

'dog' Ruffs Up the Opposition In 6.270 RoboGolfer Tourney

By Douglas E. Heimbarger
NEWS EDITOR

A simple design turned out to be the key for Holly G. Gates '98 and Leila M. Hasan '98, who beat out 49 other teams to win last

Wednesday's 6.270 Autonomous Robot Design Contest.

This year's contest, entitled "RoboGolf," challenged competi-

tors to build robots that would collect foam balls from the playing field and drop balls that were initially in the robot onto the table.

Gates' and Hasan's creation, entitled "dog" and appropriately numbered as team one, drove across one side of the board, collected six neutral balls, worth two points each, and dropped several balls into holes on the board to score additional points.

Unlike many teams, which used a variety of optical, infrared, and

mechanical sensors, "dog" used a set of mechanical flaps to steer around corners without the need for complex programming, Hasan said. "We're one of the few robots not to use feedback" in the design.

The second place robot, "General Gau," built by John S. Reese '98 and Jesse N. Pavel '00, also used a simple strategy. "We intended to do just one thing — go down [the ramp] and drop six balls

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6.270



WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI—THE TECH

Leila M. Hasan and Holly G. Gates '98 bask in the glow of victory after winning this year's 6.270 competition held last Wednesday evening in 26-100. See photo essay page 17.

Computer Thefts, Network Invasions Prompt Security Changes in Bldg. 54

By Susan Buchman
STAFF REPORTER

Building 54 has experienced a rash of security breaches in the past six months, with thieves stealing items ranging from the almost valueless to a computer worth tens of thousands of dollars. There have been seven computers stolen in the

past six months. In addition, 'packet sniffers' have compromised the security of network connections. The wave of thefts has led to an increase in security and new access restrictions for the building.

"Generally we've been identifying different ways of making the building more safe and secure and

reminding people that it is important to use common sense: keep doors closed and locked when offices and labs are unattended, report any and all suspicious activity, and avoid confrontations with any strangers," said Will Heres, Systems Manager for Earth Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences.

Computers a Popular Target

One of the biggest incident was the theft of two computers from a file cabinet that had been barred shut in a locked room. The key to the room in which the file cabinet was kept was reported stolen on Friday, November 28, 1997. Sometime during the following night the theft occurred.

According to Professor Reginald E. Newell of EAPS, John Lam, a visiting professor from the Hong Kong Polytechnic Institute, had left his personal computer in the file cabinet while he was out of town for four days. Stored on the computer was data Lam had been compiling since 1993 as well as programs designed to interpret that

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Baker Renovations To Begin in Summer

by Naveen Sunkavally

The fruits of several years worth of planning will finally be realized as Baker House receives massive renovations during the next two summers. Plans to renovate the dorm were approved in the middle of January in a discussion between President Charles M. Vest, Provost Joel Moses, and Senior Vice President William R. Dickson.

Dickson put the figure for the cost of renovating Baker at \$25 million, compared to the \$11 million spent on reconstructing Senior House. Dickson said, however, that much more work will be done on Baker than was done on Senior House. "We're going to raise as much as we can," he said. "The rest will most likely be covered through a low-interest loan.

Plan to Respect Aalto's Vision

The renovations, whose expected completion date will coincide with Baker's 50th anniversary, will encompass all components of the dormitory. Tracy M. Sadowski '99, Baker's student chair of building renovations, said reconstruction of the kitchen, basement, the dining room, the commons, and other areas will take place during the upcoming summer, while student rooms will be renovated during the summer of 1999.

"The main thing to emphasize that we want to only enhance the original dormitory. Hopefully, we'll respect what [Alvar] Aalto wanted," Associate Professor of History and Baker House Housemaster William B. Watson said, referring to the famous Finnish architect who designed Baker.

"The general illumination is very low and will be increased [with] custom designed lighting fixtures," said Susan R. Personette, senior architect and project manager. The plumbing and roofing will be renovated, heating will be improved, and more program spaces will be added.

The lounge areas in Baker that were made into student rooms during the 1960's will be restored to their former state, Watson said. Since currently "a whole leaf can float through a closed window," Watson said, all the windows will also be replaced.

A roof trellis will also be added, in accordance with Aalto's original plans, Sadowski said.

Though precautions have been taken to preserve Aalto's intentions, some of the modifications planned are in response to changes in student lifestyles and needs. "Baker is a very old dormitory. We have to remember that fifty years ago there were no tele-

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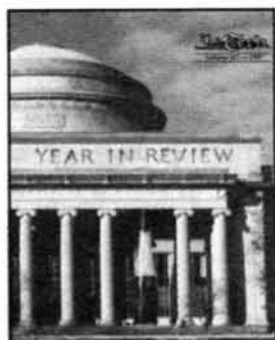
GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN—Brian Wolfe-Leonard and Seth Bisen-Hersh '01 give a grandiose performance for their employer in *The Fantasticks*. See photo essay page 16.

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The Year in Review



The 13th annual supplement to *The Tech* is included as a special insert in this issue.

WORLD & NATION

'Army of God' Claims Responsibility For Alabama Clinic Bombing

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ATLANTA

The same shadowy group that took responsibility for two bombings in Atlanta last year now claims to have planted the bomb that ripped through a Birmingham, Ala., abortion clinic last week, killing one off-duty police officer and critically injuring a nurse.

Letters sent Monday to the Reuters news agency and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* said the crude, homemade bomb that ripped through the New Woman All Women Health Care Clinic on Thursday was the work of the Army of God, a militant religious group that has surfaced repeatedly in investigations of abortion violence over the last 15 years.

Monday's letters describe how the Birmingham bombing was carried out; last year's letters contained specific information about ingredients used in the Atlanta bombs.

At a news conference here last June, officials released excerpts from the Army of God letters, hoping someone would recognize the strange writing or the angry anti-abortion, anti-government language.

Blair Supportive of Clinton

THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON

British Prime Minister Tony Blair praised President Clinton Monday for keeping his focus on "the big picture, the issues that really concern people" despite the uproar over his relationship with a White House intern.

"I just think we need a sense of perspective and balance," Blair said, speaking to American journalists as he prepared to leave Wednesday for a three-day state visit to Washington. "Politics shouldn't be run at the level of a sort of gossip column."

Blair said that Iraq will rank high on the agenda in meetings with Clinton this week. Britain has emerged as the United States' closest partner in the current confrontation, sending one of its three aircraft carriers to the Persian Gulf to add political and military muscle to demands that U.N. weapons inspectors be granted full access to suspected weapons sites.

Blair also said he and Clinton will discuss the Northern Ireland peace talks and the world economy, as well as such domestic issues as education, health care, crime and living standards.

Number of AIDS Deaths in U.S. Drops 44 Percent

LOS ANGELES TIMES

CHICAGO

The number of AIDS deaths in the United States dropped 44 percent in the first half of 1997 compared to the same period in 1996, with Los Angeles and New York City showing even greater declines.

According to the newest figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released here Monday, the number of new AIDS cases dropped 12 percent during the same period, although the number of people living with AIDS rose 12 percent to 259,000.

The improvements in statistics for both deaths and severe illness are due to new forms of therapy, particularly the advent of protease inhibitors about 3 years ago. When a protease inhibitor is combined with two other drugs that block a viral enzyme called reverse transcriptase, concentrations of the virus in the blood are dropped to undetectable levels in most patients who can tolerate the drugs.

This marks the second straight year of decline in AIDS deaths, but the latest drop is much steeper. The CDC reported 21,460 AIDS deaths in the first six months of 1996, a 14 percent decline from the previous year and the first decrease since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic in the early 1980s. In the first six months of 1997, there were only 12,040 deaths.

WEATHER Thursday Threat

By Gerard Roe

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

In the short term, our weather will be rather mundane and very warm. The southerly winds are, however, an ominous harbinger of potential trouble. All eyes should be trained for the arrival on late Wednesday night of a very powerful storm now developing over Florida. The different forecast models have quite different tracks for this system. The different realizations would bring very different weather for us. At this stage it looks as though it will be a repeat of last week's dicey encounter, with the maximum precipitation staying offshore and with Boston seeing only the westernmost edge of the storm. This scenario brings strong winds Wednesday night and Thursday, and a moderate amount of mixed precipitation, beginning as snow, and possibly in time for the Wednesday commute home. If the storm should trend only a little more to the north, then we would instead see some snow ahead of the warm front, and large to enormous amounts of rain on Thursday. In any event, the mid-level steering of this storm is weak, and so its effects will linger through Thursday and into Friday.

The best guess at this time is for another near miss, but by this evening or Wednesday morning the track (and our fate) will be clearer.

Today: Partly sunny, and ludicrously warm. Light southerly winds. High 48°F (9°C).

Tonight: Becoming cloudy.

Wednesday: Clouds increasing. Winds from the north and northeast. Chance of light snow by afternoon or evening. High 36°F (2°C). Low 29°F (-2°C).

Thursday: Our brush with doom. Check again, but probably light to moderate mixed precipitation, and becoming quite cold. High around 35°F (2°C). Low around 25°F (-4°C).

For First Time in 30 Years, Proposed Budget Balances

By Eric Pianin

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton Monday did what he promised in his State of the Union address and submitted the first balanced budget in 30 years, one that would bar substantial new spending and tax cuts until a plan is in place to preserve Social Security.

"This budget marks an end to decades of deficits that have shackled our economy, paralyzed our politics and held our people back," Clinton said at a White House ceremony. "It can mark the beginning of a new era of opportunity for a new American Century."

The 368-page document the administration sent to Congress Monday is the first formal move in what will be a series of political and legislative maneuvers throughout the coming months to craft a final budget and tax plan for fiscal 1999, which begins Oct. 1.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott of Mississippi and other GOP leaders quickly challenged some of the president's spending priorities and how he intended to pay for them. "You're talking about the lollipop budget... with lollipops for everyone," Lott told reporters.

Republican budget leaders promised to come up with a leaner budget plan of their own that emphasized tax cuts, not new spending.

The biggest criticism of Clinton's proposal is his use of \$65 billion of a proposed tobacco industry settlement to offset about two-thirds of the cost of new spending and tax relief initiatives for education, child care, expanded health

care, research and other measures.

Republicans and some Democrats — including Rep. John M. Spratt of South Carolina, the ranking Democrat on the House Budget Committee — warn that the settlement itself may be in serious trouble in Congress. Unless Clinton or his top lieutenants get more aggressively involved in trying to work out the tobacco legislation than they have in the past, "I don't see it happening," Lott said. "Right now the tobacco agreement is losing ground rather than gaining ground," Spratt said.

Yet unlike many presidential budgets, Clinton's \$1.7 trillion budget — projecting a \$9.5 billion surplus next year and packed with an estimated \$130 billion to \$150 billion of new spending and tax cuts over five years — was not declared dead on arrival. All of that spending, Clinton insisted, will be paid for.

With polls showing growing support for Clinton's spending priorities and his desire to use the surplus to bolster Social Security against the tide of baby boom retirements that threaten its long-term solvency, Republicans have little choice but to take seriously the president's proposals — even as Clinton struggles with the White House sex scandal.

According to a new Washington Post poll, 75 percent of those interviewed approve of Clinton's call to strengthen Social Security before using any of the projected surpluses. While nearly half of the Americans surveyed described Social Security reform as their top priority, only 17 percent called for further reductions

in income tax — as favored by many Republicans — and 10 percent favored new domestic programs.

Republican criticism was further tempered by widespread voter approval of Clinton's handling of the economy and the fact that the president's new budget is tied into last summer's bipartisan balanced budget agreement that both parties heralded as a turning point in GOP-Democratic relations.

"It's obvious that the president of the United States is popular," Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete V. Domenici, R-N.M., told reporters. "It's obvious that he has put forth a series, long litany, of popular programs... [but] it's absolutely preposterous, the contradiction of telling the American people government's getting smaller." He said Clinton's plan to use proceeds from a tobacco settlement that may not materialize was irresponsible and could lead to spending in excess of limits established by last year's budget agreement.

Overall, Clinton's budget projects a 3.9 percent increase in federal spending over the current fiscal year. The biggest winners are child care, with \$21 billion for increased subsidies, tax credits and grants; and education, with large increases to add 100,000 teachers and reduce class size for grades 1 through 3 as well as build or remodel 5,000 schools. Clinton has also proposed greatly expanding the Medicare national health program for seniors by extending eligibility to Americans 55 to 64 years of age who can afford the premium.

Russia's Diplomacy Dismissed By Iraq and Western Officials

By Vanora Bennett and Craig Turner

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

Russia claimed credit Monday for a break in the international standoff with Iraq, asserting that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had agreed to a compromise that would let outsiders into some now-closed "presidential palaces" and possibly avert the growing threat of an American military strike to force Iraq's compliance with a post-Persian Gulf war disarmament regime.

But no sooner had the Kremlin publicized its diplomacy than American and U.N. officials called it insufficient and no real solution.

And Baghdad then denied that it had reached any deals with Moscow.

Monday's confusion occurred even as Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met with Saudi Arabian leaders in hopes of securing more regional support for the tough American stance on Iraq and as U.N. officials considered ways to offer ordinary Iraqis more humanitarian aid.

The Russians, who have resisted the possibility of U.S. air strikes to try to compel Hussein to give U.N. inspectors unfettered access to sites where weapons of mass destruction may be manufactured or stored, asserted via the semi-official Itar-Tass news agency that the Iraqi leader was now ready to meet Richard Butler, the world body's chief weapons inspector.

They said Hussein had also agreed to designate up to eight presidential sites for U.N. weapons inspections. But the inspectors who would be allowed into these sites

would go as representatives of their governments, not the United Nations, and they would be accompanied by diplomatic officials.

The Tass dispatch followed a meeting between Hussein and Viktor Posuvalyuk, Russia's deputy foreign minister and a former ambassador to Iraq.

The Kremlin — which had won international praise last fall for brokering an end to a standoff with Baghdad, which then had ejected U.N. inspections teams, claiming they had too many Americans on them — was triumphant at what it said was Hussein's latest, though limited, concession. "As a result of Russian diplomatic efforts, a clear shift has become noticeable in the Iraqi leadership's position, which provides a graphic illustration of the correctness of Russia's stance," Sergei Yastrzhembsky, President Boris N. Yeltsin's press secretary, told Tass.

Yeltsin later discussed Moscow's diplomatic efforts with President Clinton and French President Jacques Chirac.

In their 20-minute conversation, Clinton and Yeltsin agreed that a diplomatic solution to the Iraqi standoff remained the preferable course. Clinton made the case that Iraq's continued defiance of the U.N. inspection teams is unacceptable, and Yeltsin concurred. They agreed to stay in close touch in coming days.

But no sooner had the Kremlin detailed its view of the situation and made public its announcement about an Iraqi deal, other U.S. officials expressed their doubts.

"Having kind of piecemeal inspections by groups (of diplomats and non-U.N. personnel) does not

strike me as meeting the basic standard we have been talking about for so long," Albright said after meeting with the Saudis.

Defense Secretary William S. Cohen dismissed the Moscow-Baghdad proposal, saying, "While it's something that we should look at, I don't think it's a solution."

At the United Nations, officials also noted that the plan failed to meet Security Council demands that Iraq provide unconditional access to any site designated for inspection, including presidential compounds.

Then, Riyadh Kaisi, the Iraqi deputy foreign minister, later Monday told reporters in Baghdad that the Tass report of a deal was "totally, totally incorrect." He said "no such thing was discussed" in Posuvalyuk's meeting with Hussein.

U.S. officials insist the international community must act because Iraq continues to balk at letting U.N. inspectors destroy the Iraqi regime's chemical and biological warfare capabilities. U.N. inspectors must certify that Iraq has eliminated its weapons of mass destruction before the international community will lift its punishing trade embargoes on Iraq.

In New York on Monday, Secretary-General Kofi Annan proposed to the Security Council a major expansion of humanitarian aid to Iraqis suffering under sanctions and urged there be "no linkage" between the assistance and the impasse over weapons inspectors.

His report recommended an increase in the program, first approved in December 1996, that permits Iraq to sell a limited amount of oil to be used for food and medicine distributed under U.N. supervision.

Administration Proposes Increases In Science Funding

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration has proposed substantial, and in some respects unprecedented, increases in federal funding for science and technology research in fiscal 1999. Overall, the budget requests \$78.2 billion — a comparatively modest expansion of about \$2 billion, or 3 percent above 1998 levels — for military and civilian research programs combined.

But many agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy and National Science Foundation, are slated for sizable increases. The NIH would receive an additional \$1.15 billion, or 8.4 percent, the largest dollar increase in its history. That would bring its 1999 budget to \$14.8 billion to accommodate new initiatives in cancer, diabetes, brain disorders and genetic medicine, among others. NSF funding would rise 10 percent, to \$3.8 billion, to underwrite research on computers, information technology, education and basic research. The Energy Department's research and development programs would increase 11 percent to \$7.2 billion, boosting efforts to improve energy efficiency, reduce "greenhouse" gas emissions and pay for shared science facilities.

Researchers Link Gene to Short-Term Memory

THE WASHINGTON POST

It is hard to think of something more abstract and fragile than a memory. Nevertheless, like all brain functions, memory is ultimately a physical phenomenon, and obviously a fairly durable one.

Although how the machine of memory runs is still a mystery, neuroscientists have located some of its nuts, bolts and moving parts. And now, researchers at the Baylor College of Medicine have found a new one. Michael S. Grotewiel, Ronald L. Davis and their colleagues report in the Jan. 29 *Nature* that they have discovered a gene they named *Volado*, or "absent-minded" in the Chilean dialect of Spanish. It appears necessary for short-term memory formation.

The researchers showed that fruit flies with a defective form of the gene are unable to register or retain the memory of odors. Using genetic engineering techniques, the researchers also created flies with a *Volado* gene that could be temporarily activated if the insects were put in an unusually hot environment for 15 minutes. These flies performed poorly on a memory test before the heat treatment, normally after it, and poorly again 24 hours later. This suggests the protein encoded by *Volado* has a limited lifespan and needs to be present at the moment of learning for memories to form.

The *Volado* protein is an "integrin." Integrins regulate the physical contact between cells and help control their chemical signaling. How these activities contribute to memory, however, remains unknown.

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Politics Must Make Way for Safety

Naveen Sunkavally

With the spring semester approaching fast, I still find it hard to believe that the freshman class that entered this institution five months ago is now two people smaller. The deaths of Umaer A. Basha '01 and Scott S. Krueger '01 were both senseless, but the circumstances behind each tragedy were vastly different. Basha's death leaves one feeling the pangs of human insignificance in the hands of sinister fate, while Krueger's death tastes of bitter human failure and ignorance.

There are always experiences that men and institutions should not have to go through, but the experiences having happened, it is imperative that as much as possible be learned from them. Krueger's tragic death should not have occurred, but it will be an even greater tragedy if we do not learn anything from it.

So what has occurred so far? The administration and student organizations slapped together bans, President Charles M. Vest established a committee on binge drinking that has yet to produce anything, and the introspective dialogue scheduled for the month of October has yet to occur.

To his credit, Vest did announce the construction of a new undergraduate dormitory, but an extra dormitory does little to combat alcohol abuse without education. In fact, it will only create a place to which our current problems can spread. Incidents such as those at Zeta Psi, Theta Chi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Bexley House have occurred at the rate of one per month, and there is no reason to believe they won't continue given the delays in intro-

spective dialogue. The incidents have shown that students do not want to give up their alcohol and suggest that alcohol bans are not effective solutions in encouraging the safe consumption of alcohol.

The Institute did demonstrate that it wasn't completely insane when a somewhat irrational resolution suggesting cramping all next year's freshman on campus died a whimpering death at a faculty meeting. But that's all that's happened.

I understand that all educational institutions are foremost political institutions, but someone in power sometime soon must recognize that politics must play second-string to safety. Neal H. Dorow's statement that he was unaware of drinking at fraternities might be an astute political maneuver geared to avoid further outside media outrage, but what it really demonstrates is MIT's sheer lack of concern for student safety. It's as if all these years problems have been banging at our door, and now that the door has come crashing down, we are still unable to see them in the eye.

So what should be done? First, administrators must form a concrete alcohol policy. I don't think many students, let alone administrators themselves, can fully explain current alcohol policy and what constitutes a violation of alcohol policy. Administrators are handling all alcohol-related affairs on a whimsical case-by-case basis. For example, I can't understand why the administration has coddled Bexley House after its most recent violation while it has slammed fraternities such as Theta Chi with a suspension of privileges.

After forming a concrete alcohol policy, administrators must inform the students of it. Such a simple step could be achieved by e-mailing students through residence mailing lists. Once the rules are in place, then modification of rules can begin, through civil disobedience or debate.

In an October column I said that contin-

uing a general ban policy will only drive drinking underground and do nothing to teach safe alcohol consumption. I still think that this is the case. We can put in place a useful level of supervision by having the Institute adopt some of the rules put forth Interfraternity Council's alcohol policy, such as the presence of party monitors and required certification for parties serving alcohol.

It is unrealistic to expect students to follow an underage drinking law that itself does not make sense. Students 21 years of age do not experience some cosmic revelation that makes them more responsible than students 20 years and 364 days of age. If Krueger had turned 21 seconds before his death, would there be as much controversy as there is now? The only reason I see for keeping this law is to prevent highway deaths, but the majority of MIT's underage population doesn't even drive.

The current focus on underage drinking rather than irresponsible drinking suggests that the administration is more concerned about liability than safety. Effective alcohol policy is a concern of the entire MIT population, from undergraduates to faculty. It will cover not only underage drinking but also irresponsible drinking. And the only way to address irresponsible drinking is through education.

In my October column I suggested that one method of education would involve students attending mandatory lectures on alcohol awareness at Kresge; I now realize that such an idea is only a chimera. Perhaps expanding and extending sessions like "Beer 101" would be more practical.

Krueger should not have died, but we need to at least learn from it. The Institute is only stumbling over the introductory steps of this process, and if we continue to stumble, we'll find ourselves reeling back in last October's tragic situation.

Campus Clutter Breeds Discontent

Douglas E. Heimburger

Some things just irk me — but then there are the things that really *irk* me. I'm taking about things that start out being rather harmless but later turn out to be incredibly annoying.

Take the debris lying around the Institute, for example. I'm not talking about the construction sites that have plagued the east side of campus for the last three years, but the visual debris that litters the campus.

Walk down one of the lower-numbered buildings on Main Campus (not the Infinite Corridor), and one is barraged by an array of signs. While this isn't bad, it becomes increasingly annoying as one notes some of the signs. For example, I recently walked down the hall and found an LSC poster for some week back in 1994, an advertisement to come to *The Tech's* Spring 1996 open house, and some signs announcing fellowships for the fall of 1995.

These signs aren't the most annoying ones, though. The ones that are even more annoying are the ones that are screaming "TODAY" on the Infinite Corridor. I've often scanned the boards and found something I liked — and then I discover that TODAY actually occurred yesterday, or weeks ago.

Most of the times, these "TODAYS" are marked in huge handwritten markers across the poster, indicating that someone walked down and noted where each of their posters are. Why didn't have these same people walk down the corridor after the event and remove their now-outdated posters or promotional announcements?

It's not a problem that extends just to posters. I walked down the Infinite Corridor yesterday and noticed the great announcement that there are "12 identical food stations located throughout the entire corridor" — obviously a sign from the Infinite Buffet, held over two months ago. Why wasn't this sign taken down weeks ago, especially considering that there never truly were 12 identical food stations even during the Infinite Buffet.

I'm sure that most people are thinking "yeah, what's the big deal. Some people leave posters out in the halls." But the problem is a much bigger deal than it appears at the surface.

An educational institution is much more

than a common room for its students. It's also expected — especially in the case of the "elite" institutions like MIT — that the place at least look somewhat nice.

Now I know that the Institute doesn't currently have much standing on those issues, since, except in the newly renovated and built buildings, the interior of the Institute isn't appealing, especially in areas off the Infinite Corridor.

Yet this clutter, especially expired signs touting events that have long past, reinforce the image to some that the Institute is an organization living in the past. Let's face it: as we trundle towards the twenty-first century in our labs and research facilities, our common facilities still look as if they haven't been cleaned up in a decade, especially in the less-traveled corridors.

Even more, the presence of all these signs reveals that the reengineering of Physical Plant and other organizations hasn't truly improved the efficiency and the service of the groups. Physical Plant is exceedingly quick to remove posters and other material on approved Association of Student Activities posting facilities even before events occur, but it doesn't bother to remove the more annoying illegal signs displayed in violation of the posting guidelines.

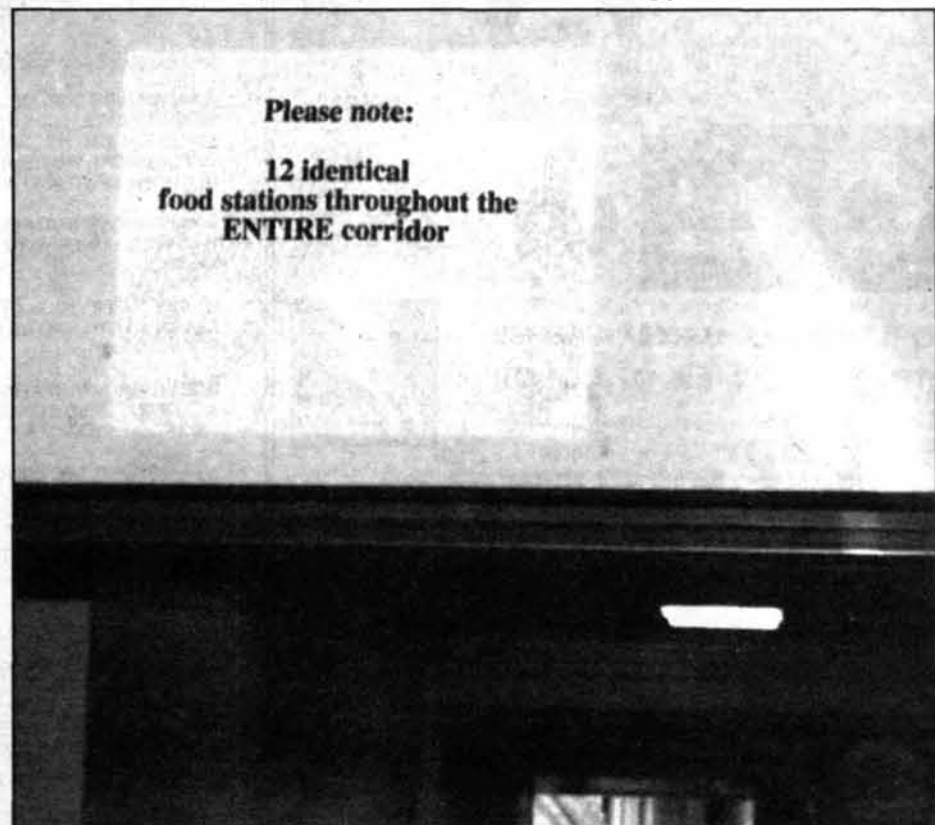
You'd think that Physical Plant would

have reorganized itself to actually take down things like this. But it seems that it may have more important things to do than taking posters down, such as making sure the floors are clean.

The most effective thing to happen would be for people to take down their posters after their events occur. But that's not always going to happen, since students don't always have time to make a run around campus to take down signs that should be taken down by Physical Plant.

A far more effective strategy, then, given that people are going to leave their signs up, is for Physical Plant to remove more regularly all posters and signs placed up in defiance of established posting guidelines. Every university has established posting guidelines; by not removing posters, MIT is one of the few not to rigidly enforce its guidelines.

Now, we as students could form vigilante bands to go out and take down all these posters, but with the level of apathy and focus on alcohol policy, it's highly unlikely that we'll see that occurrence anytime soon. After all, it is Physical Plant's job to keep the Institute clean in exchange for our \$11,600 per term, and we should expect that it will at least get rid of outdated posters and current ones in the wrong places.



Feminists Are Hypocrites In Scandal

Zareena Hussain

Despite the lackluster campaign performance by the Republican party, it was women: young college women, soccer moms, and feminists who overwhelmingly supported Clinton and ensured his victory in the last presidential election. And now, even after allegations of scandal in the Lewinsky case have surfaced and subsided (like so many other presidential scandals) it is still women who are his staunchest supporters.

It is refreshing that there has not been a rush by the public to judge the president based on second-hand and third-hand hearsay that infiltrated mainstream newspapers. But there is one disturbing aspect: the acceptance by many women of the vilification of Monica Lewinsky as scatter-brained and emotionally unstable. *The New York Times* reports that some women's groups see Lewinsky as a "predator" and quotes an unnamed congresswoman as saying, "We do not see Monica as some little naif here."

So all of a sudden it is the victim we blame. We hear reports that she was promiscuous in college and had an affair with her high school drama teacher. She is young and foolish. It is the victim we say is lying, embellishing truths, and telling tall-tales of relations that never were.

I quite frankly don't get it. When Anita Hill accused Clarence Thomas of seemingly innocuous comments about whether there was pubic hair on a Coke can, women and feminists were in an uproar. How could a nominee for the Supreme Court engage in such tasteless humor and abuse of power?

Whether, as Hilary Clinton asserted on the *Today* show, this whole Lewinsky scandal is some right-wing conspiracy, or whether a fitting gift for Clinton's next birthday would be Wag-the-Dog boxer shorts is yet to be judged. One thing is clear, however: while we have spared Clinton from the wrath of prejudging and the sting of insinuation, we have not accorded Monica Lewinsky the same laxity.

It is not the lack of outrage among women against the alleged indiscretions of the president that I bemoan. What angers me is the acceptance of Lewinsky's portrayal in the media, as stated by the White House, and pushed by such examples of upstanding journalism as the television news magazine *Hard Copy*. She has been tried without her day in court and the verdict is this: Lewinsky is the fat, insecure slut in high school from whom girls needed to keep their boyfriends far, far away.

Where is the support for one's fellow woman? Where is the solidarity that women espoused from the days of Susan B. Anthony to the height of the woman's rights movement in the 1970s? Where is the outrage that a woman's entire life and her credibility can be judged by her previous sexual activity?

Maybe it's because Monica Lewinsky does not fit the bill of what unfortunately has come to be the self-inflicted stereotype of what a woman or feminist must be. She does not satisfy the ideal well-educated, Ivy League, could-have-been-a-supermodel-but-decided-to-be-a-feminist portrait.

What is more disturbing is that the same women you think would support Monica Lewinsky in the face of such a character attack have instead supported the president who launched the attack.

That same unnamed Congresswoman said, "We are not falling on our swords for these types of women, Paula Jones or Jennifer Flowers."

So what types of women do we defend? And based on what criteria is a woman deemed worthy of defending? Does she have to be a feminist? Does she have to be trying to break the glass ceiling? Or will she only be heard when, as Anita Hill did, she charges a conservative political official with misconduct?

In supporting Clinton and disapproving of Monica Lewinsky, women walk a dangerous line. They are, perhaps unknowingly, embracing the words and stereotypes that continue to oppress women.

Sex, as evidenced by the Lewinsky case, continues to be used as a tool to put down women. Charges of promiscuity will never sting men with the same vengeance as they do for women.

The liberation of years past is only imagined. What is disturbing, now more than ever, is that women have become the tools of their own oppression.

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Orientation 1998 To Be Finalized As Student Groups Are Consulted

By Zareena Hussain
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Last year's debates over alcohol, housing, and Residence and Orientation Week may be a distant memory to some, but work continues on changing to the existing system.

Within the next few weeks major changes to R/O will be finalized by a committee composed of concerned faculty, deans, and administrators, said Dean for Undergraduate Curriculum Kip V. Hodges PhD '82. This committee will be responsible for formulating what is in essence "a bill of rights" to set the framework for planning the upcoming changes, Hodges said.

In the coming weeks Hodges will meet with various student leaders representing dormitories, fraternities and independent living groups to present the committee's decisions about R/O. "At this point, I have not brought students in the process," Hodges said.

However, the discussion is still ongoing. "The changes are not yet clear," Hodges said, "I'm telling students everything I know."

While the bulk of changes to R/O will be finalized in the coming weeks, some changes have already

been made.

R/O 1998 will be renamed Orientation 1998 to reflect a greater emphasis on introducing freshmen to the Institute rather than on residence selection during a student's first week on campus. Project Move Off Your Assumptions will still exist, but in a different format. MOYA leaders will now have to be associate advisors in order to participate, said Elizabeth Cogliano, coordinator of student programs.

In addition, the timetables for freshmen arrival next year will not be markedly different from those used in previous years. At most, students might arrive on a Wednesday evening as opposed to Thursday afternoon, Hodges said. The Interfraternity Council President's Council previously recommended that Orientation begin on Monday with an academic component taking place before the beginning of rush on a Friday.

Plans are also already in the works to enact the recommendations of the O/R committee to offer freshmen a more informative guide giving objective information about all residences, Hodges said.

Student input still to be included

For now the major focus is on defining larger goals such as the desire to make R/O a less stressful experience for students, to provide better information about residences and academic opportunities and to foster the feeling among students

that they are part of a greater community, Hodges said.

After these larger goals are defined students will be involved in their implementation, Hodges said.

While students will be involved in offering input in the decision-making process, their role in official decision making is likely to be minimal early in the process. Students will be more involved working out the details of implementing proposals, he said.

"We [faculty and deans] have to ask ourselves the hard questions of what we want our students to get out of orientation," Hodges said. "We had an unfortunate time with this whole freshmen on campus issue," he said. "The sense I felt very strongly was 'us against them,'" he said. Hodges will attempt to contact leaders of student government and FSILGs this term in order to avoid the acrimony that accompanied some of the open forums of last term.

Dormitory Council President Ashesh P. Shah '98 objected to the lack of student input at this stage, saying that it made it far more difficult to change in the future. "When you have a grass-roots process... people can [later] come together and make the changes that need to be made."

A more "top-down" process can lead to problems. "A lot of people feel they get the runaround when

R/O, Page 12

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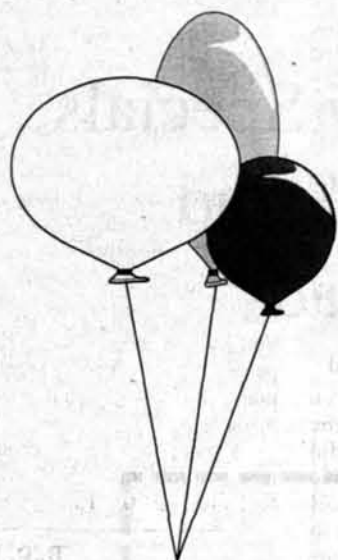
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The GSC Funding Board deadline for the Spring term is Tuesday, Feb. 3, 5:00 PM.



The GSC Travel Grants application is available from Room 50-220, or download from the GSC homepage! Deadline: February 6, 1998!



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- 6 Spring Orientation Social *
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- 11 Activities Meeting *

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ACLU Investigates Utah Administration Misconduct

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The American Civil Liberties Union of Utah is looking into reports that University of Utah administrators improperly used student academic records.

Short Takes

Carol Gnade, executive director of the Utah ACLU, said that the most "egregious" complaint against the University was filed by freshman Brandon Winn, a *Daily Utah Chronicle* sportswriter who, in the Oct. 13, 1997, issue of the *Chronicle*, offended parks, recreation and tourism chair Professor Gary Ellis and undergraduate advisor John Crossley.

In his column, Winn complained about the "fair-weather fans" of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. "The problem with these fans is they are about as bright as a parks and tourism major," Winn wrote.

Crossley and Ellis obtained a copy of Winn's academic record and confronted a *Chronicle* reporter in their office on an unrelated assignment. Crossley vocally expressed his opinion regarding Winn's "stupid[ity]" and "level of brightness" and referred to Winn's confidential academic record.

In a letter to *Chronicle* Editor-In-Chief Robert A. Jones and Business Manager Robert McOmber, Crossley and Ellis exposed details contained in Winn's academic records, which, according to Gnade, is a "gross" violation of the Family Education and Privacy Act (FERPA) and university policy.

When asked about the memo regarding Winn, Ellis said, "The *Chronicle* feels that it can print irresponsible and immature information," and refused to comment further.

Crossley said he "felt that the letter was appropriate in dealing with [Winn's] stupid statement," and that he was "going through the appropriate channels."

Later, he said he did not believe he had obtained Winn's records appropriately. He said that illegitimate access of student academic information "probably happens all over the university."

University legal council said that "The university is compliant [with privacy laws] in policy and practice."

[*Daily Utah Chronicle*, 01/26/98]

Georgia Tech charters ReJOYce

Under threat of a lawsuit, the Georgia Institute of Technology's Undergraduate Student Council and Graduate Student Senate voted to charter ReJOYce in Jesus Campus Ministry after more than a year of discussion.

Both groups were concerned about the groups constitution, which states that "a voting member of this organization shall agree to conduct himself or herself in accordance with the following standards of personal conduct set forth herein." One of these standards states, "A voting member of this organization shall not commit those acts which are expressly forbidden in Scripture, including idolatry, premarital or extramarital sex, homosexual behavior, drunkenness, coveting, theft, profanity, occult practices, and dishonesty."

Some members SGA balked at the exclusion of homosexuals as voting members. While some current groups have similar restrictions on officers, none have them on voting members, said Elaine Newton, Vice President of Undergraduate Student Council, who broke a deadlocked 21-21 vote in USC by voting for the bill.

The Board of Regents' policy reads, "no student [of the] University System, on the ground of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age or handicap, [may] be excluded from participa-

tion in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia or any of its several institutions now in existence or hereafter established."

The Georgia Tech policy adds sexual orientation as another ground by which a person may not be discriminated against.

Last Spring, ReJOYce obtained a lawyer. In a letter to the Chair of the Joint Campus Organizations Committee, Steven McFarland from the Western Center for Law and Religious Freedom stated that "Governing law requires the university to recognize the RIJCM chapter." He ended the letter with an allusion to possible lawsuit. "We look forward to resolving this matter without litigation, if at all possible," he said.

SGA went to its advisor, Dean of Students Gail DiSabatino, who, in turn, went to the Georgia Tech Legal department, who in turn went to Board of Regents' Legal Council, who asked State Attorney General, Thurbert E. Baker his opinion of the situation.

Barker said that Georgia Tech, would violate the constitutional rights of its students and ReJOYce organizers by refusing to recognize

the group as a student organization.

[*Technique*, 01/26/98]

Sofield may sue Penn

After University of Pennsylvania freshman Bill Sofield's acquittal on disorderly conduct and resisting arrest charges, his family is now mulling an option that has always been on the back burner — a civil suit against the University alleging that police were unnecessarily brutal when they arrested him.

On October 30, Sofield, 18, his older brother Richard, and their

friend Warnell "Yode" Owens were arrested for disorderly conduct outside the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house on Locust Walk. Owens allegedly assaulted several police officers before he was subdued forcibly, and Bill Sofield was charged with resisting arrest.

In the course of the arrest, according to Fiji brothers who witnessed the incident, police unnecessarily beat Bill Sofield after he fled into the fraternity house. The Sofields never filed a formal complaint.

But the Division of Public

Safety has investigated those allegations. The one and a half month probe concluded that the 15-20 officers who entered the Fiji house to arrest Sofield did not act improperly, because force was necessary in order to handcuff Sofield.

On Wednesday, however, Court of Common Pleas Judge James Deleon acquitted Sofield on charges that he resisted arrest, reasoning that what police called "resisting arrest" — primarily kicking and flailing his

Short Takes, Page 28

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Student Leaders Uniformed as Orientation Evolves

R/O, from Page 6

they try to change it," he said. "Unless you can get one of the bigwigs to sign on, who's to say that you can change it," he added.

"I'm glad they're forming committees with student input but I think they need to take it to a higher level," he said.

Many student leaders still remain largely in the dark about proposed changes, however, and are not sure of the extent to which decisions have been made.

"The administration knows and sometime this week we are going to find out," said Interfraternity Council President Duane H. Dreger '99. "It is just sort of this cloud

hanging out there: waiting to see what [the changes] will be, Dreger said.

One major concern is the lack of separation between residence selection and academic orientation, Dreger said. For example, shortly after students choose a residence they must quickly move to academic and administrative concerns, he

said. As a result, both aspects of orientation are compromised by the conflict between residence and orientation.

Other groups have also been working to change R/O. "[Independent Living Groups] are planning to put out their own rush guide" said Christopher D. Beland '00 a president of Fenway House.

In addition, ILGs may formalize the current consortium of ILGs and turn it into an official organization, he said. Beland said that he wasn't "expecting very many problems" with the work being done by the committees examining orientation.

"Everything is in the details and we will be watching those very closely," he added.

Dan McGuire contributed to the reporting of this story.

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INFO SESSION

Wed, Mar 4 • 8:00-9:00 p.m.
Killian Court, Rm 4-145

ON CAMPUS INTERVIEWS

Thurs-Fri • Mar 5 & 6
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FUN AND INTERESTING PEOPLE

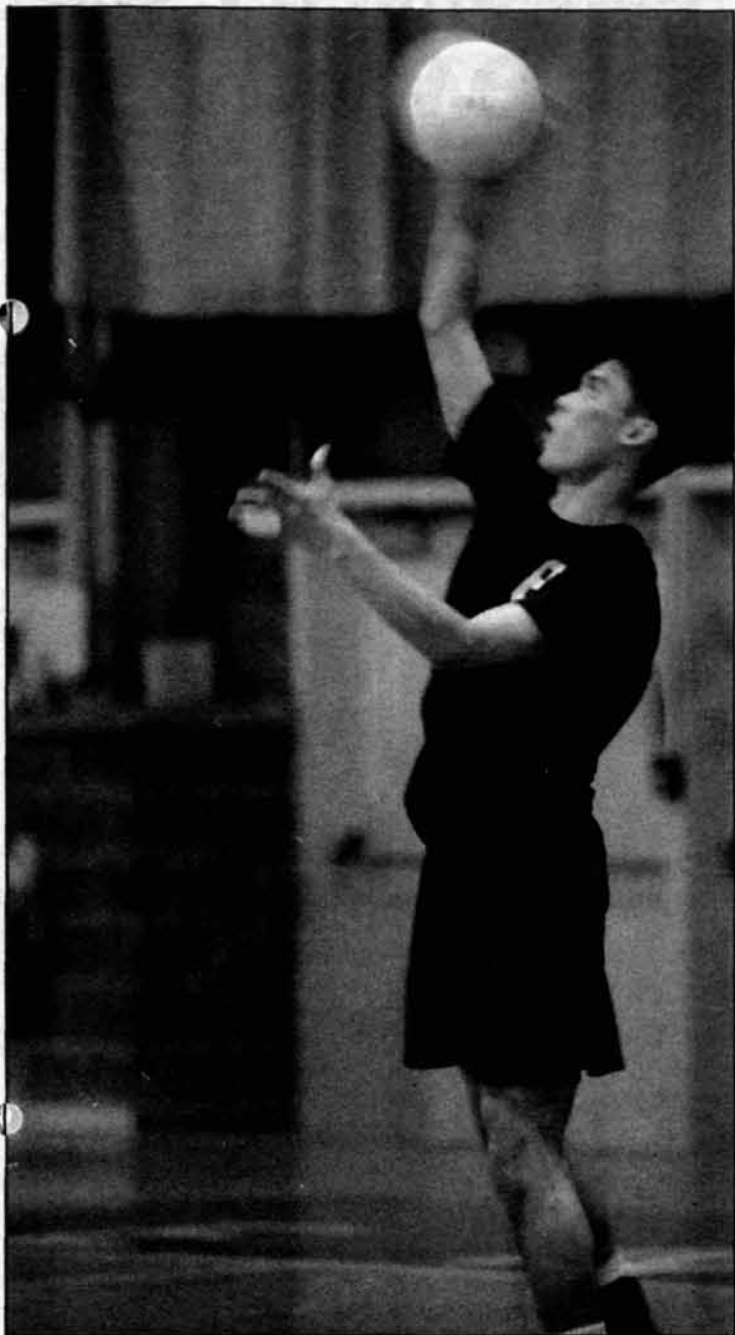
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AJAI BHARADWAJ—THE TECH
James Hslao '99 serves the ball for the Engineers on Saturday at the MIT Invitational tournament. MIT lost in the quarterfinals.

RECRUITING INFORMATION SESSION AND REFRESHMENTS

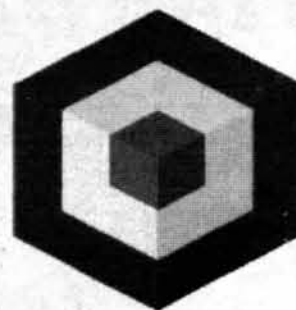
Tuesday, February 3rd

M.I.T. Room 4-149

6:00pm

Interviews on February 4th

For more information contact your Career Center or jobs@inktomi.com



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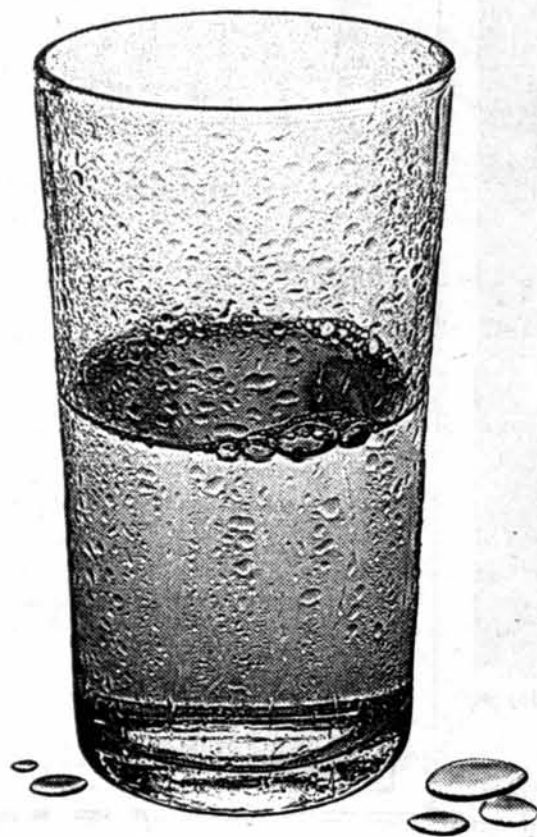
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1998

6:30 PM

LOCATION: ROOM 4-163

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

'dog' Prevails After Unprecedented Final Round Tie

6.270, from Page 1

in the holes," Reese said. Originally, the team was going to drop and pick up balls, "but we realized that picking up would be too hard."

Placing third was "Tigger," designed by William C. Chen '00, Jack V. Chung '00, and Bruce C. Po '99. The team aimed to collect the same six neutral balls as "dog," while it did not attempt to drop balls at the same time. "It grabs the balls and hangs on to them," Po said.

Intermediate qualifier added

An increase in the number of participating teams from 40 to 50 this year necessitated a second, intermediate round of competition. The round was held on Wednesday morning following initial cuts. 34 teams entered the final rounds of competition, said Michael S. Allen G, an organizer of the contest.

Even the three finalists faced stiff competition in the double-elimination preliminary rounds. "There were several teams that could have beaten us," Hasan said.

There was still room for creative entries in the contest, however. Among the more humorous entries was "Millennium Falcon," designed by Angel X. Chang '99, Mukul Kundu '99, and Amy W. Ng '99. The team's entry, which nearly reached the finals, was designed in about three hours when the team realized that its original code would not work, Kundu said.

"We decided to make it entertaining," she said. The robot was designed to "jump off the cliff, do a 360 [turn] and bound around the walls." Several times the robot almost attempted to jump off the table. Nevertheless, it succeeded in gathering points on almost all rounds.

First final rounds ends in tie

Once the three teams reached the final rounds they were paired off against each other in a round-robin competition. Each team won one of its two matches, resulting in an unprecedented tie. Misfortune struck "dog" when a switch telling the robot its position was set in the wrong position, causing the robot to go the wrong way when the round started against "General Gau." "We were so excited that we forgot to set the switch," Gates said.

During both final rounds strategies clashed. "Tigger" and "dog" met head to head in both matchups. However, "dog" emerged as the victor due to its faster speed; it managed to overpower "Tigger" and keep it from scoring more than 5 points while itself scoring between 15 and 20 points.

When the correctly-set "dog" competed against "General Gau," both robots performed to expectation. Yet "dog" beat out "General Gau" to win the competition by a score of 22-14.

The level of competition in the final rounds "is unprecedented for 6.270," Allen said. Had the robots again tied in the second round-robin contest, the robot with the highest total score would have been declared the winner.

Contest remains well attended

The contest, funded in part by the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Motorola, Microsoft, and Lego, among others, remains one of the Institute's best-attended events. Room 26-100 was filled to capacity throughout the competition, with late comers directed to Room 34-101, where live video feeds were broadcast. The contest was also televised live on MIT Cable and on the Internet.

Each year's contest is run by a team of organizers and teaching assistants, who had, for the most part, previously competed in 6.270.

Participants can earn six units of credit for the competition by completing a journal during the design phases, said Edwin Foo '98, another of the organizers.

Teams pay a \$150 fee to enter the

competition, but receive components worth about \$750 to keep provided that they qualify for the contest.

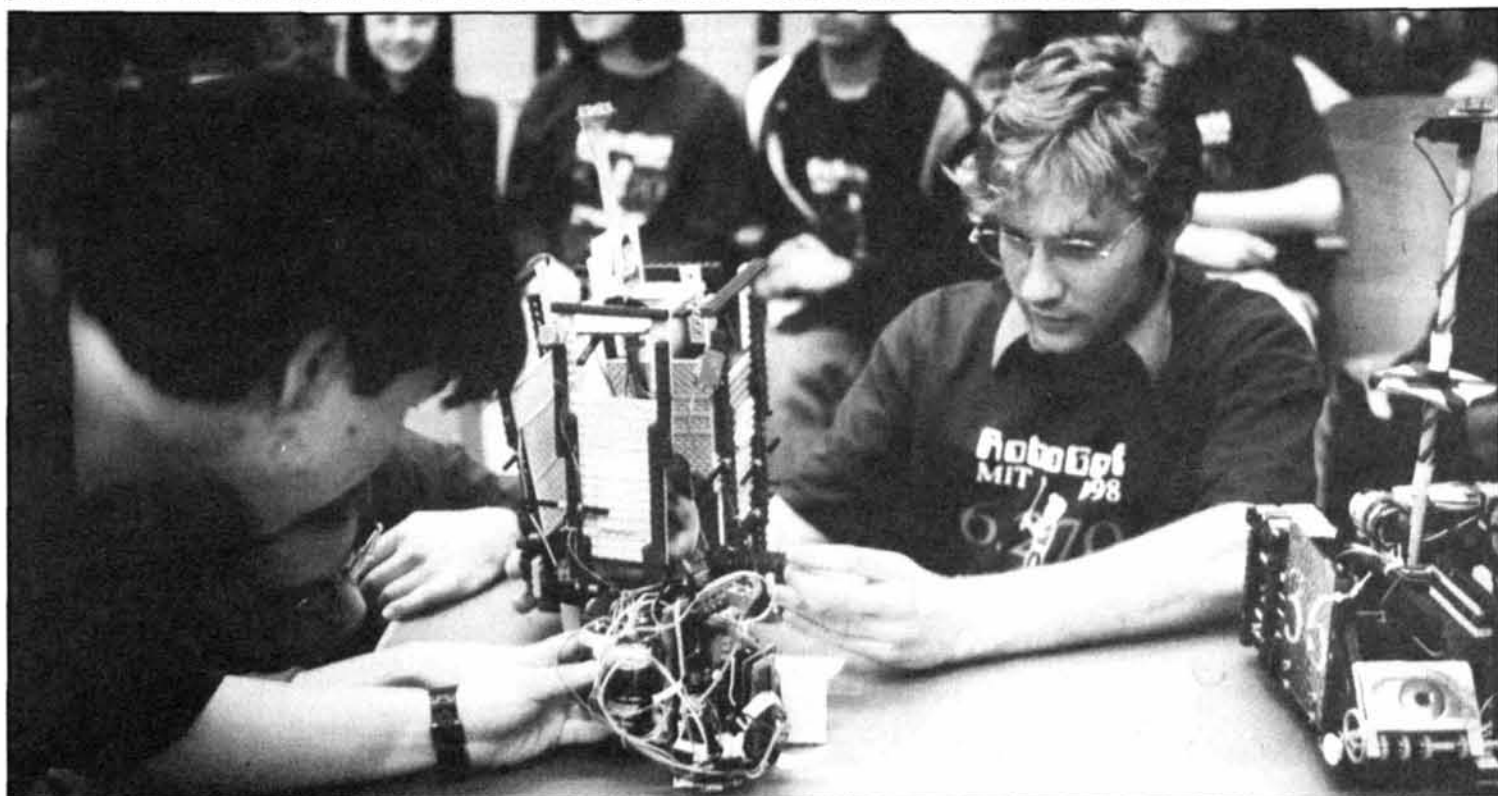
Next year, the contest will feature vastly upgraded on-board computers. The new controller boards

will have 32-bit processors with 4 megabytes of RAM and the potential for additional sensing equipment, possibly including imaging, Foo said. Still, one of the key goals of the contest is teaching students

the value of simplicity in designs.

For the winning team, simplicity was incorporated into all aspects of the design. "It was so simple there wasn't much room for failure," Hasan said. The robot almost failed

to qualify before the competition, as its flaps malfunctioned. Nonetheless, the robot managed to get some of the balls wedged under its structure and it remained undefeated until the final round.



Richard D. Li '00, Ian K. Ferguson '00 and Abraham D. Flaxman '00 tend their robot between rounds during last Wednesday's 6.270 competition.

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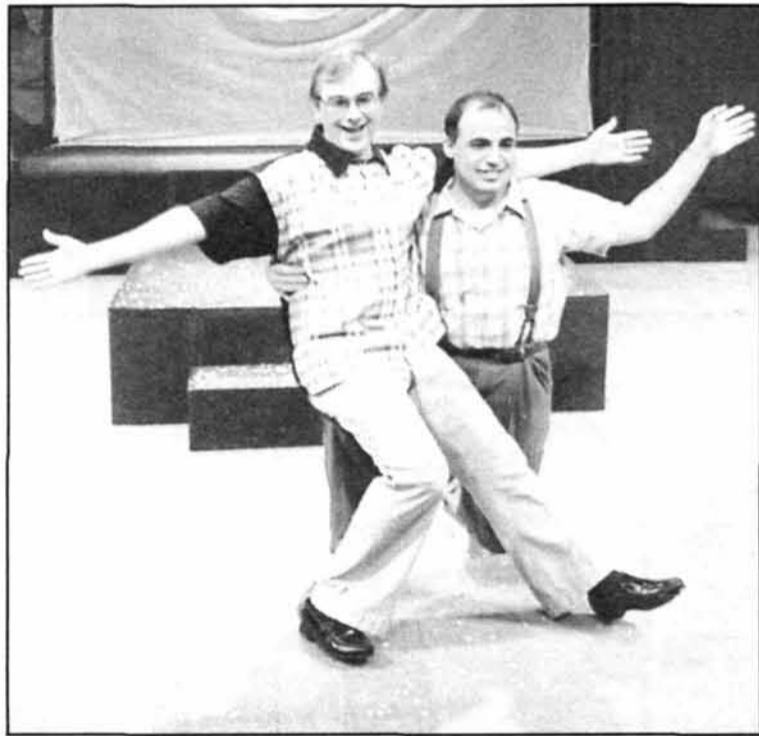
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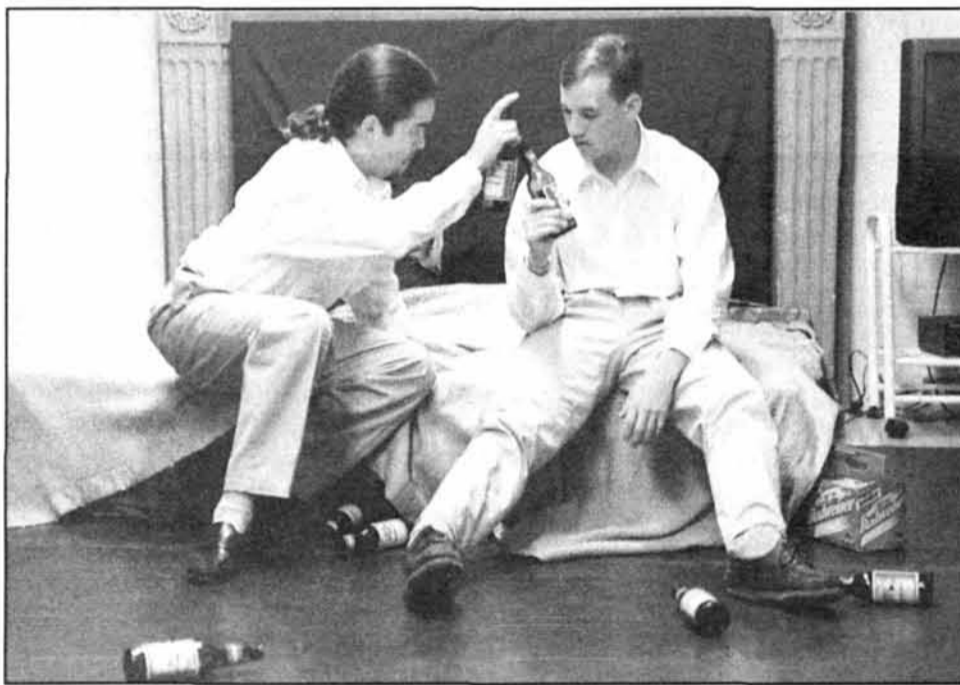


The Fantasticks

Captions (above clockwise):

- Kevin McMahon and Sally Chou '98 sing their love from across the wall in *Metaphore*.
- A happy ending, but it's only act one....
- Stephen Peters G and Tarik Alkasab '92 celebrate their deception in *Never Say No*.

Photos by: Gábor Csányi, Greg Kuhnen



Sexual Perversion in Chicago

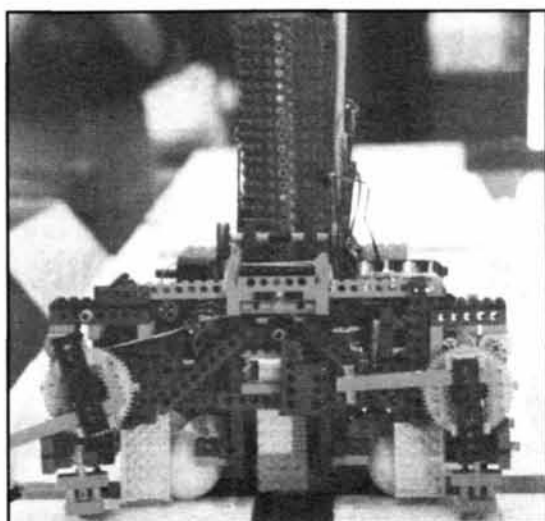
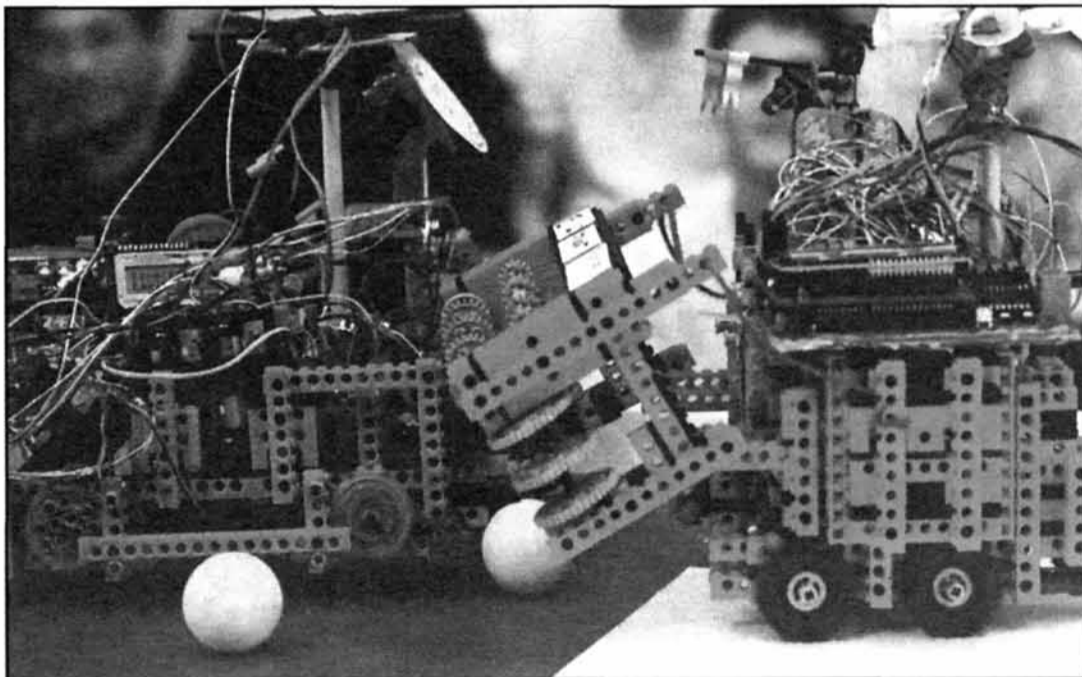
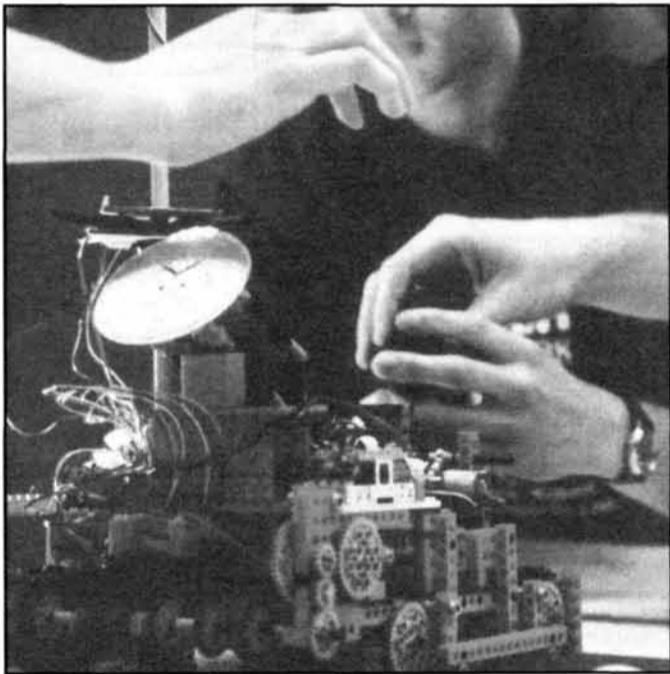
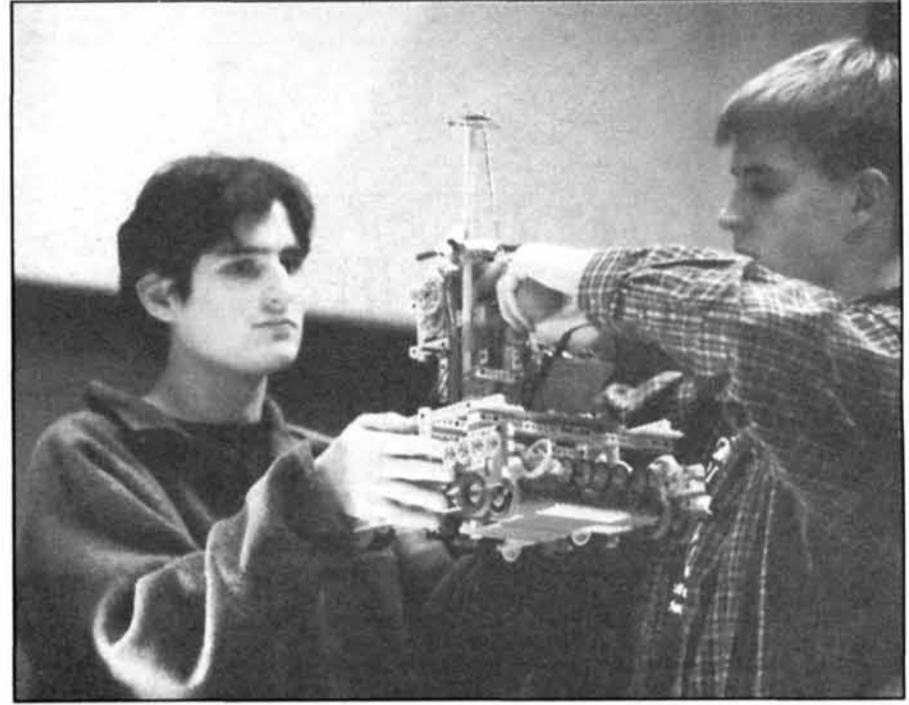
Captions (below, clockwise):

- Jenny James Matta '98 and Ania Busza '99 argue over Ania's new boyfriend.
- Ania Busza '99 pounces on her love, Brett Taylor G.
- Brett Taylor G and Frenando Paiz '98 drown their troubles.

Photos by: Greg Kuhnen



6 270



Captions (left to right, top to bottom):

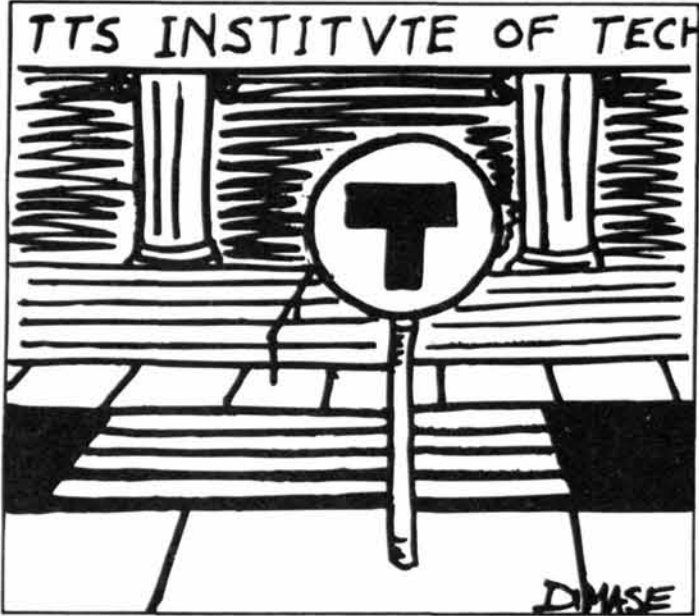
- Stefan Hurwitz prepares the robot "Rasenmäher" in lab.
- Jeffrey Steinheider filling "Mr. Hankey" with red balls as Jeffrey Pearlman holds it up.
- "Cartman" getting prepared for a game of potting.
- "Sabotage" gets a cheer from its maker after a successful round.
- Leila Hasan and Holly Gates celebrate a well earned victory.
- "dog", the winning golfer.

Photography: Ajai Bharadwaj, Gábor Csányi, Ying Lee, Wan Yusof Wan Morshidi, Chun hua Zheng

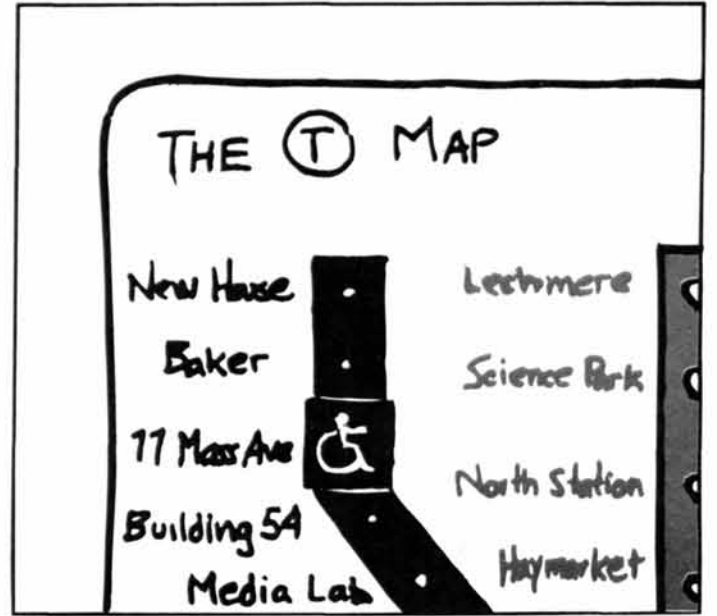
COMICS FUN PAGES

Perhaps...

By Jennifer DiMase

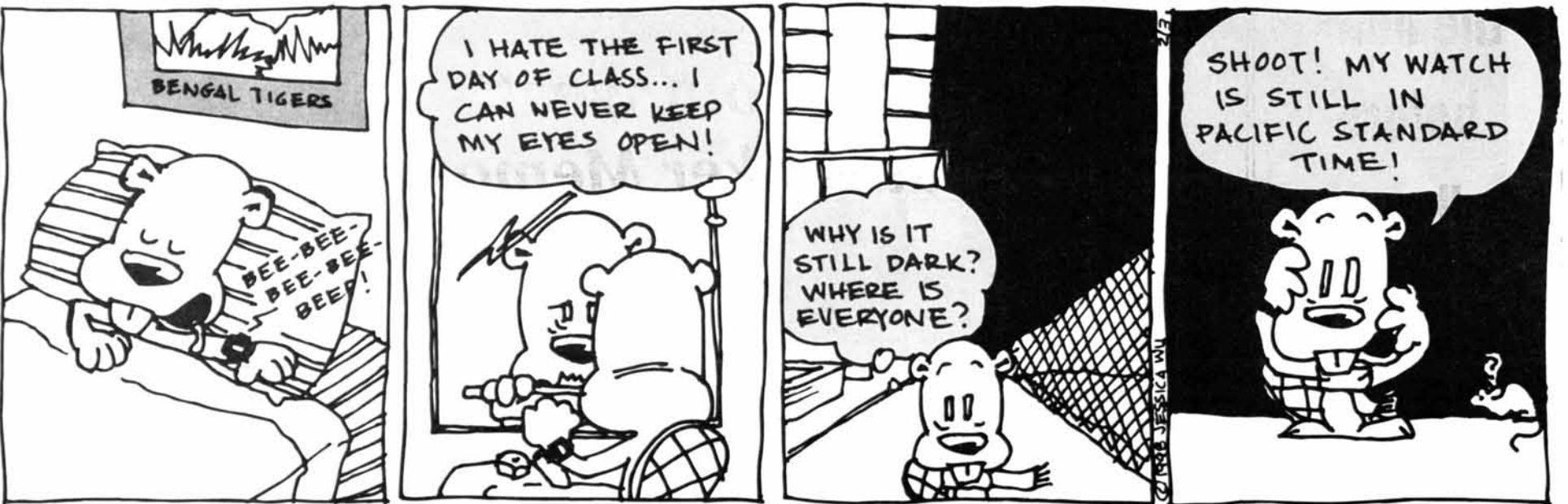


...The subway could be extended to include the entire MIT campus ...



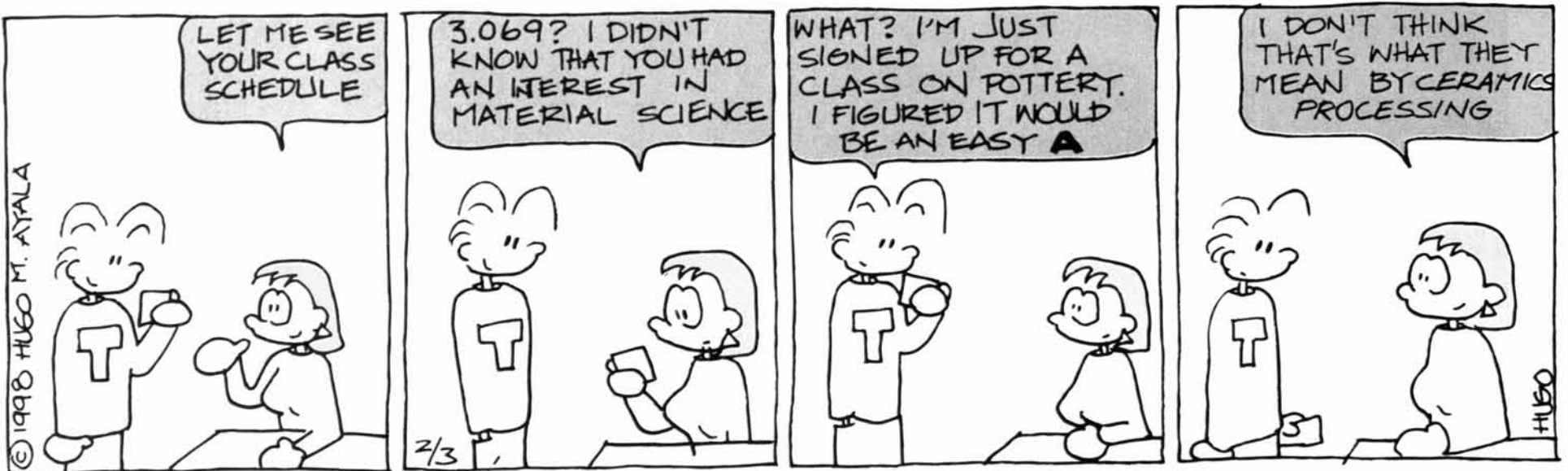
dammed for life

by jessica



Off Course

by Hugo



dammed for life
off course
rhinoman

bartholomew squeak
noun poetry
perhaps

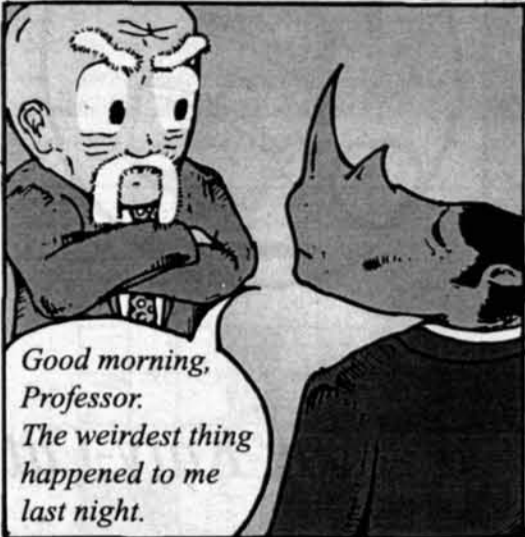
only in The Tech!

RHINO MAN



THE STORY SO FAR: When Rhino-Man returned to his apartment, he was surprised to find a briefcase lying by his door. Upon opening it, he discovered it was filled with stacks of cash.

by Zachary Emig



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<http://www.mit.edu/~zbeinig/Rhino-Man.html>

Next Issue: Denial

Turn the page for more comics!

Know the news before all your friends do! Join The Tech! Stop by our office in Room 483 of the Student Center or call us at 253-1541.

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Check out what's new at Walker Memorial!



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- Lemon Tropics

Join us on February 5th for a FREE tasting from 11:30am – 1:30pm



Cappuccino Machine

A refreshing eye opener of hazelnut and french vanilla cappuccino. Stop by for a cup!

Also featuring New Hot Chocolate!



The Wrap Station

Come join us for lunch and try our new Wraps.

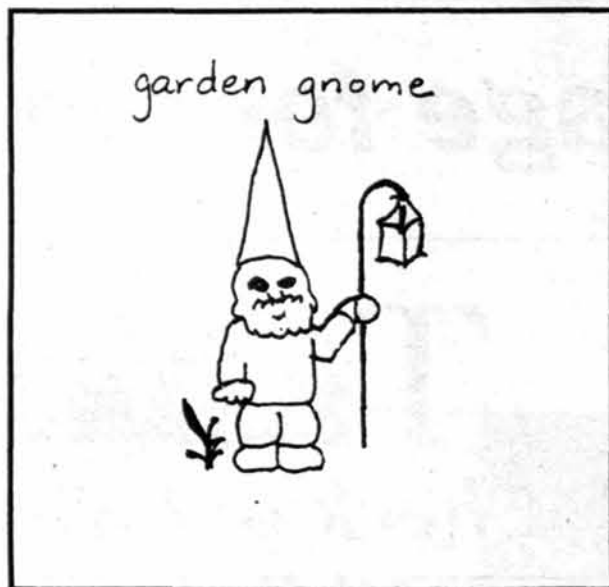
- Chicken Caesar
- Turkey Club
- Oriental

BARTHOLOMEW SQUEAK



Noun Poetry

by Katy-Cat



The School of Humanities and Social Science Congratulates
THE 1998 BURCHARD SCHOLARS

- Sarah Anderson '99
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- Christy Canida '99
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- Carina Fung '99
- Marion Groh '99
- Ana Isasi '99
- Damian Isla '99
- Jean Lee '99
- Fenny Lin '99

- Matthew Lozow '99
- Amalia Miller '99
- Andrew Nevins '00
- Carolyn Phillips '99
- Eric Plosky '99
- Zhelinrentice Scott '00
- Ja Hyun Shin '99
- Pooja Shukla '99
- Samuel Sidiqi '99
- Peter Siu '99
- Ami Vasanawala '99
- Wesley Watters '99

The Burchard Scholars Program brings together distinguished members of the faculty and promising sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated excellence in some aspect of the humanities, arts, and social sciences as well as in science or engineering. The Burchard Program format is a series of dinner-seminars held during the academic year to discuss topics of current research introduced by MIT faculty members.

**THE BURCHARD SCHOLARS PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY
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Trivia Corner

Renaissance politics

The political landscape of Renaissance Italy was crowded with the rivalries between several powerful families who vied for offices of power, including the papacy. The de'Medici family from Florence produced three men who held the position of pope during the sixteenth century: Giovanni, Giulio, and Giovanni Angelo, who became Leo X, Clement VII, and Pius IV, respectively.

All three employed the artist Michelangelo Buonarroti during their reigns.

What rival family, which was hostile to the Medici and originated in Spain, provided Alexander VI, the first pope of that century?

This week's winners will each win two LSC movie tickets and one large tub of popcorn, courtesy of LSC.

Showing this weekend:

Friday 6:30 p.m. in Room 10-250

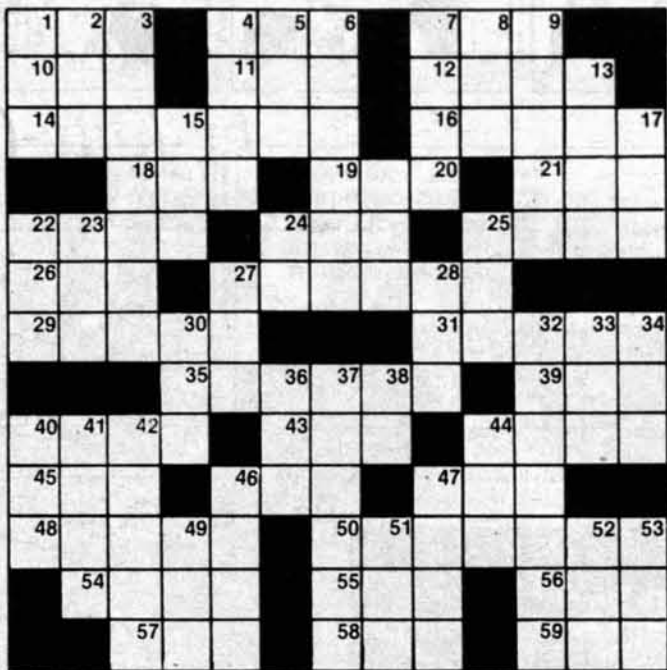
Bridge on the River Quai
Friday 7 and 10 p.m., Sunday 7 p.m.
in Room 26-100

The Full Monty
Saturday 7 and 10 p.m., Sunday 10 p.m.
in Room 26-100

Starship Troopers

Send your answers to trivia@the-tech.mit.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday. Two random drawings from all of the correct entries will be held to determine this week's two winners.

This feature was brought to you by the CAC Program Board. Today's factoids are by the MIT Quiz Bowl team. Members of the Quiz Bowl team are not eligible.



Across

- 1. Naughty
- 4. Expire
- 7. Even
- 10. Arizona Indian
- 11. Vessel
- 12. Elderly
- 14. Concert
- 16. Pine tree resin
- 18. Cold personality
- 19. Black fluid
- 21. Direction (abbr.)
- 22. Cupola
- 24. Direction (abbr.)
- 25. Boil slowly
- 26. Salt water
- 27. Vouch
- 29. Grinding tooth
- 31. Securing
- 35. Span
- 39. Confederate commander
- 40. Clerical title
- 43. Blemish
- 44. Much
- 45. Vehicle

- 46. Speed (abbr.)
- 47. Malt beverage
- 48. Run away to wed
- 50. Italian dish
- 54. Wide-mouthed pitcher
- 55. Office holders
- 56. — Arbor, Mich.
- 57. No (Scot.)
- 58. Attorney (abbr.)
- 59. Hawaiian garland

- 23. Office of Economic Opportunity (abbr.)
- 24. Time zone (abbr.)
- 25. Pig's home
- 27. Arrived (abbr.)
- 28. Female saint (abbr.)
- 30. Presidential nickname
- 32. Against the law
- 33. New form
- 34. Receive
- 36. Devil
- 37. Plant native to Mexico

- 38. Greek (abbr.)
- 40. High card
- 41. Wrap hay
- 42. Color
- 44. Winglike structure
- 46. Nothing more than
- 47. Assistant (abbr.)
- 49. Vegetable
- 51. Picnic pest
- 52. Direction (abbr.)
- 53. Black bird

Down

- 1. Prickly flower (var.)
- 2. Dined
- 3. Point
- 4. Chore
- 5. A Gershwin
- 6. Join
- 7. Public land
- 8. Past
- 9. Set again
- 13. Eat supper
- 15. Frozen water
- 17. Made lately
- 20. Born
- 22. Distinguished Service Medal (abbr.)

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



Abuzz Altera Anderson Consulting Anubix Applied
 Matrox Athena Tau Beta Pi Integrated Media
 Benchmark Microelectronics Pentium MC
 SBC Eclectic Corp Burr
 Calico Systems Calico Technology
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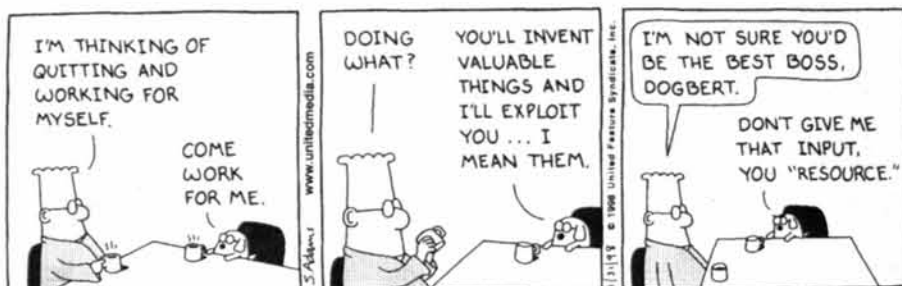
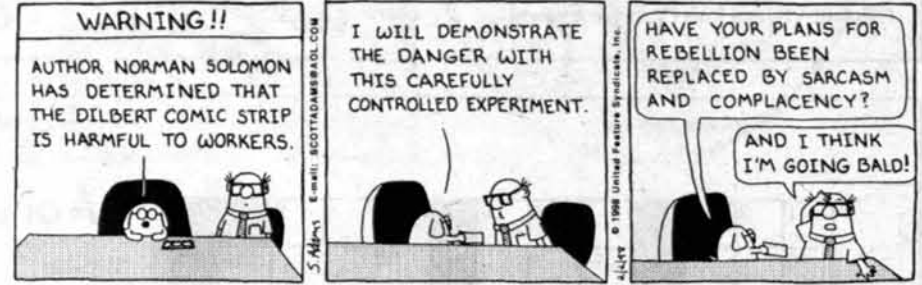
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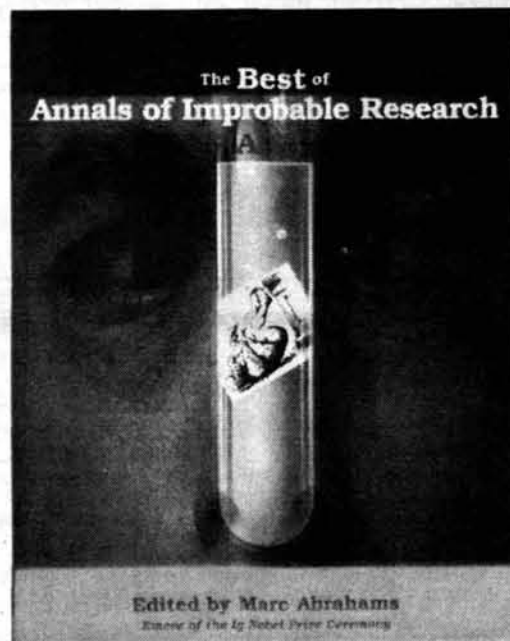
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Thursday, February 5 7:30 pm
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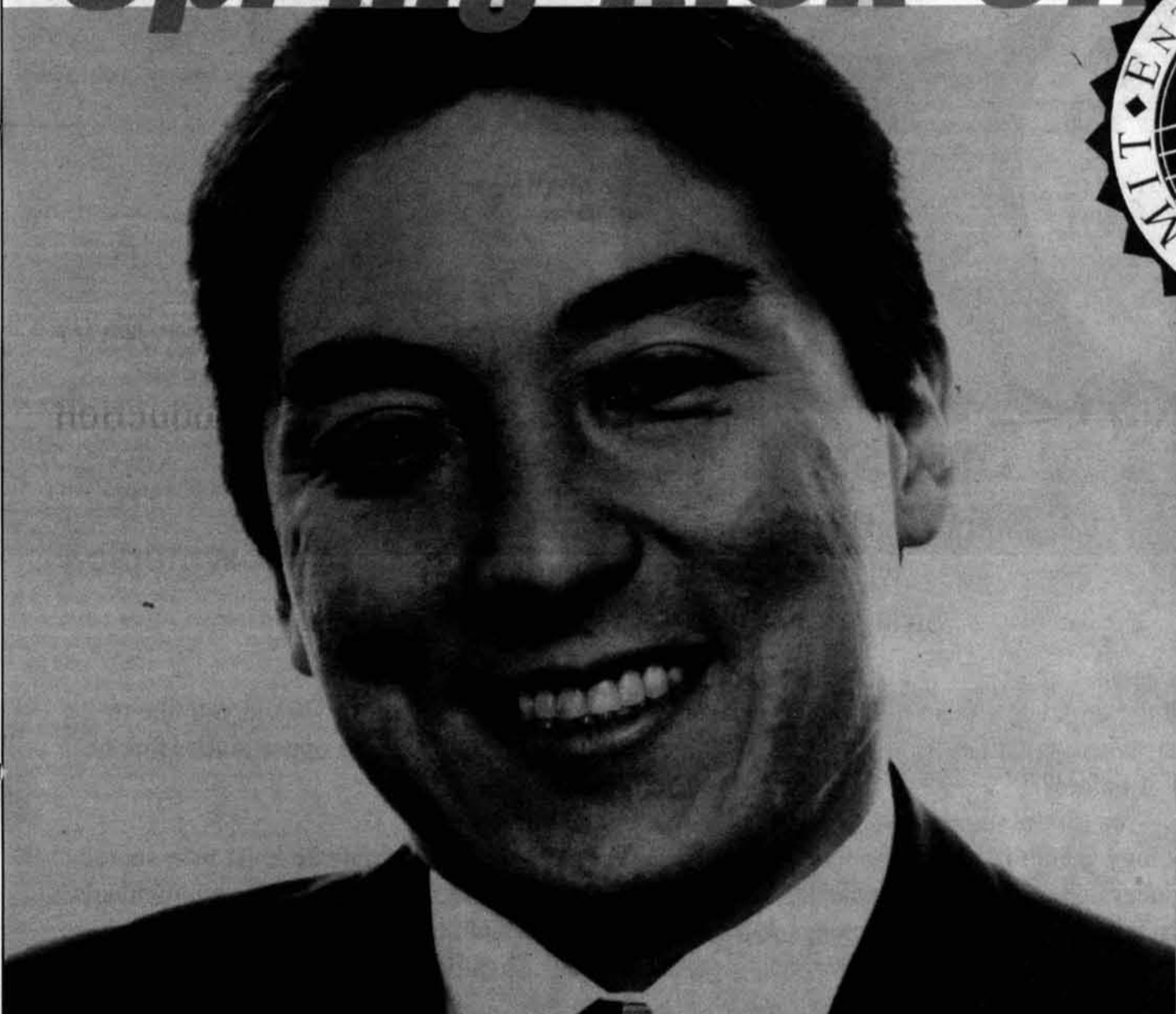
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Wednesday, February 4

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AJAI BHARADWAJ—THE TECH
Ravi Sastry '98 takes the lead in the 55 meter high hurdles on Saturday at the Quad Cup Invitational. MIT won the meet, beating close rival Springfield College and several other teams.



Summer Employment Opportunities with Medical Devices Strategic Innovation Group

Howmedica

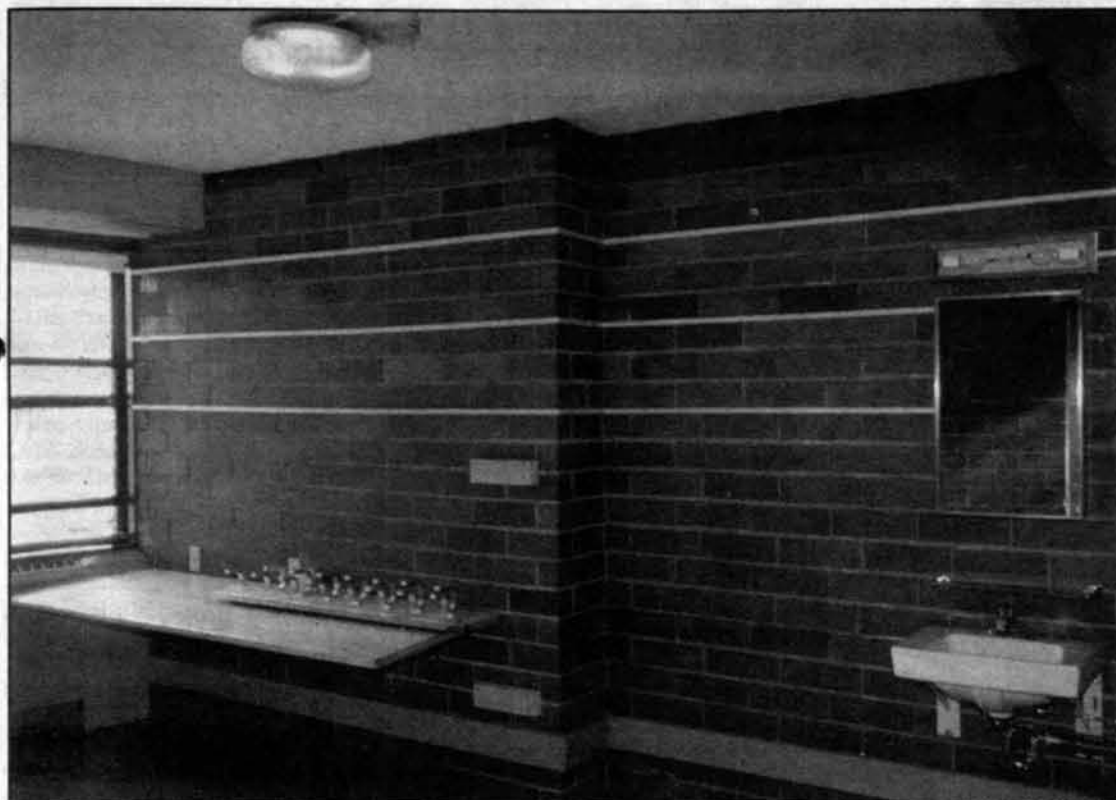
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BIKUI CHEN—THE TECH

Heavy renovations to Baker House's rooms and common areas will begin this summer.

Renovations to Displace Students

Baker, from Page 1

vision sets or hi-fi systems," Watson said.

The kitchen area, meant at first to service 900 students will be reduced in size since only 200 students frequent the dining area now, Personette said.

In addition, the plan calls for adding air conditioning to the main lobby and for an expansion of the Baker convenience store. The housemaster's suite, designed originally for a couple, will be increased in size in response to the number of housemasters with small children, Watson said.

In addition, Watson said, the sprinkler systems will be redone and, as a consequence of the Americans for Disabilities Act, a ramp will be built for front-door wheelchair access and elevators will be modernized.

Students will be displaced

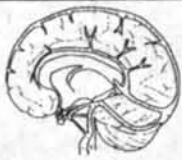


As a result of renovations, students who would originally occupy Baker during the two summers will be forced to live elsewhere. Though plans have not been fully laid out as to where students will be housed, "MIT is anxious to find places for students and is quite aware of its obligations," Watson said. A plan for student summer housing will be laid out in about two weeks, he said.

"Students are 100 percent behind it," Personette said. She said all students in Baker are fully aware that they will not be allowed to live

in Baker during the summers. Students will most likely be housed in surrounding residences on either side of Baker, such as Burton-Conner, MacGregor, or Bexely, she

said. Students living in rooms that will be restored to their original state as lounge areas will move elsewhere in the dormitory.

THE PRINCETON REVIEW

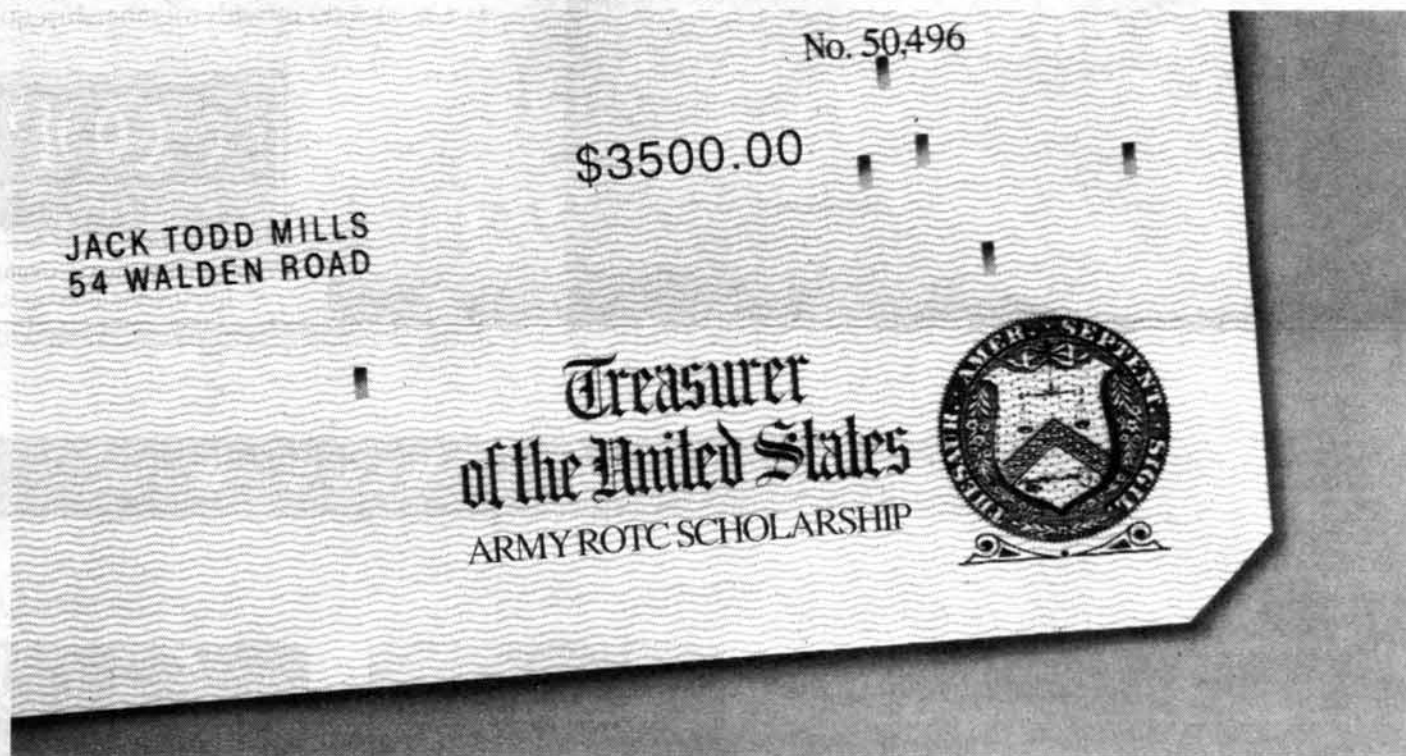
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Password Sniffers Pose Added Threat to Building 54 Security

Thefts, from Page 1

data. While he had backed up the data, the programs, the result of months of work, were lost.

Because none of the information was classified and had been published, it appears that the only goal was the computer itself. The other stolen computer belonged to the EAPS department. The file cabinet was so damaged that it had to be thrown out.

Newell later discovered a metal tool and a pair of gloves, possibly used to break into the file cabinet, in an unused file cabinet in a locked room. How the burglar knew that Lam was out of town or had locked his computer in that cabinet is still unknown.

A few weeks later two more computers were stolen from the 18th floor, also on a Saturday night. The computers stolen contained research and a portion of a student's thesis.

In another theft during the fall, Professor Luisa Molina stepped out of her office for a few minutes and returned to find her purse missing. It was found shortly thereafter, although all the money had been taken.

Security Changes Implemented

Past problems and the theft of a computer valued at \$40,000 prompted a change in security measures for Building 54, said Robin C. Elices, administrative officer for Building 54. The department and MIT have combined their efforts to increase security. Recent changes include re-keying the entire building, securing expensive equipment, and restricting access to the building by requiring card access after hours, Elices said. The Campus Police have posted a patrol in Building 54 at all times.

"The tricky part for us is finding a balance between locking down a building and allowing the staff to carry out their work with as little inconvenience as possible," said Heres.

"MIT has an open campus policy

which allows faculty, staff and students access to MIT facilities at any given time in order to carry out their work. Unfortunately, the open campus policy also allows strangers to enter our buildings and cause trouble for us from time to time," said Heres.

Newell said that it is impossible to identify strangers who might have malicious intentions on the eighteenth floor because it is very well traveled. Athletes ascend the stairs as a training exercise and then stop on the eighteenth floor for a water break. There has even been an instance of a woman selling photos door-to-door on the eighteenth floor. According to Newell there will now be tighter restrictions on the keys given out within the department.

'Sniffers' Pose a Threat

The security problems in 54 have not been limited to the physical realm. "By far the biggest threat to us and the rest of MITnet are password sniffers and the unencrypted transmission of information including passwords," said Heres.

Heres said that it was difficult for the department to implement encrypted connections because researchers needed to access facili-

ties outside of MIT. The department has taken steps to address the issue by working with other sites to implement encrypted sessions, he said.

Professor Newell said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was called when a password protected workstation was broken into. EAPS researchers are involved in research projects with a number of government agencies. While the FBI was unable to comment on this particular event, spokesman Peter Ginieres said that the FBI generally gets involved "in a major theft" or if there is a threat to the electronic infrastructure was involved, such as when computers or electronic devices involved in sensitive research are stolen.

"Luckily for us, no real damage has been reported, and no specific project, program, or data set has been targeted," Heres said.

Heres said that the department has been working with Information Services and that "while we're not perfect, the systems managers at EAPS and elsewhere are becoming more and more proficient in detecting and preventing compromises."

Brett Altschul contributed to the reporting of this story.



THOMAS E. MURPHY—THE TECH

This file cabinet was broken into during a rash of recent larcenies. Security in Building 54 is being tightened to prevent future thefts.

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Fiji Witnesses Help Clear U. Penn. Man

Short Takes, from Page 9

arms around — did not amount to a criminal charge.

Because the investigation's rejection of the police brutality allegation was based on the premise that Sofield resisted arrest, the Sofields have acknowledged that they may "take things further" now that Sofield was found not guilty of the charge.

In November, when the Fiji eyewitnesses first came forward with their allegations, a source close to the Sofield family said that while they would not rule out anything, their first priority was to "take care of the criminal charges" and they would not make any formal complaints until then.

Now, with the charges cleared, a civil suit is a likely possibility. The Sofields' lawyer, Walter Phillips, has already written a letter to the University blasting the findings of the investigation.

"I pointed out what I thought were major flaws and deficiencies in that investigation," Phillips said yesterday. "The campus police just completely rejected what the [Fiji brothers] had to say."

But yesterday, Deleon said that while he thought Bill Sofield "was not truly the culprit," a civil case could hurt the family because of the actions of Richard Sofield.

"If anyone had a problem, it was [Bill's] brother," Deleon said. "He was just drunk... and if his father wants to keep on pressing this, he's got to look at what his older son did."

Unlike his two companions, Richard Sofield did not leave the scene and allowed University Police Officer Jeff Dougherty to handcuff him and arrest him. But Dougherty testified that Sofield was also belligerent and used his status as an assistant U.S. attorney to taunt the officer.

Although Sofield denied making such remarks, two Fiji brothers testified that he was "visibly intoxicated" and the fact that he supplied his underage brother with a great deal of alcohol during the evening could potentially mar his career if it is further publicized.

Little information about the incident came out during Bill Sofield's non-jury criminal trial, which lasted only 3 and a half hours.

"You know, he's an attorney and he took his younger sibling around with him and they were drinking at every place, margaritas and Jagermeister, and then they went back to the [Fiji] house and had 40s," said Deleon. "That's not going to look good."

Managing Director of Public Safety Tom Seamon said that even though Deleon acquitted Sofield, he still believed the freshman had resisted arrest and that the charges were proper.

"The district attorney agreed with us," Seamon said in reference to a preliminary hearing where Sofield's charges were upheld.

"We were disappointed with the ruling, but I still don't believe that changes the facts of anything that happened that night," Seamon said.

[Daily Pennsylvanian, 02/02/98]

U. Arizona engineering students

University of Arizona student engineers are petitioning NASA to give their satellite a free ride to outer space.

The satellite, still in the conceptual stages, is part of a student-science project aimed at studying sprites, unexplained red glows that rise above thunderclouds during storms.

Students hope the satellite can get a piggy-back launch on a NASA space shuttle's Hitchhiker Ejection

System, said Chris Lewicki, aerospace and mechanical engineering graduate student and student satellite project head.

Lewicki said he is optimistic they will get NASA's approval for the launch.

"It's a good opportunity to show a group of college students at a university have the capability to do real science and real work," he said.

The satellite will be ready for launch in 2000 — just when NASA will be helping build the International Space Station, a collaborative project between several nations to build a lab in outer space, Lewicki said.

"Our satellite could literally be just a few feet from some of the hardware for the International Space Station," he said.

Once in space, the satellite will orbit the earth once every 90 minutes, sometimes pointed toward distant stars to assess their brightness, Lewicki said.

The idea for the fully student-built and designed satellite came up casually during a November 1996 lunch between physics Professor Ke Chiang Hsieh and aerospace and mechanical engineering faculty. "We were munching our pizza and I asked them, 'You guys ever build a satellite?'" said Hsieh, mentor of the satellite project. "They said 'no,' so I said, 'Let's do it.'"

The satellite passed its conceptual design review in November, when 17 student proposals were reviewed and ideas were culled from each by a panel of professors and top industry engineers.

The project is now moving into the preliminary design phase where different aspects of the satellite — from radio control to structure and stress — are split among seven teams that will formulate and test designs in the laboratory.

The seven plans eventually will be pulled together to build the satellite, which will be able to be controlled from a radio station atop the Engineering building. The radio station was built to guide the University of Alabama-Huntsville's student-built SEDSat satellite.

The 150-pound satellite will surpass the SEDSat and Arizona State University's student-built ASUSat satellite in size, Lewicki said.

Hsieh said students swiftly came on the project and enthusiastically pushed it forward in a short amount of time.

Lewicki said students are excited because the project is a shot at doing real-world design — far different from class projects like building a better doorstop.

"After you do those design projects, they go in the closet," he said. "Here, we get to apply stuff people only get to do in big corporate places."

A free ride from NASA would cut costs greatly for the \$1.5 million project, Lewicki said, after factoring costs for student stipends and travel expenditures.

About \$10,000 is needed to launch one pound of anything into space, which would make the cost of launching the 150-pound satellite too much, Lewicki said.

Creighton Anderson, a structure and stress team member brought in a \$1,000 grant from NASA so he could continue with the project.

"I never dreamed I'd develop a satellite, yet here we are," said Anderson, a material sciences junior.

The group filed approval papers this week with NASA's Wes Huntress, associate administrator for space science.

[Arizona Daily Wildcat 02/02/98]

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Date: Thursday, February 5th
Time: 6:00pm
Place: Room 4-270
Interviews: Friday, February 6th

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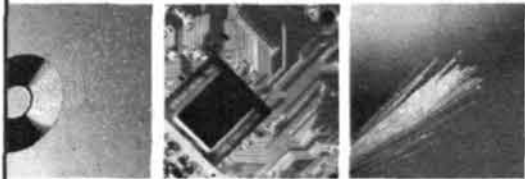


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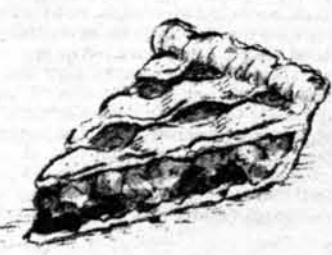
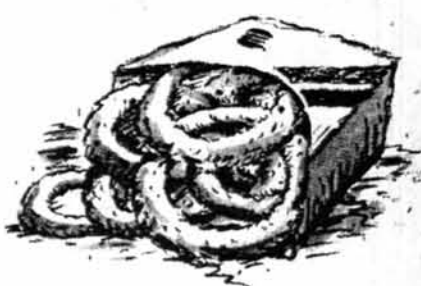
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Hiroko Matsuyama demonstrates the art of floral arrangement to Teresa M Lliu '99.

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SPORTS

Athletes of the Week

Gymnast Sonja Ellefson '01 broke the MIT record on the balance beam in a meet against Northeastern and the University of Bridgeport with a score of 9.35/10. Runner Mike Parkins '98 ran for first-place finishes in the 1600-meter and 800-meter races and anchored the winning distance medley relay team in the men's indoor track team's recent victory over Bates College, Bowdoin College, and Colby College.



Mike Parkins '99
Indoor Track and Field

Age: 21
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Hometown: Prairie Village, KA
Years playing sport: 3
Most memorable moment:
Coming within one point of being the first New England team to beat Williams College in four years last year.
Future plans: Humiliate Williams every chance I get.
"I hope we can get a few guys to qualify for nationals this year so we can make a name for MIT in indoor track."



Sonja Ellefson '01
Gymnastics

Age: 18
Major: Undeclared
Hometown: Edina, MN
Years playing sport: 14
Most memorable moment:
Almost making nationals last year and the trip to Texas last weekend
Future plans: Have fun and go to nationals
"I have never been on a team that has so much fun before."

Beavers Row Through Miami Hurricanes in Training Races

By Karl Richter
TEAM MEMBER

The heavyweight and lightweight men's crews concluded their two-week winter training trip to southern Florida with a sweep of the University of Miami at the Miami

Invitational Regatta on Jan. 17. In five races between the MIT heavyweights, the MIT lightweights, and the University of Miami on an 800-meter course in Miami Beach, the Beavers held the Hurricanes to five last place finishes.

The MIT heavyweights won the Varsity Four, the Varsity Eight, and the Freshmen Eight events, while the lightweights took the Junior Varsity Four event. A combined boat of heavyweight and lightweight MIT freshmen was able to defeat the University of Miami in the Junior Varsity Eight event.

"I thought these were gratifying races because they demonstrated our success at improving the areas we had been working on the whole two weeks [of the training trip]. They were the difference in our performance," said Varsity Coach Gordon Hamilton.

In the Varsity Four race, the first contest of the day, the heavyweights (2:33.1) steadily pulled away from the lightweights (2:35.3) and Miami (2:42.6) to win the race with a controlled rhythm and cadence. Miami was able to keep pace with the two MIT fours for the first part of the race, but dropped back quickly after the 500 meter mark.

Each coach had prioritized this Varsity Four race and had entered his fastest lineup. The winning heavyweight four included Jen Lykens '99 (cox), Solar Olugebefola '99 (bow), Mike Perry '99, Bernard Asare G, and Karl Richter '99 (stroke).

Place finishes were the same in the Varsity Eight event. Despite not entering their fastest lineup for this event, the heavyweights (2:30.9) rowed aggressively to defeat the lightweights (2:34.2) and Miami (2:44.1). The heavyweight eight included Mike Dewberry '00 (bow), Eugene Vaynestein '00, Duane Dreger '99, Derek Ransom '98, Mike Salamina '00, Jeb Keiper '99, Dan Parker '99, Matt Coates '98 (stroke), and Jen Lykens '99 (cox). The Miami eight included Miami's top oarsmen, while the MIT heavyweight eight did not include the four oarsmen from the Varsity Four.

Last two years widen difference

In a similar matchup last year, when the MIT heavyweights had raced their strongest Varsity Eight, the Beavers trounced the Hurricanes by 19 seconds. That result, combined with this year's 13 second victory from a mixed lineup, shows the speed difference that has emerged between these two programs in the last two years. Before 1996, the annual Varsity Eight race with the Hurricanes had never been decided by more than 2 seconds.

In the Freshmen Eight race, the young heavyweight Beavers (2:30.4) nipped the more experienced MIT freshmen lightweights (2:31.9) and dominated Miami (2:47.0). The winning eight included Demian Brosnan '01 (bow), Joe Lewis '01, Mike Mills '01, Roman Luz '01, Andy Copeland '01, Mark Jhon '01, Chris Penny '01, Jim Morash '01 (stroke), and Christina Carvey '99 (cox).

"We have definitely improved as a team, in working together and getting a feel for rowing together, and in our interest in rowing well with enthusiasm," Morash said.

The crews will surface next at the CRASH-B World Indoor Rowing Championships in Boston on Sunday, Feb. 22, where the Beavers will be compete against the best collegiate and international athletes in a 2000-meter ergometer (indoor rowing machine) event.

The spring racing season opens for the Heavyweights against Columbia University on Apr. 4 at MIT's home course on the Charles River.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, February 3

Men's Basketball vs. Suffolk University, 8 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. Wheaton College, 6 p.m.
Women's Gymnastics vs. Gustavus Adolphus College, 7 p.m.
Squash vs. Tufts University, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 7 p.m.
Squash vs. Harvard University, 4 p.m.

Thursday, February 5

Men's Basketball vs. Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, 5:30 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. Suffolk University, 7:30 p.m.

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