Swartz indicted for JSTOR theft

By Connor Kirshebaum

Aaron H. Swartz is an accomplished 24-year-old by anyone’s standards. He co-authored the now widely-used RSS 1.0 specification at age 14, was one of three owners of the massively popular social news site Reddit, and recently completed a fellowship at the Harvard Ethics Center Lab on Institutional Corruption.

On Jan. 6, 2011, Swartz allegedly entered the basement of MIT’s Building 16, using his white bicycle helmet as a mask to hide his identity from passersby. A federal indictment, sealed on July 29, describes his entry into a restricted network wiring closet, retreiving a laptop and external hard drive he had hidden there under a cardboard box weeks before, and cautiously stepping out of the wiring closet with his make-shift mask in place.

According to the indictment, Swartz’s laptop had been using MIT’s network to rapidly download articles from JSTOR. JSTOR is an archive of academic journals to which many universities subscribe, and may pay large amounts of money for access. The indictment describes these events as the final phase of Swartz’s three-month JSTOR downloading operation, bringing his total count of acquired JSTOR articles to 4.8 million. MIT valued that information, according to the Cambridge Police incident report.

Swartz’s intention, the indictment claimed, was to upload all of the documents to a peer-to-peer file-sharing site, where anyone could access them for free. He never got the chance.

Within two hours of fleeing Building 16, Swartz was captured by Secret Service Agent Michael Pickert, in what was the culmination of three months of detective work by MIT Information Services & Technology, the MIT and Cambridge Police Departments, and the United States Secret Service.

“Ghost laptop.”

Aaron Swartz’s alleged JSTOR downloading operation was far less daring in its early stages. The indictment states that it started on Sept. 24, 2010 — three months before his arrest — with the purchase of an Acer laptop from a local store.

“Swartz, Page 9

Barbecue gathers prefrosh, alumni

By Joy E. Lee

A range of generations of the MIT community gathered at Sidney-Pacific for the annual barbecue of the MIT Club of Boston this past Sunday. Alumni, their children, current students, and incoming freshmen mingled and feasted under the hot summer sun. The club sponsored the event for prefrosh and MIT affiliates in the greater Boston area, providing activities for children as well as opportunities for alumni to reconnect with each other and to meet current students.

While most of the current undergraduate students who attended the barbecue, Page 12

NEWS ANALYSIS

By John A. Hawkinson

The latest battle over human embryonic stem cell research is over, and the National Institutes of Health has won — the research can continue. The battle can still go on with appeals, potentially as high as the Supreme Court, but researchers are unlikely to face court-ordered prohibitions on research as that multi-year process continues.

Last week Wednesday, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia dealt a decisive victory to the NIH. Chief Judge Royce C. Lambeth ruled in favor of the NIH and human embryonic stem cell (hESC) researchers. The losers were adult stem cell researchers who had argued 24-year-old by anyone’s standards. He co-authored the now widely-used RSS 1.0 specification at age 14, was one of three owners of the massively popular social news site Reddit, and recently completed a fellowship at the Harvard Ethics Center Lab on Institutional Corruption.

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Debt ceiling bill becomes law, averting default

By Jennifer Steinhauser

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Tuesday to raise the government’s debt ceiling and cut trillions of dollars from its spending, concluding a long and fractious partisan battle just hours before the government’s borrowing authority was set to run out.

The bill, which passed 74-26, was immediately signed by Presi- dent Barack Obama, who took a final shot at his Republican oppo- nent for what he called a manu- factured — and avoidable — crisis.

"Voters may have chosen divid- ed government," he said, "but they sure didn’t vote for dysfunctional government.

Voters will render their verdicts on the merits of divided govern- ment next year, but its impact is now obviously clear. The agenda of the 112th Congress will be domi- nated by continuous fighting over spending priorities and regulation, with a high bar for big debates on foreign policy and other domestic issues coming to the fore.

"That difference is the inten- sity here," said David R. Mayhew, a political science professor at Yale. "The Republicans have the Tea Party, and the Democrats don’t have anything of comparable ani- mation on their side."

Democrats, hamstrung in part by congressional procedures and hewing to more traditional meth- ods of compromise and negotia- tion, allowed Republicans to pull the center of debate much closer to their priorities.

We could draw parallels and distinctions with other tumultuous times such as the Civil War," Glen Bower, a former congressman from Alabama and professor emer- itus at Jacksonville State University, said in an email. "But I do believe that this is something different from most Democratic Republican struggles in our recent history. The traditional game of politics in which the sides contest over control of issues and decisions for core constituencies has erupted into an intense struggle with criti- cal ideological/philosophical distinc- tions about what America means and how America ought to work."
US seeks more pressure on Syria, but options are limited

By Steven Lee Myers and Neil MacFarquhar

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is facing intensifying demands to impose more pressure on President Bashar Assad's government. But at the same time, new legislation introduced on Tuesday would make it more difficult for Congress to impose sanctions.

Mayors on both sides of the debt debate were quick to highlight their own experiences as models for the national debate. But many others expect a cascade of changes: higher prices, mass relocations, property taxes and a flood of money from Cubans in the United States, many of whom say they would like to keep part of the country.

Private property is the nucleus of capitalism, of course, so the plan to turn it here in a large, rich country into a "nationalization of death" strikes many Cubans as jaw-dropping. Indeed, most people expect onerous regulations and, already, the plan outlined by the state would supposedly include the prize jewels: home and apartment and requiring full-time residency.

With the debt deal in place, some say, property sales could transform Cuba more than any of the economic reforms announced by President Raul Castro's government. Compared with the changes already enacted in 2010 dramatically shifted the debate in Washington has fur- ther cemented the party's identity as part of a conservative move- ment on deep spending cuts and taxes to balance the government.

But when Cuba legalizes buying and selling by the end of the year, the administration's critics will say that it has "lost all credibility" and "will be voted out of power." Others say they would like to see the government sell farmland and sugar to Cuba. Still others support a more limited plan that would allow Cuba to keep its own economic system.

The new study, published in the Journal of the American Medi- cal Association, focused on one such medication, Risperdal. But 10 percent to 20 percent of those who see heavy combat de- velop symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, and about 20 percent of those who get it are veterans of the Iraq or Afghanistan wars.

Ten percent to 20 percent of those who see heavy combat de- velop symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, and about 20 percent of those who get it are veterans of the Iraq or Afghanistan wars. One study found that even veterans who had not been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan were more likely to develop PTSD than those who were.

The broader U.S. stock market dropped 2.6 percent, erasing all of its gains for the year. That capped a string of declines over seven consecutive days, its longest losing streak since October 2008. And now that the debt-ceiling deal has offered up the pros- pect of lower spending on domestic programs, even though the debt-limit agreement averted a potential default on August 2, many say they would like to see the government sell farmland and sugar to Cuba. Still others support a more limited plan that would allow Cuba to keep its own economic system.

The markets and the breaking of the budget impasse have been remarkably calm. Market analysts and economists made clear that even though the debt-limit agreement averted a potential default on August 2, many say they would like to see the government sell farmland and sugar to Cuba. Still others support a more limited plan that would allow Cuba to keep its own economic system.

Recent economic data is already weak, said Stanley Nabi, the chief economist at the National Employment Law Project, adding that the data is likely to continue to indicate a slowdown. The US dollar sliding against the euro, making US goods cheaper for European buyers, is one reason.

Evidence of political uncertainty is everywhere, and this week's new congressmen elected in 2010 dramatically shifted the debate in Washington has fur- ther cemented the party's identity as part of a conservative move- ment on deep spending cuts and taxes to balance the government.

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Capitalize smarter, not harder
Merely raising capital requirements won't prevent a meltdown

By Keith Yost
SEAT COLUMNS

Suppose for a moment that there are two farmers, Jim and Bob. Jim grows toma-
toes, and Bob grows corn. Both crops can be harvested every year, so the two farmers can produce tomatos and corn, respectively. This year, Jim is expected to harvest 100 tractors — an 8 percent interest rate. If Jim decides to deposit 100 tractors in the bank, he will only be able to lend an interest rate that is less than the interest rate that the bank has to pay to bor-
row some of its funds from the government. The bank offers Jim a deal: if he de-

Reserve requirements help bank regulators differentiate between banks that are insolvent and banks that are illiquid.

Why then, might one ask, do we have re-
serve requirements on banks at all, if every non-zero reserve requirement is a market distortion? The answer is that reserve require-
ments are designed to prevent the loss of bank deposits viable, but they also make no commitment to publish all the letters received. Electronic submissions are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, and are the official opinion of The Tech. Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors’ signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become the property of The Tech, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech's website in any format or medium now known or later that becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received. The opinions expressed in these articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community.

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Embrace, don't shoot

Multiculturalism and religious tolerance are not optional

By Nina Sinatra

Sorry, extremists — multiculturalism is no longer a means to an end. It is time to consider the 21st century world as something resembling a medieval kingdom of homogeneous enclaves.

The sicknessing crimes of Anders Behring Breivik, who declared in his manifesto that Christianity is a "barbaric religion" and that Muslims should be "exterminated," is an ominous reminder that noise that increasingly clouds modern societal and political perceptions. No longer is it enough to have an open and active democratic dialogue, has been tagged with the fashionable term "political correctness in the wake of last week's terrorist attacks. Speaking to BBC correspondents, Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg reflected that "[Norway] has never experienced anything like this before. We had to experience anything like this before. We had to respond to terrorism in the wake of last week's terrorist attacks. The path forward from this tragedy should not include additional persecution or additional rejection of inappropriate criticism of religious groups. The purpose of government is not to target religious groups, but to protect citizens from violence and hate."

Individuals have manipulated and deformed peaceful religious teachings into twisted battle cries.

On these bases, I would hesitate to make reference to Breivik purely as a religious extremist, his obsession with religion is overshadowed by his obsession with political extremism. Breivik's Nazi-laced manifesto characterizes the passive tenets of Christianity. In both cases, individuals have manipulated and deformed peaceful religious teachings into twisted battle cries.

Indeed, China is showing its stress wrinkles, but it would be the U.S. developing bruises if we were to betray our national interest. In- stead, China and the U.S. working together to take will make our banking system mar-

Capital requirements not sole cause of financial crisis

Greater fault lay with unaccountable credit rating agencies

Capital requirements, from Page 4

Unfortunately, the situation is not as simple as it sounds. To make our banking system more robust, we need to make more investments than they would normally make the same investment mistake. That's why the problem is systemic. We need our regulatory system to be more robust. We need to make more investments than they would otherwise be allowed.

Norway's efforts in judgment in the financial system even yet. For every person with an overly optimistic view of tomato futures, there is someone else who is overly pessimistic. While there is the potential for correlated errors in judgment, there's the exception, rather than the norm. By making the assessments of credit rating agencies part of the rules of the game, risk-weighting adds a situation in which the impact of a capital set of actors — with none of their own resources on the line — were able to bias the outcome of the entire financial system. We need to create a massive misallocation of society's resources.

Raising capital requirements and reduc-

ing the investments that banks are allowed to make will make our banking system more robust, but it will also dis-


ing savings — not by reducing the size of an economy that has historically saved much less than is optimal. It would be better to solve the problem directly by creating a legal petition to the credit rating game. We need to make our banking system more robust, rather than have the government rely upon just a few hand-picked credit rating agen-

cies to inform its capital requirements, it needs to draw from a more diverse set and weight its various judgments according to past performance. It needs to aggressively use the Securities and Exchange Commis-

sion's oversight to ensure that the engagement of China in talks of their outer regions. This action drew speculation from regional peace will maintain.

China's market feeds off the U.S. no markets that are as deep and liquid as the embedded in their growth model. There are no markets that are as deep and liquid as the global society begins with the achievable challenge of acceptance, tolerance, and mutual respect among nations, cultures, and religions.

Love, don't shoot, your neighbors.

The sad fact remains that although Breivik's actions were motivated by anti-

Christian sentiment, they are not limited to layer them under a religious veneer. Thank-

fully, although he professed that his actions are rooted in Christian teaching, the religion as a whole will not be judged for Breivik's actions. What is true is that a flake at-

temptist who might as well have claimed to be fighting for the honor of the cause of Christ," quips Philip Jenkins, a Pennsylvania State University professor whose expertise centers on global religion and politics.

It is an unfortunate commentary on our culture that this country is rarely interested in the Muslim population, who are too often judged on the crimes of a few. Nor has the misguide-

ed, ever-minded fantasy of Wahhabist extremists represent the true face of Islam. That's why Breivik's Nari-laced manifesto raises more than a few eyebrows.

Mighty Earth is a non-profit that advocates for the protection of nature. All the organizations mentioned in this column can be found at mightyearth.org.

Buddy from the East

China watches nervously as the US gets closer to default date

By Andy Liang

China has been compared to many things throughout history. Some see it as being like a long sleep, a "skyward-reaching bamboo grove growing towards prosperity," and a fortune cookie which reads: "Apathy may be an evil, but despair is a greater evil." — maybe I made up the last one. But many economic speculators too are convinced that the market is on a meteoric rise. Although this prediction may be true, the recent debt de-

bate in the U.S. has already made us sen-

ted themselves as a Great Wall for China. China, surging up from the foreign debt hold-

er, with U.S. Treasury security holdings of about $1.3 trillion, is watching anxiously as we try to avoid the impending default.

Our relationship with China is already on a thin thread — ever since we sold military equipment to the Philippines, the U.S. and China have been on edge. Even so, the U.S. and China both believe that China's market represents the future of economic growth and that China is the leader in that growth. We were surprised that China is slightly irritated with us but this economic default hot potato may make our future with China a bit too hot for our comfort.

To us, China is a fenemity. They want us to buy more of their goods, but they need our economy to be running smoothly. A severe economic stagnation in China would be disemployment and possibly recession. Additionally, Beijing has very few options, ac-

cording to Professor Patrick Chovanec at Tsinghua University. "By and large, China is stuck holding Treasuries and, in particular, Chinese government bonds, which are worth about $1.2 trillion. " China's market feeds off the U.S. no markets that are as deep and liquid as the global society begins with the achievable challenge of acceptance, tolerance, and mutual respect among nations, cultures, and religions.

Love, don't shoot, your neighbors.
The Nissan Leaf: An improbable electric future

Solidly constructed, but poorly adapted to American lifestyle

By David M. Templeton

I’m a fan of Formula One racing, the kind of guy that has seen every episode of the BBC’s Top Gear ... six times. My idea of wealth is having a 10-car garage. It is with a heavy heart that I recognize a sad fact of life: in order to allow the weekend indulgence of driving fast, gasoline-powered cars, we’ve all going to have to start driving motors on the weekdays that do not consume fossil fuels. It is, thus, ironically, that the widespread adoption of alternative-fuel vehicles will save the enthusiasm’ 500-horsepower sports car.

This doesn’t mean that going to work or picking up groceries needs to be the equivalent sentimental experience of being locked in a white, padded room. In theory, in order for alternative-fuel cars to take off, they should have as close of a driving experience to today’s modern family hatchback as possible. buyers shouldn’t feel like they are taking a step down in enjoyment for a step up in environmentalism. Alternative-fuel cars should match our current lifestyles and be affordable to boot. It is with this mindset that I attacked a test drive of the all-electric Nissan Leaf.

A Nissan representative came right out and told me that they’re on a mission to win hearts and minds, not necessarily forge immediate sales. Many fear the Leaf is an agnostic golf cart and that it is not suitable as more than a city runabout. In 2011, it turns out that the former is false, but the latter is true.

The first thing you notice when you get in the Leaf is that it is like every other small, modern, modest family hatch you’ve ever been in. There is rear legroom to seat five and enough room in the trunk for a serious excursion to Costco. Satellite navigation is standard, along with a Bluetooth sound system. Upholstery is predictably cloth, but the seats are comfortable enough. The car starts with the press of a button; authentication is handled by the proximity dongle in your pocket.

It is after pressing the starter button that you notice the truth of the vehicle you are in. Lithium polymer batteries under the front seats power up the accessories, and the engine is silent. The sticker knob allows you two selections of forward drive — regular and “Eco,” which delays the throttle response to ease you into a more relaxed and energizing-saving driving style. The electric motor has a nearly flat torque curve, allowing the single gear ratio to move the car efficiently from a standing start to beyond highway speeds (topping at 93 mph). Regenerative braking keeps your mileage up in stop-and-go driving.

So far, so good. The Leaf is definitely not a golf cart; it is a real car. Give it the beans, and you can make the tires squeal briefly. Disc brakes stop you quickly, and the steering is fairly responsive. So what’s the problem? The problem isn’t the car — it’s the context it’s living in.

Gas stations with electric chargers are few and far between. Workplaces, parking lots, and parking garages with chargers are equally sparse. (MIT Facilities did not respond to a request for information about campus charging accommodations.) This functionally limits your range from the Boston area to Worcester and maybe a run to New Hampshire for discount imbibement. The Leaf will not take you to New York City — even one way — unless you are a hypervigilant.

Charging from a standard 120VAC outlet is an overnight affair at best. 240VAC chargers can be installed for a hefty fee at your home and can charge the car 80 percent in 2-3 hours. 480VDC chargers can hit 80 percent in 30 minutes, but require the electrical service of a commercial building. In an urban community like Cambridge, where most people park carside and landlords won’t allow 240V charger installations, the thought of hundreds of power cables spanning the sidewalks at night seems like an improbable electric future.

The Leaf is a good runabout, a perfect vehicle for companies like Zipcar, and a candidate for future taxis. Environmentalists love the zero emissions. But it is not ready for the masses: the Leaf does not fit the road-trip mentality. It is also dependent on a clean electric grid in order to fully realize the zero CO2 emissions.

The Leaf is an important stepping stone to the alternative fuel future. But quick-charge batteries and very high power chargers (over 50kW) at every gas station and at home are the ways to make that future electric. There is still some science to be done with hydrogen fuel cell technology, and hydrogen filling stations are almost nonexistent outside of southern California, but the 5-minute fill up fits the American way. Look for hydrogen to power the roads in 25 years and save the planet — and the gasoline-powered sports car.
How to relax outside without getting burned

By Divya Srinivasan
CLASS OF 2015

For as long as I can remember, the sun and I have not had the best of relationships. When I was five, my mother would devise every scheme imaginable to excuse me from outdoor gym activities. The reason? She was afraid that my fair skin would become the burnt-beech color it is now. The notes she attempted to send to the gym teacher were priceless. “She has allergy to the sun,” was one of the more ridiculous statements.

Getting a suntan – far from making people look healthy – actually makes people more likely to develop dangerous melanomas.

Well, not entirely ridiculous. When I hit the beach to escape the East Coast blizzard last winter, I came to the sad realization that the combination of UV light and salt water exposure can catalyze a violent skin rash.

From that point forward, I began a modest quest to discover how to avoid wearing a cape or lettering on SPF 2000 every half hour.

Tanning is maligned by the FDA and the International Agency for Research on Cancer as much as it is worshiped by pop culture. The consensus among health organizations is that getting a suntan – far from making people look healthy – actually makes people more likely to develop dangerous melanomas (skin cancers). However, our tanning response to the potent UV rays is the body’s best biological fight against the wavelengths that pierce our skin and mutate our DNA.

The effect we see – darkening of the skin – is caused by the concentration of the pigment melanin around the nuclei of upper skin cells called keratinocytes. Though a protective, safe-guard against DNA damage in skin cells, melanin expression is not a fool-proof guard. As Dr. David Fisher, director of the Melanoma Program in Medical Oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, states in the Harvard Medical School journal, “The trigger for tanning – UV radiation – is absolutely damaging and absolutely carcinogenic ...

but tanning itself appears to be an adaptive response to harmful stress.” Though our body’s ability to tan is a mechanism to fight UV radiation, seeking out these dangerous rays for the purpose of developing that “your best bet is to avoid excessive UV light exposure – especially if you’re blond or redheaded and don’t tan well, but also if you do.”

So how can we avoid the harmful aftereffects of sun exposure? According to Mayo Clinic, you should avoid sun between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. – when the sun’s rays are at their strongest – as a first defense against dangerous melanomas.

The following sunscreens were ranked as Consumer Reports Best Sunscreen Buys of 2011 in a May press release. They were ranked based on price, UVA and UVB protection, and protection while submerged in water. Prices shown are the retail prices from each distribution company. Descriptions are from their websites.

Up & Up Sport SPF 30
$5.24
6 fl. oz.
http://www.target.com/
• SPF 30
• Water resistant
• Unscented
• Available in spray form

No-Ad with Aloe and Vitamin E SPF 45
$8.49
16 fl. oz.
http://www.drugstore.com/
• Aloe vera and vitamin E keep skin hydrated
• SPF 45
• Water resistant

Equate Baby SPF 50
$5.00
8 fl. oz.
http://www.walmart.com/
• Comes in lotion form
• Absorbs and dries quickly
• Gentle to the skin

Now that I’m armed with a few tools to combat the sun, I may just laugh in the face of my “sun allergy” and soak up some rays. UV, you can’t touch this.

With too much unstructured free time, I need to be awakened from my routine.

So one morning, I got up and did something different. Instead of drinking chocolate milk, I had some apple juice. And instead of slinging my blue backpack over my left shoulder and going to work, I grabbed my tote bag and went to Six Flags. My close friends and I had an indescribably amazing time twisting, looping, and pretending to fly on the Batwing coaster.

In celebration of magical changes – past and future – here are a couple other things I’m doing differently.

At the lab, I tried to make and recycle some materials from scratch, and had to wash and plasma instead of blood. The phlebotomist slid two glistening steel needles three inches into my elbows. The benefit to a patient in need is probably the only reason a perfectly healthy person would sit for two hours with catheters taped to forearms and exposed parts of your body. The FDA recommends an ounce of sunscreen for each application – enough to fill a shot glass. Don’t forget to cover places like your lips, the back of your neck, the tops of your feet, and along your hairline. To get the maximum protection, apply a sunscreen with a higher SPF.

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Mayo Clinic recommends using products with SPF 15 or above and UVA/UVB protection.

To add to the protective layer, think light-colored, light-weight clothing. Protective clothing should be tightly woven – if you can see rays of light piercing the cloth, it will not protect against UV rays. Wear a hat with a 4-inch brim and sunglasses that offer UV protection to prevent damage to your eyesight and facial skin.

Now that I’m armed with a few tools to combat the sun, I may just laugh in the face of my “sun allergy” and soak up some rays. UV, you can’t touch this.

When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.

Other moderately atypical things I’m doing include buying a Macbook Air instead of a Dell, mixing green and red grapes instead of a glass of wine, buying a new shirt to wear to the lab meeting, and getting to sleep. There must be more to pre-college summer than thinking about buying dorm supplies and counting down the days until my FPOP. When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.

By Jessica Yang
CLASS OF 2015

As the perfect summy days slide by, I’m beginning to notice with mild dissatisfaction that I’ve been on autopilot. Have you ever habitually smelled or tasted something, only to be jolted out of the reverie by some unexpected new sensory feedback? Just about every day in high school, I drank chocolate milk with lunch, consequently, when I unconsciously brought golden apple juice to my lips one day, I was shocked by the thin, acidic taste. “Bleh, what happened?” was my instant reaction. It took me a couple moments to remember that the cafeteria had run out of milk.

With too much unstructured free time, I need to be awakened from my routine.

In a few weeks just about everything in my well will change, so why am I merely going through the motions of summer? I’ve gone on a fair number of outings – but there must be more to the typical day than waking up, going to work, procrastinating at lunch, looking at my phone, and going to sleep. There must be more to pre-college summer than thinking about buying dorm supplies and counting down the days until my FPOP. When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.

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Other moderately atypical things I’m doing include buying a Macbook Air instead of a Dell, mixing green and red grapes instead of a glass of wine, buying a new shirt to wear to the lab meeting, and getting to sleep. There must be more to pre-college summer than thinking about buying dorm supplies and counting down the days until my FPOP. When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.

By Jessica Yang
CLASS OF 2015

As the perfect summy days slide by, I’m beginning to notice with mild dissatisfaction that I’ve been on autopilot. Have you ever habitually smelled or tasted something, only to be jolted out of the reverie by some unexpected new sensory feedback? Just about every day in high school, I drank chocolate milk with lunch, consequently, when I unconsciously brought golden apple juice to my lips one day, I was shocked by the thin, acidic taste. “Bleh, what happened?” was my instant reaction. It took me a couple moments to remember that the cafeteria had run out of milk.

With too much unstructured free time, I need to be awakened from my routine.

In a few weeks just about everything in my well will change, so why am I merely going through the motions of summer? I’ve gone on a fair number of outings – but there must be more to the typical day than waking up, going to work, procrastinating at lunch, looking at my phone, and going to sleep. There must be more to pre-college summer than thinking about buying dorm supplies and counting down the days until my FPOP. When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.

With too much unstructured free time, I need to be awakened from my routine.

So one morning, I got up and did something different. Instead of drinking chocolate milk, I had some apple juice. And instead of slinging my blue backpack over my left shoulder and going to work, I grabbed my tote bag and went to Six Flags. My close friends and I had an indescribably amazing time twisting, looping, and pretending to fly on the Batwing coaster.

In celebration of magical changes – past and future – here are a couple other things I’m doing differently.

At the lab, I tried to make and recycle some lab consumables for $1. I’ve been spoiled — at our government labs, reagents and supplies can be bought instantly with the flash of a credit card or ordered online without a second thought. My mentor regales me with horror stories from his days as a young PhD student in a university lab. When he salvaged defective equipment, he was constantly making protein gels and materials from scratch, and had to wash out and reuse pipettes. Since I’m never sure when he’s joking, I decided to prepare for the probably unlikely possibility that I will have to pinch pennies to the extreme at a UROP. I washed out, wrapped, and re-used pipettes for a day. I stocked up on a San SDS gel (a thin, film-like material used to detect the presence of proteins), but the finished product could not compare with the nice, neat, fully-functional ones manufactured by biotech companies.

At the blood bank, I donated platelets and plasma instead of blood. The phlebotomist slid two glistening steel needles three inches into my elbows. The benefit to a patient in need is probably the only reason a perfectly healthy person would sit for two hours with catheters taped to forearms and twin blood pressure cuffs, connected to an evolved centrifuge selectively taking components of blood and returning the rest with a mixture of anti-coagulants and saline.

When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.

Other moderately atypical things I’m doing include buying a Macbook Air instead of a Dell, mixing green and red grapes instead of a glass of wine, buying a new shirt to wear to the lab meeting, and getting to sleep. There must be more to pre-college summer than thinking about buying dorm supplies and counting down the days until my FPOP. When analyzing tuition and meal plans for my parents becomes the most interesting thing to do on a Sunday, something is wrong.
The game’s narrative is unh hampered by long cutscenes or romantic subplots; rather, the sometimes tedious but ultimately rewarding combat system is where the game truly shines.

At character creation, you get to choose between ten different classes, each suiting a particular play style. I favor the Royalty class, as they start out with magical attacks and Magic Power regeneration, which suits my inexperience with combat style of sniping from a distance. Others may prefer the Knight’s heavy batter or the Thrum’s amazing demigod drop rate. No matter what class you start in, you can customize your characters by upgrading stats gained by killing enemies.

The game’s narrative is unh hampered by long cutscenes or romantic subplots; rather, the sometimes tedious but ultimately rewarding combat system is where the game truly shines.
After months, JSTOR harvesting ended in Jan. arrest

Swartz, a Harvard Ethics fellow, faces up to 35 years in prison and $1 million in fines

Swartz, from Page 1

new computer was put to use on the same day, registered on MIT's net-
work as a guest. When prompted, Swartz provided the name “Gary Host,” which he had abided to form the machine’s client name “ghost laptop,” according to the indictment. He put his newly-assigned MIT IP address (18.55.6.215) to use the next day, the indictment says, run-
ning a program on the laptop that downloaded JSTOR articles at a staggering rate. While the indict-
ment describes the program as be-
ing smart enough to avoid being automatically flagged by JSTOR's systems, the strain put on JSTOR's servers was enough to have im-
paired other research institutions attempting to access the material. It wasn't long before JSTOR and MIT took notice. That evening, JSTOR blocked the IP address of the laptop, preventing it from accessing their archives.

This setback didn’t deter Swartz for long, according to the indict-
ment. The next day the “ghost lap-
top” was assigned a new IP address, 18.55.6.236, and continued to rap-
idly download JSTOR materials. JSTOR again detected the activity, and this time took a more drastic measure: noticing that the offender's two IP addresses had begun with “18.55.” JSTOR blocked a broad range of similar MIT IP addresses. This action denied many MIT affiliates access to JSTOR for three days.

By the time JSTOR reversed its ban on that MIT IP address range on Sept. 29, MIT had taken a more targeted approach to keeping the offender off the network: blocking his laptop’s MAC address. A MAC address is a sequence of charac-
ters which uniquely identifies a machine’s hardware. Though it is not meant to be a permanent identifier, it can be changed — a trivial op-
eration for someone with Swartz’s expertise. The Acer laptop was reg-
istered to the MAC 00:16:00:4t. There was less than a week later, still under the name “Gary Host,” but with a slightly altered MAC address.

Grace Host

“Grace Host” first made her ap-
ppearance on MIT’s network on Oct. 8. She, too, used the name, states the federal indictment, that Swartz pro-
vided when he registered a second machine, this time a MacBook, as part of the network. Together, Grace and Gary Host downloaded JSTOR articles at such an astounding pace that several of JSTOR’s servers crashed. This time, JSTOR’s response was far more severe. All of MIT was de-

16-004

The restricted basement wiring closet

In the basement of Building 16 there is a wiring and telephone closet, known as Room 16-004t. Between November and December 2010, Aaron Swartz accessed this room and hard-wired his Acer lap-
top into the network, assigning him-
self the IP addresses. The computer was hidden under a cardboard box in the closet, and it remained there undetected for weeks. In this time it downloaded over 2 million JSTOR ar-
ticles, more than 100 times the number of legitimate JSTOR downloads in a week at MIT during the same period.

It was Jan. 4, 2011, when E&ST discovered the machine beneath the cardboard box, according to the officer report released by the Cam-
bidge Police Department. By 10:30 a.m. the officers on the scene, and long before he was joined by Cambridge police detec-
tive Joseph Murphy and U.S. Secret Service agent Michael Pickett. The indictment states that the laptop was running a script called “keep-
grabbing.py,” which was respons-
ible for downloading the JSTOR ar-
ticles. Fingerprint matching was performed from the laptop and hard drive, and then the detective, the officer, and the agent left Building 16.

The laptop and hard drive re-
mained under the cardboard box until July 13, 2011. However, it was now accompanied by a hidden network camera, installed by JSTOR.

The time, “keepgrabbing.py” did not know where the machine had come from, nor was it informed of the reason for its removal,” Wilson said. “Though Swartz was not affiliated with SFBP, the student group websites visitors to use their office if there are mem-
bers present.

It was 2:31 p.m. on Jan. 6 when the laptop was spotted on a bicycle on Massachusetts Avenue, an MIT police officer, according to the of-
cifer’s report. The report states that when he encountered Captain Al-
bert Pierce of the MIT Police De-
partment, Swartz jumped off his bike and ran down Lee Street, a few blocks north of City Hall in Central Square. He made it approximately 400 feet before being handcuffed and charged with breaking and en-
tering. Though he refused to give the officers his name, a USB drive found on his person left little doubt that this was the man they were after — it contained “keepgrabbing.py.”

JSTOR blocked a broad range of MIT IP addresses, denying many MIT affiliates access for 3 days.

Legal ramifications

Swartz faces up to 35 years in prison and up to $1 million in fines if he is convicted of the follow-

ing charges: wire fraud, computer fraud, unlawfully obtaining infor-
mation from a protected computer, and recklessly damaging a protect-
ed computer. The next hearing will be on Aug. 8. He is out on $100,000 bail.

These charges come despite JS-
TOR's not pressing charges. “The criminal investigation and today's indictment of Mr. Swartz has been directed by the United States At-
torney's Office,” said a statement released by JSTOR on July 19. “It was the government's decision whether to prosecute, not JSTOR. As noted previously, our interest was in securing the content. Once this was achieved, we had no inter-
est in this becoming an ongoing legal matter.”

Demand Progress, which Swartz founded, is currently rallying support for Swartz with an online petition signed by over 35,000 people.

This isn’t the first time Swartz has run into trouble with the govern-
ment for excessive downloading. This case is reminiscent of an incident in 2008, when Swartz was involved in the downloading of hundreds of thousands of documents from the Public Access to Court Electronic Records and re-
leasing them for free. Though it led to an FBI investigation, Swartz was not indicted.

Earlier in 2008, Aaron Swartz au-
thor ed a document titled “Guerilla Open Access Manifesto.”

“We need to download scientific journals and upload them to file sharing networks. We need to fight for Guerilla Open Access,” said Swartz in the manifesto. With enough of us, around the world, we’ll not just send a strong mes-
sage opposing the privatization of knowledge — we’ll make it a thing of the past. Will you join us?”

A timeline of Aaron Swartz’s alleged activity

As described by the federal indictment

September 2010

24 Swartz purchases Acer laptop to be used for his JSTOR downloading operation.

October 2010

26 JSTOR starts downloading JSTOR articles with a new IP address. JSTOR responds by blocking a range of MIT IP addresses for 3 days.

27 MIT blocks the MAC address of the laptop.

29 JSTOR removes ban on MIT IP address range.

A MacBook is registered to the MIT network with the name “Grace Host.”

Gary and Grace Host download articles from JSTOR at a rate which crashes MIT network. JSTOR blocks from accessing JSTOR for several days.

January 2011

04 Swartz is spotted leaving 16-004t. E&ST discovers his equipment in the closet, installs a hidden webcam.

Swartz arrested at 24 Lee St., after a short chase.

1:30 p.m. Swartz arrives at SFBP, hides his laptop and hard drive.

2:11 p.m. Swartz arrested.
WHAT YEAR ARE YOU?
A SURPRISINGLY DIFFICULT QUESTION TO ANSWER

"WELL, IF YOU GO BY CALENDAR YEAR, THIS IS MY _____ YEAR, BUT IF YOU GO BY ACADEMIC CALENDAR YEARS IT'S BEEN _____, UNLESS YOU COUNT THAT SUMMER I CAME EARLY, THEN IT'S BEEN_____ YEARS, WHICH MEANS PHYSICALLY I'VE BEEN ON CAMPUS _____ YEARS, BUT, I DIDN'T OFFICIALLY START THE PHD PROGRAM UNTIL _____, SO I GUESS TECHNICALLY THIS IS MY______ YEAR? ALTHOUGH HONESTLY IT FEELS LIKE _________"
**The Fire**

They had to drop the price on the 3DS! Nobody wants it, and not because it costs too much. 
So they still have the same problem.

My phone has taught me that portable games cost a dollar, not even a dollar! They cost ninety-nine cents!

A lot of those games are fucking garbage. They are games where you match cakes.

Well, you buy one 3DS game, and I’ll buy forty games on my phone.

We’ll see who has more “fun.”

---

**Accountability**

When I was moving some boxes around, some of it got on your town.

In my defense, I immediately dropped a whole plate on there.

Did some people burn? Sure. Did some people around? Yeah.

Some people did both. Clue? That’s on me.

I think we can work this out, though. I need you guys to tell me how much lava is too much.

---

**Sudoku**

Solution, page 14

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.

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

---

**Techdoku**

Solution, page 14

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–9. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

```
___ | ___ | 160+ | 60x | 3+ | 12x
___ | 6÷ | 13+ | 3 | 7 |
15+ | 56× | 24+ | 56× | 19+ |
4÷ | 18× | 80× |
___ | 15+ | 21× | 20× | 8 |
___ | 144× | 36× | 84× |
```

---

by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik
The following incidents were reported by the Campus Police between March 18, 2012 and May 15, 2012. The dates below reflect the dates the incidents occurred. This information is compiled from the Campus Police’s crime log.

**Police Log**

- **Nov 1, 2011**: Bldg. W20 (84 Massachusetts Ave.) 9:00 a.m., Harassment.
- **Oct 3, 2011**: Bldg. 1 (306 Beacon Street) 2:04 p.m., Report states that an unattended bicycle has been reported to have occurred over the past several months. Two bicycles taken in the previous weeks.

- **Jan 27, 2012**: Bldg. 67 (MIT Tech Square) 12:30 p.m., Victim reports theft from accounts payable office.

- **Apr 1, 2012**: Bldg. E15 (20 Ames St.) 11:00 a.m., Sector 2 report.

- **Apr 21, 2012**: Bldg. W34 (120 Vassar St.) 4:00 p.m., Report of a stolen laptop.

Barbecue, from Page 1

*MIT Club of Boston draws summertime crowd*

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Barbecue, from Page 1

*MIT Club of Boston draws summertime crowd*
Massachusetts lottery woes

Savvy players with capital play smart, win big

By Andrea Estes and Scott Allen

SUNDERS — Billy’s Beer and Wine sold more than $10,000 worth of lottery tickets the day before Marjorie Selbee arrived. It was another sleepy day for the liquor store in this tiny Western Massachusetts town. Marjorie, a 70-something woman from Michigan, has been coming to this store for the last 12 years. Billy’s wasn’t sleepy anymore.

Over the next three days, Selbee bought more than $300,000 in lottery tickets for a game whose biggest prize — about $2 million — has been claimed — and made a name for herself in lottery history.

Famed Selbees

Selbee, who runs a gambling company called GS Investment Strategies, knows a secret about the Massachusetts State Lottery: For a few days about every 60 to 75 days, Cash WinFall, a $1.6 million prize is offered, but the lottery is designed such that the amount of prize money is ultimately paid out during the rolldown weeks in a year would win no more than a few hundred dollars. Even when the jackpot reached $40,000 during rolldowns, de- spite the fact that the game had a “distinguished career even though the agency had a less than stellar academic record included math, computer science and electrical engineering.

New Mass. lottery restrictions in place

Regulations surrounding high-stakes Cash WinFall player

By Andrea Estes

State Treasurer Steven Grossman, who is also the head of the Massachusetts State Lottery, said Wednesday, April 15, 2015, that a new lottery game, which he is calling “Cash WinFall,” will launch that day, closing a loophole that has allowed a handful of high-stakes players to win big.

Three gambling compa- nies, including Massachusetts State Lottery officials stressed that stores that sell the tickets — which get a commission of about 5 percent of the sales — that some are tempted to break the rules to accommodate the high rollers’ needs. A Globe reporter saw Mar- jorie Selbee behind the counter at Jerry’s Place, a liquor store in Sunderland, buying $25 worth of tickets and offering a $1,000 prize. She bought a $200 in cash and four $50 worth of prize money to just a few.

It is very important to note that the Selbees have no reason to tamper with the machines that generate the tickets or other- wise game the lottery is not questioned in any way, shape, or form,” he said, add- ing that Cash WinFall will store will level the playing field among players.

Grossman was reacting to a Sunday Globe story that said that the Selbees and others had found a way to make the 2004 Cash WinFall game more lucrative for themselves. And winning at Cash WinFall, in its current form, is not easy. On one level, the game is simple: If the numbers on six randomly se- lected balls match the six on your ticket, you win the jackpot. The game is also designed to trap the millions of dollars in prize money that are not won.

Some groups — two of them in the state Senate, and other five got permission to sell Cash WinFall tickets for $2 million, but they had to put the tickets into a rolldown, which means that this type of betting was oc- curring, “said Cash WinFall player Peter McPhail, who has urged the Massachusetts State Lottery to change the game’s rules. “I want to do everything we can to make sure the integrity of the lottery is maintained. We don’t want to allow the big-time gamblers to obtain a huge profit if they buy more than 40,000 tickets,” he said.

The Selbees, by contrast, for- ested with cash and volatility, have a “distinguished career even though the agency has a less than stellar academic record included math, computer science and electrical engineering.

Secrets of the game

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The Selbees, by contrast, for- ested with cash and volatility, have a “distinguished career even though the agency has a less than stellar academic record included math, computer science and electrical engineering.
Plaintiff and former MIT professor James Sherley dealt serious blow in fight against hESC funding.

Mass. gaming board had unique game
Rolldown allows large winnings from many small prizes.

Prizes, from Page 13

NII nets victory in stem cell battle, research continues

stem cells, from Page 1

court several times since it was first filed almost two years ago on Aug. 29, 2009. Sherley and Deisher sued the NIH, but there were several additional defendants in the case, including Nightinglight Christian Adoptions (individually and as next friend for Plaintiff Embryos”), Christian Nightlight Christian Adoptions 19, 2009. Sherley and Deisher sued the NIH, but there were several additional defendants in the case, including Nightinglight Christian Adoptions (individually and as next friend for Plaintiff Embryos”), Christian Nightlight Christian Adoptions

Can you beat this drawing?
Join Illustrators at The Tech!

Solution to T echduko

Solution to Crossword

Solution to Sudoku

New limits on lottery sales
Make game fairer for low-stakes players.

Restrictions, from Page 13

example, would have to visit 20

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Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2: Game of Thrones

By Phillip Diesing

**SPORTS SHORTS**

MIT Women’s Tennis team begins season Sept. 10 at Smith

The MIT Women’s Tennis team will begin its 2011-12 season on Sept. 10 when it travels to Smith College for a match that will also be part of the 2011-12 NEWMAC Conference play for the Engineers, who finished the 2010-11 season in third place in Division III.

It will be a fall season for MIT that includes a full slate of NEWMAC matches as well as the Conference Championships in October.

In the Smith College match, MIT opens the season with four of its five seniors returning from last year’s Conference opponents. After the opener, MIT debuts at home against conference foe Colby College. The Engineers continue at home on September 22 when they host Franklin & Marshall College, one of three on the teams on the 2011-12 schedule that were NCAA Tournament participants last season.

MIT’s fall season also includes play at the ITA New England Regional Championships that will be hosted by Bates College from Sept. 30 to Oct. 2. The Engineers will face off against three other teams in three straight matches, including two at home against Wellesley College and Springfield College before taking part in the New England Women’s Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament on Oct. 8. MIT will close out the fall portion of its schedule with the NEWMAC Championships that start on October 22.

Spring begins for the Engineers in March as they travel to New York University and Colby College. MIT will play three more matches at home in April, hosting Simmons College, Brandeis University, and Trinity College. The match against Trinity on April 28 will close out the regular season for the Engineers.

—Phil Hess, DAPER staff

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**

2011 MIT cross country schedule announced

The MIT cross country program announced its 2011 schedule August 1. The slate features nine events including conference, regional, and national championships.

Tech will open up with the annual Engineer’s Cup meet against RPI and WPI at the Franklin Park cross country course. The MIT women will be seeking their sixth straight team victory in the event, while the men have won 18 of the last 19 competitions.

The Cardinal and Gray will travel to Boston College for the annual Wealth Management Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 1 to get a look at the course that will host the New England Division III Championship later in the year. The men’s team captured its first ever regional title last year, while the women placed fourth.

Franklin Park will serve as the host to a pair of championship events during the season, as Tech will compete in the All-New England Championship there on Saturday, Oct. 8 and return for the New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Championship in 2012.

 MIT will also host the CWPA Northern Division Championship on the weekend of Nov. 5 and 6. The top four teams from that tournament will advance to the Eastern Championship at Harvard University two weeks later.

—Greg McKenzie, DAPER staff

**SPORTS SHORTS**

Women’s volleyball releases 2011 schedule, starts with two-day tournament

The MIT Women’s Volleyball team will begin its 2011 campaign with its first appearance coming during the two-day Regis College Tournament on Sept. 2. The tournament is one of six the Engineers will be playing in throughout the season in addition to a nine-match NEWMAC schedule.

MIT continues tournament play the weekend of Sept. 11 with a trip to Vassar College before kicking off conference action at Mount Holyoke College on Sept. 13. The Cardinal and Gray’s first contest in Rockwell Cage is a tri-match with NEWMAC foes Clark University and Simmons College, marking MIT’s first meeting with the Boston-based squad.

Pivot league matches against Wellesley College (Sept. 20) and NCAA Tournament qualifier Springfield College (Sept. 27) sandwich the MIT Invitational, which features several of the top teams in New England, along with newcomers Frostburg State University and Newbury College.

In addition to competing at the Johnson & Wales University (Sept. 30 to Oct. 1), MIT will also host the Zesiger pool for the New England Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament on Oct. 21-22, before taking on a number of teams from the New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Championship.

The Engineers will square off in five NEWMAC matches, with the finale occurring on Oct. 29 at conference champion U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

—Michael Brauer, DAPER staff

**MOVIE REVIEW**

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2

Ten years later, David Yates presents the last adventure of Harry Potter

By Ralph Fiennes

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2: game of Thrones...

—Phil Hess, DAPER staff

**SPORTS SHORTS**

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2: Part 2 starts right where its predecessor ended and provides an epic finale for the eight-film movie adaptations to J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter series. Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) and his friends Ron (Rupert Grint) and Hermione (Emma Watson) are back in action in this final installment of the Harry Potter franchise.

In this epic final battle, Harry and his friends visit some of the locations of their previous adventures and make numerous references to the preceding seven parts of the series. Old characters show up again, and Harry and his friends visit some of the locations of their previous adventures, like the Chamber of Secrets to get a fang from the Basilisk they killed years earlier.

Harry Potter 7.2 is much more entertaining than its predecessor, which had been laborious in parts. The latest film of the movie provides an epic conclusion to the series that the fans truly deserve for their commitment and support over a whole decade.

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Harry Potter 7.2 is much more entertaining than its predecessor, which had been laborious in parts. The latest film of the movie provides an epic conclusion to the series that the fans truly deserve for their commitment and support over a whole decade.
a superhero movie set so firmly in the WWII era, but after a while the vintage-style visuals and sepia-toned color palate lose their charm. Once that novelty wears off, no amount of period-piece eye candy can make up for a lackluster script.

Part of the problem lies within the constraints of the source material. Marvel Entertainment must make a stand-alone origin story to introduce Captain America before next year’s Avengers film. With his dogged patriotism, Captain America lacks dimension in the black-and-white WWII setting; it wouldn’t have been a problem, though, if the audience were emotionally invested in all the characters. But we already know that the Captain must be frozen by the end of the movie to be unfrozen in 2011 — as a result, the screenwriters have treated the Cap’s wartime friends any way, why bother mak-

That’s the film’s true weakness: lazy storytelling. Characters remain under-developed across the board, despite the potential of their back stories. For example, Captain America’s love interest Agent Peggy Carter (Hayley Atwell) manages to kick ass in high heels, but barely gets any dialogue past flat one-liners; she only manages brief references to her underdog status in the male-dominated military world. When combined with Ameill’s slightly awkward chemistry with her costar, the romance storyline falls flat. Another promising supporting character, Howard Stark (Dominic Cooper), faces the same treatment. He’s the future father of Tony Stark/Iron Man, but appears here only as a weak facsimile of Robert Downey Jr.’s devilishly charming play-

Chris Evans embodies Captain America in all of his patriotic, Nazi-crushing glory.

When you’re writing a script, conventional movie wisdom tells us that you can’t go wrong with Nazi villains — everybody hates them. And if you make your protagonist Captain America, then you’re practically set, right? Captain America: The First Avenger opens with present-day scientists un-

Naming places Steve Rogers (Chris Evans), a diminutive and sickly young Brooklynhite who desperately wanted to enlist in the army and fight in World War II. After facing repeated rejections from recruitment centers, he catches the attention of army doctor Abraham Erskine (Stanley Tucci), who recognizes Steve’s courage, dedication, and all-American wholesomeness. Dr.

Erskine places Steve in the govern-

ment’s “Super Soldier” program and performs a procedure that transforms the five-foot-tall, 90-pound weakling in new A-meh-rica Nazi-crushing Captain America somehow falls flat

In all of his patriotic, Nazi-crushing glory.

Chris Evans embodies Captain America in all of his patriotic, Nazi-crushing glory.

Tucked discreetly beside Creation “N” Hair and Cambridge Auto, its modest black and white sign blending into the other businesses, Bara-

ka Café doesn’t stand out to the casual observer. But behind the door plastered with Yelp! and Zagat recommendations lies an authentic North African experience, one I would never have heard about without the recommendation of a friend from pika.

The waiter was attentive and courtous, despite having some issues with English. We started out our meal with a glass of chéthe ($2), a lemonade with a spritz of rose petals and a mint garnish. The refreshing summer option comes out full force at the first sip, fading to be replaced by a glorious array of rose petals, like the memory of a summer day. We split the bedenjal mechoi appetizer ($3.95), an eggplant and gar-

lic spread. The dish is a perfect dip of yogurt covered with toasted white and whole-wheat pita strips, but it was one of a single plate dish. The creamy tanginess of the yogurt paired well with the egg-

plant, making the dish worth the awkwardness of the tongue trying to grasp the pita strips.

Baraka Café’s menu includes a seasonal sec-

tion that was a little above our college-student price range, costing $15–17 per entrée and fea-

uring fish, lamb, and other fare. Instead, I or-

dered the classic ojja aakous ($8.95), featuring a mildly spicy medley of lentils, cabbage, squash, zucchini, and carrots over tiny cous-


crastini, superpowered baddie.

The film is meant to be lighthearted in its WWII setting.

With his dogged patriotism, Captain America lacks dimension in the black-and-white WWII setting.

Along with the beans were firmer than I like them, making this vegetable dish more satisfying than many others I’ve had. My partner had the mellou la kasbha ($11.95), a dish of lamb sausage, beef, and chicken skewers served on a bed of salty frie and was sated by the stripes. The tchektchouka, a lamb sausage, was too dry for my liking. The fries were not the usual thick, crisp affair but thinner and less crunchy, pairing well with the vegetables driz-

The dessert menu ranged from more familiar fare, such as crème brulee and flourless choco-

late torte, to the more exotic Algerian baklava.

The menu offered a range of small, unique, and exotic dishes that were Instagrammable, eating. However, I found the tchektchouka, a lamb sausage, too dry for my liking. The fries were not the usual thick, crisp affair but thinner and less crunchy, pairing well with the vegetables driz-

The cream inside was studded with vanilla beans and we savored every morsel.

Baraka means “blessing” in Hebrew and Ara-

bic, and I’d like to give my very own to this won-

derful find. This hidden gem is perfect for a date that doesn’t break the bank or simply an enjoy-

able dinner with good friends.

Baraka Café
80 Pearl St., Cambridge
Lunch: Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
Dinner: Tuesday–Saturday, 5–10 p.m.

By Deena Wang
STAFF WRITER

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developed across the board, despite the potential of their back stories. For example, Captain America’s love interest Agent Peggy Carter (Hayley Atwell) manages to kick ass in high heels, but barely gets any dialogue past flat one-liners; she only manages brief references to her underdog status in the male-dominated military world. When combined with Ameill’s slightly awkward chemistry with her costar, the romance storyline falls flat. Another promising supporting character, Howard Stark (Dominic Cooper), faces the same treatment. He’s the future father of Tony Stark/Iron Man, but appears here only as a weak facsimile of Robert Downey Jr.’s devilishly charming play-

heroic
good

Worst of all, Captain America suffers from a boing — and sometimes even silly — villain. Red Skull doesn’t do much other than pace menacingly and talk about his plans for world domina-

tion. Not even Hugo Weaving, whose brilliance was on full display as Villain in V for Vendetta, can inject the necessary venom and gravitas into his character’s weak dialogue; at the screening I at-

tended, Red Skull’s utterances elicited more giggles than fear from the audi-

ence. It doesn’t help that the character resembles, as Jon Stewart glibly put it, a “sunburned James Cagney.”

Perhaps the filmmakers were wor-

ried that any actually interesting char-

acters would have stolen the show. As a character, the Cap is at his best in the present day, when his patriotism and morality conflict. Despite the film’s flaws, though, a darker iteration (say, Vietnam-era) would be too ponderous for a summer blockbuster. Other than next year’s The Avengers, Chris Evans is contracted to play Captain America in four more films; hopefully some of them will tackle the character in a more nuanced fashion. For now, indulge in the fluffy escapism that is Captain America: The First Avenger. It’s at least better than hearing about the debt ceiling.

RESTAURANT REVIEW
A piece of North Africa in New England

Treat your taste buds, spare your wallet at Baraka Café

By Deena Wang
STAFF WRITER

The nostalgic trip is great — for the first

feels like a missing clip from

raiders of

skinned, superpowered baddie.

an imperfect version of the procedure

Skull (Hugo Weaving), has performed

for this super-soldier technology. One

while, the Nazis are also on the search

into a paragon of masculinity. Mean-

the five-foot-tall, 90-pound weakling

has been frozen underground for over

years. He started out as Steve Rogers (Chris Evans), a diminutive and sickly young Brooklynhite who desperately wanted to enlist in the army and fight in World War II. After facing repeated rejections from recruitment centers, he catches the attention of army doctor Abraham Erskine (Stanley Tucci), who recognizes Steve’s courage, dedication, and all-American wholesomeness. Dr.

Christopher Evans embodies Captain America in all of his patriotic, Nazi-crushing glory.

By Carolyn Zhang
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When you’re writing a script, conventional movie wisdom tells us that you can’t go wrong with Nazi villains — everybody hates them. And if you make your protagonist Captain America, then you’re practically set, right? Captain America: The First Avenger opens with present-day scientists un-

covering a frozen red, white, and blue shield somewhere in the Arctic. It be-

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