

Sal Khan is Commencement speaker

Khan Academy founder Sal Khan '98 will deliver 2012 keynote



COURTESY OF SALMAN A. KHAN

Salman A. Khan '98 will deliver the keynote address at the 2012 Commencement. Khan is known for founding Khan Academy, a popular online educational resource — more popular, even, than MIT's OpenCourseWare.

By Ethan A. Solomon
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Salman A. Khan '98, founder of the popular Khan Academy online educational organization, will deliver the keynote address at MIT's 146th Commencement on Friday, Jun. 8. Khan, 35, is the youngest Commencement speaker in at least 30 years.

Khan earned bachelor's and master's degrees in Course 6, and another bachelor's in Course 18, in 1998. He attended Harvard Business School from 2001 to 2003, and later worked as a hedge fund analyst in Boston and Palo Alto. Khan founded Khan Academy in 2006, and the not-for-profit educational website has grown to host over 2700 instructional videos in topics ranging from basic algebra to thermodynamics to art history, in addition to online exercises and drills. Khan Academy, which offers its services for free, is supported by donations; among others, Google has promised to contribute \$2 million, while the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has committed to \$1.5

Sal Khan, Page 15

Know your end-of-term policies

Stressed, overworked, and beleaguered by p-sets, especially as finals draw near? No need to Occupy MIT — the Office of the Chair of the Faculty and the UA Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) have established a set of academic end-of-term policies designed to ensure a fair final examination period for students. Here are your rights:

In each subject with a scheduled final exam, there may be no assignments due between Dec. 9 — the last Friday before the reading period — and the final examination period.

For all undergraduate subjects, there may be no tests given within this time frame, regardless of whether a final is scheduled or not. If a final exam is not given, at most one assignment may be due between the last scheduled class and the final exam day.

If: class has a final,

then after **Dec 9** no assignments can be given

Else: there can be one assignment

For graduate subjects only, if a final exam is not given, at most one in-class test, assignment, term paper, or oral presentation may occur between Dec. 9 and the last regularly scheduled class.

Out-of-room final examinations must: be arranged through the Schedules Office, be offered over the course of a single afternoon between 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and permit students unrestricted use of resources. The spirit of such exams should not be to increase the amount of material covered, but rather to evaluate students' abilities to select resources and answer questions of a more integrative nature.

A student may be excused from a scheduled final for reasons of illness or significant personal problems. Undergraduates requesting an excused absence should contact a dean in Student Support Services; graduate students should contact the Dean for Graduate Education.

For complete details on end-of-term regulations, visit <http://web.mit.edu/faculty/teaching/termend.html>. If still dissatisfied, http://ua.mit.edu/issues/educational_policy/violations/ offers an anonymous way to report a term regulation violation.

Here's to literally occupying many long hours with p-sets, and good luck!

—Adisa Kruayatidee

Record 294 participate in MIT Externship Program

This January, 294 MIT students will participate in internships around the world through the MIT Externship Program. The program, run by the Alumni Association, matches current students with MIT alumni to introduce them to the professional world.

INSIDE
History of internship application rates, p. 10

"We've found this to be one of our most successful student-alumni relation programs," said Katie C. Maloney, Director of Student Alumni Relations and coordinator of the Externship Program. "That's why it's required that an alum serve as a sponsor."

Since its inception in 1997, the Externship Program has grown from an initial group of

20 or 25 students to what it is today. Maloney attributes the program's growth to "students having successful externships and telling other people about the program."

"It was done all by hand," Maloney said of the program's initial year. "Since then, the process has grown where it's completely online and paperless, and we have this matching algorithm to do the matching."

This year, MIT students reviewed the listings on the Externship Program website from Sept. 21 to Oct. 12 and submitted applications to up to three externship opportunities. In order to apply, students had to submit a resume and cover letter to each listing of interest. The applications were then sent to the MIT alumni sponsoring the externships. The sponsors

reviewed the applications, and were allowed to conduct independent interviews with students. Finally, the sponsors returned a list of students that they thought were qualified. A matching algorithm, developed by David Yang '96, was used to maximize the number of matches.

According to Maloney, 758 students, including 636 undergraduates and 122 graduates, applied for externships this year. Of these, 380 matches were generated, and 294 offers were accepted.

"I believe this year was our biggest year in terms of number of students, number of alumni, and number of matches," added Maloney.

—Jesse D. Kirkpatrick

IN SHORT

Support suicide awareness at Alpha Delta Phi's Skate for Life this Friday in Johnson Ice Rink from 7 to 9 p.m. Donations will go to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

A toilet paper folding record was broken in the Infinite on Sunday by 15 students and a teacher from St. Mark's Boarding School. They solidly folded 13,000 feet of toilet paper in half 13 times, breaking the previous record of 12 folds.

Adopt a new plant at the Endicott House Holiday Plant & Gift Sale Dec. 7–8 in Lobby 10.

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



BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH

The Logarithms perform "Superlogs" with their alumni — a longtime tradition — at their winter concert "Bright Lights" last Friday.

A BOURBON-Y TREAT

Like bourbon? Check out a recipe for delicious bourbon balls. **CAMPUS LIFE, p. 8**

CAIN TRAIN DERAILS

Tech columnists chime in on Herman Cain's "suspension." **OPINION, p. 4**

BASKETBALL VICTORIES!

Men's and women's teams score weekend wins. **SPORTS, p. 16**



GINGERBREAD MIT

Perhaps the tastiest version of the Institute you'll see this holiday season. **PHOTO, p. 9**

NEW MANAGING BOARD ELECTED

Aislyn Schalck '13 and Jessica J. Pourian '13 will lead next year's Tech administration.

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A sordid end for the 'Cain train'

America must demand better values in her candidates

By Rachel Bandler
STAFF COLUMNIST

Last Saturday was a happy day. Republican presidential contender and former frontrunner Herman Cain announced the suspension of his presidential campaign. Cain, who initially gained support for his conservative values and rags to riches story, has been dishonored and discredited by a slew of lewd sexual assault accusations that eventually killed his political ambitions. Americans can now take a collective sigh of relief because Cain, with his questionable ethics (at best), is no longer in the running for our country's highest office.

Herman Cain, the son of a janitor and maid, was raised in poverty in the segregated South. Living the American dream, Cain eventually went on to become chief executive of Godfather's Pizza, a conservative radio host, and the chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. None of these positions, however, adequately prepared Cain for the presidency — Cain never held elected office, lacks foreign policy expertise, and does not have the qualifications to be America's commander and chief.

Despite his severe lack of credentials, Cain had some surprising successes — surging in the polls last month to frontrunner status. Largely thanks to his good performance in debates, his distinctive 9-9-9 tax plan, and his September 24th victory in the Florida straw poll, it seemed for a while like Cain actually had a chance.

Cain's luck, however, has drawn to a close. The "Cain train," as he liked to refer to his campaign, came to a screeching halt from the shock and scandal of sexual harassment accusations. In total, four women have accused Cain of sexual misconduct during his time at the National Restaurant Association. Allegations include reaching up a woman's skirt and pushing her head toward his crotch.

And if that wasn't enough to end Cain's political aspirations, on the Monday after Thanksgiving a fifth woman, Ginger White, came forward to say that she and

Cain had recently ended a 13-year extramarital affair, and that she had the phone records to prove it.

Although Cain adamantly denied the accusations of sexual harassment and of a long-term affair, Ginger White was the straw that broke the camel's back. Cain suspended his campaign, and is now pursuing "Plan B," the nationwide promotion of his tax and foreign policy plans, instead.

It is surprising that Cain's campaign lasted as long as it did despite the lewd, inappropriate, and shameful accusations that were made of him. After a long string of recent scandals surrounding our nation's politicians — Anthony Weiner and Arnold Schwarzenegger come to mind — you would think that the American public would have had enough. But alas, it took a total of five women accusing Cain of sexual misconduct to finally end his campaign — just shameful.

Some may argue that what someone does in private and behind closed doors is unrelated to their ability to perform well in the political sphere, but this is simply untrue. In politics, especially as president of the United States, decisions will need to be made that are of a sensitive and ethical nature, like in humanitarian crises, foreign aid decisions, and genocide scenarios. In these circumstances, the President's character and moral fiber will be tested, and we will need someone in office with good moral values; this person is surely not Herman Cain.

Not only is it the president's responsibility to be knowledgeable about our nation's challenges and to act in the interest of our citizens, the president must also represent the values of America on the global stage. A president or presidential candidate accused of harassment by numerous women is disgraceful, and should not be tolerated by the American public. It is truly time that Americans demand a higher level of integrity from our candidates. As voters, it is our responsibility to choose meaningful candidates who have the proper credentials, knowledge, and morals to lead our nation. If not, it will be a sad day for this country.

Oh Cain, you will be so sorely missed

Who will we have to laugh at now?

By Haldun Anil
STAFF COLUMNIST

Herman Cain, former frontrunner of the race for the Republican presidential nomination, announced last week that he would be "suspending" his campaign in light of the numerous (read: many) allegations of sexual misconduct during his time as the CEO and President of the National Restaurant Association. Let's take a moment of silence to mourn the death of his bid for the presidency and then reflect on the highlights of his campaign.

An experienced businessman, Cain had something that none of the other Republican candidates brought to the table: a complete lack of political experience and a deep chasm in lieu of what should be an understanding of American foreign policy. With his famous interview concerning the identity of the president of "U-beki-beki-beki-stanstan" and his minute-long dead silence when trying to recall what country Libya is, Cain has demonstrated a profound lack of knowledge when it comes to America's dealings in international affairs.

Indeed, when asked about his knowledge of foreign affairs, Cain brilliantly exposed the mainstream news media's bias that a president should have a firm understanding of foreign policy by saying: "I'm not supposed to know anything about foreign policy. Just thought I'd throw that out." It is clear, that if elected, Cain would have masterfully driven the United States' foreign policy in a direction of complete irrelevance and ridicule. I, for one, am particularly upset to see that prospect disappear.

These however, are by no means the only ingenious undertakings of Cain. His candidacy also shone when it came to domestic policy.

Armed with his masterfully crafted 9-9-9 Plan (owing to the help of a degree-less economic adviser), Cain was ready to reshape the tax landscape for all Americans. In addition, in a valiant effort to secure our border from the "illegals" pouring in from Mexico, Cain offered a multi-billion dollar project to erect a giant fence along the final frontier and electrocute every one of those immigrants.

The loss of Cain as a candidate has also damaged our hopes of seeing Social Security (which he adamantly describes as a "scam") completely destroyed. Now, we will have to live with ourselves, knowing that somewhere, someone is taking advantage of this nation's most important social welfare program by getting retirement benefits.

A man of integrity, Cain has also lead the life of a true leader. With his multiple extra-marital misconduct during his tenure at the National Restaurant Association and his 13-year adulterous relationship with Ginger White, Cain has shown a spirit and level of commitment expected of every presidential candidate worth their mettle. Later denying those allegations, Cain is now happy to be reunited with his wife of 43 years in a monogamous relationship once again.

It's always depressing to see such a capable, competent and vivacious potential leader leave the running for president. Providing us with many moments of soul-searching and of curiosity about the direction we are headed, Cain was an important political figure who will be sorely missed. In his stead, we will witness the many potential rivalries and exciting debates that will unfold in the road to the 2012 presidential elections. Stay tuned for more heart-wrenching promises and world-changing remarks.

CORRECTIONS

A news brief published last Friday incorrectly stated that Analog Devices, Inc. was based in Cambridge. Though it was founded in Cambridge, Analog Devices is now based in Norwood, Massachusetts.

Last Friday's arts review of the film *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* incorrectly listed the movie as "Now Playing." The film will release in the U.S. on Dec. 9.

A front-page photo credit from last Friday's issue spelled a *Tech* photographer's name wrong. It is "Kailiang Chen," not "Kailang Chen."

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Joseph Maurer, Editor in Chief Ethan A. Solomon, Managing Editor Connor Kirschbaum, Executive Editor Aislyn Schalck, and Opinion Editors Nina Sinatra and Ryan Normandin.

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CAMPUS LIFE TALK WORDY TO ME

Deck the balls with jugs of bourbon

These bourbon balls are a rich and intoxicating treat

By Christine Yu
STAFF COLUMNIST

People in Boston always seem to be surprised by my affinity to bourbon. Maybe it's not a girly drink, but I grew up in a town that borders Kentucky, which is all about bourbon. This includes the delightful treat known as a bourbon ball, which people frequently get as stocking stuffers around the holidays. The first time I heard about these was in middle school when my best friend swore she managed to get drunk from eating a box of these. So when I make these, I am very heavy-handed with the bourbon.

I also know from my previous experiences that Rebecca Ruth Bourbon Balls are the most renowned, but they end up costing around \$50 with shipping to Boston. What makes those bourbon balls great, though, is their rich, buttercream-frosting-like filling. Even though the company uses a cheaper Kentucky Bourbon (Evan Williams), these treats are absolutely decadent.

The basic premise of a good bourbon ball is the buttercream filling. I don't believe in the recipes that call for vanilla wafers, which make it easier to shape the filling but detract from their richness. Instead of vanilla wafers, I like to finely chop pecans and mix them with the filling. Even though the pure buttercream ends up being incredibly difficult and messy, it's totally worth it. Here's how I made my bourbon balls.



Filling:

- 1 stick of butter (room temperature)
- 2.5-4 cups of powdered sugar (depending on how sweet you want them)
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2/3 cup of raw pecans
- 1/2 cup of bourbon

Finely chop the pecans; feel free to use a food processor. Soak the pecans in bourbon overnight. Mix the sugar, butter, and vanilla until the mixture reaches a smooth consistency. Using a food mixer will make this process easier as well. Then, add the bourbon-pecan mixture to the buttercream. Leave the filling in the fridge for several hours until it thickens and hardens enough to be moldable. Form into 1-2 inch balls. (If the filling is moist and soft, the balls turn into blobs, which doesn't work.) Once the balls are formed, store them in the freezer, either on wax paper or in plastic bags for at least four hours, preferably overnight.

Chocolate Coating

- 4-8 ounces of Ghirardelli 60-percent cacao baking chocolate (You can use any baking chocolate; I just prefer the taste of darker chocolate.)
- 12-20 pecan halves for garnish

If you don't have a double boiler, melt the chocolate in three-ounce batches in the microwave on 50-percent heat, stirring every minute until smooth. You can also set up your own double boiler by placing a smaller pot over a larger pot filled with water. Set the balls of filling on a fork (without piercing them), and dip each ball individually into the melted chocolate. Garnish with a pecan half. Place on wax paper to harden, and once all the chocolates have been dipped, place them in the fridge or freezer to help them set. It's important for the chocolate to be warm the whole time filling is being dipped in it, or else the chocolates end up lumpy and ugly. My suggestion is to work in small increments and keep the other buttercream fillings frozen before dipping.

This recipe ends up making 12-20 bourbon balls, depending on what diameter you make your chocolates. It took me two hours to make them after I had the chilled buttercream filling because I was a novice to chocolate confectionery. You can also make this recipe with other liquors like rum, but then the pecans won't pair as well.

EVENTS

DEC. 06 – DEC. 12

TUESDAY

(7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) Fresh Songs: First-year songwriters at Next House — Next House TFL

WEDNESDAY

(12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.) Artists Beyond the Desk presents: The Meridian Singers — W15 (MIT Chapel)

(5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) Reinventing the City @ MIT: A Planet of Civic Laboratories: The Future of Cities, Information and Inclusion — E14 - 633

THURSDAY

(6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) Visions & Projections — An Evening Celebrating the Legacy of the Center for Advanced Visual Studies (CAVS) — E15-001 (MIT Cube, Wiesner Building)

FRIDAY

(5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) HSA Speaker Series: "Beware of Greeks bearing debt" presented by Professor Miron — E51-315

(7:00 p.m.) LSC shows Elf (free admission) — 26-100

SATURDAY

(6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) Association of Puerto Rican Students Christmas Dinner — W20-491

SUNDAY

(12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.) Salsa/Rueda Dance Workshop — Student Center Room 407

(4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) Unforgettable: ADT Fall 2011 showcase — W20-La Sala de Puerto Rico

(8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.) MIT Muses Fall Concert — 6-120

MONDAY

(7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.) Black Students' Union Study Break — 50-105

Send your campus events to events@tech.mit.edu.

CROSSproducts

MIT CHRISTIAN A CAPPELLA



PORTAL 3 [FRESHMAN YEAR]

A Cappella CONCERT

There Will Be CAKE.



Pass Swim Test



Drink from firehose



Pass 8.01



Go to XProducts

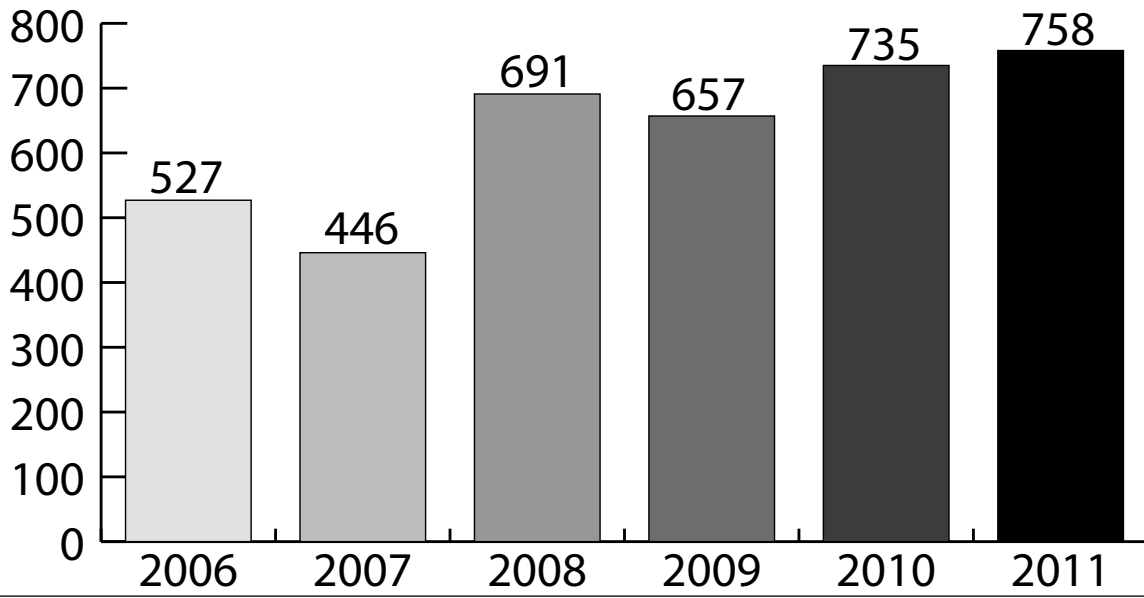
The cake is not a lie.

Sat. December 10

Rm 6-120

5:30 pm

Number of MIT Externship Applicants by year



This year, there were **380** matches.
294 students accepted their matches.
 There were **1807** applications since each applicant can submit **3** applications

INFOGRAPHIC BY SARAH RITTER

2011 set a record for the number of IAP externship applications through the MIT Externship Program — 636 undergraduates and 122 graduates applied. Each student was allowed to apply to up to three internships, for a total of 1807 applications. 380 student-internship matches were made by the Alumni Association, and 294 students accepted their match.

MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players present

The Sorcerer

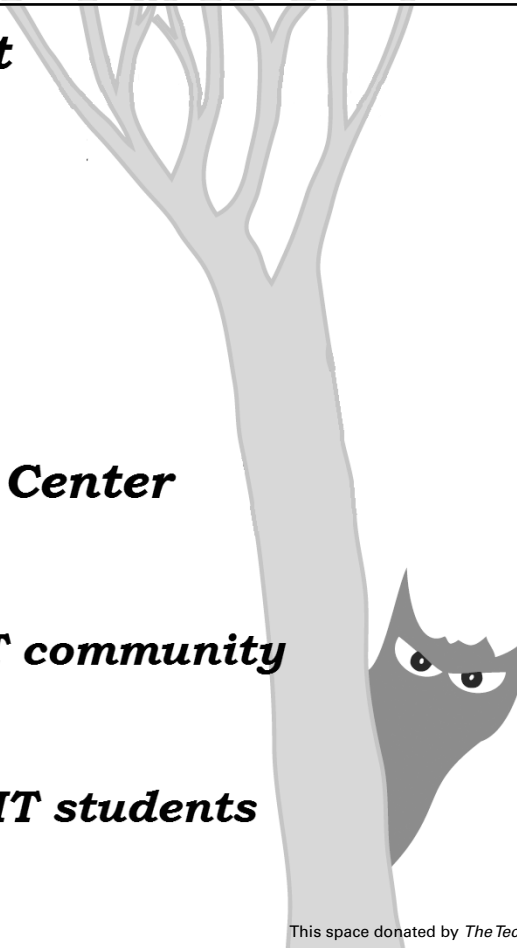
December 8, 9 - 8pm
 December 10 - 2pm

La Sala de Puerto Rico, MIT Student Center

\$5 MIT students
 \$10 other students, children, seniors, MIT community
 \$15 general public

Thursday 12/8 performance is free for MIT students

web.mit.edu/gsp



This space donated by The Tech

Solution to Techdoku I

from page 5

4	6	5	2	3	1
5	1	6	3	4	2
1	3	2	5	6	4
6	2	1	4	5	3
2	4	3	6	1	5
3	5	4	1	2	6

Solution to Techdoku II

from page 7

6	5	4	2	3	1
2	1	6	4	5	3
1	6	5	3	4	2
5	4	3	1	2	6
4	3	2	6	1	5
3	2	1	5	6	4

Solution to Sudoku I

from page 5

4	3	6	2	5	7	9	8	1
5	1	7	8	9	4	2	3	6
9	8	2	1	3	6	7	5	4
2	4	1	5	7	8	6	9	3
6	9	8	3	1	2	5	4	7
7	5	3	4	6	9	1	2	8
8	6	4	7	2	5	3	1	9
3	7	5	9	8	1	4	6	2
1	2	9	6	4	3	8	7	5

Solution to Sudoku II

from page 7

7	4	2	8	3	5	6	9	1
1	6	3	9	4	2	5	7	8
9	8	5	1	6	7	4	2	3
2	5	8	3	7	4	9	1	6
6	9	4	5	8	1	2	3	7
3	1	7	2	9	6	8	5	4
8	3	1	6	5	9	7	4	2
4	2	9	7	1	8	3	6	5
5	7	6	4	2	3	1	8	9

Solution to Crossword

from page 6

B	U	L	B	S	T	S	P	S	S	S	T	S			
A	S	C	I	I	E	L	E	C	E	P	E	E			
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The Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding System (Sloanbid)

Bidding Dates for Spring, 2012 Courses

<https://sloanbid.mit.edu>

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Institute-wide bidding for Sloan (Course 15) subjects*:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Thursday, December 22
 Closes 5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 29

Waitlist Round for closed Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 5
 Closes 5:00 p.m., Thursday, January 12

Section Swap Round for changing sections of pre-enrolled Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 18
 Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 25

Please contact Scott Alessandro, salessan@mit.edu, if you have questions regarding Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding.

Successful bids will appear on your Spring Registration and will be posted on the bidding website as of January 5th -- write down your password to check results!

*For 15.031J, 15.037J, 15.053, 15.058, 15.279, 15.301, 15.501, 15.516, 15.628, 15.668, 15.812, and 15.S42 you can sign up directly through WebSIS starting December 1st. It is not necessary to bid for these courses.

Industry predicts natural gas boom will fuel growth

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy
HEARST NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — A nationwide boom in natural gas production is set to fuel nearly 900,000 jobs and add roughly \$1,000 to annual household budgets by 2015, according to a new industry study released Tuesday.

The boom in shale gas production nationwide — exemplified by the modern-day drilling boomtowns that have sprung up in Pennsylvania, North Texas and western states — is a bright spot in the otherwise sour U.S. economy, said the study's lead author, John Larson, vice president of IHS Global Insight, an energy research firm based in suburban Denver.

"Shale is really proving to be a very big job creator. It really stands in sharp contrast to many sectors of the economy," Larson said. "During a significant economic downturn — the most significant since World War II — that's pretty remarkable."

Larson called the rapid growth in shale gas production "one of the most significant energy developments in recent decades."

Although previous reports have focused on the economic boosts in specific regions where natural gas production has surged, the IHS analysis commissioned by America's Natural Gas Alliance is the broadest yet to document the nationwide economic effects of the shale gas sweeping the United States. The alliance is an industry group that promotes increased use of gas.

Roughly one-third of the natural gas produced in the U.S. is now extracted from dense shale rock, such as the Marcellus formation in the Northeast and the Barnett in North Texas. But government and independent energy analysts widely anticipate that volume will grow as shale production costs drop below those for conventional gas wells.

IHS predicts that shale gas will make up 60 percent of domestic production by 2035, with much of it extracted using horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing techniques that involve blasting water, sand and chemicals deep underground to break up rock and release the fossil fuels trapped inside it.

Unlike some other sectors, including the financial and construction industries, the sheer capital intensity of shale gas production — and its relatively large domestic supply chain — means that dollars spent on extracting the fossil fuel are magnified within the U.S., Larson said.

"This is an industry that has a very broad supply base," Larson said. "It's also an overwhelmingly domestic supply chain. This is something where the U.S. is a leader, so that means that dollars spent here stay here and overwhelmingly support domestic jobs."

According to the IHS report, capital expenditures tied to shale gas production amounted to \$33 billion in 2010 and will total \$1.9 trillion over the next 25 years.

The firm also concluded that shale gas production supported 600,000 jobs in 2010, including oilfield workers directly employed by the industry, as well as indirect pipefitting, steel manufacturing and other jobs tied to the supply chain.

IHS's tally included jobs tied both directly and indirectly to the boom.

Some lawmakers have been critical of the "multipliers" used to predict the number of add-on

jobs that are tied to workers directly employed by the oil and gas industry. But Larson defended IHS' accounting techniques as conservative.

The assumptions underpinning the study, for instance, discount any potential new shale discoveries that haven't yet been made. IHS also assumed that there would be no new production after 2010 in New York state, where policymakers are considering a broad natural gas drilling ban because of environmental concerns.

Larson also noted that the analysis also doesn't include the potential economic benefits of chemical companies shifting production back to the United States to take advantage of inexpensive and abundant natural gas used as a building block for products as varied as fertilizer and fabric.

Dow Chemical is one of several U.S. firms that have announced or signaled they will expand domestic production capacity because of the natural gas surge.

Natural gas backers such as ANGA have widely touted a 100-year supply of the fossil fuel just within U.S. borders and urged power plants and chemical facilities to bet big on the fossil fuel's new abundance, after decades of boom-and-bust production cycles.

But environmental concerns about the techniques used to extract natural gas are one possible check on its growth. Conservationists warn about the high water demands of hydraulic fracturing and have raised concerns about the disposal and treatment of wastewater used at drilling sites.

There also are risks that methane could escape from wells and contaminate groundwater supplies.

Fears about those problems are feeding the possible drilling ban in New York state and also have spread to regions that have long histories with the oil and gas industry.



BRUNO B. F. FAVIERO—THE TECH

Nathan M. Robert '13 hugs fellow Logarithms member and musical director Edward T. "Eddie" Kim onstage during their winter concert last Friday. This was Kim's last performance of the year before he takes time off from MIT to serve in the South Korean military.

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In Ireland, austerity is praised by Angela Merkel

After belt-tightening, a turnaround is finally on the horizon as modest growth returns

By Liz Alderman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

DUBLIN — As European leaders scramble to overcome the Continent's debt crisis, many are pointing to Ireland as a model for how to get out of the troubles.

Having embraced severe belt-tightening to mend its tattered finances, Ireland is showing glimmers of a turnaround. A year after it received a 67.5 billion euro bailout, or about \$90 billion at current exchange rates, modest growth has returned and the budget deficit is shrinking.

But the effects of austerity have pummeled Ireland's fragile economy, leaving scars that are likely to take years to heal. Nearly 40,000 Irish have fled the country this year alone in search of a brighter future elsewhere; the trend is expected to continue.

"This is still an insolvent economy," said Constantin Gurdgiev, an economist and lecturer at Trinity College in Dublin. "Just because we're playing a good-boy role and not making noises like the Greeks doesn't mean Ireland is healthy."

The German chancellor, Angela Merkel, recently praised the Irish

prime minister, Enda Kenny, for setting an "outstanding example," while the French president, Nicolas Sarkozy, declared that Ireland was already "almost out of the crisis."

Underneath the surface, however, the grinding reality of Irish life belies those glowing commendations.

Salaries of nurses, professors and other public-sector workers have been cut around 20 percent. A range of taxes, including on housing and water, have increased. Investment in public works is virtually moribund.

On Monday and Tuesday, Kenny's government is announcing an additional 3.8 billion euros in tax increases and spending cuts for 2012 that will hit health care, social protections and child benefits.

Retail sales fell 3.8 percent in October from a year earlier as spending was down even on things like school textbooks, shoes and other basic goods.

At a Spar convenience store in the center of Dublin, Samantha O'Donnell, a mother of two, filled her shopping basket with some necessities, then put a few back on the shelf.

"A lot of people are just trying to get by week to week," said

O'Donnell, who said her salary as a nursing assistant had been cut.

To Sean Kay, a professor of politics at Ohio Wesleyan University and the author of a recent book examining Ireland's crisis, O'Donnell's experience is typical. "The Irish are being praised for doing what they were asked to do, which is important for bringing investors back to the country," he said. "But for the Irish people, it's not paying off."

There are signs of improvement. Compared with the previous year, exports are up 5.4 percent for the first nine months of 2011, fueled by gains from Pfizer, Intel, SAP and other multinational companies that were drawn to Ireland in the 1990s and 2000s by its low taxes, well-educated English-speaking workforce and access to the European market. New information technology companies like LinkedIn and Facebook have recently arrived.

Prospects for local technology companies are improving, too. Brian Farrell founded Tethras with a partner three years ago to develop mobile applications for smartphones. He now has 16 employees and hopes to double his workforce in the next 18 months.

"Every time you turn the radio on, companies in IT are hiring," Farrell said, referring to information technology.

Gross domestic product grew 1.2 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, compared with a decline of 0.4 percent for all of 2010 and seven percent in 2009.

The interest rates that Ireland would pay its international creditors if it were not on a financial lifeline have also fallen, to 8.7 percent today from 14 percent in August, in part because investors hope European policymakers will resolve the broader debt crisis.

But that is still above the level that led Ireland to seek a bailout and too high to allow for sustainable finances.

The budget deficit has fallen to around 10 percent of gross domestic product this year from a staggering 32 percent in 2010. But even under the best circumstances, it will not reach the Europe-wide target of three percent until 2015.

Moreover, the recovery looks to be short-lived, probably putting that goal out of reach. The Economic and Social Research Institute, based in Dublin, recently cut its 2012 growth forecasts for Ireland

in half, to less than one percent. It cited an expected recession in the wider eurozone, in part because the austerity being pressed on much of Europe by Germany and the European Central Bank is seen as worsening the prospects for recovery rather than improving them.

"The present situation contains elements reminiscent of policy during the Great Depression, when a mounting crisis was confronted by an orthodoxy that resulted in great poverty that could have been avoided," the institute wrote in a report.

Pain is inevitable in any nation overwhelmed by its debts, which in Ireland continue to climb rather than fall as a percentage of gross domestic product. But the Irish example shows the dangers of taking from ordinary people to pay off creditors rather than sharing the burden more broadly.

For example, welfare payments have steadily been reduced even as the unemployment rate has ticked up to 14.5 percent, and is forecast to remain high at least through next year.

The Irish don't often have protests, but now more are being organized, inspired by the Occupy movement in the United States.

On a recent frosty night in Dublin, David Johnson, 38, an IT consultant, stepped outside a makeshift camp set up by the Occupy Dame Street movement in front of the Irish Central Bank.

"This is all new to Ireland," he said, pointing to tarpaulins and protest signs that urged the government to boot out the International Monetary Fund and require bondholders to share Irish banks' losses that have largely been assumed by taxpayers. "The feeling is that the people who can least afford it are the ones shouldering the burden of this crisis."

Joblessness would be much higher, economists say, if not for the rising tide of Irish people leaving for Australia, Britain and Canada as opportunities at home stagnate. Thousands of students and construction workers left this country of 4.5 million people after the economy slid into recession in 2008, most of them expecting to be away temporarily.

But now, accountants, engineers, dentists and other high-skilled professionals are moving with their families. And many are not looking back, said Edwina Shanahan, a senior manager at Visa First, a company that helps set Irish citizens and others up with visas abroad.

Deirdre Cronin, 29, an accountant in Cork, plans to move in the new year with her husband and two young children to Australia, which has become a mecca for tens of thousands of Irish seeking a brighter future.

"We feel we would never be able to give our children an opportunity" in Ireland, she said. "We're going to work hard out there, and earn a decent living."

The exodus of workers from declining areas to growing ones is one way economies rebalance. But it could take years to do so. In the meantime, many Irish acknowledge that they fear that the hard gains Ireland has eked out could be swept away if Europe's leaders fail in their latest effort to prevent the crisis from fracturing the monetary union.

"The eurozone is entering a very serious slump, and it is not certain the euro will survive in its current form," said Simon Johnson, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Management and a former chief economist at the IMF. "Why Ireland would want to spend its time being a model student in the context of the broader European mishandling of the situation, I don't know."



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By *The Tech Sports staff*

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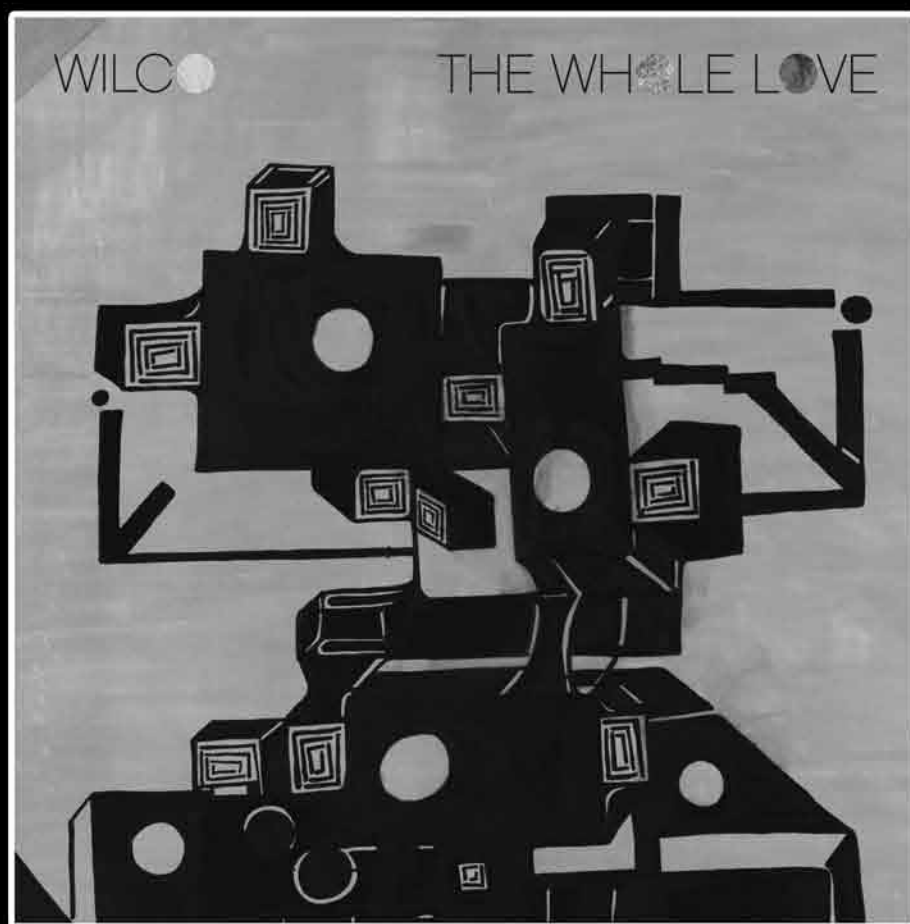
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Khan Academy founder will address 2012 class

Khan is youngest speaker in at least 30 yrs., first non-Corporation speaker since 2008

Sal Khan, from Page 1

million.

Bill Gates, in fact, says he uses the 10-15 minute Khan Academy lectures to teach his own kids.

But the vast Khan Academy had humble beginnings. While still working as a hedge fund analyst, Khan began tutoring his seventh-grade cousin in math, using Yahoo Messenger's Doodle feature to illustrate concepts as he spoke to her over the phone. Later, Khan recorded those tutorials and uploaded them to YouTube so that his other cousins and their friends could partake. More and more videos went up, until in 2009, Khan left his job to run the Academy full-time. Khan's freshman-year roommate, Shantanu Sinha '98, left McKinsey & Company in 2010 to serve as Khan Academy's President.

"The Khan Academy is an organization on a mission," says the website. "We're a not-for-profit with the goal of changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education to anyone anywhere."

Khan says that it was possible for the Academy to have ended up commercialized, but he chose to keep it free.

"I think the way it had evolved, it kind of dawned on me that a lot of the pleasure I was getting out

of Khan Academy, and the impact Khan Academy was having, was by virtue of it being unfettered and uncommercial," Khan told *The Tech* yesterday evening. "It's almost a naive point of view, [but] people were saying how this was changing their lives."

"The model is that the incremental cost is so much lower than the incremental value," he added. "The incremental value is almost priceless."

Khan Academy is now run by a 20-member team and has eclipsed MIT's OpenCourseWare (OCW) in terms of videos viewed. Khan Academy's YouTube channel has over 100 million total upload views, compared to MIT's 32 million.

'It's almost a naive point of view, [but] people were saying how this was changing their lives.'

Khan says that part of the reason for keeping Khan Academy free was a desire to make it an "institution," like universities. Though people reached out to him about starting it as a business, Khan thought, "a successful institution, that's even more exciting — that's even more epic."

MIT's OCW, started in 2002,

predates Khan Academy by several years and also offers instructional videos and course materials. Unlike Khan Academy, however, OCW's videos are recordings of lectures that were not necessarily designed for online education.

Nonetheless, "The spirit of what MIT did back then in no small way shaped my thinking in 2007," said Khan. "I'm probably one of the biggest viewers of MIT OpenCourseWare."

Khan said that his videos and those on OCW have fundamentally different approaches, which may explain Khan Academy's popularity. OCW lectures by MIT professors can be over an hour long and hit on many different topics. Khan's videos are short — 10 to 15 minutes — and focus on very particular concepts.

"I think having that 10 minute video of someone walking through [a concept] conversationally, and they know you're viewing this on the internet, I think those things could be pretty powerful," said Khan.

On top of working towards three degrees, Khan was senior class president as an undergraduate at MIT. He was on the Commencement Committee — which advises the President on picks for keynote speakers — the year that U.S. President William J. Clinton and AIDS researcher David Ho

spoke.

"MIT is one of those places that people either love it or hate it. I was firmly in the former," said Khan.

'I think MIT is the closest thing to Hogwarts on this planet.'

—Salman A. Khan '98

"I think MIT is the closest thing to Hogwarts on this planet," said Khan, referencing the famous wizarding school of the *Harry Potter* series. "You're taking all of these kids from around the country and the world ... they're all a little bit off-the-charts in one way or another. And you're bringing them all together and they're having this tremendous shared experience. It's a magical shared experience."

"I had a sense of wonder," Khan continued. "To be surrounded by people who are acting on that wonder is a pretty heavy experience."

Khan visited MIT to give a talk — "Rethinking Learning" — to a packed 32-123 on Nov. 17. MIT told Khan about their interest in him as a commencement speaker the day before he left for Cambridge, he says.

This year's Commencement Committee is comprised of stu-

dent, faculty, and administration representatives. It is chaired by Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD '80. Executive Officer for Commencement Gayle M. Gallagher also sits on the committee, in addition to UA President Allan E. Miramonti '13, UA Vice President TyShaun Wynter '13, Class of 2012 President Nathaniel S. Fox '12, and Class of 2012 Vice President Hannah E. Sparkman '12. The Graduate Student Council President and Vice President, Alex J. Evans G and Ellan F. Spero G, are also *ex officio* members, according to Grimson.

In early September, Fox distributed a survey to the senior class soliciting ideas for the commencement speaker. Ultimately, the Commencement Committee makes recommendations to President Susan J. Hockfield, who has the final say. Grimson said that the shortlist sent to the president this year had about 10-15 suggestions and that the "bulk" of it came from input from students.

Khan is also the first Commencement speaker to not be a member of the MIT Corporation since 2008, when Nobel Peace laureate Muhammad Yunus spoke. Last year, Xerox CEO Ursula M. Burns spoke, and before her, Raymond S. Stata '57.

Addressing MIT's 146th class is "a bit of a surreal honor for me," said Khan.

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```

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Men's basketball beats Newbury and Lesley

With additional wins, MIT establishes 8-0 record — best among all Div. III schools

By Shri Ganeshram
SPORTS STAFF

The nationally ninth-ranked MIT's Men's Basketball recorded two more wins, on Thursday and Saturday, to establish an impressive 8-0 record, the best among all Division III schools.

On Thursday, MIT managed a dominant 93-50 win against Newbury College (3-3), led by Noel Hollingsworth '12 who had a double-double with 33 points and 14 rebounds along with two blocks. By the 11th minute of the game, MIT had a 23-7 lead, an outcome of the Engineer's offense taking advantage of weak defense in the paint by

Newbury. However, Newbury was able to recover by the end of the first half, cutting the lead to 34-28, as buckets refused to fall for the Engineers.

The Engineers dominated the second half, which has been characteristic of the team all season, by outscoring Newbury 31-5 during the middle 10 minutes of the half. The majority of the scoring was made deep inside the paint or beyond the arc, exemplifying the versatility of the Engineer's offense. MIT's dominance of the boards proved to be a big part of their game, as in the past, with the team's 48 rebounds (versus Newbury's 22) and converting for 25 second-chance points.

Like Hollingsworth, William Tashman '13 managed a double-

double with 10 rebounds and 12 points, along with outstanding defense with three steals and one block; James D. Karraker '12 made five 3-pointers, for a total of 15 points. Mitchell H. Kates '13, the team's playmaker, had eight assists and eight points. Off the bench, freshman Paul E. Dawson, saw 14 minutes of play during which he grabbed three rebounds, delivered two assists, snatched a steal, and made six of seven free throws. With these stats, he shows promise as a future leader on the floor for the team.

In the Saturday game against Lesley University, Kates not only delivered six assists, but also six buckets. He scored a season-high 28 points, going 10-for-10 from

the field and 6-for-6 from the line. To top off his perfect game, Kates' made four steals. Kates wasn't the only player who went perfect from the line, as the entire team converted a 100 percent free-throw percentage, going 18-for-18. William E. Bender '12 recorded a double-double with 12 rebounds and 10 points.

MIT's consistency continues to lead the team to victory.

The game began close but fell apart quickly for Lesley. With 12:31 left in the first half, the teams were tied at 18. The team took off from that point on,

though, ending the half on a 26-11 run for a 44-29 lead at the end of the half. The Engineers ended up defeating Lesley (2-3) 92-52 win. Hollingsworth ended the game with 17 points and three blocks; Karraker managed 14 points, 12 of which came from beyond the 3-point line. Tashman recorded 15 of the Engineers' 50 rebounds in the game, and also delivered five assists.

MIT's consistency continues to lead the team to victory. The team's ability to play hard when it matters helps them keep up with and eventually dominate their opposition. MIT will have a big test at home on Thursday against Salem State (6-2). Before then, MIT will be playing at UMass Boston (2-4) on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

B-ball wins over WPI

Women's team improves record to 4-3 in hard-fought 61-57 game against WPI

By Katie Bodner
SPORTS STAFF

In a close game on Saturday afternoon, the MIT Women's Basketball team defeated WPI 61-57 in a battle that was hard-fought until the end. MIT improved its record to 4-3 overall and 1-1 in NEWMAC. Impressive offense and a strong defensive front made up the difference in this game for the Engineers.

The first half's fast-paced back-and-forth action prompted multiple lead changes and ties and showed off MIT's proficient offense. Rachel A. Hunt '14 was on fire with 6 of 8 shooting throughout the game and a notable 3-point play in the first half that created the momentum for MIT's 10-2 run. Sharon S. Hao '14 also brought energy to the play with a 3-pointer that took MIT to 32-27 at the close of the first half.

The beginning of the second half mirrored the first in its fast-paced back-and-forth action until Tamara R. Pena '14 made a crucial 3-pointer that pushed MIT ahead to 42-37. After a 13-4 run by WPI, MIT went on a 9-0 run with only two minutes left. Once

again, quick back-and-forth play brought the game to 57-57 following a 3-pointer by WPI's Lauren Hannmann. Mari R. Kordell '15 made a crucial jump shot with a mere 10 seconds left to bring MIT to 59, and as Pena grabbed the rebound from WPI's next possession, she was instantly fouled and made both her free throws to close the game at 61-57.

A crucial component to MIT's defense was the number of blocks they made — an impressive nine, of which seven were from Hunt, versus WPI's three. MIT also made 10 steals as opposed to WPI's eight, and overall brought an extremely high energy level to the game. The team's offense was just as impressive as its defense. The team had a 44.4-percent field goal percentage versus WPI's 32.8 percent. MIT also scored 18 second-chance points versus WPI's eight, even though WPI had 19 offensive rebounds whereas MIT only had 11.

Both teams had good bench participation, with 14 points coming from MIT's bench, six of which came from Anna L. Merrifield '13, who also led the team with seven rebounds.

MIT will next play the U.S. Coast Guard Academy on Tuesday, Dec. 6.



JARED L. WONG—THE TECH

Whitney S. Loo '15 competes in the final heat of the Women's 200 Butterfly on Saturday. MIT Swimming and Diving hosted their Winter Invitational this weekend.

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