The search process to replace President Susan J. Hockfield is on-track to conclude by early June, according to MIT Corporation officials.

President Susan J. Hockfield is on-track to announce a name by early June, a new president could step into office as early as July, especially if the selection is someone already working at MIT. If the Corporation selects a leader from elsewhere, “it would be a matter of a few months,” but “by September we would have a new candidate.”

The search has been intense, “I think it’s progressing very well. The search has been intense,” said James A. Champy ’63, chair of the Joint Corporation-faculty presidential search committee.

According to Champy, it is “highly possible” the search committee will complete its work by the June 7 Corporation meeting, though he noted that the committee would not compromise the thoroughness of the search for the sake of a timely requirement. If necessary, he said, the committee would continue its work into the summer.

Corporation Chairman John S. Reed ’64, also a member of the committee, echoed Champy’s sentiments.

“The likelihood is we’re going to find an appropriate candidate certainly by the summer — which is what we had always hoped,” he said.

Technically, the search committee must provide a list of names to the Corporation’s Executive Committee, which in turn formally nominates candidates for president. The full MIT Corporation must vote to approve a candidate. In practice, the search committee’s recommendations are the only ones given any serious consideration.

Champy and Reed said that if the committee succeeds in putting forth a name by early June, a new president could step into office as early as July, especially if the selection is someone already working at MIT. If the Corporation selects a leader from elsewhere, “it would be a matter of a few months,” but “by September we would have a new candidate.”

Presidential search, Page 13
Photographers found dead in Mexico

MEXICO CITY — The bodies of three photojournalists were found dismembered Thursday in the eastern state of Veracruz, days after a crime reporter for a national magazine was killed in her home there.

The motives for the killings were not immediately known, and for such cases in Mexico the investigation is ongoing. But human rights groups condemned the deaths as another worrying sign of the vulnerability of journalists reporting on the wave of drug and organized crime violence that has rooked Mexico in the past six years and left more than 50,000 people dead.

The region in Veracruz state where the murders took place is a systematic attempt to muffle the press that has been successful in various parts of the country, where the press has been effectively silenced, said Thomas Nietschke, director of the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas, in Austin, Texas. “This unprecedented blood bath is fueled by a certainty of impunity, as the cases of crimes against the press usually don’t even reach a court of law.

The Veracruz journalists killed this past week were the first documented killings of Mexican journalists this year, according to press groups, last year 11 were killed and, according to Article 19, a press freedom group, 44 have been killed in the past six years since drug crime soared and the government began an offensive.

Karla Zabludovsky, The New York Times

Latest shift in Jordan’s cabinet sows doubts on reform

AMMAN, Jordan — King Abdullah II of Jordan swore in a new Cabinet this week assigned the task of making progress on laws allowing for more government posts to be filled by elections, but political analysts here burdened Thursday the succession of governments over the past year and a half did not bode well for the prospect of genuine reform.

Since protests inspired by the Arab Spring rocked Jordan 15 months ago, the king has replaced three prime ministers, none of whom have been able to produce a cabinet with a significant change in government.

The governments “proved a definite truth: that the mechanism of appointing the government is no longer feasible,” said Khaldoun Nuseir, secretary-general of the Socialist Leftist Movement and a member of a national dialogue on the reform process.

The new prime minister, Fayez Tarawneh, 62, held the post in the late 1990s. Educated in the United States, he has also served as foreign minister and as chief of the Royal Court, and he led Jordan’s negotiating team in Cairo. He signed a peace agreement with Israel in the 1990s.

—Ranya Kadri and Isabel Kershner, The New York Times

Societe Generale’s results show weakness

PARIS — The French bank Societe Generale said Thursday that its first-quarter net income fell 20 percent from the period a year earlier, as the bank unloaded assets and booked a charge on the cost of its own debt.

The firm took a charge for the revaluation of its own debt; had it not done so, net income would have been 831 million euros, up 19 percent, as predicted by Bloomberg News. And Reuters had forecast net income of 609 million euros to 750 million euros.

The bank’s net income in the first three months of the year dropped to 732 million euros ($963 million), while revenue fell 4.7 percent, to 6.3 billion euros.

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—David Jolly, The New York Times

Cambridge weather finally ‘seasonal’

The cold-damp weather that has plagued the Cambridge area for the past few days will persist into Saturday. Expect overcast conditions with daily temperatures in the upper 50’s. Saturday will be a bit better, with scattered showers and temperatures reaching the mid-60’s.

By Austin D’Orio

France and Greece poised for crucial votes on Sunday

PARIS — France and Greece vote Sunday in elections that will be closely watched for the future of the European Union and the euro. The votes will once again highlight the emerging crux of the euro crisis: Will democratic politics offer a solution to the economic crisis or just make it worse?

Anxieties are rising again over the shared currency, and these elections are likely to be another blow to a German-designed austerity plan to cure the eurozone’s debt and banking crisis. If the French Socialist candidate, Francois Hollande, wins the presidency, as the polls suggest, he plans to challenge Germany, vowing to renegotiate an EU treaty mandating deficit and debt limits in order to add a new emphasis on economic growth.

It’s not for Germany to decide for the rest of Europe,” Hollande said on the campaign trail. “If I am elected president, there will be a change in Europe’s construction.

We’re not just any country: We can change the situation.”

He intends, he said in a fierce debate Wednesday night with President Nicolas Sarkozy, “to give a new direction to Europe.”

Hollande’s words may have a degree of campaign bravado, but he is riding a wave of political resistance to austerity that has brought down even the government in the Netherlands, one of the best-run economies in Europe and a close ally of Germany.

“What France’s importance, if Hollande wins he might end up leading a sort of ‘growth bloc,” which would challenge the German medicine, or at least try to dilute it.

With the eurozone reaping losses in recession and unemployment at 10.9 percent, a record high, the head of the European Central Bank, Mario Draghi, has already called for a “growth pact” in parallel to the fiscal pact.

“There is a race between politics and economic adjustment,” said Jean Pisani-Ferry, director of Bruegel, a Brussels research institution. “We see incumbent governments replaced by others that carry on with painful adjustments. But how long does it take for both sides to be convinced in public opinion by the pain of adjustment?”

The German chancellor, Angela Merkel, struck by the Dutch collapse and stirrings of unease among the opposition Social Democrats, appears to be listening, anxious not to be isolated in Europe and looking to make a gesture toward Hollande, should he win. She is talking herself about new ways to produce growth, including increased lending by the European Investment Bank and using EU funds in a more targeted fashion.

“Growth is easier to advocate than to produce, of course, and Germany remains opposed to sharp increases in public spending or higher targets for inflation,”

The New York Times

Egypt’s military rulers deny role in fatal clashes

CAIRO — Egypt’s temporary military rulers delivered a sweeping denunciation of Thursday’s events, saying they were committed to handing over power to a civilian authority by the end of June, and denying any role in clashes the day before that left at least 11 people dead.

And they defended their decision not to send troops to the scene for hours, saying they did not want to escalate the fighting as the clashes intensified in the Abbassiya neighborhood and residents watched, horrified, from balconies. When the security services finally were called in, 12 hours after the conflict erupted, the scene became quiet.

The trouble began when army attackers stopped a sit-in near the Defense Ministry.

“I salute the men of the armed forces, the leaders and officers and soldiers,” Gen. Mohktar el-Mola said at the end of a news conference that lasted nearly two hours. For 15 months, el-Mola said, “they purged with all uprisings, all violations, but they are honorable men who endure for the sake of the homeland.”

Severl of Egypt’s presidential candidates before that suspended their campaigns after the clashes with the aftermath of the clashes, saying they would seek to use the violence as an excuse to delay the elections, something he began this month, in a bid to hold on to power.

Another military spokesman who spoke at the briefing, Maj. Gen. Mohammed el-Assar, sought to put those fears to rest.

“When we look at the demands of the protesters, we’ll find that the first thing is the handover of power,” he said. “Today, we’re announcing it honestly and clearly: the armed forces and the supreme council are committed to handing over power before the 30th of June.”

Separately Thursday, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the head of the military council, Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi, had given him some assurances.

“They are absolutely going to hand over power,” Kerry said during a visit to Cairo. “I think they can’t wait.”

The army delivered a chronol of the clashes, saying they took place between protesters and the residents of the neighborhood who were angered at the blocking of roads and attacks on stores. Protesters said they suspected that their assailants were thugs allied with a branch of the Egyptian security services.

Compiled by MIT

Weather

Extended Forecast

Today: Showers. High 59°F. Tonight: Chance of showers. Low 50°F.

Weather

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2012

Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Friday, May 4, 2012

WEATHER

SUN THU FRI SAT

-5°C -10°C -15°C -20°C

-40°C -35°C -30°C -25°C

Dense Fog

Light Fog

Moderate Fog

Haze

Light Snow

Moderate Snow

Heavy Snow

Fog

Showers

Thunderstorms

Warm Front

Cold Front

High Pressure

Low Pressure

Trough

Warm Front

Cold Front

High Pressure

Low Pressure

Trough

Other Symbols

Compiled by MIT
Brazil increasing military presence along Amazon borders

By Simon Romero

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil is deploying more than 13,000 troops to the far reaches of the Amazon rain forest to fight drug trafficking, as military operations aimed at cracking down on drug smuggling, gold mining, and illegal deforestation are gathering momentum.

The troop mobilization sends a clear signal against that of the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development, which is taking steps to assert greater control over illegal activities in the Amazon. Soldiers are being sent to border areas near Venezuela, Suriname, Guyana.

“The Amazon is Brazil’s No. 1 priority, both as a landscape, given its importance to humanity as a source of water, biodiversity, and food production,” said Gen. Eduardo Dastis Costa Villas Boas, chief of Brazil’s Joint Staff, in a telephone interview.

The operation, expected to last several weeks, showed its first results Thursday when officials announced the detection of 10 clandestine fields, according to the state of Roraima. The airstrips were being used for illegal mining operations on indigenous territory, Villas Boas said.

Minister Celso Amos, speaking before the Brazilian Senate in March, said the country was ready to take action against illegal presence in the Amazon and that the military was a “vital” part of the endeavor. “We have a wealth of resources that we should target,” Amos said.

The operation, known as the front of the Amazon, about 50 percent of which is in Brazil, is a sensitive issue among Brazilians, who often view a military operation as espousing on perceived threats to the region. The Amazon is also changing as it urbanizes; in Brazil, more than 20 million people live in the Amazon. Maranhao, in the state of Amazonas, was Brazil’s fastest-growing metropolitan area over the last decade.

In addition to worries like illegal timber extraction and deforestation for producing pig iron, drug smuggling from neighboring countries has emerged as a big concern. Ahead as soon as the job swap was announced. The first to react was Finance Minister Alexei L. Kudrin, a popular heavyweight and a Putin loyalist, who said he would leave government rather than to be prime minister. Medvedev responded with the kind of public dressing-down that sends a message of no dominance, de- manding that Kudrin resign on the issue, which was spread in a report by the opposition and supported the president. “The president’s prestige was dwindling anyway. News outlets that for years had featured Medvedev more prominently than Putin stopped covering his activities.” The announcement in September that Putin would return to the presidency after four years, the younger man’s profile, suggested that he was preparing to take the post of prime minister and the chairman of the United Russia.

Putin said in a bid of a price for humilitating him in that way,” said Ste- phen Simis, principal secretary at the Council on Foreign Relations. “He is really deeply, deeply dam- aged goods as a result of this very, very badly bungled switch. If it is supposed to be effective, he needs a make-over. He needs a reinfra- structure. He needs a demonstration that he can take. He got a taste of the challenges ahead as soon as the job swap was announced. The first to react was Finance Minister Alexei L. Kudrin, a popular heavyweight and a Putin loyalist, who said he would leave government rather than to be prime minister. Medvedev responded with the kind of public dressing-down that sends a message of no dominance, de- manding that Kudrin resign on the issue, which was spread in a report by the opposition and supported the president. “The president’s prestige was dwindling anyway. News outlets that for years had featured Medvedev more prominently than Putin stopped covering his activities.” The announcement in September that Putin would return to the presidency after four years, the younger man’s profile, suggested that he was preparing to take the post of prime minister and the chairman of the United Russia.

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Leaving presidency, Russia’s Medvedev fights for relevance

By Ellen Barry

MOSCOW — President Dmitry A. Medvedev spent last Friday trying to persuade the grandees of United Russia, the conservative party that can lead the party to victory in the Duma election on Sunday, and the Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin’s liberal sidekick, who embodied the moderate face of the party, to support his re-election in West in Libya.

Medvedev did not fare any bet- ter on Saturday, when he met with the prominent liberals who have served as his human rights advis- ers. They made no effort to hide their disappointment in his presidency, according to the All-Russian Public Opinion Center.

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Governing the United States: The Spending Problem.

By A. J. Edelman

The United States has a spending problem, and—like any good teenager with a brand new credit card, it keeps purchasing and purchasing with no regard as to how the purchases are to be paid for.

But for members of the federal government who write the budgets that address the issue of deficit spending, it is almost like watching an episode of Kids Say the Darnedest Things. Line-item veto, zero based budgeting, a new charge of all federal programs, and a plan for some of the crazily nonsensical one-liners you can imagine. Take Secretary Timothy Geithner for instance — how would he address federal programs that arent necessary? ‘We have got a definitive solution to that long-term problem. You know the answer, we know how you dont like our (Republican) budget.'

Of course we have a plan, but we do not know what we want before we have a plan.

The Treasury Secretary himself is not an adequate sample size. Surely there are other government officials who are writing these budgets. How many of them are part of the Senate Majority Leader? ‘We do not need to build a budget for the future. This years done. We do not need to do it.'

In other words: maybe next year, folks.

The interesting thing about next year, though, it never seems to roll around. In fact, as of Sunday, the US Senate had failed to pass a budget for three straight years. Think about that — three years, or about two and a half gubernatorial terms in our state. If we go back to the US Empire State Building by the time the Senate considers passing a budget again, it will have been 30 years since the last time the US House of Representatives and Senate agreed on a budget for the next fiscal year. That means for almost the past three decades, the US government has operated on a ‘budget resolution.'

By A. J. Edelman

The Tech

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Freedom: alive and well
Russia's Internet police is toothless compared to its Chinese counterpart

By Florence Galloz

The objectivity of pro-Western (for lack of a better denominative) reports on the recent street violence in Russia must be questioned in a number of areas. Democratic freedoms, the English-language media of a Stalinesque Putin holding freedom of expression by the neck and strangling it to death is a theme that is facing the Western press community. I consider the lively and unrestrained debates on the Russian Internet to be much more a Russian citizen today cannot write in a blog or online forum/Visions of the KGB (now FSB) because they might upset some popular politician or (in some cases) yield to electoral fraud and rallying protesters, it is clear that only the select group admitted into the Russian Net is alive and well.

Clearly, if the government truly wanted to rollback freedom of expression by the neck and strangling it to death, we would have introduced restrictive legislation a long time ago. So far, there is no sign of this. Similarly, the arrests of street demonstrators, strikers, and even voices by the media as evidence of a Soviet-style crackdown on dissent. Putin seems to take a slightly different approach. For example, Goulag-like repression if we consider a few factors rarely mentioned in Western press reports. While no doubt challenging, the experience of the most of the people arrested were detained for just a few hours. Normally, himself, presented by the news media to be one of the most vocal and biggest "threats" to the government, was released after paying a 10,000 rubles ($140) fine.

It is also interesting to look at whom gets arrested and for what reasons. In the city of Kazan, police reportedly detained over 100 local protesters, mostly young voters, for "failure to disperse. It might be worthwhile asking here if the Kremlin really does care about these protests, or if they are only a fear of escalating discontent among the youth, as incidents of electoral fraud and rally tak- dia have depicted Putin and his policies.

I am more tempted to believe that the much-criticized clampdowns on pro-democracy supporters are more a show of force for domestic consumption, perhaps a way to cool the fear of "the power of the people," the desta- bilizing foreign elements aiding them, and the misunderstanding of pro-anything Russian and taking its place on Rus- sia's territory.

Such views of a Putin — and by extension Russia — as authoritarian because scared of losing power over his/its people are a recur- rent theme in American and foreign media. Many of these critics have a hard time under- standing what a country is if the Kremlin really does care about these protests, or if they are only a fear of escalating discontent among the youth, as incidents of electoral fraud and rally tak- dia have depicted Putin and his policies.

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Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun! Fun!

Help Desk by Michael Benitez

Two Steps from Hell: Production Music Company specializing in soundtracks for movie and videogame trailers.

Listening to an album I bought practically non-stop has changed several things for me.

We Do Calculus by Trellis Powell, April 2012, Gene-Tus.

Eleven or eleven? Call the 1-800-1111 center.

Okay, fine. You can borrow my Calculus book.

3 over eleven is less intimidating by "unnecessary."

As, that was just FDR’s principle on the phone. The next time I hear about your brother, remember, no other kids work. Understand? Any nonlinear equations you are grounded.

But mom, he started it!

SMBCK Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal

By Zach Weiners

Why do we even need marketing? They just make everything dumb.

Man, you’re right! Let’s start a company where the products are designed, built, and marketed by engineers.

Introducing MagnaTablet

"If the user interface is confusing, it's because you're stupid."

Sudoku

Solution, page 10

Techdoku

Solution, page 10

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

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

**Prints come alive**
Works by Alex Katz explore the essence of portraiture, on view at the MFA

By Sarah Weir

I’m sure that most of us are familiar with the “experimental” nature of contemporary art. While some of these works are stimulating, when I consider the great paintings from the Renaissance or the Impressionists in comparison to conceptual art and other modern art movements, I sometimes wonder if figure painting will ever “come back.” Enter Alex Katz.

Katz was born in 1927, studied at The Cooper Union (a small college in New York City which only has three schools: architecture, art, and engineering), and then at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. He was able to find his own way in a time of abstract expressionism by making portraiture just as expressive and invigorating as the work of his contemporaries. His works are reductive, with subtle modeling in the face and an emphasis on form and color. Sometimes the faces he paints seem distorted, but it doesn’t really matter. His point is to capture the essence of each figure, which he certainly does with his biting color schemes.

Katz first creates his works as paintings and then transforms many of them into prints. The print genre allows the artist to experiment with different colors on the same subject and Katz has done exactly that. You’ll see the same picture in a range of styles throughout the exhibit; from prints in monochrome to a variety of colors.

Those who have visited the MFA recently have likely seen their new contemporary wing and noticed how different it is from the rest of the museum — the modern style aligns well with the art. The MFA is doing a good job of putting us headfirst into the world of the art, especially in their special exhibitions (I’m thinking specifically of the Chihuly show from last year). I was excited to see how they would portray Katz’s works, and was pleasantly surprised.

Instead of organizing the works chronologically, the curators chose to make the focus of each separate room a different theme from Katz’s prints. The rooms focus on depictions of his family, specifically on Ada (his wife and muse), landscapes, fashion, and his connection with poetry. Every time you enter a new room you are thrust into a new world.

This effect is most obvious in the room that displays Bush, a portrait series composed of 37 painted aluminum cut-out heads hanging on the wall at eye-level. Upon entering the room, you’re surrounded by floating heads on all sides. Each has a different expression, and some are of different proportions, but somehow they all seem real. Each portrait is of an important cultural figure from the 1960s or 1970s, including people from dance, literature, music, art, and art criticism. It’s a little overwhelming. You feel like you’ve gone back in time — you’re having a conversation with one of these figures and you’re becoming more and more cultured by the second.

You feel like you’ve gone back in time — you’re having a conversation with one of these figures and you’re becoming more and more cultured by the second.

The most comprehensive examination to date of the connection between the financial sector, the Achilles heel of ‘free enterprise’ economies, and income inequality across countries.

**Event details**

Mon, May 7, 2012 4:30 - 6:00
MIT Sloan, E62-262

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serving the M.I.T. Community since 1989
Urinetown is a satirical comedy about resource management, corporate greed, and peeing.

Urinetown, Musical Theater Guild’s Spring 2012 show, is a satirical comedy about resource management, corporate greed, and peeing. Because of a 20-year drought, the Urine Good Company, led by evil CEO Caldwell B. Cladwell, has a monopoly over all the pay toilets in the city, charging users fees to conserve water. These fees hit the poor the hardest, who must scrape every penny just to take care of their basic bodily functions. Those who can’t afford to pay and must relieve themselves outside get dragged to Urinetown, the mythical hell from which no person has ever returned.

Our hero, Bobby Strong, works for the strict Penelope Pennywise at Public Amenity #8, the filthy urinal relegated to the huddled masses, until the deportation of his father to Urinetown and the encouragement of Hope Cladwell to “listen to his heart” persuade him to lead a rebellion for the freedom to pee.

The cast features Trevor J. Mulchay ’15, who played Billy Rogers in Black Pant Tool. As Bobby Strong. Once again the heroic protagonist, he delivers a strong performance, wielding his plunger as a call to arms. As Hope Cladwell, the daughter of Caldwell B. Cladwell (Matt Behlmann ’13), Krista Sergi’s bubbly acting and rich voice reinforce her role as both a daddy’s girl and the ever-op titanistic enabler of the rebellion. Karen Hart ’14’s powerful voice as Penelope Pennywise can be a bit overwhelming, but her acting is spot-on. Other notable characters include Officer Lockstock (Carlos Cardenas-Ingraham ’09) and Little Sally (Anna Y. Ho ’14), the Box-encounters and Guildestones duo that serve as narrators.

Urinetown’s set design is less elaborate than previous MTG shows, but it gets the job done. The yellow trees on the side of the set could be withered from the lack of water, or covered in spring leaves. The complex, four-part harmony of “Why did I Listen to My Father?” is textured and interwoven with rapid-fire lyrics. I particularly enjoyed the anti-war song “I Was One Who Knew,” which provides, privation and profiteering or freedom and ultimate destruction, are appealing.

The show goes deeper than most musicals. Water shortages and the need for conservation may become a regular part of our own future, as climate change intensifies drought and flood. The contrast between corporate opulence and poor protesters is reminiscent of the recent Occupy movement, which is referenced in the protest signs on stage.

Yet neither of the options the play provides, privation and profiteering or freedom and ultimate destruction, are appealing.

The show does not come off as moralistic. MTG’s Spring 2012 production of Urinetown is a polished production, combining lowbrow and highbrow commentary. Back member that, despite the cheerful music, it is not a happy musical.

Plunger-wielding Bobby Strong (Trevor J. Mulchay ’15) leads a call to arms against potty oppression in MTG’s production of Urinetown.

Intrigue is a delight

Intrigue in Boston

by Cathy Zhou

Next House presented their self-produced musical Curtains over CPW and last Sunday, in celebration of the dorm’s 30th anniversary. Curtains, originally written by Rupert Holmes, tells the tale of the murder case that got everyone talking on the campus. The plot of the show, Jessica Crenshaw (Tiffany J. Lin ’13), is shot in the beginning of her performance and a detective by the name of Lieutenant Frank Cioffi (Staly Chin ’15) comes to investigate the murder. In reality, her character is that of her offi’s girlfriend, could have fooled the audience.

This witty musical was directed by Johari M. Frasier ’13 and Lynda Williams ’12. Fraisser chose the piece because he felt like it would welcome freshmen to MIT by showing them a musical set in Boston. He believes Curtains is uncannily similar to MIT’s environment. “Sometimes we spend hours working and nothing seems to come out right,” he said, “but because we keep trying it comes together in the end and we’re stronger for it.” For instance, the musical’s opening scene “The Same Boat” bemoans life’s struggles, but emphasizes that we can all pull our weight to work together—a theme to which many MIT students can relate.

In addition, the show has comedic elements that paint scenes of characters with flaws, desires, and different goals.

One of the cast had never been in a musical before. Staly Chiu had never danced, sang, or acted on stage prior to coming to Next Act. Despite this, he landed the main role and played the inquisitive, yet vulnerable, detective perfectly.

His character falls in love with a very convincing and gorgeous murder suspect, causing his feelings and thought processes to be compromised in certain scenes, all of which he navigated beautifully. Victoria Sun ’14, who plays the lovely Nikki, Lt. Cioffi’s girlfriend, could have foiled the audience into thinking she was the murderer. In reality, her character is that of a somewhat ditzy ingénue.

Want to know what’s going on between issues of The Tech? Find out what’s happening right now at techblogs.mit.edu.

THEATER REVIEW
Urine good hands?
MTG’s Urinetown is darkly entertaining

By Deena Wang

Corporate profits soar. A corrupt politi
ciano is bolstered into raising fees for a necessary service, at the expense of the people. The people’s protest is brutally suppressed by the police.

Oh, did I mention that this entire hubbub is over pay toilets?

Urinetown is a musical with a cast that occurs in a Boston theater. The star

spectacle of which he navigated beautifully. Victoria Sun ’14, who plays the lovely Nikki, Lt. Cioffi’s girlfriend, could have foiled the audience into thinking she was the murderer. In reality, her character is that of a somewhat ditzy ingénue.

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Once remote, Goldman Sachs puts on a friendly public face

By Michael J. De La Merced

It is unclear whether such moves change public perception, in large part because Goldman does not have a new story to tell. The financial company made another public relations push a couple of years ago, with little success. In 2010, Goldman — still reeling from congressional hearings, a government lawsuit and a less-than-flattering portrayal as a “vampire squid” in a Rolling Stone article — rolled out a series of national advertisements aimed at improving its public standing.

But with its latest effort, Goldman is taking a different tack by reaching out even though there is no cause for anxiety. "The more of this that they do, the more that they reduce anxiety," said Michael W. Robinson, an executive vice president at Levick Strategic Communications, a public relations firm. "The press around Goldman is never going to go down to zero, but the goal is to be less interesting and less attractive as a target."

Goldman has long been wary of courting the public. Goldman was a private partnership until 1999. Its first public relations executive worked from his apartment in Manhattan, laboring under the principle that most press was bad press, according to a book about Goldman Sachs, "Money and Power," by William D. Cohan.

In the aftermath of the financial crisis, Goldman hunkered down, as the company became a symbol of Wall Street excess. While other banking chiefs vocally defended their companies, Blankfein largely remained quiet. The company even pulled back on granting interviews for noncontentious events like quarterly earnings.

Goldman’s top public relations official at the time, Lucas van Praag, was alternately admired and scorned for couching dismissals of critics in elegant and scornful phrases. Among van Praag’s greatest hits were his dismissals of news articles as “effluvia,” “Frankly, pretty stupid” and “Chimeron produced by a feeble mind.”

Now Goldman is taking its community and relations cues from a new executive. In March, the company hired Richard Siewert Jr., a former Clinton press secretary who was a senior adviser to TIA. The financial company made another public relations push a couple of years ago, with little success. In 2010, Goldman — still reeling from congressional hearings, a government lawsuit and a less-than-flattering portrayal as a “vampire squid” in a Rolling Stone article — rolled out a series of national advertisements aimed at improving its public standing.

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After a steady stream of criticism since the financial crisis, Goldman Sachs is trying to burnish its image. Last week, the company’s chief executive, Lloyd C. Blankfein, gave rare back-to-back televised interviews to CNBC and Bloomberg Television, in which he emphasized the company’s focus on clients. On Wednesday, he spoke at a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender conference called “Out on the Street,” explaining the company’s support for gay rights. In recent weeks, Goldman executives have been more talkative with reporters. By stepping into the spotlight even a little, Goldman appears to be embarking on a subtle campaign to repair its reputation. The bank’s message is simple: Gold- man cares about its clients and its community.

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Solution to Crossword

Solution to Sudoku

Solution to Techdoku
MITx to stay; other universities will add own versions
edX to remain free, in contrast to similar for-profit online programs at west coast schools

same time increase educational oppor-
tunities for learners and teachers across the planet,” said MIT Presi-
dent Susan J. Hockfield at a press conference on Wednesday.
MITx will become a part of edX, but MIT courses will still retain the
MITx branding. Similarly, Harvard courses will be part of “Harvardx.”
EDX is being billed as an open plat-
tform that other universities can join to offer their own courses. Students
who complete courses via edX can earn certificates of completion for a
“modest” fee, according to edX of-
ficials. Those who don’t want to pay
can access course material for free, but will not earn a certificate.
Hockfield and Harvard President
Drew G. Faust were accompanied at
Wednesday’s event by key backers of
MITx, and now edX. Anant Agarwal,
who announced in March he would
step down from his role as CSAIL
head to run MITx full-time, will be-
come edX’s first president. Provost
L. Rafael Reif, who has been at the
forefront of MITx, was present with
his Harvard counterpart, Alan M.
Garber.
The announcement was met
with fanfare by the administrations of
both schools and by many in the
national press. But the creation of
edX underpins big and as-yet un-
answered questions about the na-
ture of online education, many of
which have been raised by students
and faculty here since the December
MITx announcement.
How, for example, will the edX
platform be used to enhance on-
campus learning at Harvard and
MIT? How will “soft” questions, like
favorite kind of interactions are of-
course, faculty to measure how well we’re
answering that question.
“We have assembled groups of
faculty to measure how well we’re
doing,” he said, adding that the pro-
cess would take years.
Agarwal says that a pilot group
of MITx students taking 6.002x — the
MITx pilot course — has already
received significant attention from
course material in a highly
interactivity way.”
How Harvard and MIT will as-
sess the success of edX at improv-
ing residential education is also not
clear, but Garber says faculty at both
schools will be actively engaged in
answering that question.
“We have assembled groups of
faculty to measure how well we’re
doing,” he said, adding that the pro-
cess would take years.
Agarwal says that a pilot group
of MITx students taking 6.002x — the
MITx pilot course — has already
 shed light on how the on-campus
educational experience will change in
the coming years. Students could
do short video tutorials on their
knowledge that is traditionally con-
duced in big lecture halls, he said.
Then, they would come to class for
the on-campus experience. "There has certainly been focus on
what technology-enhanced delivery of
courses might look like, but not so
much on the long-term impact
on our residential students. But the
long-range projection that distance
learning may ultimately jeopardize
the viability of our current resi-
dential education experience has
received insufficient attention,” wrote Chair of the Faculty Samuel
M. Allen PhD ’75.
"I'd like to work with smaller
groups of students," said Allen in a
January interview about MITXs. "My
favorite kind of interactions are of-
fice-hour type interactions, where a
group is sitting around a table dis-
nussing course material in a highly
interactive way."
Housing in Kendall a key element

Proposals from Forest City and MIT coordinate with Cambridge

Kendall, from Page 1

The Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding System (Sloanbid)

Bidding Dates for Fall, 2012 Courses

https://sloanbid.mit.edu

First time logging in? Use your MIT ID as both your log in and password. Follow instructions on the site to change your password or retrieve lost passwords. Once logged in, make sure and check that your information (i.e. program of study and graduation date) is correct.

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan (Course 15) subjects*

Opens 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 11

Closes 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 18

Waitlist Round for closed Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 12

Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 26

Section Swap Round for changing sections of pre-enrolled Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 31

Closes 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 7

Please contact Scott Alessandro, salessan@mit.edu, if you have questions regarding Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding.

Successful bids will appear on your Registration Form on September 6 and will be posted on the bidding website as of July 12 -- write down your password to check results!

*For 15.011, 15.031J, 15.279, 15.301, 15.305, 15.310, 15.411, 15.501, and 15.516, you can sign up directly through WebSIS starting May 1st. It is not necessary to bid for these courses.
Search might conclude in June
President will oversee capital campaign, edX, MIT-Russia

Presidential search, from Page 1

why so fast?

The current search is expected to run its course in almost half the time as the previous one. Hockfield was selected in 2004 after an eight-month process; but if completed by June, the current search will have taken less than four.

"Unlike 2004, I think MIT is in a very different position," said Champy, referencing ongoing initiatives like edX, the MIT-Russia partnership, and preparations for a new capital fundraising campaign.

"Those three alone suggest we don't want to spend an unduly long time to find the next president," he said. "There's just too much to do."

Reed added that the committee can feasibly complete the search in less time because it is meeting more often than it has before. The committee holds meetings at least once per week, he says, with some additional Saturday meetings scheduled. Work gets completed by committee members in-between meetings as well.

"We're in the process of trying to get a [capital] campaign going," Reed said. "We could do some work without a president, but at some point we have to define what [the campaign is]."

In such capital campaigns, MIT raises money to support big institutional objectives including (but not limited to) new construction and renovation, scholarships and fellowships, research, and student life. University presidents play a major role fundraising for their institutions.

Champy says that MIT is "undercapitalized" as an institution — that is, it needs more money than it currently has to support its operations long term. Fixing that situation means raising money for MIT's $10 billion endowment, he says.

What does MIT want in a president?

Since March, the search committee has collected input from students, faculty, and trustees about what they want to see in the next president. The student advisory group to the search committee released a report last month outlining their findings — chief among them were a desire to see someone who would address issues like campus planning, education (especially in relation to MITx), and "student wellness and balance."

And in the most recently faculty newsletter, faculty members put forth their own expectations for a president and even suggested 10 people who they thought could do the job. Reed said that the faculty's suggestions almost or completely overlapped with the names already under consideration by the search committee.

In the newsletter, some faculty asked whether a new president would continue Hockfield-era policies or forge their own path.

"Ultimately, you want someone who's going to be his or her own person. But at the same time, institutionally, we've made some decisions. So we're more likely to find someone who is sympathetic to the things we've started," said Champy.

But he and Reed stressed that while the new president will likely have a strong interest in continuing many of Hockfield's big projects, "we certainly have not said that continuity is vitally important," according to Reed.

"You have to be careful not to have the new president be defined by the past president," added Champy.

Many initiatives, like edX and MIT 2030, are in early stages and can adapt to the priorities and preferences of a new president, Reed said.

Champy also said that the committee wants a president who is "thoughtful" and listens to the people who make up MIT — namely, faculty and students. "We don't want a president who thinks that they know what MIT needs," he said.

Students and faculty have expressed concern to the committee in need for a president who understands and cultivates an MIT "community" — that is, a spirit of cohesiveness and collaboration that crosses departmental boundaries.

"Students have said, 'we learn here, we do research here, and this is our home.' Our president must recognize that this is their home," said Champy. "This place works together in ways other institutions do not, and that is a critical characteristic."

"What's left for the committee to do? Though they have begun talking to candidates, says Reed, more work remains to be done in terms of examining a person's background and track record. The search committee must also make time to meet with the Corporation's executive committee before anything will become official."

"Though the Corporation's June 7 meeting comes the day before Commencement, Reed says the Corporation will not let a presidential announcement overshadow the day's activities; the official word would come some time before or after Friday's Commencement, assuming the search process concludes in the expected timeframe.

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Coop Student Board of Directors

Election Update

The following student Coop members have been elected to the Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Congratulations!

MIT Undergraduate Students:
Joshua Dunaway, 2014
Paige Finkelstein, 2014
Emma Kane, 2015

MIT Graduate Students:
Elle Brott, MBA, Sloan/MPA, HKS, 2013
Samuel Shumay, PhD, 2015

Harvard Undergraduate Students:
Cody Dean, 2014
Joshua Zhong, 2014

Harvard Graduate Students:
Christina Adams, MBA, 2013
Oliver Hauser, PhD, 2015
May Lam, MBA, 2015
Allison Trzop, JD, 2013

www.thecoop.com

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Speak YOUR Mind

So share something for our Post Secret campaign!
From now until May 1st, we’ll be distributing and collecting postcards for you to share your secrets. Drop them off at any interdepartmental mailbox.

Then, see every secret on display.
We’ll host a reception in early May to showcase them in an artistic display.

And remember: you’re not alone.
We all have secrets. We all have fears.
So send in your secrets today!

MIT professors and alumni
elected to National Academy of Sciences

Four MIT professors and six MIT alumni were elected to the National Academy of Sciences this past Tuesday, May 1. This election brings the total number of MIT faculty members who are part of the Academy to 78, and the number of MIT affiliates — emeritus and former faculty, current and former staff, and alumni — to 199, according to a press release from the MIT News Office. Membership honors those who have made significant contributions in original research. In total, 84 new members and 21 foreign associates were elected this year.

The National Academy of Sciences, signed into existence by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, is a non-profit, roughly 2600 member, private institution tasked with advising the government on issues relating to science, engineering, and medicine and technology.

—Deborah Chen

MIT professors
Barbara H. Liskov, Institute professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Subra Suresh ScD ’81, current National Science Foundation director and former dean of MIT’s School of Engineering
Robert Townsend, professor of economics
Richard A. Young, professor of biology and member of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

MIT alumni
John B. Bell ’75, senior staff scientist and group leader, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
Jagdish N. Bhagwati PhD ’67, professor of economics and professor of political science, Columbia University
Pablo G. Debenedetti ’81, PhD ’85, professor of chemical and biological engineering, Princeton University
John T. Groves III ’65, professor of chemistry, Princeton University
Marcia J. Rieki ’72, PhD ’76, professor of astronomy, University of Arizona
William R. Young PhD ’81, professor of physical oceanography, University of California at San Diego
For Chinese, a man in the news is much discussed

By Michael Wines
and Sharon Lafraniere
The New York Times

BEIJING — Those outside of China know him as Chen Guangcheng, the self-trained lawyer whose crusade for individual rights has led him to confinement, escape, and now an international diplomatic incident. Ordinary people inside China refer to him online in a different, coded way. First he was “blind lawyer,” then “blind man,” then “A Bing,” a reference to a nationally famous blind singer. All were blotted out by the Chinese government’s pervasive, highly computerized security apparatus.

Lately, his plight has been referred to as “UA898” — the daily United Airlines flight from Beijing to Washington that this week has come to symbolize Chen’s demand to emigrate to the United States rather than face an uncertain future in his homeland.

Chen’s demands to be treated like any other Chinese citizen have galvanized much of the world and incited a global debate over China’s human rights policies not seen since another Chinese dissident, Liu Xiaobo, was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize.

But in the airless space for discussion that is contemporary China, neither Chen nor Liu is a suitable topic for debate. They are nonentities, or, if they are referred to at all, they are vague threats to the harmonious society that President Hu Jintao promised when he assumed power at the start of the last decade.

“The West and its supporters in China always need a tool to work against China’s current political system,” the nationalistic state-run newspaper Global Times wrote this week in one of the first official mentions of the Chen dispute. “Those who want to plot against China by making use of Chen Guangcheng may be just defaming themselves.”

The official position was stated most doggedly, perhaps, on Thursday, when the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Liu Weimin, was asked to explain why Chen had long been a prisoner in his own home, an incarceration long described in written and video reports, accepted worldwide, as brutal and unending.

“After Chen Guangcheng was released from prison, he is a free person as far as I know. He has been living in his own house,” Liu stated. Challenged on that, he responded, “That’s what you said. As far as I know, he’s living in his hometown.”

He also deflected a spate of other questions about Chen and Liu Xiaobo’s wife, Liu Xia, mostly saying that China’s legal system ensures proper treatment of all citizens.

The facts of Chen’s detention are, of course, undisputed. But in a year of change, when China’s entire leadership is poised for decennial turnover at a Communist Party congress this autumn, there is scant incentive to rock the boat.

For Chinese, a man in the news is much discussed

Starting May 7th, S3 has extended hours and additional walk-in times!

Stop by 5-104 during walk-in hours between 9-10am and 2-3pm or call to schedule an appointment, 617-253-4861.

We would also like to remind you to take advantage of the many resources available for academic, social and personal support. S3, Community Wellness, MIT Mental Health & Counseling, Housemasters, GRTs, RLAs and Advisors are all here to support you. If you are feeling overwhelmed, don’t go it alone. Working together, we’ll find a way.

MIT AMSA presents:

5K Walk/Run for Boston Children’s Hospital

Win AWESOME raffle prizes and donate to a good cause!

SUNDAY, MAY 6 at 2 PM
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Extended Hours May 7-18

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Getting help is as easy as 1, 2,
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: MITCHELL H. KATES '13

Kates dominates the court as MIT point guard

By Nidharsan Anandasivam

Kates dominates the court as MIT point guard. He is a key player in the MIT basketball team, contributing to their success and leading the team with his skills. Despite the challenges of balancing academics and athletics, Kates excels in both areas, making him a standout athlete.

Kates became NEWMAC Rookie of the Year as a freshman and was selected to the NEWMAC all-conference team all three years and was a 4th team All-American this year.

Mitchell H. Kates is a 6'3" point guard who is one of the top players on the MIT basketball team. He is known for his quickness and ability to get to the basket, often scoring on layups or driving to the hoop. Kates is also a good passer and can make accurate passes to his teammates, setting up scoring opportunities for others.

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Aside from basketball, Mitchell is passionate about web development and startups and is taking a class on web technologies. He is currently working on a project called GroupDough, with undergrads Ameesh K. Goyal and Justin C. Helbert, to help startups develop their websites.

Mitchell is also involved in a number of other activities outside of basketball. He is a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and takes bike rides along the Charles. He also enjoys soccer, as he is a fan of the U.S. national team and has been to several games.

Mitchell is a great person to be around and that is assumed by the point guard position that you play. MIT is the easiest position. Our forwards (big guys), like Noel Hollingsworth '12 and Will Tashman '13, have to bring inside on every play, and all I have to do is dribble and shoot. I think there is naturally a leadership role that is assumed by the point guard, and this has been something I have been developing continuously over the past three years.

MIT has been playing basketball since I was nine years old, and I have been a great favorite for quite some time. I have been playing basketball for so long that I have had the opportunity to work with some of the best basketball programs in the world. I have been working with various basketball programs since I was a little kid, and I have continued to improve my skills over the years.

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