

UA Candidates Spar Over Student Issues

Presidential Candidates Debate Dining and Transparency Before a Packed Crowd

By Robert McQueen
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

From the dining system to student-administration transparency, Undergraduate Association presidential and vice-presidential candidates discussed popular student government issues in a debate last Sunday night. The debate was co-hosted by *The Tech* and the UA Election Commission.

The UA presidential candidates

are Michael A. Bennie '10, Benjamin J. Agre '12, and Ryan W. Jackson '10. Their respective running mates are Margaret K. Delano '10, Raez Lorgat '12, and Thomas W. Hay '10.

Unlike in previous years, this year's debate was packed. Students used the entire area reserved for the debate on the first floor of the Student Center, filling the seats set up for the occasion, with some crowding along

the walls of LaVerdes to get a view of the candidates.

Head moderator and *Tech* opinion editor Andrew T. Lukmann '07 (also a former UA President) first asked the candidates about how they would deal with an administration that is sometimes at odds with student wishes.

All candidates agreed that the student body must be better informed of

administrative decisions before they are made.

Jackson and Hay said that it is important to solicit everyone's opinions, even from those who they called the "silent majority." "The most important thing," Hay said, "is the ability to get out and communicate with the student body."

Debate, Page 11



SETH A. VILLARREAL—THE TECH

The UA candidates for the office of President and Vice President debate various issues concerning the undergraduate population. From left to right: Thomas W. Hay '10 (VP) and Ryan W. Jackson '10 (P), Raez Lorgat '12 (VP) and Benjamin J. Agre '12 (P), Margaret K. Delano '10 (VP) and Michael A. Bennie '10 (P)

Denoncourt Says Dining Committee Will Report Back Soon

By Elijah Jordan Turner
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining has been given until April to release final recommendations for dining at MIT reported Donna M. Denoncourt, associate dean for residential life, at last night's Undergraduate Association Senate meeting.

Denoncourt and Phoenix group housemaster Suzanne Flynn spoke to the Senate about the current progress of the committee. They attempted to clear up some of the confusion after a controversial consultant's report was leaked to dorm mailing lists last month.

The report recommended mandatory dining plans, extending dining hours and converting some dining hall to an all-you-can-eat format.

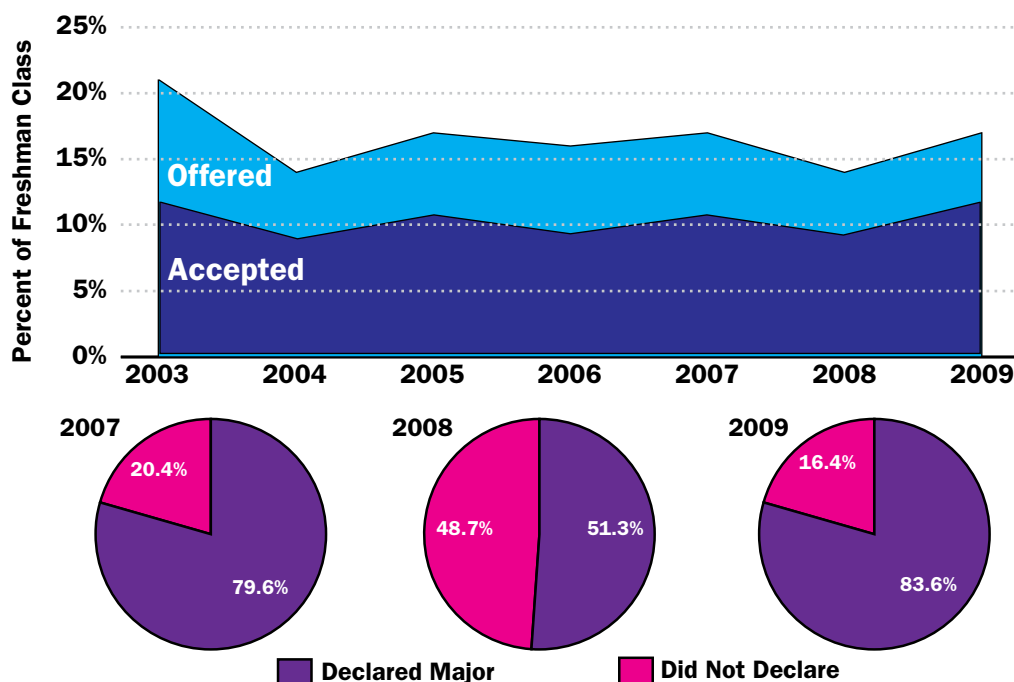
Denoncourt said that required meal plans for residents of dorms without dining halls are currently not under consideration.

She added that the committee was never planning to remove kitchens from some of the dorms. "That was never even on the table," said Denoncourt.

The primary objective of the committee, said Denoncourt, has been to ensure students have diverse menu options and dining locations. Other objectives have been affordability as well as financial and environmental sustainability, she claimed. Its course of action has largely been based on a campus-wide survey administered last spring.

Dining, Page 12

2009 Sophomore Standing Numbers Roughly the Same



SOURCE: JULIE B. NORMAN, OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

Many freshmen accept sophomore standing to declare a major and get a dept. advisor early.

By Pearle Lipinski
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

This year, 128 freshmen accepted early sophomore status out of the 1051 students in the Class of 2012. 181 qualified for early sophomore standing. The percentage of freshmen offered sophomore standing this year is consistent with the percentages of recent years.

The most popular majors for 2012's early sophomores were Course VI (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), Course XVIII (Mathematics), Course VIII (Physics), and Course X (Chemical Engineering). These majors have been the most popular majors declared by early sophomores for several years.

21 students accepting sophomore standing chose

to remain undeclared.

Students are eligible for sophomore standing if they have completed one-fourth of the credits required for earning a degree. Accepting early sophomore status removes the 57 credit limit for freshmen and grants the opportunity to declare a subject as exploratory. Those who declare a major are assigned a departmental advisor.

The number of students accepting early sophomore status dramatically increased in 2003, when Pass/No Record was changed from being first and second semester freshman year to only first semester, with A/B/C/No Record coming into play second semester.

Energy, Page 13

In Short

¶ An ad-hoc student dining committee to rival the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee was created by the UA at last night's Senate meeting. The bill accuses the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee of being opaque and unrepresentative of the student body.

¶ Reusable Shaws shopping bags will be available for rental by Burton Conner residents as part of UA Sustainability Committee pilot program. Residents can pick up one of the 20 bags, which were donated by Shaws, at the front desk in exchange for their IDs.

¶ Admissions decisions will be released online on Saturday, March 14 (π Day). Rejection letters will no longer be mailed: "we will only be announcing decisions online," wrote Associate Director of Admissions Matthew L. McGann '00 in a blog post. Accepted students will still get mail with more information about their admission.

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



Men's Basketball
wins first NCAA
Tournament game

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OPINION

Considering a PhD? Think Again!

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Heaven forbid: Obama's budget
might fix health care.

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WORLD & NATION

U.S. Halted Some Afghan Raids Over Concern On Civilian Deaths

By Mark Mazzetti and Eric Schmitt

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The commander of a secretive branch of America’s Special Operations forces in February ordered a halt to most commando missions in Afghanistan, reflecting a growing concern that civilian deaths caused by U.S. firepower are jeopardizing broader goals there.

The halt, which lasted about two weeks, came after a series of night-time raids by Special Operations troops in recent months killed women and children, and after months of mounting outrage in Afghanistan about civilians killed in air and ground strikes. The order covered all commando missions except those against the highest-ranking leaders of the Taliban and al-Qaida, military officials said.

U.S. commanders in Afghanistan rely on the commando units to carry out some of the most delicate operations against militant leaders, and the missions of the Army’s Delta Force and classified Navy SEALs units are never publicly acknowledged. But the units sometimes carry out dozens of operations each week, so any decision to halt their missions is a sign of just how worried military officials are that the fallout from civilian casualties is putting in peril the overall U.S. mission in Afghanistan, including an effort to drain the Taliban of popular support.

Swiss Romeo Admits Guilt in Beguiling BMW Heiress

By Carter Dougherty

THE NEW YORK TIMES

FRANKFURT, GERMANY

They called him the “Swiss gigolo,” and he was indisputably a master of his craft, wooing Germany’s richest woman into an illicit affair, talking her out of nearly \$10 million and then trying to blackmail her for hundreds of millions more.

It all came to an end on Monday in a Munich courtroom, where the man, Helg Sgarbi, 44, confessed to defrauding Susanne Klatten, a billionaire whose family controls BMW, and was given a six-year prison sentence.

The case has electrified this country, where old-money families tend to play down their wealth. But it was notable as well because Klatten, though acutely aware that no one of her status could go to the police about a blackmailing Romeo and expect it to remain a secret, did so anyway.

Genetic Tests May Reveal Source of Mystery Tumors

By Andrew Pollack

THE NEW YORK TIMES

When Jo Symons was found to have cancer, there was an extra complication: doctors could not tell what type of cancer she had.

Tumors were found in her neck, chest and lymph nodes. But those tumors had spread there from someplace else, and her doctors could not determine whether the original site was the breast, the colon, the ovary or some other organ. Without that knowledge, they could not offer optimal treatment.

Such mystery tumors are estimated to account for 2 percent to 5 percent of all cancer, or at least 30,000 new cases a year in the United States, making them more common than brain, liver or stomach cancers. For patients, such a diagnosis can amount to a double agony — not only do they have cancer, but doctors cannot treat it properly.

“You don’t believe that in the 21st century it is possible for the medical profession not to know where the cancer is coming from,” said Symons’ husband, John.

But now 21st-century medicine may help. New genetic tests may pinpoint the origin of the mystery tumors. The tests, which cost more than \$3,000 each, still need to prove their worth better, experts say, though some of them are hopeful.

Madagascar Crisis Worsens After Mutiny by Soldiers

By Barry Bearak

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

A mutiny within the military has intensified the political crisis in Madagascar, an impoverished island nation off the southeastern coast of Africa that has suffered turmoil most of this year.

Over the weekend, soldiers at Camp Capsat, on the outskirts of the Malagasy capital, Antananarivo, said they would refuse to further suppress any street demonstrations against the government of President Marc Ravalomanana.

Col. Noel Rakotonandrasa, a leader of the restive troops, claimed wide support within the army and told reporters on Monday that “75 percent of soldiers are with us,” Reuters reported. He was flanked by other officers, but it was impossible to gauge the extent of the military’s defiance.

There were rumors that the camp was about to come under attack by troops loyal to the government. Mutinying soldiers were deployed at a roadblock that limited access to the base. Some said their disobedience was rooted in a refusal to take up arms against their countrymen.

“We were trained to protect property and citizens, not to fire at the people,” one of the men told Agence France-Presse.

In recent weeks, mass demonstrations against the government have become common events, including a protest that left at least 28 people dead on Feb. 7 after the presidential guard opened fire on a crowd near one of the presidential palaces.

The political conflict involves a rivalry between Ravalomanana, a wealthy businessman who took office after elections in 2001, and Andry Rajoelina, a media magnate and former disc jockey who was elected mayor of the capital in December 2007 and has of late denounced the president as a dictator insensitive to the needs of the nation. More than 100 people have died in civil unrest this year.

At a Jan. 31 rally, Rajoelina proclaimed that he was in charge of the nation, in effect declaring a coup. In response, Ravalomanana fired his rival as the capital’s mayor. Representatives from both the United Nations and the African Union have unsuccessfully tried to mediate.

On Friday, security officers went

to Rajoelina’s home in an effort to arrest him. The 34-year-old maverick slipped away. He remains in hiding.

“At the heart of the current crisis is a political problem,” Defense Minister Mamy Ranaivoniarivo said Monday in a statement, reacting to the mutiny. “The military should not be manipulated and divided by the crisis.”

Andry Ralijaona, an official within the presidency, said in a phone interview that the number of mutineers was 70 to 110, “a small amount when there are 1,000 soldiers” around the capital. He added, however, that the disaffected troops had access to a “warehouse of munitions and arms.”

The complaints of the mutineers, Ralijaona said, concerned more than dislike of their duty at the protests. Grievances also involved pay and allegations that superiors were embezzling funds.

According to Ralijaona, the disaffected soldiers, abetted by violent supporters of Rajoelina, killed a policeman on Sunday and hung his body from a billboard. “They killed another person today, but the circumstances are not yet clear,” Ralijaona said.

Obama Puts His Own Spin on The Mix of Science, Politics

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama’s directive on Monday to “guarantee scientific integrity” in federal policymaking could have a far-reaching impact, affecting issues as varied as climate change, national security, protection of endangered species and children’s health.

But it will not divorce science from politics, or strip ideology from presidential decisions.

Obama delighted many scientists and patients by formally announcing that he was overturning the Bush administration’s limits on embryonic stem cell research. But the president also went one step further, issuing a memorandum that sets forth broad parameters for how his administration would choose expert advisers and use scientific data.

The document orders Obama’s top science adviser to help draft guidelines that will apply to every federal agency. Agencies will be expected to pick science advisers based on expertise, not political ideology, the memorandum said, and will offer whistle-blower protections to employees who expose the misuse or suppression of scientific information.

The idea, the president said in remarks before an audience of lawmakers, scientists, patients advocates and patients in the East Room, is to ensure that “we make scientific decisions based on facts, not ideology”: a line that drew more applause than any other. Irv Weissman, a Nobel laureate who directs an institute at Stanford University devoted to studying stem cells, called the declaration “of even greater importance” than the stem cell announcement

itself.

It was also another in a long string of rebukes by Obama toward his predecessor, President George W. Bush. Bush was often accused of trying to shade or even suppress the findings of government scientists on climate change, sex education, contraceptives and other issues, as well as stem cells. But Obama’s announcement does not elevate science to some new and exalted place in his administration.

“Scientists should have no illusions about whether they make policy — they don’t,” said Harold Varmus, president of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and co-chairman of a panel that advises Obama on science matters. The directive, he said, was simply intended “to provide the best available scientific information” to those who make policy decisions.

WEATHER

Surprise: Return to Winter!

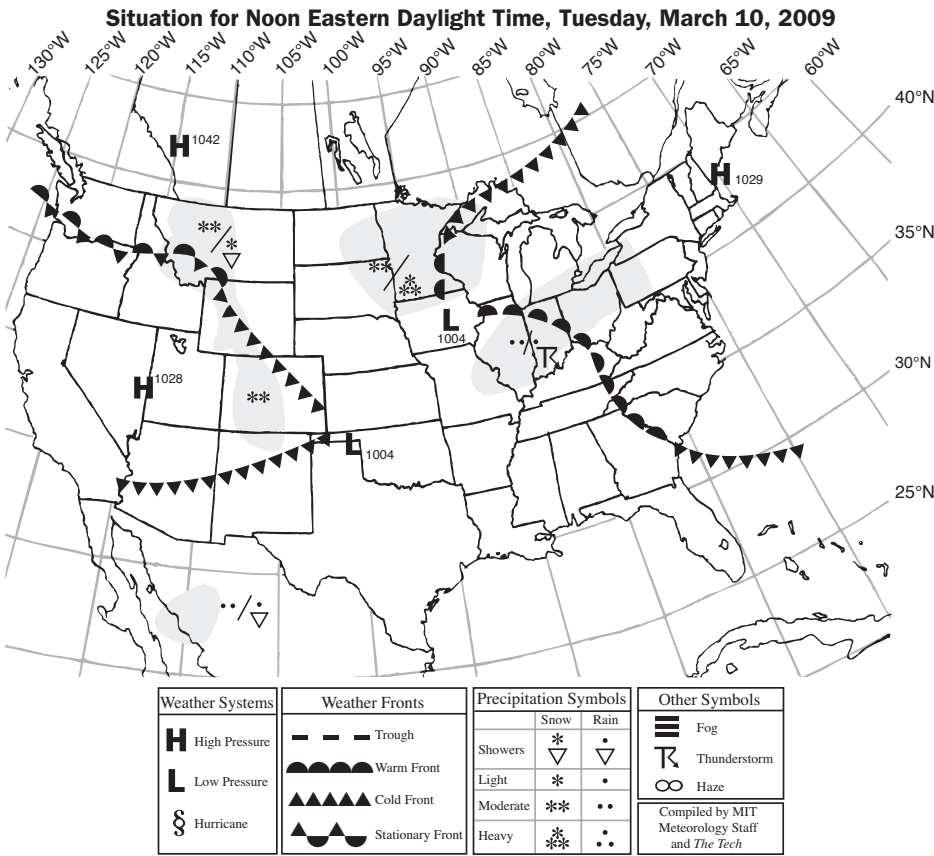
By Elizabeth Maroon
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It appears as if this year’s cold and snowy season is not yet over! In the wee hours of Monday (around 3 a.m. when I was up pondering today’s forecast), I noticed sleet. When I woke up a few hours later, I witnessed another attack from the snow gods. And what was there yesterday afternoon? More snow. This weekend’s glorious 60 degree temperatures are gone. We move from spring to winter in 24 hours, such is the will of the weather of Cambridge, Mass. But never fear, spring is nearly here! The temperatures this week aren’t returning anywhere near the January abyss, with highs in the mid 40s, and lows no lower than the low 30s. And after tonight, all the potential precipitation this week is more likely to be of the liquid variety.

After yesterday’s low passed over us, we find a region of high pressure over New England. The mid-level trough has pulled out to sea, being replaced by a ridge and drier skies today. But don’t expect the brief dry spell to last very long; the next system is on its way tonight, bringing up to a quarter inch of rain tonight. On Wednesday, there’s an even better chance of rain; that night a cold front will move across the region, bringing drier and cooler weather for Thursday. Colder temperatures aloft should also keep temperatures cooler than normal conditions for the coming weekend. Oh well, I guess we’ll have to wait until after spring break for another gorgeous Cambridge spring weekend.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy with increasing clouds. High near 44°F (7°C).
Tonight: Rain, accumulating less than a quarter of an inch. Low near 34°F (1°C).
Wednesday: About a half inch of rain with a high near 45°F (8°C)
Wednesday night: Cloudy with a chance of rain before 9 p.m.; low in the low 30s.
Thursday: Sunny with a high in the mid-40s.



China Harassed U.S. Ship, The Pentagon Says

By Thom Shanker
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The United States has lodged a formal protest with the government in Beijing, saying five Chinese ships harassed a U.S. surveillance vessel in international waters, in actions the Pentagon described as illegal, unprofessional and dangerous.

The incident took place on Sunday about 75 miles off the coast of Hainan island, just south of the Chinese mainland. The U.S. vessel, the Impeccable, was conducting a surveillance mission that involved towing sonar equipment designed for anti-submarine warfare, Pentagon officials said.

The Chinese vessels sailed within 25 feet of the U.S. ship, waved flags and ordered the Impeccable to leave, Pentagon officials said. Two of the Chinese ships blocked the Impeccable after it requested safe transit, while Chinese sailors dropped pieces of wood in its path and tried to hook the cables towing the sonar equipment, the officials said.

The Impeccable crew sprayed some of the Chinese sailors with a

fire hose. Some of the Chinese sailors stripped to their underwear.

The officials said the Chinese ships appeared to be a naval intelligence vessel, two smaller trawlers, a fisheries patrol boat and an official oceanographic ship.

The Impeccable did not carry large-caliber weapons and was operated by civilians for the Military Sealift Command, Pentagon officials said.

The surveillance mission, focused on undersea warfare, may be of particular interest to the Chinese military, which has invested heavily in a new fleet of diesel-powered attack submarines. Pentagon officials say that while the diesel variety is not as potent as the Navy's nuclear fast-attack submarines, the submarines are cheaper and can be purchased in greater numbers, giving the Chinese the potential to overwhelm U.S. defenses at sea.

The Pentagon officials emphasized that the incident was a worrisome violation of standard rules of conduct at sea.

The U.S. Embassy in Beijing has lodged an official protest, and the

Pentagon repeated the complaint to the Chinese defense attache in Washington, officials said.

Bryan Whitman, a Pentagon spokesman, denounced the Chinese actions as "reckless, dangerous and unprofessional."

President Barack Obama will have an opportunity to discuss Sunday's incident with his Chinese counterpart, Hu Jintao, when the two meet next month in London at a Group of 20 session of global economic powers.

The incident, less than two months after the inauguration of Obama, immediately drew comparisons to Chinese actions just weeks into the first term of President George W. Bush.

In April 2001, a Chinese jet-fighter buzzed a Navy surveillance airplane in international airspace over the South China Sea, causing a mid-air collision that killed the Chinese pilot and resulted in the detention of the 24-member American crew for 11 days after their plane made an emergency landing on Hainan island.

That episode presented the new Bush administration with its first foreign policy challenge.

Obama Vows Sparing Use of Signing Statements

By Charlie Savage
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Calling into question the legitimacy of all the signing statements that former President George W. Bush used to challenge new laws, President Barack Obama on Monday ordered executive officials to consult Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. before relying on any of them to bypass a statute.

But Obama also signaled that he intended to use signing statements himself if Congress sent him legislation with provisions he decided were unconstitutional. He pledged to take a modest approach when using the statements, legal documents issued by a president the day he signs bills into law that instruct executive officials how to put the statutes into effect. But Obama said there was a role for the practice if used appropriately.

"In exercising my responsibility to determine whether a provision of an enrolled bill is unconstitutional, I will act with caution and restraint, based only on interpretations of the Constitution that are

well-founded," Obama wrote in a memorandum to the heads of all departments and agencies in the executive branch.

Obama's directions were the latest step in his administration's effort to deal with a series of legal and policy disputes inherited from the Bush administration. They came the same day Obama lifted restrictions Bush placed on federal financing for research that uses embryonic stem cells.

Bush's use of signing statements led to fierce controversy. He frequently used them to declare that provisions in the bills he was signing were unconstitutional constraints on executive power, and that the laws did not need to be enforced or obeyed as written. The laws he challenged included a ban on torture and requirements that Congress be given detailed reports about how the Justice Department was using the counterterrorism powers in the USA Patriot Act.

Since the 19th century, presidents have occasionally signed a bill while declaring that one or more provisions were unconstitu-

tional. The practice became more frequent with the Reagan administration, but it initially drew little attention.

That changed under Bush, who broke all records, using signing statements to challenge about 1,200 sections of bills over his eight years in office, about twice the number challenged by all previous presidents combined, according to data compiled by Christopher Kelley, a political science professor at Miami University in Ohio.

Many of Bush's challenges were based on an expansive view of the president's power, as commander-in-chief, to take actions he believes necessary, regardless of what Congress says in legislation.

The American Bar Association declared that such signing statements were "contrary to the rule of law and our constitutional separation of powers," and called on Bush and all future presidents to stop using them and to return to a system of either signing a bill and then enforcing all of it, or vetoing the bill and giving Congress a chance to override that veto.

The Factory's Closed, But the Workers Keep Showing Up

By Sarah Lyall
THE NEW YORK TIMES

KILBARRY, IRELAND

What do you do when your employer announces that your company has shut down and that you no longer have a job, effective immediately?

You can take the fatalistic approach and stay home, one more unhappy immigrant in the vast land of the unemployed. Or, like the employees of the Waterford Crystal factory here, which ceased operating in January, you can go to your workplace, occupy the building and refuse to leave.

"We said, 'You're not going to stop people from coming to the place they've worked all their lives, where their family worked, and where they have built up the brand themselves,'" said Tony Kelly, 51, describing how a crowd of angry employees prevailed on security guards at the headquarters to unlock the front doors and let them in, on Jan. 30.

A total of 480 people lost their jobs here that day, joining 200 Waterford workers who were laid off in 2008 and thousands more in other

companies around Ireland, where the once-powerful economy continues to implode.

Many heard the news by letter or text message. Some of them have been at the headquarters, on the edge of the city of Waterford, continuously since then, socializing, drinking coffee, playing cards and worrying about the future.

They want the factory to open again, of course, and they want to make sure they still have pensions. Even that might be too much to ask for. But beyond the financial issues lies something intangible, something rare in these days of easy-go jobs: a deeply emotional attachment to a place of work.

"Nobody has heard of Waterford in America, but just say, 'Have you heard of Waterford Crystal?' and everyone has," said Ian Paul, who has worked here for 42 years, since he was a 15-year-old apprentice, and whose father worked here before him, for 36 years. "You can forget Waterford if you don't have Waterford Crystal."

The company itself is not going to go away. Last month, KPS Capital

Partners, a private equity company based in New York, announced that it planned to buy Waterford Wedgwood, Waterford Crystal's parent company. KPS said it had no comment about the events at the factory.

The Kilbarry factory would not be part of the sale. But one possible plan would have local business leaders, helped by the Irish government, building a new, smaller factory and an improved tourist center that could employ at least some of the laid-off workers and be a draw for visitors.

Those negotiations are continuing. The crystal company has posted huge losses in the past few years, and much of its manufacturing is already done in factories in cheaper countries abroad. The workers fear that all their experience and all their expertise, not to mention the long history of crystal-making in Waterford, are in danger of disappearing.

"If it's mass-produced, the craftsmanship we have here could be lost forever, so we're fighting for that as well," said Paul, whose job was to repair specialty items like sports trophies.

A Hiring Bind For Foreigners and Banks

By Jonathan D. Glater

THE NEW YORK TIMES

What could be worse than graduating from an American business school this year with an interest in banking?

Being such a graduate who is not a U.S. citizen.

A provision in the economic stimulus package limits the hiring of foreign workers by any company receiving government bailout money. In finance, that is nearly every big employer.

At least one financial institution, Bank of America, has rescinded job offers to foreign citizens, citing the new law, signed by President Barack Obama last month.

Some banks are quietly trying to sidestep the limits — and perhaps to make good on their job offers — by finding positions abroad for noncitizens, according to college officials.

Financial institutions seem to be tiptoeing around the core debate about whether it is best to protect American jobs or allow unfettered competition, wishing not to alienate the very lawmakers who are dispensing taxpayer money that is keeping some of them afloat.

Skeptics Gather to Discuss Global Warming

By Andrew C. Revkin

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

More than 600 self-professed climate skeptics are meeting in a Times Square hotel this week to challenge what has become a broad scientific and political consensus: that without big changes in energy choices, humans will dangerously heat up the planet.

The three-day International Conference on Climate Change — organized by the Heartland Institute, a nonprofit group seeking deregulation and unfettered markets — brings together political figures, conservative campaigners, scientists, an Apollo astronaut and the president of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Klaus.

Organizers say the discussions, which began Sunday, are intended to counter the Obama administration and Democratic lawmakers, who have pledged to tackle global warming with legislation requiring cuts in the greenhouse gases that scientists have linked to rising temperatures.

The meeting participants hold a wide range of views on climate science. Some concede that humans probably contribute to global warming, but they argue that the shift in temperatures poses no urgent risk. Others attribute the warming, along with cooler temperatures in recent years, to solar changes or ocean cycles.

But large corporations like Exxon Mobil, which in the past financed the Heartland Institute and other groups that challenged the climate consensus, have reduced support. Many such companies no longer dispute that the greenhouse gases produced by burning fossil fuels pose risks.

From 1998 to 2006, Exxon Mobil, for example, contributed more than \$600,000 to Heartland, according to annual reports of charitable contributions from the company and company foundations.

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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 \$50.00 per year (third 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 © 2009 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Saltus Press.

Corrections

A caption on page 1 on Friday's issue incorrectly stated that the label on Tim the Beaver's shirt read "MIT" in Hebrew. It actually read "TIM."

Letters To The Editor

Farley Harassed Me

By chance I stumbled onto an article that was written by a Dr. Jonathan Farley that appears in your February 13, 2009 publication, *The Tech*.
I have never met Dr. Farley, yet I am subject to his irrational, aggressive and often juvenile behavior. A Dr. Charles Kimbrough gave my telephone number to Dr. Farley several years ago, and, unfortunately, I discovered, Dr. Kimbrough was desperately trying to unload the fellow and his persistent and aggressive pursuit and I became an unwitting

victim.
As I understand it, Dr. Farley ran into conflict with the Klu Klux Klan subsequent to an article that had been written by said Dr. Farley. Also, I understand that Dr. Farley experienced some conflict with his employer at the time, Vanderbilt University. I was not aware of these incidents, and not certain I was even in the State at the time, but I soon learned that having exhausted University and NAACP appeals, Dr. Farley pursued anyone whom he thought he could intimidate into whatever action per his cause.
Subsequent to listening to Dr. Farley's pro-

longed diatribes and monologues, because I could not give him the relief and attention he demanded, he began to harass me. I finally found it necessary to block his number from my telephone line.
To find my name turning up in one of Dr. Farley's "articles of complaint" when don't even know the man, confirms my opinion that this person has some problems and may run the risk of being held accountable for loosely bantering around the names of individuals.
Tommie M. Young, PhD
The Tennessee Judicial Council



Opinion Policy

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Choose Wisely, Young Scientist

Make Sure a PhD Is Right for You

Gary Shu

I can tell when someone is about to quit their PhD program.

Before the student even opens their mouth, the shoulders are slumped. When research, advisers or dissertations are mentioned, a defeated sigh escapes their lips and their eyes betray a unique world-weariness that comes from being stuck in a windowless lab day after day. The student has probably read the entirety of that lone cultural touchstone of doctoral angst, PhD Comics.

I recognize these things because I have seen more friends drop out of their PhD studies than have finished. In five years of graduate education, I can rattle off the names and majors of people I know who by leaving their PhD programs did the hardest thing they had ever done in their young lives.

Including me.

I left three years of a engineering doctoral program almost as long ago.

In this open house season when influxes of potential graduate students fly cross-country to be feted and lured on the department dime, it is the one salient fact no one talks about — doctoral student attrition rate across all schools, majors and demographics is at least 40%.

There's a hidden push-pull behind failing to graduate over 4 out of 10 PhD students. The first clue behind how strongly research exerts a demand-pull on the available science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) undergraduates is the simple fact that nearly all science and engineering doctoral programs fully fund their students through research. Such an arrangement is the exception for the humanities PhD students who must scrounge for funding.

The dirty little secret of science and engineering departments is simply that professors need students more than students need them. Research money flows down the pipeline and ever more scientists and engineers are required to perform research. And more often than not, when research needs to get done, it is a post-doc or a doctoral student that does it. Because when was the last time you saw your profes-

tor adjusting the focus on your lens or handling that pipette?

But like high-tech companies, university departments in the US are having trouble finding homegrown, American science and engineering talent to fulfill their research needs. A frightening anecdote to highlight how dire the situation is: if a top 10 doctoral engineering program several years ago had accepted all of its domestic applicants, it still would not have been able to field a full class of students. This has raised the regularly trumpeted fear that the US will “lose ground” in science and technology by failing to graduate enough scientists and engineers.

The competition between the waves of foreign applicants and the few American science and engineering undergraduates has resulted in official government policy to promote domestic science and engineering. This is done through blunt instruments like massive funds for research grants and fellowships targeted toward domestic students.

Government, business, and academia (what has been described as the “Military-Industrial-University complex”) have combined to champion science and engineering education in order to lure those with newly-minted bachelor of science degrees. The results have been an overpromotion of STEM education and highly effective — on average, scientists and engineering graduate students are the youngest and typically the largest graduate populations on campuses.

All well and good for the young American science and engineering undergraduate passionate about research and hellbent on doing it for the rest of his or her life. But what about the “average” graduate student that is unsure? How should such a college graduate decide with the incentives that universities and governments wave in their face?

There are several things that few PhD students realize when they enter, information that might otherwise deter many from choosing one of the biggest career decisions anyone will make.

First, your job market actually shrinks. It is very unlikely that a newly-minted PhD will be working in exactly the same field or topic as their dissertation. Why would a private sec-

tor firm hire you, a PhD who's been stuck in academia for half a decade, when someone with 0-2 years of experience could probably do the work equally well and for less expected salary? It is an uneconomic decision to get a PhD — with the same years of market-level salary and experience, you would be much further along any private-sector career path than if you had stuck with a doctoral program.

Second, the skill set you pick up is extremely limited. Yes, you will be a purveyor of “critical thinking” and be able to break down and tackle complex tasks and ideas, similar to what a liberal arts education purportedly provides. But in the end you will have extremely narrow knowledge about arcane mathematical formulas and laboratory equipment. You will have little experience working in the teams that most of the real business world works in because, with few exceptions, graduate research is a lonely endeavor towards that singularly individual accomplishment, the dissertation defense.

Third, think about how passionate you are about your schoolwork and your major. I don't care if you're the most gung-ho undergrad, madly in love with the material the professor chalks up. After five or more years researching the same topic, you will be sick of your dissertation. You will hate it. You will never want to touch it again. The process of passing quals, finding an adviser and spending untold hours working on experiments or simulations will beat down the wide-eyed and bushy-tailed without remorse.

In the end, if you are in the vast majority of college graduates in science and engineering, a PhD program is simply not right for you. If you think that a PhD is just “a good thing to have” or that it signifies that you are intelligent, think again. Doctorate degrees are rewards for tenacity and stamina and, like any other organization, programs have their fair share of the

not-so-smart. The worst reason to go into a PhD program is for the perceived prestige that it lofts on you. Those that have been through the process know better.

Three years after I initially left graduate school, my former cohort and labmates have all graduated with their PhDs and fled to postdoc stints. I'm back in graduate school, a masters student in areas that I have more passion for. When I first got to MIT, I met an engineering doctoral student that I hadn't seen in a long time. He was an undergraduate in my lab when I was a doctoral student and now, in a twist of fate, he's the PhD student and I'm the masters student.

After five or more years researching the same topic, you will be sick of your dissertation. You will hate it. You will never want to touch it again.

Some would say that I have taken a step down. I have certainly taken an inefficient and haphazard career path. But I've learned more about the field I want to be in than if I had tried to make it a side project of my graduate student responsibilities. I feel sorry for most PhD students, being locked in place for years on end, stuck in bunny suits in clean rooms or plopped in front of interminable computer simulations. To be honest, I feel like most PhD students have been tricked into a life they didn't know they were going to lead.

Of course there do exist the happy ones, graduate students who can't imagine doing anything else in the world. They bound into lab on Friday nights to check on their culture or their chip, unflustered by the odd time and driven by visions of best paper prizes. They can't imagine doing something in twenty years that does not require a doctorate degree.

If you're this person, this screed is not for you — you already know you're going to be a professor. And if you plan on going to a PhD program, make sure you're that kind of graduate student.

Gary Shu is a student in the Technology and Policy Program and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning. He used to study electrical engineering.

Three Myths About the President's Budget

David A. Weinberg

The President's budget has elicited a vicious backlash from conservative pundits, one that I think is worth addressing head-on. Here are three key myths about the budget that have gained traction among Republicans in recent days.

Myth #1: This is European-style socialism.

One-time Republican standard-bearer and possible 2012 presidential contender Newt Gingrich called the outlines of President Obama's budget “the boldest effort to create a European socialist model we have seen”.

It is true that the proportion of gross domestic product spent by the government is set to climb to forty percent in the coming fiscal year. This is substantially closer than ever before to the roughly forty-seven percent of GDP spent by the European Union over the past decade.

However, the undisputed cause of this jump is the federal effort to save our economy, not Obama's support for new federal programs in areas such as energy, education, or health care. If this question is one of values, then it is a value shared not only by President Obama but also by his predecessor, who led the initial effort to pass the economic stimulus and bank bailout packages.

Further, we should recall that Bush originally ran for office on a platform of tying people's social security more closely to the stock market. Can you imagine how ravaged our social safety net would be if he had succeeded in doing so just before the New York Stock Exchange took its monumental nosedive?

So perhaps the free market isn't the answer to everything. However, simply because the federal government moves to expand its role in providing citizens with a more robust safety net does not mean that our liberties are at risk. It also does not mean that a European political system of hegemonic labor unions, monstrous bureaucracies, or an underclass that feeds upon the state is lurking around the corner. The private sector will remain the basic provider of goods and services under this budget.

Myth #2: We need a spending freeze.

House Minority Leader Rep. John Boehner has called for a federal spending freeze in order to “show the American people that we're serious about holding the line on spending.” He has explained that “if you look around the country, our economy is struggling. American families are tightening their belts. But they don't see government tightening its belt.”

However, a federal spending freeze is a gimmick. As morally satisfying as it might feel to cut off Washington fat cats in a year when Americans face such difficult financial circumstances, it is a formula for economic disaster.

When market demand crashes as drastically as it has in recent months, only the federal government can step in and jump-start demand quickly enough to get most Americans back to work again.

That is why Nobel Laureate Paul Krugman PhD '77 calls Boehner's proposal downright idiotic: “that's not a retrogression to Herbert Hoover; even Hoover knew better than that”.

Myth #3: All we need is better regulation.

Conservative columnist Charles Krauthammer calls Obama's new budget priorities “the greatest non sequitur ever foisted upon the American people.” He argues that, because the crisis was not triggered by a lack of spending in these areas, boosting spending now will only prolong it: “health, education, and energy — worthy and weighty as they might be — are not the cause of our financial collapse. And they are not the cure.”

Certainly, the immediate cause of this crisis had nothing to do with health, education, or energy — it was triggered by negligent financial regulation and a mad rush to help risky buyers purchase houses that they could not afford.

However, simply tightening the regulatory system is not going to fix this crisis. Deficit spending is, and that makes it the cure. But not all sectors are created equal. These are strategic industries that will make American more competitive down the road and also serve as ideal focal points for employment promotion today.

All three are areas in which America has enormous comparative advantages. Our health care system — in spite of letting far too many

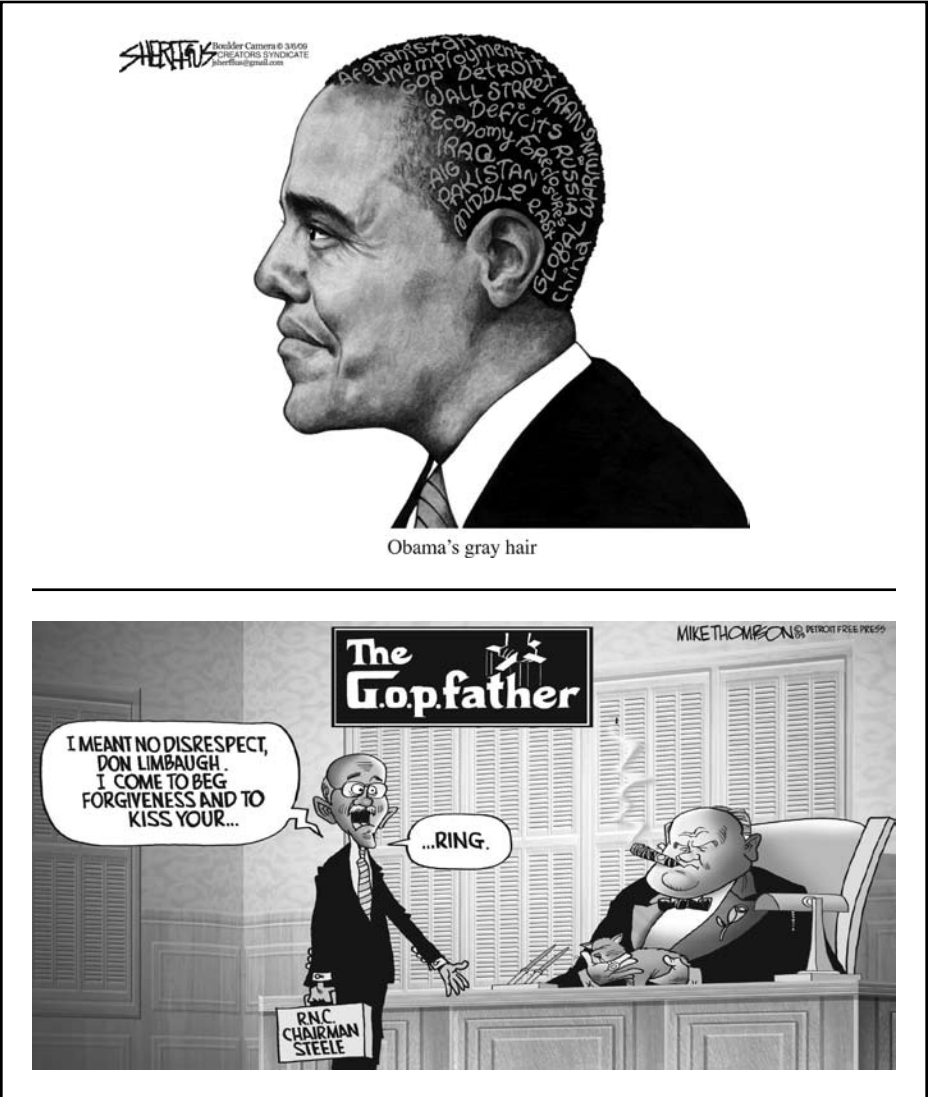
fall through the cracks — also offers the best top-of-the-line medical treatment in human history. Our education system is home to the best universities in the world (including the best technical university, of course), and, despite our dependence on imported fossil fuels, for the time being America holds a remarkable edge in the field of energy technology.

All three of these are also industries that are undoubtedly poised for long-term global growth. They are humanity's frontiers, and they can provide a solid foundation for employing America's workforce in the future if we devote adequate attention to them now.

Heaven forbid, they might change American society for the better.

Insuring the uninsured — especially during a time of spiraling unemployment — is a moral responsibility, one that we have ignored for far too long. Ending America's addiction to foreign oil is the right thing to do — for our national security and for our environment. And renewing our commitment to educational excellence and equality is something that we members of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology should understand especially well.

David A. Weinberg is a graduate student in the Department of Political Science.





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March 10,
2009

COMICS

The
Tech

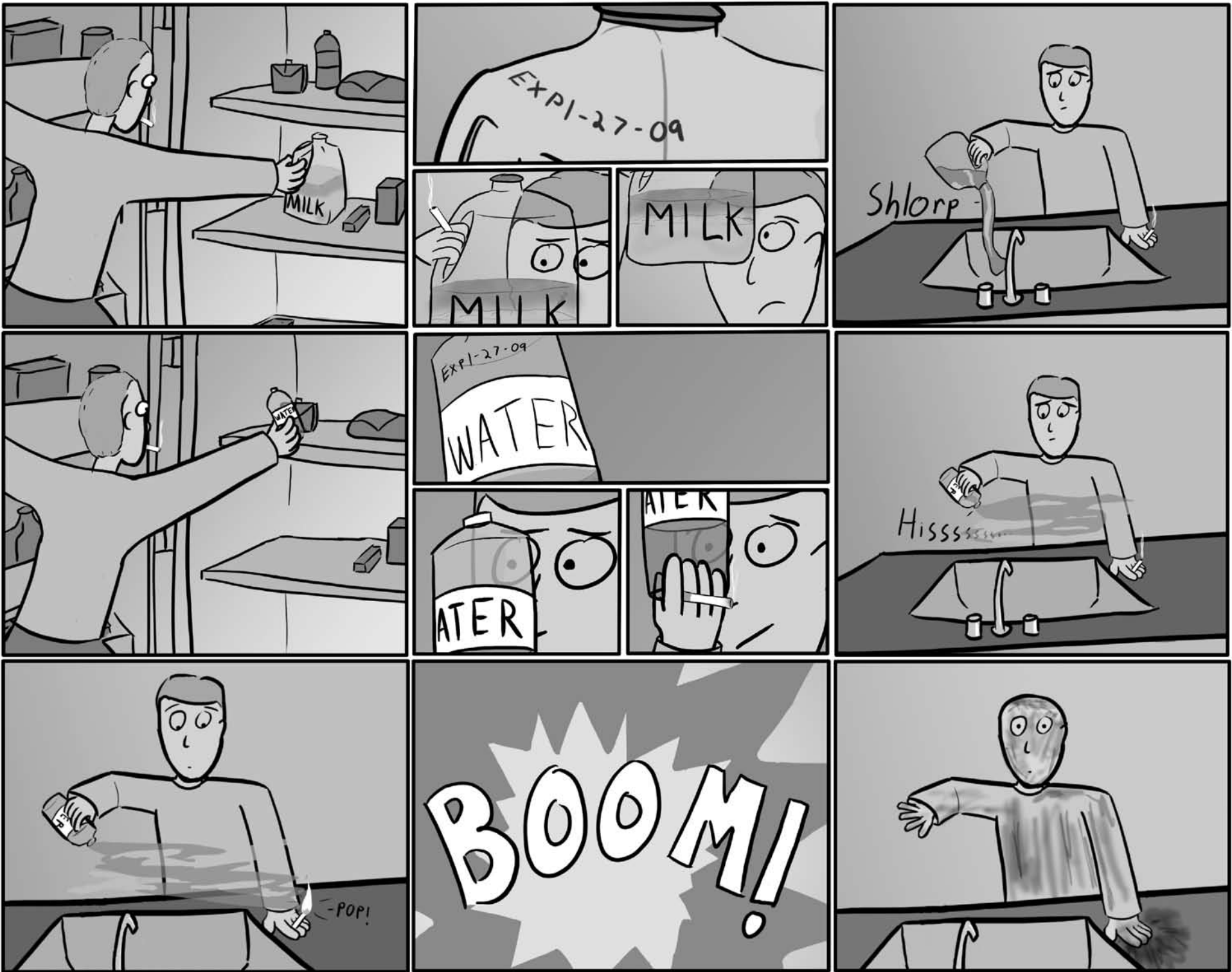
FUN

Page
9

PAGES

Steal My Comic

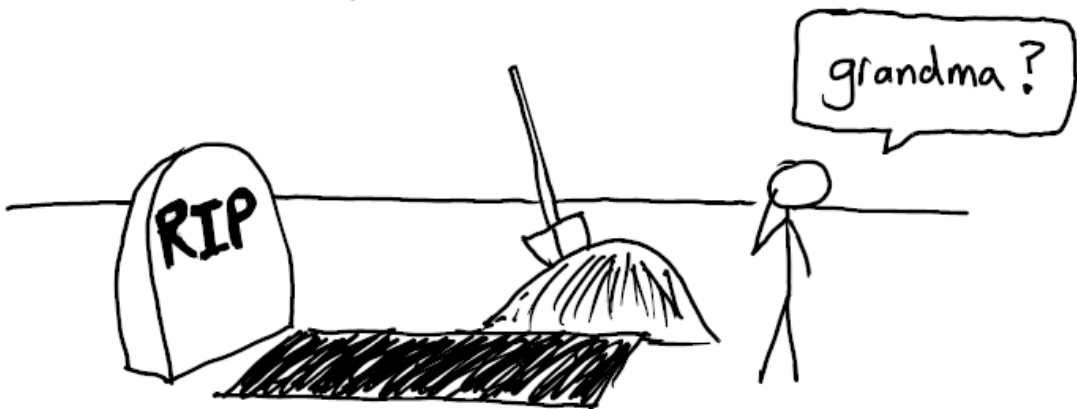
by Michael Ciuffo



The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

I don't get Lara Croft.



Draw comics for *The Tech*!

join@tech.mit.edu

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 on page 12.

6			7			3	1	
		2	5	8				6
								7
	4							
7		5				8		1
							9	
3								
4				7	1	2		
	6	7			4			3

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

Seriously, draw comics. We're nice, we promise! Plus, we'll feed you.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14

- ACROSS**

1 Odds breaker

6 Auckland-to-Melbourne crossing

15 Funny-car fuel

16 False pretenses

17 __ de Guerre

18 Send into seclusion

19 Singer Kazan

21 Amtrak, et al.

22 Ms. Thurman

23 N. Mandela's party

24 Compass dir.

26 __ de corps

29 Pretense

31 Big band tote

34 Packing case

35 Chatted idly

37 Miffed

38 "Lost Boys" co-
- star

40 Circumvent

43 Conductor Otto

47 Of an arm bone

48 Dynamic start?

49 Audition tape

50 Be appropriate for

52 Tarzan on TV

54 Bad: pref.

55 Part of a min.

56 Tummy muscles

59 Writer Welty

61 Ladylove

65 Part of RFD

66 Gerard of "Green Card"

67 Peevish

68 Strenuous efforts

69 "Skittle Players" painter

DOWN

1 Release one's grip
- 2 Fearsome fish

3 Impassive

4 Gray or Moran

5 Poisonous compound

6 " __ the wind and nothing more"

7 Part of OAS

8 Roman acronym

9 Computer clicker

10 NASD competitor

11 PMs

12 Of stitches

13 Religious recluse

14 Added bubbles to

20 Be admitted

25 Archimedes' cry from the bathtub

27 Temporary currency

28 Put on a first coat

30 Gordon of "Oklahoma!"
- 32 Stendhal's last name

33 Stick fast

36 A __ sante!

39 Soap plant

40 Settle down

41 Trademark facial tissue

42 The essence of something

44 Moral anguish

45 UAE part

46 Nobel Prize winner Yalow

51 __ Gras

53 Mongolian tents

57 "Joanie Loves Chachi" star

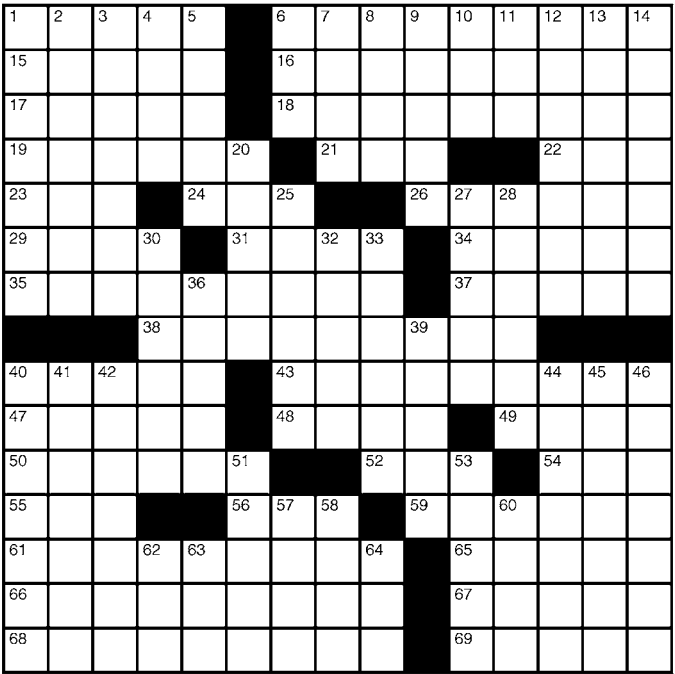
58 "Nana" star Anna

60 Twosome

62 Besmirch

63 Table scrap

64 Cont. Down Under



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Dilbert® by Scott Adams

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Communication Will Be a Priority, Candidates Agree

Debate, from Page 1

Jackson and Hay described themselves as active participants in activities outside the UA, including greek life and the Freshman Leadership Program. They said that their involvement outside the UA would help build new networks across the entire student body spectrum.

Bennie and Delano agreed there needs to be better communication between students and the administration, adding that their experience in student government would help them work with the administration. "We've been here for three years,"

said Bennie, who currently serves as UA Vice President. "We have the continuity and know the intangible, inherent knowledge that comes only with experience."

Delano said that the problem is not the UA, but letting the students know what the UA is doing for them. "We want to make this a two-way street for students," she said.

Bennie and Delano plan to create a website called "Interact" to increase communication between UA representatives, the student body, and the administration.

Lorgat and Agre took an aggressive stance during the debate by act-

ing as outsiders and criticizing the efforts of the current UA council. When asked about the controversy of MIT's dining plan, Lorgat said, "People should not be forced to eat."

As freshmen, Lorgat and Agre tried to separate themselves from their competition by casting themselves as the more energetic and fresh-faced candidates. "We believe we have more time and more energy," Agre said. He continued by suggesting that the junior candidates will have less time to devote because they are working towards their graduation.

Agre and Lorgat said that they are running for the students' benefit.

"We may not always succeed," admitted Agre, "but if in the end of the day, we fought and worked by your side, then it will be a success."

Some spectators were disappointed in the candidates' lack of energy. UA President Noah S. Jessop '09 thought that the candidates did not fully understand the role of the UA President.

Jessop said that the candidates should have done more background research on the topics.

At one point during the debate, Agre said that the UA should work with the Campaign for Students. Jessop was quick to shout out from

his seat in the audience, "That's why we meet with the CFS leaders all the time."

More information on the candidates and their platforms can be found on the election website, <http://vote.mit.edu>. Online voting will take place on March 16-19. Students will also have the chance to vote by paper ballot in Lobby 10 on March 20.

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SMART Postdoctoral Research Fellows Programme

The Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) is pleased announce the establishment of the SMART Postdoctoral Fellows Programme. These awards will provide a unique opportunity for recent Ph.D. graduates to participate in the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) Centre in Singapore, and to become founding members of an alumni network that we anticipate will continue to evolve and expand over the years. The awards, to be given annually, are open to those with less than three years postdoctoral experience and provided they have received their doctoral degree by September 1, 2009. In addition to a competitive salary, the award will provide both a research grant and a travel allowance. The fellowship recipient would be able to conduct research of his/her *own choice* in Singapore within, but not necessarily tied closely to a current project in one of the three existing SMART Interdisciplinary Research Groups¹ (IRGs). It is anticipated that the recipients will take up their appointments at SMART by September 1 2009 or earlier.

For more information about the IRGs and the MIT faculty participants, please view the SMART website at <http://web.mit.edu/smart/>

AWARD

The Awards provides an annual grant of up to S\$85,000 in salary, S\$40,000 for research expenditures, and a travel allowance of up to S\$5,000.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants should submit by May 15, 2009:

- (1)

Curriculum Vitae not to exceed 2 pages.
- (2)

Complete list of publications. Also, please include one copy each of not more than three of your publications that you consider to represent your best work.
- (3)

A description of the research project you propose to conduct at SMART, including some background/context, technical approach and expected results (no more than two pages).

¹ Infectious Disease, Environmental Sensing and Modeling, and Biosystems and Micromechanics.

Dining Report to Undergo Student Review

Dining, from Page 1

Before releasing its report, the committee will hold a two-week review period when community members can review its plans and make final suggestions. Some in attendance said that two weeks may not be enough time to consider and incorporate remaining concerns voiced by the students.

Denoncourt said the deadline was set by Undergraduate Dean for Student Life Constantino “Chris” Colombo, but that she and the committee will consider requesting an extension.

UA Vice President Michael A. Bennie ’10, who also serves on the committee, said that though additional time may be useful, the committee should finish its job by the end of the academic year. If the committee has to reconvene next year, it will be short graduating members and may waste time getting back up to speed, he said.

Some UA senators also questioned the makeup of the committee, pointing out that Simmons Hall and McCormick Hall were the only dormitories with official representatives. There was also no representation from the fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

UA President Noah S. Jessop ’09, a member of the committee, said that many representatives had graduated and had not been replaced. Some of those vacancies have been filled since the beginning of the academic year, but the committee has decided that membership is now closed.

Flynn said she thought the committee has received ample student input through its student members and that lingering concerns will be heard when the review stage begins following Spring Break.

“We’re hoping that when we go around to the community, that’s when things get filled in,” said Flynn.

Since the report was leaked in February, committee members have said they are committed to increased transparency. Summaries of the minutes of each committee meeting are being posted online at <http://web.mit.edu/dining/feedback/blueribbon.html>. All but the latest meeting’s summaries were available as of last night. The last committee meeting was last Tuesday, March 3.

When asked why the committee is not posting the full minutes, Denoncourt said committee members wanted to put the information from the meetings in a manner that is more concise, with only the main points highlighted.

The next meeting of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining will be this Thursday. Denoncourt said that the committee will be meeting weekly now. In the past, the Committee has convened erratically, with months sometimes passing between meetings.

Solution to Sudoku											
from page 9											
6	5	4	7	2	9	3	1	8			
1	7	2	5	8	3	9	4	6			
9	3	8	1	4	6	5	2	7			
8	4	3	9	1	7	6	5	2			
7	9	5	4	6	2	8	3	1			
2	1	6	8	3	5	7	9	4			
3	2	1	6	5	8	4	7	9			
4	8	9	3	7	1	2	6	5			
5	6	7	2	9	4	1	8	3			

Josefsson Discussed Emissions and Electricity Prices

Energy, from Page 1

The Museum of Science had one of the more popular booths. It featured a tasty demonstration of thermal energy. A metallic dish focused light from a lamp to toast a marshmallow, which was used to make s'mores for the audience.

Another booth, called "How Green is Your Lunch?" diagrammed for the audience the carbon footprint of transporting their produce.

Saturday's events began with an address by Hockfield, who emphasized that the conference was completely organized and run by students of the MIT Energy Club. Hockfield said that energy technol-

ogy innovation was important to energy demand, security, and global climate change, as well as economic growth.

Her remarks also hinted at the idea that innovation through alternative energy research would help solve our energy challenge, naming various professors and their research across the Institute. "A great deal of people at MIT are making sure innovations like these don't just look promising in the lab but carry through successfully to the marketplace and the policy arena as well," Hockfield said.

The keynote speaker in the morning was Lars G. Josefsson, CEO of Swedish national energy company

Vattenfall, one of Europe's biggest providers of electricity and heating. Josefsson spoke about actions underway by Vattenfall to make electricity generation clean. He said their goal is to be carbon neutral by 2050. "If we can do it, anyone can do it," he added.

He said that most of Vattenfall's carbon dioxide emissions come from using fossil fuels. He cited carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) as essential to his plan to reduce emissions, despite the procedure's high cost.

The final cost comes out to 200-350 billion euros, Josefsson said. He tried to put that number in perspective, explaining that it is only about

0.5% of Sweden's projected 2030 GDP.

Josefsson asked the audience if they thought electricity today was too cheap, too expensive or just right. The vast majority of the audience raised their hands to indicate they thought electricity was too cheap.

"I should raise the prices then," Josefsson joked.

The rest of the conference included panel sessions such as "Advancing Bioenergy," in which panelists Blake Simmons, Eric Larson, and William Jorgenson talked about creating market for liquid biofuels and how it compares to burning biomass gas. The lunch keynote speaker was the Honorable Jay Inslee, Congressman from Washington.

Pech Colatat G, attended the conference and the panel sessions to see "how people are talking about energy issues, what people know and

don't know." He said he liked getting the chance to meet people in the energy sector, and to see what everyone is working on.

In between the panel sessions were "networking breaks" which allowed attendees at the conference to mingle. Duncan McIntyre, an associate from Polaris Venture Partners, said that Polaris' interest in being a sponsor is to "get exposure to budding entrepreneurs."

This is the 4th year that MIT's Energy Club has organized this conference, and attendance was strong. An overflow room had to be used to accommodate 70 more guests on Saturday.

Ilissa Schild G, marketing director for the conference, said that conference's main purpose was "creating a forum for people to come together and have an open, honest discussion."



Students gather for liquid nitrogen ice cream after learning about the thermodynamic properties of liquid nitrogen and its effects on roses, tennis balls, and bananas. The class, entitled Applied Cryomania and taught by Joshua C. Velson '10, was one of many offered to high school students through ESP's Spark program on Saturday, Mar. 7.

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This Thursday, March 12th

6 to 8 pm

Ramesh Raskar

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3rd Floor Coffeehouse Lounge

STUDENT CENTER

W20-3rd Floor

Media Lab's Prof. Raskar

will talk about the next generation of digital imaging apps and equipment.

Sponsored by the
Student Art Association, the Office of the Arts, Media Lab

Solution to Crossword

from page 10

U	P	S	E	T	T	A	S	M	A	N	S	E	A		
N	I	T	R	O	I	M	P	O	S	T	U	R	E		
C	R	O	I	X	S	E	Q	U	E	S	T	E	R		
L	A	I	N	I	E	R	R	S				U	M	A	
A	N	C		N	N	E		E	S	P	R	I	T		
S	H	A	M		T	U	B	A		C	R	A	T	E	
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			C	O	R	E	Y	H	A	I	M				
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D	E	P	A	R	D	I	E		U		T	E	S	T	Y
E	X	E	R	T	I	O	N	S		S	T	E	E	N	

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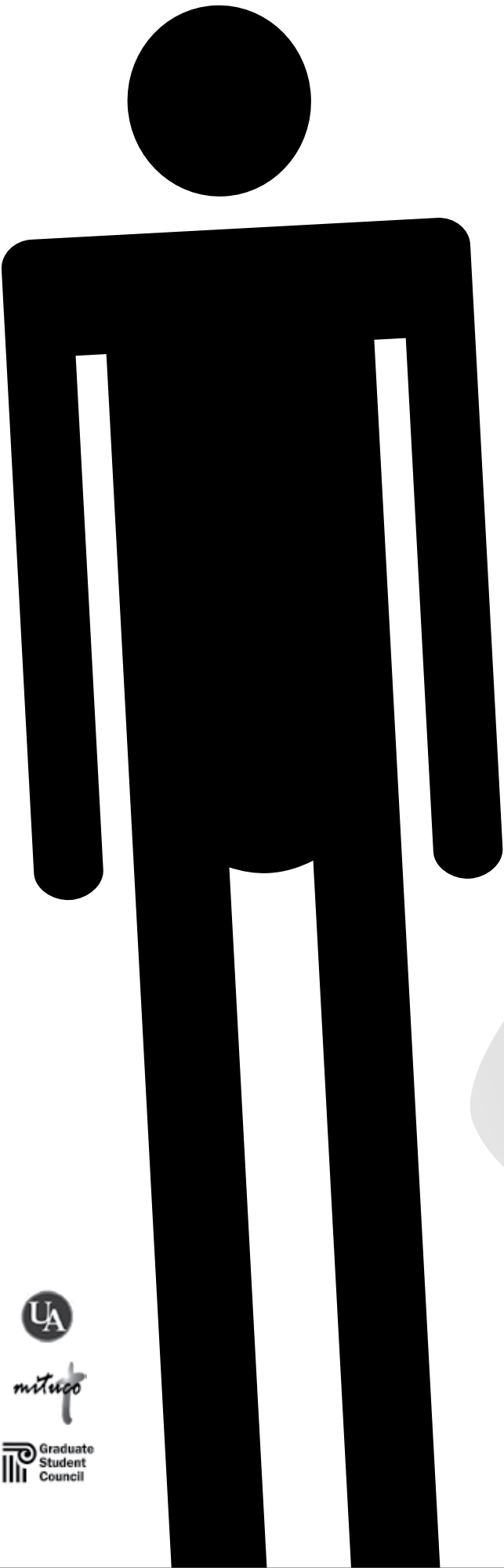


Groups from MIT, Boston University, Wellesley College, Tufts University, and the New England area perform at Footwork, a dance show hosted by MIT Riddikulous on Friday, March 6. Celebrity guests included Gigi Torres, founder and director of the Essence Dance Company, and Mr. Napkins, a comic and rapper from Cambridge, MA who was Footwork's official MC.

Photograph by
Chelsea Grimm

ARE WE  The VERITAS FORUM @  2009

MORE THAN MATTER?
DOES IT MATTER?



ARTS WED 3/11

Sharper, Flatter? Does it Matter?

8 PM KILLIAN HALL 14W-111

Performances and discussion on music, beauty
and their relation to being human with
WORLD-CLASS PIANIST, MIA CHUNG
and PROGRESSIVE SAXOPHONIST, KEVIN GOSA

SCIENCE FRI 3/13

Matter, Antimatter? Does it matter?

7 PM STATA CENTER 32-123

An antimatter physicist confronts questions of understanding and meaning
HARVARD PHYSICS PROFESSOR, GERALD GABRIELSE
moderated by MIT PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF
NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING, IAN HUTCHINSON

ETHICS SAT 3/14

Moral Mammals? Why Do We Matter?

3 PM STATA CENTER 32-123

A discussion on the implications of atheism and theism for ethics with
PRINCETON PROFESSOR OF BIOETHICS, PETER SINGER
and YALE PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHICAL THEOLOGY, JOHN HARE
moderated by PRINCETON PROFESSOR OF RELIGION, ERIC GREGORY





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exists to engage students and faculty in discussions about life's
hardest questions and the relevance of Jesus Christ to all of life.

WWW.VERITAS.ORG/MIT

Poor Perimeter Shooting Costs Engineers Sweet Sixteen Berth

Farmingdale State, from Page 16

behind its potent perimeter shooting. Freshman guard James D. “Jamie” Karraker ’12 sandwiched a pair of three-pointers around a Bartolotta triple, during the run.

Farmingdale senior forward Erastus Shannon stemmed the tide with a lay-up, only to see MIT rattle off seven straight points, capped by a Karraker trey at 11:08, to give the Engineers their first lead (48-45) since the 4:38 mark of the first half.

The Rams delivered a 16-4 run to match their game-high advantage of nine with 5:41 remaining. Junior forward Daniel Phillips and Shannon each contributed four points during the push.

Showcasing its resiliency, MIT once again came back to cut the deficit down to two points, 63-61, with 1:25 remaining on another Karraker three.

That would be as close as the Engineers would get as junior forward Mike Campbell and Cammarata each sank a pair of free throws down the

stretch.

Santana finished with 23 points, which included five three-pointers, and a team-high seven rebounds. Shannon scored 10 of his 16 points in the second half, while Cammarata rounded out the trio in double figures with a 14-point effort. The Rams shot 52 percent from the field (26-for-50), including a 50 percent (7-for-14) mark from beyond the three-point line.

Bartolotta led all scorers with 27 points, to go along with seven rebounds and two assists. Karraker scored all 12 of his points over the final 20 minutes, while Johnson grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds. Senior guard Bradley H. Gampel ’09 contributed four points, six rebounds and a game-high seven assists. The Engineers held the rebounding edge, 35-32, but struggled from the field, shooting just 36 percent (23-for-64) for the game. MIT, which achieved its success as one of the nation’s best outside shooting teams, endured its worst performance of the year from distance as the Cardinal and Gray made just 8 of its 36 attempts.

Senior Spotlight

MIT tri-captains Bartolotta, Gampel, and Johnson close out their college careers as the best senior class in the history of the MIT basketball program. The trio paced MIT to a four-year best 68 wins, while securing the program’s first NEWMAC Championship and first NCAA Tournament berth.

Bartolotta retires with a plethora of Institute records, including 2,279 career points and 184 career steals. He also ranks third in career blocks, fifth in career assists, and sixth in career rebounds, while leaving as the top three-point and free-throw shooter in Tech’s basketball lore.

Gampel, who set single-season MIT records for assists (207) and steals (80), ranks third all-time in assists, and second to Bartolotta in steals with 183.

Johnson enjoyed a stellar senior campaign and finished the year with 836 career points despite seeing limited time as a rookie and missing nearly all of his sophomore season due to injury.

MIT Upsets No. 17 Rhode Island Behind Play of Bender, Bartolotta

RIC, from Page 16

that lasted for the duration of the contest. With MIT’s faithful drowning out the cheers of the hometown crowd, the Engineers reeled off the first eight points of the half to tie the game. Johnson connected on a three

during Tech’s first possession, while Bartolotta followed up with another three to erase the seemingly insurmountable deficit.

The tilt remained tight throughout the remainder of the second half, with RIC’s Mason Choice converting a lay-up to give the Anchormen a 51-

49 lead with 1:20 on the clock. Four consecutive free throws by Bender gave MIT a 53-51 lead with five seconds to go, but Bailey was fouled on his way to the basket in the final second, and his answer at the charity stripe sent MIT’s first-ever NCAA Tournament game to overtime.

In the bonus session, Bartolotta drained deep three’s on back-to-back possessions, but Karraker delivered the decisive blow with a three off a Bender offensive rebound that moved MIT in front, 64-59, with 2:16 left. Rhode Island College made several desperation shots in a hope to keep its season alive, but Bartolotta and the Engineers sealed the victory at the free-throw line.

RIC was led by Bailey, who finished with 16 points, while Choice added 12 and Cameron Stewart scored 11. The Anchormen were just 6-of-25 from three-point range while MIT made 10 of 23, including all three attempts in overtime.



MIT students are seen at Rhode Island College on Friday supporting their basketball team.

SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball	
Friday, March 6, 2009	
Rhode Island College	68
MIT	73
Saturday, March 7, 2009	
Farmington State	67
MIT	61

Men's Lacrosse	
Saturday, March 7, 2009	
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (1-0)	10
MIT (0-1)	7

Women's Lacrosse	
Saturday, March 7, 2009	
Endicott College (1-0)	15
MIT (0-1)	12

Men's Tennis	
Friday, March 6, 2009	
Bates College ()	7
MIT (1-1)	2

Men's Track	
Saturday, March 7, 2009	
ECAC Championships	
MIT	16th of 51

Women's Track	
Saturday, March 7, 2009	
ECAC Championships	
MIT	T-4th of 51

\$100 stimulus

1st one to fault

this FERMAT PUZZLE SOLUTION

$$x^n + y^n = z^n = (x+y)(F)$$
$$n = \text{prime} \geq 2, x, y \text{ are positive integers}$$
$$(x+1)^n + (y-1)^n = z_2^n + x \cdot y \therefore z_2 > z$$
$$z_2^n = (z+p)^n = (x+1)^n + (y-1)^n \text{ equals}$$
$$x^n + y^n + n x^{n-1} + \dots + x \cdot n y^{n-1} \dots \text{ equals}$$
$$z^n + n z^{n-1} p + \dots + p^n. \text{ if } p=1, 3) A \& p < 1$$
$$(x+1)^n + (y-1)^n = \frac{(x+y)(G)}{D} = \frac{(z+p)^n}{E}$$

assigning z as an integer with $p \leq 1$, item E can not supply a z factor as shown in item D $(x+y)(G)$. therefore the claim-
 $(x+y)$ is a factor of an (irrational z)ⁿ

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SPORTS

Men's Basketball Plays in First-Ever NCAA Tourney
Engineers Come Back to Beat Rhode Island College in OT, 73-68

By James Kramer
DAPER STAFF

MIT freshman William E. “Billy” Bender’s legacy as a clutch performer continues to grow. The rookie knocked down four free throws in the final minute to send Friday’s NCAA Tournament First Round game to overtime before coming up with a steal, a key offensive rebound, and two more free throws

in the extra session as MIT stunned nationally-ranked No. 17 Rhode Island College, 73-68, in RIC’s Murray Center.

Senior star James M. “Jimmy” Bartolotta ’09 rebounded from a quiet first half to finish with a game-best 27 points. Willard J. “Billy” Johnson ’09 added 19 points on 7-of-11 shooting and a game-high 11 rebounds, while freshman James D. “Jamie” Karraker chipped in 10. Bender closed with nine points as the Engineers shrugged

off an eight-point halftime deficit to equal the program record for wins in a season (21-8).

“I’m so proud of our players,” said head coach Larry Anderson. “Our preparation was excellent and our defense really stepped up in the second half. It’s misleading to think Rhode Island College doesn’t have a go-to guy. They have a lot of go-to guys. I was proud to see our student-athletes maintain their focus despite facing a well-coached and incredibly athletic team.”

Rhode Island College (23-6) relied on its athleticism to carve up the MIT defense in the opening half. Forcing 16 MIT turnovers, the Anchormen enjoyed 12 extra possessions, while scoring nine of their 12

first-half field goals in the paint. RIC also benefitted from an outstanding defensive effort by Little East Conference Player of the Year Bobby Bailey, who prevented Bartolotta from seeing any open looks during the opening frame. After surrendering a 15-2 run to the Engineers early in the half, the Anchormen closed the stanza with a 22-3 run in the last eight minutes.

Trailing 30-22 at the start of the second period, the Engineers received a huge boost from an unlikely source: their fans. Two MIT fan buses packed the Murray Center during halftime and greeted the Cardinal and Gray with a thunderous applause

Season Ends
With Loss to
Farmingdale
State, 67-61 in
Second Round

By James Kramer
DAPER STAFF

Farmingdale State advanced to the NCAA Division III Men’s Basketball Tournament Sectional Round for the first time in the program’s history on Saturday, defeating MIT, 67-61, at The Murray Center on the campus of Rhode Island College. Senior guard Damien Santana scored 20 of his team-high 23 points in the first half to lead the Rams’ attack.

In a battle of conference Players of the Year, MIT senior guard James M. “Jimmy” Bartolotta ’09 and Santana combined for the game’s first 18 points, as the game was knotted up, 9-9, just two minutes into the action.

The Engineers (21-9) took the lead, 10-9, on a free throw by senior forward Willard J. “Billy” Johnson ’09 at 15:07 and held the advantage for the next 12:51. MIT built a seven-point advantage (22-15) following a Bartolotta three at 8:21.

Despite falling behind, the Rams (26-3) closed out the half on an 18-4 run to take a seven-point advantage into halftime at 33-26. A triple by senior guard Joe Cammarata shifted the momentum for Farmingdale with a three at 8:05 and Santana took over from there, scoring 10 points during the surge to finish the first stanza with 20 points.

MIT whittled the deficit down to two points, 43-41, with 13:34 left



Senior Bradley H. Gampel carries the basketball down the court under pressure in the game against Rhode Island College on Friday, Mar. 6.



Senior James M. Bartolotta celebrates with the crowd after the team’s win against Rhode Island College on Friday, Mar. 6.

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Stephanie V. Brenman '09 barrels through heavy defense in the women's lacrosse game on Roberts Field. The Engineers fell to Endicott College 15-12 on Saturday, Mar. 7.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Men's Lacrosse vs. Assumption College 4 p.m., Jack Barry Field

Men's Volleyball vs. Johnson & Wales University 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

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