BC, Fraternities Are Evacuated After Construction-Related Fire

By Robert McQueen

A cloud of black smoke towered above the former Alpha Tau Omega fraternity on Wednesday morning after a fire broke out around 8:15 a.m. in a construction trench, according to the MIT News Office.

According to MIT Facilities spokeswoman Ruth T. Davis, the fire started while shrink wrap was being installed around steel conduits, and condensate lines outside ATO. “The contractors in the trench tried to put the fire out with the fire extinguisher that they had in the trench, but that wasn’t enough,” according to Davis.

The contractors then入口ed into Burton-Conner to find another extinguisher, but found the blaze had already grown when they came back out, Davis said. Cambridge Police called the Cambridge Fire Department, which was able to contain the fire within 40 minutes.

Students that were evacuated from Phi Beta Epsilon, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Sigma Kappa, and Burton-Conner were evacuated.

Nozette ’83 Charged with Espionage; Could Be Sentenced to Life in Prison

By Robert McQueen

Last Thursday, the FBI arrested former MIT student Stewart D. Nozette, who was arrested on October 19 in Washington D.C. as a result of an FBI sting operation. FBI Special Agent Leslie G. Marcelli filed a criminal complaint against Nozette for committing the criminal offense of providing classified information to Mossad in exchange for money.

According to the affidavit of Martell, Nozette allegedly delivered classified information to Mossad, a foreign intelligence agency of Israel, in exchange for money.

It seemed to be a meeting like any other: brownies and fresh apple cider were up for grabs as attendees and general Cambridge politics. The vigil was a joint ROTC effort sponsored by MIT, Harvard, and Tufts.

Nozette, who had been a graduate student in MIT's Biophysics and Chemistry Department, was arrested after being contacted by an undercover FBI employee and was charged with Espionage.

The protest included a dance performance in the lobby of the Student Union and an open forum where attendees could speak to each other and ask questions about science in the next decade. Schmidt cited the need for increased research in three areas—biotech, clean tech, and advanced manufacturing. Given the current abundance of "problems," Schmidt said.

Lobby Seven’s Empty Plinths To Be Replaced Via Competition

By Sam Range

Unnoticed to thousands of students, faculty, and tourists passing through Lobby 7 every day, MIT’s iconic William Bosworth–designed entrance has sat unfinished since its construction in 1939. Now, the Class of 1974 has created a student design contest to fill the bare cantilever pedestals in the corners of the lobby.

The competition, which will officially open in May 2010, is open to all students and will award prizes of $10,000, $2,500, and $1,000 to the top three designs in both the undergraduate and graduate student categories. A joint venture of the Class of 1974, the School of Architecture and Planning, and the MIT Museum, the competition will be part of the upcoming “MIT 150” anniversary celebrations.

The four plinths were originally intended to support four sculptures "The News" Volume 129, Number 51
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Friday, November 6, 2009

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

http://tech.mit.edu/
Democrats Say House Bill Cuts Premiums for Many

By Robert Pear and Carl Hulse

As the House moved toward climactic votes on legislation to re-make the health care system, the Congressional Budget Office said Monday that middle-income families might be required to pay 15 percent to 18 percent of their income on insurance premiums and co-payments under the proposal.

Democrats cited the figures as evidence that the legislation would reduce premiums for many low- and middle-income families who currently lack insurance or have costly policies.

Democratic leaders were drawing up ground rules for House floor debate on their bill, expected to be completed later this week. The bill would create a new, middle-class insurance pool at a cost of at least $3 trillion over 10 years, according to the CBO.

Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the House minority leader, said the Republican alternative would allow people to buy health insurance across state lines, encourage small businesses to band together to buy insurance at lower prices, and rein in medical malpractice lawsuits.

Kerik, Who Led NYC Police During 9/11, Pleads Guilty to Felonies

By Sam Dolnick

WASHINGTON — Bernard Kerik, a former detective who rose to lead the New York Police Department through the 9/11 attack before his career crumbled in scandal, pleaded guilty to tax evasion and lying to White House officials in U.S. District Court here Thursday morning.

Wearing a blue suit and a red tie, Kerik sat at the defense table in the packed courtroom with a subdued expression and in a deep, gravelly voice said, “Guilty, Your Honor,” as the judge read the charges against him.

Kerik’s lawyer, Michael F. Bachner, rubbed Kerik’s back during the 90-minute proceeding.

The prosecution and the defense recommended that the judge, Stephen C. Robinson, sentence Kerik, who faced up to 30 years in prison, to between two and three years in prison on the most serious charge, to 27 to 33 months.

The judge, who is not bound by the recommendation, set sentencing for Feb. 18. Kerik was also ordered to pay restitution of $188,000.

U.S. Readies Jobless Aid And Help on Homes

By Jackie Calmes and David Stout

WASHINGTON — In separate actions to address Americans’ continuing economic hardship, the government moved Thursday to assist long-unemployed workers and struggling businesses, as well as home buyers and homeowners facing foreclosure.

Fannie Mae, the federally controlled mortgage company, announced a Deed for Lease program in which those in danger of eviction may be able to stay as tenants in their houses for at least a year.

Congress gave final approval to a stimulus measure that will extend unemployment benefits for the long-term jobless, aid that will bring total assistance to many to nearly two years. Other provisions of the bill will expand two popular tax breaks — one for home buyers, the other for businesses operating at a loss. President Barack Obama will sign the measure into law Thursday afternoon.

The measure provides up to 14 weeks of additional assistance to unemployed workers who have exhausted their state and federal benefits, but up to 20 additional weeks to those in about 26 states with unemployment rates exceeding 8.5 percent.

After Setbacks, Small Successes For Gene Therapy

By Gia Kola

Not long ago, gene therapy seemed to offer unassailable possibilities. After decades of hope and dashed hopes, many who once embraced the idea of correcting genetic disorders by giving people new genes all but gave up on the idea.

But scientists say gene therapy may be on the edge of a resurgence. There were three recent, though small, successes — one involving children with a fatal heart disease, one with an eye disease that causes blindness and one with children who have a disease that destroys the immune system.

“We are ready to move,” said Dr. Luigi Naldini of the Institute for Gene Therapy at Vita-Salute San Raffaele in Milan.

Dr. Kenneth Corneita, a gene therapy researcher at Indiana University and president of the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, added: “It’s exciting. The science gets better every year.”

But given the history of gene therapy — some, like Dr. Mark Kay, a gene therapy researcher at Stanford, were careful to avoid promising too much.

The field was dealt a blow when the “gene therapy success, reported six years ago, turned out to have a problem. Eighteen of 20 children with a rare genetic disease were cured, but then three of the children developed leukemia, and the therapy was discredited.

Researchers and gene therapy companies became skittish.

“I like to be really cautious,” Kay said. But now he added, “there is a lot of reasonably cautious optimism.”

The latest encouraging news arises from a paper published Friday in the journal Science. An international team of researchers is reporting the successful treatment of two children with a rare congenital eye disease, Leber’s congenital amaurosis.

World & Nation

12 Slain, 31 Wounded in Shootings at Fort Hood

By Robert D. McFadden

Twelve people were killed and 31 others were wounded Thursday in a shooting rampage at the sprawling Fort Hood Army post in central Texas, apparently by an Army officer firing two handguns.

The gunman, who was still alive after being shot several times, was identified by law-enforcement officials as Maj. Malik Malik Hasan, 39, an Army psychiatrist who had been in the service since 1995 and was about to be deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, according to Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas.

Hasan was apparently dressed in a military uniform when he sprayed bullets inside a crowded processing center for soldiers returning or about to be sent overseas.

As a parade of ambulances waited to file into the scene, officials said the extent of injuries to the wounded varied significantly, with some in critical condition and others slightly wounded. It was not immediately clear how many of the dead and wounded were soldiers.

Government officials called the worst attack at a military installation in the United States in memory. It recalled other mass shootings, including 13 killed at a center for immigrants in upstate New York last April, the deaths of 10 during a gunman’s rampage in Alabama in March and 32 people killed at Virginia Tech in 2007, the deadliest shooting in modern American history.

As a widespread investigation by the military, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other agencies began, much about the attack in central Texas remained unclear, including the gunman’s motive. Department of Homeland Security officials said the Army would take the lead in the investigation.

President Barack Obama called the shootings “a horrific outburst of violence” and urged Americans to pray for those who were killed and wounded.

“It is difficult enough when we lose our men and women in battles overseas,” Obama said. “It is horrifying that they should come under fire at an Army base on American soil.”

He pledged to get answers to every single question about this horrible incident.

Military records indicated that Hasan, who was unmarried, born in Virginia, had never served abroad and listed “no religious preference” on his personnel records. He opened fire on soldiers obtaining medical clearance before and after deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Two other soldiers, their roles unclear, were taken into custody in connection with the shootings. The office of Rep. John Carte, R-Texas, said they were later released, but a Fort Hood spokesman did not confirm that.

Fort Hood, near Killeen, 100 miles south of Dallas-Fort Worth, is the largest active duty military post in the United States, 340 square miles of training and support facilities and homes, a virtual city for more than 50,000 military personnel and some 150,000 family members and civilian support personnel. It has been a major center for troops being deployed or returning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The base went into lockdown shortly after the shootings. Gates were closed and barriers put up at all entrance and exit checkpoints, and the military police turned away all but essential personnel. Schools on the base were closed, playgrounds were deserted and sidewalks were empty.

Weather

It’s Cold Then It’s Hot...

By Elizabeth Maron (lyrics) and Katy Perry (melody)

Voice

Cold then hot

Cold then hot

Like a girl

Extended Forecast

Today: Cloudy and grayish conditions being chance rain and a high of 47°F (8°C). Brisk winds around 15 mph from the north.

Tonight: Skies clearing with a chilly low of 33°F (0°C).

Tomorrow: Mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with mild westly winds; high near 55°F (13°C). A low around 40°F (4°C) with light winds from 5-10 mph at night.

Monday: Mostly clear-partly cloudy skies still prevailing. High near 60°F (15°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, November 6, 2009

A cold front has moved into the southeast, with temperatures dropping sharply. The cold air mass has moved in from the west, bringing colder temperatures and gusty winds. Expect temperatures in the mid to upper 40s with a high of 47°F (8°C) and a low of 1°F (28°C) in the southern part of the state.

Other Symbols

Cold Front

Warm Front

Temperature

Pressure

Humidity

Wind

Visibility

Clouds

Other

40°F

35°F

30°F

25°F

20°F

15°F

40%RH

35%RH

30%RH

25%RH

20%RH

15%RH

30mph

40mph

50mph

60mph

70mph

80mph

90mph

100mph

110mph

120mph

130mph

140mph

20 miles

40 miles

60 miles

80 miles

100 miles

120 miles

140 miles

160 miles

180 miles

200 miles

20 miles

40 miles

60 miles

80 miles

100 miles

120 miles

140 miles

160 miles

180 miles

200 miles

Hight of the day

Low of the day

Weather
Add your experience to ours.

When people with unique backgrounds come together, new ideas emerge. And that’s the way we like it. So if you think your background is too different to work at Goldman Sachs, we beg to differ. In fact, we think it’s an asset. Learn more at gs.com/careers

Please join us for the following event at MIT:

**Goldman Sachs Summer Analyst Firmwide Information Session**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2009  
**Time:** 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm  
**Venue:** Le Meridien Cambridge – Hunsaker Room  
20 Sydney Street

Apply online at gs.com/careers and through your school’s career services office.
Letters To The Editor

Pumpkin Drop Disappointment

Dear First West of East Campus residents,

This is my first year living across the street from the 2009 pumpkin drop. It was a great idea, and I bet it would be even better if the building committee keeps an eye on who is on campus in the fall. Perhaps there are some people off campus who might want to use your pumpkins to size them off a building? You never start at 11:59 and it’s if anything more than just one pumpkin at a time. Pumpkin drop is serious. What’s so hard about throwing pumpkins off a roof? How long have you been doing the pumpkin drop? It’s so hard to lift the pumpkins and push them off a ledge why haven’t you’ve made a Conveyor belt or a catapult? I appreciate the pumpkin drop but you guys do an apparently crappy job. I think you can do better. The Campus designs and builds a roller coaster for rush every year and has to deal with unforeseen problems with the decoration of it. Yet every year it’s awesome. You do the same thing every year and everyone is annoyed. I think if I’m wrong in my assumption that throwing pumpkins off a roof is easy, Jennifer Buz ’10

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Austin Chu, Edito-

tor in Chief Nick Bush, Managing Editor Steve Howland, Executive Asso-
ciate Editor Jordan Mari, Assistant Editors Austin Chu and

Contributing Editors: Caroline Huang ’10, Joanna Wu ’10, William Wu ’10, Minya Gallegos ’11, Robin L. Doohan ’12, Senior

Editors: Brian Henderson ’06, Charles Liu ’06, Asa Benesh ’06, Sara Sargent Hemsworth ’06, Athina Brouillette ’06, blanket, so you can’t

Reliable Voters?

In her letter dated Tuesday, November 3rd, Rachel Sealfon ’03, a senior who is partly

Responsible Voters?

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Responsible Voters?
Who Does Capitalism Really Work For?

Alexi Goranov

In an October 27 column in The Tech, Ryan Normandin argues that “state capitalism” is right for America. Capitalism works, but for whom? Let’s us look at some numbers: The top 1 percent richest people own approximately 25 percent of all wealth in the US as of 2004 and that number has likely gone up. The bottom 80 percent of people own less than 20 percent of the wealth (Economic Policy Institute’s “State of Working America” 2009). So whether the current system works depends on whom you ask. Does the system work for the millions of uninsured, unemployed, and homeless? How about for the millions of hard working people that barely make ends meet?

Corporations have steadily increased their profits while working hours have increased and wages have stagnated for decades (see “State of the Dream, 2009” by United for a Fair Economy). So if you are a CEO, the system is right for America. Capitalism works, but for who? While some actually live in complete misery. We also have the highest rate of incarceration in the world — not a statistic to be proud of. It is shameful that the richest nation in the world — not a statistic to be proud of. It is shameful that the richest nation in the world has the worst healthcare system among industrialized countries, and a school system that is less than impressive. So under the current system of corporate control of the government, we have money, but we do not spend it on the health and education of our population. Instead our money and resources get channeled into the coffers of corporations and into illegal wars that defend the interests of the same corporations. From the perspective of the average U.S. citizen, this is hardly a system worth defending. Now, if you were running a multinational corporation, it would be a completely different ball game.

To understand the system we need to look at the words of our founding fathers: “Those who own the country ought to run it” (John Jay). Since corporations own the country, they run it. And since corporations have nothing but one goal — to make profit — our country is the way it is.

Actually, it could be worse. But thanks to the millions of dedicated activists, this country has obtained some degree of civility. But these vestiges of fairness and equality, which were won with extraordinary sacrifices and dedication by working people, are under constant attack. Those parts of the government that do indeed serve the interest of the population in general have been under severe pressure for privatization, reduction, or destruction: social security, Medicare, Medicaid, unemployment benefits, protection of worker rights, environmental protection, and more. These are still areas that could be exploited for profit; there are still hand working people that could be robbed of their savings and security! We need “flexibility of the work force,” to quote Alan Greenspan. Michael Moore, in his new movie, does not actually say that the alternative to capitalism is “socialism.” He says it is “democracy.” We cannot defend a system that puts profit before people! It is our responsibility as citizens to come up with something better. Whether we call it “Socialism” or “Fried Beans” is not important, but protecting and providing justice, equality, and the defense of human rights is.

As a last point, I would like to mention that the examples usually given for what socialism is like (i.e. Soviet Union and Communist China) are not appropriate since neither of the two regimes is or was really socialist or democratic. No self-respecting socialist will be arguing that we embrace such system. A much better example might be what was in Catalonia, Spain, for few months in 1936–1937 (See Eat to the Catalonias by George Orwell). Of course, that is rarely discussed since people may get the “wrong” idea: that a democratic and fair society is possible (See Objectivity and Liberal Society by Noam Chomsky). What I have written here is hardly original. Pick any of Noam Chomsky’s books, read Z Magazine, or listen to “Democracy Now!” to see how the world works.

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

Senate met on Monday, November 2. Steve Baker ’84, Association of Independent Living Groups (AILG) Board Member, discussed the current work of the AILG as a Senate panel before the regular proceedings. The AILG is currently working to improve their communications with current undergraduates and shift the focus of living groups from their houses to their chapters or organizations, their accreditation process, and their insurance program.

Senate passed 41 U.A.S. 4.3: Resolution for Student Engagement within the Student Life Visiting Committee. This piece of legislation asks for an open forum with the Student Life Visiting Committee for any interested undergraduate during their evaluation of the Division of Student Life next week.

As the end of term approaches, please check your syllabi to make sure your professors aren’t assigning work inappropriately, such as holding tests after December 4th. The earlier you report the problem, the more likely the UA Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) will be able to resolve it in an effective manner! Additional information regarding what constitutes an academic violation is available at http://violations.mit.edu. Any violations of academic regulations can be reported anonymously to the SCEP at violations@mit.edu, and questions should be sent to violations@mit.edu. UA Student-Faculty Dinners are back! The longevity of these dinners has now been assured, thanks to the UA securing new funding directly from the Student Life Fee. Groups of three to five students can invite a professor to dinner and will be reimbursed up to $20 per person. More information and registration is available at http://ua.mit.edu/diners.

—Elizabeth A. Denys, UA Secretary General

The UA Update Board of Directors met on Monday, November 2, to hear two reports. The first report was on new funding for the Student Life Fee. Groups of three to five students can invite a professor to dinner and will be reimbursed up to $20 per person. More information and registration is available at http://ua.mit.edu/diners.

On October 27, the Senate passed 41 U.A.S. 4.3: Resolution for Student Engagement within the Student Life Visiting Committee. This piece of legislation asks for an open forum with the Student Life Visiting Committee for any interested undergraduate during their evaluation of the Division of Student Life next week.

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—Elizabeth A. Denys, UA Secretary General
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo

Help Desk

by Michael Benitez

Doonesbury

by Garry Trudeau

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams
Crossword Puzzle

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. Solution on page 12

Sudoku

We have a unique opportunity for someone very special. A chance to spend two years in another country. To live and work in another culture. To learn a new language and acquire new skills.

We need someone to join over 5,000 people already working in 60 developing countries around the world. To help people live better lives.

We need someone special. And we ask a lot. But only because so much is needed. If this sounds interesting to you, maybe you’re the person we’re looking for. A Peace Corps volunteer. Find out. Call us at (800) 424-8580. Peace Corps.

The toughest job you’ll ever love.
Two Laptops and a Microphone
Girl Talk Is Where It’s At

By Charles Y. Lin
Senior editor

Girl Talk
House of Blues, Boston, MA
November 2, 2009

“Gregg Gillis can sure play the fuck out of a laptop.”

And.

“Did that just happen? Seriously.”

The first one I said, but the second and others like it I heard exiting the Girl Talk show Monday night at the House of Blues. Gillis, better known by his stage name Girl Talk, had just finished a ninety minute set of pure pandemonium. More impressive, he did it playing other people’s music on a pair of laptops. I had a lot of trouble conveying just how this works, so I found this YouTube comment that pretty much summed it up: “wait so does he just sample a bunch of songs together and then lead massive raves?? i could totally get into that.”

Girl Talk’s work has been subject to huge controversy. As a mashup artist who mixes together bits and fragments of popular songs, he’s been derided as derivative, piggybacking off the success of other artists. Fans on the other hand argue that his inventive mashups put the familiar in unfamiliar territory, creating a whole other beast.

After witnessing Monday night’s show, I can say none of this debate matters. It takes a hell of a lot more than playing Jay-Z on top of Radiohead to make two thousand people go absolutely bonkers for an hour and a half.

Part of Girl Talk’s magic came from his command of melody and juxtaposition — his mashups simply sounded amazing. It was like putting avocado and watermelon together. You don’t think it could possibly work, but then it does, and your mind is blown.

The other half of the magic came from the orchestrated insanity of Girl Talk’s stage act. He went out there and started hammering away on two beat up Panasonic laptops covered in saran wrap (to prevent beer and sweat damage). Instead of stage gimmicks, he let the first two rows of the audience rush on stage. Those fans pretty much experienced the rapture that night and elevated the energy to otherworldly levels. The beats and samples started pouring out, slowly layering themselves into a warped sonic mishmash of damn-this-makes-me-want-to-dance. And then watching him, everyone realized, these weren’t pre-recorded mashups - he was mixing everything live.

Having weaseled my way on stage with a press pass, I saw the process first hand. The nerd is strong with Girl Talk so everyone at MIT will love this: Girl Talk ran a GUI where each box on the screen was a sample. There were fields associated with each sample that let him manipulate the tone, speed, volume, etc. One laptop played the mix while he set up new samples on the other. Toggling between the two, he played them like digital turntables. I’ve never seen so many people geeked out over a dude running Windows XP, but then again this is 2009.

The people on stage boxed him in with flailing arms and screams. In turn, Girl Talk fed off the intimacy and energy, frantically pounding on his laptops and slowly shedding clothing, until at last in a moment of climactic delirium, he hopped on the table half-naked, drenched in sweat just jamming out.

Looking back, I can’t remember much of the music. It was loud, enjoyable, and made my feet move. There were hooks and great moments when unsuspecting tunes meshed in serendipity. None of that compared to the hair-raising feel of the moment. I remember towards the end of the show looking out at the crowd and seeing the packed masses hopping up and down. To my right and left the fans on stage were wiggling out, having transcended space and time. And at the center of this mini-universe, there was Girl Talk, conjuring the calamity one click at a time.

(left to right)

Fans look on as Girl Talk makes a live mix.
The curtain call ends the night’s insanity too soon.
Clothing optional. Girl Talk claps above the crowd.

(left to right)

Confetti and sweat don’t shift the focus from live mixing.
No Mac, no worries. Operating system is irrelevant to the crowd.
Photography by Charles Lin
DANCE REVIEW AND INTERVIEW

STREB Dancers Are Brave, Indeed
An Extreme Action Dance Performance Returns to Boston

By Tiffany Chu

BEATS STREB Dance Company
October 22 - 24
Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA

Forcing me to squirm and yelp and half-cover my eyes in incredulity, the STREB company dancers returned to Boston with a bang last weekend. Considered neither modern nor contempo-
rary dance, but more along the lines of circ-
us, extreme sports, and Hollywood stunt-
work, STREB dancers wow me with their petrifying feats of body contortion and acrobatics.

Perhaps the most blood-curdling piece involved three dancers clutching three cin-
der bricks attached to strings, balancing them on the ceiling and swinging them across the dance stage. In between the periods of these swinging con
gucions waiting to happen, dancers after dancer leapt across the floor and landed flat on their stomachs, eliciting a violent pancake smack each time. Sharp intakes of breath could be heard throughout the entire audience.

Other hair-raising pieces included contortions in a metal cage-like apparatus, and the gravity-defying acrobatics in Whizing Gizmo. Many of the mechanisms featured were actually designed through a joint colabora-
tion between STREB and the MIT Media Lab. The rotating harnesses, for example, were designed by MIT assistant profes-
sor Hugh Herr SM ’93, head of the Biomecha-
tronics Lab.

Elizabeth Streb, the founder and choreogra-
pher, established STREB in 1985 and is widely known for her expressiv-
est and muscu-
lar movement vocabulary. Now, in their space in Brooklyn, she runs SLAM (STREB Lab for Action Mechanics) as well, where the door is always open for the public to come and watch rehearsals and take classes. After the show, I chatted with Elizabeth Streb and Ami Ippolito, a long-time STREB dancer.

The Tech: What’s the scariest part of do-
ing the BRAVE show?

Ami Ippolito: The bricks, for sure. There’s a different configuration at each stage we per-
form at — so the timing is different every time. I’ve never gotten hit, but some people definitely have.

TT: How long have you been with STREB?

Ippolito: I’m 29 now, and I’ve been with STREB for five years. I was trained as a modern dancer, and I’ve also taught Pilates and am a personal trainer on the side.

TT: How much do you think about the surrounding environment and music when you’re out there, versus the movements?

Elizabeth Streb: As non-traditional danc-
ers, we don’t focus on the counts. There’s too much to concentrate on all the time, so we focus beyond counts — we call it “felt time,” as in athletics.

TT: What is it like to interact with the sets and the apparatuses that you use in your performance? Who builds them, architects or engineers?

STREB: Engineers, for sure. Architects don’t yet understand temporality — spaces, maybe — but they don’t understand time. And that’s what we do.

As she gave me her business card, I read her title: “Elizabeth Streb, Action Archi-
tect.”

Ironic, indeed.

STREB was actually one of the opening performances at Boston’s ICA when it opened in late 2006. Today, they have a flur-fang sched-
ule from Phoenix to Erie to Chapler Hill, but they will be at home in Brooklyn from De-
cember 4-20 if you’d like to experience the space-shifting, wince-evoking, human-body-
crashing phenomenon for yourself.

CONCERT REVIEW

Nuanced Renaissance
Exsultemus Performs Works by Josquin and His Contemporaries

By Sudeep Agarwala

Exsultemus
Union Church, Waban, MA
October 30, 2009

I’m biased, of course. Despite being part of the Western canon, the music of the Renaissance somehow remains consis-
tently foreign. It’s all there, the under-
pinnings that still guide sophisticated music even today — ideas on meter, or rhythm, rules guiding the structure of melodic lines, con-
ceptions of how voices should interact with one another all exist in this fifteenth-century world, but somehow, to hear it is mysterious. Whereas concepts of thematic development, tonal resolution or structure seem to be at the center of the majority of works of the Western canon, the engine at the center of music from the Renaissance is somehow more elusive.

It is only in its sixth season, but for its brief existence, period music ensemble Exsultemus has found its own unique voice in the sea of Boston’s early music ensembles, having per-
formed both locally and internationally in addition to their regular season, as well as on WGBH’s classical performance podcasts. Specializing in both Baroque and Renais-
sance music, Exsultemus presented a thought-
ful consideration of the late Renaissance on October 30, focusing in on the works of Josquin des Prez and his contemporaries.

Although an attractive setting with magnif-
cently vaulted ceilings, the nave of Waban’s Union Church presented some challenges to Friday’s all-male ensemble. The music of Josquin and his contemporaries are, on the page, absurdly simple by modern standards (immodern trained musicians far surpass any of the best of Jos-
quinn’s time). However, much of the challenge in performing this music today lies in achiev-
ing a balance and recreating a tuning that is sensitive to the composers assumed intent. Union Church’s fairly muffled space largely remained agnostic to the more subtle details of the resonance inherent in Renaissance acous-
tics. However, despite this apparent ectopia, members of the ensemble managed subtly rich blends, adorning surprisingly rich textures around Boston, from Emmanuel Music, to Boston Opera, to the Boston Microtonal Society. What a good idea, then, (and what a good idea) to find them coalesce in a single en-
semble not only dedicated to the intellectual understanding of ancient works, but also to the exposition of such an understanding.

Exsultemus continues its 2009-10 season on Saturday, December 6 at the First Lutheran Church of Boston, performing works by Wolf-
gang Carl Briegel and Christoph Graupner from the court of Hesse-Darmstadt.

The STREB dancers are brave indeed.

The Tech: What’s the show about?

STREB: It is only in its sixth season, but for its brief existence, period music ensemble Exsultemus has found its own unique voice in the sea of Boston’s early music ensembles, having performed both locally and internationally in addition to their regular season, as well as on WGBH’s classical performance podcasts. Specializing in both Baroque and Renaissance music, Exsultemus presented a thoughtful consideration of the late Renaissance on Friday, October 30, focusing in on the works of Josquin des Prez and his contemporaries.

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Led by music director and counter tenor Martin Near, Friday’s all-male ensemble began with works of Josquin, traversing through both liturgical and secular works. It is to the credit of the ensemble that despite their radically different uses and intentions, each work maintained a sense of immediacy and presence. The liturgical Ilhambra Dei veritatis and Praeter rerum seriem Buddly transitioned between surprisingly sharp turns in time signature and texture. Secular works revealed surprisingly active antiphonal sections and innovative counterpoint work that resulted in some of the most expressive and move

ving works. Particularly notable was Josquin’s setting of lines from Virgil’s Aeneid, a seething description of rumor as the swiftest of all evils. After intermission, the ensemble moved on to works by Josquin’s contemporaries, again, affording individualized interpretations for each composer and piece. While a rich tenor line of the Nicholas Gombert’s Musae, lirae demonstrated current advances in contrapun
tal writing during Josquin’s era, Arcadelt’s Lamentes In veroe candeel, a beautiful strophic setting of Mellin de Saint-Gelais’s poem on Venus’s mourning of Adonis. Not only, the ensemble presented a unified thesis of the works: Although polyphonic, Gombert’s work was stately and serene; Arcadelt’s homophony was unified, yet movingly graceful in its pa

thos. Cupidus program notes provided ample explanation for the complex events of each piece.

Members of Exsultemus can all find themselves performing independently in various venues around Boston, from Emmanuel Music, to Boston Opera, to the Boston Microtonal Society. What a good idea, then, (and what a good idea) to find them coalesce in a single ensemble not only dedicated to the intellectual understanding of ancient works, but also to the exposition of such an understanding.

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The Tech: How long have you been with STREB?

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Sharp intellects with no dog in the fight. The lay person are, as a rule, too shallow to attract by discussion about the historical Jesus make prove to be nothing less than a paradigm shift. A decade's worth of new research has been illustrating how this preaching not only lacks rationality, but in dealing with the facts as we have them. Most of the Epistles come after the Gospels, they were actually written the other way around, with a significant lapse of time in between and by two separate groups of people, from two independent sources. Yet, there was no historical Jesus. Ever.

In the first part of the book, Doherty introduced a discipline known as Introspective Tradition, a movement epitomized by Paul's preaching. Paul, it seems, was a little bit of Bach at the end. But it seems to include Bach as really a comfortable fit in. And that is even easier to hear than the music that has the ability, I think, to reach anybody. It will reach each person in a different way.

Conductor David Hoose, music director of the Cantata Singers, will lead the ensemble in performing a work ("You present nothing new here that your master, Satan, has not previously used or deceived the simple") in what was sealed the deal for me: I had to read it. Atheists, on the other hand, even those with no particular interest in the historical Jesus, can enjoy this work as a splendid example of the kind of clear argumentation that unencumbered scholarship can provide.

Yet the demographic that should run to Doherty’s argument is current (or past)Greco-Roman enthusiasts. A fourth part to his study of and love of those two composers? What do we hear in John’s music? We hear very powerful music, and it all posers fit in? I think the piece that make the strongest connection between Bach and the Schoenberg has a stronger connection to Schuetz’s music. But it is silent in our concert: Deutsches Requiem, a piece we all know, a piece that is central composers Schoenberg and Distler. There is all manner of reasons explaining why Schuetz is omitted in this section, but it is there, really, hovering above all the other composition.
Eric E. Schmidt Denies Popular Belief: Google’s Not a Country

In 2009, 5 exabytes of information was generated every two days. This extraordinary increase in information on the Internet has put people in search of a much harder problem: the crux of that problem is taking words that are entered into the search box, deciphering the meaning, and producing relevant search results.

To complicate this problem, Twitter's real-time output of statuses and the rankings of these statuses pose many algorithmic challenges. However, Schmidt assured those present that even though Google has not mastered all the mechanisms of indexing this type of content, there are "lots of new improvements coming along."

There were also concerns that Google censors too much user-generated content. A special emphasis was placed on Google's removal of political content from YouTube. Schmidt defended Google's actions by referencing the publicly available Terms of Service, which is written with respect to laws in different countries. "We follow the laws of the countries we operate in. Contrary to popular belief, we do not see ourselves as a country."

You Are Invited: Virtual Information Event for Graduate Programs.

Find out about all the graduate programs at the USC School of Cinematic Arts without flying across the country.

You’ll be able to watch streaming video, take a tour of the school, hear from and interact "live" with admissions representatives, all while sitting comfortably behind your computer screen.

Unfortunately, we won’t be able to bring you the 75 degree weather.

Join Us: November 11, 2009
5:00 pm Eastern Time
RSVP to: admissions@usc.edu

You must RSVP to get login directions to the virtual event.
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A primary goal of the competition is engagement of the student body. "This is a competition for MIT students," says Mark M. Janzombek PhD ’86, Associate Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning. "No professional architects, sculptors, Harvard people — just MIT students. That's what it's all about.”

Spring Term Visiting Committee Schedule 2010
Feb. 8–9 Whittaker College/ HST Division
Feb. 23–24 Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences
Mar. 3–4 Biological Engineering
Mar. 8–9 Sloan School of Management
Mar. 16–17 Dean for Undergraduate Education
Apr. 6–7 Linguistics and Philosophy
Apr. 13–14 Mathematics
Apr. 28–29 Mechanical Engineering
May 3–4 Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation

Source: http://web.mit.edu/committees/spring2010visitors.html

Fall Term Visiting Committee Schedule 2009
Oct. 13–14 Nuclear Science and Engineering
Oct. 19–20 Social Sciences
Oct. 27–28 Sponsored Research
Nov. 2–3 Urban Studies and Planning
Nov. 9–10 Dean for Student Life
Nov. 17–18 Aeronautics and Astronautics

Source: http://web.mit.edu/committees/fall2009visitors.html

Twelve Finalists Will Be Selected; Winners Decided in April 2011
Plinths, from page 1
Franklin was not the only student to have a major role in the competition. Several other students, including the Class of '54, have been instrumental in the process. The Class of '54 has been especially proactive in their efforts to bring the competition to reality.

Fallen Lions, from page 7
Students sit atop a plinth in the corner of Lobby 7 as pedestrians walk past on Nov. 5. The Class of '54 will be holding a student competition to find designs to sit atop the pedestals, which were left unfinished after Lobby 7 was built in 1939.

Quick — what’s the number on your health insurance ID card?
Your Blue Cross Blue Shield ID number has changed!
If you're on the Student Extended Insurance Plan, you must use your new card for...
- Medical services outside MIT Medical
- Prescriptions filled outside MIT

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stuplan@med.mit.edu

MIT Students sit atop their new insurance cards in the mail, call or stop by the MIT Health Plans office.

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- Prescriptions filled outside MIT

Now with just a $25 co-payment and no paperwork!

If you haven't gotten your new insurance card in the mail, call or stop by the MIT Health Plans office.

More info: http://medweb.mit.edu

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Students sit atop a plinth in the corner of Lobby 7 as pedestrians walk past on November 5. The Class of ’54 will be holding a student competition to find designs to sit atop the pedestals, which were left unfinished after Lobby 7 was built in 1939.

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By Margaret Cunniff

The IFC’s newly elected executive board will take office on Wednesday, November 11, led by President T. Ryan Schoen ’11. The board has modified its positions, combining the former programming and recruitment chairs into one position and creating a new publicity chair.

Schoen, a brother in Kappa Sigma, has not previously held a position on the IFC’s Executive Board, though as president of Kappa Sigma he sat on President’s Council, which meets every other week with the IFC president, allowing him to see how the IFC Executive Board functioned, he said.

Schoen says he has focused his leadership on the IFC in an effort to continue bettering the Greek community at MIT.

Schoen sees the IFC President as “trying to guide the IFC, guiding the entire fraternity community, ... and making sure the voice of the fraternity community is heard accurately.” Schoen hopes to make the Executive Board more transparent, making everything a two-way communication between the IFC and the individual fraternities.

The vice president is Clark D. Minor, a sophomore in Phi Kappa Sigma, commonly known as Skullhouse. Minor previously served as Executive Assistant, a position which he describes as “taking care of day to day affairs of IFC, giving a good insight into how the process works.”

Minor ran because of his positive experience last year, he said. Building off of his experiences, Minor is concerned about the IFC’s budget.

Minor says that since one half of the funding for fraternities comes from member dues, “it’s very important to run a streamlined budget.”

Minor plans to improve the Delegates Council, which consists of freshmen and sophomores, with two delegates from each fraternity, aimed at improving interfraternity communication. Many fraternities are “somewhat isolated from other chapters,” says Minor, who hopes that Delegates Council can be better used to foster communication between fraternities, allowing other fraternities to see how things are run differently throughout the Greek system.

Minor wants to use Delegates Council as a way to educate new members about the IFC. “I feel like a lot of new members could benefit enormously from more education about IFC’s purposes and programs,” such as funding opportunities, events run by the IFC, and the IFC’s campus wide impact.

Further education about the role of the IFC in the fraternity is a goal shared by Schoen and Minor, they said. In the fraternity system at this time, both say there are many misconceptions about the role of the IFC on campus. Though the IFC is commonly seen as a policing force, both emphasize that it is in fact much more of a governing body. Minor says there is “a big difference between governing and policing.” He sees the role of the IFC as “advocacy for the fraternity system ... maintaining good public image and relations.”

Schoen and Minor both want to present the IFC not a group that is concerned with policing all the activities of the fraternities, but rather as an advocacy group. The IFC advocates for the fraternities to Cambridge, Boston, and the MIT community, seeking to maintain a positive public image for the Greek system at MIT. Minor says one of the goals of the coming year is “to eliminate un-founded distrust and fear that some people have of IFC,” based off of the misconception of the IFC as a force of police.

The newly elected Executive Board consists of members from Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Sigma, Sigma Nu, and Phi Kappa Theta, with the first three each being represented twice. Schoen says that though the membership of the Board is “not exactly evenly distributed,” the affiliation of the members of the board should not affect the proceedings of the board.

“When you walk through that door, you leave your affiliation behind,” says Schoen. Both Schoen and Minor are optimistic about the group assembled for Executive Board.

The positions on the IFC’s executive have shifted with this election. The board now includes a Publicity Chair, with the former Recruitment Chair and Programming Chair being combined into a single Recruitment and Programming Chair. In the past, the Recruitment Chair had been in charge of all aspects of rush, from logistics of events to advertising.

Similarly, the Programming Chair organized large interfraternity events that occurred during the year, the largest being Greek Week, sometime in the spring. It was found that the positions led to an uneven distribution of work, with an extremely high workload while their respective events were going on, with little responsibility through the rest of the year.

The new Recruitment and Programming Chair will be in charge of all logistics and organization of the large events, such as Rush and Greek Week, while the Public Relations chair will be in charge of publicity for these events.

The Executive Board will meet for the first time in its new form on Tuesday, Nov. 10, a day before being officially instated on Nov. 11.

Eating Disorder Treatment

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IFC and Panhellenic Council Elect Officers

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Position Name Affiliation

President Arti V. Vikrad ’11 Alpha Phi
Executive VP Veronica L. Wilson ‘11 Alpha Chi Omega
VP Recruitment Diana M. Wexler ’12 Kappa Alpha Theta
VP Recruitment Programming Megan E. Kercher ’11 Alpha Chi Omega
VP Programming Kimberly M. Sparling ’12 Sigma Kappa
VP Public Relations Tracey A. Hayes ’11 Pi Beta Phi
VP Finance Judy Huang ’12 Alpha Epsilon Phi

Want to be a pilot?

Air Force ROTC Open House
4:30pm – 5:30pm
Friday, November 6th
W-59
-Learn about careers in the US Air Force
-Scholarship opportunities (up to full tuition)
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MIThenge is Fast Approaching

MIThenge is a twice-annual moment when the stars align — or at least the sun does — with the Infinite Corridor. It is imperative that you observe the MIThenge etiquette:

¶ Do not block the corridor. You will prevent others from seeing.

¶ View from the Building 8 end. There’s not much to see from the west end of Bldg. 7.

¶ Use the 3rd floor. It has the best view.

¶ Stand in the stairwell. It has the largest unobstructed view.

¶ Let others see. Everyone can not see MIThenge at the same time. Please be courteous and move out of the way so others can see once you have gotten a look.

¶ Arrive 15 minutes in advance. Predictions of the occurrence are not always precise.

MIThenge occurs twice a year, typically for three consecutive days in November and again in January. Calculated by Ken Olum PhD ’97, the predictions are quite variable, in part due to atmospheric variation.

Predictions for 2009–2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Altitude</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>4:19:09 p.m.</td>
<td>46'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>4:20:25 p.m.</td>
<td>12'</td>
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<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>4:21:40 p.m.</td>
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<td>Jan. 27</td>
<td>4:50:41 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 28</td>
<td>4:49:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>4:48:48 p.m.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 30</td>
<td>4:47:49 p.m.</td>
<td>57'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Theoretically the best viewing should be at an altitude of about 30' (30 minutes of arc), but the recently predicted altitudes of 0' have been best, an MIThenge expert told The Tech.

—John A. Hawkinson

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Pipe Shipment Could Take Weeks to Arrive

Fire, from Page 1

his courts after evacuating Burton-

Conner.

“l heard the fire from my room. I

smelled smoke and heard this weird

cracking noise,” Tolley said.

Tom Stohlman ’76 happened to

be on campus for a meeting when he

heard news of the fire. As an alum-

num and Building Safety Facilita-

tor of Kappa Sigma, Stohlman was

concerned and made his way to the

scene on Dorm Row.

“I thought something was wrong

with the system,” Rose said. The si-

nals of police cars stopping in front

of his fraternity alerted Rose that

this was not a drill.

Kevin Boehm ’11, another DKE

brother, decided to wait out the fire

alarm on the rooftop.

“As time went on, I realized there

was smoke until I was on the roof. We
always have false alarms,” Boehm said.

Boehm then evacuated the building

with the rest of his fraternity.

The event is still under investi-

gation by the Cambridge Fire De-

partment, according to Lieutenant

David J. Pierce of the Cambridge

Fire Department.

“Approximately sixty linear feet

of new steam piping and trench will

be filled next week. A substation

underground chamber was to be back-

filled with the rest of his fraternity.

Construction on the pipelines

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Pipe Shipment Could Take Weeks to Arrive

Fire, from Page 1

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Volleyball Defeats Clark, Advances in NEWMAC Tournament

The women’s volleyball team defeated Clark University 25-11, 25-16, 25-8 in the NEWMAC Tournament quarterfinals this weekend.

The Engineers opened the match with 11 unanswered points and cruised to a first-set win. The second set was back-and-forth, but with the score 12-11, MIT went on a 13-5 run to close out the set.

Clark took a 3-2 lead in the first of the night, in the final frame, but MIT responded with a 19-2 run to seize the victory.

Alexandra T. May ’10 had nine kills, seven digs, and four blocks as Barden E. Cleeland ’10 recorded seven digs, five kills, four blocks, and four aces to lead the Engineers.

Afterwards, Cleeland was named NEWMAC player of the week — the third Engineer to receive the honor this season.

The top-seeded Engineers will host the remainder of the NEWMAC Tournament, with the semifinals on Friday, Nov. 6. MIT will face No. 4 U.S. Coast Guard Academy at 5 p.m.; should MIT advance, they will face the winner of the Wellesley-Springfield match in the tournament final at 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 7.

—David Zhu, Sports Editor

Barden E. Cleeland ’10 spikes into Clark’s defense during the Engineers volleyball game on Nov. 3. MIT handily defeated Clark in straight sets (25-11, 25-16, 25-8) in the NEWMAC quarterfinal. The Engineers will play in the semifinals on Friday at MIT.