



Residents of Baker House show their Red Sox pride during Saturday's Red Sox-Yankees game by hanging up a banner with "MIT Loves the Red Sox" in traditional font.

RICKY RAMIREZ—THE TECH

Want Dowd, Friedman, Kristof, and Rich Online? Try Factiva

By John A. Hawkinson

STAFF REPORTER

If you're on the MIT network, Factiva (<http://libraries.mit.edu/get/factiva>) is now the easiest way to read *The New York Times* Op-Ed columnists online.

Those of you who read *Times* Op-Ed columnists online on <http://nytimes.com> may have been disappointed on Sept. 19 when free online access to those columnists was removed. The regular columnists are now part of an \$8-a-month premium service called TimesSelect.

The MIT Libraries subscribe to several services that contain full text of *The New York Times*, though most are not designed for casual reading. The best available choice for *Times* opinion columns is Factiva, a joint service of Dow Jones and Reuters.

Just go to <http://libraries.mit.edu/get/factiva>, click on "News Pages," scroll down to "The New York Times," and change "Front Page" to "Opinion."

Factiva's interface could use some work, but it is improving. Prior to September, it required Internet Explorer and failed dramatically with Mozilla or Firefox. It now supports Firefox but does not work with tabbed browsing, a popular feature.

The Libraries also offer *The New York Times* through Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe (<http://libraries.mit.edu/get/lexis-nexis>), which is optimized for searches, rather than casual browsing of the day's news. Still another option is ProQuest's New York Times Historical Archive (<http://libraries.mit.edu/get/proquest>), which has full page PDF images, though the most recent is three years old, and the quality of photographs and other halftones is poor.

Factiva sometimes breaks when one logs in: "You do not have permission to see this page." A workaround is to delete the "Personal" from the end of the URL, and try again. Deleting cookies also works.

Little known fact: "Op-Ed" refers to items "Opposite the Editorial page," not "Opinion/Editorial."

SafeRide Requires MIT IDs For Evening Drive

By Daniela Cako

As of last Friday, Sept. 30, students taking SafeRide after 10 p.m. will need to bring their MIT IDs. Additionally, the Boston East and West routes now stop near further north on Massachusetts Avenue than previously.

The change to require IDs follows frequent incidents of vomiting and disturbances caused by non-MIT students in the past year in the SafeRide shuttles.

People accompanying MIT students or affiliates are able to use SafeRide, said Ellen E. Sojka, co-chair of the student-organized SafeRide Committee, and cross-registered students from Wellesley also have access to SafeRide with their IDs.

The Prudential Building stop

added last semester was a major source of non-MIT riders, leading to the new requirement, Sojka said. Besides the disturbances reported, non-MIT riders also use seats on the limited-capacity vans.

"The goal of SafeRide is to provide for MIT students and the people they are with," Sojka said. "MIT is responsible for MIT students."

Policy an inconvenience for some
The new policy has met mixed reviews.

Andre Y. Wibisono '09 said requiring IDs is an improvement. "I think it is better to show your ID just to prevent non-MIT affiliated students from getting in."

SafeRide, Page 13

Voter Turnout Is Up In a Clean Election For Senate, '09 Class

By Kirtana Raja

Undergraduate Association elections for the 2009 Class Council and UA Senate concluded last week with voter turnout that, while low, was higher than last year's. This year, 29.9 percent voted, an increase from 20.2 percent in 2004 and 24.2 percent in 2003.

The newly-elected members of the Class of 2009 Council are President Akash A. Chandawarkar, Vice President Samuel H. Poon, Secretary Deepika Singh, Treasurer Alexander G. Alford, Social Chairs Jeremy E. Smith and Tina P. Srivastava, and Publicity Chairs TingTing Luo and Wendy Wen.

Also elected were 27 UA Senators representing all of the campus dormitories, off-campus students, and fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

Though voter turnout was at a recent high, the average UA Senator was elected by only 12 percent of the voting population in his or her constituency.

A total of 1,227 votes were cast for 47 official and 450 distinct write-

in candidates. The election was one of the cleanest in recent memory, with no major foul play during campaigning said UA Election Commissioner Tiffany L. Seto '06.

Longer election timeline for 2005

Seto said that this year's increased voter turnout could be a result of a longer period of time for candidates to collect petition signatures. In previous years, freshmen class council and senatorial candidates were given petition packets at a meeting in early September and then had to submit signatures a week later.

This year, candidates were given an extra week to gather signatures, with petition packets due Sept. 20. More than half of the official candidates signed up after the initial deadline was extended, however.

More official candidates ran this year than in previous years, with every dormitory and FSILG having at least one official candidate. Seto said that having more official candidates could also have contributed to the in-

Elections, Page 15

Cambridge Seeks to Tax Earnings on Endowment

By Ray C. He

STAFF REPORTER

If members of the Cambridge City Council have their say, major Cambridge universities such as MIT and Harvard will be required to pay a tax on their endowment earnings.

On Sept. 12, the council sent a policy order for an endowment tax to a special committee including the nine councillors and certain city staff, according to the City of Cambridge Web site. A hike in property taxes last year put pressure on the City Council to take action.

The universities are not operating in a way intended for non-profit organizations, said Timothy J. Toomey Jr., a Cambridge city councillor and Massachusetts state representative.

"Universities are not not-for-profit anymore," Toomey said. "Harvard has an endowment of 25 billion dollars — anyone with an endowment of 25 billion dollars should be paying a little more in taxes." While MIT's endowment is not as big, "they should still be paying more" to meet their "fair share," Toomey said.

If the policy order passes through the committee, the city would submit a "home rule petition" that the Massachusetts State legislature would need to grant for the endowment tax to be levied.

MIT not completely not-for-profit

MIT does pay taxes on its non-academic, investment and commercial property, said Sarah E. Gallop, co-director of government and community relations. In fact, "MIT is the largest taxpayer in Cambridge."

MIT paid about \$23.5 million in property taxes for the 2004 fiscal

Endowment, Page 13



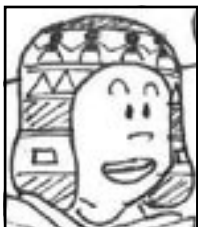
BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Members of Alpha Chi Omega help educate students about Domestic Violence Awareness Week with a display of luminarias (paper lanterns) on the steps of the Student Center last Sunday night. They will be selling carnations in Lobby 10 over the next week to raise money for Casa Myrna Vasquez, New England's largest domestic violence awareness organization.

CAMPUS LIFE

Tired of those ubiquitous recruitment ads? Bill Andrews express ambivalent feelings about the U.S. Army.

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WORLD & NATION

2nd Indictment Issued Against Delay

By Philip Shenon
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A grand jury in Texas issued a second indictment Monday against Rep. Tom DeLay, accusing the Texas Republican and two aides of money-laundering in a \$190,000 transaction that prosecutors have described as a violation of the state’s ban on the use of corporate money in local election campaigns.

The indictment was announced without warning Monday evening in Austin, the state capital, and it came after a flurry of angry and confusing exchanges between local prosecutors and lawyers for DeLay, who stepped down as House majority leader as a result of his original indictment last week on related conspiracy charges.

His defense lawyers had gone to court earlier in the day Monday to ask that the conspiracy charges be immediately dismissed on technical grounds; the lawyers argued that the conspiracy laws cited in the indictment did not apply the 2002 election violations cited in the original indictment.

Within hours, DeLay and his aides had been indicted on the new money-laundering charges, which can carry a prison sentence of up to five years.

Microsoft to Introduce New Xbox 360’s Games

By Seth Schiesel and Matt Richtel
THE NEW YORK TIMES

AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

In the five months since Microsoft unveiled a prototype of its new video game machine, the Xbox 360, the company has tried to generate excitement by staging demonstrations of the console’s ability to play music and display digital photographs and by trumpeting its online community features.

Yet while Microsoft has tried to build buzz for the 360, the most important ingredient has largely been missing: games.

There have been snazzy screenshots and impressive trailers. But since the game industry’s big trade show in Los Angeles in May, Microsoft has shown almost nothing in terms of actual, playable games. So far, Microsoft has done little to convince hard-core gamers that the 360 will be a must-buy this holiday season.

Microsoft means to change that in a big way. On Tuesday and Wednesday, more than 1,000 journalists, analysts and game industry executives are gathering here at X05, Microsoft’s game exhibition, to see and play the games that the company hopes will propel the 360 into millions of homes in its first few months on shelves.

Europeans Set Arms Embargo To Protest Uzbeks’ Crackdown

By C.J. Chivers
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

The European Union imposed sanctions on Uzbekistan on Monday, seeking to punish the country for its refusal to allow an international investigation into the bloody crackdown of an uprising in May in Andijon.

The sanctions embargo exports to Uzbekistan of arms and equipment that might be used for internal repression, and suspend meetings between the union and Uzbekistan that were intended to accelerate the nation’s reconciliation with the West after decades as a Soviet republic. The sanctions also ban travel by Uzbek officials directly involved in the Andijon crackdown to the 25 members of the European Union.

The decision followed months of diplomatic tension over Uzbekistan after a prison break and anti-government demonstration in Andijon on May 13. The demonstration, which survivors said included several thousand people, was scattered by gunfire from Uzbek troops and armored vehicles.

Survivors and independent organizations claim that hundreds of people were killed, almost all of them unarmed.

White House Counsel Named As Supreme Court Nominee

By Elisabeth Bumiller
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush on Monday named Harriet E. Miers, the deliberative, inconspicuous White House counsel and a longtime member of his inner circle, as his choice to replace Justice Sandra Day O’Connor on the Supreme Court.

Miers, 60, the first woman to be president of the State Bar of Texas, is a former Democrat who became a leader in the state’s moderate Republican legal establishment. She has never been a judge, and her positions on abortion and other contentious social issues are largely unknown.

“In selecting a nominee, I’ve sought to find an American of grace, judgment and unwavering devotion to the Constitution and laws of our country,” Bush said in a hastily arranged 8:01 a.m. televised appearance with Miers in the Oval Office. “Harriet Miers is just such a person.”

Miers, in one of her rare appearances speaking before television cameras, said that over her three decades of legal practice and community service, “I have always had a

great respect and admiration for the genius that inspired our Constitution and our system of government.”

She added, in a signal to conservatives that she would not attempt to inject policy into her rulings, that “if confirmed, I recognize that I will have a tremendous responsibility to keep our judicial system strong, and to help ensure that the courts meet their obligations to strictly apply the laws and the Constitution.”

The president’s announcement came a little more than an hour before the formal ceremony making John G. Roberts Jr. the 17th chief justice of the United States on the very first day of the court’s fall term. With O’Connor setting aside her retirement until a replacement is confirmed, the president and Senate Republicans urged a speedy hearing process for Miers, who, if approved, could be sworn in by December.

White House officials cast Miers as a trailblazer for women with an impressive record of accomplishment in Texas, while Bush’s opponents called her a presidential crony who was a leader in the search for a Supreme Court nominee that ended with herself.

No one disputes that she has been exceptionally close to the president for more than a decade — as his personal lawyer, as his choice to lead and clean up the Texas Lottery Commission and as the general counsel to his two gubernatorial campaigns. In 1998, during Bush’s second run for governor, Miers handled the first questions about whether Bush received favorable treatment to win a coveted spot in the Texas Air National Guard and thus was not subject to the draft during the Vietnam War.

A Republican strategist, who did not want to be named talking about internal deliberations at the White House, cast the choice in political terms, and said that the selection showed that Bush, who is experiencing some of the lowest approval ratings of his presidency, was “trying to reach out to the broad middle where the country is, and that he’s not looking for gratuitous fights.” The strategist said the White House expected “some grumbling” on the right, “but at the end of the day, as long as it’s controlled fire, that’s not a bad thing because it shows that the president wants to govern seriously.”

Shiites and Kurds Adopt Rules To Ensure Constitution Passes

By Robert F. Worth
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Iraq’s Shiite and Kurdish leaders quietly adopted new rules over the weekend that will make it virtually impossible for the constitution to fail in the coming national referendum.

The move prompted Sunni Arabs and a range of independent political figures to complain that the vote was being fixed.

Some Sunni leaders who have been organizing a campaign to vote down the proposed constitution said they might now boycott the referendum on Oct. 15. Other political leaders also reacted angrily, saying the change would seriously damage the vote’s credibility.

Under the new rules, the constitution will fail only if two-thirds of all registered voters — rather than

two-thirds of all those actually casting ballots — reject it in at least three of the 18 provinces.

The change, adopted during an unannounced vote in parliament on Sunday afternoon, effectively raises the bar for those who oppose the constitution. Given that fewer than 60 percent of registered Iraqis voted in the January elections, the chances that two-thirds will both show up at the polls and vote against the document in three provinces would appear to be close to nil.

“This is a mockery of democracy, a mockery of law,” said Adnan al-Janabi, a secular Sunni representative and a member of former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi’s party. “Many Sunnis have been telling me they didn’t believe in this democratic process, and now I believe they are vindicated.”

The rule change could prove a

serious embarrassment to American officials in Iraq, who have spent recent weeks struggling to persuade Sunni Arabs to vote for the constitution and even trying to broker last-minute changes that would make it more palatable to them.

There was some confusion on Monday about the origin of the change. One member of Iraq’s electoral commission said the commission had already made a similar ruling last month, while another member denied that. But Ali Dabagh, a moderate Shiite member of parliament, said there had been no public ruling until Sunday’s vote.

Dabagh also said the United Nations had expressed dissatisfaction on Monday with the rule change, and that the National Assembly would meet Tuesday to reconsider it.

WEATHER

Good Luck Finding a Proper Coat

By Tim Whitcomb

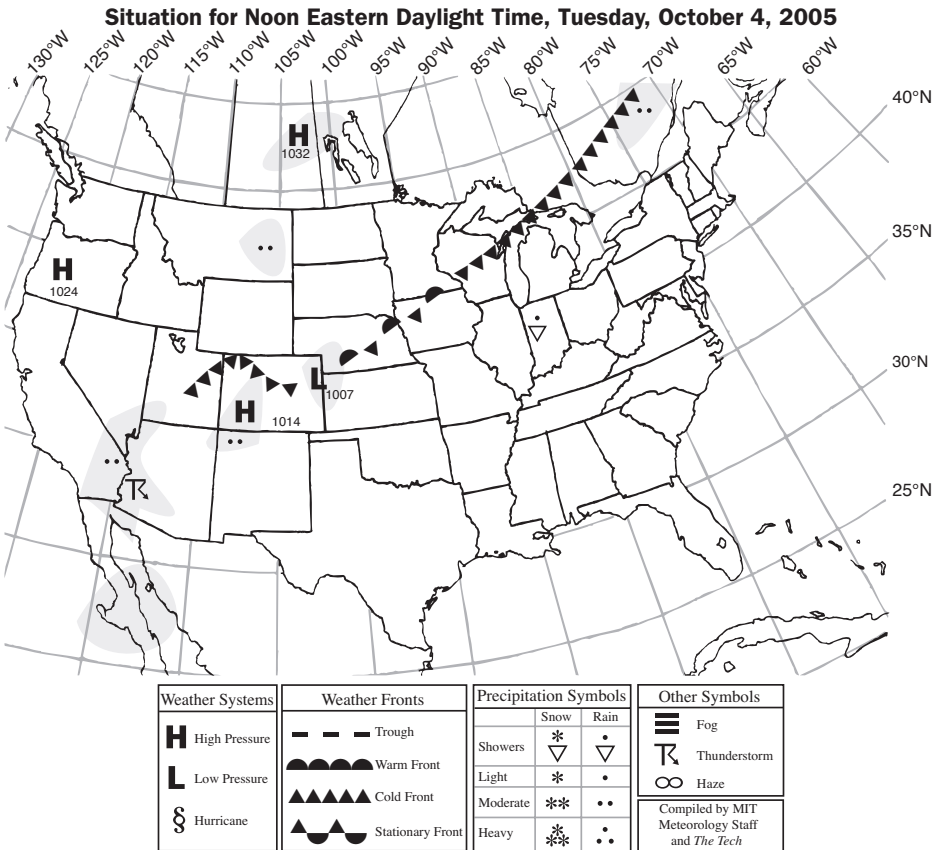
October has come to New England (as well as to the rest of the world, I suppose) and has brought along a spat of gorgeous weather that belies the fickle fall and weary winter ahead of us. Temperatures over the past few days have been pleasant, with temperatures near 70°F (21°C) every day and falling to about 50°F (10°C) at night. This should continue over the next few days as the region continues to be dominated by a ridge of high pressure aloft that should keep things at bay until the end of the week.

Current forecasts indicate that a system currently affecting the West Coast will move through over the Rocky Mountains and deepen slightly, bringing a cold front with it that will result in possibly heavy precipitation over the weekend. For the short-term outlook, though, it appears to be a continuation of the past few days — some fog and clouds in the morning giving way to a clear day with highs in the 70’s (23°C). The threat of precipitation is small, with the first forecast of rain coming in on Thursday.

For those keeping track, the National Hurricane Center has named Tropical Storm Stan, and it is expected to make landfall in Mexico as a hurricane on Wednesday. This leaves only Tammy and Vince to be used up before they turn to the Greek alphabet. Hurricane season lasts until Nov. 30.

Extended Forecast

Tuesday: Cloudy morning, clearing to highs in the mid 70s°F (24°C)
Tonight: Mostly clear, becoming cloudy — lows near 55°F (13°C)
Wednesday: Morning fog clearing to highs in the mid 70s°F (24°C)
Wednesday Night: Some clouds, lows near 60°F (16°C)
Thursday: Chance of afternoon showers with highs in the low 70s°F (22°C)



Real Estate Slowdown Spreads To Other, Fast-Growing Markets

By David Leonhardt and Motoko Rich
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A real estate slowdown that began in a handful of cities this summer has spread to almost every hot housing market in the country, including New York.

More sellers are putting their homes on the market, houses are selling less quickly and prices are no longer increasing as rapidly as they were in the spring, according to local data and interviews with brokers.

In Manhattan, the average sales price fell almost 13 percent in the third quarter, according to a widely followed report to be released Tuesday by Miller Samuel, an appraisal firm, and Prudential Douglas Elli-

man, a real estate firm. The amount of time it took to sell a home was also up nearly 24 percent over the previous year.

In Fairfax County, Va., outside Washington, D.C., the number of homes on the market rose nearly 50 percent from August, 2004, to August of this year. In the Boston suburb of Brookline, Mass., where typical three-bedroom houses cost about \$1 million, the inventory of homes for sale has increased in just the last few weeks, said Chobee Hoy, a broker there.

For-sale listings have also swelled throughout California, according to the California Association of Realtors. In just the San Francisco area, they have increased 16 percent in the last year, according to Coldwell

Banker Residential Brokerage.

“We are seeing a market in transition,” Leslie Appleton-Young, the association’s chief economist, said.

Brokers said that some houses seem to be sitting on the market longer because sellers have priced them too high, assuming that their value was still rising sharply. In other cases, people who otherwise would have waited a year or two before putting their houses on the market — like empty-nesters ready to downsize — have listed their property now out of fear that prices will soon fall.

In another sign that the housing market might have peaked, executives at large homebuilders, whose shares have soared in recent months, have sold almost \$1 billion worth of company stock this year.

Australians Win Nobel in Medicine For Study of Bacteria in Stomach

By Lawrence K. Altman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Two Australian scientists who upset medical dogma by discovering a bacterium that causes stomach inflammation, ulcers and cancer won the 2005 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine on Monday.

The winners were Dr. Barry J. Marshall, 54, a gastroenterologist from the University of Western Australia in Nedlands, and Dr. J. Robin Warren, 68, a retired pathologist from the Royal Perth Hospital.

The findings by the Australians in the early 1980s went so against medical thinking, which held that psychological stress caused stomach and duodenal ulcers, that it took

many more years for an entrenched medical profession to accept it.

In its citation, the Nobel committee from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm said that Marshall and Warren “made an irrefutable case that the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*” causes ulcers and other diseases.

“It is now firmly established that *H. pylori* causes more than 90 percent of duodenal ulcers and up to 80 percent of gastric ulcers,” the Nobel committee said.

In the wake of the ulcer discovery, many scientists have been seeking unknown infectious agents as the cause of many chronic diseases. Examples include microbes that might produce

atherosclerosis, the underlying basis of coronary artery disease; ulcerative colitis; regional enteritis (Crohn’s disease); and rheumatoid arthritis.

When the two began their research, doctors could heal ulcers with drugs that blocked the production of gastric acid, believing stomach acid caused ulcers. But the ulcers often relapsed because the bacteria remained to perpetuate the inflammation that leads to ulcers and to certain cancers.

Ulcers at that time were often a chronic, debilitating disease that required major surgery and that could cause life-threatening complications from bleeding. Also, they would often erode through the stomach and lead to peritonitis.

Conservatives Are Wary Of President’s Pick

By David D. Kirkpatrick
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The White House scrambled Monday to prevent conservative backlash over the president’s choice of White House counsel Harriet E. Miers as his next Supreme Court nominee.

Karl Rove, the president’s top political adviser, started calling influential social conservatives to reassure them about the pick even before it was announced. He called James C. Dobson, founder of Focus on the Family, over the weekend, and Richard Land, a top public policy official of the Southern Baptist Convention on Monday morning, said several people briefed on the calls. Paul Weyrich, the veteran conservative organizer, said Ed Gillespie, the former Republican Party chairman lobbying for confirmation, called at 7:10 a.m. to tell him the news.

In each call and in a series of teleconferences throughout the day, representatives of the White House promised their conservative supporters that as White House counsel, Miers had played a central role in picking the many exemplars of conservatism among Bush’s previous nominees.

Some of the efforts evidently bore fruit. By day’s end, Dobson, one of the most influential evangelical conservatives, welcomed the nomination. “Some of what I know I am not at liberty to talk about,” he said in an interview, explaining his decision to speak out in support of the nominee. Dobson declined to discuss his conversations with the White House.

Men More Likely to Play Hooky on Job

By Nathan Hurst
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Men more likely to play hooky from work

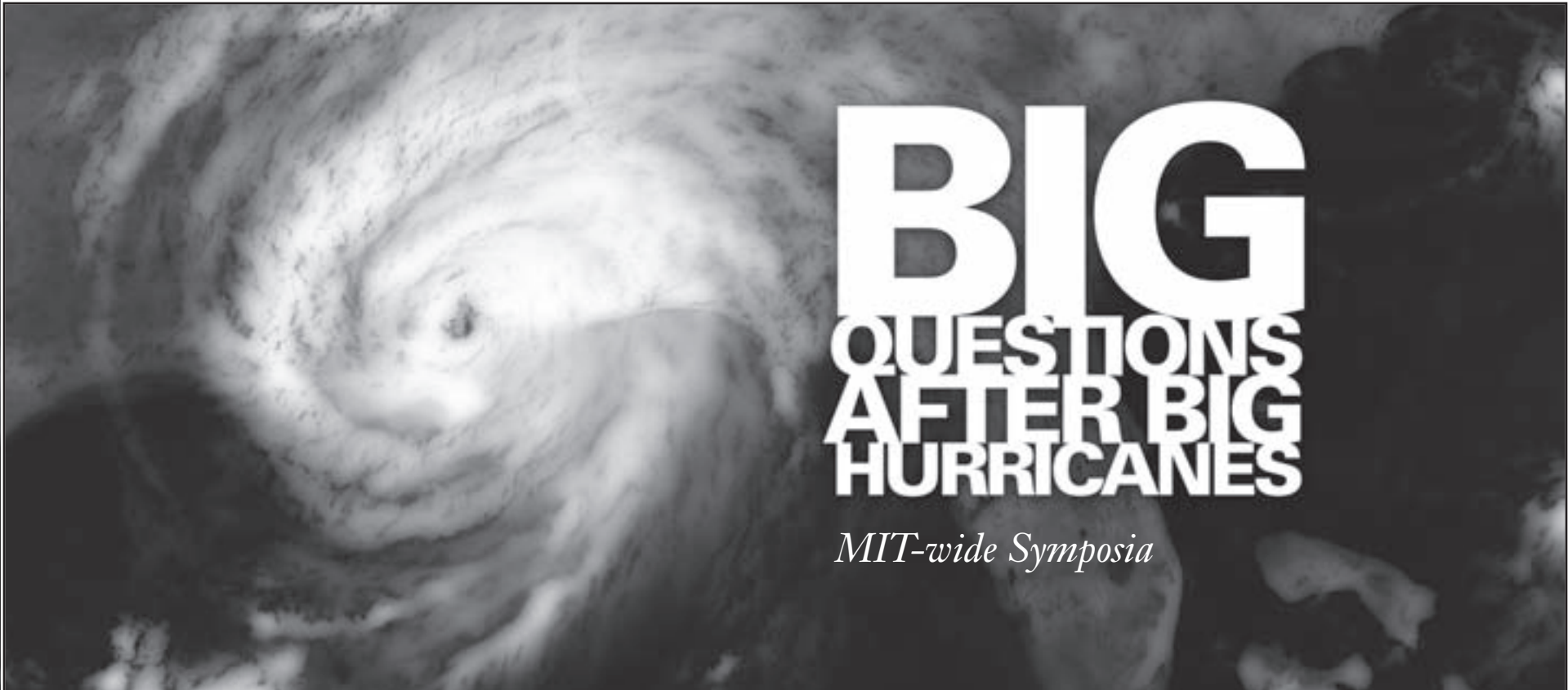
Men are twice as likely as women to play hooky by calling in sick, according to a recent poll.

The 11th annual Attitudes in the American Workplace poll, reported by the Marlin Co., a workplace consulting firm, showed that in the past year, 14 percent of women reported calling in sick when they weren’t, while 29 percent of men admitted to doing so.

Overall, 22 percent of American workers faked a sick day within the last year, the survey reported. Older workers were less likely to lie to take some personal time off, with only 15 percent of workers age 50 or older faking illness. Workers with children under the age of 18 were only slightly more likely to lie about illness, with 19 percent of those working parents surveyed reporting calling in sick.

The poll also looked at workers’ access to health insurance, and found some inequities in how America’s labor force is covered.

Overall, 89 percent of workers surveyed were covered by health insurance of some kind, but only 69 percent of those making less than \$20,000 a year had coverage. Younger workers are less likely to have insurance than older workers, the survey found.



How Can Communities, Cities and Regions Recover From Disaster?

Are Cities Resilient? Disaster Recovery, Past and Present
Professor Lawrence J. Vale, Department Head, Urban Studies and Planning

Hurricane Katrina: What Would FDR Do?
Professor Thomas A. Kochan, Sloan School of Management

Do Poor Communities Have a Role in Rebuilding New Orleans?
Professor J. Phillip Thompson, Urban Studies and Planning

Moderated by Professor David A. Mindell, Science, Technology and Society, and Engineering Systems

**Wednesday,
October 5, 2005
4:00pm - 6:00pm**

**Kirsch Auditorium
Ray and Maria Stata Center**

For information on other events:
<http://web.mit.edu/katrina/symposia/>



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Read All About It

Re “Anti-Gay Statements Written in Bathroom in Walker Memorial,” Sept. 30: I have seen bathroom graffiti in almost every public restroom I’ve ever been in, and quite a lot was anti-gay. What is the news in this? If it was written to offend, and offense was taken, your article can only give glee to the graffiti artist.

Bradley Lichtenstein '95

Locker Room Secrets

Puritans rule in Bill Andrews’ column “Hard Subject to Talk About” [Sept. 27]. However, Bill’s problem of “seeing entirely too much penis” has just as much to do with modern masculinity as it does with that timeless classic — self shame. Bill’s in a bind. Striving for the good of humanity, he recently took up swimming at the gym. But no kind deed goes unanswered. He’s being

punished for his good samaritanism by repeated exposure to the male member while in the men’s locker-room.

Of course, it isn’t the penis peeping *per se* that’s causing Bill trouble. He assures us, after all, that it isn’t homophobia driving him. Still, Bill offers only one allowance for encountering penises — watching good old-fashioned man-on-woman porn. He makes no bones about the immorality of out-of-context penis, “Have I been going to bad places, where a little penis is to be expected?” “Have I been involved in immoral activities?” Bad penis, immoral penis. Bill leaves us little doubt that unless one is watching Ron Jeremy do his thing, catching sight of a penis must be wrong. Bill never mentions a penis, including his own, in a positive light. Penises are a punishment, they are bad and immoral, they are things we need to hide from others when changing clothes. (How then, I wonder, are we to think of boys who like not just the penis God gave

them, but their boyfriend’s too?)

We’ve been told for a long time in America (think of Massachusetts’s founders) to feel shame about our bodies. Moreover, male-male interaction is tightly proscribed by the threat of being labeled gay. British author Lauren Henderson recently put it well: “The dress code for American straight men is entirely built around not looking homosexual.” Bill writes from an unenviable position: unless they are performing that special function, penises can only be shameful. Even in settings where nudity is to be expected, we are supposed to feel uncomfortable and embarrassed. There is a “hard subject to talk about,” but it has less to do with the locker room and more to do with how men are taught to view themselves in a country where manliness is defined by self-shame and not wanting to be labeled gay.

Nathan B. Cisneros G

The writer is a first year PhD student in Political Science.

Thinking Beyond the Laboratory

An Open Letter to President Hockfield

By Peter A. Shulman

Dear President Hockfield,

What does MIT owe the world?

In your May 6 inaugural address, you boldly announced a major research commitment to address the world’s energy problems, creating the Energy Research Council (ERC) to advise you on energy-related issues. This week, the ERC turned to the MIT student community for ideas on how MIT could best address our energy problems.

Three items stand out.

First, it is vital to increase MIT’s share of research into energy-related technologies and sciences. We should be in the lead here, period.

Second, MIT’s campus should itself be a laboratory for clean energy and efficient building technologies. Our campus should be the model for other campuses, towns and municipalities, neighborhoods and office complexes. We must show that clean energy technology is available, affordable, and practical in the real world.

Third, and most importantly, MIT must confront the reality that technologies alone do not solve human problems.

Consider these facts: engineers have already developed wind energy technologies that are economically competitive with conventional electricity generation in many (windy) markets. Hybrid auto technology is easily available. Geothermal home heating is cheap (\$3,000 a home), but rarely, if ever, installed for neighborhoods and is generally available only in high-end, custom houses. Existing cogeneration technology captures otherwise completely wasted heat energy but is infrequently used. Pick your efficient technology of choice — the engineering is there, but something is still missing: an understanding of the social context of technology.

If we are serious about addressing our energy crises — and it is appropriate to speak of these crises in the plural — it is essential that MIT engineers and scientists work alongside social scientists and humanists to understand why some technologies are adopted and others fail even if the failing technology is demonstrably better. Without this insight, MIT will be throwing money and resources at a problem that is simply unsolvable by technological means alone.

My field is the History of Science, Technology, and the Environment, and my research is in the History of Energy. We in this field have shown time and again that people adopt technologies for reasons other than their efficiency, technical sweetness, or even cost. Some choices are of habit, others convenience. Sometimes the

choice is not even the consumer’s to make (try changing where your electricity comes from). Furthermore, once large, complex technological systems (like our petroleum infrastructure, for example) are built, they are extremely difficult to discard. Political choices, tax policies, and environmental laws also contribute to making some systems more viable than others.

Our campus should be the model for other campuses, towns and municipalities, neighborhoods and office complexes.

MIT has always been at the forefront of technological research. That is what we are known for and have been known for since the late nineteenth century. But the history of technology has shown that technology alone is insufficient to address the tangle of techno-social problems.

More than ever, we need the insight, contribution, and collaborative efforts of social psychologists; sociologists; anthropologists; historians of science, technology, energy, and the environment; management experts; policy

analysts; clergy, and others with knowledge of the social world.

President Hockfield, what would be truly innovative, and demonstrate MIT’s commitment to addressing the seriousness of our current and future energy crises, would be to bring our engineers and scientists together with their colleagues in the social sciences and the humanities to think beyond the laboratory.

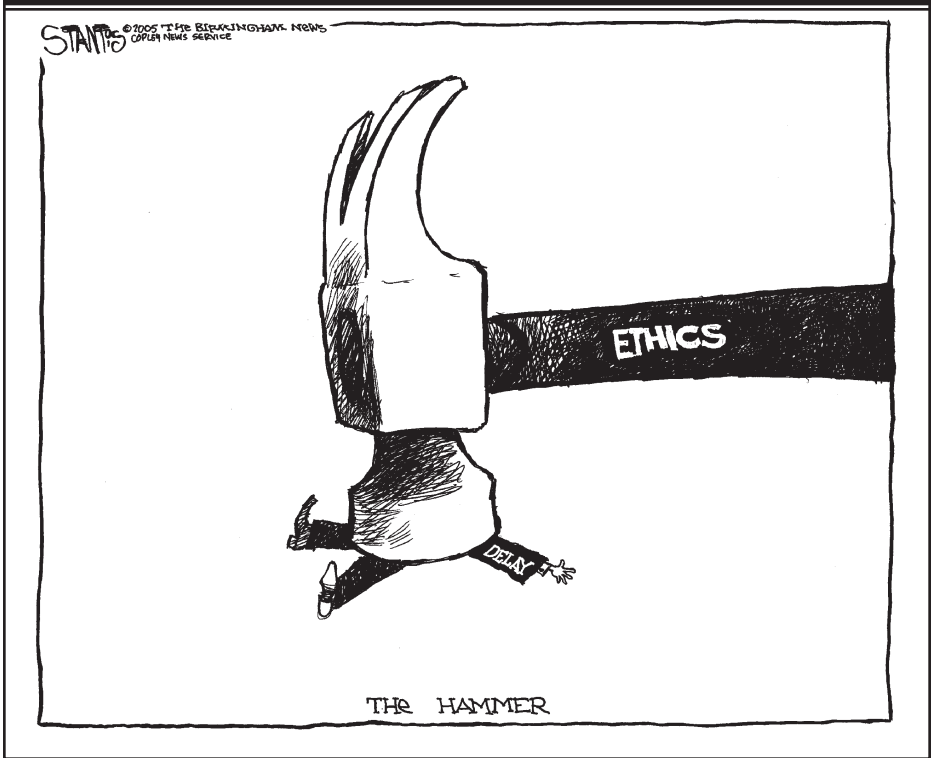
Now is our collective opportunity to do something more, to develop solutions beyond the better machine. To do that will take unprecedented collaboration.

What does MIT owe the world? The best engineering and science research and education on the planet? Certainly. Leadership in addressing the most pressing challenges of the 21st century? You bet. But most of all, we owe the world our respect for its complexity. We owe our appreciation that people, politics, psychology, and ethics are as much needed as new ideas and innovation. We owe the world that the daring of our solutions will consider the enormity of the problem.

Is MIT up to the task?

Sincerely,

Peter A. Shulman '01 is a PhD candidate in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society and is a former president of the Undergraduate Association.



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Grad Students Can't Live in Broken Promises

Hector Hernandez

Graduate students at MIT are intimately involved in the discovery, promotion, and implementation of new disciplines, concepts, and trends in engineering and science. The development of practical, sensible, engineering and the discovery of new crucial concepts with which to understand the physical world around us makes working in any laboratory at MIT an exciting and vital experience for graduate students. One often missed point is that the idea of interdisciplinary cooperation is the other crucial key to the experience that is MIT. This, more than any other idea, is what makes MIT such a unique and exciting place. The coffee shops, pubs, and benches on campus that embrace graduate students from diverse disciplines are the melting pot of ideas and future collaborations.

If the graduate student community at MIT is to continue to thrive and develop, MIT needs to review and define its commitment to the development and fostering of a diverse graduate student community. This topic has been addressed in one form or another by the administration and graduate students at MIT over the last half century. There have been reports to the president and the faculty that reiterate the importance of graduate students to MIT. The Lewis Committee Report, presented to the faculty of MIT in 1949, was the first comprehensive report that tried to unify MIT by proposing the development of a long-term plan that took into consideration the development and sustainability of both academic and residential

communities. This report iterates the need to develop a graduate community inclusive of not just graduate students, but also of faculty, administrators, and staff. The proposals presented in the Lewis Committee Report have guided Institute planning and development since.

MIT has implemented the academic portion of this report well. We have risen to be one of the leading research and development institutions not only in America, but also in the world. This is clear when we look at the composition of the graduate community. MIT boasts that 36 percent of its graduates are international students. This is essential to the cross-pollination and dissemination of scientific and cultural ideas. MIT has also begun to make strides in the fostering of groups that are underrepresented in science. One can only speculate on the benefit MIT has reaped from the purposeful systematic implementation of programs to foster the academic community.

Yet the idea of residential community, presented as so critical to the development of the graduate student, has been all but ignored. If the academic community is our Yin, the residential community is our Yang. One cannot exist without the other. MIT has long pledged to build accommodations to house 50 percent of its graduate community on campus — this figure has been presented to the MIT and Cambridge communities. To date, there are only accom-

modations for 37 percent of the total graduate population. With a population of around 6,200 students, MIT still needs around 800 beds to reach the magic number. The graduate student community has been growing at a steady rate of about two percent over the last decade. Doing the math, the longer MIT waits to address the issue, the worse the problem will get. Even more troubling are the rumors that now put the number of graduate students MIT wants to house down around 40 percent.

At this point, we can stop and ask why MIT, which acknowledges the importance of both academic and residential communities, has not done all it can to implement the residential community part of the report. The most common answer is that MIT does not have the financial resources to undertake such a project. The development of the academic and research campus has taken precedence over other projects. The mismanagement of building project budgets in the last couple of years has further exacerbated the situation.

Now, we are being told that the undergraduate dorms need to be refurbished, and that graduate students are going to lose Ashdown temporarily, if not permanently. They are promising a bright shiny new dorm, but I think that the graduate community needs to seriously think about what they would lose in Ashdown. It is not just about beds. The replacement of

Ashdown by a new dorm would barely equal the current number of beds available on campus for graduate students. The bigger loss would be the social and community structure that is Ashdown. Since 1939, Ashdown has provided space on campus for graduate students. Ask any current or past residents of Ashdown, and you will quickly become aware of the precious memories they have of their time there.

If MIT is going to ameliorate the situation, we need to change how we look at the problem of housing for graduate students. Some of you have heard me say, “the definition of insanity is to keep on doing the same thing and expect a different result.” MIT has a unique opportunity to use its vital resources, such as the School of Architecture in combination with the School of Engineering, to design a vibrant, environmental friendly, and socially active physical space for the residential community of MIT. The Lewis Committee Report understood that innovation and idea development does not always happen in the laboratory or classroom. It is in the personal moments of carefree non-directed discussion between individuals that breakthroughs in innovation and research occur. It is MIT’s cross-disciplinary approach that allows the Institute to develop and spearhead a project such as the Energy Research Council. These working relationships can only happen at a place where the members of the community have the opportunity to engage with each other in an academic and a social setting.

Hector H. Hernandez is a former Graduate Student Council vice president and a graduate student representative to the Faculty Policy Committee.

Yet the idea of residential community, presented as so critical to the whole development of the graduate student, has been all but ignored.

Keeping One Eye Abroad But One's Culture at Home

Krishna Gupta

Some may be unaware, but Germany currently has no real head of state. That’s correct — the world’s third largest economy has now spent nearly two weeks post-election without a proper leader. Germany has long been one of the world’s major powers; however, its recent problems have culminated in a deadlock, in the outcome of which hangs the short-term future of the embattled country, the feeble European Union, and a seriously strained U.S.-Germany relationship.

Why do elections matter to outsiders? Elections give global citizens a chance to assess the state of affairs in a particular country, to identify a particular direction in which a country is moving. For example, in my humble opinion, the U.S. election of 2004 demonstrated to the world that the U.S. was not yet ready to re-enter the league of intelligent and responsible nations.

The Mexican election of 2000, which marked the end of 71 years of domination by the Institutional Revolutionary Party in favor of the opposition democratic President Vicente Fox, reflected the people’s frustration with government corruption and the status quo. Similarly, the Indian election of 2004 was won by

the left-leaning Congress Party, nearly bringing in a foreign-born female Prime Minister Sonia Gandhi and signaling recognition of a the populist demand for poverty alleviation.

Or, one could look at the recent 2005 Egyptian debacle, the first contested presidential election in the country’s history, and observe that the system must be flawed if Hosni Mubarak was sworn in as President for his fifth six-year term thanks to the votes of a measly 23 out of every 100 citizen. All these elections, and many others, can give us an initial perception of the country’s affairs.

As voters in Germany went to the polls on Sunday, Sept. 18, each must have felt like any other voter in any other country — confidently hoping that their candidate would win. After all, each of the major parties — the conservative Christian Democrats/Christian Social Union (CDU/CSU) and the Social Democrats (SPD) — stood a good chance to win.

Alas, the consequences of this fine balance are now clear. With CDU/CSU totaling 225 seats from 35.2 percent of the popular vote and SPD capturing 222 seats from 34.2 percent of the popular vote, the country has suddenly become embroiled in a battle to save itself from political ignominy. For although the CDU/CSU, led by Angela Merkel, secured a three-seat ad-

vantage in the lower house of Parliament, it could not claim a majority, mainly because of a strong showing by rival SPD, headed by incumbent Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

The SPD has traditionally leaned left and enacted populist policy, while the CDU/CSU is the largest conservative party in Germany. The SPD has controlled the Parliament for seven years, and in recent years has kept Germany as an independent state promulgating EU ideology.

Chancellor Schroeder’s refusal to join the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq has facilitated much better relations with neighboring France and Russia, though it angered the U.S. administration.

Alas, despite his international clout, Schroeder has been hammered at home for being unable to reduce unemployment. And we MIT students know that if you don’t keep the numbers down, the numbers will keep you down. This is a classic example of a leader forgetting that he must first take care of the people who elected him to lead. Sound familiar? The SPD lost its majority last year, and Schroeder called for early elections to retain a mandate to rule. Its major opposition, the CDU/CSU, has prom-

Why do I have to see “Don’t mess with Texas” shirts in small bazaars in Jerusalem?

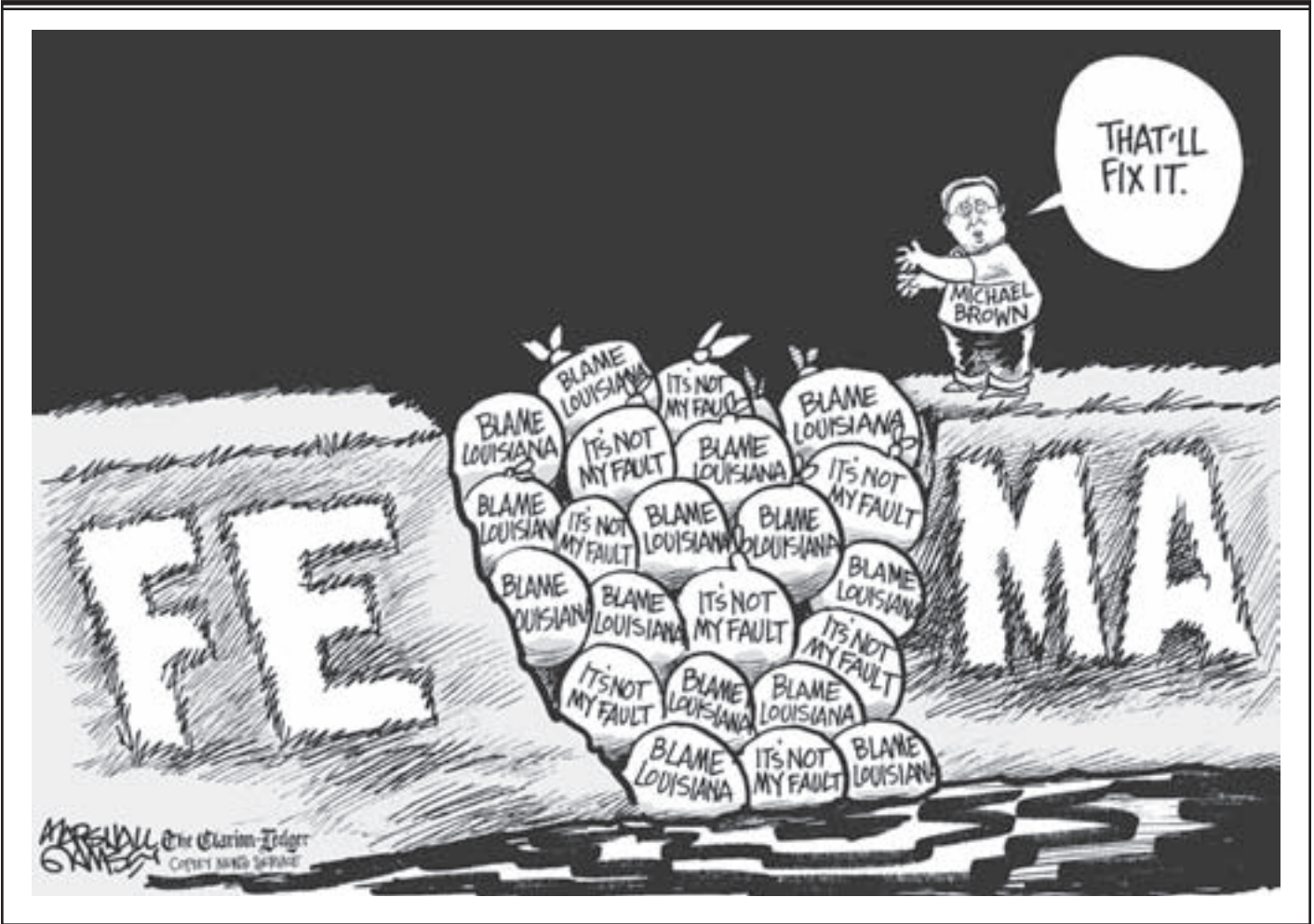
ised to drastically cut unemployment, and, perhaps most significantly, Schroeder’s adversary Merkel has promised better future relations with the U.S.

To form a government, a coalition needs to have a majority of seats in the Bundestag. Of the possible coalitions, a grand SPD/CDU/CSU alliance is most likely. They share similar views in areas such as revamping the complicated tax system or labor and welfare reforms as outlined by Schroeder in Agenda 2010. But the SPD is not as radical as CDU/CSU in speed or scale. I can’t imagine this coalition passing key reforms in a timely manner, and it would only stunt Germany’s future growth or further its current problems, which include a jobless rate of 11.7 percent. A number of less probable options exist but most involve a smaller party moving across the political spectrum to give opposition parties a majority. On top of all this remains the issue of chancellorship — Merkel insists that the people have chosen her, but Schroeder points to the small margin as an indication that he should continue.

To be quite frank, I’m hoping that Schroeder pulls through. He won’t let unemployment run amok again simply because he’ll have used his last lifeline. If Germany decides to re-establish close ties with the U.S., not only would the U.S. strongly influence Great Britain, the most independent country in the EU, it would also penetrate further into central Europe. And I’m of the opinion that it’s not good for the progress of the world to have Americans strutting around all over the place. I’m sick of seeing America tacitly claiming spheres of influence in every damn country. Why do I have to see “Don’t mess with Texas” shirts in small bazaars in Jerusalem? There is value in having cultures maintain distinct flavors, thoughts, people; freedom does not only involve the establishment of militaristic independence, but also of indigenous ideology and implementation, free from the machinations of politicians sitting thousands of miles away, particularly if the country in question is perfectly capable of self-government in the truest sense. Both candidates will attempt to strengthen Germany and the EU, but one will do it alone, and the other will do it with an outsider.

In my mind, the grand coalition is the likeliest possibility, and I believe that Schroeder will use his political cunning to maintain his hold on the chancellery. Merkel squandered a 20-point poll lead and hopefully will be forced into the sidelines. This must be the EU’s time to redeem itself, to triumph, to shine, and to rise. The jury is still out, however, and the possibility remains that Germany will become the next U.S. state. And if it does, the door is open for the rest of the EU to come crumbling down.

Krishna Gupta is a member of the class of 2009.



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CAMPUS LIFE

Imminent Collapse

To Be Or Not To Be All You Can Be?

By Bill Andrews
ASSOCIATE CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

We begin today with a vocabulary lesson, perhaps your first @MIT.edu. The word “ambivalent” means having feelings in opposite directions. If you love Seattle but hate rain, you might feel ambivalent about going there. Many people think ambivalence is the same as apathy, but that’s not the case at all. Why do I mention this? Apart from giving a Public Service Announcement to my fellow engineers (we could all use better verbal skills), I want to be understood when I say “I feel ambivalent about the army.”

It’s all because of those damn recruitment ads on TV (and the radio, and buses, and probably blimps). There are so many it’s getting harder and harder to ignore them — as I’d always done. Well, not always: I considered joining the Army, many years ago, when I thought it would be nice not to have to pay off thousands of dollars of loans after graduating. What kept

me from enlisting was the nagging suspicion that given my luck, the year after I joined we’d get some crazy president who would just randomly start a war. No, really. Ask anyone who knew me in high school, and that’s exactly what I said; it seemed so laughable then, but now ... Well, I don’t have to tell you what’s going on.

Every time I see a recruitment ad now I am filled with contradictory feelings (i.e., ambivalence). I feel anger at and a tinge of loathing for the Army (or the Army Reserves, which is pretty much the same thing these days); they’re trying to trick people, young naïve people, into joining the army. They make it look all cool and fun or lay a guilt trip on ya’ if you don’t do it. “Plus, I think it’s time to be a man,” one young soldier says, implying that the only way to manhood is through violence, pain, and whatever else comes after basic training. What’s the big deal? The big deal is that if you’re tricked into buying a pair of pants, you don’t get shot at for it (unless they’re really ugly or you live in

the wrong neighborhood).

And yet! I have nothing but the highest respect for the soldiers themselves. My father was a veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam wars; when he worked for the Veteran’s Administration I met countless other soldiers, whose kids I played with and everything. Our folks in Iraq are doing all kinds of unpleasant things just because their country told them to, stuff I sure don’t want to do. I appreciate their sacrifices, trite as it sounds to put it that way. Just because I disagree with what they’re doing (WTF are we doing in Iraq anyway?), doesn’t mean I hate them for doing it. It’s not like they want to be there either.

Here, we have the heart of the matter. I watch those ads, and at the same time I get two different feelings. I go “You suck, army!” at the same time I go “You rock, soldiers!” Strange. Kind of like, “Gosh I hate math, but I sure love those equations. But what do I do about it? What can I do about it? Nothing, that’s just the way things are. The army will continue to need people, and

people (especially poor and underprivileged people) will continue to enlist. Maybe if I campaigned and wrote letters and protested, something might change, but hey, I’ve got classes to go to and problem sets to finish.

Why, then, go through all this? Simply for you, dear reader. You’ve had time to adjust to the semester already, bought your books and supplies by now, are starting to realize just how much work you’re in for. There’s always a chance you might not have seen these recruitment ads, ubiquitous as they are. Or you might not have given them much thought. But at the risk of bringing everybody down, there are people dying out there, many of them our people, folks like you, me, and your high school buddies. I think they’re worth thinking about. How do you feel about the army? How do you feel about our soldiers? How do you feel about Iraq? As “Star Wars” reminds us, it can be wise to examine your own feelings. After all, even ambivalent feelings are better than none at all.

Say What

Esplanade

By Christina Kang
STAFF COLUMNIST

Snow! Sure it’s exciting, but that also means it’s getting cold. Before the temperature drops, take advantage of beautiful days with gorgeous weather. Too busy to take a trip to the Cape or up to the Maine coast? Take advantage of the Esplanade right across from our campus. This past Saturday, my friends and I stuffed my laptop, food, a blanket, and psets into our bags and trekked across the Harvard Bridge to the Esplanade. The Esplanade stretches 17 miles along the banks of the Charles River and is home to the Hatch Shell. (For a listing of events, see <http://www.hatchshell.com>.)

Besides being a concert venue, the Esplanade is a great date spot, both free and romantic. Ride your bikes as the sun sets or take a late-night walk; the dim lighting and romantic shadows created by the trees are entrancing. Go out onto one of the docks, lie down, and snuggle with your significant other (all under the stars). Bring a light snack in case you get hungry, or feed the animals that scamper about.

In the daytime, the Esplanade is a great place to walk, run, skateboard, and rollerblade. It’s also full of great subjects for photography and other art media and inspiring for writing and thinking.

To reach the Esplanade from campus, walk on the far side of the bridge from the dorms; before the sidewalk ends, you will see an entrance to a ramp on your left. Go down the ramp, take a left or a right, and you are on this little haven of nature (nature, if you have forgotten, includes flowers actually growing out of dirt, plush green grass, and lots and lots of trees). A turn to the left takes you to the Hatch Shell. After passing a little green, a little dirt, you come across the playground complete with swings, monkey bars, jungle gyms, and curvy slides! Take a trip down memory lane, and go swinging high into the sky, but be forewarned: there are little kids running around as their parents give you amused looks.

Once you have fulfilled your childish yearnings, keep treading down the path. The Esplanade presents many options, but just stick to the path closest to the river. You will come across a set of stone stairs and a dock. I found a nice little corner, (if the dock is too crowded for your tastes, keep walking down; there is another dock nearly identical to this one) laid out a blanket, got out my laptop, and sat down to work. When I realized that the gorgeous sun making me warm and cheery was also creating an impenetrable glare on my screen, I did what

every motivated MIT student would — I took a nap. The sun beamed down on me, while a nice breeze from the water kept me cool.

After my nap, I decided to make a tent for my laptop so that I could see the screen, and I wrote my essay, working more efficiently than if I had been in my room or at the library. Everyone on the dock was either studying or sunbathing, so there was little noise.

To be outside, inches away from the water, looking out toward the MIT campus, which, despite what anyone says, is quite beautiful, watching the sailboats line the horizon — it was a breathtaking experience. I even ran into four groups of students from MIT; it was fun to be able to talk to them in this environment. Students were there to study, to sleep, to enjoy the scenery, or just to take a break.

Fishing is also possible from this dock. I ran into two children using fishing line and a hook. They ended up catching an eel-like, long, slimy thing that they proceeded to set free into the river, but fishing in the Charles was not something I had imagined was possible.

You can watch people in kayaks, boaters, and gondolas ride past, many with cute dogs standing at the head of the boat. And yes, I did say gondolas. Imported straight from Venice, these authentic gondolas are rowed manually by Venetian style “Voga” (gondoliers). Rides are quite pricey but definitely worth it for special occasions. You can find more information about it at <http://www.bostongondolas.com>. They run from May 28 until Oct. 16, Wednesday through Sunday.

After a fun, productive day on the dock, I headed back to campus, refreshed and in an amazing mood from my little excursion that had also proved productive! For those who live in Boston, close to the river, it is incredibly easy to get to these docks and even easier to take a break at the Esplanade. For those living on campus, get out of the same old routine, and try taking your work to a natural environment. Boston has so much to offer ... don’t miss out!



CHRISTINA KANG—THE TECH
Chin-Chin Yao '07 and Betty Y. Yang '07 soak up the sun on one of the docks of the Esplanade while studying for classes.



CHRISTINA KANG—THE TECH
The ramp to the Esplanade runs from the left side of the road when heading from MIT to Boston and offers an easy getaway from MIT.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

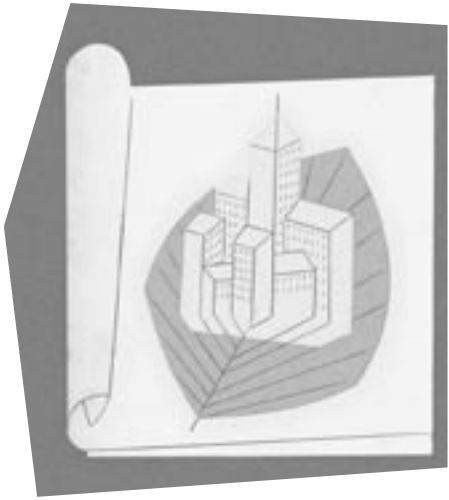
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Filler Space

THE REMAINS OF THE DAY

by Jason Burns



Trio

Dedicated to my boy, Don Adams... ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

by Emezie Okorafor



Moons of Uranus

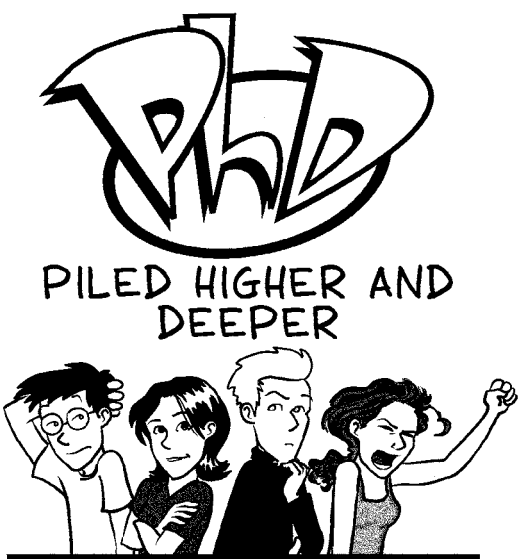
by Juan Pablo Mendieta



FVCKED

by Colin Dillard





Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 12

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend

More Cowbell

by Jia Lou



Schleminkel

by John David Payne





Ask a MedLink

Oh, my aching shins!

Dear MedLink: I need information about shin splints. I know I often get them when I run, but what are they exactly, what causes them, and how can I avoid that annoying, throbbing pain in my shins? —**Runner In Distress**

Dear Runner: Geeez, don't remind me how shin splints feel! As active as most MIT students are, shin splints are a common occurrence on campus; I know I've had more than my share! Although shin splints are neither serious nor permanent, it's a very annoying and debilitating injury, so I was happy to get your question and learn more about this problem.

I spoke with MIT Medical nurse practitioner Anthony M. Pasqualone, M.S.N., NP-C, who specializes in orthopedic medicine. According to Pasqualone, shin splints may be caused by sudden increases in mileage, walking uphill, walking faster than normal, jumping, running stairs, or just covering too much distance—in other words, just about any repetitive, weight-bearing physical activity!

Pain from shin splints can occur on the inside, outside, or middle of your shin, Pasqualone explains. "If you have pain in the middle or inside of your shin," he explains, "you probably need better arch support." In addition to sturdy, good quality shoes, he suggests trying an over-the-counter, arch-support shoe insert. "Pain on the outside of the shin is usually due to overuse and inflammation of the anterior tibialis muscle, which flexes your foot upward," Pasqualone continues. "This type of pain usually results from the repetitive flexing of the muscle. It's like the arm cramp you'd get if you did hundreds and hundreds of biceps curls."

A good warm-up before your workout will go a long way toward preventing shin splints, Pasqualone told me. "Be sure to stretch your calf muscles and Achilles tendons real well. If you have the problem while running or walking, try warming up more and don't increase your speed too quickly. If your shins hurt after a work-out, you should gently massage them, and then ice them."

While these measures should help prevent many instances of shin splints, we're all going to overdo it sometimes. And at those times, Pasqualone says, "ice and massage will help, but rest is often the best treatment." So sit back, relax, work on those problem sets, and watch your shin splints disappear! —**Zach '07**



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anonymous online form:

<http://web.mit.edu/medlinks/www>

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in W20-557!

Want to use the software on Athena? Wondered what sorts of cool things you can do? In this column, part 3 of 4 of our introductory columns, we discuss lockers on Athena, and the things you can find in them.

What are lockers?

Lockers organize files and software on Athena and allow them to be accessed more easily. They eliminate the need to use long pathnames like /afs/sipb.mit.edu/contrib/sipb and allow you to quickly run programs without needing to know exactly where they are located.

Question: How do I use a locker?
Answer: The most common way to use a locker is to use the add command. This will attach the locker and make it available through /mit/lockername and add the locker to your path. For example, to run the mplayer program in the outland locker, type:
athena% add outland
athena% mplayer
You can put a line in the .environment file in your home directory to add lockers automatically when you log in. For example:

```
add 6.001 sipb outland gnu
```

The second way to use a locker is the attach command. This will make a locker accessible at /mit/lockername the same way add does, but will not add the locker to your path.

If you want to use a locker without attaching it, you can use ~lockername to refer to it in a path. If you wanted to browse the 6.001 locker, for example, you could type
athena% cd ~6.001 to change directories into the 6.001 locker. (Note that there are a few cases where this does not work. In these cases, you can use ~~lockername instead.)

Finally, if you want to run a program without adding the locker, you can use the athrun command. To run mplayer as in the original example, you could type:

```
athena% athrun outland mplayer
```

What are some common useful lockers?

Locker	Contents
sipb	software supported by SIPB
outland	software less actively supported and maintained by SIPB
consult	Athena-related utilities maintained by OLC
gnu	common Unix utilities maintained by the Free Software Foundation
abiword	a fast-loading word processor
gnumeric	a fast-loading spreadsheet
ooffice	OpenOffice.org, an office suite
games	games and other fun utilities
im	IM programs, such as gaim
weather	the weather program

Locker	Contents
math, matlab, maple	Mathematica, Matlab, and Maple software, respectively

Question: Is there an easy way to find out where something is located?
The whichlocker program, located in the outland locker, tells you where many programs are located, and what platforms they are available for.
athena% whichlocker mmlanche
Locker software on Athena is maintained by many different people.
Don't run this unless you know the maintainer can be trusted.
"mmlanche" is in "consult" for NT, sgi, sun4, and linux
Question: What cool stuff can I find in some of these lockers?
For more information about most of these programs, you can type man programname after adding the appropriate locker.

whats (sipb locker)
The whats program expands many acronyms, including MIT acronyms. If you have an expansion from an acronym that isn't included, you can submit it through the whats program, or through e-mail to sipb-whats.
athena% whats pcmcia
PCMCIA — People Can't Memorize Computer Industries Acronyms (slang)
PCMCIA — Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (org.)

rolodex (sipb locker)
rolodex is a repository of phone numbers. You can search by name, topic, or phone number.
athena% rolodex olc
3-4435 Athena Consulting Office (N42) (OLC)
athena% rolodex 3-7788
3-7788 Student Information Processing Board (SIPB) Office
athena% rolodex pizza
617-424-9000 Domino's Pizza
617-523-5575 Bel Canto (Boston)
[...]
athena% rolodex 617-555-7890
617-555-7890 BOSTON, MA (CMBRMA012GT) BELL ATLANTIC NE

dict (outland locker)
The dict program looks up the definition of a word from several dictionaries served from http://www.dict.org.
athena% dict sipb
1 definition found
From The Free On-line Dictionary of

Computing (27 SEP 03) [foldoc]:
SIPB
Student Information Processing Board, {MIT}.
{(http://www.mit.edu:8001/afs/athena.mit.edu/user/r/e/rei/WWW/GAME/sipbroom.html)}.

thesaurus (sipb locker)
thesaurus gives synonyms for words, as you'd expect it to. You can also run this program as th.
athena% thesaurus freshman
***** Word: freshman
#541. Learner.-- N. learner, scholar, student, pupil; apprentice, prentice; articulated clerk; beginner, tyro, abecedarian, alphabetarian; [...]

weather (weather locker)
weather looks up the weather for the selected city. The -l flag will give the forecast instead of the current conditions.
athena% weather bos
Conditions at KBOS on 10/2/2005 at 6:54 PM EDT (22:54 UTC)
Weather: Mostly Clear
Temp: 57 F (14 C)
[...]
athena% weather -f bos
[...]
Tonight: Clear. Lows in the mid 50's. Southeast winds around 5 mph, becoming west after midnight.
[...]

zlogout (sipb locker)
Ever forget to log out from a cluster machine, and not feel like going back to log yourself out? Now you don't have to. (Note that if your screen is left locked because of idleness for more than 20 minutes, people who need to use that workstation can log you out.) zlogout helps you log out remotely. You must set this up ahead of time to take advantage of it, though. In your .startup.X file in your homedirectory, add the line:
attachandrun sipb zlogoutd zlogoutd &
Then, when you want to log yourself out remotely, use:
athena% zlogout HOSTNAME
where HOSTNAME is the name of the machine you want to log yourself out of.

To ask us a question, send e-mail to sipb@mit.edu. We'll try to answer you quickly, and we might address your question in our next column. You can also stop by our office in W20-557 or call us at x3-7788 if you need help. Copies of each column and pointers to additional information are posted on our website: http://www.mit.edu/~asksipb/.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 9

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

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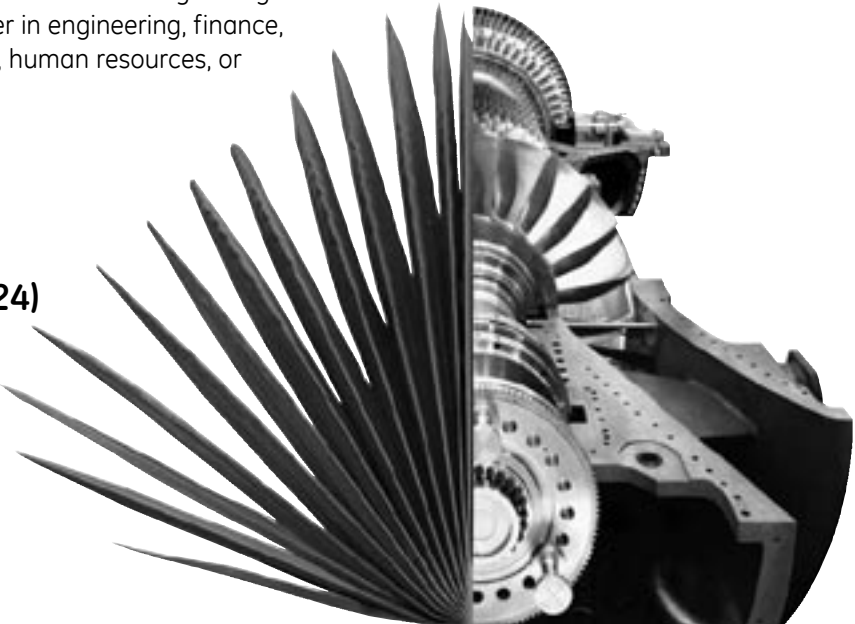
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Cambridge Considers Other Tax Plans

Endowment, from Page 1

year, according to the 2004 Town Gown report.

In addition to the property tax, MIT gives Cambridge a “payment in lieu of taxes” (PILOT) of about \$1.2 million, increasing by 2.5 percent each year, according to the report. The current PILOT amount was negotiated in 2004.

Traditionally, “there is an understanding and acceptance by some schools that they rely on their host municipalities for some services,” Gallop said. “We rely on Cambridge for the fire department, for fire safety.” Out of this understanding came PILOT, which allows universities to share the burden of city costs.

Even with the property taxes that MIT pays and with money from the PILOT program, “if the property were assessed at the fair market value, they would pay a far greater amount,” Toomey said.

“Harvard made a 19 percent return on their endowment last year,” Toomey said. “All we’re asking is for one percent of that.”

The policy order states that the city would be allowed “to implement an endowment surcharge to be assessed at the rate of 1 percent of the annual interest in excess of \$1 million dollars earned on any endowment of any organization which has more than five percent of its total property in Cambridge listed as tax exempt.”

“This is the very first step for a City Council interested in the possibility of a home rule petition,” Gallop said.

Endowment tax not only solution

Other policy orders were also passed to the property tax committee. “There are several different pieces that have been referred to the committee, and we’re trying to prepare a response or a package of responses for the state legislature to try to make local taxes more equitable,” said Brian Murphy, a Cambridge city councillor and chairman of the Special Committee on Property Taxes.

“We’re trying to figure out what we can do to make the system work better,” he said. “Over the years, there has been a great deal of frustration with the failure of non-profits to pay what is their fair share of the burden in the communities,” he said. In Massachusetts, “we don’t have the local option sales tax or local option income tax, so we have to rely on property taxes that exclude the non-profits,” he said.

A solution would be to “have a local option payroll tax because that would go after the universities in their role as employers rather than as universities,” Murphy said.

Additionally, the PILOT agreements may be renegotiated, and Cambridge needs a more predictable source of income from the universities that “doesn’t go offline,” Murphy said.

The new push for more taxes does not represent a drift in community-university relations, Murphy said.

“This just came out of last year’s property tax revaluation” and as property taxes have increased, the universities should see their share increase accordingly, he said.

“I think the city and the universities have very good relations and this is just an area where there’s some disagreement,” Murphy said. “Cambridge does benefit greatly from the universities, and the universities benefit greatly from the city,” Murphy said. “Many students stay and eventually become residents,” he said.

Mass. Ave. Boston Stop Moves Closer to W20

SafeRide, from Page 1

facilities/transportation/shuttles/safe_ride.html

“MIT has the right to do it,” but the changes will inconvenience many alumni who will now have to carry their IDs with them, said Charles F. Dominguez ’05.

“Most MIT students carry their cards with them,” said J. Ann Ratanakijtrakul ’09. “It is fair, and it increases the safety of the SafeRide by ensuring that only MIT students can get on the ride.”

The policy does present a problem in the worst-case scenario of a drunk MIT student who has forgotten his or her ID and must walk home instead.

“In this case then, MIT Medical should be contacted,” Sojka said.

Boston East, West stop moves

The SafeRide routes going south into Boston that formerly stopped next to the 77 Mass. Ave. crosswalk now pick up riders near the turnaround at the back of the Student Center along Mass. Ave.

Sojka said that it may be possible to build a bus shelter at the new stop, now that the No. 1 bus shelter is too distant. Nothing has yet been decided, she said.

For more information on SafeRide shuttles, go to <http://web.mit.edu/>

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³ Reuters - September 2002
⁴ Fortune magazine - July 2003
⁵ Risk magazine - January 2002. PIMCO was chosen as the 2001 Asset Management Risk Manager of the Year based on an in-depth evaluation by the senior editors of Risk Magazine.

Some FSILG-Affiliated Students In Dorms Change Constituency

Elections, from Page 1

creased voter turnout. Official candidates who submitted platforms adhering to the UA rules had their platforms posted on the UA Web site prior to elections. According to Seto and Technical Coordinator Gary L. Sivek '06, some candidates did not have platforms posted because they failed to adhere to the UA committee rules concerning the correct format for platforms.

Some choose to vote with FSILGs

Another change to this year's election was that students with both FSILG and dormitory affiliations were allowed to choose a constituency with which to vote, a rule approved by the UA Senate last spring. These students were first randomly assigned to a constituency, evenly divided between dormitories and FSILGs, then given the opportunity to change their designation.

Sivek said that few people chose to change their designation, and while McCormick Hall did lose one senator from the new rules, any other small

changes would not have affected constituency sizes; however, they "arguably would have made a difference" in the close IFC senator elections.

Though complete statistics were unavailable on the number of students changing their designation, Sivek said that most of those who did change their designation chose to vote by FSILG affiliation rather than by residence. Including those students who were assigned a designation by default, 230 students were able to vote by residence and 317 by affiliation.

While problems the election commission typically encounters with obtaining accurate residence information were mitigated by the later deadlines, obtaining the list of students with two affiliations from all FSILGs caused some difficulties, Sivek said.

Seto said that she was able to easily compile this information for all of the sororities and ILGs, as well as for all of the freshman pledges for the fraternities. However, only 12 fraternities provided complete responses regarding upperclass broth-

ers with two affiliations, so not all of them were given the opportunity to change their defaulted designation, Seto said. This number was small, Sivek said.

Seto said that this is the cleanest election that she has ever witnessed during her experience on the UA Election Commission. "There was not any major foul play in campaigning that was brought to my attention," Seto said. The only instance of incorrect campaigning was when two write-in candidates sent e-mail to all of the house mailing lists to campaign for votes, she said.

This year 1,160 students voted online while 67 students chose to submit their votes on a paper ballot. Compared to both 2004 and 2003 UA elections, the number of online voters was significantly higher, while the number of paper ballots was lower.

To see the breakdown of vote distributions in the election's preferential voting system, go to the Web site <http://web.mit.edu/elections/Fall05/results.shtml>.

Marissa Vogt contributed to the reporting of this story.

UA Voting Statistics

By Living Group:		
Living Group	Number voting	Percent of those eligible voting
Fraternities*	299	37.3%
Sororities*	46	22.1%
Independent Living Groups*	10	14.7%
Off-campus	23	7.6%
Baker	78	30.6%
Bexley	30	33.0%
Burton-Conner	83	28.3%
East Campus	144	41.1%
MacGregor	73	25.5%
McCormick	68	29.2%
New House	70	24.8%
Next House	85	27.0%
Random Hall	65	71.4%
Senior House	45	34.4%
Simmons Hall	94	31.6%

By Year:		
Freshmen	466	46.6%
Sophomores	284	26.0%
Juniors	205	20.6%
Seniors	205	20.1%

SOURCE: UA ELECTIONS COMMISSION TECHNICAL COORDINATOR GARY L. SIVEK '06

*Includes students affiliated with a fraternity, sorority, or independent living group who live in dormitories and who either chose or were randomly assigned to vote with their affiliation.

UA Senators

Baker	Joy Liang '07, Amrik S. Kochhar '09*
Bexley	Jonathan J. Mansfield '07*
Burton-Conner	Benjamin Navot '07, Ali S. Wyne '08
East Campus	Ruth A. Shewmon '08, Sarah C. Hopp '08*
Interfraternity Council	Zain A. Gulamali '06, Steven M. Kelch '08, Humberto Evans '08, Dwight M. Chambers '07, Pravin R. Palaniappan '08
Living Group Council	Dylan A. Consola '07
MacGregor	Martin F. Holmes '08, Irene B. Murimi '07
McCormick	Namrata Verma '08
New House	Andrew S. Clare '08, Syed F. Ahmed '08*
Next House	Hans E. Anderson '08, Ali Farahanchi '07
Off-Campus	Justine Wang '07, Adam J. Miller '07
Panhellenic	Joy M. Dunn '08
Random Hall	Andrew P. Spann '07*
Senior House	Alexander J. Werbos '07
Simmons Hall	Agustya R. Mehta '08, Jennifer L. Wong '06

Class of 2009 Council

2009 President	Akash A. Chandawarkar
2009 Vice President	Samuel H. Poon
Secretary	Deepika Singh
Treasurer	Alex G. Alford
Social Chair	Jeremy E. Smith and Tina P. Srivastava
Publicity Chair	Ting Ting Luo and Wendy Wen

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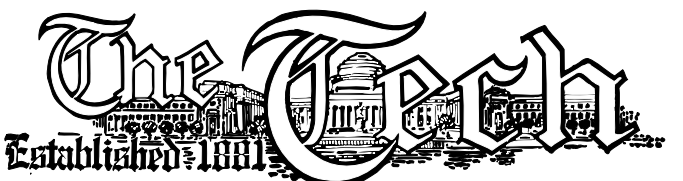
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SPORTS

Women's Volleyball Loses Heartbreaker to Eastern

By Travis Johnson
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Two and a half hours of volleyball Friday night boiled down to a 14-14 tie in the deciding fifth and final game. The next team to lead by two would take the match. Two well-executed offensive plays later, that team was Eastern University, sending MIT home with a hotly-contested loss.

The Engineers seemed understand-

ably demoralized afterwards. "It is extremely frustrating. This is not the first time this has happened this season, so we're definitely feeling the burn right now," said Briana J. Stephenson '07.

Coach Paul Dill, now the winningest coach in MIT Women's Volleyball history, however, was proud of his team's heart. "It went down to the wire and we fought all the way," he said, and it was a "great experience for the team in preparation for post season."

Earlier that evening, the same En-

gineers had beaten a tough Bridgewater State College team in a close three games to one match, culminating in an 11-point run to finish the final game 30-14.

MIT took that momentum into the early stages against nationally ranked Eastern University, jumping out to an early 19-11 lead on well-timed offensive plays. But as so often happened Friday, Eastern fought back and took advantage of MIT errors to score 10 unanswered points and take a 28-25 lead, two points away from sealing the first game.

An Eastern error turned the serve back to MIT and their all-time ace leader Arlis A. Reynolds '06, who broke the record last week with seven aces against Wheaton College. Reynolds hit a line drive aimed perfectly for the back corner that Eastern couldn't handle, getting her team to within one, at 27-28.

The defense then stepped it up from there, digging hit after hit, getting the chances it needed to secure a 33-31 win in the first game.

Game two was all Eastern, as MIT made unforced errors and couldn't get through the Eagles defense on their way to a 21-30 defeat.

With the match tied 1-1, a lot



DMITRY KASHLEV—THE TECH

Caroline D. Jordan '06 spikes the ball past Bridgewater College guards.

was riding on the third game, and it turned out to be as close as a volleyball game can get. There were 15 ties, with the largest lead a slim three points early on for Eastern. Once again, the normal 30 points weren't

enough to win.

The intensity in Rockwell Cage was really building, with fans on both sides nervous and loud. Two Eagle serves went astray down the stretch and MIT capitalized, taking the game 33-31.

The two final games were much in the mold of the third; tie after tie, no team had a clear advantage. Austin Zimmerman '06 coordinated the blocking and offense as MIT kept a small edge throughout both the fourth and fifth games. However, crucial errors and Eastern's relentless attacks cost MIT the lead in both of those games. The fourth game ended with an Eagle hit followed by a MIT mis-hit.

Tied 13-13 in the fifth game, Engineer defense watched an Eagle serve land between them. Eastern then closed the 16-14 gap on two well-executed plays.

Dill summed up the game well, saying, "we just played tight on a few critical points, and that cost us. Otherwise, we performed very well."

MIT split its games Saturday as well, defeating nationally ranked SUNY-Cortland 3-1 but falling to Tufts 2-3. All four were non-conference games; the Engineers now hold a record of 17-5 (4-0 in the NEWMAC).



DMITRY KASHLEV—THE TECH

Briana J. Stephenson '07 dazzles the Bridgewater College blockers with her spike power, defeating Bridgewater 3-0.

Rodriguez, Jones for MLB MVPs

By Yong-yi Zhu
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Now that the baseball season is over, we can start handing out the hardware for awards garnered during the regular season. This year, we saw many players look great midway through the season only to tail off significantly by the end. Following are the players I believe to be worthy candidates for the MVPs and Cy Youngs of each league.

American League MVP

The two most deserving players are David Ortiz and Alex Rodriguez. Ortiz has great power hitting numbers — he helped the Red Sox get out to a lead in the AL East, and with Manny alongside, once again proved crucial to the Sox's playoff run.

But A-Rod tops him not only with high home run and runs batted in totals, but also by having a good batting average. On top of that, he brought the Yankees back from the edge of losing the AL East — he was the one who went four for five in the game the Yankees needed to win to clinch the East once again. A-Rod has the whole package, and unlike his previous MVP, which he only won with his numbers, this year he truly is a valuable player.

National League MVP

At mid-season, we all felt that Derek Lee would run away with this baby. A Triple Crown contender like

him would be valuable to any team, even the Chicago Cubs. But slowly and surely, the 162-game schedule wore him down, and he has dropped back in the home run and RBI columns.

With Lee stumbling, there was a chance that it was Albert Pujols' year to finally win an MVP, especially without Barry Bonds. He has an awesome slugging percentage, on base percentage, home run total, and just about anything else you can record as a stat.

However, the man that topped them all by not only having an NL Double Crown, but also by leading his team to the playoffs, is Andruw Jones. In the past, Jones was regularly a strikeout victim. But this year, when Chipper Jones went down with an injury early in the season, Andruw stepped it up and led all the rookies on the Atlanta team to victory after victory. Without him, one could wonder whether the Braves would have made the playoffs this year.

American League Cy Young

Perhaps the fuzziest award. The two good candidates for this award

are pitchers Bartolo Colon and Johan Santana. Johan Santana has awesome strikeout totals and a terrific ERA. But he lost a few decisions and the Minnesota Twins suffered a fate out of the playoffs.

The Angels' Bartolo Colon, on the other hand, is a workhorse. He pitches a lot of innings and becomes tougher to hit as the game progresses. He has won the most games of any AL pitcher this season. He even helped the Angels reach the postseason over a surging crowd of Billy-Beaners — why he is my pick for the Cy Young for the American League.

National League Cy Young

Some may say Dontrelle Willis deserves the award for all his victories. Others say Chris Carpenter deserves it for his overall stats. But the clear winner for the award, in my eyes, is Roger Clemens.

He has helped pitch his Astros from a winless road record back into the postseason. Did I mention he is 43 years old and has an ERA of 1.89? It not only proves that he is one of the greatest of all time, but that he was the best pitcher this year.

NEWMAC SCOREBOARD

Field Hockey

Team	NEWMAC Only			Overall		
	Wins	Losses	Win %	Wins	Losses	Win %
1 Babson	2	0	1.000	9	2	.818
Mount Holyoke	2	0	1.000	7	2	.778
Springfield	2	0	1.000	10	1	.909
4 MIT	1	1	.500	8	2	.800
Wellesley	1	1	.500	6	3	.667
6 Smith	0	1	.000	5	4	.556
WPI	0	1	.000	5	4	.556
Clark	0	2	.000	1	8	.111
Wheaton	0	2	.000	3	7	.300

Men's Soccer

Team	NEWMAC Only				Overall			
	Win	Loss	Tie	Win %	Win	Loss	Tie	Win %
1 Clark	3	0	0	1.000	9	1	0	.900
Wheaton	3	0	0	1.000	7	3	0	.700
3 Babson	2	0	0	1.000	7	2	2	.727
4 Coast Guard	1	1	0	.500	4	5	1	.450
5 MIT	0	2	0	.000	4	4	0	.500
Springfield	0	3	0	.000	1	8	0	.111
WPI	0	3	0	.000	4	5	0	.444

Women's Soccer

Team	NEWMAC Only				Overall			
	Win	Loss	Tie	Win %	Win	Loss	Tie	Win %
1 Babson	2	0	0	1.000	7	3	0	.700
Clark	2	0	0	1.000	6	3	0	.667
Wheaton	2	0	0	1.000	7	4	0	.636
4 Springfield	1	1	0	.500	4	4	2	.500
Wellesley	1	1	0	.500	4	3	1	.562
Smith	1	1	0	.500	4	3	1	.562
WPI	1	1	0	.500	4	5	1	.450
8 Coast Guard	0	2	0	.000	2	6	0	.250
MIT	0	2	0	.000	2	7	0	.222
Mt. Holyoke	0	2	0	.000	4	4	0	.500

Women's Tennis

Team	NEWMAC Only			Overall		
	Wins	Losses	Win %	Wins	Losses	Win %
1 Wellesley	6	0	1.000	6	0	1.000
2 MIT	4	1	.800	4	2	.667
Babson	4	1	.800	6	1	.857
4 Wheaton	3	2	.600	6	3	.667
5 Mount Holyoke	2	3	.400	2	4	.333
6 Springfield	2	4	.333	3	8	.273
7 Clark	0	5	.000	2	7	.222
Smith	0	5	.000	0	6	.000

Volleyball

Team	NEWMAC Only			Overall		
	Wins	Losses	Win %	Wins	Losses	Win %
1 MIT	4	0	1.000	17	5	.773
Smith	4	0	1.000	11	2	.846
Springfield	4	0	1.000	16	3	.842
4 Coast Guard	3	1	.750	12	3	.800
5 Wheaton	2	2	.500	4	10	.286
6 Babson	1	3	.250	4	6	.400
Wellesley	1	3	.250	10	7	.588
WPI	1	3	.250	8	10	.444
9 Clark	0	4	.000	4	12	.250
Mount Holyoke	0	4	.000	4	6	.400

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2005

Varsity Women's Tennis vs. Wheaton College

du Pont Tennis Court, 4 p.m.

Varsity Field Hockey vs. Regis College

Jack Barry Field, 6 p.m.