thetech.com

Volume 143, Number 15

WEATHER, p. 2

THU: **73°**F | **60°**F

FRI: 69°F | 62°F

Mostly cloudy.

SAT: 66°F | 54°F Showers likely.

Thursday, October 5, 2023



Students talk to prospective employers at the annual Fall Career Fair, Friday, September 22.

#### **IN SHORT**

Oct. 6 is the Add Date. It is also the last day to drop halfterm subjects.

Oct. 9 is Indigenous Peoples'

Oct. 10 is a Student Holiday: no classes!

The Tech's mailing lists have been shut down; use tt-join@ mit.edu and the following mailing lists: tt-news-editors@mit. edu; tt-opinioneditors@mit.edu; tt-photographyeditors@mit. edu; tt-arts-editors@mit.edu; ttcampus-life-editors@mit.edu; tt-science-editors@mit.edu; ttsportseditors@mit.edu.

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Send news and tips to ttnews-editors@mit.edu

# More details arise on MIT and GSU

**agreement** *Kornbluth: "The negotiations were* thoughtful, serious, collaborative."

> By Russel Ismael STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 25, President Kornbluth announced in an email to the MIT community that the administration and the MIT Graduate Student Union (GSU) reached an agreement. That same day, the GSU announced that the contract had been ratified, according to an X account with the handle @MIT-GradUnion. The contract vote passed in favour, with 999 voting for it, and 44 people against—a split of 95.8 percent and 4.2 percent, respectively.

Kornbluth believes that this contract will bridge a gap between the research being conducted and students' wellbeing. "In concert with a faculty advisory committee, we sought to be responsive to our graduate students without jeopardising our research and educational enterprise or the interests of other members of our community," Kornbluth wrote.

The new conmembers intellectual property rights on par with faculty and staff, 15 vacation days in a year, up from ten, and a grievable workload clause to prevent burnout. A \$10,000 need-based grant for employee members with children was also agreed upon. Doctoral and eligible Master's students with children are also afforded the same privileges, with grants beginning at \$6,500 for one child to \$8,500 for three or more children.

The GSU also successfully bargained for workplace provisions like transitional funding when changing advisors and further protection from discrimination and harassment. Such protection includes clauses such as gender equity, where a member may safely seek recourse if facing gender-based harassment, and restroom equity, allowing access to gender-affirming restrooms.

Improvements on pre-existing arrangements were also made, as graduate students are now given a 70 percent T-Pass subsidy, up from the previous 50 percent, and a substantial 83 percent dental insurance subsidy, which did not exist before. Moreover, international students will also receive a new \$1,200 bonus to cover their immigration fees and an assurance that the International Students Office will process their request in a timely manner.

Furthermore, graduate students, from research assistants to instructors (Instructor-Gs), will expect a raise in their wage rates per each year of the contract. In the coming years, increases will begin at 3.5 percent and 3.25 percent, respectively, along with a back pay increase of 5.4 percent this calendar year. The GSU can request MIT to provide the aggregated wage data to ascertain the pay rate of each GSU member. In addition to a pay raise, research and teaching assistants, along with Instructor-Gs, can expect a tuition remission commensurate with the effort expected of their position.

The GSU's contract will expire in 2026, where the GSU will negotiate with MIT again if both parties want to extend or terminate the agreement. In this period, the GSU will be unable to hold any strikes, as stipulated in the contract. Kornbluth stated that both parties "struck a good balance" and believes that it "[laid] a foundation of good faith and mutual respect for the future." Kornbluth wrote that she hopes to move ahead with "a sense of new beginnings."

## Professor Moungi Bawendi wins 2023 **Chemistry Nobel Prize**

On Oct. 4, Moungi Bawendi, the Lester Wolfe Professor of Chemistry, was announced as a winner of the 2023 Chemistry Nobel Prize by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for his work in "the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots." Bawendi shared the prize with his postdoctoral advisor, Louis Brus of Columbia University, and Alexei Ekimov of Nanocrystals Technology.

According to the prize announcement, Bawendi "revoluntionised the chemical production of quantum dots, resulting in almost perfect particles." Bawendi's work with quantum dots has seen various applications from solar cells to

In a press conference held on Oct. 4, Bawendi was introduced by President Kornbluth who said that "we cannot imagine anything more electrifying." She added "you'd be hard pressed to find a community with a greater reverence for the wondrous

beauty of basic discovery science and the incredible power of innovation to better our world than the people of MIT."

At the press conference, Bawendi stated that the future of quantum dot research is bright. "I think 30 years ago, none of us who started the field could have predicted 30 years later we'd be where we are today... innovation comes out in directions that you can't predict."

— Alex Tang

## 2023 MIT security and fire safety report released; President Sally Kornbluth shares new update on ongoing across-campus listening tour

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ALEXA SIMAO—THE TECH

Students browse the List art gallery, looking for a piece to take home for the semester through the List Student Art Lending Program, Tuesday, September 19.

#### **SPORTS BLITZ**

Read about the past two weeks of sports for MIT (reader's digest version)!

CAMPUS LIFE, p. 3

#### **LONG-TERM FRIENDSHIPS**

Read about our campus life editor's musings on friendships. CAMPUS LIFE, p. 3, 6

#### A BLUE RIBBON TAKEOVER

Chef Dan Bazzinotti develops new restaurant Pescador. ARTS, p. 6



#### **CAMBRIDGE SCIENCE FESTIVAL**

Learn more about this year's STEM-focused festival in Cambridge! PHOTO, p. 4

#### **FUN PAGES**

XKCDs, sudokus and crosswords, and haikus to fill the week! FUN, p. 7

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#### **WEATHER**

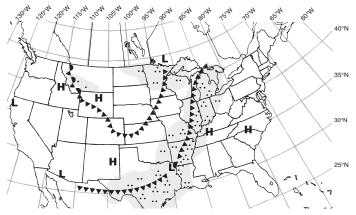
## Weekend showers

By M. Geogdzhayeva

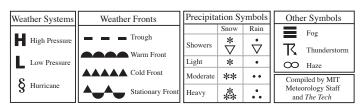
Have you been noticing how it seems to be gray and rainy every weekend, then sunny as soon as Monday rolls around? What's up with that? In any case, it'll be gray and drizzly again this weekend. I hope you get the chance to soak up these last days of nice weather, because there's a good chance we won't be getting something this warm again until spring.

There's a cold front coming in this weekend which will remind us all that it is, in fact, October in New England.

Looking ahead to winter, a strong El Niño pattern remains in place in the Pacific. This suggests a lesssnowy-than-average winter in New England, in contrast to a snowier winter in the South, Southwest, and Mid-Atlantic. Compared to last vear's abysmal snowfall in Boston, though, meteorologists are forecasting a return to something closer to normal. So, maybe start thinking about where you stored all your winter gear... two



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, October 5, 2023



#### **Extended Forecast**

Today: Mostly cloudy. High around 73°F (23°C). Southeast winds around 5-8 mph.

Tonight: Cloudy. Low around 60°F (16°C). Southeast winds up to 13 mph.

Friday: Mostly cloudy, chance of showers after 11 PM. High around 69°F (21°C) and low around 62°F (16°C). Southeast wind around 10 mph.

Saturday: Showers likely. High around 66°F (19°C) and low around 54°F (12°C). East wind around 10-15 mph. Sunday: Mostly sunny. High near 62°F (16°C) and low around 49°F (9°C). Southwest wind around 14-18 mph.

## 2023 MIT security, fire safety report released

## Reports of violence against women spike in 2022

By Alex Tang NEWS EDITOR

The MIT Police Department released its Annual Security and Fire Safety Report Sept. 19. The report highlights the policies undertaken by MIT to reduce crime and mitigate risk as well as the resources available to victims of violent crimes. Furthermore, the report contains statistics on crimes committed on-campus and in non-campus locations ranging from 2020 to 2022. These statistics encompass crimes reported to MIT Police, other campus security agencies, and local police agencies.

There were 26 criminal offenses in 2022, a

cluding aggravated assault, burglary, and motor vehicle theft were down from previous years, contributing to the lower total of offenses. However, in 2022, 15 of these criminal offenses were labeled under rape, a nearly four-fold increase from the previous year. Reports of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) offenses, including domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, dramatically increased from 10 in 2021 to 23 in 2022. There were 14 reports of stalking in 2022, double the number from 2021. Reports of domestic violence increased from 3 in 2021 to 7 in 2022. The majority of VAWA offenses were reported to have occurred on campus in residence halls.

Three arrests for drug abuse violations oc-

since then. Disciplinary referrals for liquor law violations dipped slightly in 2022 to 31 from 49

There was no report of a hate crime in 2022; in 2021, there was a single report of a race-based hate crime. Two fires occurred during the time range of the report. In 2020, a fire was reported at Ashdown House due to "cardboard boxes left unattended on top of a stove." In Oct. 2022, a fire was reported at the Westgate Apartments due to a "stove top fire" in a communal kitchen. From 2020 to 2022, no undergraduate residences experienced fire events.

Crime reports can be made to the MIT Police at (617)-253-1212 or anonymously at

# President Kornbluth shares update on ongoing listening tour

## Climate change, generative AI regulation, noted as key issues

By Julia Fortt

STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 21, President Sally Kornbluth shared an update on her ongoing listening tour via an email sent to MIT community members. Since assuming the presidency of MIT in January, Kornbluth has kept records of what she has seen on campus and heard from students, staff, and faculty to better understand the state of affairs at MIT. An initial summary of the preliminary data was shared on April 4 of this year. Nearly a year after the beginning of the tour, Kornbluth highlighted the larger trends that have emerged.

#### **Taking Action**

In echoes of Kornbluth's initial tour summary, two major concerns raised by the MIT community were that of climate change and generative AI. Since that initial summary, she said that efforts have been made to take action in both of

On climate change, discussions occurred over the summer to better outline an actionable path forward for MIT to contribute to solving this global issue. Kornbluth said that Vice Provost Richard Lester and members of the Climate Nucleus and the Climate Education Working Group "consulted with more than 100 faculty and staff" to identify "MIT's climate-related strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities." Kornbluth added that the administration is drafting "a proposed path forward" and she said that she intends to share more details as the plan is further developed.

President Kornbluth characterized the proliferation of generative AI as a "high stakes moment," and said that "campus is buzzing with a range of compelling projects and activities" surrounding AI. These projects range from a student competition to pitch AI entrepreneurship ideas to endeavors to help lawmakers make betterinformed decisions on policies regulating  $\mbox{\rm AI}$  use.

#### Realigning the Administration

In response to sentiments emphasized by MIT staff and faculty members, President Kornbluth calls attention to several leadership "shifts and searches" intended to "make our systems work even better for faculty and staff."

Kornbluth highlighted a pilot program relating to "under-recovery," an issue in research where indirect costs aren't covered by project funding. Kornbluth said that the pilot will provide a "larger total central sum," and subsequently be 'budgeted out' across the Institute" to reduce the occurrence of under-recovery.

## Sol. to Midterm 1

### Sol. to Add/Drop

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

#### Sol. to Shapeshifts <sup>7</sup>S <sup>8</sup>T <sup>9</sup>A <sup>10</sup>B <sup>15</sup>H E R E I C Y H O T MOOING P 1 Q U E 2 T I E S E M M A 23 A S U S H E A R T B R E A K 32 L E I 3 M E S H 3 R E C C I R C L E J E R K P P U L P OTOHERITAETURKS MACA LA CA LA TÂ A P E L K T I E

- Women's Volleyball lost to Springfield College 2–3
- Women's Cross Country finished in first place at the Purple Valley Classic
- Men's Cross Country finished in second place at the Purple Valley Classic
- Sailing finished in 9th place at Brown University, 7th & 12th place at Tufts University, and 5th place
- Football lost to Salve Regina University 7-34
- Field Hockey defeated Springfield College 4–3 in overtime
- Men's Soccer defeated Salve Regina University 2-0
- Water Polo defeated Mercyhurst University 21-9
- Women's Soccer defeated Smith College 3-1
- Women's Volleyball defeated University of California, Santa Cruz 3-0
- Water Polo lost to Brown University 8-19

#### Sunday, September 24th:

- Men's Tennis MIT won all of its singles matches against Skidmore. Daniel Papacica and Kailas Kahler swept doubles against Babson, and both won their singles match.
- Women's Tennis MIT had 8 singles players and 4 doubles selected to play in the ITA Regionals. Katya Shepherd Johnson led the Engineers as she made the semifinals in the A singles.
- Field Hockey defeated Vassar College 3-2 in overtime

#### Tuesday, September 26th:

Women's Volleyball defeated Salve Regina University 3-0

#### Wednesday, September 27th:

Men's Soccer lost to Suffolk University 2-3

#### Friday, September 29th:

Men's Tennis played at ITA Regionals at Bowdoin

#### Saturday, September 30th:

- Sailing placed in 14 at United States Coast Guard, placed in first at MIT, placed in 4th at Boston University, and placed in 3rd at the Women's Atlantic Coast Qualifier.
- Women's Volleyball
- Men's Soccer defeated Clark University 2-0
- Women's Soccer defeated Clark University 3-0
- Football lost to United States Coast Guard 14-36
- Women's Volleyball defeated both Mount Holyoke and Westfield State 3-0
- Field Hockey defeated Wheaton College 4-0
- Water Polo lost to Long Island University 12-13 and Princeton University 7-14

#### Sunday, October 1st:

- Men's Tennis Daniel Papacica and Kailas Kahler represented MIT at the ITA New England Regionals. Kahler advanced all the way to the singles quarter-final.
- Water Polo lost to Iona 10-13

#### Tuesday, October 3rd:

- Field Hockey defeated Wellesley College 5-0
- Women's Volleyball defeated Emerson College 3-1

#### Wednesday, October 4th:

- Women's Soccer defeated Wheaton College 6-0
- Men's Soccer defeated Brandeis University 2-1

#### **VIVIAN'S REFLECTIONS**

# The Mystery of Long-Term **Friendships**

What makes some last and others not?

By Vivian Hir

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Going back to Taiwan this summer was like going through old items in a drawer, brushing off dust from random objects from the past, and looking at old pictures. As mentioned in my previous article, the last time I was in Taiwan was when I was thirteen. Although I drifted away from most of my friends in Taiwan, I reconnected with them because I couldn't bear the idea of being in the same place as them without crossing paths. I didn't want to have regrets before flying back to the U.S. To my knowledge, none of my childhood friends in the U.S. were nearby, and the only convenient place and time I could think of to meet them again was this summer in Taiwan.

I must admit, part of the reason I reconnected with so many of my former friends was out of boredom. While I had experiments to do and tasks to complete in the lab, I had a lot of free time, which meant trying to think of ways to occupy myself in the cubicle. It was around late July, and I realized that there were people I hadn't contacted. I still had four weeks left in Taiwan, but the end of my stay felt much more tangible and real than before. As a result, I decided to draft emails for my former friends, offering to meet up in

Although writing emails to

friends is not a difficult task per se, I questioned the point of reconnecting with them. The last time I contacted most of them was more than five years ago; so much time passed by over the years that I honestly did not have much in common with them anymore. I was worried that emailing them out of the blue would make things awkward. The nonzero chance of being ghosted also held me back. One side of me said to reconnect, while the other side of me said I wasn't obligated to if I didn't feel like it. These two conflicting sides of me weren't wrong, as each had their point.

After overthinking the decision, I emailed my past friends, even the ones to whom I didn't quite know what to say. I didn't want to live in a world of hypotheticals, wondering what they would have said if I reconnected with them.

It was nice to reconnect with my friends via email, but I was sad that I couldn't quite remember why I was such good friends with them in elementary school. Sure, I had some memories of our past, but none of them provided a clear reason as to why I connected with them. The more I think about this question, the more I wonder how I made the friends that I have, both past and present. It's really not a hard question, yet there are some things I can't quite pinpoint.

Ironically, reconnecting with my former friends this summer

helped me come to terms with the fact that it is fine if friends drift away in the end. Becoming distant from my former friends didn't mean that either of us was at fault, yet I couldn't stop feeling slightly bad about it. I did nothing wrong, really. We simply grew apart and now have different lives. Of course, having a long-term friendship is valuable. At the same time, it is difficult, if not impossible, to maintain long-term friendships with ev-

Drifting away from people I have known for a long time isn't that surprising, but I find the end of more recent friendships to be more troublesome. Reflecting on the short friendships I had at MIT saddens me, especially when I think about the first friends I made during my first few weeks on campus. I wonder why the spark I felt between some of my first MIT friends faded away so quickly. It probably has to do with the fact that we lived in different dorms, had different classes, and didn't have much in common besides meeting each other at a REX event or being in the same FPOP. Saying hello was effortless and natural at first, but over time it felt more awkward and robotic. Eventually, there was no exchange of hellos.

Meanwhile, I have maintained some long-term friendships (one for thirteen years,

Long-Term, Page 6

## **Upcoming Sports Events**

#### FRIDAY 6

#### Women's Tennis

NEWITT Tournament Smith College

#### Men's Tennis

Skidmore Invite

#### Women's Volleyball

vs Swarthmore College 6 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY 7**

#### Men's Tennis

Skidmore Invite

#### Women's Tennis

NEWITT Tournament Smith College

#### Women's Lightweight Crew Quinsigamond Snake Regatta

Men's Lightweight Crew Quinsigamond Snake Regatta

#### Sailing

at Connecticut College and MIT (Walter C. Sailing  $11 \ a.m.$ 

#### Women's Volleyball

vs Illinois College 11 a.m.

#### **Field Hockey**

Polytechnic Worcester Institute 11 a.m.

#### Men's Cross Country

at Pre-National Meet 11 a.m.

#### Football

vs Springfield College 12 p.m.

#### Women's Volleyball vs Albion College

2 p.m.

#### Women's Soccer vs Springfield College

4 p.m. **Water Polo** vs Harvard University

### 4:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs Springfield College 7 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY 8**

#### Men's Tennis

Skidmore Invite

#### Sailing

at Connecticut College and MIT (Walter C. Sailing Pavilion) 11 a.m.

#### Women's Tennis

NEWITT Tournament Smith Col

#### Women's Soccer

at Williams College 12:30 p.m.

#### Water Polo

at Brown University 3:30 p.m.

#### **TUESDAY 10**

Women's Volleyball at Wellesley College

#### WEDNESDAY 11

#### Women's Soccer

at United States Coast Guard 7 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY 14**

Men's Heavyweight Crew vs Head of the Kevin

Women's Openweight Crew vs Head of the Kevin

#### Rifle

vs Army 9 a.m.

#### Water Polo

vs Pomona-Pitzer 9a.m.

#### Men's Cross Country

College at Connecticut Invitational 10 a.m.

**CAMPUS** 

#### Sailing

at Boston College, Yale University, and MIT (Walter C. Sailing Pavilion) 11 a.m.

#### Women's Volleyball

at Worcester Polytechnic Institute 11 a.m.

#### Women's Cross Country

Connecticut Invitational 11 a.m.

#### Football

at United States Merchant Marine Academy 12 p.m.

#### Women's Volleyball

Bridgewater University tri-match at Worcester Polytechnic Institute 1 p.m.

#### Men's Soccer

at Emerson College

#### Women's Soccer vs Salve Regina

1 p.m.

#### Field Hockey vs Clark University

1:15 p.m. Water PoloX

#### vs Occidental College 1:30 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY 15** Sailing

at Boston College, Yale University, and MIT (Walter C. Sailing Pavilion)  $11 \ a.m.$ 

#### Water Polo

vs Salem University

#### **MONDAY 16**

Women's Soccer

#### TUESDAY 17

#### Field Hockey

vs Mount Holyoke College

#### Women's Volleyball vs Wheaton College

#### **WEDNESDAY 18**

CAMPUS LIFE CAMPU

Women's Soccer at Babson College

3 p.m.

## Like Alexander Hamilton?

See him in your wallet every week!



4 THE TECH THURSDAY, OCTOB

# Cambridge Science Festival



The One Sphere stands on display in the Open Space as part of the Cambridge Science Festival.



Cambridge Science Festival hosts a pop-up exhibit of #IfThenSheCan, featuring 30 3D-printed statues celebrating contemporary women innovators in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).



Children explore exhibits at the Carnival in the Kendall/MIT Open Space, Sunday.



 $ALEXA\ SIMAO-THE\ TECH$ 

ER 5, 2023 THE TECH 5



Dr. Ronda Hamm stands next to her statue at a meet-and-greet during the Science Carnival, Sunday.



**Dr. Joyonna Gamble-George stands next to her statue** at a meet-and-greet during the Science Carnival in the Kendall/MIT Open Space, Sunday. The statue was part of the #IfThenSheCan exhibit.



Community members watch a demonstration at the Carnival in the Kendall/MIT Open Space, Sunday. The event was part of the Cambridge Science Festival put on by MIT Museum, running from September 25 to October 1.



ALEXA SIMAO—THE TECH

Children build with blocks at an interact exhibit at the Carnival in the Kendall/MIT Open Space, Sunday.

#### **RESTAURANT REVIEW**

# A Blue Ribbon Takeover: Part Award-winning chef Dan B Blue Ribbon Group's secor Square outpost. Pescador Seafood, \$\$ 498 Commonwealth Ave. Boston, MA 02215 Monday-Friday 4 p.m.-11 p.m. Saturday-Sunday 11 a.m.-12 a.m. By Teddy Schoenfeld "Time flies when you're opening restaurants," says Daniel Bazzinotti, 15-year vertice or the original to the continuous co **Takeover: Part 2**

Award-winning chef Dan Bazzinotti fronts Blue Ribbon Group's second Kenmore

"Time flies when you're opening restaurants," says Daniel Bazzinotti, 15-year veteran of the Boston food scene. He started as a line cook at the Liberty Hotel's Scampo in 2008 and moved onto Somerville's awardwinning Bergamot in 2010. In 2016, he became chef de cuisine at BISq, proselytizing whole animal butchery and charcuterie while cooking Peruvian, Cajun, and Italian food. People took note of his expertise and passion - just a year later, Eataly, Boston's outpost of the international Italian grocery, market, and restaurant group, crowned him their new executive chef.

At Eataly, Bazzinotti enjoyed the autonomy that every chef dreams about, moving from restaurant to restaurant and putting his own spin on Italian classics. But in 2022, after six years with the group, he decided it was time for a new chapter: "I just didn't want to cook Italian food anymore."

A friend soon made Bazzinotti aware of an opening at the esteemed Blue Ribbon Group's newly planned Boston spaces. Initially, his response was ambivalent; at that point, Bazzinotti was contemplating a move away from the restaurant world. "I was looking for butchering jobs," he says, wanting to return to his passion for salumi and wholeanimal carving. But after hearing the New York-based group's plan for their expansion to Boston — three restaurants, each with its own distinct vision — he was intrigued. "One of the best things [about] Eataly was that I could bounce around — I wasn't stuck in one restaurant," says Bazzinotti. "Now you're telling me I can do that in a sushi restaurant, a Latin restaurant, and a French restaurant, all under the same umbrella?"

Blue Ribbon reciprocated his interest and moved quickly. "My first interview was with the whole corporate team," says Bazzinotti, "[which might] be intimidating for someone who doesn't interview well!" Soon after, Dan was offered the Executive Chef position at all three of the group's Boston spaces: a new location of Blue Ribbon Sushi, a coastal grill, and a brasserie like the original New York space, all located in Kenmore Square's Hotel Commonwealth. It was an offer he couldn't refuse.

Last June, the group announced the opening of Boston's Blue Ribbon Sushi. The restaurant is quietly upscale but refreshingly accessible, appropriate for both a casual weekday lunch and a celebratory dinner. It's one of eleven locations around the country, most of which offer similar sushi bar appetizers and mains supplemented with some specials unique to the location. The new brasserie, set to open in the coming months, is rumored to mimic the original New York space for which the group is well-known. But at Pescador, the middle child and only original concept, Bazzinotti is forging his own path.

Pescador's cuisine is hard to pin down. Bazzinotti describes the restaurant as a coastal grill: "As long as it's seafood, it fits." The menu's first incarnation was a 70-item Excel sheet inspired by Blue Ribbon co-founder Bruce Bromberg's recent travels to Mexico and Spain. Over several months, Bazzinotti and Co-Executive Chef Keith Pooler (former owner and chef at Bergamot) tinkered and experimented, adding new creations and removing ones which they thought fell flat. "Keith and I ordered everything for the list and just started making dishes," Bazzinotti says. "We had no dishwasher, no prep cook, we were making a giant mess."

Over a few months, the spreadsheet gradually became Pescador's opening menu. It included items like Bazzinotti's Peruvian ceviche, something that he had been making for years, as well as new products of experimentation like grilled oysters. By the time it opened in November 2022, the restaurant offered everything from pizza and bar snacks to ceviche and crudo to fully cooked, bone-in fish.

Within the menu's loose limits, creativity abounds. Well-filled lobster tacos and corn "ribs" with cotija. Oysters prepared asado with chili butter. Branzino, grilled over hot coals in a wood oven and served with blue corn tortillas and a panoply of salsas. Bazzinotti's classic ceviche from the 18-seat ceviche bar with red snapper, shrimp, and cho-

## Long-term relationships: what makes some last and others not?

Long-Term, from Page 3

the other nine years) despite us moving away from each other. The contradiction made me wonder what made these friendships persist over time, while most of my other friendships ended after I moved elsewhere. I asked this question to a friend I met in sixth grade over a video call this summer. Although both of us couldn't reach an exact conclusion, we agreed on some factors that made our friendship last to this day.

To begin with, there was a consistent effort from the both of us to keep in contact every so often. I don't necessarily mean texting every day or every week. Even checking in on my friend once or twice a month was helpful, such as asking how her classes were going. By doing so, our conversations never felt out of placeand the energy between us continued to flow. Our interests and personalities overlapped, but we still had our own quirks and differences. Perhaps it isn't about how similar I am to someone, but rather how well I align with them emotionally.

Trying to making sense of successful friendships is futile, if not pointless. People are complex, relationships are complex, so why all the fuss in trying to assign weight to different factors like circumstance, fate, or logic? For every general statement I can make, there will always be some exceptions. At the end of the day, I think I can accept the fact that there will never be a definitive explanation for our long-lasting friendship we didn't expect many years ago.

Luck doesn't sound very scientific, but I believe that it plays a role in situations like these. Maybe fate is a more appropriate word, given that this friendship didn't last out of sheer randomness. Despite this, I feel it is still luck that wins, as it contributed to every interaction over the years, eventually making the current state of our relationship the way that it is. In short, things just happened the way they turned out.

Even though I have maintained longterm friendships with a few people in my life, I don't have a formula as to how I will keep in touch with high school and college friends, considering that people move, change jobs, and make new friends after graduation. Ten years later, some of my classmates may marry and have families.

Besides obvious changes like these, some people adopt new lifestyles and beliefs, which may make them different from their former selves. Thinking about this nebulous future reminds me of a question my friend asked me and others in the French House kitchen late at night: if we were honest, how many friends would we keep in contact with after graduation?

My honest estimate is around five to 10. Even 10 sounds generous, considering that my parents only keep in touch with a few college friends. All I hope is that I remain good friends with some people many years down the road. I don't know for how long, but hopefully for a while. It's too much for me to think about the possibility that I will drift away from people I am currently close with at MIT after I graduate. But what good comes out of thinking about the future, a future that I can't predict? What I can do is live in the present, strengthen relationships that I care about, and when the time comes, it comes.

Actually, scratch what I just wrote. I am not ready to face the inevitable.

clo, big kernels of Peruvian corn. And from the bar, choose between a Brazilian caipirinha, Pescador's agave and oil cocktail with infused tequila reposado, or maybe even a glass of Rey Camparo Jabalí, a topshelf mezcal whose smokiness cuts through the bright, fresh seafood flavors perfectly.

Today, Bazzinotti's kitchen still seems to operate like a culinary playground. He claims the kitchen's easygoing culture trickles down from the bosses themselves: "Bruce and [his brother and business partner] Eric are so important. They don't come in to nit-pick, they come in to say, 'Alright guys, what's exciting?" Offering five ceviche specials at once? Sure! Paying homage to the space's oyster bar roots with six different oyster preparations? Of course! Spur-of-the-moment Italian dishes? Why not! Bazzinotti seems to be happier cooking Italian food on his own terms. "You have our back-waiters and our servers and our dishwashers excited to work there and be a part of this restaurant, which, in turn, makes for a really great restaurant."

A core element of Blue Ribbon's mission is to emphasize the integration of their restaurants into the communities where they reside. Accompanying the space's extensive food and drink menu are numerous special events, including takeovers from vaunted Boston chefs like Jamie Bissonette and Valentine Howell. The restaurant now offers a weekend brunch with Latin-inspired breakfast items like a bespoke chilaquiles and tres leches pancakes with ancho butter.

Like its neighbor Blue Ribbon Sushi, Pescador strikes many balances. Some guests wear dress shirts, while others prefer shorts. Island music and themed decor belie an ambitious slate of food and drink. Red Sox fans enjoy a beer and a pizza next to businessmen sipping tequila, and somehow, it feels right. It's the same feeling diners experience at the sushi bar next door and the same feeling diners will experience when the brasserie opens this fall: one of belonging. Because Blue Ribbon group isn't just about food — it's about creating places where everyone feels at home.



## **FUN PAGES**

pages 7–8

## **Midterm 1**

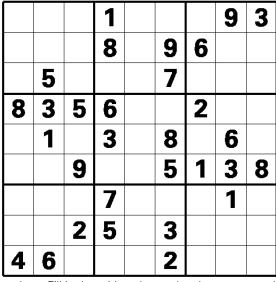
Solution, page 2

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

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.

## Add/Drop

Solution, page 2



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by

## **Shapeshifts** by Manaal Mohammed '25

- 01 Menthol pain relieving balm with an apt name
- 07 Pang
- 11 Water bottle ingredient that causes reproductive harm, shortly
- 14 It might be heard in the herd mooing
- 15 Present
- (Dr. Seuss 16 Sam character)
- 17 Activity for four couples 19 Acme Corp. wares (for Wile
- E. Coyote)
- 20 Hoechlin and Posey 21 Malign
- 23 Stimulate (as interest) 26 Bonds
- 28 Jane Austen novel titled as the main character's name 29 PC brand
- 30 Relationship fallout, often 32 Hawaiian welcome item
- 33 Net
- 34 Center for some sports,
- shortly 35 "Dig in!"
- 37 Picasso and Braque, e.g.
- 41 Tool used to pierce leather 42 Old letter
- \_-tzu (philosopher)
- 44 Discussion where those involved agree with each other to the point of redundancy, in modern slana
- 48 Like some fiction 49 "Then again," in text
- 50 Singer Ora
- 51 Ottomans, for some 52 Region known as the "Las
- Vegas of Asia"
- 54 Go out briefly?
- 56 Type of forest game
- 57 Change into another form ... or like 17-across, 30-across, and 44-across structurally
- 62 Draw
- 63 A few
- 64 Leafs
- 65 ERP might help treat it

66 Understanding, maybe 67 Boston suburb (not Worcester) (not Arlington) (not Roslindale) (...)

#### DOWN

- 01 Contacts on Slack, say
- 03 [reading this]
- 04 Work break
- 05 Where to put pastrami
- 06 Neutrogena shampoo offering
- 07 Islamic canon law
- 08 More taut 09 Curve
- 10 Honeytrappers
- 11 "Dig in!"
- 12 It might come before Canal or Papers
- 13 Acela provider
- 18 Abhor
- 22 French thanks
- 23 It might be seen near a mall
- 24 "Makes sense!"

- 25 Left
- 27 White's style partner
- 30 A shaman, for one
- \_ Rexha 33 Wail (as a cat might)
- Baron Cohen, "Borat"
- creator
- 37 Tastefully select
- 38 Run one's mouth, maybe 39 It might be sweet
- 40 Soaks, as bread in soup
- 42 Shot again 44 Wake up
- 45 Crooked type?
- 46 Oscillated
- 47 Spanish tuber
- 48 They're larger in the dark
- 51 Popular lake destination in Northern California
- 53 Group that sent the first animal into space
- 55 Link warning letters
- 58 Shed tool
- 59 Wear for the day, informally 60 Also
- 61 Tax ID digits

# The Tech's Existential Crisis Is Your Existential Opportunity

By Paul Schindler, Jr

This newspaper is undergoing an existential crisis. There are not enough staff members and not enough money for it to continue to exist. The money problem can be fixed with help from its 1,200 alumni. But they can't come back and put out the paper and maintain the website. That requires student staff.

I hear you asking, "Why should I care? It's just another club. Clubs cease to exist all the time." The Tech is the only club at MIT specifically mentioned in the U.S. Constitution. It is not a club. It is a news organization. Because I'm an old-timer let's call it a newspaper

I'll bet you care about MIT's reputation and rankings, since they affect the value of your degree. There is no major university in America without a student newspaper. No more The Tech? That's a distinction that will devalue your MIT degree.

Why does this matter? As Thomas Jefferson said, "were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." I would rather have The Tech without MIT than MIT without The Tech. Every public institution needs to be held accountable by a free and independent media.

"What's in it for me?" That depends. Is it enough that the paper is a fun, exciting, activity, different every week, which allows you to change the course of events at MIT?

Do you want to get ahead in science or engineering, corporate or academic? Who's more likely to succeed: a person who writes sleep-inducing journal articles and memos, or a person whose time at the newspaper teaches them how to write pithy, informative and readable prose? Just ask your reviewers or your boss.

You can't learn to write that well a textbook On-the-job training will take a few years off your career. Or you can get that training at The Tech.

But wait, there's more. Do you like plays, movies or concerts? How about the chance to attend them for free and also to talk, one-on-one, with the actors and performers before or after you watch them?

Are you interested in sports? Do you want to share your opinions with others? The Tech. Do you wish your team's accomplishments were more widely known? The Tech. I guarantee you newspaper photographers will take better pictures of you and your team in action than some person with an iPhone.

Are you interested in the story behind the story? Do you like to know what's going on before everyone else does? Do you have questions about how your department, your school or the Institute are spending your tuition money? Do you want to know why that Independent Living Group or Dormitory was disciplined? A media credential opens virtually every door hiding those who know. You get answers direct from the source. And if they don't let you in, you can tell the public and they can decide for themselves what official reticence means.

Heck, are you interested in weather? ne Tech has room for a staff meteorologist

"I could do all this on social media," you say. Will anyone see it? Will anyone care? Will the administration take your call or change direction as a result of your story? Will you get free passes to arts events? I believe the answer is no.

Not to mention the fact that newspaper work looks good on graduate school applications (they like people who can write), especially for law school.

Paul E. Schindler, Jr. earned a B.S. in Management in 1974, after serving a term as editor in chief of The Tech. He can be found at www.schindler.org.

## Are you a tetris ninja?

Use your powers for good!

arts arts arts arts arts arts arts arts arts newsnews newsnews newsnews

opn

...by joining

news

news news

join@tech.mit.edu

news news news

Did you see speling or grammar mistake in The Tech? Join copy! join@tech.mit.edu

the production department at The Tech!

## TECH's PICKS: ENTERTAINMENT THIS ISSUE

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5 – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18** 

#### **FILM**

THE EXORCIST: BELIEVER (FRI, OCT 6)



**REALITY WINNER** (WED, OCT 11)



TV LOKI (S2) **(THU, OCT 5)** 



**OUR FLAG MEANS DEATH (S2)** (THU, OCT 5)



**FILM** 

TAYLOR SWIFT | ERAS TOUR THE DELINQUENTS (FRI, OCT 13)



(WED, OCT 18)



**VIDEO GAMES** 

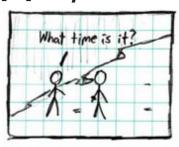
**LORDS OF THE FALLEN** (FRI, OCT 13)

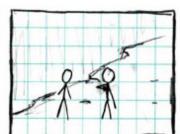


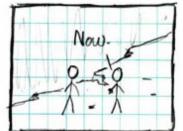
**WIZARD WITH A GUN** (TUE, OCT 17)

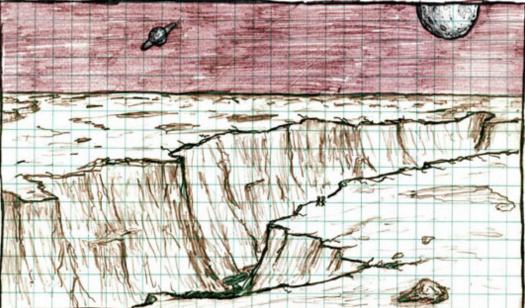


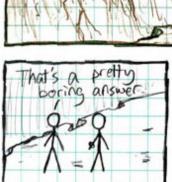
[13] Canyon



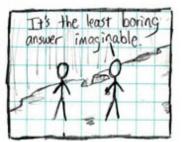












[1794] Fire



A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE,

by Randall Munroe

SARCASM. MATH. AND LANGUAGE

Billy Joel briefly detained.

by Eunice Zhang

## **Haikus**

i love waffle night seeing beasties every week truly a highlight

**SQUISHMALLOW** 

babygirl rushil got me a cute squishmallow: comfort beyond words

#### **G-IDLE**

i still can't believe i saw g-idle live, SLAY beautiful queen cards

best night of my life spiritual & religious i just love women

#### **EMDR**

really fucking hard the act of healing old wounds takes time and patience

i'm trying my best to practice self-compassion love, always, eunice

#### **CASCADE**

a six-week program for local, underserved kids class & mentorship

poured my heart & soul to make this the best it can be; cascadussy