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Largest Newspaper

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Established 1881

WEATHER, p. 2

FRI: 84°F | 66°F
Sunny
 SAT: 80°F | 64°F
Partly cloudy
 SUN: 79°F | 63°F
Partly cloudy

Volume 132, Number 31

Friday, August 24, 2012

EC cell phone woes

New antenna systems disrupt service

By Stanley Gill
NEWS EDITOR

East Campus residents, has your cell phone been on the fritz since you moved back in? You're not alone. MIT Information Services and Technology (IS&T) has confirmed that a hardware failure occurred with the cell phone antenna systems — distributed antenna system (DAS) — which were installed in EC at the end of the spring. According to Robyn Fizz, the IS&T News Coordinator, IS&T was not aware of this issue before *The Tech* inquired about it, but residents have noticed since they started returning last week.

In October, IS&T partnered with

AT&T to install cell phone antenna systems in several locations, intending to boost indoor cell signal strength. *The Tech* previously covered the deployment of these antennas in May (tech.mit.edu/V132/N26/cellphones.html). When students returned to EC after summer housing ended (EC was not open for the summer this year), many with AT&T phones complained over the mailing list ec-discuss about having trouble making calls and receiving text messages in the building. Their phones reported full five bars of service, but they were unable to place calls or send/receive text messages. Resi-

Cell amps, Page 13



JESSICA L. WASS — THE TECH

Rebecca J. Greene '14 and Jessica M. Parker '15 practice staff spinning on Thursday afternoon in front of one of East Campus's annual construction projects for REX. This structure will consist of a spinning, oscillating compartment suspended by the triangular frame.

Harvard area security upped after two rapes

Residents in the area say they do not feel safe; detectives are investigating

By Evan Allen
THE BOSTON GLOBE

CAMBRIDGE — Harvard University is on edge and security has been increased after two rapes were reported on its normally serene campus area on Aug. 10 and Aug. 14. "It's crazy. You think that

a location like this, you'd feel safe," said Lauren Kim, 29, a graduate student at Harvard, as she walked past the campus to her home. "I don't feel safe." Last Friday, historic Harvard Yard bustled with tourists taking pictures, residents cutting through, and students gearing up for the beginning of the se-

mester, but several people enjoying the late-afternoon sun said the rapes were on their minds. "I just heard about it [last Thursday night]," said Mara Smith, 21, as she crossed the Yard on her way to her boyfriend's house in Somerville. Smith, who regularly vis-

its from Rhode Island, will not be walking through late at night, she said. "You wouldn't ever think that it would be a place where you would feel threatened." On Aug. 14, a woman was raped sometime after 11 p.m.

Rapes, Page 13

300 Mass. Ave. project on hiatus until fall

On Aug. 6, the Cambridge City Council chose not to take action on the zoning petition which would approve construction of a new life sciences building for Millennium Pharmaceuticals at 300 Massachusetts Avenue, immediately north of Random Hall. The petition has now expired and lapsed.

Forest City and MIT, the developers of University Park, are expected to file their petition again in September. The council would not vote on the final petition until October or November.

The lapsed petition would have permitted a substantial increase in the density of the proposed building, as well as increases in height. The block currently consists mostly of vacant storefronts and the All Asia club. Random Hall and a gas station are on the south side, with a New England School of English dormitory behind Random on the Green Street side.

The council had three options: to approve the petition; to vote it down, which would prevent it from being filed again for two years; or to take no action, allowing it to be filed again for further consideration. It chose the last.

Community opposition to the building was significant, with local residents questioning why the building should be allowed to exceed agreed-upon height limits that were written into zoning. Though the building's current height is a result of a request by the Planning Board to increase the building's height in some places in exchange for reducing it in others, making it seem less monolithic.

The council's choice to delay allows them to negotiate further with Forest City about the specifics of the proposal. Forest City had pledged a \$1.1 million "community benefits" payment to the city, as well as the continuation of certain affordable housing guarantees.

For the time being, Random Hall residents can look forward to a fall semester without massive demolition on their block, but that could easily change.

— John A. Hawkinson

Fisher to be heard Oct. 10

MIT & others cite necessity of diversity in brief

By Anne Cai
NEWS EDITOR

Last Monday, Aug. 13, MIT and 13 peer institutions filed an amicus curiae brief before the Supreme Court of the United States in *Fisher v. University of Texas*, supporting the respondent UTexas in the view that race could be used as one of many factors in a holistic admissions process.

The brief was filed jointly with

Brown University, University of Chicago, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Duke University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Pennsylvania, Vanderbilt University, and Yale University.

Fisher v. Texas was brought before the U.S. District Court in 2008 by Abigail N. Fisher, a white ap-

Fisher, Page 13

Plans for Novartis park approved by Cambridge

By John A. Hawkinson
STAFF REPORTER

Novartis has agreed to keep the lush green courtyard of their new campus open seven days a week, in response to requests and feedback from the Cambridge Planning Board. Last month, their previous proposal

with weekday-only access was rejected by the board. The new Novartis courtyard will sit between three buildings on their new campus at 181 – 211 Massachusetts Avenue, on the east side of the street. It will be bounded by Mass.

Novartis, Page 15

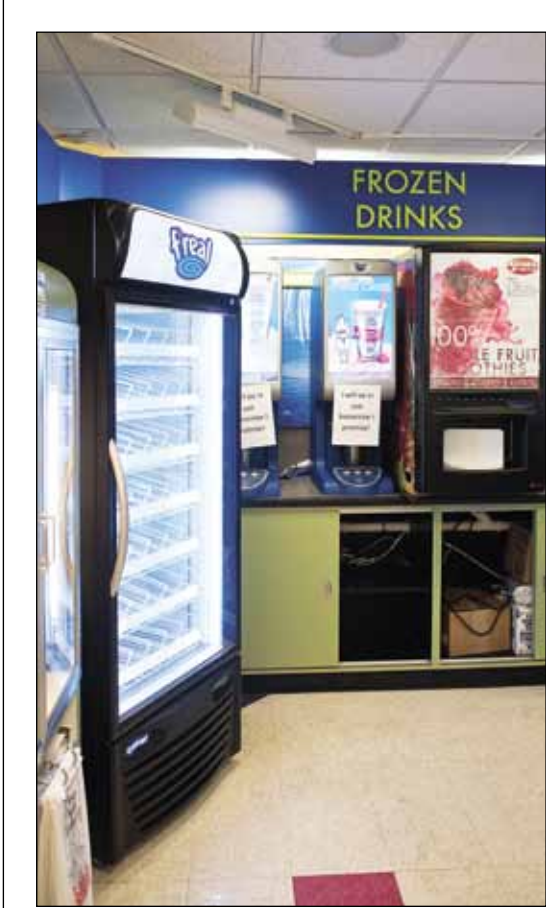
IN SHORT

The Tech is back on regular publishing schedule, with issues every Tuesday and Friday!

The Quarter 1 PE classes schedule is now online at <http://mitpe.com/uploads/Q1aug232012withfee.pdf>. Registration will open on Wednesday, Aug. 29 at 8 a.m.

Online class registration will open on Aug. 27 at <https://registration.mit.edu/>.

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



JESSICA L. WASS—THE TECH

La Verde's Market underwent renovations this week. The updates to the area near the deli counter include two new f'real milkshake machines, a f'real milkshake cooler, a smoothie machine, a new Coke machine, and at least one new coffee machine.

ARE YOU A PRO AT MIT SURVIVAL?
Believe it or not, you probably need to sleep. And eat.
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 5

PERFECTION OF IMPERFECTION
Embracing life's imperfections.
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 5
RAVAGED: IT'S GOOD ENOUGH
Vehicles are could, but could be great.
ARTS, p. 14

IT'S LEGITIMATE! NOW JUST 'SHUT THE WHOLE THING DOWN!'
Todd Akin's expression highlights an extreme — but existing — position. Thus, this airing of views is just responsible campaigning and not misrepresentation.
OPINION, p. 4

IS THE MEAL PLAN WORTH THE BUCK?
How could you benefit from skipping MIT's meal plan?
OPINION, p. 4

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As Bangladesh becomes export powerhouse, labor strife erupts

By Jim Yardley
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISHWARDI, Bangladesh — The air thickened with tear gas as police and paramilitary officers jogged into the Ishwardi Export Processing Zone firing rubber bullets and swinging cane poles. Dozens of people were bloodied and hospitalized.

The officers were cracking down on protests at two garment factories inside this industrial area in western Bangladesh. But they were also protecting two ingredients of a manufacturing formula that has quietly made Bangladesh a leading apparel exporter to the U.S. and Europe: cheap labor and foreign investment.

Both were at stake on that March morning. Workers earning as little as \$50 a month were furious over a cut in wages. Their anger was directed at the Hong Kong and Chinese bosses of the two factories, turning a labor dispute into something potentially much larger.

“If any foreigner got injured or killed, it would damage the coun-

try’s image around the globe,” said a police supervisor, Akbar Hossein. “We all know the importance of these factories and this industry for Bangladesh.”

Bangladesh, once irrelevant to the global economy, is now an export powerhouse, second only to China in global apparel exports. Garments are critical to Bangladesh’s economy, accounting for 80 percent of manufacturing exports and more than three million jobs.

But Bangladesh’s manufacturing formula depends on its having the lowest labor costs in the world, with the minimum wage for garment workers set at roughly \$37 a month. During the past two years, as workers have seen their meager earnings eroded by double-digit inflation, protests have become increasingly common.

In response, Bangladeshi leaders have deployed the security tools of the state to keep factories humming. A high-level government committee monitors the garment sector and includes ranking officers from the military, the police and intelligence agencies.

“The garment industry is No. 1 for exports and dollars for the country,” said Alonzo Suson, who runs the Solidarity Center in Dhaka, an AFL-CIO-affiliated labor rights group. “Any slowdown of that development is a national security issue.”

The Bangladeshi government has resisted expanding labor rights in a country where the owners of about 5,000 garment factories wield enormous influence. Factory owners are major political donors and have moved into news media, buying newspapers and television stations.

In Parliament, roughly two-thirds of the members belong to the country’s three biggest business associations. At least 30 factory owners hold seats in Parliament, about 10 percent of the total.

“Politics and business is so enmeshed that one is kin to the other,” said Iftekharuzzaman, director of Transparency International Bangladesh. “There is a coalition between the sector and people in positions of power. The negotiating position of the workers is very, very limited.”

US oil and mining companies must disclose payments

By Clifford Krauss
THE NEW YORK TIMES

HOUSTON — Despite stiff industry lobbying against it, the Securities and Exchange Commission voted 2-1 on Wednesday to require U.S. oil and mining companies to disclose taxes and other fees they pay to foreign governments. The disclosures are aimed at curbing corruption, which is common in some major oil-producing nations.

Human rights and business transparency groups supported the rule, which fulfills a section of the Dodd-Frank financial reform law. It will apply to about 1,100 companies and cover any payment they make that is over \$100,000, including dividends and construction improvements, beginning in fiscal year 2014.

“Sunlight is the best disinfectant,” said Luis A. Aguilar, a member of the commission, quoting the Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis.

Industry groups have complained that the rule would grant

advantages to foreign companies that do not have to make such disclosures, and could potentially force U.S. companies to curb operations in countries like China, Angola, Qatar and Cameroon that prohibit public disclosure of certain payments. The groups lobbied unsuccessfully for an exemption to the mandate in cases where foreign governments restricted disclosures.

In a separate 3-2 vote, the agency decided to require companies to disclose to shareholders and the agency when their manufactured goods contain minerals like tin, gold and tungsten mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Belligerent armies in that country have committed significant human rights violations and often finance themselves by selling “conflict minerals,” which frequently find their way into electronics parts and equipment.

Oil experts said it was difficult to know how onerous the payment disclosure rule would be since it was not yet known how the SEC would

define some of the requirements. Kevin Book, an analyst at ClearView Energy Partners, said in a research note that the ruling could “impose very real competitive challenges for U.S. companies,” particularly if “compliance leads to disclosure of previously secret terms of concessions, leases and production-sharing agreements.”

The energy rule comes at a time when U.S. companies are looking to take advanced drilling technologies, initially used to develop domestic shale oil and gas fields, to untapped fields in places like China and Argentina.

Business practices in those countries often diverge from those that are standard in the United States.

The American Petroleum Institute’s chief economist, John Felmy, told reporters that the SEC rule would force oil and gas companies to reveal secret, proprietary information about their expenditures and bidding strategies.

Europeans to debate further aid for Greece, encourage path to reform

By Steven Erlanger
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS — Vacation is over early this year in the eurozone, with Greece and its shaky future back on the table and Spain waiting in the wings to ask for help from European bailout funds.

The political debate in Germany over the euro has resumed at a heated level, Italy is preparing for a spring election and the new Socialist government of France must come to grips with how it will meet its own deficit targets for next year, when growth is close to zero.

“September promises to be pretty dramatic in the eurozone,” said Megan Greene, director of European research at Roubini Global Economics.

The first problem for eurozone leaders is Greece.

After two rounds of legislative elections, the Greeks finally gave center-right leader Antonis Sama-

ras enough votes to form a coalition without the leftist party Syriza, and he has spent the summer trying to find another \$14.5 billion in spending cuts and new revenue over 2013 and 2014 to qualify for the next round of bailout money it needs to stay solvent.

Samaras, citing an ever deeper recession, is asking for two more years to get the economy growing and increase revenue before hitting deficit targets. Germany’s chancellor, Angela Merkel, seems willing to consider it, because she is committed to keeping Greece in the eurozone.

But with German elections next year, there are strong voices in her coalition warning against yet another bailout — a third, for a Greece that never seems to meet its deficit targets — and who suggest that a Greek departure from the euro is no longer out of the question.

To coordinate a response to

Samaras, Merkel met President Francois Hollande of France in Berlin on Thursday night for a private, working dinner. Hollande is a firm supporter of Greece remaining with the euro and a vocal opponent of a steady diet of austerity for the suffering countries of the European periphery, not to speak of his own.

In a brief news conference before the dinner, Merkel said Greece must stick to its commitments and that she was waiting for a report from the international lenders known as the troika on how Greece was performing. “We will, and I will, encourage Greece to continue on its path to reform, which has demanded a lot of the Greek people,” she said.

Merkel said Wednesday that for the European Union, Greece is “not just about economic questions, but about deeply political questions and thus also about the future of Europe as a whole.”

Romney unveils plan for energy independence

HOBBS, N.M. — Mitt Romney unveiled an energy plan Thursday that he said would make North America energy independent by 2020, at what would be the end of his second term as president.

His plan would allow states more control over the development of energy resources on federal lands within their borders, as well as aggressively expand offshore oil and gas drilling — including along the coasts of Virginia and the Carolinas — as part of a broader effort to reach energy independence.

“This is not some pie-in-the-sky kind of thing,” Romney said, speaking at trucking facility here. “This is a real, achievable objective.”

Using a bar chart behind him to explain his plan, Romney said the first bar represented how much oil North America currently produces — about 15 million barrels per day — which means that the nation still imports about one-third of the energy it uses.

The second bar, he said, represented the 2 million barrels a day the country produces from offshore drilling. Other bars were devoted to tight oil — oil produced from fracking technology; natural gas liquids; biofuels; the oil sands of Canada; and Mexico. His plan, he explained, would take advantage of these other resources, and thus help boost energy production in North America.

—Ashley Parker, *The New York Times*

FCC approves Verizon’s plan to buy cable firms’ spectrum

Verizon Wireless on Thursday won Federal Communications Commission approval to move forward with its \$3.9 billion purchase of airwaves from the country’s largest cable providers.

An FCC panel voted 5-0 to allow Verizon Wireless to expand its wireless data networks by tapping into the mostly unused airwaves of Comcast, Time Warner Cable, Bright House Networks and Cox Communications. The Justice Department approved the agreement last week, but advised that certain consumer-friendly adjustments should be made.

In addition to the spectrum, which Verizon Wireless said it would use in its new fourth-generation Long Term Evolution (4G LTE) wireless network, the partnership enables the cable companies to market Verizon services and in some cases sell their own services inside Verizon stores. Comcast, for instance, has dispatched its sales force to Verizon Wireless stores in 21 markets.

“This purchase represents a milestone in the industry, and we appreciate the FCC’s diligent work to review and approve the transaction,” Dan Mead, president and chief executive of Verizon Wireless, said in a statement.

—Amy Chozick, *The New York Times*

Shoe scanners fail tests at US airports

WASHINGTON — After spending millions of dollars testing four different scanning devices that would allow airline passengers to keep their shoes on at security checkpoints, the U.S. government has decided for now that travelers must continue to remove their footwear, by far the leading source of frustration and delays at the airport.

The Transportation Security Administration said it had rejected all four devices because they failed to adequately detect explosives and metal weapons during tests at various airports. One of the scanners is now used in airports in 18 countries.

Last September, Secretary Janet Napolitano of the Homeland Security Department raised hopes when she said that research and development on scanning machines was progressing and that air travelers would eventually be able to keep their shoes on.

But nearly a year later, the TSA, which is overseen by Homeland Security, said it was not any closer to finding a solution. Lisa Farbstein, an agency spokeswoman, would not address why it had rejected the devices.

“But overall, the machines we tested didn’t detect all the materials we were looking for,” she said.

Over the years, the government has tried to streamline airport security and cut down on long lines and complaints. Elderly passengers and children may go through security screenings without taking off any clothing. And a prescreening program at 20 airports allows approved passengers to keep on their shoes, belt or jackets and does not require laptops and toiletries to be removed from carry-on baggage.

The growing use of full-body scanners also allows travelers to go through security lines faster, the government said.

—Ron Nixon, *The New York Times*

Tobacco companies broke law, judge rules

NEW YORK — A federal judge ruled last week that two tobacco wholesalers illegally skirted paying millions of dollars in taxes by selling truckloads of untaxed cigarettes to retailers on an American Indian reservation on Long Island, which then resold them in the city at cut-rate prices.

The judgment, which could cost the wholesalers up to \$15 million in penalties, was the latest victory in a battle that the city and state have waged for years to collect taxes on cigarettes sold by Indian-owned businesses to non-Indians.

The city has argued that the availability of cheaper cigarettes is a public health concern because taxes were in part a way to discourage smoking. Cigarette tax stamps are \$43.50 per carton in New York; thus, a pack of cigarettes — about \$12 to \$14 — includes \$4.35 in taxes.

Federal law prohibits wholesalers from selling large quantities of cigarettes without paying state or local taxes on the goods. Wholesalers selling to Indian retailers are exempt from paying the tax if the cigarettes are resold only to other Indians.

In 2006, the city sued three wholesalers — which buy the cigarettes from the manufacturer and resell them to retailers — for violating the law.

—Mosi Secret, *The New York Times*

WORLD&NATION WORLD&NATION WORLD&NATION WORLD&NATION WORLD

TO THINE OWN MIT-SELF BE TRUE

Understanding the perfection of imperfection

How ballet taught me to embrace challenge

By Maiko Kitaoka

A survey once asked me to describe my perfect day. I had more than one perfect day in my mind, as many people probably do, but it made me wonder — what makes something “perfect” in the first place? March 14, 2012, also known as Pi Day, is etched in my memory forever as the day I was admitted into the Institute. That day started out as less than ideal. It was a Wednesday, which meant that I was suffering from mid-week exhaustion as always. I faced a regular day at school and a regular day at ballet training with standard NYC commuting in between. The day passed uneventfully as I anxiously tried to keep MIT out of my mind. When one of my dance classes was cancelled, I didn’t know whether it was a good omen or not — if I went home earlier, I could finish my homework earlier and sleep for an extra hour or two, but that also meant that I would look anxiously at the clock, maybe not finishing my homework as I waited for 6:28 p.m. that night, the time admissions decisions would be released. On the train ride home, I made a resolution: I would not look at my email or MyMIT account or anything MIT-related until I had finished enough homework to get through the next day at school. I arrived

home with that resolution firmly planted in my mind and tackled the remaining few hours of my day. At last, around 10 p.m. I finally worked up the courage to see my admission decision. Despite the late hour, the pile of homework I had just finished, the dull banality of the day, that day is perfect in my mind. All because of one small letter from MIT. That was all it took to make my day perfect. It showed how my hard work had paid off, in every possible way. An ordinary day turned perfect. I am no stranger to the challenges leading to perfection. Before coming to MIT, I faced several imperfections for ten years while I trained as a pre-professional ballet dancer, where perfection and hard work were my constant companions. Ballet technique is very black and white, always right or wrong. My feet weren’t strong enough for quick little jumps, I couldn’t hold my turnout, my lines weren’t cleanly straight. I had the necessary flexibility, but not the required strength. Dancers strive for perfection, but in the same way that the days leading up to my MIT acceptance were hardly great, the hours and rehearsals in the ballet studio are never wonderful either. However, after months of rehearsal comes the reward — a performance. No performance is

ever perfect, despite many wishes, but after running off the stage for the last time and bowing before a clapping audience, it feels perfect and makes all those imperfect hours worth my time. To me, perfection is not, and cannot be, as simple as a perfect arabesque or a perfect score on the SAT. Perfection is a combination of several aspects of my life: my family, my friends, my hobbies, academics, and ballet. A perfect day could be the day my dreams come true, or the stormy day I spent peacefully reading a good book or laughing with my family and friends.

Maybe it’s a paradox, but perfection comes from imperfections.

Now that I’m finally on campus after a summer of changes — graduating from high school, moving from New York City to Indiana where my dad teaches economics, not dancing for a few months, preparing for college life — I’m ready for the next four years of my life to begin. At first I wanted these MIT years to be perfect, even though I knew that nothing and nobody is perfect. However, after

taking a step backwards to think, there is something perfect about imperfection. After experiencing the uplifting result, I wouldn’t trade the post-performance exhilaration for perfectly smooth rehearsals, and I wouldn’t trade my MIT acceptance for an easy college application season. Maybe it’s a paradox, but perfection comes from imperfections. It’s not just about executing the perfect arabesque or grand jété, or even scoring all A’s and 100 percent on every test, every paper, every class. Life is not about perfection. The fullness matters most. Take full advantage of the many opportunities MIT and life throw my way. Stumble a little, fall on my face, grit my teeth, and come back stronger than ever. Embrace the challenges. And don’t stew and stress over the imperfect scores (or arabesques). It’s all part of the road to the perfect experience as a person. When I graduate, I want to be able to look back at all the imperfections, all the failures, and see how they made my whole undergraduate experience at MIT perfect in the end. Fellow freshmen, I hope you’ll take the same leap of faith and live with the imperfections in all their glory. MIT, we’re ready to tackle all you throw at us (we hope). No one said the road was perfect, but the end can be.

STRANGER THAN FICTION

MIT protips

How to survive MIT with your sanity intact

By Deena Wang
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Well, it’s that time again. All you hordes of freshman are pouring onto campus, bright and unsullied. Some of you fancy yourselves engineers, scientists, the bright minds of the future. All so innocent, easy prey for the dangers lurking behind the institute’s marble columns. Right now, you probably think “p-set” is a dirty word. People break down here. They burn the candle on both ends until they go up in smoke. I have personally born witness to one mental dissolution and have heard stories of many more. I am fortunate in that I’ve not suffered as much as my comrades. My disposition remains cheerful, though weary. I’m middle-aged in my MIT career, having survived freshman year and seen another class do the same. Here are some tips I’ve gathered to cushion your freefall through the academic abyss. You can’t do everything At the Activities Midway, you will see an entire stadium full of clubs, all vying for your attention. Add in sports, UROPs, fraternities/sororities, not to mention classes, all which will nag at you throughout the year. But, there’s only 168 hours in a week, less if you sleep. It’s easy to burn yourself out, rushing from crew practice to 8.02 to debate club. If you get too caught up in your extracurriculars, your grades will suffer — and vice versa. Even on pass-no record, you don’t want to see a big fat 5th week flag in your inbox because you were too busy ma-

chining in MITERS to study for 18.01. It’s important to determine your priorities, and base your schedule around that. Maybe someone can juggle 7 classes, a UROP, and sports. That person is probably not you. Make friends Half the value of an MIT education is meeting people who were also accepted to MIT. Upperclassmen can help you choose classes, and fellow freshmen can be study buddies. Just talking to people in your dorm will expose you to new areas of knowledge, as many experts walk among us. Personally, I would never have majored in 6-7 had I not met a certain someone in computer security. Plus, the best part of college is hanging out with like-minded people. The friendships you make here will stick with you for the rest of your life. Be smart and learn to cook. It’s a skill that will serve you better in the long run. You need sleep MIT students like to say “sleep is for the weak.” They cut sleep first when juggling a lot of activities, but a lack of sleep decreases concentration and efficiency. It’s a vicious cycle, staying up late to finish your work, but having to take longer to finish your work because of it. Even if you sleep nearly

enough, the sleep debt will build until it’s just as bad as missing a night of sleep. Caffeine is a common salve, but eventually, your tolerance builds to snorting lines of pure anhydrous caffeine. That kind of wakefulness just doesn’t feel good. Get some sleep. Otherwise, you’ll start hallucinating, and it’s no good to turn in your p-set to an illusory box. Don’t fall into the free food trap Because of MIT’s reputation, there are a lot conferences and talks around here. And after each Nobel Prize speech is a catered spread, with brownies, cookies, sandwiches, fruit — but mostly pizza. There’s even a mailing list dedicated to free food. With all these calories floating around, it might be tempting to forgo the meal plan and become an urban forager, living on leftovers. Even though there may be salads and fruit plates, most of the time pizza will be the only pickings left, which isn’t the healthiest option for 24/7 consumption. Eating a stale cookie for dinner is only fun the first time. Plus, you’ll be at the mercy of the events, having to rush from place to place just to get ahead of the other students racing for the bounty. Be smart and learn to cook. It’s a skill that will serve you better in the long run. Don’t be afraid to ask for help MIT will get you down, whether from a lack of sunlight, a failed test, relationship woes, etc. It’s natural to feel stressed out. You shouldn’t get caught up in the “macho” MIT culture and think you have to be self-sufficient. If you need help academically,

tutoring services exist especially for freshmen. The Office of Minority Education offers night-time tutoring in all the freshman subjects, and you don’t have to be a minority to go. The math department also has general office hours. Fellow students can be your best resource; I certainly remember study groups in which only one person knew the information and taught the rest of us. Professors allow you to collaborate on p-sets for a reason. Student Support Services provides academic counseling and will negotiate with professors if you’re too sick to take a test. For emotional woes, you can begin with talking to the friends I told you to make earlier. GRTs are your friends and are willing to listen to your problems and help you find solutions. MIT Medical has mental health resources and therapists for serious depression. Whatever you do, don’t rely on self-medicated chemicals to make yourself feel good. The buzz might make you feel better for the moment, but the crash will be all the worse. That path is a sure-fire way to chemical dependency. Use common sense I obviously can’t enumerate all the exciting and dangerous activities you might get into. I really can’t, because I don’t want to be arrested. If you must try something risky, think about the dangers beforehand and plan accordingly. Having a partner nearby is useful for a lot of reasons, and they can call for help if you’re in a dangerous situation. More important than your project, your pride, or your criminal record is your life.

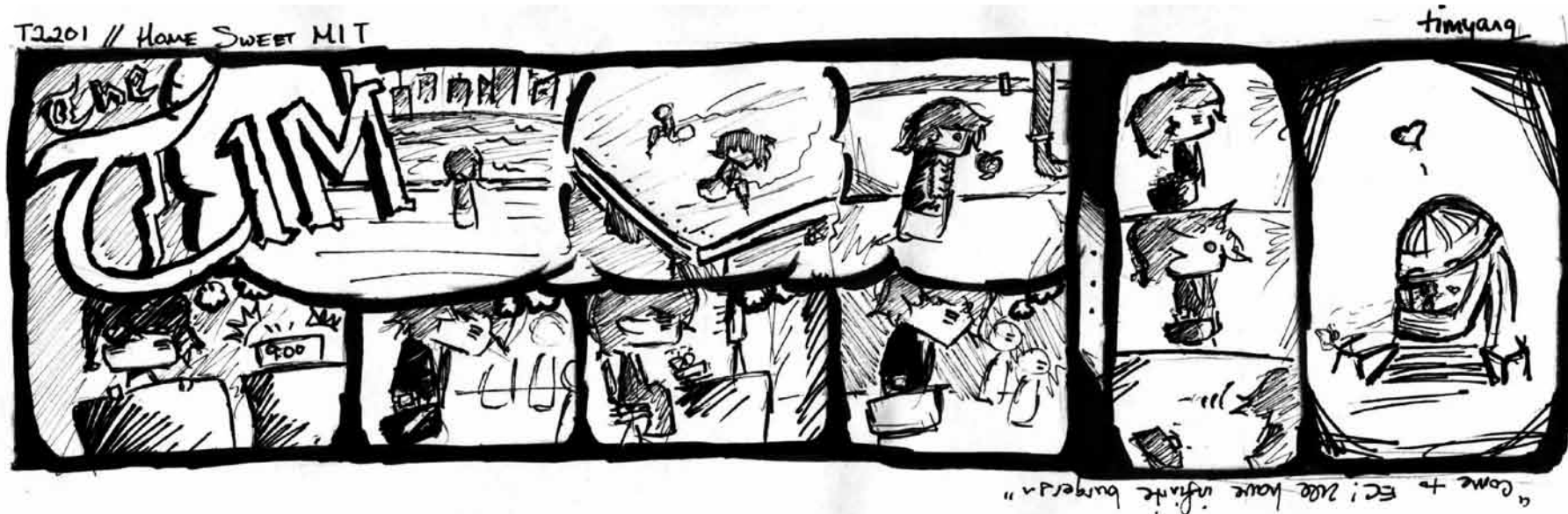
An unlocked gun could be the death of your family.

Please lock up your gun.

Ad Council

NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

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Strangers to Fiction by Deena Wang



Techdoku

Solution, page 14

72x			30x		
	8x			16+	
12x		6	72x		
	9+			9+	
10+		3			8x
	60x				

Sudoku I

Solution, page 14

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

Sudoku II

Solution, page 14

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

THE DAILY GOSSIP

**Friday,
August 24, 2012**

**Saturday,
August 25, 2012**

Pasta Eating Contest

18:30—EAsT camPUS

Epic Ice Cream Game Night: What better way of getting to know your new classmates than to find out who is that best at...! Whether it is video games, board games or card games, stop by Masseh's Game Room and try playing something you are good at or learn a new game (wishing for beginners luck). Win awesome prizes and

**Sunday,
August 26, 2012**

10:00

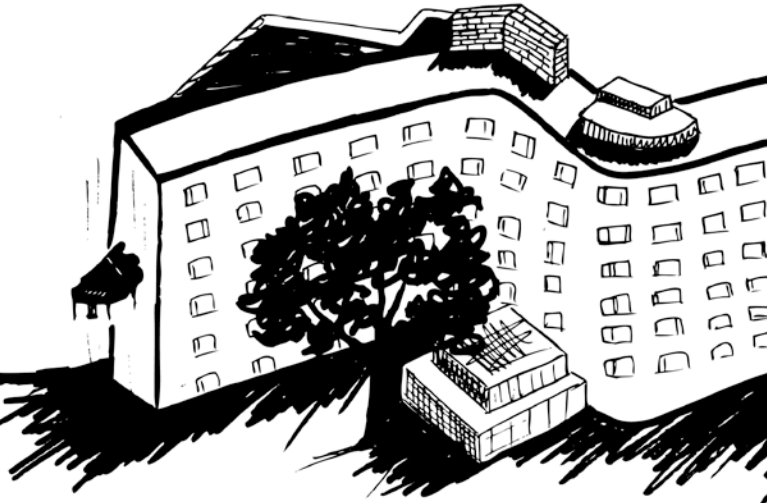
Feeling hungry for some delicious French food? Look no further. La Maison Francaise has crepes; so many crepes, in fact, that we can't eat



McCormick Hall

12:00

Tie a ribbon between two trees, walk across it step by careful step, and don't, ever, lose, your, balance.



Baker House

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2012

12:02—**EAsT campUS**
1/4” plywood would have been cheaper... (We’re still building shit?)

12:17—**Random Hall**
Mexican Roulette: One out of six quesadillas has more hot sauce than any reasonable person would put in their mouth. The question is: are you feeling lucky?

12:30—**Simmons Hall**
Grill, Fill and Chill

12:45—**EAsT campUS**
“I don’t know what Pat’s talking about.” “WHAT?!” (Join the lawn-chair coalition in the courtyard.)

12:47—**Random Hall**
Duct Tape Construction: Come make things out of the most awesome material know to peoplekind!

13:00

13:00—**New House**
Have you ever made a bubble with your hands? How about a giant one? Now you have no excuses, come learn how with German House!

13:00—**Baker House**
Baker House Tours: Come find out what it’s like to live in the #1 most popular dorm on campus! Get the inside scoop from our residents as you see our architectural landmark of a home and enjoy a taste of hand scooped ice cream!

13:00—**New House**
You have an imagination! We have



polymer clay! LET’S DO THIS!

13:00—**Burton Conner**
Tired of burgers? We have ribs.

13:30—**EAsT campUS**
The EC Rush food budget: 60% Greek yogurt (Come dine with us.)

13:30—**New House**
Calling all hilariously terrible artists... ;)

13:31—**EAsT campUS**
0g fat, 7g carbs, 24g protein in 1 8 oz. serving — no wonder we have so many concrete blocks! (Now do some heavy lifting!)

13:32—**EAsT campUS**
More protein than Pat McDaniel! (Pat isn’t going to help you lift anything, though.)

13:47—**Random Hall**
Crochet and Tea: Yarn + hook -> clothes! and tea! Learn how to crochet! Drink tea!

14:00

14:00—**McCormick Hall**
Smoothies! — We’ve raided Haymarket so we’ve got tons of fruit and ice cream. Come show us your mad blending skills by designing your own concoction.

14:00—**Senior Haus**
Your skin is too opaque.

14:17—**Random Hall**
Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream: Served steaming cold.

14:40—**EAsT campUS**



The police noticed our 24-foot structure might collapse onto our car. They told us to move the car. (More things to build!)

14:47—**Random Hall**
CHEESE: Swiss Cheddar Brie Cottage Parmigiano Reggiano Gouda Chevre Camembert Provolone Ricotta Colby Jack Pepper Jack Monterey Jack Mozzarella Muenster Blue Havarti Limburger Feta. In the Black Hole Kitchen.

15:00

15:00—**Senior Haus**
Go on a field trip to the Garment District to pick up clothes for screen-printing and tie-dyeing. At this used-clothing store, you can buy a pound of clothes for only ONE DOLLAR FIFTIE.

15:00—**MacGregor**
EVERYTHING AWESOME ALL THE TIME ALWAYS: Ice cream truck. Bouncy castle. Snow cones. Dunk tank. Puppies. What do these things have in common? They are awesome. The only thing that could make this event more awesome is you (and all of your new friends)! Be there!

15:00—**Next House**
Come create your own tie dye shirt, enjoy the sound system of the Next House Courtyard, and get some exercise with Frisbee, football, and American football!

15:00—**Burton Conner**
What color is your hair? It probably needs more rainbow.

15:01—**Burton Conner**
Bring your orientation shirts! White is boring. Rainbow is the best color.

15:47—**Random Hall**
MORE COLORS THAN YOUR HAIR HAS ROOM FOR! Need more color in your hair? We can fix that!

15:47—**Random Hall**
Random Jewelry Making: Store bought jewelry is so last season. All the cool kids are wearing toothbrushes and discarded electrical components.

16:00

16:00—**New House**
Help La Maison Française prepare a scrumptious meal from scratch. Faites bouillir, coupez, faites sauter, and immersion blend with us. Stick around until dinnertime, quand nous mangerons. No kitchen experience required!

16:00—**Burton Conner**
Help us paint our walls; they need rainbow too...

16:01—**EAsT campUS**
This burger tastes like lighter fluid... as is tradition! (Eat our food.)

16:17—**Random Hall**
Rocky Horrible’s Singalong Blog: Think Dr. Horrible is a beautiful, amazing, inviolable work of perfect art? Please, please please go somewhere else. Anyone else? Come join us in yelling obscenities at a perfectly nice Sing-Along Blog that has done absolutely nothing to deserve it

17:00

17:00—**Senior Haus**
If you’d rather eat out Ken than Barbie that’s cool too... plus, tireswinging.

17:17—**Random Hall**
Nerf Wars: Negotiations have failed. The shooting has begun. Both sides have vowed to fight to the death, and now the moment of glory is at hand. Do you have what it takes to be a hero?

17:17—**Random Hall**
DFTBA: Come watch a few vlog-brothers videos and talk about how awesome nerdfighteria never forgets to be.

17:30—**Next House**
Taste a delicious Vegetarian dinner for both meat lovers and veggie lovers, all prepared by the Next House student group, Next Sustain. This is not a meal to be missed.

17:47—**Random Hall**
Juggling in Enclosed Spaces: What’s more fun than throwing brightly colored objects at people? Doing it at the same time as fifteen other people all packed into a small lounge. Come juggle with us! Don’t know how? We’re happy to teach you!

18:00

18:00—**Senior Haus**
Give blood to the tree.

18:00—**Baker House**
Housemasters Parents Reception: Hear from Baker Housemasters Jeff and Barbara Hoffman about student live at MIT and in Baker House. Get your questions answered and mingle with the Housemasters and current Baker residents. Dessert and coffee will be served.

18:07—**EAsT campUS**
The Course 6 majors know to use 3/4” plywood. (Help us build or help us bitch — your choice.)

18:15—**New House**
Come eat a home-cooked dinner on la maison! Now Zagat rated...

20:00

20:00—**New House**
This ain’t your grandma’s game night, and there will be snacks! Warning: some German Housers may be incredibly competitive Uno players.

20:00—**McCormick Hall**
Fondue Party: Melted chocolate and plenty of fruit and sweets to dip, what’s not to like?

20:00—**Burton Conner**
Do you sing, dance, or play music? It’s our jam too.

20:15—**EAsT campUS**
32 Rush burgers and counting! (Grills are still hot — come get your burgers!)

20:16—**EAsT campUS**
“I don’t want any red drank in my apple juice!” “Where are your standards?” (You can’t have any red drank, but you can have some lemonade.)

20:17—**Random Hall**
Roofdeck BBQ: Meat! Ribs, sausage, pulled pork, and more! Come eat,



Bexley Hall

talk, eat, and see the awesomness of having a roofdeck. And eat! Food of the non-meat variety to be served as well.

20:17—**Random Hall**
Let’s build a fort! Build the finest, strongest pillow-based fortification in all the land.

20:30—**Next House**
You’ve mastered all the levels on Angry Birds on your smart phone... now see if you can master the game in real life.

20:59—**New House**
Dominion (Base, Intrigue, Sea-side, Prosperity)•Settlers of Catan•Carcassone•Apples to Apples•Bananagrams•Set•Catchphrase•3D Twister•Innovation•Space Alert•Quiddler•Xactika•Five Crowns•Pentago•Blokus•Anomia•Bang•Rock Band!!

21:00

21:00—**Senior Haus**
punxxx out ur clothes (bring your own shirt to print, we provide ink, apparatus, and stencil stuff)

Graduate Student Council Events

Sunday, August 26

17:00 - 19:30

Thirsty Ear Pub Welcome BBQ [Ashdown Courtyard (NW-35)]
Join us for great food, music, lawn games, and friends old and new! Thirsty Ear is MIT's on-campus pub, serving dinner and drinks at grad student prices: <http://thirsty-ear.mit.edu>. *The event is open to children, spouses & partners. *Admission open to all. Alcohol requires 21+ photo ID (US issued ID or passport). *Bar accepts cash & Tech-Cash only.

Monday, August 27

09:00 - 15:30

Grad School 101 [26-100]
This is the first day of the information rich portion of Orientation. The program for Grad 101 ranges from introductions to the administration, tips from current grad students, and where to find personal and professional support while at MIT. The Program includes a breakfast and lunch for attendees, and students are welcome to pick and choose sections of the most interest to you.
*The event is open to spouses & partners, but is not suitable for children.
9:00 am - Welcome
10:00 am - Student voice
10:30 am - Finding your path: Professional & Academic development during MIT
-LUNCH-
1:00 pm -Student panels
Work/Life Balance: the art of juggling
What Flavor of Advisor is Best for You: and how do you talk to them once you have one
Why You Need Friends: and what to avoid so that they stick around
How to Live on a Budget: free food is just the beginning
2:20 pm -Wellness & personal support

16:00 - 18:00

Campus Police Walking Tour [Kresge Lawn]
Long hours are common here at MIT. Come and learn the best routes for going home late at night.
*The event is open to children, spouses & partners.

20:30 -22:00

Couples Restaurant Night [Westgate]
Head to the Westgate lawn for a sampling of local international restaurant hors d’oeuvres and to meet other partnered graduate students. Learn the best places to go for date night and get advice from current coupled graduate students about work/life balance.
*The event is open to spouses & partners, but is not

suitable for children.

Tuesday August 28

10am-4pm

Info Booth [Lobby 10]
The information booth is your one-stop-shop for all information about orientation events, and other campus services and resources. Orientation event tickets may also be purchased here. The MIT-Harvard cooperative student store, (COOP) will be present for membership sign-up.

11:00 - 12:30

Initiatives Fair [outside 34-101]
Take this unique opportunity to talk to representatives from some of the largest student groups and initiatives about how their work relates to you. The contacts you make at the initiatives fair may lead you to avenues you wouldn’t otherwise stumble upon. Whether you start a business, pursue your passions in a global setting, lobby for sound science policy, or optimize the way your studies are taught you’ll be glad you came.
*The event is open to children, spouses & partners.

13:00 - 16:00

Grad School 102 [34-101]
This is the second day of the information rich portion of Orientation. The day will start of with tables set up to walk around and talk to representatives from the different on campus initiatives. Snacks will be provided after which we’ll have presentations on the different things to do at MIT and around Boston for fun. Grad 102 will end with presentation of everyday resources with plenty of time to ask any questions you have.
*The event is open to spouses & partners, but is not suitable for children.
11:00 am - INITIATIVES FAIR
-SNACKS-
1:00 pm - ACTIVITIES
2:00 pm - EVERYDAY RESOURCES

18:30 - 23:00

Sidney-Pacific BBQ & Movie Night [Sidney-Pacific]
Come join your fellow students, break ice with new friends, and relax with the familiar ones. Treat yourselves with plenty of free hotdogs, burgers, sandwiches, fruits, and juices. Enjoy listening to music. Cap it all with a fun and entertaining outdoor movie. All in all, start your MIT career with memories that you’ll come to cherish forever. *The event is open to children, spouses & partners. *Admission open to all. Alcohol requires 21+ photo ID (US issued ID or passport). *Bar accepts cash only.

ri??? ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

22:00—**Baker House**

Stargazing: Join the Baker residents and a former astronaut and his wife (and Baker Housemasters), Jeff and Barbara Hoffman, as we admire the constellations from our rooftop. Make sure to ask Jeff about his time as an astronaut while you snack on our evening treats!

22:00—**Next House**

Come make an LED strobe light from scratch with the help of the Next House student group, Next Make. Embrace the MIT way of life by creating your own inventions rather than buying objects from the store!

22:15—**EAsT campUS**

Thomas the Tank Engine: still chugging along. (Watch him go!)

22:17—**Random Hall**

Crazy Chess Variants: Test your dexterity, sanity, and possibly even chess skill with some of our favorite, wacky variations on chess.

23:00

23:00—**EAsT campUS**

Let's build an igloo! How about a zillion?! (Who knows what we're building at this point, but you can help regardless.)

23:04—**EAsT campUS**

I would like to tell Kayla to be extra nice to Thomas tonight. (Watch him go!)

23:10—**EAsT campUS**

Course 2: Clearly all you guys learn is how to hit on freshman girls. (You can climb on the fort, but it's at your own peril.)

23:17—**Random Hall**

All the ponies in this town are CRAZY. Do you like ponies? I like ponies. Do you like friendship? I like friendship. Do you like magic? I like magic. Also, cupcakes.

23:59—**Senior Haus**

Vicious. Delicious. Tastes like chicken.

23:59—**Next House**

Hungry? We've got what you need. With a variety of pancake ingredients, all of these pancakes are made personally for you in the Next House Country Kitchen.

Monday,
August 27, 2012

00:00

00:00—**Burton Conner**

Lasers. At midnight. Shoot your friends. Shoot your enemies. Shoot your frenemies.

00:01—**EAsT campUS**

He doesn't know the Russian word for fun because there isn't one. (Come learn Cyrillic!)

01:00

01:00—**New House**

Just finished partying? Stop by House 2 and grab some early morning breakfast before heading to sleep (if you even plan on sleeping). Pancakes, waffles, fruit, bacon, sausage... we've got it and you know you want

it!

01:00—**EAsT campUS**

Guys, you can't make fun of Laura anymore. (You can, though — try it and see!)

01:17—**Random Hall**

ALL OF TIME AND SPACE! Come along frosh! There will be foods related to your favorite Doctor. There might be foods that are a little wibbly-wobbly, like time! (...Or jello! Thyme flavored jello?)

01:30—**EAsT campUS**

This is unbecoming of a common grackle fan! (More birdwatching with Pat — yeah whatever we don't care what time it is.)

01:45—**EAsT campUS**

You don't get Rush. You don't get EAsT campUS. And no one gets you. (We're headed to the bear cave now, but come say goodbye first!)

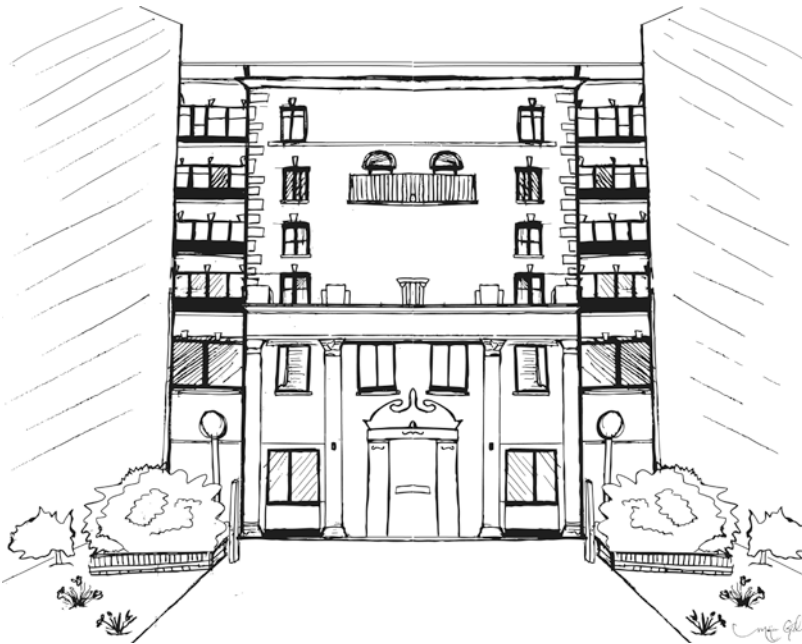
03:00

03:00—**Burton Conner**

Monday morning mafia and muffins! Mmm, alliteration is delicious.

03:17—**Random Hall**

RHOP: Random House of Pancakes: I'm a delicious warm pancake smothered in maple syrup. Bite me. We have almost as many pancakes as the International House of Pancakes, and you don't have to drive to



Burton-Conner House

get here. See how much maple syrup you can fit on one plate.

06:00

06:00—**Senior Haus**

Already broke the November Rule?

08:00

08:00—**New House**

Just waking up/heading to sleep? Craving delicious smoothies and pancakes? Not enough bacon in your diet? The awesome residents of New House will be serving up breakfast, so come get some!

08:30—**Next House**

Start the day off right with some tasty breakfast, served to you with a smile

not even a mother could love. ALL DAY LONG.

10:10—**EAsT campUS**

We don't know what happened that Housecomm. (But come see the results!)

10:17—**Random Hall**

Waffles and Smoothies: Perhaps one of the greatest food combinations known to mankind, threatening to eclipse even the illustrious chocolate-and-strawberries combination. But we'll have those here too.

11:00

11:30—**EAsT campUS**

NOT THE DOUCHEPAD (Yet another day has begun.)

11:35—**EAsT campUS**

Come to East Campus to learn exotic mating techniques all the way from South Carolina! (i.e. the grills are lit)

12:00

12:00—**EAsT campUS**

This is unbecoming of a common grackle fan! (Don't feed your burger to the birds!)

12:30—**Random Hall**

Housemaster Welcome Brunch: Our housemasters are the BEST! Go meet them and eat yummy food :)

12:46—**EAsT campUS**

"Penis penis penis penis penis goose motherfucker" — James OstrovskiiI Don't Know The Last Name Unkle (Lawnchairs are out! Let the bitching begin!)

13:00

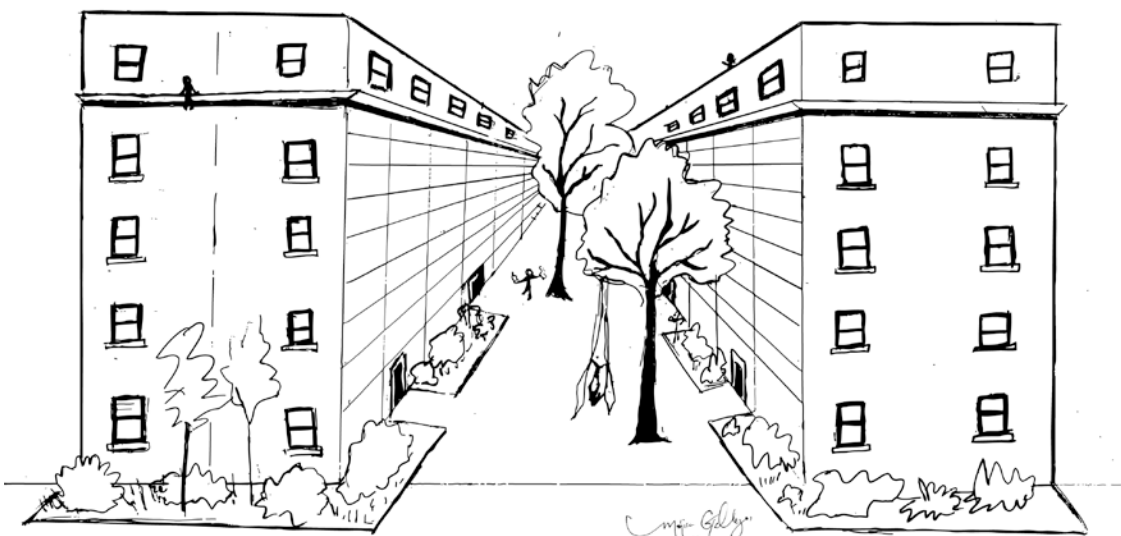
13:25—**EAsT campUS**

JoeG said we could. (If he keeps his word we'll have painting for you to do.)

13:30—**Maseeh Hall**

Maseeh Balloon Art in the courtyard.

14:00



East Campus

(:

09:00

09:00—**Burton Conner**

BACON BACON BACON

10:00

10:00—**EAsT campUS**

I'm going to be up at 10 am just like any fucking morning. (Hahahaha no one is awake who are we kidding.)

10:00—**Senior Haus**

Make yourself a new face, one that

14:00—**EAsT campUS**

Let me go get my winch! (Oh god no please help us distract him.)

14:00—**Burton Conner**

Grab a freezie pop and some lemonade on your way to the math diagnostic!

14:01—**EAsT campUS**

How do you spell "winch?" (Now that you know Cyrillic, it's time for English lessons!)

14:17—**Random Hall**

Dominate Dominion: Dominion, the (many) award winning game by Donald X is one of the best modern games ever created. If you've never played before come learn the rules if you've played a lot... well people here have probably played more. (We have more than a few 1000+ game alums in the dorm). So join us, and find your newest time-sink.

16:00

16:00—**Burton Conner**

Hopscotch! Jump rope! Sidewalk fractals!

16:00—**McCormick Hall**

Picture Scavenger Hunt: Divide into teams to see who can be the first to snap a picture with everything on our list!

16:00—**New House**

Interested in seeing where some of the coolest people at MIT live? Want to know how we have epic food without a dining plan? Come to the Taste of New House and sample the culinary expertise of the New House Residents from every corner of the world (except Antarctica).

16:00—**Maseeh Hall**

MASEEH FLOOR EVENTS LED BY GRTS

16:01—**Senior Haus**

Picture yourself in a boat on a river, with tangerine trees and marmalade skies. (bring your own clothing to dye)

16:17—**Random Hall**

It's BACON! Bacon... Bacon! Where's the bacon?! I smell bacon! Bacon. Bacon. Gotta be Bacon. Only one thing smells like bacon and that's BACON!

16:17—**Random Hall**

Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream: Don't try this at Harvard.

16:17—**Random Hall**

Tea and Math: Tea is Warm, cookies are sweat, Math is beautiful. Come enjoy all 3!

16:30—**EAsT campUS**

East Campus: That wall was never there. (Your job will probably be to put *up* walls, though.)

16:40—**EAsT campUS**

East Campus: Just like any other dorm except for all that UFO shit. (Start making your some of your own!)

17:00

17:17—**Random Hall**

Nerdy Singalong: It's hard to overstate my satisfaction with how much this event is fulfilling in creative way. If hopes and dreams are shattering apart, remember it's gonna be the future soon, so apply forgetful functors to the past and be still alive.

19:00

19:00—**New House**

The night is so very young, you're hungry, you wanna meet some cool MIT people and play some fun games. House 2's got the burgers, hot dogs, some fun desserts, drinks, and games. Come enjoy it all with us

in the New House Courtyard with a beautiful view of the Charles River.

19:00—**New House**

We'll have seasons and seasons of German Housers' favorite TV series. Come watch way too many episodes before you get distracted by PSETS!

19:00—**New House**

Lions and tigers and smoothies, oh my! Come relax with NH4 and show off your origami skillz while sipping on smoothies. Fun is mandatory, skillz are optional.

19:00—**Burton Conner**

Muffin madness — bake ALL the muffins!

19:01—**Senior Haus**

Drink fruit smoothies and carouse with the fruitiest Senior Haus residents, hayyy!!! ;) Many sizes of sausage served. Plus, tireswinging.

19:13—**EAsT campUS**

"Lady juices" is a Canadian colloquialism for lemonade. We don't know what all the hoopla was about. (We have lots of good stories. Have a seat and listen.)

19:17—**Random Hall**

The Delectable Dessert Pizzeria: Tired of regular old boring pizza? Tired of bland, unadventurous desserts? Well it's time for you to try Dessert Pizza! Come make your very own delectable doughy creation, full of sugar and spice and everything delicious!

19:17—**Random Hall**

Random Hallsmeade: It's not quite Hogsmeade, but it's close. Come taste a few of the yummy treats you read about while we join together in our collective quest to destroy the dark lord. Butterbeer will be served.

19:33—**New House**

S'moressssssss (please come and help us eat our marshmallows and chocolate)

19:47—**Random Hall**

(Almost) Life-Sized Settlers of Catan: Come play (almost) life-sized Settlers of Catan! Hoard sheep, wheat, iron, and brick! Trade them with your neighbors or foil their plans and keep everything for yourself. Build roads, villages, and cities!

20:00

20:00—**MacGregor**

We have Chipotle, a piñata, and a PVC bat. What could possibly go wrong?

20:00—**McCormick Hall**

Arts & Crafts: The awesome GRTs of McCormick are hosting an arts and crafts night. Come decorate a tote bag or make something cool to hang on your door.

20:00—**New House**

FOOD. LOTS OF IT. PROBABLY TOO MUCH. THIS IS NOT A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE.

20:16—**EAsT campUS**

Vinayak took down that wall in 2002. (Come to see to try and catch a rare glance of Uncle Vinny.)

20:17—**Random Hall**

Boffing on the Roofdeck: Nothing says, "Hey, let's be friends" like a foam sword to the abdomen.

20:30—**Maseeh Hall**

Maseeh Carnival Party

20:30—**Burton Conner**

Muffin madness — eat ALL the muffins that we just baked!

20:30—**Next House**

Kick back and relax in the newly renovated Next House Courtyard. Enjoy a movie played on a giant screen and s'mores cooked to perfection on a



Maseeh Hall

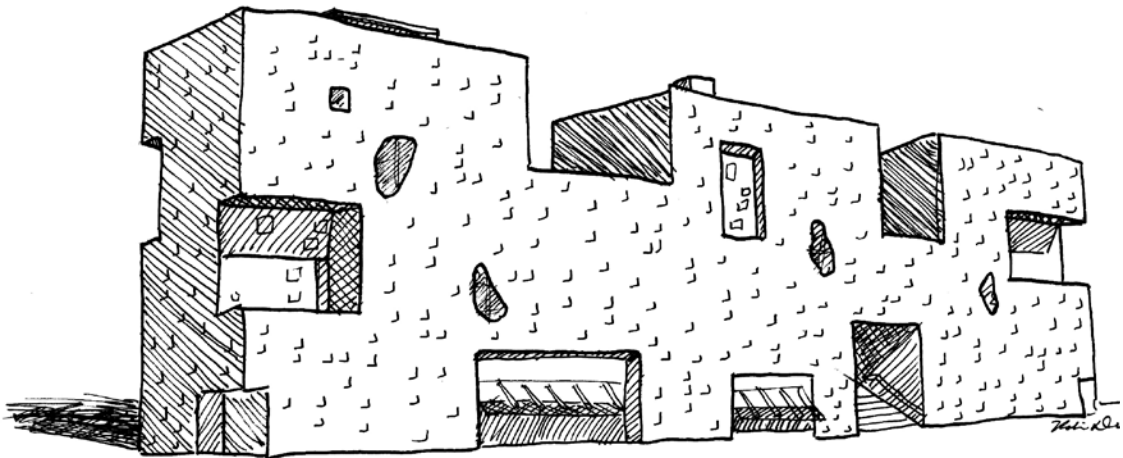
cool Boston night.
20:30—**Senior Haus**
All of us are naked under our clothes. Celebrate the human body. Beginning drawers welcome. (Charcoal, drawing paper, live model provided.) And holy shit, be on time.

21:00

21:17—**Random Hall**
Chain Mail: Learn to weave metal into chains and fabrics! Make armor worthy of the thirteenth century! Also suitable for badass jewelry.
21:47—**Random Hall**
Youtube! From autotuned news to vlogs to Minute Physics to memes to Watsky - come celebrate the youtubes!

22:00

22:00—**New House**
GUYS, WE STILL HAVE TOO MUCH FOOD LEFT. EAT IT AND WATCH ANIME THAT WILL BLOW YOUR MIND, OKAY?
22:00—**New House**
Part 2 of our overwhelming event — a continuation from CPW — we are STILL eating and playing games, so come join us and be overwhelmed by too much delicious food, and lots of board, card, and video games.
22:00—**Baker House**
Skyline: Come dive into orientation with the largest party of REX at the most social dorm on campus! Over 500 people last year! Party with your fellow freshmen and residents of Baker House!



Simmons Hall

22:01—**Senior Haus**
Whether you came with a purpose or you're here by accident, you're now part of the Struggle Bus.
22:17—**Random Hall**
CS and Juice: You walk down the isle at Shaw's, trying to pick the optimal set of juices to buy. You can't buy pomegranate juice without buying something sweeter to mix it with, like apple or orange, but if you buy orange juice, you wouldn't buy orange mango as well... uh

23:00

23:03—**EAsT campUS**
East Campus: No, it's a fucking shit-hole, I've been there. (Tours are probably done for the day. Also it's our party now.)
23:30—**New House**
Anyone longing for a WOMBO COMBO?! Stop by NH4 5th floor to pig out on finger foods and all the Smash Bros you could ever want.
23:53—**EAsT campUS**
EAsT campUS — too many cheesy snacks. (EC makes you fat, apparently — stop by and see.)
23:59—**Next House**
Still awake with nothing to do? Come create your own pie in the Next House Country Kitchen, or enjoy some of the freshly made pizza.

Tuesday, August 28, 2012

00:00

00:00—**Burton Conner**
You like frisbee? You'll like it more now that it glows in the dark.
00:00—**New House**
What makes a better late night snack than the breakfast food you'll miss by oversleeping? Come enjoy all your breakfast favorites and chat with

German House.
01:00
01:00—**EAsT campUS**
East Campus: H. B. Cuthbertson welcomes you. (Ask Pat about him. Actually just ask Pat about everything.)
01:00—**EAsT campUS**
East Campus: No vacancy (Come to EC and see if *you* can get he police called on you.)
01:47—**Random Hall**
Spontaneous Dessert Assemblage: Try combining Nutella, peanut butter, and bananas. Create a marshmallow-cemented structure of graham crackers and Twizzlers as a standing testament to your glory — until devoured. Or just fry things and see what's delicious. Bring your creativity — we've got the food

02:00

02:00—**Burton Conner**
Coloring, telephone pictionary, and noms.
02:02—**EAsT campUS**
It's older than you. You listen to that protein. (Party cleanup time — it's probably boring but you can help if you want.)
02:05—**EAsT campUS**
We need fewer inside jokes in these, you know? (More stories at EC!)

03:00

03:17—**Random Hall**
Pillow fight of DOOM! I regret that I only have one life to give for this pillow fight.

08:00

08:00—**Next House**
Pick out your own fresh fruit to make the smoothie of your dreams to start the day off right.
08:00—**New House**
Just waking up/heading to sleep? Craving delicious smoothies and pancakes? Not enough bacon in your diet? The awesome residents of New House will be serving up breakfast, so come get some!

09:00

09:00—**Simmons Hall**
Pancake Breakfast
09:00—**McCormick Hall**
Morning Run: Morning bridge loop led by McCormick residents
09:00—**Simmons Hall**
Design the Simmons Machine of War
09:30—**Burton Conner**
What did one pancake say to the other? See you on the flip side! :D
09:47—**Random Hall**
AHHHHHHHH the pancakes are attacking! We didn't know, how could we have known? The pancakes were ALIVE. You are humanities last hope! You must eat the pancakes and save the cheerleader (and we all know saving the cheerleader saves the world). Join the small surviving resistance in celebrating a battle recently won over our pancake foes. What better way to celebrate victory than eating your enemy? Vegan Friendly.

10:00

10:00—**Baker House**
Sunrise: The sun really rises at 6:05 AM, but that's too early for us. Come enjoy our beautiful million-dollar view of the Boston Skyline from our rooftop while you eat breakfast and chat with Baker residents. Our fresh-



Senior House

ly squeezed orange juice and freshly baked waffles will
10:17—**Random Hall**
Super Powered Marathon! Feel like a kid again and watch some of our favorite super hero cartoons!

11:00

11:15—**EAsT campUS**
If you take my wood I will pressure treat your ass. (You can grill all you want, but don't use Pat's wood.)
11:40—**EAsT campUS**
EAsT campUS — CAUTION, LEAD-ership HAZARD (There are way too many penises in the courtyard right now. Advance with caution.)
11:45—**EAsT campUS**

Pat you motherfucker, we don't have any entries for the past hour because you're fucking around. (Come be entertained by Pat, as long as he's not still hiding in the basement.)
11:47—**Random Hall**
Random: The Gathering: The Draft. Come draft our custom Magic: The Gathering set with our resident Magic players. If you've never cast Global Thermonuclear War, now's a good time.
11:47—**Random Hall**
Wrapping Random Noms: Wrap fillings in wrappers. Eat. Possibly nutritionally balanced. Omnivore, vegetarian, and vegan friendly.
11:49—**EAsT campUS**
What's your favorite kind of pickle? (You can get more than just burgers at East Campus for lunch)

12:00

12:00—**EAsT campUS**
Dill. (Ready for lunch? Come over to the EC courtyard)
12:02—**EAsT campUS**
EAsT campUS - nitrates totally aren't hydrocarbons (Get a tour of east campus. Now)
12:17—**Random Hall**
Classy Tea: Join the lovely folk of Random for a pleasant tea. We'll have tea and all sorts of sweets, presented in the most adorable manner. Think Working!! With a little bit of OHSHC. We are not, to our own disappointment, a devil of a butler. We do entertain at your leisure, so come by Random Hall.
12:30—**New House**
Marvel characters are awesome! We'll be watching any of the following at any given time between 12:30pm and 6:30pm: Iron Man, Iron Man 2, The Incredible Hulk, X-Men Origins: Wolverine, Thor, Captain America: The First Avenger.

12:30—**New House**
Balloons + Darts = Art?? Express your creative side and get a bit of dart throwing target practice with NH4 while decorating an art canvas with paint-filled balloons. WARNING: AWESOMENESS MAY ENSUE.
12:30—**Burton Conner**
Help us ready our flags (and our ammo) for battle! And paint your own coat of arms.
12:31—**Senior Haus**
Tea, crumpets, and mad hatters. Celebrate MIT's inevitable joi de vivre. How far down the rabbit hole are you willing to go?

13:00

13:00—**New House**
You don't need to understand German to hear the incest! Or, if you're not interested in incest, come snack, hang out, and ask any questions you may have about MIT life.
13:00—**McCormick Hall**
McCormick Carnival: Eat cotton candy or grab a snow cone while reliving your childhood with face painting, hopscotch and playground games like duck duck goose and sharks and minnows!
13:00—**Next House**
Objective: Conquer the enemy base. You have a limited amount of time to navigate through Next House and find and eliminate the enemy before the enemy finds you. Good luck.
13:17—**Random Hall**
Make your own Truffles: Chocolate with raspberry! Chocolate with vanilla! Chocolate with spices! Chocolate with mushrooms! Wait...
13:37—**EAsT campUS**
I'm not sure I appreciate you rubbing my knee and stroking my head at the same time...at EAsT campUS (See if you can eat a burger at the same time too)
13:47—**Random Hall**
ASSCARS: The Destiny Dune Buggy Challenge Old Toroidal Hallways + Electric Buggy + Freshmen + A few bandaids and maybe a helmet = Safer than most EC events

14:00

14:00—**Senior Haus**
Celebrate the cuming of the spring through this fertility-dance-and-fingerpaint-your-neighbor's-bellybut-ton-pink. Powdered tempera paint or liquid, pick your poison.
14:00—**EAsT campUS**
James is not a nudist — I've seen him naked one time. (Sit with us in our fort)
14:00—**Simmons Hall**



Next House

Grill, Fill and Chill
14:47—**Random Hall**
PREPARE FOR WAR: Come join the Random factory as we prepare to march to victory at the water wars! Cover yourself in war-paint! Prepare flying aqueous projectiles! Create funnelators of doom and deathiness! Unleash your inner berserker! Bwuahahaha.

15:00

15:00—**Maseeh Hall**
Maseeh Outside BBQ
15:00—**EAsT campUS**
Thomas J Wilkason: rookie of the year. (Meet our ambitious sophomores in the courtyard)
15:00—**New House**
Do you sing well? Do you sing not so well? Well, either way, we don't care! IT'S GONNA BE AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE'S EARS! MWAHAHA!
15:00—**EAsT campUS**
EAsT campUS — <http://tinyurl.com/JoeJesus> (Learn about history from Josh in the courtyard)
15:30—**New House**
Dreamed of eating l'arc de triomphe? Construct your own edible monument or fortress et puis mange ton chef d'ouvre.
15:30—**Next House**
Prepare for battle against East Campus in this year's WATER WAR!
15:30—**Senior Haus**
"FILL'R UP, JIM!" "I'll give you thirty gallons, Betsy!" "Oh, dear Jim, my heart is thumping in anticipation for the dramatic fight that will commence in a mere thirty minutes!"

16:00

16:00—**EAsT campUS**
Come break up with your high school girlfriend at EAsT campUS (Pat will even give you tissues and ice cream)
16:47—**Random Hall**
You were probably spelling bee champions in elementary school. We know the type - didn't miss a single letter in "Czechoslovakia", never lost your patience when the kid in front of you had to spell "popcorn" when you had to spell "paideia". Are you ready for a challenge of a different sort? Instead of struggling through "appoggiatura", prepare yourselves for questions ranging from "write a function that searches through an array for the first element greater than both of its neighbors" to "write a recursive descent parser for the following DSL..." That's not hard enough, you say? Fine. Now you have to spell your program out loud. Not enough? Live

Fisher v. Texas affirmative action case heats up

MIT, 13 peer institutions, and Obama administration submit briefs supporting UTexas

Fisher, from Page 1

plicant who declared the University of Texas at Austin’s admissions policy unconstitutional after being denied admission. The district court upheld the university’s decision, citing the 2003 case *Grutter v. Bollinger*, in which the Supreme Court upheld the affirmative action admissions policy of the University of Michigan Law School in a 5-4 vote. Fisher has since then brought her case to the Supreme Court, where it will be decided by an eight-member Court on October 10, 2012. Justice Elena Kagan, who had previously played some role in the case as a U.S. Solicitor General, withdrew from the case, according to *SCOTUSblog*.

There have been 73 amicus curiae briefs submitted in support of *Texas*, 17 in support of *Fisher*, and 2 in support of neither party, in the case that will be reviewed by the Supreme Court.

Support for Texas

MIT and the 13 peer institutions’ amicus curiae brief warned that “a decision questioning or repudiating the principles in [*Grutter v. Bollinger*] could significantly impair [their] ability to achieve their educational missions.”

These institutions state that they “recognized long ago that admissions by purely numerical factors such as grade-point averages and standardized test scores would not effectively accomplish their

broader educational missions.”

“MIT is committed to ensuring that our student body reflects a robust diversity, enriching our rigorous learning environment and helping prepare future leaders for a complex and heterogeneous nation and world,” said President L. Rafael Reif to the *MIT News Office*. Dean of Admissions Stu Schmill ’86 and Emma J. Teng, MIT Committee on Race and Diversity co-chair and Foreign Language and Literatures associate professor, both emphasized to the *MIT News Office* the importance of having a “richly diverse student body” and “ensuring that students of all backgrounds have access to education.”

In addition, a “Brief of Social and Organizational Psychologists” was submitted in support of the respondents and signed by 13 psychologists, including Evan P. Apfelbaum, a MIT Sloan assistant professor and social psychologist. The brief argues that “social science studies show that diversity leads to a more vibrant and productive workforce and civic life,” with diversity in higher education being “a compelling interest.” As such, the brief concludes that the holistic admissions process of the University of Texas is specifically designed and necessary to “achieve its compelling diversity interest.”

The Obama Administration has also submitted a brief supporting *Texas*, stating that affirmative action in admissions was necessary to achieve “enhanced classroom

discussion, decreased racial isolation, a robust exchange of ideas, exposure to differing cultures, preparation for the challenges of an increasingly diverse workforce, and acquisition of competencies required of future leaders.”

Support for Fisher

Among the briefs submitted in support of Fisher was one from the 80-20 National Asian-American Educational Foundation and the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, which contained references to MIT. The brief, arguing against using race as a factor in college admissions, cited an incident in which “an MIT dean of admissions speculated that the application ‘looked like a thousand other Korean kids with the exact same profile of grades and activities and temperament.’”

The brief expressed that, because of such statements of preferring not to admit “yet another textureless math grind,” high school guidance counselors have had to distinguish Asian-American students with recommendations like “Rachel, for an Asian, has many friends,” according to *Inside Higher Ed*.

It also cites as background a May 1918 Association of New England Deans meeting addressing the “rapid increase in the ‘foreign element,’ [where] the deans of Tufts, Bowdoin, Brown, and MIT all expressed concern about the growing number of Jews.”



SHERRY REN

Students in Discover Product Design learn about design process and techniques, visit local design firms, and design various products. Here, they are brainstorming ideas for designing MIT related “Keep Calm and Carry On” style posters.

Two rapes in Harvard Yard

Attacks just two days apart; residents feel nervous

Rapes, from Page 1

in the area of Oxford and Kirkland streets, near the university’s science center, according to university police. The victim reported the rape to Somerville police. Harvard University and Cambridge detectives are investigating.

The attack came just four days after another woman reported being raped in Harvard Yard.

The earlier alleged rape occurred early on Aug. 10, around 3:05 a.m., as the woman entered the Yard through Johnston Gate.

Kim, who lives just blocks from where the rapes were reported, said she has always felt nervous walking home alone because the university frequently sends alerts about crimes nearby.

She spends late nights studying on campus, and her three-block walk home has become harrowing.

“I actually run sometimes,” she said.

Last Friday, there was a noticeable police presence on campus, with cruisers stationed at the outskirts of the Yard. Harvard has increased uniformed and plain-clothes officers, along with uniformed security guards, in the area, which sits at the center of Harvard Square.

Two rapes in two weeks are unusual for the university.

“That [the Aug. 10 attack] was the first stranger rape we reported in over 12 years,” said Steven Cata-

lano, public information officer for the Harvard University Police Department, referring to a sexual assault by someone unknown to the victim.

Neither woman was affiliated with the university, he said, and the attacks do not appear to be linked.

“We’re in the preliminary stages of the investigation, but the suspect descriptions do not match,” he said.

The attacker in Aug. 14’s attack was described in a Harvard University police advisory as a white male, 5 feet 6 inches, thin, with dark, spiky hair. The offender in the Aug. 10 attack was described as a “very tanned” man in his mid-20s with a medium build and dark hair.

Catalano said the advisory had been emailed to all students, faculty, and staff at the Cambridge campus. It cautions anyone walking through campus to do so in groups, and to remain vigilant and avoid distractions such as cellphones or iPods.

“The Harvard University Police Department wants to remind students, faculty, and staff that we are located in an urban setting and share many of the crime and safety issues that exist in any city,” the advisory states.

“Any time you’re on a college campus where there are likely to be young people walking around by themselves there are going to be people who are going to try to take advantage; it’s an unfortunate reality,” said Kyle Crabtree, 27, as

he walked through the Yard. “You don’t blame the victims, of course, you blame the people who are putting themselves in a position to take advantage of people.”

Crabtree said he had just moved to Boston from Illinois two weeks ago to start his post-doctoral work at Harvard. He will be keeping an eye out for suspicious behavior, he said, for his safety and for that of the people around him.

Despite the ramped-up police presence and the heightened awareness on campus, some said they would be avoiding the area when possible.

Liyang Xu, 23, said she used to go running late at night from her home in Somerville through the Harvard campus. No more, she said.

“Nowadays, I feel so insecure,” she said, standing in the middle of Harvard Yard. Xu said she is in the process of applying to Harvard, but is not yet a student.

She stopped running late at night a few days ago, she said, after hearing of other crimes in the area. When she learned of the rapes, she decided not to start up again. She will not be walking alone or after dark in the Yard, either.

“I thought the campus is very safe,” she said. “It’s on campus, it happened twice. That’s not normal.”

Anyone with information is urged to contact Harvard detectives at 617-495-1796 or Cambridge detectives at 617-349-3370.



SHERRY REN

Students in Discover Ocean Engineering test underwater vehicles they made earlier this week in the Zesiger Center swimming pool. Later this week, they will test their robots in an ocean environment at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in southern Massachusetts.

Awaiting AT&T signal update

EC residents having cell amps problem; IS&T alerted

Cell amps, from Page 1

dents on several halls, unhappy that the antennas were malfunctioning, disconnected power from the antennas themselves in order to restore service. The antennas had been in use since the end of term last year and had not previously caused problems for residents.

Fizz said that IS&T is looking into this problem, and they will be notified by AT&T when the work is complete. AT&T has not yet deemed the cell phone antenna system in EC to be officially “on-air.”

“The DAS is monitored periodically by AT&T’s installers while it is being optimized. The system has

been turned on and is available for use, but AT&T is still tuning the system for optimal performance,” Fizz said. “Once the system has been optimized to AT&T’s standards, it will be declared officially on-air and will be turned over to their network operations center for monitoring. We are still waiting on a status update from AT&T.”

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Mounted combat in *Ravaged* doesn't live up to its full potential

Ah, late summer, when a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of actually playing one of the dozens of games he purchased during the Steam summer sale. The Valve Corporation's talent for making PC gamers buy more games than they can ever hope to play is a thing of legend, and this year I once again found myself in its thrall.

In the mid-to-late summer, when Steam comes by to peddle its wares, we are at our most vulnerable. The thought of the next semester is distant enough to let us delude ourselves into thinking there will be time, but close enough to give us a sort of subconscious desperation. We are at the height of our denial, that apex where we assert a thing most fervently because we have begun to doubt it ourselves. Shame on you, Valve, for preying upon our nascent fears of mortality.

Behind the scenes, there are a lot of reasons to root for *Ravaged*'s success. 2 Dawn Games is part of a growing group of independent developers breaking the mold of the games industry. In May of this year, they took in \$38,768 in Kickstarter donations so that they could bypass game publishers and bring their game directly to the customer through

In my youth, I played *Counter-Strike* and *Tribes 2*, games known respectively for their insanely high skill cap and viciously steep learning curve. I think W.C. Fields said it best: “If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again. Then quit — no use being a damn fool about it.” This is to say, as the result of a traumatic childhood, I am a casual gamer when it comes to FPSs. I care little for the competitive potential of a game — I care mostly about whether or not a reasonably intelligent person can, with minimal experience, avoid being completely annihilated.

The selling point that *Ravaged* makes is a simple one: vehicles. Virtually every casual FPS I've played falls into one of two categories. In one, vehicles don't exist. In the other, every match is started with an unseemly race to grab one of the tiny number of starting vehicles. Those lucky to have spawned closest to the most powerful craft dictate the course of the match — those who follow behind on foot can only frown in dismay as the pilot of their sole aircraft flies it straight from the base into the side of a mountain.

It doesn't hurt that along the way, *Ravaged* ticks the boxes of many other core elements of a good FPS. The ambience and art style are excellent, even if unoriginal. In the

The map pool that has been developed is thus far quite good. There is always a Goldilocks trick that has to be pulled off with map design. The perfect map tries to strike the right balance in two areas: the first is the risk-to-reward ratio, and the second is the extent to which secured advantages persist and snowball.

The second area can fall into two extremes as well: one in which the game is decided by whichever side has the first victory, and the second in which the game is decided by whichever side has the last victory. A good map should set a balance in the way it rewards sides that take objectives, such that the final outcome of a match feels like the sum of all the little victories along the way rather than the result of just one or two plays. The balance feels a little different across game modes and maps, but in most of them *Ravaged* has gotten things right.

Where *Ravaged* goes wrong, in my view, is that it doesn't do enough to deliver on the

As with all games in beta, the details are subject to change. This preview shouldn't be considered a final verdict. As it stands, though, 2 Dawn Games has some work to do if they want to make *Ravaged* a game worth buying. It's not that the game is bad — I think at its core, it offers just as fine an experience as any of the big franchise casual shooters. But surely *Ravaged* has higher ambitions than simply joining the crowd of multiplayer shooters, just as its would-be customers hope to buy something more than just FPS #8 in their gaming arsenal. *Ravaged* has hold of an idea that is worth pursuing, that can differentiate it from the pack and put it ahead of the mainstream.

If you're looking for a multiplayer PC shooter that is different from the rest, keep an eye out for *Ravaged*. It's not there yet, but the odds are fairly good it will be by the time it is released.

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Solution to Sudoku I											
from page 7											
8	1	6	5	2	4	7	9	3			
3	9	7	1	6	8	2	4	5			
4	5	2	9	3	7	6	8	1			
7	6	5	2	1	9	4	3	8			
1	3	8	4	7	5	9	6	2			
9	2	4	3	8	6	5	1	7			
5	8	3	6	9	2	1	7	4			
2	7	9	8	4	1	3	5	6			
6	4	1	7	5	3	8	2	9			

Solution to Sudoku II											
from page 7											
7	2	5	9	8	3	6	4	1			
4	8	3	5	1	6	7	2	9			
6	9	1	4	7	2	5	3	8			
1	3	4	6	2	7	9	8	5			
5	7	8	1	9	4	2	6	3			
9	6	2	8	3	5	4	1	7			
3	5	9	2	6	8	1	7	4			
2	1	7	3	4	9	8	5	6			
8	4	6	7	5	1	3	9	2			

Solution to Techdoku											
from page 7											
4	3	2	5	6	1						
3	2	1	4	5	6						
2	1	6	3	4	5						
6	5	4	1	2	3						
5	4	3	6	1	2						
1	6	5	2	3	4						

Solution to Crossword											
from page 6											
NFL		DOFFS		QUIPS							
OUI		EEERIE		UNCLE							
ARK		BRANCHES		OUT							
HYENA		UNTO		ANTI							
	MATE			POISON							
LEAVES		BEHIND									
URGE		SAXONY		SAT							
RAILS		GEO		XACTO							
ESC		CLICHE		LIMO							
	ROOTS	SAGA		INST							
ASSETS				OUST							
SEMI		ETRE		STINK							
TRUNK		ROUTES		LEE							
AGREE		MIAMI		LAP							
REFRY		ENSUE		ART							

Planning board accepts Novartis' revised park plan

Courtyard will be open 7 days a week; gates and fencing moved back from Mass. Ave.

Novartis, from Page 1

Ave, Albany St., Osborne St., State St., and Windsor St., with entrances on Mass. Ave., Osborne and Windsor. The existing 211 Mass. Ave. (former MIT building N42) will be joined by new buildings from architects Maya Lin and Toshiko Mori. Lin's building will have ground-floor retail on Mass. Ave. and Albany St.

At the planning board meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 21, Novartis presented new hours and slight architectural modifications. According to Jeffrey Lockwood, a Novartis spokesman, the courtyard will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends "as a starting point," and from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays. When the courtyard is closed, folding gates will extend the fencing at each entrance.

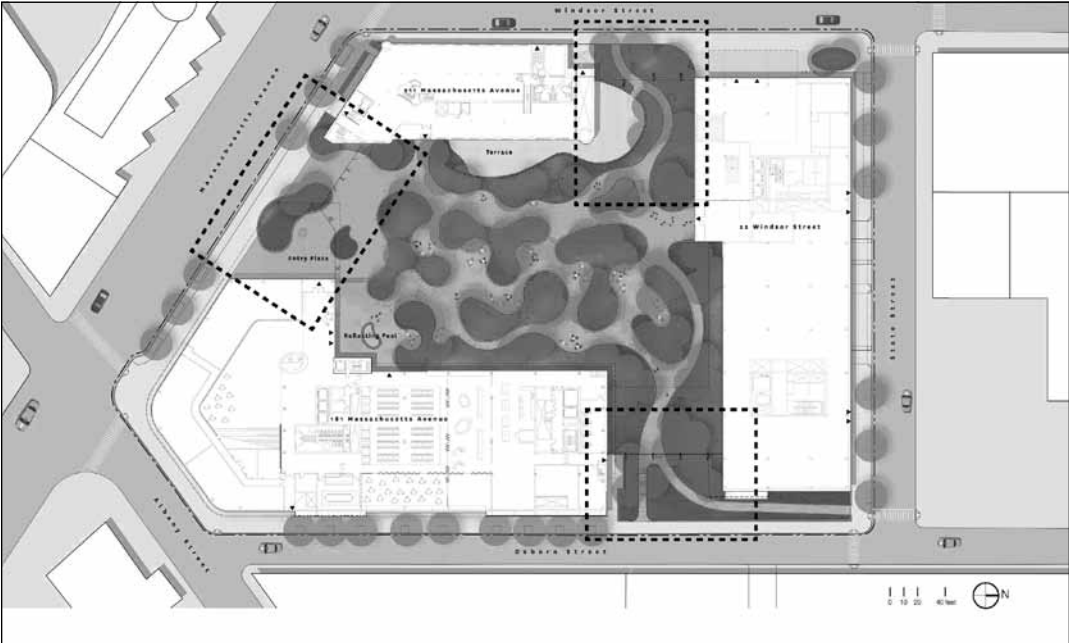
The gates are designed to be unobtrusive when open, unlike the black fencing of Novartis's existing public courtyard on the west of Mass. Ave. (That existing courtyard is currently

undergoing a \$1.5 million renovation of exterior brickwork that began this week.)

The gates and fencing have also moved further back from Mass. Ave. in order to make the courtyard more inviting. The Windsor Street entrance was also changed to make the path less steep, eliminating the need for hand rails and producing a fully accessible path into the courtyard. A reflecting pool outside the Mass. Ave. entrance has been moved inside the courtyard and is expected to be a fountain designed by Lin.

Planning board approval of the courtyard security plan was a condition of Novartis's zoning relief that was granted to allow some parts of some buildings to reach 125 feet in height, along with other minor zoning relief.

A copy of Novartis' revised proposal is available at <http://tech.mit.edu/V132/N31/novartis/>. It shows overhead views of the campus as well as architectural renderings of the three courtyard entrances and their associated buildings.



SOURCE: NOVARTIS INSTITUTES FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH / MICHAEL VAN VALKENBURG ASSOCIATES, INC., LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
Novartis's new east campus courtyard will be accessible 7 days a week, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends.

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