

## Deep Budget Cuts Are On the Way, Says Undergrad. Education Dean

By Jeff Guo and Meredith L. Lis

MIT must focus on cost savings, Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings '78 said at last night's Undergraduate Association Senate meeting.

In front of the UA officers and senators, Hastings and Dean for Curriculum and Faculty Support Diana

Henderson discussed the shrinking budget, the narrowly-defeated motion to reform the curriculum, and the weak undergraduate advising system. They did not talk about the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining, which seeks to improve the way students eat on campus and has been controversially advised to consider mandatory meal plans.

Cost savings key to a reduced budget; "Don't take away my Mac!"

Hastings said that the Institute will need to focus on saving money rather than trying to squeeze more out of students in the form of tuition increases. "We've essentially reached the point where we're tapped out of

Hastings, Page 10



ANDREA ROBLES—THE TECH

Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings '78 and Dean for Curriculum and Faculty Support Diana Henderson take student comments at the UA Senate meeting on Monday, Feb. 23. Topics included changes to the GIRs, holding more HASS classes in the afternoon, and development of design-based courses.

## NIH Pleads for Discretion, Hopes Grantees Hire Fast

Science Administrators Promise Rapid Use of Funding

By Gardiner Harris and Kenneth Chang

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The acting director of the National Institutes of Health begged university administrators on Wednesday to avoid even applying for stimulus money unless the universities planned to hire people almost immediately.

"It would be the height of embarrassment," the official, Dr. Raynard S. Kington, said, "if we give these grants and find out that institutions are not spending them to hire people

and make purchases and advance the science the way they're designed to do."

Not a problem, the administrators said, in interviews. After working under flat federal research financing for years, scientists are ecstatic. "This is a miracle, I think," A.J. Stewart Smith, the dean for research at Princeton, said. "It is redressing this terrible problem where the success rate for excellent proposals was very low."

Stimulus, Page 9

## What Recession? Universities Can Pay Non-Presidents \$1M+

By Tamar Lewin

THE NEW YORK TIMES

While generous compensation packages for college presidents have come under increasing public scrutiny, other university employees often earn far more.

In fact, of the 88 private-college employees who made \$1 million or more in the 2007 fiscal year, only 11 were chief executives, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education's analysis of compensation packages of more than 4,000 employees at nearly 600 private colleges.

The top two earners were a football coach at the University of Southern California and a Columbia University dermatology professor, each of whom received more than \$4 million.

Pete Carroll, the head football coach at USC, received \$4,415,714 in 2007, about four times as much as the president of the university, Steven B. Sample. Dr. David N. Silvers, the dermatologist at Columbia, received \$4,332,759, compared with

Compensation, Page 10

## Dining Reform Group Releases More Notes, Increases Student Say

By Nick Bushak  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The committee tasked with redesigning MIT's dining system agreed to make more information public and increase student say at its first meeting since a consultants' report to the committee was leaked two Saturdays ago.

The reforms to the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining include a new website and a measure to require a 75% committee member vote of confidence to approve any final recommendation made by the committee.

Since 9 of the 18 committee members are students, any final recommendation from the committee must effectively be approved by a majority of its student members.

The website, at <http://web.mit.edu/dining/feedback/blueribbon.html>, will post redacted meeting minutes after each meeting. A calendar and timeline of committee activity are planned but not yet available.

Students staged a protest against mandatory dining last week after the leak of a proposal written by a consulting firm hired by the committee. The dining options included in that proposal had every student paying some fee, a significant departure from the current system in which many students do not pay any din-

ing fee.

Donna M. Denoncourt, Associate Dean of Residential Life and chair of the committee, said that the committee heard "loud and clear" the reaction of students, but that it was too early to say whether mandatory meal plans would be a part of the final recommendation by the committee.

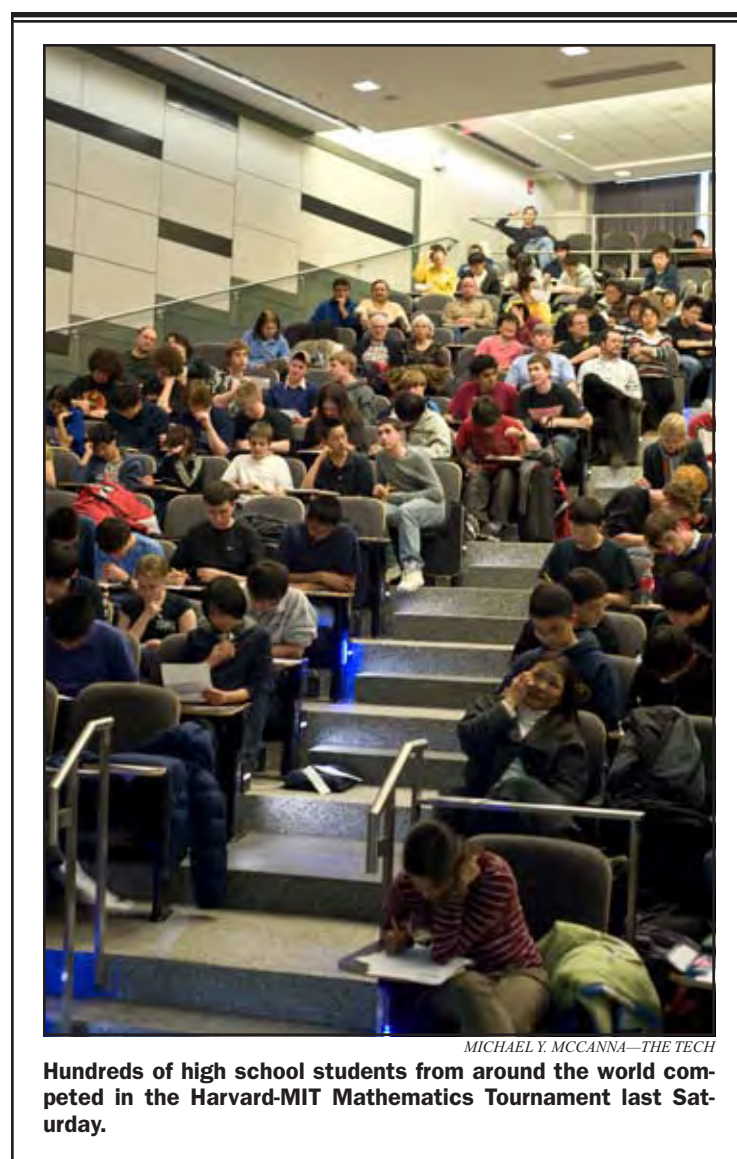
It was "always in the plan to go back and forth with the consultant," Denoncourt said, and consultants will be asked to modify their proposal based on input from the committee.

MIT has already spent around \$45,000 since November 2007 on consulting services from Envision Strategies, the firm hired to aid the committee in developing a new plan for dining. Denoncourt said the committee has budgeted for continued consulting services from Envision.

Members of the committee discovered two weeks ago that the consultants' report to be sent to them would be a second draft. The first draft, which was received by the administration at the end of January, was sent back for revision to the consultants before notifying the committee of the first draft's existence.

That initial, unchanged report

Dining, Page 8



MICHAEL Y. MCCANNA—THE TECH

Hundreds of high school students from around the world competed in the Harvard-MIT Mathematics Tournament last Saturday.

## No Suspects In Brazen Daylight Robberies On Campus

By John A. Hawkinson  
NEWS EDITOR

Two people were robbed in broad daylight on Sunday on the MIT campus, the MIT police reported yesterday.

At 2:10 p.m. on Sunday, a man was robbed on Vassar Street near the Stata Center. The victim was not affiliated with the Institute.

About ten minutes later, a male MIT student was robbed by the same four men in the plaza outside the Media Lab.

Both robberies were unarmed, contradicting a widely circulated e-mail message from the MIT Police which indicated that the first robbery was "armed." MIT Police Sgt. Cheryl Vossmer said that was an error, and both robberies were unarmed.

The robbers were black males,

Robberies, Page 8

### In Short

¶ Students may now apply for the new double major if they plan to graduate after this summer. Students should contact the department they want to add. Unlike the dual degree program, which is being phased out, the double major requires 90 fewer units.

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



### CAMPUS LIFE

The Oxygen Mini vaporizer is ideal for personal use.

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### OPINION

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# WORLD & NATION

## In Collapse of a Venture, a Microcosm of South Korea's Woes

By **Choe Sang-Hun**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

In 2004, Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp., China's largest carmaker, took a small hop across the Yellow Sea and bought a controlling stake in Ssangyong Motor of South Korea.

Five years later, Shanghai Auto's marriage with Ssangyong, a milestone of China's rising industrial clout and South Korea's deepening economic ties with its neighbor, is falling apart in acrimony and criminal investigations.

Walloped by declining sales and bitter battles with its Chinese parent, Ssangyong filed for bankruptcy protection this month. Its combative labor unions and some South Korean commentators have vilified Shanghai Auto as an exploitative owner that siphoned off Ssangyong's technology, reneged on promises to invest, and dumped the company when the market turned sour.

Shanghai Auto has a different account of what went wrong. But the collapse of the venture is a black eye for China, which has pushed its top state-owned companies, including Shanghai Auto, to use the country's enormous dollar-based savings to expand abroad.

## Iraq Arrests 12 Policemen in Killings; 3 GIs Die

By **Campbell Robertson**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Twelve Iraqi police officers have been arrested in connection with a string of kidnappings and killings, including the killing of the sister of one of Iraq's vice presidents, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry said Monday.

The announcement came as sporadic violence continued across Iraq, including the deaths of three U.S. soldiers and their interpreter who, the military said in a statement, died Monday in combat in Diyala province in the east. The military did not release further details.

Those arrested, who all were low-level police officers, admitted involvement in the killing of Maysoun al-Hashemi, the sister of Tariq al-Hashemi, one of Iraq's two vice presidents, said Maj. Gen. Abdul Karim Khalaf, the ministry spokesman. Al-Hashemi, who was director of women's affairs for her brother's party, the Iraqi Islamic Party, was shot to death in 2006.

Another ministry official, who was not authorized to speak publicly, described the 12 suspects as members of a "gang" and said in a telephone interview that they were arrested two weeks ago. In addition to the 12 officers arrested so far, others remain at large.

## New Pick for Commerce Post

By **Peter Baker**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama has settled on former Gov. Gary Locke of Washington state as his latest pick for commerce secretary as he tries a third time to fill a Cabinet position that has bedeviled his administration, a White House official said Monday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the decision has not been formally announced, described Locke as the "likely" nominee, a formulation the Obama team has used in the past for a candidate on the verge of being nominated pending final vetting checks. The official announcement could come as early as this week.

Locke would be the president's third choice for the Commerce Department. Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico dropped out because of a federal investigation into state contracting and Sen. Judd Gregg, a Republican from New Hampshire, withdrew his nomination citing philosophical differences with the president.

A two-term governor, former state legislator and onetime county executive, Locke would bring a pro-business record to his assignment and a scandal-free reputation for the Senate confirmation process.

# Pressure Grows to Widen Bailout for Big Companies

By **Edmund L. Andrews, Andrew Ross Sorkin, and Mary Williams Walsh**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The federal government faced mounting pressure on Monday to put billions more in some of America's biggest banks, two of the biggest automakers and the biggest insurance company, despite the billions it has already committed to rescuing these ailing industries.

The government's boldest rescue to date, its \$150 billion commitment for the insurance giant American International Group, is foundering. AIG indicated on Monday it was now negotiating for tens of billions of dollars in additional assistance as losses have mounted across its many businesses.

Separately, the Obama administration confirmed it was in discussions to aid Citigroup, the recipient of \$45 billion so far, that could raise the government's stake in the banking company to as much as 40 percent.

The Treasury Department named a special adviser to work with General Motors and Chrysler, two of Detroit's biggest automakers, which are seeking \$22 billion on top of the \$17

billion already granted to them.

All these companies' burgeoning needs reflect just how hard it is to stanch the flow of losses as the economy deteriorates. Even though the government's finances are being stretched and still more aid might be needed in the future it is being forced to fill the growing holes in the finances of these companies out of fear that the demise of an important company could set off a damaging chain reaction.

The deepening global downturn is dragging down all kinds of businesses, and, with no bottom to the recession in sight, investors sent the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index down 3.5 percent on Monday to its lowest close since April 1997.

In an unexpectedly assertive joint statement after two weeks of bank stock declines, the Treasury, the Federal Reserve and federal bank regulatory agencies announced that the government might demand a direct ownership stake in major banks that do not have enough capital to weather a deeper economic downturn. The government will begin conducting a test of the banks' financial health this week.

Administration officials emphasized that nationalizing any of the major banks was their least favorite solution to the banking crisis, but they acknowledged that some banks may be both too big to fail and too fragile to endure another round of shocks without substantial government help.

The administration is debating how big a role to play in the auto businesses, what concessions the companies should make in return for aid and whether bankruptcy should be considered, though it prefers a private-sector solution. On Monday, Steven Rattner, co-founder of the private equity firm Quadrangle Group, was named an adviser to the Treasury on the restructuring the auto industry.

As the administration takes bigger stakes in companies, the value held by existing shareholders is being diluted, which could make it even harder to attract private money in the future. Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner recently outlined a bank recovery plan that included a new program to attract a combination of public and private money to buy troubled mortgages and other assets burdening the banks.

# Fall of British Bank Echoes Across the Atlantic

By **Landon Thomas Jr.**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

Is partial nationalization the cure for America's ailing banks?

The Obama administration's plan to take an increased stake in Citigroup echoes the British government's experience with one of its biggest banks, the Royal Bank of Scotland, a once highflying bank that is now nationalized in all but name only.

As with Citi, Britain's involvement with RBS grew in fits and starts. The government started with a minority holding last fall, when it pulled the bank from the brink of collapse, but continued to tighten its grip as the share price eroded.

Today it owns a 68 percent stake, allowing it to exert de facto control over bank management — which was replaced — as well as in lending and strategic decisions.

But such a policy, while cheered by those who advocate a more direct and forceful route to healing sick banks, is by no means a panacea, as the problems at RBS show.

"The beguiling certainty of nationalization will make everyone feel good for 24 hours," said Howard Davies, the director of the London School of Economics. "But what do you do next? You have to have an exit strategy."

This week, the bank will announce a 28 billion pound loss, the largest in British corporate history, as well as a plan to split itself into a healthy bank focused on core lending in Britain and a so-called "bad" bank comprising assets it will seek to sell off within five years. Citigroup is engaged in a similar strategy. RBS is also looking to shed more than 200 billion pounds worth of toxic assets.

The dismembering of the bank's far-flung international operations and

a severe retrenchment of its wholesale banking operations, will result in the elimination of about 20,000 jobs, the bank is expected to announce.

Royal bank of Scotland's stock price has rebounded lately, but it continues to trade at only about 20 percent of its book value — below that of Citigroup.

But for the British economy, the fortunes of which have been tied tightly to its once vast financial services industry, concerns about the appearance of nationalization is less important than preventing a banking collapse.

By absorbing a total of about 1.5 trillion pounds in liabilities from RBS and Lloyds Banking Group — another troubled bank — on to its own balance sheet, Britain may have prevented a banking failure.

At the same time, the government has raised the odds that its own finances may buckle.

# WEATHER

## Not Quite New Orleans Weather

By **Vince Agard**

Today is the day of the famous annual Mardi Gras festival in New Orleans, Louisiana. Also known as Fat Tuesday, the carnival features a day of parades and celebrations on the day before the Christian holiday Ash Wednesday. While New Orleans temperatures are expected to be balmy today, reaching close to 70°F (21°C), here in the Boston area temperatures will hover around the freezing mark this afternoon.

While it will remain cold and breezy this afternoon, one can rest assured that the area will stay dry over the next couple of days as high pressure takes hold over the New England region. This will result in clear skies and calming winds through tomorrow afternoon. Though the temperature will continue to climb through the end of the week, cloudiness will build on Thursday and Friday as the possibility of showers arises. While this week's weather won't quite be as enjoyable as that of sunny New Orleans, it could be worse: During this week in 1969, the Boston area experienced 101 hours of continual snowfall!

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Sunny and breezy, High 32°F (0°C)

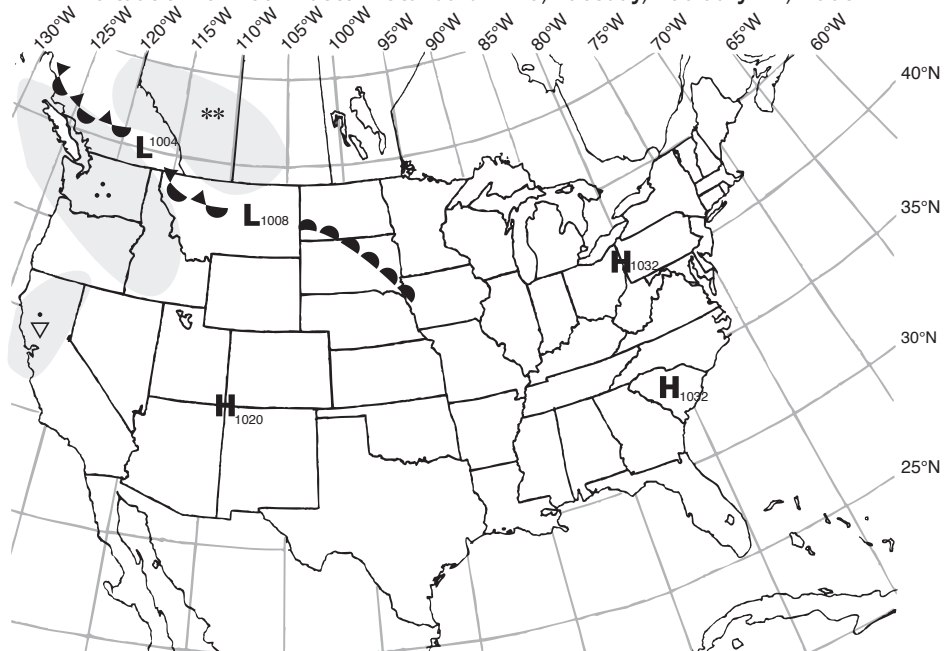
**Tonight:** Mostly clear, Low 19°F (-7°C)

**Tomorrow:** Sunny and calm, High 36°F (2°C)

**Thursday:** A chance of rain or snow showers, Highs in the mid 40s°F (8°C)

**Friday:** A chance of rain showers, Highs in the mid 40s°F (8°C)

## Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, February 24, 2009



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

# A Genial Conservative for New York City's Archdiocese

By Michael Powell  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MILWAUKEE

For a few deeply unpleasant days, the Rev. David Cooper found himself in the crosshairs of the Roman Catholic hierarchy.

It was 2003, and the priest had opined to a reporter that women should be ordained. Faraway bishops rumbled about censure. Then he picked up the telephone and heard the baritone of Milwaukee's archbishop, Timothy M. Dolan. Cooper immediately offered to resign.

No, no, the archbishop replied, we just need to repair the damage. "He was very pastoral and caring," Cooper recalled. And how was it resolved? "Oh, I agreed to recant," he said. "He effectively silenced me."

Dolan, whom Pope Benedict XVI named on Monday to lead the Archdiocese of New York, is a genial enforcer of Rome's ever more conservative writ, a Falstaffian fellow who talks of his love of the Brewers baseball team and Miller beer, and who takes obvious joy in donning his bishop's robes and pounding his bishop's staff as he tromps into church.

When talking with parishioners, he places his hand on their shoulders, sidles in close and, out of the corner of his mouth, cracks a joke.

On matters of doctrine, the archbishop, 59, adheres to the line laid down by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict, including firm opposition to abortion, birth control, divorce, gay marriage and any crack in the wall of priestly celibacy.

In New York on Monday morning, from an 8 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral to a midday noon conference, the archbishop put his stylistic stamp on his new archdiocese: He grinned at congregants during holy communion, joked later about transferring baseball allegiances, and hinted at his culinary preferences — "I've already learned how to order a hot dog from the cart outside the cathedral."

Dolan, who will be officially installed in a ceremony on April 15, ended the day talking with seminarians at St. Joseph's in Yonkers; New York's priests have experienced a chilly decade with his predecessor, Cardinal Edward M. Egan.

Born in St. Louis on Feb. 6, 1950,

to a middle-class family (his father was an aircraft engineer), Timothy Michael Dolan has scaled the Roman Catholic high cliffs. He earned a Ph.D. in church history and served in the stations sought out by the church's high achievers: secretary to the papal nuncio, the pope's envoy, in Washington; rector of the Pontifical North American College, a school for American seminarians in Rome; and auxiliary bishop of St. Louis, before being installed as archbishop of Milwaukee in 2002. He speaks fluent Italian. In Milwaukee, he proved a prodigious fundraiser, staving off the bankruptcy that seemed to beckon as the priest sexual abuse scandal, and earlier efforts at a cover-up, led to lawsuits. He closed a \$3 million budget deficit last year. He has reached out to young people over beers, and recruited new seminarians — the Milwaukee archdiocese expects to ordain six men this year, as opposed to a single ordination a few years ago.

He has vigorously courted the booming exurban white Catholic churches and the Hispanic congregations of the city's south side.

## As It Falters, East Europe Raises Risks

By Nelson D. Schwartz  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the countries of Eastern Europe have emerged as critical allies of the United States in the region, embracing American-style capitalism and borrowing heavily from Western European banks to fund their rise.

Now the bill is coming due.

The development boom that turned Poland, Hungary and other former Soviet satellites into some of Europe's hottest markets is on the verge of going bust, raising worrisome new risks for the global financial system that may ricochet back to the United States.

Last week, Wall Street plunged after Moody's Investor Services warned that Western banks that had recently beat a path to Eastern Europe's doorstep now faced "hard landings," spooking investors with new fears that the exposure could spread beyond Europe's shores.

"There's a domino effect," said Kenneth S. Rogoff, a professor at Harvard University and former chief economist of the International

Monetary Fund. "International credit markets are linked, and so a snowballing credit crisis in Eastern Europe and the Baltic countries could cause New York municipal bonds to fall."

The danger is on several fronts. The big European economies, including Britain, France, Germany and Spain, are already in recession, and many of their largest banks have curbed lending at home and abroad.

For Central and Eastern Europe, which enjoyed breakneck growth thanks to a wave of credit from these banks, the squeeze could not have come at a worse time. Already bruised by the global downturn, they are on the verge of a downward spiral as the flow of credit dries up. Average growth among countries in the region slid to 3.2 percent last year, from 5.4 percent in 2007. This year, it is forecast to contract by 0.4 percent — and likely more.

"These numbers will be coming down," said Charles Collyns, deputy director of the research department at the International Monetary Fund.

Add to that a new worry: International finance officials fret that the worst regional economic crisis since the Wall came down could spark a contagion among the region's currencies, with echoes of the Asian financial crisis of the late 1990s. Then, emerging markets like Thailand borrowed in foreign currencies to fuel growth, but suddenly owed more than they could afford to pay back once their own currencies lost value.

Since peaking last summer, Poland's currency has slumped 48 percent against the euro; Hungary's 30 percent and the Czech Republic's is off 21 percent. "Very simply, Eastern Europe has become Europe's version of the subprime market," said Robert Brusca of FAO Economics in New York.

On Monday, the central banks of Poland, Hungary, Romania and the Czech Republic sought to restore calm by issuing statements arguing that the recent sell-off was not justified by economic fundamentals.

In addition, Western banks could likely suffer a further increase in non-performing loans.

## Iraq Museum That Was Looted Reopens, Far from Whole

By Steven Lee Myers  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Well over half the exhibition halls in Iraq's National Museum are closed, darkened and in disrepair. And yet, the museum whose looting in 2003 became a symbol of the chaos that followed the U.S. invasion officially reopened on Monday.

Thousands of works from its collection of antiquities and art — some of civilization's earliest objects — remain lost.

The smell of fresh paint infuses the Room of Treasures, which even now is deemed safe enough for only photographs of the intricate gold and gem-studded jewelry made in Nimrud nearly 3,000 years ago, not the real thing.

Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki pushed to reopen the museum, against the advice of his own Culture Ministry, as a sign of Iraqi progress. Symbol it was, and symbol it remains — not only of how much Iraq has improved, but of how far it has to go.

"It was a rugged wave and strong black wind that passed over Iraq, and

one of the results was the destruction that hit this cultural icon," al-Maliki declared in a dedication ceremony that was shrouded in dispute and secrecy until the last minute. "We have stopped this black wind, and we have resumed the process of reconstruction."

Yet the museum is only one institution in a place where little functions as it should — not electricity or even sewerage — nearly six years after the beginning of the war that toppled Saddam Hussein. The museum, like life here, may be more secure than at any other time since then, but it is not normal.

Armed soldiers patrolled the museum's roof and watched from sandbagged redoubts as al-Maliki, other senior officials and foreign diplomats arrived. Helicopters thudded in the sky, and the police blocked streets for miles around.

Inside, in stark contrast, visitors filled eight of the museum's 26 galleries, engaged in hushed conversations before glass cases displaying ancient pottery and sculptures, cuneiform tablets from Sumerian and

Babylonian times, and the stunning 2,700-year-old stone reliefs from the palace of the Assyrian king Sargon II at Khorsabad. (In size and shape, the stonework eerily recalls the blast walls that protect buildings and divide streets in today's Baghdad.)

When Iraqis may actually see for themselves a collection of relics and art that spans millenniums was a question even the museum's deputy director, Muhsin Hassan Ali, dared not answer, even when pressed.

The museum's directors have twice before ostentatiously opened the doors. In July 2003, the American civilian administrator in Iraq at the time, L. Paul Bremer III, toured some displays a few months after Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld dismissed the looting by saying, "Stuff happens." In December 2007, the museum's director allowed a group of journalists and politicians inside for a few hours.

The museum remained shuttered, though, battered down against the violence swirling outside. Not until now has Iraq's government officially declared it a working institution again.

## With Spending Set, at Least for Now, the Knives Come Out

By Jackie Calmes

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The White House echoed on Monday with familiar expressions of determination to make tough decisions, as President Barack Obama used a "fiscal responsibility summit" to promise to do his part to move the nation's balance sheet back toward balance.

Rising budget deficits, he told the invited group of lawmakers and policy experts, "will require us to make difficult decisions." He will be "going through our budget line by line to root out waste and inefficiency," and "eliminating programs that don't work." And he "will stop the fraud and abuse" and "make more tough choices," he said, "to start living within our means again."

Most of the invitees had heard it all before, from other presidents. They are likely to hear it again from Obama on Tuesday night, when he addresses a joint session of Congress and tells the nation of his goal to cut annual deficits in half before his term ends in the 2013 fiscal year.

But by Thursday, when the president unveils his first budget, projecting spending and revenues for a decade, Obama will have to begin showing how he plans to do that, and where he is willing to make painful cuts or raise new revenues.

Obama's spokesman, Robert Gibbs, said he would come through. "You will see the president making hard choices, the president making specific, some specific cuts," he told reporters.

## Many Plans, but Little Action, to Curtail Use of Plastic Bags

By William Yardley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEATTLE

Last summer, city officials here became the first in the nation to approve a fee on paper and plastic shopping bags in many retail stores. The 20-cent charge was intended to reduce pollution by encouraging reusable bags.

But a petition drive financed by the plastic-bag industry delayed the plan. Now a far broader segment of Seattle's bag carriers — its voters — will decide the matter in an election in August.

Even in a city that likes to be environmentally conscious, the outcome is uncertain.

"You have to be really tone-deaf to what's going on to think that the economic climate is not going to affect people," said Rob Gala, a legislative aide to the city councilman who first sponsored the bill for the 20-cent fee.

Regarded by some as a symbol of consumer culture wastefulness, plastic bags have been blamed for street litter, ocean pollution and carbon emissions produced by manufacturing and shipping them.

Momentum for imposing fees or bans has expanded from a few, often affluent, liberal cities on the West Coast — San Francisco was the first big city to ban plastic bags, in 2007 — to dozens of legislative proposals in states like Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Texas and Virginia.

## Tech and Industrial Shares Trip Up The Markets

By Jack Healy

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

On a day when stock indexes sank to their lowest point in more than a decade, Wall Street did not need the dire problems of banks to lead the way to the bottom.

A broad sell-off on Monday sent the Dow Jones industrial average tumbling 251 points and pulled the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index to its lowest close since April 1997.

Unlike in recent weeks, financial stocks did not post the biggest declines. In fact, battered shares of Citigroup and Bank of America ended higher as the government moved closer toward taking direct ownership stakes in troubled banks.

But the losses piled up everywhere else, providing few signs that would indicate the end of the bear market. Stocks of technology companies including Intel, Google and IBM fell, as did scores of retailers, manufacturers and media companies. The materials sector — makers of raw materials aluminum, chemicals and plastics — fell the most among the 10 major industries in the S&P 500.

The deepening global downturn is dragging down businesses across every sector of the economy, and analysts said the sell-off on Monday was a sign that investors were simply pulling up their stakes.

## Survey Reveals Broad Support for President

By Jeff Zeleny  
and Megan Thee-Brenan

THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Barack Obama is benefiting from remarkably high levels of optimism and confidence among Americans about his leadership, providing him with substantial political clout as he confronts the nation's economic challenges and opposition from nearly all Republicans in Congress, according to the latest New York Times/CBS News poll.

A majority of people surveyed in both parties said Obama was striving to work in a bipartisan way, but most Americans faulted Republicans for their response to the president, saying the party had objected to the \$787 billion economic stimulus plan for political reasons. Most said Obama should pursue the priorities he campaigned on, the poll found, rather than seek middle ground with Republicans.

Obama will deliver his first address to Congress on Tuesday evening against a backdrop of deep economic anxiety among the public, with worries spanning party, class and regional divides. A majority of Americans, 55 percent, say they are just making ends meet, with more than six in 10 concerned that someone in their household might lose his job in the next year.

Americans are under no illusions that the country's problems will be resolved quickly, but the poll suggested they will be patient when it comes to the economy, with most saying it would be years before significant improvement.

# OPINION



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## Corrections

Because of an editing error, an article in Friday's issue about changes to the General Institute Requirements incorrectly stated that faculty voted on changing the GIRs "last week." They actually voted two weeks before the article's publication — on Feb. 4.

## Letters To The Editor

### Re: Stop Complaining

In his Feb 20 opinion in *The Tech*, Akash Chandawarkar feels that the MIT administration's policies have been beneficial enough to students to deserve their trust, and many others, myself included, disagree. But even if for the sake of charity we assume that until two weeks ago the MIT administration was the good shepherd, a cursory examination reveals that its recent actions give few reasons to trust its intentions.

One fact that has been conspicuously overlooked is the treatment that the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee was given in the consultant's report. Despite having commissioned the report, according to *The Tech's* Fri, Feb 13th issue, before the BRDC was even notified of the report's completion, it had already been delivered to administrators, revised after administrative recommendations, and only then leaked. Karen Nilsson's claims of not wanting to "waste everyone's time" do not change the fact that the administration was acting to control the information given to the committee without its knowledge.

In addition, Dean Colombo's message to students reiterating that the BRDC would be used as a respected advisory body completely ignored the fact that the UA, representing the entire student body and directly comprising a third of the active members of the BRDC itself, called for its dissolution. Either the administration chose to continue recognizing a student-faculty committee even after its own members repudiated its legitimacy or it did not bother to find out about the UA's resolution. Neither option puts the administration in a good light.

It is true that the MIT administration deserves respect. What is also true is that the student body will reciprocate what it is given. MIT must make the first move — and it needs

to be cognizant of its actions towards students that have lost faith in its sincerity.

In the meantime, I think that Mr. Chandawarkar and I will agree that what, where, how and when we eat are very personal issues. The best thing that we as students can do is to cool our emotions and promote civil, respectful, and informed dialogue.

Joshua C. Velson '10

### Pick Up a Sign

In his opinion article on Feb. 20, Mr. Chandawarkar complains "This isn't the 60s," and that we should simply trust the MIT administration to do what is right. I take serious issue with this sentiment.

I applied to MIT for the school I thought it was; not the school it would become. Regardless of where I went, I expected to be able to have a say in what it was that went on, especially since we (the students) bear the brunt of any changes made by the administration with regard to dining, hacking, housing, etc. MIT was once a university that listened to and supported its students; just speak with any of the faculty who went here as undergraduates for a very interesting perspective on how things have changed. Today, MIT no longer supports its students when questioned in the public eye (Star Simpson and the Faculty Club ordeal both come to mind). MIT is now being run as a business rather than a school; we can understand the reasons behind why this is happening, but that doesn't mean we have to chew it down and pretend to like it.

MIT was once a safe haven for exploration, creativity, and freedom of expression. Some of the most interesting scientific progress in history was made by accident; students playing around and testing the limits of what was considered "acceptable." That was once encouraged and supported at MIT, but is no longer.

This, more than anything, instills fear in me for the future of the Institute.

For this reason, we cannot simply trust MIT to do what is right by us. I have parents. Even remotely, they support me through anything and work through things with me when I do something wrong. MIT should not be our parents. Rather, it should be a place that is a safe haven for creativity and unforced social and educational growth. Forcing "community" does not work; be it through dining, randomized housing, all-freshmen housing, or all-freshmen design classes. Community occurs on its own, through shared experiences.

I don't want MIT to become "just another school." Many of us came here specifically because it wasn't that. Don't let it become that; that is our plea.

The perfect example of what I believe is faulty with Mr. Chandawarkar's thinking lies in the following quote: "You, the protestors, were being spoon-fed by your mothers one or two years ago at home. Who probably has a better idea of what works on college campuses: the MIT student who has been living on his or her own for a few years or the professional who does it for a living? I'm going to go with the latter." I believe that the administration has a better idea of what works on most college campuses; I fully agree. I believe even more strongly, however, that the students have a better idea of what works on the MIT campus. There is a particular culture here that is different from other campuses, despite any administrative attempts to squelch it.

We are not a homogenous campus. I like it that way. It's why I came here. In the 1960s, streets were set ablaze and students arrested all around campus for issues such as these. All I'm asking is if you care, stand up for yourselves. Contact the administration. Let your voices be heard. I'm picking up a sign.

Michael Borohovski '09



A New Indicator of Economic Pessimism

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# CAMPUS LIFE

## Ramblings From Hell

### My Snow Days Are Long Gone

By S. Campbell Proehl

STAFF COLUMNIST

When did snow lose its magic? Last week, when a friend told me it was going to snow, I responded with, "Oh God. Seriously?"

When did I get like that?

In the suburbs of New York City where I grew up, snow was the most exciting thing that could happen to a kid, even more exciting than summer. Summer was great, but you always knew when it was coming. It didn't have that surprise element.

Snow, on the other hand, could be there unexpectedly in the morning, and snow in the morning meant one of three things: 1) I was still going to school (everyone, even parents, seemed to be upset with this outcome); 2) There was a delay (a two-hour wait was better than a one-hour); or 3) There was no school, and, no matter what stood in my way, I was going sledding.

Snow days were such a wonderful surprise when I was young. I never thought about the fact that my parents had to snow-blow the driveway and salt the sidewalk, because it was always done before I woke up. All I thought about was which of my friends would be able to get to my house (I lived in the center of our 1.8 square mile town) and which of their cool sleds they would be bringing. (I always called Liam because he had the Sno-Tube.)

There is a big hill on the side of my house and we all used to do a few warm-up runs there and then walk three quarters of a mile uphill to the local golf course. By the time I arrived at 10:00 a.m., there were always fifty other kids there and we had to squeeze our way in to get onto the double hill, featuring a 45° natural launch pad, or the suicide hill, which had a 70° incline that took fifteen minutes to ascend after sledding to the bottom.

So many of my childhood memories take place on those hills. There was the time my twin sister and I forgot to tell my family friend Hannah to aim left on the double hill. She was then catapulted into the air and landed headfirst in a tree-trunk (uninjured, but very shaken). In seventh grade, I had my first boy-girl hug with

my "boyfriend" Joey after a day's worth of close contact on my six-person toboggan.

In high school, snow days were still great, but they mostly consisted of me catching up on homework. Occasionally, I'd convince my younger brother and sister to lend me snow pants for twenty minutes so that I could walk to rent a movie. I remember being glad for the snow day, but not so much for the snow.

But snow no longer means relief from school. It means that someone has erected the Great Wall of China between me and where I need to be. And then, to make matters worse, they have covered the road in salt so that I have to walk through slush and turn whatever shoes and pants I'm wearing entirely white.

I don't know when it happened, but last week I realized that I now hate everything about snow. I hate fresh snow, day-old snow, rock salt, slush, and the dirty black snow that lines the streets.

I've been thinking, for a couple of days now, about what part of snow actually irritates me. It came to me the other day while I was at a deli buying cheese. The woman checking me out had her son with her. He was young — third grade, he told me — and he asked me what grade I was in. I had to do the math. You know it's not good when you have to do the math. "Sixteenth," I said, "I'm in my last year of college."

He was intrigued in that way that younger kids always are by college kids. "What's your favorite subject?" I asked.

"Gym," he answered.

"I was never any good at that one," I responded.

"Well... is girls a subject?" He smiled at me.

"It can be," I answered, "Why, do you excel in that one?"

"Well, I'm not sure," he pondered, "Maybe?"

That's when I realized — I hate snow because it reminds me that I will never be that young again. It reminds me that gym will no longer be a subject I have to study. From now on, surprises won't often come my way. And saddest of all, my days of being immune from my responsibilities are over, because my snow days are long gone.

## Gadget Review

### Oxygen Mini Digital Vaporizer

By Benjamin P. Gleitzman

SENIOR EDITOR

#### The Lowdown

Resembling an electronic sea cucumber and billed as the world's smallest digital vaporizer, the Oxygen Mini Digital Vaporizer from Vapir allows the health-conscious individual personalized aromatherapy at the touch of a button. At a little over 6 inches, the device's black plasticky shell and futuristic heat shield might be construed as a modest vibrator for Rosie from the Jetsons.

Vaporization, unlike smoking, skips combustion in favor of sublimation, reducing the concentration of noxious gases and particulate matter. The process produces little or no smoke and greatly reduces the harmful effects of smoking.

#### Usage

A breeze to operate, two buttons adjust the device's temperature, which is displayed on a bright digital screen. The Oxygen Mini uses a tube attachment instead of balloons or bags, and an LED glows green when the device is ready for use. Even at operating temperatures exceeding 400°F, the included heat shield and auto-off feature kept the device cool and safe for use near flammable objects. The simple thermal controls allow the user to select a specific vaporizing temperature, which varies from herb to herb. But without any persistent internal memory, the temperature must be readjusted at startup.

Before use, those without the included battery pack must suffer through the electrical yoga of trying to find a wall socket to accommodate the achingly short cord. A car charger is also available for purchase, but with a price point right around \$100 for the device, users might think twice before accessorizing.

During field tests, users found the Oxygen Mini to produce a surprisingly subtle vapor, occasionally questioning the effectiveness of the vaporized herbs. Inhalations were followed by a

slight "medical" aftertaste, most likely a result of the plastic tube that connects the device with the mouthpiece. Those with a Phelpsonian lung capacity may find the device's diminutive stature to be insufficient, as the small chamber requires more frequent repacking — especially among friends. However, the modular design and belt clip make the Oxygen Mini ultra-portable and a sure hit at any party.

Personal use is where the Oxygen Mini outshines other vaporizing devices. Heated and ready to use in under a minute, the device operates even in windy situations or on the go. Small enough to stuff in a fanny pack but large enough to not be lost among the couch cushions, Vapir has succeeded in producing a portable, albeit slightly pricey, personal smoking device.

#### Anything else?

Although not a specific drawback of the Oxygen Mini, vaporization offers a decidedly less authentic experience compared with traditional smoking. It is hard to image Bob Marley, Willie Nelson, or James Franco enjoying a toke from a vaporizer, and habitual users of pipes or rolling papers may balk at the experience. Even so, for chronic users the health benefits of vaporization over smoking are hard to ignore. For those in search of a personal vaporizer, the Oxygen Mini delivers.

For more information on the Oxygen Mini Digital Vaporizer, visit <http://www.vapir.com>.

#### Pros:

- Extremely compact and portable
- Easy to use
- Durable

#### Cons:

- Proprietary power cable
- Not suitable for a sizable smokefest
- Lacks temperature memory
- Cost

## Brouhaha Rhythm

### A Wandering Columnist, I

By Michael Lin

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

I consider myself extremely fortunate to be living in a metropolitan area with a public transportation system as good as Boston's, because without it, my horrendous sense of direction and I would have me wandering around Memphis long before I'd find room 7-107 or whatever. That's Memphis, Tennessee if I bite the bullet and ask for directions and historical downtown Memphis, Egypt, otherwise. Don't ask me how; I guarantee I'd manage it, one way or another.

It's the same thing even in a space as small as my own room. It's a frustratingly surreal experience to have an object in my hand one moment and see no sign of it the next. Either my absentmindedness is such that I should be inventing Flubber any day now, or I've developed (but have yet to master) the ability to teleport objects miles away. If the latter is the case, I really hope I figure it out soon. It'd be nice to teleport away some of these rain clouds and send them to, oh, I dunno... Caltech.

I haven't the faintest idea of why my sense of direction is so bad. I was in the Boy Scouts as a kid and took orienteering, but I still need a compass on my belt so I don't have to use the sun to relate my MapQuest printout to the Boston topography.

A friend of mine has such an absurdly keen sense of direction that she can wander the tunnels for hours and know at any moment where she is, what direction she's facing, and in all likelihood, the precise distance between her and Christian Bale. On the other hand, you have me who, after three semesters at MIT, only just figured out a couple weeks ago that the "outbound" Red Line went out of Boston and the "inbound" Red Line went into Boston.

It doesn't seem fair.

Still, I not-so-humbly confess that, like Mr. Magoo, I do have my occasional moments of glory. Just the other night, a group of friends and I were prowling through Harvard Square, which you'd think would be familiar ground by now, looking for the Brattle Theatre. Not having known me for very long, my friends tacitly let me take the lead. A short time later, they revoked that privilege, and the four of us proceeded to ask directions about every 100 feet in a sad, strange little game of "Hot or Cold." Long story short, it turned out that the giant "CINEMA" sign, which I happened to glance in an alleyway on our second lap around the block, was our destination. Thankfully enough, we backtracked there just in time for everyone to get tickets to Frank Capra's *It Happened One Night* and for me to feel smug for about two hours. Then I headed for the wrong EXIT sign on the way out. Occasional, tragically brief moments of glory.

Those of you out there with the navigational knowledge of Magellan to whom carrier pigeons come for directions, my sextant and I (it's not what it sounds like) envy you. I'm sure it must be very liberating, never having to use [whereis.mit.edu](http://whereis.mit.edu) and knowing by pure instinct how to get from one end of campus to another without ever touching earth or seeing sky.

Meanwhile, my Columbus-level incompetence and I remain utterly oblivious to the foibles of a city where one wrong turn can have you across two state lines before you can say "In-two-hundred-feet, keep-right." Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to take a quick look on Google Earth before my laptop battery dies on me. I was approaching what looked like the Stata Center from a long way away, but, as I get closer to it, I grow increasingly uncomfortable at how Taj Mahal-shaped it is.

"[I] ... only just figured out a couple weeks ago that the 'outbound' Red Line went out of Boston and the 'inbound' Red Line went into Boston."

## WMBR's Top Five Songs With Handclaps

By Ben Shanks

STAFF COLUMNIST

Handclaps: the most primitive of percussions. Today, they are used in rock and pop music to add a sense of authenticity (or an air of naiveté, in the case of twee bands). When used poorly, they are a disaster, but in the right hands (get it?), the claps are a powerful tool. It was tough to distill out a top five, and many worthy candidates were passed over, but here are five great songs where handclaps make a prominent appearance.

Disclaimer: Neither *The Tech* nor WMBR is responsible for any injuries which should occur as a result of listening to these songs while operating a motor vehicle.

5. **The Knife: "Heartbeats"** — The handclaps are synthetic, but the emotion is real. Everyone knows this song because of the Sony Bravia ad with all the bouncy balls and the José González cover of this song. It's a shame so few people realize The Knife had the original version, because, well, it's better. Way better. But these guys are gods in Sweden, so I guess that's some consolation — plus, they get health care.
4. **The Mountain Goats: "This Year"** — Subtle but pervasive, these are handclaps of necessity — the kind of handclaps that push a 17-year-old not to let his stepfather get the best of him.
3. **The Magnetic Fields: "The Death of Ferdinand de Saussure"** — In the run for my favorite track off of *69 Love Songs*, a contest which my brain will never resolve. There are exactly four handclaps in this song, all at once, and they may be the four most glorious in all of music.
2. **Broken Social Scene: "Stars and Sons"** — I'm pretty sure this song is responsible for a full-on explosion of handclapping in indie rock. This is genuinely one of the best uses of the claps I've ever heard, taking the song's (incredible) bassline and drilling it straight into your head.
1. **Eddie Murphy: "Party all the Time"** — My girl likes to party all the time, party all the time, party all the time, clap clap. This song is everything that is wrong with the 80's. It is like watching a car accident happen — you know it's awful, but you can't look away.

Show: Breakfast of Champions

DJ: Ben Shanks

Time slot: Wednesday morning, 8 - 10

Listen by air at 88.1FM or online at [wmbor.org](http://wmbor.org). Think you know a thing or two about handclaps? Join the WMBR Staff! E-mail [membership@wmbor.org](mailto:membership@wmbor.org)

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ANDREA ROBLES—THE TECH

## Steal My Comic

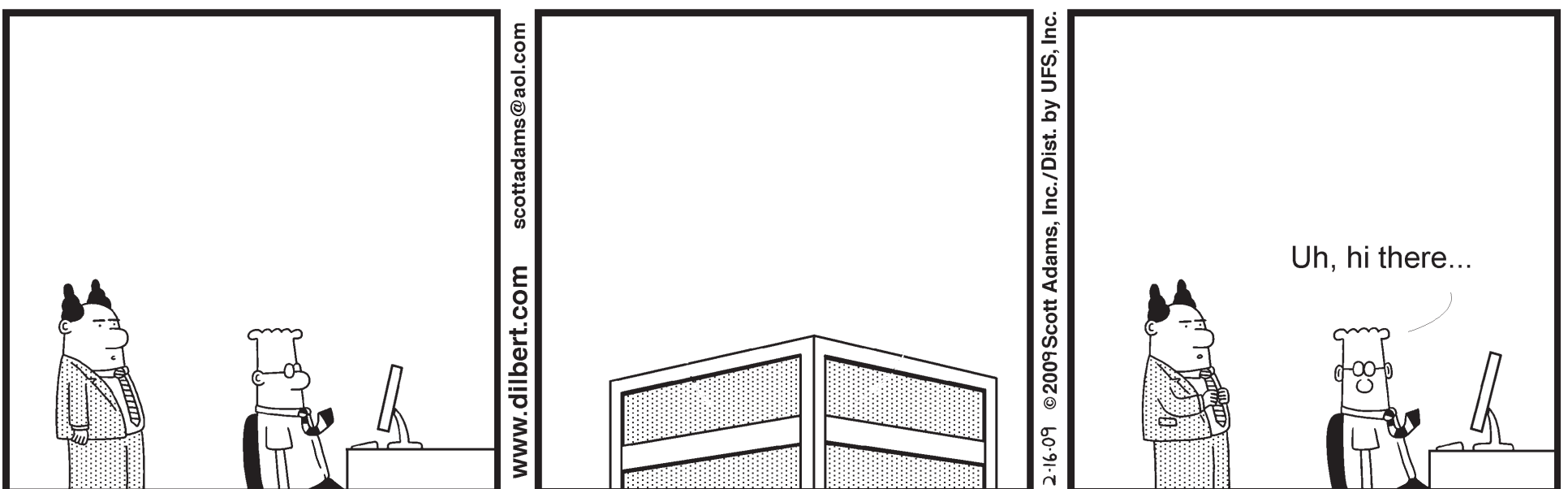
by Michael Ciuffo



## The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

With the success of "Garfield minus garfield" I have been doing some experiments...  
"Less verbose Dilbert"



## Crossword Puzzle

### ACROSS

- 1 Lower California
- 5 Play's players
- 9 Large-scale
- 14 Alda or Ladd
- 15 Big pot of stew
- 16 TV's Steverino
- 17 Dance partner?
- 18 Jet-set jet
- 19 Kirkpatrick of the U.N.
- 20 Start of a quip
- 23 Lent end
- 24 Call for help
- 25 Shopping center
- 28 Work shifts
- 33 Temple team
- 37 Consider
- 39 Ancient Peruvians
- 40 Part 2 of quip
- 43 Barker's customer
- 44 Poi source
- 45 Scarfs down
- 46 Coil
- 48 Decisive defeat
- 50 Deface
- 52 Swaps
- 57 End of quip
- 63 Deserve
- 64 Fabled loser
- 65 "Zip\_\_-Doo-

### DOWN

- 1 Sew loosely
- 2 Hilo hi-ya
- 3 Austen and Seymour
- 4 Gut-wrenching feeling
- 5 River or state
- 6 Out of the wind
- 7 Close noisily
- 8 " \_\_ Bulba"
- 9 Commanding
- 10 Yankee or Oriole, briefly
- 11 Hammer part
- 12 Actress Sofer
- 13 Change for a fin
- 21 Cloth border
- 22 Boxing wins, briefly
- 26 Remaining
- 27 "The Merry Widow" composer
- 29 Pertaining to

### Solution, page 9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15				16				
17				18				19				
20			21					22				
23						24						
25			26	27		28		29	30	31	32	
33	34	35	36		37		38		39			
40				41				42				
43					44				45			
46				47		48			49			
50				51				52	53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60			61	62					
63					64				65			
66					67				68			
69					70				71			

# su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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.

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

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>; see also solution, page 9.

# Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

# Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Congratulations to everyone who e-mailed [loremipsum@tech.mit.edu](mailto:loremipsum@tech.mit.edu) after finding it buried in a *Tech* ad last issue! Those who e-mailed should stop by our office on the fourth floor of the Student Center (W20-483) any night this week and claim a free *Tech* t-shirt!

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# Dining Report Grew By 11 Pages Before The Committee Saw It

Dining, from Page 1

was distributed to committee members yesterday afternoon. Denoncourt said that the committee will decide whether to release that initial report publicly. This first report was revised after administrator input, before the committee knew the report existed; a second, expanded copy was made available to the committee on Feb. 13 and was soon leaked to students.

The consultants' report expanded to 17 pages from 6 pages after it received input from administrators, Denoncourt said yesterday.

Denoncourt said that initial report made recommendations with minimal supporting data. She said that the revisions only added the data and explanations without changing any actual recommendations.

Karen A. Nilsson, Senior Associate Dean for Residential Life, told *The Tech* in an article written on Feb. 13, 2009 that changes to the consultant's work recommended by administrators before reaching the committee were minor. She was not available for comment yesterday night.

The committee will also likely add a new member, Preeya S. Phadnis '09. Phadnis attended the last meeting in the place of James Torres '10, current DormCon president and a committee member. Phadnis expressed interest in joining the committee permanently, Denoncourt said. Recommended by Dean for Student Life Costantino Colombo and approved by Denoncourt, Phadnis will likely join the committee.

The original members of the committee were recommended by then-Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict and they include the offices of the UA President and vice president. UA President Noah S. Jessop '09 and UA Vice President Michael A. Bennie '10 were added to the committee when they were elected last year.

Phadnis would be the first student member to join the committee outside of that process.

Bennie said that unclear rules regarding voting and membership are one reason why "students are nervous" about the committee. He said that the committee is working to "solidify" its policies regarding voting and membership.

Denoncourt said that the public meeting minutes would be redacted because the committee wants to "maintain trust" in internal discussions. "I would like people to feel comfortable talking in the committee meetings," said Denoncourt.

The UA Senate voted last week on a bill calling for the dissolution of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining. It cited a lack of transparency, among other reasons.

The Senate discussed passing a new bill commenting on the committee's direction last night, but the senators decided to table the discussion until the Senate's next meeting.

Jessop said that "[the changes] will be able to address most of the points in the bill." He said he was "optimistic" about the direction the committee is headed.

Michael McGraw-Herdeg contributed to the reporting of this article

# Last Reported Daylight Robbery On Campus Was in Early December

Robberies, from Page 1

aged twenty to twenty-five years, wearing "black puffy jackets and black hats," Vossmer said. The police believed both robberies were committed by the same group, Vossmer said.

In the first robbery, outside the Stata (pronounced STAY-ta) Center, the victim was asked for the time, and then when he pulled out a cell phone, the robbers "grabbed the cell phone out of the victim's hand," the police said.

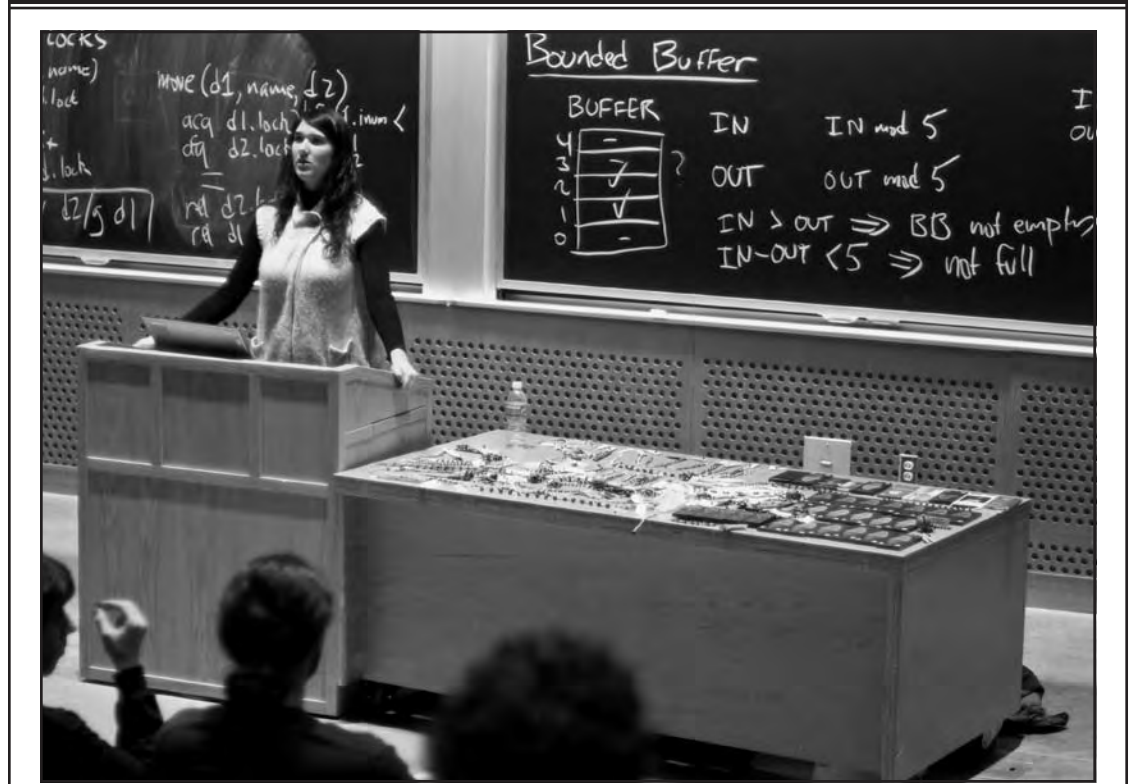
In the second robbery, outside the Media Lab, the student walked through the group of four perpetrators, one of whom grabbed the victim. Once grabbed, the victim was held "in a choke hold" and then punched, the police said. The victim's cell phone, wallet, and watch were taken from by the perpetrators.

The MIT police said that both they and Cambridge police, conducted "a substantial search in the area ... to no avail."

Daylight robberies are unusual at

MIT, but this incident was not isolated. On Tuesday, Dec. 2, at about 3 p.m., a male was punched in the face and hip and his backpack was stolen outside the Koch (pronounced COKE) Biology Building, Building 68.

The month before, at night on Thursday, Nov. 20, a female student was assaulted by a pair of men who appeared to be carrying a gun. That robbery occurred at about 10:00 p.m. at night, near the Sidney-Pacific and the new Ashdown (NW35) dormitories, northwest of campus.



Rebecca Roebber from the Kallari Association is seen lecturing on the production of fine chocolate at a chocolate tasting in 32-123 on Monday evening. The lecture and tasting was hosted by the Laboratory for Chocolate Science and the Western Hemisphere Project.

DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

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# Scientific Stimulus Funding Will Prioritize Fast, Two-Year Projects

Stimulus, from Page 1

From proposed animal research laboratories at the University of Arizona, the University of Nebraska and the University of Pennsylvania to empty floors in laboratory buildings at the University of California, Irvine, Ohio State University and Southern Illinois University, colleges across the country have hundreds of shovel- and beaker-ready projects in the sciences that could collectively cost tens of billions and begin within weeks.

"We're grateful for the money, but it's not such a large number that anybody's going to have to look very hard for good projects to fund," said Leslie Tolbert, the vice president for research at the University of Arizona.

When President Barack Obama signed the \$787 billion stimulus measure last Tuesday, one of the law's most surprising provisions was a 36 percent increase in the budget for the National Institutes of Health. The law gives the health institutes \$10.4 billion in addition to its annual budget of \$29 billion, and the new money must be allocated by September 2010 on grants and other projects that can extend no more than two years.

The law gives the National Science Foundation \$2 billion in stimulus financing for research grants, and the foundation also has until September 2010 to spend the money. But the foundation will act much faster, pushing nearly all of that money out to scientists within 120 days, said Jeffrey Nesbit, an NSF spokesman. (Last year, the science foundation's \$6.1 billion budget included \$4.8 billion for research grants; Congress has not finished the budget for the current fiscal year.)

The spending increase comes after six years of nearly flat research budgets at the NIH, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy and other agencies, and growing desperation at research universities, which depend on the agencies to underwrite much of their scientific faculty and laboratory infrastructure.

To speed the process, the science foundation will not put out any new calls for proposals from researchers, but will instead use the money to finance a higher fraction of proposals already under review and to finance old ones that were judged meritorious last year but were turned down because of insufficient financing.

The one opportunity that will require new applications is for a pool of \$200 million for universities to refurbish laboratories. The foundation will provide more details about its spending plans after officials meet this week with the National Science Board, which oversees the NSF.

Kington of the NIH provided only a broad outline of the agency's new financing priorities. And while he insisted that the health institutes would rely on its traditional method of committee reviews for approving grant proposals, he also said that agency administrators would have unusual discretion in financing proposals.

Even politics — long taboo in agency financing decisions — could play a role.

"We will be sensitive to geographic distribution," said Kington, who emphasized that the money was intended to stimulate "the nation's" economy.

Grant proposals that scientific review committees have already deemed worthy will receive top priority for the financing, Kington said. Nearly all such proposals seek four years of financing, but agency administrators will pick out the grants for projects that they believe could be completed in two years, he said.

Although Congress has pressed the agency in recent years to increase financing for clinical research, such trials tend to take many years and thus would be unlikely to receive stimulus financing, Kington said.

A significant share of the new money will be used to bolster grants that have already received some financing, Kington said. Some of this supplemental financing will be approved by committees and others by administrators.

And agency administrators will "soon" send out instructions on how universities can apply for grants in special areas of science that will be given priority by administrators, Kington said.

The agency must spend \$1 billion to support construction projects

at universities and \$300 million to help buy equipment and scientific instruments. An additional \$500 million will be spent on federal buildings, mostly at the NIH campus in Bethesda, Md. University administrators said they were eager to get the money and promised that any grants they received would immediately stimulate local economies.

At the University of Pennsylvania, architectural plans are ready and a site is picked for the Singh Nanotechnology Center, an 80,000-square-foot building for which the university has been able to raise only \$60 million of the estimated \$95 million cost. The center could be financed by either the health institutes or the science foundation, said Steven Fluharty, vice provost for research at the university.

"At Singh, a shovel could go into the ground tomorrow if we had the money," Fluharty said.

In addition to three new science buildings, the University of Pennsylvania has definitive plans for more than a dozen scientific renovation projects that each need \$3 million to \$15 million to complete, Fluharty said.

Susan Bryant, the vice chancellor for research at the University of California, Irvine, said her university could start more than \$100 million in construction projects in the next two months if money were available.

"We have several buildings where we didn't have the money to finish part of the building," Bryant said.

Although Kington serves in an acting capacity, he will have more power to distribute more money than any agency director in history. The legislation gives his office about \$1 billion to distribute as he sees fit, with few of the agency's usual restrictions.

But Kington promised to follow the agency's traditions of rewarding scientific merit, providing opportunity and being transparent.

"We're not going to sell our soul for \$10 billion," he said and then added as a joke, "It would cost much more."

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### Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

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

### Solution to Crossword

from page 6

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

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## Awards Convocation 2009

# Changes to Degree Requirements Will Be Retooled

Hastings, from Page 1

that one," he said. "We have to go to the cost side of the equation."

Hastings, who is on the task force charged with finding ways to cut budgets, said that the 5 percent cut planned for the next fiscal year will be achieved through trimming bits here and there from academic and non-academic budgets.

Academic departments will decrease spending on teaching assistants. Faculty salaries will not be touched for now — although a salary freeze has been announced for the 40% of faculty who earn more than \$125,000 a year.

Departments have made symbolic cuts like reducing photocopying budgets and doing away with holiday office parties. "There is literally less food around," Hastings said.

Non-academic departments like

Information Services and Technology and the MIT Police will face even deeper cuts. And some fees will increase by "a little bit," Hastings said.

But MIT's current goal is to cut spending by 15 percent within 3 years. Getting to 15 percent will be much more difficult and will require structural changes to how MIT is run, Hastings said. Large programs might have to be merged; initiatives would have to be shelved.

"Shaving: that's how you get to 5 percent, but that's not how you get down to 15 percent," Hastings said. He asked students to make suggestions to the task force at the newly created Idea Bank website.

Henderson said that one way to make MIT more efficient is to coordinate all the (often pricey) speaking events on campus. "Maybe we can have groups co-sponsoring events

instead of having competing speakers."

Hastings said that MIT's culture of autonomy and flexibility might have to accept certain curbs. He offered the example of IS&T's support for the Windows and Macintosh operating systems, which costs a "not trivial" amount of money, he said. "There is a cost to supporting a large amount of variance," Hastings said.

Hearing this, Henderson exclaimed "Don't take away my Mac!"

## GIR reforms to be recast

Henderson said that she was disappointed that the faculty failed to pass a motion to reform the General Institute Requirements; the motion would have simplified the humanities requirement and opened the door for more variants of core subjects like Classical Mechanics (8.01).

Henderson said that she sees the situation as an opportunity to craft a new solution, using some old parts and some new.

The motion received a vote by

more than 50% but less than 60% of faculty, meaning that its changes to the faculty rules were not passed; MIT has chosen to interpret the result as a disapproval of the entire motion.

"We're not going to go back and [vote on the motion] piecemeal," Henderson said. "Since there was no overwhelming consensus, we'll go back and change the whole thing."

The patchwork HASS-D and CI-H requirements are one area where MIT can improve, Henderson said.

Part of the reason that the humanities requirements seem to conflict or overlap is that they were invented at separate times — HASS-Ds came first, then the CI-H requirement later in 2000.

"At first we were trying to build a program, but now that the program is up and running we're trying to refine it," Henderson said. She said she wants to make the humanities requirements clearer, like the science core requirements.

She said that the humanities com-

ponent of the GIRs is more important now than ever because the community has come to value them and take them more seriously, instead of seeing them as "just another box to check."

"There's a much higher commitment to communication skills than 10 years ago," Henderson said. "The community now believes this is a part of what we should be doing in the classroom," she said.

The current advising system needs improvement, Hastings said in response to student questions. Advising and dining are among the lowest rated aspects of the undergraduate experience in surveys, Hastings said.

Hastings, the dean for undergraduate education, said that MIT offers a "first rate" undergraduate education and will continue to do so, even in a recession.

"We're going to make a bunch of shifts, some for cost reasons, but we won't do anything to hurt the quality of education," Hastings said.

## Increasingly, University Presidents Don't Directly Run the University

Compensation, from Page 1

\$1,411,894 for Lee C. Bollinger, the president of the university. And he was not the only Columbia employee who out-earned Bollinger: Dr. Jeffrey W. Moses, a professor of medicine, received \$2,532,713.

"There are a lot of different spheres of influence throughout a university," said Jeff Selingo, editor of *The Chronicle*, "and since medical schools and some specialties within them generate so much revenue, it's not surprising that compensation reflects that."

Selingo added: "Chief financial officers are highly paid because they are generally people who could get a job at a Fortune 500 company. What's actually most interesting to me is that chief academic officers are getting so much. I think what's happening is that they're becoming the ones running the university day-to-day, as presidents are increasingly away from campus, talking to donors or traveling overseas to set up partnerships."

*The Chronicle's* data, which is taken from the Internal Revenue Service's Form 990, do not include executives at public universities, which do not file that form. The figures, the most recent available, are from the tax filing for the 2006-7 fiscal year.

The pay for university presidents has risen sharply over the last decade — as has the gap between their pay and that of the average professor. At private colleges, *The Chronicle*

found in its annual compensation survey, the average president's salary is about \$500,000.

Shortly after *The Chronicle's* survey of presidential compensation was released in November, amid the nation's financial meltdown, many public figures criticized the high pay, and a few presidents voluntarily gave back a portion of their pay.

"When you have college presidents making \$1 million, you're going to have \$800,000 provosts and \$500,000 deans," said Patrick M. Callan, president of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. "It may be reasonable for these people to be well-paid, but if faculty's getting 2 percent raises, I don't see why senior administrators who are already high-paid should get much larger increases. It reflects a set of values that is not the way most Americans think of higher education."

David L. Warren, president of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, issued a statement on Friday noting that highly paid university employees are the exception, not the rule. The median compensation for all employees in the *Chronicle* survey is \$160,493, he said, significantly less than comparably skilled and experienced professionals would earn outside of universities.

The new *Chronicle* analysis of pay data listed the 10 highest paid employees other than chief executives, the 10 highest paid financial

officers and the 10 highest paid academic officers. Only Emory University and Vanderbilt University were represented on all three lists.

Vanderbilt had two of the highest-paid employees on the top 10 list: Dr. Harry R. Jacobson, the vice chancellor for health affairs, and Norman B. Army, the former executive vice president for clinical affairs, who stepped down in June 2006. Each had a pay package worth more than \$2.4 million.

Vanderbilt also had the highest-paid academic officer, Nicholas S. Zeppos, who earned \$1,046,751, and the second-highest-paid financial officer, Lauren Brisky, who earned \$1,159,197 and is retired as of this month.

In 2007, *The Chronicle* has reported, Vanderbilt also had the highest-paid university chief in the nation — E. Gordon Gee, who forfeited about half of his \$2 million compensation package when he left to become president of Ohio State University.

Zeppos then succeeded him as chancellor of Vanderbilt last March.

The executive vice president for health affairs at Emory, Dr. Michael M.E. Johns, received \$3,753,067, *The Chronicle* found, while the chief financial officer, Michael J. Mandl, received \$666,300, and the chief academic officer, Earl Lewis, received \$536,540.

The compensation figures include deferred compensation, some of which is subject to forfeiture.

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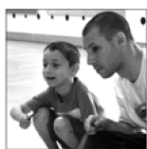
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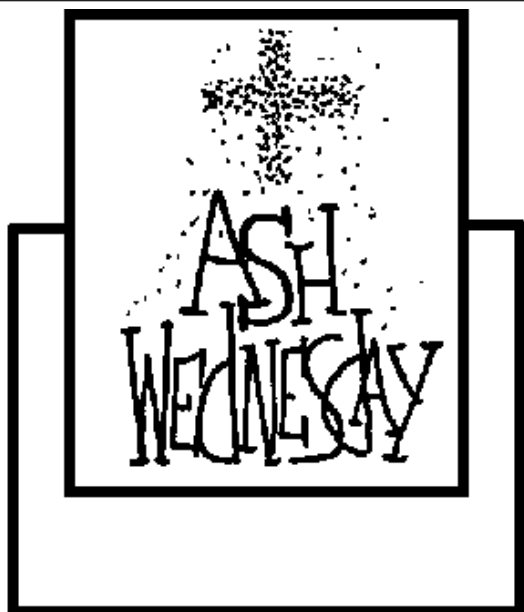
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Andrea Frank (center) discusses her exhibit, "Ports + Ships," with Al-Thaddeus Avestruz G (left) and photographer Charles Fendrock '75 (right). The exhibit opened on Feb. 10 in the Compton Gallery and will remain there until June 14. Artist talks are scheduled for Feb. 24 and Mar. 31 at 2 p.m. in 10-150.

MAKSIM IMAKAEV—THE TECH

## Sports Shorts, Continued

Sports Shorts, from Page 12

to their scoring total. Ellie S. Souganidis '10 and Abigail M. Clark '09 finished 1-2 in the consolation heat, with senior Caroline S. Lowenthal '09 closing in fifth.

Senior Jennifer A. Chao '09 delivered one of the most impressive races of the weekend with a dominating win in the 200 fly. Securing her first individual victory at the NEWMAC Championships, Chao swam 2:08.58 to set a new meet record while posting the best time for an MIT swimmer in 21 years.

In the final event of the meet, MIT ensured its runner-up finish in the team standings with two great efforts in the 400 free relay. In the consolation, junior Ashley E. Pinchinat '10 delivered a huge personal record by splitting 54.70 in the lead off spot. O'Keeffe closed out her NEWMAC career in winning fashion while teaming with sophomore Lauren R. Hernley '11 and Creasey, who split 3:40.17 to win the heat by three seconds. The Engineers finished fourth in the championship final, but nearly set another school record as the team of King, Chao, Giblin, and Jacobi split 3:34.22.

—DAPER Staff

## SCOREBOARD

### Men's Fencing

Sunday, February 22, 2009

New England Championships

MIT

2nd of 13

### Women's Fencing

Sunday, February 22, 2009

New England Championships

MIT

1st of 13

### Women's Swimming

Sunday, February 22, 2009

NEWMAC Championships

MIT

2nd of 10

### Men's Track and Field

Friday, February 20, 2009

New England Division III Championships

MIT

2nd of 24

### Women's Track and Field

Saturday, February 21, 2009

New England Division III Championships

MIT

1st of 24

### Men's Wrestling

Sunday, February 22, 2009

NECCWA Tournament

MIT

8th of 15

### Women's Basketball

Saturday, February 21, 2009

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (20-5)

72

MIT (4-19)

48

### Men's Gymnastics

Saturday, February 21, 2009

Temple

324.2

MIT

305.8

### Women's Gymnastics

Saturday, February 21, 2009

Springfield College and Ithaca College

MIT

3rd of 3

### Men's Hockey

Saturday, February 21, 2009

MIT (11-6-1)

2

Boston College (13-10-5)

6

### Men's Squash

Saturday, February 21, 2009

Drexel University

6

MIT

3

Sunday, February 22, 2009

University of Southern California

3

MIT

6

### Men's Volleyball

Saturday, February 21, 2009

Mount Ida College

0

MIT (11-9)

3

Southern Vermont College

0

MIT (12-9)

3

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# SPORTS



VINCENT AUYEUNG—THE TECH

**Bryan C. Hernandez '09 holds a maltese cross on the rings at Saturday's gymnastics meet against Temple University. The Engineers lost 324.2-305.8.**



CHELSEA GRIMM—THE TECH

**Friends and teammates cheer on Jane M. Wolcott '09 of the Varsity Openweight Women's rowing team at the CRASH-B (Charles River All-Star Has-Beens) Sprints World Indoor Rowing Championships, begun in the '80's by a group of Olympians during winter training. Wolcott finished in 10th place (of 246 competitors) with a time of 7:03.9 in the open women's division. The 2000 meter race has been run on rowing machines since 1982. This year's event took place at Boston University's Agganis Arena on Feb. 22.**

## Engineers Capture First Ever New England Division III Championship

Behind six individual wins, the nationally-ranked No. 9 MIT women's track and field team captured the NCAA Division III New England Championship for the first time in program history on Saturday. Jacqueline M. Wentz '10 took first place in both the 1000 meters and the mile while Andrea E. Bradshaw '09 ran an outstanding 800 meters to help the Engineers capture the regional championship. Sophomore Hazel L. Briner '11 won the pentathlon while setting a school record on Friday for the Cardinal and Grey as well.

### Sports Shorts

Bradshaw set a school record while achieving an NCAA Provisional cut time in the 800 meters, finishing in 2:15.18. Wentz's mile time was just a second and a half off her Institute record pace set last week. She followed that performance by setting a personal record in a victory at 1000 meters with a time of 2:59.18. In the 55-meter hurdles, Amy R. Magnuson '10 (8.44) and Portia M. Jones '12 (8.49) went one-two, as both hit NCAA Provisional marks. The 4x400 meter relay team gave Tech its final event win of the day, knocking off the second-place team from Tufts with a time of 4:02.73.

Jones also broke a pair of her own MIT records in the 200 and 400 meters. In the 200m, Jones ran to a fourth-place showing with a school record time of 26.10 seconds. She then achieved an NCAA Provisional qualifying mark and broke her own Institute record by over a second, by finishing two laps of the track in 58.69 en route to a second-place finish.

On Friday afternoon Briner captured the pentathlon 3,072 points, courtesy of first-place finishes in the shot put and 800m and second-place in the high jump and 55m hurdles. Her point total surpassed Nydia M. Clayton '04's record of 3,063 points set in 2001.

Tech's total of 134 points was enough to hold off second-place Williams (118) and Tufts (108), the defending New England champions.

MIT will compete in the New England Collegiate Indoor Championship next weekend at Boston University.

—DAPER Staff

## Engineers Earn Runner-Up Honors At NEWMAC Championships

MIT enjoyed another spectacular day in the water, and finished in second place at the 2009 NEWMAC Women's Swimming and Diving Championships. With numerous school and personal records in tow, the Engineers secured their eighth consecutive runner-up finish.

Amy E. Jacobi '11 started MIT's last-day run with a strong performance in a 100 fly time trial. The senior star eclipsed her previous best and NEWMAC record with a swim of 57:18, nearly solidifying a spot at the national championships.

In the first official event of the evening, senior Nicole M. O'Keeffe '09 broke through with an outstanding swim in the 1650 free. She smashed her previous best in the race, while finishing less than one second off the Institute record. Swimming nearly even splits the whole distance, O'Keeffe closed in 17:26.56 to finish second overall and earn All-Conference honors.

In the 200 back, rookie Allison M. Alwan '12 continued her impressive championship debut by snatching a third-place finish in an individual event for the third time on the weekend. Improving her prelim time by over four seconds, Alwan finished in 2:09.78 in notching the second-fastest time in MIT history.

The Engineers picked up significant points in the 100 free. Jacobi paced MIT's depth with a sixth-place finish (53.28), while Kaitlyn M. Creasey '11, Sarah B. King '10, and Sydney A. Giblin '12 finished second through fourth in the consolation final.

Although MIT didn't have any entries in the championship final of the 200 breast, the Engineers once again relied on their depth in adding

Sports Shorts, Page 11

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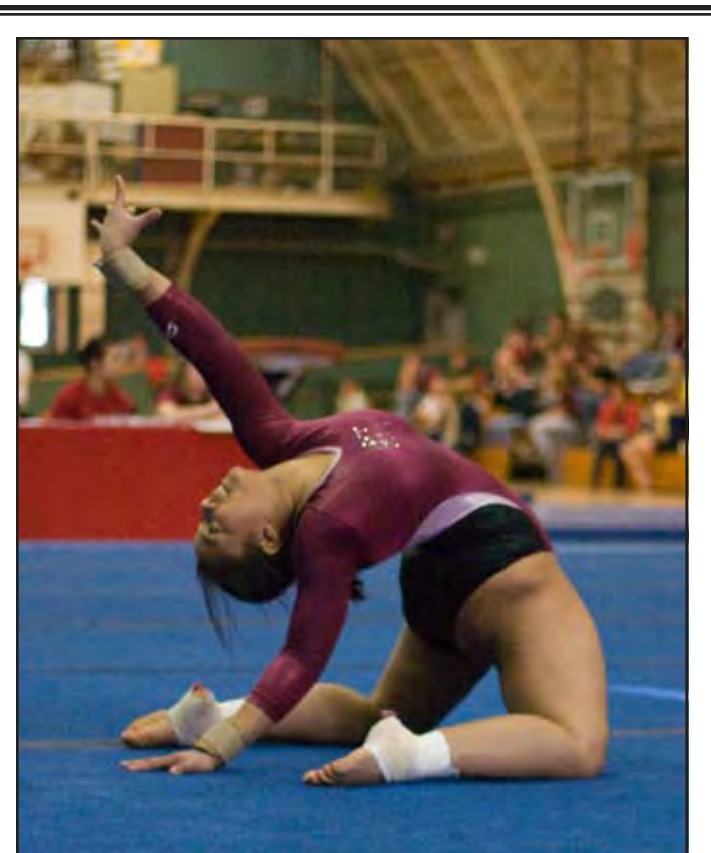
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VINCENT AUYEUNG—THE TECH

**Rachael A. Holmes '11 gracefully pauses during her floor exercise at the gymnastics meet against Springfield College on Saturday. She scored 8.900 on the exercise.**