By Lauren E. LeBon

Half Of Fall Projects

UA Completes Under

Savings Minimal

Paula Bottone

Shuttle routes to transport students across campus and into Boston. There has been debate lately among the UA, Parking and Transportation, and the Graduate Student Council over routes for the winter shuttle schedule. Three routes, two from the UA and one from the OSM, are being considered, said Katherine H. Allen ’05, UA representative of off-campus students.

One route shortens the walking distance for residents of Epsilon Theta and Zeta Beta Tau, another

By Beckett W. Sterner

SPORTS

By Kathleen Dobson

In a nearly full Kresge auditorium, “ZSR Convertible,” created by Xin David Zhang ’06, Yasuhito Shiraishi ’06, and Yin Ren ’06, went undetected last Thursday to win this year’s Autonomous Design Robot Competition. The closest match-up of the day for “ZSR Convertible” came in the final round of the best of three match-up, when it defeated “Humble Trouble,” created by Cheng Lui ’05, Pedro Yip ’05, and Shengyu Yan & Lee ’05, by just one point.

“We expected to go pretty far,” said Ren, who expected to win. Ren said afterwards.

Having no previous robot design experience and little electronics coursework, the “ZSR Convertible” team relying on the programming experience of Zhang, who finished eighth in the world at the Interna-
tional Olympiad in Informatics when he was in high school.

Competition considered easier

This year’s competition was significantly easier than last year’s, said Vimal Bhadola ’04, an organizer for the competition.

In addition to including more scoring options, the contest designers also removed the table flat, avoiding last year’s problems with light sensors or tilted surfaces.

The object of the contest was to collect balls arranged on the flat playing board and place them in one of three scoring areas on the board.

Each small ball, or “freshman” was worth one point and the two large balls, or “particularly cool freshmen” were worth three points.

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by 100 staff from its administrative services and technology department, said Jerrold M. Grochew, director of the facilities department.

The other layoffs will come from the facilities department, although their exact size and nature has not yet been fixed.

“We have been asked to reduce our ‘Fiscal Year’ 05 budget by close to $8M,” wrote chief facilities officer Victoria V. Sirram in an e-mail. “This cannot be done without reductions in staff.

Sirram declined to comment further pending the official announcement of the layoffs this Thursday and Friday.

Curry said that layoffs and empty positions would save the institute approximately two-thirds of the $35 million dollar gap in next year’s budget.

Hiring freeze in place

Curry said that for almost all empty positions, they are “basically telling people we have a hiring freeze,” and are losing staff through attrition.

The hiring freeze carries over to administrative staff for faculty as well, said Provost Robert A. Brown, although some positions may be filled occasionally.

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produce in the Univer-

sity’s work around campus.

If you see a target implementa-

tion is completed,” he said.

“Uzamere added, however, that deadlines are not absolute, and that sometimes factors outside the control of student representatives can affect the completion date.

Some goals achieved

Last fall, the UA established a Daytime Shuttle to transport students across campus and into Boston. There has been debate lately among the UA, Parking and Transportation, and the Graduate Student Council over routes for the winter shuttle schedule. Three routes, two from the UA and one from the OSM, are being considered, said Katherine H. Allen ’05, UA representative of off-campus students.

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By Robert Lindsay Korty

The exposure of Janet Jackson’s right breast by Justin Timberlake during a Super Bowl halftime concert in Houston led to apologies by CBS and MTV executives on Monday, and a call by the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission for a formal investigation.

Michael Powell, the FCC chairman, called Jackson’s display a “classless, crass and deplorable stunt.” The commission could impose fines of $27,500 for each CBS-owned station and affiliate. Both CBS and MTV are divisions of Viacom.

In the government’s case, Faneuil is expected to tell the jury about his relationship with the broker and co-defendant, Peter Bacanovic, is expected to be pivotal testimony of Douglas Faneuil, an assistant to Stewart’s stockbroker and co-defendant, Peter Bacanovic, is expected to be pivotal testimony of Douglas Faneuil, an assistant to Stewart’s stockbroker and co-defendant, Peter Bacanovic, is expected to be pivotal testimony of Douglas Faneuil, an assistant to Stewart’s stockbroker and co-defendant, Peter Bacanovic, is expected to be pivotal testimony of Douglas Faneuil, an assistant to Stewart’s stockbroker and co-defendant, Peter Bacanovic, is expected to be pivotal testimony of Douglas Faneuil, an assistant to Stewart’s stockbroker and co-defendant, Peter Bacanovic, is expected to...
Panel Reserves Right to Review Bush's Claims of Iraqi Weapons

By Douglas Jehl and David E. Sanger

White House officials said Monday that the commission being created to investigate intelligence shortcomings will decide for itself if intelligence lapses were involved in the administration's public political issue: whether President Bush deceived the nation about Iraq's alleged WMD programs.

The White House's comments reflect a growing concern among Bush administration officials that the commission, named by the president the weekend before, will produce findings that could undermine the administration's credibility on the Iraq issue.

The administration's spending plan for transportation is $58.7 billion for the next fiscal year, up $4.8 billion from its request for the current year. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta said it was an appropriate increase with each step in the transportation moderniza- tion act involving $47,500 per vehicle. Mineta also said the request would enhance safety, though the administration has shied from a legal or failing on $34 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration. That includes a $139 million reduction in the budget for facilities and equipment. The agency said it would defer several programs, including one to install new air traffic control systems to process more planes and one to build transitions to reduce emissions.

February 3, 2004

Highway Spending To Create Jobs

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Letters to the Editor

A Prescription for Ringer Problem

I could not agree more with Ruth Miller’s column on IM ringers in D League hockey (“Confronting IM Ringers,” January 28). One of my best experiences at MIT was learning (“Confronting IM Ringers,” January 28). One of my best experiences at MIT was learning to play hockey in the friendly and non-intimidating atmosphere that D League had a few years ago. These days, I assure people with no prior hockey experience that they will have fun on the ice and learn a new sport, only to watch sadly as they are skated around in circles by skaters who certainly do not fall into the D League description — “No significant speed, has trouble turning and stopping, can’t shoot.” This past fall, I even saw the IM Hockey manager himself, surely not a D League player,NW. This makes them more likely to just assume that they aren’t good enough and quit for good.

Do not wait for complaints before restricting ringers. Beginning players are often too intimidated to call out ringers. Instead, call the other team’s ringers; this just creates a ringer league for a ringer league, playing against my lab’s D League players is unfair to everyone involved.

If you expect some higher level players might want to play with you, consider registering for D-Ringer. If you are registered in regular D, resist the temptation of allowing ringers to play in order to counter the other team’s ringers; this just creates league infatuation and is likely the cause of the current situation. Instead, call the other team’s ringers and get them out of the game or place restrictions on them.

Referees: Do not wait for complaints before restricting ringers. Beginning players are too often intimidated to call out ringers.

This makes them more likely to just assume that they aren’t good enough and quit for good.

D League players: Do your best, enjoy hockey, and don’t be afraid to politely point out ringers to the referee and request they be restricted. Send them to play with the big kids.

Have fun, skate hard, and see you on the ice.

Nati Srerho G

Tasteless C Comic

I am writing about the “Prick” comic section in the January 25th issue of The Tech. Depicting religious figures in that manner is demeaning and done in extreme taste.

It was offensive to me, and I’m certain, to a significant number of your readers. I hope that the editors will take this concern seriously, avoid publishing such material, and at least issue some form of apology.

Christopher Graff ’04

Erratum

In a sports column last Wednesday (“Students Blow Away the Stress”), an editing error removed attribution from a quotation. The statement “You don’t have to be born with agility or strength to succeed in puck.”...attracts a lot of students,” belongs to MIT’s Coach Will Hart.

Because of an editing error, a table of admissions statistics on page 21 last Wednesday gave incorrect figures for the number of freshmen enrolled in the classes of 2003 and 2004. There were 1,048 and 1,012 students, respectively, not one student in each.

Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, the editor-in-chief, the managing editor, the opinion editor, and a senior editor.

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

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 197029, 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, columns, and cartoons must bear the author’s signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. 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.

The Tech’s Ombudsman, reachable by e-mail at ombudsman@the-tech.mit.edu, serves as the liaison between The Tech and its readers. From time to time, the Ombudsman writs an independent column reflecting the complaints, questions, and concerns of the readership.

To Reach Us

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Email is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to editor@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://the-tech.mit.edu.

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Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to your recent article on the new kickboxing class offered at the MIT gym. 

While I applaud any initiative that promotes physical activity, I cannot help but feel a sense of disappointment at the way this class has been marketed. 

Firstly, the class is advertised as a way to improve kickboxing skills, yet it is clear from the tuition fees (which are significantly higher than those of other classes) that the main goal is to generate revenue. 

Furthermore, the class is only open to students who have paid an additional fee, despite the fact that many students do not have the means to do so. 

I understand the need for financial stability, but I believe there should be a balance between profit and accessibility. 

Lastly, the class is described as a form of therapy, yet the emphasis on individual achievement and competition goes against the cooperative spirit of the sport. 

I hope that in the future, the Department of Athletics will consider the needs of all students, regardless of their financial situation, and prioritize inclusivity and accessibility in its programming.
Magnolias Restaurant: Southern Comfort Food

Fine Southern dining, knowledgeable waitstaff are a throwback to the Old South

By IndiS O. Seale

It’s not really the décor, the service, or the food that makes Magnolias so refreshing. It’s the overall experience. This is the place where you can enjoy a memorable meal in a setting that is at a backwoods region of social etiquette. Forgotten are the contributions of William Faulkner and Flannery O’Connor, or of Otis Redding and even REM. The concept of the imperceptibly-coordinated Southern Gentleman has sadly been replaced by an image that revolves around Bushisms, NASCAR racing, and greyhound racing.

For the better part of 20 years now, Magnolias co-owner and head chef John Silberman has tried to show the fallacies in this negative stereotype of indigenous Southern culture. The final outcome of his endeavor reflects diverse elements of Cambridge society, producing an amalgamated item that is neither fully Yankee, fully Dixie/Caribbean, nor fully a fusion of the three. All told, the restaurant operates as a very original, creating a happy niche for itself in the Boston restaurant scene.

Although in Inman Square, the overall feel of the restaurant is that of an underground-converted Greenwich Village establishment, the sort that is continually being discovered by underfed college students. With only about 25 tables, brightly colored walls are distinguished by a variety of mismatched plates, and a whitewashed-pressed-tin ceiling, the surroundings are simultaneously cheery and down-to-earth.

The mismatched plate motif continues into the tables themselves, which join magnolia buds in vases and serviceable flatware. In keeping with this theme, the waitstaff also uphold the feeling of cheer, plus authenticity. Although they are very solicitous and attentive to detail, they are also friendly and comfortable with their surroundings. A quick glance at the menu shows the appropriateness of the heterogeneous decor. As one might expect from the restaurants sub-title, old college boys do approve of poppin’ sherries. This fried green tomatoes are not absent from the appetizer list, as are the appropriate southern delicacies. The oven-roasted PiriPiri mushrooms seasoned with warm goat cheese and chopped pecans or the white Mary-land crab cakes and their not-so-sweet chow-chow tartar sauce. As we come to the appetizers, we find a true departure from the main course offerings. The server proved to be reliable in her recommendation of beverages to accompany the selected dishes.

If I had to pick a single item from Magnolias menu it would be the steak. The steak, a pan-blackened filet mignon in the glass and set off the steak in a way that was simultaneously unobtrusive and curiosity-provoking. The steak, a pan-blackened filet mignon topped with a pecan and Muytig blue cheese although it is covered over with a balsamic broth. The filet was cooked to perfection and matched by the sauce in a delectable way that only port can accomplish. Sadly, the pecan, cheese crust manages to prove too much. It is best left to one side to be picked at while one thinks about the delectable steak. Port sauce complements. Nonetheless, its juices do impart an innovative twist to the meal.

The jambalaya, with its toss of Andouille sausage, chicken, shrimp, oysters, crawfish and spicy rice, is exactly what those familiar with the Louisiana specialty might expect. For full effect, the dish is best enjoyed in large bites, since the quantity of ingredients makes it difficult to obtain a reliable sample without at least a moderate amount of the mixture. Although the dish is spicy, Silberman’s skill shows through, in a way that is specific to chefs who have participated in such a prime reason to visit the restaurant; diners would be best off simply enjoying the dishes for which the restaurant was created.

Throughout the experience, Magnolias stays faithful to its underlying goal. As demonstrated by their two-month regional themes, occurring eight months out of the year, they have managed to go beyond just Cajun and show off the rest of Southern cuisine. Although the physical restaurant is certainly not an excursion into the squalid stereotypes of haute cuisine surroundings, it is precisely this departure from the painfully stereotypical nouveau-riche business model that makes Magnolias so refreshing.

All in all, Silberman and his co-owner (and manager) wife Amelia have succeeded in their efforts. They have put his training in Australian math whizzes of women. Score one for blazing, computer programming, Australian math whizzes everywhere.
The Allstate Insurance Company, Enterprise Technology team would like to meet you.

We’ll be sharing information about the company, our incredible growth and our hiring needs for both Internships and entry level positions. This will also be your opportunity to talk to the Vice President of Enterprise Technology as well as one of the Directors. If you are majoring in Computer Science or considering a career in one of the following fields, don’t miss this opportunity to learn more about the organization.

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- Research and Development
- Application and systems development
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- Enterprise Architecture
- Project Management
- Application and Enterprise Architecture
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Gay Marriage Gains New Legal Ground

By Lara Rogers

From the Texas to Massachusetts, gay rights supporters have recently gained legal ground.

According to Cambridge City Clerk Margaret Drury, Cambridge will begin issuing licenses to same-sex couples “as soon as it’s legally possible.”

However, Drury said that she did not know when the licenses would become possible because the state register must first create the new marriage licenses that will recognize same-sex couples.

There are individuals at MIT who plan to use the decision made by the court as a catalyst for change and to fight for more legal recognition of same-sex marriage.

The Massachusetts gay marriage ban overruled

The second major gay rights decision of 2003 was handed down Nov. 18 by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

The Massachusetts Constitution affirms the dignity and equality of all individuals. It forbids the creation of second-class citizens,” wrote Chief Justice Margaret H. Marshall in the majority opinion.

The Supreme Judicial Court gave the Massachusetts gay marriage ban unconstitutional.

However, Susnowitz gives the advice that because mentors can be so important to a child’s life, anyone interested should make sure that they choose the right opportunity that fits their schedules. “We try to have a range of opportunities so that people can make a commitment they can keep,” Susnowitz said.

For more information about mentoring programs, visit the MIT Public Service Center’s web site at http://www.mit.edu/psc. The PSC is located along the infinite corridor in room 4-104.

MIT Class Discusses Discrimination with Junior High Students

By Evn J. Lee

A black male walks up to a restaurant counter and asks for a cup of coffee. The white waitress behind the counter snubs him and attends to the white female who comes in after him. “Because all I want is a cup of coffee,” pleads the black customer as the waitress rolls her eyes and ignores him. As the waitress continues to disregard the requests of this customer, his protests grow progressively louder and the scene gets subtly frustrated.

As the customer eventually storms away from the counter, the dozen or so onlookers all have a good laugh. After all, the waitress and customer are just seventh graders, and the counter is just a desk in Gretchen Brison-Meisels’ language arts class at Fletcher Maynard Academy, which is only a stone’s throw away from MIT’s campus. On this particular afternoon, students are participating in discussions of race and diversity with MIT students as part of a class project in the Martin Luther King Jr. Design seminar (17.920).

“Joseph A. Brown ’07 and Louis D. Fouche ’07 discuss issues of race and diversity with a group of seventh grade students at Fletchard Maynard Academy in Cambridge.

Teach your children well

When asked to define discrimination, one seventh-grader answered “it’s a way to judge people in a way that’s not cool.” Although some students giggled when the topic of stereotypes and prejudices against sexual orientation was mentioned, the students discussed their own experiences with discrimination.

By doing so, the court overturned a ruling that it had made 17 years earlier in the anti-sodomy case of Bowers v. Hardwick. The Lawrence decision is expected to invalidate anti-sodomy laws in the 13 states where such laws are still on the books.

Gay rights gain ground in 2003

Two landmark cases upholding gay rights were handed down in 2003.

In Lawrence v. Texas, the United States Supreme Court struck down a Texas law criminalizing sodomy between same-sex partners.

In Goodridge v. Department of Public Health, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that, according to the state constitution, there is no “constitutionally adequate reason for denying civil marriage to same-sex couples.”

“Teaching freshman Level 5 students about gay rights and civil marriage at MIT, which already has most benefits for same-sex spouses,”

Local Ways to Promote Diversity

By Ily S. Morgan

Eager to make a difference in the community? Here are some local agencies that help to promote diversity awareness and social equality:

Action for Boston Community Development

Action for Boston Community Development promotes self-help for low-income people and neighborhoods. It provides opportunities for upward mobility to Boston-area residents through innovative programs and services. http://www.bostonbund.org

Center for Community Health, Education & Research, Inc.

The Center for Community Health, Education & Research, Inc. provides AIDS case management and HIV education to the Haitian community in the greater Boston area. http://www.echcr.org

Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights

The Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights serves refugee communities and torture survivors, providing care to the whole person. http://www.glbf.org/refugee

International Institute of Boston

The International Institute of Boston fosters the success of immigrants and refugees in the United States by providing a range of comprehensive professional and cultural services. http://www.iiboston.org

Our Bodies Ourselves

OBOS challenges the institutions that devalue the lives of women. They provide honest information about health, sexuality, and reproduction from a feminist perspective. http://www.ourbodiesourselves.org

Boston Rescue Mission

Boston Rescue Mission helps homeless and poor persons move to self-sufficiency by providing meals, emergency shelter, a transitional program, and job training. http://www.brm.org

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders

GLAD is a legal rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation. It uses the law to create gender identity and expression. http://www.glad.org

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

NGLTF is a progressive organization working for the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. http://www.ngltf.org

Habitat for Humanity, Greater Boston

Habitat for Humanity, Greater Boston is a Christian-based housing ministry seeking to alleviate the shortage of quality affordable housing in Boston’s urban neighborhoods. http://www.habitatboston.org

GAY MARRIAGE GAINS NEW LEGAL GROUND

By Joseph A. Brown ’07 and Louis D. Fouche ’07 discuss issues of race and diversity with a group of seventh grade students at Fletcher Maynard Academy in Cambridge.
Marriage, as an act of marital formation, is a union that can only exist between a man and a woman. Currently, a Federal Defense of Marriage Act stipulates that states ban gay marriage, but it does not have the force of federal law. Although a state can declare gay marriage to be illegal, it is up to the federal government to enforce the law. In Massachusetts, the Supreme Court of Appeals overturned the constitutional ban on gay marriage, and the state has been allowing gay marriage since 2004.

In 2013, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman, is unconstitutional. This decision allows same-sex couples to marry in all 50 states. However, the debate over gay marriage continues to be a contentious issue in the United States.

According to a statement issued by the Vatican on July 1, 2003, “in those situations where homosexual unions have been legally recognized, the Church’s teaching, which has always opposed this type of union, continues to hold that marriage is exclusively a union between a man and a woman. This teaching is based on the natural law and the dignity of the human person. The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a total and exclusive partnership of two persons of the same sex.”

On Jan. 21, 2004, the Ohio Legislature passed a constitutional amendment that prohibits gay marriage and civil unions for same-sex couples. Ohioans can now vote in the 2004 general election to approve or reject it.

In the 2004 presidential election, the national issue of gay rights was not directly addressed. However, the issue of gay marriage became a focal point in many states, particularly in California, where it was put to a popular vote in November. The amendment was passed, but it was overturned by the California Supreme Court in 2008. The issue continues to be debated in many states, and the Supreme Court is currently considering the constitutionality of state laws that define marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

The debate over gay marriage is likely to continue for many years, as both supporters and opponents of same-sex marriage continue to speak out. The issue is complex, and it will be interesting to see how it is resolved in the future.
A reWe R ready for a Minority P resident?

Is the United States ready for a minority president?

It is very easy for people to immediately reply “yes” in response to this question. Yet, if our country is ready, then why has there been a minority candidate yet to survive the ‘curse of the party caucuses and primaries to receive the nomination’? I venture to say that we are in denial of political inequities, and the realization of a minority president is nowhere in the near future. There are many things in this country that we overlook that may be holding back our electoral process from reaching its full potential envisioned by our forefathers of representing all citizens of this country. Let us look at the primary example of African-Americans in national public offices.

First, the time elapsed since the end of blatant racial discrimination in this country is equivalent to an eye blink in the span of history. Slavery in America, which ended approximately 140 years ago in 1865, was in place for over 250 years. If you consider the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as the end of the civil rights movement, then there have only been 36 years between then and now.

Secondly, the number of blacks in Congress is pathetically low. White males represent approximately 40 percent of the US population, yet comprise 77 percent of the House, a total of 7 percent of Congress. How can we expect the American people to elect a black president when they cannot keep a black senator in office? Perhaps there just aren’t that many blacks aspiring to public office. Even still, that cannot possibly account for the fact that there are currently no black senators.

Next, we can look at the trends for the blacks who have been hired to run for the Presidential office. Jesse Jackson ran for the nomination in the Democratic Party in 1984 and 1988. Both times, he was unable to win the nomination. Colin Powell was speculated to become a candidate in the Presidency in 1996, but did not enter the race. In 2000, Alan Keyes ran for the Republican Presidential nomination, but eventually stepped down from the race. In this year’s Democratic Candidacy Race, we have seen Al Sharpton and Carol Moseley Braun. Braun, a former US Senator, recently dropped out of the race. Sharpton recently received zero percent vote support in the Iowa Caucuses and New Hampshire Primary. Democratic sources say Braun felt it was time to quit because her campaign failed to catch fire. Solely based on the trends of black presidential candidates, things aren’t looking too good for the possibility of a black president.

Finally, the number of minority voters in the country is disproportionately due to voting restrictions. With the exceptions of Maine, Vermont, and the District of Columbia, the remaining 47 states and the District of Columbia prohibit serving felons from voting. These restrictions are found in any public elections. While a majority of states restore voting rights to convicted felons after they complete their prison terms or probation periods, at least ten states, including Virginia, Delaware and New Mexico permanently prohibit former felons from voting.

Due to the war on crime and racial profiling, there is a disproportionate amount of blacks convicted of felonies. Thus, more blacks are losing their rights to vote. This is not to say that these felons would not vote for a black presidential candidate or even at all, but it is something to think about. Also, there are thousands of homeless people who are unable to exercise their right simply because they don’t have an address to register with.

Are we probably giving other undeniable constructs of our society that are working against the election of a black president. I do believe that one day this country will have a black president, and apparently I am not the only one. The television drama 24 and the movie blockbuster Deep Impact both have black presidents, so others are definitely open to the idea. But as usual, reality is far behind the imagination of Hollywood.

If we are to ever be ready for a minority president, then all citizens must have the right to vote. Is the United States ready for a minority president is one we need to answer to this question now and in the future will be revealed at the ballot boxes. In closing, I would hope that the United States would vote. Based on the most recent census, only 63.9 percent of the voting population is registered and only 54.7 percent of the voting population actually votes.

There is a problem with that, especially since active participation in government is one of the principles that this country was founded upon. Please make an effort to learn about this year’s presidential candidates and vote. The first step to change is action. Natasha N. Rashings is a member of the class of 2005.
Racial Profiling Puts Everyone in Danger

Shawntel B. Hines

The last time I was in an airport was the beginning of January, when I returned for Independent Activities Period. As I stood in the security line of the airport, my thoughts were on how much I enjoyed break, how I really didn't want to come back to MIT, and exactly how cold would it be. Then, like others in line, I began to take off my shoes, my outer coat, my earrings, and checked my pockets for the usual: coins, keys, cell phones.

For one moment, I thought, I don't know why I have to go through this, this is never heard of a black person hijacking a plane. I joked about such things with my family and friends, watching the news and placing a race to the criminals based on their crimes. The shoe bomber; thought he was a Middle Eastern male. It all seemed so simple. Blacks and Hispanics don't commit crimes based on their race. The sniper: militant white male. It all seemed so simple. Blacks and Hispanics don't commit such crimes.

While Sept. 11 has made people from the Middle East the newest victims of racial profiling, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the attempts to crackdown on profiling has proven to be ineffective. An article was publishing, the.

The use of race in airport security procedures as a matter of safety, and the DWB situation are not examples of blatant racism. I realize that both instances of racial profiling are instances of prejudice and stereotyping. There is no way one race can be eliminated in any crime or potential crime without some type of identifying evidence. While racial profiling is not defined as a tool of oppression, it has been one, like so many other things designed for our safety. Admittedly, there are patterns in some crimes, meaning that most persons committing a particular crime may be mostly white, black, etc. But that does not mean that the entire race should be under scrutiny. Even more appalling is that most of us are guilty of racial profiling in our daily lives. We've stood at the airport at looked at people with the thought in our heads: "Someone might need to check that person out. He looks suspicious." Though our biases may not have resulted in people not being let on planes or being pulled over for no reason, they are still just as dangerous. These are still prejudiced attitudes. We are still judging people by the color of their skin, and clearly, not the content of their character. Sure, we don't know the character of every person that we see on the street, in the airport, in the convenience store, but this is all the more reason not to judge.

A matter of safety, is it? Well, when the sniper was assassinating people throughout the Washington, D.C. and Virginia area, the police were looking for a white male. Everyone thought it was a white male. But, as it turns out, he was black. Imagine who could have been saved if authorities had opened their eyes to the fact that anyone, of any race, could have been the perpetrator. Let's not forget about the shoe bomber. The man was white. Enough said. In the midst of celebrating Dr. King's dreams, we need to take note of the institution-ized prejudices that are affecting our lives.

These prejudices are allowing us to maintain the idea that we are fit to judge. We are not. While you are judging someone, someone else is judging you.

Shawntel B. Hines is a member of the class of 2006.

Simple Ideas to Promote Diversity Awareness

Byivy S. Morgan

1. Speak out against racist, homophobic, and sexist actions. Confront perpetrators of discriminating behavior, if you don’t, you’re sending the message that this behavior is acceptable.

2. Get to know people who are “different” from you. Take advantage of the diversity that exists around you. Make a conscious effort to befriend people who look, speak, act, or worship differently. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

3. Learn about issues and concerns of other people. Expose yourself to views of multiculturalism, racism, sexism, or homophobia. By improving your knowledge, you are better equipped to combat discrimination.

4. Consider the impact of your words and actions, not just their intent. Discriminatory jokes can be just as offensive as slurs. Don’t perpetuate biases and prejudices in the name of fun.

5. Watch what you say. Some terms and phrases are demeaning to others. Everyone deserves to be addressed respectfully.

6. Understand and accept the differences among people. By denying the differences that make this society so diverse, you could also be denying aspects of someone’s character that are very special to them.

7. Through your normal daily interactions, show younger children that diversity is a good thing, show them that it is okay to be around people who are different. Eventually, they will accept this as their own belief and perpetuate that philosophy.

8. Don’t stay silent. If you become the victim of discrimination, say something. Don’t let the incident slide. Tell your friends and family, tell your co-workers or classmates, they may be able to help and support you.

9. Be open-minded. Challenge your views and way of thinking, try to understand the point of views of others.

10. Don’t underestimate the power of money. Boycott places that are racist, sexist, or homophobic, and encourage other people to do the same. Tell the place you’re boycotting your reasons for doing so, otherwise they may not get the point.

Buy cheap books! Sellers set their own prices, so there’s competition... That means you pay less!

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11 AM - 7 PM

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National Coed Nonresidential Service Fraternity

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join@the-tech.mit.edu
W20-483, x3-1541
So, you’re trying to decide whether you should get a Valentine’s Day gift for a certain someone? Hmm, that is quite a dilemma. I wonder when a tuner like YOU found a girlfriend, anyways...

Well, actually...it’s not for a girlfriend...

Oh...I see...Well, Bobby. You’re my little brother, so, whatever your preference is, it’s perfectly fine by me.

Chill. It’s not for a BOYFRIEND. Either it’s for a girl...

Flight! That’s what I said before...it’s for your girlfriend...

No no! This person is NOT my girlfriend!!!

Graah! If it’s not a girl OR a boy, THEN WHAT ELSE IS THERE?! I HATE BIOLOGY!!! I’M SOOOOO CONFUSED!!!!

Sigh. There’s nothing like brotherly bonding time.

Look, Kids! It’s a storyline!

Also Lobby 7...

No, keep climbing.

What if they catch us?

Look, Chuck. I promised you, call the police, not get up and say it.

What is 12 equals?

If the Police!

Worse, the Infectiousness of the Disease has increased! Other species are in danger too! Chimpanzees, dogs, horses...

What is to become of this planet?

thinking is a disease

2,000,000,000 years ago. Earth was a HUNGER-Free Planet!

Simplicity reigns over the continents throughout the day and night of all species.

Alas! Humans started eating meat. Their brain grew larger. Therefore, we are the WORST against the Disease! Some started thinking. Through travel, the Disease spread...

Today, the History of the Disease is everywhere, except uninhabited regions and the White House...

What is to become of this planet?

Hello?

Yeah.

UH-HUH.

I don’t know...

Maybe.

I don’t know.

UH-HUH.

OK.

OK, bye.

Was that your mom?

Yeah, how did you know?

www.phdcomics.com
ACROSS
1 Arctic Circle dweller
5 Panoramic view calculation
10 Geometry calculation
14 Wheels support exercise
15 Wastes time exercise
16 Fossil fuel exercise
17 Wise guy exercise
19 Weighlifting exercise
20 Have an inkling exercise
21 Roper’s rope exercise
22 Lumberjacks exercise
23 Tip or Eugene exercise
25 Brunch pastry exercise
27 Did in exercise
28 Gentlemen’s agreement exercise
29 Park perch exercise
32 Obligation exercise
33 Co-conspirator exercise
35 Hair-care product exercise
39 Actor Wallach exercise
40 Architectural add-on exercise
41 Beet soup exercise
42 Foldaway bed exercise
43 Chairman exercise
44 Create a soft spot exercise
45 The...the limit! exercise
46 Andes people exercise
47 Enjoy the...exercise
48 Boom’s counterpart exercise
49 Mrs. Truman exercise
50 Hershey’s candies exercise
51 Last year’s frosh exercise
52 Plumed wader exercise
53 Snail trail exercise
54 Andre and exercise
55 Sister’s kid exercise
56 Don in the fitting room exercise
57 Goulash and ragout exercise
58 Rum cake exercise
59 Candid exercise
61 At any time exercise
65 Novelist Beattie exercise
66 Tolerate exercise
69 Rooney of “60 Minutes” exercise
70 Strict exercise
71 Sawbucks exercise

DOWN
1 Roper’s rope exercise
2 Lumberjacks exercise
3 Tool for evening exercise
4 Keep on trying exercise
5 Exuberance exercise
6 A...the... exercise
7 Fishtailed exercise
8 Aquarium fish exercise
9 Pallid exercise
10 Point a finger at exercise
11 Oil-rig roustabout exercise
12 Jimmy Carter’s middle name exercise
13 Pact participant exercise
14 Point a finger at exercise
15 Wastes time exercise
16 Fossil fuel exercise
17 Wise guy exercise
18 Legendary archer exercise
19 Exuberance exercise
20 Have an inkling exercise
21 Roper’s rope exercise
22 Lumberjacks exercise
23 Tip or Eugene exercise
24 Clunker exercise
25 Brunch pastry exercise
26 Yeah, sure exercise
27 Did in exercise
28 Gentlemen’s agreement exercise
29 Park perch exercise
30 Surfeit exercise
31 Chart toppers exercise
32 Actress Moore exercise
33 Panache exercise
34 Ignoramus exercise
35 Hair-care product exercise
36 Fun to work exercise
37 Wound covering exercise
38 Indicate indifference exercise
39 Actor Wallach exercise
40 Architectural add-on exercise

scoring areas or “living groups” were separate for the two robots competing and had 1x, 2x and 3x multiplication factors depending on their distance from the starting area. ZSR Convertible’s strategy was to collect balls in a cage and go to the 2x multiplier area. Then, it detected the other robot’s position, using its infrared beacon, and determined whether to stay there or go to the 3x multiplier area, which was also the other robot’s starting position.

It was “quite a common design,” Ren said to the audience before the final round. Humble Trouble also used a cage to collect balls and several times ended up in the 3x multiplier area.

The “ZSR Convertible” team said that they spent between 130 and 150 hours making the machine. They said they were in the lab for 36 hours straight before the machine was impounded.

The 6.270 course organizers also gave awards out to notable robots: “Chickenator,” which had wings on its side, won the “Cutest Award;” “9” won “The Stata Center Robot Award” for its unique design; and “Lawnmower of Justice” won “The Craziest Strategy Award.” Created by Louis Waldman and Matthew Webber, “Lawnmower of Justice” quickly pushed balls into its 1x scoring box, then followed the other robot around and attempted to block its competition’s access to their scoring area using whirling blades.

Slight changes from last year
Two new additions gave contest participants more flexibility in this year’s design. Students were given $30 to spend on “anything electronic” for their robot, said Balodia. Also, a gyroscope, which measures the rate change of a turn angle, was provided by Analog Devices, one of the course sponsors. Engineers from the company also helped the students implement the sensors during Independent Activities Period, said Jack Memishian ’65, an engineer from Analog in Cambridge.

The Analog engineers also designed and built their own robot, which competed against a robot created by Steven Schondorf, director of the Ford/MIT Alliance. Both robots were built along with the students in 6.270, using the same laboratory and equipment. The robots competed in exhibition rounds during the night, with the Analog team winning two of three contests.

The annual 6.270 autonomous robot competition, entitled Killian Chaos this year, was held in Kresge Auditorium last Thursday evening. Clockwise from top left:

Yasuhiro Shirasaki ’06 addresses the audience after his team, “ZSR Convertible,” won the competition.

Robots fill the viewing tables out in the lobby of Kresge Auditorium.

Paul Wanda ’04 (left), Ran Tao ’04, and Albert Lin ’04 watch as their robot, “The Cool-Looking Thing That Does Absolutely Nothing,” defeats its opponent.

Team 44, ‘But It Worked Fine This Morning’ (Tiffany Dohzen ’04 and Catherine Koeval ’05), faces off against Team 1, ‘That’s What She Said’ (Greg H. Belote ’07 and Abraham J. Evans ’05). Team 1 claimed victory in the round.

Jeffery A. Perez ’07, Patrick Y. Kim ’04, and Nathan A. Pfaff ’07 agonize over their robot’s loss.

Greg H. Belote ’07 of Team 1, ‘That’s What She Said,’ prepares his robot for competition.

Kevin E. Stott ’06 (left) and Michel J. Lambert ’04 look on as their robot entangles a wall. This year’s 6.270 competition was held in Kresge Auditorium because 26-100, the contest’s usual venue, has filled to capacity in past years.
BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

DANIEL R. BERSAK—THE TECH

rupts in Kresge

BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

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BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH
Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at http://events.mit.edu

The Tech

February 3, 2004

Wednesday, February 4

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Breakfast Lecture Series. Free. Room: 34-103. Sponsor: MIT Pancreatic Cancer Research Group.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Graduate Open House. Free. Room: 34-100. Sponsor: MIT Pancreatic Cancer Research Group.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - WHOI Donut and Coffee Hour. Free. Room: WHOI Student Center. Sponsor: WHOI Student Organization.

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - MIT Debate Team Meeting. Free. Room: W20-423. Sponsor: MIT Debate Team.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Varsity Women's Basketball vs. MCLA. Free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: MIT Women's Basketball.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club, GSC Funding Board.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - MIT Debate Team Meeting. Free. Room: W20-423. Sponsor: MIT Debate Team.

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Physics Colloquium Series. Free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: MIT Physics Department.


4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Physics Colloquium Series. Free. Room: Johnson Ice Rink. Sponsor: MIT Physics Department.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Thespis Auditions. Free. Room: W11-007. Sponsor: MIT Theater Arts.

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Weekly Grad Student Bible Study for Absolute Beginners. Free. Room: E25-111. Sponsor: HST.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Permanent Residence for the Best and the Brightest. Free. Room: W11-007. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.

7:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Israeli Folk Dancing beginner’s night (participatory). Free for MIT students; donations welcome. Room: Lobby 13. Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club, GSC Funding Board.

9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Israeli Folk Dancing. 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Thespis Auditions. Free for MIT students; donations welcome. Room: Lobby 13. Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

Tuesday, February 3

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - MIT Debate Team Meeting. Free. Room: W20-423. Sponsor: MIT Debate Team.

6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Thespis Auditions. Free for MIT students; donations welcome. Room: Lobby 13. Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club, GSC Funding Board.

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Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.
depression is a serious threat to anyone that has a brain. for next semester will likely be a continuation of goals from last semester. i don't think that the ua goals checked goals "gives you confidence and "holds you more accountable" for the people who do care, it's definitely a plus," he said.

"Lunch with Larry" Davis said that the UA Q&A checklist "gives an impetus to follow through with projects. "I think people do read it," Davis said. She added that the list in the Tk e-mail was distributed. "It gives students a list of places that accept Tech Cash, she can keep in touch with her with library systems so students can have access to the Harvard library. he expects to complete this by the end of the spring.

UA Q&A goals checklist may be "a great idea but there are different ways to make it more effective," Williams said that he has been working on an online database where "each UA member will be able to submit projects and ideas in addition to printing the Tk. it would be "easier for students to find what they're looking for," he said, as well as more efficient for UA members.

in addition, Williams thought the web site would "present [the goals] in a more palatable" way, give the size of the checklist. however, he added that it's current format still need "help facilitate communication between student and the goals for next term. Cummings said that his goals for next semester will likely be a continuation of goals from last semester. i don't think that the UA goals checked goals "gives you confidence and "holds you more accountable" for the people who do care, it's definitely a plus," he said.

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A new year, a new term. Isn’t it time you tried something new?

Join The Tech!

RTZ BIZ FEA FTO NUZ OPN PROD SPO TECHNO

Open House on Sunday, February 8th.
News Meeting: 5 p.m.
Dinner: 6 p.m.
Photo Meeting: 6:10 p.m.

Student Center Room 483, x3-1541
join@the-tech.mit.edu
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Applications now being accepted for the 2004-2005 academic year:

Course 1  See Cynthia Stewart in Room 1-281 for an application.
Course 2  Information Session – Wednesday, Feb. 4, 4:30 p.m., 1-135.
Course 3  See Prof. Linn Hobbs in Room 13-4054 for an application.
Course 5  See Kris Grabarek in Room 2-204 for an application.
Course 6  Information Session – Monday, Feb. 9, 4 p.m., 34-401.
Course 7  See Janice Chang in Room 68-120 for an application.
Course 8  Information Session – Wednesday, Feb. 4, 4 p.m., 4-339.
Course 10  See Mike Mohr in Room 66-305 for an application.
Course 14  See Gary King in Room E52-391 for an application.
Course 16  See Marie Stuppard in Room 33-208 for an application.
Course 18  Information Session – Wednesday, Feb. 11, 5 p.m., 2-102.
Course 21H See Mabel Chin in Room E51-285 for an application.

For more information, visit http://web.mit.edu/cmi/ac/mit-about.html.

Check with your department for application deadlines.

*not that kind of punting, the kind you do in a boat with a long pole!
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Further information, including online application: http://www.kawamurafellowship.org/

Applications interface closes at 11:59 PM, February 3

**The Beinecke Scholarship**

$32,000 to be used for graduate school support in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

http://www.beineckescholarship.org/

Applications Due 5:00PM in room 7-133 on February 9

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Applications due 5:00PM in room 7-133 on February 27

For further information or general questions please contact:
Dean Andrew Eisenmann, x3-8444, eisen@mit.edu Or
Eric Thorsen, x3-7364, ethorsen@mit.edu
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- Latin American Studies
- Linguistics
- Literature
- Middle Eastern Studies
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Sir Loops-a-Lot Makes Valiant Try in MASLab Contest

By Gireeja Ranade

Friday, Jan. 30th was the day all the participants of the Mobile Autonomous Systems Laboratory (MASLab) were anxiously waiting for but at the same time dreading. It was competition night, and our robot “Sir Loops-a-Lot” was ready for action along with his peers — “The Sauceting Little Rat Packed Gif,” “Unfortunate Mishap,” and “Jerry” being some of them.

MASLab is an annual robotics competition held at MIT during the Independent Activities Period, currently in its fourth year. As part of MASLab, robots must perform certain tasks in an unknown color-coded playing field without any human intervention.

This year, the robots were required to gather red balls from the playing field or extract them from green cylinders. They then had to get the balls through yellow mouse holes in the playing field wall to score points. The problem was vision based where the camera is the robot’s primary sensor.

“Ludicrous Speed,” built by Brett M. Bethke ’05 and Albert G. Sun ’05, emerged as the winner of the competition by a large margin. The Grim Gripper,” built by Alex J. Cruce ’05, James X. Sun ’05, Vincent Shu Hang Yeung ’05, and Edmund Lau ’05, snagged the prestigious MASLab Engineering award for most innovative and clever engineering for its efficient gripper that picked up both balls and cylinders.

By popular vote, “Over the Rainbow,” with a bright yellow sun around its camera and rainbow-colored ball-capturing mechanism, won the best dressed robot award.

Our strategy

We initially spent a lot of time deciding how to attack the problem. In the end, our line of approach was different from most other teams. We chose to ignore the red balls in the playing field and attack only the green cylinders, each of which contained three red balls. This was a risk and an all-or-nothing tactic.

Our idea was met with a certain amount of resistance when we put him down in a mousehole for additional points. ‘Ludicrous Speed,’ the robot that built with Scott D. Torborg ’07, named ‘You, Robot,’ fails to pick up a second tower.

It was amazing to see the large crowd比例 at the machine shop. Starting with no experience at all, I learned to use a scroll saw, drill press, sheer, and all the power tools were things.

We, of course, were the protective parents. There was always a certain amount of nervousness when we put him down in the playing field on his own and started him up. The first time he identified a red ball and drove towards it we were all thrilled — it was a true Kodak moment.

These moments of satisfaction were well balanced by frustration. I realized that we had been spending too much time in lab when I started yelling at our robot for banging into the walls when I was the one who had messed up the calibration. It seemed that every bug we fixed and every problem we solved gave rise to a new challenge.

The essence of MASLab

MASLab Director Edwin B. Olson G said that the organizers “subscribe to the fire hose theory” by asking students to tackle a very hard problem but at the same time providing students with the best equipment they can afford.

Christopher Batten G, the mechanical manager for MASLab, said the level of difficulty is that of a “research-caliber problem.” The question the MASLab staff asked themselves is, “What’s the coolest thing we can build?” he said. They both emphasized the fact that MASLab is more of a research exhibition and is different from 6.270.

During the first two weeks, the organizers gave lectures to introduce the beginners among us to various aspects of robotics. Olson said that they tried to tie what was taught into the students’ coursework so that they could appreciate both their classes and MASLab better. As a result, lectures often tended to veer off into the theoretical realm, he said.

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Our idea was met with a certain amount of excitement from the staff. Batten later told me he thought it was a challenging path to take. At the same time he mentioned that this strategy was probably not the best approach to win the contest. “Hmmm... I thought. ‘Should he have told us this earlier?’

It was amazing to see the large crowd ratio in the methods adopted to capture and deposit the balls. Every team had their own innovative methods to solve the problem.
The 2003 Award Winners are:

- Bob Yin, '04 Biology
  Growing Up in the Shadows of the Cultural Revolution: Short Fiction Inspired By Personal Histories

- Maia Mahoney, '05 Electrical Eng. & Computer Science
  A Biological Register: The Application of Site-Specific Recombination for the Construction of Biological Memory

- Debora Lui, '03 Architecture & Management
  Examining the Cycle of Influence Between Architecture & Performance in the Twentieth Century Theater

- Noramay J. Cadena, '03 Mechanical Engineering
  "Through their Eyes Only: Unveiling the Person behind the Stigma"

- Anna Bershteyn, '06 Materials Science And Eng and Kaia Dekker, '06 Physics
  Traditional Life and Technological Change: Learning from Dine Voices Across Generations

- Monami Chakrabarti, '03 Sloan School of Management
  Getting the Boss to Behave: A Comparative Study of Trade Unions and Corporate Governance Reform in the US and UK

- Rabi Upadhyay, '03 Mathematics
  Redefining Medicine: Modern Healthcare in the Third World

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2003 Eloranta Awards
Final Presentations:
Friday, February 6th 3:00 PM
Room 4-270

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Rabi Upadhyay, '03 Mathematics
Redefining Medicine: Modern Healthcare in the Third World

All are welcome to attend.

Refreshments will be served following the presentations.

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For more information please visit: http://web.mit.edu/eloranta/
"We offer millions of patients an opportunity to live a full life. Nothing comes close to the satisfaction of helping people regain their health" — Carol, Director of Product Development

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To Carol, life is everything.

“...he had been doing a wonderful job the day before. In the end though, it just did not matter. We still lost our robot. I am so glad that I decided to participate, in spite of being intimidated initially. I learned just as much through MASLab as I learned in my classes last term, if not more. For someone who still lives in the land of 8.01, the idea that physics doesn’t really work the way it is supposed to was eye opening. Even though I am still lost when I see Java code, I discovered how wonderful it can be to talk to machines. The experience was tremendously satisfying. We had built a robot, a pretty smart little guy, from scratch. This was the best way I could have spent my IAP.”
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Thursday February 5, 2004 - 10am-3pm
would go away and leave their equipment shut off and lights shut off.”

Cooper said that based on the electric usage, people did stay away on the Friday after Christmas and also the Monday and Tuesday afterwards for the most part.

“They clearly started coming back and turning things on the day after New Year’s, and then the weekend started to ramp up, and were at full blast again the following Monday,” Cooper said.

Cooper said that utilities had calculated an estimate of steam and electric savings during the shutdown, but declined to disclose it, saying that it had been submitted to the chain of command.

However, the office of John R. Curry, Executive Vice President, stated that it has not yet received this estimate.

“It’s not a big number,” Cooper said.

Data about MIT’s power generation and usage can be accessed at http://cogen.mit.edu.

Staff receive extra vacation days

Meanwhile, Institute staff received additional vacation time during the shutdown, Avakian said.

“Staff got an additional five days of paid time away, other than the two holidays,” she said. “In reality, I think the Institute would have given them the two Fridays, under any circumstance, if there is a day separating the holiday from the weekend. They’ve tended to do this,” Avakian said.

Avakian said that the original thought about closing the Institute for some of that time came during budget discussions about the salary freeze. Given the sacrifice it is asking of staff, she said, the administration thought the additional vacation time would show sensitivity to what people were going through.

Avakian said that they tried to give as many people time off while keeping important services going. The MIT Police, as an example, added patrols and staff during that time, because they wanted to make sure that buildings left empty would be safe and secure, Avakian said.

“Places where we have people living on campus never really close. Libraries still needed to stay open,” she said.

She said it would be difficult to calculate lost productivity from the shutdown and additional vacation days. “The reason we felt we could do the closing at that time is because it’s a really light time in terms of work that’s going on around campus. The majority of faculty and students are away. Normal meetings don’t happen,” she said.

She said that it was difficult to measure exactly what productivity was lost during the shutdown. “I frankly don’t know how we’d get our arms around what work didn’t get done,” she said.

Positive response to shutdown

“I had enormous numbers of thanks for extending the holiday period,” Curry said.

“Feedback’s been interesting. I’ve gotten many, many e-mails saying ‘Thank you, this was the best gift I could have been given,’” Avakian said. “The provost received a lot of disturbing e-mail from faculty who felt that it was a hardship on them.”

“A lot of people were … very appreciative,” Avakian said. She said that she expects there to be pressure to do it again.

“This is being put forward as a unique opportunity given the budget climate of the year, and frankly, that Christmas and New Year’s fell on Thursday,” Avakian said.

Curry said that he doesn’t think there will be such a shutdown in the future.
Harvard/MIT Matchup Service Will Keep Contacts Anonymous

By Keith J. Winstein
senior editor

A new MIT online dating service is in the works for Valentine’s Day. But unlike last year, the new service will be anonymous, and its organizers will not participate, said Mandep Singh ’05, one of the organizers. Last year’s service, designed and run by Jonathan G. Monsarrat ’89, attracted more than 3,200 participants from MIT, Harvard, and Wellesley.

Some Harvard students later complained to MIT and the Harvard police about e-mails they received from Monsarrat, who, in addition to running the service, participated and matched himself up with more people than any other participant, he said.

The complaints did not result in criminal charges. “We believe that Mr. Monsarrat is going to cease and desist the behavior,” said Steven G. Catalano, a spokesman for the Harvard police. “There was an investigation,” he said. “A decision was made not to bring charges against Monsarrat.”

New matchup to launch soon

The new matchup will be available to students at all Boston-area colleges, Singh said, and is planned to open later this week. The organizers will announce the service’s Web address when the matchup is ready, Singh said.

This year, the service will not give participants the names of their matches — instead, it will allow them to contact their matches anonymously, Singh said.

Monsarrat will not be involved in running the service, both Singh and Monsarrat said.

“Because I won’t be in the administration anymore, any lingering doubts people might have about this won’t be there anymore,” Monsarrat said. “There was a ‘boy who cried wolf’ problem last year, where someone had a complaint that caught fire in the imagination of the community,” Monsarrat said. “But since it was based on nothing, nothing happened with it. There wasn’t a charge filed, there wasn’t harassment.”

Harvard/MIT Matchup Service Will Keep Contacts Anonymous
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The MIT Charm School 2004 was held last Friday at the Stratton Student Center.

(above right) SiSi Liu '05 strikes a pose during the Fashion Show.

(above left) The MIT Student Life Program’s Lauren Wojtkun models the MIT business casual look.

Photography by Ben Gallup

The Production Department’s Word of the Day
Rhonchus: A course rattling sound, similar to snoring.

join@tt.mit.edu
It was 2002 all over again. Janet Jackson was performing. U.S. flags were all over the halftime performances, and the New England Patriots won a great football game on a last-minute field goal by kicker Adam Vinatieri. And just like 2002, I was on the edge of my seat for the entire last ten minutes of the game. Super Bowl XXXVIII was great not just because of the last-minute Patriot victory, however. It was great because it was defensive then offensive, because you had two great quarterbacks not willing to give in, because both teams outgrew their supposed weaknesses and used them to score on their opponents.

Going into the Super Bowl, the story was supposed to be the Panthers were all over the halftime performance, U.S. flags everywhere, and Janet Jackson was performing. Both intentional and unintentional humor abounds. The second half started with both offenses punting after their first two possessions, but after that it was all offense. The Patriots went out with balanced run/pass attack, which was very unusual for them, as the running game of the Pats is usually weak. This led to two touchdowns on the half, and one with a two-point conversion. But the Panthers kept coming back, scoring on touchdown drives that featured big plays, one a run by Running Back DeShaun Foster and one an 85-yard pass to the receiver Steve Smith. Also, the defense got a good stop with an interception of Brady in the Carolina endzone. At the end, Delhomme, famous for his handed points. The Patriots did a little better, getting down field goal range of the Panthers twice, only to see one kick missed and one kick blocked. But then, with five minutes left in the first half, everything changed.

The Patriots had the football at their own 20 yard line when quarterback Jake Delhomme was sacked by Pats linebacker Mike Vrabel, and he coughed up the football. It was recovered by the Pats, and led to their first touchdown of the game. Some might have thought that sealed the end of the game for the Panthers, but they surprised everybody, going 95 yards for a touchdown not on their running game, but on passes by Delhomme. This turnaround of the Panthers offense was completely unheralded, but it kept them in the game. The Pats responded with a drive featuring a 52-yard pass by QB Tom Brady, to go up 14-6 (the Panthers missed a two point conversion). But Panthers answered right back with a field goal before halftime.

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Going into the Super Bowl, the story was supposed to be the Patriots would win because they had more offense left. For the first 25 minutes of the game, that’s exactly how the game progressed. Through that time, the Panthers would win because they would have more offense left. For the first 25 minutes of the game, that’s exactly how the game progressed. Through that time, the Panthers would win because they would have more offense left. For the first 25 minutes of the game, that’s exactly how the game progressed. Through that time, the Panthers would win because they would have more offense left. For the first 25 minutes of the game, that’s exactly how the game progressed. Through that time, the Panthers would win because they would have more offense left. For the first 25 minutes of the game, that’s exactly how the game progressed. Through that time, the Panthers would win because they would have more offense left.

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