Say hello to our newest dormitory
Maseeh has focus on dining green energy

By Maggie Lloyd
CAMPUSWALK DIGEST

Last Saturday, the doors to Maseeh Hall finally opened for students — but only if they were safety-gear ready. Construction helmets and safety glasses were stacked in McCormick Dining Hall, waiting for the day's tours. Maseeh Hall, known as W1 or Ashdown before its namesake's generous donation, was originally the Riverbank Court Hotel from 1901 to 1937. In 1938, the hotel became MIT's first west campus dorm, known as the "Graduate House." Through Professor Avery Allen Ashdown was the dorm's first housemaster, he was not new to the role, he served Senior House back when it was the original Graduate House. The housecleaning staff from W1's hotel days remained and tended to the rooms of 400 lucky residents. Cars and carriages used to pass through the building's driveway, which is now the lobby. According to Project Manager Sonia Richard, scratches from wayward vehicles are still evident on the lobby's pillars today.

At the end of the tour, Dean for Student Life Chris Colombos commented on the positive progress of the construction thanks to the multimillion dollar gift of Fariborz Maseeh '90: "It is a lot further along than I did." Colombos took a tour with the Phoenix Group and their Housemaster Maseeh, Page 15

13's Brass Rat unveiled
Bezel beaver moves to Boston on a self-built dock

By Jessica J. Pourian
NEWS EDITOR

It wasn't the iPhone 5 or a new video game console that had a few hundred members of the class of 2013 waiting outside in the cold last Friday night. Bundled up in a large line outside Kresge Auditorium, sophomores patiently waited in 20-degree temperatures for an early seat to Ring Premiere — the unveiling of the iconic Brass Rat, MIT's renowned class ring. The first 400 students to arrive at the auditorium were promised a mysterious free gift, and it was this lure that attracted so many students to arrive two hours early to an event that was only an hour long.

I went with a large group of people from my hall who were all excited for the mystery gift. Up-perchmen warned us it would just be something small, like a throwback holder, but we still set off excitedly. We arrived at Kres-ge around 6:20 p.m., for the 8 p.m. ceremony. There were at least 50 people already waiting in line.

Students did their best to promised a mysterious free gift, just be something small, like a throwback holder, but we still set off excitedly.

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Students did their best to
Koch Industries quashes global warming parody
By Neil Madhavani and Alan Cowell
The New York Times

In December, a fake news release was sent out by a group claiming to be Koch Industries, the oil processing company owned by Charles D.G. Koch ’57 and David H. Koch ’62, the Republican donars, ars beneficaries and global warming skeptics.

In a brief explanation of the Utah lawsuit on its website, the company wrote: “We are not seeking in any way to silence our critics. This lawsuit was filed because the integrity of our systems and our valuable intellectual property was compromised and used without permission, in violation of the terms of service and federal law.”

Koch did not respond to questions seeking elaboration on its posted statement.

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Koch did not respond to questions seeking elaboration on its posted statement.
Students shouldn't accept blame for administrators' unresponsiveness

By David M. Templeton and Andrew T. Lukmann

While we agree with the basic premise of the editorial — that the relationship between administrators and students has reached a low point — we differ with the author's conclusions. The great deal of support has been expressed for administrators in the past, and it will happen again when earned.

1. Be good scientists. Get all the information. Care about the content of those communications, but that the communication style must be appropriate for the intended audience. The same type of communication that works from an intra-administrative perspective does not work when communicating to a student body. Once a message is delivered, evaluate whether it was delivered effectively.

2. Administrators, especially those intimately involved in making student policy, should hold office hours. Face-to-face meetings with students are incredibly more productive than mass e-mails (for both parties involved). For example, the former MIT president, Dr. Larry G. Benedict, implemented a weekly office hour for students and administrators and it has been very effective. Dr. Chris Colombo should do the same.

3. The administration has the freedom and the right to make student life policy changes when they happen, explain decisions as fully, openly, and honestly as possible — with the same information students would probably come to similar policy conclusions. In case of another year’s summer housing changes and slashed dorm budgets, an open dialogue with students went a long way. But many are still wondering about the recent proposed changes to the Orientation Handbook. This information has been hard to come by.

4. Students can improve in their own ways.

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Tuesday, February 15, 2011   The Tech

FREEDOM ON THE MARCH
Egypt offers new hope for a better world

By Keith Hirst

For the past four years, Fykayama-style neoconservatives such as myself have grimly been forced to watch, as around the world, the lights of liberty and freedom grew dim or were snuffed out. Bush, chastened by his failed Social Security reform, Hurricane Katrina, and a mid-term defeat, gave up his freedom agenda. Obama, more eager to extend an open hand to dictators than wrest them from power, similarly demurred. And so we stood, watching the neocons, not as Hugo Chavez solidified his dictatorship in Venezuela, as Calbu’s despotism positioned itself to outlive its founder, as Russia buckled into authoritarianism; as much of Eastern Europe began its descent into autocracy, as Bush’s mismanagement of Iraq and Obama’s incommensurable tolerance for election rigging in Afghanistan dashed our hopes for democratic reform, as the Arab world knew democracy, and Lebanon and Palestine grew more complacent — the economist inside me adamantly insists that as moral callings go, furthering the spread of democracy to every corner of the earth is a profound sense of moral unease for having taken this path.

And yet, I believe that there is a feeling of urgency to the freedom movement. If one postis two non-universalistics that, autocrats are destined for the dustbin of history, and that technology — including that of weapons of mass destruction — is destined to proliferate, then our present drift toward autocracy is alarming. It suggests a future filled with North Koreas and Pakistanis: scrofulous, corrupt, nuclear states, with the security of their nuclear arsenals in question as they veer toward fascism and war, a mortal danger to the world. There is, in a sense, a race to democratize and stabilize countries before they acquire nuclear weapons and make themselves a permanent feature (and permanent risk) in the global society.

Just as importantly, freedom and human rights are necessary for us to win in the longer race — preparing the world for a day when nuclear weapons have proliferated to sub-state entities. We are challenged to create governments that are legitimate. We need governments that recognize the grievances of their citizens before they turn to violence as an avenue for change, that allow for orderly transitions of power, and that channel effort into reforming and improving the systems rather than toppling it.

Today we are secured. We are bordered by oceans, and we have a military that can project the power of physical might of our states. We believe that if statesmen had perfect information, this would find our way to the Pareto-optimal, war-free world. Democratization may require more than differences between the first- and the wider world, but from a realist perspective, it only offers an indirect improvement in the prospects of peace, built solely on the faith that free societies tend to make better decisions than controlled ones.

On what sacred stone is it written that foreign policy shouldn’t focus on spreading liberty to every corner of the earth?

The moral case for a freedom agenda

There is a school of thought that places the morality of states in a separate sphere as distinct from that of individuals. Some, not principals — who shouldn’t, as individual might, invest themselves in protest, or strike at a rival merely because he is evil. States, if they have any semblance of legitimacy, must safeguard the interests of their citizens and protect them from the predations of other states, a view we see manifest in seeking a modus vivendi with countries whose policies we abhor, or submitting to an injunction because to do otherwise would be counterproductive.

Nonetheless, a moral interest is still an interest. We may accept it as g-liberal to national security and well-being, but it remains a legitimate, and one that should not be ignored merely because realpolitik is disdained of it, and certainly not when it marches hand-in-hand with our own long-term security interests. It may make sense, as a moral measure, to seek an accommodation with undemocratic rivals in order to enhance our own power — but on what sacred stone is it written that, after concealing what is necessary to maintain our security and welfare, U.S. foreign policy should not focus on spreading liberty to every corner of the earth? Do we wish to be condoned the correctness of liberal democracy, and if so, how many mangled Chinese human rights cases, assassinated Nobel laureates, or raped and stained Indian girls will it take before our pangs of conscience give us the resolve that is required?

Entering 2011, it seemed that we had done since the fall of the Soviet Union was for naught. But Egypt offers new promise.

Once upon a time, long, long ago, I worked in the Middle East, and I came back agast at how many of those who had seen, the massive sprawling of human potential that is so often characteristic of autocratic rule. I was shocked at how few checks and balances existed against bad law, and how little self-imposed discipline or long-term thinking was needed — the governments and their semi-private citizens were exhausting an inheritance that should have lasted generations. Had I been assigned to countries in which the military was still in power, I would have seen worse, as it was, I left with a profound sense of moral unease for having taken this path.

Perhaps I am biased by personal experience, but I believe there is something to be said that as moral callings go, furthering the spread of democracy and human rights has perhaps the most direct link to immediate national security, it deserves a role within our statecraft.

The Egyptian Moment

What we were all too quick to dismiss as the Arab Spring is becoming a model of change, and we mustn’t miss an opportunity to learn from this moment — at stake is the very core of our political capital to make things very hard and very easy on a state.

It is time for us to cast off our trepidations toward Egypt’s revolution. For the first time in a generation, while the rest of Eastern Europe has moved into the win column, we have an opportunity to dispose of our notion that it would first, in one direction or another, the course of Egypt’s future. American officials need to set aside the interests of their agents and commit to building the country’s constitution and supporting its rule of law.

As difficult as our times now are, we will never be in a greater position to use America’s might and influence to advance the cause of human liberty. Our domestic turmoils, while important, must not distract us from seeing this moment — at stake is the very core of our political capital to make things very hard and very easy on a state.

This is not just our security, but the highest ideals of our civilization.

Administration must address their isolation from students

Disent, from Page 4

There is a clear record of students attempting to engage each other through face-to-face interactions in this constructive conversation:

- Former Undergraduate Association President (UAP) Marcus F. Hilts ’03 called for improvements to the student-administra- tion relationship in order to “repair the dam- age that [has] been done to the fabric of our community ... when communication breaks down between administrators and students” on important issues.” (http://web.mit.edu/ufc/ vol/2014/martins.html)
- Former UAP Michael Ahn ’10 outlined “10 out- lined critical problems with student input on potential changed to the Campus Dining system last April (http://tech.mit.edu/VS130/ N6/bonnie.html). The Tech argued with this agreement, reports that “students will not be satisfied if the technol- ogy cannot be abolished, then it is the hu- man reaction to that technology that must change, and we do not have long to prepare the field.

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There is a school of thought that places the morality of states in a separate sphere as distinct from that of individuals. Some, not principals — who shouldn’t, as individual might, invest themselves in protest, or strike at a rival merely because he is evil. States, if they have any semblance of legitimacy, must safeguard the interests of their citizens and protect them from the predations of other states, a view we see manifest in seeking a modus vivendi with countries whose policies we abhor, or submitting to an injunction because to do otherwise would be counterproductive.

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Steal My Comic
by Michael Ciuffo

OMG OMG OMG OMG

OMG OMG OMG OMG

Dude, WHAT HAPPENED?

OMG OMG OMG OMG

ONLY THE BEST VALENTINE'S DAY EVER!!

REALLY.

I GOT HER EMAIL ADDRESS!

Steal My Comic
by Emily Ruppel

Guys who can’t read my sweatshirt aren’t really my type...

Crossword Puzzle
Solution, page 11

ACROSS
1 Diet beers
2 R.E. Lee’s nation
3 Native Israeli
4 Siam or Babel
5 CD
6 Dole out
7 Very large in scale
8 Receding tide
9 National symbols
10 Southernmost city in Texas
11 So-so grade
12 Glacial epochs
13 Gumbo veggie
14 Sileans and dirks
15 Israelite
16 Dole out
17 Very large in scale
18 Receding tide
19 National symbols
20 Southernmost city in Texas
21 So-so grade
22 Glacial epochs
23 Gumbo veggie
24 Sileans and dirks
25 Israelite
26 Dole out
27 Very large in scale
28 Receding tide
29 National symbols
30 Southernmost city in Texas
31 So-so grade
32 Glacial epochs
33 Gumbo veggie
34 Sileans and dirks
35 Israelite
36 Dole out
37 Very large in scale
38 Receding tide
39 National symbols
40 Southernmost city in Texas
41 So-so grade
42 Glacial epochs
43 Gumbo veggie
44 Sileans and dirks
45 Israelite
46 Dole out
47 Very large in scale
48 Receding tide
49 National symbols
50 Southernmost city in Texas
51 So-so grade
52 Glacial epochs
53 Gumbo veggie
54 Sileans and dirks
55 Israelite
56 Dole out
57 Very large in scale
58 Receding tide
59 National symbols
60 Southernmost city in Texas
61 So-so grade
62 Glacial epochs
63 Gumbo veggie
64 Sileans and dirks
65 Israelite
66 Dole out
67 Very large in scale
68 Receding tide
69 National symbols

DOWN
1 Extremity
2 Munich’s river
3 Salsa dipper
4 Solicit persistently
5 Wall bracket
6 Glacial chasm
7 1953 Jane Wyman movie
8 Meandered
9 Vault
10 Entirely
11 Virginia Tech location
12 Moore or Mudd
13 All confused
14 Evening in Venezia
15 Future D.A.’s exam
16 Shoppe sign word
17 Star of “Sleepy Hollow”
18 Intangible quality
19 Neighbor of Winston-Salem
20 That man
21 Meandered
22 Intangible quality
23 Neighbor of Winston-Salem
24 That man
25 Meandered
26 Intangible quality
27 Neighbor of Winston-Salem
28 That man
29 Meandered
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31 Neighbor of Winston-Salem
32 That man
33 Meandered
34 Intangible quality
35 Neighbor of Winston-Salem
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37 Meandered
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70 Intangible quality
71 Neighbor of Winston-Salem

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ACROSS

1 Diet beers
69 One-armed bandits
4 Native Israeli
70 Low
14 Siam or Babel
71 Falling ice
15 CD
19 National symbols
20 Southernmost city in Texas
23 So-so grade
24 Glacial epochs
25 Gumbo veggie
26 Sileans and dirks
29 Arlene and Roald
31 “Over There” cont.
32 Botanist Gray
34 Choice morsel
35 Aoki of golf
36 Ark. neighbor
38 Gambit
39 Camera letters
41 Cried
42 Verdi’s river
43 Spanish dish
45 Call for help
47 Turned tail
48 Bellini opera
50 Stop-sign shape
53 Engaged
55 Boise resident
57 Poetic peeper
58 Town on Great Slave Lake
62 Mythical weeper
64 Writer Umberto
65 Conger catcher
66 Stuffed __ (kishke)
67 Future fish
68 Jamaican cultist

DOWN

1 Extremity
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3 Salsa dipper
4 Solicit persistently
5 Wall bracket
6 Glacial chasm
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65 Conger catcher
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67 Future fish
68 Jamaican cultist
Somewhere on the Search for Meaning... by Letitia Li

Wait! Before you go f ...  
there’s something I’ve wanted to say... almost since the day you found a piece of my heart.

I thought it’d help if I made you a cake... but then I remembered you’re allergic to sugar.

I’m so sorry I stole your earrings when we first met!

I tried to pick flowers... but they attacked me.

---

Bono Trask: Timesqueezer

In my time, your hand-held clocks have passed from novelty into legend. Give me your pocketwatch; I assure you, GAD will suffice.

We stopped serving breakfast four minutes ago.

You could, like,  
wait to tomorrow.

The device only goes backwards; no matter.

Time is my plaguing. I will tone my chronology in such a way as to

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Techdoku

Solution, page 12

<table>
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<th>144x</th>
<th>15x</th>
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<td>18x</td>
<td>15x</td>
<td>2+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>360x</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Techdoku Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1 through 6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

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Sudoku

Solution, page 12

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</tbody>
</table>

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of the digits 1 through 9.
DON’T MISS AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

Pursue a post-graduate degree at Masdar Institute in Abu Dhabi and assure your place on the high-tech career path

**INFORMATION SESSION**
March 1, 2011
**AVAILABLE SESSIONS** 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm or 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Bartos Theater, MIT, Wiesner Building (Building E15),
20 Ames Street, Cambridge, MA

Masdar Institute of Science and Technology, established by the government of Abu Dhabi with the assistance of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), is a not-for-profit, private graduate university that has developed an academic and research platform that focuses on critical energy and sustainability challenges.

**WHY MASDAR INSTITUTE?**
Solutions to complex real-world problems require a multidisciplinary approach from an integrated technology, systems, and policy perspective. Masdar Institute supports this approach with its academic programs and the emphasis placed on engaging external partners from industry, government, and other academic institutions in collaborative activities.

**RESEARCH FOCUS**
Renewable Energy; Photovoltaics; Technology Policy for Energy and Water; Cost of Climate Change on Health; Recycling and Waste Management; Intelligent Devices for Smart Power Grids; Data Mining for Smart Grids; and more.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**
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Learning to Change the World
Institute Double Take

Railroad crossing on Mass. Ave. near Vassar Street, shot looking directly into the late afternoon sun. The Metropolitan Storage Warehouse is visible on the left; smokestacks from the Francis Bitter Magnet Lab stand on the right side of the picture. The strong backlighting provided by the sun silhouettes the buildings and is reflected in the exposed railroad tracks and the melting snow.

EVENTS

FEB. 15 — FEB. 21

TUESDAY
(1:00 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.) Job Search for International Students. Learn how to develop your job search and interviewing skills as an international student — 1-190
(4:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.) MIT’s Moments of Decision: An Historical Retrospective. A panel discussion about how the Institute has reflected and shaped the history of science and technology in the U.S. — E14, Media Lab Complex

WEDNESDAY
(3:30 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.) Institute Faculty Meeting — 10-250
(5:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.) "Help! I’m graduating in May!": Full-time jobs in the Federal Government. This webinar will highlight a number of agencies and positions across the government and show students how to apply for job openings — 5-217

THURSDAY
(6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.) First Generation Students Dinner — 56-154
(7:00 p.m. — 10:00 p.m.) LSC shows Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 — 26-100
(7:00 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.) MIT Strategic Game Society Public Board Games Night — 50-316

FRIDAY
(6:30 p.m., 10:00 p.m.) IBM Watson: Humans vs. Machine - Who Will Win? Come and watch Jeopardy history being made! — 10-250
(7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.) Manning: Eight dances for the soldier who brought a helicopter massacre in Baghdad to the light of day. A Bread and Puppet Theater Production by the Lubberland National Dance Company — Wiesner Building (E15-001)

SATURDAY
(2:00 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.) Handel, Israel in Egypt - Colloquium. Explore themes of liberation from authoritarianism and slavery in the story of Exodus — Kresge Auditorium
(8:00 p.m. — 11:00 p.m.) International Folk Dancing — Student Center 2nd floor

SUNDAY
(7:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.) CSC 2011 Chinese New Year Banquet. Celebrate Chinese New Year with the Chinese Students Club — Walker Memorial
(8:00 p.m. — 11:00 p.m.) International Folk Dancing — Student Center 2nd floor

MONDAY
(7:00 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.) Argentine Tango — 36-153
(7:00 p.m. — 9:45 p.m.) Manning: Eight dances for the soldier who brought a helicopter massacre in Baghdad to the light of day. A Bread and Puppet Theater Production by the Lubberland National Dance Company — Wiesner Building (E15-001)

Send your campus events to events@tech.mit.edu.
Exploring the world below your feet

By Deena Wang
Tired of the daily grind, the salt-crusted asphalt, the grey sky above? Feel the itch to explore places unknown? Or perhaps you're ready to get outside and get a new perspective on life and are looking for another challenge? A cave could be just what you're looking for. Just like waterfalls, exotic wildlife, and nature's rock sculptures, all underground lies your very own world.

You're going to need some help to get there, though. That's where the MIT Caving Club comes in. The club was founded in 1950. The tight-knit community of about ten undergraduates goes on spelunking trips throughout the year, often in places such as Massachusetts and Canada.

According to club member Linda X. Chen, 12, "If you think about what it's like to be underground, you imagine dark and cramped, but there are lakes you can swim around in, super clean because no one has touched them. Sometimes tunnels are very narrow so you have to crawl, but then they open up and there are crystals on the walls." Cavers often see various animals such as lobsters, flooded tunnels, and even snow sleds to slide on the pristine mud inside.

The cavers use their helmets, jackets, gloves, headlamps, climbing gear, wet suit, sources of light, emergency blanket, change of clothes, and a plastic bag you're ready to go. However, all the equipment in the world can't shield you from the hazards Nature guards her treasures with. It's not easy venturing into the bowels of the earth, but for those who are brave enough, making caution a caver's best piece of equipment.

If you're small, you have an advantage of being able to squeeze through tight passages, you'll fall into cracks more easily, though. And despite their name, cave-ins are relatively rare, but slippery rocks, hypothermia, surprise floods, and simply getting lost could put a real damper on your exploration party. That's why the cavers travel in groups of about five, and always pay attention to safety. Fortunately, the MIT club has never had a serious injury.

For those who revel in the rush of discovery, getting into the deep is a good exercise for their inquisitive tendencies. However, "a lot of beginners try it once and never come back" because of the soaking wet conditions and constant risk of hypothermia, said Chen. It's imperative that you wear non-cotton clothes, even underwater, unless you want to literally freeze your butt off. Spelunking requires a high tolerance of discomfort, considering the crawling through a twenty-maze of tunnels, the diving through flooded tunnels, and the rappelling down into the dark, not knowing when your feet will hit the ground. Incidental unplanned accidents include having to push your way through the stomachs of animals that wash into caves.

Most people have never smelled a dead mammal in an enclosed space," Chen said.

Caving is definitely an activity that can't be experienced vicariously. The descriptions in newsletters don't do the caves justice, and the enthusiasm of the speakers at Boston Grotto (the Boston caving club) isn't quite so contagious when you have to ask their friends for a second account of the reading room. Instead, try to study with friends in the study rooms of Dewey Library or Hayden Library, which will give you an opportunity to get to know people in your classes better — without the smell of cabbage at the reading room.

Anonymously post to a site like isawaymit; anonymous postings won't reach the person you're meant to impress, while this is arguably the sole reason for posting to a site like isawaymit; posts to these sites illicit generally create claims that may end up making you feel worse, rather than better. Furthermore, public, anonymous posts don't allow you to confront your feelings to their core because you're still conscious of the fact that people might be reading your thoughts.

"Fig out on junk food, the whole point is that you're now available! You're single and ready to mingle. Finding a friend in a pint of Ben and Jerry's doesn't allow you to go to show and show how truly amazing you are. Finding solace in junk food will eventually lower your self-esteem and send you to the gym to engage in painful rounds of curl-ups and sit-ups.

Even though Valentine's Day happened yesterday, go out and find that special someone.

Shed that suit of gloom for one of sparkly confidence.

Don't…
• Take to Facebook or Twitter to announce your frustration; public defamation never did anyone good. Plus, announcing your feelings to the world can incite a flood of pity that will end up making you feel more pathetic than sanctified.
• Sit in the reading room with your textbooks all the time; getting out of a relationship certainly does free up a substantial amount of time for you to focus on academics. However, taking academ- ics to an extreme can limit your social in- teraction and lead to more unhappiness. Instead, try to study with friends in the study rooms of Dewey Library or Hayden Library, which will give you an opportu- nity to get to know people in your classes — without the smell of cabbage at the reading room.

• Reach out to a friend: If you're feeling alone, don't sit and be alone! Call a friend and make plans with him or her. Go to a movie, or play a game, or sit and express your feelings to him or her. Grab some hot chocolate and just start talking about what's on your mind. Odds are that your friend has been through a similar situa- tion and can help you figure out a plan of action.
• Write down your feelings and then shred: If talking to a friend about your feel- ings might make you nervous, write down your feelings on a piece of paper. Get all your negative out — curse, vent, and in- sult. And at the end of it, shred the paper. This metaphorical destruction of your pes- simism will make you feel as though you have put an end to all the feelings that have been getting you down.
• Go to miners or places where you can meet people: If you're on the prowl for someone to talk to, what better way to do so than to go to an event where you can meet new people! Make yourself presentable, spiff up a bit on that new perfunctory, throw and brush your teeth, and go make new friends. Who knows — you may end up finding your soulmate! Some places at MIT that you can go to LSC-sponsored movies, SaveFTP events, tunnel exploring, or ice skating at Johnson.

Even though Valentine's Day happened yesterday, go out and find that special someone. Who knows — maybe now Valentine's Day's your luck day and you'll meet some delicious (and healthy) dark choco- late with that perfect guy or girl you've been looking for.

Do…
• Share out to a friend: If you're feeling alone, don't sit and be alone! Call a friend and make plans with him or her. Go to a movie, or play a game, or sit and express your feelings to him or her. Grab some hot chocolate and just start talking about what's on your mind. Odds are that your friend has been through a similar situa- tion and can help you figure out a plan of action.

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Even though Valentine's Day happened yesterday, go out and find that special someone. Who knows — maybe now Valentine's Day's your luck day and you'll meet some delicious (and healthy) dark choco- late with that perfect guy or girl you've been looking for.
Over 100 receive Valentine’s serenades

Two MIT a cappella groups spent yesterday delivering Valentine’s Day serenades. The all-male Logarhythms sang 51 serenades, in addition to 14 over the phone. Except for seven lucky guys, the Logs mostly serenaded girls. Their most popular song was “Just the Way You Are” by Bruno Mars, which they sang 24 times.

The Logs spent the day literally running around campus. Edward T. Kim ’13 said that a long wait in President Susan H. Hockfield’s office to deliver their annual serenade threw off the schedule, so the Logs had to sprint to catch up.

The Logs said that not all their serenades were well-received. Luke C. Plummer ’14 said that one incident stood out for everyone. “We had one pretty grumpy professor in Sloan who made a negative comment about our music,” Plummer said.

“She kept trying to cut us off,” Kim said. When the song finished, she said, “Next time you’re going to interrupt my class, I suggest you select a better music choice.” Coincidentally, the Logs were scheduled to deliver the same song in the classroom next door. They got their revenge by singing as loudly as they could.

Approximately half of the Logs serenades were ordered by a guy for a girl, with almost as many serenades ordered by a girl for a boy. Only one guy received a serenade from another guy.

The all-female Muses delivered 48 live serenades and five phone serenades. Their recipients were split more evenly between genders.

“Most of the professors were pretty accommodating,” Caroline J. Enloe ’13 said. “We went to 6.005 to serenade two people, but neither of them were in class, so we serenaded the professor instead.” The Muses’ most popular song was “As Long As You Love Me” by the Backstreet Boys, followed by “I Touch Myself” by the Divinyls.

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Walker Memorial in the past. Graduate Student Council President Ulrich J. Berner G said that even after the meeting, he was still concerned with the administration’s priorities in addressing students about the project. Berner said that there was no specific timeline communicated by administrators detailing how students would be consulted about the changes. “The administration needs to speed up the process of student engagement ... to correct this perceived imbalance,” Berner said. The GSC looks forward to continuing the dialogue with the administration so that as many groups as possible can benefit from this process, he added.

The administration hopes to decide whether or to move forward with a Walker renovation by the end of this semester.

The administration wishes to assess the technical qualities of the building to see if Walker is acoustically suitable for MTS, as well as research the official and unofficial uses of Walker that would be affected by the potential changes, said Schmidt. Several of the archi-
tects the administration sought at the end of fall term have submitted bids to work on the project, and MIT is prepared to accept a bid as early as the end of next week. Once accepted, the chosen firm will proceed with a detailed evaluation of the building and give estimates of the cost and timeline for a renovation, if the project is deemed feasible.

Schmidt estimates that the entire renovation process would take about two to three years — if the administration decides to proceed with the project, enough funds are raised, and proper accommodations are made for the student groups currently in Walker.

“I believe that if people are using this building, they’re using it for a good reason and to advance the mission of the Institute,” Schmidt said. “It is the Institute’s responsibility to find space for the different student groups and facilitate their move, should they have to move.”

To Schmidt’s knowledge, the Institute has not dealt with a project like the repurposing of Walker Memorial in the past.

The presidents also speak about the dining controversy. The presidents argued that the quick timeline of the announcement obscured student’s input through the election of at least one undergraduate and one graduate student to each of the Institute Committees. Addressing recurring issues of time, the presidents also request that all data and preliminary evaluations surrounding major issues be made available to students sixty days in advance.

The letter concludes by proposing several points for moving forward. The UA presidents clarify that they do not intend to prevent the administration from making the final decision on policy.

“To be clear, our intention is not to challenge the right of the administration to make the ultimate decision on any given issue,” the letter states, “but rather to encourage them to put into place a clear and well-understood process that ensures that the student voice is heard.”

Still, the presidents request UA and GSC leaders be pro-
moted to full voting members of the Academic Council. The presidents of those organizations are currently only invited to one Academic Council meeting each year.

The presidents also hope to see more student input from the list of at least one undergraduate and one graduate student to each of the Institute Committees. Addressing recurring issues of time, the presidents also request that all data and preliminary evaluations surrounding major issues be made available to students sixty days in advance.

The letter also asked that the MIT President meet with the UA and GSC presidents on a monthly basis.

—Elijah Jordan Turner

Student groups, maintenance among concerns at Walker
Administration receives bids for renovation of historic building student engagement a critical concern for GSC
Chevron ordered to pay $9 billion by Ecuadorian judge

By Simon Romero and Clifford Krauss

The 13

CARACAS, Venezuela — A judge in a tiny courtroom in the Ecuadorian Amazon ruled Monday that the oil giant Chevron was responsible for polluting remote tracts of Ecua-
dorean jungle and ordered the company to pay more than $9 billion in damages, one of the largest environmental awards ever
granted.

The case, which brought to a climax a 17-year legal battle that has dragged on in courts in Ecuador and the United States, centered on the Indian community who claims that Texaco’s predecessor, Texac-
co, developed swaths of Ecuadorean rainforest. The claims for which it should not be held respons-
able.

The origins of the case go back to the 1970s, when Texaco, which was later acquired by Chevron, operated as a joint partner with the Ecuadorian state oil company.

Robertson said that Chevron should be held responsible for pollution in the area. “We are angry on behalf of the Indian community who claims that Texaco’s predecessor, Texaco, developed swaths of Ecuadorean rainforest.”

The origins of the case go back to the 1970s, when Texaco, which was later acquired by Chevron, operated as a joint partner with the Ecuadorian state oil company. The Indians claim that Texaco polluted the area with toxic chemicals, resulting in health problems and environmental degradation.

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Maseeh Hall touts sustainability, large dining halls

MIT’s newest dormitory built with historic past in mind, but looks to the future

Maseeh, from Page 1

Jack Carroll last October. Look- ing toward the future, Colombo said, “It’s going to be a remarkable building and a true enhancement for students and the residential life program.”

“The building has a rich history at MIT, and to return it to its for- mer grandeur as an undergraduate residence is a wonderful moment for the Institute community,” he added.

“Between our current residents and social members (students who do not live with the Phoenix Group but participate informally in the community’s events), there are ap- proximately 100 students who have said they plan to move into Maseeh Hall,” said Carroll. As of yesterday afternoon, DSL has received 131 applications from other students to join the Maseeh community, according to Manager of Housing Assignments Adam J. Keyes. The deadline to apply for housing in Maseeh Hall is Feb. 28, and the application can be found at http://housing.mit.edu/maseeh_hall_ap- plications.

Dining amenities

Maseeh’s dining hall eclipses all others on campus in terms of size, selection, and style. Of the 208 mantles throughout the building, two original fireplaces will be active. The North Dining Hall, facing the MIT Chapel, will hold approximately 160 diners. It also includes a private dining room, which will fit an additional 50-60 students. This dining room will be open for regular use when events aren’t taking place. The South Dining Room, which will fit approximately 150 students, is also impressive. The only residential dining facility that comes close to Maseeh’s capacity of approximately 360 students is Next House’s, which can hold 250, according to Director of Housing Dennis Collins.

“This is probably one of my fa- vorite rooms,” Richards explained on the tour, claiming the lighting and river view will contribute to a classier atmosphere.

In the center of the room, sta- tions serving American, deli, salad, and late-night selections will offer meals as part of Maseeh’s all-you- can-eat meal plan.

The Hillflit Community will also benefit from Maseeh’s design. A kosher station, which is unique to this dining hall, will offer lunch and dinner prepared across the street at the Religious Activities Center. According to a November article from the MIT News Office, “Residents of McCormick Hall, Baker House, Next House and Simmons Hall may order kosher meals one day in ad- vance to be delivered to their din- ing halls for dinner the next night.”

Energy improvements

The MIT News Office report- ed in November that Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin III says that composting, cooking oil conversion to biodiesel, and energy-saving equipment will help this dining hall “set the standard” for dining facilities. Despite Mas- sachusetts’ already “strict energy codes,” Richards said Maseeh has improved upon those basic re- quirements.

Richards also has high expecta- tions that Maseeh will receive LEED certification, a rating from the U.S. Green Building Council for energy efficient buildings. “We are expect- ing to achieve a minimum of LEED Silver certification for Maseeh Hall and are hoping to achieve enough credits for LEED Gold certification” after construction is complete. Although renovated buildings typically have difficulty achieving a Gold rating, Richards is optimistic. “Students living here in the build- ing can help with that.”

Heat recovery units on the roof will put escaping heat to use, dual- flush toilets will conserve water, and thermally separated windows will reduce energy waste. In addi- tion, the windows facing noisy Mel- morial Drive and Massachusetts Avenue traffic will be made of laminated glass, increasing the "Sound Transmission Coefficient (STC) to provide better sound abatement," according to Richards. Real-time energy meters on each floor will show curious residents their energy usage. A theme throughout the Maseeh Hall construction plans is the use of recycled and regional materials, including local green grueby tiles on a couple of dormant fireplaces. About 75 percent of the existing building structure has been main- tained, including the majestic self- supporting tile of the entry canopy. In fact, the new building was hon- ored in 2010 with the Cambridge Historical Commission Preserva- tion Award for project quality and historical significance.

Next fall, 462 undergraduate students, including those from the Phoenix Group, will become the first residents of the renovated Maseeh Hall.

With space for 70-80 students on each floor, Maseeh will be the dorm with the largest number of beds. There will be two GRTs per floor, offering a student-to-GRT ratio typical of the other dorms, according to Richards. The dorm of- fers 77 singles, 166 doubles, and 19 triples.

The West Tower, where the din- ing halls lie, will host five residential floors, whereas the East Tower will have seven. The east and west ends of every floor except the first will be connected by a hallway bridging the two sides. These hallways will contain lounges facing the river, bookended by original mantles, and will offer students a place to study or just hang out. Bathrooms on each floor will be co-ed. Elevator and stair access to the residential floors will require a Maseeh Hall resident to swipe his or her MIT ID card. Rooms and floor lounges will not have air-conditioning, but the “lobby, dining rooms, severy areas, and ground floor student life spaces” will, according to Richards. “We hope to have [the associate housemaster] in place during the spring term so [he or she] can get to know the current Phoenix Group community and begin to partici- pate in planning activities,” Carroll said.

Maseeh Hall will take part in residence-based advising, which is new for the Phoenix Group. This collection of graduate students lived together since Fall 2008, join- ing the Ashdown graduate com- munity in NW3, also known as “New Ashdown.” That fall, the weak economy forced MIT to postpone W1’s development “indefinitely,” according to the Phoenix Group website. It wasn’t until two years later, after the $24 million gift from Farzbis Maseeh, that the Phoenix Group’s hopes to rise from Ash- down’s ashes came to life. “I look forward to seeing how Maseeh Hall will be designed by the Phoenix Group students and Housemasters — becomes another strong, unique residential community within the MIT campus culture,” said Colombo.

Additional rooms in Maseeh will house residential scholars, in- dividuals visiting campus that in- clude professionals and professors on sabbatical from other institu- tions. These individuals are expect- ed to act as an “academic resource to the house, actively participat- ing in house activities and hosting one event per term,” Carroll said. The Housemasters, Suzannas Flynn and Andrew Call, will each live in the first floor of the East Tower, whereas the Associated Housemaster will serve a role for which recruiting is currently taking place, will live on the 3rd floor of the West Tower.

Students were shown a furnished double in Maseeh during the tours on Saturday. The dorm contains 166 doubles, 19 triples, and 77 singles. The rooms have tile floors, and hallways will be carpeted.

Andrew J. Musacchio ’11 and Brent M. Johnson ’14 lead the pack over the second hurdle during the men’s 55-meter hurdles race at the MIT Coed Invitational Track and Field meet on Saturday. Musacchio held on to grab first with a time of 8.23 seconds. Isaac Nicholson of Williams took second, followed by Johnson in third.
The Engineers were once again up to the challenge of competing with some of the top athletes in New England.

Other NCAA qualifying marks came from Amy R. Magnuson G in the 60-meter hurdles (9.20 seconds) and Louise E. van Heuvel ’14, who continues to improve quickly in the mile with a personal best time of 5:03.98.

Jacqueline A. Breve ’14 posted a personal best and the second-fastest time in Institute history in the 200 meter (26.10 seconds) while Olivia J. Pupa ’14 also set an individual record in the 800 meter (2:20.37).

The entire team will return to the Sho-11-14 "qualified for next month's NCAA Division III New England Championship.

Karin E. Fisher ’11 continued to pile up outstanding efforts in the pole vault: the senior has won the event in four of the five meets she has competed in this year. Fisher (12-5.50 feet) and teammate Briner (11-11.75 feet) finished one-two in the event and each reached the NCAA provisional standard in the process. Lauren B. Kuntz ’13 tied for fourth with a vault of 10-11.75 feet.

Jones, Simmons, and Gross also took part in the 400 meters and posted times nearly as strong as their relay splits. Jones finished sixth overall with an NCAA provi- sional standard in the process. Simmons also had a provisional qualifier with her time of 58.53 seconds, good for 22nd overall. Gross completed the two-lap race in 1:10.26, and Megan E. Bumgardner ’14 was just behind with a time of 1:10.45.

By Greg McKeever

SPortS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS

Taking on Div. I at BU

Women's Track & Field hold their own

The MIT Women's Track and Field team was in action at Boston University for the second time in three weeks, and the Engineers were once again up to the challenge of competing with some of the top athletes in New England, including a number of Division 1 competitors. The Engineers achieved seven different NCAA-level perfor- mances while narrowly missing a few more in its final weekend of competition before the Division III New England Champi- onship.

Perhaps the most impressive showing came from the 4x400 meter relay squad of Jamie L. Simmons ’12, Hazel L. Briner ’11, Martha M. Gross ’12, and Portia M. Jones ’12. The group, which already holds the MIT record in the event, placed fifth with a time that was slower than only a couple Division I competitors. The Engineers in New England included a number of Division I competitors. The Engineers placed sixth overall with an NCAA provi- sional standard in the process. Simmons also had a provisional qualifier with her time of 58:53 seconds, good for 22nd overall. Gross completed the two-lap race in 1:10.26, and Megan E. Bumgardner ’14 was just behind with a time of 1:10.45.

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The entire team will return to the Sho-11-14 "qualified for next month's NCAA Division III New England Championship next week.

By Nidharshan Anandasivam

SPortS STAFF

Editor’s note: This is a continuation of a Feb. 3 column on the most memorable sports moments of 2010.

A few years from now, we will look back on 2010 and remember only certain mo- ments in the world of sports — those in- stances of great influence, moments that changed the history and impacted the fu- ture of sports. Two weeks ago, I presented 2010’s top two moments: the Winter Cup in South Africa, and LeBron James’ move to the Miami Heat. Moving on to number three...

The Saints Come Home (as Super Bowl Champions)

In 2005, the devastating Hurricane Ka- trina, which killed nearly 2000, rendered many more homeless, and cost an estimat- ed $81 billion in property damage, defi- nitely took a toll on the city of New Orleans and its people. The city didn’t have much to be passionately cheerful about for the next few years, save the relief efforts put in place to fix the Big Easy.

But the beginning of 2010 proved to spark a city lost in tragedy and rejuvenate the sporting enthusiasts huddled around TV screens to watch their beloved New Or- leans Saints take on Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLIV.

“Who Dat” was the phrase shouted every- where as smiling revelers all around New Orleans rejoiced at the Saints’ newfound success. After the Saints won 13 and lost only 3 during that regular season in 2009, there were high expectations and the city would have erupted had the Saints brought home the Lombardi trophy.

Led by a confident Drew Brees, the speedy and agile halfback Reggie Bush, and a solid receiving bunch including Robert Meachem and the experienced tight-end Jeremy Shockey, the go-to-gay in tough third-down situations, the Saints knew they could pick apart the Colt de- fense, but the question was whether they could restrain Manning and the Colts’ ef- ficient passing game. The first quarter was tense as the Colts scored a touchdown and a field goal, while the Saints could not get on the scoreboard. This had Saints fans praying for a comeback. But, it wasn’t un- til the third and fourth quarters that the Saints had their day, scoring 15 unan- swered points to close out the game and win their first ever championship. People all around New Orleans, especially in the historic French Quarter, celebrated what seemed to be an equally historic moment for their city.

Many across the U.S. and the world felt that the Saints victory has no significance in their lives. But those affected by Katrina, and who despite that remained passion- at about their hometown, will forever be changed. It is a victory for the team, for the city, and for its people. The victory will survive the test of time to remind people of the spirit of New Orleans, a city that fell as definitely took a toll on the city of New Orleans and its people. The city didn’t have much to be passionately cheerful about for the next few years, save the relief efforts put in place to fix the Big Easy.

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