

Kabelo Zwane '12

Kabelo Zwane, a sophomore and MIT's first student from Swaziland, died in Bedford, Mass. on Saturday, November 7, in an apparent suicide. He was 21.

From a small village in a rural region of the landlocked country eight thousand miles away, he came to a foreign school and country. He is survived by his mother and a sister.

His quiet, inquisitive manner made a big impression among friends at the African Students Association, the Campus Crusade for Christ, and the Experimental Study Group. Zwane was soft-spoken, spending his time building things and studying, but around close friends and complete strangers, he was eager to talk about his Christian faith and their lives and beliefs.

Friends remembered Zwane for caring about others and sticking to his principles.

"When he found something he believed in, he held on to it no matter what happened," said Harvard freshman Dalumuzi Mhlanga at a memorial service on Wednesday. Mhlanga met Zwane while both were at the Waterford Kamhlaba United World College of Southern Africa. Zwane joined the Swaziland Gender Awareness Project, a group which advocates equal rights for gay people and women, in a country where homosexuality is illegal and not socially accepted, and where one in four adults has HIV.

"What are you doing? This is against your culture," people asked him. But he stuck to it because he believed in it, Mhlanga said.

At school in Swaziland, he founded a club celebrating the culture of

his homeland, which has drawn international criticism for its king's lavish spending. But he felt that "I will defend my culture, I will stand for the value in it," Mhlanga said.

At MIT, he found new convictions: He converted to Christianity in October 2008. Reflecting on the experience in this spring, he wrote: "Since I arrived in September I have changed a great deal. I have found a faith that fills my life ... I have also gained 30 pounds, which is not too bad."

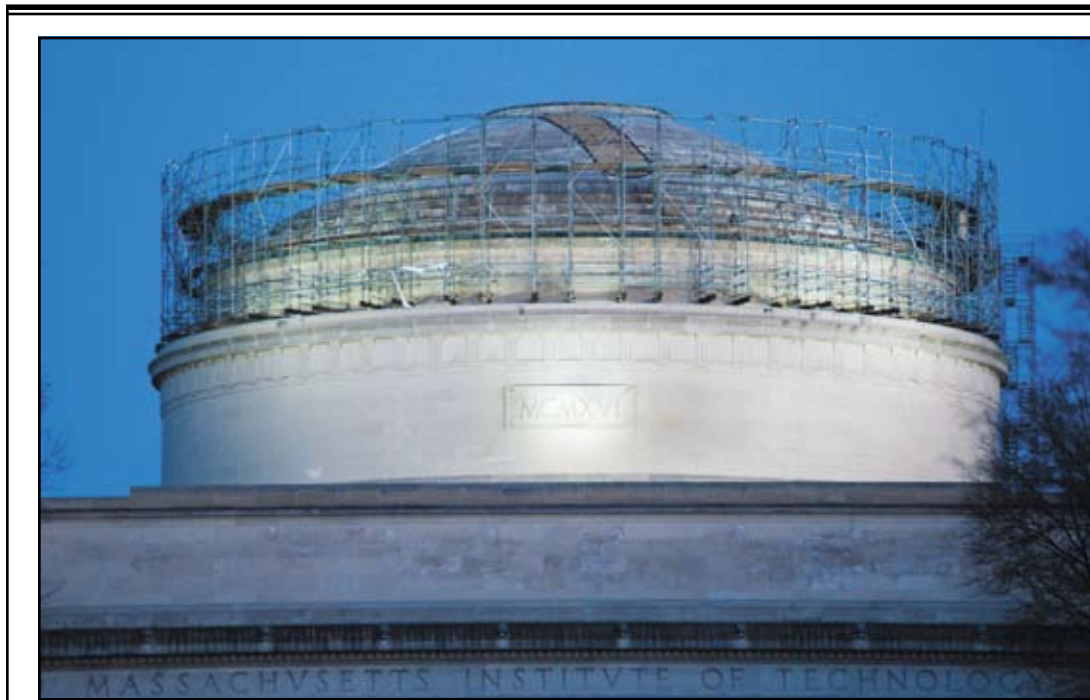
He met with friends at the Campus Crusade for Christ for Bible studies and prayer times, and he asked tough questions about modern faith.

If religion is so important, why don't people talk about it more? he asked. How could people of faith help solve the world's problems, like poverty and homelessness? How could faith inform modern justice? And he thought about a fundamental problem of Christianity — if God knew we would turn against him, why would he make us?

Did his beliefs about equal rights for gay people conflict with any Christian tenets? Why were there so many different kinds of Christians, and how could he convince them to all work together?

With friends and strangers alike, he talked through the hard questions, asking whatever was on his mind and learning about how other people thought about the world.

"He wanted to see what made people tick, and connect it back to Christianity, and share it with other people," said friend Clinton L. Scroggins '10, who met Zwane at



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Hackers installed a giant band-aid on MIT's Great Dome on the night of November 30, right after the wrapping that had been protecting the Dome during repairs was removed. The band-aid was presumably intended to symbolize that the "surgery" was complete.

a CCC-Impact Movement Monday Night Bible Study.

Abiy Tasissa '12, who met Zwane at the African Students Association, said at a memorial service that Zwane loved to talk to strangers, even those whom others might ignore. He talked to the homeless, to cab drivers, and to people he didn't know at bus stations, just as easily as he talked to his friends.

He frequently talked to his freshman advisor, ESG co-director Holly B. Sweet, about religion. "I appreciated that he cared about my spiritual

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Ten Students Organize 'Community Tour'; MIT President Might Watch on TV—Later

By John A. Hawkinson
NEWS EDITOR

A group of MIT students are planning an event titled the "MIT Community Tour 2009," scheduled for next Thursday, December 10. Labelled "Show Susan Hockfield Anything!", the event starts in front of Hockfield's residence, Gray House, at 10:00 a.m. and will visit locations "that reflect the inner workings of MIT that often go unnoticed," the announcement said.

Unfortunately, President Hockfield will not be present for the tour. She will be out of town that day, said Leslie S. Price,

her executive assistant.

Event organizers wrote to Hockfield on November 25 and again on December 2 seeking to schedule the event "to facilitate a unique opportunity for everyone in the community to learn more about each other."

Organizers circulated an e-mail to students yesterday asking "What do you want to show Susan Hockfield on a campus tour to help her understand YOUR MIT experience?"

Informed of Hockfield's absence, organizer Nicholas J. Grabenstein '10, said "we plan on recording it and giving her a

copy in some form or fashion."

Archimedes C. Stuk '10, another of the organizers, said they had spoken to Hockfield's staff last week and that, as of last week, she was free on the proposed date.

Organizers have conducted interviews with MIT community members over the past few weeks to determine areas to focus the tour on, in addition to the e-mail survey.

"We expect that Susan Hockfield will appreciate this gesture as an opportunity to step back from the tough decisions and bureaucratic meetings she is forced to deal with and instead gain new perspectives from the individuals that makeup the community," said organizer Adam B. Talsma '10 in a statement.

Stuk said three locations that had received "a lot" of suggestions were 1) Lindgren Library, the now-closed Library in Bldg. 54; 2) the small "fishbowl" computer work areas in Bldg. 3 that are Mechanical Engineering lounge spaces, and 3) Pritchett, the now-closed dining hall on the second floor of Walker Memorial.

Tentative locations also include MIT Medical's waiting room, the 2-225 Athena cluster, the MIT Electronics Research Society in N52, and Bldg. 4's southern roof access, Stuk said.

A recording of the event will be made available on MIT's Tech TV, Stuk said (<http://techtv.mit.edu/>).

Two Students Win Marshall Scholarships

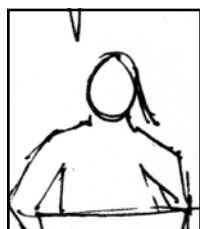
Two MIT students are winners of the United Kingdom's prestigious Marshall Scholarship, which funds 35 U.S. students in graduate studies in the U.K. Seniors Tanya S. Goldhaber '10 and Vinayak Muralidhar '10 are this year's winners from MIT.

Goldhaber will study Inclusive Design at the University of Cambridge, and also will study Experimental Consumer Research at the University of Wales.

Muralidhar will study Evidence-based Health Care at the University of Oxford, as well as Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Muralidhar is originally from Chandler, Ariz. and Goldhaber is from Boulder, Colo.

—John A. Hawkinson



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In Short

¶ **Still waiting for the Planning Task Force report?** Us too. Robin C. Elices of the Vice President for Finance's office says the administration's goal is to issue the report "before the term ends."

The preliminary report, issued in August, ran to 74 pages and listed 200 ideas for the Institute to save money. The final report is expected to narrow those ideas to the practicably feasible and provide substantially more data and insight into the thinking of the nine working groups that make up the task force.

The final report was originally due in late October; the last day of classes is next Thursday, Dec. 10.

¶ **Padma Lakshmi**, the "Top Chef" host and award-winning

author speaks today at 4 p.m. in 32-123 about her experience with endometriosis at the kickoff event for MIT's Center for Gynecopathology Research.

¶ **MIT Women's Rugby took the Division III Championship!** On Nov. 22, MIT placed first in Cherry Hill, NJ in the championship run by the National Small College Rugby Association.

¶ **The Tech's last issue of term** is next week Tuesday. Try to make sure everything newsworthy happens before then. Check <http://tech.mit.edu/> for late-breaking coverage as IAP approaches.

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

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WORLD & NATION

In Fight Against Tainted Beef, Trial Begins for Cattle Vaccine

By William Neuman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HOLYOKE, COLO.

Jason Timmerman coaxed a balky calf into a chute on his feedlot one recent afternoon and injected the animal with a new vaccine to make it immune to a dangerous form of *E. coli* bacteria.

The calf and thousands of others are part of a large-scale test to see whether animal vaccines are an answer to one of the nation's most persistent food-safety problems.

The test has been a long time coming. Bureaucratic delays in Washington stalled the arrival of the vaccines for years, even as people continued to sicken and die from tainted beef. And now, even if the vaccines prove successful in the ambitious tests that are just getting under way, they face an uncertain future as farmers and feedlot owners worry about who will pick up the extra cost.

Scientists are fairly sure that vaccines will not, on their own, wipe out the dangerous strain of *E. coli* known as O157:H7. But if they prove effective, they could significantly reduce the amount of harmful bacteria that cattle carry into slaughterhouses, which means that safeguards already in place there would have a greater chance of eliminating the remaining germs from the beef supply.

3 Secret Service Agents Put on Leave in White House Gate-Crashing

By Ginger Thompson and Janie Lorber

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Three Secret Service agents have been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation into how two uninvited guests managed to crash President Barack Obama's first state dinner last week, the director of the service said Thursday.

The director, Mark Sullivan, told the House Homeland Security Committee that an initial investigation had shown it was "human error" that allowed two aspiring reality television contestants, Tareq and Michaela Salahi, to penetrate security around the White House.

"I've asked myself these questions a thousand times over the last week," a beleaguered Sullivan said to legislators. "And what I keep coming back to is that we didn't follow procedures."

Legislators at the packed hearing expressed outrage at the potential risk posed by the security breach at the nation's most important address on such an exclusive occasion. They brought up security problems that arose during Obama's inauguration, and asked whether there were systemic problems at the Secret Service.

Report Examines Civil Rights Enforcement During Bush Years

By Charlie Savage

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

When the Bush administration ran the Civil Rights Division at the Justice Department, career lawyers wanted to look into accusations that officials in one state had illegally intimidated blacks during a voter-fraud investigation.

But division supervisors refused to "approve further contact with state authorities on this matter," according to a new report by the Government Accountability Office auditing the activities of the division from 2001 to 2007. Congress is set to release that report, which did not identify the state in question, on Thursday as the House of Representatives takes up its first oversight hearing of the Civil Rights Division under the Obama administration.

The 180-page report, obtained by *The New York Times*, is densely packed with statistics about civil rights enforcement by the division's sections. The accountability office also examined a sampling of matters that were closed without further action, finding several cases in which supervisors rejected the recommendations of career lawyers to go forward.

Bernanke Defends the Fed In Confirmation Hearing

By Edmund L. Andrews

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Under fire from Democrats and Republicans alike, Ben S. Bernanke PhD '79 on Thursday defended his record as chairman of the Federal Reserve but conceded that the central bank's lapses contributed to the financial crisis.

"I did not anticipate a crisis of this magnitude," Bernanke acknowledged in an occasionally contentious hearing on his nomination for a second term as Fed chairman.

Bernanke volunteered that the Fed had been "slow" in protecting consumers from high-risk mortgages during the housing bubble and that it should have forced banks to hold more capital for all the risks they were taking on.

"In the area where we had responsibility, the bank holding companies, we should have done more," he told lawmakers. "That is a mistake we won't make again."

As he faced the Senate banking committee on Thursday morning, Bernanke still seemed to have enough support to win approval for a second term. But he and the Fed as an institution came under withering criticism

for failing to recognize the crisis until it was too late and then bailing out financial giants like Citigroup and the American International Group.

The hearing provided new evidence of doubt among lawmakers about the Federal Reserve's role as the nation's guardian of the financial system.

"In the face of rising home prices and risky mortgage underwriting, the Fed failed to act," said Sen. Richard C. Shelby of Alabama, the senior Republican on the banking committee. "Many of the Fed's responses, in my view, greatly amplified the problem of moral hazard stemming from 'too big to fail' treatment of large financial institutions and activities."

At the end of the hearing, Shelby signaled his agreement with the committee's Democratic chairman, Sen. Christopher J. Dodd of Connecticut, that the Fed should give up a large measure of its authority as a financial regulator.

Dodd, who strongly endorsed Bernanke for a second term as Fed chairman, has proposed that the Fed's powers as a bank regulator ought to be transferred to a new consolidated agency.

Bernanke and other top Fed of-

ficials adamantly oppose that idea, arguing that the Fed has unique expertise and that its ability to preserve financial stability depends on having the detailed information that only a regulator has about the inner workings of major institutions.

The debate is just beginning, and it is unclear whether Shelby and other Republicans even want to team up with Democrats on an overhaul of financial regulation. Democrats on the committee are divided. Sen. Evan Bayh, D-Ind., made it clear that he wanted the Fed to remain a bank regulator.

Meanwhile, Bernanke and the Fed came under more populist attacks from lawmakers in both parties.

On Tuesday, Sen. Bernard Sanders of Vermont declared that he would try to block Bernanke's approval on the Senate floor by placing a hold on his nomination. Senate leaders would need 60 votes, rather than a simple majority, to override the hold.

And Sen. Jim Bunning, a Kentucky Republican who was the only person to vote against Bernanke's original appointment as chairman in 2006, vowed on Wednesday to "do everything I can to stop your nomination and drag this out as long as I can."

Militants Face More Attacks By U.S. Drones

By Scott Shane

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Two weeks ago in Pakistan, Central Intelligence Agency sharpshooters killed eight people suspected of being militants of the Taliban and al-Qaida, and wounded two others in a compound that was said to be used for terrorist training.

Then, the job in North Waziristan done, the CIA officers could head home from the agency's Langley, Va., headquarters, facing only the hazards of the area's snarled suburban traffic.

It was only the latest strike by the agency's covert program to kill operatives of al-Qaida, the Taliban and their allies using Hellfire missiles fired from Predator aircraft controlled from half a world away.

The White House has authorized an expansion of the CIA's drone program in Pakistan's lawless tribal area,

officials said this week, to parallel the president's decision, announced Tuesday, to send 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan.

U.S. officials are talking with Pakistan about the possibility of striking in Baluchistan for the first time — a controversial move since it is outside the tribal areas — because that is where Afghan Taliban leaders are believed to hide.

By increasing covert pressure on al-Qaida and its allies in Pakistan, while ground forces push back the Taliban's advances in Afghanistan, U.S. officials hope to eliminate any haven for militants in the region.

One of Washington's worst-kept secrets, the drone program is quietly hailed by counterterrorism officials as a resounding success, eliminating key terrorists and throwing their operations into disarray. But despite close cooperation from Pakistani in-

telligence, the program has generated public anger in Pakistan, and some counterinsurgency experts wonder whether it does more harm than good.

Assessments of the drone campaign have relied largely on sketchy reports in the Pakistani news media, and some have estimated several hundred civilian casualties. Saying that such numbers are wrong, one government official agreed to speak about the program on condition of anonymity. About 80 missile attacks from drones over almost the last two years have killed "more than 400" enemy fighters, the official said, offering a number lower than most estimates but in the same range. His account of collateral damage, however, was strikingly low: "We believe the number of civilian casualties is just over 20, and those were people who were either at the side of major terrorists or were at facilities used by terrorists."

WEATHER

From Record Warmth to Snow?

By Allison A. Wing

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Hopefully everyone enjoyed the warm sunny day we had yesterday, because this weekend brings a return to more seasonable conditions. The preliminary climate report from the National Weather Service indicates that yesterdays recorded high temperature of 69°F at Logan Airport was a whopping 23°F above normal. It broke the previous record for December 3, which was 65°F set back in 1932.

Today we will be under the control of a weak high pressure system and the temperatures will still be slightly above normal, with mostly sunny skies and a high of 51°F (11°C). Saturday will bring cooler temperatures with a high of 43°F (6°C) and cloudy skies. A low pressure system currently forming off the mid-Atlantic coast could bring us wet conditions late on Saturday night. With a low of 32°F (0°C), some of this precipitation could be in the form of sleet or even possibly snow. Any accumulation, however, would be minimal. The precipitation should end by Sunday morning, leaving us with a partly cloudy day with temperatures around 40°F (4°C).

Extended Forecast

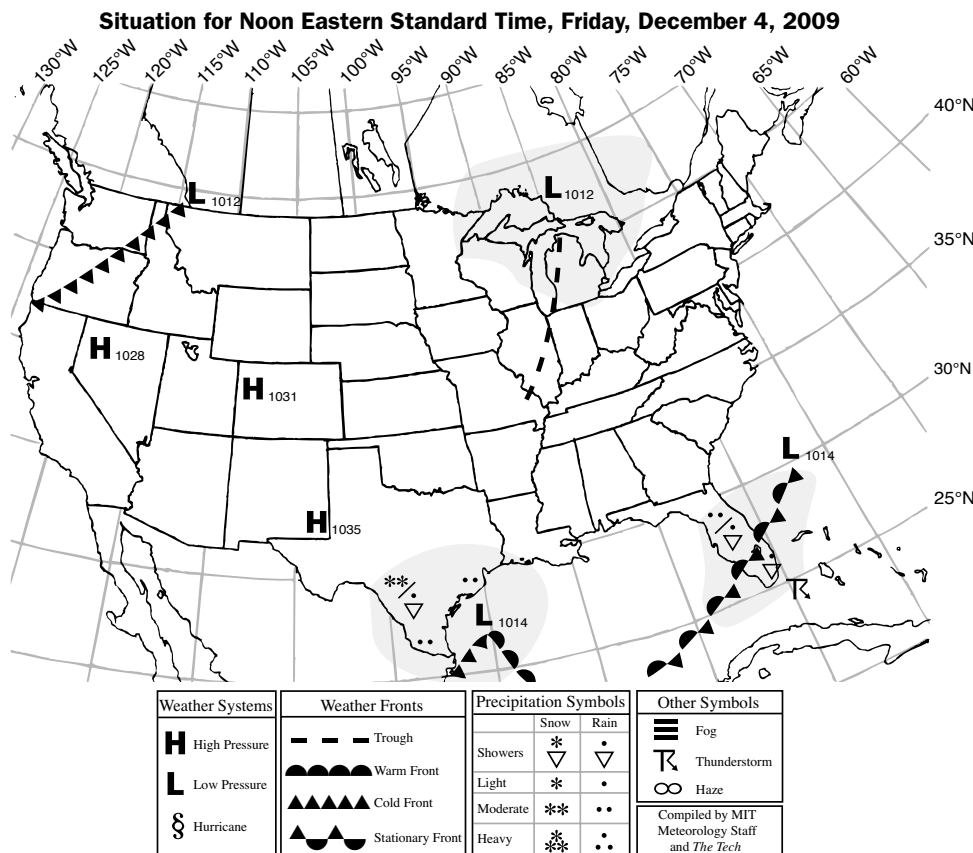
Today: High of 51°F (11°C). Mostly sunny. West winds at 5–10 mph.

Tonight: Low of 35°F (2°C). Cloudy. West winds at 4–6 mph.

Tomorrow: High of 43°F (6°C). Cloudy. West winds at 10–15 mph. Low of 32°F (0°C). Rain/wintry mix possible late at night.

Sunday: High of 40°F (4°C). Partly cloudy. Northwest winds at 10–12 mph.

Monday: High of 44°F (7°C). Partly cloudy. West/southwest winds at 5–10 mph.



An Abortion Provider's Killing Sways a Colleague to Step In

By **Monica Davey**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BELLEVUE, NEB.

The national battle over abortion, for decades firmly planted outside the Kansas clinic of Dr. George R. Tiller, has erupted here in suburban Omaha, where a longtime colleague has taken up the cause of late-term abortions.

Since Tiller was shot to death in May, his colleague, Dr. LeRoy H. Carhart, has hired two people who worked at Tiller's clinic and has trained his own staff members in the technical intricacies of performing late-term abortions.

Carhart has also begun performing some abortions "past 24 weeks," he said in an interview, and is prepared to perform them still later if they meet legal requirements and if he considers them medically necessary.

"There is a need, and I feel deeply about it," said Carhart, visibly weary after a day when eight patients had appointments at his clinic here.

The late-term abortions, coming after the earliest point when a fetus might survive outside the womb, are the most controversial, even among some who favor abortion rights. A few

of Carhart's employees quit when he told them of his plans to expand the clinic's work.

Opponents of abortion, who had devoted decades to trying to stop Tiller's business with protests and calls for investigations, are now turning their efforts to stopping Carhart. Troy Newman, the president of Operation Rescue, an anti-abortion group, said he had traveled from the group's headquarters in Wichita, Kan., to Nebraska six times in recent months, portraying this suburb of fewer than 50,000 as a new battlefield in the abortion fight.

"We're trying to get criminal charges against him, to get his license revoked, and to get legislators there to look at the law," Newman said of Carhart.

State law in Nebraska bans abortions in cases when a fetus clearly appears to have reached viability, except to "preserve the life or health of the mother."

Abortion-rights advocates say the need exists for late-term abortions, in cases of extraordinary genetic defects and other dire health circumstances, and some had worried that only a few physicians would be willing to pro-

vide such care after Tiller's killing, an act prosecutors say was carried out by an abortion foe.

"He's standing up, and so are some others," Vicki Saporta, president of the National Abortion Federation, said of Carhart.

A few other doctors have long performed late-term abortions, and some said both the threats against them and their efforts at security had increased since Tiller's death.

Carhart, 68, knew Tiller for years, and would make regular trips to his clinic in Wichita to perform abortions there, as other physicians did. Though Tiller's clinic was not the only one in the country performing late-term abortions, it was a focal point for controversy.

Carhart, who has been performing abortions since the 1970s, is no stranger to the debate; he has been a litigant in two abortion-related cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court over a particular method of abortion referred to by critics as "partial-birth abortion." And immediately after Tiller's killing, Carhart offered to continue operating his clinic, but the Tiller family decided to close it.

Web/TV Divide is Back in Focus With NBC Sale

By **Brian Stelter**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

As she prepared her daughter for college, Anne Sweeney insisted that a television be among the dorm room accessories.

"Mom, you don't understand. I don't need it," her 19-year-old responded, saying she could watch whatever she wanted on her computer, at no charge.

That flustered Sweeney, who happens to be the president of the Disney-ABC Television Group.

"You're going to have a television if I have to nail it to your wall," she told her daughter, according to comments she made at a Reuters event this week. "You have to have one."

But she does not, actually. For 60 years, TV could be watched only one way: through the television set. Now, though, millions watch shows like "Grey's Anatomy" on demand and online on network Web sites like Sweeney's ABC.com and on the Internet's most popular streaming hub, Hulu.com.

How people watch TV on demand — and whether they should pay for the privilege — is a critical issue in

the landmark deal, announced Thursday, that will give Comcast control of NBC Universal. In the deal, Comcast will become a co-owner of Hulu.

Like all its broadcast rivals, NBC rushed to put its popular shows on the Web years ago, hoping to secure a piece of the booming online advertising market and offset an eroding audience.

The viewers came in droves, but the ad revenues have not materialized as expected. By giving away TV episodes online, "the industry is literally tossing money and premium content away," Barry M. Meyer, the Warner Brothers Entertainment chief executive, said in a speech in October.

Comcast, the country's largest cable operator, has already been using its considerable muscle to limit how many shows are available online, lest people think they can cancel their costly cable subscriptions and watch free online. Now the company — which, if the NBC deal passes government muster, will own a piece of the biggest site that threatens to undercut its core business — is looking for ways to charge for ubiquitous access to shows.

With millions now watching TV

on their computers, can the media companies put the Hulu genie back in the bottle?

The scramble by TV companies to preserve its ad model while giving consumers choice — what Comcast's chief executive called in interviews Thursday "anytime, anywhere media" — mirrors the efforts of newspapers, magazines and radio companies to wring more money from digital media. But all are facing some entrenched habits.

"If you disrupt the consumer experience, you're in trouble," warns Mike Kelley, a partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Stephen B. Burke, the chief operating officer of Comcast, recently called streaming "the biggest social movement I've ever seen.... Online video consumption is off the charts."

NBC and the News Corp., the owner of Fox, jointly formed Hulu in 2007. Disney later became an equity partner in Hulu. On Hulu and sites like it, TV episodes are available any time, usually for a full month after they premiere; the images are crystal clear, and the commercial breaks are short.

and for aid to small business. House Democrats plan to pay for the plan by drawing from the \$700 billion fund set up last year to bail out financial institutions.

The House also passed legislation on Thursday that would freeze the federal tax on large estates at its current level. Under current law, the tax would have disappeared entirely next year, only to reappear at much higher levels in 2011. The vote highlighted the raft of fiscal issues facing the administration and Congress and the tension between addressing budget deficits and taking potentially expensive actions to help the economy.

Obama's jobs event captured the political and policy vise now squeezing the president and his party at the end of his first year. It came on the eve of a government report that is expected to show unemployment remaining in double digits, and two days after Obama emphasized as he ordered 30,000 additional troops to Afghanistan that he did not want the financial burdens of the war to overwhelm his domestic agenda.

At The World Cup Draw, There's a Plot in Every Pot

By **Jere Longman**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

It is anyone's guess how the 32 teams in the 2010 World Cup will be grouped by the draw Friday in South Africa, but one thing is for sure: The event will elicit sightings of things as far-fetched as UFO's and the Virgin Mary's image on a potato chip.

Soccer luminaries, with the help of the honorary hostess Charlize Theron, will pull plastic balls out of pots to determine the eight first-round groupings of four teams each. Someone will inevitably claim that the draw was rigged. No proof? No problem. Not since "Forrest Gump" have table tennis balls supposedly been so vulnerable to manipulation and sleight of hand.

Television networks around the world will be on alert. They will replay the video forward and backward, in regular speed and slow motion, seeking evidence of plots and schemes, as if this were a sporting equivalent of the Zapruder film.

At the draw for the 1990 World Cup in Italy, Sophia Loren picked a ball that placed the United States in the host team's group. Considering that the Americans had not played in the World Cup in 40 years, this struck some as akin to putting the Yankees in the same group as the winner of the Little League World Series.

Obama's Afghan Decision Strains Democratic Ties

By **Carl Hulse and Adam Nagourney**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama's decision to send more troops to Afghanistan over the objections of fellow Democrats on Capitol Hill is straining a relationship already struggling under the weight of an administration agenda that some Democratic lawmakers fear is placing them in a politically vulnerable position. They face the prospect of enacting a health care bill that Republicans are using to paint them as fiscally irresponsible and intent on extending the government's reach deeper into the economy and personal health decisions.

"They say you do the tough things early," said Rep. Anthony Weiner, Democrat of New York. "Early 2010 is early for the White House, but it is perilously late for members of Congress. I don't know if it's a new tension, but it's certainly something people are talking about on the Hill."

Some Democrats worry that the administration is willing to sacrifice some House and Senate seats in the interest of accomplishing its broader goals. And some of the issues Obama is pressing could make Democrats vulnerable to attack not only by Republicans, but also by fellow Democrats in primaries.

In Pennsylvania, Sen. Arlen Specter has come out against Obama's Afghanistan policy, setting up a clash against his Democratic primary opponent, Rep. Joe Sestak, who backs the escalation of the war. His move gives Specter, who switched parties earlier this year, a chance to win some support from the left, which has been the base of Sestak's support.

Debt Crisis Tests Dubai's Ruler and An Arab Vision

By **Robert F. Worth and Heather Timmons**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The ruler of this city-state, Sheik Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, became renowned as a developer-king, an autocratic visionary determined to build a 21st-century Xanadu in the desert despite a legion of critics who said it could not be done.

"What I have achieved for Dubai is just 10 percent of my vision," he would often tell visitors.

That vision took a beating last week after Dubai, struggling under \$80 billion in debt, suddenly asked to delay interest payments for its flagship company, Dubai World, sending markets tumbling around the world.

Current and former advisers say they think Mohammed's aides left him in the dark for several weeks or even months as Dubai's problems mounted. Hundreds of property projects have been frozen, and the Western financiers who once flocked here have fled in droves.

Last week's debt bombshell has raised questions about possible tensions with Abu Dhabi, the oil-rich sister emirate that many had expected to bail out Dubai.

Sheik Mo, as expatriates often call him, has dismissed those speculations, and last month he told journalists who asked about a rift with Abu Dhabi to "shut up." He waves away predictions of Dubai's collapse as envious carping.

New York Senate Turns Back Bill On Gay Marriage

By **Jeremy W. Peters**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALBANY, N.Y.

The New York state Senate decisively rejected a bill on Wednesday that would have allowed gay couples to wed, providing a major victory for those who oppose same-sex marriage and underscoring the deep and emotional divisions surrounding the issue.

The 38-24 margin startled proponents of the bill, and signaled that political momentum, at least right now, has shifted against same-sex marriage, even in heavily Democratic New York. The vote followed more than a year of lobbying by gay rights organizations, who have poured close to \$1 million into New York legislative races to boost support for the measure.

The defeat, which followed a stirring and at times deeply personal debate, all but ensures the issue is dead in New York until at least 2011, when a new Legislature will be installed.

Since 2003, seven states, including three that border New York, legalized same-sex marriage. But in two of the seven, including Maine last month, voters have reversed the decisions of lawmakers or judges in referendums, and effectively outlawed gay nuptials.

In Albany on Wednesday, proponents had believed going into the vote that they could attract as many as 35 supporters to the measure; at their most pessimistic, they said they would draw at least 26. They had the support from Gov. David A. Paterson, who has publicly championed the bill, along with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and the Senate Democratic leadership.

A Focus on Jobs, But No Promises Of a Turnaround

By **Jackie Calmes**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

After months of focusing on Afghanistan and health care, President Barack Obama turned his attention on Thursday to the high level of joblessness, but offered no promise that he could do much to bring unemployment down quickly even as he comes under pressure from his own party to do more.

At a White House forum, scheduled for the day before the government releases unemployment and job loss figures for November, Obama sought new ideas from business executives, labor leaders, economists and others. Confronted with concern that his own ambitious agenda and the uncertain climate it has created among employers have slowed hiring, the president defended his policies.

Obama said he would entertain "every demonstrably good idea" for creating jobs, but he cautioned that "our resources are limited."

The president said he would announce some new ideas of his own

next week. One of those, he indicated when he participated in a discussion group on clean energy, would be a program of weatherization incentives for homeowners and small businesses modeled on the popular "cash for clunkers" program.

On Capitol Hill, Ben S. Bernanke PhD '79, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, told senators at a sometimes testy hearing on his confirmation for a second term, "Jobs are the issue right now."

"It really is the biggest challenge, the most difficult problem that we face right now," Bernanke added, citing in particular the inability of many credit-worthy small businesses to get bank loans.

In the House, where lawmakers are particularly sensitive to the employment issue since they all face reelection next year, Democratic leaders on Thursday were finishing work on a jobs bill for debate this month. It would extend expiring federal unemployment benefits for people who have been out of jobs for long periods, and provide up to \$70 billion for roads and infrastructure projects

OPINION

Making Orientation Better ... for Less!

The Orientation planning committee will soon be evaluating options for making Orientation cheaper as MIT contends with an Institute-wide budget crunch. Some measures have been suggested that have potential to significantly detract from the freshman Orientation experience — including cutting the length of Orientation in half. We instead propose a couple of simple tweaks to the existing schedule that will both save the Institute money and improve the Orientation experience for students and the campus community.

Moving the Activities Midway back to Tuesday (replacing the Tuesday Night Event) and moving the Greek Griller to late afternoon on Friday will help student groups more effectively recruit, provide FSILGs with an extra half day before classes begin to attract freshmen, and free the MIT administration from having to fund two class-wide events.

The shift in the Midway date will remove a number of obstacles to effective recruitment by student groups. These barriers are more a result of historical accident than intentional design. The Association of Student Activities prohibits student groups from recruiting prior to the Activities Midway, yet this restriction was drawn up back when the Midway was on Tuesday, and it was unintentionally preserved when the Midway moved to Friday. This rule hamstring student groups at their most critical task for survival — recruiting new students. The window between the end of dormitory exploration (REX) on Tuesday afternoon and the beginning of FSILG rush on Saturday is a unique time during which student groups can attract freshmen's attention without needing to worry about competition from better-funded living groups. Unfortunately, the current arrangement closes off all but the last evening of that window, reducing the time groups have to recruit both new freshmen — and graduate students — before classes start.

The Tuesday Night Event — a night of games and activities

organized by a select number of student groups — has helped a bit to counteract this problem by giving those groups a chance to show off for freshmen earlier in Orientation. However, the event has served only as a stopgap measure since participating student groups are still prohibited from formal recruitment. By completely replacing the Tuesday Night Event with the Activities Midway, the problems with the student group recruiting schedule can be fixed simply without the need for changes to the ASA recruitment regulations. Groups would no longer have to awkwardly juggle restrictions at a recruiting-event-in-all-but-name, instead being freed to take full advantage of the lull between dormitory exploration and FSILG rush.

To fill the vacated Friday time, the Greek Griller should be moved from Saturday at noon to late afternoon on Friday, providing yet another opportunity for MIT to further reduce its Orientation budget, while giving freshmen an extra half day to explore FSILGs before classes begin. By allowing rush to begin late Friday afternoon, MIT could offload the task of entertaining freshmen on Friday evening to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups which should be eager and well-equipped to fulfill the task.

The Friday Night Event has, of late, served as simply another large class-wide party and has become one of the most expensive events on the Orientation schedule. Though some in the community may be reluctant to part with this event because of its perceived value in building class unity and in helping to keep the freshmen busy on their first Friday night on campus, we have faith in the FSILG community's dry rush policies and their ability to provide a quality bonding experience for the incoming class.

We therefore call upon the ASA, the Student Activities Office, the Interfraternity Council, the Panhellenic Association, the Living Group Council, and the Office of Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programming to adopt these changes and finally iron out the kinks in MIT's Orientation schedule.

Things That Are Political and Paradoxical

Craig Broady

Ever since Obama visited MIT a few weeks ago, I've been feeling more politically charged. Was it because the President of the United States came to MIT? No. Was it because he delivered an address about MIT's devotion to clean energy? No. Was it because we had an auditorium full of political giants? No. Because MIT scrambled in less than a week to prepare the campus for a presidential visit? Nope. It wasn't that either. So what was it?

I was absolutely appalled by the disrespect and disgraceful sense of self-entitlement so many people showed concerning Obama's visit. I saw so many people who were endlessly complaining about the pedestrian traffic on campus that inconvenienced their usual walking or biking routes. There were people who were pointing out the hypocrisy of Obama's use of a gas-guzzling motorcade and Air Force One to get to a speech about clean energy. Others simply complained about the fact that MIT only got to distribute 200 tickets to the effectively 800 seat auditorium. Some people even went so far as to rant about their inability to access video of Obama's speech.

You may not like Obama. You may not agree with his views. You may not like the direction in which he wants to take the country. But he is the President of the United States. If you dislike something concerning the President, whining about it is completely inappropriate. Especially here at MIT — our motto is "Mind and Hand," not "Mind and Mouth." If you see a problem go out and fix it; don't gripe. And to those who complain about the street closures and influx of visitors during Obama's visit: You were told

ahead of time that roads and sidewalks would be closed and to expect delays due to security.

But beyond all that, the most powerful man in the world decided to visit MIT. You should accept these minor inconveniences. Even if you don't like him, it's an honor. To those claiming Obama was hypocritical by taking Air Force One to his speech, such an argument is flawed. People are not the same — we are not all of equal importance on a world scale. Yes, Obama burned some fossil fuels, but he did so out of necessity and while giving a speech that charged scientists to rid the world of such a necessity. He discussed the Recovery Act that gave an unprecedented amount of money to clean energy research.

Sure, Obama could have done a telecast. But one could also argue that he should never leave the White House. And that no one should use cars in order to reduce carbon emissions. Of course there are always things we can do to be kinder to the environment. But until technology comes along that utilizes clean energy, we shouldn't stop everything we're doing. It's a matter of thresholds, and different people draw the line in different places.

These small acts of disrespect and wrongly-placed self-entitlement are only the tip of the iceberg of the political issues at play.

I don't believe in democracy. It is a bad system. Literally meaning "rule of the people" and interpreted by Jefferson to be "mob-rule," it is basically a source of endless troubles. Thankfully, the United States is not a democracy. We are a constitutional republic that holds democratic elections and votes on propositions. However, there are forces at work that are bringing about a mob-rule mentality to America.

A lot of these issues spawn from people for-

getting the basic purpose of government. Governments were initially formed to protect people's rights to life, liberty, and property. People essentially form a pact with the government. The people say, "You protect me in exchange for some of my rights."

To this end, a person gives up some rights by agreeing to follow the law of the government, set forth to ensure that it can ably protect its citizens. These laws include injunctions against killing and stealing, mandates to pay taxes, among others, all of which are required by the government if it seeks to successfully protect your life, liberty, and property. These taxes go to building roads, providing electricity and water, establishing post offices, libraries, fire departments, police departments, hospitals, schools, transportation systems, and the army; setting up institutions such as healthcare, welfare, and public office; all of which the government deems necessary to best protect you.

If you don't want any part of the pact, you can leave the country. You cannot absolutely reject the pact and still take advantage of the government's systems.

That being said, people are dumb. Why? Everyone thinks they know everything about everything. It's why a 60-something retiree from Minnesota will complain about government healthcare. Does he have a right to voice his opinion? Yes. Is his opinion valid? No. Should it be ignored? Yes. This hypothetical man has no knowledge about healthcare. He has no idea what the proposed system would bring about. He knows nothing about the intricacies and exploitations of our current health insurance system. And yet, he is still vocally opposed to

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Going Beyond Traditional Political Restraints

Alexi Goranov

Criticism of the capitalist state does not equal support for totalitarian socialism.

Our primary responsibility is to fix and improve the economic system in which we exist. From this it follows that the concern of U.S. residents should be with identifying problems and issues with capitalism. Usually, when problems with capitalism are exposed, the counter-argument is made that socialism is full of flaws and is an unsuitable substitute. Some of the criticisms of socialism, as practiced in U.S.S.R. or China, are well deserved, but the argument misses the point. Changing our economic or political system to be more egalitarian and fair for every one, not just those with capital, does not necessarily mean substituting it with a political/economic system that is also tyrannical, albeit for a different reason.

The productive argument is not whether this “-ism” is better than that “-ism,” but finding actual problems that affect people’s lives and acting to remove, or at least alleviate, these problems. Over 40 million people without health insurance constitutes a problem. We could do something about that. Unemployment is in double digits. We could do something about it as well. Foreclosures continue to increase. That is another solvable problem, if we are willing to go after the root causes.

Since I think we should use the same standards regardless of what “-ism” is being discussed, I would agree that communism/totalitarian socialism does not completely satisfy the needs of society, but neither does capitalism. Asking whether this “-ism” or that “-ism” is better is asking the wrong question. What we should be asking is whether there could be something better than either.

Let us qualify the basic human needs. Michael Bakunin, a Russian anarchist, listed three essential needs: economic/animal needs (food, shelter), intellectual needs (to be free to think, create, explore, and satisfy their curiosity), and the desire to rebel at perceived injustices, i.e. liberty (“God and the State”). Let’s assume that his argument is correct and let us take a look at

how totalitarian socialism meets these needs. Economically speaking in the late 1980s, the basic needs were met for the vast majority of the population. Unemployment was low (0.02 percent in Bulgaria in 1991, 2 years after the fall of communism), homelessness was hardly detectable, and literacy was virtually universal. Why were people living in Bulgaria or any of the other communist countries unhappy? The unhappiness and dissidence stem from the intellectual restrictions posed on people, the clear existence of a ruling class in a system that is supposed to promote equality, and more importantly from the fact that people were still not in charge of their own lives. As we know, in totalitarian socialist countries,

the state ordains everything and all the citizens have to do is follow the orders. Needless to say, dissidence is not tolerated in totalitarian states. So totalitarian communism may meet the basic economic criteria but fails the liberty criteria for human needs, as is constantly pointed out.

The story is reversed in the U.S., where liberty is a right, but the cult of accumulating property destroys the chance for a decent existence for a large part of the population. So economic needs are not met for many, but, at least theoretically, people are free. I say theoretically, because we do need to remember how African-American and other dissidents were treated by the FBI program COINTELPRO (*Understanding Power* by Noam Chomsky). We do need to remember that in 1918 a U.S. presidential candidate, Eugene Debs, was arrested and imprisoned for several years for making an anti-war speech (*A People’s History of the United States* by Howard Zinn). Should I mention the recent “Patriot Act”, rendition practices, and illegal wiretaps? It is fair to bring to light the atrocities committed by communist regimes, like Stalin’s, but we should not conveniently forget our own history: genocide against the native Indians, the only nation to use the atomic bomb, the

only nation in the world to be sanctioned by the International Court of Justice for illegal use of force against another state, constituting international terrorism (the case Nicaragua vs U.S.A. was heard in 1986). We also need to remember that the U.S. government supported regimes (in El Salvador, for example) that executed dissidents en masse (*Manufacturing Consent* by Noam Chomsky and Edward Herman). All that being said, we still have more liberty than the people in most other countries.

As a slight digression, it is constantly argued that because the economy of the U.S. was better than that of communist Russia, capitalism is the better and more efficient system, which is true within a narrow sense.

From a scientific standpoint, to meaningfully compare the behavior of two samples under different conditions over time requires that the two samples be identical at the beginning of the experiment. I am not sure how many economists will argue that Russia and the U.S. had the same economic and industrial capacities in 1917. The comparison between “apples and oranges” comes to mind. As a second point, the failures of “large scale” collectivism could be attributed at least in part to the “top-down” organization of the political and economic structure. There are numerous examples of workers wanting to do something but the Kremlin ordering something else (*Anarchism* by Daniel Guerin). In the cases where collectivism worked, it is the workers who were making the decisions, not bureaucrats hundreds of miles away. The problems of famines are inherent in a totalitarian state where there is no free exchange of information (*Propaganda and the Public Mind*, Noam Chomsky). The interesting part is that neighboring capitalist India caused the deaths of many more people over the same period of time. “He [Amartya Sen, Nobel Prize winner in economics] estimates close to four million extra deaths every year in India, which

means that, as he puts it, every eight years in India the number of skeletons in the closet is the same as in China’s moment of shame, the famine,” writes Noam Chomsky in *Propaganda and the Public Mind*.

The recognition of the shortcomings of both capitalism and communism is not new. In 1840, Joseph-Pierre Proudhon in *What is Property?* took the time to warn against communism, while also arguing against property rights. “... Communism, taking uniformity for law and leveling for equality, becomes tyrannical and unjust. Property, by despotism and encroachments, soon shows itself oppressive and unsociable... Each is exclusive; each disregards two elements of society. Communism rejects independence and proportionality; property satisfies neither equality nor law.”

Michael Bakunin, writing three decades after Proudhon, warned against the dangers of the Marxist doctrine, which he saw as despotic because it proposed a political system dominated by a class of people who thought themselves better suited to run public affairs (*God and the State* and *The International and Karl Marx* by Michael Bakunin).

Even more recently, in 1938, Rudolf Rocker argued that “The economic dictatorship of the monopolies and the political dictatorship of the totalitarian state are the outgrowth of the same social objectives, and the directors of both have the presumption to try to reduce all the countless expressions of social life to the mechanical tempo of the machine and to tune everything organic to the lifeless rhythm of the political apparatus. Our modern social system has split the social organism in every country into hostile classes internally, and externally it has broken the common cultural circle up into hostile nations; and both classes and nations confront one another with open antagonism and by their ceaseless warfare keep the communal social life in continual convulsions ... and the constant dread of new wars, which today dominates all peoples, are only the logical consequences of this unendurable condition, which will inevitably lead us to universal catastrophe, if social development does not take a new course soon enough. The mere fact that most states are obliged today to pay from fifty to seventy percent of their annual income for so-called national defense and the liquidation of old war debts is proof of the untenability of the present status, and should make clear to everybody that the alleged protection which the state affords the individual is certainly purchased too dearly” (*Anarcho-Syndicalism Theory and Practice*).

His words ring true even today. Bear in mind that currently the U.S. government is spending between 20 percent and 54 percent on the military, depending on whose expenditure distribution one believes, according to the War Resisters League. To summarize the argument, both capitalism and totalitarian socialism/communism tend to oppress people, but by different means, and to different degrees depending on the individual country.

Is it reasonable, when thinking about how the world should be, to limit ourselves only to existing political and economic systems and assume that nothing better will ever be possible? Do we just accept our reality, be obedient, and simply try to fit in better, disregarding all of the misery and human suffering we witness on daily basis? The directors of our current society would love for us to adopt that attitude! And while we should drop the presumption that if we were to simply adopt this or that strict ideological formulation everything will fall into place in a week, we should continue to look for ways to reach our vision of equality, liberty, and justice for all. As argued by Noam Chomsky, to reach that long-term vision we will have to move one step at a time, setting achievable goals that should take us closer. In his words, “Slogans are easy, but not very helpful when real choices have to be made.”

Alexi Goranov is a postdoc at the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research.

The productive argument is not whether this “-ism” is better than that “-ism,” but finding actual problems that affect people’s lives.

Unchecked Disrespect for Government All Too Common

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what the government is trying to do.

So where does this problem come from? Why are people so angry at the government, with whom they have a pact to protect their rights? Why do people have such a false sense of self-entitlement that makes them think they can launch complaints about issues that know nothing about? Why won’t people live out their lives and let the government do its job? The issues the country faces today are not much different than issues of years ago, but both the government’s and its citizens’ responses to these issues are not as they used to be. Previously (with some exceptions), the citizens would do their jobs and utilize roads, electricity, schools, and other things the government provided. At the same time the government would not be inhibited in providing these services. There existed a mutual beneficial system. The government provided for the people and the people trusted the government to protect them.

But what happened to this trust? One of the key factors in this degrading trust is new media. Twenty-four-hour news networks, readily available access to television and radio, and especially the Internet, which hosts an abundance of political videos, blogs, and news pieces — created by both knowledgeable amateurs and professionals alike. With the death of the newspaper, people turn to TV and the Internet for their news. But there is no longer any unbiased news. News networks are selling entertainment — a distorted reality that does well in the ratings. Glenn Beck is on FOX to rant and cause turmoil. Whatever will get people to get up and get angry is what TV news wants to be a part of.

Then there’s the Internet. For all its utility, it’s causing massive political damage. Not only can news networks put their (biased) information on their accessible-on-demand websites, but anyone with a pulse can give their two cents. So readers are getting incredibly biased opinions and taking them as facts. And for some reason, people think that once they have this “information” they should go out and tell it to other people, shout it at politicians (who are usually quite aware of the issues), and make a fuss because they can. But just because you read an opinion piece on the effects of gay marriage on family values or watched FOX and Friends speak about how Obama is a socialist does not mean that you have any greater understanding of such issues than the actual politicians. So why can’t we just let the politicians do their work?

Try to think back to an election years ago.

Before the internet, before TVs were readily accessible. People found out about the candidates by reading about them in the newspapers or hearing about them in their nightly news broadcast. There was no 24-hour news network covering their every move; no people blogging endlessly about why they personally like or dislike the candidate. Politically charged persons had to work hard to get opinions — they weren’t just shoved in their faces. Now elections are basically a sham. Because candidates are being followed and written about 24/7, they must sell themselves. The candidates no longer truly fight about political issues — they fight for the best public image. They can’t waste time with what’s right or what’s in the people’s best interest, but instead they’re forced to cater to those particularly vocal individuals that think their opinions are fact.

But there’s an even worse problem. Once these candidates are elected and in office, they can’t do anything. Let’s assume we elect a politician who genuinely wants to serve his country. Even if he wants to get something done, he can’t. Everyone is watching every step he makes. Even when he goes to do the smallest thing, he will face immense opposition from the most insignificant people with the most barbarous, uneducated, wrongly self-entitled opinions.

This problem is absolutely disgusting. In a time of crisis like now, the government is being flooded by unhelpful, angry, ignorant citizens that believe they can tell the government what to do. Progress cannot be made, and the coun-

try is slowly being torn apart by these poorly formed opinions. And here we reach the paradox. The Internet and new media, something that could not have been created without the existence of a government such as the one we have, one that protects our rights to life, liberty, and property, is the very thing that is harming the government.

What do we do? The best I can say is to take a breath, America. Don’t be so pompous to think you really know all the issues completely, and don’t cause a raucous simply for the sake of causing an uproar. Put some trust in the government. They’re here to help — that’s why it was created. People should not let the government do whatever it wants to do, but people should let the government do what it should do.

There exist checks and balances within the government. You are not part of those checks and balances. If you let the politicians do their jobs — to protect your rights — and not scrutinize their every move, they’ll have the leeway they need to make progress.

It comes down to this: Do not think you know everything. The government is generally doing what’s best. I assume that it has information that I do not know (and should not be allowed to know), and thus it knows more about the issues than I do. As such, it can make better-informed decisions. It may not be as I make it out to be, but we need some trust here. It would be a good first step to progress.

Craig Broady is a member of the Class of 2012.



UA Update

Senate met on Monday, November 30 for their second special budgetary session during UAS 41. The Senate discussed the budget for the Spring 2010 semester, which is available at <http://ua.mit.edu/finances/>. On Monday, December 7, Senate will be voting on the proposed budget. Pending legislation will also be discussed and voted upon at this meeting, which is the last Senate meeting of the fall semester.

—Elizabeth A. Denys,
UA Secretary General

Steal My Comic

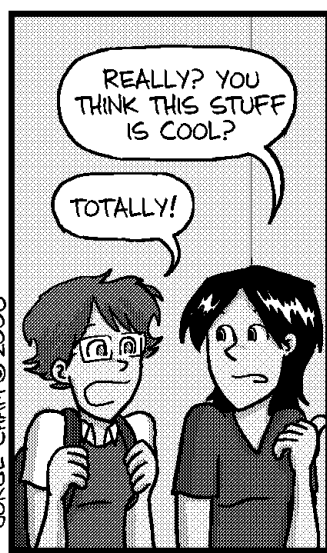
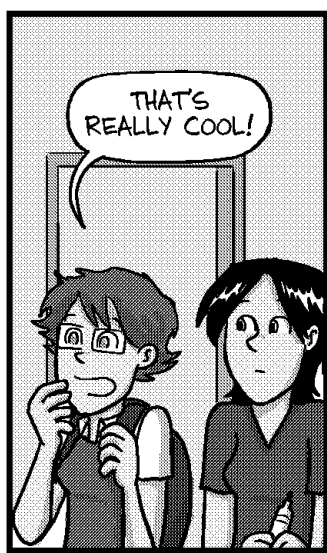
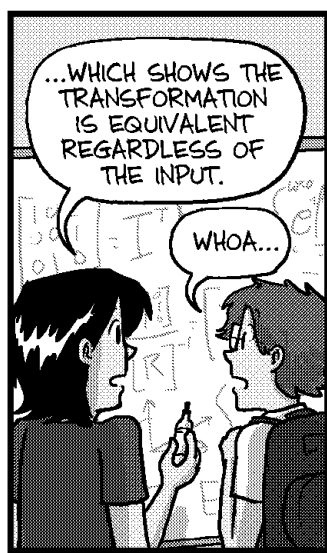
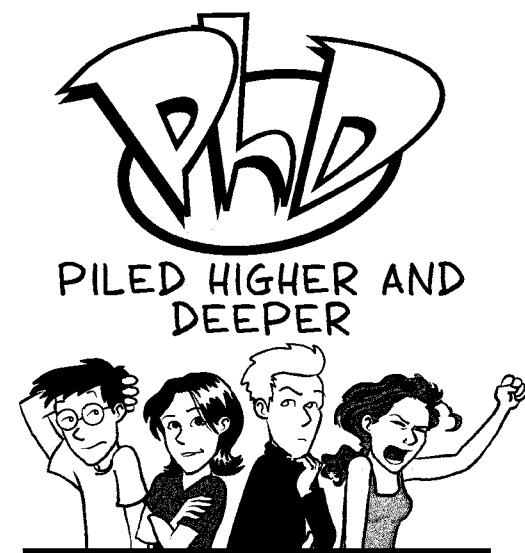
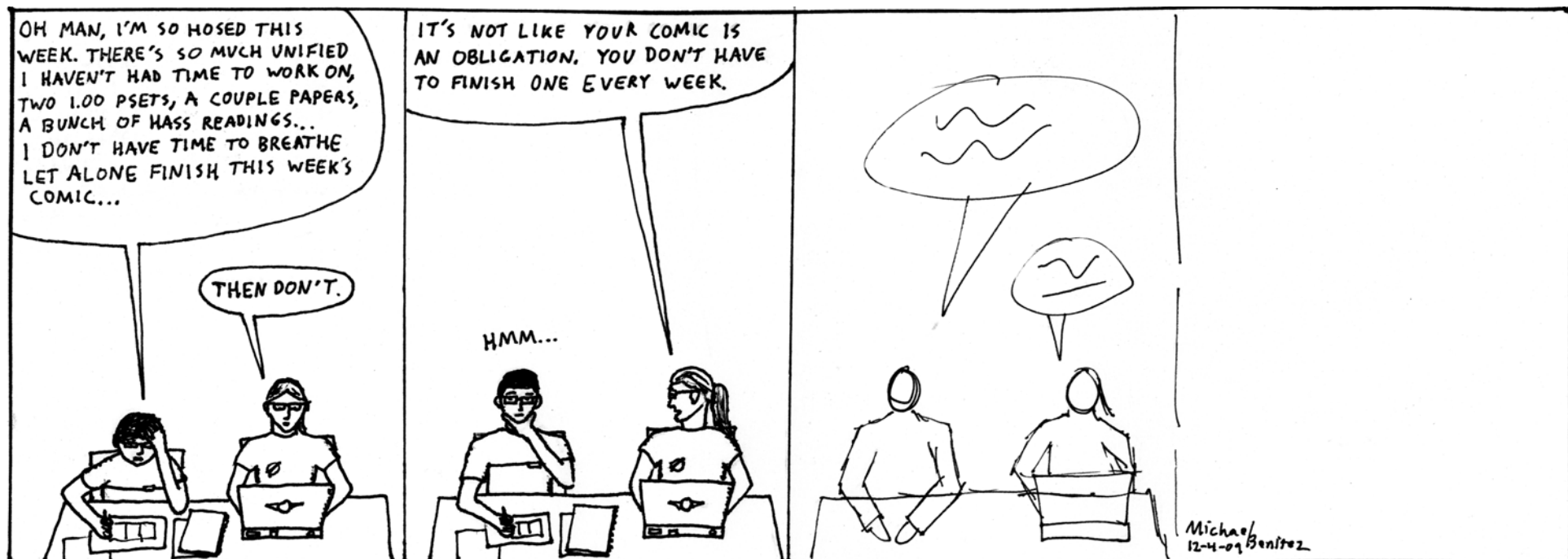
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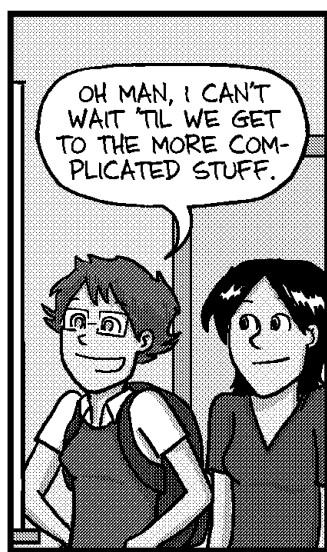
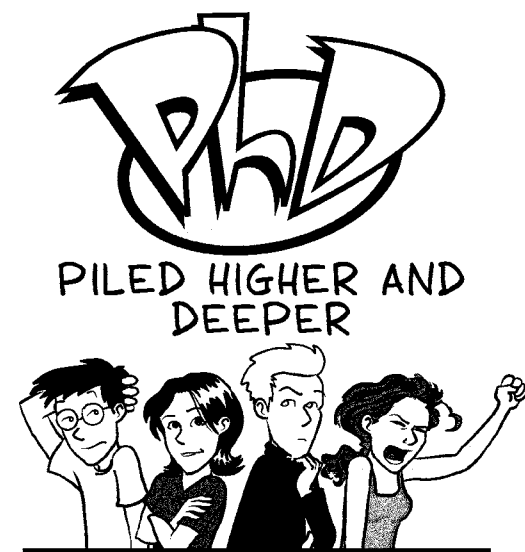
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by Michael Benitez



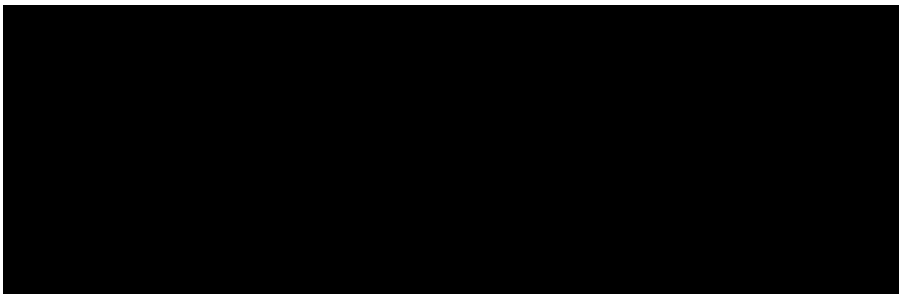
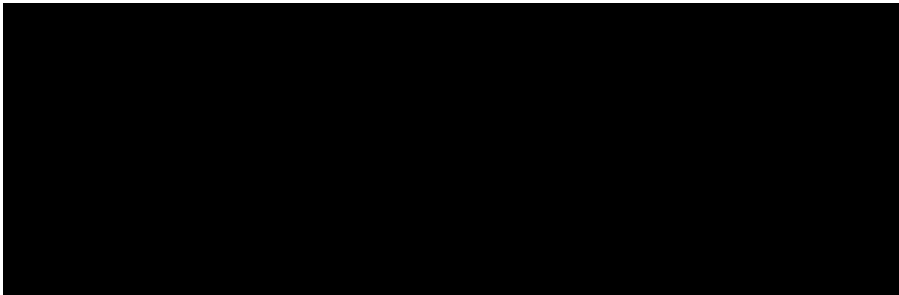
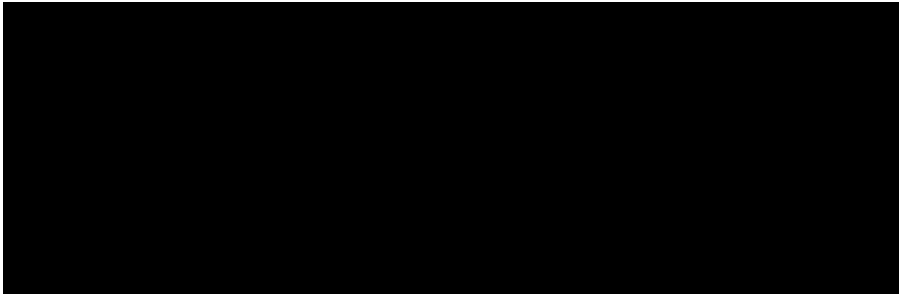
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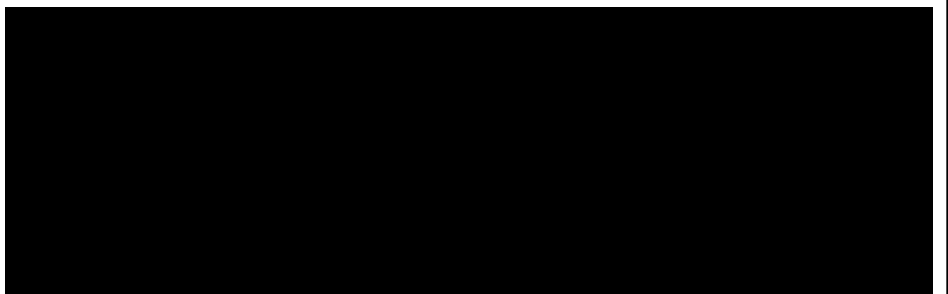
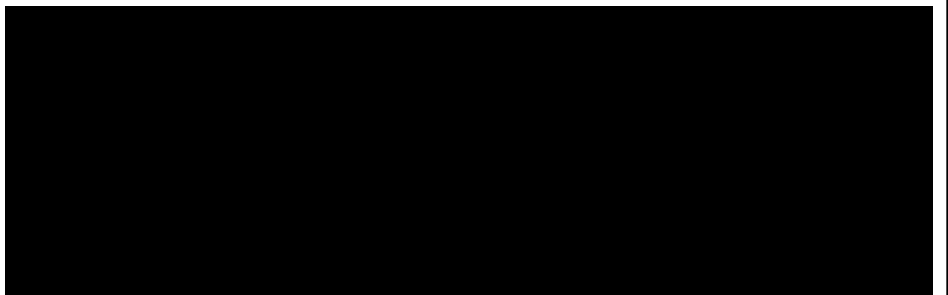
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Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Dilbert® by Scott Adams



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

- 1 Afternoon break
- 7 City on the Cauca River
- 11 Monastic title
- 14 Many a marigold
- 15 Juice letters?
- 16 VCR button
- 17 Takedown by Tinker Bell?
- 19 "Little" 1960s singer
- 20 Former Spanish queen
- 21 "The A-Team" actor
- 22 Vile smile
- 24 Reaction to an amusing porcelain?
- 29 Sought a seat
- 30 Limoges-born impressionist
- 31 Parsley piece
- 34 Mideast carrier
- 36 USSR successor
- 38 Symptom of poor lighting?
- 42 NASDAQ listings
- 43 Military station
- 44 Western prop
- 45 Out in the open
- 48 Title for Roger Moore
- 49 Supermarket group taking a coffee break, perhaps?
- 53 Jersey groups
- 54 Super Bowl played in MMVII
- 55 Expression of satisfaction
- 58 Sporty truck, for short

- 59 Store-brand dill?
- 64 MC's aid
- 65 First name in architecture
- 66 Block
- 67 Pie chart fig.
- 68 Inert gas
- 69 Like some foot bones

DOWN

- 1 Place for gems
- 2 Words with uproar or instant
- 3 Massive old computer
- 4 Baja California __: Mexican state
- 5 Scotland's longest river
- 6 "Gosford Park" director
- 7 Saguaros, e.g.
- 8 Comics cry of disgust
- 9 Cholesterol initials
- 10 Strands at the ski resort, perhaps
- 11 Consequences of some soccer fouls
- 12 Big-time parties
- 13 With it
- 18 Shirt part
- 23 31-Down, e.g.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | | | 15 | | | | 16 | | |
| 17 | | | | | | 18 | | | | 19 | | |
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| 31 | 32 | 33 | | | | 34 | 35 | | | 36 | | 37 |
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| 64 | | | | | 65 | | | | 66 | | | |
| 67 | | | | | 68 | | | | 69 | | | |

- 25 La Salle of "ER" companion?
- 26 Pizza Quick sauce maker
- 27 Scrapbooking, e.g.
- 28 Recount
- 31 Army E-7: Abbr.
- 32 Like some visions
- 33 Bring back into practice
- 34 Cain's eldest son
- 35 Kojak and Crocker: Abbr.
- 37 Sign of a big hit
- 39 Majestic
- 40 Nastase of tennis
- 41 "It Must Be Him" singer Vikki
- 46 Breakfast
- 47 Ease
- 48 "Never mind"
- 49 Haunted house sound
- 50 Former pen pal?
- 51 Court recordkeeper: Abbr.
- 52 "Land __!"
- 56 "The West Wing" Emmy winner
- 57 Achilles' weakness
- 60 Place to start a hole
- 61 Pizarro's quest
- 62 The Monkees' "___ Believer"
- 63 "Kiss of life," briefly

Sudoku

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

Solution, page 13

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

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ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

Sonic Youth's Relentless Rocking

Definitely Old, But Still Defining 'Kool'

By Matt Fisher

STAFF WRITER

Sonic Youth
Wilbur Theater, Boston, MA
November 22, 2009

Sixteen albums and twenty-seven years after the release of their first, self-titled studio album in 1982, Sonic Youth has made a career of wowing crowds all over the world in the promotion of their newest work. Last Sunday, Sonic Youth rocked the older crowd at Boston's strangely arranged Wilbur Theater out of its argyle socks, and proved that having appeared in a tour video named *1991: The Year Punk Broke* does not prevent a band from contemporary greatness.

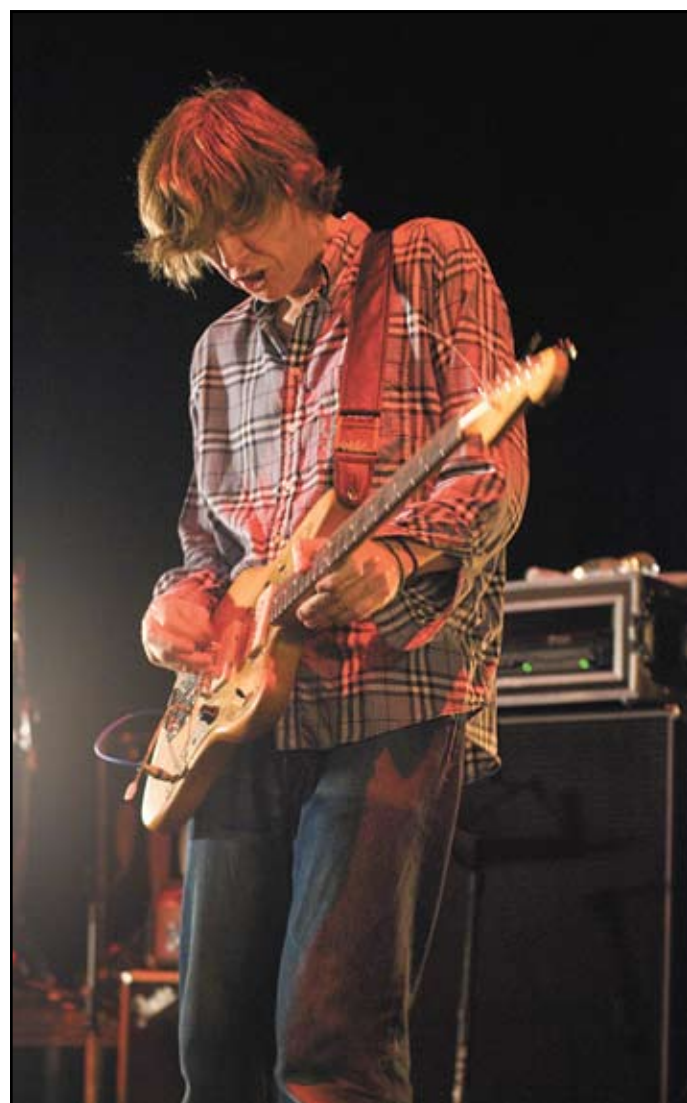
Opening for Sonic Youth, the much-experienced Feelies put on a rollicking show, exhibiting extended, unfiltered-yet-clean guitar sound that excited the crowd far more than the average opener. Formed in 1976, The Feelies influenced many well-known bands until they broke up in 1992 (they reunited only last year). During one of their many prolonged and enjoyable solos, I recognized suddenly how similar they sound to Yo La Tengo, only to immediately realize that, properly, Yo La Tengo probably sounds a lot like The Feelies (the bands' formations were separated by eight years but only 23 miles — the distance from Haledon to Hoboken in New Jersey). Despite the band members' slightly out-of-sync sound, they displayed the same rock essentials that made them one of New York City's favorite underground rock bands during their active years, prompting the crowd to demand a seldom-seen encore from the opening band.

Torturing the audience with an unusually long wait between sets, Sonic Youth arrived to heavy applause, and promptly started their signature stage drunk-walk. Thrashing around as if surrounded by a horde of bees, the band members all managed to maintain their balance while ripping out fifteen songs, ten off of their new album *The Eternal*. A mediocre album by Sonic Youth standards, the album is structured in a wax-wane sequence, starting with the three strongest songs, and ebbing into the slower "Antenna," "What We Know," and "Calming the Snake." The album heats up again before finishing on the meandering, ten-minute epic "Massage the History." Of course, mediocre by Sonic Youth still ranks this album among the best of the year. Performing professionally, Sonic Youth's members all appeared surprisingly engaged — an unexpected bonus from a band that has been touring or almost 30 years.

I was surprised at the discernibility of Sonic Youth's music; I normally relegate Sonic Youth to an "earphone band" — albums saved for extended bus trips necessitating the high volume and headphones that enable one to decipher their intricately grungy tracks. This concert — probably due in part to some talented mixing on behalf of the Sonic Youth roadies and the Wilbur's staff — made me rethink that distinction. Regardless of the cause, Kim Gordon's smoky voice and Thurston Moore's guitar meshed as opposed to mashed, allowing the crowd to discern the lyrics and individual notes, particularly through the older, "classic" Sonic Youth songs the band played for their two encores, including "Cross the Breeze" and "The Sprawl." Having never seen 500 40-year-olds rock out that hard, the concert managed to fulfill the collective longing for some late-80s nostalgia without being slowed by the weight of the history.

A Sonic Youth/Feelies combination concert is conducive to feeling rockosophical: it is easy to write about Sonic Youth's beginnings in the "Do It Yourself" punk movement, or about their impact on rock — both indie and mainstream — in the years following their monumental releases like *Goo* and *Daydream Nation*, but to me, the most interesting aspect of this concert is less retrospective. Unlike other big names in rock, Sonic Youth continues to tour with new, solid material. By not resting on their laurels and merely playing their greatest hits, they have shown that some rock bands can, with great talent, neither burn out nor fade away. This phenomenon of aging rockstars is fascinating as it is essentially new in our generation. To view the data: The Velvet Underground broke up after writing essentially 30 songs 4 different ways; The Rolling Stones released new music in '97 and '05, but neither sounded any different than their earlier work, and despite wild financial success, met some critical failure; The Beatles — well, let's just not get into that. The history of progressive rock is littered with the bookends of talented bands, the albums that you look back on and say to yourself, "this was the last album where they tried."

Sonic Youth has somehow managed to escape this fate, and following few other luminaries — the late, great Johnny Cash comes to mind — continues to create new albums that easily compete with some of their earlier work (here, specifically, I am referring to *Sonic Nurse*, which kicked ass). As much as I regret not having been able to see them in 1992, I feel positive that in twenty years, the distinction between their work in the nineties and their more recent recordings will have blurred. All I can hope is that we merit more other superb albums.



S. BALAJI MANI—THE TECH

Guitarist and vocalist Thurston Moore shreds on one of his many Fender Jazzmasters. Throughout the show Moore switched guitars to cover all the alternate tunings required for the Sonic Youth repertoire.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★½ / 4

'Red Cliff' — An Epic of Chinese Philosophy

An Intimate View Into China's History

By Jenny Xie

Red Cliff

Directed by John Woo

Written by John Woo, Chen Han & Sheng

Heyu

Starring Tony Leung, Takeshi Kaneshiro, and

Zhang Fengyi

Rated R

Now Playing

Blockbusters these days run on one platform. There are heroes and villains, honesty and deceit, escalating action and affection, and a grand purpose at stake. Flashback to the summer of 2008: America's box-office triumph *The Dark Knight* was China's record-breaking *Red Cliff*. The Joker could be Cao Cao, the power-hungry chancellor war-mongering in an otherwise content land. Batman and Harvey Dent could be Zhou Yu and Liu Bei, the morally righteous leaders trying to stop Cao Cao. The characters trick and threaten, manipulate romance, and the fate of Gotham City translates into the fate of the Chinese Kingdoms. There is really no

point in concealing the ending: in either film, you learn that there is no winner or loser, but only a volatile society and uncertain peace. You might ask, then, what's the point? No doubt, *Red Cliff* delivers the same edge-of-your-seat gutsy thrill and suspense *The Dark Knight* does, but this film's unique value comes from its insight into a lasting Chinese school of culture and philosophy.

Red Cliff, drawn from the historical records of the Three Kingdoms, enlivens one of the bloodiest periods in Chinese history. In 208 CE, China is split into three states under three different leaders: Cao Cao (Zhang Fengyi), Liu Bei (You Yong), and Sun Qian (Chang Chen); one land under multiple men naturally leads to agitation and a risky balance between offensive and defensive action by each kingdom. The film traces each leader's careful decision to go to war, the formation of alliances and strategies, and one woman's power to keep each party vested in winning the battle.

At the roots of the suspenseful plots concocted in *Red Cliff* are philosophical princi-



COURTESY OF MAGNET RELEASING

A determined and cunning Xiao Qiao (Chiling Lin) confronts her husband's enemy, Cao Cao, to make peace and stall time.

ples grounded in ancient China. Early on, Liu Bei gives up a possible path of attack in order to evacuate his loyal villagers. This focus on loyalty resurfaces as Cao Cao's men are startled every time their outnumbered opponents return to battle. In fact, one fundamental Chinese principle is that you do not necessarily need overpowering numbers to win a war — you just need cleverness. This cleverness thoroughly manifests in Zhu Ge Liang (Takeshi Kaneshiro) — Liu Bei's chief strategist who "reads" the sky, the earth, and the people in order to devise methods to outsmart Cao Cao. In a critical battle, Zhu Ge Liang wisely advises Zhou Yu (allied with Liu Bei) to use a fire attack based on a key observation that the cloud formations signify a favorable change in wind direction. Soon after, Zhu Ge Liang uses nature again by predicting the onset of fog. In fact, Zhu Ge Liang's seemingly perfect control of the skies seems rather unrealistic; what are the chances that the wind changes and fog shows up just when Zhu Ge Liang needs it?

Such exaggerated incidents only serve to emphasize the basic tenet that if one can under-

stand nature, one can win a battle — literally. Furthermore, when Zhu Ge Liang is seeking alliance from Zhou Yu, he attains an answer from a tense but passionate string instrument duet with the viceroy. Zhu's ability to silently gauge another's willingness to fight is representative of the acuity honored in Chinese philosophy. In such ways, *Red Cliff* stimulates the audience with thousand-year principles that remain relevant today.

With so much subtle observation going on, as well as Zhu Ge Liang's surreptitious smirks left and right, suspense is overflowing. Who is telling the truth? Who is going to make a mistake? Will this tactic work? How will the other side respond? You can only experience the suspense by viewing the film yourself. And a final note: as expected from a high-budget Chinese film, cinematography in *Red Cliff* is breathtaking — from the opening scene with a thousand horses to panoramic views of the tallest mountains and longest rivers, the visuals successfully characterize the value of this vast nation all the kingdoms are fighting for. It's a film for the enthusiast of nature and a population.



COURTESY OF MAGNET RELEASING

Zhao Yun (Jun Hu), the dignified warrior who saves his emperor's infant son from slaughter, braves combat with a loyal legion.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★½ / 4

After End of Time, Father and Son Follow 'The Road'

Another Look Into the Post-Apocalypse

By Sun Kim

STAFF WRITER

The Road

Directed by John Hillcoat

Based on the novel by Cormac McCarthy

Starring Viggo Mortensen and Kodi Smit-McPhee

Rated R

Now Playing

Scrawled in spray paint, "Behold ... the Valley of Slaughter" serves as an ominous warning before the director lowers his lens into the desolation of bleak hopelessness and human depravity. *The Road*, based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel of the same name written by Cormac McCarthy (*No Country for Old Men*), focuses on an unnamed father (played by Viggo Mortensen) and his son (played by Kodi Smit-McPhee) as they struggle for survival after a previous cataclysmic event wipes out most of the life on Earth. Those remaining must scrounge around for supplies as they encounter impending perils, such as dwindling health, the unforgiving elements, and cannibals. The father is driven to lead the pair to the coast, hoping there will be other "good people" like them.

Most of the scenes in the film lack brightness and hue, and the colors are subdued, diluted away to emphasize the drained surroundings the camera sees. Contrasting scenes with light are depicted as flashbacks that show the viewer

a happier time, with piano playing, flowing sundresses, and vibrant flower gardens. There are also not so happy flashbacks that include the wife's unwillingness to bring the son to term, bitter thoughts of agonized existence, and eventually suicide. Most of the film consists of melancholy shots of desolate forests and towns (the backdrop for much of the filming was Pennsylvania) while interspersing various plot devices to develop McCarthy's story. The director strings these shots and plot devices rather slowly, pacing the film such that the audience's attention is held but not too strongly.

Although I had several issues with the plot, I cannot take them up here (because I haven't read the novel, but I assume the film is a faithful adaptation). The film is painfully slow, almost like the dragged out debilitation of Mortensen over the course of the movie. Much care is taken to make sure every grimace, open wound, and obvious emotional response of despair is painstakingly detailed. Most of it is gratuitous and pointless, which is frustrating for much of the film.

As a rumored contender for various Academy Awards, *The Road* is a mediocre film at best. The strong suit of the film is Mortensen's acting. He provides a quiet emotional power as he leads his son through difficult passages. His display of moral ambiguity is especially exciting to watch as he interacts with his provokers with increasing brutality with the progressing degradation of his mind and body. I can foresee a Best Actor



MACALL POLAY—2929/DIMENSION FILMS

Viggo Mortensen and Kodi Smit-McPhee star in John Hillcoat's *The Road*, based on Cormac McCarthy's Pulitzer Prize winning novel.

nomination for Mortensen as he embodies a living skeleton, in body and spirit. In his acting debut, Smit-McPhee provides a refreshing contrast to the doom and gloom of *The Road*, proving that hope, innocence, and goodwill can exist in the absence of law and order. The father teaches his son about the perils in their lives, reminiscent of the film *The Pursuit of Happiness*, with the similar theme of the father-son journey.

It goes without saying that the movie is grim,

sometimes violently so. Humans are locked in storage cellars for slaughter. Hanging corpses sway with frigid gusts. The road is paved with slush and debris of a previous world. Despite this desolation, a feather of hope provides enough optimism to persevere in any circumstance. As an analogy for life, the film presents the fears and dangers of everyday existence as mounting obstacles, yet the flicker of hope we find carries us forward.

The MIT Gilbert And Sullivan Players Present 'The Mikado'



The MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players present *The Mikado*, which will be performed this Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. They will repeat the performance on December 12 and 13.

(left) Koko (David S. Rolnick '12) is hoping for a kiss from his unwilling bride-to-be, Yum-Yum (Julie Lauren Stevens)

(top-right) Yum-Yum, played by Julie Lauren Stevens, is joined by her sisters Pitti-Sing (Virginia K. Quaney '10) and Peep-Bo (Sarah E. Flowers '12).

(middle-right) The townspeople of Titipu gather to celebrate the love of Yum-Yum (Julie Lauren Stevens) and Nanki-Poo (Barratt Park G) at the end of Act I.

(bottom-right) Pooh-Bah (Dan Salomon), Koko (David S. Rolnick '12), and Pish-Tush (Jonathan Nussman) (left to right) receive an alarming message from the Mikado (Johari Frasier '13).

Photography by Elijah Mena



CONCERT REVIEW

Falling Out of Love, Italian Style

The MIT Chamber Chorus Performs Italian Madrigals

By Sudeep Agarwala

STAFF WRITER

MIT Chamber Chorus
William Cutter, Conductor
Kresge Auditorium, Cambridge, MA
November 21, 2009

Far more than being in love, falling out of love seems to be a popular topic of music. Various iterations of the break-up song have been written for nearly two thousand years and set to music for a far shorter time, never more cleverly and expressively than the Italian masters nearly five hundred years ago. The MIT Chamber Chorus provided a glimpse into the panoply of techniques and expositions of these musicians.

The newly-enamored were certainly invited, but the concert seemed especially geared towards the lovelorn, both chronic and temporary. Saturday evening's concert descended from bliss to desolation in three parts. The first, *First Love / Infatuation*, presented a romantic love at its happiest, reveling in lust and romantic infatuation. As in life, this too could not last: Saturday's concert continued to the *Disillusioned / Confused* portion of

the program; poignant, moving portrayals of yearning jilted lovers that resolve in despair. The ensemble came to the inevitable conclusion of all things related to love, performing madrigals that could be described as nothing other than *Bitter / Hateful*: vengeful, acerbic textures and harmonies replaced the once-blissful optimism of romantic love.

Saturday's musical journey was particularly well-presented. Madrigals are difficult pieces to perform: there's many ways to skin the cat and many of them seem to work, although each of them lend their own subtleties. Full ensemble performances of works by Phillipe de Monte, Vincenzo Bellavere Claudio Monteverdi, Luca Marenzio, Gaiches de Wert, and Carlo Gesualdo were performed with a surprisingly supple touch, the relatively large ensemble responding remarkably sensitively to subtle changes in time signature, dynamic and mood. Small ensemble per-

formances were none different, yet offered a sharp contrast in texture and mood: groups of three or four performers negotiated the often-harrowing harmonic landscape in remarkably intimate and sensitive interpretations of the works of the Italian school of madrigal composition.

Perhaps most interesting of Saturday's concert was the collection of solo pieces performed by the ensemble's members, accompanied by Karen Harvey on the piano. Although not necessarily of the Renaissance period (in

addition to the sixteenth century Caccini, Baroque, Classical and even *bel canto* composers made brief appearances throughout the evening), these solo works offered yet another texture narrating the dramatic tale underlying Saturday's concert. In addition to nuanced and informed performances by Adrianna Tam '11 (Alto), Nozomi Ando '01 (Soprano), Jason Ku G (Tenor), Thomas Coffee G (Baritone),

and Huan Zheng G (Soprano), solo work by Yelena Bagdasarova '10 (Soprano) deserves special mention — a remarkably moving interpretation of Alessandro Scarlatti's *Caldo Sangue* that managed to garner genuine emotion against the harrowing technical acrobatics of the music.

Carlo Gesualdo's stunningly tormented *Languisco e moro* (a stunning performance of a beautiful work, repeated as an encore) ended Saturday evening's descent from first love to acrimonious disillusionment. Gesualdo's extended harmonic language highlights chromatic tensions that resolve to their unexpected conclusions almost as erotic release. It is only to the Chamber Choir's credit that the work came as alive as it did. Gesualdo's work is tragic, to say the least, but after an evening of bitter disappointment and loss, Gesualdo's madrigal introduced a faint glimmer of joy; playing with the Renaissance imagery of fatality as sexual climax, Gesualdo's madrigal seemed to whisper at the conclusion of Saturday evening's concert: "Now should you be merciful, it is sweet to die."

If only all our most trying exploits ended so well.

Saturday's musical journey was particularly well-presented. Madrigals are difficult pieces to perform: there's many ways to skin the cat.

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CONCERT REVIEW

Doomsday in Paradise

Elvis Perkins in Dearland Celebrate The End

By Charles Y. Lin

SENIOR EDITOR

Elvis Perkins in Dearland
Paradise Rock Club, Boston, Mass.
November 30, 2009

ANew York City native leading a New Orleans-inspired funeral dirge, playing from the Sacred Harp and preaching doomsday at the hipster infested Paradise Club. Discombobulating? Circuitous? Consider it just another detour on the remarkable career of Elvis Perkins and his band Dearland.

For Perkins, it's been a long journey through a formative past punctuated by tragic loss. Perkins lost his father to AIDS in 1992 and his mother in the 9/11 attacks. And though he rarely broaches this subject in his work or interviews, he has admitted that these events have deeply shaped his music and life.

To hear an Elvis Perkins in Dearland concert is to experience not the funeral, but the resurrection. Perkins sings of doomsday, the bombs, the goodbyes, the cemeteries, and the loneliness — all that sad stuff. But filtered through him and his band, it somehow sounds triumphant, more a call to celebrate than to grieve.

Playing Monday night at the Paradise Rock Club, Perkins and his band infused their set with momentum and vibrancy, starting from the opening number when the entire band marched through the audience and then assembled on stage dancing like madmen. With fast moving bass lines and eerie aural injections of brass, strings, and accordion, the able hands of Elvis Perkins in Dearland made mourning become electric. (I've been waiting 8 years to appropriately use this pun) and the crowd responded all evening, eventually summoning a second encore, despite Perkins's ailing vocal chords.

If death and rebirth are Perkins's thematic base, then New Orleans is his stylistic muse. He draws equally from the gospel and voodoo of the Big Easy and his songs are laced with a decadent timelessness that evokes opulence and decay. His warbling whispered singing plays a ghostly accompaniment to the funeral marching band around him.

But it's not all black suits and veils. Elvis Perkins in Dearland never plod along. They never seem weighted down by a casket. Yes, bodies are being buried, and, yes, mortality hangs like a damp rag, but Perkins never seems to get the memo, as he triumphantly proclaimed in his second number. "It's the cemetery of the century, but hey it was a starry day."

With his thumb on his nose, Perkins made a poor pallbearer. "I don't let doomsday bother me. Do you let it bother you?" he insisted. That resilience in the face of all the sad stuff, is the nucleus of Perkins's joy, and why his music is so morbidly infectious. It is the singular element that turns his songs into celebrations and makes you not forget about death, but for a brief moment laugh in its face.

This is the band that I want playing when they lower my bones. At least then there will be dancing.

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OPERA REVIEW

Love and Loss in Arcadia

A Breathtaking Version of Handel's 'Acis and Galatea'

By Sudeep Agarwala

STAFF WRITER

Boston Early Music Festival Chamber Opera
Jordan Hall, Boston, MA
November 28, 2009

Of the fifteen books of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, the story of Acis and Galatea occupies less than two hundred lines of a single book: the mortal Acis and the nymph Galatea are in love, but the cyclops Polyphemus (yes, that Polyphemus, the one from the *Odyssey*; he, like most everything else, also has a back-story) is in love with Galatea too. As these things go, Galatea rebukes him and Polyphemus, understandably upset, expresses his rage in the only way he knows how: he crushes Acis with a boulder. Ovid completes the metamorphic tale on a light note, where Galatea, in her grief, immortalizes her lover by turning him into a river. The story, the plot all imitate dozens of others in the work, enough so that it seems like this one was another in a series of filler material Ovid had prepared to pad his tome.

But triviality, it seems, is what great works take for their fodder and George Frederick Handel's 1718 setting of Ovid's story was poised to become just that. James Brydges (recently remarried to the wealthy Cassandra Willoughby) spared no expense on *Acis and Galatea*, the last opera Handel would write for private commission: the libretto was written by John Gay and to a lesser extent, John Hughes and Alexander Pope (authors who manage to torture high school students to this day); the music, was exclusively written by Handel who was gaining considerable celebrity on the London stage.

Under the stage direction of Gilbert Blin, Saturday evening's performance of Handel's *Acis and Galatea* by the Boston Early Music Festival Chamber Opera Series set Arcadia in Brydges's parlor and featured members of this cast of eighteenth-century celebrity as players in Handel's setting of the work. Jordan Hall's magnificent ornamental stage hosted a player

stage Saturday evening littered with a chamber orchestra receiving music and notes from none other than Handel, who would later play the part of the shepherd Damon. John Gay and the disfigured Alexander Pope, later to play the shepherd Corydon and the cyclops Polyphemus, respectively, were there too, scribbling notes throughout the entire performance. All these characters were neatly framed around the lovers James Brydges, as Acis, and Cassandra Willoughby, as Galatea.

In addition to the exciting cognitive dissonances presented in the setting, Saturday's performance presented other exciting features. The action unfolded with Douglas Williams, as Polyphemus, attempting to seduce Teresa Wakim (stepping in for the billed Amanda Forsythe) as Galatea with a ravishing recitation of one of Pope's own pastoral poems (Handel had already set parts of this poem in his opera *Semele*). As Polyphemus was rebuked and the two parted ways, the ensemble cracked into a dizzying performance of the overture, baptizing an intensely exciting evening of music: tenor Aaron Sheehan as the love-lorn James Brydges/Acis produced a dramatic and well rounded sound, an apt counterpoint to soprano Teresa Wakim as the equally smitten Cassandra Willoughby/Galatea who graced the stage with a sparkling, flexible instrument. Douglas Williams as Alexander Pope/Polyphemus, although sometimes appearing destabilized while negotiating the drama of the work, was regardless impeccable in his vocal technique filling the space with rich circles of deeply satisfying sound.

It was a pity not to hear more from Damon and Corydon; tenor Jason McStoots, as Handel/Damon, initially produced a somewhat stilted, stiff sound that remained largely agnostic to Handel's melismatic passages. McStoots later came into the role during his second act air *Consider, fond Shepard*, where his satin tone inveighed the full brute force of reason against Polyphemus's rage.

Tenor Zachary Wilder, as Gay/Corydon, was clearly the hidden talent of Saturday eve-

ning's performance. Every Handel opera seems to have this solitary moments of pathos: after Polyphemus, just finished fuming over rejected love, storms in a d minor aria (*Cease to Beauty to be singing*), it is Corydon, composed voice of conciliation, that enters in a subtle F major air (*Would you gain the tender Creature*). The movement is arresting in its contrast — a juxtaposition of rage and reason, of conviction and pathos that makes Handel not only the composer he is, but also a supreme dramatist. It is incredibly difficult to describe Wilder's achievement at this point in the opera: how easy to over-sing, to trample on the delicate construction Handel consummates. And although Wilder's radiant tone was successful in delivering the aria, it was in the intellectual treatment of the moment that where he achieved noteworthy greatness: in addition to his considerable abilities as a musician, it was the attenuated drama steeped with subtle tones of nostalgia that brought the complexities of this moment home.

The same can be said, in general, of Saturday's performance of *Acis and Galatea*. Ensemble work was impeccable, stamped and sealed by the unmistakable thumbprint of accomplished musicians. But it was the minutiae that made the work noteworthy. Translating eighteenth century sensibilities to the modern era is difficult and often leads to ruin; aesthetics change and ideas on performance practice are almost always inconstant. But framing the drama in the context of real-life characters is



COURTESY OF DAVID WALKER

Teresa Wakim as Galatea and Douglas Williams as Polyphemus perform *Acis and Galatea*, one of Handel's operas, as part of the Boston Early Music Festival Chamber Opera Series.

more than clever, it makes the work obtainable; that, yes, though pastorals are somewhat awkward constructions for various feats of literature, it's easy to forget that the drama, the action, the emotions that are portrayed there are very real things that motivate thoughts and actions in the modern world.

Saturday's performance was preceded by a pre-concert lecture by Ellen Harris, an informed analysis and survey of the history of Handel's work. Boston Early Music Festival continues its season on January 30, with a performance by the Icelandic ensemble *Sequentia*.

CD REVIEW

Digital Primitives: Playing 'Out' with a Compass

Latest Album 'Hum, Crackle & Pop' a Return to Roots for Free Jazz

By Samuel Markson

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Digital Primitives
Hum, Crackle & Pop
Produced by Assif Tsahar
Hopscotch Records
September 22, 2009

The world of free jazz can be a harsh place, a radical, norm-destroying battleground, with the players, in their attempt to create something original, spending a lot of time focusing on tearing down the old. All that chopping and carving and shaping can turn a collaboration into a pile of dust if you aren't careful. The solution: focus on the basics.

Enter Digital Primitives. They might be a new strain of avant-soul; mixing the Southern gospel rootsiness of Cooper Moore, playing off the Dolphyesque wails of Assif Tsahar, all laid over the minimalist syncopated textures of percussionist Chad Taylor, the Digital Primitives

represent a new, interesting force on the New York free jazz scene. They use a bit more space than a lot of other groups, but do so without losing any of their drive. True to their name, they are fresh, exact, analytical, and born of the internet age, while still tied to more primal jazz/blues roots. It's free jazz grounded in soul.

Their sound is inherently minimalist. The high level of space, compared to a lot of other noise on the scene today, affords each player a lot of individuality, and space to flaunt their own background and sound. Take vocalist/multi-instrumentalist/quasi-frontman Cooper Moore. Raised in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia amid the latter half of the Jim Crow era, his playing (and singing — he intones a jazz-sermon in "The

Sermon" questioning, then affirming the people's rights) carries a from-the-pulpit feel, an empowered, unrushed drone. Throughout the album, Moore uses more than a few instruments, including the diddly-bo and mouth-bow, both traditional, if rare, centerpieces of Appalachian blues, both built by Moore himself (Moore is known for constructing many of his own instruments; he is quoted in the *Jerusalem Post* as saying "I have taken

stuff out [sic] a dumpster to make an instrument which I have used at gigs"). He's a bastion of simple, self-sufficient bluesiness amid a jazz scene that too easily becomes absorbed with displays of chops, where young virtuosos are all brought up with expensive horns, and rising stars expect their instruments to be custom.

Jazz is, or should be, more than an exercise in sonic permutation, and Cooper Moore reminds us of that.

Cooper Moore has paid his dues with the blues, and as such his free playing is less pretentious, more honest than other young guys who might be more "technically" brilliant (whatever that means). Jazz is, or should be, more than an exercise in sonic permutation, and Cooper Moore reminds us of that.

That being said, a lot of Moore's work wouldn't mean that much without Tsahar, Moore's frequent collaborator over the past two decades. Assif Tsahar, moving to New York City in 1990 from Israel to play on the jazz scene there, brings in a sensitive aspect to the album. His tone is moderate, constrained, while still exploring the more bizarre tonalities expressible on a sax or clarinet. He plays out, but texturally. It's exotic, and his non-American background seems to color the music in a way that American players couldn't.

The ensemble is rounded out by Chad Taylor on drums, a player with a funky groove, at times reminiscent of Billy Martin (from Medeski, Martin and Wood).

Space Is Hard, ASA Tells Tech

ASA Space, from Page 1

office space somehow got overlooked." Groups will have just under one week to submit appeals to the ASA. Those appeals are due at noon on Thursday, December 10.

Groups requesting space

Groups who do not have space but requested space were divided into two categories, those requesting office space and those requesting locker space. Within those categories, groups are prioritized as A, B, or C, with all A groups gaining space before any B group, and all B groups gaining space before any C group.

For office space, there are 3 A priority, 8 B priority, and 13 C priority.

For locker space, there are 18 A priority, 7 B priority, and 9 C priority.

Space discussion

Meyer emphasized that the difficulty this year, as always, is in allocating the finite amount of space available to student groups at MIT. There are always more groups who want space, but the amount of space stays about the same.

Meyer said that some small spaces in Walker Memorial that were previously used by the Campus Activities Complex may become available. "It's small but it counts for something!" she said.

Meyer also hopes that space in N52 being vacated by the Visual Arts Program as they move to the Media Lab Extension might be available to student groups.

On the other hand, there has been no formal discussion of N52 with the Committee for Review of Space Planning (CRSP, pronounced "crisp"), nor with the space administrators in the Provost's Office, Meyer said, "yet."

Requests from Groups with Space

X
(Will stay in same space. Roommates may be swapped)

- African Students Association
- Amnesty International
- APO
- ARCTAN
- Asian Baptist Student Koinonia
- Assassins' Guild
- Ballroom Dance Club
- Black Women's Alliance
- Brain Trust
- Caribbean Club
- Caving Club
- Concert Band
- Dance Troupe
- ESP
- Filipino Students Association
- Gilbert & Sullivan Go Club
- Guild of Bellringers
- Hapa
- Hawaii Club
- Hellenic Students' Association
- Hindu Students Council
- Korean Students Association
- Lindy Hop Society
- Logarithms

- LSC
- Malaysian Students Association
- Marching Band
- MITOC
- MITSFS
- Mocha Moves
- Dance Squad
- Model United Nations
- Movements in Time
- Oori
- Persian Students Association
- Radio Society
- WIMX
- Scuba Club
- Snowriders
- Societo por Esperanto
- Stop Our Silence
- Strategic Games Society
- Tango Club
- Technique Yearbook
- UA
- UHF Repeater Assn.
- Voo Doo Magazine

- Chorallaries
- Cross Products
- Debate Team
- Energy Club
- European Club
- Folk Dance Club
- How to GAMIT
- IFC
- Lab for Chocolate Science
- Lion Dance Group
- Pagan Students' Group
- Panhel
- SCA (Mitgaard)
- SEDS
- Shakespeare Ensemble
- Student Cable Group
- SWE
- Tech Squares
- Techiya
- Thai Students at MIT
- The Tech
- Toons

Y
(May move to similar space)

- Anime Club
- Assoc. of Taiwanese Students
- Ballroom Dance Team
- Chinese Students Club

Z
(May lose space)

- Chess Club
- Design for Change
- Engineers Without Borders
- MURJ
- Resonance
- Ridonkulous
- Rune
- Sangam
- SEBC

New Office Space Requests

A priority:

- DormCon
- MIT Live Music Connection
- shared a cappella sound

B priority:

- Asian Christian Fellowship
- Camp Kesem
- Chess Club
- ESP (additional storage)
- MITOC (additional room)
- MURJ
- OrigaMIT
- Rune

C priority:

- Africa Information Technology Initiative
- Colleges Against Cancer
- Japanese Association
- Latter-day Saint Student Association
- Leadership Training Institute
- MIT Film Cooperative
- MIT STAND
- Resonance
- SEBC

H.M.'s Brain Dissection

By Benedict Carey
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN DIEGO

Researchers at UCSD are dissecting the brain of amnesia patient H.M. and streaming live video of the process online. The process began on Wednesday and can be viewed online at <http://thebrainobservatory.ucsd.edu/> through today.

Henry Molaison, referred to as H.M., developed amnesia in 1953 after undergoing an experimental surgery to treat epilepsy. Scientists at MIT, including MIT Professor Suzanne H. Corkin, have studied H.M. since 1966 to gain insight into how the brain forms memories. Molaison died last December at the age of 82.

The man who could not remember has left scientists a gift that will provide insights for generations to come: his brain, now being dissected and digitally mapped in exquisite detail.

Molaison — known during his lifetime only as H.M., to protect his privacy — lost the ability to form new memories after a brain operation in 1953, and over the next half century he became the most studied patient in brain science.

He consented years ago to donate his brain for study, and last February Dr. Jacopo Annese, an assistant professor of radiology at the University of California, San Diego, traveled across the country and flew back with the brain seated next to him on Jet Blue.

Just after noon on Wednesday, on the first anniversary of Molaison's death at 82 from pulmonary complications, Annese and fellow neuroscientists began painstakingly

slicing their field's most famous organ. The two-day process will produce about 2,500 tissue samples for analysis.

A computer recording each sample will produce a searchable Google Earth-like map of the brain with which scientists expect to clarify the mystery of how and where memories are created — and how they are retrieved.

"Ah ha ha!" Annese said, as he watched a computer-guided blade scrape the first shaving of gray matter from Molaison's frozen brain. "One down, 2,499 more to go."

"It's just amazing that this one patient — this one person — would contribute so much historically to the early study of memory," said Dr. Susumu Tonegawa, a professor of neuroscience at the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory. "And now his brain will be available" for future study.

Good fortune and very bad luck conspired to make Molaison one of science's most valuable resources and most productive collaborators. Growing up in and around Hartford, Conn., he began to suffer seizures as a boy. The seizures grew worse after he was knocked to the ground by a bicycle rider, and by the time he was 26 they were so severe he consented to an experimental brain operation to relieve them.

His doctor, the prominent brain surgeon William Beecher Scoville, suctioned out two slug-sized slivers of tissue, one from each side of the brain. The operation controlled the seizures, but it soon became clear that the patient could not form new memories.

ASA Locker Space Requests

A priority:

- Active Minds
- Applied Buddhism
- Asian Christian Fellowship
- Casino Rueda Group
- Chess Club
- Chinese Ensemble
- Easy Rider
- Global Poverty Initiative
- Habitat for Humanity
- Imobilare

- MIT Quidditch Team
- MURJ
- OrigaMIT
- Rune
- Sangam
- Traders

- Undergraduate Biochemistry Association
- United Christian Fellowship

B priority:

- Arab Student Organization
- China Care
- Design for Change
- Engineers Without Borders

- MIT Consulting Group
- MIT RAAS
- Turkish Student Association

C priority:

- Africa Information Technology Initiative
- Colleges Against Cancer
- Japanese Association
- Latter-day Saint Student Association
- Leadership Training Institute
- MIT Film Cooperative
- MIT STAND
- Resonance
- SEBC

Bike Sharing 3.0

THE FUTURE OF URBAN SHARED TRANSPORT AND MIXED MOBILITY

**Monday, December 7,
5:30 - 7:30pm
Kirsch Auditorium,
Stata Center**

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A discussion of the past, present and future of shared-transport systems using Paris' Velib as a model. The panel will feature creators of entrepreneurial models and urban systems. See mit.edu/misti for more information and to RSVP.

Featuring:

- MATTHIEU FIERLING**, Autolib' / Vélib' Paris
- ROBIN CHASE**, Founder of ZipCar and GoLoco
- NICOLE FREEDMAN**, Director of Bicycle Programs, City of Boston
- CARLO RATTI**, Director, SenseableCity Lab
- CHRIS ZEGRAS**, Assistant Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
- RYAN CHIN**, PhD Candidate, MIT Media Lab, Smart Cities Group



Did Not Reapply For Office Space

Asian American Association
 Campus Crusade for Cthulhu
 Chinese Student and Scholar Association
 Dance Mix Coalition
 Entrepreneurs Club
 FIRST, MIT
 International Students Association
 Mars Society
 Musical Theatre Guild
 Network of Sloan Undergraduate Women
 Sloan Undergraduate Management Association
 South Asian American Students
 Tiddlywinks Association, MIT
 Vietnamese Students Association
 Western Hemisphere Project
 WMBR Radio
 Women's Initiative

Did Not Reapply For Locker or General Storage Space

AID-MIT
 Bangladeshi Students
 Bhangra Club
 Chamak
 ClubMex
 Hippocratic Society
 Iranian Studies Group
 La Union Chicana por Aztlan
 Middle East Education Through Technology
 MITService
 Muslim Students' Association
 Persian Students Association
 Pro-Life
 Students for Israel

"These groups need to submit late applications as appeals or they WILL LOSE their currently allocated space.," the ASA allocation says.

See <http://asa.mit.edu/space> for detailed breakdowns of space, as well as notes on the reasons and details of X,Y,Z categorization.

SOURCE: Association of Student Activities.

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act AGAINST VIOLENCE

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Solution to Crossword
 from page 7

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| S | I | E | S | T | A | C | A | L | I | F | R | A |
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| F | A | I | R | Y | T | A | C | K | L | E | E | V |
| E | N | A | M | R | T | S | N | E | E | R | | |
| C | E | R | A | M | I | C | T | I | C | K | L | E |
| R | A | N | R | E | N | O | I | R | | | | |
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Solution to Sudoku
 from page 7

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

Zwane Remembered as Kind, Thoughtful

Zwane, from Page 1

well being," she said.

But he didn't just talk spirituality. Zwane liked to learn words from languages other people spoke, and his face would light up when he got the pronunciation right, Tasissa said.

Despite his academic achievements, Zwane was "the most modest person," said Mhlanga. He was soft-spoken and nice, friends said. Friends remembered him using the South African slang "howzit" ("how's it going?"). And he called people older than him "sir" and "ma'am," Scroggins said.

In Swaziland, Zwane dedicated himself to his studies, to his clubs,

including a poetry group he founded, and to volunteering, including work to improve his school's recycling program and work at an orphanage.

He worked hard, Mhlanga said, and "never slept until he got things done." Once they found him asleep, face buried in a physics book, where he had studied through the night.

At MIT, he was the same way — "extremely hard working," Sweet said. He spent a lot of time studying but, aside from his interest in a history class, friends don't remember any specific academic interests. He looked forward to taking subjects in mechanical engineering, his major.

Zwane had a "passion for building," his friend Tasissa said, which came through in a big way this sum-

mer. When he told Zwane he was moving off-campus and could use some help moving, Zwane put together a contraption that let them carry things behind a bicycle. "Kabelo, this will never work," he said — but it worked well, and they got plenty of stares as they crossed the Harvard Bridge.

He "loved to fix anything that's broken — give it to Kabelo, and he'll fix it in five seconds," Tasissa said.

Zwane liked water; Scroggins remembered a sailing trip. He also liked biking all over Boston, running for miles, reading and writing poetry, and drawing.

He was proud of Swazi culture, but Zwane didn't talk much about his home, where his mother is rais-

ing his sister, a couple of years his younger. This summer he worked part-time at least three different campus jobs, spent his money carefully, and saved money so that he could help out his family, Scroggins said. All the time, he also studied, hoping to prepare himself academically for the fall semester.

"I strongly believe in helping other people. Committing one's life to the betterment of others has to be the most satisfying thing. That is what I plan to do with my life regardless of what field I end up in," he wrote in his application to ESG.

At Zwane's memorial service, Scroggins gave a eulogy. "I saw joy in his life, explosions of praise, and bold declarations," he said.

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FENG WU—THE TECH

MIT Medical Program Manager for Sexual Health Kate McCarthy and her colleague stand outside the Coffeehouse welcoming students to the first annual Know Your Status Day, which offered free HIV testing to students on December 1. Know Your Status Day coincided with this year's World AIDS Day.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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Israel: A Light unto the Nations

**Those who demonize Israel are either
misinformed or malevolent**

If that proverbial man from Mars came to visit and read the world's newspapers, especially those in the Arab and Muslim world, he would be convinced that Israel was the most evil nation in the world and the source of all of the world's strife.

What are the facts?

A nation to be emulated. The reality, of course, is that Israel is a nation, a society, that should be admired and emulated by many countries in the world. The very fact of how the State of Israel came into being is one of the most inspiring in history. Born out of the ashes of the Holocaust, it has emerged as one of the most advanced, productive and prosperous countries in the world.

The demonization of Israel, assiduously cultivated by the Muslim world, has reached a crescendo following Israel's recent defensive action in Gaza. Instead of being grateful to the hated Jews for having totally withdrawn, the Palestinian Gazans showed their gratitude by almost daily pounding Israeli towns with close to 10,000 rockets and bombs. After countless warnings, Israel ultimately decided to put an end to this travesty.

When Israel finally did invade Gaza it took the most elaborate precautions not to hurt civilians. As a first in the history of warfare, Israel dropped tens of thousands of leaflets, warning the population and urging it to abandon areas in which military action would take place. The Israeli military made thousands of phone calls urging people to leave areas that would come under attack. But fighting in a densely populated environment is difficult and loss of civilian life is hard to avoid. Hamas fighters wear no uniforms. It is impossible to tell them from civilians. Is a person who allows a rocket launcher in his backyard a civilian or a fighter? And how about using schools, hospitals and mosques as munitions depots and staff centers? The hue and cry of Israel's demonizers in accusing it of "disproportionate force" is totally absurd. The ultimate insult, comparing Israel to the Nazis, is freely bandied about by Israel's detractors.

Israel is not an "apartheid state." Another familiar tack of Israel's vilifiers is to call it an "apartheid state," on the model of former South Africa. But that is so

ridiculous, so preposterous, it is hard to believe that serious people can countenance it. The exact opposite is the case. Israel is the only country in its benighted neighborhood in which people of all colors and religions prosper and have equal rights. Israel, expending substantial effort, rescued tens of thousands of black Jews from Ethiopia. And it has given assistance and absorbed countless Christian expatriates from Sudan, who escaped from being slaughtered by their Muslim countrymen. Israel's over one million Arab citizens enjoy the same rights and privileges

as their Jewish fellows. They are represented in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, and are members of its bureaucracy, of its judiciary, and of its diplomatic service.

All over the world, Leftists, including in the United States and, sad to say, even in Israel itself, tirelessly condemn and vilify Israel. Why would they do that? First, of course, there is good old-fashioned anti-Semitism. Second, many of those who hate the United States vent their poison on Israel, which they consider being America's puppet in that area of the world. But Israel should certainly get top grades in all areas important to the Left. In contrast to all its enemies, Israel has the same democratic institutions as the United States. All religions thrive freely in Israel. Also, in contrast to all of its enemies, women have the same rights as men. The Chief Justice of Israel's Supreme Court is a woman. One-sixth of the Knesset are women. Compare that to Saudi Arabia, a medieval theocracy, where women are not allowed to drive cars, where they cannot leave the country without permission of a male relative, and where they can be and often are condemned to up to 60 lashes if the "modesty police" deems them not to be properly dressed in public. Gays and lesbians are totally unmolested in Israel; in the surrounding Muslim countries they would be subjected to the death penalty.

In spite of demonization and vilification by so much of the world, Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations. The State of Israel is the foremost creation of the Jewish enterprise and Jewish intellect that has benefited every country in which Jews dwell, certainly our own country, the United States. Second only to the United States itself, Israel is the world's most important factor in science and technology, way out of proportion to the small size of its population. Israeli Jews are at the forefront of the arts, the sciences, law and medicine. They have brought all these sterling qualities to bear in building their own country: Israel. By necessity, they have also become outstanding in agriculture and, most surprisingly, in the military. What a shame that the Arabs opted not to participate in this progress and this prosperity and chose instead the path of revenge, of Jihad and of martyrdom. As the prophet Isaiah presaged: Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations.

This message has been published and paid for by

FLAME

Facts and Logic About the Middle East
P.O. Box 590359 ■ San Francisco, CA 94159
Gerardo Joffe, President

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The Sloan Subject Bidding (SloanBid) System **Bidding Dates for Spring, 2010 Courses**

<https://sloanbid.mit.edu>

First time logging in? Use your MIT ID as both your log in and password. Follow instructions on the site to change your password or retrieve lost passwords. Once logged in, make sure and check that your information (i.e. program of study and graduation date) is correct.

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 22

Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 30

Waitlist Round for closed Sloan subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 5

Closes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 12

Section Swap Round for sectioned Sloan subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 14

Closes 5:00 p.m., Thursday, January 21

Please contact Scott Alessandro, salessan@mit.edu, if you have questions regarding Sloan Course Bidding.

Successful bids will appear on your Registration Form on February 1 and will be posted on the bidding website as of January 5 -- write down your password to check results!

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SPORTS

Upcoming Athletics Weekend Will Showcase Winter Sports

By Russell Spivak
SPORTS STAFF

MIT will be hosting an Athletics Weekend this weekend to emphasize Tech's winter sports. Headlining the event will be the men's and women's basketball teams. The MIT basketball programs have been able to raise the school spirit and unite the student body, creating some much needed athletic buzz across campus.

Men's basketball has been able to carry last year's momentum into the 2009-2010 season. Last year's team saw unprecedented success under Head Coach Larry Anderson and now-graduated captain James M. "Jimmy"

Bartolotta '09, receiving their first bid to the NCAA Division III tournament in the program's history. The Cardinal and Grey captured their first win in NCAA tournament play in school history by upsetting Rhode Island College as well. The Engineers fell in the next round, but the team had created new expectations and raised the bar for MIT basketball.

This year, MIT brings in a very strong recruiting class of seven freshmen to help the seven returning upperclassmen. These freshmen have been contributing right out of the gate. William Tashman '13 and Mitchell H. Kates '13 highlight a freshman class, as the duo provides excitement and points to an already strong start-

ing lineup. Noel Hollingsworth '12 joins the two alongside captains Willard "Billy" J. Johnson '09 and Eric S. Zuk '11 to round out a starting five that has begun its season 5-0 and 1-0 in NEWMAC conference play.

Johnson attributes the initial success to the offseason work put in after the unprecedented NCAA run. "It began literally a week after the season was over last year. We knew that our success for the '09-'10 season was riding on our new players. It was imperative that these eight newcomers got up to speed with our system as quickly as possible, so that by the time the season started they weren't playing as newcomers, but as veterans. With almost the whole team here over the summer, we trained six days a week with a conditioning/lifting schedule made specifically for us and played in summer league games twice a week against great competition. It is really paying off now."

And with MIT's first NCAA birth in the program's history, how far does the expectations raise? Where does the team look to next? "Plain and simple," according to Johnson: "win the national championship."

The women's basketball team has also been able to benefit from an increased emphasis on basketball from the student body. The female Engineers got off to a bit of a slow start with three straight losses, but have been able to bounce back with two decisive victories over Lasell and Albertus Magnus. The Cardinal and Grey is now 2-3 before starting conference play.

But second-year coach Sonia Raman has the team coming together, and just in time to start conference play. Captains Sally W. Simpson '10 and Kristen E. Whaley '11 provide a steady balance of 15 points and 12 rebounds a game combined and veteran leadership for a starting lineup that sports three freshmen. Aparna A. Sud '13 leads the team in scoring, alongside Anna L. Merrifield '13, a strong presence in the paint, and Lauren S. Burton '13, the leader in assists and steals, to round out a youthful starting five that should pave the way for a bright future.

The men's and women's teams will play this season's first double header at the Rockwell Cages on Saturday. The women will begin the day at 1:00 p.m. against Springfield College, and the men will follow at 3:00 p.m. against Gordon College.

Rubino, Doyle Named CoSIDA Academic All-Americans for 2009-10

By Russell Spivak
TEAM MEMBER

Alex F. Rubino '10 and Brian P. Doyle '11 were named as *ESPN The Magazine* College Sports Information

Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-Americans. Both received All-NEFC accolades for their performances on the field and being named to the first team All-District for their success in the classroom last week. Rubino, a third-year starter, is receiving the award for the second time, this year on the first team, while Doyle finds his way onto the second team for the first time in his career.

Rubino, a captain in his final season, finished his MIT career with 43 tackles, 19 of which were solo. Additionally, he accounted for one sack and one interception while leading the team with 12.0 tackles for losses. Earlier, the NEFC awarded Rubino the Hal Chalmers Award to the Senior Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Last year, Rubino was named to the second team alongside Thomas J. Franklin '09.

When asked about how he felt being named to the Academic All-American Team twice, Rubino responded enthusiastically, saying it is "One of the highest recognitions I can get as a student-athlete at MIT. The life of a student athlete has been very important to my development, and this is a great culmination of my efforts while at MIT."

Doyle provided stability in an inexperienced secondary, playing alongside a rookie, a converted running back, and a safety who missed

last year. Doyle anchored the defensive secondary, providing the Cardinal and Grey defense with 44 tackles, 27 solo, 1.5 tackles for a loss, 1 sack, and 4 interceptions. Doyle has played all over the field, but has now found a steady, comfortable home as a safety while still returning punts and kicks for the Engineers.

When Doyle first heard he was named to the 2nd Academic All-America team, he was "Pretty shocked and honored at same time. I work hard academically, but around here so many guys who work just as hard as I do so I never knew I'd have the opportunity to be singled out at a place like this. It is a real honor and very humbling to be singled out on a national level."

Rubino and Doyle follow a storied history of MIT Football players who have received the award from the CoSIDA, who nominate a total of 44 offensive and 44 defensive players across the country in each of the three divisions. According to Rubino, "It is certainly an honor, something that MIT community can be proud of. We're not a big football school, we have no D1 accolades, but this is something we can be proud of. Going for all student athletes, not only can we get through MIT but we can also excel as athletes. As well, there is no doubt many people are deserving of such an award, but there are only so many they can give to MIT."

Since 2004, the football program has produced 5 Academic All-Americans aside from Rubino and Doyle, including Kevin M. Yurkerwich '06, Christopher W. Ruggiero '07, and Franklin.



SUNNY X. LONG—THE TECH

Erica N. Pino '13 drives around a U.S. Coast Guard Academy defender in the first half of the women's basketball game on December 2. The engineers were defeated 47-38.

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Tech Sport Taekwondo Team Takes Second at ECTC Tournament Sunday

By Tara Sarathi
TEAM MEMBER

On Sunday, November 22, the MIT Sport Taekwondo team traveled to Princeton University to compete at the third Eastern Collegiate Taekwondo Conference (ECTC) tournament of the season. Despite the smaller roster compared to rivals Cornell and Brown, the MIT team, coached by Master Dan Ch-



uang, took second at what was thus far the largest tournament in league history.

The day began with the poomsae (forms) competition. In the red belt division, ZheChen "Mary" Hong '10 captured silver, while in the blue belt division, Hsinjung "Sophia" Li '11 and Christine T. Hseuh '10 won gold and bronze respectively. In the green belt division, Angela N. Chang '11 walked away with the bronze.

As the day progressed and the sparring competition began, MIT confidently took on their opponents. In the Women's A-team (advanced) division, MIT A1 (Ranbel F. Sun '10, Hong, Erika Lee '12) muscled their way through every match and won the gold for the first time this season. In addition, the Men's A teams sparred ferociously, led by first-time A team members Ijeoma Emeagwali '12 and Ryan A. Rosario '12. The Women's B-teams continued to excel in their division, with B2 (Shammi S. Qudus '10, Li, Heejung Kim '12) taking silver, and B1 (Sun, Hong, Kristina L. Lozoya '13, Teresa "Ty" Lin '12 '12) the bronze. On the men's side, the B1 team (Rosario, Rafael A. Raya '11, Emeagwali) fought through several tough matches to reach the quarter finals. Even in the C-team (beginner) division, MIT demonstrated their skills as the Women's C1 team (Stephanie P. Chen '12, Xuan Yang '13, Mengfei Yang '12) fought their way to second place.

Even though MIT finished second, there are still two tournaments left in the season. The Engineers will continue their journey to the ECTC championship in three months at West Point.

SCOREBOARD

| Men's Basketball | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Tuesday, December 1, 2009 | |
| Emerson College | 51 |
| MIT | 66 |
| Women's Basketball | |
| Wednesday, December 2, 2009 | |
| U.S. Coast Guard Academy | 47 |
| MIT | 38 |