OLPC and Intel Collaborate on Laptop for Developing Countries

By Nick Bushak

As it moves toward beginning full-scale production of the XO (also known as the $100 Laptop) in October, the One Laptop Per Child Foundation has increased the price of its laptop from previous estimates to approximately $188 per laptop. In addition, the non-profit has announced a "Give 1 Get 1" program allowing the public to donate $399 that will enable the foundation to give a laptop to a child in the developing world. The foundation will also take the laptop in consideration for their donation.

The price of the laptop increased from previous estimates of $177 to $188 per laptop. OLPC spokesper-son George Snell told Reuters in mid-September Walter R. Bender, SM ’04, president of OLPC Software and Content, said that “since we’ve never sold any, I wouldn’t characterize it as a price increase.” “We will always sell the laptop at price equals cost,” Bender said. Snell told CNN in September that the increase was a result of currency fluctuations and rising costs of components.

Mass production of the XO, which is being produced by Taiwanese laptop giant Quanta Computer Inc., will start “sometime in the last week of the month,” Bender said. Previous delays resulted because laptop parts were not available when needed. Because production is finally starting, Bender said he expects the laptop to be in decreased in price after production begins.

OLPC has been tight-lipped about the countries that have signed as initial customers. “Until we were in production, we couldn’t sign agreements, but we are doing that now,” Bender said. He said he was “not at liberty” to release the names of the countries, but did say that “there are confirmed places.”

However, OLPC might have a hard time actually selling the laptops to countries that did sign commitments. Nicholas P. Negroponte ’66, founder and chairman of OLPC, said recently to the International Herald Tribune, “I have to some degree underestimated the enthusiasm for a product until the hand of a head of state and having a check written,” adding that “it has been a disaster.”

OLPC announced a program to send news information and tips to reporters and editors, as well as in the year ahead. Bring news information and tips to reporters and editors, as well as in the year ahead. Bring news information and tips to reporters and editors, as well as in the year ahead. Bring news information and tips to reporters and editors, as well as in the year ahead. Bring news information and tips to reporters and editors, as well as in the year ahead.

Book Explores History of Measurement, MIT Smoot; Author, Smoot Visit Institute

By Marie Y. Thibault

The story of the MIT Smoot is gaining new fame, thanks to a recently-published book called “Smoot’s Ear: The Measure of Humanity.”

Oliver R. Smoot ’62, the Smoot’s namesake, was on hand to hear au- thor Robert Tavernor, an architect and professor of architecture and urban design at the London School of Economics and Political Science, discuss the book last Tuesday.

Those who traverse the Harvard Bridge regularly are probably familiar with the Smoot since the bridge is painted and measured as being 364.4 Smoots plus one ear. In the State Cen- ter, Tavernor recounted the story to his audience, a mix of students, alumni, and unaffiliated with MIT. In 1958, Smoot, known to his friends as Oliffe, was the shortest member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity pledge class and so “his body was chosen as sacrifice,” Tavernor said by pledge class and so “his body was chosen as sacrifice,” Tavernor said by pledge class and so “his body was chosen as sacrifice,” Tavernor said by pledge class and so “his body was chosen as sacrifice,” Tavernor said by pledge class and so “his body was chosen as sacrifice,” Tavernor said by pledge ended the need for a place where stu-dents can purchase food 24 hours a day, while Christine R. Johnson ’14 suggested monthly class din- ners. “We all love free food,” she said. Daniel C. Li ’11 stressed the need for “communications,” such as a class bulletin board and Web site where students can find study groups. Both Kevin A. Rustagi ’11 and Daniel Chen ’11 suggested Web sites where students may find prob- lem set solutions, study group list- ings, and other useful information.

McGraw-Hegley then raised the topic of campus division, noting that all five candidates reside on west side of campus, but I don’t think that should stop us from listening to all the members of the Class of ’04.

The debate, co-sponsored by The Tech and UA, was moderated by Tech Chairman Michael McGraw- Hegley ’08. He first asked the can-didates how they would allocate the Class of 2011 budget of approximately $20,000.

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By Ryan Ko

The first of 2011 presiden-tial candidates squared off on the first floor of the Student Center for the first-ever Freshman Class Coun-cil Presidential Debate on Sunday at 5 p.m. The debate was held the even- ing before online voting opened for both 2011 Class Council and Undergraduate Associate Senate elections. Candidate positions were released the same night, and late pet-i tions for open seats as of the Sept. 26 deadline were accepted until yes- terday at 5 p.m. (See tables on page 6)

Candidates Share Priorities, Goals
In UA’s 2011 Class Council Debate

Two Alums $500,000 to Pursue Dream Projects

By Arjakit Day

Two MIT alumni were awarded “genius grants” by the MacArthur Foundation last week to fellow recipients Saul T. Griffith PhD ’04 and Yoky Matsuoka PhD ’98, will receive a stipend of $500,000 over the course of five years that may be spent how- ever they wish.

Matsuoka are among 24 recipients this year.

According to the Foundation Web site biographies, Griffith, an associate professor of design, optics, textiles, and nanotechnol-ogy at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, creates “advanced prosthetics and robotics expert at the University of Washington, “creates sophisticated prosthetic devices and designs complimentary rehabilita-

“Genius Grants’ Provide
Two Alums $500,000 to Pursue Dream Projects

By MacArthur

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Afghan Insurgents Hang 15-Year-Old Accused of Being a Spy
By Taimoor Shah
WASIT, AFGHANISTAN—Taliban insurgents in the southern province of Helmand kidnaped a 15-year-old boy, accused of being a spy for the Afghan and foreign authorities, beat him severely, then hanged him from an electric pole, Afghan officials said.

In a final insult, the fighters took five $1 bills they found in the boy’s pocket and stuffed them into his mouth, the officials said. Dollars are considered holy to many Afghans used as a currency in a parallel economy to the official currency.

The attackers left a note with the body warning that if anyone else was to sell them, they would meet the same treatment, said Hameed, the police chief of Sangin, a district in Helmand where the killing occurred Sunday night.

Mammad Agha, the boy’s brother, retrieved the body on Monday morning and told the police that he had been falsely accused.

“He was a poor boy working for his family,” said Janatallah Mujahid, the top civil administrator in Sangin. “He was not working for any organization.” The boy’s relatives told Mujahid that he had been on his way home from his job making keys in the Sangin bazaar when he was abducted and killed.

Democratic Hopefuls Raise More Money Than Republicans
By Michael Cooper
WASHINGTON — The Democratic presidential candidates continued to raise significant sums of money through the first three months of the primary season, according to official and unofficial third-quarter fundraising tallies that were released Monday.

Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., raised at least $20 million over the summer, more than $19 million of which could be spent on the primary — the most of any candidate. In the last three months, Obama’s campaign has been building its ground game and raising money to continue that expansion.

Obama’s financial success also brought pressure on Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton to keep raising money, even as other candidates have cut back. Mr. Edwards, who raised $9 million, and Gov. Bill Richardson raised $5 million. Mr. Clinton said that they expected to raise a similar amount. Mr. Edwards raised as much as $19 million of which could be spent on the primary.

But until now, Sen. Barack Obama had not previously identified a specific political office for himself immediately after the presidential election in March.

Putin’s announcement seems to confirm what many analysts had as-sumed: That he plans to hold onto the power he has accumulated over the past eight years.

Putin, who spoke at the congress of the United Russia, the coun- try’s dominant political force, said he would lead that party’s list in De-cember parliamentary elections.

Putin, who is popular among Russia’s citizens and has consolidated his control of government, has often said he intends to remain involved in politics beyond his sec- ond term as president. He has even said that he may seek re-election after another president holds the of- fice, which the Russian constitution would allow.

But until now, Putin had not pre- viously identified a specific political office for himself immediately after the presidency. According to this announcement again raised questions about the future of his chief execu-tive, Charles O. Prince III.

Still, all three major markets indexes closed higher on Monday. The Dow Jones industrial average set a record, rising 191.92 points to 14,087.55.

Analysts cautioned, however, that serious problems remained in the housing market and questioned whether consumer spending could continue to carry the broader econ- omy.

“It’s a cleanup quarter,” said Michael Mayo, a financial services analyst at Deutsche Bank. “The in-dustry cleaned up from the collapse of subprime mortgage deals earlier this decade, from commercial real estate in the early 1990s, and from Third World debt in the late 1980s. This quarter has the potential for a similar cleansing — only this time from pri-vate equity loans and mortgages.”


Weather

Russian President Positions Himself to Be Prime Minister
By C.J. Chivers
WASHINGTON — Vladimir V. Putin, who is constitu-tionally barred from seeking another term as president of Russia, announced on Monday that he might become prime minis- ter next year.

Putin’s announcement seems to confirm what many analysts had as- sumed: That he plans to hold onto the power he has accumulated over the past eight years.

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Putin’s speech here elevated the Kremlin’s stagecraft to new levels. The United Russia’s party congress led the traditional news wire services, which featured scenes of Putin sitting in elevated viewing stand above each speaker as they ad-dressed a crowd that looked up to- ward him adoringly.

One speaker, a woman from the Ivanovo Oblast, or district, praised with party officials to find a way to keep Putin in office for a third term.

“I see so many big bosses and just smart people at this congress,” said the woman, Yelena Lapshina. “I am- peal to all of you — let’s think of something together so that Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin will remain the president of Russia after 2008 as well.”

The use of a woman from Ivanovo bore some from Soviet iso- namoodles and the phenomenon of state-endorsed heroes of the proletariat.

Putin’s managers quickly topped even that obvious symbol, as an ath- letic in a wheelchair rolled onto the stage and praised the president.

“Vladimir Vladimirovich, you are luck,” said the athlete, Nikolai B. Tenyayev, a ski champion from the Paralympic games. The crowd broke out in applause. Tenyayev contin- ued.

“And while you are the presi- dent, the luck accompanies Russia,” he said. “You have become a talis- man for tens of millions of people, a symbol of the successful develop- ment of the country. Of course it is up to you to decide which place in the country’s political life you will occupy, but no matter what decision you make, I want you to stay with us.”

Putin looked down from his seat, head tilted, eyebrows raised, emanating calm and power.

The days evented a new round of speculation about Putin’s path through the elections ahead.

The prime minister’s position in Russia is often viewed as a step to- ward the presidency. Putin himself was briefly the premier under Presi- dent Boris N. Yeltsin but swiftly rising to the seat of power.

Wall Street Posts Records After Write-Downs by Banking Giants
By Eric Dash
NEW YORK
Wall Street’s banking giants on Monday started to admit their prob- lems, which began in the mortgage- lending business and led to a sum- mer of wild stock market swings.

The United States’ biggest bank, Citigroup, will write off $5.9 bil- lion in the third quarter, causing its profit to drop 60 percent from a year earlier. Europe’s biggest bank, UBS, said it had written down $3.4 billion in the value of mortgage- backed securities and would suffer a loss in the quarter. Other banks, including Merrill Lynch and Bank of America, have similar warnings.

Investors took the disclosures as a sign that the worst may be over for the banks and that any losses may be contained. At Citigroup, the an- nouncement again raised questions about the future of its chief execu-tive, Charles O. Prince III.

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Banks and brokerage firms have been contending with the twin prob- lems of the mortgage market and credit market collapse in July and August. As mortgages to homebuy- ers with shaky credit scored, the fallout sent shockwaves through the housing system.

Investors lost faith in mortgage- backed bonds and other complex securities, causing prices to plum- met. Demand for high-yield loans also dries up. Brokers deal deals all but dried up, leaving banks faced with the possibility of holding billions of dollars in debt. And higher financi- ng costs and tighter lending terms caused mortgage underwriting to grind to a halt.

Investors, including many hedge funds, suffered heavy losses this summer. Now, Wall Street is also paying the pain.

Spring (in the Southern Hemisphere)
By Roberto Rondanelli
SOUTH AMERICA

The arrival of seasons between hemispheres should not be a surprise to most educated people in the world (although we were reminded of a famous educational experiment in which Harvard graduates failed to give a good reason for this happening). As we entered the autumn season in the northern hemisphere, the winter came to an end in the southern hemisphere. The sun close to the equator in the summer makes the mean tempera- tures similar across the same latitudes in both hemispheres. According to this simple rule, we should find that locations in the southern hemisphere around 42° 12’ of latitude have the same temperatures as we are experiencing in Boston. However, locations in the southern hemisphere at the same latitude as Bos- ton are relatively colder this year by approximately 3°C. The thermal inertia of the ocean is the main reason for these colder temperatures. Taking into ac- count the unusually warm temperatures that we have been experiencing in Boston the past few weeks the difference grows to approximately 5.7°C. To experience the difference in this equation is the same as the difference in temperatures in Boston’s temperatures this week, we would have to go as far north as Buenos Aires, Argentina or Canberra, Australia which are located at around 35°S.

Weather in Boston this week seems to continue to dry because of a strong high blocking located off the coast (1032 mb). Clouds mixed with sunshine can be expected for the next few days with temperatures that will be warm for this time of the year.

Extended Forecast
Tonight: Clear, low 58°F (14°C).
Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. High 72°F (22°C).
Security Alert Issued Regarding Toys With Remotes at Airports

By Eric Lipton

WALSHINSON

Citing "credible specific information" about terrorist tactics, Transportation Security Administration officials said Monday that consumers carrying remote-control toys about airplanes. The move was not motivated by a specific threat but was a standard federal procedure, a Transportation Security Administration official said.

The alert is the third this month issued by the agency. The earlier ones were about the potential for remote-control cars to be used to detonate a bomb, officials said.

The aviation authorities decided against banning the devices in carry-on luggage but asked that parents and teachers ensure that children did not bring such toys to the airport. The authorities said they were not aware of any instances of terrorist groups using remote-control cars to commit acts of terrorism.

The alert was issued Monday to air carriers, airport operators and state and local authorities.

The Aviation Security Act of 2004, which was enacted in response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, allows the Transportation Department to issue alerts when it has credible information about a potential threat to transportation security. The department has issued alerts before about the potential for remote-control cars to be used to detonate a bomb, officials said.

The alert came a day after the State Department warned travelers not to carry any electronic devices in their carry-on luggage.

The State Department, in its advisory for travelers, also advised that travelers not carry any electronic devices if they are unsure about whether they may be used for terrorist purposes.

The alert was not issued to the Department of Homeland Security, officials said, because it is not directly responsible for airline security.

The Transportation Security Administration, which is part of the Department of Homeland Security, is responsible for ensuring the safety and security of American air travel.

The agency said it had not received any specific information about a potential threat to transportation security.

The Transportation Security Administration has been working with the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that electronic devices are not used for terrorist purposes.

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Letters To The Editor

The women's tennis photo on page 20 of the Sept. 28, 2007 issue of The Tech did not clearly identify the two players pictured. Katherine M. Smyth '10 is on the left side of the photo and Emily J. O’Meara '10 is on the right.

Ahmadinejad at Columbia University

I definitely dislike Ahmadinejad, and, as an Iranian-American, I think I know enough about Iran to take such a position with little to no prejudice. He represents an oppressive regime with an unfulfillable mandate (we represent God, therefore everything we do or say is perfect) whose only contribution to the Iranian people has been the nationalization of oil. Even so, any figurehead of a sovereign nation ought and arguably must speak at an academic institution. Granted, Columbia president Lee Bollinger probably introduced Mahmoud Ahmadinejad critically in order to evade criticism for inviting the Iranian president in the first place, but that doesn’t justify such an undignified welcome. College students aren’t dumb. We can form our own opinions without administrative high-ups telling us what to think, so we don’t need people like Bollinger to frame speeches for us. Perhaps our American political culture has been desensitized to the significance of the position of head of state. It’s no surprise, either, when one considers that our recent political history involves the deconstruction of the Afghan government (legitimates) and the Iraqi government (who are we there again?), as well as President Bush’s intermittent buenoyness.

Also, I’d like to see an actual evaluation of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s government, not the jokes Bollinger accuses the Iranian government of doing, is illegal. The United States has done this in numerous crises. I have friends in the U.S. military, and I definitely want them to succeed and survive. Putting my patriotic opinions aside for a second, though, I notice that the United States is in Iraq for a purely political purpose, be it democracy, oil rights, or hegemonic display. Why, then, is it illegitimate for the Iranian government to support soldiers who are fighting for their own political purposes in Iraq? Neither Iran nor the United States can claim the moral high ground in Iraq—neither is making Iraq any better by waging war. Keeping in mind that democracy, in and of itself, is not normatively valuable, I repeat, come to the same conclusion: no rationale for American involvement in Iraq has been validated, and, every time an American soldier is killed in the fight, the reasons for leaving Iraq—stable or unstable—are compounded. If we see no basis for Iran, a key player in the Middle East, to meddle in the affairs of post-Saddam Iraq, how can we justify American involvement?

Arya Azma ’11

Options Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Michael McGraw-Herdig, Editor in Chief Angeline Wang ’09, Managing Editor Austin Chu ’08, and Opinion Editor Aditya Kohli, and Contributing Editor Rosa Cao.

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

Letters 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 Tech staff.

To Reach Us

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. 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. 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-tech.mit.edu.

The Tech
MIT, be warned. The best bike thief of all time is on the loose and he's ready to steal your heart. Huh? Let me explain.

I was getting a falafel at the Massachusetts Ave. food truck and I'd learned my bike against some stairs a few feet away. When I turned around, it was gone. I looked around and saw some dude casually riding away with it. I sprinted out after him shouting, but he didn't speed up. In fact he sort of just stopped and looked scared. I knew then that something wasn't quite right, but hey, this was my moment to collectively "man up" for everyone who had ever lost a bike to a thief.

I cornered him and began berating him, falafel in hand. I was mad and ready for fists. A normal thief would have gotten defensive or simply run away. This guy just lowered his head and said, "Yeah ..." really sad like, as only a depressed MIT student can. I couldn't punch the kid now. I tried to lecture him some more, but my heart just wasn't into it. He wove together such a sad tale of woe that I almost wanted to give him my bike. At a loss for words, I grabbed my bike and told him to run along home and feel better. That's right, some guy tried to steal my bike and I say to him, "Good luck. I hope it all works out." What's wrong with me?

I wheeled my bike over to the sidewalk and sat down to think. After chowing on both the situation and my falafel, it finally fell into place. This guy was either the most brilliant thief of all time or just the saddest sap human being ever seen. I'm leaning toward the latter. Everyone knows stealing bikes is easy as pie. Most people leave bikes lying around. You just have to pick one up and walk away casually. And around here, what's less suspicious than a small dude with glasses and a laptop case?

The problem is that every fifth bike or so, the owner of the bike is actually right around the corner, getting falafel. So the most relevant skill for a bike thief is to not get arrested or beat up that fifth time. And this guy said all the right things to make me not want to punch him. Every time I asked him a question, he either made himself seem even sadder or just confused me to bits. Like when he said, "Why the hell would you want to borrow my bike? I just have to pick one up and walk away casually."

So when I tell you that in order to function in college, I have decided to at least try to cook, I want you to understand my full meaning. I do not mean I am becoming a good cook. As unpalatable and potentially dangerous as the thought may be, I might as well learn to cook at some point in my life. It may be appropriate to give you some idea as to exactly how myopic the idea is. I stuck to cold cereal not because I couldn't make something more nutritious, but because I was too lazy to not use the sort that would probably manage to burn one half and underheat the other. My greatest culinary achievement was successfully making a single stir-fry. That was several years ago and I still had to check with my parents constantly to make sure I was starting properly. When I could not reheat or cook it without the microwave, I nearly starved.

But who would ever suspect a laptop case? Also, he clearly did not have a laptop in that case. It was most likely lock picking tools, but who would ever suspect a laptop case?

No one. It was just a mean joke. I know that as soon as I walked away, he straightened his posture, put on cool sunglasses, and laughed manically on his way home to his last full of stolen bikes. But then, if he's that smart, why is he stealing bikes? What could possibly motivate someone smart enough to be at MIT to commit petty crime? Wait, how much is tuition again? 40K a year? I guess he's taking a more literal approach to the term "free ride."
By Christina Kang

The air was thick with humidity when I stepped off the airplane into a bare airport that was very unlike any other airport I’d ever known and still under construction. However, I had arrived successfully in India and went through the visa checkpoint swiftly and without any trouble. While waiting for my luggage, I met a friendly Indian woman whose daughter clung furiously to her leg and started crying every time her mother tried to detach her. I handled her luggage so that the child could stay attached. While waiting for her second bag, the woman explained that she lived in Washington, D.C., and had spent the past couple of months in Scotland where her husband was a guest finance professor at a university. They had just adopted their daughter from Guatemala and were visiting the guesthouse on the obvious bond that had become her mother. I commended my new acquaintance on the obvious bond that had already developed and wished them the best.

I was documenting. The guesthouse was surrounded by permanent structures. Concrete buildings and more permanent buildings and the open sewage, horrible stench, andrestricted laughter, and such hospital signs and stoplights are rare. There is a lot of honking and “dipping” (known as “high beam honking” in the United States) and these are used regularly to tell someone that they are about to be passed or that they must “get out of the way because I’m going to keep going and I WILL crush you to get by if I have to.”

There were, of course, many new and exciting things. Monkeys could be found walking around the university campus. When I first spotted one, I yelled out, “Oh my god! There’s a monkey right there!” providing amusement for those around me who pointed out all the other monkeys that were customarily strolling around. Cows plodded down streets, and statues and tin roofs could be seen between the concrete buildings and the permanment structures.

I was lucky to be in a room in the guest house of the university along with the students who were working. I was documenting. The guesthouse had air conditioning, a huge rest room. The room was simply but clean and much nicer than I ever expected. I had brought several bottles of water and every day for only 12 rupees per bottle. What a bargain!

In the following days, I documented four girls from MIT who traveled to the slums outside Delhi to survey the community members about their education and health. I came across twinkling eyes, unrecorded laughter, and such hospitality, but the open sewage, horrible living conditions, lack of food, and abundance of disease struck my heart. Check back next week for India through my eyes.

Jessica K. Lee ’08 (left) works with a Hindi-speaking student from the Rai Foundation, interviewing community about tuberculosis in Lucknow, India.
OVNI

by Roxana Safipour

Mad Science

by Scott Berdahl

su|do|ku

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

Solution on page 12.
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For more information on the 2006 Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony and the Ig Informal Lectures, please visit: http://www.improbable.com/

All Ig Nobel Prize activities are organized by the Annals of Improbable Research. This free event is organized in cooperation with the MIT Press Bookstore.
New Book Details History of Measurements, Smoot

‘Happy Days,’” Tavernor joked.

Tavernor’s book, which was five years in the making, details the history of measurement systems. There is the story of a man who tried to find the height of the Egyptian pyramids 2,500 years ago, using his body and the shadows as tools. The rise of the meter, a unit of measurement unrelated to humans, is also retold by Tavernor.

After the lecture, Smoot said that the book underlines the idea that “especially in human expressions like architecture, it is important to relate to people…. it is helpful if the units are related to people.” He added that because the meter is non-sacred, unlike the traditional pied de roi, or French royal foot, it has been assumed to have “some sort of perfect basis … [but] it’s a bunch of hokum.”

The Smoot earns mention in the book because it “encapsulates the personalization of measures,” Tavernor said. “It is very, very different from the metric system.” The significance of Smoot’s Ear is that it stands for an approximation, a “plus or minus,” said Tavernor. This was a “tacit recognition” that the measurement wasn’t entirely accurate, he said.

Near the end of his lecture, Tavernor said that his name was part of the book’s title. “I did a little investigating to make sure it wasn’t a prank.” During the questions that followed his lecture, Tavernor said that he thinks “it is incredibly important to embody measures” and that “humans need to be able to deal in a direct way one to another.”

After the lecture, as audience members lined up to request “the famous Smoot” signature, Miller, who is now co-director of the MIT Venture Mentoring Service, praised his famous classmate. Not only was Smoot the shortest in his pledge class, but “he was also the coolest.” He was always friendly … and socially adept,” Miller said, chuckling.

A celebration is being planned for next year, which will mark the 50th year the Smoot has graced the bridge, said Stephen Hanson ’84, an alumnus of LCA who served as the emcee of the lecture. A commemorative plaque was mounted to the bridge for the 25th anniversary of the Smoot but was “stolen within a week,” Smoot said.

In an ironic twist, Smoot went on to become the chairman of the American National Standards Institute and then, in January 2003, began a two-year term as president of the International Organization for Standardization. He is now retired and living in San Diego, Calif., where he jokes that he spends his time as an irrigation engineer, making sure the sun doesn’t scorch everything in sight.

Solution to Crossword

Solution to Sudoku

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Two Dormitories Remain Without Senate Candidates

The number of Senate seats per living group, included in parentheses, depends on the population of the group. Neither Bexley Hall nor Random Hall have candidates.

"I’m very excited for this year, and I think that there are very talented people running," Zhu said. Online voting closes Thursday.Pager voting is available in Lobby 10 on Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and election results will be posted at midnight on Oct. 6.
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Reality Show ‘Geek’ Still Learning From Experience, He Says

JG: I think they try to get a spectrum of what they consider to be geeky. You know, they have the comic book guy, the sci fi guy, and then there’s the token MIT guy. It was kind of how I joked to the cast — everyone was trying to come up with the reasons why they were there, and I was like “Hey, I’m the token MIT guy.” So I think that they will continue to have MIT people on the show.

JG: I think that in the audition process, they look for people who are genuine; you need to go in there and be yourself. I think that they consider geeky is different than what MIT students would consider geeky. They probably think all of us are geeky. I just went in and showed them some of the things I’m interested in. I showed them some of my circuit projects, I talked about tops I’ve done, those kinds of things. They kind of loved it. I remember I bust out my 3,602 project and actually demoed that, and they really liked that. I think they’re looking for something that’s very stereotypically geeky but all engineering and science could be considered that. I think most MIT students are able to talk about what they’re doing, their research in a very technical way and they really like that. They love all the buzz words, the technical terms. So most MIT students will hit them with some of that.

JG: I think I look different after the show. I thought I looked different after the show if they wanted to. I’d definitely do the show again. I would encourage anyone else to be a part of the show.

JG: I would absolutely do the show again. It was an amazing experience. I think that everyone has something they can get from it, just in terms of meeting the people. I will remain close with many of the cast members, and that alone is great. You get to do things you never would have done before, see a whole new side of yourself. That’s something everyone would like and I personally loved, so I’d totally do it again. I would encourage anyone to audition. I think that the majority of MIT students could make a good show if they wanted to. I’d definitely encourage anyone to do it who has an interest.

JG: I think that the show felt pretty natural. I think that you react a little differently being in front of the camera. I think that changes how you feel a little bit. In that I also think it’s interesting how, normally, at least for the guys, you’re trying to focus on your cooler aspects, but in the show, they focus on your geekier aspects.

JG: I think that MIT is destined to always have a student play a geek on the show.

JG: It was funny because I think that they try to get a spectrum of what they consider to be geeky. You know, they have the comic book guy, the sci fi guy, and then there’s the token MIT guy. It was kind of how I joked to the cast — everyone was trying to come up with the reasons why they were there, and I was like “Hey, I’m the token MIT guy.” So I think that they will continue to have MIT people on the show.

JG: I think that in your opinion, what is the most important thing you pulled from this experience?

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MacArthur Winners Attribute Success to MIT’s Opportunities

She said that she was the first person in 20 years actually holding a baby when she got the call.

Matsuoka’s plans for the award money include starting a company that creates robotic devices used by disabled people and writing a book and a talk about balancing her engineering career with having a family. “A lot of women want to do that, but it’s intimidating,” she said.

She hopes she can convince more women to stay in the field and still pursue what they want in their personal life, she said. Griffith said that there “are projects I’ve always wanted to do, but never had the resources to do” or could not justify financially before receiving the award. For example, he said it would be fantastic if there were a CAD program anyone could use to design a paper airplane, then every kid’s paper airplane designs would be stored forever. Griffith added that he had many similar “silly ideas” and would probably think of better ones when “the shock dies down.”

Griffith recalled “taking apart his Tonka trucks” when he was six years old as his first foray into inventing. Griffith said that MIT was “probably the best experience of my life,” calling it an “unbelievably special place.” “Most students don’t realize just how amazing it is,” he said.

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Sports

Football Suffers Crushing 49-14 Home Loss to UMass-Dartmouth

By James Kramer

UMass-Dartmouth pounded out 372 yards on the ground and added six rushing touchdowns on route to a 49-14 victory over MIT on Saturday at Steinbrenner Stadium.

Harold led the offensive assault with 137 yards and two scores on 16 carries.

The Corsairs (2-3, 1-1) boasted four different rushers who found the end zone on carries covering at least 28 yards. Harold secured the first score of the afternoon on one of those long runs, scampering for a touchdown from 30 yards out on the first possession of the game. The opening score capped a seven-play drive that lasted just over two minutes.

MIT (0-4, 0-2) quickly bounced back with an 11-play, 52-yard drive that ended with Benjamin L. Granan '09 diving across the goal line from one yard out and 6:42 showing on the clock. The drive featured first-down runs by three different backs, while DeFiore M. Brown '10 keyed a new set of downs with a seven-yard run on a fourth-and-two play from the Corsairs' 44.

UMass-Dartmouth answered with another score of its own that once again took less than three minutes to complete. Harold rushed for 22 yards on three carries during the drive, including a seven-yard run that put six points on the board, but the drive was highlighted by a 24-yard reception by John Henry from Alex Garro.

The teams appeared to be trading blows, mostly behind power running attacks, until a critical goal-line interception on MIT's next possession gave the Corsairs the momentum for the rest of the game. After marching down to the UMass-Dartmouth eight-yard line, Chris Ciesluk stopped Tech's scoring opportunity with an interception at the MIT one. Ciesluk returned the pick 44 yards. Less than two minutes later, Bob Sullivan plowed two yards into the end zone to cap another impressive drive.

MIT fumbled on its next drive, and once again UMass-Dartmouth capitalized. After collecting 47 yards on six carries, the Corsairs moved in front, 28-7, when Aaron Russo hauled in three receptions for 66 yards and a score on 14 attempts. Henry hauled in three receptions for 50 yards to pace the Corsairs' receiving unit, while Garro finished 7-of-10 for 14 for 68 yards. MIT got a solid effort from Granan, who closed with 85 yards and a touchdown on 16 carries.

Rich Butley paced the UMD defense with 13 total tackles, although Dave Bombardier posted two sacks that set MIT back 14 yards. David D. Naco '09 secured eight tackles to lead the Engineers.

Tech Men Fall to Coast Guard, 2-1, With 0:22 Left in Double Overtime

By Jeff Lemieux

Coast Guard junior David O'Brien nodded home the winning goal with just 22 seconds remaining in double overtime, as the visiting Bears downed New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference foe MIT, 2-1, during the men's soccer game Saturday.

The loss was the first of the season for the Engineers at Steinbrenner Stadium. Prior to Saturday's setback, the Cardinal and Gray had been 4-0-1 at home. With the defeat, it dropped to 5-3-1 overall and 0-2-1 in the conference, while Coast Guard improved to 6-3-0 and 1-0-0.

The Bears nearly opened the scoring in the 98th minute, but junior Thomas Cameron saw his powerful diving header hit the outside of the goal. Twelve minutes later, Coast Guard teammate Nate Wojcik also came close, as he reached a powerful cross from senior captain Martin Villalba before Tech goalkeeper Thomas S. Caldwell '09. However, Caldwell did enough to put Wojcik off and force his effort just wide.

MIT also saw quality first-half scoring opportunities evaporate, as Andrew V. Bishara '09 made a dangerous 23rd-minute free kick that flew narrowly over the crossbar. The deadlock finally broke in the 60th minute, as Coast Guard defender Ben Walsh's cross beat the Engineers' offside trap and left rookie forward Nick Devine in alone on Caldwell. The freshman's rocket shot from a tight angle found the near upper corner, leaving the keeper no chance and staking the Bears to a 1-0 lead.

Bishara's cutting 20-yard effort in the 66th minute looked like it would even the score, but the ball hit the face of the post.

Talia would eventually draw the home side level in the 83rd minute, however, with his second strike of the season. After receiving the ball just outside the six-yard box, a Coast Guard defender cleared Talia's first effort off the goal line. However, he followed his shot and drove home his own rebound to knot the score at 1-1 and send the match into overtime.

Chances were limited for both sides in the extra sessions, and the contest looked destined to end in a stalemate. However, with just 22 seconds remaining in the second overtime period, a corner kick by Walsh provided the Bears with a last chance to claim victory. The junior's serve was met at the back post by Peter Drenner, and the forward headed back across the face of the goal to O'Brien, whose downward header bounced into the adovate of the net to secure his third goal of the season.

Caldwell made a pair of excellent saves for the Engineers and finished with four stops overall, while freshman Chris Tarbell made five saves for the Bears.

MIT will now hit the road for four straight games, beginning at Brandeis University tomorrow at 4 p.m.