Walker Memorial's future is unknown

By Stan Gill
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The future of Walker Memorial remains a mystery to administrators and student groups alike. In October 2010, members of the administration, including Associate Provost Martin A. Schmidt PhD ’88, announced that plans were in the works to assess the feasibility of a project to repurpose and restore Walker Memorial for use by the Music and Theater Arts department (MTA). Although progress has been made on the project over the summer and this past semester, there is no clear end in sight.

“The evaluation of the renovation of Walker to support MTA’s needs has taken longer than expected, in part due to the complexities of accommodating the acoustic requirements of some of the spaces,” Schmidt said in an email to The Tech. “While we don’t have a timeline for a decision, we are committed that Walker will remain available for current users though this academic year.”

Much of the progress made on the project is by the Walker Memorial Assessment Team (WMAT), a group comprised of a student representative from the Graduate Student Council (GSC), Undergraduate Assembly (UA), the Graduate Student Representative from the Graduate Student Association (GSA), and representatives from the Walker Memorial Assessment Team (WMAT), a group comprised of a student representative from the Graduate Student Council (GSC), Undergraduate Assembly (UA), and Walker Memorial’s representative from the Graduate Student Association (GSA), and representatives from the Walker Memorial Assessment Team (WMAT). However, student groups have not yet been able to move into Walker Memorial, and some members of the UA have expressed frustration with the delays.

“While the evaluation of the renovation of Walker to support MTA’s needs has taken longer than expected, in part due to the complexities of accommodating the acoustic requirements of some of the spaces,” Schmidt said in an email to The Tech. “While we don’t have a timeline for a decision, we are committed that Walker will remain available for current users though this academic year.”

The 2.009 staff fires “Angry Birds” plushies into the audience at the end of the 2.009 presentations in Kresge on Monday evening. The theme of this year’s projects was “On the Go.”

Students head off to varied externships

By Jesse Kirkpatrick
STAFF REPORTER

When Celena Chan ’12 applied for her externship with Bank of America Merrill Lynch last year, she was looking for some real world experience and a look into the professional field.

“I was hoping to get a taste of what finance would be like,” said Chan. “I got an internship, not a full-time role, but I still had a whole lot more than she had bargained for. After completing her externship, Chan was offered a summer internship at Bank of America.

“At the end of the externship, I didn’t really know what to expect,” said Chan. “I got an interview, a couple weeks later.” However, it didn’t end there for Chan. After going through the summer internship program, Chan was eventually offered a full-time position at Bank of America.

“We were fortunate enough — because it was competitive — to receive authorization to make the externship a permanent position,” said Chan.

Top 10 most popular externships

This year, 259 MIT students will participate in the MIT externship program, which matches students with alumni at various companies. Below are the most sought-after companies in this program, based on the number of MIT student applicants to each company’s externship positions.

To receive authorization to make the externship a permanent position, the student must have completed a full-time internship at the company. The externship must be at least 8 weeks long, and the student must be enrolled in at least one externship each semester.

In YOUR COMMUNITY

Meet Professor Robert Langer

By Kali Xu
STAFF WRITER

“Whenever I first came here, after a year or two, a lot of people told me I should leave. They said I was never going to even get promoted past assistant professor. A lot of people in the scientific community didn’t believe in the science I was doing, they thought it was wrong. And so I got my first nine grants turned down,” recounted Professor Robert S. Langer ScD ’74.

Thirty-four years after joining the MIT faculty, Langer is one of 14 professors holding the title of Institute Professor — the highest honor awarded to a faculty member. He is the most cited engineer in history, holds about 800 granted or pending patents, and leads the largest biomedical engineering lab in the world. His remarkable collection of awards and honors overflows the walls of his office at the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research. Some of his most notable accolades include the Priestley Medal, the United States National Medal of Science, the Millennium Technology Prize, the Lemelson-MIT Prize, and the National Medal of Science.

Langer, Page 9

Woof! Puppies to invade campus

If you find yourself in finals week distract, MIT Libraries hopes to help you de-stress with its upcoming “Cookies with Canines” study breaks.

Dog BONES (Dogs Building Opportunities for Nurturing and Emotional Support) provides a non-profit therapy dog organization, will be bringing dogs to take students’ minds off of finals, only if only for a few furry minutes.

The canines will be at Hayden Library on Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Barker Library on Tuesday, Dec. 20 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Twelve pairs of dogs and their volunteer human partners, including MIT Police Sergeant Cheryl N. Vossmer and her 8-month-old Lagotto Romagnolo, Berkett, are signed up to help with this study break offering.

“We’re hoping it will be a nice opportunity — because it was competitive — to receive authorization to make the externship a permanent position,” said Chan.

For more information, please visit the MIT Libraries website at https://libraries.mit.edu/

IN SHORT

Reserve a seat on the Logan airport shuttle for winter break travel at http://d3y-web.mit.edu/ shuttles/airshuttle. The shuttle costs $30 and will run Dec. 21–24. Yes, advanced reservations are required.

Fill out end of term evaluations for this semester by Friday, Dec. 16 at noon. Visit http://web.mit.edu/subjectevaluation/today/ today!

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.
Chinese fisherman kills South Korean coast guard

SEOUL, South Korea — A South Korean coast guard member was stabbed to death by a Chinese fisherman Monday during a crackdown on illegal fishing near South Korea, the coast guard said.

Nine Chinese crewmen violently resisted South Korean coast guardsmen who were trying to impound their 66-ton boat about 120 miles west of Incheon, near the border with North Korea, according to a coast guard spokesman.

Another Chinese ship was charged into the boat, and amid the confusion, the Chinese rebelled, said Choe Gun-tae, a coast guard spokesman, citing a preliminary report from the scene.

The captain of the Chinese ship was believed to have attacked the South Korean with a piece of glass from a shattered cabin window, Choe said. A 41-year-old coast guard officer was stabbed in the side and died while a helicopter was taking him to a hospital in Incheon, a port city west of Seoul.

The captain, who suffered a minor injury during the clash, was arrested.

In Seoul, the Foreign Ministry summoned the Chinese ambassador, Zhang Xisen, to lodge a protest against illegal fishing and the fishermen’s use of violence. There was no immediate comment from Beijing.

BERBIER — The Syrian government called Monday for votes to turn it out for local elections that it portrayed as good-faith reform efforts, but activists said that most citizens, observing a second day of a general strike, rejected the polls as a irrelevancy to a country in such turmoil.

Opposition groups reported at least 18 deaths in clashes between security forces and armed protesters in several regions, and the U.N. Human rights commissioner, Navi Pillay, said the death toll now exceeded 5,000.

Pillay briefed the Security Council on Syria and then told reporters that at least 300 children were among the dead, according to The Associated Press. She noted that the death toll had been just 2,000 in August.

Syria’s prime minister, Adel Sa’ar, called on Syrians to cast their ballots “to stand together to save our country from the conspiracies against us” and the government reported that the turnout was good and that voting was “proceeding in a democratic spirit.”

Activists said that turnout was high only among those who support the government of President Bashar Assad, with most Syrians abstaining from voting. In some areas, they said, residents were forced to head to polling stations.

“Heez is on strike, and around 90 percent of the people did not participate in the elections,” said Sa’ar, according to the Local Coordination Committees, an opposition group in Syria. “It’s only the regime supporters who participated, so there was basically no elections in the country.”

Authorities said the elections were part of a reform package that Assad announced earlier this year and would lead to parliametary elections and constitutional amendments next fall.

However, critics said that these elections would have little significance because municipal councils have no major power in the government, whose domination by the Baath Party is enshrined in the constitution.

The government also denied that the general strike was being observed. The state news agency said that the strike was a failure and published an eight-page report to prove it, along with several pictures showing open shops and busy markets.

The marketers in Syrian provinces had normal movement yesterday,” the report said. It added that the ordinary weekday came “despite intensification of foreign-linked terrorist groups to stop economic and social activity.”

However, activists from the Local Coordination Committees and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights as well as residents reached by phone in Damascus, Homs, in central Syria, and Daraa in southern Syria, among others, said that shops were closed and some schools did not open Monday.

“Every which way, the strike was success - ful this time,” said a 28-year-old resident of Damascus. “It was the talk of the town.”

As Syria urges local voting, UN puts death toll at 5,000

By Nada Bakri

The New York Times

British regulator takes partial blame for RBS failure

By Julia Warnig

The New York Times

Extended Forecast


Situation for noon Eastern Time, Tuesday, December 13, 2011

WEATHER
**Tuesday, December 13, 2011**

**The Tech 3**

**Bill would block food stamps, jobless pay for millionaires**

**By Jennifer Steinhauser**

**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

WASHINGTON — It is an image of American resilience: a recently laid-off worker, left to pool food stamps to buy food stamps while waiting for an unemployment check.

Under the Republican bill to extend the payroll tax holiday, which is scheduled to be voted on in the House as early as Tuesday, those with adjusted gross incomes of more than $1 million would no longer be eligible to receive jobless pay, reducing production of $20 billion in savings to help pay for the tax cut for U.S. workers, who are currently suffering from a lack of work.

The bill would be brought by many Democrats, who had highlighted the need for the savings in a Senate bill to extend the payroll tax cut, as a failed Republican Senate bill.

Yet as it turns out, millionaires on food stamps are just as eager as perennials, even as you count a battery winner in Michigan who managed to collect the benefit for Medicare and other health plans.

Numerous studies have found that when doctors have a financial incentive to focus first on the antitrust case.

**Drive shortage will reduce chip sales, Intel warns**

SAN FRANCISCO — Intel will not let a good crisis go to waste, the world’s largest chipmaker said Monday.

The company, which has been trying to buy back its own stock, is expected to gain insurance under the 2010 health care law.

As Democrats examined the provision dealing with an adjusted gross income of $10,000,000 or more, they found an average of $12,333 in jobless benefits for a total of $22,000.

"Making Coloradans pay for unemployment insurance for millionaires might be precisely at issue, especially if a time machine is at hand and our debt is out of control," Udall said in an email.

**German official backs tax vetoed by Britain**

Germany’s foreign minister said Monday that he would like to see a tax on financial transactions in the European Union to prevent the flood of the hard drive industry into the London-based financial services industry from paying such a tax.

"A financial transaction tax would be positive," said the foreign minister, Guido Westerwelle, emphasizing that if there were such a tax, "we would have to include all the European Union," and not just a few countries that use the euro.

His remarks were implicitly directed at Prime Minister David Cameron of Britain, who has said that a tax on financial transactions in the European Union would not be a good idea.

**Antitrust suit in AT&T bid for T-Mobile is delayed**

WASHINGTON — AT&T has one month to tell a U.S. District Court judge and the Justice Department whether it will pursue its proposed $39 billion acquisition of T-Mobile US in its current form.

Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle, of U.S. District Court in Washington, Tuesday, granted a joint motion filed Monday by AT&T and the Justice Department whether it will pursue its merger.

"This does not change our view, that demand for personal computers and servers, which means fewer semiconductors will be needed. Without the drives, manufacturers have been known since October, PC makers have told Intel over the past two weeks that they would need fewer chips.

"The demand for personal computers and servers is healthy and growing," said Stacy J. Smith, Intel’s chief financial officer. "Constraints caused by the lack of drives will continue through the first quarter of 2012, he said.

"This does not change our view, that demand for personal computers and servers is healthy and growing," said Stacy J. Smith, Intel’s chief financial officer.

"If we felt they lacked safeguards for the future of the City of London, the area that makes up London’s financial district and a vital economic engine for Britain, Cameron’s actions left Britain isolated, and Westerwelle’s remarks suggested that the veto still would not insulate London from changes undertaken by other EU members.

In an interview with the editorial board of The New York Times, Westerwelle said that the decision was still open to Britain to join the new economic stability pact that Germany and all other EU members are going ahead with regardless of Britain’s decision. “It is a standing invitation for Great Britain,” he said.

**Rick Gladdone, The New York Times**
By Rachel Bandler

As I surfed the web exploring the Internet’s role in the Arab Spring for a cyber politics class, I stumbled upon the website http://movements.org/.

The site’s homepage immediately grabbed my attention with a large advertisement for a “How to Bypass Internet Censorship” guide. Not typical of the average political blog, I decided to investigate further. I was amused to find Google-owned YouTube, CBS News, MTV, Facebook, MSNBC, and National Geographic listed as sponsors of the site. Moreover, the co-founder of MovementCharts.org says that it “represents a new model of digital activism and peer-to-peer training wherein these lead- ership organizations share all of their data and deliberations with the public, but exactly how complex model will impact policy and who will use it, remains to be seen.”

The rules of engagement are important. If students are going to participate, what is their impact? Will they be seen as an impartial third party or will they become the focal point of the policy discussion? It is up to us to determine whether a policy should be apparent from the outset.

Student administrator relations have seen progress this year. We’ve seen a controversial notice of Chancellor's Council’s committee on student life appointing a committee for digital technologies for social change under the leadership of Eric Grimsson. The committee seeks to identify best practices for the use of digital technologies for social change and that networks should identify their projects and scale up for impact. The project seeks to move beyond the limited goal of the tech-focused projects and looks to the broader impact of digital technologies.

The MIT administration has been working to ensure that the campus is well-equipped to handle the increasing use of technology in the classroom. This is particularly important in light of the recent events in the Arab Spring, where technology has played a key role in facilitating communication and organizing protests.

As a student at MIT, I have seen and experienced firsthand the impact that technology can have on campus life. It is crucial that we continue to explore and understand the potential benefits and limitations of digital technologies for social change. By fostering an environment of thoughtful dialogue and collaboration, we can work towards creating a platform that empowers students and administrators to effectively navigate the complex challenges that arise in the digital age.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, we must always seek to adapt and learn from our experiences. By engaging in meaningful discussions and actively seeking feedback, we can work towards creating a better campus experience for all.

The administration must continue to make the constraints and options of policy-making clear to students. We should continue to prioritize the development of an informal student life policy-making committee to work alongside the current digital technologies for social change. This will ensure that student input is valued and that the process of policy-making is transparent and inclusive.

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On the other hand, if MIT is looking for guidance on the implementation of a new policy, they should identify the issues that it will improve the world for. If students are going to participate, what is their impact? Will they be seen as an impartial third party or will they become the focal point of the policy discussion?

Students should think big and go to the administration first with solutions, not just complaints.

Everyone’s got their work cut out for them in 2012. Students and administrators alike should build on the progress made last year to inspire next year’s productive and prosperous one.

CORRECTIONS

An article published last Friday on Nightline misquoted Isabella F. Lubin ‘12 as saying “We should require that students should reach out to peers as a first step.” Lubin actually said, “We should often feel that students might want to reach out to peers as a first step.” The same article misquoted Travis B. Wagenschutz ‘12 as saying “Students won’t always need to go to a doctor or psychologist first.” Her comment actually was “students won’t always need to go to a doctor.” This article also incorrectly listed Nightline’s hours as 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. — they are actually 8 p.m. – 6 a.m.

An article published last Friday on IAP meal plans incorrectly listed brunch hours as 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The correct hours are 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For guidance on the implementation of a new policy, or will they actually determine what policies should be implemented at all? Policy, or will they actually determine what policies should be implemented at all? Policy, or will they actually determine what policies should be implemented at all? Policy, or will they actually determine what policies should be implemented at all? Policy, or will they actually determine what policies should be implemented at all?
Why the Occupy movement failed
Stop whining, set an endgame

By Haldun Anil

Sparking up all over the world, the Oc-
cupy movement was one of the most popu-
lar trends of the second half of 2011. Start-
ing with Occupy Wall Street, the movement
soon spread to more than 95 cities around
the globe. Before getting to its shortcomings,
let’s first reexamine what the Occupy move-
ment really is.

Referring to themselves as the 99 per-
cent, the protesters that took part in the
occupations are mainly against economic
and social inequality brought about by the
American banking system. In short, the
occupiers have expressed concerns about
and discontent about the fact that the rich-
est one percent of the American people
controls almost as much wealth as the rest
of the country. According to a New York
Times article, those in the top one percent
have annual incomes starting at $386,000.
To put things into perspective, the median
household income for the United States as
a whole is about $50,000 a year. There are
a myriad of reasons which contribute to
this income inequality. These include, but
aren’t limited to educational attainment,
race, and gender.

Looking at the figures, it’s obvious that
it wouldn’t take a genius to figure out why
those not in the one percent would be an-

Risk associated with fomenting digital rebellion
Movements.org may have a counterproductive mission

Bandlec, from Page 4

and Strategic). “Build Awareness,” “Mobi-
lies,” “Stay Safe,” “Access Blocked Informa-
tion,” “Collaborate,” “Fundraise,” and “Keep
Supporters Engaged.” Each of those topics is
supplemented with a step-by-step guide
that explicitly outlines how to achieve a par-
ticular result. In the “Plans and Strategies”
section, for example, outlines a 10-step plan
that teaches cyberactivists how to spark
massive crowds and inspire “plazas teeming
with protesters,” and clearly states how to
connect them with other activists in the hope
to use social media for change, and con-
trasts the potential “digital activists,” teaches them how
in-depth historical analysis.

In this way, Movements.org identifies po-
tential “digital activists,” teaches them how
to use social media for change, and con-
nects them with other activists in the hope
that these “matches” will eventually “ignite
and evolve over time.” In practice, therefore,
Movements.org does not simply teach peo-
ple how to use email and Facebook. Rather,
it wouldn’t take a genius to figure out why
those not in the one percent would be an-

gry about this enormous income gap. It is
also easy to deduce the motivations which
eventually led to the birth of the Occupy
movement. This is also the point where
some of the convenient oversights, contra-
dictions, and hypocrisy begin. The United
States of America was founded on the
principles of equal opportunity and later
evolved to include equal rights (with no-
table exceptions that continue to exist).

As an inherently capitalist system, the eco-

omy of the United States provides people
the opportunity to be as rich as they can.
It, however, in no way guarantees equal
lifestyles, income, or employment. This
is something that must simply be accepted
as a part of a privatized economic system.

Further, let’s be honest here: if asked
whether they wanted to, I doubt any same
person would reject the opportunity to
earn upwards of $386,000 a year. A huge
percentage of the same people that now
oppose income inequality would be per-
fectly fine with it, if instead they were on
top of the wealth pyramid. This is one of
the fundamental consequences of the Oc-
cupy movement’s eventual self-contradic-
tion: the 99 percent comprises an ero-
nous majority of the American people.
As such, just as the one percent is signifi-
cantly different than the 99 percent in terms of
income, the top 15 percent is also drastically
different than the bottom fifteen percent.
Even within their own ranks, the so-called
99 percent have astonishingly different
level of income. The huge contradiction that
arises from this situation is quite evident.

As a capitalist system, the U.S. economy
provides people the opportunity to be as rich
as they can.

Of course, there are other incidents
that have slowly begun corrupting the Oc-
cupy movement by trivializing it. A perfect
example is Occupy Harvard. One study in
U.S. News and World Report looked at the
Fortune 100 companies and found where
their CEOs attended college. Harvard Uni-
versity tops the list with fifteen alumni as
CEOs of Fortune 100 companies, trump-
ging the runner up Columbia University by
more than two times. I’m no expert, but
seeing Harvard students complain about
social and income inequalities not only
expands the boundaries of hypocrisy, but
also asserts itself as borderline ridiculous.
After all, they can easily become part of
the “one percent” and have more opportu-
nities than they could ever know what to do
with.

These reasons may have contributed to
the Occupy movement’s downfall, but they
are by no means the most significant. One
reason stands above all else in determining
the movement’s ineffectiveness, failure to
prompt action and eventual collapse: the
lack of an endgame. Unlike other move-
ments—like the Tea Party—the Occupy
movement lacks clear goals and demands
without which it cannot expect change.

Imagine yourself working on a group
project and one of your coworkers is con-
sistently complaining. If he doesn’t offer
a solution to all of these problems that
seems obstructive, people around him
will eventually tire of his constant ranting
and stop paying him any attention. This
is exactly what the Occupy movement has
brought on itself, by constantly complain-
ing but never offering any sort of tangible
solution, they have turned themselves
from the “voice of the 99 percent” to “that
annoying voice that just doesn’t quiet down.”
Besides making us talk about them, they
have achieved nothing. Nothing has changed,
the banks are still making unbe-
lievable sums of money, politics remain a
game of power and influence and the one
percent continues to have all the wealth.

And on that wonderful note, I wish you
all a happy holiday and hope to continue
writing for you in 2012. Good luck with
your finals, everyone!

Have humorous commentary about a campus topic?
Send 500 words and a pic to cl@tech.mit.edu.
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1 Check words
6 Bowler’s button
11 Grocery sack
14 Cancel, as a launch
15 Slip-up
16 Tankard fill
17 Date
20 Cheri of “SNL”
21 Shea corners
22 German exclamation
24 Singer O’Connor
28 Violent anger
29 Swedish auto
31 Writer Gide
33 Mal de __
34 Military forces
37 Udder ends
39 Date
43 Arab leader: var.
44 Ashe’s game
46 Matter form
49 Poker player’s declaration
51 Mach+ jets
52 Agts.
54 Steep slope
57 CIA forerunner
58 Tapestry in “Hamlet”
60 Sphere of wisdom?
62 Date
68 Summer on the Somme
69 Lag behind
70 French anarchy
71 The German
72 Witch trial city
73 Sen. Kefauver

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2 Attorney’s org.
3 City on Tokyo Bay
4 Waste allowance
5 Nebraska Sioux
6 Membrane of the inner eye
7 Harsh sounds
8 Broadway sign
9 FEMA command facility
10 Chicago daily, briefly
11 Aromatic fit
12 Assert to be true
13 Yellowstone Park sight
18 Tell’s canton
19 Bern’s river
22 Simile center
23 Goldfish relative
26 “Zip__—Doo-Dah!”
27 Working copy
30 Ill humor
32 To be, in Toulon
35 Mme. Bovary
36 Engraved slab
38 Basks
40 Fam. members
41 Audaciously rude
42 Tiny birds
45 Old draft org.
46 Arranged in steps
47 Expose to oxygen
48 More agile
49 Flame-thrower fluid
50 More agile
52 FDR program
53 Senator Nunn
55 Senator Nunn
56 San Diego pro
59 Drunks
61 Some whiskies
63 FDR program
64 Latvian chess master
66 Hotfoot it
68 Summer on the Somme
69 Lag behind
70 French anarchy
71 The German
72 Witch trial city
73 Sen. Kefauver
74 Sajak of “Wheel of Fortune”
75 CIA forerunner
76 Tapestry in “Hamlet”
77 Sphere of wisdom?
78 Summer on the Somme
79 Lag behind
80 French anarchy
81 The German
82 Witch trial city
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84 Sajak of “Wheel of Fortune”
85 CIA forerunner
86 Tapestry in “Hamlet”
87 Sphere of wisdom?
88 Summer on the Somme
89 Lag behind
90 French anarchy
91 The German
92 Witch trial city
93 Sen. Kefauver

Solution, page 12
**Least Action Principle** by Amanda Aparicio

Why it would be a horrible idea to make sentient desktop computers:

Marilyn Monroe:

"...if you can't handle me at my worst, then you sure as hell don't deserve me at my best."

"I believe that everything happens for a reason. People change."

Next day...

Stupid thing, why won't you work?!

Oh - um - gee! Sooo true! Better share that on Facebook!

if you can't handle me at my worst, then you don't deserve me at my best...

---

PILE HIGHER AND DEEPER

by Jorge Cham

---

SMBC

by Zach Weiners

[2457]

WE RECEIVED A MESSAGE. IT WAS SO BROAD AND POWERFUL, IT WAS DETECTED BY EVEN OUR MOST DISTANT SATELLITES.

FINDING INTELLIGENT LIFE WOULD BE HUGE, BUT... WHAT IF WE'RE ADVERTISING OUR EXISTENCE TO A HOSTILE ALIEN SPECIES?

60 YEARS LATER, A SIGNAL CAME.

BUT WHEN WE BEGAN TO DISCOVER EARTH-LIKE PLANETS, THE TEMPTATION BECAME OVERWHELMING.

THIS PLANET IS ONLY 30 LIGHT YEARS AWAY, AND IT'S IN THE RIGHT RANGES FOR LIFE. WE NEED TO SAY HI!

60 YEARS LATER, A SIGNAL CAME.

WE RECEIVED A MESSAGE. IT WAS SO BROAD AND POWERFUL, IT WAS DETECTED BY EVEN OUR MOST DISTANT SATELLITES.

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60 YEARS LATER, A SIGNAL CAME.

WE RECEIVED A MESSAGE. IT WAS SO BROAD AND POWERFUL, IT WAS DETECTED BY EVEN OUR MOST DISTANT SATELLITES.

Translation: "Dear invaders! The tastiest life is on "Earth," which can be found between..."
i didn't look up the nutritional value of fire and went entirely on my own intuition (i call it, "nutrituition"); this is me LIVING ON THE EDGE

Utahraptors! Many of you have large toenails. There may be special shoes you can buy; check into that and let me know.

That's not a PSA! That's you asking me to do your research.

Utahraptors! Did you know: SACRIFICE IS A PART OF FRIENDSHIP??

It's a good thing nobody remembers THAT LITTLE DETAIL when they first decide to become pals!

Sudoku Solution, page 12

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Techdoku Solution, page 12

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Langer, from Page 1

the Charles Stark Draper Prize — the engineering equivalent of the Nobel.

"It's easy to look back now, when things have gone so well. But I took a road that at that time nobody did, and people didn't think it was a very smart thing to do," says Langer. After receiving a bachelor’s degree from Cornell and an ScD from MIT, both in chemical engineering, he found himself at a career crossroads. While he could have easily followed the popular route of taking a job at a big oil company like many of his friends during the oil crisis of the 1970s, Langer decided to blaze his own trail in the medical field.

"It's easy to look back now, when things have gone so well. But I took a road that at that time nobody did, and people didn't think it was a very smart thing to do."

His interest in biology was kindled while working in bioengineering as a graduate student with Professor Clark Colton at MIT. Langer later got a position as a postdoctoral fellow for famed cancer researcher Judah Folkman at Harvard's Brigham and Woman's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He was the only engineer in the hospital, because at the time, it was rare for an engineer to be working in the medical field. With Folkman, he began research on how to stop the growth of blood vessels supporting cancerous tumors and developing controlled release polymers. Previously, drugs had to be administered in high doses at regular intervals, but by incorporating the chemicals within polymers, they can be given continuously over long time periods in a controlled fashion.

Langer’s ideas were first met largely with skepticism and even ridicule, because it was common scientific belief at the time nobody did, and people didn’t think it was a very smart thing to do. But when you're working with great people, you set a direction, you come up with some ideas, and things work themselves. "

It's very easy to look back now, when things have gone so well. But I took a road that at that time nobody did, and people didn’t think it was a very smart thing to do."

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How I Met Your Mother [spoiler alert!]

Something of this is a Mia Wasikowska film and is overlong and cumbersome to be considered among the very best of the era, but it’s a film about a young woman and is overlong and cumbersome to be considered among the very best of the era, but it’s a film about a young woman and is overlong and cumbersome to be considered among the very best of the era, but it’s a film about a young woman and is overlong and cumbersome to be considered among the very best of the era, but it’s a film about a young woman.

—Emily Dior

Examining show

New Girl

In less than 10 episodes, New Girl has managed to trade actors for one of its main characters, and nail Zooey Deschanel’s charming personality. The plot dealt with a lot of issues with jokes like ‘the douchiest joke’ but now enough, Schmidt’s (Max Greenfield’s) douchebaggery grows old, as did Nick’s (Jake Johnson’s) grossness and Jess’ (Deschanel’s) need to ruin Zooey Deschanel’s charming meeting college-girl raunchiness and a laugh track. (Beth Behrs), an ex-socialite who’s reduced to rags becomes a sharp-tongued scrappy Brooklynite, against Caroline opening a bakery. The contrast of Max (Kat Dennings), and high unemployment, it’s a grand joke. While the idyllic life of Carrie Bradshaw may be glam-

—Maggie Liu

Bones

Well they’re not the couple Booth and Brennan are finally together, but not quite marital bliss hasn’t gotten in the way of their chemistry. Unlike the foreseeable future, the show has not been canceled, the show’s relationship has been surprisingly functional and entertaining, the two must adjust to life bringing together and progressing together. But Booth’s (David Boreanaz) compassion, Jeffersons (Tusshar Kapoor’s) and Brennan’s (Emily Deschanel) determination to actually pay attention to the plot. Instead, it’s quite amusing, but mostly because of Gus (Dule Hill). Isolated incidences of antics, which, admittedly, are far from the episode is done, no worries — you can probably guess the ending already.

—Simon Chong

Chuck

After four seasons, Chuck has managed to continue producing fun entertainment with many other shows hinges on completing a mission or submitting a mystery to book club. The second season of Chuck (Zachary Levi), Sarah (Yvonne Strahovsky), Morgan (Joshua Gomez) and the team have moved to a different location to start their own spy agency. Chuck from the beginning, Morgan appears to come in and out of his mission as more of a serious character rather than a more comic foil — until he becomes so arrogant viewers might want to treat him as a role of his own new-found interest in others. While the writers find a way to allow fans to escape Chuck’s antics, and leaves freebies a sense of familiarity and connection. The first season has found a warm place in the hearts of many fans, and is a great show to catch up on if you’ve not watched it before.

—Eugene Byung and T.J. Thyme

Revenge

Inspired by Amanda Dunbar’s The Count of Monte Cristo, Revenge is this season’s most guilty pleasure. Starring Emily VanCamp as Emily Thorne who is newly involved with Sherrin, the show could very well be the new, cultured, and sophisticated Gossip Girl. Revenge centers around Emily bringing back to the Hamptons to take revenge on the large network of rich, influential people who cheated her family, devastated her family, and locked her in juvenile detention for a decade. The plot twists viewers with an episodic approach, hot running episodes provide satisfaction in incremental reveals as Emily slowly takes down those who took down her father while in a constant battle of wits and social politics with the woman who actually betrayed him, ‘Queen of the Hamptons’ Victoria Grayson (Madeline Stowe). VanCamp’s acting is captivating, and her character Emily Thorne is one of the most intriguing characters in TV history, taking viewers on a journey of revenge with a twist.

—Jeff Dill

Glee

Sorry, Gleeks, but season 3 has been a disappoint-
ment. Much of the plot revolves around a mushy love story of Finn and Rachel, and the musicals are not as strong as seasons 1 and 2. My advice? Don’t underestimate the dwarf, and if you are watching, be patient. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors. Martin’s intricately crafted set designs and witty humor, and talent of the actors.

—Kathy Dere

Hart of Dixie

Sorority sister (Timothy Omundson) might actually have a not-so-secret admirer, which, admittedly, are far from the episode is done, no worries — you can probably guess the ending already.

—Simon Chong

Community

Community is a great show to catch up on it’s oil you’ve missed out on the past two seasons of the completely wacky students of Greendale Community College. The second-season is especially worth watching, even more so if you’re a fan that enjoys dynamic action-ho
gens or even-nurtured blunders. It’s a lot of fun to watch, keeping most of the episodes around the weekly plot (despite the occasional bomb) and is overlong and cumbersome to be considered among the very best of the era, but it’s a film about a young woman.

—Emily Dior

Game of Thrones

Awards Season: Alright enough said. The HBO series Game of Thrones has it all. Based on George R.R. Martin’s ongoing fantasy series, A Song of Ice and Fire, the season has found a warm place in the hearts of those who read the books and those who haven’t — or at least yet. Regardless, all fans can appreciate the amaz-

—Gale Schiff
FAMILY NEEDS HELP

WHAT HAPPENED TO NICOLÁS DEL CASTILLO?

Nicolás Del Castillo, who had just turned age 18, was found dead in his East Campus single dorm room on September 4, 2011. His cause of death has been determined to be suicide.

Nicolás’ parents are seeking any information that may shed light on his activities prior to his death. Currently, they understand that he was last seen at a party at East Campus on August 31, 2011.

If you are an MIT student, and have any information concerning Nicolás and the events leading to his death, please contact his family’s local representatives:

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207 Union Street
S. Natick, MA 01760
(508) 655-8700
Jeffrey.Beeler@heinleinbeeler.com

OR

David Deluca, Esq.
Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane
300 Crown Colony Drive
Quincy, MA 02269
(617) 459-5000
ddeluca@mhtl.com

The Tech, Tuesday, December 13, 2011
Externship can lead to internships and job offer

Bank of America Merrill Lynch externs have a high chance of getting a return offer

Externship, from Page 1

her an offer to join us full-time upon graduation," said Howard D. Sitzer ’74, a director and municipal bond research analyst at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Sitzer was Chan’s sponsor and mentor throughout her IAP externship experience. “The externship certainly contributed to her being selected for the internship,” said Sitzer, “and then her experience as an intern absolutely was a precursor to her being presented with an offer.”

The Externship Program, started in IAP, matches MIT students with MIT alums for a one-month work experience over IAP. Students apply through the Alumni Association website, and externship sponsors review the applicants for compatibility with the position. The sponsors then send back a list of qualified students, and an algorithm generates matches. This year, a record number of 294 MIT students will be participating in the Externship Program. Terrence Hsu ’13 has an externship with Bank of America Merrill Lynch this January. As an extern, Hsu will be “rotating through several desks, helping the traders compute their PNLs” and “some kind of hedging and strategic work as well.”

For Hsu, co-president of the Sloan Business Club, the Externship Program is an opportunity to get a foot in the door in a company like Bank of America, which offers a select few internships over the summer.

“Externships usually lead to a high chance of getting a return offer for the summer,” said Hsu. However, not all externships are highly technical or career-oriented. Some are arguably the exact opposite, offering students the opportunity to completely disconnect from their courses for a few weeks.

Jessica Lin ’12 spent four weeks on a farm in France, clearing and preparing the land for the spring. “It was hard manual labor,” said Lin. A Course 6, Lin had been considering various coding jobs for IAP. However, the allure of the French countryside got the best of her. “I did apply to it because it was pretty special,” said Lin. “I can program for the rest of my life!”

MIT can often be an intense place. For Lin, the externship was a “refresher.” “If there’s an experience that you don’t think you could have again outside of MIT or when you enter your real life, you should take it now,” said Lin. “You can worry about your career later.”

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Over 1,000 Occupy protesters gathered for one last stand at Dewey Square on Thursday — making it clear that they would not be deterred by Mayor Menino’s notice that after midnight, protesters in the area would be subject to “arrest and criminal prosecution,” according to the Boston Herald.

I was expecting tear gas, mace, or at least police in riot gear. I was disappointed.

When I got to Dewey Square at midnight, I was expecting tear gas, mace, or at least police in riot gear. I was disappointed. The police seemed to be standing by, either leaning against their vehicles, directing traffic, or idly chatting with each other. Meanwhile the protesters had lined up along Atlantic Avenue, shouting at cars (which occasionally honked), chanting, and dancing to a band while in the spotlight of dozens of photographers and reporters, who seemed to comprise much of the crowd. I first thought that I had stumbled into a street parade.

Photographers were everywhere. At one point, a man sat down dramatically, draped in an American flag and shaking in the cold; one reporter shouted, “Over here!” to another, and soon at least 12 photographers were capturing the moment, strobing the night with their flashes.

There were also many bystanders — who just wanted to see the action, including one man who said that he didn’t “support the movement at all,” and was “just there to watch.” Many of the people lined up along the outside of the protest seemed to be such indifferent bystanders, including one that commented that “the police[] wouldn’t make a raid with this many non-protesters, they’d wait until some police clear out.”

In another part of the square, there was a large group packed tightly around the MassDOT ventilation building, chanting “we are the 99 percent” and “we are the source of all your wealth.” The most noticeable presence was by the Veterans for Peace group, who stood among the crowd brandishing their symbolic white flags, one of their members, Lee, recalled getting trampled at the last protest. Also at the protest were MIT students Valkyrie M. Felso ’15, Elham P. Sherbondy ’14, and Dennis G. Wilson ’14, who said this was their first time at an Occupy event.

“I wanted to see what the situation was like,” Wilson said. “Parts of the movement make sense — corporate law is kind of broken.”

Wilson also added that “this was a symbolic and syntagmatic intervention — some bystanders were shouting that they were “ready to get out of [there],” and others sat by the sides with gas masks and goggles on. The silence was unsettling, and I wondered if I, too, should have had an escape plan.

The newfound street camp featured tents, a statue of Gandhi, and balloons.

But after about 15 minutes, it became clear that nothing would happen. Boston Police Superintendent William Evans issued a statement to the press saying that there would be no confrontation. On the street, he said that the police would “wait it out,” and when asked if they would clear out the protesters, he said, “eventually.”

The crowd seemed to celebrate their successful occupation of the street, chanting “No, no, we won’t go,” and moving several tents onto the street. The newfound street camp also featured a statue of Gandhi, balloons, and a large banner that said “you can’t evict an idea.”

After about an hour, however, Boston Police seemed to have grown impatient with the camp and began to remove pieces of the camp themselves, including chairs, tables and tents. Protesters were mostly cooperative, and when some of them resisted the police’s removal of a tent, other protesters used the “people’s mic” — consisting of echoes through the crowd — to make it known that “the owners of the tent wanted it moved off the street,” a sentiment respected by the crowd.

The police remained calm throughout the night, not making any arrests and avoiding confrontation.

We left at about 3 a.m., and it wasn’t until about 5 a.m. that the police finally evicted the campers, arresting 46 protesters. Some relocated to the Boston Common, and many would go on to participate in Monday’s march that ended at Dewey Square, which was held in support of the Occupy movement’s West Coast attempts at closing ports, according to Channel 7 News in Boston.

It seems as if, though the protesters were evicted from Dewey Square, Occupy Boston will remain in the city for a while.

Stan Gill contributed reporting.
MIT fined $125k for shipping unlabeled hazardous materials

MIT has paid the Federal Aviation Administration a $125,000 fine for failure to properly label hazardous materials shipped through Federal Express that resulted in a fire on Aug. 25, 2009. The fine was negotiated down from the FAA's proposed $175,000 fine and was paid last month, FAA spokesman Jim Peters said.

MIT has agreed to host a 1-day symposium on FAA shipping regulations as part of the settlement, according to William C. Van-Schalkwyk, the managing director of MIT's Environmental Health and Safety department. EHS had stepped up outreach efforts after the 2009 fire, and Van-Schalkwyk said the symposium "shows that FAA believes MIT has a good program." Local hospitals, universities, and biotechnology companies will be invited to the event, which will be targeted at the shipping departments and safety departments, but not at individual researchers.

The fine occurred after a CSAIL researcher shipped 33 devices containing lithium batteries via FedEx, without labeling them as hazardous. The box caught fire on a conveyor belt at FedEx in Medford, Mass.

The FAA proposed the $175,000 penalty in a letter to MIT dated July 26, 2011 and announced it in a press release dated Sept. 2, 2011. The $125,000 negotiated penalty was paid in November.

—John A. Hawkinson

MIT ONLINE SUBJECT EVALUATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Evaluate subjects and teachers through Friday, December 16 at noon:
web.mit.edu/subjectevaluation

View past evaluation results:
web.mit.edu/subjectevaluation/results.html

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Wednesday December 14, 8pm in 6-120 (The Last Day of Classes)
Triple homicide in Cambridge

An investigation is under way for a triple homicide followed by a suicide that occurred in Cambridge on Friday, Dec. 9. At 6:40 p.m., police responded to reports of gunshots at a home on Grove Street (North Cambridge), where they discovered three deceased victims. A man was reportedly seen leaving the scene in a white Toyota Camry. After heavily armed police officers searched for several hours, the suspect’s body was found at 10 p.m. along the river at 1400 Soldiers Field Road, near the Brighton State Police Barracks. The suspect apparently died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Middlesex District Attorney Gerard T. Leone identified the suspect as 67-year-old John Brosnahan. Brosnahan was a retired police officer who had served with the Bedford Police Department for 28 years. The three victims were all related to Brosnahan, who is listed in city records as one of the owners of the house in which the deaths occurred. According to Leone, the violence originated from a “domestic dispute.” Authorities have not released the names of the victims. A source cited by the Boston Globe and WCVB Boston, however, identified the victims as Brosnahan’s brothers and mother-in-law.

The same source said the argument began over caretaking arrangements for Brosnahan’s 93-year-old mother-in-law. Longtime neighbors said they had never previously heard any domestic altercations. Cambridge Police did not receive any reports of violence from the home’s address this past year.

Brosnahan, who retired from the Bedford Police Department in 2000, had a valid license to carry a firearm, according to the Cambridge Police Department.

—Austin J. Hess
Alleged assault and battery in Tang Hall

On Sunday morning, a female resident of Tang Hall reported that an unknown male entered her bedroom, attempted to hold her down on the bed, and asked repeatedly for a kiss, according to MIT Police.

Detective Willard J. Boulter said the MIT Police have not identified a suspect, but “are working off of a couple different leads.”

According to a crime bulletin from the MIT Police, the victim described the male as being in his late 20s or early 30s in age, approximately 5’11”, 190 pounds; with shoulder length black hair, wearing a white t-shirt with a darker colored zip-up sweatshirt, and blue jeans.

The victim called the police right away, Boulter said. He could not comment on the specific floor that this happened on to avoid bringing unnecessary attention to the victim. Students on the floor, as well as the Tang housemasters and house manager, have been informed of the situation.

According to the bulletin, the victim described the suspect as “white or light Hispanic, late 20s or early 30s in age, approximately 5’11”, 190 pounds, with shoulder length black hair, wearing a white t-shirt with a darker colored zip-up sweatshirt, and blue jeans.”

The crime is being investigated by the MIT Police with help from the Cambridge and State Police. Anyone with information is encouraged to call the MIT Police at 617-253-1212 or visit their offices in building W89.

—Maggie Lloyd

The 2.009 projects are ‘on the go,’ mobilizing the world

MechE teams tackle mobility issues — a walker that turns into a cane, for instance

By Austin J. Hess

On Monday Dec. 12, students in 2.009, Product Engineering Process, presented their final projects to an overflowing Kresge Auditorium. Students worked in assigned teams of 11 to 13 people throughout the semester to develop ideas, design products, and build prototypes related to the theme of the 2011 2.009, “a walker that turns into a cane.” Each team had a $6,500 budget and help from professors and shop instructors as they refined their projects.

Eight teams presented during the event, which included live music and audience involvement. Eight-minute presentations were followed by five minutes of audience questions.

Each of the color-coded teams demonstrated a working prototype. The Orange Team’s prototype of a faucet attachment used sonar to fill industrial sinks to desired levels.

“When the class starts, you have no idea what to expect. For the first month or so it is all brainstorming,” said team member Jared M. Darby ‘12.

Two sections within each team tried out three ideas each before choosing one concept to pursue as a whole team. “When something goes wrong, you have to keep pushing, ask for help, and you’ll usually make it through,” said Darby.

Several prototypes were targeted for people with medical conditions that limited their mobility. Brendan R. Res ‘12 was a member of the Green Team, which designed a walker that could fold into a cane. He said that ideas for products for the hands-capped and elderly stemmed from asking the question, “What could use more mobility?”

Similar products included the Red Team’s heating and cooling unit for paraplegics, the Yellow Team’s system for operating a mechanical wheelchair without touching the rim, and the Purple Team’s electric power booster for mechanical wheelchairs.

Other projects included the Silver Team’s design for a vacuum-compressing suitcase, and the Pink Team’s helmet dispenser to accompany bike-sharing facilities.

Michael W. Bickers ‘12 was a member of the Blue Team. His team considered a coffee alarm, automated sandbox maker, and pill dispenser before settling on the final concept of a keyless bike lock. “The hardest thing about presenting was hoping our product would work,” he said.

“This most valuable part was learning how to work with a whole team dynamically,” added his teammate, Stephen A. Hendel ‘12.

All teams included a business plan in their presentation and some past 2.009 projects have been made profitable. Still, Hendel said, “from this point onward, finding external funding is a major concern, which is an obstacle to starting a business.”

At the end of the 2.009 presentations Monday evening, Professor David R. Wallace PhD ’95 proudly wears a jersey given to him by the students.

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Women's Basketball team improves to 6-3 on the year

43-36 victory over Mt. Holyoke

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

By Mindy Brauer

Nine unanswered points during a span of seven minutes helped propel MIT to a 43-36 victory over Mount Holyoke College at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 30 against Tufts University at 9:41, 39-39. The lead shifted for the next few minutes, until around 6:40, when Tufts managed a 7-0 run to end up ahead 54-48 with 4:55 left in the game.

Nicholas J. Prus ’15 describes the moments that followed as “pulsating... with the fans of the other team only a few feet below the court and the energy of gym growing by the second”. Kate’s, the team’s point guard, led the team to victory in the final moments, with two layups, two steals and an assist to lead MIT to victory.

Down 48-54, Kate’s stole the ball and delivered an assist to Bender, who scored a layup. After nearly a minute without scoring, Tufts managed a 7-0 run to end up 52-54. After a layup from Hollingsworth to take the lead and a free throw from Tufts to tie up the game, Kate’s made a layup followed by a steal, to get fouled and sent to the line, off of the ball with only two seconds left. Kate’s then sealed the victory, hitting both free throws, to win the game for MIT, 60-56.

“We played a very good team in Tufts University and the fact that it was in such a hostile enviroment added to the challenge. And to see the team come together to overcome that challenge reassures me that despite any adversity we may face, it doesn’t stand a chance when we’re rolling on all cylinders”, said Yeremia M. Nadhaima ’15.

Head Coach Larry Anderson said to the team in the locker room after the Tufts game, “To be able to weather a storm like that and to come out of that smelling like roses, that’s what championship teams do.” With an 11-0 record and wins against high-caliber teams like Tufts and Salem State, MIT is certainly on its way toward a championship. The Engineers will play their last game of the semester tomorrow, at home, against Wheelock College at 7 p.m.
Rachel M. Niehuus '07 qualified for the 2012 Olympic Women's Marathon Trials. Niehuus, a member of the MIT Cross Country and Track and Field teams, won the California International Marathon (CIM) in Sacramento, Calif.

Niehuus was a member of the varsity country and track and field teams while at MIT, and joined the Impalas after graduation. She is now an MD/PhD candidate in medical anthropology, a joint program between UC San Francisco and UC Berkeley.

This was Niehuus’ third time running the CIM. Last year, she ran 2:51, but she admits that she lost focus in the last six miles. After that race she asked her coach about her Olympic Trials prospects, and he encouraged her to go for it, even though he “admitted that it would be a long-shot,” Niehuus said in an email.

Just as Niehuus was preparing to resume training, her father passed away unexpectedly. “That put my whole life in a tailspin. For two weeks, I didn’t run at all. Then, I ran intermittently, when I could force myself to get out of bed.”

Niehuus spent May and June doing research on women’s empowerment programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The area’s lack of security further postponed much of her training.

Once back in the U.S., Niehuus spent six weeks in Montana, her father’s home state. “There, under the shadows of 10,000-foot snow-capped mountains, I finally started to run pretty consistently. My mileage was still low, and I wasn’t running any workouts, but I was in a routine.”

She finally returned to practice with the Impalas at the end of August, but the significant time off was noticeable in her running. “Needless to say, the month of September was a discouraging time for the Impalas. It made it a lot out of me, I couldn’t keep up with Madeline [her training partner], and my hamstring was sore.”

But Niehuus would not give up. According to Summer L. Hutchinson, assistant cross country and track and field coach, this characterized Niehuus’ personality even during her time at MIT. “She had a focus when it came to workouts and races that many others didn’t have. She seemed to love running just for the sake of it.”

Alisha R. Schoe ‘07, Niehuus’ teammate from MIT, had similar qualifications. “Her style of running and in life, is to throw caution to the wind and just be 100 percent in the task at hand. She’s got an incredible internal drive and tenacity that definitely carries her distance running.”

Slowly but surely, Niehuus’ running began to change for the better. “In the first week of October, I hit 85 miles per week. On tiring legs, I ran a low 1:20 [half marathon]. At that point, the Trials were a possibility. Stuff started just to fall into place: Madeline and I, once again, were using stepping-stone-for-in-workouts, diligent yoga sessions had helped heal my hamstring; and the 10 or so pounds that I had gained in the last year had finally started to fall off.”

Niehuus then set a big personal record at a Thanksgiving 5K, clocking 2:32. Still, the qualifying standard for the marathon trials is 2:46, and race calculators predict a marathon time of 2:49 on her 5K performance. The qualifying period ended on Dec. 11, so the CIM would be Niehuus’ shot at the Olympic Trials.

“A week from the marathon, my legs were starting to feel good, but my confidence was low. My coach sent out an email: seven women from my team were going to be running for a Trials time at CIM, and he wanted us to run as a pack, 6:18-20 pace the whole way. Everyone was on board. With the pacing question off the table, all that was left was to convince myself that I could do it — that I was capable of it.”

Niehuus added, “I’ve run marathons daily for a week before her big races, but this time I also reached out to her MIT running community for race advice and added confidence. According to Schoe, “I remember some advice I got in high school, and suggested to her that she write down a list of the doubts she was having, and then next to it, write down a positive ‘counterargument’ for each one. Then, throughout the week, any time she experienced a doubt, she should think of the counterargument instead. The key point was that there really is no place for negative thinking in racing — sometimes in life that kind of things keep you from doing something stupid, but in racing, you have to be all in.”

Just as Niehuus repeated Niehuus’ self-coaching mantra, “You probably have the most mental strength of anyone in this race,” Hutchinson also said. She recommended that Niehuus “keep the focus on smaller portions of the race rather than the race as a whole since that can be overwhelming.”

On the day of the big race, Niehuus “was calm, focused, and positive.”

“I ran with the 2:46 pack the whole way. Talk about an inspiring race: we started with 50 women in the pack, and we finished with eight. Just a few qualifying times of the seven Impalas trying for a Trials time were in different environments.”

Niehuus said, “I had no doubt that I could qualify.”

Hakston W. Taylor, MIT’s Cross Country and Track coach and Niehuus’ head coach, said, “I think Rachel would be the first female track and field runner to qualify for the Olympics, 181 women qualified for the trials, 146 showed up to the starting line, and 64 finished, according to the Boston Athletic Association.”

Niehuus is excited for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: “I’m running the Trials for the pure glory of the experience. In theory, I’ve got a lot more room for improvement and time in which to do it, but I’m not planning too far ahead for the moment. We’ll see what January 14th brings.”

Editor’s Note: Maggie Lloyd is a member of the MIT Cross Country and Track teams.

By Maggie Lloyd
 CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

On Dec. 4, Rachel M. Niehuus ‘07, a member of the elite San Francisco-based Impala Racing Association, qualified for the Olympic Marathon Trials with her 2:44:58 finish at the California International Marathon (CIM) in Sacramento, Calif. Niehuus is currently ranked 147 in the world for the women’s marathon, but for the first time in Olympic history, both the men’s and women’s marathon trials will be held on the same day at the same site. The top three finishers in each race will represent the USA at the 2012 London Olympics. For the 2008 Beijing Olympics, 368 women qualified for the trials, 146 showed up to the starting line, and 64 finished, according to the Boston Athletic Association.

Niehuus is excited for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: “I’m running the Trials for the pure glory of the experience. In theory, I’ve got a lot more room for improvement and time in which to do it, but I’m not planning too far ahead for the moment. We’ll see what January 14th brings.”

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By Shri Ganeshram
SPORTS STAFF

If there is one thing that MIT’s men’s basketball team has done consistently this season, it’s winning. The men’s team increased its record to 6-2, grabbing two tough Boston wins against Tufts (6-2) and Salem State (6-2). The unbeaten Engineers have the top record in all of Division III men’s basketball, and are currently ranked 7th in the nation, though they look to be moving up in the coming days.

MIT’s win against Salem State was a cruise; the Engineers took off to an early 20-7 lead, and never looked back, winning 88-70 in 70 minutes of the game. The early lead was in part due to James D. Karraker’s 12 points in the field, hitting 4-of-8 against UMass Boston two nights before. Karraker earned scoring and rebound record of nine threes.

The Salem State defense was forced to play tight on the arc, in order to avoid open shots for MIT from the three-point range. The right exterior defense left the paint open, so long as MIT’s offense was able to feed by Salem State’s defense, which it did.

MIT fans made enough noise to help pump the team up when it mattered.

Having obtained the early lead, MIT sailed the rest of the game, finishing with a 78-66 win. The win brought the Engineers up to 6-2, 20 points and grabbed six rebounds, and Mitchell H. Kazi ’12 played great all around, with 14 points, eight rebounds, six assists and four steals. Karraker, who had previously managed to score his career high (27 points) against UMass Boston, broke his record in a career-high 28 points, converting seven threes and three late-throws, only to hit an unusually low four-of-four in free throws.

MIT also started five put on an impressive show: Noel Hollidinger ’12 scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds, but which still stood was his 10 assists, consisting of two steals and a whopping five blocks; William Tashman ’13 had yet another double-double, with 10 points and 10 rebounds and six assists. William E. Bender ’12 was the theft of the game, snatching away three balls and grabbing 10 rebounds; and Mitchell H. Kazi ‘12 played great all around, with 14 points, eight rebounds, six assists and four steals. Karraker, who had previously managed to score his career high (27 points) against UMass Boston, broke his record in a career-high 28 points, converting seven threes and three late-throws, only to hit an unusually low four-of-four in free throws. Nicholas A. Tuna ’13 was the theft of the game, snatching away three balls and grabbing 10 rebounds; and Mitchell H. Kazi ’12 played great all around, with 14 points, eight rebounds, six assists and four steals. William Tashman ’13 had yet another double-double, with 10 points and 10 rebounds and six assists. William E. Bender ’12 was the theft of the game, snatching away three balls and grabbing 10 rebounds; and Mitchell H. Kazi ’12 played great all around, with 14 points, eight rebounds, six assists and four steals. Karraker, who had previously managed to score his career high (27 points) against UMass Boston, broke his record in a career-high 28 points, converting seven threes and three late-throws, only to hit an unusually low four-of-four in free throws.