

## Panel Studies MIT's Divestment Process

*Divestment from Sudan was 'Untimely' And Poorly Understood, Says MIT VP*

By **Caroline Huang**  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

A five-person panel is in the process of reconsidering how the Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility "can be most helpful to the Corporation and the community in general," Kirk D. Kolenbrander, Vice President of Institute Affairs and Secretary of the Corporation, said on Tuesday.

The ACSR, an ad-hoc committee that makes recommendations to the Corporation's Executive Committee about MIT's investments, has been widely criticized for its slow response to the Darfur conflict. However, Kolenbrander said that reconsidering the ACSR's structure is "bigger than Darfur," though that was the impetus for rethinking the ACSR's operational guidelines.

"[The] ACSR has a long history, but was called into action most recently to discuss divestment in Darfur, which was ultimately adopted," said Kolenbrander. "That adoption wasn't particularly timely or well understood. [These reconsiderations are] our working through how we wanted to handle that," he said.

At the heart of the issue is the committee's perceived inefficiency.

By the time the ACSR convened in Sept. 2006 to discuss the Darfur conflict, Harvard had already divested 14 months prior. According to a timeline produced by MIT-STAND, a student anti-genocide coalition, MIT took a total of 51 months to announce its intention to divest; in comparison, Harvard responded in 26 months.

Another issue, cited by both Kolenbrander and Kayvan Zainabadi G, is the ACSR's apparent lack of transparency. There is no publicly-available listing of the ACSR's operating principles. Furthermore, after the ACSR's recommendation that the Corporation divest from Sudan, there was no report made available to the MIT community about the methods or evidence that led to the recommendation.

The other four members of the MIT community helping to draft the revised ACSR guidelines are James A. Champy '63, a member of the Corporation's Executive Committee; Seth Alexander, President of the MIT Investment Management Company; and students Zainabadi and Bernard A. Mares G. There is currently no timetable on how long it will take to

ACSR, Page 19



Jacky Lau '11 talks with Emma M. Rosen '11 during the 2011 study break "Cannolis" on Monday, Sept. 8.

JEFF GUO—THE TECH

## Hockfield Asks Gov't To Triple Energy Funding

By **Arkajit Dey**  
NEWS EDITOR

President Susan Hockfield testified before a House of Representatives committee on energy on Wednesday, making the case for tripling federal funding of energy research.

The hearing, entitled "Investing in the Future: R&D needs to meet America's Energy and Climate Challenges," was chaired by Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) of the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.

In her testimony, Hockfield described a "triple knot of difficult problems" consisting of "a shaky economy," "a geopolitical situation weighed down by issues of energy consumption," and "global climate change" that plagued the country. Hockfield argued that increased investment in energy research and development was the common solution to all three problems.

Hockfield cited a drop in both government and private spending on energy over the past three decades. From 10 percent of the federal research budget in 1980, energy research accounts for only 2 percent today, said Hockfield. And while pharmaceutical companies and semiconductor firms invest 18 and 16 percent of their revenues respectively on R&D, energy companies spend less than a quarter of a percent of their revenues on research, she said.

Invoking the success of congressional funding in triggering information technology and biotechnology advances, Hockfield called on Congress "to spark an energy revolution."

Urging Congress not to delay investments in energy, Hockfield warned that competitors like China, India, Germany, and Japan were not lacking in money or motivation to rapidly pursue new energy technologies. "We must make sure that in the energy technology markets of the

Energy, Page 14

## Siddiqui Diagnosed With Chronic Depression

By **John Hawkinson**  
STAFF REPORTER

Aafia Siddiqui '95 was diagnosed with chronic depressive type psychosis, according to court documents released today. Siddiqui is the MIT alum and Brandeis PhD who disappeared mysteriously in Pakistan in 2003, and is married to alleged terrorist Amar Al-Baluchi, who is being held at Guantanamo Bay.

Siddiqui was examined and first diagnosed with psychosis on Tuesday, Sept. 2 by Bureau of Prisons psychologist Dr. Diane McLean, according to a letter yesterday from the warden of Brooklyn's Metropolitan Detention Center to Judge Richard M. Berman. Siddiqui "reported depressed mood, anxiety, ruminative

Siddiqui, Page 17

### In Short

¶ The Museum of Fine Arts is hosting its free annual college night on Thursday, Sept. 25, from 6 p.m. to Midnight. The night will feature two live music performances by St. Vincent, accompanied by a DJ Dance Party, film screening, scavenger hunt, and (of course) art.

## MIT Class of '08 Earns \$65,324 On Average, According to Career Survey

By **Robert McQueen**

The MIT students receiving Bachelor of Science degrees in June 2008 were offered a mean salary of \$65,324, a 6.9 percent increase over last year, according to data from the preliminary version of the MIT Careers Office's 2008 Graduating Student Survey. The consumer price index rose about 6.2 percent over the same period of time, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Students receiving Master's degrees were offered an average of \$98,497.

Seventy-six point seven percent of Master's recipients entered the work industry, while 45.1 percent of those who earned their Bachelor's did the

same. Close to half of the graduates receiving Bachelor's degrees opted to enter graduate or professional school.

### Varied plans

Management and consulting was the most popular industry for graduates with Bachelor's degrees, drawing 12.9 percent of the working graduates, followed by investment banking with 12.9 percent, aerospace and defense with 8.8 percent, and software development with 8.8 percent. A total of 44 percent of graduates with Bachelor's degrees entered jobs related to finance, consulting, and management.

Seventy one percent of students

without graduate degrees and 89 percent of students earning graduate degrees said that their jobs are related to their majors.

Of the 45.1 percent of students entering graduate school, 39 percent matriculated back into MIT, including those who enrolled in Master of Engineering programs. Other popular schools include Harvard (8.5 percent), Stanford (7.2 percent), John Hopkins University (3.6 percent), Princeton (3.1 percent), and the University of California at Berkeley (3.1 percent).

The MIT graduates who applied to colleges of higher-level education achieved an average of about 2.5 ac-

Survey, Page 14

## Colleges Defend Rising Tuition In Round Table With Senators

By **Tamar Lewin**  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Two dozen college presidents and policy experts defended the rising costs of tuition on Monday and argued against forcing colleges to spend more of their endowments.

But Senator Charles E. Grassley, Republican of Iowa, and Representative Peter Welch, Democrat of Vermont, who convened a round-table discussion on the subject, indicated that they would continue their effort to push universities to justify their

tax exemptions by spending more of their endowment money.

"Tuition has risen at twice the rate of per capita income," Mr. Welch said, "and this year it will cost just under \$50,000 to attend the average private college. If the cost of milk had risen as fast as the cost of college since 1980, a gallon would be \$15."

Mr. Grassley said it was only fair to ask whether universities were doing enough for society, given that the

Tuition, Page 13

## 7.012 Enrollment Remains High

Five-hundred forty students have enrolled in 7.012, Introductory Biology, this fall, forcing lectures to take place in 26-100 instead of 10-250, as originally planned.

Enrollment in 7.012 has been higher since MIT stopped giving freshmen GIR credit for taking the AP Biology exam in high school. The Class of 2009 was the last class able to receive AP credit for the course. Accordingly, an especially high number of freshmen are enrolled in 7.012, while the number of upperclassmen in the class is roughly the same as last year.

"The enrollment numbers for other freshman core classes, such as 3.091 and 5.111 and 5.112, are quite reasonable this term," said the Registrar, Mary Callahan. "Enrollment in biology courses seems to be trending high."

The biology department has added recitation sections to 7.012 to keep sizes at 25 or fewer students.

Last spring, a record 613 students — including 439 freshmen — completed 7.013, one of the spring versions of Introductory Biology, though it was in part due to the absence of 7.014, another spring version whose professor went on sabbatical.

Still, course administrator Michelle D. Mischke expects that the enrollment number will fall as some students drop the class. After the first problem set is due, Mischke said she will e-mail students who have not turned one in to ask if they plan to continue with the course. Doing this in the past, she said, has usually motivated some students to drop.

—Jessica Lin

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Phish bassist Gordon rocks Boston

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Review: *A Girl Cut in Two*

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### NEWS

MIT employee's novel evolves into an international film

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# WORLD & NATION

## Figure in Rosenberg Case Finally Admits Spying for Soviets

By Sam Roberts

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

In 1951, Morton Sobell was tried and convicted with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg on espionage charges. He served more than 18 years in Alcatraz and other federal prisons, traveled to Cuba and Vietnam after his release in 1969 and became an advocate for progressive causes.

Through it all, he maintained his innocence.

But on Thursday, Sobell, 91, dramatically reversed himself, shedding new light on a case that still fans smoldering political passions. In an interview, he admitted for the first time that he had been a Soviet spy.

And he implicated his fellow defendant Julius Rosenberg in a conspiracy that delivered to the Soviets classified military and industrial information and what the American government described as the secret to the atomic bomb.

## As Elections Loom, Democrats Changing Their Energy Policy

By Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

For decades, opposition to new offshore oil drilling has been a core principle of congressional Democrats, ranking in the party pantheon somewhere just below protecting Social Security and increasing the minimum wage.

But a concerted Republican assault over domestic oil production and the threat of political backlash from financially pressed motorists have Democrats poised to embrace a fundamental shift in energy policy.

Even more surprising, the turnabout is led by Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who has a long history of fighting oil drilling going back to the early days of her career in California.

Under a measure being assembled for a vote next week, oil rigs could go up 50 miles from the shores of states that welcome drilling and 100 miles off any section of the U.S. coast — a stark reversal on an issue that has been a Democratic environmental touchstone since the 1980s.

## Texans Flee Hurricane Ike as Authorities Warn of Danger

By James C. Mckinley Jr.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HOUSTON

People along the Texas coast rushed to board up their houses and move inland on Thursday while Hurricane Ike, a storm 500-miles across with 100-mph winds at its center, churned across the Gulf of Mexico towards them.

Authorities ordered hundreds of thousands of people to evacuate low-lying areas from the Louisiana border to Corpus Christi. Traffic was building up on highways leading from the coast, and some gas stations ran out of fuel.

Hurricane Ike was expected to make landfall late Friday or before dawn on Saturday between Corpus Christi and Galveston, meteorologists said. Already whipping up 50-foot waves at sea, the storm is predicted to cause a surge of seawater in Galveston and Houston that could reach 20 feet above the normal tide, enough to submerge low-lying coastal areas.

"I cannot overemphasize the danger that is facing us," Gov. Rick Perry said at a news conference in Austin.

Dennis Feltgen, a meteorologist with the National Hurricane Center, said Hurricane Ike was expected to gain strength overnight and become a Category 3 storm with winds above 111 mph before it came ashore. Even if the storm does not strengthen, however, it is likely to flood the coast.

## For Lehman Employees, The Collapse is Personal

By Geraldine Fabrikant and Eric Dash

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

In the last few days, employees of Lehman Brothers have wrung their hands as the value of their stock evaporated before their eyes. Now, many fear losing their jobs, too.

In scenes eerily reminiscent of the final days of Bear Stearns, the megawatt energy within Lehman Brothers has dimmed to a hum as employees focus on the fate of the firm and what it might mean to them. To make matters worse, pink slips for previously announced layoffs were being handed out this week.

"Everyone is walking around like they have just been Tasered," said one Lehman employee, who, like many interviewed for this article, declined to be named because he was not authorized to talk publicly. "Everyone was always hoping we would pull through. Now, that is not really an option."

On Lehman's third- and fourth-floor trading floors overlooking Broadway's lights in Midtown Manhattan, traders continued working at their terminals, or at least were giving

the appearance of doing so. At the same time, many polished their resumes and contacted recruiters.

If Lehman is sold — as now appears likely — the buyer will fire many of them. And they know that tens of thousands of other Wall Streeters laid off in the tsunami sweeping the financial industry — including many recently let go from Bear Stearns — are already chasing after too few jobs.

Wall Street is used to ups and downs, but this latest round of cuts brought about by the credit crisis is turning out to be one of the worst in recent memory — a fate compounded by a shrinking economy. As of June, many of the more than 83,000 employees dismissed from banks and brokerage firms worldwide have come from firms based in the New York area. Everyone at Lehman knows what happened at Bear Stearns:

Star employees did not have a hard time finding work when Bear was sold in a fire sale this year, but JPMorgan initially kept only about 6,500 of 13,500 employees. Many are still looking for work.

As at Bear, many at Lehman

have taken a hit from a plummeting stock price. From an all-time high of \$86.18 a share in early 2007, the stock has plunged, closing at \$4.22 on Thursday.

In an arrangement that is typical of Wall Street, Lehman employees have gotten much of their pay in stock and stock options in recent years. That figure could range from 10 percent to 60 percent in Lehman stock, according to a person close to the company.

"Over the past decade, an increasing amount of the compensation had been given in stock and stock options," said Robert Willens, a tax expert who worked at Lehman from 1987 to this year. "Employees were paid in restricted stock that took several years to vest. Stock was granted at the current price."

As recently as last week, Lehman's stock was selling for \$16 a share, and many Lehman employees were still betting that their chairman and chief executive, Richard S. Fuld Jr., would figure out a way to salvage the bank — and their future — a hope he reinforced Wednesday with assurances to Wall Street that the firm could remain standing alone.

## New York Pauses for 9/11 Observation at Ground Zero

By Ralph Blumenthal

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Under chill gray clouds that gradually gave way to patches of blue, the city paused Thursday to observe the seventh anniversary of a day that Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg said "began like any other and ended like no other."

Tearful and often defiant, and waving large photos of some of the 2,751 people killed at the World Trade Center, hundreds of relatives and friends steeled themselves and marked the passing of another year since terrorists crashed two hijacked jets into the twin towers. Others gathered in smaller remembrances around the region, in firehouses and parks and houses of worship.

For the second year, construction kept the main ceremony out

of the excavated hole at ground zero, but many mourners bearing bouquets and mementos were escorted down a ramp to the towers' footprints. A few hours later, both major presidential candidates made the same trek into the pit.

Lorraine and Tommy Betancourt, from Astoria, Queens, came this year, as every year, to feel close to their lost son, Firefighter Paul Gill, 34, of Engine Company 54 on Manhattan's West Side, the father of two boys.

It was important for them to be there. "As long as we can go to the pit to pay our respects," said Betancourt, a retired nurse. "They never recovered any part of his remains, so that's were he's buried as far as we're concerned."

The name of every victim was read aloud and announced by 105 pairs of readers. Each pair included

a relative of a victim and a foreign student representing one of the 95 countries that lost someone in the carnage. It took more than three hours to intone all the names.

A bell chimed and the crowd fell silent at four moments: 8:46 a.m., when American Airlines flight 11 struck the north tower; 9:03, when United flight 175 hit the south tower; 9:59, when the south tower collapsed; and 10:29, when the north tower fell.

The reading of some names was accompanied by the release of heart-shaped balloons that drifted over the crowd and out of sight northward over the downtown skyline. When they came to their own son, daughter, husband or wife, many readers added a poignant personal note. "Mommy and I wish you a happy birthday," said one father.

# WEATHER

## I Like Ike?

By Elizabeth Maroon

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

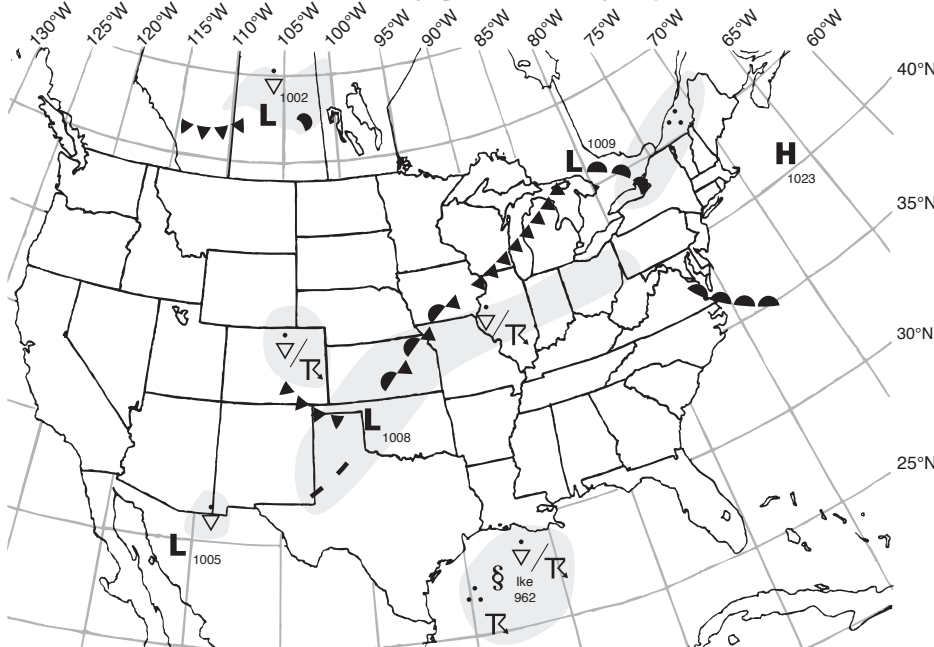
It was only last week that Hanna swung through and drenched our Saturday night, and now Hurricane Ike is preparing to hit Texas. Ike, the fifth hurricane of the season, developed off the coast of Africa, and reached the status of Category 4 last Thursday with a low of 935 mb and peak winds at 145 mph (230 km/h). After drenching the Turks and Caicos Islands, it was downgraded to a Category 3; in Haiti its floodwaters and mudslides were the cause of 74 deaths; it dropped to a Category 1 after soaking Cuba. Ike now approaches Galveston with winds stretching 115 miles from the center. Storm surges are expected to reach up to 20 feet with 5-10 inches (125-250 mm) of rainfall on Saturday across the Louisiana and Texas coastline. It'll weaken as it makes landfall turning up eastward through Arkansas and Missouri.

In our neighborhood though, we won't have nearly as much drama, but we will have rain. High pressure over us will keep us dry on Friday, but instability on Friday night brings the potential for thunderstorms and a warm front will move our way on Saturday night and stick with us bringing humidity, possible rain and perhaps thunderstorms. With the warm front sitting over us on Sunday, expect high dewpoints in the 60s or 70s and scattered showers. Perhaps we'll get a sample of the remnants of Ike as they are currently projected to move over us late Sunday or early Monday.

### Extended Forecast

- Today:** Sunny with increasing cloud cover. Highs near 72°F (22°C).
- Tonight:** Increasing humidity with rain and possible thunderstorms in the evening. Lows near 65°F (18°C).
- Saturday:** Chance of rain in the morning. Highs around 73°F (23°C).
- Saturday night:** Increasing chance of rain. Lows near 63°F (17°C).
- Sunday:** Likely rain in the morning, with clouds in the afternoon. Highs near 75°F (24°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, September 12, 2008



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

# With Democrats Worried, Obama Plans Sharper Attacks

By Adam Nagourney and Jeff Zeleny

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Sen. Barack Obama plans to intensify his assault against Sen. John McCain, with new television advertisements and more forceful attacks by the candidate and surrogates beginning Friday morning, as he confronts an invigorated Republican presidential ticket and increasing nervousness in the Democratic ranks. McCain's choice of Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate and the resulting jolt of energy among Republican voters appear to have caught Obama and his advisers by surprise and added to concern among some Democrats that the Obama campaign was not pushing back hard enough against Republican attacks in a critical phase of the race.

Some Democrats said Obama needed to move to seize control of the campaign and to block McCain from snatching away from him the message that he was the best hope to bring change to Washington.

After back-to-back attack ads by McCain, including one that misleadingly accused Obama of endors-

ing sex education for kindergarten students, the Obama campaign is planning to sharpen attacks on McCain and Palin in an effort to counter McCain's attempt to present himself as the candidate of change with his choice of Palin. The new tone is to be presented in a speech by Obama in New Hampshire and backed up by new television advertisements and appearances across the country by supporters.

In addition, advertising themes will be pay equity for women, an issue that has particular resonance as the campaigns battle for female voters, and a more pointed linking of McCain to President Bush and Republicans in Washington.

But Obama's aides said they were confident with the course of the campaign. They said that, other than making some shifts around the edges, particularly in response to McCain's effort to seize the change issue from Obama, they were not planning any major deviation from a strategy that called for a steady escalation of attacks on McCain as the race heads toward the debates.

That response is characteristic of

a campaign that has presented itself as disciplined and unflappable and is reminiscent of the way Obama's campaign reacted a year ago when it came under fire from allies who said it was not being tough enough in going after Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"We're sensitive to the fluid dynamics of the campaign, but we have a game plan and a strategy," said Obama's campaign manager, David Plouffe. "We're familiar with this. And I'm sure between now and Nov. 4 there will be another period of hand-wringing and bed-wetting. It comes with the territory."

Still, Democrats outside the campaign suggested that Obama should be viewing the situation with a greater sense of urgency.

"The Obama message has been disrupted in the last week," said Rep. Artur Davis, D-Ala. "It's a time for Democrats to focus on what the fundamentals are in this election."

Phil Singer, who served as a press secretary for Clinton in her primary campaign against Obama, said, "The Obama people need to reboot and figure out ways to make the McCain-Bush argument newsworthy again."

## Zimbabwe Rivals Strike a Bargain to Share Power

By Celia W. Dugger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JOHANNESBURG

President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai struck a power-sharing deal on Thursday after more than a month of wrangling, but it was still far from clear how the bitter foes would divide the authority to govern.

The agreement, brokered by President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, signals that Mugabe may be willing to cede some authority to Tsvangirai, reducing the tight grip on power he has maintained for nearly three decades and easing the political crisis that has engulfed Zimbabwe for months.

But neither they nor Mbeki spelled out how the deal would work, saying they would withhold details until an official announcement on Monday. Officials in both the governing and opposition parties described an arrangement that seemed to leave neither man in charge. That may reduce that the chances that the accord will bring new stability and attract the foreign

aid needed to rebuild the country's ruined economy.

Under the agreement, officials said, Tsvangirai would become prime minister and oversee a council of ministers that would formulate and carry out policies. Mugabe would retain his title of president and would head a Cabinet of the ministers that would supervise the council. That arrangement appears to give both men the power to oversee the same group of ministers.

Asked who would head the government, Nelson Chamisa, a spokesman for the opposition Movement for Democratic Change, did not name one man or the other, but instead replied, "This is an inclusive government." He said executive power would be shared by the president, the prime minister and the Cabinet.

Zimbabwe has faced political stalemate since the octogenarian Mugabe held onto the presidency in a June runoff that was widely denounced as a sham. The country is crippled by an inflation rate that runs into the millions of percent and traumatized by an election season in

which human rights groups say that thousands of opposition supporters were brutally beaten by state-sponsored enforcers.

If the agreement does produce a functional power sharing arrangement, it would mark a significant turning point for Zimbabwe, which has become increasingly poverty stricken and isolated in recent years under Mugabe's authoritarian rule.

But it will be no small task for Mugabe, an aging liberation hero, and Tsvangirai, 56, a former trade union leader and Mugabe's persistent rival, to work together harmoniously after the enmity that has accumulated in recent months.

Even on Wednesday, as the talks neared their conclusion, the opposition released a statement decrying a "plot" by the governing party, ZANU-PF, to topple its newly elected leader of Parliament. And on Monday, as the talks were getting under way again, the political editor of the state-run newspaper, a mouthpiece for Mugabe, accused the opposition of "a cancerous connection with Britain and other Western countries."

## A West Bank Ruin, Reborn as a Peace Beacon

By Ethan Bronner

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JENIN, WEST BANK

Pessimism is a steady companion these days for advocates of Middle East peace. A lame-duck Israeli government is negotiating with a weak Palestinian leadership in the twilight of an unpopular U.S. administration. Few forecast success.

But a quiet revolution is stirring here in this city, once a byword for the extremes of violence between Israelis and Palestinians. In 2002, in response to a wave of suicide bombers from Jenin, Israeli tanks leveled entire neighborhoods.

From that rubble, now newly trained and equipped Palestinian security officials have restored order. Israeli soldiers have pulled back from bases and are in close touch with their Palestinian colleagues. Civilians are planning economic cooperation — an industrial zone to provide thousands of jobs, mostly to Palestinians, and another involving organic produce grown by Palestinians and marketed in Europe by Israelis. Ministers from both govern-

ments have been visiting regularly, often joined by top international officials. Israeli Arabs are playing a key role.

The aim is to stand conventional wisdom on its head. Instead of a shaky negotiated peace treaty imposing coexistence from the top down, a bottom-up set of relationships that lock the two societies together should, proponents argue, lead to a real two-state solution.

"We got a clear American message that the Palestinian state will start from Jenin," asserted Col. Radi Asideh, the deputy commander of the Palestinian security forces here who have recently received new Land Rovers and AK-47 assault rifles. "The plan is to have a security model that can then be implemented all over Palestine."

Those may sound like the hopeful words of a credulous officer. But here is Gen. James L. Jones, special U.S. envoy to the region in an interview this week after visiting Jenin: "I see this as a kind of dress rehearsal for statehood, a crucible where the two sides can prove things to each

other."

And Ehud Barak, Israel's defense minister, in an interview in his Tel Aviv office, said: "So far, Jenin is a great success. The Palestinian police have created a different mood there. We need to see money being poured into projects now to keep the momentum going. If done right, we think this could become an example."

As one Western official involved in the plan noted, Israeli defense officials do not make a habit of speaking well of Palestinian police, so Barak's words are telling. Still, Barak's last point is also crucial because, unsurprisingly, not everyone agrees on what it means to do it right.

Each side in the triangle — Israelis, Palestinians, international donors and facilitators — argues that it has done its part but that things are moving too slowly because of the others.

Israel says Palestinian forces still do not deal with terrorists and so its forces must continue night incursions. Palestinians worry that the focus on Jenin will take away from the broader issues that need to be solved, like Jerusalem and refugees.

## Trade Deficit at 16-Month High in July

By Michael M. Grynbaum

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The trade deficit reached a 16-month high in July as oil prices hit a record, the government said Thursday.

A separate report said that prices of imports other than petroleum dipped slightly last month, an encouraging sign that inflation may have slowed in August. And the Labor Department reported that the number of Americans remaining on unemployment rolls last week stayed near a five-year high, another troubling sign for the labor market.

The United States imported \$62.2 billion more in goods and services than it exported in July, a 5.7 percent increase from June, the Commerce Department reported.

Imports were up 3.9 percent to \$230.3 billion for the month, largely because of the surging cost of foreign petroleum and oil-derived products. Americans bought more foreign-made industrial goods, capital goods and foods and beverages, but cut back on purchases of foreign automobiles and consumer goods.

July exports totaled \$168.1 billion, a 3.3 percent increase from June. Demand rose for motor vehicles, consumer goods and industrial products.

## Health Care Issue, Not Quite Hot, Remains Strong

By Kevin Sack

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ROSWELL, GA.

When Rep. Tom Price spoke to the Roswell Kiwanians the other day, the first three questions concerned health care. When he appeared four days later before the Sandy Springs Rotarians, no one asked about it at all.

As energy and the economy consume more of the country's political discourse, health care is an issue that can seem to vacillate in importance by the day, the place and the audience.

It remains a significant presence in virtually every congressional district, including this well-heeled Atlanta suburb represented by Price, a second-term Republican. In some contests, particularly those where Democrats smell blood, it has been placed front and center. But in others it has become less distinct, absorbed by the electorate's broader anxiety over the economy and displaced by the urgency of high-cost gasoline and the housing crisis.

"Energy has kind of taken the wind out of — no pun intended — all sorts of other things," Price said, campaigning in his district, which was once represented by Newt Gingrich. "But health care is still in the top three issues, and it is for every single demographic group."

With Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton on the sidelines, health care is also receiving somewhat less emphasis in the presidential race, although each campaign is busy stoking fears about the other's proposals.

Sen. Barack Obama, the Democratic nominee, is arguing that Sen. John McCain's plan to end the tax bias against those who buy insurance individually, and to replace it with health care tax credits for all, would increase costs for many consumers and leave others underinsured.

McCain, the Republican nominee, is charging that Obama's proposal, which would allow the privately insured to maintain their coverage while creating a heavily subsidized government plan for the uninsured, would "force families into a government-run health care system."

Advocacy groups, meanwhile, are spending tens of millions of dollars on advertising to keep the issue at the forefront of the 2009 congressional agenda.

## U.S. Finds Rampant Errors by Commercial Tax Services

By Lynnley Browning

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Nearly two out of three commercial tax preparers who are not registered with the IRS the majority of all tax preparers — failed to fill out accurate federal returns for their clients during a small clandestine survey last spring, a government report said Thursday.

The report, by the independent oversight arm of the Internal Revenue Service, covered only those paid preparers who are not enrolled with the IRS.

Tax preparers are not required to be licensed or to enroll with the IRS, and there are 300,000 to 600,000 who are not, according to an estimate in 2003 by a separate agency, the National Taxpayer Advocate.

There are no national certification standards for tax preparers, and anyone, regardless of their training, knowledge or credentials, can prepare returns for a fee.

By contrast, about 41,000 preparers — typically certified public accountants or financial planners, tax lawyers and actuaries — have taken exams and undergone training that allow them to enroll with the IRS as preparers or agents.

## Poland Warned by Russia on Pact

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BERLIN

Making his first visit to a European Union country since the war with Georgia last month, Russia's foreign minister, Sergey V. Lavrov, told Polish leaders Thursday that their decision to place a U.S. missile defense base on Polish territory posed a threat to Russia's security.

"We cannot fail to see the risks emerging as a result of U.S. strategic forces coming close to our borders," Lavrov said at a joint news conference with his Polish counterpart, Radek Sikorski. He also dismissed the U.S. insistence that the missile shield was meant to counter threats from countries like Iran. "We are certain this system in Europe can have no other target for a long time to come but Russia's strategic forces," he said.

Relations between Russia and Poland worsened after Polish leaders signed the missile-defense accord, which will allow the base, with the United States days after Russian forces rolled into Georgia.

Lavrov softened his criticism on Thursday by saying that he did not believe that Poland itself would threaten Russia, and that he wanted to hold more talks on improving relations.

Sikorski told Lavrov that Poland wants to develop a strategic relationship with Russia.

# OPINION



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## Corrections

An article on Friday about a \$400 million gift to the Broad Institute of M.I.T. and Harvard, by Eli and Edythe Broad, described the Starr Foundation, another donor to the institute, incorrectly. It is a private foundation, not the philanthropic arm of the insurance company American International Group. (The Starr Foundation was created by Cornelius Vander Starr, the founder of A.I.G., and the foundation's chairman is Maurice Greenberg, the former chairman and chief executive of A.I.G.)

Keith Yost's column in the Sept. 5 issue of *The Tech* misspelled the name of potential vice presidential candidate Kay Bailey Hutchison as "Hutchinson."

## Letters To The Editor

### Wear a Helmet

On Labor Day I was biking in Marlborough when I was knocked off the bike by the side view mirror of a truck. I was thrown about ten feet and fell on my back and head. The bike helmet was broken in two places, and aside from assorted bruises and scrapes, I sustained a concussion and a small hairline fracture of my coccyx.

I have no memory of the accident, only that I was biking and next woke up in an ambulance that took me to the trauma center at UMass Medical Center in Worcester. I was completely CAT scanned from head to toe, including being injected with a dye to detect internal broken blood vessels. They kept me nine hours for observation but I was released without an overnight stay. If not for the bike helmet, I think I would be either dead or a vegetable.

The point of this message is to implore all of you who bike to please wear a helmet. I see too many people riding bareheaded. Even a trip of one or two blocks can result in a fall and a severe head injury. Your brains are your most important resource. Please don't waste them.

Steven R. Tannenbaum '58  
Professor, Department of Chemistry

### YouTomb Follow Up

I read your article on the Blackwell Police Department dash cam video that was taken down by YouTube due to threats made by the city attorney regarding copyright. I represent two citizens who were manhandled by the Blackwell Police Department. We have filed suit in Kay County, OK. The young man that was victimized by the police came to me some

months ago and provided a copy of the tape.

In pursuing the lawsuit against the Police Department, I specifically asked about the copyright policy and procedure of the city of Blackwell. The City admitted they had no copyright policy and that the video, in fact, was not copyrighted. They just wanted it off YouTube due to the publicity.

The City has now instituted a new policy that they will not comply with open records requests for dash cam videos without a court order. I have the original cd (from the police department) of the dash cam incident you speak of.

Michael Collins  
Ponca City, OK

### Miffed at Oral Piece

I'm writing in response to a recent article in our lovely campus newspaper that managed to both appall and insult me. I refer to "Talk Nerdy To Me," written by Christine Yu for the Sept. 9, 2008 issue, and while I understand (and pray and hope) that this was written for comedic effect, I fear that some will actually take the advice given in the article.

"... I don't believe anyone actually practices 'safe' oral sex. Might as well resign yourself to a life of herpes..." Actually, there's something called interpersonal communication. Ladies, if you're going to be putting anyone's dick in your mouth, please be sure to ask them first, "Excuse me, but do you have any STDs?" The miracles of modern science make it very easy to get tested for STDs. MIT Medical will do it, and it's confidential, so no one ever has to know that you even got tested. Anyone who deserves a blowjob is man enough to know whether or not he has STDs. Really, resigning yourself to

herpes is not the answer.

"I mean, will you kiss a girl after they've done it? Usually not." This is the point that disturbs me the most. If a guy won't kiss you after you've just placed your hot, wet mouth all over his undeserving penis, then you might as well resign yourself to a life of constantly claiming that you burned his dinner and you deserved to fall down the stairs. A guy who is that queasy about his own bodily juices shouldn't be getting a blowjob in the first place.

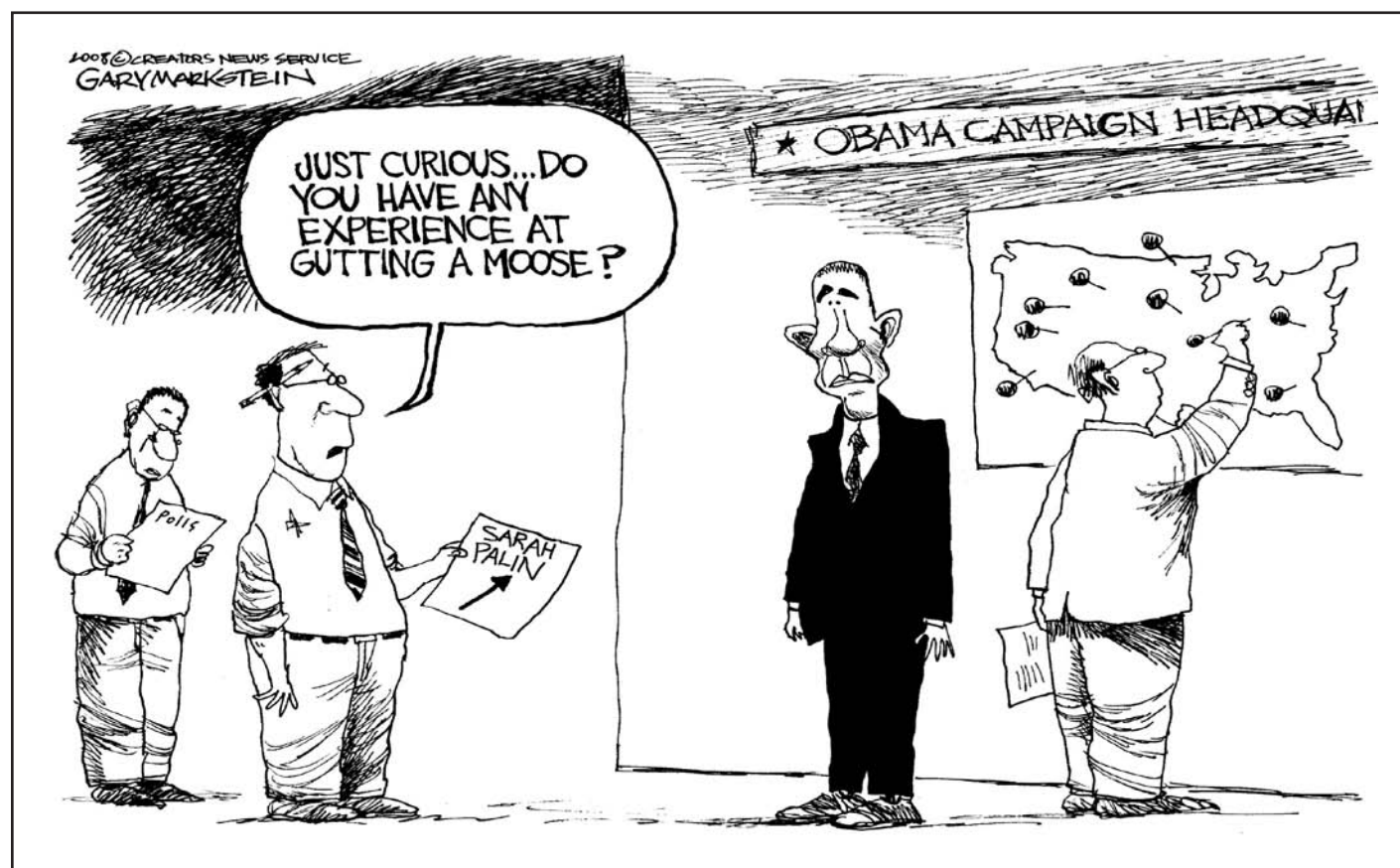
Finally, this article was supposed to be about oral sex. Instead, it was predominantly about fellatio. What about cunnilingus? The article fails to address 50 percent of its subject material. A well-lubricated woman can lead to just as many messes and inconveniences as an inconsiderate man. And don't forget: once a month, women bleed.

Danbee Kim '09

### Hamster Wheels?

On a recent visit to MIT, I noticed those working out at the gym across from La Sala de Puerto Rico. All that energy output, with mere sweat and muscles as a result. Maybe some of those on the treadmill might figure out how to hook up all that exercise equipment to generators to power the building. What a fun product could be developed for use in gyms, and in basements all over the land. You could elevate those stationary bikes on the floors above the pool from the pointless spinning of wheels to reducing carbon emissions and electric bills. Visualize a plug-in car, powered by electricity you generated yourself during a morning workout. Home made juice!

Claudette Beit-Aharon  
Newton, MA



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# Engagement With Russia: An Undeclared Cold-War

By Anurag Maheshwari

Keith Yost's opinion column published in the Sept. 9 issue of *The Tech* titled "Eastern Promises" is fundamentally flawed.

His article begins by wrongly assuming that Russia's neighbors are endangered and quickly moves on to assert that Russia invaded Georgia — a dutiful ally of United States, and annexed part of its territories. He advocates NATO expansion to include Eastern Europe (Ukraine) and Georgia, and carelessly labels them as "beleaguered states" who are defenseless against the big bad Russian bully.

Aware of his own extremist narrative, he dials down the rhetoric by conceding that the story is not as simple as it sounds. He then goes on to list some joint Russo-American efforts in the recent past on nuclear energy, international terrorism, Iran's nuclear program, and laments that Russia could use its energy clout to harm the economies of Europe. He then proposes realpolitik and encourages US to engage rather than contain and enrage Russia.

His article is fundamentally flawed because it does not deal with the crises of American foreign policy in the post-cold war world and altogether ignores history. How do we face the hypocrisy of American values versus American imperialism; The constitutional spirit of non-intervention versus global American militarism that is especially hostile towards Russia.

Let us get our historical facts straight. At the end of the cold war, Americans made a solemn promise to Russia that NATO would never move beyond a united Germany. Yet, 20 years after the end of the cold war and dissolution of the Warsaw pact, 17 years after the fall of the Soviet Union, why does NATO, a cold war era alliance designed to defend against a Soviet attack, continue to expand and even exist?

The Russian army went home but instead of dissolving NATO and bringing our troops home, why are we doing just the opposite and aggressively bringing our military to Russia's borders?

The European Union, which has 3 times the population, 13 times the economic power, and at least 6 times the military budget of Russia, has overwhelming superiority against Russia and is perfectly capable of defending itself.

France and Britain possess hundreds of sophisticated up-to-date nuclear missiles, as opposed to the aging Russian nuclear arsenal. Our own military budget is 20 times that of Russia. Why then do we keep meddling in Europe's affairs and dictating them our militaristic policy, constantly coercing them into hostile actions towards Russia?

How easily have we forgotten that Russians have centuries old history with Europe and they are part of the European family? Russian royal families and their cultural and business links with Europe go back more than a thousand years. The Russian state of Kievan-Rus was founded and led by Scandinavian Rurikids (Swedes, Danes, etc.) from ninth century onwards.

Russians have faced catastrophic invasions throughout their history from Turko-Mongols, Teutons, Poland, France, and the Ottoman empire, followed by two horrific world-wars in European theatre, with more than 25 million dead. After suffering roughly 75 years of communist dictatorship and lawlessness, punctuated by genocidal Stalinism, when millions were maimed and slaughtered in the gulags and famines engineered by Lazar Kaganovich and Lavrenty Beria, Russia faced catastrophic social and economic decline with 2500 percent inflation during the 1990s.

More than 80 percent of the country became pauperized overnight with famine-like conditions prevailing in large parts of the country as a result of Yeltsin era shock therapy. It has been a major victim of human-trafficking of young women and children for prostitution and is suffering from catastrophic mortality and population decline over the last two decades.

Russia's population is decreasing by around 700,000 people every year, the worst peace time demographic decline in human history. According to United Nations, by 2050 Russia's population of 90–100 million will be the same as that of Vietnam, but much older and weaker.

Please also refer to Nicholas-Eberstadt of the American Enterprise Institute who has spent his entire career researching Europe and Russian demographic issues. Against this tragic back-drop, the last thing Russians need is another confrontation, but — tempted by their weakness — we are doing everything to provoke them.

We accuse Russia, a two-decade old democ-

racy, of authoritarianism. But what are we — a two centuries old democracy — doing around the world with more than 700 military bases? Under the garb of freedom and democracy, we are shamelessly pursuing our own imperialistic military agenda in the Caucasus and elsewhere, thousands of miles away from the American territory.

Consider the recent events in Georgia. Yost conveniently ignores the fact that Abkhazia and South Ossetia were never a part of Georgia until the 1920s, when Stalin, a native Georgian himself, forcibly incorporated them into the Georgian SSR, thus sowing the seeds of present conflict. After the fall of the Soviet-Union, Georgia waged war to annex these two regions resulting in Russian intervention, followed by a Russian peacekeeping effort under the aegis of the United Nations.

Russians have deep cultural links with Georgia, with over a million Georgians living and working in Russia. Yet, the United States continues to inflame Georgia by cultivating anti-Russian sentiments, fomenting Rose revolutions, installing the Saakashvili led puppet regime, and providing weapons and military-political training.

Georgia, a tiny country of 4.5 million which was never attacked or threatened by Russians since the fall of the Soviet Union, now spends a \$1 billion military budget, the second highest in the world as a percentage of GDP, almost entirely financed by the American tax-payer's money to protect that Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline.

The shameful manner in which our controlled media propagates lies was clear from the recent interview on Fox of a young American girl whose family fled from the South Ossetian war zone. Amanda Kokoeva was immediately suppressed and the interview was terminated when she told the truth about Georgian aggression on Ossetia and Russia's timely help to protect the Ossetians.

Why do we keep encircling Russia with offensive weapons and regimes, unilaterally withdrawing from the ABM treaty and waging an undeclared cold war. After 9/11, when the Russians extended us a hand of friendship and helped us in Afghanistan to pursue Osama bin Laden, what did we do? We went on to install our own military bases in Central Asia and threatened Russia by encirclement and military

build-up.

Ukraine is the spiritual and cultural ancestral home for the three east-Slavic nations of Russia, Belarus, and the Ukraine. Millions of Ukrainians and Russians are bound by inter-marriage, language, and culture. Ukraine is to Russia what New England and the original thirteen colonies are to us.

How would we feel if China fueled separatism within a Mexican-majority Southern California or tries to dismember Texas, Alaska, or New-England from us and finances political subversion and anti-American regimes in Mexico and Latin-America? Would we not be outraged? Would we not invoke the Monroe Doctrine and do everything we could to thwart China's designs?

It is clear from Keith's post that he has been influenced by the same old war-drums which the neocons are notorious for. Blinded by their hatred for human civilization, they aim to pit NATO against Russia, needlessly militarizing the entire European theatre and fostering a tense and war-like imperial atmosphere, reopening the wounds of a Europe shattered by wars. When will we say enough is enough? We must reflect on our own actions carefully and perhaps listen to the wisdom of Dr. Stephen Cohen, Professor of Russian and Slavic Studies at New York University, and let Europe engage Russia through business, cultural, and political means.

An EU-Russia partnership and interdependence free from NATO's negative influence will enable peace and harmony and allow Russian democracy to develop its own natural course from its present infancy to a future maturity in a few decades. We must dissolve NATO, a cold-war era relic, bring our troops home from Europe, Korea, and Japan and rehabilitate our veterans who live in abominable physical and psychological agony.

We must also focus on maintaining and even enhancing our already strong national defense and strictly adhere to the constitution and the wisdom of the founding fathers. We must engage with the world through trade, tourism, and cultural links, and end this charade of advancing freedom and democracy as a cloak for imperialism and militarism.

Anurag Maheshwari is a Postdoctoral Associate in the Department of Biological Engineering.

RIAA

Campus Safety

Health Care

Financial Aid

Presidential Election

## Give a damn?

Do something about it!  
Tell us what you think.  
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## Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



## Blobbles - Morbid Edition by Jason Chan

love that chili...

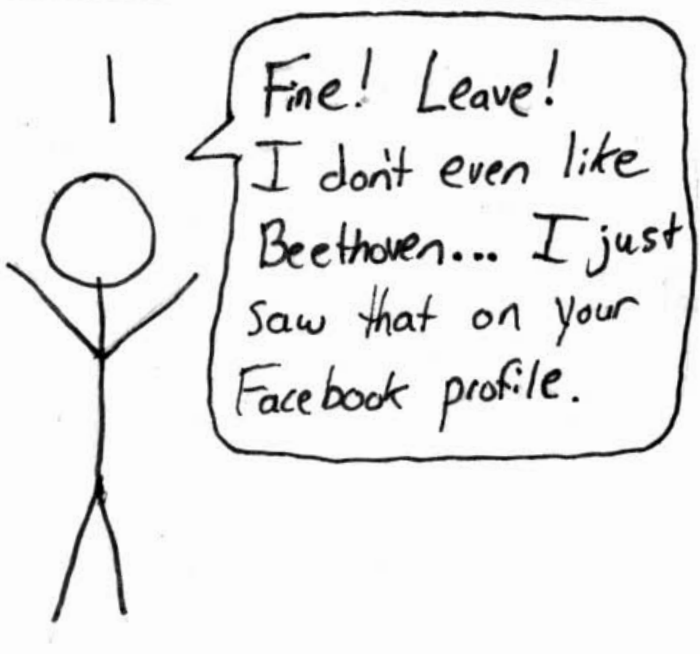
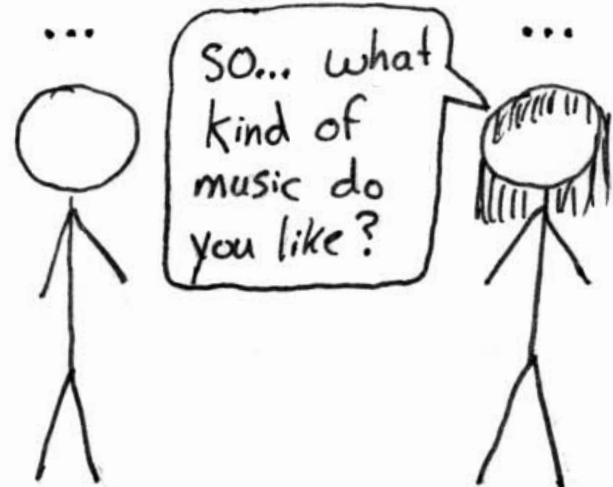


New to Blobbles? Here's how it works. Send me a caption at [blobbles@tech.mit.edu](mailto:blobbles@tech.mit.edu) and I'll draw a cartoon to go along with it!

## The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

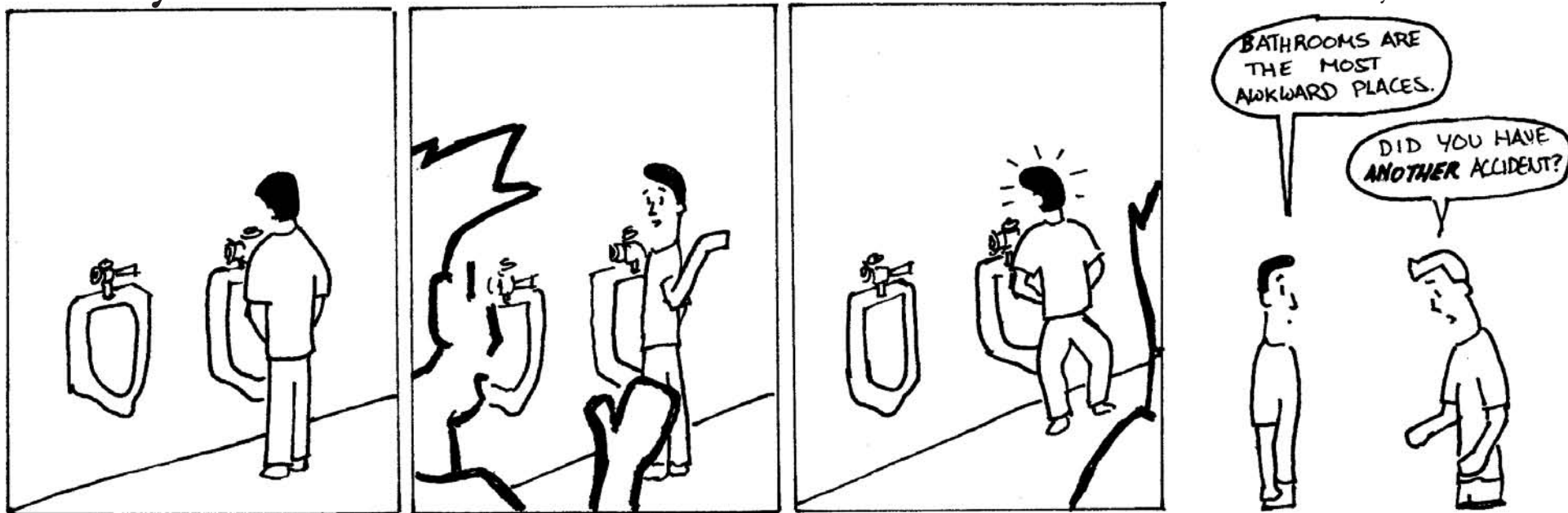
Why I don't get invited to parties...



Want to see your comic in *The Tech*?  
 E-mail [comics@tech.mit.edu](mailto:comics@tech.mit.edu) to find out how!

# Theory of Pete

by Cai GoGwilt



# Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

# Dilbert® by Scott Adams

# Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14

**ACROSS**

- 1 Wild again
- 6 Steer flesh
- 10 Braided string
- 14 Perceptive
- 15 Glamour rival
- 16 Chuckle
- 17 Place to sign
- 19 Toiling away
- 20 Covering grades K-12
- 21 "The Time Machine" race
- 22 Actress Dunne
- 23 Conductor on a steeple

26 Island near Aruba

- 29 Back then
- 30 Mimic
- 31 Sunday night NFL outlet
- 33 Steel-gray metal
- 37 "Sixteen \_"
- 39 Viewed
- 41 RR stops
- 42 Make beloved
- 45 Second to none
- 48 CIA predecessor
- 49 Confess
- 51 If all goes well

53 Stately dance?

- 57 Garbage emanations
- 58 Nothing in Granada
- 59 Church recess
- 63 Kind of duck?
- 64 Closed sign with an explanation
- 66 Quaker pronoun
- 67 Shuts down
- 68 Refine ore
- 69 Any day now
- 70 Lost in thought
- 71 Peddles

**DOWN**

- 1 Lose vitality
- 2 EPA concern
- 3 The Babe
- 4 \_ the Hun
- 5 Director Spike
- 6 Some hotel employees
- 7 "Silas Marner" author
- 8 Pacific weather phenomenon
- 9 Fixed charge
- 10 San Diego team
- 11 Formula Western
- 12 Tanklike animal
- 13 Went steady
- 18 "Woman Drying Her Feet" painter
- 22 Ruler fraction
- 24 Curling surface
- 25 Bus. abbr.
- 26 Blanchett of "Elizabeth"
- 27 On top of
- 28 Tear to pieces
- 32 Put a collar on
- 34 Great Plains tribe
- 35 Large group

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		
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53	54	55					56						
57						58				59	60	61	62
63						64				65			
66						67				68			
69						70				71			

# su | do | ku

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution on page 18.

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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

- 36 Gas from the past
- 38 Marine shade
- 40 Most eerie
- 43 Rara \_
- 44 Ely or Howard
- 46 Wheat bundle
- 47 Little piggy
- 50 Actress Ryder
- 52 Blood bank supply

- 53 Electrical units
- 54 Potato type
- 55 Juliet's lover
- 56 Grocery store chain
- 60 Close-call comment
- 61 Web makeup
- 62 Tolkien trees
- 64 Neighbor of Aus.
- 65 Approx.: suff.

## ARTS

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★★

*Morally Ambiguous**Chabrol's Latest is Dark and Seductive*By **Praveen Rathinavelu**  
ARTS EDITOR*A Girl Cut in Two*Directed by *Claude Chabrol*Written by *Claude Chabrol and Cécile**Maistre*Starring *Ludivine Sagnier, Benoît Magimel,**and François Berléand*

Not Rated

Now Playing in Limited Release

At the center of Claude Chabrol's *A Girl Cut in Two* is the kind of pulpy love triangle that the tabloids dream of: a nymphet-like TV weather-girl is caught between a nationally revered literary figure (decades older) and a volatile, dashing heir to a pharmaceutical company fortune. The conflict ends very, very badly.

The sordid affair is then thrust into a vicious media frenzy — ready to devour it whole — but the most surprising thing about Chabrol's film is that, despite a heavy publicized legal trial, it is impossible to pass conclusive judgments on the characters. We are unable to moralize because throughout *A Girl Cut in Two* we are

constantly deceived, manipulated, and shocked by how the characters can alternate between being charming and detestable. You come out of all of it feeling kind of dirty.

The weather-girl, Gabrielle (Ludivine Sagnier), enters the film pristine and childlike; she is constantly referred to as "angel" by her countless male admirers. Her subsequent corruption at the hands of a famous writer, Charles Saint-Denis (François Berléand), is unsettling because, rather than expressing fear or discomfort, it is clear that Gabrielle enjoys it — a lot. It becomes difficult to form any conclusions about Gabrielle — she seems at once perverse and innocent — and watching her for too long makes it impossible to maintain any kind of rigid moral perspective.

Saint-Denis and his rival Paul Gaudens (Benoît Magimel) are similarly evasive characters; they also happen to be terrifically acted. Saint-Denis' chilling ability to manipulate Gabrielle is quickly apparent, but because of Berléand's performance, he comes off as disarmingly brilliant anyway. Paul is easier to hate at first, he's whiny and self-involved, but by the end you find yourself defending his rather

questionable choices as well.

Almost in direct contrast to the film's vague moral anchors, Chabrol's direction is tight, with a fluid narrative and sharp visual style. This, if anything, heightens our displacement and confusion by the end, because it is so easy to get tangled up in the narrative.

We are jolted back, however, by the film's unexpected conclusion. As the film closes we find Gabrielle in an vulnerable and humiliating position; the camera closes in on her face as she seems to reflect on being manipulated by pretty much every character in the movie. Chabrol's

most distinct talent is his ability to extract pleasure from such rampant cynicism.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICÉLEO

**Benoît Magimel and Ludivine Sagnier make up two sides of a love triangle in Claude Chabrol's French Film.**

## MUSIC

*Music in the City of Love**Or Boston's Lack Thereof*By **Balaji Mani**  
STAFF WRITER

How well do you know the local jazz scene in Boston? If you're under 21, chances are you have some difficulty getting into clubs. Have you ever attended Boston's national festival of music? Well, given that Boston hosts no such event, I can say that you haven't. Spending three months in the city of love, Paris, I've realized how closely music and culture are linked — and how much we might be missing out in lovely Beantown.

Before I delve into the vibrant live music culture of Paris, it's important to note that the French capital is home to some of the world's best street musicians. For several years, street musicians have had to audition in order to play in the Paris Metro. A typical busker is usually equipped with an accordion (some players as young as ten years old) or a guitar. While traditional French ballads are their forte, the Paris streets attract musicians from all genres and languages. American pop and folk songs could be heard throughout the Concorde area, while

traveling just a few metro stops East brings a more African influence and sound. The crooked, irregular streets of the famous arrondissements (Parisian city districts) make a perfect intimate stage for guerilla performance: the narrow passages naturally amplify the sound of an instrument up to the top level of any apartment building. I myself tried to take my guitar out to the streets — I was most successful in populated squares near Centre Georges Pompidou, near the museum of contemporary art. There, I found myself among a whole circus of performers — in addition to musicians, I met dancers, jugglers, magicians, and mimes. One dancer in particular, an American, claimed that he came to Paris during summers just for the performance experience.

The music on the street, however, is unmatched by the music found on stage. The vast majority of restaurants include live music in the menu price, but it's often traditional French music. The most typical restaurant musicians play Manouche, a style of jazz Django Reinhardt developed in France during the 1930s. If you're looking for a real performance, though, Paris is blessed with countless jazz clubs. Unfortunately,

in Boston, you must be 21 in order to see a show at a club like Wally's, which is just South of MIT on Mass. Ave. In Paris, I found numerous jazz clubs in every district. Depending on the night, an entrance fee could range from 5 to 25 euros, usually depending on the quality of the group. Nevertheless, I was fortunate enough to find a few nights during the week, and even on the weekend, when entry was free. What's most interesting about the French live jazz culture is the *soirée boeuf*, which is the equivalent to a jam session. While Wally's in Boston has a blues jam every week, the *soirée boeuf* occurs more often and at more locations in Paris, and sometimes happens spontaneously (if the piano decides to ask an audience member to come up and play). Certain clubs hold regular jam nights, so avid young musicians come prepared with sheet music and their instruments. As you might imagine, some young players are better than others, but the overall feel of the *soirée boeuf* is informal, light-hearted, and exciting.

This summer, France held its National Festival of Music on June 21. All over the country, major cities held concerts and performances throughout the day. In Paris, the street corners

and alleyways were filled with impromptu stages housing groups of almost every style. Most clubs and small concert venues allowed free entry for the day to showcase various rock, hip-hop, world music, and classical groups. A number of bars also held jam sessions throughout the day. I was lucky enough to play drums with a funk band in front of Sohil, a bar near Hôtel de Ville.

Coming back to the Boston area from Paris, as a lover of music, I was a little disappointed. I became habituated to a culture where it was easy to see great music for very little travel and cost. It also seemed that music was less intrusive in Paris, functioning instead as an aspect of daily life. While Sculler's and the Regattabar, two Boston jazz clubs, have student discounts on weekends, Paris' Sunside or Autour de Midi are friendlier to those of us on a budget. I long for the day when I can go out to Boston and head into a club to hear some music, buy a drink only if I really want one, and leave with a stronger connection to my surroundings. Until then, I guess all I can look forward to is chanting "Take me out to the ball game" with the Red Sox.

## CD AND CONCERT REVIEW

*Forget About Phish**Bassist Gordon Releases Decent Effort, Rocks Boston*By **Balaji Mani**  
STAFF WRITER

Mike Gordon

*The Green Sparrow*Produced by *John Siket*

Rounder

Aug. 5, 2008

Performed at *Paradise Rock Club*

Sept. 7, 2008

Mike Gordon is weird. He's best known as the bassist from the now broken-up Phish, but also as the author of Mike's Corner, a section of the band's newsletter which served as a sort of psychedelic literary repository. Take for example a story he published in October, 1995 with the beginning: "As far as tikes go, Johnald was a wee bit irregular. For one thing, he had an Amrope coming out of his head. You may be wondering, 'What is an Amrope?' I won't piss on you for wondering that. Actually, it's like an antenna, but it's got some mold on it. It's not something you buy at a store, maybe you do buy it in a store."

His first solo album, 2003's *Inside In*, continued the weird and distorted realities usually found in Mike's writings and handful of short films. However with his most recent effort, *The Green Sparrow*, Gordon evolves and takes the weird to strangely accessible levels. He toys with genres by releasing an overall rock record, with hints of folk, calypso, and funk. This is almost no surprise, given that Gordon's tastes and influences range widely, and that in addition to

the bass, he can play the piano, guitar, banjo, and harmonica. Lyrically, Gordon opens up to the listener. He's increasingly self-reflecting and sometimes addresses his subject plainly and openly. In 'Jaded', a funky, Spin Doctors-esque tune, Gordon raps about his frustrations against his subject. He sings "Now I'm jaded!" during the choruses, in total pop splendor. At first it's a little comical to hear him juxtapose melodic rapping with American Idol style one-line choruses, but it's also incredibly fitting.

On 'Morphing Again' Gordon addresses a beloved flying-creature, evolving through life. Imagery such as "she floats through rain like a waterlogged butterfly" prove that we're still in Gordon's twisted world-view, but we can relate to his endearing tribute to his beloved. The weird is okay now — even when he sings that "she escapes the bird like an airborne scorpion." The song, probably one of the best tracks of all ten, is clever lyrically and musically. It's a folksy, Caribbean-themed track that alludes to the bouncy relationship he may have with his odd lover. We almost empathize with Gordon's fears when he introspects: "she's morphing again into something I can't recognize, and just when I'm in, she might morph her way out."

Truthfully, only a few other songs hold the same power as 'Morphing' and 'Jaded.' There are plenty of unique ideas and fantastic moments, but areas of the album that just meander and miss the opportunity to develop lyrical or musical motifs. At other times, Gordon just misses it completely, in his attempt to make this album more loose and accessible. In 'Pretend,'

an acoustic ballad, Gordon sings to his girl gesturing "we can deja-vu backwards, baby." The only problem is that he continues to append several other lines after that with "baby;" and it's not clear whether he's being wry or actually thinks that it fits.

Last weekend in Boston at the Paradise Rock Club, Gordon and his new band proved that *The Green Sparrow* translates much better in the live setting. Though the crowd was riddled with Phish fans who wake up every morning dreaming of a band reunion, it couldn't be clearer that Gordon has moved on from Phish and was the leader of a new group. Though a quiet member on stage with Phish, Gordon played the new role of front-man with ease, occasionally joking around with the audience. The group opened with 'Another Door,' also the opener on *The Green Sparrow*. On stage Gordon successfully communicated with his band members, either by musical cues, facial signals or actually going up to them and speaking to them during songs. The actual songs played during the show differed drastically from the written setlist left on the stage, based on Gordon's impulse decisions. While the majority of the album tracks clock in at less than five minutes, the band extended each song into the eight to twelve minute range. These extended jams showcased Gordon's ability to lead as a bassist, but also the various strengths and weaknesses of his bandmates. Guitarist Scott Murawski meandered at times, and keyboardist Tom Cleary relied too often on similar blues licks to fill out his solos. However, for a group trying to improvise on stage, they

succeeded in fully developing each song into cohesive ideas that went beyond the abrupt nature of the studio versions.

Gordon rightfully included the obligatory Phish song, 'Meat,' in the first set. It was the only song for which the audience knew all the lyrics, with the exception of 'She Said, She Said,' an epic Beatles cover that lasted almost 14 minutes. Before 'Radar Blip,' Gordon asked the audience to decide which member of the band would lead the jam using communal hand signals. The 'experiment' more or less worked, and reached a comic peak when everyone had fists raised in the air while shimmying (the signal for the percussionist to lead the jam).

The crowd danced non-stop for the majority of the first set. Weaker album tracks such as 'Voices' couldn't come alive in concert, but the addition of several songs not found on the album made the repertoire varied enough to forgive dull moments. The band was having a blast on stage, considering it was their last date on an exhaustive tour of North America. For now, Gordon is done touring. He mentioned in several interviews that he had recorded over 50 songs before narrowing down the 10 that made it onto *The Green Sparrow*. With all the songs he has left over, plus new ideas and songs that evolved from the tour, he could be in the midst of putting together a new solo effort. In order to hone his songwriting, he should take just a little more time with the next album. Hopefully, he'll spend even more time touring it. Unless that other band he used to play in starts touring again.

# The 2nd Korean Film Festival

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs And Trade

# Film Based on MIT Employee's Book Shown in Toronto

By Wesley Morris  
THE BOSTON GLOBE

TORONTO

On Tuesday night Scott Campbell watched the characters in his novel walk and talk, frown and dance, paint and make love on a movie screen at a major international film festival. That's stuff you can see people do at any film festival. For Campbell, it was astounding, since he needed subtitles to figure out what had happened to his book.

Campbell doesn't speak German. He lives in Jamaica Plain and works as director of communications at the MIT School of Architecture

and Planning. And an adaptation of his novel, "Aftermath," about a distressed and inhibited wealthy Boston family, has become the film "Im Winter ein Jahr" ("A Year Ago in Winter") before the manuscript itself has managed to find an American publisher.

So there Campbell sat the other evening, in a capacious Canadian theater at the Toronto International Film Festival, marveling at and moved by the irony of it all.

Campbell joins a solid group of living local authors whose work has been turned into a movie — Scott Heim and Dennis Lehane, for start-

ers.

Movie producers and film studios often buy the rights to books that never become movies. Campbell's is another case entirely. "I don't know anybody who's ever had it happen this way," he said after the film's world premiere. "It's intense."

Campbell's story presents up-close the vagaries of transforming a novel into a movie. He wrote it after a friend of his, a painter, told him about his experience doing a portrait for a family whose son had died suddenly. They wanted him to put the surviving daughter and the dead son in the same piece, and he forged an intense emo-

tional connection with the daughter.

While Campbell's agent was trying to get the novel published in the United States, a friend of the agent (another agent) was interested in acquiring the rights for her client, the German director Caroline Link, whose film "Nowhere in Africa" won the foreign-language Academy Award five years ago.

When the process of bringing "Aftermath" to the screen began in 2004, the movie was conceived as an English-language production with Link in charge. For prospective Hollywood backers, there were some casting problems (the actors weren't

famous enough) and commercial concerns (the story wasn't spectacular enough), and it looked as if things would never get off the ground. Then Link realized that if she really wanted to film Campbell's book, why wait for Hollywood's approval? She went home, where she's a well-respected director, wrote the script in German — shifting the scene to suburban Munich — and began production.

"I'm such an impatient person," Link said, trying to decipher an hors d'oeuvre at a reception after the film's premiere. "It sounds stupid when I say it, but in Germany it's my name that finances a movie, and I can cast whoever I want."

Campbell had wanted to attend a press screening the day before but was turned away for having improper credentials. So Tuesday's premiere was his first time seeing Link's completed film. He hadn't even been able to read a script. Earlier in the afternoon, he was nervous about the changes Link might make. He peppered a critic who'd seen the film with questions about the differences between the book and the film. Yes, the son's cause of death is unchanged. No, the painter's homosexuality is not as clearly defined.

For the premiere, Campbell brought his domestic partner, Richard MacMillan, and Louis Briel, the friend whose story was the basis for the book. The author wore a suit and tie and maintained his good humor despite being nervous.

Campbell is handsome in a distinguished sort of way, but he was unsure about how to tackle the red carpet. And the throng of photographers stood behind a barricade uncertain about whether to tackle him. A few flashbulbs went off, almost by accident. A few more after he posed with Link.

When the film, which is still seeking American distribution, was over, the audience enthusiastically applauded.

"Whatever Caroline did, she really captured my journey as a painter through Scott's book," said Briel, wiping his eyes. "That surprised me." He stopped for a moment to collect himself then offered a concise, culturally apt description of his mood: "I'm verklemmt."

So was Campbell. He and one of the producers talked about what they loved about the movie. But during the ride to the reception, he sat in the back of the car, his forehead beaded with sweat, not speaking. He looked winded.

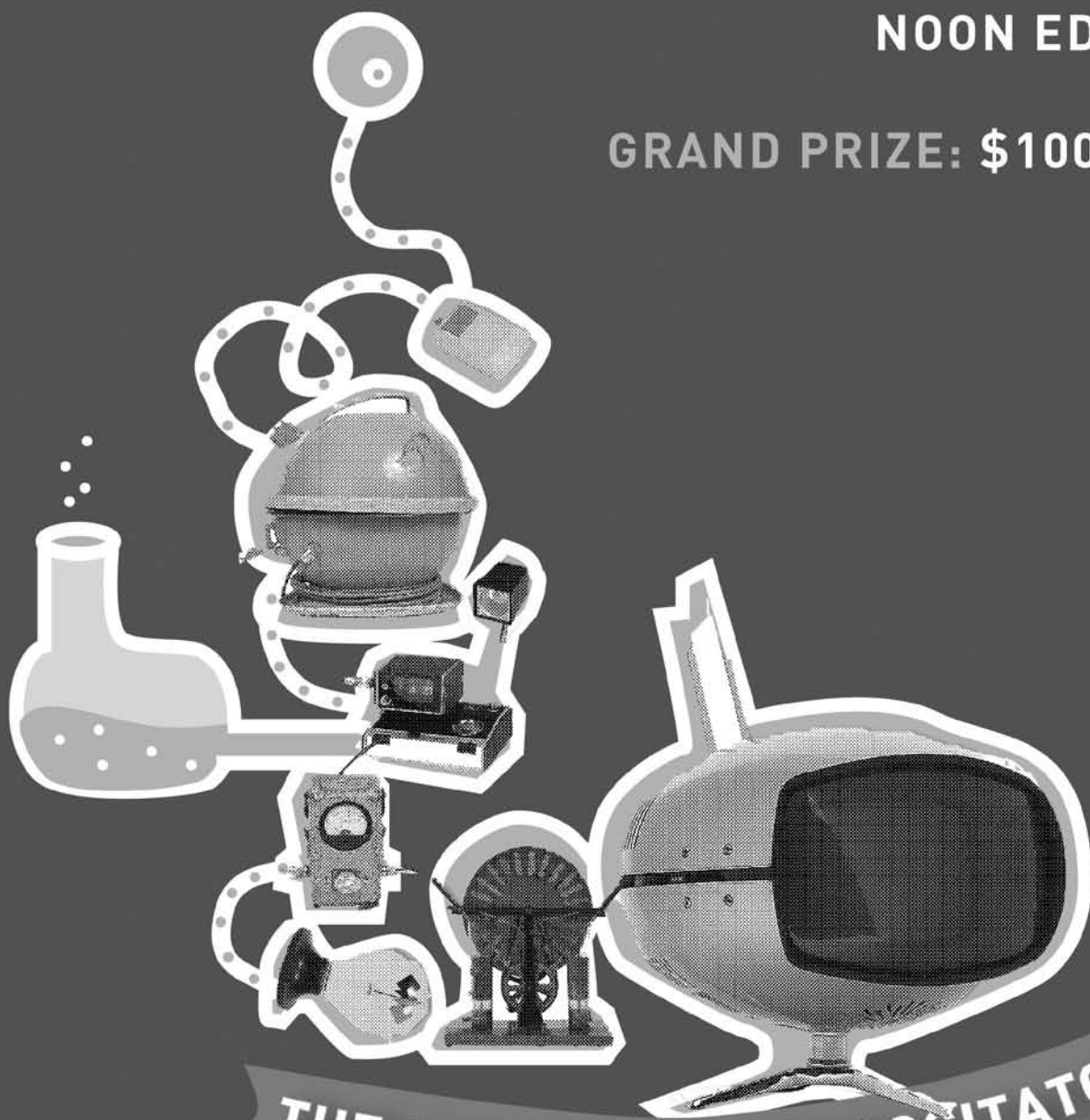
"I started writing this book, what, six, seven years ago, and it's so strange, in a good way, to see it go on this journey," he said. "I'm actually glad the movie got made in Germany, because Hollywood is such a complicated place, too many cooks in the kitchen. It's pretty thrilling to see somebody of Caroline's caliber take hold of your stuff and bring it alive. It's just kind of hard to respond right now."

As for the book's availability in English (a German version is forthcoming in Europe), Campbell has decided to publish it himself through his website, [www.scottcampbell-books.com](http://www.scottcampbell-books.com). But the movie has changed everything for its source material. In a sense, the book has been found in translation.

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# Senate Discusses College Tuitions, Costs, Endowments

**Tuition**, from Page 1

value of their tax exemption, in the 2007 fiscal year, was more than \$17 billion. He cited a survey finding that in that year, universities earned an average return of 17.2 percent on their assets but spent only 4.6 percent.

The two richest universities, Harvard and Yale, together have about \$60 billion in endowments.

"If an institution could educate all of its undergraduate students, regardless of need, free of charge, with a payout of just 1 percent of its assets, is its endowment an unreasonable accumulation of taxpayer-subsidized funds?" Mr. Grassley asked.

Although Mr. Grassley has repeatedly suggested that he would like to mandate that the richest universities spend 5 percent of their endowments each year, as private foundations must, there was no hint on Monday that any specific legislation was on the horizon.

In fact, Mr. Grassley's closing remarks gave some comfort to university leaders, who oppose such legislation. He described his earlier experience looking into problems with nonprofits, saying his initial assessment was that it would take "a massive amount of legislation" to correct the problems. But after discussions with nonprofit groups, he told the educators, "a lot of the things that needed to be corrected were self-corrected." He added, "We'd like to encourage you folks to look inward and correct what can be corrected."

In January, the Senate Finance Committee requested detailed endowment and spending data from 136 colleges and universities with endowments of at least \$500 million.

Education leaders said Monday that many universities had been taking steps to make college more affordable.

"Total student aid provided by institutions has more than doubled in

the last decade, from \$11.4 billion to \$26.3 billion," said Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education.

Ms. Broad pointed out that despite all the attention to the richest universities and highest tuitions, most universities had small endowments. Only 3 percent of the nation's college students are at institutions costing \$25,000 a year or more, she said, and just 75 universities control 71 percent of all endowment assets.

Daniel Fogel, president of the University of Vermont, said that despite rising costs, his university had reduced expenses by \$886 per

student since 2002 to cope with shrinking public financial support. A majority of undergraduates at his university come from out of state, and their higher tuition helps subsidize Vermont students, Mr. Fogel said, but even so, he said he worried about the fiscal future.

"In Vermont, we worry that our business model will break before long," he said.

In the discussion, many of the educators took pains to explain why higher education, and therefore tuition, is so expensive.

Shirley M. Tilghman, the president of Princeton University, said

that keeping up with the explosion of knowledge was an inherently expensive process, as the emergence of new fields of knowledge, like genomics, required new spending.


"When Princeton made the commitment to create a Genomics Institute, we did not turn around and cancel the department of classics," she said.

Anthony W. Marx, the president of Amherst College, acknowledged that higher education was not an efficient process. "We have an eight-to-one faculty ratio, we sit in a room and we talk for hours, that's what we do," he said. "It costs us \$80,000 a

year to educate each student."

Mr. Marx, who has been a leader in recruiting low- and middle-income students by replacing loans with grants, said he worried that the high sticker price at Amherst and other elite colleges scared off low-income families, even though they would not have to pay it.

Those representing wealthy universities spoke of worries that a required spending rate would interfere with their ability to manage economic downturns, and described the complications of dealing with restricted gifts that could not be used for financial aid.




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# Hockfield Offers MIT's Expertise in Planning Energy R&D Roadmap

Energy, from Page 1

future, we have the power to invent, produce, and sell, not the obligation to buy."

Asking Congress "to triple current rates" of spending on energy research, Hockfield added that MIT "would be honored to help design ... [a] detailed energy R&D roadmap."

Hockfield's testimony was joined by those of Stephen Forrest, Vice President of Research at the University of Michigan; Jack Fellows, Vice President of the University Corporation on Atmospheric Research; and Daniel Kammen, a UC Berkeley professor.

According to the MIT news office,

Hockfield will be making another plea for increased spending on energy research next week at a press conference on energy at the National Press Club. She also wrote an op-ed article called "Reimagining Energy" for the Washington Post on Thursday which reiterated points from her testimony.

Since her inauguration, Hockfield has made energy research a top priority of her presidency and oversaw the launch of the MIT Energy Initiative in September 2006.

The committee Hockfield spoke to was, according to its Web site, formed early last year by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) "to address America's oil dependence and the threat of global warming."

# One in Five '08 Grads Got Their Job Offer Before September '07

Survey, from Page 1

ceptances.

Career searches start early

Of graduates going into industry, 33 percent of students without graduate degrees and 27% of Master's students started their job searches before the beginning of the academic year of their graduation. 20 percent of students with Bachelor's and Master's degrees received the offer that they

accepted before Sept. 2007. By the end of 2007, approximately one-half of these students accepted their job offers. About 7 percent of graduates who currently hold jobs did so before the start of their graduation year.

Students who took the survey were asked to grade the most important factors in their job choice. On a scale from one to four (with four being the most important), Bachelor's degree graduates graded "salary" as 2.73. According to the students, the most important values of job offers are "job content" (3.5), "creative and challenging work" (3.37), "opportunity for career advancement" (3.16), and "fit with culture/environment" (3.17).

Negotiation yields benefits

On average, Bachelor's and Master's student were forced to accept their job offers within the time-frame of a month. Many students — 84 percent of Bachelor's and 67 percent of Master's students — chose not to negotiate their salaries with their employers during that time. However, for those students who did negotiate, salaries were increased by a mean of about \$6,000. A lower percentage of students negotiated their sign-on bonuses, however, those who did negotiate earned, on average, an additional \$3,000.

For those who received sign-on bonuses, Bachelor's degree holders, on average, received an extra \$10,331 and Master's earned \$22,327.

The data compiled by the Careers Office is still preliminary and will include more extensive breakdowns and analysis when it is released in its final form by December 2008.

Reports of previous class survey are available on the Careers Office Web site (<http://careers.mit.edu>).



## Museum of Science.

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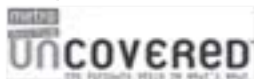
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### Solution to Crossword


from page 7

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A	C	U	T	E	E	L	L	E	H	A	H	A
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T	H	E	E	E	N	D	S	S	M	E	L	T
S	O	O	N	R	A	P	T	H	A	W	K	S

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COURSE III



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## CAREER WEEK EVENTS

### Monday, September 15

12 – 2 PM	Résumé Assessment Walk-ins – hosted by the Careers Office . . . . Room 12-170
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Netezza . . . . . 32-124
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Weiss Asset Management . . . . . 32-141
7 – 8:30 PM	Info Session: Clarabridge, Inc. . . . . 32-155
8 – 9:30 PM	Consulting Panel: Booz Allen Hamilton, Stroud Consulting . . . . . 32-141

### Tuesday, September 16

12 – 2 PM	Résumé Assessment Walk-ins – hosted by the Careers Office . . . . . 12-170
4 – 5 PM	How to Work a Career Fair – hosted by the Careers Office. . . . . 2-105
4 – 5 PM	Info Session: Shell Oil . . . . . 4-145
5 – 6:30 PM	Software Panel: Amazon, Akamai, ITA Software, Palantir. . . . . 6-120
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Procter and Gamble. . . . . 4-145
7 – 8 PM	Info Session: Procter and Gamble – Asian Branch . . . . . 4-145
7 – 8 PM	Info Session: Coatue Management . . . . . 32-144
7 – 9 PM	Info Session: Exxon Mobil Corporation. . . . . 6-120
8 – 9:30 PM	Technology Panel: Atheros, BBN Technologies, Cisco, Spansion . . . . . 4-237
8:30 – 9:30 PM	Info Session: International Game Technology . . . . . 32-144

### Wednesday, September 17

12 – 1 PM	Info Session: Orbital Sciences Corporation . . . . . 4-153
1 – 6 PM	Résumé Assessment Walk-ins – hosted by the Careers Office . . . . . 12-170
4 – 6 PM	Minority Student and Employer Networking – hosted by the OME. . . . . 10-105
5 – 6 PM	Info Session: DC Energy . . . . . 1-134
5 – 6 PM	Info Session: Electro Scientific Industries (ESI) . . . . . 4-145
5 – 6 PM	Info Session: Thomson Reuters . . . . . 32-124
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Corning Incorporated . . . . . 4-149
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Karem Aircraft, Inc . . . . . 4-153
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Next Jump, Inc. . . . . 32-141
7 – 8 PM	Info Session: Global Personals LLC . . . . . 1-135
7 – 9:30 PM	<b>Career Fair Kickoff and Networking Session. . . . . Kresge BBQ Pits</b>

### Thursday, September 18

<b>11 AM – 6 PM</b>	<b>Career Fair 2008 . . . . . Johnson Athletic Center</b>
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: Bloomberg . . . . . 56-154
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: U.S. Department of Energy . . . . . 1-150
7 – 9 PM	Info Session: Allstate Insurance Company. . . . . 56-114
7 – 9 PM	Career Fair Banquet – hosted by SWE. . . . . Hyatt Regency Cambridge
8 – 9 PM	Info Session: Central Intelligence Agency . . . . . 56-154

### Friday, September 19

5 – 7 PM	Info Session: Babcock Power Inc. . . . . 4-149
6 – 7 PM	Info Session: The MathWorks . . . . . 32-155

# Doctors Say Siddiqui Hallucinates, Sleeps Poorly, But Eats Well

Siddiqui, from Page 1

thoughts concerning her son's welfare, poor sleep, and moderate appetite." The letter also describes a hallucination: "She also reported seeing her daughter in her cell, and was unable to apply appropriate reality testing to this phenomenon."

Siddiqui politely declined to receive psychotropic drugs, the letter said.

Judge Berman ordered a physical examination of Siddiqui by a female doctor last week Thursday, after a hearing which discussed, among other things, Siddiqui's refusal to meet with her court-appointed lawyer, Elizabeth M. Fink. Siddiqui refused that physical examination on Friday, Sept. 5.

On Monday, Judge Berman ordered a psychiatric examination.

According to the warden's letter, Siddiqui was reexamined on Tuesday Sept. 9. She was again diagnosed with depressive type psychosis, this time chronic, by Dr. McLean. Siddiqui spoke through a blanket she held over her head, and, speaking "politely," said, "I do not want to kill myself." The letter said that Siddiqui has been subject to routine mental health check-ups ten times in August and six times so far in September.

Elaine Whitfield Sharp, Siddiqui's Boston-area lawyer, described the diagnosis as "to be expected." Sharp described Siddiqui as "heartbroken," a mother separated from her children and then held in prison.

Sharp said that Siddiqui was having a "normal human reaction to what's going on."

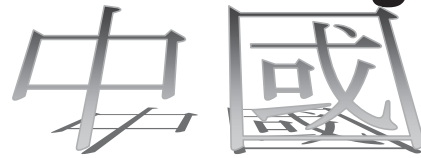
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# Obama Proposes Panoply of Education Programs

By Sam Dillon  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHICAGO

Senator Barack Obama learned how hard it can be to solve America's public education problems when he headed a philanthropic drive here a decade ago that spent \$150 million on Chicago's troubled schools and barely made a dent.

Drawing on that experience, Mr. Obama, the Democratic nominee for president, is campaigning on an ambitious plan that promises \$18 billion a year in new federal spending on early childhood classes, teacher recruitment, performance pay and dozens of other initiatives.

In Dayton, Ohio, on Tuesday, Mr. Obama used his education proposals to draw a contrast with Senator John McCain, his Republican opponent, and to insist to voters that he, more than his rival, would change the way Washington works.

Were he to become president, Mr. Obama would retain the emphasis on the high standards and accountability of President Bush's education law, No Child Left Behind. But he would rewrite the federal law to offer more help to high-need schools, especially by training thousands of new teachers to serve in them, his campaign said. He would also expand early childhood education, which he believes gets more bang for the buck than remedial classes for older students.

Mr. Obama added a new flourish to his stump speech, promising for the first time on Tuesday to double

federal spending on public charter schools while holding those with poor records accountable.

But more than most campaign blueprints, Mr. Obama's education plan reflects his own work with Chicago's public schools, campaign staff members and people who have worked with him said in interviews. His plan signals that he is looking to apply those lessons nationwide.

"Barack has been very engaged, very inquisitive about the dynamics of how do you improve public schools," said Scott Smith, a former publisher of The Chicago Tribune who has collaborated with Mr. Obama on education projects here for a decade.

One of the biggest lessons Mr. Obama drew from his experiences in Chicago, associates said, is that student achievement is highly dependent on teacher quality.

In the two decades since Mr. Obama arrived in Chicago, its public schools have undergone a sweeping turnaround, from an education wasteland to a district that, while still facing major challenges, is among the most improved in the nation. The city has closed many failing schools and reopened them with new staffs, making it an important laboratory for one of the country's most vexing problems.

The city closed the failing Dodge Elementary School, for example, in 2002 and reopened it as an academy where candidates for advanced degrees in education work in classrooms under master teachers while

studying at a local university. Mr. Obama visited the school in 2005, liked what he saw and now proposes to create 200 such teacher residency programs nationwide. The goal, he says, would be to turn out 30,000 teachers a year to work in the toughest schools.

Mr. Obama's views have drawn heavily from a cast of experts who helped mold the Chicago experience. Strategies for overhauling failing schools have come from Arne Duncan, who as chief executive of the Chicago public schools led the turnaround efforts. The senator derived his views on early childhood education in part from the work of a Nobel Prize-winning economist based in Chicago.

The scope of Mr. Obama's plan has impressed many educators, but not everyone.

Michael J. Petrilli, a former Education Department official under Mr. Bush, said Mr. Obama's plan was more comprehensive than Mr. McCain's.

"That's because Obama is proposing what somebody called a Christmas tree of new programs," Mr. Petrilli said. "McCain is suggesting a couple of new things, but doesn't think Washington should spend more on education than we already are."

Mr. Obama's interest in education extends back to his work as a community organizer here in the mid-1980s. In his memoir, "Dreams From My Father," he describes a school system plagued by textbook shortages and teacher strikes. He carried those experiences with him to Harvard Law School, where he took courses on school issues taught by Christopher Edley Jr.

"Barack became committed to the notion that progress in school reform can't come through volunteerism and professional aspiration alone," said Mr. Edley, now dean of the law school at the University of California, Berkeley. "It has to be undergirded with a legal and regulatory structure that rewards success and goes after failure."

Mr. Obama immersed himself in education issues after his return to Chicago, where he began lecturing at the University of Chicago Law School and joined the boards of two education foundations.

Chicago received \$49 million from a \$500 million endowment by

Walter H. Annenberg, the billionaire publisher, for school reform efforts nationwide, and the city added \$98 million in matching funds for the Chicago Annenberg Challenge, a philanthropic campaign that financed enrichment projects at a third of the city's 600 schools.

Mr. Obama was nominated to the Challenge board and was elected chairman in 1995, said Ken Rolling, executive director of the group, which operated through 2001. Mr. Obama continued to teach law during his five-year unpaid tenure as board chairman, and he was twice elected to the Illinois Senate.

Several board members, including two university presidents, far outranked Mr. Obama in education experience.

"Let me say the room had no shortage of egos, including my own," said Stanley O. Ikenberry, a board member who at the time was president of the University of Illinois. "It was unusual: here you had a person trained in the law chairing a board on school reform." Still, he said, Mr. Obama won his colleagues' respect.

Supporters of Mr. McCain have been trying to taint Mr. Obama by highlighting his ties to William Ayers, a member of the violent Weather Underground in the 1960s, by pointing out that they worked on the Challenge project together. Mr. Ayers was indicted on conspiracy charges that were later thrown out for prosecutorial misconduct.

Mr. Obama has acknowledged that he is a friend of Mr. Ayers but has sought to minimize their interactions. Records show that Mr. Ayers, now a professor of education at the University of Illinois at Chicago, helped write the Challenge proposal. The records also show that he and Mr. Obama worked on the Challenge project together and that they attended some of the same meetings.

The Challenge's overall approach — supporting many diverse education projects rather than a coordinated school improvement strategy — had been established before Mr. Obama was named board chairman, and the board came under immediate pressure to approve grant proposals quickly.

"If you throw \$10 on the table in Chicago, people are going to fight over it, and we had \$50 million," Mr. Rolling recalled.

Proposals poured in and the board eventually financed projects involving 210 schools. Some were imaginative: one, for example, connected schools with museums in the Chicago area so that students learned science from a paleontologist at the local dinosaur exhibit. But many

were not.

"The project proposals by and large were awful," one board member told an evaluation team in 1998.

Relations with school authorities were difficult. Just as the Challenge got under way, the Illinois Legislature gave Mayor Richard M. Daley control of the school district, and he began an improvement campaign based on high-stakes testing and other measures. Annenberg's let-a-thousand-flowers-bloom approach often seemed at cross-purposes with that strategy.

Ben LaBolt, a spokesman for the Obama campaign, said the reading and math scores of the lowest-achieving students improved in the years when the Challenge was investing in the Chicago schools.

But a final report on the Challenge concluded that the huge effort had brought little change.

"The Challenge's 'bottom line' was improving student achievement," the report said. "Among the schools it supported, the Challenge had little impact on student outcomes."

But the experience gave Mr. Obama an appreciation for the multiple problems facing urban schools, Mr. Rolling said. The city has been a pioneer ever since in exploring ways to recruit, train and support teachers.

This has been especially true since leadership of the city schools passed in 2001 to Mr. Duncan, a friend of and sounding board for Mr. Obama. The two also frequently play basketball.

Mr. Duncan accompanied Mr. Obama on his visit in 2005 to the Dodge school, now the Dodge Renaissance Academy, on the West Side of Chicago. After the school's makeover, student scores rose significantly, and Mr. Obama wanted to know why.

The two men arrived with no entourage and sat down with the staff in a library. Mr. Obama asked about the best way to train teachers, according to those who participated. What would it take to keep qualified teachers from leaving the profession? Would merit pay help? "He wasn't checking his Palm Pilot," recalled Karla Kemp, a teacher.

Mr. Obama has brought a similar intensity to discussions of early childhood education, on which he proposes to spend \$10 billion a year. A Chicago expert who has influenced his thinking on this is the Nobel laureate, James J. Heckman, an economist at the University of Chicago. Mr. Obama's plan cites Dr. Heckman in connection with research that found that for every dollar spent on prekindergarten education and the care of infants and their families, there is a \$7 to \$10 decrease in spending on special education, remedial education and prisons.

The two men have never met, even though they live so close to each other in the Kenwood neighborhood that they use the same dry cleaner and it occasionally sends Mr. Obama's suit coats to Dr. Heckman's home.

Last year, when Mr. Obama started his presidential campaign and began preparing his education plan, an assistant to Mr. Obama contacted Dr. Heckman and asked him to react to an early draft of the early childhood plan.

"I completely redrafted the section," Dr. Heckman said. "Most striking about the campaign was that they listened to what I said."

Jeff Zeleny contributed reporting from Dayton, Ohio.

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- MISTI MIT FRANCE September 23, 5:00p-7:00p, E38-700 (7th floor conference room)
- MISTI MIT JAPAN September 24 5:00p-7:00p, E38-700 (7th floor conference room)
- MISTI MIT INDIA September 24 5:00p-7:00p, E38-600 (6th floor conference room)
- MISTI MIT GERMANY September 25 5:00p-7:00p, E38-700 (7th floor conference room)
- MISTI MIT ITALY October 8 5:00p-7:00p, E38-700 (7th floor conference room)
- MISTI MIT MEXICO October 9 5:00p-7:00p, E38-700 (7th floor conference room)
- MISTI MIT ISRAEL October 16 5:00p-7:00p, 56-114
- MISTI MIT SPAIN October 23 5:00p-7:00p, E38-700 (7th floor conference room)

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**Solution to Sudoku**  
from page 7

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

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# Investment Responsibility Committee is Still 'Ad Hoc'

ACSR, from Page 1

finish drafting the guidelines.

## Need for a standing committee?

MIT-STAND has advocated for the ACSR to be replaced by a permanent Standing Committee on Investment Responsibility, to be patterned after the standing committees that schools such as Harvard, Stanford, and Yale already have.

In contrast to MIT's ad-hoc ACSR that is comprised of appointed members, Harvard's ACSR meets on a regular basis and is comprised of elected students, faculty, and alumni. It also has a two-person Corporation Committee on Shareholder Responsibility that meets to further discuss the recommendations that the ACSR has made. On April 4,

2005, the CCSR issued a lengthy official statement discussing Harvard's divestment from PetroChina "in light of the advice from the University's Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility." MIT has not indicated that it will release any internal ACSR reports to the public, though Kolenbrander did say that the finalized ACSR guidelines may be published online.

There is currently no plan to replace the ACSR with a standing committee. When asked whether MIT would follow Harvard, Stanford, and Yale's leads, Kolenbrander responded, "Our [MIT Corporation] Executive Committee has given the ACSR thought, and it really is quite appropriate for the challenges that MIT would need to consider."

Zainabadi, however, had a dif-

ferent take. "MIT was the fifty-third university to divest from Sudan. We don't think that's a coincidence," he said, citing an Aug. 2007 copy of the Investigators Against Genocide's list of universities that divested from companies "helping to fund the genocide in Sudan." He pointed to the efficiency with which Harvard, Stanford, and Yale divested; on the same list, they were first, second, and seventh, respectively.

MIT-STAND member (also a former *Tech* opinion columnist) Ali S. Wyne '08 has a more moderate viewpoint: "The standing committee would be ideal, just because there's a sense of permanency. Having said that, a heavily revised ACSR would be a very suitable compromise ... But we want to be taken seriously, and most people give a permanent

committee more weight."

## Goals and limitations

Kolenbrander said that the main goal of the ACSR should still be to provide the Corporation with the information that it needs to make important investment decisions. Additionally, the five-person committee needs to figure out "how to help [the] ACSR make it clearer to the community how [it] becomes involved in shareholder responsibilities."

One problem that the committee will face is striking a balance between guidelines that are too general and guidelines that are too specific. Given the nature of ad-hoc committees convening only when deemed necessary (for instance, the ACSR did not meet between 1999 and 2006), it may be difficult to draft

guidelines that remain relevant several years down the road.

One goal that has already been achieved is the drafting of new guidelines, with students central to the discussions. Wyne said he hopes that the influence student groups had in convincing the Corporation to rethink its views on social and ethical responsibility will inspire other students to collaborate with administrators. "When I was in the [Undergraduate Association], I know that I would literally, every day, run into people who thought that students were helpless," said Wyne. "But this example shows that if you persist, if you meet with [the administrators] over and over again, you can make changes. I don't want to sound like a wide-eyed idealist, but great changes are possible."



# The Tech

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W20-483

## SPORTS

## Tom Brady's Injury Brings Out Ill Will, Inappropriate Response

By Caroline Huang  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Cheering against teams is a part of sports. So is cheering against individual players, whether you think that the player is dirty, arrogant, or disloyal to former teams (see: Damon, Johnny). But cheering because a player is seriously injured? No true sports fan does that.

I'm talking about New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady's left knee injury, of course. The biggest star on the biggest team in the league falling to the ground, clutching his knee, and staying down for what seemed like hours has generated plenty of press from writers and readers alike. Unfortunately, the comments that readers have made are more triumphant than sympathetic. Some are sneering at "karma" coming back to Brady and his Patriots. Others are hoping that it's the end of Brady's career. Still others are singing the praises of Kansas City Chiefs safety Bernard Pollard, who made the awkward and painful-looking hit. And then there are the people like me, who are disgusted by all of the above.

Granted, I am a slightly rabid Patriots fan. I'm predisposed to being annoyed by negative coverage and comments about the Patriots — and there have been plenty of both in the last year (Spygate, a Super Bowl loss, bizarre drug probes, free agency losses, an 0-4 preseason). But these kinds of comments are completely unwarranted, particularly for a player generally portrayed as the consum-

mate professional. Rather than reveling in the news, any genuine football fan should have winced instead.

Joy at another person's pain is never an appropriate emotion, even in a sport as brutal as football. If you had suffered a season-ending knee injury and actually screamed in pain on the turf, would you want people to laugh at your misfortune and say you deserved it? Or would you hope and expect that they would treat you like a human first and a vilified opponent second?

The animosity toward the Patriots is deafening at this point.

When Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer suffered a "devastating and career-threatening" knee injury in 2006, I recall people expressing dismay for Palmer's knee and the Bengals' season — despite the team's myriad legal problems.

When San Diego Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers revealed that he had played in the 2008 American Football Conference Championship Game with a partially torn ACL and needed multiple surgeries, I recall people respecting Rivers for his toughness rather than cheering that he might not be ready for training camp — despite his being labeled a "punk" for trash-talking.

When Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning recently had surgery to remove an inflamed bursa sac from his left knee and missed every preseason game, I recall people hoping he would be ready in time for the season-opener — despite his frequent commercial overexposure.

In case you missed my point, people are generally supportive towards teams and athletes that have been ravaged by injuries, regardless of their individual circumstances. And if they are secretly happy, they usually keep their mouths shut about it — or at least they're in the minority.

I understand that people don't like the Patriots, and I don't really care if it's because of the Patriots' sustained excellence, swaggering confidence, abundant media exposure, or something else. But the Patriots' likeability — or lack thereof — is not a reason to celebrate an ACL tear and a team's dashed expectations. And it's certainly not grounds to congratulate Pollard or express thanks that your team has a clear shot at a play-off berth because of another player's injury.

Furthermore, exalting in an opponent's injury is not in the competitive spirit. As an athlete or a sports fan, you should want to face the best competition at its healthiest to see how you or your favorite team stacks up. You should want the opportunity to compete against an opponent at full strength. If you lose, so be it — the other team was better than you. And if you win, knowing that the team was healthy makes it that much sweeter.

I have no problem with rooting for a team to play badly, but I have a problem with rooting for a team to suffer injuries. The former concerns execution and concentration. The latter concerns health and safety. True sports fans understand the difference.

**The Tech's Athlete of the Week:  
Thomas S. Caldwell '09**

Thomas S. Caldwell '09 has been named the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Men's Soccer Player of the Week in light of his excellent start to the 2008 season. In the three games he has started for the Engineers, Caldwell has built a 3-0 record, made sixteen saves, and shut out two teams. He currently has a .941 save percentage and 0.33 goals against average, having given up only one goal against Endicott College.

Caldwell currently has twelve career shutouts, ranking him second at MIT. Two of those shutouts came this season: Caldwell made five saves in the Engineers' 2-0 victory over Salve Regina University and eight during their 2-0 victory over Colorado College.

—Aaron Sampson, Sports Editor

## SCOREBOARD

## Field Hockey

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2008

MIT (0-4)	1
Lasell College (1-1)	4

## Women's Soccer

Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2008

MIT (1-3)	1
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (1-2)	3

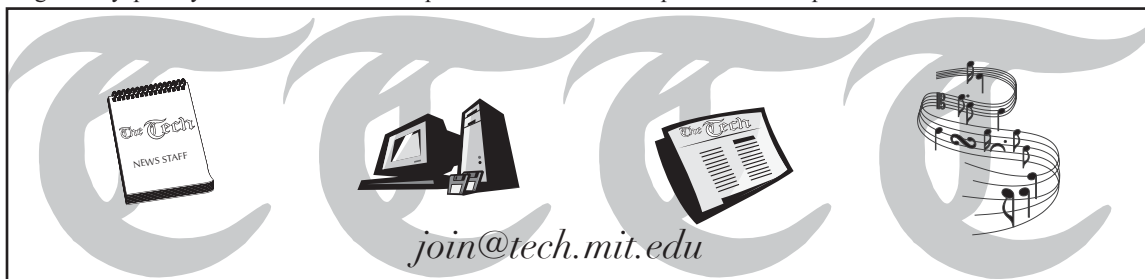
## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008

Sailing, Man-Labs Trophy	9:30 a.m., Charles River
Women's Soccer vs. Salem State College	10:30 a.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Cross Country, Engineers Cup	1:00 p.m., Franklin Park
Football vs. Massachusetts Maritime Academy	2:00 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
MIT Cricket Tournament	7:00 p.m., Jack Barry Field
Water Polo vs. Boston College	7:00 p.m., Zesiger Center

Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008

MIT Cricket Tournament	9:00 a.m., Jack Barry Field
Sailing, MIT Invitational	9:30 a.m., Charles River
Women's Tennis vs. Springfield College	1:00 p.m., duPont Tennis Courts
Water Polo vs. California Baptist University	2:30 p.m., Zesiger Center
Water Polo vs. Boston University	5:00 p.m., Zesiger Center



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