Mc McCormick asks for more female floors

Students respond to dining changes

By Margaret Cunniff STAFF REPORTER

Mc McCormick. However, Comis said that the administration was not receptive to such a plan.

“We have been saying repeatedly that by moving McCormick residents to other dorms, we will be disrupting their culture,” said Comis.

Mc Cormick resident said “it felt like they were getting kicked out of their home,” said Comis. Though similar frustrations have been voiced by members of other dining dorms who are dissatisfied with the dining plan, the situation in McCormick is complicated by the residence's status as the only single-sex community.

At this point, there are some

Female housing, Page 11

Losing money, losing structure

Eight cut varsity sports address changes and look forward

By Evan Moore STAFF REPORTER

In April 2009, faced with over $400,000 in budget cuts, MIT's Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation (DAPER) cut eight of its six teams — Women's and Men's Gymnastics, Women's and Men's Rowing, Golf, Alpine Skiing, Wrestling, and Pistol. The move saved DAPER nearly half a million dollars in expenses annually, but caused outcry across campus and lost MIT its status as one of only two schools in the nation with 41 varsity sports — the other being Harvard.

Within the course of a day, three teams' established varsity programs were cut, and a new moratorium was lifted on club sports, which had been moribund for two years. Although the new clubs had to take matters of money and management into their own hands — adding even more work to the already busy schedule of the athletic administration.

Funding the team

Along with losing their varsity status, the teams lost DAPER funding.

The Club Sports Council (CSC) offers some financial support to the teams, and DAPER increased funding, but also policies to the CSC to accommodate the seven new teams. However, the money was not enough money to cover all expenditures, and the new club sports had to adjust to budget shortfalls.

According to Sport Pistol Club team captain Andrew K. Sugaya '11, the team had just enough money to cover the cost of the team's operating costs, so it operates for the future. Along with many other new teams, pistol now charges club dues: $150 last season, and $190 this season.

Other sports derive most of their funding from generous alumni donations, but sometimes making up a minimal part of their budgets.

E. Brandt '11, the Men's Hockey Club team captain, said that the team is completely funded by alumni donations.

“Right now, we’re raising enough money to run the team on a per-season basis,” he said, adding that the long-term goal would be to raise enough money to endow the club.

Anna Tang finished with court, now a free woman

Tang not ordered to be institutionalized, but is expected to continue private therapy

By John A. Hawkinson STAFF REPORTER

Anna L. Tang, the troubled former Wellesley student, is finally free to resume her life and has been discharged from court custody. Under house arrest since early 2006, Tang will not be committed to a mental institution, and there are no longer any court-ordered restrictions upon her. Tang had been found not guilty by reason of insanity on December 10, 2010, but the Commonwealth petitioned to have her committed to a locked mental healthcare facility. That petition was dismissed yesterday afternoon by Judge Bruce R. Henry in Middlesex Superior Court.

Tang came to the attention of most MIT students in October 2007 when she stabbed her boyfriend, Wolfe B. Styke G, then a freshman, in his Next House dormitory room. Styke sustained eight wounds that were nearly fatal. Tang had seen Styke studying with another woman earlier that evening, and approached two different security guards in an attempt to gain access to Styke's room.

Anna Tang, Page 13

Post comments about our articles

The Tech is proud to introduce a commenting system on its website, tech.mit.edu. Readers may post comments on any article or photographs that is less than 30 days old. Through comments, we hope to inspire civil and thoughtful debate about important issues facing the MIT community and beyond.

—David M. Templeton

Boston Properties renovates courtyard outside T-stop

Adjacent to the MIT Coop, the courtyard by the Kendall Marriott is being renovated this winter by the owner of 9 Cambridge Center, Boston Properties. The existing plaza will be demolished, new drainage and waterproofing will be added, and it will be re-paved and landscaped. The courtyard is seen from above, looking towards Building E38 (MIT Press).

Scott Brown tours MIT

promotes science bill

Senator hopes to increase STEM funding, support research at undergraduate level

By Joanna Kao STAFF REPORTER

Senator Scott Brown (R-Mass.) toured the Koch Institute and Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies (IAN) last Friday and thanked MIT for supporting his Innovate America Act proposal.

Brown and Senator Amy Klobuchar’s (D-Minn.) Innovate America Act proposes to reduce student loan interest on small business loans and focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs. The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance on Jan. 31.

According to Brown's website, the act will “increase the competitiveness of small-and-medium-sized businesses: by focusing on turning research and new technologies created at universities into products [and] promoting and rewarding schools that focus on science, technology, engineering and math.”

Scott Brown, Page 11

Senator Scott Brown (R-Mass.) observes a demonstration by Materials Science and Engineering Professor Angela M. Belcher during a tour of the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies at MIT.
big banks that they were taking on too much of the financial burden to save failing banks, the law directed the FDIC to re-evaluate the fees according to the value of assets held by each bank, instead of the level of deposits.


U.S. plan to replace principals runs into a snag

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The $4 billion program begun by the Obama administration in 2009 to radically transform the country's worst schools included, as its centerpiece, a plan to install new principals to overhaul most of the failing schools.

That policy decision, though, ran into a difficult reality: There simply were not enough qualified principals-in-waiting to take over thousands of schools, the Department of Education acknowledged, which meant that replacing principals could throw their schools into even more turmoil.

As a result, the Department of Education softened the hit-the-road plans for principals of underperforming schools last month. The department now is issuing guidelines to schools that principals hired as part of local improvement efforts within the past two years, it has been interpreted that grandfathers clause to mean three years.

—Sam Dillon, The New York Times

By Anthony Shadid

CAIRO — As Egypt's revolt entered its third week, the government of President Hosni Mubarak sought to soothe its profiting protesters by declaring that rival political parties would be allowed to take part in an election to be held by the day in a climactic struggle over what kind of change Egypt will undergo and whether Egyptian officials are sincere in delivering it.

After demonstrating an ability to bring hundreds of thousands to downtown Cairo protest organizers have grown in confidence and are demanding that the momentum of the protests be preserved for the full day in Tahrir Square, a landmark of the uprising's vitality.

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—David Kirkpatrick, Kareem Fahim

Situation for Noon Eastern time, Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Extended Forecast


Tonight: Mostly clear and windy. Low 12°F (-11°C). West wind at 25 mph, gusts to 40 mph.


By John Cron

KAMPALA, Uganda — With the announcement of final voting results, President Omar Hassan al- Bashir of Sudan said Monday that his government would accept the choice of the long-endured republic of southern Sudan to separate from the north, setting the stage for the creation of the world's newest country this summer.

According to the final count, announced in Sudan's capital, Khartoum, 98.1 percent of the more than 3.8 million registered voters in southern Sudan chose to separate from the north. In many parts of the country the vote was more than 99 percent.

Sudan has endured two long and brutal civil wars between the Arab north and the mostly animist and Christian south, in a period from the early years of independence from Britain to 2005, when a peace agreement was signed, setting the stage for the referendum.

Al Bashir and the southern republic's president, Salva Kiir, were in attendance for the announcement as votes were spread through the southern capital, Juba.

"Today we received these results and we accept and welcome these results because they represent the will of the southern people," al-Bashir said in a statement on state television, according to Reuters.

He also said that along with southern independence would come an Islamist renaissance in his country.

In Washington, the White House released a statement by President Barack Obama congratulating the people of southern Sudan and announcing "the intention of the United States to formally recognize southern Sudan as a sovereign, independent state in July 2011." Obama also offered to the government of Sudan the prospect of improved ties with the United States, saying, "For those who meet all of their obligations, there is a path to greater prosperity and normal relations with the United States, including examining Sudan's designation as a state sponsor of terrorism."

With the referendum vote now official, actual independence is expected to be declared July 9, when the peace agreement that set the stage for the vote expires.

Across the vast, African, oil-producing south, voters overwhelmingly chose to secede from the Arab north, which through conflict and marginalization helped keep the south one of the world's poorest and least-developed regions.

In the frontier Diir el-Balah, nearly 500,000 people voted — but only 90 voted for unity with the north.

"This is what people have been expecting, and longed for, and have achieved it," said Abu Garou Alue, a spokesman for the southern referendums bureau. "People will party. There will be disco. There will be dances. People are warming up for the celebration now."

Thousands of Sudanese from around the world, particularly the United States, who fled during the years of war, have returned home to rebuild the south, and Juba is considered one of the fastest growing cities in the nation.

By John Cron

Sudan leader to accept secession of southern region

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Iran opposition requests rally supporting uprisings in region

By William Yong

TEHRAN, Iran — With democracy tremors rocking the Arab world, Iran’s opposition has challenged its Prime Minister, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and many other conservative lawmakers, many of whom criticized the practice of quietly inserting earmarks into spending bills, are coming face to face with local governments and interest groups who were counting on federal dollars to help shore up their own collapsing budgets.

The dispute involves a century-old French colonial map, a ruling by the International Court of Justice and a decision in 2008 by UNESCO, the cultural arm of the United Nations, to list the temple, Preah Vihear, as a Cambodian World Heritage site.

It has become tangled within the complex knot of Thai politics as well as simmering enmity between the two neighbors that has erupted into violence near the temple several times since the World Heritage listing.

The current fighting is the most sustained engagement between the two nations. As many as five civilians and soldiers have been killed on both sides, according to Thai and Cambodian news reports.

Cambodia urged the United Nations to send peacekeepers to the border area one day after asking the Security Council to convene an urgent meeting to “stop Thailand’s aggression.”

“We will go to the Security Council whether you like it or not,” Cambodia’s prime minister, Hun Sen, said in a speech Monday, addressing his counterparts in Thailand.

After earmarks ban, many local projects are on hold

WASHINGTON — Gone for now are the likes of the taxpayer-financed teapot museum, or studies on the mating habits of crabs.

But also shelved are a project to help consolidate information about arrests in Brazos County, Texas, and staffing for two new shelters for abused women and children in Salt Lake City. A rural Wisconsin county will not be able to upgrade its communication system, and a road in Kentucky will not be widened next year.

Across the country, local governments, nonprofit groups and scores of farmers, in name but a few, are waking up to the fact that when Congress stamped out earmarks last week, it was talking about their projects, too.

Tensions are particularly acute in districts where new conservative lawmakers, many of whom criticized the practice of quietly inserting earmarks into spending bills, are coming face to face with local governments and interest groups who were counting on federal dollars to help shore up their own collapsing budgets.

The issue is hardly limited to Republican districts. Democrats, who have been the biggest beneficiaries of earmarks, have also been left in the dust.

Speaker John Boehner, a conservative lawmaker from Ohio, and dozens of his counterparts in Thailand.

“I probably have reviewed over 3 to 4 thousand shovels since 1942,” Boehner said in a speech Monday, addressing his counterparts in Thailand.

“I will probably have reviewed over 3 to 4 thousand shovels since 1942. I will give this production 5 stars. That’s the top.”

— Richard Crammer, Critic for Talkin’ Broadway
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preserve reasonable opportunity to explore dorms

I am surprised by the MIT administration’s proposal to rearrange the Orientation schedule such that other events and activities will cease upon the REX period. Such a move has the potential to make it much more difficult for freshmen to make an informed choice about which dorm to live in, which in turn has the potential to drastically degrade their “MIT experience”.

I recognize that the current policy of housing all freshmen on campus has resulted in undergraduate dorms that are bustling at all times, and has left the FSEILs under-populated. Solving that problem is outside the scope of this short note. What I would like to address here is the possibility that the MIT administration’s proposal to effectively “shorten” REX represents a mindset change to “let’s just get them assigned quickly to whatever undergraduate dormitory they’ll fit in.”

Of course, from a pure numbers point of view, getting freshmen assigned to dorm rooms is exactly what the MIT administration must do. By policy, they have to house the entire incoming freshman class in the dorms. So the administration’s proposed position could well be a symptom that they have lost sight of how important finding the right living group is to the MIT experience.

Nevertheless, finding the right place to live – a place that’s sheltered from the infamous MIT “firehouse” – is a process that should be given the time it deserves. Each living group at MIT has a unique character, and we need to give the dorms a reasonable opportunity during REX to describe what makes them unique, and to recruit freshmen that have a good chance of “finding a home there.” This makes sense, has worked well for decades, and benefits both the dorm residents and the incoming freshmen. The administration’s proposal to effectively “shorten” REX will allow neither the freshmen nor the dorms the time to go through this process properly.

If the administration just plans to shove freshmen into rooms without review for the unique character (and opportunities (outside of a “shortened” REX) that each dorm (does Brealey still have an anti-rush policy) will represent a mindset change to “let’s just get them assigned quickly to whatever undergraduate dormitory they’ll fit in.”

If you ask any current or former MIT student, you will hear that “rush” or “REX” was all about finding the right people to live with, not about “academic readiness.” The success or failure of finding the right place to live has more impact on the “MIT experience” than anything else. If the MIT administration starts treating the dorms as temporary houses and the students themselves – will be poster for it.

In last week’s article, you quote Dean Norman as citing “academic readiness” as a core goal of Orientation. But anyone accepted to MIT is academically ready. If you ask any current or former MIT student, you will hear that “rush” or “REX” was all about finding the right people to live with, not about “academic readiness.” The success or failure of finding the right place to live has more impact on the “MIT experience” than anything else.

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It's a MAD World

Public misunderstanding of Mutually Assured Destruction has bred complacency toward the risks posed by nuclear weapons

By Keith Yost

Imagine two men, John and Nick, standing at the edge of a precipice. They are chained together at the ankle by a heavy chain such that if one falls over the edge (or throws himself off the edge), the other will fall with him, and both will die. John is trying to coerce Nick into giving him something — for convenience, let’s call it a MacGuffin. John has the strength to throw Nick off the cliff, but does not have the strength to simply seize the MacGuffin from Nick — he can only have it if it is willingly given away. Let us also imagine that John values the MacGuffin more than Nick does.

Every pair of nuclear states and set of conflicting interests produces a steady stream of risks to civilization.

The question is this: By threatening to throw himself off the cliff, can John convince Nick to surrender his MacGuffin? In the layman understanding of mutually assured destruction (MAD), the answer is no. Nick knows that John will not throw himself off the cliff — if John did so, he would die, and in any case would not receive the MacGuffin. John can threaten and cajole to his heart’s content — no matter how badly John wants the MacGuffin, even if the values it more than his life itself, Nick knows that it is never in John’s interest to take the jump.

This is the pop logic of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) — that no matter what the differences between nations, no matter what their clash of interests, so long as no state values harming another as an end in and of itself, none will ever use their nuclear weapons against a fellow nuclear state.

Unfortunately, this logic is deeply flawed. While it is true that “winning” a nuclear war is nearly as absurd as the idea of John “winning” the fall to the rocks below, it still remains that John can coerce Nick successfully. John may never have the incentive to leap into the abyss, but he is willing to accept a higher risk of death than Nick is in order to possess the MacGuffin.

To coerce Nick, John begins dancing near the brink. He dances erratically, and slowly increases the wildness of his motions. As he increases his energy, the probability of a mistake, of a sudden miscalculation that will cause him to accidentally slip and fall off the edge, rises.

Eventually, Nick capitulates. John may be able to tolerate the continued risk of mutual destruction if it obtains him his desire, but to Nick, it is not worth the MacGuffin.

MAD, as a statement of the world we live in, is accurate. It is impossible to imagine the United States executing a nuclear strike against Russia and not suffering intolerable destruction in return. But it does not follow that rational actors will never use nuclear weapons against each other. History is full of American and Russian leaders doing dance-offs while their terrified societies look on. Whether it is Dwight and Joe tango-ing over Berlin, or John and Nick doing a furious jig in Cuba, by putting themselves in going over Berlin, or John and Nick doing a dance-off while their terrified societies look on. Whether it is Dwight and Joe tango-ing over Berlin, or John and Nick doing a furious jig in Cuba, by putting themselves in situations that were not wholly under their control, nuclear states have enhanced their risks to civilization.

As these human errors in action and judgment stochastically crop up, they will sometimes cross a threshold and require a demonstration to resolve. Occasionally, these demonstrations of risk-taking will produce a nuclear war. Every pair of nuclear states, every set of conflicting interests over which nuclear states vie, produces a steady stream of risks to human civilization.

In this context, nuclear weapons are quite valuable to the society that owns them. They grant admission to a high-stakes coercion game. Nuclear weapons even go a long way in justifying the presence of many pieces of modern conventional military equipment. It is not enough to have nuclear weapons; a society needs to carefully craft its risk of firings toward other states, and conventional arms are largely how such dances are performed. Are the risks of nuclear war so intolerable that we would be better off in a nuclear free world than the one we have right now? I’m not convinced either way, but we should not regard the acquisition of nuclear weapons by countries like Iran or North Korea with the blasé attitude that many Americans take. It is not that these states are somehow irrational or incapable of securing their weapons — the real reason why the acquisition of nuclear weapons by these states is so alarming is that these states have massive conflicts of interest with other states. The risk of misperception and confrontation is too great. Will Ayatollah Khamenei knowingly initiate a nuclear war against Israel? Probably not. Are Israel and Iran likely to have confrontations with each other in which a false alarm or mistake could produce an exchange of arms? Absolutely.

We live in a MAD world. But a MAD world is not a safe world. The nuclear risks that we face have been largely ignored.

We live in a MAD world. But a MAD world is not the same as a safe world. The nuclear risks that we as a society face, and as altruists should endeavor to reduce, have been largely ignored. Arms control arrangements, even those as insensitive as New START, have little popular energy to fuel their passage. Proliferation is viewed through a skewed prism — we focus obsessively on preventing madmen from obtaining nuclear weapons, when we forget that the weapons themselves are what drive us to madness. We continue to design foreign policies and grand strategies that do not account for the realities of the nuclear age, and continue to set priorities that relegate non-proliferation to secondary importance. This is a dangerous world, and it is growing more dangerous. We must demand better.
**Steal My Comic** by Michael Ciuffo

**Restaurants**

**Quality of Service**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Quality of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Asymptote of unprofitability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Somewhere on the Search for Meaning...** by Letitia Li

**Crossword Puzzle**

Solution, page 13

**ACROSS**

1 Org. of Toms and Tiger

2 Weapon of mass destruction

9 Plus feature

14 Rower’s requirement

15 Sharlie’s slapstick partner

16 Keep an eye on

17 Adam’s partner

18 Animal dens

19 Honolulu greeting

20 Start of a quip

22 "__ People Play"

23 Postures

24 Commotion

25 John __ Passos

26 Insulted

31 Freshen up

33 Was mistaken

35 Gibson, e.g.

36 Frosted

37 Part 2 of quip

38 Rotation line

39 Bikini piece

40 Hay units

41 Alternative to treat?

42 Diana Ross’s group

44 Zodiac lion

45 Psychic power

46 Least illuminated

47 Disney World attraction

48 Take care of

49 Move as a throng

50 End of quip

51 Samoan currency

52 Persia, now

53 6/6/44

54 Alleviate

**DOWN**

1 Verses

2 French peasant dance

3 Game site

4 Wow!

5 Cutting edges

6 Potpourris

7 Soggy ground

8 Porpoise’s girlfriend

9 Bestowed upon

10 Oater bar

11 Pack away, as cargo

12 Rebounding yodel

13 Comparison conjunction

14 Brought to a close

15 "__ People Play"

16 Lets loose

17 Minerals in the raw

18 Judd Hirsch sitcom

19 Legendary

20 escritorio

21 Barbecue fare

22 Light tan

23 Type of tide

24 Contemporary of Agatha

25 Florida bay

26 Bakey emanation

27 Rub over

28 Hay units

29 "Lou Grant” star

30 Moderates

31 Little pranksters

32 Moderates

33 Change dimensions

34 Loading device

35 Summer or Shalala

36 Decade segments

37 Florida bay

38 Public square

39 "Lou Grant” star

40 "Lou Grant” star

41 More rational

42 Disney World attraction

43 Take care of

44 Move as a throng

45 Little pranksters

46 Summer or Shalala

47 Disney World attraction

48 Take care of

49 Move as a throng

50 Little pranksters

51 Samoan currency

52 Persia, now

53 6/6/44

54 Alleviate
Fun Fun Fun

Sudoku

Techdoku

Sudokus and Techdokus are puzzles that challenge your logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Sudoku is a popular number-placement puzzle where the objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 subgrids that compose the grid contain all of the digits from 1 to 9. Techdoku is a variation of Sudoku with additional mathematical operations.

Sudoku Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Techdoku Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1 through 5. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Urdhva Mukha Svanasana

Urdhva Mukha Svanasana is a yoga pose named "Urdhva Mukha Svanasana" in Sanskrit, meaning "upward facing dog."

Penny Arcade

Penny Arcade is a webcomic by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik. It features various characters in humorous and relatable situations.

by Jerry Holkins
and Mike Krahulik

by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

www.penny-arcade.com

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Sagrada Familia (A. Gaudi)
### Institute Double Take

Even though we’re getting wet feet from stepping in the melted snow puddles, these puddles can be quite beautiful. Here’s a view of Lobby 7 and its reflection in a large clear puddle in front of the Student Center.

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**Particle Physicists**

**A 2005 Particle Mass Power Law based on PDG Data**

**Anticipated the QM 2010 Lightest Up Quark Mass (m_q)**

**Within GM Error Limits**

Using a **NEW Conic Vortex Microquartan (m_v)**

\[
m_p = \sum n_c N^5 \left( \frac{n_+}{n} + \frac{n_0}{aN} \right)
\]

where
- \( n_+ \) = number of charged pairs of component microquartans
- \( n_0 \) = number of neutral pairs of component microquartans
- \( N \) = number of microquartans

See [www.electron-particlephysics.org](http://www.electron-particlephysics.org) (Papers 1-4, etc.)

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**CAPITAL ONE COMPANY PRESENTATION**

**Date:** Wednesday, February 9

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 4-149

Please join us to learn more about Capital One and our full-time and summer internship opportunities.

**Now Hiring:**
- Business Analysts
- Analyst Interns

Please submit your resume via CAREER BRIDGE by February 13.

**Questions?** Please contact your recruiter: Kate Burriss, katherine.burriss@capitalone.com

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From pencils to pens
Perfectionism at its best is just a little less than perfect

By Paul Woods

This semester, I switched from pencils to pens. I could never understand people who use pens. You can’t erase with pens — it’s like buying a keyboard without a backspace key.

But now I understand. Pens glide effortlessly across the page like a zero-volume mass sliding down a frictionless slope. Wringing with them feels smooth like an endoplasmic reticulum without ribosomes. The experience of using them is unparalleled to that provided by any pencil I’ve ever used. Pencils are C pens. C+ vs. C-. So what stopped me from using pens for so long?

Before I answer that question, let me first say that I can sometimes be a perfectionist. I often get a lot of joy from trying to make my Python code as perfect as possible, and I revise my Tech columns over and over again. However, over the course of my MIT education, I’ve gotten a lot better at turning off my perfectionist tendencies when the situation doesn’t call for it — like when the last word in my notes is misspelled. Before, I would have erased it — with the entire end of my pencil, of course. Now I don’t.

So what if I wrote “Dijkstra’s algorithm” instead of “Dijkstra’s algorithm”? When I go back and review my notes, I’ll still know what I meant, and if I forget how the actualy spelled, Google will correct me when I look it up.

My time is like the Senate seat that Rod Blagojevich allegedly tried to sell — it’s an effing valuable thing.

Just the other day, I turned on “1-Click Ordering” and bought a book on Amazon.com for $11, shipping and all. There’s a good chance that it was cheaper somewhere else — maybe $10. But I didn’t scour the Internet for the absolutely best offer. My time is like the Senate seat that Rod Blagojevich allegedly tried to sell — it’s an effing valuable thing.

The Monday before classes started, I entered into my Google Calendar the wrong room number for my 6.004 recitation, causing me to be ten minutes late for the first class of the semester. The old Paul Woods would have spent half an hour on WebSIS, double and triple checking his schedule to make sure that he didn’t make a bad first impression. Guess what happened when I was late? Absolutely nothing. I’m pretty sure my recitation instructor didn’t care at all and has completely forgotten it, unless he reads this column.

Does no longer taking the time to make everything perfect mean I’m lazy? All I really doing is putting my MIT education to good use and doing some 6.042-style probabilistic analysis. After the ten minutes it takes to add all of my classes to my schedule, I’ve already reached the point of diminishing returns. The slightly decreased probability of something going wrong just isn’t worth the additional time I’d spend to attain it. The same thing applies to my alarm clock. It’s probably set to the right time for tomorrow morning. There’s no need to double check.

My indiscriminate drive for perfectionism probably did more harm than good in middle and high school, and it would’ve been nice if I’d learned earlier in my life to do the less important things less perfectly. It’s amazing how much more I can get done when I don’t spend an hour perfecting e-mails to my professors. I almost wish I could go back in time and reclaim all of the hours of Super Smash Bros. Melee that I gave up for the sake of getting a 100 percent instead of a 99 percent on the last quiz. But what’s in the past is in the past; there’s no need to obsess about it.

After all, I’m a pen person now.

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Got Something to Say?
Potential changes coming to Number 1 Bus Route around MIT

The popular Number 1 bus that stops outside 77 Massachusetts Ave. may see major changes as part of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Key Bus Route Improvement Program. Preliminary recommendations presented at the MBTA’s last community meeting include the elimination of inbound stop 76 at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Memorial Drive, located slightly past Benderly in the direction of the Harvard Bridge.

The inbound stop at laptopsdome Street and its companion outbound stop at Front Street, located near Random Hall and the MIT Museum (close to the Cambridge Bicycle Shop), may also be put out of service. Transit signal priority, which would extend green lights for all traffic when a bus is approaching an intersection, is proposed for the 77 Massachusetts Ave., signal, and the lights at Laptopsdome Street.

The MBTA is soliciting feedback on these changes at keybusroutes@mbta.com.

Changes might be coming to the Number 1 bus route. The MBTA has proposed that some stops along Massachusetts Ave. be eliminated, and buses could be given traffic signaling priority.

MIT administrators thank Brown for bill

Scott Brown, from Page 1

The proposal plans to incentivize universities by providing assured funds through the STEM Awards Trust Fund for institutions that “dramatically increase” the number of students who graduate in STEM fields and sustain such an increase for more than five years.

It will also ensure that at least 10 percent of federal funds available for undergraduate research will be used towards funding research done to first-year undergraduate students.

To boost small businesses in the nanotechnology development sector, the proposal will make loans easier to obtain. The proposal also simplifies tax credits for those who contribute to research at universities.


Hockfield praised Brown for his “sound policy” and said she was “eager to work with the Senator…to help advance the cause for economic growth.”

Brown said that his new proposals to boost Massachusetts jobs was “not a new initiative for me. It’s just that people listen now.”

He also emphasized being able to “make a difference” and praised MIT administrators and researchers for achievements in areas such as health care and environmental-friendly products.

Stata thanked Brown for his commitment to science and technology and spoke on the connections between Brown’s Innovation America Act and MIT’s Venture Mentoring Service, a service to support the entrepreneurial activities of the MIT community.

Professors Yet-Ming Chiang ’84, S. L. Langer SC ’74, Paulya T. Hammond ’84, and Angela M. Belcher demonstrated technology unique to MIT and ENS that could benefit from the new proposal. In line with Senator Brown’s plans to boost Bay State jobs, they emphasized the potential development of products based on their research and how these plans could create new jobs.

Materials Science and Engineering Professor Chiang showed his current work in nanotechnology and his newest project in battery technology. He jokingly said that he cares so much about making sure his students have a job after graduation that he creates companies to give students jobs.

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New female floors possible

Some residents want non-dining female only option

Female housing, from Page 1

small all-female communities in non-dining dorms, such as single-sex suites in Burton-Conner and MacGregor. Though the possibility of a single-female floor or entry in another dorm has been proposed, discussions this semester will focus on whether smaller spaces — such as an all-female suite — would be acceptable for current McCormick residents.

A survey was sent to all McCormick sophomores and juniors to gauge their interest in the possibility of moving to a new dorm.

Michelle W. Chen ’14 is hoping to move out of McCormick to a non-dining dorm because of the cost of the dining plan. Under the new system, “I feel like I’m obligated to eat here,” said Chen. She expressed interest in staying in an all-female community in a non-dining dorm mostly because she would like to continue living with friends from McCormick.

Majestic U. Bowford ’13 echoed concerns about an obligation to eat in the dining hall more often under the new plan. “I try to cook at least once a week,” said Bowford, but under the new plan, “I feel like I’m being pressured to cause of paying for both the dining plan and groceries.”

Despite doubts about the new plan, Bowford plans to stay in McCormick. “Though Bowford’s decision is primarily due to the community she has found in McCormick, her desire to stay in an all-female dorm also factored in. “I lived at Next over the summer — I didn’t know I would be so uncomfortable with boys in my bathroom and in my space,” she said.

Although some McCormick residents are unhappy with the dining plan, not all approve. “I think it will make me eat more nutritiously,” said Noor A. Doulamik ’14.

Though cost is often one of the main concerns of those who disagree with the dining plan, some residents do not view the pricing as excessive. Victoria R. Winters ’14, who plans to stay in McCormick, noted, “The same plan at my sister’s college is $1,000 more expensive.”

Charles H. Stewart III, who has served as McCormick Housemaster since 1992, does not see the creation of an alternate environment as a threat to the culture of other dorms. “A lot is made of the differences between the dorms, but the residents of different halls are a lot more alike than we think,” said Stewart. “I remain pleased and flabbergasted about the notion that there is something wrong and bad with MIT residents, moving from one dorm to another.” Stewart indicated that any potential transition would be guided by the opening of Massee Hall, which will cause a large number of students to be moving around campus already.

Robin Baughman, Assistant Di- rector of Housing, said that repre- sentatives from Housing have met with McCormick representatives and intend to have further discussions, but that no decisions have been made.

It remains unclear how perma- nent a second all-female community would be. Stewart indicated that current discussions are only con- cerning rising juniors and seniors, who came to MIT before details of the soon-to-be-implemented dining plan were available. Though Comis believes an additional all-female community should be a permanent installation, she also said that pres- ent talks have mainly been about a temporary solution.

According to Comis, McCormick residents have expressed concerns about safety and security in other dorms. “People in McCormick will be wanting higher security,” said Comis, who believes that if a satellite community were created, there would be requests to make the dorm more secure — possibly by limiting the dorm to a single entrance.

Safety and security is commonly cited by McCormick residents as a reason they live in the dorm. Beth R. Attaway ’14 said that she wants to move to another dorm because of costs, but “[single sex] would be preferable — I feel safer that way.”

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Judge Bruce R. Henry's oral decision

"Thank you."

"I have reviewed all of the information that was put before me, particularly most recently from Dr. Wolleim, from Dr. Brooks."

"But also I have reviewed the information that came in at the time of trial, I have revised my notes. And I spent considerable time with the statute to make sure that I did follow the law."

"I understand the Commonwealth's argument and their request that I look at all of this through the lens of what has happened here and what the rationale may be for Ms. Tang's cooperation and her treatment. But as I look at what the statute requires:"

"The statute says that I shall not order commitment unless the person is mentally ill, and I think there is ample evidence that Anna Tang is mentally ill. I don’t think that that is seriously in dispute."

"And that discharge would create a likelihood of serious harm. Or that she’s mentally ill and failure to retain her in the strict custody would create a likelihood of serious harm. And I think in those respects the Commonwealth has not met its burden."

"No one has testified that there is a substantial risk of harm to Ms. Tang, or anybody else, at this point in time. And under the terms of the statute, if either of those requirements are not met, the statute is clear. Otherwise the petition shall be dismissed and the person discharged."

"That I think is the only option open to me based on the state of the evidence that’s before me. So for those reasons I will order the petition for commitment be dismissed and that Ms. Tang be discharged."

"I can only encourage you, Ms. Tang, to keep up with that treatment program which you are undergoing at this point in time. I cannot require it under the law. But according to everybody you’ve made terrific progress in that treatment program."

"So my recommendation to you is that you ‘keep with it’ — that you follow that plan that was so carefully outlined. So I wish you well in doing that."

"But I will dismiss and discharge Ms. Tang. Thank you all."

Verdict: No hospitalization

Anna Tang found innocent in Dec., freed yesterday

Anna Tang, from Page 1

Russell J. Novello, then a night watch security guard, lent Tang a key to Styke's room, thinking Tang and Styke were still dating. When Tang failed to return the key in fifteen minutes, Novello went to the room and retrieved the key from her. Styke was asleep. At the trial, Novello said Tang was "very nice." It was hours later when Tang stabbed Styke, just before dawn.

Styke is now suing both MIT and Novello for negligence. MIT declined to comment on the suit, and Novello said Tang was "very nice." It was hours later when Tang stabbed Styke, just before dawn.

"I can only encourage you, Ms. Tang, to keep up with that treatment program which you are undergoing at this point in time. I cannot require it under the law. But according to everybody you’ve made terrific progress in that treatment program."

"So my recommendation to you is that you ‘keep with it’ — that you follow that plan that was so carefully outlined. So I wish you well in doing that."

"But I will dismiss and discharge Ms. Tang. Thank you all."
Club Wrestling (and former var-
sity) Coach Thomas Layte said that the team is supported by alumni, with the only serious issue being the lack of some facilities access, such as laundry and medical facili-
ties.

The Alpine Skiing team is also primarily supported by alumni. An unexpected benefit of the financial attachment is bonding between alumni and skiers, said team mem-
ber Jillian R. Reddy ’11.

“We are trying to foster a com-

We have to pay for ice access, which
also added that the team does not
maintaining the ice and Zamboni
to games, but DAPER still indirect-
they were as a varsity sport; as a
penditures as a club are less than
sive to replace.

the helmets and speed suits are

to continue using its equipment,
though DAPER allowed the team
costs of the Alpine Skiing team is

she said. Reddy was quick to add
“munity. When we were varsity, we
ber Jillian R. Reddy ’11.

attachment is bonding between

The MIT Men’s Hockey team
prepares for a game against Merrimack on Tuesday evening.

varsity status. Reddy doesn’t ex-
Looking towards the future

many of the athletes show pes-
While Shapiro believes that
Making the team
With their varsity status gone,
one of the new club teams had a
management structure in place to
allow them function independent-
ly as the changes required. The
change “adds a whole new aspect
to being on a team,” and places a
lot of responsibilities on the play-
ers, said Swenson.

“we are solely in charge of the
finances we make, the decisions, that we spend money on, that sort of
ting,” he explained.

the new responsibilities were also mentioned by Watkins, who, along with her co-capitan on the Women’s Gymnastics team, has a whole new set of duties to fulfill.
Before, she said, captains just had to lead the team and participate in
a couple of traditions. “Now,” she said, “the captains are schedul-
ing all the meets, talking to all the coaches, managing all the money, buying all the equipment that we need… it’s not that much more work for the average team member, but for the captains it’s a significant amount of work.”

Brandt runs his team with the
help of a core group of about three
people. He believes that this leader-
ship core should take on the brunt of
the responsibility associated
with managing all logistical aspects
of the team. While he admitted that
sharing leadership tasks requires
a bigger time commitment for more
team members, Brandt also said
that he didn’t want to place too
much of a burden on any one per-
son in fear of scaring players away with extra responsibilities.

Some teams are seeing benefits
from DAPER’s lack of involvement
in their activities. Flexibility in
schedule is one of these advantag-
Es. For instance, the wrestling team
now only competes on weekends,
which has been a goal of Layte’s for
a while. “We’re not pulling kids out
classes during the week,” he ex-

“one thing that has surprised me is that … because we’ve been able to raise all our own money, we have control over it, and we can make more decisions pertaining to what we do, what tournaments we play in, where we go, if we do a spring break trip, that kind of thing,” said Swenson.

Vesvolod M. Ivanov ’14, a mem-
ber of the Men’s Gymnastics team, feels that flexibility of practice times is a nice plus. Jacob T. Sha-
pio ’11, another a member of the
Women’s Gymnastics team, also liked the added freedom that came with managing money, mentioning that players could spend “more than five dollars per meal now.”

According to Brandt, the Men’s
Hockey team actually has more
more scheduled games than it did as
a varsity team. On a more personal
level, Brandt also enjoys the lead-
ership experience he has gained
from helping run the team. “I’ve
probably learned more from run-
nign the club hockey team than I
have in anything else I’ve done at
MIT,” he explained.

The number of day-to-day challenges with delegating and leading your peers … has been a huge learning experience for me.”

Looking towards the future
Many of the athletes show pes-
simism regarding whether their
respective teams will ever return to
varsity status. Reddy doesn’t ex-
pected to see any of the club sports
reinstated. Leger, who
thinks that the requirements
DAPER set regarding reinstatement
are “exceedingly high,” doesn’t see
a way of coming back until they
done. A couple of traditions. Watkins
dsaid that she would be “really sur-
pised” if her team was brought back.

Brandt is more hopeful than
his counterparts. He hopes that as
MIT as a whole recovers from the
economic downturn, money will
return to athletics and some of the
sports will be reconsidered.

Shapiro believes that
gymnastics as a sport needs more
varisty teams. He believes that this level, it should be a program
endow a program in perpetuity,
program we felt was healthy. To
sion. “[Wrestling] really wasn’t a

cally, our roster numbers were
incredibly low,” Soriero explained
in a couple of traditions. “Louie,
the decision wasn’t just about
the money.

Reinstating a program would re-
quite a “very thoughtful analysis of
[our] health and vitality,” accord-
ing to Soriero. She expressed doubt
that MIT would want to go back to
supporting 41 varsity teams.

Moving On
A year and a half after the cuts,
Soriero has come to grips with the
the economists from the MIT commu-
nity. To her, such a pile-up of making hard decisions — it comes
with the territory.

But, she emphasized, there was
understanding of the decision. I have
to ac-
cept it.”

to the context in which cuts were made, he
believes that it would have been
possible to have had MIT more accountable
to students than realize. “In general the
public holds MIT to a higher
standard,” he explained. He claims
that people who told him that the
cuts felt that MIT couldn’t find a solu-
tion, no one could.

Soriero believes that most stu-
dents, including him, have less
trust now in how DAPER is run.
Alan Jiang ’11, pistol team man-
ages, felt that the number of sports
\begin{itemize}
\item All cut teams live on as clubs
\item Cut sports turn to alumni, club fees to stay afloat
\item Varisty cuts II, Page 15
\end{itemize}
Most cut sports hopeful for continued success

they had to do it.”

Shapiro and Ivanov are ready to move on as well. “We did as much as we could to try to prevent the cut. Given that we’ve been cut, we’re doing the best that we can,” said Shapiro. Ivanov added that “it is what it is” and that the team will slowly work toward getting back varsity status.

For now, some of the eight teams are still adjusting to their new status. Reddy will not consider the transition process to be complete until the team raises enough money to place in a savings account. But, she believes that they are in “a good place to continue.” Brandt would also like to raise enough money so that the team wouldn’t have to worry about funding on a season-by-season basis.

Layte is not satisfied being a club team. His goal is to increase the numbers of the wrestling team and try to get reinstated as a varsity team again. “We’re not done, by any means,” he said defiantly. The pistol team is pretty much fully transitioned, said Jiang, adding that things are almost back to the way they were in varsity. Sugaya even added that the team is shooting better this year than last year. As a club team, the pistol team did well at the 2010 National Championships, placing second in two team events and naming several All-Americans and individual winners. The team was featured in this week’s Boston Globe Magazine.

Other teams are seeing comparable success. The Wrestling team won its first national title in 2010, and the Men’s Hockey team is currently second in their division. Although the Golf team did not qualify for nationals this year, they have had the opportunity to host an event at The International Golf Club, which Swenson described as “an extremely prestigious course.”

Every team is here to stay, in one form or another. Despite the differences in every situation, every team expressed a desire to not only continue, but excel. Like getting up after losing a wrestling bout, stumbling down a ski slope, or being checked into the boards, the athletes are ready to move on the next match, bout, or competition.

After all, it’s what they do.

The MIT Alpine Skiing team competed at Cranmore in January 2010. The Ski team was one of the eight sports which lost its varsity status in spring of 2009.
The Red Sox are back

Why the Sox have a great season in store

By Zach Hynes

Welcome back. For some of you, this has been a four-month fumigation from reading or thinking about professional baseball. You’ve kept tabs on all of you. In Dallas, you despised for the plight of Tony Romo, agonized over Wade Phillips, and fell back in love with Jason Garrett. In Alabama, you invaded your life savings in a Cam Newton defensive fund and vowed to take those humans at the NCAA to the Supreme Court over Newton’s eligibility, if it came to that. In Green Bay, you went to your neighborhood Packer shrine and thanked the Cheesehead gods for giving you a general manager with the guts to say “no” to Brett Favre and “yes” to Aaron Rodgers when it came down to it in 2008. In New England, you thought that this year was going to be better than the 18-1 2007 season, until it wasn’t.

It’s time to wake up and see the light. The entire baseball landscape has changed, and for Boston, the future seems much, much brighter. Red Sox fans can re-experience every single offseason transaction in terms of its overwhelming benefits to the Red Sox. Don’t think so? Let’s take a look, in chronological order.

1. The sign of Vincent Martini. This move frees up money for future Red Sox acquisitions. See (2) and (3).
2. Red Sox trade for, agree to long-term deal with 1B Adrian Gonzalez: Red Sox get the best human (non-Pujols) first baseman in the National League.
3. Red Sox sign CF Carl Crawford: Red Sox take one of the Rays’ top players.
5. Boston trades Zach Greinke to the Milwaukee Brewers. Now, the Red Sox can rest the regulars for all three games of a weekend series against the Royals.
6. Yankees sign Rafael Soriano: The Rays lose their closer, and the Yankees’ owners are one step closer to losing the disgruntled general manager of the (guerrilla) Rays. In other news, the rent is up on Kevin Youkilis and Phil Hughes, not to mention the dynasty of the 90s.

Now, it’s time for spring training. This is the occasion when many New Englanders, like birds in some alternate universe, migrate south for the spring (or just a week, depending on how much school the kids can miss and get away with it) to watch the players practice. The concept of fans attending spring training is confusing to even the best and brightest. Drew Barrymore, in the Red Sox-centric 2004 romcom “ Fever Pitch,” asks if spring training means that fans actually get to practice with the players. No, that’s not spring training. That is spring Fantasy Camp, where men past their baseball primes live out their baseball dreams by paying thousands of dollars for a few days of instruction from Red Sox old-timers. While repeated attempts to reach Allen Bower’s Turkish interpreter for comment failed, A.L., the legendary guard for the basketball team Besiktas Col Turkas who also had some stints in the NBA, would surely have frowned upon the notion of spring “practice.” As Bower once said, “ …we’re talking about practice, man. How silly is that?”

A family vacation to Fort Myers, Florida, is a great excuse for Red Sox-crazy dads and moms across New England to indulge their Red Sox obsession. The variety of ways you can spend your time at spring training is stunning. Given a full 10-hour day at the parks, you could watch batting practice for four hours, fielding practice for three hours, and pitching practice for three hours. Alternatively, batting practice for three hours, fielding practice for four hours, and pitching practice for three hours. I don’t remember the other ways at the time of this writing, but please contact me directly if interested. In reality, spring training is a time when fans go to watch the players and collectively build up their expectations for the season, and this will never be the case more so than this year at Red Sox spring training. Even from the perspective of unbiased observers, the Red Sox had a superlative offseason, and spring training will be a joyous time for all. Truly, all is well, and we will know by Opening Day, April 8, against the New York Yankees.

SPORTS SHORTS

MIT Men’s and Women’s Track and Field take the win in a tri-meet

The men’s and women’s track and field teams competed in a tri-meet against Williams and Mecanican on Saturday. Both teams took first place by a wide margin. The men won nine of their eighteen events to beat rival Williams by 76-5 points. Kyle J. Han-non ’11 led the Engineers with two individual wins, in the 100 meter and 1 mile runs, Patrick K. Marx ’13, David H. Way ’13, and Paul D. Weiles ’11 also had individ-ual wins. Kenneth B. Cooper ’13 won in shot put, and the team also took first place every relay event.

On the women’s side, Portia M. Jones ’12 dominated the meet with four indi
dividual wins, scoring over a sixth of MIT’s total points. She set an Institute record in the pole vault with a height of 12-9.50 feet, another MIT record.

Karin E. Fisher ’11 also qualified for Nationals in the pole vault with a height of 12-8.50 feet, another MIT record. Jamie L. Simmons ’12 had a win in the 600 meter, and Louise E. van den Heuvel ’11 also had individ-ual wins.

Mens’ Basketball loses in overtime to Wellesley College

The women’s basketball team faced Wellesley College on Saturday, losing 59-51 in overtime. The contest was an away game for the Engi-

eres, but was played at Babson College because of a leaking roof at Welles-

college. Wellesley built a 13-6 advantage midway through the open-


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