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Newspaper

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The Weather
Today: Cloudy, 72°F (22°C)
Tonight: Cloudy, 60s°F (16°C)
Tomorrow: Rain, 60s°F (20°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 129, Number 31

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, August 28, 2009

Institute Planning Task Force Suggests Major Cuts, Changes

Interim Report Released; Students Can Give Feedback Until Oct.

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

No more paper Add/Drop forms? Undergrads forced out of their dorms after three years? Online master's degrees? GIRs taught during the summer? Shuttered Athena clusters?

Creative thinking could save MIT money, preventing layoffs and protecting campus research, if the Institute implements ideas proposed

by a special committee charged with long-term planning.

But some of those ideas could dramatically alter the face of MIT in years to come. If you want a say, you should speak up before October, when MIT will make a decision on the ideas. The report, and a way to share your thoughts, are available online at ideabank.mit.edu.

The easiest-to-do ideas could, in aggregate, save MIT perhaps \$10–15

million by 2010–2011, according to the report. In the long run, some of the more exotic ideas — opening an extension school, offering master's degrees online, tweaking class sizes — could amount to tens or even hundreds of millions of dollars in saved money and new revenue.

But if every single one of those 200-plus ideas were to come about,

Task Force, Page 21

MIT Partners with Island Nation To Build New Technology School

By Ana Lyons
STAFF REPORTER

In line with its mission to advance scientific knowledge “that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century,” MIT is working on a new international collaboration that will include aid in overseeing the opening of a new design-based university and an international design center which will both be located in

Singapore.

In addition to overseeing the formation of the two new institutions, there are also additional plans which would potentially include the construction of an MIT sister-institution located somewhere along the MIT campus, as part of the new collaboration.

Professor Daniel D. Frey PhD '97, gave a presentation, “Collabora-

tion with Singapore in Their Creation of a New University,” at the May 20 faculty meeting, along with Institute Professor Thomas L. Magnanti.

Frey said that MIT collaborators are beyond the planning stages but “aren't quite at the point where we have agreements about this.” Instead Frey describes that “there is an ex-

Singapore, Page 23



CHRISTIAN J. TERNUS

Students work late on Sunday evening to finish a multiple-story wooden tower in the East Campus courtyard. Traditionally, East Campus builds a variety of projects for Residence Exploration, which have in the past included a roller coaster, a water slide, and a giant pendulum.

After Discussions, EC Residents and Admins Resolve Security Gate Conflict

By Camille McAvoy
STAFF REPORTER

A new parking security gate is being built between East Campus and Building 66. The gate's construction sparked controversy among East Campus residents, who feared that the new gate would infringe upon residents' ability to drive up to the dorm.

Larry R. Brutti, Operations Manager of MIT Parking and Transporta-

tion, and Nathan A. Pallo '11, President of East Campus met to discuss the issue Friday, June 26. The gate is expected to be completed by the end of September 2009.

EC residents feared that the construction of the gate would eliminate an important loading and unloading area for the dorm. As a result of the meeting, Pallo and Brutti agreed to include an unloading zone for EC residents by the EC courtyard be-

tween Buildings 62 and 64 in the security gate plan.

Pallo wrote an e-mail to East Campus residents following the meeting. The e-mail detailed the security gate plan, assuring residents that their needs and concerns had been taken into consideration in planning the gate project.

Pallo said that the new gate will

EC Gate, Page 20

'The Tech' Checks Out 31337 Conferences: Blackhat, DEFCON Spice Up Las Vegas

By Nathan Rittenhouse

Code breaking, party going, and general electronic mayhem. These phrases describe the seemingly one constant in the world of information security: the passing of the annual DEFCON and Black Hat hacker conferences. Both held the same week of July 29, 2009 in blazing hot Las Vegas, Nevada, these conferences are the life blood of the industry and hobbyist communities alike.

Black Hat offers professionals the opportunity to catch up on the latest security threats and grab copious amounts of vendor swag. DEFCON shows many of the same presentations

as Black Hat, but it is less corporate, with contests involving lockpicking, hardware hacking, and wifi antenna construction.

Since 1997, the pair of conferences provide a general yearly overview of computer underground and information security activities. Jeff Moss, the founder of both of the conferences, was recently sworn in to Barack Obama's Homeland Security Advisory Council.

The briefings portion of Black Hat began on July 29 and lasted until July 30. DEFCON officially began on July 30 and lasted until August 1.

As has been the trend in the previous few years, the conferences emphasized the following: remotely ex-

ploiting server vulnerabilities is a lot harder than it used to be, and soft targets are either very close to the hardware or very close to the user.

Although remote exploitation is still thriving, the learning curve needed to understand current exploitation techniques is steep. As a result, more and more remote exploitations use flaws that are not specific to a particular operating system. For example, one method involves attacking users of a particular web application by causing their browser to execute Javascript code that steals private browser information, like cookies.

Another direction is using memo-

Hacker Conferences, Page 20



MICHAEL MCGRAW-HERDEG—THE TECH

Senator Ted Kennedy spoke at a rally celebrating Deval Patrick's win as Massachusetts governor on election night, Nov. 7, 2006. Kennedy passed away Tuesday after battling cancer.

After Summer Hiatus, Student Center Post Office To Reopen

By Robert McQueen
STAFF REPORTER

The MIT Post Office, located in the basement of the Student Center, will reopen and resume regular hours on Monday, August 31 after being closed for six weeks.

Its future, however, is uncertain and under review by the United States Postal Service in a nationwide survey aimed at permanently closing possibly thousands of post offices.

On July 30, the Postal Regulatory Commission, an agency charged with maintaining oversight over the Postal Service, released a document stating that the Postal Service would conduct a nationwide examination of 3200 postal offices in an effort to find and close down facilities that do not meet adequate service levels.

Along with several other Boston-

Post Office, Page 22

In Short

¶ Graduate students can enroll now through Sept. 15 in the Graduate Student Dental Plan. The plan costs \$239.52/year, or \$605.76/year for families. For more information about what the plan covers, visit <http://graddental.mit.edu/>.

¶ MIT has laid off Lynn A. Roberson, who served MIT as a women's

support coordinator for more than a decade.

¶ John L. Hecker, Residential Life Associate for East Campus, Senior House, and Simmons Hall, is leaving MIT to pursue other professional options, he told students and administrators last week.

E-mail news@tech.mit.edu with tips!

ARTS

Where to eat outdoors in Boston
Page 7

Maggie Liu reviews Cobra Starship's
Hot Mess
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WORLD & NATION

FDIC Says Banks Lost \$3.7 Billion In 2nd Quarter

By Eric Dash

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Even though financial stocks have rallied nearly 70 percent since the end of March, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. issued another grim quarterly report Thursday on the health of the nation's banks.

The agency reported that the banking industry lost \$3.7 billion in the second quarter amid a surge in bad loans made to home builders, commercial real estate developers and small and midsize businesses. Its deposit insurance fund dropped 20 percent, to \$10.4 billion, its lowest level in nearly 16 years. And the number of "problem banks" increased to 416, from 305 in the first quarter, and is expected to remain high.

Indeed, federal officials warned that while the economy and financial markets were showing signs of improvement, the banking sector was unlikely to rebound soon.

"These credit problems will at least outlast the recession by a couple of quarters," said Sheila C. Bair, the FDIC chairwoman. "Cleaning up balance sheets is a painful process that does take time, but it is absolutely necessary to the industry's sustained profitability."

The dismal report shows how the industry's problems have spread. A handful of the biggest banks were among the first to suffer big losses nearly two years ago from complex mortgage assets and other securities, but have posted strong trading profits in the last two quarters.

China Announces a System for Voluntary Organ Donors

By Michael Wines

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

China has inaugurated a voluntary organ donor program, hoping to overhaul a system that now harvests a vast majority of its organs from black-market sellers and executed prisoners and leaves millions of ailing people without hope of getting transplants.

The new program, run by the national Red Cross Society with help from China's Health Ministry, was reported by the state-run English-language newspaper China Daily on Wednesday. The newspaper quoted the vice minister of health, Huang Jiefu, as saying the goal was to create an organ donation system that "will benefit patients regardless of social status and wealth."

At least 1 million people in China need organ transplants each year, but only about 10,000 receive them, according to government statistics. Huang said that most of those organs — as high as 65 percent, by some estimates — were taken from death-row inmates after their executions.

Study Finds Radiation Risk for Patients

By Alex Berenson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

At least 4 million Americans under age 65 are exposed to high doses of radiation each year from medical imaging tests, according to a new study in The New England Journal of Medicine.

About 400,000 of those patients receive very high doses, more than the maximum annual exposure allowed for nuclear power plant employees or anyone else who works with radioactive material.

The paper, being published on Thursday, was based on a survey from 2005 to 2007 covering almost 1 million patients insured by UnitedHealthcare.

It did not estimate the number of cancer cases that the radiation might cause over the next several decades.

The radioactive tests are given for hundreds of purposes. In the last two decades, they have become especially common in cardiology, where physicians use them to check for the buildup of plaque in the arteries and the heart's ability to pump blood.

Massachusetts Bids Goodbye To Senator Kennedy

By Abby Goodnough

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

Tens of thousands of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's constituents gathered Thursday along sidewalks, highway medians and overpasses to glimpse the motorcade that carried Kennedy's body from the sea-scattered village of Hyannis Port, Mass., through the tumult of downtown Boston and finally to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, where many more said goodbye to a man that most had never met, yet still felt sick to lose.

The late-summer day was cool and almost impossibly bright, helping people like Susan Jackson, a social worker from Worcester, Mass., who described Kennedy as her lifelong protector, feel marginally better about his death on Tuesday from brain cancer. In general, though, Jackson, 44, said, she felt a little less secure in the world with the senator gone who had served Massachusetts since before her birth.

"I grew up with my dad always telling me that as long as Ted Kennedy was around everything was safe," she said as she waited in line at the library to sign a condolence book. "It's like I

lost a part of my family even though I wasn't related to him, just because growing up he was so dominant in my house."

As the motorcade sped along a 70-mile route from Cape Cod to Boston, taking Kennedy on his final journey through the state he represented for 47 years, people of all ages, races and nationalities waited at various landmarks in the city for the procession to pass. Some waved flags or signs that said, "Thank You Teddy"; some looked bereft as helicopters droned and gulls squawked overhead.

"I know it's going to give me chills," said Annette Luc, 51, a state employee who was waiting for the cortege near Boston Common. "Washington, the Senate, the White House — they all lost a real leader."

As the motorcade entered the city around 4 p.m., Kennedy family members rolled down their windows and waved at the crowds. Hundreds of onlookers applauded as the hearse passed St. Stephen's Church in the city's North End, where Rose Fitzgerald was baptized in 1890 and where her funeral was held in 1995. And as it passed Faneuil Hall, in the heart of downtown, a bell atop the 267-year-old building

rang 47 times, once for each year Kennedy served in the Senate.

Several onlookers expressed regret that Congress did not overhaul the health care system — a goal that Kennedy recently called "the cause of my life" — before his death.

Family members in attendance included Rep. Patrick Kennedy of Rhode Island, Kennedy's son, who rode in the passenger seat of the hearse; his other son, Edward Kennedy Jr., and his daughter, Kara; Caroline Kennedy, daughter of Kennedy's brother John F. Kennedy, and Maria Shriver, daughter of Kennedy's sister Eunice, who died earlier this month.

By the time the motorcade arrived at the JFK Library about 4:45 p.m., several thousand people were waiting in lines that snaked around the building, where Kennedy's body is to lie in repose until his funeral on Saturday.

Inside, his coffin was carried past more than 100 current and former members of his staff, some of whom worked for him for more than 30 years. It was placed behind ropes in the Stephen E. Smith Center, a maple-paneled room with floor-to-ceiling windows looking out on Boston Harbor and the city skyline.

Flooded Iowa City Rebuilding, Feeling a Bit Ignored

By Susan Saulny

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

It was more than a year ago that the core of this city was submerged to its rooftops, the result of record flooding on the Cedar River that caused an estimated \$6 billion in damage — among the most costly natural disasters since Hurricane Katrina.

The outpouring of attention toward New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, ratcheting up again as the fourth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina approaches, has not been seen here. In fact, the people of Cedar Rapids are feeling neglected.

The recovery here is only limping along as waterlogged buildings are still being gutted, thousands of displaced families remain in temporary housing, and large-scale demolition to make way for a new downtown has just begun.

Federal financing for long-term recovery is trickling in, with the government having committed money for about half of what the city says it needs. And only a fraction of that has actually arrived.

"We really feel that we are the forgotten disaster," said Greg Eyerly, the city's flood recovery director. "We don't make sexy products. We make starch that goes into paper, we make foodstuffs, ingredients in crackers and cereal. We make ethanol. The sexiest thing we make is Cap'n Crunch. We're not a beachfront property. We make an anonymous contribution to our country, and people forget about us."

To be sure, Hurricane Katrina's huge reach and a botched emergency response devastated a far greater swath of the country than did the flooding in the Midwest, and no one here is trying to make tit-for-tat disaster comparisons. No lives were lost in the flooding

in Cedar Rapids, and the government's initial response to the crisis was generally considered a success.

But over the long term, the tone has changed, and the feeling of neglect amid devastation is palpable now. Five weeks of severe weather in the summer of 2008 made disaster areas out of 85 of the state's 99 counties.

The delays in recovery have multiple causes. The city cannot agree with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on the level of damage to the public buildings, and more than a thousand families do not know yet whether they will be bought out or flooded homes or whether their neighborhoods are coming back. And the sources of much the long-term recovery money — like the Departments of Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development — are not crisis-response agencies, and therefore do not operate at an emergency pace.

WEATHER

O-Rain-tation

Cegeon J. Chan

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

With the Obamas in Martha's Vineyard and the passing of Senator Kennedy, there hasn't been a shortage of national news coverage of Massachusetts this past week. Nonetheless, tropical storm Denny is jockeying for attention as it makes its way towards Boston. Although there's significant uncertainty in the storm's track (and hence how much rain will fall here on campus), there is confidence in the prediction of the storm's intensity. Because of the surrounding dry air, the upper-level convergence, and a southern shift of the jet stream, Denny will likely not become a hurricane.

But Denny can still provide a major inconvenience for Saturday's orientation events. Using the same model, but "tweaking" the initial conditions, rainfall predictions for Saturday range from a quick shower (0.3") to 6+ hours of torrential downpours (3.5"). What is certain is that the greatest chance of moderately steady rain will happen Saturday mid-morning until evening time. Although it'll probably be dry in the late evening, windy conditions will prevail. Sunday will be mostly dry, but passing showers lasting an hour or less are likely. After that, the weather is expected to be sunny and dry and should be much more cooperative for any outdoor activities all next week.

Extended Forecast

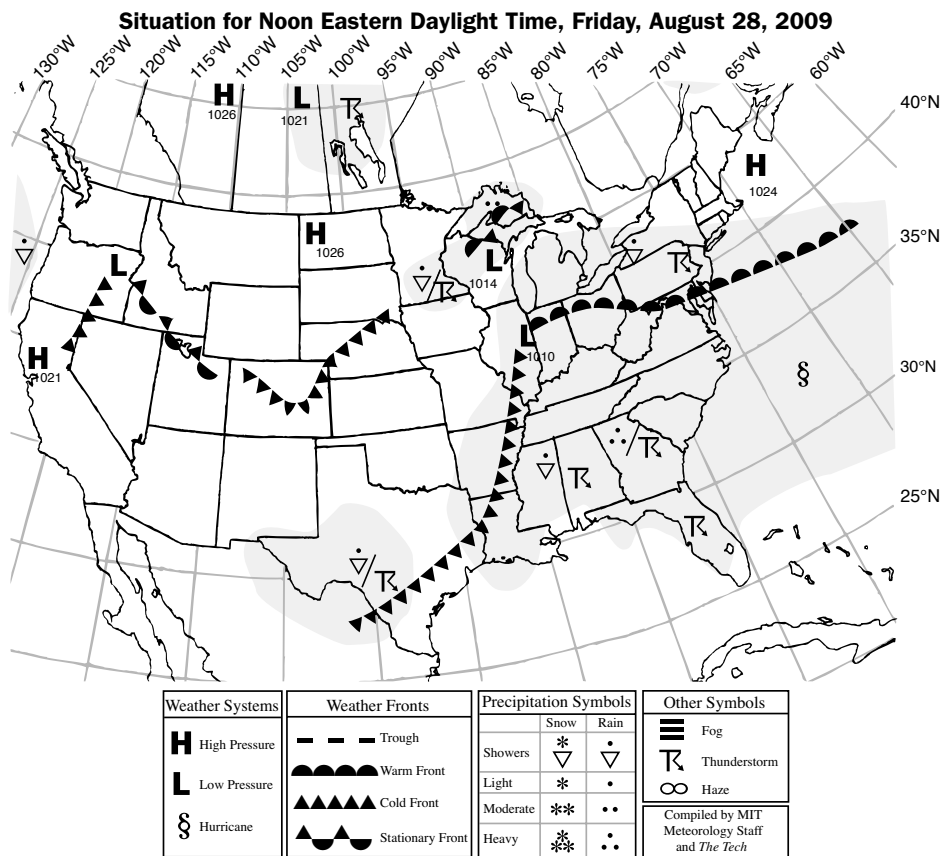
Today: Turning cloudy with temperatures similar to yesterday with a high of 72°F (22°C). East winds 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight: Cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s°F (16°C). Southeast winds 10-15 mph.

Tomorrow: Rain (heavy at times) starting mid-morning and lasting through the evening hours. Highs in the upper 60s°F (20°C). Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with passing rain showers. Highs in the upper 70s°F (26°C)

Monday: Partly sunny. Highs in the lower 70s°C (22°C).



Crimea Tense as Ukraine And Russia Swap Barbs

By Clifford J. Levy
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEVASTOPOL, UKRAINE

A year after its war with Georgia, Russia is engaging in an increasingly hostile standoff with another pro-Western neighbor, Ukraine.

Relations between the two countries are more troubled than at any time since the Soviet collapse, as both sides resort to provocations and recriminations. And it is here on the Crimean peninsula, home to a Russian naval base, where the tensions are most likely to burst into an open conflict.

In late July, the Ukrainian police briefly detained Russian military personnel who were driving truckloads of missiles through the port city of Sevastopol as if they were smugglers who had come ashore with a haul of con-

traband. It seemed that local officials were trying to make clear that this was no longer friendly terrain.

Ukraine has in recent years been at the forefront of the effort by some former Soviet republics to switch their alliances to the West, and it appears that the Kremlin has, in some sense, had enough.

President Dmitri A. Medvedev of Russia denounced Ukraine this month for "anti-Russian" policies, citing in particular its "incessant attempts" to harass Russia's naval base in Sevastopol. Medvedev condemned Ukraine's bid for NATO membership and its support for Georgia, and said he would not send an ambassador to Ukraine.

And the criticism has not let up since then.

Monday was Ukrainian indepen-

dence day, and Russian prosecutors used the occasion to accuse Ukrainian soldiers and members of Ukrainian nationalist groups of fighting alongside Georgia's military in the war last August. The Ukrainians denied the charges, but they underscored the bitterness in Moscow.

The Ukrainian government, which took power after the Orange Revolution of 2004, has repeatedly accused Russia of acting as a bully and trying to dominate the former Soviet space both militarily and economically.

Looming is a presidential election in Ukraine in January, which might cause Ukrainian candidates to respond more aggressively to Russia to show their independence. The Kremlin might seek to exploit the situation to help pro-Russian politicians in Kiev.

Sen. Edward Kennedy's Unfinished Business

By John M. Broder
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Upon his death, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy was heralded as one of the greatest legislators of all time. But while his record includes historic legislation of sweeping consequence that places him among the Senate's most successful leaders, it also includes some unfinished business and some laws whose impact remains to fully measured.

In his nearly 47 years of service, Kennedy introduced 2,500 bills and saw more than 550 of them enacted into law, according to records compiled by his office.

Yet despite his legislative skill, his

instinctual feel for politics and alliances built across party lines over decades, he was unable to achieve some of the changes he saw as his life's work — And in one area — judicial nominations — some critics believe Kennedy forever changed the rules of the game for the worse with his harsh and single-minded opposition to Robert H. Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court in 1987.

There is no single lawmaker or leader in Congress to step into Kennedy's shoes and the atmosphere on Capitol Hill today is so partisan that it is hard to imagine anything more than incremental steps toward Kennedy's lifelong domestic policy goals.

But Kennedy, as much as any leg-

islator of this or any time, believed that social progress generally only comes in half steps, and that patience and persistence are rewarded.

He was frustrated at times that he could not achieve more, aides and analysts said. But he also believed that legislation could always be improved over the years, and he often went back to laws he had shaped, seeking changes to make them more to his liking.

"There are a lot of senators who are content to put their name on something, get it passed and move on to something else," said Bruce Oppenheimer, professor of political science at Vanderbilt University. "But Kennedy understood that legislation is incremental and that conditions or context change.

New Yorker Leads Labor Charge For Health Reform

By Steven Greenhouse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

For more than a decade, Dennis Rivera was New York's mightiest labor leader, running a union of 300,000 health care workers that often bent Albany to its will as it scared — and angered — governors, Democratic and Republican, with its hard-hitting ads.

Two summers ago, Rivera stepped down from that post and largely disappeared. But now, as President Barack Obama's health care push has run into trouble, Rivera has emerged as a central player in the effort to save Obama's effort.

Rivera is the point man on health reform for the nation's most politically powerful union, the Service Employees International Union, which is doing more than any other union to push for health legislation. In many ways, the White House is looking to the SEIU to lead labor in doing the blocking and tackling necessary for Obama to carry the ball forward.

AIG's Stock Rises, and Many Wonder Why

By Mary Williams Walsh

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

It may have been written off as a hopeless case less than a year ago, but the stock of the American International Group shot up to \$50 on Thursday, capping a fourfold gain in the last two months.

For all the optimism taking hold in the markets these days, it is hard to find a tangible explanation.

"Who would want to buy a stock that's still 80 percent owned by the government?" wondered William T. Fitzpatrick, an equity analyst at Optique Capital. Shares ended the day at \$47.84, a gain of 27 percent from the previous close of \$37.89.

Federer and Nadal on Opposite Sides of Open Draw

By Joshua Robinson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Roger Federer was calm and cheerful before the U.S. Open draw Thursday afternoon, and he was still calm and cheerful afterward. The 10-minute unveiling of this year's bracket clearly did not worry him, even if the path to his 16th major title could take him through any combination of Andy Roddick, Novak Djokovic, Andy Murray and Rafael Nadal.

Federer arrived in New York after a momentous summer in which he finally won the French Open, surpassed Pete Sampras' record for most major titles and became a father to twin girls. With his charge to victory in the Cincinnati Masters last week, it seems that changing diapers has not hurt his form.

Why are some countries rich, while others are poor?

Economics 14.73

The Challenges of World Poverty

E. Duflo, D. Donaldson

Lecture: MW 1–2.30

Recitation: F1

This course is designed for students who are interested in the challenges posed by massive and persistent world poverty. 14.73 examines extreme poverty over time, and from many perspectives, to explore: whether poverty is still a threat; why some countries grow fast and others fall further behind; if growth or foreign aid help the poor; and if so, how to diminish corruption; whether markets or NGOs should be left to deal with poverty; when and where to intervene; and how to deal with the disease burden and improve schools.

No prerequisites. Open to all students.

May be used as part of a concentration in economics, or a new concentration in development economics.



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& SOCIAL SCIENCES

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Picower Money Tainted

Jeffrey Picower is emerging as the #2 man in the Madoff scandal. The suit filed by a Madoff trustee against Picower says the huge phony gains and huge fraudulent tax loss statements delivered to Picower at his request were nothing more than payoffs for "perpetuating the Ponzi scheme." Picower ended up with more cash from Madoff Ponzi in his pocket than anyone (blackmail?): \$5.1 billion cash, not phony paper gains, but cash. The roughly 1 percent of that \$5.1 billion that MIT accepted from Picower for the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory is clearly tainted.

The trustee's filing (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/15282761/Madoff-Trustees-Suit-Against-Picower>) makes interesting reading. I suggest everyone at the Picower Institute read it, and then reconsider whether Picower's portrait should hang in the lobby.

Don Fulton '64

Don't Risk It

Gary Shu tells us that because a neuroscience simulation in his childhood displayed cheesy graphics, we should bet civilization on our science of Earth's climate being wrong.

The interested reader will go to the source, the eminently readable IPCC synthesis reports that combine hundreds of peer-reviewed studies and are themselves extensively reviewed, to see the actual state of this science and the weight of evidence on the sobering essentials: the earth is warming, our actions are the main cause, the consequences are grave, and mitigating changes are still possible.

In any case, Shu has the logic of risk backward. To the extent that we don't know just what will happen as we drive carbon dioxide levels far outside the range our species has ever experienced, there is all the more reason to turn away from that course. One must hope that Congress this month, and the world in Copenhagen this December, will find the political will to do just that.

Greg Price G

On Maheshwari's "2022 AD: India and Pakistan"

I read Anurag Maheshwari's opinion piece titled "2022 AD: India and Pakistan" with great interest. The historical account was well-written and unbiased. However, there were some speculative statements that I disagree

with. First, I do not think Pakistan is as close to collapse as the author supposes. Pakistan has a substantial middle class, a strong military, and a political establishment that, for all its flaws, is committed to Pakistan's continued existence as a single nation. The insurgencies are worrying, but not an existential threat.

Also, all major players understand the consequences of Pakistan's disintegration — its collapse would cascade through Central Asia and the Middle East, and result in a redrawing of borders on a scale not witnessed since the Second World War. For precisely this reason, all major players in the region will work to ensure Pakistan's survival, and those opposed to it (Al Qaeda, the Taliban) do not have nearly enough popular support or firepower to force such dramatic changes.

Second, even if Pakistan were to collapse, I doubt if there is any support for a "United States of India" among the people of the region. Having grown up in India, I can state confidently that the vast majority of Indians are content with the current borders of their nation (with the exception of Pakistan-held Kashmir) and would be reluctant to support such a scheme. To put it very plainly, Indians do not want an additional 300 million people, many of them raised for generations to be hostile towards India, in their country.

Aditya Undurti G

Welcome to Boston

A Guide to Breaking Out of the Student Bubble

Ramya Sankar

Congratulations freshmen! You have now officially become the envy of soon-to-be graduates. Why? You have that one thing that everyone seems to be running out of: time. I'm sure you just had a whole summer full of advice on all the potential you are about to unleash, so I'll spare you the platitudes. Instead, I wanted to share with you the story of an epidemic that inflicts the thousands of college students that descend upon the greater Boston area each fall. I call it "student-bubble-ism" (SBI).

There is only one cure for this, and unfortunately many ignore the prescription. But I hope you, dear reader, will heed my warning at avoiding this plague, for it may leave you feeling unfulfilled when you have completed your

time at college.

You see, I had SBI when I first started college and I hardly knew the environment outside of the university. It seemed like I had forgotten that I was a part of a city in constant motion. Once I was cured, the grass got greener, the sky bluer, and I found myself much happier.

So what are the doctor's orders? Take one dose of exploration weekly and you should be set.

In fact, you might just end up like me and fall in love. I unexpectedly fell in love with Boston and it has changed my life forever. In all seriousness, I really do hope you choose to get off campus and even across the river to a city that is not only rich with stories of the past but also creates new stories every day.

This city is for runners, musicians, engineers, entrepreneurs, the risk takers, the think-

ers, the passionate, the compassionate, and yes, a whole lot of Red Sox fans! I'm sure your time on campus will be spent doing problem sets and going to classes and even doing research, but I assure you that at the end of your four years you will not be asking yourself, "Why didn't I spend one more hour studying for that organic chemistry test?"

Take the time to explore and take risks. Meet the musicians; not just those at the world renowned Berklee School of Music or even your classmates, but the undiscovered talent on the subway platform or the sidewalk. Go to shows at the Colonial Theatre, take a walk in the park at the Arboretum or Boston Common, go ice skating at the Frog Pond, go running at the Chestnut Hill Reservoir, meet the staff at Trident Cafe, volunteer your time for an issue you care about, attend the city wide pillow fight, eat at Santarpios in East Boston, attend a concert at the House of Blues, soak in the culture of Jamaica Plains, and even attend service at the 12th Baptist church in Roxbury, where worship is done through music (it really feels like a concert).

Those are just some of the amazing things to look forward to when you're here in the Boston area. Taking the time to really explore and taking the risk to meet strangers everyday has made me appreciate this place I call home. In all honesty, it's the first time I feel like I'm part of a community. I want you to feel the same way. I want you to feel that same sense of community, but not just within the bubble that is MIT. Take the risks and really immerse yourself in your environment. If you do that, you will have made your time here well worth it.

I never liked it when people told me "it's not what you know, it's who you know," but I've come to realize how true it is. When you complete your formal education you'll find out that the connections you made and the relationships you created will bring you greater joy than anything you will have ever learned within the walls of any institute.



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Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Austin Chu, Editor in Chief Nick Bushak, Managing Editor Steve Howland, Executive Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg, and Opinion Editor Andrew T. Lukmann, Joseph Maurer, and Ethan Solomon.

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

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

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will

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Color (or the Lack of It) at Comic-Con... And Beyond

The Comics Industry Continues to Struggle with Diversity

Florence Gallez

If I had to sum up the idea behind the huge pop culture Comic-Con convention of this past July in one word, it would be “diversity.” At least, this was certainly the undoubtedly noble goal that the comics world and its followers, from fans to experts, claimed to embrace.

As in most other creative industries, comics arts, and their derivatives in film, television, science fiction and gaming have been showing the signs of a culture dominated by a white male elite. From the comic book publishing industry to Hollywood and niche areas in entertainment, a uniform (read: white) group mans the gates and makes the top decisions. As a result, the content produced by the industry reflects that group’s likes, dislikes, and concerns, and leads to complaints over the lack of non-white heroes, heroines and role models in stories and on screens. In the national debate on race, the latter issue comes into play year after year.

Now that Comic-Con is celebrating its 40th birthday, the clamors for the Comic-Con committee and the industry at large to address the issue of diverse racial representation in its panels and media offerings, respectively, have become more strident. As a result, the word “diversity” peppers the press publications and program schedules for this year’s Comic-Con.

In response, messages from the Comic-Con management in the souvenir book *Comic-Con: 40 years of Artists, Writers, Fans and Friends* stress their efforts in this sphere. The book touts, “the variety of interests,” of guests and emphasizes an “extensive and diversified program schedule” along with the “variety of Comic-Con” that “provides a diversity in programming and in items and sights in the Exhibit Hall that has no equal.” All in all, they claim to provide “an atmosphere that is welcoming and inclusive.”

Add to this the much-trumpeted notion of the Internet and its online social networks as a great equalizer, giving a voice to all, and it is easy to see how the still pertinent issue of race in entertainment can be swept under the rug with the message that “all is well, diversity is in good hands.” This line of thought seems to have been reinforced by the election of an African-American president and high profile appointments, such as Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court, with some circles calling for a stop to the “obsession with race.”

Yet, when it comes to race, all is not well in Comic-land and in the entertainment world it inspires — a fact I was reminded of at Comic-Con at every turn. It was clear that some great minds are hard at work on improving the situation, but evidence of concrete change was

hard to come by. Just take that very Souvenir Book and count the featured non-white “past Comic-Con office-holders and supporters” who have shaped the past 40 years, and you will see that one hand largely suffices.

As MIT Comparative Media Studies co-founder and 2009 Comic-Con attendee Henry Jenkins noted in a recent e-mail interview, progress in introducing diversity is being made, and the Comic-Con participants and attendees are more racially diverse than those at most of the fan conventions he attends.

“There were many small minority publishers in the dealers room though few of them will get broad distribution,” he wrote. “There are some significant recent efforts to foreground minority perspectives — see for example the Secret Identities collection of Asian-American superhero stories, or Bayou, which is a high profile project by an African-American creator dealing with black history and culture. In the mainstream, there has been a revitalizing of Marvel’s Black Panther franchise. But these are really token gestures in what remains an overwhelmingly white and male industry at least on the level of key creative decision-makers.” He does, however, note that an “increased number of the artists are Asian or Latin-American.”

The debate on diversity is cyclical, he concludes. Comics are neither more nor less open to minorities than other commercial media spheres.

Ethnic Caribbean actress and Star Trek star Zoe Saldana puts the lack of diversity more bluntly: “There aren’t enough African-American superheroes. Or Asian-American superheroes. Have you ever met a superhero named Juan Gonzales? I would kill for that.”

Perhaps part of the reason the world of comics is devoid of African-American and ethnic minorities is because as form of entertainment, comics do not come cheap; a single title retails from \$15–18 in bookstores. The argument that the Internet and mobile media have increased access for all fails to factor in the cost of the expensive technological devices that many people cannot afford in the first place.

Judging by the entertainment and fandom-focused crowd at Comic-Con, it was clear to me that the comics world speaks to a privileged segment of society, reminiscent of the “closed golden cocoon” that Gary Shu G attributes to Ivy schools and privileged city enclaves in his August 5 *Tech* piece. On the plus side, this is a blessing for the comics industry, as only distant echoes of the current recession were audible at Comic-Con and the mood about the industry’s prospects was generally upbeat.

Suffice to say that the still muffled debate on race in comics is part of a larger nascent discussion on diversity in the creative popular arts that includes the representation of wom-

en, gender identity and sexual orientation. In all these areas, much still needs to be done.

To be fair, there were plenty of positive signs, which with nurturing have the potential to produce meaningful progress. Several Comic-Con panels were entirely devoted to the issue, such as “Four Color Reality: Making Comics Relevant to Readers Across Cultures,” which questioned whether the decline in sales of traditional-format comic books might be due to the divergence between the straight, white male American mainstream comic icons and an increasingly culturally diverse audience of readers. “Bridging Cultures through Popular Media” explored how comics’ stories can help break down misunderstandings between cultures, races and genders.

And as expected, manga, anime and other Far Eastern Asian cultures were strongly represented, as these genres have been enthusiastically embraced in Western popular arts. These become especially interesting when mixed with other cultures, such as the Japanese-Mexican love story of Ari Carrillo’s children’s film *La Cecilia*. Mexican and Latin American artists were also a significant presence, with Brazilian cartoonist Fabio Moon and Mexican comics legend Ramon Valdiera among the guest speakers.

It was certainly encouraging to see a non-white figure among the judges of the Comic-Con International Independent Film Festival 2009 — Marc Bernardin. Among the upcoming offerings, of note is “The Cleveland Show,” the new spinoff from “Family Guy,” which now stars an African-American family. And Peter Jackson’s new science fiction film *District 9*, which focuses on a world in which extraterrestrials have become refugees in South Africa, should be very interesting for its overtones of Apartheid. *Black Dynamite*, to be released in mid-October, is intriguing for being a spoof of the “blaxploitation” film genre, itself a response to the “exploitation films” of the 1970s.

However, for all these islands of diversity, there are some worrying trends. *Tripwire*, Britain’s premiere comics culture magazine, compiled their 2008 “Power List,” containing the 25 people with “the greatest power to affect the genre industries as a whole:” “thought leaders” who “can make a difference” and “alter perceptions inside or even outside their markets.” The list is entirely white, with all but one male.

In the same vein, this year’s Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards made it clear who holds the power in the industry. Watching the presentation, I remember spotting on stage a lone African-American author. The rest was an entirely white affair.

In its program, the Eisner Awards described Comic-Con as an organization dedi-

cated to comics and related popular art forms through events that “celebrate the historic and ongoing contributions of comics to art and culture.” Yet, aside from the “Best U.S. Edition of International Material” and “Best U.S. Edition of International Material — Japan” categories, diversity in ethnic cultures was ignored here, especially when considering that the vast majority of nominees and recipients in all categories were — with the exception of Japanese — representatives of Western culture.

Back at Comic-Con, The Cultural Shift panel, which covered strategies for teaching a course in comics, saw concerns raised over the lack of role model characters of African descent in the curricula texts. The response? “We are

aware of the problem.”

Additionally, take the Black Panel, one of the main events dedicated to blacks at Comic-Con. As “Comics Waiting Room” columnist Vince Moore wrote in a searing review, the panel is but a shadow of its former, much more interesting self.

Initially, he wrote: “It was a gathering of a number of black comic creators and the panel itself was designed to speak to those fans of African American descent, to allow them an opportunity to speak with creators of color and learn the hows and whys and whats of creating comics.”

But over the years, he said, real debate has been replaced by flashy multimedia presentations, the sound of hip hop songs, and the questionable contributions from rappers and other guest music stars, with hip hop and rap becoming the sole reference points of African-American culture — as if contributions to other arts were nil. Moore also criticized African-Americans as too ready to oblige and conform to “white” cultural expectations. One wishes that such nuanced issues of the race debate, in entertainment and popular arts as elsewhere, could be resolved with a chat over a beer in a rose garden. But I suspect it will take more arduous work from all sides to conduct this thorny conversation productively. It has certainly started at Comic-Con, but let us hope that it is not thrown in for good measure, then cyclically brushed under the carpet and forgotten until the next hand-wringing discussion on diversity.

So if the Black Panel organizers are keen to include hip hop in this comics convention, perhaps they could consider showing extracts from Snoop Dogg’s 2008 feature-length animated film *The Adventures of Tha Blue Carpet Treatment*, with himself and his partner-in-crime characters brought to life in funky graphics, music from the album, and cameos and guest voices from some of hip hop’s top stars — proof that African-American culture has creatively embraced comics material and the Comic-Con spirit as well as any other.

It is easy to see how the still pertinent issue of race in entertainment can be swept under the rug with the message that “all is well, diversity is in good hands.”

The Twitter Generation

Maggie Liu

Our generation has never really lived without the internet. Online fads come and go (remember MySpace?), but in recent years the Internet has seen an explosion of dynamic services. In fact, there seems to be so many means of connecting to people virtually that it has become overwhelming. The other day, I wanted to send a blog post to a friend. Below the entry were a slew of colorful icons, each representing a different means of communication: Facebook. Tumblr. Gmail. Delicious (I will not even ask about this one). Digg. Twitter. Wait — Twitter?

What exactly sets Twitter apart from the dozens of other social networking systems out there? Aside from the obvious catchphrase name, I’m puzzled by Twitter’s hype and popularity. Twitter’s homepage proudly advertises itself as a “social messaging utility for staying connected in real-time.” Facebook users also know it as the site where one only posts status updates, endearingly called “tweets.” These tweets are all text-based posts with a limit of 140 characters. They appear on the individual’s page and the pages of those

who subscribe to them (“followers”). Given the nature of the site, it is no surprise that Twitter is very popular among smartphone users. There is a slew of Twitter-based applications available for BlackBerries, the iPhone, and Android smartphones.

Twitter has received a great deal of media attention (and usage) due to its use as a publicity mechanism for both celebrities and politicians alike. President Obama used Twitter frequently during his 2008 presidential campaign, and celebrities like Oprah Winfrey boast over two million followers. But as far as I can see, the only reason I would get it is to follow the tweets of the “Twilight” cast.

“But you can see what all your real friends are doing, too,” Twitter users might protest. Well, there’s no shortage of instant messaging, text messaging, and e-mail services out there. Oh, and have I mentioned the cellphone? Or is that derelict thing only used for text messaging and Twitter?

While it is impossible for me to deride all forms of social networking websites, I admit that Twitter does reflect a lot about our generation’s lifestyle. It’s not that we’re becoming any less of social beings — it’s merely that our socializing methods have transcended actual reality. And with these new methods

come all forms of online etiquette that must be observed. Indeed, Twitter has been no stranger to controversy.

Twitter’s popularity also underscores our decreasing attention span. Think about it. We went from blog entries to Facebook posts and now to two line messages? While it may not be a fair comparison because each of these types of websites have different functions, it is clear that Twitter would not have been successful without the aid of BlackBerries and other mobile devices. And while reading through the tweets of celebrities may give fangirls GPS-esque memos on where X and Y ate sushi and how much cash was spent on

Isn’t it better to be living the moment, instead of twittering about it?

a shopping spree in midtown Manhattan, one can also follow the failed attempts of a friend trying to bake a cake or read tweets about their boredom during a summer class.

Twitter also taps into our innate lust for gossip and perpetual nosiness. While we may not be “friends” with the Twitterers we follow, we are still allowed glimpses into their world through tiny morsels of information — where they are, what they are doing, and who they are with. All these facts are things that some may find interesting. Instead of having the guts to ask them in person, you can cyber-stalk and follow others’ lives through 140-character tweets. Classy.

The heart of the matter is that Twitter exposes every moment of one’s life to others. Although users can set Tweets private, the concept of Twitter is what irks me the most. Isn’t it better to be living the moment, instead of twittering about it? Who are you living for? Yourself or your followers? (Of course, this does not apply to the likes of college students with less than 100 followers). To avoid these issues, I think my fall semester resolution will be to abstain from these “social networking” sites and revert to that primitive communication system we call “e-mail.”

CAMPUS LIFE

Squid vs. Whale

The Best Bachelor Pad of All Time

By Charles Lin
SENIOR EDITOR

You did it! You graduated! And now this fall you are going to leave MIT and enter the world as a man. That's right. Class of 2009, bitches. Think of all that lies ahead of you. A new apartment, rocking the lower middle class with your entry-level salary. On your own now, limitless possibilities, unbounded awesomeness. Moving to the big city, impressing the ladies with your status, you professional auteur. Isn't this exciting?

I've seen the apartment you picked out, and I gotta say, I approve. Good layout, good location. You have access to a hot tub, chicks will definitely dig that. But we gotta do something that will set you apart from all those other cool/attractive dudes straight outta college. You are not one of the young, professional sheeple. You are more than a handsome guy donning business-casual slacks. No, listen to me. We are going to maximize your individual expression where it counts. We're going to fix

you up one hell of a badass bachelor pad.

Here's what we do. You got a good space. The rent's not bad. Definitely one of the better units in the complex. Now we work with that.

First, that lighting has got to go. From now on you are a man of indirect lighting. The vibrant interplay of light and shadow will make you look mysterious. It will say, "I am tired of living in an institution, I am my own man, look at my modular track lighting." (\$200 at *HomeDepot.com*)

Then, it's all about the bar. I saw this great one on *CrateandBarrel.com*. It's a little pricey, but you will look like the man of the hour when you start serving up Mai Tais behind this bad boy. Most of the girls you meet only know the red end of a Solo cup. But you — you, my man — will serve them cocktails in real glassware. Real glassware! You'll have fresh limes in the accompanying mini-fridge (\$150 at Bed, Bath, and Beyond). You will know how to make up to 6 cocktails, including the Fuzzy Navel. Want a Bellini? You got it. Anything is

possible.

As for furniture, minimalism is the key. Minimalism speaks volumes. It's like *Fight Club*. It says you are not tied down to this place, you are not the sum total of your furniture, you are not your decadently simplistic Ikea Breakfast Bar (\$499, *Ikea.com*) — which I think you should put near the window. When you're a minimalist you're living right on the edge. You bring a girl home, she says, "why no furniture?", you say, "Because, baby, I'm just like that. I think I might pack up tomorrow and leave this droll town. I've been thinking of fall in the French Riviera. I'm spontaneous, I don't know what comes next, that's how much of a free spirit I am."

Oh, and you will work entirely at a standing desk (\$699 Restoration Hardwood) because you are a man's man and doing your bills sitting down is for pansies.

Last, but not least, you need a signature piece. We're not in college anymore — that poster of two girls kissing has got to go. In-

stead, try a statue, or a piece of art. I know it's hard, but you have to find something that will encapsulate the sum total of your awesomeness. Avoid black and white photography and/or framed expressionist prints. These are for the middle class.

Having trouble? Think of this signature piece as an appetizer to the inner you. Visitors will look at it and ponder your eccentric taste. Combine it with the orgy of self-expression that is your apartment, and they'll be clamoring for the main course that is your subtle and multifaceted personality.

I recommend mounting that Aboriginal head mask you got from that time we did study abroad in Australia. That was such a life changing experience. Remember when we went to the Outback and they served us insects for dinner? So completely in-your-face badass. Fuck that, man. Once you put up that mask, you don't even need all the other stuff. I mean, how many other guys can say they've lived in Australia?

Call SIPB with questions at x3-7788!

Ask SIPB

Drop by our office in W20-557!

Welcome, especially to freshmen and new grad students! Ask SIPB is a column published semi-regularly by the Student Information Processing Board, the volunteer student group concerned with computing at MIT, to help students like you learn more about the computing resources MIT provides and how to make effective use of them. Look for more columns in the future, and feel free to stop by the SIPB office (W20-557) or e-mail sipb@mit.edu with questions about computing at MIT.

I don't have a computer/printer/scanner. Where can I go?

MIT has a number of clusters sprinkled around campus, containing Athena workstations and a few printers. In addition, there are several "quickstations," workstations with timers in various convenient spots such as the infinite corridor or many buildings' lobbies. Most of these workstations run *Debathena*, a set of MIT extensions on top of the popular Ubuntu operating system. You can access everything provided in Ubuntu, as well as the various Athena services (files, printers, etc.) from any workstation. On these cluster machines, you are able to install any Ubuntu package for the duration of your login session.

A small number of workstations instead run Windows or Mac-based variants of Athena, which come with a different selection of software. The New Media Center, in 26-139, is a cluster of 24" iMacs running a variety of multimedia software. The NMC also has a color scanner and computer hookups for MiniDV and S-VHS tapes. There are also two clusters of Windows machines on the "win.mit.edu" system — one cluster is in the back room of the W20-575 cluster, and the other is in 37-312. Both the Windows and Mac systems can access your regular Athena home directory.

You can find a list of Athena clusters on the back of the Computing at MIT Map, which will be distributed at the Computing at MIT and Introduction to Athena orientation sessions (check your "Hitchhiker's Guide" for details). The map will also be available at building N42 after August 31. If you're already at an Athena workstation, you can also type:

```
athena% cview
```

How do I get into the Athena clusters or New Media Center?

The Athena clusters and NMC are protected by push-button combo locks; 37-312 also requires an MIT ID to enter. To find out the current cluster combo, on any Athena machine (such as a quickstation), type:

```
athena% tellme combo
```

The combo changes annually early in the Fall term. Usually, **tellme combo** has the new combo as well as the current one about a week prior to the switch.

What are these rooms with whiteboards and couches and computer hookups?

They are collaborative group spaces, first deployed four years ago. They were designed to make working in groups at MIT both easier and more powerful. You can find them in most larger clusters, as well as in the Reading Room on the fifth floor of the Student Center.

Should I set up my personal computer now?

If you brought a desktop machine to campus, you're better off waiting to set up your computer. Unless you live in McCormick, which has forced room squatting, you will almost certainly be moving to another room, if not another dorm. When you do set up your desktop, you'll need to register it to get on the network — just open up a web browser and follow the instructions (it can take up to 15 minutes to update).

If you didn't bring a laptop, or even if you did, don't forget about the Athena clusters all around campus. Give them a try once before classes start, so you know what the system looks like before the night of your first pset — and then get off the computer and explore the many opportunities that you have during Orientation to learn about dorms, activities, and everything else at MIT.

How do I access the Internet?

If you have a wireless card, just connect to the "MIT" network and attempt to visit any website. You'll see the same Network Registration page as for a wired connection, where you can log in with your Athena username and password to register for DHCP.

If you need an Ethernet cable, you can get one for free through your dorm's Residential Computing Consultants (RCCs), or come by the SIPB office in W20-557 or the Athena Consulting office in the lobby of N42. You can also ask your RCC for a static IP address and hostname in your dorm's network (which doesn't prevent you from using DHCP in other buildings.) You can contact your RCC by filling out a form at <http://rcc.mit.edu>.

Since your computer will be directly on the public Internet, it's vital to your machine's security that you keep it up to date with the latest patches. Visit <http://ist.mit.edu/security/support/patches> for instructions on keeping your Windows or Macintosh computer up to date. It's also a good idea to run a

virus scanner and **keep it up to date**: if you don't have one, you should take advantage of MIT's license of VirusScan and download it from <http://ist.mit.edu/services/software>. If your computer came with one that has since expired, make sure to uninstall it, since multiple virus scanners can conflict and render each other useless.

How do I set up my personal computer to print to Athena cluster printers?

To set up printing to a cluster printer, first log in to Athena, and run the **hesinfo [printer] pcap** command. (If you need the name of a printer, try the **cvview printers** command.) The output will look something like:

```
athena% hesinfo ajax pcap
ajax:rp=ajax:rm=PAPER-PUSHER.MIT.EDU:k
a#0:mc#0:auth=kerberos5:xn:
```

From this, note the "rp" and "rm" values, which name the print queue and server, respectively. Now go to your computer's Add Printer dialog, and choose the option to create an "LPR" or "LPD" printer. (On Windows, this is considered a type of local printer.) Enter the print queue (rp) and print server (rm) names when prompted. If you need detailed instructions, see one of these pages:

- Windows XP: <http://ist.mit.edu/services/software/windows/xp/lpr-print>
- Windows Vista: <http://ist.mit.edu/services/software/windows/vista/lpr-print>
- Mac OS X 10.4: <http://ist.mit.edu/services/software/macos/104x/lpd-print>
- Mac OS X 10.5: <http://ist.mit.edu/services/software/macos/105x/lpd-print>

That's hard. And I have to do this again for each printer?

Yeah. Another option is to use <http://quickprint.mit.edu>. This website, created by a SIPB member, allows you to upload a PDF, PostScript, or plain-text document and select (from a map!) a cluster to print it to. Moreover, Windows XP or Vista users can install quickprint as a network printer, so they can print from any application. When you print a document, it will be uploaded to the quickprint website, and you can choose when and where to print it. (Old uploaded files are periodically purged to save space.)

To ask us a question, send e-mail to sipb@mit.edu. We'll try to answer you quickly, and we can address your question in our next column. You can also stop by our office in W20-557 or call us at x3-7788 if you need help. Copies of each column and pointers to additional information are posted on our website: <http://www.mit.edu/~asksipb/>

This space donated by The Tech

Nightline

We're here to listen.

3-8800

ARTS

RESTAURANT REVIEW

*Boston's Finest (and Most Affordable) Al Fresco**...Before It Gets Too Cold!*

By Tracy Kambara

STAFF WRITER

Boston has had more than its fair share of rainy days this summer, but during its few sunny days, I managed to explore some of the city's best outdoor dining options. Whether you are looking for a full meal or just a light afternoon snack, you can be sure to find an outdoor restaurant in one of Boston's many neighborhoods. Here are some of my top picks.

L'Aroma Café
85 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116
(617) 412-4001

Trendy Newbury Street is lined with perhaps the highest concentration of al fresco dining options in Boston. The trick is to know what you're looking for in an outdoor patio experience.

L'Aroma Café is an ideal breakfast, lunch, or afternoon coffee stop for a number of reasons. First, the food and drinks are excellent. The coffee is nutty and freshly dripped; I can drink it black to preserve its natural flavor, even though I usually cannot handle the bitterness of coffee. The tea selection is wide but not overwhelming; their pastries and quiches are buttery, flaky, savory, and sweet in all the right places. Salads with chicken or salmon are a smart option for a light lunch, and the delicately portioned gelato, cannolis, pies, and cakes will satisfy sweet cravings.

The location is perfect. Wedged between Marc Jacobs and Ralph Lauren, L'Aroma Café has an outdoor patio that lends itself to fun people-watching opportunities. It is up Newbury far enough to avoid the mobs of high school hipsters lurking around Urban Outfitters, but is still distant enough from the Boston Commons end where heresses roam with clothed dogs in tow. Duck tours pass by every so often, and drivers can be heard encouraging tourists to wave to the shoppers on the street. The patio itself seats about twenty,

and indoor seating is also available.

Prices are moderate by Newbury standards and are comparable to chains such as Starbucks. A medium Bavarian iced coffee (made with white and dark chocolate, topped with cappuccino foam) and a spinach feta croissant set me back \$7, a small price I was willing to pay for the friendly service and three lazy hours I spent on the shady patio with a friend. There are many al fresco options along the eight block stretch that is Newbury Street, but few can create the relaxing and unpretentious vibe found at L'Aroma Café.

Daedalus Restaurant and Pub
45 1/2 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 349-0071
Entrees \$10-21

Most restaurants in Harvard Square fall into one or more of the following categories: cramped, pricey, a chain, or underground in the dark and stuffy basement level. Daedalus Restaurant is a welcome change of pace. With three main seating areas (indoor booths, two bars, and the outdoor patio), Daedalus makes good use of its space. But unless it's raining, head straight for the rooftop patio, where there are plenty of tables for groups of up to four or five.

The menu selection is fairly typical of what you see in most New American restaurants: salads, sandwiches, seafood dishes, meaty entrees, and the token vegetarian pasta. I highly recommend the calamari appetizer because it is probably the one item that is substantially different from the offerings of other restaurants in Boston. The small ringlets of squid are chewy but never rubbery, encased in just the right amount of fried peanut oil batter. It comes with hot cherry peppers cooked the same way, and the combination of spicy and crunchy hits the spot. The crab cake sandwich is less memorable, but the creaminess of the crab, the chipotle aioli mayonnaise, and the avocado slices make for

a filling meal. Nothing else on the menu has the same Daedalus touch. You can find almost everything else at other restaurants done just as well, if not better.

At the end of the day, it really is the rooftop dining that makes a meal at Daedalus worthwhile. The smoothly sanded heavy wood patio furniture is actually comfortable, and the greenery gives it a garden feel.

One slight drawback is the location. While it is far enough from the center of Harvard Square to avoid the hustle and bustle of tour groups and angry drivers, Daedalus is located near two buildings that produce lots of noise: a church and a fire station. St. Paul Parish rings its bells every fifteen minutes, and fire trucks wail by nearly as often. Still, the rooftop is popular and Daedalus knows it. No reservations are available for the roof, and by 7 p.m. on a weeknight, the place is packed.

The service is attentive enough; it can be a little on the slow side, but if the sun is shining, the waiter is good-looking, and you've got food and friends, then who's counting the minutes?

Rowes Wharf Sea Grille
70 Rowes Wharf, Boston, MA 02110
(617) 439-7000

No list of Boston's best al fresco spots would be complete without the Waterfront area. Rowes Wharf Sea Grille (RWSG), located on the first floor of the Boston Harbor Hotel, features a spectacular view of the harbor from their outdoor patio. But to be honest, I've never sat outside at RWSG. Instead, I have experienced better: afternoon high tea.

Served only indoors (and with a reservation) from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., afternoon tea includes a choice of one of almost twenty teas accompanied with a dizzying selection of scones, pastries, and finger sandwiches. I selected the Huan Shan Sunset tea, a sweet peach blended tea that was perfectly refreshing for a sticky summer afternoon.

Tea service at RWSG is no light matter:

You are provided with fancy strainers, white and brown sugar cubes, honey, jams, and impeccable service to match. The table is specially set and showered with colorful rose petals. Finger food is served on a simple but elegant three tier cake stand. At the top are buttery scones, light blueberry and chocolate chip coconut cakes, macaroons, and fruit; the middle tier features savory bite-sized sandwiches including shrimp lime with avocado, whipped egg salad, and maple smoked salmon with caviar; the bottom tier finishes the journey with sweet chocolate mousse cake, classic cheesecake, pecan and caramel bars, and a moist carrot cake. Each item is small and no more than two bites in size, but they add up to create a filling meal. The artistic presentation of the tea service drew attention to my table from those enjoying late lunches outside.

Despite the fact that high tea is only served indoors, there are plenty of reasons to return to RWSG for a full al fresco meal. Chef Daniel Bruce is the mastermind behind all of their dishes, and given the quality of their pastries, the full-sized menu cannot disappoint. In addition, RWSG is the cheaper alternative to Meritage, the other fine dining restaurant located inside the Boston Harbor Hotel.

Easily accessible by T (take the Blue Line to the Aquarium stop), RWSG also hosts special summer events, such as classic movie nights on Fridays, where the general public is invited to attend a free screening of a classic 1960s film on an outdoor screen. Indoors, RWSG exudes a hotel-restaurant vibe, complete with a small bar perpetually serving a jovial and talkative tourist or two. Navy blue and white accents complete the harbor feel, and appropriate attire can range from Lilly Pulitzer dresses to preppy-casual polos, chinos, and madras-print sandals.

RWSG successfully creates a much-needed Boston vacation atmosphere with its combination of a waterfront location, a well-prepared menu, and four star service.

CD REVIEW

*Synth-Heavy and Self-Aware**Cobra Starship's 'Hot Mess' Offers a Few Gems*

By Maggie Liu

STAFF WRITER

Cobra Starship
Hot Mess

Produced by Kevin Rudolf
Fueled By Ramen
August 11, 2009

Do you remember the goodie bags you used to get as party favors after an extravagant birthday party? It was usually a grab bag of treats: an obligatory shiny toy along with jelly beans that everyone tried to throw away. *Hot Mess*, Cobra Starship's newest album, is akin to those grab bags. While there are a couple of

catchy tracks and a few really good songs, others run the risk of being repetitive, and the dance-punk-synthpop style wears one's patience thin.

Although Cobra Starship has its roots in New York, its similarities to bands like The Strokes, The Virgins (and all other New York bands with names starting with "the") end there. Their beats are heavily synthesized and toe the line between pop and punk. Many of their more famous tracks are dance-worthy with almost hip-hop vibes.

Their hit single on *Hot Mess*, entitled "Good Girls Go Bad," features guest vocals from Gossip Girl star Leighton Meester. It's catchy, feisty, in-your-face, and follows the

current hype of having a repetitive chorus of the same string of words. A perfect dance track, its style epitomizes Cobra Starship's flexibility as artists and their playful approach to music.

It's so difficult to categorize Cobra Starship: When listening to individual tracks, many seem to stem from totally different artists, albeit artists who rely on heavy synthesizers. "The World Will Never Do" is almost R&B (hipsters, please don't be too aghast) with singer Gabe Saporta's soulful croons, saved by his slightly whiny pop-punk inflections. Old fans may rejoice at almost thoughtful tracks like "The Scene is Dead." However, the ballad's beats are belied by whimsical lyrics

like "Oh yeah, it's alright/ Cause I got a pretty face./ I guess that I can sing alright."

Music critics may instantaneously write Cobra Starship off and place them in the same category as Dashboard Confessional and My Chemical Romance. However, the genius of Cobra Starship is the fact that they don't take themselves seriously. Their outrageous lyrics, identity crisis (emo-pop? dance-pop? synth-pop? is this pop?), and glorification of the 80s in *Hot Mess* may make some cringe. However, if taken in strict doses, *Hot Mess* is conducive to a sweaty summer night at a club after having one too many Redbulls. Be warned: If you're not up for fluffy experimental muzak, don't add this to your iTunes library.

CD REVIEW

*Tweedy Settles Down**Remaining Members of Wilco Follow*

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

Wilco
Wilco (The Album)
Produced by Jim Scott & Wilco
Nonesuch Records
June 30, 2009

I can remember, sometime in early spring, reading a blogger's hilarious indie bulletin: "In other news, Wilco continues to take over the world." Back then, before Wilco's latest self-titled effort had even leaked, I reflected on this statement as a clear indicator of the upcoming year. Frontman Jeff Tweedy and his band of indie-alt-folkers-whatever-you-wanna-call-ems (oh, all the genre dodging Wilco goes through) now sit close to the top of the music world, garnering steady attention ever since the Yankee Hotel Foxtrot debacle that cemented their name as true artists.

Avoiding selling out, but not burning-out (read: Tweedy's drug addiction, and its documentary counterpart 2004's *A Ghost Is Born*),

the band has had its share of ups and downs. Earlier albums saw Tweedy and bassist John Stirratt playing with a constantly rotating band of musicians. Yet the band has finally found its place with a rather steady sextet configuration. Though Tweedy stands at the songwriting helm, the band's collective voice is readily available on *Wilco (The Album)*.

The comfort of reaching an artistic pinnacle doesn't come without its compromises, however. The record is solid and contains a dedicated and consumable sequence of tracks, but they aren't Wilco's most groundbreaking work. The humorously recursive "Wilco (The Song)" kicks off the album and offers the band's expanding fan base a "sonic shoulder to cry on." Tweedy later told *Rolling Stone* that the song's chorus "Wilco will love you baby," is a metaphor for the solace one finds in his record collection. "You Never Know" and "I'll Fight" are grooving, driven numbers.

But it isn't a Wilco album without a little melancholy: "One Wing" and "Solitaire" will let you come down in between the more

grounded compositions (the latter is dripping with Nels Cline's weeping lap steel). "Deeper Down" has a start-and-stop sparseness that almost reminds me of Wilco's classic anthem "I Am Trying To Break Your Heart," but doesn't deliver quite the same iconoclastic flavor. Tweedy's poetry hasn't necessarily reached a plateau, but diverges. Once a simultaneous master of the vague and the direct, Tweedy also opts for lucid imagery on the most recent album.

On the whole, two tracks stand out as significant stakes that provide foundation for the album. The deranged, paranoid postmurder meltdown "Bull Black Nova" follows a man as he hides the evidence of his crime. The song echoes back to *A Ghost Is Born*'s "Spiders (Kidsmoke)" in its rhythmic integrity and textural quality, but pushes the envelope one step further with its revealing and detached lyrics. A recurring tone (sired by several instruments) nags at the listener and propels the song forward, reminding the protagonist to stay alert and deny his guilt.

On the other side of the spectrum is "You and I," which features Tweedy's voice pressed against that of Feist, whom the band met at the Grammy Awards. The song is clearly an acoustic classic, and is a warm reminder that Wilco can write and perform straightforward ballads.

After repeated listens, *Wilco* has already grown on me. It is undeniably a Wilco album: The band successfully captured its identity onto tape. It's a collection of outstanding music, but nothing too revolutionary. This just wasn't the time for outrageous innovation, and luckily the band realized that. Wilco will spend the summer promoting the album and bringing life and innovation to their live sets (*Tech* writer Stephanie Bian witnessed it herself).

If Wilco can continue to evolve within the context of their now-cemented identity, then we're in store for another groundbreaking record. If the band rides on its success only to churn out formulaic air, then we'll just have to wait it out until the next Radiohead record.

IT'S KIND OF A BIG DEAL



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daily confusion

Residence EXploration 2009

Key REX Events

Saturday, August 29

Title: Housemaster Welcome Brunch

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Location: Temporary Dorms

Description: Housemaster Welcome Brunch — It's time to be welcomed to the residential side of MIT. Meet your Housemasters and members of the house government. Learn about DormCon's REX events. Attendance is mandatory!

Title: East Vs. West Water War

Time: 5 p.m.

Location: Kresge Oval

Description: Come see the mighty siege machines as we soak ourselves silly. Be prepared to get wet, or stand back! Are you on the winning side? There's only one way to find out. Report to your commanding officer by heading to your temp dorm (or the dorm you want to side with) a bit before 5 p.m.

Title: Legends of the Hidden Temple Party

Time: 8 p.m.–12 a.m.

Location: Briggs Field

Description: A wildly fun party/adventure hybrid that spans across the West Campus dorms! While you enjoy food and music, you can compete in challenges, win prizes, and answer trivia questions.

Title: Rebirth/Rising from the Ashes Party

Time: 9 p.m.

Location: NW35

Description: Once a year, our phoenix is reborn. Folklore has it that watching this fiery ceremony leads to engorged genitalia for the upcoming year. Note: This statement has not been evaluated by the FDA.

Sunday, August 30

Title: East Side Pleasuredome

Time: 8 p.m.

Location: East Campus Courtyard

Description: Come to the East Side Pleasuredome, where hundreds will enter and none will leave. Giant wooden roller coasters, sweet rave parties, and exotic substances to wrestle in will be provided. Come learn how to party hard.

Monday, August 31

Title: Thinking with Portals Party

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Location: Random Hall

Description: Random Hall promises to always provide an awesome party environment. In party environments, we promise to always provide useful advice. For instance, the floor here has cake. (the cake is not a lie thecakeisnotaliethecakeisNOTALIE).

Title: SKYLINE

Time: 10 p.m.

Location: Baker House

Description: Baker House Presents SKYLINE, featuring the Ladies of McCormick: Come dive into orientation with the hottest party of the night at the most social dorm on campus! Featuring a dance floor, live DJs spinning today's hottest beats, and refreshments!

Hello and welcome to MIT. Before classes take over your life, you should explore the multitude of non-academic aspects of the Institute. One of the most important of these aspects is the place where you are going to live. I know you've heard a million times about how your dorm will be your home at MIT, that it's important to choose a place with people you like. Well, it's true. When it's 3 a.m. and you're working on a problem set, you'll appreciate the help of the people you're living with more than the amenities of your building.

You may have already found your perfect dorm. Congratulations! But don't let that stop you from further exploring the other dorms with an open mind. You might find a dorm that you like even better. At least you'll meet some great people.

Go to a wide variety of events! Explore many places! Meet new people! Enjoy yourself! Above all, remember that finding a great place to live is one of the most important decisions you'll make while you're at MIT. Take the time to make a good choice. **The Housing Readjustment Lottery closes at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1.**

Emilio Jasso, Aziz Albahar, and Lyla Fischer
on behalf of Dormitory Council REX

Welcome to MIT, Class of 2013! In the following few pages, you'll find this year's REX schedule, packed, as usual, with events at all hours of the day and night. Get out and visit other residences, even if you think your current assignment is okay. Hang out with people across campus. Stay up late, or don't sleep at all. Have a good time. If you're happier with another residence, go for it and enter the lottery.

You'll be making an important decision with housing, but don't get too stressed out. In the end, this is all about making friends and getting yourself into an environment that makes MIT comfortable for you.

Don't forget that every upperclassman has been through the same experience, so seek them out if you need any pointers.

Have fun!

Nick Bushak '10
Editor in Chief, *The Tech*



muffin from 9:30 to 10, then use stencils and bleach to design awesome shirts that don't look like they're from third grade summer camp.

10:00

10:00—**EAsT campUS**—Everything you didn't want to know about your mother's sexual exploits. Because believe us, we know them.

10:00—**Ashdown House**—Dorm Tours: A tour guide will be waiting for you at the Student Center (with a big sign that says NW35) to take you to NW35, the newest dorm.

10:00—**Senior Haus**—TOWEL TIME @ Senior House. Don't forget to bring your towel.

10:17—**Random Hall**—Ceilings-Too plain?: Have you ever longed to go back to the days of elementary school? Return to the days when finger-painting was more than acceptable and help us paint our ceiling tiles while you're at it.

11:00

11:00—**EAsT campUS**—Something that's pointedly not vulgar but still excites you in your pants.

11:00—**Burton Conner**—Build Your Own Water Weapon -- We support Weapons of Mass Saturation. Some assembly required. [game room]

11:00—**La Maison Française**—French Brunch: avec grapes et crêpes!

11:00—**EAsT campUS**—Hey freshman, stop trying to hit on her; she can't resist our wood.

11:17—**Random Hall**—Mobilize for the water war! Arm, paint, and funnelate yourselves for the upcoming water war. Crush (or at least mildly soak) your enemies, see them driven before you, and hear the lamentations of their (hot engineering) women.

12:00

12:00—**EAsT campUS**—You've had demons and cunts, now try semencunts!

12:00—**Senior Haus**—BACON BACON BACON BACON @ Senior Haus Lobby. BACON? BACON, BACON BACON! BACON. (BACON BACON.) Also: coffee. The original. 12:17—**Random Hall**—Bacon, bacon, bacon: Bacon bacon bacon? Bacon. BaconbaconbaconbaconBACON. Bacon bacon! (Bacon: baconbaconbacon) Bacon- bacon, bacon bacon bacon. BAAAACCOOOONNN!!!!

12:30—**Dormitory Council**—Housemaster Welcome Brunch - It's time to be welcomed to the residential side of MIT. Meet your Housemasters and members of the house government. Learn about DormCon's REX events. Attendance is mandatory!

13:00

13:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. More hardcore than your dad's porn collection

13:00—**Burton Conner**—Welcome BBQ -- Come get a warm welcome from BC, and lunch while you're at it. [bbq pits]

13:00—**New House**—Comfort Foods + Games Galore (1 PM - 3 PM): Want to indulge yourself in the ultimate game of trickery and lies, also known as Mafia? Or maybe show off your nerves of steel playing Jenga? Or just kick back and relax with comfort food? Well come on over, we've got it all.

13:00—**Simmons Hall**—Capture the Duck - Back by popular demand! This is a twist on a classic game involving hidden rubber ducks and hitting your

friends with foam pool noodles :)

13:00—**Senior Haus**—Dan McNulty @ Senior Haus Lobby. Well, maybe it's a Wedding Lan Party. Also, DangerClock.

13:00—**Baker House**—Welcome to Baker House! Hang out with your fellow classmates while enjoying a great BBQ with a riverside view. (Baker House BBQ Pits, on Memorial Drive side)

13:17—**Random Hall**—Nerf Wars: Shoot your friends! And your enemies! And the people you just met! Join us for a nerf battle of EPIC PROPORTIONS!

14:00

14:00—**EAsT campUS**—If you read all of these and complain to Housing then you can suck James' balls

14:00—**Ashdown House**—Dorm Tours: A tour guide will be waiting for you at the Student Center (with a big sign that says NW35) to take you to NW35, the newest dorm.

14:00—**EAsT campUS**—Tours: Come see where James keeps his giant penis!

14:00—**Senior Haus**—GRAFITTI + STENCILS @ Senior Haus Lobby and Courtyard. Prepare yourself for life on the streets. Learn to make stencils and tag like a pro. Fessional. Tagger.

MIT Fun Fact!

Sometimes the cameras in lecture halls stream all night long, meaning we can watch your dirty dirty after school study sessions.

14:00—**MacGregor**—Macgregor Tours - Come to MacGregor and let a resident take you around and show you all the greatness that is MacGregor. You'll see MacGregor isn't just about singles, it's about people having a grand old time, in lounges, hallways, and bathrooms. Come find out how!

14:17—**Random Hall**—Minihunt: Can't wait for the MIT Mystery Hunt? You don't have to! Join us to work on some awesome puzzles and brainteasers. We'll even try some meta-puzzles and go on a puzzling runaround! Healthy brain food provided.

14:47—**Random Hall**—Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream: Served steaming cold.

15:00

15:00—**EAsT campUS**—Come to East Campus to get your tongue caught in Drew's meat helicopter

15:00—**Burton Conner**—Ice Cream Social -- Summer is hot. Ice cream is cold. You like sweet things. We have sweet things. You read me? [bbq pits]

15:00—**Ashdown House**—Ultimate Frisbee and Soccer at Kresge Oval: Help the Phoenix Group's IM Ultimate Frisbee and Soccer teams hone their skillz! All skill levels welcome.

15:00—**EAsT campUS**—Blue is the new blonde. Come dunk your head in a tub of bleach at EC.

15:00—**Senior Haus**—Consume Beverages in Red Plastic Cups @ Senior Haus. Always wanted to be like those "cool kids" that drink from red plastic cups at parties you've heard about on TV? Now you can! Talk to upperclassmen about music and politics, and whatever else upperclassmen get on s
15:47—**Random Hall**—Adven-



Bexley Hall

tures of Baron von Ternus: How to make a Baron Ternus: one part tonic for class, ten parts bitters for attitude. Serve with wienerschnitzel. Note: alcohol will not be served. Wienerschnitzel will. Terni are always sober but love them some fine Austrian breaded pork.

16:00

16:00—**EAsT campUS**—References to sexual health seminars? We've got legit events later.

16:00—**Baker House**—Ice Cream Party: Join us for ice cream with toppings and other treats and meet your fellow classmates as we kick off orientation!(Front of Baker House (W7))

16:00—**EAsT campUS**—Here, it's always November.

16:00—**EAsT campUS**—If you come to EC, we'll show you how to drill. We might mean with power tools, we might not.

16:00—**EAsT campUS**—Water War Preparation: Do you pledge your allegiance to noble knights of EAsT campUS? Good, then join us in our preparations for our assault on the Western masses.

16:00—**Senior Haus**—How To Have a Nervous Breakdown @ Senior Haus Lobby. ***This is a serious event*** Come learn what to do when MIT goes wrong, hosted by our only remaining (clinically) crazy resident, the infamous NICK WANG. Learn how/when/where to get help, and how to deal.

16:59—**EAsT campUS**—HAL-GUALGHLAUGALGHAGHAL-GHALGAUGHALUGAH

17:00

17:00—**Next House**—Wrap up your fun-filled day with freshly made smoothies - you pick the fruit, we'll blend it for ya. Smoothie-making has never been this easy (or delicious).

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—8 = > 8 == > 8 === > 8 ===== > 8 ===== > 8 ===== >

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—Do you want to rape a village and pillage their women, or pillage a village and rape their women? You can do both at East Campus! We have a motherfucking viking boat!

17:00—**Senior Haus**—Bible Study @ Senior Haus. This time with real Catholics! Not your normal Bible study.

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—WATER WAR. For the glory of EC!

17:17—**Random Hall**—Settlers of Pangaea: Catan has suffered a massive collision with the mainland! Settlements and cities galore! You may have brick for grain, but I've got wood for sheep!

18:00

18:00—**EAsT campUS**—Breasts out to here in this little tiny bra? You are one classy

broad. Come to EC to meet our classy broads

18:00—**Simmons Hall**—Chinese Food at Simmons - Enjoy the Simmons dining hall and join your friends for a delicious dinner of catered Chinese food!

18:17—**Random Hall**—Random- The Gathering: Ever wanted to cast Global Thermo-nuclear Warfare? The Wizards of the Dorm have conjured a special edition cardset of Magic: The Gathering- so now you can. 18:47—**Random Hall**—Wok of Doom: If a wok could signal the Armageddon, this would be it. Come feast on tasty stir fry and rice.

19:00

19:00—**EAsT campUS**—You encounter a rat in the East Campus courtyard. What is your first instinct? Eat it, or fuck it?

19:00—**New House**—Eating

A Word About...

Scarves

In Massachusetts weather, scarves are not just an anti-vampire measure.

Contests (7 PM - 8 PM): If you've ever pondered the most efficient way to finish a plate of hot dogs, or ever tried to maximize the amount of pancakes you could fit into your stomach at once- this event just might be for you.

19:00—**McCormick Hall**—

Games & Smoothies. Have fun playing board games while drinking homemade smoothies.

19:00—**MacGregor**—Fondue - We're going to melt tasty chocolate and let you dip stuff into it. And then eat that stuff, while experiencing the company of delightful MacGregor natives. We'll have stuff for you to eat, but as long as its tested and legal, we'll let you dip it in chocolate.

19:30—**Ashdown House**—Blazing Inferno Barbecue: Grab some flaming foods!

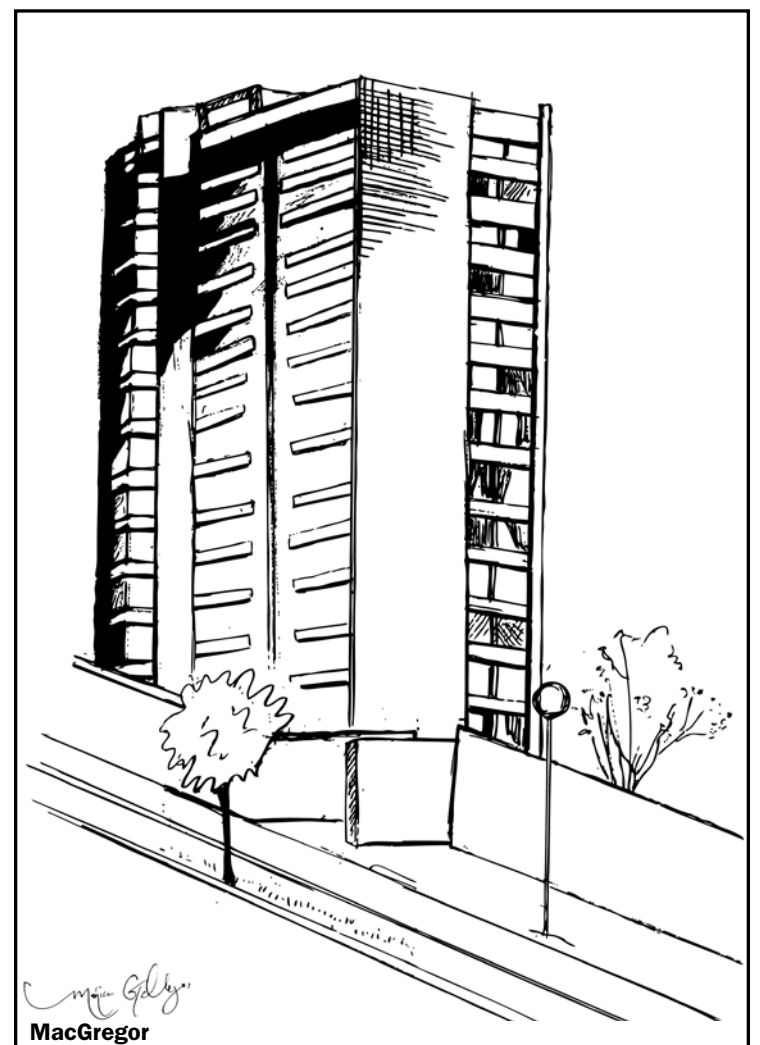
19:30—**Senior Haus**—Mask Making @ Senior Haus Lobby. Hide your face. Become fabulous. Included: glitter, duct tape, feathers, and more. Not included: David Bowie. Just kidding, we have him, too.

19:30—**Senior Haus**—Open Band Rehearsal @ Senior Haus Basement. Come watch a resident student "Proper Hardcore" band, NSFH, rehearse openly! They play music. Loudly. And offensively.

19:47—**Random Hall**—Nerdy Sing-Along: It's hard to overstate my satisfaction with the songs we've got lined up here. If you want to be first in your class here at MIT, just remember that it's gonna be the future soon and if we just keep singing we'll be still alive when it comes.

20:00

20:00—**Dormitory Council**—Legends of the Hidden Temply Party - A wildly fun party/adventure hybrid that spans across the West Campus dorms! While you enjoy food and music, you can compete in challenges, win





Senior House

prizes, and answer trivia questions. Location: Briggs Field.
 20:00—**EAsT campUS**—Cum to EC and join in the alfredo challenge!
 20:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—Come chill with German House and play some (video) games.
 20:00—**New House**—Too many events going on all at once got you stressed out? Come relax and watch some TV with New House 2. Choose from a selection of shows including The Boondocks, House, The Office, True blood, Arrested Development and The Wire.
 20:00—**La Casa**—Spanish Game Night with Loteria, domino, spanish karaoke and food
 20:42—**EAsT campUS**—When we do stupid shit, we think it's really awesome
 20:47—**Random Hall**—Tea and Math: The Pathological Monsters of functions: Fractal Recursion and the Busy Beaver Function served alongside tea that is equally exciting: Aztec Chocolate Tea, African Redbush Peach Tea, and biscotti!

21:00

21:00—**EAsT campUS**—If there are piles of shit in the East Campus courtyard, its probably something you can ride. Oh yeah.
 21:00—**EAsT campUS**—We'll rock you like a hurrricane.
 21:00—**EAsT campUS**—We've been giving the assfuck twins wood all week, tonight its your turn to ride
 21:00—**Ashdown House**—Rebirth/Rising from the Ashes Party: Once a year, our phoenix is reborn. Folklore has it that watching this fiery ceremony leads to engorged genitalia for the upcoming year. Note: This statement has not been evaluated by the FDA.
 21:00—**Senior Haus**—BILLY MAYES @ HERE. TALK TO OUR TV PEOPLE. BUY OUR PRODUCT. GET MORE FREE. THERE'S NO OBLIGATION. CALL NOW. 617-324-1205.
 21:47—**Random Hall**—Revenge of the Board Games!: Didn't get enough the first time? Come for a second round of our favorite board games...or come join us

for the first time!
22:00
 22:00—**EAsT campUS**—Their dong vaccums are kept in a cage downstairs. They are not too old for you to use.
 22:00—**New House**—West Side Party: Legends of the Hidden Temple (10 PM – 1 AM): It's a wildly fun party/adventure hybrid that spans across the West Campus dorms! While you enjoy food and music, you can compete in challenges, win prizes, answer trivia questions, and assemble puzzle pieces.
 22:00—**Senior Haus**—COME USE YOUR MASK! @ Senior Haus Lobby. Remember that thing with those people and that stuff at the place? Yeah, this is it.
 22:00—**MacGregor**—Gladiator Jousting - Come to the Macgregor courtyard and try to earn your Westside Party puzzle piece in our arena, a jumping castle. Challenge any Macgregor resident and should you remain standing, the prize is yours. We'll also be serving snow cones and snacks!
 22:00—**New House**—Desmond Movie Night 2/5 (10 PM): Join us in the New House 5 lounge as we watch "The Omega Man", based on Richard Matheson's "I am Legend".

23:00

23:00—**EAsT campUS**—Cumm to East Campus to seduce our upperclassmen and fail horribly. Or worse, succeed.

MIT Fun Fact!
 The only secret society at MIT is lead by Richard Stallman and has meetings in the basement of Stata.

23:00—**EAsT campUS**—Challenge your roommate to see who can get to the bottom first on the assfuck twins.
 23:00—**Senior Haus**—COFFEE + CIGARETTES @ Senior Haus Courtyard. Come watch the movie "Coffee and Cigarettes" while drinking coffee and smok-

ing cigarettes.
 23:59—**La Maison Française**—Midnight Ultimate: Glow sticks. Glow-in-the-dark disks.

Sunday, August 30, 2009

00:00

00:00—**Next House**—Celebrate the beginning of your time at MIT with some high-flying MIT superhero action. (Iron Man!) Snacks will be provided.
 00:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Come try to find something that Josh won't smoke. Including rats.

01:00

01:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. The November rule is more of a guideline.
 01:11—**EAsT campUS**—You've seen porn, you've heard autotune. But have you seen autotone-erotica-tune? you can at East Campus.

02:00

02:00—**EAsT campUS**—Its fucking hot jesus titty fucking christ. It might be time for SHIRTLESS O CLOCK BITCHZ!
 02:00—**Burton Conner**—Harry Potter Movie Marathon -- We know you were sad when that Hogwarts letter never came (so were we). Come chill with us muggles and take in the magic on the screen. [tv lounge]

03:00

03:00—**EAsT campUS**—There's a note from Vlad in your mailbox. What could it possibly be? Maybe a tasty treat? Come find out at East Campus.
 03:00—**EAsT campUS**—Wanna ride a woodie?
 03:17—**Random Hall**—RHOP (Random House of Pancakes): The question is...is it really early or really late? All we know is that we have pancakes for you.

05:00

05:00—**EAsT campUS**—WOO naked Vinayak party. His only article of clothing is a K-bar.
 05:12—**EAsT campUS**—Why does Hopp HURRR? BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

06:00
 06:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Would you do us for a scooby snack? No? Two? How about a Klondyke bar?

07:00

07:00—**EAsT campUS**—We got a bunch of disgusting food. Why do we have to organize this around James' social life?

08:00

08:00—**EAsT campUS**—Amy was gone the entire summer and is almost as bad as the assfuck twins. Come give her some wood at East Campus

09:00

09:00—**Next House**—Start your day with some freshly made waffles and other breakfast items in the Next House dining before another fun filled day of REX.
 09:00—**EAsT campUS**—Sex is good, drugs are bad, condoms are free, have sex with me! (Only at East Campus)
 09:00—**Senior Haus**—Walk of Shame @ Frat/Sorority. Enjoy your walk. Don't poop in the shower.

A Word About...

W20

The first floor of W20 is good for many things. Using your cell phone is not one of them.

09:17—**Random Hall**—MORE BREAKFAST THAN YOUR BODY HAS ROOM FOR! Consume the OM NOM NOM-LETTE! And devour OVER 9000 PANCAKES!!!

10:00

10:00—**Burton Conner**—Waffle Breakfast -- Come enjoy our waffles (Belgium not included). [porter room]
 10:00—**Senior Haus**—Ever Heard of the Donkey Punch? @ Proper Hardcore. I'm hardcore.
 10:00—**Senior Haus**—BACON BACON BACON BACON BACON! @ Senior Haus Lobby. BACON? BACON, BACON BACON! BACON. (BACON BACON.) Also: coffee. Again.

11:00

11:00—**EAsT campUS**—If he seems into you, its probably because he wants to fuck your roommate. In East Campus.
 11:00—**New House**—Spades Tournament. Know how to play or want to learn? Come and chill with New House 2 while playing a classic card game.
 11:00—**MacGregor**—Macgregor Barbecue - College is mainly a chance for you to stretch out your mind and do lots of business. Our barbecue is a chance to expand your stomach! Come socialize with Macgregor's residents to find out how food is obtained.

12:00

12:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus East Campus East Campus. Andrew doesn't like it when you cry. Try to enjoy the sex. Yes we lack originality.
 12:00—**Simmons Hall**—Simmons Housemasters' Brunch - You don't want to miss the best brunch on campus, presented by the Housemasters of Simmons Hall. As soon as the President's convocation ends, stop by for pancakes, french toast, the famous Essigmann fruit smoothie, and much more!
 12:30—**Next House**—Come

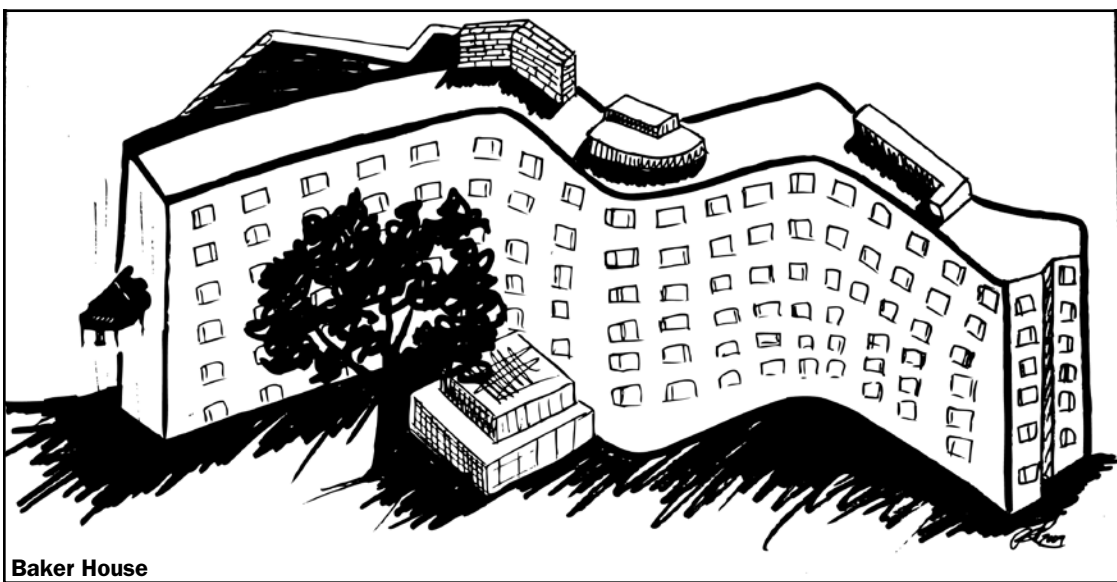
enjoy a classic BBQ on a summer day in the Next House Courtyard. Burgers, hotdogs, Popsicles, you name it! While you're here, meet our wonderful houseteam! Come find out what it's like living at the furthest end of Dorm Row. Ask some questions, and we'll get ya answers.

13:00

13:00—**EAsT campUS**—First one to sexually satisfy a Rush Chair is guaranteed a single! Only at East Campus!
 13:00—**New House**—Lightning Chess. Put your mind to the test in the ultimate challenge of logic and quick-thinking. Face off against your fellow freshmen in the New House 5 lounge.
 13:00—**EAsT campUS**—Hovercraft: If you don't want to ride, you are probably a communist.
 13:00—**Senior Haus**—HAUS TOURS! @ Senior Haus Lobby. Tours all day, but especially now that we're awake and full of bacon. Learn about Haus history, see our murals, pet our cats, meet our freaks. Tours leave every five minutes.
 13:47—**Random Hall**—Hair dyeing: Your hair is not blue/pink/green enough! Come fix it!

14:00

14:00—**Next House**—Let Nexties show you around our dorm! Catch a glimpse of our impressive facilities and comfy lounges, and learn what makes residents of Next House bond like family!
 14:00—**EAsT campUS**—Josh is really a werewolf. He gets it from his grandmother. Come get bitten by him at East Campus.
 14:00—**Burton Conner**—Food Fight -- Have you ever been sitting in the cafeteria, looking at your sad tray lunch, and wished you could just fling it across the room and start an epic movie-quality food fight? This is your chance! [conner-side bbq pits]
 14:00—**New House**—Trip Down Memory Lane with Water Fun! + Tours (2 PM – 4 PM): It's like every childhood summer vacation, family trip to the carnival, and extended recess period shrunk down and thrown right back at you. Lemonade, popsicles, and a dunk tank are all here.
 14:00—**EAsT campUS**—Left breast freshman! come play 3D twister at East Campus.
 14:00—**Baker House**—Tours of Baker: Come check out the architectural masterpiece known as Baker House! Tour groups leave every 30 minutes on the hour and half hour. There will be snacks in the lobby, so drop by, grab a bite to eat, and chat with some upperclassmen about life at MIT. (Baker house)
 14:00—**Simmons Hall**—Newbury Exploration - Join us for a walk down Boston's most exciting street. There will be plenty of shopping, people watching, and J.P. Licks ice cream for all! (Meet in front of Simmons)
 14:00—**Senior Haus**—Uncle Pevner Takes the Kids to the Garment District. Warning: Color and size of host may vary from that advertised.
 14:00—**MacGregor**—Macgregor Tours - Come to MacGregor and let a resident take you around and show you all the greatness that is MacGregor. You'll see MacGregor isn't just about singles, it's about people having a grand old time, in lounges, hallways, and bathrooms. Come find out how!
 14:15—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus, an indictment is not a conviction
 14:17—**Random Hall**—Making an Edible World: In preparation for the Edible Katamari Damacy



Baker House

event later today (at 19:17) come help us build a giant world of candy and sugar! Then, stick around to destroy and eat it later.

15:00

15:00—**Next House**—It's the perfect time for ice cream. Come make your own sundae, choosing from a variety of flavors and toppings!

15:00—**Ashdown House**—Dorm Tours: A tour guide will be waiting for you at the Student Center (with a big sign that says NW35) to take you to NW35, the newest dorm.

15:00—**EAsT campUS**—Evaporative cooling engine: Come watch water dry!

15:00—**EAsT campUS**—Is your hair still not colored? Lame. We can fix that.

15:00—**EAsT campUS**—It's silly to walk to the Student Center, ride the CATBUS instead!

15:00—**EAsT campUS**—EE seminar: Get an introduction to 6-1 EC style by building your own electronic gadget.

15:00—**Senior Haus**—Come Play With Our State-of-the-Art Robot! @ Senior Haus Lobby. We bet you've never seen a robot this cool. It can learn speech, and hold a conversation. It has a face and everything!

15:17—**Random Hall**—Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream: Even at 77 Kelvins, it's the hottest thing around.

15:30—**Burton Conner**—Tours of BC -- Let us show you our turf! [meet at desk]

A Word About...

Tech Shuttle

Your quaint notions of personal space will be ignored.

16:00

16:00—**EAsT campUS**—Cum to East Campus. Hopp will throw you a lemon party. And you know you can't have a lemon party without old dick.

16:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—play some board games with the members of German House and your fellow frosh, we guarantee you won't be "bored"

16:00—**La Maison Française**—Help with cooking: Use les couteaux, les forchettes et an egg separator.

16:00—**Senior Haus**—Alice in Wonderland Tea Party @ Senior Haus Courtyard. It's Tea Time! Formal attire encouraged.

16:00—**MacGregor**—Vermont Challenge - The MacGregor Barbecue hopefully gave your stomach a big work out. Now finish off pillaging your body by decimating your pancreas! We'll be serving up mounds of ice cream topped with whipped cream, hot fudge, sprinkles, candy, and more.

16:17—**Random Hall**—Tie-dyeing: That shirt of yours? It's so last week. Why are you wearing something that lacks color? Come rainbow up your wardrobe with a bit of tie-dye. Peace.

16:30—**Simmons Hall**—Simmons Housemasters' Parent Reception - Parents of new MIT freshmen are invited to meet with the housemasters of Simmons Hall. Refreshments will be provided!

17:00

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. You can only break the September rule with James.

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—Attention parents: your daughter will ride James' wood.

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—Merry Go Round: Come ride 20 chicks at the same time while riding 20 Chicks at the Same Time.

17:17—**Random Hall**—Story-time with Cruft: cruft, n.- code, data, or software of poor quality. Also: fluff, detritus and MIT alumni. Come learn of ye olden tymes from the ancient ones.

17:30—**Das Deutsche Haus**—Taste of New House

17:30—**New House**—Taste of NH + Tours (5:30 PM - 7:30 PM): The famous Taste of New House returns with just as much entertainment and food, and a lot more fun. Come experience all of the various communities of New House and get a taste of them too.

18:00

18:00—**EAsT campUS**—Moeller's leg turns him on. Come pull Moeller's third leg at East Campus, because he IS a tripod.

18:15—**La Maison Française**—Dinner: Come manger a homemade French repas!

18:47—**Random Hall**—Roof-deck BBQ: Steak tips, Kabobs, Sausage, and Vegetarians.

18:49—**Random Hall**—Roof-deck BBQ Part II: Vegetarian Invasion: PORTOBELLO POWER!!!!11111

19:00

19:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Our assfuck twins go to eleven! We swear we'll finish the rollercoaster this year. Fuck!

19:00—**EAsT campUS**—Dance puppet, dance.

19:00—**MacGregor**—Root Beer Pong - We respect the law and the Cambridge police, so we won't actually be giving you beer. This is a "virgin" event to make sure you're prepped for your 21st birthday.

19:17—**Random Hall**—Edible Katamari Damacy: Bent on world domination? Like chocolate? Come use chocolate to roll up, destroy, and then DEVOUR THE WORLD!

19:30—**Das Deutsche Haus**—Kick back, relax, and watch a movie with DH

19:47—**Random Hall**—Pants pants revolution: It's like DDR, but with more pants. Every time you win a game, you put on another pair of pants. How many pants can a human being possibly wear? Only science will tell.

20:00

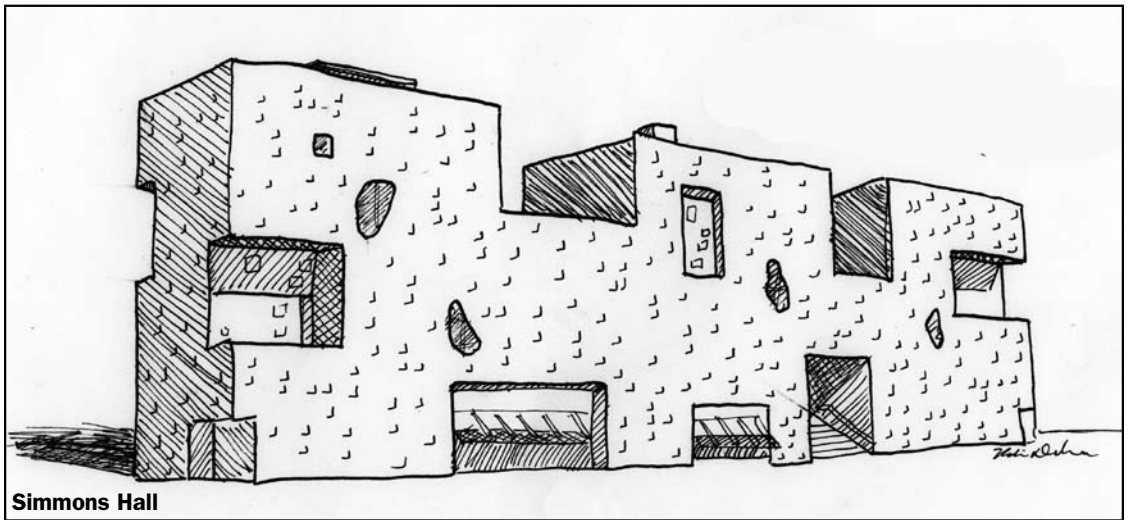
20:00—**Dormitory Council**—Come to the East Side Pleasuredome, where hundreds will enter and none will leave. Giant wooden roller coasters, sweet rave parties, and exotic substances to wrestle in will be provided. Come learn how to party hard. Location: East Campus Courtyard.

20:00—**Next House**—Think you have a good poker face? Want to join MIT's Blackjack Team? Join us for a night of tournament-style poker, blackjack, and other card games, accompanied with non-alcoholic cocktails and hors d'ouvres. And if that's not enough, there'll also be prizes for the winn

20:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Come drink our non alcoholic beverages.

20:00—**New House**—StarCraft Tournament. StarCraft is one of our favorite pastimes in New House 5, and we're setting up a special session just for REX. Join one of our teams, enjoy the free food, and fight your way to victory. Adun Toridas!

20:00—**New House**—Make



Simmons Hall

Your Own Gingerbread House (8 PM - 10 PM): There really aren't many things more amusing than making houses you can eat- and at New House, you can use gingerbread and a variety of toppings to construct your house of edibility.

20:00—**EAsT campUS**—Come reward your taste buds and punish your bowels at dinner on 41w. What have your bowels ever done for you anyways?

20:00—**Simmons Hall**—Party Room Game Night - Come to

MIT Fun Fact!

The MIT grad dorm Sidney Pacific only had two Massachusetts registered Republicans in 2008. Go East Coast Commie Liberals!

the Simmons party room for all of your favorite board games and video games! It's every gamer's dream... We have 1080p High Def and tons of snacks.

20:00—**Ashdown House**—Old Time Movies Night: Have you seen too many modern movies? Or do you just want to relive the times that you probably (hopefully) didn't live through the first time? Come kick back and enjoy

one of our favorites from some decade before the '80s.

20:00—**Senior Haus**—Bouncy Ball Drop @ Senior Haus Courtyard. THOUSANDS OF BOUNCY BALLS WILL RAIN FROM THE HEAVENS, CAUGHT IN THE MAJESTY OF FLUTTERING STROBE LIGHTS. NOW WITH TWICE THE BALLS. It only happens tonight, my friends. Not to be missed.

20:15—**Senior Haus**—CONCERT IN THE BASEMENT! @ Senior Haus Basement. Come see NSFH, our resident Proper Hardcore band. Rock out. Be offended.

20:47—**Random Hall**—Tea and Math Redux: Come enjoy an evening of abstractions and hot tea and chocolate!

21:00

21:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. We've been to every single alcohol and sex talk, but only to hand out root beer and condoms.

21:00—**La Maison Française**—French Films: Films de parkour, de la viande et des chansons.

22:00

22:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Sex! Advertising! Buy Things! Sex! Lick Things! Sex! Suck Things! Sex! Ride the rollercoaster! Sex! East Campus!

22:00—**EAsT campUS**—Oh you've seen 8 bit penises be-

fore? Well have you seen them on an 80 monitor CRT wall? Didn't think so.

22:00—**EAsT campUS**—We've got blinky lights, and they're for you. Come blanket yourself in LEDs.

22:00—**EAsT campUS**—Come wrestle in our balls. That's not even a euphemism, we bought balls.

22:00—**MacGregor**—Party!!! - Come end the night of studying by letting loose and dancing your troubles away. We'll have a lot of loud music and cool people. And if you can't dance? Just stand still and nod your head. At MIT, that's good enough!

22:00—**New House**—Desmond Movie Night 3/5 (10 PM): Tonight, Al Pacino stars in "Righteous Kill". Join us in the New House 5 lounge!

23:00

23:00—**EAsT campUS**—Sarah will never love you. But she WILL give you some sweet sweet lovin.

23:30—**New House**—Late Night Ice Cream/Sundaes (11:30 PM - 1:00 AM): You weren't actually thinking of going to sleep, were you? Of course not- so join us as we promote sleeplessness and sugar intake by making ice cream sundaes.

Monday,

THE SHACKSM

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Random Hall

August 31, 2009

00:00

00:00—**Senior Haus**—MOVIE NIGHT WITH ROBI @ Senior Haus Basement. Meet Rob, one of our favorite people, and resident movie expert, and watch movies all night. Basically, this will go on until either the TV burns out, or everyone leaves. Movies will focus on playing games with your mind. Be p 00:17—**Random Hall**—Juggling in enclosed spaces: Random Hall has thin, claustrophobia-inducing hallways. Come juggle things in them! We know ball, diabolo, contact, poi and devil sticks. Come juggle (we're happy to teach people!) and we'll try to involve stairs in this bad idea somehow.

01:00

01:00—**EAsT campUS**—You've had two chicks at the same time. Come try DVDA at East Campus

A Word About...

Pizza

A pizza's tastiness is inversely proportional to its shelf life.

02:00

02:17—**Random Hall**—Sleepers Anonymous: Sleep is an addiction. The first step towards recovery is admitting you have a problem. Sleepers Anonymous is a support group formed to help people like you overcome this addiction. Come, and we will fight this affliction together.

03:00

03:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Its been continuously lived in since before your mom was born. 03:00—**Burton Conner**—Ravel -- We know you like loud dance music, black lights, and glow sticks. Don't even try to resist. [tv lounge]

04:00

04:00—**EAsT campUS**—We're still building? Why are we still



Burton Conner

building. FML

04:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Your mom's teeth are the whitest we've ever come across...

05:00

05:00—**EAsT campUS**—Don't stick any plastic bubbles to the cat. At East Campus, we stick our plastic bubbles on you. With cum.

06:00

06:00—**EAsT campUS**—I HAVE HAD IT WITH THIS MOTHERFUCKING 4CHAN IN THIS MOTHERFUCKING DAILYCONFUSION, oh wait that's our fault. COCKSOCKET!

07:00

07:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. We love you tonight, but we won't love you tomorrow morning.

08:00

08:00—**Next House**—Have ASEs? Or perhaps just ready for a new day? Come grab some breakfast your way out. 08:00—**EAsT campUS**—Watch Grace write out of her ass just for you. She doesn't even live here anymore. The elephants may come charging out of the walls. Or out of her ass. 08:00—**Ashdown House**—Breakfast: Come hang out with the Phoenix Group and enjoy some breakfast while you're at it!

09:00

09:00—**EAsT campUS**—Peter is happy to be in you. Are YOU happy to be in Peter? Offer sexual favors at East Campus. 09:00—**Burton Conner**—Breakfast -- They say breakfast is the most important meal of the day...we just say it gives you an excuse to eat sugary things and watch cartoons. [tv lounge] 09:00—**New House**—Breakfast (9 AM - 11 AM): It's the most important meal of the day, or at least that's what all those course 7 (Biology) majors say. So be sure to drop by New House before you charge out to tackle yet another day of events. 09:00—**Baker House**—Breakfast at Baker: Early to bed, early to rise makes a person healthy,

wealthy and wise! So come on down to grab a bite of breakfast before another big day begins! (Baker House Dining Hall) 09:17—**Random Hall**—Crepes! Flatter than a pancake, it goes well with whipped cream, nutella, fruit, chocolate sauce, and more. There's nothing savory about these crepes.

10:00

10:00—**Burton Conner**—Cooking 101 -- Here in BC, we have kitchens and we know how to use 'em. And we want to teach you! [burton 5] 10:00—**New House**—Quiet Reading and Conversation (10 AM): Need a break from all the craziness of REX? Bring your favorite book or magazine to the lounge at New House 5 and join fellow literature-lovers for a moment of peace, quiet and discussion. 10:00—**Ashdown House**—Dorm Tours: A tour guide will be waiting for you at the Student Center (with a big sign that says NW35) to take you to NW35, the newest dorm. 10:17—**Random Hall**—Boffer Construction: Forge something eternal. Forge something undying. Forge something legendary. Forge something that will be spoken of in years to come as the blade of a true warrior. Forge a weapon...out of foam.

11:00

11:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. We are lumberjacks, and we can screw the shit out of wood for eternity. 11:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—Breakfast is the most important meal of the day! 11:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—DH Tours 11:00—**Simmons Hall**—Fenway Park Tour - First on the list of must-see places in Boston? Fenway Park! Join us for a tour of the Red Sox home field, and fall in love with the Green Monster, the Pesky Pole, and the scoreboard they still update by hand. (Meet in front of Simmons) 11:00—**New House**—Settlers Tournament. Ready to challenge your luck? Settlers depends on skill, cunning but most of all luck. Come discover New House 2's favorite board game. 11:00—**Senior Haus**—Black Bitch, White Bitch @ Senior Haus. Wanna learn how to make breakfast? Find out with two of our best cooks and EAT FOR FREE. 11:00—**Senior Haus**—SPAM ALL THE DORM LISTS @ Senior Haus. Be the first of your class to troll old alums! 11:00—**MacGregor**—Macgregor Brunch - Come and enjoy Macgregor's favorite social event: eggs, bacon, sausage, and pancakes delivered directly from IHOP. 11:17—**Random Hall**—The Improved Furniture Experience: Experience and develop the latest in 2x4 technology in a challenge to construct a couch-like device from a bizarre assortment of road signs and automobile components. Behold, the power of Furniture made from Stuff We Found On the Street.

12:00

12:00—**EAsT campUS**—Fuck Jelly Beans in a Jar. Come guess Sarah's cupsize. Only at East Campus. I guess you could fuck some Jelly Beans if you're into that. 12:17—**Random Hall**—CHEESE: Swiss Cheddar Brie Cottage Parmigiano Reggiano Gouda Chevre Camembert Provolone Ricotta Colby Jack Pepper Jack Monterey Jack

Mozzarella Muenster Blue Hartvarti Limburger Feta.

13:00

13:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Increase your Boobage! 13:00—**La Maison Française**—Boardgames: Scrabble, Catan, Set. Vous savez que vous voulez les jouer. 13:17—**Random Hall**—Toilet Paper Dodgeball: Don't forget to dodge, duck, dive, dip, and dodge the toilet paper! 13:30—**New House**—Inflatable Tug-of-War + Field Day (1:30 PM - 3:30 PM): Remember Field Day- the day at the end of the elementary school year where you were let loose on the field to have fun with sports? Well the memories are coming back, so join us on Briggs field.

MIT Fun Fact!

In the early 80s, drugs such as barbitol could be purchased straight from chemical suppliers like Sigma, leading to fun-filled evenings in the chem building.

14:00

14:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus is balls hot. Discuss. 14:00—**Senior Haus**—T-Shirt Destruction/Silk Screening @ Senior Haus Lobby. Forget tie-dyeing, forget bleach. Tear your shirt up (fashionably), and/or silk screen whatever you want on it. If you don't have stencils from before, make some now! YOU can be the fashion elite at MIT! 14:00—**MacGregor**—Macgregor Tours - Come to MacGregor and let a resident take you around and show you all the greatness that is MacGregor. You'll see MacGregor isn't just about singles, it's about people having a grand old time, in lounges, hallways, and bathrooms. Come find out how! 14:17—**Random Hall**—D&D One-Shots, Edition 4: Lord Milne's favorite vase has been stolen - come help reclaim it from a dungeon filled with monsters, puzzles and traps!

15:00

15:00—**Next House**—Think you have the reflexes of a ninja? Or maybe you need to release some pent up energy? Join us for a fun, riveting game of dodgeball! 15:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—Shopping, because everyone loves to buy food. 15:00—**Ashdown House**—Olympics at Kresge Oval: Demonstrate your physical prowess and you may or may not be rewarded with a medal. 15:00—**Senior Haus**—HAUS TOURS @ Senior Haus Lobby. Tours all day, but now, especially. Come see where we live, blah blah blah. You know the drill. 15:17—**Random Hall**—Bubblewrap Room: It's your childhood dream come true: we've covered an entire room with bubblewrap. Come bounce off the walls! 15:47—**Random Hall**—Liquid Nitrogen Icecream: Colder and more uncaring than the spirit of the Chem ASE.

16:00

16:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Come wrestle in our sticky bubble tea balls! Or have our sticky balls wrestle in you. 16:00—**Burton Conner**—Intro to Athena -- Have no idea what

a terminal even is? Let us give you some quick and easy Athena pointers. [tv lounge] 16:00—**New House**—NH Presentation + Tours of Boston (4 PM - 6 PM): Chances are, wherever you live, you're sure to do things in Boston, so why not take a New House sponsored tour and get acclimated with the city? Also, come learn more about our fantastic dorm in general. 16:00—**La Maison Française**—Help with cooking: Use les couteaux, les forchettes et an egg separator. 16:00—**Senior Haus**—REAL BARBECUE WITH A REAL TEXAN @ Senior Haus Courtyard. Real meat, none of this pansy hot dogs and hamburger bovine fecal matter. TEAR IT APART WITH YOUR TEETH, SAVOR THE HOT FLESH. THE TASTE OF BLOOD, IT STICKS IN THE TEETH. Also, veggie stuff for those of you who need 16:17—**Random Hall**—Roof-deck Boofing: Urban Dictionary has two definitions of 'boofing'. Guess which one we'll be doing.

17:00

17:00—**EAsT campUS**—We made a giant bean bag. Why aren't you in it. 17:00—**Senior Haus**—Play with our Sperm @ Senior Haus Lobby. Come play with our sperm! It's huge, and completely biologically safe. 17:17—**Random Hall**—Make Chainmail!: Are you ever woken up at night by swordsmen breaking down your door? Well, you'll be able to sleep easy after this event; come learn to make armor worthy of the thirteenth century!

18:00

18:00—**Next House**—Like the rest of MIT, Next House has an extremely diverse community. And what better way to show it off than with some good food? Join us in eating some of the best food from a wide variety of Boston restaurants. 18:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Steaming excessively and why the fuck is the water war on Saturday at 5:00 pm? 18:00—**Burton Conner**—Comfort Food Dinner -- It's been a long day. Come relax at BC with some good ol' fashioned comfort food. [porter] 18:00—**New House**—New House 5 Brawl Tournament (6-8 PM): Get your Brawl on! Come to New House 5 (Desmond) to show off your skills in the greatest fighting game of all time. The best part? First place wins a \$50 gift certificate to the CambridgeSide Galleria. Food will be provided! 18:00—**Simmons Hall**—Rooftop BBQ - Enjoy a summer evening of food, music, and fun on the rooftop terraces at Simmons Hall. You won't want to miss our gorgeous view of the nighttime Boston skyline! 18:00—**EAsT campUS**—penis penis penis penis penis penis goose motherfucker. 18:00—**Senior Haus**—Alternative Sex Seminar @ Senior Haus Lobby. Curious about being gay at MIT? Wanna know the best way to tie someone to an Institute bed? Wanna know where to buy latex clothing in Cambridge and Boston? Solid advice direct to you from our resident perverts. I mean, experts 18:00—**MacGregor**—Flying Pizza! Not really, actually it's just regular pizza with wings. It's all you can eat though. We'll have many different toppings for the pizza and several flavors of wings to choose from. 18:15—**La Maison Française**—Dinner: Come manger a home-

made French repas!
 18:17—**Random Hall**—Philosophical Wankfest: Where does the world come from? What is consciousness? Does the fact that these questions sound unanswerable make you more willing to argue them? Come celebrate the hallowed MIT tradition of “wanking” (pointlessly debating a subject at length!)
 18:47—**Random Hall**—Heart Attack Food: Leave your guilt and nutrition guides at home, and come commit a slow delicious suicide on the fourth floor of Random Hall as we home-fry everything from chicken to onions to Oreos!

19:00

19:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. We have the assfuck triplets.
 19:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Neither rain nor snow nor Dormcon will keep EC from its duties.
 19:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—Dinner: We’re cooking something delicious, we just don’t know what it is yet!
 19:00—**EAsT campUS**—We’re only being nice to you because the Institute says we have to.
 19:00—**EAsT campUS**—We live in the internet. Even our waterfalls are digital.
 19:00—**Senior Haus**—Make Your Own Sex Toys @ Senior Haus Lobby. Using household items! Go solo – because November is so far away – without shelling out massive bank for a masturbation sleeve or vibrator. Boys, girls, and everyone in between invited.
 19:00—**MacGregor**—Game Night - This is a nice and friendly event that’s really about just meeting people. We’ll have several HDTV’s going on and even a projector. There will be Rockband, Halo, Wii Sports, pool, foosball, and many more!
 19:05—**Senior Haus**—The CCC Will Make All Men Obsolete @ Senior Haus.
 19:17—**Random Hall**—Duct Tape Construction: What can you use to close an open wound? Duct tape! What’s great when your shoe starts falling apart? Duct tape! What comes in many colors and can be used to create something entirely new? Duct tape!
 19:47—**Random Hall**—LN2 Icecream: Jötunheimr cowers.

20:00

20:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. A breeze blew in and we azzized in our pants.
 20:00—**New House**—Massages + Smoothies (New House 6 Lounge) (8 PM – 9 PM): Just view it as our rough approximation of a luxury spa- experience a deep, soothing massage, and enjoy cool, refreshing smoothies before classes officially start. Relaxation has seldom been so easy and accessible.
 20:00—**EAsT campUS**—You like the cute animals? We like to serve them to you with a side of fries. Come to diner on 4th West for a bittersweet reunion with Wilbur.
 20:00—**Senior Haus**—Coffee + Political Discussion @ Senior Haus Lobby. We like coffee. We like politics. Come get some of both. Discussion mainly a debate between our resident clinically insane Marxist, and a secret, not-yet-disclosed person of a different political party. All parties welcome.
 20:17—**Random Hall**—Hair Dyeing: Green? PURPLE!
 20:17—**Random Hall**—Cake or Death: One of the great questions of the modern age.
 20:30—**Random Hall**—The

Thinking with Portals Party: Random Hall promises to always provide an awesome party environment. In party environments, we promise to always provide useful advice. For instance, the floor here has cake. (the cake is not a lie thecakeisnotalie-thecakeisNOTALIE)
 20:47—**Random Hall**—Pillow Fight: We have pillows. You have violent urges. Use the former to satisfy the latter.

21:00

21:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. We don’t discriminate. We hate everyone equally. We wish we could hate you to death. Come participate in 2 minutes of hate at East Campus.
 21:00—**New House**—Foosball, Ping-Pong and Pool! (9-11 PM): These games are as much a part of your college experience as Calculus, so come practice and play in New House 5’s recently refurbished rec room.
 21:00—**Senior Haus**—Den of Iniquities @ Youtube. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfPjbsdksC0>
 21:17—**Random Hall**—Guilty Pleasures: Come indulge in furious mastication.
 21:47—**Random Hall**—Gluck: (Speed + Solitaire) x 4 = Gluck! Come learn this fast-paced, four-deck card game and then use it against Random Hall’s Gluck

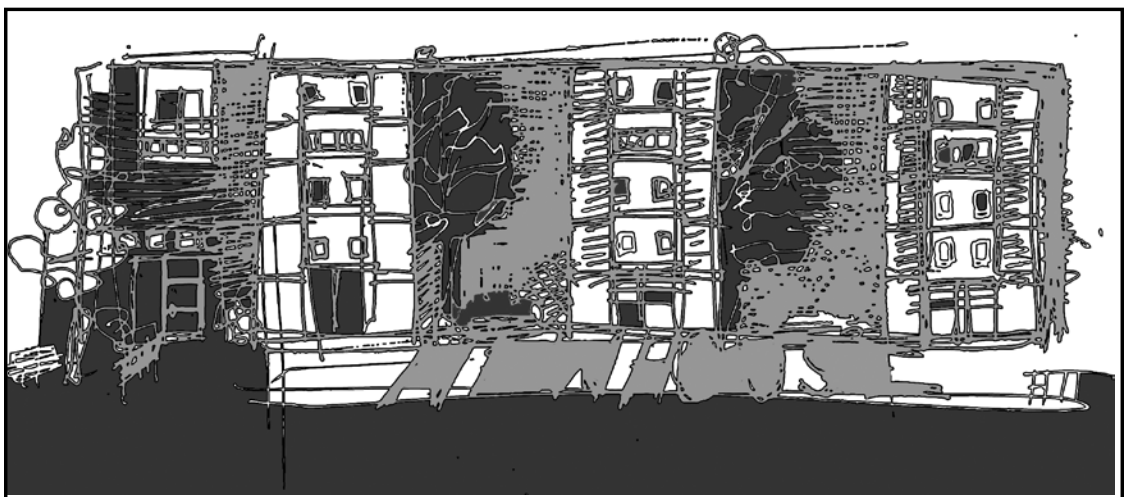
MIT Fun Fact!

Trying to stumble home after a night on the town? Call Nightline, they’re obligated to help you out.

masters.

22:00

22:00—**Next House**—Wrap up your night with some video-gaming fun - we’ll have Rock Band, Brawl, DDR, and Karaoke! Or, if you’re old school, we’ll have board games and cards as well. We’ll also have snacks to satisfy those midnight munchies.
 22:00—**EAsT campUS**—Have you fucked inside McCormick? East Campus has. McCormick hasn’t.
 22:00—**Senior Haus**—BACON BACON BACON BACON @ Senior Haus 1st Floor Kitchen. BACON? BACON, BACON BACON! BACON. (BACON BACON.) Also: coffee. Again.
 22:00—**Senior Haus**—S’MORES & STORIES @ Senior Haus Courtyard. Make s’mores, and revel in awesome stories of Senior Haus past.
 22:00—**La Casa**—Combo Latino: a cultural gathering featuring music from across latin america
 22:00—**New House**—Desmond Movie Night 4/5 (10 PM): Come to the New House 5 lounge to watch Mel Brooks’ epic comedy, “SpaceBalls”. And may the Schwartz be with you.
 22:00—**Baker House**—Baker House Presents SKYLINE, featuring the Ladies of McCormick: Come dive into orientation with the hottest party of the night at the most social dorm on campus! Featuring a dance floor, live DJs spinning today’s hottest beats, and refreshments! (Location Baker House (W7))
 22:17—**Random Hall**—Sweet Rave party: Strobes Real Popular. Super Rad Powwow. Shake Rattle Pop.... Sweet Rave Party.
 22:47—**Random Hall**—Bad Science Movie Marathon: There will be screaming. But not because the movies are scary.



New House

23:00

23:00—**EAsT campUS**—East Campus. Just sayin.
 23:00—**New House**—Late Night Waffles + Movie Marathon (NH 6 Lounge) (11 PM – 5 AM): We’re upending the traditional food schedule, and serving waffles late at night. We are also planning to watch movies until the sun rises while we’re all passed out on couches still in our day clothes.
 23:00—**EAsT campUS**—Sarah is a delicate flower. Come deflower Sarah at East Campus. Snowflakes!

Tuesday, September 1, 2009

00:00

00:00—**Simmons Hall**—Midnight Ball Pit Wars - Admit it, it’s the first thing you thought of when you heard that Simmons has its own McD’s-style ball pit. Build forts and stockpile weapons as you conquer enemy territory, or just toss balls at your friends to distract them from empire-building.

01:00

01:00—**Burton Conner**—Midnight Capture the Flag -- Glow sticks included. [turf]

03:00

03:17—**Random Hall**—RHOP: Random House of Pancakes: I’m a delicious warm pancake smothered in maple syrup. Bite me.

08:00

08:00—**Next House**—Yes, even more breakfast is on the way! Be sure to get your tummy’s worth on the last day of REX.
 08:00—**Ashdown House**—Breakfast: Come hang out with the Phoenix Group and enjoy some breakfast while you’re at it!

09:00

09:00—**Baker House**—Breakfast at Baker: Re-energize yourself with a great breakfast at Baker House, and prepare yourself for another day of orientation. (Baker House Dining Hall)

10:00

10:00—**Next House**—Release the kid in you, through flying

kites and blowing bubbles of all shapes and sizes. Come relax and have some fun in the sun!
 10:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—DH Tours and snacks
 10:00—**Burton Conner**—Breakfast -- You gotta eat! [tv lounge]
 10:00—**New House**—Morning Fiesta/Siesta (10 AM – 12 PM): New House is a very diverse community, and with that comes the advantage and ability to have fiestas (and siestas) whenever we want. Join us for this one-nachos, salsa, and piñatas all around!
 10:00—**Ashdown House**—Dorm Tours: A tour guide will be waiting for you at the Student Center (with a big sign that says NW35) to take you to NW35, the newest dorm.
 10:17—**Random Hall**—Make your own donuts: Who needs Dunkin’ Donuts anyway? Come to Random Hall and make your own custom fried models of our dorm! (No plastic spatulas allowed.)

11:00

11:00—**Simmons Hall**—Baking and Chick Flicks - Spend some time in Simmons’ country kitchen with Sarah and Christina. Then sit down and enjoy with a girly movie in the Night Cafe.

A Word About...

Simmons

Living IN Simmons means not having to look AT Simmons.

11:17—**Random Hall**—Sock-Puppet Literary Classics: What happens when you take sock puppets, literary classics, and a fifteen minute time cap? Hilarity. Come witness your (least?) favorite characters from high school English subjected to our whims.

12:00

12:00—**Senior Haus**—BACON BACON BACON BACON @ Senior Haus 1st Floor Kitchen. BACON? BACON, BACON BACON! BACON. (BACON BACON.) Also: coffee. Again. Again. Again.
 12:17—**Random Hall**—On the

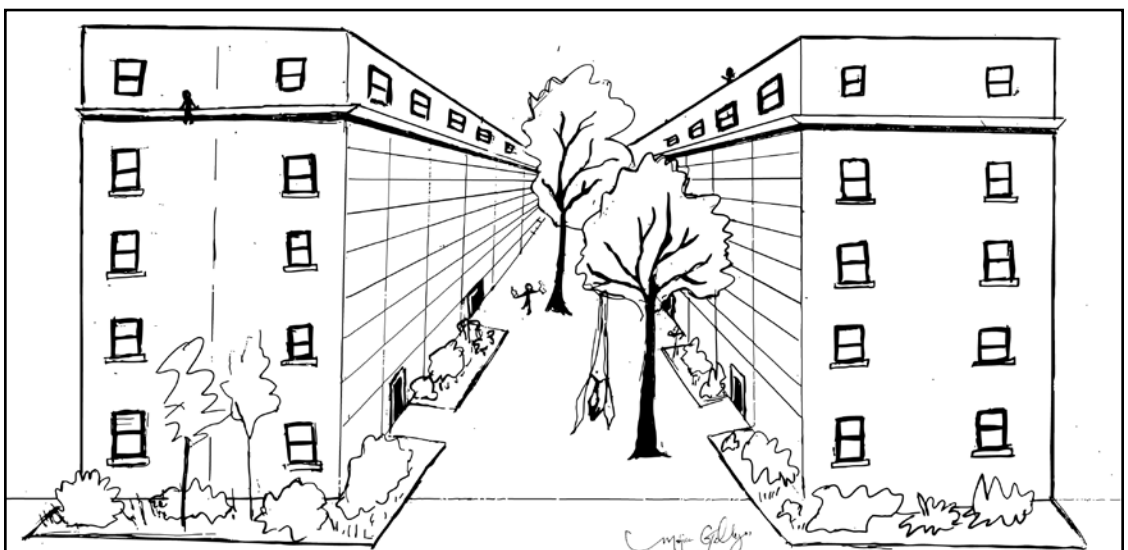
construction of dumplings: For ages, engineers have puzzled over the construction of dumplings. What is the ideall ratio of filling to skin? What is the proper catamorphism that will result in maximum structural integrity? Come make dumplings. Then eat them.

13:00

13:00—**Das Deutsche Haus**—A German Movie, because everyone knows how to speak German (English subtitles included).
 13:00—**New House**—Origami (1-2 PM): Whether you’re a longtime fan of the art or just a newcomer, join us in the New House 5 lounge for an hour of origami, the Japanese art of paper-folding.
 13:00—**New House**—Your favorite event from Saturday is back! Too many events going on all at once got you stressed out? Come relax and watch some TV with New House 2. Choose from a selection of shows including The Boondocks, House, The Office, True blood, Arrested Development and The Wire.
 13:17—**Random Hall**—Scavenger Hunt: Bring a camera, team up, explore MIT, and embark on a journey to discover your True Self while collecting random junk along the way. Prizes for the winning team included!
 13:47—**Random Hall**—Awesome Anime Music Videos: AMVs, much like the internet, are 95% dross and 5% awesome. We’ve got that 5% triple distilled into its purest form. Come enjoy.

14:00

14:00—**Burton Conner**—Sports and Summer Fun -- You’re never too old for pick-me-up sports and a slip-n-slide on a hot summer day! [burton-side bbq pits]
 14:00—**Senior Haus**—LEARN TO TIRE SWING @ Senior Haus Courtyard. Our experts will show you how it’s done. Don’t worry, no one dies.
 14:17—**Random Hall**—Cookies and Smut: Listen to the finest Viking romance novels and eat delicious warm chocolate chip cookies. Feel the horriblehorriblehorrible sensation of rivulets of chocolate dripping down your throat and learn about Odin’s magnificent sword!



East Campus

14:47—**Random Hall**—How to Conquer the World and Rule it Thereafter: Q.E.D.

15:00

15:00—**Baker House**—Tours of Baker: Another chance to check out Baker House before REX is over. Tour groups leave every 30 minutes on the hour and half hour. There will be snacks in the lobby, so drop by, grab a bite to eat, and chat with some upperclassmen about life at MIT. (Baker House Lobby)

15:17—**Random Hall**—Wikiraces: Quick! How many moves does it take to get from Vampire Watermelons to Godwin's Law?

15:47—**Random Hall**—Pre-tentious Music Wanking: Side effects may include life-changing spiritual experiences. Bach action figure included.

15:59—**EAsT cAMPUS**—HURRY UP AND ENTER THE HOUSING LOTTERY ALREADY SO WE DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO YOU WHINE LATER

16:00

16:00—**La Casa**—Carne Asada cookout. Come enjoy a mexican style bbq with tortillas, rice and beans.

MIT Fun Fact!

Each winter, snow falling off from the Stata Center obstructs crucial emergency exits.

16:17—**Random Hall**—Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream: Don't try this at Harvard.

17:00

17:00—**New House**—Rock Band! (5-7 PM): One of the first things you'll learn here at MIT is that "Rock Band + Free Food = Awesome". Come enjoy the awesome at New House 5, and play 'til your fingers bleed!

18:00

18:30—**Dormitory Council**—Housing Lottery Closes - Make sure you fill out your form before the lottery closes!

20:00

20:00—**New House**—New House 5 Poker Night (8-10 PM): Join us in the New House 5 lounge for a friendly game of Texas Hold 'Em. No money necessary! Chips (of both the poker and nacho variety) and salsa will be provided.

21:00

21:00—**New House**—Breakfast, College-Style (9-10 AM): Come to New House 5 to enjoy our wide selection of cold cereals. Fill up a bowl with your childhood favorite, create a bold new blend of fruity and chocolaty, or just hang out in our lounge and argue over which mascot is the best.

22:00



NW35

22:00—**New House**—Desmond Movie Night 5/5 (10 PM): Our REX movie series concludes with "Goodfellas". Come watch it with us in the New House 5 lounge!

22:30—**Baker House**—Ice Cream Party: Just getting out of the event at the Student Center and going back to your dorm? Grab some ice cream at Baker House before you head back. (Baker House Dining Hall)

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

09:00

09:00—**Baker House**—Grab breakfast at Baker House before you head out into the final day of REX. (Baker House Dining Hall)

09:30—**Burton Conner**—Breakfast -- Low blood sugar? Come to BC and we'll fix it. [tv lounge]

13:00

13:00—**New House**—House of Cards contest (1-2 PM): Put your engineering skills to the test! You have one hour and one deck of cards to out-build your peers. We promise it will be even more fun than a Course 2 p-set! Meet in the lounge in New House 5.

14:00

14:00—**New House**—Build a Playing-Card Launcher (2 PM - ?): Have you ever wanted to be a card-throwing ninja? Do your dream of becoming a top-class engineer? Then come design your own playing-card launcher in the New House 5 lounge!

14:00—**McCormick Hall**—Tie Dye Fun. Let loose the Hippie within and have some psychedelic fun with tie dye.

18:00

18:30—**Dormitory Council**—Results of the Adjustment Lottery Available - Check web.mit.edu/housing/lottery to find out your housing assignment. ALL moves into permanent assignments will take place on Thursday, September 3rd.

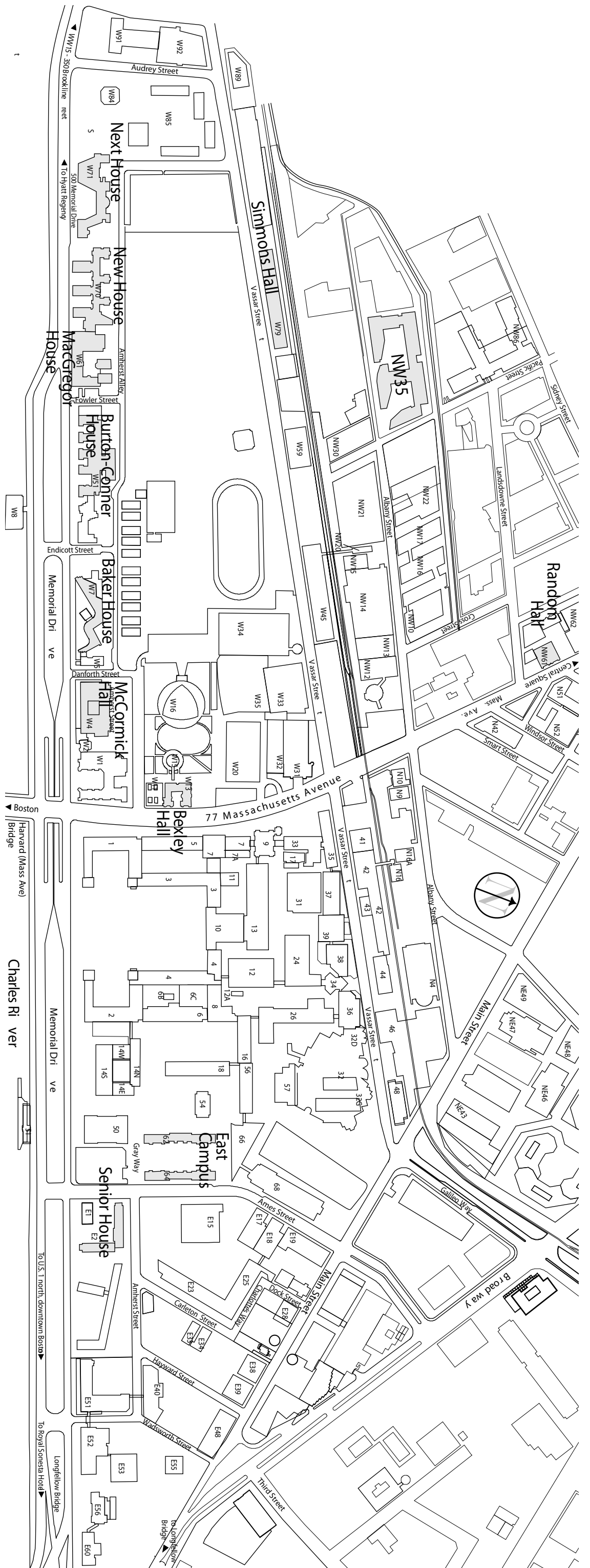
Thursday, September 3, 2009

09:00

09:00—**Dormitory Council**—Residence Hall Assignment Check Out and Check In - If you're moving out of your dorm you MUST check out of your old room and into your new room. Vans and transportation will be provided to help you move. More information will be available to you via email the night before.

17:00

17:30—**Dormitory Council**—House Meeting and Dorm Welcome - If you moved dorms in the lottery, it's time to get settled. Meet your Housemasters, GRTs and fellow residents. Be prepared for an entertaining evening. The MIT experience is largely about who you live with!



Rivest, MD5's Creator, Removes Entry from NIST's Hash Contest

MD6 Designed for Multicore Machines; Too Slow on Old Hardware

By Nathan Rittenhouse

A team lead by Professor Ronald L. Rivest declared this summer that their new cryptographic hashing algorithm, MD6, was not suitable for the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA-3) competition. Because of new performance requirements for the second round of the contest, the MD6 algorithm no longer met NIST's requirements.

Essentially, hashing algorithms generate a nearly unique number, or hash, from a set of data, such as a file, message, or phrase. The algorithm must ensure that creating another message that has the same hash is extremely difficult. This property plays an important role in the process of digital message signing.

While MD6 passed round one of the competition, Rivest posted an e-mail on July 1, 2009 to the NIST hash competition mailing list explaining that MD6 was not ready for the next round because of a change in NIST's requirements.

NIST's competition winner effectively mandates the hashing algorithm trusted by the government until the next NIST hash competition.

Cryptographic hashing algorithms play an important role in ensuring data security. You may have used one while making sure the latest Linux distribution you just downloaded wasn't corrupted, or if you've used a Web site that uses the secure socket layer (SSL, or https), to keep credit card numbers private.

Because of recent attacks on cryptographic hashing algorithms, NIST started the SHA-3 competition in 2007. Many of those attacks are against MD5, the very popular hash algorithm created by Rivest. MD6 is intended as a successor algorithm to MD5.

Eran Tromer, a postdoc at CSAIL and member of the MD6 project, explained that MD6 marked a departure from the construction of previous hashing algorithms, with gains in

performance and changes to design methodology.

Tromer said that the computing industry is moving towards parallelized systems — specifically processors with moderate clock speeds, but many cores.

"MD6 is optimized for parallelized execution on such chips, and indeed we have demonstrated high-performance implementations on a 64-core machine using Professor Charles Leiserson's cilk compiler, as well as Professor Anant Agarwal's Tile64 chip," Tromer said.

While performance was a concern with MD6's design, the MD6 team wanted to avoid the same pitfalls that previous cryptographic hashing algorithms faced.

Tromer said in an e-mail that the security of previous hashing functions "relied, essentially, on intuition about what attacks people may come up with." "Outsmarting future generations is a tough task and a worrisome prospect. That the old function withstood analysis for many years is an attestation to the ingenuity of their design, but can we do better?"

MD6's divergence from the old algorithms lies in the use of proofs of resistance to a large number of attacks that previous algorithms were vulnerable to.

Tromer said in an e-mail that "These proofs invoke and extend many techniques developed in the nearly two decades since MD5 ... we

borrowed techniques from the Rijndael block cipher which won the AES competition," referring to NIST's Advanced Encryption Standard competition that ran from 1997-2001.

Unfortunately for the team, the damning factor for MD6 was NIST's wishes for performance on older, non-parallelized architectures.

Tromer said in an e-mail that the death knell came for MD6's continuation in the competition "once NIST stated that candidates should match the SHA-2 family in speed on older platforms that lack parallelism; our only way to comply would have been to reduce the amount of message mixing in MD6 by a factor of roughly three, and thus forfeit provable security."

The team decided that since the proofs formerly constructed wouldn't hold given these new restrictions, MD6 was not suitable for SHA-3.

The MD6 site asserts that there is a possibility to prove MD6 is suitable for NIST's performance requirements (<http://groups.csail.mit.edu/cis/md6/>).

NIST announced the competition in late 2007. SHA-3 competitors had to submit their algorithms for evaluation by Oct. 31, 2008.



ANDREA ROBLES—THE TECH

Freshmen in the Discover Nuclear Science and Engineering FPOP take a break at Salem Commons in Salem, MA on Aug. 27. DNSE aims to introduce freshmen to the nuclear engineering department through faculty lectures and fun afternoon events.



RACHEL FONG—THE TECH

East Campus residents make progress on their traditional one-person roller coaster on Tuesday afternoon. The dorm builds many large-scale wooden constructions as part of Residence Exploration (REX) every year.

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Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer

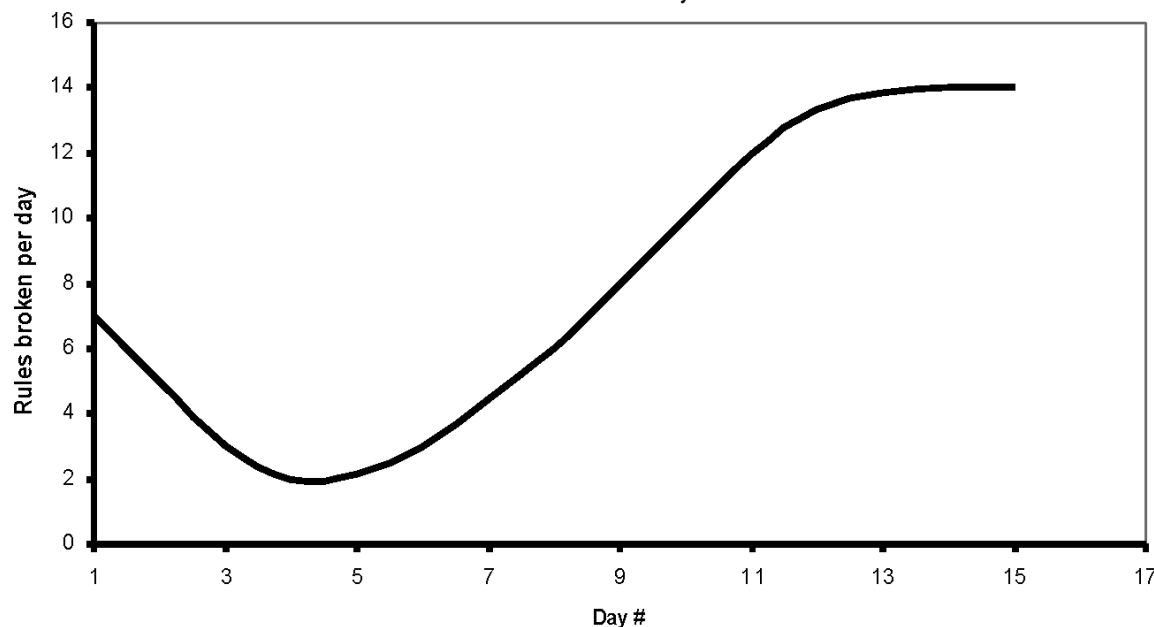


Figure 61. The plot shows rule-breaking at a new job as a function of time after joining. Infractions need not be significant, but are formally or informally codified; examples include making sure a door remains closed, signing up when using a printer, etc. As shown, the initial rate of rule-breaking is relatively high, but the new hire can (and should) plead ignorance. The rate decreases as the subject learns the ropes, but quickly increases as the uselessness of the rules and the low adherence of coworkers become apparent. The observed steady-state is the highest value silently tolerated by the supervisor. (Get them first at <http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com/>)

The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

Early Bullies



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 23

ACROSS

- 1 Ship deserter
- 4 Shallow-draft boat
- 9 Outmoded
- 14 Poem of tribute
- 15 Edmonton NHL-er
- 16 Pasty colored
- 17 Three big things
- 20 Plane curve
- 21 Suburb of Atlanta
- 22 Prophet
- 23 Begley and Wynn
- 25 Like metamorphic rock
- 26 Private sch.
- 28 Tulip tree
- 30 Weary sounds
- 32 Remedy
- 33 Dirt
- 36 Play about Capote
- 37 Joyce and Val
- 40 Keyboard key
- 41 Ooze

- 43 Ghostly greetings
 - 44 Madeline and Louis
 - 46 Configuration
 - 48 Author of "The Immoralist"
 - 49 Scolded
 - 51 "Xanadu" band
 - 53 Sunoco rival
 - 56 Does road work
 - 58 Reception option
 - 60 Three big things
 - 62 Direct
 - 63 Out of port
 - 64 SSW opposite
 - 65 Some chalcedonies
 - 66 Polar explorer
 - 67 Aus. neighbor
- ### DOWN
- 1 Graduation wear
 - 2 An Astaire

- 3 Three big things
- 4 Mock turtle, e.g.
- 5 Smooched
- 6 Fibber's admission
- 7 Wetland
- 8 Mr. Flintstone
- 9 French mathematician
- 10 Up to
- 11 Three big things
- 12 South Korean capital
- 13 Doorway
- 18 Tree with papery bark
- 19 "___ Fidelis"
- 24 Italian frozen treat
- 27 Make a request
- 29 Mineral veins
- 30 Rds.
- 31 Fury

- 32 Block up
- 34 Fleming or McEwan
- 35 Wt. increments
- 38 Footnote reference
- 39 Snow runner
- 42 Propelled a bicycle
- 45 Hersey's bell town
- 47 Breaks off
- 48 Type of tortoise
- 49 Tasteless
- 50 Seven: pref.
- 52 Plenty of
- 54 Judy of "Laugh-In"
- 55 Command
- 57 Laundry detergent
- 59 Online auction site
- 61 Shoshone

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65								66					67

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

We are looking for students with good communication skills and basic computing knowledge to assist with problems over the phone and via email.

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<http://ist.mit.edu/support/servicedesk/hiring>

20.102 Metakaryotic Biology and Macroepidemiology

(3-0-9) Prereq.: 18.01

TR 1:00-2:30 (Meets with 20.215)

56-614

W.G.Thilly <thilly@mit.edu>

This course explores the new paradigm of *metakaryotic* stem cell biology as the driving force underlying age specific clonal diseases, such as cancers, that account for some 75% of deaths in present day America.

Key to this new field was the discovery at MIT of a bizarre amitotic stem cell lineage that arises from embryonic stem cells about the fifth week of human gestation and drives fetal/juvenile organogenesis, carcinogenesis and, apparently, atherogenesis. These *metakaryotic* cells do not condense DNA in chromosomes before nuclear fission as in mitosis in *eukaryotic* cells but copy their DNA post-fission after amitotic segregation into single stranded DNA genomic copies.

Direct measurements of clusters of mutations in human lungs have associated very high mutation rates with metakaryotic stem cell doublings during the fetal/juvenile period. This metakaryotic mutator phenotype has been further associated with two error-prone DNA polymerases and seems to account for the phenomena of tumor initiation in normal metakaryotic stem cells. Biologically based cascade models of carcinogenesis and atherogenesis have been developed, now incorporating the known elements of metakaryotic biology. U.S. age-specific disease mortality data have been collected and organized from 1890-2006

<http://epidemiology.mit.edu>. With these tools students will explore the roles of inherited and environmental risks in a "clonal" disease of his or her choice.

[20.104, Spring, 2010, will address potential means to slow the growth or kill pathogenic metakaryotic stem cells and to reduce their rates of mutation in the fetal/juvenile period.].

Enrollment limited to 24 students.

Clever Attack Loads Code Into Keyboards

Hacker Conferences, from Page 1

ry corruption techniques against code that works with hardware in a low-level manner. This type of code generally has not undergone as much testing as the applications we commonly associate with the usage of a modern computer system.

Secure website vulnerabilities

A man calling himself "Moxie Marlinspike" introduced new methods for performing man-in-the-middle attacks against encrypted network traffic, enabling an attack to both read and modify data once thought private.

His methods abuse a specific flaw in the way a certain piece of software matches a website's identity with its cryptographic key, such as with https. The file that provides this key-to-identity mapping is called an SSL certificate. He described many ways how an attacker could form an SSL certificate that Firefox and other web browsers would consider valid for any given domain.

Think of going to *paypal.com* and having your browser show a lock icon enabled and no special alerts. Despite the security icons are enabled, someone in reality is pretending to act as *paypal.com* and reading all of your authentication credentials and transaction data. Moxie's tool to implement this attack can be found at: <http://www.thoughtcrime.org/software/sslsniff/>

Apple keyboards hacked

When booting up a computer system, most people never expect their keyboard to be hacked. K. Chen, a student at the Georgia Institute of Technology, proved that this assumption isn't always valid.

Due to Apple's lack of cryptographic verification done on the soft-

ware that keyboards run internally, or firmware, Chen was able to insert malicious code into the keyboard itself.

This enables an attacker to capture a victim's keystrokes and store them on the keyboard instead of the computer. While this generally does require administrative privileges, this technique proves that one can't simply trust that a computer isn't compromised even if all critical systems files appear safe.

The attack also offers a chilling opportunity for law enforcement to log encryption software passphrases to be recovered during an on-site investigation. While this attack specifically targets Apple's keyboards, many other pieces of hardware are likely vulnerable to a similar security breach.

VMware host vulnerability

Virtualization technology to run multiple operating systems on one computer at the same time is increasingly popular, in the form of software like VMWare and Xen.

Most people take for granted the fact that whatever happens inside of that virtual system stays inside of that virtual system. Kostya Kortchinsky, a security researcher at Immunity Inc., challenged this assumption with CloudBurst, a VMWare host infecting utility.

By abusing poor memory management in VMWare's 3D graphics software, CloudBurst is able to inject code into the operating system running the virtual machine allowing it to be controlled from the compromised guest OS.

VMWare issued a security advisory on this issue months before the Black Hat presentation, along with patches to fix the vulnerability. Both the advisory and links to the patches can be found at: <http://www.vmware.com/security/advisories/VMSA-2009-0006.htm>

EC Met to Discuss Security Gate

EC Gate, from Page 1

be similar to others on campus. "It will have a 12-foot aluminum arm, a card reader, and a telephone (with a connection to the parking office and one to the MIT police)," said Pallo.

Concerns about pedestrian safety and vehicular traffic prompted the gate's construction, Brutti said. The gate was proposed not by MIT Parking and Transportation but rather by several community members who were concerned about the traffic flow in McDermott and Eastman Courts.

According to Brutti, there will be a pedestrian walkway next to the gate and Building 66. The pedestrian walkway will be lined with planters so there is enough space for people to enter and exit but not enough space

for vehicles to get through. Entrance to the gate can be acquired with an MIT parking permit. EC desk will also be equipped with a button to open the gate for residents.

EC residents can gain access by contacting East Campus House Manager Joseph F. Graham. Pallo noted that the gate will open automatically for exiting vehicles. "During situations such as move-in/-out, [Graham] can coordinate with the parking office to ensure that the gates are open during the times they need to be," said Pallo.

In case of emergencies, the Cambridge Fire and MIT EMS will have clickers that open the gates. The gate will also be configured to open when fire alarms are tripped in the area.

Construction of a security gate had been in consideration for years.

Brutti reports that construction was delayed until this summer due to construction at the Physics inflill building.

After the June meeting between Brutti and East Campus, initial gate construction was planned from mid-July to August. Even though Brutti now reports the date for gate completion to be set at late September, Pallo noted, "It's possible that once the gate is installed, it won't be operational for some time after the construction is complete since it needs to be connected to the parking system to operate. If this is the case, the gate will remain open until it is connected to the system."

Pallo said that any EC resident with a valid MIT Parking Permit should be able to gain access to the gate by e-mailing the parking office.



JOHN Z. SUN

One of the East Campus projects in preparation for this year's Residence Exploration (REX) was a functional "catbus," a character from Hayao Miyazaki's animated film *My Neighbor Totoro*.

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Online Freshman Year? Not Very Likely.

Task Force, from Page 1

MIT would look quite different. *The Tech* takes a look at “MIT in five years,” if every plan were executed, after the fold.

If the Institute were to implement every single idea on the Institute-Wide Planning Task Force’s list, here are some of the more notable differences in what a future MIT might look like:

There will be about four hundred more undergraduate students and at least a thousand fewer grad students. Some undergrads will be crowded into Baker Hall “quints,” MacGregor “lounge doubles”, Next House triples, or vacant singles in the new Ashdown House (NW35).

Many undergrads will be required to move off campus, because MIT will no longer guarantee four years of housing.

If you’ve been reading your e-mail, these ideas so far might sound familiar — Paul F. Baranay ’11, speaker of the Undergraduate Association Senate, has raised an outcry among students about the possibility of increasing the undergrad class size, crowding dorms, and getting rid of four years of housing. He says these changes would hurt the dorm culture and has encouraged students to share their opinions with MIT administrators.

But these are far from the only changes proposed by the task force. What else might happen to change MIT’s culture? Suppose the rest of the ideas come to fruition, as well. Then:

While there will be fewer graduate students on campus, perhaps a thousand people will be enrolled as electronic graduate students, pursuing master’s degrees from MIT entirely online via an innovative “e-learning” program.

Construction will halt permanently on the old Ashdown House (W1), eliminating the possibility of four hundred extra beds for undergraduates. The students in the “Phoenix Group” won’t move into W1. (Might they instead choose to keep their space in the new Ashdown House (NW35), much like the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority once occupied part of Sidney-Pacific?)

MIT will raze aging buildings; old buildings will be assessed to determine whether their maintenance costs are higher than the value they add to the Institute. (Although MIT will need undergraduate housing, could the demolition list include Bexley Hall and Random Hall, whose closure was proposed as recently as in the 2004 Housing Strategies Interim Report?)

Even there will be a lot more undergrads, teaching them won’t be a problem. Dorms which aren’t closed for the summer or rented out to conferences will be packed full of students paying tuition to take special summer versions of the basic degree requirements like 3.091 (Introduction to Solid State Chemistry) or 8.02 (Electricity and Magnetism). Many of MIT’s new summer subjects will be open to other area college students, much like the Tufts Summer Session.

Students who have internships or jobs that bring them out of the state will still be able to take online versions of the same subjects — or they can take the subjects online in the fall.

Registration for subjects will happen online, not with a paper form. Adding and dropping subjects will happen online, not with a paper form. Pay stubs will be delivered electronically, not on paper. Requests for travel reimbursement will be delivered electronically, not on paper. Indeed, paper forms will largely have been abandoned, finally bringing MIT into the 1990s.

Although there will be fewer grad students doing research, there will still be a crush for space. In the physical sciences, multiple labs will share equipment instead of each buying their own redundant tools. A handful of computing clusters will

have replaced the old hodgepodes of inefficiently-arranged supercomputers that each department used to offer for calculations.

Faculty who turn 67 (or maybe a little older) will receive a letter from MIT indicating that they are now eligible for Social Security and that the school will no longer contribute to their retirement accounts. Perhaps many will take the hint and retire.

MIT will, regrettably, have had to terminate the contracts of many post-doctoral research fellows who have stayed longer than four years. Some labs will feel more cramped; MIT will take away space from research groups whose staff size has permanently shrunk. Some groups whose staffing has declined over time will be consolidated, with their administrative and research personnel moved into a new combined lab.

Though MIT will ask faculty to pay more of their own salaries out of research grants instead of using Institute funds, there will be plenty of money left over for grad students, simply because there will be fewer of them.

Teaching assistantships won’t always pay grad students very well, because salaries will scale to match the amount of work that goes into teaching a subject. Every Ph.D. candidate will be required to get experience by making a good-faith effort to teach at least one semester.

Subject enrollment sizes will be larger, and not just because the undergraduate class will be bigger. Drop Date will come within the first month of classes, giving premeds fewer chances to abandon a subject in which they might get a “B” and making enrollment sizes more predictable.

The historically small, tight-knit freshman seminars will still be tight-knit, but they’ll be tightening their purses, too. Instead of taking students on an expensive field trip to see their science in action, 12,000 (Mission 2018: Terrascope) might hold a video conference with research universities overseas.

Most “Athena clusters” will be gone, having been deemed underutilized and replaced by classrooms or storage space. The Student Center’s computer lab will look the same as it always has. A few “Quickstations” will remain scattered across campus and shared computers will be available in each dorm for students to check their e-mail. Students will be

able to print out term papers or class notes, but not for free: their student account will be billed 5 cents per page.

Employees will pay MIT Medical a little bit more than they used to and receive a little bit less care. Students will pay \$10 for every office visit.

On the whole, though, students will be healthier, even though they will no longer be required to take four physical education classes or compete in varsity sports to graduate.

Instead, students will be able to fulfill their PE requirement by spending time on a cardio machine or swimming laps in the Alumni Pool; by competing in one of about 20 intramural sport leagues like IM Softball; or by teaching swimming classes. Some of the old, exotic PE

options will be abandoned as too expensive — there will be no more credit for weekend mountain hikes.

Still, students will be walking more, because there will be fewer cross-campus shuttle buses.

Plenty of students will use MIT’s meal plans to get nutritious all-you-can-eat food at dining halls. The meal plan will be expensive, and some people will opt out and cook for themselves. But the plan will also be popular because undergraduates will get an extra financial aid grant just to cover the cost of the meal plan, making it likely that students and their friends will eat at dining halls. The MIT meal plan, which has long struggled to avoid a deficit, will improve because of the enrollments that will be virtually guaranteed by this financial aid policy.

About the cuts

MIT’s endowment has shrunk by about 20 percent in the past year, Vice Chancellor Steven R. Lerman ’72 told the Graduate Student Council on Wednesday night. When the endowment shrinks, MIT plans to cut its \$1 billion General Institute Budget, spending which doesn’t come from research money.

MIT has mandated that the GIB be \$50 million lower in fiscal year 2010, \$100 million lower in FY2011, and \$150 million lower in FY2012. For the current fiscal year, FY2010, the GIB is \$58 million lower.

The first \$58 million in savings have come from cuts that could be conceived and implemented within months: for example, the Admissions Office dramatically scaled back its paper mailings, reduced travel, and laid off some staff last year.

But the next \$92 million might come from ideas more complicated than “hire fewer people” or “buy less stuff.” The Institute asked its community for ideas that might take a little more lead time to plan, and it got many such ideas online from community members at *ideabank.mit.edu*. Over the spring and summer, committees met to discuss these ideas and to propose the most viable as part of an “Institute-Wide Planning Task Force” report.

That report, released last week, gives brief summaries of each idea and sometimes lists each idea’s cost savings. (Detailed one-page descriptions were produced for each idea but are not in the report. Lerman said that some of the one-page analyses were very specific, while others were sketchier, and it didn’t make sense to try to compare them to one another.)

The report is now in a “public comment” phase, with suggestions being open to the MIT community, again at *ideabank.mit.edu*. A final report, to be delivered in two months, will designate each idea as assigned to a particular administrator, who will carry it out; as assigned to a team, who will keep planning the idea; or as not recommended, in which case it will die a quiet death.

For example, the report suggests that overhauling the physical education requirement be assigned to the Dean for Undergraduate Education and carried out. It suggests that new professional education programs be further developed by a team. What about examples of ideas that the report suggests should not happen? Those include “online freshman year” and “New faculty will be offered a very long-term contract instead of lifetime tenure.”

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Susan Cohen
cohen@media.mit.edu

Application:

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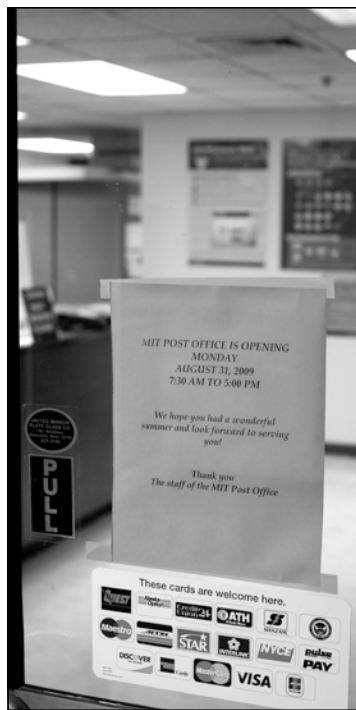
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Long-Term Prospects Vague for Student Center's Basement PO

Post Office, from Page 1

based university post offices, the MIT Post Office is being considered for closure by the USPS. According to a document released by Postal Regulatory Commission, the Postal Service has the ultimate say on whether or not a post office can be closed.



MICHAEL MCCANNA—THE TECH

The post office in the Student Center will reopen on Monday, August 31 at 7:30 a.m.

Ann Powers, Boston-area spokeswoman for the Postal Service, said that they had no new information regarding the post office closings.

"The study is currently in its preliminary stage," Powers said. "I don't know if the surveys have been sent out yet."

Cambridge Postmaster Katherine E. Lydon also said she was uninformed about the progress of the survey.

"I don't know how long it's going to be before we get results. It could be two weeks or much longer," Lydon said.

The USPS has created a separate, special committee to deal specifically with the closures, Lydon said, and she is not a part of the committee.

Lydon said the USPS has never done anything like this before.

According to the MIT News Office, Lydon sent a letter addressed to MIT stating that the temporary closure of the MIT post office was the result of a nationwide effort by the USPS to minimize their accumulating deficit.

In July 2009, the USPS was over budget by \$1 billion, and the year-to-date budget is over by more than \$3 billion. The USPS estimates the deficit will reach \$7 billion by the end of the year. One of the major factors causing the deficit is mailing revenue, which was 12.8 percent lower than expected last month.

Despite the closure threat, Lydon is looking to extend the MIT post office into a 24-hour service for students. One factor that concerns Lydon, however, is the safety of the facility, more specifically her concern with homeless people living in the Student Center. Lydon is currently looking into the idea and does not know when this new service will be

implemented at the MIT post office.

The USPS's threat to close Boston-area post offices has sparked concern in the American Postal Workers Union (APWU). Moe Lepore, general president of the Boston Metro APWU, is working to keep the post offices open by informing local legislators about the situation. In a letter addressed to the State House, Lepore advises against the USPS's plans, stating that several of the post offices being considered for closure are, in fact, making a profit.

Bob Dempsey, vice president of the APWU, said that there is no reason for the MIT post office to close because the Postal Service is locked into their lease at the Stratton Student Center until September 2015.

Lepore plans to spread the word of the post office closures to Boston area colleges including MIT. In a letter to the community, Lepore advises people to contact their elected officials to raise awareness about the post office closures. "This issue is about stopping corporate greed," Lepore writes. "The United States Postal Service is trying their level best to make a profit and the Service was not intended for that purpose."

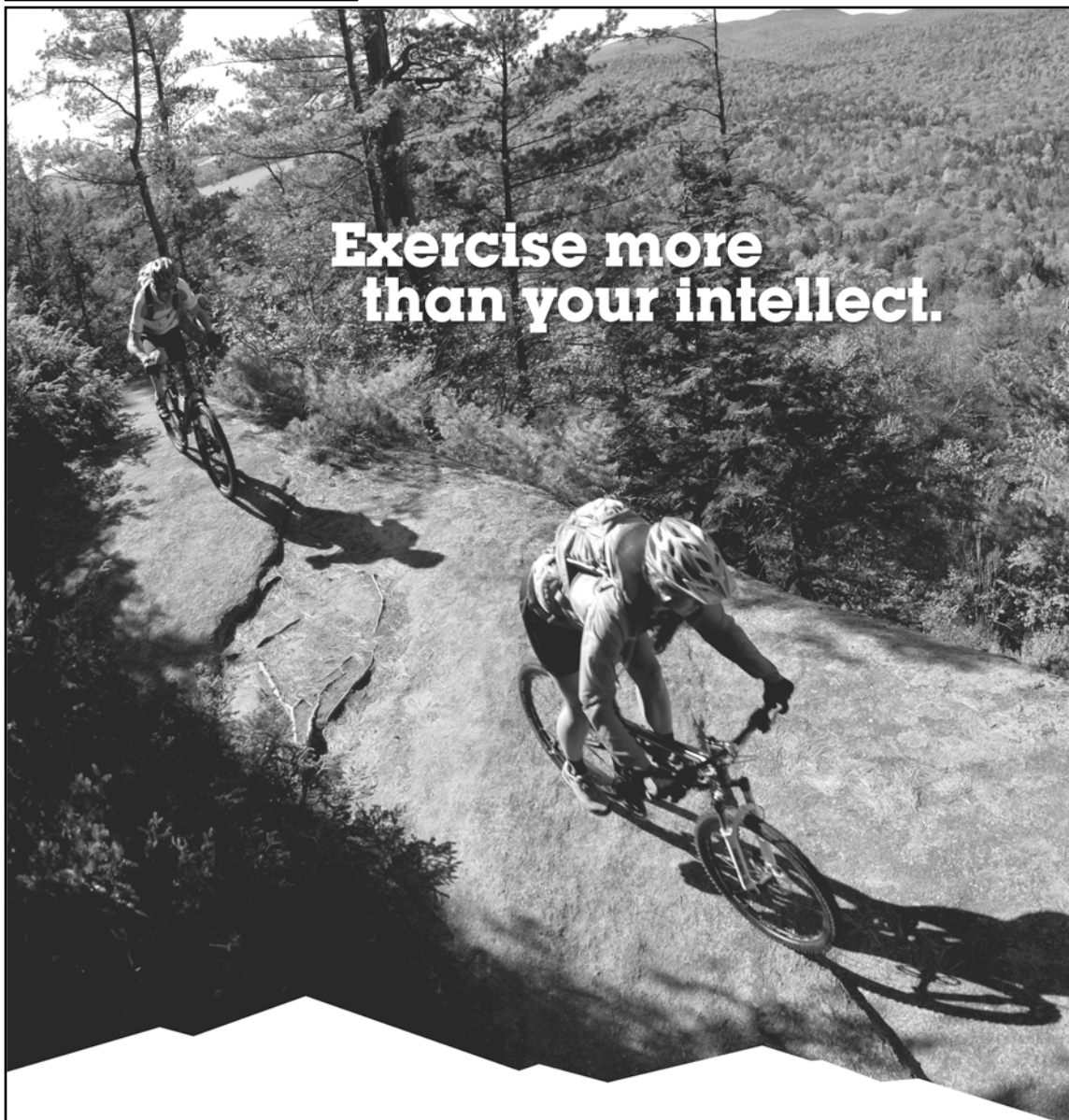
It is reported that the United States Postal Service has offered buyouts for 30,000 of its employees. The plan, which could possibly save the Service \$500 million every year, would allow eligible employees to receive \$15,000 in exchange for quitting their jobs. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that the Postal Service has closed six district offices, instituted a hiring freeze, cut more than 100,000 work hours, and proposed pending legislation to Congress that would dissolve Saturday service.

Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between July 14 and August 19. The dates below reflect the dates incidents occurred. This information is compiled from the Campus Police's crime log. The report does not include alarms, general service calls, or incidents not reported to the dispatcher:

- Feb 27: 290 Massachusetts Ave., 4 a.m., Harassment by club member
- May 28: Bldg. E40, 9:00 a.m., Female reports 500 dollars cash stolen
- May 29: Bldg. E19, 3:00 p.m., Larceny of tools
- Jul 9: Student Center (Bldg. W20), Bicycle stolen from bike rack
- Jul 9: Bldg. W59, 4 p.m., Larceny of military uniform
- Jul 13: Campus Police (Bldg. W89), 3:02 p.m., Past larceny report
- Jul 14: 155 Massachusetts Ave., 5:00 p.m., Larceny of equipment
- Jul 15: Bldg. E55, 2:14 a.m., Disturbance on 17th floor of Eastgate
- Jul 15: Stata Center (Bldg. 32), 4:49 p.m., Female reports 40 dollars cash was stolen from her locker
- Jul 15: Bldg. 68, 3:15 p.m., Report of larceny of laptop and tagging
- Jul 15: Delta Kappa Epsilon (403 Memorial Drive), 8:00 p.m., Reports Mt. Bike was stolen from his residence
- Jul 15: Bldg. W34, 8:07 p.m., Female reports her bicycle was stolen from bike rack.
- Jul 16: Koch Institute construction, 5:00 p.m., Break-in and damage
- Jul 16: Bldg. 46, 5:30 p.m., Larceny of cash and other items
- Jul 17: Delta Kappa Epsilon, 403 Memorial Drive, 9:00 a.m., Larceny of bicycle
- Jul 17: Z-Center (Bldg. W35), 10:40 a.m., Larceny reported. Wallet stolen.
- Jul 17: Delta Kappa Epsilon, 403 Memorial Drive, 6:00 p.m., Laptop Stolen
- Jul 17: Delta Kappa Epsilon (403 Memorial Drive), 10:45 p.m., Two laptops stolen from room
- Jul 18: 500 Main St., 4:00 a.m., Suspicious activity at site
- Jul 18: Delta Kappa Epsilon (403 Memorial Drive), 5:30 p.m., Female reports her bike was stolen.
- Jul 20: Student Center (Bldg. W20), 5:24 a.m., Laptop stolen
- Jul 20: Z-Center (Bldg. W34), 3:15 p.m., Larceny of cash from men's locker room
- Jul 20: Lot 36, 8:00 p.m., Past damage to motor vehicle. Softball struck windshield
- Jul 21: Kappa Sigma (407 Memorial Drive), 8:00 p.m., Larceny of wallet
- Jul 22: Bldg. 68, 7:30 a.m., Larceny of laptop
- Jul 23: Bldg. W89 (Campus Police), 4:00 a.m., Breaking and entering. Cell phone and laptop from room
- Jul 23: Bldg. 46, 10:00 a.m., Consumable goods stolen
- Jul 23: Amesbury St., 12:53 p.m., Edward McDonald, 357 Marlborough St., Boston arrested for operating under the influence.
- Jul 25: East Campus (Bldg. 64), 11:50 a.m., Wallet pick pocketed while on Main St.
- Jul 25: 155 Massachusetts Ave., 3:30 p.m., Trailer broken into
- Jul 27: East Campus (Bldg. 64), 2:44 a.m., Unwanted guest at residence
- Jul 28: Bldg. 13, 8:23 p.m., Suspicious mail trying to con people for money
- Jul 29: Stata Center (Bldg. 32), 10:37 a.m., Suspicious person took a tool out and cut something off bicycle
- Jul 30: Bldg. 9, 9:50 p.m., Two youths attempting to steal a bike
- Jul 31: Bldg. 57, 1:52 a.m., Suspicious person in area checking bikes
- Jul 31: Bldg. E34, 5:00 p.m., Motor vehicle broken into hayward lot
- Jul 31: Tang Hall (Bldg. W84), 8:00 p.m., Wallet stolen with cash from room
- Jul 31: Tang Hall (Bldg. W84), 9:35 p.m., Victim robbed in Tang Hall Lobby
- Aug 1: Bldg. 57, 2:44 a.m., Unauthorized use of pool
- Aug 1: Kresge Auditorium (Bldg. W16), 6:00 p.m., Cell phone stolen from men's room
- Aug 3: Bldg. 26, 12:00 a.m., Larceny of computer
- Aug 3: Bldg. 9, 1:47 a.m., Suspicious activity around bike racks
- Aug 4: Bldg. 6, 12:20 a.m., Suspicious individual in room. Trespass warning issued
- Aug 4: Bldg. NW30, 8:00 a.m., Larceny by fraudulent means from eBay sale
- Aug 5: Bldg. 34, 8:07 p.m., Suspicious male. Checked out okay
- Aug 6: Z-Center (Bldg. W35), 6:00 a.m., Theft of watch and cash from locker room
- Aug 7: Bldg. 9, 12:41 a.m., Group of kids checking out the bikes. Trespass warning issued
- Aug 7: Bldg. E19: 10:30 a.m., Laptop stolen from mail room
- Aug 7: Bldg. 12: 5:00 p.m., Monitor stolen
- Aug 7: 518 Beacon Street, 5:00 p.m., TV stolen
- Aug 7: Bldg. N51, 8:20 a.m., Suspicious person. Report okay.
- Aug 7: 240 Albany St., 8:03 p.m., Male issued trespass warning
- Aug 7: Bldg. E40, 9:00 a.m., Past larceny of bike
- Aug 7: Bldg. 1, 10:06 p.m., Suspicious person found in room and fled on foot. Unable to locate him. Several items taken into custody
- Aug 8: Bldg. 50, 9:00 a.m., Larceny of bicycle
- Aug 10: Bldg. 37, 6:29 a.m., Male reports person running out of room
- Aug 10: Bldg. 37, 11:14 a.m., Larceny of camera
- Aug 10: Bldg. 37, 6:30 p.m., Respond to past larceny
- Aug 11: Bldg. 3, 8:00 a.m., Malicious damage to touch screen
- Aug 11: Bldg. 4, 9:00 a.m., Harassing/annoying mail
- Aug 12: Bldg. 7, 1:00 a.m., Larceny of cell phone
- Aug 12: Bldg. 37, 7:00p.m., Unauthorized use of area
- Aug 12: Student Center (Bldg. W20), 10:50 a.m., Larceny of laptop
- Aug 12: Bldg. 37, 6:30 p.m., Unauthorized use of area
- Aug 13: Bldg. 37, 3:00 p.m., Malicious damage to computer
- Aug 14: Stata Center (Bldg. 32), 9:00 a.m., Moped was stolen
- Aug 14: Bldg. 14, 10:00 a.m., Larceny of wallet and camera
- Aug 14: Student Center (Bldg. W20), 4:30 p.m., Larceny of purse
- Aug 15: Bldg. 42, 3:46 a.m., Two suspicious persons in building
- Aug 17: Delta Kappa Epsilon (403 Memorial Drive), 7:19 p.m., Two suspicious persons trying to gain entry to house. Trespass warning issued
- Aug 18: Sloan Building (Bldg. E52), Report bike stolen from rack
- Aug 18: Ames St., 11:52 a.m., Past larceny of cell phone from unlocked vehicle
- Aug 19: Bldg. NE49, Harassing/annoying phone calls

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Singapore Builds Tech School

Singapore, from Page 1

citing potential collaboration here” and “I think potential is what we can say.”

According to the May 20 presentation, the size of the university is projected to be similar to MIT, with around 4,000 undergrads and 3,000–4,000 graduate students. The opening of this university would be part of the commitment of Singapore’s government to erect a new kind of university centered on “integrated/holistic technologically centered education,” attracting the “the best and brightest” students not only of Singapore, but also from the surrounding regions.

The new school, the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD), is intended to be different from current universities and will highlight an approach that is “interdisciplinary with fluid organizational boundaries” and include an emphasis on design and industrial involvement.

Architects are still in the planning stages on the design for the new university campus, which will likely not be occupied until 2013 on the east side of the island.

Frey said that until the new campus’s completion, an existing unused Singaporean high school may serve as a temporary campus for the university, which would open in September of 2011 with 300–500 entering undergraduate students. The new university would add to Singapore’s existing three major universities: National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, and Singapore Management University.

Likewise, the new design center, called the “MIT Singapore International Design Center” is projected to begin work some time next July. The research program anticipated to carry out “a number of development projects and investigations where

this establishment is [closely] tied to the university,” which specializes in design.

Frey said that at the new design center “we’d like to address three different design challenges that we perceive as timely and useful: sustainability in cities, engineering for the developing world, and [the creation of Information and Communication Technology] devices.”

Unlike the already existing programs between MIT and Singapore (the Singapore MIT Alliance (SMA) and the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART)), this new collaboration differs largely by the fact that it is connected to the formation of a new university whereas others were connected to existing universities. Another central distinction is that this new collaboration is “independent of [SMART and SMA] in the sense of different funding for somewhat different objectives,” says Frey.

Funding for the estimated \$100 million project comes entirely from Singapore’s Ministry of Education and as Singapore’s National Research Foundation, although collaborators at MIT would potentially hope to secure additional sources of funding.

According to the May 20 presentation, the proposed role of the MIT collaboration includes no MIT degrees or MIT branding in name of the new university and no operational responsibility but rather a collaborative role for a limited period of time. As part of this collaborative role, MIT will “help develop and pilot (some) 42 new courses and adapt 40 courses” where MIT graduate students will play an important role in organizing the courses as “funds requested for over 200 TA terms for MIT students,” as well as build an ongoing collaboration with the research institute.

As of the May 20 faculty meet-

ing, the initiative for the new collaboration had support from at least 31 MIT faculty in several different departments, with 15 agreeing to consider spending time in Singapore to help build the new teaching and research curriculum.

Benefits of this new MIT-Singapore collaboration would include “crystallizing and supporting broad design initiative at MIT” as well as “providing resources for undergraduate curriculum development at MIT, support for graduate students, UROP opportunities (in Singapore and MIT), and opportunities in modeling a sustainable city as well as new facilities/infrastructure at MIT” (from the May report). In benefit to Singapore, Frey says that “this university would diversify the educational landscape of Singapore in an important way, and furthermore, the research center is addressing important contemporary issues of Singapore and the region.”

In enthusiastic support of the new collaboration with heavy emphasis in design, Frey describes “these things are being done today at MIT at a certain scale, and we are working very hard to get funding, but this agreement will allow us to work at a greater scale and hopefully with bigger impact.”

Solution to Crossword

from page 18

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

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