Amnesty International Organizes Iran Forum

By Ziwei Hao

Reactive to recent violence against peaceful demonstrators in Iran, many MIT students have expressed their disapproval at the Iranian government— they have taken action in supporting the Iranians’ right to free speech and are mourning those who were killed.

Students made a photo display of injured protesters in Lobby 10; they attended a rally in Copley Square, and participated in MIT guest lectures, these were only a few of the ways students expressed their concern and condolences.

On the evening of June 23, the MIT chapter of Amnesty International, the MIT Lecture Series Committee, and the Social Justice Cooperative sponsored a discussion in Kresge Auditorium about the violence towards protesters, with an emphasis on human rights. Open to the public, the panel was attended by almost 400 people, including MIT students, faculty, local residents, and visitors from the root of Building 54. See the back page for more photos from the Boston area on July 4th.

Students Line the Charles For Independence Day Celebration

By Ana Lyons

After the longest stretch of cloudy days in Boston, despite the rain on July 4th, in front of the Lobby 7 on Tuesday, June 23 to participate in a silent, candlelight vigil. The vigil was in remembrance of Neda Agha-Soltan, a victim of election protest violence in Iran.

In Short

Mass, sales tax goes up! A La-Verde’s gift card is good for 12 cents more expensive. Mass. state sales and meals tax will go up from 5% to 6.25% on August 1.

Finding Nemra shows at LSC for free this week, 8 p.m. in 26-300 on Friday and Saturday.

Latest update on Joe D’Amico, MIT’s crooked cop. See page 13

Afta Siddiqui ‘95 is back in court, page 14.


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

Amnesty International, a global organization that campaigns worldwide in defense of human rights, organized a vigil to honor the memory of Neda Agha-Soltan, a victim of election protest violence in Iran. The vigil, held in front of the Lobby 7 on Tuesday, June 23, was attended by almost 400 people, including MIT students, faculty, local residents, and visitors from the root of Building 54. The vigil was in remembrance of Neda Agha-Soltan.

Amnesty International is a global organization that campaigns worldwide in defense of human rights. It has organized a vigil to honor the memory of Neda Agha-Soltan, a victim of election protest violence in Iran. The vigil, held in front of the Lobby 7 on Tuesday, June 23, was attended by almost 400 people, including MIT students, faculty, local residents, and visitors from the root of Building 54. The vigil was in remembrance of Neda Agha-Soltan.
Opinion

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by members of the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Austin Chu, Editor-in-Chief Michael Lukkeman, and Opinion Editor Andrew T. Chen. Dissents are signed opinions of members of the editorial board. Comments may rephrase or disagree with the editorial argument. Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Comments are reserved for regular contributors and are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by Tech staff.

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To Reach Us

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to news@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Weather

SITUATION FOR NOON EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME, WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2009

WEATHER SYSTEMS

Warm Front

Trough

High Pressure

Low Pressure

Moderate

Haze

Thunderstorm

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Extended Forecast:


Saturday and Sunday night: Sunny and thunderstorms possible.


Friday and Friday night: Skies clearing. Low 57 °F (14 °C).

Saturday and Saturday night: Sunny and thunderstorms possible.


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### Predicting climate change is an unpredictable business

**Gary Shu**

As a young high school student in non-eco-conscious Hong Kong, I was amazed when I found about the global computer model calculation that aimed to simulate climate change. This method was a powerful tool that kept the heart beating passed through. After all, the simulation that took several days for the climate models to run. Today, we can now predict the climate with high accuracy, thanks to the development of climate models. Climate change modeling is not just a scientific endeavor, but it is also a business that affects our daily lives.

### The Fight to Save Our Planet

The fight to save our planet is an ongoing battle. The greenhouse gases have been accumulating in the atmosphere for decades, and the effects are becoming more apparent every year. The Paris Agreement in 2015 aimed to limit global warming to well below 2° Celsius. However, many countries are failing to meet their commitments, and the planet is still on track to exceed the 1.5° Celsius target set by the United Nations.

### What Will It Take to Save the Planet?

The answer is a multifaceted approach. We need to reduce emissions, invest in renewable energy, and adapt to the effects of climate change. We need to act now to avoid the worst-case scenarios.

###Future-Proofing Our World

The future of our planet is in our hands. We need to make sustainable choices, support renewable energy projects, and fight for climate justice. It is time to act and ensure a brighter future for generations to come. Let's work together to save our planet.
DANGEROUS OVERTURES

Obama fashions himself the Great Uniter. He should be more careful of who he's trying to unite.

Middle East

From Page 2

Palestinian cause. The European Union's aid to Palestinian refugees and the Palestinian Authority's Reform and Development Plan totaled 300 million euros ($467 million). This is unquestionably a noble gesture, but it would even be more so if there were some follow-up to ensure that those funds actually reach their intended recipients.

In any case, this long-term regular aid alone is good evidence that Europe seems more inclined to support the Palestinian side of the protracted conflict with Israel.

Now, a younger and better-educated generation of European Muslims citizens is increasingly involved in the political and decision-making structures of the EU. France's Minister of Justice in Rachida Dati, who was born to a Moroccan father and an Algerian mother. Fatima Laanen, Minister for Cultural and Audiovisual Affairs of the French-speaking community of Belgium, born in Belgium to Moroccan parents, is another example. Dati and Laanen remind us that Muslims are not only present in the West, but also an intrinsic part of it and of its culture, society, and institutions.

That is why Obama's words in Cairo have so much significance not only for the Arab world, but also for Western countries.

So perhaps Obama should pay more heed to Europe's issues and needs, including those of its Muslim citizens. Prior to his June visit, U.S. relations with France had been marred by dis-agreements over Iran and Turkey; relations with Germany were strained over the economic crisis. It might be that people born in a Western culture and family background may have a better appreciation of this fact, even if on a subconscious level. Though not Jewish myself, I first heard of the Holocaust when I was six, when I caught sight of a book entitled Brannmann, in our family bookshelf, the name of which refers to one of the worst concentration camps in Europe, and later on through documentaries watched on the family TV. With this different background and young years spent in a Muslim country, one may wonder if Obama's knowledge and understanding of Jewish history might be wanting. This would explain what seems to be a superficially informed and callous stance towards Israel in his Cairo speech, as he gave equal weight to both the Israeli and Palestinian cause.

Such a stance has justifiably sent alarm bells among the Jewish populations both within and outside of Israel, with some observers wondering if Obama was not on a path of ostracizing the country and jeopardizing its deep relationship with the U.S. One commentator in Yediot Aharonot wrote that such alliance might be "on the way out at the countries they were born and raised [in]": then it is easy to see how such an explosive combination and Obama's failure to address it could make European Jews feel more than ever, he would gain by inspecting his core ethical values, let them guide him, and in the process show that he has teeth and a mind of his own.

It would be nice, also, to hear some response from the Islamic world. So far, I fail to remember a major Muslim leader addressing the global Muslim or non-Muslim community following significant events such as 9/11. Surely, there must be a leading Muslim figure out there who could address people worldwide and give Islam's point of view in moments of major crises, as well as joyful landmarks. Instead, such moments are met with silence from the Muslim world's great political and cultural figures.

For now, I am still straining my ear for some Islamic echoes from Cairo.

Florence Gallez is a graduate student in Comparative Media Studies.

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Lessons Learned from Time at the 'tute

By Charles Lin

We need to talk. The status quo has to end. We can’t keep sneaking out to the Four Seas orons on Thursdays while I’m pretending to study in the library. I’m an import-
tant person and the press have been stalking my SUV since last Tuesday. If we keep up this steamy love affair, sooner or later it’ll explode in plain sight.

Whatever this is, it’s like we’re star-
crossed lovers. We have to make changes. No more suggestive e-mails, no more check-
ing into hotels under pseudonyms. No more spending some time away from my kids on

We want you in our sheets. We need you in our beds. We want you in our thoughts.

Baby, We Need To Bring This Extramarital Affair Out Into The Open.

By Charles Lin

We need to talk. The status quo has to end. We can’t keep sneaking out to the Four Sea-
s...
By Christine Yu  
Campus Life editor

By Michael Lin

for a law firm, I was tempted to start wearing glasses. When I worked the past month, and I am now revisiting the myself with a much worse form of the eye infection. “Better,” I skipped my follow-up and landed my contacts, even though I kept a pair of confidence. All through high school, I wore get contacts. Without “four eyes,” I gained my friends wearing glasses. I once heard that many professional women. Most people claim intelligent. They just make you look different. If this is the case, I wonder what makes me so unhappy about my appearance with glasses. I’ve been reassured countless time I don’t think glasses make you look more — and smarter — with my glasses. But I just don’t see it. Maybe I subconsciously dislike appearing intelligent. I don’t think glasses make you look more intelligent. They just make you look different. I’m not used to how I look in glasses, in much the same way I’m not used to many of my coworkers did. Glasses are a fashion accessory amongst a person who only takes off his/her glasses to bed, or a person who only wears his/her glasses to read, and I avoided appearing in public with them. The same principle has applied to my MIT career. A few days before Senior Ball, I got an eye infection, which rendered me incapable of opening my right eye. Immediately, I went to an eye doctor, who got me better in time to wear my contacts. However, after feeling “better,” I skipped my follow-up and landed myself with a much worse form of the eye infection. I have been unable to wear my contacts for the past month, and I am now reviving the aesthetic appeal of glasses. When I worked for a law firm, I was tempted to start wear- lots of bright colors and patterns to match together. When you’re staring at a Virginia winter through your window with hardly any snowfall to motivate going outside, it’s one way to pass the time. A couple winters back, I bought a jigsaw puzzle from a yard sale. The picture was of one of those hot air balloon gatherings, with

Brouhaha Rhythm

Puzzle Me This, Puzzle Me That

Of course, the hazard of yard sales is that they’re full unwanted stuff, like the baby clothes that no longer fit, the coffee table books that turned out to be easily-wrinkled coasters, or the Easy-Bake Oven that caused one case of food poisoning too many in my case, it was the jigsaw puzzle that was missing 23 pieces. But what some might have consid- ered “useless and incomplete,” I thought of as “challenging.” At any rate, I learned that you get what you pay for. I have a friend of mine who likes to put together jigsaw puzzles and then laminate them. As hesitant as I am to adorn my living quarters with pastoral examples of what might be regarded kindly as “waiting room art,” I have to admit that she — among oth- ers, I’m sure — has altruized upon a reasonably clever means of interior decorating. It’s cheaper than art that comes all in one piece, it lets you customize the art on your walls piece-by-piece, and it’s still better than blank walls. It’s not quite like painting your room yourself, but it’s also considerably simpler. My geeky side still prefers secondhand movie posters, but I have to admit that a two-dollar puzzle for Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull doesn’t really send the mes- sage I want. It seems that everybody likes puzzles in some form or another, with Sudoku and crosswords the dominant forms these days for short-term brain-bending. I’ve been trying to do crosswords in ink lately — unfortunately, “unwarranted optimism” is too long to appear on most non-Sunday puzzles. Sudoku and its related number puzzle, KenKen, are popular among the mathematically minded, although I like the trivial knowledge challenge of cross- words. (It helps to have a healthy tolerance for failure.) Your approach to jigsaw puzzles says a lot about your approach to life. The obvious ap- proach, paradoxically, possesses elements of both elegance and brute force. It requires pa- tience, time, and considerable trial and error. You can sort the pieces by pattern, by color, by shape — or, if you’re like me, assemble all the bits on the floor first so you know how much space it’ll take up. Then there’s the alternative approach, suit- able for either the creative soul or the work- aholic — it strikes me as perfectly viable, as- suming you have on hand a magnifying glass, a pencil, graph paper, and the picture on the front of the box. I’ve never tried that method myself, but if I’m ever going to resell those hot-air balloons, it seems only fair that I plot where the gaps are for future reference. Now, if you’ll excuse me, I’ve got a fresh puzzle that demands my attention. The bleak wintry landscape and barren trees probably aren’t going to make it on to my wall any time soon, but at least I broke the seal myself, so I know all the pieces are there. As a matter of fact, I think I have two extra. Hmm...

Talk Nerdy to Me

My Eye Got Infected! Now I’m Wearing Glasses

Since the fourth grade, I’ve needed glasses — but I didn’t start wearing them until the fifth grade. I’ve always had my issues with this fashion accessory, even if I’m wearing a high-end design. When I first started wearing glasses, I used to wear these cheap metal frames. I was notorious for breaking the nosepads, and they would sit unevenly on my face. I dealt with dorky, uneven glasses until the seventh grade, when I was finally allowed to get contacts. Without “four eyes,” I gained confidence. All through high school, I wore my contacts, even though I kept a pair of overpriced plastic frames. I only wore those to read, and I avoided appearing in public with them. The same principle has applied to my MIT career. A few days before Senior Ball, I got an eye infection, which rendered me incapable of opening my right eye. Immediately, I went to an eye doctor, who got me better in time to wear my contacts. However, after feeling “better,” I skipped my follow-up and landed myself with a much worse form of the eye infection. I have been unable to wear my contacts for the past month, and I am now revisiting the aesthetic appeal of glasses. When I worked for a law firm, I was tempted to start wear-
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A weekend brunch can be the perfect start to the day. Hence, we headed over to the West Side Lounge (WSL), a pleasant five minute walk along Massachusetts Avenue from either the Harvard or Porter Square T stop.

Loud bar by night, neighborhood breakfast joint by day, the WSL appears to have an identity crisis. Rustic red walls clash with office-building ceiling tiles, while urban paintings and art deco lights add to the confusion.

I enjoyed the lounge music, with songs by Jem and Adele completing my vision of a lazy Sunday morning.

The brunch menu included the typical french toast and eggs benedict, but noticeably absent were staples like pancakes and waffles.

My OJ was pulpy and fresh out of the carton sitting at the bar five feet away. The chef’s Devil Omelet with brie and chorizo was savory but lacking the spicy kick I was expecting. Served with home fries, burnt toast, and chunks of melon, the plate was bland and rather underwhelming.

The fish tacos, also available for dinner, were better. Made with haddock, slightly sweet purple cabbage slaw and flour tortillas, they were served alongside a cup of fries. It was the stall’s pace service, rather than the food, that made the experience memorable. If you are planning a never-ending date, WSL is the place to go. We waited too long for the fish, the check, and for the credit card to come back, while watching our waitress chatting with the bartender.

When we finally walked out, the maître d’ sent us off with a half-hearted, “Have a good night!”

Despite being trapped inside the restaurant for nearly two hours, it was still only one o’clock in the afternoon. —Tracy Kambara

When my friends took me out for tapas the first time, I was told it was like Spanish dimsum. Unlike dimsum, though, tapas make a great evening date. I prefer eating tapas at a bar for the prompt refills of my sangrias.

The tapas, though, did not disappoint — they were packed with flavor and portions were generous. The chicken tasted wild and gamey, enhanced by a rich red pepper sauce. My three sides, atakilt (herbed chicken and three vegetables), yesmir wot (spicy simmered lentils), and kineche (cracked wheat) complemented each other well and tied into an Eastern cuisine.

We clumsily scooped our injera, spongey Ethiopian flatbread, into our mouths, and debated over the selection of meats and veggie combinations. We ended up ordering a Doro Wot combination, which includes stewed chicken and three vegetables. The chicken tasted wild and gamy, enhanced by a rich red pepper sauce. My three sides, atakilt (herbed chicken and three vegetables), yesmir wot (spicy simmered lentils), and kineche (cracked wheat) complemented each other well and tied into an Eastern cuisine.

We unabashedly licked our fingers. While the experience was unique and the delicious food worthy of a return visit, I would recommend Addis Red Sea for a friends to order several entrees and share family style, rather than for a couple looking for a romantic date. —Tracy Kambara

What kind of eater are you?

a. Carnivore
b. Herbivore/Vegan

c. Omnivore

d. Seafood-vore

e. Food! Nom nom nom...

How would you describe yourself?

a. Eclectic
b. Adventurous
c. Minimalist
d. Sensual
e. Urbanite

If you were left on an island and only allowed one kind of food, which would it be?

a. Some sort of dimsum
b. Some sort of meat dish

c. Waffles
d. Oysters
e. Some sort of Asian fusion cuisine

What would you eat if you were really hungry?

a. Rice
b. Pasta
c. Burrito
d. Sandwich
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you were a food, what would you be?

a. A bride
b. A hunter

c. A kid

d. A chef
e. A child

What is your favorite drink?

a. Alcohol
b. Tea

c. Coffee
d. Water
e. Some sort of dimsum

What are your favorite foods?

a. Chicken
d. Fish

c. Shrimp
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you were an animal, which would you be?

a. A polar bear
d. A horse

c. A cheetah
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you were a color, which would you be?

a. Red
d. Blue

c. Green
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you were a flower, which would you be?

a. Rose
d. Lily

c. Carnation
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you had a superpower, what would it be?

a. Flying
d. Telekinesis

c. Super speed
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you could have one thing to eat for the rest of your life, what would it be?

a. Pizza
d. Ice cream

c. Chips
e. Some sort of dimsum

If you were a flower, which would you be?

a. Rose
d. Lily

c. Carnation
e. Some sort of dimsum

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a. A polar bear
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c. A cheetah
e. Some sort of dimsum
Café Franklin

July 8, 2009

If you were left on an island and only allowed one friend to order several entrees to share family style, mend Addis Red Sea for a group of four or five close table food worthy of a return visit, I would recommend each other well and reminded me of Middle Eastern cuisine.

While the experience was unique and the delectable experience, we had to lean forward to take each bite. We clumsily scooped our meat and veggies onto Eastern cuisine. The mesob’s tabletop was only about the size of a New York pizza, and combined with efforts to minimize the mess, we had to lean forward to take each bite. As the hours go on, the bar starts to fill up, catering to an older crowd. During the earlier hours, the service is faster but not in the “we’re trying to seat the 8:30 crowd” kind of way. As the night wears on, it can take 20 minutes to get the server to get your drink. (I recommend the Bellini and Blueberry Basil Martini.)

All in all, 28 Degrees is a nice spot for a date. Avoid the sliders because they get messy. The cheese appetizer is tiny for the price — oysters are a much better starter. I wouldn’t say that the food is particularly remarkable, but the scene leaves a good impression. Plus, if oysters really are an aphrodisiac, at one dollar each, you can’t really go wrong. —Christine Yu

A t first glance, Franklin Café seems like a safe choice for a first date. With its black leather booths and deep red walls, the ambiance is spot-on.

But the unprepared couple can find themselves in more than one awkward situation. Franklin Café is hard to find, tucked away in the residential area of the South End roughly ten blocks from the Back Bay stop on the Orange Line. In addition, there are no visible signs from the street.

Once my date and I finally sat down, I could barely see him. It was too dark to be considered romantic. The music and other noise levels were tolerable at first, but by the end of our meal, we were leaning in and nearly shouting at each other.

If you (or more importantly, your date) can get past those setbacks, then you’re in for a treat because the food is quite good. The menu features mostly classic fare such as vegetarian pastas, seafood, and steak, but also includes some Asian fusion cuisine, like Char Siu ravioli.

For our appetizer, we ordered Crispy Shrimp Toasts, served with warm onion kimchee. They resembled crab rangoons, but with more crunch and less cream.

For our entrees, I ordered the Slow Roasted Pork Leg Organic Chicken. Both were juicy and tender. My pork hardly needed a knife, passing the true test of ed Organic Chicken. Both were juicy and tender. My pork hardly needed a knife, passing the true test of being cut with the fork. The chicken was also include some Asian fusion cuisine, like Char Siu ravioli.

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MOVIE REVIEW ★★★★

UPlifting
A Story With Quirky Characters That Speaks to Us All
By Maggie Liu

You know any movie that stars a grumpy old man and a chubby Asian Boy Scout has to have some potential. Up defies labels and spans all demographics. It is for those who seek entry into a different world, a world that only the minds of Pixar/Disney can create. As director and co-writer Pete Docter (WALL-E) admitted in an interview, “The initial kernel was based on that desire that I feel a lot to escape the world.”

Up is one of those movies one can not dismiss simply because it is animated and not live-action. The character designs are memorable and effective. When we are first introduced to Carl, the surlily curmudgeon, we are presented with your average GOM (Grumpy Old Man). This exterior belies a sensitive soul still not recovered from the death of his wife. Carl is accompanied by an overzealous young boy, Russell, whose mission is to claim the badge for “Assisting the Elderly” in order to become a Senior Wilderness Explorer. The two end up on an escapade via Carl’s airborne house, which is carried along by a mass of helium balloons. The unlikely crew is finished off with an overweight talking dog named Dug and an exotica South American bird affectionately known as “Kevin.”

We are presented with a poignant scene after Carl is forced to choose between saving Kevin and fulfilling his late wife’s wishes to plant his house near Paradise Falls. Morale in the group is low and Carl ends up pulling his house along by himself. The camera cuts to a lone silhouette against a violet sky, inching along. What Carl misses most after his wife’s death is not so much love as a human connection.

This human connection is the stitching behind the tale. Up refuses to sugarcoat Carl’s loneliness and does not shy away from discussions of death. This truly makes Up an incredible film that young and old will relish.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★½

Yeah, Smashy-Smashy, Whatever, So Over It
By Kevin Wang

Watching Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen is a bit like seeing a plane full of bacon and supermodel-els smash into a fireworks factory. Even though the explosions are awesome and there are awesome things everywhere, it is still pretty much a tragedy. As Shia LaBeouf himself has found time and time again, looking good does not really compensate for being excessively dumb.

Transformers 2 continues the story of Sam Witwicky (Shia Laboeuf) and his girlfriend Mikaela (Megan Fox). They are dealing with the typical pressures of college, such as long-distance relationships and homicidal robots for friends. After the teen movie preliminaries have ended, the film quickly degenerates into standard Michael Bay fare.

Bay gleefully drop-kicks “plot coherence” and “realistic dialogue” out the window in favor of fireballs and Megan Fox bending over more often. A number of bad-guy robots descend on earth, prompting Sam and Mikaela to embark on a worldwide search for hidden alien artifacts before concluding with the non-traditional destruction of a Middle Eastern city. The plot is completely incoherent throughout, and the dialogue waffles continuously between lines from Twilight and rambles of a drugged crackhead.

If Transformers was the inimitable to the world’s collective intelligence, then Transformers 2 is the corresponding hitch-hug. Bay appears to be engaged in a desperate race against himself to produce the most stupid movie possible, and there is no question that he is winning. Michael Bay’s plot writing in the Transformers series is a bit like sitting yourself in a public place: we can all accept that there might have been legitimate reasons the first time, but doing it over and over again is just not acceptable.

Plot aside, however, Transformers 2 does deliver on all of its promises. In the world of eye candy, Transformers 2 is a 600-pound gummy bear. The movie is essentially a U.S. Army recruitment commercial, and features scene after glorious scene of tanks, airplanes, and robots blowing each other away. One particularly epic action sequence, in which more than six gigantic robots fight hand-to-hand in a forest, should be used as a substitute for Viagra (and should come with the same medical warnings). While its PG-13 rating prevents us from seeing any of the really good stuff (robots eating school buses, robots leveling cities, Megan Fox earning her paycheck), it’s hard not to feel a twinge of glee when a Transformer blasts a hole through an aircraft carrier or eats one of the Great Pyramids. Despite being a huge fan of the franchise and the first movie, I cannot unconditionally endorse Transformers 2 in good conscience. Much like entrapping children by offering them candy, awesome robotic violence is much less effective the second time around. Moreover, its exhausting 150-minute running time is simply too much, far too long. You don’t really watch Transformers 2 in the normal sense of the word; the experience is more like being beaten into submission while somebody slowly runs your brain through a blender. While that does sound pretty badass, in reality, it is completely exhausting. The novelty of huge robots shooting missiles at each other has worn off a bit, highlighting the fact that the rest of the franchise is held together by the sheerest of Scotch tape.

Overall, the stunning visuals that Transformers 2 provides can not overcome the fact that it is dumber than a rabbit with fetal alcohol syndrome. Although I dreamed that its graphics would be so astounding that I could cope with the meaningless dialogue and absurd plot there just was not enough samurai robot beheadings. If you are going to watch Transformers 2 see it because you simply can’t watch robots evicerate each other in slow motion anywhere else. Otherwise, Transformers 2 is an R rating short of a good movie, and you probably shouldn’t waste your money.
**MOvie REVIEW**

**A Pogonist and Conflicted Playboy**

By Maggie Liu

**STAFF WRITER**

The Tech

**The Last International Playboy**

Director: Steve Clark

Starred: Jason Behr, Montez Manzur, Kristyn Ratter

Rated: R

Not in Selecting Theaters

T he International Playboys is a short in- terlude into an individual’s journey to- wards self-discovery and strips away the character’s idiosyncrasies as the “perfect life”. The whole span of the movie is a journey from the opposite poles.

The film starts off with a scenario that would satisfy any hot-blooded male’s fanta- sies. The movie begins with Jason Behr successfully avoiding the dit- tulation effect that commonly plagues many sequels. Although the anachro- nistic premise — mummies facing off dino- saurs — is quite hard to forgive, the movie is imbued with delicious, wry dialogue, and a freshness of ideas that is bound to satisfy even the most jaded filmgoer.

Paleontologists and astrophysicists are un- fortunately at a lost. The existence of a pocket

expression, engaged in lascivious activities/

Fast forward seven years. While continu- ing his hard work, do nothing lifestyle, Jack Frost (Jason Behr) is shattered when his best friend and childhood companion Caroline (Montez Manzur) announces her engagement to another man. When he realizes that Caroline is ada- pted to this new life, Jack begins to piece his life together. Particularly, he begins to seem like such a cliché. A playboy who has too much money with partners. Said playboy is Jack, an overpriced film. Jack disappears for four days and his friends later find him on a ship sprawled upwards to the sky.

There was an uncanny resemblance between this scene and the one in The Graduate where Dustin Hoffman flowers into a man of the world. The protagonists are rooted to anything and they can’t get themselves out of the rut they find themselves in. It is perhaps one of the weakest scenes in the whole movie.

This story is not so neat and tidy. There is none of that romance-comedy closure and smiling face. We are only known that a certain Jack Frost exists, but it does not mean he has been completely reformed.

At its heart, this story is not about romance. It is a portrayal of an adult man, haunted by his failed relationships, seeking a new avenue of escape. Uncomromisingly, he finds himself state of limb and his life has been temporarily put on hold. Although constantly surrounded by hordes of people, he is alone.

In order to salvage his film, Jack disappears for four days and his friends later find him on a ship sprawled upwards to the sky. There was an uncanny resemblance between this scene and the one in The Graduate where Dustin Hoffman flowers into a man of the world. The protagonists are rooted to anything and they can’t get themselves out of the rut they find themselves in. It is perhaps one of the weakest scenes in the whole movie — not just the slapstick, but also the more subtle trivia references.

The voice talents are also remarkable, with special acknowledgment going to Simon Pegg, who, as is his habit, steals the show. The talent of Pegg shine through the vitality of the character Jack Frost. He is always in a mood for rambling or storytelling.

As he besides his other strong acting, Pegg’s voice is so deep. “Downtown” of the “Downtown” sounds like an after- thought. The line, “Downtown” of the “Downtown” sounds like an after- thought. The line, "Downtown" is an entertaining movie that offers something to everyone: There’s romance, action, adventure, g names, animation, humor, and above all, the all the summer — dinosaurs!"
The Two-State Illusion

There seems to be almost universal consensus that in order to bring peace to the Middle East the creation of a Palestinian state is the policy of the United States.

What are the facts?

The lessons of Gaza. In previous hasbarah (educating and clarifying) messages we made clear that a Palestinian state would be impossible for Israel to accept. It would lead inevitably to Israel’s destruction. The reason is primarily the lesson learned from the Gaza experiment. Under pressure from most of the world, Israel evacuated Gaza, displacing hundreds of families who had lived there for generations and who had built substantial communities and extensive agricultural installations. Instead of making even the least gesture of acknowledgment and gratitude, the Palestinians, almost from the very first day of their “liberation” from the hated Jews, began to lob rockets into Israel. Ultimately, Israel was forced to defend itself against those attacks and invaded Gaza in force. There was much damage and many casualities. As could be expected, “world opinion” condemned Israel’s defensive action and called it “disproportionate.”

If Israel was foolish enough to yield to the unrelenting pressure and were to turn Judea/Samaria (the “West Bank”) over to the Palestinians, it would find itself surrounded by enemies, whose ultimate goal is not the creation of a Palestinian state but the destruction of Israel—its own independent state. Such a state never existed. And the concept of a “Palestinian” people is a fairly casual cop-out;

...the ultimate goal is not... a Palestinian state... but the destruction of Israel.

Plan of 1947. Under the UN plan, the territory west of the Jordan River was to be split, with the major portion to be allocated to the Arabs and the smaller, disconnected portion going to the Jews. Jerusalem, a bone of contention, was to be “internationalized”—it would not belong to either The Jews, anxious to form their state, accepted this plan under which they were granted only a small fraction of the “Palestine” that they had been promised to be their homeland by the mandate of the League of Nations. But the Arabs rejected the partition out of hand. Almost the same day that Israel declared its statehood and its independence, six Arab armies invaded Israel from north, east and south. In what could be called a Biblical miracle, the ragtag Jewish forces defeated the combined invasion forces of Egypt and Syria. Israel offered generous terms for the formation of a Palestinian state. But it was not accepted. Instead, the Arabs convened in Khartoum and pronounced their famous Three No’s: No peace with Israel, No recognition of Israel. Other offers of statehood were made over the course of the years. Ehud Barak, then prime minister of Israel, and U.S. President Bill Clinton offered the Palestinians almost total statehood opportunities rejected. The reality is that the Palestinians are not really interested in their own independent state. Such a state never existed and the concept of a “Palestinian” people is a fairly casual cop-out.

The lesson of Gaza.

Balfour Declaration and the mandate of the League of Nations was to be the Jewish home—occurred in 1921. Winston Churchill, who was then the Colonial Secretary, split the mandated territory, allocating the great bulk to the Arabs for the creation of what is now the Kingdom of Jordan. But, of course, that did not satisfy the Arabs.

It is important to understand that the creation of a Palestinian state is not the true ultimate goal of the Arabs. It is, at best, meant to be a stepping stone toward the ultimate goal: the destruction, the disappearance of Israel.

...the destruction of Israel.

After much bloody fighting over the decades, other efforts were made to create an additional state for the Arabs (who by then called themselves “Palestinians”). There was the Peel Partition Plan of 1937, and, most importantly perhaps, the United Nations Partition Plan of 1947. Under the UN plan, the territory west of the Jordan River was to be split, with the major portion to be allocated to the Arabs and the smaller, disconnected portion going to the Jews. Jerusalem, a bone of contention, was to be “internationalized”—it would not belong to either The Jews, anxious to form their state, accepted this plan under which they were granted only a small fraction of the “Palestine” that they had been promised to be their homeland by the mandate of the League of Nations. But the Arabs rejected the partition out of hand. Almost the same day that Israel declared its statehood and its independence, six Arab armies invaded Israel from north, east and south. In what could be called a Biblical miracle, the ragtag Jewish forces defeated the combined invasion forces of Egypt and Syria. Israel offered generous terms for the formation of a Palestinian state. But it was not accepted. Instead, the Arabs convened in Khartoum and pronounced their famous Three No’s: No peace with Israel, No negotiations with Israel, No recognition of Israel. Other offers of statehood were made over the course of the years. Ehud Barak, then prime minister of Israel, and U.S. President Bill Clinton offered the Palestinians almost total statehood.

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IS&T Pushes Microsoft Exchange, Replacing IMAP

Exchange, from Page 1

Users who read their e-mail with mail clients like Outlook, Pine, and Apple Mail may also be affected, as those who use MIT's Webmail are encouraged by IS&T to use Microsoft's Outlook Webmail instead of the current email interface specific to Microsoft

Christine C. Fitzgerald, a spokeswoman for IS&T, said, "We are running Exchange in order to offer Microsoft Exchange. This is an optional infrastructure solution for those departments who will benefit from an integrated e-mail and calendaring system.

Microsoft Exchange's calendaring system is 20 years ahead of our current system. The other major change to MIT's mail system is the introduction of a unified interface, Brimmer said. The new filters and quarantine system, a web-based system which has replaced the Apache SpamAssassin system, has allowed most users to have been transitioned to the Brimail system, and they can choose to return to the SpamAssassin system.

Regarding the new spam filters, Fitzgerald said that "Spam Quarantine simplifies management of spam messages through automatic summaries to your inbox." Feedback about the new spam quarantine system has been generally positive, Fitzgerald said.

Student Reactions

Some students passionately expressed their views about the mail system changes. Jeff Z. Chen '12 suggested that students should vote on the new system instead of MIT's mail infrastructure. "The old email system is robust and dynamic," Chen said, "whereas Outlook is chock full of rogue buttons scattered about the user interface. Basically the only practical advantage that Outlook has is for students as it is its robust rules and filters interface."

Regarding the new Spam filters, Chen said, "As for Spam Quarantine, I've heard various opinions. Many people like the daily spam report, but some like the filter output itself as spam. Most have reported fewer spam, but a few have gotten much more. An upside is that Spam Quarantine filters spam before it actually gets to your mail client. I will definitely fill up your quota. I’d say Spam Quarantine is probably an improve- ment overall."

Other students, such as Quocchu Yuan ’12 and Emily K. H. Cheung ’12, discussed similar views, which favor forwarding mail to Gmail over the use of Mi- crosoft Exchange and then taking advantage of all of its features. In an e-mail, Yuan wrote, "I support Outlook because it is faster. There is no interface change, which synchronizes with Exchange server rules. It's easier to just take advantage of all of its features!"

In a similar vein, Arvind Pratap ’12 wrote, "I feel that Gmail is just a much better experience overall. I don't like the look of Outlook. I often lost important e-mails, such as stop spam filters by clicking on the server-side rules are wonderful in Exchange."
MIT Picower Institute Suffers From Madoff Losses

By Robert McQueen

The Picower Institute, which has lost $4 million to the Madoff fraud, is suffering from the losses. The foundation, however, is healthy enough to continue its operations despite the funding shortfall.

Professor Susumu Tonegawa, who directed the Picower Institute in 2006, has been named as the new director of the institute. He is optimistic about the future of the institute.

The sudden loss of funding by the Picower Foundation was difficult for the institute, said Professor Mark Bear, who is also a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. "The major negative impact is that we are forced to devote more time to fund raising, which is a distraction from doing science."

On July 1, Professor Li-Huei Tsai was appointed as the new director of the Picower Institute, succeeding Bear. For now, Tsai plans to work closely with Bear and the Department of Resource Development in order to get a better grasp of the institute's current state.

All of the labs lost a significant source of funding which would have allowed them to continue their projects. The financial state of the labs, however, is healthy enough to continue.

Lapse of the foundation, however, the Picower/Madoff connection is excused because of his drug treatment program.

By Benjamin Weiser

To government psychiatrists, Aafia Siddiqui '95 has been taking symptoms of major depression and is at risk of attempting to commit suicide. She was found fit for trial and will proceed with her conviction.

But as the experts tied to talk about her mental state, it was Siddiqui who said she was ready to stand trial.

"I'm not psychotic — I can assure you I am not," she said in a document collection filed in Federal District Court in Manhattan. "I am not against American soldiers and F.B.I. agents."

She said she did not rule on the competency question.

While she was detained, the indictments be taken to protect her and other defendants.

As evidence, he points out several reports on the Picower Foundation's accounts. For example, in 2000, the Picower Foundation had $2 million, half of what it had received from other investors, thereby making it a Ponzi scheme. The document claims that Jeffry Picower demanded fictitious gains from Madoff, which he would then purchase back securities to cover the Picower Foundation's losses. Picard claims that Madoff opened new accounts in 2004 that bought $65 billion in fictitious gains for less than $25 million. Even before Madoff's arrest, Hur- mark Markopolos, an independent finan- cier and former employee of the Madoff Investment Secu- rities, has been warning clients about the possibility of the Madoff scheme, which would eventually lead to his arrest.

On March 12, Madoff pled guilty to a single charge of fraud, 29, he was given a maximum sentence of 150 years in prison. Investigations into his scheme are ongoing, and investigators are still undis- closed. Some of the biggest hitters, including the FBI, have been investigating the scandal. One of the largest investi- gations is being conducted by the Picower of the Picower Foundation, which supposedly withdrew $1.1 billion since December 1995, according to reports.

Attorney Irving H. Picard filed a complaint against the Picower on May 12 of this year. In the complaint document, Picard accuses the Picower of(json)
Cricket Club’s Third Tournament at MIT Hosts 10 Area Teams
By Varun Ramnajanum

The third MIT cricket tournament kicked off to a frenetic start over a combination of mist and drizzle on June 28. Ten teams participating in the MIT Cricket Club’s first summer tournament have an anticipated encore to the matches held in the fall and spring. A testament to the popularity of the tournament was the adherence and avid interest of several established professional cricket clubs from the New England area.

The Jack Barry Astroturf Field provided a unique venue for cricket. The use of artificial turf balls on the skidding turf added to the novelty of the experience and presented a challenge to every player irrespective of suite (batting, bowling or fielding), enhancing its appeal to cricket teams from around the New England region.

The ten teams have been divided into two groups of five teams. First, all teams within each group play each other, round-robin. The top two teams from each group qualify for the semifinals. Ten players can represent a team for a game, and the batting innings comprise a maximum of 12 overs each. The MIT Cricket club fielded two teams for this tournament: the MIT Electrons and MIT Protons.

In Group A, the Cambridge Cricket Club, the MIT Elecktrons and MIT Protons. In Group B, the Cambridge Cricket Club, the MIT Elecktrons and MIT Protons. Group A included the Cambridge, Watertown, the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Rhode Island, and the MIT Electrons. Group B featured teams from Waltham and Lowell along with the MIT Protons. The Cambridge Cricket Club (winners of the fall tournament, as well as MIT’s Galaxy XI.

The first weekend of the tournament, on June 27 and 28, featured a tense and riveting encounters punctuated by awe-inspiring sixes, intimidating yorkers and bouncers, and match-turning catches. However, the discipline and consistency under their charge against the clinical ex- ers, and match-turning catches. However, the discipline and consistency under their charge against the clinical ex-

MIT Sport Taekwondo Head Instructor Daniel Chuang will be one of the coaches for the UMass Lowell (University Olympics), is a large international sporting event for collegiate athletes around the world, similar to the Olympics. This year’s games will involve over 9,000 athletes from 49 countries competing in 15 Olympic sports. In fact, the Universida is the largest sporting event in the world this year.

Taekwondo competition at the Universida incorporates both kempo (sparring) and poomsae (forms). This is in contrast to the Olympics, in which the taekwondo competition consists of sparring only. Forms consist of choreographed sequences of kicks and hand techniques, which are unique to rank. Forms competi- tors are judged on both their techni- cal correctness and the way they ex- press the forms — power, speed, and rhythm.

The Universida as, at all major World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) competitions, the poomsae competi- tion is divided up into individual forms, men’s and women’s three- person teams, and mixed pairs. Ren and Zhou are competing as a mixed pair while Corin, Hung, and Zhou are a women’s team. There is an added element of difficulty in pair and team forms since each move in the form not only must be correctly executed, but also must be synchronized. In all divisions, competitors prepare a total of six forms, two to be performed in the preliminary round, two in the second round, and two in the final round. Across the divisions, these consist of the highest color belt forms and the first five black belt forms.

The UMass Poomsae team was selected at the National Collegiate Taekwondo Association (NCTA) Championships, held at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island on May 22–23. They also competed at the first Pan-American University Taekwondo Championships in Berkeley, CA on May 29, a competition between collegiate athletes from around the Western Hemisphere. At that event, the U.S. team earned 16 of the 21 gold medals, including one captured by Ren and Zhou.

Currently in progress, the Uni- versida runs from July 1 to 12. Taekwondo competition began with individual poomsae on Wednesday, July 1 and wrapped up with the com- petition of the sparring competition on Monday, July 6.

Although no medals were earned by the UMass Poomsae team, both the women’s team of Corin, Hung, and Zhou and the mixed pair of Ren and Zhou advanced to the semifinal round. Corin, Hung, and Zhou finished in ninth place and Ren and Zhou finished in 11th. The U.S. men’s team of Johnny Nguyen and Anthony Nguyen from Arizona State University and Jason Hwang from Califor- nia State University, San Bernadino, advanced to final round, finishing in sixth place.

More information about the Uni- versida can be found at http://www.sports/2009.org/. Additionally, Zhou is writing an official blog for the Na- tional Collegiate Taekwondo Asso- ciation at http://www.ncta-uaa.org/alicia_zhou_2009_SWUW_Blog.html. Four members of the MIT Sport Taekwondo Club are representing the United States at the 2009 Sum- mer World University Games in Belgrade, Serbia. Competing from MIT are Rebecca- ha Hung ’11, Karolina A. Corin G, Alicia Y. Zhou ’06, and Bobby Ren ’05.

By Aaron Sampson

The third MIT cricket tournament at MIT is prepared for another absorbing sequence of clashes that promise to bring quality competitive cricket to the shores of this prestigious institution, and extends a platform for the matches in the final stages of the tournament, where the temperament and fortitude of the teams are likely to be tested to the fullest.

The cricket community at MIT is prepared for another absorbing sequence of clashes that promise to bring quality competitive cricket to the shores of this prestigious institution, and extends a platform for the matches in the final stages of the tournament, where the temperament and fortitude of the teams are likely to be tested to the fullest.

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Happy Fourth of July, Boston!

(clockwise from top-right) Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart gestures to the crowd during the Pop's public rehearsal on July 3 at the Hatchshell on the Esplanade.

Crowds lined the banks of the Charles River as early as before noon on July 4th to claim prime spots to view the fireworks.

A close flyover by F-15s of the 104th Fighter Wing (based in Westfield, MA) added an element of action to the National Anthem.

Charles River is seen at sunset in this composite stitched panorama. Hundreds of thousands of people — and hundreds of watercraft — surrounded the barge with fireworks in the middle of the river.

Singer Neil Diamond sings his signature song “Sweet Caroline” to large crowd packed on the Esplanade during the rehearsal of CBS’s national broadcast of the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular on July 3.

The 101st Field Artillery Regiment (based in Brockton, MA) provided an added “boom” to Tchaikovsky’s “1812 Overture.”