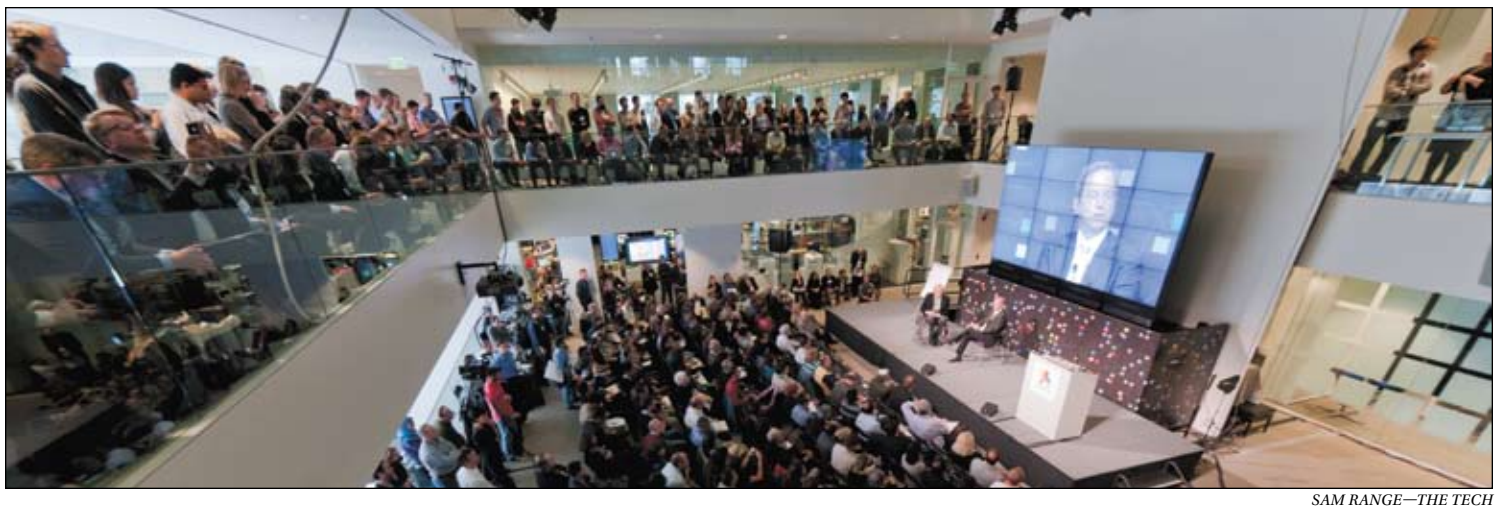
MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper

The Tech
Established 1881

WEATHER, p. 2
TUE: 59°F | 42°F
Sunny
WED: 63°F | 47°F
Mostly sunny
THU: 63°F | 48°F
Chance of showers

Volume 130, Number 46 | tech.mit.edu | Tuesday, October 19, 2010



SAM RANGE—THE TECH

Eric Schmidt, Chairman and CEO of Google, talks about global challenges on Friday at the Media Lab's 25th Anniversary Celebration in front of hundreds of spectators. Schmidt spoke about the challenges facing innovators and fielded questions from the audience about Google's policies on education, China, and mobile technology.

Media Lab celebrates 25th anniversary

At birthday bash, celebs talk about the future of technology and its impact on society

By Robert McQueen
NEWS EDITOR

"What happens when you have a powerful browser in the hands of people who have never seen anything except television in a shared model," Google CEO Eric Schmidt asked a group of hundreds representing over 60 sponsoring companies within the confines of the new Media Lab building.

The MIT Media Lab hit its newest milestone last Friday, celebrating its 25th anniversary. Students, alumni, and business sponsors alike gathered into the new Media Lab extension to take part in an all-day event featuring prominent speakers including Google's CEO Eric Schmidt, journalist and 4-time Emmy winner John Hockenberry, and Media Lab co-founder Nicholas P. Negroponte '66.

The future was on everybody's minds. In the next decade, the internet will evolve as billions of people around the world gain access; and the Media Lab, MIT's nationally recognized research laboratory focused on how humans, art and culture interact with technology, may very well be in the thick of all the changes to come.

The Media Lab has been on the cutting-edge since its inception in 1985. Something about the Media Lab makes it different than any other research facility around the world; and it is not the technology.

Negroponte attributes the success of the Media Lab to the multidisciplinary approach of integrating the social sciences, humanities,

Media Lab, Page 11

George Shultz spoke Friday, advocating nuclear disarmament

Friday afternoon in E51, former Secretary of State George P. Shultz PhD '49 spoke and screened a film advocating nuclear disarmament, *Nuclear Tipping Point*, which he was actively engaged in the creation of.

President Hockfied introduced Shultz, spoke about his time as a marine when the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan, giving general remarks before the screening began.

The film is centered on four of America's elder statesmen: Shultz, Secretary of State under President Ronald Reagan, and also a former Secretary of Treasury and former Secretary of Labor;

Shultz, Page 14

IN SHORT

Last chance to teach Splash! The deadline to register to teach a Splash class has been extended to tonight at midnight. Register online at *http://esp.mit.edu/teach/Splash/index.html* .

Peter Diamond's nomination to the board of the Federal Reserve continues to be blocked by the Senate. The reason GOP Sen. Richard Shelby cited is "insufficient understanding of monetary economics," Diamond won the Nobel Prize in Economics last week.

The National Medal of Science was awarded to Susan Lindquist, Professor of Biology. Lindquist, a member of the Whitehead Institute, studies protein folding.

Johnson Ice Rink now open for general skating:
Monday–Thursday: 12–12:55 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m.–1:15 p.m., 9–11 p.m.
Saturday: 1–4 p.m. ; Sunday: 3:15 –5:15 p.m.

Send news tips to *news@tech.mit.edu.*

Meet the linguistics majors

For undergrads who pursue linguistics, it's a sudden passion

By Derek Chang

Are you lucky enough to know a linguistics major?

Few undergraduates enter MIT planning to study linguistics even though MIT's department, home to Noam Chomsky, is well-regarded in the field — the graduate program, in particular, is internationally famous. Despite the prestige, Course XXIV only has around 6–10 undergraduates at any given time. Last fall, the department had 7 undergraduates majoring in the field (one a double major), compared to 66 students in its graduate program.

Those undergrads who do find their way to linguistics say they've always had a dormant interest the field, but discovered that their passion bloomed once they arrived at MIT. They come from diverse backgrounds — computer science, brain and cognitive sciences — but all share a love for the puzzle that is language.

The transformation

Some linguistics majors cultivated their interest on their own while in high school, since linguistics is largely absent from high school curricula. The department has made efforts to connect with admitted students expressing an interest in the field, letting them know that they will find support for their interests at MIT, said linguistics professor David Pesetsky.

Several admitted members of the Class of 2014 were top winners in the Linguistics Olympiad, a program started by the Soviet Union in the 1960s to generate linguistics interest that has since become an international competition.

Most majors did not come to MIT with linguistics in mind, but found themselves enjoying the popular introductory class, 24.900. After they finish the class, they start thinking about embarking on a major.

Linguistics, Page 13

Business clubs join together

SEBC and SUMA merge to cut down on duplicated efforts

By Isabella Wei

On October 4, the two largest business clubs on campus, SEBC (Science & Engineering Business Club) and SUMA (Sloan Undergraduate Management Association), merged into one new organization called SBC (Sloan Business Club). The new club will serve the same purpose as the two previous clubs, which club members say had confused students and companies with similar events.

According to SBC co-presidents Emily Zhao '12 and Zachary R. Dearing '12, the two organizations had originally been created for significantly different purposes, but eventually the student body and companies had difficulty distinguishing between SEBC and SUMA. Dearing said, "Over the years, these two organizations started doing similar work to the point in the last few years where we've been competing over resources and creating a lot of unnecessary redundancy."

According to the presidents, SEBC was originally created with a focus on science and engineering, and it gave Course 6 majors an opportunity to mix their tech-savvy with their business-savvy. SUMA, on the other hand, was created with a focus on management and catered to the needs of Course 15 majors.

At first the two organizations were unaware of the overlap in their operations. SEBC and SUMA each contacted the companies they believed their members would be interested in working for and each organization attracted members on its own, but eventually they began to notice that the same faces appeared at the events of both organizations. According to Zhao, their attention was brought to the redundancy of having two separate organizations when "SEBC was going to do a consulting

Business club, Page 15

Mandelbrot, fractal mathematician, dies at 85

Yale professor's work on 'rough' phenomena helped tame the natural world

By Jascha Hoffman
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Benoit B. Mandelbrot, a maverick mathematician who developed an innovative theory of roughness and applied it to physics, biology, finance and many other fields, died Thursday in Cambridge, Mass. He was 85.

His death was caused by pancreatic cancer, his wife, Aliette, said. He had lived in Cambridge.

Mandelbrot coined the term "fractal" to refer to a new class of mathematical shapes whose uneven contours could mimic the irregularities found in nature.

"Applied mathematics had been concentrating for a century on phenomena which were smooth, but many things were not like that: the more you blew them up with a microscope the more complexity you found," said David Mumford, a professor of mathematics at Brown University. "He was one of the primary people who realized these were legitimate objects of study."

In a seminal book, "The Fractal Geometry of Nature," published in 1982, Mandelbrot defended mathematical objects that he said others had dismissed as "monstrous" and "pathological." Using fractal geometry, he argued, the complex outlines of clouds and coast-

Mandelbrot, Page 12

COURTESY OF YALE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

HDAG GOT LOST IN GROUPTHINK

The dining reform group's plan is not what's best for students, nor what students want.
OPN, p. 4

"IT GETS BETTER," THAT'S IT?

Dan Savage's campaign against gay bullying is horribly tone deaf. **OPN, p. 5**

THE GOP HAS THIS ONE CHANCE

So as not blow it, they need to stick to their fiscal conservative roots. **OPN, p. 5**

STEAL MY COMIC

Hey TA, you don't really know me, right?
FUN, p. 8

VARIOUS STATES OF UNDRESS

Really, there's nothing to freak out about, people. It's just a cute little bit of skin.
CL, p. 10

SECTIONS

China escalates fight with U.S. on clean energy aid

BEIJING — A dispute between China and the United States over Beijing's subsidies to clean energy industries escalated on Sunday when a senior Chinese economic official warned that Washington "cannot win this trade fight."

In an abruptly scheduled news briefing here, the official, Zhang Guobao, sharply rebuked the Obama administration for opening an inquiry on Friday into the subsidies.

Zhang accused American trade officials of repeatedly delaying talks over the same issues the White House now wanted to investigate and suggested the administration was playing election-season politics.

"I have been thinking: What do the Americans want?" said Zhang, vice chairman of the government's National Development and Reform Commission. "Do they want fair trade? Or an earnest dialogue? Or transparent information? I don't think they want any of this. I think more likely, the Americans just want votes."

With campaigning for the November midterm elections defined in large part by bleak economic and employment statistics, candidates in both parties have increasingly blamed Chinese trade policies for slowing the American recovery from the 2008 economic collapse.

The White House has increased criticism of China in recent weeks, even as it dispatched senior officials to China to try to defuse trade tensions.

—Michael Wines and Xiyun Yang, The New York Times

Justice Dept. sues Michigan blue cross over pricing

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department sued Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan on Monday, asserting that the company, the state's dominant health insurer, had violated antitrust laws and secured a huge competitive advantage by forcing hospitals to charge higher prices to Blue Cross's rivals.

The civil case appears to have broad implications because many local insurance markets, like those in Michigan, are highly concentrated, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans often have the largest shares of those markets.

In the Michigan case, the Obama administration said Blue Cross and Blue Shield had contracts with many hospitals that stifled competition, resulting in higher health insurance premiums for consumers and employers.

—Robert Pear, The New York Times

Sarkozy risks labor reform

PARIS — Weeks of protests over President Nicolas Sarkozy's efforts to change France's pension system were intensifying Monday in advance of a final parliamentary vote. But with approval expected, Sarkozy faces the possibility that winning will not offer much political gain.

Labor unions called for national work stoppages Tuesday, adding to the disruption that has been building since the first national protest strike Sept. 7 and that has worsened with strikes at oil refineries now in their second week. Trains have been canceled, commuters stranded and gas stations mobbed. Violent clashes have broken out. The civil aviation authority asked airlines to cut flights into French airports by as much as half.

Presenting himself as a champion of necessary change, Sarkozy had proposed the measures to help wrest France from the economic doldrums gripping many parts of Europe and to reverse years of declining fortunes before elections in 2012. He holds a majority in both houses of Parliament. With a Senate vote set for Wednesday and lower house approval already in hand, he believes he can bank on success for the changes, which include increasing the minimum age of retirement by two years to 62.

—Alan Cowell, The New York Times

Democrats' grip on the South continues to slip downward

By Jeff Zeleny
THE NEW YORK TIMES

JONESBORO, Ark. — The Southern white Democrat, long on the endangered list, is at risk of being pushed one step closer to extinction.

From Virginia to Florida and South Carolina to Texas, nearly two dozen Democratic seats are susceptible to a potential Republican surge in congressional races on Election Day, leaving the party facing a situation where its only safe presence in the South is in urban and predominantly black districts.

The swing has been under way since the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, when President Lyndon B. Johnson predicted that his fellow Democrats would face a backlash of white voters that would cost the party the South. It continued with Ronald Reagan's election and reached a tipping point in the Republican sweep of 1994, with more than one-third of the victories coming from previously Democratic seats in the South.

This year, retirements of Democrats have left the party scrambling to retain four open seats in Arkansas and Tennessee that have been in their control for most of the past century. Those districts, along with others held by incumbents in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and North Carolina, are central to the Republican strategy to win the House.

For the first time since Reconstruction, Republicans also are well-positioned to control more state legislative chambers and seats than Democrats in the South, which would have far-reaching effects for redistricting.

"It's not a good prospect for the Democratic Party in the South," said Glen Browder, a former Democratic congressman from Alabama. "It should be a moment of reflection for Democrats. When you forfeit the South, your sights tend to drift too far left."

The vulnerable Democrats across the South have moved to distance themselves from the party's agenda and President Barack Obama. Several candidates have declared they would not support keeping Nancy Pelosi of California as House speaker if the party holds its majority.

Should a large number of Democratic candidates lose, it would mark a significant step in one of the most fundamental, if slow-moving, political realignments in U.S. politics.

There are 59 Democrats in House seats across the South from the 11 states of the old Confederacy, totaling 43 white representatives and 16 black ones. Of those seats in predominantly white districts, nine are leaning Republican, eight are tossups and at least five more are competitive, according to the latest rankings by The New York Times, creating the prospect of the biggest Democratic losses since 1994, when 19 seats fell.

Here in Jonesboro, the 1st Congressional District has not sent a Republican to Washington since 1873. But the retirement of Rep. Marion Berry has created the best opening that Republicans can recall, with Obama and his party viewed with suspicion. Democrats see the district as a firewall if they are to retain a foothold in the South.

The X factor of economics: Why do economists disagree so much?

By David Segal
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Economists — they certainly are a contentious bunch.

The latest evidence came last week, in the form of the minutes of the latest meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, the brain trust that establishes monetary policy. The committee, we learned, is divided on a seemingly straightforward question: Should the Fed take action to goose the economy now, or wait, watch and perhaps goose later?

Similar debates have attended virtually every element of the government's efforts to turn the country's fortunes around — even the parts that have been unfolding for more than a year. You might assume, for instance, that there would be a broad consensus about whether the $787 billion stimulus, passed in early 2009, worked.

But generally speaking, economists who thought it was a good idea at the time think it worked, and economists who thought otherwise beg to differ. And both sides make their cases with plenty of hard numbers.

Let's leave aside the merits of these arguments and ask a question so basic it will sound naive: Why do economists argue at all? Given that Fed members and economists are looking at the same data, and given the reams of evidence accumulated over decades — not to mention a few centuries of great minds, great theories and thick books that preceded this crisis — why isn't a right answer self-evident?

As it happens, plenty of dismal scientists have pondered this one. After the onset of the Great Recession, there was considerable hand-wringing about what the discipline had gotten wrong, memorably captured last year in an article by Paul Krugman in The New York Times Magazine. But the limits of economics is a subject that many in the field have been discussing for years, in print, in discussions with each other, and, in the case of Robert Solow, Nobel Prize winner and MIT professor emeritus, with graduate students.

"I talk about what it is about economics and economic life that leads to differences of opinion," Solow said. "One point I always make to my graduate students is, avoid sound bites. Never sound more certain than you are."

To explain the case for humility in economics, Solow said, look no further than the stimulus bill: "It has run its course over the past year and a half, but it is not an isolated event. One thousand other things were happening that had an effect on employment and real GDP," a measure of a nation's total output adjusted for changes in prices. "You want to trace the effect of one of a very large number of significant causal effects, and that's a very hard thing to do."

WEATHER

Enjoyable autumn continues

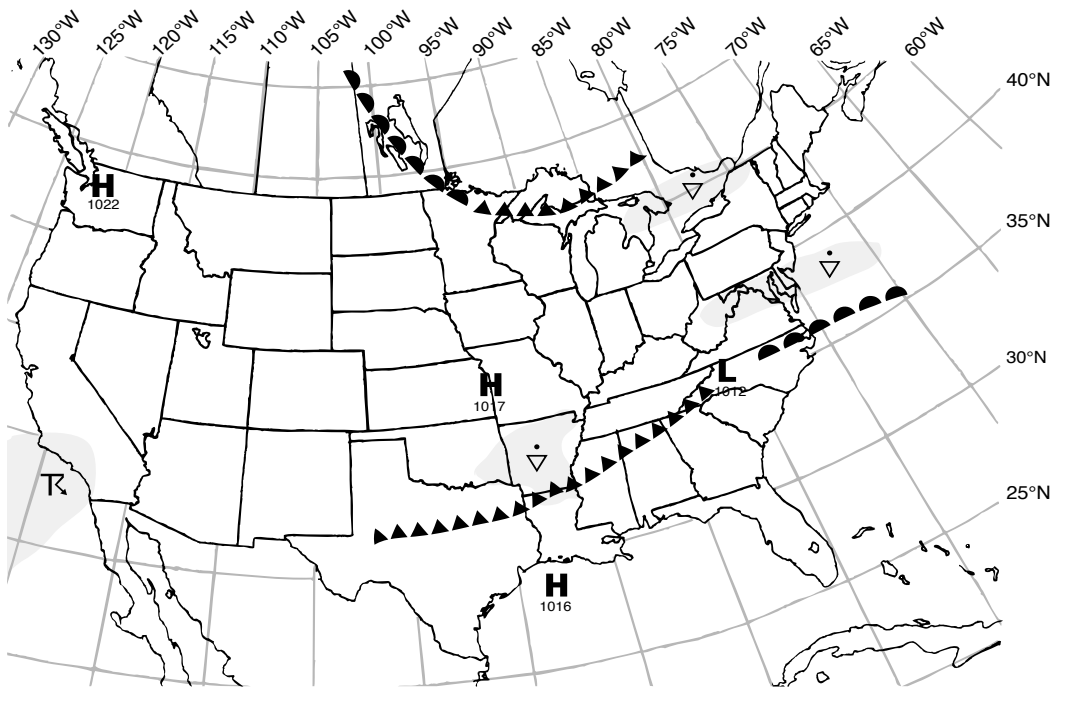
By Vince Agard
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The pleasant fall weather that has been prevalent so far in New England this year will continue this week, with sunshine, light winds, and temperatures around 60°F. With last week's nor'easter long gone out to sea, and no new storm systems expected to pass through the area until the end of the week, seasonable autumn weather will continue to dominate for the foreseeable near future.

The only exception to the pattern of clear skies this week will be the passage of a weak cold front associated with a low pressure system on Thursday afternoon. The system is expected to skirt to our north, resulting in a chance of showers on Thursday afternoon and evening, and slightly lower temperatures after the frontal passage as sunshine returns on Friday.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny. High 59°F (15°C). Winds W at 6-10 mph.
Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low 47°F (8°C). Winds W at 5-8 mph
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High 63°F (17°C). Winds WSW at 6-10 mph.
Thursday: Partly cloudy with a chance of showers. Highs in the mid 60s °F (17°C).
Friday: Mostly sunny. Highs in the mid 50s °F (13 °C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Tuesday, October 19, 2010

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols			Other Symbols
			Snow	Rain	
H High Pressure	Trough	Showers	* ▽	• ▽	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Light	*	•	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	Cold Front	Moderate	**	••	Haze
	Stationary Front	Heavy	⁂	∴	Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and *The Tech*

Facebook vows to fix a flaw in data privacy in Farmville

By Miguel Helft
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO — When you sign up for Facebook, you enter into a bargain. You share personal information with the site, and Facebook agrees to obey your wishes when it comes to who can see what you post.

At the same time, you agree that Facebook can use that data to decide what ads to show you.

It is a complicated deal that many people enter into without perhaps fully understanding what will happen to their information. It also involves some trust — which is why any hint that Facebook may not be holding up its end of the bargain is sure to kick up plenty of controversy.

The latest challenge to that trust came Monday, when Facebook acknowledged that some applications on its website, including the popular game FarmVille, had improperly shared information about users, and in some cases their friends, with advertisers and Web tracking companies. The company said it was talking to application developers about how they handled personal information, and was looking at ways to prevent this from happening again.

Facebook's acknowledgment came in response to an article in The Wall Street Journal that said several popular applications were passing a piece of data known as a user ID to outside companies, in violation of Facebook's privacy policy.

Having a user ID allows someone to look up that user's name and any data posted on that person's public profile, like a college or favorite movies, but not information that the user had set to be visible only to friends.

Privacy advocates and technology experts were split on the significance of the issue.

"That is extremely serious," said Peter Eckersley, a senior staff technologist at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an online liberties group.

Eckersley said advertisers could use the user IDs to link individuals with information they had collected anonymously about them on the Web. "Facebook, perhaps inadvertently, is leaking the magic key to tracking you online," he said.

At the same time, Eckersley said there was no evidence that anyone who had access to this data had actually misused it.

Zynga, the maker of FarmVille and other games on Facebook that have a combined 219 million users, declined to comment.

Several technology pundits and bloggers minimized the issue, with some saying that credit card companies and magazines have access to far more detailed information about customers than any Facebook application.

Facebook also sought to downplay the importance of the leak, saying the sending of user IDs appeared to have been inadvertent. "Press reports have exaggerated the implications of sharing" a user ID, Mike Vernal, a Facebook engineer, wrote on a company blog for application developers. "Knowledge of a UID does not enable anyone to access private user information without explicit user consent."

The $116 billion income tax cut that Obama gets no credit for

By Michael Cooper
THE NEW YORK TIMES

HUNTERSVILLE, N.C. — What if a president cut Americans' income taxes by $116 billion and nobody noticed?

It is not a rhetorical question. At Pig Pickin' and Politickin', a barbecue-fed rally organized here last week by a Republican women's club, a half-dozen guests were asked by a reporter what had happened to their taxes since President Barack Obama took office.

"Federal and state have both gone up," said Bob Paratore, 59, from nearby Charlotte, echoing the comments of others.

After further prodding — including a reminder that a provision of the stimulus bill had cut taxes for 95 percent of working families by changing withholding rates — Paratore's memory was jogged.

"You're right, you're right," he said. "I'll be honest with you: it was so subtle that personally, I didn't notice it."

Few people apparently did.

In a troubling sign for Democrats as they head into the midterm elections, their signature tax cut of the past two years, which decreased income taxes by up to $400 a year for individuals and $800 for married couples, has gone largely unnoticed.

In a New York Times/CBS News Poll last month, fewer than 1 in 10 respondents knew that the Obama administration had lowered taxes for most Americans. Half of those polled said they thought that their taxes had stayed the same, a third thought that their taxes had gone up and about a tenth said they did not know. As Thom Tillis, a Republican state representative, put it as the dinner wound down here, "This was the tax cut that fell in the woods — nobody heard it."

Actually, the tax cut was, by design, difficult to notice. Faced with evidence that people were more likely to save than spend the tax rebate checks they received during the Bush administration, the Obama administration decided to take a different tack: It arranged for less tax money to be withheld from people's paychecks.

They reasoned that people would be more likely to spend a small, recurring extra bit of money that they might not even notice, and that the quicker the money was spent, the faster it would cycle through the economy.

Economists are still measuring how stimulative the tax cut was. But the hard-to-notice part has succeeded wildly. In a recent interview, Obama said that structuring the tax cuts so that a little more money showed up regularly in people's paychecks "was the right thing to do economically, but politically it meant that nobody knew that they were getting a tax cut."

"And in fact what ended up happening was six months into it, or nine months into it," the president said, "people had thought we had raised their taxes instead of cutting their taxes."

Four found guilty in plot to bomb synagogues in the Bronx

By Kareem Fahim
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK — Four men were convicted Monday on charges of planting what they believed were bombs outside synagogues in the Bronx and plotting to fire missiles at military planes.

The case was widely seen as an important test of the entrapment defense. It turned on the role of a government informer who spent several months secretly recording conversations with the men that included plans for mass violence and anti-Semitic comments, along with their moments of hesitation and concerns about hurting women or children.

Prosecutors said the plot revealed the dangers of homegrown terrorism, and that the informer, posing as a Pakistani terrorist, had presented the defendants with an opportunity to commit violence to which they were predisposed.

But defense lawyers said the case crossed the line into entrapment. They said the informer, on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, dangled offers of money and lured impoverished men with no ties to international terrorism into a plot they could never have dreamed up on their own.

In the end, the entrapment defense failed, as it has in every other terrorism trial since Sept. 11, 2001. About 2:30 p.m. Monday, the jury forewoman stood and began reading the verdicts with a wavering voice. "Guilty," she said, 30 times, as the girlfriend of one of the defendants sobbed in the gallery.

The four men — Onta Williams, Laguerre Payen, James Cromitie and David Williams IV — will be sentenced March 24. Each could face life in prison.

Cromitie and David Williams were convicted on all eight counts of the indictment. Onta Williams and Payen, who met the informer late in the investigation, were found not guilty on one of the counts: attempting to kill officers and employees of the United States.

All the men were quiet as the verdicts were read. Cromitie's lawyer, Vincent L. Briccetti, patted his client on the shoulder, while a few seats away, David Williams wore a grim smile. After the jury left the room, Williams' aunt, Alicia McWilliams-McCollum, stood and yelled obscenities, saying there was no justice.

Court officers told her to leave.

In an interview a few hours after the verdict, one juror indicated that the deliberations, which lasted eight days, had been taxing.

"We considered that what they did was a serious crime. We also considered that they didn't have that kind of background," said the juror, who insisted that his name not be published. "We took our time. We dug deep."

BP sale raises $1.8 billion to help pay for oil spill

MOSCOW — BP raised $1.8 billion Monday to help pay for the cost of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico by selling assets in Venezuela and Vietnam to its own joint venture in Russia.

The transaction will leave half the assets' equity on BP's books but give the company an immediate flow of cash for the entire value of the sale. The agreement with TNK-BP, the joint venture, is the first major deal for BP's new chief executive, Robert Dudley, an American who was appointed to run BP midway through the gulf disaster.

BP has said it will raise $30 billion to pay claims relating to the spill, which killed 11 workers and caused tens of billions of dollars in damages, and has been whittling away at its global portfolio to do so.

BP has raised more than $11 billion, including the sales announced Monday. That includes $7 billion from the sale of fields in the United States, Canada and Egypt to Apache, a midsize energy company, and $1.9 billion for the sale of assets in Colombia to Ecopetrol and Talisman Energy.

For the TNK-BP's Russians investors, the sell-off comes at a good time. Taxes at home eat up much of the profits of Russian oil companies.

—Andrew E. Kramer, The New York Times

Sales and profit surge for Apple, but its margins slip

SAN FRANCISCO — Strong sales of iPads, iPhones and even Mac computers produced record revenue and profit for Apple in its fourth quarter.

It was not enough, however, to sustain Wall Street's exuberance for the consumer electronics company that has seemed to do everything right in analysts' eyes. The company's shares fell about 6 percent in after-hours trading on Monday after the company announced its results.

Apple said that it sold 14.1 million iPhones in the quarter, ended Sept. 25, an increase of 91 percent from a year earlier. Consumers bought 4.2 million iPads, the tablet computer it introduced in April. Mac sales totaled 3.9 million, up 27 percent.

But buried among quarterly results that any company would be more than happy to emulate was a decline in gross profit margins. Investors disliked the small blemish, sending Apple's shares down.

"There's a lot of hype built up into Apple's earnings," said Shannon Cross, the managing director of Cross Research. She added, "Everything must go down at some point, I suppose. Clearly, there was pressure on the iPhone gross margins and the iPad."

—By Verne G. Kopytoff and Ashlee Vance, The New York Times

Lure of cash erodes pact of silence for miners in Chile

Family members of the 33 miners who were trapped for 69 days had said a special Mass on Sunday would be a chance for the miners to find closure and understanding.

As one of them, Omar Reygadas, 56, left the service and walked with his family to the tent where they had lived while the men were trapped, cameramen and photographers surrounded him. His 2-year-old great-granddaughter was pushed in the mob and began to cry. As Reygadas picked her up, cameramen moved closer, zooming in.

Saying they had signed a pact not to reveal details about their ordeal, the miners have said little since Wednesday's rescue. Many have made clear, however, that the bidding had begun for their personal accounts, reflecting the complexity behind a feel-good story of hope and perseverance that was always encumbered by the economic challenges faced by Chile's miners.

"We're poor — look at the place we live," Quispe said, squinting under the desert sun. "You live off our stories, so why can't we make money from this opportunity to feed our children?"

Miners have asked for as little as $40 and upward of $25,000 for interviews. Some media outlets have offered to fly miners to Japan, Germany or Italy for exclusives. Some reporters who spent weeks living in Camp Hope, the tent village that sprang up when families gravitated to the site, exchanged letters with miners underground and were asked for large sums for interviews once the miners were out.

—Alexei Barrionuevo and Simon Romero, The New York Times

Officials push to bolster law on wiretapping

WASHINGTON — Law enforcement and counterterrorism officials, citing lapses in compliance with surveillance orders, are pushing to overhaul a federal law that requires phone and broadband carriers to ensure that their networks can be wiretapped, federal officials say.

The officials say tougher legislation is needed because some telecommunications companies in recent years have begun new services and made system upgrades that create technical obstacles to surveillance. They want to increase legal incentives and penalties aimed at pushing carriers like Verizon, AT&T, and Comcast to ensure that any network changes will not disrupt their ability to conduct wiretaps.

An Obama administration task force that includes officials from the Justice and Commerce departments, the FBI and other agencies recently began working on draft legislation to strengthen and expand a 1994 law requiring carriers to make sure their systems can be wiretapped. There is not yet agreement over the details, according to officials familiar with the deliberations, but they said the administration intends to submit a package to Congress next year.

To bolster their case, security agencies are citing two previously undisclosed episodes in which major carriers were stymied for weeks or even months when they tried to comply with court-approved wiretap orders in criminal or terrorism investigations, the officials said.

—Charlie Savage, The New York Times

OPINION

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HDAG got lost in groupthink

The dining reform group's plan is not what students want or need

By Nils Molina

In fall 2008, Chris Colombo became dean of student life of MIT. He was an experienced administrator, having worked at Johns Hopkins University and Columbia University, but he did not understand MIT. He did not understand how the cultures of MIT dorms support students through a challenging undergraduate experience. He did not understand the independence of MIT students. Most importantly, he did not understand the profound financial plunge many MIT undergraduates take when they enroll. But he did have an idea when tasked with fixing MIT dining.

MIT dining has always lost money. In 1986, the system was losing several times more money than it is today, when you adjust for inflation. There were simply too many costly options for students and not enough demand, so suppliers couldn't make a profit. Providing house dining at MIT has never been easy because it is inherently expensive.

Fast forward to 2010, and the problem still is that MIT dining halls (Baker, McCormick, Next and Simmons) are operating at a deficit. Students living in dining dorms subsidize the dining system by paying $600 a year for half price dinners, but it's not enough. In order to make the system break even, they'd need to pay $500 more, a change that would be unpopular considering nearly everyone already loses money on the $600 plan. Colombo envisioned a more drastic change. He knew how Columbia University provides three meals a day to all freshmen. He knew how colleges have expensive all-you-can-eat plans and happy customers. Looking at this evidence and forgetting what money means to students, it's clear that MIT should expand its dining. If one conveniently forgets about a lack of demand for expensive meals, it's clear that one should charge students several thousand dollars a year for all-you-can-eat dining.

> **Students, being familiar with their lifestyles, see how ridiculous the plan is and overwhelmingly oppose it.**

So in March 2010, Chris Colombo created the House Dining Advisory Group (HDAG), made up of administrators and a few students. With skilled politicking, Colombo's vision became HDAG's baby. It was HDAG's baby because the idea came from within, not from the requests of students. As HDAG nurtured the baby, it grew bigger and HDAG's love for it grew fonder. And soon HDAG would do anything to protect its dear baby from attacks.

In an organization without external checks, groupthink develops. The aims of the organization seem to become the most important priority and require more and more money. This is why government agencies always want more money, and why companies must hire independent contractors to lower costs in their organizations. HDAG was no exception. HDAG forgot about the astronomical, rising costs of college and decided that the possible benefits of its cute baby were far more important than the financial costs: They began to think that having morning pancakes available downstairs is more important than the thousands of dollars that service would cost a student. Conveniently ignoring how students can easily and cheaply eat a healthy breakfast of milk and cereal, HDAG decided to expand dining hall services to cover breakfast. Ignoring how ensuing fees would deeply hurt students, HDAG decided to require students in dining dorms to prepay breakfasts and dinners for every school day. For the average student, the costs of HDAG's plan amount to thousands of dollars more than what he/she currently spends on food. Students, being familiar with their lifestyles, see how ridiculous the plan is and overwhelmingly oppose it. But, to HDAG, the baby they cherish is far more important than rationality.

> **HDAG kept its baby away from criticism. HDAG released details of their plan in spring 2010 during finals week, when students were taking exams or leaving MIT, and slowly leaked more information during the summer, in order to keep students as uninformed as possible. They were not transparent, even though they were supposed to be working in the interests of students.**

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HDAG used surveys to nurture its baby. For instance, one survey question asked students how often they would "purchase" a breakfast if it were offered at their dorm. Most students said they would occasionally buy breakfast, so HDAG incorrectly concluded that there would be strong demand for in-house breakfast at a cost of thousands of dollars a year.

HDAG vehemently defended its baby against contrary opinions from students, no matter how reasonable they might be. One student asked Colombo whether breakfast service would be stopped if demand were below a certain point during the first semester of operations. Colombo was not willing to consider such a deal, saying demand could take years to build. Apparently the dining plan will be good, if you give it a few years.

This paternalistic attitude towards students, similar to how Sarah Palin might talk to liberals ("you're too liberal to understand"), morphed into HDAG's justification for their dining plan. Administrators on HDAG believe that students, despite being adults, are unable to and should not learn how to feed themselves properly, so prepaid all-you-can-eat (AYCE) dining is required to ensure student nutrition. HDAG fails to realize that AYCE dining makes students eat whatever they want, not what is healthy. HDAG's favorite statistic, a statistic they love to repeat to end discussion, is that during an AYCE dinner trial in Simmons students got several times more milk and twice as much juice than normal. But this ignores the bigger picture. With a la carte dining, students often get free water with their dinner. On the other hand, with AYCE dining, students will get juice and soda and pile desserts on their plate. One of the unhealthiest meals I have eaten was at an AYCE dining hall, because I took everything that looked tasty.

HDAG's paternalistic attitude, growing with a desire to protect their baby, is strongest for the most hated part of the dining plan: breakfast. Morning pancakes, waffles and eggs produced by a catering company entice students and feed HDAG's baby, but they are less healthy than milk and cereal and don't make financial sense, especially when one considers how often students sleep in.

> **HDAG never considered scaling back house dining in order to line up supply with demand and cut costs.**

HDAG is so steeped in selection bias that their members often seem idiotic. For instance, at an emergency Undergraduate Association meeting on the dining plan, HDAG member Cameron McAlpine said that student reaction to the proposed plan is being "blown out of proportion" because "financial aid will adjust to cover it." If one does the math, it is clear that most of the costs will be borne by students. Any costs covered by the financial aid office would still be a loss to the school, a loss perhaps exceeding the original dining deficit HDAG sought to eliminate.

HDAG never considered scaling back house dining in order to line up supply with demand and cut costs. Consider McCormick dining. It is the principal money hole of the dining system because McCormick residents often like to cook in their kitchens or eat at the less desolate Baker dining across the street. Ending McCormick dining would cut MIT's dining deficit. Far apart from this solution, HDAG did not even consider simply increasing the cost of the current dining plan, showing HDAG had an agenda that was not to be disagreed with. If MIT does not stop this dining plan, it will be worse off than in 1986, because students will hate living in a dining dorm.

Nils Molina is a member of the Class of 2014.

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"It Gets Better" needs to do more

Campaign for gay teens sidesteps the real issues

By Michael Veldman

In an October 15 column in *The Tech*, Andy Liang expressed his support for the "It Gets Better" campaign, started in response to the recent suicides by LGBT youth. On the face of it, the campaign seems impossible to criticize — what could be wrong with giving hope to desperate and lonely gay teenagers across America?

I'm sure that some of the videos are helpful and have allowed some people going through rough patches to better cope with bullying or getting ostracized by their peers. But for many of the people making these videos, especially Dan Savage (who started the campaign), it is a truly lazy and self-serving example of "activism." These people who supposedly want to help teens struggling with suicidal urges are producing videos that amount to nothing more than public ego-stroking. In Savage's video, he and his husband talk about how they were bullied and teased in high school but stayed strong and toughed it out and now lead fabulous, happy, affluent lives. They wax poetic about their perfect relationship and beautiful child. Yet the two are seemingly unaware of the realities that many gay teens dealing with depression face.

For someone on the brink of suicide, another person — who for all appearances has very few problems in their life — telling you that "everything will get better" comes off as a hollow, and possibly even cruel, assurance. It serves no other purpose than to make the depressed person feel even more isolated because it demonstrates to them that no one understands his or her suffering.

Telling them that they need to have hope will not help someone who — essentially by definition — has stopped being able to feel hope.

Telling them that their lives will get better, as if by magic, merely serves to remove responsibility from the speaker (and the LGBT community and society as a whole) to do work towards improving the attitudes of the oppressors and the treatment of the oppressed.

> **... there are ways of mixing rosy images of a brighter future with practical steps to get there.**

Telling them that they just need to suck it up for a while, which is what Savage's video comes down to, only in less harsh-sounding words, is an incredibly facile way of ignoring the potential years of misery facing them.

All of this sounds terrible — believe me, I realize this. But every bit of criticism I've received for my opinion thus far has been from people with no experience of clinical depression or no experience of being gay. It seems to me that a lot of people like the idea of these videos more because it's an easy way for them to feel better about themselves than out of an actual desire to help kids in trouble. Take a glance at the comments on the videos and you will see that the vast majority are from people who think it is "inspiring" or "touching" or "sweet." A great deal start with the phrase "I'm not even gay, but..."

If you are one of these people, you are not helping. During arguments, I've had people tell me, "If we can't say it gets better then what are we supposed to say? It gets worse?" On the contrary, there are ways of mixing rosy images of a brighter future with practical steps to get there.

If the goal of this campaign is to prevent gay teenagers from committing suicide, then the videos should focus less on the speaker in the video and more on the intended audience. It should be made clear to the viewer that however bad they feel, there is a way out, but you have to be willing to take steps toward that end. These feelings of misery will not evaporate by themselves.

The videos should also offer resources for kids in need. Some videos mention the Trevor Project, a depression and suicide hotline for queer and questioning youth. This is good, but every video should not only mention it, but press the issue.

The videos should be made by people who have been through it already. For all your good intentions, Anne Hathaway and Joe Jonas, you are not the ideal spokespeople.

Perhaps most importantly, the videos should stress the urgent need to seek help. If you are depressed, you cannot get better alone. Unfortunately, due to the stigma attached to depression, it can be as hard to come out as depressed as it is to come out as gay. (Side note: If you have reason to believe it would be detrimental to your well-being to come out as gay, do not come out until your situation changes.) I recommend coming to terms with it yourself, then starting to talk about it with anything you fancy — a poster on your wall or your pet dog — until you are ready to tell someone. You absolutely must tell someone. You'd be surprised how many people care about you, it's just that they are usually too busy being concerned with things that don't really matter to notice something has gone awry with you.

> **These people who supposedly want to help teens struggling with suicidal urges are producing videos that amount to nothing more than public ego-stroking.**

The general message of love in the majority of these videos is spot on, but too few people have up-close and personal experience with depression and suicide to offer productive advice. In response to criticism, Dan Savage defended himself by saying that he's "not preventing others from doing more." That's all well and good, Mr. Savage, but don't try pass this garbage off as some stunning and praiseworthy act of compassion.

Michael Veldman is a member of the Class of 2014.

Now or never

Unless the GOP's pledges of fiscal responsibility are sincere, they won't enjoy power for long

By Keith Yost
Staff Columnist

The Republicans are going to take back the House of Representatives. With a little luck, and some defections by moderate Democrats (both "R-Nelson" and "R-Lieberman" have a certain *je ne sais quoi* about them), they could assume control of the Senate as well.

A question making its way around the beltway is whether the party should put forward a set of explicit policy aspirations now, so that it returns to power with a mandate, or if it should avoid giving anything for Democrats to attack, so as to improve the chances of victory. In the "we need a mandate" category are men like Paul Ryan, author of the bold (if uninspiringly titled) "Roadmap for America's Future." In the other corner are have much of the GOP's official leadership, authors of the insipid "Pledge to America."

> **For Social Security, the growing consensus that the retirement age must be raised is the correct one.**

Regardless of how the roadmap vs. pledge debate settles out, everyone in the GOP should be put on notice: there will be no second chances. If they fall off the wagon again, if they belie their fiscally conservative rhetoric and return to Bush-era profligacy, they will be cast out into a political wilderness deeper than they can imagine.

Fortunately, in the zeitgeist of this day and age, voters want their politicians to make the tough decisions. From New Jersey to Britain, the politicians taking a hard-nosed look at state spending are being rewarded in the polls.

So what should Republicans do on November 3rd?

First and foremost, the GOP must tackle the biggest problem in the U.S. budget: the entitlement programs of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. All three face insolvency as the baby boom retires — the two health programs particularly so because of decades of above-inflation escalation in health care costs.

For Social Security, the growing consensus that the retirement age must be raised is the correct one. The debate over whether it is efficient for the government to supply old-age insurance is moot — if the average citizen thinks there's only a coinflip chance that the insurance program will be there for them when they retire, then it simply isn't insurance. By gradually raising the retirement age, Republicans will retain the part of Social Security that gets the most bang for its buck (the very-old-age insurance) while returning the program to a state of solvency that will reduce uncertainty in retirement planning.

For Medicare and Medicaid, there are three options that are attractive. The first option is to turn Medicare and Medicaid into voucher programs. By giving our citizens the choice of how to use their health care dollars, we may be able to avoid the wastefulness that comes from subsidizing patients into consuming care they are indifferent towards, while retaining the safety net that our values demand we keep.

The second option is to significantly raise the deductibles of Medicare and Medicaid, in particular Medicare Part D passed under the Bush Administration. You may remember Medicare Part D from the "fill the donut hole" pledge given by Democrats during the health care debate. In reality the economically sensible policy was not to fill the donut hole, but to cut out the bottom half of the donut, where the cost was greatest and the benefit least. Like raising the retirement age, restricting our health care entitlements to cover extreme events saves the most impactful portions even as we tighten spending.

Lastly, as much as Republicans have railed against ObamaCare, by mending the non-group health insurance market, the recent reforms allow the federal government to raise more revenue by ending the employer health care tax credit, and over time substitute individual insurance subsidies with penalties on those who do not purchase insurance. The GOP should work to squeeze savings out of this new system, not repeal it.

Entitlement spending is the biggest challenge, but also important is reigning in runaway discretionary spending. Last year we spent roughly $1.4 trillion in discretionary spending: $900 billion on military and national security, and $500 billion on non-military programs. We may wish to postpone cutting this spending for Keynesian reasons, but this does not mean we should postpone the planning of the cuts; the goal of the GOP, if not now, then on day one of taking back the office of the Chairman of the House, should be to identify $90 billion of annual military spending and $50b of non-military spending that can be cut without overly harming our economy, social equality, or national defense.

Some reductions will come easy — no one really thinks the U.S. Census Bureau is going to need its $7.4b budget next year — while some will require more abstract thinking — is it really strategically necessary to spend $3.7 billion on military financial assistance to Israel and Egypt for a peace they signed 30 years ago?

But make no mistake, the cuts are there to be had. Democrats like to have it both ways. They rail against a political process they claim has been hijacked by special interests, but as soon as it comes to cutting any of the goodies that special interests have obtained, they defend each dollar as sacrosanct. Republicans will have to show a little more principle.

> **Where Republicans have the budgetary leeway to introduce tax cuts, they should focus them on capital gains.**

I've made my own list of programs I'd like to shave (the JSF, the V-22, the F-35, the F-22, missile defense... NASA), and I'm sure many Congressmen have done the same. But the process should not be dominated by any one individual's list of priorities. Republicans need to build a consensus, to engage in serious discussion that identifies what spending is really necessary to meet our national goals, and what spending has merely been shoe-horned in over the years by underhanded lobbying and bureaucratic sprawl.

The trickiest problem for Republicans will be taxes. Given our fiscal predicament, major tax cuts are simply not in the cards — indeed, it is more likely that at least modest tax increases will prove necessary. What Republicans do have an opportunity to do is re-orient our tax system from one which seeks to re-distribute income to one which maximizes economic growth and efficiency. The Republican sense of fairness is libertarian, and wants to let a man keep that which he has rightfully earned. The Democratic sense of fairness is more Rawlsian in nature, and wants to equalize income across society. With new power, the Republicans will have the ability to tilt the balance back.

Because taxes induce individuals to change their behavior, they can lead to suboptimal behavior and create economic inefficiencies. Some taxes, like capital income taxes, produce relatively high inefficiencies, while others, like estate taxes, produce relatively low losses.

Where Republicans have the budgetary leeway to introduce tax cuts, they should focus them on capital gains. In the long run, capital gains taxes are among the most inefficient and should be among the first to go. The trouble is that slashing all capital gains taxes immediately would surrender a great deal of revenue in the form of a windfall profit to capital holders — having already paid the price of the inefficiency (less saving and investment due to expectation of a future tax), we would lose the revenue it was expected to yield. Republicans should focus on phasing out the capital gains tax by maintaining it on all existing assets, but not applying it on any capital investments henceforth.

For the most part however, Republicans will be faced with the choice of where to raise taxes, not lower them. If their libertarian sense of fairness prevails, they will raise them where they will do the least damage to economic growth — on the lower income tax brackets that hit all tax payers equally.

The elasticity of taxable income, and thus the inefficiencies created by a tax, get higher as both income and marginal tax rates increase. It polls well to tax the income of just the rich, but more often than not, the rich respond by working less, shrinking the economic pie.

A tax on a lower income bracket takes money from a broader base, and only distorts the decision making of those for whom that tax bracket represents their marginal tax rate, individuals who are much less likely to deprive society of their labor in response. "Taxing everybody" doesn't make as good a soundbite as taxing the rich, but when nearly half the country pays no income tax, even as they enjoy the benefits that income tax provides, Republicans should feel compelled to brave the storm and make a stand for their core philosophy.

None of these are easy problems to solve — that is why they have been left festering for so long. But if Republicans are to scrub off the image they gained during the Bush years, they need to prove to the American people that they are capable of making the hard choices, that policy positions and value judgments aside, they offer something the Democrats do not possess: courage.

Taste requires quality; nutrition is more about quantity

But taking the Darwinian approach, taste should guide nutrition

By Ronan Killian McGovern

What were they, those three fundamental human requirements, now superseded by our busy working lives as we eat, sleep and drink on the job? A human being will typically sleep for approximately one third of their life, but when it comes to time spent eating, the time allocated to nutrition varies significantly between cultures and individuals. Personally, I spend maybe two hours a day cooking and eating, which is not much when split between three or four meals. I like to cook because I like to eat, not the other way around. For me, the cliché, "You are what you eat," when interpreted literately, captures the importance of nutrition. If your typical diet consists of potatoes, beef and a dash of soy sauce, there's no denying that physically, you're a slightly oriental Irish Texan.

The modern public view of gastronomic matters is that taste is quality whilst nutrition is quantity. In fact, the word "gourmet," an elaborate preparation of small but rich courses, supports the validity of making such a distinction. However, from a Darwinian point of view, taste should of course guide nutrition, rather than simply sharing the same bed. When I think back to a summer spent living with a chef in continental Europe, his vegetable mosaics were certainly well seasoned with those Darwinian herbs. And me, when I cook, I too cook as Darwin would. I am a fan of gourmet foods and drinks, but a scoop of ice-cream is no consolation for having put yourself through an astronaut-like emulsion of bread and mushy vegetables, void of pleasure although pure in nutrition. Cast your mind back fifty years, when people had soup for starters and rice pudding to wrap up; Desert and appetizers were still nutritious back then. Now, in our modern inactivity, our deserts and appetizers satisfy requirements of pleasure rather than sustenance.

I would postulate that the modern gourmet exploits of our chefs or "cuisiniers," to arbitrarily throw in a French word, explain the relatively recent view that cooking is sexy, since those who cook well are a source of pleasure. Personally, I feel that being a good cook is neither a sufficient nor a necessary condition to be sexy, unless of course you specialize in aphrodisiacal delicacies. To view cooking as sexy is to ignore its practical value, which for me is one of the true virtues of a chef's job. We may only be a shadow of the hunter-gatherers of the past, but the fundamental requirement for nutrition and the preparation needed to make nutrition more palatable, justifies spending significant time considering our daily intake.

Cooking is indeed a science, and although we may not see it that way, chefs are in fact masters of scientific intuition. To be more specific, cooking is an empirical science, based almost purely on observation. In fact, the culinary arts are the purest of the empirical sciences, since they truly require the use of one's eyes, ears, tongue, nose and fingers. Think popcorn, eaten with five senses!

Allow me to reveal this empirical science. You can tell a good cook by the way they chop vegetables. First of all, they're efficient, dicing an eggplant into thirty two before you've taken the knife from the drawer. Secondly, notice that the cubes are all of the same size. You might think that diverse shapes and forms may look elegant, but they just won't all cook in the same time. Then, when you bring heat into the equation, cooks have a better feel for unsteady heat transfer problems than mathematicians have for Laplace transforms. The vegetables go into the wok in an order the cook knows will allow them all to be fully cooked at a precise time. When the beef steak sizzles on the pan, although cooks won't say, they know that the thermal conductivity at the boundary of the meat is changing. They won't reveal the thermal conductivity but they know the required temperature and the required cooking time. Cooking, it's engineering, if you're good at one, there's no doubt you could be good at the other.

Of course the process of nutrition is, or at least can be, intertwined with social activity (I suppose that's why the unsociable hours and isolation of a chef are surprising ironies of their job). On the one hand social interaction is based around food and on the other hand we tailor our foods for social interaction, through barbecues or cheese and wine nights. Now, since tumultuous fast-food outlets have replaced elegant tribal banquets and technology has long superseded our hunting-gathering ancestors, concerns are rising of our quest for continued global nutrition. As global water supplies and fuels to drive technology run short, we realize that nutrition in our modern world is derived from metaphorical soils of decreasing fertility. So, I leave you with a random thought, a remark from one of my fellow lab mates, which underlines the challenges of sustainability and the progress of technology; the production of a one liter plastic bottle of can require hundreds of times the thermal energy required for the desalination of one liter of seawater.

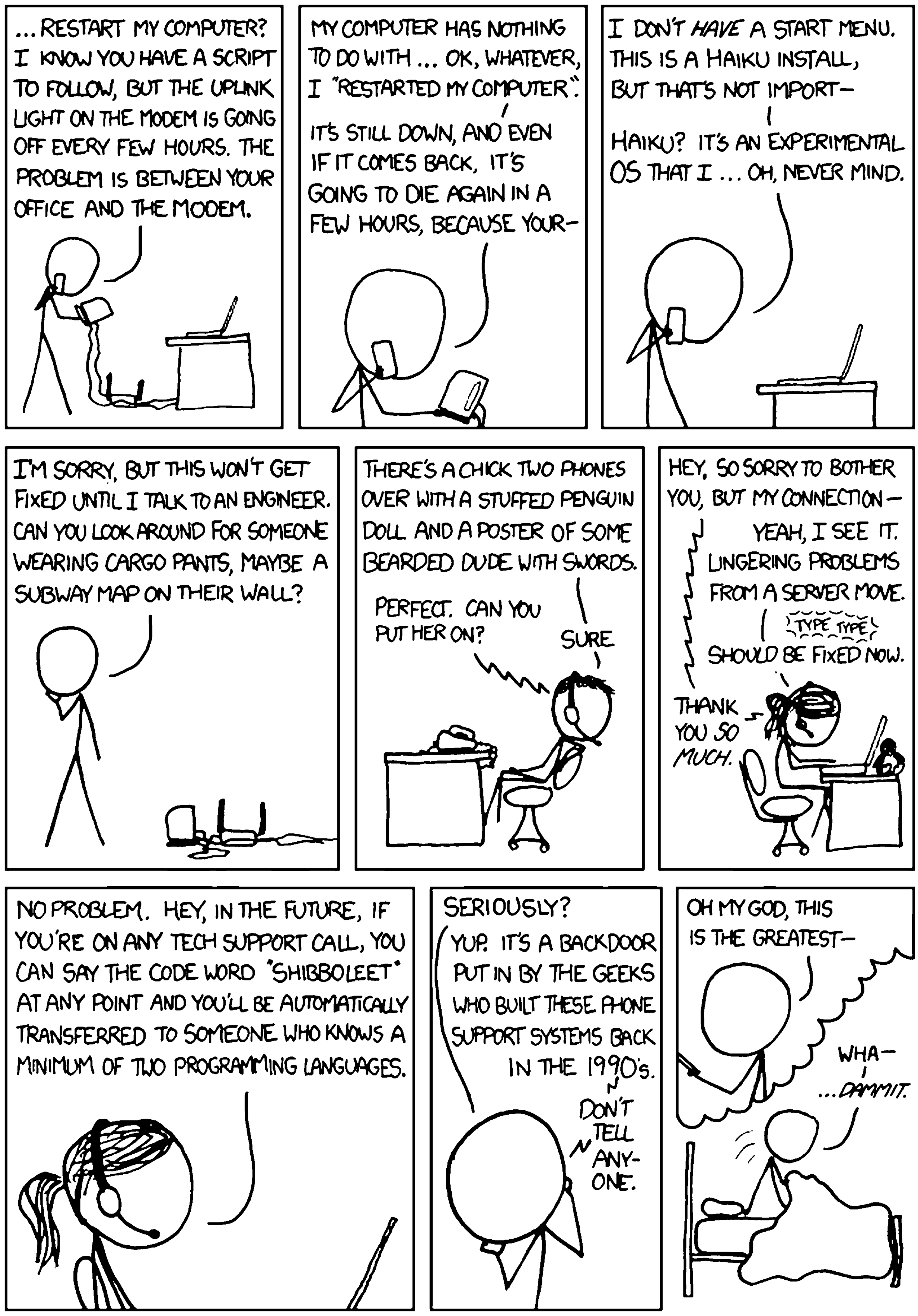
Ronan Killian McGovern is a graduate student in the department of Mechanical Engineering.

xkcd

A webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language

by Randall Munroe

Tech Support



I recently had someone ask me to go get a computer and turn it on so I could restart it. He refused to move further in the script until I said I had done that.

Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 13

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

Hard Sudoku

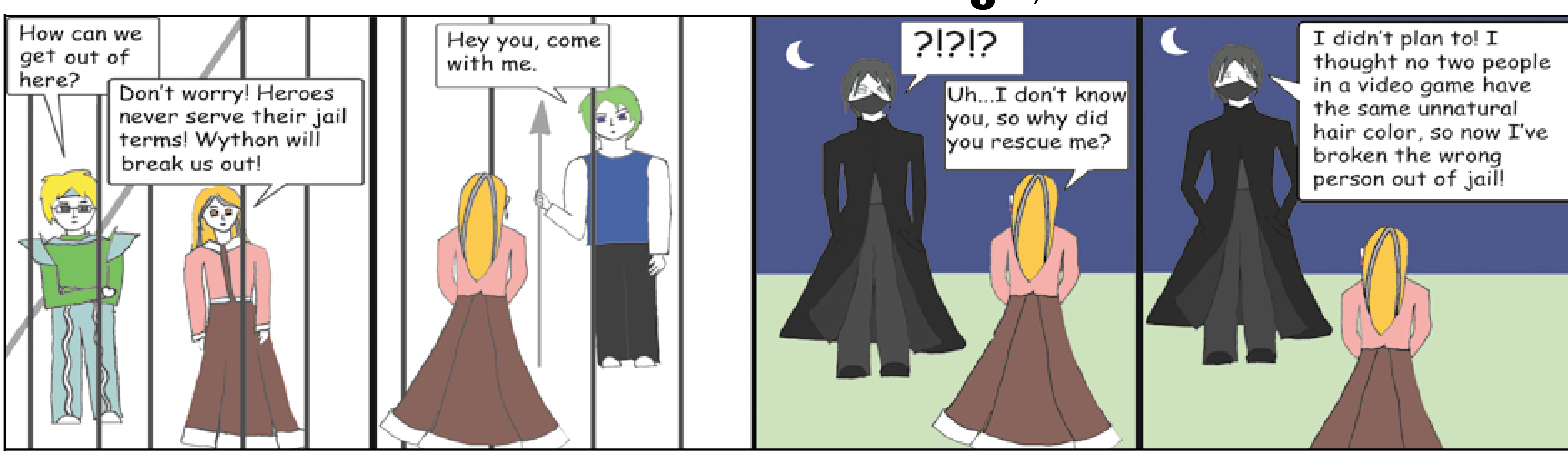
Solution, page 13

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

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

Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo

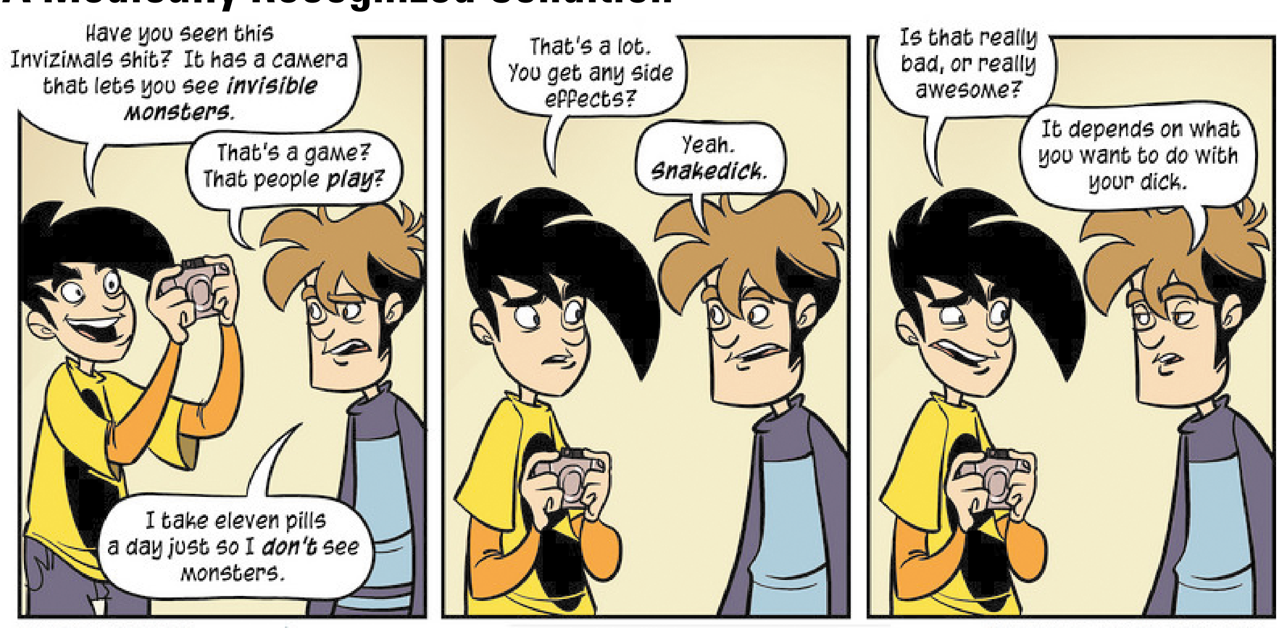
Somewhere on the Search for Meaning by Letitia Li



Penny Arcade .com

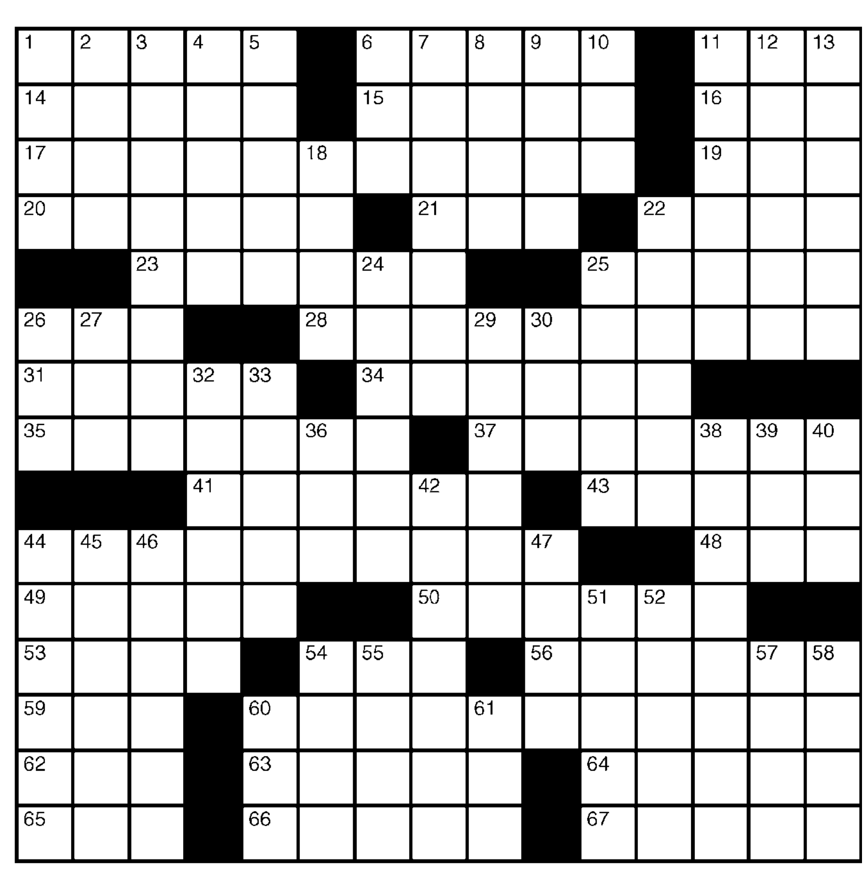
by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik

A Medically Recognized Condition



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13



ACROSS
1 Token booth
6 Kick out
11 2nd sight
14 Celestial hunter
15 Shearer of "The Red Shoes"
16 Blanc or Tillis
17 Beginning of autumn
19 Bikini part
20 Taking the place (of)
21 Just released
22 Sillitoe or Paton
23 Strays from the script
25 Thin pancake
26 Shade tree
28 Cam-controlled tool
31 Subject matter
34 Freeway access
35 Russian horseman
37 Pain reliever
41 Infamous cow owner
43 Steps over a wall
44 Windblown vegetation
48 Favorite
49 Assumed name
50 One-ups
53 Cold War power
54 Bashful
56 As an example
59 Verizon, once
60 Place to jot a note
62 That girl
63 Romeo
64 Fulton's power
65 Undertake
66 Pages in papers
67 Rumormonger

DOWN
1 Diplomat Annan
2 Turkey neighbor
3 Old light sources
4 Unbroken
5 Prepare to pray
6 Flightless bird
7 Becomes part of
8 "__ kleine Nachtmusik"
9 Cornfield critter
10 Uncle Sam's take
11 Insignia
12 Mexican shawl
13 Board smoother
18 Bow out
22 Deodorant spot
24 Former NBC anchor
25 Bivouacs
26 Space-saving abbr.
27 Old card game
29 Devout request
30 Doesn't lack
32 Weather-map line
33 Phones
36 Middling grade
38 Indelicately unwraps
39 Land in la mer
40 Ping pong partition
42 Keyed in again
44 Instructed
45 Long overcoat
46 King novel
47 Hilary of pop
51 One of Potter's rabbits
52 Babble
54 Trough chow
55 Center of activity
57 Well-kept
58 Humorist Bombeck
60 __-mo replay
61 Hosp. areas

Campus Life

VARIOUS STATES OF UNDRESS

Love those turtlenecks

Don't panic — it's just a little bit of skin

By M.

I recently received a call from a friend who had found herself in a tricky situation with a foreign male. You see, they were feeling a bit frisky and decided to get better acquainted, and her excitement quickly diminished once she was ambushed by the fella's uncircumcised ween.

"I just didn't know what to do with... all of that extra skin!" Girlfriend, you can sure make a tiny fold of skin sound like you're dealing with Jared's floppy belly pre-Subway diet. She definitely overreacted.

As someone who has a very well-documented thing for foreign men, dealing with foreskin was something I had to pick up swiftly once I realized that leaving the peen in its natural state was the norm outside the States. At first I had the same reaction as my friend, but once I learned how to handle the uncut and untamed, there was no reason to turn someone down just because he was sporting a turtleneck. A little bit of skin covering the tip is really no reason to trip!

Before I launch into the usual raunch, we all need to know what I'm talking about here. Foreskin is a small fold of skin that covers the head of the penis and retracts when it is fully erect. Circumcision means cutting that bit of skin such that the tip of the penis is always exposed. About 60 percent of American men my age are circumcised, which might explain why some girls don't know what to do with intact wangs: They just haven't seen a lot of 'em.

Don't be discouraged if things look different…just be a trouper and be pleasantly surprised.

Despite inconclusive studies, some argue that the increased exposure to such a sensitive part of the penis desensitizes it. I don't have a penis, so I will never know for sure, but the guys I've talked to are mighty happy to have their foreskin intact. The foreskin itself, being part of an organ that gives sexual pleasure, is loaded with nerve endings. An uncircumcised Icelander put it succinctly when talking to my circumcised American friend: "I can come better than you." Can't argue with that!

But I came here to demystify foreskin for the peen-loving folk, so let me get back to that. Some will say that the extra bit is not flattering and it makes penis look "weird," and to that I'll give one over-the-top eye roll.

If you should have learned anything after reading my column for so long is that I advocate trouping like no other, and sex is not about how things look but rather how they feel. Don't be discouraged if things look different — and yes, I do mean "different," not "ugly" or "weird" — just be a trouper and find yourself pleasantly surprised. In any event, I've never been able to tell if a guy is uncut or not when he is fully erect (especially if we're using a condom) and I doubt you will either.

Another one I've heard is that uncut peen is "dirty." There's a lot more room for smegma to get lost in, for sure, but this is more a function of the type of guy you're dealing with than anything else. If a guy reaches college age and can't properly wash his man meat, I hate to break it to you, but you're just dealing with a dirty dude, plain and simple. I bet you he'd still be gross if he was circumcised, so don't blame the foreskin.

Aesthetics aside, I think the most kick-ass thing about the extra bit is how it feels. That's right — it feels as good for the ladies as it does for the guys. If you ever find yourself in a committed relationship with an uncircumcised man and you have the chance to experience it in its latex-free glory, you'll see what I'm talking about. It helps retain the lubrication and adds another layer of sensation to both parties. I think that's pretty win-win right there.

If you're stumped for ideas, just ask the guy. Odds are you are not the first one he's had to teach.

But then how do you handle such delicate thing? The usual advice is "peel back and enjoy the treat," and you can do that, but don't take the extra bit for granted. If you're stumped for ideas, just ask the guy. Odds are you are not the first one he's had to teach, and it's in his best interest anyway. Just keep in mind that the wang is great in any shape it comes, and be open to trying new things. Especially if they come with a foreign accent.

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

Mobile technology will connect billions

Media Lab, from Page 1

and technology into one place. "MIT is the only place it could and did happen." He compared MIT to swiss cheese, containing holes and thin barriers which nurtured a porous, open environment.

Former MIT President Charles M. Vest said that he had seen other universities try to make their own media labs, but failed.

"Unfortunately, some of the early cloning was not ... very deep." Vest said that is was almost like a parody. "If you had someone who could dance, and a big room of black walls, and a computer; you had a media lab," Vest said.

Vest believes that the Media Lab was special for many reasons. It brings together "very smart people with depth together in sort of a free-flowing way..."

Prominent figures offer insight into the future

Several speakers including Schmidt and Negroponte posed challenging problems that they believe will govern the direction of the Media Lab for the next 25 years.

Google's Schmidt addressed the initiative to get more people connected. "One of the things I am personally proudest of is the number of people who have come into the global conversation who literally had no choice without the access of the internet and telecommunications revolution," he said.

Schmidt believes that mobile technologies will make data more transparent and flexible on a global scale, especially when these technologies becomes more accessible to people living in third world countries.

"It probably means ... we will hear from them, what their lives are like, in the same way that CNN in the 70s and 80s exposed the horrific conditions of people we could never see..." Schmidt said.

Negroponte said that the Media Lab will need to broaden it's focus to accommodate global solutions. "It's not a money problem; not a competition problem; it's the relevance," he said.

He believes that the future will be "surprisingly undigital," and instead, technology will be driven by global changes.

Negroponte also raised concerns about how nationalism is working against the development of global technologies. "It is one world; it is one place. Nationalism is going to get us in a lot of trouble," he said.

Vest agreed and said that top-down collaboration is much more difficult when it comes to getting things done. "Government to government is really hard. People to people is great," he said.

Vest also showed disapproval for the government's current approach to globalization. "Nobody wants to see the opportunity in it [globalization]."

Vest added, "Everybody sees the threats... but nobody wants to seem to recognize what's really going on is the rest of the world, more of them now are getting educated and more of them have opportunities."

Founder of the MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intellgience Laboratory (CSAIL) Marvin L. Minsky, who witnessed the birth and evolution of the Media Lab, expressed concern about the amount of national funding currently available for research laboratories.

"Something is wrong with the United States," said Minsky. "There aren't many research laboratories that have enough of an endowment to proceed."

Vest blames Congress for the lack of funding in research and engineering, saying, "Getting Congress to have the motivation [to fund research] is the hardest thing," he said.

Success stories

The Media Lab has been a hub of both successful companies and ideas including Harmonix Music Systems, E Ink, and One Laptop Per Child.

Harmonix Founder Eran B. Egozy '95 attended the celebration and recanted the story of how Guitar Hero, Harmonix's founding idea, came to life in the Media Lab. While the specific design of Guitar Hero was not developed in the Media Lab, Egozy did invent the precursor or the product called "The Axe," of which only approximately 300 products were sold.

Egozy said that the Media Lab prepared him for the real world that followed his research experience. It taught him how to do demos and make presentations on the spot, especially when company sponsors made surprise visits.

When asked what advice he would give to current students in the Media Lab, he said that students should "try bold new daring things. As you get older, this is the time to take on risk." When Egozy first started Harmonix, he went without a salary for the entire first year. "When you graduate, it is the best time for experimentation," said Egozy.

The after party

Between talks, attendees were given a chance to explore 23 research groups and over 350 projects that are currently being developed at the Media Lab.

Upon walking up to one of the several large-screen touch displays positioned around the lab, attendees would be recognized by an RFID tag on their name tag and given the option to log into the system to view project demos.

At 6 p.m., the Media Lab transformed into a party for all attendees. Champagne and fancy hors d'oeuvres were served to officially start the celebration. Courtesy of Harmonix, Rock Band 3, which has yet to be released, was set up for anyone to play.

Top 25 ideas and products spun out of Media Lab research over the past 25 years

1. Amazon Kindle, SONY e-Reader, Barnes & Noble nook (all use electronic ink technology)
2. Guitar Hero
3. LEGO Mindstorms
4. Scratch programming language for kids
5. XO Laptop
6. SeatSentry Smart Air Bag systems
7. MPEG-4 Structured Audio
8. Wireless Mesh Networks
9. Collaborative filtering recommendation technology
10. g-speak
11. Open Mind Common Sense
12. Computer Clubhouse Network
13. 3D digital holographic printing
14. Memory prosthesis
15. Photomosaics
16. Audio Spotlight
17. Sourcemap open-source, supply-chain mapping
18. Karaoke-on-Demand Machine
19. IBM WebFountain
20. Hyperscore music composition software
21. Symphony Painter
22. Tangible IP Network Designer and the Tangible Business Process Analyzer
23. Mercury RFID Readers
24. Clocky
25. Q Sensor

SOURCE: THE MEDIA LAB

MELISSA RENÉE SCHUMACHER—THE TECH

(front to back) Brian Carvalho '12, Brian D. McCarthy '12, Alexander P. McCarthy '14, the crew of the Osokkvandi Ond, paddle toward the finish line at the annual Head of the Zesiger cardboard boat regatta on Saturday. The boat they are paddling is the Oily, built by the opposing team; after the Osokkvandi Ond capsized and disintegrated, each team raced the Oily around the pool.

An outsider, Mandelbrot taught math to be jaggedy

Mandelbrot, from Page 1

lines, once considered unmeasurable, could now "be approached in rigorous and vigorous quantitative fashion."

For most of his career, Mandelbrot had a reputation as an outsider to the mathematical establishment. From his perch as a researcher for IBM in New York, where he worked for decades before accepting a position at Yale University, he noticed patterns that other researchers may have overlooked in their own data, then often swooped in to collaborate.

"He knew everybody, with interests going off in every possible direction," Mumford said. "Every time he gave a talk, it was about something different."

Mandelbrot traced his work on fractals to a question he first encountered as a young researcher: How long is the coast of Britain? The answer, he was surprised to discover, depends on how closely one looks. On a map an island may appear smooth, but zooming in will reveal jagged edges that add up to a longer coast. Zooming in further will reveal even more coastline.

"Here is a question, a staple of grade-school geometry that, if you think about it, is impossible," Mandelbrot told The New York Times this year in an interview. "The length of the coastline, in a sense, is infinite."

In the 1950s, Mandelbrot proposed a simple but radical way to quantify the crookedness of such an object by assigning it a "fractal dimension," an insight that has proved useful well beyond the field of cartography.

Over nearly seven decades, working with dozens of scientists, Mandelbrot contributed to the fields of geology, medicine, cosmology and engineering. He used the geometry of fractals to explain how galaxies cluster, how wheat prices change over time and how mammalian brains fold as they grow, among other phenomena.

His influence has also been felt within the field of geometry, where he was one of the first to use computer graphics to study mathematical objects like the Mandelbrot set, which was named in his honor.

"I decided to go into fields where mathematicians would never go because the problems were badly stated," Mandelbrot said. "I have played a strange role that none of my students dare to take."

Benoit B. Mandelbrot (he added the middle initial himself, though it does not stand for a middle name) was born on Nov. 20, 1924, to a Lithuanian Jewish family in Warsaw, Poland. In 1936 his family fled the Nazis, first to Paris and then to the south of France, where he tended horses and fixed tools.

After the war he enrolled in the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, where his sharp eye compensated for a lack of conventional education. His career soon spanned the Atlantic. He earned a master's degree in aeronautics at the California Institute of Technology, returned to Paris for his doctorate in mathematics in 1952, then went on to the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, N.J., for a postdoctoral degree under the mathematician John von Neumann.

After several years spent largely at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in Paris, Mandelbrot was hired by IBM in 1958 to work at the Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, N.Y. Although he worked frequently with academic researchers and served as a visiting professor at Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, it was not until 1987 that he began to teach at Yale, where he earned tenure in 1999.

Mandelbrot received more than 15 honorary doctorates and served on the board of many scientific journals, as well as the Mandelbrot Foundation for Fractals. Instead of rigorously proving his insights in each field, he said he preferred to "stimulate the field by making bold and crazy conjectures" — and then move on before his claims had been verified. This habit earned him some skepticism in mathematical circles.

"He doesn't spend months or years proving what he has observed," said Heinz-Otto Peitgen, a professor of mathematics and biomedical sciences at the University of Bremen. And for that, he said, Mandelbrot "has received quite a bit of criticism."

"But if we talk about impact inside mathematics, and applications in the sciences," Peitgen said, "he is one of the most important figures of the last 50 years."

Besides his wife, Mandelbrot is survived by two sons, Laurent, of Paris, and Didier, of Newton, Mass., and three grandchildren.

When asked to look back on his career, Mandelbrot compared his own trajectory to the rough outlines of clouds and coastlines that drew him into the study of fractals in the 1950s.

"If you take the beginning and the end, I have had a conventional career," he said, referring to his prestigious appointments in Paris and at Yale. "But it was not a straight line between the beginning and the end. It was a very crooked line."

YUANYU CHEN—THE TECH

Edmund W. Golaski '99 explains the details of the 8.01 paper airplanes hack while acting out the professor's reaction to hundreds of airplanes being thrown at him. Golaski told many hacks-related stories to a crowd of interested parents and family members at the MIT Museum last Friday afternoon.

JASMINE FLORENTINE—THE TECH

Nathan E. Serrano '10 fires a rubber dart at a member of another team during the MIT Assassin's Guild's "Patrol" on Saturday night. Patrol is high-action game that takes place every Saturday night at 8pm in and around MIT classrooms.

Can you draw a tree diagram for this sentence? And this one?

For linguistics majors, the structure and mysteries of language are a joy and an avocation

Linguistics, from Page 1

Jennifer Melot '12 (double majoring with Course VI) first discovered linguistics when she read Stephen Pinker's The Language Instinct, an opportunity she gained while working on a research project with professors. Although she entered college with plans of studying mathematics, she discovered that she enjoyed her linguistics and computer science classes at MIT more than her math classes.

Antony Nguyen '12 became interested through his four years of Latin studies in high school. "It irked me that Latin was taught as a translated, but not spoken language," he said.

"I would hear other students speaking in their foreign languages to other people, but I could never do that with Latin. Learning Latin made me especially curious about studying its pronunciation and phonology, and consequently, studying pronunciation and phonology of other languages."

Nguyen read about languages and phonology in his spare time in high school, but did not seriously consider studying linguistics while working on his college applications. Taking 24.900 deepened his interest, and with the recommendations of his adviser, he began his major in linguistics.

Most linguistics majors also pursue studies in other fields, typically computer science, math, and brain and cognitive sciences, Pesetsky said.

"The approaches in problem solving that apply to these majors also seem to be important in the study of how language works," he said.

In particular, recent findings in linguistics have been closely related to brain functions and languages centers have been located in the brain, making Course IX a popular double major choice. Furthermore, linguistics research has lately involved the use of magnetic resonance imaging to monitor the movement of tissues during speech, said Rafael Raya '11, a double major in linguistics and Course IX (Brain and Cognitive Sciences).

Wug kind of future for a linguistics major?

A common misconception is that linguistics majors have few opportunities in the job market. Yet this is not at all the case — Nguyen once came across an MSN news article that listed computational linguists as one of top five future jobs, and Pesetsky said that law schools are "very happy" admitting linguistics students.

Melot is considering pursuing computational linguistics as part of her graduate studies, and Nguyen, although not specifically planning on pursuing the field, has an interest in it. In particular, they are looking into natural language processing, a study which involves using computers to understand human input. This field has become increasingly useful, according to Nguyen, as it allows communication with machines through speaking, which is much more efficient than communication through typing and writing.

Nguyen is also thinking of studying further linguistic theory and is interested in research, especially in language syntax, and hopes to pursue a linguistics Ph.D in the near future.

Raya, originally hoping to pursue medical school, has instead decided to enter education leadership. "I feel my study of linguistics will help my approach my work as a potential superintendent or principal more effectively," he said.

At MIT, the future of the department seems bright. "I have seen many students doing a HASS concentration in linguistics, and it is common for students to enter a graduate linguistics program without a formal degree in the field," says Pesetsky.

"Studying linguistics provides you with highly useful skills that allow you to be successful in almost any field."

Solution to Easy Sudoku

from page 7

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

Solution to Hard Sudoku

from page 7

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

Solution to Crossword

from page 8

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

Shultz appeals for START Treaty

Shultz, from Page 1

William Perry, former Secretary of Defense; Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State under; and Sam Nunn, former Senator.

The four together have formed the Nuclear Security Project, a renewed effort to dramatically reduce the world's nuclear arsenals, recognizing that the threat of nuclear terrorism by rogue actors is a much more severe threat today than is a nuclear conflict between great powers. The project began with an op-ed published in the Wall Street Journal in January, 2007.

At the forum, the concrete step Shultz appealed for was the ratification of the new START Treaty (STrategic Arms Reduction Treaty), which has been waiting for the United States Senate to ratify it. The new START treaty reduces the deployed nuclear warheads from 2,200 to 1,500 in each of Russia and the U.S.

Shultz took questions for half an hour after the film. He encouraged engagement with Russia on elimination of battlefield nuclear weapons, because of their ease of theft.

"Time is not on our side," Shultz said, referring to the dangers of nuclear terrorism.

The forum was sponsored by the MIT Energy Initiative and the Center for International Studies. See *http://nuclearsecurityproject.org* for more details.

— John A. Hawkinson

JOHN A. HAWKINSON—THE TECH

Former Secretary of State George P. Shultz '49 introduced his documentary *Nuclear Tipping Point* in E51 last Friday.

Following opportunity is open to eligible Sophomore and/or Junior students in the
School of Engineering and the School of Science

THE BARRY M. GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate. The purpose of this Program is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.

The Goldwater Program provides scholarships of up to $7500 per academic year. Sophomore scholarship recipients will be eligible for two years of scholarship support. Junior scholarship recipients will be eligible for one year of scholarship support.

If you feel you are qualified for one of these prestigious awards, please discuss this with your academic advisor or your Department Head.

Nominations must be from YOUR DEPARTMENT and are due at the School of Science or School of Engineering Dean's Office (as appropriate to your major) by
November 12, 2010

For further information:
Contact your Undergraduate Officer,
http://www.act.org/goldwater/ or http://web.mit.edu/engineering/goldwater.html
School of Engineering contact: Maria Marangiello, x3-8012, mariam@mit.edu
School of Science contact: Elaina Burke, x4-5691, eidzenga@mit.edu

New business club combines old ones

Business club, from Page 1

panel the same night that SUMA was going to do a consulting panel with very similar firms." The corporate contacts of each organization questioned whether or not the two events were the same event. This sort of overlap in the organizations created confusion for both students and companies, who were unable to see the distinction between SEBC and SUMA.

The previous presidents, Prarthna Desia '11 of SEBC and Carolyn Wang '11 of SUMA, are currently transitioning SBC to the new presidents, Zhao and Dearing. Dearing said that the goal of SBC is to "serve any student on campus who's interested in business and wants to explore the opportunities...One of our goals is to convince companies that aren't convinced yet to recruit business-oriented positions from MIT." Zhao and Dearing envision for the new SBC to appeal to a broader scope of MIT students. They hope to provide opportunities for all MIT students, not just Course 6 or 15 majors, to dabble in the world of business.

According to Dearing, SBC merges "the best organizational structures of both of the previous entities. SEBC had a vertical integration based upon industry area, and the way SUMA had specialization across the organization in specific areas like technology or finance or marketing, we're also adopting that."

SBC takes bits and pieces from both SEBC and SUMA. The new corporate structure of SBC includes two co-presidents and four focus groups — finance, consulting, engineering leadership, and entrepreneurship. The entrepreneurship focus group is built off of what existed in SUMA previously, however, the subcommittees is a remnant of the previous SEBC design. Aside from the four focus groups, SBC also has a product group, which will handle the marketing and treasury for SBC as well as the organization of other events that don't fall under the responsibilities of any other focus group.

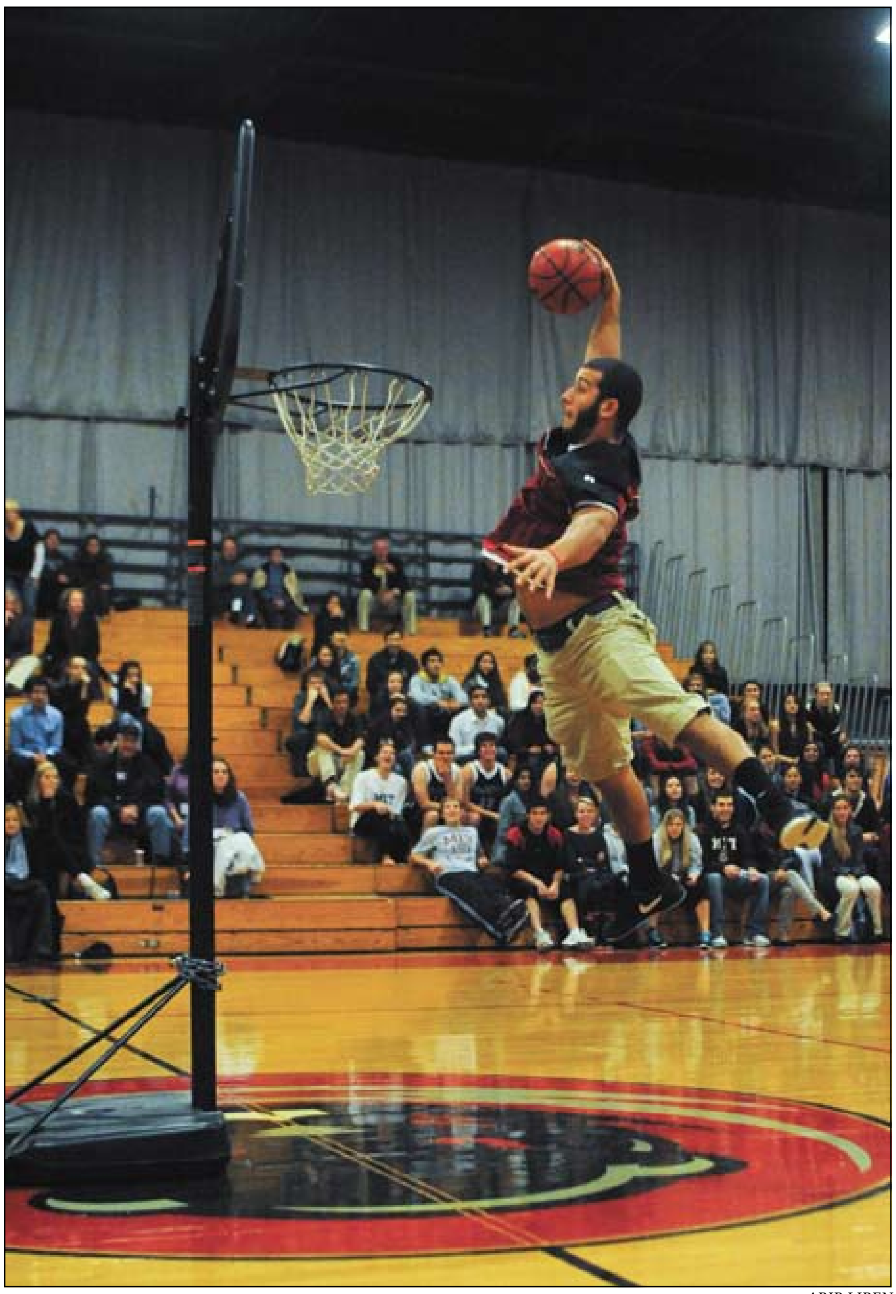
Discussion between the executive boards of both organizations began around the start of the school year, and ended approximately a week before the decision was officially announced to the MIT community. Once the executive boards of both organizations realized this redundancy, they consulted their Sloan faculty advisors as well as the SAO faculty sponsor Alicia Irwin, and all reactions were positive. With the approval of their advisors, the two organizations then proceeded to work out the logistics of merging.

In order to preserve the science and engineering side that came from SEBC, Zhao expressed the organization's desire to see the engineering leadership focus group to cater more towards engineers. Zhao said, "A lot of big companies like General Electric, Procter & Gamble, IBM, and Anheuser-Busch...have specific engineering-leadership program tracks. The engineering-leadership group is looking to explore those opportunities and bring them closer to students."

Yesterday SBC held its first event as a new organization: the Freshman Internship Event. A panel of sophomores spoke to interested freshmen about their internship experiences over the summer. To learn more about SBC, visit their website, *http://www.mit-sbc.org*.

Community comes out to see Beaver Madness

Friday's basketball pep rally featured performances and some faculty hoops



ABIR LIBEN

Joel T. Santisteban '14 soars above the net in the student dunking contest during the 1st annual Beaver Madness rally on Friday, which marked the official start of the basketball season. The men's team is ranked 18th in the D-III News preseason poll, after finishing last season with a 22-5 record.

By Carlos Greaves
STAFF REPORTER

Hundreds of students packed the bleachers of Rockwell Cage Friday night for Beaver Madness, a pep rally for the men's and women's varsity basketball teams, whose seasons kick off this November. The event featured performances from Logarhythms and Ridonkulous, short scrimmages, as well as various skits and performances in between.

These performances included everything from a basketball knockout tournament, to a skit featuring a dating game in which guys dressed up and portrayed students from Cal Tech, Harvard, and MIT. As expected, the Cal Tech student wore large glasses and clearly had no social skills, the Harvard student was a snobby jerk with nothing interesting to say, and the MIT student was intelligent, outgoing, and the manliest of men. Needless to say, the MIT guy was chosen for the date.

The shooting competition between faculty, administrators, athletes, and coaches included appearances by Peter Dourmashkin and assistant professors Narendra Maheshri and Peter Reddien. The evening also included a performance by MIT's Cheerleading team.

Overall, students were having a great time, while showing their support for the basketball teams, both of which hope to do even better than last season, including the men, who reached the first round of the NCAA Division III Men's Basketball Tournament last season.

Both teams will begin official practice soon, and will both have their first games on November 16, with the men taking on Emmanuel College here at Rockwell Cage, and the women traveling to nearby Wentworth Institute of Technology. Make sure to support both teams as the men look for another spot in the NCAA Division III Tournament, and the women fight to improve on last season's record.

SPORTS SHORT

Women's tennis fell 7-2 on Tues. against Wheaton

This past Tuesday, MIT women's tennis played their last conference match of the season against Wheaton. In doubles first off were Melissa A. Diskin '11 and Katherine A. O'Neal '14, who lost their match 8-2. Next were Jennifer A. Rees '11 and Hillary E. Jenny '12. They lost their match 8-3. The last match on was of Lauren Quisenberry '14 and Julia Hsu '14. They played a tough match and had lots of close points, but in the end lost 8-5, giving Wheaton a 3-0 lead going into the singles matches.

First off in singles was O'Neal , who lost 6-2, 6-2. Next off was Jenny, was lost a back and forth match 6-1, 6-3. Quisenberry finished next. She won her match 6-2, 6-2, putting MIT on the board. With this win, Quisenberry finished the regular season undefeated in singles without dropping a single set. Rees came off next, losing 6-3, 6-3. Hsu was off next. She had a long match but lost 7-6(2), 6-0. This left Diskin as the last one on. She had won the first set 6-3, but then lost the second set 6-4. In the end, she pulled it out in the tiebreaker, winning 13-11. In the end, MIT lost to Wheaton 7-2.

Next up for MIT is the NEWMAC Tournament, which will be played this weekend at Smith College.

—Jennifer Rees, team representative

Women's volleyball is at 14-9 after win over Smith

Spielbauer named to All-Tournament team, Schulte named tourney MVP

By Paul Dill
HEAD COACH

The MIT women's volleyball team faced Smith College last Tuesday. Although Smith won its first set against MIT since a 2005 sweep, the Engineers bounced back by taking the next three en route to a 21-25, 25-19, 25-12, 25-12 decision in a NEWMAC women's volleyball match on Tuesday night. MIT saw its record improve to 14-9 on the year and 4-2 in conference play while the Pioneers dipped to 1-14 overall and 0-6 in the NEWMAC.

With the score tied at eight in the first set, the Engineers established a comfortable margin courtesy of a 7-3 run. The Pioneers then responded with a 5-1 run that evened the score at 16. Both squads traded points until Smith capitalized on a pair of errors and two kills to capture the set.

The visitors carried the momentum into the second stanza as they quickly created a 7-3 advantage. MIT responded by posting eight of the next nine points, but the Pioneers continued to attack and knotted the frame at 14. Sparked by a kill and strong serving from Jenny Li '11 (including a pair of aces), the Engineers mounted a 9-2 run to gain some breathing room. Smith narrowed the gap to 24-19 on a trio of errors, but a kill by Cecily L. Joujon-Roche '12 thwarted any attempt at a late rally.

> **Smith stayed within striking distance for most of the final set, converting a pair of miscues to come within three (13-10).**

In the third set, MIT jumped out to a 7-3 lead which the Pioneers quickly trimmed to one (7-6). This was as close as it would get as the Engineers went on an 18-6 run to close out the game.

Smith stayed within striking distance for most of the final set, converting a pair of miscues to come within three (13-10). MIT responded by scoring 12 of the last 14 points to secure the victory.

Joujon-Roche powered the Engineers' offense with 14 kills on 19-errorless attempts for a .737 hitting percentage. Trinity P. Leonard '13 racked up 13 kills and 10 digs while Kelly E. Schulte '12 tallied nine kills, four blocks, and two aces. Kristine A. Bunker '14 bolstered the front row with seven kills, a .667 hitting percentage, and four blocks as Li finished with eight kills and two aces. Sharon S. Hao '14 totaled 42 assists and 15 digs while Katie K. Spielbauer '13 collected 14 digs and three aces. Natasha H. Jensen '12 posted six digs and two aces as Jessica L. Fessler '14 rounded out the back row with seven digs.

> **On Saturday, for the fifth time in six years, women's volleyball earned top honors at the MIT Quad Tournament.**

On Saturday, for the fifth time in six years, the MIT women's volleyball team earned top honors at the MIT Quad Tournament. With MIT, nationally-ranked No. 25 UMass Boston, and Lebanon Valley College each compiling a 2-1 tournament ledger, sets won-lost among the tied teams determined the final rankings. The Engineers came out on top with a 7-3 mark, followed by UMass Boston (7-4), and Lebanon Valley (6-4). Bates College rounded out the field with a fourth-place finish.

MIT started the tournament off on Friday night with a 3-0 win over Bates College. Their next match was a tough fought battle against UMass Boston in which the Engineers came up short, losing 1-3. MIT followed that up with one of their biggest wins of the season beating the Lebanon Valley College 3-0 to take the tournament championship.

Spielbauer was named to the All-Tournament team for her fantastic defensive play throughout the tournament, and Schulte was named tournament MVP. The Engineers will return to conference play Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in Rockwell Cage, facing Wheaton College.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, October 12

Sailing: Midweek Tech Invitational 3	*4 p.m., Charles River*
Field hockey vs. Wellesley College	*6 p.m., Jack Barry Field*
Women's volleyball vs. Wheaton College	*7 p.m., Rockwell Cage*