

## Institute-Wide Planning Task Force Releases Its Final Report

By Maggie Lloyd  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Institute-Wide Planning Task Force released its final report on December 16 after nine months of collaboration among approximately 200 students, faculty, administration, and staff within the task force. The 88-page document, which was originally scheduled to be released in November, compiles the reports from nine Working Groups and organizes them into five themes.

Since February, the Task Force examined about 200 ideas, originating from the Working Groups themselves and more than 1,000 submissions to the community-wide Idea Bank. The Working Groups then

presented their reports to the Task Force coordinators: Vice President for Finance Israel Ruiz GM '01, Vice Chancellor Steven R. Lerman '72, and Associate Provost Martin A. Schmidt '88.

The final report comes four months after the Task Force's preliminary report and follows a very similar five-theme structure as the preliminary report. Both the preliminary and final reports share a significant amount of content, although the final report includes notes from community forums on Institute Planning from September.

This final report acts as one of the Institute's responses to the global financial crisis, during which the

General Institute Budget for FY2010 saw a \$58 million reduction. The Institute now calls for a total reduction of \$120–130 million across both the FY2010 and 2011 budgets, according to the final report.

Along with the Task Force final report, the nine detailed working group reports were released, which fully explain each group's specific suggestions. Recommendations that weren't discussed at length in the final report, such as the elimination of Athena clusters and changes to the dining system, can be found in their corresponding Working Group reports. According

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## MIT Students Clone Popular Websites: Students Connect on 'isawyou.mit.edu'

By Jingyun Fan  
STAFF REPORTER

MIT students have become addicted to two new popular websites, MIT FML (<http://mitfml.com/>) and I Saw You MIT (<http://isawyou.mit.edu/>), created this past semester. Filled with anonymous, quirky, Twitter-like posts the two sites were designed to entertain, bond, and poke fun at the MIT community.

"We are living in such a stressful and yet entertaining atmosphere, it

would be a great idea to have a website to show the public," said one of the moderators of MIT FML.

The idea for MIT FML comes from the popular web site, *fmylife.com*; similarly, I Saw You MIT is based on *isawyou.com*.

Posts on both sites vary from one or two sentences to entire paragraphs and include anecdotes of everyday student life, each following a general format.

Like on *fmylife.com*, MIT FML

posts generally start with "Today..." and end with "FML" (standing for "fuck my life"). According to its statement of purpose, "mitfml.com is an anonymous forum for students to vent, rant, and post funny shit." In addition to posting their own FMLs, users can comment on and either "like" or "dislike" other posts.

Showing a slightly different perspective on MIT student life, I Saw You MIT is a "place to post and browse missed connections." All posts begin with the phrase "I saw you..." and continue to describe a sighting of another fellow student, either funny or romantic.

I Saw You MIT also provides posters with the option to allow direct replies from other viewers instead of providing space for comments.

Although both sites request that only MIT students provide content,

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## MIT Admits Record-Low 10.4 Percent of Early Applicants, Rejects Record-High 17 Percent

By Jeff Guo  
NEWS EDITOR

About one fifth of applicants, an unusually large fraction, were rejected outright in this year's early admissions cycle, which saw a record-high of 5,684 applications and a record-low admission rate of 10.4 percent.

According to a press release on Dec. 16, MIT accepted 590 of 5,684 applicants. The admission rate was 10.4 percent, down from last year's low of 10.7 percent.

The surprise was that MIT rejected 988, or 17.4 percent, of early applicants. In the past, that number has been around 10 percent. Last year, for instance, 497 of 5,018 early applicants were rejected. MIT defers

most applicants for reconsideration during the regular admissions cycle in March. This year, 3,893 applicants, or 68.5 percent, were deferred.

Dean of Admissions Stuart Schmill '86 said the admissions team worked harder this year to identify applicants who they felt would not be accepted in March. "It's better for them to just know," he said. "It's harder to hear it, but it's better for them in the long run."

The record number of applicants may have been one reason it was so difficult to get a "yes" or even a "maybe" this year. MIT had 13 percent more early applicants this year,

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## Randall Munroe, xkcd Creator, Holds Q&A and Signs Books in 26-100



JESSICA POURIAN—THE TECH

xkcd author Randall Munroe speaks to an audience in 26-100. The web comic artist visited on December 17 to answer questions and sign copies of his new book.

By Jessica Pourian  
STAFF REPORTER

DECEMBER 17, 2009

"XKCD is here in 26-100 tonight."

My head snapped up. I was bored, sitting with my friend Daniel in my

HASS's teacher's office on Thursday afternoon, waiting for her to return some essays.

"Wait, what?" I asked him to read the e-mail he got from his floor mailing list aloud. Apparently, Randall Munroe, author of the popular webcomic xkcd, was going to sign copies of his new book in 26-100 from 6–8 p.m. I was surprised; it was the first I had heard of the event. I would have expected an e-mail or at least more posters around campus, but I was just grateful that I heard of

it in time.

I'm a big fan of xkcd and have been reading it regularly for the past couple of years (<http://xkcd.com>, "a webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language.>").

Admittedly, I don't understand a good chunk of the math/programmer jokes, but I assume that MIT will fix that over time. Over the past semester, xkcd's consistent midnight release has become a milestone on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights that momentarily break the monotony of psets.

I didn't have anything to do and wasn't going home until Friday, and a good friend of mine back home loves xkcd, so I decided I'd go to the signing.

My friend Tony and I wandered into 26-100 around 6:10 p.m. and I

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## In Wake of Climate Research Controversy, MIT Faculty Discuss Validity of Concerns

By Yuliya Preger  
STAFF REPORTER

Last December, a panel of MIT faculty organized "The Great Climategate Debate" to address the media fallout from England's University of East Anglia's e-mail scandal preceding the Copenhagen climate summit. While examining the issue of scientific standards, panelists also raised concerns that the mass media and politics have taken the science out of climate science.

Controversy emerged after so-called hackers released several thousand private e-mails and documents from that university's Climate Research Unit (CRU). The media fallout focused on a select few passages highlighting the scientists' unwillingness to share their data and their vocal desire to prevent peers who disputed anthropogenic global warming from being published.

Richard S. Lindzen, Professor of Meteorology, said that CRU scientists were "unambiguously dealing with things that are unethical."

However, Kerry A. Emanuel, Professor of Meteorology, and Judith Layzer, an associate professor of environmental policy in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, defended the scientists whose "imprudent language reflects enormous frustration with the language of their opponents." They contended that people forget that scientists are fallible, groping forward for an explanation of nature.

### The Media

Unfortunately, the "few lines which represent the human failings of a few scientists" also make particularly juicy sound bites. Ronald G. Prinn, Professor of Atmospheric Science, said that these sound bites have

strongly affected the public perception of climate science. The sound bites can easily be used to "make up a story. You don't have to be a scientist to do that," he said.

Articles in papers like London's *Daily Telegraph* and *The Wall Street Journal* have used these excerpts as evidence of a global warming hoax. But according to Prinn, there are many other independent data sets and analyses. The research at East Anglia was not critical to the anthropogenic global warming argument.

Such articles fuel Prinn's belief that the media's ability to evaluate complex science is diminished. With companies hurting economically, papers have grown thinner and the number of science writers fewer. It's becoming more and more difficult to get reliable data and explanations of

Climategate, Page 10

### In Short

¶ All MIT e-mail quotas are going up to two gigabytes, effective next Sunday, according to IS&T. Users on the new Exchange e-mail service were already at 2GB, but users on the traditional IMAP service were at 1GB.

¶ The UROP deadline to apply for IAP sponsored research credit is tomorrow, January 7. <http://web.mit.edu/urop>.

Send news information and tips to [news@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@the-tech.mit.edu).

\$800	\$800
\$425	\$425
\$1,955	\$400
\$200	\$200
\$950	\$150
\$350	\$350
\$800	\$120
\$480	\$440
\$810	\$810

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# WORLD & NATION

## Drugs May Aid Only Severe Depression, Study Says

By Benedict Carey  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Some widely prescribed drugs for depression provide relief in extreme cases but are no more effective than placebo pills for most patients, according to a new analysis.

The findings could help settle a longstanding debate about antidepressants. While the study does not imply that the drugs are worthless for anyone with moderate to serious depression — many such people do seem to benefit — it does provide one likely explanation for the sharp disagreement among experts about the drugs' overall effectiveness.

Taken together, previous studies have painted a confusing picture. On one hand, industry-supported trials have generally found that the drugs sharply reduce symptoms. On the other, many studies that were not initially published, or were buried, showed no significant benefits compared with placebos.

The new report, appearing in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, reviews data from previous trials on two types of drugs and finds that their effectiveness varies according to the severity of the depression being treated.

## Asia Gains Tech Edge by Backing Silicon Valley Start-Ups

By Ashlee Vance  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SUNNYVALE, CALIF.

For years, the process remained relatively static: PC makers like Hewlett-Packard and Apple, with well-staffed research labs and design departments, would dream up their next product and then hire a Chinese or Taiwanese fabricator to manufacture the largest number of units at the lowest possible cost.

But lately, this traditional division of labor has been upended. Many of those Asian companies have moved well beyond manufacturing to seize greater control over the look and feel of tomorrow's personal computers, smartphones and even Web sites.

The investment arms of large Taiwanese and Chinese manufacturers have created an investment network in Silicon Valley operating under the radar that pumps money into a variety of chip, software and services companies to gain the latest technology. As a result, some Asian manufacturers have proved more willing than entrenched Silicon Valley venture capitalists to back some risky endeavors.

## As Population Shifts in Harlem, Blacks Lose Their Majority

By Sam Roberts  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

For nearly a century, Harlem has been synonymous with black urban America. Given its magnetic and growing appeal to younger black professionals and its historic residential enclaves and cultural institutions, the neighborhood's reputation as the capital of black America seems unlikely to change soon.

But the neighborhood is in the midst of a profound and accelerating shift. In greater Harlem, which runs river to river, and from East 96th Street and West 106th Street to West 155th Street, blacks are no longer a majority of the population — a shift that actually occurred a decade ago, but was largely overlooked.

By 2008, their share had declined to 4 in 10 residents. Since 2000, central Harlem's population has grown more than in any other decade since the 1940s, to 126,000 from 109,000, but its black population — about 77,000 in central Harlem and about twice that in greater Harlem — is smaller than at any time since the 1920s.

In 2008, 22 percent of the white households in Harlem had moved to their present homes within the previous year. By comparison, only 7 percent of the black households had.

# China's U.N. Envoy Objects To Tougher Penalties for Iran

By Neil MacFarquhar  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

UNITED NATIONS

Imposing tougher sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program is a poor idea while diplomatic negotiations remain possible, Zhang Yesui, the Chinese ambassador to the United Nations, said Tuesday.

"Sanctions themselves are not an end," Zhang said at a news conference to observe China's assumption of the presidency of the Security Council for January.

Efforts to reach an accord with Iran over its nuclear ambitions need "some more time and patience," he said, noting that senior political officials from the five permanent members of the Security Council and Germany were expected to meet in the coming weeks to discuss the next steps.

Zhang said remarks by Iranian officials over the past few days indicated their interest in finding a diplomatic resolution. "This also represents that there is more to happen in the area of talks," he said.

China has long opposed using the Security Council to impose sanctions, particularly economic sanctions in

countries where it has strong business interests. The Chinese buy about 15 percent of their oil from Iran.

State-run companies like the China National Petroleum Corp. have signed billions of dollars' worth of deals to help Iran develop oil and gas fields and to expand its refining capacity.

China and Russia, which has also expressed reservations about new sanctions on Iran, supported three previous Security Council resolutions that authorized sanctions aimed at Iranian individuals and organizations involved in the nuclear effort. The sanctions were devised to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, which the government denies seeking.

The United States and many other Western nations suspect that Iran has been enriching uranium so that it can eventually create nuclear weapons. Iran insists that its nuclear program is intended to generate electricity and for other peaceful purposes.

Under a deal tentatively reached by negotiators in October, Iran would export much of its stock of enriched uranium abroad for processing to higher enrichment levels for use in

a research reactor in Tehran. The accord appeared to be a major accomplishment for the West, reducing Iran's ability to make a nuclear weapon quickly and buying more time for negotiations.

But the agreement stalled after Tehran's negotiators in Geneva initially endorsed it. Western officials have expressed exasperation that Iran seems to alter its position repeatedly, its nuclear policy entangled in longstanding disputes among internal factions.

The Obama administration, supported by France and Britain, which like the United States are permanent Security Council members, had set the end of 2009 as a deadline for Iran either to reach a compromise or to face more sanctions. The United States still seeks to create a "dual-track approach" and to consult with other countries on both negotiations and sanctions, said Mark Kornblau, the spokesman for the United States Mission to the United Nations.

American and European officials have said that any new sanctions would probably be aimed at the Revolutionary Guards, which controls Iran's nuclear program.

# U.S. Saw a Path to Qaida Chiefs Before Bombing

By Mark Mazzetti  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Before detonating a suicide bomb in Afghanistan last week, a Jordanian militant was considered by U.S. spy agencies to be the most promising informant in years about the whereabouts of al-Qaida's top leaders, including Ayman al-Zawahiri, the terrorist group's second-ranking operative.

U.S. intelligence officials said Tuesday they had been so hopeful about what the Jordanian might deliver during a meeting with CIA officials last Wednesday at a remote CIA base in Khost that top officials at the agency and the White House had been informed that the gathering would take place.

Instead, the discovery that the man, Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi, also known as Humam Khalil Mohammed, was a double agent and the

killing of seven CIA operatives in the blast were a major setback to a spy agency that has struggled to gather even the most ephemeral intelligence about the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden and Zawahiri.

New details about the Khost attack emerged Tuesday as the Obama administration took steps to strengthen security measures after failing to detect a Christmas airline bombing plot. The two episodes illuminate the problems the United States still faces in understanding the intentions of al-Qaida and its affiliates.

With the Jordanian double agent, U.S. intelligence officials proved to be overly optimistic about someone they had hoped could help them penetrate al-Qaida's inner circle. In the other case, spy agencies were too lax in piecing together information about a young Nigerian man who officials say tried to blow up an American jetliner

as it descended into Detroit.

The Jordanian militant for months had been feeding a stream of information about lower-ranking Qaida operatives to his Jordanian supervisor, Capt. Sharif Ali bin Zeid, to establish his credibility and apparently to help broker a meeting with CIA operatives in Afghanistan.

"He had provided information that checked out, about people in al-Qaida whom he had access to," said a senior intelligence official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the CIA's contacts with the Jordanian are classified. "This was one of the agency's most promising efforts."

U.S. officials said that Balawi had strengthened his bona fides in recent months by posting strident, anti-American essays in jihadi Web forums under the name Abu Dujana al-Khorasani. Officials now concede that those essays represented his true beliefs.

# WEATHER

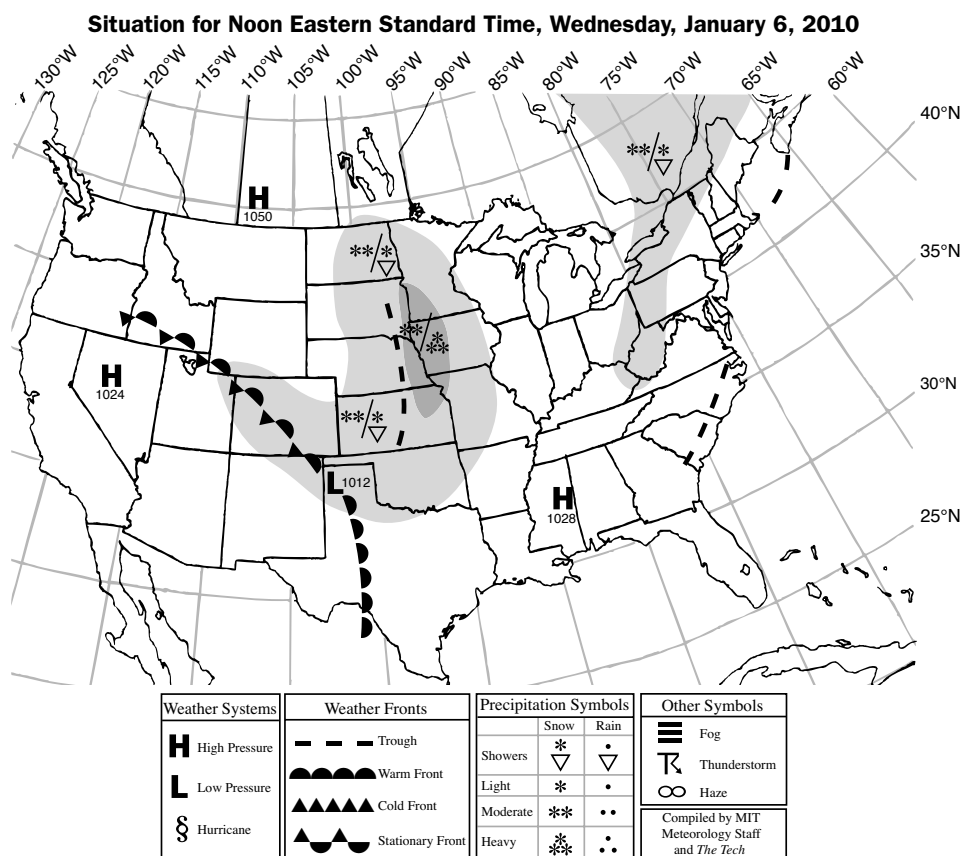
## Weather in the New Year

By Allison A. Wing  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

There was active winter weather over the holiday season in the Boston area, with two major snowstorms occurring over the last two and a half weeks. After a snowy start to the new year this past weekend, this week will be decidedly quieter. There will be relatively clear skies today and tomorrow. Temperatures will continue to be slightly below normal, with high temperatures around freezing (32°F, 0°C) both today and tomorrow. A shortwave trough will move over New England on Friday, bringing snow showers to the region. Light accumulation is possible. The shortwave will also intensify a coastal low pressure system, which should pass well to our southeast, and not have much of an impact in Cambridge. Over the weekend, an arctic air mass will move in behind the shortwave that passed through on Friday. Skies will be mostly sunny with colder temperatures and moderate (10-15 mph) winds from the northwest. Calm weather is expected to continue into early next week.

### Extended Forecast

- Today:** Mostly sunny. High of 33°F (0.6°C). Winds from the west at 8-12 mph.
- Tonight:** Partly cloudy. Low of 20°F (-7°C). Winds from the west at 8-12 mph.
- Tomorrow:** Mostly sunny. High of 31°F (-0.6°C). Winds from the west at 10-15 mph. Low of 20°F (-7°C).
- Friday:** Chance of snow showers. High 29°F (-2°C). Winds from the northwest at 10-15 mph. Low of 15°F (-9°C).
- Saturday:** Mostly sunny. High 25°F (-4°C). Winds from the northwest at 10-15 mph.
- Sunday:** Mostly sunny. High 25°F (-4°C). Winds from the northwest at 10-15 mph.



# Military Drive to Build Afghan Expert Corps Seen to Lag

By Eric Schmitt  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The military's effort to build a seasoned corps of expert officers for the Afghan war, one of the highest priorities of top commanders, is off to a slow start, with too few volunteers and a high-level warning to the armed services to steer better candidates into the program, according to some senior officers and participants.

The groundbreaking program is meant to address concerns that the fight in Afghanistan has been hampered by a lack of continuity and expertise in the region among military personnel. But some officers have been reluctant to sign up for an unconventional career path because they fear it will hurt their advancement — a perception that top military leaders are trying to dispel as they tailor new policies for the complex task of taking on resilient insurgencies in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Each military branch has established career paths, and this type of focus would take people off those

routes.

The difficulties with the program came to light when the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, in an unusual rebuke within the Pentagon's uppermost circle, admonished the chiefs of the four armed services three weeks ago for not always providing the best people.

The program — which is expected to create a corps of more than 900 officers and soldiers who will work on Afghanistan and Pakistan issues for up to five years — was announced with much fanfare last fall. So far, 172 have signed up, and Mullen has questioned whether all of them are right for such a critical job.

The initiative was championed by Mullen and Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the senior commander in Afghanistan. It is intended not only to bolster the war effort, but also to signal a long-term strategic partnership with Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Some military officials argue that it takes time to make such a significant change, and that the program is not lagging at all.

In a memo sent last month to the chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, Mullen expressed concern that the services were not consistently providing the "best and the brightest leaders" for the program's corps of officers and soldiers, who will work in the field and at headquarters.

"In many cases, the volunteers have been the right people for this very critical program," Mullen said in the one-page memo, dated Dec. 14. "However, I am concerned that this is not the case across the board."

Mullen emphasized to the chiefs that the program is the "military's number-one manpower priority and requires your constant attention." He stressed that volunteers should be rewarded for participating, and that their involvement should enhance, not hurt, their careers.

The program was conceived as a way to develop a pool of uniformed experts who would spend several years rotating between assignments in Afghanistan or Pakistan, and desk jobs in Washington or other headquarters working on the same regional issues.

## Television Begins Push Into the 3rd Dimension

By Brian Stelter  
and Brad Stone  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ralph Kramden can finally buy a television.

It was more than half a century ago, in a 1955 episode of "The Honeymooners," that Kramden, the parsimonious bus driver played by Jackie Gleason, told his wife, Alice, that he had not yet bought a new television because "I'm waiting for 3-D."

The wait will soon be over. A full-fledged 3-D television turf war is brewing in the United States, as manufacturers unveil sets capable of 3-D and cable programmers rush to create new channels for them.

Many people are skeptical that consumers will suddenly pull their LCD and plasma televisions off the wall. Beginning at around \$2,000, the 3-D sets will, at first, cost more than even the current crop of high-end flat-screens, and buyers will need special glasses — geeky goggles, really — to watch in 3-D.

But programmers and technology companies are betting that consumers are almost ready to fall in love

with television in the third dimension. In part, it could be the "Avatar" effect: With 3-D films gaining traction at the box office — James Cameron's "Avatar" surpassed the staggering \$1 billion mark last weekend — companies are now determined to bring an equivalent experience to the living room.

Anticipating this coming wave, ESPN said Tuesday that it would show World Cup soccer matches and NBA games in 3-D on a new network starting in June, and Discovery, Imax and Sony said they would jointly create a 3-D entertainment channel next year. The satellite service DirecTV is expected to announce its own 3-D channels at the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, where every major television manufacturer is planning to announce 3-D televisions and compatible Blu-ray DVD players on Wednesday.

"The stars are aligning to make 2010 the launch year of 3-D," said John Taylor, a vice president for LG Electronics USA. "It's still just in its infancy, but when there is a sufficient amount of content available

— and lots of people are working on this — there will be a true tipping point for consumers."

At that point, the question becomes whether consumers — many of whom have only recently upgraded to costly new high-definition sets — will want to watch in three dimensions enough to pay for the privilege. "I think 90 percent of the males in this country would be dying to watch the Super Bowl and be immersed in it," said Riddhi Patel, an analyst at the research firm iSuppli.

But will the experience translate to other entertainment? Patel said, "You don't necessarily want the ladies of 'The View' sitting around you when you watch them."

This week, the media companies are trying to place themselves at the forefront of an emerging technology, much as they did for HDTV a decade ago.

It took high-definition television about a decade to catch on — to the point where it has become part of the entertainment mainstream, with a sufficient stock of HD programming and the sets now cheap enough to entice middle-class buyers.

## Obama Faults Intelligence Agencies In Failure 'To Connect Those Dots'

By Jeff Zeleny  
and Helene Cooper  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama said Tuesday that the government had sufficient information to uncover the terror plot to bring down a commercial jetliner on Christmas Day, but that intelligence officials had "failed to connect those dots."

"This was not a failure to collect intelligence, it was a failure to integrate and understand the intelligence that we already had," Obama said after meeting with his national security team for nearly two hours. He added, "We have to do better, we will do better and we have to do it quickly. American lives are on the line."

The tone of the president's remarks on Tuesday — the sharpest of any of his statements since the incident nearly two weeks ago — underscored his anger over the lapses in intelligence and his efforts to minimize any political risks from his administration's response.

The president said he was suspending the transfer of detainees to

Yemen from the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. While he renewed his commitment to close the Guantanamo Bay prison, halting the transfer of detainees to Yemen, where an al-Qaida cell has been connected to the Christmas Day attack, underscores the difficulty facing the president in closing the detention center and reflects the intense criticism that Republicans have directed at the administration in recent weeks.

Obama also said that intelligence and law enforcement reviews of the terror plot would be completed this week and that he would announce additional security measures for air travelers in the coming days. It was his fullest and most forceful statement to date on the incident, in which a Nigerian man traveling to Detroit from Amsterdam tried to ignite an explosive mixture that could have brought down the Northwest Airlines flight and its 278 passengers.

"I want specific recommendations for corrective actions to fix what went wrong," Obama said, speaking in the Grand Foyer of the White House. "I want those reforms

implemented immediately, so that this doesn't happen again and so we can prevent future attacks."

Obama's stark assessment that the government failed to properly analyze and integrate intelligence served as a sharp rebuke of the country's intelligence agencies, including the National Counterterrorism Center, the organization set up after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks to ensure that the government had a central clearinghouse for spotting, assessing and thwarting terrorist threats.

But Obama insisted that he is not interested in getting into a blame game. White House officials said the president is standing by his top national security advisers, including those whose agencies failed to communicate with one another.

In a meeting Tuesday with those officials, the president called the events leading up to the Christmas Day attack a "screw-up," one White House official said, telling the assembled officials, "We dodged a bullet, but just barely." Obama, the official said, also told the group that he would not "tolerate" finger-pointing.

## Defiant UAW Local Now Works with GM

By Nick Bunkley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LORDSTOWN, OHIO

For the better part of three decades, the car plant here was a seemingly endless source of trouble for General Motors.

In the 1970s, the factory's 7,000 workers were so bitter toward management that thousands of Chevrolet Vegas rolled off the assembly line with slit upholstery and other damage. The hostility eventually led to a 22-day strike in 1972 that cost GM \$150 million, and the term "Lordstown syndrome" became shorthand to describe rebellious American factory workers.

Even when no intentional sabotage occurred, many Lordstown-built vehicles were of poor quality. GM had planned to abandon Lordstown, the site of many wildcat strikes, by 2002.

But the plant survived, though dozens of other auto factories did not, and today it is preparing to build a new compact car, the Chevrolet Cruze, that is integral to GM's hopes of becoming a successful company again.

United Automobile Workers' leaders in Lordstown, Detroit and other cities where clashes with management were once common said they have since decided that their only chance to survive in a global economy is to work with, not against, their employers.

## A Long-Awaited Introduction Draws Some Polite Applause

By Miguel Helft

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIF.

Google stepped up its attack on the smart phone market on Tuesday, introducing a new touch-screen handset called Nexus One that is widely seen as a rival to Apple's iPhone.

Google also said that it would sell the Nexus One, which it called a superphone, exclusively through a new online store. Google, which earns the vast majority of its revenue from advertising, said it was dipping its toes in the direct retailing business not to reap profits from the sale of phones but to broaden the availability of handsets running its Android software.

"There is an opportunity to make some margin on the unit sales, but that's not the objective here," Andy Rubin, a vice president of engineering in charge of the Android technology, said during a news conference at Google's headquarters here. "Our primary business is advertising."

Consumers will be able to buy the Nexus One for \$529 unlocked or for \$179 with a two-year calling plan from T-Mobile. Google said that the Nexus One would be available on Verizon Wireless in the United States and on Vodafone in Europe later this year. It said it hoped to add other devices and carriers to the direct-to-consumer program in the future.

Some analysts said they were impressed by the speed of the Nexus One and by some of its capabilities. Google has voice-enabled all text boxes in the device, so a user can, for example, compose an e-mail message by speaking into the phone rather than typing. But they expressed disappointment that Google had not done more to shake up the industry by, for example, subsidizing the phone through profits from advertising.

## In Car Sales, December Was Mixed

By Nick Bunkley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

DETROIT

Automakers ended a miserable year with some less bad sales figures, though the Ford Motor Co. was the only one of the three domestic companies to report higher numbers in December.

Ford said its sales in the United States rose 33 percent in December from a year ago, making it the company's best month since May 2008.

New-vehicle sales in the United States increased 15 percent last month, the industry tracking firm Autodata said Tuesday. But for the year, foreign and domestic automakers combined sold only about 10.4 million vehicles; that was down 21 percent from 2008.

"It was a decent end to a bad movie," said Jesse Toprak, the vice president for industry trends and insights at TrueCar.com, a site that tracks sales and pricing. "The healing has started, but we're nowhere near fully healthy yet."

For all of 2009, Ford's market share rose to 16.1 percent, from 15 percent in 2008. That ended a streak of declines for the automaker dating to 1995.

"We made very good progress in 2009 amid a very difficult biz environment," Ken Czubay, Ford's vice president for U.S. marketing, sales and service, said. But, he continued, "we will not count on momentum to carry the Ford day."

## Threats Lead Food Agency to Curtail Aid in Somalia

By Neil MacFarquhar

THE NEW YORK TIMES

UNITED NATIONS

After weeks of receiving threats and demands that it dismiss many female employees and pay a "security fee" to an Islamic extremist group, the U.N. World Food Program announced Tuesday that it was suspending food deliveries to 1 million people in southern Somalia indefinitely.

The cutoff, which includes the withdrawal of more than 40 local staff members, will affect roughly one third of the 2.8 million people whom the food program had anticipated feeding in Somalia in January.

"In the past few weeks there has been a harder line of unacceptable demands and conditions set by armed groups in these areas," said Peter Smerdon, the spokesman for the program, by telephone from Nairobi, Kenya. "We sadly had to make the decision to pull our staff out."

The demands had been accompanied by a rise in intimidation, threats and harassment, he said.

Various branches of the Shabab, the Islamist militants who control much of southern Somalia, presented local offices of the food program with a list of 11 demands in November. They included paying a \$20,000 fee for security every six months, seeking Shabab approval for their projects and replacing all female staff members, except those engaged in health care, with men.

# OPINION

## Iran's Numbered Days

Ryan T. Normandin

Some countries are no better than publicity-crazed celebrities. Britney Spears has a breakdown one day just so she can make a comeback the next. As a global example, North Korea claimed in April to have put a satellite into orbit with a Taepodong-2 missile. Of course, anyone who saw part of the very same missile fall into the Sea of Japan must be lying. And any radar tracking the missile must have been malfunctioning.

After much criticism over the missile launch, North Korea left the disarmament talks held with five other countries. It then promptly threw a temper tantrum on July 4 by launching seven short-range missiles, which also ended up in the Sea of Japan. Finally realizing that the rest of the world was ignoring its celebrity-style fit, North Korea announced with the coming of the New Year that it would try to behave this year. Washington and Pyongyang are now in agreement that negotiations should continue.

Other countries behave more like completely delusional celebrities. Even while breaking down internally, they still struggle to cut one-sided movie deals with directors and producers much bigger and stronger than they are. For Iran, the slight difference is that negotiations involve one-sided nuclear arms treaties instead of movie deals.

Iran's nuclear ambitions have long drawn the media's attention. Many countries believe that Iran is seeking to develop a nuclear weapon, but Iran maintains that it would use nuclear power purely for energy. Of course, throughout this process, Iranian President Ahmadinejad has assured the world that one of his dearest ambitions is to wipe Israel off the map; not really inspiring confidence in his reassurances of peacefully using nuclear power.

In standard tantrum form, Iran rejected a United Nations proposal to trade enriched uranium for nuclear fuel with an end-of-the-year deadline to show progress in talks. Iran instead

demanding that by the end of this January, the West must agree to either sell nuclear fuel to Iran or trade its enriched uranium in smaller batches. In other words, they want to hold on to as much enriched uranium as they can for as long a time as they can. The reasonable question is, if they do not want nuclear weapons, why are they so fond of their enriched uranium?

These tactics are not surprising. What is surprising is how Iran is able to make these ridiculous, contradictory claims and demands while trying to quell what is fast becoming a revolution. When protests began last summer over claims of election fraud, the government was quick to assure its country that more than 100 percent voter turnout in some districts was perfectly normal. When that didn't work, they tried tear gas and beatings in the streets.

Protests died down and boiled up periodically, but an important shift quickly took place, and this shift is the reason that a new Iran will soon replace the one we recognize. When the government turned to violence and suppressed the freedoms of speech and assembly, they also changed the focus of the protests. At first, the protests were relatively peaceful acts aimed at the election results. However, they soon became focused on the very foundations of what governs Iran.

In 1979, Iranians toppled the U.S.-backed shah and established the Islamic Republic of Iran. For many Iranians, this is a source of great pride and a solid refusal to be manipulated by the powers of the West. To this day, Ahmadinejad blames the West for anything and everything that goes wrong in Iran, hoping to play upon the historic dislike of the West's meddling in Iranian affairs. Yet the government that was established by the Islamic Revolution is now the one being attacked by the protesters.

Protesters regularly insult and chant against Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, something that was previously unheard of. Khamenei, as Supreme Leader, has the final say in all matters of the state and has served

since the 1989 death of Khomeini, the leader of the Revolution. Mir Hossein Mosavi, the leader of the current unrest and one of the candidates who ran in the June elections, has recently announced that he would willingly become a martyr for this cause.

At this point, and against such dedicated and open opposition, Iran cannot hope to survive for much longer. The government could have quelled the protesters in the beginning by taking their concerns seriously. For example, if an independent body trusted by the people conducted a review of the election results, the protests would most likely have ended.

But the protests are no longer about the election results. The discontent now is about being beaten in the street by the group of people who are supposed to protect you. It is about having your rights crushed and your concerns ignored by those who are supposed to listen. It is about a new generation of young adults who will not tolerate such suppression. The issue is no longer a fraudulent election; it is a broken system of government. Every time the government strikes back at these protests, the resolve of the protesters will only strengthen.

Already, the government has recognized that they could very well have a revolution on their hands. At one subway station, anything green was confiscated because green has become the color of the protesters. The protesters have gotten smarter too. They are choosing days of significance for Iran to plan their massive gatherings, and the next one is the anniversary of the very Islamic Revolution that established the current government.

Keep your eyes peeled because I predict that massive protests will again break out. And they will keep breaking out until the protesters achieve their ultimate goal: the toppling of the current regime. I look forward to the day when these protesters succeed, and the Iranian people earn the liberty and freedoms that they are fighting for. I also would not complain if the new government does not have such an affinity for enriched uranium.



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# The Off-Campus Option

Ethan Solomon

For a lot of reasons, undergraduates are often scared off from moving to apartments in Cambridge, Boston, or Somerville. Finding an apartment is a significant investment of valuable time and there are more unknowns than living in dorms or FSILGs — how much will utilities cost? How will I get to class? What's a security deposit? But with the right strategy and the right attitude, moving off-campus can be financially, socially, and developmentally well-worth the risk.

Despite their industrious and entrepreneurial spirit, many MIT students lack that same adventurous spirit when it comes to housing. Living in dorms or FSILGs is easy — heat, electricity, water, maintenance, internet and sometimes food are taken care of by offices at MIT or your living group. But, as is always the case with real life, there are tradeoffs. Dorm life restricts individual freedom through the enforcement of housing policy and regulation and can force occupants to live with people they may not want to live with. And though it is not unique to MIT, dorms rarely offer an abundance of personal living space.

None of these restrictions are particularly onerous, and none of them make the dormitory option a poor choice. But finding your own place is not just a matter of getting a bigger living room or having the right to keep pets, halogen lamps, and hot plates in your room. It is also an unparalleled opportunity to grow as an individual. The process of finding and successfully leasing an apartment asks a student to take responsibility for where they live and ultimately how they go about their lives. It means you'll have to figure out how to pay bills and how to fix leaky faucets and plan your commute — and these are important things to know! By living in a dorm or FSILG for your full four undergraduate years at MIT, you'll learn how to go out and change the world, but you won't know how to live in the world.

When it comes to learning the skills necessary to live on your own, there's no time like the present. Most MIT students are full, legal adults, and there's no reason to assume the le-

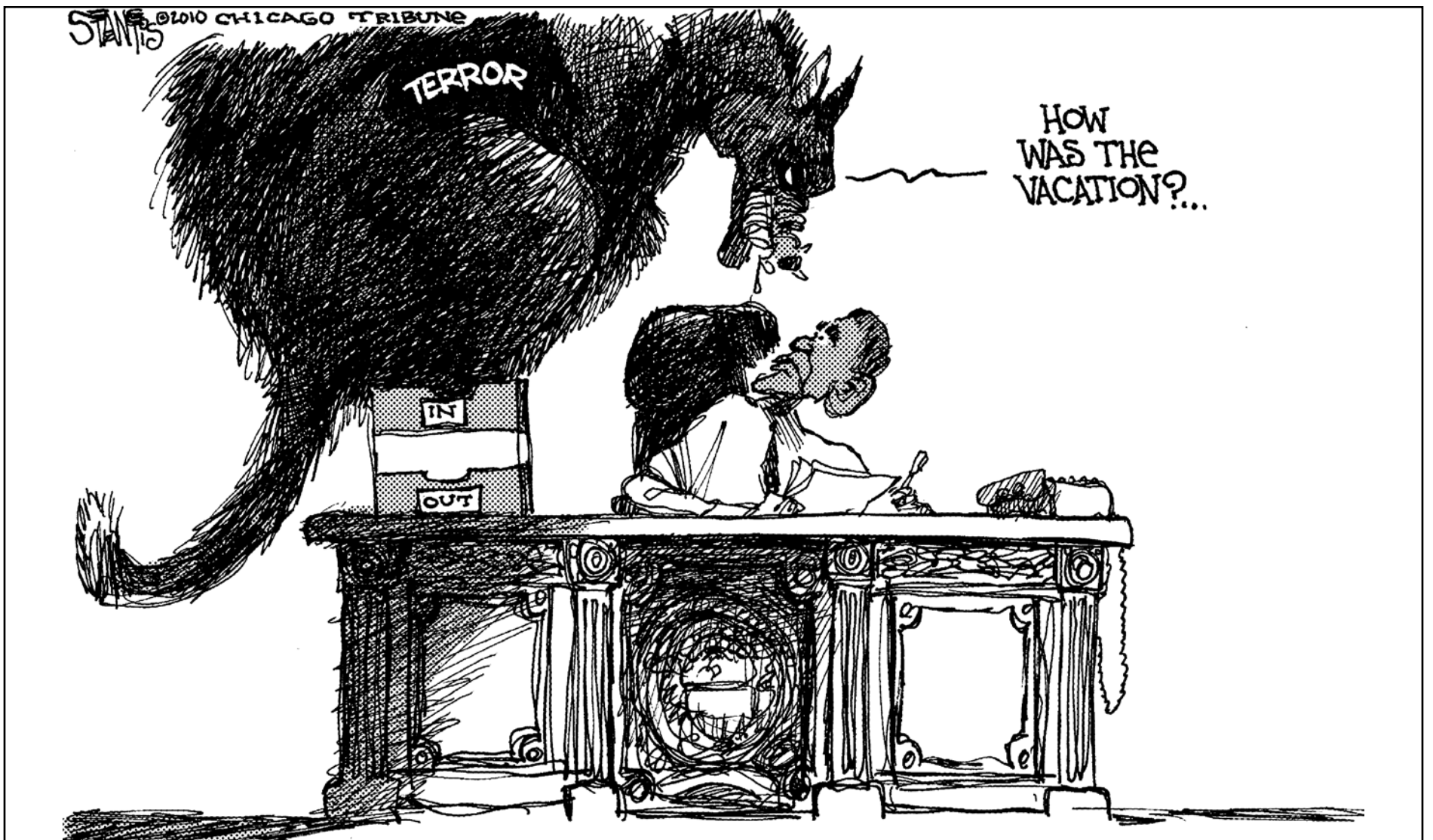
gal and civic responsibilities that come with turning 18 while neglecting to take on more personal responsibilities. And if the prospect of not having MIT coddle you until you're 22 sounds scary, that's all the more reason to take the plunge and find your own place. The same philosophy inspired the MIT "fire-hose" education style — if it seems easy, then you're probably not learning much from it; if it's tough, you're learning things that will stay with you for life. And, at least in terms of the practicals, living in a dorm is very, very easy.

But what about the financial risks of moving off-campus? To be sure, some apartments in Cambridge and Boston can be very expensive. Fortunately, you don't have to go it alone — splitting a multiple-bedroom apartment with friends can often lead to significant savings over the costs of living in a dorm. If you move in with friends, you're also almost always guaranteed a better square-foot-to-dollar ratio than what

dorms at MIT offer, plus full kitchens and other amenities your dorm or living group might not offer. To save costs, you would also need to manage your utilities more wisely than you would in a dorm (which is also better for the environment), though budgeting heat, water and electricity expenditures is another skill that's not too hard to learn but something MIT will never teach you. Furnishing your place doesn't need to be expensive either, especially if you're a do-it-yourself type.

Still, off-campus living may not be for everyone. But the campus community and the MIT administration should consider the opportunities that off-campus living might provide to students, and to that end should work towards making off-campus living a more attractive option for undergraduates. MIT students are fully capable of managing the challenges of moving to off-campus apartments and those who choose to do so would be rewarded with lower costs for equal or better living conditions than the MIT dormitory standard in addition to the value of the experience. All it takes is an assumption of responsibility, which is what makes the off-campus option simultaneously challenging and rewarding.

*And if the prospect of not having MIT coddle you until you're 22 sounds scary, that's all the more reason to take the plunge and find your own place.*



## ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★½ / 4

*Staff Writer Kevin Wang vs. 'Avatar'**Cameron's Subtle 3D For The Win*

By Kevin Wang

STAFF WRITER

Avatar

Written and Directed by James Cameron  
Starring Sigourney Weaver, Sam Worthington,  
and Zoe Saldana

Rated PG-13

Now Playing

**A**vatar is like *Planet Earth* if it were 100 times more violent and all of the boring animals (I'm looking at you, ground sloths) were replaced by machine guns. If the CGI industry were a boxing match, going up against *Avatar* would be like fighting a Kodiak bear made out of flamethrowers. Over the course of over 200 glorious minutes, *Avatar* coldly and systematically makes the entirety of the rest of the film industry look like a handy-cam Youtube video of cats using a litter box. With a pure, creamy blend of wildlife and sci-fi helicopter battles, the film perfectly captures the crossover market between a National Geographic special and *Blackhawk Down*, and is one of the most stunning movies ever made.

Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) is a crippled military contractor on Pandora, a lush jungle planet filled with more forest creatures and man-eating plants than a dorm bathroom. As an "Avatar" operator, Sully and others remotely control clones of the natives, a race of blue-skinned aliens called the Na'vi. While on a routine research mission, Worthington finds himself lost in the woods and captured by the locals, particularly a young huntress named Neytiri. Rather than exhibiting any of the standard reactions to being kidnapped by a tribe of oversized homicidal smurfs — screaming, weeping, furious voiding of the bowels — Worthington instead goes native and learns to become a hunter with the Na'vi. 3D shenanigans ensue.

Writer/director James Cameron unveils a beautiful portrait of the Na'vi and the planet of Pandora over the course of more than an hour, with breathtaking jungle landscapes and stunning scenes of aliens flying through floating mountains. The film is immersing to the point of absurdity; at times it plays like a propaganda reel designed to entice the kind of eco-tourists who attend PETA rallies. *Avatar* is also the first movie that I have seen in which the 3D touch doesn't feel like a cheap circus trick meant for entertaining toddlers and recreational drug users, as Cameron deftly uses subtle 3D effects to add drama to landscapes and draw you into



COURTESY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Zoe Saldana portrays the character Neytiri in James Cameron's blockbuster, *Avatar*.

a warm bath of CGI syrup. And there are no punches pulled: You get to see everything from flying lizard rides to gigantic insects to the (hilarious) consummation of cat-smurf-person romance. *Avatar* sucks you in with more power and enthusiasm than an airplane latrine, and by an hour into the film the only thing stopping me from pulling out my loincloth, shooting some arrows and hopping on the back of a lizard was my fear of reading the police report.

*Avatar* isn't just about the nature show, however. In some ways, the film mirrors an entry level biology class: Once you're done learning about trees and animals, the ass kicking begins. Rather than allowing the film to devolve into a series of slow-motion garden scenes, Cameron shakes things up just like a Third World government: with a massive helicopter attack. What is especially striking about Cameron's depiction of futuristic war is his sharp attention to

every painstaking detail: The military unit stationed on Pandora uses helicopters, but they are different from modern day choppers in ways that are inherently plausible, allowing one to suspend disbelief and enjoy the superb gun fighting. James Cameron is a mastermind at creating real, compelling creatures from mundane subject matter (the *Terminator* from Arnold Schwarzenegger, the *Alien* from spray-painted PVC piping, the *Titanic* guy from Leonardo DiCaprio), and this care drips from every one of *Avatar*'s furry blue pores.

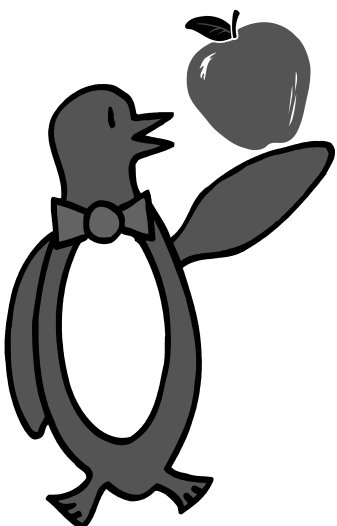
As is to be expected, however, *Avatar* does do its share of dabbling in clichés. The dialogue stumbles through the standard action flick fare of awkward dramatic proclamations and hyper-macho rambling, and Worthington's warcries make him sound like a bachelor party attendee. "Big bad corporation" versus "plucky hero with a heart of gold" is hardly an original theme, and

it's particularly difficult to take inspiring speeches seriously when they're delivered by someone who looks like a Disney mascot.

Despite these foibles, however, *Avatar* does not cease to amaze for even a second. What really allows it to stand out is the fact that it goes the extra mile to actually become a Good movie. James Cameron didn't have to make it a high-quality film: He could have foregone 1,000 Ferraris worth of special effects and would still be able to carpet all of Australia with his cash. *Avatar* didn't need an epic score in an alien language which was entirely written for the film — in fact, a soundtrack consisting of nothing but Limp Bizkit songs might have sold even better. But it does have these have these sorts of seemingly unimportant details, and added up they do make a difference. James Cameron simply does not make movies with one-word titles which are not excellent, and *Avatar* is no exception. Go see it.

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## CD REVIEW

## Genre in Review

## Kurt Rosenwinkel Reflects in 'Reflections'

By Samuel Markson

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Kurt Rosenwinkel Standards Trio  
ReflectionsProduced by Kurt Rosenwinkel  
Wommusic

Released November 17, 2009

Metheny-esque in his versatility, yet aggressively daring in his devotion to groove, Kurt Rosenwinkel is one of the most interesting and well-rounded guitarists on the scene today. Rosenwinkel seamlessly weaves together elements of funk, bop, classic rock, and modern compositional (à la Ravel), producing works that are both innovative and listenable — the well-mannered wing of the avant-garde, if you will. His work may be haunting, joyful, melancholic, or thoughtful, but it's always modern, and ahead of the curve.

So it's an odd step, at first glance, for him to put out an album composed entirely of

standards and standard-inspired faire. Working with bassist Eric Revis and drummer Eric Harland, Rosenwinkel's latest albums, *Reflections*, stays in the fake book zone for most of its 50-minute journey. The trio pays heavy dues to Thelonious Monk and Wayne Shorter, as well as earlier bop and Broadway-inspired ballads.

Fortunately it's more than just paying dues, as Rosenwinkel is doing a lot more than regurgitating old jingles. He is consciously examining and bending the familiar into a new form. This is no ode to the iconoclast, but a challenge to the imitator to imitate even better.

His musical choices are notable. Shying away from the technical ferocity of Parker, or the aggressive insistence of Coltrane, Rosenwinkel emulates the more subtle tunes of Monk and Shorter — two musicians who, while renowned, were never part of as much of a sonic "movement" as some of the other greats. It wasn't that there was less sound, but that their sound was much harder to put

a finger on. Ornette Coleman had free, Miles Davis had modal, etc. The list goes on. But no music theorist ever had a good word for Monk. Because of that, Monk was always a lot less pretentious, and, behind his light-hearted exterior, a lot more difficult to grasp. Part of playing the jazz classic is about running chops, but Rosenwinkel is wise to transcend that, and brings out the tunes that not only could use reevaluation, but demand it.

The trio's playing on the album is more ambient and ethereal than the originals'. Rosenwinkel's tone on the album is more gentle than that of the old masters — lending the tunes an added twinge of nostalgia — while remaining playful and unafraid to segue for a moment before returning to the chart. It's not exactly living in the past, but it does beg the questions of how beholden we are to the paths cleared by Monk, Miles, Bird, etc., and how we think or talk about everything from Zorn to Zeppelin to Biggie Smalls that came later (with words or chords). The answer isn't clear

to me: is *Reflections* a still-enriching source of feeling, or merely a backdrop to the wholly separate way we experience music, and other media, today?

But it's that question that makes the trio's playing all the more interesting. The group's canvas is not a white sheet, but a pre-shaped sculpture, a collage of recognized patterns and riffs that every jazz aficionado knows by heart. It is then every deviation from this form — every smoothed corner or roughened surface — that stands out and informs us. *Reflections* does not stand alone, but meshes with an already present aural history (a different one for every listener). It is a tacit comment on the use of form in art — from the villanelle to the blues — and on the familiar as a whole, as general as the twelve-tone system or as specific as a Real Book chart.

So welcome to the non-Time Life Jazz Century in Review. After nearly a hundred years of looking forward, it's healthy to look back. Sometimes it's the best view there is.

## TV REVIEW

## Glee &amp; Musicals in the Context of Popular Culture

## A Motley Cast of Misfits, Raw Talent, and a Lot of Heart

By Maggie Liu

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Glee

Created by Ryan Murphy, Brad Falchuk, and Ian Brennan

My first introduction to musicals in the popular media was through Zac Efron. The teen idol's glaringly bright white smile set against the flawless tan skin gleamed at me from every cover of *People* magazine. This was known as the *High School Musical* craze. I was utterly flabbergasted as to how a made-for-T.V. movie could seize storms of teenage girls in a frenzy (not dissimilar to the *Twilight* fans). Of course, the *High School Musical* wave was more geared towards those in their late pre-teen years, still easily swayed by the smooth facial hair-less boys. When my friends started urging me to watch *Glee*, all I knew was that it was also a teen musical and shook my head adamantly.

I finally gave in to peer pressure and the surprising realization that the cast of *Glee* was not artificially all good-looking. There was none of that fresh-scrubbed Disney Channel squeaky cleanness to the cast that *High School Musical* possessed. In fact, as I squinted at the Google images, they were quite the motley crew.

There is almost a *Breakfast Club* element to the glee club (called New Direction) members. Every convention is embraced and then later thrown back to the audience with a twist. There's the openly flamboyant Kurt who is always decked out in designer threads; the quiet Goth Asian Tina; a heavyset but strong-willed diva Mercedes who insists she "is Beyoncé ... ain't no Kelly Rowland," rounded off by a bespectacled Artie in a wheelchair. However, it is probably the obnoxiously overambitious but undeniably talented Rachel who steals the show. A musical prodigy who has an ego the size of her nose, Rachel is both the glue that pulls the club together and also the catalyst for many other events. The other half of the glee group is loosely comprised of jocks and cheerleaders recruited after a turn of events. *Glee* has its roots in *Freaks and Geeks* and other such cult media that highlight the misfits. The refreshing aspect of *Glee* is that the stereotypical high school set is embraced shamelessly but the plot carried out with such character and charm that the clichés are overshadowed.

At first glance, the series does seem rather unoriginal. I was unimpressed by the pilot episode in which the attractive McKinley High Spanish teacher, Will Schuester, hopes to restore the glee club, New Directions, to its former glory and begins recruiting members

through some rather unscrupulous methods. There is a distinct social hierarchy carved out in McKinley High. It embraces all the teen clichés. McKinley's jocks rule the school with an iron fist, their power only offset by the cheerleader squad, the principal's pride and joy. As Sue Sylvester, the cheerleading coach puts it, "It [the glee club] is below the below". Since joining the glee club marks one as a social pariah (and often merits one a routine Slushy in the face), the gang of willing candidates is quite the hodgepodge group. To "draw from the popular rank," Schuester blackmails the star quarterback, Finn Hudson (Cory Monteith) into joining. The rest of the series follows the glee club's trials and tribulations. Along their path to Regionals, they face squabbling amongst each other and constant attempts by Sue Sylvester to end the glee club's existence.

Along with the ragtag but lovable cast, the talent of *Glee*'s cast is undeniable. Lea Michele, who plays Rachel, actually starred in the controversial Broadway musical *Spring Awakening*. Many others in the cast also have Broadway experience. While the *High School Musical* cast have well-trained voices, there is a homogeneity in the style. The *Glee* actors bring a rawness and unbridled talent to the silver screen. Many of the New Direction numbers are remixes and mashups of pop songs.

Watching the glee kids do a rendition of "Crazy/Hair" in wild wigs to integrate "hairgraphy" is both hilarious and endearing.

*Glee*'s significance in the context of pop media is its ability to transcend age and gender. Let's face it — most fans of *High School Musical* are pre-teens with schoolgirl crushes on Zac Efron. *Glee* succeeds through its variety-pack of characters and biting humor. It has set modern musicals on the popular culture map. I, amongst many others, always used to relate musicals to the likes of *Les Misérables* and other classics. Titles like *Wicked* and *Spring Awakening* are still not as associated to musicals. *Glee* makes musicals hip again. At the same time, the audience can relate to the base sentiments and struggles of the characters. Who hasn't faced self doubts or anxieties?

*Glee* may not have the most original plotline, but its witty screenplay and undeniable talent justify its popularity. In the grand scheme of things, *Glee* overturns many societal standards and forces us to scrutinize for both flaws and admirable traits in humans. It also excels in a satiric rendition of a high school comedy. *Glee* brings a grounded realism to a potentially fluffy story. For those who want a dash of music, a smidgen of romance, and a lot of heart, *Glee* is a must-watch.



Gustav Down '13 sings "You Belong with Me" by Taylor Swift during the MIT Logarithms Winter Concert held on December 11, 2009 in Kresge Auditorium.

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## Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



STEALMYCOMIC.COM

## Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

### Across

- 1 Vikings quarterback Brett
- 6 Recipe amt.
- 10 1960s-'70s NBA center Thurmond
- 14 Former Apple laptop
- 15 Eurasian boundary river
- 16 Expel
- 17 Marsh grass
- 18 Italia's capital
- 19 "I'll be there in \_\_\_"
- 20 Shed some pounds
- 23 City square memorial
- 24 Suffix with Gator
- 25 Some NFL blockers
- 28 Begins
- 31 Woodsy route
- 33 Bear: Sp.
- 36 Logger's tool
- 37 Either of two Modesto-based vintner brothers
- 38 Divide earnings equally

### Down

- 43 Fella
- 44 Charlotte of "The Facts of Life"
- 45 Fireplace residue
- 46 Ancient Indo-European
- 47 "Blue" evergreen
- 50 Fish-to-be
- 51 Topeka is its cap.
- 53 Mariner
- 57 Talk to the answering machine
- 61 Post-shower powder
- 63 Move, to a Realtor
- 64 Scatter, as seed
- 65 Impressionist
- 66 Former Lacoste partner
- 67 Draws closer
- 68 Ashram advisor
- 69 Caustic fluids
- 70 \_\_\_craftsy

- 3 Screwdriver liquor
- 4 Classic thesaurus
- 5 Barely make, as a living
- 6 Gang land
- 7 Often furrowed facial feature
- 8 Identical to, with "the"
- 9 Checkered pattern
- 10 Biblical helmsman
- 11 Koala's home
- 12 Prufrock creator's monogram
- 13 Abbr. covering unlisted items
- 21 Famine's opposite
- 22 Beginning, informally
- 26 Leans to one side
- 27 Wade through the shallows
- 29 Pep rally yell
- 30 Insignificant one
- 32 WWII Brit. fliers
- 33 Schindler of "Schindler's List"
- 34 Former veep Agnew

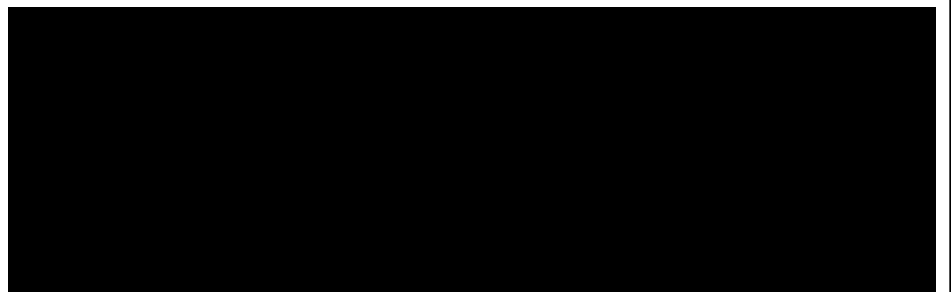
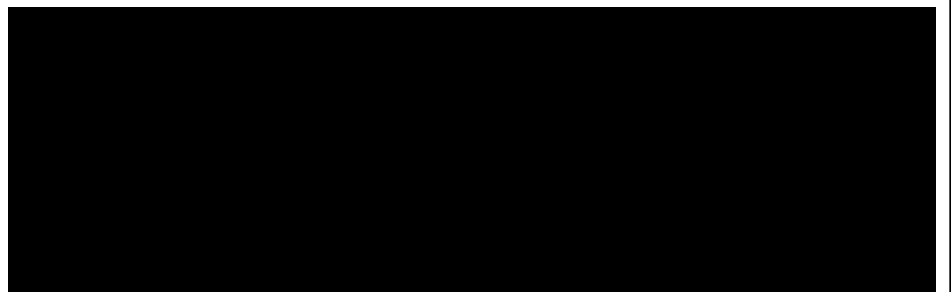
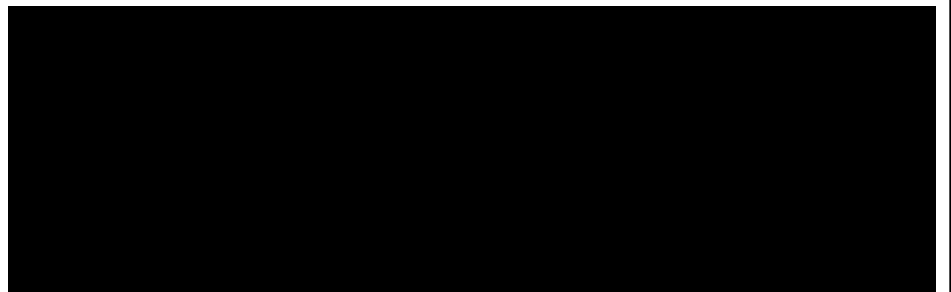
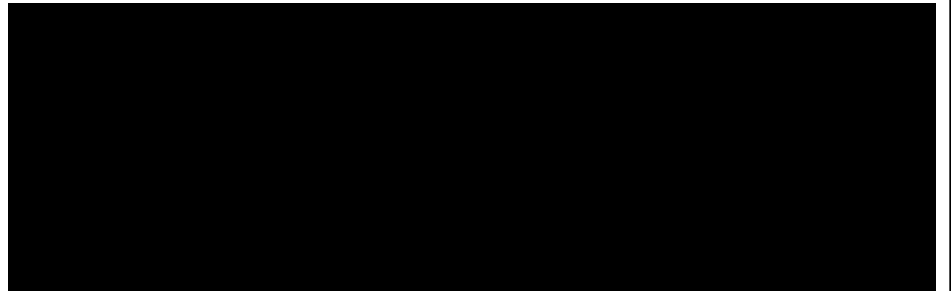
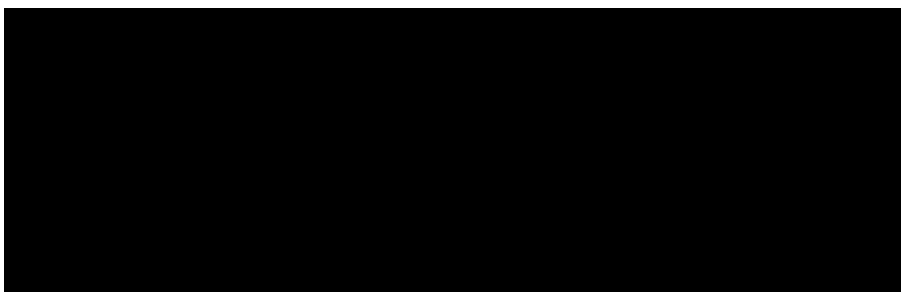
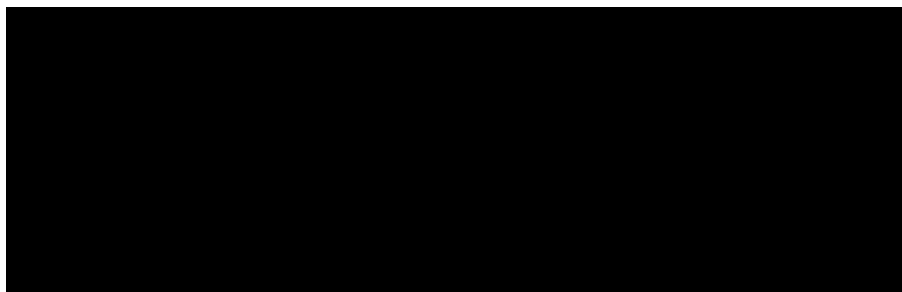
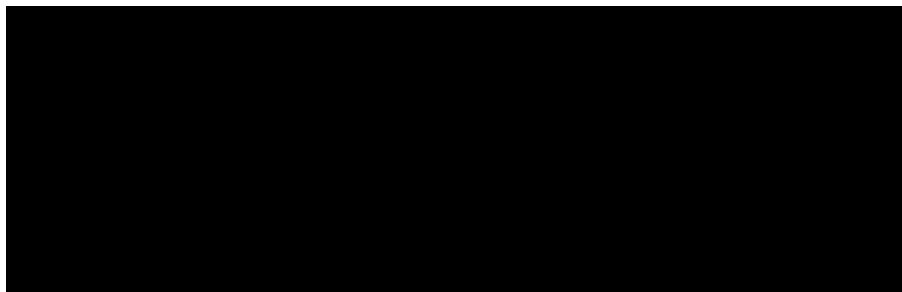
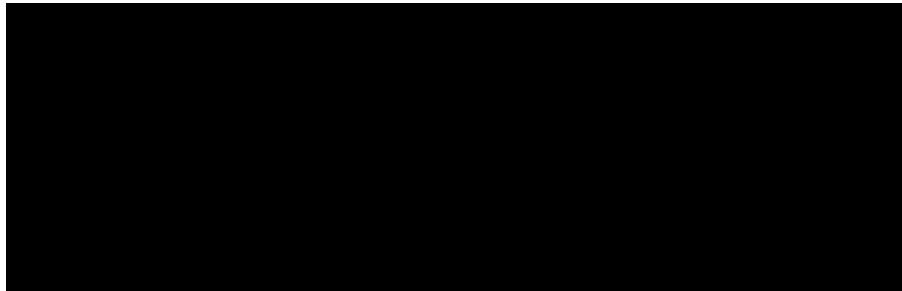
- 35 Classic boy-and-dog Disney film
- 39 Actress Lupino
- 40 Big name in little trucks
- 41 Golfer's goal
- 42 Put into service again
- 47 Dwarf who needs tissues
- 48 Big name in small planes
- 49 Day to put all your eggs in one basket
- 52 Pop singer Lavigne
- 54 French Revolution journalist
- 55 Golden \_\_\_: senior citizens
- 56 Full of the latest happenings
- 58 Stocking hue
- 59 Shaving gel additive
- 60 Stylish '60s Brits
- 61 "You're it!" game
- 62 "The Simpsons" Squishee seller

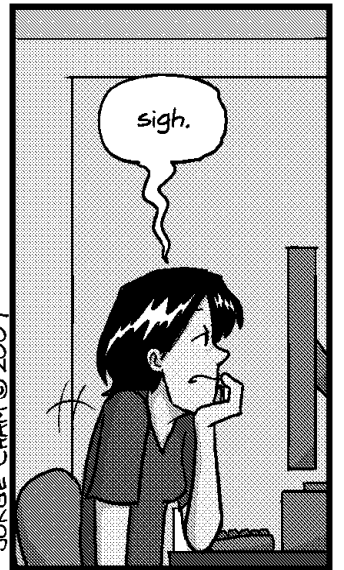
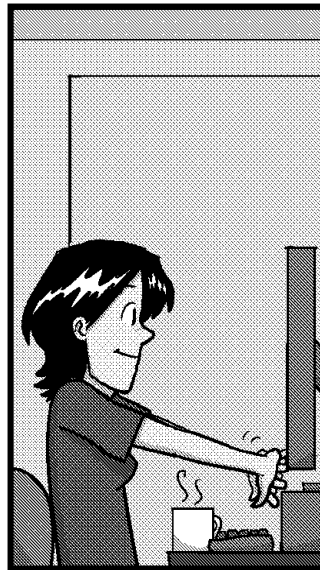
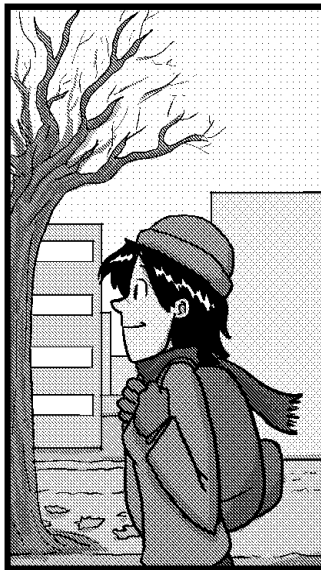
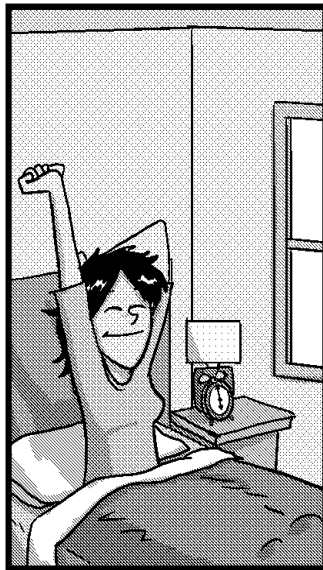
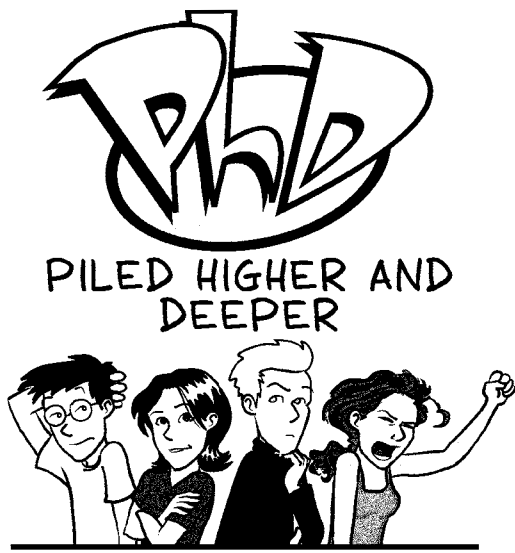
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## Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

## Dilbert® by Scott Adams

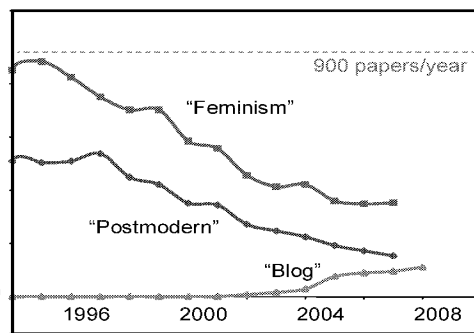
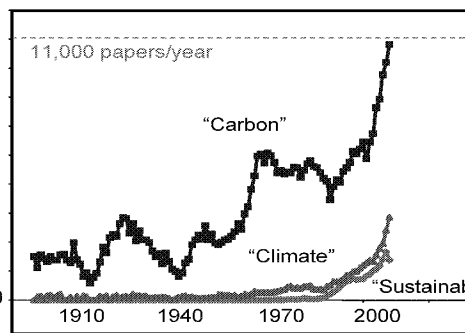
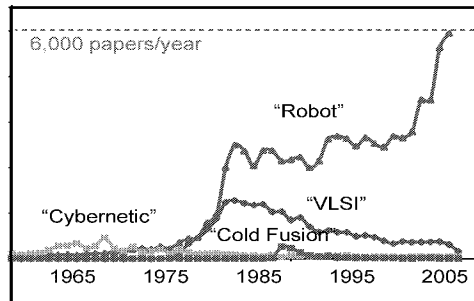
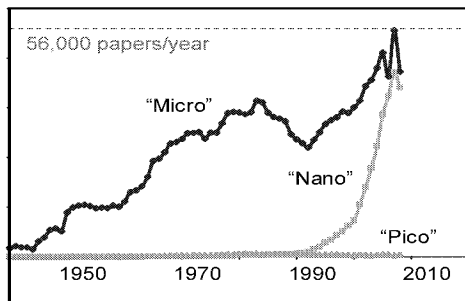




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### Buzzwords!

Number of papers published per year with the corresponding buzzword in the title.



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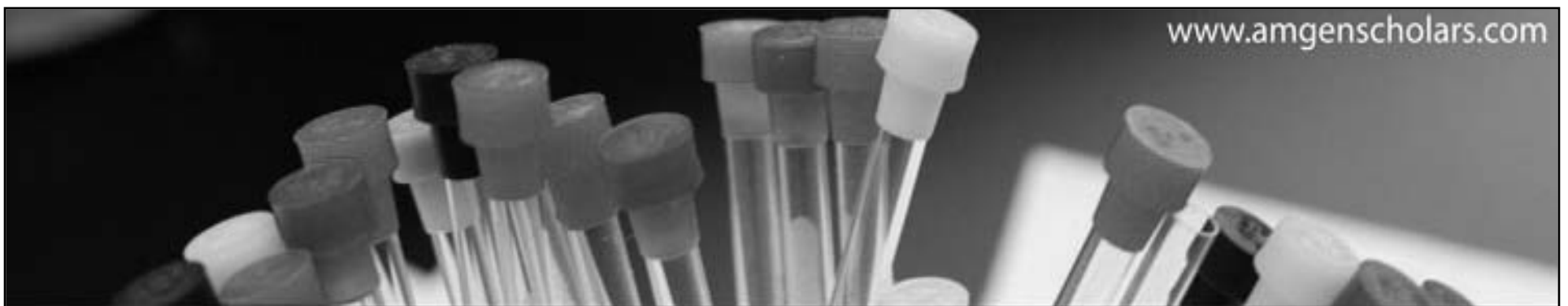
Scale: All figures normalized by number of journals in print each year. Sources: ISI Web of Knowledge, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory.

### Sudoku

Solution on page 13

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

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



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# Gaggle Cops 130th Managing Board Elections

SPECIAL TO THE TECH

On December 7, 2009, *The Tech* took over the UA Senate chambers in W20-400 for these momentous affirmations of journalistic excellence.

Steve "at the moon" Howland '11 was finally elevated from his earlier life as a "prod coolie" to lead the entire organization as **Chairman**.

Jeff "Glo!" Guo '11 vanquished all competition long before the election and accepted the awe-inspiring mantle of **Editor in Chief**.

Greg "Hebrew Hammer" Steinbrecher '12 has sold sufficient ads to be deemed worthy of managing the entire business department.

David M. "Dogfish Head" Templeton '08 broke through the competition to lead the Production and Technology departments as **Managing Editor**, and did it all on the basis of his extensive experience acquired in zero nights of laying out the newspaper.

Natasha "OLPC" Plotkin '11 abandoned her former role in the News Department for greater heights as our **Executive Editor**, leading with her poofy hair.

John A. "I still remember that

paper plate" Hawkinson '98, Pearle "Oysters aren't the only way" Lipinski '12, Ana "Don't call me Anna" Lyons '12, Robert "Baker" McQueen '12 all committed to minding the business of news and ensuring *The Tech* identifies any Jayson Blairs long before they can be seen by anybody else.

With greater acceleration than anybody else, Connor "Squash is not a requirement for this position" Kirschbaum '13 and Aislyn "Eyelash does too have a vowel!" Schalck '13 became **Production Editors**.

With eloquent expression, Joseph "There's a fire in East Campus!" Maurer '12 and Ethan "Wise King" Solomon '12 dedicated themselves to remain **Opinion Editors**.

With fast-moving action and quick-witted competition, David "Debate is a sport!" Zhu '12 and Russell "I only dream about football" Spivak '13 are our **Sports Editors**.

Recognizing that Arts and Cultures are two sides of the same coin, Maggie "Fashionista" Liu '12 plans

to paint the town red as **Arts Editor**.

Demonstrating that their vision is as true as their lenses long, Vibin "No one can pronounce my last name" Kundukulam '11 and Jessica "Rock Climbing" Liu '13 will dominate the V130 visual spectrum as **Photography Editors**.

Michael "Mr. T" T. Lin '11 will continue to manage his most popular, most wild, and perhaps most read section, as **Campus Life Editor**.

Mark "Skateboard!" Thompson '11 remains holed up in the business office, this time with Moya "Neck and Shoulders, too!" Chin '13, serving as **Advertising Managers**.

Sherry "That was too expensive" Yan '11 continues to keep our finances in order as **Operations Manager**.

Quentin "Q-DAWG!" Smith '10 will lead our nice rack into the new decade as **Technology Director**.

After deciding that the executive board was too much punishment but they couldn't actually go away, Austin "From the South" Chu G, Michael McGraw-"Hat-head"-Her-

deg G, Nick "Shaq" Bushak '10 will serve as **Contributing Editors**.

Because we're too lame to revise our constitution, but felt their contributions were critical too miss out on, Monica "American Apparel" Gallegos '11 and Robin "There's a wolf on my head!" L. Dahan '12 agreed to serve as **Contributing Editors** until such time as we actually created the illustrious position of **Illustration Editors**.

That department was rounded out by Caroline "It's not about the singing" Huang '10, also serving as a **Contributing Editor**.

Fearing they would leave us without a "senior moment," we elected Charles "I like homemade scarves" Lin G, S. Balaji "Balz" Mani '10, Andrea "freshman crush object" Robles '10, Jessica "never finished Zelda: Twilight Princess" Witchley '10, Arkajit "DANCE-OFF!" Dey '11 in the capacity of **Senior Editors**.

It was also felt that a peanut gallery was required in *The Tech's* managing board, and that could be served by a group known as the **Advisory**

"Adversary" Board, to wit: Paul E. "Indexing Project" Schindler, Jr. '74, V. Michael "Junior" Bove '83, Barry S. "Left the Times for the News?!" Surman '84, Robert E. "Hired Gun" Malchman '85, Deborah A. "rudimentary smattering" Levinson '91, Jonathan E. D. "and the fan club!" Richmond PhD '91, Karen "LA Law" Kaplan '93, Saul "Desknet" Blumenthal '98, Frank "Visting Lecturer" Dabek '00, Daniel Ryan "drb" Bersak '02, Eric J. "The SuperOne" Cholankeeril '02, Jordan "the Jordan" Rubin '02, Nathan "It's a Junior University!" Collins SM '03, Keith J. "Call me Ishmael" Winstein '03, Akshay R. "Smooth" Patil '04, Tiffany "Seattle" Dohzen '06, Beckett W. "We have your Spiderman" Sterner '06, Marissa "Still afraid of elevators" Vogt '06, Andrew T. "It's good to be president," Lukmann '07, Zachary "once an evil overlord, always an evil overlord" Ozer '07, Omari "blue moon" Stephens '08, Marie Y. "garlic butter" Thibault '08, and B(een there). D(One that). Colen.

## The Science of Climate Is Quite Political, MIT Panelists Tell Forum

Climategate, from Page 1

how conclusions were reached across to the public.

Prinn says the answer lies in peer-reviewed literature, not blogs or opinion pieces.

Reliance on such sources may explain popular misconceptions about global warming. As an example, Prinn noted that the "popular view of global warming is it's all CO<sub>2</sub>."

Yet the 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Planet on Climate Change cites a raft of other anthropogenic greenhouse gases, including methane and nitrous oxide. Emanuel also emphasized that water vapor significantly boosts the effects of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The panelists wholeheartedly agreed that the public needs to be exposed to more technical data, but could not settle on whether individuals should make sense of it for themselves and whether it's asking too much of scientists to boil it down for them. Until then, mass media may likely remain the primary source of climate change "science" for the public.

### Politics

Layzer argued that, similar to the media, policy debates do not rely on the pure science.

According to Layzer, science must be transformed into a compelling political story with a villain and a hero.

The policy-making process consists of groups competing to provide the authoritative definition of the problem and a responsible solu-

tion. In the case of climate change, one group advocates the risk of unchecked global warming and the need for government intervention while the other focuses on the economic backlash and questions the magnitude of the risk.

Layzer noted that once policy makers have defined a problem, they want to know what to do immediately — not wait until scientists have sorted all the data and reached a definitive conclusion. Hence, scientists are forced to make value judgments.

As an example, Layzer asked what constitutes dangerous interference with the climate system. Emanuel also questioned how high the threat of severe climatic change must be before we take action on global warming. A two percent likelihood? Ten percent? Fifty percent?

Different values prompt different responses. Prinn's view of the risk is that we have no other planet to retreat to if anything happens to this one. "It's not like the good old days when we could head west." Meanwhile, Lindzen, who questions the statistical significance of temperature change attributed to human CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, expressed suspicion of proposed solutions which require heavy government subsidies (like renewable energy).

Ironically, what has given the climate change issue momentum and prompted passionate policy debates is that it's no longer an abstract concept with a lot of chemistry and reactions, Layzer explained. Instead, that lack of abstract understanding is what scientists now lament.

## Planning Task Force Reports Avail.; Final Decisions Coming in February

Task Force, from Page 1

to Lerman, such recommendations are still considered actionable.

### Research Working Group

According to Vice President for Research and Associate Provost Claude R. Canizares, who co-chaired the Research Working Group, much time was spent educating members of the Task Force so they could understand their Working Group's area of study. Many Working Groups, including both the Education and Research groups, chose to further break into subgroups.

Canizares said his Working Group was "looking for ways to be a little more standardized in our procedures," even if some recommendations didn't save a significant amount of money. Preparing research proposals, for example, requires about 6,600 hours of work a year by the Office of Sponsored Programs. These proposals are submitted in a variety of formats, and so the Research Working Group calls for a single preparation process and templates to increase efficiency within this process.

### Education Working Group

EECS Department Head W. Eric L. Grimson PhD '80, who co-chaired the Education Working Group, said they examined critical qualities of the MIT experience in order to "reduce costs and increase revenue without compromising these qualities."

One idea this working group discussed was increasing undergraduate enrollment, but Grimson stressed that the group rejected any changes to MIT's status as a need-blind institution in admissions. The Education Working Group's report lists 16 principles that "are very important to preserve." One of these is "MIT as a Meritocracy, where opportunities are not limited by ability to pay," and so need-blind admissions were

### Five Themes of Task Force Final Report

New Revenue Enhancement and Educational Opportunities for MIT  
Framework for Accountability and Transparency  
Gaining Efficiencies and Supporting Standards  
Process Modernization—Digital MIT  
Modern Workforce Policies and Practices

considered a critical part of the MIT culture.

### Individual decisions in February

While the Task Force was in charge of assembling these recommendations, the "ultimate decision," said Lerman, concerning these ideas belongs to the Task Force senior leadership, consisting of Provost L. Rafael Reif, Chancellor Philip L. Clay PhD '75, and Executive Vice President and Treasurer Theresa M. Stone SM '76.

According to a December e-mail to the MIT community from the task force, "We will now carefully evaluate the ideas and opportunities this final report presents ... we will announce by February some specific plans for implementation."

This leadership team will make one of four decisions for each recommendation: form a study group to collect more information on that topic; assign the recommendation to the appropriate member of the MIT community; form a task force for recommendations that affect several departments and so can't be assigned to one person; or decide the recommendation is not worth pursuing.

The final report comes about 7 weeks after its original release deadline of early November. Lerman explained three reasons for the delay. Firstly, the working groups took longer than expected to produce their write-ups.

Secondly, the release of the final report was planned to come before that of the FY2011 budget letter

### Nine Working Groups Within The Task Force

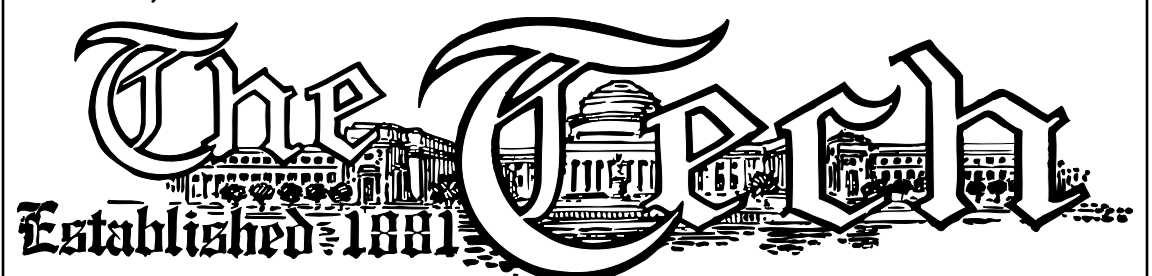
Education  
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Space  
Administrative Processes  
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Student Life  
Revenue Enhancement

from the provost so the Task Force recommendations could be considered in the budget. This letter is typically sent in mid-to-late October, but some departments saw 1-2 month delays from the processing of budget cut allocations. With the release of the budget letter pushed back, the Task Force no longer needed to release its final report by November. According to Lerman, "these are unusual times," in the economy, which lead to "unusual budget calendars."

Finally, the coordinators requested legal review of all Working Group reports to ensure full legality in its recommendations, especially ideas involving government sponsored research funding and retirement regulations.

The final report is available at <http://tech.mit.edu/V129/N60/task-force>.

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# 26-100 Visited by Famed xkcd Web Comic Artist Monroe

xkcd, from Page 1

was surprised to see so many people seated. There must about been around 150 people when I walked in and nearly 200 by the time the talk finished. I had expected just a book signing — not a full-on presentation. I scanned the front of the room for Randall Munroe and realized that I had no idea what he looked like. As we took out seats, Tony whispered to me “they could put some random guy up there to talk to us about xkcd and I’d never know the difference.”

I was too late to buy a book before the presentation, so we settled into our seats to listen to Randall Munroe’s talk.

The “talk” consisted less of a presentation and more of open Q&A. Munroe hadn’t actually prepared any sort of presentation, and just opened the floor to the audience.

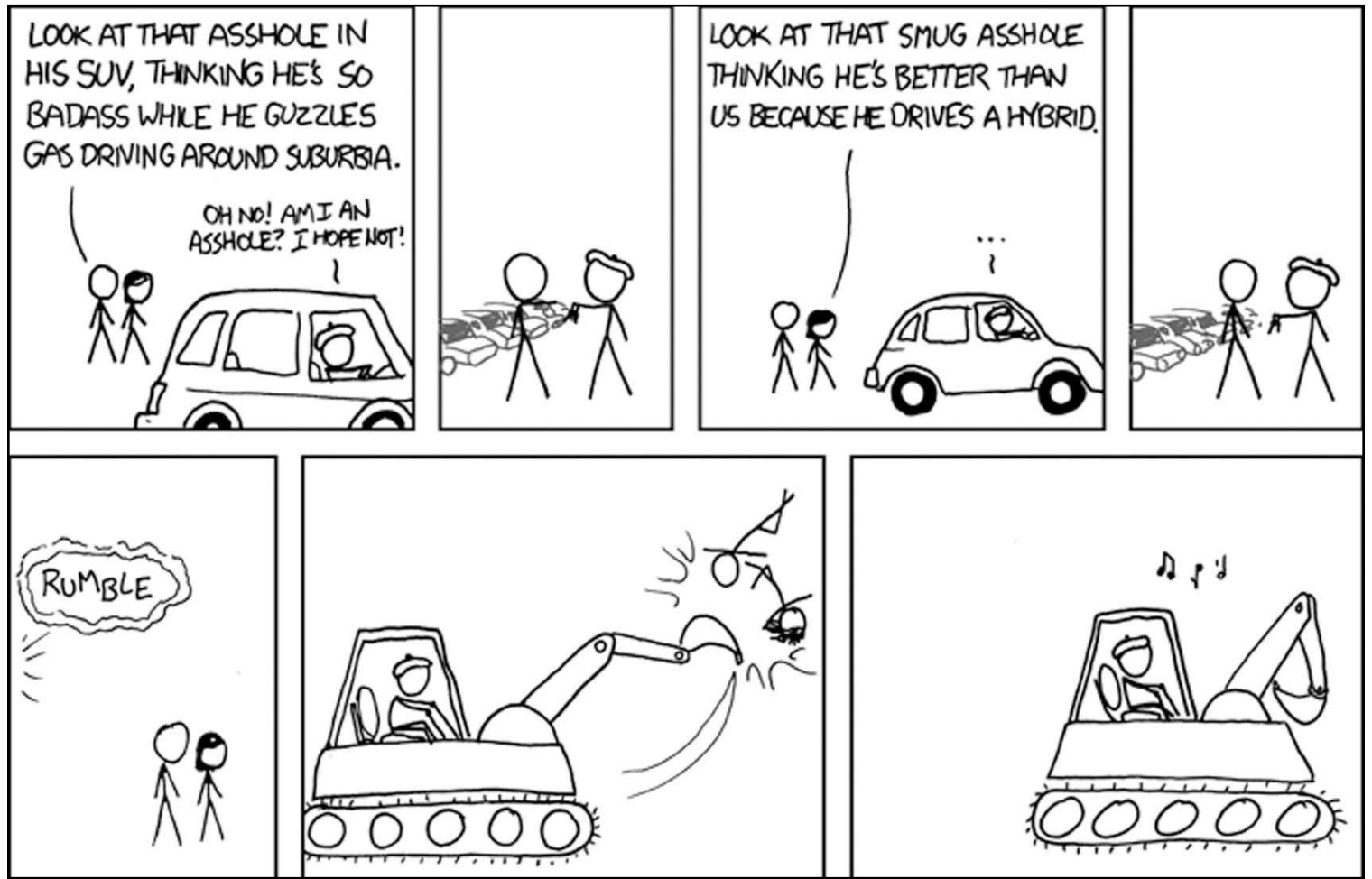
### Venn diagram of geeks and nerds

One of the first questions was “What’s the difference between a geek and a nerd?” which resulted in Munroe trying to explain a Venn Diagram he had once seen on the internet about this concept and then refusing to use the blackboard to draw it out and using his tablet (hooked up to the video projector) to explain instead. The diagram involved a number of categories and was rather incomprehensible since it was messy, but Munroe promised to put up a clean version of the xkcd blog sometime soon.

### On parenthetical emoticons

Other audience members questions varied from how early xkcd comics are finished before deadline (Munroe keeps a list of ideas for comics and sketches one out quickly if he doesn’t come up with anything new) to how to put smiley faces in parenthesis (apparently we’re all doomed to “double chinned” smileys :)).

The smiley question resulted in a rather amusing demonstration of how creepy the Google Chat smileys are when they turn slowly. Using the tablet he had attached to his Mac (he uses a tablet as a mouse all the time, though he says he rarely draws on it. The stick figure he drew for the crowd was noticeably different than the ones in the comics) and drew a sideways smiley.



It’s a “normal smiley” he said, and even rotated to the right orientation it was noticeably “not creepy.” However, he pointed out, as soon as the smiley is turned slowly, it becomes very frightening. Whenever he was drawing, Munroe stopped talking completely, telling us afterwards that he can never talk while drawing. It’s “something about the way the brain works” he said, gesturing at his head.

### Making and breaking friendships

Asked about the impact of some of his comics, Munroe cited comic 513, “Friends,” about a friend who slowly inches into a romantic relationship. He mentioned that several readers e-mailed him who knew exactly what he was talking about, some who realized they were in such a relationship, and one man who knew he had done the same thing to

his girlfriend and was “going to try his best” to make sure she didn’t find out about the comic.

My favorite part of the presentation was when Munroe was asked if he had ever intentionally screwed up a relationship for the sake of writing a comic. While the answer was no, he recalled a story about how a comic nearly screwed up a relationship.

On the night that comic 330, “Indecision,” a comic about how indecision should ultimately end in sexual experimentation, was released, he had a first date with a girl and some friends. While the two of them were chatting in one room, the comic went live without Munroe thinking about it. Their friends in the other room saw the comic and eventually when Munroe opened the door, he found a bottle of Crisco behind it. Though he immediately realized the joke, he

said that explaining to his date was “awkward” though fortunately “she took it in good humor.”

### Multi-hour waits for signing

The presentation stopped at 7 p.m. so that the book signings could begin. Two enormous lines immediately formed — one to buy books and one to get books signed. I accidentally stood in the book signing line for 30 minutes without realizing it and had to switch to the other line. While it didn’t take terribly long to buy a book, the line for a signing took considerably longer.

We ended up getting our books signed around 9:30 p.m., and there was still a line stretching up the aisle of 26-100 and around the back. The long wait was due mostly to the fact that Munroe tried to speak to each fan while he signed their book, since everyone was “patient and waited in

line for so long.” He thanked every fan for waiting, was happy to take pictures with anyone who wanted one, and expressed concern that he was going to need to hurry in order to leave early to put the comic up.

“The people in the back are going to think I’m a jerk,” he said when mentioning that he wasn’t going to be able to give everyone as much personal attention as he would have liked. “That’s really unfortunate.”

Though I went in for only one book for my friend, I ended up getting one for myself as well. MIT Press sold the books for \$19, \$1 more expensive than they are online. They made about \$2,000 that night.

Munroe ended up leaving 26-100 before midnight to put that night’s comic, “Asshole,” online. This is Munroe’s second visit to MIT after his visit through LSC in 2007.

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# MIT & Startup Sue Hard Drive Manufacturer Seagate

By Ashlee Vance and Diana B. Henriques

THE NEW YORK TIMES DECEMBER 28, 2009

A decade-long lawsuit pitting a tiny company called Convolv against Seagate Technology has taken an unexpected turn after a whistle-blower claimed that Seagate had appropriated Convolv technology and later destroyed evidence in the case.

The whistle-blower, a former Seagate employee named Paul A. Galloway, has provided what is described as “an eyewitness account” accusing Seagate of taking hard-drive technology from Convolv and incorporating it into its own products, according to documents filed recently with a federal court in Manhattan.

The court filings include claims by Galloway that Seagate, the world’s largest producer of computer hard drives, tampered with evidence tied to Convolv’s nearly 10-year-old patent infringement case against the company.

The allegations are detailed in an affidavit filed by one of Convolv’s lawyers as part of an effort to reopen the voluminous court record to in-

clude testimony from Galloway.

A conference on the case has been scheduled for Jan. 20 by Magistrate Judge James C. Francis IV of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, but it is not clear whether Convolv’s motion will be considered at that session.

The patent infringement case between Convolv and Seagate dates to 2000, when Convolv and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology sued Seagate and Compaq Computer seeking \$800 million over technology that reduced the noise and vibration generated by hard-disk drives, the devices often used to store information in personal computers and computer servers.

Researchers at MIT had developed techniques for reducing the noise of a hard drive without significantly impairing its performance. Convolv was formed to help market and sell this and other related technology.

According to court and regulatory filings, representatives from Convolv and Seagate met in 1998 and 1999 to discuss some of Convolv’s work, subject to an agreement that Seagate

would not make improper use of what it learned in those discussions.

In 2000, Convolv sued Seagate and one of its customers, Compaq, claiming that the “sound barrier” technology that Seagate introduced in 2000 relied on Convolv’s sound reduction innovations.

In the nine years since then, Convolv and Seagate have exchanged hundreds of documents under court-ordered discovery and filed myriad legal motions against each other. The case had the complex record of any drawn-out corporate skirmish – until the affidavit detailing Galloway’s allegations was quietly filed early this month.

On Dec. 2, the court docket showed an affidavit by Debra Brown Steinberg, one of the lawyers at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft representing MIT and Convolv, asking the magistrate handling the case to allow the introduction of Galloway’s testimony.

In her motion, Steinberg declared that Galloway was an engineer at Seagate until July 2009, and that he had contacted Convolv’s lawyers after he left Seagate to discuss the

continuing court battle. Galloway then agreed to submit a sworn affidavit, which was not available in the public record.

Steinberg said Galloway had disclosed that Seagate’s engineers began to zero in on improving the company’s sound reduction features only after the company had seen Convolv’s technology. The company engineers, however, were not informed that Seagate had a nondisclosure agreement with Convolv that should have protected the technology, according to the affidavit.

“I was deceived by my management’s failure to tell me that the Convolv technology discussed within Seagate was NDA protected,” stated Galloway, referring to the nondisclosure agreement, in a section of the affidavit reproduced by Steinberg. “If I had known about Convolv’s NDA with Seagate, I would not have worked on competing technology.”

According to the filings, Galloway went on to say it appeared that Seagate had intentionally destroyed some of the software blueprints linked to products using the sound reduction technology.

Galloway claimed that the use of Convolv’s technology had been discussed extensively by Seagate’s engineers during meetings and that records of those meetings should be available. Galloway also said that Seagate had removed the computer on which his own notes about the technology were stored.

Woody Monroy, a Seagate spokesman, declined to comment on the matter. A spokeswoman for Hewlett-Packard, which now owns Compaq, declined to comment as well, but in the company’s public filings it has disclosed that Seagate was taking the lead in the litigation and had promised to indemnify Hewlett-Packard for certain claims included in the lawsuit, if necessary.

Galloway’s lawyer did not respond to a request for comment.

According to court documents, Galloway previously was a witness for Seagate in the protracted litigation.

Convolv has also sued Dell, Hitachi and Western Digital in regard to similar technology. That case is pending in a U.S. District Court in Marshall, Texas.



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# Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between November 13 to December 31. The dates below reflect the dates incidents occurred. This information is compiled from the Campus Police's crime log. The report does not include alarms, general service calls, or incidents not reported to the dispatcher.

- Oct. 1 Bldg. 32 (32 Vassar St.), 12:00 a.m., moped vandalized.
- Nov. 3 Bldg. E25 (45 Carlton St.), 8:00 p.m., larceny of wireless keyboard and mouse.
- Nov. 13 Bldg. W7 (Baker House), 9:00 a.m., larceny of bicycle.
- Nov. 13 Bldg. 9 (105 Massachusetts Ave.), 7:30 p.m., larceny of laptop.
- Nov. 14 Bldg. E19 (400 Main St.), 12:00 a.m., larceny of tools from a vehicle in the Ford lot.
- Nov. 15 Bldg. 46 (46 Vassar St.), 12:20 p.m., rear bicycle wheel stolen.
- Nov. 15 Bldg. 1 (33 Massachusetts Ave.), 11:45 p.m., report of broken window and larceny of items.
- Nov. 16 Bldg. 1 (33 Massachusetts Ave.), 5:26 p.m., report of suspicious male in stairwell area making strange bird noises. Male arrested for trespassing: Fabio Armelio, homeless.
- Nov. 17 Bldg. E25 (45 Carlton St.), 11:00 a.m., larceny of wallet.
- Nov. 18 Bldg. 14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 3:00 p.m., report of past larceny of a wallet at Hayden library.
- Nov. 18 Bldg. 39 (60 Vassar St.), 7:30 p.m., larceny of computer.
- Nov. 19 Bldg. 1 (33 Massachusetts Ave.), 4:00 a.m., party stated that a door was open.
- Nov. 19 Bldg. E25 (45 Carlton St.), 9:45 a.m., boots stolen.
- Nov. 19 Bldg. W31 (120 Massachusetts Ave.), 7:00 p.m., larceny of backpack with a laptop inside.
- Nov. 20 Bldg. 1 (33 Massachusetts Ave.), 2:32 a.m., laptop larceny.
- Nov. 20 Bldg. 9 (105 Massachusetts Ave.), 10:57 a.m., larceny of video and digital camera.
- Nov. 21 Bldg. W20 (Student Center), 5:00 p.m., larceny of laptop.
- Nov. 22 Bldg. 4 (182 Rear Memorial Dr.), 5:30 p.m., larceny of chairs.
- Nov. 23 Bldg. 9 (105 Massachusetts Ave.), 5:36 a.m., Fabio Armelio of 106 Warren St., Somerville Mass. arrested for trespassing and outstanding warrant.
- Nov. 23 Bldg. E52 (50 Memorial Dr.), 8:44 a.m., caller states a male was screaming at a woman on the Sloan school plaza. Male had left area and accused the woman of brushing against his child while walking.
- Nov. 29 Bldg. W20 (Student Center), 2:36 p.m., several calls received about an individual screaming at people. John Molinary (62 Waldeck St., Dorchester, Mass.) arrested for disorderly conduct, assault and battery, and other related charges.
- Nov. 30 Bldg. W20 (Student Center), 3:48 p.m., report of suspicious male scamming people for money. Trespass warning issued.
- Nov. 30 Bldg. 32 (32 Vassar St.), 5:15 p.m., larceny of photo equipment.
- Nov. 30 Bldg. W20 (Student Center), 11:30 p.m., report of two females and a white male shoplifting sandwiches.
- Dec. 1 Bldg. W79 (229 Vassar St.), 9:40 a.m., larceny of bicycle.
- Dec. 1 Bldg. 35 (127 Massachusetts Ave.), 10:00 a.m., larceny of bicycle.
- Dec. 1 Bldg. E51 (70 Memorial Dr.), 6:00 p.m., larceny of desktop computers from office.
- Dec. 2 Bldg. W20 (Student Center), 1:00 p.m., larceny of iPod from unattended coat.
- Dec. 4 Bldg. 9 (105 Massachusetts Ave.), 12:30 p.m., larceny of laptop from an office.
- Dec. 4 Bldg. 68 (31 Ames St.), 4:00 p.m., larceny of MIT ID, credit card.
- Dec. 5 Bldg. W34 (120 Vassar St.), 2:12 a.m., two males arrested for malicious destruction of property: Ar-ian Shafiee (33 Gainsboro St., Apt. 301B, Boston, Mass.) and L Kai Laota Sandova (33 Gainsboro St., Apt. 301B, Boston, Mass.).
- Dec. 5 518 Beacon St. Boston, 7:00 p.m., tires stolen off vehicle.
- Dec. 8 Bldg. 76 (Main Street), 9:15 a.m., larceny of laptop.
- Dec. 8 Bldg. 7 (77 Massachusetts Ave.), 8:00 p.m., larceny of computer monitor from office.
- Dec. 9 Carlton St., 8:00 p.m., larceny by false pretense.
- Dec. 11 Bldg. 48 (15 Vassar St.), 9:00 a.m., larceny of laptop from office.
- Dec. 13 Bldg. E14 (75 Amherst St.), 8:00 p.m., larceny of TV.
- Dec. 13 Bldg. W20 (Student Center), 10:00 p.m., larceny of cell phone while person was sleeping.
- Dec. 15 Bldg. NE49 (600 Tech Square), 9:00 a.m., attempted larceny from an account.
- Dec. 16 69 Chestnut St. (Pika), 7:34 p.m., candle set items on fire.
- Dec. 17 Bldg. W7 (Baker House), 8:58 a.m., report of a fire.
- Dec. 17 Bldg. E52 (50 Memorial Dr.), 5:00 p.m., larceny of computer hard drive from office.
- Dec. 17 Bldg. 48 (15 Vassar St.), 5:30 p.m., larceny of laptop.
- Dec. 28 Bldg. 66 (25 Ames St.), 11:00 a.m., larceny of wallet.
- Dec. 29 Bldg. 64 (21 Ames St.), 12:15 p.m., contraband discovered in room.

Compiled by Nick Bushak

# Student Woes, Mishaps, And Missed Connections Bring in New Site Traffic

Eff Em El, from Page 1

MIT FML and I Saw You MIT are not used exclusively by MIT students. Judging by the IP addresses of posters, the moderators say that approximately 10 percent of the posts on MIT FML are made from the Wellesley area. There are also posters with Harvard and Dartmouth area IP addresses, they say.

Non-personally-identifying information such as web browsers type, language preference, referring site, and the date and time of each visitor request are collected in addition to the potentially personally identifying IP addresses. According to both sites's terms of use and privacy policies, however, these data are not used to identify its visitors but only to better understand how visitors use their websites.

There is reason to question whether the posts are genuine or made-up scenarios to mock the sites. Alejandro J. Ruiz '12, a sophomore at MIT, admitted to trolling both MIT FML and I Saw You MIT.

"I posted around three fake posts," said Ruiz. "I like that I Saw You is much more awkward and easier to troll."

Another student, who requested to remain anonymous, also trolls these sites. "Funny usually correlates with fake," she said.

### MIT FML Moderation

MIT FML is currently co-moderated by two students, who filter which posts and comments get accepted or deleted. The site started when Jonah Varon, a freshman at Harvard College, started a site called College FML by buying the FML domain names of a few colleges. Varon then asked for students from each college to moderate their own FML pages.

Both FML moderators say that they accept messages based on their originality and entertainment value. As for comments, they are much more lenient, allowing everything except for spam and the most racist and hateful ones.

Approximately three quarters of FMLs submitted are posted on the website, one moderator says.

The moderators say that MIT FML is popular among a growing community of users. In December alone, it generated 13,000

page views, they said. Readership peaked around finals week, when there were around 1000 page views each day.

One post, generating 49 "likes," simply read "Finals Week. FML."

### I Saw You Shows Similar Success

Keone D. Hon '11 started I Saw You MIT after he stumbled on I Saw You Harvard. "It's really just for fun, it's a place to post missed connections, but you didn't really get a chance to talk to them, and an opportunity to say 'hey, maybe we should meet up,'" he said.

Like MIT FML, I Saw You MIT shows signs of growing popularity, generating around 600 page views in 4 days, says Hon. They also saw a dramatic peak in postings during finals week, when around 40 posts were submitted each day.

According to user-supplied data associated with each I Saw You post, women are doing most of the spotting at MIT; 44 percent of the posts were "female spotting male" while "male spotting female" was only 29 percent of the posts. "Male spotting male" was 15 percent and "female spotting female" was 13 percent." The class of 2012 is also the most avid poster among the groups at MIT, posting 36 percent, followed closely by the class of 2013 who posted 28 percent. And the best place for spotting people at MIT? The Student Center, of course.

Hon set up the website and formed a team of collaborators including Tim Stumbaugh '12, Brandon H. Baker '12, and Anthony J. Morelli '12.

Most posts are accepted with the exception of some inside jokes and those that don't seem to make any sense. Some of the common themes that turn up on I Saw You MIT are one-sided love, "you're hot" comments, wishes to get to know each other better, and some are pure observations.

In keeping with one of its goals to catch up on missed connections, I Saw You MIT added a direct reply function over Winter break, that allowed posters to allow others (presumably the one who they are posting about) to contact them, while still maintaining anonymity.

So far there have been around 10 posts that have chosen to utilize direct reply.

The I Saw You MIT team plans on adding more features to the site in the future.

# MIT Rejects Nearly Twice as Many Early Applicants; Less False Hope

Early Action, from Page 1

continuing a six-year upward trend. Last year, the number of early applicants jumped 28 percent. More students are applying, Schmill said, and a larger proportion are applying early.

The 590 students who were admitted early have a demographic profile similar to that of MIT undergraduates. Forty-seven percent are women, and 27 percent are minorities. Fourteen percent are the first in their families to go to college.

This year's applicants were the first to experience the new application, which replaced the 500-word essay with three 200-word essays. They were also recruited less by the admissions office, which has had to lay off staff and cut back on trips this year by 30-50 percent because of university-wide budget cuts.

Despite the record-low admission rate, in absolute terms MIT still took more early applicants than ever — 50 more than last year. Since plans to increase freshman enrollment are stalled until MIT completes the new undergraduate dormitory at W1, the

extra students that were admitted early could crowd out some of those applying in the spring. That might not be the case, Schmill said, if the increase in early applicants came from more students choosing early action over regular action, and not an increase in MIT's total applicant pool. Schmill said he is targeting a class size of 1070, and expects the regular admission rate to be around 10 percent.

Last year, MIT had a record-low 10.2 percent regular admission rate. If the trend of declining admission rates continues, MIT is set to break that record this year.

Colleges nationwide are seeing increases in applications, and admission rates plummeted last year. The sons and daughters of the baby boomers are graduating high school, meaning that more students than ever are applying to college.

The sagging economy may have caused some students to avoid early decision programs, which prevent students from shopping around in the spring for better financial aid offers. MIT's early action program is non-binding, so admitted students

can still apply to other colleges. Uncertainty about getting in or getting financial aid may be causing students to apply to many more colleges, driving up applicant numbers and driving down admission rates.

Many other schools also got more early applicants. Stanford received 4 percent more applicants for its own non-binding early action program. Duke, which has a binding early decision program, saw a 31 percent gain. Columbia, Cornell and Dartmouth had modest increases of a couple percentage points each.

On the other hand, the number of applicants for Yale's early action program fell by five percent. Yale does not allow its early applicants to apply early to any other schools.

Harvard, Princeton and the University of Virginia are among the selective colleges that have ended their early admissions programs, out of concerns that they unfairly benefit wealthier or more admissions-savvy students.

An earlier version of this article ran on-line on The Tech's website on December 17, 2009.

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**Solution to Crossword**  
from page 8

J	A	M	E	S	I	I	E	S	C	A	P	E	S	
A	D	A	P	T	O	R	A	T	E	D	I	R	T	
W	I	L	S	O	N	S	S	O	T	H	E	R	E	
S	A	T	O	R	I	R	E	P	E	T	O	N		
			M	E	Z	Z	O	S	O	P	R	A	N	O
M	A	L			E	I	S		V	E	E			
A	R	U	B	A		P	A	P	E	R	D	O	L	L
J	A	C	U	Z	Z	I	E	R	I	T	R	E	A	
S	P	E	C	T	A	T	O	R		S	O	Y	A	S
			H	E	H		D	O	S		X	K	E	
B	E	T	A	C	A	R	O	T	E	N	E			
E	N	E	R		R	U	R		Q	A	N	T	A	S
R	E	V	E	R	I	E		R	U	S	T	O	U	T
T	R	I	S	T	A	R		Y	E	A	R	N	E	R
H	O	S	T	E	S		A	L	L	E	G	R	O	

**Solution to Sudoku**  
from page 9

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

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## Registrar Doubles Official Transcript Prices

Official transcripts will cost students and alumni twice as much this season as the cost was raised from \$4 to \$8 at the start of MIT's fiscal year on July 1, 2009. Registrar Mary Callahan said that the cost was increased in order to "help cover the steadily rising costs (postage, paper, and handling) associated with its production." Other schools have also increased the cost of transcripts, although not as drastically: Harvard raised its price to \$5 on April 1, 2009, up from \$3 for the first, \$2 for each additional. The transcript fee for MIT students was last increased eight years ago in 2001 from \$3 to \$4. Unofficial transcripts remain free.

—Ana Lyons

## Student Support Services Task Force Report Recommends More Staff

Student Support Services (S<sup>3</sup>) should consider adding staff, deciding what support, if any, to provide to graduate students, and defining clearly its services and confidentiality policy, a task force charged with evaluating the unit recommended in its final report.

So far, the report has resulted in two concrete plans for change: S<sup>3</sup> will soon report to Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education instead the Division of Student Life, where it currently reports, while the Division of Student Life will continue to work with S<sup>3</sup> on student life-related issues. Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, to whom the report was issued, will also create a faculty advisory committee to try to strengthen the connection between S<sup>3</sup> and the MIT faculty and to discuss and oversee the implementation of other recommendations in the task force report. Many of these recommendations call for clarification of specific procedures and policies related to S<sup>3</sup> — many of which are not currently formally delineated — including the processes for readmission to MIT and excusing "absence" grades on transcripts, as well as the policy on confidentiality of students' cases.

Behind the suggestion that S<sup>3</sup> evaluate its current staff level, the task force noted that S<sup>3</sup> now receives about 3,900 visits from students each year and the number of deans on staff right now — five — may not be enough to adequately support students. Students without urgent cases must often wait over a week to meet with a dean, according to the report.

The task force was charged by Clay in August 2009 with the task of reviewing and evaluating S<sup>3</sup>'s role at MIT: how it works with students and interfaces with other organizations within MIT, such as MIT Medical and the Committee on Academic Performance, to achieve its goals.

Its creation was prompted, in part, by a uproar among faculty over the sudden release of former S<sup>3</sup> dean Jacqueline Simonis, who had worked at MIT for 23 years and contributed significantly to the development of S<sup>3</sup> as an organization. Faculty had not been consulted with prior to Simonis's layoff. However, the task force was not asked to address specific personnel issues in its discussions and therefore did not address any issues related to Simonis's release in its final report.

To accomplish its work, the task force interviewed all S<sup>3</sup> staff members, representatives of many other MIT units that interact with S<sup>3</sup>, and other MIT community members who could offer insight, including Simonis. The group was chaired by EECS Department head W. Eric L. Grimson PhD '80 and Vice Chancellor Steven R. Lerman. Two students, Elizabeth A. Denys '11 and Ying Zhang G, also served on the committee.

—Natasha Plotkin

## Diversity Report is Late

The Initiative on Faculty Race and Diversity will release its final report concerning underrepresented minority faculty members on January 14, 2010, a month later than scheduled, according to chair of the Initiative Paula T. Hammond PhD '84. The Initiative established in 2007 investigated how race and ethnic status affect the professional lives, including the hiring, promotion, and tenure, of minority faculty at MIT. The report will discuss the Initiative's findings and issue recommendations on how MIT can increase faculty diversity and improve the underrepresented minority faculty experience.

—Meghan Nelson

# Terrorists Could Target Reactor; MIT Delays Conversion of Fuel

By Bryan Bender

THE BOSTON GLOBE DECEMBER 28, 2009

WASHINGTON

MIT's 50-year-old nuclear reactor, one of only three US research facilities not run by the Department of Energy that still use material that could also be used to make atomic bombs, will probably not be converted to use a safer fuel for at least another five years because of technical obstacles, according to a recent government report obtained by the Globe.

That means the reactor on the university's Cambridge campus, originally slated for fuel conversion by 2014, will continue to present a political liability for US officials, who are strongly urging other countries around the world — most notably Iran — to forego the civilian use of highly enriched uranium to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

MIT views the delays, outlined in a November report by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as unfortunate, if unavoidable.

"We would like to get this particular monkey off our back because it is not helpful for public relations," said David Moncton, the nuclear reactor laboratory's director.

The US government has spent millions of dollars in recent years helping other nations convert their civilian reactors from using highly enriched uranium to low enriched uranium, a suitable alternative for generating nuclear power that cannot be used to make an atomic bomb. And President Obama is expected to seek further commitments next year from foreign nations to phase out highly enriched uranium from civilian reactors.

But while the Department of Energy set a goal of 2014 to switch the MIT reactor to the lower-grade fuel, that commitment is not likely to be met, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, largely because the MIT facility needs a special kind of new fuel to maintain its uniquely high density core — fuel that will take years to develop and certify before it can be manufactured in sufficient quantities.

"To meet this goal will require significant effort," according to the internal report. It said that the Department of Energy, which is overseeing the development of the new fuel, is "working towards establishing commercial capability, but it will not be ready by the 2014 conversion deadline."

A Department of Energy spokesman expressed hope that the conversion can be completed sooner, but acknowledged there is a lot of work still ahead. "The fuel must be designed and extensively tested, new fuel fabrication processes must be

developed, and multiple analyses and reviews must be performed to verify the fuel and hence the reactors' safety," he said.

Yet some former government officials also partially blame MIT for the delay, citing its insistence that the new fuel must provide the same performance as the current fuel — even though other forms of low enriched uranium fuel have long been available.

"There has been a tremendous amount of foot dragging, particularly on the part of the universities," said Victor Gilinsky, a former NRC commissioner who is now an energy consultant in California.

He noted that the MIT reactor could be converted quickly if it were willing to give up some performance.

"We could be a lot further if there was more focus on the fuel development end by the government, but also willingness to make compromises at the user end," he said. "Maybe you don't need the same performance."

Moncton, who took over as director in 2004, maintains that MIT is doing everything it can to convert the reactor as quickly as possible, to demonstrate to other countries that have similar facilities that the new fuel will be able to preserve their operations as well.

Most specialists agree that the facility — along with another at the University of Missouri and a research reactor run by the Department of Commerce in Maryland — is fully secure and that the amount of nuclear material in the reactor does not pose a major terrorist threat. Still, some believe the supply of fuel at the Albany Street facility could still be a terrorist target.

"You'd get a big radiation dose, but it wouldn't stop you from carrying it off," said Matthew Bunn, a professor at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and author of "Securing the Bomb," noting that government regulations do not require MIT to meet the same security guidelines as the plant that provides new fuel rods to the reactor several times a year.

Still, the thorniest issue is the double standard the MIT reactor presents to other countries, according to multiple specialists and government officials.

A congressional commission recently cited the conversion of such domestic reactors as a critical step to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons material worldwide, noting that other countries may refuse to convert their reactors if the US continues to use highly enriched uranium.

Arms control groups have urged the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to revoke the licenses of the US fa-

cilities if they don't meet the 2014 deadline.

The concerns come at a time when the United States and its allies are trying to persuade Iran to give up its uranium enrichment program, contending that if it only seeks civilian nuclear energy — and not weapons — as the country maintains, it should purchase low enriched uranium fuel from other countries.

The International Atomic Energy Agency has accused Iran of using a civilian nuclear effort to shield a secret bomb-making program. Ironically, a number of Iran's nuclear scientists were trained in the 1970s on the MIT reactor before the two nations cut off diplomatic ties.

The MIT reactor, which was built in 1958 when the university began its nuclear engineering department, is now used for a variety of academic research and also brings in about \$1.5 million a year from commercial work, which covers about 60 percent of the annual operating costs, said Moncton, the director. He stressed MIT does not make a profit.

In addition to training nuclear engineers, one of its primary uses is medical research, including cancer therapies and studies of cell biology and blood chemistry. It is also a money-making enterprise, by radiating seeds used in prostate cancer treatments and by turning silicon into high-performance semiconductors for the hybrid car market.

But several officials with knowledge of the situation said that only recently have MIT officials been fully cooperative on the conversion plan — and only because they have been assured by the Department of Energy that they will not lose any capacity by using the new fuel.

Bunn said that when he previously served on a government panel reviewing nuclear security risks MIT "was absolutely against" converting the reactor. "If you told them to convert to the fuels available today," he added, they would flatly refuse.

Alan J. Kuperman, director of the nonproliferation program at the University of Texas at Austin, said a major scientific argument against conversion had been that the reactor's "peak neutron flux" would be diminished by 10 percent with the new fuel.

Moncton, however, said that is no longer a concern and he believes the Department of Energy, which will pay for the conversion and additional costs, is working on a new fuel that will allow the reactor to maintain its capacity.

"We will maintain our performance with this new fuel," he said. "We can get basically equivalent performance. That is why we are interested in doing this."



Odds of a child becoming a top fashion designer: 1 in 7,000

Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 150

This space donated by The Tech

# UA Finboard Releases Winter/IAP Funding Results

Summer Fall 2009 Allocations Group	Ops. Requested	Ops. Received	Capital Requested	Capital Received	Events Requested	Events Received	P&P Requested	P&P Received	Total Request	Total Received	% Received
Active Minds at MIT		—	—	—	\$1,620	\$1,120	\$650	\$550	\$2,270	\$1,670	74%
Asiang Dance Team	—	—	\$250	—	\$900	\$750	\$550	\$150	\$1,700	\$900	53%
African Students Association	—	—	—	—	\$3,171	\$1,066	—	\$100	\$3,171	\$1,166	37%
African Information Technology Initiative	—	—	—	—	\$350	\$350	\$150	\$100	\$500	\$450	90%
Alpha Phi Alpha	\$520	—	—	—	\$950	\$650	\$450	\$175	\$1,920	\$825	43%
Alpha Phi Omega	—	—	—	—	\$200	\$200	—	—	\$200	\$200	100%
Alternative Spring Break	—	—	—	—	\$200	\$200	\$65	\$65	\$265	\$265	100%
American Red Cross Team and Network	\$615	\$540	—	—	\$720	\$460	\$185	\$185	\$1,520	\$1,185	78%
American Medical Students	—	—	—	—	\$1,500	\$500	\$60	\$30	\$1,560	\$530	34%
Anime Club, MIT	—	—	\$2,055	\$860	\$1,207	\$648	\$144	\$84	\$3,406	\$1,592	47%
Asian American Association	\$120	—	\$200	—	\$2,560	\$860	\$90	\$90	\$2,970	\$950	32%
Asian Baptist Student Koinonia	\$502	\$217	—	—	\$560	\$180	\$172	\$172	\$1,234	\$569	46%
Asian Christian Fellowship	\$2,600	\$300	\$220	\$220	\$1,500	\$730	\$125	\$125	\$4,445	\$1,375	31%
Assassins' Guild	\$320	\$320	\$320	\$220	\$970	\$970	\$100	\$100	\$1,710	\$1,610	94%
Association of International Relations and Model United Nations	\$115	\$115	—	—	\$1,000	\$600	\$266	\$236	\$1,381	\$951	69%
Association of Puerto Rican Students	\$175	\$175	—	—	\$3,617	\$1,105	\$82	\$72	\$3,874	\$1,352	35%
Association of Taiwanese Students	—	—	\$195	\$195	\$2,496	\$2,496	\$100	\$100	\$2,791	\$2,791	100%
Asymptotes	—	—	\$50	\$50	\$300	\$100	\$50	\$50	\$400	\$200	50%
Baptist Student Fellowship	—	—	—	—	\$750	\$450	\$50	\$50	\$800	\$500	63%
Best Buddies	\$375	—	—	—	\$325	\$155	\$50	\$50	\$750	\$205	27%
Bhakti Yoga Club	\$2,520	—	—	—	—	—	\$200	—	\$2,720	—	0%
Bhangra	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$465	\$465	—	—	—	—	\$2,265	\$1,465	65%
Biological Engineering - Biomedical Engineering Society	—	—	—	—	\$1,975	\$725	\$325	\$150	\$2,300	\$875	38%
Black Students' Union	—	—	\$40	\$40	\$773	\$773	\$100	\$100	\$913	\$913	100%
Black Women's Alliance	—	—	\$100	\$100	\$3,375	\$1,320	\$270	\$270	\$3,745	\$1,690	45%
Brain and Cognitive Sciences Society	—	—	—	—	\$765	\$365	\$5	\$5	\$770	\$370	48%
Brain Trust	\$55	\$55	—	—	\$1,292	\$587	\$108	\$108	\$1,455	\$750	52%
Campus Crusade for Christ	—	—	—	—	\$800	\$800	\$50	\$50	\$850	\$850	100%
Campus Crusade for Cthulhu, MIT	—	—	\$225	\$225	\$425	\$425	\$150	\$150	\$800	\$800	100%
Caribbean Club	\$17	\$17	—	—	\$1,955	\$400	—	—	\$1,972	\$417	21%
Casino Rueda Group	\$700	\$350	—	—	\$200	\$200	\$50	\$50	\$950	\$600	63%
Caving Club	\$355	\$355	\$670	\$670	\$950	\$150	\$40	\$40	\$2,015	\$1,215	60%
Chamak	\$530	\$300	\$250	\$250	\$350	\$350	\$100	—	\$1,230	\$900	73%
Chess Club	—	—	—	—	\$800	\$120	—	—	\$800	\$120	15%
China Care	\$720	—	—	—	\$480	\$440	\$135	\$100	\$1,335	\$540	40%
China Development Initiative (CDI)	\$20	\$20	—	—	\$810	\$810	\$300	\$200	\$1,130	\$1,030	91%
Chinese Ensemble	—	—	\$230	\$230	\$295	\$295	\$40	\$40	\$565	\$565	100%
Chinese Students Club	\$258	\$158	\$440	\$240	\$2,880	\$1,500	\$200	\$200	\$3,778	\$2,098	56%
Colleges Against Cancer	\$200	—	—	—	\$700	\$500	\$300	\$100	\$1,200	\$600	50%
Concert Band	\$200	\$200	\$900	\$300	\$900	\$700	\$170	\$170	\$2,170	\$1,370	63%
Cross Products	\$405	—	—	—	\$70	\$70	\$104	\$104	\$579	\$174	30%
Curfing Club	\$240	\$240	—	—	\$770	\$270	—	\$50	\$1,010	\$560	55%
Dance Troupe	\$500	—	\$800	\$250	\$2,800	\$1,500	\$600	\$200	\$4,700	\$1,950	41%
Debate Team	\$2,414	\$1,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	\$2,414	\$1,000	41%
Expediting Access to Secondary Education	\$40	\$40	—	—	\$280	—	\$170	\$120	\$490	\$160	33%
Emergency Medical Support	\$250	\$100	\$850	—	\$950	\$650	\$515	\$200	\$2,565	\$950	37%
Engineers Without Borders - MIT	\$170	\$80	—	—	\$650	\$400	\$565	\$200	\$1,385	\$680	49%
Equestrian Club	\$600	\$600	—	—	—	—	\$25	\$25	\$625	\$625	100%
Filipino Students Association	\$50	\$50	\$140	\$140	\$2,585	\$1,310	\$70	\$70	\$2,845	\$1,570	55%
Flying Club	—	—	\$100	\$100	\$650	\$650	\$25	\$25	\$775	\$775	100%
GaMIT	—	—	—	—	\$800	\$600	\$660	\$400	\$1,460	\$1,000	68%
Gilbert and Sullivan	—	—	\$1,000	—	\$250	\$250	—	—	\$1,250	\$250	20%
Global Poverty Initiative	—	—	—	—	\$751	\$451	\$200	\$100	\$951	\$551	58%
Go Club	\$120	\$120	\$350	\$350	\$130	\$130	\$75	\$75	\$675	\$675	100%
Gospel Choir	\$1,360	\$660	—	—	\$2,890	\$890	\$1,150	\$200	\$5,400	\$1,750	32%
Habitat for Humanity	\$3,375	\$875	—	—	\$1,949	\$1,171	\$430	\$200	\$5,754	\$2,246	39%
Hapa	—	—	\$100	\$100	\$2,170	\$900	\$20	\$20	\$2,290	\$1,020	45%
Hawaii Club	\$250	—	—	—	\$2,490	\$850	\$328	\$200	\$3,068	\$1,050	34%
Hillel	\$625	\$450	\$400	—	\$4,900	\$1,500	\$775	\$200	\$6,700	\$2,150	32%
Hindu Students' Council	\$55	\$55	\$80	\$80	\$1,515	\$1,515	\$370	\$200	\$2,020	\$1,850	92%
Hong Kong Student Society	—	—	—	—	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$100	\$100	\$1,400	\$1,400	100%
Horizon Music Club	—	—	\$1,593	—	—	—	\$100	—	\$1,693	—	0%
Imobilare	—	—	—	—	\$2,937	—	\$100	\$100	\$3,037	\$100	3%
International Development Consulting	\$144	\$144	—	—	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$544	\$544	100%
Korean Students Association	\$160	\$60	\$130	\$130	\$1,650	\$1,350	\$250	\$250	\$2,190	\$1,790	82%
La Union Chicana Por Aztlan	\$580	\$330	—	—	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$178	\$178	\$1,858	\$1,608	87%
Lab for Chocolate Science	—	—	\$100	\$100	\$950	\$900	—	\$50	\$1,050	\$1,050	100%
Latter-day Saint Student Association	\$110	\$110	—	—	\$695	\$695	\$100	\$100	\$905	\$905	100%
Lion Dance Club	\$120	\$120	—	—	\$550	\$350	\$50	\$50	\$720	\$520	72%
Live Music Connection	—	—	\$456	\$240	\$600	\$600	\$724	\$325	\$1,780	\$1,165	65%
Logarithms	—	—	\$500	—	\$4,000	—	\$500	\$100	\$5,000	\$100	2%
Marching Band	\$100	\$100	\$430	\$430	—	—	\$70	—	\$600	\$530	88%
MentorConnecon	\$600	\$600	—	—	\$250	\$200	—	\$50	\$850	\$850	100%
mitBEEF	\$50	\$50	—	—	\$1,350	\$1,000	\$400	\$200	\$1,800	\$1,250	69%
Mocha Moves Dance Squad	\$100	\$100	\$250	\$250	\$1,376	\$926	\$100	\$100	\$1,826	\$1,376	75%
Movements in Time Dance Company	\$500	\$500	\$600	\$450	\$540	\$540	\$95	\$95	\$1,735	\$1,585	91%
Mujeres Latinas	—	—	—	—	\$1,370	—	\$20	—	\$1,390	—	0%
Muses	\$300	\$300	\$1,500	—	\$400	—	\$100	\$100	\$2,300	\$400	17%
Musical Theatre Guild	\$822	\$822	\$1,000	—	—	—	—	—	\$1,822	\$822	45%
Mystery Hunt	\$200	—	—	—	\$973	—	\$50	—	\$1,223	—	0%
National Society of Black Engineers	\$900	—	—	—	\$1,310	\$410	\$190	\$70	\$2,400	\$480	20%
National Society of Collegiate Scholars	—	—	—	—	\$2,117	\$1,000	—	—	\$2,117	\$1,000	47%
Natya	—	—	—	—	\$740	\$740	\$200	\$100	\$940	\$840	89%
Network of Sloan Undergraduate Women	—	—	—	—	\$1,300	\$1,200	\$200	\$200	\$1,500	\$1,400	93%
NOBCCHE	—	—	—	—	\$1,200	\$600	\$70	\$170	\$1,270	\$770	61%
Oori	—	—	—	—	\$274	\$224	—	\$50	\$274	\$274	100%
OrigaMIT	\$305	\$105	\$110	\$110	\$400	\$400	—	—	\$815	\$615	75%
Pershing Rifles C-12 (ABN)	\$10	\$10	\$658	\$658	—	—	—	—	\$668	\$668	100%
Pro-Life	—	—	—	—	\$450	\$450	\$30	\$30	\$480	\$480	100%
Protestant Student Community	—	—	—	—	\$1,200	\$200	\$100	\$100	\$1,300	\$300	23%
Quidditch Team	\$100	\$100	\$1,000	\$800	\$300	\$180	\$50	\$50	\$1,450	\$1,130	78%
Quiz Bowl	\$1,250	\$620	—	—	—	—	—	—	\$1,250	\$620	50%
Resonance	\$520	—	\$150	—	\$2,000	—	\$280	\$280	\$2,950	\$280	9%
Ridonkulous	\$1,120	\$500	\$200	\$200	\$2,380	\$1,230	\$680	\$100	\$4,380	\$2,030	46%
Roadkill Buffet	\$70	\$70	—	—	—	—	—	—	\$70	\$70	100%
ROTCSA	—	—	—	—	\$1,500	—	\$500	\$100	\$2,000	\$100	5%
RUNE Magazine	—	—	—	—	\$255	\$255	\$2,850	\$2,000	\$3,105	\$2,255	73%
Science Fiction Society	—	—	\$2,690	\$1,000	—	—	—	—	\$2,690	\$1,000	37%
Shakespeare Ensemble	\$740	\$740	\$1,400	\$400	\$50	\$50	\$100	\$100	\$2,290	\$1,290	56%
Sloan Undergraduate Management Association	—	—	\$130	\$100	\$2,215	\$1,000	\$160	\$160	\$2,505	\$1,260	50%
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers	—	—	—	—	\$700	\$700	\$100	\$100	\$800	\$800	100%
Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists	\$250	—	—	—	\$4,540	\$700	\$330	\$50	\$5,120	\$750	15%
South Asian American Students	\$75	\$75	\$200	—	\$3,330	\$760	\$810	\$100	\$4,415	\$935	21%
Southeast Asian Service and Leadership Network	\$310	—	—	—	—	—	\$570	—	\$880	—	0%
Stammtisch	—	—	—	—	\$450	\$450	\$10	\$10	\$460	\$460	100%
STAND	—	—	—	—	\$900	\$600	\$75	\$75	\$975	\$675	69%
Strategic Games Society	—	—	\$250	\$220	\$200	\$200	\$5	—	\$455	\$420	92%
Students for Israel	—	—	—	—	\$3,085	\$335	\$205	\$70	\$3,290	\$405	12%
Students for the Exploration and Development of Space	\$400	—	\$200	\$200	\$900	\$700	\$50	\$50	\$1,550	\$950	61%
Swara	—	—	\$100	\$50	\$2,500	\$100	\$450	\$100	\$3,050	\$250	8%
Syncopasian	\$35	\$35	\$20	\$20	\$600	\$400	\$290	\$250	\$945	\$705	75%
Techiya	\$390	—	\$30	\$30	\$1,000	\$500	\$100	\$100	\$1,520	\$630	41%
The Chorallaries of MIT	\$200	—	—	—	\$1,010	\$500	\$300	\$200	\$1,510	\$700	46%
Toons	\$958	\$236	\$30	\$30	\$850	—	\$280	\$160	\$2,118	\$426	20%
Traders@MIT	—	—	—	—	\$700	\$140	\$200	\$50	\$900	\$190	21%
Undergraduate Biochemistry Association	—	—	—	—	\$535	\$375	\$63	\$63	\$598	\$438	73%
Undergraduate Research Journal	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$150	—	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$2,550	\$2,300	90%
United Christian Fellowship	\$100	\$100	—	—	\$275	\$75	\$100	\$100	\$475	\$275	58%
Victory Campus Ministries	—	—	\$100	\$100	\$220	\$220	\$40	\$40	\$360	\$360	100%
Vietnamese Students Association	\$40	—	\$100	—	\$1,075	\$975	\$20	\$70	\$1,235	\$1,045	85%
Voo Doo Magazine	—	—	—	—	—	—	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	100%
Western Hemisphere Project	—	—	—	—	\$850	\$400	\$50	\$50	\$900	\$450	50%

## Top 10 Amounts Granted

Group	Granted
Association of Taiwanese Students	\$2,791
Undergraduate Research Journal	\$2,300

# SPORTS

## Members of MIT Debate Team Win National and Int'l Awards

By Danielle Gorman  
TEAM MEMBER

For their fourth consecutive year, the duo of Kathleen A. Clark-Adams '10 and Adam J. Goldstein '10 have been winning significant awards for the MIT Debate Team on a circuit that emphasizes political, public policy related, and philosophical topics. Similarly, Goldstein and Bill H. Magnuson G have had enormous success at international tournaments, which use the British Parliamentary (BP) format of debate.

The MIT Debate Team is the only consistently active technology school in the American Parliamentary Debate Association (APDA), a debate league that includes almost 50 universities, and by producing some of the top debaters in the world.

Goldstein, this year's ADPA president, was the top speaker this year at Oxford University and competed in its quarterfinals with Magnuson. At Cambridge University last year, Goldstein and Magnuson were the first place team. This year, Goldstein and Magnuson competed in Cambridge's semifinals and received individual speaker awards.

Since September, Clark-Adams has earned eight individual speaker awards on APDA, while Goldstein has won seven. Thus far this year, Clark-Adams and Goldstein have won six major tournament awards. The pair, currently ranked fifth in the league with total points of 37.5, plan to battle for the title of APDA Team of the Year. They are currently trailing the top team by 19 points and the second place team by 11.5 points.

According to Clark-Adams, her compatibility with Goldstein has strengthened over time.

"Freshman year, I'd occasionally threaten to destroy him when he tried

to pick the wrong side of debate cases. These days, we work very well together — we have a great good cop, bad cop routine going on," she said.

Watching the two debate together, one notes the obvious differences between their styles. Although their argumentation aligns perfectly, Clark-Adams laces many of her speeches with sarcastic humor, while Goldstein presents all of his arguments with a fairly steady tone, altering it only to emphasize his most important points.

Debaters frequently sacrifice their Fridays and Saturdays to attend tournaments at universities on the east coast, and miss even more class time for tournaments in places such as California, Chicago, England, and Ireland.

"MIT students tend to have less free time than liberal arts students, so we have less time to prepare ... our case book isn't as thick as the schools that have multiple meetings each week," said Goldstein.

"We try to gear the case around the unobvious and counterintuitive arguments to make it maximally difficult for the opposition to beat our pre-analyzed arguments," he added, remarking that he and Clark-Adams try to compensate for their inability to put as much time into preparing cases for tournaments by crafting their cases and arguments to be unique from what other schools typically propose.

Other schools lacking MIT's technical caliber tend to have different ideas of what makes a topic good or interesting — MIT debaters tend to focus on logical arguments, while other schools focus on more rhetorical ones.

Another challenge faced by the BP duo — as well as by all debaters — is the requirement that they prepare their cases in the mere 15 minute prepara-

tion time before rounds.

The BP partners reveal that their biggest weaknesses are their similar thinking styles. Although Magnuson says the pair have "no trouble coming up with all of the practical issues," he feels they sometimes "miss the obvious ethical issues that judges might find important."

The stylistic and preparation difficulties aside, though, all three debaters agree that one frustration in particular is the most frustrating of all: funding.

"The MIT team historically has never had a reliable source of funding," said Goldstein. "We've gotten sporadic gifts in the past couple of years that have helped us attend things like Oxford. Our primary challenge is ensuring that we continue getting funding so that our team doesn't peter out like it did 10 or 20 years ago."

He added that at schools other than MIT have a greater "respect for debate," and the MIT team has difficulty garnering the visibility after a big win which is standard to other debate teams.

Magnuson said that the team was fortunate to raise enough funding last year to attend international tournaments at Oxford and Cambridge, enabling them to prepare for the world championships and giving them valuable exposure to the international debate circuit.

Unlike many in the debate circuit, Goldstein and Magnuson have no plans to enter debate-related fields — although Clark-Adams plans to go into law. Goldstein cites the global connections and the level of comfort with a variety of topics he's established through debating as some of his greatest benefits from his experience on the MIT team.

### Harvard Hands First Loss To Men's Basketball

MIT Men's basketball suffered its first loss of the season last week, 88-61 to Harvard. The Engineers, ranked number 22 nationally, fell to 11-1.



Harvard was in control the entire game. MIT stayed close early with strong three-point shooting, but the Crimson pulled away with runs of 20-6 and 16-4 in the second half.

MIT couldn't match its opponent in the paint (being outscored 54-18) and had 11 shots blocked. Harvard's bench also outscored MIT's 43-7.

Tech's next game will be at Tufts on January 5th.

—David Zhu, Sports Editor

### Brown Collects All-America, ECAC Accolades

For the second year in a row, DeRon M. Brown '10 was named a D3football.com All-American. Brown earned Honorable Mention plaudits and was one of five players from the New England Football Conference to make the cut. Brown picked up MIT's 11th All-America honor and became the fourth player in the program's history to graduate with a pair of awards.

Brown also represented the Engineers on the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Northeast All-Star Team. The selection was the 25th for the Cardinal and Gray and first since Keith G. Reed '04 in 2003.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

### UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

**Friday, January 8**

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving vs. Wheaton College  
5 p.m., Z-Center Pool

**Saturday, January 9**

Men's and Women's Track and Field – Alumni Meet  
12 p.m., Johnson Track

Women's Basketball vs. Smith College

2 p.m., Rockwell Cage

**Tuesday, January 12**

Squash vs. Amherst College

1 p.m., Z-Center Courts

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