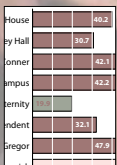


Sex@MIT

*The Tech explores
the Sexuality of MIT
Pages 9–20*



Christine Yu and
Lena Chen review
sex toys and lube,
pages 17–19



The Tech surveyed
over 1700 students
about their
sexuality.
The results,
pages 14–15



Sexual assault: a
survivor's story,
pages 12–13

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Wave of Theft Hit MIT Dorms; MIT Police Have Made Arrests

By Vinayak Ranade
STAFF REPORTER

Seventy-nine thefts, including 24 laptops and 18 bicycles, have been reported on the MIT campus this term. Derek Correia was arrested in Baker House on Oct. 22 for stealing a laptop.

Many of these thefts, which doubled in frequency between September and October, have taken place in the dorms along Amherst Alley.

One of the stolen laptops has been recovered.

There have been two other arrests recorded on MIT's police log for suspicious activity and trespassing.

In a statement to the MIT News Office, John DiFava, Chief of MIT Police, wrote: "The increased number of thefts on campus in September and October is of concern to us, and our patrol staff and detectives have worked hard to understand the reasons for the increase and devise strategies to address them."

Regarding two of the arrests for criminal activity, DiFava wrote, "We

believe that these two actions will directly impact the number of thefts on campus. And as we further investigate this issue, we will draw upon the same police practices that have proven very effective in reducing theft at MIT ... The recent uptick in thefts has the full attention of the MIT Police."

The number of burglaries reported by MIT to the Department of Education fell each year between 2005, when 289 thefts were reported, and 2008, when 86 thefts were reported.

Wrestling Fails to Reclaim Varsity Status Despite \$1.6M in Donations

By Margaret Cunniff

Despite having raised \$1.6 million from alumni, the MIT wrestling team was denied by the administration in an attempt to regain varsity status. Wrestling will now function as a club sport, making it the last of the eight varsity sports that were cut from varsity status last spring to transition to club status.

Concerns over the club's viability motivated the administration's decision to reject the appeal. In a joint statement released on October 15,

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay, Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo, and Director of Athletics Julie Sori-ero explained the decision to cut the wrestling team as a result of both necessary budget cuts and concerns about the viability of the team.

The statement cited lack of interest as one of the reasons to question the team's viability: "We do not have winning as a criterion for support but out of fairness to other teams, our resources should go to teams that have student interest and a competitive

opportunity."

As a club team, wrestling will have reduced access to Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation facilities and varsity sports medicine services. The club will also compete in fewer dual meets than it would have if it were still a varsity team. In addition, members will not be able to compete in the NCAA National Tournament.

Co-captain and All-American

Wrestling, Page 25

Energy Dept. Aid Goes to Cutting-Edge Research

By Matthew L. Wald
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The federal Energy Department will make good on a pledge for a bolder technology strategy on Monday, awarding research grants for ideas like bacteria that will make gasoline, enzymes that will capture carbon dioxide to counter global warming and batteries so cheap that they will allow the use of solar power all night long.

A new agency within the department will nurture these and other radical proposals, most of which will probably fail but a few of which could have "a transformative impact," Energy Secretary Steven Chu said in an interview on Friday. The money will

Energy, Page 24

In Short

¶ A symposium celebrating the work of Prof. David Schauer, who passed away in June, will take place today between 1 and 5 p.m. in 14W-111.

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



DHAVAL ADJODAH—THE TECH

Students from all over Boston show off their bhangra, raas, and garba moves at Milan, a dance festival hosted by MIT South Asian American Students (SAAS) last Saturday in Walker Memorial.

New MIT Undergraduate Program Helps Students Communicate in Industry

By Tracy Jan
THE BOSTON GLOBE

The students practice networking and hone "elevator pitches," entrepreneurial ideas summarized in under a minute. They don blindfolds for team-building activities. Failure is met with candid critiques about their leadership styles.

This isn't business school. It's a new engineering class at one of the premier engineering universities in the world, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

MIT created the unusual undergraduate program in response to industry pressures to produce engineers who are as skilled at communicating face-to-face as they are at writing complicated computer codes on their own. Business leaders complain that many of today's engineering graduates, trained as abstract thinkers, have too little grounding in the actual practice of working with others to deliver in-

Gordon, Page 27

Peter Curtin G

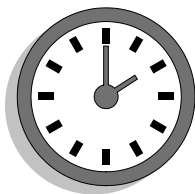
Peter Curtin made his passion, warmth, and energy felt by everyone he worked with and befriended.

Curtin, a second-year graduate student in the Department of Chemistry at MIT who passed away after collapsing while running the Baltimore Marathon on October 10, produced journal-worthy research less than two years into his chemistry PhD program, but still found time to compile and play mix CDs, brew fresh pots of coffee, and maintain office supplies for his lab.

Curtin came to MIT after graduating with highest honors from Princeton in 2008. Daniel G. Nocera, a professor of chemistry and Curtin's MIT advisor, said Curtin had already made enough contributions as a researcher that his name will appear on articles to be published in the future.

Nocera described the traits that made Curtin such a promising

Curtin, Page 25



Daylight saving
time ends
on Sunday.
Remember to
shift clocks
back an hour.



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Diehard Harry Potter Fan?
You'll like this.

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WORLD & NATION

Saudis Work to Head Off Swine Flu Fears Before Pilgrimage

By Donald G. Mcneil Jr.
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Every year, the single largest gathering in the world is the annual pilgrimage to Mecca: 2.5 million people from 160 countries packed into a small city in Saudi Arabia for five days.

This year, some will be bringing swine flu.

The Saudi authorities, fearing that the pilgrimage, or hajj, could turn their holy city into a petri dish for viral mutations and a hub for spreading a new pandemic wave around the world, are working hard to head that off. They have asked some worshipers, including pregnant women and the elderly, not to make this year's trip, which is scheduled for the last week of November.

Although the Saudis have turned to the World Health Organization and other health agencies for help in previous public health threats to the hajj, this year the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is more deeply involved because it has so much experience with this new flu strain. Consultants for the centers have gone back and forth to Riyadh, flu experts at American medical schools have been called in and the U.S. Navy's medical laboratory in Cairo is preparing to help with any complex flu testing that is beyond what Saudi laboratories can do.

Fdic Chief Criticizes Financial Reform Plan

By Stephen Labaton
THE NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON

Senior regulators and some lawmakers clashed once again with the Obama administration on Thursday, finding fault with central elements of the White House's latest plan to unwind large financial companies when their troubles imperil the financial system.

Describing the details of the legislation to the House Financial Services Committee, Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner emphasized that it would give officials the tools to more tightly supervise the largest financial companies and that government would have the authority to order companies to shed risky assets or limit trading activities if they pose a threat to the companies' stability.

But after he completed his testimony, significant parts of the plan were challenged by Sheila C. Bair, the chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. She raised numerous objections about the structure of a proposed council of regulators, and said that it would fall short of its goal of protecting the system from the shock of a large failure.

The legislation comes in response to the public outcry over taxpayer bailouts of some of the nation's biggest financial companies, including Bear Stearns, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the American International Group, Citigroup and Bank of America.

Pakistan Pursuing Taliban Deeper into Mountains

By Jane Perlez
THE NEW YORK TIMES SHERWANGAI, PAKISTAN

Here in the distant dun-colored hills of South Waziristan, the Pakistani army pushed toward a special lair of hard-core Taliban on Thursday, sending artillery and jet fighters to break the back of the militants, who in turn, have brought the war to where it really hurts, the nation's cities.

The offensive launched by the army in South Waziristan nearly two weeks ago has turned into a battle of wills between the army, the custodian of Pakistan's nuclear weapons and accustomed to facing arch-enemy India, and insurgents from the Taliban and al-Qaida, who are determined to bring down the state.

In retaliation, the insurgents have struck with ferocity at Pakistan's urban centers and military installations using sleeper cells and commando fighters to wreak havoc and fear, killing large numbers of civilians as never before.

Tehran Rejects Nuclear Accord, Officials Report

By David E. Sanger and Steven Erlanger
THE NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON

Iran told the U.N. nuclear watchdog on Thursday that it would not accept a plan its negotiators agreed to last week to send its stockpile of uranium out of the country, according to diplomats in Europe and U.S. officials briefed on Iran's response.

The apparent rejection of the deal could unwind President Barack Obama's effort to buy time to resolve the nuclear standoff.

In public, neither the Iranians nor the watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, revealed the details of Iran's objections, which came only hours after Iran's president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, insisted that "we are ready to cooperate" with the West.

But the European and U.S. officials said that Iranian officials had refused to go along with the central feature of the draft agreement reached on Oct. 21 in Vienna: a provision that would have required the country to send about three-quarters of its current known stockpile of low-enriched uranium to Russia to

be processed and returned for use in a reactor in Tehran used to make medical isotopes.

If Iran's stated estimate of its stockpile of nuclear fuel is accurate, that would leave the country with too little fuel to manufacture a weapon until the stockpile is replenished with additional fuel, which Iran is producing in violation of U.N. Security Council mandates.

U.S. officials said they thought that the accord would give them a year or so to seek a broader nuclear agreement with Iran while defusing the possibility that Israel might try to attack Iran's nuclear installations before Iran gains more fuel and expertise.

The Obama administration was anticipating that Iran would seek to back out of the deal, and in recent days the head of the nuclear agency, Mohamed ElBaradei, traveled secretly to Washington to talk about what to do if that happened, according to several U.S. officials.

Last weekend, Obama called President Dmitri Medvedev of Russia and President Nicolas Sarkozy of France in an effort to maintain a unified front in dealing with Teh-

ran's leadership.

A senior European official characterized the Iranian response as "basically a refusal." The Iranians, he said, want to keep all of their lightly enriched uranium in the country until receiving fuel bought from the West for the reactor in Tehran.

"The key issue is that Iran does not agree to export its lightly enriched uranium," the official said. "That's not a minor detail. That's the whole point of the deal."

U.S. officials said it was unclear whether Iran's declaration to ElBaradei was its final position, or whether it was seeking to renegotiate the deal — a step the Americans said they would not take.

Michael Hammer, a spokesman for the U.S. National Security Council, said that "we await clarification of Iran's response," but that the United States was "unified with our Russian and French partners" in support of the agreement reached in Vienna. That agreement explicitly called for Iran to ship 2,600 pounds of low-enriched uranium to Russia by Jan. 15, according to officials who have seen the document, which has never been made public.

U.S. Economy Grew in 3rd Quarter, First Time in a Year

By Catherine Rampell
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The United States has emerged from the longest economic contraction since World War II.

The nation's gross domestic product expanded at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the quarter that ended in September, matching its average growth rate of the last 80 years, according to the Commerce Department.

But government programs to encourage consumer spending on things like cars and houses are expiring, and employers remain reluctant to hire more workers, suggesting the recovery may not last, economists say.

For most people, the recovery will not feel real until jobs are more plentiful and the housing market improves. Jobs may still be hard to find well into 2010, economists say. A government report to be released next week is expected to show that unem-

ployment rose again this month.

Before the third quarter, gross domestic product — the broadest measure of the government's total goods and services produced — had been shrinking for a year. It bottomed out with a 6.4 percent rate of decline in the first three months of this year, the steepest fall since 1982.

The trend was halted last quarter primarily because of consumers, who drove most of the economic gains.

The government's cash-for-clunkers program spurred consumers to spend more on durable goods, orders of which grew at an annual rate of 22.3 percent in the third quarter after a decline in the previous quarter. Similarly, the \$8,000 federal tax credit for first-time home buyers helped revive housing sales, which rose at an annual rate of 23.4 percent in the third quarter. Housing sales had actually fallen by a com-

parable amount in the previous three months.

The \$787 billion stimulus package is also credited with strengthening economic activity, although the precise contribution is contested.

Many economists worry that the effects of these government initiatives will be short-lived and that the next few quarters may show sluggish growth or even a second dip downward.

Initial jobless claims fell by 1,000 in the latest week, to 530,000, according to a Labor Department report released Thursday.

Economists said that companies were using up inventories more slowly and that this might mean businesses are anticipating more demand, and are keeping more stock on hand.

A slower drawdown in inventories might also spur economic activity in the coming months.

WEATHER

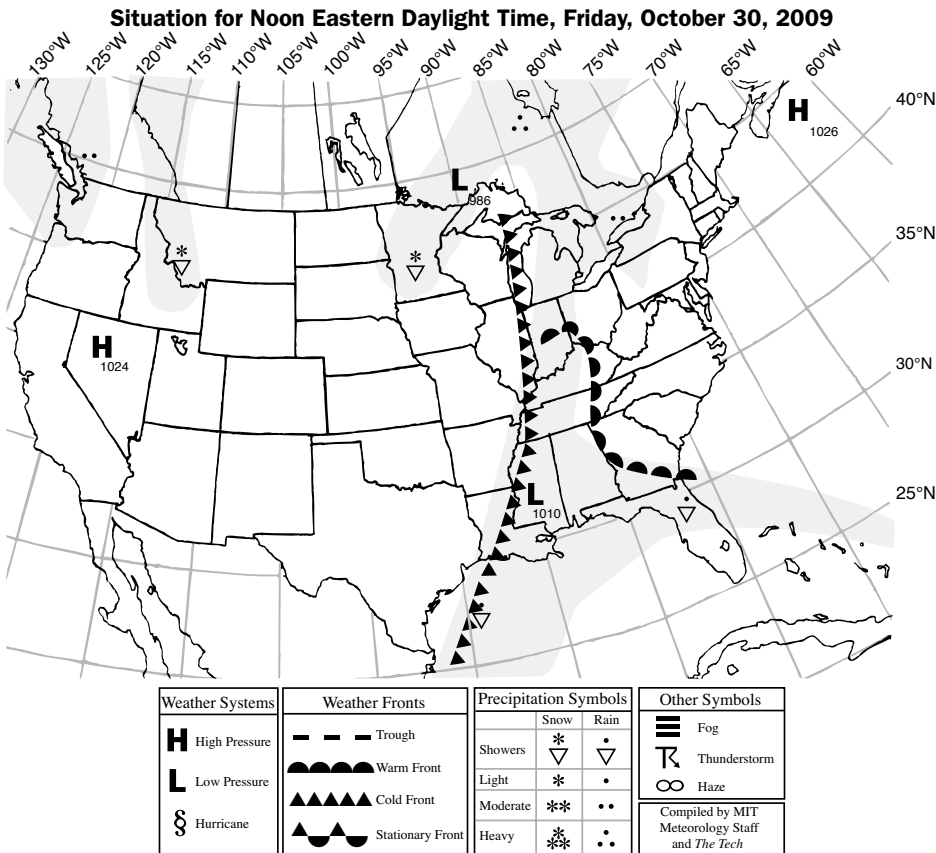
69 On Halloween

By Angela Zalucha
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A tight pressure gradient will be in place this weekend between a high pressure system off the coast of Nova Scotia and a strong low pressure system over southwestern Ontario. This will cause a strong flow from the southwest, bringing hot, steamy air to our region. High temperatures on Saturday will top out around 69°F (21°C), well above average, so no need to cover up your Halloween costume. The remainder of the weekend will be dry with the next chance for rain on Sunday night.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly sunny. High 56°F (13°C). South winds 5 to 10 mph.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Low 50°F (10°C).
Tomorrow: Partly sunny and windy. High 69°F (21°C). Southwest winds 25 to 30 mph.
Sunday: Mostly cloudy. High 58°F (14°C).



The Senate’s ‘Dr. No’ Poses a Health Bill Hurdle

By Mark Leibovich
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Sen. Tom Coburn’s office is the rare Capitol Hill work space without a “me wall” — the display of photographs of a lawmaker standing beside presidents, foreign leaders and other dignitaries, all illustrating How Big a Deal he is.

Instead, hanging above Coburn’s desk is a large framed print of the word “no.” It was a tribute from a liberal voter in New York thanking Coburn, a conservative Republican from Oklahoma, for his efforts at thwarting expensive legislation.

Known as Dr. No, Coburn, a family practice physician, views legislative battle less in terms of Republicans versus Democrats than as a matter of yes versus no. He sees himself as a one-man treatment center helping Congress beat its bipartisan addiction to misguided spending.

“I’ve always considered myself an opposition within the opposition,” said Coburn, whose willingness to block, delay or neuter bills through an array of procedural measures has made him an effective nuisance dur-

ing his five years in the Senate.

As the health care overhaul heads to the Senate floor, Coburn is preparing for what he considers a career pinnacle of havoc. Enacting the proposal, he says, would be catastrophic, and so if precedent holds, he will try to thwart it with every annoying tool in his arsenal: filing amendments (he has done that 508 times since joining the Senate, second only to John McCain’s 542 in that period), undertaking filibusters and objecting strenuously.

“When it comes to obstructing bills, he is part of a very tiny pantheon in the history of the Senate,” said Ross Baker, a Senate historian at Rutgers University.

To Coburn, charges of obstructionism are a mark of honor he will wear as proudly as ever in the coming weeks.

“My mission is to frame this health care debate in terms of the fiscal ruin of this country,” said Coburn, 61, who recently railed on the Senate floor that the federal debt was “waterboarding” his five grandchildren. “I have instructed my staff to clear my schedule for every minute that bill is on the floor.”

After inflicting migraines in

Washington, Coburn goes home on weekends to Muskogee, where he treats patients on Mondays. He says he does his best thinking aboard his John Deere mower, which can run 20 mph and slash through pretty much anything on his seven-acre meadow. Coburn dons earplugs, stares straight ahead and cuts a determined swath, just as he does in the Senate.

His at-times hyperbolic rhetoric, fervent social conservatism and seeming indifference to whether or not people like him have drawn a lot of attention. “If we wiped out the entire Congress and sent common people who have no political experience, we would get far better results than we have today,” he said in a remark typical of how he views the institution.

And in a remark typical of how some members of the institution view Coburn, Jim Manley, a spokesman for the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid of Nevada, said: “Sen. Coburn relishes it when people call him Dr. No, but he is more appropriately called Dr. I Know Best. He has routinely blocked and delayed bills that have wide bipartisan support, often based on specious arguments.”

Iraq Arrests Police Officers and Soldiers After Bombings

By Timothy Williams and Mohammed Hussein
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Iraq announced Thursday that it had arrested dozens of police officers and army soldiers responsible for security in the neighborhood where car bombs killed and wounded hundreds of people outside government buildings this week.

The attacks on Sunday, aimed at the Justice Ministry and the Baghdad provincial council buildings, occurred in a heavily protected section of the capital, prompting accusations that Iraq’s security forces had been complicit in the bombings.

The twin suicide attacks killed 155 people and wounded more than 500.

Among the 61 people in security jobs arrested Thursday were the commanders of local police posts and the soldiers and police officers responsible for security checkpoints in downtown Baghdad near the buildings.

The arrest order was announced by the Baghdad Operations Command, which is responsible for security in the capital and reports directly

to Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki. The announcement did not offer any further details, so it remained unclear whether the 61 security force members were suspected of having aided those who carried out the attacks.

On Thursday, the Iraqi Parliament failed again to approve a law to govern national elections scheduled for January. The session was canceled for lack of a quorum after Kurdish members boycotted it to protest a proposal for voting rules in Kirkuk, a disputed province in northern Iraq. Kirkuk, which sits atop billions of barrels of oil, is claimed by Kurds, Arabs and Turks.

Under Saddam Hussein, many Kurds were driven out of the area and replaced by Arabs, a process that was reversed after the United States invasion. The proposal calls for combining the 2004 and 2009 voter registration rolls, but the Kurds say Arabs would be overrepresented under this plan.

The election law issue was further complicated Thursday when Hamdia al-Hussaini, a member of the Independent High Electoral Commission, which oversees elections here, said

the 2004 voter rolls were severely flawed.

Hussaini said election officials had sought to use 2004 registration information during the 2005 parliamentary elections, but quickly determined that the war had rendered the data useless.

“We realized it was not accurate because there had been so much displacement,” she said, “so we started relying on ration card documents instead.”

The dispute over the election law threatens to delay the elections, a setback that could also postpone the planned withdrawal of U.S. forces out of concern about resulting instability.

A joint statement on Thursday from the U.S. ambassador, Christopher R. Hill, and Gen. Ray Odierno, the commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, urged Parliament to approve election legislation quickly — the second such statement this month.

“We urge Iraqi political leaders to work out their differences and take swift action to do what is in the best interest of the Iraqi people so they may exercise their democratic rights,” the statement said.

Clinton Challenges Pakistanis On Al-Qaida

By Mark Landler
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LAHORE, PAKISTAN

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, on a visit meant to improve relations with Pakistan, strongly suggested Thursday that some Pakistani officials bore responsibility for allowing al-Qaida terrorists to operate from safe havens along this country’s frontier.

“I find it hard to believe that nobody in your government knows where they are, and couldn’t get to them if they really wanted to,” she said to a group of Pakistani journalists on her second day here. “Maybe that’s the case; maybe they’re not gettable. I don’t know.”

It is extremely rare for an official of Clinton’s rank to say publicly what American politicians and intelligence officials have said in more guarded ways for years. The remarks upset her hosts, who have had hundreds of soldiers and civilians killed as Pakistan has taken on a widening campaign against certain militant groups that have threatened the state from the country’s tribal areas.

But they gave voice to the long-time frustration of U.S. officials with what they see as the Pakistani government’s lack of resolve in rooting out not only al-Qaida but also the Taliban leadership based in Quetta, and a host of militant groups that use the border region to stage attacks on U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan.

Clinton’s statement was only one of several pointed remarks on issues ranging from security to poor tax collection during a day in which she ran into a wall of distrust and mostly hostile questioning in public appearances intended to soothe relations, suggesting she was no longer willing merely to listen to Pakistan’s grievances.

The shift in tone came after a meeting with university students in which she expressed regret about past injustices in the U.S.-Pakistani relationship, as well as about the disputed American presidential election in 2000, which she said showed that all democracies are flawed.

“We have to decide if we want to move beyond the past in your country and in our country,” Clinton declared. “We are now at a point where

we can chart a different course.”

Rarely in her travels as secretary of state has Clinton encountered an audience so uniformly suspicious and immune to her star power as the polite, but unsmiling university students that challenged her at Government College University in this edgy Pakistani city.

In a later exchange with American journalists, Clinton did not try to temper her remarks, saying they would contribute to a healthier, more open relationship with Pakistan. But the U.S. ambassador, Anne W. Patterson, sought to put them in a broader context of efforts to persuade the government to root out militants in its frontier regions.

“We often say there needs to be a focus on finding these leaders,” Patterson said. “Most of al-Qaida is in South Waziristan,” the frontier area near Afghanistan where the Pakistani army is conducting a campaign against militants.

Clinton’s comments were prominently played on Pakistani news channels, and government officials rejected her assertion.

Buoyant Democrats Unveil Health Care Legislation

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

WASHINGTON

House Democrats on Thursday unveiled their bill to remake the health care system and said they had the votes to pass it. But Republicans said gimmicks had been used to hide the measure’s long-term costs.

The bill is similar in size and scope to one taking shape in the Senate, where Democrats’ control is more tenuous and the outcome less certain.

With introduction of the bill, both houses of Congress are now poised for a floor debate on the legislation.

“We are about to deliver on the promise of making affordable, quality health care available for all Americans,” Speaker Nancy Pelosi declared at an outdoor rally on the west side of the Capitol.

The Congressional Budget Office said the House bill would provide coverage to 36 million people.

By the most commonly used yardstick, the bill would cost \$1.05 trillion over 10 years, roughly \$150 billion more than President Barack Obama had said he wanted to spend on the legislation.

Oil Giants’ Earnings Reflect Decline in Energy Prices

By Jad Mouawad
THE NEW YORK TIMES

After posting record profits last year, major oil companies have struggled to adapt to a world of lower prices and slower economic growth. They have slashed costs, shed employees and pared high-cost investments made when prices were rising.

As oil prices have fallen, so have corporate earnings. Exxon Mobil, the world’s biggest publicly traded oil company, and Royal Dutch Shell, the top European company, both reported sharp declines in third-quarter earnings on Thursday.

The plunge in profits occurred amid a recovery in oil prices, which had fallen as low as \$34 a barrel in December from their peak of \$147 a barrel last summer. On Thursday, oil closed at \$79.87 a barrel in New York trading, up \$2.41.

In Galleon Case, Questions Over a Nonpursuit

By Ashlee Vance and Michael J. De La Merced
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The first tip from inside intel reached Raj Rajaratnam more than a decade ago from the same source who has now turned against him in the biggest insider-trading case in a generation.

As far back as 1998, before he rose to prominence in the rarefied world of hedge funds, Rajaratnam was passed confidential information from an Intel employee who, the authorities now say, went on to play a crucial role in a vast insider-trading scheme involving some of the nation’s largest technology companies. That source, Roomy Khan, is a central government witness in the case against Rajaratnam, who maintains his innocence.

Rajaratnam has been charged with running the insider trading scheme involving Galleon. He and five others are accused by the Justice Department and the SEC of relying on a vast network of company insiders and consultants to make more than \$20 million in profit from 2006 to 2009. In the government’s recently filed insider trading charges against Rajaratnam, prosecutors identify Khan as “Tipper A” and say they had exchanged insider information on Google, Polycom and Hilton.

College Enrollment Sets Record, Study Says

By Tamar Lewin
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Almost 40 percent of the nation’s 18- to 24-year-olds in 2008 were enrolled in college, a record number, according to a Pew Research Center report released on Thursday. The rise was driven almost entirely by a surge in students attending community colleges.

“We have anecdotally got this sense that there’s been this college enrollment boom,” said Richard Fry, a senior research associate at the Pew center who wrote the report, “but now we’ve got confirmation, and we know that at least among young adults, the increase seems to be a two-year college phenomenon.”

The previous record for college enrollment among 18- to 24-year-olds was 38.9 percent in 2005.

Many Schools Take the Fright Out of Halloween Costumes

By Jennifer Steinhauer
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Guns, daggers and other toy weapons have long been excised from costumes at many school celebrations on Halloween. But in some classrooms across the country, the interpretation of what is too scary — or offensive, gross or saddening — is also leading to an abundance of caution and some prohibitions.

In a school district in Illinois, students are being encouraged to dress up as historical characters or delicious food items rather than vampires or zombies. In Texas, a school has issued suggestions for “positive costumes” for the annual Halloween dance. At Riverside Drive, a Los Angeles public school in the San Fernando Valley, the Halloween parade is being defanged right down to its jagged fingertips.

A memo about costume appropriateness sent home recently by Riverside Drive’s principal made the following points:

- They should not depict gangs or horror characters, or be scary.
- Masks are allowed only during the parade.
- Costumes may not demean any race, religion, nationality, handicapped condition or gender.
- No fake fingernails.
- No weapons, even fake ones.
- Shoes must be worn.

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Corrections

An article last Friday about proposed cuts to MIT pension plans misstated the fundamental relationship between MIT's defined benefit and defined contribution plans. MIT employees need not choose one or the other, they receive both.

Letters To The Editor

Mother Teresa

Deserved Nobel Prize

I have read the letter you received from Ahmed Hussain about Mother Teresa in which he discussed why she did not deserve the Nobel prize expressing some strong opinions about her activity. I wonder what is Hussain's source of information regarding the activity of Mother Teresa. I have been myself several times in houses of the "Sisters of Charity" (the order of nuns Mother Theresa founded) and what I have seen is very different from what he describes. I have found simple nuns that lovingly assist and help those who are in need and those that have been forgotten by everybody and are alone.

In my opinion, the key to understand the work of mother Teresa and why she got the Nobel prize is the love she put in her activity. She treated the poorest of the poor as we would treat a family member: with outmost love and care. And this love is still alive in the houses of the order she founded.

I appreciate freedom of opinion. However, I suffer in seeing an overwhelmingly positive figure as Mother Teresa addressed with less than fair words. I would suggest that anyone interested get first hand information on the topic by visiting a house of the Sisters of Charity (there is a center nearby at 556 County St, New Bedford, MA 02740). Whether you agree or not with the sisters or with the reasons behind their activity, I'm sure the trip is worth it. At the very least it will give you a chance to learn firsthand about one of the greatest love-inspired movements in our time.

Andrea Adamo '02

Stohlman '76 Also Running for Cambridge Council

I think it's great that Leland Cheung is running, but there's more than one nerd in this race.

Tom Stohlman

MIT '76 (14) '77 (10C) MArch. '78

Kappa Sigma

Former Baker House RA

'Tech' Should Not Have Run FLAME Ad

This letter is in response to a paid advertisement that appeared in the Tuesday October 20th edition of *The Tech* (<http://tech.mit.edu/V129/PDF/N46.pdf>). This ad was submitted by an organization called FLAME that stated its purpose as one of enlightenment and education. In fact, the ad served only to promote inaccuracy and hate-speech. The ad, for example, compares the Arab people to Nazis. The other ideas presented in this ad are also extremely derogatory and offensive towards Palestinians and Arabs and we are surprised that they are tolerated by any means in an MIT publication.

This recent ad in *The Tech*, along with a number of other incidents that I described in my letter to the editor on May 12, 2009 (<http://tech.mit.edu/V129/N26/kandil.html>), adds to the growing sense of discomfort and exclusion that MIT's Palestinian students and other Arabs

are feeling on campus.

We ask that The Tech more carefully screen advertisements before they are published in order to avoid running racist ads that deeply offend members of the MIT community.

Iman Kandil '09

'Tech' Inaccurately Described MIT Retirement Program

The Tech published an article on Friday, October 23 describing MIT's retirement program and proposed retirement plan cuts as described in the preliminary report of the Institute-Wide Planning Task Force. This article, unfortunately, provides a highly inaccurate description of MIT's current retirement program.

For the record, MIT does not provide employees with a choice between a defined benefit and a defined contribution plan. MIT provides all retirement eligible employees with BOTH a defined contribution *and* a defined benefit retirement plan. MIT currently matches up to the first 5 percent contributed by an employee to the 401(k) plan — a defined contribution plan that establishes individual accounts for each participant. Each participant decides how to invest contributions and these accounts are subject to fluctuations in the financial markets, like any other individual investment. The full value of this account is available to the participant at retirement and can be withdrawn or can

remain invested.

MIT is one of a diminishing number of employers who also provides a defined benefits pension plan for our retirement eligible employees. Employees do not contribute to this plan, but accrue a benefit across their entire working career at MIT. This is a complex, federally regulated plan that allows employees to accrue benefits using two different formulas, with the formula that provides a larger benefit used when an employee retires. At retirement, this account is converted to a monthly benefit payment that will continue for the employee's lifetime or that can continue to a spouse or other beneficiary (upon the employee's death) at an employee's discretion. Every three years after retirement, a Cost of Living increase is added to the monthly pension amount.

We encourage all students and employees to read the preliminary report so you can acquaint yourselves more fully with the work of the task force. The small portion of the report proposal that was profiled in this article does not do justice to the hard work and monumental effort that the members of this Task Force undertook to carefully and thoroughly study these critically important issues.

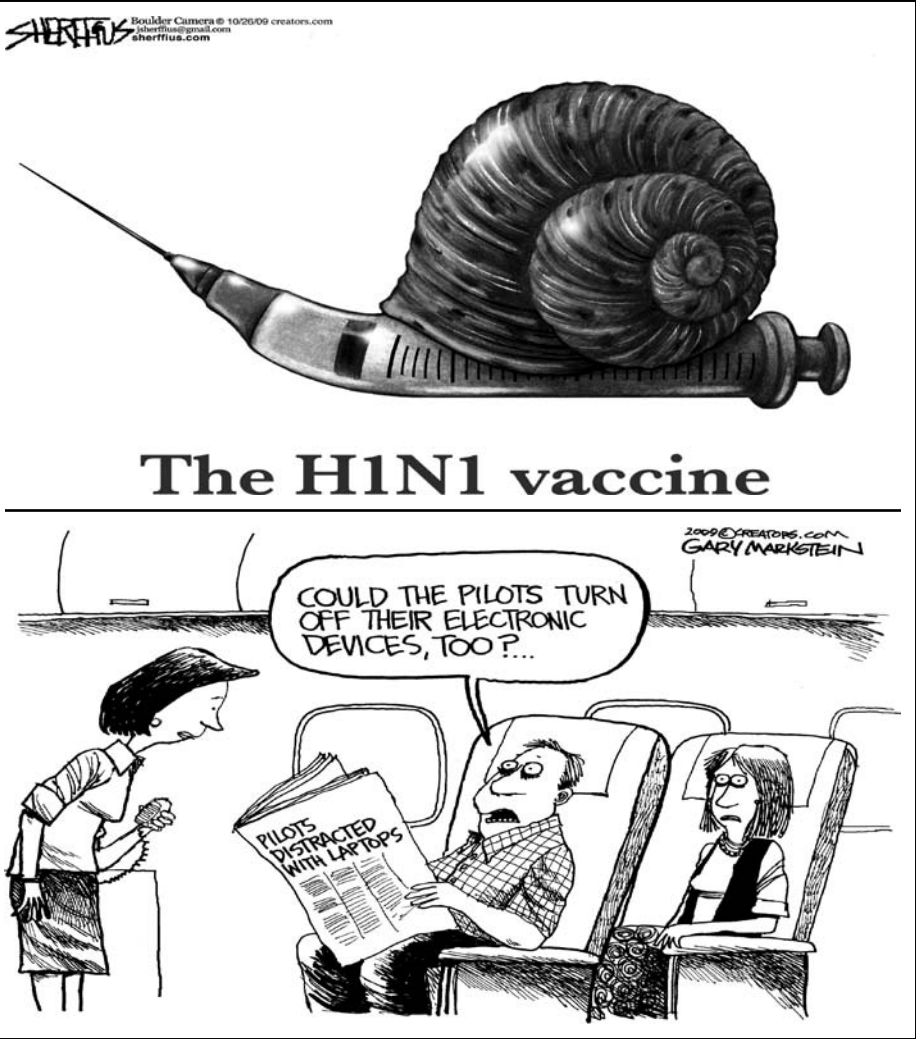
For additional information on MIT's retirement programs and the other benefits that make up a generous and highly competitive package of employee benefits, refer to our newly revised benefits website: <http://hrweb.mit.edu/benefits>

Jean A. Samuelson, CEBS, SPHR

Director, Employee Benefits

MIT Human Resources

[Editor's Note: See correction above.]



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, Opinion Editors Joseph Maurer and Ethan Solomon, and Senior Editor Andrew T. Lukmann.

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

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

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on *The Tech's* Web site and/or printed or published in any

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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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Get Out and Vote!

Cambridge Elections Are Important to MIT Students

Noah Spies

Every member of the MIT community should have an interest in next Tuesday’s municipal elections. While there is a lot of interest in the Boston mayoral race and this winter’s U.S. senatorial race to replace Ted Kennedy, it’s much harder to find information about the candidates running for office here in Cambridge. Cambridge had a particularly poor voter turnout of under 14,000 (around a quarter of registered voters) in the last municipal elections, held in 2007. If you’re registered to vote in Cambridge, it’s your job to make your voice heard and cast your ballot for School Committee and City Council. Remember: think globally, act locally.

In its own words, the City Council “authorizes public improvements and expenditures, adopts regulations and ordinances, levies taxes, controls the finances and property taxes of the City, and performs many related legislative tasks.” The nine Councillors elect a Mayor from amongst their own. Under a system called “Plan E,” designed to prevent corruption and cronyism, recommendations and implementa-

tion of policy decisions as well as various appointments are under the control of the non-elected City Manager. This election cycle is of particular importance as rumors suggest the current City Manager is considering retiring after nearly 30 years. The City Council will be in charge of finding a qualified replacement for this key administrative role when this happens.

Issues of potential interest to the MIT community are the safety of our streets, affordability of local housing, the quality of the roads we walk, bike and drive and interactions between the city and our university, including availability of late night food options, special permitting for parties and support for activities such as the Cambridge Science Festival. The City Council also supports local initiatives supporting global causes like the creation of the Cambridge Energy Alliance, which helps residents and businesses improve the energy efficiency of their buildings in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Also on the ballot on Tuesday is a choice for Cambridge School Committee. Together with the mayor, the six elected committee members determine the policies and budget for the city

school department. While Cambridge spends \$25,000 per student — among the highest in the state — results on this year’s statewide standardized MCAS tests have prompted the state to declare Cambridge Schools “in need of improvement.” Achievement disparities between racial and socioeconomic groups were marked and the School Committee will have the opportunity to work with the newly hired Superintendent to improve achievement.

While most MIT students are unlikely to have children in the Cambridge schools, it is important that all the educational institutions in the city support one another. The success of the schools helps make Cambridge a more inviting place for graduate students, post-docs and professors, and who knows — you might even settle down and end up raising your own children here.

Under the so-called “Single Transferable Vote” system enacted as part of Plan E, voters can choose as many or as few candidates as they wish to support, and rank those candidates in order of preference. While your number one vote is most important, if your top candidate receives too few votes to remain in contention, your subsequent choices will be

counted. There are a number of resources available to inform yourself ahead of Tuesday’s vote. The Cambridge Candidate Pages (<http://vote.rwinters.com>) has a profile of each candidate, as well as links to their own websites, and is an excellent place to start. Cambridge Community Television recorded a series of short video introductions with each of the candidates, and these videos are linked from the candidate pages (<http://www.cctvcambridge.org/candidates>). The *Cambridge Chronicle* has also published a series of short Q&A with the candidates (http://www.wickedlocal.com/cambridge/town_info/your_vote).

A current Sloan student is among those running for City Council, who you can read about in *The Tech* (<http://tech.mit.edu/V129/N48/lelandcheung.html>). The *Harvard Crimson* also recently published an in-depth overview of issues facing the school committee (<http://www.thecrimson.com/article.aspx?ref=529756>). Finally, to find your polling place, whether it be Cambridge or elsewhere in Massachusetts, visit <http://www.wheredoivotema.com>.

Noah Spies is a graduate student in Course VII.

UA Update

Senate met on Monday, October 26 and started with Barbara Baker, Senior Associate Dean for Students, as a special guest. Dean Baker was interested in ways to communicate better with students, discussed ways to improve Student Life online resources such as the Student Support Services website, and detailed the work of the Deans on Call program. The UA Senate passed 41 U.A.S. 2.1: Bill to Decrease the Minimum Meeting Requirement, which allows for flexibility in scheduling Senate meetings due to long weekends. Senate will be meeting again on Monday, November 2.

President Hockfield hosted several student lunches as a result of a conversation she had at Senate last fall, and the

Undergraduate Association and the President’s office are proud to announce that the program is continuing this fall. These lunches are a great opportunity to discuss a variety of issues regarding the Institute and to get to know your school’s president. The lunches will run monthly throughout the fall term and will occur on different days of the week so that more students have the opportunity to attend. If you are interested in participating, sign up at <http://ua.mit.edu/exec/lunches/>.

Dorm Storm is next week! Members from both UA Exec and Senate will be visiting your living group or a living group near you. The will be food, and the UA encourages you to be ready to have conversations with your UA representatives

about Institute issues on your mind. The full Dorm Storm schedule is:

- Monday, November 2, 9–11 PM: Simmons Hall
- Tuesday, November 3, 7–9 PM: Near Safe Ride (Rain location: first floor of the Student Center)
- Tuesday, November 3, 9–11 PM: Baker House
- Wednesday, November 4, 7–9 PM: Next House
- Thursday, November 5, 7–9 PM: East Campus

The UA looks forward to seeing you there!
—Elizabeth A. Denys, UA Secretary General

Rush

Campus Safety

Health Care

Financial Aid

Textbook Prices

Give a damn?

Do something about it!
Tell us what you think.
letters@the-tech.mit.edu

ARTS

EXHIBIT REVIEW

For Very Important Muggles Only

Harry Potter Artifacts On Display at Museum of Science

By Yü Linlin Huang

The Harry Potter Exhibition
The Museum of Science, Boston, MA
October 25, 2009 – February 21, 2010

Instead of heading to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, the Hogwarts Express left platform 9 3/4 and took a transatlantic detour to Boston this September. Though no young witches and wizards were aboard the train, more than two hundred authentic costumes and props were.

These artifacts were used in the Harry Potter films and will expectantly await visitors in the Boston Museum of Science from now until February 21, 2010, when the Hogwarts Express will take them back home. On October 22, a group of Very Important Muggles were invited to an evening reception at the Boston Museum of Science to see the magic before the East Coast Premiere of the exhibition. The Exhibition allows fans of the film series to see the artistry and craftsmanship of the props and costumes used in the Harry Potter films. The exhibition is separated into seven different settings: the “Gryffindor Common Room,” “Classrooms,” “Quidditch,” “Hagrid’s Hut,” the “Forbidden Forest,” “Dark Forces,” and “The Great Hall.”

The passion and devotion that set designers of the Harry Potter film series put into their work can really be seen through the exhibition. In the movie, there are scenes which show transient shots of the Daily Prophet or flyers on a bulletin board. Not until seeing those same props at the exhibition will the true details be appreciated. Each page of *The Prophet* is filled with actual articles about the wizarding world. The bulletin board in the Gryffindor Common Room is tacked with a sign-up sheet for a weekend Hogsmead trip, a flyer that tells about the retrieval of a lost Merlin’s Beard, and an advertisement for Weasley’s Wizarding Wheezes. The most amazing piece of artifact is the the Marauder’s Map.

When viewed up close, the map shows what seems to be the exact blueprint of Hogwarts, and each fold and flap on it is either a secret passageway or a staircase.

Each artifact is specially designed with intense detail, especially the wands. Fans who have seen the movies may know that each wand is different, but perhaps do not realize how different. Professor Snape’s wand, made of ebony and inlaid with a simple, archaic design, is perhaps the most elegant of all the wands on display. In contrast, the Elder Wand, the most powerful wand of all, resembled something carved out of a bleached oracle bone with arched, uneven bumps for a handle. The seal of the three hollows is the only thing that made the wand look special.

Not only does the exhibit offer a deeper look into the intricacies of the set design, but it is also a good place for kids to experience some interactive magical fun. In the Herbology classroom, visitors can learn how to pull mandrakes, and on the Quidditch field, enthusiasts can try to score points with a Quaffle. In the classroom setting, the personalities of the professors are shown in their robes and room decorations. Most memorable is Professor Umbridge’s office. Freakishly pink and high-brow Victorian in style, her office is the regurgitation of Barbie’s mom.

For those die-hard fans of Harry Potter who wish to know every miniscule detail about the creation and utilization of each artifact, there is a audio tour which accompanies the visual tour. Those who wish to go on the audio/visual tour can request a portable audio player to take along on their walk-through of the exhibition. The audio accompaniment allows viewers the chance to learn the reason and process through which a certain artifact is made and it’s relevance in the movies. For maximization of the tour experience, the audio/visual tour is highly recommended.

Tickets to the Harry Potter Exhibition are available online at www.mos.org and by phone at 617-723-2500.



COURTESY OF CHRIS HOLLO, HOLLO PHOTOGRAPHICS, INC.

Kids pull out mandrakes in the Herbology area of the Harry Potter exhibit at the Museum of Science in Boston.



COURTESY OF CHRIS HOLLO, HOLLO PHOTOGRAPHICS, INC.

Harry Potter star Matthew Lewis (Neville Longbottom) adds his character’s wand to Harry Potter: The Exhibition during the East Coast premiere at the Museum of Science in Boston.

MOVIE REVIEW

The Saints Are Back in Boston

The Irish Duo Bring Vigilantism to Theaters This Halloween

By Emily Nardoni

STAFF WRITER

The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day
Written and Directed by Troy Duffy
Starring Sean Patrick Flanery and Norman Reedus
Rated R
In Theaters Today

When I heard Troy Duffy had made a sequel to *The Boondock Saints*, I was speechless.

And for good reason. The vigilante tale of two Irish brothers who set out to rid Boston of evil men received mostly poor reviews after its release a decade ago, but has since built a substantial cult following. While it ranks as one of my personal favorite films, it always seemed to be the kind of movie you could only do once.

Now, *Boondock* fans be warned: this is not the original. *The Boondock Saints II: All*

Saints Day does not even attempt to replicate the artsiness and bluntness that made its predecessor so memorable. But the Saints are back, and it’s definitely something to get excited about.

We find the MacManus brothers (played excellently by Norman Reedus and Sean Patrick Flanery) hiding in rural Ireland with their father, Il Duce (Billy Connolly). But when news comes that a Boston priest was found murdered in the trademark Saints’ fashion — shot through the head with two pennies placed over the eyes — they return to Boston to exact revenge.

As a crime thriller, the movie is average. The brothers’ pursuit of the mob is fun, but we see a little too much mob. The son of Yakavetta — the mob boss they executed in a public courtroom at the end of the last film — is now the big guy in charge, but he doesn’t seem to have inherited Yakavetta’s fearful presence. Sure, he’s incredibly dangerous;

at one point, he knocks one of his cronies in the mouth so hard that for the rest of the film he’s stuck speaking with an exaggerated lisp. But his graphically crude humor often feels forced, and in a number of scenes I found myself wishing I was back on the brothers’ plot line.

But probably the most engaging aspect of the film are the character interactions. The brothers have a new sidekick — played by Clifton Collins Jr. — and their scenes together are hilarious. The smooth-talking Mexican is no Rocco (a close friend and accomplice from the original), but his scenes with the brothers are explosive. Throwbacks to old-school Saints scenes, like when the brothers bicker over how much rope Connor MacManus brought along on a mission, elicited the loudest audience applause in the screening, and are sure to be much appreciated by fans. The new detective on the case — a sexy, quick-thinking southerner played by Julie Benze

from the television series *Dexter* — might at first seem a debatable followup to Willem Dafoe’s epic performance in the last film, but will win you over by the end.

I found that to be true about a lot of aspects of *All Saints Day*: it had to work to win me over. New characters, a strong emphasis on humor, and a whole different dynamic from the original kept me holding my judgments for longer than probably should’ve been necessary. But while the first two-thirds of the film was enjoyable, once the pace picked up it turned great. Awe-inducing murders, a great deal of interesting backstory, and successful plot twists culminate in an unforgettable finale that reminds you both why you loved the original and why you ought to at least respect the care that went into producing this film. As director Troy Duffy put it, “fear” of messing with the original film’s fan base “quickly turned to love” on the set, and that love emanates throughout the film.

INTERVIEW

Q&A with Neville Longbottom

By Yü Linlin Huang

Matthew Lewis, who portrayed Neville Longbottom in the Harry Potter series; Eddie Newquist, president of Branded Entertainment and Exhibitgroup/Giltspur; and Paul Fontaine, Vice President of Education of the Boston Museum of Science, discussed the Harry Potter exhibition at a roundtable discussion with *The Tech*.

TT: How long did it take for the Exhibition to come together?

Newquist: From conception to finish, the project took around three years.

TT: How is the exhibit different from the one that was in Chicago?

Newquist: The two exhibits are identical, but some artifacts could be different because some may be needed for the filming of the last movie.

TT: What message is the museum trying to send to kids by hosting the Harry Potter Exhibition?

Fontaine: Innovation, imagination, and creativity. People who come for the Harry Potter experience will hopefully take a look at the rest of the museum as well.

TT: What are your favorite parts of the exhibition?

Lewis: The mandrakes. When you watch the film, it’s one thing, but actually pulling it is another.

Newquist: The Great Hall.

Fontaine: Buckbeak. Each of its thousand feathers were put in by hand!

TT: What part of the exhibition was the hardest to build?

Fontaine: The Great Hall was the hardest because a part of the roof of the museum had to be blown out in order to fit in the stained-glass windows.

COMEDY REVIEW

Night of Comedy Gets MIT to Lighten Up

BJ Novak Tells Jokes for a Full House

By Emily Nardoni
STAFF WRITER

BJ Novak
October 24, 2009
Kresge Auditorium, Cambridge, MA

As any good *Office* fan would know, B.J. Novak came to MIT last Saturday night for a stand-up comedy show. Novak, whose career started in stand-up, plays Ryan Howard in the hit NBC sitcom, writes for the show, and has appeared in such films as *Knocked Up* and *Inglourious Basterds*. After a brief and not-too-memorable warm-up act, Novak took the stage to ecstatic applause. The show was sold-out, and the audience was ready for some entertainment. First on Novak’s agenda: He thanked his two warm-up acts for prepping the crowd, including President Obama. His opening cracks at Obama got everyone chuckling heartily, and set the tone for an engaging show. BJ Novak has the type of stage presence that builds an amicable relationship with his audience. His jokes ranged from mildly amusing to absolutely hilarious, but even in his most low-key moments there was no sense of betrayal to that relationship. Yes, he’s a star, and his on-screen fame is a large reason that people come out to see him. But he’s also a genuinely funny guy with a genuinely good routine, and — although he could’ve easily gotten away with it — he didn’t for one second sell himself short. Highlights of the show include a hilarious

panda set and recitation of a faux children’s book about Wikipedia Brown. Coming down on the fact that pandas are endangered due to their lack of procreation, he emphatically exclaimed, “Do you know what this means? Pandas do not think other pandas are cute!” followed by a declaration that if he were a panda, he “would be fucking the shit out of pandas, just so (he) could cuddle afterwards.” Everyone in the room, including myself, was nearly crying from laughter for several minutes. His Wikipedia Brown set poked fun at Wikipedia’s overwhelming amount of information and inescapable force of distraction: a force we’ve all felt at one point or another. A later segment went through a list of his jokes to determine which belonged in the trash and which were worth keeping proved satisfyingly amusing. I especially appreciated his intelligence as a comedian. He quipped throughout the show about the nerdiness of MIT students, and gave hilarious on-the-spot answers to questions fielded by the audience at the end of the show. I’m glad he opted for an ending 5 minutes of Q and A: It gave him yet another chance to connect with the audience and let us hear some interesting facts about his career. For instance, we learned that his favorite *Office* moment is Michael’s determination to say “that’s what she said” even after being legally banned from uttering the phrase. From start to finish, Novak gave an enjoyable show. My only complaint is that I wish it could have gone on longer.



COURTESY OF WILLIAM MORRIS ENDEAVOR ENTERTAINMENT
BJ Novak, of *The Office*, didn’t hesitate to poke fun at MIT students during his performance at Kresge Auditorium.

MOVIE REVIEW

‘Monsterpiece’ or Just Monstrous?

Spike Jonze Takes a Stab at Maurice Sendak’s Classic

By Pooja R. Shah

Where The Wild Things Are
Directed by Spike Jonze
Written by Spike Jonze and Dave Eggers
Based on Where The Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
Starring Max Records and Pepita Emmerichs
Rated PG
Now Playing

From a mere ten sentences, Spike Jonze has managed to create a full-length feature film in his newest release, *Where the Wild Things Are*. The movie is an adaptation of Maurice Sendak’s classic children’s picture book and delves into the realms of childhood and love at its truest and simplest form. The film tells the story of a kid, Max, who fails to realize the love that surrounds him and is constantly living in his own fantasy. Near the start of the movie, he tells a tale of vampires, creates a fort that’s taking off into space, and dresses up as a strange creature showing how he, like most other kids — but maybe a little

more than others — is deeply rooted in his own little fantasy world. However, when faced with the reality of his life, Max runs away from home one night and sails away in a sailboat (across the sea of his subconscious mind) till he reaches an island and meets large talking beasts — the “Wild Things” — and becomes their king. The movie tells a heart-wrenching tale that captures the essence of childhood at its most terrifying and most beautiful moments. However, whether this movie is actually a children’s movie is up for debate. While there isn’t enough to rate the film higher than PG, the story portrays an extremely dark side of childhood and there is not enough to entertain a kid — or, at times, me — thoroughly. However, I must say that despite the few tiring moments, the film was made with sheer ingenuity, and is a masterpiece. It’s

simple, yet the story has depth. As said before, the film explores childhood; at times, the perspective leans towards an adult’s view of childhood, however. From Max’s tantrums, to his lack of cooperation, to him running away from home — there are times when I wasn’t sure whether to feel bad for Max or to be annoyed at him. Once Max is with the “Wild Things,” more of his childhood and his personality is revealed. Without giving too much away, it soon becomes obvious to the viewer that the “Wild Things” are representations of either some part of Max’s life or his personality. The “Wild Things” are given as an insight into Max’s past and his mind — the symbolism is perfect, since each and every one of us has a little Wild Thing hidden inside, as kids, and even now as college students and adults

The movie tells a heart-wrenching tale that captures the essence of childhood at its most terrifying and most beautiful moments.

— though I never expected them to be quite as sinister as Jonze portrays. Although there are flaws in this movie, there are still a great many good things about it, from the talented performances by the actors to its dark but touching theme. The movie is a work of art. However, while *Where the Wild Things Are* is a work of art, it still fails to fully do justice to Maurice Sendak’s classic, even though tens of millions of dollars and many years were spent working on this movie. The film is a darker rendition of the classic book. Watching it simply as a movie, I would have been completely satisfied, but watching it, knowing it was an adaptation of one of my favorite books as a child, the movie failed to meet my expectations for the book (but then again, not many adaptations meet the expectations of the readers). Nonetheless, I would recommend the movie. Though Spike Jonze’s unique adaptation may not be satisfying to your inner child, it is still a wonderful movie to watch, and it will pull at your heartstrings to the very end.



Spike Jonze’s newest release, *Where the Wild Things Are*, brings a childhood favorite to life.
COURTESY OF WARNER BROS PICTURES

Live @ The Coffeehouse
TONIGHT 8 p.m.

Supa Dupa

Cute and colorful gypsy nerd rock band that sings songs about sandwiches and cystoscopies. Accordion, trumpet, violin, bells and costumes: It's like musically getting hugged with math! (www.supadupasound.com)

Intergalactic Space Gunk

Where jazz and funk meet in distant nebulae, you might be lucky enough to glimpse the ISG groove train, depositing outer spatial radiation of eargasmic proportions. A welcome haven in the silent vacuum of space, this cross-universe locomotive houses a funky dance party of musical inebriation.

BOOK REVIEW

An MIT Alum Reveals The Simple Art of Estimation

By Mark Zhang

How Many Licks?
Aaron Santos '01
Perseus Book Group
September 2009
\$14.95

Could you lift a house if only it were made of Styrofoam? Is it feasible to dig one's way out of prison with a spoon? How many balloons might it actually take to lift a person or a house off the ground?

If these questions intrigue you, check out *How Many Licks?*, a book by physicist and MIT alumnus Dr. Aaron Santos that's all about guessing. Santos not only provides you with the answers to many titillating questions, but he provides you with the tools to arrive at them yourself.

The book centers around the Fermi Method, whose statement is deceptively simple: make basic assumptions and estimates about what you want to know, and then combine them through calculation to find your answer. This sounds easy enough. If we want to know how many leaves are on a tree, we could estimate the number of leaves on a branch and the number of branches on the tree, and multiply these numbers together. But say we wanted to compute how many Big Bad Wolves it would take to blow down the little piggy's brick house? Where would we start? What kind of information would we need? It's not at all obvious, and these are the questions Santos tackles in this colorful text.

As an MIT Undergraduate with a strong background in math, I will admit that this book didn't show me anything I hadn't seen before. When I first picked up the book, I had a glimmer of hope that it would dazzle me with ingenious techniques for making quick, accurate estimates. I was disappointed — but that is hardly fair. *How Many Licks?* aims to appeal to the general public and in this it succeeds. Not only is the material in the book very accessible, but the friendly, spacious layout and the plentiful pictures (as well as the awesome examples) make it a very pleasurable and entertaining read. You can hate math and still like this book.

As such, I applaud the author's effort to spread appreciation of and literacy of mathematics and bridge the gap between mathematicians and other people. Anyone who harbors a preconception that only those blessed to commune with the forces of mathematics can hope to divine the answers to questions like "How long of a line can you draw with one pen before it runs out of ink?" should totally read this book.

And even if the math is not new to you, *How Many Licks?* is still chock full of interesting inquiries and tidbits. Despite my lack of newly acquired math skills, I found the book engrossing and entertaining, and definitely worth at least a skim. That endearing MIT quirkiness is readily tangible with these pages. You'll see what I mean when you read it.

INTERVIEW

Rubblebucket Orchestra Ramp Up to Halloween Gig at Middle East

Frontwoman Kalmia Traver Discusses African Influence, Writing Lyrics

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

Afrobeat groove specialists Rubblebucket Orchestra will play a special show tomorrow night at the Middle East Downstairs. The morning after a gig in Hartford, I caught vocalist and saxophonist Kalmia Traver on the phone to discuss Rubblebucket Orchestra's past, the new record *Rubblebucket*, and the influence of African music on her band's style.

The Tech: The first time I saw Rubblebucket Orchestra was when you opened for Mike Gordon (of Phish) at the Paradise Rock Club in 2008. What was it like playing with him? Are you a fan of his music?

Kalmia Traver: It was definitely special. He's sat in with us before, and I've been seeing Mike and the Phish guys for years because they all hang around University of Vermont (UVM). The Christmas I got a CD player, it came with the Phish record *Hoist*. I never went to a show but I listened to *Hoist* and *Billy Breathes* and dug their songwriting. They write beautiful songs — I liked that more than the long jams.

TT: I find a lot of tight composition on *Rubblebucket*, but does your writing allow for a lot of jamming in the live setting?

KT: In the beginning we stayed from jamming. We had so much work to do to get the songs together. We do love to let ourselves go — there's certain times in the set where we do that. People do take solos, but it's taken time to build up that chemistry playing together.

TT: Did any songs not make the record?

KT: We had two songs that didn't make the cut. One was instrumental and the other one a little rock-and-roll.

TT: Who in the band are the primary songwriters?

KT: Alex has emerged as the band leader. He's written most of the music and I wrote the words to a lot of the songs.

TT: How do you write lyrics? Are you trying to fit words to the music, or do you rather see it as writing poetry?

KT: Usually Alex will write a groove or a beat with a form, and it's pretty much there. And then I'll sit down with it on Garage Band. Sometimes I'll start out with shapes and melodies, random word shapes. I've had a few instances of being into poetry, but that's not my inspiration. It comes from the music and the vibrating sounds in my body. The shapes become lyrics, and the

lyrics come up from experiences I've had.

TT: I really like this one track in particular, "Ba Donso, We Did This." There's an interesting string instrument being played — is that a *kora* from Mali?

KT: Actually it's an *n'goni*. It is from Mali, though. It's actually one of the feed instruments for the whole Rubblebucket project. Craig, our percussionist, played it on the album. He had just come back from Africa and was so excited. He invited us to jam with him during a jazz festival, and it turned out to be a great party. He brought his West African friends, and we jammed all night long. It was good chemistry, and that was back in 2007. Eventually we transcribed a lot of what came out of those jam sessions.

TT: Is *Ba Donso* a foreign word or phrase that Craig picked up? What does it mean?

KT: The title of the song came last. I wrote those lyrics; they were coming from word shapes. Alex wrote the melody. Images came into my mind and I wanted to write something about a dirty horrible circumstance because I had been writing happy songs. I wanted to write a dirty song. It's about living in a cardboard shack, in a hole, and being oppressed by evil. It's a kind of metaphorical adventure of people in sadness but then they get saved by this spirit being. *Ba Donso* is Craig's African nickname. It comes from Mali. *Ba* means big — not physically but as in grand, like a great, big person. *Donso* means hunter and it comes from *n'goni* tradition. Hunters would hire *n'goni* players to celebrate their return from a big hunt.

TT: Have you or any other members in the group besides Craig traveled to Africa to study music?

KT: That is such a dream — I'd love to do that! I have friends who've gone to Jamaica and played with reggae bands. Craig is the only one to have visited Africa. We haven't talked about a group trip specifically, but that would be good. I've traveled to the Dominican Republic and studied music there. I was studying at UVM and we took a 2 week trip for a class called "The Study of Cuban Music." We weren't allowed into Cuba, so we went to the Dominican

Republic and Puerto Rico instead.

TT: Though you're the lead vocalist of the band, I know you also play saxophone. Do you see yourself stepping away from sax to focus solely on vocals in the future?

KT: From the beginning I was singing. When it started out, I was one of the group and I was playing more saxophone and switched back and forth. Over the years I've emerged as a frontwoman. I was singing a lot before, all throughout college, and in my old band, but I was never a frontwoman. It's been a crazy journey! I wouldn't want to step away from sax. First of all, it's cool for people to see a lady playing an instrument. I've studied sax for years and I love that instrument so much. It's definitely interesting to see a frontperson moving back and forth between sax and voice.

TT: Are there any ideas or plans for the next record already brewing?

KT: We don't have studio time planned yet. We're still releasing out crazy built up energy from putting this CD out. A lot of us needed a break — the sessions were intense. We're going out to the Midwest in November for a two week tour. Then we'll take it easy in December. We'll take January off so Alex and I have time to write and compose. Our lives have been hectic and we haven't been able to generate new material just yet.

You can pick up a copy of *Rubblebucket* at the Middle East Downstairs tomorrow night. The show also features Spiritual Rez and Ila Mawana. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door or over the phone at 617-864-EAST.



COURTESY OF RUBBLEBUCKET ORCHESTRA

Rubblebucket Orchestra brings their blend of Afrobeat and funk to the Middle East on Halloween night.

THEATER REVIEW

Veterans and Newcomers Shine in 'The Merry Wives of Windsor'

A Barrel of Laughs

By Michael T. Lin

STAFF WRITER

The Merry Wives of Windsor
MIT Shakespeare Ensemble
October 29–31 8:00 p.m.

Shakespeare's comedy "The Merry Wives of Windsor" strikes me as one of his more down-to-earth plays, in that it's not so much about complex romantic networks (though there's a bit of that) or cross-dressing (and a bit of that) but instead largely about messing with somebody simply because he's really, really sketchy. Regardless of how much or how little you believe in "an eye for an eye," it's difficult not to laugh at the punishment endured by Falstaff, the sketch artist in question and a carryover from "Henry IV." Cruel as it may seem to extreme empaths, you honestly can't say he doesn't ask for it.

As is the case with many of Shakespeare's comedies, several different plot lines occur simultaneously, but the titular wives of Windsor are as merry as they are because of the antics they perpetrate on Falstaff, played by Greg Lohman PhD '07, with a paunch that would make Jabba the Hutt feel svelte. Even in Shakespeare's time, the idea of a secret lover desperate not to get caught when her husband comes home early was as hilarious then as it is today (and probably much less cliché back then, too). But when the audience knows that said secret lover isn't going to get any loving no matter how hard he tries? Dramatic irony at its finest (and thus my high school English teacher's quiz on theater vocabulary pays off). There's also a plotline centering around a young woman with

three suitors, which is bound to be entertaining any way you slice it.

I've seen most of the on-campus Shakespeare Ensemble shows that have been put on since I arrived at MIT, and I would feel comfortable saying that this production had some of the most consistent acting I've seen yet. Although some of the Ensemble's biggest acting guns from previous shows weren't on hand for this one, it was nice to see some fresh, but still convincing, faces. I've always had a soft spot for supporting characters in either film or theater, but this show in particular gave me plenty to gush over. Whether it's Megan Nimura as the shrewd servant woman who doesn't mind a little mischief, Alexander Keesling '13 as the very pompous, very French doctor, or Thomas Chappell as the well-heeled resident dim bulb, on stage, it's hard not to enjoy the polish they bring to their roles. Ensemble veteran Kellas Cameron '10 gets a couple of soliloquies, and he makes the most of them for some high-quality laughs. Another comedic staple that never gets old is watching someone be insulted to their face without being able to speak their objections (until the offender has left and it's just him and the audience).

Aside from the strong acting and very funny plot, "The Merry Wives of Windsor" is one of those rare plays that has something to offer everyone. If you're into action, there's a farcical fencing fight scene between the French (and therefore unfailingly combative) doctor and Chris Braithwaite '12 as a terrified, near-pacifist parson, which is lots of fun to watch, and a "beat up the old lady" scene, which is more fun to watch than it sounds. Plus, there's



OSCAR A. VIQUEZ ROJAS—THE TECH

Brooke (Kellas R. Cameron '10, left) tries to unveil Falstaff's (Greg Lohman) plot to sleep with his wife during a dress rehearsal of the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble's rendition of "The Merry Wives of Windsor."

also an abundance of college women in corsets, if that kind of thing is a draw for you.

Act I is funny but consists largely of set-up for jokes, and Act II is the payoff and punch lines, so if you find yourself on the fence about the show at intermission, I'd stick around. The point is, if you're into comedy, you have the time, and you know how to sift through the Shakes-Speak, I'd suggest you see "The Merry Wives of Windsor" tonight or tomorrow night at 8:00 p.m. in La Sala de Puerto Rico. There's plenty of laughs and plenty of talent, and even if it's not a perfect production, the gags and jokes are nearly pitch-perfect and (I expect) will get even better by closing weekend.

Letter From The Editor

The topic of sex is important in any discussion about the health of a campus. It is also one that is not often openly discussed.

There is a lot we think we know about the sex lives of MIT students. Some think there is not much of it, because students are “nerdy” or “shy” and MIT’s coursework is too time-consuming. Others think of MIT as a bastion of kink in a sea of “vanilla” Boston: area schools.

But what is the truth? What is the norm at MIT?

The Tech conducted a campus-wide sex survey; forty percent of undergraduates responded. The results attempt to measure the sexual activity and health of the undergraduate population.

There is also a dark side to sex: sexual assault. The section includes an article on sexual assault at MIT, including an account of one student who was raped. We outline sexual violence resources available to students.

We interviewed Kate McCarthy, MIT’s program manager for sexual health and author of the blog, “Sexpertise.”

Additionally, Tech columnists have written a variety of sex-related material, including an anonymous writer’s thoughts on first-time anal sex, sex toy and lube reviews, a review of the popular pornographic movie *Pirates II: Stagnetti’s Revenge*, and a review of a local stand-up comedian who delivers his act in the buff.

Finally, there is content from the readership. The Tech asked for anonymous stories of how readers lost their virginity. Also, reporters interviewed several students in Lobby 7 to get their thoughts on sex at MIT.

On behalf of The Tech and all of this section’s contributors, I hope you enjoy the content in this special section and learn more about sex at MIT.

David M. Templeton ’08
Editor, Sex Section
Photography Editor, The Tech

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ARTHUR PETRON—TECH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Kate McCarthy: Let's Talk About Sex

An Interview with MIT's Official Sexpert

By Meghan Nelson
STAFF REPORTER

Students who have concerns or uncertainties about sex don't need to suffer alone, and can seek out help through MIT Medical's Kate McCarthy. A year ago, McCarthy joined MIT Medical's Center of Health Promotion and Wellness as its program manager on sexual health. She works to promote safe sex and understanding of sex in the community. While her role includes hosting events, including a December 1st "Know Your Status" HIV testing day, and writing "Sexpertise," her online advice column where students can submit questions about sex, McCarthy primarily meets with students on a one-on-one basis to discuss all aspects of sex.

The Tech sat down with McCarthy and her colleague Maryanne Kirkbride, clinical director for campus life at MIT Medical, to discuss her job of helping students work through issues and concerns regarding sex.

The Tech: What does being the program manager on sexual health entail?

Kate McCarthy: I do a fairly large variety of things on campus. Lots of programming in the dorms, sororities, fraternities, living groups. Different people ask me to come in and share information on relationships, struggles, intimacy issues, contraception, STDs, and STD testing. I do see people who are struggling with a specific problem in their world of sexual health. I work through with them hopefully to come to some sort of resolution. I also see couples who are having struggles and talk them through them.

TT: What made you motivated to work in the field of sexual health?

KM: I was actually teaching abroad in Japan, having a lot of experiences with young women as I was teaching English who were asking me questions about their intimate lives. I was really invigorated and so excited to help them with it, and I realized it was something I was really passionate about.

TT: You came to MIT just over a year ago from working at Bentley University. What has surprised you about MIT?

KM: Here I have to say that I'm trying to be more scientific in the way that I talk and look at things, and that's really challenging for me because my mind does not work in that way. People really want me to have very specific numbers and facts and statistics and figures which aren't always possible when it comes to this field.

The community has embraced the work that I do; they have embraced the column, which has been a great experience. I think that it's a unique community because it goes from all ends of the spectrum; it goes all the way from people who have not had any sexual experiences at all yet and aren't ready to — which is great and fine and wonderful — to

people who are having a wide variety of sexual experiences, and everywhere in between.

When I was at Bentley — not to insult the people there — it was much more of a particular type of a person who was a student there; it was a lot of the same experiences. Here, there is such a variety of students.

TT: What are the most common sexual issues you talk with students about?

KM: I talk a lot with undergrads, with young women about how to have an orgasm, and a lot with young men about erection issues.

TT: What types of attitudes about sex do you see at MIT?

KM: Some people are very closed off about it, nervous about it, and some people are open about it. It runs the gamut of all sorts of attitudes around it.

TT: What are the most common misconceptions MIT students have about sex?

KM: I think one of the most common misconceptions is that people think that everybody else is having sex, and they're supposed to have sex because by the time they get to freshman year everyone is doing it. It's not true. If you look at the Youth Risk Behavior survey done by the CDC every other year, the latest statistics show that that 60 percent of 18 year-olds are having intercourse — that means 40 percent of 18 year-olds are not. People put pressure on themselves that they should do it when they're not ready for it.

For everything else there's this learning curve, but for sex it's all of a sudden BAM! You're supposed to know everything and do everything right and know how to get contraception and know how to get emergency contraception and know how to talk to your partner and know how to be totally confident, and I think that sex also needs to be on a learning curve.

TT: How many condoms does the Center of Health Promotion and Wellness go through a year?

Maryanne Kilbride: Thousands. Thousands and thousands a year. The public health strategy is saturation.

TT: How do you feel about the fact the number of people who use protection is so low [as per *The Tech*'s survey results]?

KM: I feel like I have a lot of work to do. With the oral sex part, that's not surprising to me at all and I think it's a huge challenge for people to use protection during oral sex.

I think that oral sex is sort of this anomaly, for lack of better words. People think that oral sex is the "okay sex" because they're not having penetrative sex, so they're still virgins. I think people often do it more casually. When casual sex is involved, then people are not thinking about protection in the same way. I think it's very challenging for people to have the self confidence and the confidence in general to say "I'm going to do this, but I'm only

going to do it if we use a dental dam, or a condom, or some sort of protection." That's very, very, very challenging.

TT: What inspired you to develop the column "Sexpertise" [located on MIT Medical's web site, <http://medweb.mit.edu/wellness/sexuality/sexpertise/>]?

KM: We have a challenge in health promotion, in that there are around 11,000 students here and we only have a handful of people that can provide health and emotional information. If you want to bring that to scale, you cannot do it simply by going to dorms. There's always pent up demand for the sexual health person no matter what. We started asking for questions, and the questions started to pour in. The thing has gotten 6,000 hits since the start of the school year.

TT: What are the questions you most commonly receive?

KM: There are those, "Am I normal?" That variety comes again and again and again.

MK: I think this is true for many communities, but trying to overcome the immobilization of "This is a problem, I'm afraid to talk about it. I'm just stuck with it." I think Kate gets people through that, with some coaching. I think that there's a connection between self-esteem and sexual confidence. We know MIT students often feel kind of beaten down by the curriculum, and we can help students feel good about themselves and feel like they have their sexual health under control for them.

One thing we want to be clear about, is that if people are having more complex, personal problems, that we're not the mental health service. Mental health can help people with more intertwined problems where sexual health is part of it, but this is more of a health from an emotional approach. We can help people, and we can co-coordinate with people to make sure they get the help they need.

TT: What has been the most surprising question you received?

KM: Did you read the "dog washing" one? That one has definitely garnered the most popularity. I think that when we did the hits counts, it was through the roof in comparison to other weeks. Everyone was sending it to their friends — "You've got to read this, you're not going to believe it."

MK: The runner-up would be the "Am I normal?" question about the fantasy of being in a bath tub full of almonds. Whatever blows your skirt up, as they used to say about Marilyn Monroe.

TT: Any last comments?

KM: I'd like to stress that I am here for anybody who has any questions, concerns, issues, if they feel like they can't talk to anybody about. I am absolutely open and not judgmental. It is safe within my four walls. There are all sorts of contraceptives at MIT Medical — condoms, female condoms, and lubricants. Please use them and use them well.

Kate's Top 10 Tips on Sex

1. Don't have sex if you don't want to. It will always be there, my friends: There's no reason to rush unless you really want to do it.
2. If you're going to be engaging in sex play, any kind of sex play at all, with different people, using latex condoms or female condoms is the safest way to protect yourself.
3. If you are ready to have sex, than you'd better be ready to have a conversation with your partner(s) about contraception. There are a variety of choices available at MIT Medical.
4. Communication is the key! Talking about what's working, what's not, how it can get better and what not to do again is the best way for people to figure out how to improve their sex lives.
5. If you are comfortable with masturbation, have at it! Self pleasure is one of the safest and non-threatening ways to learn about your body, feel good, and release some tension all at the same time.
6. Taking care of your sexual health is just as important as taking care of other parts of your health. If you are sexually active, having an annual check up with your health care provider to discuss your specific needs is highly recommended by this sexpert.
7. Don't do anything you don't want to do. It's your body. You get to decide what is okay and what is not okay.
8. There are plenty of fish in the sea. If a relationship doesn't work out, bounce back, dust yourself off and get out there again. Don't let a break up get you down. You are an amazing, vibrant, and sexy person and if one person doesn't realize it, it's his/her loss. Self-confidence is huge.
9. Have fun. I know it can be scary — all the worries around STDs and potential pregnancy, but being intimate with someone can also be incredibly rewarding and enjoyable. Make sure you're being safe, and enjoy the experiences.
10. I am here for you. If you ever want to talk, have a question or concern, e-mail, call, or send an anonymous question via "Sexpertise." I am happy to talk about anything that you may be uncomfortable to talk with anyone else about.

On Anal Virginity

Is Anal the Next Oral?

By "Gluteus Maximus"

Years ago, the fuss was over fellatio; nowadays, it's everywhere. In a story on Duke University, *Rolling Stone* said, "oral sex [is] nearly ubiquitous, regarded as sort of a form of elaborate kissing that doesn't really mean very much." Lkening oral sex to elaborate kissing might be extreme, but it isn't extreme to say that oral sex has become a widely accepted practice.

Is anal sex next? Sex columnist Dan Savage has proclaimed that "anal is the new oral." But some people are still repulsed at the very idea of it. The most common objection is: "But I poop from there!" (Yeah, well, mouths and vaginas aren't exactly the cleanest things in the world either.) Poop tends to be higher up in the rectum than one might expect, and so long as one doesn't need to shit before having anal sex, it's nowhere near as messy as some people claim. One shouldn't even need to use an enema or other laxative.

Then there's the debate over whether or not anal sex is even enjoyable for women. While women do not have prostate glands like men, anal sex can still be enjoyable due to the nerve endings and stimulation of the g-spot from behind. Unpleasant experiences are usually just the result of poor technique or a lack of preparation. Unlike vaginas, butts are not capable of lubricating. Not only should one use lubricant, but it's also good to consider the usage of other aids like butt plugs or anal beads, which are a great warm-up for those self-conscious of their butts. In my opinion, they're best used during sex, and they cause quite the sensation when pulled out during climaxing.

Anal sex is enjoyable for guys because of the aforementioned prostate gland. However, some ar-

gue that pegging (a guy being penetrated by a woman with a strap-on dildo) is emasculating, even to the point of suggesting homosexuality. I have gay friends who prefer oral over anal, and the suggestion of some deeper implication of enjoying anal stimulation is ignorant, at best.

When I saw that *The Tech* was asking for virginity stories, I realized that my first sexual experience wasn't worth recounting. My virginity story can be best described as "disappointing," and putting virginity on a pedestal usually leads to this disappointment. My first time wasn't anything magical. But my first anal time was.

I didn't lose my anal virginity until years after I first had sex. It was a mix of passion, pleasure, and a dash of pain, all combining to form the statement "Can we have a round 2?" immediately afterwards. It was what I had wanted from my first experience; I can't do the experience justice with words.

Anal sex requires more intimacy than vaginal sex. A girl has to be able to relax and trust her partner, or else the sex is just painful. Because people think that anal sex is messy (it's not), most partners only attempt it they comfortable with each other's bodies. And the guy has to know what he's doing, and to remember to use lube. Many a friend of mine has described situations where men have tried it on the first hookup, without lube. This will be a trainwreck: Always use lube! Since not everyone keeps it on them, anal sex requires a bit more planning.

I don't always prefer anal sex to vaginal sex — the sensations are different — but at the very least it adds spice to the bedroom. Anal might never be as widely accepted as oral, but it is the one sexual act I have found that is worth the hype.



MOVIE REVIEW ★★★★★

The Most Expensive, Maintream Porno Ever Now Has a Sequel.

By “Wench Hiney”
Pirates II: Stagnetti’s Revenge
Written/Directed by Joone
Digital Playground
Starring Jesse Jane, Shay Jordan, Katsuni,
Stoya, Riley Steele and Gabriella Fox
Now Available

Porn is a particularly difficult breed of entertainment to quantify: can a porn film be critiqued as more than just a vessel of sexual fantasy? Ought it be judged merely on the quality of its sex scenes, or can such topics as cinematography, acting, and (dare I say) plot make into the conversation? I have one particular film in mind. *Pirates II: Stagnetti’s Revenge* (released September 2008) is the sequel to the immensely popular *Pirates* (2005), and stands as one of the most talked-about porn movies of year. *Pirates II* tells the story of pirate hunter Edward Reynolds and his unnaturally good looking allies as they battle the evil Chinese empress pirate Xifeng, who plots to bring back the late Victor Stagnetti from the dead. The result is a myriad of deathly battles and sexual encounters — and overwhelming critical acclaim. Clocking in at over two hours, *Pirates II* was produced and directed by the world-famous Joone of Digital Playground. It boasts a ridiculously large budget (around \$8 million), making it one of the most expensive porn movies of all time and has received such AVN (Adult Video News) awards as Best Special Effects, Best Director, Best All-Girl Couples Sex Scene, and Best Actor (Evan Stone). But such stats beg the question: why all the hype? Well for one: Hot, dangerous pirate chicks are put in a wide variety of intense sexual scenarios. Sex scenes range from rough girl

on girl, to steamy threesomes, to an orgy in a belly-dancing tent, to the classic slave girl and her master. While the intent is to get the viewer horny (which, given the film’s popularity, I can assume is an overall success), you’re often left feeling more impressed than anything else (Is he really hanging onto the ceiling? How did she fit that in her mouth?). Which leads me to my next topic: acting. Industry favorites Jesse Jane and Belladonna star alongside Best Actor recipient Evan Stone, and both their celebrity presence and on-screen chemistry make for a good show. As is usually the case, the acting is laughable — but laughable in a funny way, rather than a lame way. Due both to this and the successful execution of the parts that are actually meant to be funny, I took away a number of one-liners that will amuse me for a while to come. The special effects are plentiful and extravagant. The sets are elaborate and the cinematography fantastic — details like lighting and camera angle are carried out quite well. And if you are able to pay attention, a rather complex plot of revenge and betrayal holds everything together. Such a focus on plot is much appreciated, especially given the film’s lengthy running time. I guess when it comes down to it, saying a porno is good is just the same as saying *Rush Hour 3* is good. Anything is good if you’re willing to forgive the characters for the plot. Given such context, *Pirates II* is definitely a good adult film; watch at your own risk.



COURTESY OF DIGITALPLAYGROUND.COM

The female cast of *Pirates II: Stagnetti’s Revenge*: (from left) Sasha Grey, Shay Jordan, Jesse Jane, Belladonna, Stoya, Riley Steele, and Katsuni.

COMEDY REVIEW

Comedy and Commentary (Clothing Optional)

Andy Ofiesh’s Naked Comedy Showcase is Raw and Exposed

By Greg Hutko
Andy Ofiesh performed comedy in the nude for the first time in 2005. Since then, he has brought his unconventional delivery to venues in Scotland and New York City. He currently recruits local Boston comedians to join him and his unique brand of stand-up on the first Wednesday of each month at Improv Boston in Cambridge. Walking onto stage in nothing but his socks (which he quickly takes off), Andy’s introduction sets the mood for the night. First and foremost, just like you, he won’t ignore the fact that he is naked. Andy uses nature’s props to launch into a segment about genitalia and nudity. His jokes range from the crude (performing head-

stands and comparing body parts to fun-size candy bars) to the more thought-provoking (explaining the rules and regulations that govern the Naked Comedy Showcase). Among these rules and regulations, the Naked Comedy Showcase is careful to obey the City of Cambridge’s laws against strip shows. Andy claims that the showcase must obey a few simple rules, among them: no dancing and no prolonged finger sucking. The rest of the comedians follow in Andy’s now bare-foot steps. A group of four male comedians perform short-form improv, a male comedian explains why he hates Christmas, a fe-

male comedian provides laughs while explaining emotional events from her past, and so it goes. In the middle of his show, Andy invites the audience to deliver their own jokes. While one audience member volunteered while I was attending, he quickly backed down after realizing he would have to undress for his performance. This discomfort, Andy claims, is a big part of what the Showcase is all about. Ultimately, some of the comedy is hilarious, some of the comedy is rough around the edges, and some of the comedy is better classified as poetry. The Naked Comedy Showcase pushes you to stop laughing at someone’s appearance and start laughing at what they’re say-

ing. To this end, the Naked Comedy Showcase drives at comedy that may not be the funniest ever, but will be more real than almost any you will ever experience. The show will leave you laughing, but also questioning your own comfort and pre-conceived notions about nudity. Granted, I still found myself giggling when one of the naked comedians helped me pick out bed-risers at the Local Bed, Bath, and Beyond several weeks later. It just goes to show that the people and the event were memorable and real. And, for cheaper than a movie (\$7 for students and \$10 for adults), the Naked Comedy Showcase is a good alternative to another night at the cinema.



My First Time

Stories collected from The Tech’s website

First times are scary and funny, embarrassing and exciting. The Tech asked readers to submit stories of their first time having sex on our website. The following are some of the anonymous submissions. Because stories were submitted anonymously online, The Tech cannot guarantee that the stories were authored by members of the MIT community.

I was high and drunk and at a party and, against my better judgement, got in a cab with a Harvard student and went back to his apartment, where we fucked each other’s brains out. He was a good lay but boring to talk to. I bounced out of there early in the morning with the sex hair and the runny makeup, and got in the T and never spoke to him again.

I lived in Texas for a great portion of my life, including high school. A decade and three dozen partners later, I still have one regret: I lost my virginity to a Republican. A good ol’ Presbyterian I-voted-for-Bush Republican.

I did it with a fat guy in the front seat of a Pontiac.

It was a Christmas party at my best high school friend’s house. After I downed seven shots of tequila and a Mexican beer over the course of a little more than an hour, we did it in my friend’s basement on his futon. The one thing is, I don’t really remember it... I have blurry recollections of the foreplay and the end of the night, but nothing from the intervening period. But the other party, more often known

as my girlfriend, said it happened right then and there.

I took her to a Motel 6, got a room, did the deed twice, and left.

Too drunk to remember much anything about it.

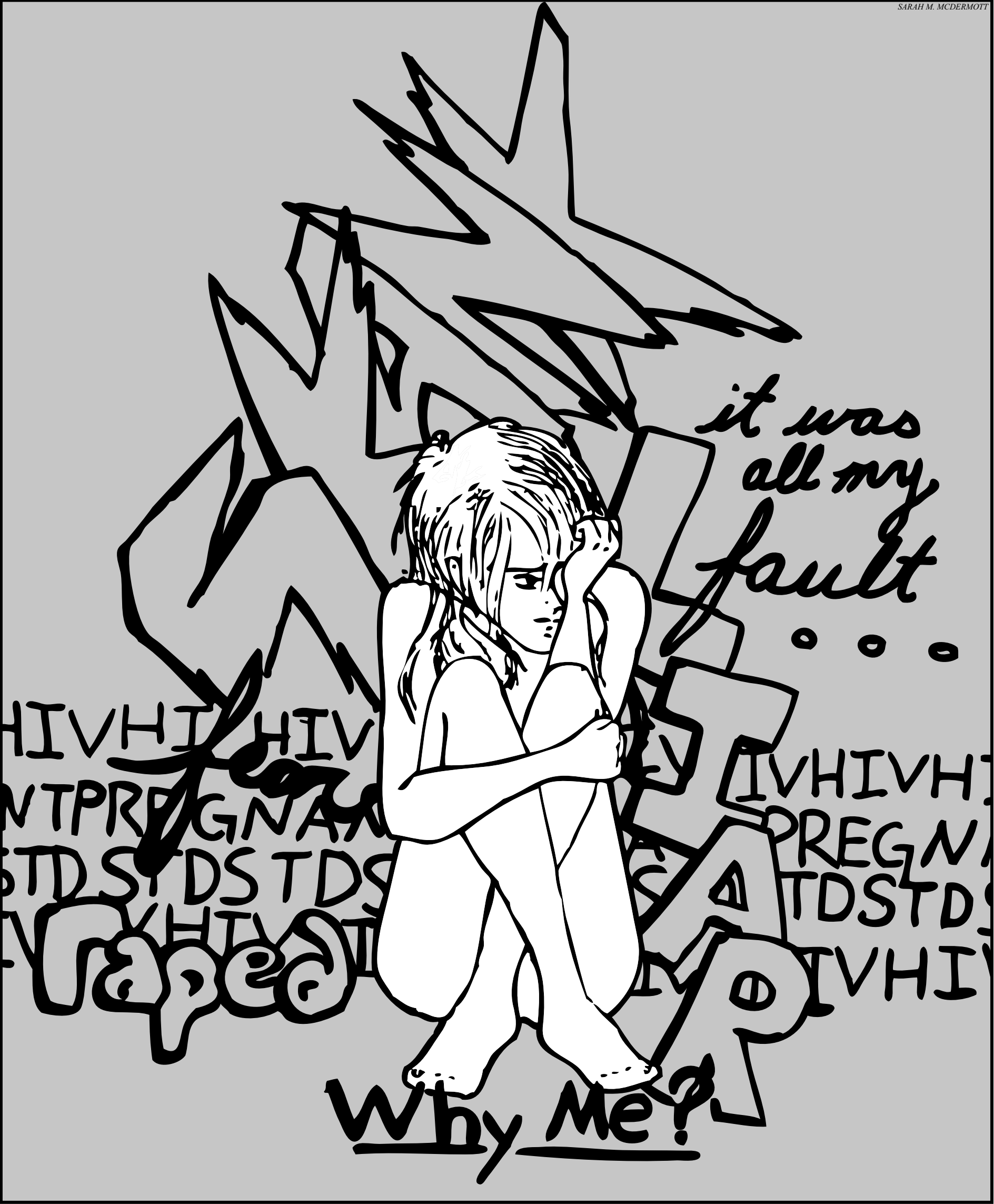
My first time will happen after I’m married, because I want it to actually mean something.

The apartment was off-campus. Dry humping wasn’t enough anymore. Sex was restrained and careful. Frequent prompts to ensure the partner wasn’t in too much discomfort. Relief at the loss of virginity afterwards.

I was feeling pretty confident, actually, I had been watching my friends going at it for half an hour so I felt like I had the theory down. When my turn came around, I slid my sweaty fingers into inviting holes and squeezed the firm roundness in both hands, and...

Wait, we are talking about bowling, right? What? Oh! Never mind then.

SARAH M. MCDERMOTT



Rape

By Clare Bayley

It was a Friday night and the fraternity party was winding down. Rachel and her friends were dancing, when one of the brothers asked her to come upstairs. The rest is a blur, but this is what she remembers: She remembers him helping her stumble up the stairs, up to the spare bedroom the brothers use for hookups.

Editor's Note: Where only first names appear, names have been changed.

She remembers he asked if he should get a condom — she said no, she didn’t want to have sex.

She remembers he asked if he could take her clothes off — she said no, she didn’t want to have sex.

She remembers he told her it would “make things easier” — she said no, she didn’t want to have sex.

Rachel passed out. As she slowly came back to consciousness, she first noticed that her feet hurt. She couldn’t figure out why. Then, she realized it was because he was pinning her feet to the wall behind her head. He was having sex with her.

According to *The Tech’s* sex survey, 3.6 percent of MIT students say they have had non-consensual sex. For victims, sexual assault is a shameful and often silent crime. At MIT a few rapes show up on the campus police report every year, but some years none are reported. Most survivors don’t go to the police, out of fear or humiliation or because they are not ready to admit it even to themselves.

For those who have been sexually assaulted, the attack is just the beginning.

Survivors deal with denial, dark thoughts, and depression. They deal with friends who don’t believe them, and a school that already pushes students to their breaking point. Despite many resources on campus, survivors rarely find recovery easy. They can feel whole one day and broken the next.

What comes after

After Rachel was assaulted, everything changed. Her boyfriend broke up with her claiming he couldn’t handle being with someone trying to come to terms with being raped. Rachel still says she can never escape being a rape survivor — that the experience will define her for the rest of her life.

Survivors deal with denial, dark thoughts, and depression. They deal with friends who don’t believe them, and a school that already pushes students to their breaking point. Despite many resources on campus, survivors rarely find recovery easy. They can feel whole one day and broken the next.

She says that the breakup made her feel “essentially unlovable.” She sunk into a deep depression and stopped eating. “I didn’t know why anybody was cruel enough to keep me alive,” she says. She thought it was “horrible that no one had the mercy to kill me.”

After several days of eating only an apple, a banana, and a piece of bread, Rachel realized that in a few hours she’d be too weak to move. Some part of her that still had hope made her go to Medical’s Mental Health walk-in hours, and she started getting help.

At one point, Rachel was seeing people in four different support departments at MIT. Through all of this, Rachel tried to act like her old self, and this fooled some people.

But sometimes she could not keep the pain contained. Sometimes she would be “volatile, loud, or rude,” she says. These outbursts surprised some of the people around her, who thought she was better. “Why aren’t you over it yet?” they asked her.

Rachel reasons that a rapist, if found guilty, can go to prison for years or even decades — she doesn’t feel there’s any reason to expect a survivor to recover in three weeks.

Although the next few months of recovery were tortuous, she tapped in to MIT’s extensive support network and made it through, but not easily. MIT doesn’t slow down for anything, not even rape, and she describes that time as a constant “struggle to maintain the status quo.”

Rachel still says she can never escape being a rape survivor — that the experience will define her for the rest of her life.

Dismission and denial

Eventually, another MIT survivor recommended her to MIT’s program for Violence Prevention and Response, where Rachel met director Divya Kumar, a person Rachel describes as “simply an angel.”

A main goal of Kumar’s program is to fight many of the issues Rachel faced during her recovery. Sexual assaults are some of the most violent and damaging crimes on their own, but afterwards, many survivors face people who don’t believe them.

VPR seeks to provide education about assault and to dispel common myths that people use to dismiss cases of rape. Perhaps one of the most pervasive myths, according to Kumar, is the idea that women lie about being raped. It is easy for people who don’t want to believe to dismiss the women’s story, saying that “she wanted it,” or that “she just regrets what she did.”

Yet, FBI statistics indicate that only two percent of reported rapes are false reports — which is about the rate as for other violent crimes.

“I think what’s really hard about being a survivor at MIT, is

that people think it doesn’t happen here,” Rachel says. When Rachel’s attacker was confronted by some of his fraternity brothers about her rape, he laughingly denied it, and it became an inside joke at the fraternity.

It’s hard enough to speak out about an attack hoping to get help, but being dismissed and called a liar causes further intense

Sexual assaults are some of the most violent and damaging crimes on their own, but afterwards, many survivors face people who don’t believe them.

damage — especially at MIT, where truth and intelligence are so highly valued, Rachel says.

“When people don’t believe you it’s pretty upsetting, but when they’re the most brilliant minds in the world I start to think maybe I am actually crazy.”

Kumar also tries to fight common misconceptions about rape. Most rape is perpetrated by someone that the victim knows. It’s not usually somebody “behind the bushes with a stick,” says Dave Kennedy, head of the Office of Student Citizenship (OSC), who reviews sexual assault cases before they go before MIT’s Committee on Discipline. Kennedy says that most people don’t know that date rape or acquaintance rape is the most common kind of rape — but just because it’s date rape doesn’t make the assault any less real or any less destructive.

The Reality of the situation

Unless incidents of assault involve non-MIT persons, they are first dealt with inside MIT’s own judicial system. In the two years he’s been in the office, Kennedy has seen two cases of assault make it all the way through his office to the COD.

Kristine Girard, associate chief of MIT mental health, says the worst she’s seen in her 13 years here was a violent gang rape of a student by several non-MIT assailants — but that is by far the exception. Sheila Widnall, current chair of the COD, says that she sees more incidents of stalking and domestic violence than direct assault, but when those cases do come up they can result in anything from a sanction to expulsion depending on the level of threat the assailant poses to the campus. Widnall says that most of the cases she sees are “misunderstandings.”

“The cases that the COD has seen are only part of the story,” says Kumar. Citing research conducted by Dr. David Lisak, a

Most rape is perpetrated by someone that the victim knows.

forensic psychologist at UMass Boston, she states “most of the time it’s not a misunderstanding, but a planned and premeditated act of power and control.” Some people see real rape as only those cases involving violent interactions with strangers, but you can be raped by an acquaintance, a friend, or an intimate partner as easily as you can be raped by a stranger. Perhaps more so — data from the National Institute of Justice says that the survivor already knew their assailant in 75 percent of cases. This shoots up to 90 percent on college campuses. Whether it’s behind a bush with a gun, in the hook-up room of a fraternity, or in the victim’s own bedroom, it’s still rape, both for the survivor and in the eyes of the law.

Sexual assault is also one of the most under-reported crimes, particularly among college campuses. The U.S. Department of Justice reports that fewer than 5 percent of rape or attempted rape cases get reported to the police, much less the COD. Campus Police numbers show that only two incidents of “forcible sex offenses” were reported in 2007 (no data is available for later years).

Everything’s harder at MIT

Recovering from sexual assault can be extremely painful and difficult under any circumstances, but Kumar believes the “pressure cooker” of MIT complicates it even further. MIT students are all so busy being MIT students it’s hard for them to imagine having something as traumatic as rape to deal with as well.

As Rachel says, no one knows what it’s like to cope with this

“People leave this school because the work alone is too much to handle — add a physical trauma to it, it feels like you can’t breathe.”

and wake up every morning to be an engineer. “People leave this school because the work alone is too much to handle — add a physical trauma to it, it feels like you can’t breathe,” she says.

“Healing is a non-linear process,” says Kumar. In this land of overachievers it’s easy for survivors to get frustrated when they have a relapse and fall back into depression or fear. Her advice is to take a break.

“The way you feel right now, you’re not always going to feel this way,” she says. It’s important for survivors to know that one day they will feel good about themselves again, be comfortable in their bodies and their sexuality.

How others can help

A very common feeling amongst survivors is that it was somehow their fault, particularly if alcohol was involved. One of the things Kumar tries to emphasize is that no matter the conditions, assault is never the fault of the survivor. Alcohol is a tool often used by perpetrators to facilitate sexual assault. Even when alcohol is involved, Kumar insists “you may have had too much to drink, but you did not sexually assault yourself.” She goes on to remind people that, no matter the circumstances, “somebody still has to make the decision to commit a crime, and that is the person responsible.”

The “vast, vast, majority of people are not rapists,” says Ku-

mar. Most acts are premeditated, but some do actually occur because of misunderstandings. Kennedy makes an analogy between drunken sex and drunk driving — if either party is too drunk to have sex, Kennedy says, “just don’t risk it.” The consequences can be just as serious as a car crash.

There certainly are a lot of people who think rape survivors are lying, says Eddison, but the bigger problem is those people who accept it and don’t do anything about it. She and Kumar both agree that the best way to prevent assault on campus is

The best way to prevent assault on campus is to remember that it does happen, and take steps to prevent it from happening to others.

to remember that it does happen, and take steps to prevent it from happening to others. Says Kumar, “yes it happens here, yes you can prevent it. If you see somebody who’s in trouble ask them if they’re OK.” Eddison says that if you see someone who’s incapable of supporting herself being taken upstairs, say something. “What are the odds she’s going to be happy that she did that?” she asks. Since when is “being the overprotective prude” worse than letting someone destroy their life? She adds that “all it takes is one person to call it out.”

“There are many people who are survivors, but everybody is a potential bystander,” says Kumar. Not only are bystanders the best way to prevent rape from happening, but the support of the community is crucial to an effective healing process. She also says that “if we as a community cannot rise up and support our own survivors, then we are all failing to be a true community.”

Not only are bystanders the best way to prevent rape from happening, but the support of the community is crucial to an effective healing process.

If someone ever comes to you admitting they’ve been assaulted, Eddison has some suggestions on how to handle it in the best way for the survivor.

- ¶ Most importantly, believe them.
- ¶ Make sure they’re safe from immediate harm.
- ¶ Don’t force the term “rape” on them, let them tell it their own way.

Unless you’ve also been through an assault, never attempt to parallel their story to your own experience.

She also says to keep in mind that a survivor’s reaction doesn’t necessarily present itself right away. Often it will appear after a death, breakup, or other trauma, so don’t be alarmed if someone says this happened to them three days, six months, or two years ago. She says this means they’re finally ready to accept it.

Eddison believes it takes very little effort to help prevent rape on your campus, but if you want to get more involved she directs Sexual Assault Awareness Week, which will take place this April. The goal is to increase campus awareness and teach people how to be effective, active bystanders. Eddison says it’s astounding to her that she has to beg people to come to events. “There are so many noble causes going on this campus, but this is the only one that takes 0 effort and 0 dollars to change,” she says. “All you have to do is listen — if that is asking too much of MIT, that to me is baffling.”

The efforts by Eddison and Kumar certainly seem to be providing help and support to the people they work with. Kumar speaks positively of the work her office has done so far in spreading awareness, saying they’ve definitely “made some people get it.” There’s obviously a lot of work left to do, so she also insists that “every day we have to do more.” People in VPR are working with survivors and offices all over campus to advocate for survivors and prevent anyone else from having to experience what Rachel did. Rachel doesn’t want anyone else to experience what she’s been through, she says.

“That was the night that ruined my life.”

Sexual Assault Resources

Program for Violence Prevention and Response
vpradvocate@med.mit.edu
617-253-1307

MIT Medical
Urgent Care available 24hrs
617-253-4481
On-campus emergencies: dial 100
Off-campus emergencies: dial 911

MIT Mental Health
617-253-2916 (also available for 24hr emergencies)
Walk-in Hours: M-F, 2-4 p.m.

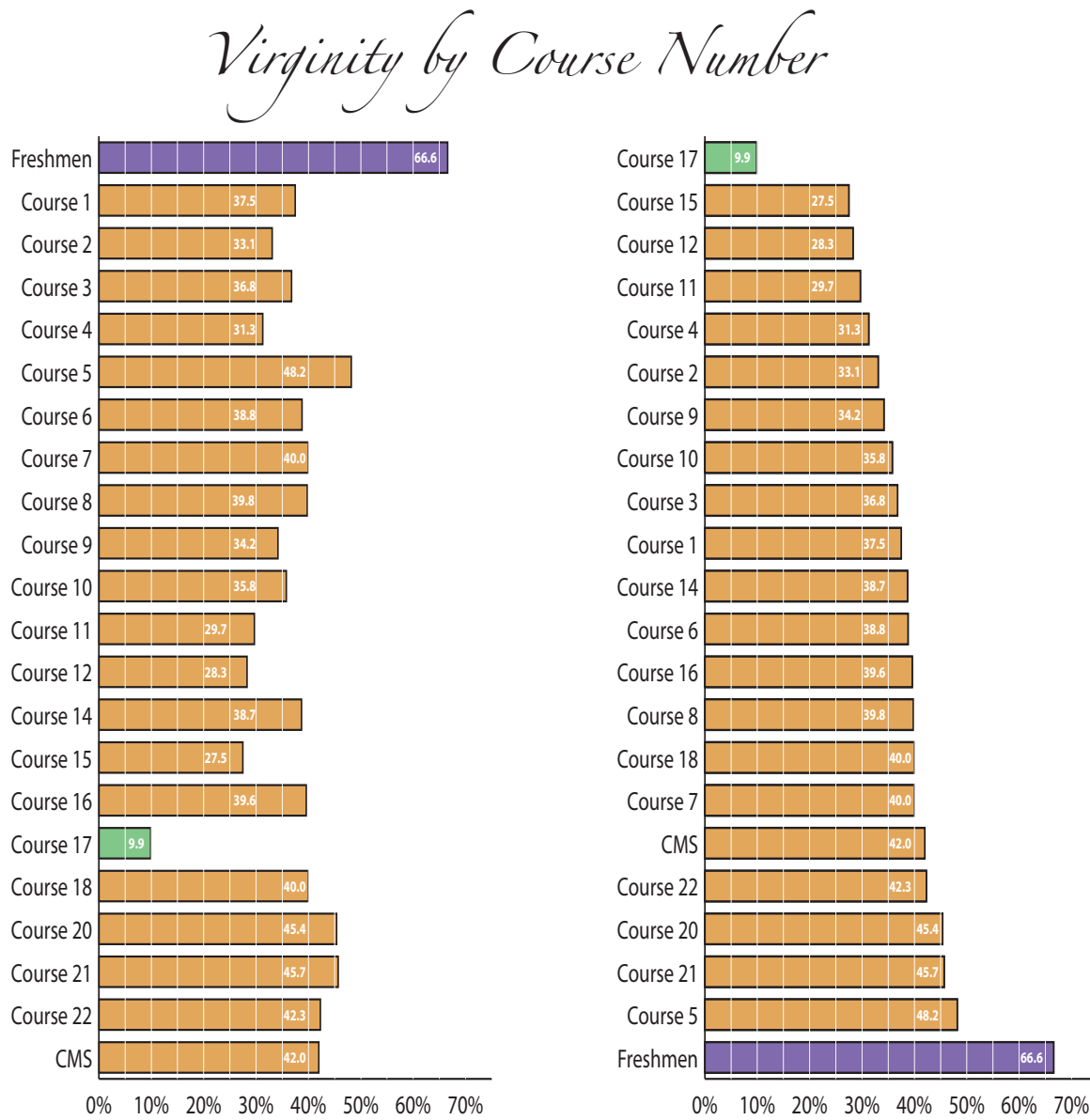
Student Support Services (S^3)
617-253-4861

Office of Student Citizenship
David Kennedy - ledave@mit.edu

Nightline
617-253-8800

Sexual Assault Awareness Week @ MIT
Eliza Eddison: eddison@mit.edu
Jason McKnight: jrmac@mit.edu

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)
1-800-841-8371 24hr hotline
(free and confidential)



Sex@MIT: The Survey

By Jeff Guo
NEWS EDITOR

Earlier this month, we asked all undergraduates via e-mail to take a sex survey. We asked you if you were having sex, when you were having sex, what kind of sex, and how good it was. About forty percent, or 1729 people, responded. We present the results here. Some of the statistics will not surprise anybody. Some surprised us all.

Virginity

There is a stereotype that MIT is a land of asexual nerds. That's not quite true. Our survey found that 42 percent of students consider themselves virgins: 37 percent of men and 48 percent of women. The numbers are predictably higher for freshman class, which is 64 percent virgins: 60 percent of men and 69 percent of women. The freshmen numbers square with national estimates — it's the upperclassmen who are having less sex than the national average for their age group.

63 percent of all students have had oral sex. 54 percent have had vaginal sex. 15 percent have had anal sex. Compared to national numbers for college-age students from the Centers for Disease Control, MIT students are having less much sex than their peers — but significantly more than no sex. Course 5 (Chemistry) has the highest rate of virgins — 48 percent; Course 17 has the lowest rate of virgins — 10 percent, followed by Course 15 at 27.5 percent. Among living groups, McCormick has the most virgins — 82 percent of McCormick residents say they are virgins. Students living in fraternities or Senior House reported the lowest rates for virginity: around 20 percent.

Why are MIT students virgins? 23 percent of men and 39 percent of women say that one reason is that it's their choice. For both genders, this was the most common reason. The second most common reason was that "an opportunity has not presented itself." Nearly everybody agreed that vaginal sex "counted" as sex, but only 84 percent thought anal sex counted. 51 percent thought oral sex counted. A small fraction of people kept their V-cards by technicality: Of people who have had anal sex, 2.5 percent still consider themselves virgins.

Sexual Health

Of those who choose to have sex, the sexual health statistics are a little

disturbing. 63 percent of students who have had anal or vaginal sex have done it without protection. The STD rate is low — 1.5 percent of students cop to having ever had a sexually transmitted disease.

Many probably don't know their status, however. 60 percent of non-virgins have never been tested. Only 11 percent of non-virgins got tested in the past 2–6 months.

We were all surprised to find out that 96 percent of people who have had oral sex say they don't use protection for it. 9 percent of students don't know where to go for condoms, and 67 percent don't know that MIT publishes a sexual health and satisfaction column (it's called "Sexpertise," at <http://medweb.mit.edu/wellness/sexuality/sexpertise/index.html>)

Lack of protection may be the reason that 28 percent of women who have had sex say they have at one point needed to request emergency contraception.

Alcohol and sex are linked: 60 percent of non-virgins say they have had sex while intoxicated.

Most disturbing of all, 3.6 percent of students say they have had non-consensual sex. There is help out there. The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center has a 24-hour hotline at 617-492-RAPE. MIT also offers counseling and other resources (see page 13).

Sex Stats

87 percent of students identified as heterosexual. 3.5 percent identified as homosexual; 6 percent identified as bisexual; and 2.2 percent were undecided. Less than one percent identified as asexual. Of the few who did say they were asexual, 40 percent say they have had sex.

13 percent of campus (10 percent of men and 16 percent of women) say they have had a homosexual encounter. Looking for the gayest/most questioning major? CMS wins: 42 percent of students who listed CMS as their primary major said they had a homosexual encounter. The second gayest major is Course 11 at 35 percent and Course 9 at 20 percent. The least gayest major? Course 3, where only 9 percent of students say they have had a sexual encounter with someone of the same gender.

It may not come as a surprise to some that Senior House takes the cake for both floorcest and anal sex. 52 percent of Senior House non-

virgins say they have had sex with someone in their living group. 36 percent of non-virgins say they have had anal sex. The least floorcestuous dorm is the Phoenix group (NW-35), where nobody copped to having sex with someone else in the group. The least anal-receptive dorm is McCormick, where only 5 percent of non-virgin girls say they have had anal sex.

Most men masturbate. 30 percent of guys say they masturbate every day or almost every day. Another 41 percent say they masturbate once or twice a week. That means over 70 percent of undergraduate men are beating the meat at least weekly. 5 percent masturbate multiple times daily — and 7 percent claim they never masturbate.

Girls masturbate less. 30 percent cop to masturbating at least weekly. Only 8 percent say they masturbate daily or nearly daily. 39 percent say they never masturbate.

Girls do tend to have more toys, though: 16 percent of girls say they own a sex toy, compared to 8 percent of men.

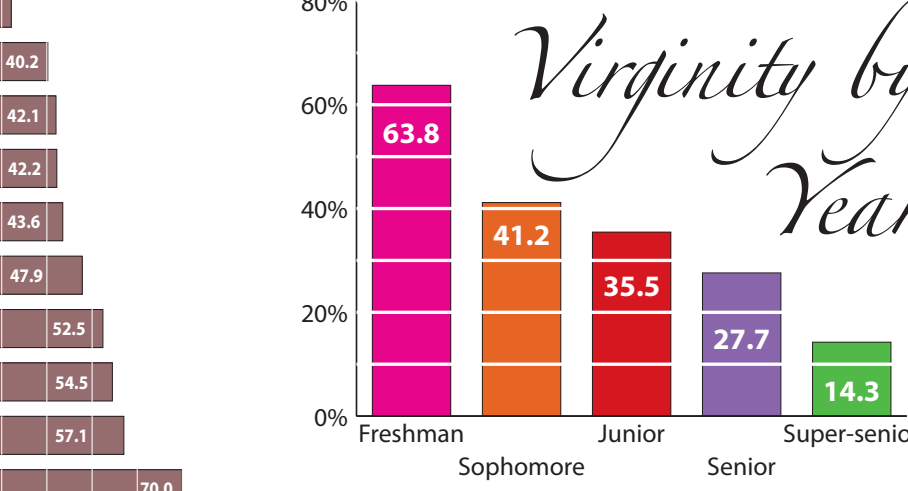
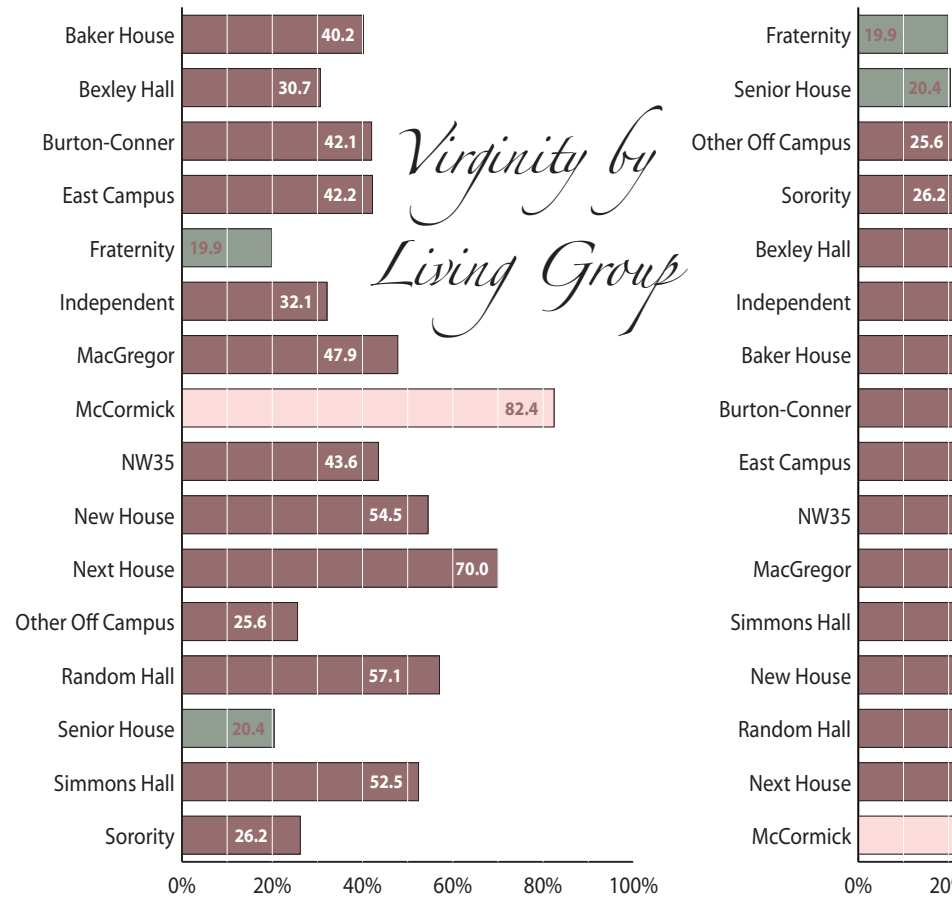
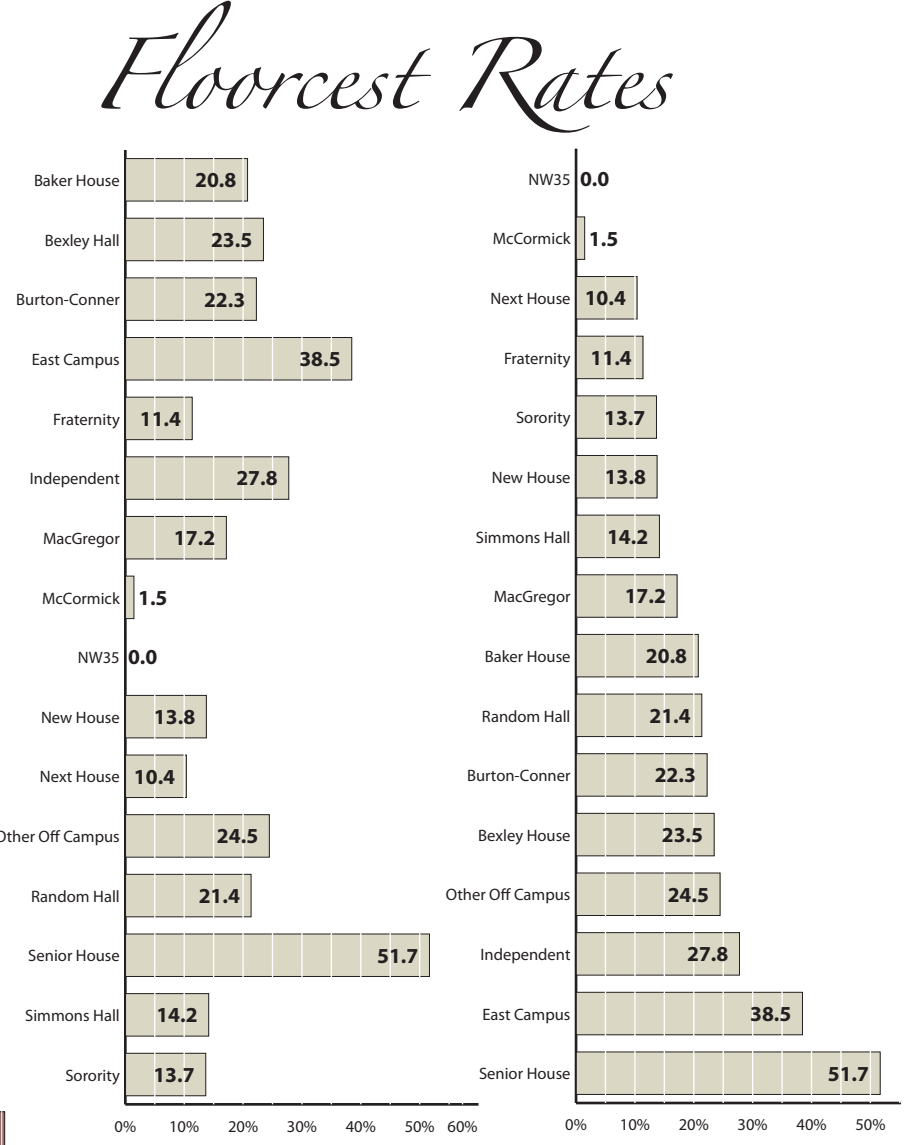
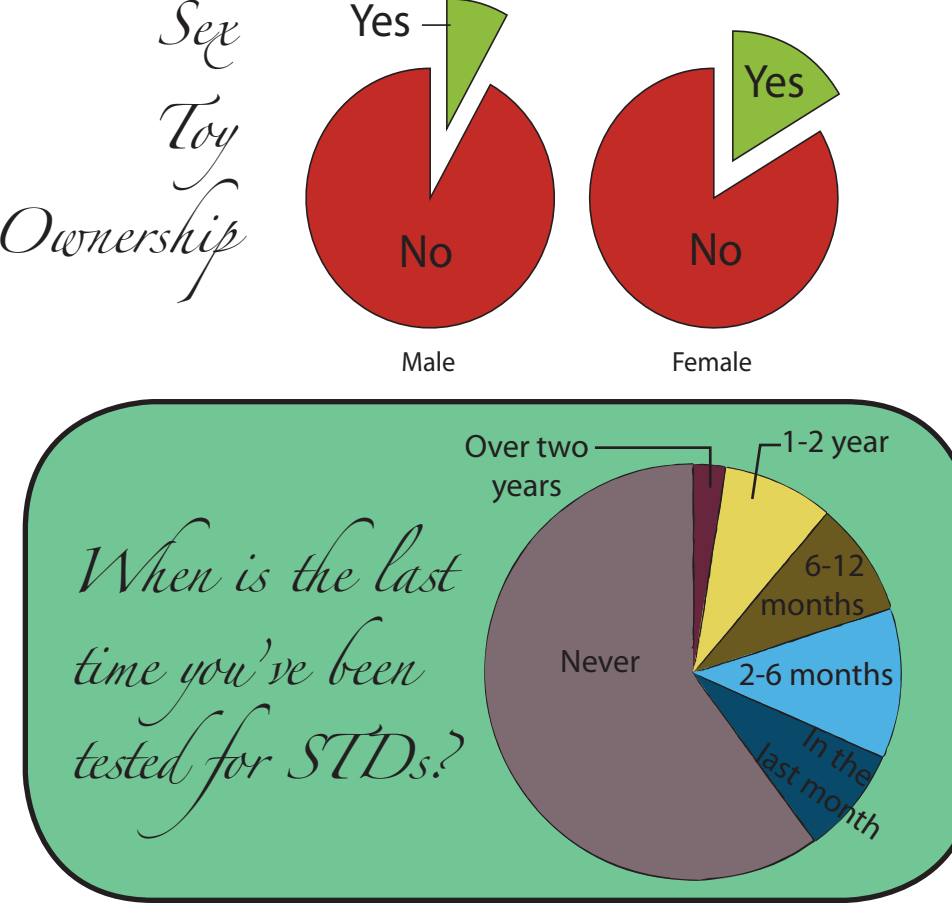
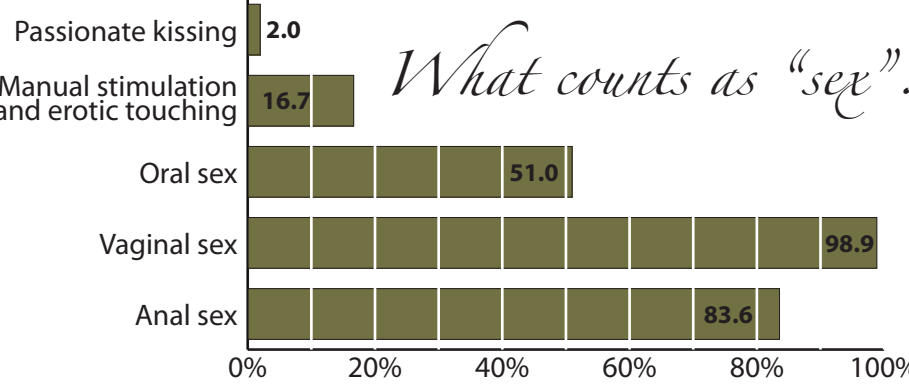
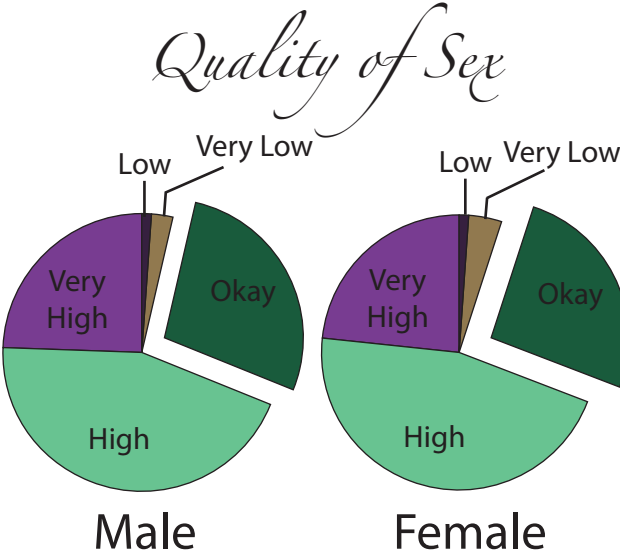
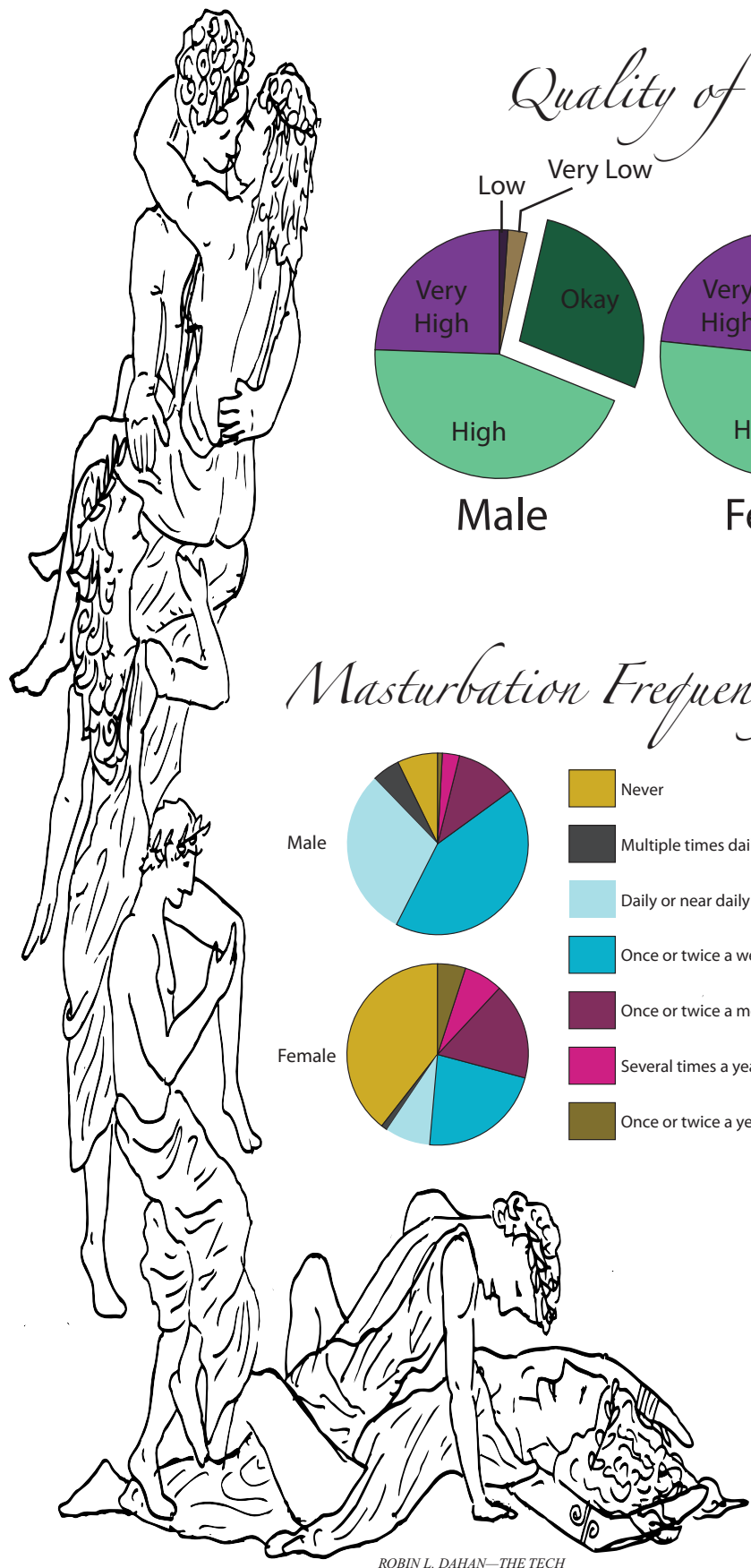
Sex Quality

It seems we are an easy bunch to please. 66 percent of men and 66 percent of women rate the quality of the sex they are having as "high" or "very high." About a quarter think the sex is "okay," and only 4 percent said the sex was of "low" or "very low" quality.

That people have sex because they want to is fairly obvious, but we asked you for some reasons anyway. 92 percent said they had sex for "self-fulfillment," and 77 percent said "to form a closer bond with a partner." 16 percent added, "to forget problems." We hear you!

The biggest factor eating into people's sexual satisfaction seems to be a scheduling problem. 50 percent of non-virgins cite "lack of time" as a reason that their sex lives were not as good as they could be. 29 percent of men complained about a lack of suitable partners — an old saw, it's true. But watch out guys: 28 percent of women said the same thing right back to you.

Don't take these statistics as the be-all, end-all. We did our best to clean the data and had a Course 14 major look through it, but in the end, nothing we can do can correct for the response bias. 60 percent of MIT undergrads didn't take the survey. All we know is a little something about the 40 percent that did.



OPINION: WHAT MIT'S SEXUAL CULTURE REVEALS ABOUT US

Schrödinger's Cat May Be Dead, but Your Love Life Is Not

Nina Sinatra

"But isn't it true that 80 percent of MIT students graduate as virgins?"

Just as I'm explaining the things I enjoy about MIT culture, the acquaintance with whom I have struck up a casual conversation takes a tiresome, albeit predictable, detour.

For the umpteenth time, I find myself defending the sexual philosophy of my home-away-from-home. Before I had ever visited MIT, I had a vague notion of the Institute as a place of congregation and homage for thousands of brilliant (if slightly nerdy) students. As an undergraduate, my vision of student identity has remained relatively constant; MIT truly is a place of great activity and diversity, where you can find representatives of nearly every culture, philosophy, and field of interest. Visitors to our campus will discover a fresh and highly multifaceted image of the Institute. A weekend here may easily begin at a varsity lacrosse match and segue through a sleepless night of tooling, a Friday night frat party, a heated Guitar Hero game, or a thousand other possibilities in between. But somehow, MIT is often disregarded as a place of sexual culture and identity.

Courtesy of *The Tech's* "Sex and Sexuality" survey, we can shed a bit more light on the truth. Clearly, the vast majority of each graduating class does not identify as virgins; campus-wide, the number lies closer to a respectable 43 percent. In fact — virgins excluded — the survey indicates a 2/3 chance that any given MIT student has had sex within the past two months (take that, doubtful naysayers!). The data takes a more interesting turn, however, when it comes to tallying the number of partners students have had since attending MIT and the average number of times they have slept with each one. Approximately 47 percent of students surveyed have not had a partner while at school, with 26 percent counting one and 15 percent naming two to three. What's more, around half of students who have had partners while at MIT estimate sleeping with each one over twenty times.

This is the core of the oft-debated question of sex at MIT. Clearly, though the average number of virgins on campus is nearly twice the national estimate for individuals of our age group (20–25 percent virgins), sex here is strongly based upon relationships, not casual hookups. According to the survey, it is significantly less

common for an MIT student to participate in a string of one-night stands than to be involved in a relationship.

Why is this true? If any given MIT student had chosen to attend a different university, would the same behavior prevail? Is our sexual culture a product of the environment or of the students themselves? Most of the student body chose to come here based upon the unique nuances of their personality and social characteristics: commitment to academics and activities, determination in achieving goals, patience in solving complex problems, and interest in expanding knowledge. Interestingly, these qualities transfer over rather well to the context of a relationship. One-night stands are relatively simple — one or two reckless evenings without the ties of a more formal bond. To remain in a happy relationship, individuals must engage in the same patience, commitment, and devotion as they may when attempting to master a challenging subject. The personality of the average MIT student displays, both statistically and qualitatively, an inherent proclivity toward associating strongly with one partner at a time. In fact, over 80 percent of MIT students surveyed were satisfied with the amount of sex they engage in, or expressed a specific desire to have more in a relationship setting.

And so, ladies and gentlemen, what can we conclude? Yes, MIT as a whole participates in less actual sex than do certain other college campuses. However, the important fact to keep in mind is that the relationship-based culture of the Institute represents a far healthier type of sex than the oft-intoxicated and transient pleasures of the casual hookup.

After all, isn't quality always better than quantity? I rest my case.

I Wish I Were Your Derivative So I Could Lie Tangent to Your Curves

Ryan Normandin

With pickup lines like this article's title, I can't see why anyone would be surprised at the major finding of *The Tech's* sex survey: 42 percent of MIT students are virgins, as opposed to a national college average of 20–25 percent. Why might this be? According to the survey, 30 percent of virgins said that it was their choice.

Right. Come on, every MIT student out there who thinks of sex purely in terms of biological processes and, hence, is clueless, is going to say it's their "choice." There should have been an option on the survey that said "I haven't had sex yet because I still have to take 7.012 (Intro to Biology)."

While MIT's virgin culture does not match the national average, there are some ways in which it is similar. Compare MIT to Duke University, for instance, on the other end of the spectrum with their "hookup culture." A girl from Duke was quoted as saying, "Everybody gives blow jobs now." Surely not at MIT, where 42 percent of students are virgins, right? Wrong. If you are not a virgin, then there is a 96 percent chance that you have given or received oral sex.

While 42 percent are avoiding sex, the other 58 percent are quite satisfied. 65 percent of non-virgins rate their sex as having "high" or "very high" quality. And only 4 percent rate their sex as "low" or "very low" quality. So it appears that MIT students are good at doing more than just problem sets. And 51 percent are satisfied with the amount of sex that they are having in relationships or casual hookups. Quality and quantity. At MIT, we don't sacrifice one for the other.

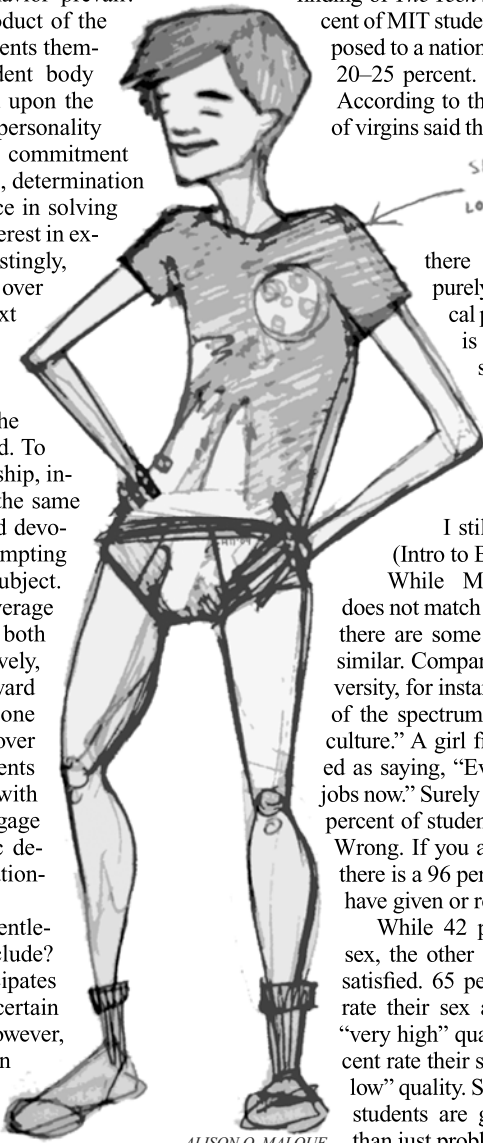
Breaking down survey data by dorm reveals

some interesting correlations. Would Baker, the "party dorm," have fewer virgins? Would "anti-social" MacGregor have more? Unsurprisingly, the frat boys come in first place with only 18 percent of their members as virgins. Senior House comes in a close second with about 19 percent and the sororities and "other off-campus" tied in third with about 25 percent virgins. Maybe the fraternities should consider advertising that fact as a recruitment method — "Join our fraternity and there's a good chance you'll lose your virginity by graduation!" At the other end of the spectrum, all-girl McCormick Hall comes in first place for the virgin dorms with a 82 percent virginity rate. Next House and Random Hall follow, with about 70 percent and 57 percent, respectively.

Now that we've covered the statistics, let's get into the speculation. Numbers are just numbers until an opinion columnist tells you what they really mean. It's quite believable that 40 percent of MIT students are virgins. Typically, sex happens at night. Maybe I'm an oddity, but in the last 62 hours of my life, I've had 10 hours of sleep. If I had been having sex, that number would be reduced. And if that number were reduced, there's a good chance I would not be able to function properly. Indeed, 50 percent of non-virgins say that they could be having better sex, if only there were time.

So MIT students are often forced to make a choice: do I want to have sex or do I want to speak coherently tomorrow? Then, of course, there is the "nerd pride" that is inherent at one of the "smartest" schools in the world. Smart people with an unhealthy love of mathematics and engineering may try to use their talents to attract members of the opposite sex, perhaps not from MIT. Telling someone that "I don't like my current girlfriend. Mind if I do a you-substitution?" only works if they know what a u-substitution is.

What can we conclude from this survey? Many MIT students either don't have time for sex or choose to abstain. Or, they think they have better things to do. Of course, it is also possible that, although they are quite intelligent, some students lack the common sense and social aptitude to seize opportunities when they arise. Most likely, if someone randomly tells you that you are one well-defined function, they are probably not talking about math. In short, MIT has a unique sexual culture because it is a unique place. And for the 8 percent of you who don't know where to get free condoms, they're in the dorms.



ALISON O. MALOUF

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For the Love of Lube!

By Christine Yu and Lena Chen

Anyone who has ever taken basic Physics, which is a graduation requirement at MIT, can tell you that friction is the arch-nemesis of motion. Friction always opposes motion, and whenever bodies are in contact, a la intercourse, there will be friction. Some friction is a good thing, but too much can lead to painful consequences. When that happens, the result isn't pleasant for either partner. Usually there's a chain reaction: if a partner goes dry, the other partner goes soft. Many a virgin has botched an attempt at losing it because of too much friction.

Luckily, most women naturally lubricate during arousal. Even then, it can only go so

far. For the more adventurous, natural lubrication doesn't do anything to help anal sex. Attempting anal for the first time without the use of synthetic lube sounds equally as painful as natural childbirth. Lube isn't just for anal sex, though. That's what prompted me to learn more about it.

For all the sexual health items out there, lube isn't usually considered a necessity; if anything, it's a luxury item. Condoms are usually lubricated, and some consider that enough. With of all my previous random hookups, I can't say that I've ever encountered a guy who kept a bottle of lube at hand. If I had, I would've thought it was just "lube at first sight;" or, I would've run in terror. Thinking back on it, the first time I tried lube, I actually developed a

rather nasty yeast infection, which was enough to keep me away for over a year.

The drugstore brands of lubricants are almost always water-based. The benefit is that water-based lube dries up afterwards and they don't degrade latex condoms. However, that also means that it typically doesn't last as long as a silicone-based product. For this reason, it is a really bad idea to use them during anal sex. For those insistent on a drugstore brand for anal usage, try water-based Astroglide, but stay away from the warming version.

Those brave enough to venture into an "adult" store (or use the Internet) will find that there are many more options. Silicone based lubricants not only last longer, but they're not difficult to clean. I either use baby wipes or

towels. For this reason, silicone lubes are much better for anal usage: the wetness still feels natural, and it lasts. Unfortunately, some of these lubricants can smell of burning rubber. Then there's the problem of sex toys. Most sex toys are silicone, and silicone-based lubes with silicone toys lead to your favorite toys becoming a ruined gummy mess.

For those hesitant about chemicals, there are also vegan and organic lubricants. When judging lubes, one should consider the factors of dry-out, smell, and stickiness. No one wants to constantly reapply lube, just as no one wants to smell like burnt rubber. With all these options out there, what's a college student to do? Here's our take on a few of the products on the market.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID TEMPLETON

Pjur

Aqua, \$16.99 for 3.4 oz
Pjur Original Bodyglide, \$24.00 for 3.4oz

LENA: Though I'm not one to encourage herd mentality, Pjur Original is the best-selling silicone-based lubricant in the world, and in this case, it makes sense to follow the masses. Unlike its competitors, Pjur doesn't include aphrodisiacs or scents in its lubricants, and that's fine by me since I'm more interested in the actual lubrication than I am in frou-frou additions. Pjur Original and Aqua, its water-based formula, are two of my favorite lubricants because they never dry out, and they don't get sticky either. (Trust me, I've tried rubbing some between my palms and the lube was entirely absorbed by my skin.) The German company, whose name is pronounced "pure," not "puh-jour," has an extensive product line with specially formulated lubricants for an array of activities and participants (men, women, anal sex, etc.). As a plus, bottles come in a sleek, cylindrical design so minimalist that they could be mistaken for shaving cream. If you're easily embarrassed about the contents of your shopping basket, this is as discreet as it gets.

GRADE: A

CHRISTINE: I had never tried silicone-based lube until Pjur, and, honestly, I wasn't sure what to expect. This brand has converted me into an avid silicone lube user. With silicone lubes, you can use less, as they're more concentrated. A little bit lasts, even in the water-based version, and there's also no scent. It's not sticky, and it's gentle. It makes the sex smooth, without adding any strange sensations. It came off easily afterwards, and I thought my skin even felt softer. Honestly it is just lube, plain and simple: I would call it the most no-bullshit lube out there.

GRADE: A



KY Jelly

Personal Lubricant, \$5.50 for 2.5 oz

LENA: Often considered the go-to drugstore brand, KY Jelly is unfortunately all hype, no substance. Like Trojan condoms, KY Jelly has done a remarkable job of pushing its products and as a result, is the most successful lubricant brand on the market. But take it from someone who once braved the CVS checkout line at 16 with a bottle of KY Warming Liquid in hand: *Stay away!* I spent years defaulting to KY because I knew no other brands, and I can tell you that you might as well save your money. KY products don't last long enough for anal but are way too much for vaginal sex. They have a tendency to dry out fast, feel extremely thick (perhaps because they were originally meant for surgical use — take that as you will), and become a sticky, gummy mess. I'm giving KY a C-, but I am, after all, a student at Harvard, the land of grade inflation and Gentlemen's Bs, so I think we all know what this grade really means.

GRADE: C-

CHRISTINE: KY Jelly is the first lube I've ever tried. It was supposed to help make sex less painful, and instead, I got a nasty yeast infection from it. My naive high school self believed this was the only lube on the market, and I just gave up on lube afterwards. It was such a pain to have to constantly reapply it during sex, and then I would feel even more dried out than I was to begin with. Honestly, I'm not sure there's anything nice I can say about this brand. On second thought, it doesn't really smell of anything, but it doesn't really do anything either.

GRADE: D

Empowered Products

Pink Silicone Lubricant, \$15.99 for 3.3 oz



LENA: Empowered Products has two product lines, Pink for women and Gun Oil for men, which come in silicone- and water-based varieties. The men's line claims to have been developed by a group of marines who based the formula on the military-issue gun oil they used to jerk off "while hunkered down in the trenches of Kuwait" during Operation Desert Storm. Upon scent and touch, this just seems like your standard unscented, no-nonsense lubricant to me, but longer usage demonstrates that Gun Oil was made to last. A dollop of the stuff, which has a just-thick-enough consistency, is enough to keeps thing slippery with the need for constant reapplication. Pink, which is slightly thinner, is even more economical. Just a few drops of it will do!

GRADE: B

CHRISTINE: I love the bottle design for Pink, and it's recommend by many women's magazines. However, I find that Pink requires me to use a little bit more than I would expect from a silicone-based product. While the bottle design is cute for Pink, it's easy to get hardened residue clogging the nozzle. I thought these products were inconsistent in their consistencies across their lines. I liked Gun Oil the best. It had the best consistency: not sticky or thick. And I wouldn't mind having this as my go-to lube. However, some of the Pinks were thin, and others made up for this by being slightly gloppy.

GRADE: A-

Astroglide

Astroglide Liquid, \$5 for 2.5 oz.

LENA: The first syllable of this lubricant's moniker is an indication of where it is best applied. I purchased my first bottle when a mailing list I read concluded that Astroglide was the best lubricant for anal sex. Four years later, my experiences with anal are still rather limited, but I credit Astroglide for being the only thing that kept me from huddling in the corner after the deed was done. (It hasn't disappointed in vaginal intercourse, either). Yes, the purple bottle is slightly gaudy, and no, the company doesn't have a huge product line, but thanks to its non-greasy, slick, and long-lasting properties, Astroglide is the cheapest, reliable option whether you're knocking on the backdoor, getting it on missionary-style, flying solo, or prepping a Slip 'N Slide.

GRADE: A-

CHRISTINE: I first heard of Astroglide when it came to anal sex. Actually, I think it was from Tucker Max's infamous anal sex story, where he discusses squeezing half a bottle of it in a girl's ass. As he learns in that story, a 4-ounce bottle usually lasts 6 months of frequent sex. Two ounces of it is just asking for a slippery mess. A little bit of this liquid goes a long way. It's not sticky, and for the price, it's a great value. While I still prefer my silicone lubes (which just lasts longer), I don't mind using Astroglide. It actually evokes nostalgia, as it's the lube that made me realize how much of a difference lube can actually make. There have been times during an extra long sex session that I will stop and reapply this, but for most sexual encounters, I've never had any issues. It's also the easiest to get, as it's available at most drug stores.

GRADE: B+

Kama Sutra

Love Liquid, \$11.99 for 3.4 fl. oz.

LENA: Try to ignore the cheesy name and focus on the fact that you can score a bottle of bliss for under \$15. Though the bulk of Kama Sutra products are romance-related items, like massage oil and body paint, they're also the makers of a stand-out lubricant. Love Liquid blows its over-the-counter counterparts away with an easily absorbable formula perfect for gliding and sliding without leaving behind gooey remainders. Indian magic at work? Probably not, but I'll settle for what I can get.

GRADE: B+

CHRISTINE: Love Liquid is a water-based lubricant that has a good consistency. It's not too thick, and it's not too sticky either. There's also no strong scent. The bottle claims it's lightly textured, but I didn't notice any texture. I'm not sure that I would enjoy texture either, as that implies more friction. I'm not a fan of grooved or twisted condoms, but I realize that some people enjoy these products. If you're looking for texture, I didn't notice it here. However, for a reliable water-based lube, I would recommend it.

GRADE: B+



Hatho Aphrodisia

Lubricant Pure, \$22.00 for 4 oz.

LENA: I really wanted to like this one, and at first, I did. Unscented and vegan-friendly, Hathor Aphrodisia's Lubricant Pure initially reminded me of Pjur because it obeys the cardinal rule of lube: slippery, not sticky. Unfortunately, after giving Lubricant Pure a few goes, I was sold on its claims of being "soothing and gentle" and decided to apply it quite liberally during a sex session a few days after a painful gynecology appointment. I don't know if it was my scarred cervix (poor thing) or the formula's Horny Goat Weed, an aphrodisiac, but the burning sensation that resulted was alarming enough (not painful, but alarming) that I commented on it mid-intercourse. My boyfriend described my insides as "rather warm" but given my overly sensitive nether regions, I decided to permanently ban Hathor from my bathroom cabinet for fear of vaginal post-traumatic stress disorder. If you're a fan of heating lubes, however, I'd recommend this over the KY variety any day. Whether or not the ingredients contain purported aphrodisiac properties, Jujube Zizyphus and Siberian Ginseng sound a lot less suspicious than some of the things I've seen on ingredient labels.

GRADE: B+

CHRISTINE: Whenever a lube claims to be flavored, my curiosity always gets the best of me. I'm not sure who came up with concept of flavored lube, but I still haven't encountered anything that doesn't taste synthetic. Hathor Aphrodisia comes in an unscented, unflavored form, and then there's Chocolate-Strawberry. Who doesn't love the taste of chocolate mixed with strawberries? I thought this would solve the conundrum of hand job with lube or blowjob, by allowing me the best of both worlds. Instead, I was drowning my disappointments with water. While it's vegan friendly, that doesn't excuse the fact it looks like brown goop. It also didn't smell of chocolate or strawberries. My partner and I were both immediately reaching for the baby wipes. The brown coloring I mentioned earlier made it look like I was spotting, which was a major mood killer. In the unscented version, we had better luck. First of all, it wasn't brown. Nor did it stink. The unscented version allowed me to actually test the lube. I discovered that, while it was smooth, it still dried out quickly. However, it still lasted longer than some water-based lubes.

GRADE: C

Sex Toys: Your New Best Friend



PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID TEMPLETON

By Christine Yu, Lena Chen, and “Hand Solo”

I’m as big a fan of self-love as a newly sexually-awakened postpubescent, but sometimes a couple digits just won’t do. That’s when I reach for my favorite vibrator made by Fun Factory, a German sex toy company. Before I came across their nifty invention, I’d tried a lot of toys that left me feeling dissatisfied, so I resorted to masturbation without technological enhancements. Though it’s cheaper and equally pleasurable (especially if you’re familiar with your own body and nimble with your fingers), masturbation alone can get boring and sex toys can add variety to the bedroom. Some women have a difficult time reaching orgasm and can get closer to their goal with the aid of a toy. For me, finding the right vibrator made me realize that sex toy shopping is a little bit like playing Goldilocks. You have to find the toy that’s juuuust right and there are a lot of factors that come into play!

According to *The Tech*’s Sex Survey, 13 percent of all MIT students have a sex toy. Overall,

16 percent of MIT women have toys. However, this statistic is as low as 6 percent for the females in the freshman class, whereas it shoots up to 26 percent for the females in the senior class. These numbers argue that sex toys become more prevalent as students go through their MIT career, and whether you’re a virgin or one-half of a couple, you can integrate toys into your sex life and use them to get better acquainted with your (and your partner’s) body and preferences. To protect your health and prolong the life of your product, keep in mind the following when purchasing and using:

Cost: Good toys aren’t cheap, but they don’t have to be outrageously expensive either. All of the products reviewed below are well-known brands carried by reputable retailers like Babeland, which only sell quality toys. Though it might be hard to justify spending triple digits (at some point, you’re really just paying for the brand), there’s a huge difference between a \$15 plastic dildo made in China and a \$60 silicone one that comes with a warranty. If the price

makes you wince, it’s better to skip toys altogether. No vibe is preferable to a toxic vibe.

Material: Silicone toys cost more, but they’re hypoallergenic, easy to clean, and as close as you can get to the real thing. Rubber/jelly and latex toys are less expensive but are also porous, which makes them difficult to disinfect, and may contain phthalates, a common rubber softener which has been correlated with negative health consequences. Toys are also made out of hard materials like plastic, glass, and aluminum (used in Tantus’ Revolve and JimmyJane’s Little Chroma).

Safety: Toys made of rubber, latex, or jelly are porous and harder to clean (see below) so I highly recommend using a condom with penetrative toys made of these materials. In general, however, condoms are a good idea because they act as a barrier against toys with materials that contain allergens (latex) or dangerous chemicals (phthalates). Condoms are an absolute necessity if you’re sharing toys with a partner and if you’re switching between vaginal and anal pen-

etration.

Lubrication: As always, don’t forget to lube up, especially if you don’t get wet on your own. Remember to keep the silicone lube away from your silicone toys or you’ll destroy the surface of the latter. Stick to the water-based stuff, which is safe for all materials, or use saliva when in a pinch (It’s better than nothing!).

Care: To prolong their lifespan, don’t put off cleaning your toys. Most toys will do fine with a warm water rinse accompanied by anti-bacterial soap, but rubber, latex, and jelly toys are more porous than silicone so they require extra rinsing to get rid of excess soap. If you want to make sure your toys are squeaky clean, silicone and glass products without electrical parts can be boiled or run through a cycle in the dishwasher (stick them in the top shelf, though).

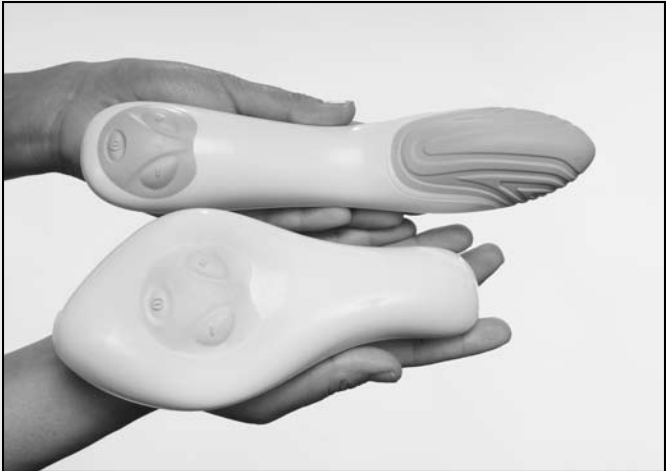
This edition of Sex Ed focuses on products for women, but don’t worry, boys. We’ll be reviewing unisex and couples toys in an upcoming installment. In the meantime, the boys can read a review of the Fleshlight by “Hand Solo.”

Womolia (\$99.95) & Femblossom (\$99.95) by Emotional Bliss

CHRISTINE: Using silver ions as an antibacterial agent, Emotional Bliss’s selling point is the almost self-cleaning nature of their personal massagers. To clean it, it’s as simple as wiping it down with water. I don’t know about others, but I find cleaning my sex toys to be such a hassle. So much so, I’m hesitant to use them when I’m on a time crunch, even though I could really use an orgasm to wind down. This makes these toys perfect for those who don’t want to boil silicone after every usage. And, these toys self-heat! But, they never get too hot. I prefer the Femblossom because of its design. The Womolia (pictured above) is a bit too thick and long for internal usage, in my opinion, and for clitoral purposes, its shape is awkward. Out of all the toys I tested, Emotional Bliss also had the best speeds, but they’re incredibly loud. So loud that I consider it a major product flaw for college students— I think they’re louder than “indoor speaking voices.” It’s a small price to pay, though, for a quick orgasm, which the higher speeds definitely afforded.

DESIGN: B+
EFFICACY: A

LENA: The U.K. company Emotional Bliss has garnered a large following in Europe with its line of intimate massagers, which include the Womolia and the Femblossom. These are the only vibrators on the market that heat up by warming to the speed and frequency selected. Though the vibrations are strong enough to suit my preferences, the toys are also extremely loud so discretion is next to impossible



if you’re not living in a single. I also wish they didn’t resemble shower heads and came in a sleeker design. Both are rechargeable (so you can forget batteries) and curved for comfort. One big plus: Since the products are made of Thermoplastic Elastomer (TPE), which is non-porous, they’re super easy to clean and also contain an antibacterial agent that sterilizes the massager after it they are wiped with water.

DESIGN: C+
EFFICACY: B

Onye (\$55) by Big Teaze Toys

CHRISTINE: I wanted to like the Onye. With its pretty satin-lined case, I thought I was in for a treat. Plus, it wasn’t terrifyingly large. If anything, it looked like a thicker, shorter version of JimmyJane’s Little Chroma, which is one of my favorite toys on the market. After stealing my AAA batteries from my TI-89, I should’ve known I was in for a disappointment. My batteries will be staying in my TI-89. The eight speeds are nice, but none of them quite did the trick. Plus, it’s very much like a bullet vibrator in the sense that the speed button is the same control which turns it on and off. In my opinion, this is just an overpriced, oversized bullet.

DESIGN: C
EFFICACY: D

LENA: The Onye, which comes in eight modes, is short, thick, and does the trick. As a 5’ 2” gal often intimidated by the giant phalluses on display at adult store, I appreciate smaller vibrators which are more realistic about the size of the orifices they’ll be used in. Made of hypoallergenic and phthalate-free ABS plastic, the Onye is aesthetically pleasing, but even if it weren’t, it comes in its own satin-lined case for discreet safekeeping. One big down side is that the button for the different speed and vibration modes is the same button that turns the toy on and off. No one likes being interrupted at key moments.



DESIGN: B
EFFICACY: B

Revolve (\$89.99) by Tantus

CHRISTINE: The Revolve didn’t impress me, but I am not someone who has figured out how to give myself a G-spot orgasm. Plus, it’s incredibly cold (being aircraft aluminum). When I use it, I can’t help but think of smart balls and Kegel exercises, which don’t really get me off. I think that the Revolve is an afterthought for Tantus, kind of like how Brooks Brothers started designing women’s clothing — realizing they could make a profit by branching into an area they aren’t nearly as good at. Tantus is known for high quality silicone sex toys, and the butt plug they sent is by far my favorite silicone butt plug. However, I prefer my butt plugs to be made of glass, as I prefer silicone lube for anal play. Nonetheless, for those interested in high quality silicone toys, Tantus uses medical grade silicone.

DESIGN: B

EFFICACY: B

LENA: Unlike the other toys in reviewed in this piece, the Revolve doesn’t vibrate which, for me, means more work to get off. If you’ve mastered G-spot orgasms, however, the non-uniform curves make this toy your new best friend. The Alumina Revolve is made of anodized aluminum, a seemingly weightless material which initially feels cool until it warms to the temperature of your body. I’m the type of gal who insists on having sex with the covers on, not because of prudishness but because of sensitivity to cold. If you’re like me, run the Revolve under hot water first to warm it up. A bonus feature: It can also be unscrewed in the middle to be mixed and matched with parts from other toys in the Alumina line.

DESIGN: A

EFFICACY: B-



Fleshlight (\$64.95–69.95) by Interactive Life Forms

HAND SOLO: The Fleshlight represents one of the few mainstream sex toys marketed towards men that aren’t interested in playing with their rear end. It was designed by a SWAT officer, the manliest of men, so: Guys, there’s no reason to be a scrotum and be afraid of owning a toy.

The Fleshlight is a plastic container, vaguely approximating the appearance of a flashlight, with an elastomeric gel sleeve insert. And, in case it isn’t obvious, you insert your penis into the sleeve. The sleeve itself is very stretchy, and if anchored at both ends can serve as an impromptu slingshot. Although the container comes in different colors, its primarily point of customization is sleeve options.

A variety of options are available on their website (*fleshlight.com*), ranging from different “skin tones,” orifice depictions, and inner texture. When I bought mine a few years ago, there were several tones available, from caucasian to “pink” to african; the only options these days seem to be pink and “ice” (clear). Bummer! The orifice selection is abundant: options include the Lady (vagina), Mouth, Butt (anus), Mini-Maid (buttocks), and Stealth (nondescript). The inner texture selection is equally abundant: Original (plain 3/4”), Super Tight (plain 1/2”, rectum emulator), Ultra Tight (plain 1/4”), Vortex (diagonal ridges), Wonder Wave (vagina emulator), Super Ribbed (mouth and throat emulator), and Speed Bump (reportedly the most intense).

I have the Lady in pink with the Original texture in a black case. I figured that the Original was the most vanilla and would leave me the most satisfied by future ladyfriends.

The first thing you’re going to want to purchase with your Fleshlight is lube, because it is literally as useless as a paperweight without it. You can’t expect to give it some wine and kiss its neck and expect it to become lubed like a real vagina. The lube type is strict: water-based only! Silicone-based lubes will eat away at the polymer.

In use, it does the job. It does not emulate the act of “humping” by any means, and as someone who has tried clamping it to a desk with a Quick Grip, I can say trying that is less than satisfying. I would recommend hand-held use only. There is a cap at the back that can regulate suction, but it has only a very mild effect. I would recommend keeping it closed to contain the “effects.”

Speaking of effects, herein lies the Achilles’ Heel of the Fleshlight: cleanup. According to a few girls I’ve talked to, it seems much easier to clean a real vagina than this thing. First off: clean it immediately after use. If you wait, things start to dry and start to smell. Once, I was post-orgasmically lazy and decided to put on the front and rear caps and clean it “later;” later ended up being when I found it under my bed after a week. The cleanup from that was truly horrifying. But even if you wash it immediately, it is a pain washing the inside and outside of the sleeve, and then the many parts of the container. The inside of the sleeve is particularly difficult, as it involves stretching it to inhumane geometries to properly get a cleaning digit/utensil deep in. The sleeve cannot be boiled, so it cannot be sterilized easily, and thus should be used by a single individual only. Even after proper cleaning, the surface of the sleeve is a bit cohesive, and powdering it occasionally with cornstarch is recommended. It is for this cleanup regimen that the Fleshlight is docked points for design.

A final note about couples’ use: recommended. Giving your girl a second vagina to wield can be a psychological turn-on for her and a physical one for you.

DESIGN: C

EFFICACY: B+

Little Chroma (\$125) by JimmyJane

CHRISTINE: The Little Chroma is what introduced me to sex toys; so obviously, my thoughts are biased. It is arguably the quietest toy on the market, but what really makes it special is the replaceable motor. It’s depressing when a sex toy dies. With heavy usage, it’s easy to kill one in six months, so instead of buying a whole new toy, JimmyJane does what more companies should: selling motor replacements. Made of aluminum, it only has one real speed (arguably, one could not fully tighten it when turning it on, giving a slower result), but even then, I don’t think it limits the toy. I do wish it had more speeds.

It also runs on 2AA batteries, which surprisingly allow it to last up to 16 hours. In my long term usage of the toy, I find this number to be about right, which means it outlasts some of my rechargeable toys. It’s better for clitoral use, but it’s not super thick or super long, making it also a good toy for vaginal use. I’m impressed with JimmyJane’s display at Good Vibes. As a friend of mine put it, “if Good Vibes were a Best Buy, then JimmyJane would be the Apple display.” They market themselves with sleek designs, and for those not willing to drop \$100 on a toy, I would suggest trying their smaller version with their iconic bullet (priced at \$16.)

DESIGN: A

EFFICACY: A-

LENA: Also made of aluminum, the Little Chroma is one of the more affordable options in JimmyJane, a luxury sex toy company that is to vibrators what Tiffany’s is to jewelry. This is an especially apt comparison since JimmyJane is well-known for manufacturing jewel-encrusted toys adored by celebrities like Kate Moss and Teri Hatcher. This little vibe is one of my favs in terms of design and whisper-quiet to boot. It also packs a powerful punch despite its diminutive size. My only complaint? Though I appreciate the sleek and smooth shape, a curved shape would fit my body better. If you think you might have similar concerns, the company’s hefty Form 6 might be a more appropriate option.

DESIGN: A+

EFFICACY: B+



SaSi (\$150.01) by Je Joue

CHRISTINE: The SaSi is not intuitive. However, for those willing to read an instruction manual, it can consistently give an orgasmic experience. Unlike other sex toys, the SaSi can be programmed with an individual’s favorite patterns to get off. It’s supposed to simulate cunnilingus, but I don’t find the speed fast enough (It has possibly the weakest motor of all the toys I tested.)

It has a ball-like item inside the toy, which can move up and down, left and right — in a similar fashion to a tongue; additionally, it vibrates and pulsates. It is probably the best thing on the market for oral sex simulation, but I’m not sure that I necessarily want my toys to be just like the real thing. Part of the fun of sex toys is that they’re a different experience.

Also, because it’s not user-friendly, it’s easy to push the wrong buttons and get unexpected results. It’s rechargeable, but sometimes it heats up too much. However, it’s easy to clean, with a slip-off silicone cover. It doesn’t look like a sex toy, although it slightly resembles a tongue. In its packaging, though, it looks more like a phone, sitting on a stand. I do commend the creators of SaSi for the sleek design and the plethora of options; I just wish it had a stronger motor.

DESIGN: A+

EFFICACY: B-

LENA: The Sasi is the most expensive and most impressive product of the bunch. Designed to simulate cunnilingus, this silicone device cradles your curves and gently massages your clitoris with a rounded tip that protrudes from under a silicone skin. By far one of the best options I’ve ever come across for women who don’t like penetrative sex toys, the Sasi comes with varied pre-programmed modes and can also remember which patterns you like best. The only thing that kept the toy from an A- is my preference for stronger vibrations. I tend to like the real thing hard and rough, and in that regard, the SaSi just isn’t quite sassy enough.

DESIGN: A+

EFFICACY: B+



VIEWPOINTS

Benjamin J. Peters '11

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: I'm pretty satisfied with it.

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: Oh yeah. The TA I had in 18.02 and some of my HASS TAs.

Q: What do you think is the general relationship style at MIT? Are people swingers or couples?
A: Probably the more serious side of dating.

Elizabeth B. Perley '10

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: MIT is a lot of work, but I feel like people still find time for sex.

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: I can't say anything — but yes.

Q: What do you think is the general relationship style at MIT? Are people swingers or couples?
A: Monogamy I think.

Anonymous

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: I wouldn't know.

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: 5.111

Q: What do you think is the general relationship style at MIT? Are people swingers or couples?
A: Polygamy.

Giulia M. Dula '11

Q: What qualities do you look for in a sexual partner?
A: He can't be an asshole.

Q: What has your sexual experience at MIT been like so far?
A: I can't really say. I'm dating someone in Virginia. We met my sophomore summer. We had everything in common and it was like a total whirlwind.

Q: How has that been? Do you ever want to date someone at MIT, instead?
A: No. I kind of like the distance, because while I'm freaking out at school all the time I have the space.

Anonymous

Q: What qualities do you look for in a sexual partner?
A: They have to be understanding.

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: It's pretty busy here, but if they really want to find time, they definitely can.

Q: What do you think is the general relationship style at MIT? Are people swingers or couples?
A: Dating.

Q: Where did you first meet your boyfriend?
A: We lived in the same dorm the first year, now we live in different dorms. We became official just recently.

Anonymous

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: I like it. The girls at MIT are really nice.

Q: What do you like about them the most?
A: It's good that they are smart. It helps that we are all going through the same stuff.

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: Two votes for 7.012.

Barry D. Bannon '10

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: Almost definitely course 7. They have the hottest TAs.

Q: What do you look for in a sexual partner?
A: I like girls with personality. MIT has plenty of those. Boring girls just don't cut it.

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: There are definitely parts of West Campus that I think are asexual. Like entire floors. I'm from Bexley though, so that's not the case.

Kathy Tran '13

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: It could be better. I think guys should stop walking around saying that MIT girls lower their standards. If they want Wellesley girls they should just stay there.

Q: What do you look for in a sexual partner?
A: Confidence, helpful, hygiene.

Q: Which TAs are the hottest?
A: Course 5 TAs.

Q: What do you think is the difference between west campus and east campus sex life?
A: East campus is probably more open about it.

Amelia B. Carver '13

Q: What has been your general experience at MIT regarding sex?
A: You have to be careful because if you don't watch what you're doing you can end up like Bilbo: like butter scraped over bread.

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: I kind of have a crush on my math professor but he's married, so I'm not going to go there.

Q: What do you think is the difference between west campus and east campus sex life?
A: I'm sure they have their fun, but just not as

much fun as east campus. I love Senior House. I would say it's the best dorm regarding sex.

Q: What kind of person do you look for as a sexual partner?
A: I've spent the past few years trying to figure out what my type was and I still have no idea.

Q: Does MIT's sex life have better qualities than the "real world"?
A: Well the normal world is full of stupid people, so I mean, yeah.

Anonymous

Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: MIT is a lot of work but I still try to make time. I definitely go on the weekends to parties. I'm Mexican, so I'm more into Mexican girls. I live in Spanish House, so it all works out. They come to me.

Q: Which TAs are the hottest?
A: MIT TAs are really hot. During Interphase, the humanities TAs were pretty attractive.

Q: What do you think is the difference between west campus and east campus sex life?
A: West campus and east campus are the same. East campus is just a little more vocal about it.

Andrea (French Third Year Exchange Student)
Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: None. I've got a girlfriend back in France, we've been going out for a year now. I've got a few friends here who are more around the bend, so that's what I hear about MIT.

Q: Tell us something about your girlfriend. What qualities do you like the most about her?
A: I've liked everything about her.

Justin J. Cullen '12
Q: How do you view the sex life of MIT students?
A: Everyone is pretty open in general so it's fairly good.

Q: What do you like about girls at MIT? Or do you prefer Harvard or Wellesley or BU girls?
A: It's hard to generalize which girls I like more. They are all so different.

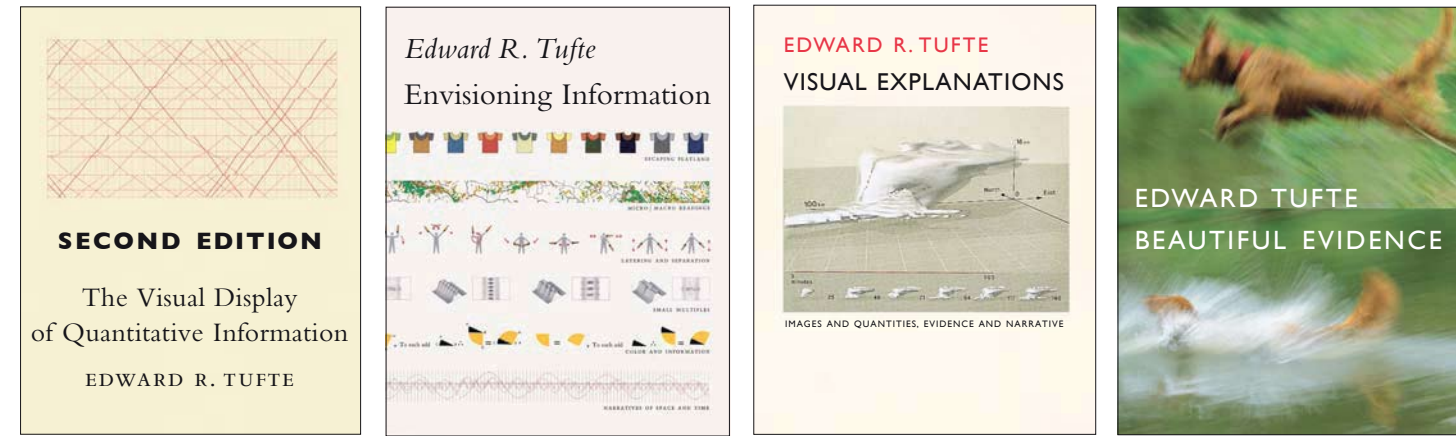
Q: What qualities do you look for in a sexual partner?
A: A sense of humor is necessary. You really need to be able to take a joke. Looks are pretty important too.

Q: What do you think is the difference between campus and fraternity sex life?
A: I guess on campus there are more relationship types and at frats there are more random hookups.

Q: Have you ever had a crush on a TA? In which class?
A: I don't go to class often enough. Probably not course 18.

The Tech interviewed students in Lobby 7 on Monday, October 26. Photography by Andrea Robles.

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Steal My Comic

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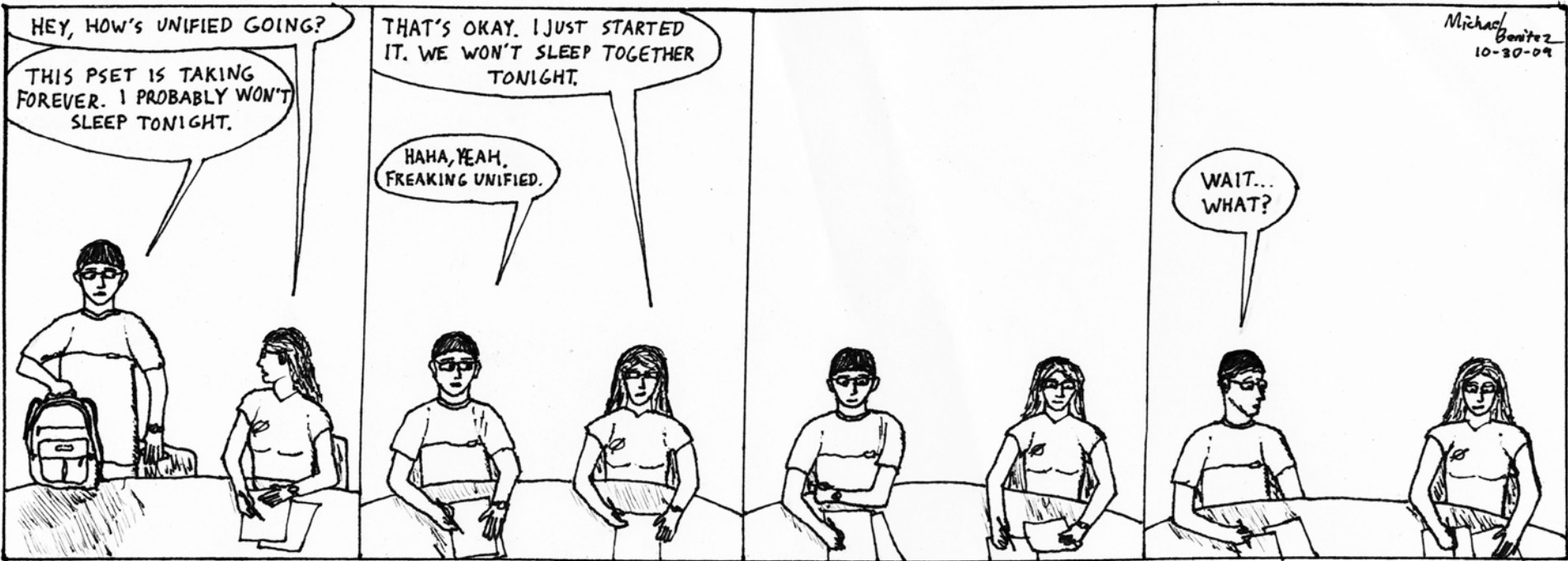
The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters



Help Desk

by Michael Benitez



Sudoku

Difficulty: Medium
Solution on page 26.

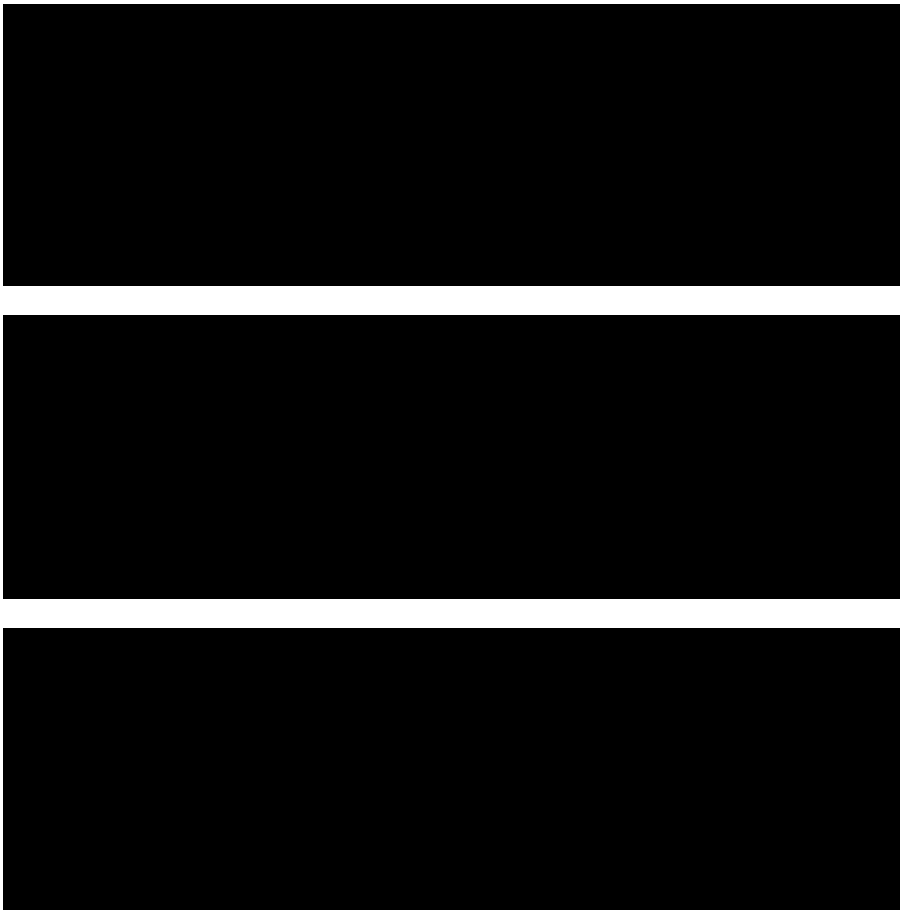
Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Difficulty: Very Hard
Solution on page 24.

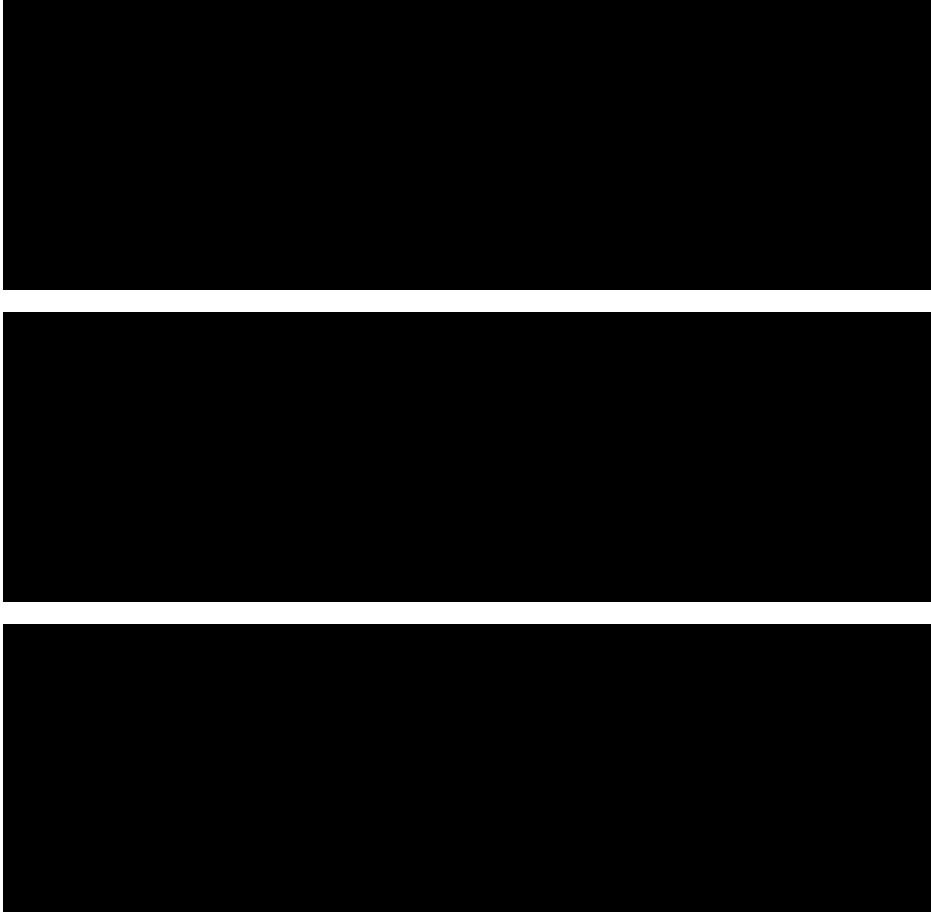
		8					2	5
4	7	9		5			3	
			1					
6	1			9		2		
		2	6		1	4		
		4		3			1	6
					3			
	9			7		3	6	2
2	8					5		

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

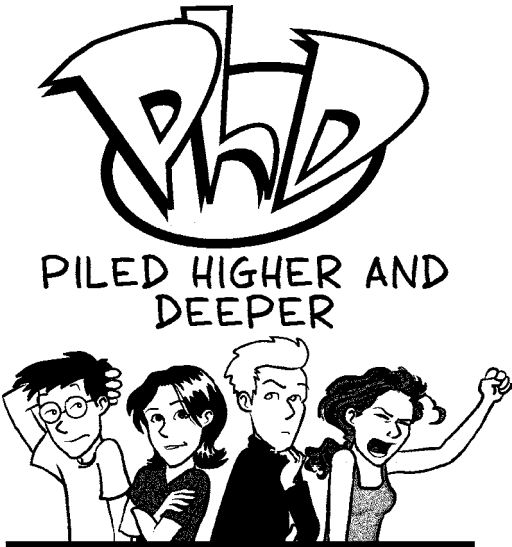
Doonesbury Flashbacks
BY GARRY TRUDEAU



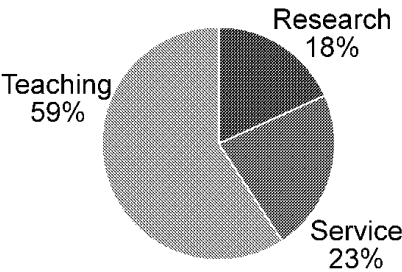
Dilbert® by Scott Adams



HOW PROFESSORS SPEND THEIR TIME

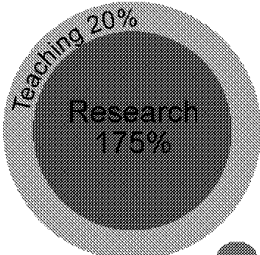


How they actually spend their time:



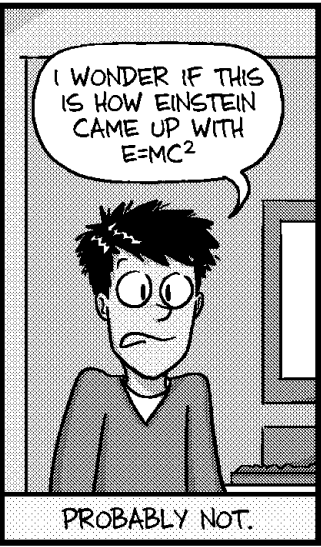
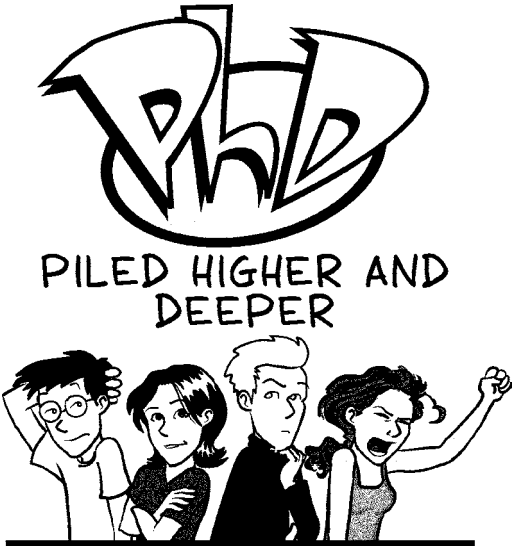
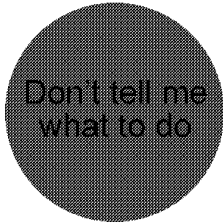
Source: Higher Education Research Institute Survey (1999)

How departments expect them to spend their time:



"Service" 20%

How Professors would like to spend their time:



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 26

ACROSS

- 1 Lobster traps
- 5 Caroled
- 9 Chocolate tree
- 14 Now!
- 15 DCCL doubled
- 16 Olfactory stimulation
- 17 Start of Evan Esar quip
- 19 Big rigs
- 20 Old hag
- 21 Cut in half
- 22 Local pol.
- 25 South American tuber
- 26 Baltimore paper
- 27 Palindromic sibling
- 28 Part 2 of quip
- 32 Since last time
- 33 Avant-garde French artist
- 34 Israeli folk dance
- 37 Tapestry in

"Hamlet"

- 38 Part 3 of quip
- 39 Reigned
- 40 Goddess of fertility
- 41 Former space station
- 42 Dwell
- 43 Part 4 of quip
- 46 Hail to Horace
- 48 Begley and Begley
- 49 __ polloi
- 50 Program file extension
- 51 Aer __ (Irish airline)
- 53 Inductee's boss
- 55 Tiny bits
- 56 End of quip
- 60 Great __ Lake
- 61 Hair cluster
- 62 Sandusky's lake
- 63 Tall stories
- 64 Adamson's lioness
- 65 Clan division

DOWN

- 1 Dads
- 2 Bear: Sp.
- 3 Highlands hat
- 4 On __ (without guarantee)
- 5 Kissy-faced
- 6 God, in Hebrew text
- 7 Baseball team
- 8 Actress Scala
- 9 Luxor or Mirage
- 10 Mars to the Greeks
- 11 Grows excited
- 12 Italian friends
- 13 Tobacco kilns
- 18 Guttural warnings
- 21 Collide with
- 22 Dwight's rival
- 23 Deceivers
- 24 Injurious
- 26 Withered
- 29 Badger

- 30 Writer McMurtry
- 31 Keep quiet!
- 35 Updike novel, "Rabbit __"
- 36 Astaire's sister
- 38 Feels poorly
- 39 Call it quits
- 41 Pills, briefly
- 42 1929 Bebe Daniels movie
- 44 Practices recycling
- 45 Ties up at a dock
- 46 Elite social category
- 47 Stringed instrument
- 52 Donated
- 53 Synagogue
- 54 Scrapes (by)
- 56 French rel. fig.
- 57 Before
- 58 Actor Torn
- 59 Congeal

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						33			34		35	36
37					38			39				
40				41			42					
		43		44			45					
46	47			48			49			50		
51			52			53			54			
55					56					57	58	59
60					61				62			
63					64				65			

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DOE Gives \$151 Mil. To Research Projects With Energy Focuses

Energy, from Page 1

go for projects at all stages of development, including some that exist simply as a smart idea, Chu said.

The department will announce 37 grants totaling \$151 million, mostly going to small businesses and educational institutions but also to a few corporations. Some of the ideas may be supported until they are picked up by venture capitalists or major companies, he said.

The new effort, directed by the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, or ARPA-E, is modeled on a Defense Department program known as DARPA that helped commercialize microchips and the Internet and helped develop body armor and other high-tech products. DARPA is known for quick decisions and long-shot bets, an approach seldom associated with the Energy Department.

President George W. Bush signed the agency into law in 2007 but did not propose any money for it. It got its first appropriation in the stimulus act, \$400 million to be spent over two years. On Wednesday, the Senate confirmed Arun Majumdar, a scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California to lead the agency.

Majumdar said in a telephone interview that his new agency would identify challenges in the energy industry and would finance “five or 10 different approaches.”

“We don’t know which ones are going to work, but we’ll try them,” he said, “and if many of them fail but one works, that’s great, we’ve solved the problem.”

Chu, a Nobel laureate in physics, was a co-author of a 2006 paper for the National Academy of Sciences that called for the creation of the ARPA-E program.

In the initial round, the grants average \$4 million. One is going to researchers at the University of Minnesota’s Twin Cities campus who are working on developing an organism that uses sunlight to convert carbon dioxide into sugars and another that converts the sugars to gasoline and diesel. The two can live in a “co-culture” in a thin latex film, according to Lawrence P. Wackett, a professor of biochemistry, although much research remains to be done to make the organisms work as a system.

“A venture capital group might

say it’s a little early for them,” Wackett said.

“It’s not all worked out, but that’s the spirit of ARPA-E,” he said. “It’s not supposed to be things that are 90 percent worked out, but more what-if kinds of things.”

A second grant will go to a group led by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that is trying to develop an all-liquid metal battery. It could smooth out the intermittent flow of power from sources like wind mills and solar cells, displacing sources that emit heat-trapping gases like coal, oil or gas.

A third would finance research by United Technologies to use enzymes, which are essentially the digestive juices of living things, to capture carbon dioxide from the stacks of power plants. Existing systems can do the job but consume 30 percent of the power plant’s energy in the process.

Crucial to the new strategy is using top-notch scientists to evaluate the projects, Chu said. He said that he had written this year to university presidents around the country and asked them to assign their “best and brightest” to the project, and that 500 top scientists had responded. They sifted through 3,600 preliminary proposals and selected 300 to be developed into fuller proposals before choosing 37 to finance in the first round.

With only about 1 percent of the proposals receiving money, Chu said, the Energy Department might decide to arrange a “fair” at which venture capitalists could size up some of the others.

The ARPA-E grants are part of a flurry of energy announcements by the Obama administration. In a speech on Tuesday in Arcadia, Fla., President Barack Obama plans to discuss \$3.4 billion in spending from the stimulus package to improve the electricity grid. White House officials said the government money would be matched by as much as \$5 billion in private spending.

In Arcadia, the site of one of the nation’s largest solar panel arrays, Obama will also highlight the administration’s commitment to renewable energy sources like the wind and sun, White House officials said. He will also emphasize the importance of upgrading electric transmission systems to improve reliability and reduce energy losses.

The so-called smart grid will include meters for homes and businesses that allow customers to monitor their energy use.

Solution to Hard Sudoku

from page 22

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

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MIT Alumni Wrestlers Organized To Try To Save Wrestling Team

wrestler Joseph B. Silverman '10 said that the lack of prestige and competition was one of the main problems he had with participating at club level: "Wrestling is a sport of goals," said Silverman. "You make high goals, and you want to beat those goals."

Co-captain Grant Kadokura '11 said that he did not fully understand the issues around the administration's decision to cut varsity wrestling. He said, "Up until recently, we thought there was a considerable chance of becoming a varsity team."

In an attempt to help the wrestling team regain varsity status, alumni of the team organized to raise \$1.6 million to directly fund the program. Loren Dessonville '75, who co-captained the team and appeared at nationals twice when he was a student, spearheaded the fundraising effort. He helped organize a group of approximately 70 alumni to raise funds for the program, and donors ranged over multiple classes, some dating

"I have more vivid memories of wrestling than 3,091," said Dessonville. Despite the fundraising efforts, the administration denied to reinstate the varsity wrestling team.

Some members of the wrestling team describe the sport as central to their MIT experience: Kadokura said he thought wrestling had improved his work ethic, character, and academic performance in school.

The money raised by the alumni will go partially towards making the club as strong as possible for the time being. By presenting a strong club, the team hopes to show their viability so that the decision of the administration may be someday appealed.

Curtin Was Warm and Energetic as a Student, Friend, & Researcher

young scientist: "Take somebody with that strong work ethic, raw smarts, and meticulous attention to detail, and you had one powerful researcher," said Nocera.

Curtin's energy and enthusiasm did not stop outside the lab: "If we

Fellow graduate student Emily McLaurin remembers, "Pete was an all around great guy. He was always smiling and pleasant."

Nocera said that, most of all, he will remember Curtin's smile.


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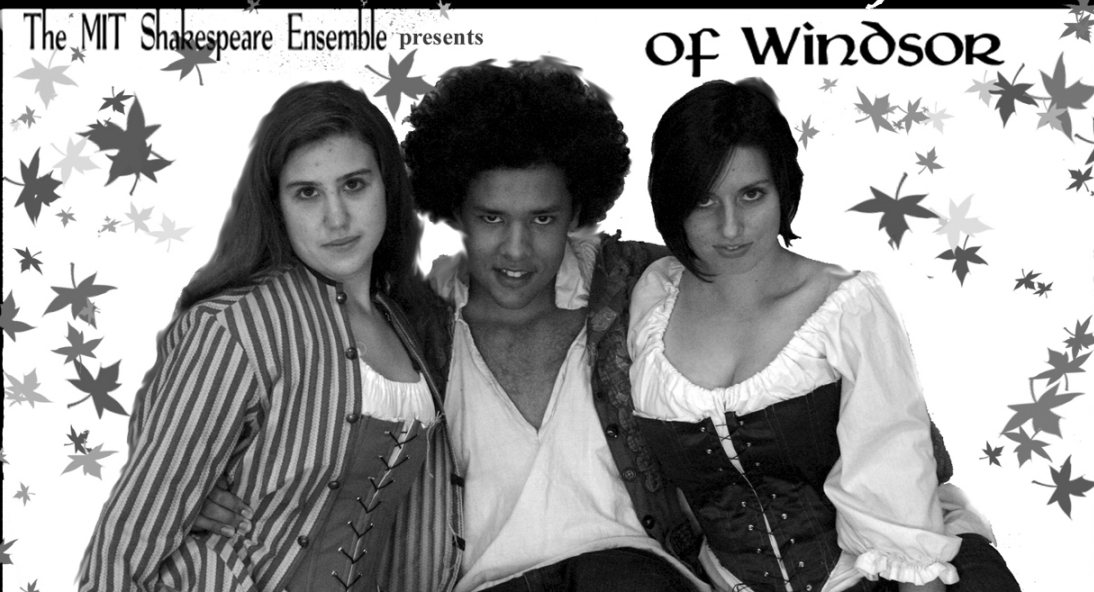
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When: November 5th
Where: Room 1-190
Time: 5:30pm- 6:30pm

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Solution to Medium Sudoku

from page 22

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

Solution to Crossword

from page 23

P	O	T	S		S	A	N	G		C	A	C	A	O		
A	S	A	P		M	D	I	I		A	R	O	M	A		
S	O	M	E	G	O	O	N	A		S	E	M	I	S		
				C	R	O	N	E		B	I	S	E	C	T	
A	L	D		O	C	A		S	U	N		S	I	S		
D	I	E	T	W	H	I	L	E	M	O	S	T				
L	A	T	E	L	Y		A	R	P		H	O	R	A		
A	R	R	A	S		A	R	E		R	U	L	E	D		
I	S	I	S		M	I	R		R	E	S	I	D	E		
				M	E	R	E	L	Y	W	I	S	H	F	U	L
A	V	E		E	D	S		H	O	I		E	X	E		
L	I	N	G	U	S		S	A	R	G	E					
I	O	T	A	S		S	H	R	I	N	K	E	R	S		
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11am - 11pm DAILY

PIZZA

	Slice	Small	Large
Three Cheese	2.50	7	13
mozzarella, cheddar & parmesan			
Pepperoni	2.75	7.50	13.50
three cheese & pepperoni			
Buffalo Chicken	8	14	
mozzarella and buffalo chicken with a side of blue cheese			
BBQ Chicken	8	14	
grilled chicken with caramelized onions & bbq sauce			
Grilled Chicken Pesto	8	14	
mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan & fresh tomatoes			
Spicy Sausage	8	14	
sauteed mushrooms & caramelized onions			
Vegetarian	8	14	
roasted red peppers, mushrooms, broccoli & artichoke hearts			
Prosciutto, Pear & Gorgonzola	8	14	
three cheese & poached pear			
Margherita	8	14	
fresh mozzarella & basil			
Spinach & Bacon	8	14	
sauteed spinach, bacon & tomatoes			
Special Pizza of the Day	7.50	13.50	

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Gordon, from Page 1

"One of the pretty clear messages that has come through is that MIT graduates work hard and are analytical and creative, but they don't rise to influence their organizations in a larger way," said Edward Crawley, director of the Gordon engineering leadership program and a 1976 MIT graduate. "Can we

"Most engineers are very introverted," he said, including himself.

A peer reviewer later informed her that her teammates did not respond well to her because they felt she was abrasive, a criticism Goldhaber said she appreciated. She said

Goldhaber put her newfound leadership skills to use last summer as an intern at British Telecom. She developed an idea for a technological device, on which she

"I literally thought two years ago that I'd be an engineer sitting in a cubicle cranking out equations for the rest of my life," Goldhaber said. "Now I've discovered that I'm good at people as well as machines, and I never would have had the gump-tion to explore that without this program."

The logo features a stylized grey t-shirt on the left. To its right, the text "QRST's" is written in a large, bold, white font with a thick black outline. Below this, the words "Printing - Embroidery and More..." are written in a smaller, black, cursive-style font. In the top right corner, there is a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit and hat, holding a large beach ball. In the bottom left corner, there is a small, dark square logo with the word "QRST" in white.

SPORTS

MIT Women's Volleyball Clinches
NEWMAC Regular-Season Title

By Paul Dill
TEAM COACH

MIT clinched its 3rd NEWMAC regular season title in five years by defeating Wellesley College 3-1 (25-2-, 22-25, 25-21, 25-23) on Tuesday night. With the win, the Engineers pushed their conference record to 8-0, while lifting their overall record to 24-7. Wellesley fell to 5-2 in the NEWMAC, 18-9 overall.

In the opening set, the teams battled to a 10-10 tie before a kill from Alexandra T. May '10 sparked a 9-3 run for the visitors. The Blue trimmed the lead to 23-20, but got no closer as MIT closed out the set 25-20.

Wellesley rebounded in game two, jumping out to a 5-1 lead. MIT fought back, cutting the lead to one point on six occasions, but the Blue maintained the lead throughout the

set for the 25-22 win and evened the match at one game each.

MIT took a 5-1 lead to open the third set, but Wellesley tied the score at 8-8. The Engineers regained an advantage with a four-point serving run from Anna D. Dikina '11, with the help of two kills from Kelly E. Schulte '12. Wellesley capitalized on three Engineer errors and knotted the score at 12-12. After trading side outs to 17-17, MIT grabbed the lead for good, courtesy of two stuff blocks from Schulte and Cecily L. Joujon-Roche '12 and one stuff block from Schulte and Jenny Li '11 to spark a 25-21 win.

The Engineers grabbed an early 7-4 lead in game four, capped off by a kill from Barden E. Cleeland '10. Wellesley cut the lead to 11-9, but the Engineers replied with a 7-1 run that included three more kills from Cleeland. Wellesley bounced back with a five-point serving run trimming the

lead to 17-16. MIT broke away again, rebuilding its lead to 21-17. Wellesley charged again, but fell short, dropping the fourth and deciding set 25-23.

MIT was led by May with 11 kills and 9 digs while Li added nine kills. Cleeland and Joujon-Roche each recorded eight kills for the visitors while Katie Spielbauer '13 led all players with 15 digs. Also for MIT, Alyssa L. Rothman '13 dished out 40 assists. Joujon-Roche and Schulte tallied five and four blocks, respectively.

The Engineers return to action on Saturday, October 31, when they host Mount Holyoke at 1 p.m. in Rockwell Cage in their final regular season match. Also, by earning the top seed for the NEWMAC, MIT will host the conference tournament this coming week (Tuesday, November 3 at 7 p.m., Friday, November 6 at 5 p.m., Saturday, November 7 at 4 p.m. — all in Rockwell Cage).

Women's Soccer Wins 2-0 Over Clark

MIT women's soccer took on Clark University on a soggy Tuesday evening. The Engineers took an early lead and held on for the 2-0 victory in the final match of the NEWMAC regular season.

Sports
Shorts

Prior to the game, three seniors were recognized for their contributions to the MIT women's soccer program. Playing their final regular-season game, Jean E. "Liz" Theurer '10, Erika C. Granger '10 and co-captain Kathryn A. Pesce '10 were honored for becoming the first Engineers to hold winning NEWMAC records in all four years.

In the seventh minute, Theurer scored off a pass from Clair DeRosa, maneuvering past the two defenders to put away her sixth goal of the season.

In the 21st minute, Connie Y. Park '13's corner kick into the middle of the penalty area found the foot of Alisha D. Lussiez '12, who put the Engineers up 2-0 before the half. Neither team would score in the second half.

Goalie Meghan S. Wright '13 was perfect in net, stopping all five shots on goal and recording her third shutout on the season.

The Engineers' next match will be against WPI in the NEWMAC Quarterfinals, on Saturday at 1 p.m. at home.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Field Hockey Closes Regular
Season with Overtime Win

MIT Field hockey wrapped up their regular season with a 1-0 overtime victory over Clark University on Tuesday, improving to 14-4 and clinching the number two seed in the upcoming NEWMAC Tournament.

Lia R. DiGiovanna '13 scored the lone goal in a match-up that featured three of the leading scorers in the conference. Although MIT held advantages in both shots on goal and penalty corners, the game remained scoreless until the 78th minute. Kameron L. Klauber '12 made the assist on the goal.

The Engineer defense shut down Clark's offense behind goalie Keri A. Dixon '11, who made three saves.

MIT will face Babson College in the first round of the NEWMAC tournament on Saturday.

—David Zhu, Sports Editor

Hansen, Vishnevetky Earn
NEWMAC Postseason Honors

The New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) announced its 2009 Women's Tennis postseason awards on Tuesday. MIT gathered three Second-Team awards.

Leslie A. Hansen '10 closed out her Fall career with a Second-Team nod at No.1 singles and No. 1 doubles, adding to her lengthy list of awards. The 2006 Rookie of the Year and two-time Athlete of the Year remains the only MIT women's tennis player to receive either award in NEWMAC history. Hansen was named to All-Conference teams all four years in singles and three times in doubles. With ten All-Conference awards, Hansen has surpassed Mariah N. Hoover '07 to become the most decorated athlete in the history of Tech's women's tennis program.

In addition to her doubles nomination, Hansen's partner Anastasia Vishnevetsky '12 received Second-Team honors at No. 2 singles. Vishnevetsky has totaled four All-Conference awards in her career, including last year's First-Team selections at the same positions.

—Paul Blascovich, DAPER Staff

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, October 31, 2009

Sailing — Erwin Schell Trophy 9:30 a.m., Charles River
Women's Soccer vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute 1 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Women's Volleyball vs. Mount Holyoke College 1 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Sunday, November 1, 2009

Sailing — Erwin Schell Trophy 9:30 a.m., Charles River

SCOREBOARD

Field Hockey	
Tuesday, October 27, 2009	
Clark University	0
MIT (14-4)	1

Women's Soccer	
Tuesday, October 27, 2009	
Clark University	0
MIT (9-5-2)	2

Women's Volleyball	
Tuesday, October 20, 2009	
Wellesley College	1
MIT (24-7)	3



JESSICA LIU—THE TECH

Andrea Y. Park '13 jumps in an attempt to assure a goal scored by Alisha D. Lussiez '12 during the Engineers' soccer game versus Clark University. The goal secured the win for MIT, which won 2-0.

