

Fraternities, Sororities Kick-Off Recruitment Greek Griller Saturday

By Keone Hon
STAFF REPORTER

MIT's week-long period of Greek recruitment commences tomorrow as potential new members begin exploring MIT's twenty-seven fraternities and six sororities to try for a fit.

Both fraternity rush and sorority recruitment kick off at noon in Killian Court with the Greek Griller, a barbecue meet-and-greet between Greeks and prospective members.

Immediately following the Greek Griller, men and women will part ways, as prospective sorority members attend an information session to learn about each sorority, while prospective fraternity members disperse throughout Boston and Cambridge to visit any of the organizations that intrigue them.

Recruitment will continue in this way for the next few days; fraternity recruitment lasts until Friday and is free-form, with prospectives (and women as well) free to spend as much or as little time as they wish at each house, while sorority recruitment, which lasts until Wednesday, is much more structured, with the intent of ensuring fairness among sororities.

"The goal of the whole process is to make sure that the girls see each chapter," Panhellenic Association recruitment chair Yicong Liu '09 said. "We want them to make an informed choice, and this process allows them to efficiently see all the chapters, to see all the options that

Recruitment, Page 13

ATO Members Housed in MacGregor as Fraternity Bldg. Undergoes Repairs

By Jenny Liu
STAFF REPORTER

Most members of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity are temporarily being housed in MacGregor House suite lounges while their house undergoes repairs to reverse water damage caused by a burst pipe at the end of July.

According to ATO President Chisoanya O. Ibegbu '09, trash and debris had accumulated over time on ATO's roof and found its way into the drain pipe system, building up pres-

sure and causing the incident.

Summer residents of the fraternity were placed in vacant rooms in Next House and a Boston-side fraternity after the water damage occurred.

Now that students are returning to campus, though, MIT Housing has provided emergency accommodations for the majority of ATO brothers by converting lounges in some of MacGregor's suites into

ATO, Page 14

MIT Students Discuss Major Issues in This Year's Election

By David M. Templeton
STAFF REPORTER

MIT may be a science and engineering school, but its students still care about presidential politics, if members of its political student groups are any indication.

The Tech asked the MIT College Republicans and MIT College Democrats, both members of the Association of Student Activities, about their plans for the coming election.

Richard A. Kraus G, of the MIT College Republicans, was the only member of that group to respond to a Tech inquiry. (Other members might have been away for the summer, he mentioned.)

The College Democrats directed The Tech to MIT for Obama, a student group which is not ASA-recognized, and is composed of the members of the surrounding community organized primarily through the Web site of Democratic Party Presidential nominee Senator Barack Obama (D-IL). The group's leader, Catherine Havasi G, spoke to The Tech, as did members Misha Leybovich G and

Election, Page 13

Lower Percentage of Freshmen Request Adjustment in Lottery

By JiHye Kim
STAFF REPORTER

About the same percentage of eligible freshmen entered the Housing Adjustment Lottery this year as compared to last year, representing more students entering the lottery overall. More freshmen were eligible to enter the lottery this year because of the new policy allowing freshmen assigned to Next House to switch to a different dorm.

A lower percentage of those entering the lottery were able to move into a different dormitory as compared to last year.

The lottery, which closed on Tuesday with the end of Residential Exploration, required freshmen to confirm their temporary Summer Housing Lottery assignment or rank up to four other dormitories they would rather move to.

A total of 256 students decided to enter the Adjustment Lottery this year, which is an increase from last year's 209 freshmen. However, only 152 of the 256 students (59 percent) were able to successfully move to a different dorm this year, which is lower than last year's 74 percent (154 of 209 students). (For more housing



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Burton-Conner House's head rooming chair James Torres '10 addresses the dorm's freshmen before the start of floor rush in the Porter Room of Burton-Conner on Wednesday evening.

statistics, see the tables on page 12.)

Of the 1,049 freshmen, 989 were eligible to enter the lottery. The remaining students were either placed in McCormick Hall (59 freshmen) or live off campus (1 freshman). Last year, 849 of 1,067 students

were eligible to enter the lottery.

"The extra surge of students in the Adjustment Lottery reflects our new agreement with the Residential-Based Advising office and the

Housing, Page 12

Textbook Information Available On New Coop Web Site, But No ISBNs or Covers

By Ryan Ko
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Coop has introduced a Web site which allows students to view textbook information online without physically going to its Kendall Square location.

The site, <http://mit.bnccollege.com>, launched on Aug. 24 and allows students to view information

such as the titles, authors, publishers, and editions of textbooks for the upcoming Fall 2008 semester. Neither the ISBN nor the textbook cover is accessible. Students may order their books online for in-store pick-up or opt to have them shipped.

Though the idea of a textbook Web site has been floating around for approximately eight years, 2007-

2008 Undergraduate Association President Martin F. Holmes '08 spearheaded the initiative, according to Elizabeth A. Reed, senior associate dean of undergraduate education. He contacted the Coop shortly after his election in the spring of 2007.

Holmes first contacted the Coop

Textbooks, Page 13



KARI WILLIAMS—THE TECH

The Baker (J. Michael Spencer) and Jack (Timothy Wilfong) discuss the sale of a cow during the Music Theatre Guild's presentation of Into the Woods, which is playing this weekend and throughout September in the Little Kresge Theater.

The Tech's regular Tuesday/Friday publication schedule will resume next Friday, Sept. 5.

OPINION

Our National Energy Policy: Does a carbon trading system make environmental sense?

Page 5

World & Nation 2
Opinion 4
Comics / Fun Pages . . . 6
Arts 8
Daily Confusion 10
Sports 16

Prof. Bawendi Recalls Life as a Student, Gives Advice to Frosh

By Keone Hon
STAFF REPORTER

This is the last interview in a five-part series introducing incoming students to some of MIT's faculty, staff, and student leaders. Today, The Tech features an interview with Mounji G. Bawendi, a professor in the Department of Chemistry who teaches 5.112 (Principles of Chemical Science), among other courses. Bawendi discusses his background and research, and his experience advising students.

The Tech: How long have you been teaching at MIT?

Mounji Bawendi: I've been teaching since 1990. 18 years. I started by teaching freshman chem., the small version second semester; I've also been teaching 5.60 for many years, and I have also taught 5.61 — Quantum Mechanics — and 5.73 — the graduate quantum mechanics course. They're all very different in many ways; it's a nice variety.

And I have taught the regular freshman chemistry in the fall ... it is the big class for me. It's really refreshing because the students come

Bawendi, Page 15

WORLD & NATION

In One Texas Town, Guns Are OK in the Classroom

By James C. Mckinley Jr.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HARROLD, TEXAS

Students in this tiny town of grain silos and ranch-style houses spent much of the first couple of days in school this week trying to guess which of their teachers were carrying pistols under their clothes.

"We made fun of them," said Eric Howard, a 16-year-old high school junior. "Everybody knows everybody here. We will find out."

The school board in this impoverished rural hamlet in North Texas has drawn national attention with its decision to let some teachers carry concealed weapons, a policy no other school in the country has followed. The idea is to ward off a massacre along the lines of what happened at Columbine High School in Colorado in 1999.

"Our people just don't want their children to be fish in a bowl," said David Thweatt, the schools superintendent and driving force behind the policy. "Country people are take-care-of-yourself people. They are not under the illusion that the police are there to protect them."

Russia Deal May Fall, A Casualty of Conflict

By Peter Baker

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Just three months ago, President Bush reached a long-sought agreement with Russia intended to open a new era of civilian nuclear cooperation and sent it to Congress for review.

Now, according to administration officials, Bush is preparing to scrap his own deal.

The imminent collapse of the nuclear deal, once a top Bush priority, represents the most tangible casualty so far of the deteriorating relations with Russia after its brief war with neighboring Georgia. With Vice President Dick Cheney heading to Georgia next week, Bush is also poised to announce about \$1 billion in economic aid to the country, the officials said.

Unlike more symbolic actions being discussed in Washington, like throwing Russia out of the Group of Eight industrialized nations, canceling the nuclear pact would involve concrete consequences potentially worth billions of dollars to Russia. Yet it also would mean unraveling an initiative that was critical to Bush's vision of safely spreading civilian nuclear energy around the world, a program that relied in part on Russian involvement.

As Biomass Power Rises, a Wood-Fired Plant Is Planned in Texas

By Kate Galbraith

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The city of Austin, Texas, approved plans on Thursday for a huge plant that will burn waste wood to make electricity, the latest sign of rising interest in a long-dormant form of renewable energy.

When completed in 2012, the East Texas plant will be able to generate 100 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 75,000 homes. That is small by the standards of coal-fired power plants, but plants fueled by wood chips, straw and the like — organic materials collectively known as biomass — have rarely achieved such scale.

Austin Energy, a city-owned utility, has struck a \$2.3 billion, 20-year deal to be the sole purchaser of electricity from Nacogdoches Power, the company that will build the plant for an undisclosed sum. On Thursday, Austin's City Council unanimously approved the deal, which would bring the Austin utility closer to its goal of getting 30 percent of its power from renewable sources by 2020.

"We saw this plant as very important because it gives us a diversity of fuels," said Roger Duncan, general manager of Austin Energy. "Unlike solar and wind, we can run this plant night or day, summer or winter."

Scorning Bush, Obama Takes Aim at McCain

By Adam Nagourney and Jeff Zeleny

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DENVER

Sen. Barack Obama accepted the Democratic Party presidential nomination on Thursday, declaring that the "American promise has been threatened" by eight years under President Bush and that Sen. John McCain represented a continuation of policies that undermined the nation's economy and imperiled its standing around the world.

The speech by Obama, in front of an audience of nearly 80,000 people on a warm night in a football stadium refashioned into a vast political stage for television viewers, left little doubt how he intended to press his campaign against McCain this fall. He linked McCain to what he described as the "failed presidency of George W. Bush" in cutting language that seemed intended to reassure nervous Democrats that he had the spine to take on what has proven this summer to be a scrappy Republican opponent.

"The record's clear: John McCain has voted with George Bush 90 percent of the time," Obama said in remarks prepared for delivery. "Sen.

McCain likes to talk about judgment, but really, what does it say about your judgment when you think George Bush was right more than 90 percent of the time? I don't know about you, but I'm not ready to take a ten percent chance on change."

"America, we are better than these last eight years," he said. "We are a better country than this."

The speech loomed as arguably Obama's most important of the campaign to date. It was an opportunity to present himself to Americans just now beginning to tune in on this campaign, to make the case against McCain and to offer what many Democrats say he has failed to offer to date: an idea of what he stands for, beyond a promise of change.

With the speech, Obama closed out his party's convention here and prepared for a quick shift of public attention to the Republicans as McCain moved to name his running mate on Friday and his party begins its convention in St. Paul on Monday.

He delivered it in a most unconventional setting, becoming the third nominee of a major party in the nation's history to leave the site of his convention to give his acceptance

speech at a stadium. In this case, it was Invesco Field, set against the Rockies and about a mile from the arena where he had been nominated the night before. His aides chose the stadium to signal a break from typical politics and to permit thousands of his supporters from across the country to hear him speak.

And it came on a night that offered — by the coincidence of scheduling — a reminder of the historic nature of the Obama candidacy: 45 years to the day after the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech on the Mall in Washington.

Obama is the first African-American to be nominated for the White House by a major party, a fact that, for all its significance, has been barely mentioned over the course of this four-day gathering.

Even in invoking the anniversary of the King speech, Obama only alluded to race. "The men and women who gathered there could've heard many things," he said. "They could've heard words of anger and discord. They could've been told to succumb to the fear and frustration of so many dreams deferred."

U.S. and Bolivia Spar as Partners in Drug War

By Simon Romero

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHIMORE, BOLIVIA

The refrain here in the Chapare jungle about Americans is short but powerful: "Long Live Coca, Death to the Yanquis!"

So when President Evo Morales recently came to the area, raising his fist and shouting those words before his supporters, the irony was not lost on an elite wing of the Bolivian military that survives on U.S. support.

"We depend on the Americans for everything: our bonuses, our training, our vehicles, even our boots," said Lt. Col. Jose German Cuevas, the commander of a Bolivian special forces unit that hunts down cocaine traffickers, speaking at a military base here in central Bolivia.

With Vietnam-era Huey helicopters donated by the United States swirling above the base and dozens

of Bolivian officers who have been trained alongside the Green Berets at the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Ga., Bolivia ranks among the most muddled fronts of the Andean drug war.

Morales, a former grower of coca, the raw ingredient of cocaine, is both an antagonist and an active partner in American anti-drug policy for the region. He often describes the United States as his leading adversary and has made the right to grow the coca leaf a top symbol of sovereignty and anti-imperialism.

Yet he has also gone to unexpected lengths to restrain coca cultivation, and he accepts about \$30 million a year from the United States — almost his entire anti-narcotics budget — to fight cocaine.

For now, Morales and the United States remain uneasy bedfellows. Morales has been hesitant to sever

ties with the United States, especially because it provides Bolivia with about \$100 million in development aid each year. It also grants tax-free access for Bolivian textiles, an economic lifeline for his country.

On the American side, officials argue that a sharp increase in coca cultivation could drive more cocaine to the United States, even though it is currently a negligible market for Bolivian cocaine. A deeper reason may be that the anti-drug money gives them a rare window into Morales' government.

But this cooperation is coming under increasing strain. Radical members of Morales' political base, instrumental in bringing him to power, are chafing at American anti-coca policies, especially here in the Chapare, where coca growers expelled American aid workers last month amid claims that they were conspiring to topple Morales' government.

WEATHER

Tropic Thunder

By Garrett P. Marino

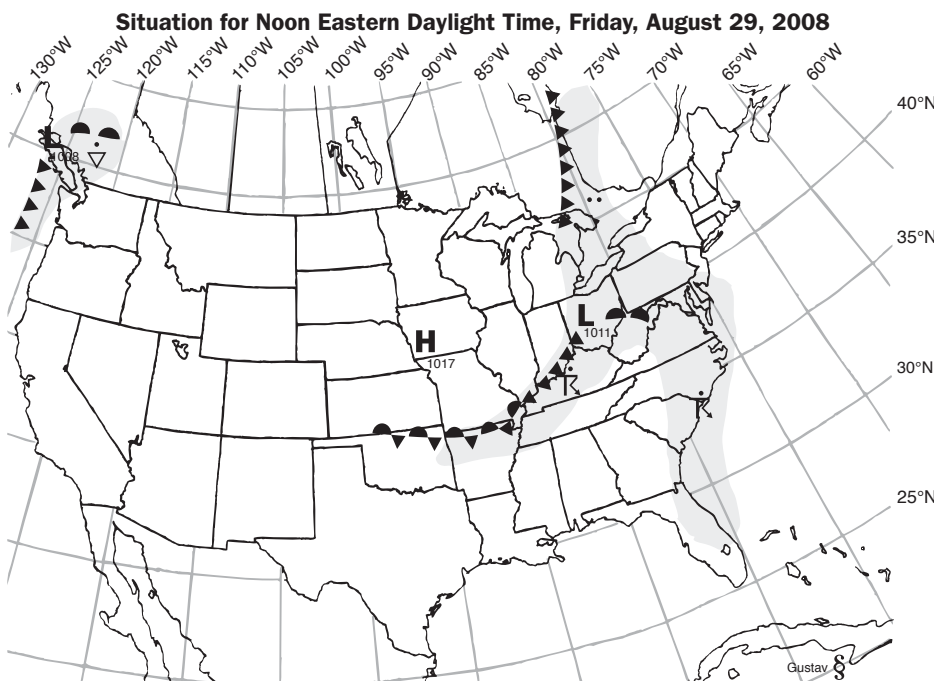
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Tropical cyclone activity in the Atlantic basin has recently surged. Tropical Storm Hanna formed yesterday northeast of the Bahamas and will possibly threaten the east coast of the U.S. sometime late next week. However, the main story is Tropical Storm Gustav, which made landfall in Haiti and Jamaica over the past few days and threatens to move into the Gulf of Mexico by the weekend. Oil companies have begun to evacuate some personnel, as the storm will likely impact the Gulf states early next week. The future intensities and exact paths of these storms are still highly uncertain, but they bear close monitoring.

Closer to home in the Boston area today, expect partly sunny skies and pleasant temperatures. A cold front will approach us on Saturday, bringing with it the possibility of some light showers and thunderstorms. High pressure will build in afterward, providing pleasant conditions through at least the first day of classes. Enjoy!

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s°F (24°C).
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s°F (16°C).
Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs near 80°F (27°C). Lows in the mid 60s°F (18°C).
Sunday through Reg Day: Sunny. Highs in the low 80s°F (28°C). Lows in the lower 60s°F (16°C).



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Attack on Police Bus Kills At Least 8 in Pakistan

By Jane Perlez
and Pir Zubair Shah

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

A car bomb apparently planted by Taliban insurgents blew up a police bus in northwestern Pakistan on Thursday, killing at least eight people, security officials said.

The bombing followed a recent pattern of Taliban attacks against government security installations in retaliation for a fierce Pakistani military campaign, including air strikes, in the tribal area of Bajaur. The continuing campaign has inflicted heavy casualties on the Islamic militants.

In the attack on Thursday, the car bomb exploded as the police bus was passing it on a crowded bridge in the town of Bannu, additional superintendent of police, Waqas Hassan, said in a telephone interview from Bannu.

The bus was traveling from the central police station in Bannu to the jail in Bannu to pick up prisoners when it was hit, Hassan said. The car bomb was operated by remote control and was of such force it pushed the bus into the Kurram River beneath the bridge, he said.

The attack was quite similar in method to the bombing of an Air Force bus in Peshawar last week that killed 14 people, many of which were air force personnel. The Taliban took immediate responsibility for that attack, which was also carried out by a remote controlled bomb.

Last week, two suicide bombers killed at least 80 people when they blew themselves up outside Pakistan's biggest weapons factory complex.

In a sign that fighting between Taliban and Pakistani security and military forces is spreading in the tribal areas, fresh clashes were reported in South Waziristan after a period of relative calm.

In Tiarza in South Waziristan, about 50 Taliban attacked a military fort, and there were skirmishes at two security posts along the border with Afghanistan, local residents said. A statement by the Pakistani military said that 11 Taliban had died, and that as many as 20 had been wounded in the fighting around the fort.

Before the attacks, Maulvi Nazir, the leader of a Taliban group that competes with a larger alliance of Taliban, Tehrik-i-Taliban, asked the

Pakistani military to vacate the fort and the posts, Zubair Wazir, a merchant who lives in Wana, the capital of South Waziristan, said in a telephone interview.

In another attack in South Waziristan, Taliban fighters fired rockets on the Pakistani military compound at Zari Noor, a heavily fortified area where a handful of U.S. soldiers work alongside Pakistanis to target the Taliban, Wazir said.

The fort at Zari Noor has served as the main base of the Pakistani army since the military entered South Waziristan in 2004 in an early campaign to subdue the Taliban.

The atmosphere in Wana was "very tense" after a curfew was announced Wednesday, Wazir said.

Forces of the Pakistani army and the Taliban under Maulvi Nazir fought in the Wana bazaar on Wednesday, Wazir said.

The attacks by the Taliban have increased in the last few days as the Pakistani military has pressed on with a three-week long air campaign in Bajaur that has dislodged more than 200,000 people from their homes, according to the military.

Fannie Mae Workers Watch As Stock Plans Dwindle

By Vikas Bajaj
and Tara Siegel Bernard

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Fannie Mae's workers had \$116 million in the employee stock ownership plan at the end of 2006. Today, it's more like \$17.5 million.

The employees of Fannie Mae, and those of its counterpart Freddie Mac, are reeling from financial blows themselves as the mortgage finance companies lurch toward what could be a government bailout. Both firms ladled out hefty servings of stocks and options to reward and compensate employees — making them popular employers for years.

The top executive of Freddie Mac, Richard F. Syron, for instance, made about \$18.3 million last year, two-thirds of that in stock and options that are worth a lot less today. His counterpart at Fannie Mae, Daniel H. Mudd, made \$11.6 million, also much of it in stock.

But midlevel employees were paid in stock, too. Stock and options could account for a fifth of their total compensation, according to former employees and financial planners. Their ability to sell and diversify

was often limited by restrictions on the grants, the terms of the specific plans and tighter rules on selling by employees while they addressed years-earlier accounting scandals.

For decades, both companies offered lush benefits, with traditional pension plans, 401(k)s, stock plans and other niceties, like child care plans. That means many employees still have a safety net, though their savings have declined, drastically in some cases.

"If it can happen to Fannie or Freddie, it can happen anywhere," said Marjorie L. Fox, a certified financial planner in Reston, Va. "This is a cautionary tale you better pay attention to."

For those people participating in the employee stock ownership plans, known as ESOPs, at Fannie Mae — Freddie Mac did not have one — they could do little but watch this year as the stock lost more than three-quarters of its value. In a lament echoing the fallen share prices at other firms like Bear Stearns, employees discovered their stock was essentially locked up. The Fannie Mae plan, to which the company stopped mak-

ing contributions last year, invests in company stock, allowing diversification to begin only at age 55.

Still, former employees and financial planners say workers have probably been hurt more severely by their holdings of stock and options outside of retirement plans.

Richard K. Green, who was a principal economist and a director of financial strategy and policy analysis at Freddie Mac from late 2002 to early 2004, said that about 20 percent of his total compensation was in stock options.

"It's my understanding that for a fair number of people, it was an important part of their retirement planning," he said. "If you joined in the '80s, you did fairly well. But if you joined in the last 10 years or so, those options wouldn't be worth a whole lot to you."

Furthermore, both companies tightened restrictions on trading of company stock by employees while working to correct a series of accounting misstatements. Fannie Mae barred employees from selling shares — or buying them — from April 2005 to November of last year.

Unlike Years Past, DNC Transformed Into High-Profile Spectacle

By Mark Leibovich

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DENVER

For the first time in memory, a spectator at a presidential nomination acceptance speech was treated for sunstroke. Fireworks replaced the traditional balloon drop, sunlight supplanted klieg lights. Parents brought children from as far away as Africa, and delegates munched Bronco Brats and clicked cell phone pictures of a political carnival that bore no resemblance to any convention finale that had come before.

While Sen. Barack Obama took the stage at the center of Invesco Field with big video screens and speakers looming overhead, the scene in the stands and concourse provided just as much of a spectacle. Senators, delegates, party bigwigs and celebrities mingled among political tourists, teenage volunteers and older voters — many of them African-American — bent on seeing a moment they had never thought they would witness. Some waited for five hours in baking heat in a line up to a mile long.

"I have no reason to be here other

than to be a part of history," said Janelle Murph, who had booked a last-minute flight from Baltimore to see the first African-American accept the nomination of a major party on the 45th anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. "When I realized it was on that anniversary, it just felt like fate. I had to be there."

The scene was one of the most unusual sights in the annals of American political conventions. Overnight, the familiar trappings of the convention hall were moved outdoors, with banners from every state filling the field.

As the afternoon wore on, the warm-up acts went from C- to B- to A-list, and spectators passed the time taking pictures, getting autographs and throwing the occasional Obama beach ball. By the time Al Gore came on at 6:45 p.m., the home of the Denver Broncos was aflutter with flashbulbs, waving flags and Obama signs.

In a twist on the normal convention finale, the prominent figures — donors, elected officials and suit-

wearing media celebrities like Dan Rather — looked somewhat like the interlopers. Younger people dressed in jeans and shorts — many not of voting age — seemed decidedly more at home, as if they were attending an open air concert and were fully versed in the festival ritual. The wave broke out in Section 338 just after Gore's speech ended and spread quickly around the stadium.

Big American flags waved next to massive Obama signs above where the number of the Broncos great Randy Gradishar's No. 53 is retired.

The occasion was part coronation, part organizing meeting, part Woodstock and part very long lines at the metal detectors. Chants of "Yes, we can" (not "Go Broncos") broke out, and big delegate hats outnumbered face paint (usually preferred at a football game). To some extent, the event resembled a Broncos game, albeit without beer sales, no discernible opposition and Obama in the spotlight role of John Elway (the Broncos quarterback). Prices were stadium scale: \$3.50 for a small bottle of water.

Cable, Quietly, Introduces an Anytime Elections Channel

By Stephanie Clifford

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The cable industry, aiming to prevent Internet companies like Yahoo and YouTube from snatching away its ad revenue, has introduced an experimental political channel that gives advertisers a uniform way to buy time and measure the number of people watching.

The channel, called Elections '08 On Demand, lets people watch videos whenever they want, much the way they can on YouTube or the Web sites of television networks. Depending on where they live, people can tune into the channel to see an infomercial for Barack Obama, coverage of the Democratic National Convention, or historical clips like Lyndon B. Johnson's "Daisy" ad.

So far the nascent channel offers only about eight hours of programming. But the participating cable companies, many of which joined a consortium this year called Canoe Ventures, say this effort shows that they can work together well. Canoe Ventures is trying to make cable television a more attractive place for advertisers; Elections '08 is the first product it has worked on.

The channel is available in 32 million households, primarily the ones served by the six partners of Canoe Ventures: Time Warner Cable, Comcast, Cablevision Systems, Charter Communications, Cox Communications and Bright House Networks. Most subscribers probably have not noticed it, because it is not particularly easy to find: On Time Warner, for example, it is Channel 1279; on Cablevision, Channel 500.

Carmakers Deserve Loan Guarantees, GM Official Says

By Nick Bunkley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JOLIET, ILL.

A top General Motors executive said Thursday that automakers were "deserving" of as much as \$50 billion in government-backed loans so that they can build more fuel-efficient cars.

GM's vice chairman, Robert A. Lutz, said the car companies need money to retool their plants but probably cannot raise enough capital on their own because of the tight credit markets. He said the automakers have already made considerable progress in transforming themselves and that the government should help them proceed faster.

"The American auto industry is deserving of government loan guarantees," Lutz told reporters at an event near Chicago where GM showed off its 2009 lineup. "We have done a whole bunch of things that people said, 'Why aren't you doing this?'"

The automakers, along with the United Automobile Workers union and Michigan lawmakers, are urging Congress to appropriate \$3.75 billion to back the \$25 billion in loans authorized last year.

They also want more money — up to double the original amount, given the sudden jump in consumer demand for fuel efficiency — and they are urging Congress to act by the end of September so that the money can be available next year.

Canadian Airline Shuts Down, Stranding Hundreds

By Ian Austen

THE NEW YORK TIMES

OTTAWA

Hundreds of travelers, including many in Europe, were stranded Thursday after Zoom Airlines, a low-cost carrier based in Ottawa, abruptly stopped operations and sought protection from creditors.

Zoom, which specializes in flights to Europe, the United States and the Caribbean from Canada, closed without warning after one of its aircraft was seized under a court order in Calgary, Alberta.

In addition, baggage crews working for a contractor in Halifax, Nova Scotia, refused to unload a Zoom plane, saying they did so because of overdue invoices. A third plane was detained in Scotland as part of a payment dispute with the operator of Europe's air traffic control system.

Zoom also shut most of its Web site. The site now consists of a statement in which the company blames increased fuel costs of 50 million Canadian dollars (\$47.8 million) over the last year for its problems.

Hugh and John Boyle, two brothers from Scotland who braved a weak airline environment to found Zoom in early 2002, said in the statement that they had obtained a refinancing package on Wednesday, although they offered no details about that arrangement.

"We have done everything we can to support the airline and left no stone unturned to secure a refinancing package that would have kept our aircraft flying," the brothers, who are travel industry veterans, said in their statement. "But the actions of creditors meant we could not continue flying."

Faiths Clash, Displacing Thousands in East India

By Hari Kumar

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI

At least 3,000 people, most of them Christians, are living in government-run relief camps after days of Christian-versus-Hindu violence in eastern India, government officials said.

The government said many people were also living in the jungle without any shelter or security because of the tensions, which erupted in violence after a Hindu leader was killed Saturday. At least 10 people, most of them Christians, have been killed since.

Christian community leaders say at least 1,000 homes of Christians have been set on fire since Monday, rendering more than 5,000 people homeless.

Many of those living in the jungle were without food or water, said the Rev. Dibakar Parichha, a priest at the Roman Catholic church in Phulbani, a town in Orissa State. Parichha said about 90 places of worship, including small churches and prayer halls, had been burned down. Local officials said the figure was about 20.

The violence has occurred in Kandhamal, a district in Orissa State that has a history of communal and ethnic clashes. The latest conflict started Saturday night, when unidentified armed men stormed a Hindu school in Kandhamal and killed the Hindu leader Laxmanananda Saraswati and four of his followers.

OPINION

Fraternities at MIT

An Opportunity for Personal Development

By Reid Van Lehn

Why will over 50 percent of freshmen men pledge fraternities this year? What is it about fraternity life that leads freshmen to join organizations that are so often associated with binge-drinking, dirty houses, and failing grades, a false stereotype that has been propagated by movies such as *Animal House* and *Old School*? How can so many men, from such a diverse set of backgrounds, find common homes in fraternities?

That these questions have answers is apparent if you take even a cursory look around campus. Look for fraternity men and you will quickly find campus leaders, student government representatives, athletes, community service advocates, and above all, dedicated students. It is not by accident that fraternity men are constantly involved with every facet of student life and the MIT community — they are merely implementing the values that Greek life espouses.

Fraternities exist to ensure the personal growth of their members, a need that may not be easily filled by other means. Joining a fraternity offers the chance to mature within a community focused on developing you from a young freshman to an individual prepared to make a difference in both the MIT community and beyond. Opportunities abound — perhaps you will lead an organization with over 400 members, handle a budget in excess of \$100,000, play dozens of IM sports, volunteer with friends at a local hospital, or simply study late into the night with a group of willing upperclassmen tutors.

It should also be underscored that these are values-based organizations, each with a set of ideals and membership expectations. Personal responsibility, collaboration, empathy, scholarship, beneficence, morality — these are principles ingrained throughout fraternity culture. While each organization may emphasize particular values over others, the trend is clear — to join a fraternity, you must commit yourself to the highest standards of personal conduct, and nothing less will suffice in the eyes of your brothers.

The results of fraternity life speak for themselves. Fraternities boast an impressive average GPA of 4.29. Fraternities annually volunteer thousands of man hours to innumerable community service events, from crafting homemade wooden toys for children in the community to picking up trash along the Charles River. Fraternities donate thousands of dollars to charities ranging from the Children's Miracle Network to the ALS Association.

Fraternity members include dozens of student leaders, such as last year's Undergraduate Association President. Fraternities boast a vast number of varsity athletes, providing the driving force behind MIT's sports teams. In short, the product that fraternities deliver is invaluable to their members and to the MIT commu-

Fraternities exist to ensure the personal growth of their members, a need that may not be easily filled by other means.

nity at-large, and the evidence is plain to see.

I will not be as bold to say that fraternity life is for everyone. I will say, however, that I believe everyone should at least give fraternities a look. You may think that fraternities are not for you; that you have no desire to 'buy' friends; that you do not need the personal development opportunities that fraternities provide; that you do not wish to join a culture that you perceive to be built around drinking.

When I first came to MIT, I believed a lot of these same things — I came in with only the negative stereotype of fraternities, and felt no need to go through Rush. Like many freshmen, however, I was attracted by the free food at the Greek Griller, and was quickly swayed by how genuinely the people I met cared about their respective chapters.

There must be a reason that these people are so excited about bringing new men into their organizations, I thought, and I delved deeper to uncover their motivations. I will not repeat

the reasons I enumerated above; suffice to say, I found that the people rushing me did so because they saw in me the potential that they had realized in themselves, and they were confident that they could help me grow. I pledged because I saw in the upperclassmen those things that I wanted to see in myself when I was a senior, and saw the fraternity as a vehicle to guide my course.

I now stand in their shoes and can look back upon my experiences with pride. I transformed in these last three years from a bright-eyed freshman overwhelmed by the intimidating MIT experience to a confident, capable member of the MIT community. I had no leadership experience in high school, but now stand as an officer in two large organizations, a result of the half-dozen leadership positions I had the opportunity to take in my own fraternity. I cannot say who I would be today without the influence of my fraternity, but I know myself, and I know that without the guidance of my brothers I would never have seized the opportunities lying before me.

The final piece of the fraternity puzzle that must be mentioned is the Interfraternity Council, the governing body of all 27 MIT fraternities. The IFC is tasked with promoting a sense of interfraternalism among its members, guiding the overall direction of the fraternity community, uniting its members for community service events, and safeguarding the image of our community. The IFC does not strive to be highly visible, but it is responsible for key fraternity events such as Rush and Greek Week. The IFC can perhaps be regarded as the glue that holds the fraternity community together.

If you take anything away from my piece, remember this — even if you do not think that Greek life is for you, recognize that thousands of men have thought the same thing, and yet found significant value in joining a fraternity. There are innumerable reasons why over 50 percent of freshmen men pledge fraternities — it is up to you to find out whether these reasons hold value for you.

Reid Van Lehn '09 is the Vice President of the Interfraternity Council and a member of Phi Delta Theta.

Independent Living Groups at MIT

A Variety of Unique Opportunities

By David Farhi

Independent Living Groups offer a variety of unique opportunities for MIT students. The ILGs are a collection of five different houses, each with its own lifestyle, culture, and personality. Students who join ILGs find themselves a part of a small, close-knit community of friends.

Perhaps unlike some of the other living options at MIT however, the Independent Living Groups are all extremely different from one another — so you should check them all out! Even if the first one you try isn't right for you, make sure to try the rest because they each have their own unique character.

It is easy to find a place at MIT where you can live and be happy; in fact, each person would most likely be happy at a large number of different places. But you should not be satisfied with that. There is someplace here where you can truly fit in, where you can really make a home for yourself. So whether or not you've found somewhere that's good for you, always keep looking and try to find someplace perfect. You never know — maybe you'll find your home at one of the ILGs.

To find out more about the ILGs, come to the Greek Griller on Saturday, go to web.mit.edu/lgc/, or go to the Web sites of the individual houses. The five ILGs are Fenway House, Student House, Pika, WILG, and Epsilon Theta.

David Farhi '10 is the Commander of Epsilon Theta.



Chairman

Benjamin P. Gleitzman '09

Editor in Chief

Nick Semenkovich '09

Business Manager

Austin Chu G

Managing Editor

Jessica Witchley '10

Executive Editor

Michael McGraw-Herdeg G

NEWS STAFF

News and Features Director: Angeline Wang '09; **Editors:** Arkajit Dey '11, Jeff Guo '11, Natasha Plotkin '11; **Associate Editors:** Ryan Ko '11, Emily Prentice '11; **Staff:** Curt Fischer G, Ray C. He G, Ramya Sankar G, John A. Hawkinson '98, Daniela Cako '09, Mei-Hsin Cheng '09, Diana Jue '09, Ji Qi '09, Kirtana Raja '09, Yiwei Zhang '09, Yi Zhou '09, Nick Bushak '10, Yuri Hanada '10, JiHye Kim '10, Joyce Kwan '10, Jenny Liu '10, Manisha Padi '10, Joanne Y. Shih '10, Keone Hon '11, Yan Huang '11, Elijah Jordan Turner '11, Lulu Wang '11; **Meteorologists:** Cegeon Chan G, Garrett P. Marino G, Jon Moskaitis G, Michael J. Ring G, Roberto Rondanelli G, Scott Stransky G, Brian H. Tang G, John K. Williams G, Angela Zalucha G.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Editor: Steve Howland '11; **Staff:** K. Nichole Treadway '10, Yue Li '11, Mark Yen '11.

OPINION STAFF

Editor: Andrew T. Lukmann G; **Staff:** Josh Levinger '07, Ali S. Wyne '08, Krishna Gupta '09, Aditya Kohli '09.

SPORTS STAFF

Editor: Aaron Sampson '10; **Staff:** Albert Ni '09.

ARTS STAFF

Editor: Praveen Rathinavelu '10; **Staff:** Bogdan Fedeles G, Andrew Lee '07, Tyson C. McNulty '08, S. Balaji Mani '10, Tina Ro '10, Kevin Wang '10.

PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Editors: David M. Templeton '08, Andrea Robles '10, William Yee '10; **Staff:** Vincent Auyeung G, Alex H. Chan G, Alice Fan G, David Da He G, Perry Hung G, Maksim Imakaev G, Dmitry Kashlev G, Arthur Petron G, David Reshef G, Martin Segado G, Noah Spies G, Scott Johnston '03, Christina Kang '08, Martha Angela Wilcox '08, Chelsea Grimm '09, Ana Malagon '09, Peter H. Rigano '09, Eric D. Schmiedl '09, Jerzy Szablowski '09, Diana Ye '09, Daniel P. Beauboeuf '10, Mindy Eng '10, Helen Hou '10, Monica Kahn '10, Samuel E. Kronick '10, Diane Rak '10, Jongu Shin '10, Dhaval Adjudah '11, Michael Y McCanna '11, Kari Williams '11, Sherry Yan '11.

CAMPUS LIFE STAFF

Editor: Charles Lin G; **Staff:** J. Graham Ruby G, David Shirokoff G, Jason Chan '09, Sarah C. Proehl '09, Michael Ciuffo '11, Michael T. Lin '11; **Cartoonists:** Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer G, Roberto Perez-Franco G, Ben Peters '11.

BUSINESS STAFF

Advertising Manager: Mark Thompson '11; **Operations Manager:** Michael Kuo '10; **Staff:** Neeharika Bhartiya '10, Jennifer Chu '10, Heymian Wong '10.

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Director: Ricardo Ramirez '09; **Staff:** Quentin Smith '10.

EDITORS AT LARGE

Contributing Editors: Rosa Cao G, Brian Hemond G, Valery K. Brobbey '08, Caroline Huang '10; **Senior Editors:** Satwiksai Seshasai G, Shreyes Seshasai G, Jillian A. Berry '08, Omari Stephens '08, Sarah Dupuis '10.

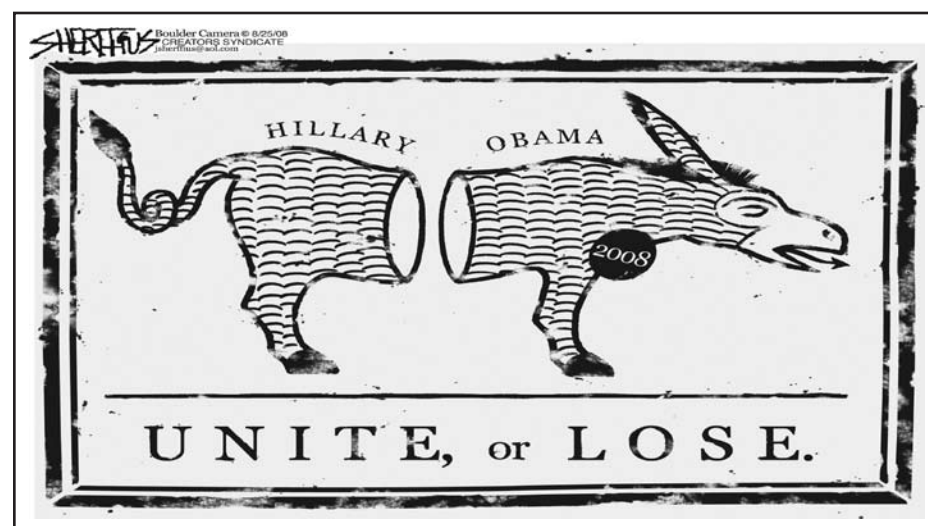
ADVISORY BOARD

Paul E. Schindler, Jr. '74, V. Michael Bove '83, Barry S. Surman '84, Robert E. Malchman '85, Deborah A. Levinson '91, Jonathan E. D. Richmond PhD '91, Karen Kaplan '93, Saul Blumenthal '98, Frank Dabek '00, Daniel Ryan Bersak '02, Eric J. Cholankeril '02, Jordan Rubin '02, Nathan Collins SM '03, Keith J. Winstein '03, Akshay R. Patil '04, Tiffany Dohzen '06, Beckett W. Sterner '06, Marissa Vogt '06, Zachary Ozer '07, B. D. Colen.

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

Editors: Austin Chu G, Jessica Witchley '10, Steve Howland '11.

The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © 2008 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.



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 Andrew T. Lukmann, 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. 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, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing 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. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www-tech.mit.edu>.

The Wisdom of Choosing Biden

What He Means for the Democratic Ticket

By Dan Yelin

After months of speculation and debate, Barack Obama chose policy veteran Senator Joe Biden to be his running mate. Each of the top three contenders, including Biden, Sen. Evan Bayh of Indiana, and Gov. Tim Kaine of Virginia had strengths and weaknesses. Joe Biden is the smartest choice, and here's why.

Until recently, Senator Obama has been hesitant to attack McCain's legislative record and security credentials, likely out of fear that such attacks would highlight Barack's inexperience and newfound political "celebrity" status: one of Senator McCain's favorite discussion topics.

Vice Presidential candidates typically serve as political attack dogs, which is exactly what Barack's campaign needs right now. With his message of rejecting the "politics of the past," Obama has not been able to respond harshly enough to McCain attacks without tarnishing his image or seeming like a "flip-flopper."

A Biden ticket gives Barack ample clearance to rebut McCain's charges of youthful inexperience. Until recently, these attacks went unanswered, and they were starting to work. Biden is a 35-year Senate veteran (the 4th longest serving Democrat) and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. With a foreign policy heavyweight on the Democratic ticket, McCain can no longer charge Obama with inexperience without fear of swift retribution.

Unlike Biden, Senator Bayh and Governor Kaine are mild mannered politicians who have failed to distinguish themselves on most issues. While these two members of the short-list would have helped carry vital swing states (Indiana and Virginia respectively), Senator Biden strengthens the ticket in the policy areas where Obama is perceived as being weaker — foreign policy and national security. Biden, while sometimes noted for his verbosity and the occasional gaffe, elevates the debate above

Senator Obama made the right choice in foregoing an electoral advantage for a rhetorical edge.

petty attack ads, which will prove troublesome for McCain.

Senator Obama made the right choice in foregoing an electoral advantage for a rhetorical edge. Biden has already shown his willingness to take on McCain, most recently assailing his inability to recall how many homes he owned in the face of an ailing economy and mortgage crisis:

"Ladies and gentlemen, your kitchen table is like mine. You sit there at night ... after you put the kids to bed and you talk, you talk about what you need. You talk about how much you are worried about being able to pay the bills.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, that's not a worry John McCain has to worry about. ... He'll have to figure out which of the seven kitchen tables to sit at."

The Obama camp has been treading a fine line with Biden, emphasizing his working class, catholic roots in Scranton, PA. "For decades, he has brought change to Washington, and Washington hasn't changed him," Obama said, trying to pre-empt Republican attacks that might seek to portray Senator Biden as a Washington insider.

Biden also has an established liberal voting record, which will help rally the Democratic base. He has played key roles in the Senate Judiciary Committee, notably in anti-crime legislation and Supreme Court justice nominations. As Chairman of the committee from 1987 to 1995, he presided over the contentious Robert Bork and Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings, in addition to passing the first instituted assault weapons ban.

Joe Biden is a hard hitting debater with an impeccable resume. He brings the experience and the foreign policy heft to form a formidable Democratic ticket. It's unlikely that John McCain will be able to find a running mate with Senator Biden's credentials, which could serve to reverse McCain's "experience" argument — effectively neutralizing the Senator from Arizona's most potent attack line.

Daniel E. Yelin '10 is a junior in the Department of Political Science.

What We Need from a National Energy Policy

The Case for a Carbon Tax to Fund Promising Energy R&D

By Gary Shu

In a season of record-high gas prices, economic instability, and a solidifying consensus that climate change is due to greenhouse gases, there has been much talk of a "price on carbon" in order to penalize carbon dioxide emitters and incentivize new, clean energy technologies. Massachusetts has decided to respond by becoming a part of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, — "RGGI", affectionately pronounced "Reggie" — a regional "cap-and-trade" program designed to promote renewable technology. RGGI does this by requiring permits for carbon dioxide pollution in the electrical sector. Both presidential candidates McCain and Obama have proposed similar regulation on the federal level, and other regional carbon markets are sprouting up throughout the country.

I just got back from spending the summer at the Department of Energy as an intern, and there I got a chance to talk to government analysts and to attend hearings on Capitol Hill. And while all the activity regarding greenhouse gas regulation is encouraging, I've found that there are still potential pitfalls severe enough that they could greatly weaken the effects that legislators and citizens are seeking.

First, any regulation should look to control greenhouse gas emissions in all sectors, not just the electricity industry as RGGI does. RGGI is a mere baby step toward larger, economy-wide greenhouse gas regulation. Now that such comprehensive legislation has already begun to be seriously considered in Congress (Warner-

Lieberman Climate Security Act), RGGI is looking antiquated. This was no more apparent than when the Canadian province of Ontario, a neighbor of the RGGI states, decided to enter into the Western Climate Initiative with its potentially stronger and broader regulation instead of the RGGI. RGGI was once a leading organization in mitigating climate change, but it is already looking to be a relic of a fast-moving political environment.

Second, permits should absolutely be auctioned off to the highest bidders. Wondering why you saw slick and sophisticated energy advertisements during the Olympics? It wasn't just because gas prices are going through the roof. It was the electric, oil and natural gas industry trying to get into your good graces so that they can grab as many permits as they can if and when national greenhouse gas regulation come online. (It was also the wind and solar industry trying to get the renewable energy tax credit extended, though for good reason.) Now just wait until after the election for the full-on ad blitz.

Third, any incoming revenue from regulation should be applied toward clean energy development. Taking the money from the sale of permits and applying it — all of it — toward research and commercialization of new technologies would solve two problems at once. For one, cleaner and more desirable technologies will enter into the market more quickly and more affordably. Second, the allocation of polluter payments toward such research will generate jobs that could lift and support our economy for decades to come. Barack Obama and Mass. Governor Deval Patrick have al-

ready made these hallmarks of their respective energy platforms.

However, this dual purpose can only be realized if emissions permits are auctioned and all of the proceeds go to technology R&D. Right now, legislators are chomping at the bit to get the potentially trillions of dollars in revenue, hoping to fund everything from Social Security to paying down the national debt. With global climate change already going to be such a severe and costly problem, this kind of money distribution is myopic and disastrous. Perhaps an enlightened congressman will see fit to do for carbon legislation what is done for highway revenues: dedicate revenues to a trust fund that can only be used for its stated purpose — in this case clean energy R&D.

Finally, while the political conversation has been focused on cap-and-trade legislation, the idea of a carbon tax should be re-examined. Cap-and-trade is politically feasible merely because it doesn't contain the "T word," which is so often anathema to voters and Republicans. However, a tax is simpler, contains less administrative overhead, and makes the cost of pollution more certain. Even Energy Department fossil fuel analysts I've talked to believe a carbon tax is superior to cap-and-trade. The political realities, however, mean that we'll almost never hear of a "carbon tax" during this campaign year except as pejorative. Obama has already proposed cap-and-trade regulation instead of a tax. Here's hoping that, if he's elected, that's one campaign promise he'll break.

Gary Shu is a graduate student in the Engineering Systems Division.



What's Going On?

MIT can be a bewildering place if you don't know what's going on.

Don't be a confused panda! Instead, be a smart panda. A happy panda.

Tech reporters hunt down the news; photographers get exclusive shots; and production staff see the entire issue—even the parts that don't make it to press—long before we print.

Want in? Join *The Tech*!



join@the-tech.mit.edu

AMERICA RESPONDS (WITH TRANSLATIONS)

<p>TRANSLATION NOTHING SCARES ME MORE THAN AN EDUCATED BLACK MAN.</p>	<p>TRANSLATION THE ONLY THING THAT SCARES ME MORE THAN AN EDUCATED BLACK MAN IS A STRONG, SUCCESSFUL BLACK WOMAN.</p>
<p>TRANSLATION A WHITE WOMAN IS BETTER THAN A BLACK MAN ANY DAY.</p>	<p>TRANSLATION IT'S ALL ABOUT RACE.</p>

Steal My Comic

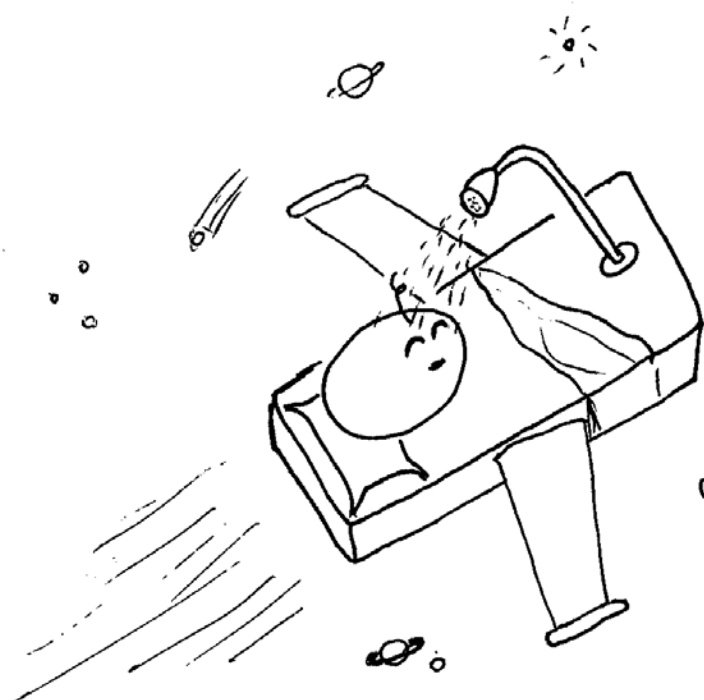
by Michael Ciuffo



Blobbles

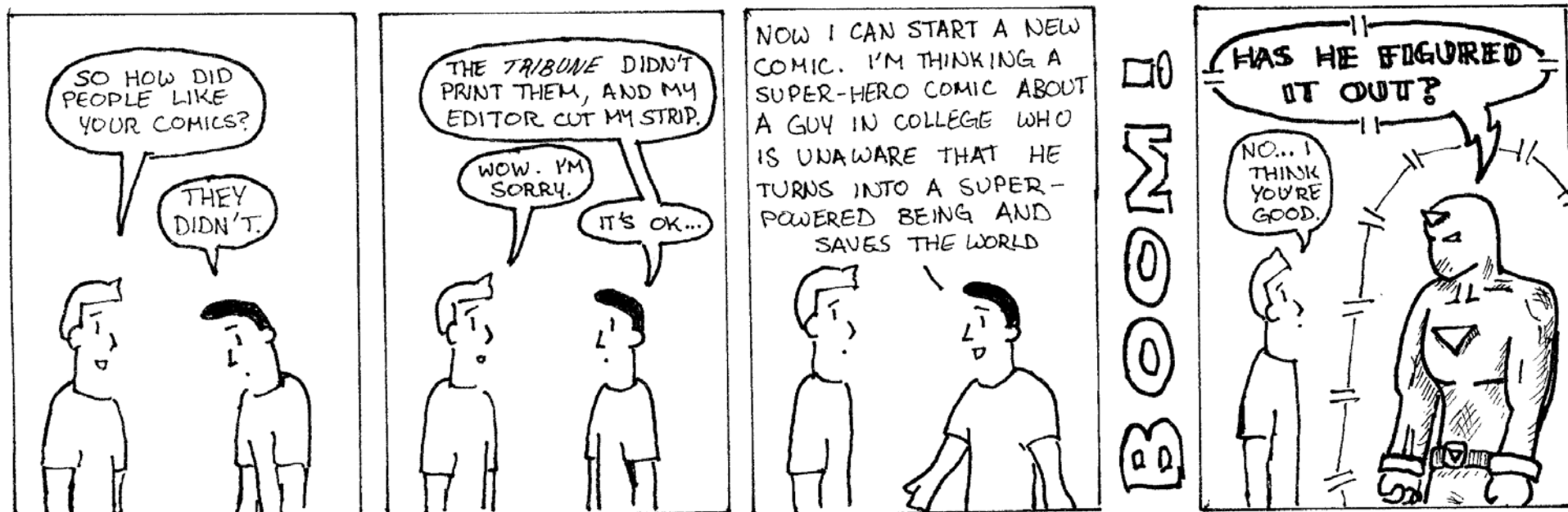
by Jason Chan

bed bath and beyond



Theory of Pete

by Cai GoGwilt



The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

Ad from skymall

What it means:

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 on page 13.

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

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



This product is a gray plastic bag. For \$19.99.

Want to start off the year a star? Draw comics for *The Tech*! E-mail comics@tech.mit.edu.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Sara inventing a joke

by Sara and Daddy (Roberto Perez-Franco 'G')



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

- 1 Fight against
- 7 Fit for climbing
- 15 Ring around a pupil
- 16 Ornate wardrobes
- 17 Small crowns
- 18 Superlatively small
- 19 Unpleasant reminders
- 21 Enzyme: suff.
- 22 "___ Abner"
- 23 Old space station
- 24 Bench with a back
- 26 Italian treats
- 28 Bad ball to be behind
- 31 Uh...pardon me
- 32 Homesteader
- 34 Save for future use
- 36 Syrian leader

37 Wide inlet

- 38 San Antonio landmark
- 42 Pole of Highland games
- 44 Lacking a key
- 45 Academic grade
- 48 Marsh grasses
- 50 "Atlas Shrugged" author
- 51 Potemkin mutiny site
- 53 Late starter?
- 55 Ballerina steps
- 56 In medias ___
- 57 Taken into custody
- 61 Poisonous shrub
- 63 Expressionless
- 64 Beach property
- 65 Of a main artery
- 66 Alienate
- 67 Existent: Lat.

DOWN

- 1 Santa ___ Island, CA
- 2 Mouths, e.g.
- 3 Vegetarian
- 4 Carried in the mind
- 5 Danger signal
- 6 More delicious
- 7 Huff and Jaffe
- 8 R. Ebert, e.g.
- 9 General pardon
- 10 Cad
- 11 Small island
- 12 Air intake
- 13 Renter
- 14 Value highly
- 20 Jackie's Onassis
- 25 Liz or Rip
- 27 Woodpiles
- 29 Angry look
- 30 Dry feed
- 33 Writer LeShan
- 35 Winged mammal
- 37 Quilting event

39 Poetic feet

- 40 Bull Run by another name
- 41 Like Julian calendar dates
- 43 De Wilde or Tartikoff
- 44 Javelin
- 45 Glum
- 46 Lehman and Astaire
- 47 Change place cards
- 49 N, E, W or S
- 52 Composer of "The Nubians of Plutonia"
- 54 Wrinkle-free fabric
- 58 ___ Xiaoping
- 59 Art Deco designer
- 60 Few and far between
- 62 2nd-largest continent

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15								16						
17								18						
19								20				21		
22					23					24		25		
26			27		28		29	30			31			
32				33			34			35				
36							37			38		39	40	41
			42		43				44					
45	46	47			48			49			50			
51				52			53		54		55			
56				57		58	59				60			
61			62							63				
64										65				
66										67				

ARTS

TV REVIEW

Manhattan's 'Mad Men'*AMC's Prized Show Boasts a Stronger Second Season*By **Praveen Rathinavelu**
ARTS EDITOR*Mad Men*
Created by Matthew Weiner
Sundays at 10 p.m. on AMC

Mad Men is a show that thinks very highly of itself. Its creator and writer, Matthew Weiner, was a writer and executive producer of *The Sopranos*, and *Mad Men* totes a self-importance that could give some the impression that it's powerful and innovative HBO drama, like *The Sopranos* or *The Wire*. It's not, but judging by the hype its second season has gotten, a lot of people seem to be convinced it is.

While *The Sopranos* was piercing psychological exploration of crime and the American family, *Mad Men* is often content to be vaguely nostalgic, fixing almost all its energy on set pieces, costumes, and the glitzy consumerism of the early 1960s.

In its first season, *Mad Men's* meditation on consumerism and excess usually amounted to little more than a straightforward display of the over-the-top lives of Manhattan advertising executives, except with the lines delivered very, very

seriously. When the focus shifted to the advertising itself, the actors would discuss consumer culture with office banter that was rarely funny.

Once you look past the fact that the show rarely tackles its subject matter in an interesting way, it's easy to appreciate that its characters are actually quite good. While its protagonist Don Draper (Jon Hamm) is generally content to be stone-faced and tortured, many of the characters surrounding Don — particularly his wife Betty (January Jones),

... the problems facing the characters aren't entirely original ... but they have surprising depth.

secretary Peggy (Elisabeth Moss), and colleague Pete Campbell (Vincent Kartheiser) — are enigmatic and complex. Again, the problems facing the characters aren't entirely original — Betty is a housewife lost in suburbia, Peggy is a woman trying to enter an entirely male-dominated profession, and Pete is a painfully weak man trying to be a cutthroat executive — but they have surprising depth.

The second season of *Mad Men* deals with the mortality of the ad-executives: the transformation of their industry and the fatal trajectory of their lifestyle. As everything in the characters' lives begins to crumble, the show keeps getting better. It was thoroughly underwhelming at first, but the second season is certainly heading in the right direction.

CONCERT LISTINGS

The Best Concerts of September 2008*ATP Roster and Mars Volta Must-Sees of Month*By **Sarah Dupuis**
SENIOR EDITOR

Ease the pain of back-to-school bitch work with music and punting, the tried-and-true best medicine for p-setting agony. Check out our picks for September's best concerts; special interest shows denoted with stars.

Friday, Sept. 5*Stereophonics with Le Loup, Monade*
Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$25

Welsh rockers Stereophonics are joined by the very hip, very French Monade (side project of Stereolab's Laetitia Sadier) and banjo-laptop hybrid of the new millennium Le Loup.

Sunday, Sept. 14*The Mars Volta**
The Orpheum, All Ages, \$30

For a good time, try throwing urine at these funkadelic guys and see what happens. No, seriously, YouTube "Mars Volta" and "pee." You'll be totally inspired.

Thursday, Sept. 18*Bell XI*
Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$15

This Irish band used to include Damien Rice as a member and later hit it big in the U.S. after inclusion on the ever-prestigious O.C. soundtrack. Radiohead-inspired chord changes and love-struck choir boy lyrics make this group passively enjoyable.

Monday, Sept. 22*Takka Takka, Love As Laughter, Oxford Collapse*
T.T. The Bear's Place, 18+, \$10

Looks like all the regular indie opening acts have banded together to headline their own tour; between the three of them, this should be a fun, low-key performance, and a perfect way to end this semester's first Suicide Prevention day.

Saturday, Sept. 27*Built to Spill with Dinosaur Jr., Meat Puppets**
The Orpheum, All Ages, \$25

If you can't snag a ticket to All Tomorrow's Parties New York (which features My Bloody Valentine, Autolux, Thurston Moore, and others) then check out these touring artists from the festival. Perfect for nineties aficionados that can't stand reunion tours.

Sunday, Sept. 28 and Monday, Sept. 29*Ratatat*
Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$20

Electronic duo produces equal parts heavy guitar and dance-inducing beats. Catch them one or both nights at Paradise for some end-of-weekend celebration.

Monday, Sept. 29*Miles Benjamin Anthony Robinson*
T.T. The Bear's Place, 18+, \$10

Scoff all you want at his overly-indulgent name, but this acronym-ready artist has already grabbed the attention of TV On The Radio and Grizzly Bear. Catch him before he blows up too big and everyone else gets a second middle name just to be cool.

Tuesday, Sept. 30*Say Hi**
The Middle East (Upstairs), 18+, \$9

Formerly Say Hi To Your Mom, this group has truncated their name in order to fit with their more grown-up sound. Their last release, *The Wishes and the Glitch*, is filled with subdued tension but still comes out feel-good. Let's hope that maturity carries over to the live show.

Get The Tech in your RSS reader.
<http://tech.mit.edu/rss/>

MIT STUDENTS!

Do you want FREE theater, music & dance tickets?

Do you want to see great visual art for FREE?

Well then, you should bookmark this page:

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/see/freetickets>

The MIT Ballroom Dance Team presents

DANCE CAMP

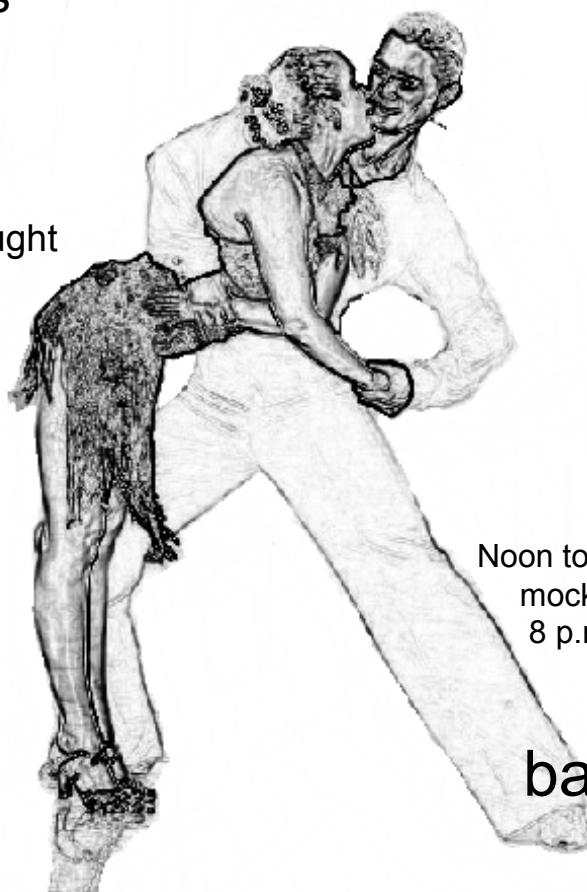
Dance Camp is your opportunity to take **free** pro-taught lessons and learn what MITBDT is all about.

No partner or experience necessary.
MIT and Wellesley students, alumni, and staff welcome!

Be part of one of the most successful collegiate ballroom teams in the country;
Learn to dance like you never thought you could ...



Event sponsored by
Graduate Student Council
all graduate students welcome

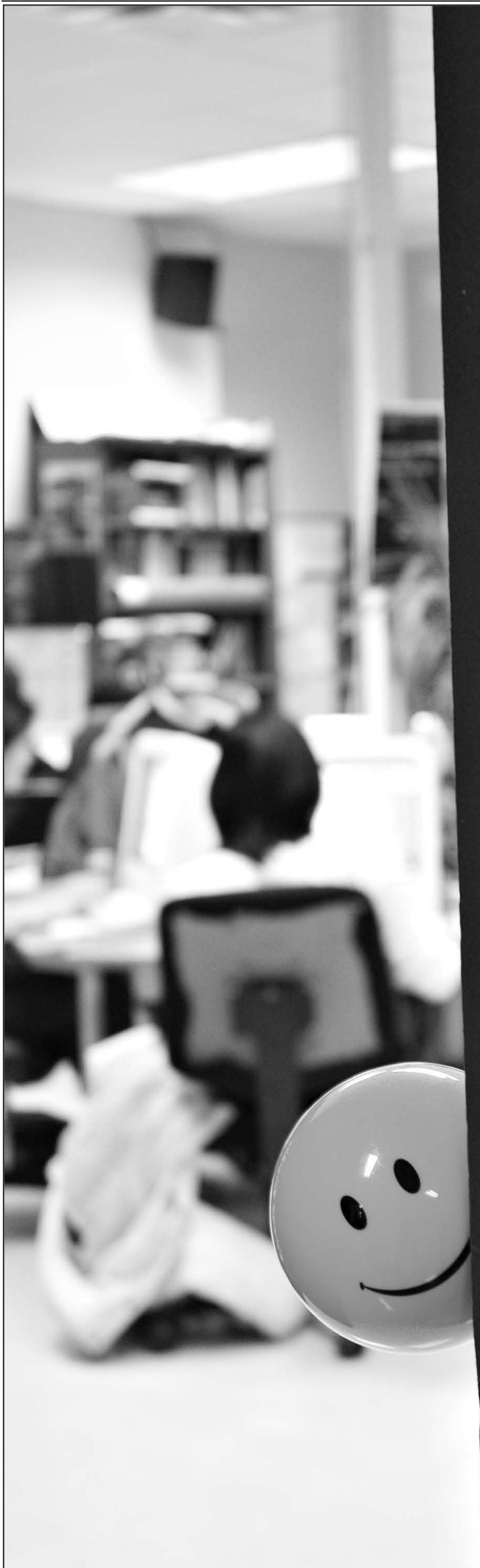


Tuesday, Sept. 2
Building 46, 3rd floor atrium
7:30 p.m. — rumba
8:30 p.m. — swing

Thursday, Sept. 4
Lobby 13
7:30 p.m. — foxtrot
8:30 p.m. — waltz
9:30 p.m. — free ice cream at Toscanini's!

Saturday, Sept. 6
Lobby 13
Noon to 6 p.m. — cha cha, quickstep, mock competition, and free pizza!
8 p.m. to midnight — social dance at Walker Memorial

ballroom.mit.edu



483

The Tech

Smile!

There are tons of great events going on this weekend. Drop by our office on the fourth floor of the Student Center and check out these events:

Friday, Aug. 29:

4:00 p.m. Activities Midway at Johnson
Grab a piece of cake and find yourself on the front page of *The Tech*.

7:00 p.m. Open House at The Tech Office
Meet the staff. Challenge them to a round of Halo 3, Guitar Hero 3, or Super Smash Bros. Brawl.

Sunday, Aug. 31:

5:00 p.m. News Meeting

6:00 p.m. Dinner! (yes, it's free)

6:15 p.m. Photo Meeting

Can't make it this week? Stop by any Sunday during these times.

Thursday, Sept. 4:

7:00 p.m. Production Tutorial

See how the newspaper comes together with our friendly production staff.

join@tech.mit.edu

W20-483

daily

**Saturday,
August 30, 2008**

12:00

12:00—**Panhellenic Association**—Greek Griller at Killian Court: Meet the amazing men and women of MIT's Greek community and enjoy juicy BBQ with one of the most picturesque scenes at MIT. The event will be immediately after your class picture, so don't miss out. We will have lots of food, so come check it out.

12:00—**Fenway House**—GREEK GRILLER: Come down to wherever the hell we are and meet your very first Fenbeings. And we promise, if you show up, we'll have a surprise waiting ...

13:00

13:30—**Panhellenic Association**—Welcome Night at Lobdell: Come as you are. Sororities at MIT are about finding a place where you feel comfortable as an individual as well as feel supported as part of the community. Each sorority on campus has a distinct personality, yet all were founded on similar values and as a support system for women at MIT.

14:00

14:00—**Fenway House**—HOUSE TOURS: Have nothing to do on campus? Then come join us for a unique house tour! We'll show you the innards of Fenway House and entertain you with stories from the past!
14:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Chainmail — learn how to make your own chainmail
14:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Café and Books Tour — find the best Boston has to offer

16:00

16:00—**Fenway House**—FENWAY COOK OUT: Y'all gon' eat a peeg. And other grilled deliciousnesses.
16:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Calvinball — the only rule is that it can't be played the same way twice

18:00

18:00—**pika**—pika house tours! Check out our four-story rooftop, the firepole, our treehouse, our wheelchair ramp, and the rest of our awesome house that we maintain. Meet our two cats and sit in MIT's only bathtub featured in an off-Broadway theater production. <http://pika/>

18:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Dinner — enjoy a meal prepared by our wonderful cook Karen
18:30—**pika**—Dinner @ pika Come over for a tasty home-cooked meal with options for omnivores, vegetarians and vegans. <http://pika/69> Chestnut, Cambridge MA (617) 492-6983

19:00

19:00—**Fenway House**—DESSERT NIGHT: BOBBING FOR HOSTESS PRODUCTS! C'mon down to Fenway and stick your head in a tub of some unspecified liquid and then Eat Our Brownies, you Capitalist Dogs!

20:00

20:00—**pika**—Water War Weapon Arms Race Help construct armaments for tomorrow's epic battle on the high seas against the tEps. <http://pika/>

21:00

21:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Musical

Confusion

Interlude - play some of our various musical video games

22:00

22:00—**Fenway House**—ROCKY HORROR: So you better come to Fenway and go to Rocky Horror instead! Join Fenway House at 10 p.m. (or Kendall T Station at 10:30 p.m.) as we see the weekly showing of The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Wear your fishnets, brush up your time warp, and come with us.

22:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Battle-ship Twister — live action battle-ship on a twister board

**Sunday,
August 31, 2008**

10:00

10:00—**Fenway House**—MADE TO ORDER BREAKFAST: Come by Fenway House to fill your mouth-hole with delicious food!

11:00

11:00—**pika**—Come on over to pika to help us finalize our weaponry for this afternoon's water war against tEp. <http://pika/>

12:00

12:00—**Panhellenic Association**—Philanthropy Night at the Student Center: You will have the opportunity to tour all of the wonderful and unique chapter facilities and learn about each chapter's philanthropy. We are all united by our service to our greater communities. And more ... Please visit <http://web.mit.edu/panhel/www/> or your Recruitment Guide (once you start recruitment) for the complete schedule.
12:30—**Epsilon Theta**—Lunch — enjoy a meal prepared by our wonderful cook Karen

13:00

13:00—**Fenway House**—FAST AND FAST FOOD TOUR OF BOSTON: The best parts of Boston ... with perspectives on history, science fiction, fast food, Halloween costumes, and Richard Donner's Superman.

14:00

14:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog Sing-Along — whether you're a fan of Dr. Horrible or Captain Hammer you can sing along with Joss Whedon's latest musical creation while it plays on our projector

15:00

15:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Rollerblading Through Boston — we'll rent skates and explore Boston on wheels

16:00

16:00—**Fenway House**—HOUSE TOURS AND COOK-IES: Gaze upon our house, a great space architecturally, emotionally, scientifically, and elliptically.

16:22—**pika**—Come down to the Sailing Pavilion (Building 51; across Memorial Drive from Walker) for a water war that'll go down in the history books against our rivals from the tEp fraternity. Bring clothes you don't mind getting wet! <http://pika/>

18:00

18:30—**pika**—Pizza dinner at pika! Our expert chefs will make the tastiest, strangest topping combinations possible. Options for vegans, vegetarians, and omnivores. (Yes, vegan pizza does

exist.) <http://pika/>

19:00

19:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Dinner — delicious dumplings

20:00

20:00—**Fenway House**—SEX AT FENWAY: Tired of being good? Well we'll teach you how to be naughty! Be prepared to be shocked, enthralled, stimulated and quite possibly nauseous! Hosted by the oh so sexy presenters of Lesbian Shower Talk and Bad Sex with K!
20:00—**pika**—Marshmallow blowguns. You know you want to. <http://pika/>

21:00

21:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Swing Dancing — our resident dancers will teach you some swing dancing basics. No experience necessary

22:00

22:00—**pika**—Capture the flag, Pirates v. Navy. Meet at 10 p.m. in Lobby 7. Swords only; leave the blunderbuss and eyepatch at home.

22:00—**Fenway House**—"I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S NOT A FRAT PARTY" PARTY: Are you tired of parties that try to be original? Do you feel as if you are being threatened by innovative ideas that try to hook you in and disrupt your way of life? Then fear no more! Feel secure!

23:00

23:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Chocolate Fondue — dip yummy things in our chocolate fondue fountain

**Monday,
September 1, 2008**

09:00

09:00—**Fenway House**—BRKFST: I can haz breakfast plz? Kthxbai.

11:00

11:00—**Fenway House**—"WE'RE GOING TO THE B***H" BEACH TRIP: Wow! It's summer in Boston! I wanna go to the Beach! So do you? Wow! That's awesome! Come to Fenway and we'll take you to one of Boston's most accessible beaches! Boys AND girls welcome!!! We want both genders wet and half-naked!

14:00

14:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Building the Most Awesome Rube Goldberg Machine Ever — using as much stuff as possible, complete an inane task in a very awesome way
14:00—**Fenway House**—MFA TRIP: Lovely to meet you, art. Come see another great reason to live at Fenway House, the extremely short distance that lies between its shining red door and the new entrance to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Bring your student ID.

15:00

15:00—**pika**—Olympics, pika-style! Featuring the firepole climb, wheelchair ramp sledding, pirate fencing, frisbee discus, and speed dishwashing. Chocolate medals for the winners. <http://pika/>

15:00—**pika**—Does your dorm not let you have pets? Make your own Chia pet at pika. Low maintenance, and your house master won't get (too) annoyed.

<http://pika/>

18:00

18:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Dinner — enjoy a meal prepared by our wonderful cook Karen

18:00—**Fenway House**—LOBSTER-STEAK DINNER: Like Lobster? Like Steak? Like Both? Come to Fenway and indulge in our own interpretation of the famous Rush Dinner! And beware, we do bite!

18:30—**pika**—Chinese pancake dinner @ pika Buck Labor Day tradition of having a BBQ and enjoy home-cooked Chinese food. Neighbor tested; pika approved. Come over for a tasty home-cooked meal with options for omnivores, vegetarians and vegans. <http://pika/>

20:00

20:00—**pika**—Bike fix-it-up night. <http://pika/>

20:15—**Epsilon Theta**—Stargazing — we'll drive away from Boston's lights and look at some stars

21:00

21:00—**Fenway House**—CAPTURE THE FLAG: You ... you insult me sir! I challenge you to a game of capture the flag in order to defend my honor. Meet me at Fenway House at 9 p.m. where I will lead you to Briggs Field for your thrashing (Or meet me at Briggs Field at 9:30 p.m.!)

**Tuesday,
September 2, 2008**

10:00

10:00—**Fenway House**—BAKING: Because we wanted to make a wedding cake. Or maybe some cream puffs. With chocolate chip cookies, and baguettes. Nom nom nom.

11:00

11:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Museum of Science — visit one of Boston's best museums

12:00

12:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Picnic Lunch in the Park — enjoy lunch in the park across from ET

14:00

14:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Papier-Mâché Shark Making — we think our van would look a lot cooler with a shark on it so we're going to make it one

14:00—**Fenway House**—VIDEOGAMES: 2 p.m. If you feel like racing down the streets of Hong Kong, dancing along to hypnotic music and flashing arrows, then join us for some good ol' video games. Come watch us make fools of ourselves while playing Karaoke Revolution.

16:00

16:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Playground Games — probably not the ones you remember from kindergarten
16:00—**Fenway House**—HOUSE TOURS: There are 5 elliptical staircases in the world, 10 in North America, 20 in Boston, and 34 at Fenway House. Visit them all, while greeting the little ninjas.

18:00

18:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Dinner — enjoy a meal prepared by our wonderful cook Karen
18:00—**WILG**—Chicken Alfredo + Pasta Primavera Dinner
18:30—**pika**—British-style barbecue cooked by two strapping young Brits. Meat, meat and not meat.

19:00

19:00—**Fenway House**—

"QUEER AS FEN": FENWAY HOUSE LGBT EVENT: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transsexual, Straight, Martian ... we accept all! Come over to Fenway and chat with LGBT residents about what life is actually like for LGBT MIT students. And trust us ... we won't leave out any gory details.

20:00

20:00—**pika**—Hair dye extravaganza. Come on over to pika and change your hair color to red, green, blue, purple, orange, Henna or all of the above.

20:00—**pika**—Henna tattoos. Always wanted a real tattoo? Try Chameleon in Harvard Square. Prefer a temporary Henna version? Sidle over to pika. <http://pika/>

20:00—**pika**—Tie-dye festival. Is your orientation shirt insufficiently multicultural? Bring your own vestments or use one of pika's many spare t-shirts. <http://pika/>

21:00

21:00—**Fenway House**—SCAVENGER HUNT: Shameless Rush Tactic #49: Scavenger Hunt Do you like to run around like a maniac? Do you like to find random items and bring them to others hoping for a prize in return? Then you must like scavenger hunts!

**Wednesday,
September 3, 2008**

09:00

09:00—**Fenway House**—MILK BAR IN LOBBY 10: Ever feel like there was something missing from your first day of classes? Come to lobby 10 and complete your morning.

18:00

18:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Dinner — enjoy a meal prepared by our wonderful cook Karen
18:00—**WILG**—Beef/Tofu + Broccoli Stir Fry Dinner
18:00—**Fenway House**—ICE CREAM: I scream! You scream! We all scream! For frozen cow products with assorted flavors in cone-shaped pastries! Yay! Meet at Fenway House for tasty treats that are guaranteed to delightfully freeze your brain!
18:30—**pika**—Sushi-making! Build your own dinner at pika. Ever wanted to learn how to make sushi without dying of blowfish poison? Now's your chance. <http://pika/>

19:00

19:00—**pika**—Sunset yoga on the pika rooftop. No experience required. Mats supplied.

20:00

20:00—**WILG**—S'mores Study Break
20:00—**Fenway House**—DINNER AT FENWAY: Eat dinner with Fenway House, with real Fenbeings, in our picturesque dining room. We promise to regale you with stories of Old Fenway Life with readings from the Velvet House Book!
20:00—**pika**—Modular origami. Create giant origami sculptures. <http://pika/>

21:00

21:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Eat the World (sugar Katamari) — roll fudge on a landscape of various sugary things and eat the result
21:00—**pika**—Meditation at pika. Relax after your first week of school; no experience necessary. <http://pika/>

22:00

22:00—**Epsilon Theta**—Projector Games — play some classic

Daily Confusion, from Page 10

games on our projector, such as Oregon Trail 2 and Sam and Max Hit the Road
22:00—Fenway House—FEN MOVIE: Come decide what we watch! There will be choices. And couches. And companionship. Soy lent Green is people!

featuring ingredients of love and tasty.

20:00—WILG—Spa Night
20:00—pika—Stilt-walking and juggling at pika. Get in practice for the day you decide IHTFP and leave to join the circus. No experience required. <http://pika/>

Thursday, September 4, 2008

18:00
18:00—WILG—BBQ Pork Tenderloin + Potato Salad Dinner
18:00—Epsilon Theta—Dinner — Come and enjoy a meal prepared by our wonderful cook Karen! We'll have a fajita buffet, with beef, chicken, or anything else you might want on a fajita available. A vegetarian option will be available. Look for the big Epsilon Theta sign in Lobby 7 at 5:15 p.m.
18:30—pika—Ethiopian Experience. If you come to one dinner at pika this week, make this be it. Delicious Ethiopian vegan food

21:00
21:00—Epsilon Theta—Battleship Twister — Missed it the first time? Couldn't get enough? Don't worry, you've got another chance. Come join us for a rousing game of Battleship Twister! Look for the person holding the sign in Lobby 7 at 8:45 p.m..






22:00
22:00—Epsilon Theta—Bad Movies — Some movies are good. Some movies are bad. And some movies ... have to be seen to be believed. Join us as we watch such monstrosities as Santa Claus Conquers the Martians and Gamera in Attack of the Monsters. Meet at the ET sign in Lobby 7 at 9:45 p.m.

UCF
United Christian Fellowship
Join us to learn and grow in Christ.
Weekly meetings Tuesday 8:00pm - 10:00pm in the CFL, W11
Email Phillip Laker-Ojok (laker_oj or call 617-549-1345), Hannah Rice (hannahr) or Stephanie Couch (s_couch) for more info. web.mit.edu/ucf
Thursday 9/4- Cookies and prayer 8-10 pm
Saturday 9/6- Hike in the Blue Hills 1 pm
Tuesday 9/9 - First Regular Bible study



MIT Tae Kwon Do Club
All Levels Welcome
No Previous Experience Necessary
<http://web.mit.edu/tkd>
MWF 7-9pm
Exercise Room
2nd Floor
duPont Gym

Contra Dance for PE credit
Live folk music!
Tuesdays through Oct 21st, 8:00 - 9:30 pm
Sep 9 Lobdell Nor'easter
Sep 16 W20-407 Jump Start
Sep 23 W20-407 Dandelion Wine
Sep 30 Lobdell Peter Buchak & Friends
No partner or experience necessary. All are welcome, whether taking the class or not.
International Folk Dancing
Sundays 8-11 pm, W20 2nd or 4th floor
Sep 7 Sala Beginner's night with live music
Sep 14 W20-407 Beginner's night
Israeli Dancing
Wednesdays 8-11 pm, W20 2nd or 4th floor
FREE for MIT students.
MIT Folk Dance Club <http://mit.edu/fdc>

Ultimate Frisbee @ Briggs Field (astroturf behind Kresge)  saturday 5.00 pm
Brunch before Church @ Kresge pits  sunday 11.30 am
Games Night @ PDR 1&2  sunday 8.00 pm
International House of Pancakes @ Next Country Kitchen  monday 8.30 pm
Dim Sum Run (meet @ Student Center Steps)  tuesday 11.30 am

absk asian baptist student koinonia | contact diana (dmjue) or arthur (arhuang) <http://web.mit.edu/absk/www/>

45 Next House Freshmen Entered Adjustment Lottery

Housing, from Page 1

Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programming office to allow those in Next House to have more flexibility in their housing options," said Robin (Smedick) Baughman, assistant director of undergraduate housing. "About the same number of students switched in and out of each dormitory as past years."

Next House freshmen took advantage of the new option — 45 requested to move to a different dormitory. The new policy was put into place after years of Next House student concerns regarding the inflexibility of their housing options, which required freshmen to stay in the dorm the entirety of the first year because of Residence-Based Advising.

The other dormitory participating in RBA is McCormick Hall. The freshmen housed in McCormick are currently not eligible to enter the Adjustment Lottery. Last December, when Next chose to allow students to enter the lottery, McCormick decided not so, since the RBA system traditionally worked well for McCormick.

Out of the 152 students who were able to switch to a different dormitory, 86 freshmen received their first choice option.

Among the 256 who entered the Adjustment Lottery, 85 had received their first choice in the Summer Housing Lottery, 107 had received their second choice, 59 had received their third, and five had received their fourth. Most of the 107 students who received their second choice dorm in the Summer Lottery tried for their first choice summer preference in the Adjustment Lottery.

The most requested dorms in the Adjustment Lottery were Baker House (57 students requested Baker as their first choice), Burton-Conner (48 students), and Simmons (41 students). In the Summer Housing Lottery, Baker was also the most popular choice, followed by Simmons, Burton-Conner, MacGregor House, and East Campus.

Crowding still remains an issue for the undergraduate dorms, specifically East Campus, New House, Burton-Conner, Baker, McCormick, and Next House. "There were actually two extra spaces available in New House after the Adjustment Lottery, so we asked them to relieve some of the crowding there," Baughman said. "We estimate that the final numbers will show that there will be approximately 85 to 90 students crowded in these dormitories this year."

Last year at this time, there were approximately 80 crowds.

Adjustment Lottery Results

Building	Requests to move out	First choice requests to move in	Moved out after lottery	Moved in after lottery
Baker House	5	57	5	5
Bexley Hall	12	3	7	7
Burton-Conner	18	48	12	12
Chocolate City	0	0	0	0
East Campus	37	32	24	25
French House	3	3	2	4
NW35 / Future W1	1	6	0	2
German House	3	2	2	2
iHouse	1	1	1	0
MacGregor House	28	21	18	20
New House	54	4	25	15
Next House	45	9	23	23
Random Hall	4	16	3	4
Senior House	23	10	12	15
Simmons Hall	20	41	17	17
Spanish House	2	3	1	1
Total	256		152	152

SOURCE: ROBIN (SMEDICK) BAUGHMAN, HOUSING

According to Robin (Smedick) Baughman, assistant director of undergraduate housing, many of the East Campus students who requested but did not move in the Adjustment Lottery had requested Random Hall. The Senior House students who did not move had requested East Campus and Random. Most of the MacGregor House students who did not move had requested Baker House and Burton-Conner. And many of the New and Next House students who did not move had requested Baker, Burton-Conner, Simmons, and MacGregor.

Where Did Freshmen End Up After the Housing Adjustment Lottery?

Summer Housing Assignment Lottery (Across)																		
Final Housing Assignment (Down)	Baker	Bexley	B-C	Choc. City	EC	French	NW35	German	iHouse	MacG	McCormick	New	Next	Random	Senior	Simmons	Spanish	Total
Baker House	124		3		1					1								129
Bexley Hall		32			1					2		2	1		1			39
Burton-Conner	2		104		2			1		2		1	1			3		116
Chocolate City				8														8
East Campus	1	5			88				1			2	6		6	4		113
French House					1	4						2		1				8
NW35 / Future W1							13			1			1					15
German House			1					7				1						9
iHouse									5									5
MacGregor House			2		4					85		4	3	1	1	5		105
McCormick Hall											59							59
New House			1		2	1				2		60	6	1	1	1		75
Next House			1		5					5		8	121		1	3		144
Random Hall			2					1					1	22				26
Senior House		2	2		4	1				1		2	2		44	1		59
Simmons Hall	1				4					4		3	2		2	113	1	130
Spanish House	1																7	8
Total	129	39	116	8	112	6	13	9	6	103	59	85	144	25	56	130	8	1048

SOURCE: ROBIN (SMEDICK) BAUGHMAN, HOUSING

No residents moved in or out of Chocolate City and McCormick Hall. Grey blocks show the residents that stayed in the building in which they were placed after the Summer Housing Lottery. Names in the left column indicate where residents moved to after the Adjustment Lottery; names in the top row indicate where those residents came from.



MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER

STUDENT LOAN ART PROGRAM

EXHIBITION

Building E15
September 2 - 14
12 - 6 PM Daily

ATTENTION

MIT undergraduate and graduate students borrow a real work of art and live with it for the year! Come to the gallery to check it out!

INFORMATION 617-253-4680 or listart.mit.edu

Major support for this program is provided by MIT's Campus Activities Complex, and endowments generously established by John Taylor and Alan May.

The Tech does many things to get a story.

It's flown its staff to Chicago to see March Madness in person.

It's flown its staff to Los Angeles for E3.

It's gotten its staff press passes to Red Sox games.

It's covered its staff's dinners, concerts, and movies.

Got your interest?

join@tt.mit.edu

Obama Supporters Focusing on Voter Registration Drives

Election, from Page 1

Robert H. Speer G.

McCain supporters quiet

MIT supporters of presumptive Republican Presidential nominee John McCain have not yet made any plans, Kraus said. "At the moment, I haven't heard anything yet; I'm sure there will be," Kraus continued, "Any plans like that probably won't happen until after the summer."

On a college campus, in notoriously liberal Massachusetts, Republican-minded students might feel uncomfortable expressing their viewpoints. Asked about how the College Republicans might help the voice of the right be heard on campus, Kraus said, "When the College Republicans have been more active ... it does let people know there is a right-wing presence on campus, and that there are people who have right-wing views and express them, and I think it does make people more comfortable about them."

Obama supporters' goal: registration

MIT for Obama spends most of its energy registering voters — a smart maneuver among a traditionally Democratic demographic. "We want to get the most people on campus, everyone, registered to vote," Havasi said.

"We also do visibility," Havasi said. "We stand on Mass. Ave. with signs." The group plans to continue these activities in the fall.

Students talk issues

Obama is the first black presidential candidate from a mainstream party. Will racism help the McCain campaign? "If I could control the minds of every person on Earth, I would certainly want everyone to vote for high-minded, sound reasons," Kraus said.

Similarly, will ageism help Obama? "I think that, to some degree, I think a lot of people see age as an experience thing, so I think it

helps in places as much as it hurts," Havasi said.

"In the public mind, it's not about experience, it's about judgment," Leybovich said. "As Obama was fond of saying, Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld had ages of experience, and look where they got us."

Three-quarters of Americans are dissatisfied with the current president; an Obama presidency would certainly present something different. But "change can always be for the worse, so we should not assume that just because people view a situation as bad, that change is automatically for the better," Kraus said.

McCain political strategists have tried to distance him from the current administration, so that Americans unhappy with Bush will give McCain a chance. Kraus said this approach makes sense. "The argument would be: there are a lot more non-Bush supporters at this point than there are Bush supporters. The other argument is: where are the Bush supporters going to go? ... I would say ultimately it is the right strategy," he said.

Obama consistently polled poorly among white members of the working class during the primaries. But MIT for Obama thinks this shift is over. "All that stuff has basically resolved, and the bases have aligned behind Obama," Speer said. "We're seeing ... that all these people are consolidating towards him," Havasi said.

Students on both side said they thought this year's election would be very close.

Sometimes being defined as a front-runner is dangerous in campaigns, as it becomes their race to lose. Asked whether they agree with this assessment, Speer said, "It seems like the media wants to favor the underdog, because they want it to be a close race as long as possible." He continued, "We can't be complacent, Obama is doing well in the polls right now, but we can't just say that, okay, we don't have to do anything."

Since Speer was interviewed, further polls have shown the gap between Obama and McCain narrowing.

MIT Works to Provide Textbook Info., Preparing for Federal Law

Textbooks, from Page 1

to solicit a collaboration between the Coop and Information Services & Technology, which had agreed to build the Web site to display the textbook information. "At [first], the Coop was not receptive to putting textbook information online," Holmes said.

The support of the Department of Undergraduate Education was enough to arrange another meeting in the summer of 2007, Holmes said. A few weeks later, the Coop agreed to an informal collaboration "to help deliver more information to students in a convenient manner."

Dean of Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80, Reed, and Holmes began discussions with the Coop in July and August 2007, according to Allan Powell, general manager of the Coop. During these discussions, they learned of congressional legislation pending at the time that "required MIT to take certain steps to provide students with information about course textbooks," Holmes said.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act, signed into law by President George W. Bush on Aug. 14, includes a provision that requires textbook publishers to share pricing information with faculty members. The act ensures that "universities and colleges are accountable," Reed said. It also requires publishers to allow all textbooks to be sold separately as opposed to in bundles.

This new information complicated a formal partnership between MIT and the Coop, and the Coop decided to pursue the online Web site without MIT support.

The Coop utilizes Barnes and Noble as its contract manager of day-to-day store operations. "[Barnes and Noble] has implemented online textbook sites in a number of other schools it serves," Powell said. "We are replicating the site used at Boston University."

Powell said that though students have the option of shipping books, the vast majority of students choose to pick them up in the store.

When asked whether the Web site would help or hurt the Coop's sales,

Powell said, "There's no way to determine this yet."

In September 2007, however, the Coop seemed to have a different stance. The Harvard Coop called the police on three Harvard University undergraduate students who were copying down ISBN numbers of textbooks for their own book Web site, according to *The Crimson*, the Harvard student newspaper. Previously, students had been asked to leave the Harvard Coop after writing down ISBN numbers and prices to find cheaper textbooks online. According to an article in *The Crimson*, The Coop "has argued that it owns intellectual property rights to the identification numbers for the books it stocks."

Powell said that the Coop agreed to the Web site to continue its goal of customer satisfaction. "Our primary motivation is to satisfy the MIT student and MIT's request for the Coop to provide an online textbook site," he said. "We want MIT students to continue to think of the Coop as a valuable resource."

MIT will be pursuing its own collaboration between the UA, IS&T,

DUE, and MIT Libraries which will "likely provide more detailed information than the Coop's Web site," Holmes said. The collaboration aims to bring textbook information to Stellar course pages, according to Theresa A. Tobin, head of the Humanities Library. "This gives students a better opportunity to do comparison shopping."

Tobin said that the MIT site will provide ISBN numbers. "Libraries are all about open information sources," she said.

A pilot version of the new Stellar Web site, with textbook information from representative courses in various departments, is online and will be in use for the Fall 2008 semester. Students taking these courses will be able to access the full MIT library citation, including the ISBN number, of the required textbooks. A full version is expected to be ready by the Spring 2009 semester, Tobin said.

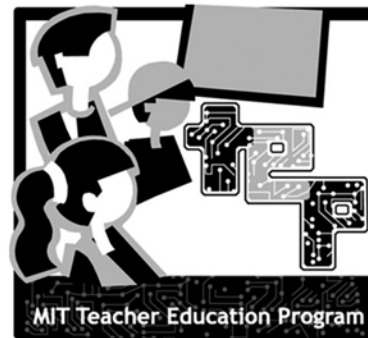
Tobin said that the Stellar information is contingent upon MIT faculty providing the textbook information. Reed agreed. "We really need to have faculty buy-in," she said.

Interested in Teaching?

Get your teaching certification in one year by completing 5 MIT classes!

OR

Explore teaching and earn HASS-E credit with these introduction to K-12 education classes: **11.124** (fall 08) and **11.125** (spring 09).



Learn more at our open house*:

Tuesday, September 2 At 5:00 pm In 10-337

*free pizza

For more info contact Prof. Klopfer (klopfer@mit.edu) <http://education.mit.edu>

Freshmen Look Forward to Upcoming Fraternity, Sorority Recruitment Events

Recruitment, from Page 1

they have."

The result is that fraternities spend much time, effort, and money trying to draw unaffiliated students, particularly freshmen, to meet their current members — to the benefit of the unaffiliated, who can enjoy delicious meals and an incredible variety of activities, from paintballing to kayaking, from riding roller coasters at Six Flags to cheering at a Red Sox game, all for free.

"Fraternity recruitment is an amazingly fun time," Interfraternity Council (IFC) recruitment chair Christopher A. Fematt '09 said. "You get to be involved in a humongous community before classes even start and meet a ton of people, both other freshmen and other upperclassmen. There is a lot of communicating ... and it's very exciting getting to go places ... and to benefit from go-

ing places and learning about them from upperclassmen who know them well."

Some freshmen are already excited about rush events. "I've heard a lot of rumors about the [fraternity rush] activities — Six Flags, steak and lobster dinners ... I'm looking to see if it's true," freshman Nicholas Dou said. He is considering participating in rush because he "knows that frats at MIT are different, and are not necessarily always about partying."

Freshman Roshan Ardhasseril said she didn't consider participating in sorority recruitment until she arrived on campus, but that she now considers them an option. "I'm just keeping an open mind. They seem really nice," she said.

"They seem to be a really tight group of people, but I don't want it

[recruitment] to limit the friends I make this year," freshman Jennifer Wong said.

New this year for sorority recruitment is the addition of a sixth sorority, Pi Beta Phi, to MIT. Because there are no current MIT Pi Phis to run recruitment on the new sorority's behalf, "they will be doing kind of an informal recruitment," Liu said. "They will be at the first round of our recruitment to introduce themselves to all the girls, then they will not join us for any of the remainder; instead, they will hold their own process, which will be slightly different, and later in the semester." Liu added that the new sorority will be actively seeking new members from all classes at MIT.

For fraternities, there are fewer

Greek, Page 14

Geek Singles Night
 Sept. 6th, 2008 7 p.m.
 Pandemonium
 Books and Games
 4 Pleasant St., Cambridge
 A low pressure night of geeky flirtation, nerdy gaming and fantastic giveaways.
 Sponsored by **SweetonGeeks.com**

Solution to Crossword
 from page 7

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

Solution to Sudoku
 from page 6

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

The Council for the Arts at MIT
Next Grants Deadline:
Friday, September 26, 2008
 First-time applicants are *required* to meet with a member of the Council staff to discuss their proposals
 Please contact Susan Cohen at cohen@media.mit.edu to set up an appointment
 Grants guidelines are available at:
<http://web.mit.edu/arts/do/funding/grantguide.html>

Want to join *The Tech*?
 Drop by our booth at the Activities Midway today!

Panhel Welcomes New Sorority, Keeps Fall Recruitment Strategy

Greek, from Page 13

tangible changes for this year, but still important ones nonetheless, Fematt said. "We added the recruitment seminars, held yesterday, in which we had freshmen come in and get some face time with me on best practices for being a rushee ... so that when freshmen go in they have a better understanding of what's going on, rather than having to pick it up along the way."

This is important knowledge for prospective recruits to have. "So when you're at Six Flags and they pull you aside and have a serious talk and say 'let's talk about recruitment,' you aren't surprised," Fematt said.

Moreover, the IFC has experienced a shift in philosophy regarding regulations. "[The IFC is] already at the table for planning Orientation; about half sits on the [the planning committee] ... and seeing how much work goes into these events helps us communicate it down to our constituents the purpose of these events. For instance, we understand that the Tuesday night event is a great way for freshmen to learn about student activities, or the Friday night is a great opportunity for freshmen to meet each other."

Because "fraternity men are, across the board, better able to understand the reasons for these events," Fematt said, they do not undermine them by taking freshmen away from them. And as a result, there is less need for rules.

"We used to have a huge gag rule: during the no recruiting period, there were no letters allowed and affiliations could not be revealed," Fematt

said. "Now we're able to say you can talk about your affiliation; it's because of that understanding that fraternity men have."

As for sororities, there is great excitement, and a bit of suspense, about this year's recruitment because of the timing. Last year was the first in several years that sorority recruitment occurred in the fall — previously it occurred over IAP.

"We're very excited, because when we moved back [to the fall] we did extremely well and we're hoping that that momentum will build," Liu said. She added that there are a number of advantages to fall recruitment. "[This way] women get a support network really early on. That's actually very important because during freshman year sometimes it's a little bit hard to adjust and having that community early on helps! Also there are fewer people going in with preconceived notions of chapters."

Liu continued "It helps people to give a fair look to each chapter; we think that people are really seeing all their options and making an informed decision. And ... this is kind of my own personal opinion, but it gives them more time to enjoy pass/no record."

A 2005 Panhel report analyzing the switch suggested that fall recruitment could boost membership. "During fall recruitment, friendships are newer and more pliable," the report states. "Women may be more inclined to make decisions independently of their orientation friends than they were with their friends from the first semester."

Lulu Wang contributed to the reporting of this article.

ATO Members Will Pay Rent to MacGregor House During Stay

ATO, from Page 1

doubles.

Entries A, B, C, and D in the high-rise side of MacGregor each have three or four lounges being used as rooms for the ATO members, said Professor Munther Dahleh, MacGregor's housemaster.

The ATO fraternity has 34 active brothers, according to Ibegbu. MacGregor is providing room for 24 ATO members and their alumni residence adviser. The remaining 10 members are being housed in Delta Kappa Epsilon, Beta Theta Pi, and Baker House, Ibegbu said.

Concerns about whether ATO's presence in MacGregor would influence the dormitory's Residence Exploration activities were brought up before the ATO fraternity members started moving in.

Dahleh said that measures were taken to make it very clear to incoming freshmen that the rooms housing ATO members were not representative of MacGregor's culture.

MacGregor President Kristen M. Felch '09 said that the situation did not affect MacGregor's REX.

Dormitory Council President James Torres '10 could not be reached after multiple requests for comment.

Other worries revolved around whether culture clashes between the two living groups might ensue.

"We've had meetings between the entry chairs with the ATO brothers, and we set up specific policies that will be followed," Felch said. "We haven't had any complaints and the situation is working out fine. As far as imposing on our culture or lifestyle, I haven't seen anything negative."

Yiwei Zhang '09, co-chair of MacGregor's A-Entry (and also a

staff reporter for *The Tech*) said that most people did not have a problem with hosting the ATO members. "I think some people have problems with the way the administration handled things and how the students were told about the situation," Zhang said.

According to Zhang, many students use MacGregor's suite lounges as a place to store items over the summer. While converting suite lounges into doubles, movers took all of the students' things into the basement of MacGregor without warning, and residents did not have time to take out their belongings beforehand.

"It's really difficult because the suite lounges are breathing spaces to hang out or study in, but it's an emergency situation and we understand that it is only for a month-and-a-half so we decided to do it," Dahleh said.

According to Karen A. Nilsson, senior associate dean for residential life, there were no other feasible options for housing the ATO members. She said that "timing was really tight."

"We explored every possible location," Nilsson said. "We explored graduate housing. We explored family housing. This time of year there simply are no openings."

"My goal is to make sure all the students are housed on campus," Nilsson added.

MacGregor suite lounges have been used in the past to host students for "limited amounts of time" as well, Nilsson said. "There have been years in the past where our crowding numbers were higher than they are right now, today, and we've used MacGregor to help with that."

Dahleh also said that students displaced by Hurricane Katrina were

housed in the lounges.

The ATO members will pay rent to MacGregor for the duration of their stay, and Housing will give 50 percent of that money back to MacGregor to be utilized for the dorm's benefit, something that does not normally happen, Nilsson said.

The anticipated date for repairs to be complete on ATO's building is Oct. 15, according to Nilsson. Housing is working with ATO and their alumni corporation, the FSILG Cooperative, and Facilities to get the building up and running again.

So far, the parts of the building with water damage have been taken out but the affected structures have not yet been rebuilt, according to ATO Vice President David M. Nole '09.

Challenges for ATO's rush

ATO will have to deal with the difficulties of holding rush without a house next week.

"It's going to make it much more different than what we've done in previous years," Ibegbu said. "We have to be a lot more creative now. In terms of the number of pledges that we pull in, it should be comparable [to past years], but we have to go about it in a different way this year."

Ibegbu said that ATO would still be participating in Alley Rally, an event held on Amherst Alley and hosted by all the fraternities in the vicinity.

He also said that the house would be holding a barbecue on Kresge Oval.

It is unclear whether ATO will still need to maintain entries in the Clearinghouse tracking system, which requires all fraternities to log when freshmen enter and leave their houses during rush.



MIT Service Fair

Wednesday,
September 3
6:30-9:00 pm
Bush Room
(10-105)



MIT
PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER

Don't miss your chance to meet over 30 nonprofit organizations and find a great service opportunity!

Bawendi Discusses Differences in Chem. GIR Classes

Bawendi, from Page 1

in new to MIT, and they ask lots of questions ... they're unencumbered by preconceived notions. The first time I taught freshman chem. in the big class, I was a little nervous, but they were great, so eager to learn [and] to take in the material, it made it really a joy to come into lecture.

TT: Where did you study before MIT?

MB: I went to Harvard, that small college up-river from here ...

TT: To what extent is it true that there's a difference in culture between the two schools?

MB: That's a difficult comparison to make, because it's so different teaching versus being a student. I am sure things are very different; they're both great places, but one of the big differences at MIT is that everyone here is into science and engineering, whereas at Harvard, there is a broad cross-section of subjects.

This gives rise to different cultures; MIT has this very scientific, technological culture, even at the level of the students whereas at Harvard it was much more ... I won't say literary ... but it wasn't the same intense technological culture that we have here. I enjoy [this culture] quite a bit because it is good for my work, but I also enjoy it personally, being around this intense culture of technology. And for students who are interested in science and technology it's very good.

TT: You mentioned your work; can you tell us a bit about your research?

MB: I work on quantum dots. These are small pieces of semiconductors ... nanotechnology. What we have done in my group is we've invented ways of making these quantum dots that are used by many people around the world ...

I've been very lucky to find people to collaborate with, for example, I've been working with Prof. Vladimir Bulovic in electrical engineering to put these quantum dots in both light-emitting devices as well as to look at solar photovoltaic applications, which is very a propos.

We've also applied these things in biology as markers. We have many collaborators; one great part of being in the Boston area is that there are lots of medical schools, to apply these things in vivo in research in animals.

So ... there's breadth from really fundamental work to really applied work. MIT is able to cover that breadth and the culture here cultivates that.

Also a couple of companies have come out of the group, so it's been fun. I'm looking forward to many more years.

TT: You're an advisor, right?

MB: I've been an advisor in chemistry ever since I started here; I get a new crop every three years, and they're great. They're really ... some of my advisees are just so smart, I just feel so ... I think it puts me to shame in terms of what I can do, what they are capable of!

It's great to see students coming in not knowing what they want to do, and seeing them mature in the next three years into scientists, as they decide what they want to do — although some of them don't quite decide by the time college is over, and that's okay!

Over the course of the last eighteen years, I've had very, very few problems, for the most part, they take charge of their own lives and do a great job, and it's just wonderful to see them grow.

TT: There's been some talk recently, at least in the Undergraduate Association, about wanting to reform advising. ... Do you have any ideas about what the Institute,

or individual departments, can do to better support advisors as they do their job?

MB: It goes both ways; I think the students, the advisees, also have a role to play in shaping what they want. It's very important — and I try to do this but I don't know whether it's clear to all my advisees — that they shouldn't feel intimidated to

come and see me. I think that's the biggest problem, everyone is all so busy here, so we have to work hard to ensure that students are empowered to come and take advantage of their advisor. It's important that it

really be a partnership between the two sides.

I've had students that come in fairly regularly, we chat, I get to know them, I think some students are a little more shy about coming in, those maybe don't have quite the same level of experience as they might otherwise have. So I think that's the message that needs to be strengthened.

As I said, I've had very few problems with advisees, and when I have had issues, the system in place has worked pretty well for them. I wouldn't think there's a need for a large-scale revamping of the system.

Also the beginning [of an advisor-advisee relationship] is always a bit awkward; the student doesn't know what they want to do. They're still feeling around for who they are. A good part of the concrete part of the advising process for me comes later on, during junior and senior year, when students are trying to decide what they want to do with their lives.

At this point, I get to see some of my advisees much more than others, because they're trying to find out what they want to do. They want to ask a lot of questions: what it's like working in a company, or academia, or what it would be like to switch from science into law for example.

They have questions like this and also they want contacts, other people to talk to — to bounce ideas off. I can be helpful there, send them to different colleagues, or to some of my former grad students who have gone into different areas or taken different routes. My former students are all very

eager to talk to MIT undergrads so I think that that's a time when I can be more of a resource than at the very beginning, when it's much more mechanical—when there are just so many required classes to take.

TT: You cited time constraints as one factor that limits the efficacy of advisor-advisee relationships. What advice do you have for freshmen about managing their time effectively?

MB: That's always a challenge, even if you're not a freshman or a first-year grad student. It's also such a matter of personality; some people are very organized and will just stay on top of things and be very deliberate about managing their schedules. For others, things will fall off to the side for a while and they'll have to do some last minute work to catch up. That's fine too; it's more stressful to operate that way, but it can work for some people. I don't recommend it, but that's the reality.

When I was a student, I was pretty good about having a schedule with my classes. I had a routine in terms of problem sets, studying for exams ... The other thing that I found helpful when I was a student was, right after the classes the same day, to go back through the class re-

viewing notes or whatever, just to make sure I understood the topic. That really helped me to stay on top of things.

I think it's important also that students use the resources that are available to them: the TAs, the tutoring. And by staying on top as much as possible these resources can be used in a timely way rather than at the last moment when there's a sense of urgency. That's the hardest thing for first-year students; with the sheer amount of material being presented and the newness of the place, with the combination of the two it's easy to fall behind.

TT: Work, friends, sleep: pick two.

MB: I've never had enough sleep ... and it continues throughout your life; work and family, they compete. So you have to find a balance when you're young, when you can afford not to sleep as much.

Balance! The key is to have a balance in your life. Part is doing things that you enjoy; if work is what you enjoy the most you should work. Whatever activities people enjoy for their mental well-being that has to be part of their lives ...

TT: What are your hobbies?

MB: Well, I have a daughter; she's six, and I enjoy doing all sorts of activities with her, exposing her to all of my favorite activities ... I take her skiing, or swimming ... she takes lessons and I swim. And I like to run and exercise, I hope that she gets that from me as well. ...

TT: Any other general advice about navigating MIT?

MB: I'll tell you a story ... when I was a [college] freshman and I didn't have good time management ... well, I used the same time management tools that I used in high school, which was that I didn't have any, because things were pretty easy in high school. And then I got to Harvard and on my first chemistry exam, I flunked! I got twenty out of one hundred. It was not in our classroom, it was in a big hall; there was a proctor; and it was a completely different experience, and on top of that I wasn't prepared because I was expecting it to be like in high school, so I walked in completely intimidated

ed, and the questions on the exam, I knew them, I thought I knew the material.

Part of it was being intimidated, part was being not quite prepared, and I was ready to leave college, I was so depressed. But it was a kick in the pants, what I learned from that experience was how to study, and that's where I learned about the importance of doing the problem sets. And how to study for the exams, and taking a block of time, two days before the exams, it doesn't have to be a lot of time.

But for me, and it's personal, a very personal thing how you study for exams, but what worked for me was two days before the exam, redoing the problem sets from scratch. Very systematically, going through the lectures, not the notes that have been given out, but my own notes. Although here at MIT you can do that with the notes handed out, going line by line to understand every single word in those notes. Practicing the problem sets and through the notes, and I changed from having the lowest exam score to having the highest exam score; it wasn't a matter of not being smart, it was knowing how I had to study, everybody's different, what worked for me doesn't work for someone else,

Moungi G. Bawendi

Hometown: Born in Paris, grew up in France, Tunisia, and West Lafayette, IN.

Why chemistry? "I had a great chemistry high school teacher, then I had a great freshman chemistry professor, and that's what did it. And I enjoyed the subject, the combination, that's where I am today."

Educational background: B.A. 1982 (Harvard); M.A. 1983 (Harvard); Ph.D. 1988 (University of Chicago).

E-mail: mgb@mit.edu

but figuring out what you have to do for yourself is very important, and making the commitment to do it.

In a technical subject, the importance of practicing problem solving, I think, is absolutely key. It's impossible ... I shouldn't say impossible, because there are some really smart students at MIT ... but for me, not practicing problem solving equaled failing as a student, even if I thought I knew the material. Synthesizing, integrating it all

I've never had enough sleep ... it continues throughout your life; work and family, they compete. So you have to find a balance when you're young ...

together in the end ... exams are really a race against time, even if the exam is relatively straightforward and can be done in a finite amount of time; without having practiced, you spend so much time just trying to figure out things that should be second nature.

TT: What goes into making a test?

MB: Making up a test is the hardest thing in the world! I lose so much sleep over it, and my wife hates it when I have to give an exam. I think many of us work very hard to try to make up questions that are the right level of complexity, where we want the students to learn from the exam questions. Well, obviously I'll keep doing that, but I think the students have mixed feelings about it, sometimes we come up with questions that are a little bit too clever.

TT: How about preparing a lecture? What do you do to get ready?

MB: Certainly the first time you teach a class it's extremely time-consuming, because it's not just about developing the class, but making sure that you understand the material deeply enough that you can capture it in your brain. For some classes it's an ongoing process; every year that I teach 5.60, there are some concepts in there that I didn't understand as well as I could have.

5.112 is more about presentation, more about trying to find ways to present the material that's more clear, more concise. The class is constantly being tweaked, so I don't really know how much time I spend preparing. What I do know is that since 5.112 is in the middle of the afternoon, on those days my day is shot because I spend all morning pretty much concentrating on the class.

And whenever I teach, it's hard for me to go from teaching to doing something else immediately after. Teaching is a performance; your adrenaline goes up, and it's hard to go from that to sitting at your desk.

You need some down-time, you need to be able to exhale.

So after lecture, usually I have lunch and hang out with my graduate students. It's fun; we talk about science, but it's not the administrative stuff I should be doing instead.

TT: So there's a lot of administrative overhead?

MB: There's a fair amount of paperwork that I need to get done, from managing the grants and writing reports, to putting together presentations for agencies for funding,

that just have to get done. Those are not particularly exciting things to do. From a time management perspective, those are the things that tend to fall off my radar. So I spend a fair amount of time doing that, more than I would like. The most enjoyable part is going down to the lab, or having my students talk to me, where we actually get to do science, I always feel like I don't have enough time in the day to do that part.

So I think the administration part has become more complex. There are more requirements; funding for me has become ... I don't have problems with the money, but it's become more fragmented. We get funding from all sorts of sources, that requires juggling many competing interests, different kinds of paperwork, it's more complex, more overhead to getting the money.

TT: What would you say to freshmen trying to decide between 3.091, 5.111, and 5.112?

MB: It depends a lot on their interest and background. 5.111 is for students who have had some chemistry experience in high school ... little experience to one year's worth of experience. 5.112 is meant for students who have had more experience, either one strong AP year or a couple of years of chemistry, so it's for the better-prepared students. There's also some difference in the direction of 5.111/5.112; it's probably a little more biochemical in the second part of 5.111, and a little more inorganic in 5.112. 3.091 is a great course, but I think that for students who want to go into chemistry or into chemistry-related subjects that the 5.11x series is more suited to them.

TT: What if a student takes 3.091 and then decides to do course 5, 7, 10, or 20, to give some examples?

MB: There's no physical barrier, but the difference in material between 3.091 and 5.11x is such that for the upper-level chemistry, chemical engineering, and biology classes, the emphasis on solution based chemistry in 5.11x is probably more appropriate.

TT: What's your favorite place to eat around MIT?

MB: For lunch? Well, I'm not a big lunch guy, so usually I go to one of the small places ... I don't have a good habit for lunch, but sometimes I'll get a little stew from Café Four, or go to the top floor of Building Seven, the Steam Café.

But usually, instead of lunch I go to the gym. I try to go the gym two or three times a week; I also try to go running regularly ... around the river. I was very disappointed that the track was out of commission this summer, because I was really looking forward to running there.

TT: Any last words of advice?

MB: I think it's really important to remember that they have all these options; there's no decision that they're making now that's permanent. And I know it's really hard at this point of their lives, but:

don't take failure too seriously. A lot of things that may seem insurmountable are going to get overcome, and this is really important because it can be very stressful. This goes also for first-year grad students; they also have so much going on right now. It's important to have some fun stuff going on also.

... I got to Harvard and on my first chemistry exam, I flunked! I got twenty out of one hundred ...

SPORTS

New, Upgraded Tennis Bubble To Be Completed September 15

By Shreyes Seshasai
SENIOR EDITOR

Students returning to campus may notice a familiar sight missing from view next to Briggs field. The J. B. Carr Indoor Tennis center, known simply as the tennis bubble, was taken down last spring as part of an ongoing project to replace the structure. A new bubble will be in place by September 15, according to John B. Hawes Jr., MIT senior project manager.

While the structure may look the same from the outside, once it's inflated, students on the inside will no-

tice newer lighting, better insulation, and the addition of a skylight.

The changes also include a new fire alarm system for increased safety, accompanied by a new electrical system. The heating units, which had dated back to the original installation of the bubble, will also be replaced with heating elements that are more efficient and offer better controls.

The project also includes renovations to the head house, which sits at the entrance to the bubble. Besides the usual changes of a new carpet and new paint, the head house will be made more handicap accessible. A larger, second entrance into the bubble will be created, as well as a new handicap accessible bathroom.

The project was prompted by the collapse of the bubble during the winter of 2007. At the time, the dome was taken down and repaired,

but according to Hawes, it was clear the structure was not going to last another full season.

Hawes does not anticipate any further disturbance to neighboring buildings, such as the planned power outage of Burton-Connor last Tuesday to provide power to the project.

The cost of the project is estimated to be a little over \$1 million, which, according to Hawes, is much less expensive than building a permanent structure. Funding for the project was provided mostly by the Committee for the Review of Space Planning.

The last time work of this scale was done was in 1997, when a snowstorm on April Fool's Day brought down the bubble. The timing was not all that bad though; MIT was already in the process of replacing the dome at the time the storm hit, so a new bubble was quickly put in place.

MIT Places Seventh In NCSA's Collegiate Power Rankings '08

By James Kramer

DAPER STAFF

On Monday, the National Collegiate Scouting Association (NCSA) announced its sixth annual Collegiate Power Rankings.

Following another tremendous year, the Engineers were listed seventh overall, securing their highest ranking in the history of the report. The NCSA's 2008 Collegiate Power Rankings rate colleges and universities comprehensively based on student-athlete graduation rates, academic strength, and athletic prowess of the university.

"For a school to be at the top of a list of more than 1,000 NCAA schools with athletic programs is remarkable", said Chris Krause, Founder and President of the NCSA. "MIT is listed in the top one percent in the overall rankings because of its commitment to academic and athletics, as well as its commitment to graduating student-athletes. NCSA's

power rankings objectively help prospective student-athletes compare each of their collegiate opportunities so they can make the most educated decision possible when it comes to their future. To be listed as one of the top schools in the 2008 NCSA Power Rankings shows dedication and commitment to running an elite program, and deserves to be recognized."

The Collegiate Power Rankings from NCSA are calculated for each college and university at the NCAA Division I, II, and III levels by averaging the U.S. News & World Report ranking, the U.S. Sports Academy Directors' Cup ranking and the NCAA student-athlete graduation rate of each college/university. The U.S. Sports Academy Directors' Cup rating evaluates the strength of NCAA athletic departments, while the U.S. News & World Report rating recognizes institutions for academic excellence. The student-athlete graduation rates are based on those provided by the NCAA.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008

Women's Soccer vs. Brandeis University 1 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Field Hockey vs. New England College 1 p.m., Jack Barry Field

Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2008

Women's Soccer vs. Simmons College 4 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Women's Volleyball vs. Rhode Island College 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

THANK YOU M.I.T.



Bose® Wave® music system



QuietComfort® 2 Acoustic Noise Cancelling® Headphones



Companion® 3 multimedia speaker system

Thank you to Students,
Faculty, Staff and
Employees of M.I.T.

Bose Corporation was founded and built by M.I.T. people. Our success in research and in business is a result, in no small part, of what M.I.T. has done for us. As one measure of our appreciation, we are extending special purchase privileges to all students and employees of M.I.T. for their personal use.

Please direct all inquiries to the "M.I.T. Purchase Program."

Bose Corporation
1-800-444-BOSE

BOSE
Better sound through research®

©2004 Bose Corporation. Patent rights issued and/or pending. Delivery is subject to product availability.

got sperm?

SPERM DONORS
NEEDED

Up to \$1100 a month!

Healthy MEN in college or with a college degree wanted for our sperm donor program.

Minimal time commitment

Help people fulfill their dreams of starting a family.

Receive free health and genetic screenings.

APPLY ONLINE:

www.SPERMBANK.com

ROW FOR MIT!



MEN AND WOMEN
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Become a DI varsity athlete in the ultimate team sport!

COME TO THE PIERCE BOATHOUSE (W8) FOR:
WED, SEP. 3rd @ 5:30pm – INFORMATIONAL MEETING
SAT, SEP. 6th @ 11:00AM – BOATHOUSE BBQ

For more information contact the novice coaches:
novicecrew@mit.edu