

Congratulations, Class of 2005!

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Cloudiness, fog, 77°F (25°C)
Tonight: Partly cloudy, 55°F (13°C)
Tomorrow: Cloudy, rain, 75°F (24°C)
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Volume 125, Number 27

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, June 3, 2005

Hockfield to Address Graduates

Qualcomm CEO
Irwin Jacobs Is
Planned Speaker

By Jenny Zhang
NEWS EDITOR

Today, barring rain, over 2,000 MIT graduates will gather on Kilian court to receive their hard-earned degrees at the 139th Commencement. The graduates will receive a total of 256 Doctoral Degrees, 12 Engineer's, 1078 Master's, and 1088 Bachelors of Science, according to Registrar Mary Callahan.

Ceremony speakers include guest speaker Qualcomm co-founder Irwin M. Jacobs, Graduate Student Council President Barun Singh, Class of 2005 President Rohit Gupta, and MIT President Susan Hockfield.

Graduates reflect on MIT

Inevitably, some graduates will remain at MIT for another ten years or even for the rest of their lives, while others will not miss their chance to escape.

Michael M. Yang '05, a biology major, intends to remain connected to the MIT community. "I feel that I've just had a really great four years" and "definitely enjoyed every minute." Yang is taking a year off prior to beginning graduate school and said he plans to take some time off to travel. In addition, he has applied to work for the MIT under-



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Institute President Susan Hockfield speaks to the graduating class of doctoral students at the hooding ceremony on Thursday, June 2, in Johnson Athletic Center.

graduate admissions department, because he would like to "give back and contribute to the future classes of MIT," he said.

As is often the case, Gupta and Emilie Kim '05 are ambivalent as

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NASA Plans Leave MIT Labs Unsure

By Beckett W. Sterner
NEWS EDITOR

The mission to Mars has given NASA new momentum, but scientists and engineers at MIT wonder how many of them may be left behind.

"We will give NASA a new focus and vision for future exploration," said President George W. Bush in January, 2004. "We will build new ships to carry man forward into the universe, to gain a new foothold on the moon, and to prepare for new journeys to worlds beyond our own."

But what exactly is "exploration?" Is exploration measured only by the distance humans have traveled from Earth, or does it include how well we understand the space around us?

NASA will not abandon pure science research, of course, but how NASA will balance its competing priorities within an essentially fixed budget remains an open question. The 800-pound gorilla of the budget is the new Crew Exploration Vehicle NASA must build to replace the space shuttles. The CEV will cost billions of dollars, but NASA's bud-

get is not likely to grow to fit, and that means other priorities will likely face a losing battle for their funding.

Changes at NASA mean greater uncertainty for faculty, staff, and students in affected programs at MIT, including astrophysics, planetary science, aeronautics and astronautics. Already, some faculty at MIT have decided not to take on more graduate students without being able to guarantee them four to six years of funding.



RAY HE—THE TECH

The creator of the comic "Piled Higher and Deeper" (PhD), Jorge Cham, signs copies of his new book in Building 32 on Thursday, May 19, following a presentation in 26-100.

FSILG Subsidy Plan Paid \$220K Too Little

By Keith J. Winstein
SENIOR EDITOR

A program to reimburse fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups for losing their freshmen class ran out of money — again.

The program, known as the Financial Transition Plan, was designed to help FSILGs adapt to the 2002 adoption of a rule requiring freshmen to live in MIT dormitories.

Under the program, MIT compensated houses for a fraction of the costs associated with losing a class of dues-paying residents. The funding phased out over three years and ended this past semester.

Larry G. Benedict, the dean for student life, approved the plan in February 2002. The Student Life Programs office fully funded it for its first year, paying out \$752,300 in the '02-'03 school year.

But when it budgeted for the next two years, SLP mistakenly assumed that sophomores would start moving from their dormitories to FSILGs at the same rate as pre-2002 freshmen had been joining FSILGs upon arriving at MIT.

That was too optimistic: only 290 sophomores moved into FSILGs in 2003, compared with a typical pre-2002 rush of 340 freshmen. And so the number of empty beds in FSILGs — a critical part of the plan's formula — grew, from 190 in the first year of the program, to 260 in its second year, to 287 last semester, according to Frank Council, SLP's former coordinator of FSILGs.

Meanwhile, SLP's budget assumed the number of empty beds would stay constant at 190 — not enough to follow the plan as announced. So MIT paid out a total

of \$500,000 last year, instead of the \$628,500 called for by the plan. This year, FSILGs received \$250,000 instead of the \$340,000 called for, according to Council.

By the FSILGs' account, MIT first told them of its inability to pay the program's full obligations in December 2003 — 22 months after Benedict announced the plan's approval.

At that time, the president of the Interfraternity Council, Daniel H. Daneshvar '05, and the president of the Undergraduate Association, Pius A. Uzamere II '04, both said they had not known until that point that MIT would deviate from the announced plan.

But several MIT officials insisted that the FSILGs should have been well aware that the plan was to be subject to the unannounced \$500,000 and \$250,000 caps.

"[R]ight from the beginning for that year ['03-'04] only \$500k was available and yes the IFC, the FTP committee and the chapters to the best of my knowledge knew all about this," Benedict wrote in an e-mail.

But SLP was unable to point to an occasion when the FSILGs had been notified that the plan's outlays would be lowered. (*The Tech's* first mention of the insufficient budget was in March 2004.)

"I feel like that number was out, and I really wish I had paper trails," said David N. Rogers, the assistant dean of FSILGs. "I feel like I've always known."

The inability to meet the plan's obligations enraged some FSILG members. "They buy the fraternity

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Morris Cohen

By Sarah H. Wright
MIT NEWS OFFICE

Morris Cohen, a world-renowned metallurgist and MIT institute professor who received both the National Medal of Science and the Kyoto Prize for Advanced Technology, died May 27 at his home in Swampscott, Mass. He was 93.

Cohen made major contributions to the understanding of the structure of matter and the ways in which materials such as iron and steel can be processed. His work has been central to the development of modern high-strength steels.

"Professor Cohen was one of the giants in the international community of metallurgists during a significant part of the twentieth century. The impact of his work and his leadership was appreciated and admired throughout the world," said Subra Suresh, Ford Professor of Engineering and head of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

"This gracious gentleman transformed the discipline of metallurgy via his intellect, vision and personal effort into modern materials science and engineering. The modern catholic view of materials science and engineering he fostered at MIT continues to influence the materials field worldwide to this day," said Edwin L. Thomas, Morris Cohen Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and director of the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies.

A native of Chelsea, Mass., Cohen became interested in metals as an

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The Tech will be publishing June 10, July 6, and Aug. 3 this summer.



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WORLD & NATION

Video of Serbs in '95 Bosnia Killings Leads to Arrests

By Nicholas Wood
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

Almost 10 years after the execution of more than 7,000 Muslim men and boys by Serbian security forces in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica, a video has surfaced that presents graphic details of their fate. Several people who appear in the video were arrested as a result, the prime minister said Thursday.

The tape, shown first at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague on Wednesday and rebroadcast on Serbian television on Thursday, shows the execution of six Muslim men by members of a Serbian paramilitary police unit.

While the number of those executed represents a tiny proportion of the those killed in July 1995, the film is being seen as evidence that Serbia's police forces, and not just Bosnian Serb forces, took part in the massacre, evidence that challenges the commonly held view among Serbs that the atrocity never happened.

The killings, which took place starting July 11, 1995, in a designated U.N. safe haven overrun by Serbs, are widely acknowledged to be the worst atrocities committed in Europe since World War II.

The killing represented the final push by Bosnian Serb forces to forge an "ethnically pure" state within Bosnia and end the war on their own terms. The atrocities ultimately prompted Western military intervention to end the conflict.

2 Sgts. Charged in Iraq Prison Abuse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Two American soldiers who said that high-ranking officers authorized them to use dogs to intimidate Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib prison were charged Thursday with abuse. They are the latest to face courts-martial in the scandal.

The two, Sgt. Michael J. Smith and Sgt. Santos A. Cardona, were accused of conspiracy, dereliction of duty, assault and maltreating detainees. The government indictment said the two men brought unmuzzled dogs to bark and growl at the prisoners in an effort to make them urinate or defecate on themselves.

The sergeants had told Army investigators in sworn statements after the abuse was made public in January 2004 that they had received permission to use dogs from Col. Thomas M. Pappas, commander of military intelligence at the prison. But military officials ruled in May that he would not be subject to criminal charges.

AOL Seeks to Reinvent Itself With a Free Internet Portal

By Saul Hansell and Geraldine Fabrikant
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Last month, America Online convened a meeting broadcast on the Web to its 14,000 employees. The purpose was to show off the free Internet portal that it is about to introduce at AOL.com, the third attempt in three years to offset AOL's steady loss of subscribers.

Before the unveiling, Richard Parsons, the chief executive of Time Warner, AOL's parent, spoke. "AOL is not for sale," he said, according to two people who were in the audience.

"AOL is not for spin out," he added. "AOL is for keeps."

But a few days later, Parsons was quoted as saying he was, in fact, open to spinning off some AOL shares to the public. Then Barry Diller, an established Internet bargain hunter, said publicly that he had been interested in adding AOL to his holdings last year, but had turned up his nose at hints that the price would be \$20 billion.

Whether or not AOL is about to be cast off, its reversal of fortune is striking. Five years ago, when its merger with Time Warner was announced, AOL alone was valued at \$164 billion. Now, as it sets out to reinvent itself, its place within Time Warner is in question.

Bush Names CA Republican Cox As New SEC Chairman

By Stephen Labaton
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

In Republican and business circles, William H. Donaldson has been viewed as the David Souter of the Securities and Exchange Commission, a disappointingly independent choice who sided too frequently with the Democrats.

President Bush, hearing complaints about Donaldson's record from across the business spectrum, responded on Thursday by nominating Rep. Christopher Cox, a conservative Republican from California, as a replacement whose loyalties seem clear. And unlike the Supreme Court, where Souter has a lifetime appointment, the chairmanship of the SEC provides the White House with an immediate opportunity to tip the balance of the five-person commission in a more favorable direction.

Cox — a devoted student of Ayn Rand, the high priestess of unfettered capitalism — has a long record in the House of promoting the agenda of business interests that are a cornerstone of the Republican Party's political and financial support.

A major recipient of contribu-

tions from business groups, the accounting profession and Silicon Valley, Cox has fought against accounting rules that would give less favorable treatment to corporate mergers and executive stock options. He opposes taxes on dividends and capital gains. And he helped to steer through the House a bill making investor lawsuits more difficult.

That measure, which Congress adopted over President Bill Clinton's veto, was hailed by business groups, which say it has reduced costly and frivolous cases.

It has also been criticized by consumer and investor organizations. They say its adoption in 1995 contributed to an unaccountable climate that fostered the big accounting scandals at companies like Enron and WorldCom a few years later.

Cox's legislative record was cited on Thursday by Bush as a primary qualification for the job.

"As a champion of the free-enterprise system in Congress, Chris Cox knows that a free economy is built on trust," the president said in the Roosevelt Room, as he introduced the third man in his tenure to lead the commission.

Cox, following in the tradition of other nominees to major government jobs, declined through a spokesman to comment about his record or his plans for the agency while awaiting Senate confirmation proceedings.

Appearing aside Bush on Thursday, Cox, 52, praised the commission as "one of the best-run agencies in the federal government."

"During my time as a securities practitioner," he said, "I was consistently impressed by the high caliber of professionals who regulate corporate finance and our markets. It will be an honor, if confirmed, to join this exceptional team."

Cox has both fierce supporters and detractors. But both sides agree that the Securities and Exchange Commission will soon become a very different place if, as expected, he is swiftly confirmed to become the agency's 28th chairman.

Under Donaldson, a Rockefeller Republican whose credentials on Wall Street and corporate America led some to believe he would be a cautious caretaker, the commission responded to a wave of big business scandals through a series of restrictive regulations and tough enforcement cases.

Single Gene Able to Determine Sexual Behavior of Fruit Flies

By Elisabeth Rosenthal
THE NEW YORK TIMES

When the genetically altered fruit fly was released into the observation chamber, it did what these breeders par excellence tend to do: It pursued a waiting virgin female. It gently tapped the girl with its leg, played her a song (using wings as instruments) and, only then, dared to lick her genitalia; all part of standard fruit fly seduction.

The observing scientist looked with disbelief at the show, for the suitor in this case was not a male, but a female that researchers had artificially endowed with a single male-type gene.

That one gene, the researchers are announcing today in the journal Cell, is apparently by itself enough

to create patterns of sexual behavior — a kind of master sexual gene that normally exists in two distinct male and female variants.

In a series of experiments, the researchers found that females given the male variant of the gene acted exactly like males in courtship, madly pursuing other females. Males that were artificially given the female version of the gene became more passive and turned their sexual attention to other males.

"We have shown that a single gene in the fruit fly is sufficient to determine all aspects of the flies' sexual orientation and behavior," said the paper's lead author, Barry Dickson, senior scientist at the Institute of Molecular Biotechnology at

the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna. "It's very surprising.

"What it tells us is that instinctive behaviors can be specified by genetic programs, just like the morphologic development of an organ or a nose."

The results are certain to prove influential in debates about whether genes or environment determine who we are, how we act and, especially, our sexual orientation.

Experts said they were both awed and shocked by the findings. "The results are so clean and compelling, the whole field of the genetic roots of behavior is moved forward tremendously by this work," said Dr. Michael Weiss, chairman of the department of biochemistry at Case Western Reserve University.

WEATHER

A Scorcher — 298 Degrees!

By David Flagg
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Break out the SPF-5k. With partly cloudy skies over Killian Court this afternoon, temperatures will rocket up to nearly 298 K (25°C, 77°F). STP conditions to some, unseasonably warm to others. Those in dark-colored caps and gowns will likely absorb more than their fair share of the incoming solar radiation today. Comfortable dewpoint temperatures and light winds out of the southwest will greet spectators, though winds will likely pick up to around 15 mph (25 km/hr) by the end of the ceremony. Steppin' out this evening? Temperatures in the middle 70s °F (23–24°C) this afternoon will gradually cool to the middle 60s °F (18–19°C) by late evening with partly cloudy skies, abating winds, and no threat of rain. Caps off to the grads!

Weekend Outlook:

Today: Variable cloudiness early with some fog, giving way to partly cloudy skies by afternoon. Light southwesterly winds. High near 77°F (25°C).

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low near 55°F (13°C).

Tomorrow: Increasing clouds with a chance of a shower in the late morning through afternoon. High near 75°F (24°C).

Tomorrow night: Decreasing cloudiness. Low near 56°F (13°C).

Sunday: More sun than clouds, warm. High near 79°F (26°C).

Monday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of afternoon showers and thunderstorms, still mild. High around 74°F (23°C).

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Bombings in Iraq Kill At Least 33 in Attacks in Swathe of Iraq

By Edward Wong
THE NEW YORK TIMES BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Insurgents carried out attacks across a broad swath of central and northern Iraq on Thursday, including a motorcycle suicide bombing and three car bombings, killing at least 33 people and wounding dozens of others.

The strikes were the latest in a series of assaults that began Sunday and that appear to be in response to an ambitious counterinsurgency effort led by the Iraqi government, in which tens of thousands of Iraqi security forces have been assigned to police the streets of Baghdad.

Much of the violence earlier in the week unfolded in western Bagh-

dad, but most of the deadly attacks on Thursday took place outside the capital, as the insurgency, largely led by Sunni Arabs, appeared to be seeking to apply pressure to the Shi-ite and Kurdish-led government on a number of fronts.

The U.S. military said Thursday that three soldiers died Wednesday in separate incidents in northern and western Iraq.

In the capital, officials on a Shi-ite-led committee of the National Assembly that is overseeing the writing of a new constitution met Thursday with frustrated Sunni leaders to discuss how Sunnis might play a bigger role in the drafting process. Since a visit last month by Secretary of State Condoleezza

Rice, Shiite officials have been saying they intend to broaden Sunni participation in the process in hopes of calming the insurgency and drawing more Sunnis into the political system.

The committee is expected to come up with a mechanism by next week, since a first draft of the constitution is scheduled to be completed in mid-August.

In the deadliest single attack on Thursday, insurgents gunned down nine people in a bazaar in Huriya, a northwestern Baghdad neighborhood. The insurgents drove up in three sedans and opened fire at shoppers, an Interior Ministry official said. It was not known why this particular market was attacked.

Journalist Samir Kassir, a Critic Of Syria, Murdered By Car Bomb

By Hassan M. Fattah
THE NEW YORK TIMES BEIRUT, LEBANON

An outspoken journalist and opposition figure who railed against Syria’s presence in Lebanon was killed by a car bomb Thursday. The attack prompted accusations of continued Syrian meddling in the country’s affairs and opposition calls for the ouster of the pro-Syrian president, Emile Lahoud.

The killing, coming just days before the second round of voting in Lebanon’s extended parliamentary elections, was seen as an attack on the brittle stability of the country, which has witnessed an increasingly sectarian contest as parties and leaders jostle for position.

The bombing victim, Samir Kassir, 45, was a respected and influential columnist at the leading Lebanese daily, An Nahar, and a longtime critic of Syria’s presence in Lebanon. A senior security official said that he died instantly when explosives placed under the driver’s seat of his Alfa Romeo were detonated shortly after he got into the car.

Kassir had emphatically blamed Syria for the February assassination of the former prime minister, Rafik Hariri, and had called for the resignations of Lebanon’s pro-Syrian security chiefs, as well as Lahoud. Kassir was also a founding member of the Democratic Left movement, and was widely seen as a major force behind the mass demonstra-

tions that occurred in the wake of the Hariri assassination. He will be buried on Saturday.

In Washington, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice condemned the attack, calling it a “heinous act.” The European Union’s foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, appearing with Rice, called it a “tragedy” and demanded that those responsible be brought to justice.

Lahoud also deplored the bombing and called for an investigation. “This crime should be added to that which the international committee is investigating,” Lahoud said Thursday afternoon, referring to a United Nations-led inquiry of Hariri’s assassination that began work earlier this month.

Gains Made to Contain AIDS, But Its Global Spread Persists

By Lawrence K. Altman
THE NEW YORK TIMES UNITED NATIONS

Although a small but growing number of countries are beginning to contain the spread of the AIDS virus, the epidemic is expanding in all areas of the world, outpacing the response, the U.N. secretary-general, Kofi Annan, said here on Thursday.

“It is clear that the epidemic continues to outrun our efforts to contain it,” Annan said at a special session of the General Assembly to address the disease.

At the session, delegates received a report on the progress that countries have made since 2001, when the U.N. member countries unanimously declared that they should work to halt and begin to reverse the spread of AIDS and HIV and begin to reverse it by 2015.

Dr. Peter Piot, who directs the U.N. AIDS program, said: “The epidemic has yet to display a natural saturation point. In Swaziland, the country most affected by AIDS in the world, adult prevalence continues to climb; 42.6 percent of pregnant women there tested positive for HIV in 2004.”

North Korea Denounces the U.S. And Calls Cheney ‘Bloodthirsty’

By James Brooke
THE NEW YORK TIMES TOKYO

North Korea issued a series of verbal attacks on Thursday through its Korean Central News Agency that ruled out cooperation on retrieving American war dead from its territory, called the American dispatch of Nighthawk stealth fighter jets to South Korea “tantamount to turning a gun” on Korean unity, and then called Vice President Dick Cheney a “bloodthirsty beast.”

The statements offer a small window into the thinking of an isolated nation that has been sparring with the United States over its nuclear arms program. They were made in response to the Bush administration’s decision to send 15 F-117A Nighthawks to South Korea and to withdraw U.S. soldiers who were on a routine mission in North Korea seeking American remains from the war of half a century ago.

The North Koreans quoted their military spokesman at the Panmunjon border post as noting that “30 recovery operations” to seek the remains of American soldiers from the Korean War had taken place over the last decade without the American searchers “having even a single fingernail hurt.”

“The rude action taken by the present U.S. administration has totally blocked the way of confirming the identification of more than 8,000 U.S. soldiers reported missing in action during the Korean War,” the spokesman said. “In consequence, the U.S. remains buried in Korea can never be recovered, but are bound to be reduced to earth with the flow of time.”

The Tech Congratulates Our Class of 2005

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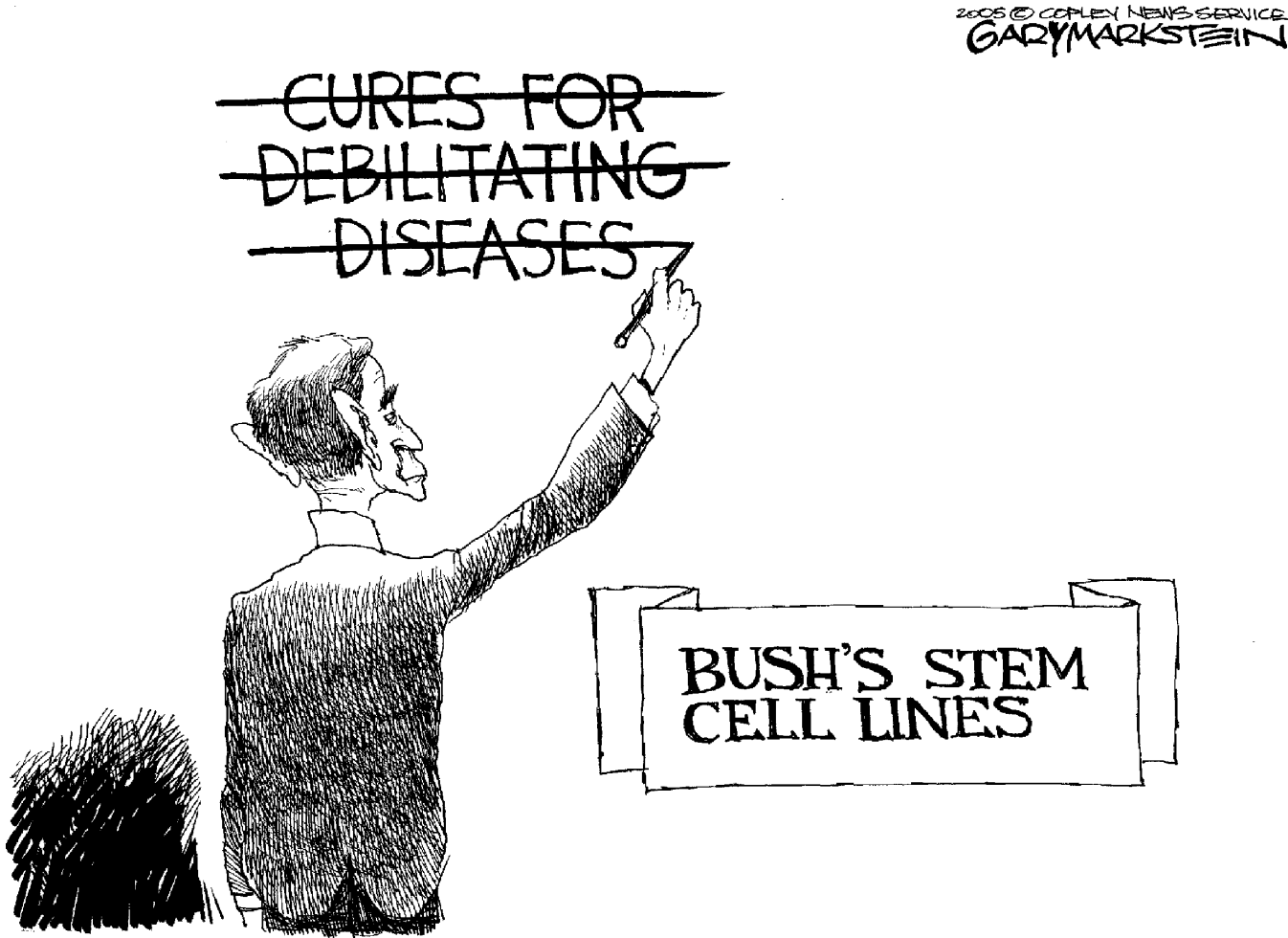
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The Star Wars Guide to Voting

Ken Nesmith

Many commentators have identified political overtones in the newest Star Wars film, *Revenge of the Sith*. “If you’re not with me, then you’re my enemy,” Anakin Skywalker declares to Obi-Wan Kenobi, who replies: “Only a Sith thinks in absolutes.” These recall the Bush ultimatum that in the war on terror, you’re with us or against us, as well as his absolutism in identifying evil in the world, and his wish to eradicate it. “So this is how liberty dies ... to thunderous applause,” laments Senator Amidala as Palpatine extends his power and declares an empire in the name of galactic peace, a parallel to our government’s expansion of global militarism and domestic security.

Of course, these lines apply not only to current events, but to anyone who is religious (who therefore believes in absolute morality), and to any nation that has rallied militantly around a leader in time of war — two astonishingly broad categories. Nonetheless, the right calls Lucas’ lines a blatant example of Hollywood leftism, while for the left, the lines are an eye-opening characterization of our nation’s descent.

Mainstream commentary has had less to say about other lines in the film that lead to a different interpretation of Lucas’ motives. Anakin, the Dark Side protege, espouses a morally relativistic position to Obi-Wan, explaining that from his perspective, it is the Jedi who are evil — that good and evil are a matter of perspective, and that those who are attempting to destroy your life and values are, by definition, evil. Since Anakin falls on the conveniently predefined Dark (Evil) Side, presumably, we should declare his philosophy evil as well: that morality depends on one’s perspective, and only by understanding each other’s experiences and circumstances can we make valid moral judgments.

The film, and the surrounding discourse, reminded me of our remarkable ability to fit all perception to arbitrary, predefined frameworks. Recent events on the MIT campus did the same. During final exams, Thomas Friedman spoke about his new book, *The World Is Flat* to an overflow audience in 10-250. To

Friedman, global trade phenomena have coalesced to produce nothing less than The World of Tomorrow exhibit at the county fair. In today’s “Globalization 3.0,” everything is gleaming, shiny and new, from the brown-clad UPS workers who do everything from delivering packages to repairing laptops, to outsourcing and offshoring and insourcing; from the paradigm shifts of 11-9-89 (fall of the Berlin Wall) to 8-9-95 (Netscape IPO). Ten “Earth Flatteners” are revolutionizing existence, and by golly, we’d better be ready, or smart kids in India and China will take our jobs.

Friedman sells his vision and story with an unbridled panache that leaves listeners giddy. In fact, the phenomena Friedman describes are not very different from plain old specialization and comparative advantage, features of the free market ever since a deer hunter and a fisherman exchanged some venison for some trout. Yes, Southwest Airlines lets you print out tickets at home ... making you do the work for them! But long ago, McDonald’s started letting you bring the food to the table yourself. Gas sta-

*You can recast history
to fit your needs.*

tions let you pump your own gas. Our desire whether to perform those tasks is communicated via price — when we leave less for Southwest or McDonald’s to do, prices can fall, and we can save money. If we’re unwilling to print tickets and move food, we’ll stop flying Southwest or buying McDonald’s until they change their ways to meet our tastes. This is nothing new. Similarly, falling costs of moving goods and exchanging information mean that people worldwide can more easily compete for jobs (or collaborate on tasks, as Friedman prefers to say). Again, this is nothing new.

Friedman relates how Indian entrepreneurs told him that “the playing field is being leveled,” a common metaphor that explains how falling barriers enable all-inclusive trade. Friedman then had only a few dots to connect to generate his title, as he explains it: playing

field leveled, world is playing field, leveled means flattened ... aha! The world is flat! How deliciously ironic!

But the transmuted metaphor is only a less accurate version of the older, more familiar form. No matter: Friedman’s readers will know that his trademark is to apply catchy names to every set of events, hoping that one will stick in the popular discourse, in the way that the “clash of civilizations” and the “end of history” have. Some people find this moniker management useful: “I love his titles,” said Chuck Vest in introducing Friedman, before gently mangling Friedman’s most recent title. Regardless, the fresh coat of paint Friedman gives to a tired globalization dialogue is valuable, even if the color is not always quite right.

A few days later across campus, the BBC, the Program on Human Rights and Justice, and several other conversants and media hosted a panel discussion on slavery in the world today. Instead of Friedman’s flashy reinvention of the discourse on globalization, here we had the old, depressing story: competitive pressure lowers labor standards and results in the extraordinary abuse of workers in developing nations, some of whom are forced into labor without pay, or as it’s also called, slavery. Slavery isn’t confined to developing nations; there have been several convictions in slavery cases in sunny Florida (not a developing nation) in the last few years, involving migrant farmworkers.

Look upon globalization, and choose what you see: the shining democratization and dispersal of human knowledge, ever-rising standards of living, the flattening of the world, if you want to call it that. Or, capitalist/corporate exploitation of the working class, the destruction of the environment, the ever-widening gap between the rich and the poor; generally, Marxism reified. Since the plural of “anecdote” is “data,” and since the data show increasing prosperity for the poorest worldwide, I conclude that Friedman’s optimism more closely reflects reality. But more interesting is that either of these positions can be held with conviction and passion for a lifetime.

You can more or less believe anything you want, and find a supporting network of institutions, foundations, writings, conferences, peers, leaders, and so forth to share your posi-

tion and help you grow in it. And whatever your position, each day’s events add evidence to it. For the capitalist, every declining welfare state, every inefficient state enterprise is evidence of the evil of the state. For the socialist, every layoff and tax cut, evidence of the monolithic power of the corporation and the evil of business. Every smile from a homeless man, evidence of the fundamental good of people and the evil of materialism. For the “golden mean” advocate, every extreme of either state or business, evidence of the need for a delicate balance between the two.

You can recast history to fit your needs. Consider historical Nazi Germany and communist Russia. Capitalists lump them together as socialists, all together, and proof that socialism doesn’t work. Socialists call the Nazis the extreme of capitalism, and communism a dictatorial perversion of state power. Religious point to both groups to show the evil of atheism and secularism.

The pattern isn’t confined to mainstream beliefs. For the scientologists, every physical twitch and uneasiness becomes a sign that our bodies are ghosts inhabited by alien spirits orphaned during an extraplanetary war, every vague uneasiness with existence, and gives a call to scientology’s psychological therapies. Racists, UFO enthusiasts, end-times cultists all play the same game. For all of these believers, every nonbeliever appears a deluded creature, a blinded spirit, living deaf and mute to the true joy and fullness of existence, handicapped by non-belief, eyes closed to the glory of life. If only they’d awaken from their delusions ...

Watch a movie, read a book, attend a talk, or do none of these. Whatever your engagement with culture, you can believe whatever you want, live a full life consistent with those beliefs, and wait patiently for the rest of the world to catch up with you. Reality only gets in the way once in a while — you can’t believe, for instance, that eating food is wrong, and have a belief system which persists for long. But in an environment as richly supportive of human life as ours, if you do a few basic things — eat, and produce or otherwise obtain enough to fend off death — you can believe whatever you want. The pool of ideas is an astonishingly florid one, and our ability to move so freely within it is remarkable.



GRAD

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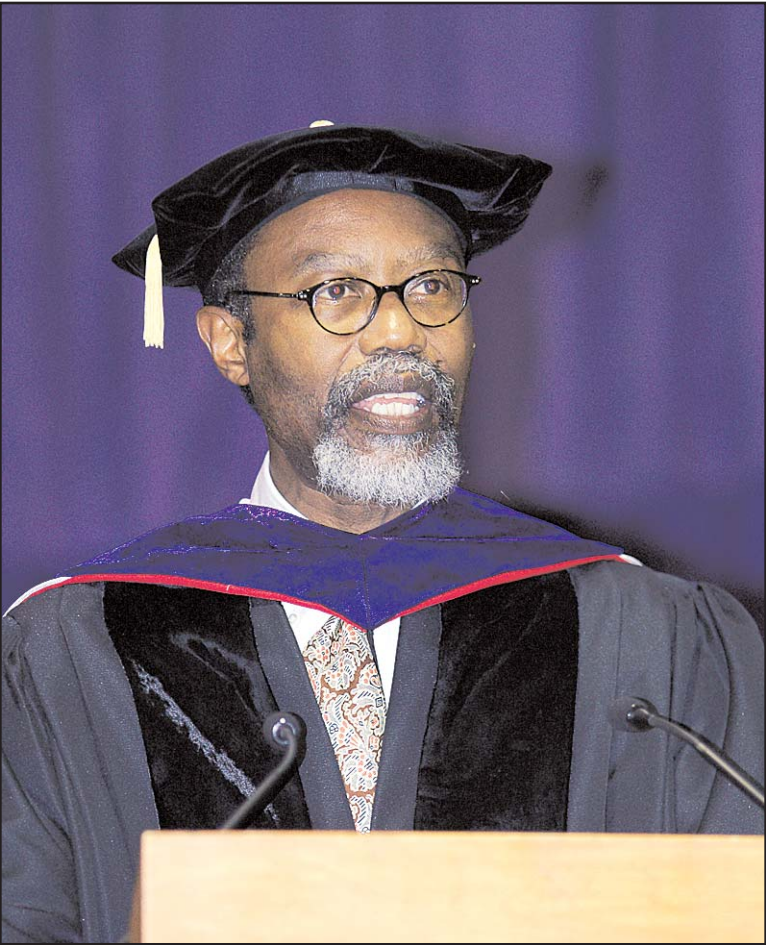
Ring Ordering Date

Friday June 03
Commencement Day
Student Center - 1st Floor
12:00 noon - 4:00 pm

More Information at:
<http://gsc.mit.edu/ring>



PhDs, ScDs Receive Doctoral Hoods



The hooding ceremony, in which doctoral students receive the traditional doctoral hood, was held Thursday, June 2, in Johnson Athletic Center. Clockwise from above:

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 entertains the audience with a brief history lesson on the origins of the doctoral robe and hood.

Before receiving her doctoral hood, Li-Weh H. Lehman listens to President Susan Hockfield speak.

Bryan Crane receives his doctoral hood for research in Mechanical Engineering.

Photography by Brian Hemond

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State of Institute Is ‘Promising’

By Kelley Rivoire
NEWS EDITOR

MIT will face the challenges of the coming years with a fuller purse than in recent years, said President Susan Hockfield at the State of the Institute forum held May 23 in Kresge Auditorium. Hockfield, along with Provost Robert A. Brown and Executive Vice President John R. Curry, highlighted the Institute’s recovery from recent financial setbacks and laid out priorities for the future.

The Institute is in a “very, very promising state,” Hockfield said. With regard to budgetary cuts of recent years, “tough choices were made very intelligently” and have “positioned us very well going forward,” she said.

The Institute will follow a “more normal and straightforward course over the new few years,” Curry said.

Declines in funding a challenge

Marked decreases in federal sponsoring of scientific research will force MIT to seek alternative sources of funds and will make collaborating with other institutions, industry, and local government increasingly critical, Hockfield said.

MIT must continue to “advocate intelligent and forward-looking policies and practices in support of higher education and research,” Hockfield said, adding that she plans to spend time lobbying in Washington as her predecessor President Emeritus Charles M. Vest did.

Moreover, “other peer institutions are moving in the same direction,” prioritizing science and engineering, meaning that MIT will face “greater competition for the very best faculty and students,” she said.

As government regulations for international students have mounted, countries such as Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom have capitalized, recruiting graduate students that might otherwise have come to universities in the United States, she said. There has been a “shocking decline in the number of applicants to graduate school in the past three years,” though MIT’s numbers have stabilized and visa regulations were relaxed last summer, she said.

Interdisciplinary focus for future

In recent years, the formerly distinct fields of engineering and life sciences have collided, generating new

and fruitful research.

There is a “tremendous demand from our undergraduates to work at the interface” between biology and engineering, Brown said. A total of 70 members of the Class of 2008 selected Course 10B, the new major in Chemical-Biological Engineering, this year, making it among the most popular at MIT. A new biological engineering major will also be implemented in the coming academic year.

Collaboration among departments in the study of energy will also be key, said Hockfield, who is sponsoring an Institute-wide energy initiative with Brown. This is an “area in which MIT has a responsibility to the nation and the world,” she said.

Renovations to improve Institute

With the “return to traditional budgeting parameters,” new funds are available for renovations to the Institute.

The next major construction project will be the Physics Department, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Spectroscopy Laboratory and Infrastructure (PDSI) renovation project, a \$49 million dollar endeavor that consolidates space in

the physics department and upgrades infrastructure, Curry said.

Construction on Vassar Street on the west side of Massachusetts Avenue will start next spring, delayed as a result of other construction in the area, Curry said.

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FTP, from Page 1

system’s easy compliance with having freshmen on campus by claiming they want to make sure no house fails financially, and then as soon as the original students involved are graduated, the amount changes,” wrote Brian T. Neltner ’05 of Tau Epsilon Phi in a 2003 e-mail. “MIT needs to uphold its contractual obligations to its student body.”

Why didn’t SLP use more conservative assumptions in setting the budget?

“The long-term fix was to help them [FSILGs] think differently, help them recruit differently, and help them market themselves,” Rogers

said, adding that SLP had hired eight consultants in 2002 to help fraternities with their recruitment.

SLP couldn’t have known precisely how many empty beds there would be, Rogers said. “We had to think optimistically that chapters were going to do better,” he said.

“They didn’t do as well as we had hoped,” Rogers said.

‘Son of FTP’ will pay \$250,000

With the end of the three-year Financial Transition Plan, MIT is planning a “Son of FTP” for next year, said Stephen D. Immerman, the senior associate dean for student life.

This time, the total figure is known off the bat: \$250,000, with a

formula for allocation to be decided in the next two or three weeks, Immerman said. “We want to focus on how we can enhance a chapter’s ability to be competitive instead of just pay for empty beds,” he said.

“Money itself doesn’t solve the problem,” Immerman said. “A much more pressing issue is recruitment, and the ability of chapters to deal with issues such as behavior and risk management that place us at much higher risk in terms of viability,” he said.

“It’s fragile, there’s no doubt about it, but we’ve got levers to pull on on the financial end, and we’re pulling on as many as we can pull,” he said. “We have to start acting like it’s the serious activity that it is.”

The Fannie and John
Hertz Foundation
takes great pleasure in announcing
its Fall 2005 Fellowship Awards.

Mr. Brett Bethke
Graduating in Aeronautics/Astronautics
at the University of California, Los Angeles

and
Mr. Stephen Samouhos
Graduate student in Mechanical Engineering
at the University of California, Los Angeles

are two of the 15 Hertz Foundation
Fellows chosen from a field of 678 applicants to
receive a Graduate
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The Hertz Foundation would like to
extend its congratulations to the
University of California, Los Angeles
for attracting these Fellows to
their undergraduate and graduate programs.

See www.hertzfoundation.org for more details.



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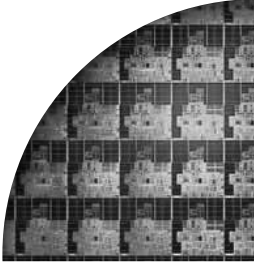
Amanda Giermann
Xin Hu
Niamh Waldron

2005-06 Intel Foundation Ph.D. Fellowship Award Recipients

Giermann, Hu and Waldron were awarded Ph.D. fellowship grants from the Intel Foundation for the 2005-06 academic year.

- Giermann’s fellowship research will focus on exploring templated self-assembly as a tool for patterning nano-scale materials. Advisor: Dr. Carl Thompson
- Hu’s fellowship research will focus on developing tools for high-frequency integrated-circuit design and model order reduction. Advisors: Dr. Jacob White and Dr. Luca Daniel
- Waldron’s fellowship research will focus on advanced semiconductor devices, both Si and III-V based. Advisor: Dr. Jesus del Alamo

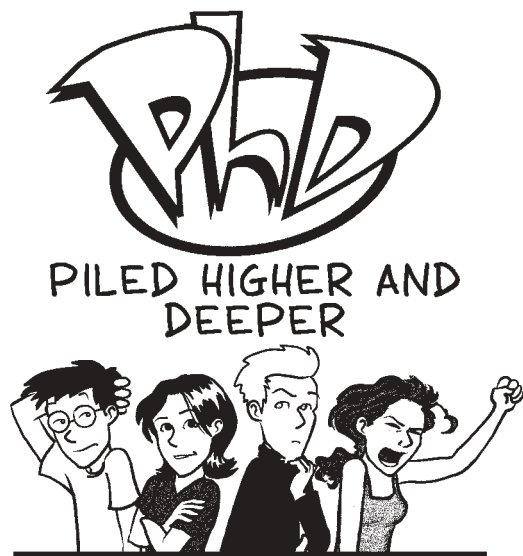
This year, the Intel Foundation Ph.D. Fellowship Program awarded 43 fellowships totaling \$1.8 million to outstanding Ph.D. candidates pursuing leading-edge research at 17 U.S. universities. To learn more about Intel’s commitment to higher education, visit: www.intel.com/education/highered.



Trio

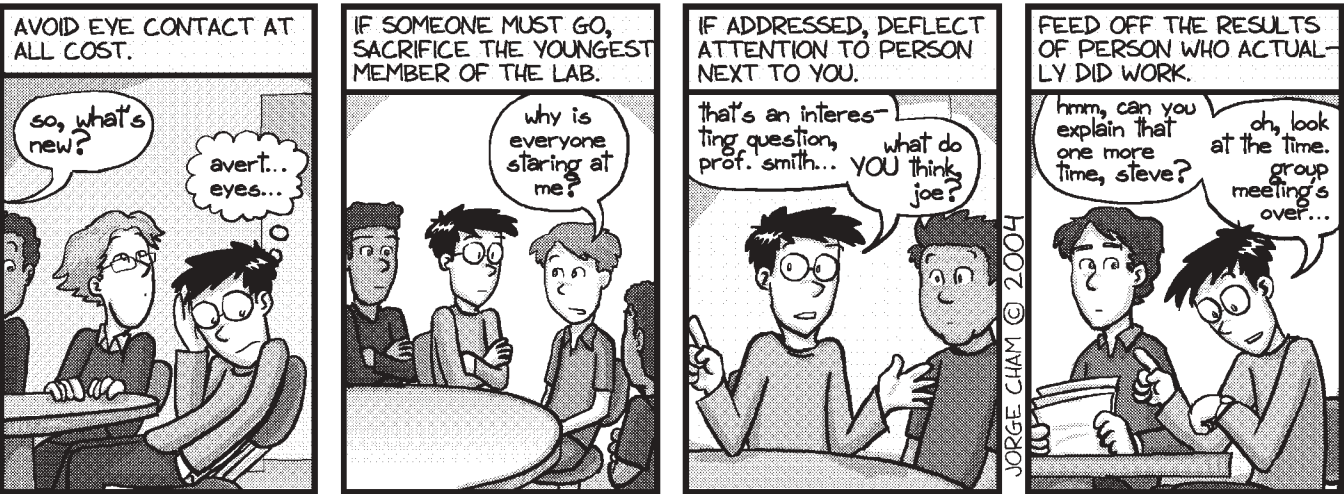
"The Best of Sugar Ray", in stores June 21st! ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

by Emezie Okorafor



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Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

- 1 Pester
- 4 Part of LP
- 8 Counter in a Chinese restaurant?
- 14 Bustle
- 15 Heel attachment
- 16 Tasks
- 17 TV set
- 19 Fit for farming
- 20 Preoccupy completely
- 21 Lawsuits
- 23 Porter or stout
- 24 Library supporter?
- 28 Skiers' ride
- 31 Sideways
- 32 Frogs, toads, newts, etc.
- 36 Beach mound
- 37 Hush-hush org.
- 38 Portable with woofers
- 42 Links org.
- 43 Outback birds

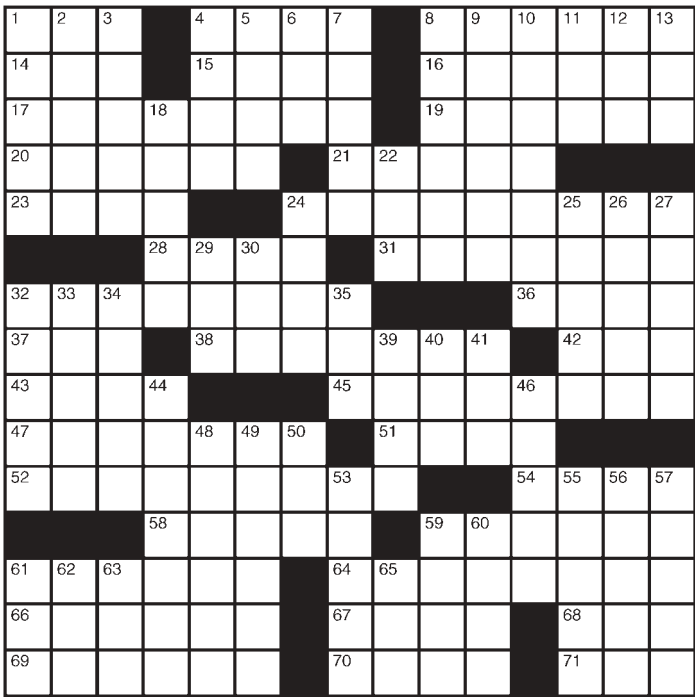
- 45 Arranges in sequence
- 47 Brush up on
- 51 Craps option
- 52 The sticks
- 54 Lima's nation
- 58 "Butterfield 8" author
- 59 Ho Chi Minh City, once
- 61 Portuguese islands
- 64 Military training center
- 66 Andy Warhol's genre
- 67 Disentangle
- 68 Actress Ruby
- 69 Flips
- 70 Dark, rich soil
- 71 One of the Trinity

DOWN

- 1 Mr. Moneybags
- 2 Pueblo material
- 3 Silly person

- 4 Mil. invasion vessels
- 5 Creative work
- 6 Crux
- 7 Hellenic: pref.
- 8 Seward's Folly
- 9 Least adorned
- 10 Red in the face
- 11 Male swan
- 12 WWW address
- 13 Compass dir.
- 18 Pullman bed
- 22 Major ISP
- 24 Vivacity
- 25 Explode
- 26 Hope of Hollywood
- 27 Dog doggers
- 29 Tucker's partner
- 30 Blood class. sys.
- 32 Sour, formerly
- 33 Outmoded copier, briefly
- 34 Sao __, Brazil
- 35 TCM rival
- 39 Moves to the beat

- 40 Pay add-on?
- 41 Big sizes, briefly
- 44 Seville ladies
- 46 Savory jelly
- 48 Stick
- 49 Oven-cooks
- 50 Big name in ATMs
- 53 Capital of Afghanistan
- 55 Gadzooks!
- 56 Montague teenager
- 57 Free from a sty
- 59 Word with pop
- 60 Tiny amount
- 61 Inclined
- 62 Monkey house address
- 63 Goddess of the harvest
- 65 Sean Lennon's mom



This space donated by The Tech

How Do You Measure the Growth of A Child?

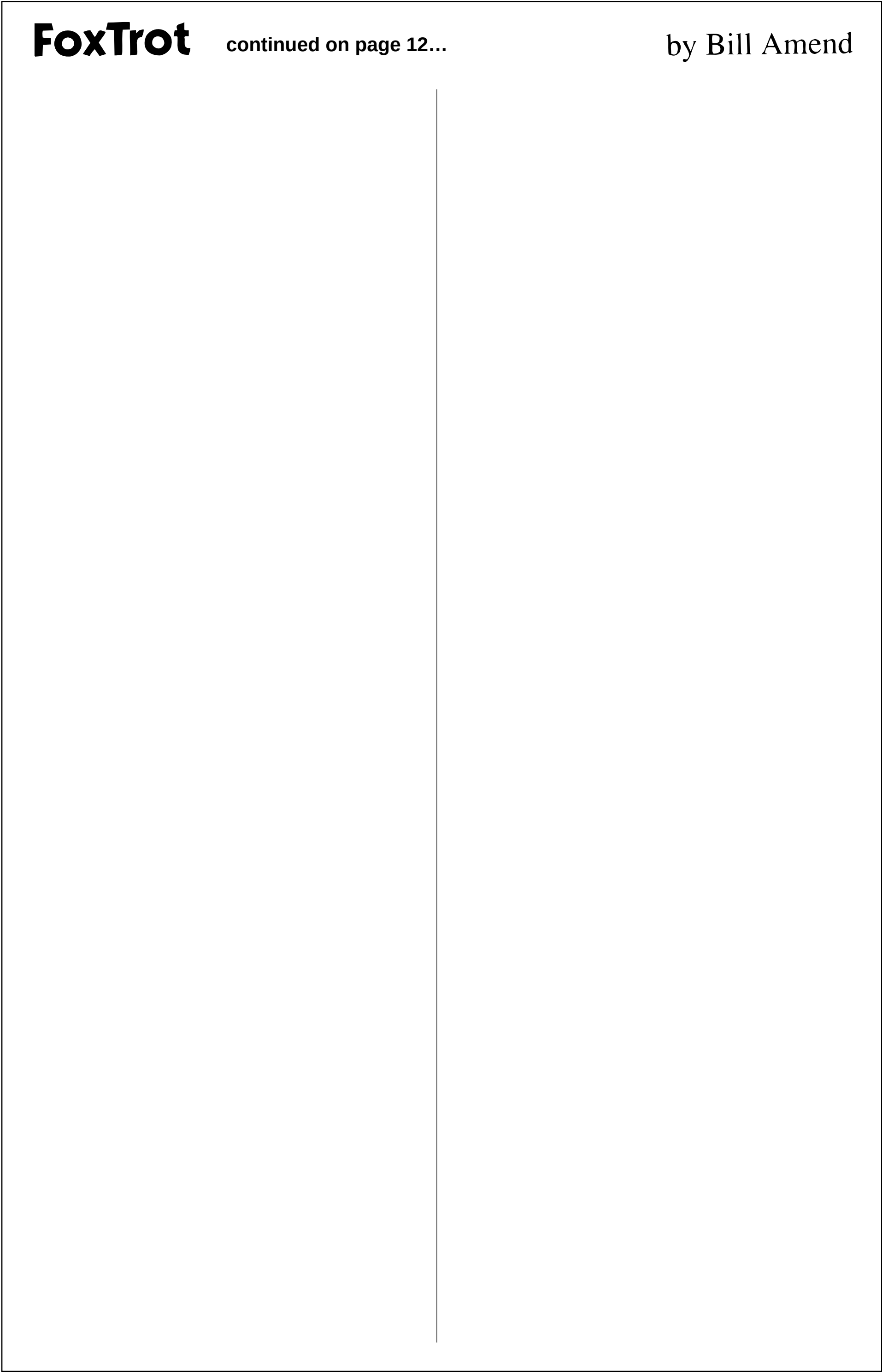


This space donated by The Tech

FoxTrot

continued on page 12...

by Bill Amend



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The Student-Alumni Committee on Institutional Security Policy, a group that conducts research into safety issues on the Harvard and MIT campuses, is looking for research associates who could contribute to one or more of our currently available projects:

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FoxTrot

...continued from page 10

by Bill Amend

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

CAMPUS LIFE

I Did It For Science: The Inaugural Boston Cuddle Party Getting My “Daily Allowance of Welcomed Touch”

By Monica Byrne
STAFF WRITER

(Except for the organizers, names and identifying details have been changed.)

“I saw that you signed up for the newsletter, and was just wondering if MIT is a cuddly place...?” asked REiD, the Head Cuddle Monster.

I didn’t know how to begin to answer. After a long minute, I wrote back, “Decidedly not.”

The first-ever Boston Cuddle Party was held on a rainy Saturday night in April. I took the commuter rail out to Newton, and slogged through the cold rain for blocks, trying to find the appointed house. When I finally spotted it — a large, welcoming home with a wrap-around porch — I felt like I’d found the Castle Anthrax.

But no white-clad virgins greeted me at the door. Actually, since I had read about Cuddle Parties in *Nerve*, an online twenty-something sex magazine, I expected the guests to be crunchy college grads with nose piercings and hemp messenger bags. Instead, in the annex, I found myself nervously exchanging smiles with several middle-aged men in undershirts and sweatpants.

Cuddle Parties began in New York City, the brainchild of Brown alum REiD Mihalko, a “sex & romance coach,” healer, masseuse, and actor. (This Renaissance man is penning a book about cunnilingus entitled “Everything I Need To Know in Life, I Learned From Eating Pie.”) They have an active electronic and media network anchored at cuddleparty.com. Cuddle parties have since spread to Los Angeles, Austin, San Francisco and a dozen other cities, with ever more locals clamoring to train as moderators. In addition to the suite of “alterna-news” reviews, they’ve been covered in *Time Out New York*, *The Boston Globe*, and the *London Sunday Times*.

After my name was taken and my donation accepted (on a sliding scale of \$20-\$35), I was shown to a private room where I could change into party clothes, that is, pajamas. It felt heavenly to peel off wet denim layers and climb into modest fleece pants and a waffle-knit shirt. I sat down at the grand piano to make a nametag, writing MONICA in spiky blue letters.

The designated cuddle room was square, cozy and tiny, with petal-pink walls. Blankets and pillows were piled on the floor. I felt like I was sitting on a soufflé. Within easy reach were bowls of grapes, almonds, cheese, crackers, apple juice, Hershey kisses, Hawaiian punch ... and, ominously, Altoids.

We assembled there, backs pasted to the walls, avoiding each other’s eyes. On one side of me was a kind, mild-mannered doctor; on the other side was a swarthy man with a shiny black pompadour. We numbered about twenty, half female and half male, one transsexual, mostly white, ranging in age from twenty-three (me) to ninety (a lifelong sexual health activist). In the Opening Circle, we were warned to respect each other’s privacy; here there were doctors, lawyers, businesspeople and secretaries who didn’t necessarily want their attendance known. My fellow guests voted as to whether or not I — a journalist — could stay. After agreeing not to record guests’ names, I was welcomed.

Suzann, a longtime yoga instructor and Cuddle-Lifeguard-in-training, sat comfortably played on a cushion and explained The Rules. Ani, a graceful woman with a cap of white hair, and Simeon, a huge ineffable teddy bear with long dreadlocks, were her backups. They were Cuddle Caddies, there to participate and also enforce The Rules.

The Rules are as follows. Safe space is supreme. Drugs and alcohol are strictly forbidden. Always ask permission to do anything. Kissing and nuzzling are allowed; dry humping is not. Erections happen; they are just “Mother Nature’s way of giving us the thumbs-up sign.” You do not need to do anything about them, nor feel embarrassed about

them. If sexual energy in the room gets too high, you are assigned a Cuddle Buddy (think pool buddies) who will grab your hand and raise it at the blow of a whistle. You don’t have to cuddle anyone if you don’t want to. A “cool-down room” is available next door. If you are in a relationship, be sure to set your boundaries as you see fit. No means no. Silence also means no. If you feel the slightest ambivalence, say no. In this space, you are only responsible for your own feelings; we’re all adults here.

To drive the point home, we all practiced saying “no” to each other for ten minutes. My practice conversation with the swarthy man next to me went like this:

“I would like you to please run your hands through my hair.”
“No.”
“Oh, c’mon. It’s really soft!”
“No ...”
“Touch it. Here, just feel it for a second.”
“No!”
“I really want you to. Please? I will do something for you in return.”
“No-o-o-o-o-o-o ...”

We dissolved into hysterical giggles as the stakes got more and more absurd. To further break the ice, we were commanded to hug six people in sixty seconds, always asking and granting permission first. It felt silly and crazy, but this was exactly the point — to create a space with childlike energy. After receiving permission, I gently wrapped my arms around a tiny 90-year-old woman, who felt so fragile I feared she would snap. She sighed sweetly, hugging me back.

After the icebreakers, Suzann announced that the Cuddle Party had begun. We all regarded each other with deer-in-headlight apprehension, until someone suggested we form a massage conga line. The idea was well received. We sat amid the blankets like a queue of nesting hens. The man behind me, a bald, paunchy man in a white undershirt, had a surprisingly gentle touch that gave me shivers. I was working on a woman in her 40s, who had lotion-soft, sun-browned shoulders. She was a boisterous, self-described JAP (Jewish American Princess), and wanted to open her own “equestrian therapy spa” in Oregon.

Everyone chatted and exchanged stories. It was like a cocktail party, except that instead of standing around in Manolo heels and drinking martinis, we were sitting around in our jammies and drinking apple juice. Outside it was cold, dark and raining; inside we were warm, soft and safe. Quincy Jones warbled from the tape player in the corner.

Eventually we partnered off like mercury drops, spinning into our own little worlds. The swarthy man and an older silver-haired lady seemed to achieve instant nirvana in each other’s arms, drawing fingers along each other’s limbs with expressions of bliss like those of an instructional sex video couple. Simeon and a pair of devotees curled up by themselves, staying together all night in an exclusive cuddle-coterie. The blonde transsexual settled next to the ninety-year-old feminist, attending to her in a way I can only call loving.

I made a beeline for Jesse, a dark, bearded man built like Zeus who worked for a real estate insurance company. While I was lying between his legs like in a two-person luge team, Mother Nature did indeed give him the thumbs up. It wasn’t a big deal — we both ignored it — though I did allow myself a self-satisfied smirk.

Jesse had enormous arms and a soft tummy. As he spooned me and nuzzled the back of my neck, I talked to Rob, the doctor. He was in his mid-40s with a narrow, red face and world-weary smile. He told me a sad story about his ex-wife, with whom he’d had an unhappy marriage of twenty years. On their honeymoon to Argentina, his new bride would not set foot outside the hotel — she feared the “dirtiness” of foreign countries. He spent his honeymoon walking the

streets of Buenos Aires by himself. Finally he made a dinner reservation for them both at a restaurant two blocks away. She made it to the corner, he said, and then froze at a stoplight. He couldn’t make her go any further. Because the restaurant had his credit card number, he then had to pay for the meal anyway.

Clearly, he needed cuddling. He asked to join us and I granted permission. But then we began to forget asking permission. I was as guilty of this as they were. The Rules began to break down as the atmosphere of warmth, acceptance, and permissiveness prevailed. As I lay there sandwiched between Rob and Jesse, two forty-something unmarried men, I thought, “Hmmm, how do I feel about this?”

I did feel safe and comfortable, true, but it was also true that I, the only young woman, could not possibly experience the situation objectively. Being the bubbly ingenue, I couldn’t escape feeling I was some symbol of youthful innocence upon which middle-aged men projected. Despite this, I reminded myself, I was not responsible for other peoples’ feelings. If I was enjoying myself, I was enjoying myself and that was that.

An old school Michael Jackson album ran out and Suzann put on the “Dirty Dancing” soundtrack. We crooned along to “(Now I’ve Had) The Time of My Life” in gleeful self-mockery. Someone suggested singing “Kumbaaya,” but quickly recanted after seeing our panicked faces.

The party ended with a gigantic “puppy pile.” Well-proportioned people were called upon to make up the bottom layer. I volunteered (because at least my ass is well-proportioned). More layers piled on, always perpendicular, like human Lincoln Logs. On the bottom layer we got smushed laterally like pancakes. It felt unbelievably good, like getting a shiatsu massage. We were frolicsome, cracking jokes, squealing and giggling like kids. There was also much apologizing for stepping on asses, feet in others’ faces, breathing on necks and whatnot, but I just felt blissful.

At last, Simeon stood up and asked permission to sing for us. Besides being a Cuddle Caddy, Simeon turned out to be a talented recording artist. In a robust, colorful voice, he led us in a sing-along of John Lennon’s “Imagine,” which, any other time, would have made me try to hide under my shirt.

I left feeling supremely relaxed, like I was leaving a spa. But the experience brought up issues for me that resonated for weeks afterwards. At the party, there was a constant tension between playful childlikeness and responsible adulthood. Even though The Rules are perfect, people are not. Inevitably, we brought a little bit of society into the room with us. Though Cuddle Parties are designed to circumvent destructive human tendencies, I felt faint undercurrents of possessiveness, jealousy, guilt, coercion, aggression, and passivity. Did Simeon’s cuddlers try to sequester him for themselves? Did the silver-haired lady, who looked dazed and detached after the party’s end, feel pressured into monogamous cuddling? Was I truly willing in everything I granted permission for?

Even despite these questions, for me, the atmosphere of warmth and euphoria prevailed. A month later, I think back on the experience as if recalling a dream. We didn’t smoke any weed, down any Ecstasy, or drink any alcohol. So what was it that enabled us perfect strangers to tear down our defenses and open up to each other? Maybe human touch is its own drug. If so, it’s there for the taking — Cuddle Parties, spreading across the world with a seemingly unstoppable momentum, are opening at a house near you.

Can you think of something weird, alternative or downright crazy in the Boston area you’d like me to try? I’m your guinea pig. Send your ideas to mcbyrne@mit.edu.

Worlds Beyond the Mackerel Moving Forward, Looking Back

By Akshay Patil
SENIOR EDITOR

I knew it was time to leave MIT when I found myself lecturing undergrads about how things used to be around here. When I first arrived at MIT, in the fall of 2000, there were rumblings of upcoming changes in how the Institute greeted each incoming class. I checked into my temp room in my temp dorm and never fully unpacked, fully expecting to leave that room in a week. And, after a week of incessant introductions, activities, and eating, I decided where I wanted to live and moved there knowing this was where I wanted to be and where I would be for the next four years.

It’s hard for me to imagine that anyone could ever enter MIT differently. However, the reality is that today we mark the graduation of the last class ever to meet MIT in this way. For me, this was my introduction to MIT — the first impression, the event which has shaped the way I see this place and life here. We still argue whether the subsequent changes to MIT’s welcoming of each class have been for better or for worse, but as I sit here, 3000 miles away from Cambridge and checked out of the Institute “forever,” what I marvel at is how much the Institute has changed from the first day I stepped onto campus.

During my senior year here, the freshmen in my hall would kid about getting me a cane to wag when “enlightening” them about how things were done back in *my* day. During my five-year tenure, four major new buildings were erected, a department disappeared, new majors were created, a real fitness center was completed, our first female president came into office, Athena quotas increased by an order of magnitude, Walker Memorial “dining” closed, and MIT started putting its course materials online for all the world to use.

It’s strange to think MIT will continue changing after we leave, but it will. The place we leave is inexorably different from the place to which we first arrived. The MIT I know is different from both the MIT the alumni before me knew and the MIT this fall’s incoming class of 2009 will know.

But MIT is not its reputation, its accomplishments, its buildings, or its policies. MIT is the people who earn this reputation, further these accomplishments, inhabit those buildings, and exist within these policies. We take great care to preserve and maintain these outer trappings of the institution, and rightly so — these are the parts the world sees and that surround us. But, as most alumni will attest, one of the best things about MIT is the people they were with during their time at the Institute. New buildings may not stand straight, freshmen may have to live on campus, and the Red Sox may be the defending champions, but as long as MIT is full of intelligent and interesting people, then MIT will remain MIT.

MIT belongs to those who follow us, just as we inherited its infinite corridor and rabid numerical indexing system from those who preceded us. New presidents, new buildings, new ways of doing things — these are not a rebirth but the continuing evolution of our Institute. And soon after we say “goodbye,” a different MIT will say “hello” to a new batch of students who will witness even greater change. And, while many, if not most, of the things we leave behind here will evolve, we can only hope that the people who define MIT will stay the way we remember them.

Crossword Solution
from page 9

N	A	G		L	O	N	G		A	B	A	C	U	S	
A	D	O		S	P	U	R		L	A	B	O	R	S	
B	O	O	B	T	U	B	E		A	R	A	B	L	E	
O	B	S	E	S		C	A	S	E	S					
B	E	E	R		B	O	O	K	S	H	E	L	F		
			T	B	A	R		L	A	T	E	R	A	L	
A	M	P	H	I	B	I	A		D	U	N	E			
C	I	A		B	O	O	M	B	O	X		P	G	A	
E	M	U	S					C	O	L	L	A	T	E	S
R	E	L	E	A	R	N		P	A	S	S				
B	O	O	N	D	O	C	K	S		P	E	R	U		
			O	H	A	R	A		S	A	I	G	O	N	
A	Z	O	R	E	S		B	O	O	T	C	A	M	P	
P	O	P	A	R	T		U	N	D	O		D	E	E	
T	O	S	S	E	S		L	O	A	M		S	O	N	

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BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Just in time for the commencement exercises, flowers bloom in Killian Court.

Cohen a Noted Materials Eng.

Cohen, from Page 1

outgrowth of his family's business in producing and refining the lead-based alloys used in type and solders.

Cohen received the SB and ScD degrees in metallurgy from MIT in 1933 and 1936, respectively.

He joined the MIT faculty in 1936, becoming a full professor of physical metallurgy in 1946. He retired in 1987.

"MIT is favored with many great intellectuals and people who impact the world. Morris Cohen was both. He was a very modest person, and one who has had enormous impact on the field," Thomas said.

Cohen paved the way for materials science and engineering to emerge from its roots in metallurgy, thanks to the influential report, "Materials and Man's Needs," which he wrote for the National Academy's Committee on the Survey of Materials Science.

His faculty colleagues recognized his achievements in research and teaching by awarding him a Ford professorship in 1962; an Institute professorship, the faculty's highest honor, in 1974; and the James R. Killian Faculty Achievement Award in 1974.

The Killian selection committee described Cohen as a "major force" whose place in science history was "ensured."

He received numerous national and international awards and honors during his career. The National Medal of Science, this country's most prestigious scientific award, was presented to Cohen in 1976. He was awarded the Kyoto Prize, Japan's highest scientific honor for "contributions to human progress," in 1987.

Cohen was an inspiring figure to all who knew and worked with him. In celebration of his 75th birthday, individual and corporate donors established the Morris Cohen Professorship in Materials Science and Engineering, announced at the department's centennial celebration in June 1988.

Thomas has held the Cohen chair since 1989.

An oil portrait of Cohen, which hangs in the Chipman Room (8-314), also reminds the MIT community of his contributions to science and education. Commissioned by the Materials Science and Engineering Department and painted by Marblehead artist Anthony Iarrobino, the portrait shows Cohen with items of personal significance in the background — a bust of Moses Maimonides, the 12th century Hebrew scholar; a crystal structure of cementite; and a text on martensite, a hardening material of steel that Cohen studied for many years.

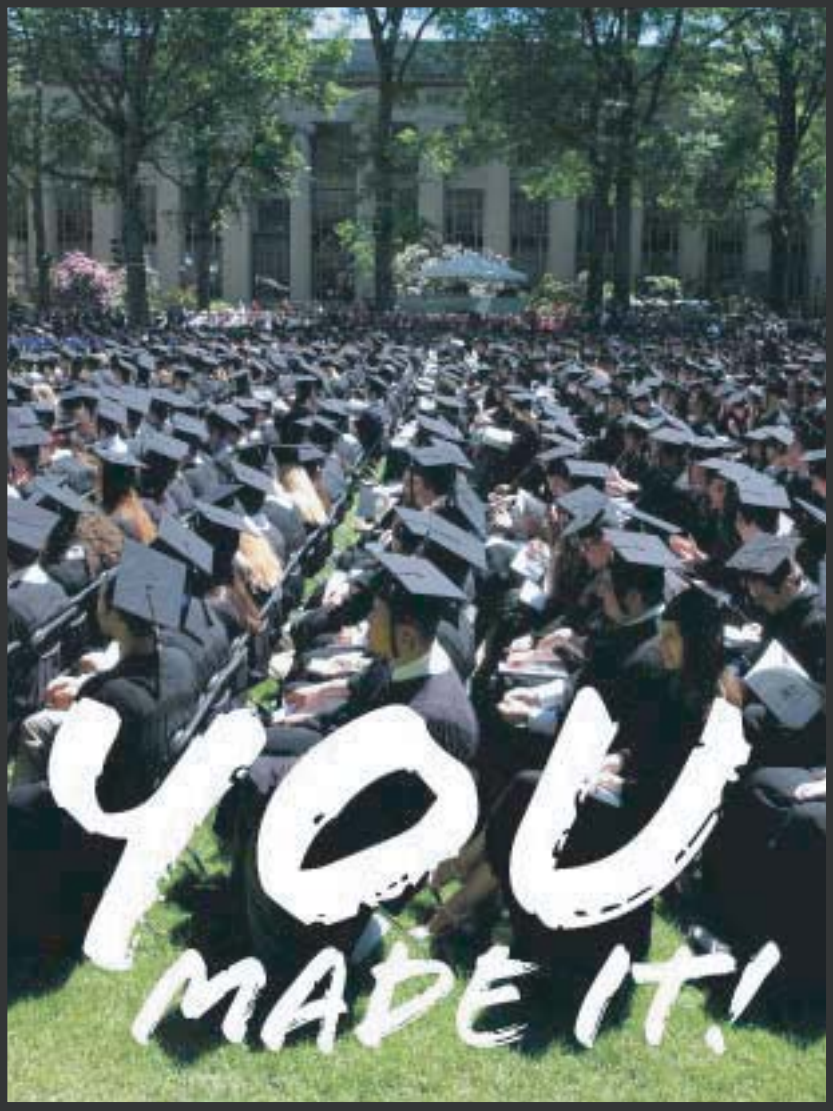
Cohen's wife, Ruth (Krentzman) Cohen, and a daughter, Barbara (Cohen) Nordwind, predeceased him.

He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Joel and Sara Cohen of San Rafael, Calif.; two sisters, Louise Plansky of Los Angeles and Charlotte Freed of Chestnut Hill, Mass.; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Cohen was a founder and past president of Temple Sinai in Marblehead, Mass.

Memorial week will be held at his late residence through Sunday. Donations in Cohen's memory may be made to the Jewish Federation of the North Shore, 21 Front St., Salem, MA 01970.

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Faculty Advise Changes in Upperclassmen Advising

By Kelley Rivoire
NEWS EDITOR

On May 18, the faculty convened for the final meeting of the semester and discussed undergraduate advising as well as graduate and faculty recruitment of women and underrepresented minority graduate students and faculty. Additionally, it elected members of faculty committees and faculty officers, and honored the Killian Award winner.

Advising Revisions Recommended

Professor Hazel L. Sive, chair of the Committee on Student Life, presented the recommendations from a study of undergraduate academic advising that focused on upperclassmen, which was requested three years ago.

Following the “robust” academic advising program of freshman year, students are “hurled into their new department” upon choosing a major, Sive said. Most of the recommendations of the report deal with easing this transition. The goal is to achieve “continuity between what has happened to students as a freshman and what will happen to the student as an undergraduate,” Sive said. Many changes, she said, can be implemented “fairly easily, fairly cheaply, and fairly rapidly.”

Among the recommendations at

the departmental level are: implementing associate advisor programs for upperclassmen, providing advisor training, increasing the interaction between advisors and advisees, and limiting the advisee-advisor ratio.

As departments vary greatly in their advising policies, across-the-board recommendations are difficult to make. Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Adam C. Powell IV ’92 commented that restricting the number of advisees per advisor might lead to a “heterogeneous experience”; in his department, the small number of undergraduate advisors is able to meet weekly.

At the Institute level, the recommendations are to create advising periods, provide additional advising training, educate students about their advising rights, and recognize the importance of advising, which does not contribute to tenure decisions.

The report was approved by the faculty, though the only course of action this necessitates is for Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD ’75 to review the recommendations and report back to the faculty in a year.

Diversity initiatives described

Following an ambitious resolution approved by the faculty a year ago to increase the number of underrepresented minority faculty

by a factor of two and the number of underrepresented minority graduate students by a factor of three, Provost Robert A. Brown gave an update on the status of recruitment.

The main need is to enlarge the applicant pool, particularly for underrepresented minorities, Brown said. Initiatives implemented so far focus on the small scale, targeting specific potential applicants.

For example, the Converge program, which first took place last fall, brought 20 underrepresented minority seniors to campus for a weekend to promote graduate study, especially at MIT. This year, the program will expand to 40. Of the 20 seniors who attended the program, however, only 11 applied to MIT for graduate school, with four admitted and three enrolling. The program needs to focus on generating better applications, Brown said.

Another initiative is the expansion of the size and scope of an already extant summer research program, adding a focus on recruitment.

Professor Seth Teller questioned the effectiveness of such small programs and suggested allocating resources to hit a larger target audience, for example by requesting potential applicants from high school counselors.

Other initiatives to increase the

number of underrepresented minority graduate students include recruiting from target schools and actively tracking applicants, Brown said.

Data is hard to come by in analyzing the number of underrepresented minority faculty, because the resolution of one year ago was passed after the last annual hiring cycle ended, and the current hiring cycle is ongoing. The resolution, however, has “created a lot of energy,” Brown said.

In addition, MIT is considering an expansion of the Martin Luther King Visiting Professor Program, which is open exclusively to minorities with a focus on African Americans, to include entry-level positions as well. A committee will convene this summer to decide the future of the program, with junior-level positions potentially being advertised in the fall.

New Faculty Officers Elected

The faculty voted on officers and members of standing committees whose terms will begin in 2005. Positions for three committees were voted by a ballot of the faculty.

Professors Elfatih A.B. Eltahir ScD ’93, Shafirra Goldwasser and Vernon M. Ingram were elected to the Committee on Academic Performance from a slate that also included Professor Stanley B.

Kowalski PhD ’63.

Professor and President Emeritus Paul E. Gray ’54 was elected over Professor Cardinal Warde to the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid, and Professors Bevin P. Engelward, Klavs F. Jensen, and Helen Lee were elected to the Faculty Policy Committee in a slate that also included Professor Richard M. Locke.

A slate of the uncontested positions was approved unanimously by voice vote. (See accompanying table.)

Prof. Singer wins Killian Award

Institute Professor Isadore M. Singer was announced as the recipient of the Killian Award, selected by a committee of faculty members. Singer’s work in mathematics includes discovering and proving the Index Theorem with Sir Michael Francis Atiyah, for which he won the prestigious Abel Prize in 2004.

Also at the meeting, two changes to the proposed Faculty Housing Program were reported by Associate Provost Claude R. Canizares, professors emeriti and faculty members ex officiis were elected by the faculty (see accompanying table), and a report was distributed by Clay from the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps Task Force.

Faculty Elections Head

The following faculty members were elected officers of the faculty and members of standing committees at the May faculty meeting for terms beginning in 2005 and ending between 2006 and 2008, depending on position:

Associate Chair of the Faculty: Bruce Tidor, EECS

Secretary of the Faculty:Diana Henderson, Literature

Committee on Academic Performance: Elfatih A. B. Eltahir ScD ’93, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Shafirra Goldwasser, EECS; Vernon M. Ingram, Biology

Committee on Curricula: David Pesetsky PhD ’84, Linguistics and Philosophy; Saul A. Rappaport PhD ’68, Physics; JoAnne Stubbe, Chemistry

Committee on Discipline: Alex Byrne, Linguistics and Philosophy; Michale S. Fee, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Committee on Faculty-Administration: Deborah G. Ancona, Sloan; Charles L. Cooney PhD ’70, Chemical Engineering; Mary C. Fuller, Literature

Faculty Policy Committee: Bevin P. Engelward, Biological Engineering; Klavs F. Jensen, Chemical Engineering; Helen Lee, Program in Writing

Committee on the Library System:Jeffrey S. Ravel, History; George N. Stiny ’67 , Architecture; Lisa A. Steiner, Biology

Committee on Outside Professional Activities: Bruce Tidor, EECS; J. David Litster PhD ’65, Physics; L. Rafael Reif, EECS

Committee on Student Life: Terry P. Orlando, EECS; Hazel L. Sive, Biology

Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid: Paul E. Gray ’54, EECS

Committee on the Undergraduate Program: Dennis M. Freeman PhD ’86, EECS; Herbert H. Einstein, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Harold E. Edgerton Faculty Achievement Award Selection Committee: Karen R. Polenske, Urban Studies and Planning; Dimitris J. Bertsimas PhD ’88, Sloan; Seth Lloyd, Mechanical Engineering; Peter C. Perdue, History; Robert T. Sauer, Biology

James R. Killian, Jr., Faculty Achievement Award Selection Committee: Erich P. Ippen, EECS; Isabelle de Courtivron, Foreign Language and Literatures; Leona D. Samson, Bioengineering; Ezra W. Zuckerman Sivan, Sloan; Anne W. Spirn, Urban Studies and Planning

SOURCE: FACULTY MEETING AGENDA

Professors Emeriti 2005

School of Engineering

Paul L. Penfield, Jr. ScD ’60, EECS
Henry I. Smith, EECS
John B. Vander Sande, DMSE

School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Kenneth Keniston, STS
William B. Watson, History

Sloan School of Management

Lotte Bailyn, Management

School of Science

A. Nihat Berker, Physics
Alan Davison, Chemistry
Jerome I. Friedman, Physics
Jeffrey Goldstone, Physics
Robert D. Rosenberg PhD. ’69, Biology

Department of Athletics, Physical Engineering, and Recreation

Jeffrey Hamilton, Tennis, Squash
Gordon Kelly, Track and Field, Physical Education

SOURCE: FACULTY MEETING AGENDA

Faculty Ex Officiis for 2005-2006

Jeffrey A. Meldman ’65

Robert M. Randolph
Mary P. Rowe

Alan F. White SM ’71

Associate Dean, Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education
Senior Associate Dean for Students
Special Assistant to the President and Ombudsperson
Senior Associate Dean, Sloan School of Management

SOURCE: FACULTY MEETING AGENDA

Faculty Recruiting Data: 7/04 – 6/05

School	Male	Female	Total	Underrepresented
				Minority
Architecture	2	1	3	1
Engineering	16	4	20	2
Science	5	2	7	0
SHASS	9	4	13	2
Sloan	—	—	0	—
Total	32	11	43	5

SOURCE: PROVOST ROBERT A. BROWN

Matriculating Grad. Students Fall 2005

Women (percentages out of total applicants, admitted, enrolled):

	Institute	School of Engineering	School of Science
Applicants	25.5%	19.9%	32.2%
Admitted	31.0%	26.1%	38.9%
Enrolled	28.4%	24.9%	37.7%

Underrepresented Minorities (out of total applicants, admitted, enrolled):

	Institute	School of Engineering	School of Science
Applicants	3.5%	3.2%	3.2%
Admitted	4.8%	3.8%	4.9%
Enrolled	4.3%	3.5%	3.4%

	Percentage Admitted Enrolling	
Underrepresented Minorities	29%	21%
All Applicants	50%	55%

SOURCE: PROVOST ROBERT A. BROWN

MIT Announces Leafletting Policy

Commencement, from Page 1

they reach the end of their undergraduate years.

Gupta, who is moving to the West Coast for work, said, “I’m looking forward to the next chapter, but sad about leaving” behind friends. Looking back on his experience, he advised current students not to lose sight of the big picture.

Kim, who will be working in California, said her feelings toward MIT are mixed, but she feels optimistic that “things happen for a reason, and things always get better.” Referring to the ability to balance conflicting responsibilities and interests, Kim said, “I pretty much figured it out” near the end, but needed the time to learn.

Senior gift is lounge contribution

The Class of 2005 Senior Gift, which will be presented at Commencement, will fund furnishing

and eventual renovation of the future Infinite Corridor lounge. The lounge is to be located in Building 10 in the space formerly occupied by the Cashier’s Office.

Senior Gift Committee Chair Avonne S. Bell ’05 said this choice for the Senior Gift came about because a survey showed that students felt a need for more student space. Participation in the senior donations campaign was at 25 percent as of yesterday evening, according to Bell.

Donors can designate their contribution to the student lounge or to another recipient such as UROP funding or athletics, according to the Senior Gift Web site.

Demonstrations statement issued

The Chancellor’s Committee on Protocol for Demonstrations at Commencement and other Academic Exercises, headed by Chancellor Phillip L. Clay, issued a statement

on May 2 of this year “to outline principles related to demonstrations and leafletting at Commencement and other academic exercises.”

Among the declarations on the statement is the requirement that although “reasonable accommodations will be made for such expression taking into account appropriate proximity and visibility to the event or activity in question ... the line of procession, the atmosphere in Killian Court, and the comings and goings of guests, must be free of obstruction or interference,” and access to Killian Court will be limited to those directly involved with or holding tickets to Commencement.

At last year’s Commencement, Aimee L. Smith PhD ’02 was arrested as she attempted to distribute leaflets to entering guests from a sidewalk next to Killian Court. The District Attorney later chose not to pursue the charges against her for that incident.

Cote Wins 2.007 Competition: “Tic-Tech-Toe”



The annual 2.007 competition, entitled “Tic-Tech-Toe” this year, was held Thursday, May 12, in Johnson Athletic Center. Students spend a semester designing and building robots to compete against one another in accomplishing a particular task.

- Clockwise from top:
- Professor of Mechanical Engineering Alexander H. Slocum '82 hoists Mark B. Cote '07 into the air following his victory in the final round.
 - After carefully maneuvering her robot, Alika M. Phipps '07 attempts to place a scoring block in position.
 - Jaime B. Werkmeister G helps Alexander C. Cutting '07 with some final adjustments to his robot.
 - Greg H. Belote '07 skillfully pilots his robot into scoring position.

Photography by Ray He



According to the 2.007 syllabus, 2.007, Design and Manufacturing I, “teaches a creative design process, based on the scientific method, with lectures and the creation, engineering, and manufacture of a remote controlled machine to compete in a major design contest (celebration) at the end of the semester. Students learn to identify a problem (opportunity!) and create, develop, and select best strategies and concepts using fundamental principles, appropriate analysis, and experimentation. Students then divide their best concept into modules and after developing the most critical modules first in descending order of criticality, proceed to system integration, testing and debugging. Project and risk management are introduced as tools to keep the development process under control in order to deliver a robust working machine *on time* and *on budget*.”

