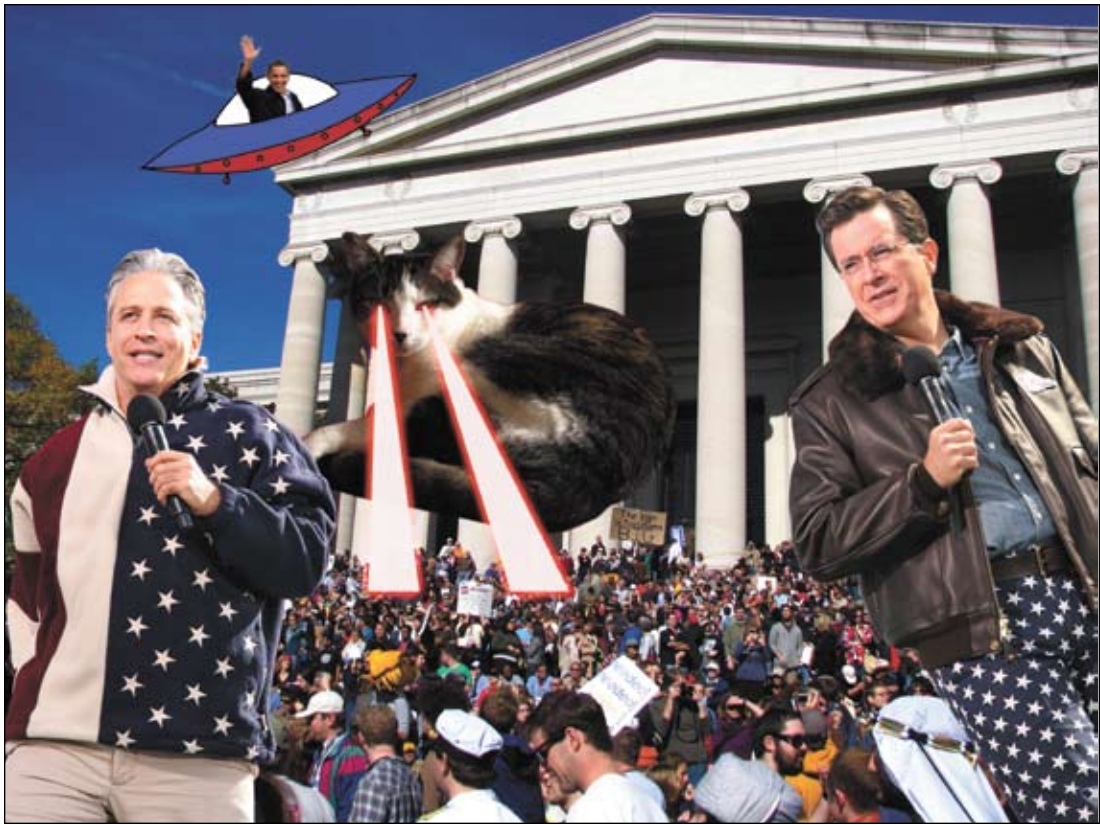




At the Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear on the Mall on Saturday, comedians Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert showed up with a semi-serious message promoting political moderation. As visitors flooded the nation's capital, wacky characters and witty signage were in abundance.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Restoring sanity, with a chuckle

A strange rally, but the people and message were heartening

By Steve Howland
STAFF REPORTER

They were the nicest 200,000 people I had ever met. If you weren't in Washington at the Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear on Saturday, you probably saw pictures of the funny signs and the interviews with the random people. And you definitely could see and hear better than a lot of us. And maybe you took Jon Stewart's

message of "taking it down a notch" to heart and were able to walk away from your computer or television smiling because you didn't have to spend your whole weekend traveling to be there in person. But as for me, I'm really glad I was a part of the masses. I can't express how thrilled I was to see all these everyday Americans surrounding me — from the group of senior citizens across the aisle from me on the flight to the

packed Metro car that willingly squeezed together — all headed to the rally. As we got closer to the National Mall, I kept thinking, "This is it. This is exactly what we needed." Even in the mob of the rally itself, people weren't pushing to get a better view; everyone was light-hearted, kind, and accommodating. Nobody knew what to expect

Rally, Page 15

Flynn welcomes student opinions

New UA and ASA adviser sees year of 'listening and learning' ahead

By Jessica Fujimori

Leah Flynn, the new Assistant Dean and Director for Student Leadership and Engagement Programs, began work last week, planning for a year of "listening and learning." Though she did not yet have a concrete plan for her goals in her new position, Flynn said an open relationship with students is a crucial part of an administration. "I definitely have an open-door policy and I want students to come see me; I rely on students showing me the ropes around here," Flynn said. Her new role will include advising the ASA and UA, taking on leadership initiatives, and overseeing the Student Activities Office (SAO). Flynn has spent much of the week getting to know the staff and students at MIT. As a guest

speaker at the UA Senate meeting Monday, Flynn voiced her intent to "sit back and learn how things work around here" before moving to make changes. "At SUNY, it took me a while to learn the culture and establish relationships with the students," said Flynn, who previously worked at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. "I didn't come in just expecting them to respect me because I was an administrator, and I have the same philosophy coming to MIT." Flynn's words resonated with some, in the wake of controversy over the transparency of decisions about MIT dining. After Flynn spoke at the UA meeting, Housing Chair Daniel D. Hawkins '12 asked Flynn about the phrase "student engagement" in her title.

Flynn, Page 13



New Assistant Dean Leah Flynn speaks at the UA Senate meeting yesterday. Flynn will coordinate Student Involvement and Leadership, and will meet weekly with UA President and Vice President Vrajesh Y. Modi '11 and Sammi G. Wyman '11 to hear the concerns of the student body.

SURVEY SAYS...

The results are in

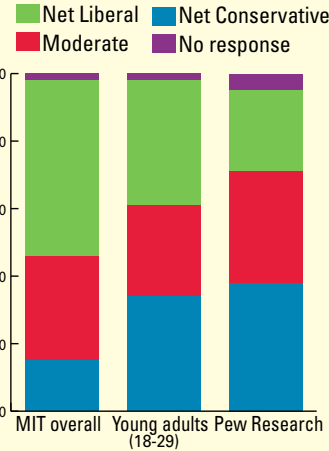
Students are mostly liberal, except in Course 22, 16 and McCormick

By Ethan Solomon
OPINION EDITOR

The economy. Health care reform. Iran's nuclear program. Issues like these will determine the outcome of today's midterm elections, when Americans across the country will vote for 37 Senators, 36 governors, and all 435 members of the House of Representatives. At stake are the Democrats' control over both houses of Congress, and consequently, the direction of Barack Obama's presidency for at least the next two years. With the increasing importance of science-related policy in America, and its relevance to MIT, *The Tech* wanted to know where MIT students stand on the important political issues of the day.

We surveyed graduate and undergraduate students on issues ranging from embryonic stem cell research to global warming. We asked them to tell us how they saw themselves politically, and what they thought would happen in the polls today. Out of the 11,118 students we contacted, 2,154 completed our web survey — nearly 20 percent of the entire student population at MIT. We looked at the po-

MIT political leaning



litical leanings of different groups across campus and compared MIT students to other young adults across the country, and Americans at large. We're proud to present to you the results and our analysis of our political survey this Election Day. As MIT students, we play an important role in the direction of this country — we think this survey can reveal to America what that direction may be.

Where are all the political student groups on campus?

At MIT, single-issue clubs thrive where College Dems and Republicans withered

By Pearle Lipinski
FEATURES EDITOR

Where are MIT's Campus Republicans and Campus Democrats? Two well-known groups are missing from MIT's tremendous array of campus organizations, political or otherwise — College Democrats and College Republicans. Both organizations founded chapters in the late 1990s, but in only a little over a decade later, both are defunct. The website for MIT Col-

lege Democrats carries a copyright of 2004, and the listed co-presidents of the club graduated in 2007. MIT College Republicans' website has suffered a similar fate, last updated in February 2003. It is clear that MIT students have opinions, so why can't these groups thrive? "It has something to do with the culture," said Charles B. Barr '13, who, along with several other undergraduate and graduate students, attempted to re-start MIT College Democrats last year. "MIT students are interested in politics but don't

Political clubs, Page 7

IN SHORT

The Supreme Court said it would hear *Stanford v. Roche*, the technology transfer case that MIT filed a brief in. *Roche* had argued against the court taking the case, so this is a small victory for Stanford and its peers.

Register to give bone marrow and

save a life. Sloan is sponsoring a drive in E62 midday next week Tuesday as Diana P. Aude '10 seeks a donor to save her mother, who has acute leukemia.

Vote today. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in Boston and Cambridge.

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

TO VOTE OR NOT TO VOTE

Keith Yost says voting is irrational. Ryan Normandin says you should all do it anyway. **OPN, p. 5**

EMBRYOS HAVE A RIGHT TO LIFE

Two arguments about embryos, life and where to draw the line. **OPN, p. 5, 6**

LOOKING INTO IRAN'S FUTURE

The US needs a new approach to diplomacy with Iran. **OPN, p. 6**



STEAL MY COMIC

On the consequences of youthful rebellion. **FUN, p. 10**

WOMEN'S VBALL REACHES 20 WINS

The squad enters postseason play next week, seeded fourth in the NEWMAC tournament. **SPO, p. 16**

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Military policy on gays to stand, pending appeal

A federal appeals court will allow the military to continue enforcing the law restricting the service of openly gay men and women in the military while a lower court decision that struck the law down as unconstitutional is being appealed.

A federal judge in California, Virginia A. Phillips, ruled Sept. 9 that the “don’t ask, don’t tell” law violated the equal protection and First Amendment rights of service members and wrote that it had a “direct and deleterious effect” on the armed services. On Oct. 12, she ordered the military to stop enforcing the law nationwide.

The Defense Department asked the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit to allow the status quo to continue as the case made its way through the courts. It has narrowed its own process for dismissing openly gay people under the policy.

Last month, a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit granted a temporary stay of Phillips’ ruling; yesterday it extended the stay. —John Schwartz, *The New York Times*

For some local TV stations, a gold mine in attack ads

In Waco, Texas, \$350 will usually buy 30 seconds of advertising time on a local evening newscast. But not this week.

In a scene being repeated in markets across the country, the Democratic congressman who represents Waco and the surrounding region, Chet Edwards, has been fighting off a potent Republican challenger, Bill Flores, ahead of Tuesday’s midterm elections.

The beneficiaries are the local stations that have been inundated by campaign attack ads.

“It’s swamped us,” said Phil Hurley of KCEN, the NBC affiliate in Waco, which has been charging closer to \$500 for a 30-second spot on the 10 p.m. news.

There has been a nationwide surge in TV ad spending for the midterms, which one group projects could top out at \$3 billion this year, up from \$2.7 billion in 2008. The victims, so to speak, are the local businesses whose ads are drowned out by the political din and the viewers who quickly tire of seeing the same attack ads over and over.

Rather than being squashed between attack ads, Tariq Sekander, the sales manager at Waco Hyundai, decided to keep the dealership’s ad spending at a minimum in the weeks leading up to the election. He usually spends \$13,000 to \$15,000 a month.

—Brian Stelter, *The New York Times*

Lockheed Martin’s F-35 could face additional costs

Lockheed Martin’s F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, the nation’s most expensive arms program, could face additional costs and delays beyond those that prompted the Pentagon to overhaul the effort earlier this year, an industry consultant said Monday.

Loren B. Thompson, who advises Lockheed Martin and other contractors, said some Pentagon officials believed that more flight tests would be needed, especially on one version of the plane that recently had suffered from parts failures.

More money and engineers will also be needed to finish the millions of lines of software programs that would control the radar-evading plane and its weapons, Thompson said in an interview.

The possible delays were first reported by Bloomberg on Monday. It said projections based on preliminary test data indicated that development of the planes could cost as much as \$5 billion more than previously estimated. That comes on top of a \$2.8 billion increase in the spring, which brought the total for development alone to \$50 billion.

—Christopher Drew, *The New York Times*

Tonight’s excitement: races to watch for signs of political trends

By Michael D. Shear
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Even for a nation that is, by now, used to drinking in political news through a fire hose, election night Tuesday could be a difficult one to absorb.

More than 500 House, Senate and governor’s races will be decided, if not by the end of the night, then over the course of the nail-biting days ahead as write-in ballots are counted and recounts are requested.

Beyond the individual results, the nation will be looking at the returns for answers to bigger questions: Was this election about President Barack Obama? How powerful a phenomenon is the Tea Party movement? How will the new Congress address the still-weak economy? What will it mean for the crop of likely 2012 Republican presidential candidates? Did anonymous campaign money sway the outcome?

Democrats made their last-minute appeals Monday. Michelle Obama headed to Las Vegas and

Philadelphia as Vice President Joe Biden traveled to Vermont and former President Bill Clinton raced up and down the East Coast. Barack Obama hunkered down in the White House, conducting a few radio interviews and bracing for a rebuke that most pundits predict could be historic in its breadth.

On the eve of an election that could make him speaker of the House, Rep. John A. Boehner of Ohio, the minority leader, rallied Republicans in Cincinnati, praising as “patriots” the voters who have the “audacity to speak up in defense of freedom, the Constitution and the values of limited government,” according to excerpts released by his office.

Early decisions

Polls close in Kentucky first, at 6 p.m. Eastern time, so look to the races there for an early clue to how the evening is going. In the state’s Senate race, Rand Paul, the Republican and a Tea Party favorite, has been pulling ahead of Jack Conway, the Democrat. Also watch Rep. Ben Chandler, a Democrat who won re-

election easily in 2006 and 2008, but is fighting to survive in Kentucky’s 6th Congressional District.

“If there is a dramatic falloff, Democrats are cooked,” Gov. Edward G. Rendell of Pennsylvania, a Democrat said.

The Tea Party

An analysis by *The New York Times* last month found that 138 candidates for the House and Senate claimed support from the Tea Party movement, and dozens of them could find themselves part of a congressional Tea Party caucus Wednesday and in a position to exert substantial influence on the Republican Party.

But assessing the movement’s success will not be a simple numbers game. If big-name Tea Party favorites lose to Democrats in places like Alaska, Colorado, Delaware or Nevada, the Republican Party could be left with a decidedly mixed impression of the movement and a renewed debate over whether Tea Party fervor made it harder — not easier — for Republicans to seize control of the Senate.

Early packages shipped to U.S. were viewed as dry run by al-Qaida

By Scott Shane
and Robert F. Worth
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — American intelligence officials in September intercepted several packages containing books, papers, CDs and other household items shipped to Chicago from Yemen and considered the possibility that the parcels might have been a test run for a terrorist attack, two officials said Monday night.

Now the intelligence officials believe that the shipments, whose hour-by-hour locations could be tracked by the sender on the shippers’ websites, may have been used to plan the route and timing for two printer cartridges packed with explosives that were sent from Yemen and intercepted in Britain and Dubai on Friday.

In September, after U.S. counterterrorism agencies received information linking the packages to al-

Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, the terror network’s branch in Yemen, intelligence officers stopped the shipments in transit and searched them, said the officials, who would discuss the operation only on the condition of anonymity. They found no explosives, and the packages were permitted to continue to what appeared to be “random addresses” with no connection to the terrorist group in Chicago.

“At the time, people obviously took notice and — knowing of the terrorist group’s interest in aviation — considered the possibility that AQAP might be exploring the logistics of the cargo system,” one of the officials said, referring to al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula.

The apparent test run might have permitted the plotters to estimate when cargo planes carrying the doctored toner cartridges would be over Chicago or another city. That would conceivably enable them to set tim-

ers on the two devices to ignite explosions where they would cause the greatest damage.

The September shipments were first reported by ABC News on Monday night, which also noted that Inspire, the English-language magazine of al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, recently published a picture of the Chicago skyline.

One of the officials said that when the American intelligence agents received a tip from Saudi intelligence officials last week that bombs might be on cargo flights to Chicago from Yemen, analysts “re-called the incident and factored it in to our government’s very prompt response.”

“Both events reflect solid intelligence work,” the official said.

On Monday, Germany, France and Britain said they had banned cargo shipments from Yemen, following a similar move by the United States.

WEATHER

Calm, then rain on Fri.

By Vince Agard
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

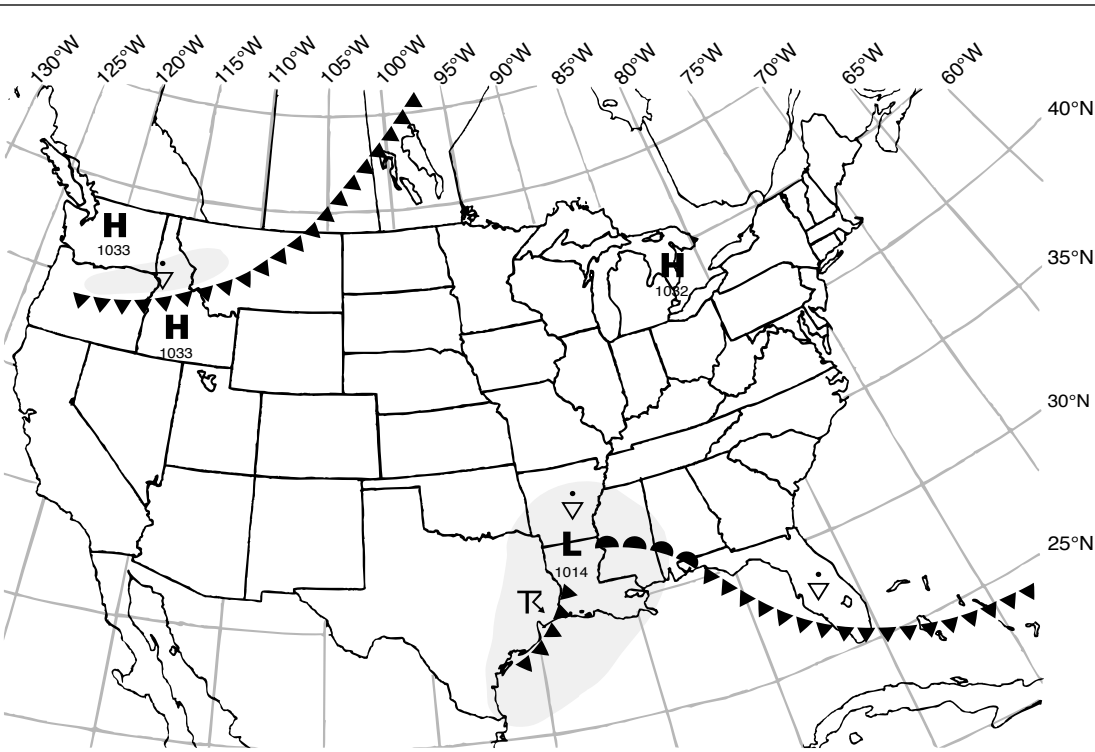
A vast high pressure system will take hold of the northeast United States for the first half of this week, resulting in calm, sunny conditions for our area. In fact, there will likely not be a cloud in the sky today, as the high pressure system slowly approaches from our west. However, the same system is currently causing cold

air to be advected from our north, meaning temperatures will likely not break 50°F for the next two days.

For the second half of the week, our weather will likely be impacted by a storm system forecast to develop and move up the Atlantic coast. While the track and intensity of this storm are still unknown, it could bring rainfall as it passes our area on Thursday and Friday.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny. High 47°F (8°C). Wind N at 8–14 mph.
Tonight: Clear. Low 33°F (1°C). Wind NW at around 5–10 mph.
Tomorrow: Sunny and calm. High 49°F (9°C). Wind NW at around 5 mph becoming S.
Thursday: Cloudy with a chance of rain. Highs in the mid 50s °F (13°C)
Friday: Chance of rain continues. Highs in the low 50s °F (11°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Tuesday, November 2, 2010

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow: * Rain: •	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Showers: ▽ Light: * Moderate: ** Heavy: ***	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲ Cold Front		∞ Haze
	◐ Stationary Front		Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech



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Iran's populace is young, technically savvy, and tired of the hardline conservatives

The latest set of sanctions implemented this past June under UN Security Council Resolution 1929 were intended, as stated by the Council, to increase economic pressure on Iran based on the country's failure to comply with previous proceedings in regards to its nuclear program and ongoing intentions for uranium enrichment. The restrictions include bans on supplying military equipment to the Islamic Republic, recommendations to inspect cargo to and from the nation for banned items, seizure and disposal of such items, prohibitions on financial institutions that may affect the progress of proliferation activities, heavy restrictions on fuel, and additional economic restrictions. Two of the ten non-permanent members of the Security Council voted against the resolution, concerned about the impact of heightened sanctions on future diplomatic efforts.

The Iranian population today is largely composed of young citizens; experts estimate that over two-thirds of the population is under the age of thirty (one quarter alone from age 15 and younger). The majority of the population has grown up after the Revolution of 1979 and are highly skilled and urbanized. Constituting approximately 40 percent of the electorate, young Iranians have great potential political influence; whether or not they exercise this power by voting in the 2013 parliamentary elections will be an enlightening and — perhaps — empowering turning point for those they support. Following the disputed election of June 2009, youth activism reached nearly record levels and sparked huge protests, rallies, and dissent against the re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

The Iranian Green Movement, a massive body of discouragement of the current regime and intense dissent against the seemingly fixed election, played a large part in such activities. Protests in Tehran and across the country after the election have been estimated to be the largest seen in the country since the time of the Revolution, and featured angry protestors engaging in marches and civil unrest. The official stance

It is clear that the majority of Iranian constituents oppose the current regime but retain a sense of patriotism.

Overall, Iranian citizens are well-educated, particularly in science and engineering, with women comprising over 50 percent of the nation's university students. Due to trade restrictions and censorship, Iranians have embraced technology as the foremost means of communication and expression; an ever-expanding number of blogs and websites exist in Iranian cyberspace and engages communication both within the country and internationally. A great majority of the population is active on the Internet, with online chat forums, blog communities, and websites receiving vast numbers of daily visitors. As the number of frequent web users rapidly increases, the current regime has continued to exercise its influence by removing or blocking access to certain websites (certain dating websites, for instance, have experienced difficulty during the past year), hindered slightly by the sheer number of websites and traffic.

The highly technological nature of Iranian constituents, as well as the rising discontent with the current regime, points to the (albeit rather long-term) potential for an anti-theocratic governmental shift. In such a scenario, the political power of the voting population would continue to oppose the strict conservatism and harshness of Islamic law and the activities of the President and his supporters. Eventually, the sector of dissent would reach the point in which a less conservative or pro-democratic government would be voted into power (through a future election, or through internal disagreements within the ruling regime), forcing away the influence of conformist hardliners. Having spoken with journalists specializing in the development of Iranian politics, the prospect of such a shift seems possible over the course of several years; of course, it is difficult, given the current political climate, to

Still, resentment among the Iranian middle class is increasing. The weight of the imposition of economic sanctions has fallen hardest upon the middle class, without having such strong effects upon wealthier citizens and government officials. Speaking to journalists and educators with expertise and/or personal involvement in the region, it is clear that the majority of Iranian constituents (particularly university students) oppose the current regime but retain a sense of patriotism. The majority of citizens are disgusted by the brutality of the religious authorities, and the economic and social effects of the current policies.

Overall, the young population feels frustrated with and dissatisfied by the current regime, with a rising level of resentment based on this year's sanctions. The middle and lower classes largely feel that the economic restrictions will not affect the wealthier factions, and that the burdens of the political struggles have fallen upon them. In short, young Iranians hope not for violence and war, but for a collapse of the religious regime (perhaps from within).

What can America do in the meantime? It is imperative that we do not destroy diplomatic lines and contacts between the United States and the Islamic Republic, removing preconditions and loopholes from confidence-building measures in order to begin building trust. Instead of applying blanket sanctions that predominantly affect the average Iranian citizen, not the wealthy religious constituents that the UN's P5 hopes to target, specific sanctions must be employed instead. These regulations must target civil rights issues, and apply focused pressure toward the current regime. This strategy will uphold the sentiments of the Iranian people while increasing opposition for the cruel theocratic hardliners in power. By applying strategic pressure, we can minimize resentment toward the United States, maintain diplomatic communication, and build trust between the Iranian and American peoples.

The question of trust is very much a critical one in this political and economic situ-

***The Tech's* survey of MIT students presents the potential for the adoption of a diplomatic solution.**

In *The Tech's* political survey asked MIT students whether they felt it was more important to avoid a military conflict with Iran (even if it meant that the nation develops nuclear weapons) or prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons (even if it requires military action). Of the 2145 respondents, 1005 voted to avoid military conflict, 639 favored prevention of nuclear activity at the point of military action, 480 listed themselves as "unsure," and 21 did not respond to this question. Based on the population of MIT students, this sampling presents the potential for the adoption of a diplomatic solution. It remains to be seen whether the international tide will match these sentiments, but for the sake of an intelligent diplomatic response to Iranian politics, it very well may be an optimal solution at this unstable time.

The Declaration of Independence requires us to protect all life, even in the womb

In his article "Abortion: A question of value," Keith Yost arrives at the conclusion that the embryo is a human life and has a right to life, but that the mother's right to liberty may supersede the embryo's right to life. We find his logic deeply flawed, and condemn the fundamental disregard for human life introduced by the application of relativism to human rights.

The question is not, as Yost states, "whether we choose to assign [the embryo] human rights," but rather whether we choose to respect the rights inherent in every human being. As freely acting agents, we may choose to infringe upon the rights of a person (with or

Measuring human life by race or by cognitive capacity limits the nature of being human to a convenient set of characteristics.

Yost later asserts that “there is no cardinal ordering of human rights that decides when one trumps another.” However, if we return to the words of the Declaration of Independence, “among these [rights] are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness,” we find exactly the sort of cardinal ordering of rights which Yost denies: without Life one cannot exercise Liberty, and without Liberty one cannot pur-

To deny the fundamental nature of the right to life is to deny the basis of all human rights. If, as Yost suggests, we were to accept the assignment of arbitrary precedence to human rights, we then must permit the justification of any infringement upon the rights of another. In a society where anyone can elevate their right to liberty or property or religion above another's right to live, the weak are helpless before those who are able to assert their rights more strongly.

The laws of a relativist are laws of convenience; he will cherish the rights of others until those rights interfere with his infinite capacity for self-interest. Today, it is convenient for many to dismiss a fetus as something only partially human, just as it was convenient two centuries ago for plantation owners to dismiss blacks as merely three-fifths of a person. Measuring human life by race or by cognitive capacity does not capture the entire essence of being human, but rather limits the nature of being human to a

Yost is correct in arguing that "in order to enjoy the liberty to make one's own decisions, you first need the mental capacity to rationally make those decisions for yourself." With good cause, we may curtail the liberty of children, the mentally incapacitated, or a fetus. However, the mental capacity of a human is irrelevant to rights that do not depend on the exercise of free will. One does not choose to be conceived, and so one cannot forfeit the right to life due to lack of mental capacity.

Above all, we wish to emphasize that every human being, in every stage of life, has a fundamental and unalienable right to life, which serves as the foundation for all other human rights in a just society. The right to life is granted by neither state nor men, but it is their duty to protect it.

Elise McCall '11 is president of the Pro-Life Club. Matt Shireman is a graduate student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Tony Valderrama '11 is chair of the Tech Catholic Community.

At MIT, politics-minded groups take on a sharper flavor

Over the years, College Dems and Republicans faded, but students still have political passions

Political clubs, from Page 1

want to make it their thing. They’re busy working on their UROP or some sort of project rather than campaigning. They think, ‘Hey, politics isn’t something that gets stuff done, it has mostly negative outcomes’”

After the organization tapered off in the early 2000s, Barr and his colleagues aimed to establish a leadership structure for College Democrats. They talked to other college College Democrats, including the Harvard University, Boston University, and Suffolk University chapters.

Despite their efforts, though, the work re-starting and maintaining the club was too much for the students to keep up with.

Christopher B. Buenrostro ’04, former president of College Republicans, added that MIT’s political groups



relied on significant time investment from the members to maintain. “Balancing academics and volunteer hours for a club or organization can be more than challenging, as any MIT student will tell you ... there needs to be a driving support from the club leaders in any organization, and this driving support was not strong enough when [former president] Gillian Harding ’05 left,” he said.

Keith Yost G, former vice president of College Republicans (also a *Tech* columnist), added that there are many other outlets for students to be politically active in ways requiring less direct responsibility. “There is a variety of other outlets students can join up with that are unrelated to MIT but accessible. If there’s a Scott Brown campaign already out there, it’s easier for me to do that than to start a new effort at MIT,” he said.

Buenrostro and Yost said that College Republicans did very well under the leadership of Harding, but those left in the organization after her graduation could not invest as much time as she had into maintaining the club.

Barr and Buenrostro are optimistic that eventually students with the time and dedication to restart the College Democrats and College Republicans could be successful. “Maybe if someone who knows how to network gets involved, [starting the group] could happen. But it relies on an individual who has the time and capability to make the club grow to be successful,” said Barr.

“College Republicans will undoubtedly return in the future,” said Buenrostro. He shares a similar perspective to Barr on the importance of leadership. “Whether the club can be maintained will be strongly dependent on sound infrastructure for the local chapter provided by dedicated and capable leaders whom can get the ball rolling and keep it doing so.”

He hopes to see campus political groups of all leanings flourish in the future.

“One of the beautiful parts of college is finding out what you believe versus what you were taught to believe ... I personally hold a strong belief in the necessity for multiple political organizations on campus to allow various beliefs to be explored and debated,” he said.

A guide to campus groups engaged in political advocacy

By Evan Moore

If you’re interested in getting involved in politics, there are a number of groups on campus that focus on specific issues. *The Tech* highlights six of them.

MIT Students for Bhopal

One of the newest activist groups on campus, MIT Students for Bhopal (MITSB) focuses on the chemical disaster that occurred in December 1984 in the Indian city of Bhopal. In the chemical gas leak, which was attributed to neglect of safety procedures at a chemical plant operated by the American company Union Carbide (now owned by Dow Chemical), tens of thousands were killed or severely wounded.

The group is a part of the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal, which works toward three causes: health care for the victims, clean water for current residents of the disaster area, and justice and economic rehabilitation.

“Justice is for the corporations involved to take responsibility. Economic rehabilitation means that those who lost their livelihood are properly compensated,” said club president Karthik Shekhar G. “This agenda of the group coincides with survivor groups in India.”

“We are planning a social event for groups interested in corporate responsibility and student rights”

—Karthik Shekar G
PRES., MIT STUDENTS FOR BHOPAL

Previous events have included a session with one of the lawyers representing Bhopal victims in a suit against Dow, participating in the “Walk Your Talk” campaign directed at Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh by spelling out the slogan with their bodies in Lobby 7, and a recent conference for activists held at MIT. Last spring, the group displayed a photo exhibit in the Stata Center documenting the disaster and its aftermath. Group founder Leonid Chindelevitch PhD ’10 said MITSB also holds a public protest each year on the anniversary of the incident.

This semester, Shekhar says the group is trying to add a more centered public exhibit. “We are planning a social event for groups interested in corporate responsibility and student rights,” he added.

MITSB has also targeted the U.S. government on the issue; Chindelevitch wants President Obama to discuss the tragedy when he visits India next week.

Chindelevitch originally became involved through MIT Amnesty International, when Ryan Bodanyi, the founder of the International Students for Bhopal network, came to talk. Inspired to take action, he joined the Boston group of Students for Bhopal and worked with them for a year and a half before he started a chapter at MIT in 2008. The meetings for the campus chapter are held in conjunction with the Boston group.

Sustainability@MIT

In 2008, Sustainability@MIT (S@MIT) arose from the consolidation of different environmental groups on campus. The group aims to promote environmental

sustainability, both locally and across the globe, promoting efficient use of natural resources.

“Our members have been involved on the academic side, campus greening and awareness, and also off-campus outreach, including some involvement with the Cambridge community and involvement with the World Student Community for Sustainable Development,” said former club president Aaron M. Thom ’11. The group also aided in the development of MIT’s programs for minors and certificates in sustainability.

S@MIT holds an annual MIT Sustainability Summit and Free Meet exchange event, where students can swap usable items. On Earth Day, there is a Bike Repair Event, which aims to encourage the use of bicycles. “We always emphasize the issues we’re working with when organizing events,” said Thom.

Campaigns done by S@MIT have gone beyond the local confines of the Institute. Thom and a few members travelled to Copenhagen, Denamrk, in 2009 to represent MIT and the World Student Community for Sustainable Development at the United Nations Climate Change Conference. While there, they organized an officially recognized side event, which, according to Thom, “discussed the relationship between youths in developing and developed nations in climate change action.”

Palestine@MIT

Palestine@MIT formed in December 2008, following the start of an Israeli military offensive against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Frustrated by the lack of campus awariness of Palestinian issues, students came together to form the group. “We were all pretty shocked that no one had heard about this, and that was when we decided to start the group,” said Deema M. Totah ’12, the group’s current president.

The group aims to spread awareness of Palestinian political and social issues, both historically and at the present. According to Totah, the group does not support any particular political party in either the U.S. or the Palestinian territories. “It’s a very open group, and we are open to all political views,” she added.

According to Totah, the group does not support any particular political party in the U.S. or the Palestinian territories

The group is mostly concerned with human rights for Palestinians living in the occupied territories. “Any issues that we see as a violation of Palestinian human rights, we try to speak up against,” says Totah.

Every year, Palestine@MIT holds Palestine Awareness Week, where include a number of film screenings and lectures; Linguistics Professor Noam Chomsky has been a featured presenter during the event.

The organization also helps out with Aspire, a volunteer program that ships textbooks to universities in post-conflict countries. Most of the fundraising efforts from the group go towards putting together events on campus, but

Totah hopes to bring Kayan, a Palestinian feminist organization, to MIT next semester. She also plans on screening films from the Boston Palestine Film Festival, which takes place each October.

MIT Students for Israel

MIT Students for Israel (MIT-SI) is a group aiming to educate students and faculty about Israel’s culture and politics. Club president Rachel C. Bandler ’13 says that, in addition to Israeli politics, the organization emphasizes what they see as the value of reinforcing the American-Israeli connection. “We want to show the importance of America maintaining a strong relationship with Israel due to mutual interests and values,” she said. “As a democracy in the Middle East, Israel and America lie ideologically very close to each other,” she said.

“As a democracy in the Middle East, Israel and America lie ideologically very close to each other”

—Rachel C. Bandler ’13
PRES., MIT STUDENTS FOR ISRAEL

The group was not as active for a couple years prior to Bandler deciding to restart the group last year. Bandler says that such a group is needed to provide a resource for students in search of information related to Israel. “People are going to have these questions,” she said. “If they have a specific issue or question, we want them to be able to ask us for historical or factual information.”

Bandler says MITSi also hosts booths in Lobby 10 where they provide information and answer questions about Israel. “It’s very personal,” she said. Last year, the organization brought in Israeli soldiers to talk about their experiences in Israeli military operations. This year, MITSi will be hosting an event with the Ayalim Association, featuring young Israelis involved in projects in the Negev desert.

Amnesty International

MIT’s chapter of the worldwide human rights organization Amnesty International acts as an activist group, neither supporting particular candidates nor becoming involved in charged political discourse. Rather, the organization involves itself in politics by urging governments to take action against violations of human rights.

“For U.S. elections, we do a lot of letter writing to Congressmen regarding issues that are in or out of the country,” said Anahita Maghami ’11, co-president of MIT Amnesty International. The group is known for many letters to governments and organizations advocating human rights causes. MIT’s chapter of Amnesty International also holds screenings, organizes rallies, and invites speakers with experience in human rights.

In the past, Amnesty International had advocated for issues in Sudan, Iran, Burma, and Afghanistan; their focuses have included women’s rights, environmental issues, and the release of political prisoners. Maghami emphasized that MIT’s chapter encourages its members to pursue issues that most interest them.

“The most important thing about Amnesty International at

MIT is that the issues raised really depend on what members want to do,” she said. “If they care about a certain issue, they go ahead and organize an event, invite a favorite activist or political figure. They educate and raise awareness.”

Maghami described raising such awareness as MIT Amnesty International’s “primary focus,” but the group also spends time fundraising for its causes. The group works closely with other activist groups on campus, including the Global Poverty Initiative, Women and Gender Studies at MIT, and the Technology and Culture Forum, who often co-sponsor events.

The group is open to all members of the local community and not just MIT students. “Some of our members are alum or people who are not even at MIT,” Maghami said. “We’ve had Harvard students coming; we’ve had MIT employees coming. Both the meetings and events are open to public.”

Science Policy Initiative

Centered at the crossroads of academia and policy, the Science Policy Initiative is an organization aiming to educate scientists about the decision-making process in Washington and how it can affect their research. “Our goal is to help grad students in the sciences and engineering be able to learn about what goes on in the policy world,” said group member Michael A. Henninger G. “We want to know how decision making in Washington affects us in the lab.”

The club grew out of a 2006 IAP class on science politics, run by several graduate students. The seminar, entitled “Science Policy Bootcamp,” aimed to introduce graduate scientists to the science policy-making process and how they could go into a policy-oriented career. The students received enough positive feedback from the seminar to officially register the group under the ASA.

In addition to running Science Policy Bootcamp every IAP, SPI also participates in Congressional Visit Day, during which anywhere between 15 and 20 graduate students are sent to Washington to visit their congressional representatives and advocate for science. Last year, students pressured congressmen to re-authorize the 2007 America COMPETES Act, which invested federal funds into science-related research and education. According to Henninger, MIT is one of few universities that actually sends students to Washington for the day.

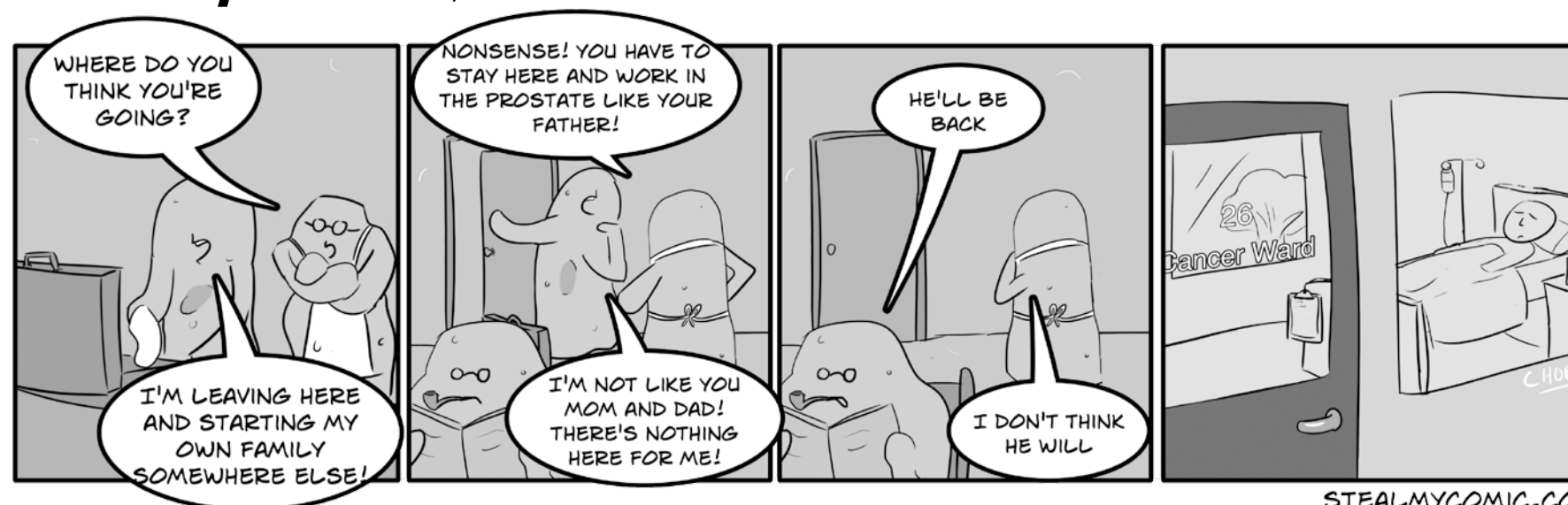
SPI hosts Lunch Talks, where people involved with science and policy are invited to come speak, and monthly discussions on an issue the group deems significant to members. Students from other student groups as well as other universities attend these meetings.

Henninger believes that being aware of science policy is beneficial to researchers. “So much of the research that goes on here is funded by tax dollars,” he said. “We are all vaguely aware of that fact, but not so much of the process...that involves a lot of policy decisions, governmental machinery, and politics.”

“There are all sorts of fascinating dynamics. It’s enlightening to learn about those and it’s almost a responsibility to learn about those,” Henninger said. “The better we understand that as scientists, the better we can plead our case and see where it fits into society.”

Steal My Comic

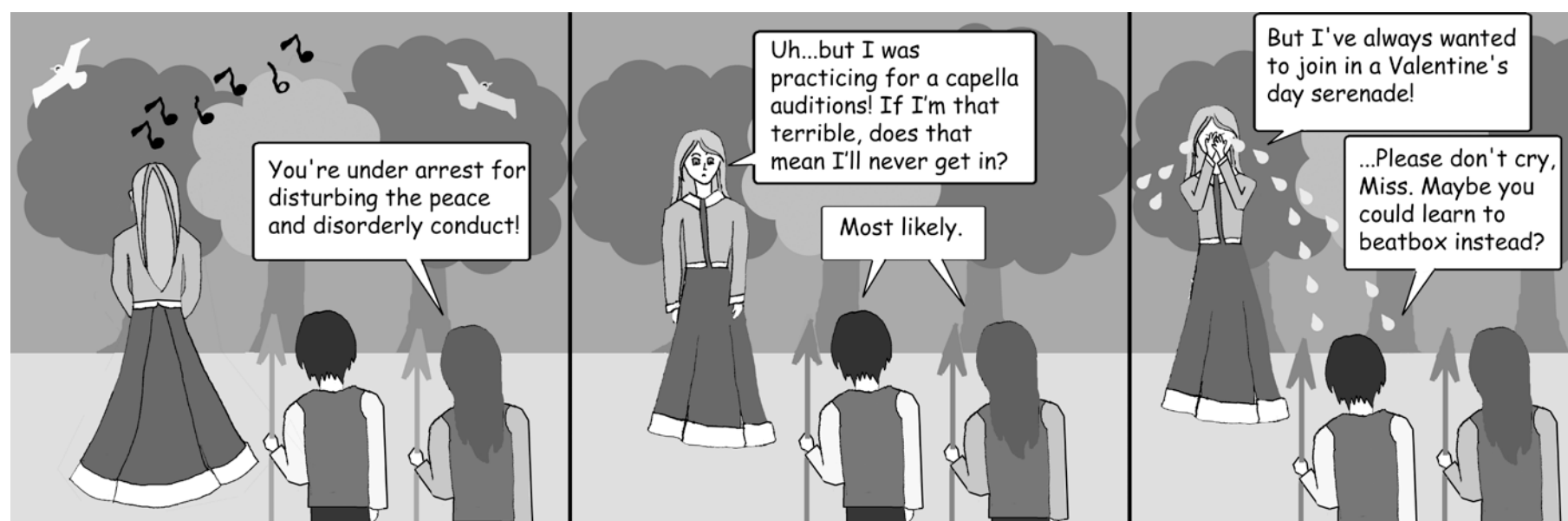
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



STEALMYCOMIC.COM

Somewhere on the Search for Meaning

Somewhere on the Search for Meaning by Letitia Li



by Jorge Cham



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Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 15

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

Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 15

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

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 15

ACROSS

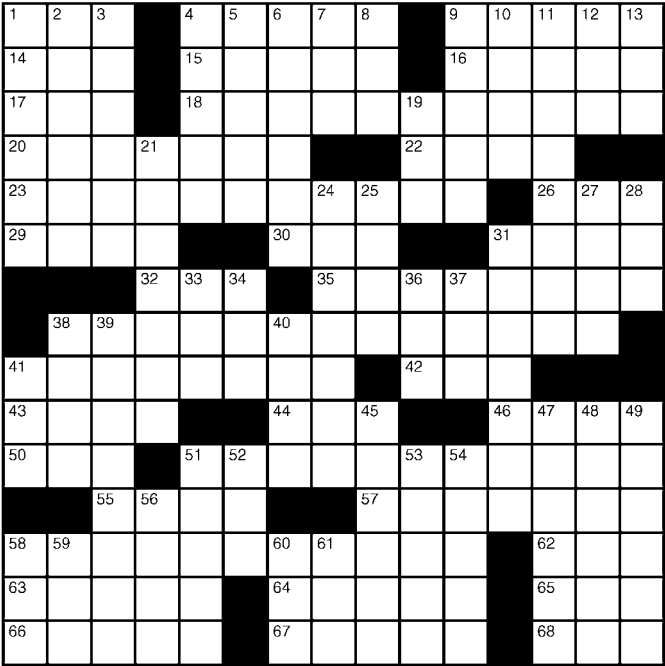
- 1 Maternal flower?
- 4 Travail
- 9 Cause for a blessing?
- 14 Ecol. watchdog
- 15 In the know
- 16 French river
- 17 Sound intensity units: abbr.
- 18 Hogwarts' student
- 20 Hardest to fathom?
- 22 Hebrew letter
- 23 Former Heavyweight Champion
- 26 Writer Umberto
- 29 Needle case
- 30 Toshiba rival
- 31 Rider's whip
- 32 Bonus periods
- 35 Oscillates
- 38 Director of "Rain Man"
- 41 Guard
- 42 Anatomical pouch
- 43 Roughly
- 44 DDE's rival
- 46 Masseur's target

- 50 Opposite of SSE
- 51 Phillie with eight gold gloves
- 55 Alaska's first governor
- 57 Singer Flack
- 58 Hatchet-wielding temperance advocate
- 62 Like some meds.
- 63 Up to
- 64 Renter's contract
- 65 Shea player
- 66 Ill-gotten gains
- 67 Private, as thoughts
- 68 12th graders

DOWN

- 1 Be a busybody
- 2 Optimistic
- 3 Capital of Lesotho
- 4 Massachusetts medical clinic
- 5 Inundated
- 6 Coen film, "___ Fink"
- 7 Boston's Bobby
- 8 Actor Alejandro

- 9 Medicinal plants
- 10 Camp beds
- 11 Until now
- 12 Lode load
- 13 Done, to Donne
- 19 Opposite of post-
- 21 Preceding
- 24 Tool for evening
- 25 DLII times II
- 27 " Fargo " director
- 28 Saturn's wife
- 31 Waterfall
- 33 Cycle starter?
- 34 Equivalent wd.
- 36 Again, in music
- 37 Cellular letters
- 38 Swiss capital
- 39 Be ruled by
- 40 Regan's father
- 41 Family member
- 45 Born in Damascus, say
- 47 PC inserts
- 48 More blistering
- 49 Forces from
- 51With merriment



- 52 Miller or Jillian
- 53 Bullwinkle, e.g.
- 54 Doubleday of baseball
- 56 "True ___"
- 58 Chicago pro
- 59 Year in Acapulco
- 60 Clay, nowadays
- 61 Half a score



by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik

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Students rate Obama

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Obama Rating		
	MIT overall	Pew Research
Excellent	11	10
Good	44	28
Fair	29	30
Poor	14	27
No response/Don't know	1	5

Congress Rating		
	MIT overall	Pew Research
Excellent	1	1
Good	19	12
Fair	46	35
Poor	31	45
No response/Don't know	2	7



Nightmarket visitors gather to watch Chinese Yo-yo performances on Saturday night in Lobdell.

FENG WU—THE TECH



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Flynn’s approach supported by UA President, VP

Flynn, from Page 1

Flynn takes the position vacated by Jed Wartman, whose title was Assistant Dean for Student Activities. Her title now also includes Assistant Dean and Director for Student Leadership and Engagement Programs.

Hawkins said he wanted “to get a sense of whether she was aware of the state of student engagement at MIT, good or bad.” Flynn replied that she does not have a sense of it yet.

Speaking after the meeting, Hawkins defined ‘student engagement’ as “decision-makers engaging student leaders in the process of making decisions that affect students.”

“I’m pretty happy with the student engagement that’s going on with housing issues,” Hawkins added. “I talked to Dennis Collins, the director of housing, for an hour today and learned a lot about W1, the Phoenix Group, renovations over the summer, and what’s going on with the fire alarms. It was a really good two-way discussion. I consider myself lucky in terms of student engagement.”

However, feelings on the subject of student engagement range,

he said. “Obviously, our dining chair recently quit, and I believe the reason for her resignation was frustration over poor student engagement,” Hawkins said. “This is MIT; time is precious, and she felt like hers was being wasted.”

UA President Vrajesh Y. Modi ’11 and Vice President Sammi G. Wyman ’11 said they appreciated Flynn’s philosophy of openness with students.

“One of the things that I liked about what she said was that she was going to take the time to get to know the student body before starting to make changes,” Modi said. “I definitely think she’s on the right track with a very open approach.”

“The students will be very lucky to have her as a resource,” Wyman said.

Hawkins agreed. “I liked that she recognized the fact that MIT is full of culture and tradition, and there is a vast array of different cultures here,” he said. “It’s good that she’s willing to listen, take it slow, and engage students.”

Flynn said she brings her open attitude from her previous position at SUNY, where she worked for eight years as assistant director and then director of the Office of

Student Activities.

“Students have a really close relationship with the administration, because the administration really made space to hear their voices,” Flynn said. “I came here with that philosophy, and I support that philosophy.”

To get to know more students, Flynn is holding an open meeting time from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday in the Student Activities Office on the fifth floor of the Student Center.

In addition to fostering an open relationship between her office and students, Flynn wants “to help

students keep balance.”

“You’re no good in any program if you’re not sleeping, if you’re not taking care of yourself,” Flynn said. “In the past, I’ve done this through one-on-one conversations with students. That was a smaller student population, but it’s not impossible here.”

Though Flynn does see similarities between SUNY and MIT, she said there are many differences.

“You have such a unique, wonderful culture, and I’ll need help navigating that,” Flynn said.

Two such unique aspects are the “heavily student-run” student

government and the residential life structure of faculty and student-run houses, she noted.

As for long-term plans in her new role, Flynn is going to wait and see. However, diversity initiatives and the hiring of a new assistant director are definitely on the agenda, she added.

The new assistant director will fill the role vacated by Marlena Martinez Love, who was recently appointed assistant dean and director of Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups. The search will probably begin in the spring, Flynn said.

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Following opening remarks by MIT President Susan Hockfield, Dr. Vandebroek will reveal her personal recipe for successful innovation. Networking reception with refreshments and hors d’oeuvres 5-6 pm.

Negotiation Seminar - How to Get What You Want!
Prof. Deborah Kolb, Ph.D., author and expert on gender issues in negotiation
Learn how to ask for the mentors, support, resources, assignments and promotions you want and deserve!

Assertive Communication Workshop (RSVP)
Prof. Roberta Pittore, M.B.A.
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Tues. 11/09
5:00 - 6:30 PM
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Wed. 11/10
10:30 AM - noon
68-181

Wed. 11/10
3:00 - 4:30 PM
32D-463

Wed. 11/10
6:00-8:00 PM
(dinner at 5:30)
6-104



A security camera overlooks the vehicle entrances to campus on both sides of Bldg. 66; it was installed in early September. **Left:** The camera is mounted on Building E15, the old Media Lab building (**inset:** detail on the camera). **Right:** Still frame from the security camera. It includes the gate to McDermott Court between the East Campus dormitory and Bldg. 66, and the driveway to the new courtyard in front of Bldg. 76, the Koch Institute.

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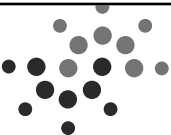
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FENG WU—THE TECH

SaveTFP's annual Spooky Skate is all about dressing up and having fun on ice. The event took place on Saturday night at Johnson Ice Rink.



NORA VRUBLEVSKA—THE TECH

HallowMIT, the annual Halloween festival for MIT's families, took place on Saturday, October 30 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Stata Center. Activities included pumpkin carving, face painting, balloon twisting, caricatures, arts and crafts, food, and games.

At DC rally, political garb took a turn for the wacky

Rally, from Page 1

from the rally. Most people suspected there would be some comedy and music, and the musicians they pulled together were certainly impressive. I had some hope that Stephen Colbert would actually break character and use the gathering to be sincere, but I'll admit that was a bit lofty. Not too many of us expected to lose cell phone service for three hours when the local towers suddenly had a few hundred thousand extra phones to worry about. That threw a wrench in my plans to meet up with the myriad of friends who had come, but c'est la vie.

The audio wasn't working well at the beginning, so when the Mythbusters were on stage chatting, we couldn't hear a thing. Chants of "Louder! Louder!" swept the audience and, even though I knew my voice wouldn't be heard by the sound guys, as long as it advanced up the line, I felt had done my part. They had it fixed up shortly after Stewart took the stage.

Personally, I thought the jokes and music went on for too long. I enjoy laughing as much as the next man, but I didn't fly

down for a comedy show, or for a concert. An hour into things I began to wonder if the rally was going to have a central point. Jon Stewart did finally get to his message, which turned out to be a cross between bashing the media and Congress and a plea for actual cooperation. But even he admitted that the gathering was not about what he said, but about how everyone showing up made a statement that the American people are tired of the insanity and how we all want to bring a little more rationality into the country. I wish he had gotten to it sooner, and that there had been a bit more to it, but as a satirist he was already a bit out of his element when it came to the serious parts. I was amazed to hear later that critics said he went too far.

I worry that the message won't last. On the plane ride home, I saw that CNN had focused in on two aspects of the rally: the comedy and the message about the media. One of their guests argued that it was a march of moderates, calling it a political rally unrepresentative of everyone's views. He completely missed how this rally of moderates was not in terms of left and right, but in terms of

moderation versus extremism.

Still, I was impressed by the MIT representation. It was great surprising to see the guy with the MIT jacket outside the Metro holding a sign that said "I hope today isn't too windy so my sign doesn't blow away." My friends and I also met a group of TDC alumni that saw our apparel and started chatting about life at the "Tute. I suppose I should have expected it, especially considering the rally's reddit origins; although I'm just a lurker on the website, I couldn't stop myself from yelling "upvote!" whenever I saw the logo. College students were disproportionately represented, but we were by no means the only age group there.

In the end it was the number and the personalities of the people that made it a worthwhile venture. If you were able to be there, thanks! And if you couldn't be there, take ten minutes and watch Jon Stewart's closing remarks. Talk to your friends about the experience. I hope that it makes a lasting change, but, even if it doesn't, I'm glad I was able to hang out with my fellow Americans in the nation's capital and attend a rally for something worthwhile.



ELIJAH JORDAN TURNER—THE TECH

At the "Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear", many people dressed in costumes and held satirical signs. Over 200,000 people attended the event hosted by Jon Stewart and Steven Colbert.

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Solution to
Hard Sudoku

from page 10

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

Solution to
Easy Sudoku

from page 10

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

Solution to Crossword

from page 11

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

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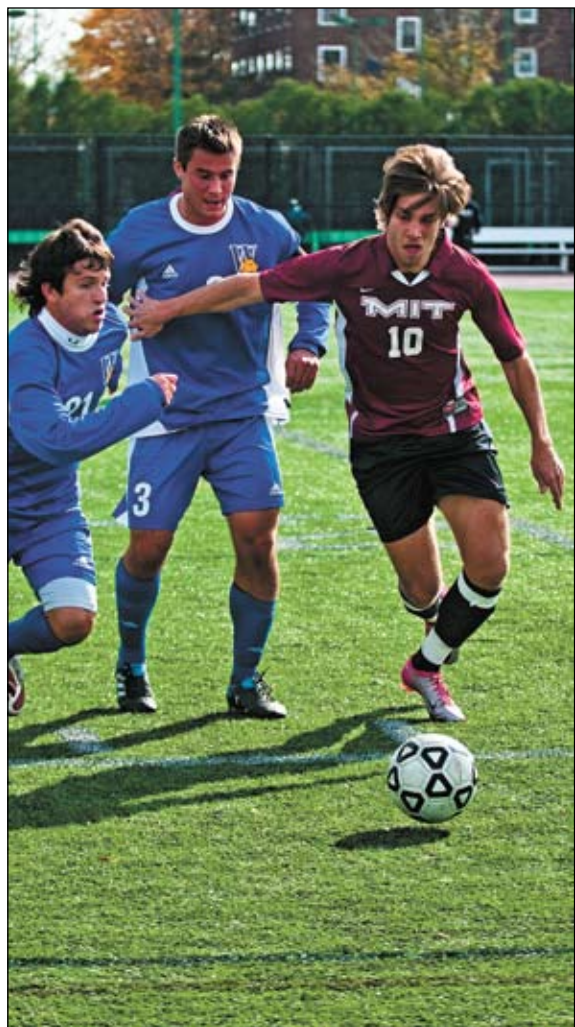
By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

The Engineers reached the 20-win mark for the 15th consecutive season as their overall record moved to 20-13. Throughout the program's history, MIT has registered double-digit win totals in 33 out of 35 seasons.

Jennifer Li '11 led MIT (20-13, 6-3 NEWMAC) with a match-high 18 kills to go along with six digs. Cecily L. Joujon-Roche '12 and Kelly E. Schulte '12 both posted 12 kills and two blocks while Joujon-Roche added six digs and three aces. Trinity P. Leonard '13 notched 11 digs and four kills as Kristine A. Bunker '14 contributed four blocks and four kills. Katie K. Spielbauer '13 amassed 31 digs and three aces while Natasha H. Jensen '12 bolstered the defense with 10 digs. Sharon S. Hao '14 dished out 45 assists as Tatiana Berger '14 chipped in six digs and four kills.

Leonard posted 11 kills, nine digs, and two blocks while Schulte contributed seven kills and three blocks for MIT. Joujon-Roche contributed five kills and two aces as Rachel A. Hunt '14 and Emma S. Gargus '14 both added four kills. Bunker registered three blocks while Spielbauer collected 11 digs. Hao and Alyssa L. Rothman '13 shared setting duties, finishing with 20 and seven assists, respectively.

The squad enters postseason play next week. MIT, seeded No. 4 in the NEWMAC Championship Tournament, will host WPI in a quarterfinal match on Tuesday, Nov. 2.



MINH PHAN—THE TECH

Christian Therkelsen '11 (10) takes on two defenders from Wheaton College during Saturday's game. The Engineers tied with a final score of 1-1.

Tuesday, November 2

Women's volleyball vs. WPI

7 p.m., Rockwell Cage



JOHN A HAWKINSON—THE TECH

John A. Hawkinson—The Tech

Jacqueline P. Simpson '14 goes for the ball off the back of Middlebury's scrum in the women's rugby game on Saturday. MIT beat Middlebury 28-15. MIT will face Bentley College in the Regional Finals on Saturday on Briggs Field, at 1 p.m.

Three-time defending champion MIT had five runners finish in the top eight — including a pair of freshmen — and the Engineers won their fourth straight New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) women's cross country championship on Saturday afternoon at Moore State Park.

The course ran exceptionally fast as the top 17 finishers all ran times faster than the previous course record.

In addition to Eve, Engineer teammates Tania K. Morimoto '12 (18:38.41) and Alina E. Gatowski '11 (18:39.21) turned in top five performances.

MIT freshman Martina A. de Geus '14 was the race's top freshman finisher in seventh place with a time of 19:03.75 to earn the 2010 NEWMAC Rookie of the Year award.

—Greg McKeever, *DAPER Staff*



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MIT experts assess Obama's work on Afghanistan, climate, and the economy.

*Moderated by Richard Samuels,
Ford International Professor of Political Science
and director of CIS*

Tues, Nov 9, 2010 | 4:30p - 6p

Bartos Theatre, MIT Bldg E15
20 Ames Street, Cambridge

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Barry Posen
is Ford
International
Professor of
Political
Science at MIT

and director of the MIT Security Studies Program. He is an expert on U.S. national security policy and a signatory on the recent *Afghanistan Report*.



Henry Jacoby,
from Sloan,
co-directs the
MIT Joint
Program on
the Science
and Policy of

Global Change-a world leader in integration of the natural and social sciences and policy analysis in application to the threat of global climate change.



Simon Johnson, from Sloan, is an expert on the financial sector and economic crises. He is the author of *13 Bankers: The Takeover and The Financial Meltdown*, a book that provides an assessment of the financial crisis now posed by the US financial sector.