Busch Wins 2.70 ‘Niagara’ Contest

By Dan McGuire

After several hours of stiff competition, Sami S. Busch ’98 emerged the winner of this year’s 2.70 design competition, held Tuesday night. Busch narrowly defeated Harvard University senior Ethan D. Harris in the final round. The narrow win goes to show that “we can teach anyone to be almost as good as we are,” said Professor Alexander H. Scloot ’82, who teaches the class. But “in the end, MIT took photos,” he said.

This year’s contest marks a name change from previous years. The course, previously and still popularly referred to as 2.70, was renamed last week (Design and Manufacturing I) and its units increased from nine units to 12. “This is the old 2.70 with three extra units of Scloot and some design contest, however, is still called 2.70.

With their performances, Busch, Maniatisian, Megan M. Owens ’98, Mads C. Schmidt ’98, and two others earned trips to Munich, Germany, where this year’s international design competition will be held. There they will join Japanese, Brazilian, and other college students in a machine design project.

Busch wins with largest design

The contest this year, Niagara, Balls, required students to design machines that could gather as many ping pong balls as possible. Balls were released from cardcatalogs held by Fenny H.Unified Takes Home This Year’s Big Screw

By Penny H. Lin

Students willingly gave up their money at Lobby last week to vote for their favorite candidate for the annual Big Screw Award. In heavy last-minute voting, they chose to recognize Unified Engineering (16.010, 16.020, 16.030, 16.040) for its four aeronautics and astronautics core classes, with the award.

Voting Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Richard L. Harris accepted the three-foot-long letterboarded aluminum screw on Unified’s behalf. The screw left its current owner — the Student Center Athletic Chair — and was presented to Harris in Unified Wednesday.

Unified received $242.84 out of the total $714.03 that was raised.

Dorow held the lead early on

Massive last-day donations by

Student Center Committee Makes Plans to Restructure

By Stacey E. Blau

The Student Center Committee is currently planning changes that will involve restructuring and enhancing the organization in upcoming years, according to SCC Chair Jonathan A. Allen ’98.

“We’re looking at what other programs we can do,” Allen said. The SCC wants “more than a focus on just pubs and concerts that we’ve been doing over the past years. The SCC does programming for the entire campus,” something which makes its target audience much bigger than some more specialized groups, he said.

The changes are going to start small. Allen said the committee will “take about five years before the entire process of restructuring is complete, he said.

“The SCC runs the 24-Hour Coffee House and the SCC Gameroom. It also organizes the MIT College Bowl and runs poster services as well as events like the Street’s Rat, the Battle of the Bands, and comedy nights.

“We’re still actually pretty much in the planning stages of the reorganization,” Allen said. “But the SCC has been busy recently with planning this weekend’s pageant and organizing other Spring Weekend ’96 events, Allen said.

SCC plans Program Board with CAC

The major part of the restructuring for the SCC has involved the creation of the Program Board in conjunction with the Campus Activities Complex. “Program Board” will replace the SCC name.

The Program Board will involve creating an advising and working relationship between the SCC and CAC, said Director of the Campus Activities Complex Phillip J. Walsh.

The idea is to “create a mechanism whereby there can be increased activity for the SCC,” Walsh said.

“Some existing programs will continue, and some new ones can flourish.”

The programming board concept grew out of a mutual desire to revitalize the SCC, Walsh said.

“It’s still going to be a student run organization,” Allen said. With the changes, it will have the benefit of “more support from the administration — namely CAC,” he said.

“It’s a big process,” said Sarah S. Sarvis ’96, SCC concert chair. “There’s going to be a lot more merging, basically.”

“It’s the best thing for the SCC,” Sarvis said. The SCC can “separate itself and make sure that it’s going to work with the CAC to improve its situation.”

“A lot of us in SCC are graduating,” Harvis said. Over the past few years, the SCC’s membership peaked.

CAG, Page 11

Spring Weekend Will Raise Cash for Charity

By Jean K. Lee

Most of the events during MIT’s annual Spring Weekend are geared toward entertainment and relaxation, but many of the events taking place this weekend — including the event that kicked off the weekend last night — will benefit charities.

Spring Weekend ’96 started last night with Mr. Spring Weekend, a charity fun-drive sponsored by the Women’s Independent Living Group. Seven pageant contestants from various living groups competed for the title of Mr. Spring Weekend in the categories of creative evening wear, talent, short question-and-answer, and persuasive abilities, as they solicited donations from the audience. All proceeds from the contest will go to the American Heart Foundation.

Last year the event raised $2,400 for the foundation, said Christine M. Hartmann ’98, one of the market’s organizers. “I expect this year’s event to be just as — if not even better than last year,” she said.

Spring, Page 11

INSIDE

• CP’s arrest trespasser at Baker. Page 10
• Student wins $30,000. Lemelson prize. Page 10
• Community Service Fund hosts annual road race. Page 10

Unified students helped Unified come from behind to win second-place finisher Neal H. Dorow, advisor to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. Dorow, who teaches the class, said that Unified has “been busy recently with planning this weekend’s pageant and organizing other Spring Weekend ’96 events, Allen said.

CAG, Page 11

Elaine Chow G gives a piano recital in Killian Hall on Wednesday, April 24.
Senior Clinton administration officials met secretly in New York with Taiwan's national security adviser in March to discuss possible cooperation to counter Taiwan against taking any provocative actions while China was conducting huge military exercises in the strait between Taiwan and mainland China.

The March 17 discussion involving Undersecretary of State Peter Tanoff, Deputy National Security Adviser Samuel R. "Sandy" Berger, and Joseph Wu, Taiwan's national security affairs director, was the highest level meeting held since the two countries severed formal diplomatic relations in 1980

U.S. officials did not disclose the Taiwan meeting to the Chinese government, which has in the past prevented any official U.S. government contact with Taiwan. An administration official considers Taiwan a "province" that is under the control of "one country," China. Meanwhile, the United States and China are both trying to improve relations with the island nation.

The meeting came two days after President Clinton had authorized the Chinese to send a full carrier battle group closer to the coast in a display of force aimed at dissuading China from taking any military actions against Taiwan.

Clinton Vetoes Product-Liability Bill

President Clinton Thursday vetoed popular legislation limiting legal damage awards for defective products, defending himself on safety and liability grounds but warning the Senate and House to try again next year. He gave the bill his presidential signature in a brief ceremony.

He said he would sign a bill with more "balance" between business and consumer rights. Republicans promised to make a presidential campaign issue of the veto, which was denounced by business groups but welcomed by consumer advocate Ralph Nader and opponents of the tobacco and firearms industries.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Wholesale-Distributors have been running TV ads in electorally crucial states slamming Clinton for his veto.

STAFF METEOROLOGIST
By Marek Zebrowski

Facts of the weather:

Saturday: Cloudy, with precipitation tapering off early. Some scattered showers. Thereafter, but not for long, a dry tongue of high pressure will midge in from the northwest, assuring improving weather. STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Sunday outlook: Sunshine gradually fading throughout the afternoon, with rain approaching from the west. Highs in the mid to upper 60s (17-9ºC) inland.

U.S., Taiwan Officials Met Secretly in New York

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U.S. Fears Iran Is Hiding Missiles

The Pentagon said Thursday that it suspects a series of tunnels Iran was recently discovered digging along its Persian Gulf coast are intended for use as long-range missile sites. But Iran denied that it is up to anything.

While citing the tunnels, Navy Cmdr. Joe March, a Pentagon spokesman, indicated that no weapons had been revealed and insisted that the Clinton administration has only "limited information" about the tunnels.

But, he said, "any action which Iran takes to enhance its military capability is a concern to the U.S. and its allies in the region and elsewhere." In Tehran, Tehran Radio said that Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Mahmoud Mohammadi had denounced the Pentagon report as a "simplistic-minded justification to sell advanced arms group arms to the Zionist regime (Israel)."

The discovery was first reported this week in Jane's Defense Weekly, a magazine that focuses on defense issues generally.

First Balkans War Crimes Trial Set to Begin Tuesday

By Tyler Marshall

For almost a year, the trial of war-crimes suspect Radovan Tadic has hung in the balance. Although the proceedings in the trial, which opened at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, have been haunted by horrific tales of victims caught up in the brutality of war, it will not be until later this month that the day, they will finally get a glimpse of the other side: a man formally accused of war crimes who is being tried in court to war crimes charges.

The International Criminal Tribunal opened the long-awaited opening of the first trial conducted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the panel established here 2 years ago to investigate and prosecute those accused of war crimes.

The accused, Dundic Tadic, 41, a Bosnian Serb, had been seized by the U.S. military in 1992 in the Bosnian town of Kozarac, where he allegedly terrorized people, including (Dusan) Tadic, subjected to torture and physical abuse. Tadic was accused by the women to be a member of the Bosnian Serb paramilitary forces, Barksheviks, who operated in the east of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Those who knew Tadic describe him as a petty troublemaker, the German newsmagazine Der Spiegel reported last Monday. He described Tadic as a "Bosnian Communist," a "war criminal" who is "only Unity will Save the Serbs."

Tadic was said by the women to have been among the soldiers who were in the chest of a man who was killed and their bodies mutilated.

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Yeltsin Plans Personal Mission
To Chechnya to Stop Conflict

By Carol J. Williams
Los Angeles Times

Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin announced Thursday that he will venture into the war-torn republic of Chechnya later this month on a personal mission to end the conflict he instigated with secessionist rebels 16 months ago.

The 65-year-old leader’s intention to travel to the scene of the worst bloodshed in this country since World War II followed hints Wednesday from the new Chechen rebel commander that he might be willing to negotiate a peace deal “on certain conditions.”

Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, who extended that tenuous olive branch since World War II followed hints

Jonathan Peterson
Los Angeles Times

The growth report is just the latest in a recent series of statistics that suggest the national economy is healthier than many had thought. The Commerce Department also reported Thursday that U.S. factory orders for jobless benefits slipped last week to the lowest level in more than three months, hinting of strength in the labor market.

The Clinton administration has argued that the nation’s underlying economic health is more positive than the image created by corporate layoffs and the often-dreaded anxiety of workers. Officials said Thursday’s report highlighted the important role of business investment in the current expansion, a factor that could pay off for years, and also reflected a buoyant attitude on the part of consumers.

Economy Surprises Wall Street
With a 2.8 Percent Growth Rate

By Jonathan Peterson
Los Angeles Times

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Letters To The Editor

Chorallaries' Fans, Alumni Deserve Praise

The Chorallaries of MIT have had an incredible spring term. Yet, as with most groups, it took more people than just us to make it that way. We owe much to our fans — not only those who followed us through the rounds of the National Championship all the way to the finals, but also those who attended our concerts here at MIT. We enjoy singing, but more so, we enjoy putting on a good show for you. Our alumni have also been exceptionally supportive, helping us prepare for the competition artistically and lending a hand whenever possible. We also need to thank The Tech for its ongoing coverage of our events, especially that of our annual Concert in Bad Tate.

Finally, we would like to thank the MIT Office of the Arts and the Council for the Arts. In particular, Mary Haller [Office of the Arts director of arts communication] and Lynn Heineman [Office of the Arts administrative assistant] have been incredibly helpful to us and to arts at MIT in general. Your support means a lot to us.

Chris Merkel '95
Chorallaries Business Manager

Opinion Policy

Editorials, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chainnan, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, and opinion editors. Dissents, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial. Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced, and addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signature, address, phone number, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Electronic mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. Mail to specific departments may be sent to the following addresses on the Internet: ads@the-tech.mit.edu, news@the-tech.mit.edu, sports@the-tech.mit.edu, tech@the-tech.mit.edu, tech@circ@the-tech.mit.edu (circulation department). For other matters, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person.
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**LSC**

**Friday**

Sense and Sensibility
7 & 10pm
26-100

Friday Classic
7:30pm 10-250

**Saturday**

Sabrina
7 & 10pm
26-100

**Sunday**

Clue
7 & 10pm
26-100

Admission is $2 with MITWC ID

For more info, see our web page or call the LSC Movieline, 258-8881
Top: Kresge Auditorium forms the backdrop for the stalls that showcase the annual cultural fair.

Second Row Left: Patricia P. Kao '96 performs in the Chinese Students Club ring dance.

Second Row Right: Afsana N. Akhter '98 poses in Bangladeshi national dress during the fashion show.

Centre: The Arab Students Organization presents a traditional folk dance in the late afternoon.

Bottom Left: Marta Jakobisiak G represents Poland in the flag-waving ceremony.

Bottom Middle: A colorful group from the Korean Students Association marches across Kresge Oval.

Bottom Right: Gerhard de Lange G invites people to sample traditional foods at the European Club stand.

Photos by Rich Fletcher, Tiffany Lin, and Arifur Rahman
Easy, Romeo. We don’t know each other that well. The question was: Where do you begin your online adventures? If you had MSN’s Custom Start Page, all the stuff you like best and all the things you need most would be right there, right in front of you. Web links and search engines, sports scores and ski reports—even comic strips. You pick what you want and forget the rest. So visit our site at www.msn.com. It’s easier to get to than first base.

www.msn.com/mit.htm
Our cool site is your Custom Start Page.
Grad Student Wins MIT-Lemelson Prize for Inventiveness

By David D. Heu

On Wednesday, David H. Levy, a graduate student studying mechanical engineering, won the second annual $300,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize for inventiveness.

Levy holds four patents, and has eight more pending. He is credited with several inventions, including a peelable Ergonomic Keypad, the world's smallest keypad, a device that disables landline telephones, layering peel-off to uncover fresh ones. Peelables are now currently being test-marketed by BASF and Dupont.

"We need to spread the word that inventing is fun. It's the best career I know," Levy said.

With coverage in national publications like the Wall Street Journal, the $300,000 prize is "more than I thought it would be," Levy said. "It's going to change my life." Levy joins this year's other Lemelson-MIT Prize winners, Robert Boyer and Stanley Cohen, who were awarded the $500,000 Lemelson-MIT Prize on April 11. Together, their invention—a cardiac pacemaker, won the lifetime achievement award.

The Lemelson-MIT prizes were established three years ago by Jerome H. Lemelson, the second annual $30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize for inventiveness.

problems are harder to find than solutions.
For a decade or so, I've been investing in technology," Levy said.

Levy does not have a single approach toward inventing something. "It seems to be a different method for different inventions," Levy said. "It's just because I had the problem myself and solved it. But I have to pursue it in a better way."

Other inventions, like his miniature keypad, were the result of a similar strategy. The keypad is actually two keyboards:

An alphabet keypad is superimposed over another keypad. As another example, Levy once heard someone talk about a surgical technique that took about 90 minutes. Levy invented the technique and the machine that would accomplish the same task in seconds. Sometimes it's just "keeping your eye open," Levy said.

Levy plans to invest the award money in applying for more patents and product development.

Pioneers of biology win prize for cloning

By Brett Altshul

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Laboratory, said Richard Boyer and Martin R. Greenwald, the 2001 Pioneers of Biology, won the second annual $30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize for inventiveness.

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Harvard Student Gets to 2.70 Final, Falls Short Of Winning

2.70, from Page 1

high above a playing table to begin the contest. The machine that put the most balls into a bin on its side of the table won.

Busch spent 80 hours designing and building his machine, which consisted of an arm that reached out into the floor to scoop up balls, a stout vehicle driving around, and direct ed them into his bin. The design is an effective one, Busch said. "I think the arm design could have taken more [balls] than a car" that would try to gather balls by rolling after them around the field, he said. But "it's really hard to make it work," he said.

"The arm is definitely the way to go if you can manufacture it," said Amy Bancroft '98, a student in the class. "But it's really hard to make it work," she said.

"You have the ultimate strategy" — an arm — "competing with the ultimate reliability, which is a stout vehicle driving around," Slocum said. "It's very difficult to make a reliable arm."

"Most people are spending all day in their labs," he said. During Monday night's qualifying rounds, a machine that lost was allowed to advance to the formal contest if the audience cheered enough.

Slocum called this year's crop of machines "double extra fantastic," something which he attributed to this year's use of the well-equipped Pappalardo Laboratory in Building 3 and the practice in machining tools that most students get from participating in an engine competition held during Independent Activity Period.

Whatever the plan, 2.70 students design to win.

Students used two fundamental design approaches: an arm to redirect the balls into the bin and a car to scoop them up and put them there.

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Grade Schoolers Present Projects

Screw, from Page 1

Alpha Phi Omega sponsors the award. According to APO's official guide line, the award is meant for students who have contributed to their chosen field in some way, from writing a paper to doing a piece of research. The Screw grant is awarded based on the quality of the student's work and the overall effectiveness of the project.

The Screw grants are awarded based on the quality of the student's work and the overall effectiveness of the project.

Unified is known as one of the Institute's most difficult classes: it requires a student to attend all five of the Institute's undergraduate classes, Muh said. "The class is designed to be hard," he said. "They're concentrating on the words."
Imagine developing software for a machine vision computer that is used in manufacturing operations to guide a robotic arm in placing 40,000 electronic components on a PC board every hour, to within 1/20th pixel accuracy, to identify a soda can in only 20 milliseconds to ensure it is filled with the correct liquid; or to inspect the LCD display on a cellular phone to verify that it's legible. Now imagine doing this at a company where engineering teams celebrate each product release by drinking champagne, signing the bottles, and adding them to the company's "wall of fame."

Cognex, the #1 supplier of industrial machine vision systems, provides a work hard/play hard environment unlike any other company in the world. Every day, we tackle the toughest machine vision problems in industries ranging from electronics and automotive parts to healthcare and consumer products. And our culture continually rewards these efforts with parties, innovative recognition programs, and lucrative bonuses and stock options for top performers.

We're seeking engineers for all facets of our product development, not just machine vision specialists. If you are a clever software engineer with creativity and drive who wants to join an entrepreneurial, technically aggressive company, send your resume to: Cognex Corporation, Human Resources, Dept. MT, One Vision Drive, Natick, MA 01760; fax: (508) 650-3340; email: hr@cognex.com. And, look for us on your campus! EOE.

See our web site at http://www.cognex.com

Cognex
Sami S. Bush '98 wins first place in Tuesday's finals competition. Bush will travel to Germany to compete in the next round of competition.

Finalists show off their designs.

Head Teaching Assistant Keith J. Breinlinger '96 competes as a placebo for a missing machine.

TAs and lab aides dutifully clear ping-pong balls from the field after a round of competition.

The Viking team puts on a great show, pleasing the audience and drawing much applause and laughter.
In this newspaper, it's a serene scene of a gazelle grazing in the brush.

In your room, it's a serene scene of a gazelle grazing in the brush suddenly caught off-guard by a 500-pound lion that chases the fleeing gazelle down and rips out its jugular. Hyenas soon follow.

Okay, so maybe the newspaper isn't the best place to demonstrate the breathtaking multimedia capabilities of a Macintosh computer. But with the special campus savings now offering on selected Macintosh computers and Apple products, you can easily take one home and experience it whenever you wish. With built-in stereo sound, video graphics and animation, a Macintosh is an easy way to bring your work to life. So visit us today, and look into the power of Macintosh. The power to be your best.
by Be Light
SPORTS EDITOR

"Everything looks great in basketball! If you allow eligibility for the NBA draft, or are willing to risk the 10 seconds, then perhaps you might want to re-read the paper down now."

Well, the first week of the NBA playoffs is over. Nothing terribly exciting has happened, actually. There haven't been any fights, there haven't been any major upsets, and there have been no acrobats, but she's no dead fish.

The collected wit and wisdom of the Worm this week included a discourse on Madonna ("she's no acrobat, but she's no dead fish"), and his lack of desire to sleep with her in an empty room. He's willing to spend the night.

Women's Crew Looks To Win N.E.

S赞助 by MIT Hunger Action Group, the MIT Public Service Center and Kappa Alpha Theta

This space donated by The Tech

Play a sport? In an organization? Too late for dinner?

Baker Dining is NOW OPEN UNTIL 8 PM!

home-cooked dinners made fresh at our house!

Front doors open Sunday-Thursday 5:00-8:00 pm

Also try our Baker Snack Bar (on meal card)
Open daily 8:00 pm - 2:00 am

If you can't make dinner, order a late meal (call 3-3161 before 7:15 pm & pick up your meal at the snack bar)
Varsity, Freshmen Heavies Sink UNH

By Toby Ayer

In a near-sweep of the races at Duke University in Durham, New Hampshire, both men's and women's varsity heavyweight eights and the first freshman eight beat the University of New Hampshire on Saturday. The second freshmen from both Tufts to UNH.

In fairly calm waters, the first freshman began their race a few seconds ahead of UNH. Moving up as planned at both the 500- and 1000-meter marks, they had nearly two lengths of open water approaching the finish line. UNH moved back a little, but MIT finished 10 seconds ahead of them in 5 minutes, 44 seconds.

The second freshmen fours had a harder time. The A four was down a few seats off the start, and despite a successful move back on UNH, were held back by their low stroke-rate. They lost another length and finished the race four seconds back.

With a dramatically divergent course, the other four was never in the race (UNH, 7:26; MIT A, 7:30; MIT B, 8:13).

Novice Coach Stu Schmill '86 continues to see his freshmen improve. "The freshmen field is pretty tight, and we are right in there," he said after surveying the freshmen in the EARC, which is the highest level of collegiate rowing.

Varsity rows its best race to date

With a bunched-up pickup after the first freshman race, the first varsity race went off but was soon stopped when MIT steered into a mark that was well off the side of the course. The race was restarted without mishap, and MIT won, 5:45.8 to 5:50.0. It was the boat's best race to date. MIT was up on UNH at the start and held on through the fierce headwind. The halfway point brought less wind and calmer waters, and MIT attacked with more control, moving up steadily and finishing a full length ahead. Coach Gordon Hamilton was jubilant about the win. "We were in control the entire race," he said. UNH had previously beaten Williams College, who had then beaten MIT.

The second varsity boat also had an excellent race. "They did exactly what we wanted to do: They got to racing speed at about 250 meters and held it through to the finish." Hamilton said. The boat moved right through UNH, and had plenty of open water at the finish (MIT, 5:51; UNH, 5:59.5). Both Schmill and Hamilton are looking forward to this weekend's Coaches Cup races against Dartmouth College and Wisconsin University. "If we have a good race, and continue our improvement, we will be right up there as one of the best crews in the country," Schmill said.

This weekend will be another test of the first boat's speed and racing ability. A good race could place the varsity relatively high in the rankings and closer to their goal of the country's top 10.