

Will HDAG hear student voices?

Many troubled over Dining

By Maggie Lloyd
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

As the Division of Student Life prepares to eliminate the house dining system's \$600,000 annual deficit, some undergraduates worry that the newest dining committee will neglect students' opinions. According to a new House Dining Review website, <http://studentlife.mit.edu/house-dining-review>, several changes, such as offering all-you-care-to-eat service, providing breakfast, and opening all four dining halls seven days a week, are being considered. Estimated costs for these modifications range from \$1,850 to \$3,700 per-person, each year.

This past Saturday, April 3, Daniel D. Hawkins '12, vice chair of the Undergraduate Association Committee on Student Life, sent an e-mail to the *ua-senate* and *ua-exec* mailing lists expressing his opinion on the issue. Both lists are open to the public.

The subject line, "You are being lied to," showed Hawkins's frustration with the lack of student engagement in dining reform before the House Dining Review website was created.

In his opinion, "there are plans that can accommodate everyone's preferences, but that's not what MIT administrators are interested in," he said in an e-mail to *The Tech* yesterday.

UA President Michael A. Bennie '10 wrote a column in last Friday's *Tech*, the day before Hawkins' e-mail, in which he reviewed the importance of this student engagement.

According to Bennie: "The time between the creation of this committee and a final decision is approximately one and a half months, which is simply not enough time. On a matter of such great importance, it is unlikely that student input can be collected and incorporated in any

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CPW is upon us once again



ANDREA ROBLES—THE TECH

Prospective freshmen play a twisted version of Twister during the CPW Festival held in Johnson on Thursday. Participants in the East Campus-sponsored event wore T-shirts with twister dots on them, adding a human dimension to the Twister mat.

Inside the CPW issue

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Campus life: Cryogenic tricks and treats. p. 8

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Sightseeing: 16 places you shouldn't miss. p.14

Look look: The special prefrosh section! p. 16

City council urges no layoffs

Campus labor rally planned for noon today

By Liz Tsai

The Cambridge City Council unanimously passed two labor-related resolutions on Monday. The first requests that Harvard and MIT cease further layoffs as well as hour, salary, and pay cuts. The second requests that the Cambridge License Commission consider a regulation preventing Cambridge hotels from

subcontracting housekeeping services.

In coordination with the resolution, MIT labor groups are planning a rally at noon today in room 1-190 to discuss budgeting and layoff concerns hear at MIT.

Council resolution

The council requested "that Harvard and MIT cease further lay-

offs and any cuts in hours, salary or benefits and engage in an open and transparent dialogue with all stakeholders including staff and the community."

The resolution cited both Harvard and MIT as major employers in Cambridge and said that since both universities were recipients

Labor, Page 26

APO's Big Screw is set to break records

By John A. Hawkinson
NEWS EDITOR

Professor Ernest G. Cravalho, representing 2.006 (Thermal-Fluids Engineering II) has collected \$1111.96, putting him in the lead of service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega's annual Institute Big Screw contest, which is in its final day today.

This year's contest has already raised \$2,388.16, which is more than twice as much money as most previous years' contests have raised. And there is still today left for people to vote.

"I'm not sure why, but it's super-awesome!" said Kristin D. Kuhn '11,

Big Screw publicity chair.

The Big Screw contest collects student votes, typically in the form of pennies and small change, for the professor who has "screwed" the students the most. The winner gets possession of a 3-foot-long, left-handed screw engraved with their name...until next year, when it moves on to the next winner. Each professor represents a charity. All the funds raised by the contest go to the winner's charity.

Cravalho is neck-and-neck with Professor Steven B. Leeb '87, who represents 6.115 and 6.131, which

Big screw, Page 20

Bail set for Reed, alleged rapist

MIT will increase patrols and lock Bldg 2 rooms at night

Bail was set at \$2,500 on Wednesday for Jason Reed, the homeless man arrested on campus last Tuesday and charged with rape. As of yesterday evening, he had not posted bail and was still in custody.

Reed was arrested in the early morning hours on March 30 after a woman was raped in a classroom in Building 2 around 2 a.m. Reed was found in the vicinity about an hour later.

While they knew each other, neither Reed nor the victim had any MIT affiliation, said MIT Police.

Captain Jay A. Perault of the MIT Campus Police said that the Police "have increased our uniformed patrols in the areas we have encountered non-affiliates in the past," but was not specific about the number of patrols.

Perault also said that MIT Facilities was working with the Registrar's Office, "locking more doors to keep non-affiliates out of our buildings."

Peter D. Bedrosian, assistant registrar, said that Facilities would be locking classrooms in Building 2 after hours, but that other classrooms would be continue to be available to

students as usual.

Perault said that Police Sergeant Richard M. Sullivan would be coordinating between the Police and overnight custodians. Custodians are often the first to observe suspicious behavior during the night.

Reed was arraigned on Mar. 30 on two counts of rape and one count of trespassing. His bail was set at a dangerousness hearing this Wednesday.

Reed was previously convicted of assault and battery from an incident that took place on Jan. 2, 2010. The victim, Shereen A. Westdahl, was hospitalized and subsequently released. Westdahl died one week later, on Jan 10.

For the assault, Reed was sentenced on Mar. 16 to three months in jail, but he received credit for the time he had already served and did no further time.

Reed appears to have been arrested previously in Boston in 1999, according to records of bail petitions. Records from that case are not available since the Boston Municipal Court destroys records after five years, the Suffolk County District Attorney's office said.

— John A. Hawkinson

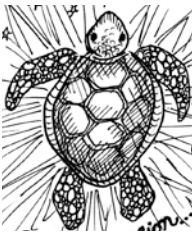
YOST: DUBAI AND BACK AGAIN

You wanted to be a consultant? The story that BCG offered him \$16,000 not to tell. **OPN, p. 5**



VAMPIRE WEEKEND KILL IT

Yes, they're annoying. But they're also geniuses, especially live. **ARTS, p. 11**



VARIOUS STATES OF UNDRRESS

Long-distance relationships are so romantic — and utterly doomed. **CL, p. 9**

BROUHAHA RHYTHM

Dancing with nerds is blisteringly fun and less awkward than you think, despite the costumes. **CL, p. 8**

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Opening new era, U.S. and Russia sign nuclear arms pact

By Peter Baker
THE NEW YORK TIMES

With flourish and fanfare, President Barack Obama and President Dmitry A. Medvedev of Russia signed a nuclear arms control treaty on Thursday and opened what they hoped would be a new era in the tumultuous relationship between two former Cold War adversaries.

Meeting here in the heart of a once-divided Europe, the two leaders put aside the acrimony that has characterized Russian-U.S. ties in recent years as they agreed to bring down their arsenals and restore an inspection regime that expired in December. Along the way, they sidestepped unresolved disputes

over missile defense and other issues.

“When the United States and Russia are not able to work together on big issues, it is not good for either of our nations, nor is it good for the world,” Obama said as his words echoed through a majestic, gilded hall in the famed Prague Castle. “Together, we have stopped the drift, and proven the benefits of cooperation. Today is an important milestone for nuclear security and nonproliferation, and for U.S.-Russia relations.”

Medvedev called the treaty signing “a truly historic event” that will “open a new page” in Russian-U.S. relations. “What matters most is this is a win-win situation,” he said. “No

one stands to lose from this agreement. I believe this is a typical feature of our cooperation. Both parties have won.”

“We cannot turn a blind eye to this,” Medvedev said, while adding that sanctions “should be smart” and avoid hardship for the Iranian people.

Obama said he expected “to be able to secure strong, tough sanctions” on Iran during the spring.

The apparently warm relationship between the two presidents was on display as they entered the hall to trumpet music. They whispered and smiled with each other in English as they sat side by side signing copies of the so-called New START treaty, trading compliments.

South Korean sailors say blast came from outside the vessel

It could take weeks for engineers to salvage the South Korean warship that sank in waters disputed by North Korea after a mysterious explosion and provide a definitive explanation of what caused the disaster. But some signs are pointing to North Korea, raising uncomfortable questions for the South’s government.

On Thursday, surviving crew members went public with their account, saying they were convinced that the explosion came from outside the ship. That follows remarks last week by Defense Minister Kim Tae-young before the National Assembly that the military had not ruled out the possibility that the ship was hit by a mine or torpedo. Kim added, “A more likely possibility is a torpedo attack.”

If North Korea is ultimately found culpable, it will amount to one of the most serious military provocations since the Korean War ended in a truce, leaving the peninsula technically in a state of war. But what options South Korea may have to retaliate is a difficult issue for the South.

The delicacy of the matter was on full display during Kim’s testimony. No sooner had he raised the possibility of a torpedo attack than he was handed a note from the office of President Lee Myung-bak. It warned him not to “lean too much toward the torpedo attack” and to stick to the official stance: keeping all possibilities open until the ship was salvaged and examined for cause of sinking.

—The New York Times

Disposal of plutonium from accord likely to take decades

By Matthew L. Wald
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The plutonium that is the key ingredient in thousands of nuclear weapons sidelined in the new arms control treaty between the United States and Russia is likely to be around for decades at least, according to experts. They say the process for destroying plutonium has not yet started to whittle down the surplus created by previous agreements.

Plutonium can be consumed in nuclear power reactors, creating the possibility of a swords-to-

plowshares conversion that would have the added benefit of making redeployment of the weapons impossible. But converting the weapons plutonium for civilian reactor use has proved much slower than expected.

Since the late 1990s, the United States has been trying to build a factory near Aiken, S.C., that would convert the plutonium to reactor fuel. Government officials once hoped that such fuel could be loaded into reactors in 2002. But construction did not begin until 2007 and even if all goes well, the plant

will not be finished until 2016.

The plan is to use the amount already declared surplus, 34 tons, over about 15 years, so if the new arms agreement results in more plutonium being declared surplus, it would not start to be converted to fuel until the 2030s, at the earliest, people involved in the project say.

“If we’re going to dismantle more warheads based on a new agreement, you’d have to stretch out the time,” said Alan Hanson, a vice president of Areva, a French company participating in the plant construction.

White House presses Japan to reopen market to U.S. beef

The Obama administration is stepping up pressure on Japan to reopen its market to American beef, in hopes of helping ranchers and meatpackers gain full access to what was once their most lucrative market.

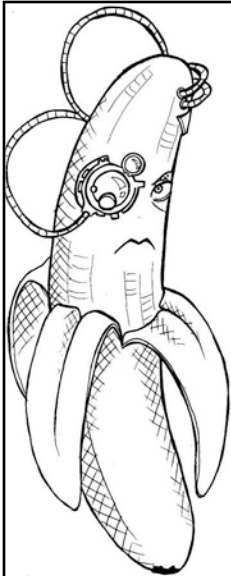
Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has been dispatched to Tokyo to meet with his Japanese counterpart, Hirotaka Akamatsu, on Thursday.

Japan resumed American beef imports in 2006, but restricted them to meat from cattle 20 months old or younger — a limit that American exporters say has no scientific basis. Japan says older animals are more prone to developing mad cow disease. Japan also bans certain body parts.

Japan, the world’s largest net importer of food, abruptly banned shipments from American meat packers in 2003 after mad cow disease was discovered in one animal imported to the United States from Canada.

In 2003, Japan was the largest market for American beef, with exports of \$1.4 billion; since then, American beef exports to Japan have averaged about \$196 million, or less than 15 percent of 2003 levels.

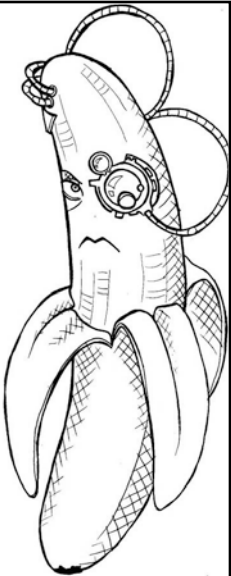
—Hiroko Tabuchi, The New York Times



Not Enough Cyborg Bananas in Your Life?

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Resistance is Frutile



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$50.00 per year (third class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. **Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.** Entire contents © **2010 The Tech.** Printed on recycled paper by Mass Web Printing Company.

Load up on life, not classes



As a prefrish, it might be hard to imagine yourself slipping into this mindset, but once you're a student here, free of any incentive to rack up activities for your college application and con-

At MIT, you will feel the temptation to overload yourself with classes, to spend all your time tooling away on problem sets. Don't.

Extracurricular research is also a great way to get involved in a huge part of MIT. The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) makes it very easy for students, even freshmen, to work in a lab for pay, credit, or as a volunteer. If you're one of the many MIT students considering a career in research, UROP is a fantastic way to get

None of this advice is truly specific to MIT. No matter where you matriculate, do not overload yourself with classes. Extracurricular activities will likely teach you just as much as any class will, but what you'll learn is of a different nature — teamwork, management and social skills, planning, and taking responsibility for and learning from mistakes. College life is about achieving a balance between everything you want to do. Even here, that balance is possible.

CORRECTIONS

An article on Tuesday, March 30, about the Penny Arcade Exposition misrepresented an event involving a microprocessor. Jerry Holkins (aka Tycho) offered an Intel Core i7 processor to a fan who represented a community that had presented the comic creators with PAX-themed trading cards. That fan donated the processor

Tuesday's issue inadvertently presented only the upper-left corner of the Sudoku solution. Tuesday's Sudoku solution is reprinted in this issue on page 25.

OPINION POLICY

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will

TO REACH US

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DUBAI AND BACK AGAIN

The story BCG offered me \$16,000 not to tell

The city was strange and the society unnerving, but what disturbed me the most about my experience in Dubai was my job as a business consultant.

By Keith Yost
STAFF COLUMNIST

The city was strange and the society was unnerving, but what disturbed me most about my Dubai experience was my job as a business consultant for the Boston Consulting Group.

I really had no idea what to expect, going in. In my mind, consulting was about answering business questions through analysis. It was supposed to be Excel sheets and models, sifting through data to discover profit and loss, and helping clients make decisions that would add the most value for themselves, and by extension, society.

It was worrisome to enter a new job without any guarantee that I would be qualified. I assumed BCG would train me, and that as it had been with MIT, intelligence and hard work would prove sufficient. Still, I wondered what I would do if for some reason it turned out that I couldn't get my head around the analysis? In hindsight, analytical skills should have been the least of my worries.

Stretching reality

The first clue that my mental picture of consulting was off came with “training” in Munich. I expected instruction in Excel programming, data analysis, and business theory. Instead, Munich turned out to be little more than a week long social outing with other recently matriculated consultants and analysts within the BCG’s European branches. We donned name tags, shook hands, and drank often. Classes were fluffy, and mostly consisted of discussion of high-level, almost philosophical topics. I got along well — as both an American and a member of the Dubai office, I was doubly foreign and therefore double the curiosity.

After a pleasant week of pseudo-partying, I returned to Dubai and was assigned to writing case proposals. In the consulting business, it is standard practice for clients to write requests for proposals, describing the question they would like answered. The consulting firm in turn writes a case proposal: We will answer A by having Consultant B do X, Y, and Z. A well written case proposal promises much, but is deliberately vague about what concrete things the consultants will produce.

Case proposals were despised by the rank and file — one had a dozen bosses, unclear objectives, and virtually no coordination with co-workers. But in one sense, the proposals were good practice for real case work. Both involved stretching reality to fit whatever was assumed the client desired.

Despite having no work or research experience outside of MIT, I was regularly advertised to clients as an expert with seemingly years of topical experience relevant to the case. We were so good at rephrasing our credentials that even I was surprised to find in each of my cases, even my very first case, that I was the most senior consultant on the team.

I quickly found out why so little had been invested in developing my Excel-craft. Analytical skills were overrated, for the simple reason that clients usually didn't know why they had hired us. They sent us vague requests for proposal, we returned vague case proposals, and by the time we were hired, no one was the wiser as to why exactly we were there.

I got the feeling that our clients were simply trying to mimic successful businesses, and that as consultants, our earnings came from having the luck of being included in an elaborate cargo-cult ritual. In any case it fell to us to decide for ourselves what question we had been hired to answer, and as a matter of convenience, we elected to answer questions that we had already answered in the course of previous cases — no sense in doing new work when old work will do. The toolkit I brought with me from MIT was absolute overkill in this environment. Most of my day was spent thinking up and writing PowerPoint slides. Sometimes, I didn't even need to write them — we had a service in India that could put together pretty good copy if you provided them with a sketch and some instructions.

Burning out

I worked hard at MIT. I routinely took seven to ten classes per semester and filled whatever hours were left in the day with part-time jobs and tutoring. It was a fairly stupid way of going about my education, and



MONICA GALLEGOS—THE TECH

I missed out on many of the learning opportunities that MIT offers outside of classes. I don't recommend what I did to anyone. But as stupid as carrying double course loads was, it had one advantage: After all the long hours I put into MIT, I believed I was invincible. If MIT couldn't burn me out, nothing else ever could.

It took roughly three months before BCG disproved my “burn-out proof” theory. Putting together PowerPoint slides was easy, the hours were lenient, and the fifth day of every week usually consisting of a leisurely day away from the client site. By all accounts, I should have been coasting through my tasks.

A well written case proposal promises much, but is deliberately vague about what concrete things the consultants will produce.

What I learned is that burning out isn't just about work load, it's about work load being greater than the motivation to do work. It was relatively easy to drag myself to classes when I thought I was working for my own betterment. It was hard to sit at a laptop and crank out slides when all I seemed to be accomplishing was the transfer of wealth from my client to my company.

I'm a free marketeer. I believe that voluntary exchange is not just a good method of incentivizing people to provide their labor and talents to society, but a robust moral system — goods and services represent tangible benefit to people, market prices represent the true value of goods in society, and wages represent the value that a worker provides to others. Absent negative externalities or monopoly effects, a man receives from the free market what he gives to it, his material worth is a running tally of the net benefit that he has provided to his fellow man. A high income is not only justified, but there is nobility to it.

My moral system is organized around a utilitarian principle of greatest good for the greatest number — that which adds value cannot be wrong. It did not bother me therefore when I was handed consulting reports that had been stolen from our competitors. If the information in those reports would help us improve our client, then who could say we were doing wrong? Like downloading MP3s, it was a victimless crime.

What I could not get my head around was having to force-fit analysis to a conclusion. In one case, the question I was tasked with solving had a clear and unambiguous answer: By my estimate, the client's plan of action had a net present discounted value of negative

one billion dollars. Even after accounting for some degree of error in my reckoning, I could still be sure that theirs was a losing proposition. But the client did not want analysis that contradicted their own, and my manager told me plainly that it was not our place to question what the client wanted.

In theory, it was their money to lose. If they wanted a consulting report that parroted back their pre-determined conclusion, who was I to complain? I did not have any right to dictate that their money be spent differently. And yet, to not speak out was wrong. To destroy a billion dollars is to destroy an almost unimaginable amount of human well-being. Spent carefully on anti-malarial bed nets and medicine, one billion dollars could save a million lives. This was a crime, and failing to try and stop it would be as bad as committing it myself. And if I could not prevent it, then what reason was I being paid such a high salary? How could I justify my income if not by prevailing in situations such as these?

Sit down, shut up

Early on, before I began case work, one manager I befriended gave me some advice. To survive, he told me, I needed to remember The Ratio. 50 percent of the job is nodding your head at whatever is being said. 20 percent is honest work and intelligent thinking. The remaining 30 percent is having the courage to speak up, but the wisdom to shut up when you are saying something that your manager does not want to hear.

I spoke up once. And when it became clear that I would be committing career suicide to press on, I shut up.

**I spoke up once.
And when it became
clear that I would be
committing career
suicide to press on, I
shut up.**

With a diligent enough effort, one can morally justify nearly anything. It was clear that the client was going to go forward with their decision regardless of how I acted. How could I be responsible for a foregone conclusion? And if I had no power to change things, then why shouldn't I take the course of action that lets me keep my job? Who would it benefit for me to give up my paycheck? With my salary, I could make large and regular contributions to Red Cross or Doctors Without Borders — without it I would just be another unemployed bum.

But there is a large difference between telling yourself a story and believing it. Ultimately, the core reason I stayed silent wasn't altruistic, but selfish. At my salary level, and with my expected advancement path, I could

comfortably retire in my thirties. That would mean nearly a full lifetime at my disposal, a solid forty years to find true love and raise a family without distraction. It was the opportunity to travel, to achieve great things, to self-actualize. It was the prospect of living a life free of want and need. Who was I kidding? I wasn't going to donate half my salary to Red Cross. I was going to deposit it into an index fund and speed off as soon as I was sure there was enough gas in the car.

The conscience is a pesky thing. It was no consolation that I had gotten the moral calculus to work out in my favor. I should have been the most relaxed man on the planet, and yet every day I went back to my hotel room and spent most of my time nervously pacing. I couldn't sleep at night. I'd fill up a bathtub and scream into it. I couldn't get over the feeling that this was not how I was supposed to spend my life.

Staying silent was agonizing. Nominally, my job was to provide advice and aid in my client's decision-making process. In practice, my job consisted of sitting quietly and resisting the urge to dissent. Each day was like a punishment from Greek mythology; with every meeting my liver would grow anew to be eaten again by eagles.

I was reminded of the Milgram experiment. I wanted to quit. I didn't want to have any hand in this, I didn't want the responsibility of being the destroyer. But the man in the lab coat was telling me that the experiment must continue. Burnout soon followed.

It wasn't just that I lost all motivation for my job; it was also that it is much harder than one would expect to do unsound analysis. There is an interesting kabuki dance to be done when crafting figures to fit a conclusion. The conclusion may be wrong, but you still need to make it believable. You still need numbers to fill out your PowerPoint slides, and the numbers need to have enough internal consistency not to throw up red flags at a casual glance. Honest analysis, even when it has weak areas, is easy to defend. If the numbers look fishy, there's an explanation — you didn't have direct data on such and such and had to use estimates from another report, or made a reasonable assumption somewhere. But when the numbers actually are fishy, and there's no underlying logic to defend, you can't have any rough areas for others to poke at. And when you know everything is fishy, you can't tell what will look fishy to someone who hasn't seen any numbers before.

This leads to what I like to call, “Find me a rock” problems. The classic “find me a rock” story is as follows: A manager goes to his engineer one day and asks for a rock. “A rock?” asks the engineer. “Yes, a rock. That isn’t going to be a problem, is it?” replies the manager. The engineer laughs and tells the manager he’ll go pick one up during his

Should we cut NASA funding?

POINT: *Spaceman, go home. The U.S. should reduce spending on space exploration.*

By Keith Yost
STAFF COLUMNIST

The White House has announced plans to host a conference in Florida on April 15 during which President Obama will unveil his vision for the U.S. space program. If recent moves by the administration are any indication, this new vision will significantly curtail public funding for space activity. The president is working hard to spin the upcoming change as a transition rather than a cut, and perhaps for good reason: He is unlikely to find a receptive audience in Florida, long a recipient of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's largess.

But while the swing-state politics of the Sunshine State may compel Obama to tread carefully, we as the general public should recognize this new policy for what it is: a dramatic reduction in human space exploration. We should also support Obama for his fiscal discipline in cutting what has been a horrendous waste of our society's resources.

With apologies to Dwight Eisenhower, the cost of one modern space shuttle is this: one and a half million lives lost for want of anti-malarial bed nets. It is electricity to power a U.S. city of two million people for a year. It is nine-hundred billion gallons of fresh drinking water produced by desalination. We pay for a single shuttle launch with fifty million bushels of wheat. We house a handful of men in space with a year's worth of housing for more than ten million U.S. citizens. NASA is not just spending money. It is spending the sweat of our laborers, the genius of our scientists, the hopes of our children.

This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the clouds of this space-industrial complex, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.

Proponents claim that on its route to the stars, NASA has completed research that has benefited the rest of mankind. It is true, NASA research has led to many discoveries: Besides its many advances in satellites and computing, NASA can also claim credit for a host of more mundane things — quartz timing crystals, barcode scanners, smoke detectors, cordless screwdrivers, and velcro. But let us not deceive ourselves into thinking that all of NASA's budget can be recompensed by the occasional spin-offs from its R&D program. Let us not buy into the delusion that all of the low-hanging fruit that NASA has picked over the years would have gone undiscovered forever, or that we would never have achieved satellites without luxuries such as the Apollo missions. Not only is it the case that research is a small component of NASA's activities, but it should also be self-evident that had NASA's budget been applied directly to the betterment of humanity, the direct gains of that spending would have outweighed the tangential gains from the occasional cross-utilization of space technology here on earth.

Think about it this way: MIT, from a mixture of tuition, government funding, and endowment payouts, spends \$2.5 billion to keep itself running. NASA costs more than \$17 billion. Over the past four decades, instead of NASA, we could have had at least six additional MIT's. Consider all of the research that our single MIT has produced during that period, all of the students taught and leadership provided. For all the gains that NASA has made, its opportunity costs are far greater.

Something does not need to be a 100 percent complete and total waste in order to call it wasteful. Even the most hard-hearted of critics must admit that the organization has chalked up many victories in the fight to improve the world. But humanity deserves more than just the scraps of NASA's occasional research. Humanity deserves better than the continuation of an ill-advised space race with a geopolitical enemy that disappeared nearly two decades ago. Humanity deserves our full and undivided attention — no more playing golf on the moon or entertaining fanciful notions of putting men on Mars. Feeding and clothing people might not be as sexy as space exploration, but in the broader picture it is a just and nobler goal.

Mr. Levinger argues that NASA is small potatoes, a mere drop in the bucket compared to, say, spending on the military. But just because NASA is a small waste, or a waste among many, does not mean it isn't waste, or that it should be ignored.

Nothing should be given a free pass. For every dollar spent, we should consider the human cost. That sounds melodramatic, but it is hard not to sound melodramatic when a billion people live on less than a dollar per day. When you have to make choices between food, water, and shelter, considering the human cost of a dollar isn't melodramatic — it's routine. Mr. Levinger may not see a direct connection between our society spending resources in one area, and going without in another, but to those who understand the functioning of the free market, the connection is clear. An engineer who works for NASA developing zero-g fluid pumps is not an engineer developing water pumps for rural Africa. A tax dollar taken to purchase a bolt is a dollar not given through charity to buy food for a hungry child. The slightest of upticks in the price of aluminum for a shuttle wing shifts millions of dollars of investment across the world. The fungibility is not perfect, and Mr. Levinger is right to point this out. But a NASA dollar does not come directly out of the world's budget for candy and cosmetics either.

The more poetic among us say that NASA has given millions hope, that it is a symbol of the ingenuity and ambition of the human race. Mr. Levinger himself thinks of it as "heroic." I disagree. Why should it be the case that investing in space travel is more inspiring than spending that money on the poorest of our fellow man? Doesn't such an obsession with space imply not that we are an ambitious race, but instead that we doubt the goodness of human nature? Doesn't it suggest that we are so convinced of our inevitable self-destruction that we would rather fling ourselves into the hostile unknown than risk submitting ourselves to the cruelties of our fellow man?

Where others see an adventurer's spirit, I see existential worry and cowardly desperation. Every thruster that is made, every spaceship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. Rather than gambling on the stars, why not inspire our children by investing in ourselves, by committing to the belief that human life on Earth is sustainable, by devoting new resources to overcome the problems that we face?

The cold war is over. The political one-upmanship that NASA was founded upon is a thing of the past. It is time to recognize that mankind has higher priorities than planting flags on planets.



ALISON MALOUF—THE TECH

COUNTERPOINT: *Funding a new mission for NASA is funding our future.*

By Josh Levinger
STAFF COLUMNIST

To the critics of the space program, greedy astronauts fill their pockets with our hard earned dollars and blast off into space, leaving our children with only rocket fumes for lunch. But to its proponents, space exploration represents a relatively small expenditure that brings positive real world impacts in the form of cutting edge research, crucial data on weather and climate change, thousands of jobs, and more than a few spinoff technologies. The truth is somewhere in between.

Before taking the rockets versus food trade-off too seriously, let's look at some numbers objectively. The NASA budget is projected to be \$18 billion in 2010, half of one percent of the federal budget. To be sure, this is not pocket change. A billion here, a billion there, and soon enough you're talking about real money. But it is not outsized in comparison to other truly wasteful uses of your tax dollars. Here are but a few egregious examples: \$8 billion for missile defense, \$16 billion for nuclear weapons, \$5 billion for foreign militaries, \$12 billion for spy satellites, and \$9 billion to reconstruct Iraq that has literally gone missing. You don't have to look hard to find many more examples. These are the parts of the military-industrial complex that President Eisenhower was referring to when he made the famous quote that Mr. Yost repurposed for his stirring conclusion. Even if you consider the space program to be a

waste, it's so far from our federal budget's biggest line item that a little cost-benefit analysis quickly leads you to more fertile ground.

I am as concerned about global poverty as anyone, and would happily put my tax dollars toward increasing non-military foreign aid. However, we have been failing that charge consistently for nearly forty years. In 1970, the advanced countries pledged 0.7 percent of their GNP on development assistance in front of the General Assembly. Today, that would be \$100 billion per year, two orders of magnitude more than we are currently spending to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. If Mr. Yost wants to spend more of his tax dollars on this effort, I applaud him. In fact, I will match whatever he personally donated this year to Oxfam, the Heifer Foundation, or a non-religious charity of his choice that works for global poverty alleviation. But to pretend that it's the fault of the space program that people are still starving in Africa is disingenuous at best. We can, and should, do both.

Space critics are right about one thing, NASA has been rudderless for the last few years. Though charged by the Bush administration to extend the reach of humanity back to the Moon and on to Mars, it was given no additional funding to do so. The civilian space budget has been effectively capped for the last two decades; all aeronautical, biological, and exploration related research fight for the same pool of money. Saddled with an outdated, underpowered and need-

lessly winged Space Shuttle, the Constellation project proposed a new launch vehicle that would return us to the glory days. However, it ended up like so many projects, behind schedule and over budget. We simply cannot develop new capability, fly the Shuttle to finish building and continue servicing the space station, and do cutting edge research without expanding the budgetary pool. Something has to go; and so, surprise, the federal government established a committee to study the problem.

The Review of Human Space Flight Plans Commission, which included the Aero/Astro department's own Dr. Edward Crawley as a member, was charged with figuring this out in June 2009. Their report last September laid down the facts on the costs of continuing our current course, and gave five options for future trajectories. They indicated that we cannot achieve our lofty goals on the current funding without sacrificing safety, and a new vision is needed. The Obama Administration took this advice, and what they propose is something that should make even a cold libertarian heart skip a beat.

Their answer to our space budget woes? Cut fat, outsource to private companies and focus on a sustainable future. Instead of running our own nationalized shuttle service to the station, we can let Orbital Sciences and SpaceX do it for us for the low price of \$5,000 per kilogram. NASA will refocus its efforts on developing next generation propulsion technologies to get us to far-flung destinations faster, cheaper, and safer than we can with the liquid hydrogen and oxygen

propellants that we've used since the 1960's. Robotic precursor missions to the moon and the asteroid belt will help us work out the kinks in the navigation and descent system before we send astronauts. Federal research will push the bounds of the possible and let commercial interests fill in behind it. Mr. Yost wants NASA to look more like MIT? That's the plan.

But these cost-containment arguments don't get to the heart of the matter: Why do we maintain a space program? It's not just for national pride. Although that was certainly a primary factor during the Cold War, it's not enough anymore to say that we need to beat the Chinese back to the moon. The reason I support the space program is a base and selfish one; we need a backup plan, because this world won't last forever. We will either continue choking it with greenhouse gases, irradiate it with our terrible weapons, or be blindsided by an asteroid. The odds are calculable, and not in our favor. Bruce Willis and Ben Affleck can't save us from all of those threats. We need real heroes, like the engineers who toil in anonymity, designing the best damn fuel pump that they can. Heroes like the astronauts who trained on the Space Shuttle that will be cancelled before they get a chance to fly it. And heroes like children who dream big and push themselves to study science and engineering even when the going gets tough.

I, for one, am glad that people still stare up at the stars, even if things still need work here on Earth. How else will we get to the future that we all deserve?

Cryogenic tricks and treats

By Fangfei Shen

Cryogenics relies on the super-cold, and liquid nitrogen is in fact super-cold. Liquid nitrogen, often abbreviated as LN2 (L for liquid, N2 for N₂ nitrogen molecules), boils at 77°K and is way more effective than ice at cooling. It is also way more effective than ice at making ice cream.

Ice cream making by hand without liquid nitrogen can be an arduous and slow process. You must churn the ice cream a lot while cooling it. This is the usual approach of all ice cream making machines, all done for the sake of texture. Churning ice cream while it cools prevents it from crystallizing into solid blocks — after all, eating rock-hard ice cream would be no fun. Churning also whips the ice cream, aerating it to the fluffy and smooth consistency we love. Like any recipe that involves a lot of aeration (ever tried making whipped cream or meringues, for instance?), this takes a while, but liquid nitrogen turns ice cream making into a snap. The secret lies in liquid nitrogen's low boiling point of 77°K.

Ice cream is liquid nitrogen's call to fame among MIT undergrads, though we do appreciate its applications to, you know, research and industry.

ture, and thus its “steam” is correspondingly much cooler. Colder things are denser than warm things, so while steam from water rises at room temperature, the “steam” from liquid nitrogen sinks. This sinking steam is also the reason why I find liquid nitrogen and other cryogenics so aesthetically pleasing.

Like boiling water, the boiling of liquid nitrogen is not a peaceful process: it fizzes and sizzles. This bubbling action serves as a whipping and aerating mechanism perfect for ice cream making. All you need to do is create an ice cream base and pour liquid nitrogen into the base while stirring. Liquid nitrogen does all the aeration and whipping work for you, cutting down on the amount of effort you need to spend churning. Moreover, all of the liquid nitrogen evaporates, leaving you only with delicious ice cream. Yum!

Visions of nerds dancing in my head

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

I've been to three dances around the Boston-Cambridge area in the past three weeks, and walked to most of them, which didn't help me any. The first was a masquerade at Harvard as part of their annual science-fiction/fantasy/gamer convention. Don't look at me like I'm weird — Harvard's not that bad. Boogying to electronic remixes of video game music is surprisingly fun, once you get past the self-inflicted pop quiz of which game the song comes from.

It's refreshing to dance in a grind-free setting (not that there's anything wrong with that), as someone for whom pelvic thrusting isn't a big part of my dance vocabulary. On the other hand, considering how much Rock Band I saw that weekend, I sort of expected more rhythm and less frenetic, arbitrary tiptoeing. I will say this much for dances at conventions, though: being able to try out new moves around people that won't judge and will gladly match your occasionally misplaced enthusiasm is refreshing. The walk to Harvard Square is not a short one, though, at least not for someone whose idea of a brisk pace is still slower than a molasses sculpture of a slug being pulled across the Antarctic landscape by a team of glaciers.

I think that it says a lot about our collective nostalgia as a generation when the theme music to *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* has achieved memetic status for longer than the show was running. I heard only a limited part of the event's full playlist, but the songs I managed to stick around for were at least all danceable, and the floor was excellent for moonwalking.

Typically, the one mile walk from the venue to my dorm at night's end would not have been that bad, had I not forgotten my MIT ID after I'd gotten home and turned a one mile walk into a three mile walk. Mind you, this is on the same weekend that perhaps the biggest gaming convention in the country came to town at the Hynes Convention Center. No points for guessing where I was walking to, around, and from all day, although honestly, I suppose I don't really have any right to complain next to the people who spent the full 18 hour dance marathon on their feet. Even so, for those of who keeping score at home, it's currently asphalt: 2, soles: zero.

Of course, the coup de grace came just last week, at positively huge anime convention that seemed to draw more attention than a Charizard card in a third-grade classroom. The costume ball at Anime Boston was probably the closest I've ever been to being in a Disney movie (referring to the animated canon, of course, not the Disney Channel live action TV features) without a lovable animal sidekick. Formalwear-only? Check. 100 percent ballroom music? Yep. A spontaneously encountered partner with a good sense of rhythm and the ability to follow a lead? You'd better believe it, although I don't recall Cinderella preparing for her ball the way my partner did — spending the day dressed as a Naruto character. Then again, given that I was basically wearing my comic-book character Halloween costume, I think the Disney metaphor has gone beyond broken and plunged straight into shattered impractical glass slipper territory.

A high-contrast, black and white graphic illustration of a man, likely a detective or spy, wearing a fedora hat, a black eye mask, and a suit with a tie. The style is reminiscent of mid-20th-century pulp magazine art. The man has a serious expression, looking slightly to the left. The background is solid black, making the white and grey tones of the character stand out. The illustration uses heavy black lines and cross-hatching for shading, particularly on the hat and suit.

and I'm trying to be supportive. I just need to rub my legs with ointment and de-tenderize them with a taffy-puller first.



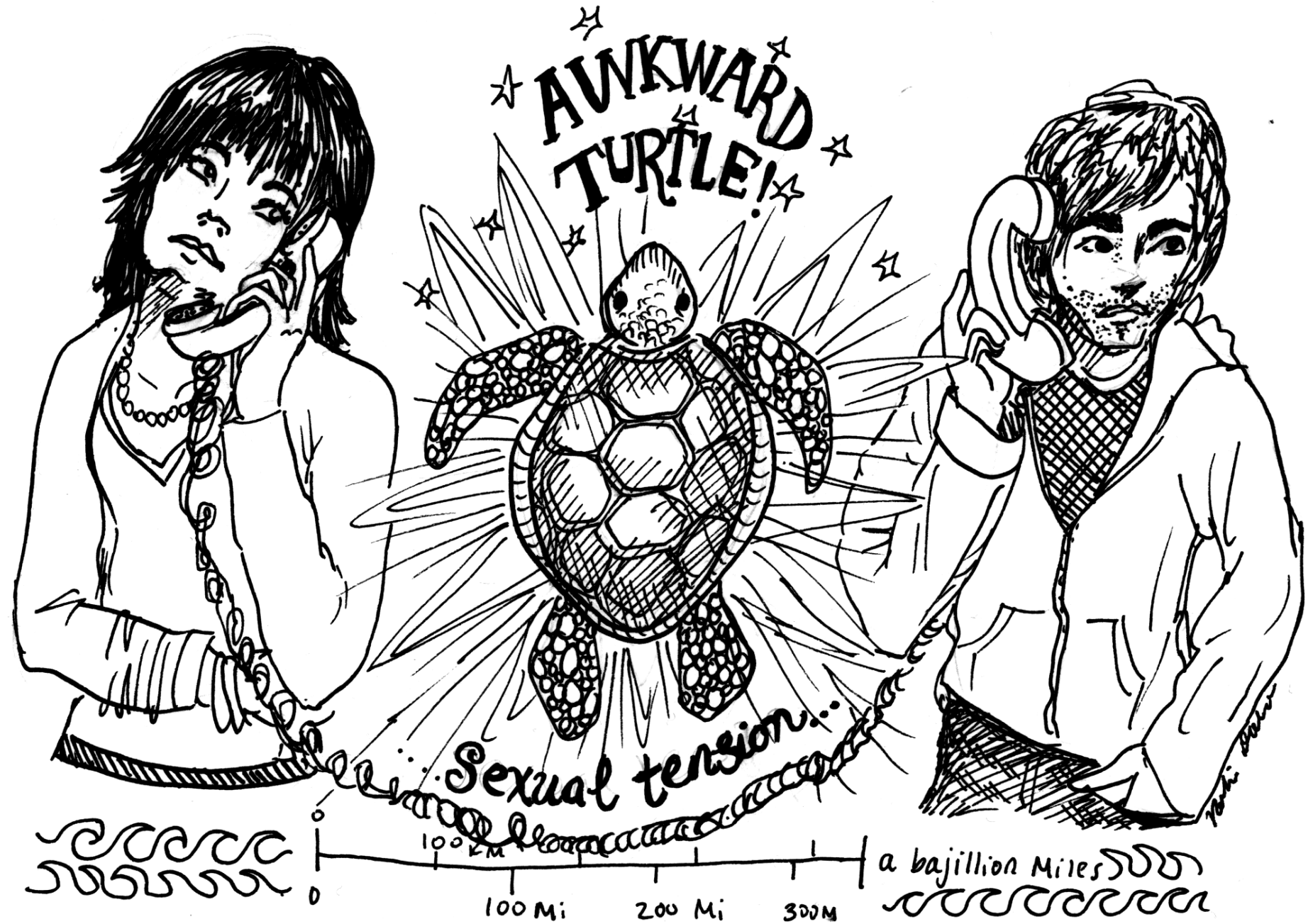
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VARIOUS STATES OF UNDRESS

Long-distance lovers

Can the power of love overcome geography? No.



ROBIN L. DAHAN—THE TECH

By M.

It pains me to say this because I don't want to crap all over your fantasy, even if it's with a healthy dose of reality. But that thing about true love overcoming everything, even distance? That's a lie.

No doubt there's something very romantic about long-distance relationships. There is nothing on earth like seeing your loved one for the first time in months, the rush of adrenaline and the urge to fuck each other's brains out as soon as possible. The general impression is that couples who lack in geographical closeness make up for it in the intensity of their love. And we all know someone who knows someone who made a long-distance relationship work, and think, that we, too, can make it work! He's not going to cheat on me!

Yeah, about that. It is so easy to cheat when your partner is far, far away. I don't condone cheating, but at the same time, I could never trust myself to keep it in my pants if I were to go months without sex. If someone else hits on me and he's looking good and I've had a bit to drink, it's easy to slip up. Some will argue that if I can stray so easily then I'm surely not in love, but my

heart and my vagina are a feet and a half apart. They don't communicate very well. It is a huge temptation, and some of us are weak. And the same way I could cheat, well, my partner could too. It's hard to trust that he won't sleep with someone else when I'm not there to fuck him.

You live not in the present, but in the past and in the future. That is no way to live, stuck in a time limbo, missing someone all the time.

And then the feelings. Long-distance relationships are emotionally founded on longing, on that void you feel when someone you like is not close to you. You divide your time between fantasizing about the next time you see each other, and replay-

ing in your mind the last time you were together. You live not in the present, but in the past and in the future. That is no way to live, stuck in a time limbo, missing someone all the time.

As if that was not enough, let's add to it the pressure to make every time you see each other memorable. It is the only time you spend together, so it has to compensate for all the time you spend apart. The sex has to be perfect, the other person has to dedicate each second to you, you have to have fun. I've heard of guys not being able to get it up because they feel immense pressure to make sex amazing for their girlfriend. There are a lot of expectations, and if they go unfulfilled, you just end up totally disappointed.

Truth is, long-distance relationships are more draining than rewarding. Think of the costs. Expensive phone bills. Long bus or plane rides. Sore genitals from all the sex when you finally see each other. Fights over the phone. Trust issues, insecurity, and paranoia. There is so much one has to sacrifice to even have a shot at making it work, and the odds of it succeeding are slim. It's only a matter of time before the geographical distance translates to emo-

tional distance. Suddenly, you're stuck in a relationship that doesn't work but is hard to end. Nobody wants to dump someone over Skype.

If a long-distance relationship is to have chance at working, the distance problem needs to be short term — a blip — not the droning reality of your love lives. So often, that's not the case. Many long-distance relationships I see are people going to school in different states or countries, and that's not exactly a temporary situation. That is one dim light shining at the end of the tunnel. If you're putting so much effort into making a long-distance relationship work, and it's draining the living crap out of you, I think you'd want it to have a nice payoff. Like you being reunited at some point in the nearer future.

Ultimately, if you're in a long-distance relationship, you need to step back and figure out if this is something worth fighting for. If you have no doubt it is, go for it. Otherwise, give yourself the freedom to find someone who you can wake up next to on a regular basis. Most people can't cross the distance.

M. is a junior in Course 10. She can be contacted at undress@tech.mit.edu.



Got a lot on your mind?

Share some thoughts with us!

Write for Campus Life. *join@tech.mit.edu*

Spring 2010 Wulff Lecture

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

4:30–5:30 pm

Room 1-190

Reception immediately following

Materials science is all about understanding the properties of materials, and how we can control them. This talk will show how magnetic materials have evolved, from natural magnets (lodestone and meteorites) to synthetic magnets with amazing properties, such as super-strong magnets, transparent magnets, nanosized magnets, or magnets that can be controlled with electric fields or mechanical deformation. The materials that have enabled modern life—the compass in your cell phone, hard disk drives, electric motors, power transformers, and medical diagnostics and treatments—all rely on magnetic materials.

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

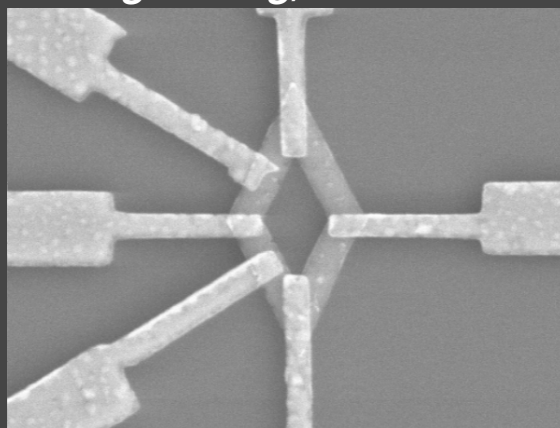
Magnetic Materials Science

How magnets help us explore and record the world

Professor Caroline A. Ross

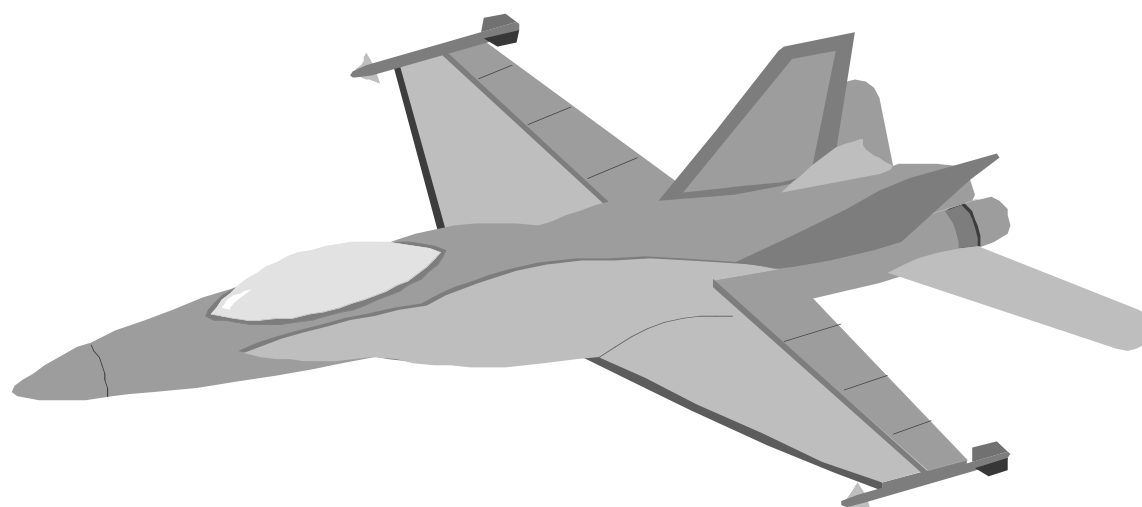
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Freshmen Open House Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics – Course XVI

Friday April 9, 2010

1:00-2:00 PM

Robert C. Seamans Lab (Student Lounge), Building 33, 1st Floor

Paper Airplanes; Mingling with Faculty and Upperclassmen; Foods;etc.

Ever wondered what it's like to be an astronaut? Ever wondered what rocket science is really all about? Like paper airplanes and throwing things? Well, come over to the Course XVI (AeroAstro) Open House on Friday April 9. Come chat with professors and students about what's really going on in the AeroAstro Department and what it's like to be a part of this community of 180+ undergrads. Of course, there will be paper airplane folding and throwing. We'll provide the paper, you provide the talent and ingenuity.
Hope to see you there!

Sponsored by Course 16 and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) MIT Chapter.

CONCERT REVIEW

Batting .500

Vampire Weekend is brilliant, but only half the time

By Charles Lin
SENIOR EDITOR

My main issue with Vampire Weekend has always been that 30 seconds out of every minute of their music is pure genius. Doesn't even matter which album, song, or minute.

Most bands struggle to fill an LP with 30 seconds of genius. Vampire Weekend does it effortlessly. This sucks, because then I'm left bitching about the other 30 seconds of every minute. Those other 30 seconds usually fail to deliver, end up feeling repetitive, or just get on my nerves.

I've been caught more than once screaming at my stereo, "Ezra, you went to Columbia, you're smart enough to write a third effing part for this song. STOP BEING REPETITIVE." This too is sad, because I really like their front man Ezra Koenig. He's smart, witty, and almost certainly a font snob. I like that he writes about grammar and the ennui of summering at the Cape. These are issues that concern me and I am very glad that Vampire Weekend addresses them.

We probably shop at the same stores too (www.jmclaughlin.com). I just prefer my pants a little less ass tight.

This brings me to the completely irrelevant crisis of whether or not I even like Vampire Weekend. It's irrelevant because plenty of people love them. Important people. Spin named them the best new band of 2008 and NME gave their debut 42nd place on top albums of the decade — that's Strokes and Interpol territory. Pretty lofty stuff.

I've been weary of these debut coronations before (e.g. Strokes and Interpol), but with Vampire Weekend coming into town last Thursday at the Orpheum, I decided to give them a chance to reconcile my feelings.

The worst of me always thought of Vampire Weekend as that kid in high school who referenced João Gilberto and liked dissonance too much. That was the snarkiest put down I could think of. (Second place came from my friend Aaron who said, "They're like The Shins, but without melody.")

At their best, well like I said, 30 seconds



CHARLES LIN—THE TECH

Twice the guitars, twice the hooks: Rostam Batmanglij (left) and Ezra Koenig (right) of Vampire Weekend play their hit "A-Punk."

of genius. Batting .500 with punctuated rhythms, catchy hooks, and irreverently whimsical lyrics.

All this I mulled over, standing in the orchestra section at the sold out Orpheum. Surrounded by an audience straight out of the pages of *Stuff White People Like*, Vampire Weekend came out and played a 90 minute set split between their two LPs.

I have to say. They killed it.

The guy to my right held up his iPhone and knew every lyric. Then he proceeded to make out with his girlfriend for the encore. A group of graduate students the row behind swooned in time with Ezra's on stage pelvic thrusts. The entire balcony sagged and rose under the weight of their bouncing cadre of extremely well dressed fans. Collared shirts galore.

By the encore, I'd forgotten why I could have hated them in the first place. Their songs had energy and verve. They were repetitive, but the circular rhythms and hooks became rallying refrains rather than tired iterations. And now listening to their albums again, I find that other 30 seconds of "meh" fading (I'm more 40/20 now). They still have their flaws, but I think I finally get Vampire Weekend.

Maybe it has to do with them being in their element, and with their audience. Someone has to make music for the Upper West Side, Cape-Cod-summering, study-abroad-Botswana crew. If Vineyard Vines can exist, why can't Vampire Weekend?

Maybe their music will endure longer than all those bands that try to meld indie rock with [choose one culturally hip style:

CONCERT REVIEW

Changing perceptions, changing the rules

Musica Sacra performs sacred choral music of the modern era

By Sudeep Agarwala
STAFF WRITER

STAFF WRITER

For as beautifully and thoughtfully as Saturday evening's performance was conceived, programmed and performed, the third concert of Musica Sacra's 50th anniversary season also managed to present significant challenges to both audience and performer. In a program entitled *The Spirit is Still Speaking: Sacred Choral Music of the Modern Era*, Musica Sacra performed five works; two were world premieres, and all were written within the last forty years.

Saturday evening's program began with the premiere of Felicia Sandler's *Laus Trinitati*. Founded on the chant of the twelfth century nun and Christian mystic Hildegard von Bingen, Sandler's work exploited the resonant space of Harvard Square's voluminous First Church Congregational to its fullest. This is difficult music to perform; Sandler's piece revels in precision of tuning and deeply satisfying chordal progressions, often requiring the choir to perform with straight tone for long periods throughout the work. The result is sonically awesome: The vast sweep of supple melodic lines blossom out from the narrow crevices of immaculate tuning. But the music presents its own challenges for the audience as well: Although consistently gratifying throughout its entire duration, Sandler's work is imbued with a sense of crystalline stasis — a breathless beauty that releases its tension only at the piece's terminus.

Although certainly very different music, much can be said about Henryk Mikolaj Górecki's *Euntes Ibant et Flebant* (Op. 32). Górecki's music again demanded much the same from the choir. Painted with rich tone

clusters and a surprisingly modern view of homophony, it seemed at home in Musica Sacra's performance. The tuning was immaculate in a work that builds rich harmonic shifts off a seemingly static harmonic base. Although the work may be taxing to perform, the attention to detail was remarkable: gratifying swells in the choir painted a marmoreal piece to realize the humanistic work Górecki must have envisaged.

In light of these two works, Osnat Netzer's work came as a breath of fresh air. Whereas Sandler's and Górecki's work revelled in the static, Netzer's broke from the alabaster into something more akin to folk song. Whereas Sandler's and Górecki's works provided ample surprises in unexpected harmonic shifts homophonic writing, Netzer's music was marked with vast swathes of melodies carousing that followed more traditional rules of counterpoint. Although more traditional voice-leading in the choral parts made Netzer's work one of the most accessible of the evening, Netzer's work bore significantly more emotional gravitas. Setting texts from Yehuda Amichai, the Psalms and the Jewish liturgy, Netzer's unique use of more traditional techniques, mixed with the choir's excellent shaping of the melodic lines conjured a pointed sense of deep nostalgia and yearning.

The first half of Saturday seemed to be in preparation for the second half. Musica Sacra's program continued with the premiere of Jan Sandström's *Sutta Nipata* (Bring Heaven to Earth) after intermission. Although written in the same vein of static homophony as Górecki's and Sandler's works, Sandström's piece maintained a more complex presence, culminating in a work that was certainly more physically and

technically taxing than its predecessors. But a nuanced performance seemed to realize intricacies of Sandström's work: Sandström's harmonic realization painted an almost dystopic scene — a meditation on love and universal peace, Sandström's setting fragmented each line to a quantum of pairs of words or syllables; unique settings of climactic phrases created the sense less of a surging mass but more of a great wail. Taken as a whole, Sandström's realization singularly portrays an internalized heavenly peace as cold an marmoreal—somehow divorced from human understanding and interpretation. Certainly worth more than a single hearing, it is a hope that Sandström's work will not join the ever-growing pile of works that see their only performance at their premiere.

The evening concluded with a performance of Benjamin Britten's *Sacred and Profane* (Op. 91). Composed a year before his death, it is striking how familiar Britten's erstwhile brazen settings have grown to the modern ear, that the passage of time can ameliorate even the most *avant-garde*. A setting of eight medieval English texts, Britten's work is poised for performance during early spring and Lent, ranging from topics as vastly varied as a prayer to the Virgin Mary, to a Middle English translation of the Latin *O vos omnes*, to ballads of spring approaching on the moors. Although much closer to character to Netzer's work in the first half of the program, Britten's work is technically demanding, both tonally and rhythmically. While passages in later movements of Britten's work showed signs of exhaustion, *Musica Sacra* was particularly impressive in its ability to shift modes from the tonally precious works of Sandler,

Vampire Weekend

The Orpheum

April 1, 2010

Afropop, Gypsy, Tropicalia]. I can't explain why. It's equally probable that in five years, it'll be Vampire Who? But for now, it's refreshingly fun watching this band on the ascent. There's a spark in every song, every moment on stage. They're living up to Koenig's namesake and making it new.

If you want to give Vampire Weekend another go, I highly recommend their Take-away show on Blogotheque: <http://www.blogotheque.net/Vampire-Weekend,3840>

Musica Sacra

Mary Beekman, conductor

First Church Congregational, Harvard Square

March 20, 2010

Górecki and Sandström to the thornier works of Britten's songs. Solid lines of the first movement, *St. Godric's Hymn*, gave way to the intricate chirping of *I mon waxe wod* and *Lenten is come*. Janet Ross, soloist in the fifth movement, *Yfic of lwe can*, was of particular note, maintaining a presence that blossomed seemingly out of nowhere, while negotiating balance with the choir. Particularly impressive was the final movement of the work, *A Death*, a setting whose non-obvious setting lends way to conclusion reminiscent of scat singing in vocal jazz. Musica Sacra maintained the suppleness of the line while adhering strictly to the death-defying rhythmic hijinks of Britten's whim.

Now in completing its thirtieth year, it's this type of programming that is educational both to audience member and musician alike — a challenging program to perform, certainly, conductor Mary Beekman's musical choices also pushed the limits of the audience's imagination and conception of what contemporary choral music is and can be. Musica Sacra's final concert, a collection of conductor Mary Beekman's favorite pieces from the ensemble's 50 year history, will be performed on May 22 at 8 p.m. at First Church Congregational in Harvard Square.

WHAT IS THE FUTURE?

IS IT WHAT WE DREAM?

WHAT WE DESIGN?

WHAT WE PLAN?

WHAT WE WORK SO HARD FOR?

AUGH, I'M SO HOSED! I'VE SPENT SIX HOURS ON THIS THING AND I'M NOT EVEN HALFWAY DONE?!

IT ALL BEGINS SOMEWHERE.

PANEL 1: A stick figure character is talking to another stick figure. The character says, "I WAS LITERALLY GLUED TO MY SEAT THROUGH THE ENTIRE-". The other stick figure responds with "HAH!" and "YOU MEAN 'FIGURATIVELY!'".

PANEL 2: The character is talking to the stick figure. The character says, "WHO ARE YOU? EIGHTEEN YEARS I'VE WATCHED YOU!". The stick figure responds with "WAITING!".

PANEL 3: The character is talking to the stick figure. The character says, "EVER SINCE THAT DAY IN SEVENTH GRADE WHEN YOU HUMILIATED ME.". The stick figure responds with "I TOLD HIM AND HE LITERALLY EXPLODED!". The character then says, "UH, UNLESS HE PHYSICALLY BURST, YOU MEAN 'FIGURATIVELY.'". The stick figure responds with "HAH." and "REMEMBER?".

PANEL 4: The character is talking to the stick figure. The character says, "I KNEW ONE DAY YOU'D SLIP, AND I VOWED I'D BE THERE TO SEE YOU FALL. HOW DOES IT FEEL?". The stick figure responds with "YOU ARE LITERALLY THE CRAZIEST PERSON I'VE EVER MET.". The character then says, "YOU DID IT AGAIN!".

Panel 1: A student with dark hair and a white lab coat is sneezing into a tissue. A male doctor with glasses and a white lab coat stands next to him, holding a clipboard. The student says, "I SNEEZE EVEN INSIDE THE CLEAN ROOM, DOCTOR... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!". The doctor responds with "HMM...".

Panel 2: The doctor explains, "ALLERGIES USUALLY OCCUR WHEN YOU'VE BEEN OVER-EXPOSED TO SOMETHING IRRITATING OR UPSETTING." The student asks, "YOU MEAN-".

Panel 3: The doctor asks, "YOU'RE ALLERGIC TO YOUR THESIS." The student replies, "I KNEW IT!".

Panel 4: The doctor says, "LET'S TRY IT: WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOUR WORK?" The student sneezes again, saying "I- ACHOO! ACHOO! ACHOO!".

JOERGE CHAM © 2010

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SAM RANGE—THE TECH

The Tech: Like what you're reading? Come visit the *Tech* office on the fourth floor of the Student Center or our booth at the Activities Midway to learn about MIT's oldest student activity!



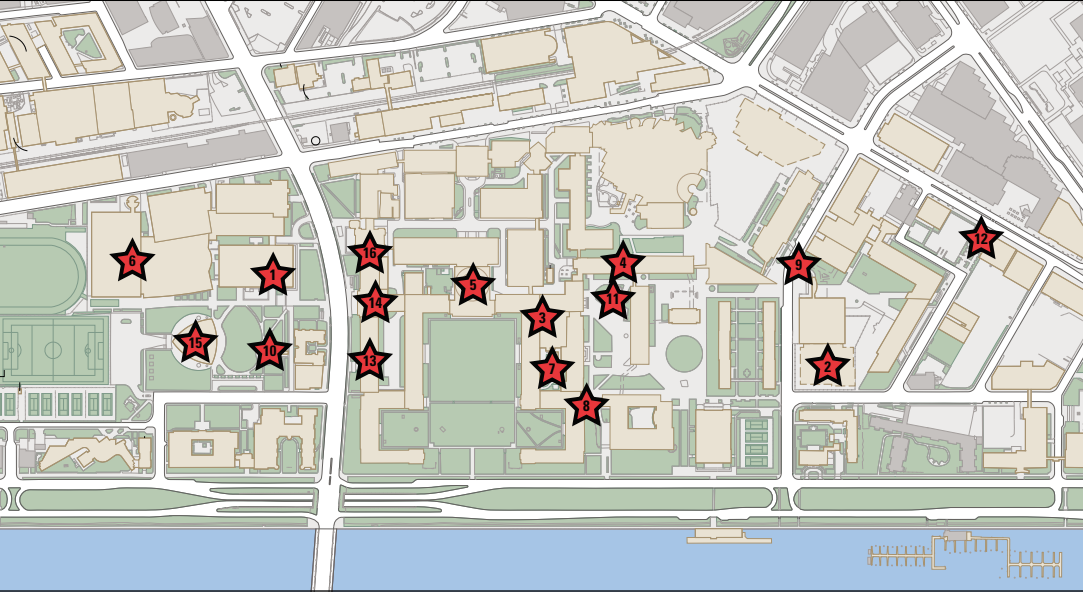
SAM RANGE—THE TECH

The Media Lab: The \$90 million extension to MIT's world-famous research center was designed by Pritzker Prize-winner Fumihiko Maki, and is a definite sight to see — and see through!

16 awesome sights at MIT

As you're wandering around MIT this weekend, keep your eyes open. The campus is full of beautiful surprises, some of them hidden in plain sight. The Tech's photographers have made a list of what they think are the most interesting places on campus, in no particular order. We've given you the rough location of each of these attractions in the map below, and the cap-

tions should help you on your way. You'll probably need the assistance of a local, though, so pester your CPW hosts. This is your chance to get to know them. Have your own shots of these iconic spots? Send them to us, along with your name and hometown, to photo@tech.mit.edu. Or, find us on Facebook (TheMITTech) or Twitter (@TheTech).



SAM RANGE—THE TECH

Colored walkway: The spectacular walkway between Buildings 6C and 8 reflects colors in the afternoon. Building 6C was completed in 2007. It houses physics and materials science labs.



YUANYU CHEN—THE TECH

Hacks and Puzzles: The hallway between Buildings 16 and 56 features a puzzle on the floor, as well as murals describing the Institute's hacking history.



JASMINE FLORENTINE—THE TECH

Barker Engineering Library: Located directly beneath the Great Dome, the engineering library offers a place to sit, study, or snooze.



ELIZABETH D'ARLENZO—THE TECH

Zesiger Center: Behind a wall mural containing abstract images and equations lies the Z-Center's olympic-sized swimming pool.



MELISSA RENÉE SCHUMACHER—THE TECH

Secret ninja courtyard: Also known as the Atomic Courtyard, this space is bordered on all sides by Buildings 6, 6C, 4, and 2, and is only accessible through basement tunnels.



SAM RANGE—THE TECH

Jungle mural: A variety of tropical animals greet visitors to MIT's Hayden Memorial Library in Building 14.



SAM RANGE—THE TECH

Underground tunnels: Much of the MIT campus is connected by a subterranean network of tunnels, including the Stata Center and MIT Medical. Try taking an "alternate" mode of transportation down this long ramp in Building 66.



VIBIN KUNDUKULAM—THE TECH

MIT chapel: MIT's non-denominational chapel, designed by Eero Saarinen, lies across from Kresge Auditorium. The metal sculpture behind the altar catches reflected light from the moat to provide ambient lighting inside.



YUANYU CHEN—THE TECH

Sound benches: The parabolic benches outside of Building 18 are a popular place to study when the weather is nice. Try standing at the focal point of either parabola and making a sound!



JASMINE FLORENTINE—THE TECH

Kendall T station: The Kendall subway station takes MIT students into the heart of Boston, as well as to the city's large train station at South Station. The musical structure hanging over the rails is currently being repaired by a team of MIT students.



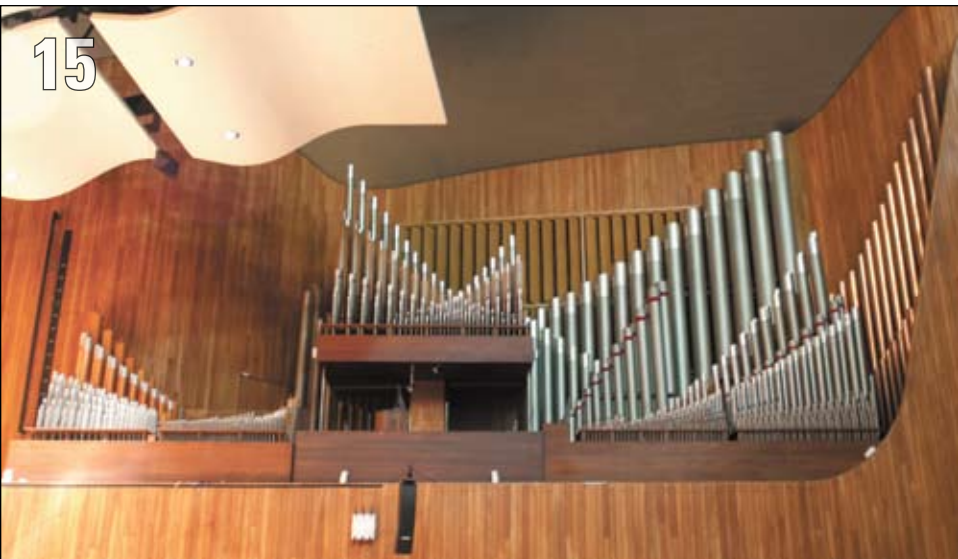
ELIZABETH D'ARLENZO—THE TECH

Hart Nautical Gallery: Lying in the middle of Building 5, this branch of the MIT Museum contains model ships, a rare early autonomous underwater vehicle, and information about Ocean Engineering, Course 2-OE (formerly Course 13).



MELISSA RENÉE SCHUMACHER—THE TECH

Steam Café: Located on the fourth floor of building 7, Steam is the result of a collaboration between the School of Architecture and Planning, MIT Dining, and Sodexho Corporation. The cafe serves mainly organic and nutritious food.



COLE HOUSTON—THE TECH

Kresge organ: This pipe organ sits in the loft near the stage of Kresge Auditorium. The ceiling of Kresge features "clouds" that absorb and direct sound, making the auditorium well known for its acoustics.



JASMINE FLORENTINE—THE TECH

Wile E. Coyote mural: If you try walking between Building 7 and 9 on the third floor, you'll find you may meet the same fate as the beloved coyote. What's on the other side of the tunnel? You could use TNT to find out.

HEY PREFROSH

Prefrosh look forward to a fun-filled weekend

Interviews compiled by Natasha Plotkin. Photography by Andrea Robles.



Laura Zehender

Richmond, Virginia
Mathematics

How’s CPW been so far?

Really exciting—there’s been stuff going on everywhere. Trying to choose what to do is the main problem.

What CPW activities are you most excited about?

A capella concerts. I probably am going to go watch Pants Pants Revolution...There so much, I can’t decide what to go to.

What do you do outside of class in high school?

Dancing—ballet, tap, [and] salsa dancing.

Andrew Ardito

Coxsackie, New York
Mathematics and physics

What the most interesting think you’ve done here so far?

I was at [Alpha Delta Phi] and they had this event where they would they would you Power-Point slides you hadn’t seen before, and you would have to make a presentation based on them.

Any activities you’re interested in getting involved in?

Chess.



Jen Liu

Newton, Massachusetts
Environmental engineering

What the most interesting thing you’ve done at CPW so far?

I’d have to say eating Indian food at pika and doing a tour there.

Are there any CPW events you’re particularly excited about?

All the parties — dance parties.

Any activities you’re thinking of doing in college?

Track.

Katie Allsop

Connecticut
Biology

What’s the most interesting you’ve done at CPW so far?

The open house with the biology department, because I love biology—it was even more exciting than the [CPW] festival.

What are you excited about doing during the rest of the weekend?

I’m planning on sitting in on some classes...a biology class, a history class, and a math class.

What activities do you do in high school?

I’m on the robotics team...I also play the saxophone, not really, really, well, but I play it a lot.



Victor Rodriguez

Mexicali, Mexico
Engineering and business

What’s the most interesting thing you’ve done at CPW so far?

This festival — it’s crazy!

How does MIT match or differ from your expectations?

The stereotype is that people here are all nerdy, but it’s not true. It’s the opposite...There’s all kinds of people.

Kevin Chavez

Fitchburg, Massachusetts
Electrical engineering and computer science

How does MIT match or differ from your expectations so far?

So far it’s exceeded my expectations. And it’s good cause it’s only the first day, so it can only get better from here.

Which CPW events are you most excited about?

At [the welcome event], the Logarthyms were amazing...I’m going to sit in on a few classes tomorrow.

What activities you considering getting involved in during college?

I’m considering tennis. I play varsity high school tennis...I like to think I’m pretty good.



Andrea Hinton

Kansas City, Kansas
Chemistry

What the most interesting thing you’ve done at CPW so far?

I ate liquid nitrogen ice cream. It was fun to watch being made, and it was really good.

What other activities are you excited for?

The Firehose classes.

Any activities you’re interesting in doing during college?

I’m interested in student government. I might play intramural soccer, because I play soccer outside of school...I’ll probably try a bunch of clubs.

What do you do outside of class in high school?

I play piano and soccer and do community service. I also do research sometimes at local hospitals.

Esmeralda Ramiro

San Diego, California
Bioengineering

What have you been up to so far during CPW?

I went to a grill at East Campus...I went to Random Hall, and now I’m at this festival.

What are you looking for during the rest of the weekend?

I want to try out learning to DJ cause I’ve never done that, and it just sounds like lots of fun and completely out of the ordinary.

What activities do you outside of school?

I do graphic design, so maybe I’ll check out some humanities classes



Monica Neugebauer

Houston, Texas
Chemical engineering

What have you been up to during CPW so far?

I went to a social psychology class, and that was really interesting.

What are excited for doing during the rest of the weekend?

My host has a radio show at one in the morning on Friday, so I’m excited for that.

What do outside of class in high school?

Band — I play flute and piano.

Any activities you’re interested in getting involved in during college?

Sailing, actually. And hopefully I’ll be in the orchestra.

YAY PREFROSH

Dispatches from the first day of CPW

So much can happen in a day! *The Tech* asked a few prospective freshman what they thought of Campus Preview Weekend so far.

Photography by Andrea Robles

Sam Carreon

Greetings, reader. My name is Sam Carreon (pronounced “carry on” — I can’t tell you how many times people have poked fun at this...), and I am a potential student in MIT’s class of 2014. Coming from Palmdale, California, Massachusetts has been quite the culture shock. Weather in the Mojave Desert is drastically different from what I’ve experienced here: cold, windy, and slightly humid. Although I find the weather here to be far from ideal, I have realized that there is so much about MIT with which to fall in love. First, the super-cool hacks. Day one on the campus, and I see a living room suspended from a concrete arch. Pretty awesome, in my opinion...

Another cool thing: The people here are great. Everyone is so... amazingly smart! Not only that, but the students I’ve talked to are extremely nice and have demonstrated that “nerds” (a few of the students I’ve talked to swear that “we’re all nerds here...”) know how to have fun.

Pretty much the only other thing I haven’t enjoyed today is the copious amount of walking I’ve had to endure. Typically, I enjoy walking about, but the campus is huge and my feet are dying. (Which, by the way, is the reason why I’m writing this article... I accidentally stumbled into The Tech room while looking for a place to sit, then asked to “rant about CPW.”) Anyway, in retrospect, the amount of walking isn’t that bad.

So far, CPW has been... interesting. I’m still not entirely sure if I want to attend here, but I have utter confidence that the events of the next three days will help me make a decision.

That’s all, folks. :)

P.S. Happy birthday, Mom. I love you!



Francesca McCaffrey

Hey everyone! My name is Francesca McCaffrey, and I’m a senior at Wakefield High School in Wakefield, MA. The reason I’m writing to you right now, of course, is the fact that I’ll soon be a freshman somewhere else. Finding where that somewhere else will be has been a long journey, to say the least, and this weekend at MIT is only part of it. If what I’ve seen so far is any indication, I can tell that this is one stop on the journey which I’m going to thoroughly enjoy. This is only my third hour on the MIT campus, so I can only guess what I have yet to see, and so much has happened already.

Wakefield is a mere twenty minutes from Boston, but already I feel as though I am worlds away. I love being in the city, and there’s a certain excitement here which is due in part to the intensity of condensed humanity which is so characteristic of Boston and is a major reason for my desire to go to college in the Boston area. What I’ve learned, even after only being here for a few hours, is that this intensity also owes a great deal to the already vibrant MIT community and the ever growing flood of prospective students swarming its buildings, exploring its sidewalks, and so I hear, devouring its nitrogen-chilled ice cream. I can’t describe how excited I am to be part of this community, if even for a weekend.

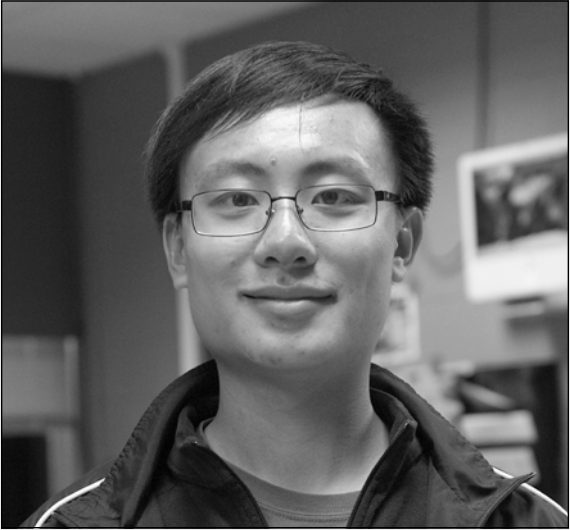
Soon I’ll be attending a welcome event for all of the prefrosh. I’m curious to meet more prospective MIT students and to see part of the larger MIT picture, one which I am quickly learning is made up of an incredible vivacity, bringing together students from all walks of life, with all personalities, and, from what I have seen so far, a shared ability to carry on intense conversations about everything from world affairs to psets (especially the psets). I’m heading out now — welcome events start in about five minutes. Can’t wait to see more of MIT — I’ll see you around campus!

Rex Lam

Hi! My name is Rex Lam from Wakefield, Massachusetts. I plan on majoring in Economics at MIT. I am very excited to be here for CPW. So far, it has been a great experience. Registration ran very smoothly, and I quickly met up with my host, a sophomore pursuing Economics and Mathematics. We took a shuttle to Next House, which I learned was last one in the long line of different dorms. As my host said, Next House is always the “next” house – which ended up being the last one on dorm row.

There are so many activities going on that I cannot keep track of all the events. In a matter of three hours, I went to two ice cream socials, attended an Economics class, and looked at laboratories where both undergraduate and graduate students conducted research. It was very exciting to see what I just learned in my biology class, such as the use of restriction enzymes and gel electrophoresis, applied in current research on malaria at one of the most cutting-edge research universities in the world.

I am looking forward to the rest of the weekend and to coming back to MIT in the fall.





Susan Ballentine

I am regretting my decision this morning to read on the plane instead of sneaking in one last hour of sleep before the onslaught of CPW activities began. I flew in this morning from Richmond, Virginia on a 7:00 a.m. flight and was greeted in the Boston Airport by an enthusiastic group of current MIT students. From there I was shuttled to campus at which point the festivities kicked off. Within 30 minutes of arriving, I had made new friends from as close to my home as the next city over to as far as Luxembourg and the Netherlands. I was shuffled into the endless line to sign-up for UROP tours which were quickly filling up due to their popularity. I was asked “What’s you major?” about fifty times (and informed that it was not Math, but Course 18). I was approached by many current students preparing me for CPW by asking me questions to help best direct my attentions, and allowing me to ask a few of my own.

As I have visited campus before, I skipped the official tour and began wandering on my own in the lucky weather. I learned that no, the building numbers do not necessarily follow a pattern, but there are plenty of people around campus willing to help a confused-looking prefrosh. I spent

the rest of my day bouncing from activity to activity, visiting almost every dorm and concluding that the CPW planners definitely tried to schedule consecutive events as far away as possible. I made truffles, visited a freshman physics class (excuse me, 8.02), attended several ice cream socials, used my TechCASH Card for the first time, helped The ENGINEERS defeat The Beavers in a friendly game of MIT Jeopardy, sang karaoke with the girls of McCormick, and visited the friendly staff at *The Tech*. (*Ed. note: We made her say that.*) Today’s events were punctuated by the CPW Student Welcome, followed by the CPW Festival where the organizations, free food, and handouts never stopped coming.

The night is still young and I am already having trouble keeping up with all the events. My campus map is already worn from being pulled out so many times. My iPod is almost dead from my constant checking of the MIT CPW App. I’m almost afraid to go to the midnight movie tonight for fear that I will succumb to sleep in a dark theater setting. Yet, I must persist for fear of missing any of the great things going on this weekend. I await what tomorrow has in store for me and my classmates.

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Through the eyes of a prefrosh



The MIT Logs perform in front of over 1000 prospective freshmen during the CPW Student Welcome and Pre-frosh Icebreaker in Rockwell Cage on Thursday.

SUSAN BALLENTINE

**Susan
Ballentine**



**Megan
Bumgarner**



ALESSA MOSCOSO

Giuseppe Zingales, a prospective freshman, plays Jenga on Thursday at McCormick.



MEGAN BUMGARNER

Prospective freshmen play “Apples to Apples” on Thursday evening as part of McCormick’s CPW event.

**Alessa
Moscoso**



ALESSA MOSCOSO

Layout by Michael Nguyen

Prospective freshmen (from left) Lucia Wang, Kaixi Wang and Staphanie Chiang enjoy snacks at McCormick’s NONLINEAR CHAOS (Games Night!!!) held at the East Penthouse on Thursday.

Many question the House Dining Advisory Group

Three weeks late, HDAG opens Housing Idea Bank to gather student input

Dining, from Page 1

meaningful way before students depart for the summer.”

MIT officials responded in their own column on Tuesday, saying “over the past two years, MIT has engaged students to gather their opinions and ideas on dining through numerous channels. There have been surveys, focus groups, and meetings.”

That column was submitted to *The Tech* by Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo and also signed by Chancellor Philip L. Clay PhD ’75, outgoing Vice Chancellor Steven R. Lerman ’72, and Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD ’80.

According to that column, the latest dining reform developments are not “the hurried beginning of a process.”

On April 6, Colombo sent an e-mail titled, “Make your voice heard on Campus Dining,” to all undergraduates. The message gave a brief background on dining reform from the past few years, including the formation of the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee in spring 2009. The e-mail said that “the work of the Blue Ribbon Committee exposed deep dissatisfaction with crucial aspects of the House Dining program.”

Regarding past dining reform efforts, Wissam N. Jarjoui ’11, a Next House resident, said he hasn’t seen action from past dining committees. “We’re making a lot of noise,” he said.

Colombo’s e-mail came four months after the UA passed its “Resolution to Ensure Transparency in Dining Reform,” which re-

quested a report on future policy changes to House Dining from DSL by the end of January 2010.

“We thought eight weeks would be plenty of time for DSL to come up with something. Apparently it was not,” said Hawkins.

“Profit is important, but it should not be the determining factor.”

—Sinchan Banerjee ’11
NEXT HOUSE RESIDENT

According to Hawkins, “If DSL was working productively on dining for those three months without letting students know what they were doing, that’s unacceptable. If DSL was not working on dining for those three months, that’s also unacceptable.”

Colombo’s e-mail also introduced the new House Dining Review website, which outlines the call to action and key considerations for House Dining reform. The site also features <http://ideabank-housedining.mit.edu/>, an Idea Bank similar to that of the Institute-Wide Planning Task Force, where members of the MIT community can provide suggestions and respond to posts from others.

Campus Dining plans to offer responses to House Dining Idea Bank submissions once the new dining plan is announced.

A March 8 letter from Colombo addressed to members of the UA outlined DSL’s plan for dining reform and charged the House Din-

ing Advisory Group (HDAG) as a “conduit for community feedback.” The letter is available at <http://ua.mit.edu/committees/dining/>.

The HDAG, which includes housemasters, presidents, and dining chairs of the four dining hall dorms and the Ashdown Phoenix Group, identified choice, nutrition, community, and financial stability as key principles in dining reform.

These principles represent a variety of needs in House Dining. According to Sinchan Banerjee ’11, also of Next House, “profit is important, but it should not be the determining factor.”

Idea Bank, dining forums promote communication

Student representation on the HDAG comes from presidents and dining chairs of the Phoenix Group and the four dorms with dining halls, as well as Adam Bockelie ’11, dining chair of the UA.

Hannah M. Rice ’11, president of McCormick Hall, notices a focus on student opinion in HDAG meetings.

“The administration has been working hard to make sure that the opinions they hear are not those of administration or faculty, but of the students. Not only have they asked our opinions on the dining policies themselves, but also how the committee should be run and the best ways to collect student opinion,” she said.

According to Rice, the HDAG has “made all of the student members at the meetings an integral part of all the discussions.”

According to Simmons Hall President Christina R. Johnson ’11, “I believe that HDAG has done a

good job of including student opinions in the conversation on dining. HDAG is committed to reaching out to students and gauging their opinions on several of the controversial issues.”

Tom Gearty, spokesman for Colombo, said dining choices “are going to have to be based on basic preferences,” while providing a reasonable solution. “We can’t offer every choice to every student everywhere,” he said.

“The amount of input from the students is always significantly less than from the Housemasters and other older members of the HDAG.”

—Cameron S. McAlpine ’13

BAKER HOUSE DINING CHAIR

According to the HDAG timeline, the Idea Bank will be open until the week of April 12, when the DSL review period will begin. DSL plans to announce the new dining plan and offer responses to Idea Bank submissions during the week of May 3. The Idea Bank was opened earlier this week, nearly three weeks later than the published HDAG timeline indicated.

DSL will host several forums this month specifically for students who

eat at the dining halls. “The meetings in the Houses will be open to anyone who uses the dining halls, not just the residents of that house,” according to Gearty.

Ellen B. McIsaac ’12, president of Next House, said she has seen a focus on student feedback in this process. “The administrators working with us in the group take student opinion very seriously,” she said.

According to McIsaac, “change can be difficult to deal with. Not everyone will be fully satisfied with the new dining plan, but it would be unreasonable to expect that one dining plan could satisfy the diverse needs of all 4,000 undergraduates.”

With regards to the HDAG meetings, Cameron S. McAlpine ’13, dining chair of Baker House, said “the amount of input from the students is always significantly less than from the housemasters and other older members of the HDAG.” In his opinion, this is due to the elder members’ extensive experience with dining reform on campus.

“I would not say that the student voice is being shut out of these meetings at all. I would just say that the students representing dining at the moment just don’t have much of a voice. This can be resolved if dining gets publicized enough to get the majority of students aware of the history of dining at MIT and at least thinking about potential ideas to input,” McAlpine said. McAlpine sent an e-mail to Baker House residents detailing the House Dining review process earlier this week, “so I can get as much input from people that have different ideas so I can find out what students at Baker want,” she said.

GSC election results

The Graduate Student Council elected officers for 2010–2011 on Wednesday night. The new officers take their position on May 5:

Ulric J. Ferner	President
Gleb M. Akselrod	Vice-President
Todd E. W. Schenk	Secretary
Zhao Chen	Treasurer

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Bigger and screwier

APO Screw doubles last year's take

Big screw, from Page 1

are microelectronics and power electronics lab classes. Leeb has raised \$704.93 so far.

In addition to large amounts of money (last year's contest raised a total of \$1,128.51), competition is much stiffer this year, and candidates have been campaigning.

"We had in one day the sort of gains we usually get in total," said Matthew S. Goldstein G of APO.

Intense competition

Last night, with 6.115/6.131 in second place, Leeb wrote "Our honor is at stake," in an e-mail to his "Course 6 Family."

"This is unacceptable!" Leeb wrote. "My wife says that there can't possibly be anyone more annoying than me."

Vivek Goyal wrote that he was "honored" and "happy to have a reason to make [this] week's 6.041 quiz very difficult."

Cravalho's charity is Partners in Health. Leeb's charity is the Pine Street Inn. The Course 20 team, consisting of Professors Manalis, Han, Kam, and Lammerding (for 20.310 and 20.330), is in third place. The professors have selected both the Progeria Foundation and The

Jimmy Fund.

There has been some controversy, though. Both Carvalho and Leeb have been soliciting outside contributions. Each raised hundreds of dollars yesterday, catapulting the total raised from \$462.28 on Wednesday to \$2,388.16.

Kuhn said in Thursday's e-mail announcement (sent to the mailing list *big-screw-interested*) that "in years past, candidates have been discouraged from voting for themselves on the last day. However, since we forgot to mention that this year, candidates are indeed allowed to vote for themselves tomorrow."

Kuhn told *The Tech* that APO was concerned about the outside contributors. In particular Kuhn worried that not all the contributors might realize that their money would not go to a particular professor's charity if that professor did not win.

"It's causing some talk amongst the [APO] brothers for sure — wow, this really changes the nature of the competition," Kuhn said.

But ultimately, Kuhn said, "This is a charity fundraiser."

More competitors

As if hundreds of dollars on the penultimate day were not enough, this year's contest has also had many more professors accepting their nomination than in past years, and accepting much earlier in the contest.

Kuhn wasn't sure why more candidates accepted, but said that "part of it was that we had more people involved in chasing down the candidates."

"This year, every single [person] nominated" received a personal visit, she said.

The Big Screw results will be announced next week Thursday, April 15, at 6 p.m. in room 2-135.

This year's Big Screw totals, by day

Professor	Charity	Mon.	Tue	Wed	Thu	Total
Ernest G. Cravalho (2.006)	Partners in Health	\$14.72	\$29.26	\$38.83	\$1,029.15	\$1,111.96
Steven B. Leeb '87 (6.115/6.131)	Pine Street Inn	\$33.64	\$4.47	\$18.71	\$648.11	\$704.93
Course 20 Team (20.310/20.330)	Progeria / Jimmy Fund	\$62.45	\$10.55	\$26.19	\$51.10	\$150.29
Vineet Goyal (6.041)	Teach for America	\$7.00	\$2.00	\$3.07	\$59.79	\$71.86
2.005 Team (2.005)	Big Sister Association	\$0.75	\$4.41	\$2.51	\$43.55	\$51.22
Jocelyn Monroe (8.022)	UNICEF	\$9.39	\$25.56	\$8.00	\$6.24	\$49.19
David L. Darmofal PhD '94 (16.003)	Pine Street Inn	\$6.01	\$27.29	\$3.40	\$5.76	\$42.46
Michel X. Goemans PhD '90 (18.310C)	A-T Children's Project	\$6.14	\$1.11	\$2.52	\$27.15	\$36.92
W. Craig Carter (3.016)	Poverty Solutions Int'l	\$11.00	\$6.85	\$11.00	\$4.26	\$33.11
Samuel R. Madden (6.033)	Span, Inc.	\$0.53	\$2.14	\$12.77	\$13.48	\$28.92
John J. Leonard & Barbara J. Hughey PhD '89 (2.671)	Doctors Without Borders	\$14.00	\$5.68	\$2.16	\$5.99	\$27.83
Haynes R. Miller (18.03)	HomeStart	\$1.70	\$3.44	\$11.81	\$10.65	\$27.60
David R. Wallace PhD '95 (2.009)	The Food Project	\$2.62	\$2.04	\$6.05	\$8.42	\$19.13
Donald R. Sadoway (3.091)	Transition House	\$3.11	\$1.18	\$2.01	\$6.51	\$12.81
Yang Shao-Horn (2.002)	Transition House	\$0.13	\$3.95	\$6.07	\$0.11	\$10.26
Christopher C. Cummins (5.03)	Jimmy Fund	—	—	\$4.06	\$5.61	\$9.67
Total		\$173.19	\$129.93	\$159.16	\$1,925.88	\$2,388.16

SOURCE: ALPHA PHI OMEGA

The Course 20 team consists of Profs. Scott R. Manalis, Jongyoon Han, Roger D. Kamm, and Jan Lammerding.

The 2.005 team consists of Profs. Jacopo Buongiorno, Pierre F. J. Lermusiaux, and Alexander Mitsos.

Past Big Screw Totals

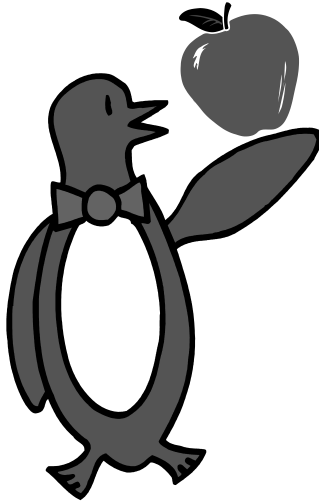
Year	Amount	Winner	Charity
2009	\$1,128.51	Daniel D. Frey PhD '97	United Cerebral Palsy
2008	\$1,586.30	James Bredt '82	Environmental Working Group
2007	\$2,919.09	Maureen R. Lynch	Make a Wish Foundation
2006	\$586.33	John G. Brisson II	NVRHSOT Scholarship
2005	\$1,565.07	Paul B. Hill	International Relief Coalition
2004	*	Charles M. Vest	Make a Wish Foundation
2003	\$1,004.80	George C. Verghese	Doctors Without Borders
2002	\$1,997.71	Steven B. Leeb '87	Pine Street Inn

SOURCE: ALPHA PHI OMEGA

* 2004 information not available at press time. Going into Friday April 16, 2004, the Screw had raised \$715.54, 115 percent more than the prior year.

We have computers

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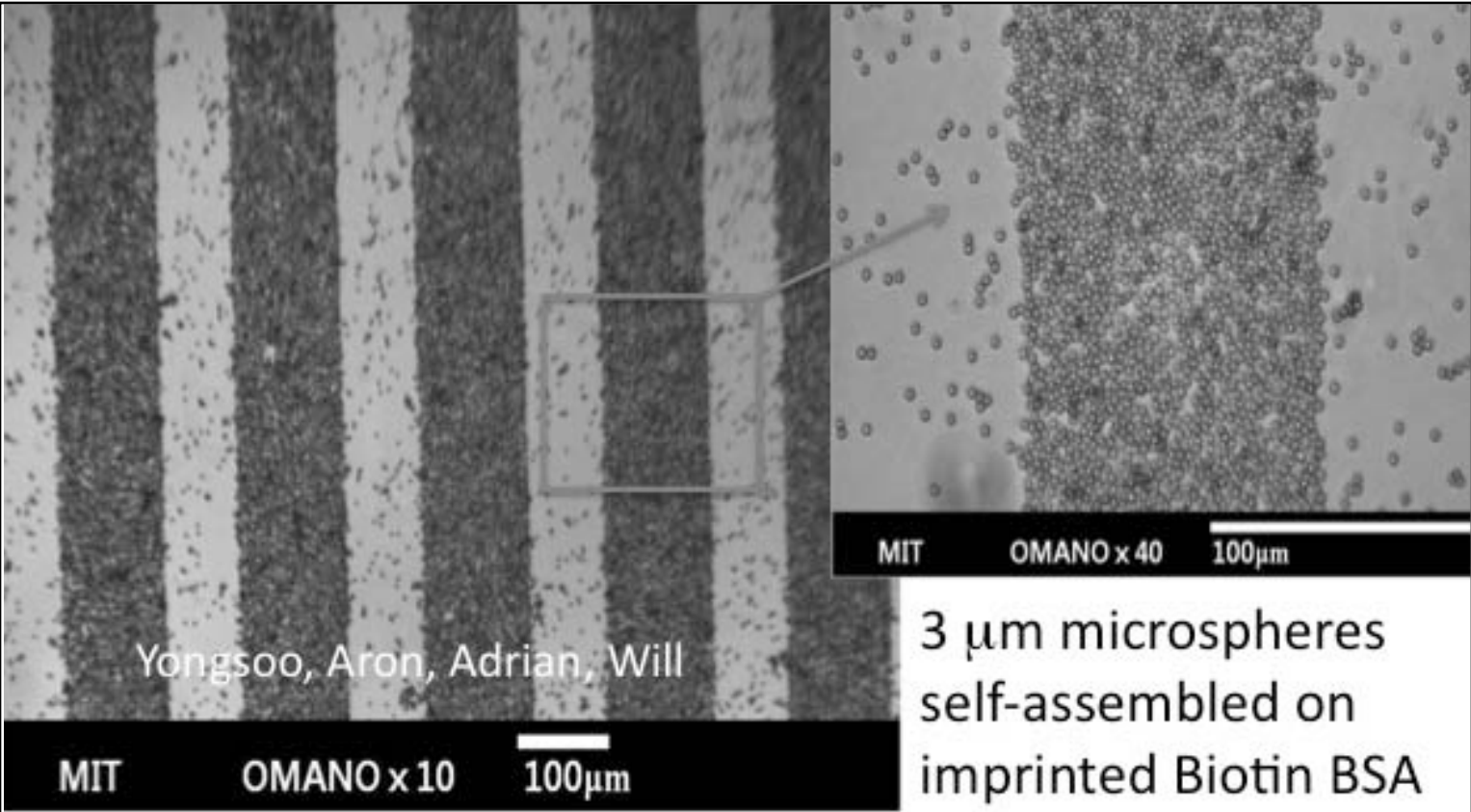
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A course 2 subject
class presentation

Micro/nano engineering laboratory

Tuesday, May 11th

12:30 – 2:30 PM

Room 3-370

With select apps, iPad is more than a pretty face

By Bob Tedeschi
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Let’s set aside the question of whether you should get an iPad and suppose you already bought one last weekend. You probably floated home and loaded it with a few whiz-bang apps and maybe even passed it around to your friends.

At some point in all the euphoria, you may also have wondered whether this device is just a trophy or something you can actually use.

Such self-doubts can be easily cast aside, providing you delve a little more deeply into the App Store than the Top 100 list — and are ready to open the wallet again.

If you budget around \$100 for a few new and upgraded apps, you can easily make the iPad into much more of a constant companion than something you just trot out when the neighbors are watching.

Start with productivity apps, because a mobile device is most valuable when it lets you work anytime, anywhere.

The big knock against smartphones is that you can’t effectively view or edit a Word document or Excel spreadsheet or read a PowerPoint presentation or PDF on something with a puny screen. On the iPad, you can at least read PDFs and, with a little more work, Office files, with the GoodReader app (\$1). Air Sharing HD (\$10) reads PDFs and helps you organize and print other Office files easily from the iPad.

If you want to edit Office files, you’re on thinner ice. The only iPad-specific apps for that task this week were the Pages, Keynote and Numbers apps from Apple (\$10 each), the company’s answer to Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

The apps earned high ratings from users, but also some complaints about how poorly they worked for importing PowerPoint files or for exporting Excel files edited in the Numbers app. Heavy users of these applications should closely read those caveats.

Outside of work, dozens of other

apps will help you turn the iPad into a go-to device.

For instance, you can find, manage and share recipes with the Epicurious app and watch movies or manage your queue with the Netflix app. Both are stellar, and both are free.

Check the weather and watch high-definition videos on the Weather Channel Max (also free), which is so nicely designed it puts the iPhone version to shame.

You can catch up on news with *The New York Times* Editors’ Picks, *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, Reuters or BBC News. These, too, are free, although you’ll need a *Wall Street Journal* subscription to use the app.

They all offered good browsing experiences, but in some cases, the articles were more pleasant to read on the companies’ Web sites. With *The Times’* app, for instance, you can’t pinch and pull the screen to enlarge photographs.

Meanwhile, if you’re interested in the future of education, buy the

Elements app (\$14), an interactive guide to the periodic table.

The app’s developers were shooting to create a book Harry Potter might have read, and they scored. The graphics are stunning, and you can spin them with your fingertip anytime you want a little endorphin buzz.

Tutorials read as if they came from the world’s wittiest chemistry teacher.

Other book publishers are finding innovative ways to mix fun with learning. The free “Toy Story” app highlights a narrator’s spoken words — or yours, if you record your voice. It also plays songs from the movie and offers a virtual coloring book for each page.

Miss Spider’s Tea Party (\$10) is even more refined, with characters that speak or make noises when tapped.

Then there are always games. Some notable games specifically for the iPad include Flight Control HD (\$5), Mirror’s Edge (\$13), Super MonkeyBall 2 — Sakura Edition

(\$10), Real Racing HD (\$10), Scrabble (\$10), N.O.V.A. Near Orbit Vanguard Alliance (\$10) and Uno (\$7).

Artists will love Autodesk’s Sketchbook Pro (\$8) or Brushes (\$10). Budding musicians will love Nota (\$8), and more experienced ones will go for Pianist Pro (\$10) and Tab Toolkit (\$10).

Sports fans will want the MLB at Bat 2010 iPad app (\$15).

And travelers can download Flight Track Pro (\$10), which lets them monitor their flights and quickly find alternatives, or 1,000 Experiences from Lonely Planet (\$10), a graphically rich look at a wide variety of trips.

Lonely Planet cut the price for its app in half after a few days, which is a telling development. iPad developers started with prices that were often much higher than iPhone versions of the same software, based on logic that no one has yet unearthed.

As competition builds in the App Store, that logic should fade quickly.

"ROCK 'N' ROLL FANS OF EVERY GENDER AND GENERATION WILL IDENTIFY WITH THIS."
-A.O. Scott, THE NEW YORK TIMES

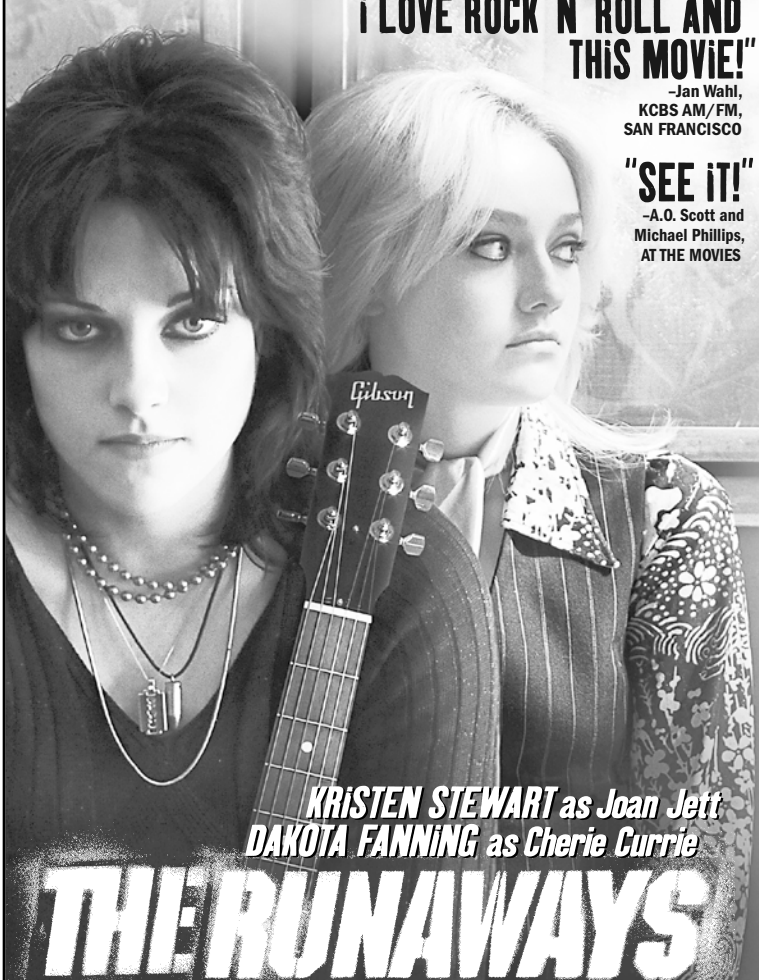
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-Thelma Adams, US WEEKLY

"STEWART AND FANNING HAVE NEVER BEEN STRONGER."
-Michael Phillips, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"THE RUNAWAYS' GETS EVERYTHING RIGHT."
-Mick LaSalle, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"I LOVE ROCK 'N' ROLL AND THIS MOVIE!"
-Jan Wahl, KCBS AM/FM, SAN FRANCISCO

"SEE IT!"
-A.O. Scott and Michael Phillips, AT THE MOVIES



KRISTEN STEWART as Joan Jett
DAKOTA FANNING as Cherie Currie

THE RUNAWAYS

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SCREENPLAY BY ILLIAN BERLIN COSTUME DESIGNER CAROL BEADLE EDITOR RICHARD CHEW A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER EUGENIO CABALLERO DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BENJOIT DEBIE
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China’s censors tackle and trip over the Internet

With censorship now ‘a major growth industry,’ Google and China are at loggerheads

By Michael Wines,
Sharon LaFraniere
and Jonathan Ansfield

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Type the Chinese characters for

“carrot” into Google’s search engine here in mainland China, and you will be rewarded not with a list of Internet links, but a blank screen. Don’t blame Google, however. The fault lies with China’s censors — who are

increasingly a model for countries around the world that want to control an unrestricted Internet. Since late March, when Google moved its search operations out of mainland China to Hong Kong,

each response to a Chinese citizen’s search request has been met at the border by government computers, programmed to censor any forbidden information Google might turn up.

“Carrot” — in Mandarin, huluobo — may seem innocuous enough. But it contains the same Chinese character as the surname of President Hu Jintao. And the computers, long programmed to intercept Chinese-language searches on the nation’s leaders, substitute an error message for the search result before it can sneak onto a mainland computer.

This is China’s censorship machine, part George Orwell, part Rube Goldberg: an information sieve of staggering breadth and fineness, yet full of holes; run by banks of advanced computers, but also by thousands of Communist Party drudges; highly sophisticated in some ways, remarkably crude in others.

The one constant is its growing importance. Censorship used to be the sleepy province of the Communist Party’s central propaganda department, whose main task was to tell editors what and what not to print or broadcast. In the new networked China, censorship is a major growth industry, overseen — and fought over — by no fewer than 14 government ministries.

“Press control has really moved to the center of the agenda,” said David Bandurski, an analyst at the China Media Project of the University of Hong Kong. “The Internet is the decisive factor there. It’s the medium that is changing the game in press control, and the party leaders know this.”

Today, China censors everything from the traditional print press to domestic and foreign Internet sites; from cell phone text messages to social networking services; from on-line chat rooms to blogs, films and e-mail. It even censors online games.

That’s not all. Not content merely to block dissonant views, the government increasingly employs people to peddle its views online, in the guise of impartial bloggers and chat-room denizens. And increasingly, it is backing state-friendly clones of Twitter, Facebook and YouTube, all Western sites that have been blocked here for roughly a year.

The government’s strategy, according to Bandurski and others, is

not just to block unflattering messages, but to overwhelm them with its own positive spin and rebuttals.

The government makes no apologies for what it calls “guiding public opinion.” Regulation is crucial, it says, to keep China from sliding into chaos and to preserve the party’s monopoly on power.

“Whether we can cope with the Internet is a matter that affects the development of socialist culture, the security of information, and the stability of the state,” Hu said in 2007. In China’s view, events since then — including the online spread of the democracy manifesto known as Charter 08, and riots in the Tibet and Xinjiang regions, said to be aided by cell phone and Internet communications — have only reinforced that stance.

In the last year, censorship has increased markedly, as evidenced by the closing of thousands of blogs and Web sites in ostensible anti-pornography campaigns, and the jailing of prominent dissidents who used the Internet to spread their views. The departure of Google’s search engine in March only capped months of growing intolerance of unfettered speech.

The paradox — at least at first glance — is that even with such pervasive restraints, China’s press and Internet are capable of freewheeling discourse and social criticism.

Newspapers, blogs and online chats have unleashed national out-rages over a host of topics, including food and medicine contamination and local corruption. Bloggers continually tweak the censors, leaking their orders and creating an online land of mythical creatures, whose names are all homonyms for aspects of the state’s heavy hand.

Some exposes and satires fall on the acceptable side of an often invisible and shifting line that marks what can and cannot be said freely in China. On the other side are statements that too overtly challenge the Communist Party’s hold on power, that attack or embarrass powerful politicians or that tread on a long list of forbidden topics, from unrest in Tibet to political crises like the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests.

Journalists and Internet publishers often discover that they have crossed the line only after their on-line presence is blocked, their by-lines are blacklisted or they are detained or summoned to “tea” with government security officers who deliver coy but unmistakable warnings.

With 384 million users in China at last count in January — and 181 million blogs — the Internet poses a true cat-herding predicament for censors. Foreign entities that operate outside China are the lesser of the censors’ problems. The reason is logistical: access to the Internet in China from the outside world is limited, and all traffic must pass through one of three large computer centers in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

At those centers, government computers — the so-called Great Firewall — intercept inbound data and compare it to a constantly changing list of forbidden keywords and Web addresses.

When a match occurs, the computers can block the incoming data in several ways, from rejecting it outright to making more nuanced trims. For example, Chinese citizens who search Google using sensitive terms like “Tiananmen” may receive complete summaries of relevant Web sites. But if the Web sites are banned, it is impossible to link to them.

Within China, however, data cannot be choked off at a handful of gateways. So the government employs a toolbox of controls, including persuasion, co-opting and force, to keep the Web in line. Self-censorship is the first line of filtering

Coop Student Board of Directors Election Update

The following student Coop members are candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 academic year.

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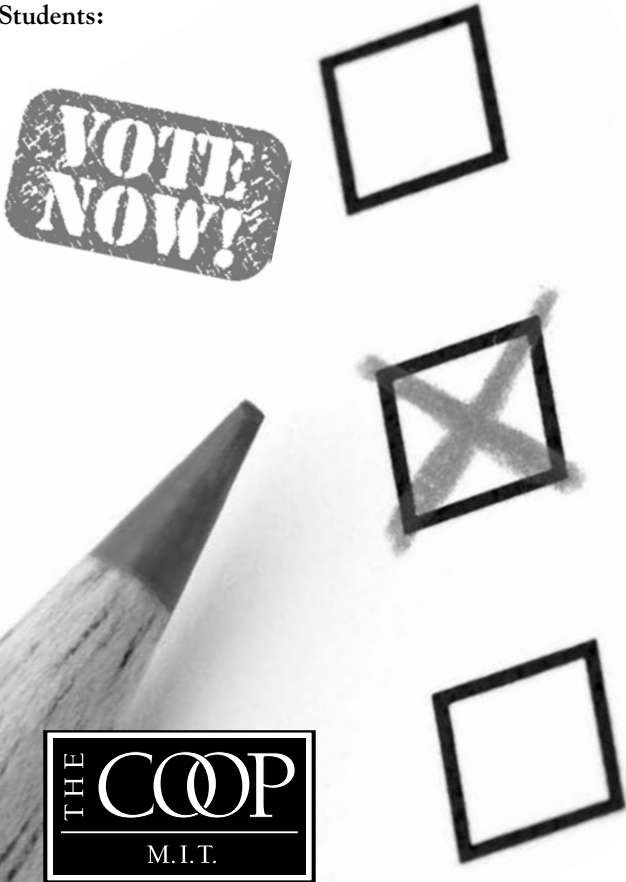
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As more seek to evade them, censors tighten their grip

In China, personal blogs, text messages, and even IMs are subject to censors' scrutiny.

China, from Page 22

and an obligation of all network and site operators in China.

China's big homegrown sites, like Baidu, Sina.com and Sohu, employ throngs of so-called Web administrators to screen their search engines, chat rooms, blogs and other content for material that flouts propaganda directives. For four years, Google followed suit with its Chinese search engine, Google.cn.

The Internet companies' employees are constantly guessing what is allowed and what will prompt a phone call from government censors. One tactic is to strictly censor risky content at first, then gradually expand access to it week by week, hoping not to trip the censorship wire.

The monitors sit astride a vast and expanding state apparatus that extends to the most remote Chinese town. "There is an Internet monitoring and surveillance unit in every city, wherever you have an Internet connection," said Xiao Qiang, an analyst of China's censorship system, at the University of California, Berkeley. "Through that system, they get to every major Web site with content."

Under a 2005 State Council regulation, personal blogs, computer bulletin boards and even cell phone text messages are deemed part of the news media, subject to sweeping restrictions on their content.

In practice, many of those restrictions are spottily applied. But reminders that someone is watching are pointed and regular.

An inopportune post to a computer chat forum may produce a rejection message chiding the author for "inappropriate content," and the link to the post may be deleted. Forbidden text messages may be delivered to cell phones as blank screens.

Even so, screening the electronic activities of hundreds of millions of

people is a nearly impossible task. Moreover, users increasingly are resorting to technological maneuvers like virtual private networks and proxy servers to sidestep the censors' blocking of banned Web sites altogether. By some reports, a million people now hurdle the Great Firewall via such dodges — a number that remains a tiny fraction of all users, but that has spiked upward in the last year.

So the censors have taken other tacks to tighten their grip.

One is automation. China's leading instant-messaging service, called QQ, automatically installs a program on users' computers that monitors their communications and blocks censored text.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology tried last year to expand automated censorship nationwide through mandatory Green Dam software that could remotely update lists of banned topics. After an outcry from Internet users and corporations, the state backed off, but Green Dam or other filtering software remains installed on computers in some Internet cafes and schools. Last month, the government signaled that a version for cell phones was in the works.

Another strategy is manipulation. In recent years, local and provincial officials have hired armies of low-paid commentators to monitor blogs and chat rooms for sensitive issues, then spin online comment in the government's favor.

Xiao of Berkeley cites one example: Jiaozuo, a city southwest of Beijing, deployed 35 Internet commentators and 120 police officers to defuse online attacks on the local police after a traffic dispute. By flooding chat rooms with pro-police comments, the team turned the tone of online comment from negative to positive in just 20 minutes.

According to one official newspaper editor who refused to be named, propaganda authorities now calcu-

late that, confronted with a public controversy, local officials have a window of about two hours to block information and flood the Web with their own line before the reaction of citizens is beyond control.

Zhang Shihe, a self-identified citizen journalist and blogger with the pen name Tiger Temple, said the government ranked various bloggers by the risk they posed. "The most dangerous ones will be shut down, and some others will receive alerts from the government," he said.

Zhang's own blog posts are sometimes deleted. His workaround is to publish six blogs, hosted on different Internet sites: because censorship rules are vague and the censors merely human, a post that one blocks may be ignored or over-

looked by another.

That may not last long. The consensus is that the government is rapidly getting better at its work.

Consider: One chilling new regulation limits those who can operate a site on China's .cn domain to registered businesses, and requires operators to produce Chinese identification. "In case they need to shut you down for some subversive content, they need to know how to find you," said an executive with one Beijing firm that hosts Web sites.

Major cities like Beijing — which last year advertised for 10,000 voluntary Internet monitors — are increasingly taking censorship into their own hands.

Pitted against this are those who argue that government chokeholds

on the Internet cannot succeed. Bloggers like Zhang argue that growing restrictions on Internet speech only inflame ordinary users, and that bit by bit "people are pushing the wall back."

Or at least trying. At a recent meeting of Chinese Internet leaders in the southern city of Shenzhen, Ding Jian, who heads the Internet company AsiaInfo, proposed that Shenzhen be made a censorship-free zone as an experiment to determine whether China can stomach the chaos of an unfettered Internet. Strangling free speech, one entrepreneur argued, is likely to strangle innovation as well.

The Internet portal NetEase published a report of the meeting. It was quickly deleted.



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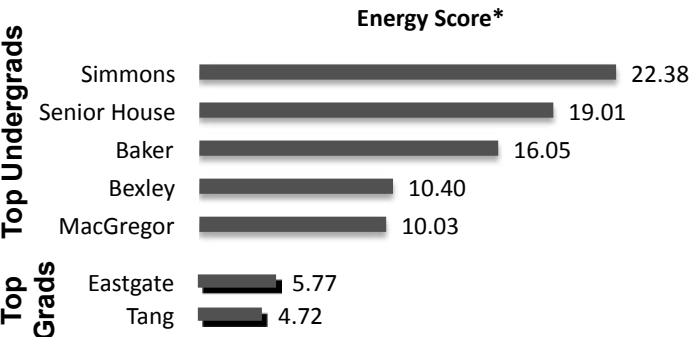
Please contact Sean Gilbert at MISTI China (seang@mit.edu)

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Dorm Electricity Competition



Week 2 Results



*Energy Score = Per capita change in consumption (Δ kWh/person)

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Solution to Crossword

from page 12

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

Solution to Sudoku

from page 13

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

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STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 9
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES.

A nation’s response to an illegal smoke and a quip

By Scott Shane
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — When an illicit pipe and a foolish joke aboard an airliner touches off a national megascare, scrambling fighter jets and FBI agents, alerting all 4,900 flights in progress and unleashing a media flood, does that mean the security system works?

Or was the reaction to an Arab diplomat’s ill-timed smoke break aboard a flight to Denver on Wednesday night overkill, unnecessarily alarming the entire country, inconveniencing passengers and

squandering the taxpayers’ money?

Assessing the government and media response was complicated by the revelation on Thursday that the Qatari diplomat, Mohammed al-Madadi, was on his way to make a routine consular visit to a convicted agent of al-Qaida, a citizen of Qatar who is imprisoned in Colorado.

But officials said that they learned the purpose of the diplomat’s travels well after the plane landed, and that they did not believe Madadi had any ties to terrorism. Still, the bizarre coincidence only underscored a widespread view that the huge response was justified.

“From a counterterrorism standpoint, the system worked perfectly,” said Kip Hawley, who served as administrator of the Transportation Security Administration under the Bush administration from 2005 to 2009. “The TSA and counterterrorism officials are on high alert for a very good reason. Al-Qaida is going to use pregnant women, people with babies, and it is not out of the realm of possibility that they will use a diplomat.”

The possibility of overreaction to perceived threats is by now a familiar problem in the age of terrorism, when a little powdered sugar

can set off an anthrax panic or a Coast Guard training exercise can persuade cable television crews that the nation’s capital may be under attack, as occurred last Sept. 11. In this case, however, there seemed to be little second-guessing of the broad security alert in response to a situation that ultimately turned out to have posed no significant threat.

“As far as I have heard, the passengers, crew and authorities all acted calmly and appropriately,” said Ian S. Lustick, a political scientist at the University of Pennsylvania and author of “Trapped in the War on Terror,” a 2006 book that criticized what he called the exaggerated response to terrorism.

Law enforcement, Homeland Security and airline industry officials, who would speak about the investigation only on condition of anonymity, described what happened aboard United Flight 663 from Reagan National Airport in Washington to Denver. Some details about the flight, which carried 157 passengers and six crew members, varied in different officials’ accounts on Thursday night.

Madadi, 27, a third secretary at Qatar’s embassy in Washington, was confronted by a flight attendant who smelled smoke as he left the forward lavatory near the cockpit.

The flight attendant alerted a federal air marshal on board, and when challenged, Madadi denied smoking but admitted he had a pipe and made a joking reference to trying to set his shoes on fire.

The authorities feared a repeat of the attempted bombing of a Detroit-bound airliner on Dec. 25, in which a Nigerian passenger has been accused of trying to assemble explosives hidden in his underwear during a trip to the bathroom. In that case, the would-be bomb fizzled and the man, who later said he had

been trained by the al-Qaida affiliate in Yemen, ended up burning only himself.

The episode on Wednesday evening seemed to echo the Christmas Day events, which led to a sharp increase in the deployment of air marshals, who pose as ordinary passengers and break cover only when there is a security threat.

After the flight attendant and a passenger who followed Madadi into the lavatory both smelled smoke, the passenger found a bag of what the authorities said was tobacco.

One of the two air marshals on the flight then approached Madadi at his seat in the first-class section, showing his badge and identifying himself as a federal agent. Madadi said he had not been smoking but acknowledged that the bag contained tobacco for his pipe.

It was then that he made the remark about setting his shoes on fire, evidently a nervous joke referring to the 2001 episode in which Richard Reid tried to ignite explosives hidden in his shoeduring a trans-Atlantic flight.

Within a few minutes, top Transportation Security officials were on a conference call, the Federal Aviation Administration had alerted the pilots of the thousands of flights then in the air of the possible threat, an FBI team had begun to assemble in Denver, and airport authorities positioned fire and safety equipment for the landing there, which took place at 6:54 p.m. NORAD sent the fighter jets to accompany the plane for the final segment of its route.

Intelligence agencies, meanwhile, checked their files for information not only on Madadi, but on the other passengers as well, because security officials had to consider the possibility that a team of terrorists was on the flight.

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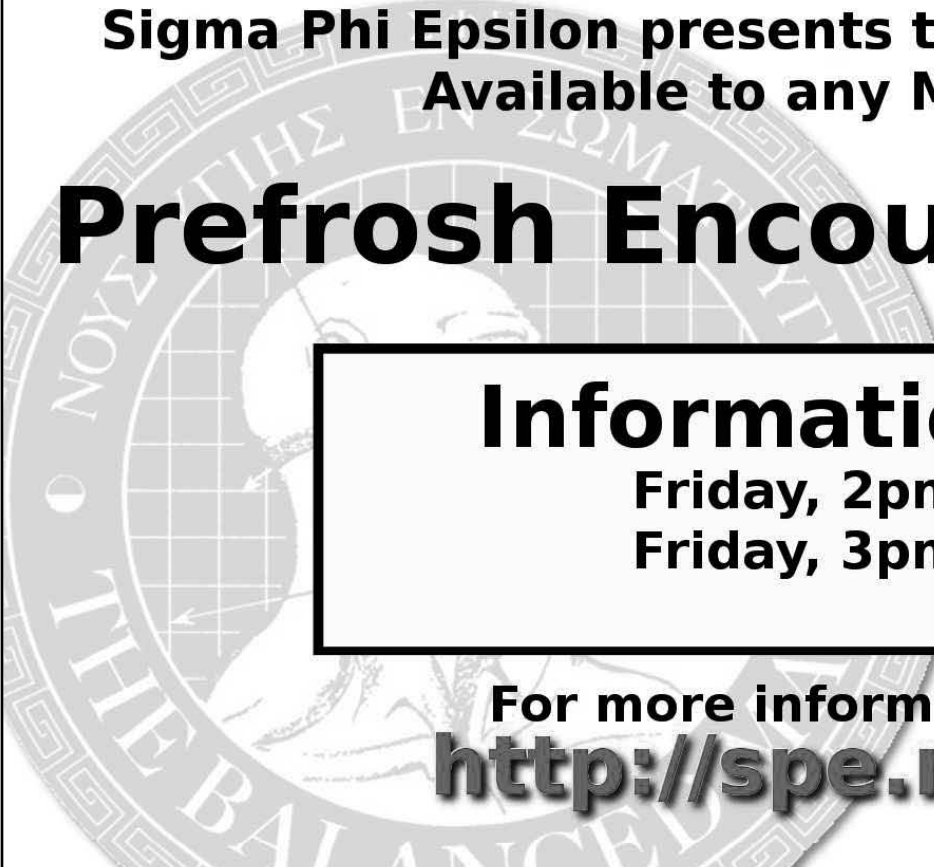
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ANDREA ROBLES—THE TECH



NICHOLAS CHORNAY—THE TECH



STEVE HOWLAND—THE TECH

LOOK, PREFROSH!

Getting their first taste of MIT

Prospective freshmen stormed Johnson Athletics Center on Thursday for the CPW Festival. Students entertained the prefrosh with fun activities and free food. (counter-clockwise from left)

Maja Wiehrowska '13 (left) and Laura Royden '13 (right) dance in liquid nitrogen. The liquid nitrogen ice cream, provided by East Campus, is an icon of MIT student culture.

With a variety of props before them, members of the Musical Theatre Guild speak to prefrosh during the CPW Festival.

MIT Lion Dance Club members bang on drums and demonstrate Chinese lion dancing.

A member of the MIT Sport Taekwondo team holds a pad while a prospective freshman gives it a solid kick.

Prefrosh attempt to rebuild a giant foam Jenga tower, but to no avail.



NICHOLAS CHORNAY—THE TECH



STEVE HOWLAND—THE TECH

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Solution to Sudoku

from Tuesday, April 6, 2010

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

Solution to Kenken

from page 13

12x	6	2	1	3	4	5
9+	2	4	6	5	3	1
3÷	1	3	2	4	5	6
5-	3	1	5	6	2	4
14+	5	6	4	2	1	3
4	5	3	1	6	2	



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Student-Worker Alliance hosts noon rally today

Labor, from Page 1

of taxpayer support, they were obligated to have a “broad public mission.” The resolution called for both institutions to use their savings to “cushion employees and communities from any further harm.”

The resolution was co-sponsored by longtime City Councilor Marjorie C. Decker and freshman City Councilor Leland Cheung, who is also an MIT graduate student.

In an interview with the *Cambridge Chronicle*, Cheung said, “We see the universities as community members. These hirings affect the community as well.”

During the council meeting, Decker said that the City Council must be pro-worker before it can be pro-business.

The council resolution originated from lobbying by recently laid-off workers, according to Alexi I. Goranov PhD ’06, a postdoc and

active member of the MIT Student Worker Alliance. “I would like MIT to continue to be a leader in the area of science and technology, but not at the expense of people’s lives,” he said.

Generally speaking, MIT does not plan layoffs centrally... financial targets are passed from the school level to the department level...

“It’s not a protest,” said Goranov.

The MIT Student-Worker Alliance is hosting a rally at noon tomorrow in 1-190 to “explore ways to help MIT and its unions determine fair and competitive wages and benefits,” Goranov said.

MIT Campus Police union rep-

resentatives will be also be attendance, according to Officer Louis C. Rosa, an officer of the Campus Police Association.

The event, a “solidarity gathering,” is organized by the Alliance as well as the Massachusetts Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice, and Councilor Decker is expected to attend, Goranov said.

No MIT response

MIT Vice President for Human Resources Alison Alden, referred inquiries late Thursday to HR Communications Manager Janet B. Walzer, who could not be reached for comment.

Generally speaking, MIT does not plan layoffs centrally, an MIT official told *The Tech* in March. Instead, in a budget crunch, individuals schools receive financial targets, which they try to address without cutting staff, but after several years of budget cuts, that becomes difficult.

Those financial targets are

passed from the school level to the department level, leading to different departments laying off staff at different times and in different ways, though all the layoffs are ultimately coordinated with Human Resources.

Last year Cambridge asked MIT and Harvard “to consider making the sacrifice to weather the tough economic times...”

Council virtually powerless

The City Council may pass resolutions and policy orders but it has no legal right or ability to enforce them.

In March 2009, the council passed a similar resolution sponsored by Decker where it asked

“two of its largest employers to consider making the sacrifice to weather the tough economic times out without resorting to cutting its lowest wage workers for economic relief”

Decker also proposed offering the universities the funding necessary to reinstate recently fired employees. The council took no action on her stimulus proposal.

In addition to the Council’s resolution regarding labor cuts at MIT and Harvard, on Monday the City Council also passed a policy order in support of the “adoption of a regulation by the License Commission to prohibit licensed hotels from subcontracting housekeeping services such as guest room service.”

According to the policy order, this resulted from public health and safety concerns raised when the Hyatt Regency-Cambridge began subcontracting its housekeeping services to an unlicensed third party company.

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Nick Bilton

New York Times “Bits” blogger Nick Bilton will give a talk today at 1 p.m. in 32-G449, at CSAIL’s Human Computer Interaction (HCI) seminar, hosted by Prof. Robert C. Miller.

Bilton will speak on his work at the *Times* research & development labs, and as well as on “the new style of reporting” he uses at the *Times*, which incorporates “video, code, data visualization, writing, photos, etc.”

TRUE BOLLYWOOD STORY

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Maybe the Red Sox will win the wild card?

As much as we may despise them, Yankees are still the team to beat in the A.L. East

David Zhu
SPORTS EDITOR

Baseball season is here again, the time of year when my productivity drops significantly and my most visited page in Firefox is my fantasy league's page. (A coincidence?) Here are my picks for the MLB teams that will make it to the postseason...

A.L. East: New York Yankees

This is unquestionably baseball's toughest division, its "Group of Death," so to speak. Three teams — the Yankees, Red Sox, and Rays — have a legitimate shot at not only winning the division, but the World Series as well; only two will advance to the postseason.

The American League pennant winner has come from the East the past three years, once for each team. The Yankees, with a lefty-heavy lineup playing in Yankee Stadium (aka, the Great Wiffleball Park in the Bronx) will hit home runs like nobody's business; they've also bolstered their starting rotation. The Evil Empire, with their ridiculously high payroll, is the favorite again after winning it all last year.

A.L. Central: Minnesota Twins

The Central is a relatively even division, and according to an ESPN simulation, all

five teams have a chance to finish on top. The Twins are opening their new stadium, Target Field, and gave Joe Maurer, the A.L. MVP and face of the franchise, an eight-year extension during the offseason.

They lost closer Joe Nathan for the season to elbow surgery, but the Twins should be able to get around the loss, especially with former MVP Justin Morneau back in the lineup. The big question is, however, how many of their October postseason games will get snowed out?

A.L. West: Seattle Mariners

I'm going to have to go with my Mariners for the West. The Angels have owned the division in the past decade, but lost some key players in the offseason (Vladimir Guerrero to the Rangers, John Lackey to the Red Sox, and Chone Figgins to the Mariners).

Seattle is looking to get in the postseason for the first time since 2001; they had the worst offense in the majors last season, but focused on upgrading their pitching and defense rather on offense.

They'll be playing a baseball war of attrition, of sorts ("If we can't score runs, we won't let you score any, either."), and will win plenty of low-scoring games... as long as they can stay healthy and Milton Bradley doesn't blow up the clubhouse.

A.L. Wild Card: Boston Red Sox

Tough luck for the Rays, who would be in the playoffs if they were in any other division. Boston's biggest improvement this year is their defense, with Adrian Beltre at third and Mike Cameron in center. Supplementing an already-potent offense, they'll keep the division race interesting and end up with the wild card. (Maybe it's just because I want to see a playoff game in Fenway...)

N.L. East: Philadelphia Phillies

After making their second straight World Series appearance last year, the Phillies seem on the verge of establishing a new dynasty in the East. The Braves, with much-hyped rookie Jason Heyward, will challenge the Phillies, and the low-budget Florida Marlins will stay in the race for most of the summer, but Philadelphia is the team to beat in the National League. Another interesting "race" in the division will be when the Mets (and their players) fall apart again.

N.L. Central: St. Louis Cardinals

The Cardinals have two of the best hitters in baseball in Albert Pujols and Matt Holliday, and two of the best pitchers in Adam Wainwright and Chris Carpenter - when he can stay healthy. Their biggest weakness is their bullpen and ninth innings might be more exciting than Cards fans might like,

but St. Louis is the favorites in the division (and the Cubs will continue their streak of futility). With Mark McGwire as their new hitting coach, however, we have to wonder if the Cardinals are looking at...other ways to enhance their performance?

N.L. West: San Francisco Giants

The Giants have had excellent pitching the past couple of seasons, but didn't have the offense to support it. Tim Lincecum aims for his third consecutive Cy Young award, while teammate Matt Cain is a potential candidate as well. If Barry Zito miraculously pitches anywhere near the expectations of his huge contract, the Giants might have the best rotation in the league. Led by Pablo Sandoval, the Giants offense should provide enough run support.

N.L. Wild Card: Atlanta Braves

The Braves are full of young talent — from outfielder Jason Heyward, who supposedly is the next coming of Hank Aaron, to starter Tommy Hanson, to catcher Brian McCann. They have the ability to win with both their pitching and offense, and will beat out the Dodgers for the Wild Card.

Feel like your team was left out? Don't think the Mariners are going all the way? Want to challenge me in fantasy baseball? E-mail sports@tech.mit.edu!



DAN KUBACZYK—THE TECH

The varsity men's lightweight crew passes the halfway point in Saturday's 2K race against Dartmouth and Penn. The Engineers lost ground in the second 1,000 meters, finishing in third place.

COLUMN

Two winners in March Madness

Butler's run shows increasing parity in the NCAA

By Russell Spivak
SPORTS EDITOR

This March has seen one of the most exciting NCAA tournaments in recent history, and the championship game was no exception — it was a true nail-biter, keeping fans and spectators on the edge of their seats. In the end, however, midnight struck for the Cinderella Butler Bulldogs, as they were edged by Duke 61-59 Monday evening. The victory gives Duke its fourth national championship, all four of which have come under coach Mike Krzyzewski.

The game was back-and-forth all 40 minutes, as neither team held more than a six-point lead. After the game, Krzyzewski called it "the toughest and the best" of his now four national championships. Coach K later added, "my congratulations and empathy are with the Butler team, who played winning basketball. It was a game [Duke] won, but [Butler] didn't lose."

Gordon Hayward's desperation shot from half-court as time expired would have simply overloaded our brains with upset and insanity had it fallen in the basket; a mid-major five-seed simply couldn't have topped one of the most storied programs in college basketball history to stay unbeaten for 105 straight

days, right? Wrong. The Bulldogs proved Monday night that they are a legitimate contender, not just another bump for Duke to roll over en route to another championship.

Butler legitimized their national standing, as the small school from just outside Indianapolis came within inches of a Hoosiers (or Cinderella for those Gene Hackman and Hickory High School haters) screenplay. The Bulldogs' successes in past years, however, have proven that they are here to stay in the national spotlight.

But to many fans' chagrin, the Cameron Crazies prevailed and Durham's favorite sons prevailed. Duke is a program we love to hate, often referred to as the Yankees or Cowboys of college basketball. As a hater of the Blue and White, I must give Duke its due, as the Blue Devils played an excellent, complete game against a worthy adversary.

This championship game is being heralded as microcosm of the dispersion of talent throughout college basketball, which allows ten homebred Indiana boys to play toe-to-toe with a team of All-Americans, an indication of the increasing parity in the sport. The big schools' loss is the fans' gain: There should be many more exciting tournaments filled with upsets in the years to come.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 2

Softball vs. Wheaton College	3 p.m., Briggs Field
Softball vs. Wheaton College	5 p.m., Briggs Field

Saturday, April 3

Men's lightweight crew: Joy Cup	8 a.m., Charles River
Men's lacrosse vs. Springfield College	11 a.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Track and field vs. Bates, Colby, & South Maine	12 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Softball vs. WPI	12 p.m., Briggs Field
Softball vs. WPI	2 p.m., Briggs Field
Women's Lacrosse vs. Smith College	2 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

SCOREBOARD

Baseball	
Tuesday, April 6	
vs. Springfield College	W 5-4
Thursday, April 8	
vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute	L 15-2
Men's Lacrosse	
Tuesday, April 6	
at UMass-Boston	W 9-6
Women's Lacrosse	
Tuesday, April 6	
vs. Emerson College	W 11-9
Softball	
Tuesday, April 6	
at Smith College	W 8-5
at Smith College	W 7-0
Wednesday, April 7	
at Babson College	L 9-1
at Babson College	L 14-1
Women's Tennis	
Tuesday, April 6	
vs. Brandeis University	L 5-4
Men's Tennis	
Wednesday, April 7	
vs. Wheaton College	W 9-0

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The Tech is also MIT's oldest student activity, and that means organized (and disorganized) events like Sunday and Thursday night dinners, Maine retreats, Rockband marathons at 4 a.m., as well as a generally fun place to hang around.

SO WHY NOT STOP BY?

If you think you might be interested, or even if you just want to see what we do, visit our booth at the Activities Midway this Saturday. Or drop by our office, W20-483, during our CPW events listed at the right. Or e-mail us at join+notebook@tech.mit.edu.

- Friday 5–7 p.m., Dinner. Tour our newsroom!
- Saturday 3–5 p.m., Open House. Come visit after the Activities Midway.