thetech.com

Volume 141, Number 31

SAT: 42°F | 27°F Mostly sunny.

WEATHER, p. 2

Sunny.

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Provost Schmidt is next RPI President

Schmidt has been at MIT for 40 years as student, professor, provost

> By Kristina Chen EDITOR IN CHIEF

Provost Martin A. Schmidt SM '83 PhD '88 will serve as President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) beginning July 2022. Schmidt will continue to be provost of MIT until February 2022, to complete the current budget process.

According to a letter from President L. Rafael Reif to the MIT com-

munity, Reif hopes to "identify" Schmidt's successor "promptly" to allow Schmidt time to prepare for his new position and to "ensure a smooth transition for MIT."

In an MIT News article, Schmidt said that when RPI first approached him "over the summer regarding the presidency," he was "not at first convinced that it was a fit" for him.

Provost, Page 2



Jakin Ng '25 teaches "Folding Fanatics", a class on the art of origami for ESP Splash, which took place virtually this year.

56 COVID-19 cases reported in past week

CDC recommends that all individuals ages 18 and older receive a booster vaccine, currently available for all adults in Massachusetts

By Kristina Chen

As of 10:30 p.m. ET Dec. 1, MIT Medical has reported 56 positive COVID-19 tests out of 21,080 total tests in the past seven days (Nov. 25 to Dec. 1) for a positivity rate of

While lower than the Cambridge 14-day average of 0.40% and the Massachusetts 7-day average of 3.72%, the percent of positive cases is higher than any weekly average previously recorded by MIT Medical during Fall 2021. The next highest percent was 0.16% from Nov. 14 to Nov. 20, during which 55 positive tests (out of 33,728) were recorded, including 7 undergraduate and 23 graduate students.

Of the 56 positive cases recorded between Nov. 25 and Dec. 1, 21 are students, 29 are employees, and six are affiliates. 81 members of the MIT community are currently in isolation.

The month of November saw the most positive COVID-19 tests at MIT (184 out of 132,743 tests) this semester, compared to 77 (out of 140,111) in October and 118 (out of 142,267) in September.

In a Nov. 17 email to the MIT community, MIT Medical Director Cecilia Stuopis '90 wrote that in 2020, "MIT saw its highest rates of COVID-19 cases between Thanksgiving and Martin Luther King Jr. Day," likely a result of the cold weather causing people to gather indoors more frequently and to remove their face coverings.

Stuopis wrote that currently, with many community members traveling and spending time with family and friends, MIT Medical expects more cases and advises avoiding crowds, wearing multiple face coverings while traveling, and eating outdoors when possible.

As of Nov. 29, Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance states that everyone over the age of 18 should receive a booster vaccine for COVID-19. Previously, only individuals over the age of 50 were strongly recommended to receive a booster.

The adjusted guidance may be in response to increased risk of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, which was first classified Nov. 26. The first confirmed case of the Omicron variant in the U.S. was reported in California, according to a Dec. 1 statement from the CDC. The Omicron variant may spread more quickly than other variants, such as the Delta variant, currently the predominant strain of COVID-19 in

In the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a booster vaccine has been made available to all individuals 18 and older who are fully vaccinated (at least 6 months after their second Pfizer or Moderna dose or at least 2 months after their Johnson & Johnson dose). MIT Medical is not currently providing booster vaccines.

MIT Medical continues to require community members to wear face coverings while indoors and abide by a once or twice weekly testing cadence to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on campus.

The Spring 2022 housing switch lottery application deadline has been extended to 11:59 p.m. Dec. 2.

For subjects with final exams, no assignments may be due after Dec. 3. For subjects without final exams, no exams and at most one assignment may be given between Dec. 3 and the final day of class.

Dec. 9 is the last day of classes.

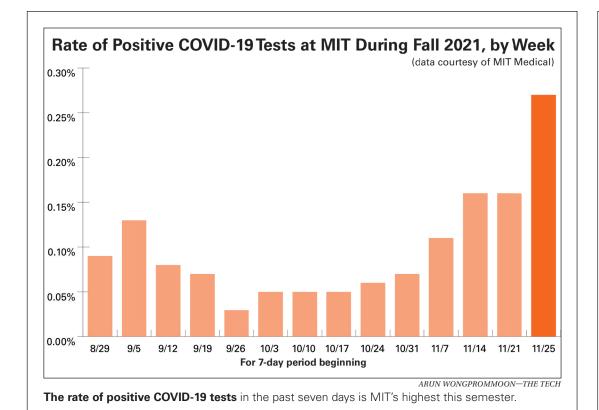
Final exams will take place Dec.

Pre-registration for IAP is open until 5 p.m. Jan. 3.

Pre-registration for Spring must be initiated by 5 p.m. Jan. 6, and pre-registration closes Jan. 13.

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





The Musical Theater Guild presents Firebringer produced by Starkid.

RADIO OPERATOR

Search for identity. ARTS, p. 4

TAIWAN

Missing sights, scenery, and sentiments. CAMPUS LIFE, p. 7



KING RICHARD

How legends were raised. ARTS, p. 4

SECTIONS

Arts 4
Photo5
Fun Pages 6
Campus Life 7
Sports 8

2 The Tech
Thursday, December 2, 2021



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WEATHE

Holiday rays will stay — dismay!

By Phoebe Lin
CHIEF METEOROLOGIST

Record warmth is arriving this week along with the start of meteorological winter! What a strange time of year. A ridge of high pressure is affecting much of the country, inhibiting the formation of clouds and letting sunny days take over this week. Maybe it's not too late to wear your warmer fall clothes one last time!

Although January is his-

torically Boston's snowiest month, we are a little overdue on recording our first measurable snow on the ground. On average, Boston usually receives its first measurable snow on November 29th. The first hints of snow over Thanksgiving break were exciting for many of us, but we'll have to wait just a couple more weeks for some stronger storms to accumulate and to turn our campus wintery white!

Extended Forecast

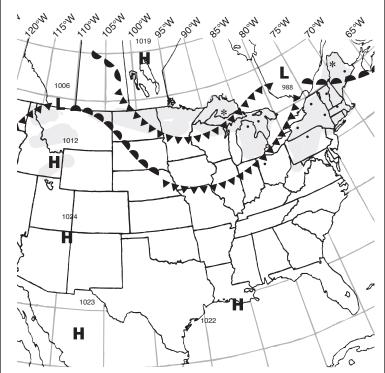
Today: A chance of showers, then foggy. High around 55°F (13°C). Winds around 10 mph from the south.

Tonight: Slight chance of showers, then cloudy. Low around 39°F (4°C). Winds around 16 mph from the west.

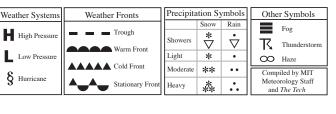
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 43°F (6°C) and low around 29°F (-2°C). Winds around 17 mph, weakening later in the day.

Saturday: Mostly sunny. High around 42°F (6°C) and low around 27°F (-3°C). Winds around 9 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, then chance of showers. High around 43°F (6°C) and low around 35°F (2°C). Winds around 8 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, December 2, 2021



Schmidt supervised 35 PhD theses while faculty at MIT

Provost, from Page 1

However, as he considered it, Schmidt "came to realize that there is something special about being given the opportunity to lead your undergraduate alma mater." Both Schmidt and his wife attended RPI as undergraduates.

Schmidt graduated from RPI with a bachelor's in electrical engineering in 1981 before receiving a master's and a doctorate from MIT in electrical engineering and computer science (EECS) in 1983 and 1988, respectively.

Schmidt then became a member of EECS faculty in 1988 and was named Ray and Maria Stata Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in 2016.

Prior to becoming provost in 2014, Schmidt served as director of MIT's Microsystems Technology Laboratories from 1999 to 2006 and as associate provost from 2008 to 2013.

Schmidt told MIT News that he "came to MIT in September 1981 as a 21-year old graduate student, and never left."

"MIT has been a remarkable home for me," Schmidt added, "It has allowed me to pursue my research and teaching passions, and has immersed me in an environment of inspiring and dedicated staff, students, and faculty. I've been presented with exceptional opportunities to contribute to MIT and beyond."

As associate provost, Schmidt was responsible for MIT's build-

ings, space allocation, and facilities budgets and helped lead the Institute-Wide Planning Task Force in response to the financial crisis of 2007–8.

As provost, Schmidt has served as MIT's senior academic and budget officer, responsible for MIT's educational programs and the recruitment, promotion, and tenuring of faculty. During his term, Schmidt has helped to create the College of Computing, co-chaired the board of edX with Harvard Provost Alan Garber, and overseen the development of an Institute-wide Strategic Action Plan for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and an MIT Values Statement.

As a researcher, Schmidt studied microelectronics and sensors and collaborated with companies like 3M, Bosch, and General Motors. He additionally supervised 35 PhD theses, received 37 patients, and helped start seven companies.

In Reif's letter, he wrote that Schmidt "embodies an MIT ideal — a scholar at work in the world" and that he "could not be more grateful" for Schmidt's "expert counsel and his enduring friendship."

In Schmidt's new role at RPI, he will succeed fellow MIT graduate Shirley Ann Jackson '68 PhD '73, who has been RPI president since 1999. Jackson announced that she would be stepping down in June 2021.

MIT community members who would like to suggest candidates for MIT's next provost may email provost-search@mit.edu.

Biz pays the bills

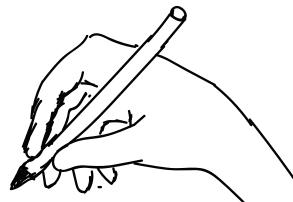
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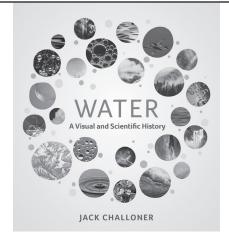
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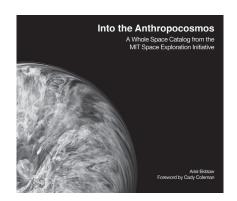
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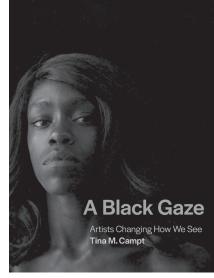


Thursday, December 2, 2021

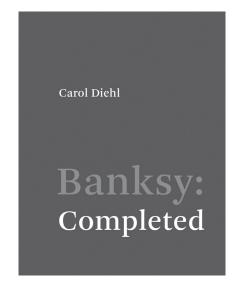


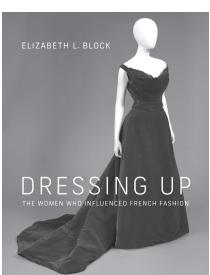


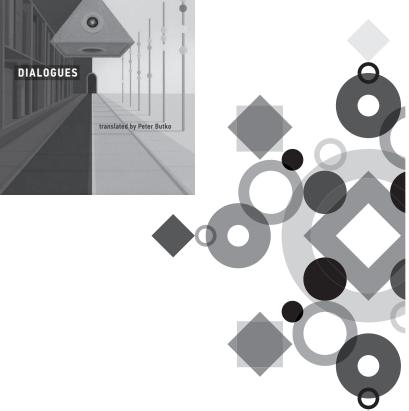








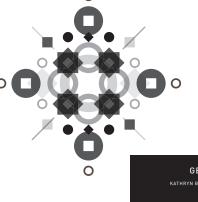


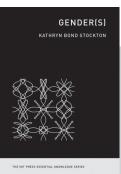


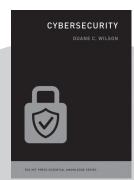
Gifts for the Intellectually Curious

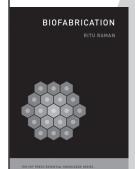
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MOVIE REVIEW

A will of steel: Reinaldo Marcus Green imagines champions into existence in King Richard

New biopic chronicles the rise of tennis superstars Venus and Serena Williams through the lens of their father and first coach, Richard Williams

King Richard

Directed by Reinaldo Marcus Green

Screenplay by Zach **Baylin**

Starring Will Smith, Aunjanue Ellis, Jon Bernthal, Saniyya Sidney, **Demi Singleton**

Rated PG-13, Now **Playing**

By Mureji Fatunde

The family of the most storied sibling pair in sports history is the subject of a new biographical film that provides a glimpse into how they were able to redefine the heights of professional tennis. Spoiler alert: their barely comprehensible success was no

Questions have circulated about why the film, which chronicles the rise of one of the most remarkable pairs of female athletes ever seen, is centered around a man.

Setting aside the Williams sisters' wish that the film center around and honor their father, it is evident within the first two minutes why Richard Williams (Will Smith) is a worthy subject in his own right. Before the opening musical sequence is over, he declares that he "wrote... a 78-page plan for their whole career before they was [sic] even born," foreshadowing his determined and calculating approach to parenting his youngest daughters. The role of Richard Williams seems almost hand-crafted for Will Smith and allows him to do two of the things he does best: playing a doting father who persists against hard luck and unwelcoming opponents, and being hilarious. This is far from Smith's first attempt as a bullish, protective onstage father; indeed, his performance is reminiscent of his role as a struggling single father in The Pursuit of Happyness [sic]. In a wardrobe of short shorts and with the full power of his comedic and dramatic prowess, Smith aces his role.

Williams is visibly warm towards his daughters: between choruses of "yes, Daddy" in response to his instructions, there is no shortage of smiles and laughter. He attempts to shield the girls from threats, both general ("the streets") and specific (the neighborhood boys who frequent the Compton public tennis courts), even as he actively combats those enemies. Smith masterfully conveys the pain of a father with the weight of several futures in his hands. Seeing what he silently endures on behalf of his daughters and their future, it is impossible to not dream Richard Williams' dream or not rejoice at the vindication that we know is coming.

The audacity and relentlessness with which Williams identifies and approaches all the big names in tennis seems to be the engine driving the girls' dreams. Although we feel Williams' frustration and discouragement in the face of rejection — aided by Smith's signature smile-through-the-pain grimace — he is undeterred. As news of his daughters' talent spreads, he finds himself fending off calls and meetings from agents. He spits in the face of race- and class-based condescension and drives a hard bargain, calmly walking away from unsatisfactory offers. It is delightful to watch Williams negotiate with Rick Macci (Jon Bernthal). After agreeing that his daughters will move to Florida to train with Macci, Williams throws in a surprise condition: the entire family must accompany them. Without batting an evelid, he secures his family's ticket out of Compton and their financial future. We should know by then that Williams does his research, and yet his boldness still manages to surprise.

Venus and Serena Williams are portrayed by Saniyya Sidney and Demi Singleton, respectively. The highlight of their performances is their depiction of the bond between Venus and Serena, who are often seen resting on each other's shoulders, sharing an inside joke, or lovingly echoing each other's words. Their competitiveness is evident from their very first appearance onscreen, when they race each other to deliver phone books on their block.

Even in the age of debates about tiger parents, helicopter parents, and other variants of over-parenthood, it is hard to argue with Williams' approach due to a simple inconvenient fact: it worked, producing not only the stars that he dreamed of, but also well-rounded daughters who seem genuinely happy on and off the court, as well as that most elusive prize: an intact parentchild relationship. Nonetheless, Zach Baylin,

the screenwriter, creates room for critique, painting a balanced portrait of Williams as determined yet still plagued by fear and insecurity. The tension in Williams' marriage is conveyed by disagreements over the direction of Venus' career and snippets of insight into other areas of discontent.

The counterbalance to the Williams' aggressive patriarch is Oracene "Brandy" Price (formerly Williams). She is portrayed by Aunjanue Ellis, who embraces the role of unmistakably fierce mother and devoted wife. In public she is quietly supportive, but any questions about her ability to protect are dispelled by her firm rebukes of her husband, as well as her telling-off of a nosy neighbor.

Price is the voice of reason, cautioning Williams at the inflection point where the girls cannot progress further without professional coaching. She is also instrumental in Venus' developing sense of agency, finally breaking her husband's obstinate determination to hold Venus back from competition. Oracene's role in letting her daughter fly is lasting; by the time the family meets with a Nike representative on the eve of Venus' professional debut, Williams is able to resist his instincts to act without consultation, instead declaring that Venus will make her own decision about the Nike contract.

The family's relationships drive much of the first half of the film, but there's also the tennis itself. Though director Reinaldo Marcus Green confirmed the use of tennis doubles, Sidney and Singleton, who went through intense training to learn tennis (including the Williams sisters' signature styles), are convincing in their on-court scenes.

The film's athletic spotlight falls squarely on Venus. Our first "wow" moment is watching Venus after Williams talks his way into a one-on-one session with Paul Cohen (Tony Goldwyn), who also coaches tennis greats such as John McEnroe. For the first time we glimpse the magic that has come to define these two women and that secured their place on the world stage. As they arrive back home, Venus casually announces to her anxiously waiting mother and siblings, "we got a coach!" sending them into rapturous celebration. These four words propel the remainder of the film and their real-life careers.

King Richard culminates in Venus' professional debut, with an exhilarating victory over Shaun Stafford, followed by a nail-biting defeat by the world number one, Arantxa Sánchez Vicario. The loss is made all the more painful by the fact that Williams is leading before an excruciatingly long bathroom break by her opponent that causes her to lose confidence. This match that Williams "should have won" nevertheless catapults her to instant stardom. Outside the stadium she is met by a mob of fans, with several young Black girls front and center.

All in all, the miracle of the film, and of the Williams' true story, is in how Williams seems to have manifested an inconceivable outcome on the strength of mere belief. This belief was symbolized in a single detail: throughout the film, Williams addresses his daughters with both first and last names, as if willing them to become the household names they are today. Even during casual practice sessions, he repeats their full names as a constant affirmation: "Venus Williams." "Serena Williams."

"Remember that name," he often shouts to passersby and Venus' competitors alike, presciently offering her autograph long before anyone knows its value.

We have, and we will.



Will Smith, Demi Singleton and Saniyya Sidney star as Richard, Serena and Venus Williams in King Richard, now available in theaters and on HBO Max.

BOOK REVIEW

The Radio Operator: A look into 1930s New **York City**

Ulla Lenze's English-language debut is a thrilling tale

★★★☆

The Radio Operator By Ulla Lenze **HarperCollins Publishers** May 4

By Anahita Srinivasan

"[Realizing] that for the first time this body belonged to him, as if this city had given him shape, footing." This quote encapsulates the novel's central struggle: tension within one's identity. Published in May 2021, The Radio Operator is Ulla Lenze's English-language debut and closely based on the life of her great-uncle Josef Klein, whom she never met. In the novel and real life, Josef immigrates from Düsseldorf, Germany to New York City,

where he becomes an amateur radio operator. He is then sucked into the machinations of the German war effort and becomes a spy for the Nazi Party, albeit hesitantly. When he is arrested by the FBI for espionage, he spends some time in prison before returning to Germany and finally moving to South America.

One of the most notable features of The Radio Operator is its authenticity. Of course, the novel is based on a true story, but an impressive amount of research also went into it. Lenze and her translator Marshall Yarborough both touched on this during this year's Boston Book Festival, where they spoke in an Authors in Conversation webinar hosted by the Goethe Institute. Both of them showed their copies of *The* WPA Guide to New York City, a publication they used to maintain authenticity in the novel when writing about the city as it was in the 1930s. Indeed, the novel is peppered with specific references to stores, restaurants, and attractions that draw you into the time period.

At its heart, *The Radio Operator* is about identity. Josef struggles to reconcile his love for America with his love for the Germany he used to know. That Germany, however, is gone — a fact that takes Josef the entire novel to fully grasp. Towards the beginning, Lenze describes Josef's physical struggle with jetlag: he has moved to Neuss, Germany from New York City in order to live with his brother, but his body is still on American time. Yarborough describes Josef as being "torn between two places." Even when Josef is in New York, he feels a pull towards his German identity, and he refuses to believe the truth about Hitler's actions until his love interest, Lauren, forces him to confront it

Lenze pulls no punches, but she skillfully manages to keep nuance in the story as well. Josef's discomfort with his actions is palpable throughout the novel, but he doesn't have the strength of will to stop transmitting radio messages revealing American war efforts to the Germans until Lauren reports him to the FBI. Once he is reported, though,

he accepts responsibility for his actions. This back-and-forth within his conscience only adds to the tension of the book. Lenze describes him as "not the stereotypical bad guy," and this is wholly accurate. Even at the end of the novel, Josef is unable to fully denounce Nazi ideology. It is this complexity of character that makes Josef an interesting character to follow.

The one downside of The Radio Operator is the slow pace at the beginning. The novel is structured in a disjointed manner, with each chapter jumping to a different point in time: either Josef's current life in South America, his time in Neuss, or his experiences in New York City. The first few chapters are set towards the end of Josef's story chronologically, which means that it takes a while to fully grasp exactly what has happened to Josef thus far.

Overall, The Radio Operator is a brilliantly nuanced story with a complex main character and excellent worldbuilding. Ulla Lenze's English-language debut is one worth reading.

Thursday, December 2, 2021 The Tech 5

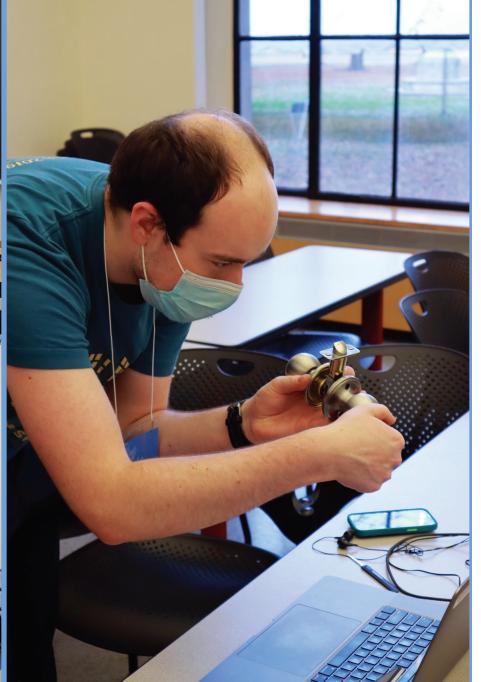












MIT Educational Studies Program

SPLASH 2021

Splash, MIT's largest annual teaching and learning extravaganza run by MIT Educational Studies Program (ESP), takes place 20-21 November. Approximately 200 classes were taught, and over 500 high schoolers participated virtually in Splash 2021.

Hot Chocolate

Solution, page 8

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

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

Gingerbread Cookies

Solution, page 8

360×			72×		2×
2	1	5÷	┥		
24×	<u> </u>		30×		
60×				288×	
11+	1	6×		-	
	24×			6+	
		1			

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1-6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Cleaning Up by Greg Johnson

Solution, page 8

ACROSS

- 1 Tot's word for "mother"
- 5 Apiece
- 9 __ in the woods (innocent ones)
- 14 Has debts
- 15 Hint for a detective
- 16 Barack or Michelle
- 17 Small fabric for showering
- 19 With cashews and almonds, say
- 20 Historical period
- 21 Toe the __ (do as you're told)
- 22 Netlike fabric 23 Mold into a new form
- 25 Artist's color board
- 28 Commercials and
- billboards
- 29 Chinese lap dog, for short 30 Charity website suffix
- 31 Catches, as a crook
- 34 Gets married secretly
- 36 Shake of a dog's tail
- 37 Nebraska's largest city
- 39 Photo __ (picture-taking events)
- 40 Glove leather

- 42 Any way a compass needle points: Abbr.
- 43 Life-story movie
- 46 Ran away from
- 47 Swelled head
- 48 Japanese maker of **PlayStations**
- 49 Cable TV film network
- 51 Starts to melt
- 53 "Grand" parade official
- 57 Boys in the family
- 58 Used to be
- 59 "Now I get it!"
- 60 "Tell me all __ it"
- 62 What a faucet provides to wash up with
- 64 Extremely angry
- 65 Border of a tabletop
- 66 Drip from a damaged pipe
- 67 Run out, as a subscription 68 Home owner's document
- 69 Totals numbers

DOWN

- 1 Lawn-cutting machine
- 2 Fully informed
- 3 Flat-topped Southwestern

- 4 Fireplace residue
- 5 Sun-blocking astronomical event

- 8 Sound of a chuckle
- 10 Treat poorly
- 11 Fabric for after a shower
- 12 Ambulance driver: Abbr.
- 22 Manufacture
- 24 Corned beef and potatoes
- 26 Make an exchange
- 27 __ on (encouraged)

- 32 Male friend from Mexico 33 Cake to wash up with
- 38 Student not in class
- 41 Sci-fi saucers, for short

- hills

- 6 Without assistance
- 7 Adorable
- 9 Filleted, as fish

- 13 Pronounce
- 18 Dressed (in)
- side dish
- 25 Coke competitor
- 29 __ seed (bagel tidbit)
- 31 Junction points
- 35 Lake birds
- 44 Atoms with a charge
- 20 32 33 42 51
 - 43 44 48 65

50 Cook, as coffee

53 Enter a highway

55 Leading in a race

54 Detested

52 Recommends highly

28

34 35

45 Won over with hospitality 56 Carefree adventures

66

30

58 Walk through a brook 60 Feel poorly 61 Swimsuit top

62 Got married

63 __ carte menu

[1018] Good Cop, Dadaist Cop













Taiwan, I miss you

Reliving memories of my time in Taiwan

By Vivian Hir

It has been five years since I boarded the plane to move back to the U.S. from Taiwan. As wistful as I was when I saw the green land vanish before my eyes, I thought I would get the opportunity to visit Taiwan a year or two after I left. But I was wrong. Each summer that followed presented a new obstacle preventing me from going back to Taiwan. I'm content with my life in the U.S., but that doesn't mean my strong feelings of nostalgia for Taiwan have gone away. Whenever I look at old photos of me in Taiwan or flip through travel and dining books about Taiwan, a sudden surge of longing rises inside

As I drifted away from my friends in Taiwan, I gradually realized that what I missed the most about Taiwan was no longer my school or volunteer club, but rather the small and ordinary aspects of Taiwan. What I ached for were the sensations and experiences that I couldn't find in the U.S.: the soft, silky texture of tofu pudding melting in my mouth, drinking the warm, fresh soy milk from the local breakfast shack, the delightful chime I heard whenever I entered the Hi-Life convenience store.

As my memories of Taiwan became fainter, I romanticized Taiwan more. My memories became distorted, highlighting only the good things that Taiwan offered. I no longer cared that there were many rainy days in Taiwan and that the climate was humid, a far cry from the pleasant climate I experienced in the Bay Area. My recollections ignored the strong odors that came from certain alleys and the lack of greenery in Taipei. All I wanted was to be transported to Taiwan. Going back would not only help me reconnect with my Chinese heritage, but also allow me to relive my late childhood years. For me, Taiwan is frozen in time, evoking fuzzy memories that remind me of a lazy Sunday afternoon with the sunlight shining through the window.

My nostalgia for Taiwan made me wonder why I missed Taiwan so dearly even though I have no family there. Although I blended in with the people in Taiwan, I was still considered an outsider because I'm an American and my mom is from mainland China. My heart aches for Taiwan because it is the place that shaped who I am today.

Without Taiwan, I would still be the uncultured, disconnected Chinese American who refused to speak Chinese at home and detested going to Chinese school. The farther I am from Taiwan, the bigger the chasm between me and my ethnic identity grows. Over these five years, the constant, gnawing pain of emptiness has increased, a growing hole that makes my soul feel even hollower. I tried filling in this hole by learning Chinese online and reading books about Chinese history to compensate for the fact that I am no longer in Taiwan, yet the discomfort persists. I flip back to my old Chinese workbooks and fail to recognize some characters. I skim my elementary school Chinese textbooks and realize that I forgot so many traditional poems and stories. I mourn that I spent my entire time in Taiwan building a Chinese identity and then moved back to the States and lost it. The ache is like a vicious creature, prodding me with questions about why I haven't kept up with my thirteen-year-old self. Am I still Chinese

Despite having lived in the U.S. again for five years now, I still think about Taiwan. Taiwan is more than a place to me: it is more like a loved one that I had a complicated relationship with in the past. Taiwan reminds me of an imaginary sibling that I found annoying at times growing up but end up missing dearly after leaving home. I regret not truly valuing Taiwan's essence until physical distance and isolation made me realize how much I took simple things for granted in Taiwan: Good Cho's, an eccentric yet cozy bagel shop, the enchanting atmosphere of the Eslite Bookstore, the irresistible aroma coming out from the DO-NUTES Bakery shop.

After returning to the U.S., I thought that I could go back to Taiwan during the summer, but each summer presented new obstacles. Summer school consumed my entire summer before entering ninth grade. Travel plans were impossible the year after since my dad was unemployed. A summer camp and volunteer position took up the following summer. Then COVID hit. As I write this now, I worry that I won't get to visit Taiwan for many years.

I may not physically be in Taiwan, but I still try to recreate my experiences there. I walk down the aisle of the Asian grocery store, scanning the snacks, from Kuai Kuai corn puffs to pea crackers that take me back to my times in Family Mart. I spend my free time compiling a Spotify playlist called Taiwan Nostalgia, playing songs that evoke the calm ambience of restaurants and dessert shops that I went to countless times. I watch music videos of my favorite songs by Taiwanese artists like Fish Leong, letting the sentimental feelings of loss envelope me like a warm blanket as I try to sing the lyrics without an accent. Still reminiscing about Taiwan, I watch Taiwanese teen films such as Our Times to relive those golden days that feel unspoiled and precious. When the credits start rolling in, I remain transfixed by the beautiful, touching ending that makes me cry internally about how I cannot go back in time.

I know that my efforts to recreate these experiences are futile and will never make up for the things that get lost over time. Despite this inevitable fact, I believe there is some beauty in nostalgia because nostalgia makes me appreciate and recognize the good days of the past. My attempts to relive the moments serve as an active reminder that it is the ephemeral nature of childhood and early adolescence that makes these moments precious and worth remembering. So I let random thoughts about Taiwan pop into my head when I walk down Dorm Row or bike on Massachusetts Avenue. I may be more than 7,500 miles physically separated from Taiwan, but there is one thing I am sure about: Taiwan will always stay in my heart, no matter where I go.

BEAVER FEVER

THURSDAY 2

Pokerbots — Information Session 7–8 p.m. @ 2-190

MIT DanceTroupe - DeTour: ROAD **WERK AHEAD**

(featuring ADT and MissBehavior) 8 p.m. @ Kresge Little Theater

FRIDAY 3

Global Health Alliance at MIT - Fall Gala

5 p.m. @ Wang Auditorium

MIT Korean Cultural Association -**General Body Meeting**

5-6 p.m. @ McCormick PDR

MIT DanceTroupe - DeTour: ROAD **WERK AHEAD**

(featuring Fixation and Ridonkulous) 7 p.m. @ Kresge Little Theater

MIT Centrifugues — Magic Fugue Bus (featuring MIT Spinning Arts) 8 p.m. @ 10-250

MIT Lecture Series Committee -Demon Slayer: Mugen Train 8 p.m. @ 26-100

SaveTFP — Whine & Cheese Night 9-11 p.m. @ 1-190

MIT DanceTroupe — DeTour: ROAD **WERK AHEAD**

(featuring MoveMENtality and Mocha Moves)

10 p.m. @ Kresge Little Theater

SATURDAY 4

MIT DanceTroupe - DeTour: ROAD **WERK AHEAD**

(featuring Mirchi and Ridonkulous) 1 p.m. @ Kresge Little Theater

AI@MIT Labs — Demo Day 1-2:30 p.m. @ 32-141

MIT DanceTroupe — DeTour: ROAD

(featuring Imobilare and Fixation) 4 p.m. @ Kresge Little Theater

MIT Muses — Muse Clues 5-7 p.m. @ 10-250

TEDxMIT - TEDxMIT Conference 5–8:30 p.m. @ 32-123

MIT Lecture Series Committee -Demon Slayer: Mugen Train (followed by karaoke) 8 p.m. @ 26-100

MIT Logarhythms - Princess and the

(featuring Roadkill Buffet) 8:30 p.m. @ 10-250

Cell Ag@MIT x SaveTFP — Vegan Ice **Cream Tasting**

9-11 p.m. @ Coffeehouse Lounge

SUNDAY 5

Battlecode — Information Session 4 p.m. @ 4-149

Asymptones — GLOSTIK

(featuring the Video Game Orchestra) 5:30 p.m. @ 10-250

Borderline — Open Tunnel Event 6-8 p.m. @ Tunnel66

MIT Figure Skating Club — Restart 6-8 p.m. @ Johnson Ice Arena

MIT/Wellesley Toons — How Toon(s) **Get Away With Murder** 8:30 p.m. @ 10-250

MONDAY 6

Pokerbots - Information Session 7-8 p.m. @ 2-190

TUESDAY 7

Battlecode — Information Session 5 p.m. @ 4-149

MIT Asian Dance Team — Reverie 9-11 p.m. @ La Sala

THURSDAY 9

MIT Asian Dance Team — Reverie 6–8 p.m. @ La Sala

MIT Asian Dance Team — Reverie (featuring MIT Lion Dance) 9–11 p.m. @ La Sala

SATURDAY 11

MIT Video Game Orchestra - Fall Concert

@ Kresge Little Theater

Student Events Board — Tech Twinkles 7-9 p.m. @ Lobdell Dining



To have your student group's event featured in The Tech, email cl@tech. mit.edu.

Join The Tech You'd be a good

SPORTS BLITZ

Tuesday, November 23

• Men's Basketball clutched it out 66-65 against number 11 seed Tufts University.

Saturday, November 27

• Men's Basketball drops the ball against Keene State 74-92.

Sunday, November 28

• Women's Basketball dribbled the game away 50-54 against Bowdoin College.

Tuesday, November 30

• Squash squashed Brown University 7-2.

Wednesday, December 1

• Men's Basketball dunks on Salem State University 80-64.

WART YOUR CLUB SPORT NTHE TECH?

We want to learn about your team! Email us!

sports@tech.mit.edu



Upcoming Sports Events

THURSDAY 2

Women's Basketball

vs. Salem State University 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY 3

Squash

vs. United States Naval Academy 6:00 p.m.

Men's Swimming and Diving MIT Winter Invite

6:30 p.m.

Women's Swimming and Diving

MIT Winter Invite 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 4

Men's Track and Field

vs. Boston University

Women's Track and Field vs. Boston University

Men's Swimming and Diving

MIT Winter Invite 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Women's Swimming and Diving MIT Winter Invite

10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Squash

vs. University of Virginia 12:00 p.m.

Water Polo

vs. Pomona-Pitzer 3:00 p.m.

Men's Basketball

vs. Fitchburg State College 1:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball

vs. Worcester State University 3:00 p.m.

at Franklin and Marshall College 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 5

Water Polo

 $USA\ WaterPolo\ D3\ Championship$

Men's Fencing

vs. St. John's University $9:00 \ a.m.$

Women's Fencing

vs. St. John's University 9:00 a.m.

Men's Fencing vs. University of the Incarnate Word

10:00 a.m.

Women's Fencing

vs. University of the Incarnate Word 10:00 a.m.

Men's Swimming and Diving

MIT Winter Invite 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Women's Swimming and Diving

MIT Winter Invite 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Men's Fencing

vs. Yale University 11:00 a.m.

Women's Fencing

vs. Yale University 11:00 a.m.

Squash

vs. Dartmouth University 11:00 a.m.

Men's Fencing

vs. Cornell University

1:00 p.m.

Women's Fencing

vs. Cornell University 1:00 p.m.

Men's Fencing

vs. Brandeis University 2:00 p.m.

Women's Fencing

vs. Brandeis University 2:00 p.m.

TUESDAY 7

Men's Basketball

vs. Emmanuel College 7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

vs. Framingham State University

WEDNESDAY 8

Squash

vs. Tufts University 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY 11

Men's Track and Field

vs. Alumni 12:00 p.m.

Women's Track and Field

vs. Alumni 12:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Tufts University 1:00 p.m.

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Solution to Cleaning Up

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Solution to Hot Choco

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

Solution to Gingerbread

3	5	6	1	4	2
2	4	5	6	3	1
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