

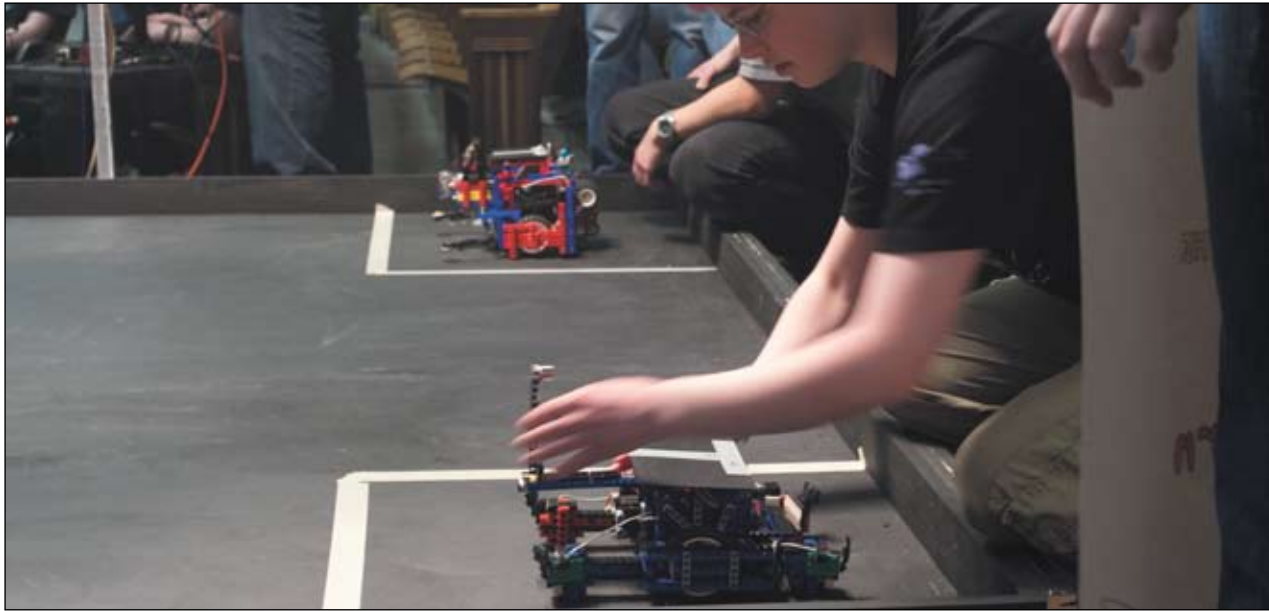
MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



WEATHER, p. 3

TUES: 32F | 22F
Chilly, light wind
WED: 30F | 20F
Chance snow
THU: 30F | 15F
Sunny, but chilly

After IAP contests, eternal glory



FENG WU—THE TECH

Team 9 wins annual Maslab competition

By Robert McQueen
NEWS EDITOR

Last Friday, robot enthusiasts flocked to 26-100 to watch Maslab, one of MIT's most popular IAP student competitions. This year, ten teams took to the playing field, building and programming robots to autonomously identify red and yellow balls and scoring them into their respective goals. The champion this year was Team 9, made up of Geza Kovacs '12, Daniel J. Stallworth '11, Raqeebul I. Ketan '11, Jeremy M. Martin '10, and Chukwuka C. Mbagwu '11.

At the beginning of the month, teams were given a basic kit consisting of an EeePC, uORC board, camera, gyroscope, and other materials necessary to build a mobile robot. The Maslab staff hosted mock competitions and labs, but oth-

Maslab, Page 9

'Backdoor Bandit' Nabs Most Mice in 6.270 Autonomous Robot Design Competition

By Ana Lyons
NEWS EDITOR

They're not furry, they're not friendly, but perhaps they're housebroken.

In this year's 6.270 Autonomous Robot Competition, robots — or rather, "space cats" — raced each other to catch the most "mice" and win the grand prize: Dell notebooks for their human masters and all the "space catnip" they could want.

Nathan C. Villagaray-Carski '13, William D. Drevo '13, and Robert A. Webber '13, calling themselves team "East Coast Dolphins," won first place with their robot "Backdoor Bandit."

According to the course website, each team is given the same kit containing various sensors, electronic components, batteries, motors, and LEGOs and has three

6.270, Page 9

"Iron Nerd" captures 6.470 prize

Daniel A. Whitlow '10 and Jong-Moon Kim '09 took home the \$4,000 first-place prize in the 6.470 Web Programming Competition for their site to help users network with fellow exercisers.

Details, page 9

"My Archon Died Bellamfording the Stream" Beats Prof. Mordemort

By Jiyeon Baek

"Some of you may remember me. All of you *should* remember me. I am Professor Mordemort, Evil Lord of the Robots."

In an e-mail sent out to campus, the fictitious Professor-Who-Probably-Should-Not-Be-Named announced to students the commencement

of the iconic 6.370 BattleCode competition, which took place last Saturday in Kresge at 7 p.m.

Out of about 400 competing teams and 1,400 participants, team "My Archon Died Bellamfording the Stream" walked away with the first place title and \$5,000 from this year's 6.370 BattleCode competition,

BattleCode, Page 9

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

D-Lab goes to Ecuador

Students help locals using local solutions

By Jingyun Fan
STAFF REPORTER

In orientation for my trip to Ecuador for D-Lab, an introductory international development class, we were told to pack mirrors — so that we could make candlelight brighter. Wait, I thought. There wouldn't be electricity?

As it turned out, I didn't ever need to pull out my mirror, and in many ways, and the communities we visited in Ecuador were less rustic than I had expected. But there wasn't too much time for comparing and contrasting. We kept busy building a drip irrigation system and setting up new lines of communication between urban and rural medical clinics. Our backdrops were beautiful: the Andes

D-Lab, Page 10



JINGYUN FAN—THE TECH

Members of Atapo Quichalan demonstrate the drip irrigation system to nearby communities in the Andes mountains on Jan. 24. The system was developed in a joint effort by members of MIT's D-Lab and members of Atapo Quichalan.

IN MEMORY OF Howard Johnson

Former MIT President Howard Wesley Johnson, who drew upon his management acumen to guide the Institute during the tumultuous late 1960s, died Saturday December 12, 2009. He was 87.

Johnson, who also served as chair of the MIT Corporation, became the 12th president of MIT in 1966 after serving seven years as dean of the Sloan School of Management.

"Howard Johnson's combination of buoyant optimism, extraordinary integrity and deep wisdom enabled him to steer a course well beyond the daily fray. Drawing on these remarkable qualities, he guided MIT through its most turbulent chapter," said MIT



MIT NEWS OFFICE

Johnson, Page 10

Tech debuts new look

By Jeff Guo
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Today you see a transformed Tech.

For 129 years, The Tech has provided news and entertainment for MIT students, faculty, staff, alumni and family members. Our commitment to serving the community means we must stay relevant as the Institute and world changes. Today you see one of the results: We have updated our look to be more legible and reader-friendly, incorporat-

ing the best features of modern newspaper design. The changes we have made are countless, but I am excited to share with you these highlights:

- Page layouts are more open. Stories get more space, with bigger photos and more sidebars.
- On the front page, brand new boxes at the bottom will guide you to the most interesting stories in the issue.
- To make thumbing through the paper easier, we have moved our section labels to

Redesign, Page 9

IN SHORT

Students should turn in signed registration forms by Friday to the Student Services Center (11-120). Late forms incur a \$40 fee.

The APO book exchange will be selling textbooks in the Mezzanine Lounge of the Student Center (W20-307) from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. all this week. Books can still be dropped off for sale at the exchange.

Alumnus and Nobel Prize laureate Paul Krugman PhD '77 will be discussing the credit crisis on Friday at 4:15 p.m. in 32-123. <http://web.mit.edu/uea/www>.

First tweet from space! Flight Engineer T.J. Creamer, or "@Astro_TJ," greeted Space Station followers via Twitter for the first time last Saturday.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

SHOULD FROSH LIVE OFF CAMPUS?

They should live where their community is, and for some, that's their FSILG. **OPN, p. 4**

VARIOUS STATES OF UNDRRESS

The Tech's new sex columnist laments an unfinished job. **CL, p. 6**

SEX TOYS FOR TWO

We review body paint, the We Vibe and a weird spherical plaything. **CL, p. 6**



WE'RE GIVING AWAY SEX TOYS

Just tell us why you deserve one. **CL, p. 7**

AFGHANISTAN NOW, THEN WHAT?

Gen. McChrystal says we should mend failed states. But there are tons of those. **OPN, p. 5**

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Protecting Haiti while protecting its 'orphans'

By Ginger Thompson
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI — "God wanted us to come here to help children, we are convinced of that," Laura Silsby, one of 10 Americans accused of trafficking Haitian children, said Monday through the bars of a jail cell here. "Our hearts were in the right place."

Whatever their intentions, the Americans who were detained at the Dominican border with 33 children struck a deep emotional chord in this earthquake-damaged country.

Even as Haiti's crippled government asserted itself in the name of defending the nation's children, officials made it clear that more was at stake. In the wake of the worst natural disaster in Haiti's history, authorities have opened the country to a flood of international assistance, some of it coming uncomfortably close to infringing on national sovereignty.

The 10 Americans, authorities said, crossed the line.

Prime Minister Jean-Max Belleville angrily denounced the Americans as "kidnappers" who "knew what they were doing was wrong." Justice Minister Paul Denis said, "We may be weakened, but without laws the Haitian state would cease to exist."

And the chief of the National Judicial Police, Frantz Thermilus, said, "What surprises me is that these people would never do something like this in their own country. We must make clear they

cannot do such things in ours."

The Americans, Baptists affiliated with a church in Meridian, Idaho, said they were trying to rescue orphans from the earthquake and take them to an orphanage in the Dominican Republic. But even that noble intent began to fall apart under scrutiny on Monday as questions were raised about whether the children were indeed orphans.

Silsby said that a Haitian pastor in Port-au-Prince, Jean Sanbil of the Sharing Jesus Ministries, had brought them the children, whose ages ranged from 2 months to 12 years.

While she acknowledged that the group not have documentation that the children were orphans or permission to remove them from the country, she told reporters on Saturday, after they had been arrested, that they had planned to return to the capital to complete the paperwork.

On Monday, Silsby said that in the midst of the crisis they did not think they needed the documents. She said the group did not intend to offer the children for adoption. "We intended to raise those children and be with them their entire lives, if necessary," she said.

Wearing pedal pushers, sandals and a top printed with palm trees, she recalled the rambunctious twin boys and the two skinny sisters placed in her care. "These kind of children are sold across the border for the price of a chicken," she said. "We wanted to give them lives of joy and dignity in God's love."

With eye on its reputation, Toyota issues repair for pedal

DETROIT — Toyota, struggling to eliminate questions surrounding millions of its vehicles, announced a repair on Monday to stop gas pedals from possibly sticking and causing cars to speed up unexpectedly.

The solution involves installing a steel reinforcement bar in the pedal assemblies of 2.3 million vehicles in the United States. Toyota has said it will provide replacement pedals to more than 5 million buyers whose cars were recalled over floor mats that could jam the accelerator.

The company said last fall that floor mats were the lone cause of the problem — only to add in January that pedal assemblies could cause accelerators to stick.

Now, the company is trying to assure owners and car shoppers that the matter is settled and to restore its credibility, which has been shaken more than in past recalls.

"If they've got it, great," said Edwin M. Baum, head of the product and consumer litigation practice at Proskauer Rose in Manhattan. "If they haven't got it, they have even bigger problems. Nobody knows right now."

—Micheline Maynard, The New York Times

Where fear still rules, speaking freely makes a comeback

BAGHDAD — At the end of a week that included two spectacular bomb attacks, Ali al-Nijar left his home to talk about poetry. Al-Nijar, a retired professor of agriculture, was squeezed in among 60 others at a weekly literary salon on Baghdad's Mutanabi Street, one of about a dozen salons that have sprung up around the city in the last two years as violence has dropped.

For centuries salons were a vital part of Iraqi intellectual life, places where people of different classes or sects met to discuss culture, literature or ideas. At one time Baghdad had more than 200 salons, about a quarter of them run by Jews, said Tariq Harb, a lawyer who is a regular at several salons and hosts his own.

But during Saddam Hussein's presidency, the salons dwindled away or went underground, as people objected to government control or feared the presence of government spies. In the sectarian violence that followed the 2003 invasion, people were often afraid to meet in public.

Safia al-Souhail started her salon in April, after a level of peace had come to the city. It meets one afternoon a month at her home and ends after dark, which would have been unthinkable during the height of sectarian violence.

—John Leland, The New York Times

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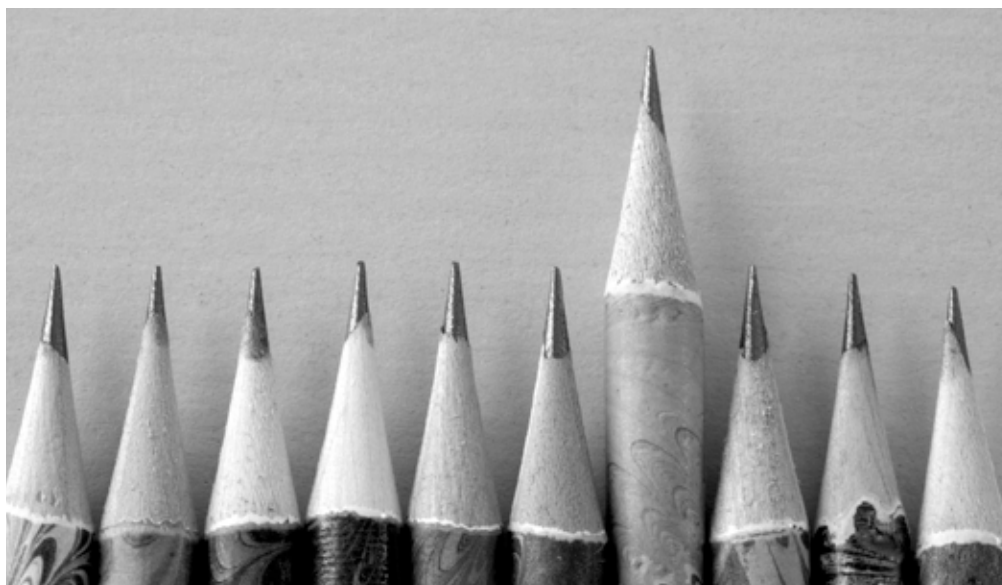


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The Burchard Scholars Program brings together distinguished members of the faculty and promising sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated excellence in some aspect of the humanities, arts, and social sciences. The Burchard Program format is a series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

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EDITOR'S NOTE

A headline last Wednesday, "Sex Changes Just Got Easier!" was offensive as well as technically inaccurate. The headline has been changed to "MIT Reduces Paperwork for Gender Changes" on our website.

Headlines are not written by the bylined authors of articles, but by The Tech's News Editors. We did not intend to offend or make light of the difficulties associated with sex and gender

transitions.

We apologize. "Sex" refers to the physical characteristics of a body, but "gender" refers to a personal sense of identity. MIT's policy changes had no effect on the ease of a sex reassignment, merely on the administrative difficulties of recording a gender change.

Sex reassignment and gender change are processes which are never "easy," and to state that one got "easier" because of an administrative change diminishes the difficulty of the process.

— *The Volume 129 News Editors*

CORRECTIONS

An article last Wednesday on MIT's Solar Electric Vehicle Team gave the wrong year for Robert Pilawa. He is a current graduate student and completed his undergraduate degree in 2005, not 2006.

An article on January 20 about the use of Ritalin at MIT rendered incorrectly a quotation from Kristine A. Girard '86, Chief Associate of Mental Health at MIT Medical. Referring to their high-school experience, she said that students with inattention symptoms "may have been overlooked because the work isn't so demanding and they really didn't have to pay attention," not that

they "were overlooked" and "they didn't have to pay attention." Referring to the MIT experience of such overlooked students, she said they "are not able to take in information in lecture," not that they may "not be able to."

The January 27 gender change article (see note) also incorrectly claimed the Registrar's Office modeled its policy on that of the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles. While the RMV's policies inspired those who lobbied the Registrar for the change, the Registrar did not base MIT's policy on the RMV's policy.

A back-page photo of women's soccer on October 20, 2009 misidentified the MIT player in the center of the photo. She is Jean E. "Liz" Theurer '09, not Erica C. Granger '10.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Picower money is too dirty to accept

When MIT is offered millions of dollars, I suspect there's strong pressure to just say "thank you" and not look too closely from whence the money comes. The new Brain and Cognitive Sciences building at Main and Vassar Streets was in part funded by a 50 million dollar gift from Jeffrey and Barbara Picower. Jeffrey Picower recently died, and according to his Will, MIT is probably going to be offered an additional 25 million dollars of Picower money sometime in the next 12 months.

MIT should reject this money. The collapse of the Madoff ponzi has laid bare how Jeffrey Picower got to be so rich, and it's not pretty. The Picowers' money is too dirty to accept.

The court appointed Madoff Trustee (Irving Picard) is suing the Picowers for return of 7.2 billion and has made public in court a detailed and convincing case that Jeffrey Picower and his wife Barbara, who ran

the Picower Foundation that funded the Picower Institute of Learning and Memory at MIT, were active participants in fraud with Madoff. The Trustee found the Picowers' Madoff accounts riddled with blatant and obvious fraud (backdating, phony tax loss statements, and unrealistic returns), and he argues that they knew their investments with Madoff were a sham.

I did my own analysis of the Picower Foundation stock portfolios (contained in IRS 990 filings) and found a pattern of (statistically) impossible short terms investment gains. Madoff shoveled out billions to the Picowers, far more money than to anyone else, constituting about 90 percent of Jeffrey Picower's wealth, 35 times more money than to Madoff's immediate family. It just doesn't pass the smell test. Before his death, Jeffrey Picower had his chance to rebut the Trustee's allegations in his own court filing. I've read it and find it vague and unconvincing.

Over the last six months I have laid out to MIT in a series of emails the case that in accepting what amounts to stolen money from the Picowers, not to mention honoring them by naming buildings, labs, and profes-

sorships after them, MIT risks damaging its integrity. Say no to any additional Picower money, and start planning the erasure of their name and influence from MIT.

— *Donald Fulton '64*

Marching for life

On January 22, 2010, tens of thousands of people descended on the nation's capital with one message: end abortion, overturn Roe v. Wade. MIT Pro-Life organized a group that, together with students of Boston University, Northeastern, Emmanuel College, and Harvard, took to the streets of Washington D.C. demanding respect for life from the moment of conception to that of natural death.

The actual numbers from the March are hard to determine, but organizers estimated that more than 250,000 marchers attended. The MIT Pro-Life group can vouch for the size of the crowd: It took 40 minutes to start walking after the March had officially begun

Letters, Page 5

GUEST COLUMN

Give freshmen a choice

Residence choice is what makes MIT such an amazing place

By Brian Neltner

You may have seen a recent initiative which I helped publicize to allow freshmen to live in fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups during their second semester. The initiative quotes a variety of reasons why it is time to give second-semester freshmen the freedom to choose their own residence, and I encourage you to visit <http://fsilg-housing.org> to sign on and support the effort. However, this piece is not written by "us." This piece is written by me, because I want to explain why this proposal is so important, from my

particular point of view.

I am from the undergraduate class of 2005, the last class allowed to live off campus as freshmen. I did, and I can say, without the slightest bit of hesitation that my choice to do so was absolutely the most important decision I have made in my adult life. My experience in the MIT residence system is the reason I am the person I am today; a student nearing completion of a PhD in Materials Science, the instructor of the Shotokan Karate club, and an incredibly lucky guy with an amazing group of friends ranging from current freshmen to alumni from the 60's.

My fraternity offered me the opportunity to learn life skills that would have been impossible for me to gain in a dorm at a

typical university. Even now, I find that the majority of my social network is made up of people I met through Tau Epsilon Phi (tEP) — and I don't think that this experience is at all unique. That strong sense of residential community is exactly what makes MIT such a consistently amazing place.

But this experience is not unique to me, and it's not even unique to FSILG members. French House, McCormick, Tetazoo, and every other living group has a unique culture, and I feel so happy for the undergraduates who have found a community where they can live and be successful. What really upsets me is that freshmen who have decided that they want their support group to

Choice, Page 5

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Steve Howland, Editor in Chief Jeff Guo, Managing Editor David M. Templeton, Executive Editor Natasha Plotkin, and Opinion Editors Joseph Maurer and Ethan Solomon.

Dissents are the signed opinions of editorial board members 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 should be sent to letters@tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should 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, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense let-

ters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on *The Tech's* Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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The Tech's 2010 Sex Toy Giveaway

You've read the reviews. Now we want to spread the love. Tell us why you deserve a sex toy!

Another sad, single Valentine's day? Not this year! This year, *The Tech* is here to ease your loneliness...with sex toys and lube! (What did you expect?) If you'd like to win one, write in to cl@tech.mit.edu with "Sex Toy Giveaway" in the subject line, and tell us why you deserve

a particular item. Unrequited love? An incompetent partner? An inconvenient mole? Share your pain.

We'll print the winners (with the name redacted, of course). Prizes will be announced on Friday, Feb. 12. We will only accept entries from MIT e-mail accounts.

For Women:

- Tantus Echo Vibrator (Midnight Purple) (\$59.99)
- Big Teaze, Flower Power Keychain, keychain (\$14.49)
- Big Teaze, I Rub my Duckie, travel-sized, Paris noir (\$18.99)
- Big Teaze, I rub my penguin, 3 speed (\$25.99)

- Big Teaze, I rub my wormie (\$32.99)
- Big Teaze, I rub my fishie, travel, black and yellow fire print (\$19.99)
- OhMiBod, Club Vibe (\$49)

For Men:

- Gun Oil, Jack Jelly (\$8.65)
- Gun Oil, Stroke 29 (\$14)

For Everyone:

- Hathor Aphrodisia, Vegan Lube, Plain (\$18)
- Hathor Aphrodisia, Vegan Chocolate Strawberry (\$22)
- Big Teaze, Condom case, 2, one in red, the other pink (\$15.99 *2)
- We-Vibe, 1st generation (\$85)



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Jack Jelly and Stroke 29 lubes from Gun Oil. Take care of yourself.



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

I Rub My Duckie by Big Teaze. Waterproof. For bathtime.



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Echo Vibrator from Tantus. Screwy.



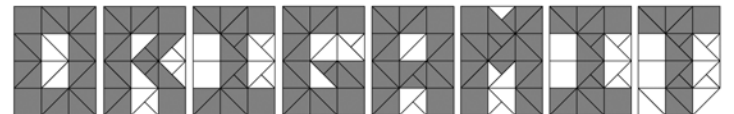
DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

Condom Cases by Big Teaze. You can also put moist towelettes in there.



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH

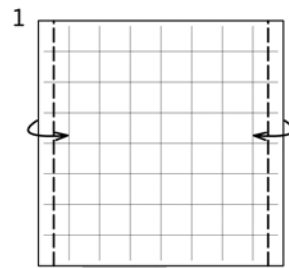
I Rub My Penguin, Fishie, and Wormie and **Flower Power** keychain, all by Big Teaze. Not only are these vibrators disgustingly cute, it's also extremely unclear which end you're supposed to use.



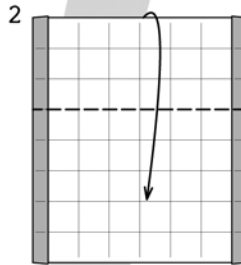
9th Annual Student Origami Competition

Submissions due:

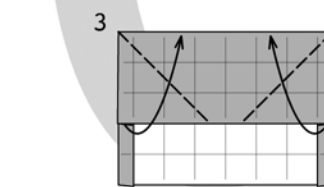
Friday, Feb. 19th
Room W20-477
5pm-7pm



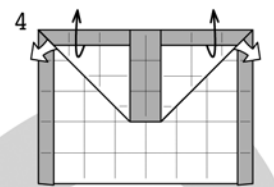
1
 Begin with an 8x8 grid. White side up. Valley-fold.



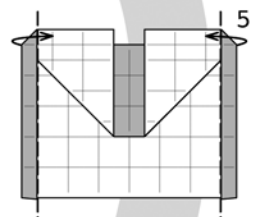
2
 Valley-fold.



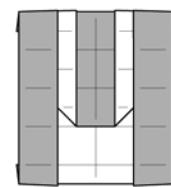
3
 Valley-fold.



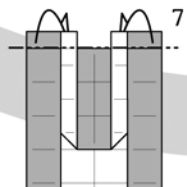
4
 Fold up while releasing paper from the corners.



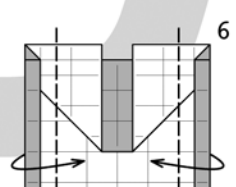
5
 Valley-fold.



6
 'M' finished! Come to OrigamiT to learn 'I' & 'T'



7
 Mountain-fold.



8
 Valley-fold.



origami-info@mit.edu
<http://web.mit.edu/origamit/>

'Iron Nerd' wins website contest with social gym app

By Ana Lyons
NEWS EDITOR

In the end, it all worked out for Daniel A. Whitlow '10 and Jong-Moon Kim '09. Last Thursday, the team won first place, and \$4,000 in the third annual 6.470 Web Programming Competition. Their social networking site, "Iron Nerd," lets users exercise with their friends.

The challenge for this year's competition was to build a publicly available interactive web application that related to the topics of food, health or sports. Submissions were required to store and display data from a database and integrate third party data or a data visualization. Projects were judged for their usability, functionality, originality, and aesthetics.

6.470 participants received six units of credit for finishing the month-long course. They also competed for a share of the \$30,000 prize money.

Whitlow and Kim's winning design lets users to check in remotely to their local gym, find workout friends, and do an optimal workout as part of a multi-platform social

network which will soon include an iPhone application, the team say.

"One of the big parts about getting fit is getting the motivation to workout everyday. Iron Nerd keeps track of which days you have worked out and which days you have skipped, posting it as part of your profile," Kim said. "Social motivation, we figure, can be a powerful ally in getting you out of bed and over to the gym in the morning."

Whitlow and Kim came in third in the 2009 competition. Whitlow said they decided to collaborate again about a week into the competition.

Even though the competition has now ended, Whitlow says that they are still polishing their website.

"Just last night I added a graph function that lets you track progress for different exercises" along with "more impressive visualizations that show which exercises target which muscles," he said.

Kim also mentioned that a companion iPhone application is near completion. "It will include a few hidden feature surprises we are incredibly excited about," he said.

Article tags, new fonts improve readability

Redesign, from Page 1

the outside edges of the page. You will be able to flip directly to the section you want to read.

- To make skimming easier, article tags above headlines will signal special types of articles: features, reporter's notebooks, guest columns, and so on.
- The typeface for text has changed from Times New Roman to Utopia, a recent highly-readable design by Robert Slimbach.
- Headlines in Campus Life and Arts, photo captions, and entries in tables are now set in Univers, a sans-serif typeface designed

by Adrian Frutiger. Univers is used in situations where legibility is critical: on subway signs in San Francisco and Montreal; for graphics on CNN; on the keys of Apple laptops.

Today's changes herald greater improvements. Over the next couple of weeks you will see new features in every section as we ramp up our in-depth reporting, add new columns by some of the best writers on campus, and introduce new ways for you to interact with us.

As always, if you have comments or would like to talk to an editor, please contact us at general@tech.mit.edu

'Best dressed' Maslab robot has vacuum feed system

Maslab, from Page 1

erwise teams independently design and built their own robots.

"I didn't really know who I expected to win," said Eric M. Timmons '10, Maslab Program Director and previous participant. Compared to past years' robots, "the robots [this year] in general, improved," he said.

Even though Team 9 was outperformed by Team 10 in the mock competitions, Team 9 improved its motor design a couple of days before the competition by eschewing gears or chains for a direct drive mechanism to turn its wheels. The team also mounted a camera at the head of the robot, four short range infrared sensors on the sides, and a gyroscope within the robot itself. The gyroscope not only helped the robot drive straight, but also let it detect whether it was stuck.

"This last week [Team 9] was really persistent. They just kept working and working and working," said Timmons.

Some teams went beyond and ordered components that were not

provided by the staff: higher-voltage batteries, high-torque stepper motors, even a car vacuum. The Maslab staff gave the "Best Design" award to Team 1, a.k.a. "Team Mess."

Team 1's robot, named "Biscotti Reflections," was completely laser-cut out of acrylic and featured a omni-wheel drive system, allowing it to translate in an direction. The staff also acknowledged its software design and state machine implementation as beautifully done.

At the final competition, however, "Biscotti Reflections" experienced a USB-hub failure on its EeePC, crippling its optical mouse and visual sensory systems. "Things happen that you really can't plan for — you can't expect," said Timmons.

The award for "Best Dressed," which was decided by popular vote among those who attended the pre-final open house, was given to Team 2. The winning team's robot exhibited a vacuum feed system to pick up balls as well as a telescoping camera platform, which was used to map the entire playing field at the beginning of its run.

Winning BattleCode team used offensive strategy to beat Prof.

BattleCode, from Page 1

defeating all other teams and the evil "Professor Mordemort."

The winning team was composed of Steven P. Bartel '10, David Chen '10, Curtis B. Liu '10, and Spenser J. Skates '10. Bartel and Skates were also on last year's winning team, "gtg ice skating lessons."

In BattleCode, teams of one-to-four students program virtual robot armies each other to battle in a real-time strategy game. This year, teams were also required to mine "flux" from the ground and construct buildings to gain points.

Sponsors offer nearly \$40,000 in prizes, according to the event's website.

After defeating the other top seven teams, the team "My Archon

Died Bellamfording the Stream" competed against "Professor Moldemort," who appeared in the competition two years ago. Andrew Sugaya '11, one of the organizers for 6.370, commented that the competition was much more interesting due to the use of the "Professor Moldemort" theme, saying "I think we will definitely be using Professor Moldemort more next year."

The winning team focused on combat instead of collecting resources, Skates said. In that vein, "Identifying enemy strategies [and forming] specific ways of countering the enemy" were vital, added Bartel.

Want to win BattleCode? "Don't be afraid to ask previous year's top teams for help," Skates said.

Victorious 6.270 robot dominated with aesthetic 'majesty'

6.270, from Page 1

weeks to transform these parts into a working robot.

Keeping in part with this year's theme, the constructed robots, or "Space Cats," faced off in one-to-one duels to determine who could catch the most "mice" in the 8'x8' arena.

Backyard Bandit's slightly sneaky shenanigans won it the prize, its human masters said.

"I think our versatility allowed us to overcome new problems that none of the teams had really prepared for," said Webber. "For instance we had never really fought another team for a mouse before but since our robot only needed to get near a mouse to grab it, rather than the prevailing method of making it follow a magnet onto a platform, we were able to avoid problems of fighting other teams for mice."

"Backdoor Bandit" looked the part too. "GET SOME" was emblazoned on its exterior, along a (likely ironic) smiley face. Its appearance "effectively forc[ed] all other robots to bow before [its] majesty," said Villagaray-Carski.

At first, the robot also sported an automated candy dispenser, but that was removed, Webber said. "It was against the rules to lure mice with candy," he joked.

Winning first in the competition "was exhilarating and victory tasted like the sweet, sweet nectar of the gods," Villagaray-Carski said.

"I felt like what we did that night would echo in eternity," Weber said.

Lions, tigers, and penguins, oh my.



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Solution to Crossword

from page @@@

N	I	P	S	E	P	A	L	S	M	A	A	M
A	L	E	O	R	A	N	G	E	A	R	I	A
V	I	A	M	A	R	K	E	T	A	L	E	R
Y	E	S	E	S	T	A	B	R	E	A	S	T
			H	A	R	E	T	A	O	S		
F	O	O	L	S	R	U	S	H	I	N	C	T
R	H	O	D	E	N	O	E	L	F	O	R	E
E	A	T	A	T	S	L	Y	M	U	R	A	L
E	R	E	S	S	E	A	R	A	N	N	I	E
D	A	R	W	H	E	R	E	A	N	G	E	L
			P	A	I	N	M	A	I	D		
O	B	T	A	I	N	A	T	I	T	B	I	L
F	E	A	R	T	O	T	R	A	D	E	E	R
F	A	R	E	L	A	O	T	S	E	M	U	
S	U	P	S	A	U	D	I	T	S	F	A	D

Solution to Sudoku

from page @@@

2	8	3	5	7	4	1	6	9
6	4	7	9	8	1	3	2	5
5	1	9	2	6	3	8	4	7
8	2	5	7	3	9	4	1	6
9	6	4	1	2	5	7	3	8
7	3	1	8	4	6	5	9	2
3	9	6	4	5	8	2	7	1
1	5	2	3	9	7	6	8	4
4	7	8	6	1	2	9	5	3

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Please see our hiring web page

<http://ist.mit.edu/support/servicedesk/hiring>

MIT Information Services and Technology <http://ist.mit.edu/>



Former MIT president remembered for integrity

Johnson, from Page 1

President Susan Hockfield. "He continued to serve the Institute as a loyal friend and advisor all his life, and I was a most fortunate beneficiary. MIT is extraordinarily lucky to have had the benefit of his leadership and his devotion."

At the Institute's helm from 1966 until 1971, a tumultuous period for universities around the nation, Johnson gained respect for listening to all sides and for combining progressive views on issues such as Vietnam and the environment with expertise in management. Johnson described those times in his book, *Holding the Center: Memoirs of a Life in Higher Education*, published in 1999.

"Students have told me, and I agree with them, that they found the institute to be academically vibrant during that time despite the uproar," he wrote. "Much that was positive emerged from the upheaval, and, as in the aftermath of every revolution, it is important to build upon the good results and minimize the damage. That is what we tried to do at MIT, sometimes with success."

Kathryn Willmore, former vice president and secretary of the Corporation, described working with

Johnson an "extraordinary experience."

"He was a humanist in the broadest sense of the word, appreciating and fostering the many disciplines that give richness and meaning to an education and to a life," Willmore said. "Calm in the midst of the storm, unfailingly good humored, with a sparkling wit and intelligence, he had a keen sense of what to do in virtually any difficult situation - no matter how big or small. In the midst of the most serious campus confrontations in the late sixties, including the takeover of his office, he refused to act with force, choosing to rely on patience and discussion instead. And it worked."

MIT President Emeritus Paul Gray said, "Johnson's great contributions could not have been done by his predecessor or his successor. He kept the Institute from flying apart when there was so much concern, so much noisy demonstration and so much division on the point of view of how the Institute should respond to claims it was helping the war effort."

"It was an enormous contribution that he made, and in my view, it has made all the difference to MIT in the years since because there was no fracture in the faculty or linger-

ing resentment in the way things were handled," Gray said.

That Johnson knew many members of the faculty was a great help, but it was his ability to be a good listener that made Johnson a true leader, according to Gray.

"He had this touch at just the right moment with a little humor that took the tension out of things," Gray recalled. "Not everyone had it. I certainly didn't have it, and that

Johnson "kept the Institute from flying apart..."

— Paul Gray

right touch was part of his personality and management style."

Gray recalled a number of long-lasting changes that were accomplished during Johnson's administration, including the creation of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) and the Independent Activities Period (IAP). The change from full-letter grades to pass-no credit for freshmen was also introduced during his administration.

Johnson oversaw such major initiatives as the opening of several new residence halls (Eastgate in 1967, Random Hall and the east wing of McCormick Hall in 1968 and MacGregor House in 1970). MIT faculty members also received Nobel Prizes in three consecutive years during his tenure: Har Gobind Khorana in 1968, Salvador E. Luria in 1969 and Paul A. Samuelson in 1970.

He said of his presidency upon resigning, "They have been the best years of my life. They have been years of strength for MIT as well."

He went on to serve as chair of the MIT Corporation from 1971 to 1983 and served on numerous governmental panels and as a trustee or director of such institutions as the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Radcliffe College, the Museum of Fine Arts and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He was a Corporation Life Member Emeritus since 1997.

"Howard Johnson was a man we all thought was ageless," said MIT President Emeritus Charles M. Vest. "I frequently sought Howard's counsel, and always found him to be calm, thoughtful and incisive. He was an active participant in MIT Corporation meetings during my presidency. He brought to the Corporation a precise and important

'corporate memory,' yet was very much on top of issues of the day."

Born to a Scandinavian family in Chicago in 1922, Johnson received his BA from Central College in Chicago in 1943 and his MA from the University of Chicago in 1947. He was on the faculty of the University of Chicago from 1948 to 1955, when he came to MIT as associate professor of management and director of the Sloan Fellowship Program. He became professor and dean of the Sloan School of Management in 1959, serving until 1966.

His public service includes membership on the National Commission on Productivity, the National Manpower Advisory Committee, the (U.S.) President's Advisory Committee on Labor-Management Policy, and the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Johnson is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Weed) Johnson, and three children: Stephen Johnson, of Medford, Mass.; Laura Johnson, of Concord, Mass.; and Bruce Johnson, of Mendocino, Calif. He is also survived by three grandchildren: Luke Johnson Rogers, James Lion Johnson and Oliver Lion Johnson.

— MIT NEWS OFFICE

Need for irrigation inspires D-Lab Ecuador

D-Lab, from Page 1

Mountains, and once, an active volcano.

Doing development work is a humbling experience. In Santo Domingo, we visited a school with a small campus for special needs students. All of us were silent after touring the dirty classrooms, where one teacher was in charge of around 20 students of all ages and diseases ranging from Down's syndrome to cerebral palsy. In contrast, the special needs program in my high school in Michigan had two teachers for its five students.

In the classroom, paint was peeling on the walls, water leaked out from the bathroom into the classroom, and some of the desks and chairs were broken. The physical therapy room contained expensive-looking equipment that seemed out of place. However, the equipment

went mostly unused: the finger exercise kits were too large and stiff for children; the water therapy machine was missing a water heater and was simply sitting in a corner taking up space. We guessed that the donations had come from well-

We spotted women with beautiful woven purses and were admiring them when we saw a strange sight...

meaning donors who had not fully considered the needs of the recipients.

Without the experience or resources necessary to help these children, we felt helpless and frus-

trated.

In some other places, though, we were able to help. In Atapo Quichalan, we faced a challenge: we had given away our pre-made drip irrigation system to another community we had visited earlier and needed to make a new one. But the challenge turned out to be one of our best opportunities to apply the principles of development we had learned about: we designed a new system in conjunction with the local community using locally available materials. After all, they know their own culture and resources better than any of us.

For the drip irrigation system to work, we needed to create holes in the tube that permitted a slow but constant drip. After experimenting with different ways to cut holes in the tubing, a villager tried to slow the water's flow by plugging up some holes with sticks. We then im-

proved on this idea by plugging the holes up with cloth wicks, which used capillary action to slowly release the water.

However, the capillary action proved excessive, so a villager suggested putting the cloth wick inside "sitsi," a hollow reed-like plant that grew in the mountains, so that the drip could be focused on a single point instead of on the entire surface of the cloth wick. It took us a day to experiment and come up with this final design for a drip irrigation system; everyone was very excited about the design.

The villagers resolved to install this prototype in one of their alfalfa fields and monitor its efficacy. The next day, we were invited to a "community gathering" in Santa Cruz where many communities in the area discussed building a new canal.

On the day of the community meeting, we arrived early in Santa

Cruz. We spotted some women with beautiful woven purses and were admiring them when we saw a strange sight: an entourage of around twenty men in traditional ponchos and fedoras were marching up the mountain road carrying an assemblage of strange contraptions: long drip-irrigation tubing with cloth wicks waving in the wind, white PVC for the rainwater collection system, and a greenhouse constructed out of soda bottles.

Eventually, around 300 people gathered to form a giant circle around the villagers from Atapo Quichalan as they proudly explained the designs in Quichua, the indigenous language.

It was the people we met who made our trip unforgettable. María Marta Cotacachi Morales, an artisan in one of the Andean communities we visited, let us visit her home to see the mechanical loom with which she made her crafts. Her attire matched her trade beautifully. She dressed in a traditional white embroidered blouse with flared lace sleeve, a long black skirt, a multicolored woven belt, and lengths upon lengths of gold beads around her neck. She shyly told us that because of competition from mass manufacturers in Colombia, Peru, and even China, she and other traditional Otavaleña artisans did not have a market for their more expensive products.

We left with the crazy idea of having her make iPod cozies patterned with space invaders to sell in the D-Lab craft fair. One of the students in my group, Jessica C. Agatstein '12 stayed longer in María's community than the rest of us to work on finishing the project. Our idea gradually morphed into a plan to find Marta a sustainable market so that she would be able to send her kids beyond primary school.

After visiting another community, the rest of my group returned to meet Jessica. When we left, Marta was hugging Jessica and weeping into her shoulder. "Thank you so much for coming and working with us," her husband said. "You are the first people to step foot in our house. We've had other people try and work on projects in the community, but you are the first people to step into our home and see how we live. And we don't know if it's God or someone else blessing us, but we really want to work with you, and we hope that this works out because we really appreciate what you've done."

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SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball	
Wednesday, 1/27	
at U.S. Coast Guard Academy	W 78-58
Saturday, 1/30	
at Worcester Polytechnic Institute	W 74-66
Women's Basketball	
Wednesday, 1/27	
at U.S. Coast Guard Academy	W 62-48
Saturday, 1/30	
at Springfield College	L 72-54
Men's Fencing	
Saturday, 1/30	
vs. U.S. Air Force Academy	L 19-8
vs. Haverford College	L 17-10
vs. New York University	L 18-9
vs. Hunter College	W 18-9
vs. University of Pennsylvania	L 20-7
Women's Fencing	
Saturday, 1/30	
vs. U.S. Air Force Academy	W 15-12
vs. Haverford College	W 24-3
vs. New York University	W 14-13
vs. Hunter College	W 20-7
vs. University of Pennsylvania	L 15-12
Men's Volleyball	
Friday, 1/29	
at Southern Vermont College	W 3-0
Men's Swim and Dive	
Saturday, 1/30	
vs. Amherst College	W 174-124
Women's Swim and Dive	
Saturday, 1/30	
vs. Amherst College	L 159-139
Men's Track and Field	
Saturday, 1/30	
vs. Bowdoin, Colby, Springfield, and Tufts	1st of 5
Women's Track and Field	
Saturday, 1/30	
vs. Bowdoin, Colby, Springfield, and Tufts	1st of 5



Shooting for success: Members of the rifle team (from left to right) Timothy R. Jenks '13, Christian A. Valledor '12, and Lionel F. Sotomayor '12 take aim during a competition on Friday at the MIT rifle range.

SEAN T. TANG—THE TECH

SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Wednesday, February 3

Men's Basketball vs. Babson College 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

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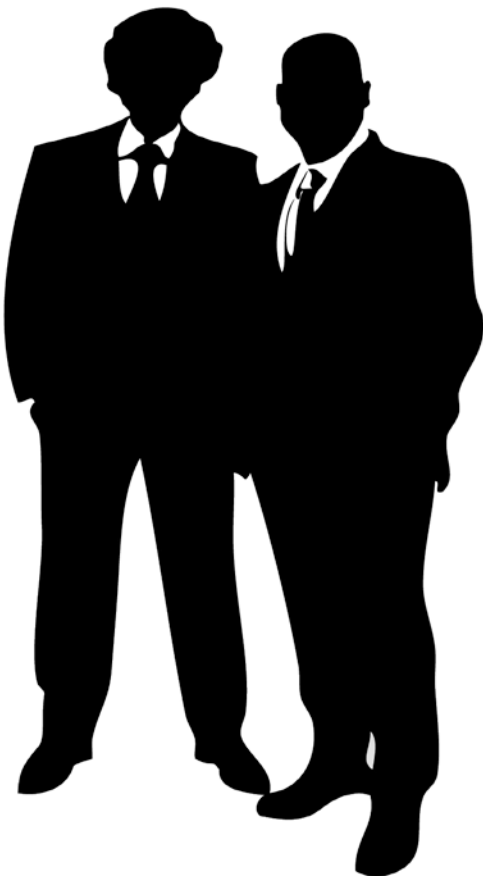
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Swimming finishes season undefeated

By Paul Blascovich
DAPER STAFF

On Saturday, the No. 5 MIT men's swimming and diving team battled the No. 16 Lord Jeffs of Amherst College in the Zesiger Center Pool. Amherst held the score close early in the meet, but MIT hit their stride and cruised to a 174-124 victory, locking up their second undefeated season in Institute history.

Before the start of the meet, five MIT seniors were recognized for their dedication and contributions to Tech's swimming and diving program.

Luke R. Cummings '10 and Jeffrey Y. Zhou '10 had a stellar day in their final home meet. In the 50 Free, Cummings (20.71) and Zhou

(21.49) led a 1-2-3 sweep with teammate Wyatt L. Ubellacker '13 (21.79). To polish off their dual-meet career, each senior picked up another individual win - Cummings in the 100 Free (46.25) and Zhou in the 100 Fly (51.65).

In diving, Chao He '12 scored a win for MIT in 3-meter (166.85).

Brendan T. Deveney '13 came through big for MIT. After taking second in the 200 Free (1:45.69) behind Fraser and second in the 200 Back (1:56.72) behind teammate Brendan F. Liu '13 (1:54.18), Deveney picked up his only individual win in the 200 IM (1:57.85), securing the points that would seal the meet for the Engineers.

MIT ends the season with an 8-0 dual-meet record, tying last year for the best record in the Engineers' history.

MIT swims next at the Wheaton Invitational on February 6.

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