



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

An MIT Police officer braves traffic yesterday afternoon at the crosswalk at 77 Massachusetts Avenue to direct traffic to help students cross. The signal lights at the crosswalk, since repaired, had been out for several days, forcing students to race across the street during narrow gaps in traffic.

## ASA Space Allocation Complete

By Marissa Vogt  
SENIOR EDITOR

The Association of Student Activities released the results of its 2005 office space allocations on Sunday, completing its first space allocations since the fall of 2001.

Nearly all of the groups requesting space that didn't already have an office were granted space. The total amount of space available for allocation did not change greatly, but some groups did not renew their requests, thereby making space available for groups requesting space for the first time, said ASA President Jennifer D. Lobo '07.

Michael Shaw '07, ASA under-

ASA, Page 13

## Minority Admits Recover Even As Selectivity Rises

By Benjamin P. Gleitzman  
STAFF REPORTER

Applying to college is a tricky business, and it isn't getting any easier at MIT. The Institute's number of early applicants jumped 10 percent from 2,799 to 3,098 this year, while only 12 percent, or 377 students, were admitted, continuing a long-term increase in selectivity.

This year also marks a success for the Admissions office, which doubled the percentage of admitted under-represented minorities at MIT.

After the Class of 2009 had only 14 percent under-represented minorities, wrote Marilee Jones in an e-mail, "we redoubled our recruitment efforts for this cycle. We've reorganized our staff and added a few top admissions officers from competitor schools." The Classes of 2006–2008 had about 20 percent, making this

year's statistic of 27 percent a recent record.

Jones said that the spike in the total number of applications is a result of "our increased recruitment practices, our big presence in cyberspace with our MyMIT site and the blogs within it, and also the early application and early decision rules of our main competitor universities, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Princeton, and Caltech."

MIT operates under an early action program, a nonbinding commitment that allows students to freely apply to multiple colleges

Early Action, Page 12

## Bush's Fed. Reserve Nominee Will Speak At 2006 Graduation

By Beckett W. Sterner  
NEWS EDITOR

The 2006 commencement speaker will be Ben S. Bernanke PhD '79, President Bush's nominee for Chairman of the Federal Reserve.

"His career, in the academy and in government, has exemplified values that are central to MIT — personal integrity, analytical rigor, an uncompromising drive toward excellence, and a commitment to public service," said President Susan Hockfield in a press release.

Bernanke is currently chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors and could become chairman of the Federal Reserve, replacing Alan Greenspan, by Feb. 1 with the Senate's approval.

Bernanke's nomination earlier this year received wide praise from economics professors at MIT who knew him as a student.

"Of the people who might conceivably have been appointed by the Bush administration, Ben is far and away the best," said Robert M. Solow, professor emeritus and Nobel Laureate, in October. "I think he will be independent and apolitical," Solow said.

Bernanke has taken a relatively low political profile so far; he is a Republican but has been described as non-ideological.

According to the *New York Sun*, his friends say Bernanke is a "supple thinker and a deceptively shrewd politician with a deadpan wit."

Bernanke has been a professor at Stanford and department chair at Princeton, as well as a governor of the Federal Reserve.

While at Princeton, Bernanke made a name for himself by arguing that

Bernanke, Page 13

## Facebook Profiles Become Handy Tool for Recruiters

By Jiao Wang  
STAFF REPORTER

Join a group. Ever heard of People Mispronounce My Name a Lot, Bubble Tea Anonymous, Tsunami Relief

Fund-Raising Dinner, or Poker Night

2005? More and more, the Facebook is becoming a standard part of MIT life and reshaping college landscapes around the country. But how many of us realize that faculty, staff, and potential employers are trespassing on

student territory?

The Facebook was first created as an online social network for college students and as a means of self-expression. It was launched to the public on Feb. 4, 2004 by a Harvard sophomore named Mark Zuckerberg, and since then has expanded to high schools and hundreds of colleges.

In the beginning, students often opted to display their profiles only to confirmed friends or to members of their own school. Now, increasing

Facebook, Page 12

## David S. Saxon

By Anne Trafton  
NEWS OFFICE

David S. Saxon '41, physics scholar and former chairman of the MIT Corporation, died Dec. 6 at UCLA Medical Center after a long illness. He was 85.

Saxon, who also served as president of the University of California system for eight years, was MIT Corporation chairman from 1983 to 1990.

"David Saxon will be long remembered as a loyal friend and dedicated alumnus, and for his wisdom, good nature and wide-ranging knowledge of the issues and challenges in higher education," Dana G. Mead PhD '67, chairman of the MIT Corporation, wrote in a letter to Corporation members.

Saxon, a native of St. Paul, Minn., earned the SB (1941) and PhD (1944) at MIT, where he studied physics.

Saxon, Page 13



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Students stop to examine the works on display at the Glass Lab sale in Lobby 10 on Monday afternoon. The sale runs through today.



Comics

This is the last issue of *The Tech* this semester. *The Tech* will publish weekly on Wednesdays during Independent Activities Period, starting Jan. 11, 2006.

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ARTS

Shabalin leads MITSO through emotionally charged program of Russian music.

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# WORLD & NATION

## Iraq's Election Will Not End Violence, Bush Says

By Elisabeth Bumiller

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PHILADELPHIA

President Bush hailed Iraq's upcoming parliamentary election as a "remarkable event in the Arab world" in a speech here on Monday. But he said that the voting would not bring an end to violence and that Iraq was still threatened by Iran, Syria and its own religious and ethnic tensions.

For the first time, the president also put a number on the approximate numbers of Iraqis killed — 30,000 he said — since the beginning of the American-led invasion in March 2003. Bush gave out the number during a rare question-and-answer session after the speech.

"How many Iraqi citizens have died in this war?" the president said in response to the first question from members of the World Affairs Council, the host of the event. "I would say 30,000, more or less, have died as a result of the initial incursion and the ongoing violence against Iraqis. We've lost about 2,140 of our own troops in Iraq."

White House officials said that Bush based the number on public estimates of the death toll, not on an internal government accounting, and was not breaking down the numbers into civilian and military deaths. Iraq Body Count, a group that tracks Iraqi civilian deaths, listed them as being between 27,383 and 30,892 on its Web site on Monday.

## Iraq Prison Raid Turns Up New Case of Mistreatment

By Edward Wong

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

American and Iraqi forces raiding an Iraqi government detention center last Thursday in Baghdad discovered more than 600 prisoners packed into a cramped space, 13 of them mistreated so badly they had to be taken to a hospital, a senior American official said early Monday.

The raid was the second in the past month in which American forces have uncovered mistreatment of prisoners at the hands of Interior Ministry officials. On Nov. 15, soldiers with the 3rd Infantry Division, charged with controlling Baghdad, entered a ministry bunker in central Baghdad and found 169 malnourished prisoners, some of them tortured. Most of those prisoners were Sunni Arabs.

The detention center raided Thursday, situated to the east of the Tigris River, is run by a commando unit from the Interior Ministry, which oversees the country's police forces, said the senior American official, Lt. Col. Guy Rudisill, a spokesman for the American detention system in Iraq.

## OPEC Production Levels Unchanged

By Jad Mouawad

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KUWAIT CITY

OPEC decided Monday to keep its current production levels unchanged for now but hinted that it would consider paring its output early next year if it expected a drop in demand next spring.

OPEC's signal was the strongest in recent months that it did not intend to let oil prices fall, and that was all the encouragement oil markets needed to push up oil prices again on Monday.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, crude oil rose \$1.91, to \$61.30, a barrel. Since touching a high of about \$70 a barrel at the end of August, the day after Hurricane Katrina's landfall, oil prices had fallen more than \$15. Recently, they have hovered below \$60 a barrel.

Members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries decided to meet again on Jan. 31, two months ahead of a previously scheduled meeting, to consider cuts in output in the spring, when demand typically falls after the winter surge. Demand usually picks up again with the summer driving season.

# Supreme Court to Hear Case On Texas Redistricting Map

By Linda Greenhouse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court announced Monday that it would decide the validity of the much-disputed congressional map that Texas Republicans pushed through the state Legislature two years ago in a highly unusual mid-decade redistricting that led to the loss of five Democratic congressional seats.

The court agreed to hear appeals brought by four groups of plaintiffs representing Democratic, Hispanic and black voters as well as the city of Austin and its surrounding county. The justices will hear the cases on an expedited basis on March 1, in time to issue a decision by the end of the current term in late June, but not in time to avoid the prospect of turmoil in Texas politics should any aspect of the 2003 plan be overturned. The state's congressional primaries are March 7.

Not since Bush v. Gore, the decision that resolved the 2000 presidential election, has the Supreme Court ventured so deeply into a legal dispute at the core of partisan politics.

In the 2004 congressional elec-

tion, with the new plan in place, the Texas delegation went from an even division of 16 Republicans and 16 Democrats to 21 Republicans and 11 Democrats. The plan was engineered by Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, the former House majority leader.

"Tom DeLay and his corrupt cronies were willing to sacrifice the voting rights of millions of Texans to carry out a corrupt, partisan, mid-decade redistricting scheme," said Charles Soechting, chairman of the Texas Democratic Party in a statement expressing his hope that the court will overturn the plan.

The House Democratic leader, Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., echoed the sentiment, saying she saw the court's action as "a hopeful sign" that it will "restore the Voting Rights Act to its historic role in furthering justice for all Americans."

Gov. Rick Perry, a Republican, said "the Texas remap is constitutional" and expressed his confidence "that the Supreme Court will find that every Texas voter has a voice at the ballot box."

The question of whether the Texas redistricting violated either the Voting Rights Act or the Con-

stitution has ramifications well beyond the boundaries of that state. The mid-decade redistricting was so successful for the Texas Republicans that if it is upheld, it could well become the norm any time a single party gains control of a state Legislature and wants to entrench its power in the state's congressional delegation.

A special three-judge U.S. District Court in Austin upheld the Texas redistricting in a decision issued in June of this year.

The four separate appeals present a variety of questions for the Supreme Court, and it is not clear how broadly the justices might rule. One of the cases, for example, concerns the dismantling of a single majority-Hispanic district in South Texas, undertaken to shore up the re-election chances of a Republican incumbent, Henry Bonilla, who was losing favor with Hispanic voters in his district.

In an appeal called GI Forum of Texas v. Perry, No. 05-439, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund is challenging that action as a dilution of the Hispanic vote in violation of the Voting Rights Act.

# More Spending, Income Tax Cut Unlikely As Tax Revenues Slow

By Scott S. Greenburger

THE BOSTON GLOBE

Massachusetts' recent surge in tax revenues will probably slow in the next two years, according to economic forecasters who testified on Beacon Hill Monday, dampening prospects for a big spending spree and the income tax cut sought by Governor Mitt Romney.

Tax revenue growth probably will slow to between 5 percent and 5.7 percent in each of the next two fiscal years, down from the 7.1 percent growth in the fiscal year that ended June 30, according to testimony Monday by state Revenue Commissioner Alan LeBovidge, Michael J. Widmer of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, and David Tuerck of the Beacon Hill Institute at Suffolk University.

Though their growth is slowing, the state's collections for the current

fiscal year, which ends June 30, will be large enough to trigger a modest expansion of state personal income tax exemptions, revenue officials disclosed Monday. The larger exemptions, required by a law enacted in 2002, will save individual taxpayers about \$15 and couples about \$29. Now couples will be able to deduct \$7,700, up from \$7,150, and individuals will be able to deduct \$3,850, up from \$3,575.

Monday's assessment is closely watched on Beacon Hill, where lawmakers and Romney are already preparing the new state budget for fiscal year 2007, which begins July 1. It carries additional weight this year, because many political observers say that Romney is readying a run for president in 2008 and his stewardship of the state's economy could be a factor in his campaign.

The economic forecasters at-

tributed the projected slowdown to weak job growth, lower corporate profits, and a recently approved measure granting up to \$275 million in refunds to 157,000 investors who paid capital gains taxes in 2002. Massachusetts lost jobs in August, September, and October.

"We are only one-sixth of the way back to where we were at the highpoint at the beginning of 2001," Widmer said, referring to the 207,000 jobs the state lost during the recession. "The state's fiscal affairs remain tight." Income taxes make up the bulk of the state's revenue.

A fourth witness, economist Alan Clayton-Matthews of the University of Massachusetts at Boston, declined to make a revenue prediction, but cautioned that "our economy is growing slowly, and it doesn't show any signs of accelerating."

# WEATHER

## Clear and Cold

By Michael J. Ring

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The weather map will be unusually quiet over the next few days, as only a few areas of snow and rain showers will mar otherwise clear skies across the country today.

Today's forecast is certainly a far cry from last Friday, when Cambridge received about 8 inches of snow from a fast-moving nor'easter that snarled traffic across greater Boston. The storm conditions were especially difficult as the precipitation did not fall completely as snow, but turned from snow to rain and back to snow.

The exact storm track greatly affects the type of precipitation that Boston receives from winter storms. As the circulation around the low pressure is counterclockwise, warm air is advected to the east of the center and cold air to the west of the center. Hence a storm center staying far offshore produces snow, while an inland track favors rain. In between these extremes, however, are tracks which result in changing precipitation for Boston, and the city passes from cold to warm to cold air as the storm comes through. These nor'easters produce the icing of roadways and runways that makes travel so dangerous.

The storm track is worth keeping in mind as another coastal storm is expected to develop for Friday. Currently, projections show it taking an inland track, so the current forecast is for precipitation to fall as mainly rain.

### Extended Forecast

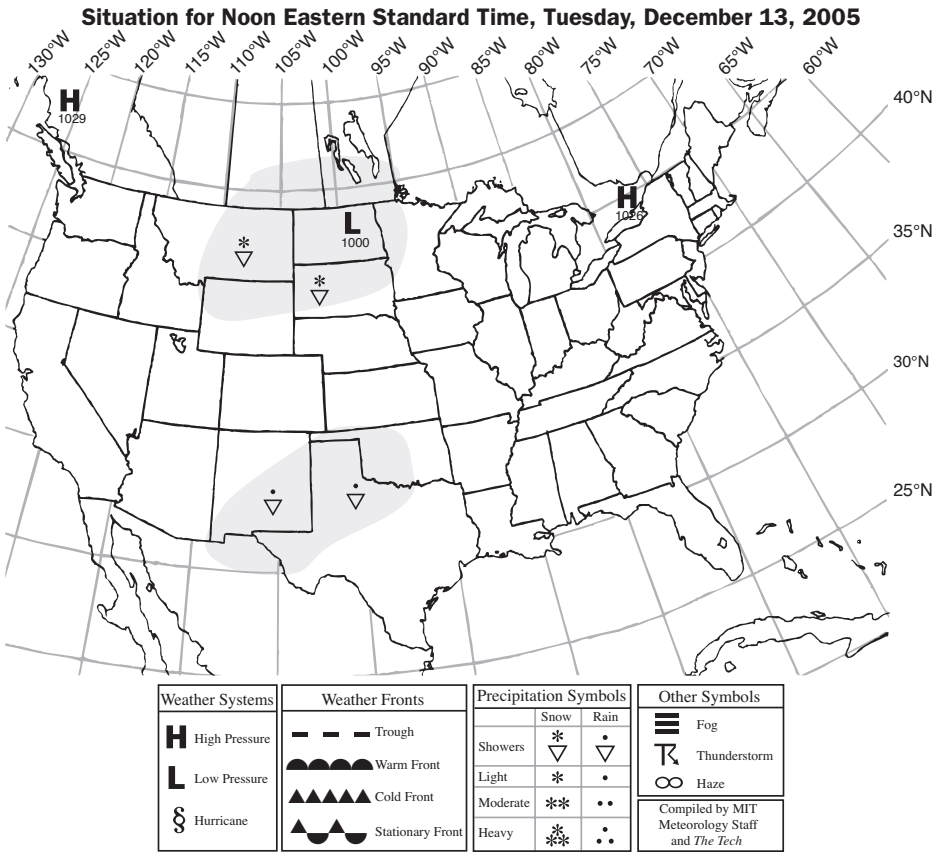
**Today:** Clearing but cold. High near 27°F (-3°C).

**Tonight:** Continued clear but cold. Low near 17°F (-8°C).

**Wednesday:** Clear and cold again. High near 29°F (-2°C). Low near 19°F (-7°C).

**Thursday:** Cloudy and slightly warmer. High near 33°F (1°C). Low near 28°F (-2°C).

**Friday:** Rain and snow likely. High near 38°F (3°C).





# Car Bomb Explodes in Lebanon Killing Anti-Syrian Journalist

By Michael Slackman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIRUT, LEBANON

An outspoken Lebanese lawmaker and journalist known for his anti-Syrian views was killed in a car bomb attack Monday morning as he drove to his office, having returned here from Paris less than 24 hours earlier.

The police said an explosive-laden parked car was detonated as the legislator, Gibran Tueni, 48, drove by, killing him and his security men in a fiery blast just outside the capital that catapulted his armored car off a narrow road and into a valley.

Tueni, who had been abroad for months out of fear he would be killed here, was editor of An Nahar, Lebanon's most important newspaper, long a voice of opposition to Syrian involvement in Lebanon.

The killing made Tueni (pronounced TWAY-nee) the latest journalist to be attacked in a string of bombings that began shortly after the former prime minister, Rafik Hariri, was killed last February. It was seen by many here as a part of a broader plan to silence the anti-Syrian media in Beirut.

The day before Tueni was killed, he was in Paris visiting with a well-known Lebanese television anchorwoman, May Chidiac, who had survived a car bomb attack as well.

"This tragic assassination is today the latest in a vicious campaign against Lebanese citizens, journalists, political leaders and their right to freedom of expression," the U.N. Secretary-General, Kofi Annan SM '72, said in a statement. The assassination of Tueni occurred just hours before the German prosecutor leading the U.N. investigation into Hariri's killing presented Security Council members with an update on his findings, which continue to point at Syria and its security institutions as being behind the assassination.

In Damascus, the Syrian government vehemently denied any connection to this or any of the killings in Lebanon of the last year. The Syrian new media said those responsible were probably Israeli agents or those around Saad Hariri, the son of the slain prime minister and a leader of the Lebanese political movement that arose after the assassination.

In Lebanon, the killing of Tueni

further burdened a population that is increasingly freighted and fatigued by such violence, and aggravated the fault lines that run through the governing coalition. While the government called on the U.N. Security Council to create an international tribunal to try suspects in the Hariri case and to investigate the bombings that followed, pro-Syrian ministers announced they were suspending their participation in the government.

"We object to the principle of internationalizing all Lebanese files," Energy Minister Muhammad Fneish told reporters. He is a member of Hezbollah, a radical Islamic party that has long had Syrian support.

On the street, protesters gathered in the square outside An Nahar's offices newspaper — the square that filled with tens of thousands of people after Hariri was killed by a car bomb. At one point protesters booed anyone perceived as pro-Syrian, while a student speaker encouraged Lebanese of all factions to stay united.

"If Bashar Assad were watching you guys booing," a student leader said to the crowd, referring to the President Bashar Assad of Syria.

# Judge Declares Mistrial in Merck Vioxx Trial Because of Hung Jury

By Alex Berenson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In an apparent setback for Merck, a federal judge in Houston declared a mistrial Monday in Plunkett v. Merck, the third Vioxx lawsuit to reach trial, after jurors said they were hopelessly deadlocked.

The panel of nine jurors had debated for about 18 hours on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The lawsuit was brought by Evelyn Irvin Plunkett, the widow of Richard Irvin Jr., who died at age 53 in May 2001 after taking the Merck painkiller Vioxx for less than a month.

Judge Eldon E. Fallon of U.S. District Court declared a mistrial at about 9 a.m. local time and sent jurors home Monday morning after they reported they could not reach a verdict. On Saturday, Fallon had read jurors a so-called Allen charge, a set of instructions encouraging them to try harder to reach consensus.

The lawsuit was tried in Houston instead of New Orleans, where Fallon is usually based, because of damage from Hurricane Katrina. The case will probably be tried again early next

year, and Fallon has said that he hopes it can be heard in New Orleans.

Lawyers for both sides said they were disappointed by the outcome but looked forward to retrying the case. And a lawyer for Merck said the company was pleased by a report that a lone holdout had kept the jury from finding in the company's favor.

Still, lawyers not involved in the suit said the mistrial was a bad sign for Merck, which had been expected to win the trial relatively easily following its victory last month in a similar case in a New Jersey state court.

"Most people watching this litigation closely thought that Merck ought to win it," said Carl W. Tobias, a law professor at the University of Richmond. "Despite the characterizations by Merck so far, I think this was really a loss for them."

Shares of Merck fell 72 cents on Monday, to \$28.41, a drop of 2.5 percent.

Unlike state courts, federal courts require unanimous verdicts in civil cases. Lawyers involved in the case said Monday that they did not

know whether jurors in the Plunkett case had ever been close to a verdict, or how the jury had split. Fallon's office did not return calls asking if the court planned to make the jurors' names public.

In an article on its Web site Monday evening, *The Wall Street Journal* reported that jurors it did not identify had said the jury had deadlocked 8-1, with the majority favoring Merck.

In state and federal courts, more than 6,000 people have sued Merck, claiming they or their family members were injured or killed after taking Vioxx, a once-popular painkiller that Merck stopped selling last year after the drug was linked to heart attacks and strokes. As many as 100,000 lawsuits are expected, and some Wall Street analysts say Merck could eventually pay as much as \$50 billion to settle all the cases.

"This is a huge loss for Merck," said W. Mark Lanier, a plaintiffs' lawyer, said Monday. Lanier defeated Merck in August in the first Vioxx lawsuit to reach a jury, in state court in Angleton, Texas. "Merck will never find an easier case to win."

# Even in An Oil Boom, Saudi Arabia Still Seeks to Diversify Its Economy

By Jad Mouawad

THE NEW YORK TIMES

RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

The ultimate oil state is seeking to shift its economy away from oil.

Saudi Arabia may be experiencing its third oil boom in three decades but it is also undergoing an economic revolution that its rich but nervous leaders hope will finally insulate it from the oil producer's curse: the next price collapse.

The Saudi kingdom remains the 600-pound gorilla of the global oil market. Given its vast reserves, Saudi Arabia can keep pumping oil for the next 70 years. Oil, along with Islam's holy cities, Mecca and Medina, provides the country's rulers with wealth, power and influence. Oil sales account for 40 percent of the economy and about 90 percent of government revenue. But that reliance on a volatile commodity — with big booms but also big busts — is also a problem that the royal family is determined to overcome.

The nation's leaders, of course, have made similar vows before to translate their vast oil wealth into a

more diversified economy. Will this time really be different?

There are signs that it may be. Unnoticed by many outsiders, the Saudi private sector has been flourishing in recent years, thanks to structural changes started by King Abdullah in the late 1990s when he was crown prince and oil prices were at \$10 a barrel.

"There's a gold rush in Saudi Arabia right now," said Mohammed al-Sheikh, a Saudi lawyer associated with the White & Case law firm here in Riyadh, the capital. "You can feel it everywhere in the economy. Everyone wants to invest here."

Driven by a construction boom that is already replacing many of the buildings thrown up in the 1970s, sprawling shopping malls, paved with white marble and featuring Gucci stores and Starbucks coffee shops, have become fixtures of the landscape in Riyadh, Khobar and Jeddah.

Analysts at the Samba Financial Group in Riyadh expect the economy to grow by 6.5 percent this year thanks to record oil prices, which have helped fuel the third consecu-

tive year of rapid expansion. But the private sector, which also stands apart from the state-run oil industry, has outpaced the rest of the economy for seven of the last 11 years and is expected to grow 7.4 percent this year.

"The diversification of our national income and our economy away from oil is key to our well being," said Abdullah Alireza, a minister without portfolio and a member of the Supreme Economic Council. "It's absolutely key."

The Saudi stock market has become one of the world's top performers, and growth in its market value for this year is about twice as large as the country's oil revenues.

Saudi Arabia is also opening itself to real competition. It joined the World Trade Organization on Sunday after 12 years of negotiations, a move that is expected to give a powerful push to the country's private sector.

"It's going to be a long road to bring ourselves up to international standards," said Fouad al-Humoud, a local businessman, sitting in his office in the center of this sprawling city.

## Trade Talks Likely to Focus On Exports of Poorest Nations

By Keith Bradsher

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HONG KONG

Recognizing that little progress can be expected on intractable issues like farm subsidies, officials at global trade talks scheduled to begin here on Tuesday now appear likely to focus heavily on increasing exports from the world's poorest countries.

Pascal Lamy, director general of the World Trade Organization, and John Tsang, Hong Kong's trade minister and chairman of the WTO ministerial conference here, have called with increasing emphasis in the last few days for a detailed agreement eliminating all taxes and quotas on the exports of at least 32 of the world's poor countries.

The move to focus on trade by the poor is drawing support from the European Union and Japan, as well as from some of the more economically viable developing nations. It comes as efforts for a deal on agricultural subsidies have stumbled.

But this emphasis on poor countries poses potential difficulties for the Bush administration, which has raised concerns while accepting that some kind of agreement is needed on trade relations with the poorest among Third World economies.

The administration faces pressure from Southern states like North Carolina on cotton, particularly garments. While the United States allows tax-free, quota-free imports of garments from many poor countries in Latin America and Africa, industry groups in textile-producing states and their political allies in Congress oppose the elimination of taxes on garments from Bangladesh, a poor nation that is one of the world's largest exporters of clothing.

## French Detain 20 Suspected Islamic Radicals

By Elaine Sciolino

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

The French police announced Monday that they had arrested more than 20 Islamic militants and petty criminals in the Paris area who were believed to have been plotting terrorist acts in France.

A police statement described the arrests as "an important operation aimed at dismantling an Islamist network linked to a terrorist enterprise."

The police have not yet determined whether the group had precise plans for a terrorist attack. But they found it worrisome that the group included a blend of militant Islamists and petty criminals who were apparently committing common crimes as a way to raise money for terrorism, an intelligence official from the DST domestic intelligence service said.

Some of the suspects have criminal records, for charges including armed robbery and the possession of false documents, the intelligence official said.

"This was a rather important and rather worrying operation," the official said. "Some of them were very experienced thieves and armed robbers who intended to use the money for terrorist activities. They represented a concrete danger."

The official declined to be identified because it would violate the rules of his agency.

## New Law in Tijuana Regulates The Oldest Profession

By James C. McKinley Jr.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

TIJUANA, MEXICO

She arrived at the clinic at noon, dark sunglasses covering her eyes and a baseball cap pulled down low. She clutched a small pink book with her picture stapled inside. The dates of her examinations for venereal diseases were stamped in inks of various colors, like a passport.

Her name is Olga, and like thousands of other women in this town, she works as a prostitute, recruiting clients at a topless bar. These days, however, unless she is tested every month at a government clinic and has the right stamps in her booklet, the police will arrest her.

"You cannot work without it," she said, running her finger down the list of dates and notations saying "HIV negativo." "If you don't have it, the police will take you away and you have to pay a fine."

The testing is one of the measures this city has taken to regulate prostitution, which has flourished here for decades. The city council passed a law in June that requires the town's active prostitutes — 5,000 are currently being tested each month — to have monthly medical exams for sexually transmitted diseases and forces brothel owners to adopt more sanitary practices. Those who do not comply face stiff fines and the loss of their business licenses.

The city has also begun issuing new credentials to prostitutes to replace the old pink booklets. The new licenses look like a credit card with a photo. A magnetic strip on the back allows health inspectors with hand-held scanners to check the card-holder's medical status in seconds.

## Ex-Croatian General Pleads Not Guilty

By Marlise Simons

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

Ante Gotovina, a former general from Croatia, on Monday appeared before the war crimes tribunal in The Hague and listened impassively to a list of international crimes lodged against him for his role during military operations against Serbian forces and civilians in 1995.

It was his first appearance at the tribunal, where prosecutors had campaigned for his arrest for more than four years. During the hearing, he pleaded "not guilty" to all seven counts against him. He was arrested last Wednesday.

Gotovina, once a fighter in the French Foreign Legion and now viewed at home as a hero of Croatia's war of independence, remained polite and distant during the 90-minute proceeding, which could be watched via video transmission from the court.

When the U.N. judge asked him if he wanted to present any issues about the proceedings or about his prison conditions, he replied briefly: "No, I do not have anything to raise. Everything is fine. Thank you very much."



OPINION

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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). Third class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Permit No. 1. **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 2005 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.

Advising: Some Advice

Over this past term, the Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) has been studying the current state of the advising program at MIT. Last November, our committee conducted a survey, titled DormStorm, of 10 percent of undergraduates to gather feedback on the advising system. There were several specific aspects that students identified as problematic in the current advising system:

- ¶ Lack of Consolidated Resources
- ¶ Poor Advisor Knowledge Level
- ¶ Low Advisor Contact
- ¶ Ineffective Evaluation Process

We also found that the satisfaction level of students declines with time. On a 1–10 scale, members of the Class of 2009 rated their satisfaction with the advising system as 6.7, Class of 2008 as 5.9, Class of 2007 as 5.7, and Class of 2006 as 5.4.

Some of our recommendations:

- ¶ Integrate advising into the tenure and promotion process as a method of encouraging professors to become better advisers. Establish institute-wide guidelines for advising meetings.
- ¶ Improve advisor training program to increase advisor familiarity with current institute and department requirements. Ensure that faculty knows what resources are available for students.
- ¶ Develop and implement an advisor-evaluation system for freshmen and departmental advising. Incorporate successful departmental advising elements across the Institute.
- ¶ Ensure incoming students understand advising options before making their choice of freshman advising program.

Integrate effective aspects of seminar-based advising into other freshman advising programs.

Establish a more formalized peer advising system.

Provide freshmen with information about the courses and opportunities to interact with faculty and students from each department. Departments should consider student preferences when making advising assignments.

An electronic version of this report is available at: [http://web.mit.edu/ua/www/committees/scep/SCEP\\_Report\\_on\\_Advising\\_Policy.pdf](http://web.mit.edu/ua/www/committees/scep/SCEP_Report_on_Advising_Policy.pdf)

Cassandra B. Roth '07

Vice Chair

Undergraduate Association Student Committee on Educational Policy

Strides or Baby Steps?

A Reflection on Hockfield's First Year

Hector H. Hernandez

December 6 was a quiet day at the Institute; life proceeded as it would on any other December day at MIT. So what made this day special? It marked the one year anniversary of President Hockfield taking office as MIT's 16th President. Now is a good time to step back and reflect on the first year of the presidency.

The election of a life scientist as the leader of a premier engineering institute sent the message that MIT and engineering as a whole were ready to conquer one of the last scientific frontiers: biology. President Hockfield has compared it to the exciting and productive beginning of the last century when physics and engineering converged to produce the advances in technology and innovation that contributed to MIT's rise as a national leader in research and development.

The community had reservations about the wisdom of choosing a life scientist to lead an engineering institute. There were those who questioned whether an outsider would be able to assimilate into the community. Then there were those who wondered if the commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and information expected from MIT would be compromised.

President Hockfield came in with a strong vision and set of ideals of what was ailing this nation. The president, in the remarks of August 26, 2004 made it very clear that the hope was that MIT would become the place where all school children in America dream of going. This is quite a goal for a nation in which only 18 percent of 12th-graders are working solidly at grade level in science and only 16 percent in math and where only 17 percent of bachelor's degrees are awarded in science and engineering.

President Hockfield enumerated several challenges facing the Institute, the nation, and the world in her Inaugural Address: collaboration, energy and environmental stewardship, and inspiration of the next generation of scientists and engineers. These are not new to MIT, but what is new, or at least renewed, is the emphasis on the responsibility of every member of the community to work to address these issues.

One year later I ask, how is it going?

The President has appointed the Energy Research Council to lead the effort in research into and education about sustainable and alternative energy sources. The issues facing the world today are vastly different from those during the energy crisis of the early 1970s. Leaders of academia, community, government, and industry need to come together to present realistic long-term solutions to address these issues. MIT, with its long tradition of collaboration and research, together with a solutions-based attitude, now stands committed to address this challenge.

President Hockfield has expressed deep concern for the state of education in this country. The president spoke of the responsibility to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers. Recent events in the U.S. have made it imperative that MIT and the Office of the President urgently

*I believe that President Hockfield is a quick study and has developed a deep understanding of the unique environment harbored in the Institute.*

take on this challenge. President Hockfield has addressed the topic of educational opportunities for women and economically disadvantaged individuals. Whether in the presence of business

or governmental leaders, no opportunity to bring these issues up has been wasted. The President has also made it imperative to make funds available so that qualified individuals of limited resources can attend MIT.

One other area worth addressing is that of communication within and about the community. President Hockfield faced some of the issues regarding allegations of misconduct at the institute. There are clear, public statements on the position of the president's office and of MIT on these matters.

Is it all rosy and pretty? By no means. There are lingering issues at MIT that need to be addressed by the president and the community as a whole. The better question is, "Is the president living up to expectations?" I believe that President Hockfield is a quick study and has developed a deep understanding of the unique environment harbored in the Institute. Will MIT be a better place when the 16th president makes way for number 17? Only time will tell.



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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted.

*The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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December 13,  
2005

# COMICS

The  
Tech

# FUN

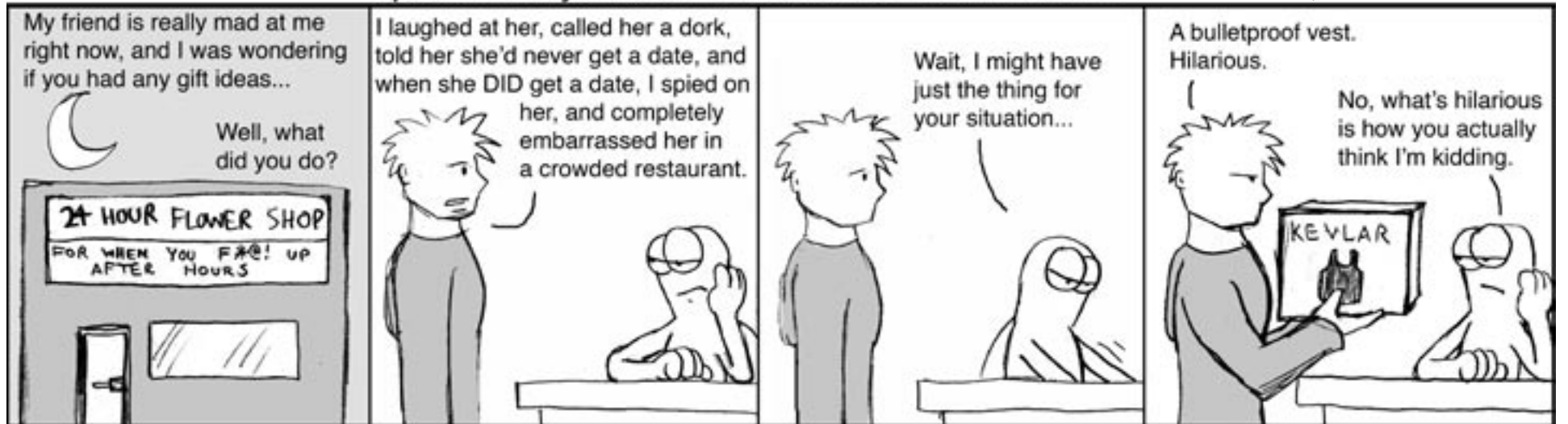
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# PAGES

## Trio

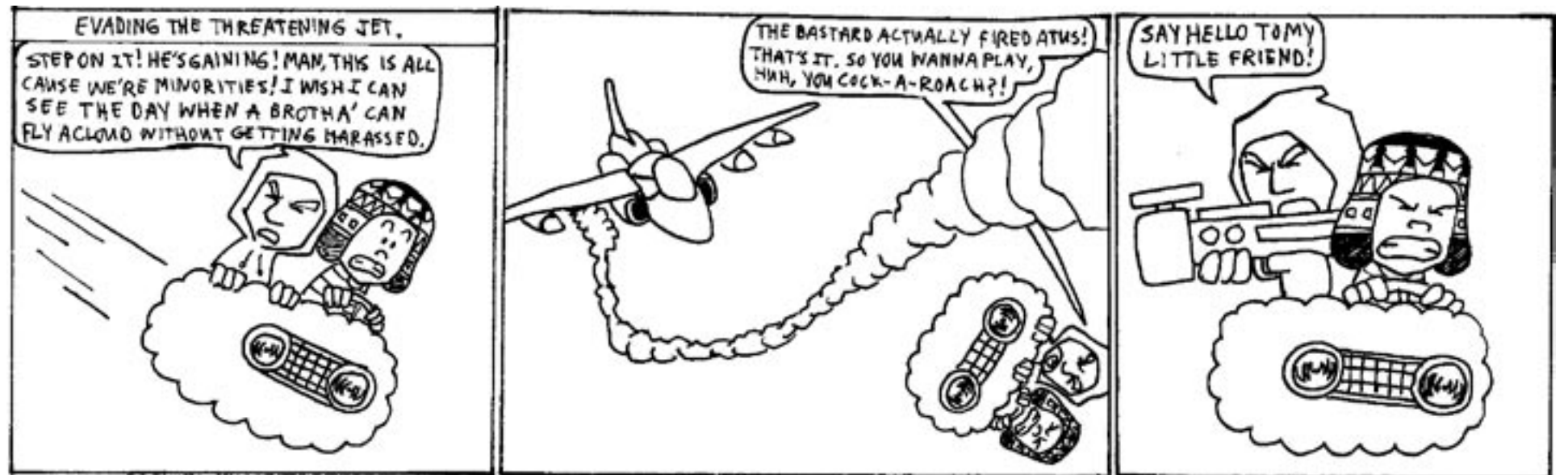
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by Emezie Okorafor



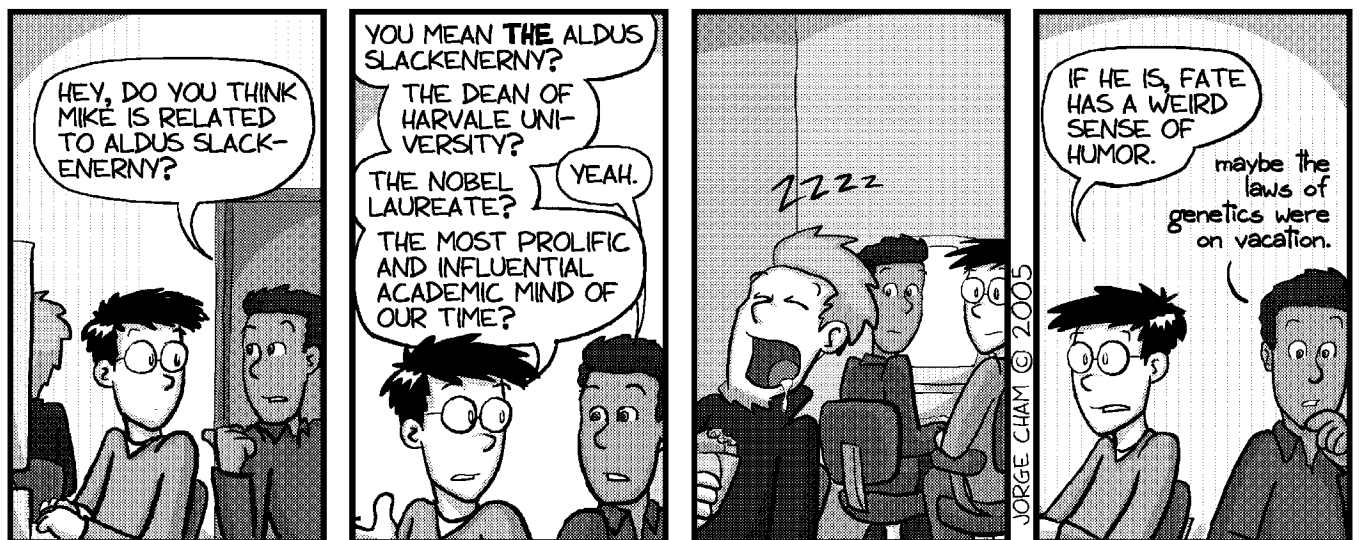
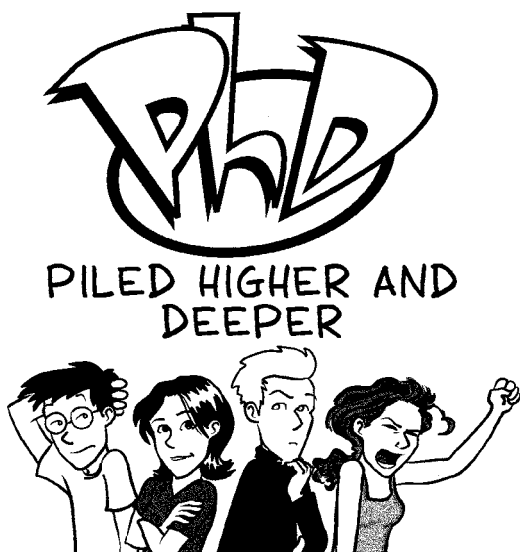
## Moons of Uranus

by Juan Pablo Mendieta



## Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 12



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FoxTrot by Bill Amend

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Bonus Crossword

Solution, page 14

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

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Solution, tips, and compuer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>; see also solution, page 12.



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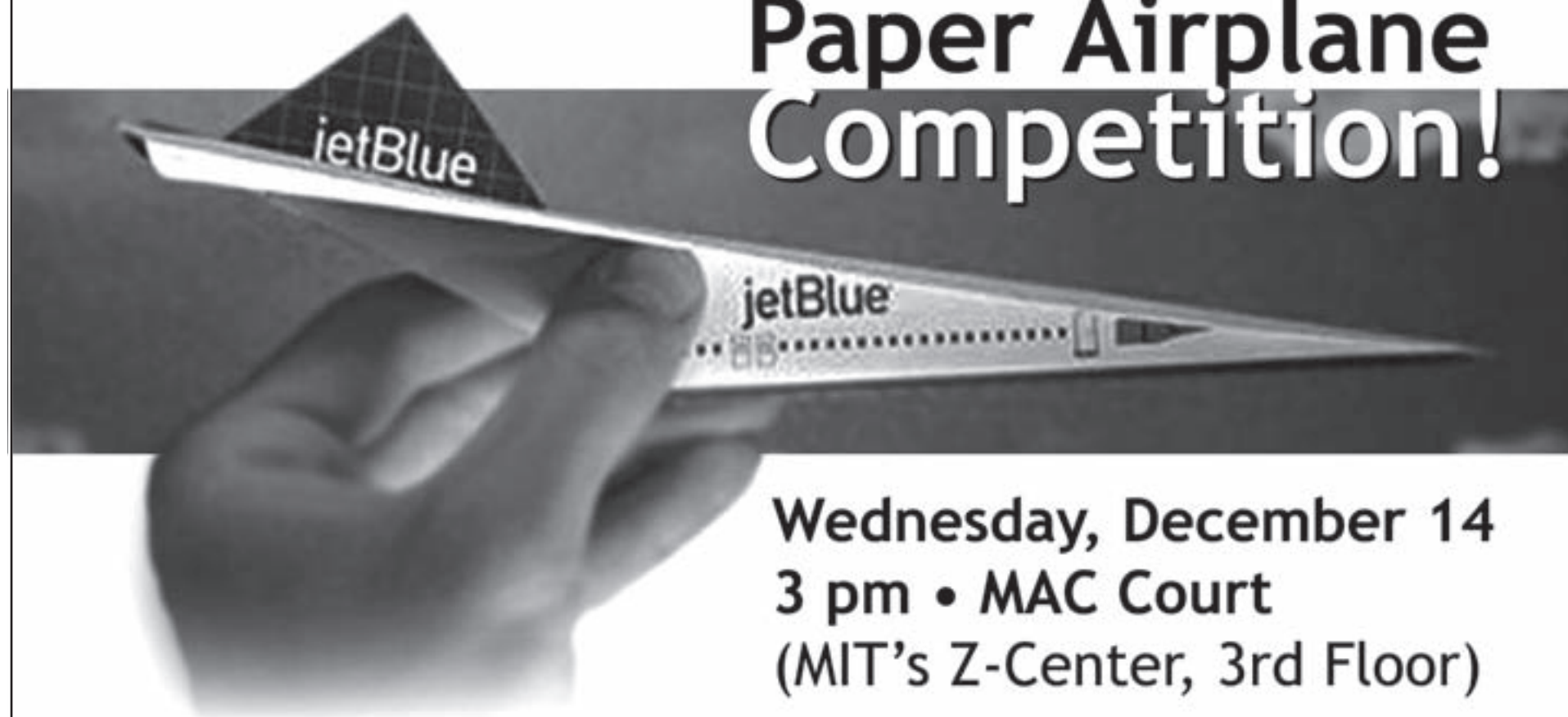


Refreshments will be served!

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## ARTS

## CLASSICAL REVIEW

*An Evening Tour of Russian Mastery**Shabalin Leads MITSO Through Emotionally Charged Repertoire*

FRED GAY—THE TECH

The MIT Symphony Orchestra, directed by assistant conductor Alexey Shabalin, performs Friday night in Kresge Auditorium.

By Tony Hwang

STAFF WRITER

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Kresge Auditorium

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2005, 8 p.m.

**M**ITSO's assistant conductor Alexey Shabalin made his first appearance on the podium Friday night, leading the orchestra through a varied assortment of Russian pieces. The audience was treated to movie music, excerpts from operas, and well-known symphonic work. Despite the slightly robotic feel of sometimes unnecessarily rigid rhythmic constancy, MITSO delivered another clean performance that captured the main points of the program.

The orchestra began with Georgy Sviridov's "The Blizzard," an orchestral suite adapted from his musical scores to a film of the same name. The movie tells the story of

a girl named Marya and a young officer who falls in love with her against the wishes of their parents. After an unsuccessful attempt to elope, the officer goes to war and is killed in battle, causing Marya to fall ill. But she eventually recovers both physically and mentally, and is able to move on with life.

It was easy to follow the story through the nine sections of the suite. The opening alternated between loud, tempestuous noise and sections of agitated quiet, reflecting the emotional turmoil of the couple as they fled through the blizzard in the darkness of the storm. Other parts were more pleasant, like the graceful waltzes that captured the joys of being in love. MITSO played with proper execution and, despite some initial intonation discrepancies between the wind and string sections, was able to present the contrasting tones through the various parts of the suite. The "Little Military March," for example, was light-hearted and up-

beat, while the "Romance" featured earnest solos that tugged at the audience's heartstrings.

Shabalin could have given the soloists more rhythmic freedom to sing through melodies and truly express the emotional intensity behind the notes. The many solos often felt pushed along by the conductor's baton, and the music had the potential to be much more touching. All in all, a solid performance of a likeable piece: it was not hard to see why this suite has become widely performed in Russia, and from this concert audience's positive reaction, perhaps it should be played more often by American orchestras as well.

Next in the program was a series of three opera excerpts performed with baritone soloist Anton Belov. The first two were from Pyotr Tchaikovsky's operas, "Queen of Spades" and "Eugene Onegin," while the last was from Sergei Rachmaninoff's "Aleko." Again, the story themes centered on pure love that has been

tainted by unfortunate circumstance. Belov's stage presence was compelling, and the intensity in his facial expression and body language held fast the audience's attention without letting go. It is not surprising that his enunciation was almost impeccable, as Belov is also a specialist in Russian lyric diction. MITSO did a decent job of following the soloist, and played carefully to avoid covering him up. Granted, Belov's deep voice was extremely powerful, so the orchestra did not need to worry too much about compensating for volume.

The last piece in the concert was Tchaikovsky's famous Symphony No. 4. It was composed with the impression of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony in mind, and thus similarly presents motifs of fate that repeat throughout the symphony. However, it was written at a time when Tchaikovsky was uncomfortable with his homo-

MITSO, Page 9

## A CAPPELLA AND CD REVIEW

*Resonance Produces Inspiring Album**Live Performance is Memorable and Heartfelt, Though Not Up to Recording Quality*

By Nivair H. Gabriel

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

MIT Resonance

Fall Concert 2005

10-250

Friday, Dec. 9, 9 p.m.

Left on Red

MIT Resonance

Recorded at Studio L

Mixed at Bristol Studios

Released on Dec. 5, 2005

\$15.00; \$2 for shipping

**I**f you're looking for a cohesive a cappella group with a quirky sense of humor and solid musical arrangements, look no further. MIT Resonance's newest CD sparkles with energy, earning their performance of "Mystify" a spot in the Best of College A Cappella 2006 compilation. Though it lacks the amusing skits that make their concerts so memorable, the CD establishes them as a unique, extremely talented, and well-produced college a cappella group.

After listening to the CD, however, the concert was something of a letdown. Despite two notable exceptions, the soloists were hardly performing to the level of the CD. Their energy was still unflagging, though, and the backup singers were consistently solid.

The most noticeable thing at the concert was the camaraderie in the group; the night started with a song by a last-minute "guest group," Resonance alumnus Stephen S. Lee '05. Near the end was the group's alumni song, The Nields' "Easy People," carried by the current group and, unsurprisingly, muddled through by the alumni. Despite this, the antics of former members distracted from the jumbled lyrics. Eve 6's "Inside Out," Resonance's single encore for the first time in years, gave soloist Joshua M. Karges '08 a run for his money: he switched the order of the two-part chorus and then forgot to sing

the second part. These, however, were merely the fringes of the evening.

It's easy to name the two best solos. Stephanie E. Oh '09 gave a stunning rendition of Michelle Branch's "Breathe"; the audience sat up and straightened a little for that one. Jia Lou '07, also a cartoonist for *The Tech*, did an impressive job on Frou Frou's "Let Go." Too many of the male soloists, however, seemed strained, although Solomon M. Bisker '06 offered a passable if not exactly melodic "Shut Up" by Simple Plan. Karges' solo of The Killers' "Mr. Brightside" worked well with the song; he wasn't amazing, but he did justice to the song.

During Maroon 5's "Harder to Breathe," I remember thinking "yeah, I'd listen to Resonance sing this instead of the real song," although I wouldn't say the same for Resonance's "I Want You" by Savage Garden. Those thoughts underscore the hit-or-miss nature of the concert — the greatness of the group came out in some pieces, but not others.

Still, they didn't lose their spirit. The vocal percussion and humming of the backup singers always flowed perfectly; this is one group, again, that blends as a whole to create their music. The strengths, so well exemplified on the CD, were still here; they just took a backseat to all the complications of real-time performing.

But live performance has its own merits. Anyone would be sorry to miss their hilarious and hardly haphazard skits — though nobody said they were politically correct. This time, the overarching plot was a war between the food providers in the Student Center, with Lobdell limping in on child's feet behind the three major contenders. Wouldn't you like to know about the Holy Santa Anna Guacamole Grenade?

Since all you can hear now is stories, I would suggest you buy "Left on Red" and experience the best Resonance has to offer. You'll be inspired.



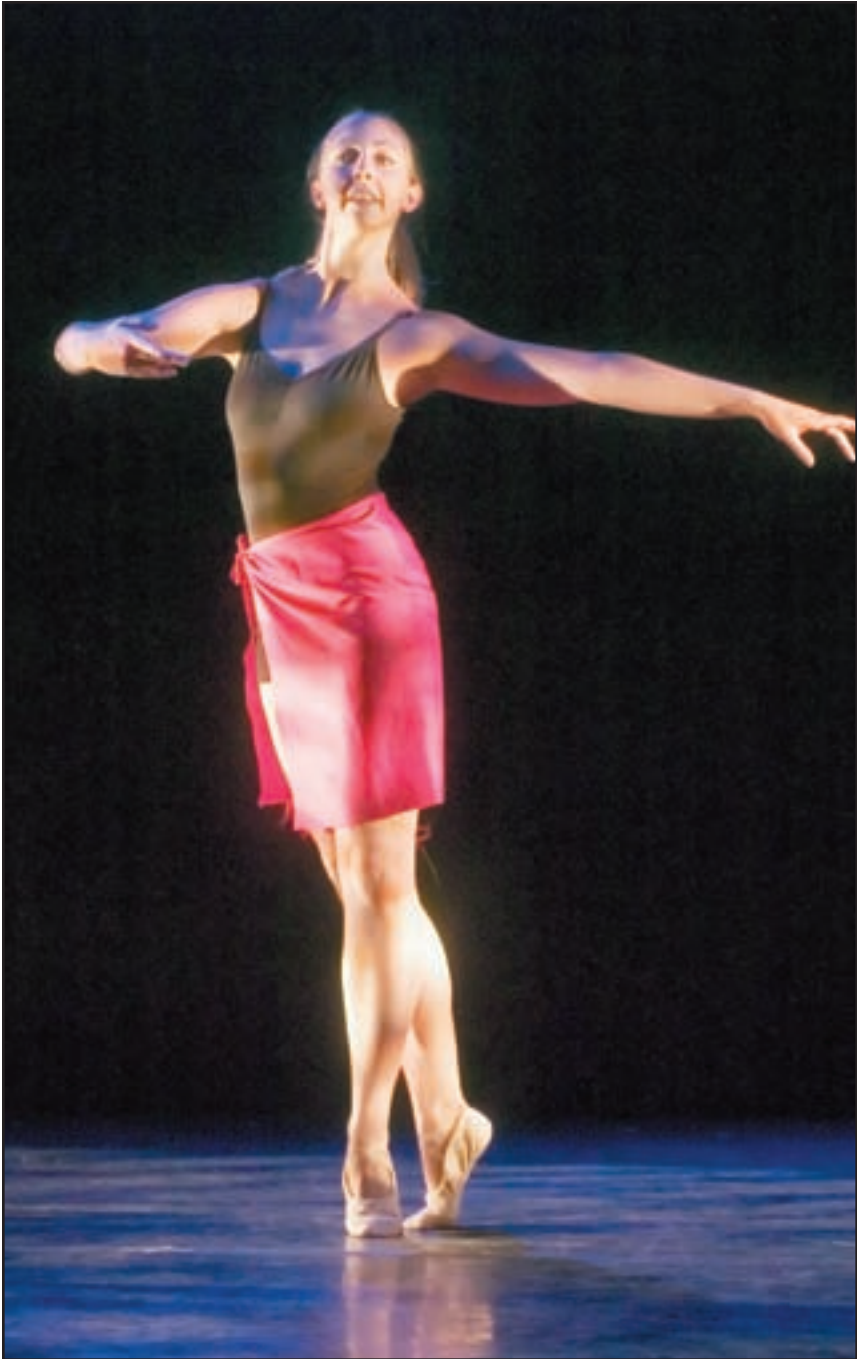
OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Resonance held their Winter Concert this past Friday, Dec. 9 in 10-250. The concert featured songs from their newest CD, "Left on Red."

(top) Cooks at Anna's Taqueria celebrate after spiking Alpine Bagels' smoothies with a laxative during a skit on increased competition between the Student Center food vendors. (bottom) Ted A. Fernandez '09 sings the solo as Resonance performs "Deep Inside of You" by Third Eye Blind near the conclusion of the concert.



# Dance Troupe Turns Up the Heat In Fall Show



WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI



SALLY PEACH—THE TECH

Dance Troupe held its biannual show, entitled Fahrenheit, last Thursday through Friday in Kresge Little Theater.

(above) Members of MIT's Dance Troupe perform a number. Slick choreography and matching costumes were combined with a showcase of style and agility.

(right) Ken T. Takusagawa G and Karima R. Nigmatulina G in a passionate duet called "Incidental Tango," a dance based on the "Gotan Project" by Santa Maria. This dance is choreographed by Christopher-Paul Muise.

(left) Michelle S. Machon G dances in "Para Siete," a ballet number choreographed by Jessica D. Luttkus '08.



WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI



DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Pamela N. Luna '09 of the Muses sings in their winter concert, held last Saturday in 10-250.

# MITSO Brings Tchaikovsky To Life

MITSO, from Page 8

sexuality, and it follows that he also adds themes of regret and hopelessness into this piece.

The symphony is unique in several ways, including the use of grand pauses (complete silence from the entire orchestra). In the midst of a strong opening from the winds, there are two short but well-placed moments of silence that add to the effectiveness of the notes that follow. Also, in addition to clever use of rests, the first movement plays with the triplet versus dotted eighth and sixteenth rhythm to spice up the tune. MITSO had difficulty distinguishing between the two, but still managed to capture the spirit of the movement. The second movement was lyrical, but unmatched articulations and the again inflexible tempo kept the orchestra from truly sounding beautiful. Much livelier was the third movement, where MITSO truly came together and played as a unit with great contrasts in dynamics and sudden switches in mood at transitions. Finally, the finale pushed forth with abounding vigor, escalating in waves through fast passages in the strings and again the grand pauses. The players gave a last push and ended the piece with a blast of energetic enthusiasm.

The MIT Symphony Orchestra gave a satisfying last performance of the semester, and introduced us to a significant part of the history of Russian classical music. Shabalin did an admirable job standing in for Anzolini, and with this performance MITSO has taken yet another step forward in cultivating its sound.







# ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

★★★★: Excellent  
★★★: Good  
★★: Average  
★: Poor

★★½ **Aeon Flux**  
Oscar-winning actress Charlize Theron plays Aeon, an assassin working for the Monic rebels against the harsh rule of the Gooldchilds of Bregna, the last city on Earth. Loosely adapted from MTV animated shorts, the film offers fast-paced action and a fresh style, with idyllic gardens filled with razor blade grass and poison dart-shooting trees. But “Aeon Flux” is flawed beyond the bastardization of its source material, with clumsy voiceovers, plot compression, and shallow characters. (Andrew Guerra)

★★ **Bee Season**  
Richard Gere plays a theology professor who is obsessed with finding a way to communicate with God and interacting with higher spirits. He uses his family as a vessel for this exploration, as he practices violin with his son Max and pushes his daughter Flora in the spelling bee. The plot is ultimately confusing and concludes without any sense of theme or completion. (Yong-yi Zhu)

★★★★ **Capote**  
For a movie about a brutal murder, this film pursues its subject, the relationship between a writer and a killer, in an eerily peaceful mood. Like the lonely house where the murder happened, Truman Capote, a writer for “The New Yorker,” and Perry Ellis, a convicted murderer on death row, are emotionally distant, though they yearn for a connection. In what is unquestionably one of the best films of the year, we watch Capote struggle between his self-interested, manipulated goals as a writer and his honest love of a cold-blooded killer. (Beckett Sterner)

★½ **Chicken Little**  
Chicken Little (Zach Braff) is a tiny chick who warns that the sky is falling down. If you expected something spectacular out of Disney without having animation guru Pixar by its side, you would be sadly mistaken. It may be entertaining for small children, but for everyone else, it will simply be a film with far too much cuteness and far too few funny jokes. (Yong-yi Zhu)

★★★½ **The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe**  
C. S. Lewis wrote a story about the triumph of good over evil (and yes, the Second Coming and the importance of faith), and the loyalty of

four brothers and sisters to each other and their friends. Lucy Pevensie steps through a wardrobe of fur coats and finds herself in Narnia, a magical land with talking animals and mythic beasts, and a White Witch who’s covered the land in eternal winter. But there’s no need to look for religious underpinnings when the fantasy easily stands alone. Narnia is a wonderful escape within an escape; like the old professor who owns the wardrobe, I can’t wait to go back. (Rosa Cao)

★★★½ **The Constant Gardener**  
Though this may appear to be a film about the drug companies taking advantage of Africans, it is in fact a story about what a man will do for a woman he loves with every ounce of his strength. If you want a smart film that’s not only well done but is also pleasing to watch, this is a must. (Yong-yi Zhu)

★½ **Derailed**  
One easy message: don’t ever cheat on your wife, or your life will fall apart. Clive Owen is Charles Shine, a business executive whose affair with Lucinda (Jennifer Aniston) makes him easy fodder for a blackmailer. Unfortunately, poor acting and zero chemistry result in a movie that is slow to engage and tough to believe. (Yong-yi Zhu)

★★★ **Good Night, and Good Luck**  
In the era of McCarthyism, one reporter from CBS, Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn), went on the air to take down Senator McCarthy and his fire-and-brimstone tactics. The gaudiness and questionable quality of current national news networks contrasts with the work done by Murrow in this film. It represents a quick break from the onslaught of violent images and biased reporting, providing a model for the highest level in TV broadcasting. (Kapil Amarnath)

★★★½ **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**  
The beginning of Harry Potter’s fourth year is punctuated by murder and hints of a dark plot that involves his own abduction at the hands of the most evil of wizards. Soon after arriving back at Hogwarts, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe) is shocked to find himself selected as a Triwizard Champion, competing in a perilous magical tournament. Director Mike Newell chooses from J. K. Rowling’s marvelous source material and creates an enormously satisfying film that is delightful in its dangers and thrills. Easily the best film of the series to date, “Goblet of Fire”

captures the essence of the novel without being burdened by the need to fulfill every written detail. (Kevin Der)

★★½ **Jarhead**  
At the beginning of this film, Jake Gyllenhaal sits on the toilet, Camus’ “The Stranger” in one hand and a bottle of laxative in the other. By the end, he’s fought in the Gulf War, and he’s woken up to the world. Sam Mendes’ “Jarhead,” though entertaining, fails to capture complex changes in its main character and falls short of the high expectations thrust on it. (Kapil Amarnath)

★★★ **Memoirs of a Geisha**  
A geisha is a woman who holds a powerful sexual allure by playing hardball in a game defined by men. The film, adapted from Arthur Golden’s novel, follows a girl named Chiyo (adult played by Ziyi Zhang), who is sold from her home in a fishing village to become a geisha in Kyoto. As one who captivates mens’ hearts through grace and beauty, Chiyo lives her life as an ornament to the wealthy, but dreams of romantic love with the Chairman (Ken Watanabe). So idolized by Western culture, this struggle for romance is perhaps what makes a love story in the life a geisha such a fascinating yet foreign tale. (Beckett Sterner)

★★★½ **Paradise Now**  
A certain amount of courage is required to create any sort of portrayal of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. To depict a conflict so deeply rooted and contentious is to invite controversy, particularly when the portrayal does not clearly favor one side. Through this balanced depiction of a polemical conflict, the film invites viewers to determine for themselves how to view suicide bombing, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and even wider questions on the meaning of dignified life. (Andrew Guerra)

★★★½ **Pride and Prejudice**  
Much as a tender heart can be touched and transformed by love, so your moviegoing experience will be enchanted by the brilliance of Joe Wright’s adaptation of Jane Austen’s classic novel. Elizabeth Bennett (Keira Knightley) struggles to find love as a lower-class woman in early 19th century Britain. The adaptation is absolutely perfect for the big screen; everything about this film will dazzle you. (Yong-yi Zhu)

★★★½ **Rent**  
Based on Jonathan Larson’s rock musical, this film tells the story of three couples that must

struggle to overcome many obstacles — drug addiction, AIDS, homelessness, and others. Flooding its audience with messages of love and things that get in its way, “Rent” inspires laughter, tears, and personal examination of a level that few films can match. (Kenneth Roraback)

★★★ **Shopgirl**  
Mirabelle (Claire Danes) is a lonely artist and sales clerk at Saks Fifth Avenue who meets Jeremy (Jason Schwartzman), a goofy artist, and Ray (Steve Martin), a wealthy middle-aged man. This is a drama about life and romance, and it is full of bittersweet challenges and decisions — it’s not a typical chick flick with a happy ending. (Jillian Berry)

★★★½ **The Squid and the Whale**  
One part comedy, one part touching drama, and one part gross-out, this film tells the tale of how two children choose between their parents as role models after their parents’ divorce. Of course, if your father (Jeff Daniels) is hooking up with his 20-year-old student and your mother (Laura Linney) can’t stop describing the list of affairs she’s had, choosing your preferred role model can be a challenge. The Berkman produce hilarious lines and moments, and there’s something glorious about how firmly they march into the model of a dystopian family. (Beckett Sterner)

★★½ **Syriana**  
Writer and director Stephen Gaghan, who penned “Traffic,” discusses the energy crisis and the war for oil in this new drama. Part of an ensemble cast, Bob Barnes (George Clooney) is a CIA operative in the Middle East who must protect U.S. interests in oil, but he starts to question his government’s motives. hough Gaghan presents a convincing, albeit pessimistic world view, he does not provide an artistic vision. Ultimately more enjoyment comes after the final reel, from thinking about the questions that the film raises. (Kapil Amarnath)

★★★ **Walk the Line**  
Drawing its material from Johnny Cash’s autobiography, the film explores the musician’s struggle with drug abuse, his relationship with his eventual wife June Carter, and his music. Joaquin Phoenix portrays Cash convincingly, and even does his own singing. Though it recalls past films like “Ray,” the film is a fine portrayal of a legendary musician. (Brian Chase)

Compiled by Kevin Der



DAVID TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Christina Feng '07 (right) dodges a snowball thrown by Sonia J. Kim '07 in front of the Student Center on Friday afternoon after the first major snowfall of the season.



FRED GAY—THE TECH

Soloist Jonathan G. Wu '06 of the Logarithms performs a cover of Modern English’s “Melt with You” during Sunday’s concert.

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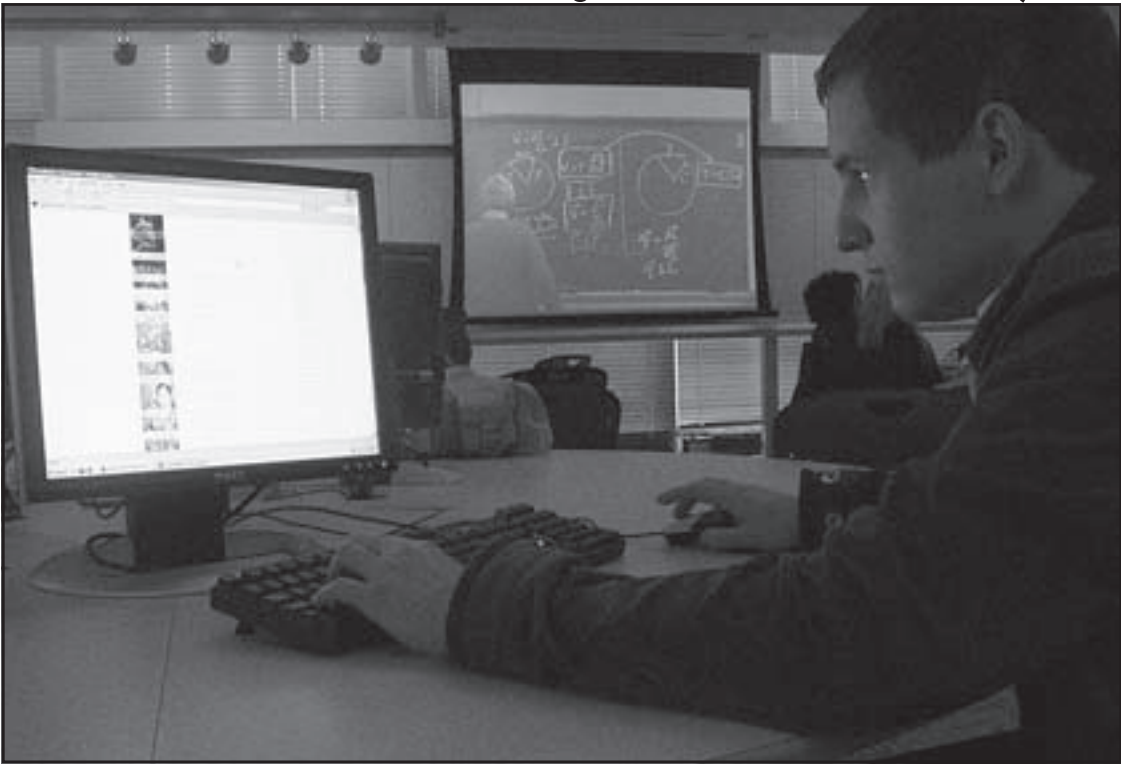
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# Student-Friendly Professors, Admins Join Facebook



**Brendan M. Callahan '09 browses the Facebook during 8.01T (Physics I) class. Facebook is becoming more popular among employers as a way of screening potential employees.**

RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH

**Facebook**, from Page 1

numbers of students are opening up their entries to anyone with a Facebook account, sometimes making cell phone numbers, addresses and class schedules accessible with an online search or two.

The profiles and contact information on the Facebook are public knowledge. Although most faculty are happy to be divorced from student culture and are not interested making it a big part of their lives, a few do have real Facebook entries. These are usually ones who want to find out about student life and culture, said Charles H. Stewart, professor of political science and McCormick Hall housemaster.

“Almost every faculty member who has a Facebook entry understands students and would not be offended by its material,” Stewart said.

Assistant Director of Admissions Matthew L. McGann '00 said he was first invited to join the Facebook by students. “There are a lot of people who knew me through admissions and blogs,” he said.

McGann’s friends are mostly students that he has admitted and old classmates from MIT. He said he would confirm just about anyone from MIT as his friend.

Physics Professor Eric Hudson also joined the Facebook because his students told him to.

“Often students have a very standoffish view of their faculty,” said Hudson. At the beginning of a term, Hudson uses the Facebook to look up the students in his 8.02T (Physics II) class. He said he does not investigate the private lives of his students.

Hudson said he faltered when he found out about the existence of the

Eric Hudson Fan Club and said he did not look at its membership until after the term had ended. Stewart joined the Facebook because it was suggested to him by a faculty colleague. He said it is an interesting way to get to know students.

The fact that there are real faculty entries on the Facebook should remind students that there are other people besides students who are looking at their profiles, Stewart said. He cautioned that the Facebook is increasingly being used by employers to evaluate potential student employees. He said he helps students find jobs and internships and is interested in knowing how they present themselves to the outside world.

Sometimes, employers are simply curious about the people that they employ. Other times, they wonder whether a particular candidate would cause them embarrassment or problems in the workplace that they would have to deal with later on. According to Stewart, employers do not like to see evidence of vigorous partying or people not very well dressed or not dressed at all.

One employer that Stewart knows has her secretary look up everyone who applies for research positions there to see what sort of personality they have as a screening device.

Employers are looking for people who are relatively sensible, have a good sense of humor, creativity, and are well-rounded, Stewart said.

Stewart said that it is probably in the interest of some people to claim their own entry for themselves on the Facebook so people do not put up things harmful to them.

“No one wants to see unpleasant things about them in public,” he said.

## High Yields Force MIT To Admit Even Fewer

**Early Action**, from Page 1

and receive a decision before the regular admissions process. In 2003 Harvard, Stanford, and Yale switched to single-choice early action, a nonbinding agreement that does not allow applicants to apply to other schools’ early admissions programs.

All other Ivy League colleges offer early decision programs, which are both binding and do not allow applications to other colleges.

This year’s admitted early applicants will make up about 30 percent of the Class of 2010, currently 53 percent male and 47 percent female, mirroring 2009’s 53/47 split. Almost three-fourths hail from public schools, representing 44 states and 7 foreign countries. A total of 76 percent have been the president or captain of a club or organization, and 16 percent have founded one.

Of the 3,098 applicants, 2,371 were deferred and 216 denied admission, along with 131 who were deferred because they did not complete the application.

Concerns about overcrowding and the rising percentage of students admitted who matriculate were both factors in this year’s decreased percentage of early action admits, which has dropped 21 percentage points over ten years.

“Our yield has been going up for the past three years because we’ve

made that a goal,” Jones said. “We’ve really been focusing on admitting students who are the best match for us and are making an effort not to be overly driven by SAT scores and grades. Match is everything if students are to be happy and thrive at MIT.”

“As the yield goes up and the applicant pool increases in size,” she said, “we are forced to admit fewer students and it is true agony for our staff to turn away more and more extraordinary students each year.”

Jones pointed toward MyMIT as one cause of the increase in the 2010 early applicant pool.

“I give all the credit to our in-house bloggers and rock stars, Matt McGann and Ben Jones,” she said. “They do an extraordinary job of connecting with students and most importantly, telling the truth about what we do. There is no other college or university with such a presence out there in the blogosphere and I’m proud to represent a staff who are setting the standard.”

Jones made her debut appearance on the MITBlogs’ Web site on Monday discussing the stress that many students feel while applying to college, citing her own daughter’s college application process as an example.

Jones’ post, as well as select Class of 2010 information can be found at <http://tim.mitblogs.com/> and <http://matt.mitblogs.com/>, respectively.

**Solution to Crossword**  
from page 5

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

**Solution to Sudoku**  
from page 6

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

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# Saxon Chaired MIT's Corporation in 1980s

Saxon, from Page 1

He joined the faculty of UCLA in 1947, and three years later was one of 31 faculty members dismissed for objecting to the requirement then in place that all faculty sign an oath of loyalty and declare they were not members of the Communist Party. After the California Supreme Court invalidated the loyalty oath requirement, Saxon returned to UCLA in 1952.

At UCLA, Saxon served as dean, vice chancellor and executive vice chancellor before becoming provost in 1974 and president in 1975, a position he held until 1983.

Saxon joined the MIT Corporation in 1977 and became its chairman in 1983. He was elected a life member and named honorary chairman in 1990, and became life member emeritus in 1995. He served with distinction on the visiting committees for chemistry, physics and sponsored research, and on the membership and corporation development

committees.

After leaving MIT, Saxon returned to UCLA as a professor emeritus in physics and astronomy.

“California, and the University of California, have lost a great leader in David Saxon,” Robert C. Dynes, University of California president, said in a statement. “David was a passionate believer in the university and, during a period of severe fiscal challenge, a tireless advocate for public higher education and the benefits it conveys to society. He was a man of principle and vision whose outstanding scholarship and thoughtful leadership made a lasting contribution to the university and the state.”

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Shirley; six daughters; and six grandchildren.

Donations may be made to the David Saxon Physics Graduate Fellowship Fund, UCLA Foundation, 10920 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024; or to the Braille Institute, 741 N. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90029.

# Multiple Factors Affect Office Space Distribution

ASA, from Page 1

graduate member at large, said that some groups were not granted space because they had requested space not controlled by the ASA. Others did not qualify for space through the ASA because they are sponsored groups, he said. One group, Students for Labor Justice, was not granted space because it had not recently turned in a constitution or anti-hazing form, Shaw said.

Shaw said that in making its decisions, the ASA considered the times that groups use their offices, the types of activity, the amount of square footage, and any special needs for privacy. “Essentially every question on the original application came into play,” he said.

Earlier in the fall, the ASA had

categorized groups by priority in receiving office space. Groups were then allowed to appeal their prioritization before final allocations were made. At this point, Shaw said, the ASA is no longer accepting appeals, though if a group has serious demonstrated need for a reallocation, the group is encouraged to approach the ASA. “We’ve had groups requesting the logistics” of why they received their allocation, Shaw said.

Office moves will take place in January, and the ASA will be handling moves on a case by case basis, Shaw said. He said that the ASA will be working with the Campus Activities Complex to ensure officers gain card access at the appropriate time.

For a complete list of allocations, seek page 14.

# Bernanke Claims Expertise At Choosing Donuts, Bagels

Bernanke, from Page 1

maintaining the gold standard during the Great Depression had worsened America’s economic woes, contrary to conventional economics wisdom, according to the *New York Times*.

In a January speech, Bernanke took a lighthearted perspective on his time as department head at Princeton. “I served seven years as the chair of the Princeton economics department,” he said, “where I had responsibility for major policy decisions, such as whether to serve bagels or doughnuts

at the department coffee hour.”

The most likely change that Bernanke will implement upon becoming Chairman of the Reserve is to implement public targets for inflation, partly clarifying Greenspan’s obscurantist approach.

“Greenspan was an individualist with an eclectic, adaptive approach to monetary policy,” said Bengt Holmstrom, head of the Economics Department, in an e-mail in October. “Unlike Greenspan, Bernanke believes in setting inflation targets and sticking to them.”



LIANG HONG—THE TECH

A woman and her dog play catch after the first heavy snowfall on campus.

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The Grand Unified Theory of Physics

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Moving Matter

Joseph M. Brown



# ASA Student Group Office Allocations

| Group                                   | Allocation                        |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Access, MIT                             | 441                               |
| Africa Internet Technology Inititative  | 477                               |
| African Students Association            | 50-304                            |
| AID-MIT                                 | 441                               |
| Alpha Chi Sigma                         | continue to use closet in Bldg 56 |
| Alpha Epsilon Phi                       | space not given                   |
| Alpha Phi Omega                         | 415, 415A, 454                    |
| Anime Club                              | 50-356                            |
| ARCTAN                                  | 50-360                            |
| ASA                                     | 401A, 401B, 401C, 401E            |
| Asian American Association              | locker                            |
| Asian Baptist Student Koinonia          | locker                            |
| Assassins' Guild                        | 50-316                            |
| Association of Taiwanese Students       | 50-302                            |
| Baha'i Association                      | locker                            |
| Ballroom Dance Club                     | locker                            |
| Ballroom Dance Team                     | 447                               |
| Bangladeshi Students Association        | locker                            |
| Bhangra Club                            | locker                            |
| Black Graduate Students Association     | 50-304                            |
| Black Students' Union                   | 50-105                            |
| Brain and Cognitive Science Societv     | 50-306                            |
| BrainTrust                              | 467                               |
| Campus Crusade for Cthulhu              | 50-020                            |
| Caribbean Club                          | locker                            |
| Caving Club                             | 461, 463                          |
| Chamak                                  | locker                            |
| Chess Club                              | locker                            |
| Chinese Student and Scholar Association | 439                               |
| Chinese Students Club                   | 439                               |
| Chorallaries                            | locker                            |

| Group                                  | Allocation                |
|--|---------------------------|
| Club Francophone                       | 443                       |
| Concert Band                           | 423                       |
| Counterpoint                           | 443                       |
| Cross Products                         | 439                       |
| Dance Mix Coalition                    | 423                       |
| Dance Troupe                           | 454                       |
| Debate, MIT                            | 423                       |
| Design for Change                      | 50-028                    |
| Dormitory Council                      | 401A, 401B, 401C, 401E    |
| Dramashop                              | space not given           |
| Educational Studies Program            | 467                       |
| European Club                          | 443                       |
| Filipino Students Association          | locker                    |
| FIRST Robotics                         | 50-352                    |
| Folk Dance Club                        | 447                       |
| Formula SAE                            | use Edgerton Center space |
| Gilbert and Sullivan Players           | 413, 50-025               |
| Graduate Student Council               | 50-020, 50-220            |
| Greens office                          | 50-309                    |
| Hawaii Club                            | locker                    |
| Hindu Students Council                 | 441                       |
| IAESTE                                 | locker                    |
| IEEE's Programming Competition (6.370) | space not given           |
| IFC office                             | 450                       |
| International Students Organization    | 50-306                    |
| Iranian Studies Group                  | locker                    |
| Japanese Society of Undergraduates     | 50-302                    |
| Kendo Club                             | space not given           |
| Kickboxing                             | space not given           |
| Korean Karate Club                     | space not given           |
| Laboratory for Chocolate Science       | 50-320                    |

| Group                                 | Allocation         |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Lindi Hop Society                     | locker             |
| Lion Dance                            | 439                |
| Logarhythms                           | 50-301             |
| LSC*                                  | 457, 459, 469, 454 |
| Malayasian Students Association       | locker             |
| MAPS                                  | 50-306             |
| Marching Band                         | 423                |
| Mars Society                          | 445A               |
| Middle East Through Technology        | locker             |
| MITERS (Electronic Research Society)  | N52-115            |
| MURJ office                           | 477                |
| Musical Theatre Guild                 | 453, 50-025        |
| Muslim Students Association           | locker             |
| National Society of Black Engineers   | space not given    |
| Natya                                 | locker             |
| Objectivist Club                      | locker             |
| Oori office                           | 50-320             |
| Outing Club                           | 461, 463           |
| Pagan Students'                       | 50-318             |
| Panhellenic                           | 450                |
| Persian Students Association          | locker             |
| Pi Tau Sigma                          | locker             |
| Plush Daddy Fly                       | locker             |
| Pro-Life                              | locker             |
| Radio Society                         | 50-358             |
| Resonance of MIT                      | locker             |
| Sangam                                | 441                |
| Science and Engineering Business Club | 50-306             |
| Science Fiction Society               | 473, 475, 401D     |
| Scuba Club office                     | 461, 463           |
| SEDS office                           | 445                |

| Group                            | Allocation                     |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Shakespeare Ensemble             | 421, 50-025                    |
| Share A Vital Earth              | locker                         |
| Silver Wings Society             | space not given                |
| Snowriders                       | 461, 463                       |
| Society for Creative Anachronism | 50-020                         |
| Society of Women Engineers       | 447                            |
| Society por Esperanto            | locker                         |
| Stop Our Silence                 | locker                         |
| Strategic Games Society          | 50-316                         |
| Student Cable Group              | 50-309                         |
| Students for Israel              | locker                         |
| Students for Labor Justice       | space not given                |
| SUMA                             | locker                         |
| Tau Beta Pi                      | locker                         |
| Tech Model Railroad Club         | 52-118                         |
| Tech Squares                     | locker                         |
| TechBikes                        | 50-024                         |
| Technique                        | 449, 451, 451A                 |
| Thai Students at MIT             | 50-302                         |
| The Tech                         | 481, 483, 483A, 485, 485A, 477 |
| Thistle office                   | 50-309                         |
| Toons                            | locker                         |
| UHF Repeater Association         | 357, 357A                      |
| Undergraduate Association        | 401A, 401B, 401C, 401E         |
| Vietnamese Student Association   | 50-302                         |
| Voodoo Magazine                  | 50-309                         |
| WMBR Radio                       | 50-030                         |

SOURCE: ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Groups must move into their new offices during Independent Activities Period. Of-fices are located in the Student Center unless otherwise indicated. Italics indi-cate shared space.

## The MIT Sloan Subject Prioritization System Bidding Dates for Spring, 2006 Classes

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### Bonus Crossword Solution

from page 6

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

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# KC Will Beat Giants, Colts Stay Unbeaten

By Yong-yi Zhu  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Here’s what to expect in next week’s NFL games.

**Game of the Week:**  
**Chiefs at Giants**

The Chiefs are playing some excellent football, as are the Giants. This game simply has too many play-off implications to be ignored. In the end, I think Chiefs RB Larry Johnson is going to have a huge running day against New York. KC will edge the Giants by a field goal.

**Upset Special: Steelers at Vikings**

I think Vikes QB Brad Johnson will continue on his magical quest and lead the Vikings to another victory, ending to the Steelers’ playoff chances. The Vikings are playing so well right now that the Bears should be careful if they want to win the division.

**The Rundown:**

**Chargers at Colts:** The question on everyone’s minds is whether the Colts are going for perfection or going for rest before the playoffs. If the starters play, they are going to crush the Chargers, because this team has everything clicking. Not even Chargers RB Ladanian Tomlinson can outscore the Colt offense.

**Buccaneers at Patriots:** The Pats were efficient last week. QB Tom Brady played like the Super Bowl winner he has been. His offensive line was also terrific. The Patriots will run into a much stiffer defense this time, but regardless, I look for Brady to stay poised and direct a game-winning field goal drive.

**Broncos at Bills:** The Broncos need to keep it rolling to win the AFC West. I don’t foresee the Bills being a problem considering how ineffective they were against the Patriots last week. This should be a two touchdown victory for Denver.

**Cardinals at Texans:** The Texans know that they will get a Heisman Trophy Winner in the draft, so they really have nothing more to play for. This should be a blowout win for the Cardinals, whose offense is hot right now.

**Panthers at Saints:** The Pan-

thers are going to stop everything the Saints will try to do. Look for this to be a two touchdown victory.

**Eagles at Rams:** Rams RB Stephen Jackson will run all over the Eagles, just like the Seahawks did. This should be an easy win for St. Louis.

**Seahawks at Titans:** ’Hawks RB Shaun Alexander won’t need to work hard for the Seahawks to get a victory. The Titans had trouble with the Texans last week. They are going to get crushed by these Super Bowl bound Seahawks.

**49ers at Jaguars:** The Jaguars took a real beating from Indy last week, but this week they should be back beating up on lesser teams. They won’t do well in the playoffs, but they might get there on a weak schedule.

**Bengals at Lions:** The Bengals have the most dominant offense in the league. They will severely challenge the Colts in the playoffs. This will not be a close game at all; the Lions will lose by two touchdowns at least.

**Browns at Raiders:** This game might not be as close as we think. Browns QB Charlie Frye is playing excellent football, and he is the future of the Browns. He is going to lead them to a big win over the Raiders by at least a touchdown.

**Cowboys at Redskins:** The Cowboys really need this game to go to the playoffs. The Redskins, on the other hand, probably won’t make it there. If ’Boys QB Drew Bledsoe gets the protection he needs to get to open receivers, this game is going to be over fast. I have a feeling that Dallas’ offensive line can hold out against the Redskins.

**Falcons at Bears:** This is another huge test for the Bears to see if they are actually a playoff team or if they have just played a soft schedule. I didn’t see much out of them last week, and I don’t think this week will be any different. Mike Vick should operate relatively unhindered against the Bear defense, just like Roethlisberger did last week.

**Packers at Ravens:** This is one pathetic game. I’m going with Packers QB Brett Favre on this one purely because he has some pride.

**Jets at Dolphins:** The two running backs of Miami will really dominate this game. The Dolphins will outscore the Jets by at least a touchdown.

# A Method to the Red Sox Madness

Red Sox, from Page 16

Empire”.

Although the recent player and personnel changes seem quite Yankee-esque, there is a rationale behind each. Theo Epstein walked because he was burned out, and there’s even a chance he could return to the organization in some capacity.

I do not see the trade of Hanley Ramirez for pitcher Josh Beckett and 3B Mike Lowell as mortgaging the future. Josh Beckett is 25 years old, the same age as Jonathan Papelbon, a prized pitching prospect in the Red Sox organization. And Beckett has won a World Series, World Series MVP, and had a WHIP (Walks + Hits per inning pitched) of 1.18 in 2005, while Papelbon has only logged 34.0 IP.

Mike Lowell is admittedly overpaid, but he is a Golden Glove-win-

ning fielder who is set up for offensive success, especially at Fenway Park. He averaged an OPS (on base + slugging percentage) of about 0.850 from 2000–2004. Last year, his OPS dropped precipitously to 0.658. Barring injury, I think a regression to the mean will likely occur.

Also consider the fact that Lowell is a dead pull hitter (he hit no opposite field home runs to RF at Pro Player stadium in Miami in either 2004 or 2005) who will make use of the Green Monster in much the way that sub-par Millar should have done.

The Renteria trade and the rumored efforts to move Clement are troubling. The Red Sox jumped all over both of these promising players, gave them each huge contracts, and then expressed desire to get rid of them at the first sign of failure. This is the kind of thing the Yankees

do, right? Moving Renteria (and possibly Clement) aren’t smart business decisions, so there must be an ulterior motive for these seemingly ridiculous moves.

I think this is Lucchino’s way of telling Theo Epstein, “We don’t need you anymore.” By moving Renteria, and even Clement and Wells, the Red Sox are reversing key acquisitions that Theo Epstein made after the 2004 season. They are wiping the slate clean and getting a fresh start, ready to move forward in year 1 A.T. (After Theo). As to who is making these decisions, that is a question for another day.

But until then, the organization is in good hands and headed in the right direction thanks to Lucchino. Let’s just keep our fingers crossed that our fearless leader acts with the wisdom of Yoda and not the evil of Darth Sidious.

# D’Auria, Bartolotta Lead MIT In Scoring Against Ida

Basketball, from Page 16

However, with such a large lead, the defense began to drop off a little and Mount Ida went on a 11-2 run and trailed by only 11 with 5 minutes to play. But MIT regained the initiative and won very comfortably by 13, 62-49.

Michael W. D’Auria ’06, led the Engineers with 15 points, while freshmen guard James M. Bartolotta ’09 added 13. Kanamori’s quick play added another 11 points, along with 7 assists and 3 steals. Starting center Adam Juneau ’09 had his second impressive game in a row, leading the team with 10 rebounds.

This was the last game for the Engineers in 2005; play begins again on January 3. MIT is off to an impressive start this year, going 7-1 in nonconference play. Let’s just hope the Engineers can finish off strong as well when they begin play in 2006.

## The MIT Sloan Subject Prioritization System Bidding Dates for Spring, 2006 Classes

<http://sloanbid.mit.edu>  
*Use your MIT ID# for Login and Password*

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan Subjects:  
Opens 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 21  
Closes 5:00 p.m., Thursday, December 29

Waitlist-Only Round for Closed Sloan Subjects:  
Opens 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 4  
Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 18

***Successful bids appear on your Registration Form on February 6 and will be posted on the bidding website as of January 4 -- write down your password to check results!***



SPORTS

With a New Lineup,  
Men's Hoops Defeats  
Mount Ida Mustangs

By Erin Munsell

The MIT Men's Basketball Team won convincingly last Tuesday night, defeating the Mount Ida Mustangs 62-49. With this win, the Engineers are now 7-1, while Mt. Ida dropped to 1-7. MIT was first to score as Daniel F. Kanamori '06 drove the lane, and made a basket while being fouled, then made the free throw to complete the three point play. MIT was up 3-0 and never trailed at any time during the entire game. The Engineers maintained momentum after starting out strong, beginning the game on a 12-

3 run.

However, Mt. Ida fought back to 20-18, cutting the Engineers' lead to 2, the smallest of the game. This was because of a few sloppy plays from the Engineers, trying to play too fast or making bad passes. MIT recovered slightly before the half was over, stretching their lead to 8 at half-time, 33-25.

The Engineers started the second half as strong as the first. They opened with a 13-3 run, bringing their lead to 46-28. The Engineers played very well in the beginning of the second half; midway through their lead was 52-32.

Basketball, Page 15

Ballroom Rookies Dance to Win

By Shlomo H. Meislin  
TEAM MEMBER

Last week, as the first lasting snowfall fell over New England, several members of the MIT Ballroom Dance trudged their way through New Haven's Payne Whitney Gym for the 14th Annual Yale Ballroom Dance Competition.

Upon entering the massive Cathedral-like structure, they were greeted with the anachronistic scene of feather, sequin, and tailsuit-laden dancers on a backdrop of neogothic arches.

The MIT rookies maintained their season-long dominance of the Newcomer level events at Yale. Vikram Chandrasekhar G and Jane M. Wolcott '09 won the Newcomer International Waltz event, followed by Ran Yi and Olga Rostapshova and Alex D. Salcianu G and Stefana P. Stantcheva in second and fourth, respectively. Yi and Rostapshova also came in second place in Newcomer

International Chacha/Rumba.

In American style, the Yale Competition pitted newcomers against more experienced bronze-level dancers in a combined "beginner" category. Despite the added challenge, MIT rookies fared well. In Beginner American Waltz/Foxtrot, Zhaohui Zhang and Tracy A. Hammond G placed fifth and Yi and Rostapshova, sixth, while Chandrasekhar and Wolcott made it to the top 12 in a field of over 110 couples. All three couples reached the semifinals in Beginner American Chacha/Rumba, and in Swing, Yi and Rostapshova placed fourth, while Adam Lerer '09 and Marielle Noble reached the semifinals.

Several more MIT rookies succeeded in making at least one cut, no small feat considering that a large number of their opponents had up to a year's experience over them.

As for the veterans, nearly every competing couple reached a final. In Silver Standard, Eric Sturtevant and

Jin Zhou G placed second in Waltz/Quickstep and fourth in Tango. In Silver Latin, David Xie and Amy Y. Tang '06 placed third in Chacha/Rumba and fourth in Samba/Jive. Meanwhile, competing in all 10 international-style dances, Boris Berdnikov SM '00 and Jessica R. Huot '06 placed second in Open Standard (Waltz/ Tango/ Viennese Waltz/ Foxtrot/ Quickstep) and fourth in Open Latin (Chacha/ Rumba/ Samba/ Paso Doble/ Jive).

In the past several years, a number of more advanced dancers have graduated or left the team, so current MITBDT members must rebuild the roster. With rookies rising to Bronze and yearlings competitive in Silver, the team's future rests on good feet.

Red Sox  
Look More  
Like Evil  
Empire  
Every Day

By Christopher Bettinger  
STAFF WRITER

The Red Sox have had a busy off-season as they scramble to find a new general manager and piece together a complete team in preparation for the 2006 season. I know what you hardcore Red Sox fans are thinking. The recent hot stove action has the Red Sox looking less like the "Loveable Losers" of recent years and more like the diabolical "Evil Empire" of the New York Yankees.

First, team president Larry Lucchino let Theo Epstein walk away and make a clean break from the Red Sox organization, at least for now. As if this weren't bad enough, the Red Sox shipped out Hanley Ramirez, the keystone of the future of the Red Sox, for an injury prone pitcher and a sub-par corner infielder with a less than stellar performance record.

On top of that, the Red Sox are unloading two more underperforming and overpaid players in Renteria, who was recently traded to the Braves, and Matt Clement, who was last rumored to be headed off to Milwaukee. These kinds of moves have the hallmark of George Michael Steinbrenner III. What's even more puzzling and also troublesome is trying to figure out who is behind these moves.

From the outside looking in, it seems Lucchino is getting his hands deep into personnel decisions, which is in itself disturbing. Let's not forget who met with Pedro Martinez prior to the 2005 season. Was it Theo Epstein, the baseball organization's general manager at the time? Absolutely not. Lucchino did the walking and talking. Selling championship sod to the Red Sox faithful for \$150? That's just plain evil.

I think it's safe to say that there is a disturbance in the force around Yawkee Way. Perhaps Lucchino is the embedded Sith Lord who is slowly but surely turning our beloved Galactic Senate into the dreaded "Evil

Red Sox, Page 15

The Wiesner Student Gallery is now accepting  
sumbissions for our Feburary Curated Show:

*Amorous Intent:  
Looking for Love at MIT*

We are looking for the cynical, the  
sweet, the humorous, the melancholy,  
the fuzzy, the bitter,  
and any other interpretation on the  
theme of love at MIT.

To apply visit  
<http://web.mit.edu/saa/wiesner/>  
or email [studentcurator@mit.edu](mailto:studentcurator@mit.edu).

Deadline January 13th, 2006

UPCOMING  
HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2005  
Varsity Women's Basketball vs.  
Westfield State College  
7 p.m., Rockwell Cage