ёрер saw how secure your files on Athena are, or anything else that Keresbon and AFS do? Or perhaps you would like to be more practical, and want to know how to easily share files with other users? In our final introductory orientation column, we discuss two related, but more advanced topics: Keresbon, and AFS.

**Question: What is Keresbon?**

Keresbon is a network authentication system developed at MIT. It allows users to prove their identities to servers, and in the process, also verifies the identities of these servers. Thus, the access of that directory is not passing information to the wrong computer.

The protocol allows this to happen even while passing information over insecure pathways. Your password is never actually sent across the network, for example. Further- more, even if your packets are intercepted, those packets cannot be used to impersonate you.

**Question: What is AFS?**

AFS, the Andrew File System, was developed at MIT. AFS is another file system, storing data on many different file servers. Each server contains many volumes, which are units of space. Each volume has its own default Access Control List and quota. This provides AFS with many advantages over other file systems, in that it is more flexible and allows transparency of many of volumes between servers for load balancing, and replication of read-only data to allow servers to continue to access it if another server fails or a part of the network becomes unreachable.

At MIT, Keresbon is used to authenticate users to AFS, ensuring the security of your data. This, in conjunction with AFS’s directory permissions, provides great power to users. Almost all Athena lockers are located in AFS, including your home directory. This allows you to easily maintain the permissions on files and directories, enabling and disabling access to various users of your choice.

**Question: How can I use my Public and www directories?**

By default, your Athena account has two directories, the Public and www directories, pre- configured to share files with other people.

The Public directory is primarily intended to be used as a webpage. Any power that you put in that directory is publicly accessible, and can be accessed with the URLs

http://www.mit.edu/~username/and


The Public directory is primarily intended to be used to share files through Athena. Anything you put in that directory is also publicly accessible.

To get to someone’s Public directory, type

afathena~username/public.

If for some reason your Public, or www directories are missing or misconfigured, you can restore them by doing the following:

- cd afathena~username/public.
- ls -al.
- md5sum afathena~username/public.
- cat afathena~username/public/.
- md5sum $.
- if md5sum -c afathena~username/public.md5.

**Orientation Ask SIB Columns**

**Friday: Connecting to the Network**

**Tuesday:** Mail and Mailing Lists

**Wednesday:** Zephyr

**Today:** Keresbon and AFS

**Flat Screen TVs**

By Kailas Narendran

Flat screen televisions are a costly (start- ing well over $1,000), but very cool tech toy for any room. Let’s see if there are any on the market that will give you a better quality. If you’re starved for space (and who isn’t in their room), the flat, sleek, modern look is in.

In the picture, quality of the many digital applications (dvd, tv, etc.), but once you evaluate products from Samsung and Philips in a head-to-head comparison to evaluate the prices and menu features, you can make your decision.

**Sound**

Both TV’s have integrated speakers that are non-amplified. However, about the system, I will not say. While the sound quality is not bad, you can easily connect a better quality speaker to your TV.

**Inputs and Features**

The Samsung product beats out Philips when it comes to features and inputs. Philips provides a TV, while Samsung provides a digital display device that can be integrated into your room. In addition to a load of standard TV inputs (Aerial, RCA, S-Video, RGB), you can plug in a PC monitor input, so you can actually use the TV as your computer monitor when you’re starved for space (and who isn’t in their room?).

**Dear UA,**

We’ve glad to hear about the new weekly party — we’ve always felt there was a lacking nucleus presence on campus. There are three big funds that we would like to look into for this type of thing.

Large Event Funding (LEF) is for, well, large events that are sponsored by more than one student organization, have a non-student group as one of the organizers, or have a budget of $800-$1000. We can’t quite fit those criteria, consider the real-world a lot easier to get through, which is for general campus-wide events like yours. The third area we suggest is ARCADE, which supports the many student groups that are active on campus.

If you want your bud to party to a yearly event, as well as the families, ARCADE is a valuable resource for you. And make sure you invite us to this party — we’re always up for a good time.

**Dear UA,**

I think Pius Uzamere is totally hot. No need to worry about that, you could slip into the room early and grab a seat up front. If none of those work, you could slip into the room early and grab a seat up front. If none of those work, you could side-step into Pius’ s life. One is that you could get on a UA committee such as committee on student life or committee on housing and orientation, then go with your quizzicality. Want more info on any of the issues raised in this column? email us at uaqa-webmaster@mit.edu.

**Good question.**

The Charles provides many services in our lives, but yes, it can become a large obstacle at times for inter-city romances. Normally a good way to get across the road is the 81 bus along Massachusetts Avenue. But this is seasonal, so if you’re not willing to wait for the 81 every day, there’s a new option this year — daysafe RIDE. It runs from March through (excluding IAP) on one route around the major FSUGS areas in Boston. Until then, the unaffiliated girls are quite hot as well.

**Got more Questions? E-mail uaqa@mit.edu with your quizzy. Want more info on any of the issues raised in this column? email us at uaqa-webmaster@mit.edu.**