

Space a Problem For Planned Arts Studio

Baker Foundation Leads Arts Initiative

By Joyce Kwan
NEWS EDITOR

Led by the E.M. Baker Foundation, a visual arts initiative has been started to set up a free, 24-hour arts studio for MIT students. The studio will become a reality once space has been allocated, according to Baker Foundation Chair Tina P. Srivastava '09.

In a letter, the Foundation states that there is a need for a new arts studio because "the only studio space for students is in the poorly ventilated Student Art Association classrooms."

"MIT currently has no free studio space where students can paint, draw, or sculpt," the letter continues. "Many students who were passionate about art in high school have been forced to choose between living in a cramped room smelling of oil paints and giving up their passion."

Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict said he was aware of the demand for visual arts space, as well as the student group space in general. "However, to my knowledge there is no additional space in the immediate future," Benedict said in an e-mail.

Pritchett Dining, which will be

closed down this fall, was a potential location for the art studio, Srivastava said. Campus Dining, however, told Srivastava that a contract with Pritchett vendor Sodexho lasts three more years, making Pritchett unavailable for student use, she said.

Those who support the initiative include Benedict, President Susan Hockfield, Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80, the SAA, the Undergraduate Association, and *Rune*, MIT's student arts journal, according to Srivastava.

Based on conversations he had with members of the foundation over the summer, Phillip J. Walsh, director of Campus Activities Complex, said in an e-mail, "The group will be working to develop a program statement defining the program specifics and what they are seeking to address."

The initiative evolved over talks that began in November 2006, Srivastava said. For the privately endowed Baker Foundation, an Institute committee, the problem is not funding, but gaining wider support for the arts initiative from the MIT community and finding space, she said.



Freshmen (clockwise from bottom-left) Amelia R. Browning '11, Jacob L. Albritton '11, Kristen M. Anderson '11, and Mengwen Zhang '11 play the card game Fluxx in Burton-Conner on Tuesday afternoon.

URC to Provide Affiliate Housing

By Jiao Wang
STAFF REPORTER

Those who want to build in Cambridge should not be faint of heart. Since the mid 1900s, Institute affiliates have sought to create affordable housing near campus to benefit

members of the MIT community by taking advantage of the convenience of the surrounding area. Despite the interest of various MIT members, few projects have come to fruition — until now.

Although real estate within walking distance of the Institute has always been highly priced, the Uni-

versity Residential Communities have finally succeeded in breathing new life into an old idea.

Construction of the URC building at 303 Third Street near Kendall Square is the culmination of a four-year effort by the URC and the Lim-

Condos, Page 13

Prof. Sadoway Advises Frosh to Talk to Faculty

By Joyce Kwan
NEWS EDITOR

This is the third interview in a seven-part series introducing incoming students to some of MIT's faculty, staff, and student leaders. Today, The Tech interviews Donald R. Sadoway, a professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, who discusses his first impressions of MIT and how the Institute has changed and gives advice to freshmen for their first year.

The Tech: What is your role at MIT?

Donald Sadoway: Educator. ... There's a class called Introduction to Solid State Chemistry (3.091), and I've been teaching it for about 12 years now.

TT: You're a professor in the Department of Materials Science?

DS: Correct.

TT: How did you become involved with the department?

DS: I came here 30 years ago. I just finished my PhD at the University of Toronto, and I had a post-doctoral fellowship that allowed me to come to anywhere in the NATO alliance, and I chose to come to MIT. The plan was to come here for a year or two as a postdoc and go back to Canada. I guess I lost track of time.

TT: What were your first impressions of MIT? How has MIT changed?

DS: When I was a postdoc in 1977, it was a different world then. The makeup of the student body was quite different. ... It's still very much an engineering culture, and the

thing that struck me most about MIT was the lack of pretense. I felt that it was a much more honest academic environment than the University [of

Toronto]. Little things — people answered their own phones. You call

Sadoway, Page 14



Donald R. Sadoway, popular professor of Introduction to Solid State Chemistry (3.091), talked with The Tech about his background and how MIT has changed since he has arrived.

Tufts Officials Bar Student and Faculty Groups From Censoring

By Peter Schworm
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Tufts University officials Monday barred student-faculty groups from censoring campus publications, reversing a committee's punishment of a conservative student magazine for publishing editorials that sparked cries of racism.

University officials also overturned the committee's ruling that forced *The Primary Source* magazine to use bylines on all published ar-

ticles and editorials, which magazine editors and free speech advocates said was akin to censorship. University officials kept in place, though, the committee's finding that the editorials constituted harassment.

"Universities are places where people should have the right to freely express opinions, no matter how offensive, stupid, wrong-headed, ill-considered or unpopular," Tufts Pres-

Tufts, Page 14

Police Believe Alum Zhou's Death Was Suicide

An investigation into the death of Mengyao "May" Zhou '04 is anticipated to be closed in the next few weeks, according to a press release from the Santa Rosa Police Department. Zhou was found dead in the trunk of her car in January in an apparent suicide. An official autopsy showed toxic levels of diphenhydramine, an ingredient in sleep medications.

Zhou's father Yitong Zhou, however, remains skeptical of his daughter's suicide. On August 16, Zhou hired a private pathologist to exhume his daughter's body and perform a second autopsy. According to statements posted on his Web site, <http://www.mayzhou.com>, the results of the second autopsy indicated his daughter's death was "homicide" and the result of "multiple blunt force trauma."

In response, an Aug. 23 press release from the Santa Rosa Police Department states that there were "no signs of trauma," and that there is "no evidence of foul play." The press release also describes a previously unreleased e-mail sent from May Zhou to her sister, on the evening of her death. The press release characterizes the e-mail as "a goodbye note." Zhou has refused to provide the police department and media with a copy of the second autopsy.

—Nick Semenkovich

In Short

¶ A bomb threat was sent to MIT yesterday via an anonymous e-mail, according to a press release from the MIT Police Department. The police did not find any evidence to substantiate the threat. MIT was one of many schools to receive the e-mail threat, including Princeton University, The Uni-

versity of New Hampshire, The University of Iowa, and Carnegie-Mellon University. The e-mails also prompted small evacuations at Clemson University and Cornell University.

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

NEWS

Math, reading SAT
scores fall in 2007. . . .15

College Board quits
loan business15

PHOTOGRAPHY

East, west campus
battle in water war. . . .8

Tech staffers share
summer adventures . .10

World & Nation 2
Opinion. 4
Arts 5
Comics / Fun Pages. . . 6
Ask SIPB. 15
Sports 16

WORLD & NATION

Gonzales Resignation Will Not End Investigations

By Philip Shenon and David Johnston

THE NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON

The resignation of Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales does not mean an end to several investigations into his actions and truthfulness during his tenure at the Justice Department, with congressional Democrats vowing on Tuesday to press ahead with their inquiries.

Gonzales is a focus of investigations by the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, centered on his role in the firing of several U.S. attorneys last year for what appear to have been political reasons. Other inquiries are being conducted by the Justice Department's inspector-general and its Office of Professional Responsibility.

The White House said it would move quickly to find a replacement for Gonzales at the Justice Department but a spokesman would not confirm the names of candidates under consideration.

Several names continued to circulate Tuesday on Capitol Hill and within the department, including Michael Chertoff, the secretary of homeland security and a former senior Justice Department prosecutor; Theodore B. Olson, who was solicitor-general earlier in the Bush administration, and Larry D. Thompson, a former deputy attorney general.

U.S. Army Officer Acquitted of Most Abu Ghraib Abuse Charges

By Paul Von Zielbauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A U.S. military jury acquitted an Army officer on Tuesday of charges that he failed to properly train and supervise enlisted soldiers involved in detainee interrogations in 2003 at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, where prisoners were subjected to brutal treatment.

In the court-martial at Fort Meade, Md., the jury of nine Army colonels and a brigadier general found the officer, Lt. Col. Steven L. Jordan, guilty of only one lesser offense, that of disobeying an order to refrain from discussing the case.

Jordan, 51, was the only officer to stand trial on charges related to the detainee-abuse scandal at Abu Ghraib, which led to prolonged investigations and charges against several soldiers in the abuse and humiliation of detainees.

Jordan's acquittal on most charges means that no officers have been found criminally responsible for the abuses at the prison. Col. Thomas M. Pappas, a military intelligence officer who ran Abu Ghraib, was punished administratively by senior Army commanders for improperly allowing military dogs to be used during interrogations to frighten detainees. Janis Karpinski, a brigadier general who was the military police commander at Abu Ghraib, was reprimanded and demoted.

Russia Seeks to Arrest Wealthy Oil Entrepreneur

By Andrew E. Kramer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

A Russian court issued an arrest warrant Tuesday for Mikhail S. Gutseriev, a former owner of Russneft, a large young oil company, on charges of tax evasion and fraud, a month after he published a letter critical of the government on a company Web site and in a Russian business newspaper.

The public criticism from a wealthy individual, rare in Russia, had prompted speculation about what lay in store for Gutseriev in a case with parallels to the 2003 arrest of the oil tycoon Mikhail B. Khodorkovsky. That speculation was apparently answered with the order for his arrest.

Gutseriev, however, was likely to have already fled the country, a spokeswoman for the Russian Interior Ministry, Irina V. Dudukina, said in a telephone interview. It is unclear where he might have gone.

Clash Between Shiite Groups Result in At Least 50 Deaths

By Stephen Farrell

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

A power struggle between rival Shiite groups erupted during a religious festival in Karbala on Tuesday, as gunmen with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades fought street battles amid crowds of pilgrims, killing at least 50 people and wounding 200, Iraqi officials said.

Witnesses said members of the Mahdi Army, the militia of cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, traded fire with security forces loyal to Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki's government.

Amid hours of fighting, several vehicles and a hotel for pilgrims were set ablaze, and terrified pilgrims who had been praying at two shrines were trapped inside as clashes erupted nearby. Witnesses said buses that had been used to bring pilgrims to the city were bullet-shattered and bloodstained.

The government forces in Karbala and other towns in southern Iraq are dominated by the Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council and its armed wing, the Badr organization. Many Badr fighters are veterans trained by Iran when they lived there as exiles under Saddam Hussein's regime.

Tensions between the Mahdi Army and the Badr group have been simmering for months. Both are vying for control of the overwhelmingly Shiite regions of central and southern Iraq.

Two provincial governors belonging to the Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council were assassinated in southern Iraq this month, although the Sadrists deny involvement.

The showdown will prove embarrassing for al-Maliki if his security forces are unable to control the Mahdi Army and restore order in a holy city that lies in his own Shiite heartland.

Security forces imposed an indefinite curfew on Karbala by nightfall Tuesday, fearing that the tensions could escalate as both sides vied for control of the streets. The violence appeared to spread to other cities, although attacks on mosques and offices linked to the Badr group were on a much smaller scale.

In Baghdad, the police said five people were killed and 20 were wounded in clashes between militiamen in the Shiite stronghold of Sadr City.

Brig. Gen. Abdul Kareem Khalaf, an Interior Ministry spokesman in Baghdad, told Iraqi state television

that reinforcements were being rushed to Karbala from Baghdad and surrounding provinces. The U.S. military did not intervene directly in the fighting, a spokeswoman said, though it sent jets to fly over Karbala as a "show of force" at the request of the Iraqi authorities.

Hundreds of thousands of Shiite pilgrims had descended on Karbala in recent days to celebrate the birth of Mohammad al-Mahdi, the 9th-century saint and the last of 12 imams revered by Shiites.

As pilgrims gathered in a plaza between the city's twin golden-domed shrines, witnesses said Mahdi Army fighters took up positions around the shrines and traded fire with the police. Pilgrims, who were ordered to leave the city by officials, fled in panic but many were unable to get transportation out of the area as the police set up roadblocks to prevent Mahdi Army fighters from entering.

A policeman speaking from his position in the plaza between the city's two shrines said: "Hundreds of Mahdi Army have occupied several hotels near the two shrines. The battle is fierce and we are defending our posts here."

Foreign Investors Call For More Oversight of American Markets

By Heather Timmons and Katrin Bennhold

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI

Politicians, regulators and financial specialists outside the United States are seeking a role in the oversight of American markets, banks and rating agencies in the wake of recent problems related to subprime mortgages.

Their argument is simple: The United States is exporting financial products, but losses to investors in other countries suggest that U.S. regulators are not properly monitoring the products or alerting investors to the risks.

"We need an international approach, and the United States needs to be part of it," said Peter Bofinger, a member of the German government's economics advisory board and a professor at the University of Wuerzburg.

While regulators in the United States have not been receptive to the idea in the past, analysts said that Europe and Asia have more leverage now. Washington might have to yield if it wants to succeed in imposing bilateral regulations on government-owned investment funds from emerging economies.

"America depends on the rest of the world to finance its debt," Bofinger said. "If our institutions stopped buying their financial products, it would hurt."

Half a dozen U.S. banking and financial regulators — including the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal Reserve Board — had no comment. Several noted that they were not the sole regulators of the subprime market.

In general, Washington's reaction has been that it wants "no form of oversight," said Kenneth Rogoff, an

economics professor at Harvard and a former chief economist of the International Monetary Fund.

Banks and investment funds from China to France were hit with losses after buying mortgage-related securities and complex financial products based on them in the United States.

In many cases, investors were caught by surprise because American rating agencies had given the products top ratings, leading buyers to believe there was little risk. International investors are also asking why American lenders were allowed to give mortgages to homebuyers who could not repay them.

"In a globalized economy with hedge funds, leveraged buyouts and all these investment funds, we have to ask the question about more transparency," said Claude Bebear, the chairman of the supervisory board of the insurance company AXA.

WEATHER

Mother Nature Complies

By John Williams

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

As summer fades into fall, the days will get shorter, the weather will become more changeable, and the Red Sox magic number will continue to shrink. Despite the chaotic nature of the atmosphere and Terry Francona's bullpen usage, I can say all of those things with near certainty. Furthermore, I can be very confident that Mother Nature will comply with most, if not all, of our plans as the recent nice stretch of weather continues. The week won't be without changes (as always), but thankfully we will not see temperature extremes like the 55°F to 96°F jump we saw from last Monday to Saturday.

Today, as a high pressure area moves to our east, temperatures rise into the mid 80s°F and the humidity returns for another one of its frequent visits. Tomorrow remains quite warm but a cold front approaching will bring in some afternoon clouds and a slight risk of a thunderstorm. As I see it, the best chance of showers will be overnight Thursday into Friday morning. We should only have to wait until early Friday afternoon for the sun and mid 70s°F temperatures to return and, with high pressure building in, we might be in for a picture perfect weekend. Just remember, even though no weather interruptions are likely for Orientation activities (or baseball) through the end of the week, the MIT weather team will stay ever vigilant.

Extended Forecast

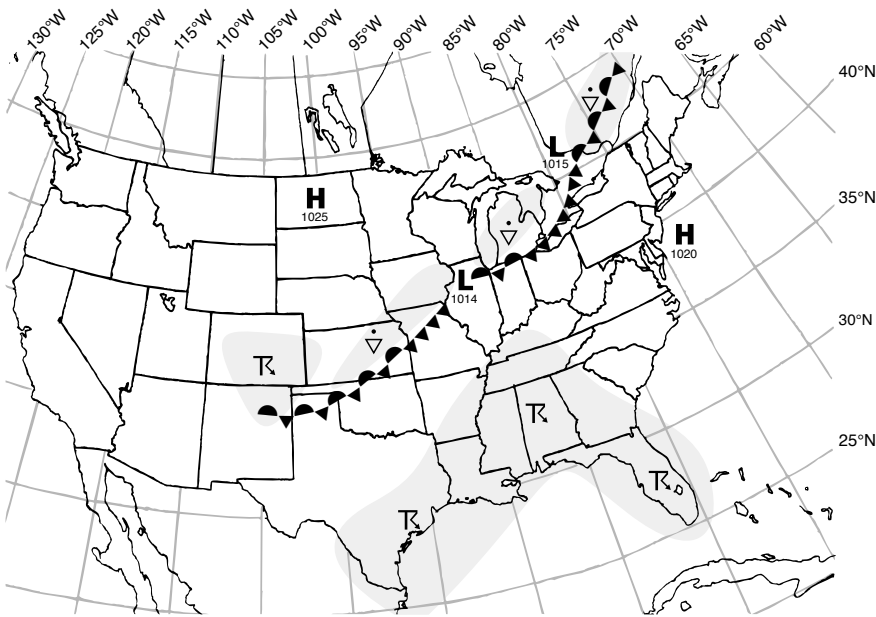
Today: Mostly sunny. High 84°F (29°C).

Tonight: Mostly clear, more humid. Low 62°F (17°C).

Tomorrow: Sunny to partly sunny, chance of late day thunderstorm. High 86°F (30°C).

Friday: Morning shower, partly cloudy afternoon. High 78°F (26°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Wednesday, August 29, 2007



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols		Other Symbols
		Snow	Rain	
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Rain	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Light	Light	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	Cold Front	Moderate	Moderate	Haze
	Stationary Front	Heavy	Heavy	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Observant Muslim Voted In as Turkey’s Newest President Tues.

By Sabrina Tavernise and Sebnem Arsu
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ANKARA, TURKEY

An observant Muslim with a background in Islamic politics was voted in on Tuesday as president, breaking an 84-year grip on power by the secular establishment and ushering a new religious middle class from Turkey’s heartland into the center of the staunchly secular state.

Lawmakers approved Abdullah Gul, a 56-year-old economist, with 339 votes, far above the simple majority required in the 550-member Parliament. Two candidates shared another 83 votes. The main party of the secular establishment boycotted the balloting.

The selection of Gul ended four months of political standoff that began when Turkey’s secular establishment and military, virulently opposed to his candidacy, blocked it in May, forcing a national election last month.

But Gul’s party, Justice and Development, refused to back down, and his success on Tuesday was a

rare occasion in Turkish history in which a party prevailed against the military.

There was no immediate statement from the military, which has ousted four elected governments since 1960. But its unspoken reaction was frosty: No military commander attended Gul’s appointment ceremony, a highly unusual departure from protocol, considering that he is now the commander in chief.

“This is definitely a day when we are turning a page, an important page, in the political history of the country,” said Soli Ozel, a professor of international relations at Bilgi University in Istanbul. “The boundaries have been expanded in favor of civilian democracy.”

Gul’s appointment places his party in control of most of the Turkish state, with the posts of prime minister, speaker of Parliament, and president. Thousands of rank-and-file party members are settling into the Turkish bureaucracy, and some Turks worry that a more conservative worldview could begin to affect their secular lifestyles in deeply personal areas, like education for

their children.

“We are in uncharted waters,” Ozel said. “We don’t know how they will run the country. This is not a party that has articulated its world view very clearly.”

As president, Gul has veto power over legislation. He also has control over hundreds of appointments, particularly to the judiciary.

The appointment upsets the power hierarchy in Turkey, a secular democracy whose citizens are Muslims, by opening up the presidency — an elite secular post that was first occupied by this country’s founder, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk — to a new class of reform-minded leaders from Turkey’s provinces, for decades considered backward by the elite.

His hometown, Kayseri, was decorated with Turkish flags, and a sound system was installed in the city center to broadcast the ceremony and celebration, a scene carried by NTV television as he succeeded Ahmet Necdet Sezer as president.

But he will have to work to persuade skeptical Turks of the country’s western cities that he will also represent them.

People Direct Criticisms at Greek Leaders Over Forest Fire Handling

By Ian Fisher and Anthee Carassava
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ATHENS, GREECE

The fires that tore omnivorously through scores of villages and olive groves here may now also be changing Greece’s political landscape: The government of Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis, facing national elections next month, came under increasing criticism Tuesday, not only over its handling of the fires but also over whether it stoked Greeks’ fears about who might be to blame.

It is unclear whether the criticism will be enough to alter the outcome of the national elections on Sept. 16. But a new national poll showed the gap narrowing to less than 1 percent between Karamanlis’ New Democracy party and the socialist opposition party, Pasok.

The opposition leader, George A. Papandreou, is seizing on the anger, in an effort to sway the many undecided voters in a close race.

“Unfortunately, the government has proven ineffective,” he told reporters here on Tuesday. “It continues to act irresponsibly. It is busy

fabricating conspiracy terror theories. The result: Greeks are being ridiculed abroad.”

He added, “Our nation cannot tolerate a government propped up on fear.”

Also on Tuesday, fire officials reported a second day of progress in battling the fires, including the most deadly ones on the Peloponnesian peninsula and the island of Evia north of the capital. With winds relatively still for a third day, and much help in place from foreign fire brigades, only one new death was reported Tuesday, that of a herdsman near Zaharo on the Peloponnesian peninsula who had been missing for several days.

The death toll now stands at 64 since Friday.

“The picture we have today gives us some relative optimism,” Nikolaos Diamantis, a fire service spokesman, told reporters here Tuesday. “We hope there’s nothing unexpected which will change our operational planning or cause problems. We believe we will have good results.”

On Saturday, as the death toll

rose and Greek television broadcast live interviews with people trapped by fires — and with no immediate help — Karamanlis declared a national state of emergency. He also stated that he believed arson was the cause, saying that it “cannot be a coincidence” that so many fires started at the same time.

Then his public order minister, Vyrion Polydoras, said Greece faced an “asymmetrical threat” — a term that usually refers to small terrorist groups attacking a far larger target.

Past forest fires have indeed been set by arsonists, often property owners wanting to develop land set aside as forest. And without doubt, New Democracy’s suggestions dovetailed with conspiracy theories mouthed by many Greeks, in a political culture full of conspiracy.

Some speculated that it might be the work of Greece’s age-old nemesis Turkey or a home-grown, or possibly even foreign, terrorist group. One man in the hard-hit western Peloponnesian peninsula even suggested that it was a conspiracy between the government and makers of particle board for cheap wood.

Iraqis Who Aided United States Have Trouble Attaining Refugee Standing

By Sabrina Tavernise and David Rohde
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Despite a stepped-up commitment from the United States to take in Iraqis who are in danger because they worked for the U.S. government and military, very few are signing up to go, resettlement officials said.

The reason, Iraqis say, is that they are not allowed to apply in Iraq, requiring them to make a costly and uncertain journey to countries like Syria or Jordan, where they may be turned away by border officials already overwhelmed by fleeing Iraqis.

The United Nations has submitted more than 9,000 Iraqis to the United States for consideration as refugees since the State Department announced a new resettlement program in February, but only about 5 percent of the applicants are former employees connected with the U.S. war effort, according to figures provided by the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration, the agencies processing the cases.

This year, administration officials

began publicly discussing the special dangers faced by Iraqis working with Americans here and acknowledging the need to grant them safe haven in the United States. To that end, the Bush administration has set up a special program for a small number of Iraqis, which gives preferential treatment to full-time employees of the U.S. Embassy, currently about 125 in Baghdad, and to 500 interpreters by allowing them to skip the lengthy U.N. refugee process once they leave Iraq.

But thousands more Iraqis work for the United States through contractors like Titan, a subsidiary of L-3 Communications; DynCorp International; Parsons Corp.; and Triple Canopy; or the subcontractors working for them. In all, 69,000 Iraqis work on contracts with the Defense Department through Iraqi and foreign companies, according to the U.S. military. They are cleaners, construction workers, drivers and security guards, to name a few, and although they face the same reprisals as anyone working more directly with the U.S. government, they do not fall into the special category.

A spokesman for the U.S. Embassy here said all Iraqis who had worked for the United States would have their refugee applications sped up once they fled Iraq and reached neighboring countries like Jordan or Syria.

“The big question mark is for those who can’t reach us here,” said Rafiq A. Tschannen, chief of the Iraq mission for the International Organization for Migration in Amman, Jordan.

The United States has processed large numbers of refugees inside countries they were trying to flee, namely Vietnam in the 1970s and the Soviet Union in the late 1980s, and it could also do it in Iraq, Tschannen said, where the embassy is one of America’s largest in the world.

State Department officials said they might consider being flexible about processing potential refugees within Iraq, but that security concerns have prevented it so far. Beyond that, the United Nations only formally recognizes those who have fled their countries as refugees, though the United States is not bound by that definition.

Some Balk at Giuliani Role In Sept. 11 Ceremony

By Michael Cooper
THE NEW YORK TIMESNEW YORK

Each year since Sept. 11, 2001, Rudolph W. Giuliani has spoken at New York City’s commemorations of the attacks. At past ceremonies he has read off the names of some of the dead, given readings by Lincoln and Churchill, and recited poetry.

This year Giuliani is no longer just the former mayor who led New York in the wake of the attacks, but a leading candidate for the Republican presidential nomination. So when the city announced that Giuliani would speak next month at the sixth anniversary of the attacks, some relatives of people who died on Sept. 11 said they were dismayed, some because they feared his presence might inject politics into the event and others because they had been critical of him in the past.

“I think it’s disgraceful that he’s going to be there,” said James Riches, a deputy fire chief who lost his son Jimmy in the attacks, and who said that he faulted Giuliani as not giving firefighters the proper equipment before or after the attacks. “It’s a photo-op for him.”

Anthony V. Carbonetti, a senior adviser to the Giuliani campaign, said that Giuliani was invited to attend the ceremony by the administration of current mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and that he would do so, as he has every year.

“This is something that is not unusual,” Carbonetti said. “He’s down there to pay his respects. He did, I did, we all did lose many friends, and as mayor he not only lost personal friends, he lost people who put their lives in harm’s way for his city. It’s his duty to be down there.”

NBC Buys International TV Channels

By Bill Carter and Eric Pfanner
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NBC Universal announced Tuesday the acquisition of a group of international cable television channels owned by Sparrowhawk Holdings of London, a deal that Jeff Zucker, the president and chief executive of NBC, said was the first sign of a strategic shift at the company.

“We want to transfer our portfolio into high-growth businesses and look to move away from businesses that are slower growth,” Zucker said in a telephone interview. “We are going to acquire and dispose and, at the end of the day, self-fund all of these moves.”

Zucker did not specify which parts of NBC Universal he intended to shed, and NBC executives emphasized that the portfolio reshuffling was viewed as a long-term project.

He also declined to name any potential acquisition targets. But NBC Universal has been among several media companies, including Viacom, at the center of speculation as potential bidders emerge for the Oxygen cable channel, which caters to an audience of women.

The Sparrowhawk deal — for a group of about 30 pay-television channels, including 18 versions of the Hallmark channel outside the United States — is the first that NBC Universal has closed since Zucker took the top post in February, and is consistent with his stated intention to expand the international holdings of NBC Universal.

After Stumbling, Mattel Cracks Down in China

By Louise Story
THE NEW YORK TIMESEL SEGUNDO, CALIF.

The alarm bell went off for Mattel just as it was preparing to announce that it would recall 1.5 million Chinese-made toys tainted with lead paint.

Surrounded by boxes of Barbie dolls, Hot Wheels cars and other sample toys, Tom Debrowski, Mattel’s executive vice president for worldwide operations, was leading a tense early morning trans-Pacific telephone conference with his team in Hong Kong, where it was 9 p.m. At the time, recalled Debrowski, Mattel thought it was dealing with at most “a single failure, from a single vendor who made a big mistake.”

But in the middle of the meeting on July 30, Mattel learned otherwise.

“I’ve got bad news,” interrupted David Lewis, senior vice president for Asian operations, who had just taken a call from the company’s safety lab in Shenzhen, China, where toys made by outside companies are tested. “We’ve had another failure. It was one of the toys in the Pixar cars.”

That was the moment that threw Mattel into turmoil, forcing the company — long considered one of the more successful Western manufacturers in China — to recognize that it had more of a systemic problem than simply an isolated case of one bad paint supplier.

Shorter Wait For Botox Treatments Than Cancer Screening

By Natasha Singer
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Patients seeking an appointment with a dermatologist to ask about a potentially cancerous mole have to wait substantially longer than those seeking Botox for wrinkles, a study published online on Tuesday by The Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology said.

Researchers reported that dermatologists in several cities offered a typical wait of eight days for a cosmetic patient wanting Botox to smooth wrinkles, compared with a typical wait of 26 days for a patient requesting evaluation of a changing mole, a possible indicator of skin cancer.

“The difference in wait times between medical dermatology and cosmetic dermatology patients is clearly real,” said Dr. Jack S. Resneck Jr., the lead author of the study and an assistant professor of dermatology at the medical school of the University of California, San Francisco. “We need to look further and figure out what is leading to shorter wait times for cosmetic patients.”

In Boston, the median Botox wait was 13 days, versus 68 days for a mole examination. In Seattle, the median Botox wait was seven and a half days, compared with 35 days for a changing mole.

The study, in which a researcher posing as a patient called every board-certified dermatologist in the cities being studied, did not examine the possible causes for the varying times.

OPINION

Why We Can't Tell You to J**n The Tech

Congratulations, freshmen, you've made it to the middle of Orientation. Dormitories are no longer scrambling to attract your attention, and fraternities can't start spending their large budgets on steak and lobster dinners until Saturday. Now would be a great time to explore the various student groups that MIT has to offer.

The one hitch, though, is that the Association of Student Activities, nominally the governing body over all the student groups at MIT, has regulations that prohibit any student groups from advertising themselves to freshmen until the Activities Midway, late Friday afternoon.

These regulations are anachronistic and unnecessary. In the last seven years, the format of Orientation has changed radically, but the ASA recruiting rules have failed to keep up. It used to be that dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups all rushed together in the first weekend. Thus, it made sense for student groups to refrain from intense recruiting until the Activities Midway, which occurred the following Tuesday. Most student groups didn't have the budgets to compete with dormitories or FSILGs, and rush sapped them of any staffers they might have had for recruitment events anyway.

But times have changed. Dormitory residence exploration is now separate from FSILG rush, and the Activities Midway has been postponed to almost the end of Orientation. What was once a common-sense policy that let living groups and student groups each have their own times to shine has become an anachronism. Under these rules, student groups must compete against the much larger forces of fraternity and independent living group rush, and this year, sorority recruitment. (In the interests of full disclosure, note that The Tech is a student group.)

More fundamentally, the ASA recruitment regulations (http://tech.mit.edu/V127/N33/ASA-Recruitment_Rules_2006.pdf) are

unnecessary, at least in their current form. What used to be an informal agreement to use common sense not to overwhelm the freshmen has devolved into today's complex set of regulations, imposing a fraternity-rush-style ban on early advertising and events. Unlike fraternity rush, though, student group recruitment is not a zero-sum game. A freshman's selection of one fraternity necessarily precludes his joining others; in contrast, with student groups, freshmen — indeed, all students — should be encouraged to dabble, explore, and find all of their passions, plural. Moreover, the rules, geared toward freshmen, unnecessarily block recruitment of new graduate students during the first part of their orientation.

These regulations also leave open the risk of accidental or intentional abuse by the ASA. The catch-all provision that the ASA executive board may broadly interpret the definition of "recruiting event" however it sees fit leaves a cloud over the operations of student groups who have regular events, which are supposed to be allowed by the rules, before and during Orientation. This provision has a chilling effect on legitimate activities by encouraging student groups to over-correct on the side of caution; no group wants the ASA executive board second-guessing and sanctioning its event choices.

The ASA should eliminate its complex and unnecessary recruitment rules. In addition, the ASA should advocate for the movement of the Activities Midway to earlier in the week, possibly by rotating the major daytime events of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Finally, the ASA should encourage student groups to use more of its early returns to help the new students of MIT explore more of their extracurricular interests before they get mired in class work. The purpose of the ASA is to foster the well being of student groups, not to strangle them in needless red tape.

Michael McGraw-Herdeg has recused himself from this editorial.



Chairman

Michael McGraw-Herdeg '08

Editor in Chief

Angeline Wang '09

Business Manager

Cokie Hu '08

Managing Editor

Austin Chu '08

NEWS STAFF

Editors: Valery K. Brobbey '08, Nick Semenkovich '09, Joyce Kwan '10; **Associate Editors:** Yi Zhou '09, Nick Bushak '10, JiHye Kim '10; **Staff:** Curt Fischer G, John A. Hawkinson '98, Waseem S. Daher '07, Ray C. He '07, Hanhan Wang '07, Jiao Wang '08, Daniela Cako '09, Mei-Hsin Cheng '09, Gabriel Fouasnon '09, Hannah Hsieh '09, Diana Jue '09, Ji Qi '09, YINUO Qian '09, Kirtana Raja '09, Yuri Hanada '10, Swetha Kambhampati '10, Apoorva Murarka '10, Manisha Padi '10, Joanne Y. Shih '10; **Meteorologists:** Cegeon Chan G, Jon Moskaitis G, Michael J. Ring G, Roberto Rondanelli G, Scott Stransky G, Brian H. Tang G, Tim Whitcomb G, Angela Zalucha G.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Editor: Jessica Witchley '10; **Associate Editor:** K. Nichole Treadway '10; **Staff:** Emily Ko '08.

OPINION STAFF

Editor: Aditya Kohli '09; **Staff:** Josh Levinger '07, Justin Wong '07, Ali S. Wyne '08, Krishna Gupta '09.

SPORTS STAFF

Editor: Caroline Huang '10; **Staff:** James Zorich '08, Albert Ni '09.

ARTS STAFF

Editors: Jillian A. Berry '08, Sarah Dupuis '10; **Staff:** Bogdan Fedeles G, Kapil Amarnath '07, Tony Hwang '07, Andrew Lee '07, Alice MacDonald '08, Tyson C. McNulty '08, Tanya Goldhaber '10, Tina Ro '10.

PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Editors: Ricardo Ramirez '09, Eric D. Schmiedl '09; **Associate Editor:** Omari Stephens '08; **Staff:** David Da He G, Scott Johnston '03, Yun Wu '06, Gheorghe Chistol '07, Fred Gay '07, Dmitry Kashlev '07, Martin Segado '07, Christina Kang '08, Arthur Petron '08, David Reshef '08, David M. Templeton '08, Peter H. Rigano '09, Jerzy Szablowski '09, Daniel P. Beauboeuf '10, Mindy Eng '10, Catherine Huang '10, Bea Jarrett '10, Samuel E. Kronick '10, Diane Rak '10, Aaron Sampson '10, Jongu Shin '10, William Yee '10.

CAMPUS LIFE STAFF

Editor: Marie Y. Thibault '08; **Staff:** Bruce Wu G, Kailas Narendran '01, Elizabeth Zakszewski '06, Victor Cabral '07, Janet S. Lieberman '07, Matt Zedler '07, James Scott Berdahl '08; **Cartoonists:** Scott Burdick G, Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer G, Roberto Perez-Franco G, Emezie Okorafor '03, Nancy Hua '07, Jia Lou '07, Andrew Spann '07, Ash Turza '08, Danbee Kim '09.

BUSINESS STAFF

Advertising Managers: Neeharika Bhartiya '10, Ritu Tandon '10; **Staff:** Jeffrey Chang '08, Tai Ho Kang '08, Jennifer Chu '10, Michael Kuo '10, Kevin Wang '10, Heymian Wong '10.

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Director: Shreyes Seshasai '08.

EDITORS AT LARGE

Contributing Editors: Rosa Cao G, Tiffany Dohzen G, Brian Hemond G, Benjamin P. Gleitzman '09; **Senior Editor:** Satwiskai Seshasai G.

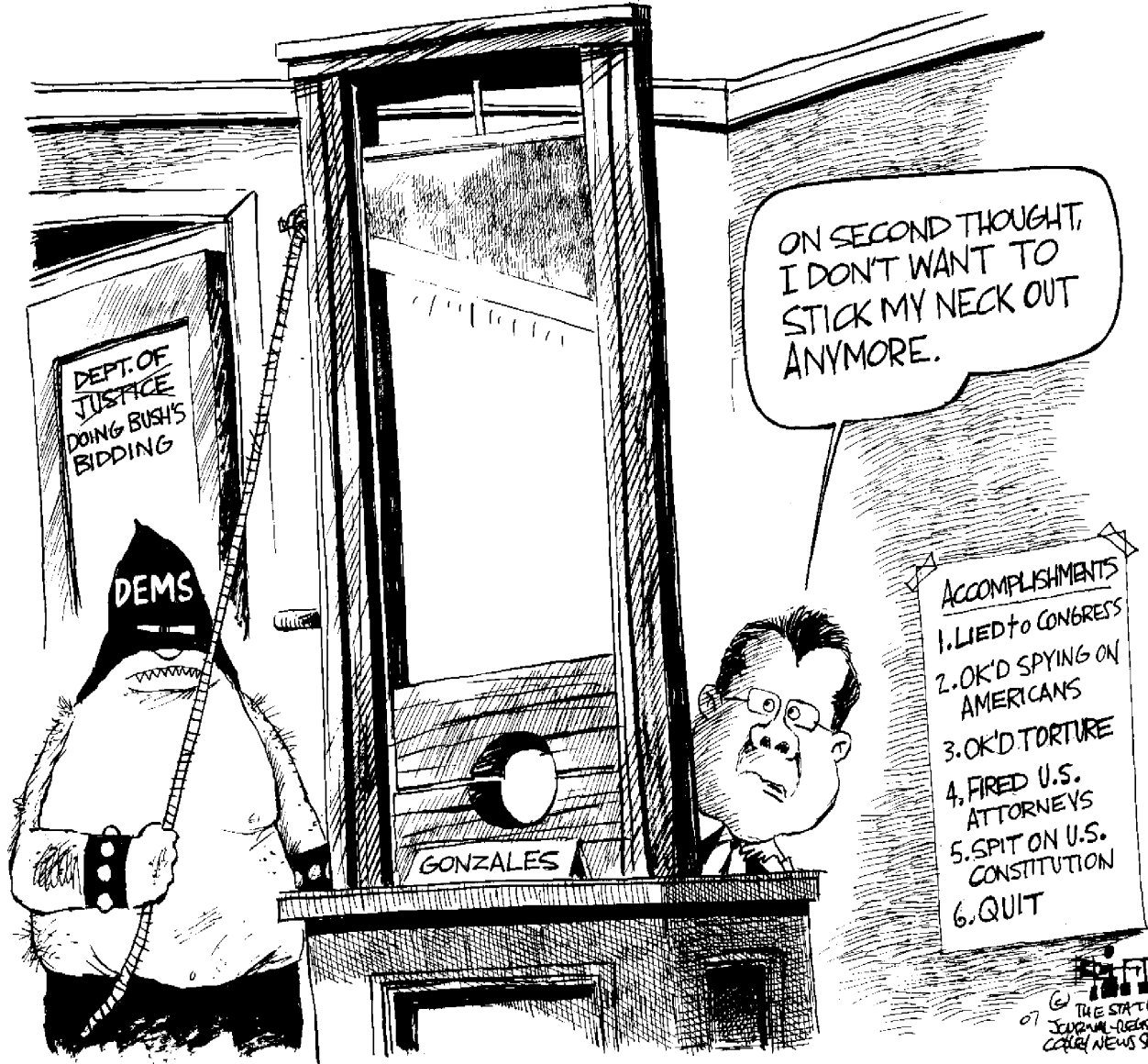
ADVISORY BOARD

Paul E. Schindler, Jr. '74, V. Michael Bove '83, Barry Surman '84, Robert E. Malchman '85, Deborah A. Levinson '91, Jonathan E. D. Richmond PhD '91, Saul Blumenthal '98, Frank Dabek '00, Daniel Ryan Bersak '02, Eric J. Cholankeril '02, Jordan Rubin '02, Nathan Collins SM '03, Keith J. Weinstein '03, Akshay R. Patil '04, Kelley Rivoire '06, Beckett W. Sterner '06, Marissa Vogt '06, B. D. Colen.

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

Editors: Austin Chu '08, Michael McGraw-Herdeg '08; **Staff:** Ricardo Ramirez '09, Steve Howland '11.

The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 2007 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Michael McGraw-Herdeg, Editor in Chief Angeline Wang, Managing Editor Austin Chu, and Opinion Editor Aditya Kohli.

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become

property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on *The Tech's* Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing eic@the-tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www-tech.mit.edu>.

ARTS

CD REVIEW

Interpol Has Some Growing Pains

Weakest CD to Date, But Still Pretty Good

By Andrew Lee
STAFF WRITER

Our Love to Admire
Interpol
Capitol Records

One would assume that the antelope on the cover of *Our Love to Admire* would strike a more expressive pose than pictured, given that he faces his demise via predatory lions. I guess this antelope just needs a little more time to mull over what's happening before reacting. That kind of behavior is just not going to cut it for most animals that like their torsos intact, and while humans rarely have to worry (anymore) about that sort of thing, the principle still rings true in modern society: there are those with a predilection for quick action, and they get what they want; then there are those who spend too much time thinking about what they want. Then there's Interpol, who spend their time making music about thinking too much about what they want.

So far, they've been very good at it. In the past, they have fashioned oblique tales of poi-

soned efforts and paralyzed ambition, which they then channeled through singer Paul Banks' malicious baritone over downcast dance beats to craft two impressive and consistent full-lengths, *Turn on the Bright Lights* (a modern rock masterpiece) and *Antics*. Being established as one of the premier indie bands of the decade will grant you the right to take a break from touring and recording, but it can also raise anticipation of a follow-up to Radiohead-like proportions. When that happens, you'd better be Radiohead, because almost nothing you pull out of your hat is going to satisfy the fans.

I suspect that this was on Interpol's minds the past year, because *Our Love to Admire* sounds like the work of a band that tried to evolve instead of just evolving. It is the difference between a band being in their element and a band being out of it. After affording themselves a more spacious sound with a jump to a major label, the concept that Interpol now seems to be trying to fulfill is that of a lonely orchestra. While the echoes of the double bass, orchestral bass drum, and the occasional bell toll are a welcome addition to their sonic pal-

ette, Interpol's normally stellar rhythm section doesn't seem to know where it fits in half the time. Tracks like "The Scale" and "All Fired Up" are outright duds, featuring the most uninspired and clunky riffs the band has ever recorded. With their momentum in a holding pattern for these songs, Interpol just sounds uncomfortable.

Thankfully, those are low points, and the rest of the album is on higher ground. Out of the several rhythmically experimental songs, the twitchy "Rest My Chemistry" comes closest to success, although Interpol hits for a much higher average when it sticks to what it knows. "The Heinrich Maneuver," a bitter tirade against an ex who moved away before Banks had a chance to tell her off, is Interpol's first single and a tight, hard-charging rocker that plays right to their strengths. Banks lyrically juxtaposes frankness and non sequitur as if unsure how much to protect his own emotions, while his wounded contempt is achingly evident with the smirking remark, "How are things in the west coast?"

More of Banks' unique phrasing and pos-

turing ("Now I select you / slow down I let you / see how I stun") are on display in the towering ballad "Pace Is the Trick." But it's the album's second track, "No I in Threesome," that showcases the band with all its cylinders firing. A chiming Arcade Fire-esque piano and a wash of shimmering guitars tell the story of a relationship backed against the wall before Banks has to say a word. There is something perversely endearing, however, about the line "alone we may fight / so let us be three tonight" being used as an awkward threesome overture.

Despite the album's bright spots, *Our Love to Admire* is still Interpol's weakest effort. That sounds worse than it is, because a middling release by Interpol still contends among their peers. Given the sheer quality they've already delivered to their fans, the band is essentially playing with the house's money, so the missteps on *Our Love to Admire* are forgivable if they are growing pains for a band exploring new territory. But they could also be a warning that the band is past its creative peak. Let's hope the former is the case.

CD SNAPSHOTS

Animals in Autumn: Five CDs You Need This Fall

Dragons, Moths, and Ortolans Dominate New Rock Releases

By Sarah Dupuis
ARTS EDITOR

With sprightly new indie bands coming out as fast as you can type "myspace," it can be tiring and time consuming to navigate the Web in hot pursuit of new music. But never fear — these five discs, many of which come out next month, are tried-and-tested and sure to grace back-to-school playlists across the country as soon as they hit the CD store shelves.

Coronation Thieves by Dragons of Zynth
Release: Sept. 25, 2007 on Gigantic Records

I know close to nothing about Cleveland, other than that it hosts the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and that "all the little chicks with their crimson lips go 'Cleveland rocks.'" But the best (okay, first) evidence I've seen of this purported rockage comes from Ohioan twins Aku and Akwetey O.T.'s experimental funk-punk-soul group, Dragons of Zynth.

I got their debut LP, *Coronation Thieves*, a month or so back, and noting its co-production by David Andrew Sitek (of TV on the Radio fame) immediately heard the similarities between DOZ and said producer's notable Brooklyn band. You could chalk up my interest to safety in familiarity, but once you get beyond the shockingly TVOTR-esque opener, "War Lover," *Coronation Thieves* covers so much ground it's hard to keep your mouth off the bait. Track 7 always seems to be my personal favorite, especially on a 10-

track album like *Coronation Thieves*. "Anna Mae" fills that spot with a soulful and slow but deceptively upbeat tune worthy of any twisted love mix.

There Is a Moth in Your Chest by Mason Proper
Release: March 13, 2007 on Dovecote

So many rock singers today seem to thrive in their insecurities, passing off the breaks in their range as vocal cracks of emotion (see: Conor Oberst). And on the other end of the spectrum are the new bands modeled after 1970s punk acts; their music is so imitative I'd rather listen to a Sex Pistols re-issue than bother dealing with the newest copycat.

One band that seems to have struck a nice balance are Michigan indie rockers Mason Proper. I picked up their first LP at the Virgin megastore because I liked the cover art, which I later found out was designed by Granddaddy drummer Aaron Burtch. I was happily rewarded with a great disc inside.

Singer (and songwriter and guitarist and keyboardist) Jonathan Visger navigates through their debut album, *There Is a Moth in Your Chest*, with ease, slipping between a sexually ambiguous soprano and an in-charge tenor, aided by super-catchy and resonant guitars. Some of the album feels like a rock opera made for cinema (like title track "A Chance Encounter") while "Blue Lips Eternal Inquiry" evokes the very spirit of Beck (do Scientolo-

gists believe in a spirit?). The catchy "Chemical Dress Eliza" is vulnerable, sensitive, until it kicks you in the teeth and invites all its friends to watch.

Shaky Hands EP by Cut Off Your Hands!
Release: Oct. 9, 2007 on I Am Sounds

Cut Off Your Hands!, a very un-sensitively monikered group of New Zealanders, are also getting by with a sometimes forceless singer who pulls off the task quite nicely. Their EP, *Shaky Hands*, sounds like a well choreographed street riot — a real modern day West Side Story soundtrack. Can't you just picture this album as the background music to a coolly confrontational cinematic scene?

The Movie by Clare & the Reasons
Release: Sept. 4, 2007 on Frog Stand Records

Clare Muldaur, though at times evocative of Emily Haines and Nellie McKay, is less hip and funny than the women of whom she reminds me. Her 20-piece backing band is surely far from democratic, as Muldaur graduated Berklee with a degree in jazz composition. And though her songs are clever (opener "Pluto" is an ode to the revocation of the former planet's title; "Cook For You" is a love song for a dead beau) she lacks the ability to give her songs resonance, instead spending far too much time singing wistfully for New York and Paris.

But somehow, Clare & the Reasons' first album, *The Movie*, is a strange gem worth

more than a few listens. Muldaur's high, breathy voice would fit well with the old French chanteuses, and in fact, the last track, "Pluton," is sung wholly in French. And a full string orchestra adds incredible depth to what would otherwise be quirky but unremarkable tracks. Despite these pros and cons, Muldaur has a secret weapon that makes the album worthwhile regardless of most of its content — and that weapon is Sufjan Stevens! He duets with her on a strange tune about running away to nowhere and taking only a comb and shoes.

The Ortolan by The Deadly Syndrome
Release: Sept. 11, 2007 on Dim Mak Records

The first thing I thought while listening to this album was "Modest Mouse!" If you've read reviews by me before, then you know my first thought was a good one. But this is no copycat album, and aside from the hammer-on-hammer-off riff throughout opening track "Eucalyptus," The Deadly Syndrome stray far from my first impression over the course of their debut album, *The Ortolan*. The guitars and bass tracks could have come straight out of the American Northwest in the mid 90s, but are decorated with horns, bells, and keys typical of today's Pitchfork Media darlings. There are also sweet folk numbers with stories about ghosts and wolves. And the end of the album is peppered with randomly interspersed disco beats. Mmmmm.

Its onset can be so subtle you don't notice it.

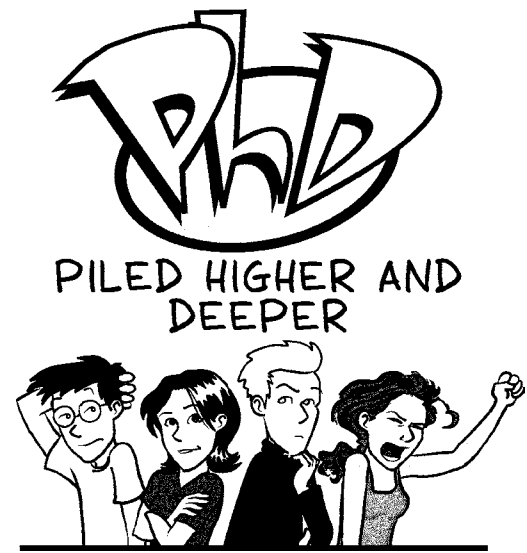
IT CAN KILL YOU IF YOU
DON'T RECOGNIZE IT.

Depression strikes millions indiscriminately.
Depression is MOST dangerous when it goes
unrecognized. Always be aware of the threat,
and don't always believe everything you feel.

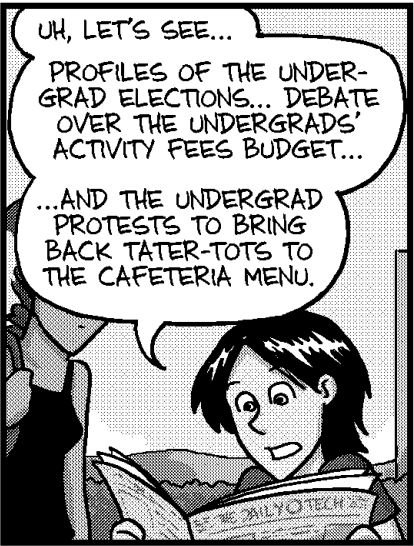
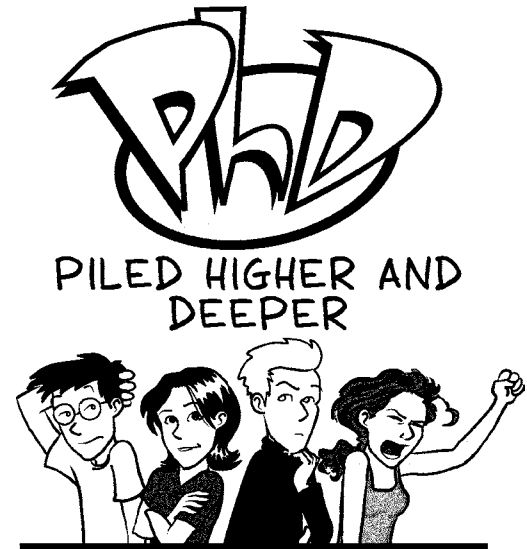
UNTREATED
DEPRESSION
#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SA\VE (Suicide Awareness\Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>

This space donated by The Tech



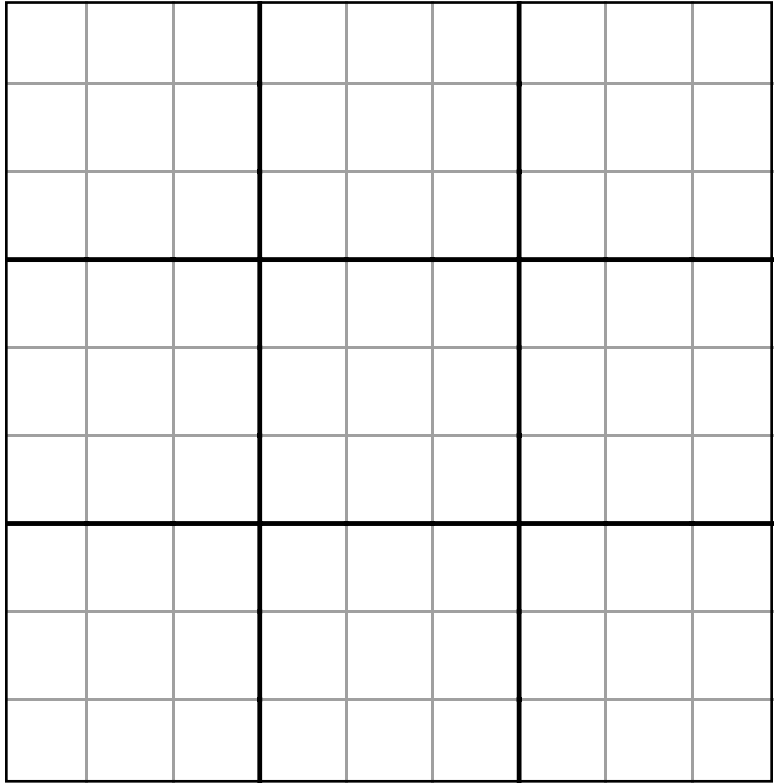
www.phdcomics.com



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>; see also solution, page 15.

Employment Opportunities:
Data Editors for Fishery Observer program, Falmouth, MA, oracle programmer, Narragansett, RI. Research Assistant in Physical Oceanography in Woods Hole, MA. See employment opportunities at www.IntegratedStatistics.com. Send resume to HR@integratedstatistics.com.

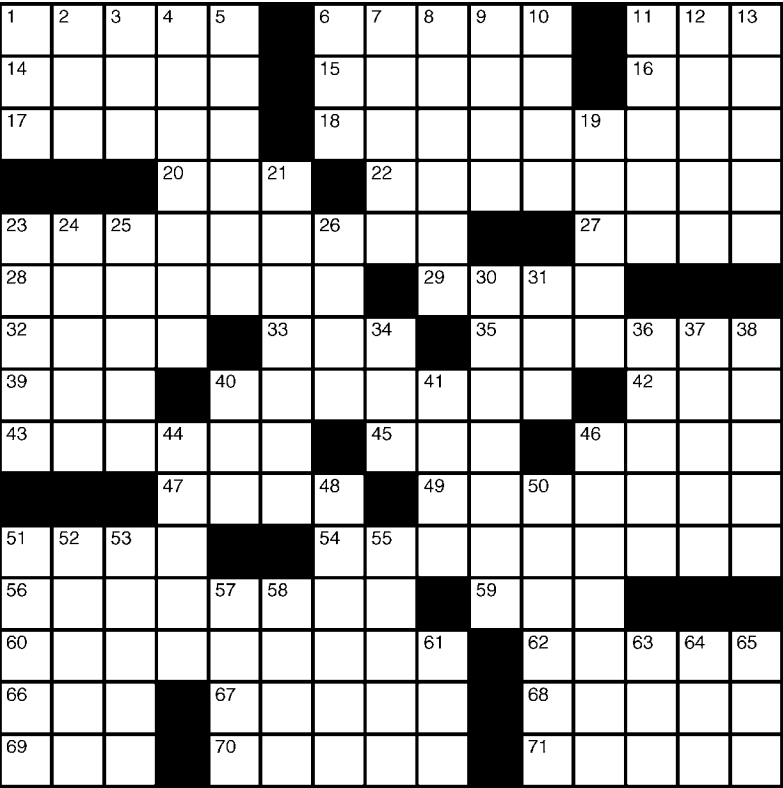
Spring Break 2008.
Sell Trips, Earn Cash and Go Free. Call for Group Discounts. Best Deals Guaranteed! Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, S. Padre, Florida. 800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 15

ACROSS

- 1 Native Israeli
- 6 Extended operatic aria
- 11 Opposite of masc.
- 14 Communicate by PC
- 15 Tender spots
- 16 Oklahoma town
- 17 Drug agts.
- 18 Start of Evan Esar quote
- 20 LummoX
- 22 Piths
- 23 Part 2 of quote
- 27 Phoenician port
- 28 Type of omelet
- 29 End-product purchaser
- 32 Pelvic pieces
- 33 French pronoun
- 35 For the time being, briefly
- 39 Dis or Pan, e.g.
- 40 Part 3 of quote
- 42 Words before roll or rampage
- 43 Proud mounts
- 45 Letter from Greece
- 46 Yeah, sure
- 47 Sports org.
- 49 Unruly mob
- 51 Bear dad
- 54 Part 4 of quote
- 56 Menu alternative
- 59 P. Hearst's kidnappers
- 60 End of quote
- 62 Vote in
- 66 Printers' measures
- 67 Dog family
- 68 Washer cycle
- 69 Salty sauce
- 70 Shade providers
- 71 Family car



DOWN

- 1 Upper Hse. member
- 2 GPs' org.
- 3 Cake of soap
- 4 Italian cheese
- 5 Region of France
- 6 Fast plane, briefly
- 7 Writer/singer Leonard
- 8 Mocedades hit
- 9 New Jersey five
- 10 Tennis great
- 11 Ornate
- 12 Lawn tool
- 13 Billiards shot
- 19 Musical opening
- 21 Taiwan, once
- 23 Nest material
- 24 Spartan serf
- 25 Stage whisper
- 26 Some ones in Paris?
- 30 Joint injuries
- 31 Before in a poem
- 34 Sault __ Marie
- 36 American abstract artist
- 37 Latin American January
- 38 Taiwan Strait island
- 40 Four CDs
- 41 Longfellow's bell town
- 44 Pass into law
- 46 I've been framed!
- 48 Harmonize
- 50 Impertinent lookers
- 51 Shows anxiety
- 52 Texas mission
- 53 Colorful violet
- 55 Skater Sonja
- 57 Part of IRA
- 58 Lion sound
- 61 6-pointers
- 63 Conclude
- 64 Dixie grp.
- 65 Hamilton bill

Doonesbury
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

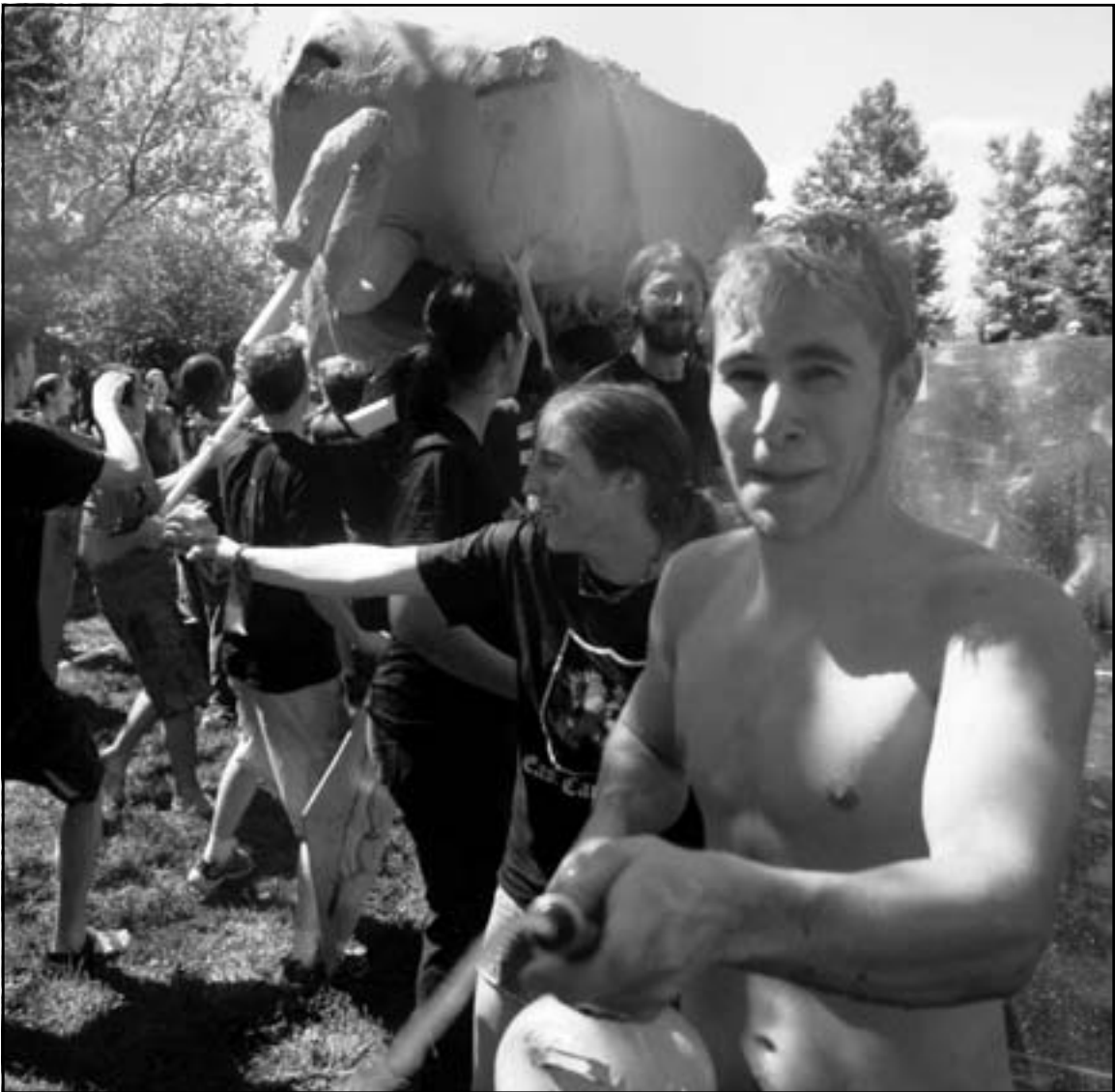


East and West Wage (Water) War





The annual East vs. West Water War took place at Kresge Barbecue Pits Monday. (clockwise from top left)
¶ Residents of east campus re-stock on water balloons.
¶ West campus students head to Kresge Oval.
¶ Erik D. Fogg '09 hugs another student.
¶ Students head to the Chapel's moat.
¶ Students inside of the Chapel's moat congratulate each other at the end of the war.
¶ East campus residents clear the way for the paper-maché "Trojan Elephant."
¶ East campus assaults west campus with water balloons.
¶ West campus students use homemade shields to protect themselves from east campus.
¶ A west campus student narrowly deflects a water balloon.
¶ West campus residents attack the paper-maché "Trojan Elephant" from east campus.
Photography by Eric D. Schmiedl





RAY C. HE—THE TECH

Tech
Staffers
Share
Their
Summer
Photos



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH



JESSICA WITCHLEY—THE TECH



MICHAEL MCGRAW-HERDEG—THE TECH



ALEX CHAN



DAVID DA HE—THE TECH

Every June when the last threat of final exams has passed, MIT students usually find the first flight out of town. Today, we take a look at some of the places MIT students visited and lived this summer.

(clockwise from top left)

CRATER LAKE, ORE.—Dimtry Kashlev G (a *Tech* staff photographer) takes a break just off the beaten path at Crater Lake National Park in Oregon. Crater Lake, the deepest lake in the United States, was formed by the collapse of a volcano.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.—Su Lin, a giant panda, munches on bamboo at the San Diego Zoo. She is one of only 13 pandas in the United States.

VERONA, ITALY—Incoming graduate student, Alex Chan G, takes a break from work to relax above Verona in Italy.

YELLOWSTONE, WYO.—A bison grazes next to Mammoth Hot Springs in Yellowstone National Park.

PASADENA, CALIF.—*Tech* Chairman Mi-

chael McGraw-Herdeg '08 poses next to the Fleming House Cannon at the California Institute of Technology. MIT hackers borrowed the cannon in April 2006 after which it appeared next to the Green Building at the beginning of Campus Preview Weekend. The cannon is now chained to the ground.

GRAND CANYON, ARIZ.—Summer storms pass through the Grand Canyon in Arizona.

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Alice Tao '08 (silhouetted) is seen peering toward Columbus Circle and Central Park in New York City from the second floor balcony inside the Time Warner Center.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—A cable car full of tourists makes its way up Powell Avenue from Fisherman's Wharf on its way to downtown San Francisco.



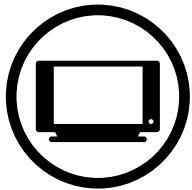
MARISSA VOGT—THE TECH

Wanna hook up?

Connect with the Comcast Student Bundle.



Comcast High-Speed Internet with PowerBoost™– Leaves dial-up and DSL in the dust. PowerBoost provides a burst of speed—up to 12 Mbps—when downloading huge files like music videos, online games and software.



Comcast Digital Cable with ON DEMAND– All the channels you want most. With ON DEMAND, you can check out everything from movies to sports, original series and more—whenever you want. And many ON DEMAND programs are included for no additional charge.

\$79.99 per month for 9 months
when you subscribe
to both services!



Go to studentbundle.com
and find out how you can live it up L.A. style!

1-866-454-9303



NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER. Sweepstakes is open to legal residents of the U.S. who are at least 18 years of age. VOID OUTSIDE OF MA, NH, VT, CT, TX, PA, MI, GA AND WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. Enter Sweepstakes by visiting www.hillsvipsweeps.com and completing all required fields on the on-line entry form or by mailing your entry to Pop2Life, Attn: The Hills VIP Sweepstakes, 247 Centre Street, 6th Floor, New York, New York, 10013. Customers who are eligible for and subscribe to the Comcast Student Bundle via www.studentbundle.com or by calling 1-800-COMCAST during the Sweepstakes Period are automatically entered in the Sweepstakes (service must be for a residential location in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut, Vermont, Texas, Pennsylvania). Sweepstakes commences at 12:00:01 PM (ET) on August 10, 2007 and ends at 11:59:59 PM (ET) on September 14, 2007. Sweepstakes is subject to Official Rules at www.HILLSVIPSWEEPS.com. Sweepstakes sponsored by MTV Networks, a division of Viacom International Inc. Odds of winning depend upon the number of entries received in the applicable markets. **SERVICE OFFER:** Offer ends 9/30/2007. Offer only available in participating Comcast systems (and may not be transferred) and is limited to new residential customers, or existing customers who subscribe to Comcast Basic Cable Service only, who have not subscribed to any of the promotional services for the past 120 days, located in Comcast Cable wired and serviceable areas. Offer not available to customers with unpaid Comcast account balances. Offer limited to Comcast Digital Starter and 6.0 Mbps High-Speed Internet access. Advertised prices only available with subscription to both services. If any service is cancelled or downgraded during the promotional period, Comcast's regular charges apply for any remaining services. **AFTER THE PROMOTIONAL PERIOD, COMCAST'S REGULAR CHARGES APPLY UNLESS SERVICE IS CANCELLED BY CALLING 1-800-COMCAST.** Pricing, programming and services subject to change. Offer savings range from approximately \$8.19 to \$24.57 monthly (depending on area) over non-promotional rates. Digital Cable and High-Speed Internet services included in offer are limited to a service to a single outlet. Service is subject to Comcast standard terms and conditions of service. Equipment and installation fees are additional. A converter (Comcast's current monthly fee is \$3.99) is required for certain cable services. Use of one converter included with Digital Starter Service. A cable modem, which may be purchased at retail or rented from Comcast (Comcast's current monthly fee is \$3 (or \$5 for Home Networking)), is required for High Speed service. Unless specifically included in offer or service package, equipment fees are additional. Prices shown do not include taxes and franchise fees. Not all programming and services available in all areas. May not be combined with other offers. **Cable Service:** Certain services are available separately or as a part of other levels of service. Basic Service subscription is required to receive other levels of service. ON DEMAND selections subject to charge indicated at the time of purchase. **Comcast High-Speed Internet:** Speed references and comparisons for downloads only and compare Comcast 6.0 Mbps to 56kbps dial up and 768kbps DSL. PowerBoost only available with Comcast 6.0 Mbps/8.0 Mbps plans. PowerBoost provides brief bursts of download speed above customer's provisioned download speed for the first 10 MB of a file. It then reverts to the provisioned speed for the remainder of the download. Many factors affect speed. Actual speeds will vary and are not guaranteed. Please call your local Comcast office for restrictions and complete details about service, prices and equipment. Comcast ©2007. All rights reserved.

A17P081407V2-A10NE

Housing For MIT Affiliates Located Near Kendall Sq.

Condos, from Page 1

ited Liability Corporation, a group formed by nine senior Harvard and MIT affiliates in January 2004. The URC founders include Paul E. Gray '54, former president of MIT, a research affiliate in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, and an adjunct professor of architecture at Harvard.

The original first floor design of the South Building was significantly modified to provide communal rooms for lectures, dinner parties, and medical services, according to Stephen N. Faber, senior vice president of Asset Management for Beal Companies, a firm that oversees the project. The building is currently designed to include an indoor pool, fitness center, and underground parking, along with shuttle service to the Institute, according to the URC Web site.

The Web site also states that occupancy of the lower floors of the South Building is planned for September 2008.

The URC hopes to maintain its communal ownership of the South Building in the form of a co-operative structure. With the exception of the 21 housing units set aside to the City of Cambridge, only those with affiliations to MIT, Harvard, or Massachusetts General Hospital are currently eligible to reserve units. The cooperative structure will allow for its owners greater control over its use and transfer, along with "the ability to borrow against the equity of the real estate for future repairs or improvements," according to the URC's Web site.

Residents receive a share of

the corporation's stock that is proportional to the purchase price of their housing unit under the cooperative form of ownership. Once 50 percent of the units are sold (74 units), the developer is bound by contract to the cooperative form of ownership. After the 80 percent mark is reached, the ownership will be transferred to the cooperative shareholders. Within the cooperative structure, transfer of housing units can only be made to those who an elected board deems to have institutional affiliation.

Initial sales strong

The URC that has grown out of a partnership with the Beal Companies is receiving increasing market acceptance. Although the summer real estate market is somewhat slower than that of the academic year, 30 percent of the URC's housing units have already been reserved, Faber wrote.

The URC subscribers who have previously made refundable \$1,000 deposits are given priority in sale reservations, which began in June. A market standard of 10 percent of the purchase price must be paid within 10 days of reservation. Housing units range from \$478,000 for a one bedroom apartment to \$1.5 million for a three bedroom apartment, with select units offering duplex layouts. The URC's Web site states that such prices are comparable to other cooperative and condominium sales in the Cambridge/Boston area.

In April, the URC signed an agreement with the Extell Development Company that allowed

construction to cater to the URC's needs, according to the MIT Faculty Newsletter. Extell, along with its partner Equity Residential, which is developing the two buildings on the site, has agreed to modify and expand the 239 units of the South Building to 168 units, Faber wrote. Of the 168 units, the City of Cambridge allocates 21 for sale to those who "have incomes from 60 percent to 120 percent of the Boston median income," O. Robert Simha MCP '57, director of planning emeritus, wrote in an e-mail. Simha urges those in the MIT community who meet the qualifications to apply.

In September, the URC sales office will be relocated to 300 Third Street, Faber wrote. By that time, most of the people would have also returned to campus, allowing the URC to generate, update, and internally circulate the contact information of its members with the intention of forming committees, Gray wrote in an e-mail.

Shaky start

Originally named "Aging in Place," the URC was intended for people 55 years and older and had attracted senior members of the community who wanted to continue to live at home for the remainder of their lives. However, early meetings with subscribers indicated that they would prefer that the residence be multi-generational. Although the URC at 303 Third Street provides accommodations such as on-site medical services and walk-in showers, it no longer restricts the age of those who reside within the community.

Although the URC has achieved a successful lift-off, its previous attempts have been anything but smooth. Despite allowing the use of e-mail and Web site space for communications, MIT has not contributed any funding. This has

caused the developer to question the group's ability to solicit many buyers, going as far as requesting the URC to revert back to the condominium form of ownership if less than half of the units are sold within the first 14 months. Such a request is now an issue of the past.

In the past, the process of securing a site has ranged anywhere from modifying existing buildings to constructing and have included private sale, offer to multiple buyers, and public auction, according to the URC Web site. There was a time two years ago when it was so difficult to obtain an agreeable

price that the URC was willing to modify its criteria, the Web site stated. Subscribers were asked of the extent to which they were willing to postpone occupancy for three to six years and whether a location a mile or two from MIT with shuttle service would be acceptable. Indeed, the URC and its constituency have survived those tests and have moved onto more promising paths.

More information can be found on the URC's Web site at <http://web.mit.edu/ir/urc/> and on the 303 Third Street Web site at <http://web.mit.edu/303third/>.

Welcome back!

The Council for the Arts at MIT sponsors **free tickets & museum memberships** for MIT students & awards over 60 **art grants** a year

Check the Tech for **free ticket** offers & deadlines for applications to the Council's Grants Program!

For free ticket offers, bookmark this page:
<http://web.mit.edu/arts/see/freetickets/index.html>

For information on the grants program, look here:
<http://web.mit.edu/arts/do/funding/grants.html>

The next deadline for grant applications is

Friday, September 28

For more information, please contact
Susan Cohen at cohen@media.mit.edu

Welcome!

Make a difference faster.

Join a firm where you can make a difference quickly. Morgan Stanley, a global leader, can make you part of the financial markets, techniques and transactions that help shape the world we live in.

We give you responsibility as fast as you can handle it, to make an impact on our business and on the world at large. Learn about the rich variety of opportunities we offer by attending our presentation.

Thursday, September 6, 2007
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Hotel at MIT, Main Ballroom

LEARN MORE AND APPLY ONLINE AT
WWW.MORGANSTANLEY.COM/CAREERS/RECRUITING

Morgan Stanley
WORLD WISE

Morgan Stanley is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to workforce diversity. (M/F/D/V) © 2007 Morgan Stanley

Sadoway Ponders MIT Change

Sadoway, from Page 1

other places, a secretary answers and puts you on hold. I answer my own phones, I always have. There were times when I was a young faculty member, if I phoned the Office of the Dean of Engineering, sometimes the dean would answer the phone. So that kind of shirtsleeves rolled up, can-do culture was very refreshing to me.

It's changed a lot. I think we've lost some of that. I think MIT has become a little more institutionalized. But there are still many pockets of that kind. You walk into somebody's office, and they get interested in the problem. The next thing you know they've got you by the hand and they're taking you down the hall to a laboratory or an office where there's a colleague saying, "Hey, what about this problem? If we could just do this and this and this." People are very much intrigued by good problems, and they help each other. That's my first impression of MIT. There's still a lot of that, but I think we've lost some.

TT: How was it lost?

DS: It was lost because people are far busier today with other administrative chores. There was more time in those days. It was easier to get and hang on to research funds than it is now. The reporting requirements were much

less demanding. You wrote a letter once a year to your contract monitor, you got multi-year grants.

Nowadays, with the Internet, people want quarterly reports, they want elaborate PowerPoint presentations done in certain formats, there are review meetings that require you to go to Washington or sometimes halfway across the country to make a 30 minute presentation and you have to sit and spend two days of your life listening to everybody else's talks and program. ... I just find that people spend much

more time on securing the resources to keep their research going. That means that they tend to work with their doors closed, and the only way you can see people more and more so is by appointment.

You know, 25 years ago, I had an office on the Infinite Corridor where the undergraduate laboratory is now for Materials Science. Imagine, I was on the Infinite Corridor, I would sit in my office and the door was open. From time to time, somebody would just pop in and sit down and chat for 15 minutes and sometimes an idea emerged. ... The Materials Science Department is in [Building] 8 and in 4, which are contiguous, but then there's a bunch of us in 13, there's some over in 56. The chances of running into somebody are greatly reduced, so I lament that. If I could change one thing to turn this into the dream place to work, it would be to use a magic wand to eliminate the need to chase after money, and that would mean that people would spend almost zero time writing proposals and zero time writing reports. Then, they can focus with their students on ideas

"I just find that people spend much more time securing the resources to keep their research going."

—Professor
Donald R. Sadoway

— developing the ideas, testing them in the laboratory, or however — and focusing on writing the papers. We don't do that. We spend far too much time chasing after money.

TT: What advice do you have for incoming freshmen based on your experience here?

DS: I would advise freshmen to explore, try things that they haven't tried before, try to learn as much as they can about themselves in terms of latent interests that may have not expressed themselves through high school. I think we all come to college with certain expectations in what we might like to major in, and after we spend some time on campus, there can be major changes in plans ... MIT has a rich variety of options. ... There's enough flexibility in the schedule to allow people to sample different classes, and they should avail themselves of everything else on campus. Go to seminars and just keep their eyes and ears open and ultimately discover what their passion is and pursue it.

TT: What do you think will be

Donald R. Sadoway

Educational Background: PhD in Metallurgy from the University of Toronto

Hometown: Toronto, currently residing in Boston area (Watertown)

Years at MIT: 30

Age: 57

Office: 8-203

E-mail: dsadoway@mit.edu

major challenges that freshmen will face?

DS: Above all, it's going to be time management. The metaphor is getting at education at MIT is like drinking from the fire hose, and the students who come here are high achievers, used to being top of their class in high school and now they're no longer the big fish in the small pond. ...

The thing about MIT is that in the freshman year, if I take a look at 3.091 for example, any individual topic is perfectly accessible to the incoming freshman. The difference is that the rate at which we deliver material is much, much faster than people are used to getting in high school. So they sit and they nod their heads approvingly, but when it comes around for tests, the large amount of material covered is quite different from what people have experienced up until now. I think that people need to devote some time to their studies and also leave time for recreation, for social interactions.

It's like the proverbial kid in the candy store, you've got to make choices. From my experience, it's very, very rare that a student in 3.091 is having difficulty because he or she cannot master the material. It's because they haven't been able to manage their time, and they're falling behind in their studies because they're using their time doing other things.

TT: What should every freshmen try to do in their first semester?

DS: I would say avail themselves of the rich cultural heritage that Boston offers. Go to the symphony, go to the Museum of Fine Art, go to the Kennedy Presidential Library and take a look at what we've got here. ...

They should try to have a one-on-one conversation with a faculty member. I think that students are sometimes made to feel — and I don't know whether it's self-imposed or somehow the faculty inadvertently through their body language conveys this impression — but the students somehow feel as though the faculty are way up there and you can ask them a quick question or something but really don't bother them because they're very busy.

It's true, we're very busy, but those of us who choose to teach freshman classes care very much about the mentoring role we have to play, and I can tell you I consider nothing more important than mentoring the students I teach. That goes for the 500 people in 3.091 just as it goes for the dozen people in my research group. ...

TT: A little bit about yourself — how do you enjoy spending your spare time?

DS: I enjoy music. I have season tickets to the Metropolitan Opera in New York, so I go down to New York to enjoy opera from time to time. I enjoy cooking and cinema. I've got a constant stream of Netflix coming in and out of the house. And I also enjoy traveling, so when I can, for vacation, I prefer to go some place and really get a sense of the culture there.

Ruling That Censored Student-Run Magazine Is Overturned by Tufts

Tufts, from Page 1

ident Lawrence Bacow said Monday in a message e-mailed university-wide. "To say that people have the right to express such views does not mean that we condone them or that they should go unchallenged."

The Primary Source is a student-run magazine that receives university funding, funneled through the student government. That it receives funding, though, did not spark the discipline. The Committee on Student Life, a group of faculty and students set up to hear complaints on possible violations of students' rights, became involved because it received complaints from an African-American student and a Muslim student group about the articles. The committee concluded that the editorials created a "hostile learning environment" and amounted to harassment under the student handbook, which defines it as written or spoken attitudes or opinion that are threatening or intimidating.

The group decided to require the magazine to include bylines on all articles, saying it would make it harder for writers to publish "unreasonable attacks on students based on their race or religion."

Since the faculty-student group issued its ruling late last spring, the university has come under fire from First Amendment watchdog groups, including the Foundation for Individual Rights, which stuck Tufts on its list of the "worst of the worst offenders of speech rights." The university at the same time faced pressure from Muslim and black students, who held large rallies denouncing the magazine.

In December, the magazine had published an editorial that was a parody of the Christmas carol, "O Come All Ye Faithful," called it "O Come All Ye Black Folk." The editorial suggested that African American students admitted to Tufts were academically unqualified. A black student brought a harassment complaint to the student life committee, and hundreds of students signed a petition protesting the magazine, which in the editorial called black people "boisterous" and proclaimed, "Born into the ghetto. O Jesus! We need you now to fill our racial quotas."

In April, another editorial about Islamic fundamentalism implied that all Muslims were violent and intolerant. The magazine said that many Muslim nations were undemocratic and intolerant of homosexuality.

Neither of the articles contained bylines, and magazine editors and university officials said the byline restriction had the effect of stifling speech. The bi-monthly magazine had run editorials without bylines for years, and using bylines would have exposed the writers to public scrutiny, the magazine's editors said. Leaders of black and Muslim groups on campus could not be reached for comment Monday.

While public universities have generally allowed student publications to publish what they want, private universities often have been more restrictive, said David Hudson Jr., a staff member of the First Amendment Center, an education group at Vanderbilt University. Bacow's step of removing a restriction

on a magazine is unusual for a private college, Hudson said.

In an interview with the Globe, Bacow said he was uncomfortable allowing any committee of students and professors to decide whether certain speech and writings are offensive or constitute harassment.

"Though we are a private institution, we plan to behave like a public institution when it comes to the First Amendment," he said.

Douglas Kingman, a former editor of the Primary Source who represented the magazine before the student-faculty committee, praised the university for "righting a wrong" by lifting the byline restriction.

"That's certainly a win for free speech at Tufts and across the country," said Kingman, who was not editor when the articles were published.

But Kingman and Matthew Schuster, the current editor of the Primary Source, said Tufts remains guilty of silencing free speech by refusing to change the harassment decision.

"Tufts overturned the censorship, which is an important step, but the dangerous precedent of labeling pieces of political speech harassment is still there," Schuster said.

Schuster said getting to keep bylines off editorials was critical for the magazine.

"In the atmosphere of Tufts, where students and professors alike attack people who hold minority political views, many students who hold controversial opinions are intimidated from expressing them out of fear they will be ostracized," he said.

Schuster said the first editorial lampooned the university's affirmative actions policy but never suggested black students were less capable than whites, despite student groups' contentions. He said no one has disputed the substance of the Islamic editorial.

Neil DiBiase, president of the Student Senate, did not directly criticize the university's decision, but said many students have been frustrated that the magazine does not publish bylines on many articles. Students leaders this fall will consider whether to require bylines in all student publications, DiBiase said. "People wanted to know this kind of speech would not be tolerated," he said.

Greg Lukianoff, president of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, a Philadelphia free speech advocacy group, said the university did not go far enough.

"They still found a newspaper guilty of harassment for publishing something that was verifiably true," he said, referring to the editorial about Muslim countries. "That's extremely worrisome."

"It's a shame because Bacow can articulate with some eloquence the ideals of the First Amendment," he said. "This is a step in the right direction but they didn't undo their most troubling ruling."

University officials said they did not eliminate the harassment ruling because it represented the committee's opinion and no longer carried any consequences.

In December, university administrators had condemned the Christmas carol parody, calling it "antithetical to Tufts University's efforts to establish a community of learning."

"Universities are places where people should have the right to freely express opinions."
—Tufts President
Lawrence Bacow

U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW & YOU

MIT students, family and employers
Seeking U.S. legal counsel services.
Free campus consultation, call today:
James Dennis Leary, Esq. 321-544-0012

ROW FOR MIT!



MEN AND WOMEN NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Become a DI varsity athlete in the ultimate team sport!

**COME TO THE PIERCE BOATHOUSE (W8) FOR:
AUG. 30th @ 4:30pm – BOATHOUSE BBQ
SEP. 4th @ 6:00pm – FRESHMAN INFO MEETING**

For more information contact the novice coach:
Evan Thews-Wassell
etw@mit.edu

4 Cambridge Center
(corner of Broadway
& Ames, 1 block from
Legal Seafood)
617-494-5042
quantumbooks.com

quantumbooks
discounted technical books

Why wait for the rebate?
Discounted Textbooks for MIT students.



Call SIPB with questions at x3-7788!

Ask SIPB

Drop by our office in W20-557!

By The Student Information Processing Board

Want to use the software on Athena? Wondered what sorts of cool things you can do? In this column, 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 they allow you to quickly run programs without needing to know exactly where they are located.

How do I use a locker?

The most common way to use a locker is to use the add command. This will attach the locker — 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 a text file called .environment in your home directory to add lockers automatically when you log in. Programs such as pico (terminal-based) and gedit (GUI) allow you to edit text files. For example, you may add a line such as:

```
add 6.001 sipb outland matlab
```

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 it will not add the locker to your path.

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

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

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
linux, NT, and sun4
```

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)* — expands acronyms

```
athena% whats sb
SB      - Science Baccalaureate
(latin form of "Bachelors of
Science")
```

¶ *rolodex (sipb locker)* — phone number database

```
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
617-577-0066  Domino's Pizza
617-523-5575  Bel Canto (Boston)
[...]
```

¶ *dict (outland locker)* — dictionary via dict.org

```
athena% dict frosh
1 definition found
```

From The Collaborative International Dictionary of English v.0.48 [gcide]:

```
frosh \frosh\, n.; pl. {frosh}.
[from freshman by shortening.]
a student during his first
year in a high school, college, or
university; a {freshman}. [informal]
[PJC]
```

A similar program is thesaurus in the sipb locker.

¶ *weather (weather locker)* — weather conditions or forecast

```
athena% weather boston
Conditions at KBOS on 8/27/2007 at
4:54 PM EDT (20:54 UTC)
Weather: Mostly Clear
Temp: 71 F (21.7 C)
Humidity: 68%
Dewpoint: 60 F (15.6 C)
Visibility: 10 mi
Barometer: 30.14 inHg
Wind: E 8 mph
```

```
athena% weather -f bos
[...]
Wednesday: Sunny. Patchy fog in
the morning. Highs in the mid 80s.
South winds 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday night: Partly cloudy.
Lows in the mid 60s. South winds
5 to 10 mph.
[...]
```

To ask us a question, send email 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 Web site <http://www.mit.edu/~asksipb/>.

Average Math, Reading SAT Scores Fall Slightly in '07

By Alan Finder
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Average scores on the reading and math sections of the SAT test declined slightly this year, as the number of high school students taking the standardized exam grew larger and more diverse than ever before, according to a report released this morning by the College Board on the performance of the high school class of 2007.

The average score on the critical reading portion of the SAT, which used to be known as the verbal test, was 502 out of a possible score of 800 — a decline of one point from last year. The average math score declined by 3 points, to 515. The average score on the SAT writing test, which was introduced two years ago, was 494, a drop of 3 points.

It was the second year in a row that the College Board, the nonprofit organization that administers the

SAT, reported score drops on the college entrance exam.

The declines for the class of 2007 were not caused by one single factor, the officials said. But the increase in the number of traditionally underrepresented minority and low-income students taking the test played a part, they said. So was a new requirement in Maine that all high school seniors take the exam, including those who would not in the past have viewed themselves as college-bound.

"The larger the population you get that takes the exam, it obviously knocks down the scores," Gaston Caperton, the president of the College Board, said in a news conference this morning. College Board officials called the decline from 2006 to 2007 statistically insignificant.

In 2006, the first class to take a new three part test including a writing section, average SAT scores

showed the largest decline in 31 years: 5 points in critical reading and 2 in math. Together the pattern for the expanded SAT reinforced concerns by many guidance counselors that students were getting tired out by the new three-part test, which runs for three hours and 45 minutes, rather than three hours.

But officials of the College Board attributed the declines last year to a drop in the number of students who took the exam more than once. Experience shows that students' scores go up when they take the SAT multiple times — typically gaining 14 points a section when they take the test a second time and an additional 10 or 11 points a section on a third try.

Today, the College Board trumpeted the size of the group that took the SAT — nearly 1.5 million seniors — and the expanded diversity of the test-takers. Hispanic, African-Ameri-

can and Asian-American students accounted for 39 percent of the seniors who took the test, with Hispanic students representing the largest and fastest growing minority group to take the exam.

In all, 35 percent of the class taking the SAT would be the first in their family to attend college, mirroring the broad diversification of the college student population that university officials have been noting and encouraging in recent years.

Several officials of the College Board noted that, in some instances, the traditional gaps between minorities and low-income students and the overall population of test takers had narrowed this year. But much of the data released today appeared to bolster the idea that the increased numbers of minority and low-income students taking the SAT had contributed to the decline in scores.

For example, the average score for students who planned to apply for financial aid in college was 501 in critical reading and 508 in math; the average scores for students who did not intend to apply for aid was 530 in critical reading and 548 in math. The average scores for students whose parents did not graduate from high school was 421 in critical reading and 445 in math; the comparable averages for students whose parents are college graduates was 522 and 533.

Similarly, there were racial and ethnic differences. The average scores for black students were 433 in critical reading and 429 in math; the averages for Puerto Rican students was 459 and 454, and the averages for white students were 527 and 534.

The average scores among New York State students in the class of 2007 were 491 in critical reading and 505 in math.

College Board Quits the Student Loan Business

By Jonathan D. Glater
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The College Board, the powerful testing organization known for its SAT and Advanced Placement exams, announced on Wednesday, Aug. 22 that it was getting out of the student loan business.

The College Board, a nonprofit organization based in New York City that has been expanding into new products like English and math curriculums, began offering student loans in the early 1990s, partnering with companies that included Sallie Mae and Citibank. The lenders extended the money, while the College Board received a fee from them for serving essentially as a gateway for borrowers.

In explaining its decision to abandon the business, the College Board cited new legislation and regulations cracking down on relationships between lenders and colleges that have been enacted in the wake of revelations that numerous lenders were paying colleges commissions or bonuses in exchange for business. College officials have also received free trips, meals and other perks to win spots on the so-called preferred lender lists that students rely on when selecting a loan company.

Edna Johnson, a College Board

spokeswoman, said the new rules — designed to prevent conflicts of interest that could lead universities to steer students to particular lenders — would prevent the organization from conducting events it routinely holds with university officials to discuss topics like student writing skills, admissions trends and financial aid.

"We understand and respect the intent of this new legislation and these new codes, but the end result is that we're not able to reimburse our members for travel and lodging," Ms. Johnson said. "If we no longer reimburse the educators, then only those educators from schools, colleges and universities with the financial resources to pay for the travel and the accommodations would attend."

The association also emphasized that its student lending operation had accounted for less than 1 percent of the \$618 million in revenue in the year ending June 30, and that shutting it down would affect only 15 employees.

Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo of New York, who has led the way in looking into the practices of the \$85 billion student loan industry, requested information from the College Board in February as part of an investigation that continues. Jeffrey B. Le-

rmer, director of communications for the attorney general's office, praised the College Board for its decision, calling it "a positive development."

Ms. Johnson said that the College Board's decision was not part of an agreement with Mr. Cuomo's office but an independent move, adding that the organization was cooperating with his investigation.

Mr. Cuomo began looking at the College Board, along with several other loan companies, when his office began investigating various lenders' practices, including reimbursing college and university officials for

travel to meetings at which they were hosts and for other expenses.

Barmak Nassirian, associate executive director at the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, said the rules would probably not lead most other lenders to abandon student loans. The College Board was in an unusual position because it was a loan marketer, not a lender, Mr. Nassirian said.

"They have no infrastructure," he said. "They have nothing but a marketing facade and as they themselves would point out, not a particularly big one anyway."

Solution to Crossword

from page 6

S	A	B	R	A	S	C	E	N	A	F	E	M	
E	M	A	I	L	S	O	R	E	S	A	D	A	
N	A	R	C	S	T	H	E	T	H	I	N	G	S
		O	A	F	E	S	S	E	N	C	E	S	
T	H	A	T	C	O	U	N	T	T	Y	R	E	
W	E	S	T	E	R	N	U	S	E	R			
I	L	I	A	M	E	S	P	R	O	T	E	M	
G	O	D	M	O	S	T	A	R	E	O	N	A	
S	T	E	E	D	S	E	T	A	I	B	E	T	
		N	C	A	A	R	I	O	T	E	R	S	
P	A	P	A	T	H	I	N	G	S	Y	O	U	
A	L	A	C	A	R	T	E	S	L	A			
C	A	N	T	C	O	U	N	T	E	L	E	C	
E	M	S	C	A	N	I	D	R	I	N	S	E	
S	O	Y	T	R	E	E	S	S	E	D	A	N	

Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

1 year old, 1991

2 years old, 1992

Stevie Ace Flores.

Killed by a drunk driver on March 23, 1993, on Pacific Coast Highway in Wilmington, Calif.

If you don't stop your friend from driving drunk, who will? Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

U.S. Department of Transportation
This space donated by The Tech

SPORTS

MIT Sports Fans Must Consider Others' Expectations

By Caroline Huang
SPORTS EDITOR

Ring, ring. “Oh, that’s another friend calling about our Sunday fantasy football draft. Oh right, you guys probably don’t follow fantasy football at MIT, do you?”

Yeah, that was part of an actual conversation I had with someone (who shall remain nameless) who graduated from a prominent Division I Athletics school.

In my last column, I wrote about the amazing professional sports scene surrounding MIT. In this column, I’ll put on the I’m-So-Much-Wiser-Than-You-Because-I’m-An-Upperclassman Hat that every upperclassman on campus has been sporting and explain that while it’s great to be interested in sports at MIT, it’s a little different to be interested in sports when you’re from MIT. Confused? I would be too,

if I hadn’t seen it firsthand. Unfair or not, there are certain stigmas that go along with attending MIT: you can’t write (hey, there’s one I hear often from my adoring fans), you don’t shower (for all of our sakes, please, help us prove that one wrong), and you aren’t knowledgeable about sports (oddly enough, I hear that quite a bit too).

Before I — and the Advanced Standing Exams — make you rue the day you turned in your acceptance letter and rejected the entire Ivy League, keep one thing in mind: it’s all about expectations. These expectations aren’t necessarily bad, either — it’s pretty cool that by virtue of being admitted here, MIT thinks you can make a difference in the world.

At the same time, however, people outside the Institute sometimes think that being an Engineer and being an accomplished varsity athlete are

mutually exclusive. The same goes for being an Engineer and a member of a fantasy football league, or a Zesiger Center weightlifting addict, or a member of your dormitory’s intramural frisbee team, or any of the many other ways you can choose to be involved in sports.

Why is this (clearly wrong) expectation so prevalent? For starters, MIT doesn’t accept students solely because of their athletic abilities — the admissions policy is that everyone is accepted holistically, not based on a 4.35-second 40-yard dash or a 34-inch vertical leap alone. Then there’s the fact that MIT is a Division III school, which means that it can’t provide athletic scholarships — even in the guise of unnecessary financial aid — at all.

Finally, the people the MIT community admires are those who make contributions to society, and those people are often in fields other than

athletics. Thus, it’s the exception rather than the norm for an MIT alum to qualify for the Olympics or the major leagues of a sport, but it’s the norm rather than the exception for a professor or student to make a scientific breakthrough. Observers expect members of the Institute to be brilliant on a regular basis, weighty expectation or not, because it has been true in the past and will most likely be true in the future. They simply don’t expect the MIT varsity teams to compete with Stanford in athletics, though they expect the students on those teams to make academic discoveries on par with Stanford students in lab.

Case in point about expectations: the last baseball article I wrote (<http://www-tech.mit.edu/V127/N28/soxtix.html>) was intended to be lighthearted, and people took three facts — that I am a sports editor, I attend MIT, and I used the word “sta-

tistics” — as reasons that my material should have been as vigorously researched as a dissertation. When I discuss the background of my computer screen in the same breath as I start discussing “statistics,” that should be a cue to think, *Hey, this isn’t a particularly serious column.* While I do believe the Sox will win the AL East, the deciding factor has nothing to do with how old Roger Clemens is or how much the Yankees are overpaying him. After all, Tim Wakefield and Curt Schilling are getting on in years too, and the Sox are still banking on them to win games.

So what’s the bottom line? The next time someone you’re talking to says something tactless about MIT’s athletics, just remember to consider his expectations. And if he’s talking about a fantasy football league, ask if you can join his — and then dominate the league.

Hey Parents!

Want to keep up with the news
at your kid’s new school?

Subscribe to *The Tech*!

United States Mail

1st Class 3rd Class

1 year	\$105	\$45
2 years	\$205	\$85

E-mail circ@the-tech.mit.edu
to set up your subscription and
to get more information.

