### MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper



WEATHER, p. 2 WED: 32°F | 22°F THU: 31°F | 13°F Partly cloudy

FRI: 25°F | 12°F Partly cloudy

Volume 130, Number 62 tech.mit.edu Wednesday, January 12, 2011



President Susan J. Hockfield spoke Friday about the uniqueness of the MIT community and thanked the MIT 150 steering committee for their work in putting together the MIT 150 exhibit. The exhibit floor at the MIT Museum was packed with students, alumni, and faculty. There were 657 people in the exhibit by the end of the speeches.

### Museum starts MIT 150 celebration

### Over sixty events, symposia to reflect "inventional wisdom"

By Colleen Loynachan STAFF REPORTER

What can MIT accomplish in the next 150 years? A cure for cancer? Further explorations underwater and in space? Artificial intelligence?

The opening of the MIT 150 Exhibition at the MIT Museum on Friday marked the first of 150 days of celebratory events for the Institute's sesquicentennial. The celebration will include symposia, performances, and exhibits reflecting on MIT's revolutionary contributions and will explore how MIT can help shape

The MIT 150 steering committee, led by David A. Mindell PhD '96, planned over sixty events guided by the theme of "inventional wisdom." The theme represents the entrepreneurial spirit sparked by a blend of inspiration and knowledge, explained Mindell. Many of the festivities are open to the public, fulfilling one of the goals of the

MIT 150, Page 11

# Corporation talks dining

### Committee listens to students, trustees; no action to reevaluate

By Robert McQueen

NEWS EDITOR

No action to reevaluate the proposed dining plan was made by the MIT Corporation after an informal discussion took place at the Corporation meeting on Dec. 3. Dining was not on the original meeting agenda.

"It was on our minds," said Corporation member Harbo P. Jensen '74. "Clearly everyone was aware of it."

Jensen also acts as the Chairman of the Corporation Joint Advisory Committee on Institute-Wide Affairs (CJAC), a committee made up of Corporation trustees, students, and faculty. CJAC acts as a medium in which student and faculty concerns can be addressed directly to the Corporation without first going through the administration.

The day before the Corporation meeting, CJAC met to review their report and presentation to the Corporation. The report covered several issues ranging from student involvement in administrative decision-making to student advising. Although dining was not on the original agenda, Jensen said that approximately onethird of the meeting was dedicated to that issue.

"We all agreed that...there is a lot of emotion and energy behind this," said Jensen. However, Jensen acknowledged that after three years of

Dining, Page 9

### **IN SHORT**

Mystery Hunt kicks off this Friday at 12:17  $p.m.\ in\ Lobby\ 7.\ Register\ your\ team\ online$ at http://mit.edu/~puzzle/.

getfit@mit registration is now open! Register your team in MIT Medical's annual fitness challenge. Learn more at http://getfit.mit.edu.

The MIT 150 Exhibition Public Celebration will be held at the MIT Museum this Friday 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free.

Snow is coming...12-18 inches of it! See our weather coverage on page 2 for more

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

### Phillip L. Clay considered for president of UMass system

Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, who will be stepping down as Chancellor this spring, is a candidate for president of the University of Massachusetts system (UMass), according to the Boston Globe. A UMass presidential search committee will conduct a round of interviews with fewer than six candidates on Jan. 13, the Globe reported last Tuesday. Clay remains under consideration after a set of first-round interviews

When Clay announced he was stepping down last November, he told the MIT community that he planned to go on sabbatical for a year before returning to MIT as a professor. The current UMass president, Jack Wilson, will leave his post on June 30. Clay declined to comment on

—Jessica Pourian

# A look at Wall St. trading

### An inside view of Fed's bond-buying program

By Graham Bowley

Deep inside the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the \$600 billion man is fast at work.

In a spare, government-issue office in Lower Manhattan, Josh Frost and a band of market specialists are making the Fed's ultimate Wall Street trade. They are buying hundreds of billions of dollars of U.S. Treasury securities on the open market in a controversial attempt to keep interest rates low and, in the process, revive the economy.

To critics, it is a Hail Mary play — an admission that the economy's persistent weakness has all but exhausted the central bank's powers and tested the limits of its policymaking. Around the

Finboard, Page 11

# Early action applications up 13%

12.1 percent of EA were admitted; total applications over 17,800

By Elijah Mena

MIT received a record 6,405 early-action applications this year, up 13 percent from last year. According to Dean of Admissions Stuart Schmill '86, 772 applicants (12.1 percent) were admitted, 3,887 (60.7 percent) were deferred, and 1746 (27.3 percent) were rejected. Decisions were released on December 15.

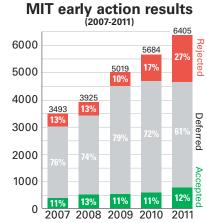
After regular action applications are counted the number of total applications, early and reg-

ular, is expected to top 17,800, about a 7 percent increase from last year.

Schmill said that MIT is seeing a shift towards early action as opposed to regular decision.

"Our early action applications have risen in the last several years at a higher rate than our regular action applications," Schmill said. "It is a general trend that more students are applying early somewhere when they apply to college."

Admissions, Page 11





Firefighters respond to a chemical spill in the basements of buildings 66 and 68 last Wednesday. The small spill of acetonitrile caused no injuries, but prompted the evacuation of buildings 66, 68, and E17, and closed Ames Street for several hours.

### **COMEDY AGAINST CONFORMITY**

Nina Sinatra interviews internationally-recognized comedian and actor Maz Jobrani. OPN, p. 4

### **OUT OF THE WAY, PALIN!**

Keith Yost explains who can unseat Obama in 2012. OPN, p. 5

### **KENDALL CHANGES?**

New developments in the Central and Kendall development saga. NEWS, p. 9



### A NEW LOOK AT JAZZ

The Tech catches up with Tamir Hendelman, an Israeli jazz musician from LA. Hendelman tells us about what inspires his music.

ARTS, p. 6

### **GRANDFATHER PARADOX**

What exactly does happen if you go back in time and kill your own grandfather?

FUN, p. 7

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### **Gates warns of North Korea** missile threat to U.S.

BEIJING - Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates warned Tuesday that North Korea was within five years of being able to strike the continental United States with an intercontinental ballistic missile and said that, combined with its expanding nuclear program, the country "is becoming a direct threat to the United States."

Gates is a former director of the CIA, and his statement, officials said, reflected both a new assessment by U.S. intelligence officials and his own concern that Washington had consistently underestimated the pace at which the North was developing nuclear and missile technologies.

—Elisabeth Bumiller and David E. Sanger, The New York Times

# Biden assures Karzai of U.S.

KABUL, Afghanistan — Vice President Joe Biden met with President Hamid Karzai here Tuesday and promised a lasting U.S. commitment to the country well beyond 2014, when NATO forces are scheduled to turn over security of the nation to Af-

"The United States, if the Afghan people want it, are prepared and we are not leaving in 2014," Biden said during an unannounced visit to Kabul. "Hopefully, we will have totally turned over to the Afghan security forces the ability to maintain the security of the country, but we are not leaving if you don't want us to leave."

-Ray Rivera, The New York Times

### Wikileaks founder said to fear 'illegal rendition' to U.S.

 ${\bf LONDON-Lawyers\ for\ Julian\ Assange,\ the\ founder\ of\ the}$ WikiLeaks antisecrecy group, said on Tuesday that they would oppose his extradition to Sweden because he might subsequently face "illegal rendition" to the United States, risking imprisonment at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, or even the death penalty.

They made the assertion in defense documents released after Assange made a brief appearance in a British high-security court for a largely procedural hearing concerning his resistance to demands for his extradition to Sweden, where he has been accused of sexual misconduct.

The documents for the first time publicly named the two WikiLeaks volunteers who have accused Assange of forcing them to have sex with him without a condom in Sweden last August, in one case while the woman was asleep.

-Ravi Somaiya and Alan Cowell, The New York Times

### Goldman vows to be more open about its operations

A move that follows months of mounting scrutiny from lawmakers, regulators and shareholders who worry that Goldman is the black box of the investment banking world.

As a start, Goldman restated its financial results for the third quarter, giving better insight into how much revenue its hedge fund, real estate and private equity operations generated, among other things.

This initial disclosure was short of details on Goldman's business, however. Some revenue appears to have simply been reallocated to different business lines.

"It remains to be seen how much detail we'll get," said Jim Sinegal, an analyst with Morningstar.

-Susanne Craig and Ben Protess, The New York Times

# Doctors say Rep. Giffords' condition points to survival

By Jennifer Medina

THE NEW YORK TIMES

TUCSON, Ariz. — Just three days after a bullet passed through Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' brain, and one day before the president was scheduled to come here to address the shooting rampage in which she was wounded, doctors said Tuesday that Giffords' chances of survival were certain. She is able to breathe on her own, although she remains on a ventilator as a precaution.

What her recovery will look like, however, and how long it will take remain unclear.

"She has a 101 percent chance of survival," said Dr. Peter Rhee the director of medical trauma at the University Medical Center, where Giffords is being treated. "I can't tell whether she's going to be in a vegetative state. I hope that she's not and I don't think she will be in a vegetative state, but I know that she's not going to die."

President Barack Obama will deliver a speech here Wednesday evening at a memorial service for

the victims of the attack. His aides said he would focus on the theme of service to country and avoid the debate about whether the state's political climate might have played a role in the tragedy.

Instead, Obama, who was still working with his speechwriters Tuesday, will call for unity among Americans, while trying to hold up the lives of the victims, including their service to government, as an example to all Americans. He will share some anecdotes about the victims from private phone calls he has made to the families, aides

Meanwhile, across Tucson, there was a flurry of efforts to address the psychological effects of Saturday morning's shootings, which left six dead and 14 wounded. Two churches held memorial services Tuesday night, drawing large crowds.

In Phoenix, the state Legislature quickly passed an emergency law to block a church that protests outside funerals from getting too close to the services planned in Tucson.

The measure, which keeps protesters 300 feet back from funerals. is intended to head off members of the Westboro Baptist Church in Kansas, who have praised the shooting and plan to picket the funeral Thursday of Christina Green, a 9-year-old victim, and a service Friday for Judge John M. Roll of Federal District Court.

At the hospital, Giffords' doctors said the outcome could have been far worse. They said she had done remarkably well so far. But they cautioned that there was little more they could do medically to help her improve.

Over the past several days, Giffords has repeatedly given nonverbal responses to her doctors' commands, they said, and CAT scan X-rays have shown that there is no swelling, which continues to be the most serious threat. So far, doctors said, she has shown only slight movement on the right side of her body, raising questions about her functional neurological status. Doctors again declined to give some specific details about Giffords.

# Chinese military tests stealth fighter while Gates visits

By Elisabeth Bumiller and Michael Wines

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING — China's military conducted a test flight of a new stealth fighter jet Tuesday, overshadowing a high-profile visit by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates aimed at improving defense ties - and apparently catching China's civilian leadership off guard.

Staging the test flight of the long-secret J-20 while Gates was in Beijing amounted to an unusually bold show of force by China. But the demonstration also raised questions about the degree of civilian control of the Chinese military, as President Hu Jintao and other civilian leaders gave their U.S. visitors the impression that they were unaware that the test had been conducted only hours before they received Gates for a formal meeting at the Great Hall of the

A senior U.S. defense official said that when Gates asked Hu to discuss the test, it was evident to the Americans that the Chinese leader and his top civilian advisers were surprised by the query and were unprepared to answer him. Photos of the flight of the radar-evading J-20 had been prominently posted on unofficial Chinese military websites a few hours before the meeting.

"It was clear the civilian leadership was uninformed," the official

In comments to reporters afterward, Gates said that Hu did acknowledge the test, apparently later in the same meeting, and that he assured Gates that it "had absolutely nothing to do with my visit."

Asked if he truly believed that, Gates said, "I take President Hu at his word."

But he said the episode also underscored concerns that the Chinese military might sometimes act independently of the country's political leadership, a growing worry of U.S. defense officials who say they do not know the real goals of the secretive Chinese armed forces.

"I've had concerns about this over time," Gates said.

Chinese officials provided only a brief summary of the meeting between Gates and Hu and did not address the perception by Pentagon officials that Hu had not been informed of the test.

A Hong Kong-based expert on the Chinese military, Andrei Chang, said in a telephone interview that the Chinese stealth fighter, which has the same two angled tailfins that are the trademark of the Pentagon's own stealth fighter, the F-22 Raptor, flew for about 15 minutes over an airfield in the city of Chengdu. Photos of the jet in flight also appeared on a computer bulletin board run by Global Times, a state-run newspaper known for its hawkish positions.

### **WEATHER**

### A dramatic taste of winter for today

By Roman Kowch

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The top weather story on this Jan. 12 becomes apparent just by looking outside! Heavy snow has moved into southern New England as a strengthening low pressure system plows up the East Coast. The heavier snow squalls should taper off by this evening. In Massachusetts, excluding the Cape, snowfall amounts will average around a foot before the nor'easter exits by tonight. In fact, Boston's average January snowfall is 12 inches (the fore-

casted storm total!). Winds will be increasing through today to near 25 mph, creating some areas of blowing snow as well.

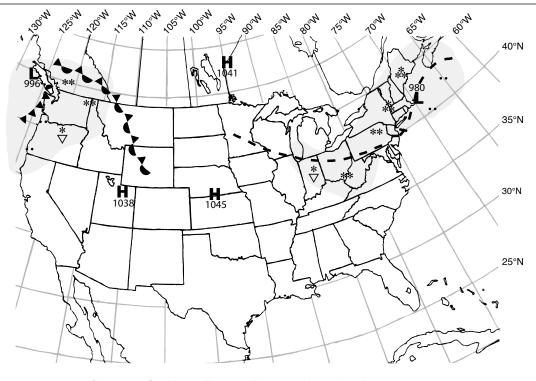
Afterwards, the high/low temperatures through this week will fall slightly by each day. A cool air mass creeping in from Canada will become the main weather factor, with partly sunny skies arriving on Thursday. Cloudy periods will be intermittent by the weekend, with only a few snow showers possible. Winds should remain below 25 mph after the storm and into the weekend as well.

### **Extended Forecast**

Today: Heavy snow, accumulating to 8-10 inches. High 31°F (-1°C). North winds increasing to 25 mph, gusts

Tonight: Snow diminishing. Low 25°F (-4°C). Northwest winds at 20 mph, gusts to 30 mph.

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High 32°F (0°C). Northwest wind



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Weather Fronts	Precipita	tion Sy	mbols	Othe	r Symbols
		Snow	Rain		Fog
Trough	Showers	*	😛	<del></del>	C
Warm Front		V	$\vee$	K	Thunderstorm
	Light	*	•	$ \infty $	Haze
Cold Front	Moderate	**	••	Comp	iled by MIT
▲ Stationary Front	Heavy	**		Meteo	orology Staff
	Trough Warm Front Cold Front	Trough Warm Front Light	Trough Warm Front Light Moderate  Showers V Light Moderate **	Snow   Rain   Showers	Snow   Rain

# WORLD & NATION WORLD & NATION WORLD & NA

# Verizon announces plans to sell iPhone 4 early next month

By Jenna Wortham

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ending months of speculation, Verizon announced Tuesday that it would begin selling a version of the

iPhone 4 early next month.

"Today, two industry innovators are coming together to deliver something consumers have been hungry for for years," said Lowell McAdam, the president and chief operating officer of Verizon, at a news conference in Manhattan. "We are bringing to market the fruit of our strategic partnership with a giant in the market, and that is Apple."

Apple had to create a new version of the iPhone 4 for Verizon because its network uses a technology known as CDMA, as opposed to the

GSM technology used in all existing iPhones.

McAdam said that Verizon and Apple first began discussing the prospect of bringing the iPhone 4 to Verizon two years ago.

"We spent a year in extensive testing and design to make sure it was up to our standard," he said.

Verizon's iPhone 4 will be available for preorder Feb. 3 for existing Verizon customers and will be generally available for preorder beginning Feb. 10.

Verizon executives said the 16-gigabyte version of the phone would cost \$199 with a two-year contract, while the 32-gigabyte version would cost \$299 — the same as AT&T's pricing. It said pricing for data plans had not yet been determined. The highly anticipated arrival of the iPhone on Verizon ends an agreement of exclusivity between Apple and AT&T. The partnership between Apple and Verizon is multiyear and nonexclusive, executives at both companies said. And it is likely to throw the U.S. smart phone market into something of a tizzy.

Tim Cook, the chief operating officer of Apple, said the company had been "looking forward to today for a long time.

"We're incredibly pleased to give Verizon customers the choice they've been waiting for," he said.

The company did not say whether it would modify the pricing structure for its data plans, which currently allow customers to buy unlimited data.

# Presidential panel urges more oversight of offshore drilling

WASHINGTON — The presidential panel investigating the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico recommended Tuesday that Congress approve substantial new spending and sweeping new regulations for offshore oil operations at a time when the appetite for both is low

Releasing its final report, the commission found that the Deepwater Horizon explosion and subsequent oil spill arose from a preventable series of corporate and regulatory failures. It warned that unless industry practices and government regulation improved, another such accident was inevitable.

"If dramatic steps are not taken," said Bob Graham, a former Democratic senator from Florida and co-chairman of the commission, "I'm afraid at some point in the coming years another failure will occur, and we will wonder why did the Congress, why did the administration, why did the industry allow this to happen again."

—John M. Broder, The New York Times

# Rising Chinese inflation to show up in U.S. imports

BEIJING — When garment buyers from New York show up next month at China's annual trade shows to bargain over next autumn's fashions, many will face sticker shock.

"They're going to go home with 35 percent less product than for the same dollars as last year," particularly for fur coats and cotton sportswear, said Bennett Model, chief executive of Cassin, a Manhattan-based line of designer clothing. "The consumer will definitely see the price rise."

Inflation has arrived in China. And after Tuesday's release of crucial financial statistics by China's central bank, few economists expect Beijing officials to be able to tame rising prices any time soon.

-Keith Bradsher, The New York Times

# Drug makers win support by Obama admin. in price dispute

By Robert Pear THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration, following a lengthy internal debate, has unexpectedly come down on the side of pharmaceutical companies that are accused of overcharging public hospitals and clinics that care for large numbers of poor people.

The administration has told the Supreme Court that the hospitals and clinics cannot sue drug companies to enforce their right to deep discounts on drugs, or to collect reimbursement from companies that overcharge.

It is a classic conflict: a political imperative for the administration — to ensure that inexpensive drugs are available to the poor people who need them — rubbing up against the Justice Department's fear of an onslaught of lawsuits by clinics and hospitals if the Supreme Court allows them to

Sara Rosenbaum, a professor of health law and policy at George Washington University, said the case raises the question of whether the intended beneficiaries of a government program can enforce their right to assistance that is made available by Congress.

"You can parse the legal issues, as the Justice Department has done," Rosenbaum said. "But the bottom line is that a lot of poor people and a lot of safety-net providers are not getting the discounts they are supposed to receive."

The court is being asked to rule in a lawsuit brought by Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties in California against AstraZeneca and a number of other drug makers.

### Clinton talks politics in Yemen

SANAA, Yemen — The Obama administration wants to help Yemen do more than hunt down Islamic terrorists, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told this fragile Arab country on Tuesday as she sought to broaden a relationship almost wholly defined by American concerns that Yemen is a staging ground for plots against the United States.

Clinton, the first secretary of state to visit Yemen since James A. Baker III in 1990, undertook a delicate balancing act, gently prodding the country's longtime autocratic president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, to open up his political system while leaving no doubt that he remained a crucial partner in the fight against Islamic extremism.

—Mark Landler, The New York Times



You are cordially invited to share in a celebration of life and love at the wedding of



Friday, the fourteenth of January two thousand eleven

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### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

### @MITstudents Twitter account

Stan Gill's Jan. 5 article on "Tweeting at the 'Tute" provided a good overview of the use of Twitter by students and MIT organizations. We would like to clarify the statement that "None of the major MIT organizations that tweet...specifically mentioned reaching out to the students..." In fact, @MITstudents (http://twitter.com/

*MITstudents*) has been in existence since June of last year.

@MITstudents is used to tweet and retweet announcements, updates and information related to student life and learning at MIT and is specifically targeted to current undergraduate and graduate students. It is jointly maintained by the Offices of the Dean for Undergraduate Education, Graduate Education, and Student Life.

We see the Twitter account as one of several ways to enable better information

sharing with students. Also, by retweeting content from accounts across MIT, students get student-related information by following a single account and also become aware of Twitter accounts they may want to follow. The most recent @MITstudents tweets also appear on the Student Life and Learning website (http://web.mit.edu/student/) which is available from the MIT homepage.

Anna Babbi Klein, DUE Communications Heather Fry, DGE Communications Tom Gearty, DSL Communications

**INTERVIEW** 

# **Comedy against conformity**

### Catching up with Iranian-American comedian Maz Jobrani

By Nina Sinatra

STAFF COLUMNIST

Iranian born American comedian Maz Jobrani has gained international recognition for his work in film, television, and stand-up comedy. A founding member of the Axis of Evil Comedy Tour, Jobrani has travelled throughout North America, the Middle East, Europe, and Australia using his comedic talents to talk about life as a Middle Eastern American — particularly, anecdotes from his family and from observations of his own ethnic group.

Jobrani was born in Tehran and moved with his family to California at the age of six. After studying Political Science and Italian at UC Berkeley and UCLA, he later decided to pursue his childhood ambition of acting. He has performed internationally in the

### "The most successful people pursued their hobbies and turned them into careers."

Axis of Evil Comedy Tour and on his solo tour, "Brown and Friendly," and held many roles in television and film — including movies such as The Interpreter, Friday After Next, and 13 Going on 30.

I had the opportunity to chat with Maz about his comedy, accomplishments thus far and upcoming plans for 2011.

Nina Sinatra: What makes you laugh? Maz Jobrani: My 2 1/2 year old. But he also makes me cry.

NS: As a comedian, you are able to use humor to communicate with your audience about complex cultural themes. In your experience, how have the social roles of Middle Eastern-Americans changed over the past few years?

*MJ*: I think that we are making some progress. It seems like every minority or ethnicity goes through a period of being demonized. It takes some time for people to get comfortable with the unfamiliar. But the more people interact with Middle Eastern-Americans or if they see them in positive circumstances, they begin to see that these people are normal and good people. Unfortunately, it only takes the actions of one per-

son to set us back, but it feels like we have been making some progress lately.

*NS:* What do you feel is the most exciting implication that your work may have?

MJ: Exciting? I don't know...I guess if I were to be a part of a group of Middle Eastern-Americans who helped change the image of Middle Easterners from a negative one to a positive one. I think the best example in my field would be someone like Richard Pryor, who helped change the image of black society and brought it into the mainstream. He and Cosby would be two I would love to emulate.

NS: Passion and originality are an important part of life at MIT. What advice could you give to university students about integrating creativity into everyday life? Is there someone that you consider to be a comedic or personal mentor?

MJ: I would say that you should do whatever you love doing in life. If you look at the most successful people in the world they pursued their hobbies and turned them into their careers. We have a lot of pressure from our parents to become doctors or lawyer or engineers. But if that's not what we want to do then we won't be happy and we might not excel in these fields. Of course there are those who love these professions, and they're the ones you see out there being creative and setting the standard. Just go with your heart and do what you love to do. The rest will fall into place.

### "I love being on stage and I love being on set. It feels right for me and I feel alive when I'm on a project."

As for my mentor? I was a big fan of Eddie Murphy as a kid, but that's just because he was the biggest superstar back then. As I got into standup more, I began to watch Pryor and the social/political things he was talking about.

Today I enjoy watching *The Daily Show*, Lewis Black and anyone else who's talking about issues in their comedy. That said, the person who inspired me to go after my dreams and be creative in my life is a gentle-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAZ JOBRAN

**Maz Jobrani,** a founding member of the Axis of Evil Comedy Tour and an internationally recognized stand-up comedian, spoke with *The Tech*'s Nina Sinatra.

man by the name of Joe Rein. He was a producer at an advertising agency where I had a day job in my 20s. He knew I wanted to act and do comedy. He asked me if I'd considered trying it professionally. I told him I was going to wait till my 30s to give it a try. He took me into his office and told me, "Look, I'm in my 60s. When I was in my 20s there were some things I wanted to do. I never got around to doing them. So if you really wanna do it, do it now!"

NS: As a comedian and actor, you have had the opportunity to work on a wide variety of projects. Which have been your most memorable? Your most challenging?

MJ: I love being on stage and I love being on set. It feels right for me and I feel alive when I'm on a project. I really enjoyed working on a short lived TV show called "The Knights of Prosperity," which was on ABC a few years ago. It was about a bunch of down and out people who decide to rob Mick Jagger. That was also very challenging because it was an ensemble cast so we were usually in all the scenes together. Which meant 14-16 hour days 5 days a week. It got pretty ex-

**Jobrani,** Page 5

### CORRECTIONS

An article published on Jan. 5 about the MIT Libraries' Twitter account incorrectly paraphrased Remlee Green, stating that posts are rarely made every day to avoid overwhelming their followers. According to Green, tweets are often made once a day, but rarely more to avoid overwhelming followers.

### **OPINION POLICY**

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Steve Howland, Editor in Chief Jeff Guo, Managing Editor David M. Templeton, Executive Editor Natasha Plotkin, Opinion Editors Joseph Maurer and Ethan Solomon, Advisory Board member Andrew T. Lukmann, and Opinion Staff members Nina Sinatra and Ryan Normandin.

**Dissents** are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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# Republicans need a fresh candidate to do well in 2012

### Daniels, Pawlenty, and Thune will give Romney and Huckabee a run for the GOP ticket

By Keith Yost STAFF COLUMNIST

Intrade.com is an online prediction market that tracks, among other things, U.S. politics. In the aftermath of a bruising defeat of Congressional Democrats, Intrade predicts more of the same in 2012. The market currently gives Republicans a 3 in 5 chance of retaining control of their newly acquired House, and roughly a 2 in 3 chance of taking or tying the Senate.

Despite giving several buy recommendations on Republican futures, Intrade's markets are bearish on at least one GOP prospect: the White House. Even as Intrade views Democrats dimly, Obama is given a 57 percent chance of serving a second term.

Perhaps Intrade credits the GOP's lack of presidential chances to the potential candidacy of Sarah Palin. According to the market, the former Alaskan governor has an 11 percent chance of winning the nomination, but a recent CNN poll has her losing to Obama 52-44 in a nation-wide matchup.

### Daniels is a thoughtful public speaker, but he lacks the charisma that is normally associated with presidential runs.

However, the Palin-spoiler effect alone does not seem to be enough to explain a 57-43 advantage. After all, the same CNN poll has Obama trailing against other Republican hopefuls — Mitt Romney has Obama by 5 points, Mike Huckabee by 8. More likely, it's not just particularly bad candidates like Mrs. Palin that Intrade believes will lose to Obama, but most of the current field.

With that thought in mind, here are three Republicans you likely haven't heard of that will certainly run in 2012 and that the GOP should give serious thought to before handing the reins to Mitt Romney.

### **Mitch Daniels**

Who he is: A former director of the Office of Management and Budget, a graduate of both Princeton and Georgetown, and the current (and popular) governor of Indiana, Mitch Daniels is an accomplished budget balancer. Nicknamed "The Blade" by Bush during his budget cutting days in Washington, as governor Daniels turned a \$800m deficit into a \$1.3b surplus from 2004-2008.

Why he might lose: Daniels is a thoughtful and articulate public speaker, but the 61-year old Arab American lacks the mob-rallying charisma that is normally associated with presidential runs. Nominally, he hews to socially conservative views, but Daniels is clearly uncomfortable with social issues, which will make it difficult for him to draw social conservatives to the polls. Moreover, Daniels has frequently stated that tax increases may be necessary to balance the federal budget — not a surprising admission to the political center, but apostasy to many of the voters he will need to win primaries.

Why he should run: Mitch Daniels is a singularly competent budget wonk. The odds are good that the federal deficit will be the number one issue on voters minds in 2012, and Daniels' resume reads like he was built in a lab to tackle just such a problem. His willingness to compromise will not endear him to Tea Party types today, but give it time — after a year or so of frustrating battles in Congress, Daniels will look less like a fiscal turncoat and more like the man for the job, not just to the Tea Party, but to the

### **Tim Pawlenty**

Who he is: "Minnesota's Ronald Reagan" and current governor of that state, Pawlenty has been a long time legislator and successful moderate-conservative governor in a liberal state. He was elected in 2002 to balance his state's budget without raising taxes, and delivered on that promise, overcoming a deeply reluctant state legislature. He was frequently discussed as a vice presidential pick in 2008.

### Wit, passion, and a talent for retail politics may prove to be just what the GOP needs to unite its disparate poles.

Why he might lose: Although as governor Pawlenty has not endorsed big ticket policy items that would require an embarrassing reversal in the Republican primaries (the executive summary of why Mitt Romney failed in his 2008 run), Pawlenty is still a somewhat awkward fit for a Tea Party dominated GOP. He also lacks foreign policy credentials and national experience, which his opponent will have in spades after having served four years in the White House.

Why he should run: Pawlenty has executive ability and a strong reputation for budget cutting, but his main asset is the ability to inspiringly deliver the conservative message without resorting to the extremes of rhetoric that turn off centrists. Wit, passion, and a talent for retail politics — more so than any policy mix — may prove to be just what the party needs to unite its disparate poles.

### John Thune

**Who he is**: The junior senator from South Dakota, Thune earned his seat in a

tough campaign against former Democratic powerhouse Tom Daschle. Thune is recognized as the winner of the "invisible primary" — if the next presidential candidate were hand picked by party leaders, Thune would head the GOP's 2012 ticket. He has built a funding network, gathered together a team of operatives, and earned the backing of several high-level Republicans (many of them his friends in the Senate) — only Romney will go into the race better armed than Thune.

Why he might lose: if John Thune wins the nomination, Republicans would have to hope for a right wing wave or a left wing gaffe to squeak the South Dakotan past Obama. Thune is a highly competent candidate, but his politics, even amid today's conservative resurgence, are quite a bit to the right of the American public. He has been deeply conservative during his time in the Senate (in 2009 he was ranked the sixthmost conservative senator), and is unlikely to pick up much of the political center in a nationwide election.

Why he should run: Thune might be next to hopeless as a presidential prospect, but his spot atop the ticket will give a two or three point boost to every conservative running in every race in the nation. Thune's conservative bona fides are strong enough to bring out the Republican base in droves, but to liberals he comes off as genial Midwesterner — Democrats might not like his policies, but they'll have a hard time building Thune into the sort of bogey man that will bring their own flock to the polls. The disparity in turnout between the bases might not mean much to Thune, who will surrender independents (and the election) to Obama, but for every Republican sitting down ticket of him, the advantage of having their side turnout while the opposition sits at home will be pronounced.

# Maz Jobrani talks with The Tech

### Comedian behind "Brown and Friendly" speaks on his upcoming projects

Jobrani, from Page 4

hausting. The film "Friday After Next" was a lot of fun to work on. But I truly do love being on a set and working on most everything. As for standup, I love doing shows in big theaters in cities around the world. The energy is amazing. But I've got to say that sometimes doing a set at the Comedy Store in LA late night in front of 10 people can be fun too. They've just gotta get you and come on your journey with you.

NS: Your work has brought you to many exciting locations and cultures — can you remember any especially interesting or unexpected moments from your performances with the Axis of Evil Comedy Tour or your solo tour?

*MJ*: I'd say when the King of Jordan showed up at our first Axis of Evil show in Amman it was quite an amazing feeling. I'd never had a King at a show. And he invited us to the Palace the next day for a meet and greet. What a nice man! On my solo tour, I

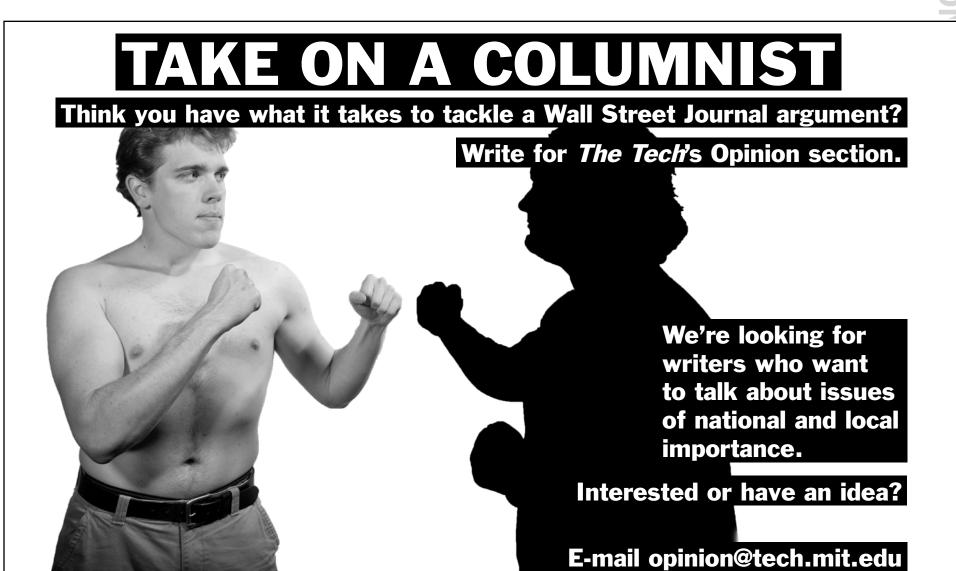
remember doing a show in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, outdoors, near an animal preserve. It hadn't rained in almost 2 years and that night the rains came. I was like "The Rainmaker." We waited in tents with 1000 people (500 in each tent) till the rains stopped and the show went on!

NS: What are your plans for this year? Are you working on any new projects?

MJ: I've co-written a film with my friend, Amir Ohebsion, called "Jimmy Vestvood; Amerikan Hero." It's sort of like a Middle Eastern "Pink Panther."

Jimmy is a Persian guy living in Westwood with his mother and working at a rug store. He's always wanted to be an American hero and he kind of bumbles his way to solving a major crime. The tagline for the film is "You don't have to be Amerikan to be an Amerikan hero." I'm also on tour again with my new tour "Browner and Friendlier."

Jobrani is currently on tour within the United States, and will be performing at Boston's Wilbur Theatre on March 11.



# **Destinations and playgrounds**

Tamir Hendelman gives The Tech his unique musical perspective

By Sam Markson ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Tamir Hendelman is a young Israeli musician and a product of the Los Angeles jazz scene. His latest Boston performance at Sculler's Jazz Club was particularly lively, with Tim Horner on drums and Martin Wind on bass. Hendelman's music is quite accessible, and he does a particularly good job of combining various musical influences together. Credit should also be given to Horner and Wind, who gave a decisive edge to the trio's sound. Tamir Hendelman has two recordings released to date: 2010's Destinations with Lewis Nash and Marco Panascia, and 2008's Playground with Jeff Hamilton and John Clayton.

Hendelman took the time to talk with me after his Thursday, Jan. 6 show at Sculler's.

The Tech: I wanted to talk a little about the influence of location, culture, politics, and how that factors into your work — how you're trying to get it across, what you find beautiful in it, and what is beyond just the technicality of whatever you're trying to say.

Tamir Hendelman: Well, the beautiful thing about music and about playing jazz, and playing with music all over the world, is that music kind of transcends any kind of boundaries. National boundaries, ideas about different things — so it's like a heartto-heart kind of thing. I came to LA when I was 12, and I had a very happy childhood [in Israel], and then it was a really nice adventure of discovery to be in this huge country, all the opportunities, and so on. And, one thing that I don't do much is read the news. Usually the news is designed to make people afraid or separate them from each other and things like that, so I think one of the things I try to do through my music is to connect people and share, and just share the joy of communicating together. I mean, on my recording, the drummer is from New York, originally from Arizona, the bass player is from Italy, Martin's from Germany, so, who cares?

TT: What have you been listening to recently? Do you focus on one thing for a while, or are you all over the place?

TH: No, I keep pretty eclectic. Lately I've just been digging into standards and listening to one song — a lot of different approaches to the same song. Actually, a few years ago I did my first year of the Jazz Cruise, which is happening again in a couple weeks, and it was there...I just started listening to really different musics, and even some things that weren't even songs. They were just print-outs of Turkish music, and [I'd] play one of those things and let that influence me. So I just go with the flow with that, and if I really want to get into something, a certain groove or a certain type of music culture, I'll sit with it for a

TT: Do you have a certain composing pro-

cess? Is there a methodology?

TH: Yeah, sometimes I'll just hear a tune and write it, or sing it, record it, or play it then mess around with developing it in different ways. Sometimes if I'm writing an arrangement or if I'm writing a more extended piece, it could be a matter of getting an overall picture of the story that I want to create and the different moods, or kind of ups and downs, or emotions I want to go through. Then usually I'll improvise an idea or a few ideas or a few sections, record them or listen to them, or just print them down on paper, and then later on I can always go back and change them.

But a few years ago I started teaching a course [at UCLA] called "Pathways to Com-

Tamir Hendelman Sculler's Jazz Club Thursday, January 6

position," which I kind of created and which was inspired by my love of all these different musics. Why should we have someone only writing classical or jazz? Good music is good music. So I took about twenty pieces, and jazz songs, and music by Jobim, Ravel, Mozart, and just created little lead sheets - just basically the melody and the chords for those and I basically had the students compose music that was inspired by those. Almost as if Ravel or Mozart were sitting there saying, "Check this out, look, let's try modulating, try repeating that motif, but not the whole thing." And we started playing with the element of repeating something because you love it, or the element of surprise, and rhythm — a lot of different things like that. I just like to experiment and not stick to only one thing.

TT: It seems you're very visual with a piece and there's good stories behind the piece. These stories, do they happen before, and then the piece develops, or do you start a piece and then realize you've been writing about sycamores the whole time?

TH: Well, you start writing the melody and then you realize what it's really about. It's funny because when I was about 14, 15, 16, I was writing these pieces that were very impressionistic. I was listening to a lot of Ravel at the time, pieces like Daphnis et Chloé, the mythological type. I would write pieces like the "The Tortoise and the Hare," different things that would have a real story to them. Part of my goal was to write music for film, because I'd had a few mentors that wrote music for films — Joe Harnell, Misha Segal, different composers in LA — and we all listen to those greats, could be a John Williams score or whoever, and you say "Wow." But then one of my mentors sat me down and said, "What do you really want for you — do you want to write music for film when sometimes the director might tell you what the music is supposed to sound like, and you might have to write music for a film you don't really believe in, or do you just want to play around the world, be a jazz artist?" And I thought, "That's what I really want to do." But I [also] thought that I want to create these stories, create these people that create the movie in their own minds.

TT: Do you see, in terms of future music, places where music is coming from - music or other things that you wouldn't have

*TH*: I just love what's happening in the last forty years, fifty years with music. You see in classical music, for example, in the middle of the 20th century, there was this period where a lot of the classical composers were writing this very atonal music, and it was becoming very not accessible. And then later on people started coming back to harmony, coming back to melody, things that you could sing or things that had a color that you could feel - but combining things in different ways. Combining classical and jazz, for example. When I was in Europe I was so excited to hear some of the local groups—there was a great 18-year-old bass clarinetist that did a duet with a guitar and a bass. There's just so many combinations out there, and of course now with YouTube...you can explore all day. So it's giving me some ideas of where I want to take the next step of the journey.







YAN ZHU-THE TECH

Tamir Hendelman, Israeli jazz musician, performed at Sculler's Jazz Club last Thursday with Tim Horner on drums and Martin Wind on bass.

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### STEALMYCOMIC-COM

### **Crossword Puzzle**

Solution, page 9

### **ACROSS**

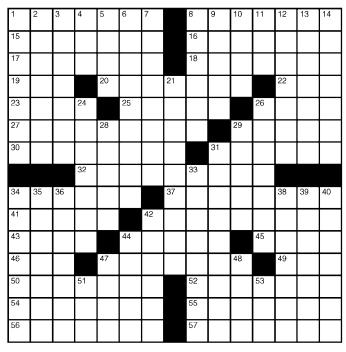
- 1 Cash-back come-ons
- 8 Run playfully
- 15 Quintessence
- 16 Greek cafe
- 17 Invigorate
- 18 Ice-breaking remarks 19 Old Turkish title
- 20 Goldbrick
- 22 Boozer
- 23 Informed
- 25 Blackthorn berries
- 26 Hollow cylinder
- 27 Sees a mental picture of
- 29 More inadequate
- 30 Makes certain
- 31 Action of endearment 32 Swinging freely
- 34 S.A.G. word
- 37 Athenian philosopher
- 41 World-weary
- 42 One of Sri Lanka's languages

- 43 Stadium top, often
- 44 Mold, mildew and smut
- 45 Bristle
- 46 Dos Passos trilogy
- 47 Joining together
- 49 Slap the cuffs on
- 50 Longhand writing style
- 52 Newborn child
- 54 ABaAabAB rhyme scheme 55 Stored, as an automobile
- 56 Perceptual
- 57 Foxy characteristic

### **DOWN**

- 1 Interacts
- 2 Mediocre imitator of an
- 3 Cockle or mussel
- 4 Swallowed
- 5 Heavy weights 6 Light-sensitive photographic
- coatings 7 Resembling a calyx

- 8 Stirs up, as a fire
- 9 Canaveral and Coral
- 10 Affirm solemnly
- 11 Restroom sign
- 12 Take for granted
- 13 Dons judge's garb 14 Scan-line patterns
- 21 Bruising
- 24 Arrange
- 26 Ankles 28 Cubic meter
- 29 Classic Gene Tierney film
- 31 Red dye from insects
- 33 Strong persistent desires
- 34 Kidnaps
- 35 Conclusion
- 36 Small, bushy-tailed monkey
- 38 "I Was a \_\_ Werewolf"
- 39 Stuff of wills 40 Marine bottoms
- 42 Guarantee
- 44 Peggy Lee classic
- 47 Actor O'Shea

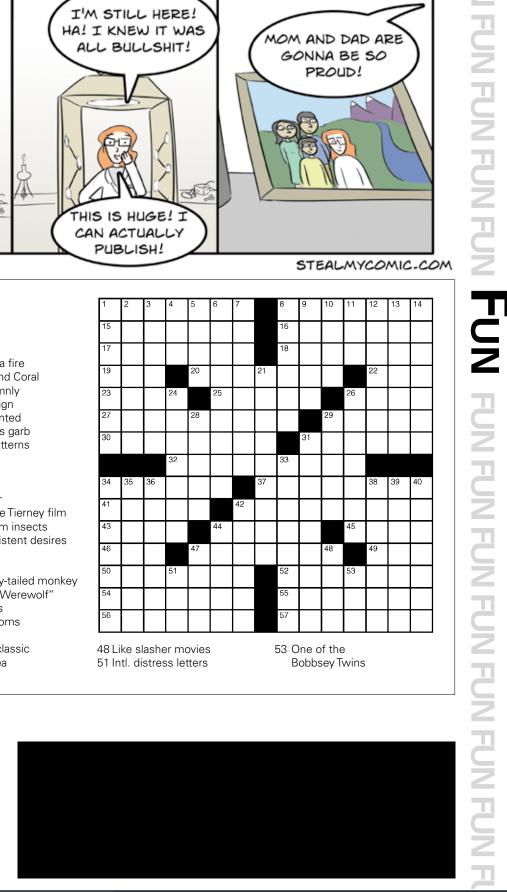


48 Like slasher movies 51 Intl. distress letters

53 One of the **Bobbsey Twins** 

# **Dilbert**® by Scott Adams

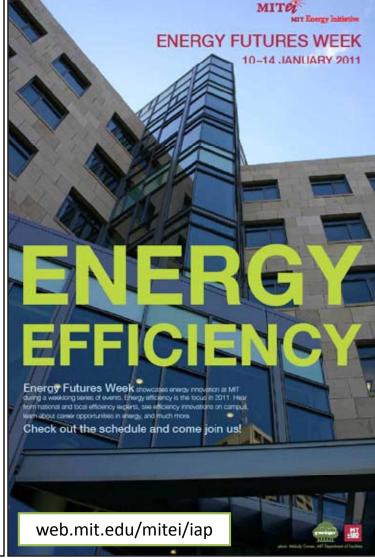




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VISA Kuringan



### **JANUARY 12-14 HIGHLIGHTS**

**WEDNESDAY** 

UN Climate Roundtable: A Discussion of International Climate Governance 10:30-11:30am. 5-231

Tour of Energy Features of Sloan E62 1-2pm, 2-3pm. E62 (new Sloan) lobby

Energy careers: a panel featuring MIT alumni 5-7pm. 32-155

Primer on transportation fuels 9am-4pm. 56-114

Residential energy savings (featured lecture) 6:30-8pm. 32-141

Wind Energy 101 seminar 11am-12pm. 3-133

**FRIDAY** 

**THURSDAY** 

8 THE TECH Wednesday, January 12, 2011

### **Easy Sudoku**

Solution, page 9

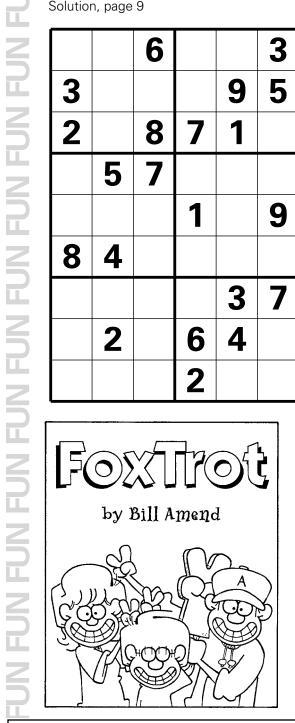
		6			3			
3				9	5		7	
<b>3 2</b>		8	7	1				
	5	7					2	1
			1		9			
8	4					7	9	
				3	7	1		2
	2		6	4				7
			2			3		

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.

### Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 9

		7	6	3				4
	3		4		8	7		
9			<b>5 2</b>		7			3
1			2				8	
				8				
	8				1			2
6			7		5			8
		9	8		3		5	
3				4	2	9		





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\*Plan to arrive by 9:15 to get skates on and warm up

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

The Tech 9

# Zoning board lukewarm about MIT's plan for Kendall



JOHN A. HAWKINSON—THE TECH

**H.Theodore Cohen,** one of seven members of the Cambridge Planning Board, speaks at the Dec. 21, 2010 meeting.

On Dec. 21, MIT representatives presented MIT's vision for the future of Kendall Square to the City of Cambridge Planning Board. The response they got was mixed, with some of the five members present comfortable with the proposal, and others cautious. All had criticisms to offer.

MIT's intention to proceed with its rezoning application of Kendall Square for increased ground-floor retail and more lab space may have to wait — Cambridge has ordered a study to determine the future of development from Kendall Square to Central Square.

MIT had previously said it expected to propose zoning changes this month; however, that may be delayed due to the new study. The Cambridge Planning Board is the entity that approves city zoning changes.

The city will be hiring a consultant to run that study and is in the process of preparing a Request for Proposals. The RFP is expected to be released on Thursday, according to Susan Glazer, the acting assistant city manager for community development. Once that RFP is released and bids are submitted, the study could take months to complete, and MIT might choose to wait to propose its changes.

Planning board members expressed concern that MIT had failed to justify its proposal for two tall buildings: 130 feet and 250 feet in

height. The zoning currently limits buildings in Kendall to be 120 feet tall.

MIT also proposed sidewalk cafes, but Thomas Anninger, vice chair of the board, does not think that is plausible.

"Plazas with cases sitting outside are to me some sort of a Euro fantasy," Anninger said. "Amsterdam, Vienna, Barcelona maybe. But I don't see that here. We don't have that here in Cambridge. We don't have it in Boston. It's very rare in this country. I'm not sure you can recreate that here."

Other board members were worried about residential units, which barely figured into MIT's plan. Charles Studen, a member of the board, said "additional residential development is what is going to generate the vitality and vibrancy. It's been proven in case after case, you have to have people living in an area to make it interesting and worthwhile." MIT's presentation suggested 60 units of market-rate housing, rather than subsidized housing.

MIT's presentation was given by Michael K. Owu '86 and Steven C. Marsh, both of the MIT Investment Management Company, as well as David P. Manfredi of Elkus Manfredi Architects.

A transcript of the meeting is available at http://www.cambridgema.gov/cdd/cp/zng/agenda/index\_2010.html.

– John A. Hawkinson

# CJAC reports to Corp.

### Trustees satisfied with dining plan

Dining, from Page 1

crafting a plan, the current proposal might be the best that can be offered.

At the meeting, UA President Vrajesh Y. Modi '11, who also is a member of CJAC, was asked to give a big-picture presentation on dining to help committee members better understand the undergraduate perspective. According to Modi, the UA cannot support the dining plan if a majority of the affected students do not support the plan. Modi said that he is not confident that the affected students support the plan.

Ulric Ferner G, president of the Graduate Student Council, said that while the GSC is not currently involved in the dining plan, he was happy to listen to the UA report on dining.

By the end of the meeting, it was agreed that while the dining plan has received several complaints, there is little that can be done to make the plan better.

"It's impossible to make everyone happy," Jensen said.

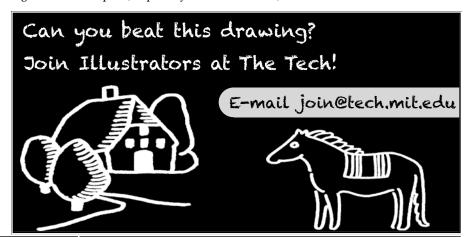
The day following the CJAC meeting, the MIT Corporation met to discuss the committees' final reports. According to Jensen, dining was not on the meeting's original agenda, but Corporation members spent about as much time discussing dining as they did discussing some Visiting Committee reports, especially if dis-

cussions during lunch and various breaks are included. Among other things, Visiting Committees provide recommendations and advice to the Corporation on every academic department.

After several comments and explanations on dining, the discussion ended after it appeared that everyone was generally satisfied with how dining was being handled by the administration, noted Jensen.

The new dining plan, which will be implemented in fall 2011, will require students living in "dining dorms" to pay for all their meals up-front at the beginning of the semester. Previously, students paid a \$300 semesterly fee to receive meals at halfprice. But under the new plan, students will pay a fee ranging from \$2,500 to \$4,500 per year, depending on the dining hall and meal option chosen by the student.

The MIT Corporation, also known as the board of trustees of MIT, fulfills several roles including offering guidance on strategic decisions for Institute direction, according to the Corporation's website. Its responsibilities include approving annual budgets, exercising long-term fiduciary responsibility, approving new degree programs, and electing the President of the Institute. The Corporation meets four times a year to discuss the state of the Institute. Their next meeting will be held on March 4, 2011.



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### Solution to Crossword I

from page 8														
R	E	В	Α	Т	E	s		S	С	Α	М	Р	Е	R
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# Solution to Easy Sudoku

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# Solution to Hard Sudoku from page 8

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### Massachusetts General Hospital Research Study

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Info Session Wed. 1/12, 2-3 pm, 12-122

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### SIPB IAP

### Git Will Make Your Life Better

Thur Jan 13 7-9 PM room: 1-115

Git is a version control system to help you combine changes to a document a from many writers without e-mailing versions back and forth, used on projects that span the globe.

### Introduction to Latex

Wed Jan 12, 19 5-7 PM (repeated session) room: 1-115 LaTeX is the gold standard for document typesetting in academia We'll see how easy it is to make professional-looking papers and resumes, and presentations.

### The GNU Debugger

Wed Jan 12 7-PM room: 1-115

GDB, the GNU Project debugger, allows you to see what is going on `inside' another program while it executes -- or what another program was doing when it crashed.

### Programming in Perl

Tue, Thur Jan 18,20,25,27 room 3-133

Perl is the duct tape of the computing world -- it has a light side, a dark side, and (if you're running Debian) it holds your operating system together. Class will include syntax, flow control, I/O, regular expressions, data structures, objects, and some CGI programming.

### Caffeinated Crash Course in PHP

Wed Jan 12 7:30-10:30 PM room: 4-237

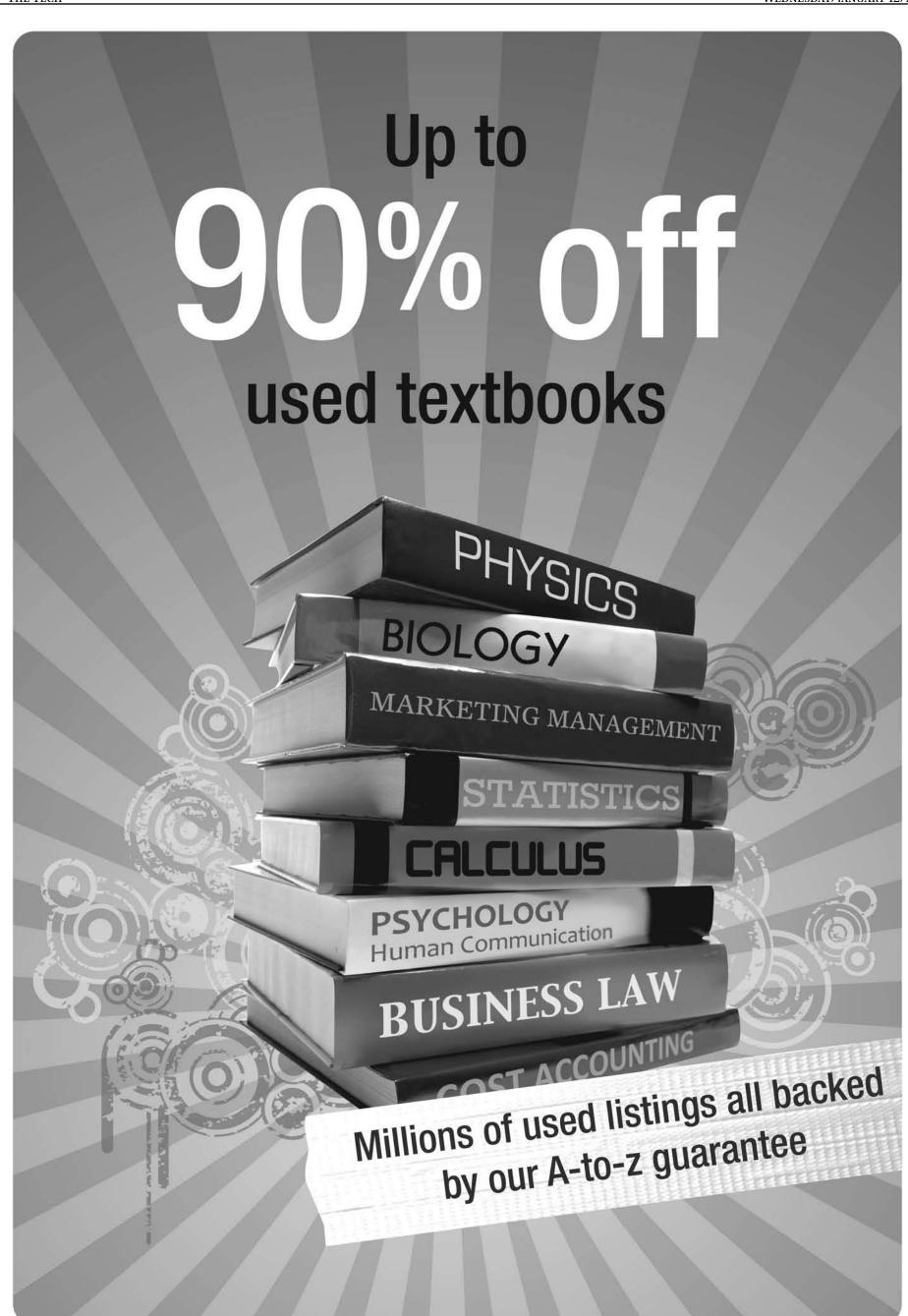
Although PHP may not stand for "Programmed Hypertext Pwnage," it just may be that awesome. This fast-paced introduction to programming in PHP will cover basic syntax, using PHP to generate websites, accessing MySQL databases, and security.

### A Tale of Two Lisps

Tue, Thur Jan 18,20 7pm-9pm room 4-270 resome. We will convince you why. The first

LISP is awesome. We will convince you why. The first class will cover the history of Lisp from John McCarthy's original Sexpressions and including a demonstration of a working Symbolics 3630 Lisp Machine. The Second will cover clojure: LISP on the JVM with the ability to use the Java standard libraries.

10 THE TECH WEDNESDAY, IANUARY 12, 201



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Wednesday, January 12, 2011 THE TECH 11

# MIT 150 to feature symposia, Charter Day event

### "Emotional center" of celebration to happen on April 10 at Boston Convention Center

MIT 150, from Page 1

celebration - to educate and inspire the world about science and technology.

According to Mindell, the steering committee also emphasized the ideas of research and education.

A series of six symposia developed by teams of MIT faculty will explore interdisciplinary issues and topics accessible to a world audience. The purpose of the symposia is to bring intellectual leaders from MIT and beyond together to examine global issues through panel discussions.

The series of symposia begins Jan. 27 with "Economics and Finance: From Theory to Practice to Policy." According to the MIT 150 website, topics that will be covered during the spring semester include integrative cancer research, women's leadership in science and engineering, the age of computation, exploration of earth, air, ocean, and space, and brains, minds, and ma-

The "emotional center," said Mindell, of the 150 days will be on April 10, when over 10,000 people will gather at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center to celebrate MIT's Charter Day. According to Mindell, this convocation will celebrate the highest level of achievement - MIT's moral and intellectual accomplishments. This New Century Convocation will recall the

1949 Mid-Century Convocation and is a formal academic event. Guest speakers will underscore MIT's role in inspiring the community to take on the challenges of the future.

"The best tribute we can make to MIT is to continue progress in the future," Mindell said.

Mindell expects the 150th anniversary events to leave attendees with a renewed desire to surmount obstacles regarding human well-being as well as a rekindle the optimism of discovery and promise in this generation's forward-thinking activists.

"I hope people gain an apprecia-

tion for MIT, both in its history and the breadth of its achievements, and understand what is special and unique about MIT," Mindell said. "I hope people will look back on this period and see that MIT has redefined itself."

"In a time of economic uncer-

tainty, we must help the community find a vision for the 21st century,"

The vision is contained within the MIT 150 Exhibition, the "most expansive exhibition ever developed by the MIT Museum," according to the Museum's website.

Exhibit curator Deborah Douglas collaborated with the MIT community through a nomination and voting process to arrive at the 150 objects currently on display. Douglas said that each object tells a story that is meant to inspire and educate.

At the exhibit's opening on Friday, President Susan J. Hockfield said that the objects as a whole describe the character of MIT.

The exhibit has "many objects that are brilliantly bold, and others that are perfectly ridiculous," Hock-

In the words of MIT Museum Director John R. Durant, "MIT is an idea factory, which is also a place that keeps reinventing the future. You can see 150 years of reinvented futures in this exhibition, including futures which are still to come."

Other major MIT 150 events include the Open House, the MIT Global Challenge, and the Infinite History Project. See http://mit150. *mit.edu/* for complete event details and registration for symposia.

The celebration concludes with Tech Day on June 5 and reunions



John R. Durant, Director of the MIT Museum and Historical Collections, spoke Friday at the press opening of the MIT 150 exhibit, giving perspective on the process of creating the exhibit. He spoke of a museum worker who had to bring back a slice of H.M.'s brain, one of the most studied brains in the world, from California and joked with the audience, asking them to imagine going through airport security with a slice of a brain.

### **Applications shift** toward early action

Maseeh Hall increases number of accepted early action applications

Admissions, from Page 1

Though the number of early applicants has increased, the admission rate for these applicants has also increased. This year, MIT accepted 12.1 percent of those that applied early action. In comparison, MIT accepted only 10.4 percent for the class of 2014 and 10.8 percent for the class of 2013.

In an MIT Admissions blog post on Jan. 7, Admissions Counselor for Communications Chris Peterson said that he believes part of the increase may be due to the shift towards early action, particularly among domestic ap-

Peterson explained that historically, only one-third of domestic applicants apply early action. "Today, however, almost half of our domestic applicants chose to apply during Early Action," he explained. "So the number of students whom we accepted in Early rose accordingly."

Part of the increase in early acceptances is also due to the opening of Maseeh Hall, MIT's newest undergraduate dormitory, which will open next fall. MIT's undergraduate population will increase over the next few years to about 4,500 students, roughly 200 more than there are

'We are planning a smooth ramp up to that number, taking three years to get there," Schmill said. "For next fall, our target enrollment for the class of 2015 is 1120, iust 50 students more than the class of 2014'

A record 1,746, or 27.3 percent, of early applicants were rejected outright, continuing a two-year trend to offer a "final decision (admitted or not admitted) to many more students," Peterson wrote. Last year, MIT rejected 988, or 17.4 percent of its early applicants. However, in years prior MIT had consistently rejected only around  $10\,$ percent of its early applicants.

The format of the application remained the same as that of last year, when MIT changed from requiring a single 500-word essay to three 250-word essays. Schmill said that they liked the change and thus kept it in place.

The demographics of those accepted early are similar to that of the current undergraduate body. Twenty-seven percent of those accepted are underrepresented minorities (African American, Hispanic, or Native American) and the gender ratio is nearly fifty-fifty.

Some competitive universities also saw increases in the number of students applying early. In particular, the University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth College, and Duke University observed an application increase of 19 percent, 12 percent, and 11 percent, respectively, in their binding early decision programs. Binding programs require students to attend the college if they are accepted.

Some universities, however, did not see an increase in their applicant pool. At Yale University, the number of early applicants remained nearly identical to that of last year. At Brown University and Cornell University, the number declined 2.5 percent and 3.8 percent, respectively.

# Market rates rise with Fed bond program

Bonds, from Page 1

world, some warn the unusual strategy will weaken the dollar and lead to crippling inflation.

But inside the Operations Room, on the ninth floor of the New York Fed's fortresslike headquarters, there is no time for second-guessing. Here the second round of what is known as quantitative easing QE2, as it is called on Wall Street — is being put into practice almost daily by the central bank's powerful New York arm.

Each morning Frost and his team face a formidable task: They must try to buy Treasuries at the best possible price from the savviest bond traders in the business.

The smallest miscalculation, a few onehundredths of a percentage point here or there, could unsettle the markets and cost taxpayers dearly. It could also embolden critics at home and abroad who say QE2 represents a dangerous expansion of the Fed's role in the markets.

We are looking to get the best price we can for the taxpayer," said Frost.

Whether Frost will reach that goal is uncertain. What is sure is that market interest rates have risen, rather than fallen. since the Fed embarked on the program in November. That is the opposite of what was supposed to happen, although rates might have been even higher without the Fed program.

Frost's task is to avoid paying top dollar for bonds that could be worth less when the Fed tries to sell them one day.

Frost and his team drew up the daily schedule for what the Fed calls its Large-Scale Asset Purchase program. And that program is, by any measure, large scale: Through next June, these traders will buy roughly \$75 billion of Treasuries a month on top of another \$30 billion it is reinvesting in Treasuries from its mortgagerelated holdings.

But depending on daily market conditions, Frost can decide not to buy certain bonds if they are already in short supply.

As offers to sell Treasuries flash on a bank of trading screens, a computer algorithm works out which ones to accept. The computer compares the offers from Wall Street against market prices and the Fed's own calculation of what constitutes a "fair value" price.

When devising the program, Frost and his team decided to focus most on buying Treasury notes with an average maturity of five to six years. That is because the yields on these notes have the biggest impact on interest rates for mortgage holders, consumers and companies issuing debt, and on banks' decisions to lend to businesses. Over the weeks and months of the program, his purchases should drive up the prices of these securities — because they will be in greater demand — and consequently push down their yields.

The trouble is, though yields fell sharply between August and November as the markets anticipated the new program, they have risen since it was formally announced in November, leaving many in the markets puzzled about the value of the Fed's bond-buying program.

Frost, and his boss, Brian P. Sack PhD '97, insist the program has succeeded. Sack, 40, joined the Fed 18 months ago to run the entire markets group. He has a Ph.D. from MIT and worked most recently for a Washington consulting firm. In 2004, he wrote a paper with Ben S. Bernanke PhD '79, the future chairman of the Federal Reserve, and another economist about unconventional measures for stimulating the economy in extraordinary times - just like large-scale purchases of Treasuries.

'We didn't know then that the Fed would be putting it to the test," he said. He said the Obama administration's \$858 billion tax compromise with congressional Republicans in December complicated the macroeconomic picture.

But the biggest reason for the rise in interest rates was probably that the economy was, at last, growing faster. And that's

'Rates have risen for the reasons we were hoping for: Investors are more optimistic about the recovery," said Sack. "It is a good sign."



# SPORTS SPORT

# PORTS

# Engineers fall 73-56 to Babson at NEWMAC opener, face WPI next

Despite early leads, Babson widened gap during 2nd half

By Greg McKeever

DAPER STAFF

The MIT men's basketball team hosted Babson in its NEWMAC opener on Saturday. Despite four Engineers finishing in

double-figures, Babson connected on nearly 52 percent of its shots to hand the nationally-ranked No. 19 Engineers a 73-56 loss, their third in four games.

The two teams exchanged leads for the first ten minutes, and the score was tied at 15 with 9:41 left in the half. Two minutes

later, however, Babson scored eight unanswered points, leading to a 10-4 run to close the half.

A William Tashman '13 layup to open the second half scoring cut the MIT deficit to just five, but Babson responded with five straight points to build a 38-28 lead less than a minute into the second stanza. Back-to-back buckets by Nicholas A. Davis '14 later in the frame brought the Cardinal and Gray within four points of the lead. From there the Engineers would see their visitors score 13 of the next 16 points over a 6:27 stretch to open up a 14-point advantage.

Babson hit consecutive three-pointers

with 8:03 to go, increasing their lead to 53-39. Tech would get as close as eight on a few occasions down the stretch but could not chip away at the Babson lead any more than that, dropping its conference opener for the first time since the 2006-07 season.

Davis and James D. "Jamie" Karraker '12 topped the scoring column for the Cardinal and Gray with 12 apiece. Mitchell H. Kates '13 scored 11 points while adding seven boards and six assists. Tashman also finished with 11 for Tech.

The Engineers will look for their first league win on Wednesday, Jan. 12, when they travel to WPI for a 7 p.m. game.

# Men's swim wins 219-78; stays undefeated

Women win 12 of 16 events with a 205-94 victory against Wheaton, with Rogers, Murphy, Kokensparger, Hu beating the Lyons at 200 yard medley

By Craig Kauffman

DADER STAFE

The MIT men's and women's swimming and diving teams traveled to Wheaton College last Thursday for their first meet of the year.

In the 16 events at the meet, the men's team won all 14 of the swimming events and only dropped first place points in the two diving competitions en route to a 219-78 victory,

keeping their undefeated record this season in line.

MIT started the meet with a bang by seeing their top three foursomes go 1-2-3 in the first event. Ryan N. Terbush '12, Toomas R. Sepp '11, Michael J. Liao '14, and William C. "Colby" Dunn '14 won the 200 yard medley relay in 1:35.97.

MIT started the meet with a bang by seeing their top three foursomes go 1-2-3.

Dunn also joined Carlo R. Biedenharn '14, Anthony Chen '13, and Brendan F. Liu '13 in the 'A' squad that won the final event of the night, the 400 yard freestyle relay, in 3:15

even. Earlier in the meet, the MIT freshman won the 50 yard (21.15) and 100 yard freestyle (46.99) events.

Biedenharn also picked up two victories for the Engineers. The freshman won the 500 yard free in 4:55.61 and the 200 yard free in 1:48.09, both events in which MIT took the top three places. Freshman Jeffrey Lin also won two individual events. He swam to victory in the 200 yard fly in 1:56.35, then took the 200 yard IM crown in 2:00.48.

Ron Rosenberg '13 was the final multievent winner for the Engineers. Rosenberg was the first of three Engineers to place in the 100 yard back, winning the event in a time of 53.86. He would go on to take the 200 yard backstroke in 1:58.23, followed by three more of his MIT teammates.

Liao excelled in the 100 yard breaststroke, with a winning time of 58.74, the only result under a minute. Maxwell T. Pruner '13 was the distance winner for MIT, swimming to a victory in 10:17.16 in the 1000 yard freestyle. Sepp took the 100 yard fly in 51.97.

Chao He '12 was the lone diver for MIT, placing fourth in both the one meter and three meter apparatus.

On the women's side, the Engineers continued their unbeaten season on Thursday night by winning 12 of the 16 events en route to a 205-94 victory.

As expected, MIT's 200 yard medley 'A' team started off the meet with a victory.

Christine K. Rogers '14, Calley L. Murphy '14, Anna S. Kokensparger '13, and Elina L. Hu '13 beat out the Lyons' 'A' squad with a time of 1:49 70

In event 3, Engineer freshman Sarah A. Weiss '14 won the 1000 yard free in 11:09.79. Wheaton won two of the next three events, but Rogers took the 100 yard back in 1:01.56 for MIT, Katelyn M. Rossick '14 won the 200 yard fly in 2:15.53, and Kokensparger sprinted to victory in a 24.08 second 50 yard freestyle.

Kokensparger also won the 100 yard freestyle (53.24), while Rogers and Rossick took first and second, respectively, in the 200 yard backstroke. Alexandra Hall captured the 500 yard freestyle for Tech in 5:16.86, with Weiss grabbing second place points.

MIT took the top three spots in the 100 yard butterfly with the victory going to freshman Joanna R. Yeh '14 (1:00.53). The Engineers also grabbed the top three places in the 200 yard IM, led by Kokensparger (2:13.64), Rossick (2:14.94), and Allison M. Alwan '12 (2:23.40).

In diving competition, Elizabeth L. Stavely '11 and Elise A. Stave '13 went 1-2 on both the one meter and three meter boards. Stavely, a senior, scored 251.17 in 1 meter competition and 264.53 in 3 meter, while the sophomore Stave scored 197.85 and 217.12, respectively.

Both teams will be back in the pool when they travel to Colby College on Saturday.

# Ski team competes at Mount Sunapee

By Alexis Dale
TEAM REPRESENTATIVE

The MIT Ski Team completed its first week of IAP training camp this weekend with two giant slalom races at Mount Su-



napee in New Hampshire. On each race day, the skiers are timed in two runs of the course(s), and their total times determine fin-

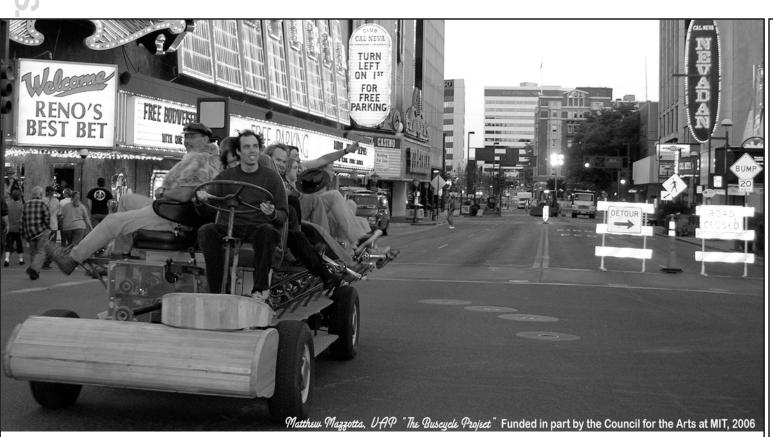
ishes. In the McConnell Division, totals of each team's top four female and top five male finishes determine the team results. Every MIT individual racer posted successful finishes, though the small teams' standings were affected by time penalties for having too few scores. The women's team is currently tenth out of ten schools, while the men are ninth out of nine schools.

On Friday, the women's top finisher was CME student Jennifer L. Hawkin '12 (64th). She was followed by Captain Jillian R. Reddy '11 in 67th and Sarah J. Laderman '12 in 70th. The men saw a promising top-25 finish from Jason D. Pier '13 in 24th. Racers in the top 25 earn points according to their finish place and totals at the end of the season determine qualification for the postseason. Pier was followed closely by Michael J. Yurkerwich '11 in 30th. Rounding out the finishes was Jonathan D. Allen '14 in 60th.

Chyleigh J. Harmon '14 joined the women's team on Saturday and was their top finisher in 57th. Behind her, Reddy and Hawkin were separated by just 0.21 total seconds in 69th and 70th, respectively. Laderman completed the women's race in 74th. For the men, Pier tied for 29th. Yurkerwich had a difficult first run and placed 57th for the day, but his second run had an encouraging top-25 time. Yurkerwich will be competing for an individual berth at the Regional Championships this season. To complete the weekend, Allen finished 62nd.

The men will have a fourth racer next weekend: CME student Joshua Walker '12.

Coached by volunteer alumni Ben A. Stewart '07 and Ian C. Wolfe '10, the team looks forward to two slalom races at Cranmore on Friday and Saturday.



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