Raustein Death A Terrible Loss

The MIT International Student Association (ISA) has expressed profound shock and anguish at the loss of one of its fellow students, Yngve K. Raustein. 

He was an important member of our community and will be missed by all. We, as international students, are deeply concerned about this tragedy, and we send our heartfelt sympathies to the parents of Yngve.

We plan to send a letter of sympathy, signed by many members of the MIT community, to the family and friends of Yngve. Everyone is welcome to add to the letter by signing the sheets placed in dorms and other locations on campus.

Also, to express our remembrance and disgust at the despicable act, we plan to attend the trials of the suspects. Anyone who is interested in joining us is welcome to contact us.

On behalf of The Executive Committee of the International Students Association

Redefine Campus Police Commitments

For the past four years, I have been saying I lived on the MIT campus and listing my street address as Memorial Drive. I'm sure many of you, whether for the past few weeks or the past few years, can say the same.

Imagine my surprise yesterday when I read in The Tech that parts of Memorial Drive and Massachusetts Avenue within a two minute walk of Lobby 7 are considered to be off campus. "MIT Woman Assaulted On Fringe of Campus," Sept. 22.

In this understanding, the two violent crimes committed against MIT students over the past weekend were considered similar because both took place on what Campus Police Chief Anne Glavin considers MIT's doorstep, areas technically not under MIT police jurisdiction.

While I commend the MIT Police for their successful efforts in apprehending those responsible for the crimes, I cannot accept the map of our campus as it has been re-drawn in my mind this week.

How is it possible that these places are not considered part of our campus? Memorial Drive is the street address for a huge portion of our campus, for those places where we eat, sleep, and learn, for the buildings of our call home for one or many years of our lives. And about Alhambra Street and Massachusetts Avenue? Do we not have a brand new graduate dormitory known as Edgerton Hall located on Alhambra Street? A parking lot located known as Alhambra Lot? Two dorms and three IGLs located on Massachusetts Avenue?

I think it is time to redefine the boundaries and jurisdictions of the campus before the criminals of society redefine them for us.

Susan E. Margolis '92

MIT Must Not Hide Campus Crime

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Committe
e has failed. We are responsible for the crimes, I cannot accept the blame. However, next year’s prospective students may not be so lucky.

When prospective students and their parents consider MIT, they should be aware of the dangers associated with MIT. We believe that according to one MIT Campus Police officer, neither the two violent crimes that took place last weekend will be listed in next year’s pamphlet of Summer and on students MIT, the most widely disseminated document listing crime activity on campus. This is silly because the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 doesn’t require it. But the murder and the assault were on streets that are technically off campus.

I am asking that the Institute make widely available to all students and their parents statistics which more accurately reflect the dangers that affect us. These include those crimes that take place on the fringes of campus and those crimes that take place on our campus as they travel from the Institute to the living quarters, especially off campus.

We have the collective responsibility for our safety. Our. The responsibility is pointed out.

The Institute may not be responsible for the events that meanful statistics be made available.

Joseph M. Miller '95

Self-Defense Is Not The Answer To Violence

I believe the murder of Yngve K. Raustein has affected everyone in our community in very personal, unique ways. I personally watched the ambulances and police converge on Memorial Drive from my room and was transported to the hospital with seventeen acts of violence. Later, when I found that the victim had been an MIT student and a fellow Baker resident, I was stunned.

It is natural to read this way, but I was frightened to see a letter in The Tech that amounted to a call to arms. "Terror On Campus," Sept. 22. So far, this is a defensive letter is used to help the spirit, but it should be said only as an absolute last resort when avoidance, cooperation, escape, and persuasion have failed.

An attacker is not rational. He is angry and malicious, and will only increase the violence of an attack. I hold a red bell in Tae Kwon Do and have also learned basic knife, sword, and stick techniques, yet I have no reason to believe that an attacker will not be more skillful, stronger, angrier, or luckier than me. The only thing that makes me feel better is that my campus merely increase the violence of a given situation beyond our control. A weapon is generally more dangerous to its wielder than to the target, unless the user is highly skilled in its use, and even then it can always be turned against you.

To say that Yngve Raustein would have saved himself if he had been trained and armed is insulting. Against a surprise attack with a knife by a group of packs, he did nothing wrong. His death was a tragedy, but let us not cause more tragedies by aiming one way into a false sense of security and strength.

Andrea Kim '95

Bridge Club Postering Disrespectful

When walking through Lobby 16 today, I was listening to music while putting up posters. I informed them that Lobby 16 is a memorial, and it is against the rules to post disrespectfully in place posters. They stopped postering until I left, but, when I returned to Lobby it was few minutes later, several posters were taped to the memorial. I find it unbelievable that students would place posters on a memorial after being told it is against the rules and inappropriate, especially on the eve of a vigil for a cloud MIT student. I am writing this letter to remind the MIT community that Lobby 10 is a memorial so we will exercise more sensitivity than the Bridge Club members.

Ellen Speros G

OPINION POLICY

Editorials, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, associate editors and opinion editors.

Letters, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed member(s) of The Tech editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columnists and editorial cartoonists are writers and individuals representing the voice of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to The Tech. Letters must be no more than 350 words. Letters should be submitted by e-mail to or by interdepartmental mail to Room 220-B. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to letters@mit.edu.

Letters and cartoons must have the author’s signature, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letters or cartoons will be printed anonymity. Without the express prior approval of The Tech, The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

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Postmaster: Auburn, Mass. Non Profit Org. Permit No. 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays on Albany Street? A parking lot known as Edgerton Hall located on the MIT campus, for those places where we eat, sleep, and learn, for the buildings of our call home for four or more years of our lives. And about Alhambra Street and Massachusetts Avenue? Do we not have a brand new graduate dormitory known as Edgerton Hall located on Alhambra Street? A parking lot located known as Alhambra Lot? Two dorms and three IGLs located on Massachusetts Avenue?

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