

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather
Today: Mostly cloudy, mid 40s°F (7°C)
Tonight: Mostly cloudy, mid 30s°F (2°C)
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, chance
of showers, low 40s°F (6°C)
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MIT Sues Gehry Firm Over Stata Problems

Lawsuit Describes Persistent Leaks, Sliding Ice and Snow, and Cracking Masonry

By Arkajit Dey
STAFF REPORTER

MIT has filed a lawsuit against Frank O. Gehry, the architect of the Ray and Maria Stata Center, and Skanska USA Building Inc., the construction company that built the Stata Center. MIT alleges that Gehry was negligent in designing the building and that both Gehry and Skanska breached their contractual obligations.

In the lawsuit, which was filed on Oct. 31, MIT specifically cited “design and construction failures” on the Stata Center project which resulted in “masonry cracking” and “poor drainage” at the outdoor amphitheater, “persistent leaks,” “sliding ice and snow from the building,” and “mold growth.” MIT spokesperson Pamela Dumas Serfes declined to comment, saying that MIT policy kept her from commenting on pending litigation.

The \$300 million Stata Center opened more than three years ago in spring 2004. MIT paid Gehry’s Los Angeles-based firm \$15 million to design the building.

A copy of the lawsuit can be found at <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V127/N53/lawsuit/>.

The suit says that as early as late summer 2004, it was discovered that “considerable masonry cracking existed in the Amphitheater’s seating areas ... caused by an improper amount and spacing of control joints in the brick masonry” and that the drainage design was flawed in that it “failed to include a drainage mat under the brick.”



RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH

MIT sued architect Frank O. Gehry and Skanska USA Building Inc. on Oct. 31 for “design and construction failures” in the Ray and Maria Stata Center (pictured).

According to the suit, MIT paid more than \$1.5 million to repair the amphitheater.

The suit reflects a dispute over which party, Gehry or Skanska, is primarily at fault for the amphitheater’s drainage problems. In the lawsuit, the charges against Skanska are phrased conditionally. It states, “If, as claimed by Gehry, the failure of the Amphitheater is due in whole or in part to

the act or omission of Skanska or its applicable subcontractors, then Skanska must indemnify MIT from all loss or damages resulting therefrom.”

In response to the suit, Paul Hewins, executive vice president and area general manager of Skanska, said to the *Boston Globe*, “This is not a construction issue, never has been.” He added, “We worked hard to work with MIT to bring this to resolution

... but it was a design issue.”

Hewins told the *Globe* that Skanska reported the amphitheater’s design was flawed, but that Gehry ignored Skanska’s recommendation to change the design. Hewins did not return a call from *The Tech* yesterday.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, Gehry said, “A building goes

Lawsuit, Page 12

Senior Gift Aims for 55 Percent Donation Level

By Jeff Guo
STAFF REPORTER

The Senior Gift campaign kicked off last night, challenging seniors to donate to MIT and reach 55 percent participation rate. This year’s senior project, a fund for students taking unpaid externships over the Independent Activities Period, was also unveiled.

“We’re really excited, really motivated,” said Senior Gift Chair Raffaella L. Wakeman ’08 at last night’s open-

ing ceremony, held in the Vannevar Bush Room. “There’s a lot of pressure, and we’re ready.”

The Class of 2008 Externship Assistance Fund will sponsor students who take unpaid externships during IAP, Wakeman said. Some IAP externships, which take place off-campus, include a stipend or housing and transportation assistance, though

Senior Gift, Page 14

Tang Held Without Bail On Probable Cause

Anna Tang, the Wellesley College junior accused of stabbing Next House resident Wolfe B. Styke ’10, was ordered held without bail on probable cause in a Nov. 7 dangerousness hearing. Tang, who pleaded not guilty to charges of home invasion and armed assault with intent to murder, was not present at the Cambridge District Court hearing.

A pretrial conference, which is a discussion of the case and bail, is set for Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. at Cambridge District Court.

On Oct. 23, Tang allegedly stabbed Styke, her ex-boyfriend, several times while he slept. She was allegedly given access to his Next House room in the early morning by a night watchman. Styke, who suffered severe but non-life-threatening injuries, was treated and released from Massachusetts General Hospital. He is attending classes.

—Yuri Hanada

DARPA, Page 12



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

U.S. Air Force Cadet Nathan Elowe (Tufts University) slowly marches across the MIT Student Center steps during a remembrance ceremony held Tuesday afternoon. The Air Force, Army, and Navy Reserve Officers’ Training Corps programs held the ceremony to remember prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action.

John Jackson

By Gloria Negri
THE BOSTON GLOBE

A strange thing happened Oct. 19 at MIT’s Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity house: The pilot light on the main Vulcan stove in the kitchen where John Jackson had cooked for half a century suddenly went out. About the same time, current cook Tom Egan, who had been baking pizzas, said he received a phone call from an alumnus telling him of Mr. Jackson’s death.

“I think Jack used his last breath to blow out the pilot light to make sure we knew who was still boss around here,” Egan said, using Mr. Jackson’s nickname. “It’s still giving me goose bumps and shivers.”

Mr. Jackson, a father figure to generations of young men in the

Jackson, Page 15

In Short

¶ The Committee on Race and Diversity has been formed to advance race relations within the community. The new committee, which absorbed the Campus Committee on Race Relations and the MLK Celebrations Committee, will administer grants man-

aged by the CCRR and will sponsor the MLK Breakfast in February. Faculty race and diversity issues remain under the provost’s race initiative.

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

WORLD & NATION

Scranton Diocese to Pay \$3 Million in Sex Abuse Case

By Sean D. Hamill
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Scranton, Pa., has agreed to pay \$3 million to a man who said that as a teenager he was sexually abused by one of its priests.

The settlement, announced Thursday, is one of the largest individual awards made by a Catholic diocese to a victim of sexual abuse by clergy members, said lawyers familiar with such suits and the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests, a victims' rights group.

The settlement was reached Wednesday, after two days of testimony at a federal civil trial by priests and lay people revealed that the diocese had been warned about the conduct of the priest, Albert M. Liberatore Jr., "but the diocese did nothing about it," said the victim's lawyer, Daniel T. Brier.

The victim, who was not identified, had been scheduled to testify Wednesday. Brier said his client was 22, lived in New York and hoped to become a lawyer. Liberatore, who was defrocked in June 2006, pleaded guilty in 2005 to a criminal charge of attempted sexual abuse stemming from the case and was sentenced to 10 years of probation. Also in 2005, he received five years probation in a separate case after pleading guilty to indecent assault and other charges.

Musharraf Vows to Hold Elections

By Jane Perlez
and David Rohde

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

Gen. Pervez Musharraf told his national security council on Thursday that parliamentary elections would be held before Feb. 15 and that he would give up his military uniform before taking the oath of office for his new term as president.

As he made the statement, his security forces clamped down hard on the main opposition party of Benazir Bhutto, arresting as many as 500 party members Wednesday night and Thursday, party workers and diplomats said. The arrests appeared to be an attempt to thwart a protest rally planned by Bhutto for Friday, the party workers and diplomats said.

Musharraf, the president, did not set a specific date for parliamentary elections, and it was unclear whether the new timetable would satisfy opposition parties and Western governments, which had been demanding bluntly that he end emergency rule, step down from his post as head of the army, and allow elections to go ahead as planned. The elections had been scheduled for Jan. 15.

Hundreds of Iraqis Freed From U.S. Detention Center

By Cara Buckley
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Nearly 500 Iraqi detainees were released at a ceremony at a sprawling U.S. detention center in western Baghdad early Thursday, where they were urged by Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki to "start a new life, a different life from months ago."

The ceremony, held at Camp Victory in the dusty morning heat, marked one of the largest releases of Iraqi prisoners from U.S. detention centers, which have become increasingly overcrowded since the U.S. military buildup began in February.

In an interview with *The New York Times*, al-Maliki said he was also considering a general amnesty for most detainees. "We are working on such a project," he said moments after delivering a speech to rows of newly released detainees seated before him. "We are thinking of having a general amnesty except for those who have committed direct crimes against Iraqis, and against our infrastructure."

The number of Iraqi detainees held by the U.S.-led military forces has jumped to 25,800, from 16,000 in February, said Lt. Cmdr. K.C. Marshall, a detention operations officer.

Democrats Tie Iraq Spending Measure to Troop Reductions

By Carl Hulse
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Congressional Democrats renewed their challenge to President Bush's Iraq war policy on Thursday, offering \$50 billion in interim spending for combat operations coupled to a goal of pulling out most troops within a year.

The plan, which could be voted on in the House as soon as Friday and in the Senate next week, came after a lull in the political conflict over the war. It sought to balance a Democratic desire to keep money flowing to sustain troops overseas with a demand for conditions on the administration's use of those funds.

"I believe that this legislation gives voice to the concerns of the American people and, at the same time, strives to meet the needs of our troops," said the House speaker, Nancy Pelosi of California.

The Democratic plan was certain to be opposed in the House by many Republicans as well as some strongly anti-war Democrats who want tougher restrictions on the president. In the Senate, where past Democratic efforts to impose a timetable for withdrawals

have been stymied by Republican opposition, the proposal is likely to run into a filibuster. But Democrats said such a fight would leave Republicans responsible for slowing the money.

Republicans immediately criticized the proposal, saying that conditions in Iraq have improved in recent months, after the president's troop build-up, and that the Democratic proposal would send the wrong message to fighting personnel.

"As long as we're continuing to have success, as long as our soldiers are continuing to move out of harm's way and have Iraqis more out front, I think that the Congress of the United States will not put these kind of handcuffs on our generals or on our troops," said Rep. John A. Boehner of Ohio, the House Republican leader. Some Democrats had initially been inclined to sit on the president's nearly \$200 billion request for combat operations until the beginning of 2008. But Rep. John P. Murtha, D-Pa., who is a party leader on military issues, and others have argued that it is more responsible to try to provide some of the money now.

If the \$50 billion measure stalls, the Pentagon might have to shift

money from non-war accounts to pay for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan into early next year.

At a private meeting with House Democrats where she presented the plan, Pelosi told lawmakers that if the \$50 billion was rejected, Democrats would not move forward with any other Iraq money this year. Someone who was there, speaking anonymously because party meetings are supposed to be confidential, quoted Pelosi as saying: "If you don't want that, Mr. President, you ain't getting nothing."

The confrontation was part of an intensifying fight between Democrats and Bush over spending. But Congress was preparing Thursday to send Bush one spending bill he has agreed to sign — a separate \$470 billion spending bill that covers all Pentagon operations except for the wars.

Democratic lawmakers and senior officials said the legislation on the so-called Iraq "bridge fund" was also intended to show Democratic voters frustrated with the inability of Congress to end the war that Democrats have not given up trying to force a change in policy.

Niger's Oil-Rich Delta Plagued By Gang Shootings and Violence

By Lydia Polgreen
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PORT HARCOURT, NIGERIA

Rosemary Douglas has no connection to the oil business that pumps more than 2 million barrels of crude a day from beneath the swampy Niger Delta. But the violence surrounding it pierced her home in September anyway, when a bullet shattered her upper left arm as she napped with her 2-year-old daughter.

"I don't know why this happened to me," she said, grimacing in pain as she gave a bewildered account of the gunplay that has engulfed her neighborhood and much of this oil-drenched city. "I mind my own business."

The violence that has rocked the Niger Delta in recent years has been aimed largely at foreign oil companies, their expatriate workers and the police officers and soldiers whose job it is to protect them. Hundreds of kidnappings,

pipeline bombings and attacks on flow stations and army barracks have occurred in the past two years alone.

But these days the guns have turned inward, and open battles have erupted with terrifying frequency on the pot-hole-riddled streets of this ramshackle city. The origins of the violence are as murky and convoluted as the mangrove swamps that snake across the delta, one of the poorest places on earth. But they lie principally in the rivalry among gangs, known locally as cults, that have ties to political leaders who used them as private militias during state and federal elections in April, according to human rights advocates, former gang members and aid workers in the region.

"What is happening now cannot be separated from politics," said Anyakwe Nsirimov of the Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in Port Harcourt. "The cults are part

and parcel of our politics. They have become part of the system, and we are paying in blood for it."

The cults go by names that veer from the chilling to the improbable — like the Black Axe, the Klansmen, the Icelanders, the Outlaws and the Niger Delta Vigilante. Separate but not entirely distinct from the militant groups that have attacked the oil industry in the past, they represent a new, worrisome phase in a region that has been convulsed by conflict since oil was discovered here in 1956.

Since democracy returned to Nigeria in 1999, politicians across the country have used cults to intimidate opponents and rig votes. A Human Rights Watch report published in October concluded that the political system was so corroded by corruption and violence that, in some places, it resembled more a criminal enterprise than a system of government.

WEATHER

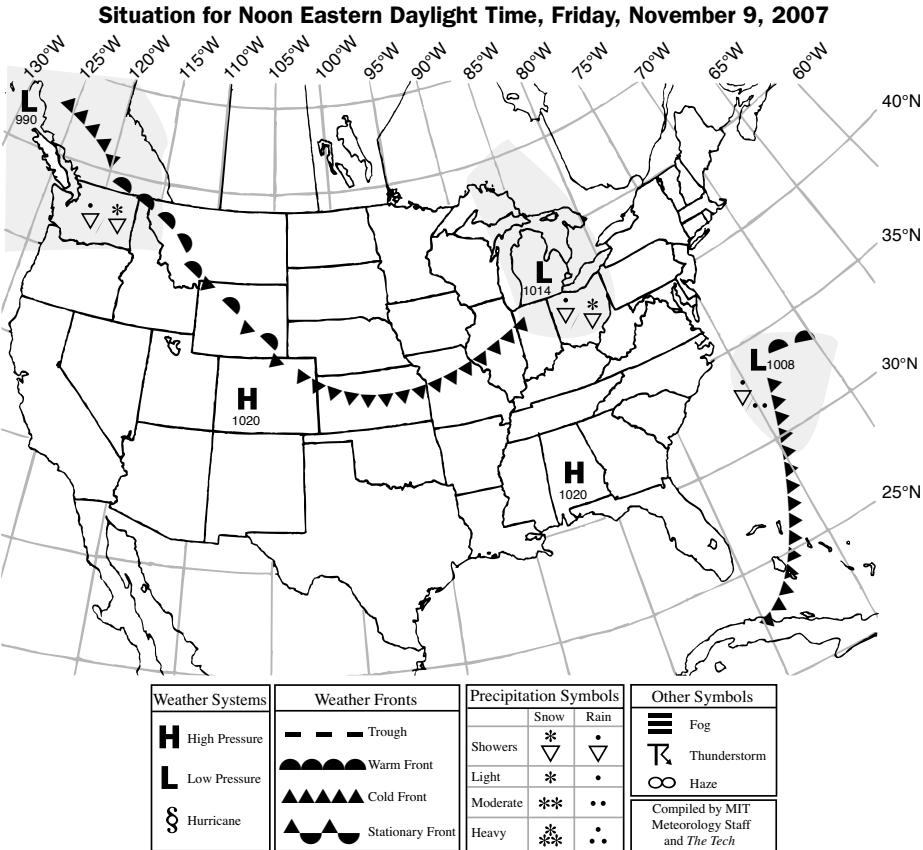
It's Beginning to Feel Like Winter

By Garrett P. Marino
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Temperatures over the next few days will continue to be below average for a change. The month of October saw temperatures average more than five degrees above normal for Boston, mainly thanks to a dry high pressure pattern. That's all a distant memory as far as the near-term weather is concerned. A low pressure system will be redeveloping off the mid-Atlantic coast today and track northeastward out to sea, although it will still provide us a chance of light precipitation Friday night and Saturday morning. If any precipitation does fall, it will likely be of the liquid variety, although temperatures may be marginal enough to have a few flakes mixed in as well. After the storm scrapes by us on Saturday, high pressure will settle into New England, yielding pleasant and sunny conditions for Sunday and the early part of next week. Enjoy the holiday!

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s°F (7°C).
Tonight: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers or flurries. Lows in the mid 30s°F (2°C).
Saturday: Mostly cloudy and breezy with a chance of showers. Highs in the low 40s°F (6°C). Lows in the lower 30s°F (0°C).
Sunday and Monday: Mostly sunny and pleasant. Highs in the mid to upper 40s°F (8°C). Lows in the mid 30s°F (2°C).



Saakashvili Calls for Election Amidst Rioting, Police Clashes

By C.J. Chivers
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

The president of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili, on Thursday called for a special presidential election on Jan. 5, saying he would test whether he retained a mandate a day after a police crackdown and clashes with opposition demonstrators led the government to declare a state of emergency.

Saakashvili said a referendum would also be held on Jan. 5 to determine the timing of parliamentary elections, which the opposition had demanded for next spring.

Saakashvili's surprise announcement was an effort to alleviate the domestic unrest and international concern after the police action in Tbilisi, the country's capital, and the suspension of civil liberties. The president also said that the state of emergency would end soon.

More than 500 people were injured in the crackdown and clashes, none fatally, the government said. In the aftermath, public assembly was banned by the emergency order and two opposition television stations

were forced off the air.

One of the stations, Imedi TV, carried the country's most popular news programs; it was occupied by special-forces officers. The government accused it of inciting unrest after it broadcast a statement from one of its owners, Badri Patarkatsishvili, calling for the end of Saakashvili's government.

Newspapers and foreign news broadcasts were not available in the capital on Thursday and the police filled the streets. Residents wondered whether their country, a young and fragile democracy in a turbulent corner of the former Soviet Union, would backslide into authoritarian rule.

Appearing on national television at 7 p.m., three hours after calling the U.S. ambassador in Tbilisi and notifying him of his plans for snap elections, Saakashvili both defended the police action and expressed a degree of regret.

He said he had been forced to act against a plot organized by Russia to destabilize Georgia and threaten its independence and experiment in democracy. The president insisted

that he was protecting the country, not his own power.

"My chair is worth nothing to me; we care about countries, not chairs," he said. "Demand and you will receive. You demanded early elections. Here they are: early elections. Come and decide who you want to vote for."

"I do not want to be the president of a country that limits mass media and that declares emergency rule," he added. "I can only rule the country if I have a renewed mandate from the people."

He called on international organizations to send as many election observers as possible to ensure that the campaign and the voting would be fair.

Russia has denied playing a role in the protests, which Saakashvili has said were coordinated in part by Russian intelligence officers working with several opposition leaders.

"This is nothing but an attempt to cover their own helplessness in resolving internal problems," Mikhail Kamynin, Russia's Foreign Ministry spokesman, said on Russian television.

Egypt Accused of Complacency in Hamas Weapon, Money Smuggling

By Steven Erlanger
THE NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israel says Egypt is doing far too little to stop the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip, from smuggling weapons, militants and cash into the area from Egypt, and is appealing to Cairo to do more.

At the same time, a senior Israeli legislator from the opposition Likud bloc who is close to the security services is lobbying the U.S. Senate to withhold some military aid to Egypt unless it takes action.

The legislator, Yuval Steinitz, has written to all U.S. senators to encourage them to support a move begun in the House of Representatives to freeze \$200 million of a projected \$1.3 billion in military aid to Egypt. Steinitz said he was asked to write the letter by senators he met as a leader, with Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., of a joint group on defense that meets twice a year.

The House bill would freeze the \$200 million until the secretary of state certified that Egypt "has taken concrete and measurable steps" to enact a law protecting the independence

of the judiciary, to "curb police abuses" by providing training for police leadership and to "detect and destroy the smuggling network and smuggling tunnels that lead from Egypt to Gaza." The Senate version urges Egypt to do more to stop smuggling but would not halt aid.

In his letter, Steinitz, former chairman of the Israeli Parliament's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and chairman of the security subcommittee, accuses Egypt of allowing Hamas to obtain 20,000 rifles, 6,000 anti-tank missiles, 100 tons of explosives, several dozen Katyusha rockets and shoulder-held anti-aircraft missiles every year.

In the last three months, Steinitz says, Egypt has allowed "the organized departure of large groups of operatives from Gaza for military training in Iran." In September, he notes, 100 Gazans who had trained in Iran were allowed by Egypt to return home despite Israeli protests.

Egyptian authorities say the accusations are inaccurate and aimed at sabotaging Egyptian-U.S. relations. They say that they have done all they can to try to safeguard the border, but are

hamstrung by the 1979 Camp David agreement, which restricts the number of soldiers they can deploy there.

"Egypt can't have a real security presence on the border," said Fouad Allam, former director of Egyptian State Security. "Egypt tried to amend this, and Israel refused."

Steinitz's assessments track those of the Israeli military and military intelligence. His complaints are shared by the Israeli government. Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni on Tuesday told her Egyptian counterpart, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, that "there is a real need for a determined effort to stop weapons smuggling into the Gaza Strip."

But the government does not associate itself with the Steinitz letter or its call to freeze aid to Egypt, which, like Jordan, has a formal peace treaty with Israel.

The U.S. House move was led by Reps. Gary Ackerman and Nita M. Lowey, both D-N.Y., who are strong supporters of Israel.

Ackerman is chairman of the subcommittee on the Middle East and Asia; Lowey is chairwoman of the state and foreign operations subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Congress Overrides Bush Veto 79-14 To Pass \$23 Bil. Water Resources Bill

By David M. Herszenhorn
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Senate on Thursday dealt President Bush the first veto override of his presidency, with a resounding bipartisan vote to adopt a \$23.2 billion water resources bill that authorizes popular projects across the country.

The 79-14 vote sent a clear signal that the Democrats in control of Congress planned to test the power of the White House on other fronts, and it gave Republicans a chance to show distance from an unpopular president heading into a tough election year.

"We have said today, as a Congress to this president, you can't just keep rolling over us like this," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., who led the charge on the water bill as chairwoman of the Environment and Public Works Committee.

"You can't make everything a fight because we'll see it through," Boxer added. "And that's a big deal. It isn't easy for members of the other side to stand up to a president in

their own party. I know. I know what that's like. It's hard."

If the Democrats have their way, Republicans will likely find themselves in that difficult position repeatedly in the next few weeks as Congress looks to go toe to toe with the administration on a series of budget bills, most of which Bush has threatened to veto. Lawmakers will also face decisions on a request from the White House for more money for the Iraq war; a continuing battle over children's health insurance; the farm bill, which Bush has said he will veto; and a proposed change to the alternative minimum tax.

On the Iraq war, the Democrats prepared to offer the administration \$50 billion, but with strings attached that include a goal of withdrawing troops from Iraq by December 2008.

And Republicans quickly accused the Democrats of threatening to cut off funds needed to support American troops.

"This bill is deja vu all over again," said Rep. Roy Blunt of Missouri, the Republican whip. "The last

time Democrats tried to tie funding for our troops to a date for surrender, they failed. And that was before the marked turn-around we've witnessed on the ground over the past several months."

The House, meanwhile, on Thursday approved a \$471 billion military spending bill, which omitted the president's request for \$196 billion for operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, except for \$12 billion specifically for vehicles that would protect soldiers from roadside bombs.

The bill would provide a 9 percent budget increase — or \$40 billion — for the Pentagon. If the Senate, as expected, also approves, it could be the first spending bill this year signed by Bush.

The water bill adopted by the Senate authorizes popular projects in states across the country, including hurricane recovery efforts in Louisiana, environmental restoration in the Florida Everglades and flood control in California. But the bill does not actually appropriate money for the projects, which must be done in spending bills.

Bernanke Warns of Worse Times in the Economy

By Edmund L. Andrews
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Ben S. Bernanke PhD '79, chairman of the Federal Reserve, told Congress on Thursday that the economy is going to get worse before it gets better, a message that got a chilly reception from both Wall Street and politicians.

On a day when stock prices swung wildly, the dollar hit another new low against the euro and further signs emerged from retailers that consumers are growing more cautious about spending, Bernanke warned that the economy is about to "slow noticeably" as the housing market continues to spiral downward and financial institutions tighten up on lending.

But in a disappointment to investors, Bernanke offered no signal that the central bank might soften the blow by lowering interest rates for a third time this year at its next policy meeting on Dec. 11.

Share prices, which had plunged on Wednesday, went on a roller coaster after Bernanke testified. The Dow Jones industrial average first fell 205 points by midafternoon, but then clawed back most of the way and ended the day at 13,266.29, down just 34 points.

Testifying before the Joint Economic Committee, the Fed chairman said that the two rate cuts in September and October should be enough to keep the economy from slipping into a recession. Without being specific, he reinforced statements by other Fed policymakers that the economy would have to show signs of stalling out entirely before they would reduce rates again.

An Abrupt Slide For Technology Shares

By Michael M. Grynbaum
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Markets slumped for most of the day on Thursday as technology stocks succumbed to the turmoil they had largely resisted in recent weeks. Stocks recovered in the final hour, but investors remained anxious as a shaky week on Wall Street neared its close.

The Dow Jones industrials finished down 0.3 percent, or 33.73 points, at 13,266.29, after spending much of the day deeper in the red. The benchmark index, which lost 360 points on Wednesday, dropped more than 200 points on Thursday before climbing back in the final hour of trading. The broader market was virtually unchanged for the day, with the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index dropping 0.85 point, or 0.06 percent, to 1,474.77.

"There was enough blood on the streets to finally entice buyers back into this market," said Ryan D. Larson, senior equity trader at Voyager Asset Management.

But sinking technology stocks were out of luck. They battered the Nasdaq composite index, which fell 52.76 points, or 1.9 percent, to 2,696.00. The index was down as much as 3 percent.

It was a sudden downturn for technology companies, which have enjoyed a steady run-up in prices since the summer. Analysts said Thursday's sell-off was driven by a bout of profit-taking in an uncertain climate.

Protest Greets Police Plan To Map Muslim Angelenos

By Neil Macfarquhar
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A plan by the counterterrorism bureau of the Los Angeles Police Department to create a map detailing the Muslim communities in that city, an effort described as a step toward thwarting radicalization, has angered civil rights groups, which say it is no better than racial profiling.

At least three major Muslim groups and the American Civil Liberties Union sent a letter Thursday to top city officials raising concerns about the plan.

"When the starting point for a police investigation is 'let's look at all Muslims,' we are going down a dangerous road," Peter Bibring, a lawyer with the ACLU of Southern California, said in an interview. "Police can and should be engaged with the communities they are policing, but that engagement can't be a mask for intelligence gathering."

The objections started after Michael P. Downing, a deputy Los Angeles police chief who heads the counterterrorism bureau, testified before a U.S. Senate committee on Oct. 30 that the Police Department was combining forces with an unidentified academic institution and looking for a Muslim partner to carry out the mapping project. He emphasized that he wanted the process to be transparent.

In his testimony, to the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Downing said the project would determine the geographic distribution of Muslims in the sprawling Los Angeles area and take "a look at their history, demographics, language, culture, ethnic breakdown, socioeconomic status and social interactions."

Bill Clinton Says His Wife Took the Rap on Health Care

By Jeff Zeleny
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALBIA, IOWA

Former President Clinton said Thursday that he should receive more blame than his wife for the failed attempt to revamp the nation's health care system more than a decade ago.

"You know how much she cares about this," Clinton told an audience in Glenwood, Iowa, according to an account on MSNBC. "She has taken the rap for some of the problems we had with health care the last time that were far more my fault than hers."

In her Democratic presidential bid, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York has placed health care at the heart of her domestic policy agenda. Her rivals have sought to portray her experience on health care as an example of why a fresh approach is needed to truly change and improve the system.

As he campaigned here on Thursday, Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois said Hillary Clinton could not claim credit for trying to overhaul health care if she did not accept any of the blame.

"All I know is that part of the record she's running on is having worked on health care," he said, "so it's kind of hard to gauge if one of her claims is to have experience in this issue to then suggest that somehow she doesn't have anything to do with the fact that it didn't work."

OPINION



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Corrections

In the Oct. 30, 2007 In Short section on page 1, the charges listed for Star A. Simpson '10 were inaccurate. Simpson was charged with possession of a hoax device, not with disorderly conduct.

Letters To The Editor

Watson's Remarks Unacceptable

In his recent letter ("On Intellectual Imprisonment," Nov. 2, 2007), Ali S. Wyne '08 argued that James Watson's resignation from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory signaled the triumph of "political correctness" over fruitful discourse in America. However, Watson's comments fall far from just socially-unacceptable intellectual curiosity. They are blatantly racist.

In an interview with the *Sunday Times Magazine*, Watson remarked that he is "inherently gloomy about the prospect of Africa" since "all our social policies are based on the fact that that their intelligence is the same as ours" Watson, in his benevolence, *hopes* all ethnicities are equal but, alas, he continued, "people who have dealt with black employees find this is not true."

Wyne presumes that the political correctness that forbids mention of the capability-race

connection hails from some manufactured social norm. While there may be some truth in this, he fails to frame the issue in its modern reality. We actually have more than just our liberal guts to argue for racial equality: there has already been substantial scientific discussion and study that has convincingly rebuked the African-inferiority hypothesis. Stephen Gould, renowned biologist and evolutionary theorist, for example, considered racial equality a "contingent fact of history ... equality is not true by definition. It just worked out that way." He points to the genetic consistency within interbreeding species, racial convergences lacking geographic proximity, and the fact that genetic variation is much greater within racial groups than between them. Watson himself admitted in his subsequent apologies that there is "no scientific basis" for his comments.

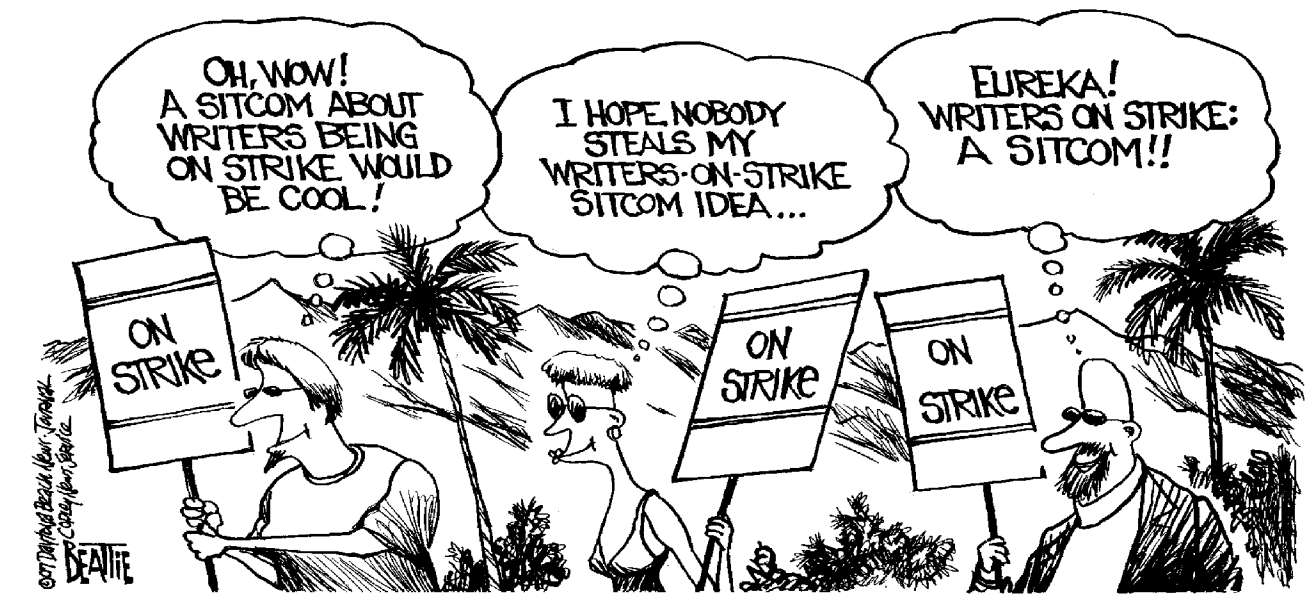
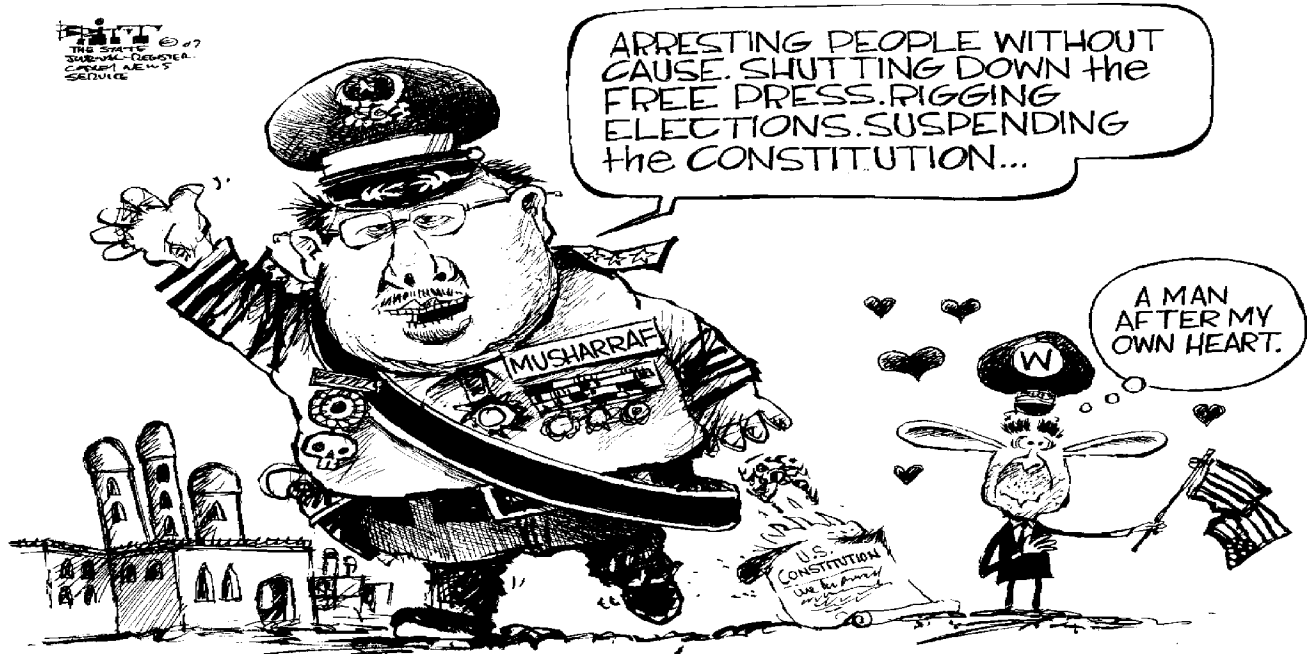
This is not to say that existing credible study should discourage further investigation, but questions into racial differences such as

Watson's must be framed for what they most usually are — not objective analysis into racial discrepancies, but grasps for some modern justification to European domination. Exactly why Watson finds "black employees" less capable than their white counterparts will never be a question settled only in a laboratory; doing so divorces racial inequality from the profound social and historical injustices that have led us to ask these questions in the first place and, worse, absolves those responsible.

I certainly appreciate Wyne's nod to the constraints within American discourse, but Watson's thoughtless comments are hardly a fitting example. I wonder if Wyne would argue that the taboo against questioning the Holocaust is similarly "intellectual imprisonment?"

He is correct that "political correctness" has unfortunately locked away many fruitful discussions, but some topics rightfully deserve to be cast aside if not handled responsibly.

Justin M. Cannon '08



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ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★ 1/2

*Life in a Box**Cusack Takes a Beautiful Journey in 'Martian Child'*

By Jillian A. Berry

ARTS EDITOR

Martian Child

Directed by Menno Meyjes

Written by Seth Bass and Jonathan Tolins,
based on a novel by David GerroldStarring: John Cusack, Amanda Peet, Joan
Cusack, and Bobby Coleman

Rated PG

Now Playing

John Cusack is one of those actors who doesn't quite fit in with Hollywood. And that's a good thing. Getting his start as a teen actor in movies like "Sixteen Candles" and "Say Anything," he transitioned into adult roles without a sex scandal or a stint in rehab. Even more impressive, he has continued to choose projects where he plays quirky, off-beat characters who are more lovable because of their flaws. In "Martian Child," Cusack follows this trend with an emotional performance that had me laughing, crying, and just plain rooting for him in the theater.

"Martian Child" is the story of David Gordon, a science fiction writer and widower who decides to fulfill his and his late wife's dream to adopt a child. He adopts Dennis (played by Bobby Coleman), an abandoned young boy who spends his days in a box and believes he is from Mars, but David is drawn to him. The movie examines the trials David encounters as he tries to show Dennis that he is not an alien (literally and figuratively) but an Earthling with a family who loves him. All the while, both are trying to use each other to repair the damage caused by the loss of loved ones.

Also featuring Amanda Peet as Harlee, David's happily off-beat best friend, and Joan Cusack (Cusack's real life sister) as his sister Liz, the entire cast gives a moving performance. John Cusack's inner pain is evident when his dog, who he got with his late wife, passes away; he sits on the edge of a bed with his head in his hands long enough that you believe he has just lost the last living memory of his wife. He is neither sappy nor cold — he is simply real.

Coleman also does a wonderful job as the deeply troubled child who invents an imaginary world for himself so that he doesn't have to think about the real one in which he was abandoned by his parents as a baby. Playing a child with such complex problems as Den-



ALAN MARKFIELD—NEW LINE CINEMA

Bobby Coleman (left) stars as Dennis and John Cusack (right) stars as David in "Martian Child."

nis, without overtly describing those problems, is incredibly difficult and requires an actor to master the art of subtlety. Most child actors who play major roles in movies are guilty of being overly precocious. Luckily, Coleman doesn't fall into this trap. While he is more thoughtful than most seven-year-olds, his actions and speeches are realistic as he explores his new world and often repeats things he has heard David say. This realism is a testament to both the script and the acting of this young actor.

Although the movie is emotionally intense

at times, it is not actually depressing. Both Cusack and Peet show off their comedic skills with well-timed jokes that received some pretty big laughs from the audience. And with such an unusual subplot that tried to bring an alien world down to earth, the writers were not afraid to revert to a more predictable overall storyline or a happy ending. That said, they shied away from one possible plotline — there was no real romantic interest. Sure, there was a spark between the characters of David and Harlee, but it was pushed into the background as the love between David and Dennis took

center stage. As much as I love romance in a movie (and I do), this was absolutely the right move.

At the end, the movie was not so perfectly (and unrealistically) wrapped up that you believed these characters had left all problems behind. Instead, you know they will face more troubles, but they will survive, just like all of us. Ends are the most difficult part of any piece of work, but this one was beautifully poignant and absolutely appropriate.

Go see "Martian Child." There are no explosions, weddings, or heroes. But there is life.

THEATER REVIEW

*A Night at the Opera**'La Bohème' Continues to Enchant*

By Diana Ye

La bohème

Music by Giacomo Puccini, libretto by

Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica

Conducted by Ari Peltó

Produced and performed by Boston Lyric
OperaCiti Performing Arts Center, Shubert Theatre,
Boston

Nov. 2–13, 2007

La bohème" can perhaps be described as a simple love story, set in the romantic world of bohemian Paris. The poet Rodolfo and the painter Marcello are two of your quintessential starving artists. When their neighbor, the beautiful Mimì, comes in to borrow a light for her candle, she and Rodolfo fall in love. Meanwhile, Marcello's former lover Musetta decides to leave her current man (a wealthy older gentleman) to return to Marcello. However, all does not go smoothly for the lovers as jealousy abounds, and Mimì's increasingly ill health gets in the way of happiness.

Fans of musicals will probably recognize "La bohème" as the story from which "Rent" is based. The original is quite different but is appealing in its own way. The dialogue of "La bohème" is very formal and seemed somewhat archaic to me, as it was chock full of flowery phrases and over-the-top metaphors. Thus, the effect ranged from being laughable (in the case of the endless comparisons of Mimì to a fragile flower) to poetic and lyrical. Of course, I do

not know how the script suffered in translation (the opera was sung in Italian with English subtitles).

However, often when the characters opened their mouths to sing, the music made so much of an impact that the words did not matter. The cast consisted entirely of a group of young singers, all making their Company debuts. The tenor, Derek Taylor, had a lovely, bright voice, and he was both charming and boyish as Rodolfo. Though his character seemed somewhat shallow at times, his serenades were sung so movingly that his love for Mimì could not seem anything but genuine.

In contrast, Mimì's character came off as a bit fake. She is supposed to be an innocent and pious girl (think Mandy Moore from "A Walk to Remember") who leads

a simple life embroidering flowers. However, Alyson Cambridge's full, mature voice was not well suited to the role, and her exaggerated gestures made Mimì's words seem too conceited to be sincere. As a result, she came off as cloying where

she should be sweet, coy where she should be shy. For example, in the scene where Rodolfo and Mimì fall in love, Rodolfo never takes his eyes off Mimì while he sings, his heart showing plainly in his eyes and voice. Mimì, on the other hand, does not look at him once and sings to the audience. Does that seem like a woman in love? Though Cambridge has a magnificent voice (perhaps the best of the cast), she would shine more in a different type of role.

Marcello and Musetta made an incongruous pair visually (Marcello was bald and Musetta

was African-American), but they were a better matched pair musically. I especially enjoyed the soprano Kimwana Doner as Musetta with her scene-stealing scarlet dresses and outrageously flirtatious ways. Rodolfo and Marcello's friends, the musician Schaunard (played by baritone Andrew Garland) and the philosopher Colline (bass-baritone Matthew Burns) were excellent as they provided some much needed comic relief to break up the love scenes. Colline's character was one of my favorites, as he would chime in randomly with some witty, sarcastic, philosophical remark in his deep and delightful voice.

The sets of the show were picturesque, with crumbly stone walls and antique furniture. There was even a giant orange moon for the lovers to be silhouetted against in one scene. The well-designed period costumes also added to the bohemian feel. Despite the stereotype of fat opera singers, Mimì and Musetta were svelte and lovely in their dresses.

The only major problem I had with the show was that the subtitle screens were set on either side of the stage, which meant I had to constantly look away from the scene to read them. This placement was very distracting and made me feel like I was going to miss

something while I was reading.

In general, though, the production was very well put together, the voices were excellent, and the music was ... simply indescribable. It is no accident that "La bohème" is one of the most well-known and popular operas in the world, and the standing ovation at the end of the show attests to the power it still holds today.



JEFFREY DUNN—BOSTON LYRIC OPERA

Soprano Alyson Cambridge plays Mimì in "La bohème," which is running in Citi Performing Arts Center's Shubert Theatre in Boston Nov. 2–13.

The sets of the show were picturesque, with crumbly stone walls and antique furniture. The well-designed period costumes added to the bohemian feel.

THEATER REVIEW

High School Nostalgia, Disney Style

Live Stage 'High School Musical' Better Than Movie

By Diana Ye

STAFF WRITER

High School Musical

Directed by Jeff Calhoun

Choreographed by Lisa Stevens

Citi Performing Arts Center, Wang Theatre

Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007

Imagine a mishmash of every teenage chick flick comedy you have ever seen, throw in some singing and dancing, and BAM! you've got the live stage version of "High School Musical."

The musical begins with a burst of color and energy — cheerleaders in tiny shorts dance and cheer for the East High School Wildcats while the rest of the school mills about in the background — and the energy continues through the show.

After the introduction, in a scene stolen straight from "Grease," the performance cuts to new student Gabriella Montez singing to her new friend, Taylor, about the cute guy she met over winter break. That guy happens to be Troy Bolton, star of the East High basketball team, who simultaneously brags to his friends about the girl he met while snowboarding. (They actually met while singing a duet together at a New Year's Party.) When Troy sees Gabriella in his homeroom, they quickly and happily renew their acquaintance.

The trouble starts when they both decide to try out for the school musical.

Troy is caught between his newfound passion for singing (and Gabriella) and his duties towards his basketball team and his dad, the coach. Meanwhile, the shy and smart Gabriella has fallen in with the "brainiacs," who deride her for her interest in a jock and her pursuit of such frivolous activities as musicals. Finally, the president of the Drama Club, the popular Sharpay, will do anything to maintain her queen

bee status, even if it means sabotaging the pair. Will Gabriella and Troy manage to withstand the pressures and stay true to themselves?

The plot is not original by any means, but its very familiarity can be a comfort. Sure, you know exactly what's going to happen, but would you really want it to happen any other way? Without the worry of wondering whether or not it's going to all work out, you can laugh freely at the outlandish machinations of the jocks, the nerds, and the duo of Sharpay and her twin brother Ryan as they try to thwart the lead couple. And there is plenty to laugh about in the show. Chandra Lee Schwartz is hilarious as a shrill-voiced Sharpay, striding about in a perpetually annoyed whirlwind of blonde and pink chic-ness with the extremely metro Ryan in tow. Another great character is the eccentric drama teacher Ms. Darbus (played by Ellen Harvey) who calls her class to order by striking a gong and makes the students pretend to be animals during detention.

The leads are equally well cast. Though it is hard to believe that the gorgeous Arielle Jacobs (who plays Gabriella) could ever be labeled as a "freaky math girl," her sweet, bright smile makes her seem genuinely shy and likable. (As an MIT student, it is also hard not to sympathize with a heroine who is part of the school's science decathlon team.) John Jeffrey Martin is charismatic as Troy, easily looking the part of the popular basketball star. Although sometimes I found his voice to be slightly too boy-band-ish, he and Jacobs sounded wonderful together on their duets. Troy's and Gabriella's respective best friends, jock Chad (Shakiem Evans) and brainiac Taylor (Shaullanda LaCombe), both had strong voices. It was only a shame they didn't get to showcase them in more solos.

In the end, however, "High School Musical" is really all about the ensemble nature of the

show. The large chorus and slick dance numbers with lots of people make for a loud and lively show. One of my favorite scenes was the beautifully choreographed "Get'cha Your Head in the Game," where basketballs thumped in unison and the squeak of shoes on the dance floor lead off the song. The cast seemed to be having fun with their routines, and their energy proved infectious as audience members started dancing and clapping in their seats during the final numbers.

The excellent, retro-colored sets also added to the fun. Round cafeteria tables and rows of lockers immediately brought me back to my high school days, which, though not that long ago, seem so far away. The costumes were also impressive as slightly exaggerated versions of what different cliques really do wear — from the skater dudes' baggy pants to the drama students' boho frocks to the punk kids' tight black jeans and Converse.

If you've seen the original Disney movie version of "High School Musical" and were put off by the corniness and bad acting, don't let that stop you from checking out the live stage version. Though the cast is still young and vibrant, they are professionals and not the untried teenagers of the Disney movie. Their voices are Broadway voices, much richer and stronger than the bubblegum pop voices in the original. Likewise, their acting skills are stronger. The choreography is also more sophisticated.

Best of all, the stage version knows that it is cliché and exaggerates things even more for comedic effect; the movie, on the other hand, tries to be too serious and ends up being unbearably corny for anyone over the age of 12. That's not to say the live "High School Musical" didn't have a few groan-worthy moments (it is Disney, after all), but overall it was a well put together, highly enjoyable show that people of any age can enjoy.



Science class from Disney's "High School Musical" national tour.

JOAN MARCUS—DISNEY

CONCERT LISTINGS

November Concerts

Some great (and cheap) concerts coming to you in the Boston area this November. Special interest shows are noted with stars. Send listing suggestions for this month and the future to arts@tech.mit.edu.

Friday, Nov. 9

Menomena (with Illinois) *

Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$13

Three's a charm, and this dynamic trio hardly suffers from extraneous wheel syndrome. Watch six hands juggle basses, keys, guitars, drums, saxophones, and bass pedals. Also, check out magnificently fun pop rock group Illinois opening up the night.

Saturday, Nov. 10

Kevin Devine

T.T. the Bear's Place, 18+, \$12

At some point in time, all of Tech arts editor Sarah Dupuis's friends started going to see every Kevin Devine show ever. They swear by his acoustic guitar skills — check him out for yourself and let us know if you agree.

Monday, Nov. 12

Final Fantasy (with Cadence Weapon)

The Middle East (Upstairs), 18+,

\$9adv/\$10dos

Toronto native Owen Pallett, well known for his work with Arcade Fire, Grizzly Bear, Stars, and Beirut, fronts this group on violin and vocals, which he loops indefinitely to create live songs.

Battles

Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$15

This experimental math rock band strangely gains a following and goes on to play all over the world — seems appropriate for the MIT crowd.

Monday, Nov. 13

Broken Social Scene

Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$25

Everyone's favorite Canadian 19-piece supergroup plays Kevin Drew's new solo album *Spirit If...* in full.

Thursday, Nov. 15

Dax Riggs (with Beaten Awake)

The Middle East (Upstairs), 18+, \$9

The former Acid Bath frontman has broken it off creatively with former swamp rockin' bandmate Tessie Brunet and is currently touring solo to support his latest release, *We Sing of Only Blood or Love*.

Wednesday, Nov. 21

Malajube *

The Middle East (Upstairs), 18+, \$9

Quebecois and francophone pop rockers infectious play out in support of their catchy 2006 album *Trompe-l'oeil*. Those sticking around for Thanksgiving break should make it out to this show for a night of guaranteed fun.

Saturday, Nov. 24

Dinosaur Jr. *

Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$20

Though they now ally more with the first half of their name than the last, who can resist the unbeatable combo of J Mascis and Lou Barlow together again, playing as though they can stand one another?

Sunday, Nov. 25

Sondre Lerche (with Dan Wilson)

Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$16.50

Some prefer this Norwegian musician's rock numbers to his acoustic tunes, but, like it or not, Lerche's playing unplugged.

Thursday, Nov. 29

Dragons of Zynth (with Holy Fuck) *

The Middle East (Upstairs), 18+,

\$9adv/\$10dos

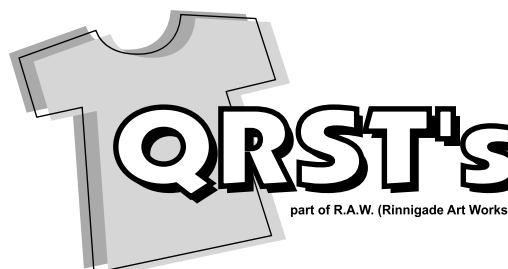
Check out *The Tech's* (glowing) review of DOZ at <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V127/N33/cdreviews.html>. Electro-pop opener Holy Fuck may have a NSFW title, but their dark disco tracks are delectable.

— Sarah Dupuis and Jillian A. Berry

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Dramashop Presents One Acts

MIT Dramashop presents four one act plays written and directed by students Nov. 8–10 at 8 p.m. in Kresge Little Theatre.

(clockwise from right)

Cory (Rachel Nagin, Wellesley) defends his innocence to the police in “Square One.”

Jesse (Gabrielle Ab, Wellesley) tries to figure out what happened to her on one fateful night in “Square One.”

Caffeine, Alcohol, Marijuana, and Nicotine

(clockwise from ground) ponder a lime-green liquid in “Vice Play,” starring Nicolina A. Akrahoff '08, Alaina Hourigan, Monica F. Kahn '10, and Sean P. Faulk '11.

Cinderella (Yekaterina Radul '11, left) and Rapunzel (Erika L. Bakse '09) in “Happily Ever After.”

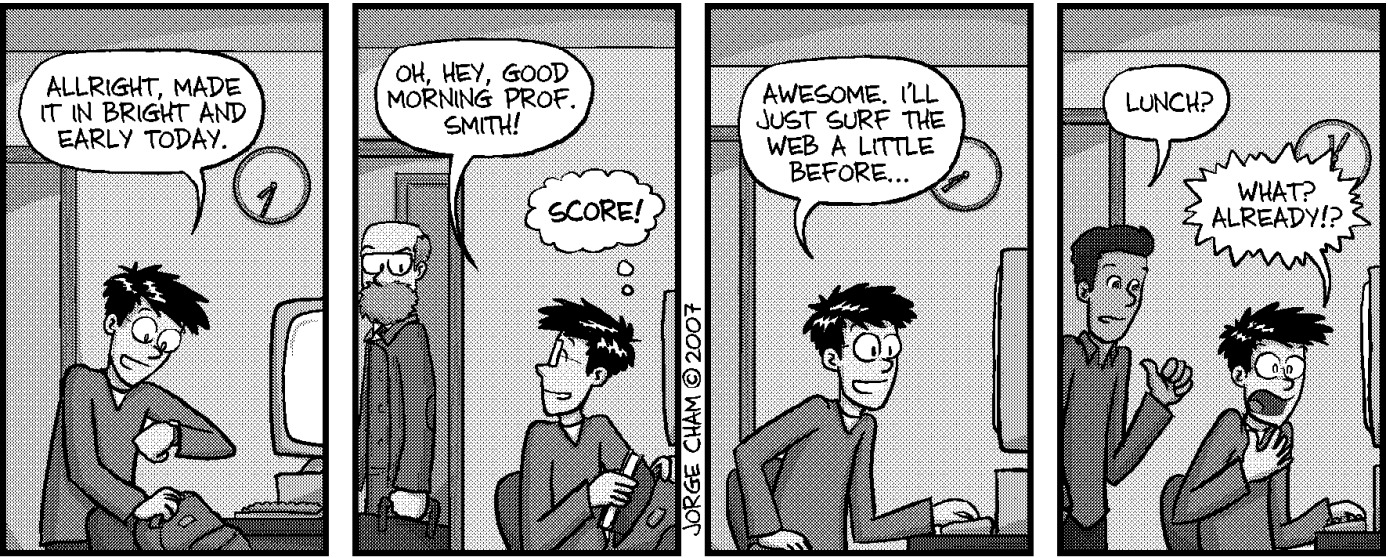
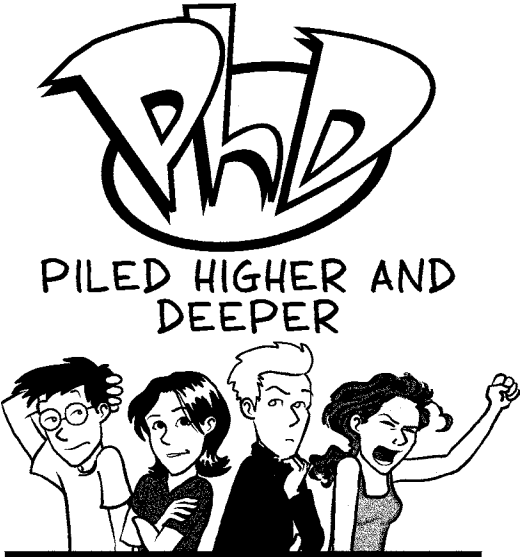
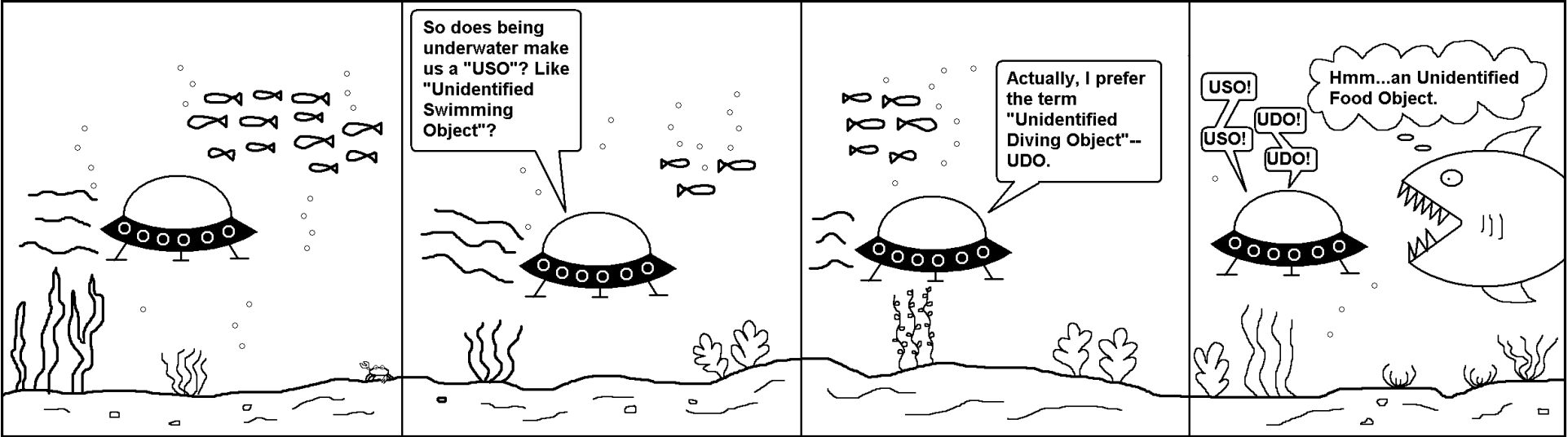
Frank (Paul D. Welle '11, left) and Poole (Jiho Lee '08) plan the firing of a rocket in “Incendiary Evidence.”

Photography by Andrea Robles

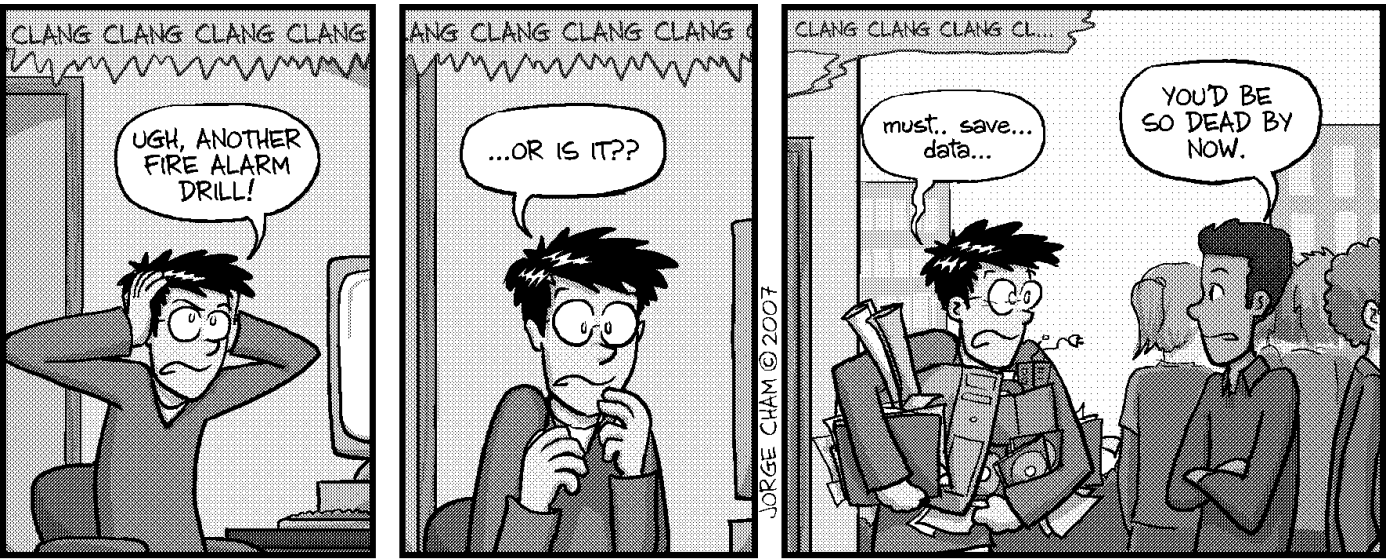
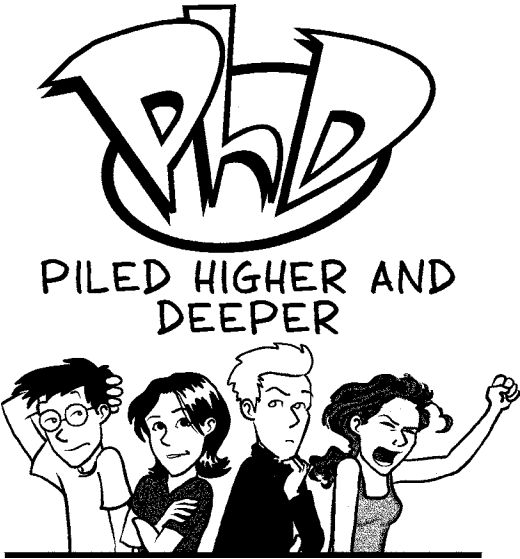


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by Roxana Safipour



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Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 15

ACROSS

- 1 Blokes
- 6 Bit of physics
- 10 Wuss
- 14 R.U.R. role
- 15 Goddess of victory
- 16 Gobi's location
- 17 White poplar
- 18 Laura of "Jurassic Park"
- 19 Sailor's tale
- 20 Hip approval
- 22 Actress Blanchett
- 23 __ Cruces, NM
- 24 Lengthy periods
- 26 Stock of wines
- 30 Blockbuster offering
- 32 Jai __
- 33 Alum
- 35 Kilt pattern
- 39 Hog-wild
- 40 Edmonton player

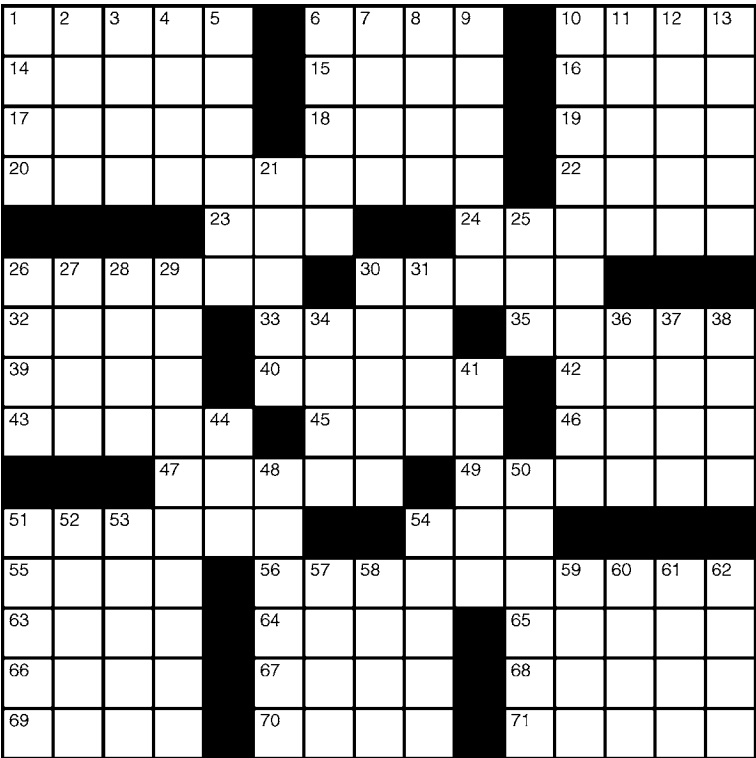
- 42 Mickey and Minnie
- 43 Snooped
- 45 Seethe with anger
- 46 Yemen metropolis
- 47 Strong suit
- 49 "Gunsmoke" star
- 51 BLT word
- 54 Ike's arena
- 55 Beyond
- 56 Hip approval
- 63 "Fiesque" composer
- 64 Former sovereign of Iran
- 65 Skin cream
- 66 Rebuke to Brutus
- 67 Brass band member
- 68 Habituate
- 69 Trial

- 70 Eschew
- 71 Adjust the alarm

DOWN

- 1 Auto finish?
- 2 Tramp
- 3 Assist
- 4 Negri of old films
- 5 Stanley Kowalski's cry
- 6 Williams and Warhol
- 7 Stadium level
- 8 Southern veggie
- 9 Repaired
- 10 Hip approval
- 11 Asimov or Newton
- 12 Gaiety
- 13 Window elements
- 21 Florida key
- 25 Get-up-and-go
- 26 James of "Elf"

- 27 "Tickle Me" Muppet
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- 31 Footnote word
- 34 Breach
- 36 Assistant
- 37 Chills
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- 41 Spanish lariat
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- 48 Perches
- 50 Team makeup
- 51 Rental sign
- 52 Egglike
- 53 Thaws
- 54 Coen brother
- 57 Casual negative
- 58 Forbidden: var.
- 59 Actress Skye
- 60 Large antelopes
- 61 Present!
- 62 Transport-loss allowance



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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.

Where can I find information on agricultural economics? (8)

Where can I find a list of definitions of the various methods
of incorporation? (10)

Where can I find yield curve analysis information? (9)

How can I find a directory of high tech companies? (8)

Where can I find information on obsolete securities? (10)

Where can I find information about financial models? (7)

How can I find what people are searching on the internet? (9)

How can I access statistical information for the EU? (8)

Where can I find changes in companies' management? (7)

Where can I find international statistical agencies on the Web? (8)

How can I find information on nonprofit organizations? (9)

Where can I find housing data from the U.S. government? (7)

Where can I find transcripts of conference calls? (9)

Where can I find information on social networking? (____ Research) (7)

Where can I find information on worldwide wages and fringe benefits?
(____ Internet) (8)

How do I find SEC filings? (10)

Where can I find all common stocks listed on an exchange?
(____ Online) (8)

Where can I find national accounts variables expressed in a common
set of prices in a common currency? (____ Tables) (9)

How do I find information on the sports industry?
(____ Research Online) (8)

Where can I find data on world supply and consumption of oil? (10)

How do I find betas for companies or industries?
(____ Investment Survey) (9)

How do I find career information about management consulting?
(____ Career Library) (7)

Think you've solved it?

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CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK'S WINNER, MERGEN NACHIN!

The Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology is coming to MIT!

The Siemens Competition takes great pleasure in inviting the students, faculty and staff of MIT to the following events:

Reception and Viewing of the Students' Research Projects: (refreshments will be served)

DATE: Friday, November 9, 2007
TIME: 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
LOCATION: Stratton Student Center, 3rd Floor, 20 Chimneys Room

Student Oral Presentations:

DATE: Saturday, November 10, 2007
TIME: 8:00 am – 1:30 pm
LOCATION: Stratton Student Center, 3rd Floor, Mezzanine Lounge Room

We look forward to seeing you!

The Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology is the nation's premiere math and science research competition for high school students. The Siemens Foundation provides nearly \$2 million in college scholarships and awards each year for talented high school students in the United States. By supporting outstanding students today, and recognizing the teachers and schools that inspire their excellence, the Foundation helps nurture tomorrow's scientists and engineers.

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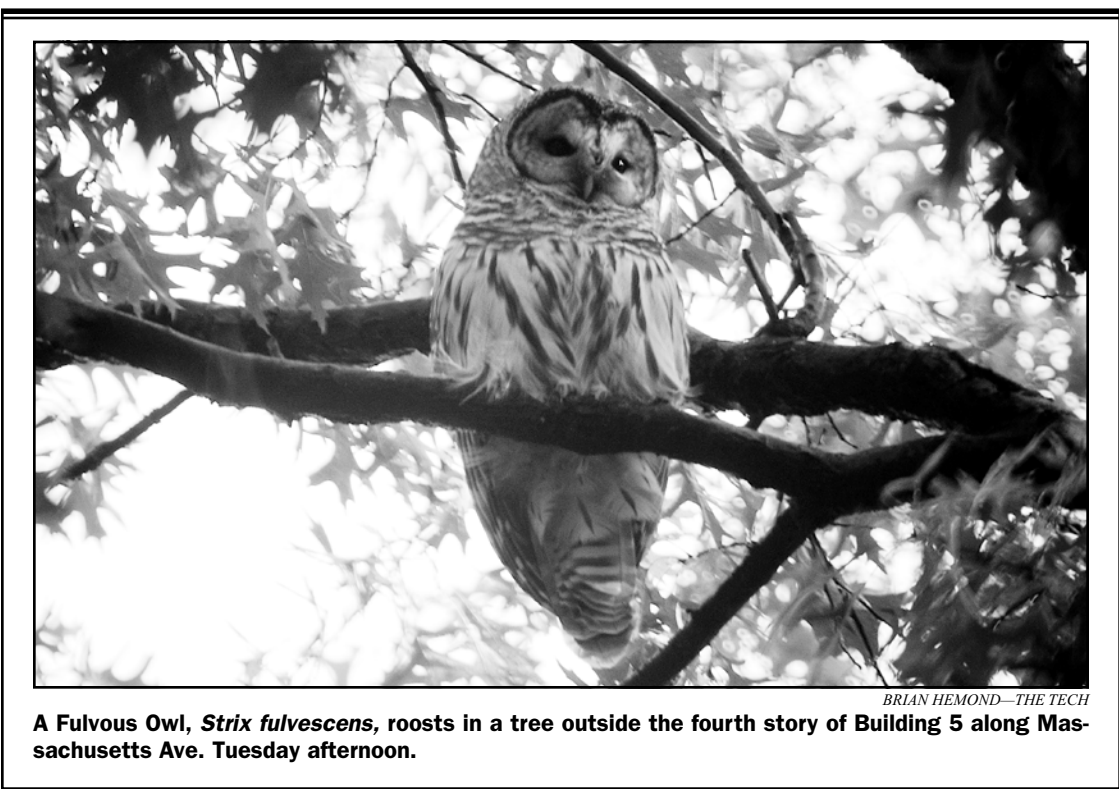
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A Fulvous Owl, *Strix fulvescens*, roosts in a tree outside the fourth story of Building 5 along Massachusetts Ave. Tuesday afternoon.

BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

The last challenge of a socially conscious society?

Depression strikes millions— indiscriminately. Depression is simply a suppression of brain activity that makes life unbearable. And even though depression is readily treatable, only 1 in 5 ever seeks treatment. Why do so many just drag themselves along or eventually seek relief through suicide? First, there's the lack of awareness of depression— as an illness and as the threat that it is to each and every one of us. Second, there's the unwarranted negative stigma attached to it. You know, the 'mental' thing. It's time to collectively face depression. To know it's an illness, not a weakness. And it's a challenge that's long overdue. It's taken too many of us already.

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

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Autonomous Vehicle Lessons Could Help Increase Car Safety

During the course of the challenge, MIT's vehicle was involved in two accidents. In both incidents, DARPA did not fault MIT. In the first, a German team was disqualified after crashing into MIT's entry. In the second, MIT and Carnegie Mellon bumped fenders in a "no-fault" accident.

When asked what the best part of the competition was, How said, "It's quite humorous at times to watch the robots run around racing each other. It was so similar to what humans would do."

The plans for the car and the software that it uses are not yet clear, though there are many military and civilian applications for an autonomous ground vehicle. DARPA has been holding Grand Challenges for automated automobiles in order to meet a Congressional mandate from 2001 that requires one-third of operational ground combat vehicles to be unmanned by 2015. On the civilian side, the Ford-MIT alliance has

been looking at increasing car safety through automation of some aspects of driving.

for example, said he will base his thesis on the motion planning system of the vehicle. Other graduate students from the team will also incorporate the work into their master's theses.

"Overall, it was an amazing experience for all on our team, and we look forward for the chance to compete again in a future challenge," Leonard said.

*“... we look forward
for the chance to
compete again in
a future challenge.”*
— Professor John J.
Leonard, team leader

Other Universities See No Problems in Their Gehry-Designed Bldgs.

together with seven billion pieces of connective tissue. The chances of it getting done ever without something colliding or some misstep are small."

"I think the issues are fairly minor," Gehry said to the *Times*. "MIT is after our insurance." He added that "value engineering," trimming design elements to cut costs, was the primary cause of the problems. A representative from Gehry's firm said they had not yet released a statement and declined to comment to *The Tech*.

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that other universities with Gehry buildings — Bard College and the University of Cincinnati

nati — did not have problems with their buildings. Bard President Leon Botstein told the *Chronicle* that the building “came in on budget and has worked beautifully.”

Former Boston University President John Silber, an outspoken critic of the Stata Center, said to the *Globe*, Gehry "thinks of himself as an artist, as a sculptor. But the trouble is you don't live in a sculpture and users have to live in this building."

Gehry told the *Times* that he had received support from professors and others the building was designed for. They are "sending me e-mails dumbfounded that their institution is doing this," Gehry said.

"I find the Stata Center to be a spectacular place in which to work with the constant interplay of light and open spaces," said MIT Robotics Professor Rodney Brooks to *The Tech* in an e-mail. Brooks, whose office is in the Stata Center's Gates Tower, disagrees with Silber's criticism of the sculptural quality of Gehry's work. He said he enjoys working in Stata because of "the visibility of the sculpture of the building itself from almost every sight line."

Brooks also said that he and “a number of other faculty worked closely with Frank Gehry during the design and construction phases of the Stata Center.” He said that he feels Stata “embodies the experimental nature of life at MIT,” citing several examples of how digital technology was used in the project. “Genetic algorithms were used to both tweak the mathematical curved forms of exterior surfaces and solve for a covering using standard sized rectangular pieces of metal,” Brooks said in the e-mail.

Gehry, a world-renowned American architect, is well-known for such buildings as the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, and the Peter B. Lewis building in Cleveland. Skanska has constructed buildings for many universities, including Baker Library and MacArthur Hall at Harvard University.

Technique Yearbook

Senior Portraits

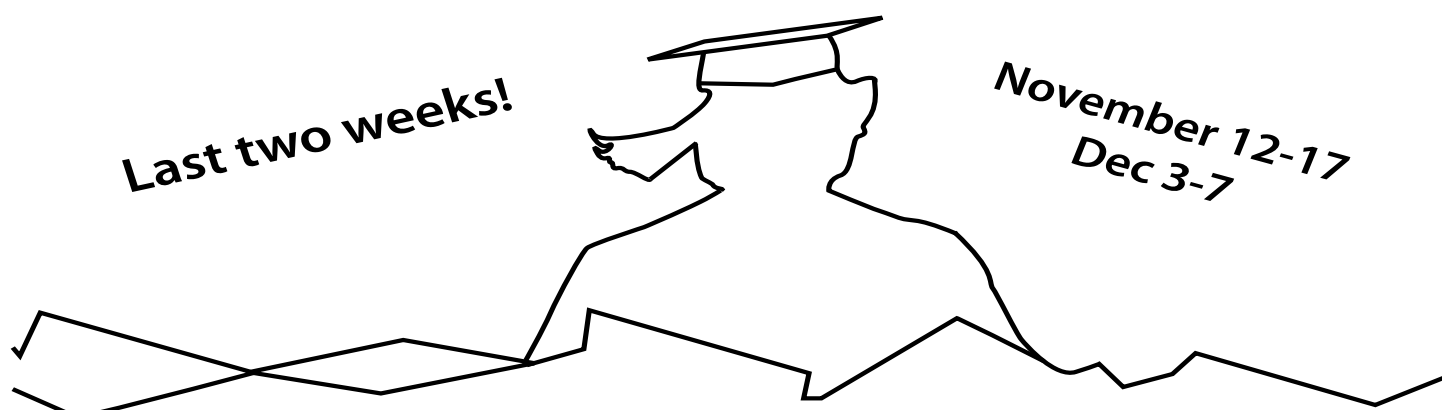
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BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

A road crew lays down new asphalt over the crosswalk in front of 77 Massachusetts Ave. late Thursday night, the second of three nights scheduled for the road's maintenance.

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November 9,10,15,16 8pm, 11,17 2pm
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Featured Interviewer: Grace Koo (MIT '92),
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Date: Friday, November 16, 2007

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Quantitatively-orientated seniors are invited to drop their résumés. Candidates must have a strong interest in the financial markets and impeccable written communication skills. Publication editors and senior members of the debate team are welcome to apply. Each student will be assigned a 20-minute two-on-one session with either Ms. Koo or a members of her derivatives team. Please email tara.mcdonald@credit-suisse.com to schedule an interview.

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Senior Gift Will Support IAP Externship Programs

Senior Gift, from Page 1

the fund will encourage students to get real-world work experience without having to worry about money.

This year's Senior Gift committee settled on the externship fund after surveying the senior class by e-mail

in September. The results showed that seniors were interested in improving academic programs, and the fund was voted for "almost unanimously" by committee members, Wakeman said.

Seniors do not have to donate specifically to the senior project in order to participate in the Senior Gift campaign. Contributions by seniors to other MIT funds or groups — the Scholarships Fund, the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, and the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation — also count as part of the Senior Gift.

The goal for participation this year remains at 55 percent, the same goal set by the Class of 2007. If the participation rate exceeds 55 percent, Alumni Association President Harbo Jensen PhD '74 will donate \$25,000 to the senior project. He will donate less for participation rates of 25 to 55 percent will not donate for participation rates under 25 percent.

Last year's senior class reached a 52 percent participation rate, setting a new record for the Senior Gift but falling short of the 55 percent goal.

MIT has historically had a low senior gift participation rate — around 30 percent. "[MIT] just wasn't keeping up with peer institutions," said Senior Gift Adviser Rosheen B. Kavanagh of the Alumni Association. Last year, Harvard's senior gift participation rate reached 67 percent. Yale's was 80 percent.

In 2006, a streamlined Senior Gift campaign combined with increased volunteer efforts resulted in a record-setting 51 percent participation rate, an increase of over 20 percentage points from the previous year. In 2007, the senior class broke the record again with a 52 percent participation rate. If the Class of 2008 reaches its goal, it will be the third straight year that senior gift participation has exceeded 50 percent.

Wakeman sees the previous years' accomplishments as motivation. "We want to show that it wasn't all an anomaly," she said, encouraging seniors to do even better. The Class of 2006 "did really well, they broke the record, but that's not good enough!" she said.

At the kickoff ceremony last night, Senior Gift committee members solicited donations as snippets of "SexyBack" played over the speakers. A timeline on one wall displayed significant events that occurred during the senior class's time at MIT, inviting seniors to fill in the rest with provided markers. According to entrance logs, over 100 people attended the kickoff.

"There's a lot of enthusiasm," Wakeman said. "I think that this is really going to be successful."

For part of the night, Wakeman stood by the door encouraging seniors to donate. "Have you made your gift yet?" she asked as groups left.

For more information about this year's Senior Gift campaign, see <http://web.mit.edu/senior-gift/>.

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PERRY HUNG—THE TECH

Raffaela L. Wakeman '08 unveils the goal for the Class of 2008 Senior Gift and the senior class project, a student externship assistance fund, at last night's Senior Gift kickoff celebration in the Vannevar Bush Room.

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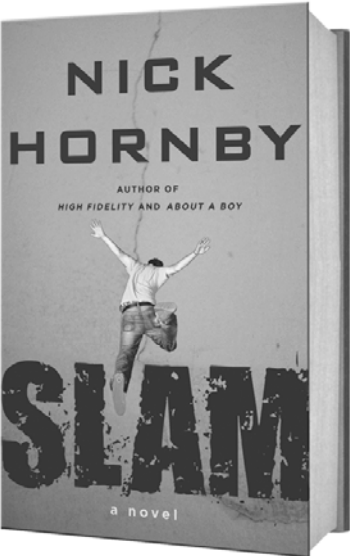
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Jackson Remembered for ‘Dignity and Character’

Jackson, from Page 1

house, died of cancer Oct. 19 at Sherrill House in Jamaica Plain. He was 92 and had previously lived in Roxbury.

As well as nourishing bodies, Mr. Jackson enriched DKE brothers’ souls and minds, members of the MIT fraternity said. He gave them a connection with the past by carrying on old traditions.

“You could get an idea of what dinner was like in 1948,” said Ted Devlin ’87 of Somerville, a self-employed industrial designer who lived at the Memorial Drive house from 1983–1987. “At three bells, you gathered in the living room. At four bells, the sliding door was opened and you waited at your chair until the brother in the president’s chair sat down. If you were late, you ate in the kitchen.

“Saturday dinner was formal: jacket and tie,” he said via e-mail. “And, of course, if a woman had to leave the room, all the men rose from their seats.”

Today, hundreds of MIT alumni consider Mr. Jackson their brother; the fraternity made him an official DKE member, Devlin said. “Although Jack started as a cook, his role became much more rich and important as social barriers dropped over the years,” he said.

Mr. Jackson was a sounding board and an example to countless young men, who found comfort and perhaps some direction in chats with him.

“Not that Jack would expound on politics or philosophy,” Aaron Berg ’88, a consultant from Beverly, said via e-mail. “But just seeing him in action preparing for the day — maybe rolling out dough for biscuits or prepping ground beef for Salisbury steaks. ... Jack was, in my mind, an embodiment of the Greatest Generation — dignity and character, the real kind.”

John Lewis Jackson was born in Ladonia, Texas, one of five children of John Lewis and Emma Jackson. His father was a plumber. His mother died when he was 9, and his father remarried.

He enlisted in the Navy in 1937, a time when African-Americans could not aspire to high rank, and was assigned as a cook.

Stationed at Pearl Harbor aboard the USS Helena for four years, he had just reenlisted when the Japanese attacked. He was slightly wounded twice during the bombardment and was awarded the Purple Heart, said Martha Beacon of Mattapan, a long-time friend of Mr. Jackson and his caretaker in later years. He served in the South Pacific until the war ended.

For a time during his Navy service, Mr. Jackson was stationed aboard the USS Stanton, which was docked in Boston in 1944. During that time he met and married his first wife, Sally. The marriage eventually was dissolved.

Mr. Jackson later married Hermie (Reeves) Williams and joined her in membership at Twelfth Baptist Church in Roxbury.

In 1947, DKE “house father” Lewis Gosman, who said his job was to keep the 35 young men “in line and well behaved,” hired Mr. Jackson as cook. After he retired in 1994, Mr. Jackson was persuaded by the brothers to stay on to cook breakfast for several more years.

Whenever DKE fraternity brothers meet, they talk not only of Mr. Jackson’s caring, but of his special culinary treats, some with a Southern twist. They recall his “banana goodie,” which Egan said included the bananas DKE brothers ignored. Mr. Jackson mashed up the old bananas with vanilla and poured the mixture over a wafer crust.

At Mr. Jackson’s funeral last week in Twelfth Baptist Church, friends and DKE brothers recalled how Mr. Jackson had cooked and sent meals to the needy families of his church. And eulogies came from all over.

“As our house chef, he fed our hearts, minds and stomachs over these many years,” Louis A. Frasco ’65 from Belmont said in an e-mail eulogy. “All these years, he had been a constant familiar face at the house for visiting alumni of all ages who stopped in the kitchen first to see Jack.”

In 1991, DKE house alumni

raised funds to send Mr. Jackson and his wife to Pearl Harbor for the 50th-anniversary ceremonies. Mrs. Jack-

son died in 2000.

“From knowing Jack, it was easier to begin to understand, as an

18-year-old, what is truly important,” Berg said.

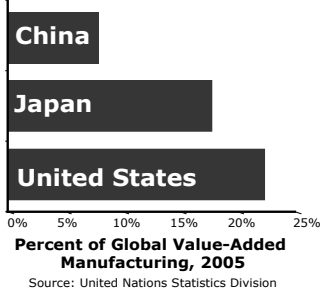
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Solution to Sudoku from page 9

Solution to Crossword from page 8

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SPORTS

Therkelsen, Perumbeti Earn NEWMAC Conference Honors For Men's Soccer

Sports Shorts

MIT men's soccer player Christian W. Therkelsen '11 garnered First Team All-Conference honors in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference. Defender Nitin Perumbeti '09 earned a spot on the Second Team.

MIT has had at least one member of its men's soccer team named to the All-Conference First Team each year since the NEWMAC's inception in 1998.

Therkelsen was the only rookie in the conference to earn First Team accolades, and the Norwegian striker was also the first MIT freshman to garner such honors since Nick R. Nes-tle '04 in 2000.

He recorded eight goals for a total of 16 points to lead the Engineers in both categories, while his impressive statistics also placed him sixth in the NEWMAC in goals and tied for ninth in points. Therkelsen burst onto the intercollegiate scene in early September, netting the winning goal in each of his first two contests to earn conference Player of the Week honors and solidify his reputation as a goal-scoring threat.

Perumbeti, who also earned Second Team honors after his freshman season in 2005, started all 16 of MIT's games this season, providing the backbone for a defense which conceded just 19 times for a goals-against-average of 1.13.

—James Kramer

Sailing Finishes Third In Crews Regatta

The MIT sailing team finished third overall in Sunday's Crews Regatta, earning fifth and sixth place finishes in the A- and B-Divisions, respectively. Roger Williams University won the event, while Salve Regina University finished second.

A west to northwest breeze of 7–10 knots made for a perfect day as the teams raced eight rounds at each level along the Charles River.

Competing in their Tech dinghies, A-Division skipper Lisa A. Schlecht '10 and crew Gabriel B. Cira '08 finished with six top-five finishes, while the B team of skipper Jillian R.

Reddy '11 and crew Toan Tran-Phu '10 closed with five of the same caliber.

Among the teams MIT topped were long-time rivals Harvard University, Tufts University, Northeastern University, and Brown University.

MIT also finished ninth out of 18 teams at the Rhode Island State Championship on Sunday. Originally scheduled for two days, the event was postponed on Saturday due to heavy rain.

B-Division leader Joshua C. Leighton '10 and crew Victoria E. Lee '10 slotted fifth, placing in the top 10 in all of the lower circuit's five rounds. The A-team didn't fare as well, finishing 14th after five races. Host Salve Regina University won the event with a score of 56.

MIT will compete in the Atlantic Coast Championship in Florida next weekend.

—Mike Stoller

Boothe Named to NEWMAC All-Conference First Team In Field Hockey

Engineer defender Katherine M. Boothe '09 was selected to the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference All-Conference First Team in field hockey. It was the 20th season in the program's history that a member of the team copped All-Conference honors, most recently when Deanna M. Lentz '06 was named to the First Team in 2005.

As the anchor of MIT's defense, Boothe consistently created tackles and interceptions in the midfield. In addition, she served as an option on the Engineers' offensive penalty corners. For the season, Boothe registered one goal and one defensive save.

—Mindy Brauer

Men's Fencing Opens Season With Strong Results

Igor Kopylov '09 and Matt L. Gethers '09 each placed second in their respective weapons as MIT kicked off its fencing season at The Big One, a tournament hosted by Mount Holyoke College this past Saturday. For Kopylov, it was his third consecutive top-two finish in saber; for Gethers, it was a

career milestone in epee.

Rangarajan D. Nadadur '10 added to the Engineers' performance in sabre as he placed 19th. Maximilian L. Brand '11 finished right behind him, while Nurzhas Makishev '09 (35th), Matthew W. Farrell '08 (39th), and Isaac P. Businger '11 (52nd) rounded out the squad.

In epee, Jeremy S. Hurwitz '08 captured 14th place, and Gabriel A. Chan '09 posted the next finish at 31st. Damon C. Henry '10 claimed the 39th spot, while Javier J. Ordonez '10 and Joseph E. Atnafu '11 ranked 53rd and 63rd, respectively.

The members of the foil team finished closely together, with Spencer R. Sugimoto '08 leading the way at 19th and immediately followed by Benjamin T. Switala '09 and Richard C. LaGrandier '11. Jason J. Chan '09 claimed the 26th slot, while Sebastian Castro '08 finished three spots behind him. Romain A. Teil '11 (38th) and Michael A. Yee '07 (43rd) closed out the day for MIT.

—Mindy Brauer

Shin Finishes First in Epee As Women's Fencing Posts Three Top 10 Finishes

Stephanie H. Shin '10 became the fourth fencer in MIT history to capture first place in epee at The Big One, a tournament held this past weekend at Mount Holyoke College. Cordelia S. Link '10 and Elena A. Tatarchenko '11 joined Shin among the top 10 finishers as they placed second in foil and 10th in sabre, respectively.

The Engineers found additional success in epee action as Nicole J. Koullisis '08, Zhenya Gu '08, and Joanna W. Tong '08 placed 11th, 16th, and 18th, respectively. In their intercollegiate debuts, Kristin D. Kuhn '11 ranked 35th while Teresa M. Giblin '11 was 53rd.

In foil, Lindley C. Graham '10 captured 17th place as Chun Li '08 posted the next finish at 30th. Rounding out the squad was Amirah N. Khan '09 in 35th place and Jenna G. Caldwell '11 in 47th.

Following Tatarchenko's 10th-place performance, Yuh-sin Chen '08 claimed the 16th spot in the sabre competition. Laura A. Evans '10 finished 27th, while Elizabeth Y. Tsai '11 (42nd) and Jennifer L. Allen '10 (51st) completed MIT's contingent.

—Mindy Brauer

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Nov. 9, 2007, and Saturday, Nov. 10, 2007
2007 NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball New England Regional Championship
All matches at Rockwell Cage

(1) MIT	
Friday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.	MIT or Wellesley
(4) Wellesley	
Saturday, Nov. 10, 7:00 p.m.	
(3) Amherst	
Friday, Nov. 9, 4:30 p.m.	Williams or Amherst
(2) Williams	

The MIT men's ice hockey team won 4-0 against Daniel Webster College on Wednesday, Nov. 7 in the Engineer's home opener in Johnson Ice Rink.

(right) Spectators watch as MIT's offence charges during the Engineers' game against the Daniel Webster College Eagles.

(below) MIT defender Nicholas J. Maietta '07 lunges forward to stop the puck during the game.

Photography by David M. Templeton



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