



WENLIANG LI

Renovations have been happening on top of Bldg. 10 to fix a skylight in the Barker Library Reading Room.

Great Dome to get skylight by next January

If all goes well, students studying in the Barker Reading Room will be able to see the light of day through an amethyst-colored skylight on the Great Dome by next January.

The new skylight will completely replace the old one, which has been covered since the Institute capped it during World War II for fear of attracting bombers. This is not the first time there has been talk of renovations to the dome. Tight budgets killed 1998

plans for reviving the skylight, and the past decade saw a series of efforts to repair cracks through which rainwater leaked into Barker. The current work on the dome began in June.

"The dome is such an important icon of MIT," said Richard Amster, director of campus planning, engineering, and construction at the Department of Facilities. "We're very happy to be able to restore the oculus."

The main construction is sched-

uled to be completed by the end of the year, according to Amster. A clear protective covering will be installed in the months following, but the Reading Room is expected to be open for IAP.

The skylight will be 32 feet in diameter — taking up a good portion of the ceiling of the dome, which is 100 feet across. It will be made up of several hundred amethyst-colored glass blocks set in a stainless steel frame.

—Leon Lin

New freshman class council

Random, Next, and Maseeh have highest voter turnout

By Kath Xu
STAFF REPORTER

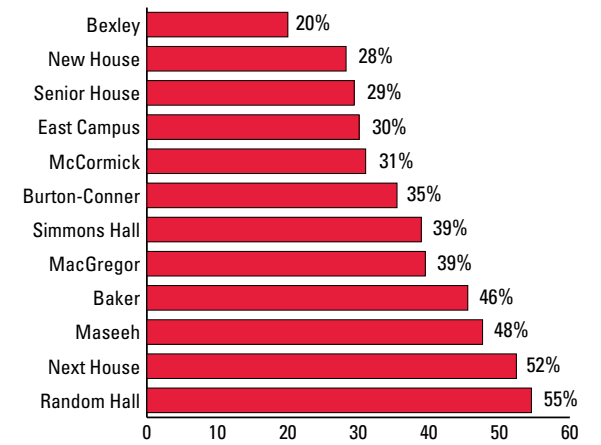
After a week of campaigning by the 2016 Class Council candidates, the UA announced the results of the election last Saturday. The freshman class elected Anish D. Punjabi '16 as president and Pratyush "Priya" Kalluri '16 as vice president. Of the 1140 freshmen, 40.5 percent voted this year, up from 33.5 percent last year. In previous

years, senate elections were held concurrently with the freshman class council elections in the fall, but the Undergraduate Association (UA) disbanded the senate at the end of last year.

There were no official candidates for either secretary or the publicity chairs, which meant that the winners for those two races were all write-ins. Everyone elected

Class council, Page 7

Freshman Class Council Election: Who Voted?



INFOGRAPHIC BY KATH XU

IN SHORT

Add Date is next Friday, Oct. 5. You can find the form online at <http://web.mit.edu/registrar/forms/reg/AddDropChange.pdf>.

Teach for Splash! The deadline to register is today! Go to <http://esp.mit.edu>.

The Massachusetts voter registration deadline is Wednesday, Oct. 17. Find out more at <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/e/e/eleifv/how-reg.htm>.

MIT Medical's walk-in flu-shot clinic is today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third floor of the Student Center.

The MIT Glass Lab Pumpkin Patch is this weekend! Get your own glass pumpkin this weekend on Kresge Oval until 3 p.m. Sunday.

Anyone? Bueller? Bueller? Watch *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* this Sunday at 9:30 p.m. on Kresge Lawn for free! Sponsored by the UA.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

A conversation with provost Chris Kaiser

Kaiser reflects on his role, plans, & goals

By Meghana Vuyyuru

After the festivities of L. Rafael Reif's presidential inauguration subsided, Chris A. Kaiser PhD '87, who succeeded Reif as provost, had a chance to sit down with *The Tech* and share his thoughts on his new position. The provost is MIT's senior academic and budget officer who holds overall responsibility for the school's education programs; he also oversees recruitment and promotion of faculty. Kaiser has been a member of the faculty since 1991, and the department head of Biology (Course 7) since 2004. Although offered a job as the director of National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) last fall, Kaiser decided to stay with the MIT community instead. He officially became provost on July 2.

The Tech: Firstly, congratulations on your new position. How do you feel about becoming provost?

Kaiser: It's great. When I accepted the job, it just felt like an incredible opportunity to serve MIT. It's a much better job than I thought it'd be. Most of the se-

nior administration have been at MIT for a long time or been on the faculty; they're extremely loyal to this institute. It feels like joining a team with a very, very strong common purpose. A team of extremely intelligent people that are really just working as hard as they can for the good of MIT. Having an opportunity to join a group like that is fantastic.

TT: I understand you were also chosen as the new director of the NIGMS. What made you choose to stay at MIT as provost instead?

Kaiser: Well, I had accepted that job. I was going to go down to Washington, and in the end I withdrew because I, on some fundamental level, I couldn't leave MIT. I wanted to stay.

TT: As provost, what are some initiatives or programs you are looking forward to starting?

Kaiser: I've inherited MITx and edX. That, I think is an amazing opportunity for all of us at MIT to do something that will have a huge impact on the world. The influence of online education on



EKATERINA BOTCHKINA

An energetic crowd gathered on Kresge Lawn for MIT's largest Zumba class on Thursday afternoon.

Kaiser, Page 7

THE BENGHAZI BOONDOGGLE

Has America been emasculated?
OPINION, p. 4

MIT'S LAND GRANT

The Institute is living up to its promises.
LETTERS, p. 4

REFEREE MADNESS

What's up with the latest drama in pro sports?
SPORTS, p. 12



VIDEO: HUNTING THE JOB HUNTERS

The Tech interviews the job hunters and gives from this year's fair. <http://bit.ly/mitcareerfair2012>

YOU'LL BE SWOONING FOR THIS EXHIBIT

The Tech visits the street art installation at the ICA. **ARTS, p. 5**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MIT is more than living up to its land grant commitment

Addison Killean Stark's well written guest column, "Living up to MIT's land grant commitment" in the September 21 issue of *The Tech* is wrong.

MIT was given 30 percent of the Land Grant income from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a College of the Mechanic Arts. The rest went to establish

an Agricultural College that became the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. See pages 38-40 of Samuel C. Prescott's "When M.I.T. was 'Boston Tech' 1861-1916", (1954) The Technology Press (now The MIT Press), Cambridge, MA.

MIT has no responsibility under the Land Grant as set up in Massachusetts to do anything with agriculture. It has more than fulfilled its responsibilities to teach the mechanic arts, and continues to do so.

UMass Amherst has agricultural programs comparable to those Stark men-

tions at Cornell.

Massachusetts is the only state to split its Land Grant income between two colleges, as well as the only state to split the responsibility. See page 268 (& others) of Dr. Julius Stratton's

(MIT's President, 1959-1966) book: "Mind and Hand: The Birth of MIT", (2005) MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.

Stark might want to make other arguments for why MIT should more extensively teach and research agriculture, but this one is wrong.

Leonard H. Tower '71

The Benghazi boondoggle

America emasculated: how the Libya attack highlights the shocking shortcomings of the administration

By Adam Edelman

STAFF COLUMNIST

It is the morning of September 11, 2012. Things seem to be looking up for President Obama — a slew of polls has come out showing that the President maintains a lead in a handful of swing states he will need to win come November. Today is the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, and to commemorate this solemn occasion President Obama is heading off to Las Vegas for a ritzy fundraiser. Of course with the good domestic news on his mind the President doesn't attend his daily intelligence briefing — this will be the sixth straight day that he has not been personally briefed. That can, of course, come later. Osama Bin Laden is dead after all, what could possibly go wrong, especially on 9/11? Since his inauguration, the president has attended the Presidential Daily Brief approximately 44 percent of the time, even less in the last year and a half.

Halfway around the world the U.S. ambassador to Libya is worried: during the last few days there has been concrete intelligence that American embassies were at risk of attack and that American diplomats in Libya were "not secure." Furthermore, Al-Qaeda's leaders have posted YouTube videos urging Libyans to attack Americans and the ambassador is worried that he is on an Al-Qaeda hit list.

Yet this morning Ambassador Stevens is traveling unprotected, as there is still no

Marine force in Libya to protect Americans, as is standard protocol. The Obama administration has not heightened security measures in Libya, leaving security in the hands of local Libyans. In a few hours time much of the local security force will abandon the ambassador as a militia force storms a U.S. safe house and kills four Americans, including Stevens.

The lack of preparation for, and the response to this terrorist attack are shocking. Earlier in the day, as a mob descended on the U.S. embassy in Egypt, the embassy issued a statement which did not condemn the attacks on the embassy, but instead apologized to those who had been offended by a YouTube video which insulted Muhammad (reportedly the cause of the riot).

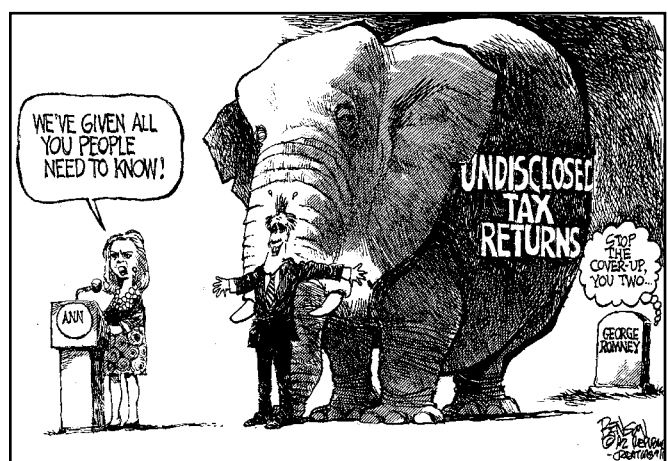
Additionally, for over a week the administration's official stance on the Benghazi attack was that it was not a coordinated terrorist attack, but rather a spontaneous riot resulting from tensions over the video. Last week, amidst riots at the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan, President Obama and Hillary Clinton appeared in TV ads apologizing for the Muhammad video. This isn't simply appeasement, this is blaming the victim, and it is just one example of how the administration has emasculated the U.S.

Pakistan, Egypt, Libya: these were numerous attacks against U.S. citizens on sovereign U.S. soil. The proper response is not an "I'm sorry," but a "how dare you." In administrations past, the potential retali-

tion to force used against the United States served as a deterrent. It was the job of the commander in chief to exude confidence in the righteousness of America's ideals (including freedom of expression).

And yet, for over three years President Obama has managed time and time again to defang America. His first speech in Cairo contained an apology for our "dictating" to other people. America has abandoned Poland, an ally, to appease Putin and the Russians. We have committed to "engaging" Iran in dialogue for over three years, all while no progress has been made to halt Iran's march towards The Bomb. We have released terrorists from Guantanamo Bay who have come back to attack us (one such terrorist helped coordinate the Libya attack). We continue to supply aid to Pakistan which in all likelihood harbored Osama Bin Laden next-door to an army compound for years. Obama shook hands and posed with Hugo Chavez, a man who has called the U.S. the most "murderous empire that has [ever existed]." In short, America is now viewed as a pushover.

This administration needs to wake up. Just because Osama Bin Laden is dead does not mean that America's security interests merit less attention than a fundraiser. Threats against America are a very real concern and when we are attacked it is important to make clear that such attacks will not be tolerated. Strength and resolve, not appeasement, make America the strong nation it is.



CORRECTIONS

An infographic accompanying Tuesday's article about the Advanced Standing Exams mislabeled the 8.02 bar with "8.01."

OPINION POLICY

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The soccer intramural system needs serious reform

A fun activity is anything but

By Feras Saad

The MIT Athletics Department runs a year-round soccer intramural program where MIT clubs, societies, and dorms register teams to compete against each other in different tournaments. While this arrangement is, in theory, intended to bolster community ties and act as a sanctuary from the rigors of academic life at MIT, its blatant mismanagement means the benefits of intramurals remain largely unrealized.

Soccer is by far the largest intramural sport; it spans four leagues, fifty teams and over two hundred players. Unfortunately it remains one of the most poorly organized activities in the entire IM system.

The problems are numerous. Athleague, the online system used to organize fixtures, results, and rosters, contains several duplicate teams that have been rolled over the years. In the Soccer B league, there are teams that appear twice within the

same division, meaning a set of players can be scheduled to play a game against themselves.

Moreover, there are some teams that only have three players registered in their roster. How the Soccer Manager allowed these teams to be included in the fixture list, when the rules state that a team with less than eight players must forfeit a game, does not conform to any form of common sense.

There is a clear lack of communication between the Soccer Manager and team captains, who complain that Athleague is not regularly updated to reflect schedule changes. There have been over five instances this season where entire teams have failed to show up due to confusion regarding the time and location of the game.

In the rare occasion that games actually take place, it is more often than not that there is no referee in attendance to officiate. Not only does this mean there is no record of the match, but it promotes conflict be-

tween teams. It has become a habit for some teams to show up with players not on their roster, giving them an unfair advantage that goes completely unpunished.

But criticizing the situation without offering viable solutions is no way to achieve progress on this matter. Most crucially, the IM Soccer Manager must shore up Athleague by merging duplicate teams, removing rosters with less than the minimum number of players, and regularly updating the schedule with correct the time and location of each game.

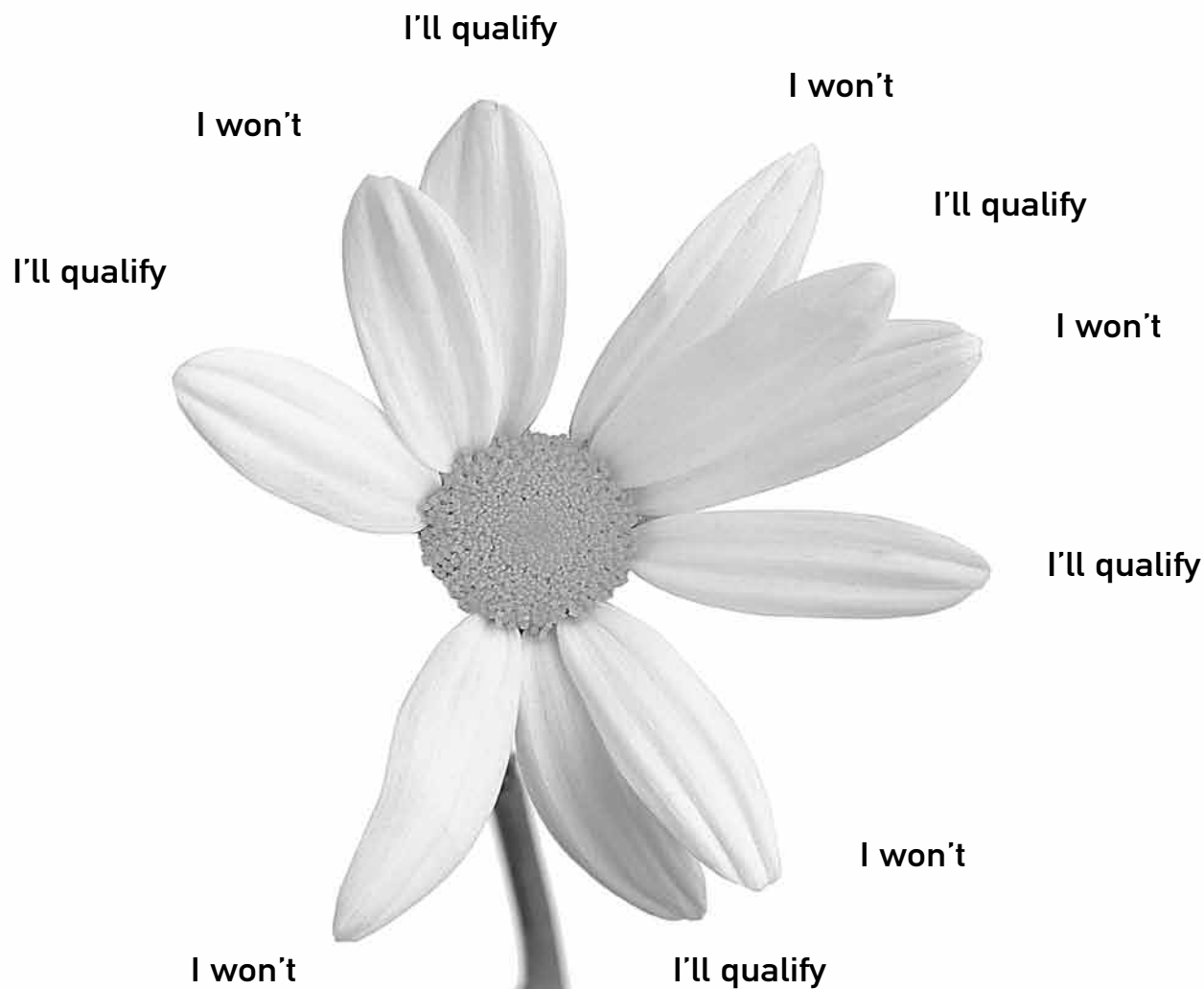
Next, a general assembly of one representative from each team must be summoned immediately for reps to confirm membership of their teams. This way, teams that have created Athleague accounts without the intention to compete can be expelled from the league.

Team captains have an equal responsibility in confirming attendance to one another the night before a game, and en-

suring that everyone on the field is in fact a registered player. While the expectation is that every game has a referee, there is no reason that mature adults cannot to govern the simple sport themselves.

The Intramural Governing Body, which is comprised of a Sports Coordinator, an IM Council, an Executive Committee, and various Sports Managers, is largely made up of MIT students who volunteer their time to organize sports events for everyone to enjoy. It should be emphasized that team members must respect and appreciate the efforts of all organizers involved.

There is no question that intramural soccer is a popular sport that has the potential to benefit members of the MIT community. However, until the IM Governing Body takes serious steps to overcome the challenges at hand, it seems that we are destined to suffer from confusion, disorganization, and league mismanagement for a long time to come.



Don't guess whether you qualify for the EITC. Know.

There's a lot to know about qualifying for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). You need to work and earn less than \$34,692. If you have children, they must meet three qualifying tests. And that's just to name a few. But the most important thing to know is you can get help figuring it all out. Visit us on the web, call 1-800-TAX-1040 or ask your tax preparer. When it comes to getting help claiming everything you honestly deserve, consider it done.

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MITEI PRESIDENTIAL ENERGY DEBATE

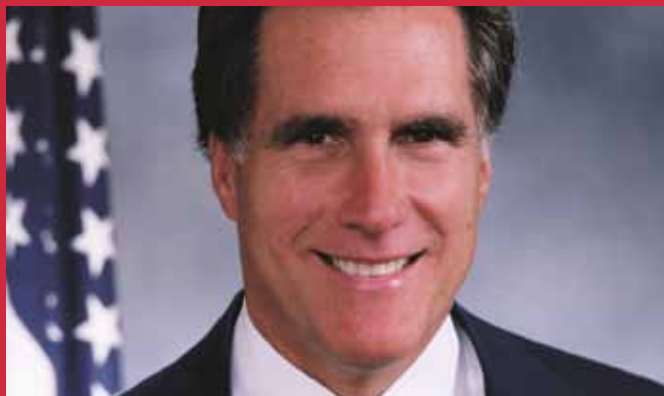
Friday, October 5, 2012 7:30pm Kresge Auditorium, W16

6:30 – 7:30pm pre-debate reception

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for President Obama

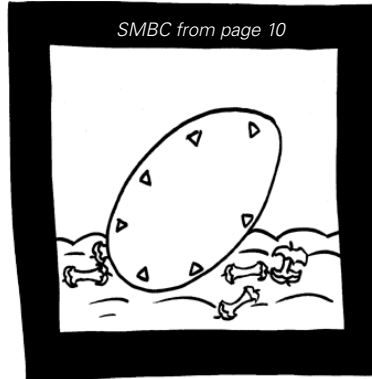


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SMBC from page 10

Solution to Sudoku
from page 10

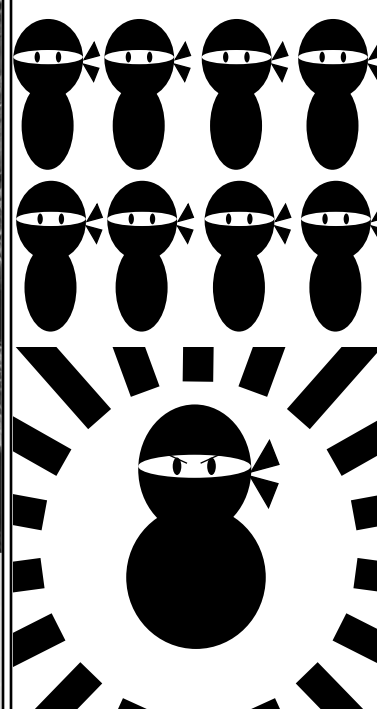
9	4	7	6	5	1	8	3	2
1	2	8	3	4	7	6	9	5
5	6	3	9	2	8	4	1	7
8	1	4	5	9	2	3	7	6
6	3	5	7	8	4	1	2	9
2	7	9	1	3	6	5	4	8
3	8	2	4	7	5	9	6	1
7	9	1	8	6	3	2	5	4
4	5	6	2	1	9	7	8	3

Solution to Crossword
from page 9

EGGS	POETS	FORD
LOUT	EPCOT	AREA
OHNO	NEHRU	RAZZ
POLLEN	COUNT	TOE
EMAIL	STEPON	
DEW	BIN	EERIE
	SANDPAINTING	
PLEA	CAIRN	TOGO
SALT	LAKECITY	
ISSUE	STE	ACE
VIPERS		NIXON
KEN	RICE	PUDDING
IGOR	FOXES	ELSA
WARY	FRERE	SLUG
ISEE	SECTS	TALE

Solution to Techdoku
from page 10

2	1	3	6	4	5
6	5	1	4	2	3
3	2	4	1	5	6
5	4	6	3	1	2
4	3	5	2	6	1
1	6	2	5	3	4



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Enjoy Bertucci's pizza, soft drinks, and Mike's Pastries! Raffle for a digital camera.

Kaiser talks provost position, online education

Provost reminisces about teaching; advises students to focus on quality over quantity

Kaiser, from Page 1

higher education is changing so fast; we probably have a discussion once a week trying to figure out where things are going and what we should be doing.

One of the things I really like about our engagement to online education is that we're doing something that's very deeply rooted in the values of MIT. The idea is that we're going to use MITx to improve our residential education and give this gift to the world, which is access to an MIT style education for anybody regardless of socioeconomic background. It's in a climate where some people are trying to figure out how to make money off of this. It's great to be part of a mission that has some higher principle, and we're trying to follow this very principled course through this very chaotic, rapidly changing world.

MIT is all about these twin objectives of education and research. On the research side, we're thinking about forming several new initiatives modeled after the energy initiative. You take existing resources, existing people at MIT, and make new connections between them to create new activities, new interdepartmen-

tal research.

TT: What will you miss most about your previous position as head of Biology?

Kaiser: If you think about where new ideas come from at a place like MIT, it's really bubbling up from the labs and the classrooms. Individual faculty members come up with ideas on how to teach a new course or how to launch a research program. The creative energy is coming from the bottom up.

As a department head, you're directly connected to that. As a dean, you're one step removed. As a provost, two steps. It's a bit hard for me to resist the temptation to start trying to do what I used to do as department head — talk to individual faculty. You can't do that as provost; there are too many people, too many things to work on. The direct connection with the faculty is the thing I'll miss the most. I'll also miss teaching because I taught 7.03, Genetics, for over twenty years. That was a big part of my life.

TT: What are you looking forward to most as provost?

Kaiser: This connects back to when I was department head of Biology. I figured out that a big part of the job is to essentially maintain

excellence, keep the things you have going running smoothly. That's very important, but it's not all that personally satisfying. At the end of the day I can say, "I kept the thing running as well as it was running before I started;" that's not putting a personal stamp on it. What I'm looking forward to is to leaving something at MIT that wouldn't have existed if it weren't for me. I think it may be one of those interdepartmental initiatives.

TT: You've been a part of the MIT campus for a long time. What is your most memorable moment at MIT?

Kaiser: This comes when I was teaching genetics. This fellow, Kim Nasmyth, made this comment that mitosis and meiosis are like 'sorting socks.' It put this idea in my head, so I decided to give this demonstration of how chromosomes segregate using socks.

I went to TJ Maxx and bought these beautiful striped women's socks: very colorful, just like chromosomes! I had four pairs of socks where two matching socks were tied together, and four pairs where they weren't connected. I had this elaborate setup in the classroom. I said, "I'm going to do this demonstration

about how chromosomes segregate." So I pulled out this blindfold and this pair of scissors, and the students were thinking, "What's going on here?"

The socks are tied together. Even if you're blindfolded, you can figure out they're connected, so you can sort them into two different piles. That's literally how mitosis works; the sister chromatids are physically attached to each other, and the spindle pulls on them, figures out if there's tension, and then lets them separate. The whole point is that if the socks aren't tied together, they'll missegregate.

I put the blindfold on with these four pairs in front of me, and I picked up the two and just started putting them in two piles. There's this tittering in this audience. I take the blindfold off, and they've segregated properly. So I say, "Let's do it again." I put the blindfold back on, I did it again, and they segregate properly again. This is by random chance.

By the first time, half the people had no idea what was going on. By the second time, they knew I didn't want them to segregate properly. So I did it a third time. I grabbed the last pair of socks, and there was this roar

in the audience: they'd segregated properly. People were standing up in the room, it was like a betting parlor. At this point, I just essentially had to stop the demonstration because I hadn't understood what I had proved.

TT: Do you have any words of advice for the student body?

Kaiser: The classic MIT student goes for quantity over quality in experience. They sort of overload, and it comes from pressure from other students. The way MIT students are wired is that they want to exceed all expectations and achievements; that's how they got here in the first place, so they keep doing it. It's like a crazy arms race where people start to do more and more and more. Without realizing, they're running around like a crazy person (like a provost!) who doesn't have time to think and appreciate what's really happening.

Objectively there's no reason to do that. It's not a good plan when people start doing things to chase credentials. You're much better off really engaging and enjoying a smaller number of classes and really getting as much out of them as possible instead of trying to do everything under the sun.

Eight elected to class council

New council plans to focus on freshmen solidarity

Class council, from Page 1

to the 2016 Class Council this year lives on West Campus, with three of the eight officers from Baker and two from Next House.

However, Punjabi doesn't think that this makeup is going to be an issue.

"With social media, I don't think that's really going to have a large effect," said Punjabi. During his campaign, Punjabi used Facebook to publicize his candidacy, and plans to continue using social media during his term to publicize events. He added, "As representatives from our class, I think it's our responsibility to reach out to everyone in East Campus as well as West Campus."

Reaction from freshmen

Random, Next, and Maseeh saw the highest dorm voting participation rates, while Bexley, New, and Senior House saw the least. 55 percent of freshmen in Random voted, while only 20 percent of the freshmen in Bexley voted. Even though a greater percentage of freshmen voted this year, the number is still lower than what the UA would like.

"I think there are people who don't understand the importance of a student government, or they think it isn't going to affect them, so they don't vote," said Laura D. Royden '13, UA Election Commission Chair.

A common complaint among freshmen is that there wasn't enough time to get to know all the candidates first before voting.

"There isn't enough awareness as to who the candidates actually are," said Zachary M. Mikaya '16, who didn't end up voting. "I think a possibility to improve that would be to dedicate a certain amount of time where students can go listen to the candidates talk about their platforms, maybe in a more open forum."

Houston Mills '16 agreed. "Honestly, I felt like it was a little early for the election. We're about one month into the semester, and we already had to choose who in our class was fit to be the figurehead of our entire year. It seemed like it was more of an arbitrary thing."

Tanya Talkar '16, who voted in the class council election, said that

most of the only publicity she encountered was from knowing some of the candidates. For those who she didn't know, she read their platforms and voted for the ones which appeared most professionally made.

"Another problem that I felt was that I didn't know exactly what they [the officers] do," said Talkar. "It's like 'Oh, well, you're president, but what do you do as president?'"

The campaigning process

Campaigning opened on Monday, Sept. 17, two days before voting began. Voting ended that Friday, and results were announced on Saturday.

While campaigning, Punjabi said that his goal was to be as personable as possible.

"It's definitely important to try to be yourself when you campaign, and that's what I tried to do," said Punjabi. "I know different people have different campaign strategies. For me, I didn't want it to be a superficial 'Hi, hello, how are you doing?' and then never talk again with that person."

In addition to using Facebook, Punjabi put up posters in dorms and handed out cards with candies. He said that his favorite part of campaigning was getting to meet all types of people.

"We have a really big class, so it's definitely difficult to get to know everybody. I didn't get to know all 1,100 people, but the people I got to know I got to know really well," he said.

"For me, campaigning was all about talking to a lot of 2016s genuinely," said Kalluri. "I talked to a lot of other 2016s in dining halls, dorms, and email lists — letting them know what I stood for as a candidate and asking for their questions and suggestions."

Both Punjabi and Kalluri were student representatives in high school and enjoyed being involved in student politics.

"I think the elections went really well," said Colin P. McDonnell '16, who ran for presidency. "[The] campaigns were positive and not tasteless. The winners are qualified, and their victory is a testament to the tried and true candy distribution strategy."

The winner doesn't necessar-

ily need to be the candidate who won the most first-place votes. The UA uses the preferential voting system, in which voters rank all their candidates.

"We want someone to have the majority vote, not just the plurality, so it's possible that whoever originally has the most first place votes could have a bunch of last place votes," explained Royden. "We think plurality voting gives a better idea of how everybody feels about all the candidates overall."

"I think it [preferential voting] is good," Talkar said. "If you just put your all into one candidate, then it's kind of a loss if they lose, so I liked it."

Plans for the future

Talkar hopes the freshman class council will host many study breaks and events throughout coming the year so that freshmen can continue to meet each other and form a better sense of solidarity.

"I think first and foremost it's important that we reach out to everyone in the freshman class, and we make sure that everyone is having an adequate time integrating into their freshman year," said Punjabi.

Kalluri also has ambitious plans. "I want to focus on making the Class of 2016 really stand out. That means spotlighting 2016s, having a few, truly special 2016 events, opening up the power of the UA to support 2016 ideas, and introducing community service to Class Council. If we can say, at the end of the year, that our class did something together that helped make the world a better place, we'll have every reason to be proud of our year."

Moreover, Punjabi hopes to get more people involved in student government.

"I think it's important that we have transparent communication and everyone feels like they're being a part of the class and making good decisions," said Punjabi. "We don't want to make misinformed decisions and be some isolated group that's away from the whole freshman class. We want to promote class unity and cohesiveness."

"I think we can create a lot of positive change in the next four years," he added.

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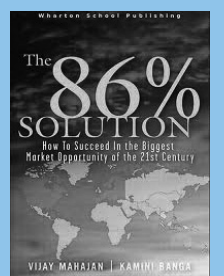
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ARTS EDITOR
EXHIBIT REVIEW**Art, and the age of man**Swoon's *Anthropocene Extinction* installation balances power with fragilityBy Kathryn Dere
ARTS EDITOR

If you have not yet been to Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art, now is the time to go. Thanks to street artist Swoon (Caledonia Curry), the ICA, or at least part of it, is temporarily festive. Swoon installed *Anthropocene Extinction* in its lobby just over a year ago, and the effect is still as refreshing as ever.

Shimmering bronze covers the Fineberg Art Wall at the building's entrance. *Anthropocene Extinction* is about humanity's impact on the environment,

but while it warns of extinction, it also celebrates life. The installation is full of simmering energy, and has an air of pan-religiosity about it. Cutouts of fierce Tibetan deity masks form the beginnings of a black, red, and white semi-circular border at the base of the wall. On top of this makeshift circle of life, a smiling, Buddha-like woman sits cross-legged. She's the last of the nomads, an Aboriginal woman known simply as Ms. Bennett, but as the sky-blue halo of paper cutouts behind her explodes into butterflies, fish, and other creatures, she could very well be Mother Earth.

Streams of more paper cutouts lead us further into the ICA, where a 400-pound bamboo structure hangs from the ceiling. The temple-like creation is fascinating enough from below; a ride up in the enormous glass elevator next to it gives an even better, more holistic view. Seen from above, the effect is a curious one: While the bamboo skeleton is solid (it's built with the same techniques that the Chinese used to make scaffolding), its entirety is draped with lacy cutouts of honeycomb and netting, twisted brown paper, and white tissue — delicate pieces that seem

like they would break free at the slightest hint of a breeze.

The air-conditioned interior of the ICA is a far cry from the city walls where Swoon's works generally go, but the result is no less powerful. Here, where the focus is not on the juxtaposition of poetically decaying scraps of paper with graffiti-covered walls, we can concentrate more on her meticulous attention to detail. The clean exhibition space makes it impossible to ignore the incredible amount of work that went into each piece.

Pedro Alonzo, adjunct curator at the ICA, compared Swoon's

Anthropocene Extinction

Swoon

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craftsmanship to building a pyramid. And yet, unlike a pyramid's hulking form, the physical reality of *Anthropocene Extinction*

As the sky-blue halo of paper cutouts behind her explodes into butterflies, fish, and other creatures, she could very well be Mother Earth.

is all too ephemeral. The sheets of carved linoleum that Swoon had used to print her images may remain, but the paper on which the images are printed will eventually decay, and the cutouts of beetles, frogs, and sea horses that so boldly take their places in the installation can easily be crushed by a single hand. Altogether, *Anthropocene Extinction* is an exercise in large-scale fragility. In this, Swoon has created its true power.

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National Football League predictions, week four

Patriots hope to continue strong over Bills after two losses and coach Belichick fine

By J. Austin Osborne
SPORTS STAFF

New England Patriots @ Buffalo Bills

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

The Patriots are in unfamiliar territory. They've lost two consecutive games and are seriously flirting with the possibility of losing a third to a sneaky-good Buffalo team. The Bills always play the Pats tough, and Sunday should be no exception. However, if Buffalo is without C.J. Spiller it will make their task much more difficult. They will have to rely heavily on former Cowboy Tashard Choice and they may need to resort to passing more than they normally would. With that said, New England still has the offensive firepower to beat any team, and they should pull this one out.

Prediction: 31-17 Patriots

San Francisco 49ers @ New York Jets

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Even though San Francisco shockingly lost to the Vikings last week, they are still one of the elite NFL teams and they can be expected to play as such. They have a dominant defense and should be able to hold Mark Sanchez and the Jets for the majority of the game. Also of note: 49ers QB Alex Smith threw his first interception in 250 attempts. The Jets will have major problems stopping Frank Gore this week, as they are 28th in rushing defense. The loss of All-Pro CB Darrelle Revis to an ACL tear will also greatly hamper their previously dangerous secondary.

Prediction: 24-10 49ers

Seattle Seahawks @ St. Louis Rams

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Even at 1-2, St. Louis is one of the most underrated teams in the NFL. They've played three great games thus far, and QB Sam Bradford is beginning to show the qualities that made him a No. 1 overall pick in 2010. Seattle had a great defensive showing against Green Bay Monday night, sacking Aaron Rodgers eight times in the first half alone. They also held the explosive Packers offense to a mere 12 points. This should be a good

divisional matchup.

Prediction: 17-13 Seahawks

Carolina Panthers @ Atlanta Falcons

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Cam Newton is struggling this season. After his impressive rookie season, Newton is floundering under the high expectations that were placed on his Panthers team. He has five interceptions compared to two touchdowns, which will not cut it on a playoff team. Atlanta, on the other hand, is firing on all cylinders. They are known to be one of the better regular season teams, so no judgment should be passed on them until they can prove themselves in the playoffs. For now though, they are the NFC's best team.

Prediction: 34-20 Falcons

Minnesota Vikings @ Detroit Lions

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Minnesota beat the 49ers at their own game last week. They jumped out to an early lead, took care of the ball, and played great defense. In fact, Christian Ponder and Alex Smith had eerily similar games with both throwing for about 200 yards on 25 attempts. The Vikings succeeded mainly because they kept Ponder off his back. The devastating 49ers defensive line couldn't get to Ponder and he was able to pick them apart. Detroit needs to get better defensively if they want to get back into the playoffs this season. Allowing 44 points to the Titans is unacceptable, and no matter how good their offense may be, they need to slow down offenses like Green Bay if they want to be successful this year.

Prediction: 28-17 Lions

San Diego Chargers @ Kansas City Chiefs

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Philip Rivers has not looked himself so far this season. He hasn't looked bad, by any stretch — he just does not look like the Pro Bowler that he is. His Charger offense looked lost against Atlanta, and he threw two bad interceptions. The Chiefs were impressive in their victory over the Saints last week. Jamaal Charles showed

why he was considered one of the best RBs in the league last season before his ACL injury, rushing for over 200 yards.

Prediction: 21-17 Chiefs

Tennessee Titans @ Houston Texans

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

The Houston Texans have the most dangerous team in the NFL. With Arian Foster on the ground, and with Matt Schaub and Andre Johnson through the air, they have one of the most dynamic offenses in the league. J.J. Watt is also having an outstanding sophomore campaign on the defensive line, racking up 5.5 sacks in just three games. Tennessee barely won a shootout last week with Detroit, but they showed that their offense can be incredibly explosive against the right team. Houston is not that team, however, and they should be able to stop the Titans' attack and cruise to their fourth victory.

Prediction: 27-10 Texans

With Arian Foster on the ground, and with Matt Schaub and Andre Johnson through the air, they have one of the most dynamic offenses in the league.

Cincinnati Bengals @ Jacksonville Jaguars

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Andy Dalton was terrific last week against the Redskins, and if he plays anywhere close to how he did then, the Bengals will be incredibly tough to beat. It would help if they could find a consistent running back, but thus far it hasn't really hurt them. Their defense, however, needs some work. They are 31st in the NFL in rushing yards allowed, and with Maurice Jones-Drew on the other side of the field, that is bad news for the Bengals. Cincinnati should still win, but it may be closer than they prefer.

Prediction: 27-23 Bengals

Oakland Raiders @ Denver Broncos

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

Even after taking a year off, Peyton Manning still shows flashes of his former MVP self. He appears to be less accurate on deep throws though, most likely due to lost velocity after his neck injury. However, as well as Manning has played, Denver is still 1-2 and their great rushing game from last year appears to have disappeared. Oakland impressed in their win against the Steelers last week, with Carson Palmer having his best game yet. Darren McFadden also had a great game, rushing for over 100 yards against the always tough Steelers defense. Last week the Raiders were picked apart by Ben Roethlisberger, and the same should happen when they play Manning and the Broncos.

Prediction: 24-14 Broncos

Miami Dolphins @ Arizona Cardinals

Sunday, Sept. 30, 4:05 p.m.

Arizona cannot be looked over anymore. After two consecutive impressive defensive showings against New England and Philadelphia, they look as though they may be a serious force in the NFC going forward. Miami comes into this game sporting one of the best rush defenses in the NFL, but luckily for Arizona, their offense does not rely heavily on their ground game. Ryan Tannehill will be pressured all game and forced into mistakes throwing into Arizona's talented secondary.

Prediction: 20-7 Cardinals

Washington Redskins @ Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Sunday, Sept. 30, 4:05 p.m.

Robert Griffin III continues to impress as the Redskins lost in a shootout to the Cincinnati Bengals. Their defense must improve, however, if they expect to make a run in the very talented NFC East. The Buccaneers (Josh Freeman in particular) have been very inconsistent this season. Freeman had an awful game against Dallas, only completing roughly 30 percent of his passes and amassing only 100 yards. Rookie RB Doug Martin still

looks promising and should be a cornerstone of the Bucs franchise going forward.

Prediction: 20-7 Redskins

New Orleans Saints vs. Green Bay Packers

Sunday, Sept. 30, 4:25 p.m.

The Saints are in a tail spin. After giving up over 200 rushing yards to Jamaal Charles, they suffered their third straight loss to the Chiefs and it's evident that the loss of head coach Sean Payton is having a bigger effect than previously expected. Their defense is a mess and the Packers will absolutely dominate this game, especially after their questionable, heart-breaking loss Monday night.

Prediction: 38-20 Packers

New York Giants @ Philadelphia Eagles

Sunday, Sept. 30, 4:25 p.m.

This should be a great game between two of the NFC's biggest rivals. Philadelphia was very disappointing last week against Arizona, once again failing to cut down on their turnovers. They need to play almost perfectly against the Giants if they want a chance to win. New York's defensive line should feast on Philadelphia's blocking. QB Michael Vick leads the league in hits taken on pass attempts, partially due to an inexperienced offensive line and partially due to his tendency to hold the ball too long. After an impressive win over Carolina, the Giants will look to continue their momentum after a long 10-day break.

Prediction: 24-21 Giants

Chicago Bears @ Dallas Cowboys

Monday, Sept. 31, 8:30 p.m.

The Bears had an outstanding defensive play against the Rams last week, helping Chicago win comfortably even though Jay Cutler had his second consecutive sub-par game. If he wants to beat Dallas, Cutler will have to return to his normal form, especially against Dallas' greatly improved secondary. The Cowboys enter the game second in the NFL in pass yards allowed, so the Bears will have to utilize Michael Bush for the majority of the game.

Prediction: 27-14 Bears

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