Nightline hiatus to last at least a year
Helpline service closed as a result of major administrative changes

By Jingyun Fan
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Nightline, MIT's student-run hotline for counseling, information, and support, is ceasing operations for at least two semesters while it decides on several major structural changes. Its coordinators hope that Nightline will be able to return in the fall of 2011 at least in some reduced capacity.

Until this semester, Nightline's anonymous staffers had been taking calls from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. every night of the term. It's a confidential service that has no caller ID, callers are never identified, specifics of the call are never shared, and staffers' identities are kept secret.

Leaves DUE/DSL for Medical

Nightline is no longer advised by Student Support Services (DSL) to the Office of Student Life (DUE). The decision to temporarily suspend Nightline came from a cross-unit review committee. The Nightline Review Committee was formed over the summer to look at Nightline's position in DUE. The committee — which was made up of DSL staff, MIT Medical staff, Dean of Student Life (DSL) staff, and the two student coordinators of Nightline — decided to suspend Nightline last at least a year

As the new advisors for Nightline, MIT Mental Health will require changes within the program — in particular, a way to deal with the increased number of non-MIT calls.

"Historically, our philosophy has been to take calls from anyone," Elizabeth C. "Ellie" 01, the student coordinator, said. "But ... it was taking time off of our primary responsibility, which is listening to students."

MIT Mental Health will be more strict about keeping calls MIT-only, especially because staff are not trained or licensed in any way to deal with non-student issues.

Outsiders led to staff burnout

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The decision to suspend Nightline's support from the MIT administration helps mainly with the organizational aspects of the program, such as budget — but also with leading support groups, where Nightline staffers may not be present on their calls.

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With the electric Nissan Leaf, the perks just keep coming

By Bill Vasicek

The New York Times

Tax credits, rebate checks, personalized home visits, government giveaways — even customer service calls from top corporate executives.

The first all-electric car from a major auto company, the Nissan Leaf, arrives at dealerships in December, but thousands of Americans who are learning that going electric can come with perks like no other car purchase.

"It just keeps getting better and better," said Justin McNaughton, among the 20,000 people who have reserved a Leaf. "My wife thinks it's funny because at the end of the day, we're just buying a car."

Since McNaughton, a lawyer in Nashville, Tenn., paid his $99 deposit, he has been bombarded with government incentives — promises of a $7,500 federal tax credit, a $2,500 cash rebate from the state of Tennessee and a $3,000 home-charging unit courtesy of the Energy Department.

When he had some basic questions about the Leaf, the answers came in a 40-minute telephone call from a senior manager in Nissan's corporate planning department. "You kind of feel like you're one of the chosen people," McNaughton said.

Precisely. It is all part of an unprecedented effort by federal, state and local governments to stimulate demand for cars that have zero tailpipe emissions — and Nissan's predictive move to break the all-electric market much the way that Toyota dominated the hybrid market with the Prius.

The government subsidies are shaving thousands of dollars off the Leaf's $32,780 sticker price, while other benefits are piling up, like free parking in some cities and the use of express lanes on highways usually reserved for cars with multiple passengers. In Tennessee, where a Leaf assembly plant is being built, Leaf drivers will be able to charge their vehicles free at public charging stations on 425 miles of freeways that connect Nashville, Knoxville and Chattanooga.

"It's almost shocking how many subsidies are available on the Leaf," said Jeremy P. Anwyl, chief executive of the auto research website Edmunds.com. "We are putting a lot of money behind this technology."

Nissan expects the typical Leaf buyer to fit a highly desirable demographic: affluent, college-educated consumers in their mid-40s who are both environmentally sensitive and willing to take a chance that electric technology will be as safe and reliable as internal combustion engines.

Better still, about 85 percent of the people who have reserved a Leaf do not currently own a Nissan, giving the brand exposure to a new audience. Interest in the car has been so great that the company has stopped taking reservations for the initial production run — the car is being built in Japan, with assembly at the new plant in Tennessee beginning in 2012 — but Nissan has plans as well as many as 500,000 electric cars worldwide by 2013.

The Obama administration has made electric vehicles a centerpiece of its drive to reduce the nation's reliance on oil and is pumping up subsidies with a goal of getting 1 million electric cars on the road by 2015.

Bloomberg plan to ban food

A like-named website seeks to part with MSNBC

NEW YORK — Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg may face legal and political hurdles in carrying out his ambitious plan to ban food stamps from purchasing and not purchasing in the food-stamp program is sugar. But experts said the Agriculture Department lacked spending them on soda and other beverages with added sugar. But experts said the Agriculture Department lacked the authority to pass such a rule. Bloomberg’s plan to ban food stamps from the like-named website seeks to part with MSNBC, which is already separate companies.

One of the memos, “Both strategies are fine, but naming them is an excess of expectation. Cancun is suffering from the opposition of the meeting. Even some of the baby steps in the weak agreement are already separate companies. The Obama administration has made electric vehicles a centerpiece of its drive to reduce the nation's reliance on oil and is pumping up subsidies with a goal of getting 1 million electric cars on the road by 2015.
Afghans linked to the Taliban guard U.S. bases

By James Risen

WASHINGTON — Afghan private security guards are the new front line in the war in Afghanistan, and intelligence officials are trying to avoid a repeat of the fiasco that occurred last July when insurgents in the north battled among U.S. military contractors, killing at least 16 civilians.

The Pentagon's oversight of the Afghan guards is virtually nonexistent, and inspectors have found that guards are frequently paid poorly, that they are poorly trained and that some are being paid simply for staying on the job.

In one incident, a U.S. military operation in eastern Afghanistan was belatedly told that a Taliban leader was being held, only to discover that the man was an Afghan security contractor to the private U.S. security firm that the U.S. military had hired to guard U.S. military bases.

As the war in Afghanistan continues, the U.S. military is increasingly relying on Afghan guards to guard its bases.

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You guys made the cyber world look like the north German plain

By Keith Yost

"The Stuxnet attack casts a spotlight on the dystopic future of warfare"

The Tech is a student-run newspaper that covers the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This issue features an article discussing the Stuxnet attack and its implications for the future of warfare. The article highlights the sophisticated methods used in the attack, the likely target, and the potential consequences for civilian technology. The article also reflects on the ethical implications of such advanced weaponry and the need for vigilance to prevent similar attacks in the future.

**OPINION POLICY**

**Editors** are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by editorial board, which consists of a team of editors. The student who produces The Tech is Steve Howland, Editor in Chief Jeff Guo, Managing Editor David M. Templeton, Executive Editor Natasha Potkin, Opinion Editors Matthew M. Mauer and Brian D. London, and Associate Editors Michael McGuire-Herdeg and Andrew T. Lukmann.

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the author's signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and the Institute reserves the right not to publish. Letters can be e-mailed to thetech@mit.edu, or printed-in the newspaper. The Tech reserves the right to use photographs of individuals in any way and for any purpose. The Tech reserves the right to use photographs of individuals in any way and for any purpose.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Urgent PBE parental concerns**

To President Hockfeldt, Chancellor Clay, and Dean Columbus: As the parents of Matthew Barron, MIT Class of 2013 and a Phi Beta Epsilon brother initiated in January 2010, we are sick with the injustice and outrage at the events concerning the fraternity’s four-year suspension. We are writing to request an independent investigation of the IFC’s Judicial Committee process and appeal as well as a reconsideration of the event itself.

Within two more full weeks than we have heard the initial shocking news from our son, Dean Colombos’s parent letter cites this broader, yet still incomplete policy involving established procedures, conduct, and also an insufficient leadership. In fact, JudiComm’s proceedings regarding Phi Beta Epsilon contradict these claims. Our request is considered by the following grave concerns:

1. Using as evidence a stolen document underscores the parent’s position and the act thereby denying Phi Beta Epsilon “the right to a decision based solely on the facts presented and supported by a preponderance of evidence.”

2. Permitting the full participation in the judicial process by a brother absolved of being denied a Phi Beta Epsilon brotherhood and therefore depriving Phi Beta Epsilon of “the right to a timely hearing.”

3. Initiating the charges months before the Phi Beta Epsilon hearing process and thereby delaying Phi Beta Epsilon “the right to a timely appeal.”

4. Holding the hearing without an administrator present and thereby denying Phi Beta Epsilon “the right to have an advisor present.”

5. Refusing to allow the Phi Beta Epsilon representative to speak and thereby denying Phi Beta Epsilon “the right to present oral testimony.”

The charge of hazing in the form of "mental discomfort" in Stuxnet and its possible human consequences is implicated by Symantec over fifteen months ago. The level of sophistication in the attack — the targeted nature of the attack, net infections have been found in Iran, making the likely target the uranium enrichment facilities of the country. The source of Stuxnet and its operational impact, designed by Arthur Miller’s landmark play, The Crucible, with ‘... children jangling the keys of the devil’s strongbox’ and the words: ‘... the judicial process itself flagrantly abusing of the kingdom, and common vengeance its enforcement.’

This and many other things that the Phi Beta Epsilon fraternity has recently been suspended for four years — which is effectively a death sentence for a fraternity. And a tragic loss for one with such a long and rich history at MIT. We do not know what the infractions were for Phi Beta Epsilon, but I know that when I was at MIT, Psi Lambda Phi could have been cited for any number of violations under the broadly written current MIT and Massachusetts Housing Policies. I have no doubt that the housing policy and its enforcement have the best intentions, and but we would ask to look into this further. Moreover, the current years and the reasonable enforcement of the rules. PBE’s Lambda had been held to these broad standards, we were certainly suspended and many brothers have stopped to the fraternity to start and run companies, win an Olympic gold medal, and even eventually become professors and department heads — all of which I would have been deprived of the important lessons of living responsibly and responsibly in life. We can only come through frailty life.

Please use your position as MIT’s President to ensure fairness to students and students.

Jiyeon Baek ’13, Margaret Cunniff ’13, Joy E. ’11, Danielle G., Bogdan Fedeles G, Joyce Kwan ’13, Roman Kowch ’12.

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Another gay scandal in the clergy?

Pastor Eddie Long's scandal is the latest variation on an old theme

By Michael Veldman

When I first heard about the Eddie Long scandal, I thought it was just some-thing along the lines of “Sheesh, another one?” Although the case has not yet been settled, time will tell if this is just another of the many scandals on our hands is the same tired story. What does the public base their expectations on? I think it is that narrative, in which the closeted minister of excellent repute outs himself as a self-centered, promiscuous, and sometimes illegal, predator of the opposite sex. For those who haven’t heard about the story, several weeks ago four boys came for-ward individually, each claiming that Bishop Eddie Long of the Georgia megachurch New Birth Missionary Baptist had used his position as a major voluntary charity to attempt to coerce them into engaging in sexual relations with him. While Long has not made a public statement, he has said the he is “not the man being portrayed in the news.” He is currently awaiting a trial date. It was recently reported that Long is being investigated in another case involving a child. He is considered in the promotion of a constitutional amendment to ban same- sex marriage. Long is also reported to have advocated the death penalty for gay people in a sermon in the mid-1990s, although it would appear he has since toned down the level of his condemnation. According to the New Birth Missionary Baptist website, “Where Poverty Law has been boiled down to a simple, one-size-fits-all formula, the religiously based anti-gay movement”

...the clergymen who are exposed as gay are often the ones who most vehemently condemn homosexuality.

So why do these credentials seem so perfectly suited for a sexual predator? Why does the public feel that Long revealed in a gay sex abuse scandal? Why does this read like a fairly standard resumé?

The root cause is the fundamental ho-mophobia of most religious institutions. There is some- thing insidious about an institution that instills such deep self-hate and shame and even disassociation from religiously vulnerable members from such an early age. All of us of LGBT folk brought up in the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, etc. tradi-tion have probably struggled with self- loathing at some point and might even deal with the remnants of those feelings long after apparently coming to terms with our chosen orientation or gender identity. For some, the only way to deal with the self-hatred and, ultimately, the fear of di-vine reper-cussion and the pins of hell is to pre-tend that it was all just a fleeting curiosity, or that with enough prayer or self-abuse, one can actually change a fact of one’s own existence. (It is sad that some manage to change themselves and others that it is possible to turn “straight” backwards.) A word to the wise: if you are dealing with someone who desires for male-on-male sex, one is not heterosexu-al. (For Eddie Long [and Todd Haggard and any number of others] the sign was so deeply imbedded that they chose this path with years of hard work. One can imagine how the constant tag of unfulfilled desire and unexplored feelings coupled with the effort it takes to self-loathe and struggle with de-prression, practice deception, and destroy one’s very identity makes it even more tempting to action and maintain a facade of normality by engaging in such extreme sadomasochistic measures.

It is easy to call these clergyman cow-ards and hypocrites. I feel that the public is misunderstanding the concept of Long’s hypocrisy. We should be looking at the question, are these people really any worse than those who they really are says more about the sorry state of affairs in American religion and society than it does about these indi-viduals. Michael Veldman is a member of the Class of 2014.

The market for questions

What if we had a cap-and-trade system for asking questions in class?

By William Damazer

In 1997 the Kyoto Protocol became the first international treaty, without exception, with nothing quite as international as the Kyoto Protocol. MIT has chosen to not extend to cap-and-trade schemes to indi-viduals has not been taken widely. Ed Miliband, Britain’s junior minister for the environ-ment, proposed a radical idea to introduce individual “emissions limits” to the head of the Department of Energy and Cli-mate Change, but his idea has largely been ignored for decades. Therefore, in the after-class trading market to decide. MIT has an incentive to reward the good student with a UROP; a reference or perhaps more lenient grading (if the student is really lucky). A problem with problem with answering questions is that people’s extreme bril-liance does not always mean that they have the right answer. This leads to answers that are roughly related to the topic of class, but more impor-tantly a beneficiary of answering the question (or gut thought) and how much smarter the question is than the answer. This is where the professor values the question and not the answer. The professor steps in and fixes our mistakes for the rest of the class. But in this scenario answering questions doesn’t add up to the good answers, as the benefits I receive from creating large positive externalities. Usually producing a permit to ask questions. But to all of this there is a notable excep-tion, which is particularly evident at this time of year. And that is the phenomenon known as the freshman.

I started thinking about this in light of people answering questions. MIT has only about 12% of the total student body of the world (or at least the southern side of Cambridge) shows up to class on time. They then answer questions they can deliver insight and clarity to the rest of the class, creating large positive externalities. Usually we would worry about under-provision of goods that one of the main reasons being: there are no answers that answers don’t add up to the benefits of the rest of the class. But in this case the negative aspect of the answers 

...hard, not easy. All of these fall far short in earning respect in an MIT class,

is that people will worry too much about being wrong. Even if that’s what we tell others or want to be wrong. The point of asking questions is to change the experience of keeping our heads above water. This swim, which for whatever reason we willfully accept, is sometimes even letting the salty droplets get down into our eyes. There will be less than the pain of continuing to tread water. I’ve never flown, so please correct me if I’m wrong, but I’m not sure that one gains anything positive from being wrong. All of us LGBT folk brought up in the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, etc. tradition have probably struggled with self-hatred at some point and might even deal with the remnants of those feelings long after apparently coming to terms with our chosen orientation or gender identity. For some, the only way to deal with the self-hatred and, ultimately, the fear of divine reper-cussion and the pins of hell is to pretend that it was all just a fleeting curiosity, or that with enough prayer or self-abuse, one can actually change a fact of one’s own existence. (It is sad that some manage to change themselves and others that it is possible to turn “straight” backwards.) A word to the wise: if you are dealing with someone who desires for male-on-male sex, one is not heterosexual. (For Eddie Long [and Todd Haggard and any number of others] the sign was so deeply imbedded that they chose this path with years of hard work. One can imagine how the constant tag of unfulfilled desire and unexplored feelings coupled with the effort it takes to self-loathe and struggle with depression, practice deception, and destroy one’s very identity makes it even more tempting to action and maintain a facade of normality by engaging in such extreme sadomasochistic measures.

Right now I feel like there would be some good parties in my classes, however I fear I would also be out of pocket. That is for the market to decide.

While there is a Cambridge stu-dent participat-ing in the Cambridge-MIT Exchange.

I implore you to endeavor upon the same challenge that I’ve tasked myself with — pick a day and be a freshman. Do not mean first year student. I’m a se-nior, and society than it does about these indi-viduals. Michael Veldman is a member of the Class of 2014.

Being a freshman

Upperclassmen should learn to step back a few years

By Paul Welle

I’ve wanted to write for The Tech for some time. I find it surprising that I can’t say or something to share. Something about being here, something about the ex-perience of keeping our heads above water. This swim, which for whatever reason we willfully accept, is sometimes even letting the salty droplets get down into our eyes. There will be less than the pain of continuing to tread water. I’ve never flown, so please correct me if I’m wrong, but I’m not sure that one gains anything positive from being wrong. All of us LGBT folk brought up in the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, etc. tradition have probably struggled with self-hatred at some point and might even deal with the remnants of those feelings long after apparently coming to terms with our chosen orientation or gender identity. For some, the only way to deal with the self-hatred and, ultimately, the fear of divine reper-cussion and the pins of hell is to pretend that it was all just a fleeting curiosity, or that with enough prayer or self-abuse, one can actually change a fact of one’s own existence. (It is sad that some manage to change themselves and others that it is possible to turn “straight” backwards.) A word to the wise: if you are dealing with someone who desires for male-on-male sex, one is not heterosexual. (For Eddie Long [and Todd Haggard and any number of others] the sign was so deeply imbedded that they chose this path with years of hard work. One can imagine how the constant tag of unfulfilled desire and unexplored feelings coupled with the effort it takes to self-loathe and struggle with depression, practice deception, and destroy one’s very identity makes it even more tempting to action and maintain a facade of normality by engaging in such extreme sadomasochistic measures.

I just took it and accepted it. Don’t mean first year student. I’m a se-nior, and society than it does about these indi-viduals. Michael Veldman is a member of the Class of 2014.

Being a freshman doesn’t mean being fake, although sometimes they go hand in hand.

I hope I’ve got you on board. If nothing else let’s all take a moment to look around and see what we’re doing. Let’s ask our- selves if we’re here. Let’s find out about each other. Because when we’re old we’ll tell stories to our grandchildren about the people we want them to hear. Because it’s going to happen to us anyway let’s make some awesome stories. Let’s be aware. Because you too will be soon a senior and you’ll wish you had stepped in to or stopped to listen. So take a deep breath. Look around. And for now, be a freshman. Paul Welle is a senior in Course 1.
Cyberwarfare disrupts the norms of conflict

Unlike nuclear weapons, computer worms like Stuxnet obscure the identity of the attacker

Stuxnet, from Page 4

attacks have been used to steal secrets from the Pentagon, wage war against Syria, Iran, and Georgia, and cause billions of dollars in damages to U.S. systems. Even today, Chinese computers continue to wage an unrestrained cybernetic war against Google. "Operation Aurora" has caused the company to pull out of China entirely and seek protection from the National Security Administration.

Ultimately, to split hairs over Stuxnet’s purpose, capabilities, provenance, or novelty, is to miss the forest for the trees. It doesn’t matter when it arrived, cyberwar is here, and it’s nasty.

Advances in weaponry are often highly disruptive — in part because the tactics of war lag the pace of technological development (recall the tragically belated disappearance of massed frontal assaults after the arrival of the machine gun) — and in part because political leaders, uncertain of the significance of new technologies, miscalculate the strength of nations and in doing so invite war (just ask 1940 France of the significance of motorized infantry). For this reason alone, cyberwar deserves a prominent place in American defense thinking.

However, the advent of cyberwar carries with it more than just the traditional risks associated with new weapons technology. Firearms, artillery, aircraft... each caused a minor revolution, but none overturned a fundamental feature of war that has existed for millennia: to wage a conflict that goes above the nuisance level, you must render your identity to your opponent — you can’t roil tanks through the Ardennes without someone noticing their origin and intentions.

As a species, we have learned, in a limited way, to manage the problem of security in an anarchic environment. Place twenty strangers with knives in a room, and international relations theorists can offer a dozen ways to keep the peace: collective security, balancing alliances, deterrence, appeasement, etc. Place twenty strangers with knives in a room and turn off the lights, and the only way to guarantee security might be to stab nineteen people.

It is hard to circumscribe the damage that nuclear weapons do, and as a result, it is hard to achieve practical aims. We have faced the specter of anonymous, yet destructive attacks before. When China developed nuclear weapons, we worried that tomorrow might find us as at the cinders of New York City, the victim of a smuggled nuclear device, unable to determine whether responsibility lay with Beijing or Moscow. How can you deter an enemy you cannot identify?

Today, the fear of nuclear terrorism remains very real. We lack both the border control to prevent an attack and the forensics to identify the aggressor after the fact. Thus far, we have, owing a great deal to luck, avoided calamity. Nuclear weapons are not impos- sible to obtain, and most moderately-sized economies can acquire them within a decade of effort — South Africa did it in nine years during the 1970s — however they continue to remain largely out of reach for rogue states and subnational groups. The resulting paucity of nuclear states reduces the probability of attack, not just because there are fewer decision makers with the potential to take such an action, but also because when an approved state looks for someone to ratelapse against, the list is likely to be small, and include the guilty party.

We have also benefited, somewhat per- versely, from the inherent nihilism of the act itself. The use of nuclear weapons, in any form, has become a major political taboo. There are psychological barriers that place the atomic bomb on a separate shelf from other options — it’s acceptable for the Soviets to funnel arms to North Vietnamese terrorists, it’s unac- ceptable for us to hand a nuclear weapon to Afghans, mujahideen, and watch Violopogov get leveled.

More significantly, it is hard to circumscribe the damage that nuclear weapons do, and as a result, it is hard to achieve practical aims. Unless the goal is to generally weaken an opponent, nuclear terrorism doesn’t seem like a compelling tactic.

Unfortunately, none of these natural lim- itations on nuclear terrorism apply to cyberwar. There are no proliferation controls — everyone, every state, every subnational entity, every script-kiddie with a PC and a dream has access to the technology and the resources to conduct an attack. There are no taboos in place — cyber attacks occur across such a subtle spectrum of intensity that there is no clear cordon to be drawn around tolerable and unforgivable activities. And while nuclear weapons are good for little else but mass destruction, cyberattacks have highly spe- cific targets, and meet a broader range of goals than sheer brutality.

It is easy to overstate the potential impact of cyber attacks. A good example is Richard Clarke’s (a former member of the National Security Council) recent novelization of Live Free or Die Hard, creatively named Cyber War. Despite including many pages of sound analysis, Mr. Clarke chooses to spend some chapters indulging in massive hyperbole — his imagined doomsday, where China or Bhau- sia destroys the entirety of the U.S’s financial system, infrastructure, and military networks simultaneously in some sort of “digital Pearl Harbor” is not just technically unlikely, but defies any nationalization of the motives be- hind such an assault.

However, even if the apocalyptic fiction of cyberwar never comes to pass, the reality is not much prettier. We face a low level, con- tinuous, constantly intensifying, constantly escalating war. The dynamics of this conflict are such that we have no obvious means of reigning it in, no game theoretic approach that offers a road to peace.

The U.S. is poorly positioned to engage in cyberwar — our technologically based econ- omy, network-centric combat tactics, and reluctance to encroach upon the freedom of our citizens make us especially vulnerable in the face of cyber threats. Despite all this, we remain at square one: we are just now begin- ning to get our heads around the problem, just beginning to answer fundamental questions of doctrine, tactics, and diplomacy.

Sixteen months ago, President Obama an- nounced a new cyber security initiative. At the time it was greeted as a significant shift. Today, it is looking more like President Bush’s similar 2001 initiative — plenty of flash, but no follow-through.

This time however, the clock has run out. We can no longer kick the can down the road and leave the next administration to formu- late our defense. Between the economy, Af- ghaniistan, and the rest of the nation’s pressing issues, President Obama has a full load on his plate. But as tough as it is, he must make room for cyber security.

Do you blog?

The Tech’s Opinion section is starting a blog this semester.

If you care about politics, international relations, or campus events, but don’t have the time to write long-form opinion columns, this is your chance.

We want bloggers to write short entries for two Opinion features:

Political Coverage

2010 Midterm Elections

Things that happen in the U.S. political world. 2010 is shaping up to be an exciting year!

CAMPUS

Things that happen here at MIT (dining, student government, dorms, fraternities... take your pick!)

And beyond: We love internationally-themed content!

email us: opinion@tech.mit.edu
Claustrophobia in a coffin

Ryan Reynolds stars in a one-man thriller in Buried

By Jericho Ricardi

Let’s get this out of the way first — Buried is a disturbing, deeply uncomfortable film, and claustrophobic moviegoers would do well to avoid it. The film stars Ryan Reynolds as Paul Conroy, an American truck-driver working for a company in Iraq. After an attack on his unarmed convoy by insurgents, he awakens to find himself trapped in a coffin, armed with a phone, a Zippo lighter, and a knife, he frantically searches for a way to escape before he becomes the tomb.

The story is compelling and the main character — an “everyman” in over his head if ever there was one — is such a plight that the audience can’t help being drawn into his shoes, almost experiencing his predicament. The film stays focused on the protagonist like a laser, never deviating from its purpose. Conroy is, with a debatable exception, the only onscreen character in the movie; a large part of the movie’s ability to draw the audience in so well is the fact that the interior of his coffin is the only real backdrop. This movie is about as minimalist as they come — one actor, one backdrop, and a few voices — it’s almost something that could have been made by any aspiring writer with a spreadsheet.

As far as point of view goes, this film is as close as possible to bringing in the first-person perspective without actually being so; it gets into the minds of viewers and makes us wonder what we would do if we were in the protagonist’s position. We aren’t just rooting for him to escape; we’re rooting for him as if he were us. That protagonist isn’t perfect; he may not even be all that moral of an individual. Over the course of the movie we get a look at how flawed he is as a person, yet ultimately makes him easier to identify with. Throughout the movie we get a glimpse at how unhelpful and heartless people can be; also, the reality that Iraq is an extremely dangerous place where disaster regularly happens faster than anyone can react. When Conroy starts to come to grips with the fact that he’s more or less alone out there, so are we.

The film undertaking Ryan Reynolds turns in a brilliant performance in this movie, flexing his acting chops and showing us what he’s capable of. With a lesser actor, Buried would have far less impact. In many ways, this film is a study in fatalism; one could find it depressing if not for the fact that it’s also a “ticking time bomb” scenario that keeps the audience on the edge of their seats right up to the climactic final moments.

This film is not for the faint of heart. That said, it leaves a powerful and vivid vision, one that will likely stay with viewers for a long time. It isn’t the best movie of the year by any means, yet it may well be one of the most absorbing; it also contains an abun-
dance of subtle messages that many of us can interpret and appreciate differently. It is ironic that the film takes place inside of a coffin, because it is really a story about life — and how much it means to us when we’re in danger of losing it.

Electrifying performance of contempo-music

Pianist Vicky Chow captivates with avant-garde classical music of the 21st century

By Bogdan Fedeles

Artistically, October is often a busy month at MIT, and this year is no excep-
tion. Vicky Chow’s recital, as part of the Bang on a Can Residency (sponsored by MIT Music and Theatre Arts department) was the first notable musical event of Oc-
tober. This concert was highly anticipated, given the artist’s strong ties with Bang on a Can All-Stars, a chamber ensemble re-
owned for its free and experimental ap-
proach aimed at blurring the distinction between all forms of music. Chow’s recital was a vivid demonstration of piano con-
temporary music, showcasing the possi-
bilities of the instrument extended with the aid of computer generated effects. While this contemporary music might initially sound inaccessible and strange, the show-
manship of Chow and her feisty technique kept the audience engaged and thoroughly entertained. In many ways, this recital was a veritable eye-opener, offering a glimpse of the raw quality of the emotional landscape of contemporary music in general, and highlighting the enormous range of the expressive possi-
bilities of the piano, most of them still un-
tapped today.

As an effective performer of contempo-
rary music, Chow has skillfully combined a solid, traditional training with an incli-
ation for experimentation. Her playing highlighted not only a sparking technique, but also a remarkable emotional depth. By dubbing her recital, “The Art of Groove,” Chow specifically hinted at the underlying emotional state, highly contagious and often hypnotic that her performance of contempo-
orary music often depicts. Most of the pieces on her program deal with subcon-
scious torments, unsettling, cyclical and often ambivalent emotions. Titles such as “Phantom Limb” (by Daniel Wohl), “Dop-
pedalurger,” “Harlequin,” “Loop” (by Ryan Francis), “Dreams” (by John Cage) ostensi-
blely illustrate this point.

The raw quality of the emotional land-
scape of contemporary music requires a strong musical presence from the per-
former, both in the technical and inter-
pretational realms. Chow displayed an unashamed composer, tackling fearlessly and expressively both the flashy virtuo-
istic passages and the more subdued, often drone-like, seemingly repetitive introspec-
tive interludes. Her precise technique and amazing endurance were instrumental to her buxom rendition of “In Bouds,” writ-
ten by Professor Evan Ziporyn. “In Bouds” sounded extremely taxing for the perform-
er, who embarks on a perpetually moving, one can drastically change the timber of the piano. The changes can be so diverse that on a recording, the piece would sound as if performed by a percussion ensemble. Indeed, “Vick(i/y)” aptly educates us on the percussive nature of the sounds on the pi-
ano and offers ample suggestions on how it can be extended. The piece abounds in unconventional techniques, including di-
rect strikes, scraping, gliding, as well as strumming. All these effects require a new dimension of the performer, who must be at the same time an athletic percussionist, as well as a pianist. Moreover, they require a more intimate connection with the in-
struments, akin to the one typical of string players. Such a piece also brings into the spotlight the gargantuan size of a nine-foot concert piano, strongly contrasting with the size of the performer. Chow’s nimble pres-
ence and graceful musical choreography around the massive instrument was there-
fore intensely mesmerizing. Musically, the piece was also satisfying, the novel percuss-
sive sounds being featured in unexpected and refreshing harmonic instances.

The high point of the concert was the piece “Vick(i/y)” by Andy Ako, a sizable fanatical work for prepared piano, writ-
ten for and dedicated in part to Chow. In fact, the composer himself was present and helped with the preparation: by install-
ing select mutes on the piano strings and then amplifying the subsequent sounds, one can drastically change the timbre of the piano. The changes can be so diverse that on a recording, the piece would sound as if performed by a percussion ensemble.

Indeed, “Vick(i/y)” aptly educates us on the percussive nature of the sounds on the pi-
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CONCERT REVIEW

How do you play a Ratatat song?
(By playing a Ratatat song)

By Charles Lin
SPECIAL EDITION

My unfortunate tautological infatuation with tautology peaked around the same time as the Ratatat show Thursday night. This was fortunate because it allowed me to answer such questions like, “How do you play a Ratatat song?” or “How do you play a Ratatat song?”

The band, touring off of their 4th album titled their 4th album (LP4) sounded like Ratatat which is good if Ratatat is what you want. Bing Bang Bang, crunchy bass hooks, a hip hop homage of beats and samples. Ratatat is Ratatat and nothing quite sounds like Ratatat. That isn’t to say Ratatat is great music. It’s good music, it’s great, it’s groovy. But it captures a beat and a groove, letting it mature into a carousing and danceable enveloping coo-

It’s studying music. Music to dance to (cautiously: waist up only) with earbuds tucked tightly into ear drums sounding a beat. No lyrics, no surprises, you get what you get: two guitarists and a laptop. Unfortunately, this means much of the Ratatat experience can’t be translated on stage. The beats are largely pre-recorded, the visuals are syn-

Their stage set up had no spotlights, no center of attention here I am with my cock-cocking strut-tacular. In fact, they were highlighted most by their absence. Two generic silhouettes cast against striking visuals of cockatiels and rotating busts of baroque composers. On each side of the stage, two screens displayed holographic avatars playing cello and violin in rococo attire. They absorbed my attention and if the band went from stage front to stage back, I doubt I would have noticed. It’s funny, their last LP was rhythmically soulful and yet the only theme and variation came during the first encore track, “Seventeen Years.” “I’ve been rapping for so long,” the sam-

Silhouettes take the spotlight during the Ratatat concert at the House of Blues on October 5, 2010.

By Charles Lin—The Tech

Ratatat House of Blues
Boston, MA
October 5, 2010

Casablanca uses dialogue as its most important narrative tool; every line is meticu-

The beats are largely pre-recorded, the visuals are synched to a track. If the band went comatose on stage, the music would persist. These conditions also apply to Ashley Simpson and The Band Perry. If, in case the memo didn’t reach your inbox, the point of a live show is to see a band play live.

Some why see Ratatat perform? I’m still debating the greater-than, less-than, and equal between seeing Ratatat live and playing their album on a nice stereo with friends and reading along the lyrics. The most persuasive bit of evidence came from the band.

The interactions between the charac-
ters is another large part of what makes the story special. It’s the nostalgia, chem-

The interactions between the charac-
ters is another large part of what makes the story special. It’s the nostalgia, chem-

Ratatat which is good if Ratatat is what you want to be. Bing Bang Bang, crunchy bass hooks, a hip hop homage of beats and samples. Ratatat is Ratatat and nothing

Casa-

The film’s appeal even transcends its surface action, romance, politics, and drama. Casablanca is a film about how people react to circumstances beyond their control, the fine line between what could have been and what has to be, and the distinction between one’s fate and an-

José Ferrer is one of the greats of our time. His Oscar-winning performance in “Cyrano de Bergerac” is a true joy to listen to, and is more than worth taking a step back to appreciate the dialogue.

Casablanca’s influence is far-reaching, from the impact it’s had on other mov-
es (take The Usual Suspects or the Marx Brothers’ A Night at the Opera), to its now iconic story and its many famous quotations that consistently make “top movie quote” lists. It stands the test of time as a classic; for those who haven’t seen it, I highly recommend it for its cultural sig-
nificance and artistic elements. And for those who have watched it, play it again.

Casablanca was released in 1942 by Warner Bros. Pictures, and was directed by Michael Curtiz.
Lobby 7 Design Competition

Want advice - have questions?
Come to Lobby 10 between 12 and 2pm
on Oct 13th to chat about your ideas
with Prof. Mark Jarzombek.

Cookies and Crits

3 Prizes each for undergraduates and graduates:
   1st prize - $10,000
   2nd prize - $2,500
   3rd prize - $1,000

As a part of the MIT 150 celebration, this competition will seek ideas for developing design concepts for the four pedestals of the William Barton Rogers Lobby - Lobby 7. How do you think MIT should be represented?

You can still register. Go to: web.mit.edu/lobby7Competition
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo

Help Desk by Michael Benitez

Somewhere on the Search for Meaning by Letitia Li

Crossword Puzzle
Solution, page 13

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| 40 “Infirmary Blues” | 42 Instinctive | 43 Paper folding | 44 Groom or Churchill | 46 Disquiet | 47 Old World monkey | 52 Flip the lid off of | 53 Refrain syllables | 56 Bone dry | 57 Levin and Gershwin | 59 NASA’s partner in space |

Miss Hero, would you clean the attic for a dust bunny?

Miss Hero, would you light the candles for my son’s birthday for a silly hat?
Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 13

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Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 13

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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.
Microsoft, from Page 1

maker expanded so that its hundreds of internal parts are visible. Finally, after reading reads the specs, conveniently located right next to the image, he makes one more tap in midair. The purchase is complete.

The technology behind this demonstration is Xbox Kinect, a webcam-style console add-on that Microsoft will release next month. Through depth-sensing technology, Kinect builds a skeletal model of the player and allows him/her to interact with the game without the aid of a game controller, relying on more natural and intuitive commands like talking and gesturing instead.

"People who've never played video games before will be able to start operating them right away, because it's the same as operating in the natural world they already understand," Mundie said. "The goal of natural user interface is that the barrier of learning to use and operate the system is much lower."

In his talk, Mundie explored various advanced in natural user interfaces (which he pronounces "NUI," rhyming with "GUI" pronounced "gooy") and explored their implications for various fields, including the video game industry. In another demonstration of virtual gaming, Mundie steps into a lush landscape of Autumn trees and walks towards the 3-D avatar of two friends, who greet him as if they were there in person. They are playing a "Player Participation TV Series," in which 3-D avatars roam a virtual world, changing the course of the story in real time. A TV episode setting up the evolving storyline would air once a week. Mundie has a conversation with his friends and uses his hands to move around a video clone.

"We want to emulate the experience of social interaction," Mundie said.

Other advances in natural user interaction have the potential to dramatically affect fields outside the realm of the entertainment industry. Mundie believes that if the field of healthcare, sterile computer control could allow doctors in operating rooms to manage their imaging systems through gestures. Virtual receptionists in rural areas could scale access to basic health care, decreasing the need for expensive labor. More intuitive computing would also decrease the barriers to computer literacy.

Reception

Students were pleased with the presentation.

Monica D. Ruiz '12, thought the presentation was "very well put together," and said she found it "really cool to look at."

Greg D. Psucks '13, who thought the talk could have been more technical, was nevertheless pleased with the demo of Xbox Kinect. He said, "After playing with it for a minute, it felt very natural. I was surprised at how responsive it was."

Leif G. Francz '11 said, "It was like something I would have seen at Disney World, but it’s amazing that the technology is so close to market.”

ASA advocates for groups

Commitment to ensure student groups are represented if Music takes space in Walker

Walker, from Page 1

Schmidt said.

However, in order to move forward with more detailed planning, Schmidt says “it is critical to understand who the building currently serves.”

Schmidt will be working with both the MIT administration and current users of Walker, who might be directly affected by the renovation. Careful planning is taking place to assure MIT’s Music and Theater program needs are met, without severely impacting the 40 student groups that are housed in Walker, he said.

Schmidt’s primary agenda is to find where people can move and allocate necessary space. Schmidt hopes to “move groups in a way that will create effective synergies” which may mean moving around or combining group spaces.

Before sending out an e-mail announcement to groups in Walker last Friday, Philip J. Walsh, director of Campus Activities Complex, met with the UA, GSC, ASA, and communicated with other student groups who have historical attachment to Walker. WMBR-88.1 FM, the Black Student Union, and the Rainbow Lounge community.

Walsh said his concern is ensuring the community is notified of a potential restoration. To encourage feedback and facilitate open communication, he has met with many groups individually and is looking to hold a general meeting for all the partners together.

According to Walsh, “although there are several groups who have a strong connection to the building historically, many are open to change and want to see if there’s any value in remaining.”

Association of Student Activities chair Rebecca Krentz-Wee ’12 said Walsh assured her that members of UA, GSC, and ASA would all either serve on a committee or engage in direct periodic meetings with the administration to guarantee student representation.

In response to Walsh’s meeting with her, Krentz-Wee says she is happy the Walker restoration was brought to her attention before starting. “It’s good to have that input from the beginning. It’s a good sign MIT is taking this year for evaluation and bringing in student opinion, rather than suddenly springing on a change,” she said.

The ASA’s concern lies with “making sure the elaborate setups of student groups does not disappear.” Krentz-Wee’s objective is to pinpoint and communicate effectively to the administration the resources and space groups need. Some groups use Walker for storage but other groups, such as WMBR, put money and work into their space.

Krentz-Wee notes the groups who will be especially impacted by the change include the MIT Radio Society and Rainbow Lounge on the third floor, Muddy Charles on the first floor, and GSC on the second. According to Krentz-Wee, continued contact is vital. As of now, she will “continue to push for space until they take it away.”

If all happens as expected, large student groups like the Black Student Union could find themselves moving out of Walker by next summer. However, it is also possible that such groups will be allowed to stay in the building and change rooms.

Schmidt emphasizes that no definitive decisions about student group movement will be made immediately. Although there is much uncertainty with regards to student group movement and restoration plans, one decision is finalized: nobody will be impact- ed during this coming academic year.

Meet your new pss group member

Microsoft Chief Research Officer Craig Mundie visited MIT this Thursday to give a talk on human-computer interaction as part of the Dertouzos lecture series hosted by CSAIL. Mundie talked about the advantages and applications of computer systems that eschew the traditional mouse and keyboard interface. He also mentioned his own interests in photography and videography, calling himself “a Canon guy.”
Nightline will seek additional members ‘Nightline is not dead,’ dean says

By Katharine Q. Seelye
and Liz Robbins

DURHAM, N.C. — For nearly two weeks, media coverage of the Duke University campus had been aware of a certain senior “thesis” that a recent graduate wrote, intended as a joke, about her sexual exploits with 13 student-athletes.

Then the Internet seized on it.

The thesis, written as a 42-page PowerPoint presentation went viral. And students here again found their school in the middle of a sex-related scandal and ashamed at the power of the murky, borderless world of the Internet.

“It makes me ashamed that the Duke name is attached to what she’s done,” Nicole Quanough, 22, a senior from St. Louis, said as she sat in the student union. “And it’s the age-old double standard. People are more critical of what she did because she’s a girl.”

The woman in question, Karen Owen, 22, who graduated this year from Duke, evaluated what she said were sexual liaisons with 13 student-athletes during her school years, with e-mails relating to alumni over-seas and message boards buzzing.

She forwarded this mock thesis, in “academic” form, to a few friends, who forwarded it to their friends. After percolating within the Duke community for nearly a week, with e-mails reaching alumni over-seas and message boards buzzing, the report was published online by two related websites, Jezebel and Deadspin.

The report was published online by two related websites, Jezebel and Deadspin. From there, it exploded onto the blogosphere, where as of Thursday it was still being shared via Twitter with the frenzied speed of the Internet age, “said Lee Rainie, the director of the Pew Internet and American Life Project. “This is just the latest of a long list of examples of how things that are often meant for small, private audiences have immovable opportunities to become public events, because once they have left the creator’s screen, they can be shared, forwarded and posted.”

Owen did not respond to repeated calls to explain what happened.

A man who said he was her father confirmed the phone in Connecticut and said her daughter did not want to comment.

On campus, students were abashed, not a bit embarrassed by the novelty.

Four years ago, the Duke men’s lacrosse team was embroiled in scandal when a woman falsely accused three Blue Devil players of having raped her at a party where she was to perform as a stripper. One year later, the charges against the players were dropped and the prosecutor in the case, Michael R. Nifong, was disbarred.

MIT’s third annual flu clinic, open to MIT staff, students, retirees, and family members of staff on MIT’s traditional or flexible health plans, ran on Tuesday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

MIT Medical had 15,000 vaccinations on hand and were not expecting to run out. This year’s flu shot has weakened strains of three types of flu: H1N1, H3N2, and influenza B. In the first four hours of Tuesday’s clinic, a record 2,000 vaccinations had already been dispensed, according to Deborah Friscino, director of Operations at MIT Medical. A second flu clinic open to MIT graduates and undergraduate students will run in W20 on Oct. 14 from 12 – 4 p.m. Another clinic for all MIT Health Plan members will run in W20 on Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Seven of the 13 athletes Owen wrote about were — or still are — on the lacrosse team. This incident has angered many of those who are already sensitive to their image, according to students and alumni who know them. None of the lacrosse players contacted would comment.

Mike Lefere, a 21-year-old junior and the president of the student body, said that people were not sure whom to be more concerned about.

“Should we be more worried about the young woman’s privacy or worry about the individuals who were named?” he said. “It’s not so clear to us who was the victim and who we should reach out to.”

Michael Schoenfeld, Duke’s vice president for public affairs and government relations, said the education of students about their online presence was continuing, and that it was part of the orientation process for student-athletes.

“One wonders in the Duke situation if the individuals were not athletes, would it have attracted as much attention?” Schoenfeld said.

Having grown up in the Internet age, students said they were well aware of the dangers.

“Everyone knows how the Internet works,” Quanough said as she closed her laptop in the student union. “I’ve always been worried about what I put on Facebook. I’m very conscious of future employers looking at it. It’s easy to forget, but important to remember.”

Solution to Hard Sudoku

Solution to Easy Sudoku

Solution to Crossword

Jacob Shapie ’11 won Best in Show for his Chinese yo-yo act at Sigma Kappa’s Late Night. The proceeds from 5K Late Night went to Alzheimer’s research.
An Open Letter to MIT Dormitory Desk Workers:

On behalf of Amazon Student and Amazon Prime, I want to offer my sincerest apologies. An article in the Sept. 17 edition of The Tech said dormitory desk workers at MIT were overwhelmed with packages as textbooks, TVs, and video games from Amazon.com flooded the dorms. “The culprit,” according to the story, is “Amazon Student, a new program that gives students FREE Two-Day Shipping on Amazon orders.”

I apologize for the extra work this deluge is causing but also suspect it’s just the beginning. There are so many other student essentials delivered in two days for free with Amazon Prime, from minifridges and George Foreman grills to shot glasses, 5-Hour Energy drinks, laundry detergent, and, yes, Top Ramen. And since I expect that college mailrooms across the country may be experiencing similar increases, I extend my apologies to mailroom workers wherever you are (and hope that you too are taking advantage of an Amazon Student membership).

Sincerely,

Robbie Schwietzer
Vice President, Amazon Prime

P.S. I got my Halo Reach on release day too, and it was awesome. Black Ops, anybody?
Strong start to season
MIT Rifle wins smallbore against Wentworth; competes against four area schools on October 15, 16

Rifle, from Page 16

The MIT rifle team will have its next match at home on October 15 and 16 and will face four other teams. The match was for the most part, self-activated, as the rifle team members themselves scored the cards for their opponents. There were few disputes because everyone was being honest; no one was trying to fight for points here or there. The MIT rifle team will have its next match at home on October 15 and 16 and will face four other schools: John Jay school of Criminal Justice, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Despite what could be considered an atmosphere of antagonizing attention to detail, what was most impressive about the match was the amount of friendliness and sportsmanship displayed by both teams. The match was for the most part, self-activated, as the rifle team members themselves scored the cards for their opponents. There were few disputes because everyone was being honest; no one was trying to fight for points here or there. The MIT rifle team will have its next match at home on October 15 and 16 and will face four other schools: John Jay school of Criminal Justice, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

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New Roles for MIT in Online Education?

With technology rapidly transforming the world around us, what could cutting-edge education look like in the foreseeable future? Should MIT play a new role in this future? Should MIT use technology to extend its educational impact around the world? What will happen if we do nothing?

Help MIT by participating in a new faculty study group’s exploration of these questions. Two ways to contribute:

MIT Online Idea Bank:
The ingenuity and innovation, thoughtfulness, and diverse perspectives of the MIT community are immeasurably valuable in this process. Submit your ideas and thoughts to online-ideas@mit.edu

Independent Student Study Group:
We’re looking to form a thoughtful, forward-thinking group of graduate and undergraduate students to independently develop ideas, and to discuss, advise, and challenge the faculty group. If you are interested, e-mail MIT-online@mit.edu

For more information about the faculty study group, see http://web.mit.edu/provost/studygroup/
The Tech's preseason predictions
Yankees, Braves, Reds, Phillies to take divisional matchups

By Zach Hynes
SPORTS EDITOR

Rare is the day when I see more students wearing hometown baseball merchandise than the ubiquitous "E/ c^2sqrt(-1)PV/nR" sweatshirts, and "God said ... [Maxwell's equations here]..., and there was light"...[EngiNERD] merchandise than the ubiquitous "E/ c^2sqrt(-1)PV/nR" sweatshirts, and "God said ... [Maxwell's equations here]..., and there was light"...[EngiNERD] sweatshirts, and "God said ... [Maxwell's equations here]..., and there was light"...

The battle-tested Rays will defeat a Texas team that feasted on the Mariners and Angels, couldn’t finish the season over .500.

The divisional matchup-ups run started on Wednesday and will run through next week’s schedule. Here are the Tech’s predictions and comments on the upcoming series:

Texas Rangers vs. Tampa Bay Rays
David Price, among other Rays, was dismayed with Rays fans for failing to buy tickets and support the team during the September stretch run. Luckily for Price and the Rays, their opponents play in a still more difficult baseball market: football-crazy Texas in the middle of October. If anyone attends or watches the games, they’ll see two potent offenses at work against plenty of young, power pitching. In either case, the battle-tested Rays will defeat a Texas team that feasted on the Mariners and Angels, and Athleti cs during the regular season, none of whom finished the season over .500.

The battle-tested Rays will defeat a Texas team that feasted on the Mariners and Angels, couldn’t finish the season over .500.

Minnesota Twins vs. New York Yankees
This is Andy Pettitte’s season to lose. C.C. Sabathia will get two starts and will find a way to beat Francisco Liriano or whoever else the Twins line up to oppose him. If Andy Pettitte can throw seven-plus innings of two-run, threeball run, the veteran Yankees will take the series. Just as the Celtics stumbled in the regular season before an inspired postseason run, the Yankees will now leave behind their September mediocrity and move on to the AL Championship Series.

Prediction: Rays in 5

Reds vs. Phillies
The Phillies are loaded with stars who have tasted success in 2008 and are ravenous for more. Halladay, Oswalt, and Hamels comprise an unbeatable starting rotation. The Phillies edged the Reds in the series in September 5-2, during the middle of the summer; this was before the Phillies stormed back to take the NL East on the strength of an 11-game September winning streak. The only thing more impressive than the success of the team is this year’s excellence of the game. Even though the Phillies clearly dominated the entire game, the few fans there were on the edge of their seats, cheering on their friends, as the offense scored goal after exciting goal. Any sports fan who enjoys displays of athleticism and skill would have been more than able to appreciate the game.

For those who have not seen a game of field hockey, the game is played similar to soccer and, as the name implies, ice hockey. Like soccer, there are out-of-bounds on the touch lines and goal lines, as well as offside, corners, and red cards (although field hockey umpires also issue green cards). Offensive strategy in field hockey is also similar to that of soccer, with players sending each other on and trying to create one-on-ones with the goalkeeper. The clock also does not stop, allowing two halves of continuous action.

Like ice hockey, the players use their sticks to either maneuver the puck past defenders, which the ball down field, or reach out and steal the ball from opposing players.

To those new to field hockey, I commend you for your curiosity. Given their stellar 10-1 record, the field hockey team deserves more recognition. We may not all be sports fans, but we can all appreciate the hard work that the team must have put in to achieve this level of excellence.

That being said, there are three more games left in the season, the next on October 14 against Dartmouth College.

Field hockey in high spirits after win over Smith
Klauber sets pace with first goal less than one minute in

By Carlos Gravens

This past Saturday, the MIT field hockey team routed Smith College 6-1, earning its tenth win of the season and securing its third win in a row in conference play. The team, now 10-1-0, has five games left in the regular season, including three at home.

The team did not get Smith a single minute of breathing room — literally — as Kameron L. Klauber ’12 stole the ball at midfield and scored 57 seconds into the game. MIT never looked back, and were up by four just 15 minutes into the game. The offensive onslaught slowed towards the end of the first half, and with ten minutes left in the first half, it looked as though Smith might begin to gain control of the game. However, despite Smith’s multiple penalty corners and breakaway opportunities, the MIT defense held firm, recording only one goal in the final minute of the half.

At the start of the second half, MIT was back in control, keeping the ball almost entirely on the Smith side of the field. They would score 2 more goals, sealing the victory.

The only thing more impressive than the success of the team is this year’s excellence of the game. Even though MIT clearly dominated the entire game, the few fans there were on the edge of their seats, cheering on their friends, as the offense scored goal after exciting goal. Any sports fan who enjoys displays of athleticism and skill would have been more than able to appreciate the game.

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