8.01 Students Compete in 'Shoot the Hoop Contest'

By Michael A. Sagnan

T he 24-Hour Hoop Contest was a special event attended by numerous students who have been working on their machines for over a month. In this contest, a small, hard ball has to be launched from a slingshot into a 14-inch hoop placed 2 feet above the surface of the ground. The machine must be placed 2 feet above the surface of the table. For some, this was a true blessing.

The judges awarded the first prize to Terrence L. Chang '96 for his design made of mechanical engineering. Ryan J. Bayla '96 won first place. He calls his device "pitching machine," because it has two wheels which spin in opposite directions. The ball is placed between the wheels in contact with both. Friction between the wheels and the ball propel the ball forward. Sissela S. Park '96 was the runner-up in this category.

Finally, the judges gave Marc J. Carlin '96 the award for best overall machine. Carlin made his device out of the MIT Hobby Shop. In addition to these awards, any student with a functional device earned extra credits in 8.01. For some, this was a true blessing.

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STUDENTS FLOOD READING ROOM

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close proximity of the SCC 24-Hour Coffeehouse, Lobdoll, LaVerde's, and the video games. "It is nice, and we don't have to hustle up to get food or take a walk," said one Tufts Medical student. "I come here because the coffee shop is open 24 hours. It's seriously key, there are other places I open past midnight, but then around 2 a.m., you have to move," Khangwala said.

MIT students don't seem to mind the invasion. Terrence L. Evans '95 didn't even know that some were reading room two or three times a week. "Rarely has the room been totally full, but it's been crowded enough so that it was loud," said Pierre N. J. S. G. It uses the reading room four to five times a week and always on weekends. The Tufts Medical students say that it's not normally loud in the reading room, but when it is loud, the MIT students are the ones talking. "It's not so bad. If it were, I would go somewhere else," said one student.

Sung said, "Especially at two in the morning on Friday night, there are more Tufts people here than MIT people. It's our second home."

The judges awarded Kiley L. L. Ackerhurst '96 the prize for best craftsmanship. "It's like a machine made by Leonardo Da Vinci!" Lewin exclaimed when he saw Ackerhurst's device, which was a pinball-type machine with knobs that could adjust the angle of launch and the initial velocity of the ball. The runner-up for craftsmanship was Keith G. Fele '96.

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