

The Year in Review, Section 2

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper

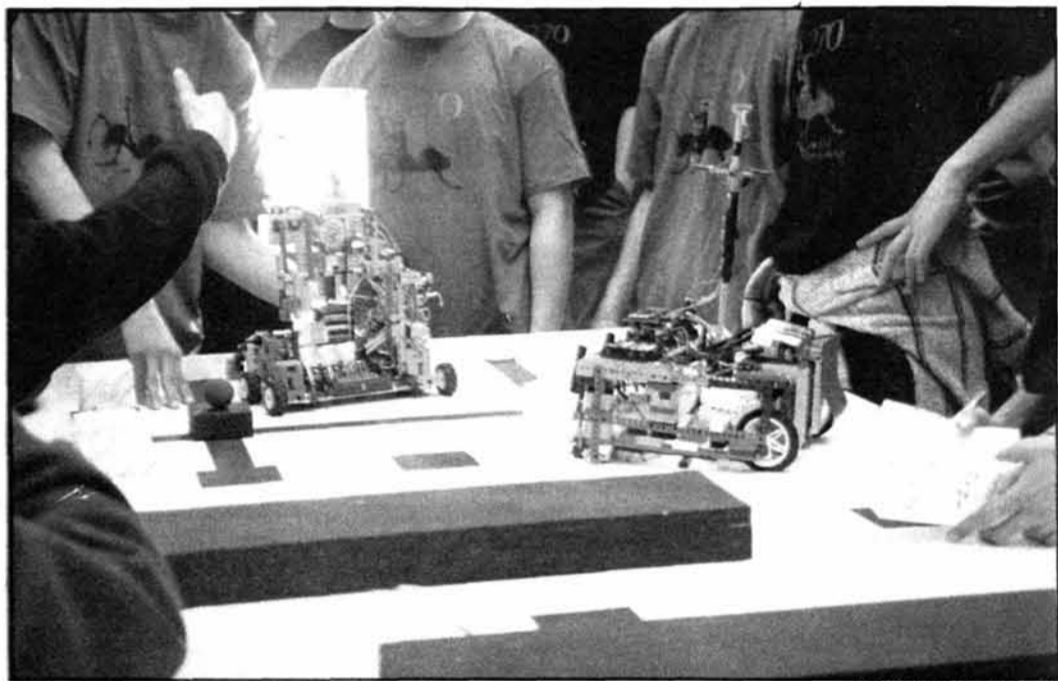


The Weather
Today: Cold, sunny, 24°F (-4°C)
Tonight: Clear, cold, 16°F (-9°C)
Tomorrow: Warmer, cloudy, 33°F (0°C)
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Volume 116, Number 1

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, February 6, 1996



"Box On Wheels" approaches "KIT 2025" in the final round of the 6.270 competition last Wednesday. Full-color photo essay on pages 16 and 17.

Box on Wheels Wins 6.270 Robot Design

By Christina S. Chu
and Dan McGuire
STAFF REPORTERS

After several hours and eight rounds of stiff competition, "Box on Wheels" emerged victorious in MIT's annual 6.270 Autonomous Lego Robot Design Competition, held last Wednesday in 26-100.

The robot, built by Alonzo Castro '96 and Jesus M. Muniz '98, defeated 40 other contenders in the contest entitled "RoboAnt." "It's called Box on Wheels because it's a box on wheels," Muniz said of his robot.

"We decided to go with something that gets a few points and takes advantage of the precision" machinery that many of the other robots employed. "Everything worked out the way we wanted it

to," Muniz said.

Second place "KIT 2025" was a victim of Box on Wheel's strategy. KIT 2025 was built by the team of Kenny Chang '98, Donald C Lee '98, and Erwin Tam '98. "We knew our design was pretty good. We were slow and that's why we lost," Lee said.

Robots battle for food

This year's competition challenged competitors to create insect-like robots, or more specially, ants. The "ants" were supposed to collect as much "food" as possible during each 60-second face-off.

The food was represented by styrofoam blocks. Robots received more points for picking up the

6.270, Page 12

Online Class Schedules Now More Convenient

By Ramy A. Arnaout
FOR IN CHIEF

The registrar's online course listings underwent the first of several planned revisions last month with a site that puts class descriptions, requirements, and schedules on the same web page.

Found at <http://registrar.mit.edu>, the site also lets students arrange, save, and view potential schedules on-screen, making it easier to see and avoid conflicts. Its database is searchable by topic, course number, or professor name.

"It's been getting a lot of hits," said Michael A. Wessler G, the site's chief developer. Up to 500 people used the service during registration day yesterday morning.

While the new system subsumes the roles of the MIT Bulletin and course schedule guide, it does not currently include links to the online version of the *Course Evaluation Guide*.

"The CEG's a little bit tricky" because of the bias it introduces, Wessler said. "It's up to the registrar to decide whether they want to put links in."

Because of formatting details,

the site is best viewed with the world-wide web browser Netscape, although Wessler said searching and other functions will work well with any browser or through Linux, a popular UNIX-compatible operating system.

Project started accidentally

A graduate student in electrical engineering and computer science, Wessler started the project accidentally while registering for classes last fall.

Just before the term started, Wessler was looking for classes to take; like many students, he found it painful to keep track of all the course description and schedule booklets. "I was completely helpless."

Wessler thought it would be much easier to have these resources all in one place on computer. He downloaded description, requirement, and scheduling information from MIT's Techinfo database, formatted it so that it would be viewable online, and wrote a program to search it.

Registrar, Page 20

CAP Reviews Frosh Credit Limit

By Stacey E. Blau
NEWS EDITOR

Several proposals to change the freshman credit limit and pass/no record grading policies are currently being discussed by the Undergraduate Association Committee on Educational Policy.

The CEP is currently trying to collect student and faculty opinion on its possible proposals, said Christopher E. Carr '99, a CEP committee member who has dealt specifically with issues of credit limits and pass/no record grading.

Some of these proposals include allowing freshmen the chance to exceed the credit limit and petition for "special standing."

"We are not trying to get any specific proposal passed," Carr said. "We are mostly looking to give freshmen ways to enhance their academic opportunities."

A questionnaire was distributed yesterday by the UA during registration in DuPont Gymnasium to solicit student opinion on a variety of questions about education. The survey included a number of questions about the CEP's possible proposals.

Credit limit may be exceeded

The CEP has developed several

ideas for proposals from discussion and student input.

One proposal would allow freshmen the possibility of successfully petitioning the Committee on Academic Performance to exceed the credit limit. "You can't do it now with any success," Carr said.

Each request would be considered on an individual basis. Students might be required to maintain a certain level of academic performance or else be forced drop the extra units because of poor grades, Carr said.

The proposal may include a

stipulation that if students choose to exceed the limit, they would be forced to take their classes on grades, Carr said.

The CEP is also considering a proposal to allow students to petition for "special standing" regardless of whether they have the number of units of credit currently required for freshmen to attain sophomore standing.

Similar to sophomore standing, special standing would allow freshmen to exceed the 57-unit spring term credit limit for fresh-

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NPR Presents MIT Arts

By Jean K. Lee
STAFF REPORTER

The Institute emphasized its commitment to the arts despite the shrinking public funds for education during a radio show aired last month on WBUR-FM.

The show, titled National Public Radio's Morning Edition, featured an 8-minute discussion with members of the MIT community about its arts programs.

As the former associate provost for the arts who has served the position since its creation in 1989, Ellen T. Harris emphasized the importance of visual arts to an engineering education during the show.

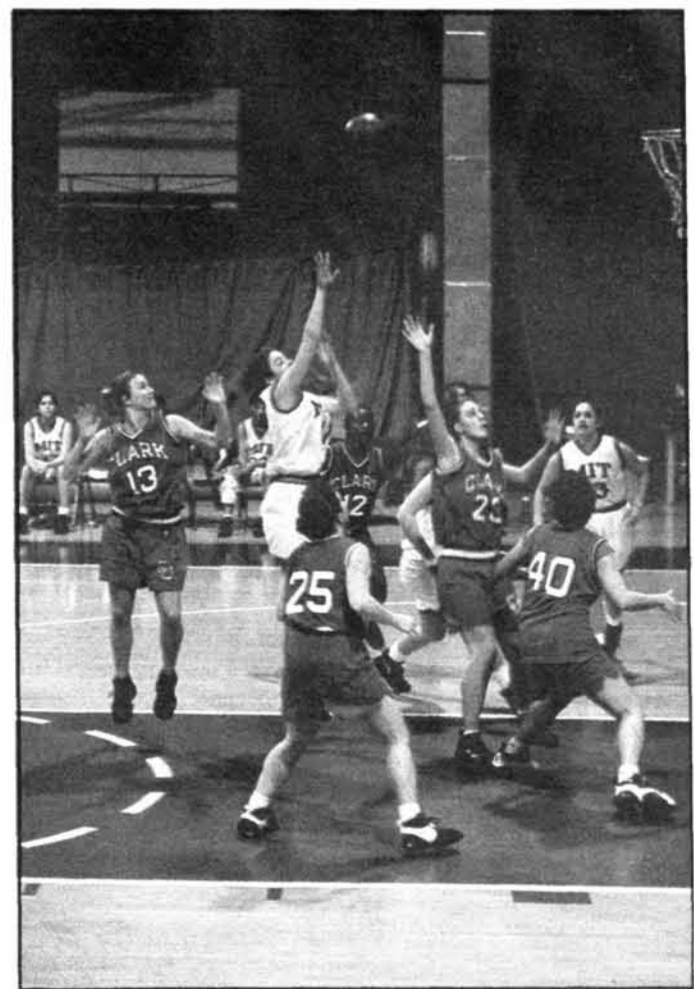
"After all, most engineering problems begin with a picture,"

Harris said. "Not just in terms of technical drawing, but in terms of simply taking an image of the world around you."

"Arts teach a student to create something tangible from an abstract idea in a spirit of building things, trying things out," said Professor of Media Arts and Sciences Tod Machover, who also spoke on the show.

During the show, host Bob Edwards described MIT as "challenging the conventional wisdom by maintaining its commitment to the arts," unlike most schools whose arts programs are "usually among the first casualties in budget cuts."

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Sarah J. Davis '97 shoots in the Engineers' 78-106 loss to Clark University on Jan. 27.

WORLD & NATION

Jury Selection Begins in Trial of John C. Salvi III

SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

DEDHAM, MASS.

Jury selection began Monday in the trial of John C. Salvi III, the 23-year-old apprentice hairdresser charged with going on a shooting spree inside two Boston-area abortion clinics just over a year ago, killing two receptionists and wounding five others.

Salvi entered Norfolk Superior Court Monday in shackles, handcuffs and a bulletproof vest. Clean-shaven and alert, he looked intently ahead during most of the routine preliminaries and ignored his parents, who sat a few feet away.

As he has at earlier court dates, Salvi asked the court's permission to make a statement and was denied. Defense attorney J. W. Carney Jr. said the statement was a new version of Salvi's view of a global conspiracy against Catholics. "It doesn't mention the crime. It doesn't mention abortion," Carney said.

Yeltsin Hints at Peace Plan For Chechnya as Election Nears

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

With signatures from a million war-weary citizens on his desk and images from a huge peace rally on his television, Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin on Monday prepared a fresh effort to halt his widely despised war against the separatist republic of Chechnya.

Just last month, Yeltsin had talked tough about destroying the Chechen rebels once and for all, slamming his fist into his hand as he vowed to root out the militants and flatten their hideaways.

But public frustration with the costly, bloody war has swelled. Yeltsin, just one week away from announcing his re-election plans, increasingly looks ready to listen.

He has already announced plans to spend \$4.2 billion rebuilding the Chechen roads, hospitals and factories his troops bombed to rubble. On Monday, he huddled with top advisers after dropping hints that a new peace initiative is in the works.

Judge Orders Clinton To Testify

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A federal judge in Little Rock Monday ordered President Clinton to provide testimony under subpoena in the bank fraud and conspiracy trial of a couple who had been the Clintons' partners in the failed Whitewater land development.

U.S. District Judge George Howard Jr. issued the order Monday directing the Arkansas court to issue a subpoena for the president. Susan McDougal and her former husband, James B. McDougal, who were business partners of the president and first lady in the Ozarks real estate venture, had sought the president's testimony in connection with their trial scheduled to open on March 4.

Judge Howard, in his order, said lawyers for the McDougals and for Clinton should work out the logistics of obtaining the testimony and decide whether the president should appear in person, on videotape or by satellite transmission from the White House.

Mrs. McDougal is accused of fraudulently receiving a \$300,000 loan that David Hale, a former Little Rock banker, says Clinton and others pressured him to make to her in 1986. Clinton, who has not been charged, has denied Hale's accusation. Mrs. McDougal had sought the president's testimony to bolster her contention that Hale is lying about the circumstances of the loan, which was backed by the federal Small Business Administration.

The McDougals and Arkansas Gov. Jim Guy Tucker were accused by Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr with obtaining \$3 million in loans from federally backed lenders to benefit themselves illegally. The three were indicted last year by a federal grand jury under Starr's direction.

They were named in a 21-count indictment that alleged that a string of transactions made through McDougal's failed savings and loan, Madison Guaranty, and Hale's now-defunct loan company, Capital Management Services, were designed to defraud federal regulators. Madison eventually failed, costing taxpayers as much as \$65 million. Hale has said his small business loan company, which received federal backing to make loans to disadvantaged borrowers, was improperly used by prominent members of the Arkansas Democratic "political family" in the 1980s to help them with financial problems.

WEATHER

Cold snap

By Gerard Roe
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A gradual easing of the bitterly cold temperatures of late can be expected over the next few days as the polar air, which dug deep into the middle of the country, migrates eastwards. However, towards the end of the week a developing system out of central Canada promises a combination of snow and rain.

Today, the skies will clear early, giving a daytime high in the mid-20s (about -4°C). A gradual shift to southerly winds tomorrow will be reflected in temperatures which will nudge above freezing. Clouds increasing tomorrow night, however, herald the approach of a cyclone which at this stage looks set to produce light to moderate snow (maybe an inch or so) on Thursday then switching over to rain by Thursday night.

Today: Cold. Clearing early, then sunny. High 24°F (-4°C). Winds light to moderate from the west.

Tonight: Mostly clear. Low 16°F (-9°C).

Tomorrow: Warmer. Clouding up by night. High 33°F (0°C). Snow possibly starting during the night. Low 27°F (-3°C).

Thursday: Precipitation — most likely starting off as snow and switching to rain later. High 38°F (3°C). Low 32°F (0°C).

Clinton Submits Proposal To Balance Federal Budget

By Ann Devroy
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton Monday dressed up his last budget offer to Republicans in new rhetoric and submitted it as his 1997 proposal to balance the budget, holding off until the turn of the century the bulk of his spending cuts.

Clinton's budget proposal, required by a legal deadline, gives new meaning to the "dead-on-arrival" budget cliché from the years Republican presidents submitted doomed proposals to Democratic Congresses.

With the White House and Congress deadlocked over this year's budget and the government running on temporary spending measures, the outline for the next fiscal year, beginning on October 1, a month before the presidential and congressional elections, has little to do with policy and everything to do with politics. The proposal presents a bare-bones outline of a \$1.64 trillion budget for 1997 that offers modest reforms in entitlement programs, large cuts in domestic programs and small tax breaks for the middle-class.

The 20-page outline released Monday — compared to the usual 2,000-page plus budget submission in a normal budget year — was nearly identical to the offer Clinton put on the table the first week of January when he and GOP congressional leaders were still negotiating. Republicans charged the White House refused to make serious offers on the most contentious

issues — Medicare savings and tax cuts — and called off the talks.

The outline projects the 1997 deficit will be \$160.6 billion, up slightly from this year's estimated \$154.4 billion shortfall. Beginning in 1998, the president foresees declining red ink until 2002 when he projects a \$3.7 billion surplus.

As he did in his last offer, Clinton proposed to trim growth in Medicare by \$124 billion, compared to \$168 billion in the last

GOP plan. He would save \$59 billion in Medicaid, compared to \$85 billion in the GOP plan. Domestic spending other than entitlement programs would be trimmed by \$297 billion, about \$51 billion less than the GOP would.

Clinton is proposing \$98.5 billion in tax relief, mostly in the form of tax credits for parents, tax deductions for education and training expenses and breaks for small business. About \$59 billion in corporate tax breaks would be eliminated.

The president's middle class tax cuts would stay in place in the years 2001 and 2002 only if the economy does better than the Congressional Budget Office now projects.

"The plan I propose cuts hundreds of programs, continues our efforts to downsize the government, but it protects Medicare, Medicaid, education and the environment and cuts taxes for working families," Clinton told the nation's governors at the White House Friday.

"The plan I propose cuts hundreds of programs, continues our efforts to downsize the government, but it protects Medicare, Medicaid, education and the environment and cuts taxes for working families." — President Bill Clinton

Hope Fades for Breakthrough In Israel-Syria Peace Talks

By Robin Wright
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

After two months of intensive diplomacy, U.S. hopes of a dramatic breakthrough in the last and most complex phase of the Mideast peace process appear to be fast fading.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher, on a three-day tour of the region, originally had hoped to establish a framework for peace between Israel and Syria by spring. But talks in rural Maryland between the region's two most formidable foes have moved so slowly that Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres now appears almost certain to call early elections in May rather than wait until October, according to Israeli sources.

Peres' move may be driven by growing support in the polls. But relinquishing the strategic Golan Heights to Syria — a key issue in the negotiations — is not popular with many Israelis.

The likelihood of early elections is almost certain to limit the scope for compromise.

"Israel is still just as interested in the peace process. But Peres can't give the impression that Israel is prepared to give in on anything," said Ehud Sprinzak, a Hebrew University political science professor.

"For elections, he has to look tough."

Nonetheless, U.S. officials insist that the electoral process will not affect the peace effort.

"Clearly, much work remains to be done," Christopher said in a joint news conference after talks with Peres. "[But] we can continue peace negotiations under any scenario here."

And Peres said the Israeli-Syrian talks, launched at the end of last year, have resulted in "some understandings" and that the negotiations will not be hurt by whatever course his government takes.

But the hyperbole that surrounded Christopher's last two shuttles to the region, in both December and January, has disappeared. And both U.S. and Israeli officials now admit that the original schedule already faces serious setbacks and that no major real progress is likely until after Israel elects a new government.

The new deadline has effectively become November — before the U.S. elections. Christopher, who made Mideast mediation his top foreign policy goal for 1996, hopes that securing the final phase of peace will be his diplomatic legacy.

"We would like to get an agreement this year, and this is still a realistic possibility," a senior U.S. official said.

Christopher still has a chance of pulling something off during his

But the cutting mostly occurs after this election year, and far into the future. The 1997 savings in domestic discretionary spending, for example, would decrease to \$10 billion from the 1996 figure of \$12 billion, and would reach significant levels of \$74 billion and \$96 billion the final two years of the seven-year plan.

Former Sen. Paul E. Tsongas, (D-Mass.), who heads a bipartisan group promoting fiscal discipline, called the Clinton budget "cynical" and "intellectually dishonest."

"What is driving the White House is re-election," Tsongas told a news conference.

He said the budget plan does too little to control spending on entitlement programs and offers unwise tax cuts in the election season and first years of the plan while waiting until later to make the painful spending cuts.

"It frontloads the joy and backloads the pain," he said.

Republican leaders rejected the plan when it was first proposed. Yesterday the Republican leaders rejected the plan again. House Budget Committee Chairman John R. Kasich, (R-Ohio), described Clinton's budget as "simply warmed-over status quo."

"It's a spend now, save later scheme that is wholly inadequate," Kasich said.

"It avoids real entitlement reform, backloads spending, and has virtually no details," Kasich said.

The White House announced that the details — how each agency and each program would be affected by the new budget — would be released by the middle of March. Because several 1996 annual spending bills are still not finished and the government has uncertain figures to work and calculate with, officials said they were unable to put down anything more than what Clinton called "a thematic overview of my priorities."

Mideast tour. He arrived in Jerusalem on Monday and will fly to Damascus, the Syrian capital, Tuesday for talks with President Hafez Assad and then return to Israel on Wednesday. But pessimism is pervasive in both Israel and Syria.

"We still have no signs that the Syrians are willing to compromise on a few issues that are critical to us. And if they don't show any compromise, there won't be any peace," Minister Without Portfolio Yossi Beilin told Israel Radio.

In Damascus, the state-controlled Tishrin newspaper complained Monday of the "pessimistic climate created by Israeli officials in the wake of stumbled Maryland talks" that have frustrated Christopher's endeavors.

The talks at eastern Maryland's Wye Plantation, which center on Israel's returning of the Golan Heights — captured in the 1967 Middle East War in exchange for peace from Syria — resumed amid high expectations in late 1995 after two earlier stalemates in the five-year effort.

Following the Nov. 4 assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Peres offered a new approach to peace that focused less on security differences and more on a "comprehensive" peace between Israel and the rest of the Arab world, led by Syria.

Medicare Will Become Bankrupt Sooner than Officials Expected

By Spencer Rich
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Medicare's Hospital Insurance Trust Fund appears to be headed for insolvency sooner than expected, according to a news report that appeared Monday.

The report, published in the *New York Times* and based on Treasury documents released Oct. 27, provided new fuel for Republicans in their battle with President Clinton over how much to cut the growth of Medicare.

The news report said that instead of increasing by \$4.7 billion in fiscal year 1995 and continuing to rise for another year as the administration had predicted, Medicare's trust fund had actually declined by \$35.7 million for the fiscal year ending Oct. 1.

This decline suggests that the trust fund's reserves are sliding

downward faster than expected and the trust fund might go bankrupt before 2002, the currently predicted insolvency date.

Medicare officials were not available to discuss the numbers Monday or say whether the 2002 insolvency date might change.

Medicare chief actuary Richard S. Foster called the change a "relatively small decline" in the fund's total assets which amounted to \$129 billion at the end of 1994. He said it was possible the decline might alter the 2002 date "somewhat" and also possible that "the current projection of depletion in 2002 will stand."

House Republicans Monday demanded to know whether the Clinton administration had withheld news of the decline in the trust fund in order to avoid giving the GOP ammunition to justify larger Medicare cuts than Clinton wants. The president has accused Republi-

cans of proposing to cut Medicare more harshly than needed in order to offset their proposed tax cut.

The original GOP bill called for \$270 billion in cuts in the program's growth over seven years compared to Clinton's \$124 billion. Republicans have now lowered their target to \$168 billion, according to Rep. Bill Thomas, (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Ways and Means subcommittee on Medicare.

"We are very concerned that officials of the administration involved in the negotiations over the legislation passed by the Congress to save Medicare may have known about the early deficit spending during those negotiations and chose to withhold that information from the public," Thomas told reporters at a news conference that was held Monday.

Mexico's Economy, Illegal Immigrants Cause Tighter Control of U.S. Border

By William Branigin
THE WASHINGTON POST

SAN DIEGO

Under cover of darkness, a steady drizzle and a patchy fog, Manuel Parra-Sierra and 11 other Mexicans scaled the eight-foot-high fence and bolted into the muddy salt flats of Border Field State Park.

Their destination: Imperial Beach, a community two miles away that illegal Mexican immigrants have long used as a staging point en route to other places in California and across the United States.

But this was not their lucky night. Almost immediately, the group was detected by seismic sensors, then tracked from a hilltop more than a mile away by a Border Patrol agent operating a Loris infrared night-vision scope. By radio, the officer directed colleagues

in Ford Broncos to the scene about three-quarters of a mile north of the border. The illegal crossers were then quickly surrounded by agents shouting "halt" in Spanish.

"It's the economic situation we're living through," said Parra-Sierra, 33, explaining why he left his wife and two children at home in Yucatan state, where he earned less than \$34 a week as an electrician, to seek work in the United States.

The group was part of a wave of illegal border crossers driven by Mexico's worst economic recession in 60 years, which is being met by U.S. effort to tighten control of the border. Launched Jan. 16, the program reinforces Southern California and Arizona with 300 Border Patrol and immigration officers supported by police, National Guard and military personnel. The move serves to

bolster President Clinton's claims of getting the border under control and ending the "neglect" of previous administrations that had made the San Diego area a freeway for illegal immigration.

The effort also carries high stakes politically in this election year, a crucial constituency in which illegal immigration is a key issue. At the same time, it has provoked expressions of alarm and condemnation from officials in Mexico, who accuse the United States of "militarizing" the border.

An existing campaign already has made crossing here more difficult. Notably, it has driven up the costs that smugglers charge to guide illegal aliens through the human, physical and technological barriers that have changed the face of the border in the last couple of years.

Fourth in a series.

THE PURPOSE OF CREATIVITY

The purpose of education is to develop basic thinking skills and to obtain a basis of knowledge in our chosen field. This provides the foundation for problem solving abilities across a range of disciplines.

However, development of better solutions to challenging problems requires dimensions beyond basic thinking skills and knowledge of the field; it requires creativity in conception and in approach.

The ability to be "creative" is often regarded with a sense of mystery and apprehension. Sometimes it is considered the exclusive purview of artists or others with the "right aptitudes."

Of the many studies of creativity there is one common conclusion: If we give creativity enough attention, we get better at it. This suggests that creativity is a challenge like any other, a "problem" to be solved. It also suggests that, as with any other challenge, our attitude towards it, our desire for a solution, and our belief in the intrinsic worth of the task are the most important ingredients for success.

The principle obstacle to achieving creative breakthroughs is a premature conclusion that a better solution is not possible. For a "creative" solution is by definition one that is different from those that have preceded it and one that often runs counter to accepted knowledge.

To overcome this obstacle we need to add to our basic thinking skills and technical foundation the following elements of attitude:

1. A strong desire for a creative breakthrough.

2. Confidence in our ability.
3. An expectation that many false starts may be necessary.
4. Sufficient immersion in the problem to engage all our faculties.
5. A willingness to pursue solutions until a breakthrough is achieved.
6. Analysis of each attempt to aid in the development of insight.

In these cases where a task appears to be routine, we may also need to intentionally "spark" to the creative process. We do this simply by asking how the task can be done better, for "better" implies a different approach, which in turn requires creativity.

There are, of course, other considerations. Especially important are the environment within which we work and the caliber of our associates. As with every other part of the problem solving process, interaction with capable associates can be an important catalyst. However, most important is the awareness that the foundations for creativity rest inward with our attitudes. This includes a recognition that superior creativity is something we must intensely desire and that success does not occur without effort and many false starts.

During our education, we usually are faced with solving problems that have two characteristics: A) We know that a solution exists. B) We know that the solutions can be obtained with the techniques under study.

When we begin work, these conditions do not hold, and yet we face the challenge of finding solutions. If we are aware of the foundations of creativity during our education we can better prepare ourselves for this challenge.

NOTE: Each year the Bose Foundation sponsors a one year fellowship (approximately \$34,000) for a first year graduate student in Engineering. Please see your faculty advisor for more information or write: Melanie Murphy, Bose Foundation, The Mountain, Framingham, MA 01701-9168. Deadline for application, February 16, 1996.

BOSE FOUNDATION

Graduate Student Council

Next meetings:

- General - Feb 7
- APPC - Feb 8
- HCA - Feb 13
- Activities - Feb 22

IT'S COMING!!!!



THE GSC Ski Trip
Sat., Feb. 24th


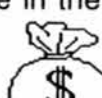
tickets will be available soon
stay tuned for updates

Keep your eyes out!


The GSC will soon be soliciting nominations for:

- Teaching Awards
- The (newly dedicated) Perkins Award for Excellence in Advising
- The Horton Fellowship Award
- The Sizer Award


Spring term funding applications are due in the GSC office by 4pm February 6th!

If a student group intends to apply for funding and has not received a form in the mail (by Wed., Jan. 31st), they should definitely pick up a form from the GSC office and email gsc-treasurer@mit.edu as well.



Remember that reimbursement forms for the fall funding period must be turned in by February 14th!



All Graduate Students are invited to all our meetings. Most are held at 5:30pm in 50-222 and dinner is served. Stay informed about all our events! Check out our web page <http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/gsc/gsc.html> Add yourself to our mailing list by sending email to gsc-request@mit Questions, comments, ideas? Give us a call at 3-2195 or send email to gsc-admin@mit

OPINION

Negativity against Queers is Uncalled for

Guest Column by Joseph C. Davis

I was taken aback by the amount of negativity toward the queer community's response to Peter N. Robicheau's IAP seminar, "Introduction to Change for the Homosexual." Regardless of one's opinion of the pamphlets — which do not reflect the views of the entire queer community — it is disheartening to see no positive comments on what was a large response by this community and some heterosexual friends who were interested in upholding basic human rights.

It was upsetting to see one respondent ["Robicheau Seminar Is Matter of Free Speech," Jan. 24] comment that the "Jews for Jesus lady" affects him in the same manner that Robicheau's beliefs affect the queer community. Let me assure him that unless the views of this woman are pushed on him by popular culture and cause him to lay awake crying at night and even cause him to consider destroying his body — which he has been trained by the Jews for Jesus to hate — he does not react to her in the same way as many of the queer community to Robicheau's seminar.

Many people attended this seminar not to block Robicheau's free speech, but because they believe the methods of ex-gay organizations like Robicheau's use religious and societal fears and false logic to entice people to join them.

I was profoundly disturbed by the apparent double-standards and selective deletion of information that could be useful for a Christian person struggling with his or her sexuality.

There was no mention by Robicheau of the fact that several mainstream Christian churches readily welcome homosexuals in their congregations. If his organization really has no problems with homosexuals, why do they insist that homosexuality is a sin punished with eternal suffering?

Apart from the moral contradictions, members of the audience pulled apart studies cited by Robicheau as proof of the change process. Audience members asked him to produce a reference for his suggestion of a cause for lesbianism, which he was unable to do. He illustrated flaws in two studies as manifestation of the fact that there is no genetic basis for homosexual behavior, while he neglected the many good behavioral genetics studies that suggest otherwise. He even used a study where 11 individuals were selected from a sample pool of 300 to show that change is possible, ignoring the fact that two of those 11 men got married to each other after the study. He also used work by psychologists that have never been published in a mainstream journal. If anything, I thought the queer community would be praised for its defense of sound scientific methods and research.

I was also struck by the immense diversity of the audience. There were men and women from many ethnicities, religious backgrounds, political beliefs, economic backgrounds, and age. The group was primarily lesbian with a few exceptions, but I don't believe I have witnessed as heterogeneous a group for any other event on this campus. Some agreed with the views on the pamphlet; others didn't. Some

agreed that homosexuality is a Biblical sin; some did not. In fact, the group's beliefs on any issue were definitely split. If anything, I thought the queer community would be applauded for bringing such a diverse group together, if even for only an hour.

It was also encouraging to see the standing-room-only turnout of the queer community. In this society, it is very common for people to lose friends and family by identifying themselves as queer. It is possible to lose one's job, and in some states without legal recompense. More and more, this country is also seeing a rise in violence against lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders. If anything, I thought the queer community would be recognized for their courage in attending such an event and being seen.

I do not take issue with arguments that the Institute should allow seminars like Robicheau's during IAP. I believe it is protected under his freedom of speech. I am happy, however, that the queer community was able to peaceably assemble and protest that someone would use logically unsound information to draw frightened and confused people into a program that may or may not be damaging to their mental health.

Nonetheless, to not focus on the overwhelmingly positive aspects of the queer community's response is nothing short of disrespectful to a group of intelligent and diverse people who sometimes risk the loss of friends and family, livelihood, and unfortunately, even life to speak what they believe is true.



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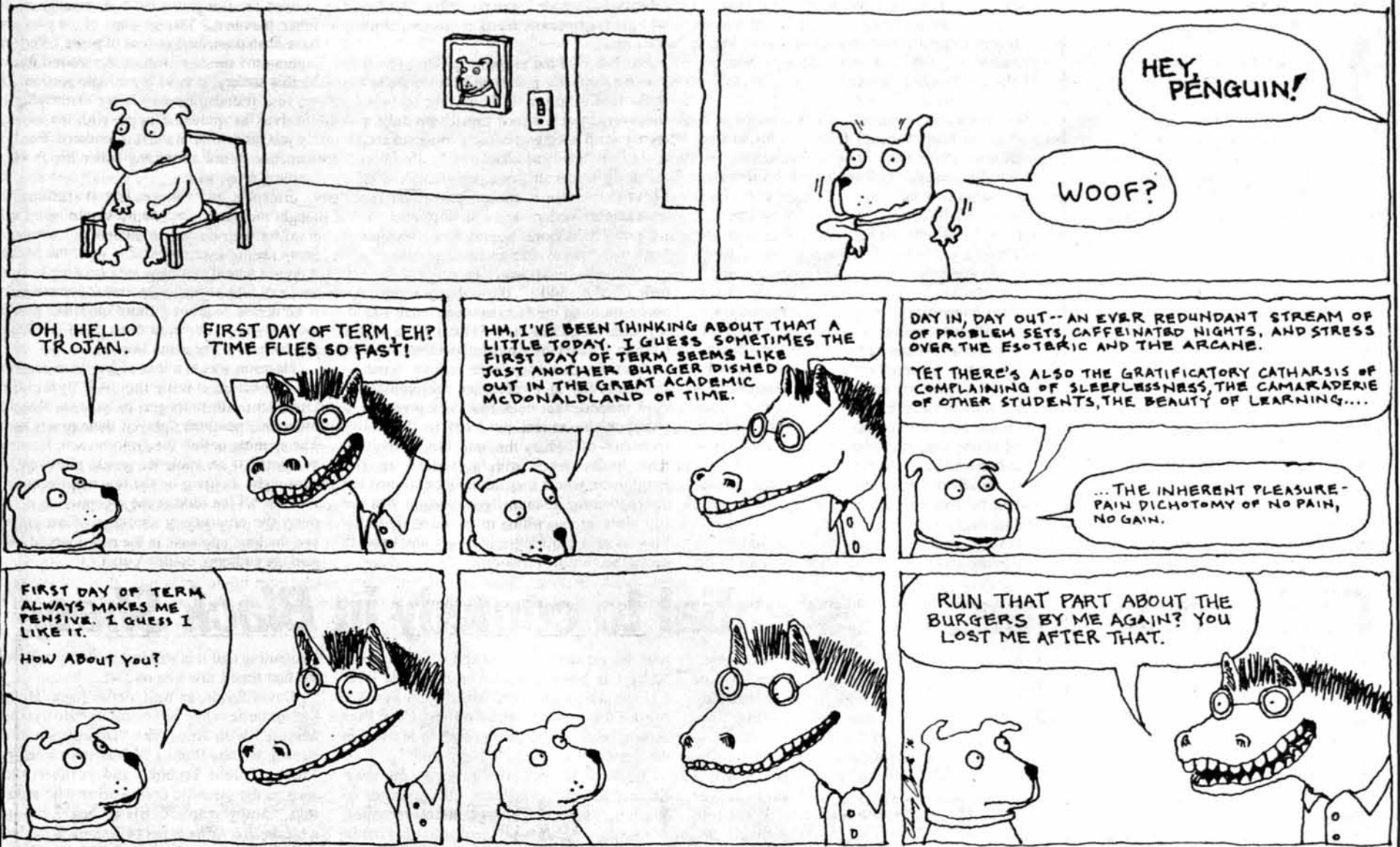
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A Dog Called Penguin

By Cherry Ogata



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THE ARTS

IAPSO captured spirit of a musically rich January

IAP SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND IAP MUSIC EVENTS

by Thomas Chen
STAFF REPORTER

IAP seems to offer something for everyone. Being a pianist, I naturally gravitated to IAP's offerings of musical study and entertainment. The whole month was nicely capped off by a performance by the IAP Symphony Orchestra, led by conductor Lawrence Isaacson last Friday in Kresge Auditorium. They played Sibelius' *Finlandia*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*, and Chopin's *Piano Concerto No. 2* with soloist Eleanor Perrone.

I've decided to use the occasion of the IAP Symphony Orchestra's concert to incorporate and summarize some of the musical experiences I've had this January. I hope to present a small picture of the musical richness that can be found at MIT and encourage other students to explore artistic avenues that are often underplayed in MIT's image.

My winter journey in music started with an informative lecture on Chinese music by Chien Liu. I then attended the 18-hour Wagner marathon organized by Jeannie Markowitz '97. Though many more were present at the outset, about seven of us ingested the entire *Ring* cycle from *Das Rheingold* to *Götterdämmerung*. This veritable Wagner overload was further supplemented three days later by a lecture by Professor of Music Martin Marks.

Though I enjoyed each of these activities very much, perhaps the most involving aspect of my IAP musical experience (outside of practicing piano and watching Nobel Physicist Richard Feynman play the bongo drums in the physics department's Feynman Film Series) came in Lawrence Isaacson's conducting class, organized by IAPSO horn player Chad Musser '97.

Aside from learning the basics of stick technique and beating time, standing in front of a group of musicians was a thrilling and rewarding experience. Although I did not get to conduct during every time, the class was more valuable in the learning of the language of musical performance and communication, which is an added dimension to the "academic" language of harmony and counterpoint.

Isaacson — a trombonist with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and previously with the Boston and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras — has had to follow the conducting styles of people including Seiji Ozawa, Keith Lockhart, and Bernard Haitink. His experience as both as instrumentalist and conductor naturally lends to helping a classroom of young amateur musicians understand how to communicate effectively.

Isaacson's class in conducting can perhaps best be compared to learning a musical sign language, where one is required to "speak" several sentences concomitantly simply by waving an almost-magic wand. As part of his

teaching, Isaacson let five students take the helm of the very patient IAP Symphony Orchestra for about 10 minutes each during a rehearsal. Though I was not one of the five, I will give notice now that I am eagerly waiting my turn.

As many in the class were also playing in the IAP Symphony Orchestra, members of the class were welcome to attend rehearsals. As a reviewer, I am typically concerned only with the finished product, but attending rehearsals reveals an equally valid way of involving one's self in the music making process. Though the IAP Symphony Orchestra did not approach unassailable perfection on performance night, their evolution from the very first rehearsals to last Friday was evident and measurable.

"Start on the string... be ready with your bow on the string," the conductor told his orchestra in an effort to mitigate harsh-sounding attacks in the most lyrical parts of the Chopin. The winds also received their share of instruction when they were told to "listen to the bassoon" as a reference for intonation. And indeed, the work that was invested in shaping the music paid off in the many moments of beautiful sound they produced. The brass were nicely scaled in the Beethoven, where they never once seemed too overpowering. Pleasantly surprising was the full viola sound, which in an uncommon display of size required more than one hand to count the number of violists.

The refined orchestral sound was definitely appreciated in the Chopin concerto, where Perrone explored what she described as "Chopin's affinity for Bach, especially in the first movement." Though parts of the concerto have been described as "out of place," Perrone highlighted the "lyricism of the second movement and the drama of the middle section," as well as displayed the dance-like exuberance of the third movement. Playing with the singing legato that Chopin's music pioneered, Perrone also showed that her strength also lies in crystal clear articulation.

After the performance, Perrone commented that her tempo in the last passage of the finale was too fast. But I, her student for over two years, quipped in reply that it was "the Martha Argerich tempo" and was very exciting to listen to. (I remind the reader to consult someone else if he or she requires a more objective assessment. By now, one must think that I would say anything for a free piano lesson.)

Isaacson was at a loss of words to describe his experience with the IAP Symphony Orchestra, but managed to express that the orchestra members "played their hearts out." The evening before the performance, Isaacson wondered if an audience would show up the next night. Judging by the few nanoseconds it took for all the food at the reception to disappear, the emergency shortage of programs, and the loud applause in the end, I would have said the audience couldn't wait.

Chris Farley's antics essential to comedy in *Black Sheep*

BLACK SHEEP

Directed by Penelope Spheeris.
Written by Fred Wolf.
Starring Chris Farley and David Spade.
Sony Copley

By Rob Wagner
STAFF REPORTER

Black Sheep is the latest attempt by Lorne Michaels to milk as much money out of *Saturday Night Live* as he possibly can. Despite its predictability and completely transparent jokes, *Black Sheep* is great. Chris Farley and David Spade again play (surprise!) a big fat spaz and a wimpy sarcastic guy, respectively, the same roles they almost invariably played on *SNL*. The paring works extremely well, far surpassing their first

attempt at the big screen, *Tommy Boy*.

The humor, of course, is on the level of *Dumb and Dumber*, with more emphasis on the slapstick rather than the disgusting. Simply the inclusion of Chris Farley allows so many opportunities for Three Stooges-like comedy. When viewed in that genre, it is a great film, arousing many good, strong laughs and head shakes. It doesn't make you laugh so hard that you lose your breath until it hurts, but it does bring about a lot of laughs.

It is truly amazing how funny this film is, given we've seen it so many times before. Chris Farley's act hasn't changed a bit since he started *SNL*, and it still hasn't grown old. He truly makes this film funny, and without him it would be excrement. Farley spent his time at *SNL* perfecting the big fat spaz rou-

tine, whose utter hugeness and complete spasticity has been hilarious in sketches like: Chippendale's audition, Motivation Speaker Matt Foley, and to the Soyent Cow Pies sketch, where he's there pounding himself in the chest and shouting, "Oh my God!"

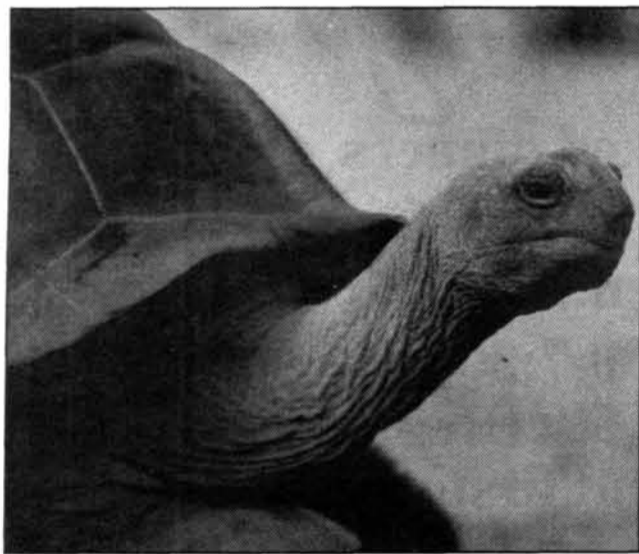
In *Black Sheep*, Farley plays the fat, spastic brother of a candidate for Governor of Washington state. Through his crazy antics, he causes scandals which jeopardize his brother's campaign, and David Spade is brought in to keep him out of trouble. Farley's act is pretty much what it was before: rolling down a mountain shouting, "Oh my God," getting his tie caught in a trunk and being dragged around shouting, "Oh my God," and getting his jacket caught in a plane door and getting flown away shouting, "Oh my God." It's completely

astounding that it is still just as funny as it was the first time I saw him on *SNL*.

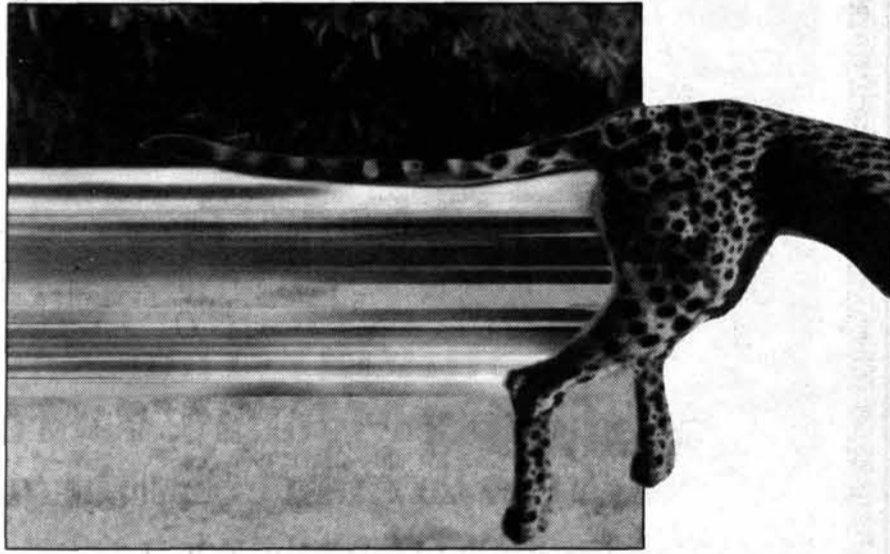
David Spade, as well, defies logic. He has had unbelievably hilarious in "Hollywood Minute" with lines like "Downtown Julie Brown: Wubba Wubba Wubba, my career's in Trubba Trubba Trubba," and in other roles, such as the sarcastic desk worker who always asks, "And you are...?" His act hasn't changed a bit. In *Black Sheep* (as in *Tommy Boy*), he is still playing the same type of sarcastic character, now playing the straight man to the wild Chris Farley.

The fact that both Chris Farley and David Spade have not changed, and that their act is still hilarious, just proves they make a great comedy team. And that Chris Farley, with his hugeness and his spastic antics, is truly funny.

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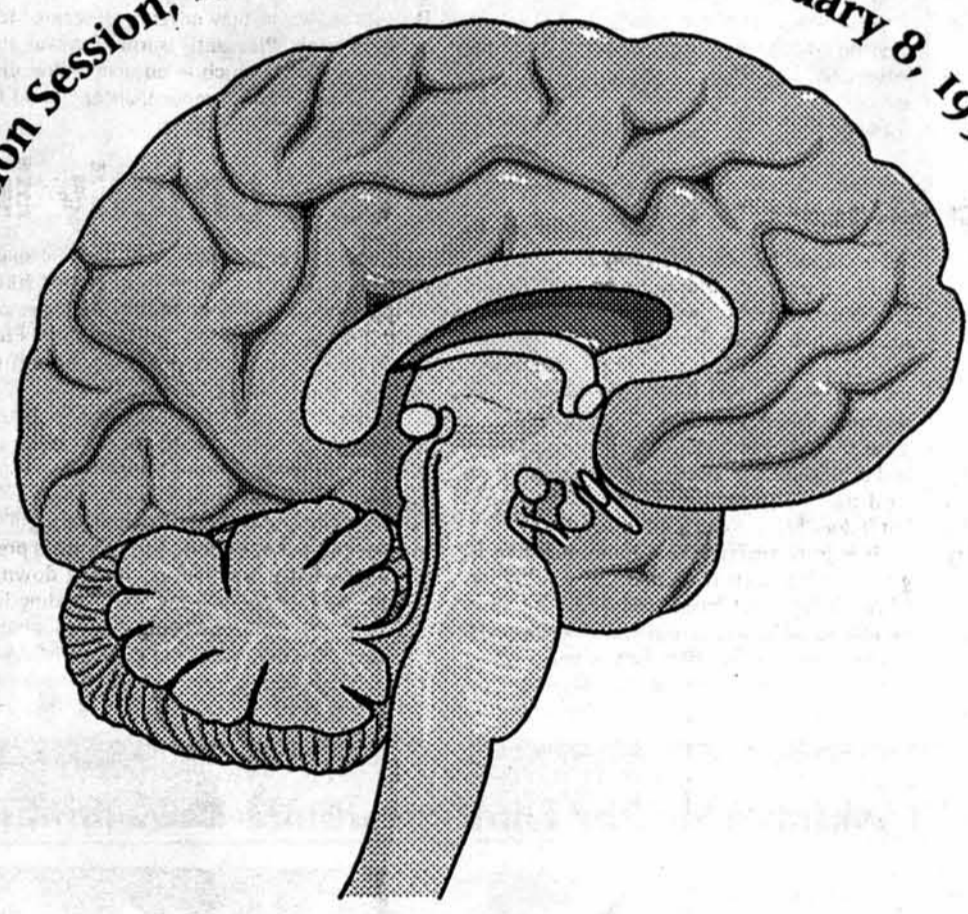
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White Squall is Dead Poets on a boring boat

WHITE SQUALL

Directed by Ridley Scott.

Written by Todd Robinson.

Starring Jeff Bridges, Scott Wolf, and Balthazar Getty.

By Rob Wagner

STAFF REPORTER

This excrement should be called *Dead Sailors Society*. The story exactly parallels the story of *Dead Poets Society*, with a supposed common theme of self-discovery and learning. *White Squall* is completely predictable. A group of high-school aged teenagers decide to spend a year aboard a windjammer called the Albatross, on which they will sail half-way around the world and back. For their education, they will be taught by the crew, comprised of qualified teachers in high-school subjects. The ship's captain is Jeff Bridges, whose monotonous voice, we are to believe, inspires these youths.

Each kid has some sort of problem, from an over-bearing father to a fear of heights to being a moron. All of a sudden, once they are all together and sailing for awhile, everything becomes all right. The moron does well, and the acrophobic climbs to the top of the mast. Partly because a lot of them are indiscernible in appearance, and partly because they are just incredibly boring, I didn't care about any of the characters. We begin the film with the supposed main character, Chuck Gieg, but I honestly lost track of him, since he is the spitting image of another character.

The previews for the film advertise an action/adventure type of movie, emphasizing the storm action sequence as the bulk of the film and showing the boys hanging on for dear life. The previews also show a trial at the end, where Jeff Bridges is on trial for negligence; so, it's obvious that the ship goes down at some point. True, the movie has a good sea-action sequence when the ship is in the storm, but you need a lot more than that to make a decent action movie.

There is only one female character on the boat, the captain's wife, who also teaches a herd of courses to the boys. With a bunch of teenage guys running around half-naked, showing far more flesh and flapping buttocks than a Calvin Klein ad or that putrid film

Powder, one has to wonder what sort of audience this movie is seeking. The previews seem to seek the traditional action/adventure audience, but I doubt they'll please more than the Man Boy Love Association faction of the audience with the amount of flesh they peddle. Plus, showing one of the boys running away from a prostitute really makes the intended audience questionable. It will probably end up like *Top Dog*, which wasn't good for any specific audience, and thus had absolutely no audience.

Plus, the trial scene is unbelievably predictable, and unbelievably reminiscent of *Dead Poets Society*. The boys all get together and support their captain. The dialogue of the prosecuting attorney is unbelievably stupid, so as to arouse sympathy for Bridges. The whole argument about whose responsibility it was

for the ship, and whether there was a white squall or not, was completely stupid. They don't even explain what a white squall is. We are left to assume it is some sort of huge wave.

One strange detail about the film is that *White Squall* is a true story. They didn't say that it was "based" on a true story, they said it "was" a true story. It's impossible to imagine that a story this bad was actually true, but the story is as told by Chuck Veidel, one of the boys, who was about 17 at the time. So, it makes sense that he made the prosecutor's arguments sound mean and stupid. He probably thought they were, given his disposition to support his captain.

The film reminded me of the low-budget situation of Ed Wood's films, where a small-time production couldn't wait to get a star. In

Wood's case, he found Bela Legosi, while for *White Squall*, they found Jeff Bridges. There were no other stars in this film, or any name or face I recognized, which led me to this impression, and no, I'm not counting *Party of Five* as worth anything.

White Squall is dissatisfying to its audience as an action/adventure type of movie because of its lack of action, and its peddling of the flesh of male minors. There is not enough else to make it any other type of film. There is certainly not enough character development or inner conflict to give the movie some focus. There is no love story. There are no real laughs. There are no real times where sensitive people in the audience will cry. In conclusion, this film is completely worthless.



In *White Squall*, the floating Ocean Academy prep school led by Jeff Bridges is no Love Boat.

The ROTC Taskforce and the Undergraduate Association present the:

ROTC TASKFORCE OPEN FORUM

for students and other members of the MIT community to discuss recent changes in Department of Defense policy with regard to the participation of gays and lesbians in ROTC, and options for MIT's future relationship with ROTC.

LOCATION: 10-250

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

TIME: 7PM-9PM

For a copy of the taskforce's interim fact-finding report and for more information, visit <<<http://web.mit.edu/committees/rotc/>>>, or link to the ROTC Taskforce under "Administration and Services" on the MIT Home Page.

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Lego Robot Ants Gather Food In This Year's 6.270 Contest

6.270, from Page 1

blocks and stacking them on top of each other in its "nest," a raised rubber platform. If a robot could top the stack with a foam rubber ball, it receive double the number points, said 6.270 Organizer Owen B. Wessling G.

While the eyes and antennae of their six-legged brethren were replaced by infrared detectors and switches, the robots managed to do quite well. The robots' behaviors were pre-programmed by the contestants onto the on-board microprocessor. But this gave the robotic ants an ability not shared by the picnic variety — the ability to crash.

Strategy a primary focus

This year, the organizers decided to provide students with pre-fabricated controller boards. "This year students didn't have to work as much on soldering the boards together," said Teaching Assistant Regina C. Cheung '96. "Students could focus more on the mechanics, strategy, and Lego structure."

Cheung also said they used faster, smaller motors with this year.

"We tried to make the boards easier to work with so that students had more opportunities to work on strategies," Cheung said. "Last year we just collected balls and dumped them into bins," she added.

Nevertheless, the complex point

system gave robot designers multiple ways to collect points. It was advantageous not only to gather blocks and stack them with precision, but also to interfere with the efforts of others.

Robots like Box on Wheels and "Tequila 25," designed Jesus R. Diaz De Leon '96 and Miguel Ochoa '96, first gathered its own blocks and then tried interfere with the opponent's strategy.

Robots like KITT 2025 used robotic claws to gather blocks and place them into a built-in holding bin. Some robots had their fragile hands broken during collisions, either causing the robots to fail completely or lamely continue trying to pick up blocks with the detached hand.

Robots like third place "The Quaker Oats Guy," designed by Salman A. Khan '98, Aarati D. Parmar '96, and Shantanu K. Sinha '98, used a series of gears, belts, and elevators to gather and pile blocks on top of each other.

Contest carries across the ether

For the second year in a row, this year's 6.270 contest was carried across the m-bone, an Internet interactive video network, allowing people across the globe to view live video from the event.

A change from last year was that the computer, a Silicon Graphics Indy workstation, was actually present at the event and to capture live data from the array of cameras present.

Also present in force was MIT Student Cable, which spent several weeks planning the event. Fifteen staffers spent the day of the event setting up the group's suite of video editing equipment and four cameras.

"As student cable goes it's the biggest thing we do," said Lynn D. Gabbay G, president and general manager of MIT cable. The event "takes a lot of people and planning."

A new digital line was installed specifically for the event. It was "our best image in several years, maybe our best image ever," Gabbay said.



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Yale Not Worried About Strike

By Dan McGuire
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Yale University's clerical and technical employee union, with 1,400 members, will go on strike tomorrow as their employment contracts lapse. Dining and student service employees will not join the strike but will support the clerical workers.

Short Takes

The strikers are angered by Yale's recent increase in the use of subcontractors and a relative lack of retiree benefits.

Yale administrators are confident that the strike won't have a big effect. "We've had strikes in the past from both unions, so I'm sure we can survive half a strike," said Deputy Provost Charles Long. [The Yale Daily News]

Computer Virus Strikes Harvard

Computers attached to Harvard University's main file-server were infected by a virus two months ago.

The virus, called "LittleRed.a," prevents IBM-compatible computers from running Windows. Students returning to school are met with the message "Missing/Unable to load" when they try to open Windows.

The virus does not cause data loss, but some Windows files must be re-installed and an anti-viral application run. [The Harvard Crimson]

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10 am - 4 pm

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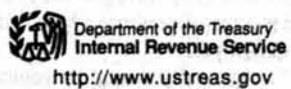
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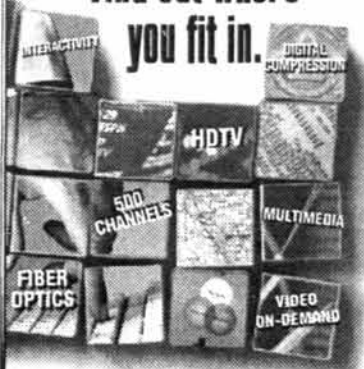


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Hass-D Results May Be Wrong

Notice to students who entered the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences-Distribution lottery and did not receive their first choice subjects:

The computerized HASS-D lottery did not function correctly, according to Bette K. Davis, HASS coordinator. If your first choice subject appears on the list of open HASS-Ds, the HASS Office suggests that you attend the first class meeting. Students may talk to HASS Office representatives in Lobby 10 today or contact the HASS office directly.

Faculty And CAP To Make Decision

CAP from Page 1

men and take their classes on grades. "There are some concerns, though, that there would be pressure on students who didn't petition," Carr said

CAP, faculty look at proposals

While the CEP may make several eventual recommendations, it does not have any policy-making power.

Any proposal made by the CEP would be subject to approval by the the CAP and faculty policy committee, and then to a vote by the faculty, said CAP Chair Kerry A. Emanuel PhD '76, professor of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences.

"I'm sure there would be a lot of debate before any vote" since the faculty considers the credit limit an important policy, Emanuel said.

"We're not going to try to make any large changes in the system," Carr said. "Students would not support radical changes."

"A large number of freshmen are taking as many classes as the credit limit allows," and some would like to take more, Emanuel said.

The CAP usually turns down petitions to exceed the credit limit, which was intended to be a very strict limit, Emanuel said. "I personally don't think that's particularly fair" to students, but "if we open the door to petitions, we'd be inundated and maybe become dysfunctional."

"The system at least needs to be looked at," Emanuel said. The CAP will likely commission a survey of upperclassmen to see if "in hindsight students thought they were under a lot of pressure already their freshman year."

"I personally would be reluctant to do anything to add to the pressure of the undergraduate experience," a sentiment likely shared by the faculty, said Chair of the Faculty Lawrence S. Bacow, professor of urban studies and planning.

Allowing freshmen to exceed the credit limit "may establish a norm that that's what freshmen should do," Bacow said. "I wouldn't support that."

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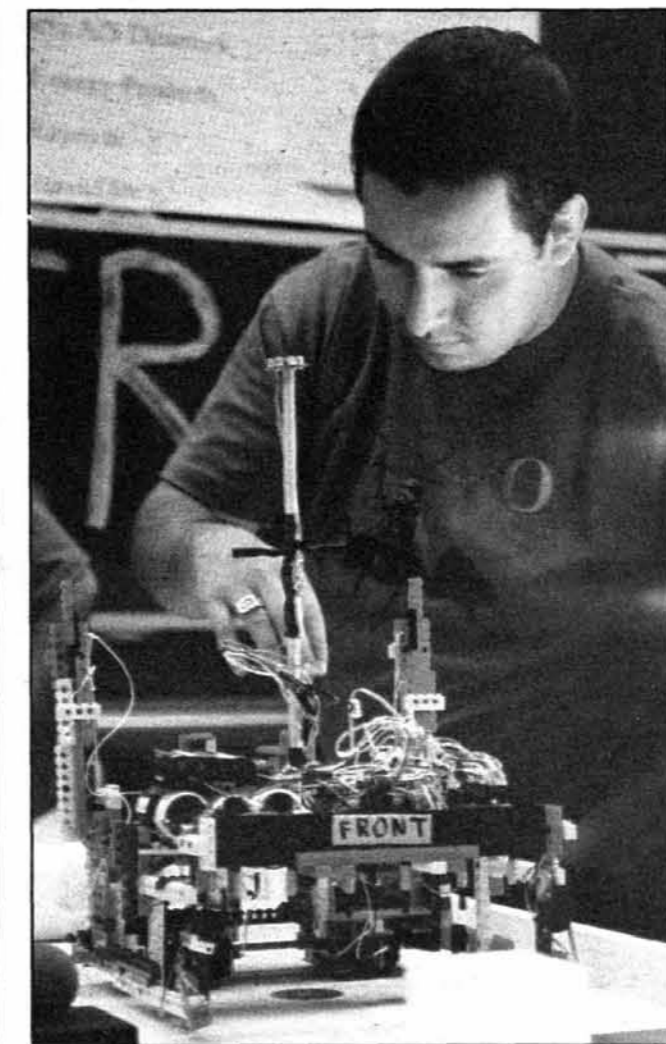
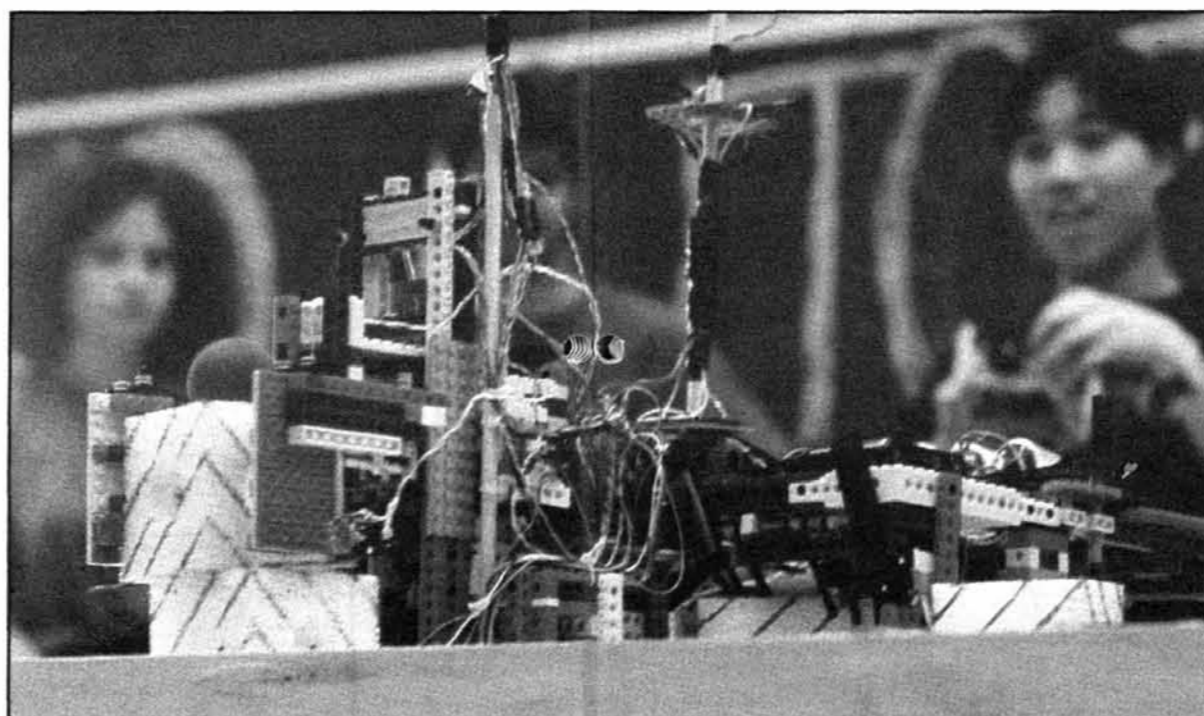
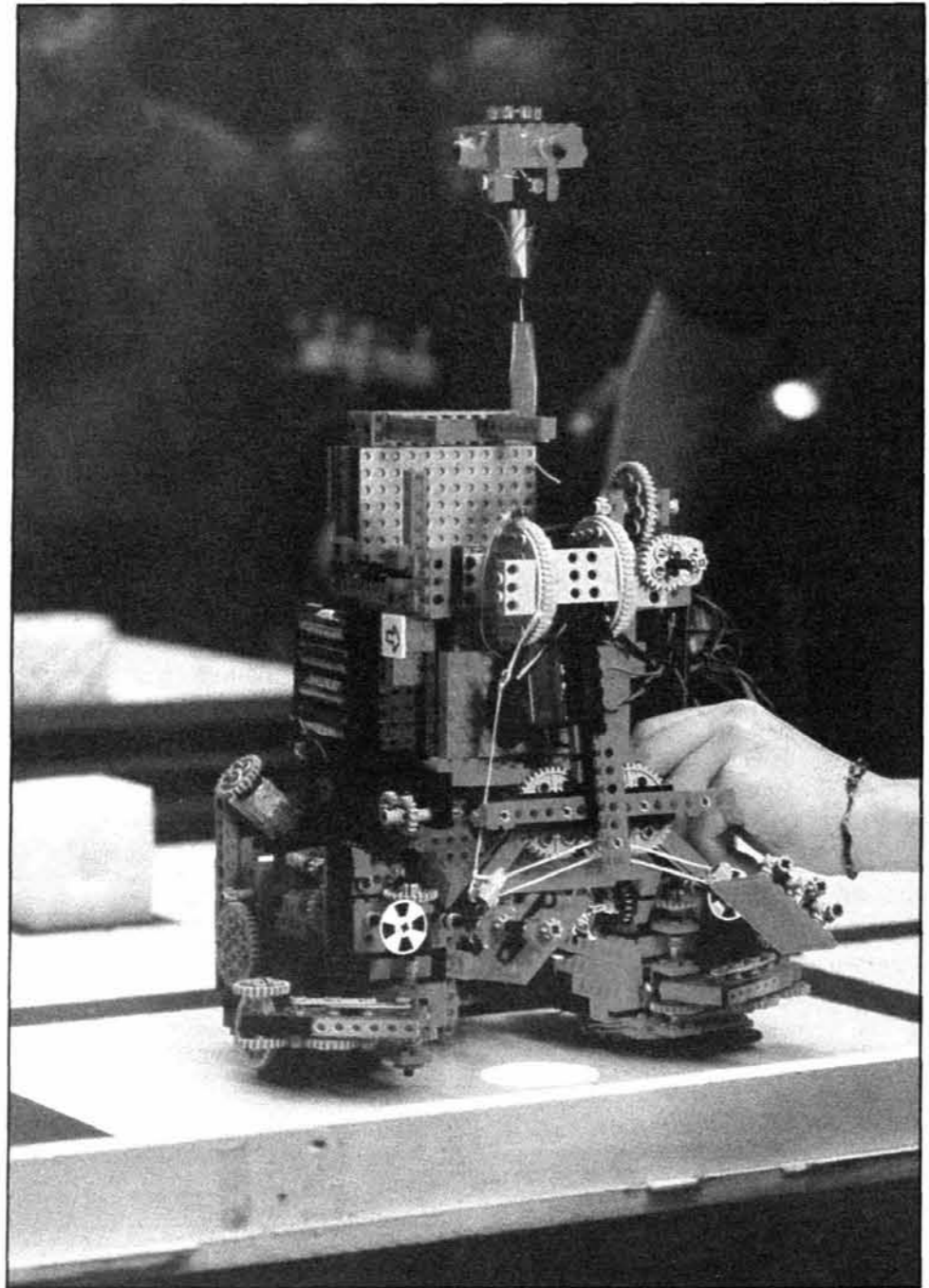
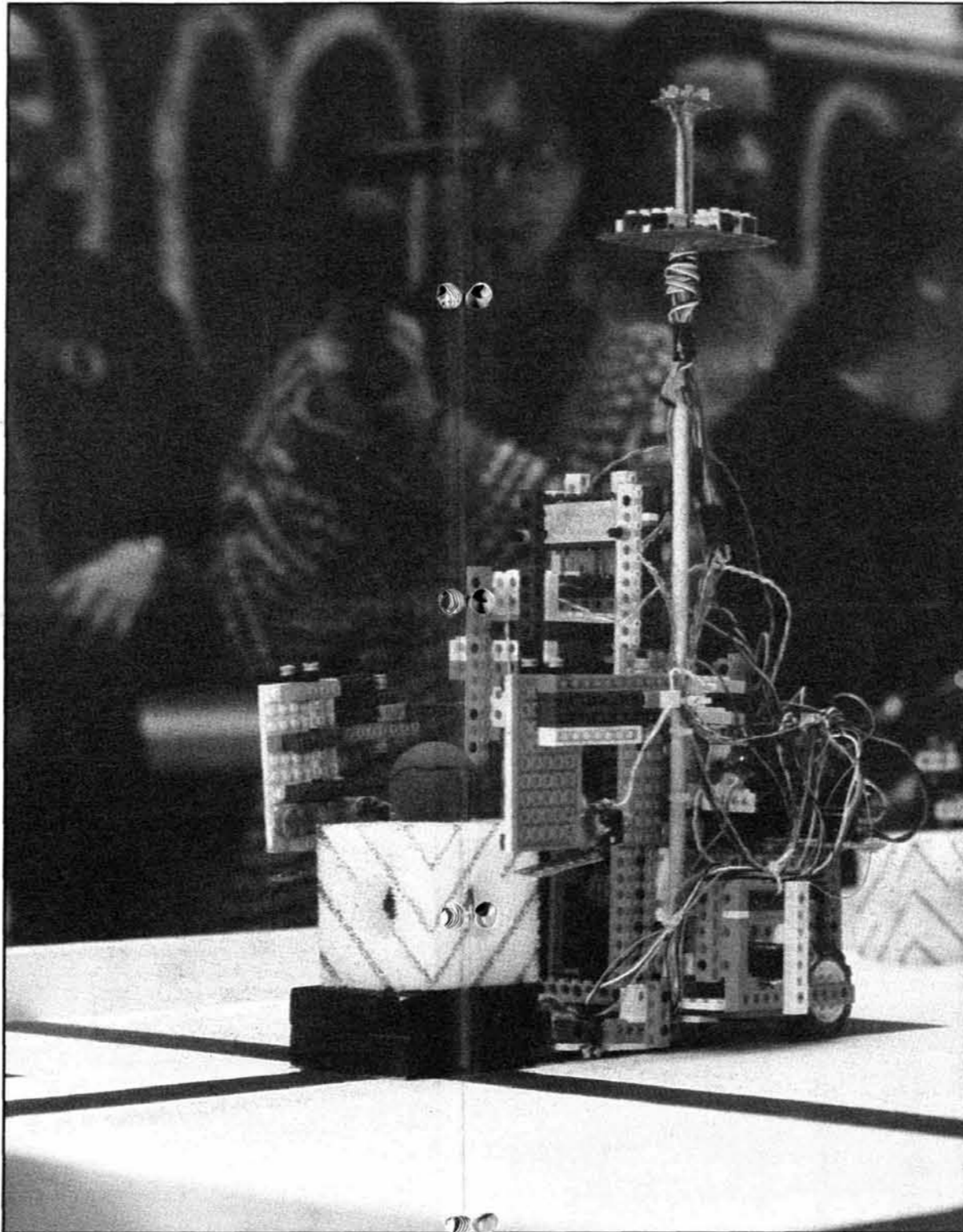
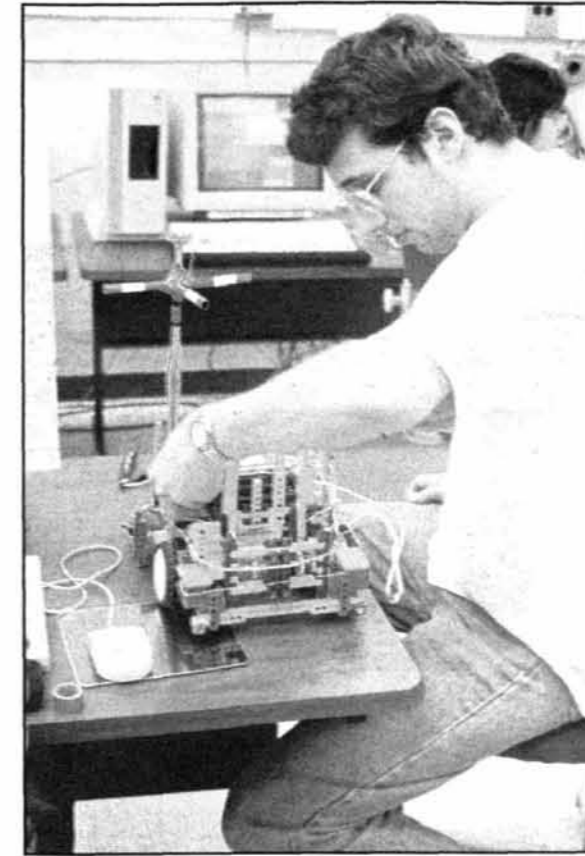
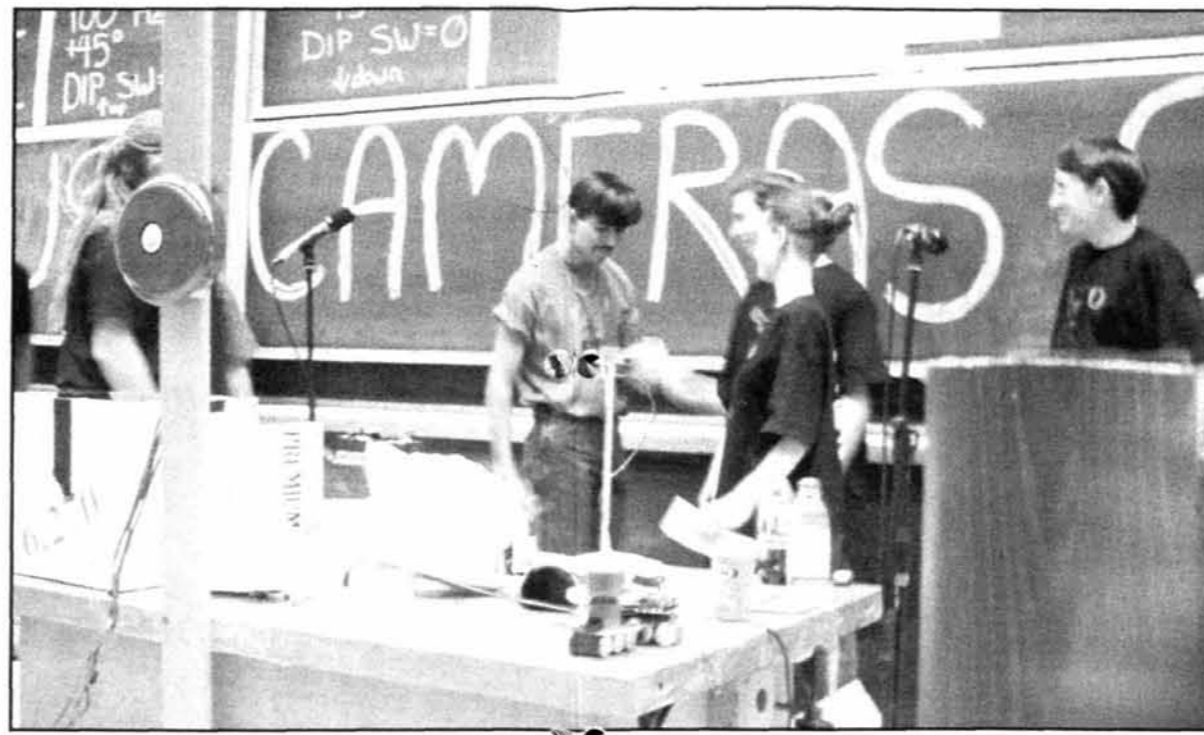
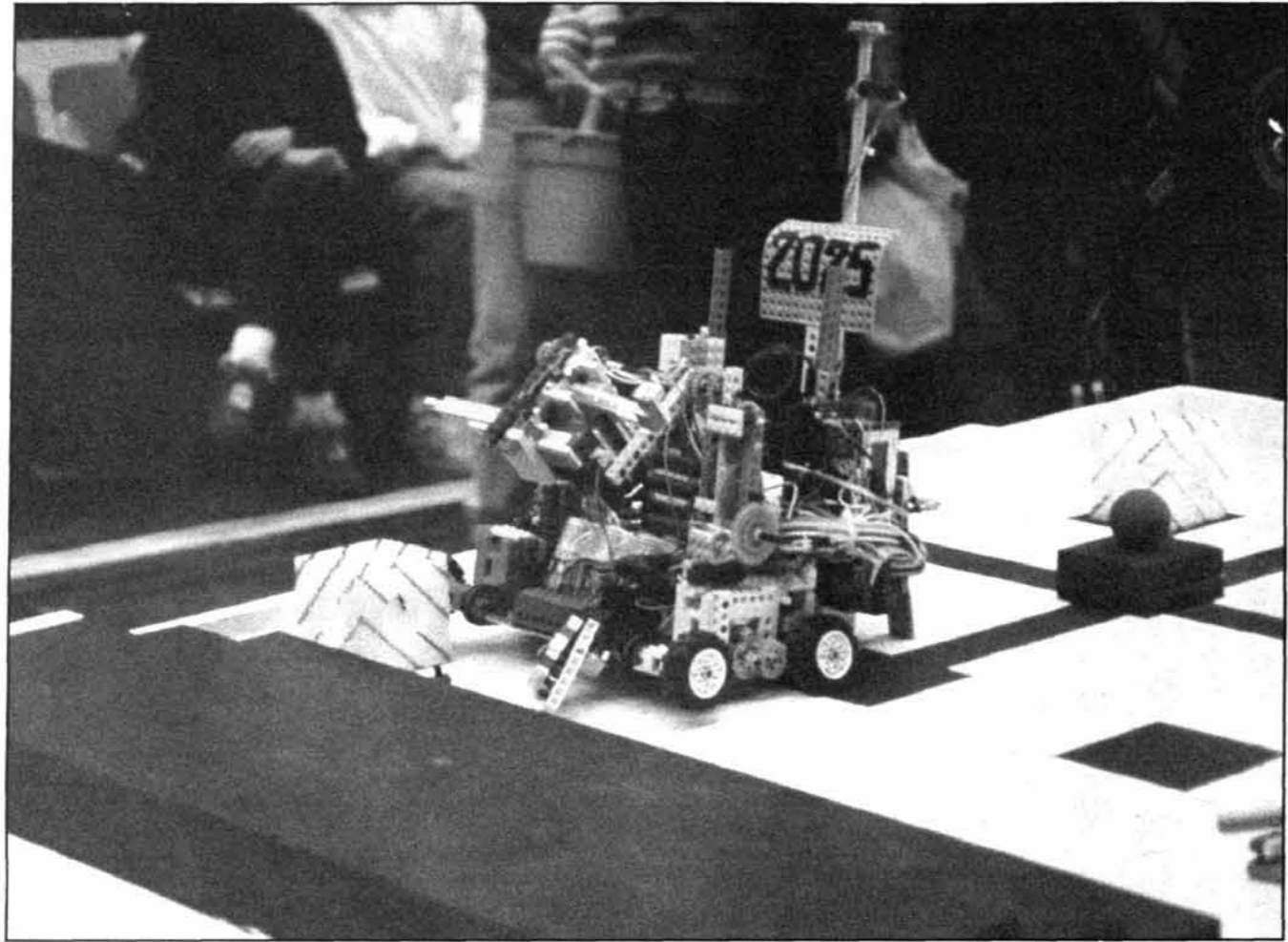
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Lego Robot Design Competition



Photos by Jiri Schindler and Sharon N. Young-Pong

Clockwise, from the top left:
The eventual runner up "KITT 2025" closes in on a block.
Jesus M. Muniz '98 accepts his winner's certificate.
Daniel J. Weber '97 works on his machine "Glitch" in lab before the preliminary round last Tuesday.
Kathryn L. McCoy '98 and Wanwipa Siriwatwechakul '98 watch their machine "Drop Test Dummies" in anguished anticipation.
Alonzo Castro '96 tends to "Box On Wheels" in the lab before the competition.
"Muravey" (left) smashes into the eventual winner "Box on Wheels" during an early round.
"Ant Jemima" prepares for the competition.
Center:
"Muravey" picks up a block in the first round.

Duke University Graduate Research Assistantships Available.

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POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between Jan. 26 and Feb. 2:

Jan. 26: Bldg. 3, room broken into and computer stolen; Bldg. 48, adding machine stolen, \$50; Tang Hall, annoying phone calls; Bldg. 33, money stolen from a vending machine; Bldg. N51, chop saw stolen, \$300; Alumni pool, wallet containing only credit card stolen; DuPont women's locker room, watch stolen, \$70.

Jan. 27: East Campus, harassment.

Jan. 28: East Campus, wallet stolen, \$10.

Jan. 29: West Garage, '91 Jeep Cherokee stolen; Bldg. 8, harassing phone call.

Jan. 30: Bldg. 20, speakers stolen, \$100; Briggs Field, harassment; Alpha Tau Omega, leather jacket stolen, \$350.

Jan. 31: Bldg. 26 bicycle rack, bicycle parts stolen, \$60; Student Center 2nd floor lounge, backpack stolen, \$320; Bldg. E52, backpack stolen, \$40; Bldg. E25, CD player stolen, \$170.

Feb. 1: Bldg. 16, lab equipment stolen, \$2,783; Bldg. NW16, annoying phone calls; Senior House, suspicious mail; Bldg. 20, VCR stolen.

Feb. 2: Baker House, suspicious person.

Feb. 2: Bldg. E40, backpack stolen, \$150.



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We'll be on campus at the date/times below. You'll be able to find out more about what's going on at Data General and how you can get in on it. For more information on Data General and our opportunities see our web site at <http://www.dg.com>. If you'd like to be considered for an interview, please contact the career services office. If you're unable to attend, feel free to submit a resume to newgrads@dg.com or mail Data General Corporation, College Relations Office, MS/E110, 4400 Computer Drive, Westboro, MA 01581.



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Future Projects Will Help Plan Long Term Schedules

Registrar, from Page 1

Wessler shared his work with staffers of the registrar's information booth on registration day, where it was well received. "They had been planning to do this," he said. "I just happened to come in at just the right time and present them

with a finished project."

Site is the first of three phases

The project is now moving into a second phase, where EECS Assistant Professor Gill A. Pratt PhD '89, Wessler, and Dae-Chul Sohn MEng '95 are building a system to recommend classes based

on students' academic goals and student-given criteria, Wessler said.

In addition to the scheduling services provided by the current system, phase two will let students select hypothetical enrollments for future terms that would be programmed to meet the Institute's

core and degree requirements, Pratt said.

A third and final phase will add what Pratt calls a "possibility display" to help students plan further down the road. This program would accept a desired degree program, date of completion, number of classes per term, and other user-given

constraints as input and return a selection of classes and schedules best suited to the student's criteria, Pratt said.

While the timetable for completion of the project is not set yet, Wessler wouldn't be surprised if phase two was ready by the end of this semester.

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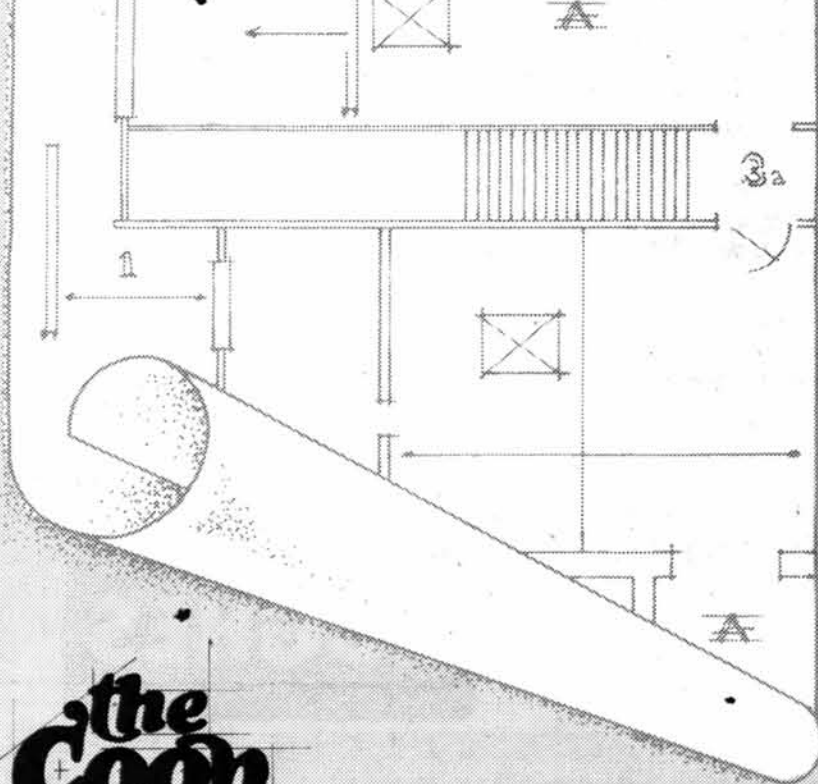
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NPR Highlights Arts Programs

NPR, from Page 1

Program links arts and sciences

The show particularly highlighted the Institute's unique Artist in Residence Program in the sciences, coordinated by the Special Programs branch of the Office of the Arts. Initiated just last year, this program enables students to interact

closely with multicultural artists and enhance their studies by interrelating the arts and the sciences.

"Arts enhance our resources for problem solving and dialogue for diversity issues — it could be used as a tool for facing sexism, racism and 'ageism' — it allows us to explore our emotional lives," said Alan Brody, associate provost for

the arts and professor of Music and Theatre Arts.

As part of the program, molecular biology students worked with Artist in Residence Felice Frankel to use photography to better explain complex studies of amino acids and proteins. The students "captured on the images some information that they didn't see before," Frankel said on the show.

The Artist in Residence Program is only one of the many components that make the Institute arts programs so special. "Students can participate in any level — whether they're just beginning or experienced," said Director of Arts Communications Mary L. Haller.

"In line with the MIT tradition, the arts here tend to be more hands-on and inventive ... arts with as much rigor as the sciences is pursued here," Brody said.

"It's not like conservatory training, but at the same time [every arts program] gives the foundation the students need if they choose to seriously pursue the arts," he said.

Arts also stressed in admissions

For the first time this year, freshman admission applications include an Arts Information Card, which inquires the applicants' interests in the various arts categories.

The goal of this card is to "make high school students more aware of the wonderful breadth and depth of arts here that's almost kept a secret due to the misconceptions many students have about MIT," Haller said.

Among the diverse arts programs that are currently featured is the "Asia/America: Identities in Contemporary Asian American Art," an exhibition of art works by Asian visual artists that will be displayed until March 24 in the List Visual Arts Center.

Another upcoming event is The Tempest, a production collaborated between the Shakespeare Ensemble and the Gamelan Galak Tika, scheduled for performance from March 14-16 and 21-23.

Despite the wide range of arts activities, Brody feels that there isn't enough awareness of the opportunities available in the arts even within the campus.

"The curricula's here to capture the students' artistic energy for further development ... but not enough people know about it yet," Brody said.

Brody plans to lead the arts programs to "make the world outside aware of the thriving value of arts as a vital component of undergraduate training and experience," he said.

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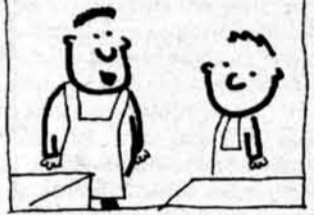
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Jim's

Journal

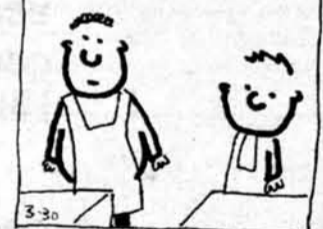
Today at the copy store Hal came up to me and said, "Hey, Jim, how's it goin'?"



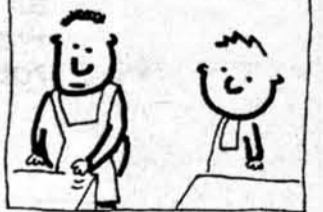
I said everything was going fine.



He stood there for a while, kind of looking around.



Then he swept some eraser shavings off the counter top with his hand.



by Jim



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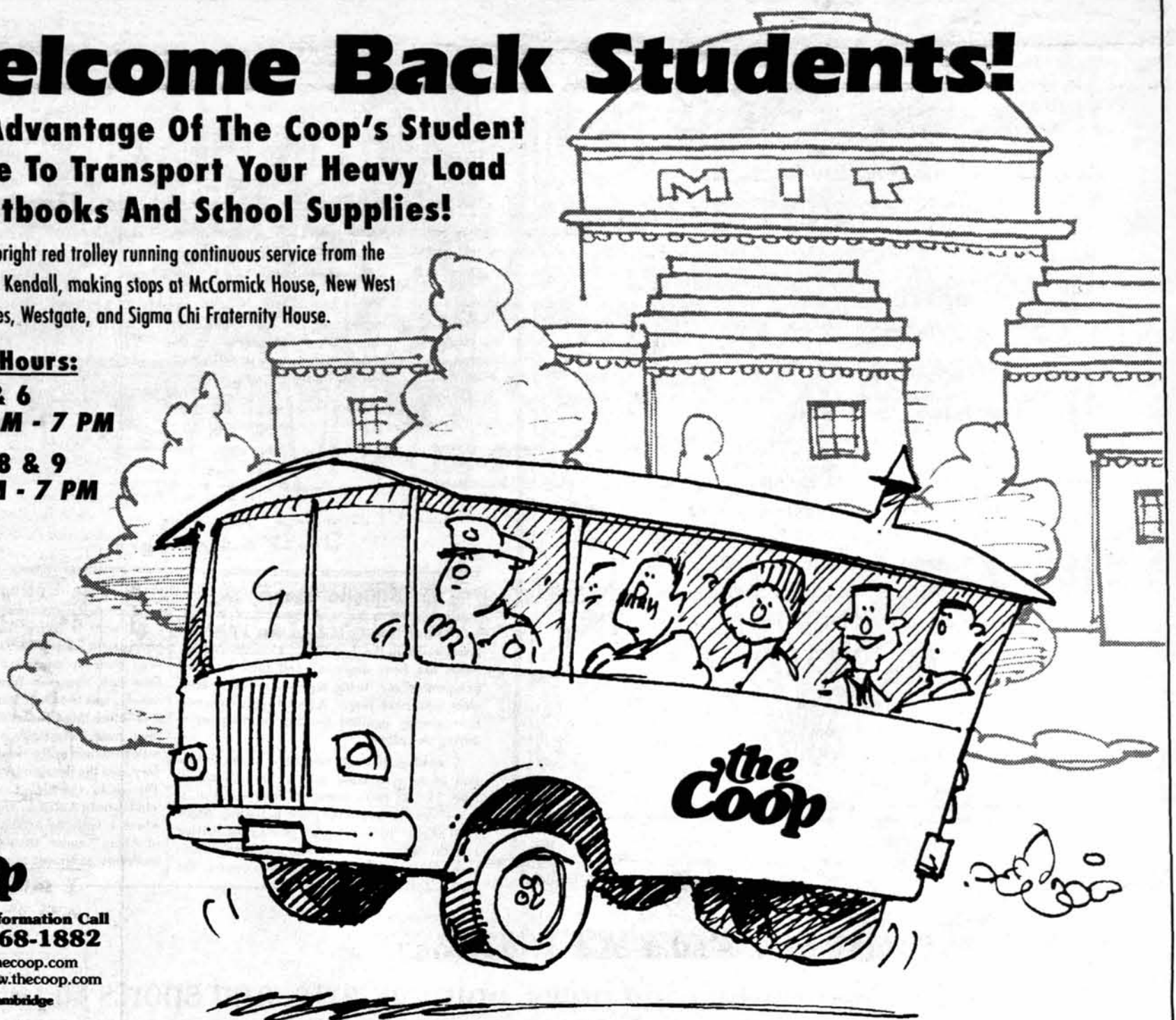
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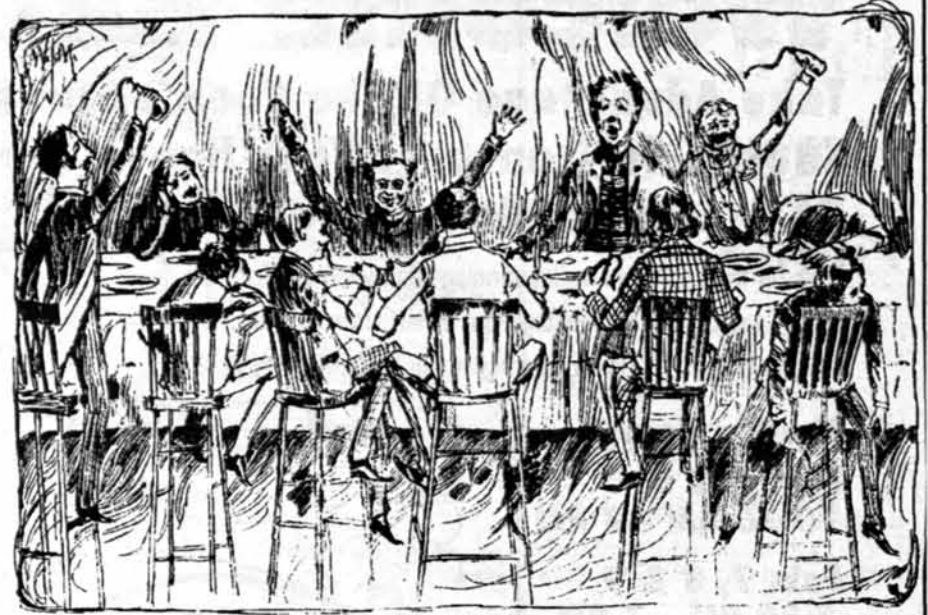
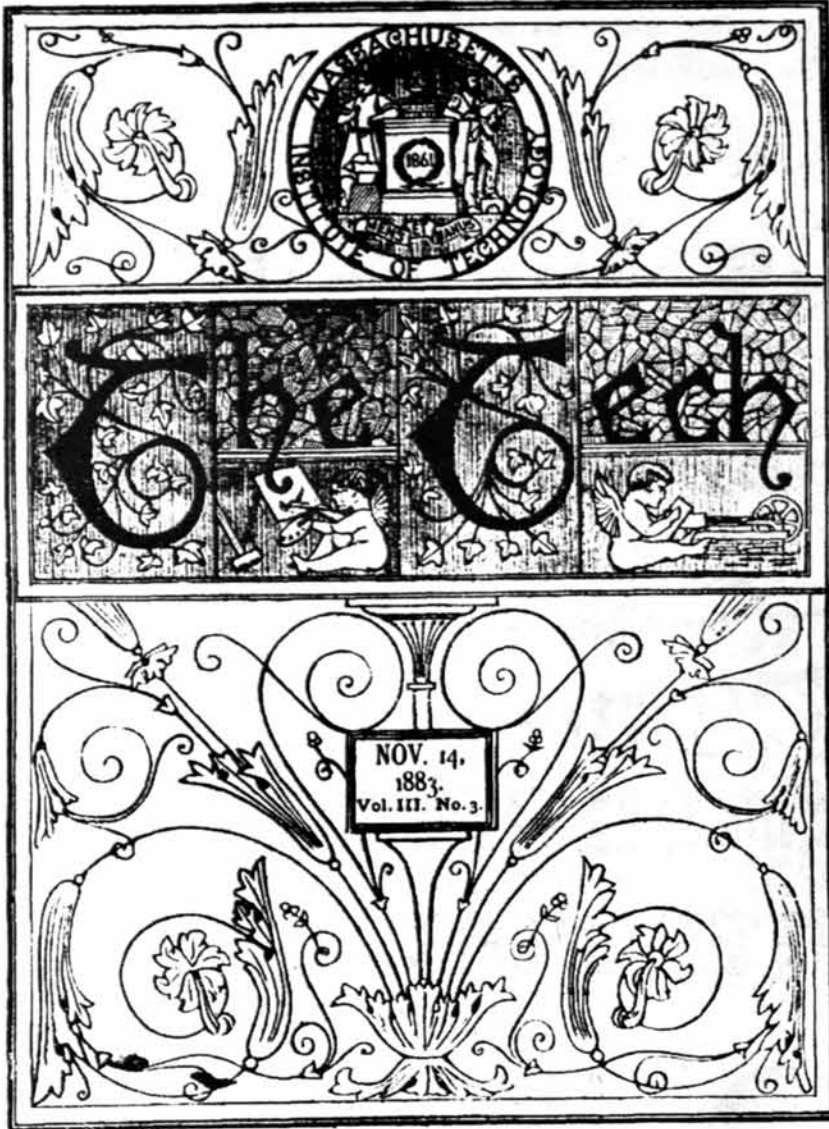
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Rob L. Soni
Associate
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robi.soni@worldtalk.com

A brief overview of BVP has been put on file at career services



Athletic Notes.	The College World.
<p>An effort is being made to form a Base-Ball Association in the Institute. Considerable interest has been displayed, and there is every prospect of our being represented by a first-class nine next year. About twenty-five men have already signified a willingness to practise during the winter.</p> <p>A meeting of those interested in the formation of an association will be held Thursday, Nov. 15. If there is enough interest taken, it is proposed to hire some place in the city which shall afford opportunity for practice in batting and throwing. All men who are interested in base-ball are earnestly requested to come to the</p>	<p>Bowdoin is trying the experiment of self-government among the students. A jury has been made up composed of one representative from each class, one from each inter-collegiate society, and one from non-society students, and it is before this tribunal that all cases of discipline must be brought. The president of the college stands in the relation of a judge to this jury, and the penalties are to be awarded by him. Though in the higher colleges this method of administration may do very well, yet in colleges where a majority of the lower classes consists of "men" under twenty years of age, whose immature judgment cannot be relied upon, the</p>

MANY THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE 1881...

The Tech has been providing news, opinion, arts, and sports to the MIT community since 1881. A lot has changed since then — we now have

THE action of certain men who dropped pepper upon the floor of the gymnasium during the Freshman dance was as contemptible as it was ungentlemanly, doubly so by being perpetrated in the presence of so many ladies. The affair is particularly unfortunate, inasmuch as it lays open to suspicion a number of men who, however zealously they may support the decision of the recent mass-meeting, would be incapable of so small an act.

photographs, not sketches; we use state-of-the-art publishing equipment; we print twice a week and have several different sections, including a World-Wide Web edition; and nobody dropped pepper on the floor during the freshman dance.

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So stop by our offices in Room 483 of the Student Center every Sunday at 6 p.m. for pizza, and become a part of the next 115 years of *The Tech*.



Gymnasts Earn Personal Bests

Gymnastics, from Page 32

of 8.4, 8.55, and 8.0 to complete the event.

Floor exercise earned Sequi a personal best score of 8.2 for her back layout tumbling pass while Bell and Chiarenza's form and grace scored 8.1 and 8.15. Christenson and Sollod both ended their routines with difficult tumbling passes of a full-twisting back-layout for an 8.7 and 8.95 while Rocchio's sky-high double back somersault led MIT with a 9.225.

Overall, the four all-arounders on the team turned in national caliber totals as Chiarenza earned a 33.3, Christenson a 34.575, and Sollod a career personal best total of 34.625. Rocchio, too, had her season's highest total of a 35.725.

The Engineers travel to the University of Bridgeport next weekend and then remain home on Feb. 10 to face Division III rivals Ithaca College and Wilson College.

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Appointments Walk-In

Men's Hoops Looks to Regroup

Volleyball, from Page 32

any mistakes. Hopefully, we learned this lesson today."

In the second match, against NJIT, MIT lost in three straight games to a bigger and better NJIT team. Coach Klemas said, "MIT played well, but against a bigger team which is just as skilled or more than you, the only way you can win is on heart, and if the other team plays with just as much intensity, they will win."

Joe Bretton '96 inspired the rest of the team with some tough defense, but the opponent was too strong for the MIT team at this point in the season.

In the final match of the day, MIT beat Rivier College. The match was somewhat disappointing because MIT dropped a game even though it was much stronger. However, the Engineers played all 14 of its players during the match, giving some valuable varsity experience to some of the newer players.

Summarizing the varsity's first matches, Klemas said, "EMU and NJIT are from higher conferences and represent two of the stronger programs in the country.... MIT made these teams play well to beat us, and if our play this weekend was any indication, we are headed in the right direction."

When MIT traveled to WIT, the match was much closer but a win nonetheless. This match was not about domination of a couple of players, but complete team play. Long Phan '98 was a consistent server and two key blocks to seal the third game.

David Lehman '97 was a big hitter and error-free in hits. Chien was once again a leader on the floor through his consistent serves and spreading his sets around. John Dukellis '99 came off the bench late in the third game and had five good serves to help seal the victory.

Charles Morton '97 led the team in the second game with four kills and a couple of blocks. The biggest story was Bretton who stopped up to be the team's leading server and passer while still adding eight kills to the offense.

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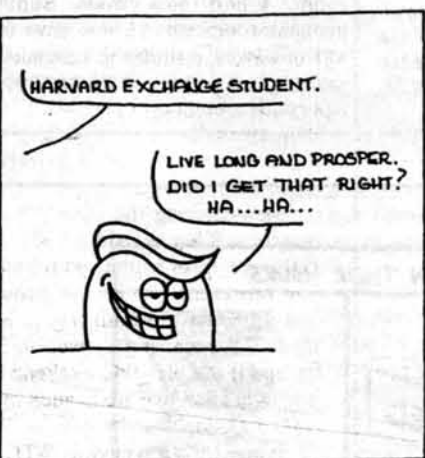
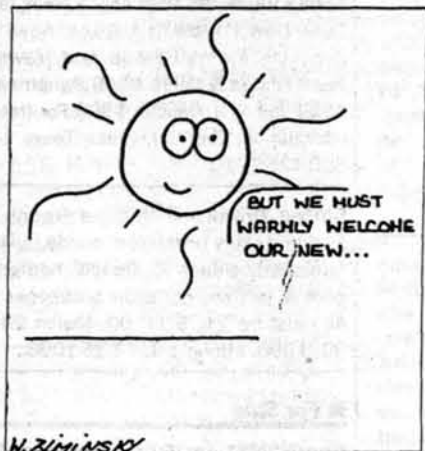
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by willy ziminsky



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 - 15 Dye ingredient
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 - 17 Herd of whales
 - 18 Winter wear
 - 20 Prison
 - 21 Gibbons
 - 23 English novelist
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 - 25 Leases
 - 27 Vane direction
 - 28 Mr. Jones
 - 29 Verses
 - 31 Did office work
 - 32 New Mexico town
 - 33 Miss Cantrell
 - 34 Lucky chance
 - 36 Deciduous trees
 - 39 French river
 - 40 Certain relative, for short
 - 41 Gary and family
 - 43 German river
 - 44 Commonplace
 - 46 Twofold
 - 47 "For shame!"
 - 48 Russian plains
 - 50 Prefix for meter
 - 51 Italian gulf
 - 53 Part of golf
 - 55 Law
 - 56 Assyrians, e.g.
 - 57 Thrill
 - 58 Did dangerous work
 - 11 Mother of Ishmael
 - 12 Miss Brewer, et al.
 - 13 "110 in the —"
 - 14 Ex-pitcher McLain
 - 19 Girl
 - 22 Height
 - 24 Camelot notable
 - 26 — eyes
 - 28 Sure thing
 - 30 Girl's name
 - 31 Wife's partner
 - 33 "Leapin' —!"
 - 34 Having leaves
 - 35 — arts
 - 36 Certain investment
 - 37 Very learned
 - 38 — glass
 - 39 Boxing blows
 - 40 Indian craft
 - 42 Furnace leftovers
 - 44 Montana city
 - 45 — and Penates
 - 48 Certain fastener (2 wds.)
 - 49 Blockhead
 - 52 — standstill
 - 54 Clock dial number
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JV Squash Loses 5-3

Squash, from Page 32

'97 started the second round of matches. Chhabra and Hyun both lost 3-0, giving Brooks a 4-2 lead. Matsuzaki could not convert a 13-8 lead in the fifth game, and lost 17-16, giving Brooks its 5th and match-winning point. Ait-Ghezala stayed tough to the very end, winning 17-14 in the fifth game, and earned MIT another point to make the final score 5-3.

On Jan. 30, the Engineers were back to do battle against Middlesex School. Number two Marcus, number four Robinson, number six Chu, and number seven Manju Madhavan '99 started the first round of matches. Chu successfully scrambled his way to a 3-2 win, 17-14 in the fifth. However, Marcus, Robinson, and Madhavan all lost their matches 3-1 to give Middlesex a 3-1 lead.

With MIT in need of wins from all remaining matches to clinch the

dual match, number one Matsuzaki, number three Ait-Ghezala, and number five Hyun started the second round of match play. While Ait-Ghezala won his match 3-1, Matsuzaki could not win hers, losing 3-0, giving Middlesex the victory. Hyun also lost 3-0, making the overall score 5-2.

On Feb. 3, Matsuzaki, Marcus, and Ait-Ghezala were given the opportunity to play in a varsity dual match doubleheader. In the first match, MIT suffered a tough 6-3 loss to Fordham College. Matsuzaki and Ait-Ghezala were both victorious 3-0 while Marcus took a 3-1 defeat. The second match against Army proved to be a very exciting win, as MIT pulled out a come-from-behind victory, 5-4. All three junior varsity players dominated with wins of 3-0.

The team's last home match is on Feb. 12th at 4 p.m. against Tufts University at the Alumni Pool Courts.

Men's Basketball Earns Only One IAP Win

Melissa Ronge
TEAM MEMBER

The men's basketball team is looking to regroup after a less-than-satisfying Independent Activities Period. The team had many close games, but was only able to pull out one win against Suffolk.

In the Suffolk game, Mel Pullen '98 rushed out with 23 points in the first half to lead the Engineers to a 73-53 win. Pullen finished the game with 25 points and 7 rebounds. Other major contributors were Tim

Porter '96 with 13 points, 6 boards, Godfrey Inniss '97 grabbed 14 rebounds and Kareem Benjamin '97 pulled down 7 boards.

MIT lost close games to Curry, Connecticut College, and WIT while losing tough games to Coast Guard and Springfield. Springfield was number one in New England when the Engineers played them and during the game, MIT was able to cut the lead to two before getting edged out. The Engineers will look toward leading scorer Pullen, lead-

ing rebounder Benjamin and senior leadership from Porter, P.J. Sallaway '96, and Jon Beaver '96 as they go through the final stretch toward the conference tournament.

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ATTENTION SENIORS

POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE AS AN ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

The Office of Admissions is now accepting applications for the position of Admissions Counselor. This is a one year full-time position beginning in July, 1996 (some flexibility is possible). Duties include:

- conducting question and answer sessions
- interviewing prospective applicants
- visiting secondary schools
- coordinating MIT student involvement in reception area
- participating in admissions committee decisions

Applications are available in the Admissions Office, 3-108, with Robin Dey and should be returned no later than March 1, 1996.

Note: This is for 1996 (January or June) MIT graduates.

SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS

ACCLAIM ENTERTAINMENT RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Acclaim Entertainment is a highly successful, fast growing company and a world leader in the publishing of interactive software such as MORTAL KOMBAT and NBA JAM. Acclaim is renowned for its sophisticated motion-capture technology and character animation systems and has provided services and data for the BATMAN FOREVER movie amongst others. We are located on the north shore of Long Island, less than one hour from New York City. Our R & D Department is involved in developing software for a variety of application areas including consumer game, arcade and interactive television platforms.

We are looking for Software Developers familiar with 3D software techniques.

The primary duties for this position include:

- ▼ developing in-house application software tools to be used by the artists and animators on our Digital Production teams;
- ▼ researching and optimizing 3D technology for game systems including Sony PlayStation, Nintendo Ultra 64 and Sega Saturn; and
- ▼ working on software that will be used to produce the next generation of interactive entertainment.

The successful candidates should have extensive experience developing sophisticated graphics applications. Strong C/C++ programming skills are required and experience working as part of a software team is a must. In addition, you should possess excellent problem solving and troubleshooting skills, be strongly self-motivated and able to communicate effectively with users and management. Experience with Lisp programming, OSF/Motif, Open GL, Iris Inventor and/or Iris Performer would be a definite plus.

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1 year old, 1991



2 years old, 1992



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SPORTS

Women's Gymnastics Shows Strong Individual Efforts

By Catherine Rocchio
ASSISTANT COACH

The MIT Women's gymnastics team went a long way last week towards earning a qualifying team score for the Division III National Championships, despite losing to Division I and Division III rivals Brown University, Yale University, University of Vermont, and Rhode Island College.

On Jan. 24, the Engineers lost a close to tri-meet: RIC prevailed with a team score of 169.2, Brown 167.825, and MIT 165.0. Saturday's meet held at Yale saw UVM taking top honors with a score of 184.7, Yale 182.75, and MIT 169.975.

The meet began on the vault where Erica Carmel '96 and Co-captain Tasi Chiarenza '97 both stuck handspring vaults for scores of 7.55 and 8.0. Valentina Sequi '97 and Alli Christenson '98 easily landed their full-twisting vaults and earned respective scores of 8.1 and 8.4 while co-captain Janet Sollod '96 and defending Division III National Champion Sheila Rocchio '97 were tops for MIT with scores of 8.55 and 8.75.

Uneven bars presented some problems to the Engineers as Sollod took a bad fall during the three-minute touch prior to the event. Reshuffling the line-up to allow Sollod to recover, Christenson lightly touched her hands on the only double back somersaulting dismount of the competition and

earned an 8.25 while Rocchio followed up with a 1 1/2 front somersaulting dismount for a score of 8.65 and second place overall on the event. Chiarenza, brilliantly performing a full-twisting giant swing and landing her 1 1/2 front somersault dismount, won the event overall with a score of 8.9.

Christenson was the only Engineer to stick her whole beam routine and included a roundoff backhand-spring flight series and a roundoff full-twist for a dismount and a score of 8.85 and third place overall on the event. Carmel missed only her front somersault dismount and scored a solid 7.1 while the talents of newcomer Marni Bell '99 added a score of 8.15 to the total. Chiarenza and Rocchio each suffered one fall for scores of 8.15 and 8.3.

Floor exercise rounded out the evening's competition with an Engineer taking top honors overall for the second time that evening as Sollod scored a personal best score of 9.25 for beautiful dance combined with a full-twisting layout as the final tumbling run. Rocchio, nursing a twisted ankle, took third place overall on the event with a score of 9.0. Christenson, Bell and Chiarenza all turned in clean routines for scores of 8.6, 8.2, and 7.7, while Sequi lent her tumbling talents for a score of 7.9.

Rocchio's 34.7 all-around total placed her third overall in the meet while Christenson's 34.7, Chiaren-

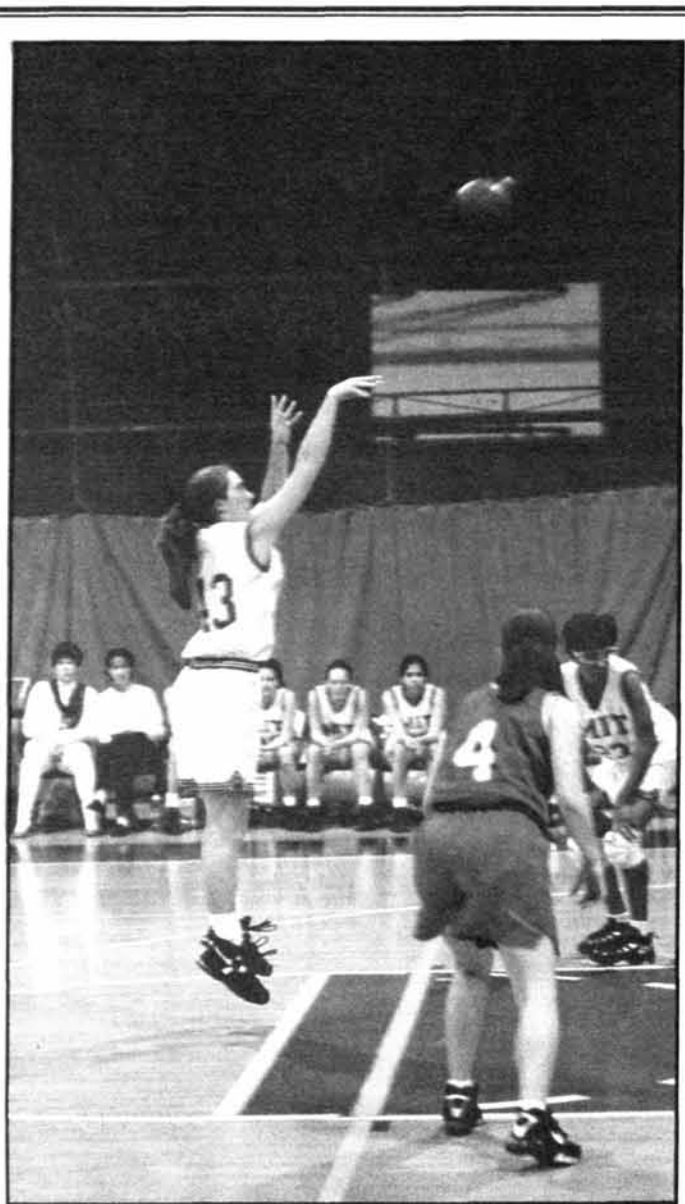
za's 32.75, and Sollod's 32.55 should continue their pace as individual contender's for the National Championships.

The meet at Yale showed marked improvements in the Engineers performances. Each of the MIT vaulters scored their season's highest with Chiarenza and Sandy Dow '96 earning 8.0 and 8.2 for handspring's while Sequi and Sollod stuck full-twisters for scores of 8.35 and 8.725. Christenson and Rocchio were leading scorers for MIT as Christenson's handspring full-twist earned an 8.825 and Rocchio's front-handspring 1 1/2 somersaulting vault scored a 9.1.

Uneven bars debuted the best routine of Rocchio's career as she earned her personal best score of 9.0 for a straddle-back to handstand and perfect toe-front dismount landing. Chiarenza and Christenson followed suit with their routines for scores of 8.6 and 8.5 while Carmel's straddle back and backlayout dismount and Sollod's 1 1/2 front somersault rounded out the season's best bar rotation with scores of 7.0 and 8.05.

Beam and Floor added to MIT's strength as balance beam highlighted Sollod earning a season's high score of 8.9 despite a fall on a back-handspring and Christenson scoring 8.55 after missing her difficult flight series as well. Rocchio, Chiarenza, and Bell lent their respective scores

Gymnastics, Page 27



Michelle M. Fox '99 makes a free throw in Saturday 27 game against Clark University.

Women's Basketball Continues Strong after IAP Florida Games

By Joanna Garelick

The women's basketball team has had a strong start to their season with a 10-3 record in division play going into their game against Suffolk on Jan. 23. The team has played strongly during the Independent Activities Period since their return from the Sunshine Shootout in Florida.

In the last three games they have defeated Rivier 57-42 and Elms College 58-41. The only loss was a close one to Colby Sawyer College, 66-65.

The game at Rivier was a very physical one, and the team's hustle was a key factor. Guard Sarah Davis '97 turned in an outstanding performance with 21 points, making 4

points from the line and 17 from the field. Off-guard Nicole Gerrish '98 also contributed to the MIT offense by scoring 13 points.

The team then returned to their home court to face Colby Sawyer College. The teams were evenly matched and with 19 seconds left, MIT was ahead by one. With seven seconds left Colby Sawyer hit a field goal to take the lead, and despite a strong performance, MIT was unable to regain the lead.

A positive element of the Colby Sawyer game was the play of Victoria Best '99, Michelle Fox '99, Katie Spayde '99, and Maisha Gray '99. Fox had 10 points, Spayde and Best each knocked down 9 points, and Gray contributed 8 points. Davis gave another strong perfor-

mance with 13 points. Before the game, Best was named ECAC Rookie of the Week and was presented with an award by a representative from the Holiday Inn.

The Elms College game was an easier match-up than the Colby Sawyer game. At the half, MIT was ahead by 10, and despite a short run by the Elms team, MIT was able to pull away to win by a 17-point margin.

Spayde and Best came off the bench to be the game's two high scorers. Best scored 15 and Spayde had 16 points, shooting 62 percent from the field and pulling down 6 rebounds. With seven rebounds, Davis, Gerrish, and Amy MacKay '97 gave strong showings, with captain MacKay scoring nine points.

Men's Volleyball Starts Against Tough Teams

Melissa Ronge and Tom Klemas
TEAM MEMBER

The volleyball team started the year out slowly, losing their first two matches to Eastern Menonite and NJIT. Then the Engineers roared out to two wins over Rivier and WIT.

In the first match against EMU, MIT got off to a strong start, winning the first five points. However, first-match butterflies led to a number of errors which allowed EMU back into the game. MIT served out a number of times and dug about five balls that were going to land out. EMU eventually won this hard-fought game.

The next game MIT took by serving tough and playing tough defense against the taller EMU

team. Min Pont Chien '98 set aggressively keeping the other team's defense off guard and had a match total of 37 assists. Leandro Burnes '98 had 18 kills during the match.

The third game was also a hard-fought match, but the EMU hitters started taking advantage of the size mismatch in MIT's block, allowing them to win. In the final game, MIT let up a bit, allowing EMU to win easily.

"I felt MIT could have won," said men's head coach Tom Klemas. "We outplayed our opponent, but their size gave them some leeway. If we are going to beat bigger teams, we cannot afford to make

Volleyball, Page 28

Brooks Beats JV Squash

By Carol Matsuzaki
TEAM MEMBER

The Junior Varsity Squash Team played their first match of 1996 against the highly regarded Brooks School on Jan. 27. Even with the help of two varsity players in the lineup, MIT took an extremely close 5-3 defeat. Number two Jon Goldman '98, number four Jacob Marcus '99, number six Bryan Robinson '98, and number eight Alex Chu '98

took the courts first to start the dual match. While Goldman and Marcus lost 3-0 and 3-1 respectively, Robinson and Chu took decisive wins of 3-1 and 3-0.

With the score tied at two apiece, number one Robin Chhabra '99, number three Carol Matsuzaki '96, number five Ahmed Ait-Ghezala '99, and number seven Don Hyun

Squash, Page 31



Robert P. Ziemian '99 shoots just wide in the third period of MIT's game against Springfield College on Saturday 27 January. MIT won the game 5-4 in the dying seconds.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, February 6
Squash against Tufts University, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, February 7
Men's Ice Hockey against Central Connecticut State University, 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 8
Men's Basketball against Clark University, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 9
Squash against Connecticut College, 4 p.m.