

Fire in East Campus Basement Thought To Be Result of Arson

By Camille Z. McAvoy
STAFF REPORTER

East Campus was evacuated Tuesday morning, following a trash-bin fire that occurred in the basement of the west parallel. No one was harmed, but sprinklers flooded the basement and several student rooms in Wood entry. Arson is suspected.

“While I am pleased that no one was hurt, I must also report that the Cambridge Fire Department is investigating the possibility that this fire was set deliberately,” said Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo in an e-mail sent to East Campus residents on Wednesday.

The cause of the fire has not been publicly disclosed. “This is an open and ongoing investigation so no information will be released,” said Sergeant Cheryl Vossmer of the MIT Police.

The fire appears to have been set intentionally. A resident on First West said that, according to his GRT, the fire was started by a taped-open lighter that had been dropped down the trash chute.

The fire began around 1:30 a.m. on Tuesday morning, setting off sprinklers in the basement and on the first floor. The sprinklers put out the fire but flooded five student rooms on the first floor in Wood entry, near the trash chute. Residents evacuated



TECH FILE PHOTO

A fire occurred in the west parallel of East Campus on Sept. 8.

and were barred from reentering until 3 a.m.

Maintenance crews cleaned the damaged rooms and residents moved back on Tuesday afternoon. Fans were put in the hallway to prevent mildew. MIT insures dorms against sprinkler damage, but not student property.

East Campus housemaster Thomas J. Delaney said that East Campus takes incidents involving fire seriously. Colombo said that the Delaneys would host a fire safety session with Cary Williams, assistant officer of the Environmental Health and Safety Office’s Safety Program.

Financial Crisis Took a Huge Bite Out of Harvard, Yale Endowments, Reports Say

By Geraldine Fabrikant
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Harvard and Yale disclosed Thursday just how many billions of dollars their endowments had lost in the last year, signaling yet more belt tightening at the nation’s wealthiest schools.

Harvard’s endowment tumbled 27.3 percent in its latest fiscal year, largely because of problems with its private equity and hedge fund portfolios, lopping off \$10 billion and shrinking its portfolio to \$26 billion.

Taking into consideration donations and spending, the endowment shrank by nearly 30 percent.

Yale University also suffered about a 30 percent loss in its endowment, to about \$16 billion, the university’s president disclosed in a letter Thursday, adding that final figures on performance were still being compiled.

“We want to alert you to the fact that another round of reductions will be necessary,” Yale’s president, Richard C. Levin, wrote in what he billed

as a budget update to the Yale community praising the cost-cutting that had already occurred.

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Appeal Denied to ATO; Fraternity Is Expelled From House and MIT

By Jeff Guo
NEWS EDITOR

The Alpha Tau Omega fraternity lost its appeal and has been expelled from MIT, the Interfraternity Council announced yesterday.

ATO is no longer a recognized fraternity at MIT and will shutter its chapter house on Memorial Drive. The brothers living in the house will work with the administration to find room in dorms or off-campus, ATO President DeRon M. Brown ’10 said in an e-mail.

The MIT chapter is still recognized by its national organization,

Brown said. All of ATO’s finances will be turned over to its alumni group, which still owns the house. It is unclear what the house will be now be used for.

For the past two weeks, ATO had been in limbo. On August 27, the IFC Judicial Committee ruled to expel ATO after finding it had committed too many violations of IFC rules. The violations included those from a May 9 incident during which the fraternity allegedly provided alco-

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Class of 2013 Yield Falls Despite Huge Increase in Number of Applications

By Meghan Nelson

Despite a record number of applicants and a record low admit rate, MIT’s yield fell for the class of 2013: 64 percent of students accepted MIT’s offer of admission, down from 66 percent for the class of 2012 and from a record high of 69 percent for the class of 2011. The incoming class has 1,071 students, 23 more than last year’s.

Dean of Admissions Stuart Schmill ’86 said more peer institutions were competing over the same students this year.

“What we found was that more students were admitted to MIT and to places like Harvard, Princeton,

Yale, Stanford, so there were more students with very good choices,” Schmill said. “These other schools are really recognizing the importance of enrolling strong scientists and engineers.”

Yields at other schools mostly stayed the same or increased. Harvard’s yield increased to 78.5 percent from 77.6 percent; Princeton’s yield increased to 59.7 percent from 58.6 percent, while Stanford’s and Yale’s yields remained the same at 70 percent and 68.7 percent, respectively.

Seventy-eight students were accepted off the waitlist, which con-

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GREG STEINBRECHER—THE TECH

Early Wednesday morning, hackers installed seven notes on the great dome’s temporary scaffolding, commenting on its close resemblance to a musical score. The notes were the first seven of Rick Astley’s “Never Gonna Give You Up.”

In Short

¶ **The Campus Police Review Panel** chaired by Prof. Robert Silbey has presented its report to Executive Vice President Theresa M. Stone SM ’76. The panel, which grew out of the drug-related arrest of former MIT Police Officer Joseph D’Amelio, was charged with evaluating the professionalism of the MIT Police’s policies and procedures. The panel’s report will be discussed at next week’s Academic Council meeting. The Academic Council is MIT’s top-level decision-making body.

¶ **Barker and Dewey Libraries**, both freshly renovated, will be hosting open houses next week. The Barker (Bldg. 10, Engineering) open house will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 16, from 4–6 p.m. in the Reading Room. The Dewey Library (E53, Management

and Social Sciences) open house will be the following day, Sept. 17, from 4–6 p.m. on the library’s first floor.

¶ **All bikes parked outside of E15 and E51** after noon today will be removed by Grounds Services. If your bike is removed, contact the Parking Office at 617-258-6510 or mitparking@mit.edu to retrieve it.

¶ **The Cambridge Carnival** will be held this Sunday, September 13, from 12–7 p.m. in Kendall Square. The carnival, entering its 17th year, celebrates African traditions and will feature vendors selling multicultural foods and crafts and a costume parade.

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



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WORLD & NATION

At Least 5 Indian Schoolgirls Die in Stampede

By Hari Kumar

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI

At least five schoolgirls died in a stampede that started on a crowded stairway at a large government-run school in the Indian capital, Indian news media and police officials said Thursday.

Ten more were reported seriously injured, half critically. About 20 other students, mostly girls, suffered lesser injuries, hospital officials said. Indian news media reported that more of the girls had died, but that could not be verified.

Worried and angry parents hunted for their children amid great confusion at the Senior Secondary School in Khajuri Khas, a crowded neighborhood of Delhi. Some parents pelted public buses with stones. The school has 4,500 pupils between the ages of 8 and 16, teaching them in two shifts, The Associated Press reported.

What set off the stampede remained unclear, officials said, and an inquiry has been ordered. “We are not able to give any explanation,” said Sheila Dixit, the chief minister of Delhi, while visiting the injured students at the hospital. “We are extremely saddened by the loss of innocent lives.”

For Idaho Hunters, Wolf Permit Is Just Half the Battle

By William Yardley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST, IDAHO

Hunting and killing are not the same thing. Even as Idaho has sold more than 14,000 wolf-hunting permits, the first 10 days of the first legal wolf hunt here in decades have yielded only three reported legal kills.

Such modest early results might seem surprising in a state that has tried for years to persuade the federal government to let it reduce the wolf population through hunting.

Idahoans, among the nation’s most passionate hunters, are learning that the wolf’s small numbers — about 850 were counted in the state at the end of last year — make it at once more vulnerable and more elusive.

“It’s clear it’s not going to be easy,” said Jon Rachael, the wildlife manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Republicans believe such a tax can help tamp down long-term health care spending.

One Shot Seen as Protective for Swine Flu

By Donald G. Mcneil Jr.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Defying the expectations of experts, clinical trials are showing that the new H1N1 swine flu vaccine protects with only one dose instead of two, so the vaccine supplies being made will go twice as far as had been predicted.

That means it should be possible to vaccinate — well before the flu’s expected midwinter peak — all the 159 million people that the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention estimate are in the high-risk groups: pregnant women, people under 24 years old or caring for infants, people with high-risk medical conditions and health-care workers. Barring production delays, the government hopes to have in hand 195 million doses by year’s end.

The first convincing trial results from a single 15-microgram dose in adults were published online Thursday by The New England Journal of Medicine. That trial was conducted in Australia, but the vaccine maker, CSL Limited, is under contract to supply millions of doses to the U.S. government, and the president of the company’s American subsidiary said he expected its trials here to have similar results.

Russia Says Sanctions Against Iran Are Unlikely

By Clifford J. Levy

THE NEW YORK TIMES

MOSCOW

Foreign Minister Sergey V. Lavrov on Thursday all but ruled out imposing new sanctions against Iran over its nuclear program, brushing aside growing Western concerns that Iran had made significant progress in recent months in a bid for nuclear weapons.

Lavrov said he believed that a new set of proposals that Iran gave to European nations on Wednesday offered a viable basis for negotiations to end the dispute. He said he did not believe that the U.N. Security Council would approve new sanctions against Iran, which could ban Iran from exporting oil or importing gasoline.

“Based on a brief review of the Iranian papers, my impression is there is something there to use,” Lavrov said at an annual gathering of experts on Russia. “The most important thing is Iran is ready for a comprehensive discussion of the situation, what positive role it can play in Iraq, Afghanistan and the region.”

Lavrov’s comments underscored the challenge facing the Obama ad-

ministration as it plans its next move in the United States’ struggle to prevent Iran from producing nuclear weapons.

Russia is a permanent member of the Security Council, allowing it to veto any sanctions resolution, and it has close economic and diplomatic ties to Iran. Russia has sold arms to Iran, and is building a nuclear power plant there that it says is for peaceful purposes. The Kremlin has also refrained from criticizing the Iranian government over its crackdown after the disputed presidential election in June.

Iran says its program to enrich uranium is aimed at producing electricity, and it has refused to halt the process, which can have both civilian and military purposes.

On Thursday, Ali Asghar Soltanieh, Iran’s ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations’ nuclear affairs monitor, said Iran would not negotiate further with the major powers about its nuclear program, Iranian news services reported.

A five-page letter that Iran delivered to the Europeans, and sent to Washington via the Swiss on

Wednesday, is titled a “Package of Proposals by the Islamic Republic of Iran for Comprehensive and Constructive Negotiations.” But it is devoid of specifics, and never mentions Iran’s nuclear program.

It hews closely to a proposal issued by Iran last year, advocating talks on topics as varied as energy, the “root causes of global economic and financial crisis,” corruption and fraud. It also advocates discussion of global disarmament, which has been interpreted in Washington as suggesting that Iran wants to link any discussion of the fate of its nuclear program with talks about the arsenals of the United States and Israel, among others. President Barack Obama has sought to take a less adversarial stance toward Iran’s nuclear program than President George W. Bush did. But with seemingly little to show for it, Obama may now try to move more aggressively.

Obtaining the Kremlin’s backing is one of his biggest hurdles in doing so, and when Obama was here in July for a summit meeting, he spoke at length with President Dmitri A. Medvedev of Russia about the Iranian nuclear program.

Wilson’s District Mostly Backs His Outburst Against Obama

By Robbie Brown and Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SWANSEA, S.C.

In Washington, Rep. Joe Wilson of South Carolina was sharply criticized by both Democrats and his fellow Republicans for shouting “You lie!” during President Barack Obama’s health care address on Wednesday. But here in his strongly Republican congressional district on Thursday, he was celebrated by many of his constituents for his outburst.

“Yeah it was rude, but somebody needed to say it,” said Susan Wahl, 41, a homemaker in this town of 800. “Ordinary people can’t just get up and tell Obama he lied. He said something we all wanted to say.”

In a state famous for its gentility and rebelliousness, Wilson earned praise from voters who admired his message, if not his delivery.

“I kind of want to defend Rep. Wilson,” said Mendel Lindler, 63, an insurance salesman in Lexington. “The president has been trying to shove something down our throats, and Rep. Wilson said, ‘Hold on here.’”

Wilson yelled the comment when Obama said health reform would not extend benefits to illegal immigrants. He later issued an apology, which the president accepted on Thursday.

“I’m a big believer that we all make mistakes,” Obama said at the White House. “He apologized quickly and without equivocation, and I’m appreciative of that.”

Some commentators on the right said Wilson, who was previously known mainly for his backing of the Iraq war, had nothing to apologize for and should instead be hailed for his willingness to challenge Obama on the particulars of his health care proposals.

But Wilson’s Republican colleagues overwhelmingly took the position that he had exceeded the bounds of congressional decorum and that he took the right step by quickly admitting it.

Wilson told reporters Thursday that his heckling of Obama had been driven by his desire to prevent illegal immigrants from getting government-provided health care and that he just blurted it out. “It was spontaneous,” said Wilson, who said he apologized to the White House on Wednesday night at the urging of the Republican leadership.

Based on the health care proposals so far, Obama’s overarching point was accurate: The legislation would not allow illegal immigrants to obtain the proposed government subsidies that would make it easier for low-income individuals and families to afford health insurance.

WEATHER

Intermission

By Brian H. Tang

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The first ten days of September have been exceptionally nice with mostly sunny skies and temperatures near normal. September always seems to shake out this way for a good chunk of the month. It’s our short intermission from the otherwise variable weather we typically experience here in New England.

A very persistent area of high pressure has blocked storms to our west from approaching us. Today, our grip on the nice weather slides away as a tenacious storm that has been spinning off the coast of the Carolinas for a few days slowly sneaks up on us. Although the storm itself isn’t that powerful, winds will be quite stiff and showers will keep the ground wet through Saturday afternoon. With the wind coming off the ocean, temperatures will be stuck in the low- to mid-60s. You may want to save any outdoor plans for Sunday as we begin another stretch of mostly sunny weather that should last most of next week.

Extended Forecast

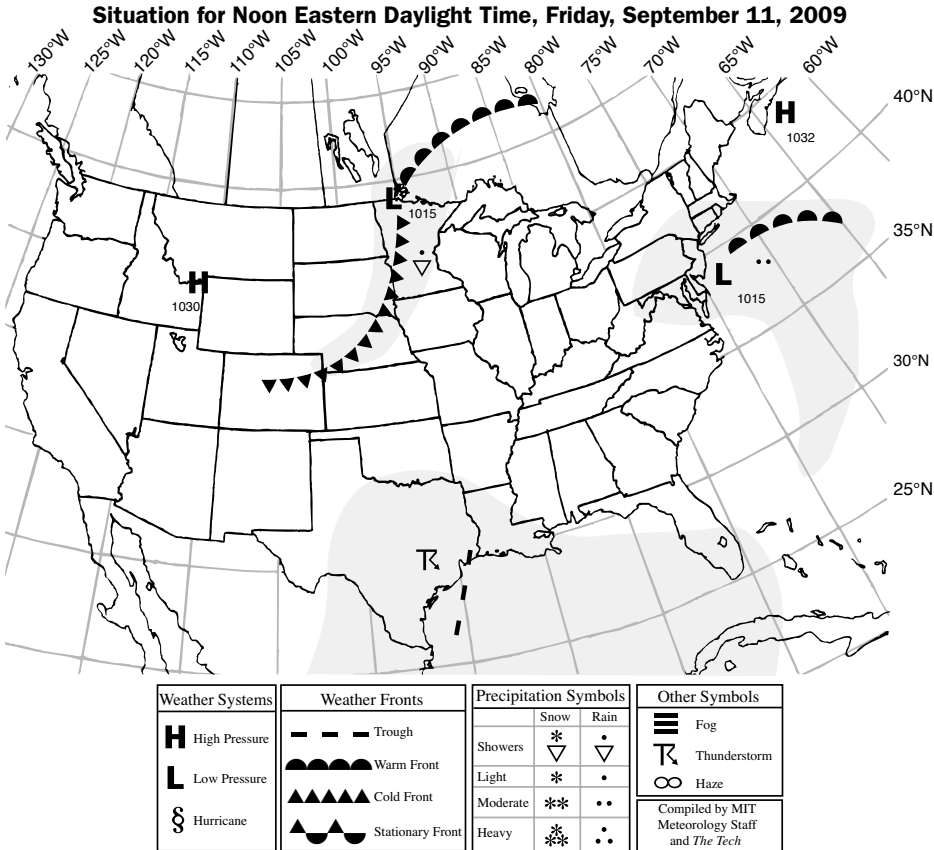
Today: Cloudy with afternoon showers. NE winds 15–20 mph. High 65°F (18°C).

Tonight: Showers. NE winds 15–20 mph. Low 60°F (16°C).

Tomorrow: Showers. NE winds 15–20 mph. High 65°F (18°C).

Sunday: Mostly sunny. N winds 5–10 mph. High 76°F (24°C).

Monday: Sunny. Light and variable winds. High 75°F (24°C).



Buy a GM, Like It, Or Get Your Money Back

By Bill Vlasic
THE NEW YORK TIMES

DETROIT

Can a straight-talking Texan and a money-back guarantee persuade American consumers to buy a car from General Motors?

In its first major marketing campaign since emerging from bankruptcy, GM is putting its new chairman, Edward E. Whitacre Jr., in the spotlight as the spokesman for its offer to give customers a full refund within 60 days on any GM car or truck.

The campaign, called “May the Best Car Win,” is part of GM’s effort to change its lingering image as a financially strapped company with substandard products. The first television ads will begin Sunday, featuring Whitacre, the 67-year-old former

AT&T chief who was recruited by the federal government.

Whitacre, with his Texas drawl and folksy manner, dismissed comparisons with Lee Iacocca in an interview, though he said he hoped to restore confidence in GM just as Iacocca did with his ads for Chrysler in the 1980s.

“I’m happy to do it, I wanted to do it, and I think it is important to do it,” Whitacre said. “I am convinced that our cars are as good, if not better, than anybody else’s.”

He joked that he did not expect to become as famous as Iacocca, but he did say GM needed to repair its image. “People are going to like this guarantee,” he said. “We’re putting a lot on the line here, but I think that these risks are necessary.”

Other automakers, such as Hyundai, have offered to take cars back if buyer lose their jobs, or to replace a lemon with a new vehicle. But the GM program, which goes into effect Monday, simply guarantees product satisfaction or your money back.

While Iacocca became a legendary figure in automotive history partly because of the success of his ads, other auto executives have not fared as well in TV ads.

Three years ago, a Chrysler campaign featuring Dieter Zetsche, the head of DaimlerChrysler, fell flat when consumers were confused by who exactly “Dr. Z” was.

The TV spots featuring Whitacre will be phased out, with more emphasis directed to the money-back guarantee and GM’s core brands.

Obama’s Speech Is Seen as Unifying To Democrats

By David M. Herszenhorn and Robert Pear
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama’s speech on health care failed to bridge the gulf with Republicans, but Democrats said on Thursday that the president had largely succeeded in unifying his own party by making a cogent, persuasive pitch to the American public, and by casting his plan to overhaul the health care system as a political and moral imperative.

The day after the nationally televised address, in which Obama signaled that he could accept an alternative to a government-run insurance plan, influential Democrats who previously seemed wedded to the public insurance option hinted that they, too, might be flexible.

Democrats sought to use momentum from the speech to reshape the national political debate after more than a month of playing defense. Obama wasted no time in pursuing the support of lawmakers who seem to be on the fence by inviting a group of 17 Senate Democrats, mostly centrists, to meet with him at the White House on Thursday afternoon — a session that participants described as positive.

In the Senate, the architects of a bipartisan health care proposal said Obama’s speech had given them a lift by endorsing much of what they have proposed, especially a plan to pay a chunk of the bill’s cost with new fees on high-end health insurance plans. Both Democrats and Republicans believe such a tax can help tamp down long-term health care spending.

Blast Near Mosul Kills At Least 25

By Marc Santora
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

A huge explosion in a small Kurdish village in northern Iraq on Thursday left scores dead and wounded and raised renewed concern that insurgents are exploiting ethnic tensions and political wrangling to establish new bases for strikes across the country.

The blast, in Wardak, outside the divided and violent city of Mosul, killed 25 people, according to Kurdish officials, and was so powerful that it flattened a dozen houses. Residents worked through the night to pull victims from the rubble and treat the 43 wounded.

The death toll from the blast might have been worse, officials said, had they not stopped a second truck packed with explosives before the vehicle’s driver could detonate them. The driver was killed by the Kurdish pesh merga forces that provide security for the area, the officials said.

Wardak is a tiny village, with only about 300 houses, made mostly of mud with wood ceilings. Three sides of the village are protected by sand berms, with a shallow river providing a fourth barrier. Nevertheless, two suicide bombers drove through the river under the cover of night, arriving shortly after midnight, local officials said.

While the pesh merga fired at the first driver, he still managed to reach the town and detonate his bomb, officials said.

By Edmund L. Andrews
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

One of President Barack Obama’s top economic strategists said on Thursday that the government was now starting to shrink many parts of the gigantic financial bailout that followed the collapse of Lehman Brothers last September.

“We must begin winding down some of the extraordinary support we put in place for the financial system,” said the Treasury secretary, Timothy F. Geithner, in written testimony prepared for the Congressional Oversight Panel on the Treasury’s \$700 billion rescue program.

Citing evidence of increased

strength through much of the financial system, and signs that the recession is ending, Geithner said the government was already scaling back many of the government’s special loan and guarantee programs.

Treasury officials, in a separate briefing with reporters, said they expected banks and other financial institutions to repay an additional \$50 billion to the government, on top of \$70 billion that has already been repaid, over the next 12 to 18 months.

“The consensus among private forecasters is that our economy is now growing; the financial system is showing signs of repair; and the cost of credit has fallen dramatically,” Geithner said. “It is clear we have

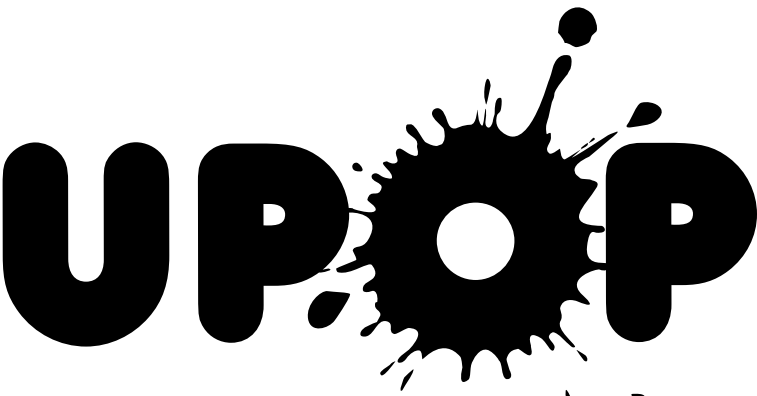
stepped back from the brink.”

The Treasury’s \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, is the most visible piece of a much broader array of emergency measures that the Obama administration and the Federal Reserve have used to prop up the economy after it fell into the deepest downturn since the Great Depression.

The Treasury has invested \$239 billion in banks since the program was created one year ago. It has also invested about \$80 billion in rescue efforts for General Motors, Chrysler and automobile suppliers and more than \$80 billion in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the mortgage-finance giants.

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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.*

Editors' Note

The Tech regrets printing certain inappropriate and vulgar Daily Confusion entries. *The Tech's* readers expect inclusive and responsible content in *The Tech's* pages. In the future, *The Tech* will edit the Daily Confusion to its existing content standards.

Letters To The Editor

The Expensive Lack of Textbook Information

MIT has a stated commitment to the dissemination of knowledge. The Institute has pioneered the adoption of OpenCourseWare and the faculty has adopted a policy that all journal articles are open access by default. The MIT community is known for being hyper-integrated electronically, and with the increasing capabilities of Stellar and other online platforms, it is becoming ever more so.

The great difficulty in getting textbooks and reading list information for classes is a glaring exception to the Institute's standards. Before the semester starts, it can be nearly impossible to know what books you will be expected to have for a class — the only organization with access to this information is the MIT Coop. Lacking a good source of book information and corresponding cheaper alternatives, we find ourselves each semester back at the Coop.

The Coop collects reading lists from the professors themselves, and they manage to do so early enough to stock their store appropri-

ately. However, the Coop has decided to restrict open access to the overall book lists. MIT Libraries (with the Online Textbook Information Project) has tried for years to collect the same information. However, poor faculty response means that most of the data is not available or is entered only at the start of the term, which is too late for students to take advantage of.

The MIT community suffers because information on required textbooks is not available. The libraries are unable to stock the necessary books and put them on reserve and students are unable to browse and purchase books at competitive prices. Shipping delays and the information advantage give the Coop a quasi-monopoly on the textbooks needed at the start of term.

The resulting difficulty in shopping for textbook bargains further increases the cost of an MIT education and should be changed. Faculty should be encouraged to give their reading lists to MIT Libraries early. We should have a single system that collects this data and makes it available to whoever needs it, including the Coop.

However, as a community, we can do more: we can collaboratively track which books are required for different classes. We have recently

developed *BooksPicker.mit.edu*, a system that attempts to do just that, using a combination of student-submitted and professor-verified data to build class reading lists. BooksPicker simplifies reading list submission for faculty; if required books have not changed from the prior term, there is an easy one-step verification of this term's reading list. Information from MIT Libraries and reading lists of past semesters is integrated in an attempt to have the most complete collection of reading lists available. Of course, getting book information is only half the challenge. Using its data, BooksPicker searches across multiple online stores to find the cheapest book bundle for your classes.

We hope that this letter and BooksPicker stirs a discussion within MIT that will change the way readings information is being collected and improve the options students have when purchasing books. Colleges across the U.S. will soon be forced to disclose textbook data by the Higher Education Act; by acting in advance, MIT will remain a leader in information openness and help its students along the way.

The BooksPicker team
Jonathan E. Goldberg G
Rodrigo E. Ipince G
Sinchan Banerjee '11

The Dark Side of Rush

Ryan Normandin

Orientation is finally over. It's the end of the mandatory events that about 50 percent of freshmen don't go to and the end of the left-over free food that is left sitting near Kresge for days afterwards. But the end of Orientation does not mean the end of free food. For with the end of the first week comes the beginning of the second, known as rush. During this frenetic time, the 26 fraternities battle it out to recruit as many freshmen as possible.

Each one of these fraternities has bills to pay, and they are only able to do so with the annual supply of new frosh. Here are the metrics: the freshman class has 1,071 students, according to the Office of the Provost. Of those, there are 561 males. Slightly more than 50 percent of males join a fraternity, so that means that a little more than 280 males from this class are going to be joining a fraternity during their time at MIT. That's certainly a limited number of freshmen to fight over. So, they have about a week to convince the freshmen to join their living group. And it has become increasingly clear that this is done in an unfortunate manner.

The first sign to suggest that rush is out of control occurred during the first day of rush, when the president of the Interfraternity Council announced that the 26 fraternities were, together, spending in excess of half a million dollars. \$500,000. Many fraternities boast about the great community service they do and the wonderful families that they are. Last time I checked, community service organizations don't throw \$500,000 away on extravagant events to buy members of their so-called "family."

Regardless of how much money is spent on Rush events, the same number of students will join fraternities. If each fraternity halves its spending, I am willing to wager that the number of students recruited will not change. Over

the years, millions of dollars could be saved. And there would be no impact at all on the fraternities except that they have more money to put towards important causes. By cutting extravagant Rush spending, all parties involved in Rush would benefit.

Another distasteful aspect of rush week is the persistence and, oftentimes, the "creepiness" of the fraternity brothers. For example, on the first day of rush, there was a massive barbecue at Killian Court (the "Greek Grill-er"). I attended with friends to continue to ensure that I would not spend a dime on food.

We were approached by a brother who told us about an event that was about a 5 minute walk away. I later commented that he seemed similar to a telemarketer. Despite our obvious lack of interest and discomfort with the situation, he continued to press us. Before he gave up, he made one final suggestion: we should get in his van which would take us to the event. Looking towards the street, I saw a large white, unmarked van with seemingly tinted windows.

My mind strayed back to one of the first lessons parents teach their children: don't take candy from a stranger. In fact, never even talk to strangers. And it's probably not a great idea to hop into a stranger's van to go to a party. "Creepy" is the one word that describes this situation accurately. It also describes the next.

During Orientation week, freshmen tend to share numbers not only with many other freshmen, but also with upperclassmen with whom they've made friends. Freshmen tend to be liberal when giving out their phone numbers, oftentimes giving it to an upperclassman who simply introduces himself and asks for the number with the promise of a game of basketball. Naively, the freshmen comply, many not even aware of Rush the following week.

Before rush, when the fraternities are extremely restricted as to what they're allowed to do to recruit freshmen, the number is used responsibly — calls are indeed made to hang

out or play a game of basketball.

But once the clock strikes midnight, the phone numbers become gold while the freshmen become victims. Along with many other freshmen, I have taken to screening my calls. At all hours of the day and night, we receive phone calls from our "friends," who sometimes only made friends with us so they could try to recruit us. The words "being used" come to mind. When your phone rings at one in the morning and you answer to find a random kid you met once walking back to your dorm inviting you to a party at a fraternity house, it is not only creepy, but quite irritating. Sadly, there is no "do-not-call list" for fraternities.

Fraternities are not inherently bad. The community service they do, the sense of community they provide, and their involvement on campus is wonderful. The problem is with their methods of recruitment. And while not all fraternities are guilty (I met many who were relaxed rather than intense and nice rather than pushy), many are.

Fraternities are not for everyone. The fraternities should absolutely hold events to show what they're about and to provide an opportunity for prospective members to meet the brothers of the group, but there is absolutely no reason as to why it should cost \$500,000.

I have seen many of the groups portray themselves as honorable, even including it in their pledge. In that spirit, fraternities should take more measures to ensure that rush activities do not disrupt freshman from handling matters like researching classes, adjusting to campus life, and facing the challenges of making new friends in a new environment. Furthermore, it is not necessary to spend half a million dollars in order to allow freshmen to get a feel for what the brothers are like. The fraternities who engage in such practices disgrace themselves and should be ashamed of their hypocritical behavior.

Ryan Normandin is a member of the Class of 2013.

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ARTS

CD REVIEW

Speaking to Love

Martyn Hill, Stephen Varcoe, and Clifford Benson Perform the Intimate Works of Gerald Finzi

By Sudeep Agarwala
STAFF WRITER
Earth and Air and Rain: songs by Gerald Finzi to words by Thomas Hardy
Hyperion
Released August 27, 2009

At any other time during the miserable history of British music, Gerald Finzi would have been considered one of England's greatest composers. Just his luck, he was born just as Ralph Vaughan Williams was realizing his full potential and died just in time for Benjamin Britten to be achieving his.

Nestled within the shadows of contemporaries, Finzi managed to eke out a unique soundscape that somehow negotiates the graceful yet grave: Orchestral works tend to appear brooding in their initial hearing, and choral works are often imbued with an undue gravitas. Settings of Milton's sonnets seem indelibly lonely, while settings of songs from Shakespeare's works maintain a somber glee. But the music is far more nuanced than its initial gloom might indicate, somehow more private than sad.

Finzi is at his most comfortable in a recent reissue of a 1989 recording of tenor Martyn

Hill and baritone Stephen Varcoe singing settings of poems by Thomas Hardy. Although a modern aesthetic might find Hardy's poetic output affected, the author's work appeared to resonate with the British composer. Of all his voice and piano compositions, Finzi devoted the most of his energy to Thomas Hardy's works, setting over fifty works to music spanning the majority of his career.

Along with pianist Clifford Benson, Hill and Varcoe's recording, *Earth and Air and Rain*, traverses five song cycles, the earliest of which (*A Young Man's Exhortation*, Op. 14) were composed at the very beginning of Finzi's career, the last of which (*I said to Love*, Op. 19b) was completed weeks before his death.

At his most exciting, Benson is staid in his accompaniments, warm when appropriate, and brusquely humorous in the rare occasion Finzi's music hints at a smile. Hill and Varcoe follow suit. Hill's voice provides a rich timbre throughout Finzi's settings in the lower tenor

range, tastefully accentuating the occasional swell in his more comfortable upper register. Varcoe, at times muddled and over-bearing in his lower register, sings with a warm tone that is remarkably expressive.

None of this is gushing praise and it really should be. But it's difficult to voice why Benson, Varcoe, and Hill's vision of this music is so poignantly remarkable without violating the fragile thoughtfulness of their achievement.

While his contemporaries were writing music tailored in part for popular consumption, Finzi's works are remarkably internalized. The Hardy songs are no different: *Summer Schemes*, the opening track of the entire CD, lacks pomp and introduction, proceeding in its narrative without looking backwards to see whether the listener is following.

This is the charm of this music and this recording. The musicians somehow understand the difference between Finzi and his peers and perform the music that way: *So have I*

fared sets an insipid text (Hardy twists Latin pronunciation to rhyme "tryst, I" with *fecisti*, "missed I" with *deduxisti*, "wist I" with *suscepisti*, and so on) to a startlingly stoic chorale tune that Varcoe's nearly straight-tone baritone molds into a deep personal reverie; *To Lizbie Browne* is no longer a cloy love letter, but a personal confession of devotion; alien harmonies in *The Dance Continued* change Hardy's dirge into a reflection on youth and death. Hill's success here is that he performs it as such.

There's no good way to describe these remarkably personal pieces, precisely because they immediately become so internalized upon first listening. Finzi's settings of the Hardy poems reflect the intimate knowledge the composer developed of the poet's work. It's wimpy music, requiring a more fragile, supple touch, recoiling from the bravura of *bel canto*, stentorian Wagnerian or rococo oratorio.

Wimpy, but still beautiful. *Earth and Air and Rain* manages so many nuanced performances, so much by way of subtle and tactful singing that it's impossible not to hear Finzi's love and understanding of Hardy's poetry or Finzi's unique vision of the potential for British music.

Nestled within the shadows of contemporaries, Finzi managed to eke out a unique soundscape that somehow negotiates the graceful yet grave.

MOVIE REVIEW

Equal Parts Melancholy and Hope

Arriaga's Latest Is a Tense Character Drama

By Maggie Liu
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR
The Burning Plain
Written and Directed by Guillermo Arriaga
Starring Charlize Theron, Jennifer Lawrence, and Kim Basinger
Rated R
Now Playing

Before the screening of *The Burning Plain*, one of the film critics near me explained that he had been in the hospital for the last few weeks due to a bike accident. Still tending injuries of a couple broken ribs, he joked that he was "glad that today's movie is not a comedy." Indeed, *The Burning Plain* is perhaps as far as possible from comedy.

Guillermo Arriaga, the director and screenwriter responsible for *Babel*, utilizes many of the same narrative tactics used in the earlier work. In his latest, the mystery-inflected drama unfolds through four seemingly disconnected stories. Arriaga's approach is similar to examining an object under a focused microscope, only gleaning snapshots before gradually retracting and revealing the image as a whole. The film is intricately woven to-

gether as it closes, lingering in one's mind as one pieces everything together in hindsight.

The four strands each begin already tense with potential conflicts: in the opening scene we aren't comforted by a film that's slowly setting itself up, but are launched immediately into the characters' stories and moods. We begin with Sylvia (Charlize Theron), a sex-crazed, depressed individual concealed as a professional restaurant manager. Elsewhere, Mariana (Jennifer Lawrence) and Santiago (J.D. Pardo) are two teenagers from different worlds drawn together by the death of their parents. A tragedy disrupts the life of a young girl who has lived her whole life with her cropduster father and his best friend. The last vignette belongs to passionate and tumultuous forbidden love in an abandoned trailer.

Whether due to the muted cinematography or the despair and hopelessness of the situations, the film is emotionally taxing. Although certain parts are predictable, a narrative twist does not fail to leave viewers both aghast and pleasantly surprised. It is, however, often difficult to relate to the film, since some of the circumstances are impossibly far-fetched.

Ultimately, it is the rawness of the char-

acters' emotions that pull the film together. While its predicaments may not be conventional, the film is able to engage the audience

successfully, with equal parts melancholy and hope permeating the viewer's mood and mind even after the credits roll.



Jennifer Lawrence and J.D. Pardo in *The Burning Plain*.

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INTERVIEW

From Dot Product to Drama

An MIT Alumna Tells Her Personal Story

By Maggie Liu
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Gioia De Cari, the writer/performer of *Truth Values*, received a Masters degree at MIT in Mathematics and was enrolled in the PhD program before she left to pursue a career in acting. De Cari's play *Truth Values: One Girl's Romp Through MIT's Male Math Maze* is an autobiographical solo show showing at Central Square Theater from Thursday, September 10th to Sunday, September 20th. De Cari's play is aimed at telling her personal story of her experiences at MIT and explores the world of women in math and science. It is presented by the Underground Railway Theater and directed by Miriam Eusebio. For selected performances, the play will be followed by discussions with scientists and artists from both MIT and Harvard.

The Tech: How long have you wanted to discuss the issue of women in the field of math and science?

Gioia De Cari: It's not an educational play although a lot of people seem to think it is. At least, it wasn't created for the purpose of education. I struggled for a long time with the idea of creating a theatrical story based on my life. That was the impetus.

It was something I worked on for many years. As for the issue of women in the field of math and science, no, it wasn't the focus. It happens to speak to the issue. Really, my goal was to share a personal history in a theatrical way with all of its messiness, all of its humor, and all of its compassion. So that's what it is. It's a story that's messy, because life is messy.

TT: What do you think women in math and science can do in order to survive and flourish successfully in such a male-dominated field?

GD: Since I'm not in that world, I really don't know. I think it would help a lot if the ratio of men to women were more equal. Having more women around would help the way science gets done. I do get to talk a lot of the women in science. One person thought that science would be better off if there was more diversity. I thought that was a fascinating idea but can I really comment with any expertise on that? No.

TT: You've completely left the field of math and science. Do you have any regrets about it?

GD: Not one single regret about leaving the field. I'm not an angry woman. The *Boston Globe* article said that I was an angry woman. It's not that at all. I know I don't regret it one bit.

TT: What made you decide to pursue theater as opposed to mathematics as your career? Do you think you will ever go back to mathematics?

GD: I really put it away. It's very interesting that when I left MIT I never thought about it

again. Except *Fermat's Enigma*, that was great. I enjoyed that. That's the only thing in all these years.

TT: If you could give a piece of advice to the Gioia of the past, what one piece of advice would you give?

GD: I've discovered a lot after writing and performing this play and the feedback I get about it. I think the advice I would give is remember that you are a human being and it's okay. It's okay to be a human being, it's okay to make mistakes and not be perfect and all the things that come with being human. Looking back upon it now, I think that's the one piece of advice I would have given to the Gioia in the past.

TT: During your time at MIT, did you participate in theater? What do you think of the theater program here?

GD: I started doing theater as a way to have an outlet. I have been doing acting, singing, and theater all my life. When I got to my academic core, I thought I could put it aside. I did start getting back into it when I was a graduate student at MIT.

I was not affiliated with Dramashop. I did some student productions but they weren't Dramashop. I did stuff across the bridge all the time in Boston.

TT: What would you suggest to an MIT student before he or she watches your show, to get rid of presumptions about the play being only about women in math and science?

GD: It's a personal story telling, that's what it is. I want them to see the play. I know that I've had a lot of MIT people come and show up already and they have such a great time because they understand every MIT joke. Because they get things that other people don't and appreciate things that other people might not appreciate. I would definitely want people to know that. To sum up my new work by comparing it to existing works, well, it's kind of like *Blown Sideways True Life* meets *Proof*. *Blown Sideways True Life* was a huge hit, and the play and the film of *Proof* was quite successful.

TT: Do you think that the topic of women in math and science is something noteworthy for the entertainment industry to invest in?

GD: Well the thing about theatrical entertainment is that when you tell stories you touch a lot of people's hearts, in a way that other things don't. Maybe, something like *Proof* got people thinking about women being mathematicians, and it made them think about women in a way people didn't before. I think it's a fantastic thing. That's the wonderful thing of theatrical storytelling. If we just talk about women being underrepresented in a seminar or a symposium, it doesn't have the same impact on society as if you tell a theatrical story. It would be fantastic to have more stories on things like that.

I struggled for a long time with the idea of creating a theatrical story based on my life. It was something I worked on for many years.

THEATER REVIEW

Make Way for Hybrid Villains!

'Bat Boy' Offers Choice Songs, Endless Humor

By Michael T. Lin
STAFF WRITER

Bat Boy
MIT Musical Theatre Guild
Directed by Kristin Hughes
September 10-12, 8 PM
Little Kresge Theatre

The MIT Musical Theatre Guild's production of *Bat Boy: The Musical* (story and book by Keythe Farley and Brian Flemming, music and lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe) is briefly summarized as "Bat Boy's search for love and acceptance," which, though true, doesn't quite capture the depth of the show's... quirkiness. With a plotline that could be considered odd even by musical standards, *Bat Boy* is about neither a young Bruce Wayne nor the baseball equivalent of a roadie, although one could argue that it has elements in common with the former.

As one might expect from a show whose protagonist is half flying mammal, half adolescent boy, it helps to walk into *Bat Boy* expecting to have to suspend somewhat more disbelief than usual. The original production has no shortage of cross-dressing and actors playing multiple roles, and the MTG production remains true to that without hesitation.

As is usually the case with actors performing in drag, much hilarity ensues, but the humor is additionally accented by the less-than-sterling state of the fourth wall. Even setting aside stage conventions, there's more than a point or two where the exaggeration and slapstick take center stage, requiring the audience to take that extra step to accept and enjoy it. I offer as examples the "tantric woodland sex" scene and the numerous "unspeakable things happening to stuffed animals" situations.

The singing and dancing in *Bat Boy* are above average for an MTG show. Considering that MTG has sometimes had difficulty finding enough talented male voices in the past, the men in *Bat Boy* hold their own, even if it's the females that always seem to shine brightest vocally.

Most of the dance numbers are reasonably good. The occasional dance scene doesn't seem to reach its full potential, but there's nothing truly bad about them. One of the very first dance numbers is very derivative: unabashedly and deliberately so. Whether or not it works, I'm not entirely sure. In the context of the rest of the show, the tone of it is fine, if somewhat jarring so early in the first act. Still, if you liked watching "The Evolution of Dance" on YouTube, you should get at least a little kick out of seeing it.

I was honestly very impressed by the acting in *Bat Boy*. The villain is genuinely creepy but nonetheless enjoyable to watch, the spotlight is repeatedly stolen by the ensemble to the point where missing plot points for being too entertained is a definite likelihood, and the hick accents are realistic, yet somehow not annoying. Some mention has to be made of the lead role of *Bat Boy*, played by Steven L. Camina G, who spends half the show barefoot, a third of the show snarling like a hellbeast in the fetal position, and almost the entire performance on stage in what I imagine to be an exhausting role with a minimum of visible fatigue, sporting Spock ears and fangs.

Bottom line: if you haven't seen *Bat Boy*, catch one of the few remaining shows, partly to support MIT theatre, partly to see a show you've probably never heard of before, but most of all because it's a solid production that, all things considered, I'm glad I got to see.



DAVID CHEN

Shelley Parker (Karen A. Hart '11) makes first contact with Bat Boy (Steven L. Camina G) after he is brought in by Sheriff Reynolds (Edmund Golaski '99) during MTG's rendition of *Bat Boy: The Musical* on Thursday in Little Kresge.

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Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

- 1 Potato state?
- 6 False name
- 11 Apron part
- 14 Stenographer
- 15 Big name in insurance
- 16 Cuckoo bird
- 17 Composer's Hellenic humor?
- 19 EMT's specialty
- 20 A pop
- 21 Searches for
- 22 Dull sound
- 23 Steffi Graf's husband
- 25 Strong cravings
- 26 Crosswise
- 29 Ex-pitcher Luis
- 31 "Michael

Collins" star

- 32 Mix
- 34 Stiffening agent
- 37 Coffee vessel
- 38 Tint anew
- 40 So that's it!
- 41 During flight
- 43 Java neighbor
- 44 Griffey, Jr.
- 45 Director Lubitsch
- 47 Capital of New Mexico
- 49 Woody Allen movie
- 51 Island west of Chile
- 53 Actress Jessica
- 54 Capp character
- 55 Taj Mahal site
- 59 Actress Zadora
- 60 Composer's phone
- 62 Links standard
- 63 French room
- 64 Roman Artemis

65 Pompous fool

- 66 Muslim prince: var.
- 67 Simple protein

DOWN

- 1 "Picnic" dramatist
- 2 Mrs. Copperfield
- 3 Emblem ending
- 4 Donkey's bray
- 5 Web address ending
- 6 Of sound
- 7 Depicts
- 8 Joke response
- 9 Common conjunctions
- 10 State
- 11 Composer's swimming technique?
- 12 VCR port
- 13 Wrens and larks
- 18 Corporate documents
- 22 Albacore
- 24 Small cooker

25 GI's W.C.

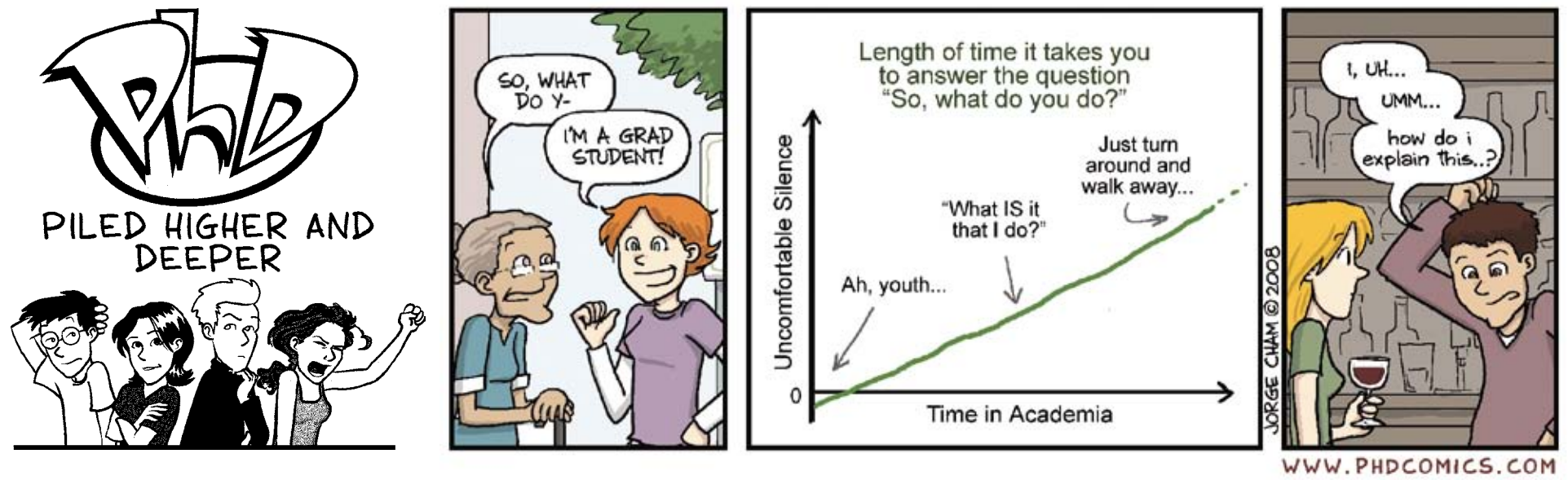
- 26 Calla lily, e.g.
- 27 Garr of "Tootsie"
- 28 Composer's bicycle parts?
- 30 Leaves alone
- 33 Pilfer
- 35 Emeril's title
- 36 Sharpen
- 39 Selleck movie
- 42 Song for Sills
- 46 "The School for Scandal" character
- 48 Calamitous
- 49 Mothers of Invention leader
- 50 Inventor Howe
- 52 One Astaire
- 54 Thailand, once
- 56 Tiny pest
- 57 Indian royalty
- 58 Ladd or Thicke
- 60 Baden-Powell's org.
- 61 Actress/director Lupino

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by Michael Ciuffo





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Tuesday, September 15 th		
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4 - 5 PM	MIT Career Development Center How to Work a Career Fair	2 - 105
6 - 7 PM	BBN Technologies*	32 - 141
7 - 8 PM	Procter & Gamble*	4 - 237
	Vecna*	56 - 114
7 - 9 PM	ExxonMobil*	6 - 120
8 - 9 PM	Cisco*	32 - 141

Wednesday, September 16 th		
When	Event	Location
11 AM - 3 PM	MIT Career Development Center Walk-in Hours	12 - 170
12 - 1 PM	Thomson Reuters*	4 - 153
6 - 7:30 PM	Intel*	6 - 120
6 - 8 PM	Chevron*	4 - 237
6:30 - 8:30 PM	CAREER FAIR KICKOFF AND NETWORKING SESSION	KRESGE BBQ PITS

Thursday, September 17 th		
When	Event	Location
10 AM - 6 PM	MIT CAREER FAIR	JOHNSON ATHLETIC CENTER
6 - 7:00 PM	Central Intelligence Agency*	32 - 141
	Merck & Co.*	4 - 237
7 - 8 PM	Sun Trading LLC*	56 - 114

Friday, September 18 th		
When	Event	Location
5 PM - 6 PM	Vecna*	4 - 231

*These events are information sessions.



Class of 2010

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Sudoku

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, page 12

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

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Bonus Crossword

Solution, page 13

ACROSS

- 1 Hardly emulated the 16-Across
10 Skeleton's place?
16 Proverbial worm catcher
17 Fountain treat
18 Not quite Barcelona's best?
19 Ovoid tree nut
20 La Scala highlight
21 Swear falsely, with "oneself"
23 Olympic perfection
24 Four-handed piano piece by a French emperor?
29 Chic
31 Support provider?
32 Wrong thing to do
33 Conductor Toscanini
36 Impudent
37 Movie gigolo Bigalow struggling with debt?
42 R.E. Lee, e.g.
43 Puts away
44 Batting stat.
45 Sch. with a Phoenix campus
48 Dolt
52 Multitasking, but just barely?
56 Versatile vehicle,

- for short
57 "The Three Tenors" tenor with José and Plácido
58 Picked hair styles, briefly
59 Not strict about, as crime
61 Restaurant special, and a hint to this puzzle's theme
65 "Swan Lake" heroine
66 Delicate spring roll wrapping
67 Future officers
68 How references may be available, in a résumé

DOWN

- 1 It has 100 seats
2 Hardy partner
3 Fur source
4 Arraignment response
5 Norse war god
6 Debt-heavy corp. deal
7 Give a hand
8 Prefix with sphere
9 Car bomb?
10 Key in which "Chopsticks" is usually played
11 Gap
12 Opening hymn words
13 Coffeecake topping

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	14	15
16										17					
18										19					
20							21		22						
23				24	25	26								27	28
29			30					31					32		
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42							43								
44				45	46	47		48					49	50	51
52			53				54	55					56		
		57										58			
59	60						61		62	63	64				
65							66								
67							68								

- 14 Darkening time in verse
15 NFL scores
22 Yank's foe
24 Dealer's adversary
25 Start a pot
26 Spitting sound, in comics
27 Cork's home
28 "We know drama" station
30 Franks' conquest
34 ER personnel
35 Giant among Giants
36 Fancy-schmancy
37 "Whip It" band
38 Inundated
39 Tennis great Lew who won
40 Lackawanna's lake
41 Stampeding group
42 Zooks lead-in?
45 "Little Women" author
46 Fishing nets
47 Thurman of "Pulp Fiction"
49 One in an international
septet
50 Makes amends
51 Shirk one's duty, in a big way
53 Seat of Montana's Silver Bow County
54 Foreword
55 Like a choice between evils
58 Bavarian title
59 SPCA part: Abbr.
60 Harem room
62 Elec. text-reading method
63 Charge
64 N-R connectors

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German Geothermal Project Suspect in Earthquake

By Nicholas Kulish and James Glanz
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LANDAU IN DER PFALZ, GERMANY

Government officials here are re-viewing the safety of a geothermal energy project that scientists say set off an earthquake in mid-August, shaking buildings and frightening many residents of this small city.

The geothermal plant, built by Geox, a German energy company, extracts heat by drilling deep into the earth. Advocates of the method say that it could greatly reduce the world's dependence on fossil fuels by providing a vast supply of renewable energy.

But in recent months, two other similar projects have stirred concerns about their safety and their propensity to cause earthquakes. In the United States, the Energy Department is scrutinizing a project in Northern California run by AltaRock Energy to determine if it is

safe. (The project was shut down by the company last month because of crippling technical problems.) Another project in Basel, Switzerland, was shut down after it generated earthquakes in 2006 and 2007 and is awaiting the decision of a panel of experts about whether it can resume.

The Landau project will be allowed to continue operating while the review panel, which held its first meeting last Friday, deliberates. Geox officials initially denied any responsibility for the temblor and continue to dispute the government's data linking the project to the quake. The panel will, among other things, have to sort through the conflicting data presented by the company and government scientists.

But some experts in the field say they worry that projects like the one in Germany, if the managers deny responsibility for inducing earthquakes or play down the effects on people's lives, could damage the reputation of geothermal energy, even in highly environmentally conscious areas of the world like California or Western Europe.

"My concern is that the project leaders for different geothermal projects are about to waste public confidence as long as they don't talk openly about the seismic risks involved in their projects," said Rudolf Braun, who is the leader of the Basel study and is following events in Landau.

Like other earthquakes that have been attributed to geothermal plants, the Landau temblor was sudden and brief and was accompanied by a sound that in some cases has been likened to a sonic boom. There were no injuries and there was no known structural damage to buildings in the city. But the 2.7 magnitude quake has stoked fears and set off debate in the state parliament, which subsidized the construction of the plant,

about the method's safety.

The police logged as many as 200 calls after the quake, which struck shortly after 2 p.m. on Aug. 15. Stefanie Schuster was at the local supermarket when she heard a loud bang. She said she wavered unsteadily on her feet "like when you feel dizzy."

"My first thought was the geothermal plant," said Schuster, 48, a clerk in the city government. "I thought, There's definitely a problem over there."

Citing an academic paper, officials of AltaRock, the company running the California project, claimed that the Landau plant caused no earthquakes — a claim that Geox says it never made. In fact, in May, the state geological survey for Rhineland-Palatinate, the state where Landau is located, concluded that four minor earthquakes, too small to be felt by residents, had been generated by the project.

Seismologists at the geological survey said that the larger Aug. 15 quake was also caused by the project. The epicenter was roughly 500 yards from a drill site at the plant and at about the same depth — 1.5 miles — as a steam bed that the plant was extracting heat from. "We are sure it's from the geothermal plant," said Harald Ehse, chairman of the geological survey.

In interviews last week, Geox officials conceded that the plant had set off tiny earthquakes and said that they were not certain what set off the Aug. 15 temblor. But consultants for the company dispute the data cited by government scientists to back up their conclusion that the project caused the earthquake: Their own data, they said, proves that the quake originated more than two miles from the site of the plant and six miles below the earth's surface. Those figures would essentially rule out a connection with the plant.

"At this point we can neither deny nor confirm" that the power plant had anything to do with the earthquake, said Peter Hauffe, managing director of Geox.

The Landau plant, which cost \$30 million, went into operation in 2007 and produces electricity for 6,000 homes by drawing heat from beneath the bedrock, nearly two miles beneath the earth's surface. Geox said a coal-burning plant producing the same electricity would emit 30,000 tons of carbon dioxide annually.

Not everyone in town was troubled by the quake. "It's really not such a big deal," said Volker Weisenburger, 43. "Gas has its own set of risks."

But other residents said they were skeptical about the new technology. "The engineers always say that they have everything under control, until something happens that they never expected," said Sabine Hofmann, 47, who lives near the plant.



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Solution to Sudoku

from page 10

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



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Google Digital Book Deal Condemned by US Copyright Office

By Miguel Helft
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

The nation’s top copyright official made a blistering attack on Thursday on a controversial legal settlement that would let Google create a huge online library and bookstore.

Testifying before the House Judiciary Committee, Marybeth Peters, the U.S. register of copyrights, said the settlement between Google and groups representing authors and publishers amounted to an end-run around copyright law that would wrest control of books from authors and other right holders.

Peters, the first government official to address the settlement in detail, said it would allow Google to profit from the work of others without prior consent and that it could put “diplomatic stress” on the United States because it affected foreign authors whose rights are protected by international treaties.

But David Drummond, Google’s chief legal officer, who also testified at the hearing, defended the agreement saying it let authors retain control of their books and would expand access to millions of out-of-print books that are largely hidden in libraries.

In a concession that appears intended to allay complaints that the class-action settlement would grant Google quasi-exclusive rights to profit from millions of books, Drum-

mond said that Google would allow rivals like Amazon or Barnes & Noble to sell online digital copies of out-of-print books that Google has scanned from libraries.

The \$125 million settlement, which is subject to court approval, would resolve suits filed in 2005 by the Authors Guild and the Association of American Publishers against Google over its plan to digitize millions of books from libraries without approval from copyright holders.

The settlement would protect Google from liability and would establish a registry administered by authors and publishers. In concert with Google, the registry would sell access to those books to individuals and libraries. The revenue would be split among Google, authors and publishers.

Peters said that in granting something like a “compulsory license,” a requirement that rights owners license works to others, the settlement essentially usurped the authority of Congress and skirted deliberations.

“In essence, the proposed settlement would give Google a license to infringe first and ask questions later, under the imprimatur of the court,” Peters wrote in her prepared testimony.

Her opinion is important because it could be reflected in a brief expected from the Justice Department this month.

May Alcohol Violation Pushed ATO Over ‘One and Done’ Point Limit

ATO, from Page 1

hol to a minor and failed to request medical assistance when necessary.

ATO appealed on Sept. 4 to the Office of Student Citizenship, on “question of fact” and “question of procedure” according to IFC President David J. Hutchings ’10.

Yesterday, David Kennedy of the

Office of Student Citizenship ruled that there were insufficient grounds for an appeal, and that the expulsion stands.

Since August 2008, ATO had been on a “One-and-Done” point system: The fraternity would be expelled from MIT after the point values of its violations over a year reached one “point.”

events



You’re invited...

Renovations in Barker and Dewey Libraries have created great new spaces to study. Please come visit and celebrate with us!

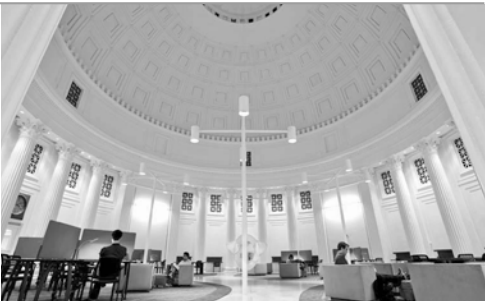
Barker Library Open House

Where: Barker Engineering Library (10-500) Reading Room (under the Dome)

When: Wednesday, September 16, 4-6pm

Remarks at 4:30pm, Refreshments served

The old “journal racks” in the Barker Reading Room have been removed to open up the space and give way to a more flexible design. New area rugs, fresh paint, refinished furniture and improved lighting make this iconic space more inviting for quiet study.



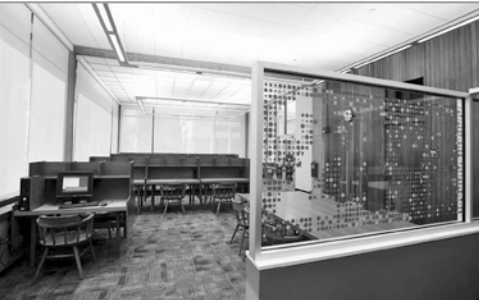
Dewey Library Open House

Where: Dewey Library (E53-100), First Floor

When: Thursday, September 17, 4-6pm

Remarks at 4:30pm, Refreshments served

The new, improved Dewey Library offers a secure 24-7 study space, an area designated for quiet study, and numerous power-enabled study carrels. There are 12 brand-new group study rooms, each with LCD screen and white board, which can be reserved online. The brighter, more open space also features many ecologically-friendly touches, such as cork floor tiles and energy-efficient lighting. Come take a look!



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Photos by L. Barry Hetherington

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The Tech

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PRODUCTION: Learn how articles, headlines, photos, and comics come together in the creative process of layout. There will be a tutorial this Sunday, September 13 shortly following dinner. Anyone is welcome, no experience necessary!

PHOTOGRAPHY: Stop by after Sunday's dinner and claim a news, arts, or sports assignment for next issue! All equipment is provided.

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W20-483



SPORTS

You Ready for Some Football? The Tech's NFL Preseason Picks

By David Zhu
SPORTS EDITOR

Football season is upon us once again. After months of waiting, we can finally restart our fantasy leagues and spend Sundays wishing we were in front of the TV instead of finishing up pset... Anyways, here are *The Tech's* preseason picks for the playoffs.

AFC East: New England Patriots. Tom Brady is back, but the Patriots will not be the same juggernaut they were in their '07-'08 campaign. Several pieces of their team are gone, including their offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels and defensive end Richard Seymour, who was traded to the Raiders last week. Randy Moss and Wes Welker remain dangerous deep threats, but their effectiveness will depend on the Pats' ability to establish a running game.

AFC North: Pittsburgh Steelers. The defending Super Bowl champions enter this season with a similar lineup, returning 19 of their 22 starters. Their defense remains one of the best in the league and, combined with a potent offense led by Ben Roethlisberger, puts them in an excellent position to repeat this year.

AFC South: Indianapolis Colts. The Colts have a tough schedule and will have to avoid getting out to a slow start like they did last year. Kicker Adam Vinatieri and Safety Bob Sanders have been injured, but Peyton Manning should be able to carry the team. New coach Jim Caldwell will have to learn quickly after his preseason losses.

AFC West: San Diego Chargers. I didn't really know which team to pick here, but I'm going with the Chargers. LaDanian Tomlinson is getting old by NFL standards, and a sudden dropoff is a possibility. (I took him in the first round of my fantasy draft, so let's hope not...) Also, San Diego's defense should be all set if linebacker Shawne Merriman can take his anger out on opposing players instead of random people off the field.

AFC Wild Cards: Baltimore Ravens, Tennessee Titans. The Ravens had a pleasant surprise in rookie quarterback Joe Flacco last season. Their offensive will not score bunches of points, relying instead on ball control. The Raven's greatest strength is their stifling defense, which has been one of the most consistent in recent years. Like the Ravens, the Titans will rely on

their defense to carry them into the postseason. Their offense is unexceptional, centered around running backs LenDale White and Chris Johnson. White lost 40 pounds in the offseason (reportedly by laying off alcohol), and Johnson's speed will make him a big receiving target for Tennessee.

NFC East: New York Giants. The Giants have one of the best defenses in the league as well as a potent offense. Last year, they ranked third in the NFL in points per game and led the league in rushing yards. Running back Brandon Jacobs is a tank, but age could be a limiting factor for his production. Eli Manning, coming off a career-best year which earned him a huge contract in the offseason, has lost Plaxico Burress as a target but now has capable rookies Hakeem Hicks and Ramses Barden as wide receivers.

NFC North: Minnesota Vikings. After much drama and months of rumors, the Vikings added Brett Favre, giving them a passer to complement the most dynamic running back in the league, Adrian Peterson. Or, Minnesota can just have Favre take out the entire opposing defense via crackback blocks... Their health, however, is still a concern: How brittle is Brett-Favre-o-saurus? And, how long can Peterson elude injury with his violent running style?

NFC South: New Orleans Saints. The Saints' greatest strength is their passing game. Drew Brees (who happened to be the best quarterback,

fantasy-wise, last season), coupled with pass-happy head coach Sean Payton will likely repeat leading the league in passing yards and points per game, despite the Saints' lack of a go-to receiver. One position New Orleans still has yet to sort out is... kicker. The 45-year-old John Carney is the current starter after Garrett Hartley received a four-game suspension for doping.

NFC West: Seattle Seahawks. I have to go with my team here. The Seahawks were riddled with injuries last year, and you can't expect any team to win when they're starting their fifth-string wide receivers. With the return of Matt Hasselbeck and the addition of T.J. Houshmandzadeh, Seattle should have a good chance of doing well in a shallow division. Their defense, however, remains questionable.

NFC Wild Cards: Dallas Cowboys, Green Bay Packers. This season, the Cowboys open up their new stadium, complete with its \$40 million, 25,000 square foot, punt-blocking jumbotron. Terrell Owens is gone, taking his locker room distraction roadshow to Buffalo. Dallas has also improved its defense, although depth is still a concern. The Packers have much to improve upon after a 6-10 season last year despite a high-scoring offense (5th in the league). They still have their offensive threats — Greg Jennings, Ryan Grant, and Aaron Rodgers — but are shaking up their defense, switching to a new coverage scheme.

'09 Women's Volleyball Season Begins with a Strong Performance

By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

The MIT women's volleyball team opened the 2009 campaign by winning the Gordon College Invitational for the eighth straight season. The Engineers swept Endicott College (25-17, 25-22, 25-14) and Keene State College (25-16, 25-23, 25-12) before topping the host Fighting Scots (25-10, 25-20, 24-26, 25-17) on Saturday. Katrina M. Ellison '10 was named the Tournament MVP while rookie Katie K. Spielbauer '13 was tabbed for All-Tournament Team honors. Alex T. May '10 posted 11 kills and six digs as Ellison and Cecily L. Joujon-Roche '12 both registered eight kills and four digs against Endicott. Jennifer Li '11 notched a team-high five blocks while Barden E. Cleeland '10 totaled four blocks and three aces. Catherine Melnikow '10 paced the defense with 11 digs to go along with three aces as Anna D. Dikina '11 contributed six digs. Alyssa L. Rothman '13 tallied 34 assists and four digs while Spielbauer chipped in six digs.

Ellison recorded a solid hitting performance versus Keene State, compiling 10 kills on 15-errorless attempts for a .667 hitting percentage. May totaled 12 kills, four digs, and two blocks as Li and Cleeland each posted six kills and three blocks. Spielbauer collected 12 digs while Melnikow amassed six digs and five aces. Rothman notched 30 assists, four digs, and two aces as Joujon-Roche contributed two blocks. Dikina bolstered the Engineers' serving

performance with a trio of aces. In her intercollegiate debut, Trinity P. Leonard '13 led MIT's attack with 15 kills to go along with eight digs against Gordon. Kelsey K. Cappelletti '11 recorded 13 kills and two blocks as Kelly E. Schulte '12 tallied eight kills and two aces. Spielbauer compiled 20 digs while Kate Kelly '12, Melnikow, and Li each earned a pair of aces. Joujon-Roche contributed seven digs and six kills as Dikina tacked on nine digs. Rothman posted 41 assists and seven digs while Cleeland registered two blocks in two games.

On Tuesday night, May had a solid outing in MIT's 25-19, 25-19, 25-22 victory over host Rhode Island College. In two sets, the senior outside hitter registered 12 kills, a .429 hitting percentage, eight digs, and two blocks as the Engineers improved to 4-0 on the year. Schulte notched eight kills and a .583 hitting performance in two sets while Leonard contributed seven kills and a .545 hitting percentage in one frame. Cleeland bolstered MIT's attack with seven kills as Joujon-Roche led the way with three blocks.

Rothman posted the first double-double of her career, tallying 38 assists and 10 digs. Li contributed two blocks and four digs while Ellison chipped in two blocks. Melnikow compiled five aces and five digs as Spielbauer rounded out the defense with six digs.

The team will take their strong start on the road to Allentown, PA this weekend where they will participate in the Muhlenberg College Invitational Tournament.

SCOREBOARD

Field Hockey	
Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009	
Lasell College	0
MIT (4-0)	8
Women's Soccer	
Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009	
Worcester State College	1
MIT (1-2)	2
Women's Volleyball	
Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009	
MIT (4-0)	3
Rhode Island College	0



Mariah Messina of Worcester State College attempts to score a goal as Casandra N. Ceri '13 (center) and Kerry Ann R. Box '12 (right) from MIT defend on Sept. 9. The engineers won the game with a final score of 3-1.



Jessica M. Oleinik '11 races down the field in the first quarter of the game on Sept. 8th. The Engineers maintained their undefeated status by beating Lasell 8-0.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Sept. 11, 2009 Men's Soccer vs. Claremont-Mudd-Scripps 7 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium	
Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009 Sailing - Schumann Trophy 9:30 a.m., Charles River	
Sunday, Sept. 13, 2009 Sailing - Schumann Trophy 9:30 a.m., Charles River	