square
1 Brattle Square
Second Floor

A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.
-Lee Lea

Where will you be in five years? You might be advancing to director faster than at any other consultancy. Or landing a management role in industry. At Oliver Wyman, you’ll get there faster, smarter, better — with exposure to global clients, early opportunities to work internationally, and interaction with the best business minds around. Come work for the fastest-growing consultancy in the top 10. And discover that the first step you take can make all the difference in where you end up.

Oliver Wyman invites PhD students from all disciplines to a presentation on full-time opportunities in our financial services consulting track.

Thursday, September 25, 7pm
Inn at Harvard (1201 Massachusetts Avenue, Harvard Square)

Get there faster. Start here.

Oliver Wyman is a leading global management consultancy.
Earn your MPA in Environmental Science and Policy

The Master of Public Administration Program in Environmental Science and Policy is a twelve-month program that combines Columbia University’s hands-on approach to teaching public policy and administration with pioneering thinking about the environment.

Application deadline
for early decision: November 1

For more information, please call 212-854-3142, e-mail: lar46@columbia.edu, or visit our Web site: www.columbia.edu/cu/mpaenvironment
For information on other SIPA programs, visit www.SIPA.columbia.edu

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
THE EARTH INSTITUTE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

For fellowship consideration: January 15 | Final deadline: February 15

UMass Chair Selected Again Over Objections

By Peter Schworm

The University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees rejected Stephen P. Teoco as its chairman on Sept. 19 over the objections of members newly appointed by Governor Deval Patrick, dealing a setback to the administration's attempt to reshape the panel.

Four new members, including former chairman James Karam and Philip W. Johnston, the former head of the state Democratic Party, urged the board to allow a decision on new leadership until its December meeting so they could acquaint themselves with the board’s priorities. But they failed to muster enough support to sway the 19-member committee, which includes 12 holdovers appointed by Republican governors.

Patrick appointed five trustees Tuesday in an attempt to restructure the board to help drive his education plan and reduce the influence of Teoco, a Romney appointee and former advisor to Governors William Weld and Paul Cellucci.

Goverors appoint the trustees, except for two voting student members, but the board chooses its own chairman. However, five members can call a special meeting to change the leadership at any time.

The appointments were the latest in a series of shakeups of the state’s education leadership, including appointments of new chairmen of the Board of Education and the Board of Higher Education.

In interviews following the morning meeting at UMass-Lowell, some new trustees said the leadership of the reconstituted board should reflect Patrick’s agenda.

“I am a little disappointed,” said Karam, president of First Bristol Corp., a development company in Fall River.

“I think it was a reasonable request” to delay the vote, he said. “You have five new trustees, you have four new student trustees, and you have a new governor … I think on broad-based issues, on the overall direction of the university, it’s important for the chairman and the governor to be aligned.”

Another Patrick appointee, Henry Thomas, president of the Urban League of Springfield, agreed.

“I do think that in light of the fact that the governor has a credit-to-cafeer vision for the future of education in this state, he should at least be given proper attention and respect,” said Thomas, who until recently served on the state Board of Education.

New members stopped short of saying that Teoco and Patrick’s priorities clash, although there is a widespread assumption that Patrick wants a new board chairman. Karam said he would not serve another stint as chairman because he already heads the board of governors of the Caritas Christi Health System.

Johnston said the move to delay the vote was aimed at giving new members time to get up to speed and was not “personally directed.”

“We felt strongly we should be given some time to make judgments on the leadership and direction of the university,” he said.

A spokesman for the governor’s office declined to comment on whether the vote represented a setback and said the governor was committed to working with the current leadership.

The four new trustees, two student trustees, and standing trustee Janet Pearl abstained from the chairman vote. One new member, Kerri Ottenhaus, a Hudson physician who received her medical degree from the UMass Medical School, could not attend the meeting.

Equity and Fixed Income PhD Presentation
Date: Monday, September 24, 2007
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: MIT Hotel

Information Technology PhD and Quantitative Master’s Degree Presentation
Date: Wednesday, September 26, 2007
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: MIT Hotel

Here are two great opportunities to talk to us about the career opportunities at Credit Suisse: you can hear about our business and ask us anything you want to know. If you’re interested in global finance or information technology, we need to talk. Find out more at
www.credit-suisse.com/careers

Thinking New Perspectives.
The King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), a 21st century graduate-level, research university, is offering scholarships for future leaders in science, engineering, and technology.

The benefits of the KAUST Discovery Scholarship include:

- Full tuition at current institution
- Living stipend, book and computer allowance
- Upon graduation, admission and full scholarship for the KAUST master’s degree program at the University’s Red Sea campus

The KAUST campus opens in September 2009. Highly talented students with one to three years remaining in first university degree programs can apply now.

Visit www.kaust.edu.sa/discovery, or email scholarships@kaust.edu.sa.

CONTACT:
KAUST Scholarships c/o IIE
520 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 740
Houston, TX 77027
Phone: 713.621.6300 x23
Network

Become part of the world’s most influential leadership network.

Resume Deadline
Wednesday, September 26, 2007 @ MIDNIGHT
Apply online at www.mckinsey.com/usschools

www.mckinsey.com/usschools

McKinsey & Company

Solution to Sudoku

3 1 5 7 4 2 9
4 2 7 6 9 8 1
6 8 9 5 3 1 4
9 6 1 2 5 7 3
8 7 2 4 1 3 5
5 3 4 9 8 6 7
1 5 8 3 6 4 2

T-SHIRTS
...a necessary fact of College!

order direct - NO middlemen!

www.mckinsey.com/usschools

Medical Offers Support To Sexual Assault Victims

Assault, from Page 1

Lieutenant Albert F. Pierce, Jr. of the MIT Police, who is in charge of the case, did not return calls for comment.

According to an informational sheet provided by Maryanne Kirkbride of MIT Medical, the U.S. Department of Justice awarded MIT Medical $200,000 in 2005 to fund activities related to sexual assault issues.

The grant has allowed greater distribution of informational brochures, more sexual assault training sessions, and the formation of the Community Response Group that discusses sexual violence issues, Kirkbride said. There are many sexual assault resources available whose main goal is to “create a place where people can feel safe enough to come tell us when bad things happen,” she said.

For more information, call (617) 253-4471 or email chaneym@mit.edu

Get up to $20,000 a year in scholarships in your college’s Army ROTC program. You will graduate as an Officer, a leader of the U.S. Army.

ENROLL IN ARMY ROTC
BECOME AN ARMY OFFICER

U.S. ARMY

There's no other course like it.
For starters, you get paid to take it.

www.mckinsey.com/usschools
By Linda K. Werthheimer

Many Four-Year Institutions Ignore SAT Essay Scores

September 21, 2007

The writing test is a simple exercise. It asks you to write an essay almost exactly the way you would write a persuasive essay in a high school English class. The prompt is either an argument or an example. Each essay has to be at least 250 words long. The essay is graded on a scale of 1 to 6, with 6 being the highest. The essay portion of the writing exam is a real shame, said Eva Jacobs, 17, a senior at Brooklyn High School. "I feel it's what I've prepared the most for." But Matt Gornstein, 17, a senior at Newton North High School, said he agreed with critics who say that the essay test is not an edited piece of writing, "It's a real shame," said Eva Jacobs, 17, a senior at Brooklyn High School. "I feel it's what I've prepared the most for." But Matt Gornstein, 17, a senior at Newton North High School, said he agreed with critics who said that the essay part of the test can predict whether they will be good writers in college or whether they simply learned how to craft a particular essay in a rote manner. A College Board study, published in January, said training not only significantly improved students' writing scores, but also their writing skills. Les Perelman, director of MIT's writing program, disagrees. He became so frustrated by what he believed were formulaic essays that freshmen were turning in after the SAT essay was introduced that he conducted an experiment: He trained three high school students, who had taken the SAT once already, to insert some factual errors, use big words, and ignore logical thought on the SAT essay, and each received a near-perfect score. "They've learned to write paragraph essays where they don't care whether the facts are correct," Perelman said. "We have to spend a year in freshman composition deprograming them." Busin and other College Board officials said that Perelman's findings are inconclusive, since he only worked with a few students. But they acknowledge that factual accuracy was not crucial in the scoring. "What the essay portion is about is a student's ability to express himself in writing," Busin said. "This is not a research paper." Controversy about coaching permeates the admissions industry. 'With the SAT essay, they may be prompted, but at least you know it's not a structured environment, and it's not an edited piece of writing," Walter said.

Sophomores, you can elect one subject each semester as Exploratory Subject. This means that you can change the course to Listen to stamped form through Registration Day next semester. Speak with your advisor now about this option.

More information, a special form, and deadlines available on WebSIS at:

https://web.mit.edu/Registrar/www/rep/special_situations.html#exploratory_option
By James Kramer

Framingham State sophomore Roland Gervais hauled in a 19-yard touchdown pass from senior Eian Bain with 1:53 left in regulation to cap a late-fourth-quarter rally as the Rams upended the MIT football team 17-10 on Saturday at Steinbrenner Stadium. After being kept out of the end zone for the first three quarters, Framingham State (1-1, 1-0) scored 14 points in the final five minutes to push past MIT (0-2, 0-1) in the New England Football Conference opener for both schools.

Saturday’s home opener featured more defense than offense, although MIT wasted no time in lighting the scoreboard with a field goal on its opening drive to set up a 20-yard field goal kick Corey Gervais '10. Joseph T. Gouldsmith '08 set the stage for the Engineers’ first score of the afternoon after recovering a Framingham State fumble at the Rams’ 30-yard line.

Framingham State responded with a field goal of its own midway through the second quarter. As the Rams upended the Engineers’ lone touchdown drive in the third quarter. Showcasing a balanced attack, MIT picked up 33 yards on four carries by four different backs for the go-ahead score. Robert C. Utr '99 provided the highlight of the drive with a 23-yard scamper through the middle of the defense, while Benjamin L. Graumnan '09 plowed three yards up the middle with 8.18 on the clock for the touchdown.

The Engineers protected their lead until midway through the final quarter when the Rams responded with MIT’s ground attack with a clock-eating possession of their own. Shawn Miller, who finished the afternoon with 89 yards on 27 carries, sparked Bain’s push from one-yard out knotting the score at 10 with 4.44 left in the tilt.

On MIT’s next possession, the Rams received a boost with after Bruce Rich picked off a pass in the middle of the field on Tech’s second play of the drive. Framingham State capitalized on the unfortunate turnover as Bain connected with Corey Steele for a 13-yard strike before finding Gervais on a slant for the game-winner.

MIT out-rushed Framingham by seven yards, 184-177, although the Rams won the aerial battle with two quarterbacks commanding the play. Starter Patrick Franey finished 5-of-7 for 21 for 82 yards, while Bain closed 4-6 for 109 yards and a touchdown. Anthony Kewley hauled in the Rams’ receiving unit with five catches for 41 yards. On the ground, Miller led the charge for Framingham, although Luke Guarino averaged over nine yards a carry on route to 84 yards. Thomas C. Scotton ’08 rushed for 75 yards on 17 carries to captain MIT’s ground game, although the Engineers looked comfortable with their other options in the back. Grauman picked up 39 yards on 10 carries and DeRon M. Brown ’10 had 35 yards on 10 carries to add to the totals. Michael P. Fitzgerald ’10 and Kevin T. Vogelsang ’09 each hauled in three catches for a total of 60 yards to account for all of MIT’s receiving production.

MIT retakes the field in an away game against Nichols College on Saturday, Sept. 22, 2007 at 1 p.m.