

## Another Drop Date, Another Piano Drop

By Nick Bushak  
NEWS EDITOR

It's hard to fire pianos. That's what the organizers of Baker House's annual Piano Drop learned this year, as the victim, a grand piano, fell six storeys off the Baker rooftop and just missed a tar-

get on the ground. Piano Drop has been held irregularly since the initial drop in 1972. The tradition, which commemorates Drop Date, returned in 2006 after a seven year hiatus, and it has been held annually since then.

This year's Piano Drop had a fes-

tive air. The weather was sunny and warm, and students began to congregate on the Memorial Dr. side of Baker well before the 5:30 p.m. drop time to enjoy an outdoor pay-per-plate barbecue catered by Baker Dining.

Police officers were present to discourage cars passing on Memo-

rial Dr. from being distracted by the event. Also in attendance was a video crew from a local television station.

As the time approached 5:30, anticipation grew. John V. Agard '11 came because "a piano falling from a six story building sounds pretty exciting." The organizers of the event, Howard D. Kellogg '08 and George J. Courtsunis '09, worked on the roof to prepare the piano for its demise. The piano was supplied by Delta Kappa Epsilon.

Finally, the piano was prepared, and the restless crowd chanted a countdown. After the shout of "one," the grand piano was launched off the top of Baker's roof.

A smaller, vertical piano was positioned on the ground, but the grand piano dropped from the roof barely clipped its target. As such, some students found the event to be less satisfying compared with prior Piano Drops.

Yuqiao Huang '09 said "In past years it seemed to be more explosive and exciting." Peter Lu '11 said that the drop "was pretty lame." Eren S. Sayan '11 suggested "weaker pianos."

Tim Zheng '11 brought a prospective student he was hosting to Piano Drop. "We walked all the way from Stata to see the piano drop," he said. "But we missed it," he said, because they arrived late.

Although some were a bit disap-

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ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Baker residents prepare to send a grand piano to a smashing demise six stories below in the annual Baker House Piano Drop on Drop Date yesterday.

## Yale Refuses To Display Divisive Abortion Art Project

By Karen W. Arenson  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

When an exhibition of art projects by Yale University seniors opened on Tuesday, one was missing: that of Aliza Shvarts, whose performance-art project reportedly involved artificially inseminating herself repeatedly and then self-aborting.

A description of the work last week in The Yale Daily News — which said it included videos of her miscarriages shown on a four-foot cube wrapped in plastic smeared with Vaseline and what Ms. Shvarts had described as her own blood — touched off a frenzy of horrified reaction.

But arts professors at universities around the country say they are no strangers to controversy. And they say that while freedom of expression is important in the academic

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### In Short

¶ Third Eye Blind and Howie Day play at tonight's Spring Weekend concert in Johnson Athletic Center. Tickets are \$15 cash at the door.

¶ MIT is firing Coordinator of Programs and Support for Women Students Lynn A. Roberson at the end of June and is eliminating her position from the Division of Student Life.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.

## Sneaking Into the Boston Marathon? Consider a Mexican Wrestling Mask

By Brian D. Hemond  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Patriot's Day. For most people, it's that odd Massachusetts holiday we get off from work, a time for barbecues, beer, (hopefully) nice weather, and of course, the time-hon-

ored tradition of running bandit in the Boston Marathon.

Running bandit, for the uninitiated, is the practice of running the marathon, or some fraction thereof, sans registration. Why? In order to gain the privilege of running the entire 26.22 miles with a number on one's chest and an electronic ID tied to one's shoe, competitors in my

age group must run an official time of under 3 hours and 10 minutes in a previous marathon, plus pay the \$100+ registration fee. Neither I nor my partners in crime were capable of this feat.

Bandit runners, despite their long history (the first acknowledged fe-

Bandit, Page 14



BRIAN D. HEMOND—THE TECH

Marathoners round the corner into Kenmore Square beneath the landmark Citgo sign, less than one mile from the finish line of the 2008 Boston Marathon.



See snapshots from the Global Poverty Initiative conference

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"Forgetting Sarah Marshall" is formulaic, but not forgettable

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# WORLD & NATION

## Opposition the 'Clear Victor' In Zimbabwe, U.S. Says

By Celia W. Dugger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

The top American envoy to Africa declared Thursday that Zimbabwe's main opposition leader, Morgan Tsvangirai, was the "clear victor" over President Robert Mugabe in the nation's disputed election and called on other countries — including the United States — to help solve the deepening political and humanitarian crisis there.

The diplomat, Jendayi Frazer, the assistant secretary of state for African affairs, said the election results, based on projections by independent monitors, removed the rationale for any negotiated settlement that left Mugabe in charge, as was proposed Wednesday in an editorial in *The Herald*, the state-run newspaper.

"This is a government rejecting the will of the people," Frazer said, referring to the Zimbabwe electoral commission's refusal to announce who won the March 29 presidential election. "If they had voted for Mugabe, the results would already have been announced. Everyone knows what time it is."

## U.S. Releases Images to Bolster Claims About Syrian Reactor

By David E. Sanger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Bush administration released detailed photographic images on Thursday to support its assertion that the building in Syria that Israel destroyed in an airstrike last year was a nuclear reactor constructed with years of help from North Korea.

The administration said it withheld the pictures for seven months out of fear that Syria could retaliate against Israel and start a broader war in the Middle East.

The photographs taken inside the reactor before it was destroyed in an air raid on Sept. 6 clearly show the rods that control the heat in a nuclear reactor, one of many close engineering similarities to a reactor halfway around the world where North Korea produced the fuel for its nuclear arsenal.

While the photographs were not dated, it seemed that some of the photos taken on the ground go back to before 2002.

## Connecticut's Wealthy Not Immune From Foreclosure

By Christine Haughney

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GREENWICH, CONN.

This wooded town of roughly 60,000 on Long Island Sound — home to dozens of hedge funds, many millionaires and more than a few billionaires — is one of the wealthiest enclaves in the country. But even Greenwich is not immune to the wave of home foreclosures sweeping the nation.

On Hettiefred Road, for example, the owner of a 2,720-square-foot, four-bedroom colonial featuring a luxury kitchen, swimming pool and tennis court, has been threatened with foreclosure for months. On Stanwich Road, another house worth \$2.6 million is close to going on the block. Several dozen others have received foreclosure notices this year.

But there is a difference from most other communities. Auctioning off such homes is a far greater challenge here than elsewhere, as affluent but cash-squeezed owners often find ways to delay losing their home, sometimes by coming up with just enough to make last-minute payments, avoiding a final sale — for a while, anyway.

Just ask John Thygerson, who parked his Jeep sport utility vehicle in front of the empty house on Hettiefred Road on the flawless spring day last Saturday. As a foreclosure auctioneer, he was scheduled — for the third time since January — to sell the house. But the owner, a construction business owner who has fallen on hard times, made a last-minute mortgage payment and the foreclosure was postponed yet again.

# Pakistan Approaching Peace Deal With Militant Tribes

By Ismail Khan and Carlotta Gall

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

The Pakistani government is close to an agreement to end hostilities with the most militant tribes in its turbulent border area, whose main leader is accused of orchestrating most of the suicide bombings of recent months and the assassination of the former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

A 15-point draft of the accord, which was shown to *The New York Times*, called for an end to militant activity and an exchange of prisoners in return for the gradual withdrawal of the Pakistani military from part of the tribal region of South Waziristan.

Even as the accord, a far-reaching draft that essentially forbids the tribes from engaging in nearly all illegal actions, was being negotiated by the government through tribal elders, the militant leader, Baitullah Mehsud, ordered his fighters to cease their activities in the tribal regions as well as the adjoining North-West Frontier province, warning of strict punishment of any violators.

American and Afghan officials were immediately skeptical of a deal

with Mehsud, one of Pakistan's most hard-line militants. They have blamed past accords for allowing the Taliban and al-Qaida to regroup, fortify their ties and use Pakistan as a base to plot attacks here and abroad. Previously, members of Pakistan's new coalition government had said they considered Mehsud irretrievably hostile.

"We have seen the agreements they have made before, and they do not work," said one U.S. official, referring to an agreement in North Waziristan in September 2006, which was blamed for strengthening the militants and a surge in crossborder attacks against U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan.

In Washington, the White House spokeswoman, Dana Perino, was also wary. "We are concerned about it," she said, referring to the possibility of an accord, "and what we encourage them to do is to continue to fight against the terrorists and to not disrupt any security or military operations that are ongoing in order to help prevent a safe haven for terrorists there."

The approach to Mehsud followed pledges by the new government to make a break with the policies Presi-

dent Pervez Musharraf has embraced in recent years, to pursue dialogue with the militants and to restore calm to Pakistan, which has been roiled by suicide attacks. Diplomats and Afghan officials suggested that the government was trying to show good will, while playing for time to bring stability.

Though Musharraf, too, negotiated with the militants, he used the military in the tribal areas in a way that many Pakistanis criticized as heavy handed, losing hundreds of Pakistani troops in the fighting. The military operations and his alliance with the United States in combating terrorism have grown deeply unpopular.

The United States has consistently discouraged negotiations with militants — what Deputy Secretary of State John D. Negroponte described as "irreconcilable elements" during a visit to Pakistan in March. "I don't see how you can talk with those kinds of people," he said.

Mehsud, perhaps Pakistan's most notorious militant, leads an umbrella group of the militants in the border areas, known as the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, or the Taliban Movement of Pakistan.

# For Airlines, Runways Growing Increasingly Dangerous

By Matthew L. Wald

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The recent groundings of thousands of flights have raised flags about skipped airplane inspections and botched repairs to wiring.

But what really worries aviation specialists? Runway collisions.

"Where we are most vulnerable at this moment is on the ground," the chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Mark V. Rosenker, said. "To me, this is the most dangerous aspect of flying."

For the six-month period that ended March 30, there were 15 serious "runway incursions," compared with eight in the period a year earlier. Another occurred at the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on April 6, one of the closest on record, when a tug operator pulling a Boeing 777 along a taxiway failed to stop at a

runway as another plane was landing, missing the tug by about 25 feet.

The last airliner crash in the United States, a regional jet in Lexington, Ky., in August 2006, was a runway incursion because the crew tried to take off on the wrong runway.

The problem — defined broadly as the unauthorized presence of a plane, vehicle or pedestrian on a runway — continues despite efforts by the Federal Aviation Administration and airports to improve lighting and signs on the ground, to train pilots and to identify intersections that are particularly problematic. Everyone agrees the number is too large.

Runway collisions are caused almost entirely by human error. But they are still mostly preventable, because the risk could be substantially reduced with existing technology, ranging from paint on the pavement to electronic warning systems.

Some of the more sophisticated electronic systems are commercially available, but are not required by the FAA. And the most recent decision by the agency about a new generation of equipment for navigation and surveillance appears to delay the widespread adoption of in-cockpit warning technology by at least more than a decade.

Solving the runway incursion problem has been on the National Transportation Safety Board's "most wanted list" of safety improvements since the list was created in 1990, and the board rates the FAA's response as "unacceptable."

The board recommended in 2000 that the FAA require a collision warning system that would alert crews directly, rather than alerting tower controllers, but the FAA has said the complexity and expense are too great.

# WEATHER

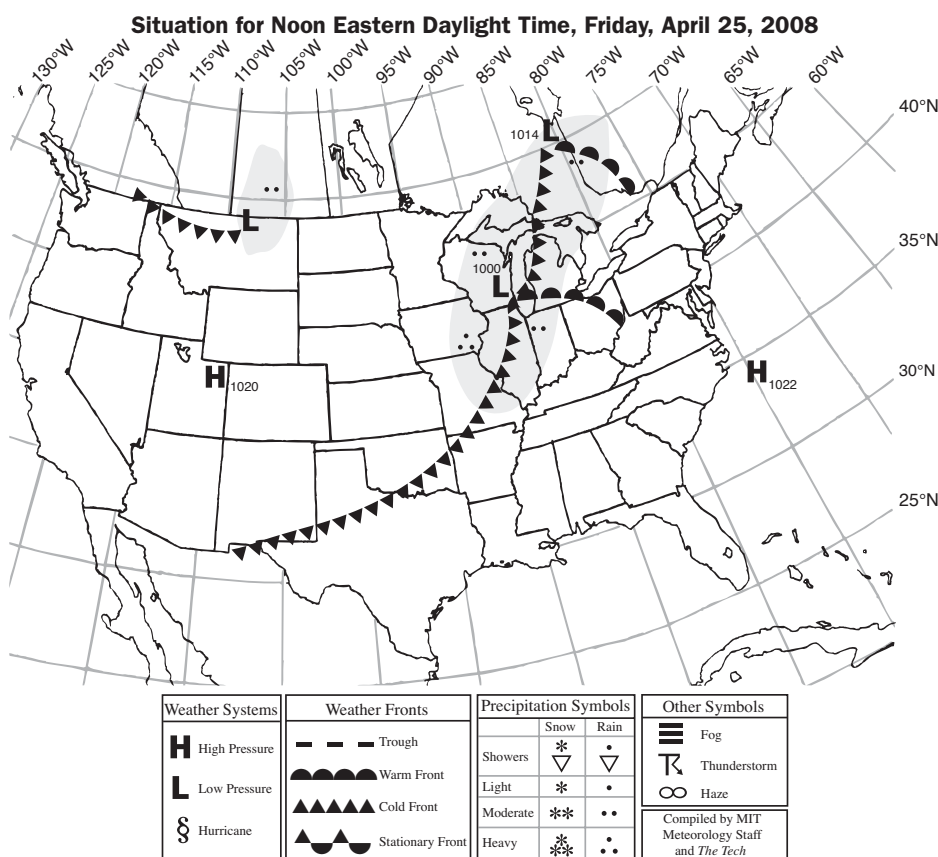
## Red Flagged and Chapped Lips

By Cegeon J. Chan  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

No, this is not about a dry-lipped freshman in danger of failing a class. Instead, it is in reference to yesterday's dangerous fire weather conditions. Red flag warnings are issued by the National Weather Service (the so-called "real" meteorologists) when a majority of the following conditions occur: dry air, strong winds, and approximately 10 or more days without precipitation. We certainly had that yesterday. The first two can be attributed to yesterday's strong vertical mixing. This "homogenizing" process "dragged" the air from 1 mile above towards the surface. Since the air above is almost always windier and drier, this caused the desert-like dryness (with relative humidity readings near 10 percent) and wind gusts of 35 mph.

Of course, 11 straight days without any rain contributes to the dry soil moisture, which in turn could help fires spread. This is the longest stretch without even a trace of precipitation for over 7 months (since mid-September). We will likely extend the streak to lucky 13, with dry days today and tomorrow. The storm to our west is slowly tracking northward and weakening as it does so. So Friday looks like the warmest and sunniest day this weekend. With a weather pattern change due next week, be sure to enjoy the seasonable warmth while it lasts.

**Today:** Sunny. Highs in the mid 60s°F (18°C). Winds 5 to 10 mph.  
**Tonight:** Mostly clear. Lows in the lower 40s°F (6°C). Winds 5 to 10 mph.  
**Tomorrow:** Mostly sunny. Cooler. Highs in the mid 50s°F (12°C).  
**Tomorrow Night:** Rain likely after midnight. Low around 40°F (5°C).  
**Sunday:** Cloudy with rain showers in the morning. Highs in the lower 50s°F (11°C).



# Medics, Trained for Combat Wounds, Tend to Iraq's Needy

By Michael R. Gordon  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Shortly before 1 a.m. Thursday, there was a desperate wail at the back gate of B Company's compound in Sadr City. A woman had been badly burned and her relatives were begging for help.

With little in the way of emergency services and travel hampered by blocked streets, nightly curfews and sporadic firefights, a steady trickle of Iraqis has been turning to the American soldiers here for medical care.

Medics who have trained for combat have attended to a seizure victim, an infant brought in by an anxious father and a boy wounded by gunfire. On Thursday, they cared for Samera Tula, who had been seared over much of her

body when a propane tank accidentally exploded.

Providing care to Iraqi civilians and Iraqi soldiers "has been the excitement of being here so far," said Spc. Joshua Bosley, one of the medics here.

Wednesday had been a relatively quiet day at the base for the company, which is part of the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment. The American military, which moved into Sadr City to try to stop the rocket attacks on the Green Zone and help the Iraqi government establish order, had organized a several hours-long clinic that was staffed by several Iraqi doctors.

The American medics were available to help in case of an emergency but did not participate. The calculation was that using an all-Iraqi medical staff would build the confidence of

Sadr City residents in the Iraqi government.

More than 300 Iraqis showed up for treatment. In many cases, the care consisted of little more than a two-minute consultation and the dispensing of a packet of pills. But the residents in this impoverished warren of the Thawra district were grateful to have received that much.

By mid-afternoon, the clinic was over, the Iraqi doctors were gone and the American medics once again were the only health providers in the neighborhood.

The medics have been working out of a Stryker armored vehicle that is specially configured as an ambulance. The vehicle is equipped with four stretchers, oxygen and medical supplies but no weapon system.

## Using New Math, Clinton Contends She's Ahead

By John M. Broder

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Seizing on her Pennsylvania primary victory, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and her surrogates are renewing their efforts to have the disputed Michigan and Florida convention delegates seated and pushing the argument that she now leads in the total number of votes cast when the tallies in those two states are included.

The Democratic Party leadership does not recognize the results of those contests because the states broke party rules by holding early primaries. But on Thursday, a Michigan superdelegate supporting Clinton filed a complaint with the national Democratic Party demanding that at least half the state's delegates be seated at the convention.

The complaint by Joel I. Ferguson, a developer in Lansing and a member of the Democratic National Committee, is similar to a plea from supporters of Clinton in Florida.

The DNC officials said they were reviewing the complaints, which will be considered by the party's Rules and Bylaws Committee, which punished the states for their early primaries by denying their delegations seats at the national convention in August.

The effort is the latest by Clinton to capitalize on her victory in Pennsylvania and convince the 300 uncommitted party leaders that she has a rightful claim to the nomination. Pushing those efforts, she also met privately Wednesday and Thursday with uncommitted superdelegates at Democratic Party headquarters in Washington, during a rare evening and morning off the campaign trail.

## Credit Suisse Posts \$2.1 Billion Loss

By David Jolly

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

Credit Suisse Group, the Swiss banking giant, on Thursday reported a first-quarter loss nearly three times worse than analysts had expected as it wrote down \$5.3 billion in soured investments.

The bank, based in Zurich, reported a net loss of 2.15 billion Swiss francs, or \$2.1 billion, in the first quarter, compared with net income of 2.8 billion francs a year earlier.

"On balance, I was quite pleased" with the results, said Peter Thorne, an analyst with Helvea in London. "In this market, if an investment bank doesn't report \$20 billion of write-downs, you tend to be quite relieved."

Credit Suisse shares, which have fallen about 30 percent over the last 12 months, rose 2.2 francs, or 4.2 percent, to 54.75 francs in Zurich.

Analysts surveyed by Reuters had expected a loss of about 857 million francs. But predicting bank earnings has become difficult in an environment where many financial institutions have found themselves with risky, hard-to-trade securities on their books.

The Credit Suisse chief executive, Brady W. Dougan, told investors in a conference call that the results were "clearly unsatisfactory," but he said Credit Suisse's capital position remained strong.

# McCain Faults Bush's Emergency Response to Katrina Disaster

By Elisabeth Bumiller

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BATON ROUGE, LA.

Sen. John McCain took direct aim at the Bush administration Thursday as he stood in the lower 9th Ward of New Orleans, the area hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and declared the handling of the disaster "terrible and disgraceful" and pledged that it would never happen again.

McCain ticked off a long list of mistakes by the current administration: There were "unqualified people in charge, there was a total misreading of the dimensions of the disaster, there was a failure of communications."

The pointed critique was one of his harshest assessments yet of the Bush presidency and came as he has been moving to corral restive elements of the Republican Party — and the Bush donor network — behind his candidacy.

Asked at a news conference outside St. David's Catholic Church if he traced the failure of leadership straight to the top, McCain, who has said he wants to campaign with President Bush, said emphatically, "yes."

Earlier, McCain told reporters on his campaign bus that if the disaster had happened on his watch, he would have landed his plane "at the nearest Air Force Base and come

over personally." Bush first surveyed the damage when he flew over New Orleans in Air Force One when coming home from his Texas ranch two days after the hurricane, an act that was widely criticized.

McCain has criticized the government's handling of Katrina in the past — including the actions of Congress, which he did again Thursday — but he has not used such sharp language, and not in the 9th Ward during a presidential campaign with a phalanx of reporters and camera crews in tow.

McCain, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, made his remarks toward the end of his tour of "America's forgotten places."



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## Corrections

The headline for an April 15 article discussing the Media Lab's Center for Future Banking incorrectly identified Sloan Professor Dan Ariely as the lead of the new group. Ariely is a member of the group, which is directed by Deb K. Roy, associate professor of Media Arts and Sciences.

# Power From Space: Its Time Has Come

Raji Patel

Last week, we saw a significant policy shift on greenhouse gas emissions when President Bush called for a halt in the growth of U.S. emissions by 2025 and urged other major polluting nations to develop national goals to address climate change. On the same day, South Korea's president started a visit to the U.S. to make a pitch to companies and investors to assist the country's desire to become an energy producer following the discovery of deposits of gas hydrates — crystalline solids of methane and water molecules — off its coast last year. The country's aspirations are understandable. They would, however, add to emissions from methane released during extraction. Gas hydrates have also been found in large quantities off the coasts of China, India, and Taiwan, all of which have increasing energy demands.

Against this backdrop, it is time we gave serious consideration to energy from space. It is an old idea and most of the information below

is widely available from NASA research. It was initiated after the oil embargo of the mid-1970's when NASA, working with the DOE, began to study alternative energy sources to lessen dependence on foreign oil. Proposed space solar power (SSP) systems consisting of photovoltaic (PV) arrays and mirrors, placed in a geostationary Earth orbit where unaffected by cloud cover, atmospheric dust, or by the Earth's day-night cycle, would receive eight times as much sunlight as they would on Earth's surface. The energy could be converted and beamed to Earth.

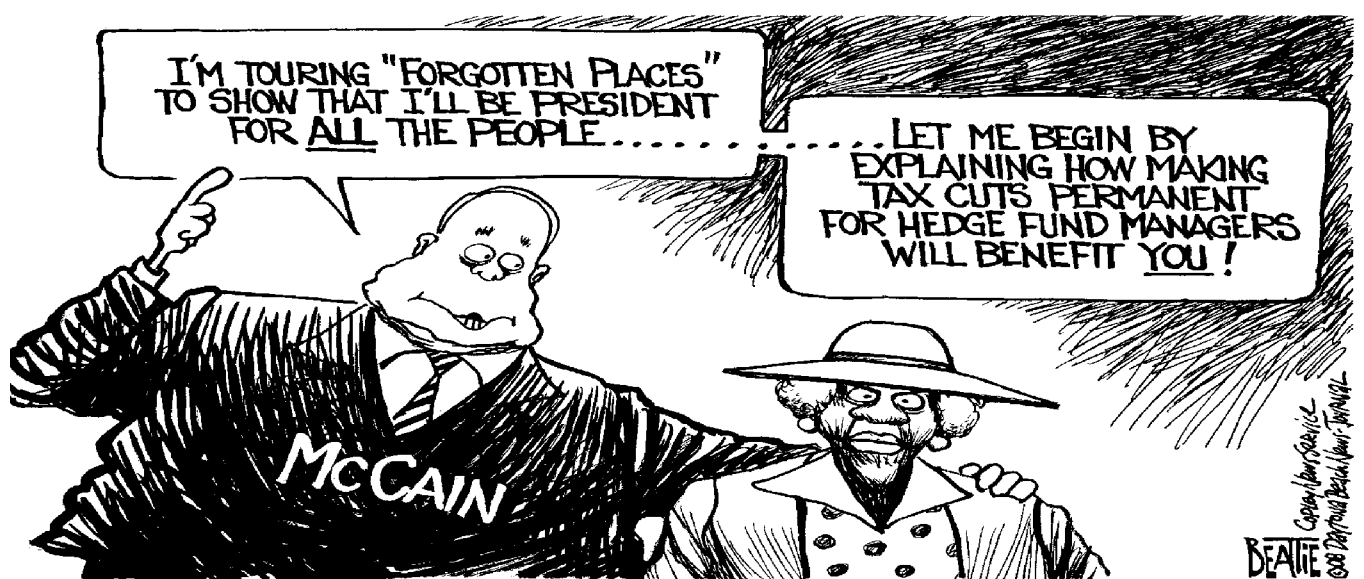
PV technology has improved considerably since this idea was developed adding to the argument that this source of energy should be revisited. In addition, the economics of the cost of energy have changed. According to Dr. Neville Marzwell and his colleagues at the Jet Propulsion Lab, an SSP system could generate energy at a cost including cost of construction of 60 to 80 cents per kilowatt-hour at the outset. He believes that "in 15 to 25 years we can lower that cost to 7 to 10 cents per kWh." The average cost of residential electricity was 9.86 cents per kWh

in the U.S. in 2006.

Admittedly, there are formidable challenges in making this work. However, historically, we have a great record in making technological advances even though our social and political advances have not been so stellar. We should examine SSP, at the highest levels, nationally and internationally, because space solar power offers us energy from an unending source with no emissions and very little environmental impact. Furthermore, our current "solution" of switching to bio fuels is increasing hunger around the world evidenced by riots for food in the developing countries, and, the international carbon-credit market, created as part of the Kyoto Protocol, seems to be doing more for padding middlemen such as EcoSecurities whose founder is quoted as calling the market "akin to sub prime," than combating global warming.

It is indeed time to revisit a space-based solution for the world's energy needs, both at the national and international levels.

Patel is the Associate Director of the Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium.



## Opinion Policy

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Benjamin P. Gleitzman, Editor in Chief Nick Semenkovich, Managing Editor Jessica Witchley, Opinion Editor Aditya Kohli, and Contributing Editor Rosa Cao.

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

**Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons** are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to [letters@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto: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

property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on *The Tech's* Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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

## To Reach Us

*The Tech's* telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to [general@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:general@the-tech.mit.edu), and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing [eic@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:eic@the-tech.mit.edu). Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to [news@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@the-tech.mit.edu). Letters to the editor should be sent to [letters@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:letters@the-tech.mit.edu). The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www-tech.mit.edu>.

# Letters To The Editor

## Tech Should Not Protect Kras

Thomas Armet suggests that The Tech should have not published Artem Kras' name to avoid a "witch hunt." The term "witch hunt" distinctly implies an absence of "witches," which is not the case here — there was a severe incident with an identifiable perpetrator, and the Committee on Discipline proved too impotent to effectively punish him. *The Tech* is acting as an important public servant by ensuring that Kras is roundly ridiculed for his actions, and is doing the COD's job by ensuring that this kind of action does not go unpunished in our community.

Justin Wong's ludicrous idea that we should "accommodate" other cultures' intolerance is a total perversion of the concept of inclusivity. Inclusivity does not mean importing hate and bigotry which may be tolerated elsewhere; it means creating a welcoming environment for all students that allows us to draw the best and brightest from everywhere. If you're going to threaten to send your classmate to the "resuscitation ward," MIT does not want or need you.

Amal Dorai G

## Olympics Frame Rights Debate

Recent Letters to the Editor concerning the Beijing Olympics have focused on the unfair treatment China has received in *The Tech's* political cartoons. While I am generally unsympathetic to most of the claims advanced in these letters, I was struck by one sincerely unflattering parallel between China and the current politics of the United States: namely, the subordination of human rights to the expedient resolution of the government's political agenda.

If we are to believe the group letter printed last Friday, there exists a tension in China between the effort to modernize China economically and the political techniques used to ensure that the transition is orderly. In this analysis, human dignity is simply a cost item to be weighed against the seemingly limitless growth of the Chinese economy.

In America, the years since 9/11 have been marked by a subjugation of basic human rights to help secure the country against terrorists. In our prosecution of the War on Terror, we have demonstrated almost no restraint in our treatment of foreigners with anything of value to our security aims. We have also shown an ominous willingness to turn our security apparatus against U.S. citizens.

These are two different situations — yet, sadly, they are symptomatic of the same illness that seeks to limit, measure, and compare a person's dignity to and against other goals. As Americans, we should be particularly ashamed because we began our country with a declaration of the correct framework for human rights — that all men are created equal and are "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights."

The Olympics provide a fitting backdrop to examine not only the human rights record of the host nation but the state of our

# STRANGE BEDFELLOWS... OLYMPICS EDITION

DESPITE THE BUZZ OF PROTESTS, BOTH AMERICA AND CHINA REMAIN FOCUSED ON THE TRULY IMPORTANT PART OF THE '08 GAMES: GOLD HARDWARE.

FACING STIFF COMPETITION IN TRADITIONAL SPORTS, TEAM USA IS WORKING ON SOME NEW TECHNIQUES TO GIVE OUR ATHLETES THE EDGE IN THE GAMES' NEWEST SPORTS:



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AND SEAMLESS TRANSITIONS IN THE "DOMESTIC SPYING" RELAY RACE...



"INTEL SAYS THE 3AM HANDOFF WILL BE KEY..."

SADLY,



THE COMPETITION FROM CHINA WILL BE STIFF.

DWIGHT CHAMBERS G

own human rights. As Americans, we are sacrificing our liberty for the illusion of security. Ben Franklin tells us we will lose both and deserve neither. Similarly, for China, the words of RFK seem particularly poignant: "GDP does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our courage nor our wisdom, nor our devotion to our country. It measures everything, in short, except that which makes life worthwhile, and it can tell us everything about America, except why we are proud to be Americans."

So I hope the cartoons continue — and I applaud the directness of past cartoons. I hope the cartoons do offend because the situation being parodied is offensive to all decent people. I hope students offended by the cartoons can learn to decouple criticism of the Chinese government from criticism of its people. I hope the Beijing Games give us a chance to change the repressive tactics being used against people everywhere, and I am very much looking forward to this summer's Games.

Dwight Chambers G

Editor's Note: Chambers also submitted the opinion comic above.

## China's Human Rights Improving

China has dramatically improved its basic human rights during the last thirty years, according to UN's Human Development Index (HDI) report. Now China ranks 86 on the HDI report, while its GDP per capita ranks 124 in the world, which indicates (at least to me) that China is doing lots better on improving human rights than on developing its economy. China is willing to change and China is changing. Everyone in the world is witnessing the changes that China has been making.

Because China is such a huge country and there are 56 ethnic groups and 1.4 billion people, we cannot expect China change overnight. It is very difficult for the Chinese government to develop its economy and human rights while maintaining a stable social environment. As a Chinese student, I am very proud of Beijing holding the 2008 Olympic Games and I am happy to see any constructive suggestions and friendly criticism about China. I just do not understand the intention of some people who want to boycott the 2008 Olympic Games just because of China's human rights problem. It is unfair.

Fei Chen G

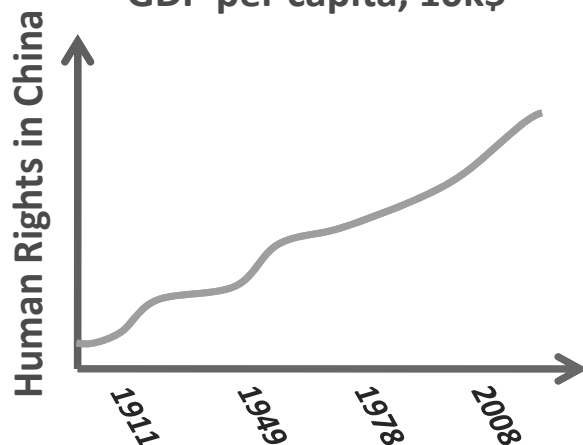
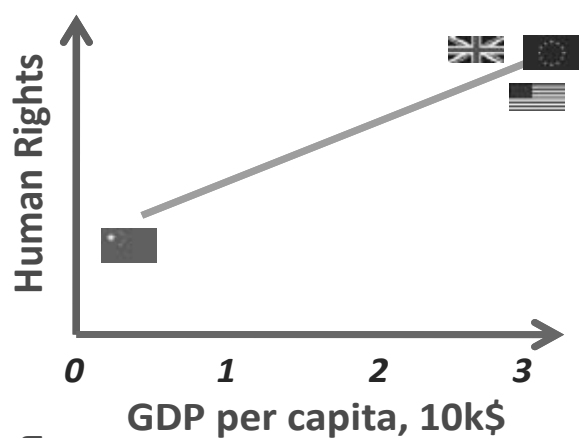
Editor's Note: Chen also submitted the opinion comic at left.

Give a damn? Let us know what's on your mind!

letters@the-tech.mit.edu

FEI CHEN G

### What China sees



### What western media see



### What China says

China is a friend of the world. As a developing country, China is getting better and better and taking more responsibilities in international affairs on sports, education, technology and peace-keeping, etc. This is the first time China is economically able to hold the Olympic games

### What western media say

Considering the poor human right situation in China, we have to boycott the Olympic Games in Beijing, 2008

## ARTS

## INTERVIEW:

*Oliver's Twist on These 'Terrifying Times'**'Daily Show' Correspondent Talks About Comedy and His Dream Job*By Jillian A. Berry  
SENIOR EDITOR

Ever since Briton John Oliver appeared as a correspondent on The Daily Show, I've wanted to see more of his work, and have hoped to some day be able to talk to him. Thanks to a Comedy Central special, I got to do both this past week. On Sunday, Mr. Oliver starred in his own one-hour stand-up special, "Terrifying Times," in which he discussed the scariness that is world politics. Instead of crude humor, Mr. Oliver made intelligent observations about serious situations put in a comedic light. A few days before "Terrifying Times" aired, I was able to talk to Mr. Oliver by phone about his transition into comedy, his work on The Daily Show, and his new comedy special. Below is an excerpt.

The Tech: You went to Cambridge University. What was your major there and how did you go from Cambridge to comedy?

JO: I did English there, which was easy because I'm already English. So I was bound to be good at it. And there's quite a famous comedy troupe there called the Footlights, which gave birth to Peter Cook and Monty Python and many, many other people. I was involved in that, so I started doing comedy there at Cambridge writing.

TT: You mentioned in the special that comedians don't choose comedy until all the career dreams of their parents are in the gutter. Did you choose comedy before your parents' dreams for you died?

JO: What, were smashed? No, I think my dad probably realized that his dream for me was dying early. He desperately wanted me to become a football player. But I think it became pretty clear that I didn't have the physical attributes for that ... I guess by the time I got to university they had probably pretty much given up. I was putting all my eggs in one very shaky basket. And I think they knew I was going to do something stupid, like try a career in comedy.

TT: And how did you transition from comedy to The Daily Show?

JO: Well, I was writing and doing stand-up in London. And I'm not entirely sure how they heard of what I was doing over there ... It's the kind of thing you don't want to ask too many questions about. I was flown over to meet them and I was offered a job on the spot. It was my favorite show before I came here — I'd never been to America before I came here to work here. It happened fast. I can't really explain it now.

TT: When you were doing comedy in England, did you always do political humor?

JO: Maybe not, I guess, when I started off. But as I got better at writing, I started writing about what I cared about more, and I've always been interested in politics.

TT: Did your work include American political humor, or was it more focused on English politics?

JO: People in Europe and I guess around the world know more about American politics than Americans think they do. We have to because what happens here impacts our lives very directly, especially in Britain with our special, special relationship. And don't think we're not grateful for that every morning as well. So, yeah, it very much touched on American policies because America runs the world in the way that we used to.

TT: Do you have any vices?

JO: Vices! Not really. I don't really drink. I don't smoke. I'm emotionally repressed as any good British person is. So, I don't know. I like sport. I really like sport, and I could watch sport all day, everyday, and in fact, can get pretty close to that ... I'm about as far from [John] Belushi that you can be without

becoming a Mormon.

TT: What is it like being a Daily Show correspondent?

JO: It's great. It's kind of my dream job, really. I guess my experience is slightly different because I'm a writer on the show as well. I come in at 9:00 every morning and we start the writing meetings. So then, if I'm on the show, I'll be writing something for that. If I'm not, I'll be writing something for somebody else.

TT: How are the correspondents chosen for each piece? Is there competition?

JO: No, not competition. Usually we kind of decide as we're coming up with the bit; usually it's pretty obvious who would be the best for it, then we'll write for that person.

TT: Have you been surprised by your success on the show, and now having your own special?

JO: Yeah, of course. I mean, when I first moved over here, my manager in England advised me not to sign a lease or rent longer than a month because he reckoned I'd be fired within three weeks. So to be honest, anything from there became a surprise because my expectations were so low ... I've been absolutely amazed by how it's all gone, and I couldn't be happier. I was fully expecting to be fired due to lack of talent and be back in England by now, by a long stretch.

TT: What are the biggest things that have surprised you about America and working on The Daily Show?

JO: The food in America has different flavors than I'm used to. I'm used to one flavor in food, and that flavor is nothing. So having anything more than that has been a great surprise. And in terms of working on The Daily Show, it's just quite strange the kind of guests you end up meeting. I met [Pervez] Musharraf, the current prime minister of Pakistan. It's very strange on days like that. None of us can understand why he's here. That's true of all the candidates when they come on. You feel it's just a cable comedy show. We work in a small office above a small studio and we just try to make each other laugh all day. And then all of a sudden someone running for leader of the free world will show up to do a five minute bit. It's very strange. We tend to be quite an enclosed community on this show, so it's hard to — we tend not to think about the wider implications of what we're doing at all.

TT: I hate to go back to the less political part of your answer, but what's your favorite food?

JO: I like Indian food a lot because I come from England and the food we eat more than anything else is Indian food.

TT: Do you feel like Indian food is one of the better results of English imperialism?

JO: Definitely. We got some great trophies from our empire. Indian food, that was good. We also got carpets, and pretty much everything inside the British Museum was stolen. It's basically like a warehouse for gangsters, the British Museum ... There's nothing in there that we genuinely legally own, other than perhaps the Magna Carta.

TT: In the special, you talk about being fascinated by an inflatable barbecue in a mall. Do you like to visit malls?

JO: No. I very much do not like visiting malls because they sap my will to live.

TT: Finally, where do you see yourself in five years?

JO: I'd like to still be here. I get asked that a lot by journalists, I guess because what other people have gone on to do — like [Steve] Carell or [Stephen] Colbert, and I guess [Ed] Helms now. If I was doing anything else in America, I would be trying to get on this show. So now I'm just trying not to get fired. I just don't want to leave, so I'll very happily be here in five years.



COURTESY COMEDY CENTRAL

John Oliver, correspondent on The Daily Show, recently hosted his own special "Terrifying Times."

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## MOVIE REVIEW ★★1/2

# 'Baby Mama' Delivers Laughs, But Gags Are Far From Newborn

## Fey, Poehler and SNL Alums Fail to Make Film Edgy

By Alice Macdonald

STAFF WRITER

*Baby Mama*

Written and Directed by Michael McCullers

Starring: Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Sigourney Weaver, and Greg Kinnear

Opening April 25th

My new favorite thing when looking up a movie is to read the plot keywords on IMDB. They are usually hilarious and often surprisingly able to sum up a movie. For example, the keywords posted for *Baby Mama*, the new comedy starring Tina Fey, are "pregnancy," "toilet," and "surrogate mother." These three words are absolutely accurate; the movie is indeed about pregnancy and surrogacy, but it's also so absurd that the word "toilet" is not out of place.

*Baby Mama* is set in Philadelphia and centers around a 37-year-old professional, Kate (Tina Fey). The deal is that Kate desperately

wants a baby but has a messed up uterus. Enter Angie (Amy Poehler), the "baby mama," who will carry Kate's child for a hefty sum. All goes well at first ... until we learn that Angie is actually a total nutjob and may not actually be pregnant with Kate's baby. At the same time, a love interest for Kate is introduced in the form of Rob (Greg Kinnear), a smoothie shop owner who is apparently perfect for Kate. But what will he think of her baby-making plans? Anyway, the shit hits the fan at the baby shower, when all the lies are revealed. Then it is a race to a delivery scene and a big disgusting predictable happy ending!

Both Fey and Poehler are extremely likable in their roles and it is great to see the former Weekend Update co-anchors reunited. They are not only two of the funniest women in Hollywood, but also so good together! Kinnear, on the other hand, is under-utilized as the male lead. He can be both a great actor and come-

dian but here he is more of a placeholder than anything else. In addition to the leads, some additional wackiness is provided by the supporting roles. Steve Martin plays Kate's hippie boss and in classic Steve Martin style doesn't even have to open his mouth to get laughs. Sigourney Weaver also hams it up as the owner of a surrogate mother agency. Unfortunately, the needlessly obnoxious Dax Shepard is also in *Baby Mama* in the role of Angie's white trash boyfriend. Maybe if we all continue to ignore Shepard he will just go away; I can only hope.

Tina Fey did not write *Baby Mama* herself, as some might think, although had she penned it, it probably would have been better. Instead the film was written and directed by Michael McCullers, who is best known for lending his writing talents to the *Austin Powers* series as well as *Saturday Night Live*. One can clearly see the *SNL* background in *Baby Mama* — not only because almost everyone in the film is or has been on the show, but also because of the outright ridiculousness of some of the characters and scenarios. *SNL* bravely continues to do a less subtle style of comedy that lacks self-awareness and that has perhaps lost its edge in the last decade. Sometimes they still get it right, but that is typically with the digital shorts or political satire while the rest of the sketches fall short. I wonder if *Baby Mama's* *SNL*-esque brand of comedy can hold up versus edgier fodder like the latest Judd Apatow flick, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*.

In the end, *Baby Mama* isn't half bad, but

it's nothing special either. It is hard to not recommend this film as it does succeed in making you laugh, but the idea is a little tired and so are many of the gags.



K.C. BAILEY—COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Kate Holbrook (Tina Fey) explains the rules to her surrogate, working girl Angie Ostrowski (Amy Poehler), in "Baby Mama."



K.C. BAILEY—COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Single businesswoman Kate Holbrook (Tina Fey) is romanced by juice bar owner Rob (Greg Kinnear) in "Baby Mama."

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★★

# 'Sarah Marshall' Formulaic, But Not Forgettable

## Apatow's Latest Heartwarming And Hilarious

By Samuel J. Cole

*Forgetting Sarah Marshall*

Directed by Nicholas Stoller

Written by Jason Segel

Starring: Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis, and Russell Brand

Rated R

Now Playing

Comedy movies of the past few years have progressively gravitated towards in-your-face outrageous laughs. Movies like *Knocked Up*, *Superbad*, and *Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story* have led the way to this new form of R-rated comedy. These films are a direct result of Judd Apatow's vision, who directed *Knocked Up*, produced *Superbad*, and most recently produced *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*. This movie serves up the laughs at a fevered pace, but Apatow's formula is becoming a little predictable.

*Forgetting Sarah Marshall* stars Jason Segel (who also wrote the film) as Peter Bretter, a musician who becomes deliriously heartbroken after his television superstar girlfriend Sarah Marshall (Kristen Bell) dumps him. In a desperate attempt to leave his depression behind, he takes a trip to Hawaii only to be confronted head on by Sarah and her new boyfriend Aldous Snow (Russell Brand) who are also vacationing. He meets a new love interest in the form of Rachel Jansen (Mila Kunis), which surprisingly makes Sarah jealous of Peter's budding relationship. Hilarity ensues as Peter slowly comes to terms with the fact that his relationship with Sarah is completely over. Several Judd Apatow regulars also pop up, including Paul Rudd (*Knocked Up*, *40 Year Old Virgin*) and Jonah Hill (*Knocked Up*, *Superbad*) to provide the extra set of laughs that make these movies all the more sweet. The stars are almost perfectly cast, with Mila Kunis giving a surprisingly laudable performance as Rachel. Her wit and comic timing was always spot on.

Laugh out loud moments are all over the

place. Peter is put in one awkward situation after another by being forced to live in the same vacation resort as Sarah. He is even forced to get to know Aldous, the one man he resents the most. The movie plays well off the intricacies of this situation, setting up one hilarious encounter after another, and surprisingly making it difficult for viewers to hate any particular character in the process. This is a true testament to Jason Segel's skills in character development.

The problem with the movie is that the formula for this form of comedy is starting to feel very familiar. They seem to be going to more extreme lengths now for laughs, focusing more on sex-based laughs and nudity (from full nude frontal shots to fake orgasms), but the comic timing and wit that made previous movies of this vein like *The 40 Year Old Virgin* and *Superbad* so unique and pleasantly surprising is now making *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* less funny in the same breath. Even without knowing that Judd Apatow or his writers were behind this, in some way you could pretty much guess it. At the same time, the movie manages to remain fresh on the back of its relationship drama. In the midst of all the laughs, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* suc-

ceeds as an exposition on heartbreak as well. Usually in movies, a scene is hilarious and not heartwarming, or heartwarming and not hilarious. A movie that in one scene gives a genuinely touching commentary on relationships and still stays uproariously funny is something that is rarely seen; *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* should be applauded for pulling this off almost effortlessly.

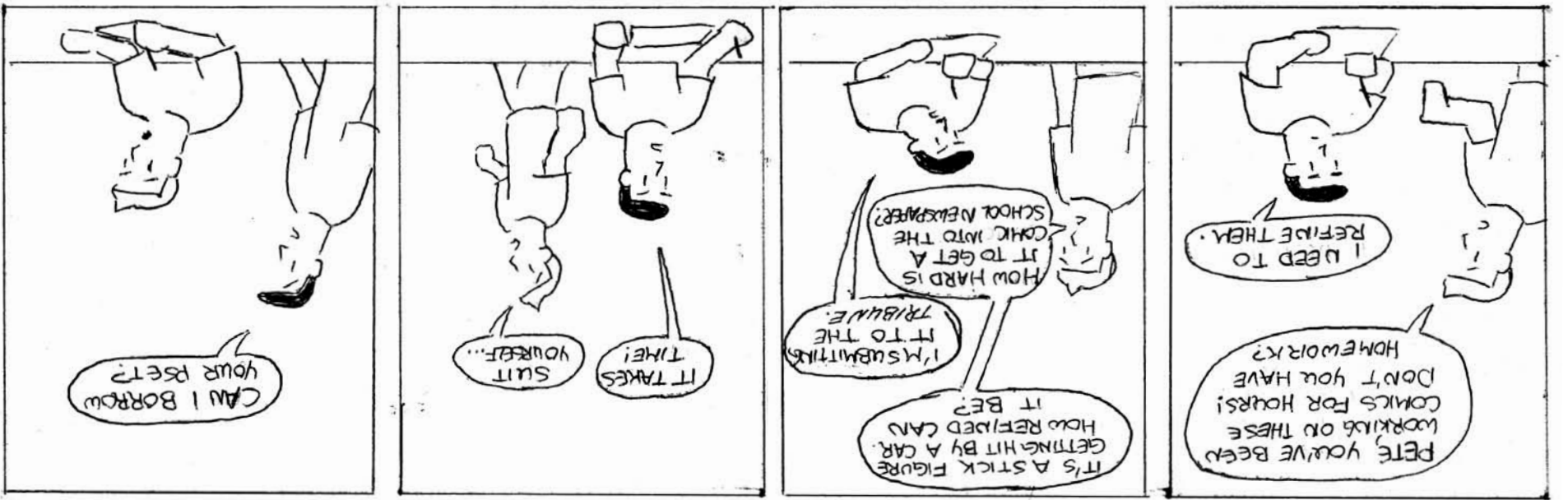
This movie is so far the funniest of 2008. You will likely not find another movie guaranteed to give you this many laughs until August when Judd Apatow's next offering, *The Pineapple Express*, arrives. Even as Apatow's formula starts to show age and drag some scenes down, you'll be totally happy with this movie by the time the hilarious extras start playing during the credits.



GLEN WILSON—COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

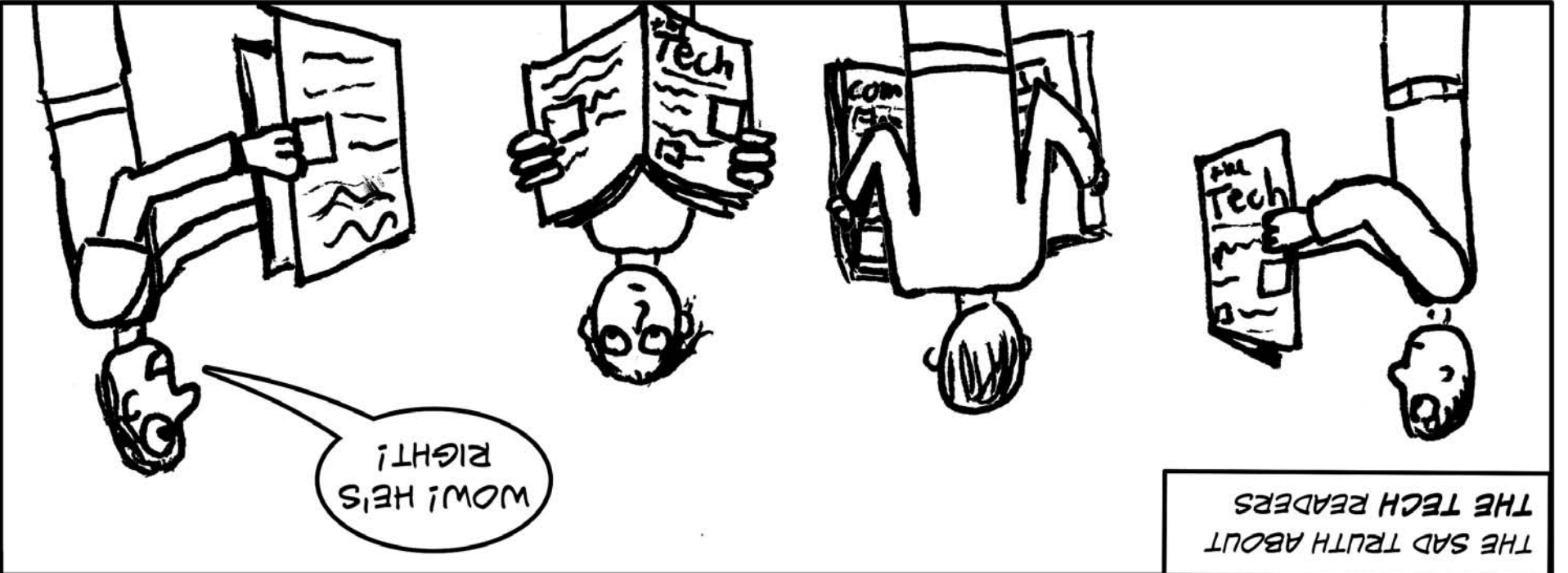
Matthew (Jonah Hill), Rachel (Mila Kunis), Peter (Jason Segel), Aldous (Russell Brand), and Sarah (Kristen Bell) share an awkward moment in a romantic disaster comedy that explores one guy's quest to grow up and get over the heartbreak of being dumped in "Forgetting Sarah Marshall."

Theory of Pete



by Cai Gogwilt

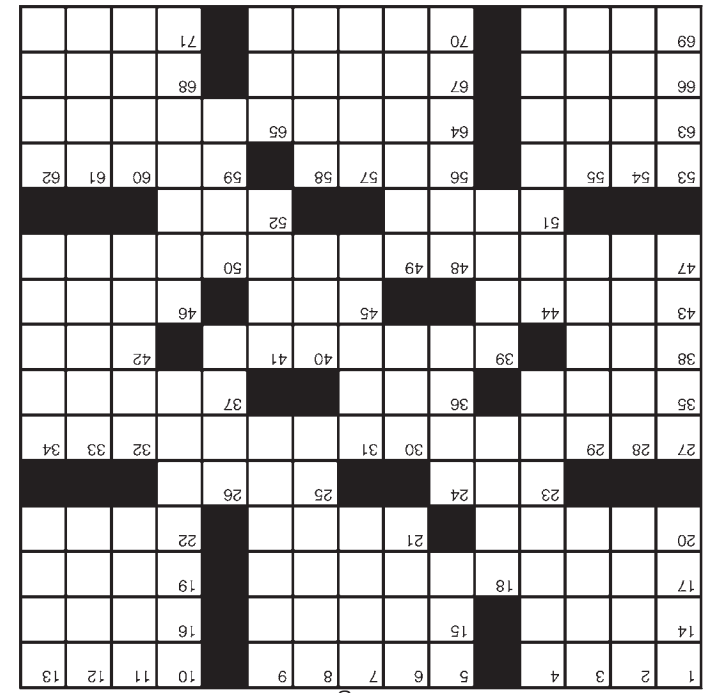
Steal My Comic



by Michael Cuffio

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

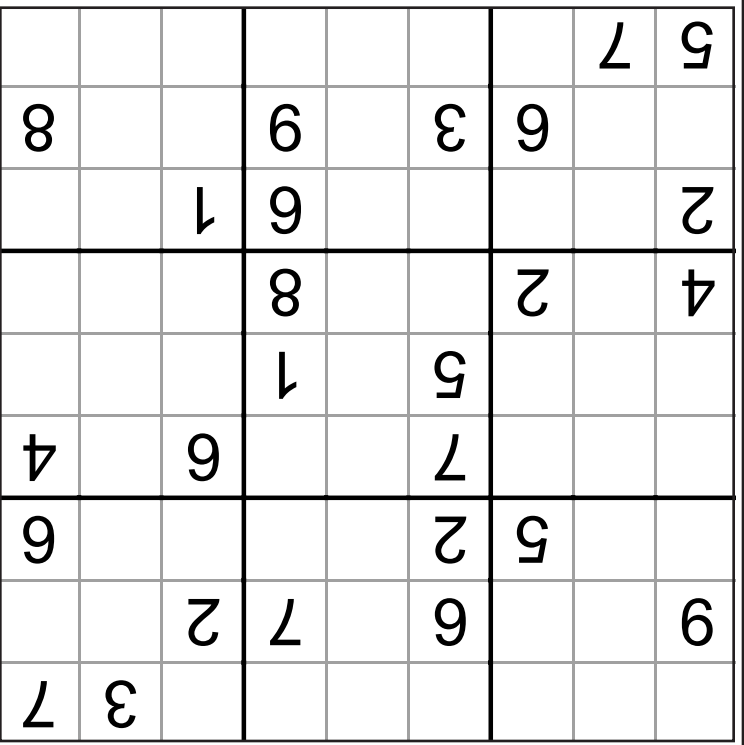


- ACROSS**
- 1 Indonesian island
  - 5 Breakfast fast food
  - 10 High cards
  - 14 Lena of "Alias"
  - 15 14th-cen. Russian ruler
  - 16 Volcanic flow
  - 17 Start of Evan Esar quip
  - 19 Pre-owned quip
  - 20 Soundtrack
  - 21 Symbolic cross
  - 22 Insignificant
  - 23 Test for srs.
  - 25 Pitcher Nolan
  - 27 Part 2 of quip
  - 35 Ex-QB Starr
  - 36 Subj. for Billy Graham
  - 37 Pop vocalist Bryson
  - 38 Needle feature
  - 39 Part 3 of quip
  - 42 "The Bridge of San Luis"
  - 43 Goose genus
  - 45 Common Market
  - 46 Town near Caen abbr.
  - 47 Actor Werner
  - 48 Bread choices
  - 49 Writer Ogden
  - 51 Backside
  - 52 de plume
  - 53 Gemstone from Down Under
  - 56 Bankers
  - 59 Audience divider
  - 63 Long skirt
  - 64 End of quip
  - 66 Sweeping story
  - 67 Actor Werner
  - 68 Bread choices
  - 69 Writer Ogden
  - 70 Socialite Perle
  - 71 Maneuverable, at sea
- DOWN**
- 1 Raton, FL
  - 2 Slugger Moises
  - 3 The Swedish
  - 4 Keen understanding
  - 5 Half of MIV
  - 6 Above
  - 7 One-billionth: pref.
  - 8 Open, as wine
  - 9 Color fabric,
  - 10 Female graduates
  - 11 Court proceeding
  - 12 Of all time
  - 13 Marquis de
  - 18 Mrs. Dithers of
  - 24 To be in Toulon
  - 26 Small snakes
  - 27 Construction girder
  - 28 Decline
  - 29 Take by force
  - 30 Actor Gibson
  - 31 Paris passage
  - 32 "The Soft-Weed fondly
  - 33 Ancient manuscript
  - 34 Spinning toys
  - 39 Elder or alder
  - 40 Playboy's founder,
  - 41 P.C. image
  - 44 German
  - 46 Somewhat arid
  - 48 Kidnapper's demand
  - 50 Crowd noise
  - 53 Sign
  - 54 Mama's mate
  - 55 WWII losers
  - 57 Clicking sounds
  - 58 Box-score brief
  - 60 Forage crop
  - 61 Wolfish look
  - 62 Latin being
  - 65 Hurler's stat

su|do|ku

Puzzles by Pappocom

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



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

# Doonesbury Flashbacks

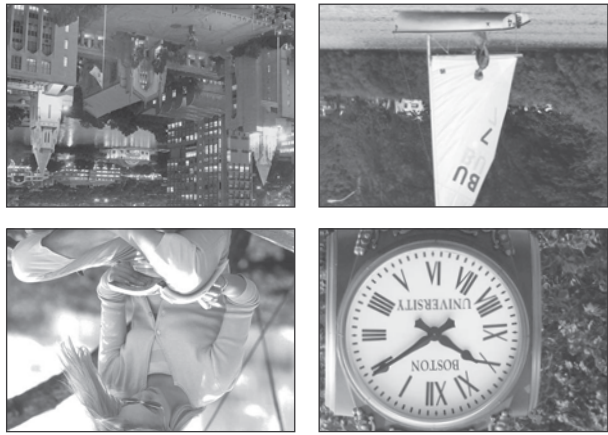
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

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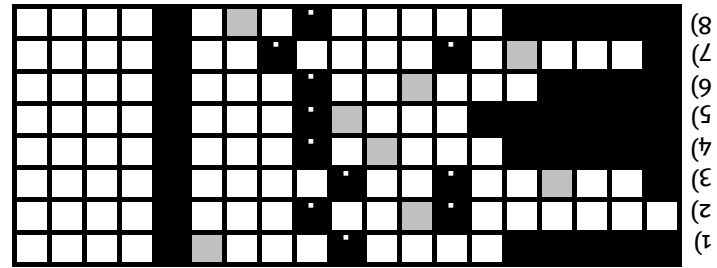
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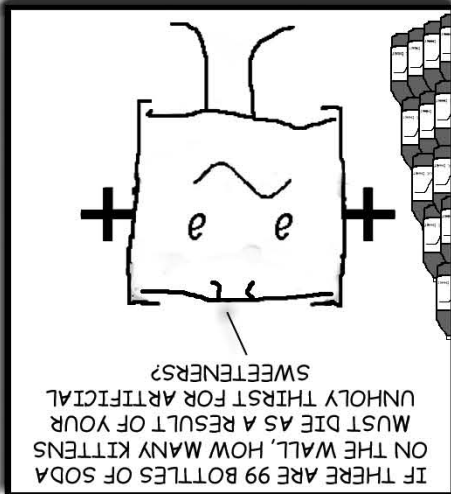
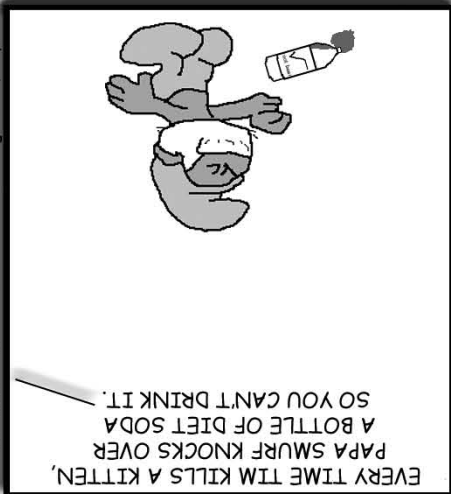
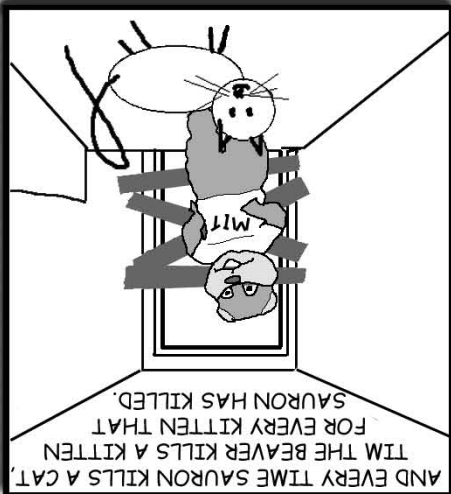
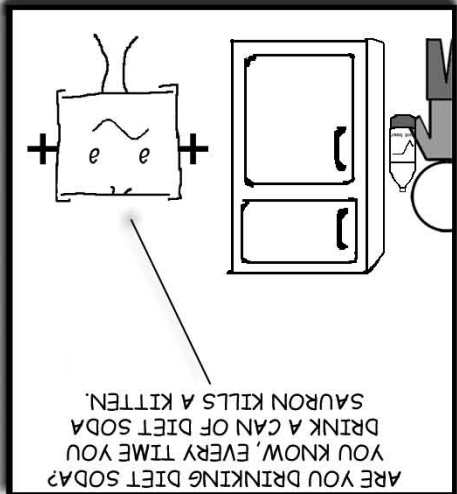
## Think you've solved it?

If you're an MIT student and your answer is correct, you could win a new iPod Nano! Go to [libraries.mit.edu/puzzle](http://libraries.mit.edu/puzzle) to get a copy or submit your answer by May 5th, 2008 to be eligible for the drawing.

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## PROOF OF FALSE



by Andrew Spann



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH

# MIT Hosts Conference on Global Poverty

MIT hosted the first ever Millennium Campus Conference with the Global Poverty Initiative this past weekend. For more information, visit <http://gpi.mit.edu/>.

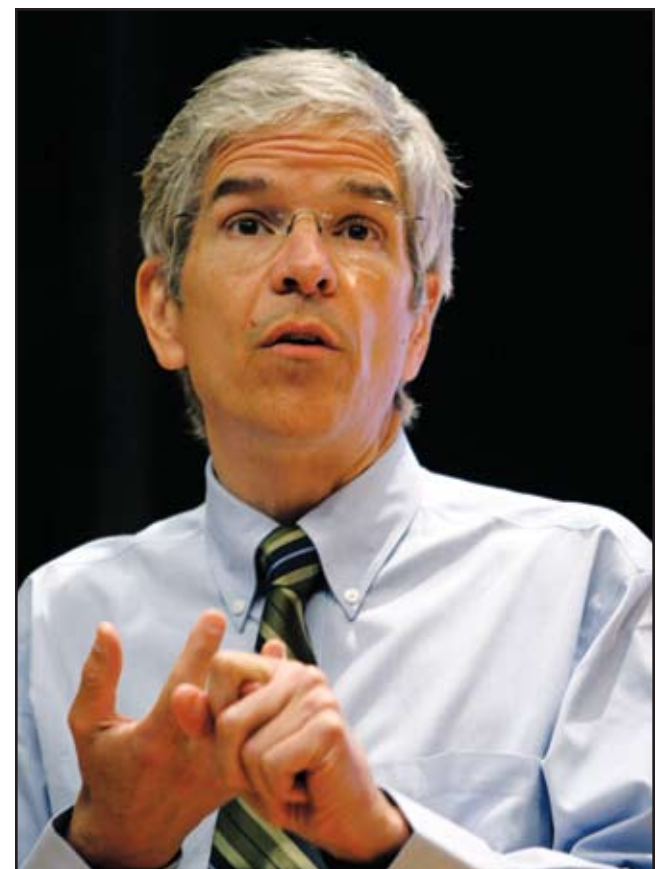
(left) Senator John Edwards shares the news that Maria Sharapova, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Goodwill Ambassador, has invited NBA star LeBron James to “Team Up Against Poverty” on a new UNDP advertisement supporting eight Millennium Development Goals. Senator Edwards told the conference participants to follow the lead of these stars and help make poverty an issue of public concern.

(bottom left) John Legend, five time Grammy award winner, performed at Johnson Ice Rink for the closing ceremonies on Sunday, April 20.

(bottom) Paul Romer, one of the nation’s leading economists and developer of New Growth Theory, addressed the conference participants as the economics keynote speaker.



WILLIAM B. YEE—THE TECH



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH

# Sugarhill Ensemble Rocks Senior House

Don Byron’s Sugarhill Ensemble performed in the Senior House basement on Sunday, April 20.

(far left) Matthew M. Stevenson G plays the trumpet.

(left) Raphael R. Peterson '10 concentrates as he plays a guitar solo.

Photography by Omari Stephens



# Piano, Like So Many Subjects, Is Dropped

Piano Drop, from Page 1

pointed, most still enjoyed the experience. Vanessa Oler, a junior at Brigham Young University visiting her friend Lihua Bai '09 said "it was awesome." Asked whether they do anything like Piano Drop at BYU, Oler said "no, you get fined an exorbitant amount of money if you even touch the roof."

In 1978, the Committee on Academic Performance proposed to move the eleventh week drop date back to the fifth week of the term, with one drop allowed afterward. The proposal was defeated by two votes at a faculty meeting.

Most students at Piano Drop voiced their appreciation for MIT's comparatively late Drop Date. Said Huang, "it gives people options and flexibility, which I both like."

So what sound does a grand piano make when it drops 6 storeys from the roof of a dorm, anyway?

"Thump."

Shreyes Seshasai contributed reporting to this article.



BRIAN D. HEMOND—THE TECH

A grand piano, donated to Baker House by the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity for destruction in the annual Piano Drop, slams into a second target piano lying on the ground outside the dorm on Thursday, April 24. The Piano Drop is held every spring on Drop Date.

We're here to listen.

# Nightline

3-8800

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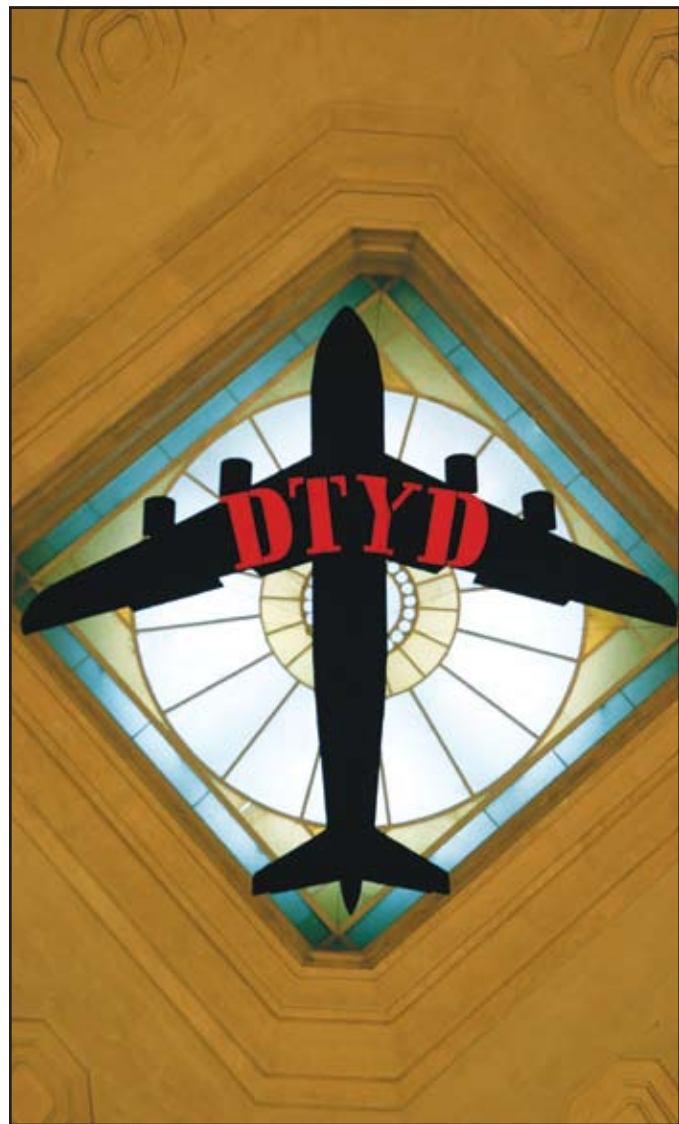
## Dance Till You Drop

The Campaign for Real Time performed at the MIT Burton Third Bombers' annual DTYD party on April 20th, 2008.

MIT hackers hung a large bomber silhouette with the letters 'DTYD' in the middle of Lobby 7 on the morning of April 18. The letters refer to the large annual party of the same name.



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH



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ANDREW T. LUKMANN—THE TECH

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and Secretary Ian Bowles respond to questions after a major environmental policy address in Kresge Auditorium on Tuesday commemorating Earth Day.

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# Jessop Will Try To Overhaul UA Senate, Committee Structure

Elections, from Page 1

should report more frequently to the UA, Jessop said.

## Current president emphasizes reform, collaboration

Jessop will inherit a UA which needs reform, collaboration with other organizations, and a relationship with the MIT administration, said the current president, Martin F. Holmes '08.

Holmes said his biggest mistake when he first became UA president about a year ago was immediately attacking a laundry list of policy goals — “micromanaging” — instead of delegating most of that work.

The UA also needs to collaborate with the Dormitory Council, the Interfraternity Council, and the Panhellenic Council, Holmes said. Administrators sometimes claim that the UA does not represent undergraduates because it does not include opinions from DormCon, the IFC, or Panhel, he said. By working closely with those groups, Holmes said he hopes he can eliminate that claim, which he says keeps MIT from listening to student opinions.

Jessop should help the new Dean for Student Life understand student perspectives, Holmes said. A replacement for the outgoing dean, Larry G. Benedict, will be chosen over the next few months.

## Student engagement prioritized

Jessop said a top priority would be continuing the student engagement work of the current president. Students should feel as though MIT is listening to them, Jessop said.

Even if MIT made the same decision it was planning to make irrespective of students' wishes, would it be better for administrators to listen to students first? Yes, said Jessop. Students should be “sitting at the table when the decision happens,” he said.

Holmes was more guarded. “I wouldn't be satisfied, but that would be clear progress,” he said, of a future where the Institute listened to students more thoroughly but made the same decisions.

To help understand how student input can shape decisions, Holmes, Jessop, and others in the UA are looking at historical archives of important MIT decisions, Jessop said.



BRIAN D. HEMOND—THE TECH  
**Noah S. Jessop '09, Undergraduate Association President-Elect.**

One historical example that Holmes mentioned was the fall 1994 Strategic Housing Planning Committee, which considered a plan to turn East Campus and Senior House into graduate dormitories. The plan drew strident opposition from the MIT community. A similar proposal met equally strong objections in spring 1980 and was withdrawn within two months.

## UA approachability important

More people should use the UA's office on the fourth floor of the Student Center, Jessop said. The office's use should resemble the frequently-populated *Tech* and Student Information Processing Board offices, he said.

“The UA office needs to be a place that people go to think about these issues,” he said.

Jessop said he wanted to hold “office hours” to encourage people to talk to him about student government. “I represent every single undergraduate,” he said.

In the meantime, he will start to implement some campaign promises. These short-term goals include staggering Saferide shuttles so that one leaves across the Harvard Bridge every fifteen minutes, and hiring people from SIPB to redesign the UA's oft-maligned Web site.

“There's so much stuff just waiting for someone to push the button,” Jessop said.

# UA Election Results

The UA elections are based on preferential voting, where voters rank one or more candidates and votes are tallied in rounds. The first round counts every vote for candidates ranked first and the candidate with the least votes is removed from the running. In the second round, second-place votes are tallied from ballots that ranked the losing candidates first. This process is repeated until a winner is determined. Numbers added to the values below reflect the few people who voted by paper ballot.

¶ Incumbents

\* Also Tech staff

SOURCE: UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION ELECTION COMMISSION

## UA President / Vice President

Iteration	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Akash A. Chandawarkar '09 and Amanda J. Maguire '09	228+3 = 231	230+3 = 233	230+3 = 233	230+3 = 233	230+3 = 233	—	—
Bradley H. Gampel '09 and Willard J. Johnson '09	369+3 = 372	373+3 = 376	374+3 = 377	375+3 = 378	375+3 = 378	425+3 = 428	—
Jason C. Forte '09 and Brittany A. Holland-Marcus '10	518+9 = 527	521+9 = 530	521+9 = 530	522+9 = 531	522+9 = 531	577+10 = 587	719+11 = 730
Noah S. Jessop '09 and Mike A. Bennie '10	736+8 = 744	745+8 = 753	745+8 = 753	745+8 = 753	745+8 = 753	792+9 = 801	904+9 = 913
Write-ins	40+0 = 40	9+0 = 9	7+0 = 7	4+0 = 4	—	—	—

## Class of 2009 Council

Iteration	1
Vivian Tang ¶	355+1 = 356
Write-ins	62+1 = 63

Iteration	1
Ting Ting Luo ¶	357+2 = 359
Write-ins	21+0 = 21

Iteration	1
Amirah N. Khan ¶ and Tina P. Srivastava ¶	255+1 = 256
Judy Ho and Christine Y. Yen	168+0 = 168
Write-ins	13+0 = 13

Iteration	1
Deepa Mokshagundam ¶	372+2 = 374
Write-ins	24+0 = 24

Iteration	1
Angela L. Cantu ¶	368+2 = 370
Write-ins	17+0 = 17

Iteration	1
Arjun Naskar ¶	365+1 = 366
Write-ins	18+0 = 18

## Class of 2010 Council

Iteration	1
Jason A. Scott ¶	409+3 = 412
Helen Hou*	158+1 = 159
Write-ins	10+0 = 10

Iteration	1	2	3	4
Barry D. Bannon	53+2 = 55	53+2 = 55	—	—
Phillip Kim	116+0 = 116	116+0 = 116	122+0 = 122	—
Laura H. Han ¶	216+2 = 218	216+2 = 218	225+2 = 227	260+2 = 262
Omobayonle A. Olatunji	187+0 = 187	188+0 = 188	207+1 = 208	238+1 = 239
Write-ins	4+0 = 4	—	—	—

Iteration	1
Wen Y. Tang ¶	443+2 = 445
Write-ins	25+0 = 25

Iteration	1
Tiffany T. Chu and Crystal J. Mao ¶	455+2 = 457
Write-ins	18+0 = 18

Iteration	1
Steven H. Hong and Thomas W. Hay ¶	442+2 = 444
Write-ins	14+0 = 14

## Class of 2011 Council

Iteration	1	2	3	4	5
Anshul Bhagi	229+4 = 233	232+4 = 236	233+4 = 237	233+4 = 237	262+4 = 266
Ian P. Tracy	212+5 = 217	213+5 = 218	213+5 = 218	213+5 = 218	243+5 = 248
Itai Turbahn	90+1 = 91	90+1 = 91	90+1 = 91	90+1 = 91	-
Write-ins	21+0 = 21	8+0 = 8	6+0 = 6	-	-

Iteration	1
Lulu Wang*	277+5 = 282
Michael J. Meyer	231+6 = 237
Write-ins	17+0 = 17

Iteration	1
Sivakami Sambasivam ¶	421+9 = 430
Write-ins	26+0 = 26

Iteration	1
Kevin A. Rustagi	397+7 = 404
Write-ins	36+0 = 36

Iteration	1
May Liu and Sheena Bhalla ¶	441+9 = 450
Write-ins	15+0 = 15

Iteration	1
Emma M. Rosen and Yu Zhao ¶	437+9 = 446
Write-ins	20+0 = 20


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A.F. & A.M.

*Did you drop your classes? Drop date was yesterday!*

**Solution to Crossword**  
from page 8

B	A	L	I	D	O	N	U	T	A	C	E	S		
O	L	I	N	I	V	A	N	I	L	A	V	A		
C	O	N	S	C	I	E	N	C	E	U	S	E	D	
A	U	D	I	O	R	O	O	D	M	E	R	E		
G	R	E	R	I	A	N								
I	S	W	H	A	T	M	A	K	E	S	A	B	O	Y
B	A	R	T	R	E	L	P	E	A	B	O			
E	Y	E	T	E	L	L	H	I	S	R	E	Y		
A	N	S	E	R	E	E	C	S	T	L	O			
M	O	T	H	E	R	B	E	F	O	R	E	H	I	S
R	E	A	R											
O	P	A	L	N	U	T	S	A	I	S	L	E		
M	A	X	I	S	I	S	T	E	R	D	O	E	S	
E	P	I	C	O	S	K	A	R	R	Y	E	S		
N	A	S	H	M	E	S	T	A	Y	A	R	E		


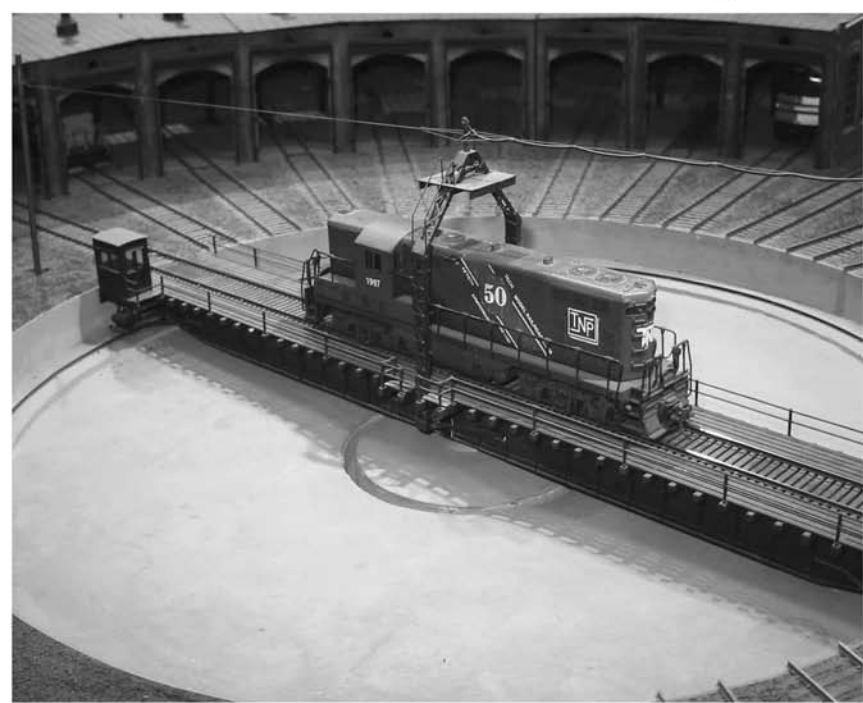


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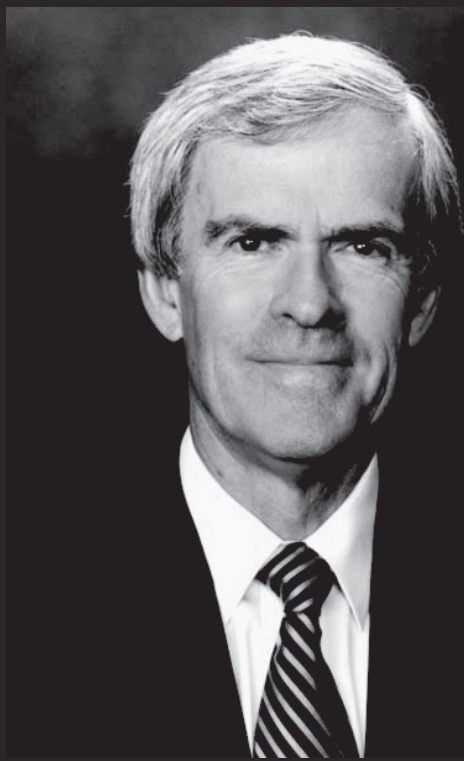
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The Ray and Maria Stata Center at MIT

# Bandit Runs 7 Miles In Wrestling Mask

**Bandit**, from Page 1

male runner ran as a bandit in 1966), incite anger in some of the officially-registered competitors. One need only Google "marathon bandit" to read page after page of vitriolic, elitist screeds on various message boards. The basic argument (minus abundant grammar and spelling mistakes) boils down to this: "You loser, why can't you qualify and pay up? Stop stealing our water and Gatorade! If I knew you were running bandit, I'd trip you and kick you into the woods."

So, before you all fire up your computers and begin crafting indignant letters to the editor, I will clarify the following points: We did not steal. We did not trip or block anyone. We started late enough in the day so the top 15,000 runners had already gone by. We did not gorge ourselves on free packets of disgusting power ooze. We wore Mexican wrestling masks.

Of course, neither I nor my compatriots could actually run 26.2 miles and survive to write about the experience, so we settled on a more moderate distance: the last seven miles of the course. Some might call this "cheating." Under other circumstances this would invariably be the case. But our intent was not to cross the finish line pretending we had run the whole way. Our goal was simply to amuse the crowds and the runners who would most certainly be passing us, and maybe have a little fun along the way.

Armed with only a set of keys, a tiny 35mm rangefinder camera, and two rolls of film, I found myself standing with my team and the crowd of spectators at Commonwealth Avenue. It was already two hours into the race, and the road was still packed with runners. The edges of the course were gated, and Boston and state police stood guard at every intersection. Soldiers in full camouflage uniforms patrolled the course.

Suitably intimidated, we creep up the course, looking for an opening in the onlookers away from the security. We spy a lull in the passing traffic, lunge through, and we're underway. Spectators and a pair of uniformed Boston police officers point, laughing.

Two things are immediately apparent. First, despite the fact that every runner in our vicinity had already covered some 20 miles, we are no faster than they are. Second, it's really hard to breathe through a wrestling mask.

The crowds on both sides of the street have been cheering for hours. The smell of barbeque wafts across the street; residents are grilling on their front lawns. Near the watering stations, where armies of volunteers

offer cups of water and electrolyte drinks, the street is wet and slippery. We crunch carefully through a carpet of discarded green Poland Springs cups. Everywhere, runners have slowed, watching their footing.

Two miles in, our legs are still fresh. I've been offered a can of Bud Light, two Twizzlers, and an orange slice; I've slapped countless hands and endured repeated shouts of "Nacho Libre!" and "Viva Mexico!" from inebriated fans. There is laughter and pointing on every block. Our mission partially accomplished, the amusement is palpable. Only a few recognize the owners of the masks we wear and call us by our rightful names.

Exchanges with runners are terse and direct. Some pass us, perhaps feeling the pull of the finish line. Others are walking on the sidelines. "Keep it up, almost there," is the runner's mantra. Numbers and registrations are now irrelevant. Placing one foot in front of the other and escaping from beneath the blanket of fatigue is the only thing on anyone's mind.

And then suddenly, inexplicably, we round a corner and the Boston skyline swings into view. We're only a mile or two out, but the pain is beginning to set in. Another lesson: heat does not escape from one's head when one's head is wrapped in a mask.

We pound past Lansdowne Street and Fenway Park without even noticing, climbing the overpass above I-90. The spectators crowd the course, leaning over the guardrails, encouraging everyone to take every step. The cheering and screaming is deafening, more powerful than any drug; nobody is walking anymore.

The last mile passes as a blur, my vision narrowing to a dark tunnel. The air is full of tension and excitement. We climb a short hill and swing a sharp left onto the home stretch, Boylston Street. The finish line is *right there*. Everyone is reaching for the energy they no longer have, and yet the distance closes glacially. The sidewalks are packed, standing room only, and heads lean from every window on every story.

And then we're through. The staff at the finish line is smiling, congratulating, aware that we didn't run the whole course but welcoming nonetheless. After all, where would the marathon be without the occasional strangely-dressed bandit? I have no doubt that Bostonians would still watch until the end, but the marathon would lose its character.

Wrapped in shiny foil blankets, we painfully part company for our apartments. I am sure that we will all run the Boston Marathon again, but perhaps from the starting line next time.



BRIAN D. HEMOND—THE TECH

Goodwin Chen '04 runs bandit in the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 21 wearing a wrestling mask of Mil Mascaras, a Mexican Wrestler.



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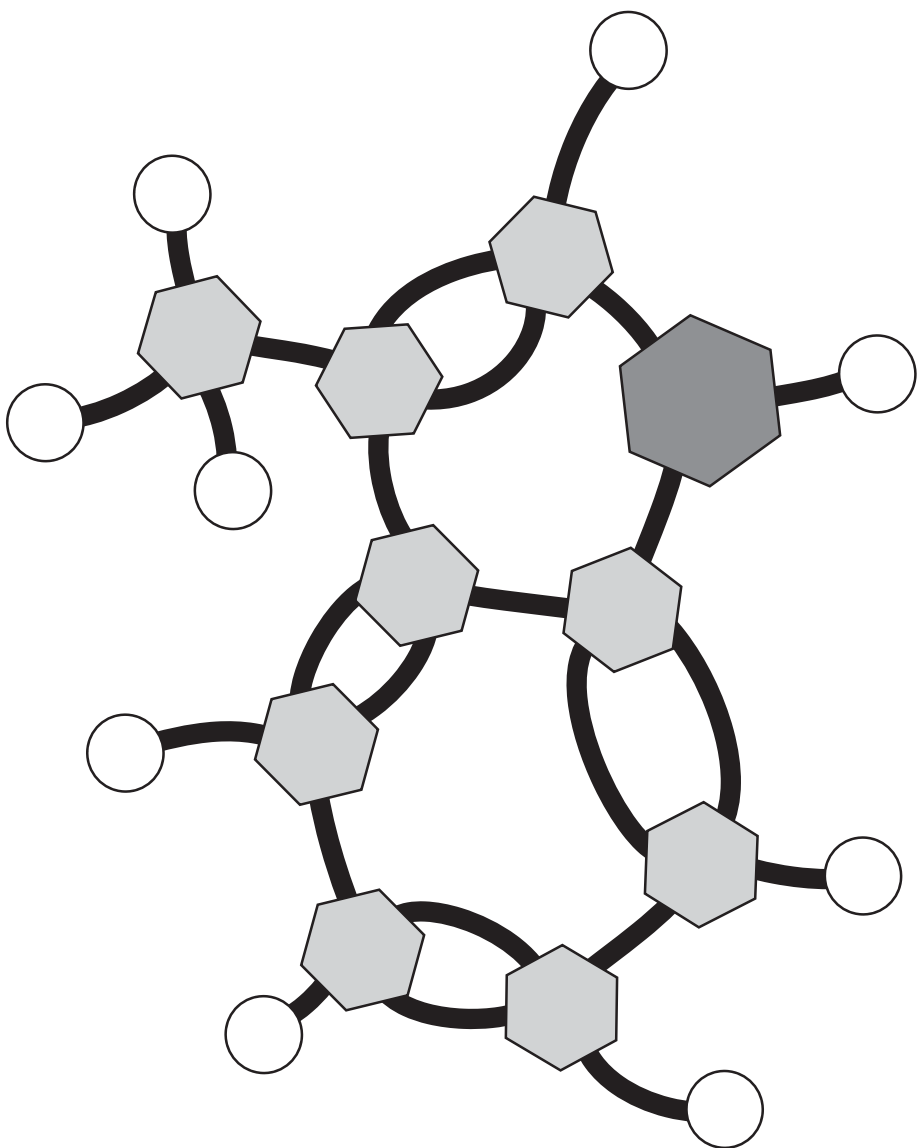
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# Yale Student Abortion Project Gets National Attention, Controversy

Abortion, from Page 1

world, so is providing guidance and setting limits.

"I've been through lots of very controversial student projects," said Carol Becker, who recently left the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to become dean of Columbia's School of the Arts. "Students, when they get caught in these situations, are usually unprepared for the consequences. They don't know they are going to get this kind of reaction."

Last week, Yale officials announced that Ms. Shvarts had admitted that her project, her senior thesis, was a fiction, and that she had neither inseminated herself nor self-aborted. But they said later that she had contradicted the denial. They said her project could not be shown unless she submitted an unambiguous written statement saying she did not inseminate herself or induce miscarriages.

On Tuesday, Gila Reinstein, a Yale spokeswoman, said Ms. Shvarts had not signed a statement. Ms. Shvarts has declined repeated requests for an interview.

In some cases, universities have not permitted questionable projects to go forward.

At New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, for example, a student in 2003 submitted a proposal to record actors having sex in front of the class. Her professor initially approved the idea, and she found two willing actors. But when he alerted administrators, they squelched the idea, prompting cries of censorship.

Nor are unusual ideas limited to arts students. Lee M. Silver, a professor of molecular biology and public affairs at Princeton University, recalled an undergraduate student in evolutionary biology who after hearing lectures about the closeness of the species, proposed that she inseminate herself with sperm from a chimpanzee.

"I was flabbergasted," he said in an interview on Tuesday. "It was a thought experiment that I had talked about the night before to a bunch of students. It was an aside, a tangent.

I never expected or thought anyone would pick up on that."

He said he vetoed the idea and talked to the student about problems such a project would create.

"Twenty years ago, you could still do experiments on yourself," said Dr. Silver, who has collaborated on a play about the episode with the playwright Jeremy Kareken. "But by the time I saw this student in 1994, science professors all knew that even an experiment on oneself had to be approved by our institutional review board. And it was very clear they would never approve."

Helaine Klasky, Yale's director of public affairs, said on Tuesday that the institutional review board looked at experiments, not art projects, and had found that Ms. Shvarts's project did "not fall into their category."

Dean Becker of Columbia recalled one student exhibition from her tenure at the Art Institute school that included a painting portraying the recently deceased Chicago mayor, Harold Washington, dressed in women's lingerie. She said that some city aldermen came to the show to physically remove the painting, but then had to turn it over to the police, and later had to work out a settlement with the student for damaging his painting.

Should the school itself have removed the painting or tried to censor it?

"The faculty walked by in the morning, saw it, and said what a bad painting it was," Dean Becker said. "Nobody realized how seriously people would take it or how upset they would be."

Another student work at the Chicago school that set off alarms, she said, was an American flag spread on the floor. Thousands of people protested, she said.

Exactly what Ms. Shvarts's actions were remains a mystery. In an opinion column on her project in the Yale newspaper on Friday, she spoke of the importance of "narrative."

In an earlier article in the paper, she said she had cleared her project with her instructor and another person. Peter Salovey, the dean of Yale College, issued a statement on Monday that said there had been "serious errors of judgment on the part of two individuals," and that "appropriate action has been taken." But he did not say who the individuals were or what sanctions had been imposed.

Jeffrey Zuckerman, a Yale sophomore who was one of the few students at the senior art exhibition on Tuesday morning, said he had come as much out of curiosity about the controversy as about the art.

"I did want to see if there would be a lot of media crowd here," he said. "But I do think that the other art here is worth looking at."

Yale officials still held out the possibility on Tuesday that Ms. Shvarts might sign a statement, and that her work could join the exhibition before it closed on May 1. But Ms. Reinstein, the spokeswoman, said it would take a day to mount because a crane would be needed to hang the work from the ceiling.

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**Solution to Sudoku**  
from page 8

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

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# Internet Shorthand Sometimes Used in Students' Coursework

By Tamar Lewin  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

As e-mail messages, text messages and social network postings become nearly ubiquitous in the lives of teenagers, the informality of electronic communications is seeping into their schoolwork, a new study says.

Nearly two-thirds of 700 students surveyed said their e-communication style sometimes bled into school assignments, according to the study by the Pew Internet & American Life Project, in partnership with the College Board's National Commission on Writing. About half said they sometimes omitted proper punctuation and capitalization in schoolwork. A quarter said they had used emoticons like smiley faces. About a third said they had used text shortcuts like "LOL" for "laugh out loud."

"I think this is not a worrying issue at all," said Richard Sterling, emeritus executive director of the National Writing Project, which aims to improve the teaching of writing.

When e-mail shorthand — or for that matter, slang — appears in academic assignments, Professor Sterling said, it is an opportunity for teachers to explain that while such usages are acceptable in some contexts, they do not belong in schoolwork. And as the English language evolves, he said, some e-mail conventions, like starting sentences without a capital letter, may well become accepted practice.

"I think in the future, capitalization will disappear," said Professor Sterling, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley. In fact, he said, when his teenage son asked what the presence of the capital letter added to what the period at the end of the sentence signified, he had no answer.

The study is based on eight focus groups and the survey of 700 nation-

ally representative children, ages 12 to 17, and their parents, conducted in 2007. The survey has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus five percentage points.

Schools are grappling with the language of electronic communication. At the Bank Street School for Children in Manhattan, Stanlee Brimberg has set up an electronic message board for his class. On it he posts nightly questions, assigning students to respond to one of the questions and then to respond to another student's response.

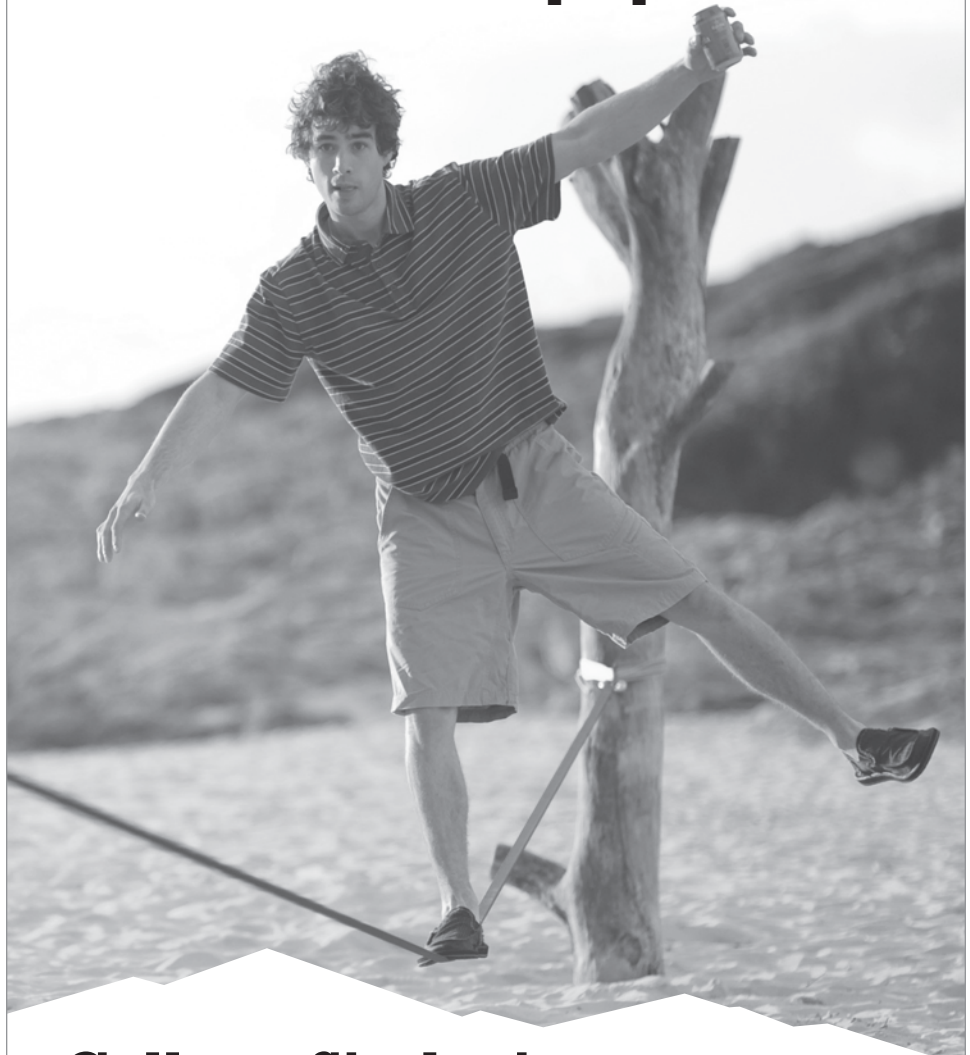
"After the first night, we had to talk about whether they had to write the way they do in class, or whether it could be the way they do online," said Mr. Brimberg, who is Bank Street's upper school coordinator. "We decided that their response to the question should be in standard English, proofread, with capital letters, but their response to the other kid could be informal. And that worked."

Most teenagers do not think of their e-mail messages, text messages and social network postings as "real writing," the study found.

More than half of the teenagers surveyed had a profile on a social networking site like Facebook or MySpace, 27 percent had an online journal or blog and 11 percent had a personal Web site. Generally, girls dominated the teenage blogosphere and social networks.

Most teenagers write for school nearly every day, the study found, but most assignments are short. And many write outside school, on their own, although that varies significantly by race and sex. Almost half of black teenagers said they wrote a personal journal, compared with 3 in 10 whites. And nearly half of the girls keep a journal, compared with only 3 in 10 boys.

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### Q.E.D.

Peter Parnell's play about the brilliant and eccentric Richard Feynman (1918-1988), who earned his undergraduate degree from MIT in 1939 and a Nobel Prize for his work in quantum electrodynamics. Directed by Jon Lipsky, starring Keith Jochim. Alternately very funny and surprisingly moving, QED is deeply inspirational about scientific inquiry as an expression of the human spirit.

Sunday, May 4 at 3:00pm  
(Post-performance discussion with Kate Snodgrass, Artistic Director of The Boston Playwrights' Theatre; Professor of Playwriting, Boston University)

NE30-1154, Broad Institute Auditorium  
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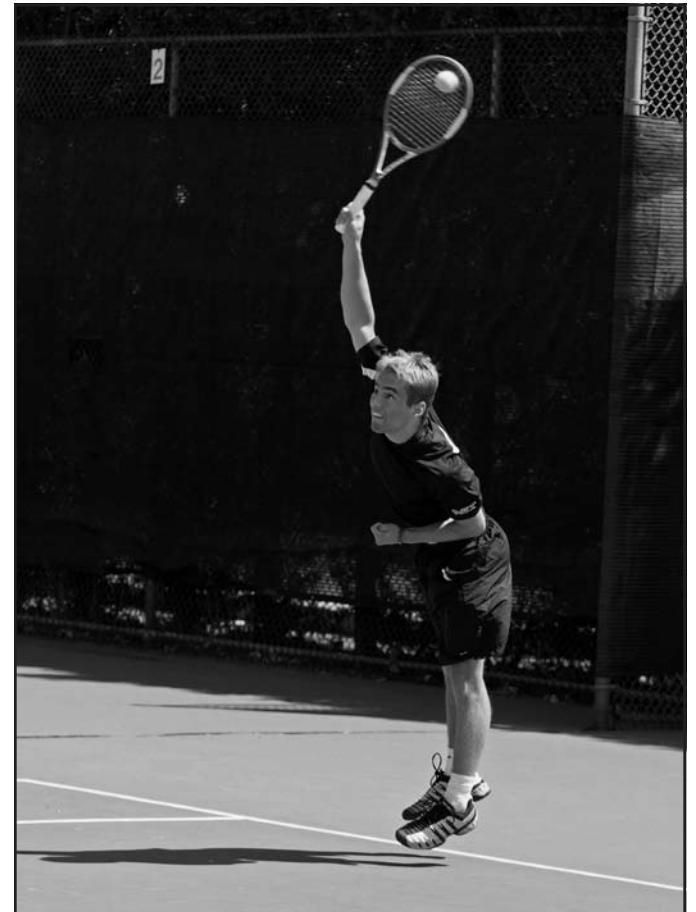
#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SA/VE (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>



ANDREW T. LUKMANN—THE TECH

Dire Tune of Ethopia (right), winner of the 2008 Boston Marathon, and runner-up Alevtina Biktimirova of Russia run neck-and-neck down Commonwealth Avenue on Monday morning. Tune finished in 2:25:27, two seconds ahead of Biktimirova in the closest women's final in the race's history.



JONGU SHIN—THE TECH

Ken Van Tilburg '11 serves his way to a 6-3, 6-2 victory over his opponent from Wheaton College on Saturday. Van Tilburg was named NEWMAC Singles Player of the Week, as he helped the Engineers win the match 9-0 to claim their tenth consecutive NEWMAC conference title.

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# Aggressive Running, Strong Pitching Lead MIT Over Springfield

Baseball, from Page 20

score Wheeler.

The Engineers added another run in the bottom of the sixth while Turner continued to cruise on the hill. In the seventh, the Engineers expanded their lead behind the base-running prowess of Stewart J. Park '10. After drawing a lead-off walk, Park swiped second and one batter later, stole third. William L. Blackman '11 brought Park home with a single to left center while Steven M. Nunez '09 drove in another run with a base-hit to left.

Ahead 7-2 in the bottom of the eighth, MIT sealed the opening-round victory with four more runs. Blackman drove in two runs with a

single to left while Nole got an RBI with a line-drive to center.

After giving up a lead-off walk in the top of the ninth, Turner quickly secured the final three outs, including a swinging strikeout in the game's final at bat.

Turner scattered seven hits and two walks while striking out five over his complete game. Michael Cole took the loss for the Pride after giving up four earned runs in five innings. Travis Turgeon relieved Cole in the sixth and finished out the game.

Nole and Nunez each had three hits on the day while Blackman drove in a game-best three runs. The Engineers were also 5-for-5 in steals, with Park and Nole each getting credit for two steals.

# Efficient Offense, Man-to-Man Defense Help Propel sMITe to Wins

sMITe, from Page 20

said co-captain Karen K. Shu G. Some of the catches that Lin made included dramatic layouts in the end zone.

"Our zone offense looked really, really good," said Swanson. "Daphne [L. Wang '08] was very good at hitting throws in zone and getting open on up-the-line cuts. ... Amy [M. LeMessurier '10] really stepped up her game this whole tournament."

Cutters, including Jenn D. French '11 and Kelly C. Casteel '11, created strong offensive flow, faking coming under aggressively and clearing hard. "Veena Venkatachalam's ['09] one-handed grabs were impressive,"

said Seaborn. "Chenxia [Liu '10] was cutting aggressively as usual ... and Rosa [Cao G] was making some really great cuts and grabs as well."

Anne P. Runkle '11, in addition to making strong cuts, used smart positioning as a dump defender to force several key turnovers in tight games.

"I'm really excited for Regionals," said Shu. "Right now, it's anyone's game. It's just going to come down to who wants it more and who has the deeper team."

A good performance at Regionals could earn MIT a bid to the Ultimate Players Association College Women's Championship in Boulder, CO on May 16-18.

## SCOREBOARD

Baseball	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Springfield College (14-17, 5-6 NEWMAC <sup>1</sup> )	16
MIT (13-12, 6-5)	5
Springfield College (14-18, 5-7)	2
MIT (14-12, 7-5)	7
<b>Sunday, April 20, 2008</b>	
MIT (14-13)	5
Wesleyan University (14-14)	8
MIT (15-13)	11
Wesleyan University (14-15)	7
<b>Wednesday, April 23, 2008</b>	
Springfield College (14-19)	2
MIT (16-3)	11

Men's Heavyweight Crew	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Harvard University	5:50.1
Princeton University	5:40.6
MIT	6:04.0
<b>Sunday, April 20, 2008</b>	
MIT	5:57.3
Army	6:19.4

Men's Lightweight Crew	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Dartmouth College	5:51.8
Harvard University	5:51.85
MIT	6:06.4

Women's Openweight Crew	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
MIT Varsity 4	---
Trinity College Varsity 4	-1.36 sec
College of the Holy Cross Varsity 4	-8.46 sec

Women's Lightweight Crew	
<b>Sunday, April 20, 2008</b>	
MIT Varsity 8	7:00.5
College of the Holy Cross 2nd Varsity 8	7:06.1
Trinity College 2nd Varsity 8 ( )	7:10.3

Men's Lacrosse	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Clark University (3-10, 1-4 PLL <sup>2</sup> )	5
MIT (4-7, 2-3)	9
<b>Wednesday, April 23, 2008</b>	
MIT (4-8, 2-4)	6
Wheaton College (6-8, 4-2)	14

Women's Lacrosse	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Mount Holyoke College (2-11, 0-5 NEWMAC)	2
MIT (3-7, 2-3)	17

Sailing	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Thompson Trophy	
MIT	13th of 18

Softball	
<b>Friday, April 18, 2008</b>	
MIT (5-22, 1-12 NEWMAC)	0
Clark University (18-9, 8-5)	13
MIT (6-22, 2-12)	5
Clark University (18-10, 8-6)	2

Softball	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Springfield College (22-13, 10-5)	5
MIT (6-23, 2-13)	1
Springfield College (23-13, 11-5)	6
MIT (6-24, 2-14)	5

Men's Tennis	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
Wheaton College (8-6, 2-3 NEWMAC)	0
MIT (13-5, 5-0)	9

Women's Tennis	
<b>Saturday, April 19, 2008</b>	
MIT (13-6)	4
Skidmore College (11-6)	5
<b>Sunday, April 20, 2008</b>	
MIT (13-7)	3
Vassar College (13-4)	6

<sup>1</sup>New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference  
<sup>2</sup>Pilgrim Lacrosse League



MICHAEL JACOKES

Anthony D. Teixeira '08 (second from left) and David P. Fernholz '10 (right) compete in the men's 110 meter hurdles. Teixeira won the event in 15.21 seconds.



MICHAEL JACOKES

Adrienne M. Bolger '09 drafts off the leaders in the first lap of the women's 800 meter run during Saturday's annual Spring Invitational at Steinbrenner Stadium. Bolger went on to pass the leaders and take the victory in 2:20.94.



MICHAEL JACOKES

Mattias S. Flander '11 competes in the men's triple jump at last Saturday's annual Spring Invitational, held at Steinbrenner Stadium. Flander placed second with a distance of 45'5.75".

## SPORTS

Game of the Week

## Baseball Captures Win in First Game of NEWMAC Tournament

By James Kramer  
DAPER STAFF

Jay M. Turner '08 delivered his best start of the spring as MIT's offense complimented his effort with a strong performance in the first round of the New England Women's and Men's Conference Baseball Tournament on Wednesday. The Engineers cruised past Springfield College 11-2. The third-seeded MIT remained in the winner's bracket of the double-elimination tournament after the win, and travelled to face No. 2 Wheaton College yesterday afternoon.

MIT scored one run in each of the first two innings as Brian P. Doyle '11 worked the basepaths for the Engineers' initial score. Doyle advanced to third base on a balk, and then scored on a wild pitch. David M. Nole '09 also displayed tremendous base-running skill in the second

## Why Game of the Week?

MIT opened the tournament on a high note against an opponent it lost to last Saturday. Turner had his best start of the year, and MIT's speed on the basepath helped open up the game.

inning, stealing second base en route to scoring the game's second run.

Springfield leveled the score with a pair of runs in the top of the third. Tim Romeo ignited the spark with a single to center before scoring on John Schmaltz's single to left. Two batters later, Luke Gabordi doubled down the right-field line to drive in another run. MIT worked out of the jam as Gabordi was caught stealing

trying to take third base on a wild pitch.

MIT took back control in the bottom of the third with two runs of its own. Kevin Wheeler doubled to left center to drive home Benjamin T. Bersanti '10 for the first run of the frame, and Thomas M. Phillips '09 followed with a single to left field to

Baseball, Page 19



CHELSEA GRIMM

Brian P. Doyle '11 eyes the pitch during a doubleheader against Springfield College on Saturday on Briggs Field. MIT lost the first game 16-5, but came back to win 7-2 in the second. The two teams met again on Wednesday in the first round of the NEWMAC Tournament, where MIT dominated Springfield 11-2.



AARON SAMPSON—THE TECH

John R. Kucharczyk '11 breaks away from Clark University's Nate Sherman during the closing minutes of the men's lacrosse team's 9-5 defeat over the Cougars on Saturday.



MICHAEL JACOKES

Deena Kastor (in the white hat) runs past Killian Court shortly before the twelve-mile mark in the 2008 Women's Marathon Olympic Trials on Sunday as the chase pack attempts to catch leader Magdalena Lewy Boulet. Kastor overtook Lewy Boulet to win in 2:29:35.

## sMITe Finishes Third At Boston Sectionals, Qualifies for Regionals

By Natasha Plotkin  
TEAM MEMBER

The MIT women's ultimate frisbee team, "sMITe," came in third out of twelve teams at the Metro Boston Women's Sectionals last weekend in Lancaster, Mass. The team qualified for the New England Regional competition on May 3. sMITe went 4-1 in its pool, defeating Bentley College (13-2), Brandeis University (13-8), Boston College-B (13-1), and suffering a loss to Tufts University (13-7) on Saturday; the team came back to beat Harvard University (13-8) on Sunday.

Bracket play began on Sunday with sMITe pitted against Wellesley College. MIT's focus on efficient offense and hard man-to-man defense kept Wellesley's offense in check. After a tight game, MIT came on out top 13-10.

MIT kept its intensity up in its next game versus Boston University, continuing to focus on hard cutting

offense and man defense. sMITe won decisively, 13-7.

The win led MIT to a rematch against Tufts, this time for second place in the tournament. Tufts had earlier lost in the championship match to tournament winner Northeastern University. Though MIT and Tufts traded points through most of the first half, Tufts managed to pull away with a 15-8 win in the second, leaving MIT with a third place finish in the tournament.

"I was really happy with how we played consistently well through eight hard-fought games and were still running hard even at the end," said co-captain Catherine W. Seaborn G.

Handlers kept the disc moving throughout the tournament, tiring out the cups of opposing teams' zone defenses and staying alert for long throws. "Co-captains Erika [M. Swanson G] and Catherine [Seaborn] made some really amazing hucks to Meri [N. Silberstein G] and Doris [Lin G],"

sMITe, Page 19

## Rasin, Coblenz Compete at NCAA Championship

By Mindy Brauer

DAPER STAFF

For the second year in a row, MIT sent two representatives to the NCAA National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships hosted this past weekend by Stanford University. Boris Rasin '09 made his second trip to the national qualifying round while Joshua S. Coblenz '08 received his first nod.

Competing on the parallel bars, Coblenz captured 35th place with a score of 13.250. He posted the highest finish by a Division III competitor, ranking five spots ahead of his foe from Springfield College Andrew Kelly. After competing in the all-around last year, Rasin represented the Engineers on the pommel horse, placing 35th with a mark of 12.200.

Last season, Brad J. Sutton '07 joined Rasin as a participant on the parallel bars while Damian M. Engen '03 qualified in 2002 on the floor exercise and parallel bars.

## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Women's Lightweight Crew vs. University of Massachusetts

9 a.m., Charles River

Sailing, Geiger Trophy

11 a.m., Charles River

Men's Lacrosse vs. Springfield College 1:00 p.m., Jack Barry Field



VINCENT AUYEUNG—THE TECH

Milan Vit and Amanda Davis of Wellesley College dance "American Smooth" at the MIT Open Ballroom Dance Competition on Saturday, April 19. With over 1000 competitors gracing the floor in Rockwell Cage, the competition is the largest amateur ballroom competition in the nation.