MIT’s Oldest and Largest Newspaper

By Jessica J. Pourian
ARTICLE FEATURES

Anderson’s cause of death still unknown
Medical examiner says tests are pending; no clear time frame given

By Anne Cai and Ethan A. Solomon
ARTICLE FEATURES

MITx targeted in Newsletter
Latest faculty Newsletter theme is online initiative

By Bruno B. Faviero—the tech
ARTICLE FEATURES

Front doors to the Institute, old, cold, and controlled

By John M. Connolly
ARTICLE FEATURES

IN SHORT

Presidential search update: James A. Changep 91 has been asked to chair the search committee to select a new MIT president. Corporation Chairman John S. Reed 81 said the committee hopes to start meeting on March 5. Changep chaired the committee that chose Hockfield.

The All-American Rejects are coming! The band will be playing April 27 in Johnson Athletic Center for MIT’s Spring Weekend. Tickets are $15 for MIT students and will go on pre-sale March 28.

The 2012 MIT Excellence Awards are today in Kresge Auditorium. The ceremony will take place 3–5 p.m.


The NIH filed its brief yesterday in opposition to James Sherley’s attempt to once again stop government funding of human embryonic stem cell research; arguments are much the same. The court date is April 23 before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

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

KAWS

The Chorallettes performed their nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste last Saturday evening. Bawdy jokes abounded and toilet paper was thrown around in massive quantities by both the performers and the audience in a packed 26-100 until late into the night.

By Rick D. Heston
ARTICLE FEATURES

WEATHER, p. 2

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

TUE 43° / 30°

Breezy

WEED 39° / 28°

Mostly cloudy

TRU 36° / 28°

Snow and rain

The January/February Faculty Newsletter (FNL) marks the second issue in a row in which MIT’s forces have issued a coordinated response to a major Institute development. Last issue, it was MIT 2030. Now, the faculty have turned their collective eye towards MITx — the online learning initiative set to open to the public next week.

FNL editor in chief Terrel Harris provided no concrete time frame, but suggested The Tech check back in two weeks.

Anderson’s body was approved for burial last week, and his funeral took place this past Saturday in his home state of Minnesota at the Grace Lutheran Church in Belview, MN.

Cambridge and MIT police have deemed that there was no foul play involved in Anderson’s death. The Boston Globe reported on Saturday that the death did not appear suspicious, according to Cara O’Briam, a spokeswoman for the Middlesex District Attorney’s office. In his letter to students on Feb. 20, Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD ’80 urged students to “refrain from speculation” and said that “there is no strong indication that Brian’s death was the result of a crime.”

Anderson, Page 11

Students at MIT have been under repair six times this academic year, according to Manager of Repair and Maintenance Kevin Connolly. In two of the instances, the doors were under repair for two and three weeks, while the other four instances were same-day repairs.

As the doors are about as old as the 73-year-old Rogers Building itself (which contains Lobby 7), parts can often take time to find. In the first instance of long-term repair, Connolly said it took two weeks to get a new motor, while the other time, it took three weeks to get a new step pad. “Parts are not readily available,” said Connolly in an email, adding that additional step pads were also purchased to avoid future delays in repairs.

Repairs were not the only reason for the closure of the doors, however. During the winter intermission, the doors are sometimes closed to save energy. The delay in the closing of the automatic doors often means that warm air leaks outside and Lobby 7 is quickly cooled by the incoming cold air.

The manual doors, on the other hand, close right after a person passes through, so “for reasons of comfort and energy saving we will shut down the automatic doors,” said Connolly. As part of the energy-saving measures, over the past few years, the Institute has also encouraged students to use the many revolving doors across campus, which let out less air than manual doors.

—Bruno B. Faviero

How much does it actually help?
“Life on earth is too important to be left to the experts,” wrote Flowers, who suggested that an unspoken goal of MITx may be to beat for-profit online schools at their own game.

“MIT is in a powerful position to influence industry, governments, and other academic institutions to work together to develop systems that enhance education,” wrote Flowers, who described the digital textbook as “a large database developing digital text and becoming increasingly irrelevant,” long-since eclipsed in page-views by the free Khan Academy.

Allm, while noting that MITx has big potential to change an MIT education, said that not enough time has been spent considering the delay in the closing of the automatic doors often means that warm air leaks outside and Lobby 7 is quickly cooled by the incoming cold air. The manual doors, on the other hand, close right after a person passes through, so “for reasons of comfort and energy saving we will shut down the automatic doors,” said Connolly. As part of the energy-saving measures, over the past few years, the Institute has also encouraged students to use the many revolving doors across campus, which let out less air than manual doors.

—Bruno B. Faviero
As fighting rages, Syria votes on a new Constitution

By Neil MacFarquhar

BEIRUT — As fighting churned on major cities in Sunday, Syria held a referendum on a new constitution, an offset of referendums that critics have dismissed as too little too late and Western leaders called a farce.

The continued attacks by government forces, which killed dozens on Sunday, and of outside observers also raised questions about the legitimacy of the vote.

“We have an election in a state living through a war,” said Afdal Dalali, prominent dissident who has served prison terms for criticizing the lack of democracy in Syria. “Who will participate in this referendum? Who will monitor the results? Who will trust the numbers emerging from this referendum?”

Some polling places appeared utterly deserted, while at others opinion was divided.

If state television broadcast a relentless barrage of public support for the new constitution with an endless number of voters holding up the document for ushering in an era of freedom and democracy. Some of them suggested that votes should take part in the election to show their “steadfastness” in the face of the nearly year-old insurrection, which the government of President Bashar Assad calls a foreign plot to destabilize the country.

In the southern Damascus district of Midaminah, where there was a heavy security presence on the streets and shops were shuttered, no voters appeared until about 1 p.m., and most were municipal workers. Others scoffed.

“The Assad regime is arresting hundreds of our sons and brothers, has killed and injured hundreds, so we don’t care about this constitution,” said Ziad, 25, who gave only his first name out of fear of retribution. “Syrians will write their real constitution after we finish this regime.”

In downtown Damascus, where there were marginally more voters, Hala, a 36-year-old woman from the same Alawite clan as the president and the wife of a soldier, said she was voting for a “new Syria.”

“This new constitution will shift Syria into the ranks of the democratic countries,” she said.

Opposition organizations broad- cast videos that seemed to show demonstrations throughout the country against the vote. Videos posted on YouTube showed tire burnings, a poster saying “We step on the new constitution,” and people chanting “Down with Bashar Al-Assad.”

One spoof ballot was marked by a sheep footprint on the “yes” side, while a video from Aleppo showed a giant trash container labeled REF- ERENDUM and people pointlessly dumping their garbage into it.

The Local Coordination Commit- tees, an antigovernment group said that attacks by government soldiers killed 55 people on Sunday, most of them in the besieged city of Homs. The violence prevented voting, and in several Damascus suburban government thugs were unleashed to stamp out anti-referendum pro- tests, the group said.

The new constitution is the cor- nerstone of Assad’s plan to address the anti-government protests that have convulsed the country since last March.
Thousands join anti-Kremlin protest in Moscow

By Michael Schwartz | THE NEW YORK TIMES

CAUCAS, Venezuela — Declaring victory over what he called a “media dictatorship,” President Rafael Correa of Ecuador said Monday that he would pardon three newspaper workers who were sentenced to three years in prison after being convicted of giving troops the order to shoot into crowds. In so doing, “I affirm that the results of the election have already been determined,” President Correa told a university audience in Quito, the capital.

“Mr. Correa had previously hinted he would pardon the men and the newspaper, El Universal’s, editor, whom he said he would pardon after he assumed the presidency in 2007, agreed, saying “Judge Barbier and the press-freedom groups in Ecuador insist that pressure from other governments and human-rights groups in the Lima Group, the European Union, and the Organization of American States has forced Correa to pardon the grantee.”

DeFelice, co-owner of Paccal’s Maison, a New Orleans bistro restaurant, said a delay so close to the starting menu during the worst of the spill.

“Oil spill delayed until next week

By John Schwartz | THE NEW YORK TIMES

Multibillion dollar trial for BP’s Gulf oil spill delayed until next week

By John Schwartz | THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW ORLEANS — The civil trial over the United States’ biggest oil spill has been delayed for a week as efforts to settle over billions in potential dollar litigation intensify.

A hearing is scheduled to begin Monday, but Sunday afternoon, Judge Carl J. Barbier of Fed- eral District Court, who is overseeing the spilling litigation, issued a brief order that was to open the door day back to March 5 “for reasons of judicial efficiency and to allow the parties to engage in more productive settlement discussions.” In an opinion accompanying the order, Judge Barbier said the court was issuing the order “on its own motion,” as opposed to a re- quest from any party in the case.

Edward F. Sherman, a law pro- fessor at Tulane University who has followed the prior resets, said a delay so close to the starting date suggested a strong possibility of a settlement.

David M. Uhlmann, who led the Justice Department’s environ- mental crimes section from 2007, agreed, saying “Judge Barbier would not have agreed to a delay without a good reason.”

“Name a first time ever that a court looks at the possibility of settlement without first issuing a deadline, this was 100 percent from the judge,” he said.

Barbier’s permit to fire on a hospital full of children would have been listed to the police in September.

Correa said that Correa had previously hinted he would pardon the men and the newspaper, El Universal’s, editor, whom he said he would pardon after he assumed the presidency in 2007, agreed, saying “Judge Barbier and the press-freedom groups in Ecuador insist that pressure from other governments and human-rights groups in the Lima Group, the European Union, and the Organization of American States has forced Correa to pardon the grantee.”

President of Ecuador to pardon or defer to hear a settlement agreement. “We’re we’ve never sought to negotiate anyone or take anyone’s money,” Palacio said. “The only thing we were seeking was to negotiate for our clients’ rights.”

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The police said that they de- tained several protesters for trying to hold another rally near the Kremlin, though no other disturbances were reported.

Yahoo warns Facebook over potential patent infringement

Yahoo is seeking to force Facebook into licensing 30 to 300 patents over technologies that include advertising, the personaliza- tion of websites, social networking and messaging, people briefed on the matter said.

The two companies met Monday to discuss the issue, with Ya- hoo telling Facebook that it would take other legal actions, ac- cording to these people, who were not authorized to speak publicly.

Yahoo has told Facebook to pay licensing fees or risk a legal lawsuit.

“Yahoo has a responsibility to its shareholders, employees and other stakeholders to protect its intellectual property,” a Yahoo spokesman said in a statement. “We must insist that Facebook ei- ther enter into a licensing agreement or we will be compelled to move forward with legal action.”

Barry Schmit, a spokesman for Facebook, said in a statement, “We hope that Yahoo will sit down with us and work out a fair and effective agreement with us.”

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Facebook’s sole concern. Both groups appear worried about a backlash from the public if the bill should pass.

The bigger question is whether they can muster enough votes to override the president’s veto.”

The Senate, which is controlled by Republican lawmakers, seem especially unlikely to be facing a repeal vote, as those who maintain that cutting spending should be the Legisla- tive branch’s role, and who are opposed to the provision from their constituents.

It is not clear if it will actually be the case.”

Though dissatisfaction with Prime Minister Vladimir Putin’s rule.

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

As gay marriage gains, New Hampshire may revoke its law

As same-sex marriage supporters celebrate victories in Wash- ington and Maryland this month, they are keeping a wary eye on New Hampshire, where lawmakers may soon vote to repeal the state’s 2009 law allowing gay and lesbian couples to wed.

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Clarification on La Francophonie

The piece was meant to champion liberty, not insult certain peoples

By Haldun Anil

Two weeks ago, I wrote an article stating my opinion on a new piece of French legislation that was intended to promote the use of the French language. I argued that if the French government, or any other government for that matter, does not have the freedom to choose or restrict the domain of speech and expression, then it is violation of personal freedoms, I would have exactly the same reaction and frame of mind is one of the most important aspects of how we come together for the pursuit of knowledge and personal growth: nothing more, nothing less. At the end of the day, there is only one important half with three, getting to know yourself.

MIT is not just another place. You can be successful without coming to MIT. It is the responsibility of each individual to feel the same way we do about science and engineering that bringing us here. If you have the desire to love the place, in order to be happy. If not, then you are acting against your natural desires. MIT is not a place where parental desires matter. At the end of the day, you are only your desire for knowledge that will keep you up at night.

MIT is a playground. You can play around on the monkey bars and have fun, or consider it exercise and be miser-

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The Tech

GUEST COLUMN

Getting better by leaving the institute

Student Support Services failed to solve my problems—had to deal with them myself

By Shin Nee Wong

I am no longer an undergraduate at MIT. I transferred from the UA to the Institute a year ago. The decision was a long and difficult one for me, but the result is not something I can be proud of. The reason why I am no longer at MIT is because I transferred to a university back home. I am still working towards my academic credentials. The reason why I am no longer at MIT is probably not unlike what many of you face now at MIT.

The MIT student community is a foreign environment; peers who seem so far from human in their astronomical abilities, family and friends back at home who were so excited for me, and who had high expectations of what I would accomplish. The death of a classmate, the fear of death has not been officially released yet.

During my time as an MIT student in the early 2000s, I was part of the MIT community. The death of about two other students. Both have been ruled as suicide. Regardless of the ruling of this ongoing investigation, the death of yet another student bothers me and everyone who considers themselves a part of the MIT community to reflect on the subtle, or stark, depending on what numbers you use, increase in student deaths on campus.

I did not graduate from MIT. In fact, the reason why I am no longer at MIT is because I transferred to a university back in my hometown. This is not a perfect environment; probably not unlike what many of you face now at MIT.

The S3 committee at MIT, the Academic Committee, is responsible for student life through. And this makes me wonder — students should not wait for help. Do you want them to contact MIT Medi- cal Services? Do you want them to say they have no power. They have an application for readmission. That is not saying that, don’t build S3 to be a place where all problems are solved. It is always, the only way to solve prob- lems is to solve them yourself. Of course, we could always use some support and encouragement, but there is nothing S3 is not the place you can go when you are staying up at 3 a.m. trying to start on the second question of a 10-problem problem set for the 9 a.m. that same day. You have to make at least a few telephone calls or to the open appointment at 5 a.m. and at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. when what you think is the last gas station has no gas, you might give up completely.

In the past, if students sought support from S3, they might not have found what they were looking for, and sometimes, when what you think is the last gas station has no gas, you might give up completely. Of course, our students have 50 additional hours one evening a week (Tuesday); these hours are open to students facing personal dif- ficulties. What we offer to our community. Over this academic year, the deans in Student Support Services (S3) have made great strides in improving the website. The most concrete thing I got out of what I have gone through is an application for readmission. That is not to say they have no power. They have an open appointment within 5 a.m. and 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. when what you think is the last gas station has no gas. You might give up completely.

My proposal is that the UA Council (the Council) is technically not legislative be- cause it meets only when it feels it is necessary. If the Council members can focus their time and effort on personal and academic concerns, the problem of student life may not satisfy the needs of every student. People have unique and personal needs. If we cannot meet everyone's needs, then we should not have regular meetings; rather, the Council should meet only when some fraction of its body wants to hold a meet- ing. In the end, it is important that each individual find the university and the discipline of study that allows him or her to flourish and accomplish his or her dreams. Modern student affairs is a necessity — petitions, excuse notes, withdrawals, students. Certainly, we accomplish ad- vising students, providing advice and guidance on personal and academic concerns, and advising students. Of course, the problem of student life makes talking about the S3 an easy place to ask for help. S3 is a critical, low-barrier, easy access point for undergraduates. Doing things is part of the MIT community to reflect on the subtle, or stark, depending on what numbers you use, increase in student deaths on campus.

The UA Senate was popularly perceived as being inefficient, ineffective, and just not doing all that much. This, in fact, pro- vided much of the impetus for the struc- turing that led to the creation of the UA Council. The Senate was not (and is not) a perfect resource. Wherever I turned, administrators, professors, and even acquaintances would say, “If you have a problem, talk to S3.” It was a full semester-long (or more) af- fair. Long story short; I did not find S3 to be helpful. The deans there are overworked, unfair. Long story short; I did not find S3 to be helpful. The deans there are overworked, unfair. Long story short; I did not find S3 to be helpful. The deans there are overworked, unfair. Long story short; I did not find S3 to be helpful. The deans there are overworked, unfair. Long story short; I did not find S3 to be helpful. The deans there are overworked, unfair. Long story short; I did not find S3 to be helpful. The deans there are overworked, unfair.
The UA must shift away from everyday affairs
Council members need to commit to the long-term goals for student life

The UA vision, from Page 5

of the UA address I’ve seen the last three years I’ve been here. A shift must take place, instead of focusing on everyday needs of students and failing to succeed because students don’t need anything, the UA should shift to a long-term model in addition to advocating for any student needs that do come up. Right now, the UA should undertake an intercommittee initiative to develop its own version of the MIT 2030 plan, one which addresses the needs of students. It should actively seek to support and shape the MIT’s initiative. This, of course, would also require that the branches of the UA shift their roles. The UA Council should become a consultancy for the executive and for the MIT administration, further reinforcing its nonperiodic meeting structure. The UA President (UAP) should primarily be interested in searching out ways to benefit MIT undergraduates in the long-term in addition to using student input to shape initiatives created by the administration.

And, when appropriate, the UAP should create his own initiatives that would benefit students, leaning strongly on the UA Council for advice. The UAPV role should be more than one of gathering data from the committees and assessing committee chairs’ performances. Instead, the UAPV should be an active head of internal affairs, encouraging intercommittee cooperation on important projects in line with the UA’s long-term vision. The students’ MIT 2030, for example, would be something that the UAPV would work closely on.

The UA should shift to a long-term model in addition to advocating for any student needs that do come up.

Thus, MIT students have an important role in the next UA presidential election. We cannot elect again a president and vice president who do not have a long-term vision for the UA. Just claiming that they will “do things” and listing off the usual laundry list of increasing student engagement, improving student-faculty relations, and a few small initiatives will not cut it. If the UA would like to stop being seen as a failure, it needs to move to a model where the UA Council meets irregularly and serves as a consultancy for the administration and for UA Exec. The UA Exec needs to focus on long-term goals instead of short-term trivialities. Overall, the UA needs to accept that all of students’ needs are being satisfied by the committees; they do not need a government to do anything else for them in the short-term. Rather, they need a government that will have a vision and look out for them and future generations in the long-term.

GUEST COLUMN

Affirmative action: the perspective from admissions
Every student admitted deserves to be at MIT

By Stu Schmill ’86

In response to the recent discussions taking place in these pages, where a lot has been said about the admissions process, I want to take this opportunity to add to the conversation with a few comments.

First, I want to make clear that every student we admit we have chosen to join our community for their academic excellence and personal match with MIT’s mission. We have an extraordinary applicant pool, and have the luxury of being able to admit the best students from all backgrounds, with diverse interests and talents. Every student we admit deserves to be here, and was selected to create a student body that is uniformly excellent and that best serves MIT’s mission to educate leaders for the future.

Second, we consider many factors in our admissions process such as socioeconomic background, geography, personal interests, specific academic talents, and non-academic skills, as well as gender, race, and ethnicity. We do this because it is important for us to consider a student’s background when we are assessing their potential: we have to consider a student’s resources, opportunities, and context to understand what their potential might be. Indeed, we are not trying to assemble the best freshman class, but the best graduating class. And we see it all the time: students who grow up with the talent, but not the resources, excel once they get here to MIT. Furthermore, a diverse class serves the interests of all of our students. Every student’s education is enhanced in a diverse community.

Third, to offer a fuller description of what we do and why, I’d like to point you to our website, where we have not been shy about hosting these very discussions in an open way. These links are of particular interest:

• http://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/diversity-stories
• http://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/which-box-should-i-check
• http://mitadmissions.org/blogs/entry/in-praise-of-holistic-admissions

MIT is indeed a special place, and it is so because of the people that make up our community.

Stu Schmill ’86 is the Dean of Admissions

Want to draw graphics that engage, provoke, and speak to the MIT community?

The Tech is looking for editorial cartoonists.

join@tech.mit.edu
Exercising your core muscles can improve your posture and prevent injury.

Poor sitting posture is almost epidemic at MIT.

If you’ve just noticed you have a core imbalance, you’re not alone. According to physical therapist Lisanne Trenouth of the SPTA, poor sitting posture is almost epidemic at MIT. From our long hours hunched over p-sets and lab reports. Last spring, I was one of dozens of MIT affiliates who Trenouth and her colleagues treated for back pain at their Kendall Square facility every day.

The good news is that developing a balanced body is relatively easy. Build core strength and balance, and you improve overall posture and protection from injury.

Preventing athletic injury

Sports-related imbalances

Because your core participates in almost every motion you make, imbalances can quickly develop in athletes, especially in sports where you swing, throw, or make any repeated motion favoring one side of your body.

When I was a freshman on the Varsity Volleyball team, I remember developing the most miserable lower-back pain during preseason. It was the kind of tightness that sat right on my left hip bone in an awkward spot that was impossible to stretch. Luckily, Lisa Murray, one of MIT’s athletic trainers, spotted it and realized the pain was caused by a wrenching motion I made with my stomach when I would swing at the ball. With a personalized core stretching and strengthening routine, the problem melted away in just a few days.

Weight-training injuries

Because weight training requires perfect form to be executed safely, having a strong core to hold your body properly while lifting is essential. Even experienced lifters frequently contort their backs when trying to move up in the amount of weight they are lifting, which can lead to worse postural imbalances and even devastating injury.

For example, you start with a weighted barbell on the ground. You squat down and, in one motion, drive the entire thing up and over your head.

I once saw a kid nearly take himself out attempting this move. Lifting without a trainer or friend to guide him, he managed to jerk the 280-pound barbell off his head, but—in a moment where it literally seemed like time froze—he had a small twitch in his tummy and the sudden bulge of his eyes — the bar was hanging over his neck like a guillotine. Somehow, he managed to throw himself forward a split second before the weight came crashing down. I’ll never forget his petrified face as he lied on his back, just inches from where the bar landed. As the owner of the gym came tearing over swearing at the kid for his poor life-choice, I remember my trainer Mike shaking his head with shocked eyes, saying, “What was he thinking? You’re never going to pull that off with a weak core.”

Lagoram muscles

Spring break is coming. ’Nuff said! Now that you’re eating to build a stronger core, stay posted for Thursday’s Tech, where you’ll find some 5-8 minute core circuits you can do at home every day!

Disclaimer: I may be a premed, but I’m not a doctor yet! The core of this article (ha-hah!) is based on things I’ve learned from the MIT Women’s Lacrosse coaches, strength trainers, athletic trainers, and physical therapists. You should always check with a doctor before starting a new fitness regimen, and consult an athletic trainer if you’re unsure about how to exercise safely. Be healthy, train healthy!
An MIT student in Jeopardy!

An interview with 2012 Jeopardy! College Championship Quarterfinalist Marie C. McGraw

By Kali Xu

For $1200: A computer message that something’s wrong; a classic one in DOS said, “short, very, fail.”

What a piece of cake for a typical MIT student. Marie C. McGraw ’12 cinched this “epic fail word” Jeopardy! clue with the answer “error” on the Feb. 6 episode of the 2012 Jeopardy! College Championship.

Marie was one of 15 selected out of 10,000 applicants to compete in the college championship after testing and auditioning in June. In early January, she traveled to Los Angeles for the two-day taping of the championship series and won second place in her quintessential round.

Marie is majoring in Course 2-OE, Mechanical and Ocean Engineering, and will be headed to grad school next year to study marine robotics.

T1: Is this something you’ve been preparing for a long time?

McGraw: No, I kind of just decided to do it on a whim because I saw how the first step was super easy. The online test was real quick and painless. In high school I did Academic Challenge, which is similar to Quiz Bowl, and it’s actually on TV. Our team won our first match and then got invited to the final and got second.

T2: How did you prepare after you found out you’d be on the show?

McGraw: I didn’t really study after they called me to be on the show, because they called me at the beginning of December, so I had finals, I was in 2.009 — I was working a lot. I went on a trip with a friend right before the show, so I really didn’t study very much. I don’t think you can though. … I play a lot of Sporcle.

Jeopardy!, Page 10


Institute Double Take

This photo is of the colorful MIT sail boats in front of Boston’s Back Bay. It is an HDR (high dynamic range) photo, meaning that it is a composite image of three different exposures that have been superimposed on one another. HDR was used to bring out the details in the shadows during the sunset. A small aperture was used to have both foreground and background in focus.

Aperture: 1/10 at f/11; Sensitivity: ISO 100; Effective focal length: 20mm


Dertouzos Lecture Series

Electrical Engineering and the World of Entertainment

Abstract: Not sure what do with your degree after graduation? MIT alumna Andrea Wong will present a CSAIL Dertouzos Distinguished Lecture and discussion on the importance of fulfilling your passion through your professional pursuits, relaying her experience as an EECS graduate who made her way up the entertainment industry ladder to become President and CEO of Lifetime Networks and new head of Sony’s International Business. Learn about the challenges of working in the entertainment industry, how Wong’s experience at MIT helped prepare her for success, and how MIT students today can have a big impact in the entertainment field. Wong will also discuss her views on how the entertainment industry needs to adapt to an increasingly digital world. After describing her own professional experiences, Wong will open up the floor to discussion, and hold an in-depth question and answer session with attendees.

Biography: Andrea Wong is the president of international production for Sony Pictures Television and the president of international for Sony Pictures Entertainment. In her SPT position, Wong will head the studio’s international television production business, overseeing the creative teams outside the U.S. She serves on the board of Liberty Media Corporation and the Visiting Committee of the MIT Media Lab and she is a Henry Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute.

For more information: www.csail.mit.edu 617.253.0145
The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at MIT presents

Of Heat-Seeking, Robotic Fishing Poles (or, Myths of Technology for International Development)

by Kentaro Toyama
U.C. Berkeley, and Co-Founder, Microsoft Research India

Can mobile phones be used to improve rural healthcare?
How do you design user interfaces for an illiterate migrant worker?
What value is video technology to a farmer earning $1 a day?

Interventionist projects in “information and communication technology for development” (ICT4D) seek to answer these kinds of questions, but the excitement has also generated excessive hype about the power of technology to solve the deep problems of poverty. In this talk, I will

(1) present several persistent myths of ICT4D,

(2) offer a theory of "technology as amplifier" which explains the gap between rhetoric and reality, and

(3) provide recommendations for engineers and scientists interested in contributing to a better world. My hope is to suggest that while technology might not save the world, technologists have much to contribute.

March 1st, 2012
7:00pm - 8:00pm, Room 35-225

Kentaro Toyama is a researcher in the School of Information at the University of California, Berkeley. He is working on a book that argues that the intrinsic growth of people and institutions should be the primary focus of global development. Previously, Toyama co-founded Microsoft Research India, where he started an interdisciplinary research group to understand how electronic technology could support the socio-economic development of the world's impoverished communities. The group's projects -- including Digital Green, MultiPoint, and Text-Free UI -- have been seminal in ICT4D research, even as Toyama has gone on to be a vocal critic of techno-utopian hype in development.

RSVP via Facebook to reserve your spot. Visit technologyandchange.org for links and more information, or email info@technologyandchange.org
McGraw on Jeopardy!
MIT senior competes on national television

Jeopardy, from Page B

TF: Do you have a favorite TV show?
McGraw: I watch more TV than I would care to admit. I guess probably Arrested Development is my all-time favorite TV show, and I watch a lot of cartoons like The Simpsons and Futurama. I never watched TV until I came to MIT.

TF: How was the experience of being on the Jeopardy! show?

There’s a lot of waiting because you can’t know, since it’s a wildcard thing, what happened in the previous rounds because that could affect your wagering. So you just wait and they call you in three at a time about every hour or so. And I went towards the end.

Once you’re gone, you can watch, so I got to watch all of the semifinals and the finals, which was fun. It’s a lot more fun when you’re in the audience and watching. They always say it’s really easy — it is super easy to play along at home, and you think, “how could they forget up there?”

And that’s not a thing that’s really helpful in science and engineering, so there’s a lot of poly sci and history majors.

TF: Did you have a favorite category or question?
McGraw: So I didn’t actually watch when it aired — I couldn’t watch, and I don’t remember... but there was a category that was “epic fail words,” and I was trying to take that entire category, because I wanted MIT to be proud of me, because I thought it was a very “MIT” category. So I did like that category. The “Asian literature” category was hard, and also we were all really close if I remember correctly, so we were all too afraid of making mistakes. I think there were three or four questions in that category that we just didn’t answer.

And now I will never ever forget the Mason-Dixon Line [from the Final Jeopardy! round]. My brother is a political science major at Ohio State, and as soon as they asked, I knew I didn’t know it, and I was like, my brother would know this. And he’s going to see this and yell at me like, how did you get that wrong? I knew that Lewis and Clark was wrong, but you look really dumb if you don’t write anything.

TF: Is there anything else interesting about being on the show that you want to share?
McGraw: Alex Trebek is a big fan of home improvement. He drives a pickup truck, he knows how to weld, his favorite power tool is a bench-top grinder. That’s what I was asking him about when they show everyone talking to him in a circle at the end when they roll the credits.

McGraw: Yeah, everyone stays in the hotel, and the hotel is about an hour away from the studio, so there’s a long bus ride there and you’re all in the same room waiting. And then you sit together in the audience separate from everyone else after your episode is done.

Everyone was pretty nice, and really smart obviously. There were not that many science and engineering people, but I think a lot of people who are good at trivia are really good at memorizing facts and stuff. And that’s not a thing that’s really helpful in science and engineering, so there’s a lot of poly sci and history majors.

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The passing of Anderson is the third undergraduate death this academic year. Nicolas E. Del Castillo ’14 was found dead in his dorm room in August, and Satto Tonegawa ’15 in October. Both deaths were ruled suicides.

Anderson, 21, was from Redwood Falls, Minnesota and a Course 15 (Management) major. He was on the MIT Wrestling team and a member of the recently disbanded Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Students who feel affected by Anderson’s death should seek out Student Support Services in room 5-104 or call MIT Medical at 617-253-2916.
Faculty want focus on MITx initiative
Insist that the on-campus student experience is still very important

What students who come to the Institute will actually do on campus.

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 might ultimately jeopardize the viability of our current residential education experience has received insufficient attention, in my view, he wrote.

The editorial board said that more attention should be paid to MITx and its possible impact.

Allen drew on his personal experience doing freshman advising through a weekly blacksmithing seminar, saying that close faculty-student interactions like those should be enhanced and more common if MITx puts other types of learning online.

In a more general way than Allen’s column, the newsletter’s editorial board said that more attention should be paid to MITx and its possible impact. “The Provost’s MITx announcement stimulated a little buzz in the halls, but not nearly enough, he said. “We could well be at an educational tipping point, where during the next 10 years MIT will change more than it has in the past 100.”

Putting forth a vision for a high-quality, globally-accessible education — “[Imagine it’s 2030] … you learn physics and computer science from MIT; philosophy and Sanskrit from Harvard; Art history from Yale” — the board called on faculty to help steer the MITx initiative:

“The Provost has lit a match. It is up to all of us to catch fire, to participate, to innovate, to promote, to argue, and to help MIT manage its way through a time that will be partly exciting, partly scary, but certainly defining.”

On the heels of the Institute Diversity Summit in late January — and perhaps pressing the ongoing campus debate over affirmative action — the newsletter also published statistics on MIT’s hiring and enrollment of underrepresented minorities and women.

Over 25 percent of undergraduates are underrepresented minorities, but numbers for faculty (about seven percent) and graduate students (about 12 percent) lagged behind. As recently as 2006, only 20 percent of undergraduates were underrepresented minorities.

Undergraduate enrollment of women has held steady at about 45 percent over the past several years, but faculty and graduate student rates have continued to climb, reaching about 22 percent and 32 percent in 2012, respectively.

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One year later, Nokia and Microsoft’s software partnership surpasses industry expectations

By Kevin J. O’Brien

BARCELONA, Spain — One year after the Finnish company and the United States’ top software maker announced that they would team up to try to compete with Apple’s iPhone and Google’s Android, Nokia’s new software is upending the cellphone industry’s most important trade show, to explain the Finnish company’s new software alliance with Microsoft.

It was only a few days after the agreement had been announced in London. But the need for the deal had been so urgent that Nokia and Microsoft, grasping for a foothold in a mobile computing industry that was quickly slipping away from them, had gone public with-out a definitive legal agreement, just a handshake and a promise to work together somehow.

“I am standing on that stage and saying that I would deliver one device by the end of the year,” Harlow said during an interview last week. And she said she thought to herself: “Now I really have to do it.”

One year later, Nokia and Microsoft have exceeded their own predictions, and by most estimates, the expectations of many in the industry now dominated by Apple, the smartphone market leader, the most ubiquitous phone system, the most high-profile mobile computing company, the smartphone operating system that was quickly slipping away from them, had gone public with-out a definitive legal agreement, just a handshake and a promise to work together somehow.

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The wider price range introduced on Monday with the new phones and the expanded geographic footprint provided by the new online marketplace will increase the potential market for Windows phones, he said. More than 90 percent globally, said Terry Myerson, a vice president of Microsoft’s Windows phone unit. That market has so far been limited primarily to the United States, Japan and Western Europe.

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**Saturday Stumper** by Brad Wilber

Solution, page 12

**ACROSS**
1. Sea snails
2. Plus
3. Traditional Navajo dwellings
4. Originally, the greatest extent of the Ottoman Empire
5. One in a fighting chair
6. Coffee kila
7. Unqualified
8. Europe’s largest port
9. Memorable press-conference rhymer
10. Pre-Socratic philosopher
11. Across had a healthy one
12. Is busy
13. “Say it ain’t so!”
15. One living near Mount Cleveland
16. Consequence of a revolution south of the border?
17. Wind sounds
18. Bee predators
19. They’re riped on some calendars
20. Do-it-yourselfer’s nightmare
21. Homer’s “loveliest of all immortals”
22. Nix
23. Moaned words
24. Aladdin monkey
25. Paint holder
26. Session-starting student seatwork
27. Manager (cruise-ship executive)
28. “fortress” nonfiction book
29. Buzz
30. Two-fisted
31. Paint holder
32. Session-starting student seatwork
33. 26 Indian music
34. Frequent whodunit suspects
35. Poison ivy’s family
36. Poison ivy’s family
37. Frequent whodunit suspects
38. 26 Indian music
39. Frequent whodunit suspects
40. Poison ivy’s family
41. Poet
42. 26 Indian music
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**DOWN**
1. Post-mugging witness statement?
2. Miss Universe 2011, e.g.
3. Miss Universe 2011, e.g.
4. Miss Universe 2011, e.g.
5. Patient of an internist
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7. Miss Universe 2011, e.g.
8. Ready for big news, maybe
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Men's basketball wins NEWMAC championships

Third title victory in four years; team to head to NCAA Division III championship

By Shri Ganeshram
SPORTS

The MIT's Men's Basketball team had reason to celebrate last weekend, winning two games to earn the title of NEWMAC champions.

The Engineers were a dominant force in their semi-finals match against the Babson Beavers. The Beavers were held to 36 percent from the field, with only 7 percent shooting from beyond the arc — MIT's defense was tough.

MIT consistently played better than Babson throughout the game, keeping a lead from the beginning. The team looked solid, maintaining a tight defense and a team-oriented offense which was centered on passing. Half of the teams field goals were made from assists, and the team maintained a high 55.3 field goal percentage.

Mitchell H. Kates '13 led the team in scoring with 19 points. Solid performances were seen by many on MIT's team: William Tashman '13 scored 16 points with four assists and six rebounds; Noel Hollingsworth '12 made 16 points, two of two from the field, and a team-oriented offense which was centered on passing. Half of the teams field goals were made from assists, and the team maintained a high 55.3 field goal percentage.

MIT's momentum at the end of the first half was illuminated with smiles on the faces of MIT players and coaches. The game started rough for Springfield, with only 7.7 percent shooting from the field. With only 7.7 percent shooting from the field in the first half — this wasn't the case.

NEWMAC and Springfield's scoring leader Alex Berthiaume, challenged MIT. From 15:43 to 9:31, he cut what was a 12 point lead down to a five point, 51-46 lead for MIT, scoring 11 points on top of an assist. After a layup by Kates at 9:15, Pat Fosssi of Springfield Field College lead his team on offense with six points as they kept MIT from scoring for over 4.5 minutes, taking a 54-53 lead on MIT with five minutes left to play.

The two teams exchanged baskets to see Springfield up 58-57 with 1:42 left. Kates then drove to the basket, maneuvering through the Springfield players, to make a layup and bring MIT ahead 59-58 with only 1:37 left. After a turnover by Springfield, MIT was able to run the clock down to .28, when Hollingsworth was forced to take a difficult jump shot over a tough Springfield defense Upon scoring the goal, MIT's crowd went wild, as the basket provided a three point lead and safety net for MIT, up 61-58. MIT secured their third victory in four years. MIT ended the game with a 65-60 victory and fans stormed the field College lead his team off the court as the buzzer rang. The faces of MIT players and coaches were illuminated with smiles as they secured their second NEWMAC championship in a row and their third victory in four years. MIT, ranked third nationally, has an even bigger prize on their mind this year: the NCAA Division III Men's Basketball championships. MIT's Men's Basketball team hosted the 2012 Mid Atlantic Rifle Conference Championships on Saturday, Feb. 25. The Engineers claimed a victory over the Penn State Nittany Lions with a final score of 2249-2229.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS
Thursday, March 1
Men's Tennis vs. Eastern Nazarene College
6 p.m., J.B. Carr Tennis Bubble

SPORTS SHORT
MIT Rifle is victorious at MAC Championships

This past weekend our rifle team defeated Penn State in the Air Rifle competition of the MAC Championships. The Engineers finished the championships with 2249 points, a resounding 20 points ahead of Penn State. The Engineers' sweet success may have come as a shock to the tough competition at Penn State, but the Engineers were hardly surprised. According to team captain Elizabeth A. Phillips '13, the Engineers' exceptional performance was a testament to the huge work that each member of the team put in over the last few months of the season. The team exhibited its admirable drive and unity as many shooters shot 4–13 points higher than their regular season averages for air rifle. Although the Engineers were disappointed to not qualify as a team for the smallbore side of the competition, they dominated this event individually. In fact, the sum of their individual smallbore scores would have put them ahead of Penn State as well as the Virginia Military Institute to win the division. The Engineers' victory at the MAC Championships was a tremendous result and a great conclusion to the season.

Additionally, this season was an excellent start to first year coach Melissa Mulloy-Mecozzi's very promising career here at MIT. The rifle team will be losing some key senior talent this year, but they are very excited to build on this year's success in the upcoming season.

—Garidon Glover '14

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(aka, your new 3 a.m. pset support group)

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Want to know what’s going on between issues of The Tech?
Find out what’s beating MIT 25–1 this season.

The game started rough for the Engineers, within the first five minutes Springfield managed a 10-3 lead, during which MIT was one of six behind the arc, one of seven from the field. MIT was quick to respond with two baskets from Hollingsworth, a free throw from Tashman, and a 3 and from Kates found the team in striking distance. Kates then hit up on the field, bringing the team within one, with 11 straight points, down 22-23. Bender, whom MIT fans have nicknamed “Sneaky,” managed to earn the team three steals in less than 15 minutes, and, with a free throw, on a drive off a steal, he tied up the game 23-23 with 4:23 left. His second free throw bounced off of the basket into the hands of freshman Andrew M. Acker, who brought the ball back up for a layup which gained the crowd’s approval and was the start of MIT’s drive for the lead in the first half.

With two minutes left in the first half, MIT found itself ahead 29-25; freshman Dennis R. Levtene, who had found himself with three fouls in his first minute of play, sent a pass to Bender for a 3. Daniel K. McCabe ‘12 finished the half with an offensive rebound followed by a jump shot and a 3-point field goal to end the half with a 10 point lead, 37-27; sending the crowd into an “M-I-T” chant.

MIT’s momentum at the end of the first half managed to roll into the second half but was short lived. The Engineers kept Springfield from scoring for nearly the first three minutes of the half, up by as much as 14 during the start of the half, making it appear as if MIT would coast for the rest of the half — this wasn’t the case.

New England Military Academy (NEWMAC) championship game lead his team to head to NCAA Division III championship

William Tashman ’13 scores in the Men's Basketball NEWMAC semifinal game against Babson College on Saturday. The Engineers maintained an early lead to defeat Babson 65-42.