



KEVIN LY—THE TECH

The MIT Spinning Arts Club performs at the Stata Amphitheater Tuesday night. Alumni like Kris Kim '17 return to welcome students back for the Fall 2019 semester.

GSL restructuring reassigns faculty to other departments

Majors, minors, concentrations remain unchanged

By Edwin Song

All Global Studies and Languages (GSL) faculty have been re-assigned to other Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences departments as part of a restructuring of the GSL program, effective last week. Administrative staff will remain in their current positions and oversee GSL majors, minors, and concentrations.

The decision was made by Melissa Nobles, dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, and announced Aug. 26. *The Tech* first covered Nobles's proposal in May.

"While the Global Languages program will not be hiring and promoting professors, it will continue to hire and promote lecturers and senior lecturers, and will continue to offer the same array of languages taught by exceptionally skilled and dedicated language instructors," Nobles wrote in an email to *The Tech*.

Nobles expressed an "intent ... for little impact on language classes this fall" and stated that classes "currently taught by senior lecturers or lecturers" should not change while "some faculty will teach the same or similar classes."

Emma Teng, professor of Asian civilizations, will serve as director of GSL for the next two years. She affirmed in an email to *The Tech* that current GSL majors, minors, and concentrations "remain unchanged."

Nobles added in a follow-up response to *The Tech* that the GLS department "will be assessing the advanced class offerings in the longer term, to ensure that students will be able to meet the major and minor requirements."

In her email announcement, Nobles reiterated that the move was motivated by "long-standing organizational issues, including the unit's relatively small faculty size, and internal personnel mat-

ters" and "driven by a commitment to maintaining and advancing a strong language instruction program in SHASS."

The announcement of the restructuring followed a committee-reviewed consultation process by Associate Dean Agustin Rayo. According to Nobles's announcement, the process consisted of discussions with "all relevant stakeholders": GSL faculty, instructors, staff, and students as well as other SHASS faculty and committees.

Ian Condry, professor of Japanese cultural studies, described the transfer of his affiliation and funding from GSL to Comparative Media Studies and Writing, where he had a joint appointment, as "pretty logical" and "smooth" in a phone interview with *The Tech*. "[For] the senior faculty, most of us were already half affiliated with other departments," Condry explained.

GSL, Page 7

IN SHORT

The **deadline to submit Fall 2019 registration** is Sept. 6. There is a \$50 late fee.

First quarter physical education classes begin Sept. 9.

Fall Career Fair will take place on Sept. 20.

The **last day to add subjects** is Oct. 4.

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

Work of the Future Task Force releases report

Report recommends investing more money in postsecondary education

By Billy Woltz

STAFF REPORTER

The MIT Task Force on the Future of Work released an interim report Sept. 3 that details its findings on the impact of technology on the labor market and economy. The report said that the challenge we currently face and are likely to face in the near future is not too few jobs, but rather the quality of those jobs and how accessible those jobs are to less-educated people. While technology development has caused an economic growth, this growth has expanded

the upper and lower classes at the expense of the middle class.

The report will be presented at a briefing at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Sept. 10, according to an email from the MIT News Office to *The Tech*. President L. Rafael Reif and MIT researchers will give remarks.

The Task Force was first convened by Reif in Spring 2018 to "understand the relationships between emerging technologies and work, and to explore strategies to enable a future of shared prosperity," according to the report.

The Task Force is co-chaired by David Autor, professor of economics, and David Mindell, professor of science, technology, and society. The executive director of the Task Force is Elisabeth Reynolds, executive director of the MIT Industrial Performance Center.

To better prepare the U.S. for the challenges resulting from these emerging technologies, the report identifies some areas in which policies can be implemented to maximize society's benefit from technology and mitigate its potential negative consequences.

The report recommends investing more in postsecondary education and training venues like community colleges, work-based learning, and online learning. These are "the educational institutions that will have the greatest impact on the future job market," Autor said in an interview with *The Tech*.

To achieve this goal, public institutions must create incentives for private firms to invest in labor at the same level that they do for traditional capital development, the report said.

Task Force, Page 7

MIT graduate runs for Cambridge City Council

'Our campaign is 100 percent volunteers, but it's also one of the biggest,' Azeem says

By Rujul Gandhi

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Burhan Azeem '19 graduated from MIT with a degree in materials science and engineering and is currently running for Cambridge City Council. His platform focuses mainly on housing, climate, and transportation, along with public health, technology, and social & economic justice. Elections will take place Nov. 5.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

***The Tech*: How did you initially get involved in politics?**

Burhan Azeem: 2016 was a really awakening force on campus. A lot of things sprouted from it, from MIT Vote to MIT Democrats, which I headed, and other organizations. Cambridge is divided into wards, and this ward [Ward 2] is almost entirely MIT. We reactivated the ward, sent delegates to the [Massachusetts Democrats] state convention, and were able to get three amendments passed that we thought were important to our community.

Then, I got involved with a local group called A Better Cambridge,

Burhan Azeem, Page 2



KEVIN LY—THE TECH

Trash2Treasure, an event organized by UA Sustain, sold over 2,000 used items amounting to around \$4,800 in revenue Tuesday afternoon at the Stratton Student Center.

SPELLING IS FUN

This campus production involves actual audience interaction!. **ARTS, p. 5**



PENNYWISE RETURNS

More children fall victim to this monstrous clown. **ARTS, p. 5**

COMIC

MIT and modern day slavery. **OPINION, p. 4**

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WEATHER

Hurricane Dorian travels slowly

By Sarah Weidman
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Last night another cold front moved through the Northeast, bringing the showers that we experienced last night. Expect some cooler (though still warm), dry weather for the next couple days, until projected heavy rain on Friday night and Saturday.

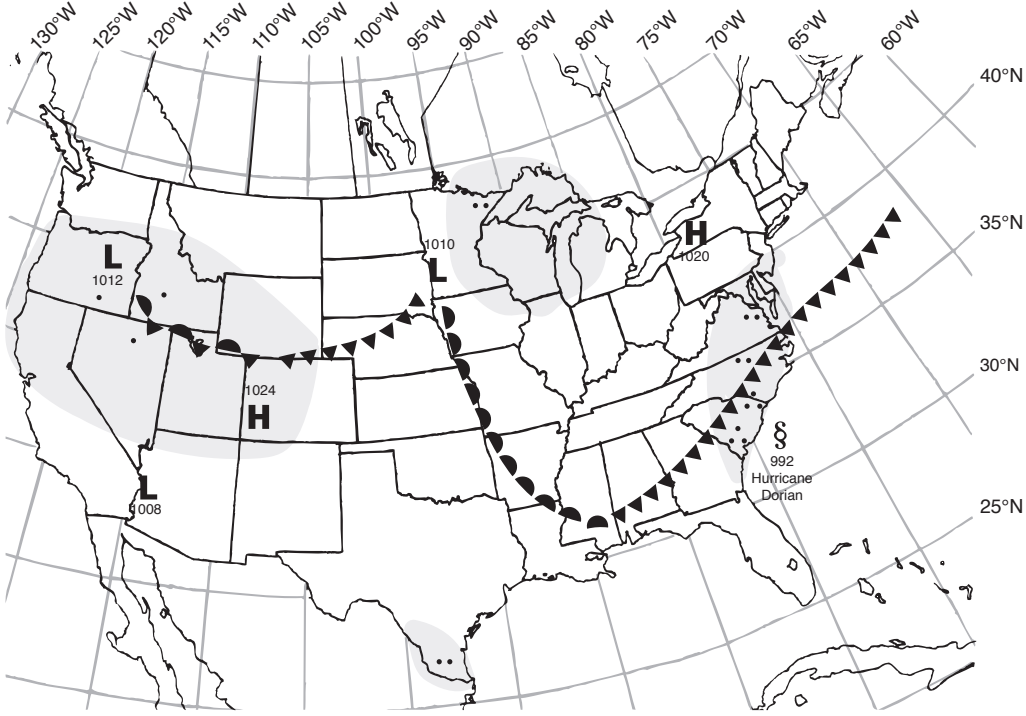
This rain will be due to Hurricane Dorian. Hurricane Dorian hovered over Grand Bahama Island for 48 hours this past week, destroying thousands of homes and leaving countless citizens in crisis without clean drinking water. Seven people have been confirmed to be killed by this destructive storm. The hurricane weakened after passing over the island, hitting the Atlantic coast of Florida as a category 2 storm. It is now making its way up the East

Coast, likely resulting in strong winds, heavy rain, and flooding in the coastal Southeast US. Expect rain if you live anywhere near the coast sometime this weekend. It looks like the hurricane (which will likely have been weakened from hurricane status) will pass by Massachusetts on Friday night and Saturday.

Dorian was the first major hurricane of the Atlantic hurricane season this year. While in the Bahamas, it rapidly intensified into a Category 5 storm on September 1. This region is used to strong storms, but this has been a particularly destructive hurricane, accentuated by its slow movement as it sat over Grand Bahama Island. It may take a long time to recover from the storm, just as Puerto Rico is still recovering from Hurricane Maria in 2017.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny. High around 71°F (22°C). East Winds around 8-12 mph.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Low around 60°F (16°C). Southeast winds around 5-7 mph.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy. High around 69°F (21°C) and low around 58°F (14°C). East winds around 8-14 mph, picking up in the evening.
Saturday: Breezy with showers. High around 68°F (20°C) and low around 57°F (14°C).
Sunday: Sunny. High around 76°F (24°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, September 05, 2019

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts		Precipitation Symbols		Other Symbols
			Snow	Rain	
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Warm Front	⬇️	⬇️	☁️ Fog
L Low Pressure	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Stationary Front	⬆️	⬆️	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane			⬆️	⬆️	∞ Haze

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Azeem: If MIT students voted about climate change policy, there would be a ‘huge impact’

Burhan Azeem, from Page 1

which advocates for increased housing. Throughout that process, I got to meet a lot of local officials who said, “Hey you’re really good at organizing people and you seem to know a lot about the issues. You should run for office.”

TT: You are one of the youngest candidates running for City Council. How do you think this will affect your campaign?

Azeem: It’s actually super important. Oftentimes in a city of a hundred thousand people, the elections are decided by a few hundred people. That’s because young people don’t vote, so it skews heavily towards the older population.

[Cambridge] is one of the youngest cities in the U.S., but except for one person [on City Council], almost everyone else is around age 50 or older. It’s incredibly skewed towards this population, and it’s because young people don’t vote or get elected or run. There’s a huge generational shift in how you think about things because you’re younger, and it’s not about left versus right. It’s really incredibly dramatic how the city’s politics polarizes around age.

TT: Your campaign focuses on climate change, transportation, and housing policy. Why do you think these are important to Cambridge?

Azeem: A lot of what we’re on now, including the MIT campus, is reclaimed land; it used to be underwater and then we dug it out. You can find floodplain maps of MIT — how it would be as sea levels rise because of global climate change. Most of Cambridge would be underwater at this point.

Cambridge is special in that we have so many people who are deeply rooted in the sciences. If MIT students decided to vote in Cambridge and they voted about climate change policy, that can

have a huge impact. It’s incredibly important to do that even if it seems like Cambridge is only one city, because you have a few pioneering cities to write the original pieces of legislation, and then a lot of people adopt them because they’ve seen it work. If we pass a pioneering bill, it can be adopted all around the U.S. as well.

TT: You also focus on housing and transportation. How does this affect your platform?

Azeem: A lot of people think climate change is focused around having electric cars or bike lanes. Those are all important. But, for example, in Cambridge, the emission is about 35 tons of carbon per household. If you move to the suburbs, it’s around 80 tons per family.

This means that even if we do all of the difficult things like promoting cleaner car usage and using bicycles or walking, it will have much less of an effect than just allowing a single family who lives in a suburb to live in Cambridge. Cambridge has the same population it did 100 years ago. Over that time, the U.S. population has more than tripled.

TT: How do you plan to turn this idea of having more families in Cambridge into policy?

Azeem: Minneapolis just passed this great plan called Minneapolis 2040 about having three stories throughout most of the city and then allowing for more density in particular areas. I would love to pass that in Cambridge, but I think we’re really far from it.

Right now, the biggest proposal on the plate is the affordable housing overlay, which says that if you’re building something that’s exclusively for low and middle income residents, then we will allow you to build four stories on non-main roads and seven stories on main roads.

TT: In your potential term as city councilor, do you think it will

be easy or difficult to get your policies to be implemented?

Azeem: Your main thing should not be, in the two years in office, to pass huge overwhelming change. Your main goal should actually be around building power.

A lot of the ways that people get others to vote is by knocking on their door. And that biases towards older residents because in order to knock on your door you must have access, right? So no one’s going to go knocking at Maseeh. If you can spend two years just really building up the infrastructure of how you reach out to younger people, I think that’ll have huge dividends.

TT: What do you think can be changed within Cambridge’s transportation network?

Azeem: Let’s go step by step with transportation. Walking is reasonably nice around MIT. That’s not the case for most of the city. In a lot of places, you have really thin sidewalks that can barely fit one person. It’s really difficult to walk in groups.

So, sidewalk expansion is an incredibly important issue; another part of that is just making them more friendly and comfortable to walk on, such as by having night lights on the streets or first floor retail. For example, you feel a little bit safer on Mass. Ave. because there’s Oath, Clover, and Flour, whereas Kendall Square can be scary because there are all these office buildings.

Bike lanes are another thing. On Mass. Ave., we now have bike lanes with little quickposts. We should be putting a lot more of them; they’re really, really cheap. The reason we don’t is just because of political will. The next step up is to do something like what we have on Vassar Street near Simmons, where [the bike lane] is on the sidewalk.

Public transportation is a bit more difficult. Bus lanes are easy. If you have a bus lane where it’s quick and easy for people to get on buses,

you will get more people to where they need to be than if you had separate cars. The MBTA currently can’t add more buses because they have a limit on storage space. The city can work with the MBTA to build those facilities in Cambridge.

The red line over the summer derailed twice. The orange line was on fire recently. It’s a complete mess right now because the T is stuck with a debt from the Big Dig.

The other part of that is cities don’t have a voice on the governing board, even though we pay into it and most of the city residents use it. Instead, the state owns it. That has a perverse effect because most of the state’s residents don’t use the T, and the T does a lot of stuff that’s not helpful for people who actually use it. So, getting municipal representation to have a voice on the board is super important.

TT: What are some initiatives in Cambridge that you would like to keep supporting?

Azeem: The biggest would be the affordable housing overlay.

Cambridge City Hall passed a biking ordinance allowing streets under reconstruction to get bike lanes as they’re reconstructed. We’d have a timeline in place for how that would actually play out.

Municipal broadband is something really cool. Almost everyone who’s moderate or high income in Cambridge has Internet access, but if you look at our low income residents, less than half of them do. About 200 other cities in the U.S. have offered a public option with basic municipal broadband services for low income residents. That’s something the city could easily do.

TT: What about your time at and involvement with MIT has helped you build your platform and define what’s important for you?

Azeem: The biggest thing for me was that MIT gives you space. For four years, there’s nothing you

strictly have to do, and so you have a lot of breathing space to figure out how you want to do things.

Part of it was realizing how much power you have in local government. I don’t mean from a running sort of perspective, but from an individual perspective.

The other factor was dorm life. In particular, when I first got to MIT, I thought you just assign people roles and then they do it, but it does not work out that way. Our campaign is 100 percent volunteers, but it’s also one of the biggest campaigns out there.

On the policy side, I would just say the ability to read technical materials and understand what’s going on is probably the biggest asset I’ve gotten. A lot of people just come out saying absolutely crazy things that you know can’t possibly be true, but if you look at something on the surface that’s what it says [to you].

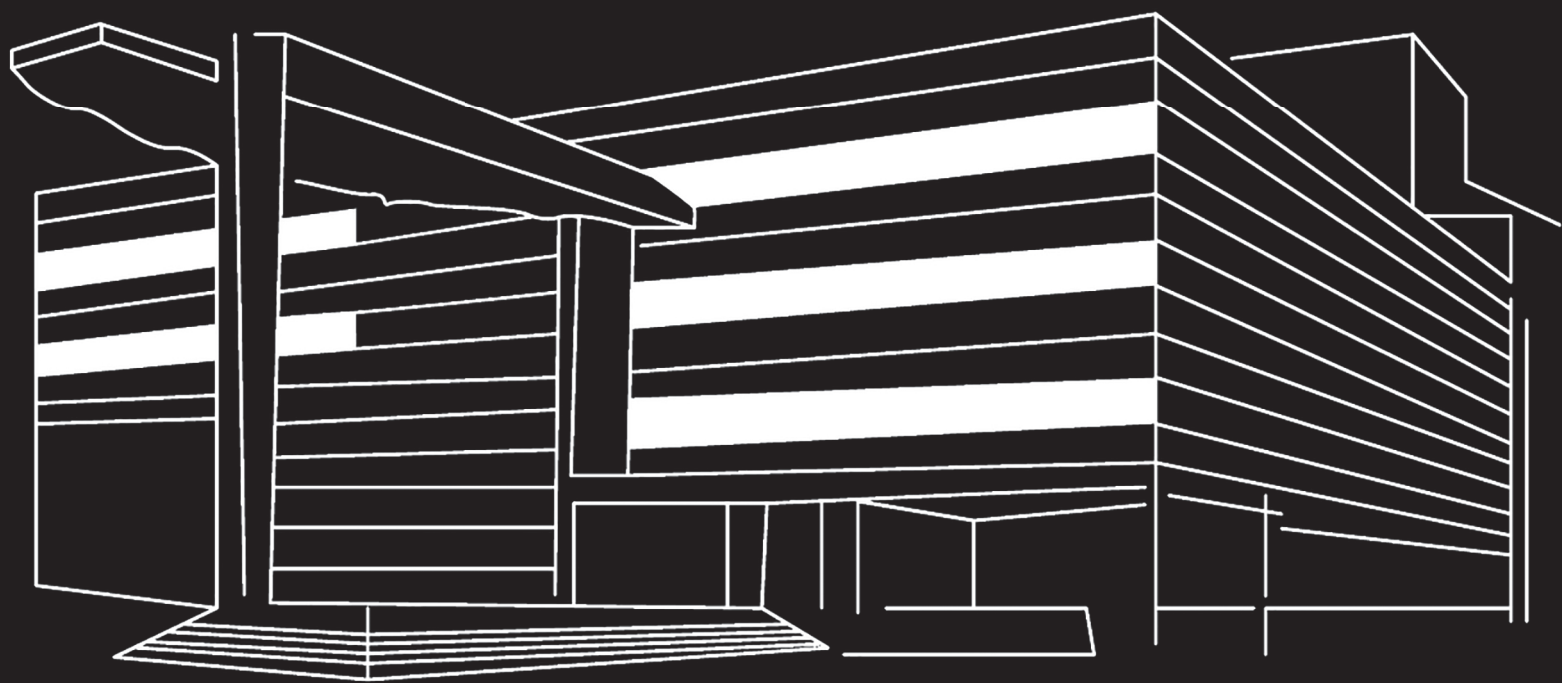
TT: You also mentioned on your website that you worked with sustainability at MIT. How were you involved?

Azeem: My sustainability work is a part of majoring in materials science and engineering. A lot of what we do is building around solar panel design and batteries. The second part is just being involved in the general community. I also took a couple of Course 12 classes. So, it’s from understanding on a technical level, to doing some events with UA Sustain, to being part of MITEI.

TT: Is there anything else that you think MIT students should know about?

Azeem: This election, you don’t necessarily have to vote for me. But, this election will matter. It is something you can totally sway even if 20 percent of MIT students voted. That would be enough easily to elect maybe one and a half city councilors. Yet, people choose not to do it. That means that your views and your values will not be reflected.

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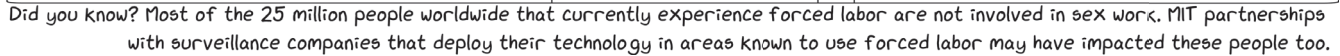
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MIT List Visual Arts Center, Bldg. E15, 20 Ames St.



Feb 16, 2018 in the Media Lab



An opinion article in last week's issue that called for Joi Ito's resignation said that the Media Lab denied taking donations from Epstein in a 2015 public statement. In fact, the statement was refuting that Epstein donated funds to a particular project, not the Media Lab in general.

Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on *The Tech's* Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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MUSICAL REVIEW

Syzygies, capybaras, and catterjunes

Spelling bees have never been more fun

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Musical Theater Guild

Book by Rebecca Feldman

Music & Lyrics by William Finn

Kresge Little Theater

**Aug. 30–31, Sept. 6–7,
Sept. 13 at 8 p.m.**

Sept. 1 and Sept. 14 at 2 p.m.

By Nathan Liang and Lani Lee

STAFF WRITERS

In the program for MTG's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, the director's note mentions, "Spelling Bee knows exactly what it is like to have a weird hobby and celebrates that," and I couldn't agree with her more.

With a charming cast and uniquely-written characters, the story revolves largely around the passion each character holds for a spelling bee. Their individual quirks are endearing and can remind anyone of their own fervent pursuits of beloved hobbies, no matter how strange or obscure. We particularly enjoyed Max Siegel C's portrayal of Leaf Coneybear. He captured the unabashed optimism of a child, and it's hard not to cheer on Leaf when he walks up to the mic to spell his

assigned word. Siegel's versatility is also well-demonstrated in his portrayal of Logainne's (Michelle Hung '22) tiger dad and the indifferent Jesus. Barfee's (Olivia Waring G) nasally voice, Logainne's pronounced lisp, and Marcy's (Maia Campbell '22) rapidfire answers are also highlights of the casts' unflinching commitment to their characters.

Musically, all actors have voices suited to their characters and are skilled in showing off those characteristics. Particularly adept at this is the actor for Rona Peretti (Shannon Peng '20), the host of the spelling bee who is also a former champion. The smooth and warm texture of her voice sounds like a caring mentor while remaining somewhat playful at times. The prisoner serving parole at the bee, Mitch Mahoney (Elise Brown W'17/C), has a powerful voice that delivers the character's tough personality accurately through the music. An impressive showstopper is when Marcy sings a part of the number "I Speak Six Languages" while simultaneously playing the keyboard. The ability to do that in the midst of the crazy choreography of cartwheels, juggling, and more, while managing the logistics of moving the keyboard in and out, is particularly impressive.

A notable aspect of this production is the sound production. The echo when Leaf spells adds to the comedy of the show. It helps highlight the contrast between the bubbly, cheerful character and the serious speller in front of the microphone. Sound balance issues are minimal, and all actors' voices are heard well throughout the entire production, especially in parts where the harmony is crucial.

Although MTG has had many musicals in the past with audience interaction, it was not to the extent of this one, where some of the audience members become part of the cast. It is enjoyable to watch non-actors



JULIE HENION PHOTOGRAPHY

The cast of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* sing about their love of spelling bees.

struggle with some of the difficult words and spell out the easier ones, especially since the audience watching is aware of them not being actors. However, having this interaction is confusing in some dance sequences; even though the choreography is meant to be easy for the audience actors, they often would awkwardly stand still. This is comical to everyone else watching, but it is unclear whether this was intentional and ends up leaving a messy impression.

All these little details ultimately work together to punctuate the humor prevalent throughout the musical. From Leaf's echo spelling to Barfee's insistence of how his name should be pronounced, there are several moments that easily incite laughter from audience members. If you have time this weekend, please go see MTG's summer production and appreciate all the work the cast and crew put in to make *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

MOVIE REVIEW

The power of fear

Pennywise returns to strike at the heart of the Losers' Club

By Nathan Liang

EDITOR

Conquering our fears is a hard thing to do, especially if it's a fear that follows you from childhood. *IT Chapter Two* addresses this particular fear in the Losers' Club's 27 year return to the small town of Derry in response to an abrupt recurrence of missing people's cases.

One of the most notable things in *IT* (2017) was its focus on the kids and their development throughout the story as they faced Pennywise's scares. *IT Chapter Two* follows this trend as we follow the now grown up Losers' Club, still the same but also slightly different as a result of their years in adulthood spent away from the ominous Derry. Once the band gets back together, it is revealed that they all don't

quite remember what happened in their hometown aside from Mike (Isaiah Mustafa), who never left. However, as soon as the scares start mounting, each Loser's will is tested when trying to defeat the monster Pennywise (Bill Skarsgård).

One of the most striking progressions in character is Eddie's (James Ransone). With an ever-present worried gaze, Eddie's germaphobic tendencies follow him from his childhood, manifesting into a risk-averse personality. Combined with his fear, Eddie initially reacts to the situation with a flight response. He wants to get out of their predicament as soon as possible to avoid the risk of dying, even if it means breaking the Losers' Club's original oath to rid Derry of Pennywise should it ever resurface. However, with the company of his longtime friends and their belief in him, Eddie does eventu-

ally come around with a shaky resolve that becomes steadier the longer the movie progresses. *IT Chapter Two* follows each Loser in their fear conquering in similarly satisfactory arcs.

In terms of horror, the movie has a lot of it, but it should also be noted that it has a greater amount of gore than the 2017 *IT*. Whether or not it is due to Pennywise's more frequent appearances or the fact that the scares must ramp up to be able to convincingly terrorize adults, this movie is definitely not for the squeamish. There were a lot of scenes that were just so grotesque and skin-crawling that even I could not stare straight at the screen as the events occurred. There are also plenty of moments where the tension is done just right. As the Losers each explore Derry to find their key to ridding the town of Pennywise, audience members are constantly on the edge of their seat (or rather bracing themselves against their seat) as they anticipate Pennywise's next horrific tactic to attack the Losers.

On the flip side, there are some bits that are overdone. You can only see Pennywise's face so many times before you start to become desensitized to his appearance. The CGI put into some of the other monsters is also rather obvious, and it also takes away from their scare factor. Often times, the monsters provide an initial shock and then a cringeworthy sight rather than an actual scare.

At the end of the day, *IT Chapter Two* is a movie that addresses the loss of childhood innocence and what we as adults can do to prevent others from growing up too soon. With a whopping two hour and 49 minute runtime, the movie definitely takes its time setting up the characters so that we can be better invested in each character's story, and the movie's plot is enriched all the better for it. If you watched *IT* and really enjoyed it, I would highly recommend you watch the sequel and see how the Losers' Club is doing 27 years later.



BROOKE PALMER/WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC.

The Losers' Club returns 27 years later in *IT Chapter Two*.

Solution, page 8

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ACROSS

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- Group of ship's workers
- Online auction website
- Guide a car
- Center of a bagel
- Memo "to self"
- Japanese maker of the Civic
- Simplify
- Singer Celine
- Placed at risk
- Shade trees
- Isn't truthful
- The Mediterranean, for one
- School kid transportation
- "Trick or __!"
- Days before holidays
- Hold in high regard
- Cuts of steak
- Adolescent
- Theater walkway

Solution, page 8

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Last Is First by Sally R. Stein

Solution, page 8

ACROSS

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8 Online auction website
12 Guide a car
14 Center of a bagel
15 Memo "to self"
16 Japanese maker of the
Civic
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19 Placed at risk
21 Shade trees
22 Isn't truthful
23 The Mediterranean, for
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25 School kid
transportation
28 "Trick or ___!"
31 Days before holidays
34 Hold in high regard
36 Cuts of steak
39 Adolescent
40 Theater walkway

- 42 Gather a harvest
43 __ Kid (Butch Cassidy's partner)
45 Wish to have
47 Motel's place to swim
48 Driver's full reversal
50 Ancient
51 Scarlet or maroon
53 Require
55 Hive dwellers
58 Major donations to colleges
64 20 Down auto
65 Trousers' belt holder
66 Not moving
67 Small songbird
68 Spot of land in an ocean
69 Opinion piece
70 Before __ (soon)
71 Had observed
72 Full collection

DOWN

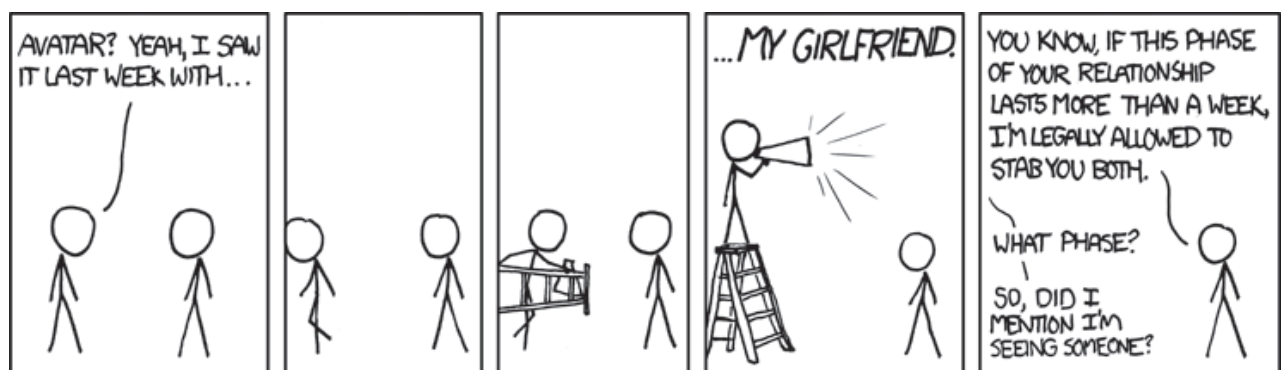
- 1 Repair, as a garment
2 Brake or accelerator

- 3 Rock used for countertops
- 4 Cheddar or parmesan
- 5 Lion's sound
- 6 Otherwise
- 7 Unwanted garden
growths
- 8 Serious efforts
- 9 Heat up, as water
- 10 Molecule part
- 11 Strong cravings
- 12 "Steady as __ goes"
- 13 Heavy weight
- 20 From Munich
- 24 "Electric" fish
- 25 Makes a wager
- 26 Deplete
- 27 Shorthand expert, for
short
- 29 Thing of value
- 30 No later than, for short
- 32 "... had a farm, __"
- 33 Hair entanglement
- 35 Signing, as a check
- 37 Sketched again
- 38 Drove fast

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- 41 Closely monitored hosp. ward
44 Pub beverage
46 Foes

[684] We Get It



the most brutal way [we ever seen someone handle this was. Oh, you have a girlfriend. Are you going to get married?']. Un, don't know—'Well, do you love her?'... 'Anyway, what were you saying about the movie?'

Condry has concerns over lack of faculty

GSL, from Page 1

Condry expressed concerns over having a program now consisting of only one faculty member and mostly lecturers. “It would be better for languages to be integrated with the intellectual and teaching projects of faculty,” Condry stated. “My concern is that that as-

pect of the reorganization has not been clarified.”

“The other concern I have is whether this will make the minor in languages more difficult for undergraduates,” Condry continued. Cond ry said that Nobles’s announcement did not give him any additional information on the future of GSL majors and minors.

Fear of job replacement is ‘exaggerated’

Task Force, from Page 1

“You don’t pay capital gains on stocks until you sell them,” Autor said. “Our system is really slanted in the direction of favoring capital investment over labor. If the government [incentivized investing more] in workers, then firms might say, ‘Why not?’”

There is much anxiety about the job market due to the perception that emerging technologies will reduce the number of jobs available to humans, particularly low-skilled jobs. The report argues that these fears are exaggerated. “The hype is way, way ahead of reality,” Autor said.

However, this anxiety is a manifestation of an important trend in wages over the past forty years: while wages of college-educated adults have increased, the wages for high school dropouts, high school graduates, and even those with some college education have been stagnant since the 1980s. This stagnation was driven in part by technological developments, and it contributes to the level of inequality in the U.S. today, the report said.

This fear has its own impact on the job market, as it causes there to be job shortages in fields that are

perceived to be eliminated in the near future. “People say, ‘Oh god, all of those jobs will be gone — I’m not going to enter that career,’” Autor said.

Autonomous vehicles are an example the report uses. They may replace myriad jobs that require driving; more than three million people currently work as vehicle drivers in the United States. Fortunately, “rapid and total transition to vehicle autonomy appears highly unlikely,” the report said.

“While [autonomous vehicles] will be a part of our future, we think they are relatively far off,” Reynolds said in an interview with *The Tech*. “Today’s truck driver is less at risk than, say, truck drivers 10 years in the future. Right now, we don’t have enough truck drivers.”

The Task Force has focused its research on improving work, not replacing work. “Work is intrinsically valuable to individuals and to society as a whole,” the report said. The Task Force will release a final report in about a year, which will include more specific policy recommendations. This includes having a more international focus and incorporate data and evidence from countries like China, Kenya, and Brazil.

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