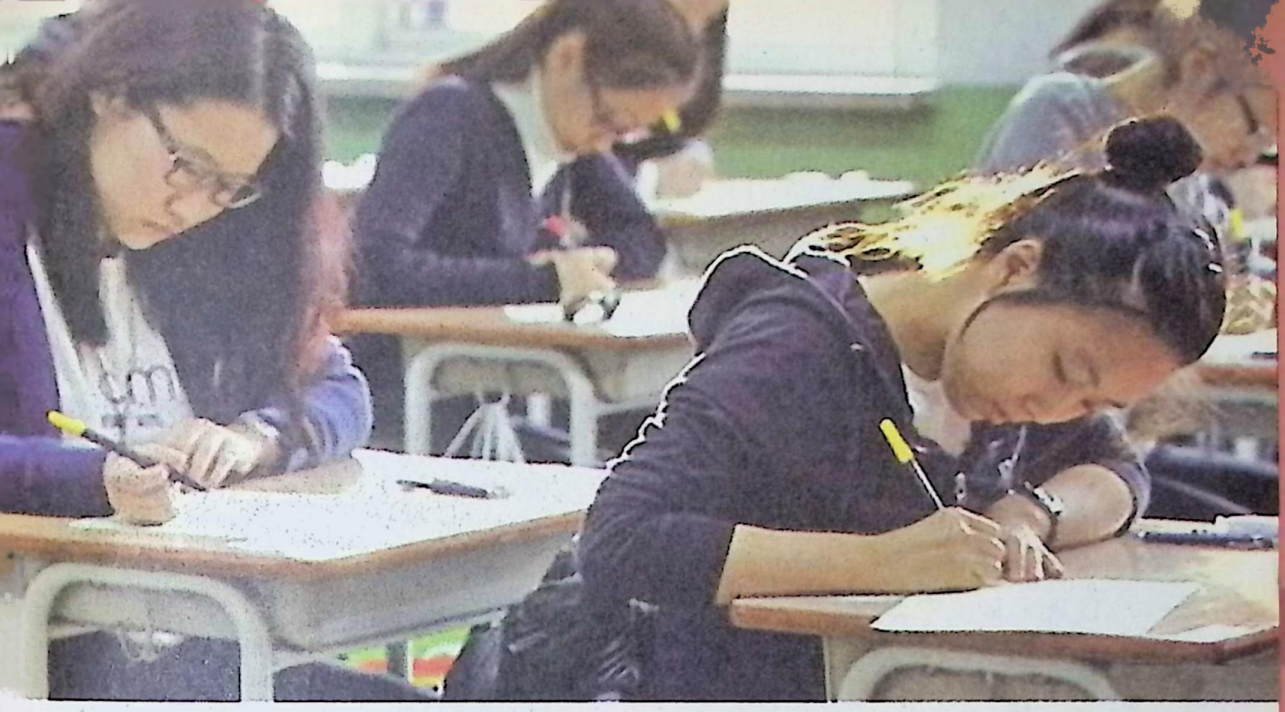


United States lead in science and technology shrinking

The United States' (US) predominance in science and technology (S&T) eroded further during the last decade, as several Asian nations--particularly China and South Korea--rapidly increased their innovation capacities. According to a report released by the National Science Board (NSB), the major Asian economies, taken together, now perform a larger share of global R&D than the US, and China performs nearly as much of the world's high-tech manufacturing as the US.

The report says that the US, Japan, and Europe no longer monopolize the global R&D arena. Since 2001, the share of the world's R&D performed in the US and Europe has decreased, respectively, from 37 percent to 30 percent and from 26 percent to 22 percent. In this same time period, the share of worldwide R&D performed by Asian countries grew from 25 percent to 34 percent. China led the Asian expansion, with its global share growing from just 4 percent to 15 percent during this period.

Sending Scents

Say you forgot about Valentine's Day, and it's too late to send that certain someone some roses. Someday, you'll at least be able to send their scent.

A Paris laboratory under the direction of David Edwards, Michigan Technological University alumnus, has created the oPhone, which will allow odors -- oNotes -- to be sent, via Bluetooth and smartphone attachments, to oPhones across the state, country or ocean, where the recipient can enjoy American Beauties or any other variety of rose.

It can be sent via email, tweet, or text.

Edwards says the idea started with student designers in his class at Harvard, where he is a professor.

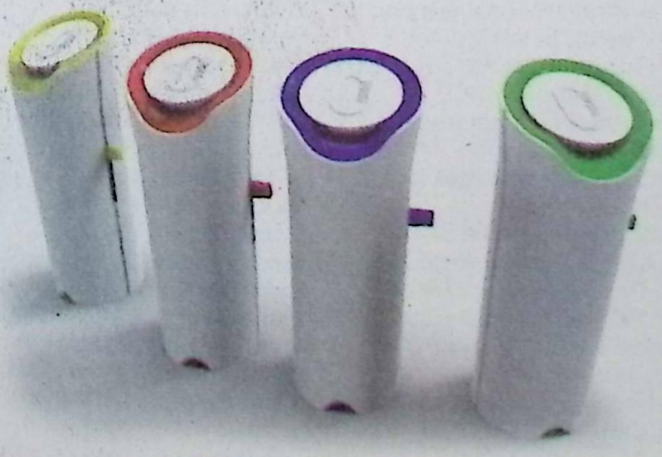


PHOTO COURTESY: MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Sending scents is closer than you think.