

Concourse Instructor Jim Bredt Wins APO's 'Big Screw' Contest

By **Elijah Jordan Turner**
STAFF REPORTER

Last week, Alpha Phi Omega held its annual Big Screw competition. On April 14, James "Jim" Bredt '82 was crowned the winner, having received \$699.29 in monetary votes. All the proceeds from the event, which topped \$1500, will be given to the Environmental Working Group, a charity chosen by Bredt.

The Big Screw competition was first held in 1967 as a spinoff of APO's nationwide Unholiest Man on Campus event, whose contestants traditionally consist only of students. The co-ed fraternity wanted to have an event specific to MIT, where the community could nominate and select a faculty member who has contributed the most to making the lives of students miserable. Because faculty members are more well-known across campus than students, the Big Screw event has become an even bigger success than the Unholiest Man of Campus competition, said Big Screw Coordinator Iolanthe K. Chronis '08.

Furthermore, the name of the contest and its trophy seem to fit the honor's criteria.

"The honor is given to whoever has screwed over the most students over the past year," said Alpha Phi Omega president Zev A. Benjamin '08.

The winner of the annual competition receives a four-foot screw etched with the names of past winners. He or she gets to keep the screw until the following competition is held. This year, a group of students from the Concourse Program created a similarly sized screwdriver. After Bredt was announced as the contest's winner on Monday, the students exacted revenge by using the screwdriver to appear to drive the screw

into him.

When he received the award, Bredt, who served as a teaching assistant for the Fall 2007 Introduction to Solid State Chemistry (3.091) section for Concourse, explained his path to victory: "It's very difficult these days to effectively screw students, but 3.091 provided a lot of material." At this point, Bredt took out the chemistry textbook he used in college and compared it to the current 3.091 textbook, which is a compilation of multiple texts.

Later, he explained students' and the faculty's dissatisfaction with the large book, suggesting that it might be replaced next year. As a result, current 3.091 students, due to the unique nature of the book, "may just end up with a boat anchor." Although he does not know who nominated him for the Big Screw, he firmly believes the nominator came from the freshman class, given they are "just getting used to drinking from the fire hose."

Said Bredt, "I'd like to thank the little people — the freshmen."

Prior to the voting period, APO received nominations from students; self-nominations are not accepted. Afterwards, nominees were, as usual, contacted to see if they were willing to participate in the contest. Some faculty members are open to showing their humorous side, while others are weary of the perception the award might give. There were twelve participants this year, but about twice that many were actually nominated.

All last week APO was stationed in Lobby 10, where passersby could vote for a candidate by dropping money in the appropriate jar. Among the candidates this year was Michael D. Ernst '89, who stood out this year

Big Screw, Page 13

Dana Mead, Corporation Chair, Discusses Student Involvement



ANDREW T. LUKMANN—THE TECH

Dana G. Mead PhD '67 speaks to the Undergraduate Association at their weekly meeting in W20-400 on Monday evening.

By **Nick Bushak**
NEWS EDITOR

MIT Corporation chair Dana G. Mead PhD '67 spoke and answered students' questions at the Undergraduate Association meeting last night. He discussed challenges fac-

ing the Corporation and student involvement in the Corporation.

Students currently interact with the Corporation in two formal ways: through the Corporation's visiting committees and the Corporation Joint Committee on Institute-Wide

Affairs.

The Corporation's visiting committees serve as advisory groups to the Corporation. There are visiting committees for each academic pro-

Mead, Page 18

Fire Sprinkler Floods Next; Students Without Insurance May Face Loss

By **Valery K. Brobbey**
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

A sprinkler went off in Next House late on the night of Saturday, April 5, flooding portions of one hall.

Director of Housing Dennis Collins said that "no one is sure" what

triggered the sprinklers. Collins said that he first received reports of the incident at 11:45 p.m. The Cambridge Fire Department and MIT housing office staff, including a mechanic and night security guards, responded to the incident, Collins said.

The sprinkler went off in a room on the fourth floor for about 15 minutes, and water leaked down onto lower floors, Collins said. Next House residents were evacuated, and most of them stayed in New House. Residents

returned about an hour later, Collins said.

According to Collins, MIT Housing has not yet assessed the water damage, but MIT's insurance company has received preliminary information about the incident. Collins said that the insurance company only covers the physical space, including "ceiling, walls, floors and windows." Students should have their own insurance

Next House, Page 18



ANDREW T. LUKMANN—THE TECH

Matt Lavigne of The Name Changers rocks out on the drums and vocals during Zeta Beta Tau's annual Battle of the Bands, held in the Lobdell dining room on Saturday evening. See page 11 for more photos from Campus Preview Weekend.

NEWS

Campus Preview Weekend in photos . . .	11
Ariely to lead new Media Lab banking research center	14
Yale admits transfer student who faked grades on transcript	16

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Comics / Fun Pages	6
Campus Life	8
Sports	20

GSC Launches Off-Campus Housing Web Site

MIT students looking for off-campus housing may find a home thanks to a new Web site called Rent Monkey. The site is a project of the Graduate Student Council's Housing and Community Affairs committee.

Briefs Rent Monkey, available online for people with MIT certificates at <http://rentmonkey.mit.edu/>, shows where current MIT students live on an interactive map, and it allows students to comment on places they have lived in the past. Students can also add housing listings to the map.

The site is meant to complement the Housing Office's existing off-campus housing site, according to Linda L. Patton, Assistant Director of Off Campus Housing. The existing site provides access to a database of off-campus apartments for rent to the MIT community.

Robert Y. Wang G, co-chair of the HCA committee and Rent Monkey's developer, said he designed the site because he was frustrated with existing options for off-campus housing. Realtors on Craigslist often use "bait and switch" tactics, he said, in which they post inaccurate listings to lure potential renters into calling them.

Real estate broker's fees are especially costly for students who only want to inhabit an apartment for the school year, Wang said.

Wang hopes that Rent Monkey will provide a more trustworthy rental market because access is restricted to MIT certificate holders.

Although the site has been launched, many kinks still need to be worked out, said Wang. An e-mail advertising the site will soon be sent out to all students living off campus, he said.

Currently, about 250 students have submitted profiles to the site. People using the Rent Monkey Web site can add their housing profiles and peruse other students' housing experiences.

— Nick Bushak

WORLD & NATION

Beside Clinton, a Dedicated, Often Blunt Promoter

By Katharine Q. Seelye

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA.

Edward G. Rendell, the governor of Pennsylvania, demonstrated his value to Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton last weekend, helping her quickly devise a strategy to counter and exploit remarks by Sen. Barack Obama.

When Obama provided an opening by saying that small-town voters in Pennsylvania facing hard economic times “get bitter, they cling to guns or religion” to explain their frustrations, Rendell was ready to pounce. He instantly mobilized his political machinery, organizing many mayors in Pennsylvania to speak on her behalf and to hold rallies. He also suggested that she reshuffle her schedule to visit Scranton, where her father grew up and where, in a hastily arranged visit on Sunday, she highlighted her link with small-town Pennsylvania.

But Rendell could not actually speak with Clinton, in part because he was consumed with the intricate task of negotiating with others to map out her final week before the state’s primary next Tuesday — deciding who gets to see the candidate and who does not.

Zimbabwe Court Rejects Release of Election

By Celia W. Dugger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Zimbabwe’s High Court on Monday dismissed an opposition demand for the immediate release of the results of a presidential election held 16 days before. Independent monitors say the country’s autocratic president, Robert Mugabe, trailed badly in the vote and that he may have lost outright.

The opposition Movement for Democratic Change, contending that Mugabe and the military are illegally clinging to power, has called on people across the country to protest by staying home from work Tuesday.

“We are working with a regime that has perfected the art of interfering with the judiciary,” said an opposition spokesman, Nelson Chamisa. “The court has chosen to be a pillar in a collapsing regime.”

Zimbabwean election officials said in a state-run newspaper that on Saturday, they plan to start a recount of the presidential and parliamentary votes in 23 districts. A ruling on an opposition challenge of a recount is expected Tuesday in the same court system that rejected the opposition’s case Monday.

Election monitors say the late recount is illegal and vulnerable to fraud because the integrity of the ballot boxes has not been safeguarded.

Beijing to Stop Construction For Cleaner Olympics

By Andrew Jacobs

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

Officials laid out an ambitious series of measures on Monday that would freeze construction projects, slow down steel production and shut down quarries in and around this capital during the summer in an attempt to clear the air for the Olympics. Even spray-painting outdoors will be banned during the weeks before and after sporting events, which begin here on Aug. 8.

Although officials initially suggested that the city’s wholesale transformation would be complete long before the opening ceremonies, the announcement nonetheless represents the most detailed plan yet for how Beijing might reach its long-standing pledge to stage “green Games” in one of the world’s most polluted cities. In earlier proclamations, officials had said that the city’s makeover would be completed by the end of 2007.

The measures announced Monday include a two-month halt in construction, beginning July 20. Government directives will force coal-burning power plants to reduce their emissions by 30 percent through most of the summer. Officials said 19 heavily polluting enterprises, including steel mills, coke plants and refineries, would be either temporarily mothballed or forced to reduce production.

Bankruptcies Sweep Retail Chains as Consumers Cut Back

By Michael Barbaro

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The consumer spending slump and tightening credit markets are triggering a widening wave of bankruptcies in American retailing, prompting thousands of store closings that are expected to remake suburban malls and downtown shopping districts across the country.

Since last fall, eight mostly mid-sized chains — as diverse as the furniture store Levitz and the electronics seller Sharper Image — have filed for bankruptcy protection as they staggered under mounting debt and declining sales.

But the troubles are quickly spreading to bigger national companies, like Linens ‘n Things, the bedding and furniture retailer with 500 stores in 47 states. It may file for bankruptcy as early as this week, according to people briefed on the matter.

Even retailers that can avoid bankruptcy are shutting down stores to preserve cash through what could be a long economic downturn. Over the next year, Foot Locker said it will close 140 stores, Ann Taylor will shutter 117 and the jeweler Zales will close 100.

The surging cost of necessities

has led to a national belt-tightening among consumers. Figures released on Monday showed that spending on food and gasoline is crowding out other purchases, leaving people with less to spend on furniture, clothing and electronics. Consequently, chains specializing in those goods are proving vulnerable.

Retailing is a business with big ups and downs during the year, and retailers rely heavily on borrowed money to finance their purchases of merchandise and even to meet payrolls during slow periods. Yet the nation’s banks, struggling with the growing mortgage crisis, have started to balk at extending new loans, effectively cutting up the retail industry’s collective credit cards.

“You have the makings of a wave of significant bankruptcies,” said Al Koch, who helped bring Kmart out of bankruptcy in 2003 as the company’s interim chief financial officer and works at a corporate turnaround firm called AlixPartners. “For years, no deal was too ugly to finance,” he said. “But now, nobody will throw money at these companies.”

Because retailers rely on a broad network of suppliers, their bankruptcies are rippling across the economy.

The cash-strapped chains are leaving behind tens of millions of dollars in unpaid bills to shipping companies, furniture manufacturers, mall owners and advertising agencies. Many are unlikely to be paid in full, spreading the economic pain.

When it filed for bankruptcy, The Sharper Image owed \$6.6 million to United Parcel Service. The furniture chain Levitz owed Sealy \$1.4 million.

And it is not just large companies that are absorbing the losses. When Domain, the furniture retailer, filed for bankruptcy, it owed On Time Express, a 90-employee transportation and logistics company in Tempe, Ariz., about \$30,000.

“We’ll be lucky to see pennies on the dollar, if we see anything,” said Ross Musil, the chief financial officer of On Time Express. “It’s a big loss.”

Most of the ailing companies have filed for reorganization, not liquidation, under the bankruptcy laws, including the furniture chain Wickes, the housewares seller Fortunoff, Harvey Electronics and the catalog retailer Lillian Vernon. But, in a contrast with previous recessions, many are unlikely to emerge from bankruptcy, lawyers and industry experts said.

Growing Use of Biofuels Stresses Global Food Markets

By Andrew Martin

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The idea of turning farms into fuel plants seemed, for a time, like one of the answers to high global oil prices and supply worries. That strategy reached a zenith last year when Congress mandated a five-fold increase in the use of biofuels.

But now a backlash is building against policies in America and Europe to promote ethanol and similar fuels, with political leaders in poor countries contending that they are driving up food prices and starving poor people. Biofuels are fast becoming a new flash point in global diplomacy, forcing Western politicians to reconsider their policies, even as they argue that biofuels are only one factor helping to drive up food prices.

The higher prices are sparking riots, political instability and grow-

ing worries about feeding the poorest people. Food riots contributed to the dismissal of Haiti’s prime minister last week, and many other countries are nervously trying to calm anxious consumers.

At a weekend conference in Washington, the world’s economic ministers called for urgent action to deal with the price spikes, and several of them demanded a reconsideration of biofuel policies adopted recently in the West.

Many experts in food policy consider government mandates for biofuels to be ill-advised, agreeing that the diversion of crops into fuel production has contributed to higher prices. But other factors have played big roles, including droughts that have limited output for some crops and rapid global economic growth that has sparked higher food demand.

That growth, much faster over

the last four years than the historical norm, is lifting millions of people out of destitution and giving them the means to eat better diets. But farmers are having trouble keeping up with the surge in demand.

Work by the International Food Policy Research Institute, in Washington, suggests that biofuel production accounts for a quarter to a third of the recent increase in global commodity prices. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations predicted late last year that biofuel production, assuming current mandates continue, would increase food costs by 10 to 15 percent.

Ethanol supporters agree that biofuels have been a factor in food price increases, but they maintain that it is relatively small and that energy costs and soaring demand for meat in developing countries have had a bigger impact.

WEATHER

Dry Week Ahead

By Angela Zalucha

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

This week, an area of high pressure will dominate the eastern third of the country. This high pressure region is forecasted to move very slowly from west to east, which means we will see an extended period of dry weather. A low pressure system that might graze us Thursday night is the only chance we have for rain through Friday. Today will be sunny with perhaps a few fair weather cumulus clouds. Even though the sun will be shining, the wind will blow in cold air out of the north. On Wednesday and Thursday, the winds shift and come from the west, which will result in temperatures in the low to mid 60s. Evenings will still be chilly, since the lack of cloud cover lets thermal radiation escape easily into space.

Why does a high pressure system give us sunny, dry conditions? A balance between the Coriolis force and the pressure gradient force makes the air move clockwise around a high pressure center. Friction near the ground reduces the speed at which the air circulates, weakening the Coriolis force and giving the pressure gradient force a slight advantage. As the wind acquires a slight outward component, air from the middle is replaced by air sinking from the upper atmosphere. Sinking air is very stable, as opposed to rising air which can cause water to condense out and rain. Any clouds that might form from instabilities near the surface will be limited in their growth by the stable atmosphere above.

Extended Forecast

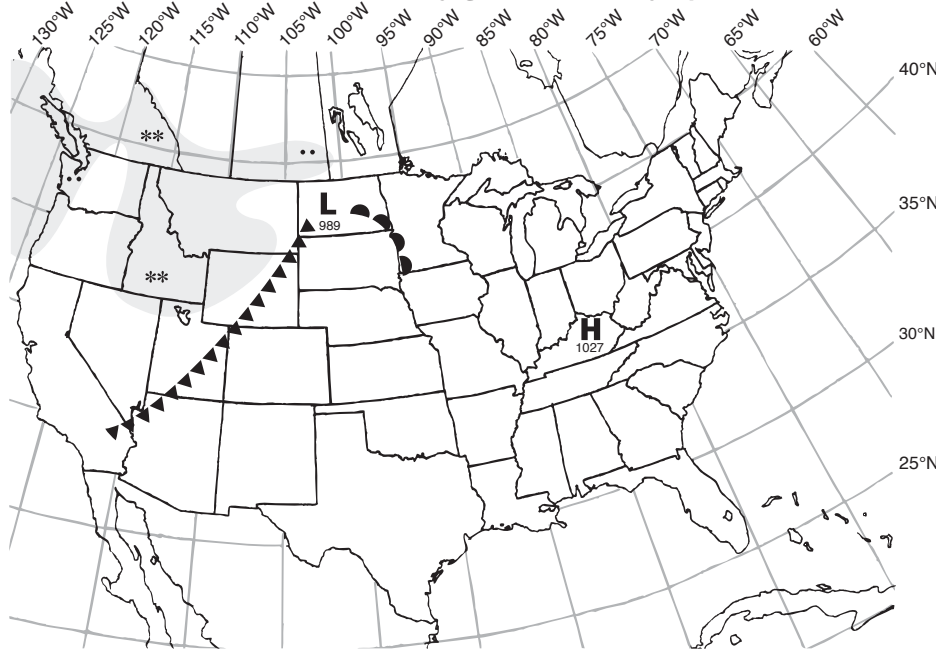
Today: Mostly sunny. High 53°F (12°C).

Tonight: Clear. Low 37°F (3°C).

Tomorrow and Thursday: Sunny. High 61–65°F (16–18°C). Low 43°F (6°C).

Friday: Chance of rain in the very early morning; otherwise partly sunny. High 67°F (19°C). Low 44°F (7°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, April 15, 2008



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	- - - Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	—•— Warm Front	Rain ▽	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Light *	Haze
	▲▲▲ Stationary Front	Moderate **	
		Heavy ***	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Italy's Silvio Berlusconi Returns To Power, Winning Majority

By Ian Fisher
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ROME

Silvio Berlusconi, the idiosyncratic billionaire who already dominates much of Italy's public life, snatched back political power in elections that ended Monday, heading a center-right coalition certain to make him prime minister for a third term.

But with a bad economy and frustration high that Italy has lost ground to the rest of Europe, it is unclear whether Italians voted for Berlusconi out of affection or, as many experts said, as the least bad choice after the nation weathered two years of inaction from the fractured center-left government.

Still, Italy now returns to a singular sort of personal politics with Berlusconi as the unquestioned leading protagonist. Rejecting the sober responsibility of the outgoing prime minister, Romano Prodi, Italians chose in a moment of national self-doubt a man whose dramas — the clowning and corruption scandals, his rocky relations with his wife and political partners, his growing hair

line and ever browner hair — play out very much in public.

He expressed "deep satisfaction" at his victory in a brief telephone call to a national television show.

While Berlusconi's coalition won a convincing majority in both houses of Parliament, the victory came with much help from the Northern League, which advocates a federal system to favor the more prosperous north. The party caused Berlusconi's first government in 1994 to collapse — a history that center-left leaders made clear in defeat.

"A season of opposition now begins against a majority that will have a hard time keeping together things that are difficult to keep together," said Walter Veltroni, the former mayor of Rome and leader of the Democratic Party who ran against Berlusconi. "I don't know how long this majority will last."

The Democratic Party will now be the largest in opposition.

Berlusconi, 71, Italy's third richest man and owner of a media and sports empire, did not make a victory speech. But in the brief phone call to the television show Berlusconi, de-

claring himself "moved" by the victory, reached out to Veltroni to make changes most Italians say are badly needed to get Italy moving again.

"We are always open to working together with the opposition," he said. He is to make a fuller statement on Tuesday. But he promised immediate action on many of the problems vexing Italians, such as the trash crisis in the south that has tarnished the nation's image and the sale of the near-bankrupt national airline, Alitalia.

The election — called just two years after Berlusconi lost to Prodi — was considered one of the least exciting in memory, with many Italians doubting that either candidate could actually accomplish any meaningful change.

But in some basic ways, the election signaled a decisive shift in a nation whose politics have been unstable because of the involvement of many small parties with narrow interests. As head of the newly born Democratic Party — the merging of the two largest center-left parties — Veltroni had refused to run with far-left parties as Prodi had done.

At State Level, Lawmakers Increasingly Try to Limit Guns

By Jennifer Steinhauer
THE NEW YORK TIMES

State lawmakers across the country are ramping up efforts to pass new restrictions on guns, following nearly a decade in which state legislative efforts have been dominated by gun advocates.

Much of the proposed legislation — some 38 states are considering gun-related bills — focuses on cutting off gun access to convicted criminals and the mentally ill and on improving methods to trace guns used in crimes.

Underlying many of the efforts is an attempt to redefine the gun debate as a law enforcement issue, rather than one that focuses on broad-based gun ownership, to sidestep prickly Second Amendment concerns.

"The key thing is that we want to protect Second Amendment rights," said Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, R-Calif., who has supported several bills that focus on guns used in crimes but not bills that would curtail ownership rights. "Democrats and Republicans can work together on this."

The Brady Center to Prevent

Gun Violence, a prominent anti-gun group, has identified 52 bills it considers a priority for passage in 22 states, compared with 30 such bills two years ago.

"For years we were chasing the NRA's tail," Brian Malte, the group's state legislation and politics director, said of the National Rifle Association. "But now we feel they are chasing our priorities."

Still, the new efforts come as organizations like the NRA, the country's biggest gun advocacy group, continue to wield tremendous influence in state capitals and are pushing aggressively for laws of their own.

Several legislatures are contemplating bills that would increase access to guns, including proposals to allow guns on college campuses or in the parking lots of workplaces.

The NRA is tracking 208 pieces of gun-related legislation in 38 states, both proposed restrictions it opposes and other bills it supports, the highest number since the gun group began monitoring state laws in 2001.

Wayne LaPierre, chief executive officer of the NRA, said, "There has

been a brick-by-brick restoration of the Second Amendment" over the past 10 years or so at the state level and that his organization continues to build upon it.

"It is one of the most uncovered, fundamental sea changes in American politics," LaPierre said.

The catalysts for the latest round of legislation include a spate of high-profile gun crimes — at shopping malls, schools and universities and the streets of several large cities — and a new federal law that gives financial rewards to states that better share information about mentally ill gun purchasers.

The spike in lawmaking activity also comes against the background of a case before the Supreme Court that challenges the constitutionality of a ban on the private possession of handguns in the District of Columbia. Legal and gun experts said a ruling against the ban was likely to stymie additional efforts to limit rights on gun ownership — and could even embolden advocates of fewer restrictions — but might leave undeterred the pursuit of laws focused on illegal guns.

Bush and Pelosi Clash With Intensity Over Colombian Trade Pact

By Carl Hulse
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush and the House speaker, Nancy Pelosi, intensified an increasingly personal fight over a stalled trade deal with Colombia on Monday, trading accusations over who was best protecting the interests of American workers.

Bush, still angry about Pelosi's surprise decision to rescind a requirement that the House take up the trade deal within 60 days, called the action a snub to a strategic ally in South America. And Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr. canceled a meeting with the speaker on other economic initiatives that had been scheduled for Monday.

"This free trade agreement is in our national interests, yet that bill is dead unless the speaker schedules a definite vote," the president said. "And it's not in our country's interest that we stiff an ally like Colombia and that we don't encourage our goods and services to be sold overseas."

Pelosi fired back, hurriedly scheduling a rare Monday meeting with

reporters to suggest that the president was putting his trade agenda ahead of Americans' economic troubles while pursuing stale economic policy.

"For seven long years, the president's failed economic plan has stiffed the American people," Pelosi told reporters.

Pelosi said she was willing to bring the trade pact to the House floor for a vote "under the proper circumstance," but there appeared to be little movement toward finding a resolution.

"First, we need to address the worsening economy in our country," she said.

Democrats see the trade deal as a potential bargaining chip with the administration in a push for more economic aid like an extension of unemployment benefits, assistance for workers displaced by trade agreements and perhaps an expansion of a children's health insurance program.

Pelosi, who worked closely with Paulson in developing the economic stimulus legislation that led to the soon-to-be-mailed tax rebate checks, talked with the Treasury secretary at the end of a White House session last

week. But the speaker's office was notified over the weekend that Paulson would not be available for the meeting on the economy scheduled for Monday.

The strain over the trade pact bubbled to the surface last week after the president told the speaker he was submitting the agreement against her advice as well as that of Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, the majority leader. Though she advised him again to hold back on the agreement, the president said he was moving ahead.

"The speaker and her team had been dragging their heels on scheduling a vote," Dana Perino, the White House spokeswoman, said Monday. "And while the president did not want to have to send up the bill, and he did so reluctantly, it was only because if we look at the calendar and count backwards, we were running out of legislative days."

In response, Pelosi won party-line approval Thursday of her request to eliminate the 60-day deadline for consideration of the pact, infuriating the White House and leaving the proposal's fate uncertain.

J.K. Rowling, in Court, Assails 'Harry Potter Lexicon'

By Anahad O'Connor
and Anemona Hartocollis

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

J.K. Rowling, the creator of the wildly popular Harry Potter series who rose from poverty to become the world's most famous children's author, took the stand in a Manhattan courtroom on Monday to sharply criticize a fan accused of stealing her work to publish a reference guide.

Accompanied by a security detail, Rowling arrived at a federal courthouse in downtown Manhattan on Monday morning to argue her case against RDR Books, a small Michigan publisher that hopes to publish a print version of a popular Web site called "The Harry Potter Lexicon." Created by Steven Vander Ark, a school librarian and fan of the series, the lexicon Web site has attracted millions of readers and even won praise from Rowling herself — though Rowling said she drew the line when RDR and Vander Ark attempted to sell a print version for a profit.

Legal analysts say the outcome of the case could set a crucial precedent in the literary world, one that determines the extent to which fans can use and build upon the works of their favorite authors.

Dressed in a black dress and pinstriped suit, Rowling harshly criticized Vander Ark and his Lexicon manuscript, calling it a compilation of phrases and facts that were taken from her book and rewritten "without quotation marks around it," and saying the manuscript was "sloppy" and "lazy." Besides stepping on her plans to publish her own encyclopedia, she said, the Lexicon manuscript was also "derivative" and "riddled with errors."

Hollywood and Silicon Valley Try Again to Bridge Their Divide

By Laura M. Holson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A story that Dan Scheinman, a senior vice president at Cisco Systems in San Jose, Calif., likes to tell illustrates the cultural divide between Hollywood and his Silicon Valley.

Last year he met with an affluent film producer who marveled at the extraordinary riches afforded Google executives. Scheinman told him that most got wealthy accepting stock options instead of million-dollar salaries. When Scheinman asked if the producer would ever accept equity instead of cash if they worked together, the moviemaker sniffed.

"I fly a G4," he told Scheinman, referring to the Gulfstream jet he owned. "How far do you think my G4 will go on stock options? I need cash."

Only 350 miles separate the two California business cultures, and technology and entertainment executives are worlds apart. But they are circling each other once again, trying to figure how best to combine forces to get movies, videos and other programming to homes and cell phones. Of course, media moguls and Silicon Valley entrepreneurs working together again has all the familiarity of a late-night rerun.

In the 1990s, venture capitalists saw a parade of celebrities make their way to Sand Hill Road seeking backing for their online ventures. Many VCs eagerly had their photographs taken with a starlet or two. But as deals cratered or never got off the ground, the relationship between the camps ended up less a marriage, than friends with benefits.

Former Maoist Guerrillas Lead in Nepal Vote Tally

By Somini Sengupta

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KATMANDU, NEPAL

Barely two years out of the jungle, former Maoist guerrillas were poised Monday to lead Nepal's new government, as initial election results signaled that voters had chosen to remove most of their veteran politicians from office and sought a radical break with the past.

Of the 196 directly elected legislative seats for which results had been tallied, the Maoists picked up 108 in the voting Thursday, the Election Commission announced, according to The Associated Press. Far behind were the Nepali Congress Party, with 31 seats, and the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist Leninist), or UML, with 27.

In addition to a total of 240 directly elected seats in the new, 601-member Constituent Assembly, there are 335 indirectly elected seats, intended to give women and marginalized castes and ethnic groups a greater voice in the government. The other 26 seats are appointive.

The partial results of last week's voting point toward a Maoist landslide, which would defy predictions, though the final count, which could take weeks, could tilt the election differently, or at least reduce the Maoists' margin.

The results will bear mightily on Nepal's future: The new assembly will rewrite the country's constitution and govern the country while it is doing so.

McCain Joins Fray on Obama

By Elisabeth Bumiller
and Jeff Zeleny

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Sen. John McCain threw himself into the culture war between Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton on Monday. He said at a gathering of news executives that comments by Obama about working-class voters were "elitist" and a "fundamental contradiction of what I believe America's all about."

McCain's remarks were his first public comments on the issue since Obama told a group of wealthy donors on April 6 that small-town Pennsylvania voters, "bitter" over their economic circumstances, "cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them" as a way to explain their frustrations.

The comments on Monday reflected the strategy of McCain and his advisers — similar to Clinton's tactics — to portray Obama as out of touch with ordinary Americans, particularly the white working-class voters whom Clinton and McCain are wooing for November.

McCain stopped short of calling Obama an elitist, although he did not show great warmth for him in a question-and-answer session after McCain's formal remarks at the annual meeting of The Associated Press at the Washington Convention Center.

The AP meeting coincides with the annual conferences of the Newspaper Association of America and the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

OPINION

COD Should Face Tough Questions

Outrage over a threatening e-mail sent by Artem Krasnoslobodtsev (Kraus) G, in which he called members of the Sloan Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender community “fucking fags,” is well deserved.

Editorial But the MIT community should be more concerned about a systemic problem — the secretive and unfair organization of the Committee on Discipline, which in this case seems to have done little to censure Kraus.

Why would the committee not suspend a management student whose actions would, as Sloan LGBT officer Tom Arnet G said, never be tolerated in a Fortune 500 company?

Comparing what is known about this case with prior COD actions reveals an inexplicable inconsistency. By concealing information about its rulings, the committee damages the MIT community’s trust. Worse, by denying students effective representation during trials, the committee violates the intellectual principles that are the bedrock of the Institute.

The COD’s former chair, George J. Apostolakis, will deliver a report on the COD to the faculty at tomorrow’s faculty meeting. We hope that faculty will consider these issues carefully as they receive Apostolakis’s report.

The present case seems inconsistent with a prior ruling. In 2000, Alpha Tau Omega resident Burns Schilling ’02 received a three-semester suspension after writing in an e-mail to another student, “You are a faggot. I hate faggots. I wish they would string all of you up on barb wire fences in Wyoming.”

It is unclear how the circumstances of that case differ from the present. In December 2007, Kraus responded to a party invitation sent by members of the Sloan LGBT Club to many Sloan School of Management students. He wrote in part: “LISTEN TO ME: If you fucking fags send me something like that once again or contact me in any other way, I swear you won’t be able to study at Sloan for some time because you will spend it at resuscitation department.”

Kraus’s sanction remains unknown, but he continues to attend classes, including one subject taken by a student threatened by his e-mail. Kraus has declined to comment, and COD chair Sheila E. Widnall ’60 categorically refuses to comment on COD cases.

How does Kraus’s case differ from Schilling’s? Did MIT

forget about this prior case involving anti-homosexual e-mails? Lacking information, we can only trust that the COD did the right thing by suspending Schilling and not suspending Kraus.

One thing we can trust that the COD is getting wrong is representation. At present, students facing a hearing must speak on their own behalf. If the COD is to be an effective judicial body, it should allow students adequate representation.

An advisor may accompany a student to a COD hearing. But the committee’s chair, Widnall, told *The Tech* in an interview that the advisor may not make a statement. Over the years, as students have sought those who can represent them well, a curious list of restrictions have emerged. Advisors may no longer be family members, attorneys (despite the fact that the committee’s proceedings can be used against a student in court), or members of the media, and they must come from the MIT community.

The current system is inherently unfair; a student’s charisma should not affect culpability for his misdeeds. Academic demands or personal problems may keep students from preparing an adequate defense. Rhetorically superior students could extract lesser punishments from the COD, whose members are, after all, human. Considerations like these are exactly why real judicial processes allow real representation.

Other modern extrajudicial bodies, such as military courts-martial, have abandoned the anachronistic practice of self-representation. MIT teaches meritocracy: the best idea should win. Students should be allowed to find the best possible way to represent their views during a potentially life-changing hearing.

These conditions are so onerous that in 2000, Schilling retained an attorney who advised him not to attend his hearing; the COD suspended him in his absence.

We do not doubt that those who sit on the Committee on Discipline work hard to rule fairly, to prudently consider all aspects of a case, and to carefully consider how their actions affect the MIT community. We do not doubt that COD members do their jobs well, nor are we accusing them of any malfeasance. But good intentions and wisdom cannot fix broken rules that lead to enigmatic rulings and prevent fair representation.

How can MIT even begin to discuss harassing speech on campus, while its own judicial body is fundamentally flawed?



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roberto perez-franco 'g

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors’ signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become

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Jessop and Bennie for UA Leadership

The role of Undergraduate Association President is rigorous, time-consuming, and often thankless. It is no insignificant challenge to provide guidance and leadership to the UA committees, supply a voice to the Senate, maintain relationships with other student governments, and develop a rapport with the “powers that be” on campus. An outstanding President must do all these things while constantly fighting for the interests of students. And the UA President must do so in a system that, by design, discounts students’ voice. Only candidates with ability, passion, and self-assuredness can accomplish lasting change. We recommend that you vote for the ticket of Noah S. Jessop ’09 and Michael A. Bennie ’10, which is most likely to excel.

Circumstances have conspired this year to present us a large and diverse set of candidates for the next year’s UA leadership. This strong level of interest means that the UA could potentially be very healthy next year. The competition suggests that many students care about proactively lobbying the MIT administration on important topics. Among these tickets, there are clear differences with respect to their prior experience, their goals and values, their capacity to unify the student body, and the presence to forcefully and confidently represent the best interests of students.

The ticket of Akash A. Chandawarkar ’09 and Amanda J. Maguire ’09 stakes the strength of their campaign on a long record of UA service, in the Senate and Class Councils. But this record does not demonstrate novel approaches to reform, which their campaign claims to champion. Chandawarkar helmed one of the most dysfunctional Class Councils of recent memory — but he says a top priority is reforming the Class Council system. And some of Chandawarkar’s statements have shown a troubling disconnect between his values and those of many undergraduates. Contrary to his assertions, the solution for a more cohesive campus community does not

live in radical changes to our residence system or in large annual parties funded and organized under the auspices of the UA.

While the campaign of Bradley H. Gampel ’09 and Willard J. Johnson ’09 certainly has a refreshing air of lighthearted populism, a closer examination unveils a pair of candidates ill-prepared to lead the advocacy-driven UA. The candidates’ statements leave us with the distinct feeling that they would be much happier organizing a campus pep rally than tackling the tough issues of campus dining, student rights, and curriculum reform, all of which will be prominent in the coming year. Their statements also demonstrate a shocking naiveté about the way MIT makes decisions — for example, their first priority in office is “to establish an institute policy that requires signed UA approval before any decision directly affecting the students can be made by the administration.” As much as we may dream of a day when undergraduates end up on MIT’s organization chart, this is clearly not a policy that the administration would ever seriously consider, nor is it common practice at any of our peer institutions.

The ticket of Justin C. Forte ’09 and Brittany A. Holland-Marcus ’10 is adequately prepared to assume leadership of the UA. They would be fine administrators, and they would be able to maintain the UA’s status quo. But an outstanding UA administration depends not only on relationships with administrators and a long list of internal changes: it requires vision, broad understanding, and the spirit to forcefully argue on behalf of student interests. The voice of the student body cannot be muted. Many of the goals to which Forte and Holland-Marcus have committed themselves are long-established UA policies or initiatives started by the current UA president — nothing seems novel. A primary and perennial criticism lodged by UA candidates is approachability: how well do students understand what their government is doing? As UA Public Relations chair this year, Holland-Marcus could

have tried to solve this problem, but she did not do so effectively. Nevertheless, she seems to have the potential for strong UA leadership in the future.

Noah S. Jessop ’09 and Michael A. Bennie ’10 have shown a strong ability to present themselves, their visions, and their goals. They are not the most experienced candidates, but this deficiency is made up for by their ability to speak forcefully and confidently on an issue. This skill is critical to both roles. This forcefulness is their novel contribution to the candidate field, and it is essential to a functional UA. The president must convince the faculty and administrators he meets with. The vice president must organize the internal workings of the UA. Jessop and Bennie have shown a deep and sincere understanding of many of the Institute’s unique communities. They have demonstrated a mature understanding of the conflicts inherent to our campus dynamics. This candidate pair seems to realize that strengthening campus identity means strengthening constituent groups, protecting student choice, and lobbying for a more direct role in shaping the Institute’s future.

Jessop and Bennie are hardly unique in their pledges to fight to support Institute tradition, to unify the voice of the various undergraduate student governments, and to help people understand what the UA is doing by getting its Web site and other information systems fixed. While they are not they only candidates to support these goals, their personalities seem the most likely to get things done.

In the near future, the UA and the faculty will try to put strong pressure on the administration to give students more consideration in Institute decisions. The next UA president and vice president could make such an initiative succeed, or they could kill it. It will be up to next year’s team to overcome inertia and get a real, coherent policy that works for students and faculty. Noah Jessop and Mike Bennie are best prepared to fight on behalf of students. Forte and Holland-Marcus are also worthy of consideration.

Letters To The Editor

AEPHI Recruiting In 2006 Was Honest

In an age where you can learn more about a person from the internet than you can from meeting him or her face to face, leave it to me to have not “Googled” myself since my first semester at MIT nearly 6 years ago. I recently left Cambridge to begin graduate school, and I couldn’t help but begin to wonder whether my new friends and colleagues were sneaking a curious peek at my life via Google, MySpace, Facebook, and the like. I searched for my name today and unfortunately came upon an article which, to this day, still irks me with its inaccuracies and implications as to my actions as well as those of my sisters during recruitment: “AEPHI’s Return to Jewish Identity Spurs De-pledging, De-affiliations.” As such, I would like to take the opportunity to correct a few things.

The article contains a statement by Liz Katcoff which refers to a period seven years ago in which members were, according to her, “lying about our identity in order to get more members.” I’m not sure what happened in 1999; however, I take strong issue with the fact that the 2006 recruitment was referred to as a similar event. I oversaw the entirety of recruitment and never heard a falsity uttered by one of my sisters. I have tremendous respect for all of them. In addition, I confronted the problem of communication head-on during the Work Week that preceded formal recruitment; in order to make AEPHI’s heritage known during recruitment without instilling the belief that non-Jewish members were unwelcome, I had the chapter collectively write and vote to approve the following statement (based largely on the national organization’s mission statement) concerning AEPHI’s identity:

“A long time ago, AEPHI was started by seven Jewish women because they were not allowed into other sororities because of their Jewish heritage. They got together and started AEPHI with two goals in mind: First, welcoming women of all backgrounds and beliefs with open arms. Second, creating an environment that would be a supportive ‘home away from home’ for its members.”

In addition, I required each member to memorize that statement so as to minimize confusion and maximize accuracy when describing our sorority to potential new members. I share this information with the hope that everyone will know the tremendous dedication and character that every AEPHI sister demonstrated during Recruitment 2006.

Brigid C. Dwyer ’06

Editor’s Note: The original article, which describes de-pledging, the viewpoint of new AEPHI members, and the secret AEPHIJews@mit.edu mailing list, is available online at <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V126/N15/15aephi.html>. The Tech stands by its reporting.

China Cartoon Was Insulting

I am writing here to voice my anger towards the cartoons in last two issues of *The Tech*.

As the largest newspaper on campus, the voices published through *The Tech* seems to represent the viewpoint of the students and the school. A lot of Chinese students studying in MIT have interpreted the cartoons as an insult to our motherland by biasing the truth and propagating the wrong images. The school itself cannot have such a subjective judgment by hosting outstanding faculty and students with critical thinking skills.

Regarding the existence of human rights, I cannot help but ask: why do you think there are so many Chinese students coming abroad to study if no freedom is allowed? How come undergraduate students from China and other parts of the world are comparable in terms of both technical skills and knowledge background without the dramatically improved education in China?

The central government system is always a target for western countries and western press. The fact is that in protecting sovereignty, stabilizing society, ensuring economic development, and improving the wellness of its people, China has done a wonderful job in the eyes of the whole world: China has an increasing GPA each year, a reformed educational system, and a relatively low rate of crime given the size of the country. No other country would have performed so effectively and with such breathtaking promptness to SARS (Severe acute respiratory syndrome) in the year 2001.

Even if you disagree with Chinese students on political issues, applying sarcasm to the 2008 Olympics hosted in Beijing deviates from Olympic spirit per se. The official Olympic Motto is “Citius, Altius, Fortius,” a Latin phrase meaning “Swifter, Higher, Stronger.” In none of the above three words, can I see any trace of politics. The Olympics, an international sporting event, is supposed to be separate from political meddling.

Without a thorough study of Chinese history and policies, cartoons like those shown in *The*

Tech are not only insulting to Chinese students in general but also to the editors of this newspaper. I hope *The Tech* can apply caution when it is using its power as a public media at MIT.

Fei Liang G

News Brief Not Amusing

I was almost amused to read *The Tech*’s news brief about how the MIT News Office may have violated federal law. My question is this — which Tech staffer was it who saw the issue of *Tech Talk* and decided to whip out a ruler? My follow up is — which editor *actually* thought that this incident (which would most likely never be prosecuted, since *Tech Talk* is quite clearly not intending to circulate counterfeit money) was worthy of front page news? And finally — do any of you wonder why your publication is a campus-wide joke?

Laura A. Nicholson ’09

Nicholson is an MIT admissions blogger and a former Tech staff reporter.

Editor’s Note: The News Office sent The Tech the following statement: “As soon as the News Office was made aware of this, its staff took immediate action, including pulling all remaining issues of the paper from campus drop-off locations and removing the image from its website.”

The News Office thanks the staff of the Tech for bringing the matter to our attention.”

Different Voice on Olympics

Creative license in political cartoons is valued by viewers, but I find the cartoon that was published by *The Tech* on April 8th went too far and was pure imagination. The author apparently knows little about current China. He used a Chinese government official from the 1960s, as indicated by his uniform, to address the upcoming 2008 event. The exaggeration of Chinese people’s suffering and hardship is also misleading. China indeed has many problems including human rights just as many other countries have in their history, but China has made tremendous improvements in the past decades since 1978 when the open-door policy was adopted.

Having grown up in China, I am certain that our younger generations are the most fortunate generations compared to our parents and grandparents. I am proud of what the Chinese

people have achieved so far due to a series of reforms, and feel excited to witness the continuous progress in the future, including the upcoming Beijing Olympic Games. The Olympics provide a wonderful opportunity for people from other countries to see China through their own eyes, rather than through the media. China will also benefit from the improved mutual understanding. Bashing the Beijing Olympics as this cartoon did will do nothing good, instead breaching the Olympic spirit and hurting the feelings of Chinese people. If all the human rights arguments as claimed are for the benefit of the Chinese, this cartoon suggests a lose-lose solution. People want China to change, but when China is changing, are they able to see it and acknowledge it?

Zhan Guo G

Parking Policies Discourage Alternative Transportation

MIT’s Parking & Transportation Office offers two kinds of parking plans to faculty and staff: full time and occasional (eight uses per month).

However, full time parkers at MIT have more choices — and more preferable parking locations — than occasional parkers. This policy discourages the use of alternative transportation to MIT. Furthermore, those full-time parkers who would wish to change their status to occasional parking are required to pay a \$30 fee to change — a penalty for trying to do the right thing.

MIT’s parking policies can become even more peculiar. A recent broken leg has made it impossible to drive or walk for several months. As I was canceling my parking pass, I was told that I would not be able to park in my previous convenient location in the future. When I asked if my family members could use my “hand-free” transponder to come in on weekends to pick up mail, books, and other bulky items, the Parking & Transportation Office informed me that it would only be possible with a \$30 surcharge and \$28/month for a few weekend trips. Thus, when my mobility comes back I will have to hike farther, busy family members are prevented from helping me do my job from home, and I am penalized for taking the T in the future.

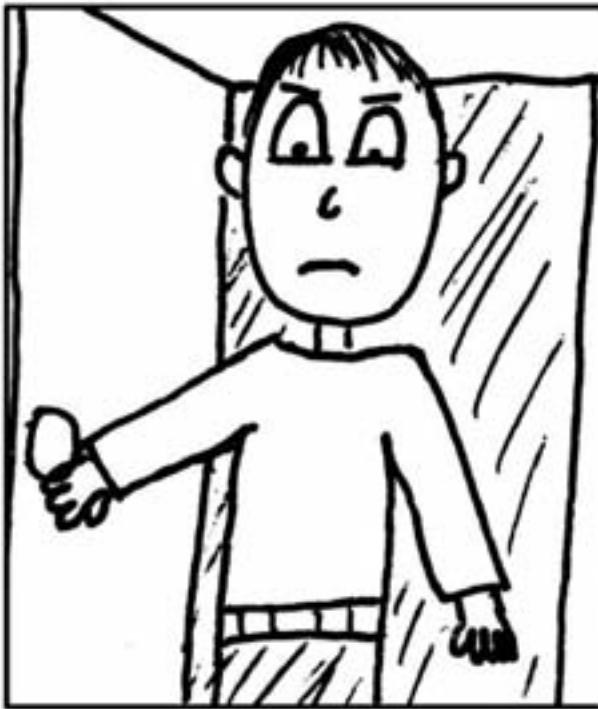
W. Craig Carter

Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering

Have an opinion? Let the campus know about it!
Write an opinion column for *The Tech*. join@the-tech.mit.edu

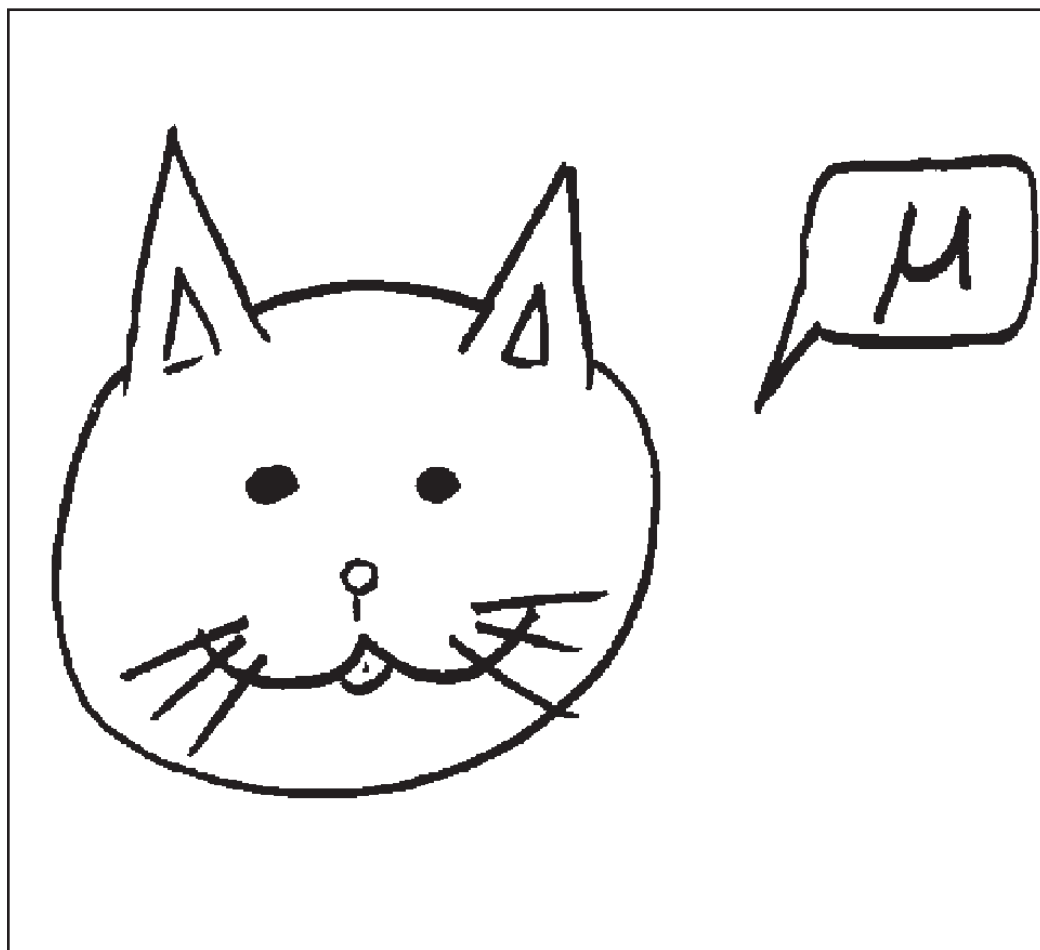
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters



su | do | ku

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.

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Solution on page 15.

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

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 16

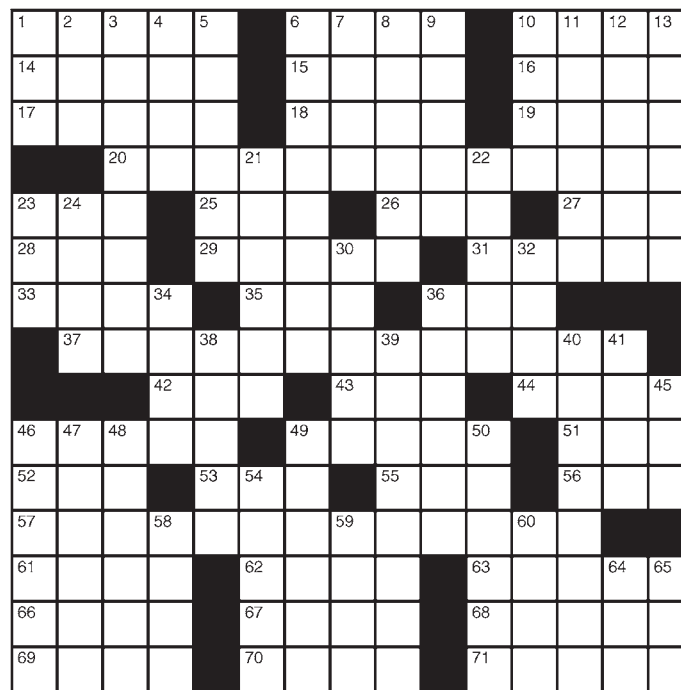
ACROSS

- 1 Office subs
- 6 Dance, film, etc.
- 10 Red planet
- 14 Walled city near Madrid
- 15 Half an island?
- 16 Arabian gulf
- 17 Broom made of twigs
- 18 "Nana" star Anna
- 19 Scruff
- 20 Melville's novel with personality?
- 23 Spring mo.
- 25 ___ Arbor, MI
- 26 R.E. Lee's nat.
- 27 Small boy
- 28 ___ Lanka
- 29 Of course, in slang
- 31 Ship's poles
- 33 Fly high
- 35 "O sole ___"

- 36 Knight's title
- 37 Texas town with a fall-back position?
- 42 Feb. follower
- 43 So-so grade
- 44 Tribal tales
- 46 Applauds
- 49 Sing monotonously
- 51 Harden
- 52 Tic-tac-toe win
- 53 ___-la-la
- 55 HST's successor
- 56 Flock female
- 57 English novelist with a strong consonant?
- 61 Informed about
- 62 Central part
- 63 Wear away
- 66 Actual
- 67 Director Kazan
- 68 Ophelia and Hamlet

- 69 Family chart
 - 70 Engrossed
 - 71 Portents
- ### DOWN
- 1 Bar bill
 - 2 Holiday lead-in
 - 3 Invalid judicial process
 - 4 Ruse
 - 5 Far Eastern boat
 - 6 Vote in ___ (use a proxy)
 - 7 British work schedule
 - 8 Deep furrow
 - 9 Sahara grains
 - 10 Plenty of
 - 11 Changes with the times
 - 12 Say again
 - 13 Sammy and J.C.
 - 21 Captivate
 - 22 Sri Lankan people

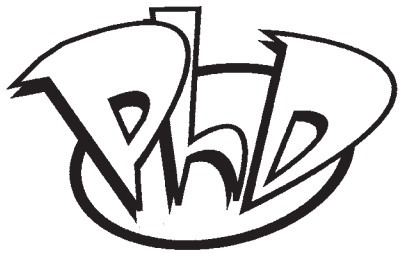
- 23 Ninny
- 24 Stage device
- 30 Spiral seashell
- 32 Asian sea
- 34 Freeway access
- 36 ___ Buck (1985 Kentucky Derby winner)
- 38 Yucky
- 39 Tie
- 40 Rocket top
- 41 Make ale
- 45 Summer in Tours
- 46 Accomplice
- 47 Repair-shop car
- 48 Major arteries
- 49 Rapeseed oil
- 50 Shipworm
- 54 Indy entrant
- 58 Pineapple brand
- 59 Faucet problem
- 60 1/16 ounce
- 64 Bear's lair
- 65 Part of CBS?



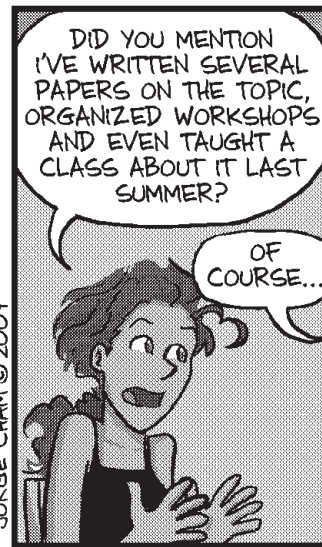
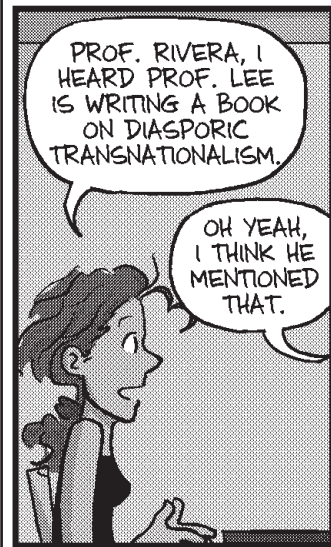
Doonesbury Flashbacks

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

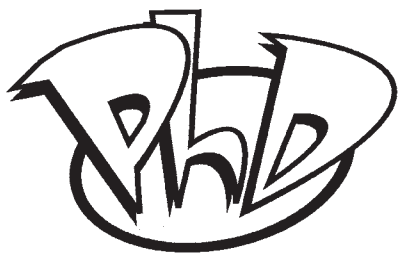
Dilbert® by Scott Adams



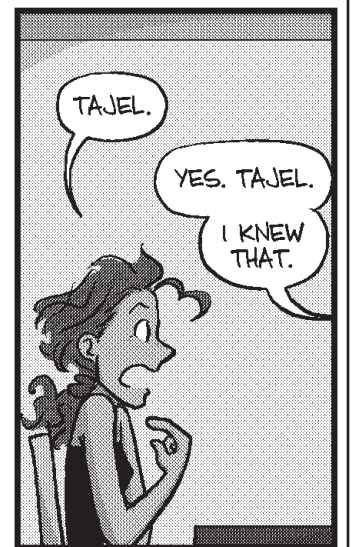
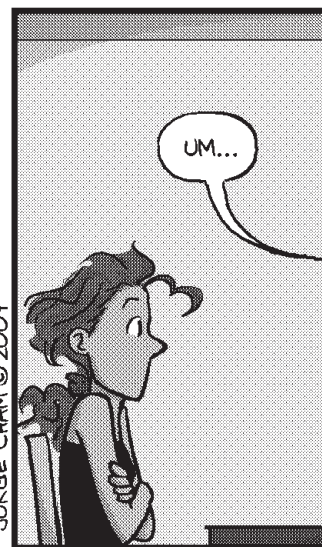
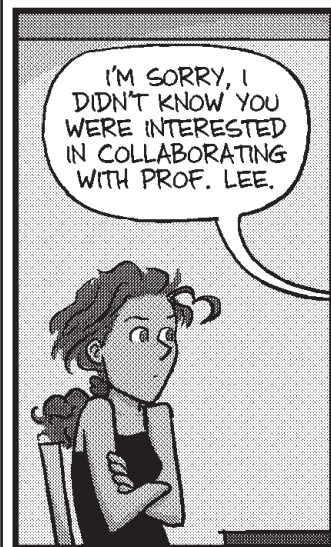
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CAMPUS LIFE

Brouhaha Rhythm

Telltale Red Booklets

By Michael T. Lin
STAFF COLUMNIST

Forget all that nonsense about the Ringling Bros. — Campus Preview Weekend is officially the ‘Greatest Show on Earth,’ and I mean that in a very good way. I walked out of the Infinite Corridor (which I overheard referred to as “the Really Long Corridor”) onto Massachusetts Avenue Thursday afternoon and received something of a shock — MIT campus central looking like the college brochures I received in the mail oh so long ago. The benches in front of the Student Center were filled in spite of the singular aroma of fresh mulch, and Kresge Oval was alive with flying Frisbees. It’s virtually never like this during the semester — the people frolicking about couldn’t all be admitted pre-freshmen. What is it about CPW that gets us out of our rooms and into the sunlight?

Is it the desire to impress the prefrish, who are looking to us as possible examples of their

future selves? It is, in large part, our role to convince them to come to MIT and show them how to have fun Engineer-style, not to mention accept them into our living space in spite of the lack of reprieve from any of our academic responsibilities. Let me reiterate that: in spite of the lack of reprieve from *any* of our academic responsibilities. (I’m not bitter — just short on sleep.) Given the innate tendency of MIT students for both excellence and excess, however, I figure that if we really wanted to impress the incoming class, we’d cover every building on campus — except perhaps the Stata Center and Simmons Hall — in aluminum foil and try to convince everyone that MIT is secretly a city from the future, where everything is shiny and plated with chrome. Even if they didn’t buy it, the decorations wouldn’t be hard to pass off as a very elaborate hack.

Maybe it’s all the free food. This is by far a more compelling point — free food is a guar-

anteed selling point anywhere, and the vast quantities of edibles available can draw famished college students away from their rooms, crawling with their emaciated fingers from event to event, accumulating enough nutrients to sustain them until next year. But that couldn’t be the only reason, could it? Even after taking into account tuition costs, many of the freshmen can readily rely on family support for finances, and therefore could as easily order in food and ignore the outside world entirely. Yet freshman seem to account for just as great a proportion of the MIT students out and about during CPW, if not greater. So something else must be at work.

Perhaps the real reason that current MIT students, and particularly freshmen, are attracted to CPW activities is because we are no longer the center of attention. I will be among the first to admit that I reminisce fondly on my own CPW, not to mention Orientation and Rush, a

bombardment of attention under which my ego was inflated to the point of nearly exploding like a dry ice bomb. Naturally, when CPW rolled around (and, I suspect, when Orientation rolls around), we crave the same attention that the incoming freshmen are receiving. This is, of course, to minimal avail, and it isn’t hard to distinguish between the feigned naïveté on our faces and the genuine, uncrushed enthusiasm of prefrish.

Speaking as one who did my absolute best at my own CPW to impress the grown-up MIT kids, and it’s not until now that I realize that I didn’t have to, I now know that I would have been lavished upon regardless of their perception of my merit. Interestingly enough, with increased contact with the prefrish, my behavior during last year’s CPW — constantly alternating between fawning awe and complete megalomania — is placed in unnerving perspective. Man, did I act like a dork.

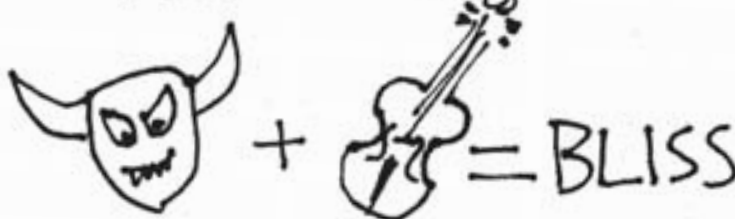
The Flow of Things

My head hurts. I think drugs are the answer.

HELL vs. MIGRAINE

Pros:

- AT LEAST IT'S WARM (Fuck You CAMBRIDGE)
- SOCRATES IS THERE
- THE DEVIL PLAYS A MEAN VIOLIN



CONS:

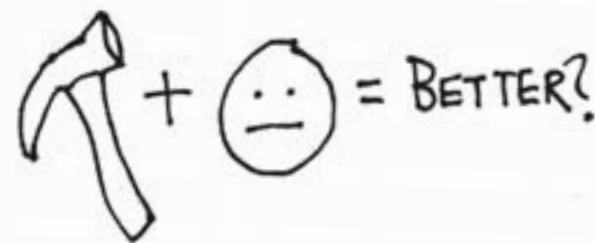
- ETERNAL DAMNATION
- SOCRATES WILL WANT TO ASK YOU QUESTIONS
- HELL IS IN JERSEY

Pros:

- IT HAS TO END EVENTUALLY
- VAMPIRES UNPHASED BY ADDED LIGHT SENSITIVITY (ALSO GOTHS + EMOs)

CONS:

- TIME DOES NOT MOVE WHEN YOU HAVE A MIGRAINE
- FEEL LIKE TAKING HAMMER TO HEAD



CONCLUSION:

TRICK QUESTION!
HELL IS MIGRAINE

FAIL OF THE WEEK

Kudos to Fox for thinking that New England cared more about the start of a NASCAR race than the final out of a one-run Red Sox vs. Yankees game.

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on

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5-7 pm

at

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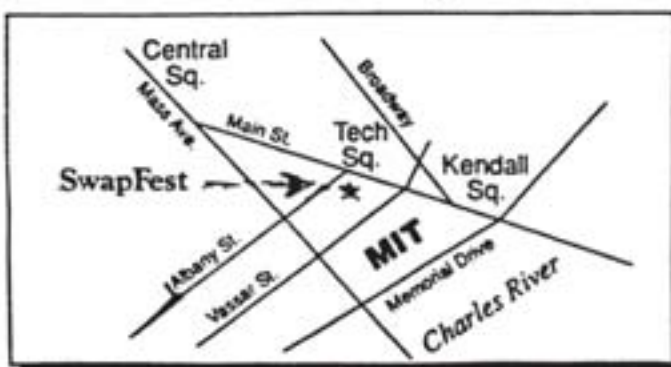
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Prospective Freshmen Invade for CPW Weekend

Campus Preview Weekend drew a record amount of prospective freshmen to MIT's campus for the annual four-day period.

(Clockwise from right)

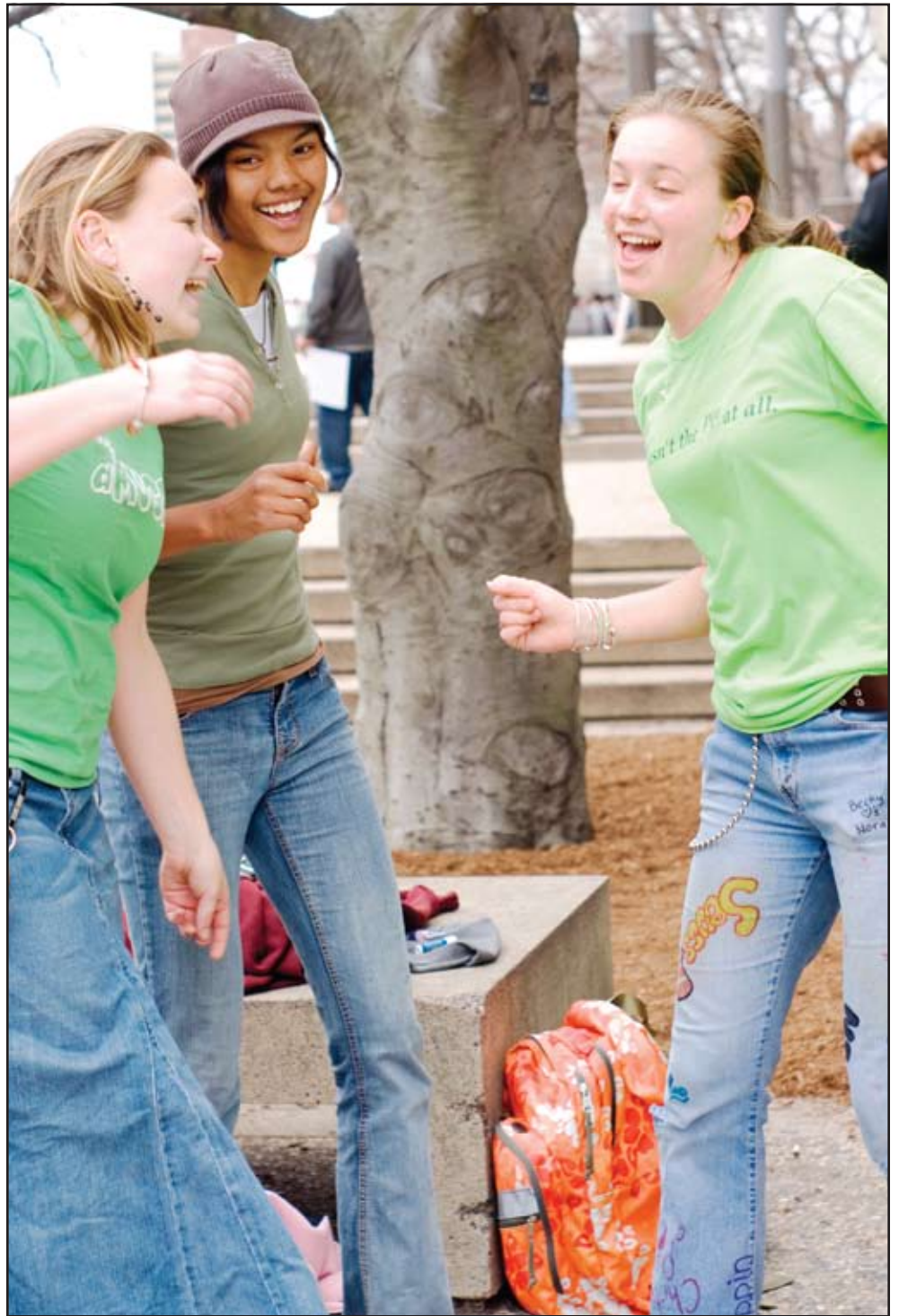
(from left) Priscilla W. Army '10, Amber R. Lin '11, and Eleanor H. Mallory '11 dance to the beat of the Pantonic Steel Orchestra outside the Student Center last Friday.

Erik D. Fogg (foreground) '09 of Senior House surrenders to East Campus during the dorms' water war on McDermott Court last Friday.

President Susan Hockfield welcomes prospective freshman Robbie McQueen at the Kresge Auditorium before her welcome speech at the start of CPW on Thursday.

Aaron E. Ramirez '10, the "Foameez Monster," walks across the 77 Massachusetts Ave. crosswalk on Saturday after the MIT Hobby Shop open house. Foameez are a commercial toy first invented at the Hobby Shop by Kenneth Stone '72 and Professor Alexander H. Slocum.

Amy Smith '84 shares her experiences in Kenya with prospective freshman Kenyan Beneah Kombe after Smith's CPW keynote speech in Kresge Auditorium.



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH



BIYEUN BUCZYK



RACHEL DIANE VANCOTT



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH



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Contact: Michael Rosenblatt -> mrosenblatt@openprojectDB.org (MAS Class of 2003)



SMART UROP

The Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) is pleased to sponsor paid summer undergraduate research opportunities in Singapore. This research opportunity will enable undergraduates to participate in an MIT's faculty member's Singapore research project and, through an international experience be exposed to a foreign culture and interact with students and faculty from diverse backgrounds. Each undergraduate will have an MIT faculty member as a mentor/supervisor and conduct research within the faculty member's Singapore research program. The undergraduate will have access and use of the faculty's laboratory and equipment.

Eligibility:

MIT undergraduates in good standing who have already or will have successfully completed their first year are eligible to apply.

Requirements:

Applicants should contact an MIT faculty member participating in the SMART program (refer to <http://mit.edu/smart/urop/> to view the list of faculty participants) and based upon interaction with that faculty member, submit an application that contains:

- A 1-3 page description of the research that you would like to conduct in Singapore.
- A recommendation from the MIT faculty.
- An indication of your supervisor(s) while in Singapore (faculty member, staff, graduate students).
- The period you propose to spend in Singapore, in general not less than two (2) months.
- Upon your return to MIT two evaluations: one from you faculty supervisor and the other from you. The faculty evaluation should assess your progress and inform us about your contributions to the research program. Your evaluation should describe the progress of your research project, both accomplishments and challenges, as well as an assessment of your academic and personal experience in Singapore.

Compensation:

- Hourly rate of US\$11.00 per hour
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Assistance will be provided for securing housing in Singapore.

Applications:

Applications should be submitted by May 1ST to Jocelyn Sales at jsales@mit.edu.

Big Screw Donations Go to Environmental Research Group EWG

Big Screw, from Page 1

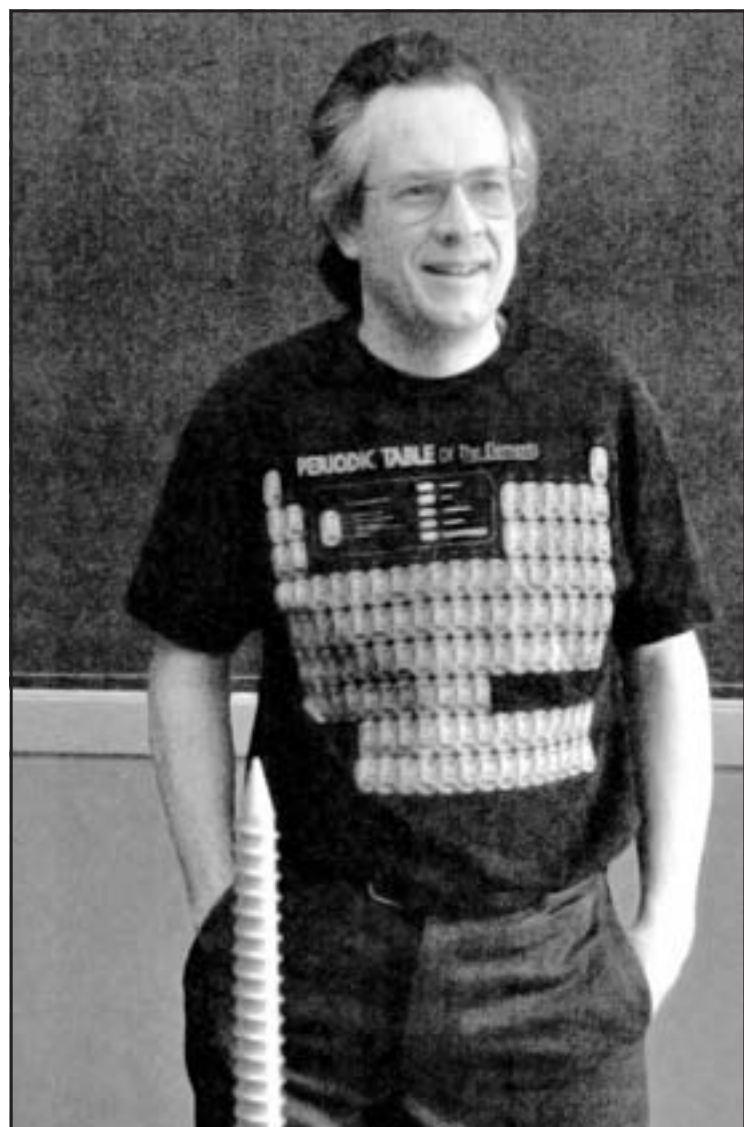
because he has not taught at MIT, nor been in the country, over the past year. Chronis also noted that this year's event saw more instructors from small classes being nominated. Michael S. Cuthbert, for example, was nominated even though he has only about fifteen students in his class. Ernst came in last place, with only \$2.26 donated overall, while Cuthbert was able to secure the fourth-place position with \$175.38.

Some of the participants also received donations in unorthodox forms. Michelle D. Mischke, who placed third overall with \$181.58, received some of her votes in euros. Bredt received two tokens for the T, although they were not considered to have any value and thus contributed nothing to his total. His victory was

instead sealed by a \$500 donation, which was placed in Bredt's jar on Thursday. Even without the large donation, however, Bredt would have still been in second place; David W. Miller '82 was the only other contestant to top \$200, with a grand total of \$281.01.

All of the money placed in the jars of contestants will be given to The Environmental Working Group, the charity chosen by Bredt with the help of APO organizers. He was looking to give money to a cause related to chemistry, given his field of expertise, and he was pleased with the work of the environmental watchdog group. He also mentioned that most of its proceeds go directly toward its work.

"Eighty-four percent of the money goes to the organization; not much goes toward advertising," he said.



STEVE HOWLAND—THE TECH

Teaching assistant and researcher James F. Bredt '82 stands behind his 4-foot aluminum screw trophy after winning Alpha Phi Omega's annual Big Screw competition.

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- Minoring
- Concentrating?
- UROPs?

Wednesday
April 16th
4:00 - 5:30
E53-368



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MIT Professor Ariely Will Lead New Media Lab Banking Group

By Ross Kerber
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Which would you rather have: a \$2 cup of coffee today, or \$8.64 more in retirement savings 30 years from now?

It's the sort of question Dan Ariely can ponder for hours. A professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab, Ariely is part of a newly formed group of faculty that will comprise the Center for Future Banking. Last month,

the group received up to \$25 million in funding from Bank of America to explore how people make decisions about their money, and how technology can shape and assist in these choices.

Ariely uses the example of retirement savings to illustrate one goal of the program: to help people make rational decisions by understanding their own sometimes irrational impulses and how they make choices.

In the example above, compounding interest would more than quadruple a \$2 deposit in a retirement-savings account over three decades, assuming a 5 percent interest rate. But it's hard for many people to understand what that extra money would represent when all they want right now is a caffeine boost.

"It's clear what you're giving up now, but unclear what you're getting in the future," Ariely says.

To help consumers make those judgments, Ariely envisions budgeting tools such as credit card accounts that would allow users to set spending limits with serious consequences if they spend too much. Cross the line and the system might fire off an angry e-mail to your spouse or donate cash to a political party you oppose. He says he has suggested the idea to other banks for years but received little interest until now.

Executives at Bank of America in Charlotte, N.C., say it's too soon to know exactly what new products might come out of the center's work, which they will fund at between \$3 million and \$5 million a year.

But Anne Finucane, the bank's head of global marketing and corporate affairs, said staying ahead of technology trends is crucial for the institution, which is the largest retail bank, with 55 million households as customers.

"The role of technology is critical to us," she said. "Fifteen years ago it would have been hard to imagine people would pay their bills online or that we would sell 25 percent of our products online."

The challenge is figuring out what consumers want next. Forecasting the future of banking can be as amorphous as it sounds, and the field is littered with false starts. For instance, near the elevators at the Media Lab a map marks the location of the office of the MasterCard Future of Transactions Lab, a vestige of a \$5.6 million grant the institution received from the big payment network in 2000 to start a program that would study "the new social and economic order" emerging with new payment systems. That

effort later was shut down in a round of MasterCard budget cutting, however, faculty say.

Still, the Media Lab remains perhaps MIT's most famous gizmo originator, where a Segway-riding visitor draws no stares and faculty have wired up everything from wearable computers to cellphones embedded in talking toy squirrels.

The banking project came about after a Media Lab student had an internship last year in Bank of America's quantitative analysis group in Charlotte, getting executives there interested in the lab's work, such as a conference it hosted last year called "h2.0," for human 2.0. The conference focused on "neural-digital interfaces" such as those that would allow disabled people to move mechanical limbs through electrical impulses from their brains.

Speakers included several faculty now involved with the Center for Future Banking, including Deb Roy, who develops software for machines to communicate in human-like ways, and Rosalind Picard, who studies sensors and systems that respond to human emotions.

Another attendee was Bank of America executive Jeff Carter, who now plans to move from Charlotte to Boston to become the bank's lead executive for interacting with the center.

In an interview last week, Carter mentioned several "workstreams" the bank hopes the MIT researchers will examine. One issue is what he calls the "cloud of information" of financial advice surrounding consumers. A problem for banks, he said, is how to make sense of the problems and opportunities surrounding the growth of mobile devices that keep track of their location, raising many tricky privacy issues.

That's where the bank could benefit from work like that of Media Lab professor Alex "Sandy" Pentland, a specialist in mobile information systems. In his office in the center of MIT's campus, he speaks about the chance to create "a new deal on data" in which consumers would gain a much greater understanding of the privacy tradeoffs they make when their devices broadcast their location to computer networks - to get better prices at the supermarket, for example.

"Mobile systems in particular suffer from the danger of false expectations" among their users, Pentland said.

One unexpected study area is an online game created by a student and Roy, who's also the banking center's director. Known as the Restaurant Game, it invites users to control on-screen figures, called avatars, in a restaurant where they play the part either of a waitress or of a patron with \$50 to spend on a meal.

While the activity seems banal, the goal is to gather enough data from two-player games to design artificial intelligence software that could take orders from a single player - a remarkably complicated task, Roy says, given the unpredictability of human beings.

Work like this could feed into a much broader set of services both for customers and for banks, including Bank of America and any others he can sign up as sponsors. Anything that can improve their customer service would be a competitive advantage, he said, in an industry whose scale often makes institutions seem impersonal.

"The last time you needed to call your bank, did you look forward to it? Probably not," Roy said.

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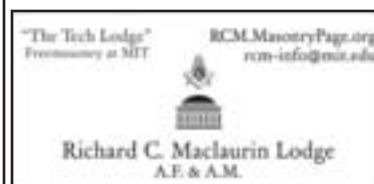


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MIT, German Firm Plan Center For Sustainable Energy Research

By Michael Naughton and David Beard

THE BOSTON GLOBE

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a German research giant announced Saturday that they would open a sustainable energy research center near the university's campus that will employ at least 60 people.

The goal of what will be called the MIT-Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems is to be a premier site in the country for rapid development of solar and other energy efficient technologies, said MIT and Fraunhofer officials. The center, which will employ mainly scientists and engineers, was announced by MIT president Susan Hockfield, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, and energy and environmental affairs Secretary Ian A. Bowles during a two-day MIT energy conference.

With \$5 million in initial funding by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative and \$1 million from the energy company National Grid, the center will be a partnership between the university and Germany's Fraunhofer Institute, owned by Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, a research company that operates more than 80 research facilities and is partially funded by the German government.

About 60 jobs will be created at first, officials said, with hopes that innovations developed there can be licensed and develop into for-profit companies.

The center will focus on reducing the cost of solar technologies over the next five years, officials said.

"The end goal of all of these

projects is to drive the dollar-per-watt down," Nolan Browne MBA '06, who will be a managing director for the center, said in a telephone interview. "If you can do that, it's a big win."

Although different-sized solar panels harness different amounts of energy and vary in cost, a panel that can produce about 200 watts — which, in the Boston area, would power a 60-watt bulb for about 13 hours — currently costs about \$800, Browne said.

Besides solar innovation, the center will have two labs focusing on building efficiency and prototype energy devices. The prototype lab will take advanced materials, such as electronics for the panels or encapsulated gel, and turn them into new or improved devices. The building efficiency lab will work to develop better materials to construct green structures.

"You look at Germany today, and they're further along than we are in terms of green buildings," said Browne, who is now director of business development in sustainable energy for Fraunhofer's U.S. headquarters, in Plymouth, Mich. "If we were able to figure out financing and proper design of buildings — so, say, you use more

natural light, better ventilation, and better insulation — you're going to decrease power consumption markedly."

The Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems, whose parent company employs 12,700 scientists and engineers, is the largest research lab in Europe focusing on solar technology, fuel cells, and sustainable building materials, according to its Web site.

Bowles said at the conference that the new center will strengthen the state's commitment "to making Massachusetts the national leader in clean energy." Last week Marlborough-based Evergreen Solar Inc. announced plans to double the size of a manufacturing facility being built at the former Fort Devens. The company also said it plans to triple its workforce, to about 1,000.

Along with Browne, MIT professor Tonio Buonassisi and Roland Schindler, a professor in Germany, will lead the center, it was announced during the conference.

MIT officials also said that they do not have a specific site designated for the facility but that it would be close to the campus.

Other solar research facilities are located at Northwestern University and Arizona State University.

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— Bahá'u'lláh (b.1817)

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all graduate students welcome

Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

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

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Yale Admitted, Funded Transfer Student Who Faked Transcript

By Karen W. Arenson
THE NEW YORK TIMES

To Yale admissions officials, Akash Maharaj was an appealing prospect: He had earned straight A's at Columbia University. Now

he wanted to transfer. Yale not only admitted him; it gave him a \$32,000 scholarship as well.

Since then, however, much of his application information has turned out to be false, Yale said, and he is facing charges in Connecticut of larceny and forgery. According to an affidavit from Yale, although he attended Columbia, the straight A's were bogus, as was a Columbia recommendation and even one Columbia transcript. And before Columbia, he had attended New York University.

The tale of Mr. Maharaj, who was dismissed by Yale last year when officials discovered his misrepresentations, was revealed in The Yale Daily News on Tuesday. But new information is emerging; Mr. Maharaj had transferred to N.Y.U. from yet another college, St. John's, where, according to a spokesman, he was enrolled from fall 2002 to spring 2003.

In addition to the Yale scholarship, Mr. Maharaj received \$15,000 in federal scholarships and loans, the affidavit said.

Mr. Maharaj's apparent deceit comes at the end of a college admissions season that is the most competitive ever. Yale, for example, offered places to just 8 percent of 23,000 applicants. Education experts say the case highlights a flood of forgeries and other frauds involving academic credentials, as the frenzy continues for spots in elite institutions.

"It is hitting us like a tidal wave," said Barmak Nassirian, associate executive director at the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers in Washington, referring to "absolutely ingenious credential fraud." He added, "American higher education was not prepared for the triple whammy of globalization, the Internet and higher education becoming big business."

A Yale spokesman declined to comment on Mr. Maharaj's case, saying the matter was before the courts. Jeffrey Brenzel, the dean of undergraduate admissions, issued a statement saying that cases of suspected fraud in the application process were rare.

A hearing was scheduled for Monday in Connecticut Superior Court in New Haven. Mr. Maharaj's lawyer, Glenn Conway, described his client as "an intelligent young man with a good strong academic background," and said he would ask the court to put him in a rehabilitation program, which may require education, community service, restitution or other correctives instead of going to trial.

"It is not a finding of guilt or an admission of wrongdoing," Mr. Conway said. He said that Mr. Maharaj did not wish to comment.

Questions about Mr. Maharaj's application to Yale surfaced only

after he had completed the 2006-7 academic year there.

One professor who worked closely with him, Sara Suleri Goodyear, said that Mr. Maharaj was one of "the most brilliant" students she had had in nearly 30 years at Yale. "He was articulate, very attentive and so highly intelligent that I considered asking him to work as my assistant over the summer," she said.

According to Yale's affidavit, the university police received a call in June 2007 saying that a student, Victor Cazares, was being threatened. Mr. Cazares told the police that he had tried to end his relationship with his boyfriend, Mr. Maharaj, and that Mr. Maharaj had threatened to commit suicide. He said that Mr. Maharaj had a history of mental health problems, and had subsequently threatened to kill him. He also told Yale officials that he had found that Mr. Maharaj was 26, not 21 as he had said, and that he appeared to have made other false statements about himself.

Mr. Cazares declined to comment on Wednesday.

Alerted to these problems, Yale officials delved into Mr. Maharaj's records. They found that he had misstated his age on his application, and had not attended Columbia in all of the years he said he had. They also found that his official transcript differed from one he had filed with his application, which did not mention his year at N.Y.U.

According to the affidavit, Mr. Maharaj said Columbia had confused him with another student. And he sent Yale yet another transcript — on what appeared to be official Columbia paper, with a blue border, the university crest in the center and the official legal seal in the lower right-hand corner. Yale eventually concluded that the transcript was a forgery.

"The fact that Maharaj had possession of a fraudulently formatted transcript prepared on a genuine Columbia University document is in itself very suspicious and raises serious concerns," Yale said in its affidavit.

Security experts also voiced concern about a student being able to obtain an official transcript form. They said that many colleges used paper with watermarks and embedded metal strips, and that accessing such paper was like a counterfeiter's being able to obtain the special paper used for printing money.

"One important question is, did he take it or did he buy it?" said John B. Bear, an author and consultant in El Cerrito, Calif., who specializes in the issue of credential fraud in higher education.

He said that watermarks were not easy to reproduce, but that it was easy to find documents for sale on the Internet. "Registrars are turning more and more into detectives," Mr. Bear added.

Columbia said it had "thoroughly reviewed this matter," but would not comment further.

John Beckman, an N.Y.U. spokesman, said Mr. Maharaj's records were being examined.

Mr. Conway, Mr. Maharaj's lawyer, said he was not aware of any federal investigation into the grants and loans Mr. Maharaj had received. "That doesn't mean they are not going to pursue it," he said on Wednesday.

Sarah N. Lynch contributed reporting.



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Solution to Crossword

from page 6

T	E	M	P	S	A	R	T	S	M	A	R	S
A	V	I	L	A	B	O	R	A	A	D	E	N
B	E	S	O	M	S	T	E	N	N	A	P	E
T	Y	P	E	E	A	N	D	T	Y	P	E	A
A	P	R	A	N	N	C	S	A	T	A	D	
S	R	I	N	A	T	C	H	M	A	S	T	S
S	O	A	R	M	I	O	S	I	R			
P	L	A	N	O	A	N	D	P	L	A	N	B
M	A	R	C	E	E	L	O	R	E			
C	L	A	P	S	C	H	A	N	T	S	E	T
O	O	O	T	R	A	D	D	E	E	W	E	
H	A	R	D	Y	A	N	D	H	A	R	D	C
O	N	T	O	C	O	R	E	E	R	O	D	E
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Toy Product Design Tests Toys With Kids



Students from various public schools around Cambridge test 2.00b Toy Product Design's science-themed toys and gadgets on Monday at the MIT Museum. *Photography by Diane Rak.*

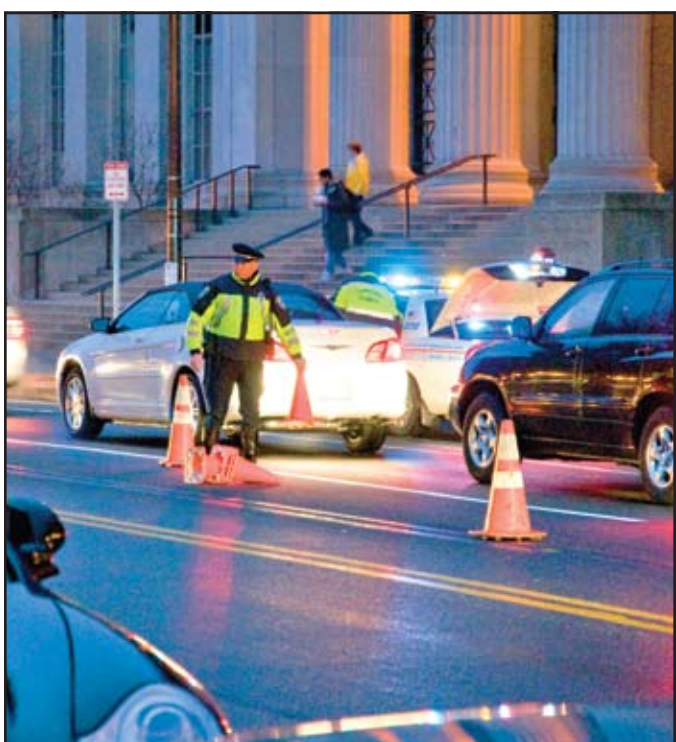
(top) Brooke A. Jarrett '10 of Team Magenta demonstrates the edible creations made with her group's "Chem Cookin'" set.

(bottom) John M. Walton '11 of Team Ochre shows a girl his "Cool Pool" set of modified pool balls.



CHRISTOPHER PENTAC

A UFO appears atop one of the Stata Center's roofs courtesy of MIT hackers on Sunday.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

The stoplights and streetlights have periodically been out at the 77 Massachusetts Ave. crosswalk during recent evenings. Shown is an officer directing traffic in lieu of the traffic signal.



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Questions: ora@mit.edu
Website: mit.edu/dsl/addir/

The public is most welcome to attend.
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Addir is a word in Ancient Sumerian which means "bridge". In the Addir Fellows Program we aspire to build bridges of dialogue and understanding. The Addir Fellows MIT Interfaith Dialogue Program is sponsored by Office of Dean for Student Life and MIT Hillel in cooperation with the Board of Chaplains.



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with
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and
Cranston Rogers SM '51
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Sprinkler Floods Are Uncommon, According To Housing Director

Next House, from Page 1

to pay for damaged personal property, Collins said.

One of the students whose room was affected was assigned to one of the "couple of rooms set aside for emergency" in New House for the night. Collins said that two students affected now live in temporary rooms in Next House and might live in the temporary rooms until the end of the semester.

Third floor resident Mark J. Yen '11, who is also a Tech production staffer, said that the "only flooding was in the closet, but not in other

parts of the room." Other residents described worse water damage, which he had not seen, he said. Yen said that he returned from taekwondo practice at the University of Pennsylvania at 3 a.m. and didn't realize what had happened until people came to his room to clean up later in the morning.

Sprinklers rarely go off by accident, Collins said. He said that he recalls only about three different occasions of accidental flooding in the past ten years. Sprinklers last caused property damage in Sept. 2006 at East Campus, when a student tradition involving setting a table on fire with alcohol went awry.

Mead Discusses How Students Can Interact With MIT Corporation

Mead, from Page 1

gram and for other major activities at the Institute, according to the Corporation's web site. The 30 visiting committees meet with the groups they oversee once every two years for a one-and-one-half day session. Students can provide input when the visiting committees visit with their academic department.

Students also directly interact with the Corporation through CJAC, which consists of 6 Corporation members, 6 faculty members, and 6 students. All constituents on CJAC voice their concerns in four committees meetings throughout the year, and the chairman of the committee (a Corporation member) reports back to the Corporation once a year. All other Corporation committees submit a written report to the Corporation, but the CJAC has not previously been asked to submit one.

Yesterday, Mead said that "we're going to institute" written reports to the Corporation from the CJAC as "another way to get students' concerns more directly" in front of the Corporation. Mead said that Martin F. Holmes '08, the current UA president, suggested the idea.

Students' input is already solicited through other channels, said Mead. For example, he pointed out that he requested student input when the Corporation was choosing the next president of MIT. He said that students were "a key part of that process," although the final decision was made by the Corporation.

When Mead introduced himself, he pointed out that there is a "bright line" between the responsibilities of the Corporation and the responsibilities of the president. He said that the Corporation is focused on "governance" — approving the construction of new buildings, managing the endowment, and approving courses of study, for example. Although the president of MIT reports to Mead, he said that it is the responsibility of the president and her staff to handle the "operational" aspects of MIT.

Referring to students' concerns about the dining situation and the fact that the Corporation is not re-

sponsible for that aspect of MIT, he said that "I'm not really in the dining business, except to eat occasionally."

Challenges facing MIT

When a student asked Mead about the biggest challenges facing MIT, Mead mentioned a need for MIT to expand its sources of research funding, the possibility of a lower return on investment in the endowment, and a billion dollars of deferred maintenance on the MIT campus.

On the topic of research funding sources, he said that the federal government, a primary source of research funding for MIT, is starting to divide up its funding and give smaller amounts to more research institutions, including state universities, for example.

As a result, Mead predicted that MIT will receive less funding from the federal government, and will have to seek more and more funding from for-profit companies and philanthropic organizations. According to Mead, these organizations are more interested on research that "contributes to the bottom line quickly," and are less likely to give money to "basic research" without immediately clear profit-making potential.

Mead also brought up the challenge of raising money for maintaining MIT buildings. He pointed out that the main group of buildings, erected in 1916, have only had one major renovation. He said that it is difficult to find donors to pay several million dollars to replace windows, for example.

Regarding recent U.S. Senate inquiries into endowment spending, Mead said that any additional legislative controls would have a negative impact on members of the MIT community. The Senate has considered requiring universities to spend around 5 percent of their endowments a year; MIT already spends five percent a year, but Mead said that he is worried about the federal government attempting to control other aspects of endowment spending.

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SPORTS

Women's Tennis Dominates in First Ever Match Against NYU

**The Tech's Athlete of the Week:
Leah A. Bogsted '08**

Leah A. Bogsted '08 hit a walk-off double with two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning on Saturday to give MIT a 5-4 victory over Regis College.

The center field shot scored Keri A. Dixon '11 for Bogsted's third RBI of the game. Overall, Bogsted was 3-4 in the game with 3 RBIs.

In addition to her hitting contribution, Bogsted came in as a relief pitcher in the sixth. Over the final two innings, she had four strikeouts, gave up two unearned runs, and was credited for the win.

—Shreyes Seshasai, Sports Editor

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Baseball vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy 3:30 p.m., Briggs Field

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Softball vs. Brandeis University 3:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., Briggs Field
Men's Lacrosse vs. Norwich University 4:00 p.m., Jack Barry Field



MAKSIM VIKTOROVICH IMAKAEV

Lily He '09 runs through Smith College defenders Sara Smyth (left) and Caitlin Kennedy during the Engineers' 18-7 victory on Saturday on Jack Berry Field. Lily He scored two goals in the game.

By Karina Pikhart

TEAM MEMBER

The women's tennis team, ranked 23rd in the nation, decisively defeated New York University 8-1 in the first ever meeting between the two teams on Saturday. While the score may seem one-sided, the Lady Engineers still had to fight back from deficits in several of its matches.

With the annual Campus Preview Weekend (accompanied by the usual warm weather and clear skies) serving as a backdrop for the match, the doubles teams took to the courts. At three doubles, Melissa A. Diskin '11 and Karina N. Pikhart '09 pulled off a quick victory, winning 8-2. Meanwhile, the one doubles match started off a bit slow, as Leslie A. Hansen '10 and Mariah N. Hoover '08 battled a strong opponent with solid serving. By staying aggressive throughout the match, the pair eventually pulled through and played really well together, winning the match with an 8-4 finish.

MIT's first comeback of the day came at two doubles, where Anisa K. McCree '10 and Yi Wang '09 battled in a long, close match. Though still on serve, the pair was down a game at each changeover. Down 6-5, they knew that losing the next game would allow NYU to serve for the set. At that point, there was a bit of a transition of nerves. Wang commented, "We were

tight at first, but then we became more relaxed and swung out."

McCree held serve, and then MIT broke NYU's serve, giving them the lead for the first time in the match, 7-6. Wang held serve once more for MIT to finish off the match 8-6. "We were more aggressive, particularly at the net," said Wang, explaining how the momentum shifted in the match. Wang and McCree also took advantage of their opponents tightening up and going for too much as the match wore on.

This ended the doubles, with the Engineers leading overall at 3-0.

The singles matches featured more excitement and comebacks, as inclement weather forced the match indoors, causing some delay.

At two singles, Hoover quickly finished the first set 6-2, but then fell behind in the second set 4-1. "In the first set, my opponent came out hitting hard, but she missed a lot [of shots]," said Hoover. "Then in the second set, she started getting a lot more in. But then [Coach] Carol came and talked to me, and we got things worked out." Worked out indeed, as Hoover didn't drop another game for the rest of her match, finishing 6-2, 6-4. Her five game streak also persisted through the coming rain, which interrupted her second set at 4-4.

The next match to finish indoors was Hansen at the one singles position, who lost an unexplainable first set 4-6. She followed it with a decisive 6-0, 6-2 comeback.

Diskin followed her at three singles, falling behind in the first set before coming back for a close 7-5 win. She then claimed victory with a quick 6-1 second set.

Wang followed at four singles with a 6-4, 6-2 win. Reflecting on her match, Wang said, "I was never behind in the match, but sometimes I got far ahead and then I would loosen up a bit and she would get a few games." This happened in her second set, when her initial 5-0 lead turned into 5-2 before she was able to close the match. Her finish brought the overall score to 7-0.

Jenny C. Dohlman '11 played in her first match that counted for the team score on Saturday at the six singles position. Although she dropped the first set 6-0, she turned things around in the second, fighting a much closer battle to get to 3-3 before losing 6-4.

Playing next to her, McCree also dropped a quick first set 6-1 at five singles. Her second set wasn't looking too good either, when the score quickly reached 5-1. Refusing to quit, McCree stepped things up, capturing six straight games to win the set 7-5 in a remarkable comeback that was paused by the onset of rain. After waiting a while to get back onto the court, she rode her momentum to a 6-2 win in the final set.

The Engineers will play their final two regular season matches this weekend at Skidmore College on Saturday and Vassar College on Sunday.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Karen K. Shu G throws a pass past a Northeastern defender to Adele D. Phillips G to score the final goal of the match. SMITE, the MIT women's ultimate team, played a scrimmage against the Northeastern Valkyries this past Sunday evening, which they won 5-3.



RACHEL DIANE VANCOTT

The MIT women's rugby team plays against Brandeis University in the Saturday morning Prom Dress Rugby Tournament. Six teams competed in the annual event on Briggs Field.