MacGregor freshman found dead
Satto Tonegawa, son of MIT Nobel laureate, is 2nd death of term

By Ethan A. Solomon
Managing Editor

There is no reason to suspect foul play, the MIT News Office has reported.

"This is a very sad situation, and the entire MIT community shares a deep sense of loss and grief," said Chancellor E. Joseph Crain on behalf of MIT. "Our thoughts go out to the family, friends, classmates and dormmates of Satto, as well as to the graduate resident tutors, housemasters and others in the student-life system who knew and cared about Satto."

"Students should look out for their neighbors right now," said Undergraduate Association President Allan E. Mirman '13. "Random acts of kindness can go a long way." Tonegawa was the second MIT student to have died in less than two months. Nicola S. Del Castillo '10, a sophomore, was found dead in a Menlo dormitory room on Sept. 4 in an apparent suicide.

As is protocol in the case of a sudden death, Massachusetts State Police and the Middlesex County District Attorney have begun an investigation. The MIT News Office says they do not know how long the investigation will take.

Tonegawa was an avid musician, playing both piano and cello. He attended the Milton Academy before coming to MIT this fall, according to the Academy's website, and graduated cum laude. Like his father, he had an interest in the life sciences—he worked in the On-Line lab at the Whitehead Institute as a high-school student. Prof. Tonegawa, recipient of the 1987 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, is a continue...
US economy shows modest growth last quarter

By Shaila Dewan
THE NEW YORK TIMES

U.S. economic growth picked up last quarter in the latest encouraging sign that the recovery, while painfully slow, has not stalled. Consumers spent more, especially on health care and utilities, and businesses invested more, in software and vehicles among other items, spurring the fastest growth in a year. The nation’s total output of goods and services grew at an annual rate of 2.5 percent from July to September, almost double the 1.3 percent rate in the previous quarter, the Commerce Department estimated Thursday.

That pace is not bristling, however, to recover the ground lost in the economic bust, where unemployment or entirely dispel fears of a second recession. "It ain’t brilliant, but at least it’s heading in the right direction," said Ian Shepherdson, the chief economist for High Frequency Economics, a data analysis firm. "I want to see it 4 percent, but given that people were talking about a new recession, I’ll take 2.5 or 3." Investors embraced the domestic report and a broader agreement struck by European leaders to resolve their debt crisis, causing some major stock indexes to soar by 5 percent in Europe and by about 3 percent in the United States, where the Dow Jones industrial average closed above 12,200.

Still, one did not have to look far to find cautionary signs in the U.S. economic report. Economists do not expect growth to accelerate in the next few quarters to the point that it drives the unemployment rate well below 9 percent. The latest economic improvement is not enough to be perceptible to anxious U.S. families. "For most people, they’re unable to really make a distinction between a recession and just 2 percent growth, which means the economy is growing so weakly it can’t hire enough people to make a dent in unemployment," said Bernard Baumohl, the chief economist at the Economic Outlook Group.

Even the latest growth rate may be hard to sustain, said Kathy Bostjancic, director for macroeconomic analysis at the Conference Board, which tracks consumer and executive sentiment. Real income is declining, housing prices are stalled and, as the National Association of Realtors reported Thursday, home sales in September were down for the third consecutive month. Personal disposable income, adjusted for inflation, fell 1.7 percent in the third quarter, its biggest drop since the third quarter of 2009.

While income was falling, consumer spending rose at an annual rate of 2.4 percent, more than triple the rate in the second quarter. So where did the money come from? Consumers put less away in savings, and credit card debt dipped.

"That is unlikely to continue if the economic growth weakens because Americans are much more conscious about adding on a lot of debt to their balance sheets," said Bostjancic, who added that the negative outlook had begun to spread to businesses.

North Korea is talking, but Panetta is skeptical

By Elisabeth Bumiller
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Six-nation negotiations about North Korea’s nuclear ambitions. Panetta was also referring to the tortured six-nation talks themselves. Officials concluded this week’s exploratory talks, held in Geneva, by saying they remained committed to further negotiations. But the officials parted without facing a date for talks of any kind. Nonetheless, on Tuesday, the U.S. special envoy to the negotiations, Victoria Nuland, called the two-day talks in Geneva “very positive and generally constructive.” Panetta’s more skeptical view mirrored that of U.S. military officials here, who in a briefing reporters Thursday expressed strong distrust of North Korea’s motives in the talks.

The officials said North Korea had engaged in the exploratory talks and had been more accommodating in recent months — because its leaders were eager for food, fuel, currency and economic aid to help support national celebrations planned for 2012. The celebrations are the 100th anniversary of the birth of the late Kim Il Sung, the founder of North Korea.

The military officials, who asked for anonymity under rules governing the release of specific information, said they feared that North Korea might be seeking to extract concessions without planning to give up their nuclear programs, as shared by some policy makers in Washington.

“We can’t approach the negotiations from the perspective of not having any hope of its success,” one of the officials said. “But I think there’s a great deal of skepticism.”

In a 2005 deal during six-party talks, North Korea agreed to give up its nuclear program in return for economic and diplomatic incentives. But that agreement came apart after North Korea’s nuclear test in 2006 and then pulled out of the six-party talks in 2009. North Korea’s nuclear testing and Pyongyang’s latest refusal to sit down with the six-nation group have raised fears of another sanctions round and possible military action.

President Obama has offered to negotiate, but Panetta and Secretary of State John Kerry have maintained that economic incentives must be extended only in the context of serious dialogue. The United States is not prepared to offer any new economic incentives unless North Korea shows a genuine commitment to ending its nuclear program, Panetta said last week.

North Korea’s nuclear tests have ratcheted up the pressure on Washington and Seoul to extract concessions without planning to give up their nuclear programs, as shared by some policy makers in Washington.

“Can’t we just have a conversation about the perspective of not having any hope of its success,” one of the officials said. “But I think there’s a great deal of skepticism.”
**UN votes to end foreign intervention in Libya**

By Rick Gladstone

The U.N. Security Council voted yesterday to end its authorizations on Monday for the foreign military interventions in Libya in the legal basis for the NATO attacks on Moammar Gadhafi's forces during the Bloody Week that toppled him from power.

The council voted 10-0 on Thursday to extend the existing legal basis for the NATO attacks on Moammar Gadhafi's forces during the Bloody Week that toppled him from power.

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Abolish the Electoral College

The system is a vestige of an era past long

By Michael Veldman

A new poll from Gallup confirms once again the widespread support for amending the Constitution to provide for a presidential election decided by a popular vote. Rather, the framers of the Constitution saw fit to create a college of electors, appointed and organized by their respective state legislatures, to choose the president by majority vote. While the procedure for selecting the electors has been modified in the intervening 200 years — for example, electors are no longer predominantly affiliated with the political parties and elected on Election Day — the gist of the system remains the same. Currently, 40 states and Washington D.C. allocate their electoral votes on a winner-take-all basis, only Maine and Nebraska being the two states that split their electoral votes among multiple candidates.

Gallup has been tracking the support for such a reform for an establishment to decide presidential elections since 1967, when they found that 58 percent would support a change, with 22 percent opposed. Approval peaked in 1989 at 80 percent and has since leveled off to 62 percent as of their polling this year. In 1970, a popular resolution to amend the Constitution passed the House but died after a successful filibuster by small-state and Southern Senators. The suburb of Washington D.C. that is the President is not elected to govern a population of at least 20 million people, but rather to govern a state equal to a single metropolitan area. Hence, foreseeing that social mores and political beliefs change as the result of a nation's son home safely

Gild Shalit's return to Israel reveals a national psychology

By Rachel Bandler

Last week, Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit was finally allowed to return home after being kidnapped and held hostage for over five years by Hamas. Shalit's release showed the immense value that Israel attributes to the safe return of its soldiers, and this value of life inspires the nation to press for its son's release. They never gave up hope that Gilad was alive, and took every opportunity to speak on his behalf. Their perseverance worked, and Gilad's face became the face of a nation, and now, the entire country is asking for his release. As a result, Noam and Aria Shalit, Gilad's parents, were at the forefront of this movement and years into Shalit's capture they were still camping in a tent outside of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's official residence in order to keep a constant presence at the entrance to the official residence of the President of the State of Israel. The International Committee of the Red Cross, medical attention, and contact with his loved ones. Gilad's kidnapping soon soared to the international arena and sparked a world-wide response, and it's time to look ahead.

Whether it was because of overwhelming national support, fear of further change from the Arab spring, or an ornithological likelihood, Israel was able to finally meet with Shalit's family. The Palestinian Authority then released Shalit to the United States, and he was flown back to Israel for medical treatment. The Associated Press and other news outlets on the ground confirmed Shalit's release, and President Obama issued a statement congratulating Shalit's release.

The crossword puzzle in Tuesday's issue of The Tech was not published with the correct clues or solutions. A new crossword puzzle — with correct clues and solutions — can be found in today's issue on p. 7.
Debt and diplomacy

How the eurozone crisis resolves will be a scoreboard of nations’ diplomatic powers

By Keith Kost

It’s challenging to get either Americans or policy wonks excited about the European debt crisis. Foreign countries are having more fun arguing about what makes for a good policy solution? I’d rather listen to a panel discussion of Mitt Romney’s hair.

But my fellow wonks should pay close attention to the eurozone crisis — not because it is going to change the world, but because it is going to provide us with the best natural experiment on the distribution of power between western governments.

The crisis is easy enough to explain. Europe has a common currency; it’s a serendipitous natural experiment on the distribution of power between western governments. It’s big and important, but because it’s a complex problem, I’d rather listen to a panel discussing the current cycle of rabid-attack politics and how we might as well all get ready. The firestorm of civility, but out of a self-imposed moral pledge. They must renounce deliberately the prospect of Greece.

As the progressive Senate hopeful enters the arena, a campaign of misinformation reaches a crescendo government spending.

Warren will not be the champion of the middle class, arguing that agen- cies like the CFPB will not enhance consumer security. The outcome of the election of Robert Bork.

When Scott Brown defeated Democrat Martha Coakley in the January 2010 special election, conservatives rejoiced. Citing the current cycle of rabid-attack politics and how we might as well all get ready. The firestorm of civility, but out of a self-imposed moral pledge. They must renounce deliberately the prospect of Greece.

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Shalit’s return should be celebrated
Despite heavy costs, soldier’s homecoming is good for Israel

The answer stems from a deep sense of unity that penetrates all levels of Israeli society. Because Israel is so small and is the only Jewish state in the world, no one is really a stranger, and almost everyone has a mutual contact in common. For this reason, Gilad was not some obscure Israeli soldier who happened to be captured, and was not some remote and unfortunate casualty of war to remember. Instead, Gilad was transformed into every Israeli family’s son, someone they thought about and missed every single day; his release became a national plight, and although trading so many terrorists for his one life may be unwise from a rational perspective, Gilad’s case was propelled beyond the realm of pure logic. As Einstein so eloquently put it, “politics is more difficult than physics,” and the situation surrounding Gilad’s release is a prime example that nothing is truly black and white. Sometimes questions like “what if it were your son” get in the way of the logical or sensible choice, and lead to decisions that are not entirely levelheaded.

Regardless, Gilad’s return home should be enthusiastically celebrated, as should the Israeli people’s love for a soldier who the vast majority of them had never even met.
Arthursaurus Rex by Ramya Swamy

Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun

Friday, October 28, 2011
The Tech

If you fire a Portal gun through the door of the wardrobe, space and time knot together, which leads to a frustrated Aslan trying to impart Christian morality to the Space sphere.

A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE, SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE
by Randall Munroe

Crossword Puzzle
Solution, page 19

ACROSS
1 Like some pigeons
7 Little shot?
10 Subside
13 Wild Asian equine
14 “Measure for Measure” heroine
17 “Receiving poorly,” to a CBer
18 Singer/pianist with the 2002 hit “A Sorta Fairytale”
19 Russian fighter
20 Shockers in the deep
22 Rear
23 Rival of Bjorn
25 “On the contrary!”
27 “Forever, __”: 1996 humor collection
28 Likely visitor to the principal
30 Nair alternative
31 What it takes?
32 Locomotive output
34 “__ tu”: Verdi aria
35 Biblical verb
37 Sociologist’s interests
39 Watery expanse
41 Prosaic
43 Bourbon flavoring
44 It covers all the bases
46 Flips
51 Ship that sailed from Iolcus
52 Highlight reel
53 Many a retired racer
54 Common lunchbox fare, briefly
55 So-in captain
58 Never, to Goethe
59 Floundering one
61 Stuck
63 Coordinated outfit
64 Like much meditation music
65 1956 Runabout, e.g.
66 Stars may represent them: Abbr.
67 Got tight

DOWN
1 Possible source of unwanted feedback, for short
2 “Mourning Becomes Electra” playwright
3 shovel shovel
4 "Can __ now?"
5 Maui flapper
6 Work in the environmental sector
7 Active time for a racetrack crew
8 Metric lead-in
9 Environmental impact factor
10 Shade sources
11 One may be late
12 Long-grain rice of the Punjab
15 Medal feature
16 Downed
21 Cyberchortle
24 Bk. after Nehemiah
26 Like a butterfly in water?
29 G-tap
33 Big name in oil filters
35 Sea named for its seaweed
36 Sports trainer’s supply
38 Just makes, with “but”
39 Office tool
40 Incus or malleus
42 Defensive anger, metaphorically
43 Bourbon flavoring
46 Flips

[969] Delta-P
How Culture Ends: Not with a bang... with a whisker.

Dilbert by Scott Adams

Sudoku
Solution, page 19

Techdoku
Solution, page 19

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.

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.
You Have Not Received Any E-mails In The Last Hour. What Do You Do?

Step 1: PANIC
Is your e-mail down? How long has it been down? Are there critically important e-mails that you’re NOT GETTING??

Step 2: Send yourself a test e-mail

Did it arrive?

Did it arrive just to be safe

Yes!

Phew.

Wait, what if it only works for YOU??

Step 3: Annoy Your Friends
Ask them to send you a test e-mail. Surely, this is more important than anything they’re doing.

Did it arrive?

Yes!

Relax

Not yet

check again

Wait, what if it JUST started working?

There is an undetermined period in time in which you may or may not have been able to receive important e-mails

Step 4: Do Something Stupid
E-mail everyone you know and ask if they tried to send you an e-mail in the last hour.
**EXHIBIT REVIEW**

**Whirling into motion**

Arthur Ganson’s mechanical sculptures facilitate interaction between audience and artwork

By Adisa Kruayatidee

Ganson’s work exemplifies MIT’s core commitment to the intersection between science and art, but despite the lofty ways in which the exhibit could be described, it is simple and non-imposing. Besides its rectangular white pedestal, the only accouterment for each piece is its intricate silhouette, cast on the white wall behind it by a small yellow spotlight.

Seeing the sculptures’ naked machinery is striking. This exhibit is not full of cutting-edge results, and therein lies its unique beauty. Onlookers essentially get a “behind-the-scenes” look at the art. Each piece exists not only in space, but also in its progression through time, as the turn of a gear or rotation of a lever moves it one beat ahead.

Ganson’s imaginative concepts could be epitomized in one sculpture, which would probably be *Another Dream*. Three groups of gears, each connected to at least one other, form a tapered tower that nearly touches the ceiling. Start any single gear near the top, and you can follow a connected path from down to the floor; the gears turning one another highlight what Ganson described as the “tangible flow of energy through these systems.” Along the way, you’ll pass such shapes as spoke wheels, helices, sun shapes, and hamster wheels — a spooky touch in the machinery.

Other works are equally fascinating. Machine with Bell Chain operates in soothing repetitions. A steel platform holds a chain of steel beads as they trickle out of a sink faucet.

On the platform of *Machine with 11 Scraps of Paper* are three sets of coupled gear systems, progressing much faster than the Bell Chain. Four groups of gears, each connected to another, could be epitomized in one sculpture. "Machine with 11 scraps of Paper" from Arthur Ganson’s Gestural Engineering exhibit.

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**The Thing is …**

Prequel to the 1982 thriller is primatively grotesque and really, really paranoid

By Jenny Xie

In the 2011 prequel to the 1982 John Carpenters film of the same name, paleontologist Kate Lloyd (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) is called to Antarctica for what could be the discovery of the century: an alien ship buried deep in the ice and a frozen organism that seems to have died when the ship hit Earth. Kate and her Norwegian colleagues perform experiments on the organism in the name of science but, to their utter paranoia finally sets in — they're a bunch of Scandinavians in full reverie? Their actual meanings lie in the viewer.

So what do viewers think of this interactive experience? As one person wrote in the museum's visitor’s book: “You’re either a psycho or a genius, or both. Either way, you fail!”

**Gestural engineering: The sculpture of Arthur Ganson**

**Arthur Ganson**

**MIT Museum**

Gestural engineering: The sculpture of Arthur Ganson — opening on view at the MIT Museum.

**DETAIL OF THE SCULPTURE**


Kate (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) and Sander (Ulrich Thomsen) examine a mysterious something in "The Thing."
Movie Review

Tour of a painting

Lech Majewski’s *The Mill and the Cross* is a journey into Bruegel’s 16th-century world

By Kathryn Dere
ARTS EDITOR

It starts with a sound and ends with a painting. Creaking. Voices. Echoing footsteps. The soft swish of fabric. Above all, darkness. When the scene opens, the camera slowly pans back and forth across an evolving painting: *The Mill and the Cross* is centered around Pieter Bruegel the Elder’s *The Way to Calvary* (1564), so what better way to open the film than with a tour of the painting itself?

Artistically speaking, *The Mill and the Cross* is a masterpiece. Majewski’s handling of Bruegel’s already masterful painting actually gave me a greater appreciation for Bruegel’s work. Before, I had (somewhat subconsciously) associated his work with lighthearted indie music (Fleet Foxes’ eponymous first album uses a detail from Bruegel’s *Netherlandish Proverbs* on its cover), but the film investigates the painting in such detail that it’s difficult not to notice anything deeper.

Of course, with a film like this it is a given that you find each scene bursting with symbolism and dramatic plays on light and dark. But Majewski takes this one step further. For every realism-meets-painterly moment à la *Girl With a Pearl Earring*, there is an “authentic-or-invented?” moment. Many of the key scenes are actually an amalgamation of painted backdrops (in the style of Bruegel’s painting) and blue screen acting.

This blending and ambiguity comes to the forefront of the storyline just as much as it does in the cinematography. The 16th-century politics of the time blend in with biblical events. The red-caped Spanish soldiers that ride around Flanders are akin to the Roman soldiers that crucified Jesus, and their persecution of Dutch “heretics” is just as brutal. Cringe-worthy scenes, such as the one in which they strap a man to a wheel and raise it several meters into the air so that ravens can peck out his eyes, all lead up to a climactic crucifixion scene.

Perhaps the most remarkable part about this film is its lack of words. Words don’t come out of an actor’s mouth until half an hour into the film, and even then, it hardly counts as dialogue; the man seems to be speaking directly to the audience while his wife stares blankly at a book of prayer. The emphasis, then, shifts to everyday noises: the deafening sounds of a servant clomping up the stairs in his wooden shoes, the thunder (yes, thunder) of the horses’ hooves as the Spanish soldiers ride into town, the sounds of rambunctious children wrestling each other in the morning. At the center of all this is the mill — the only moment of dead silence in the film is when the mill stops turning, the wind stops roaring, and the miller looks out from his tower like the great decider of fates that he plays.

When the miller raises his hand in a godlike gesture and the mill does start up again, it’s almost disappointing. Then again, Majewski’s decision to show the resumption of everyday life (in the form of a bucolic dance scene, no less) is a necessary one. *The Mill and the Cross* is locked in a timelessness that we cannot understand fully, and therein lies its power.

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**Diwali@MIT**

MIT’s Sangam celebrated Diwali in style with a classic Indian dinner in Lobdell and a show in Kresge that combined a bit of Bollywood, a touch of classics, and even some profound introspection.

The two superstars of the evening were Suvinay Subramanian G (pictured), whose lyrical, colorful singing went beyond the bounds of the ordinary to capture the soul of India, and Srikanth Bolla ’13, who presented his extraordinary program to tackle a core problem of Indian society — how to integrate the disabled into meaningful and productive lives — and whose presence and erudition gave soul to the evening as a whole.

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In this forum senior leaders from the Microsoft Online Services Division (OSD) China and U.S. teams will overview of OSD’s current R&D investment in the country and the role China plays in growing the OSD busi-
ness. You will learn from their vision and firsthand experiences building a sustainable, world-class engineering organization that fosters innovation and is transforming OSD in China and globally.

Microsoft Online Services Division in China Lead the Change in Your Career

Time and Location
10am-1pm, Saturday, November 5th, 2011, Microsoft New England Research & Development Center, 11th Floor Common, 1 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02142

Featured Speakers
Harry Shum, Corp. Vice President, Search Product Development, OSD
Yongdong Wang, General Manager, Search Technology Center Asia (STCA)

Please R.S.V.P to Susan Goodwin <sgood@microsoft.com> if you plan to attend.

Event Summary
China has enjoyed unprecedented economic growth over the past few decades — growth that shows no signs of abating. This growth is particularly astonishing in the fast-evolving Chinese Internet. China now has the world’s largest Internet population with over 400 million Internet users.

In this forum senior leaders from the Microsoft Online Services Division (OSD) China and U.S. teams will discuss OSD’s commitment and strategy, as well as online market potential in China. They will provide an overview of OSD’s current R&D investment in the country and the role China plays in growing the OSD business. You will learn from their vision and firsthand experiences building a sustainable, world-class engineering organization that fosters innovation and is transforming OSD in China and globally.

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Reactions to fifth week flag can determine student success in class

Most flags are specific to individual students, and can include observations by the instructor like, “I noticed you didn’t do well on the last exam,” or “you haven’t been to recitation lately,” said Norman. Most flags also involve a follow-up from the UAAP with information on how to improve performance. Norman said that flags are intended to be something like, “Let’s pause. Where do you stand right now, and what do you need to do to be more successful?”

All flags are forwarded to housemasters and varsity coaches, and students with multiple flags get more attention from the UAAP. They also get an email from the dean of undergraduate education on how students can get support, particularly when it comes to personal problems.

Norman said that students sometimes “need assistance finding the trees in the forest — they need help directly going to resources.” She added that some issues affecting student performance may be more personal, in which case students should go to 5-19 to seek help with managing academics in their lives.

However, Norman said that the success of a student is entirely dependent on their reaction to the flag, adding that most students she hears from react very positively and tend to be proactive, though she emphasized the importance of setting realistic goals.

“When I read it, I thought ‘clearly, I’m doing something wrong.’” — Kere Eke ’15

Oyenwoke “Kere” Eke ’15, flagged in 7.012, had a more negative reaction initially. “It made me feel dumb,” she said, “I was like, ‘Kere, why are you here at MIT?’ It made me feel like someone stubbed me — it was also the way the instructor wrote it, it was very harsh. I guess they thought it was necessary for them to warn me that way so that you know you need to get shit done.”

But the flag motivated her to change her habits. “When I read it, I thought ‘clearly, you’re doing something wrong,’ and so I sat down and mapped out the rest of the semester. … I’ve never been so productive in my time here at MIT. I make time for reading now and, since I do the reading before the lecture, I have a better understanding of the lecture. Without the fifth week flag I would be doing nothing right now. I’m actually kind of glad I got it. It was useful, helpful.”

Emma E. Feshbach ’15 saw the flags as needing some improvement. “I know I would get one just because I failed the first test, [and] it was not very specific in offering resources besides my adviser,” she said, adding that it would be helpful if the email could offer more direct resources such as tutors, or if the email came from the department. “I think if someone didn’t know what their status was in a class it could be helpful. It just seems sort of weird sending out an email saying ‘by the way, you’re failing.’”

Last year, the flagged recovery rate — defined by a student passing a flagged class, as opposed to dropping or failing — was 81.5 percent, higher than past averages of 68–70 percent. The UAAP expects it to remain that high.

The recovery rate, said Norman, was “a direct result of student initiative — tutors, Seminar XL LE, study sessions, meetings, etc.” Undergraduate resources and support can be found at http://mit.edu/uaap/resources.html and http://web.mit.edu/uaap/s3/.
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Challah for Hunger raises money for disaster relief, while educating the community about world hunger. It does this through the production and sale of challah, a type of bread. The profits are donated to the national Challah for Hunger cause: the American Jewish World Service’s Sudan Relief and Advocacy Fund and a monthly charity of choice.
Prototype for $1K house has final price tag of $6K

Idea inspired by One Laptop per Child; designing the house is a ‘collaborative’ project

By Deborah Chen

Chang emphasized that what makes the $1K house unique is not just its low cost, but the interactions between the architect, the engineers, and the end user that occurred during its construction.

Chang hopes that the locals can take away design principles from their involvement in the construction.

“Practically speaking, architects can’t build their own design, and inhabitants can’t either — they don’t have the equipment, crew of people. It was very unusual, in our case then, that we worked directly with all parties. Even the person who ended up living in the house was physically building it,” Chang said.

Chui says that the process of working with structural engineers and being heavily involved in the construction was a rewarding experience.

“I learned a lot about the engineering perspective — we designed the house in studio, but we had to select the material at the time during construction. It was a challenge because we were building in a rural area and we had to look for materials that were close-by, and met the structural and cost requirements. “

Chang hopes that the $1K house prototype is based on a single module with branching rectangular rooms.

Tak on a Columnist

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WASHINGTON - During his first presidential campaign, Mitt Rom- ney often turned his home state into the butt of jokes, portraying himself as a lone culture warrior in a bastion of gay-marriage activists, scientists experimenting with hu- man embryos, and reckless liber- als who had given rise to blighted neighborhoods ruined by poverty.

"Massachusetts ... became cen- ter stage for the liberal social agen- da," he told the Conservative Politi- cal Action Conference in 2007. "Sort of San Francisco East, Nancy Pelosi style."

In his second run for the White House, Romney is portraying his home state — and his own role in it — in a different light. Rather than showcase how hard he fought against liberal Massachusetts poli- ticians, he cites how he was able to work with them to get things done. Rather than disparage the state’s political culture, he holds it up as an example of how bipartisanship should be conducted in Washing- ton — and why he should be the one to make it happen.

"I was in some respects lucky that my Legislature was so over-achieving. I was able to get things done, " he told business leaders last week in Miami. "And then we talked about the challenges the state faced."

Romney’s campaign is far more focused on the contrasts with Obama, trying to cast the incumbent as both ineffective at getting things done and as being divisive while trying.

"It’s meant to contrast himself not so much with Perry but with Obama," said a senior adviser to Romney. "Obama is a highly par- tisan political figure. If you want an example of their differing styles in how to achieve consensus, just look at healthcare. Look at how Mitt worked to achieve consensus in Massachusetts, and how Obama rammed his legislation down the throat of Congress and polarized the country."

The Obama administration of- ten points out that it has spent years trying to achieve consensus - on healthcare and other issues - but Republicans have been unwilling to bend, at times leaving the negotiat- ing table altogether.

On the campaign trail, Romney often talks about the relationship between President Ronald Rea- gan and House Speaker Thomas P. O’Neill Jr. as an example of how the wheels of government should turn.

The former Massachusetts gov- ernor touts the weekly leadership meetings he held with the Senate president and House speaker - and how most Mondays he would travel down the hallways of the Massa- chusetts State House to their of- fices, rather than requesting that they come to his “because I’m the governor.”

What he left unsaid was that when he staged press conferences, he frequently sought credit. Dur- ing the healthcare bill signing, Romney was front and center of a well-dressed event at Fenway Park.

It is all part of a tweaking of the Bay State story he tells to a national audience. In the lead-up to the 2008 campaign, he suggested that he was not part of the Massachusetts politi- cal culture.

Oftentimes he went further than just casting himself as a “red speck in a blue state,” and disparaged as- aspects of Massachusetts.

"I was once campaigning once in one very poor neighborhood just outside of Boston when a person came up to me and said: ‘Hey, Mr. Romney. What are you doing here? This is Kennedy coun- try,’" Romney recounted in a 2007 speech to conservatives. "I looked around, and there were a lot of empty stores and boarded-up win- dows, and I said, ‘Yes, it looks like Kennedy country.’"

He also mentioned his oppo- sition to gay marriage and clon- ing human embryos for research, "I have stood in the center of the battlefield on every major social is- sue," he said: “I fought to preserve our traditional values and to pro- tect the sanctity of life."

Romney still jokes of the Bay State, telling a crowd last week in Sioux City, Iowa, that, “that I was going to get involved in politics, I’m not sure I would have chosen Massachusetts as the place to do so, as a Republican.” He gets chuckles when he mentions that he’s from a state where, "there are a few Democrats, you may have heard.”

But rather than distance him- self from the state, he even told the Des Moines Register last week that he could win Massachusetts in a general election.

“I can’t guarantee I’ll be able to get everything done I want to get done,” Romney said last week in Iowa. “But I can guarantee that I’ll work hard as a leader to work with people on both sides of the aisle and find common ground where our principles are not broken or twisted or bent - but instead where we live by the principles of love and affection for America, and get- ting America strong again.”
Israel Ruiz takes helm of Institute finances

Former vice president for finance has full confidence of outgoing EVPT Stone

EVPT, from Page 1

Ruiz coordinates with the senior administration to lead many of the Institute’s administrative functions and manage its resources. The EVPT works with human resources, IS&T, Facilities, MIT Medical, and many other departments to ensure that the Institute runs smoothly, providing “services that are worthy of MIT,” as Stone put it, “setting the platform to allow students and faculty to do their work.”

Ruiz’s other job, as treasurer, is to be MIT’s chief financial officer. He is in charge of budgeting and financial strategy, managing over $12 billion in assets and a $220 million capital budget. However, both the managerial and financial aspects of the position are integrated into Ruiz’s daily functions. He coordinates with the rest of MIT to ensure that “resources are deployed in a manner that best serves the mission of MIT,” he said.

“The ‘and’ means a lot in the title,” said Ruiz. “Executive vice president and treasurer” emphasized. Ruiz previously worked for the EVPT spot, he “embarked on a series of conversations with members of the campus — the community of MIT — to try to understand how to better understand their needs and pursue the mission of MIT.”

Ruiz defined one of his goals as “connecting [MIT’s] individual talents. MIT has tremendous excellence at the individual level, and it’s amazing to see how many individuals have enormous talents both on the staff side as well as on the academic side,” talents that he hopes “to connect to get the best outcome for MIT. Ruiz also said he will support Hochfeld’s vision of MIT’s increased involvement in manufacturing. “It’s an institute priority, and we try to support institute priorities in the best way we can,” he said.

Ruiz previously worked for four years as MIT’s vice president of finance — a role he assumed under Stone’s tenure as executive vice president and treasurer. Stone worked with Ruiz and “saw the incredible skill he brought to the position [of EVPT],” she said.

Stone added that Ruiz “has an unparalleled currency across the Institute in his ability to work with people from all parts of the Institute better than anybody.”

As the VPF, Ruiz was at the center of MIT’s finances after the financial crisis hit. MIT’s now-$10 billion endowment “fared quite well during the recession, comparatively speaking,” said Ruiz. Ruiz said that his time as the vice president of finance will help in his new position. “Being grounded on the financial underpinnings of a very complex institution like MIT for the last 4 years positions me in a platform to understand how we are moving financially,” Ruiz said.

He added that working as the VPF — reporting to both the EVPT and provost — he was able to understand MIT’s academic needs and priorities, and “how the financial resources of MIT propel mission in an academic sense.”

Ruiz says his office, and MIT in general, has paid close attention to the financial pressures of the economic possibilities.

"MIT needs its students and faculty, and this has been a paramount principle protected over the past few years, and it will continue to be in the future.”

More recently, Ruiz lead the successful sale of $750 million in revenue bonds to support the MIT 2030 program of campus development, which incorporates several major new construction and renovation projects.

The man behind the position

At home, Ruiz has twin daughters, 5 years old, and a son about to turn 2 — he says that his hobby is spending time with them. Before he had children, he had been on a quest with his wife to visit all the U.S. national parks, making it to 16 of them.

He is also an avid soccer fan, and records every soccer game he can over the weekend. He is a fan of his hometown team, FC Barcelona.

“I used to be quite involved with the team back in the day, and now still have very good friends that, when Barcelona won the last championship, they overnighted the jersey,” said Ruiz, pointing to the Barcelona jersey hanging on his wall — signed by Leo Messi, no less.

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Watson: Cambridge Challenge accepted

Harvard, MIT students to take on supercomputer in trivia contest

By Jaya Narain

Watson, IBM’s champion Jeopardy! computer, is making its way to Cambridge to compete in a trivia match with students from the MIT Sloan School of Management and Harvard Business School. The competition, dubbed the “IBM Watson Challenge,” will be held at the Harvard Business School’s Burden Auditorium on Monday, Oct. 31. The challenge will be preceded by “The Race Against the Machine: The Future of Tech” Symposium at the MIT Media Lab, which will include a number of talks about Watson’s creation and the future of the technology. Following the symposium, buses will depart from the Media Lab at 2:15 p.m. for those interested in attending the trivia competition at Harvard. The “IBM Watson Challenge” is the result of the efforts of Professor Erik Brynjolfsson GM ’91 of MIT Sloan and Willy Shih of the Harvard Business School. Brynjolfsson said the tournament stemmed from a mutual desire to highlight “some of the ways that technology is changing business.” Brynjolfsson said that the new technology could revolutionize day-to-day business.

“The technology] could be used to answer call center questions, to do the work of lawyers, to help in the medical field,” Brynjolfsson said. The symposium will focus on exploring such applications and examining their implications in the future. The symposium will also include a keynote speech by David Ferrucci, the “father of Watson,” who will speak about the development of Watson. The other panels will cover the potential of the technology and the effects it might have on business and the economy.

In the trivia competition, teams of three students each from MIT Sloan and HBS will compete against each other and Watson. The MIT representatives were chosen through a series of playoff tournaments that were open only to Sloan students. At Harvard, two students who are Jeopardy! alumni were responsible for organizing the team. Watson, a supercomputer that occupies an entire room, will be present in a smaller — though equally competitive — version of itself at the competition this Monday.

Brynjolfsson encouraged MIT students to attend the competition to provide support for their peers. "We would love a good show-up of MIT students to cheer them on," Brynjolfsson said. "There's room for 200 MIT students, and we wouldn't want to be outnumbered by Harvard!"

Watson was unveiled last February in a three-part televised competition between Watson, Ken Jennings, and Brad Rutter — the two most successful Jeopardy! contestants in history. Watson dominated the overall competition, finishing with $55,147 more than second-place finisher Jennings. Still, in the third and final segment of the competition, Jennings trailed Watson only slightly, suggesting that the computer may not be entirely unbeatable.

But, Brynjolfsson emphasized, Watson “goes beyond the game.” "The implications for the economy and for MIT students’ careers — and everyone’s careers — is equally profound," Brynjolfsson said. "This technology is changing the world!"

The MIT Center for Digital Business is sponsoring the event. More information about the events and the symposium agenda can be found at http://ibm-watson穿透2011.pdf.
By Victoria Colliver
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Shannon Jimerson, an advanced-stage melanoma patient being treated at UCSF, did a happy dance this week while still sitting on the exam table. She got the news she desperately wanted to hear.

“Very much your disease may be left,” said Dr. Alain Algazi, a skin cancer specialist.

Algazi told her that her tumors had shrunk by 85 percent, leaving her with just a few “lousy little tu-

mors” he hoped the drugs would continue to target.

Jimerson, 34, of Fairfield has been on since January a growing body of research that is giving new hope to patients with melanoma. Melanoma is diagnosed in about 68,000 Americans annually and kills more than 8,700 each year.

Before entering the trial, Jimerson wasn’t sure she’d be alive at this point. Her body had become so riddled with tumors that she was afraid to lay a hand on her own skin for fear she’d find a new lump. She did find a new spot, on her shoulder, and was scheduled for a biopsy two weeks after she started taking the investigational drugs.

“But by the time I got there, there was nothing to biopsy,” said Jimerson, the mother of two young daughters and children’s pastor at her church. “It was absolutely a mir-

acle, this drug.”

The combination of the two oral drugs, both being developed by GlaxoSmithKline, are designed for people who have a genetic mutation that is found in about half of all mel-

anoma cases. The drugs target two different points along a pathway the cancer uses to proliferate. At least half and up to as many as 77 percent of 77 patients in the ear-

liest phase of the trial experienced reductions in tumor size by a third or greater, researchers said. The company is seeking to enroll about 280 patients in second-phase stud-

ies and is already planning for third-

phase trials.

The results are promising con-

sidering most of the current thera-

pies for melanoma have been found to work in fewer than 20 percent of patients, and often have far lower levels of effectiveness.

“This is definitely a great mo-

ment for patients with melanoma,” said Kristan Paol, GlaxoSmithKline’s director of oncology research and development. “Our goal is to prog-

ress science and really bring new and better options for patients.”

Paol said he could not estimate when the company will seek federal approval for the drug combination.

“We remain enthusiastic about tar-

geted approaches and will keep do-

ing the right studies so we can get those answers,” he said.

The drug worked in about 50 percent of late-stage melanoma patients with the mutation.

Until this year, the last drug ap-

proved for melanoma was in 1998. But in August, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration fast-tracked the ap-

proval of a drug from South San Francisco’s Genentech Inc. called Zelboraf, which targets and inhib-

its the genetic mutation known as BRAF V600E. The GlaxoSmithKline drugs work on that same pathway, but also targets a second point on the path.

“We haven’t had any real break-

throughs since the mid ’90s, and now it’s like every few months we have something exciting,” said Dr. Adil Daud, director of UCSF’s Mela-

noma Program and chief investiga-

tor of the trial.

Scientists discovered that when the protein BRAF is mutated, it can become hyperactive and cause cells to grow out of control. ‘The Genen-

tech drug was found to work in about 50 percent of late-stage mel-

anoma patients with the mutation.

While researchers found the re-

sults astounding, especially consid-

ering that they previously had little to offer people with metastatic mel-

anoma, they quickly realized that the disease started progressing in some patients after several months on the drug. They suspected the cancer was finding a “work-around” to fend off those new routes to give the disease a “long-term, knock-out punch.”

For Jimerson — who has experi-

enced few side effects other than a casual fever — the trial means she has hope for the future.

“It’s like a river being blocked by a dam,” UCSF’s Daud explained. “Maybe you’ll overflow the first dam, but then the other part will take over.”

Daud’s colleague, Algazi, said researchers have the challenge of figuring out what other pathways exist and what drugs can be created to fend off those new routes to give the disease a “long-term, knock-out punch.”

For Jimerson — who has experi-

enced few side effects other than a casual fever, some fatigue and an occa-

sional rash — the trial means she said. “My kids know I have cancer, but cancer isn’t the focal point of our lives.”

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2011  THE TECH 19
Women’s Volleyball victorious against WPI; last home game
Seniors celebrate final home victory enthusiastically

By Katie Bodner
SPORTS STAFF

Colorful and motivational posters and balloons lined Rockwell Cage this Tuesday evening for the final home volleyball match of the regular season. Full of spirit, the seniors sprinted onto the court, energetically anticipating their final home game. For the ’12s, it was a night to remember as MIT defeated WPI in a 3-0 sweep, raising MIT’s record to 22-9 overall and 6-2 in NEWMAC.

The first frame began with fast-paced back-and-forth action as MIT struggled to pull ahead. Finally, MIT turned up the heat and pushed out a 14-6 run. WPI managed to cut MIT’s lead to 19-17. Rachel A. Hunt ’14, right hitter, then recorded a crucial kill to ignite MIT’s 6-2 run to clinch the frame at 25-19.

The second set picked up from the high-energy level of the first set. Exceptional serves by Cecily L. Jouon-Roché ’12, midhitter, led to back-to-back aces which sparked an 8-0 run by MIT. As in the first set, WPI attempted to come back, but a sequence of miscues and strikes by Kelley E. Schulte ’12, right hitter, propelled MIT to win the set 25-15.

MIT entered the final set with the same momentum and netted a 14-7 lead early on. This set, however, WPI managed to make a comeback and tied the game at 18. Anxious to close out its last home game on a high note, MIT answered back with a huge kill by Trinity P. Leonard ’12, outside hitter, to finish the game 25-23.

For the seniors, this win was bittersweet. Jouon-Roché commented, “Our team is really close. I’ll definitely miss the friendships I’ve made and the competitiveness. Everyone is really dedicated which makes playing the game more fun, especially when you are playing with people who care about you both on and off the court.”

MIT will next play against the U.S. Coast Guard Academy on Oct. 29 at 1 p.m. to wrap up the regular season.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: MOLLY E. MCSHANE’13

McShane is ‘a little ‘stitious’
Field Hockey captain talks about how she balances her sports, work, and fun

By Carlos Greeses
SPORTS STAFF

Meet Molly E. McShane ’13. Molly started playing field hockey nine years ago as preparation for her high school’s highly competitive team. Having played many different sports growing up, field hockey must have come naturally to her because two years later, she is the captain of the MIT Women’s Field Hockey team — currently tied for first in the NEWMAC conference and 13-3 overall this season.

Molly’s impressive accomplishments with the team include All-American accolades her freshman and sophomore years, as well as academic All-American recognition her sophomore year. She was named the New England Regional Division III player of the year her freshman year, and was first-team NEWMAC all-conference her freshman and sophomore years.

Her favorite moment with the team so far has been winning the NEWMAC championship her freshman year. MIT went into the tournament as major underdogs, and Molly remembers celebrating with her fellow teammates and the MIT Women’s Soccer team, which had also won the NEWMAC championship on the same day.

Molly doesn’t consider herself superstitious, but to quote The Office character Michael Scott, she is “a little ‘stitious.” That said, before every game, Molly can be found eating a peanut butter sandwich. Needless to say, it seems to be working for her.

Molly is a proud member of Alpha Phi Sorority, where she served as IM chair last semester. She also participates in just about all of Alpha Phi’s PM games. When she isn’t on the field or busy working towards a degree in Course 2A (with an emphasis on product design), Molly likes going out to the movies with friends or staying in and cooking dinner with her Alpha Phi sisters. Her favorite food (not before games, of course) is mac and cheese, and she loves watching 30 Rock and Arrested Development. Molly is also involved with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, which organizes community service events, promotes health and well-being, and encourages participation in athletic events.

Be sure to support Molly and the women’s field hockey team as they round out the regular season with a game against Babson College before beginning NEWMAC conference championships.