



REBECCA HITCHCOCK—THE TECH

Lane Brooks '00 and Keith Fife G are showered with prizes after winning the 13th Annual 6.270 Autonomous Robot Design Competition with their robot, "Hermes," named after the Greek god of swiftness.

'Hermes' Takes Out Opponents in 6.270

By Susan Buchman
NEWS EDITOR

Proving that speed and strength are sometimes impossible to beat, "Hermes" rammed its way to first place in this year's 6.270 Autonomous Robot Design Competition, held in room 26-100 last Wednesday.

"Hermes" was built by Lane G. Brooks '00 and Keith G. Fife G, both students in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

The objective of the contest, entitled "Raiders of the Lost Parts," was to design a robot which would collect balls, worth either positive or negative points. A robot could score either by dropping the positive balls into its designated bin or possessing the balls after the sixty-second round ended. Negative balls were equally important; although the

ideal strategy was to drop the negative balls in an opponent's bin. The accidental accumulation of negative balls played a role in the outcome of many rounds.

"Hermes" overpowers competition

"Our idea was to keep it simple because it tends to work the best," Brooks said.

"We just wanted a robot that was fast," Fife said.

Speed was not the only part of "Hermes'" strategy, however. In an action that announcer Michael Allen G compared to aggravated assault, "Hermes" would attack its opponent after depositing its balls in the bin.

"That pounding we did at the end was to try and beat robots that blocked us," Fife said.

6.270, Page 15

UA Finboard Hears Funding Grievances

By Sanjay Basu
STAFF REPORTER

As part of ongoing discussions on how to revise the current system of funding allocations to student activities, concerned students met with Undergraduate Association Finance Board officials last Thursday to discuss the way student organizations obtain money to pay for their expenses.

Student treasurers who came to the meeting discussed the system of reimbursements and argued against the spending caps and restrictions that divide an organization's money into several separate funds designated for specific expenditures. The use of Finboard funds to buy food was also discussed.

On the top of the list of complaints was the issue of reimbursements.

"It's a paradox," said Class of 2001 President Andrew D. Montgomery '01. "You can't coordinate an event until you know how much money you'll get and you can't get money until you tell them what your event budget will be."

Paul E. Michel '99 said, "usually, we spend the money and get reimbursed from Finboard... but to really throw a big event, you can't spend a lot of money and hope to get reimbursed for any unexpected expenses... I would much rather have money first and take less of a risk."

Under current Finboard rules, student organizations must submit a yearly budget proposal to Finboard prior to the beginning of each term. Finboard then approves some or all of the expenditures listed on the budget proposal.

When a student organization plans an event, the organization must first pay for the event without outside funding and later receive

reimbursements from the Finboard. Finboard will only reimburse student organizations for those expenditures listed in the approved budget proposal.

Finboard responds to criticism

According to Finboard officials, the amount of money available to fund student organizations is far short of demand. UA Treasurer Edgar H. Martinez '00 reported that just more than \$285,000 is available to fund all student organizations requesting Finboard financing.

Of that money, \$23,000 is available for the appeals process, during which student organizations attempt to obtain more money from Finboard than that allotted to them after the first review of their budget proposals.

Finboard officials also mentioned that some organizations request several thousand dollars at a time — far more than Finboard can give to just one group.

Proposing an alternative to the reimbursement system, some students at the meeting suggested that organizations be given individual MIT bank accounts from which they could withdraw money. But many others immediately rejected the idea, saying that the bank account system would make it difficult to monitor improper spending.

Students discuss restrictions

Student group leaders also criticized how money allocated in budget compilations and appeals are set into different categories of expenditures, giving groups little leeway to give extra money from something that was overbudgeted to offset any extra unexpected

Funding, Page 27

Students Get Crash Course in Charm

By Karen E. Robinson
STAFF REPORTER

All those who thought charm and grace were solely inherited traits found evidence to the contrary filling the Infinite Corridor at Charm School last Wednesday.

Booths were set up in Lobbies 7 and 10, as well as the Vannevar Bush Room, from noon to 4 p.m. There were 22 booths, with topics as useful as "Impressive Interviewing" and as unusual as "Exemplary Locomotion: Walking and Elevator Etiquette."

Overall, students found the atmosphere of Charm School to be fun and informal. Rose G. Radin '02 called it "a little irreverent, and kind of funny" way to present social graces.

Dining, interview etiquette taught

Radin especially appreciated the table etiquette session, and said there were "a lot of rules that people didn't really know about.... It was nice to learn them;

it gives me confidence," she added.

Shiping Hu, G, who came to MIT from China, said he "wanted to learn for a long time" how to dine properly. Morning sessions were led by Roseanne Thomas, founder and CEO of Protocol Advisors, Inc. She led participants through the stages of a meal, from taking your napkin when the host takes his to leaving it just to the left of your plate to signify that the meal is over. Never again should MIT students wonder which bread plate or water glass is theirs: auxiliary dishes for liquids (water, champagne, soup, etc) go on the right, while those for solids (salad, bread) are on the left.

Workers from the Career Services asked students what they would do if, on the way to an interview, they found themselves in an elevator with the CEO, with three minutes to chat. Answers ranged from the usual "make small talk" or "find out about opportunities" to the more interesting, "drop a pen

Charm School, Page 31



YING LEE—THE TECH

Students learn dining etiquette while participating in Charm School Wednesday.



The 14th annual *The Tech Year in Review* is included as a special insert in this issue.



Comics

Page 18

Teams outline proposals in Residence System Design Contest.

Page 7

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
TechCalendar	21
Sports	32

WORLD & NATION

Judge Rules Internet Child Pornography Law Unconstitutional.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Government effort to protect children for pornography on the Internet suffered a significant setback Monday when a federal judge prevented the government from enforcing the Child Online Protection Act, which requires commercial Web sites to ensure children do not come into contact with any material deemed "harmful to minors."

Civil liberties groups hailed the decision as a signal that they are likely to prevail in their ongoing court battle to get the law overturned as an unconstitutional restraint on free speech.

But the ruling was disappointing to the law's proponents, who have now been rebuffed twice in two years in their efforts to restrict Web access to pornography. Even Judge Lowell A. Reed Jr. expressed misgivings, his written statement included: "Despite the court's personal regret that this preliminary injunction will delay once again the careful protection of our children."

He also said "we do the minors of this country harm if First Amendment protections, which they will with age inherit fully, are chipped away in the name of their protection."

Defense Spending Funds Big Weapons Programs

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

This year's defense spending surge, coming after 14 years of decline, was driven by mounting concerns over the readiness of troops, and the military's increasing difficulty in recruiting and retaining personnel in some highly sought-after specialties.

Formally unveiled on Monday, the \$261-billion fiscal 2000 defense budget will spread around money for three new high-priced fighter planes, attack submarines, and a heavy artillery system for the Army, among other projects.

Although it did not give military organizations all of what they wanted, the budget proposal generally satisfied the services' needs, and kept some controversial programs alive to fight another day.

AIDS Virus Came From Chimps

THE WASHINGTON POST

CHICAGO

A team of scientists believes it has traced the origin of the AIDS virus to a subspecies of chimpanzees in equatorial West Africa that has been harboring an ancestral version of the microbe for several hundred thousand years.

The research sheds no light on the mystery of when or how the virus leaped the "species barrier," although genetic analysis suggests such an event occurred at least three times. It may, however, shed light on more practical and clinically relevant questions.

"We want to focus on the naturally infected animals ... and study them side-by-side with humans looking at a number of immunological parameters," said Beatrice H. Hahn of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. "That might give us a clue as to why we get sick."

In tracing the origin of the AIDS virus, Hahn's team compared the genetic sequence of human immunodeficiency virus 1 (HIV-1), which causes AIDS in humans, and simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV), which often — but not always — causes a similar disease in primates.

Scientists determined that the three animals with the closely related viruses were also closely related to each other. Hahn and her colleagues concluded that all human AIDS viruses must have come from that subspecies of chimpanzee, and the transmission must have occurred at least three times, once each for each of three chimp genes, denoted M, O, and N.

White House Unveils \$1.77 Trillion Federal Budget Plan

By Jonathan Peterson and Alissa J. Rubin

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Launching a novel era in budget politics, the White House unveiled a \$1.77 trillion budget plan for next year that presumes surpluses "as far as the eye can see," even though it proposes costly fixes for Social Security and Medicare and includes a broad array of new spending.

Beyond the numbers, the fiscal blueprint released Monday serves to spotlight likely concerns of the White House and Congress in a post-impeachment, post-deficit era. The administration would pre-empt the across-the-board tax cuts sought by conservatives by steering the surpluses into areas of defense and social spending, including such liberal favorites as education, health care, the environment and urban development.

And it would commit the vast share of new spending to the retirement and health-care expenses of the aging baby boom generation, a priority the White House places above all else.

"Yes, we're saving Social Security and Medicare, and yes, that will prepare for the retirement of the

baby boomers, and yes, it will save money for our children and grandchildren," Clinton said of the spending outline. "But it will also guarantee them an economy of continuing, enduring stability — and a hedge against the storms that may happen beyond our borders."

Republicans quickly derided the White House plan as a big-government strategy that fails to provide the level of tax cuts that growing surpluses make possible and creates a grab-bag of new spending programs.

"The budget contains something for everyone, and that's what's troubling," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer (R-Texas). "It's a throwback to the days when the government tried to solve problems by raising taxes and throwing money at problems."

Because budget forecasts are notoriously wide of the mark, there is uncertainty in the administration's plans for the long haul. Still, many analysts now believe that a combination of strong economic growth and relative restraint in federal spending has markedly improved the government's financial outlook.

The budget projects a \$4.4 trillion surplus over the next 15 years.

In the fiscal year that ended last Sept. 30, the surplus — the first in three decades — totaled \$70 billion.

The White House projects that the surplus will rise to \$117 billion next year and, without changes in spending or tax policy, increase to \$393 billion in 2009. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office also projects large surpluses.

The government's expectation of indefinitely growing surpluses is like a poor man's discovery of a wallet bulging with bills, said Henry Aaron, an economist with the Brookings Institution. The news is as disorienting as it is welcome.

"This is a big issue and a big debate," Aaron said. People have not quite understood the fundamental nature of the difference between the visions being presented."

Clinton seeks to use the surpluses to sustain Social Security and Medicare, the key Democratic programs of the 20th century.

Republicans want to give individuals greater responsibility for their own well-being. Archer and Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete V. Domenici (R-N.M.) have proposed using part of the surplus — perhaps as much as 15 percent — for a tax cut.

Lewinsky Questioning Reveals No New Evidence on Clinton

By Richard A. Serrano and Marc Lacey

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

After questioning Monica S. Lewinsky for four hours Monday, a House Republican prosecutor unearthed no significant new impeachment evidence against President Clinton, while White House lawyers offered her a presidential apology for "what you have had to go through," sources familiar with the session said.

The results in the first of three depositions this week suggested that the prosecution team was unable to buttress its charge that Clinton, in trying to keep secret his affair with Lewinsky, obstructed justice by allegedly trying to influence the former intern's testimony in the Paula

Corbin Jones sexual harassment lawsuit against him.

"She was pretty much trying to protect the president," said a House aide who was briefed on Monday's session. "She didn't want to give the managers anything they could use."

Added another House source: "She just reaffirmed her grand jury testimony. There was no wavering from that. My understanding is there was not any considerable new ground broken."

White House lawyers did not question Lewinsky, indicating that no new ground was broken in the case. It prevented the House prosecutor, Rep. Ed Bryant of Tennessee, from posing rebuttal questions.

Instead, Nicole Seligman, a private attorney for Clinton, read a short statement.

Sources said the statement was not a direct apology for anything the president had done but rather expressed regret that Lewinsky had become ensnared in the scandal. One source in the room at Washington's Mayflower Hotel said Seligman told Lewinsky that Clinton was "sorry for what you have had to go through."

Also Monday, Clinton attorney David E. Kendall went to federal court asking for sanctions against independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr for allegedly leaking information to the news media.

In a statement released Monday, Starr denied any wrongdoing in the matter and said he has launched an investigation "to determine whether anyone in this office improperly disclosed the information."

WEATHER

A Wet Welcome Back to Classes

By Greg Lawson
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The large high pressure center which gave us such clear, beautiful skies yesterday has finally been chased out to sea. A band of storms are quickly plowing their way up the coast. The preceding clouds arrived before dawn and the rain will arrive sometime mid-morning. The surface temperatures may still be below freezing, giving us a brief period of freezing rain earlier on. The strong southwesterly winds aloft will ensure light, persistent rain throughout the day. They will also pipe in much of the warmer southern air. Temperatures will slowly climb as the day progresses and melt any new ice from the rain earlier. In addition to increased temperatures we will also see increased wind strength. A cold front will actually be approaching from the northeast associated with a low up off Nova Scotia, a "back-door" cold front. It will not pass over us thanks to the strong southerlies aloft, but it will come close enough to help wind strength reach close to 30 mph on Wednesday.

The rain strength will increase late tonight as a second surge of storms arrive. The temperatures will continue to climb on through Wednesday with the rain ending early afternoon. Temps will peak at close to 50°F! Once the rain leaves we will settle in to a large high pressure center from the south. Expect seasonally mild temperatures throughout the rest of the week from the favorable southwesterly upper air pattern.

Tuesday: Overcast. Light rain from mid-morning on through the day. Freezing rain early on. Climbing temps throughout day. High 42°F (6°C).

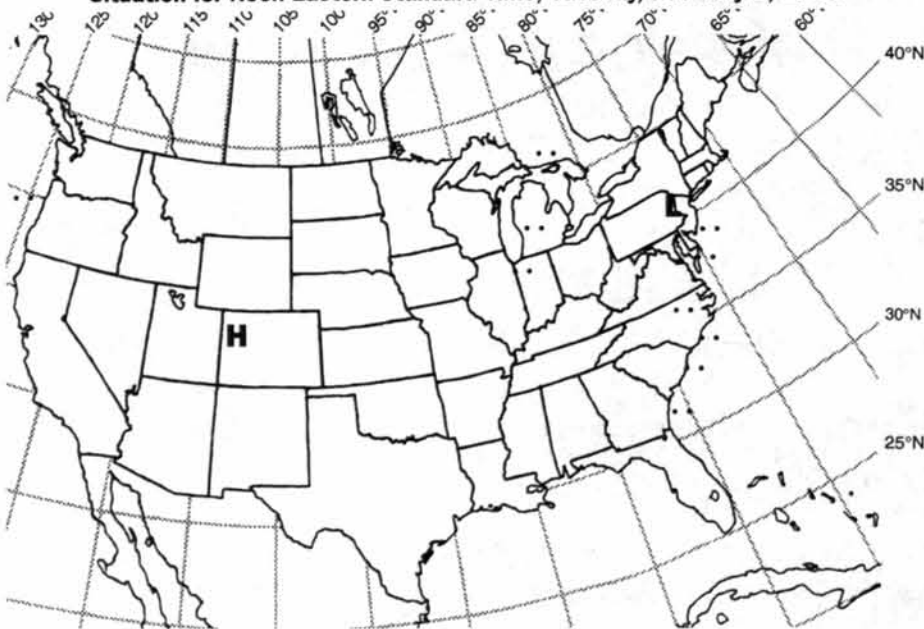
Tuesday Night: Heavier rain. Southeasterly surface winds increase. Temperatures continue to rise. Low 40°F (5°C).

Wednesday: Rain persisting through early afternoon. Winds speeds increasing up towards 30 mph. High 50°F (10°C). Low 36°F (2°C).

Thursday: Seasonably mild. Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s (8°C to 10°C).

Friday and Beyond: Cooler but still mild. Mostly clear as high pressure settles in. Highs in the low 40s (4°C to 6°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, February 2, 1999



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	- - - Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	—•— Warm Front	Light	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	—▲— Cold Front	Moderate	Haze
	—▲▲— Occluded Front	Heavy	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

U.S. Troops Are Likely to Take Part in NATO Kosovo Mission

By Dana Priest
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

U.S. and European officials have begun detailed discussions on the tasks, size and shape of a NATO peacekeeping mission to Kosovo, signaling an increasing likelihood that American troops are bound for the embattled Balkan region.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was on Capitol Hill Monday to assess Congressional support for sending troops to Kosovo. U.S. officials reiterated that President Clinton has made no decision on the issue. But in the meantime, officials involved in the discussions said U.S., British and other NATO planners are trading plans for enforcing a peace settlement, including participation by U.S. troops, if it is accepted by Serbia and Kosovo's Albanian rebels.

keep the U.S. role small — a few thousand troops — while the main European plan calls for an American presence of at least 5,000 troops and possibly thousands more, according to officials knowledgeable about the discussion.

Under "Option A-minus," a plan devised by NATO in October and now revived, the on-the-ground commander of a 28,000-strong force in Kosovo would be from NATO's Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps. That group is commanded by a three-star British General, Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Jackson, according to a senior western military official.

U.S. Army Gen. Wesley K. Clark, NATO Supreme Allied Commander based in Brussels, would remain in ultimate control of the operation. But under current planning the deployment nonetheless would mark the first time U.S.

troops would work for a ground commander who is not American in such a potentially hostile environment.

Pentagon officials have said they would be willing to trade the command position to get their numbers low because they believe their troops have too many commitments overseas and Congress may balk at a larger force. "My personal view is that our European allies must bear a substantial burden in terms of dealing with Kosovo... participation by the United States should be as small as it could be," Defense Secretary William Cohen said Monday.

The Rapid Reaction Corps, with about 1,300 personnel, is a unit that would be responsible for commanding and coordinating ground troops stationed in Kosovo, the Connecticut-sized southern province of Serbia with a 90 percent ethnic Albanian population.

Consumer Spending, Incomes Rose in December

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Americans ended the year on a spending spree, spurred by strong gains in personal income and low interest rates, the government reported Monday.

Consumer purchases increased 0.8 percent, while personal income rose 0.5 percent in December, the Commerce Department said.

Because spending rose faster than incomes, the personal savings rate dropped to minus 0.1 percent in December, the second time the monthly figure dipped into negative territory last year. The personal savings rate is individual savings as a percentage of after-tax income.

Spending on construction was the strongest in six months, surging 1.7 percent from November.

For the year, spending rose 5.7 percent, while personal income grew 5 percent. The biggest growth in spending came in purchases of durable goods such as personal computers, furniture, appliances and autos.

The strong results, following Friday's announcement that the nation's total economic output, or the gross domestic product, rose 5.6 percent in the fourth quarter, shows the U.S. economy is thriving despite the effects of financial crises buffeting Asia and Latin America, experts said.

Police Arrest 10 Linked to Cartel

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Police have arrested 10 men who are believed to be the overlords of a Southern California narcotics trafficking ring associated with Mexico's feared Tijuana drug cartel, authorities said Monday.

The three-month investigation, which focused on drug trafficking in Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange and San Diego counties, also netted some 500 kilos of cocaine and four pounds of heroin that authorities said was worth \$7 million on the street.

Capt. Randall Blair of the Orange County Regional Narcotics Suppression Program said the group was distributing large quantities of cocaine and heroin throughout Southern California.

"It was a very efficient trafficking cell that was dealing with good-sized amount of drugs and money," Blair said.

On Thursday, authorities arrested four of the primary suspects in La Puente, in eastern Los Angeles County, and seized 160 kilos of cocaine hidden in a secret compartment in a pickup truck, Blair said.

Blair identified the suspects as Hector Navarro Penilla, Hector Javier Jimenez Espinoza, Jesus Ayon and Carlos Ramirez. At the time of the arrests, Ayon already had a no-bail warrant for narcotics trafficking, Blair said.

Two days previously, authorities found 100 kilos of cocaine concealed in a vehicle parked in Orange County's Lake Forest and arrested Pedro de la Cruz at the same address, Blair said.

Authorities said the FBI was "instrumental in identifying the subjects in charge of the smuggling ring and connecting them with the Arellano Felix organization" — Mexico's most violent drug cartel.

AT&T Announces Deal for Joint Venture with Time Warner Cable

By Mike Mills
THE WASHINGTON POST

AT&T Corp. Monday announced a deal to provide telephone and Internet service over Time Warner Inc. cable TV wires reaching 20 million U.S. households, advancing AT&T's strategy of bypassing local telephone companies.

Through the Time Warner alliance, and a proposed \$50.4-billion purchase of cable giant Telecommunications Inc., AT&T would get direct access to 43 percent of the nation's homes. AT&T lost such links to consumers when the regional Bell companies were split off from the company in 1984.

In an interview, AT&T Chairman Michael Armstrong cited benefits similar to those he predicted with the TCI purchase: Consumers would be able to buy local and long-dis-

distance phone service, high-speed Internet access and cable TV programming from a single source and have the charge appear on one monthly bill — at rates 20 percent lower, he said, than what they otherwise would pay.

Becoming a one-stop shopping point for all communications services is a key part of the strategies of most every large communications company. Last week AT&T unveiled a one-stop service called Personal Network that combines wireless and conventional phone calling onto a single bill with simplified pricing.

Under the Time Warner-AT&T service, which would begin on a test basis in two cities this year, customers would connect their telephones and computers to jacks connecting to the Time Warner cable system. AT&T is planning to absorb

the cost of the new TV set-top boxes that would be required.

Armstrong said he hoped that alliances with other cable systems will boost AT&T's access to 60 percent to 65 percent of the nation's households. Sources said AT&T has talked with Comcast Corp., Cablevision Systems Corp. and MediOne Group Inc. Armstrong also said he hopes to use wireless technologies to reach another 20 percent of homes.

"That leaves me needing (the Bells for) 20 percent of all access lines," Armstrong said. "Right now the game plan is to not have a high dependency" on local phone companies.

At present, AT&T pays local phone companies roughly \$10 billion a year to carry the beginning and end legs of its long-distance calls.



Graduate Student Council

OFFICE: Walker Memorial, 50-220 PHONE: 253-2195

EMAIL: gsc-request@mit.edu WEBSITE: www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

Spring Welcome Social
Thurs., Feb. 4

5 - 7 PM in 50-220. Come meet other graduate students and enjoy free food and drink. Proper ID is required.

General Council Meeting
Wed, Feb. 3

5:30-6:30 PM 50-220
All graduate students are invited. Food and drink will be provided.

01 02 **Calendar**

► FEBRUARY

- 01 - Graduate Student News Published
- 02 - Funding Deadline for capital expenses, student group events, travel grants, and cross-departmental socials
- 02 - Muddy Charles Meeting, Muddy, 5:30 PM
- 03 - General Council Meeting *
- 04 - Spring Welcome Social, 5-7 PM, 50-220
- 04 - Bruins vs. Islanders Game, meet in 50-220
- 08 - Activities committee meeting *
- 09 - Publicity committee meeting *
- 10 - Professional Development seminar, 3:30 - 5 PM, Hulsizer Room, Ashdown
- 11 - Academics, Research & Careers Meeting *
- 17 - Professional Development seminar, 3:30 - 5 PM, Hulsizer Room, Ashdown
- 24 - Housing & Community Affairs Meeting *

Professional Development Series

CAREERS (Wednesdays 3:30-5 PM Hulsizer Room, Ashdown):

Feb. 10 Manager, Researcher, or Professor (Lloyd Baird, BU)
Feb. 17 Self-Assessment (Hannah Bernstein & Elizabeth Reed, CSPA)

Funding Deadline for student group events, capital expenses, cross-departmental socials, and travel grants is Feb. 2.

Spring/Summer 1999 Travel Grant

The new information for the Travel Fund applications is available at www.mit.edu/activities/gsc. The deadline for all applications is Feb. 2.

Josten's Graduate Ring Days:

Feb. 3 Stratton Center 11 AM - 5 PM
Feb. 4 Kendall Coop 11 AM - 5 PM
Feb. 5 Kendall Coop 11 AM - 5 PM
April 7-9 Kendall Coop 11 AM - 5 PM

Graduate Student News (GSN) Available Feb. 1

GSN will be available in Infinite Corridor and 50-220. Send submissions to Constance Lai at con@mit.edu for Feb. 15 issue.

* = at 5:30pm in Room 50-220. All graduate students are welcome. Food is provided.

OPINION



Chairman
Josh Bittker '99

Editor in Chief
Zareena Hussain '00

Business Manager
Joey Dieckhans '00

Managing Editor
Ryan Ochylski '01

Executive Editor
Douglas E. Heimburger '00

NEWS STAFF

Editors: Frank Dabek '00, Susan Buchman '01, Jennifer Chung '01, Krista L. Niece '01; **Staff:** Eric Sit '99, Katie Jeffreys '01, Jane Yoo '01, Gitrada Arjara '02, Rima A. Arnaout '02, Sanjay Basu '02, Alex Ianculescu '02, Neena S. Kadaba '02, Kristen Landino '02, Kevin R. Lang '02, Priya Prahalad '02, Karen E. Robinson '02, Michael M. Torrice '02; **Meteorologists:** Michael C. Morgan PhD '95, Greg Lawson G, Bill Ramstrom G, Gerard Roe G, Chris E. Forest, Marek Zebrowski.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Editor: Brett Altschul '99; **Associate Editor:** Ian Lai '02; **Staff:** Erica S. Pfister '00, Agnes Borszëki.

OPINION STAFF

Editors: Michael J. Ring '01, Naveen Sunkavally '01; **Columnists:** Eric J. Plosky '99, Elaine Y. Wan '01, Veena Thomas '02, Kris Schnee '02; **Staff:** Wesley T. Chan '00, Dawen Choy '00, Seth Bisen-Hersh '01, Andrew J. Kim '01.

SPORTS STAFF

Editor: Shao-Fei Moy '98.

ARTS STAFF

Editors: Joel M. Rosenberg '99, Satwiksai Seshasai '01; **Staff:** Thomas Chen G, Steven R. L. Millman G, Vladimir V. Zelevinsky '95, Teresa Huang '97, David V. Rodriguez '97, Mark Huang '99.

PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Editors: Gregory F. Kuhnen '00, Rebecca Loh '01, Annie S. Choi; **Staff:** Rich Fletcher G, Aaron Isaksen G, Wan Yusof Wan Morshidi G, Thomas E. Murphy G, Michelle Pavinelli G, Arifur Rahman G, T. Luke Young G, Dennis Yancey '97, Krzysztof Gajos '99, David Tarin '99, Rita H. Lin '00, Connie C. Lu '00, Garry R. Maskaly '00, Karlene Rosera '00, Chun Hua Zheng '00, Ajai Bharadwaj '01, Ying Lee '01, Rebecca Hitchcock '02, Angela Piau '02, Yi Xie '02, Lucy Yang '02, Miodrag Cirkovic.

FEATURES STAFF

Solar Olugebefola '99, Jessica Wu '99, Jennifer Dimase '01, Xixi D'Moon '01.

BUSINESS STAFF

Operations Manager: Jennifer Koo '00; **Staff:** Karen Cheng '02, Jasmine Richards '02, Huanne T. Thomas '02.

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Director: Shantonu Sen '02; **Staff:** Hoe-Teck Wee '02.

EDITORS AT LARGE

Contributing Editors: Jennifer Lane '98, Dan McGuire '99; **Color Editor:** Gábor Csányi G; **Senior Editor:** May K. Tse '99.

ADVISORY BOARD

V. Michael Bove '83, Robert E. Malchman '85, Thomas T. Huang '86, Jonathon Richmond PhD '91, Reuven M. Lerner '92, Josh Hartmann '93, Jeremy Hylton '94, Garlen C. Leung '95, Thomas R. Karlo '97, Saul Blumenthal '98, Indranath Neogy '98.

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

Night Editors: Erica S. Pfister '00, Ryan Ochylski '01; **Staff:** Josh Bittker '99, Agnes Borszëki.

The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January and monthly during the summer for \$45.00 per year Third Class by *The Tech*, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Third Class postage paid at Worcester, Mass. Permit No. 589. **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 253-1541, editorial; (617) 258-8324, business; (617) 258-8226, facsimile. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 1999 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by MassWeb Printing Co.

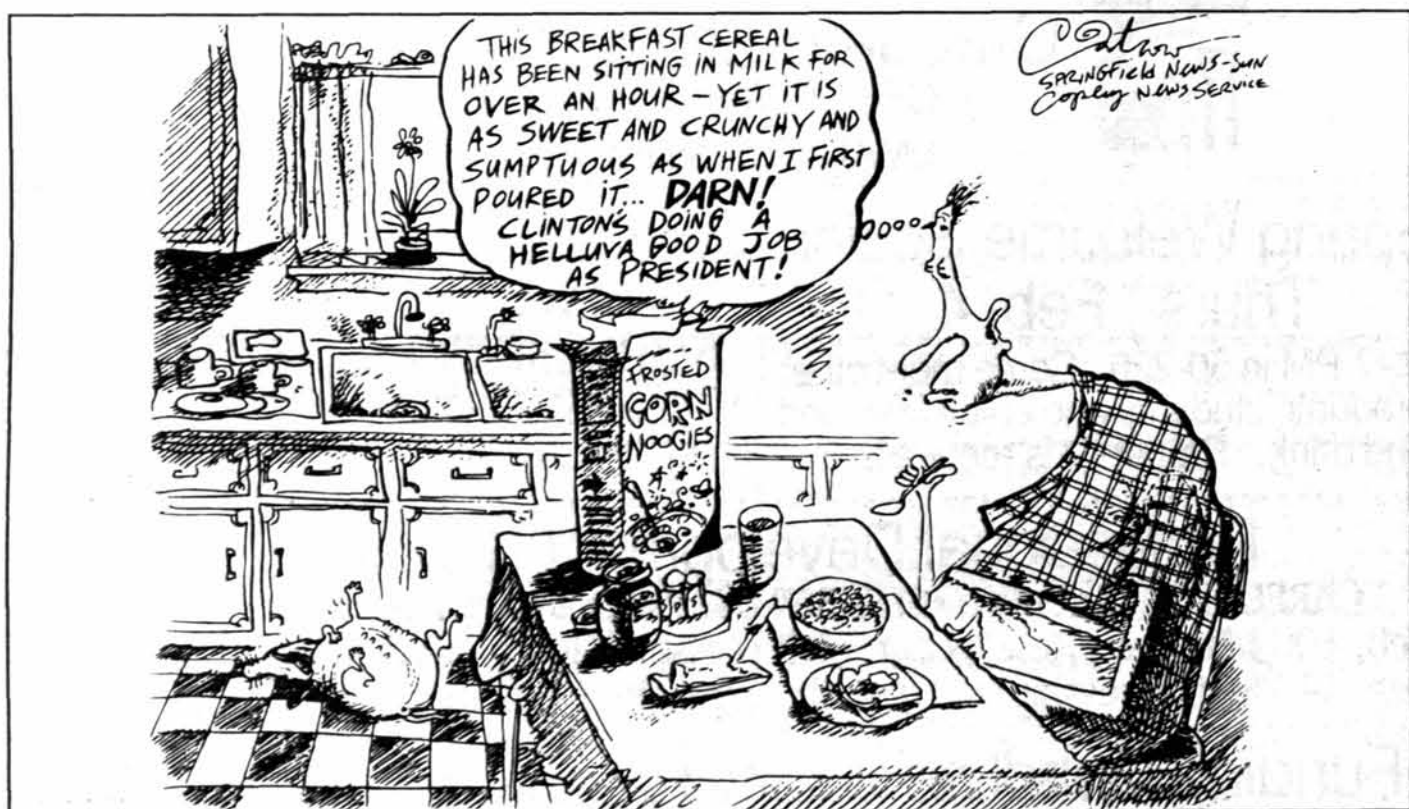
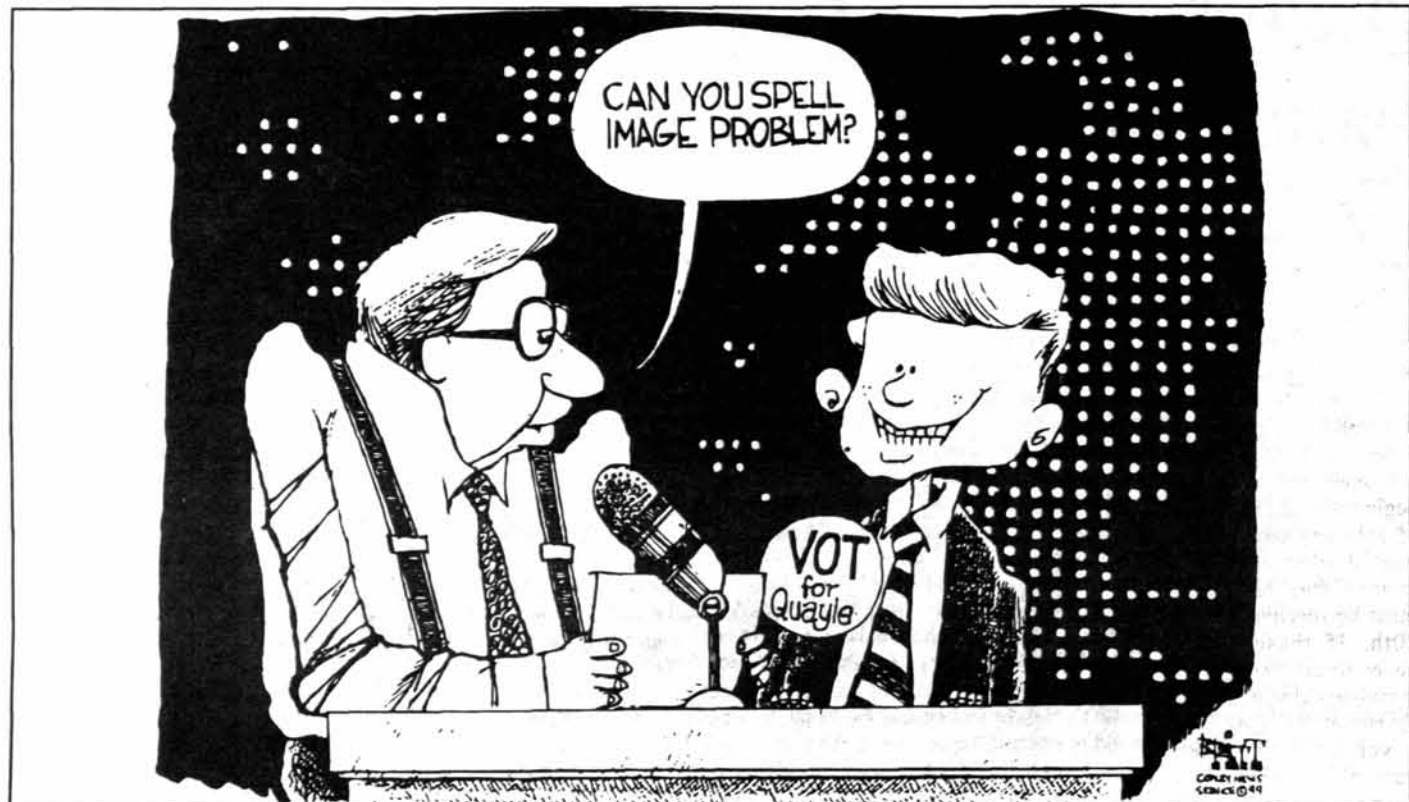


Institutional Wisdom Watch

by *The Tech* editorial board



- ↓
Pre-term 8.02 homework: The laundry list of good faith violations against stressed students continues to grow. Beware, IW is watching you.
- ↔
6.270: Exploding boards aside, guinea pig students put on good show.
- ↓
Housing Protest: Trying to salvage his less than platinum reputation, reactionary Rezek only dips further in infamy. Will he ever get a clue?
- ↑
Beaver's Birthday: 85 years and still gnawing. Go beavers!
- ↑
Celebrity DeathMatch: Jennifer Lopez's butt vs. Dolly Parton's breasts. IW heartily approves.
- ↓
Coop booklists stolen: Conspiracy to prevent students from knowing what books to buy in advance pays off.
- ↓
Super Bowl: Dirty birds sent clucking home, and Reeves says Eugene's still part of the "family." Whatever.
- ↓
Kenneth Star: Reports hint that zealot prosecutor will indict sitting president. Will he ever learn he is not the fourth branch of government?



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, news editors, and opinion editors.

Dissents are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions may be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, 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. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure who to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. *The Tech* can be found on the World-Wide Web at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.

Diplomacy Lessons From Kosovo

U.S., U.K. Should Seek International Cooperation in Iraq

Michael J. Ring

Military action and unrest in two flash-points, Kosovo and Iraq, continue to command the attention of the world this week.



The United States is playing a major role in both areas. However, its strategy in the two conflicts is radically different. In the Balkans, the United States appears ready to embrace a new NATO cease-fire proposal. In Mesopotamia, the United States continues

to defy the will of the vast majority of the international community in carrying out strikes against Saddam Hussein.

The dichotomy between the two situations is striking. The United States has chosen to cooperate with other world powers in an attempt to find a peaceful settlement in Kosovo. Meanwhile America has done nothing to advance peace in Iraq; its nearly unilateral actions have done little to destroy Saddam Hussein's weapons. Instead they have only provoked Saddam and angered other world powers, notably Russia. The United States' Iraq policy has been a failure.

The United States and our British partners should scrutinize the Kosovo proposals, particularly the structure for international cooperation and communication contained in the draft. They must then seek to apply these principles in their handling of Iraq. Only then, with all world powers involved in the resolution of that crisis, can the United States hope to find a stable solution.

Under a NATO-backed plan delivered this weekend to Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, peace talks will begin in France on the 6th of February with a one-week window for negotiation. A final resolution must be reached by the 20th. If these peace negotiations fail, NATO is authorized to carry out air strikes in Yugoslavia. Several European nations, including France, Britain, and Germany, have offered to

deploy ground troops to support the settlement.

In such a delicate situation there is still ample room for failure. Several key players in the conflict, including Milosevic and the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army, have not yet said they will attend talks. But neither have they said they will not attend talks. This proposal has a decent chance at securing peace in the war-torn Yugoslav province.

As this latest proposal was being drafted, the West had struggled to appear fair in arbitrating the dispute. European monitors have identified breaches of the cease-fire agreement on both sides and have avoided heaping excess blame on one side or another.

The proposal has the support of a "Contact Group" of six nations — the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, and Russia. Support for this agreement reaches beyond the Washington-London alliance. France, a frequent dissenter to military action, is fully involved in this agreement. Even Russia, traditionally an ally of Serbia and a nation increasingly sensitive about American dominance over world affairs, is involved in this proposal.

From shreds of hope in Kosovo we plunge into the darkness of Iraq. Anglo-American forces have continued their confrontations since Operation Desert Fox, frequently firing on anti-aircraft and radar installations.

Here the two nations stand alone. Other world powers such as France and China have repeatedly expressed concern over military action in the Near East. And Russia has spoken fiercely against military intervention

in Iraq.
What have the United States and Britain gained



from their campaign against Iraq? We've bombed a number of empty factories and presidential palaces. We've driven United Nations inspections teams from the country. We've emboldened Saddam and augmented his popularity among the impoverished Iraqi people. The Anglo-American Iraqi policy has accomplished none of what it was intended to do and caused many events it was ostensibly designed to prevent.

In 1991 a group of nations launched a successful strike against Iraq. Such an operation only worked because of worldwide cooperation. The United States, Britain, and France all supplied troops and military equipment. We were joined by nations of the Arab world, countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia which must live in the shadow of Saddam. World powers such as China and Russia were not openly critical of our policy.

Today we all share the goal of removing chemical and biological weapons from Iraq. But we sharply differ on how to attain that goal. Nations such as France, China, and Russia criticize U.S.-British policy, and our Arab allies from the Gulf War are now silent. The vast majority of nations know that U.S.-British action is actually hindering efforts to check Saddam's weapons program.

The Contact Group's proposal shows that major powers can still cooperate to find solutions to international crises. This logic must be applied to the situation in Iraq. The United States and Britain should stand down and end military strikes. They should invite nations like France and Russia, nations with whom

Saddam has better relations, to take the leadership role in inspection.

The United States and Britain may find it humiliating to allow other nations to dictate policy on Iraq. But nothing we have done has helped end Saddam's weapons program. The new Kosovo proposal demonstrates the United States and Britain can work together with other powers to find just solutions to world conflicts. Only a similar working solution can produce a stable solution in Iraq.

Michael J. Ring's column appears each Tuesday.

A Super Sunday

Eric J. Plosky

National Football League teams prepare for the Super Bowl throughout the fall and winter, butting their armored heads together to see who will still be standing by the end of January. Advertisers prepare for the Bowl by designing multimillion-dollar campaigns for launch on game day and spending in excess of \$50,000 per second to air their glitzy new commercials. And my family makes its own preparations — we hunker down in the living room, surrounded by food.

It wasn't always this ritualistic. Bowl Day used to be just another family Sunday, albeit with a somewhat more defined agenda: sit down in living room, watch first half of Super Bowl, eat bagel-and-lox dinner during halftime (with halftime show on in background). Then, if the game was good, and it wasn't too late, the rest of my family would keep my dad company for the second half, at least until the commentators started to deride the remains of the game as a blowout.

In January 1996, our Super Bowl semi-tradition underwent a stunning transformation — my family decided to attend Super Bowl XXX in person. The game was to be held in Tempe, Arizona. Since we have relatives in Phoenix, we regarded the trip not as an NFL pilgrimage but as a reasonable combination of football and family. So we watched the Cowboys and Steelers from plastic folding nosebleed seats instead of from our own living room, and we saw Diana Ross's halftime helicopter not from behind mouthfuls of bagel but right above our heads as it clattered down to the 50-yard line with its diva cargo.

As far as Super Bowl XXX goes, I don't remember anything about the game, or even who won. The entire experience, however, was great fun. Before the game, during the "NFL Experience" fair and exhibition held outside the stadium, I commandeered a computer showing NFL.com's new Web page to check

my Athena account. My father and I donned foam-and-plastic sumo wrestling suits. My mother and brother sat in a replica sportscaster's booth to try their hand at real-time football commentary (and we still have the souvenir video tapes to prove it).

At some point during the game's first half, while the rest of the world was enjoying some Super Bowl commercial, the stadium's public-address system suddenly came to life, issuing instructions: how and when to deploy the colored cards provided at each seat in order to display a pattern in the crowd during the halftime show. I felt as though I was part of a massive conspiracy, but the sight of 50,000 people executing precisely timed maneuvers was undeniably impressive.

Despite the success of our in-person viewing of Super Bowl XXX, my family had no plans to follow the NFL to its next championship city. Watching the Super Bowl through binoculars is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the non-fan, and we were quite content to return to our living room. Besides, we now could have the satisfaction of feeling superior to the Super Bowl — the cosmopolitan "been there, done that" attitude; the ability to glance nonchalantly at the television and shrug as if to say, "What's the big deal?"

But our brief time in Tempe had created a big deal — a permanent and irrevocable family tradition. It was now understood that my family would forever spend the Super Bowl together, regardless of circumstances. Being at school in Cambridge really wasn't enough of a reason to miss the traditional family gathering on game day, was it? No; my family has so few traditions that I have every reason to welcome the newly-ordained Super Bowl tradition, and so I do.

As the years go on, our preparations for the game are more and more elaborate. This year, my father first mentioned the Bowl to me during a telephone conversation some time in the fall. "You'll be coming home for the Super Bowl, right?" A pause — a token

pause, really — as I, uh, consider my schedule. But there's enough moment for my father to seize, and in that moment he further expands the new tradition: "You should bring some of your friends from school. We'll have a gathering."

So I circulate the idea among several of my friends, none of whom care much for football. "The Super Bowl?" they say, with puzzled expressions on their faces. "Is that a big thing?" They don't understand the family tradition, so I have to bribe them. "We'll have food," I promise. I begin to spin the legend of the hoagie, a food introduced to my household by my Cosbyesque father as an accompaniment to Super Bowl XXXII. With visions of roast beef and provolone now dancing in their heads, the friends agree to make the drive to New York.

I must arrange the details with my father, whom I call to update on the projected household attendance. "So that'll be you plus four friends, and your brother plus three friends," says my dad thoughtfully. "Better add a foot" — to the hoagie, that is. The local delicatessen is notified. My mother is briefed and goes out to purchase enough chips and salsa to feed a hungry army. And so it goes, the complicated tactical planning underway and more elaborate than ever.

As I write this, on Sunday afternoon, Super Bowl XXXIII has not yet started. The family and friends are not yet all assembled; the hoagie is not in attendance. But bags of chips and pretzels lurk in the next room, and beer and soda stand ready on refrigerator shelves. In a couple of hours, with the opening kick, another year's worth of family tradition will begin. Or does it begin when we unwrap the hoagie? All that matters is that the family is together, several more hours of preparation well spent. Next year may bring another expansion of the family tradition — or at least another foot on the hoagie.

Eric J. Plosky's column appears each Tuesday.

Female Suicide in China

Elaine Y. Wan

Amongst all the scandals, trials and interviews Hillary Clinton's husband has faced so far, Hillary has stood out as an exemplary model of an independent, capable female politician. She has served as a role model for many American women who aspire for a career beyond the home. Elizabeth Dole, the wife of former presidential nominee Bob Dole, a former president of the Red Cross, and a potential presidential candidate herself, is also a spectacular role model for females. These role models have given more women a sense of self-worth and motivation to achieve more in their lives. However, in areas like rural China where there are fewer female role models, there are high rates of female suicide.

Last June, Hillary Clinton visited China and met with leaders of Beijing's women's movement, where the high rates of female unemployment and suicide were brought to the attention of the international community. According to a recent study by the World Bank, Harvard University and the World Health Organization, 56 percent of the world's female suicides occur in China. The Chinese government tallies that female suicide is responsible for 18 of every 100,000 deaths, a rate five times higher than other countries.

China has a rising economy and more laws are being passed to protect women's interests and their role in society. So why are so many Chinese women taking their own lives?

Chinese officials and medical experts have concluded that the low status of females, the rapid shift to a market economy and the availability of pesticides have all contributed to the high suicide rates. Unlike cases in Western countries, large numbers of suicides in China are the result of impulsive acts by people who showed no signs of mental illness, depression, or alcohol or drug use.

One suicide scenario involves an argument between a farmer and his wife over crops, which is followed by the wife's ingestion of a lethal pesticide available within arm's reach. She leaves her children orphaned and her husband widowed. The community loses a healthy member who could have contributed to the nation's production. There are reports of women committing suicide because of extramarital affairs, or even because one's neighbor refused to cut down an overhanging tree.

In Western societies, suicide is deemed as a foolish answer to any problem. The Chinese are trying to instill this belief into young rural women who are usually the suicide victims. Leaders of the Chinese women's movement claim that most rural Chinese females lack self-worth because their lives only revolve around taking care of the family, giving birth, cooking, cleaning and farming. Scientists also attribute the high suicide rates to the widening gap between the rich and poor. Many rural women realize there are many comforts and pursuits of leisure they will never be able to experience because they are not educated and do not have the opportunities necessary for them to create a new life.

In rural China there are no telephone hotlines to counsel potential victims. Instead, news agencies broadcast psychological analyses of females who have committed suicide over the radio and loud speakers. There are also stories being published in magazines about women who have made a career by marketing their cooking and sewing skills to encourage rural women to cherish their lives. However, few women in China have achieved important leadership roles. A living example of a woman who has surpassed obstacles to obtain respect in her community, an education and her own career would be better inspiration for rural Chinese women than any story in the media. Women in the West have the opportunity to go to school or get a job, but most importantly they have role models to show them what an education and a career can do. Chinese women will not have a sense of self-worth unless someone shows them their potential.

Suicide is the last resort for those who believe they have no other alternative. With the influx of Western values and more female role models among the Chinese, many rural women hopefully will realize that they are valued and that another woman or an overgrown tree are not good reasons to give up a healthy life.

Elaine Y. Wan's column appears each Tuesday.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT BOSE®

ON-CAMPUS INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday, February 9
7:30 pm, Room 4-270

ON-CAMPUS OPEN INTERVIEWS

Thursday, February 11
Register at the MIT Career Office

E-mail or fax your resume to:
Lyn Van Huben, Bose Corporation,
The Mountain, Framingham, MA 01701
FAX: (508) 766-7031
E-mail: lyn_vanhuben@bose.com
www.bose.com

BOSE®
Better sound through research®

Residence Design Contest Teams Present Proposals

By Rima Arnaout
STAFF REPORTER

Eleven teams, participating in the Residence Design Contest, commented on everything from MIT's dining system to the decision to house all freshmen on campus in 2001 in presenting their final proposals for revamping the Institute's residence system.

The contest, called *A Community Shapes Its Future: Designing the New Residence System at MIT*, finished Friday in 10-250 when teams gathered to give fifteen-minute presentations to the steering committee overseeing the contest. Each presentation was followed by five minutes of questions by the steering committee and others in the audience.

The steering committee, composed of faculty, alumni, and students, will decide contest winners and use the proposals from the contest to formulate their own proposal for revamping the residence system to be presented to Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 in September of this year.

The presentations were accompanied by more detailed written proposals to the steering committee. The presentations ran smoothly, although it took roughly five hours to hear from every team.

Former MIT President Paul E. Gray '54, also a steering committee member, said that he "thought the presentations went well. The written proposals will, I believe, be the principal basis for the judging. I was disappointed that there were not more people present."

"Many specific, yet flexible, ideas were presented," said Abby H. Peicyger '01, also a member of the steering committee.

"Considering that these teams were given typically less than a week... I was completely impressed by both the number of proposals and the ideas detailed within them," said

steering committee member Eric Liu '00.

Teams address housing changes

The suggestions and sentiments of the teams ranged from drastic changes to simple refinements of the current residence system.

One of the most important changes the teams had to address in their proposals was how to conduct dormitory, fraternity, sorority, and independent living group rush given that all freshmen will live on campus by fall 2001.

Some teams, such as the team led by Lita H. Lee '00 advocated an Independent Activities Period rush. "The goal of moving Rush is to allow for more informed rushees," Lee said in her proposal. Other teams said that students shouldn't be forced to be at MIT over IAP to pledge.

The Optimizers Team, composed entirely of freshmen, suggested a "non-residential rush for first-year students" so that freshmen could belong to an FSILG while living on campus.

A few teams' ideas included ways to get the MIT community to interact by organizing small group activities that lead to larger-scale interactions until the entire MIT community was one group doing things together.

In the Dorm Design Team's presentation, team member Sarah L. McDougal '00 said that small tight communities will help strengthen the MIT community as a whole only "if they are fluid and interconnected."

Social atmosphere discussed

Fortifying MIT's mentoring system is part of creating community. The Beaver Dream Team counseled the steering committee to institute residence-based advising with faculty associated with each dorm.

Many teams also decried the inconvenience of MIT's current dining system. According to the teams, dining at MIT is marked by the unavailability of healthy food at a low cost in a setting that would bring MIT students together. Plans for new dining systems included faculty-student lunches, designed to get faculty and students to meet and chat in an informal setting.

Some groups stressed finding new ways to make the transition to

MIT more comfortable for incoming freshmen, while others stood up for freshmen's ability and right to choose their living situation for themselves.

Kartik M. Mani '00, who participated in the design contest, said in his team's proposal that "students who come [to MIT] are responsible enough to decide where they want to live."

Mani's team prescribed few revisions, adhering to the motto "if

it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The Platinum Team also delivered a presentation in the form of a skit about a freshman going through orientation in the future.

"Some of the members of the Platinum team felt that a skit would be an entertaining way to get across the highlights of our design," said Christopher R. Rezek '99, a Platinum Team member.

Contest, Page 22

Contest Ends as Questions Remain

By Neena S. Kadaba
STAFF REPORTER

In spite of its original promise, students and administrators involved in the Residence System

Design contest admitted they had doubts about the effectiveness of using a contest to design a completely revamped system of housing and residential life at the Institute.

Proposals from the eleven teams that participated in the design contest will be used by a steering committee composed of faculty, students, and alumni who will in turn present a proposal to Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow a final design for the residence design system in September.

Some complaints against the contest included problems with loosely-defined rules and a lack of structure.

Tina P. Lin '02 of the Magic Carpet Team believed the steering committee was too optimistic in making the rules so unstructured. "Letting people be on multiple teams, unlimited numbers of team members and developing teams during the five-day forum made the entire process less defined. If they had let teams form before, and then had the presentations, then teams would be able to work better," she said.

In addition, much of the work of open forums during the week to prepare teams for making formal presentations to students may have been lost on many.

Isaac B. Feitler '02, who attended most of the brainstorming sessions held in the early stages of the contest, commented that the sessions did stress that

"freshman housing was not the only important thing in designing a new residence system" and noticed that most of the presentations on Friday did not use the techniques presented in the forums.

Time limit cited as weakness

The contest's lack of structure resulted in an even more significant problem — that of not enough time to prepare for the presentations.

Joe A. Cirello '01, head of the Dabomb team, commented that the main problem he saw in the contest procedure was in the length of time the teams were given to come up with presentations; a system that MIT officials needed two years to form was given to students for two weeks to evaluate and improve.

"It was unrealistic to attempt to contain this process within a few weeks during IAP," said Writing and Humanistic Studies Lecturer and Dorm Design Team member Matthew K. Belmonte. He went further to say that several students have commented to him that "they would have loved to have been involved in these housing discussions but simply hadn't the time to spare" during the busy IAP.

Faculty interaction a challenge

Many teams found that finding faculty to participate, and communicating their ideas to these faculty members was no easy task. The contest was originally touted as a good opportunity to encourage faculty-student interaction.

"The design contest brings to light the

Contest Analysis, Page 31

You are invited to join us in the 18th annual...

MIT Student Telethon

February 3, 7-11, 17-18, 21-23

6-10pm in Room 10-105

FREE FOOD! FREE PRIZES! LOTS OF FUN!

Prizes include Bose Wave Radio, Blue Man Group tickets, Jillian's pool party, Marriott overnight stay for two, John Harvard's Brew House gift certificates, movie passes and much much more!



Get in touch with alumni/ae from across the country to raise money for your scholarship and housing funds!

Sign up individually or sign up with your dorm, FSILG, or student organization!

for more info
& to sign up:

Jill Pullen
3-0708 pullenj@mit.edu

SEE WHAT'S NEW IN DINING SERVICES

Networks

Try our new Asian Soups!

Soups are now available in two sizes!



Lobdell Food Court

...Introducing

SUSHI

prepared fresh, before your eyes!

Baker Dining

Dine with your neighbor!

- Monday → Ashdown
- Tuesday → McCormick
- Wednesday → Green
- Thursday → Burton Conner

Receive .50¢ off the Meal Deal (entree, choice of 3 side orders, and fountain soda)

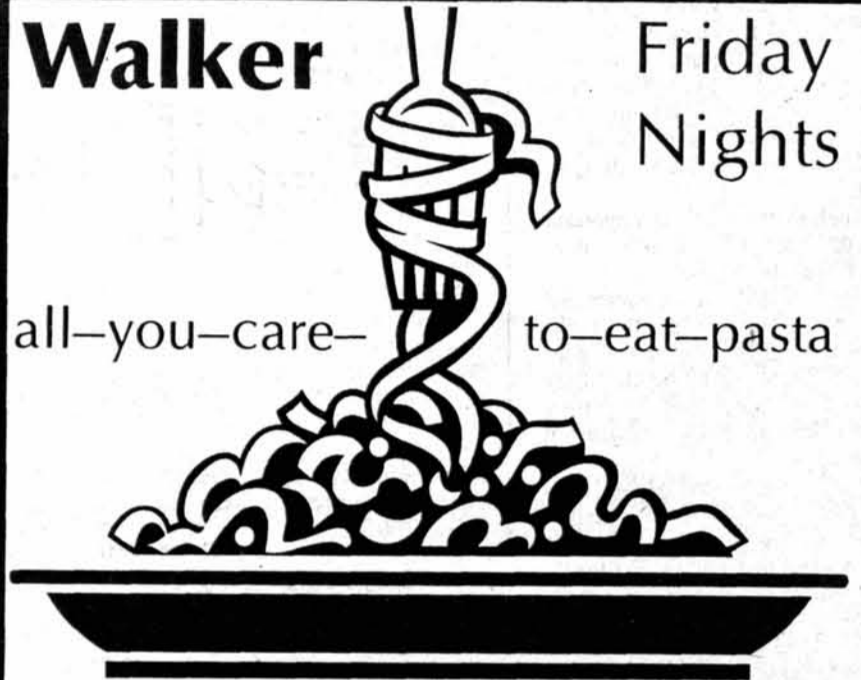
A \$7.50 value for \$6.00!

-bring your student ID for resident identification-

Walker

Friday Nights

all-you-care-to-eat-pasta



Dome Cafe Bio Cafe

Buy 9 cups of coffee and get your 10th FREE

get your coffee card today!



Next House Dining

What's your favorite night?

- Sunday** Ice Cream Bar
- Monday** Nacho Bar
- Tuesday** Potato Bar
- Wednesday** Taco Bar
- Thursday** Hot Dog Bar

Pritchett

Come and check out our new menu!

- Steak Tips
- Pasta
- Grilled Chicken Breast
- Salads
- and more!!!

Refresher Course

Need a **refresher** on where to grab a bite at the Sloan School?

Then we have the **course** for you! Check out **Refresher Course**.

- E-52, first floor
- Mon-Thurs • 8am-5pm
- Friday • 8am-3pm



MIT

Dining Services



ARAMARK

8.02 Students Given Surprise Pre-Reg Day Math Assignment

By Frank Dabek
NEWS EDITOR

The term has started a bit early for this spring's crop of 8.02 students, who were surprised to receive an assignment due at their first recitation.

Students registered for Electricity and Magnetism (8.02) received an e-mail on Friday telling them to pick up several class handouts which included a math review sheet with six assigned problems.

Course lecturer and Professor of Physics Hale V. Bradt PhD '61 said that the assignment consisted of "very simple math where [students] practice doing double integrals." The assignment also reviews common approximations such as $\sin(x) \approx x$ for small x , he said.

Such mathematics is important in 8.02, since concepts such as double integrals appear early in the course, he said. He characterized the material covered by the problems as a "physicist's view of double integrals" and said that they stressed the concept of integration rather than advanced integration techniques.

Bradt said that the course "does not give any credit" for the assignment and that students would "not get docked one bit" for failing to complete it. He also said that solutions are provided for all problems in the course and that 8.02 relies on small quizzes rather than problem sets to gauge student progress.

Student reaction negative

Student reaction to the unconventional assignment seems to be grudging acceptance.

Barbara H. Shultze '02 said that she had already been exposed to the material in the questions in Multivariable Calculus (18.02). It "wasn't a bad assignment so I didn't mind," she said.

Other students felt that the assignment was something of an imposition. Michael M. Torrice '02 said that he "didn't see a real reason

for it." Torrice said that he felt that the material could have been covered in the first recitation without the need for an assignment.

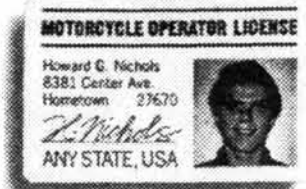
Jason R. Broder '02 said that "a lot of people are pissed off" about the assignment and that he "didn't think it was fair." Broder agreed that there was no need to begin the material before the start of class. "What's the big deal if we wait two days?" he asked.

Bradt said that one student who

was upset with the assignment had contacted him. Bradt advised him to "relax... don't do it."

While assigning work for the first class of the term is unusual, Bradt said that he has given a math review sheet in previous years when he lectured the class during the period 1987 to 1991. This year however, the availability of e-mail enabled him to inform students to bring the completed problems to the first recitation.

THE MOST FUN YOU'LL GET
OUT OF THE DMV.



A motorcycle operator license is more important than you think. The fact is, unlicensed riders are over-represented in fatal crashes. So get your license. While an afternoon at the DMV isn't much fun, having a license is something you can live with. MOTORCYCLE SAFETY FOUNDATION

This space donated by The Tech



ENGINEERING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

ORIENTATION

Tuesday, February 2, 1999, 4-5PM, Rm (TBA)

To all SOPHOMORES in the departments of AERO/ASTRO, CIVIL, MATS. SCIENCE & ENG., MECHANICAL, NUCLEAR, OCEAN and UNDESIGNATED, learn to relate traditional on-campus academic programs with off-campus work experience in industry/government while earning joint SB/SM in engineering in a total of five years.

Also, there is a new program within the eip framework - A Summer jobs program. Students will have a work assignment at a company site for one summer, involved with projects of interest to the company.

For more information, please contact—

Karl W. Reid '84, '85

or Susie McClain

Rm 1-211 / Tel: 253-8051 / eipstaff@mit.edu

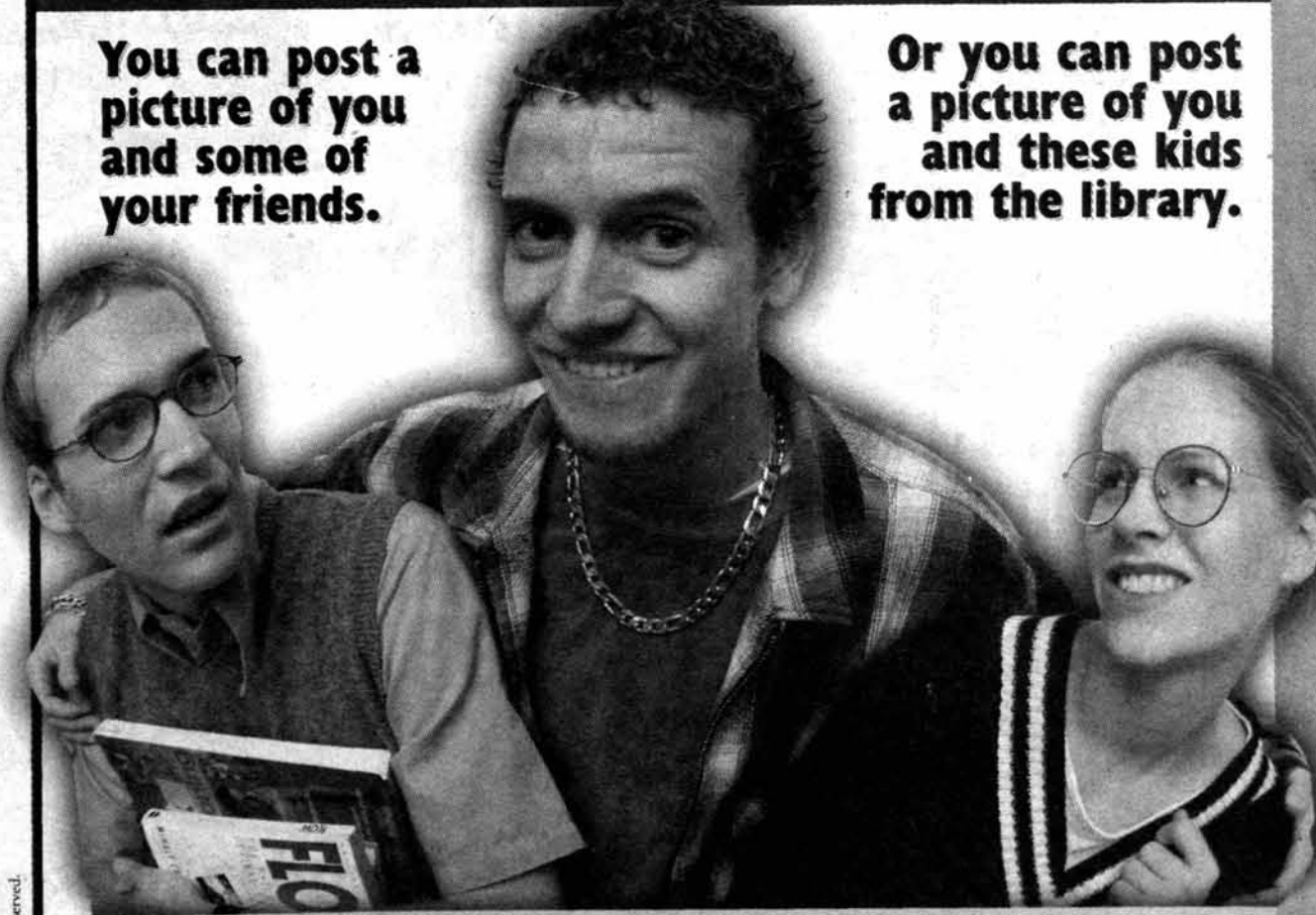
<http://web.mit.edu/eip/www/>

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Two more reasons to start a MyFamily Web site...

You can post a picture of you and some of your friends.

Or you can post a picture of you and these kids from the library.



Customized family calendar



Secure family chat



Family news & announcements



Family photo album



Free family e-mail

GRAND OPENING
\$1,000,000

Log on to MyFamily.com and you can be posting misleading photos in no time. But of course posting photos is only one of the reasons to start a MyFamily Web site. Your site lets you and those you choose,

e-mail family members, chat in a secure room on any topic, customize family event calendars and photo albums, shop for gifts, post news and announcements and find links to other family-friendly Web sites. And setting up a site is a breeze, anyone with a computer, even a Web novice, can do it in

a couple of minutes. Which means you're just moments away from showing your parents your "new friends." So get your family on MyFamily.com, and stay connected.

MyFamily.com

LaVerde*s Market!

Welcome Back Students!

Come in and fill out an entry blank at LaVerde*s.

You could win one of the following great prizes:

- * 2 - Mountain Bikes
- * 1 - 19 Inch Color Television
- * 5 - Sony Walkmans
- * 10 - \$10 LaVerde*s Market

Gift Certificates

Join the Fun...

No Purchase Necessary

We Appreciate Your Business!



GROCERY SPECIALS

10.75 oz.
Campbell's
Chicken
Noodle Soup
2/\$1



16.9 oz. Non Carbonated
Poland Spring
Water
2/\$1

9.5 oz. 4 Varieties
Frappuccino
Coffee Drinks
99¢

FROZEN & DAIRY

9.8-10.7 oz. Asst. Var.
Totino's
Party
Pizza
99¢



64 oz. 5 Varieties
Welch's
Juice Drinks
1.99

8 oz. Asst. Var.
Colombo
Yogurt
2/\$1
Reg. or Light

CALL: 617-621-0526 FAX: 617-621-1389

We reserve the right to limit quantities and are not responsible for typographical errors.

Coop Alternatives Offer Textbooks at Low Prices

By Karen E. Robinson
STAFF REPORTER

In the rush to secure books for spring classes, students are finding several different sources which sell required course books. Quantum Books, Beantown Books, and the Alpha Phi Omega Book Exchange all offer some of the same texts as the MIT Coop, often at lower prices.

Quantum a source for 6, 8, 18

Quantum Books, located near Legal Seafood, around the block from the Coop, sells many computer Science, math, and physics texts at prices significantly lower than those at the Coop. For example, the text for Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs (6.001), is \$80 at the Coop (\$60 used), compared to \$50 new from Quantum Books.

They have a clear list of books on their webpage (<www.quantumbooks.com>; click on "MIT Students"), so students can easily see what is available.

Alum operation offers alternative

Beantown Books is a new online operation started by three MIT alumni. Chris Yang '96, Grace Kim '97, and Jimmy K. Lee '98 found the Coop to be "rather expensive" and thought they could provide a good alternative. Yang said that they had been "throwing around the idea" since September 1998, though this is the first semester that they have sold books.

Beantown is hoping to eventually add a community site, to serve students from other schools as well, and inform students of college activity.

Their webpage is <<http://www.beantownbooks.com>>

APO brings together buyer, seller

Alpha Phi Omega, a national coed service fraternity, offers an alternate way to buy and sell used books. From Feb. 2-5, APO is holding its annual used book exchange in the Mezzanine Lounge on the third floor of the Student Center.

Students who want to sell used books set the prices themselves. They can also set a lower price for the last day of the exchange. If a book is not sold, it can either be returned or donated to charity.

APO does not monitor prices and has no control of what books come in, so book availability and costs vary.

Generally, the book exchange has older versions of textbooks. APO also sells course readers and various paperback books.

Other alternatives available

Another important source for

textbooks is MIT Press, which publishes several books for MIT courses. There are also larger sources, such as the web-based amazon.com. Amazon offers *Introduction to Algorithms* for \$65, as does MIT Press but this is still \$13 more than Quantum Books. Amazon's price for the text for *Macroeconomics* (14.02), is \$77.80, compared to Beantown's price of \$69.95. Amazon does prove to be a good place to look for textbooks not offered at other alternate sources, though, as their prices tend to be under the Coop's.

Sites which offer books for many colleges include Varsity Books, <www.varsitybooks.com> and Follett Corporation, <www.efollett.com>.

Used books can also be a viable option, especially for General Institute Requirements and other large subjects. The Coop buys used books from students at 50 percent of new price, and charges 75 percent of new price for used books. Obviously, buying used books directly from other students avoids the Coop's taking this hefty margin — sale at 62 percent or so of list price provides a better deal for both selling and buying student.

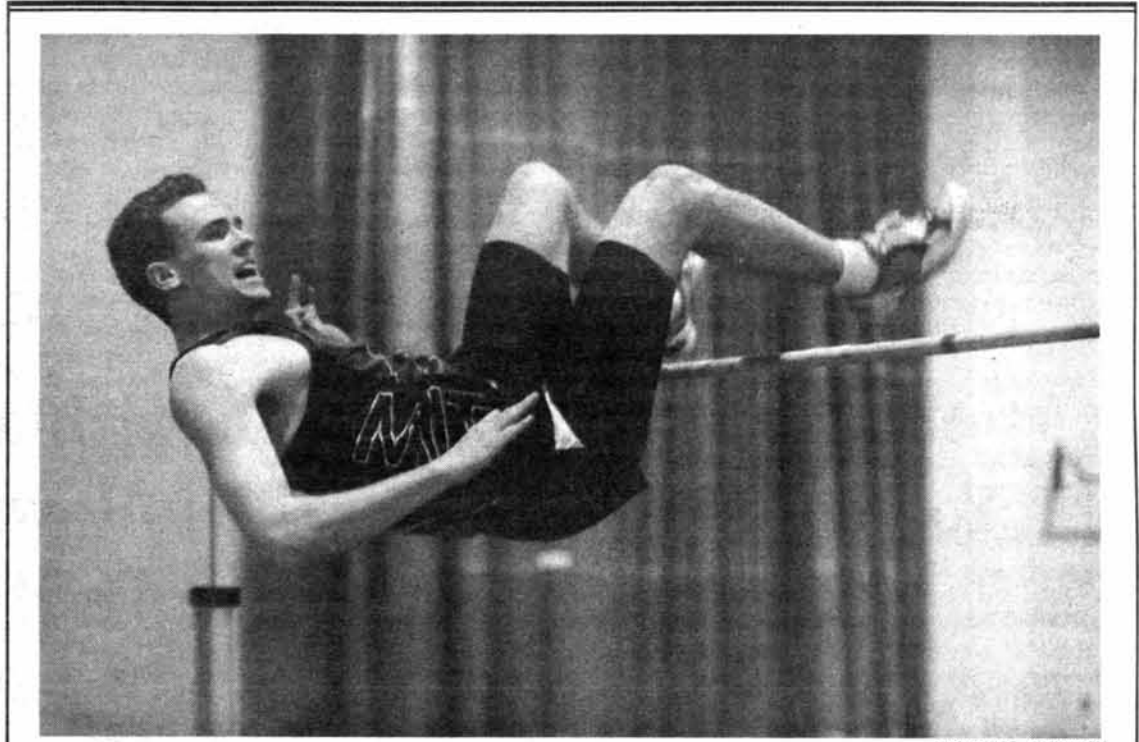
Coop fails to publicize alternatives

This is the first semester that the Coop has not made public the

lists of books and courses which require them; students must follow course numbers to books on the shelves. Coop management told *The Tech* that this is because the

information is prone to change, and it is easier to only change shelved books than worry about students finding outdated information. Some speculate, however, that

making the information less accessible discourages students from searching for books elsewhere. Coop management denies this claim.



High Jumper Roger Nielsen '01 clears the bar during the Third Annual Quad Cup Saturday in Johnson Athletic Center
LUCY YANG—THE TECH

"Happy 85th Birthday, Beaver"

You Are Invited To:

A Surprise Birthday Party

Date: Tues., Feb. 2, 1999
Time: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Place: Lobby 7

**FREE
Birthday Cake**

Hosted By: CAC Program Board
& Campus Activities Complex

Shhh...remember, its a Surprise!

Age 7, 1982

Age 18, 1993

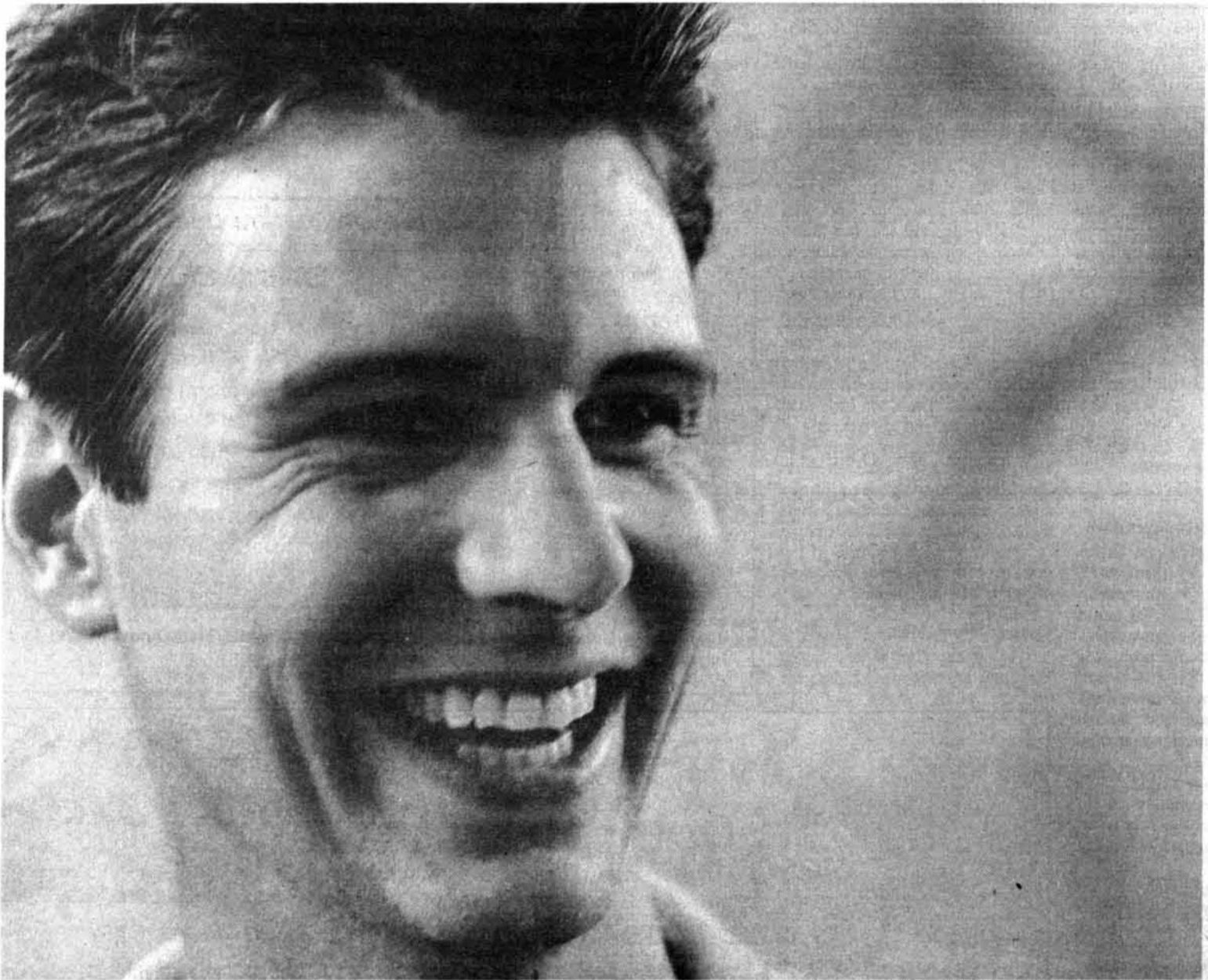
Elizabeth Suto.
Killed by a drunk driver
on February 27, 1994, on Bell Blvd.
in Cedar Park, Texas.

If you don't stop your friend
from driving drunk, who will?
Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

U.S. Department of Transportation

This space donated by *The Tech*



All we'd like to do is shake up your thinking and broaden your outlook. Then it's your turn.

It's all about making an impact.

Learn more about full-time and internship opportunities at Andersen Consulting.

Information Session—Tuesday, February 9, 7-9 p.m., Room 4-163.

Please submit resume via Jobtrak by Friday, February 19.

People who look at things from all sides have the ability to gain a whole new perspective. As a leading global management and technology consulting organization, those are just the kind of thinkers we're looking for.

After all, we use fresh insights to help clients develop strategies that deliver profound change. We work with them to

unlock their potential for success by aligning strategy with people, processes and technology—an approach that allows you to make an impact from the ground up.

We'll provide first-rate training and guidance, and exposure to a variety of projects and industries. All of which builds a solid foundation for your future.

Don't miss the chance to hear more

about a career with Andersen Consulting. If you're seeking the unexpected, we'll be expecting you.

Visit our Web site at www.ac.com

AC Andersen Consulting

UA Sponsors Second Housing Demonstration in Lobby Seven

By Susan Buchman
NEWS EDITOR

A second demonstration for freshman housing choice, sponsored by the Undergraduate Association, took place Monday in Lobby 7. Although the event was sparsely attended, many members of the community spoke out in favor of freedom of housing choice.

According to a pamphlet handed out at the protest, the purpose of the event was "to show that the MIT community believes that freshmen should be able to choose where they live."

Situation compared to Cornell

The event began shortly after noon with a speech by Matthew K. Belmonte, a lecturer in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies. Belmonte compared MIT's current reorganization of the residence

system to a similar process at Cornell University seven years ago.

Cornell was "destroying a village in order to save it," Belmonte said. Both the administration and the students were trying to preserve what they saw as the essence of Cornell, but their differing opinions as to what made Cornell great, and the animosity that followed, threatened to destroy both sides of the school.

Belmonte said that the orange ribbons worn by students should not be seen as symbols of anger, but of hope that the "dangerously polarized" MIT community will come together again.

Many speak, but few attend

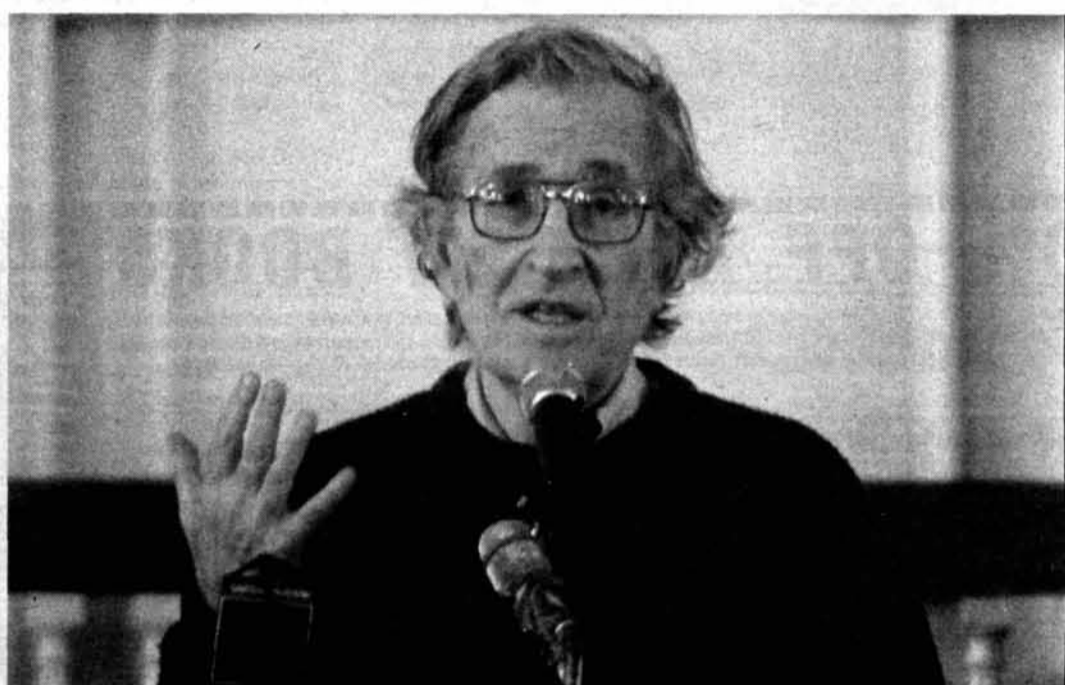
Fifteen other members of the MIT community spoke at the demonstration.

Jeremy D. Sher '99 offered his

suggestions to help MIT reach its potential and urged the administration to stop emphasizing a fictitious distinction between loyalty to MIT and loyalty to a living group.

"Allowing freshmen to choose their homes and neighbors is something to applaud, not condemn. The trust and respect MIT has shown its students for the past 125 years sets it apart from its peer institutions..." wrote Christopher R. Rezek '99 in a piece entitled "Why We Are Here Today" which was contained in the pamphlet.

The first demonstration for freshman housing choice occurred on Sept. 8, 1998. Although yesterday's demonstration was more well-organized, with pamphlets, beverages, and a central table, it was attended by significantly fewer people.



KRZYSZTOF GAJOS—THE TECH
In a talk organized by Boston Mobilization for Survival, renowned linguist and Institute Professor Noam Chomsky spoke freely about U.N. sanctions on Iraq Saturday at Harvard Square.

Introducing the...
Collegestudent.com
VALENTINES DAY FROM HELL CONTEST

We'll pay you \$100 to tell us why cuddling couples, chocolate, and puppies piss you off. To enter, log on to www.collegestudent.com, and write until it hurts!

Better hurry, contest ends February 5th

Brought to you by the MAGMA GROUP

EATING BEHAVIOR STUDY

Healthy female volunteers are sought for a study of blood hormone levels and psychological ratings. Eligible participants will receive compensation of \$60 for completion of an evaluation visit and \$150 for each of two overnight stays on the Clinical Research Unit. Participants include women who are 18-40 years old, in good medical health, and not taking medication, including oral

For More Information:

Call Carrie Mazer

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

(617) 667-2113

Want A Challenge?

OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

Start your career off on the right foot by enrolling in the Air Force Officer Training School. There you will become a commissioned officer in just 12 weeks. From the start you'll enjoy great pay, complete medical and dental care, 30 days of vacation each year,



www.airforce.com

plus the opportunity to travel and see the world. To discover how high a career in the Air Force can take you, call 1-800-423-USA, or visit our website at www.airforce.com



Graduate Student Council

OFFICE: Walker Memorial, 50-220 PHONE: 253-2195

EMAIL: gsc-request@mit.edu WEBSITE: www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

Attention Graduate Students!

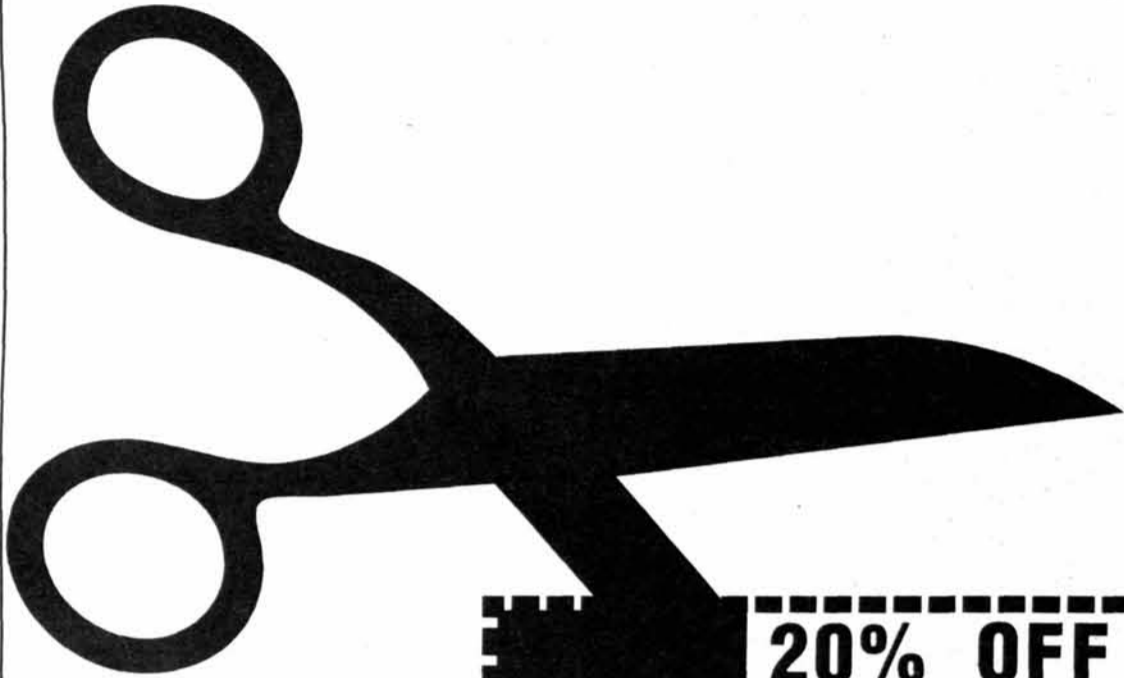
The following are the Josten's ring dates for the Spring semester:

Josten's Graduate Ring Days:

Feb. 3	Stratton Center	11 AM - 5 PM
Feb. 4	Kendall Coop	11 AM - 5 PM
Feb. 5	Kendall Coop	11 AM - 5 PM
April 7-9	Kendall Coop	11 AM - 5 PM

Cut it out.

This is the best offer we'll make all semester.



Tech's
Books
for Techies.



20% OFF ALL NEW BOOKS

When you join our mailing list (email or snailmail), subscribers to our mailing list receive **exclusive special offers**, book information, news, and announcements about our **authors@mit** events (cosponsored with MIT Libraries). The email list is low-traffic. This coupon is valid on new, non-sale priced books only. One coupon per customer. May not be combined with other offers. Expires 2.28.99. This offer is also valid for those who are already on our mailing list.

Name _____ Email _____

We stock many titles used in MIT classes, both MIT Press books & other publishers' books. See our coursebook list in the first Tech of the semester, on mitboard, or at <http://mitpress.mit.edu/bookstore/textbook.html>

The MIT Press Bookstore • books@mit.edu

Kendall Square 292 Main St. Cambridge MA 02142 617 253.5249 OPEN M-F 9-7, Th til 8:30; Sat 10-6; Sun 12-7

BIG SAVINGS!

Here's a listing of
**Spring '99 MIT
coursebooks**
which we carry.

Save money by using the
coupons in campus newspapers
or in the MIT phone directories.

Also be sure to check out our
great **SALE BOOKS** section,
including MIT Press "HURTS,"
and terrifically priced books
from other publishers.

* Please note we have separated MIT Press and other
publishers books on this list. Not responsible for
typographical errors. This is a partial listing and was
accurate as of 1/31/99. Check our website for updates.
version 2.99.02

We feature all the books published
by The MIT Press and a lot more.

The MIT Press Bookstore
Kendall Square T
292 Main Street
Cambridge MA 02142
617 253-5249
Mon-Fri 9-7, Thurs til 8:30,
Sat 10-6, Sun 12-6.

books@mit.edu
<http://mitpress.mit.edu/bookstore>

Tech's Books for Techies and Much More!

COURSE	BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	PRICE
MIT Press titles used as texts			
1.204, 6.046J, 18.410J	Introduction to Algorithms	Cormen, Leiserson & Rivest	\$65.00
4.222	Theory For Practice, A	Hubbard, Bill	\$13.50
4.222	Favored Circle, The	Stevens, Garry	\$35.00
4.612	Thermal Delight in Architecture	Heschong	\$10.00
6.001	Structure & Interpretation of Programs, 2	Abelson, Sussman & Sussman	\$62.50
6.003	Circuits Signals & Systems	Siebert	\$70.50
6.004	Computation Structures	Ward & Halstead	\$79.50
6.514J	Acoustic Phonetics	Stevens, Kenneth	\$60.00
8.03	Electromagnetic Vibrations, Waves	Bekefi & Barrett	\$42.00
14.272	Theory of Incentives in Procurement	Laffont & Tirole	\$57.50
14.272	Regulatory Reform: Economic Analysis	Armstrong & Cowan	\$45.00
16.300	Applied Optimal Estimation	Gelb	\$30.00
16.500	Aircraft Engines and Gas Turbines	Kerrebrock	\$60.50
14.272	Theory of Industrial Organization	Tirole	\$55.00
17.148	Protectionism	Bhagwati	\$15.00
21W.780	MIT Guide to Science and Engineering Communication	Paradis, James G.	\$31.50
24.119	Nature of Consciousness, The	Block, Ned	\$32.95
24.968J & HST.710J	Acoustic Phonetics	Stevens, Kenneth	\$60.00
MAS.814	Digital HalfToning	Ulichney	\$55.00
STS.066	Conversations in the Cog Neurosciences	Gazzaniga	\$17.00
STS.080	Designing Engineers	Bucciarelli	\$12.50
STS.340	Closed World: Computers and the Politics	Edwards, Paul	\$19.50
STS.340	American Technological Sublime	Nye, David	\$17.50
Other publishers' titles used as texts			
2.882	Principles of Design	Suh, Nam	\$80.00
4.624	Modern Middle East, The: A Reader	Hourani	\$20.00
6.868J	Society of Mind, The	Minsky, Marvin	\$14.95
8.03	Vibrations & Waves	French, Anthony P.	\$23.75
9.10 & 9.100	Cognitive Neuroscience: The Biology of	Gazzaniga & Ivry &	\$78.00
11.007J	Dealing With An Angry Public	Susskind, L	\$25.00
14.14	National Diversity and Global Capitalism	Berger, Suzanne	\$17.95
15.012	International Economics: 4th ed	Krugman & Obstfeld	\$80.63
15.036	Econometrics of Financial Markets, The	Lo, Andrew & Campbe	\$49.50
15.252 & 15.256	The Sources of Innovation, The	Von Hippel, Eric	\$19.95
15.314	Getting to Yes	Fischer & Ury	\$11.00
15.314	Organizational Culture & Leadership,	Schein, Edgar H.	\$25.95
15.356	How Buildings Learn	Brand, S	\$20.00
15.365J	Machine That Changed the World, The	Womack, J & Jones, D	\$13.50
15.450	Against the Gods: A Remarkable Story	Bernstein, P.	\$14.95
15.666	Getting to Yes	Fischer & Ury	\$11.00
15.783	Product Design and Development	Ulrich & Eppinger	\$78.95
15.975	Business Plans That Win \$\$\$	Gumpert, D & Rich, S	\$13.00
17.167 & 17.168	Who Elected the Bankers?	Pauly, L. W.	\$16.95
17.532	Rich Nation, Strong Army	Samuels, Richard	\$26.95
21F.018	Language Instinct, The	Pinker, Steven	\$15.00
21F.022J	American Scripture: Making the Declaration of Independence	Maier, Pauline	\$14.00
21H.112	From Resistance to Revolution	Maier, Pauline	\$12.95
21F.222	Longitude	Sobel, Dava	\$10.95
21H.42	Plagues & Peoples	McNeill, William H.	\$14.95
21A.453	Orientalism	Said, Edward	\$15.00
21H.541J	Machine That Changed the World, The	Womack, J & Jones, D	\$13.50
21H.541J	Made By Hong Kong	Lester & Berger	\$29.95
21H.541J	Productive Edge, The: How U.S. Industri	Lester, Richard K	\$29.95
21W.731	Elements of Style, 3rd ed.	Strunk & White	\$5.95
21W.732, .745, .780	Mayfield Handbook of Tech & Sci Writing	Perelman, Leslie C.	\$27.95
24.03	Structure of Scientific Revolutions	Kuhn, Thomas	\$10.95
SP.312	Div, Grad, Curl, & All That: 3ed	Schey, H	\$23.00

The MIT Press Bookstore



Architecture
Art
Business
Cognitive Science
Computer Science
Critical Theory
Design
Economics
Environment
Linguistics
Media & Culture
Neuroscience
Philosophy
Photography
Science
Technology & Society

Sophomore Uses Calculator to Build Unique Robot

By Karen E. Robinson
STAFF REPORTER

Like many students this year, David E. West '01 was lotteried out of the class for the 6.270 Autonomous Robot Design Competition.

Undaunted, West participated anyway. In a stroke of pure ingenuity, he built a robot using the computational power the Z80 chip of a TI-86 calculator in place of a 6.270 controller board.

He designed a card to interface the robot and calculator, then programmed the robot with the

calculator's assembly language, which is much more powerful than the regular TI pseudo-language.

The calculator-robot interface was the first and most difficult step, West said. He built a shift register to manipulate information from the calculator's serial port so that it could work with the robot's 8-bit parallel interface. "By messing around with the output you can obtain data eight bits wide," West said. "Then each bit can control a motor or read a sensor."

TI-86 robot design 'reliable'

From the onset West was not

sure if he could build such an interface. Constructing and debugging the chip took several weeks, leaving only about two and a half weeks to work on the robot itself. West cites this as one reason for favoring a slow, reliable design — one less complicated to build and debug.

West's robot scooped target balls off the table into an inside cavity. It had a total of three motors, one which ran the scooper and one for each drive shaft. "There's a drive shaft on each side of the robot," West said, "like in a tank." He

geared the wheels down, so that they were powerful, but slow — otherwise they may not have been strong enough to move the robot at all. With lowered gears, the robot was strong enough even to go up the stairs, had it had time to reach them.

West also considered a design which pushed balls into the bin, but opted for maximum dependability. "I went for a simple scoop that would work whether the electronics

worked or not," West said. The electronics only guided the robot to target balls; nothing was contingent on navigating back to the bin.

The last addition to West's robot were the light sensors, which he added three hours before Wednesday's competition. These detected the red light which signals the beginning of the round to the

Robot, Page 29

IAP Robot Competition Draws an Enthusiastic Audience to 26-100

Story, from Page 1

Using this strategy, "Hermes" caused so much damage to a robot named "JOB" in a final round that the remaining matches had to be rescheduled so that "JOB's" designers could make repairs to the robot.

The Hermes team attempted to counter the strategies of robots they saw before the contest.

"We were concerned about robots that would come meet us [at our end of the table]. We were concerned about JOB," Brooks said.

Hermes was undefeated through eight rounds of double elimination competition and a round-robin between the three finalists. As a prize, the team won a boxed set of Indiana Jones movies, Lego sets, and two first place trophies.

Hermes' speed is no surprise considering that Keith came up with a modification to the board that allowed them to receive 6 volts instead of the original 3 volts. Although this change was later adapted by all teams as an official alteration, no team used the additional power as well as Hermes.

The second place robot, "Chaika," takes its name from the Russian word for seagull, according to team member Johann D. Burgert '01. "Chaika" is also the brand name of the cars used by the KGB. Nathan J. Ickes '01 co-designed Chaika.

The robot with a large cheering section, "JOB," finished third. "JOB's" programmers, Jason H. Bau '00, Orton W. Huang '01, and Brian Chan '02, "stressed the rules" of the contest by implementing an expandable arm which pushed the negative balls across the table its opponent's bin.

First rounds began Tuesday

To qualify for competition, robots had to display the ability to score, said Andy Chang '00, a 6.270 organizer. Forty-nine of the 55 teams qualified for competition.

The beginning of Wednesday's double elimination tournament was actually the third round of the contest; the first round took place last Monday morning and the second round took place Wednesday morning. Some teams came into Wednesday evening with a loss, and those teams which qualified but lost the first two rounds were already eliminated.

The robots this year were controlled by new motherboards, supplied by Compaq. Whereas the last seven years' boards ran on 2 MHz and 32k, this year's robots ran on 200MHz and 32k boards.

"I know the controllers weren't perfect. I want to thank you guys for helping me test them and being my unwilling guinea pigs," said Edwin W. Foo G, 6.270 lead organizer.

Contest takes careful preparation

Planning for this year's 6.270 contest began last February, shortly after last year's competition, according to Chang. The student organizers are responsible for running the contest; they secure sponsors, teach classes, and staff the

lab. The existence of the contest depends on sponsors and donations. The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Compaq Computer Company, Oracle Corporation, Hawker Energy Products, Inc., Microsoft Corporation, Polaroid, Inc., Lego Dacta, General Motors, and IBM Corporation were sponsors of this year's contest.

Perennial favorite succeeds again

As in past years, the contest was

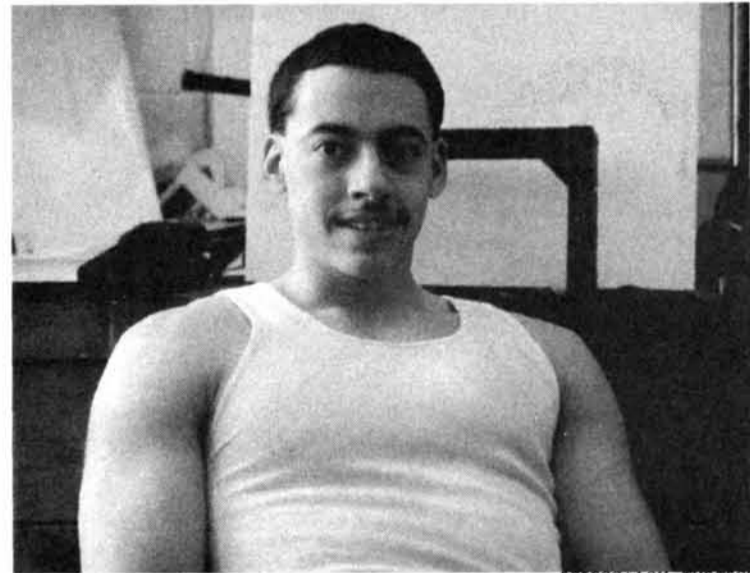
highly popular and 26-100 was filled to capacity by 5:20 pm for the 6:00 start.

"It was a good experience. We had a lot of fun, we built a cool robot — that was our goal and that's what we did," said Bernard F. Ahyou '01.

The time pressure of the contest affected many contestants.

"It seemed like time was flying by," said Jason H. Bau '00.

"It's a lot of fun but three and one-half weeks is too short" a time period, said John W. Strohm '00.



REBECCA LOH—THE TECH
David West '01, a competitor in "6.270 - Raiders of the Lost Parts" pleased the crowd with his autonomous robot built using his TI-86 chip.

GROCERY SHUTTLE

The Housing and Community Affairs Committee has set up a free shuttle bus that takes students to a local supermarket, the new Star Market at University Park. Below is an estimated schedule (weather and traffic cause slight variations).

Add yourself to the grocery shuttle mailing list for schedule updates: athena% blanche grocshut -a \$USER

LOOK FOR THE YELLOW SCHOOL BUS HERE:

SATURDAY

Worthington Place (wait at 5th & Binney)	8:00 am	8:30 am	9:00 am	9:30 am	10:00 am	10:30 am	11:00 am	11:30 a
Eastgate (Wadsworth & Amherst)	8:04 am	8:34 am	9:04 am	9:34 am	10:04 am	10:34 am	11:04 am	11:34 a
Senior House / East Campus (Amherst & Ames)	8:05 am	8:35 am	9:05 am	8:05 am	10:05 am	10:35 am	11:05 am	11:35 a
Ashdown House (Amherst at W11)	8:08 am	8:38 am	9:08 am	8:08 am	10:08 am	10:38 am	11:08 am	11:38 a
Burton/Conner	8:10 am	8:40 am	9:10 am	9:40 am	10:10 am	10:40 am	11:10 am	11:40 a
Tang/Westgate (at the red triangle)	8:12 am	8:42 am	9:12 am	9:42 am	10:12 am	10:42 am	11:12 am	11:42 a
Arrive at Star Market	8:20 am	8:50 am	9:20 am	9:50 am	10:20 am	10:50 am	11:20 am	11:50 a
Leave Star Market	8:50 am	9:20 am	9:50 am	10:20 am	10:50 am	11:20 am	11:50 pm	12:20 p

LOOK FOR THE YELLOW SCHOOL BUS HERE:

TUESDAY starting February 2

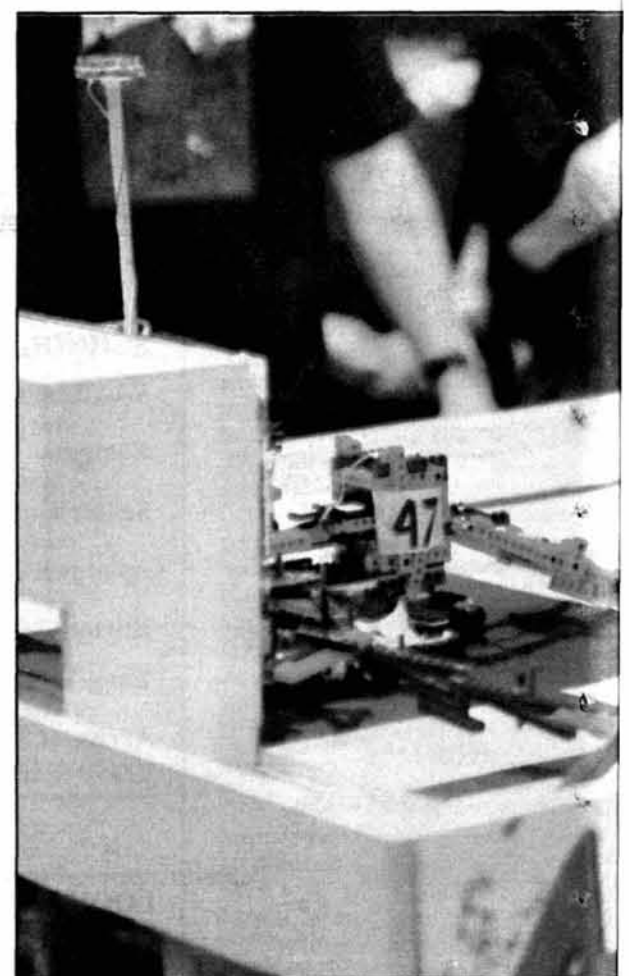
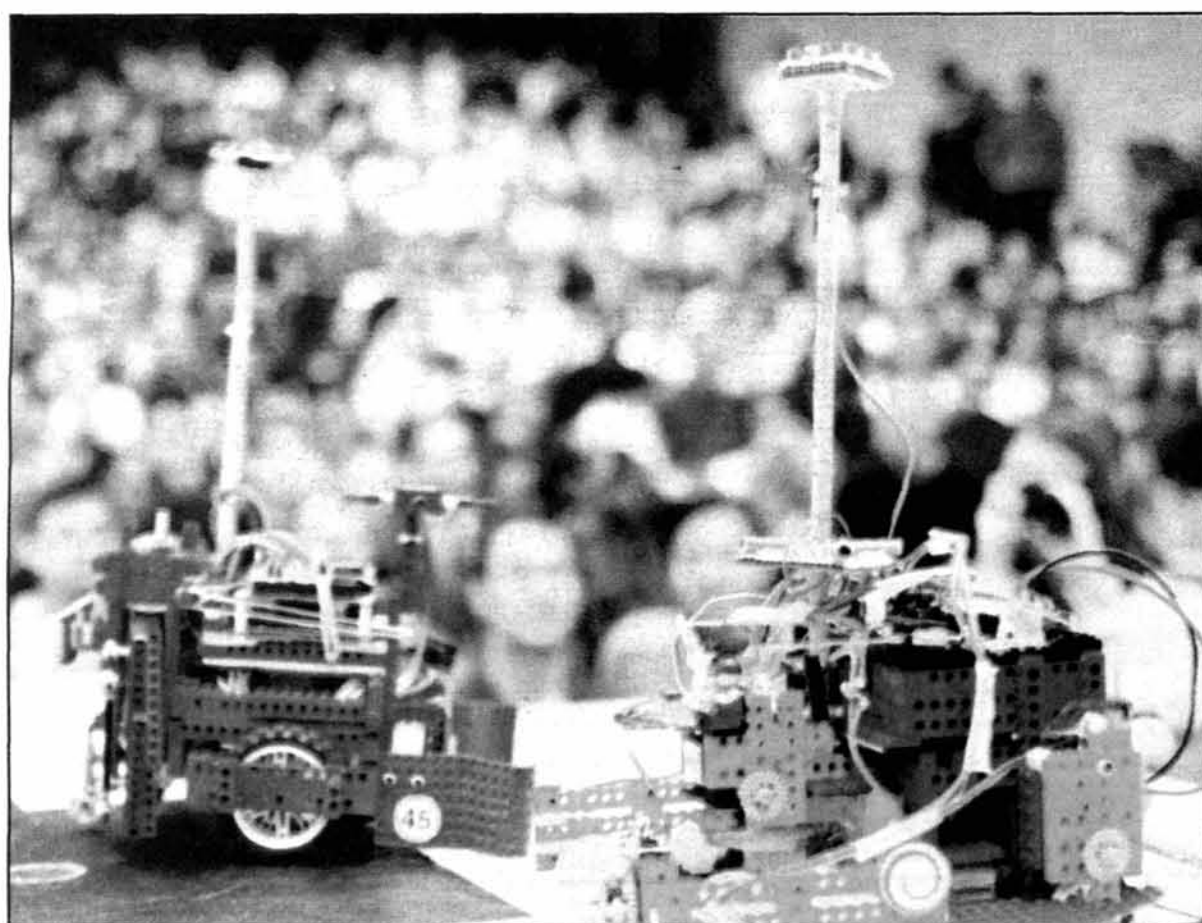
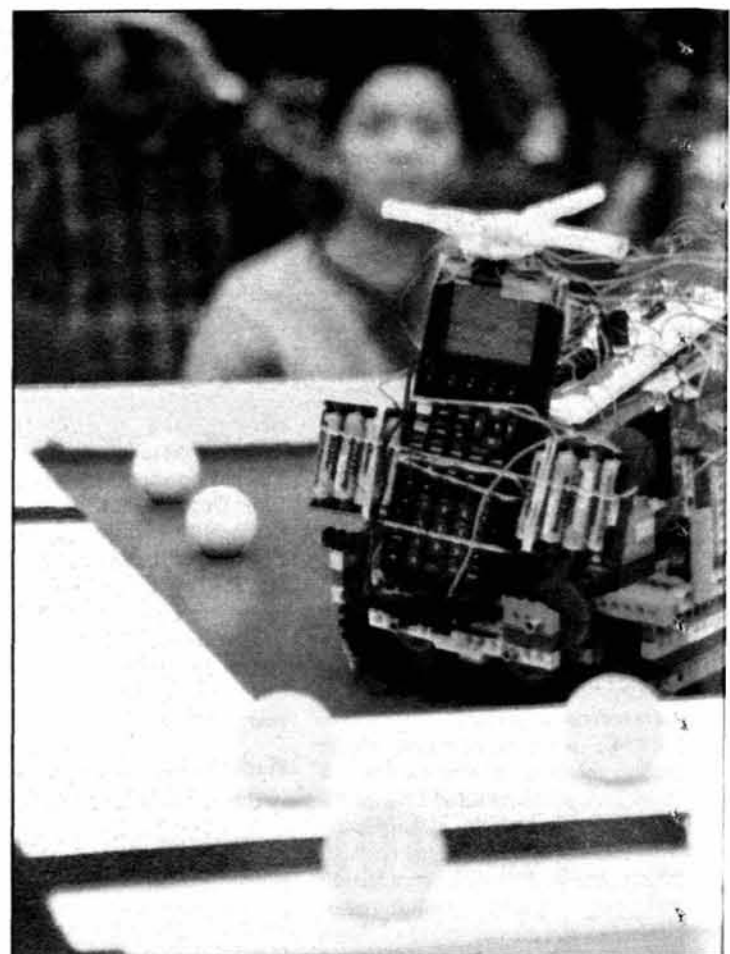
Worthington Place (wait at 5th & Binney)	7:00 pm	7:30 pm	8:00 pm	8:30 pm	9:00 pm	9:30 pm
Eastgate (Wadsworth & Amherst)	7:04 pm	7:34 pm	8:04 pm	8:34 pm	9:04 pm	9:34 pm
Senior House / East Campus (Amherst & Ames)	7:05 pm	7:35 pm	8:05 pm	8:35 pm	9:05 pm	9:35 pm
Ashdown House (Amherst at W11)	7:08 pm	7:38 pm	8:08 pm	8:38 pm	9:08 pm	9:38 pm
Burton/Conner	7:10 pm	7:40 pm	8:10 pm	8:40 pm	9:10 pm	9:40 pm
Tang/Westgate (at the red triangle)	7:12 pm	7:42 pm	8:12 pm	8:42 pm	9:12 pm	9:42 pm
Arrive at Star Market	7:20 pm	7:50 pm	8:20 pm	8:50 pm	9:20 pm	9:50 pm
Leave Star Market	7:50 pm	8:20 pm	8:50 pm	9:20 pm	9:50 pm	10:20 pm



Brought to you by the MIT Graduate Student Council and the Campus Activities Complex

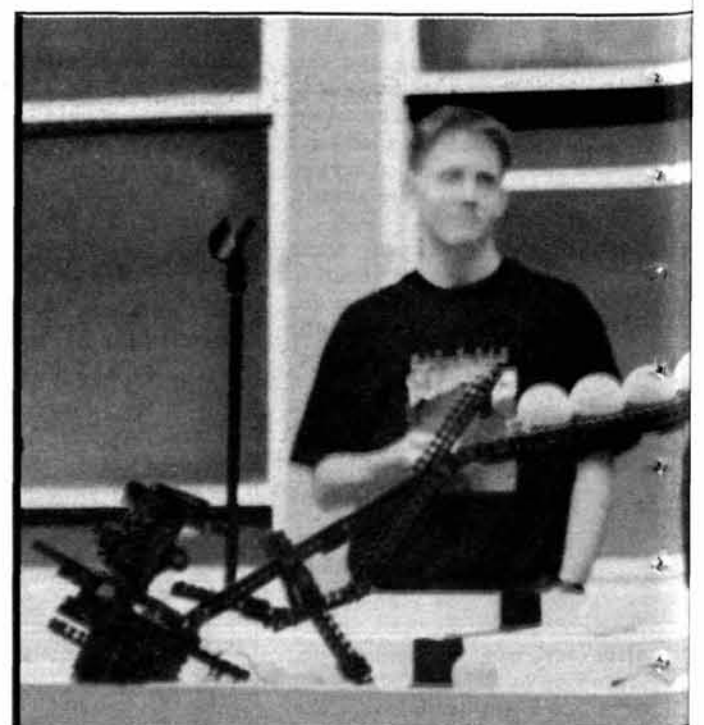
Thirteenth Annual Autonomous

Raiders of the



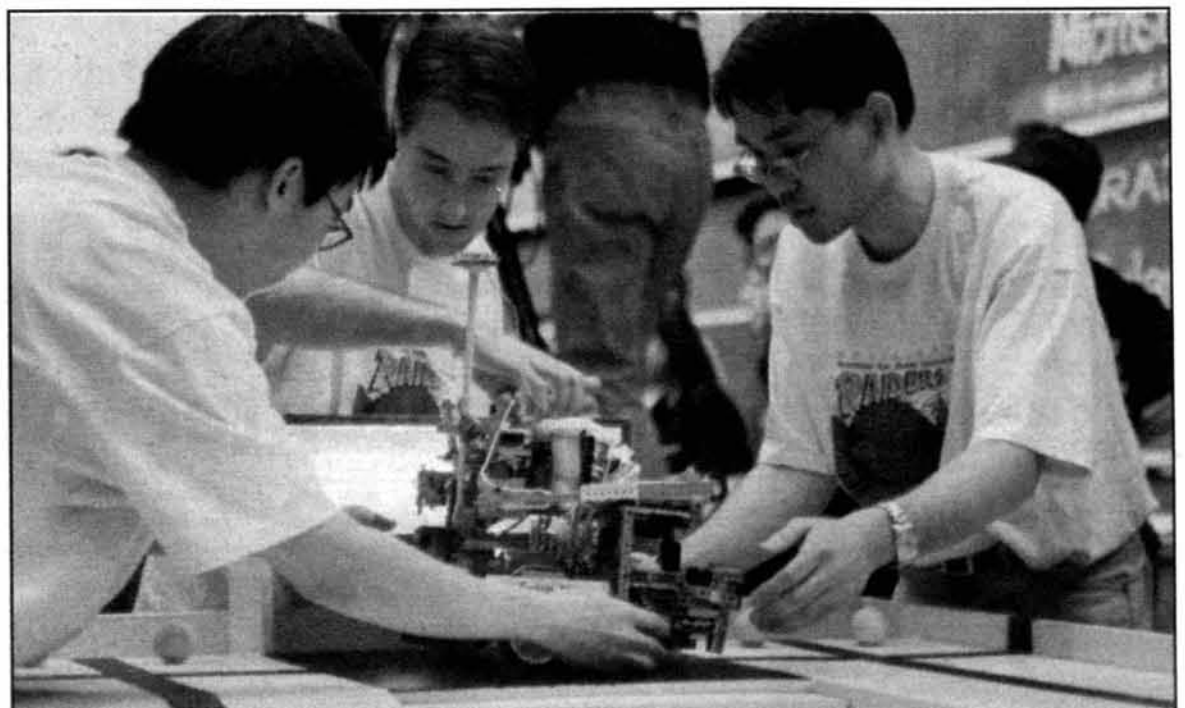
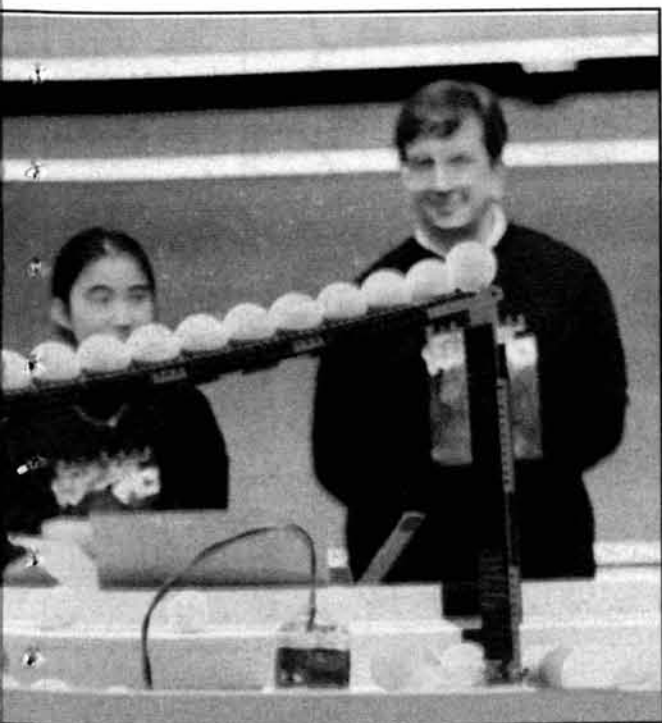
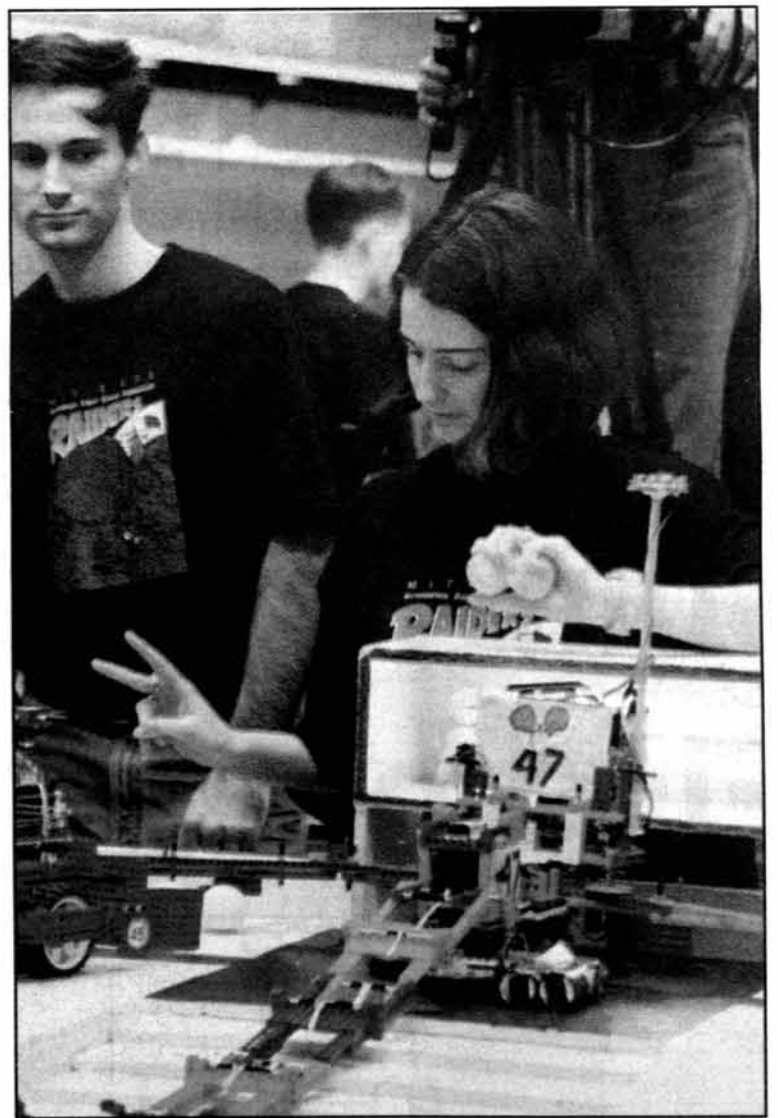
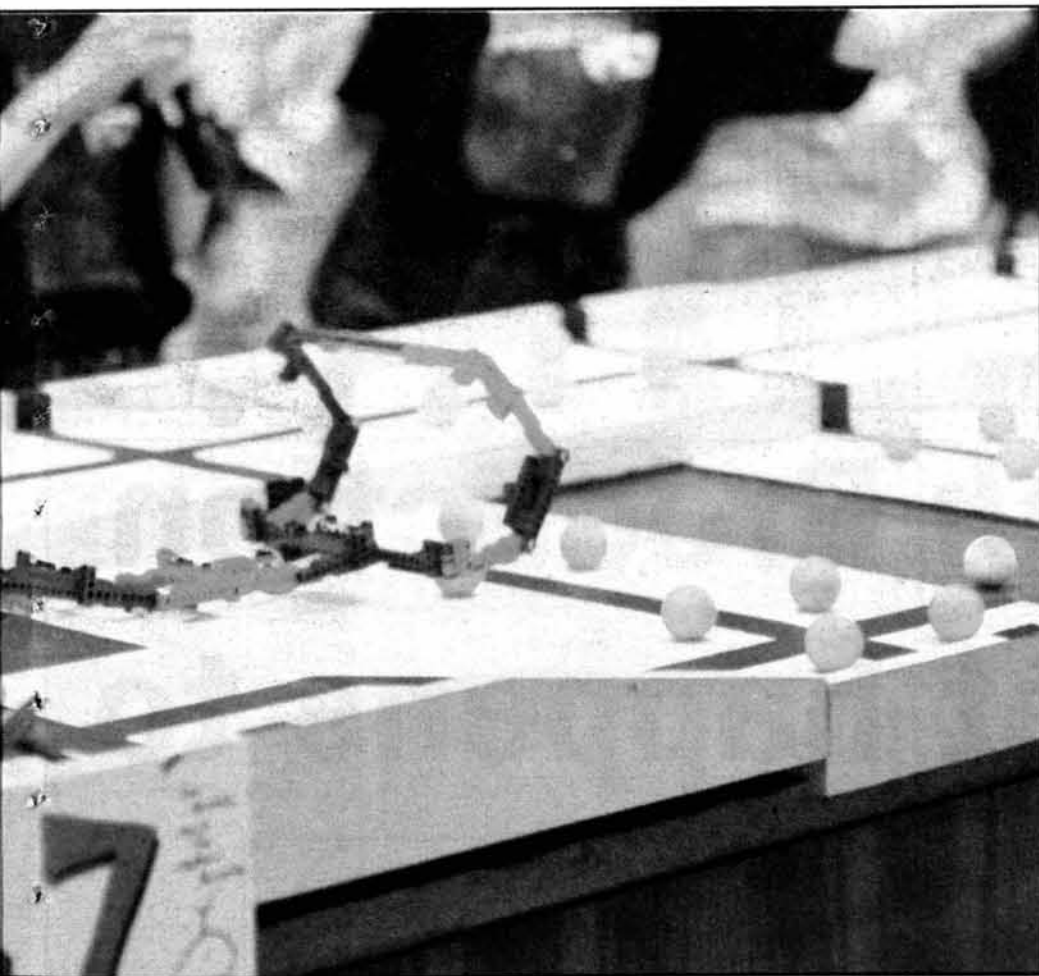
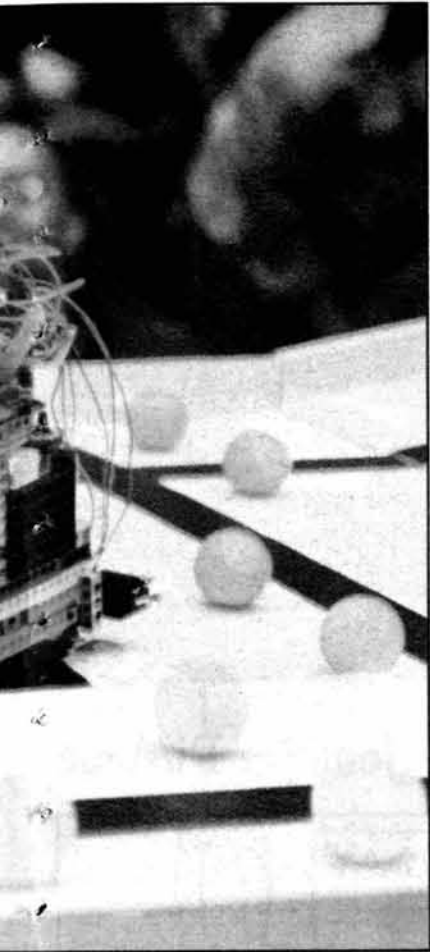
Photographers:
 Annie S. Choi
 Rebecca Hitchcock
 Greg Kuhnen
 Ying Lee
 Michelle Povinelli
 Lucy Yang

Layout:
 Annie S. Choi
 Rebecca Loh



us Robot Design Competition

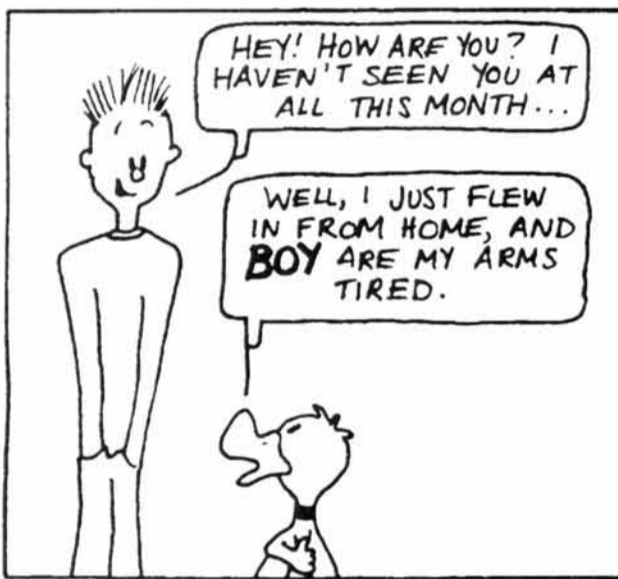
the Lost Parts



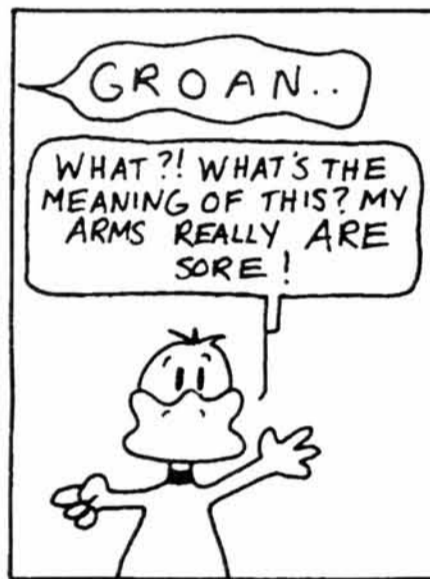


Down with Science

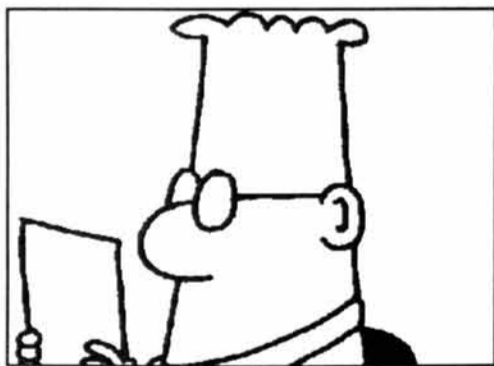
by Jennifer DiMase



B
A
D
U
M
C
H
I
N
G
!



Join *The Tech* Production
Find out what happens to



and



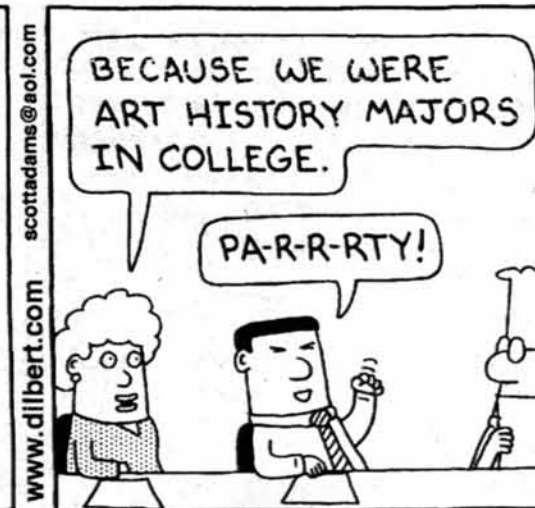
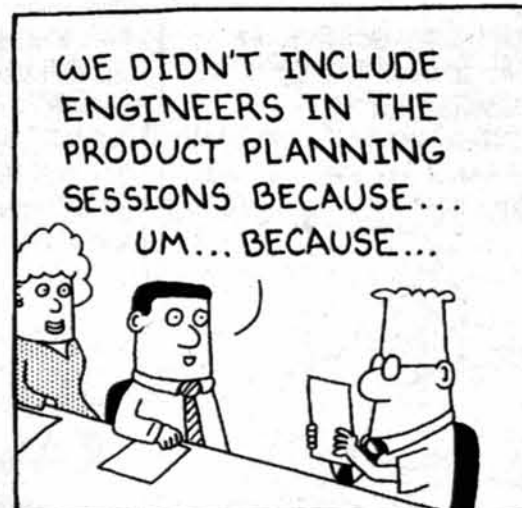
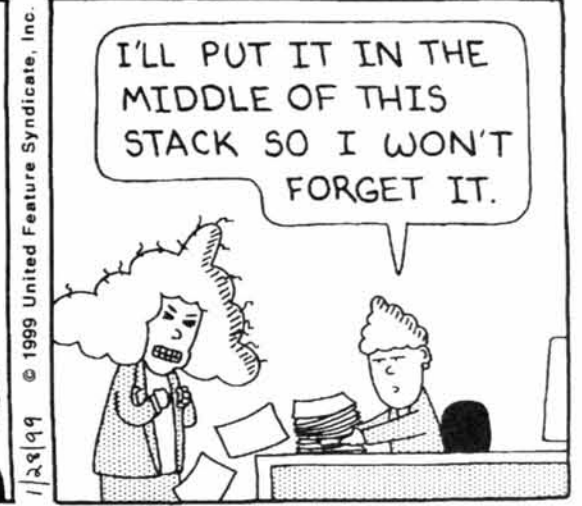
before everyone else.

Student Center Room 483

253-1541

by Scott Adams

Dilbert®



www.dilbert.com

www.dilbert.com

www.dilbert.com

www.dilbert.com

www.dilbert.com

© 1999 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

© 1999 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

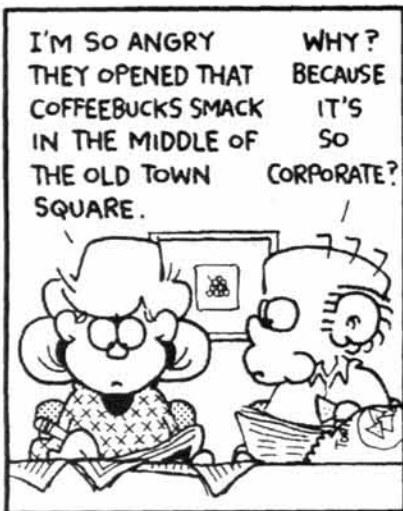
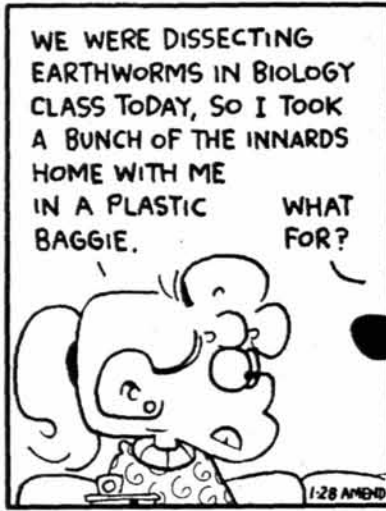
© 1999 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

© 1999 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

© 1999 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

by Bill Amend

Foxtrot



TechCalendar

TechCalendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>

Tuesday's Events

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. - **Yeomen of the Guard Auditions.** MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players auditions for spring production. Prepare simple song in English and bring two copies. Students only. Student Center, Room 491.

Wednesday's Events

12:00 p.m. - **The Israeli-Turkish Connection.** Dr. Efraim Inbar, Bar-Ilan University, Israel. Room E38-615. MIT Security Studies Seminar Brown Bag Lunch. Sponsor: Center for International Studies with Security Studies Program.

3:00 p.m. - **Alpha Phi Omega Informational Session.** Interested in doing community service while meeting new people & having fun? If so, APO may be for you. Come learn about APO, meet some of its members, find out about upcoming projects & how to join. Student Center, PDR 3. Sponsor: Alpha Phi Omega, Alpha Chi Chapter of.

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. - **Israel: Archaeology from the Air—Reception.** Exhibit of 25 aerial photographs (photos by Duby Tal; pilot: Moni Haramati) of famous ancient archaeological sites, taken by two former Israeli Air Force pilots. On view Jan 26-Feb 14. Religious Activities Center, Small Dining Room.

5:10 p.m. - **Weekly LEM Service and Supper.** Eucharist in the Chapel followed by a free fellowship supper and discussion in W11. Chapel. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. - **Yeomen of the Guard Auditions.** MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players auditions for spring production. Prepare simple song in English and bring two copies. Student Center, Room 491.

Thursday's Events

12:00 p.m. - **MIT Chapel Concert. Leonora Quartet.** Barbara Englesberg, violin; Elizabeth Abbate, violin; Joli Wu, viola; Mary Carfagna, cello. Brahms' Quartet in Bb, Op. 67; Haydn's Quartet, Op. 20, No. 4 in D Major. MIT Chapel.

4:15 p.m. - **Measurements of Omega and Lambda from 42 High-redshift Supernovae: Is The Universe Really Accelerating?** Dr. Saul Perlmutter, Supernova Cosmology Project, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Physics Colloquium. Room 10-250. Refreshments in Room 4-339 at 3:45 pm. Sponsor: Physics.

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - **Katherine Muench: Cerny Hlava/Black Head Series Opening Reception.** Images of identifiable archetypes: heads, funnels, animals, words and numbers, inspired from the haunting echoes of history experienced in Prague and Vienna. Exhibit runs through March 18. Dean's Gallery, Room E52-466.

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. - **Welcome Socials.** Come relax and meet new friends (and old ones) at the first GSC Socials for the Spring Term. Room 50-220 (GSC Lounge). Sponsor: Graduate Student Council.

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - **MIT \$50K Organizing Team Meeting.** Join the Organizing Team and help make the \$50K happen. Room E51-315. Sponsor: MIT \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition.

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. - **Yeomen of the Guard Auditions.** MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players auditions for spring production. Prepare simple song in English and bring two copies. Student Center, Room 491.

8:00 - 11:00 p.m. - **Learn to Square Dance.** Learn to square dance MIT-style! No partner or experience needed. Free intro night, refreshments will be served. Student Center, Lobdell. Sponsor: Tech Squares.

8:00 p.m. - **The Good Person of Szechwan.** Dramashop production of play by Bertolt Brecht, directed by Theater Arts Lecturer Kim Mancuso. Admission \$6 students, \$7 non-students. Kresge Little Theater.

Friday's Events

3:00 p.m. - **MacVicar Day Lecture: Great Teachers, Great Teaching.** James O. Freedman, President Emeritus, Dartmouth College. Lecture and panel with MacVicar scholars and students, reception. Media Lab, Bartos Theatre. Sponsor: MacVicar Fellows.

4:00 p.m. - **Probing Tornadoes with Mobile Doppler Radars.** Professor Howard Bluestein, University of Oklahoma. EAPS Department Lecture Series. Room 54-915. Refreshments, 3:30 pm, Ida Green Lounge. Sponsor: EAPS.

7:30 p.m. - **The Magic Flute.** IAP production of Mozart's opera. Narrated by Prof Arthur Steinberg. Admission 5.00. Kresge Auditorium.

8:00 p.m. - **The Good Person of Szechwan.** Dramashop production of play by Bertolt Brecht, directed by Theater Arts Lecturer Kim Mancuso. Admission \$6 students, \$7 non-students. Kresge Little Theater.

8:00 p.m. - **She Loves Me.** Musical Theatre Guild production of show by Joe Masteroff (book), Jerry Bock (music) and Sheldon Harnick (lyrics). Admission \$9; \$8 MIT faculty/staff/sr citizens/non-MIT students, \$6 MIT students. Sala de Puerto Rico.

Saturday's Events

8:00 p.m. - **She Loves Me.** Musical Theatre Guild production of show by Joe Masteroff (book), Jerry Bock (music) and Sheldon Harnick (lyrics). Admission \$9; \$8 MIT faculty/staff/sr citizens/non-MIT students, \$6 MIT students. Sala de Puerto Rico.

8:00 p.m. - **MIT Faculty Concert.** Senior Lecturer George Ruckert, sarod; Monir Hossain, tabla. Presented by MITHAS (MIT Heritage of South Asia) and the New England Hindu Temple (NEHT). \$15, \$12—MITHAS & NEHT members and students. Wong Auditorium.

Sunday's Events

12:00 p.m. - **Service at common cathedral.** Worship on Boston Common with people who live outdoors and people who live indoors. Make and share peanut butter and jelly sandwiches afterwards. Meet at W11. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.

8:00 p.m. - **She Loves Me.** Musical Theatre Guild production of show by Joe Masteroff (book), Jerry Bock (music) and Sheldon Harnick (lyrics). Admission \$9; \$8 MIT faculty/staff/sr citizens/non-MIT students, \$6 MIT students. Sala de Puerto Rico.

Announcing a new photography exhibition to the MIT Religious Activities Center Small Dining Room

ISRAEL
ARCHAEOLOGY FROM THE AIR
Photography: Duby Tal Pilot: Moni Haramati

January 26 - February 14, 1999
Reception: Wednesday February 3rd, 4:00-5:00 pm
W-11, 40 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge

These 25 aerial photographs of the Holy Land's most famous ancient archaeological sites, taken by two former Israeli Air Force pilots, are a testimony to both the rich history of the region and the various peoples that have resided in Israel. *Archaeology from the Air* highlights the ruins of the religious and secular communities, Persian and Greek, Roman and Byzantine, Canaanite and Israelite, Crusader and Ottoman. In the aerial pictures, the immensity of what existed in the past becomes evident.

Viewing hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sponsored by MIT Hillel - For further information call 253-2982

Entrepreneurs

Experienced high-tech financial executives seek start-up and early stage companies to help grow IPO. We'll manage the finances and help find the money. Please call Bill at (781) 270-1332

The only science fiction is that
a Bachelor of Science will
ys take you where you want to go

PENN'S PROFESSIONAL MASTER'S PROGRAMS

No longer does a Bachelor of Science guarantee obtaining the best jobs in this ever-changing universe of technology. So prepare yourself now in a Penn Professional Master's Program for a future without limits.

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING...from designing products to managing projects
www.seas.upenn.edu/profprog/bioeng

BIOTECHNOLOGY & BIOINFORMATICS...for pharmaceutical-related industries
www.upenn.edu/biotech

TELECOMMUNICATIONS & NETWORKING...Internet applications, systems integration and consulting
www.seas.upenn.edu/profprog/tcom

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING...combining a paid, industrial externship with challenging academic work
www.seas.upenn.edu/profprog/elec

SYSTEMS ENGINEERING...providing interdisciplinary skills needed to work with today's complex systems
www.seas.upenn.edu/sys/gradpros.html

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

For more information and to register for an open house, call toll-free 1-877-ASK PENN. Visit the web sites for information and to apply online.

Top Teams Will Visit Cambridge, California Schools

Contest, from Page 7

"I think the idea of building and insuring community is that takes a lot of forms: the dining program, mentoring, making students feel that they have support, academic and personal...that speaks to the role that our graduate tutors and Residence Advisors should play," said Associate Dean of Students Andrew M Eisenmann '75, a steering committee member.

Contestants were asked to address housing selection by incoming freshmen, faculty/student interaction within the community, scheduling for dorm and FSILG rush, and interim financial support of the FSILGs.

According to instructions on the residence design homepage, teams had to describe clearly and concisely the elements of the

existing system that they would change and those they would retain.

Hope, doubt accompany contest

"There is a long tradition of contests at MIT, including design contests. Certainly some important ideas emerged on Friday," Gray said. Nevertheless, some dissent arose on whether having a contest was the best way to encourage input from the MIT community about residence design.

"MIT's administration is really trying to involve students in these decisions. I truly do believe that the students' suggestions will be part of the new system," Liu said.

But Liu admitted that "the incredible amount of work necessary to create a proposal was a limiting factor."

"It was a really good idea from the administration to make the

Residence Design Contest. However, if they had just given us more time to iron out the details, we may have been able to make [the proposal] more thorough. Overall, I thank them for the effort that they made," said Kishore Kuchibotla '02, a member of the Optimizers team.

Some people also thought that because of the time constraints in presenting team designs, the written proposals provided more specific input than the contest presentations themselves.

"The written product is the final product of the design," said Kirk D. Kolenbrander, process manager for the Residence System Design Committee. "I think it's important to give teams the opportunity to select the most important aspects of their proposals" for presentation.

Final plan will combine proposals

While they will select contest winners, the steering committee will incorporate ideas from all the teams into a final proposal for changing the residence system. The proposal

is due to Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 by September 1.

"Our recommendation will build on the best ideas we can find anywhere, assessed, combined, and integrated with our best collective judgement," Gray said.

Questions also came up about why the Residence System Steering Committee decided to have a contest with winners when ideas from all teams will be used in the committee's final designs.

"I think that a contest has real value in some dimensions and in others it raises some challenges," Kolenbrander said.

Design process continues

"The RSSC was charged with the task of coming up with a proposal for a new Residence System; the Design Contest was the first important step in this process," Pelcyger said.

When asked to comment on whether one suggestion or theme for restructuring MIT's residence system stood out, steering committee members said that it was too early to tell.

The steering committee will discuss the written proposals in detail. The steering committee will name a contest winner by March 1.

As for the criteria used to judge the contestants, "these will evolve as we immerse ourselves in the written proposals. The guidelines for the contest will be taken into account," Gray said.

Top teams to visit other schools

First prize is a trip for up to six members of the winning team to Cambridge, England. The team will use the opportunity to review the residence system at Cambridge University and take their findings back to MIT.

Second prize is a similar trip to Stanford University or the California Institute of Technology. The prizes serve not only to reward contestants but to continue community input on MIT's design system.

"Much more work and community input needs to be put into this effort before the charge [of redesigning the residence system] is completed," Pelcyger said.

Xerox PARC
Undergraduate
Summer Internship



Spend the final summer of the millennium in Silicon Valley inventing the future. Xerox PARC invented personal computing as we know it, and we are creating the future as we will know it. Xerox PARC is offering exciting undergraduate internships this summer for students in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Physics.

On-line Applications due February 17th.

www.parc.xerox.com/summer

Xerox Palo Alto Research Center
parc



Something to
feel good about.

United Way

This space donated by The Tech



To lure you to the Clinique counter,
we have a special gift.
One for men. One for women.

All you have to do to claim your gift is stop by the Clinique counter. While you're there, check out Clinique's 3-steps to great skin—designed by dermatologists. Get the latest on makeup, colour, freedom from breakout. Then grab your gift, and you're off. One to a customer, while supplies last.

Study hard. Have fun. Look good.

www.clinique.com



FEBRUARY 1 - 6

Harvard Sq. Hours: Mon.- Sat. 9am - 9pm, Sun. 12-7pm
Kendall Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:30am - 6:30pm, Sat. 10am - 6pm

CLINIQUE
Allergy Tested.
100% Fragrance Free.

MIT too easy? Try consulting.

CSMG Case Competition '99

Co-sponsored by SUMA

Crush the competition.
Win \$1,000.

Learn what it's like to be a consultant. During the case competition you will have the opportunity to experience consulting first hand. Your job will be to identify, research and resolve a real-world strategy issue in the high-tech sector.

Undergraduates from all levels and all majors are encouraged to participate in teams of 2 to 4. Register your team now at suma.mit.edu.

Grand prize: \$1,000
Two runner-up prizes of \$250 each

Schedule:

February 16
Kick-off and
Case Distribution
Room 6-120
7 to 9pm

February 18
Case Workshop
Room E51-325
7 to 9pm

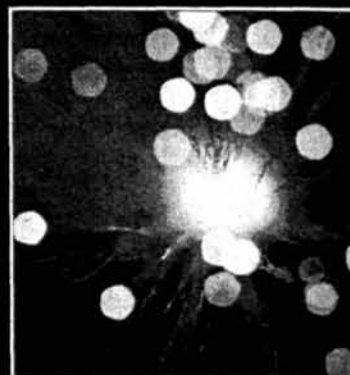
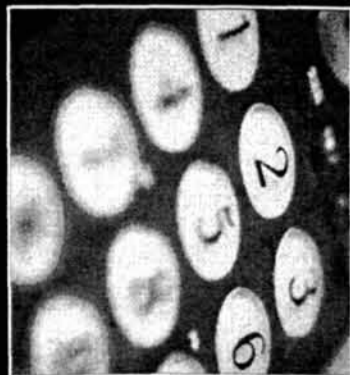
February 25
Semifinals
Room E51-345
7 to 9pm

March 11
Finals
Room 10-250
6 to 8pm



Cambridge Strategic
Management Group

www.csmgusa.com



suma.mit.edu

TIAA-CREF
congratulates
Dora L. Costa,
Associate Professor of Economics,
on receiving the
1998 Paul A. Samuelson Award
for Outstanding Scholarly Writing
on Lifelong Financial Security
for "The Evolution of
Retirement: An American
Economic History, 1880-1990."



Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association
College Retirement Equities Fund
730 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017 • 1 800 842-2733

TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, Inc.



KARLENE ROSERA—THE TECH

Musician Eran Egozy performs during the Poulenc Concert in Kresge Auditorium Friday.



datatropesystems

Custom Software Development
Data Analysis Consulting
Systems Consulting

Come see us at the Tau Beta Pi career fair on February 5, 1999 from Noon to 4:30pm at the Johnson Athletic Center

Premier Software Consulting in New York City

Contact Info:
Marc Jorrens '89
Datatropes Systems
(203) 964-1800
www.datatropes.com



datatropesystems

MIT

**Campus Preview Weekend '99
for ALL Admitted Students
Thursday, April 8 - Sunday April 11**

preview weekend

For the first time MIT will be opening this event to all admitted students. Which means we need your help!

Stop by the booth in Lobby 10 February 2 - 5* from 10 am to 2 pm to find out how you can be a part of this exciting weekend and help recruit the class of 2003.

Opportunities for student help include:
hosting visiting prefrash
staffing CPW events
leading tours of your UROP
hosting an activity

*After February 5, contact George Kokkinogenis in 3-108, 258-5515. To propose an activity, please contact Zaragoza Guerra at zguerra@mit.edu.



Ford Motor Company

What's the next step in our plan to become the world's number one automaker?

You tell us

You make the decisions. You decide where we're going. At Ford, we're reinventing ourselves as a company. And from engineering to manufacturing to finance, we're changing the way we do business. Of course, we need the right people to be successful. If you have the ambition, the drive and the confidence to impact one of the largest companies on the planet, you belong at Ford.

We're looking for Bachelor's and Master's candidates in courses 2, 3, 6-1, 6-3, 15 (Operations Management only), and 16. We'll be conducting interviews on campus on February 23 and 24.

To find out more about the exciting career opportunities at Ford Motor Company, attend our information session at the Cambridge Marriott from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on February 22 and check out the Ford (www.ford.com/careercenter/) and Visteon (www.visteonet.com/careers/html/top.html) career centers on the web.

Join us for Food & Drink at the Cambridge Marriott on February 22 at 7:00p.m.



LINCOLN

Mercury



www.ford.com

Electronic Bookkeeping a Possibility for the Future

Funding, from Page 1

expenses.

Outgoing Equestrian Team Treasurer Cynthia A. Randles '99 said, "We were given a certain amount of money for transportation and some other money for safety equipment. The cost of transportation was more than we expected because of insurance, but we ended up with extra money because our safety equipment was cheaper than we expected."

"Rather than spending our surplus safety money to pay for the transportation, we had to pay for the extra transportation costs from our pocket," she said.

"We couldn't use the safety money for anything but safety equipment, even if we had bought all the safety equipment we needed. The budget rules prevented us from using the extra money we had because it was for an expenditure that the safety money had not been designated for."

However, UA officials were quick to respond.

"Unfortunately, there's a real need for these expense restrictions," Montgomery said. "Sometimes people say, 'We'll just purchase whatever we want and turn in reports that say we spent the money on something else. They [Finboard] won't know.' That's why the Finboard asks for receipts and has to be really specific when they give out money."

Jennifer K. Chung '01, president of the Society for Creative Anachronism, said, "It seems that the schedule for Finboard is awkward. You get your chance to make a budget request... but what happens when somebody says, 'Hey, let's do some event next term.' Suppose that event wasn't listed on your original budget request. What then?"

Finboard member Ticora V. Jones '00 replied, "There is a way to get around that. The problem is that most student organizations don't know this. We've had problems in organizations with treasurers and information."

Jones and other Finboard members had scheduled several

informational events last term for treasurers of student organizations. Few attended any of these sessions, according to Jones.

Electronic bookkeeping discussed

In an attempt to make money management easier for student treasurers, Association of Student Activities Treasurer Matthew L. McGann '00 detailed a new pilot plan to convert paper applications to electronic form. "Right now, the top spending groups have come together as part of a pilot plan called SAP. You basically call up a data sheet that tells you how much your group spent and where it spent that money."

"Eventually, students will be able to write checks and make deposits electronically," he added.

Though only five groups are currently using the system, McGann said he plans to have at least ten to fifteen entered soon and have all student groups entered by the beginning of next year.

"I feel that SAP is going to make the entirety of student finances more dynamic and efficient," he said. "I think treasurers will have an easier time keeping track of money, especially in large student organizations."

Jones added that many treasurers are having problems with Finboard because they do not remember what money they allotted for specific expenses.

"You are supposed to keep a copy of the budget you submit [to Finboard]," she said. "But most people don't, and so they have no idea how much they originally allotted for their expenses... we end up receiving receipts for things we can't pay for because the treasurer did not realize that these items were not on the original budget proposal."

Not all students in the audience thought that carelessness was to blame for most Finboard problems. "The problem," Montgomery said, "is that when people need an extra \$50, they request an extra \$200 because they think that's the only way to get the money they need. That practice really takes away money from the larger pool we have, and so we really need to

concentrate on balancing money between student groups."

Several students in the audience agreed that overreporting of expenses was a major issue. Few, however, proposed solutions to the problem.

Students discuss food restrictions

The final topic discussed at last week's Finboard meeting was food. Under current rules, student organizations are only allowed to spend money on cultural food, though Finboard members admit that the wording of this regulation is vague.

"We basically take each individual case, and see if there's a good reason to spend money on food," said Finboard member Rima A. Arnaout '02. "We don't give money to people who want to eat pizza at their meetings. But we will give it to a religious group who must supply specific types of food for a cultural event. One of the main reasons we do that is because cultural food of this type is often more expensive than regular food and the group's event usually requires it."

Many students at the meeting wanted to be able to include non-cultural food on their budgets because it would attract more people to their events.

"I held an organization event and a large portion of the people came because they wanted the pizza that I had paid for myself," said East Campus Treasurer Lex Nemzer '00.

UA President Paul T. Oppold '99 disagreed with this reasoning. "I have a friend who heads a scuba club and he wants to have pizza there. But are you attracting people who want to scuba, or are you just attracting people who have no interest in the club and simply want free food? Who would you rather have in your organization?"

Nemzer said, "Out of a group of about seven people who said they were interested in pizza alone, two have since gotten involved in our organization and are now two of the most active members of the club."

Debate continued on the food issue and some students suggested that organizations be allowed to

have food for one or two events per term.

"But many organizations attempt to stretch any of the rules we have and abuse their money," said Montgomery. "It seems that if we had our own police force to go to all these events, we wouldn't need to have such stringent rules. Unfortunately, we don't have that

kind of manpower."

McGann added that many student organizations simply need to know how the finance system is supposed to work and how to use it properly.

"A lot of people have misconceptions about the problems we do an don't have. That's the first thing to fix."

Needed:
PAID VOLUNTEERS
Males & Females ages 21-35
For alcohol and cocaine-related studies.
Earn up to \$250.00 per session.
Taxi provided for all transportation.
Call Toll Free: 1-888-999-5655
McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School

Outer Hebrides, Scotland

Archaeological Field School

Plant yourself somewhere new next summer!

Outer Hebrides, Scotland
Learn about archaeological survey and excavation while studying Scottish folklore and culture on the island of South Uist in Scotland's Outer Hebrides.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
232 Bay State Rd., 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02215
617/353-9888
abroad@bu.edu
www.bu.edu/abroad

An equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.

Outer Hebrides, Scotland



connection
vision
passion
intelligence
enable
results

do it

for grandma.

Everyone promises equal access to information. Some are even asking the general population where they'll go once they get it.

We got impatient. That's why we developed Oracle8i - Internet technology that's changing everything!

Come help us develop more.

Oracle offers generous compensation and unparalleled benefits. Please forward your resume to: **Oracle Corporation, Attn: College Recruiting, 500 Oracle Parkway, Dept: 20P2, Redwood Shores, CA 94065. E-mail: college@us.oracle.com.**

Fax: (408) 251-8424. Intern opportunities: intern@us.oracle.com

Oracle supports workforce diversity.

ORACLE

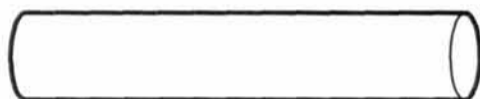
www.oracle.com

BOSE® OFFERS ENGINEERS MANY CHALLENGES.

HOW WOULD YOU SOLVE THIS ONE?

1

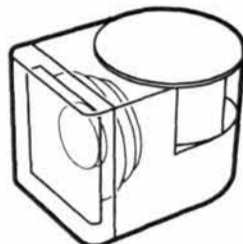
**FIT THIS
TUBE**



- 4" long.
- $\frac{3}{4}$ " inside diameter.
- This tube will serve as a loud-speaker port.
- The cross-sectional area must remain within 2.5%.

2

**INTO THIS
ENCLOSURE**



- $2 \frac{1}{4}$ " H x $2 \frac{1}{4}$ " W x $3 \frac{3}{16}$ " D.
- The port – along with the transducer – must be fully enclosed in this space.

3

**WITH THESE
CONSIDERATIONS**

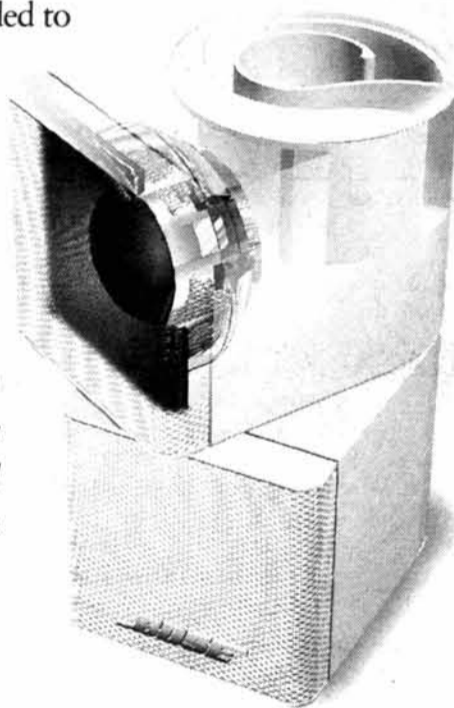


- Air will travel through this port at peak speeds exceeding 150 mph.
- Audible port noise must be completely eliminated.
- The more volume used by the port, the less efficient the speaker becomes.

While bending the tube would allow it to fit inside the cabinet, any bend – even a slight one – would create uneven airflow. And with the air moving at such high velocity, avoiding unwanted port noise was a constant challenge. The extreme precision needed to engineer the contours of the folds required meticulous research involving mathematical models, computer simulations and prototypes.

Bose engineer Laura Schroeder, the development team leader on the project, describes the experience. "With the amount of research that was required, I don't think you could have done this anywhere else. The

company believes in research whole-heartedly, and they understand what that kind of commitment means in terms of time and money. Just look at the track record; it has been so successful, so many times."



Creating the Jewel Cube® speaker required a combination of about 40 different innovations and technologies. This spiral port is just one of them. The need for innovative solutions like this one continues at Bose Corporation. We need people who thrive on solving challenging problems and have a tremendous curiosity about how things work. Put that to use now. Find out more about Bose. Attend the events listed below.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT BOSE. ATTEND THESE EVENTS:

ON-CAMPUS INFORMATION SESSION – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 7:30 PM, ROOM 4-270.

ON-CAMPUS OPEN INTERVIEWS – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, REGISTER AT THE MIT CAREER OFFICE.

BOSE®
Better sound through research®

For more information fax or e-mail your resume to Lyn Van Huben, Bose Corporation,
The Mountain, Framingham, MA 01701-9168. FAX:(508) 766-7031. E-mail: lyn_vanhuben@bose.com

www.bose.com

Competitor Overcomes Obstacles to Build TI-86 Robot

Robot, from Page 15

robot. Even moments before the exhibition, West wasn't sure if the light level in 26-100 was high enough to trigger his sensors at all.

Fortunately, the light level was adequate, and West's robot succeeded in scooping three positive balls. Unfortunately, he also scooped up a negative ball, scoring two points overall according to the contest's scoring convention. The student against whom he competed scored four points and won the round, but West's unique robot outperformed several robots which actually competed.

Assembly code instructs robot

West wrote his controlling code in the assembly language for the Z80 chip, which is used in graphing TI calculators except the TI-92. He has been working with some Z80 assembly language for a few years, West said. This robot used a TI-86, which actually has some support for assembly programming. This option was added after users hacked into assembly mode on the TI-85, a more difficult feat.

Though it is much more powerful, using assembly language is always somewhat dangerous because there is no shell software to protect the rest of the system memory. A random program will crash the calculator completely, while one tailored to the calculator's architecture runs like a regular program. A bug, however, can be so fatal as to require removing all the batteries, even the backup, and losing everything on

the calculator.

West relies on 6.002 knowledge

West has long been interested in electronics, but never before had the background necessary for a major project. His first formal exposure to electronics was 6.002 last semester.

There he learned some digital circuitry, though the focus was on analog systems, and, more importantly, how to use the lab. West built the interface and robot in the 6.002 lab, where lab assistants were "very helpful," he said. West also relied heavily on reference

manuals, especially for information on ttl logic, which is used in the Z80 chip. "The most important thing [from 6.002] was they showed us where to get information."

West decided to build the robot on his own, saying that this seemed like a good application of the knowledge

he gained from 6.002, and that it was a chance to use his interests in both electronics and assembly language.

The robot also fulfills the goal West cited to crowds watching the 6.270 competition on Wednesday: "Well, I tried to find a use for the calculator. I just had it lying around."

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Information

SECRETARY NEEDED 2 TO 3 DAYS/WEEK IN BUSY OFFICE AT MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL. WORD PROCESSING, ANSWERING TELEPHONE, FILING. SUPERVISION PROVIDED. SALARY BASED ON EXPERIENCE (STARTS AT \$11.00/HR). CALL DR. HOLMES AT (617) 726-1742.

FOR FANS OF AYN RAND: A New Philosophy of Empowerment. WORKING MINDS: A Path Less Taken. Preview Edition available for \$5.00 postpaid. G.E.Nordell, P.O.Box 5311 [DeptC1mit], Culver City, CA 90231-5311

Legal Problems? I am an experienced attorney and an MIT graduate who will help you resolve your legal problems. My office is in downtown Boston, accessible by MBTA. Call Esther Horwich at 523-1150.

Help Wanted

Pet Sitter Responsible, loving person needed to care for my two small dogs in his/her home starting mid-feb through mid-may. You need to 1) like dogs 2) have a flexible schedule that permits you to walk them 4 times daily 3) be able to care for them in your home. Pay includes (somewhat negotiable) wages and expenses. Leave message at tamara.kett@pa.consulting.com or 627.864.8880 x236

EGG DONORS NEEDED! Desperately wanted by infertile, hopeful parents. All races needed. Ages 21-30. Compensation \$3,500. Please Call OPTIONS National Fertility Registry (800) 886-9373

\$2000 Compensation Be a part of cutting edge medical breakthroughs - fastest growing specialization: Infertility - Helping couples become partners. Seeking women between ages 21-34 to donate eggs. Simple process. Highly confidential. Significant compensation for short period of time. Interested parties who wish to be included are encouraged to respond as soon as possible. Contact: JOAN 781-944-7813

Emerging Technology Generalist Wanted to perform tech support for Kendall Square research organization. Skills should include PC-based general skills, videoconferencing, and web. In addition, electronic "handyman" skills with regard to mobile telephony, Palm computing, and presentation technologies will be valuable. Understanding of 21st century business issues and analysis a plus. Salary and hours negotiable. Call Dr. Jordan at (617) 761-4034 for further information.

Services Offered

Part-Time Jobs catering Waitstaff & Bartenders. Work when you want! Transportation Provided! Bartending Classes also available! Call New Dimensions Services (617) 423-1999

Get 20% off any textbook!
CLASSBOOK.COM
"Buy online not in line"

EARN \$\$ DOING BABYSITTING

Occasional mornings, afternoons, evenings or weekends, whatever time you have available. Add your name to the MIT babysitter list to get jobs babysitting for MIT families in their homes.



Contact the *Family Resource Center* at 253-1592 for an application; MIT affiliation is required (students and spouses/partners are welcome).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Tutor
An Elementary or High School
Cambridge Student



in
Math, English, Science, Social Studies,
or English as a Second Language.

In just one hour, twice a week,
between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm,
you CAN make a difference!

Call 349-6794
Cambridge School Volunteers, Inc.
or e-mail:
<csv@cps.ci.cambridge.ma.us>.

Seeking Special Egg Donor

Loving infertile academic couple is hoping to find a compassionate woman to help us have a baby. Our ideal donor is intelligent, age 21-30, 5' to 5' 6 tall with small to medium build, fair complexion, and possibly, though not necessarily, a Jewish heritage. We would sincerely appreciate your consideration.

Compensation
\$6,500 plus



(800) 886-9373 ext 7458

Cheap tickets. Great advice. Nice people.

Spring Break sells out!

Don't let your friends go without you!

CANCUN
OR
JAMAICA
FROM
\$449
A PERSON!

Council Travel

Council on International Educational Exchange
273 Newbury Street
Boston, MA 02116
Phone: 617-266-1926

www.counciltravel.com

You want to go to
Medical School

You have to take the

MCAT

You should enroll in



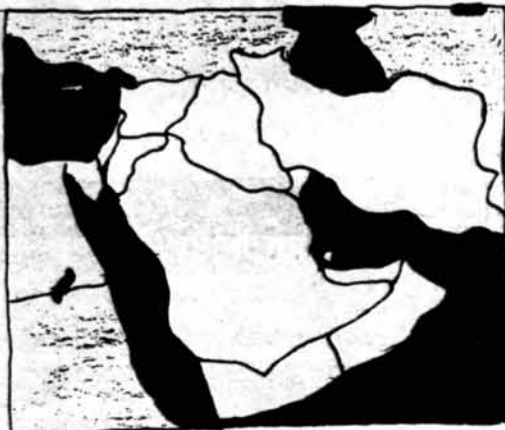
You should call

The Princeton Review
(800) 2-REVIEW

St. Anthony Hall Lecture Series Presents . . .

The Middle East: Prospects for Peace and Prosperity

Philip S. Khoury
Dean, MIT School of Humanities and Social Sciences



date: wednesday, february 3
time: snacks 6:30 pm
lecture 7:00 pm
location: #6 club, 428 memorial drive
questions: e-mail jwhitney@mit.edu

MIT \$50K

Entrepreneurship Competition Spring Kick-Off



- Pick up entry material for the spring MIT \$50K Competition.
- Learn how to join the MIT \$50K organizing team.
- Light refreshments will be served.

Keynote Speaker:

Mitch Kapor

Founder of Lotus Development Corporation, Designer of Lotus 1-2-3, Co-Founder of the Electronic Frontier Foundation

Thursday, February 4, 1999

7:00pm

Room 10-250

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

<http://50k.mit.edu/>

Participants Still Hope for a Positive Outcome for Contest

Contest Analysis, from Page 7

complications, implications and difficulties of faculty-student interactions. From the past week, myself as well as many other students are realizing the significant communication problems we have with administration in the existing system. Everyone is trying to overcome these problems by trying to get faculty as part of their teams of discussing with faculty the details of the proposals," Lin said. She went on to comment that meeting with faculty and administration was difficult as well, and consequently, no faculty members were core parts of the team.

"We felt that it was not necessary to run this as a contest, complete with prizes. Our motivation for submitting a proposal was that we wanted to share our viewpoints and

analysis. It is more important that the steering committee evaluate the elements of each proposal than that they pick a 'winner,'" said Alice M. Man G, of the Dorm Design team.

Belmonte went further to say that this competitive mentality was "exactly the opposite of the spirit that we should be seeking to maintain in the MIT community of the next century."

Participants still optimistic

Despite the doubts cast on the contest, many felt that the proposals were useful. Team members and administrators are optimistic about a positive outcome to the housing situation.

With high hopes for the competition, Bacow said, "Much of the wisdom and knowledge necessary to restructure our

undergraduate residence system lies within the community. I hope the Design Competition will engage broad segments of our community — students, faculty, alumni, parents and staff — in helping to formulate creative approaches to a redesigned residence system.

"I think it is important that instead of a decision of what the housing system will be like being made by one person, that there is a large number of people, including students, who will be helping shape the system," said Phil Bernard, program director in the Office of Residence Life and Student Life Programs.

"We really felt that student input is what the administration needs to make the right choices for the community, and we saw that the potential in the is opportunity to influence the steering committee's views with out ideas. I hope that, after seeing recurrent themes and concerns throughout tall of the proposals, the steering committee will realize which aspects of MIT life are most lacking, which aspects are most important, and how improvements can be made without uprooting and drastically changing the current system," said Susan Taing '01, of the Optimizers Team.

Students Disagree With 'Fashion Police'

Charm School, from Page 1

and see if he picks it up" to a straightforward introduction.

Charm School teaches tact, fashion tips

Ever wonder just how to back out of a conversation? Sarah Gunter, an officer in the Alumni Association, at the "Small talk/attentive listening" booth advises a statement such as, "Oh, I don't want to monopolize your time here" at a reception or party, or "I'm really thirsty; want to go get something to drink?"

Megan Helper '98 and Dhaya

Lakshminarayanan G, in their talks at the "Body Language" station, advised not talking with your hands much or looking at your watch.

A less popular attraction was the "fashion police" standing at the east entry to Lobby 10. They gave out violations to people wearing white (evidently a taboo between Labor Day and Memorial Day) and to those using both straps of their backpacks. Deborah A. White '02 comments that "I was just trying to save my back in the long run," and Helena W. Fu '02 pointed out that "High school is one strap. College is two." Maybe even the fashion police have a few things to learn.



JAMAICA

FROM \$399 **SPRING BREAK JAMAICA!!!**

ONE LOVE. ONE HEART. ONE GREAT PARTY!!!

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR WHEN THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS COME TO JAMAICA TO FEEL ALL RIGHT - FOR AN UNBELIEVABLE PRICE!!!

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Round-Trip Airfare
- 7 Nights Hotel Accommodations
- Round-Trip Airport & Hotel Transfers
- Free Welcome, Beach & Evening Parties
- Free Admission to Night Clubs
- Discounts on Restaurants, Water Sports & Side Excursions
- Packages available to Negrit and Montego Bay
- Professional On-Site Tour Reps
- Complete Weekly Activities Program Offering Optional Sunset Cruise, Booze Cruise, Toga Party & More!
- Free Bonus Party Pack



Sun Splash Tours
1 800-426-7710



Student Travel Services
1 800-648-4849

Price is per person based on quad occupancy; from select departure cities. Other cities may qualify for reduction or require surcharge. US and Jamaica departure taxes (currently \$59) and \$9 handling charge additional. Rates increase \$30 on 12/15/98. Peak-week surcharges/off-week discounts may apply. Restrictions and cancellation penalties apply. Limited availability. Subject to change without notice. Call for full details on hotel selection and availability.

PHOTOGRAPHY, DIGITAL IMAGING, VISUALIZATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY

If any or all of these words caught your attention and if you are ORGANIZED and interested in communication, then you will be interested in working on:

ENVISIONING AND COMMUNICATING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A project funded by the National Science Foundation

Please contact Felice Frankel: felicef@mit.edu

Even EZ-er than 1040EZ.



Introducing TeleFile from the IRS. If you are single and filed Form 1040EZ last year, you can file your tax return in ten minutes by phone. Anytime. Check your tax booklet for information.

TeleFile
It's free. It's fast. It works.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Changing for good.

This space donated by The Tech

SPRING BREAK '99

Earn 2 free trips+ \$\$\$ from \$99! Lowest Prices Best Meals
www.sunsplashtours.com
Jamaica Cancun Florida S. Padre Bahamas Barbados
hours & hours of free drinks
Call us toll free! 1-800-426-7710

EMC Soar to New Heights

Rising to new challenges...setting ambitious goals...achieving beyond your highest expectations: that's THE EMC EFFECT in action. Experience its power in your career.



EMC Corporation is the company that defined enterprise storage - and unleashed its power to drive business success. The top company in a rapidly expanding marketplace, we're the people that banking, financial, and industry leaders worldwide rely on for the tools to access and safeguard critical information in applications such as online reservation systems, transaction processing, billing, and more.

A global enterprise in our own right, EMC is a \$3.5 billion *Fortune 500/Forbes 500* superpower, ranked #8 on the *Business Week 50* rating of Standard & Poor's and recipient of the *Information Week 500* award. Our consistent dynamic growth - 30% annually for the past several years - creates ongoing opportunities to reach new heights with us. At EMC, you'll find your initiative, enthusiasm, and performance rewarded in an environment that supports your highest goals.

- Hardware Engineering
- Software Engineering
- Information Systems
- Internet Technology
- Manufacturing/Operations
- Marketing
- Customer Services
- Finance
- Sales
- Human Resources
- Business Process Development



Information Session:
Feb. 15
On-campus Interviews:
Feb. 16

To start experiencing THE EMC EFFECT in your career, please stop by your career center or please send/fax your resume to: Human Resources, University Recruitment, Job Code AD1-C2/2, EMC Corporation, 5 Technology Drive, Milford, MA 01757-3681; Fax: (508) 435-8884 or email to: university_emc@emc.com (ASCII text file only).

EMC is an equal opportunity employer that values the strength diversity brings to our workplace.

One of the nation's 100 Best Places to Work - COMPUTERWORLD

A Wired Index company "The New Blue Chips" - WIRED

EMC²
The Enterprise Storage Company
www.EMC.com

SPORTS

Men's And Women's Swimming Dominate U-Mass Dartmouth

By David Chatwin

TEAM CAPTAIN

On Tuesday, the men's and women's swim teams traveled to UMass-Dartmouth for their final away meet of the year. Coming off of a rigorous IAP training schedule and close meets against Wellesley College and Southern Connecticut State University, the swimmers were looking forward to a more relaxing competition. The Engineers showed their dominance by winning the opening relays and they never looked back, defeating the Corsairs handily.

The best performances of the meet came in the distance events with Ken McCracken '00, Corey Gerritsen '02, Kristen Clements '02

and Christina Wilbert '01 swimming season bests in the 400 yard individual medley. McCracken, who was the MVP of the meet for the men, swam the 500 yard freestyle in 5:08. For the women's 500, Clements turned in another great swim with a New England Championship qualifying time of 5:41. To complete the distance events, Kevin Musselwhite '99 demonstrated his increasing aptitude for the 1000 yard freestyle by winning the race with a time of 10:52.

One of the most exciting races of the day was the men's 200 yard freestyle with two of MIT's most promising freshmen, Grant Kristofek '02 and Nathan Janos '02,

battling it out. Both finished with a time of 1:51, with the win going to Grant by a fraction of a second.

MIT's divers also contributed to the victory, with veteran Dylan Birtolo '00 placing first in the men's competition and the rookie Dara Jeffries '02, diving in her first collegiate competition, coming in third for the women.

Continuing their season-long breaststroke dominance, the women's tag team of Lea Engst '02 and Erica Fuchs '99, once again placed first and second in the 200 yard breaststroke.

To punctuate the win the men's team swept the final 4x50 yard freestyle relay. All three teams from MIT finished far ahead of the pack and within one second of each other.

Coach Maryellen McLaughlin was pleased with the results of the competition. "It was a great win at this time of the year. The team was broken down because of the hard training that we have been doing. The swimmers were able to rise above that and had some outstanding performances," McLaughlin said.

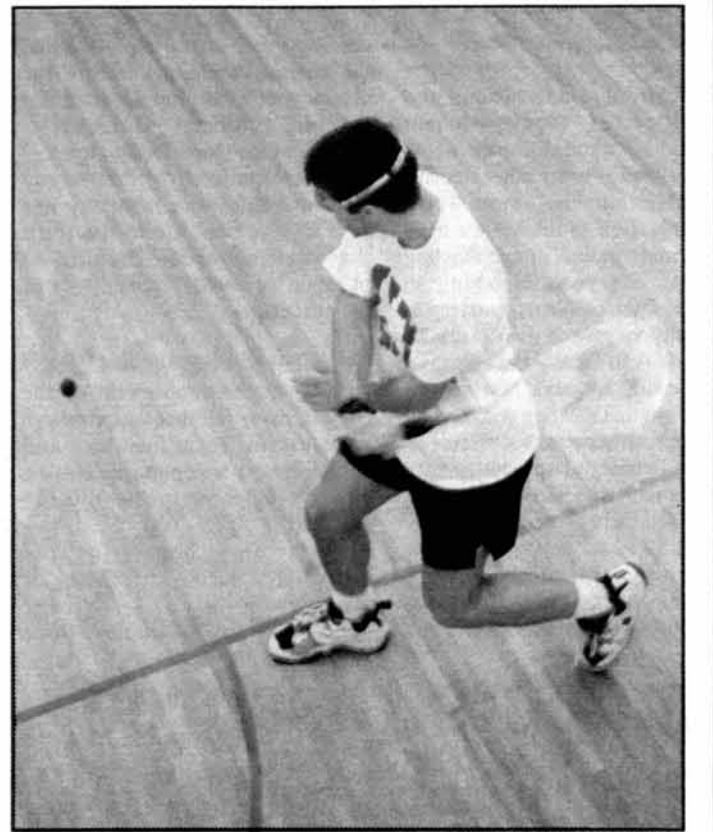
UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, February 2

Men's Basketball vs. Babson College, 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 3

Men's Volleyball vs. Harvard University, 7:00 p.m.



James Anderson '01 smashes the ball during his match against Fordham University Saturday in DuPont Gymnasium. MIT won 7-2.

THOMAS E. MURPHY—THE TECH

Women's Indoor Track Places Third at Quad Cup Meet

By Elaine Chen and Lila French

TEAM MEMBERS

The women's indoor track team continued to surpass everyone's expectations in last Saturday's seven team quad cup meet. With 94 points, MIT was able to defeat Colby (88), Smith (54), Bates (39), and Mt. Holyoke (29), but placed behind the Tufts (173) and Bowdoin (162) squads.

MIT continued its record-breaking season, setting varsity records in 12 of the 18 events. The team's third place finish in this meet brings its overall season record to 7-3.

The meet started off on a high note with Princess Imoukhuede '02 throwing the 20 pound weight 37'

0.25", earning her a seventh place finish. In the shot put, Imoukhuede took fourth with an excellent throw of 35' 3.25".

In the jumps, the lady Engineers hoped to utilize its strong and deep jump squad against the competition. Co-captain Lila French '99 managed seventh in the long jump with a leap of 14'7", while frosh jumper Helen Lee '02 set a new MIT triple jump record with a 31' 1 1/2" jump to take eighth. Kay Sullivan '02, took seventh place in the high jump with a height of 4' 9.5". Both Sullivan and French earned points in all five events they competed in.

The pole vault remained MIT's premiere event, as the team's

powerhouse pole vaulting squad racked up the points by placing first, second, fourth and sixth. Stephanie Norris '02 and French both ended up cleared 9'3", but Norris took the event on misses to stay undefeated this season. Vanessa Li '02 cleared a season best 8' 3", and Sullivan's 7' 3" mark qualifies her for the Division III meet.

On the track, the team was jump-started by an exciting come-from-behind race in the 4x200 meter race. Regina Sam '02 handed off to Sullivan with the Engineers in fourth place. Sullivan was able to pass Colby and pull MIT close to Smith. French, running the third leg of the race, whizzed by Smith. In the anchor position, Adeline Kuo '02 was able to hold on to give the team a second place finish with a 1:54.12. The team shaved over two seconds off the previous school record despite running without top sprinter Renee Bowen '00.

In the 1500 meter race, Debbie Won '00 took fourth place with a time of 4:58.10, breaking her own varsity record. Won led the team with a whopping 14 individual points for the day and qualified for the ECAC meet.

In the 55 meter hurdles, Alyssa Thorvaldsen '00 and French placed fourth and eighth respectively. French clocked in at 9.90 during the trials. Thorvaldsen tore up the track with a record breaking 9.05. Thorvaldsen's time ranks her among

the top six hurdlers in New England Division III.

In the 55 meter dash, Kuo recorded a blistering 7.75 to qualify her for the Division III meet. Her time also broke both the varsity and rookie records. She finished fifth in the finals, followed by Bowen in eighth. In the 200 meter race, it was Kuo and Bowen scoring again. The dynamic duo ran 28.60 and 28.63 to place sixth and seventh, respectively. Kuo broke the varsity and rookie records in that event.

In the middle distance events, Bowen led the way for Tech in the 400 meter race. Despite illness and injury, Bowen still ran a 63.39 to break the school record and place third. She was joined in that event by Sullivan, who finished eighth in 65.91. In the 600 meter race, Milena Yamaykina '02 broke the varsity and rookie records with a time of 1:49.84.

Next up on the track was the 800 meter run where Chi-An Wang '01 placed fifth with a 2:32.29, just .05 second off the New England Division III qualifying mark. Fellow sophomore Melanie Harris took seventh in the 1000 meter with a 3:20.81, cutting almost four seconds off the varsity record she set the previous week, but also just missing the qualifying mark for the New England Division III qualifying mark of 3:20.24.

In the 3000 meter race, Rose Radin '02 ran a 11:26.37 to set the rookie record and qualify for the

Division III meet. Radin was joined in the 3000m by Won. Won came into the meet ranked behind Colby's top 3000m runner, who started the race at a break-neck pace. But as the Colby runner started to fade later in the race, Won stepped up and gained ground on the Colby runner. Won passed her opponent and widened the gap to finish first in the event. Won remains undefeated this season in the 3000m. Her time of 10:26.76 shattered the 3000 meter record by almost 30 seconds. Won now ranks second in New England Division III in the 3000 meter race.

Going into the final two relays, MIT was just barely ahead of Colby. Sam, Sullivan, Chen and French teamed up for the 4x400m and finished fourth. Their time of 4:24.55 knocked off almost nine seconds from the previous record. Not to be outdone, the 4x800 meter team of Wang, Patri Diaz '00, Radin, and Yamaykina ran a record-breaking 10:47.96 to also place fourth.

The team has certainly burst onto the New England track circuit in its first varsity season. After only three meets, MIT already has 17 qualifiers for the Division III Championships and 7 for the ECAC Championships. MIT looks forward to keeping the momentum in next week's meet against Bates College, Mt. Holyoke College, Smith College, Williams College, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Best Becomes MIT's All-Time Leading Scorer in Victory Against Elms College

By Erlon Clark

Women's Basketball team captain Vicky Best '99 became the all-time leading scorer for the Engineers in last Thursday's 83-47 win over Elms College. The team also took one step closer to challenging the record for most victories in a season with their 74-61 win over Smith College last Saturday. Rather than revel in the grand accomplishments of the team or in her own deeds, Best keeps the focus on the task at hand, gaining home court advantage for the post-season.

"We needed [the win]," Best said, after eclipsing 1,200 career points against Smith. "[The record]

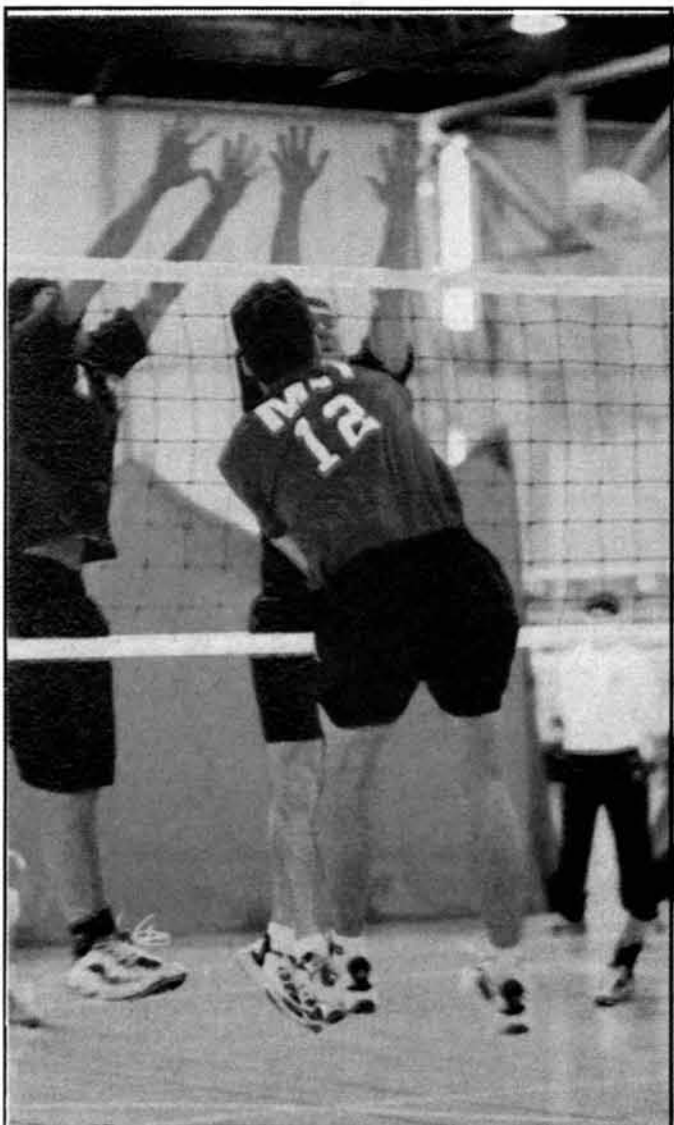
doesn't mean much if the team is not doing well. The record does not make a big impact on the team."

With seven games remaining in the regular season, there is a strong need to improve the record for a good position in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference tournament at the end of February. Winning only one of the remaining games will ensure MIT of a winning season, but the Engineers have their sights on a more significant goal.

On Saturday the Engineers started off slow in the first half, but were able to secure a five point lead at the half. At the beginning of the second half, great defense ignited a 14-5 run for MIT. Best and Maisha

Gray '99 got together for three steals, while Cristina Estrada '01 served up one of her seven blocks during this stretch. Vicky Canto-Ponce '00 lead all Engineers with three picks. Her 16 points and nine rebounds put her among the top producers for MIT. Katharine Spayde '99 and Estrada formed the double-double crew with their performances 16 and 18 points respectively and 10 rebounds each.

The Engineers have averaged 76.8 points per game this season. However, with a giveaway/takeaway ratio of -3 against Smith, the Engineers have to improve their play in order to prepare for the NCAA Championships.



Marcos Cordero '01 returns the ball during the New England Collegiate Volleyball League Tournament Sunday in Rockwell Cage.

KARLENE ROSERA—THE TECH