Xerox CEO Ursula M. Burns to speak at Commencement

Address to culminate sesquicentennial celebration

By Elijah Jordan Turner

Ursula M. Burns, chairman and chief executive officer of Xerox Corporation, has been named the keynote speaker for the 145th Commencement on Friday, Jun. 3. This year’s speaker announcement comes at its earliest in more than 30 years. Commencement weekend will mark the conclusion of MIT’s 150-year celebration marking its 150th anniversary.

Burns is the first black woman to serve as the CEO of a Fortune 500 company, having succeeded Anne Mulcahy in July 2009. Burns was named the 19th most powerful woman in the world by Forbes last November and she assumed the position of chairwoman of the company earlier this year.

Class of 2011 President Anshul Bhagi praised the selection of Burns, calling her remarkable personal story: “She did well in life through persistent hard work,” Bhagi said. President Susan Hockfield held a similar position on the relevance of Burns’s life story to the mission of the Institute and its students. I am especially glad that Ursula Burns has agreed to share with the MIT community her remarkable personal story: her fearless approach to problem solving as an engineer and a leader, her deep experience at one of America’s most storied technology companies, and her commitment to service,” Hockfield said. “Her life speaks eloquently to the Institute’s own ideals.”

Burns graduated from the Polytechnic Institute of New York University in 1980 with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. That summer, she worked at Xerox for the first time, as a summer intern. After obtaining an “important milestone” from an internship position at Xerox to being CEO of the corporation.

In schools’ efforts to end gay bullying, some see agenda

Critics argue school programs endorse homosexuality

By Erik Eckholm

HELena, Mont. — Alarmed by evidence that gay and lesbian students are common victims of schoolyard bullies, many school districts are bolstering their anti-harassment rules with early lessons in tolerance, explaining that some children have “two moms” or will grow up to love members of the same sex.

But such efforts to teach acceptance of homosexuality, which have gained urgency after several well-publicized suicides by gay teenagers, are provoking new culture wars in some communities.

Many educators and rights advocates say that official prohibitions of slurs and taunts are most effective when combined with frank discussions, from kindergarten on, about diverse families and differences.

Angry parents and religious critics, while agreeing that schoolyard harassment should be stopped, charge that liberals and gay rights groups are using the anti-bullying banner to pursue a hidden “homosexual agenda,” implicitly endorsing, for example, same-sex marriage.

Last summer, school officials here in Missoula unveiled new guidelines for teaching about sexuality and tolerance. They proposed teaching first graders that “human beings can love people of the same gender,” for fifth graders that sexual intercourse can involve “oral, anal or penile penetration.”

Bullying, Page 9

NEW DINING PLAN
AN “IMPORTANT MILESTONE”

MIT administrators defend the dining plan and HDSG’s process.

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DERAIL HIGH SPEED RAIL

High speed rail is a Democratic policy

OPN, p. 5

MIT HAS LOST A BIT OF POETRY

The Advanced Poetry Workshop’s demise is a real shame.

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LEWITT’S “BARS OF COLOR” A HIDDEN GEM IN BUILDING 6

A student discovers and delights in Lewitt’s colorful terazo tiles.

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VARIABLES STATES OF UNDRESS

Why are Americans so obsessed with being “official”? We should learn from the French, and get over it.

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MIT’s Oldest and Largest Newspaper

Volume 130, Number 52

tech.mit.edu

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

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Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Weather, p. 2

Tuesday, November 9, 2010
Floods in Haiti raise fear of cholera's spread

Three medical workers arrived at a clinic near here over the weekend to warn that supplies and spread the word about preventing a deadly cholera outbreak from getting worse after news that Hurricane Tomas had struck. They found that what was a locked gate, a 3-year-old boy with unrecognizable diarrhea being cradled in his father’s arms and a governmentSlinky on the ground to get in.

Several of them said, yes, they drank water from a river largely confined to this region of rice paddies and small settlements, where the water has long provided life and livelihood. And, no, they do not always have to buy bottled water.

The cholera outbreak, which has killed more than 500 people and sickened more than 7,000 in the past 2 1/2 weeks, is largely confined to this region of rice paddies and small settlements, where the water has long provided life and livelihood. And, no, they do not always have to buy bottled water.

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NEW DELHI — By endorsing India for a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council, President Barack Obama on Monday signaled the United States’ intention to create a deeper partnership of the world’s two largest democracies that would expand commercial ties and check the influence of an increasingly assertive China.

Obama’s announcement, made during a nationally televised address to the Indian Parliament, came at the end of a three-day visit to India that won high marks from an Indian political establishment once uncertain of the president’s commitment to the relationship.

Even as stark differences remained between the countries on a range of tough issues, including Pakistan, trade policy, climate change and, to some degree, Iran, Obama spoke of India as an “indispensable” partner for the coming century.

“In Asia and around the world, India is not simply emerging,” he said during his speech in Parliament. “India has emerged.”

Obama’s closer embrace of India prompted a sharp warning from Pakistan, India’s rival and an uncertain U.S. ally in the war in Afghanistan, which criticized the two countries for engaging in “power politics” that lacked a moral foundation.

It is also likely to set off fresh concerns in Beijing, which has had a contentious relationship with India and has expressed alarm at U.S. efforts to tighten alliances with Asian nations wary of China’s rising power.

But warmer ties between the United States and India, in the making for many years, come at a crucial time for Obama. He and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh are headed to South Korea later this week for a meeting of the Group of 20.
In his November 2, 2010 Opinion piece “The intimate civic duty,” Russell Bodewald misses a Guttmacher Institute statistic that has been the focus of women’s health advocates: that abortions use contraception in the month they occur — an argument — to make the claim that birth control is ineffective in preventing unintended pregnancies and abortions. This is a fundamental misunderstanding of the statistic.

There are millions of women of all races, of all ages, of all religions, of all income levels who use contraception consistently and correctly for any given number of unintended pregnancies, while the roughly one in ten who use no contraception is the number for half of all pregnancies. Contraceptive methods reduce a couple’s chances of having an unintended pregnancy by 93 to 99 percent and property to no method is more effective at limiting births. Indeed, nearly all Americans acknowledge this: 99 percent of sexually active people have used contraception at some point in their lives. Access to contraception dramatically reduces the chance of having an unplanned pregnancy for every event almost to every abortion. If that goal is truly to reduce the need for abortion, the best approach is to increase contraceptive access and use — not to attack it.

By Phillip Clay, Christina Ortiz, Costantino Colombo and Daniel Hastings

In 2007 the Institute convened a Blue Ribbon Committee to study dining at MIT. Last fall, we, the 2009-10 Dining Committee, and the masters of the House Dining Advisory Group (HDAG) — a group structured according to the HDAG recommendations — reached a milestone: we have selected a vendor, and in September we will have a new House Dining plan according to which the forecasted prices call for a new dining program in the residences. This is a momentous occasion for MIT. We recognize that the forecasted prices call for a new dining program in the residences. These efforts directly involved thousands of our students, who let us know what they think in a variety of ways. Moreover, student participation has been vital to both of the committees charged with this task.

We strongly disagree with the fi nal recommendation, but students were involved every step of the way. Moreover, we are delighted to support the Phoenix Group, for instance, has offered compelling ideas for the lunch component of the new system. We are delighted to explore these student-driven ideas.

Will the meal plans be affordable? We recognize that the forecasted prices call for a new dining program in the residences. However, two of the three Phoenix Group proposals call for a change in the way that students pay for their meals. These changes could be a real improvement in the way that students pay for their meals at MIT.

By Phillip Clay, Christina Ortiz, Costantino Colombo and Daniel Hastings

Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Dear Editor,

I'd like to share with you some of my experiences with Greek life at MIT. I hope that as you read this, you can relive some of your college years. As one of the best Greek systems in the country, may I share a story? When I was probably ten years old on a tour of the house, Arron settled in to the dorm that he chose. The dining commons were in the range of what their residents had to deal with. We have the choice — just as they do today — in a world of Greek systems. Be it Kappa Sig back in the late 70s. I was absolutely terrified, but I didn't want to appear rude, so I came along quietly.

The Phoenix Group, for instance, has offered compelling ideas for the lunch component of the new system. We are delighted to explore these student-driven ideas.

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By Phillip Clay, Christina Ortiz, Costantino Colombo and Daniel Hastings
It’s time to end the liberal fetishization of infrastructure

The Advanced Poetry Workshop was recently closed down, leaving its catalog, financial resources, and poetry to its own devices. The workshop had successfully trained poets to communicate with the world outside the lab. (This, by the way, is especially useful for any young scientist who would someday like to communicate with the world outside their lab.) This, the workshop staff believed, would be perfectly sure of that. Poetry is as precious as any scientific research: a Nobel prize can be awarded only for a discovery that no man has made before. Properly named scientists can now be awarded Nobel prizes in this very field.

The cost of infrastructure is too high, perhaps as high as the cost of a bridge. High-speed rail costs billions of dollars. The cost of infrastructure is too high for any country to bear. The cost of a bridge is too high for any country to bear. The cost of a bridge is too high for any country to bear. The cost of a bridge is too high for any country to bear. The cost of a bridge is too high for any country to bear. The cost of a bridge is too high for any country to bear. The cost of a bridge is too high for any country to bear.

High-speed rail will not alleviate traffic congestion. The immediate benefits for the national economy. From the U.K. to the Eddington Transport Study such efforts are quite limited in nature economies. As a solution to long-term structural unemployment, HSR offers virtually nothing. As a solution to long-term structural unemployment, HSR offers virtually nothing. As a solution to long-term structural unemployment, HSR offers virtually nothing. As a solution to long-term structural unemployment, HSR offers virtually nothing. As a solution to long-term structural unemployment, HSR offers virtually nothing.

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Each chapter offers its members something unique, but we are all part of a larger whole that matters in the grand scheme of things. Fraternities provide some of the first stepping stones to success and a chance to belong to something larger than ourselves. We are a community with a mission to give each other the tools to succeed. We are a community with a mission to give each other the tools to succeed. We are a community with a mission to give each other the tools to succeed. We are a community with a mission to give each other the tools to succeed. We are a community with a mission to give each other the tools to succeed.

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The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear. The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear. The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear. The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear. The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear. The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear. The relevance of this to the MIT community is clear.

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The events of our nation’s woes. The events of our nation’s woes. The events of our nation’s woes. The events of our nation’s woes. The events of our nation’s woes. The events of our nation’s woes. The events of our nation’s woes.

I checked, Mark Zuckerberg is being flayed by the MIT community. This is a terrible fate for any MIT student. It is a terrible fate for any MIT student. It is a terrible fate for any MIT student. It is a terrible fate for any MIT student. It is a terrible fate for any MIT student. It is a terrible fate for any MIT student. It is a terrible fate for any MIT student.

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Help Desk by Michael Benitez

A Typical Week

Sudoku Solutions, page 9

Crossword Puzzle Solution, page 9

**ACROSS**
1 Abrasive tool
6 Grand tales
10 Mimic
14 Burn balm
15 Kulla’s pal
16 “Peter Pan” pet
17 Compone
19 Autobahn auto
20 Observe Yom Kippur
21 Fruity drinks
22 Hunk of dirt
23 Thwack
25 New York City harbor entrance
27 Tent stake
30 Vega’s constellation
32 Wow, that was close!
33 Function
34 Those in favor
35 More readily
36 Aswan’s river
37 Musical interval
38 Asian nation
39 Mediterranean coast
40 Go lickety-split
41 Forecaster
44 Psyche part
45 Tennis star of the ‘90s
47 Psychic letters
48 Coral ring
53 Cooking smell
54 1981 John Lennon hit
55 Beethoven dedicatee
57 Abounds (with)
60 Sicilian resort town
62 Wicked
63 Metric wt.
64 One and only
67 Surgery rms.

**DOWN**
1 Hindu prince
2 Oadles
3 London district
4 Sean and William
5 Salty sauce
6 San Francisco Bay island
7 Tickled pink
8 “Blue Voyage” poet
9 Teeter-totters
10 Ancient Greek poet
11 Asian figwort trees
12 Bestow upon
13 Surprise attacks
18 Afresh
19 Autobahn auto
20 Observe Yom Kippur
21 Fruity drinks
22 Hunk of dirt
23 Thwack
25 New York City harbor entrance
27 Tent stake
30 Vega’s constellation
32 Wow, that was close!
33 Function
34 Those in favor
35 More readily
36 Aswan’s river
37 Musical interval
38 Asian nation
39 Mediterranean coast
40 Go lickety-split
41 Forecaster
44 Psyche part
45 Tennis star of the ‘90s
47 Psychic letters
48 Coral ring
53 Cooking smell
54 1981 John Lennon hit
55 Beethoven dedicatee
57 Abounds (with)
60 Sicilian resort town
62 Wicked
63 Metric wt.
64 One and only
67 Surgery rms.
The newly-released game, Power Gig: Rise of the SixString, features a game controller that also functions as a stand-alone guitar.


Power Gig shakes up the rhythm genre

Gameplay is imperfect, but feels satisfying and genuine

By Michael T. Lin


The newly-released game, Power Gig: Rise of the SixString, is a game that is equal parts rhythm game and video game, although the basics of fretting, strumming and power chord pressing are unchanged from the controller. The controller must be registered, because the controller is a real guitar. The controller has to be treated with maximum care, because it's a real guitar. Players should trim their fingernails regularly and take breaks to rest their fingertips, because — you guessed it — they're playing on a real guitar.

Other problems include reduced customization and only having half of the songs available out of the box. The rest have to be unlocked via story mode, and there's no cheat to circumvent it.

The story mode has somewhat more depth than the straightforward "you're a rock star, go forth and rock" premise of other games, involving a dystopian world of limited musical freedom in a similar vein to Double Fine's heavy-metal RTS Brütal Legend. It is somewhat at odds with the style of some of the music you're playing in the rebellious underground music venues, but it's guess we're only playing as a rebellious underground music venues.

The game also supports gameplay for vocals and drums, including a new drum controller that sits on the floor and detects drumming movements in the air instead of on pads, which is ironically less realistic than in other games, but is at least more portable than less wieldy drum kits. Traagically, there's no available bass gameplay, which makes sense in a way but is still an unfortunate omission.

Ultimately, Power Gig offers something less overall than similar games, and demands more of the player, but is also priced more reasonably, and its rewards are directly proportional to how much effort/cost/commitment players are willing to put into it to make it fulfilling and ultimately learn its techniques seriously.

Power Gig: Rise of the SixString is available worldwide on PC, PlayStation 3 and Xbox 360. Power Gig controllers (power Gig and power Gig: Deluxe) are also available.
Bullying, from Page 1

A local pastor, Rick DeMatte, carried his shock straight to the pulpit. “We do not want the minds of our children to be polluted with the things of a carnal-minded society,” DeMatte, 69, told his flock at Liberty Baptist Church.

In tense community hearings, some parents made familiar arguments that innocent youngsters were not ready for explicit language. Other parents and pastors, along with leaders of the Big Sky Tea Party, saw a darker purpose.

“Anyone who reads this document can see that it promotes acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle,” one mother said at a six-hour school board meeting in late September.

Barely heard was the plea of Harlan Reidmohr, 18, who graduated last spring and said he was relentlessly tormented and slammed against lockers after coming out during his freshman year.

LEGAL COUNSEL
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Solution to Left Sudoku
7 6 8 2 4 9 1 3 5
5 4 2 8 3 1 7 9 6
3 1 9 5 6 7 8 2 4
4 9 6 7 1 2 5 3 8
8 2 7 4 5 3 9 6 1
1 3 5 6 9 8 2 4 7
6 7 4 9 2 5 1 3 8
9 5 1 3 8 4 6 7 2
2 8 3 1 7 6 4 5 9

Solution to Right Sudoku
7 3 1 9 8 4 6 5 2
9 5 8 2 1 6 4 7 3
4 2 6 3 5 9 1 8 7
3 1 7 4 9 8 2 6 5
5 8 6 4 2 1 7 3 9
2 6 9 5 7 8 3 1 4
6 4 3 1 5 7 9 2 8
1 7 2 3 6 5 8 4 9
6 9 5 8 4 2 3 1 7

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Recent commencement speakers

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date announced by The Tech</th>
<th>Commencement speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>Ursula M. Burns, CEO of Xerox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Mar. 16</td>
<td>Raymond S. Staats</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Deval Patrick, Massachusetts Governor</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Mar. 13</td>
<td>Charles M. Vest, former MIT president</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Dec. 13</td>
<td>Ben S. Bernanke, chairman of Federal Reserve Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Apr. 12</td>
<td>Irvin Jacobs, co-founder/chairman/CEO of Qualcomm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>Elias Zerhouni, Director of NIH</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Apr. 1</td>
<td>George Mitchell, former U.S. Senator</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Mar. 23</td>
<td>Donald Goldin, NASA Administrator</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Mar. 14</td>
<td>Carly Fiorina, President &amp; CEO, HP</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Apr. 2</td>
<td>Tim &amp; Ray Magliozzi, MIT alumnus and hosts of NPR’s “Car Talk”</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>William Jefferson Clinton and David Ho, AIDS researcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Mar. 1</td>
<td>Albert Gore, U.S. Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Apr. 21</td>
<td>Hanna H. Gray, President Emeritus of the University of Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>Karim Aga Khan IV, spiritual leader of the Shia Ismaili Muslims</td>
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Sophomores + Juniors—Apply by December 1, 2010
Burns climbed Xerox corporate ladder

Burns, from Page 1

her master's degree from Columbia University in 1981, Burns returned to Xerox as a full-time employee.

Over the following two decades, Burns ascended through the ranks of the company, serving first in engineering positions, including project development, before becoming an assistant to their CEO Paul Allaire in 1991. Burns continued to hold leadership roles on a number of teams, including those in Xerox's office-network-copying and departmental business units.

Burns began serving as a corporate senior vice president in 2000 and was named president of Xerox seven years later, in 2007, expanding her leadership to include Xerox's IT, corporate marketing, corporate strategy, and human resources divisions. Burns was named chief executive officer of Xerox last summer and was chosen by President Barack Obama to lead the White House Innovation Initiative. Burns had previously served as senior vice president in 2000 and was named president of Xerox in 1991. Burns continued to hold leadership positions on a number of teams, including those in Xerox's office-network-copying and departmental business units.

The selection process for the 2011 commencement speaker began last spring, when the 2011 Class Council and Graduate Student Council e-mailed surveys to expected graduates. Students were provided a chance to write the names of up to three people they would like to speak at their graduation.

Students leading, including Bhati and DSC President Eric Fienberg '10, combed through the survey results before presenting a shortlist to the president. The final decision rests with the MIT Corporation. Unlike many other universities, MIT has a policy of not compensating commencement speakers. Bhati did not have a problem with this policy, saying "we only invite people who take pride in speaking at MIT."

With the selection of Burns, MIT has chosen a Corporation member for the fourth time in five years. Raymond S. Stata '57, Governor Deval Patrick, and former MIT President Charles M. Vest, who spoke in 2010, 2009, and 2007, respectively, are all current members of the MIT Corporation.

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Babson defeats MIT in field hockey final

MIT beats Wheaton in semis but fails to grab title

By David Zhu

The MIT field hockey played in the NEWMAC semifinals and finals this past weekend at Babson College in an attempt to defend its conference title. They defeated Wheaton 6-1 in the semifinals, but fell to Babson by the same score in the conference final.

On Saturday, the number two seeded Engineers faced Wheaton College to open their postseason play. Jessica M. Olinik ‘11 put on the scoreboard just over nine minutes into the game, on an assist from the top of the circle from Kameran L. Klausner ‘12. Klausner would add two more goals in the next three minutes, to enter the MIT lead to 3-0.

Wheaton responded in the 20th minute to get on the scoreboard, but Alexandra A. Wright ‘11 scored two minutes later on an assist by Melody E. McShane ‘13 to bring the score to 4-1 at the half.

In the second half, the MIT defense stifled the Wheaton attack, allowing only two shots. Klausner added her third goal of the game in the 3rd minute, and Kimberly A. Barker tacked on one final goal with under five minutes left to seal the victory.

One day later, MIT would face the hosts and top seed, Babson College, in the NEWMAC final.

The Engineers opened the game with several scoring opportunities, but Babson’s Morgan Lockwood deflected a shot in the MIT net in the seventh minute. Babson added another goal in the 12th minute, but the MIT defense was able to keep the deficit at two.

Babson would add three more unanswered goals at the beginning of the second half to bring the score to 5-0. In the 84th minute, Wheaton scored again to take the lead, 2-1. The Engineers would mount a counterattack in the closing minutes, but were unable to get past the Wheaton defense.

Rankin made eight saves in the losing effort, as Wheaton outshot MIT 4-3 in penalties to advance to the conference finals.

By Sarah Weir

In the New England regional finals this past Saturday, the MIT Women’s Rugby team fell to Bentley 29-15 in 80 minutes of play. As a result, they have ended their run in the playoffs and will be unable to defend their national title this year.

The Engineers seemed to control the first half, keeping the ball on Bentley’s half of the field and entering halftime with an 8-5 lead. Bentley scored a try in the first five minutes, but MIT responded with an exciting breakaway that brought the ball down to within yards of the end zone and resulted in a try, tying the score. The two teams seemed almost equally matched, the only other points from a free kick by MIT. According to Sarah Ritter ‘14, the Engineers knew what they were facing — “Coach says it’s like playing against ourselves.”

Although MIT kept the ball on the Bentley half of the field throughout the first half, Bentley came back strong in the second half, putting the ball down to within yards of the end zone and resulting in a try, tying the score. The two teams seemed almost equally matched, the only other points from a free kick by MIT. According to Sarah Ritter ‘14, the Engineers knew what they were facing — “Coach says it’s like playing against ourselves.”

Although MIT kept the ball on the Bentley half of the field and entered halftime with an 8-5 lead, they could not hold off the Bentley offense. In the 84th minute, Wheaton scored again to take the lead, 2-1. The Engineers would mount a counterattack in the closing minutes, but were unable to get past the Wheaton defense.

Rankin made eight saves in the losing effort, as Wheaton outshot MIT 20-15. MIT led Wheaton in corners, however, 6-2.

The loss snaps the Engineers’ eleven-game unbeaten streak. MIT finishes its season 10-3-2.

Bentley takes down MIT Rugby in loss at regionals, team loses chance to defend national title

By David Zhu

In loss at regionals, team loses chance to defend national title

On Saturday, both the men’s and women’s soccer teams played in their conference semifinals. Neither team, however, could pull out a victory and advance to the NEWMAC finals.

The men’s women’s soccer team faced Babson College in the semifinal of the NEWMAC Tournament. The Engineers were looking to avenge their defeat to Babson in their regular-season finale, which cost them a top playoff seed and first-round bye. However, the teams played to a scoreless tie, and Babson outshot MIT 4-3 in penalties to advance to the conference finals.

On Saturday, the men’s and women’s soccer teams played in their conference semifinals. Neither team, however, could pull out a victory and advance to the NEWMAC finals.

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