DormCon President-Elect Discusses W1 Integration, Dining

By Arkajit Day

Last night, the Dormitory Counci1, which represents residents from undergraduate dormitories, elected their next year’s officers. In the upcoming year, DormCon may be at the forefront of many important decisions, including the development of W1 and continuing debate over mandatory dining plans.

James V. Torres ’10 was voted DormCon president, and will replace outgoing president Sarah C. Hopp ’08. Torres’ running mates were ‘09, Anthony D. Rindone ’10, and Geoffrey G. Thomas ’10 were elected vice presidents, and executive secretary, respectively.

DormCon’s voting meeting was mostly attended by current DormCon officers and dormitory representatives, and alumni, along with a handful of residents from some of the dorms. The voting process for each position was initiated by a round of nominations to select a set of candidates.

Following a brief statement by each candidate about their credentials and a closed-door discussion of each candidate’s merits (with the candidates waiting outside), each representative cast a vote on behalf of their dorm’s residents with more populous dorms getting more votes (each dorm is allocated one vote per resident). Residents at the dorms who disagreed with their representative’s vote could cast a dissenting vote.

President-elect Torres, a Burton Third resident and currently DormCon Risk Manager, said he wants to focus the issues of dining plans and W1, both of which have been “debated a lot in many different organizations such as the UA and DormCon.” Specifically, Torres said he would like to see W1 “integrated successfully into the DormCon community” and “any improvements in any way” in MIT’s dining options.

A successful integration for W1 for Torres would, at a minimum, include getting a DormCon representative from W1 “attending the meetings and giving us their opinions.” Torres said one member of the founding colony was already attending DormCon meetings and that yesterday, W1 had decided to participate in the upcoming Residence Exploration period. It is not yet clear whether W1 residents will be taxed before DormCon can fund their REX events. Torres said he would consult the Constitution to determine the exact course required to make W1 an official member of DormCon.

DormCon, Page 14

Class of 2010 Celebrates Delivery Of Rings at Moakley Courthouse

By Nick Bushak

Roughly 700 members of the Class of 2010 descended upon the Moakley Courthouse in downtown Boston for a posh evening last Saturday to celebrate the delivery of their Brass Rats. According to Laura E. Aust ’10, Chair of the 2010 Ring Committee, the event cost around $55,000.

The semi-formal evening included a catered dinner and a jazz group. Representatives from Balfour distributed the rings, and the event was open to all sophomores, even those who did not purchase a ring.

The Moakley Courthouse is located on the waterfront, and the building offered spectacular views of the Boston skyline to sophomores enjoying their meals. According to Timothy E. Robertson ’10, “the view was awesome.” However, he said that a different location in Boston, like the Prudential Center, might have been better for students looking for something to do after the dinner.

Aust said that the Ring Committee was allocated a total budget of $55,000.

Ring Delivery, Page 12

Selective Korean High Schools Prepare Students for Top American Colleges

By Sam Dillon

It is 10:30 p.m. and students at the elite Daewon prep school here are still studying in a study hall that ends a 15-hour school day. A window is propped open so the evening chill can keep them awake. One teenager studies standing upright at his desk to keep from dozing.

Kim Hyun-kyung, who has accumulated nearly perfect scores on her SATs, is multitasking to prepare for physics, chemistry and history exams. “I can’t let myself waste even a second,” said Ms. Kim, who dreams of attending Harvard, Yale or another blue-blood American college. And she has a good shot. This spring, as in previous years, all but a few of the 133 graduates from Daewon Foreign Language High School who applied to selective American universities won admission.

It is a success rate that American parents may well envy, especially now, as many students are swallowing rejection from favorite universities at the close of an insanely selective college application season.

“Going to U.S. universities has become like a huge fad in Korean society, and the Ivy League names — Harvard, Yale, Princeton — have really struck a nerve,” said Victoria Kim, who attended Daewon and graduated from Harvard last June.

Daewon has one major Korean rival, the Minjok Leadership Academy, and a handful of residents from some of the dorms, along with a handful of residents from some of the dorms. Residents at the dorms who disagreed with their representative’s vote could cast a dissenting vote.

With the first game of a late afternoon doubleheader scheduled for noon, members of the MIT baseball team and a Rawlings representative meet at 8:30, gathering in a back corner of the school’s Aero/Astro hangar. Left-handed reliever George M. Vasquez ’08, who defends behind an air cannon, launching baseballs at a mannequin wearing a chest protector, is part of the project Jay M. Turnermannequin wearing a chest protector, is part of the project Jay M. Turnermannequin wearing a chest protector, is part of the project Jay M. Turnermannequin wearing a chest protector, is part of the project Jay M. Turner could “make it” to the major leagues.

By this time next year, professional catchers such as Washington’s Paul Lo Duca, St. Louis’ Yadier Molina, and the Chicago Cubs’ Geovany Soto could be wearing new and improved padding. Since November, six students — under the guidance of sports equipment company Rawlings and the MIT Sports Innovation program — have been developing a teaming system for chest protectors. The goal is to help equipment designers determine the best mix of materials and best thickness for padding, giving catchers greater mobility and making it easier for them to throw.

“IT’s all about finding your passion,” said Vasquez, the group leader and a Material Science and Engineering major. “All the guys on the [project] team love sports. It’s more fun than what you typically think of with an MIT research project.

“There are very few sports companies that put value in good engineering, in terms of projects that make engineering sense rather than compromise.”

Baseball, Page 14

Members of MIT Baseball Team Conduct Research on Safety Equipment Materials

By Shira Springer

Although a bit of a pregame routine, it’s not your typical pregame routine.

With an MIT research project.

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BARRAGE OF MORTAR ATTACKS IN BAGHDAD KILLS FOUR U.S. SOLDIERS

By Erica Goode and Stephen Farrell

JERUSALEM

Four U.S. soldiers were killed by rocket or mortar attacks in Bagh- dad on Monday, a day after a dust storm blanketed the city and pro- voked cover for four shells that hit the fortified Green Zone and pro- voked angry reactions among American and Iraqi forces.

Three of the soldiers were killed in the southeastern neighborhood of New Baghdad, the U.S. military said. The other soldier died in Ka- dhimiya, in the northern part of the capital.

A rocket or mortar shell struck four soldiers on Monday at a small frontline base in the Sadr City neighborhood, where U.S. and Iraqi troops have been battling militia fighters loyal to the Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr. It was the first death in 26 months.

The U.S. military said that for security reasons, they could not confirm the injuries. On Sunday afternoon, as a dense and gritty orange cloud of dust settled over Baghdad, ground military helicopters, a hail of shells arced toward the Green Zone, with the barrage continuing into the early hours of Monday. Sporadic rocket fire continued through- out the night. No casualties were reported.

SUNNY, WARM:

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Washington:

The Supreme Court upheld Indiana’s voter identification law on Monday, con- cluding in a splintered decision that the state’s challenges failed to prove that the law’s photo ID requirement placed an uncon- stitutional burden on the right to vote.

The 6-3 ruling kept open the door to future lawsuits that could test the viability to buy food for donation from local and regional providers, a methodocher and noted consumer advocate.

Thus, there is significant probability that it could be the complete opposite. In either solution A or solution B will occur, but certainly nothing in between.

The Israelis said they shot a mis-

sion,” which was written by Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, the court acknowledged

John G. Roberts Jr. and Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, the court acknowledged

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that although the court described as the lead opin-
By Jad Mouawad

The New York Times

April 29, 2008

The awkward moment of one prosecution of political and other aggressive interrogation methods that critics call torture. Called to the stand by the very defense lawyer and testifying before a military judge, Hartmann directed him last year to push charges against Hamdan and the running of the military commissions. The lawyer for the defense, the former chief prosecutor here, held up a photograph of the post-World War II history of this country, holding up a photograph of the prisoner. Hartmann directed him last year to push charges against Hamdan and himself and had never had concerns about any of the charges or the evidence against him.

In his time as chief prosecutor, the former chief prosecutor here, held up a photograph of the prisoner. Hartmann directed him last year to push charges against Hamdan and himself and had never had concerns about any of the charges or the evidence against him.

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No Scientific Spirit in Criticizing Olympism

As members of the MIT community, we have always been proud of the scientific spirit this institute embodies — the spirit of inquisitiveness and a quest for knowledge. The past year has seen many changes, including the departure of two members of the MIT administration. As we anticipate the upcoming year, we hope that the MIT community will continue to inspire and lead in the scientific community.

Amal Dorai G mischaracterizes my letter from last week. Far from saying that we should accommodate the intolerance of other cultures, I was posing a question — how do we reconcile our liberal society (here I use “liberal” in its classical sense) with respect for multicultural diversity? It is easy to assert that we must respect the rights of homosexuals, as respect for the rights of homosexuals, conflict with those of other cultures? Do we dare assert that homosexuals, as liberalism over the medieval puritanism which still persists in some parts of the world today? Dorai seems to think so, and he suggests his letter is that ridiculous in itself — he believes it is “hated and accomodating” to the culture of Homo. I am disappointed that this is the level of discussion.

However, appropriate limits to multiculturalism are not as obvious to our friends in Europe and Canada. According to the BBC, the Canadian government is floating free speech as a human right. It seems that Canada, like the United States, recognizes that certain groups have a say in what happens in the country. However, like that could happen in western Europe, it seems that this change has not yet come to Europe. It is possible that this change will not occur.

It is because other Western countries have served in the past as bellwethers of trends in our own society that the eagerness in the American community to embrace other cultures concerns me. Our liberal society has accommodated the immigrant from France to America. Of course, a multiculturalism may have emboldened the upward mobility of these immigrants, who are now realizing their dreams. However, the eagerness in a country to embrace other cultures should be balanced by the need to safeguard our own society that the eagerness in the American community to embrace other cultures concerns me. Our liberal society has accommodated the immigrant from France to America. However, the eagerness in a country to embrace other cultures should be balanced by the need to safeguard our own society against the use of our own tolerance against others.

Even if you believe that Krasnobolskobor has been carded in the past, he does not know any better because he is from a foreign culture. However, I am much more concerned about the tone of other media. We suppose The Tech would not invite such a contributor, would not invite such a contributor. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.thetech.mit.edu.
The Flow of Things

By Diana Jue

I firmly believe that knowing a city requires exploring it by foot. Fortunately for me, one of my class’ first activities in Buenos Aires, Argentina was a downtown walking tour. This tour completely altered my first impression of the city: one of political charge and change.

No place in downtown could better sum Buens Aires’ political tension than the Plaza de Mayo, a public space nestled among symbols of government power like City Hall and the Casa Rosada, home to the federal executive branch. A tall, black wire fence divided the plaza into two halves. One side boasted beautiful green grass, colorful flowers, and water fountains. Around lunch, unashamed young couples, students with books and iPods, and financial district workers congregated here. The plaza half was picture perfect, government controlled.

On the other side of the fence, policemen in riot gear were situated. Scattered patches of dead, brown grass, pigeons, and street vendors littered the public space, through which hundreds of pedestrians stampeded to and from work. The lack of visual niceties was made up for by an overabundance of passion represented by the incredible history.

My friend Grace, a political science major from Swarthmore, immediately sensed this. My class’ first activities in Buenos Aires, exploring it by foot. Fortunately for me, one of the most passionate people I’d ever met.

Something about activism seemed to resonate with me, slightly naive, yet increasingly aware twenty-somethings who were trying to make sense of the world and our role in it. The advocates we had learned about and knew personally were few in number. They took peaceful action that directed attention toward the wrongdoers. They took part in difficult yet rewarding work. They were regular citizens who successfully brought about change from the grassroots level, one step at a time.

If I cannot speak for everyone, at least this was the case for me. I admit that I can become incredibly absorbed in life at MIT, which can be and will be the change of this generation.

When I returned to MIT in the spring, I was very pleased to learn about the work of MIT’s Global Poverty Initiative. I think that it will, especially given the work of student groups that are changing the campus climate.

If anything, studying abroad made me more aware that life isn’t going well for many. Ex- treme poverty and hunger continue to exist in the world; millions of people and infants die of HIV/AIDS and malaria. Development is destroying the environment. Women continue to be subjected to gender inequality. Human rights continue to be violated. Primary education is still not available for so many people. A view of the Casa Rosada and the black fence that divides La Plaza de Mayo, where mothers and grandmothers marched to protest against the government.

I’m not sure if I can speak for everyone, but I know that this living experience has exposed me to the problems and to the courageous individuals who were on the frontlines, in the trenches, and on the ground addressing these issues. The seeds of caring about injustice and oppression were already in me; my trip abroad confirmed them, and watered the soil through discussions with my profess- sors and classmates and plain experience. What would happen when I return to my old habitat of MIT? Would the plant grow?

GLOBAL POVERTY INITIATIVE

When I returned to MIT, the Global Poverty Initiative was in its formative stages. There was the inaugural Millennium Campus Conference that spread the word about international development issues. Famous names in the field attended, including public health practitioner Dr. Paul Farmer and econo- mist Jeffrey Sachs.

The conference was incredibly inspiring. After feeling burdened by aca- demically studying interna- tional development issues, I was refreshed and renewed with enthusiasm, passion, and idealism. Just like the mothers in Buenos Aires who fought for human rights and peace, I knew personally were few in number. They took peaceful action that directed attention toward the wrongdoers. They took part in difficult yet rewarding work. They were regular citizens who successfully brought about change from the grassroots level, one step at a time.

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A view of the Casa Rosada and the black fence that does divide La Plaza de Mayo, where mothers and grandmothers marched to protest against the government.

GLOBAL POVERTY INITIATIVE

I think that it will, especially given the work of student groups that are changing the campus climate.

If I cannot speak for everyone, at least this was the case for me. I admit that I can become incredibly absorbed in life at MIT, which can be and will be the change of this generation. To steal a quote from the Global Poverty Initiative: Will you be a part of it?

Something about activism seemed to resonate with me, slightly naive, yet increasingly aware twenty-somethings who were trying to make sense of the world and our role in it. The advocates we had learned about and knew personally were few in number. They took peaceful action that directed attention toward the wrongdoers. They took part in difficult yet rewarding work. They were regular citizens who successfully brought about change from the grassroots level, one step at a time.

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Brouhaha Rhythm
From Country Mouse to City Beaver

By Michael T. Lin
STAFF COLUMNIST

Those of you who know me particularly well know that I was born and raised in suburbs just about all of my life. Consequently, my time here at MIT is my first time living in a major metropolitan area for any extended period of time. Bearing that in mind, I have to say, it’s been an interesting experience. Boston and Cambridge may not be quite so urban as Los Angeles or Coruscant (we can see the Boston sky), but I’m working my way up to the full-fledged city experience.

I remember my first American urban experience quite distinctly — New York City, New Year’s Eve, 1998. Hundreds of people gathered to see if that Prince song was all it was cracked up to be. My family and I traveled to the general proximity of Times square via subway, encountering people of widely varying races, style choices, and levels of intoxication. The claustrophobic nightmare that is New Year’s at Times Square hemmed us in a location too far away to see the ball drop but close enough to hear what I presume were celebratory gunshots. I’m pretty sure that the thought, “So this is what the city is like,” passed through my head at some point, probably wedged between, “So this is where the Ninja Turtles live,” and, “That’s either a very large rat or a very small bear.” Luckily, the rodents around Boston are fairlyitty-bitty, or at least appear so compared to the six-foot Sasquatch of a beaver I’ve seen stalking around campus. I’ve been trying to catch him on film, but he always turns out blurry and never appears for more than a split second.

By far, the most unusual part of moving to a city, at least for me, is getting around from place to place. I’m not accustomed to having anything within walking distance back home except a mini-shopping center consisting of a gas station, a laundromat, and a hair salon, none of which were of immediate use to me. I didn’t have my own car (and would be too paranoid to drive much if I did). My mom always did my laundry, and my dad still cuts my hair, which is why I will be going home this summer with a quasi-mullet. Nothing long enough to make MacGyver blink an eye, but a record amount of hair for me, all the same.

Here, virtually everything can be reached on foot. I realize that may not be an impressive statement for you marathon runners out there, but for an indoor geek like me with no real endurance to speak of, the idea is positively revolutionarily. Even the locations that can’t be reached on foot before collapsing of exhaustion are readily made available via public transportation, and anywhere in between T-stops (if one is desperate or impatient enough) can be brought within reach by taxi cab. Back home, you called a cab instead of waving it down, and I’m still not sure how to do it without looking like I’m directing runway traffic. Fortunately, a friend of mine (a Brooklyn native) is instructing me in the finer points of jaywalking. Hopefully, cab-hailing won’t be too far behind it.

Easily the most stereotypical characteristic of a cityscape has to be the skyscraper. The Boston skyline certainly looks well enough like a city, even though there are only two truly impressive skyscrapers to speak of. Compared to how Boston looks from this side of the river, the view of Cambridge out my window looks less like a city and more like an industrial wasteland. I know that’s not the case, since my quests on foot up Massachusetts Avenue speak otherwise, and besides, I’d rather have sunlight than plate glass dominating the vista, Hancock Tower notwithstanding. Now if you’ll excuse me, it’s almost rush hour, and jaywalker training is in half an hour. You know what they say, if you can dodge traffic?...
Want to do Consulting next year?

Grad Life to Consulting: Making the Leap

Wednesday May 7th 7pm in 56-154

A panel session of MIT graduate students receiving offers this year from consulting firms like McKinsey, Dean, and BCG will talk about their personal experiences. Issues to be discussed include:

- How do you prepare for the application process?
- How do you prepare for consulting interviews?
- What attributes are companies looking for in graduate students?
- How did they do it? What went right and what went wrong?

Want to be a part of the Consulting Club community? We offer cases, wiki, and other resources. Register on our website (MIT certificates required):

http://web.mit.edu/mitconsulting
Third Eye Blind (3EB) headlined MIT’s 2008 Spring Weekend Concert, held Friday at the Johnson Athletics Center. Opening acts included Howie Day and Absentstar.

(center) 3EB’s lead vocalist Stephan Jenkins sings.

(clockwise from above)
3EB performs in front of their large banner.
Howie Day sings “She Says” during an acoustic set.
Drummer Heath Hamilton of the opening band Absentstar rocks out.
3EB played several songs from their upcoming fourth studio album Ursa Major.
3EB plays to a cheering audience of regional students.
3EB performs at the back of Johnson, to better reach the attendees who showed up to the concert late.
3EB’s vocalist Stephan Jenkins pumps up the crowd.
Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer

Figure 32. The plot shows the frequency of the word ‘sustainable’ (basis: per 100 words) in public dialogue of different countries according to their gross domestic product per capita. As a general trend, poorer countries do not use sustainability arguments as frequently as richer countries do, maybe because they cannot afford to spend resources on being sustainable (and maybe because they use this fact as an excuse). The authors propose that, to flatten out the trend, the word should be adopted in colloquial speech. For example, when breaking-up with a partner (“this relationship is just not sustainable”), when talking to one’s boss (“this workload is not sustainable”); at the movies (“Keansu’s career is not sustainable”), etc. (We thank David Uniman for a helpful discussion on the topic.)

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14

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

by Michael Ciuffo

MY GPS:

10-250
Green Building
East Campus -
Student Center
Z-center

Blobbles

by Jason Chan

the secret world of mimes

what's that guy doing floating in the air?

Blobbles@mit.edu

Remember, this is how Blobbles works: you send a caption, and I make a drawing out of it.

Quantum Samurai

An Uncertain Hero

by Justin Lan, Maryia Lu, and Kim Baldauf

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

April 29, 2008

The Tech
Students Enjoyed Shuttle Buses To Campus, Open Atmosphere

Ring Delivery, from Page 1

around $70,000, which helped subsi-
dize the cost of gold and funded the
party. They also spent about $1,000
on a study break during the year
and about $14,000 on T-shirts, shot
lasses, and other costs related to the
Ring Premiere in February.

Sophomores were shuttled to and
from the Courthouse with buses leav-
ing from MIT and the Courthouse
every 15 minutes, allowing students
to come and go as they pleased.

Manvi Goel ’10 said, “I liked the fact
that it really didn’t have a concrete
structure.” “I had a really good time,”
she said.

Most students enjoyed the even-
ing. Rachel C. Mayer ’10 said that
“the food was great” and “it was nice
to see everyone dressed up.” Accord-
ing to Goel, “it gave everyone an op-
portunity to get away from campus
and be excited about being part of
MIT.”

Eric D. Eisner ’10 had fun but said
that, “if the money had gone
into subsidizing rings, it would have
been better.”

Aust said that things went better
than she expected. Ring Delivery is
the last major responsibility of the
Ring Committee, and the committee
will now help the class of 2011 Ring
Committee get started with their
work, according to Aust.

The tradition of holding an event
to commemorate Ring Delivery
started in 1999 with the class of
2001. That year, sophomores took
part in a 3-hour sunset cruise.

If students missed Ring Delivery,
they can still pick up their rings in
Lobby 10 today or on the Stata Cen-
ter on Wednesday and Thursday.

Students can also order rings at the
booths.

2010 Ring Committee President Laura E. Aust ’10 shows off her
Brass Rat during the ring delivery at Moakley Courthouse on the
Boston waterfront on April 26.
Intense Korean Study Regimen Forges Test Takers

Admissions, from Page 1

ally, three hours’ drive east of Seoul, which also has a spectacular record of admission to Ivy League colleg-

e. How do they do it? Their formula is relatively simple. They take South Korea’s top-scoring middle school students, put those who aspire to an American university in English-lan-
guage classes, taught by Koreans and highly paid American and other for-
egn teachers, emphasize composition-

tion and other skills crucial to success on the SATs and college admissions 

essays, and — especially this — urge them on to unceasing study.

Both schools seem to be rethink-

ing their grueling regimen, at least a bit. Minjok, a boarding school, has 
turned off dormitory surveillance cameras previously used to ensure that students did not dote in late-night 

study sessions. Daewon is ending its 

school day earlier for freshmen. Its 

founder, Lee Won-hee, worried in an interview that while Daewon was 

turning out high-scoring students, it might be falling short in educating them as responsible citizens.

“American schools may do a bet-
ter job at that,” Dr. Lee said.

Still, the schools are highly rigor-

ous. Both supplement South Korea’s required, lecture-based national cur-

riculum with Western-style discus-

sion classes. Their academic year is 

more than a month longer than at 

American high schools. Daewon, 

which costs about $5,000 per year to 

attend, requires two foreign languag-

es besides English. Minjok, where 

tuition, board and other expenses top 

$15,000, offers Advanced Placement 

classes and research projects.

$15,000, offers Advanced Placement 
tuition, board and other expenses top 

which costs about $5,000 per year to 

attend. Daewon’s Global Leadership Pro-

gram, which prepares students for 

study at foreign universities, gradu-

ated in February.

One graduate was Kim Soo-yeon, 

19, who was accepted by Princeton this month. Harvard parents tend to 

be wealthy doctors, lawyers or uni-

versity professors. Ms. Kim’s father 

is a top official in the Korean Olym-

pic Committee. 

Ms. Kim developed fierce study 

habits early, watching her mother 
sell her older sister for receiving any score less than 100 on tests. Even a 9 or 99 bought a tongue-

lashing.

write code.

Mostly Python. (Some Squake and Lua.)

No Python experience required ... as long as you can learn it quickly.

Get paid.

And have fun. I’m an MIT grad and “parallel entrepreneur” looking for a 

boost from of summer interns to crank out code for 3 different projects.

This summer.

Somewhat local. Live out in the suburbs to be close to work; take the 

commuter rail into Boston if you need more excitement on weekends.

And beyond?

I’m also looking for at least one 2008 (or earlier) grad to continue the 

momentum beyond the summer.

Use Croquet or similar metaverse tool to build a cutting-edge 3D 

environment for kids age 6-9 to learn a second language.

Other tasks include machine learning, information extraction, and 

general slicing & dicing of textual and numeric data to present on the 

Web.


Welcome to your new Manhattan lifestyle. With a great downtown location, these 

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3 Bedrooms from $5,350 (convertible to 4 bedroom)

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April 29, 2008

THE TECH

Page 13

”Most Korean mothers want their children to get 100 on all the tests in 

all the subjects,” Ms. Kim’s mother 

said. Ms. Kim’s highest aspiration was 

to attend a top Korean university, 

until she read a book by a Korean 

student at Harvard about American 

universities. Immediately she put up 

a sign in her bedroom: “I’m going to 

an Ivy League!”

Even while at Daewon, Ms. Kim, 

like thousands of Korean students, 
took weekend classes in English, 

physics and other subjects at private 

academies, raising her SAT scores by hundreds of points. “I just love to do 

well on the tests,” she said.

April 29, 2008

THE TECH

Page 13
Torres also praised Hopp’s term as president, saying he thought “she was very good” and that he would “like to continue her relations with the administration.” He added that he plans to discuss ideas with Hopp and “use her as a resource over the summer” before he takes office.

A couple more important items on DormCon’s agenda for next year include writing an official alcohol policy and creating an online dorm party registration system. Torres said DormCon was working with several other groups on creating a written policy that also incorporates provisions about the illegal use of drugs. “We want to make it as simple as possible” and “don’t want ambiguity,” said Torres.

A party registration site, one of Torres’ big advocacies this year, is also in the works. It is envisioned that the Web site will allow those over 21 who have gone through PartySafe training (a program run by MIT that teaches how to hold safe parties with alcohol) to register weekend parties by the middle of the preceding week. Torres said the online system should make party registration much easier by avoiding the hassle of filling out paperwork. The current system also requires lots of signatures, including approval from the MIT Police, whereas an online system could notify people automatically. In this way, Torres said he hopes to “encourage the registration of parties.”

DormCon also elected Donald K. Landgren ’09 as Judicial Committee Chair, Vinayak V. Ranade ’09 as Risk Manager, and James A. Ostrowski ’10, Brittany A. Holland- Marcus ’10, and Joseph S. Pokora ’09 as Dining Chairs.

Baseball, from Page 1

Torres’ big advocacies this year, is possible” and “don’t want ambiguity,” we want to make it as simple as possible” and “don’t want ambiguity,” said Torres.

The last panel of ROFLcon was “The Internet Cult Leader,” featuring web-culture superstars (left to right) Joel Moda of Achan, Randall Monroe of skool, and Ryan North of Dinosaur Comics. The panel was moderated by Professor Chris Kelty of Rice University, ROFLcon was one of the greatest gatherings to date of Internet cultural phenomena, and was organized by students of several local colleges and universities, including MIT.

Making his usual rounds one chilly, midwinter night, an MIT campus police officer spotted a couple students on a landing outside Building 17. One student held a handaw.

The other stranded a dejected mannequin. After the students gave the officer a nod that seemed to say, “Everything’s OK here,” he moved on as the students resumed sawing the bottom of the torso. Such is the life of a mannequin.

“Everything that seems easy is not easy,” said sophomore second baseman Stewart Park. “There’s all these little things that go wrong and it takes a lot to fix a little bit at a time. We’re just putting sensors on the mannequin and it would work, but we realized the mannequin doesn’t act like a human body and doesn’t deflect balls the same way.”

With all the time spent sawing the mannequin, filling it with sand and cement and smoothing out its six-pack abs to ensure better contact with the sensors, the students seem far from stereotypical science geeks.

The undergraduates are also far from stereotypical college baseball players, often discussing problem sets before practice. They never worry about the futility of designing their own software and never contemplate spending some of the $20,000 Rawlings budgeted for sensors on beer and pizza.

A major Division 1 kid is at school most of the time to play baseball,” said MIT baseball coach Andy Barlow. “They’re sitting in class thinking about baseball. Here, it might be a little different. They’re coming to the baseball field and they might have their minds back in the classroom.”

But as jack-of-all-trades Turner and project leader Vasquez switch their attention from drilling holes to reviewing the pros and cons of various sensor systems, the project clearly benefits from the students’ engineering and business backgrounds.

“We’re getting real data rather than going by guesswork and feel,” said Vasquez. “Pro players are a little different because once they find something they like, they tend to stick with it. They’re not as traditionalists. If a bat or a glove feels good, they don’t really care what’s going on behind it. We’re trying to increase awareness of how things work, how it will protect them, and maybe keep them off the 15-day DL.”

The panelist from page 10

Torres said he hopes to “encourage the registration of parties.”

The testing prior to the double-header marked an important milestone for the project. For the first time, the students saw preliminary results from months of brainstorming and creative problem solving. With balls traveling 6 feet at speeds of 20-25 miles per hour, the sensors and high-speed video recorded the force at impact, how long balls stayed in contact with the chest protector, and the trajectories of rebounds coming off different parts of the padding.

“If Jason Varitek is blocking a ball with a guy on third and two outs and the ball hits him on the chest, the ball’s not going to fly 30 feet down the first base line and let the guy on third score,” said Turner. “Surely, the ball will just stop. But it’s not going to stop because it’s hitting Varitek. It’s going to stop because the whole chest protector gives in such a way that it daffs down all the forces and absorbs everything. So he’s not hurt and the ball’s not flying away.”

The project appears on track, with a few weeks of experiments remaining. That is no small feat considering Rawlings makes only occasional visits to campus and most communication among the students, the company, and Sports Innovation program director Dr. Kim Blair takes place by email and telephone conferences. Whether scheduling group meetings, ordering mannequins, or interviewing sensor companies, the students take charge of all aspects of the project.

Even with the MIT baseball season in full swing, the undergraduates will continue construction on a grid of 32 sensors and affix it to the mannequin’s chest. Develop software to better analyze data, and launch balls at speeds approaching 70 miles per hour in testing sessions between now and mid-May. Rawlings will use the results to establish the happy medium between protection and performance.

Hands-on research

Turner describes himself as “a fastball pitcher who throws the knuckleball for comic relief.” The Computer Science and Electrical Engineering major gets as good a laugh as anyone from confusing hair.

But the project team needed Turner’s knuckleball more for science than comedy. Recording the pitch to test the resolution of its high-speed video equipment. Considering Vasquez carries a copy of the book “The Physics of Baseball” by Robert Burns, the students know textbook.

The MIT Sports Innovation program, though, was designed to give undergraduates hands-on research experience away from textbooks and classrooms. Working in a Building 17 laboratory cluttered with experiments, where the hum of the wind tunnel can make conversation difficult, the undergraduates brainstorm and build different components of the test setup.

Inside the laboratory and Aeron/ Astro hangar, the MIT baseball research project looks like a combination of shop class and horror flick. Power tools, quick-drying cement, PVC pipe, handsaws, and mannequin parts are scattered around.

Solution to Crossword

Solution to Sudoku

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MIT

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"Atoms for Peace, Past, Present and Future"

"Atoms for Peace, Past, Present and Future"

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"Atoms for Peace, Past, Present and Future"

"Atoms for Peace, Past, Present and Future"
**SCOREBOARD**

**Baseball**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team A</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Team B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 24, 2008</td>
<td>MIT (16-14)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wheaton College (29-7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
<td>MIT (17-14)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Clark University (11-22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 28, 2008</td>
<td>MIT (17-15)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wheaton College (30-7)</td>
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**Men's Lightweight Crew**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pilot A</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Pilot B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
<td>Geiger Cup, Varity 8</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Columbia University</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>MIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geiger Cup, Varity 4</td>
<td>5.79</td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>4.65</td>
<td>MIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>4.93</td>
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**Women's Lightweight Crew**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
<td>University of Rhode Island</td>
<td>7:13.01</td>
<td>MIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>7:22.24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Varsity 4</td>
<td>8:13.21</td>
<td>University of Rhode Island A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Rhode Island B</td>
<td>8:34.25</td>
<td>MIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>8:50.54</td>
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**Women's Openweight Crew**

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**Men's Golf**

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<tr>
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<td>Jack Berry Invitational</td>
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<td>MIT</td>
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**Men's Lacrosse**

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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
<td>Springfield College (8-5, 6-0 PLL*)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>MIT (4-5, 2-S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

**Women's Lacrosse**

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<th>Score</th>
<th>Team B</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>MIT (4-7, 3-3 NEWMAC'S)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MIT</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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**Sailing**

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<tr>
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<td>ICSA National Western Semifinals</td>
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<td>MIT</td>
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**Men's Tennis**

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>MIT</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wheaton College</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wheaton College</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>MIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Babson College</td>
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**Men's Track and Field**

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<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
<td>NEWMAC Championship</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>MIT</td>
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**Women's Track and Field**

<table>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Team B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 26, 2008</td>
<td>NEWMAC Championship</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>MIT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**SPORTS**

**Bradshaw, Bolger Set Institute Records as Women Place Third**

First place finish with a 28-second victory in the steeplechase.

Bolger lost a heart-breaker in the 1500-meter, but her clip of 4:42.98 smashed the previous Institute record by nearly three seconds on route to a second-place finish.

Leanne M. Veldhuis ’08 supplied another terrific highlight as she earned a conference title in the 400-meter hurdles behind a season-best 1:04.88. Veldhuis anchored another near-record effort for the Engineers as her race with Bradsham, Wentz and Bolger in the 4x100-meter relay fell just shy of the school record.

The group split 4:04.21 to finish behind Wheaton College and Springfield College, the two teams that also finished ahead of the Engineers in the team standings.

In the field, Emily Hwang ’09 secured a personal-best in the pole vault en route to her first conference championship. Hwang cleared 11’9” to easily out-distance the next closest competitor while freshmen Karin E. Fisher, Rebecca L. Stavely, and Lynn E. Jepson gave MIT four of the top six finishers in the event.

Alme Thomas ’08 continued her outstanding season with two first-place finishes. Thomas tossed 43’1.75” for an impressive win in the shot put before winning the hammer throw by seven feet with a throw of 162’7”. MIT finished third with 178 points, while Wheaton (250) secured a two-point victory over Springfield (203) for the team title.

**Skidmore Wins 5-4 as Wang Falls Just Short in Comeback Attempt**

Tennis, from Page 16

Start. The singles matches then flew by in a blur. Hansen and Hoover won their matches 6-2, 6-4, and 6-2, 6-3 respectively, giving MIT a 4-1 lead. McCree lost a hard fought match 6-3, 6-1. Dukin, running down every thing she possibly could, lost with a hard fought score of 6-2, 6-3.

Jennifer A. Rees ’11, a substitute for the injured Kahlart, lost her match 6-1, 6-0, leaving the score tied 4-4 with just Wang’s match remaining. Wang lost the first set 6-0 and was down 2-4 in the second before mak ing a tremendous comeback to get to a tie breaker. Wang ended up losing the tie breaker 7-3, but she later said that it was one of her best singles matches of her life. While the team lost the match 5-4 overall, it was not discouraged by such a close loss.

With high spirits, the women were ready to play Vassar the next day. On April 20, the team began again with the double matches against Vassar. Hansen and Hoover dominated their match 8-3. McCree and Wang followed with a loss, 8-3. After the trainer approved her to play, Kahlart and her partner Dukin lost 8-5, despite scrambling for every ball.

In the singles position, Jennifer Dehman ’11 lost a tough match 6-0, 6-4 at the number six position. Hansen and Hoover won their matches again, 6-4, 6-1, and 6-1, 6-2 respectively.

McCree then lost a tough match 6-4, 6-2, giving Vassar the overall lead in the match 4-3. Wang was the next one off, losing a close match 6-4, 6-1, leaving Dukin front and center in the final. As everyone else had already finished their matches, Dukin was just finishing up the first set, losing 7-6 in a tie breaker. The second set continued on this note, as she never gave up, running down every ball. She barely lost the second set 7-5.

In exhibition, Kerry R. Weinberg ’10 and Rees lost their hard fought match 8-4. In the singles matches, Rees was defeated 8-1, while Wein berg and Katherine M. Smith ’10 both lost tough matches 8-2 and 8-1, respectively.

---

**SOLAS**

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Solas can bring edgy urban hipness to ancient reels and make songs by Tom Waits and Bob Dylan feel as if they’ve been aging for centuries in the sweet old casks of Celtic tradition. The Solas sound is anchored by founders Seamus Egan, who plays flute, tenor banjo, mandolin, whistle, guitar and bodhrán, and fiddler Wefred Horan. They are joined by Mick McAuley on accordion and concertina, Eamon McLoughlin on guitar and keyboards, and vocalist Deirdre Scanlan.

**Q.E.D.**

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

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

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**THE TECH**

Page 15

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Men's Track and Field Captures Eighth Straight NEWMAC Title

By James Kramer

The men's track and field team secured seven individual victories en route to its eighth consecutive New England Women's and Men's Conference Championship. Stephen A. Morton '10 was the only athlete in the meet to win two events, as the super sophomore caps-tured the top spot in the 100-meter dash and long jump. The women's track and field fell short in defending its first-ever conference title, finishing third overall.

Morton also split 22.64 seconds to finish second in the 200-meter dash, while the Engineers showcased their strength in every area. James R. Oleinik '09 shouldered the load for the MIT attack in the throwing events. Oleinik captured the NEW-MAC title in the shot put with a toss of 48'10.25", while he also finished second in the discus throw with a mark of 137'9".

Greg D. Tao '10 delivered arguably the best highlight of the day as he paced a top three sweep for MIT with an exceptional performance in the pole vault. Tao cleared a career-high 15'6.25" to earn the victory with Osman S. Stephens '08 and Patrick R. Barragan '08 finishing second and third, respectively. Stephens also finished second in the 110-meter hurdles, although he posted the fastest time in races with a clip of 15.43 seconds.

As usual, the Engineers showcased their depth in the distance races. Rookies Paul D. Welle '11 and Richard J. Prevost '11 worked together in netting the first two places in the steeplechase. Welle split 9:34.34 and Prevost closed just behind him in 9:35.62. Jack H. Bourbonsais '10 proved to have the strongest kick at the end as he out-dueled two other competitors for a victory in the 10,000-meter run. Hemagiri Arumugam '10 and M. Brian Jacokes '08 combined to give MIT eleven points in the 5000-meter run after finishing third and fourth, respectively.

The Engineers were just as dominant in the middle distances. After yielding the first three spots in the 800-meter run, Matthew F. Bieniosek '09, William S. Phipps '10, David Reshef '08 and Kevin G. Kleinguetl '11 swept the next four places. In the 1500-meter race, Jake J. Ruzevick '09 led the MIT charge with a third-place finish while Joseph Roy-Mayhew '08 took fifth and Christopher Wong '08 closed in sixth.

Women place third
The middle-distance trio of Andrea E. Bradshaw '09, Jacqui M. Wentz '10, and Adrienne M. Bolger '09 delivered solid races on the track, giving MIT a boost in the team standings. Bradshaw set a new Institute record in the 800-meter race, finishing second overall with a time of 2:17.07. Wentz completed the same circuit in 2:17.40, for a third-place finish (in a time that would have also set a new school mark). Wentz also scored a place finish while Joseph Roy-Mayhew '08 took sixth and Christopher Wong '08 closed in sixth.

Women place third
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Lady Engineers Finish Spring Season in New York With Close Losses

By Jennifer Rees

The women's tennis team hit a rough patch last week to close out their season, barely losing to both Skidmore College and Vassar College. MIT played Skidmore first on Saturday. First up were the double matches, where even a twisted ankle wouldn't slow down Karina N. Pikhart '09 and her partner Melissa A. Diskin '11. After hitting a winner, Pikhart scared her teammates as she stumbled and twisted her ankle. After taking a bit to recover, she got up and continued playing. The duo went on to win the match 8-6, making it clear that one can never underestimate these Lady Engineers, even when injured.

The two doubles team of Anisa K. McCree '10 and Yi Wang '09 lost 8-2, fighting hard the entire match. Meanwhile, the number one doubles team of Mariann N. Hoover '08 and Leslie A. Hansen '10 defeated their opponents with a decisive win 8-2. With this victory, MIT was in the lead 2-1 when it was time for the singles to