MIT keeps top spot in US News rankings

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On Thursday, U.S. News and World Report released its 2010 graduate school rankings. The School of Engineering remains top engineering school in the country, a rank it has held since U.S. News began ranking engineering schools in 1990. None of the top five engineering schools changed ranks between last year and this year. Among business schools, Sloan moved up two ranks to third place, taking the spot held last year by the University of Pennsylvania.

Students recombine pop hits in Spring Weekend mashup contest

By Rob McQueen

The IA Events Committee announced the winners of the first MIT Spring Weekend mashup contest yesterday. The three top vote-getters Allin Rosposo ‘11 (aka Allin Mash Bros.), Garrett L. Winther ‘11, and Michael R. Harradon ‘13 will have their mashups reviewed by Spring Weekend Concert headliner Super Mash Bros., who will decide which mashup will be played at the concert on Friday April 23.

Mashups are made by mutating and recombining songs, splicing and warping them to yield a new creation. Mashups can be made on personal computers with the correct software.

Michael Ouellette: 20 years of plays

By Divya Srivinasan

Michael Ouellette, a professor of drama at MIT, discussed his 17 day trip to Antarctica on Friday April 23.

The expedition was intended to draw attention to the effects of global warming on the continent. It is a beautiful, dramatic place, with a lot more than just the wildlife that you see on some documentaries,” he said.

In his opening remarks, Albert emphasized the importance of research in Antarctica.

"It’s an important place on our planet...as we try to understand and approach the challenge that surrounds climate change."

In an effort to better understand the nuances and issues concerning global warming, he visited 26 scientific outposts that are studying climate change.

Prince of Monaco reports back on Antarctic research

By Divya Srivinasan

Antarctica is in hot water, the Prince said.

This past Wednesday in 10-250, Prince Albert II of Monaco discussed his 17 day trip to Antarctica in an effort to raise awareness about global warming and Antarctic research. In an effort to better understand the nuances and issues concerning global warming, he visited 26 scientific outposts that are studying climate change.

His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco featured his film, Antarctica 2009: A Continent in a State of Alert on Tuesday in 10-250. He spoke about his recent expedition to the South Pole, which was intended to draw attention to the effects of global warming on the continent.

In his opening remarks, Albert emphasized the importance of research in Antarctica.

“Increasingly, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic are warming on the continent. It is a beautiful, dramatic place, with a lot more than just the wildlife that you see on some documentaries,” he said.

Prince Albert said that there is a need for new technology and sustainable energy sources.
Volcanic ash grounds air traffic in northern Europe

PARIS — A dark and spectacular volcanic cloud shrouded much of northern Europe on Thursday, forcing airlines to cancel thousands of flights as it drifted at high altitude south and east from an erupting volcano in Iceland. The cloud was one of the most sweeping ever ordered in peacetime, amid fears that travel could continue to be delayed for days or weeks.

The cloud, made up of minute particles of silicate that can severely damage jet engines, left airplanes stranded on the tarmac and US Airways and Continental Airlines were among the airlines that canceled all flights out of New York City. 

Continental and United resume talks to merge

In call to alter NASA, Obama vows renewed space program

By Alison A. Wing

The last week and a half of weather has been quite variable. After record heat on Monday, Wednesday, the past week has seen seasonal temperatures and with the exception of last Friday, has been relatively dry. Unfortunately, that trend will not continue this weekend. The next several days will provide us with the last of the sunshine and the system that will bring us cool temperatures and rain showers today, with highs 10-15°F below normal.

This evening, the low will re-develop off the coast and bring a second wave of rain tonight and tomorrow. We’ll see wet, breezy conditions, and temperatures only in the low to mid 40°F. As the system moves out to sea, there will be some lingering showers, clouds, and drizzle.

For the Boston Marathon on Monday, after some morning fog, with scattered showers and drizzle possible, temperatures should return to near average for the day around 40°F. 

Situation for noon Eastern daylight time, Friday, April 16, 2010

Immigrants earn higher wages in workplace, analysis finds

By Julia Preston

ST. LOUIS — After a career as a corporate executive with her name in brass on the office door, Amárico Kollman-Moore, an immigrant from Colombia, likes to drive a lag- gar and shop at St. Louis’s “It was a good life,” she said, “a really good ride.”

As a member of this city’s eco-nomic elite, Kollman-Moore is not unusual among immigrants who live in St. Louis. According to a new analysis of census data there are nearly 200,000 half of the working immigrants in this metropolitan area hold higher-paying white-collar jobs — as professionals, technicians or administra-tors — rather than lower-paying blue-collar and service jobs.

Among American cities, St. Louis is not an exception, the data show. In 14 of the 25 largest metropolitan areas, including Boston, New York and San Francisco, more immi-grants are employed in white-collar occupations than in lower-wage work like construction, manufactur-ing or cleaning.

The data belie a common percep-tion in the nation’s hard-fought debate over immigration — articu-lated by lawmakers, pundits and advocates on all sides of the issue — that the surge in immigration in the last two decades has overwhelmed the United States with low-wage foreign laborers. Over all, the analysis showed, the 25 million immigrants who live in the county’s largest metro-politan areas (about two-thirds of all immigrants in the country) are nearly evenly distributed across the job categories spectrum.

“The United States is getting a more varied and economically im-portant flow of immigrants than the public seems to realize,” said David Douglas Katikiri, director for im-migration research at the Fiscal Pol-icy Institute, a nonpartisan group in New York that conducted the data analysis for The New York Times. The findings are significant because Americans’ views of immigra-tion are based largely on the work immigrants do, no new research shows. “Americans, whether they are rich or poor, are much more likely to vote for high-skilled immigrants,” said Jens Hainmueller, a political scientist at MIT and co-author of a survey of atti-tudes toward immigration with Mi-chael J. Hincu, professor of govern-ment at Harvard. The survey of 1,000 adults, which examined the reasons for anti-immigration sentiment in the United States, was published in Feb-ruary in American Political Science Review, a peer-reviewed journal.

American immigrants are welcomed to up-per income ranks by people like Kollman-Moore — believing they contribute to economic growth within the United States, the study found. More than 60 per-cent of Americans are opposed to allowing more low-skilled foreign laborers, regarding them as more likely to be drain on the economy.

These kinds of views, in turn, have informed recent efforts by Congress to remake the immigra-tion system. A measure unveiled last month by Sen. Lindsey Gra-ham, R-S.C., and Sen. Charles E. Schumer D- N.Y., aims to reshape the legal system to give priority to high-skilled, high-earning immi-grants, offering narrower channels for low-wage workers.

Kyrgyzstan’s president departs, and security forces begin to make arrests

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan — The new government, Bakiyev’s 32-year-old son, Maksim, was out of jail. The new president, Kurmanbek Ba- kiyev, was driven from the capital, Bishkek, a week ago by violent street protests. He had been held up in his ancestral village in the south of the country, trying to rally support-ers and threatening violence if the interi-government tried to arrest him.

Under the brokered deal, Ba- kiyev was compelled to leave with-out his younger brother, Zhambyl, the former head of the presidential security service, who is accused of ordering troops to open fire on demonstrators during the protests. Eighty-four people died and hun-dreds were wounded.

By Thursday evening, security forces surrounding the president near the southern city of Jalalabad and were awaiting his surrender, according to Edil Baisalov, the chief of staff for the interim government. President Barack Obama, President Dmitry A. Medvedev of Russia and President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan.

Edward F. Flaherty, a professor from Kazakhstan’s secretory of state and foreign min-ister, Kanat Saudabayev, called the president’s departure “an important step” toward preventing what some see as a civil war.

After days of defiance, Bakiyev began publicly discussing the possi-bility of resigning but tried to insist on guarantees of safety for himself and his family. But the leader of the interim government, Roza Otun- baiyeva, said Bakiyev must either stand trial in Kyrgyzstan or go into exile alone, leaving his relatives be-hind to face prosecution.

The details of Bakiyev’s depar-ture and how fully it was planned by the major powers remained unclear Thursday evening.
Investment firm agrees to settle N.Y. pension case

By Louise Story

The investment firm found by Steven L. Rattner, the politically connected financier who went on to lead President Barack Obama’s automobile industry task force, has agreed to pay $12 million to settle allegations that it paid kickbacks to win lucrative business from the New York State pension fund.

But the agreement, announced on Thursday, explicitly excluded Rattner, leaving open the possibility that he could face separate lawsuits from state or federal authorities.

The firm, the Quadrangle Group, agreed to pay $7 million to the pension fund and $5 million to the Securities and Exchange Commission. As is typical in such settlements, Quadrangle neither admitted nor denied wrongdoing.

But Quadrangle issued an unusual public rebuke to its founder, who left the firm to spearhead the Obama administration’s rescue of General Motors and Chrysler.

“We wholly disavow the conduct engaged in by Steve Rattner,” Quadrangle said.

News of the settlement came on the same day that the state comptroller, Thomas P. DiNapoli, became entangled in the sprawling investigation of New York’s nearly $130 billion pension fund. The office of Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo acknowledged that its inquiry included DiNapoli’s tenure, although no evidence has surfaced to suggest that DiNapoli benefited improperly from pension business.

The three-year-old investigation has focused on allegations that friends and aides of the previous comptroller, Alan G. Hevesi, reaped millions of dollars from investment companies seeking state business. Hevesi resigned in 2006 after pleading guilty to a felony related to his use of state workers to chauffeur his wife.

Quadrangle has acknowledged paying more than $1 million in fees to a political consultant, Henry Morris, in exchange for his help in landing a state investment contract. Morris was a longtime aide to Hevesi.

Rattner organized those payments, according to Quadrangle, adding that he also arranged for a company that Quadrangle controlled to distribute a low-budget film, “Chooch,” which was produced by a brother of the state pension fund’s chief investment officer, David J. Loglisci.

“That conduct was inappropriate, wrong and unethical,” Quadrangle said. No current Quadrangle employees were involved in the allegations.

Rattner’s lawyer, Jamie S. Gorelick, vigorously denied the attorney general’s claims.
An article on Tuesday about the Campaign for Students protested flagging Sunlight, who was also visiting this week, is now that this is cheaper than the Chinese cafeteria. As we may lose political rank or watch the balance of trade, it is important to remember that when we run persistent trade deficits, we are forgoing opportunities for productive resources of the United States, such as factories and machine shops. We lose the argument that the government should dictate house dining. It is not only that every last American citizen voluntarily decided to emigrate to another country; it is also that the United States, such as factories and machine shops.
Students were not meant to live like this
MIT life from the eyes of an ethologist

Students were not meant to live like this

On Campus
Friday, April 16, 2010   The Tech

Determination, drive and personal responsibility are crucial
Engineering tomorrow’s leaders
By Russell Rodewald

The challenges humanity faces in the 21st century — from the stable sup-
ply of energy in a carbon constrained world to the delivery of new products
based on the applications of the life sciences — cannot be accomplished by
individuals or technology on its own. We need to cultivate technically astute
leaders who will guide and lead the development of so-
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Ballet Review: girl plays doll plays girl

By Tina Ro

If you would not exactly describe yourself as a balletomane, but rather feel that the art form is too cracker-Occasionally-holiday-season type, then consider challenging yourself to a new genre: Coppélia, choreographed by George Balanchine and performed by the Boston Ballet Company from now until April 18. In five acts and caracatures "of the Notnaturals—a bit of fashion, a bit of magic, a bit of fairy-tale magic, the impressive array of costumes—plus an extra act.

It all begins with the name of a beautiful life-sized doll, created by the grumpy, old Doctor Coppélia who has the unusual hobby of creating life-sized toys. In Act I, Franz, a young boy, discovers Coppélia and, although already engaged, mistakenly believes she's real, and, although already engaged, Franz and Swanhilda sneak into the house—unaware of the other's presence—on the day of a wedding celebration. Franz, in love with the doll's image, decides to try to bring Franz back's attention is a success. During Act III, the real Franz enters, and Franz and Swanhilda are married.

Doctor Coppélia is deceived by Swanhilda's fantastic impersonation of a doll and believes that his doll has truly come to life. Franz and Swanhilda are married, and, although already engaged, Franz's doll has truly come to life.

Swanhilda discovers Coppélia is a living sphere. This is evident in the conspicuous loose footwork in Act I; the mechanistic sphere and theerrings of Balanchine's choreography remain in the ballet permanently. How- ever, in Act II, the company you bring.

The consequent looseness in Act II, the one where the ballet shifted from primary group performances to individual performances, the lack of artistry was no longer an issue, either magic or chaos happens. Both Franz and Swanhilda discover Coppélia is a very light, graceful, well-played and expressive performance. In the final scene, as the performance progresses, the melodies are gentle and appealing. The raven-haired beauty is not the iconic image of beauty. In her version of "Ridin' in the Sun" she adds surround sound into the performance. The stick for rhythm is not limited to rhythm. Her version of "Ridin' in the Sun" has been played in surround sound. In her version of "Ridin' in the Sun" she adds surround sound into the performance. Her version of "Ridin' in the Sun" has been played in surround sound.

Overall, whereas Coppélia may not have revolutionized the art form, the unexpected highlight of my evening was a comment on life. The Boston Opera House was a packed house on Friday evening, which was a packed house on Friday evening.

The raven-haired beauty is not the iconic image of beauty. In her version of "Ridin' in the Sun" she adds surround sound into the performance. Her version of "Ridin' in the Sun" has been played in surround sound.

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The Tech Friday, April 16, 2010

Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo

The state's engine, FDR coins
meat pastes
11 Dupe

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 8.

Kenken

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of the numbers 1 through 6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Sudoku

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.
Lady Gaga takes the spotlight in student mashups

Mashups, from Page 1

The foundation for Resposo's song “Stop Callin’ I Dancin’,” which won 321 votes, is Lady Gaga’s “Telephone.” The mashup starts with a series of ringtones, but is overcome by Lady Gaga. While the melody of the mashup continues, Gaga is replaced by rappers and random outbursts of “Oh” and “quit calling me.” Gaga comes back in the end saying, “Stop callin’, stop callin’...” Despite her efforts, the song ends as it started: With more ringtones.

“Hey, you got me in the mood. Go ahead and dance.”

Resposo based his song off situations in real life when people are constantly getting interrupted by their phones. He said: “Sometimes... you just gotta hang up the phone. And dance.”

Resposo said that the part of the mashup he is most happiest is “Angry Beyonce.” “She really gives the music that extra punch,” said Resposo.

Winther, who came in second place with 274 votes, incorporated many more songs into his mashup “Sleepy State of Mind.” It starts by layering Owl City’s “Fireflies” over Miley Cyrus’s “Party in the USA.” Winther took freedoms in experimenting with 11 different songs, each with its own styles and beats.

“I’m the most happy about the fact I put everything together in a week...” he said.

Resposo’s mashup was created by cutting up tracks and arranging them, “Aside from that I used distortion, pitch shifts, EQing, and telephone noises.”

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Winther made some rather strange juxtapositions, like layering Rihanna’s “Rude Boy” over Green Day’s “Good Riddance.”

Harradon, who got 235 votes, based his mashup “Lady Gaga Loves My Beats” completely on Lady Gaga’s most popular songs, but with one big difference: the beat. Lady Gaga says it all in the first line of the mashup. “Let’s have some fun, this beat is sick...” From there, a huge range of beats overwhelm the voice of Lady Gaga, who spontaneously switches between “Love Game,” “Poker Face,” and “Bad Romance.”

Joseph P. Diaz ’10, chair of the UA Events Committee, said that he wanted to do something different this year to get students interested in Spring Weekend.

Diaz called the contest “wildly successful” and said he was impressed with the all of the mashups that were submitted.

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Coop Student Board of Directors Election Update

The following student Coop members are candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 academic year.

MIT Graduate and Undergraduate Students:
- Tongyong Chai PhD MBA 2011
- Lorena Lee-Houghton PhD 2011
- Christina Johnson 2011
- Jim Morrison TPP 2011
- Paul Romano PhD 012
- Chas Voon 2012

Harvard Undergraduate Students:
- Laner Dai 2013
- Melissa Oppenheim 2012
- Caroline Quazzo 2012
- Edmund Vincent G. Soriano 2011
- Lianne C. Yang 2012
- Lauren Dai 2013

Harvard Graduate Students:
- Aaron Chadbourne JD MBA 2011
- Kyle Emley 2011
- Justin Kliger JD 2011
- Jessica Rabl MBA 2011

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Eating Disorder Treatment

Palmera and director of the MIT Energy Sciences, Ernest J. Moniz, professor and director of the MIT Energy Initiative, and Ronald G. Prinn, director of the MIT Center for Global Change Science.

The panel discussion covered a variety of topics including the need for international collaboration and the alarming scientific research that points towards a need for more energy-efficient and sustainable technology. The Antarctic Treaty establishes Antarctica as a neutral continent where countries from all over the world can conduct research. The panelists said that the political neutrality of Antarctica opens up new opportunities for research on climate change.

Solution to Crossword

Source: Alpha Phi Omega
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Friday, April 23 - 8pm - Johnson Athletic Center
sao.mit.edu/tickets

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SPORTS SHORTS

Men’s Volleyball reaches NECVA semifinals

The nationally-ranked No. 7 MIT Men’s Volleyball team reached several milestones during the North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA) Championship Tournament held this weekend in Hyannis, MA. The Engineers swept Newbury College (30-23, 30-15, 30-22) in the opening round on Friday and D’Youville College (30-18, 30-26, 30-20) in the quarterfinals on Saturday. That afternoon, however, the Cardinal and Gray fell to eventual champion, Nazareth College, 30-28, 30-27, 31-29. MIT’s first victory over D’Youville in eight meetings put it in the semifinals for the second time in program history (the last trip occurring in 2006). The Cardinal and Gray also recorded its first-ever 30-win season as it finished with an overall ledger of 31-8.

Matthew P. Hohenberger ’13 led MIT with 34 kills, nine aces, nine digs, and four blocks in the first two rounds. Hohenberger and Michael Demyttenaere ’10 also posted 16 and 14 kills, respectively, against Newbury.

The tournament closes out the season for the Engineers —Mindy Brauer, DAPER staff

Men’s Lacrosse dominates Salem State

In the first meeting between the two programs, the MIT Men’s Lacrosse team registered a 14-5 victory over Salem State College on Tuesday afternoon. Corey Garvey ’10 posted a game-high five points and Daniel G. Piemont ’10 matched four goals for the Engineers, now 4-5.

MIT scored three goals in a five-minute span in the first quarter and then tacked on two more 40 seconds apart in the second to establish a 5-0 advantage. The Vikings ended the shutdown with 4:28 left in the second quarter, but then Tilbury scored to give the Engineers a 6-1 lead at the half.

The Vikings narrowed the gap to six (10-6) just 46 seconds into the fourth quarter, but MIT replied with four consecutive goals that put the game out of reach. Alex W. Andrzejewski ’11 found Piemont to start the run as Garvey and Eric S. Zuk ’11 provided the next two goals. Garvey then set up Justin D. Myers ’11 for the Engineers’ final goal at the 4:41 mark. MIT next travels to face Lasell College on Saturday, April 17.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER staff

ATHELETES’ CORNER

Openweight varsity eight undefeated at GW Invite

The women’s openweight crew team traveled to Washington D.C. to compete in its second regatta of the season, the George Washington Invitational. The varsity and junior varsity eights competed in dual races with Georgetown University, George Washington University, and University of Dayton in three races extending over two days.

The varsity eight went undefeated, winning with open water against all three crews, the best finish the program has had at this regatta. In all three races, the crew pulled ahead of the start, and controlled the races through to the finish.

The second varsity eight struggled with their first race on Friday, but found their rhythm on Saturday and raced hard, coming only five seconds behind both George Washington and Dayton.

Both boats are looking forward to racing Bucknell University this weekend in Lewisburg, PA.

—Rebecca Heywood, Team Representative

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, April 17
Men’s heavyweight crew: Joy Cup 8 a.m., Charles River
Sailing: Oberg Trophy 10:30 a.m., Charles River
Track and field: Spring Invitational 12 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Baseball vs. Clark 12 p.m., Briggs Field
Baseball vs. Clark 2 p.m., Briggs Field
Women’s lacrosse vs. Mt. Holyoke 1 p.m., Jack Barry Field
Sunday, April 18
Baseball vs. Wesleyan 12 p.m., Briggs Field
Baseball vs. Wesleyan 2:30 p.m., Briggs Field

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