

Bennie, Delano Elected UA President, VP

43 Percent of Undergrads Voted; 2012 Class Council Elections Were Closely Contested

By Arkajit Dey
NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

Michael A. Bennie '10 and Margaret K. Delano '10 were elected Undergraduate Association president and vice-president, respectively, in a landslide victory last week. Bennie and Delano garnered 919 first-place votes, nearly tripling the first-place vote count of runners-up Ryan W. Jackson '10 and Thomas W. Hay '10. Write-in candidates Abdulaziz M. Albahar '10 and Tewfik R. Cassis '10 placed third, ahead of the final pair of slated candidates, Benjamin J. Agre '12 and Raez Lorgat '12. Bennie and Delano will assume their new offices on May 11, at the year's last Senate meeting.

In an interview with *The Tech*, Bennie and Delano said one of their goals for next year was to improve communications between students and the UA. In particular, they hope to make it easier for students to provide feedback to the UA and comment on Senate or committee deliberations.

Most class elections for upperclassmen were single-candidate races with foregone conclusions. In the only contested upperclassmen race, Jeffrey Y. Zhou '10 defeated Britany N. Russo '10 to become class secretary.

Elections for the Class of 2012 were more hotly contested. Nathaniel S. Fox '12 prevailed over incumbent Rishi Dixit '12 to become class president. Hannah E. Sparkman '12 handily beat incumbent Andy D. Kalenderian '12 in the race for vice president.

The races for publicity chair and social chair were much closer, decided by a handful of votes each.

A total of 1,806 votes were cast for UA president and vice president this year, down from 1,914 total votes last year. Overall, 1,870 students voted in the elections.

See page 12 for a full table of election results and vote tallies.

A previous version of this story ran on the web on Tuesday, March 24. Ramya Sankar contributed to the reporting of this article.



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Undergraduate Association president-elect Michael A. Bennie '10 (left) and vice president-elect Margaret K. Delano '10 sat down with *The Tech* to share their plans for the upcoming school year. They said they plan on increasing UA transparency and encouraging feedback from students.

Bennie and Delano Want to Improve UA Communication and Transparency

By Ramya Sankar
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Many of the items on the agenda of Undergraduate Association president-elect Michael A. Bennie '10 and vice president-elect Margaret K. Delano focus on improving UA transparency and fostering communication between students and the administration. *The Tech* sat down with Bennie and Delano to discuss their plans for office.

TT: What is your agenda for the coming year?

MB: In terms of external communications, one of my biggest priorities is working with the website to make sure it's a two-way street and that students can provide feedback. We've already started that. We want to enable students to comment on what is going on in the Senate... and provide avenues for them to give feedback to the UA through the website. We also want to provide more opportunity through Community

Conversations.

MD: Internally, how I see things working is that Mike will have a good sense of what students want with the help of the Senate. It'll be my responsibility to work with our committees to make sure that we are all in a position to make those changes happen. One of the things I want to do — even now — is to start talking to those on the committees and see if they are interested in being chairs of committees. I also want to find out where each committee is going, what each committee wanted to achieve this year, and what each committee wants to achieve [this upcoming year]. I also want to ask each committee what prevented them from moving forward and what good things they had to get those roadblocks out of the way so we can make concrete progress. I want to spend less time actually doing the work of the committees and spend more time really getting more students involved and

allowing them to tackle all the issues they are interested in working on.

MB: In terms of the vision for the UA, some of the things I see coming up are the interpretation or public vetting of the Blue Ribbon [Dining Committee] report. Nothing is going

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D'Amelio Released on \$75K Bail

By John A. Hawkinson
NEWS EDITOR

Joseph D'Amelio, the MIT Police Officer arrested for drug trafficking on Sat., March 14, has been released on \$75,000 bail. He is under house arrest with electronic monitoring, according to the Suffolk County District Attorney's spokesman Jake Wark.

D'Amelio's attorney, Kimberly Foster, maintains his innocence.

His bail was reduced from \$500,000 to \$75,000 at a bail reduction hearing last week Monday.

D'Amelio's next court appearance is in April, Foster said.

D'Amelio was previously arraigned in Sept. 2006 in Malden District Court and was found not guilty by a judge in a bench trial in Jan. 2007, according to Middlesex DA spokeswoman Jessica Venezia.

According to court documents obtained by *The Tech*, D'Amelio was accused of threatening a pawn shop owner. According to the shop owner's complaint, D'Amelio was attempting to obtain property stolen from him. D'Amelio and an unidentified friend drove to the pawn shop in a hearse, and D'Amelio allegedly told the owner to return his property or "I will beat you with a fucking bat and get you into the back of the hearse."

A police officer's report claims that a retired Boston police detective

D'Amelio, Page 13

GSC To Hold Elections for 2009–2010 Officers

The following are excerpts from the platforms of each candidate in the 2009–2010 Graduate Student Council elections. There are currently no nominations for the position of secretary. The new officers will be elected during the GSC's April General Council Meeting tomorrow, April 1, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 50-220. Additional nominations may be accepted during the meeting, but only current members of the GSC are eligible to vote. For each candidate's full platform and for more information about the election, visit the GSC election website at <http://gsc.mit.edu/index.php/prog-init/officer-elections>.

President

Alex H. Chan

"Even in bad economic times, I promise to not just maintain the level of graduate student life at MIT but to bring it to an entirely different level. I will innovate and create to bring MIT graduate student life to new heights, and I will make the GSC transparent, respected and even stronger as an organization."

Charles A. Gammal

"The purpose of the GSC is to create positive change within the MIT graduate community. This entails identifying important issues, addressing them quickly and efficiently, and communicating the results to the graduate community. My strong belief that we can significantly improve this process is the foundation of my vision."

Paul R. Monasterio

"I intend to continue to lead the Council efficiently and effectively, to realize a vision in which the GSC reconnects with the graduate student body and successfully engages with the administration, to create mechanisms to address the effects of the global economic climate on graduate students, and to develop a sense of common purpose to improve the bonds between generations of graduate student leadership."

Vice President

Kevin A. McComber

"A stronger graduate student coalition in the Boston area and across the nation can serve as a unified voice for student advocacy as well as a useful platform for sharing best practices and networking."

Treasurer

Nan Gu

"If elected, I will aim to bring continuity to the GSC, focusing on balance and stabilization, but also with an eye towards the future and an appreciation for the gravity of the tasks ahead."

In Short

¶ An on-campus produce stand is opening today. The stand will sell fruits and vegetables on Tuesdays in the East Campus Courtyard between noon and 6 p.m.

¶ The UA Nominations Committee is currently recruiting nominees to serve on MIT's Institute Committees. Interested students can apply online at <http://ua.mit.edu/represent> by this Friday.

¶ Michael E. Capuano, the U.S. congressman for Massachusetts' 8th district, which encompasses MIT's campus, is holding a telephone community meeting on March 31 between 6:40 and 7:40 p.m. Interested parties may dial (877) 229-8493 and use PIN 13034 to participate.

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



MIT a cappella groups competed in the Int'l Collegiate A Cappella Northeast Semifinals.

WORLD & NATION

Sarkozy and Merkel, Often at Odds, Try to Shape E.U. Unity

By Steven Erlanger and Nicholas Kulish

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

They are an extremely odd couple — he is short and hyperactive, she is dour and shy. He believes in the power of the state and big interventions; she believes in a softer role for the state, guiding and prodding the market. Nicolas Sarkozy and Angela Merkel don't even get along very well, aides to both leaders say. He has made fun of her accent in private meetings, the aides say, and she says he is self-centered and impetuous.

But the French president and the German chancellor find themselves in a forced marriage in these days of economic crisis. Responsible for the two largest economies among nations that use the euro, known as the euro zone, they are trying to shape European unity in the days before the Group of 20 economic summit meeting this week.

They also are bearing the brunt of criticism, especially from the left and from Washington, that they are not responding forcefully enough to the recession and the collapse of world trade.

While they have produced very different national responses to the economic downturn — with Merkel authorizing a larger stimulus package than France has — they have worked together to keep fiscal discipline in the euro zone, and resist American calls for even greater government spending.

In a Grand Experiment, Two Daily Newspapers Now Not-So-Daily

By Mary M. Chapman and Richard Perez-Pena

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Maybe once a year, a city has a news day as heavy as the one that just hit Detroit: The White House forced out the chairman of General Motors, word leaked that the administration wanted Chrysler to hitch its fortunes to Fiat, and Michigan State University's men's basketball team reached the Final Four, which will be in Detroit.

All of this news would have landed on hundreds of thousands of Motor City doorsteps and driveways Monday morning, in the form of The Detroit Free Press and The Detroit News.

Would have, that is, except that Monday — of all days — was the long-planned first day of the newspapers' new strategy for surviving the economic crisis by ending home delivery on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Instead, on those days they are directing readers to their Web sites, and offering a truncated print version at stores, newsstands and street boxes.

Google Offers Links to Free Music Downloads in China

By David Barboza

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SHANGHAI, CHINA

Trying to gain ground in one of the few markets where it is behind, Google said Monday that it had begun to offer in China links to free music downloads, a service it does not offer anywhere else in the world.

Google executives said they were responding to the phenomenal popularity of free music downloads in China and were acting legally by forming an alliance with the music industry, including Sony BMG Music Entertainment, EMI Group, Universal Music and the Warner Music Group.

Google said it hoped the demand for music downloads would raise its profile in China, which has already overtaken the United States as the world's biggest Internet market, with nearly 300 million users. It is also aiming to gain market share against its chief rival here, Baidu, China's dominant search engine.

President Gives U.S. Automakers a Short Lifeline

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg and Bill Viasic

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama delivered an ultimatum to General Motors and Chrysler on Monday, telling them to adopt radical changes in short order or face bankruptcy — a move that came after a series of somber discussions in which he concluded that a controlled bankruptcy might be the best way to reorganize the two ailing auto giants.

In the end, Obama decided to throw the companies a short lifeline. He gave GM 60 days and Chrysler one month to avert bankruptcy and restructure on their own.

But during that period, Obama warned on Monday, the automakers will have to radically reshape their businesses in a way that experts say will severely shrink them.

For GM, Obama's decision means

not only the loss of its chief executive, Rick Wagoner, who was forced out as part of the deal, but also some tough negotiations with the United Automobile Workers and bondholders, who have thus far balked at the company's demands.

Now the union will be asked to make even bigger concessions on a new wage and benefits contract and health benefits for retirees. The bondholders will most likely be forced to accept a deep discount on the price of their debt as well as agree to take GM stock in lieu of debt repayments.

Chrysler, meanwhile, must hurry up a merger deal with the Italian automaker Fiat.

The Obama administration has concluded that Chrysler is not viable as a stand-alone company, and is giving the automaker until April 30 to complete the Fiat merger or face a cutoff of taxpayer help.

Obama decided early on that sim-

ply letting the companies fail was not an option, advisers said. But faced with what one senior official called "no good options," the president struggled to reconcile his conclusion that GM and Chrysler were not viable with his determination to save an industry that he called "an emblem of the American spirit."

While Michigan lawmakers privately balked at Obama's decision to cite bankruptcy, they said that by raising the specter of bankruptcy for the two companies, Obama might have made it easier for both to win concessions.

"They hopefully will see that they have a pretty stark choice in terms of working something out," said Sen. Carl Levin, a Michigan Democrat, who learned of the plan Sunday night when the president called him and other Michigan lawmakers from the Oval Office. "Their option is either to take a haircut or a bath."

First Khmer Rouge Trial Opens a Torture House Door

By Seth Mydans

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

Testimony opened Monday at the first trial of a Khmer Rouge official, with a detailed description of the internal workings and methods of interrogation in the regime's central torture house.

In statements included in a long indictment read by court officials, the defendant, Kaing Guek Eav, known as Duch, admitted ordering and taking part in systematic torture that sometimes continued for days.

In his statements, made during pretrial investigations, he said he was working on orders from the top Khmer Rouge leadership, an assertion that appeared to implicate four other defendants who are awaiting trial.

Thirty years after the regime was deposed, Duch is the first person to take the stand and answer for one of the most horrific episodes of mass killing in the past century, in which 1.7 million people are estimated to have died from 1975 to 1979 of starvation, overwork, disease or execution.

The trial has opened, with the

backing of the United Nations, amid controversy over allegations of corruption and political influence by the government, which critics contend has tried to limit the scope of the indictments.

Duch, 66, the former commandant of Tuol Sleng prison, is charged with crimes against humanity, war crimes and murder in the deaths of at least 14,000 people; almost all were tortured before they were executed. Only a handful of the prisoners at Tuol Sleng survived.

Some inmates were also subjected to medical experiments, including "live autopsies" and experimentation with homemade medications, according to Duch's statements in the indictment.

Testimony on Monday involved the reading of a detailed description of the charges against Duch (pronounced DOIK). Statements from the prosecution and the defense should follow, and then accounts from witnesses and the defendant. The trial is expected to last about four months.

Through his French lawyer, François Roux, Duch has admitted his role and apologized to the vic-

tims, but he was quoted Monday as saying that he feared for his life if he did not follow orders.

Neatly dressed in a long-sleeved white shirt, Duch stood at the start of the proceedings to give his name and a string of aliases, and to confirm that he understood the charges.

A former schoolteacher, Duch disappeared after the Khmer Rouge were routed by a Vietnamese invasion in 1979. He was found in 1999 by a British journalist, living quietly in a small Cambodian town, where he said he had converted to Christianity. He was arrested shortly afterward.

According to the charges read Monday, the prisoners brought to Tuol Sleng were presumed guilty. Even if they had been mistakenly arrested, they were killed to preserve the secrecy of the prison, the indictment said.

Much of the prison's work involved internal purges that consumed the Khmer Rouge regime, according to the indictment. Those who were arrested were not told the charges against them, but were forced to confess to crimes in coerced statements often hundreds of pages long.

WEATHER

No April Fool's Storm This Year

By Garrett Marino

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

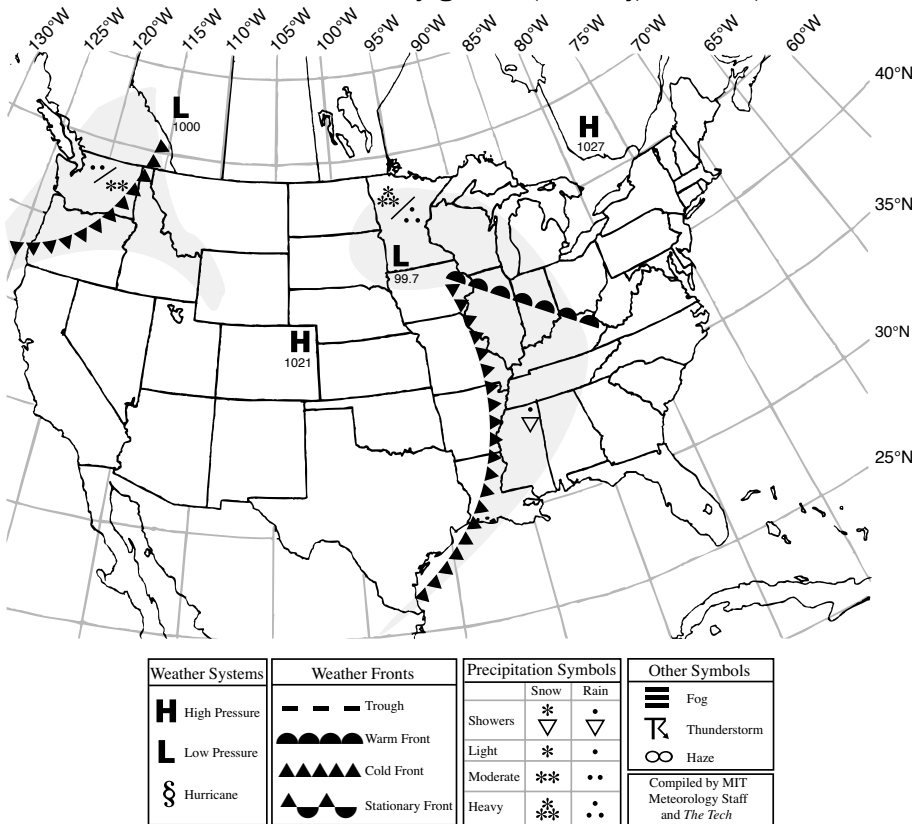
8 a.m., March 31, 1997: Rain began falling in Boston with temperatures in the low 40s°F (5°C). A Nor'easter was rapidly developing off the coast and slowly drifting northeastward. The rain changed to all snow in Boston by noon, and by sunset an all-out blizzard had overspread much of New England. Temperatures hovered slightly below freezing, and with heavy snow and winds gusting over 50 mph, visibilities were reduced to near zero. The blizzard conditions and incredible snowfall rates of up to four inches per hour pounded Boston until the early afternoon of April Fool's Day. Clouds and winds quickly diminished during the afternoon, and the sun set vibrantly on a white landscape. Logan recorded a whopping 25.4" of snow, making this storm the third snowiest in recorded meteorological history, displaced only by storms during the Februarys of '69 and '78 (remember those?).

We won't be getting this one-in-a-century storm this year, however. High pressure will build today and keep us in the clear until tomorrow night, when the next disturbance looks likely to affect Boston.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny and pleasant. Highs in the mid 50s°F (13°C).
Tonight: Clear, then turning partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 30s°F (2°C).
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, with highs near 50°F (10°C).
Thursday: Cloudy with showers likely. Highs in the mid 50s°F (13°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, March 31, 2009



Ability To Pay Is New Ticket into College

By Kate Zernike

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Facing fallen endowments and needier students, many colleges are looking more favorably on wealthier applicants as they make their admissions decisions this year.

Institutions that have pledged to admit students regardless of need are finding ways to increase the number of those who pay the full cost in ways that allow the colleges to maintain the claim of being need-blind — taking more students from the transfer or waiting lists, for instance, or admitting more foreign students who pay full tuition.

Private colleges that acknowledge taking financial status into account say they are even more aware of that factor this year.

“If you are a student of means or ability, or both, there has never been a better year,” said Robert A. Sevier, an enrollment consultant to colleges.

The trend does not mean colleges are cutting their financial aid budgets. In fact, most have increased those budgets this year, protecting that money even as they cut elsewhere. But with more students applying for aid, and with those who need aid often needing more, institutions say they have to be mindful of how many scholarship students they can afford.

Haiti’s Woes Are Top Test For U.N. Aid Effort

By Neil Macfarquhar

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Paul Collier, a leading poverty guru, spent a recent morning here waxing positive about how the world’s economic freefall might prove the perfect moment for Haiti to flog more exports like T-shirts and mangoes to Americans.

His improbable enthusiasm coincided with appearances by a bevy of luminaries descending on Haiti this month, including Ban Ki-moon, the U.N. secretary-general, and the entire Security Council. All of them came to stress that this destitute nation stands at a crossroads between salvation and “the darkness,” as Ban put it.

A landscape of deepening woe is emerging among the world’s most destitute. About 46 million more people are expected to tumble into poverty this year amid the largest decline in global trade in 80 years, according to the World Bank. The results ripple through every index. An additional 200,000 to 400,000 infants, for example, may die every year for the next six years because of the crisis, the bank said.

A panel commissioned by the U.N. General Assembly suggested Thursday that one percent of any nation’s stimulus package be set aside for poor countries, while Ban has vowed that when he joins the leaders of the G-20 at their London summit meeting on Thursday, he will voice the concerns of the uninvited.

Free tickets for MIT students!

Made possible by the Council for the Arts at MIT

Emmanuel Music: J.S. Bach Motets

Saturday, April 25 at 8pm at Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston

7pm: Pre-concert talk by Acting Artistic Director, John Harbison

The Chorus of Emmanuel Music, Michael Beattie, conductor

Radius Ensemble

Saturday, May 2 at 8pm in Killian Hall, 14W-111

Wilder

Moosacaglia for winds

Ran

Mirage for amplified flutes, clarinet, strings, and piano

Debussy

Sonata for flute, viola, and harp

Shostakovich

Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor, Op. 67

Boston Chamber Music Society: Haydn, Beethoven & Brahms

Sunday, May 17 at 7:30pm at Sanders Theater, Harvard University

Fenwick Smith, flute

Wilhelmina Smith, cello

Ida Levin, violin

Mihae Lee, piano

Marcus Thompson, viola

Boston Modern Orchestra Project: Premieres

Friday, May 22 at 8pm at Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory

Lisa Bielawa

In medias res, Concerto for Orchestra

Geoffrey Gordon

Shock Diamonds

Thomas Oboe Lee

“...bisbigliando...”

Eric Moe

Concerto for Trapset

Lewis Spratlan

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OPINION

Chan: A Strong Leader for the GSC

Tomorrow evening, Graduate Student Council representatives will vote in a contested election for GSC President for the first time in three years. From among the three candidates, Alex H. Chan stands out in his experience, vision, and dynamism, and we believe that Chan is the best person to lead the GSC in the coming year.

Charles A. Gammal, a relative newcomer to the GSC, focuses his platform on initiating sweeping reforms to the GSC's internal structure. He wants to empower Council members by having more substantial discussions in Council. Additionally, he would encourage individual Representatives to become more involved as shareholders in the GSC, such as by serving on Institute Committees. Unfortunately, Gammal lacks the concrete ideas, knowledge, and experience to guide the increased participation he desires. Apart from his calls for reform, his platform has little else of substance. Ultimately, he does not have enough experience with the GSC or knowledge of the MIT administration to effectively serve as GSC President.

Paul R. Monasterio has served as co-chair of the Academic, Research, and Careers Committee of the GSC for the past year, and he has served as Tang Hall President for the last two years. His rather moderate platform focuses on improving communication between the graduate student body and the GSC and between the GSC and the administration, as well as reviewing GSC spending and developing an improved system for archiving GSC information. However, his approach to improving student engagement is, on the whole, rather passive. After the struggles of the Task Force on Student Engagement this year, the GSC needs an assertive leader to continue to push the administration and capitalize on the

progress made by the current GSC.

Alex H. Chan (also a *Tech* staff photographer) has a record of being such a leader. As co-chair of the GSC's Housing and Community Affairs Committee this past year, Chan has repeatedly demonstrated his ability to effect policy changes by approaching the administration with concrete requests, backed up by actual data. Perhaps most notably, Chan was instrumental in creating the new dental plan for graduate students, which he hopes to expand and improve even further next year.

Chan has also been involved in a wide range of other activities and efforts in the GSC, including organizing major events such as the Graduate Orientation iFest, the first BU-MIT Party, and the new Grad Gift campaign. Additionally, he has been active beyond MIT in the formation of the Boston Graduate Leadership Organization, an innovative forum for Boston area schools to share ideas about graduate student government and to foster collaboration across universities.

Beyond working to improve student engagement, Chan plans to reel in the GSC's spending habits and work to more deeply involve Council members and Institute Committee representatives. While other candidates have expressed similar goals, Chan has the most specific knowledge of the GSC and of the administration's internal workings and is therefore most likely to push the GSC forward over the next year.

Overall, Chan possesses the broadest range of experiences in the GSC and the strongest connections with the administration. His goals, while ambitious, build upon the successes of the current GSC and are backed up by a concrete plan for facilitating change. The editorial board endorses Alex H. Chan for GSC President.

Editorial

Letters To The Editor

“Choose Wisely, Young Scientist” Was On Target

Gary, I wholeheartedly agree with you, specifically concerning the three main disadvantages of obtaining a PhD (narrow job market, esoteric skill set, drain on passion). I was interested by the statistics regarding America's loss of domestic applicants and what specific steps Obama and his new administration have done to build-up its STEM research focus. (The recent reversal of Bush' restrictive stem cell research policy is a good sign.)

It would be an interesting comparison to see how other nations of highly regarded academic sensibility fare when it comes to an international graduate student population and what they have to done to either hinder or encourage a wide range of international perspectives.

If there is one thing America should be proud

of, it is the diversity of the student population. Sure, one could argue that those international students may end up taking jobs from their domestic peers or that international students will leave for their home country without contributing to the American society, but despite the lowering demographic of American graduate students, America is still the land of opportunity!

I am currently in a PhD program at one of the top chemical engineering schools in the nation, but I am jumping ship come 5 p.m., May 22 (haha try and find me) commencement with a Masters (2 years in, I might as well finish with some degree). I went to graduate school for the wrong reason, something I thought you might have expounded upon: I went because I did not know if I wanted to go into the workforce yet. My internships with large corporations was quite boring, but paid well. I idealized the very desire to learn for the sake of learning in a nurturing environment.

Nope, I found only highly ambitious advisers, who are quite accomplished and knowl-

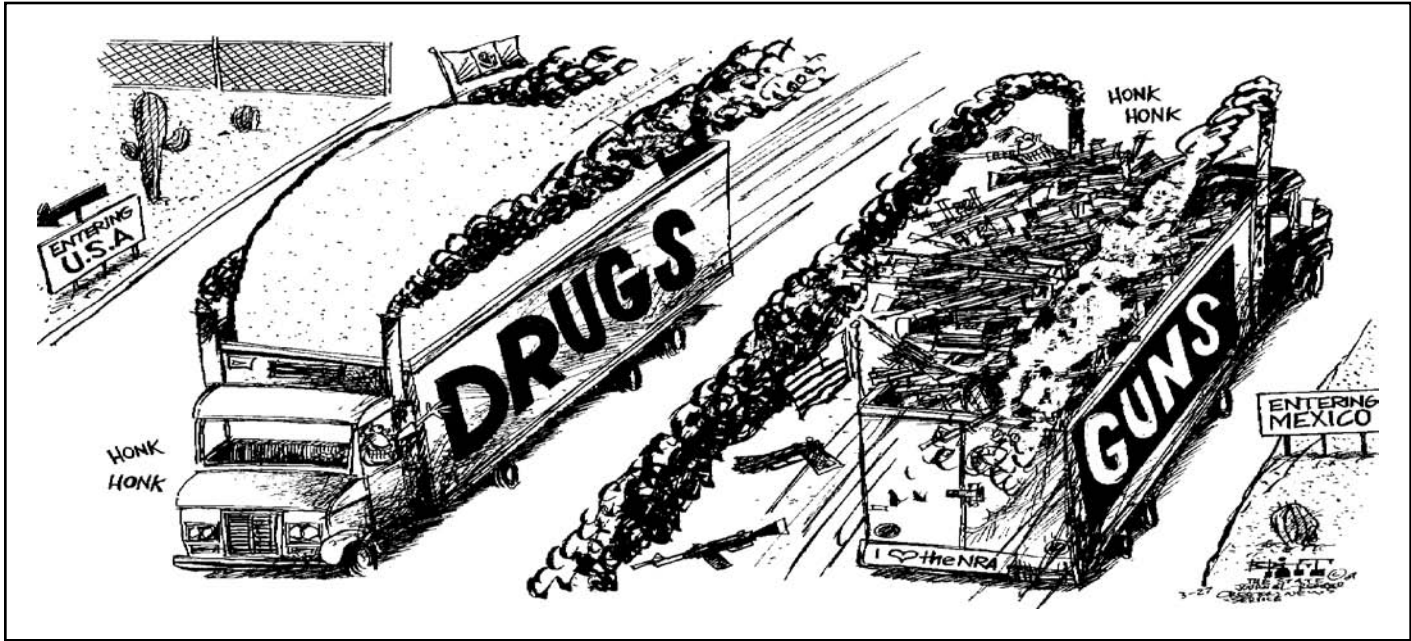
edgeable, refusing others to see their humane side. I found overwhelming pressure to present not just results, but good results. Independent research and social networking became true antipodes. Even though one can usually work at whatever hour he pleases, the work day doesn't end at 5 p.m. After heartache and toil and disappointments, I lost all my motivation, and I came to understand graduate school was not what I expected. Obviously, my experience is unique and not everyone will see what I saw.

My advice to the prospective PhD students: choose what will make you happy now, not what might make you happy later. Just like the time-value of money, happiness now is worth more than happiness later.

Naturally, there's usually an exception to the rule...

Mark Twain said it quite well: "I've never let school interfere with my education."

Joseph Tingsanchali
University of California at Berkeley
M.S. in Chemical Engineering, 2009



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Austin Chu, Editor in Chief Nick Bushak, Managing Editor Steve Howland, Executive Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg, and Opinion Editor Andrew T. Lukmann, Joseph Maurer, and Ethan Solomon.

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

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

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

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

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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 Mass Web Printing Company.

Unions Are Irrelevant

Partnering with SEIU Is Not Beneficial to Students

Joe Maurer

The Undergraduate Association Senate’s recent talks with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 615 have been sold as a way to join two entities in pursuit of a similar goal: administrative transparency on the pending budget cuts at MIT. Certainly, this is an admirable objective, but it’s really just a means to an end. A call for transparency in the budget just adds an extra layer of review in ensuring that the best items remain funded and the right items get cut.

Clearly, both the undergraduates and the union would like to be able to weigh in on what gets funding and what doesn’t. Heck, so would I, and in my ideal budget, the line item for the LIST Media Test Wall in Building 56 would be replaced with a program to replace the display with Rock Band 2. Or maybe just a giant rock with a Livestrong band on it, I’m not particularly picky.

As a student body though, we have a good understanding of what we want included in our budget: UROPs and research labs, REX events, toilet paper for the bathrooms, colored chalk for Professor Sadoway, upkeep for Athena clusters, and so on. In other words, we want to ensure that MIT maintains the research, events, and nuances that define the Institute.

The Service Employees International union, however, doesn’t share our aspirations. Representing approximately 550 service staff at

MIT, the union by definition serves their wants first, and the original document illustrated that. Weightily titled, “Joint Statement Concerning the Recession and Budget Cuts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology,” the proposal first put forth before Senate stated that, “MIT is solely responsible for the investment decisions it makes. We reject the argument that MIT is simply a helpless victim of the market. As students and workers, we did not make the decisions leading to the budgetary crisis at MIT. Therefore, we should not be forced to suffer the consequences.”

And yet, the representative of the union defended claims like this because he felt the SEIU and its member were, “part of the community.” If that’s the case though, one would think the union would be offering to make cuts in their own budgets if it was for the benefit of the community. Not so. In fact, the union representative based a large portion of his arguments on the idea that MIT’s budget cuts were premature or ill-advised, and called for the use of the endowment to help fund operations.

Whether this claim is representative of the short-sighted thinking that is unfortunately rampant among unions or, instead, a fundamental misunderstanding of budgets is impossible to tell, but either way it poses a threat to the financial integrity of the Institute. Calling for broad budget cuts may have been premature when the Dow hovered around 14,000 points, but in the midst of a recession it’s simply prudent financial planning.

And while the MIT Investment Manage-

ment Company responsible for our endowment certainly is free to move assets around as they wish, expecting gains even in a bear market is wishful thinking at best. Like it or not, every budget item at MIT is tied together, and is ultimately influenced by the state of the economy as a whole.

Consider the consequences of drawing down our endowment to promote higher levels of spending today. A smaller endowment will yield less interest in the future, which will require us to either continue drawing down the endowment or raise funds some other way if we maintain current levels of spending. The first option is unsustainable, and the second is infeasible.

Much of what the union advocates is hidden by the claim that MIT, as a non-profit educational institution, should not act like a business. But really, do the laws of economics and banking suddenly not apply when you’re teaching calculus as opposed to selling computers or building cars? If the SEIU could give me a way to do this, they’d either win the Nobel Prize or be the next Bernie Madoff.

But perhaps the best reason why the union does not have the best interests of students in mind can be summarized by this simple statement: “We don’t want to hurt the living standards for our workers at this point.”

I’m glad they’re looking out for their workers (it is what union dues are for), but this represents a level of greed and selfishness normally only attributed to AIG executives. So, while graduating seniors struggle to find

jobs, while PhD and Masters students watch their funding evaporate, and while families all across the country make do with less, the SEIU claims that it is not yet appropriate to cut benefits for its workers. It was this same line of thinking by union leaders that drove the “Big Three” automakers to cut corners on their cars while their workers retired at 50 with full pensions.

Simply put, unions have never acknowledged the irreconcilable paradox of their actions: astronomical benefits and pay undermine the financial integrity of very company that pays them. And without the company, there would be no jobs at all.

It is the same case here. For now, this statement has been tabled at the request of the SEIU, but the UA should reject it entirely. MIT students have nothing to gain from an association with the Service Employees Union, and we have so much to lose if they succeed. Like all choices in society, this one arises out of scarcity. With only a limited budget, we cannot fund all of our desires.

While the SEIU chooses to ignore it, scarcity also provides the answer to our problem. In a time when all students and staff are being asked to cut back, the union is obligated to share our pain. Moreover, for every worker in the union, five are outside of it, meaning there is no shortage of MIT employees who think they don’t need a union. The UA should follow their lead and ignore this legislation and the union that supports it as out of touch with the realities of today and ultimately irrelevant.

Too Big to Fail. Really?

How the Fall of LTCM in 1998 Can Help Guide Us Today

Alejandro Rogers

The too big to fail gospel has an aura of conventional wisdom and self evident truth that makes it very hard to debate. It is, however, one of the key assumptions behind the massive government intervention we have been seeing since last year. If these financial institutions were not saved, or so goes the gospel, the entire worldwide financial system would have collapsed and all hell would have broken loose.

Really? The Long Term Capital Management (LTCM) case tells us another story.

LTCM was a gem among hedge funds in the late nineties. It gathered probably the best of the best in financial engineers (including many

MIT graduates, by the way): two Nobel Prize winners in economics, top Wall Street traders, and quants. All applied the latest mathematical and economic models to markets. But when the Asian and Russian crisis broke up, LTCM found itself overly exposed and on the verge of insolvency.

When that happened, LTCM apparently had nearly \$120 billion in assets. It was almost as big as AIG at that time, which had approximately \$150 billion in assets, and it was bigger than Bear Stearns, which had around \$100 billion in assets. But what is more important is that LTCM had exposure to 1.4 trillion dollars in financial derivatives. This represented a significant portion of the derivatives market at that time, and most of the counterparts in these

derivatives contracts were big financial institutions. In many ways, it was a situation very similar to today’s crisis.

Despite the size of LTCM’s failure, the market left alone was able to solve the problem. A group of firms led by Warren Buffet, Goldman Sachs, and AIG offered to buy LTCM and infuse it with new capital. Simultaneously, a consortium of LTCM’s creditors organized by the Fed also placed a bid and ended up taking over LTCM. After a year, LTCM was profitable again and there was no Fed or taxpayer money at risk. The problem was solved by private players left to their own self interests and there was no need for federal bailouts.

An analogy to today’s crisis would not be completely wrong. Just like in today’s crisis,

the players that defaulted were very big. Just like in today’s crisis, the financial sector then was under huge stress as a result of the Asian crisis and the default of Russia. So could the market have survived today’s crisis without government bailout just like it did in 1998?

David Viniar, Goldman Sachs’ chief financial officer said during a conference call last Friday that “Goldman would have been unaffected by the failure of AIG,” and that “We would have had no credit losses if they failed.” As Ben Bernanke PhD ’79 said on Friday, it is time to “fix the too big to fail problem.” Indeed, it may be time to bring down the too big to fail myth and let the markets do their job.

Alejandro Rogers is an MBA student in the Sloan School of Management.

An Unconventional Election

Towards an Improved UA Electoral System

Abdulaziz Albahar

The UA election is over, and all candidates who ran should be congratulated for their efforts. Participation in student government is a crucial part of campus life. When more people show interest in on-campus affairs, variety of opinions increases, and it’s more likely we’ll find effective solutions to our problems.

This election was unconventional due to the late entry of a write-in ticket — myself and Tewfik Cassis ’10. Our decision was prompted by a number of circumstances, which we have explained in e-mails, through interviews, and on our website (<http://www.voteforavoice.info>). So, I won’t go into those details now. Suffice to say, our efforts, unfortunately, were not enough to win the election, but they were enough to spark up some controversial discussions. One of the most interesting was the conversation on the *ua-discuss* e-mail list regarding the UA Election Commission’s decision to not sanction our candidacy nor disqualify us.

Several people expressed concerns about the fairness of the election code and whether or not it was right to allow write-ins to have more lenient campaigning rules. The counter-argument to this was that being a write-in in and of itself is a disadvantage and makes it almost impossible to succeed, especially with the UA’s preferential system of voting. I have several comments on this issue that, instead of sending via e-mail, I have decided to reserve for this article.

Many of you have read the editorial published by *The Tech* a few weeks ago endorsing the Bennie/Delano ticket. First off, *The Tech* is the main news source on campus, and the fact that it publishes an election editorial doesn’t mean it has a monopoly over campus opinion regarding the election. Certain people, both within and external to the UA, argued that it was unfair that the article “elevated” the write-in ticket to the status of other tickets. The

prospect of a write-in ticket that had what was deemed an “unfair” campaigning advantage and managed to somehow garner some more “official” publicity seemed too arbitrary and even “unfortunate” to some.

I would counter that the panel involved in writing the article and interviewing all the candidates included two past UA presidents and the editor in chief of *The Tech*. Furthermore, I would argue that not only is it not arbitrary, but that it is indeed fortunate for the other campaigns that a write-in ticket running a week before voting began managed to shake up an election that had been, until that point in the race, very dull.

Perhaps this write-in ticket forced the candidates to get out of their seats and actually campaign, to make themselves more well-known to the student body, to give out flyers and poster the Infinite. And if that was what it took to get more students to vote and really make an informed decision, then so be it.

Write-in candidates should not be blocked from participating in future elections, but I do think that the UA Election Commission needs to reevaluate at the rules and figure out what is and isn’t fair for future elections. The rules could be fine just the way they are, and, if anything, the strength of our campaign coupled with the fact that we did not end up winning the election will probably discourage people from running as write-ins anytime in the near future.

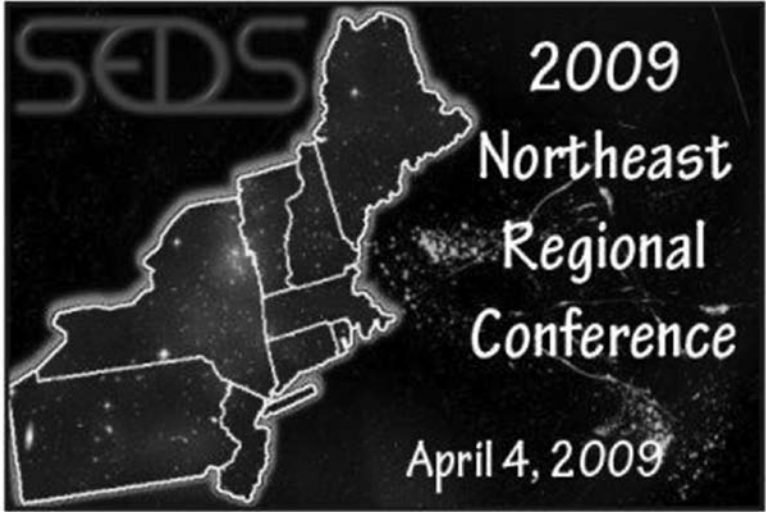
I just think elections should be fair, and anyone should be allowed to participate. If “Tim the Beaver” decided to run a day before the election and advertise that, he should be allowed to do so. Maybe a humorous e-mail from Tim will cause someone who has not voted before to look at other platforms just for the sake of wanting to write Tim in, leading that person to actually participate in the democratic process of voting.

The United States is criticized by other nations as being a Western democracy with one of

the lowest electoral voter turnouts; we should ensure this campus has a higher level of voter participation. Less than 50 percent participation is pitiful. Don’t restrict candidates: encourage their participation and make the rules

clear. Here’s to a better UA under the Bennie/Delano administration and an improved electoral system, with or without write-ins.

Abdulaziz Albahar is a member of the Class of 2010.



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CAMPUS LIFE

Ramblings From Hell

The Quest to Decode My Dreams

By S. Campbell Proehl
CAMPUS LIFE COLUMNIST

I have always had vivid dreams. As a child, my dreams would sometimes be so vibrant that I could not separate them from reality. I would insist to my mother that I had done something, get angry because I had dreamed something was in one place and in real life it wasn't there, or I would be convinced that certain things had happened to me when they really did not. Man vs. dream: the story of my life.

I first became aware of the idea that my dreams were more dramatic and realistic than those of the general population when I was young (maybe eight or nine) and always had new dreams to share with my best friend Maureen. "You have dreams every night?" Maureen asked, stunned.

"Yeah, doesn't everybody?"
"Well maybe, but they don't remember them."

Oh, I thought. It had never occurred to me that I might be different than most people. I was further disappointed when I learned that most people didn't have nightmares every single night. (I did.)

"You mean you have good dreams?" I asked Maureen.

"Yeah, people give me things, like bracelets. Once I got a bracelet in my dream and then three days later on my birthday I got the exact same bracelet from my aunt. So dreams can tell the future."

The next night I had a dream that aliens captured me and took me onto their space ship. I cried to my mother for two hours, thinking that in a couple of days, the dream would come true. "I promise you that aliens will not come capture you," my mother said, "And if they did, I would go with you."

That must have not been too comforting, because I started having a recurring dream in which I would be playing with some brightly colored wooden blocks we had in my house. A witch would come to our house to kidnap me and I would always hide in the castle I built. I became so terrified of the blocks that I never touched them again.

Eventually I got over my nightmares. They didn't go away; I just accepted them as a part of my life. Plus, because I had disturbing dreams most nights, waking up became a very pleasant thing. Even now, waking up is my favorite part of the day. I don't even care if I'm tired. Knowing that I am entering reality, which is usually far sweeter than any world that might exist in my dreams, is comforting, particularly since I end up dead in many of my dreams.

This semester, my dreams have started to make a shift from the horrifying to the horrifyingly weird. Six weeks ago, I dreamed that my twin sister (she frequently makes appearances in my dreams) and I ended up in some dystopian world in which we had to hide our thoughts from more intelligent beings. Not long after that, I dreamed that I tattooed thin horizontal stripes over my entire behind. "Well now that was smart," my mother said in the dream, "It'll look great after you have children and start putting on weight." That dream was awful. Every woman I told shivered with me at the thought of having horizontal stripes permanently penned to her body.

A couple of weeks ago I decided that it might be a good idea to try to decode these dreams. Maybe my body was trying to tell me some-

thing. Maybe in that dystopian dream, I was being called to action to save the people. The next Keanu Reeves. Except female. And a bit more facially expressive.

I went online and googled "dream interpretation," which came up with a variety of dream websites, most of which looked illegitimate because they were geocities pages. I randomly chose and looked up "tattoo," in attempt to find the meaning of this horizontal stripe dream. The website indicated that tattoos normally indicate a fear of making a permanent decision, or confusion

about a time of change in one's life. "O h my gosh, this is me!" I yelled to my roommate. My fears about taking out all of this money to pay for med school are manifesting themselves in my dreams!"

"Sarah, don't be stupid. Those things are like horoscopes. They're vague enough that you can take any aspect of your life and relate it to any of those symbols." Fair point. Also, the website had typos, so it couldn't have been that accurate. I needed a dream guide with a real author who had actual credentials.

While in a used bookstore two weeks ago, I picked up a copy of 10,000 Dreams Interpreted: A Dictionary of Dreams and Freud's The Interpretation of Dreams. I was determined to get to the bottom of this stuff.

Over spring break, I spent a bit of time reading through these books. They're total crap. First of all, the dream dictionary seems to lack a lot of common symbols, but then has explanations for things like "crying" and "disaster." Maybe I'm just being dense, but I would think that any nightmare could fit under the category of disaster

Brouhaha Rhythm

The Actually-Pretty-Content Video Game Nerd

it, but decided that I'd rather play the demo for Worms 2 some more. (I don't have a lot of cash to budget towards video games.)

I've always seen video games as a diversion akin to the movies, except that they happen to be more effective at keeping you awake — usually. For some reason, whenever somebody plays as Jigglypuff in Super Smash Brothers: Brawl, I start to get uncontrollably drowsy. There are more than a few parallels. Movies have test screenings, and videogames have beta phases. Movies have visual effects, and video games have animation artists. Movies have crappy sequels, video games... well, you get the idea.

Keeping in mind that plenty of people spend plenty of time watching television, I find it perfectly reasonable to spend comparable amounts of time playing video games — assuming I can spare the time, of course. Obviously, no MIT

student would be so silly as to play video games with tests or problem sets inbound. Yet for some reason, we gamers are often viewed, at least by some, as drooling, glaze-eyed shut-ins. Perhaps the generalization is more true than we claim, but it's definitely not true of all of us, all the time.

I took CMS.300 (Introduction to Videogame Studies) last semester, and as much as I enjoyed both the class and the looks of stunned envy on others' faces when I smugly told them that such a class exists, I inevitably worry that the people reviewing my internship application won't take me seriously after seeing the course on my transcript. Maybe I'm being paranoid (it wouldn't be the first time), but I think it's important to give credit where credit's due, and I vehemently believe that the class was worth the credit.

Believe it or not, a class on video game

and probably includes some crying.

I looked up "tattoo." According to Gustavus Hindman Miller, "To see your body appearing tattooed, foretells that some difficulty will cause you to make a long and tedious absence from your home." What?

The book didn't have "dystopia," but since I die a lot, I looked up "death." "Dreams relating to death or dying," Mr. Miller writes, "are misleading and very confusing to the novice in dream lore when he attempts to interpret them." Clue #1 that this guy has no clue what he's talking about. No wonder this piece of crap ended up in a used bookstore. He follows that sentence up with three paragraphs of words put together to form grammatically correct sentences that mean absolutely nothing. See Dead. I went to "Dead" on the previous page. "To dream of seeing the dead, living and happy, signifies that you are letting wrong influences into your life, which will bring material loss if not corrected by the assumption of your own will power." What?

Freud was no help either. I looked up a couple of my dreams in his poorly-organized opus and apparently I'm suffering from a possible "masochistic trait in my character." Duh. I go to MIT. But kudos to him for correctly predicting my personality.

After fifteen years of crazy dreams and absolutely no success in discerning their meaning, I think I'm going to go with the perfectly eloquent Havelock Ellis said in 1911. While dream-symbolism is useful for neurotic people, it has no meaning for normal ones.

Maybe I'm a bit crazy, but I think that I'm going to trust that these dreams are the product of a free-thinking, creative mind, and nothing more.

So I'll go to bed tonight and dream big. And I'll wake up in the morning, refreshed and relieved that I get to live in the real world.

By Michael Lin
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The extent to which one could consider me an avid video gamer depends a great deal on your definition of "avid." On the one hand, I know the difference between Ico and Ecco, and I always invert the Y-axis on my controller. On the other hand, I've never played a Final Fantasy game, and survival horror gives me the heebie-jeebies. (I have weak nerves and weak aim — sue me.) I also try to keep up with what games are being released, so I guess that counts for something, although my laptop isn't quite on par with what is required to play most of these newfangled computer games.

I downloaded the demo for Portal once. Apparently, there's a glitch in it that changes the portals to computer-crashing wormholes. Go figure. I contemplated e-mailing Valve about

By Christine Yu
CAMPUS LIFE COLUMNIST

I just got back from West Virginia. Whenever I'm home and run into a high school friend (which always seems to happen at Wal-Mart), I always ask 3 questions: who's married?, who's engaged?, and the big one: who's pregnant? At least ten of my high school friends are pregnant or already have children. The scary thing is that most of them are my age, and I'm just turning 20 today. After spending time with a friend's baby, I couldn't help but wonder if I want kids.

Honestly, I can't see myself having children. At least, not for five years.

Now, don't get me wrong, I love children, but I have enough trouble taking care of a cat. In my defense, he's even more of an attention-whore than I am, but I'm pretty sure that litter-duty is a lot less daunting than diaper-duty. This desire to not have children until later is normal, but we all should know by now that a "benefit" of unprotected sex is procreation. Or, depending on where you were taught sex ed, death.

There are various methods of birth control, some more effective than others. Abstinence, while the most affordable and effective, doesn't appeal to me. Condoms, on the other hand, though equally accessible and cheap, since they're free from dorm bathrooms, resident MedLinks, and the second floor of MIT Medical, can still break. As for the pill, I puke when I tend to drink, which decreases its effectiveness. The shot, well, I've heard too many horror stories of massive weight-gain. As for the NuvaR-

ing, a friend recounted how he fucked a NuvaRing out of a girl, and then handed it to her in a Ziploc bag the next day after discovering it in his sheets. After hearing that story, I ruled out that option pretty quickly.

The solution to my dilemma turned out to be an Intrauterine Device, or IUD. A high school friend got the Mirena version after giving birth, and said to me, "basically, it's a simple procedure where doctors insert a T-shaped device into the uterus, which releases small doses of progestin daily to prevent pregnancy over the next five years, and it's more effective than the pill." Excited, especially after I found out that MIT heavily subsidizes the cost to \$45 for those under extended insurance, I made an appointment at MIT Medical. The device usually runs in the several hundred-dollar range for those uninsured.

I hadn't fully done my research, though. After getting my annual pap smear, I was cleared to go through with the procedure. I scheduled the appointment during my next period. For women who haven't given birth, doctors prefer to insert it during menstruation, as the cervical opening tends to be wider.

It wasn't until I was in the room suffering through the insertion that I learned exactly what I signed up for. The doctor warned me about a 6-month bleeding period that some women

experience. Generally, it's only spotting for 3 months, but in some rare cases, it's an all-out period for 6 months. It's believed that the Mirena depletes the uterine lining during this time, and no matter what, bleeding will initially be irregular for anyone who gets it. After the six months, 2 out of 10 women report not experiencing a menstrual flow again, making the Mirena a great option for women experiencing heavy menstrual cramps. For those that aren't in the lucky twenty percent, there's still the chance

of a lighter period, as ninety percent of users report. Bleeding for 6 months with the prospect of never bleeding again for the next four-and-a-half years? It seemed worth it.

Then, I went through with it. The insertion of the Mirena was painful. I'm talking worse than Brazilian waxes and the worst PMS cramps combined. Guys, imagine getting kicked in the balls. By a horse. An angry female horse. (Okay, I might be being overdramatic, but suffice to say, I was in a considerable amount of pain.) For the next few days, I suffered the worst cramping, so much so that I even began defining love as buying a girl Midol.

I would love to say that my relationship with the Mirena has been great since the insertion. However, I admit that the sporadic bleeding is inconvenient, particularly around white sheets.

Talk Nerdy To Me

Accident Prevention

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I would love to say that my relationship with the Mirena has been great since the insertion. However, I admit that the sporadic bleeding is inconvenient, particularly around white sheets.

Also, I've heard complaints about men being jabbed by the strings at the end of the device. I'm told these soften after the first month.

Therefore, it's advised most people use a condom during this period.

Besides these inconveniences, the biggest fear regarding IUDs is infertility. The Dalkon Shield, released in the 1970's, caused infertility in a disproportionately large percentage of users, which is why the United States has a negative perception of IUDs. The FDA doesn't recommend the Mirena for women who have never had children, which seems somewhat unfounded, as problems only occur if the cervical opening isn't large enough (which, according to the nurse I talked to at Medical, only rarely happens.) In Asia and Europe, the IUD is the preferred method of birth control, as it's long-lasting but not permanent. Infertility tends to occur during bad insertions and when Pelvic Inflammatory Disease is contracted. Therefore, some gynecologists will refuse to place an IUD in a female who engages in unsafe, promiscuous behavior.

Overall, I'm satisfied with my decision. However, I don't believe the Mirena is necessarily a panacea. There's also a non-hormonal copper version that MIT Medical supplies, but it's known to give a longer period. With birth control, it's vital to choose what you feel most comfortable with, and my advice is to make an appointment with MIT Medical to discuss the best option for you. As for me, for my birthday, I want dark-colored sheets.

ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

A Fraction of Wilco

...But All of the Soul

By S. Balaji Mani
ARTS EDITOR

Jeff Tweedy
Calvin Theatre, Northampton, MA.
March 27, 2009

Northampton’s Calvin Theatre transformed into a dark, intimate living room as Jeff Tweedy took the stage last Friday. In a characteristically happy mood, though more talkative than usual, Tweedy sounded up close and personal, his voice naked with only a guitar behind it. Bringing an arsenal of guitars with him (arced around him on stage), he smoothly switched between different guitars, evoking a soothing palette of sounds for his meticulous set list selections. Early in the set he mentioned that he looked through his archives to see what he played the last time he was at Calvin Theatre just to make sure he didn’t play the same song twice.

The first set opened with a meditative version of the Wilco classic “Spiders.” Charging through the first handful of songs, Tweedy excused himself, saying “I didn’t get a chance to say ‘hello.’” Without the colossal soundscape of Wilco in the mix, Tweedy’s words evoked a new sense of poetic hopefulness and unearthed the very authentic human nature of some of his more poignant lyrics. The vocal delivery was spot on, and Tweedy’s vocal range widened as he switched to deeper-tuned guitars (the audience collectively gasped as he strummed a resounding D-major in an

open tuning.) The evening flowed nicely, and fans instantly recognized Wilco songs such as “Muzzle of Bees,” “Jesus, Etc.,” and “Forget the Flowers.” Of these songs, “Muzzle of Bees” benefited most from a delicate reworking of the guitar part, which Tweedy carefully organized for the majority of the songs. “Forget the Flowers,” with its country-folk vibe, prompted the audience to start clapping, albeit off the beat. Tweedy jokingly chided the audience’s “lack of talent” for rhythm. Departing from the Wilco catalog, Tweedy also made sure to play Woody Guthrie tunes such as “One By One,” and “Remember the Mountain Bed.”

In between songs, fans yelled out song requests; “Music to my ears,” Tweedy joked, having expected the onslaught of demands. The set list for the night was in fact also guided by requests sent into the Wilco website in the days prior to the show. In a lighthearted mood, Tweedy shared with the audience humorous (yet innocently rude) bits of advice he learned from his father. Exceedingly engaging with the members of the front row, Tweedy even took on an eager fan’s gentle urging to play a 12-string guitar.

As is expected these days at any show, Tweedy arrived on stage for three encores. He rounded out the first encore with a surprising and moving version of Radiohead’s “Fake Plastic Trees,” a song that has only appeared in shows this year. The second encore included a new song, comically titled



S. BALAJI MANI—THE TECH

Jeff Tweedy sings a Wilco classic, “I’m Always In Love,” at Calvin Theatre in Northampton, Mass.

“Wilco (The Song).” Tweedy assured the audience during the song’s catchy chorus that “Wilco will love you,” no matter who you are. As a prize to the audience, Tweedy stepped out for a third and final encore, this time at the edge of the stage and with no amplification treating the audience to energetic versions of “Dreamer in My Dreams” and “Acuff Rose.”

Twenty-four songs flew by during the nearly two hour show, and Tweedy’s soulful singing and playful conversation made it feel like the audience was visiting an old friend. Revealing two new songs at the show, the crowd got a small taste of what’s to come when Tweedy joins back with Wilco to start working on the follow-up record to 2007’s *Sky Blue Sky*.

CONCERT REVIEW

French Fare and All That Jazz

Sunday Lunch Romance at the Petit Robert Bistro

By Joanne Shih
STAFF WRITER

Petit Robert Bistro
482 Commonwealth Avenue
Kenmore
Boston, MA 02215
617-375-0699

One of these days, when the bipolar weather gods deem Boston worthy of some warmth and sun, take a stroll across the Charles and meander your way to Kenmore Square’s Petit Robert Bistro, where customers munch on tasty French bistro fare at relatively affordable prices. PRB recently started its live jazz Sundays with the arrival of the spring season. On a recent sunshine-filled weekend, a friend and I decided to check this out and came away with both stomachs and ears satisfied.

Upon arriving for our lunch reservation at noon, we were whisked downstairs to PRB’s lower level, which feels very much like a wine cellar. Floral paintings, cream-colored walls, and small wooden tables with white tablecloths create a soft atmosphere of romance. As we waited for the jazz band to arrive, we looked through the menus — one can order from either a brunch menu or the full menu — while listening to an odd mix of tracks, ranging from

Amy Winehouse’s “Rehab” to The Beatles’ “All You Need is Love.” Although the brunch menu looked like it would be nicer on the wallet, it looked quite standard so we opted for the full menu to try a greater range of PRB’s offerings.

To start, we had a trio of pâtés garnished with spicy mustard and cornichons (small, sweet pickles that traditionally accompany pâtés). The pâtés — a creamy standard chicken liver, a moist pork rilette, and a smoky combination of chicken, pork, and duck — presented a wonderful range of flavors and consistencies. Delicious by themselves, with the garnishes, or spread on the complimentary French baguettes, the appetizer could be easily split among three or four people; deplorably, the two of us, try as we might, couldn’t finish it.

For my main entree, I ordered the scallops parisienne with diced tomatoes, mushrooms, and a bed of mashed potatoes, all artistically presented on a large clam shell. The luscious scallops were a solid, flavorful affair, although somewhat inconsistent in their tenderness. I was mostly impressed by both the taste and artistry of the entree but disappointed by the side of zucchini and julienned carrots, which would have been refreshing had it not been overpowered by onions. My friend’s salmon steak, flavored with white wine and a buttery

hollandaise sauce on the side, was light and flaky but also topped by the same vegetables. While the fish itself was minimally seasoned, excessive peppercorns dotting the dish added a bit too much punch.

Too full for dessert (we had eaten a formidable amount of bread, trying to finish those pâtés), we ordered coffee and hot cocoa instead to prolong our stay. Why? Did I not mention that there was live jazz playing?

The weekly jazz band, the Mary Davy Trio (composed of students from the Berklee College of Music), arrived fashionably late at roughly 25 minutes past noon. The band, consisting of lead female vocal, electric guitar, and string bass, performed with both passion and energy. I was particularly charmed by the guitarist, who played with a spunky verve that complemented the vocalist’s smoky smooth voice. Crooning songs of romance both in English and French, as well as jazz favorites such as “You Don’t Know What Love Is” and “Frim Fram Sauce,” the talented vocalist knew how to captivate an audience, drawing our attention away from our food and drinks. At several times I felt the urge to get up and slow dance, if only there were space for a dance floor. A spirited cover of “You’ve Changed,” originally written in 1941 by Bill Carey and Carl Fischer, won me over completely, and it was with regret

that we had to return to campus.

While service was excellent at the beginning and our waiter was impressively knowledgeable, towards the end of our meal the service became incredibly slow, even though it was not a busy day at the restaurant. Thank goodness for the band and the rose-colored vision it induced, because otherwise we would have run out of patience waiting for our check.

Verdict: The food is generally delicious, but, for the total price we were paying our meal, it wasn’t quite convincing enough for me to justify the bill. The live music experience was well worth it, however. Next time, I’ll try the brunch menu or pastry bar, sip on some more hot chocolate, and enjoy the jazz band. Now that will truly be a deal.

Tips before you go: There are two locations of PRB, one in Kenmore Square and the other on Columbus Avenue. Jazz brunch only at Kenmore location, Sundays from roughly noon until 2:30 p.m. on the lower level. Brunch menu items mostly under \$10, full menu items all under \$20.

Good for: hopeless romantics, jazz fans, pâté addicts. (It also helps if you are familiar with French food items or are comfortable asking the waitstaff for explanations.)

Bad for: impatient people and those who prefer to consume their food in silence.

CD REVIEW

An Irish Band Releases Another Album

Or, U2’s Latest: ‘No Line on the Horizon’

By S. Balaji Mani
ARTS EDITOR

U2
No Line on the Horizon
Produced by Brian Eno, Daniel Lanois, and Steve Lillywhite
Interscope
Feb. 27, 2009

To be honest, I wasn’t going to pick up U2’s most recent effort, *No Line on the Horizon*. When I was looking at Billboard release listings for the month of March, U2’s name didn’t even stick out. Yet, their album cover did. I saw it in a magazine, but recognized it as something else: *Boden Sea*, *Uttwil*, or a time-lapse photograph of Lake Constance taken by my favorite photographer, Hiroshi Sugimoto. I wasn’t sure how the use of the photograph could have anything to do with the content of the music, so I delved a little

deeper. The jewel case itself bears not only a replica of the original photograph, but an unholy blemish as well: a silver equals sign is slapped onto the gorgeous image of the calm waters. The album title, *No Line On The Horizon* could refer to the fact that Sugimoto emphasizes the meeting of both sky and sea in contrasting colors, yet smooth contours that essentially blend one entity into another. The title track opens the album and misleads the listener: is that really Bono singing? He’s adopted a harder, edgier tone for the song. Though it’s a style he’s accomplished before, the performance is misguided with limp falsettos and lackluster riffing. What’s surprising is that Bono’s voice — arguably the strongest and most distinguishing characteristic of U2’s music — is equally weak on later tracks including “Magnificent,” “Moment of Surrender” and the bouncy, rock-driven “Stand Up

Comedy.” As fans anticipated the release of *No Line*, Bono mentioned in online newsletters that U2 was pushing for a more experimental and textured sound. The textures are definitely there — the majority of the tracks benefit from a variety of sound palettes and instruments. A number of synthesizers provide padded backgrounds to give that wall-of-sound feel so many other artists, like Coldplay, have successfully achieved recently. A double take at the liner notes revealed the origin of this new sound: Brian Eno was at the boards playing the role of producer. Furthermore, he and co-producers Danny Lanois and Steve Lillywhite participated heavily in the songwriting process with the members of U2. Unfortunately, it seems that *No Line* is not purely a U2 album, but some of Eno’s ideas projected on the legendary rock band. He even takes performance credits on some

of the songs. Eno’s production decisions are still amazing and the songs sound well-mixed, but the sound is largely inconsistent. Layers of instruments tumble in and out of particular tracks, offering little emphasis to the songs themselves. Bono’s mention of experimentation doesn’t necessarily fulfill itself with this record. With such hype around changing the sound around U2, using Eno as an unofficial fifth member may not have been the best solution. The result is a largely standard rock album, one that finds Bono searching for the voice that empowered a whole new generation of rock vocalists. It seems now that those who once looked up to Bono are surpassing the talents of the Irish Giant. U2 will soon embark on a massive summer tour to promote the album, featuring a full revolving stage. Don’t be surprised if Eno, Lanois, and Lillywhite show up too, instruments in hand.

CONCERT REVIEW

A Romantic Journey

Handel and Haydn Perform Vignieri, Mendelssohn, and Brahms

By Sudeep Agarwala
STAFF WRITER
Handel and Haydn Society
Grant Llewellyn, conductor
Symphony Hall
March 20, 2009

Time seems to get distorted in musical history. Somehow, the past two hundred years of music are still very much with us in many different ways. At the very basic, instrumental level, Mozart’s piano is different from the one we play today, Haydn’s horn is much more curmudgeonly and Bach took on the challenge of writing six suites for the curious new cello. But Bach, Mozart, Haydn, and even Beethoven were writing during the very beginning of the industrial revolution, at the very inception of a period of novel metallurgy and mass-produced instruments. And all of this changed the way instruments were made. The standards provided by the technologies of the industrial revolution made it possible to write for a body of instruments that extends almost through today.

But there’s other ways to distort time. Culturally, the music of two hundred years ago is still very much with us. Who doesn’t know Beethoven’s fifth symphony (1804-1808)? The Valkyrie theme from Wagner’s eponymous opera (1851-1854) is more often a cell phone ring than an operatic war cry, Ravel’s *Bolero* (1930) makes its way onto television screens and even Gershwin’s *Porgy and Bess* (1926-1934) found itself in the musical mind of the late Bradley Nowell and his band Sublime. There are many more examples, but there’s a sense that when people refer to clas-

sical music, they are, in fact, referring largely to the romantic composers of the nineteenth century.

Last Friday evening’s performance was yet another reminder of the presence of this music. The longest continually performing musical ensemble in America, the Handel and Haydn Society, founded in 1815, is currently enjoying its 194th season in Boston. So maybe it’s fitting that the society undertook the works of Mendelssohn and Brahms (two composers who had yet to compose at the inception of the society), on the evening of 20 March 2009, under the leadership of principal conductor Grant Llewellyn.

The concert began with Tom Vignieri’s (born 1961) *Fanfare of Voices (Ode to G.F.H.)*, a commission scored for drum, trumpets, choir and organ. It was confusing to hear: what was Vignieri trying to do? Was this in homage to George Fredrick Handel, (as maybe the hackneyed choral writing would suggest, interspersed with clumsy trumpet, sallow portative organ and cantankerous percussion), or a re-interpretation of baroque composition (indicated by the opening fanfare)? It was difficult to tell because balance also was an issue: choir was more often than not obfuscated by the brass, and diction was an impossibility — perhaps Vignieri’s work was scored for a different space altogether?

The concert proceeded with Mendelssohn’s brilliant Violin Concerto in e minor. It’s difficult to have asked anything more from Ilya Gringolts, making his premier with the Handel and Haydn Society, who tackled the work with a stunning clarity and exuberance. Again, balance was sometimes an issue — an

over-exuberant orchestra often obscured Gringolts’s pearls-on-a-string articulation. An eager Llewellyn himself seemed to be the major issue in this particular performance. Although the livelier *tempi* were appropriate and negotiated with surprising ease by the orchestra for the first and last movements of the work, the second movement, in Llewellyn’s hands, raced along like a waltz rather than the stroll it was meant to be. But overall, the work was a success, not only for the orchestra, but as a spotlight as well for Gringolts.

The evening closed with Brahms’s first symphony. The work is difficult beyond all hope. After the revolutionary changes in the symphonic form by Beethoven, Brahms spent more than twenty years composing the work, synthesizing, modifying, and building on Beethoven’s significant developments in the form, and the result really is something else. Brahms’s first symphony is somehow much more mature than Beethoven’s symphonies ever manage to be, a clear advancement in the form unlike any that his contemporaries had managed.

And listening to it too, it’s somehow comforting to hear that the tradition extending back nearly a thousand years is still prospering and developing in the hands of Brahms. It’s difficult to articulate, but Brahms’s work isn’t passive. It proceeds in its narrative regardless of whether or not the audience is following, and perhaps this is the spectacle: to see a self-sustaining work driven by its own motives, independent of outside influence.

Or, at least, that’s what it’s supposed to be like. So much has been thought and said about Brahms’s work, maybe it’s become impossible

to perform the first symphony. As much as listening to the work requires energy from the audience, performing it requires some sort of understanding of the work. After all, why perform such a colossus if you have nothing to say about it?

Maybe that’s my greatest concern with Friday evening’s performance. Grant Llewellyn’s performance lacked intelligence and information. Passages, whole movements, somehow seemed rushed and lackluster, not to mention under-rehearsed — the ensemble seemed to teeter on very limits of rhythmic stability. The solemnity and gravitas of the theme in the fourth movement (a melody that I first heard in the seventh grade that cemented a life-long love affair with Brahms) seemed, not the culmination of four movements previous movements, nor a response to Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy*, *Creatures of Prometheus* or *Eroica*, nor a culmination and explication of music as the world had heard it, but an afterthought. The elegant reiterations of the melody with their intricate and insightful counterpoint were mere gasps to the crashing end.

It was disappointing to hear this sloppiness in thought and performance, laziness about intellectual rigor, and carelessness about music that is so fundamental to the Western canon. Disappointing too, on a very different level, to see the demise of the great work met with a standing ovation, although ending a concert with Brahms’s first symphony could end in no other way. But standing in the audience during the ovation, (opinions aside, rules of social decorum dictate some forms of mob behavior) it felt somehow dirty to fall prey to such a cheap trick.

A Cappella Championships

The Varsity Vocals International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella Northeast Semifinals were held Saturday, March 21 in Kresge Auditorium.

(clockwise from right)

Cecilia R. Louis '10 (left foreground) and Mairead F. Daniels '12 (center foreground) perform with the Chorallaries, who won the award for Best Arrangement with their song "Rainbow Connection," arranged by Anna Lo '08.

Caroline H. Hunting '11 (left) of a cappella group Resonance performs Lauryn Hill's "Doo Wop (That Thing)." Resonance, which hosted the competition, performed six songs while the judges deliberated.

Members of a cappella group Effusion from McGill University band together in their performance of "Come Unto Me" by Take 6. Effusion came in second place overall.

Photography by Jessica Lin



Tech Photo Staff Share Their Spring Break Memories

(clockwise from right)

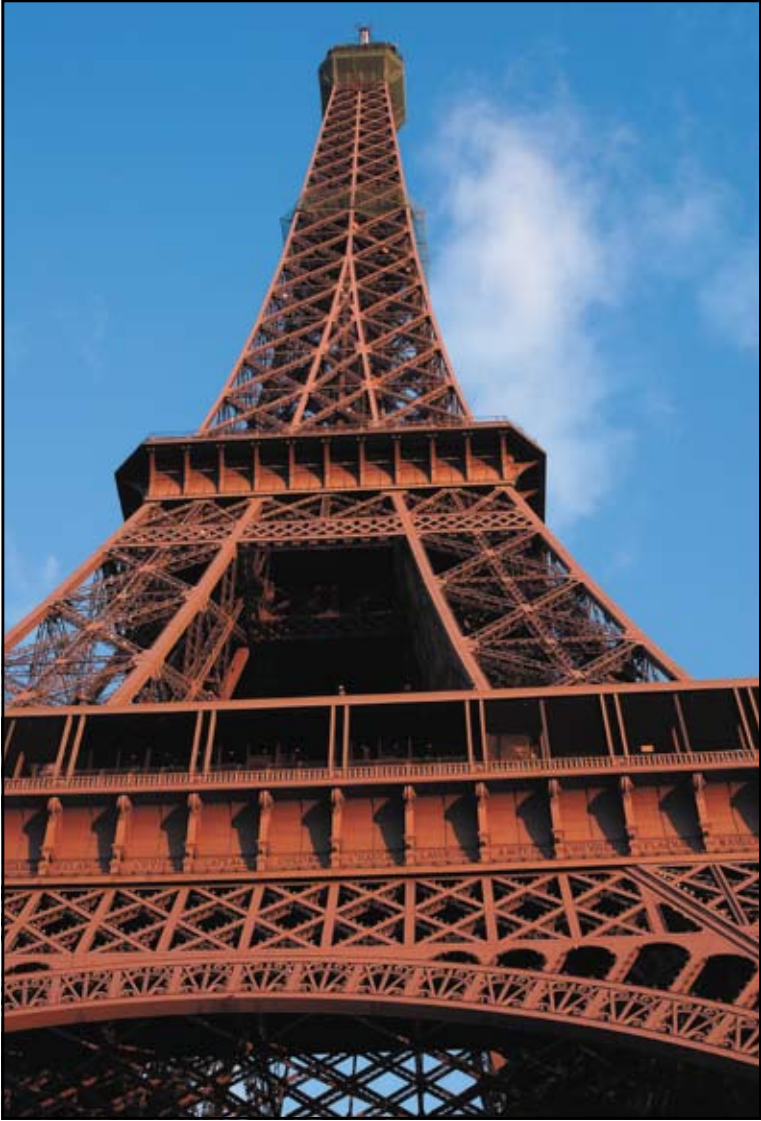
HOLA—A rainbow bursts out of a *catarata* (waterfall) in an Argentine national park. It is one of 275 falls that make up the Iguazu Falls, which spread over Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay.

Don't go at night, if you want to explore one of the oldest stone ruins in Boston. Designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, the Bear Dens (Long Crouch Woods) of Roxbury, Mass. were built in 1912. They feature a stone sculpture of the City of Boston's crest.

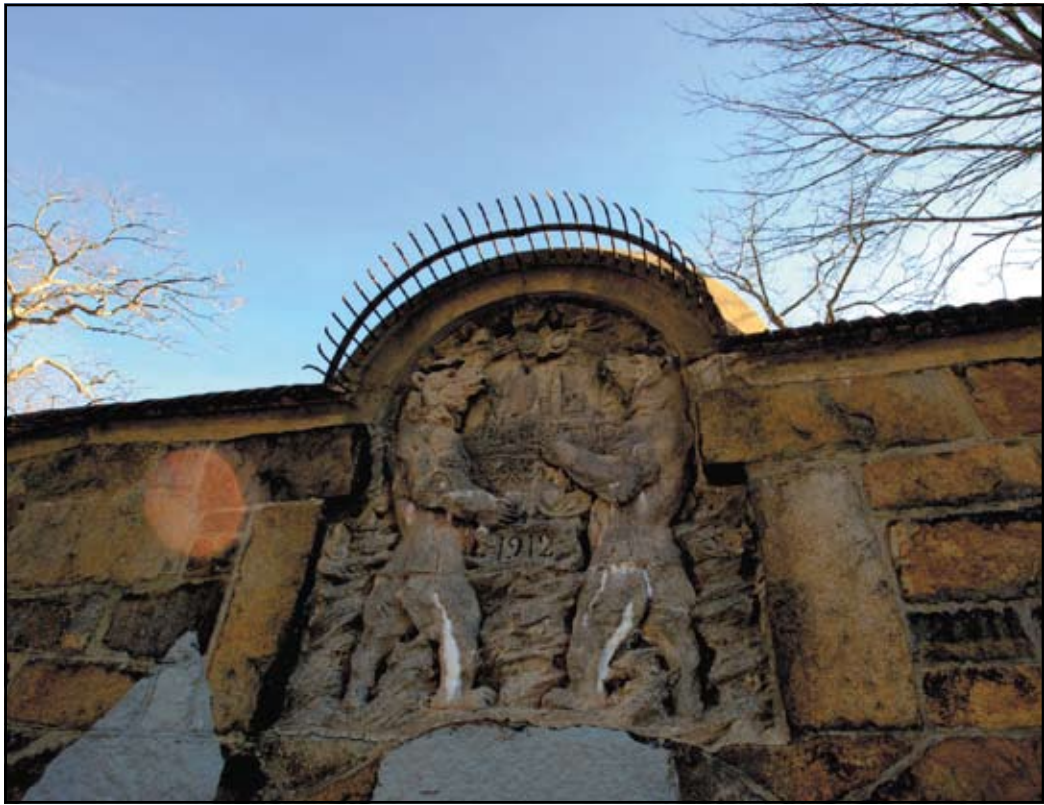
BONJOUR—The Eiffel Tower is seen in Paris, France on a sunny March day.



ANDREA ROBLES—THE TECH



DIANA RAK—THE TECH



SHENG-YING PAO



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Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



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 13.

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

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

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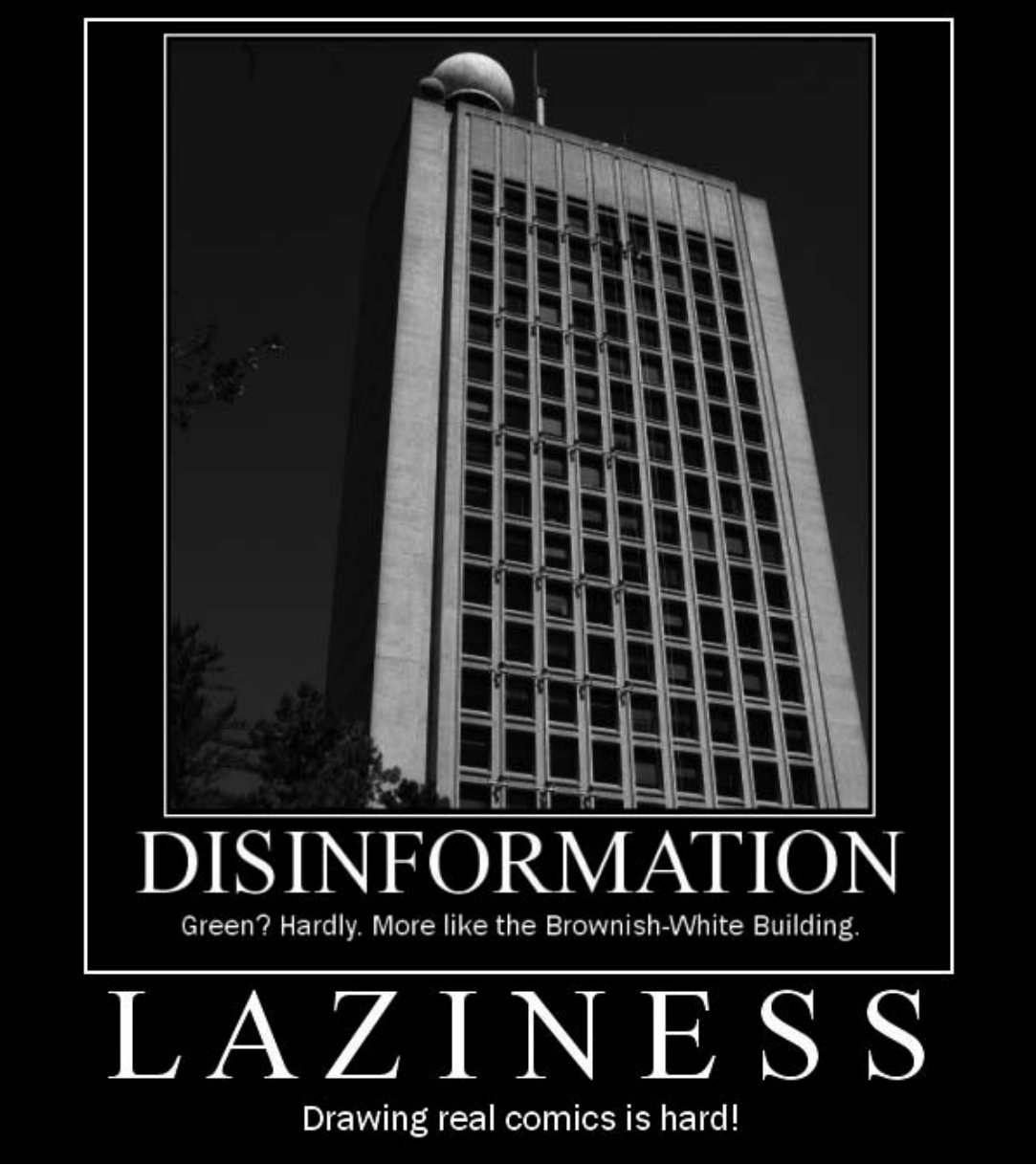
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The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

- 1 Sault __ Marie
- 4 Some feds
- 8 Multitone harmonies
- 14 Barley bristle
- 15 “__ Lama Ding Dong” (Edsels hit)
- 16 Rodeo rope
- 17 High ball?
- 18 Military subdivision
- 19 Incarnate
- 20 Start of a quote
- 23 Horse features
- 24 Approx. no.
- 25 With 39A, source of the quote
- 28 Part 2 of quote
- 33 Appear
- 34 Singer Abdul
- 35 Indian prince
- 39 See 25A
- 42 Dessert treats
- 43 Cropped up
- 45 “Only Time” singer
- 47 Part 3 of quote
- 54 __ Juan
- 55 Nuptial or natal lead-in
- 56 One of the strings
- 57 End of quote
- 61 Dick Cheney’s predecessor
- 64 McKinley and Lupino
- 65 Egg: pref.
- 66 Frolic
- 67 Likewise
- 68 Clucker
- 69 Thespians
- 70 Material flaw
- 71 Bill in the till

DOWN

- 1 Deli slice
- 2 Like beach volleyball teams
- 3 With all jurists participating
- 4 Platitudes

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13
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				57				58	59	60				
61	62	63						64				65		
66								67				68		
69								70				71		

- 5 “Death in Venice” author
- 6 Zatopek or Jannings
- 7 Allied grp.
- 8 John of “Fawlty Towers”
- 9 Overact
- 10 Spherical bodies
- 11 __ Grande
- 12 June honoree
- 13 Piggery
- 21 Keanu in “The Matrix”
- 22 VFW member
- 25 Fancy case
- 26 Wicked
- 27 Elizabethan lament
- 29 Cribbage counter
- 30 Poetic pasture
- 31 Glowing coal
- 32 Carpet texture
- 35 Collegiate cheers
- 36 Land measure
- 37 Make one
- 38 Numbskull
- 40 Sailors’ admin.
- 41 Deli bread
- 44 Type of penguin
- 46 Consultant
- 48 Sharon and Durant
- 49 Legal thing
- 50 “__ the wind and nothing more”
- 51 Holiday cheer?
- 52 Football team
- 53 Writer Gordimer
- 57 Freight jumper
- 58 Edict
- 59 At rest
- 60 Shuttle grp.
- 61 Old Turkish title
- 62 Varnish resin
- 63 London hrs.

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Community Lecture Series

Fellows

Community Lecture Series

God, Women and Sexuality: Reflections from Diverse Contexts

Thursday, April 2, at 5:15 pm

W11 - Religious Activities Center
corner of Amherst St. and Mass Ave.
Main Dining Room

MIT Interfaith Dialogue Program

Adi

Presented by:

Prof. Monica Maher – Harvard Divinity School –
Women's Studies and Ethics

Areas of research and activism:

"Faith and Femicide in Latin America"

United Nations International Research
and Training Institute for the Advancement
of Women (INSTRAW),

Women's World Banking

The Health and Development Policy Project

Religion as a Source of Women's Empowerment

Questions: ora@mit.edu

Website: mit.edu/dsl/addir/

All are invited to attend.

Addir is a word in Ancient Sumerian which means “bridge”. In the Addir Fellows Program we aspire to build bridges of dialogue and understanding. The Addir Fellows MIT Interfaith Dialogue Program is sponsored by Office of Dean for Student Life and MIT Hillel in cooperation with the Board of Chaplains.

This event is co-sponsored by MISTI – <http://mit.edu/misti> – and will include a brief overview of how MISTI provides MIT students with opportunities to connect to cultures in other countries.



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Application deadline:

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Contact:

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Bennie and Delano Want to Hold More Events with Administrators

Bennie and Delano, from Page 1

to happen until 2010 but the report will be public before the end of this academic year. We need to make sure people are happy with that. My big goal is that the communications with the UA are sound.

MD: The big issue last year was that no one knew what was going on with the UA at all. Now, if you poke around in the right places, you'll know what the UA is doing. But, we would like to not only establish a framework to figure out what's going on but also to establish a framework for students to get involved.

TT: What's "Community Conversations"?

MB: It's a new program that brings administrators into social settings. For example, students could have dinner with Chancellor [Phillip L.] Clay, or invite Chris Colombo to a social event. It's a way to bridge a gap that the UA traditionally bridges. In addition to bringing students and administrators together, we are bringing in the UA, putting our face out there more, and interacting with students more. After students have had a conversation with Chancellor Clay, they can come to the UA. It serves two purposes: getting them connected with the UA, but also bringing them up-to-date with campus issues.

TT: How do you plan on engaging the student body, which is often frustrated with or doesn't understand the relevance of student government? In particular, how would you engage the 57 percent of students who did not vote?

MB: All of that comes down to different interaction points. For the 43 percent that did vote, it's a lot easier to get them to come back [to us] through the website or some other means. For the 57 percent that didn't vote, it'll be through personal con-

nection. That's what we are hoping senators and committee chairs will bring to this.

MD: I think when something hits close to home like dining, people start realizing that if they don't say anything and leave it up to everyone else, they're kind of in trouble.

TT: One of the big things you tried to work on this year was transparency. What have been the biggest obstacles to increasing transparency, and how do you plan to overcome them?

MB: The biggest problem is finding people to work on transparency. A lot of people love writing bills about issues or doing work on Spring Weekend, but not a lot of people like working on documenting what they are doing.

MD: Everyone wants it [transparency] but no one wants to do it.

MB: That's been one of my struggles as VP — trying to figure out what level I'm comfortable doing it myself and what level I can push people to get things done. You have to show how much you care about it to show them how important it is.

TT: How do you think the UA will be involved in plans to cut the Institute budget?

MB: We have 12 student reps on the budget task force committees. We've had a big push toward bringing people together and bringing back minutes to see what's been going on. We are planning an event for those students to get together on Sunday to discuss what is happening on the committees and where we can make progress.

TT: What do you think of the job your predecessors did?

MB: I want to walk the line between [former UA presidents] Martin [F. Holmes '08] and Noah [S. Jessop '10]. Martin was kind of a hands-on, in-detail, micromanaging president. Noah was much more laid-back and

hands-off. I want to walk between those because they both have their issues. I want to talk to more administrators than the UA did this year. I want to be involved in high-level projects. My focus this year is going to be working on the PR and History Committees and creating and documenting a communication system.

MD: I would like to touch base with a lot more of the committees. I also would like to have expectations at the beginning of the year, not just address things as they come up.

TT: If the UA Dining Committee proposal conflicts with the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee, what do you plan on doing going forward?

MB: If there is enough conflict and an independent report is written, we'll need to go to Dean [for Student Life Costantino] Colombo and Phillip Clay and express why we think this is important and how we think the Blue Ribbon has failed. If the Blue Ribbon report isn't what we want, we have to explain why that is. I don't foresee that being an issue because the Blue Ribbon Committee has become a lot more open to student opinions.

TT: What would you like your administration to be remembered for?

MB: I want to leave tools behind so changes can continue to be made and so issues can continue to be tackled after we leave. I want to leave behind a healthy organization that is able to tackle whatever issue that comes up quickly and with good transparency.

MD: I would love the student body to be in a position where I can walk up to any person and talk to them about what's going on in the UA right now. We can really feel like we are connecting to students and that they know what's going on. It's to get them thinking because that's really the first step.

Prosecutor: Siddiqui Faked Mental Illness

Earlier Govt. Eval. Found Mental Disease

By Benjamin Weiser

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MARCH 26, 2009

NEW YORK

A federal prosecutor in Manhattan said on Thursday that two government psychiatrists had concluded that a Pakistani neuroscientist charged with trying to kill U.S. soldiers and FBI agents in Afghanistan had been faking her symptoms of mental illness.

An earlier court-ordered psychological evaluation had concluded that the neuroscientist, Aafia Siddiqui '95, age 37, was unfit for trial as a result of a mental disease, "which renders her unable to understand the nature and consequences of the proceedings against her or to assist properly in her defense," a court document shows.

Then, last month, prosecutors said two new evaluations by government-

retained psychiatrists had found that she was not suffering from mental illness. But the prosecutors had not previously said the doctors concluded that she was faking.

On Thursday, an assistant U.S. attorney, David Raskin, told a judge that the psychiatrists, each working independently and unaware of the other's findings, concluded that the symptoms that had been seen "were attributed to malingering."

"It was manipulation by the defendant," Raskin told Judge Richard M. Berman, "as opposed to any signs of serious mental illness."

One psychiatrist wrote that Siddiqui "has most likely fabricated reported psychiatric symptoms to give credibility to her claims that she suffers a mental disorder."

2009 UA and Class Council Election Results

Undergraduate Association	Rd 1	Rd 2
President / Vice President	Michael A. Bennie '10 / Margaret K. Delano '10	919
	Ryan W. Jackson '10 / Thomas W. Hay '10	343
	Abdulaziz M. Albahar '10 / Tewfik R. Cassis '10	286
	Benjamin J. Agre '12 / Raeaz Lorgat '12	203
	Stephen Colbert	33
	Aggregate Write-ins	22
2010 Class Council		
President	Jason A. Scott	361
	Aggregate Write-ins	26
Vice President	Laura H. Han	336
	Aggregate Write-ins	21
Treasurer	Wen Y. Tang	337
	Aggregate Write-ins	17
Secretary	Jeffrey Y. Zhou	246
	Brittany N. Russo	121
	Aggregate Write-ins	14
Publicity Chairs	Tiffany T. Chu, Crystal J. Mao	346
	Aggregate Write-ins	13
Social Chairs	Steven H. Hong, Lynne D. Tye	335
	Aggregate Write-ins	20
2011 Class Council		
President	Anshul Bhagi	284
	Aggregate Write-ins	37
Vice President	Lulu Wang	284
	Aggregate Write-ins	30
Treasurer	Kevin A. Rustagi	260
	Aggregate Write-ins	35
Secretary	Sivakami Sambasivam	278
	Aggregate Write-ins	26
Publicity Chairs	Sheena Bhalla, May Liu	281
	Aggregate Write-ins	21
Social Chairs	Emma M. Rosen, Yu (Jeff) Zhao	292
	Aggregate Write-ins	17
2012 Class Council		
President	Nathaniel S. Fox	303
	Rishi Dixit	212
	Aggregate Write-ins	30
Vice President	Hannah E. Sparkman	342
	Andy D. Kalendarian	82
	Aggregate Write-ins	26
Treasurer	David S. Zhu	392
	Robert A. Drenkhahn	30
	Aggregate Write-ins	22
Secretary	Christine Chen	232
	Efrain A. Cermenio	195
	Aggregate Write-ins	15
Publicity Chairs	Anjali Muralidhar, Eliana S. Schleifer	214 215
	Michaela S. LaVan, Ellen B. McIsaac	209 212
	Aggregate Write-ins	14
Social Chairs	Kristopher T. Swick, Cynthia Wang	244 245
	Rena Kuai, Mary X. Wang	236 239
	Aggregate Write-ins	16

SOURCE: AINSLEY K. BRAUN '10, CHAIR, UA ELECTION COMMISSION

The winners of the 2009 Undergraduate Association and Class Council elections were announced by e-mail on Saturday, March 21.

The election was conducted using a preferential voting system, as outlined in Article V, Section 6A of the UA Election Code. Students rank the list of candidates for each position in order of preference. The ballots are then sorted by first preference. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is removed, and ballots that supported that candidate are reslotted according to their next preference (or discarded if none was given). This removal and reslotting process is continued until a candidate has a majority of votes.



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The deadline is **Friday, April 3** - so don't delay!

D'Amelio Opened a Seafood Restaurant

D'Amelio, from Page 1

witnessed the threats. The report indicates that MIT was performing an internal investigation of the incident, and D'Amelio's defense witness list included two MIT Police officers. It is not clear if these officers were ever called to testify.

Venezia said, "We presented our case and believed there was sufficient evidence to garner a guilty finding. We must respect the judge's finding of not-guilty."

The Institute has announced plans to form a review panel to examine the ramifications of the D'Amelio incident.

Vice President for Institute Affairs Kirk D. Kolenbrander said in an interview on Friday that the "policies and procedures for our campus police are silent on off-duty behavior. We would anticipate that this will be an

area which the review panel will find appropriate to address." Kolenbrander clarified that being "silent" means that MIT does not currently feel it appropriate to consider off-duty activities in evaluating officer performance.

Kolenbrander also said, "We believe our Campus Police force expects its members to exhibit outstanding character and integrity — and we agree with that expectation. Anything less is not police service worthy of MIT."

In addition to being an MIT Police officer, D'Amelio opened a seafood restaurant in East Boston called Off The Boat last year, *The Boston Globe* reported.

Paper theft incident

The MIT administration refused yesterday to confirm whether the two officers suspended last week Wednesday had been reinstated. The

officers were suspended without pay for removing copies of *The Tech* from distribution stands in the Student Center on Tue, March 17.

The Tech's chairman, Austin Chu G, said in a statement, "*The Tech* is dismayed at the incident involving our March 17 papers, but we have been encouraged by the response that we have received from the MIT Police, Chief DiFava, and the MIT administration."

Tech Executive Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg G told *The Boston Globe*, "I don't think the police should be fired for this. In this economy, there are no career prospects for a campus police officer fired for violating students' First Amendment rights."

Nick Semenkovich contributed to the reporting of this article. An earlier version of this article ran on-line on The Tech's website on Thursday, March 26.

E-mail of the Week

In an e-mail to sponge-talk, the Simmons Hall resident discussion list, Josiah W. Schwab '09 raised the issue of Simmons' perennial problems with visiting architects and architectural students sneaking into Simmons and failing to respect residents' privacy.

Subject: There was an architect in my bathroom

and he didn't even flush (no joke)

Be on the lookout. I just escorted 5 to the front desk.

E-mail of the Week quotations are used with permission.

Spring 2009 Wulff Lecture

Tuesday, March 31, 2009
5:00–6:00 pm
Room 26-100
Reception immediately following

Harder,
Cheaper,
Greener:

Materials Science and Engineering of Nanocrystalline Coatings

Professor Chris Schuh
Danae and Vasilios Associate Professor of Metallurgy
Department of Materials Science and Engineering, MIT

In Materials Science and Engineering, basic principles can lead directly to new engineering products that are better, cheaper, and greener. Prof. Schuh will describe the connection between scientific thinking and engineering practice in the area of hard metal coatings. Specifically, he will address the replacement of classical technologies, which have significant environmental drawbacks, with a new class of environmentally-friendly coatings. To do so requires the development of a new processing science to control material structure at the nanometer-scale.

The Wulff Lecture is an introductory, general-audience, entertaining lecture which serves to educate, inspire, and encourage MIT undergraduates to take up study in the field of materials science and engineering and related fields. The entire MIT community, particularly freshmen, is invited to attend. The Wulff Lecture honors the late Professor John Wulff, a skilled, provocative, and entertaining teacher who inaugurated a new approach to teaching the popular freshman subject: 3.091 Introduction to Solid State Chemistry.

PSB 09-03-0169

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Solution to Crossword

from page 10

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

Solution to Sudoku

from page 10

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

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Despite Highlights, Upsets, WBC Still Has Much Room to Improve

WBC, from Page 16

tween the two was somewhat dampened by the fact that the game was their fifth meeting in the tournament. The Classic could take a page from the college basketball book, and put all the teams into one big single-elimination bracket. Not only would this format be more exciting, there would be interesting matchups in the early rounds — instead of having all Asian teams in one pool and all Latin American teams in another, how about seeing, say, Korea versus Venezuela in the opening round? And speaking of matchups, some teams were clearly overmatched in the early rounds. Let’s face it: unlike March Madness, where a bottom-ranked team can at least give the number one seed a run for its money, there just aren’t sixteen countries in the world who are good enough at

baseball. Unless teams like South Africa, Panama, and Chinese Taipei can get better in a hurry, the WBC in 2012 should consider including fewer teams. Even with these disparities, however, the tournament saw its share of drama and upsets. In its opening game, the mighty Dominican Republic, with a lineup of MLB starts like Jose Reyes, Hanley Ramirez, and David Ortiz, lost 3-2 to the Netherlands — whose starting pitcher was in high school — in what the Dutch manager (and everyone else) called “a miracle.” Two days later, the Dominican team would get a chance to redeem itself in an elimination game against the Dutch. As one Dominican player put it, “we will not be allowed back in our country if we lose.” The Netherlands team would once again defy all odds, scoring the winning run with two out in the bottom of the 11th

inning to eliminate the Dominicans in one of the greatest upsets in international sports history. Just as unthinkable was the early exit of the Cuban team. Shut out twice by Japan in the second round, Cuba failed to reach the finals of a major tournament for the first time in sixty years — prompting Fidel Castro to issue a statement declaring an overhaul in the country’s sports program. Despite its shortcomings, the World Baseball Classic still showed that baseball — which perhaps shouldn’t be considered “America’s game” anymore — can be successful on the international stage. There is certainly much room for improvement, from drawing interest to better scheduling to lowering prices. If the tournament organizers can learn from their mistakes and implement changes, then WBC 2012 should be a spectacle to look forward to.

Strong Performances in All Divisions Led to Taekwondo Team’s Success

Taekwondo, from Page 16

and belt divisions. Wenxian Hong ’10, Christine M. Lee ’09, Jordan Brayanov, Christine Chin’09, Alvin S. Chen ’11, Ryan A. Rosario ’12, and Heejung Kim ’12 all walked away with silver medals. Ranbel F. Sun ’10, Zhechen “Mary” Hong ’10, Rafael A. “Maverick” Raya ’11, John Sebastian Pineda ’10, Christine T. Hsueh ’10, Hsin-Jung “Sophia” Li ’11, and Ijeoma “Ejay” Emeagwali ’12 took third in their divisions. The second day of the tournament highlighted the sparring competition. The battle on the ring was first sparked by the energy of Yellow and white belts. All beginners from MIT showed both great determination and toughness against their opponents. Rosario dominated in Men’s Fly-

weight. Heejung Kim scored on her opponents with both power and skill to win gold in the women’s heavyweight division. Li , used her agile footwork to win gold in the women’s welterweight division. Hsueh won Silver in Women’s Feather while Tara Sarathi ’12 and Lin both captured bronze in the women’s fly and welterweight divisions respectively. As usual, MIT had a strong showing in the sparring competition by the team’s many red belts. Jaclyn J. Ho ’09 and Sun shared the gold in women’s flyweight. Miranda Ha ’07, Christine Lee , Quddus and Zhechen Hong confidently took away all the medals in women’s featherweight. Zhu decisively won her match after scoring four head shots on her opponent and took home gold. Chin won all of her matches by a seven-point

gap to earn the gold medal in her division. Hui and Han participated in their first national competition at the black belt level since receiving their black belts this past December. Han easily won his first match by point gap and overall performed very well fighting against top-caliber players. Hui also fought well, earning herself the bronze medal in the women’s lightweight division. After claiming the national title this past weekend, the MIT Sport Taekwondo Club now has their sights set on winning the Eastern Collegiate Taekwondo Conference Championship Cup. Their next tournament will be held at the University of Pennsylvania on April 4. If the team wins the ECTC Cup, it will be the first time that they have captured both the national title and ECTC cup since 2004.

Pistol Team Struggled in Some Events

Unlike Other Schools, MIT Did Not Have Spring Break to Rest for Nationals

Pistol, from Page 16

The event has competitors firing sixty shots from .22 caliber pistols in two hours for a maximum of 600 points. Sugaya and Hu took the silver and bronze medals, respectively. Completing the open free pistol team were Telian and Wu. Both Hu and Sugaya had the same score, 515, going into the Finals Round of the individual free pistol event. The Finals Round is a ten-shot extension of the match for the top eight shooters, and each shot is scored to the tenth of a point. Sugaya pulled out a silver finish in free pistol with a finals score of 84.50, bringing his total score to 599.50, while Hu took bronze with a finals score of 80.40 resulting in a total of 595.40. Will Hart, the MIT pistol coach, noted that the free pistol performance at nationals was likely the best the MIT team had produced this year. “We certainly did well, leading the 2nd place team by 20 points. I

was impressed by how well our team started the match and how they continued to shoot well,” he said. The open team had a more difficult time with standard pistol, another sixty shot .22 caliber event. The standard pistol has competitors firing twenty shots in each of three sub-events: precision fire, rapid fire, and timed fire. Overall, the team placed eighth in the event. Coach Hart noted that the MIT team faced an “uphill battle” compared to other teams, as the MIT team did not have the luxury of spring break to rest, as many other teams did. He said that the standard team members were “exceptionally tired” for the event, but that the team had good scores going into Nationals and he was surprised that they did not medal or come closer to medaling. In sport pistol, the second event in determining the women’s aggregate score, the Engineers garnered a fourth place finish. Sport pistol has competitors firing sixty .22 caliber shots in two

parts — precision fire and rapid fire. Hu and Ma were named to several 2009 All-American teams earlier this month. Hu placed on the First Team for Free Pistol, as well as the First Team for Air Pistol. Ma was named to the Second Team for Sport Pistol. Coach Hart was proud of his team’s performance. “We have excellent leadership from the top, and below, and our team’s cohesiveness gets us through the challenging week,” he said. “There is no quitting on our team as everyone works through challenges and difficult situations until they find a solution.” The MIT pistol team has a record of strong performances at Nationals. Last year, the team placed fourth, preceded by two championship titles in 2007 and 2005. MIT competed against individual competitors and teams from eleven colleges at Nationals this year, ranging from military academies to state schools.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball	
Saturday, March 28, 2009	
Wheaton College (15-1)	11
MIT (8-5)	5
Wheaton College (16-1)	15
MIT (8-6)	1

Women’s Fencing	
Sunday, March 22, 2009	
NCAA Championship	
MIT	T-24th of 24

Men’s Lacrosse	
Saturday, March 28, 2009	
Lasell College	10
MIT (2-5)	9

Women’s Lacrosse	
Saturday, March 28, 2009	
Springfield College ()	12
MIT ()	5

Sailing	
Sunday, March 22, 2009	
Truxtun Umstead Trophy	
MIT	15th of 20

Men’s Swimming	
Friday, March 20, 2009	
NCAA Championship	
MIT	7th of 49
Saturday, March 21, 2009	
NCAA Championship	
MIT	9th of 49

Men’s Volleyballl	
Saturday, March 21, 2009	
Mount Ida College	0
MIT (24-11)	3
Albertus Magnus College	0
MIT (25-11)	3

Is your team breaking every MIT record ever set? Let us know! Email sports@tech.mit.edu

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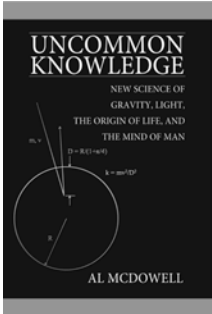
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SPORTS

Japan Defeats S. Korea to Win Second World Baseball Classic

By David Zhu
SPORTS EDITOR

Last Monday night, Japan beat Korea 5-3 in extra innings in the final of this year's World Baseball Classic, defending its WBC title and bringing a fitting end to what sounds like such a great idea: bring teams from sixteen countries around the world together and have them go head-to-head in a grand tournament of America's pastime, promoting national pride and giving the sport more exposure domestically and abroad...

Not quite, Bud Selig. Although the WBC might seem great on paper, there were many shortfalls that inevitably caused it to fizzle. First, the all-around apathy towards the

event: although games drew large crowds and received high TV ratings in places like Japan and Puerto Rico, most American fans just didn't seem to care. Whether because of poor scheduling (it's hard to have an event in primetime in two hemispheres simultaneously), high ticket prices, or paucity of star players, the WBC has turned into the World Cup here in the States — it might be exciting and a big deal to everyone else, but we just don't care enough.

The United States (which managed to reach the semifinals this time around) has enough talent to put together an all-star team which could blow away the competition. Because the WBC is held during spring training, however, many players did not want to miss camp to participate. Others declined invitations to play because of the risk of injury. These are legitimate concerns, but they detract from the quality of the WBC nonetheless.

In addition, many of the games played were meaningless. The pool-play, double-elimination format tournament led to "seeding" games where nothing was at stake and too much downtime between games. For instance, although the Japan-Korea final was thrilling — packing 50,000-plus frenzied noisemaking fans into Dodger Stadium — the rivalry be-

WBC, Page 15

MIT Pistol Team Takes Third Place at Nationals, Behind 2 Military Colleges

By Pearle Lipinski
STAFF REPORTER

The MIT pistol team captured third place overall at this year's NRA Collegiate Pistol Championships, placing behind first place United States Military Academy (West Point) and second place United States Naval Academy. Two team members, Michelle C. Ma '10 and Fuzhou Hu '09, also took spots on 2009 Collegiate All-American teams. The national championships were held March 16-20 at Fort Benning, Georgia.

MIT's aggregate score in the Open Team Aggregate — in which

both men and women are permitted to compete — was 6120, behind the USMA's 6259 and the USNA's 6164. The open aggregate total is comprised of scores from three events: air pistol, free pistol, and standard pistol.

For the Women's Aggregate, MIT amassed 2582, enough for fourth place. The women's aggregate total is comprised of scores from only two events: the women's air pistol event and sport pistol.

In the air pistol event, competitors fire sixty shots in 95 minutes for the open event, and for the women, forty shots in 75 minutes, with maximum scores of 600 for the open and 400 for the women. Targets are placed ten meters from the shooter. MIT had

strong showings in both the open and women's air pistol event, capturing the bronze in both events with scores of 2166 and 1050, respectively. Hu and Gregory I. Telian '11 led the open team with fourth and sixth place finishes, and were supported by Andrew K. Sugaya '11 and Patrick B. Wu '10. On the women's team, Ma, Lihua Bai '09, and Mahati Chintapalli '11 had a strong showing for the bronze. Alexandra Jiang '11 also supported the women's team.

Free pistol was the open team's strongest event — the Engineers, led by Sugaya and Hu, captured the gold medal with an overall score of 1990.

Pistol, Page 15

MIT Sport Taekwondo Takes First Overall at Nat'l Championships

By Sophia Li and Christine Chin
TEAM MEMBERS

The MIT Sport Taekwondo team, coached by head instructor Dan Chuang and led by captains Corinna Hui '09 and Christopher J. Han '09, competed against the nation's best teams at the National Collegiate Taekwondo Association (NCTA) Championships at Brown University on March 21st and 22nd. Although MIT was outnumbered by a large team from Brown (MIT: 40; Brown: 64), MIT still prevailed, capturing first place, and beating out Brown University by the slimmest margin of two points to win the overall National Collegiate title.

The two-day tournament began with the forms (poomsae) competition on Saturday, where competitors perform choreographed techniques to display power, grace, and control. MIT colored belts showed excellent mastery of their forms. However, the standout performances of the day were in black belt forms. Bobby Ren '05, Daniel J. Souza '11, and Erika

Lee '12 all seized individual gold medals in their respective divisions. Rebecca Hung '11, Han, and JiHye Kim '10 captured silver medals in their divisions, while Karolina A. Corin G, and Aaron L. Sampson '10 (also a *Tech* sports editor) captured third place.

Also held at the Championships were tryouts for the U.S. Summer World University Games Poomsae Team. MIT's Sport Taekwondo Club made history with four members being selected to the first U.S. National Collegiate Poomsae Team. Alicia Zhou '06, Ren, Hung, and Corin will be competing at the Pan Am Collegiate Taekwondo Championships in Berkeley, CA as well as the Summer World University Games in Belgrade, Serbia.

In the novice division, color belts captured medals left and right. Jason Uh '10, Shammi S. Quddus '10, Omar E. Fernandez '10, Han Zhu '09, Andrew K. Sugaya '11, Lorraine Ling G, Michele E. Lee '10, and Teresa "Ty" Lin '12 all captured first place in their respective weight

Taekwondo, Page 15

Michigan St., Connecticut, Villanova, North Carolina Make Up NCAA Final Four

By David Zhu
SPORTS EDITOR

After a week and a half of March Madness, the regional champions have been decided. The 2009 NCAA Final Four consists of Michigan State, Connecticut, Villanova, and North Carolina — here's a summary of how they got here.

Michigan State (No. 2 seed, Midwest Region):

- def. No. 15 Robert Morris, 77-62
- def. No. 10 USC, 74-69
- def. No. 3 Kansas, 67-62
- def. No. 1 Louisville, 64-52

Connecticut (No. 1 seed, West Region):

- def. No. 16 Chattanooga, 103-47
- def. No. 9 Texas A&M, 92-66
- def. No. 5 Purdue, 72-60
- def. No. 3 Missouri, 82-75

Villanova (No. 3 seed, East Region):

- def. No. 14 American, 80-67
- def. No. 6 UCLA, 89-69
- def. No. 2 Duke, 77-54
- def. No. 1 Pittsburgh, 78-76

North Carolina (No. 1 seed, South Region):

- def. No. 16 Radford, 101-58
- def. No. 8 LSU, 84-70
- def. No. 4 Gonzaga, 98-77
- def. No. 2 Oklahoma, 72-60

Michigan State will play Connecticut, and Villanova will take on North Carolina in the National Semifinals on April 4th. The winners of those two games will face each other in the National Championship on April 6th in Detroit.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, March 31, 2009
Men's Tennis vs. Salem State College 4 p.m., duPont Courts

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