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SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024

‘The last thing Massachusetts needs is another consultant-driven report.’

BRIAN KANE,  
MBTA Advisory Board

## To find ways to save, T spends

Consultants to make up to \$610 per hour

By Taylor Dolven  
GLOBE STAFF

If you’re \$600 million in the hole and have a persistent problem making budget, how do you fix your money problems?

If you’re Governor Maura Healey’s new transportation task force, you hire a team of consultants who charge as much as \$610 an hour.

Facing a \$628 million budget gap for its next fiscal year, the MBTA in April signed a \$450,000 contract with consulting firm Ernst & Young to research how transportation is and could be funded in Massachusetts, as well as how other states and countries do it.

The hourly rate for the nine consultants ranges from \$244 to \$610.

The contract is one of the first initiatives overseen by a new task force appointed by Healey to solve some of the state’s longstanding transportation issues. The consultants will prepare the task force’s final report about sustainably funding transportation in Massachusetts by December, according to the contract.

But some members of the task force expressed concern about relying on pricey consultants, whose firms are often hired by state agencies to do all kinds of government-related work.

“The last thing Massachusetts needs is another consultant-driven report,” said Brian Kane, MBTA, Page A7

## After arrests, MIT unrest goes on

Encampment dismantled in early hours; students later march to president’s home

*This story was reported by Jason Laughlin and Chris Serres of the Globe staff and Globe correspondents Alexa Coultoff, Lila Hempel-Edgers, and Ava Berger.*

CAMBRIDGE — The unrest at the Massachusetts Institute of Technolo-

gy continued Friday evening, some 12 hours after police dismantled a pro-Palestinian encampment and arrested 10 people, when several hundred students marched to president Sally Kornbluth’s home.

There they chanted: “Sally, Sally you can’t hide, drop the charges cut

the ties.”

The march to the president’s home capped a tumultuous day at MIT, where students have joined a national movement on college campuses to demand their universities divest from companies that support Israel in its war against Hamas.

Shortly after dawn Friday, police had reduced a pro-Palestinian student encampment at MIT to a jumbled pile of protest signs and collapsed tents,

the overnight sweep following several tense days on campus and repeated warnings from administrators.

By the time officers in helmets and riot gear assembled around 4 a.m., most students had abandoned the encampment in a large lawn near Massachusetts Avenue in anticipation of the police action. Ten people were arrested in the latest crackdown on protest encampments at colleges and uni-

MIT, Page A10



SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

## Harvard protesters told they will be banned from campus

By Hilary Burns  
GLOBE STAFF

and Maddie Khaw  
and Talia Lissauer  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

The pro-Palestinian encampment in Harvard Yard is now the last one standing among campuses in Greater Boston. Despite a last-minute attempt by interim president Alan Garber to talk with student protesters, and a final warning they would be suspended indefinitely from school, most have not left.

The Harvard protesters will be banned from campus as of midday Saturday, the administration said,

which means they will lose campus housing and cannot participate in commencement. Harvard Out of Oc-

►Encampment at the University of Vermont ends peacefully. B1.

cupied Palestine, the student group, said “over a dozen students” received suspension notices.

Neither the students nor administrators would say what their next steps are. But on other campuses, exasperated college leaders have called law enforcement to forcibly remove encampments including at MIT, HARVARD, Page A10



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Top: Pro-Palestinian protesters chanted outside the home of MIT president Sally Kornbluth on Friday. Above: Harvard faculty and staff held signs inside Harvard Yard during a Friday press conference by faculty supporters of the Harvard Out of Occupied Palestine coalition.

## Climate change not getting leading role in films, report says

Extreme weather, electric cars missing from screen

By Sabrina Shankman  
GLOBE STAFF

Remember that scene in 2022’s “Top Gun: Maverick,” when Tom Cruise’s character suddenly has to navigate a climate change-fueled storm? Or in

the latest “Scream” movie, when the teens are hiding from the killer in a field of solar panels?

No? Right, that’s because they never happened.

Across Hollywood, the most popular films from 2013 to 2022

largely ignored climate change, despite its growing presence across everyday life — from the effects (extreme weather) to the response to it (electric vehicles, solar panels, and more).

Researchers from Colby Col-

lege and Good Energy, a nonprofit that helps storytellers portray climate change on-screen, put together a new report and devised what they’re calling a “Climate Reality Check,” similar to the Bechdel-Wallace Test, which assesses whether women get equal screen time. This test, however, asks: Does climate

change, as a concept, exist in the film? And does a main character acknowledge it?

Only a small percentage of films passed the exam.

“The stakes of the climate crisis literally could not be any higher,” said Matthew Schneider-Mayerson, an author of CLIMATE, Page A7

The Biden administration believes Israel has most likely violated international standards in failing to protect civilians in the Gaza Strip but has not found specific instances that would justify the withholding of military aid, the State Department told Congress. A4.

Ginkgo Bioworks said it will slash labor expenses by at least 25 percent, which will include an unspecified number of job cuts. D1.

### Chill ride

Saturday: Cool, clouding up. High: 51-56. Low: 41-46.

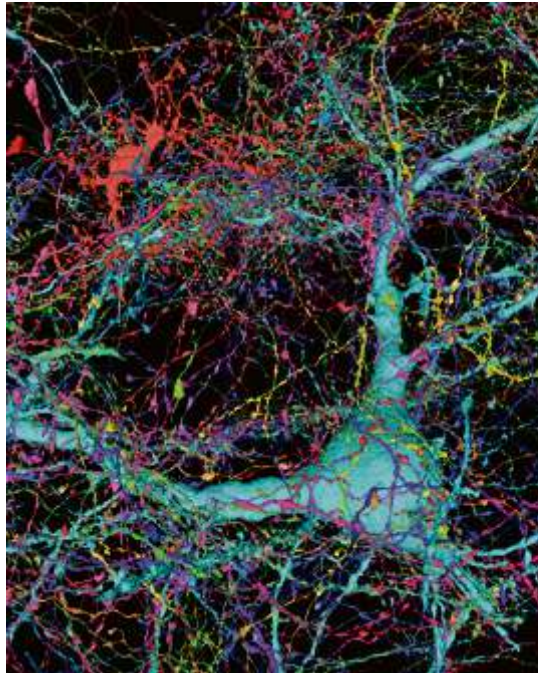
Sunday: Clouds, showers. High: 54-59. Low: 45-50

High tide: 1:56 a.m. 2:41 p.m. Sunrise: 5:26 Sunset: 7:55

Comics and Weather, D4-5. Obituaries, C10.

VOL. 305, NO. 132

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Suggested retail price  
\$3.50



## ‘An alien world inside your own head’: Harvard scientists closely map a slice of brain

By Adam Piore  
GLOBE STAFF

About 10 years ago, a small piece of human brain arrived in the lab of Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman at Harvard. It came directly from an operating room of a nearby hospital, where it was excised from an epilepsy patient undergoing a procedure to reduce her seizures.

In the years that followed, Lichtman’s team methodically reconstructed the byzantine wiring patterns of the brain by feeding the 1-cubic-millimeter sample

into a \$6 million device that sliced it into impossibly thin slivers. Then, using images of those slivers taken by electron microscopy, they painstakingly recreated the intricate latticework connecting individual cells to one another.

The result is the most-detailed digital map, or “connectome,” of the human brain ever created.

On Thursday, Lichtman and his partners unveiled the results of their efforts in the prestigious journal BRAIN, Page A7

An image of some of the structures revealed in the study.

HARVARD/GOOGLE