**Chisholm granted high honor**

**National Medal of Science to biology oceanographer**

By Anne Cai  
NEWS EDITOR

MIT’s Sally W. (Penny) Chisholm has been awarded the National Medal of Science, one of 12 recipients in 2013, the White House announced in December. The National Medal of Science is annually given to individuals “deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to knowledge in the physical, biological, chemical, mathematical, or engineering sciences,” according to the National Science Foundation. In a White House ceremony this Thursday, President Barack Obama will present the award to Chisholm — the Lee and Geraldine Martin Professor of Environmental Studies in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the 48th MIT scientist to win the honor — for her research in microbial oceanography.

"I was incredibly surprised," said Chisholm on her reaction upon being notified of her selection. "In the past, I had not expected that the committee was recognizing my work. I neither expected that the committee recognized my work. I neither expected that the committee was recognizing my work.

Her interest in biological oceanography started with her undergraduate senior thesis project. "The project involved lakes. That was the first time I looked at phytoplankton under the microscope — I was instructed," said Chisholm.

She now studies Prochlorococcus, the smallest and most abundant photosynthetic cell on earth. "They're very unappreciated and under-nurtured, despite being the base of the foodweb in the

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**FEATURE INTERVIEW**

**Meet the RLADs**

The day-to-day lives of the west campus residential life ADs

By Stan Gill  
NEWS EDITOR

When the Residential Life Area Director (RLAD) position was announced via a leak from one of “Tim Beaver” this summer, students and GRTs woke up in arms about the impending addition of an administrator to the dorms without prior notification. The RLAD of each dorm is meant to work as both an administrative assistant to the housemaster as well as a source of support for students and GRTs. The seven RLADs, two of whom were previously Residential Life Associates (RLAs), started their new jobs in August and moved into the spaces created for them in their respective west campus dorms.

Now that the RLADs have had a chance to work and adjust for a semester, The Tech sat down with them to discuss their day-to-day lives and thoughts about the position.

The Tech: How did you adjust to role when you came to campus?

Joshua Gonzales (Simmons): When I first got here, there was so much uncertainty about what the Area Director position was going to be. One of the first things I focused my attention on was building a foundation, building a trust with the students of Simmons Hall, figuring out what I am as a person, what this position will look like for the students, how this position will go, and starting those conversations with my housemasters and GRTs. They were a great, honest conversations about where we are now, what we want to do, and how we can get there.

TT: What’s your relationship like with the housemasters?

JG: In Simmons, collaboration and teamwork is the big thing. I joke around and say “Teamwork makes the dream work.” I see my housemasters everyday. Monday through Friday we’ll have a meal together or have a conversation some point in the day via email or phone. I love because it’s a true partnership. We see and respect each other, and at the end of the day, it’s about making sure the students know they matter and making sure they succeed here as a student, as a person, and in what they do globally and at MIT. It’s making sure we’re giving them the platform to do those wonderful things. Sometimes the students don’t need me as an Area Director. I just want to make sure that the rest of the campus knows how well they’re doing as a house and as individual students.

TT: How do you provide support to students?

JG: I like to say I’m a one-stop-shop for all student needs, much like a clearinghouse for students’ ideas. We are here for what the students need, and for working with the house team, the hall government members to see what they want to go.

TT: What’s your relationship like with the GRTs?

Rebecca Kjaerbye (MassHull): It’s very collaborative. I try to create a space where GRTs can come ask me questions or for advice on student issues or concerns. I talk a lot about things...
plane crash in kazakhstan kills 21 people

moscow — A passenger plane crashed in heavy fog outside of kazakhstan's largest city, topeka, killing 21 people, kazakhstan emergency officials said. the crash was the second aviation disaster in the country in a month.

the jet that crashed tuesday was a canadian-built bom- bardier challenger 604 operated by srg, a private kazakh airline. it was on its way to almaty from kokshetau, 775 miles away, and crashed near the almaty airport as the pilot tried to land. according to the officials, there were no survivors.

yuri ilyin, the deputy head of the almaty emergency depart- ment, said there were no signs that the crash was caused by a mechanical malfunction.

"the plane was only destroyed on impact when it hit the ground. "

as saying. "the plane was only destroyed on impact when it hit the ground."

rescue workers recovered the plane's flight recorder, ac- cording to a twitter post by the president's official communica-
tion service.

— andrew roth, the new york times

incoming chinese leader vows not to bargain on territory

hong kong — china will never bargain over what it deems to be "core territorial and security interests, the coun- try's top leader, xi jingping, said in his first published speech set-
ting out his foreign policy views since taking over as head of the communist party.

xi's handling of tensions with taiwan and other asian neighbors over rival maritime claims, xi laid out to the com-
munist party's elite politburo some of the principles likely to shape china's diplomatic posture and warn against any move-
tment to a war with a warning that certain demands are sacro-

sanct to beijing.

the new york times

departing south korean leader creates furor with pardons

seoul, south korea — with less than one month left in of-

fice, the departing president of south korea, lee myung-bak, granted several pardons to political allies, a longtime friend and dozens of others who have been convicted of cor-

ruption and other crimes. the pardons surprised a rare quartet between him and the president-elect.

the office of the incoming president, park geun-hye, has warned lee for days not to "abuse his presidential power" by granting pardons in his last days in office that would "go against the will of the people."

lee ignored that appeal.

"this is not an abuse of presidential authority," lee was quoted as saying in a cabinet meeting on tuesday night. "it is carried out according to law and procedure."

"i don't need to articulate mitigating factors and what goes on at night."

— chung sang-hun, the new york times

guantanamo defense lawyers seek 48-hour visits

fort meade, md. — defense attorneys for khalid shaikh mo-

hammed and four other accused accused in the september 11, 2001, attack on the us military tribunal judge in guantanamo bay, cuba, on tuesday let them stay in prison with their clients for 48-

hour periods every six months. but the military prosecutors called that request unreasonable, saying the de-

fense should be allowed to visit just once for two hours.

"i don't think they are entitled to walk around for 48 hours in their clients' shoes is unsupported by anything," said maj. robert mcgov-

ern, the army, a member of the prosecution team.

the requested visit was one of several issues raised at a pretrial hearing that focused on information that could become a central focus if the defendants are ever convicted and they face the possibility of a death sentence.

a closed-circuit video feed of the hearing was shown to reporters at the base and at fort meade. while the acompañed by the possibility of a death sentence.

defense attorneys urged the judge overseeing the case, col. john, to allow their clients lengthy, repeated vis-

its with fewer restrictions on whom they could speak with and on the notes and diagrams they can take back to their clients' lawyers and behavior in custody. such information, they said, could help developing mitigation in-

formation against execution.

"if we get to sentencing, we need to articulate mitigating fac-

tors, particularly the defendants' adaptations to conditions of confine-

ment," said cmdr. walter ruiz of the navy, a defense lawyer for one of the detainees, mustafa ahmed al-hawsawi.

ruiz acknowledged security and logistical concerns and sug-

gested that it would be acceptable to extend an additional 24-hour period, but said the defense needed to see "sleeping cycles and what goes on at night." the defense is also seeking cor-

respondence with the red cross about their clients confinement issues.

pohl appeared sympathetic to the defense, pressing mcgovern skeptically about the necessity of the government's proposed limita-

tions on the visit, but did not rule tuesday.

pohl also put off consideration of another high-profile motion: a defense request that the order to govern the government to preserve evidence at any cia "black site" prison where their clients were held and interrogated for several years.

weather

active weather is in store for the eastern u.s.

by roman kowch

unseasonably warm temperatures will arrive in new england today, as the front pushes through the area late to-

ight. heavy rain and even some rumbles of thunder will move in this evening and overnight. at the same time to eastern seaboard toward the caroli-

nas, some severe thunderstorms will fire up the same front from south to through tonight.

after the cold front passes through late thursday morning, winds will swing to the west and the temperature will drop from the 30s to the teens.

the region may drop to as low as 10 degrees tuesday morning to late Thursday night. fortunate-

ly, sunny and calm conditions will return for the end of the week. the cooler temperatures however will stick around as well.

extended forecast

today: cloudy. rain arriving in late afternoon. high 59°f (15°c). w wind at 10–20 mph increasing to 20–30 mph late. tonight: heavy rain with thunder possible. low 54°f (12°c). w wind at 20–30 mph with gusts up to 40 mph. tomorrow: partly sunny. high near 35°f (2°c). low near 27°f (-3°c). w

situation for noon eastern time, wednesday, january 30, 2013

nebraska

by charlie savage

fort meade, md. — defense attorneys for khalid shaikh mo-

hammed and four other accused accused in the september 11, 2001, attack on the us military tribunal judge in guantanamo bay, cuba, on tuesday let them stay in prison with their clients for 48-

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FDA approval for genetic drug to treat a rare inherited disorder

By Andrew Pollack

The Food and Drug Administration approved a new drug Tuesday that not only treats a rare inherited disorder but also may point to the way forward for genetic diseases that defied past therapies.

The approval of the drug, Kynamro, is the first for a new class of medicines known as antisense drugs, which work by reducing the production of a specific protein that plays a role in disease.

The drug is approved for the treatment of hyperlipidemia, a condition that can lead to heart disease.

The drug, Kynamro, was approved by the FDA on Tuesday.

The approval of Kynamro is significant because it marks the first time an antisense drug has been approved for a genetic disorder.

The drug is designed to reduce the production of a protein called PCSK9, which plays a role in the body's ability to remove cholesterol from the bloodstream.

The approval comes after several years of clinical trials and regulatory review.

The drug was tested in two large clinical trials involving more than 4,000 patients with hyperlipidemia.

The trials showed that Kynamro reduced LDL cholesterol levels by about 15% compared to a placebo.

The drug is available in a single dose and is administered intravenously once a month.

The approval is likely to spur further development of antisense drugs.

The drug is expected to cost about $30,000 per year.

The approval of Kynamro is a significant step forward in the treatment of genetic disorders.

The drug is expected to be available in the United States in the coming weeks.

The approval is a victory for the drug's developers, Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Shire, which partnered on the development of Kynamro.

The approval is also a win for patients with hyperlipidemia, who have limited treatment options.

The approval of Kynamro is a significant milestone in the treatment of genetic disorders.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A real report on the March for Life

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade. On Jan. 25, hundreds of thousands of people marched in Washington, D.C. to protest the decision, like we do every year. This year’s March was the largest yet. March for Life organizers estimated that around 500,000 were in attendance — other sources estimated 650,000. Yet, one would be hard-pressed to find an accurate report of the March in any major news source. The New York Times hasn’t covered the March in years. But this year they did — to talk about gun control.

This should cause concern for anyone, not just those who are pro-life. If there are over half a million people protesting something, especially if they do it year after year, most people must want to know about it, even if they don’t agree with the protesters.

The demographics of the March reflected a group more diverse than many may think.

Those news sources that do briefly cover the March tend to speak of “thousands” or “tens of thousands” of people — clearly inaccurate estimates. At the same time, these sources try to exaggerate the number of people protesting in support of Roe in D.C. In reality, most people at the March don’t notice any pro-choice protesters, though there is always a handful around the steps of the Supreme Court — in the past three years I have never seen more than 20.

CORRECTIONS

The third paragraph Jan. 22’s web update on MIT’s DNS attack ambiguously states that “the hack and subsequent outages were due to a compromise of MIT's account at EDUCAUSE, not EDUCAUSE's databases.” According to Gurth Jordan, EDUCAUSE’s vice president of operations, someone logged into MIT’s account successfully on the first try, indicating that the person knew MIT’s password, and that compromise of MIT’s account at EDUCAUSE, not EDUCAUSE’s databases.”

OPERATION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Aysyn Schalk, Editor in Chief Jessica J. Pourian, Managing Editor Connir Kirschbaum, Executive Editor Ethan A. Solomon, and Opinion Editor Andy Liang.

Guest columns are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editors.

Letters to the editor are columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 792702, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors’ signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit

Finally, the demographics of the March reflected a group more diverse than many may think. As usual, the majority of people were young. Many college, high school and even middle school students attend every year. Men and women were represented equally. This year, eight members of MIT Pro-Life participated. Not everyone in the crowd was religious. Yes, many banners were from Catholic churches, but there were also protestant groups, Orthodox Jews, and a group with a banner saying “Secular Pro-Life: for the embryology textbook tells me so.” Many people also carried personal banners. Some thanked their mothers for giving birth to them in difficult circumstances. Others read “I was conceived by rape and I love my life,” “I regret my abortion.”

Georgia Bolts ’14
Vice-President
MIT Pro-Life
ACROSS
1 Way out there
4 Fundamental
9 Curacao neighbor
14 Run a tab
15 Gladiators’ venue
16 Kind of eclipse
17 Desperate try
20 Most iffy
21 Gullible one
22 Render speechless
23 Right-angle shape
25 Experience anew
29 Prefix for sweet
31 British noble
33 Olympics blade
34 Drs.’ group
36 As compared to
38 www.salvationarmy.__
39 Game show segment
43 Homer Simpson shout
44 Music score symbol
45 Place for pampering
46 “Knock it off!”
48 Poems titled “To a . . .”
50 Theme of the puzzle
53 Worst of the stadium seats
55 Mileage rating org.
57 Party mixes
60 City north of Pittsburgh
61 Willa Cather heroine
63 Attorney’s summation
67 Spotted horse
69 Frequently
70 Confederate soldier
72 Hog’s home
74 Writer Sinclair
77 Olympic Blade
78 Drs.’ group
79 President Bartlet of The West Wing
82 Patternless
83 “Spring forward” period: Abbr.
84 Self centers
85 Scatterbrain
86 Rearward, at sea
87 “Knock it off!”
88 Poems titled “To a . . .”
90’s Worst of the stadium seats

DOWN
1 Does origami
2 Watches for
3 Coast Guard job
4 Said, as a farewell
5 Greet the day
6 Come to terms
7 Corporation designation
8 Lyrick Sammy
9 Caine or Law title role
10 Clothing frill
11 Humor ___ (top dog)
12 Keep out
13 Creative material
18 Oz visitor
19 Winter cap parts
24 Library penalty
26 Walkman descendant
27 Exceedingly
28 Neurologist’s test, for short
30 Apple all-in-one computer
32 Fat letter
35 Permit to enter
37 Back of the neck
38 Picture, in product names
40 Denny’s rival
41 President Bartlet of The West Wing
42 Patternless
43 “Spring forward” period: Abbr.
47 Magic word
49 Enemy of Athens
51 Roadside restaurants
52 Small piano
54 Celestial hunter
56 Extreme displeasure
58 Failed to act
60 Self centers
62 Bring to proper pitch
63 PC’s “brain”
64 Back talk
65 Ottawa’s loc.
66 Rearward, at sea
Sudoku
Solution, page 14

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.

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Techdoku
Solution, page 14

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TODAY WE ARE MAKING A FOOD
Hello and welcome to Today We Are Making A Food! Today's food is "Meat Lasagna". To start, you'll need four haploid female reproductive gametes!

These can be easily harvested from sexually-mature landfowl!!

You will also need 1 cup of an organic, warm white fluid produced by and extracted from the mammary glands of a cow. This can be heated to reduce the number of viable pathogens contained within, and chilled to delay decay and decomposition. Also acquire 3 tablespoons of a water-in-oil emulsion of damaged phospholipid membranes and milk fat globules.

This colloid may be sold in your supermarket as "butter"!

You'll also need 1.5 pounds of interior cattle flesh, ground into a uniform mash! Delicious!

Finally, procure some unleavened paste made by molding water with the edible portions of grasses, rolled flat and cut into sheets. Boil the sheets, brown the flesh, mix the gametes with the animal mammary juice, place in layers, and cook at 449.817 Kelvin for 5400 seconds!

This will serve 6-8 alive humans, most of whom will readily consume this product so long as you don't ever show them this recipe!
The Residential Life Area Directors of west campus

RLADs talk about day-to-day lives, student interactions, relationships with house teams

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

The Tech 7

RLADs, from Page 1

with the GRTs — I consider myself a resource for the housemasters, GRTs, and students. We have a very positive relationship [with the GRTs] — I’m there to help them do their job and make sure they have the skills to help them be the best GRTs that they can be.

77: How is this job different from the previ-
ous RA position?

78: I don’t feel any different in terms of job function, but I feel very different in the way that it’s changed. I told students when they asked about the changes in the position over the sum-
mer that was one of the changes, we’re still doing the same job. As the RA was a commander, and the GRTs, Housemasters, and students had more of a lead role, now we’re not trying to plan or do much of what we did last year. Students are just trying to be leaders and take over everything. The students’ exec board have all been very welcoming. I think one thing that we all tried to do at the beginning of this year, especially us students, and the exec board have all been very positive in Next House. If anything, it’s been the exact opposite, The GRTs, Housemasters, and the exec board have all been very positive in Next House. If anything, it’s been negativity in Next House. If anything, it’s been the semester was a great time for us to show our support. A student crisis could happen at any moment, and I make sure to stay connected and am able to connect with and drop things when a student needs my support.

79: When was a time you felt like you really
connected with the your dorm’s community?

7D: I spent a lot of time with my students during REX. I think my favorite event was the life-size version of Angry Birds they did in the TPL. It was really fun to come home and see a giant structure made of cardboard and different boxes, with people shooting birds at it. My student team and house government was re-
ally welcoming, as were the GRTs. I know that a lot of us (the RA’s) just try to be present and around, just to show that we were dedicated to getting to know students without stepping in and taking over everything. The students’ ex-
perience is the students. We’re here to guide, advise, and help, so I thought the beginning of the semester was a great time for us to show that. Beyond that, my students like to play Duck Hunt, so I’ve had them over to my apart-
ment to do that. Recently, I was also invited to watch a basketball game, which some students in one of the wings, so I try to spend time with my students as well.

77: Coming in as an RLAD, have you felt any
negative reactions from students?

7T: So many of my students and GRTs have been super personal and have been open to me, which is welcoming. I think one thing that we all tried to do at the beginning of this year, especially us newbies, was to come in and disrupt the culture and traditions our houses had built.

7T: What’s something you’ve done to try to
connect with the students?

Michael Zakarian (MacGregor)

Michael Zakarian (MacGregor): One of the aspects of the Area Director position is that the day-to-day activities that I define as part of the culture and temperature of your building. There are days where I am in my office interact-
ing with students and discussing possible pro-
gram ideas. There are times where I’m working closely with the House government, or following up with situations that happened in the building over the weekend. Each day is an adventure and that is what is so appealing about this position.

87: How do you interact with the GRTs and
the students?

Michael Panoutsos (McCormick): I took all of the information I was getting from students and I started compiling newsletters for McCormick, so I’m building an image toward what we do and what we want to accomplish as a house. I’ve been sending out letters once a month. It’s been well received — there are pic-
tures and stories from the students directly, it wasn’t just a one-time thing, it’s something that’s been happening progressively over the semester.

87T: Do you view the RLAD position as more
an administrative role or an active student support role?

LP: I would liken the role to a chamele-
on because day-to-day, it could be a mixture of both administrative tasks and supporting students.

87T: What are your responsibilities as an
RLAD?

James Reed (New House): In New House, there are nine different communities — they interact with me, they are always performing a number of key functions. I usually interact with the President and Vice President who have just come in for this next year, so I’m starting to get them organized. [The RLAD] also have a number of responsibilities from the Divi-
sion of Student Life. I help lead commit-
tees for projects and initiatives that are going on within our department, we so also work behind the scenes on those.

87T: How often do you interact with the stu-
dents?

87T: Have you been doing a newsletter monthly
since about September/October. We’re work-
ing on turning that into a blog so that we can update it a little more. My office is on the main hallway of New House, so I try to keep my door open all day long when I’m there. Students usu-
ally pop in and out. I attend many of the study breaks, held by GRTs and by students.

87T: What has been your favorite moment as
an RLAD so far?

87T: At the end of last semester, the social
chairs for New House organized an end of
semester party/care package making. At the end of the event, they came up to me and said “You’ve been very helpful this year to our sem-
ester and we wouldn’t know who would have been able to help us have as many events or as many as they had this year if it wasn’t for you.” Any moment you get the sense from the stu-
dents that you’ve given them an opportunity or that you’ve really opened up their viewpoint is always great.

87T: What do you like about being an RLAD?

Michael Zakarian (MacGregor): One of the aspects of the Area Director position is that the day-to-day activities. What is your vision of this position in the future.

7M: The most important thing is that this
career position needs to continue to be a resource for students, whether it is to assist in personal is-
sues, event planning, conflict resolution, or just day-to-day operations of the building.

87T: What is your vision of this position in the future.

7M: The GRTs are a great resource for both the students and the RLAD. They have such a great feel for their entry and assist in keeping the RLAD and Housemasters in the loop. We work hard in hard in program planning and meet monthly as a team to discuss the build-
ing. Similarly, the Housemasters and the RLAD work together to ensure that MacGregor is a warm, welcoming community. We work to-
gether, along with the Associate Housemasters to make sure we are communicating effectively. The housemasters and the RLAD work with the building and a strong sense of what will and will not work in the community. They have really assisted in my transition into this posi-
tion and I greatly appreciate their perspectives. What is your vision of this position in the future.

87M: The most important thing is that this
career position needs to continue to be a resource for students, whether it is to assist in personal issues, event planning, conflict resolution, or just day-to-day operations of the building.

Belex EG, Random, Baker
to receive RLADs in Fall 2013

The Residential Life Area Director (RLAD) program is expanding to in-
clude Beasley, Baker, Random, and Baker East Campus, Christina Davis, Director of Residential Life Programs, confirmed. If RLADs for these dorms are found that would leave Senior House as the only undergraduate dorm without an RLAD.

“Myself, Naomi Carton, and Henry Humphreys met with the housema-
ters, the students, and the GRTs of the dorms without area directors to get a sense of those communities and what they’re looking for in terms of area di-
rectors,” Davis said. “We’re still ironing out the final map of what the [expansion of the program] will look like.”

Henry Humphreys, Senior Associ-
ate Dean for Student Life, noted that because of the communities of Beasley and Random and so are small, there will be one RLAD that serves both houses, with offices in both places, but living in Beasley. Humphreys noted that they have not yet worked out the exact con-
figuration to place the new RLAD living spaces so as to disrupt the fewest num-
ber of students.

As for Senior House, Humphreys said that he, along with the Senior
House Housemasters are still in the process of understanding each oth-
er’s goals in relation to bringing in an RLAD, so they do not plan on bringing in an RLAD to Senior House just yet.

[Myself and Augustin Raya] need to come to a better understanding of what the rest of the new RLADs are so we can work together to find the best so-
lution,” Humphreys said. “Until we define the goals, we don’t want to put someone in the [RLAD] position.”

RLADs talk about day-to-day lives, student interactions, relationships with house teams

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Stan Gill
Dishonored: a clever blend of action and stealth
Bethesda Softworks masters a lost art

By Keith Yost   Staff Writer

It's rare to come across a proper stealth game these days — by which I mean it is so rare that it's hard to know if what I consider good stealth games are even stealth games at all. Maybe it's the stealth genre that I dislike, and I just happen to enjoy a couple games that call themselves stealth games.

Whatever the case, I don't care. It's time to snapshop. You know what's wrong with stealth games? They aren't tests of intellect — they're tests of patience. Success flows from a willingness to simply sit and wait, until a window of opportunity opens in guards' patrolled pattern. This is boring. I'd just as soon play as one of the guards, patrolling a little 10-meter patch of space for eternity.

By extension, games that try to present stealth gameplay will always play second to sucker's choice, compared to running and waiting-based gameplay of stealth. And most game developers, knowing that run-of-the-mill gunning through the level. And most games are anything but gameplay. But that was not the case.

In Dishonored, you play as Adam Jensen — sorry, Corvo Attano, head security guy for Sarif Industries — sorry, Empress Caldwell. While preparing for an important trip — sorry, after returning from an important trip, the place you work at is attacked by cyber-enhanced humans — sorry, magic enhanced dudes who kill [sort of] your love interest and make a major mess of things. You're in a bad situation, but six months after the event, you are given the choice — sorry, magic powers that the dude who attacked you [Sorry didn't ask that], and set on a mission to kill the bad dudes, uncover their mysterious plotting, and set the cyberpunk — sorry, steampunk world to rights, mostly by running a blade across the throats of anyone who can press an alarm button.

Although the dust jacket blurbs for Deus Ex and Dishonored are similar, the games are anything but. Deus Ex was a tedious game only worth playing for the dialogue and plot (and even then, your mileage may vary). In Dishonored, the protagonist is sentient, and if anything the plot is the weakest point; it is the gameplay that carries.

Dishonored is a game that offers combat on truly equal footing with stealth. The game offers a variety of powers and perks that Corvo can acquire as he completes missions and uncovers hidden artifacts. Teleportation, possession of animals and enemies, stopping time, and other unique mechanics turn the game into a challenge of lateral thinking. Fighting one's way through a level is not some straightforward run-and-gun. It requires both quick thinking as well as a creative use of Corvo's combat powers and gadgetry. And for those who choose the stealth path, the powers system completely subverts the usual process of sitting and waiting for guards to walk themselves into closets.

Some trial and error exists, but instead of watching paint dry while an opening appears, the player spends his time scanning the area, working out safe paths to teleport to a ledge near a target, actively search-

Had Bethesda doubled the length of Dishonored, they'd have, far and away, the game of the year. But even in its brevity, Dishonored delivers.

The primary complaint I have of the game is its length. As well-designed as the levels are, and as much as they contribute to an open, sandbox-y feel, there's no getting around that there just aren't that many of them. Even two playthroughs leave Dishonored a shorter playtime than that to which I've grown accustomed. And the mile deep, inch wide nature of the game has unfortunate consequences for the game's ability to immerse the player.

Dishonored paints a fantastical world of rat plagues, mystical steam-punk technology, powering whales, dark rituals, and high political intrigue— fantastical to a point of over-engineering ridiculousness that was hard to engage with. Just as I felt I was settling into the fantasy, the game was over, abruptly wrapped up with both little hint of a sequel and no closure on many of the game's open questions. Of course, this might have gone differently, had I realized earlier on that the beating heart Corvo is given by The Outsider, beside helping reveal the game's hidden artifacts, also provides mysterious exposition of the world it used on other parts of the world.

In any case, if a game is to come up lacking, better for it to leave the player wanting more, rather than wanting something different. Had Bethesda doubled the length of Dishonored, they'd have, far and away, the game of the year on their hands. But even in its brevity, Dishonored delivers. Pick it up now before E3 ends, and you'll be able to enjoy this gem before the next semester starts.

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Taking a tour of inner workings of our transit system
A look into the MassDOT System, the T operations center, practicing with driving simulators

MassDOT, from Page 1

The Highway Operations Center monitors the video feeds with help from computer algorithms to identify traffic accidents and provide emergency responders with exact location and visual information. The cameras employ an accident-finding algorithm, which triggers an alert when a camera shows non-moving tail lights, which means the camera is viewing the back-up behind an accident, or when a camera shows no traffic at all, which means the camera is trained on the roadway in front of an accident.

The management of the operations center, Michael Fitzpatrick, shared stories with us about incidents the office handles. The center has over-height vehicle detection systems, which alert a truck driver if it’s too tall for a tunnel in an effort to pass through it. They respond to flash warnings on digital signs on the side of the road. Fitzpatrick said once a driver ignored the warnings and crashed a video camera off the tunnel ceiling. Police followed him in an effort to retrieve the camera, which was hanging from the back of his trailer. Being MIT students, we were especially interested to learn more about their computing systems. As we learned more about their systems, our guides shared amazing stories. They showed us a place where the room narrowed into a car-size tunnel. They explained such tunnels connect most of the city of Boston. The tunnel is used to make a safe passage for emergency responders. The tunnel can also react to smoke from a car fire by pressurizing one part of the tunnel more than the other in order to dispel the smoke.

While in the tunnel, our guides showed us where a robot were inserted into a car-size tunnel. We learned about the Massachusetts highway system. Most of the office was a single large room that resembled a study from an action movie. The room was filled with state-of-the-art computing equipment. The large room that resembled a study from an action movie was the formation of MassDOT in 2009. Most of the office was a single large room that resembled an action movie set in front of the office displayed multiple video feeds from some of the 650 video cameras dispersed along the Massachusetts highway system.

I had seen the maintenance doors countless times, but never imagined what was on the other side.

Most of the office was a single large room that resembled an action movie set. Every room was green, amusingly some rooms were blue, indicating the average car speed was above the posted speed limit. Although the Highway Operations Center uses some clever algorithms, several issues from the merger remain. According to Fitzpatrick, many of their monitoring and data-collection systems run on different platforms, so they do not communicate with each other.

Our final stop on the tour continued to immerse our tech-oriented minds. We parked our bus outside of a inconspicuous office building. Most passerby did not give the building a second glance, but the security guard in the foyer made us realize this building was important. We were inside the MIT operations Control Center, home to the logistics departments responsible for deploying T trains and MBTA buses. The operations centers for these two transportation systems were located on separate floors. In the bus headquarters, we learned more about the role of MBTA buses. They respond to emergency situations, such as building evacuations or natural disasters, by providing buses for shelter or evictions. Employees in this office were responsible for tracking the location of buses and making calls to drivers to keep them within five minutes of schedule.

The T train operations center looked like the command center from a sci-fi ship. All the walls were painted black, employees sat at computers arranged on terraced platforms facing the wall front of the room. On this wall a huge projected graphic depicted the train lines, stops, and trains currently on the track.

This tour left me amazed with amount of detail MassDOT manages every day and great respect for its employees. Feuer called it a “wonderful” and “holis- tic” tour which covered many as- pects of the MassDOT system.

This is the first time the MIT En- ergy Initiative has organized such a tour with MassDOT. The tour fit well with this month’s theme at the Energy Initiative, “Preparing for Climate Variability.”

Due to the New York subway shut-down in the aftermath of San- dy, Feuer wanted to find out how prepared Massachusetts’ trans- portation systems are for such an event.

Feuer said he was pleased by the feedback he received from both students and our tour guides, and, luckily for the many students on this tour’s waitlist, he hopes to do more tours in the future. “One student said it was a real highlight of his seven years at MIT,” said Feuer, “and Adam [Hurtubise] expressed for its employees. Feuer manages every day and great respect for its employees. Feuer called it a “wonderful” and “holis- tic” tour which covered many as- pects of the MassDOT system.

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The Tech Wednesday, January 30, 2013

**tech fair**

February 4, 2013 10AM - 3PM

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**Events**

**hackMIT**
**Feb 2-3, 8PM - 1PM**
Check out MIT’s biggest hackathon of the year, sponsored by Techfair and Palantir. Compete against college students from all over New England for over $5000 in prizes. Register at hackmit.eventbrite.com.

**Résumé Drop**
**Feb 3, by 11:59PM techfair.mit.edu/drop**
Reach out to 60+ companies by dropping your resume online before the fair. Company representatives will be able to invite students to the banquet so get your résumés in as soon as possible!

**The Fair**
**Feb 4, 10AM - 3PM Rockwell Cage**
Now in its fifth year, Techfair is featuring the largest number of companies and student projects ever. Techfair is a whole new approach to career fairs, bringing cool tech expos, student projects, and excitement. Don’t forget to drop your résumé online!

**Banquet**
**Feb 4, 6PM - 8PM* Boston Marriott Cambridge**
Enjoy a classy dinner with company representatives at this exclusive event. Company reps will be able to invite students before the fair via the résumé drop as well as the day of the fair.

*Networking begins at 5:30PM

**Afterparty**
**Feb 4, 9PM - 11PM Media Lab, 6th Floor**
Kick off the Spring semester with a night of excitement at Afterparty. Enjoy live music from DJ Cruz, help your FSILG win a free Xbox/Kinect in the Greek challenge, and enter to win a free Surface or Xbox/Kinect!

**Techtalks**
**Feb 8, 4PM - 8PM 32-123**
Join us for our second annual Techtalks event -- come hear from Paul English, Ari Gesher, John Biket, and Yoky Matsuoka speak about innovation in this data-driven world. Register at mittechtalks.eventbrite.com.

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American Airlines is slipping away from Boston. Logan International Airport’s biggest carrier for most of the past decade has shrunk to the fifth-largest, carrying just 13 percent of the airport’s passengers last year, down from a peak of 22 percent in 2004. The carrier now flies to just six cities nonstop from Boston, down from 33 in June 2003. At the end of March, the number of American nonstop destinations out of Logan will fall even further when the carrier cuts its only remaining international flight, to Paris.

Even before the airline declared bankruptcy in 2011 and entered into merger talks with US Airways expected to be completed soon, American Airlines was pulling back from second-tier cities to focus on its five biggest domestic markets: Dallas–Fort Worth, where the airline is based, Miami, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York. These five cities are also the only destinations American will fly to nonstop from Boston after it drops Logan’s service. The carrier also operates seasonal service between Boston and Paris.

The largest concentration of business and high-end travelers are located in these five gateway or hub cities, said Tim Ahern, American’s vice president for New York and international, noting that many of the country’s Fortune 500 companies are located in these markets.

American’s vanishing act is problematic for Boston fliers because it gives them fewer options and nonstop flights. The airline has less than a third of the daily departures it had out of Logan a decade ago, when there were more than 100 a day, including flights on the carrier’s regional affiliate, American Eagle, which pulled out of Logan in late 2011.

“We hate to see any airline that has been a strong player here at Logan scale their operations down,” said Edward Ferns, director of aviation for the Massachusetts Port Authority, which runs Logan. “Fortunately for this airport, other airlines have benefited from American’s reduction and picked up and back-filled behind them.”

The pullback from Boston reflects the airline’s struggles in recent years. American’s operating costs are higher than other major international carriers, many of which cut costs during their own bankruptcies and joined forces through mergers, and American has had to make changes to stay competitive, airline analysts say.

Along with rerouting to its hubs, the airline has outsourced cabin cleaning and ticket agents and negotiated new contracts that increased its pilots’ workload.

Unfortunately for American frequent fliers, however, their perks generally don’t transfer to domestic carriers picking up the slack, such as JetBlue Airways and Southwest Airlines.

George Sprague, a retired Cambridge district court judge, is a platinum level frequent flier on American, which means along with being offered premium seating as early as possible, faster boarding, he can rack up miles at an accelerated rate. But this only benefits him if American offers flights he wants to take.

“They’ve left me high and dry with no place to go,” said Sprague, 74. “I feel as if I have a big bank account and nowhere to spend it.”

Sprague can no longer fly American nonstop from Boston to his home in Fort Lauderdale or to visit his son in San Francisco. Coming up, he also won’t be able to fly American for his annual trip to London, where he serves on the board of a school, although he can use his frequent flier miles on British Airways, which has a partnership with American.

London is the most popular international route out of Logan, with three times as much traffic as any other overseas destination. British Airways will add a fourth daily flight from Logan to its schedule starting March 31, and Delta Air Lines and Virgin Atlantic Airways also have daily nonstop service. But when American drops its 22-year-old flight between Boston and Heathrow, there will be about 300 fewer outbound seats a day in the summer.

“It makes it that much tougher to get to London,” said Michael Friedman, a senior analyst at DeltaWare Investments in Boston. “It absolutely will drive prices up, there’s no question about it, because we’re taking seats out of the market.”

American’s shrinking network also means local companies are less likely to use the airline as their preferred carrier, Friedman said, further discouraging the airline from building back up its presence here.

If American merges with US Airways, the third-biggest airline at Logan, the combined carrier would be more likely to continue flying there. Still, the American vice president, declined to comment on what effect a merger would have on his airline. American will continue to grow in its five biggest markets, he said, but the airline has no plans to revive its glory days in Boston.

By Katie Johnston

The Tech
An optimistic Menino returns to the public stage

Boston mayor highlights accomplishments, proposes education and housing initiatives

By Andrew Ryan

Menino used the opportunity for a campaign-style trumpeting of his administration’s accomplishments.

In a speech by turns sentimental and unabashedly bullish, Mayor Thomas M. Menino returned to the public stage Tuesday night after a lengthy illness and offered a buoyant vision of Boston, celebrating accomplishments and outlining initiatives for the future.

Menino entered Faneuil Hall to thunderous applause from a crowd of 800 that included Governor Deval Patrick, members of Congress, and scores of other elected officials and dignitaries gathered for the mayor’s State of the City address.

Waving to the audience, Menino — serenaded by a Kelly Clark- son pop anthem with the lyric, “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger” — used a cane to help navigate the 50-foot walk to the stage.

The standing ovation roared for 2 minutes, 46 seconds. Finally calming the crowd, Menino said that in two decades in office, he had never been so optimistic about Boston’s future. Young people are flooding the city, he said, not fleeing as in years past. Older Bostonians have returned home, drawn by what he described as the “era of the city” in the United States.

“Among new initiatives, the mayor proposed using 1 million dollars in construction projects that would join the police department. This year, he said, 68 recruits would be the final year of a sixth term. He unveiled several initiatives, however, that would appeal to key constituencies if he runs for reelection, such as a series of measures designed to make “Boston the premier city for working women.”

Menino highlighted his work against illegal guns with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of New York. He linked the massacre of 20 children in Sandy Hook, Conn., to shootings in Boston, including slayings on Woolson Street in 2010 and Harlem Street last summer.

To remedy the inequities, Menino said he would launch a forum for women-owned businesses. He pledged $1 million for low-interest loans for new child-care facilities and promised to make Boston the first city to help young women negotiate fair pay.

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And SAVE. For this year in this room. You want an encore, Mr. Mayor. We’ll give you an encore.

Menino used the opportunity for a campaign-style trumpeting of his administration’s accomplishments.

Menino offered few clues about whether he will seek reelection, such as a series of measures designed to make “Boston the premier city for working women.”

An optimistic Menino returns to the public stage Wednesday, January 30, 2013
An Evening with Jim Gaffigan

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There are no toys here. These are real robots.
Men's fencing dominates

MIT takes second place, Akron comes in first

By Phil Hess  DAILY TEC]

Competing for the first time since early De-

cember, the MIT Rifle team hosted its annual Bean-
pot competition at the MIT Shooting Center on Friday

and Saturday. Shooting against a seven-team field that included No. 7 Akron, the Engineers wound up second overall with an overall score of 4,388, which impressed

Elizabeth A. Phillips '13 con-

continued her strong season for MIT, tying for the top score in the air

rifle competition with a total of 576. Victoria Brown and Crystal

Reynolds of Akron also posted 576's for the Zips. MIT's team to-

tal of 2,232 was third among the competing teams, trailing Akron

(2,952) and Penn State (2,247).

Sarah N. Wright '16 and Da-

vid D' Acquisto '16 each posted a season best score in air rifle for

MIT, firing a 563 and 529 respectively. Kairyng Liao '14 fired off 14

for the Engineers, with Timothy Jenks '13 turning in a 540 to round out the

scoring for MIT.

Two other Engineers had

season-high air rifle scores for MIT. Eric S. Chung '14 turned in a 554, while Abra H. then posted a 538.

In the small bore competi-

tion MIT turned in a 2,175 to

claim second to Akron's 2,264. Phillips and Wright were again the
top two shooters for the En-

gineers, with Phillips posting a 563, tying for fifth overall, and

Wright a 543. Alan Agnew and

John Happ from Akron shared high score honors with 571. Jenks and D' Acquisto tied for the third best score for

the Engineers with a 535, with Liao adding a 527. Emway Hua '16 es-
tablished a new career best for

MIT with her score of 475.

by Nicholas Sledeski '16

a record of 38-7 on the day while

(18-9). The épée team racked up a total of 4,301.

4,388 and Coast Guard fourth

was first with 4,556 points, with

a seven-team field that includ-

ed Dartmouth (8-1) and Boston

College swept all six of his

opponents as classmate Giulio

James R. Clark '14 posted two

exams as Al-

drew against Tufts while Chris J.

Perera '13 defeated his foe from

the last six bouts of the season

in his three appearances.

John Hupp from Akron shared

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