City Councillors Seek New 2-Year Terms in Cambridge Elections

By Marie Y. Thibault
place.venue
Next Tuesday, Nov. 3, voters will decide who will sit on the Cambridge City Council for the next two years. There will be at least one new face, since only eight incumbents are running for re-election. The main issues this year are affordable housing, education, and safety, as listed by many of the candidates as top priorities in their campaign. Some candidates are pushing less-known topics. Kathy Rodgers, a first-time candidate, says she is living with a disability and that her top priority is to bring Cambridge into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Jonathan Janik said that snarling traffic signals in Cambridge would allow drivers to get from one end of the city to the other more quickly, so he has made it a top priority. The only current City Council member who is not running for re-election is Anthony D. Gulluccio, who has just been elected to the Massachusetts Senate.

Two Dollar Tuesdays Provide Grad Students With Social Dining Event

By Arkajit Dey
place.venue
Oct. 9 marked the beginning of a series of dining events for graduate students as Two Dollar Tuesdays, sponsored by the Graduate Student Council and the Large Dining Group. A total of 125 students out of the 150 who bought tickets attended the sold-out event, which was intended to give graduate students an opportunity to socialize over dinner.

APO Holds Ugliest Human Competition

The Ugliest Man on Campus (UMOC) competition, the latest descendant of the annual Ugliest Man (UM) tradition until 1992, when a female competitor entered the competition on the basis that “she made a very ugly man,” according to Iolanthe K. Chronis ’08.

The Unholiest Human on Campus

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MIT Symphony Orchestra Gives Fall Concert

By Elijah Jordan Turner
place.venue
The MIT Symphony Orchestra gave its fall concert in early 1950s. MIT’s chapter of the co-ed fraternity closely followed the tradition until 1992, when a female entered the competition on the basis that “she made a very ugly man,” according to Iolanthe K. Chronis ’08.

Alpha Phii Omegas has been holding UMOC events at colleges and universities nationwide since the first year. Steven R. Lerman, gave a brief talk, and and GradRat, the graduate ring committee made a presentation. GradRat “had a sales booth, provided some sandwiches, and ruffled off some flash memory drives,” wrote co-organizer and OSC Services Chair Kevin A. Southwick.

The new Dean of Graduate Students, Steven R. Lerman, gave a brief talk, and and GradRat, the graduate ring committee made a presentation. GradRat “had a sales booth, provided some sandwiches, and ruffled off some flash memory drives,” wrote co-organizer and OSC Services Chair Kevin A. Southwick.

UMOC, Page 15

Obamas Win World Series—Championship Parade Today at Noon

By Caroline Huang
place.venue
The buzzwords were health care, education, and Iraq and the 9,500-person crowd swarming the Boston Garden in early 1950s. MIT’s chapter of the co-ed fraternity closely followed the tradition until 1992, when a female entered the competition on the basis that “she made a very ugly man,” according to Iolanthe K. Chronis ’08.

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Fifth-week flags have been sent to 233 freshmen who may be in danger of failing a class. This 2.1 percent warning rate is an increase from 1.7 percent in Fall 2006 and 1.3 percent in Fall 2005. About six percent, or 66 students, received more than one flag.

The increase in flags is not a reason to worry, said Julie B. Norman, senior associate dean and director of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Academic Programming, who attributes this year’s numbers to normal variance. “I am not aware of any outstanding issues with the freshmen class,” said Norman. Cites 20 percent as the average number of freshmen who are flagged each year.

You want a principled sports fan.” The crowd members, many sporting Red Sox hats and t-shirts, applauded that sentiment and waved their “Obama ’08” signs in response. Not only did the drizzle fill the fenced-in area around the Common’s pavilion, but additional listeners lined the area around the fences. The gathering was primarily of college students.

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Consumer Safety Chief Doesn't Want More Funds
By Stephen Labaton
WASHINGTON

The nation's top official for consumer product safety has asked Congress to rescind recent legislation intended to strengthen the agency that polices thousands of consumer goods, from toys to tools.

Gov. Chris Mooney, head of the Senate committee meeting under the legislation, Nancy A. Nord, the acting chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, has asked lawmakers in two letters not to enforce the bulk of legislation that would increase the agency's authority, double its budget and sharply increase its dwindling staff.

Nord said provisions that would increase the agency's maximum penalties for safety violations and make it easier for the government to make public reports of faulty products, protect industry whistleblowers and provide new avenues of complaints that will violate laws legally.

The measure is an effort to buttress an agency that has been under siege because of a raft of tainted and dangerous products manufactured both domestically and abroad. In the last two months alone, more than 13 million toys have been recalled after tests indicated lead levels that sometimes reached almost 200 times the safety limit.

Nord's opposition to important elements of the legislation is consistent with the broadly deregulatory approach of the Bush administration over the last seven years. In a variety of areas, from antitrust to trucking and worker safety, officials appointed by President Bush have sought to reduce the role of regulation and government in the marketplace.

Crackdown On Tainted Products Nets 774 Arrests, China Says
By David Barboza
SHANGHAI, CHINA

The Chinese government said Monday that it had arrested 774 people over the past two months as part of a nationwide crackdown on the production and sale of tainted and dangerous agricultural products.

Government regulators hailed the arrests as a major step forward for food and drug safety, and said the suspects were detained during nationwide inspections of thousands of restaurants, food and drug production facilities and wholesale food markets.

Determined to counter accusations that it has been producing and even exporting tainted goods, China vowed earlier this year to ramp up its food and drug safety regulations and to close down illegal manufacturers and exporters.

But the government also acknowledged Monday that problems remain.

As of earlier this month, it said, only 52 percent of the food tested in medium and large cities in China met food safety standards, and nearly 30 percent of the restaurants surveyed by regulators had failed food safety inspections.

Sas Ends Use Of Turboprop After Third Crash Landing
By lan Austen and Nicola Clark
W ASHINGTON

Scandinavian Airlines announced Monday that it would abandon a fleet of 27 planes made by Bombardier of Canada that have been involved in landings.

The unusual step by SAS came after one of its Dash 8 Q 400 com-
mutes crashed last month because of landing-gear failure, the third such incident involving the airline in the last two months.

In March, landing-gear problems forced the crash landing of a fourth SAS plane in a small airport.

No other airline flying Q400s removed the aircraft, a turboprop plane that is popular in the United States and elsewhere, after the Feb. 26 announcement, including Horizon Air in the United States, which has 33 of the planes.

General Motors to Build Hybrid Research Facility in Shanghai
By Keith Bradsher
SHANGHAI, CHINA

GM announced Monday that it would build an advanced research center in Shanghai to develop hy-
brid technology and other advanced designs, in the latest research in-
vestment in China by a foreign au-
tomaker despite chronic problems with pirated car designs.

GM already has a 1,300-emp-
ployee research center in Shanghai with its main Chinese joint venture, the Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp. The separate, wholly owned research center announced Monday for the most advanced vehicle engi-
nering and development would help GM keep greater control over new technologies than conducting the research through the joint venture.

Rick Waggoner, GM's chairman and chief executive, said that it was essential to do advanced research in China so as to adapt technologies quickly to locally sold models. GM's sales in China have grown from 0,000 in 1999, making it the company's second-largest market after the United States.

Waggoner said that the center was designed to keep control of intellectual property in China even while doing cutting-edge research. "We think it's a prudent tradeoff and we think the risk is manageable," he said.

Chen Hong, a top SAIC execu-
tive, was said to have brought in the design chief from GM to head the new R&D center. He said a center like this had never existed anywhere.

In a Senate briefing that the project would "guarantee China even while doing cutting-edge research here. "We think it's a prudent tradeoff and we think the risk is manageable," he said.

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By Simon Romero

In a country moving toward socialism, the Venezuelan govern- ment largesse here are still people like Dennis Pruitt, a business- man who dabbles in real estate and machine imports. He is the proud owner of a 4-door Hummer.

Many experts said the recent surge in gasoline prices that resulted in higher costs for many of the beneficiaries of govern- ment policies, the beneficiaries of govern- ment programs, and sometimes mandated disclosures for another

By John Schwartz

A week after a wave of fires began their deadly streak across South- ern California, firefighters were close to claiming victory Sunday, with all but two of what had been 24 blazes now more than 50 percent contained. The day’s activities included an agile recruit, Scott E. Parazynski, will peek around the pad. The day’s activities included an agile recruit, Scott E. Parazynski, will peek around the pad.

By Barry Meier

When Congress passed a bill in September requiring makers of drugs and medical devices to disclose the results of clinical trials for all new products, legislators of both parties applauded the long-awaited disclosure amended the proposal.

Nasa Extends Shuttle Mission To Repair Rotary Joint On ISS

By John Kepper

They have gone from exorcism to coronation in record time. The Boston Red Sox, who fought ghosts for most of the last century, are the promethean cause of their new millennium.

Weathers Aiding Containment Most Flames In California

By Jennifer Timmons

Two university campuses grieved on Monday after a fast-moving fire on the Delta Delta Delta sorority at the University of South Carolina consumed one of the Delta Delta Delta sorority and the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

Participants In Halted Medical Trials Left Uninformed Of Results Of Tests

By Barry Meier

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Venezuelans Oppose Subsidy Cuts For Fuel Despite Economic Woes

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Danial Lashkari

Walt and Mearsheimer Misinterpreted

I believe Stephen D. Fried’s account of the addresses made by Stephen M. Walt and John J. Mearsheimer (“The Why of the U.S. and Israel Strong Allies,” Oct. 23, 2007) misrepresents all the points they actually made in the CIS STARR Forum on Oct. 3. In fact, his report was so substantially different from my recollection of the speeches that I had to doublecheck the names of the speakers to make sure that the article was actually referring to the same event as I had attended. When I reviewed the footage of the event (available online at http://web.mit.edu/starr/start.htm) to see if there were comments that I had missed, I was surprised to find out how ex- traordinary the speakers had discussed and denied some of the viewpoints Fried ascribes to them.

Let me give a brief outline of what Walt and Mearsheimer actually stated in the STARR Forum. They first presented evidence for the existence of an influential interest group that benefits in favor of certain U.S. policies towards the Middle East. They described most of the efforts Mearsheimer actually representing a view that “US should come to Israel’s aid if its survival is ever in jeopardy.”

However, the reader cannot help but observe the value of the analysis of Walt and Mearsheimer’s criticisms of U.S. foreign policy as it provides an important contribution to the understanding of the political sphere. In particular, the analysis of the role of Israel as a vehicle for advancing American interests is certainly relevant to the current discussion of the Middle East. The article also highlights the importance of understanding the role of Israel in American foreign policy, which is crucial for assessing the impact of these policies on the region.

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinions of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Michael McGraw-Herdeg, Editor in Chief Angeline Wang ’09, Managing Editor Austin Chu ’08, and Associate Editor Brian Kwan ’10. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.mit.edu.

Letters To The Editor

Mailed letters are subject to editing and condensation. Letters should be typed double-spaced and not exceed 300 words. Please include contact information. The editor reserves the right to edit or condense letters, shorter letters will be given higher 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 printed in this publication. Another form of the opinions expressed in these letters and columns becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Contact 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 Tech staff.

To Reach Us

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to contact The Tech. You can e-mail the editors at editor@the-tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about events that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu.
By Charles Lin

Being a sensible person, I immediately scope out the area, and formulate an emergency plan in the event of a zombie attack. Having recently become acquainted with MIT and since Halloween is tomorrow, I feel I should share some of my zombie prevention insights.

In the likely event of a zombie outbreak in Cambridge, MIT will certainly be an im-
mediate target of the zombie horde. As we all know, zombies feast on brains, juicy brains. Thus the zombie mobs will rapidly descend onto campus creating a perilous situation for all involved.

If you're lucky enough to not get trapped on campus, I've already figured out a sure fire way to escape the massacre unscathed: go to the one guy who keeps saying, “We're all gonna die.” Luckily, zombies will often spare pregnant ladies, the unassuming nice guy, and small children if they're relevant to the plot. The case for hot chicks is somewhat up in the air. On the one hand, there’s a good chance you will be attacked very early on in the game, and it will be spectacular. However, should you befriend the unassuming nice guy, you’ll probably make it through the whole zombie onslaught. The downside is that you are the one guy who keeps saying, “We're all gonna die.” Nobody wants that.

Be very careful in forming your group. You know that paper that says if you can't find the suckers at the table? If you're in a group with a pregnant lady, an adorable little girl, and the sweet but misunderstood nerd guy, guess who's gonna get eaten next. Don't go too attached to anybody in the group as chances are they'll get bitten and won't have time to decapitate them right as they transform and scream, “WHYYYYYYYY!”

By Michael T. Lin

You cannot begin to imagine how thrilled I was today, when I stumbled upon a bad document that contained within half a mile of my dormitory. You see, my mother is an expert bargain hunter and my dad loves to buy shiny electronic doodads. (With a Radio Shack just up Massachusetts Ave and a Best Buy down it, I suspect I’m poised to follow in his footsteps.)

The genetic result, as you might imagine, is a person with a passion for cheap stuff. I haven’t yet started oathing and aching at Atlantis Roadhouse but the way things are going, it’s only a matter of time.

Perhaps I've just been playing too many video games where items of unspeakable value are lying hidden under rocks, inside moun-
tane-locking barrels, and in plain sight. That

would help explain my thrift shopping ad-

orativeness. It would most certainly help explain why I proved library discard carts in search of “ABC’s for Barfing Babies.” At any rate, the driving force behind my obsession is easy to place: the pos-

ability of finding something unbearably cool that only costs a week's supply of Top Ramen.

At some point, you're done. Home free. Having extensive knowledge of zombie behavior, I can tell you that zombies prefer-
tentially target heroes, jerks, The Man, and the one guy who keeps saying, “We’re all gonna die.” Luckily, zombies will often spare pregnant ladies, the unassuming nice guy, and small children if they're relevant to the plot. The case for hot chicks is somewhat up in the air. On the one hand, there’s a good chance you will be attacked very early on in the game, and it will be spectacular. However, should you befriend the unassuming nice guy, you’ll probably make it through the whole zombie onslaught. The downside is that you are the one guy who keeps saying, “We're all gonna die.” Nobody wants that.

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CAMPUS LIFE
Squid vs. Whale
Undead on the Prowl

By Charles Lin

At the Tech, Sunday, October 28, 2007

The Tech

The next step is to locate a place to hunker down. These are the main criteria of a good hiding place: no zombie entrances, plenty of oxygen, and a stash of food. Elevated areas are a plus, as zombies can't climb walls (with the exception of rags zombies). They however can climb stairs, so don't get stuck on the roof of the Green Building.

Once you’ve set down, prepare to get overran by zombies. This will happen just as the tech office is about to close. People will almost certainly go out even, yet at MIT, and the horde will be upon you. Fight them as best you can and remember to do at least one noble thing so you have reason to be saved when the end looks near, don’t worry. Zombies are always defeated by a donut or machine. Just close your eyes, and before you know it, your head is still intact and the predatory undead will be replaced by the joyous whosob of napalm raining down.

Charles Lin is wishing everyone a spooky Halloween.

By Michael T. Lin

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OVNI by Roxana Safipour

Meanwhile, on the space pirate ship “Voosus”...

<Captain, potential target sighted!>

<Government Research Vessel, single occupancy, light armaments, 2.5 power hyperdrive...should be a piece of cake>

<Excellent! You know what to do!>

<Prepare to be boarded!>

<AAAAAAAAAAAAARGH!>

ZAAAAAP!

Drum:

Oh no! Not space pirates!

To be continued...

PROOF OF FALSE by Andrew Spann

WHY DO TELEVISION SHOWS TRY TO ADVERTISE THEMSELVES AS "UNEDITED"? IT SOUNDS STUPID TO ME.

Maybe there’s something significant that they were pressured into trying to censor.

NO, I THINK IT’S FAR MORE LIKELY THAT THE EDITORS ARE ALL LAZY IDIOTS AND DON’T FEEL LIKE DOING THEIR JOBS.

NO, I THINK IT’S FAR MORE LIKELY THAT THE EDITORS ARE ALL LAZY IDIOTS AND DON’T FEEL LIKE DOING THEIR JOBS.

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Proof of False Archive: http://web.mit.edu/spann/Public/ProofOfFalseComic/

MCMXVI by R Perez–Franco

So I told the professor that your dad is a Yankee fan...

Wait. You did what?

What’s wrong?

Was it a secret?

Are you crazy?

What did he say?

Well, that he would have to reconsider your thesis theme...

...and reassest whether the department has enough funds for your stipend...

Oh my... Oh my...

Just messing with you.

Did I scare you?

Happy Halloween!

I hate you...

2007–Oct–28

mcmxvi.com

PHD by PHD

PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER

OK, LET’S SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE RATHER TO SHOW UP TO:

-DAY?

WHAT HAPPENED?

YOU STOPPED MAKING HANDOUTS SO HOW WE HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION AND STUFF.

YOU MEAN THE LESS I TRY, THE MORE YOU CARE?

WE PREFER THE TERM "STUDY CONSCIOUS."

www.phdcomics.com
MIT Shakespeare Ensemble presents Titus Andronicus in Kresge Little Theatre this weekend.

(clockwise from left)
¶ Lavinia, played by Sara E. Ferry ’11, pleads with her father, Roman general Titus Andronicus, played by Olivia Leitermann G, to allow her to marry the Emperor’s brother, Bassianus.
¶ Queen Tamora, played by Holly B. Laird ’07, Empress of Rome, takes advantage of her power over Emperor Saturninus, played by Yuri A. Podpaly G.
¶ Queen Tamora’s sons, Chiron (Sabrina M. Neuman ’09, left) and Demetrius (Akira Kobayashi ’10, right), fight over who will rape Titus’ daughter Lavinia.
¶ Chiron takes advantage of Titus’ widowed daughter, Lavinia, to avenge their brother’s death and their mother’s grief.

Photography by Roseanne Chanchall

The Tech does many things to get a story.
It’s flown its staff to Chicago to see March Madness in person.
It’s flown its staff to Los Angeles for E3.
It’s gotten its staff press passes to Red Sox games.

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DATE: November 15, 2007
TIME: 5:00pm - 7:00pm
PLACE: Building 5, Room 134

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Red Sox 2007 World Series Champions
Fans Take to the Streets in Celebration
On Sunday night the Red Sox defeated the Colorado Rockies 4-3, clinching the World Series Championship. This is the second time in four seasons the Sox have won the World Series. The city of Boston is throwing a parade to celebrate the victory today at noon. The parade will begin at Fenway park and make its way down Boylston St. to Boston Common and City Hall Plaza.

Center: A Boston police officer stands ready to disperse rioters with a baton.

Clockwise from top left:

† Inebriated college students flood the streets of Boston after the final game.
† Revelers stop a passing cab and rock it until smoke pours from the tailpipe.
† An enthusiastic driver leans out the window of his car while stopped on Bay Street Road near Kenmore Square.
† A line of police officers in riot gear blocks off Boylston Street in an attempt to contain the jubilant crowd.
† An ad hoc street musician beats on a traffic light with a drumstick in Kenmore Square.
† Two young men crowd surf.
† An exuberant fan celebrates near Kenmore Square.
† A shirtless daredevil jumps off an awning in Kenmore Square to crowd surf the happy throng below.
The MIT Symphony Orchestra performed this past Friday, Oct. 26 with new conductor Adam K. Boyles. The concert featured pieces from Kevin Puts, Johann Sebastian Bach, Edward Elgar, and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

(Clockwise from above)
† Tomina Parvanova tunes her harp during the intermission.
† Boyles talks to the audience before Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 3, which was played by a subset of the Orchestra.
† Tiffany Ho ’11 (left, from Wellesley) and Minhee Sung ’10 play cello during Millennium Canons, by Kevin Puts.
† Danielle H. Yuen ’11 (left), Tanya S. Goldhaber ’10 (center), and Alex T. Val ’11 play violin for Rachmaninoff’s Symphonic Dances, Opus 45.
† Ian C. Smith ’07 plays french horn during The Wand of Youth: Suite No. 2 by Sir Edward Elgar.

Photography by Omari Stephens
Students
Willing
To Pay
More For
Dinners

52 Tuesdays, from Page 1

McComber in an e-mail.

Graduate Student Council President Leeland B. Ekstrom G said that based on comments around the table he was sitting at during the event, “grad students would like the opportunity to dine with other students... on a semi-regular basis” as “there are very few communal dining options” for graduate students. Although MIT’s four dining halls, located in four undergraduate dormitories (Baker, McCormick, Next, and Simmons) are open to all students, Ekstrom said that factors such as location makes it difficult for graduate students to use; there are no dining halls in graduate residences.

“We’re planning to invite new faculty members to mingle with grad students” and considering catering or entertainment subject to budget constraints, McComber said. He added that the GSC would like to have the event every month and increase the number of attendees to 200.

It would be easier to plan fewer large events since getting enough volunteers for each date is the biggest hurdle, according to McComber. “We’re always looking for more people to help out,” he said.

Ekstrom said that students at the event told him that they “were willing to pay more than two dollars”, so if needed the ticket price could be increased to three dollars. However, the cost would still be subsidized by the GSC.

Future ticket sales will be online, McComber said. He anticipates an increase in the number of ticket sales. He also added that the people who wanted tickets but didn’t get them were put on a waiting list, and will get preference in ticket sales for the next TDT.

Ekstrom called the event “fairly successful.” The next TDT is scheduled for December 11 in Lookball, with 175 tickets for sale.

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Applications for the MIT EMS IAP 2008 class are now available at our website:

ems.mit.edu/apply.php

Applications are due by Midnight on November 1st.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Young (Class Officer):

jyoung09@mit.edu


**Candidates Discuss City’s Relations With Local Colleges**

| Candidate | Top Three Priorities | MIT-Cambridge Relations | PILOT Agreement | Students want...
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antonia Davis</td>
<td>Environments and community</td>
<td>Energy and environment</td>
<td>There’s always more to be done. In some cases, there is a clear need for partnership.</td>
<td>Always need to be looking at what universities can do to help community. I think MIT needs to continue to be an ongoing partner with us.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marjorie Becker</td>
<td>Affordable housing</td>
<td>Affordable housing and student development</td>
<td>MIT tends to hire individuals who can relate to community. Always room for improvement – need to walk closely how MIT develops property/amount of land it owns.</td>
<td>It just doesn’t make sense – needs to be a better formula. Perhaps MIT could help pay for part of $100 million renovation of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School instead of PILOT payments for a couple years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Panik</td>
<td>Synchronized traffic signals to allow drivers to get from one side of Cambridge to the other more quickly.</td>
<td>Create civic space for dialogue and debate</td>
<td>Relationship with MIT is fairly good. High school students should be allowed to intern and take classes at MIT and community should be able to use MIT athletic fields when the teams are not in season.</td>
<td>When universities expand, they drive up the cost of rent. Universities should increase the amount of payments – “they get off scot-free when it comes to taxes.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Kelley</td>
<td>More citizens actively involved in what their city council is doing</td>
<td>Promoting local businesses</td>
<td>Need to clarify what we want universities to do.</td>
<td>The universities have vast wealth, so I think the residents expect more. I think we [councils] wouldn’t be doing our job if we didn’t advocate for more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Harker</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Keeping Cambridge affordable</td>
<td>I was the councilor who brought forward the idea for the university subcommittee. We can do a better job of narrowing our requests to the universities. MIT can help tutor science and math in the public schools. Also need to make sure campus changes are the best for both the university and the city.</td>
<td>Want to feel safe going out and walking home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Moore</td>
<td>Affordable housing and job opportunities</td>
<td>Elderly</td>
<td>All the universities need to have more outreach in the community. MIT, Harvard, and Lesley will be involved as always for my Cambridge Educational Youth League, which will also include a basketball league managed by Professor Ewing. MIT also deserves a “whale of a lot of credit” for its Working Forward program.</td>
<td>MIT pays more than Harvard, but both universities should be paying a lot more to the city. Perhaps the universities could donate land or funds toward making more affordable housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregg Morey</td>
<td>Youth apprenticeship programs</td>
<td>City is the largest land owners and employers in Cambridge. The universities need to take a greater interest in the community and the people where it resides.</td>
<td>We need to attack the issue of poverty together, because the level it is at now is unacceptable.</td>
<td>It seems that MIT has students to keep themselves, so I don’t really know why.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Murphy</td>
<td>Improve affordable housing</td>
<td>Changing economics and demographics in Cambridge</td>
<td>Pretty good relationships, but always need to keep universities focused on projects that have mutual benefit for both groups.</td>
<td>Always going to be a tough topic, but the most important thing is that it provides a vehicle for the city with long-term protection in case MIT decides to take real estate off the tax rolls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Reaves</td>
<td>Cambridge stays competitive with other bicentennial cities</td>
<td>Cambridge is one of the largest land owners and employers in Cambridge. MIT has the best government relations team. Universities are non-profits.</td>
<td>Don’t think much of it. The universities are acting more like corporations and less like schools. So why shouldn’t they be taxed accordingly?</td>
<td>Students are an important part of Cambridge, and I think everyone needs fair representation on the chem. But to be honest I am more focused on bringing jobs back to the working families of Cambridge. To give kids who might not have a chance to go to college a chance at a job. I don’t think many will come to a city that is putting the same priorities as Harvard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Rodgers</td>
<td>Bring Cambridge into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act</td>
<td>Perfecting public education system</td>
<td>MIT has the best government relations team. Understand many of the needs of the city, in terms of ensuring safety and quality of life for all Cambridge residents.</td>
<td>MIT pays more than Harvard, but both universities should be paying a lot more to the city. Perhaps the universities could donate land or funds toward making more affordable housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Seidel</td>
<td>Early childhood education</td>
<td>Environments and community</td>
<td>MIT is one of the most important universities in the world. MIT has done great work. The universities need to have a lot more outreach in the community.</td>
<td>MIT pays more than Harvard, but both universities should be paying a lot more to the city. Perhaps the universities could donate land or funds toward making more affordable housing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Densee O’Neal</td>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Economic development jobs</td>
<td>Everyone can always do more. For example, I’ve contacted MIT about a parking lot they own at the intersection of School and Cherry. No one parks there, so I’ve suggested that it be a site of a col- laborative project for affordable green housing.</td>
<td>Some universities are volunteer opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Sullivan</td>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>Low to middle-class income residents</td>
<td>High school students are looking for guidance, and want to hear some optimism.</td>
<td>MIT was the councilor who brought forward the idea for the university subcommittee. We can do a better job of narrowing our requests to the universities. MIT can help tutor science and math in the public schools. It seems that MIT has students to keep themselves, so I don’t really know why they care about.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Toomey</td>
<td>Quality of life</td>
<td>Traffic/parking/transportation</td>
<td>Students want safe, vibrant city that is accessible to them.</td>
<td>It seems that MIT has students to keep themselves, so I don’t really know why.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† Answered by e-mail

¶ Did not return phone calls and e-mail requests for an interview. Answers were taken from the Cambridge City Council website.

PILOT stands for Payment in Lieu of Taxes, an agreement in which Cambridge receives payments for non-taxable land being used by universities for educational purposes. In 2006, MIT’s PILOT payment was $5,543,000, according to the 2006 Cambridge Town Gown Annual Report Data.

**The Proportional Representation Voting Method**

Voters rank candidates, giving their favorite candidate rank number one. Voters can rank as many or as few candidates as they wish. Once any candidate reaches a threshold of top choice votes, he/she is im mediately elected. Any number one votes on ballots beyond the quota will be given to the number two on that ballot. Any candidate with less than 50 number one votes is then eliminated and those ballots are given to the number two vote. After this is done, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is eliminated and his/her votes go to the next preference. Candidates are elected by reaching quota after each elimination and redistribution.

**Source:** CITY OF CAMBRIDGE ELECTION COMMISSION WEB SITE

**Elections for Cambridge City Council will be held next Tuesday, Nov. 3. The above table contains the can didates’ answers to some questions particularly relevant to the MIT community. For more information, see story on page 1.**
**UMOC, from Page 1**

Running on the slogan “No Hell Below Us, Above Us Only Sky”, Evelyn M. Mervine G wants to donate the funds raised in the event to the James Randi Educational Foundation, an organization that promotes science in schools and also brings scientists and magicians together. “I am running for UMOC,” she stated, “because I want to bring attention to the MIT Atheists, Agnostics, and Humanists Club!” Despite her Christian upbringing, Mervine decided she was an atheist her freshman year in college. Jasmine R. Florentine ’11 decided to make a UMOC run after being recruited as publicity chair of the newly-founded Dead Kittens Society (which itself was inspired by one of her drawings of a dead kitten). “The Dead Kittens Society,” Florentine noted, “then helped me choose a charity and we decided for the irony we had to choose a charity helping animals.” As a result, even though she is running on a slogan that declares “Cute Things Are Tasty!”, Florentine is competing for the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Also running for consideration as the Unholiest Human on Campus is Adalberto Nicolas Garza ’10. His charity of choice is Planned Parenthood, which works on family planning health issues related to reproduction. Going along with that theme, and satirizing the nation-wide abortion debate, Garza has proclaimed “Pro-Abortion. Because Life and Choice are both wrong.”

Contestant Natalia N. Chernenko ’08, president of the Pagan Students Association, has selected the Charles River Watershed Association as her charity. She cautioned that the children of her Lord and Master from the river “shall arise and engulf all that lives, choking its very veins with alkali sand”, but also added, “They must not be stopped. Do not vote for me.”

UMOC Donations as of Monday, Oct. 29

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Charity</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miriam A. “Mish” Madsen ’09</td>
<td>Doctors Without Borders</td>
<td>$37.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conundrel threader “If you don’t vote for me, I’ll sabotage your contraceptives”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Those Damn Spammers</td>
<td>One Laptop Per Child</td>
<td>$51.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the participants of the most recent series of campus-wide flame-wars. “Helping developing countries learn everything there is to know about Vlad the Impaler”</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adaile M. “Lil”  Garza ’10</td>
<td>Planned Parenthood</td>
<td>$7.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Pro-Abortion. Because Life and Choice are both wrong!”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIT Dead Kittens Society</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Cute things are tasty!”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn M. Mervine G</td>
<td>James Randi Educational Foundation</td>
<td>$6.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-President of MIT Atheists, Agnostics, and Humanists</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“No Hell Below Us, Above Us Only Sky”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine R. Bieber ’07</td>
<td>Transition House for Women</td>
<td>$5.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Talia Winters,” High Priestess of the Campus Crusade for Cthulhu</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>“Sinfully Tentacular”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalia N. Chernenko ’08</td>
<td>Charles River Watershed Association</td>
<td>$2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pagan/Witch — President of the Pagan Students Group</td>
<td>“Do not vote for me.”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Voting for UMOC takes place this week in Lobby 30. MIT community members may vote by placing money in the jars of their favorite candidate’s jars.

Rush is over.

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Obama Promises To Make College More Affordable

students, but plenty of older adults and some families attended as well. Patrick alluded to the Red Sox as well in giving his endorsement to Obama: “Around here, we know how to come from behind and win. And that’s what we’re doing here tonight.”

New York Senator and former First Lady Hillary Clinton, who has repeatedly led Obama in national polls, had also asked the governor for his endorsement, but Patrick settled on Obama on Oct. 17. Right afterwards, Patrick workers started planning the Oct. 23 rally.

Governor Patrick’s introductory speech focused enumerated reasons why his constituents should support Obama. He equated Obama’s position in the Democratic presidential race to his own position in the gubernatorial race last year. “See, this election is not just about who we want. It’s about who we are,” he said. “For once I want a campaign that’s not about the candidate, but about us.”

Following Patrick’s endorsement speech, Obama promised reforms on issues ranging from health care and education to energy and Iraq, assuring the crowd that he would bring the spirit of change to Washington. “We need somebody to put an end to the game-playing and get serious about the challenges we face in America,” Obama said.

Obama guaranteed that one of his first acts in office would be bringing troops home from Iraq. He pledged that if elected, America would focus on encouraging diplomacy and humanitarianism instead of fear, perhaps alluding to President Theodore Roosevelt’s policy of speaking softly, but carrying a big stick.

Of particular interest to the young crowd was Obama’s promise to make “college affordable and accessible to every young person in America.” He pledged to provide students with the “opportunity to serve” the nation in different ways, saying that higher education would be free for those training to be nurses, social workers, members of the Peace Corps, or teachers in inner-city schools.

Obama’s campaign team encouraged crowd members to sign up to solicit votes in New Hampshire, offering transportation for all interested parties.

On the subject of health care, Obama elicited loud cheers by promising universal health insurance. In addition, he made a point of denouncing President George W. Bush’s veto of the State Children’s Health Insurance Program, a low-cost plan for families who cannot afford private health insurance. “I will make sure that every single one of you has decent, affordable health care” by the end of his first term, he said.

Obama showed off a funny bone too, glibly referring to Vice President Richard B. Cheney as a family member while discussing energy and Iraq. “It doesn’t help when my cousin, Dick Cheney, is put in charge of our energy,” he said, prompting laughter. “Everybody’s got a black sheep in the family,” he added with a grin.

Thursday November 1, 7:00 PM

Israeli Film Night

Featuring “Aviva Ahuvati”

Winner of the Best Screenplay award at the 2006 Jerusalem Film Festival

“Aivia Ahuvati” (Aviva, My Love) shows us the story of Aviva, a poor hotel chef, who finds herself on her way to fulfilling her lifelong dream of becoming a writer. The obstacles she must face and the effects of her journey on her quirky family are movingly depicted in this funny, award-winning film.

Hebrew with English Subtitles

Thursday Nov. 1

7:00 PM

Room 6-120

Free pizza!
The New England Philharmonic gave a performance in Kresge Auditorium last Saturday night. Peter B. Child, professor of Music and Theater Arts, is the Philharmonic’s composer in residence. For more information see http://nephilharmonic.org/.

(left) Richard Pittman, music director of the New England Philharmonic, concentrates on bringing out the best out of his orchestra.

(below) Baritone David Kravitz joins the New England Philharmonic for Gustav Mahler's “Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen.”

Photography by Sherry Yan

The School of Engineering announces the following opportunities open to eligible Sophomore and/or Junior students in the School of Engineering and the School of Science:

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The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.

The Goldwater Program provides scholarships of up to $7500 per academic year. Sophomore scholarship recipients will be eligible for two years of scholarship support. Junior scholarship recipients will be eligible for one year of scholarship support.

Nominations must be from YOUR DEPARTMENT and are due at
The School of Engineering, Dean’s Office, 1-224
By: November 21, 2007

For further information: Contact your Undergraduate Officer, http://www.act.org/goldwater/ or http://web.mit.edu/engineering/goldwater.html
or Mariam Marangiello (x3-8012, mariam@mit.edu)

MIT Faculty Representative: Professor Cynthia Barnhart
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,
School of Engineering

The Tech
By Gina Kolata

Clint T. Rubin knows full well that his recent results are surprising — that no one has been more taken aback than he. And he cautions that it is far too soon to leap to conclusions about humans. But still, he says, what if?

And no wonder, other scientists say. Rubin, director of the Center for Bone Biology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, is reporting that in mice, simple vibrations that do not involve drugs appear to be directing cells to turn into bone instead of fat.

All he does is put mice on a platform that buzzes at such a low frequency that some people cannot even feel it. The mice stand there for 15 minutes a day, five days a week. Afterward, they have 27 percent less fat than mice that did not stand on the platform — and correspondingly more bone.

“We were the biggest skeptic in the world,” Rubin said. “And I sit here and say, ‘This can’t possibly be happening.’ I feel like the credibleness of my scientific career is sitting on a razor’s edge between ‘Wow, this is really cool,’ and ‘These people are nuts.’”

The responses to his work bear out that feeling. While some scientists are enthusiastic, others are skeptical.

The mice may be less fat after standing on the platform, these researchers say, but they are not convinced of the explanation — that fat precursor cells are turning into bone.

“Bone is notorious for ‘use it or lose it,’” Rubin said. “Astronauts lose 2 percent of their bone a month. People lose 2 percent a decade after age 35. Then you look at the other side of the equation. Professional tennis players have 35 percent more bone in their playing arm. What is it about mechanical signals that makes Roger Federer’s arm so big?”

At first, he assumed that the exercise effect came from a forceful impact — the pounding on the leg bones as a runner’s feet hit the ground or the blow to bone as a tennis player’s arm with every stroke of the ball. But Rubin was trained as a biomechanical engineer, and that led him to consider other possibilities. Large signals can actually be counterproductive, he said.

“If I scream at you over the phone, you don’t hear me better. I shine a bright light in your eyes, you don’t see better.”

Over the years, he and his colleagues discovered that high-magnitude signals, like the ones created by the impact as foot hits pavement, were not the predominant signals affecting bone. Instead, bone responded to signals that were high in frequency but low in magnitude, more like a buzzing than a pounding.

That makes sense, he went on, because muscles quiver when they contract, and that quivering is the predominant signal to bones. It occurs when people stand still, for example, and their muscles contract to keep them upright. As people age, they lose many of those postural muscles, making them less able to balance, more prone to falling and, perhaps, prone to loss of bone.

Rubin believes that vibrations affect fat because he knows what happens with age: Bone marrow fills with fat. In osteoporosis, the bones do not nearly that, their texture becomes lacy, and inside the holes is fat. And a few years ago, scientists discovered a stem cell in bone marrow that can turn into either fat or bone, depending on what signal it receives.

No one knows why the fat is in bone marrow — maybe it provides energy for failing bone cells, suggests Dr. Clifford J. Rosen, director of the Maine Center for Osteoporosis Research and Education. And no one knows whether human fat cells ever leave the bone marrow and take up residence in body fat as well.

It is almost too good to be true,” Bouchard said, “that putting myself in the body of a mouse, if I was on a platform that was vibrating 90 times a minute, I would try to adhere to the surface and not be thrown off. I would probably tummy my leg a little bit. That is energy expen diture.”

Rubin says he decided to look at whether vibrations affect fat because he knows what happens with age: Bone marrow fills with fat. In osteoporosis, the bones do not nearly that, their texture becomes lacy, and inside the holes is fat. And a few years ago, scientists discovered a stem cell in bone marrow that can turn into either fat or bone, depending on what signal it receives.

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Smashing Pumpkins

The time-honored Halloween tradition of mutilating pumpkins saw its logical conclusion this Saturday evening as numerous squash fruit were chucked from the roof of the Green Building for the annual Pumpkin Drop. The Drop is sponsored by First West of East Campus and Weekends@MIT.

(clockwise from right)

Asilata A. Bapat ’10, Sarang N. Kulkarni ’10, Isaac M. Asher ’10, and Eric P. Brown ’08 (front to back) lob pumpkins off the roof.

Spectators gather at the base of the Green Building to examine what happens when speeding pumpkins hit the ground.

Pumpkins explode as they hit the ground at the end of their 21-story fall.

Working on things that matter …

Course 1 | Freshman Open House

Noon – 4 p.m.
Friday, November 2, 2007
Bush Room 10-105

Course 1 | cee.mit.edu

Find out about Civil and Environmental Engineering

- CO\textsubscript{2} Sequestration
- Engineering Design Lab
- Environmental Fieldwork in Hawaii (TREX)
- Materials Design
- Nano to Macro Structures and Materials
- Ocean Microbes
- Traffic Simulations
- Wetlands
...and more
**Sports**

**Upcoming Home Events**

**Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2007**
Women’s Volleyball vs. Mount Holyoke 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

**Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007**
Men’s Water Polo vs. Tufts/Boston College 7 p.m., Zesiger Center

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**Fencing Hosts Olympic Medalist**

Almost 50 alumni competed in foil, épée and sabre at last Saturday’s alumni fencing meet. Olympic Gold Medalist and former MIT student Johan G. Harmenberg '81 gave a presentation after competing in the event.

(above) Javier J. Ordonez '10 poised with épée in hand.

(below) Maximilian L. Brand '11 defeats his alumnus competitor in sabre.

Photography by Andrea Robles

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**Men’s Soccer Defeats WPI; Postseason Starts Wednesday**

The men’s soccer team defeated Worcester Polytechnic Institute last Saturday 1-0.

(above) Jason Zhu '11 executes a corner kick.

(below) Joshua J. Campoverde '08 slides to keep the ball from Worcester Polytechnic Institute’s Evan Demers-Peel during the final minutes of the Saturday’s match.

Photography by Aaron Sampson

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