

SATURDAY ACADEMY

SAAM's Trip to Intel

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Intel...it is a word often heard when relating to computers and technology. We use computers everyday. They are constantly upgraded and new software programs are perpetually downloaded. This leaves you in the middle of a quickly expanding world. According to Gordon Moore, co-founder of Intel, "technological advancements will double every eighteen months." This law means that computer literacy is a constantly evolving science, whether you are ready or not.

On July 13, the scholars of Saturday Academy Applied Mathematics Summer Institute (SAAM) had the privilege of exploring some of Intel's most recent inventions. We learned of the expanding industry they developed making microprocessors in sanitized oxygen rooms. They also explained to us how the microprocessor chip is built on a small piece of silicon.

Have you ever breathed in and just smelled pollution in the air?

We learned that in an Intel clean room, that is never a problem. We discovered that to manufacture their microprocessors the atmosphere must be virtually one hundred per-

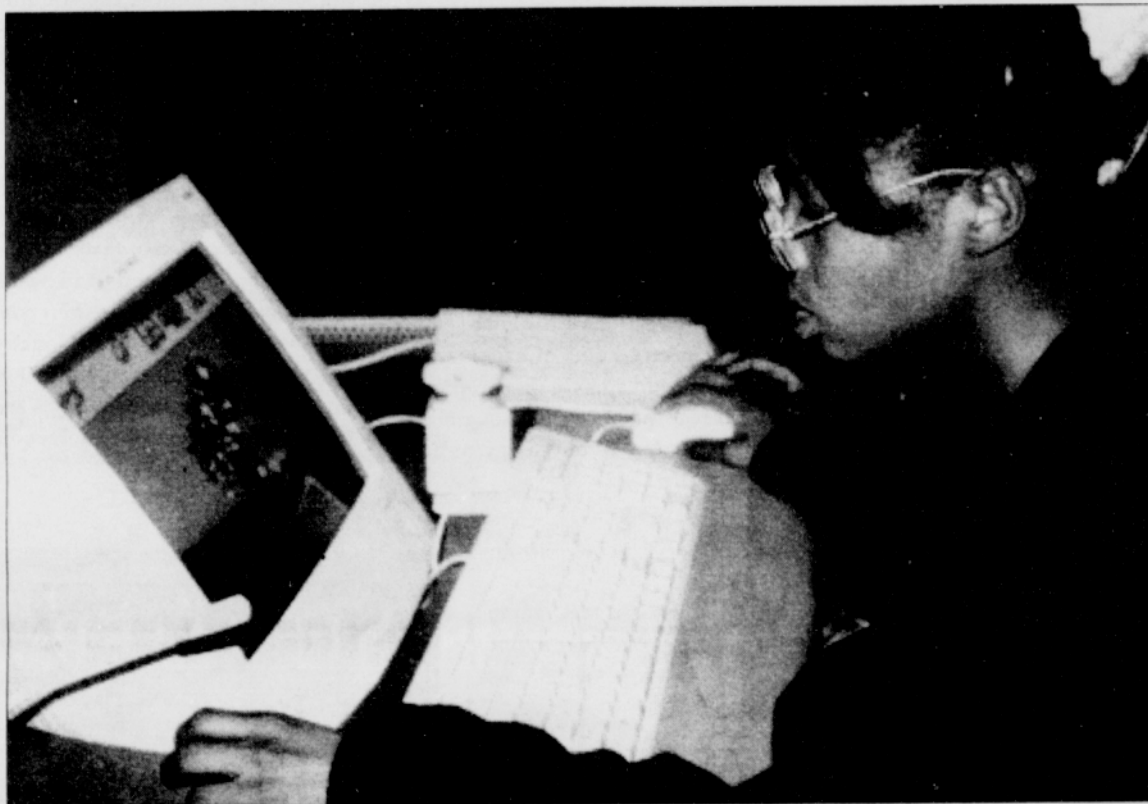
cent clean. When most of us hear clean, we think of a hospital. But did you know that their clean room is one thousand times cleaner than the average operating room? Hair

or flakes from our skin can damage a chip! All Intel employees that enter the clean room must be properly dressed for the environment. Employees put on what they call a

"bunny suit." Sanitized and covered from head to toe, they protect the chips and processors from the environment we live in.

Once we learned how they made microprocessor chips, we then discussed how they were used. Microchips have not been around that long, yet it would be difficult for us to imagine life without them. They are put into the appliances, digital watches, cars, radios, faxes, televisions, telephones - well, we could go on forever. Intel has a book that celebrates their 30th anniversary, One Digital Day. It is a wonderful "picture book" showing how microchips are part of every facet of our life and how they have changed our world - for the better!

As we sat in front of the computers looking around at our fellow students using the computers to move their Lego inventions and exploring the net, the notion of a fast moving technology became a reality. We could photograph ourselves, create a movie using the pictures and send it via e-mail in only a matter of minutes. Talk about fast! We can only begin to imagine how much the world will grow in the next ten years.



MOVIES THAT YOU WANT TO SEE

- 1 **RUNAWAY BRIDE**
Paramount
- 2 **THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT**
Artisan
- 3 **DEEP BLUE SEA**
Warner Bros.
- 4 **THE HAUNTING**
DreamWorks
- 5 **INSPECTOR GADGET**
Walt Disney
- 6 **AMERICAN PIE**
Universal
- 7 **EYES WIDE SHUT**
Warner Bros.
- 8 **BIG DADDY**
Columbia TriStar
- 9 **STAR WARS: EPISODE 1 - THE PHANTOM MENACE**
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