

## CAP to examine 90 cases

By Laura Farhie

The Committee on Academic Performance (CAP) will be deciding Monday whether or not approximately ninety students will be asked to withdraw from MIT next term.

The number is "very slightly lower" than in previous terms, according to E. Jane Dickson, Administrative Assistant to the CAP. Fifty-five students, 1.3 percent of those registered, were required to withdraw from the Institute last term, Dickson noted. "Just because we're looking at them doesn't mean that they will be required to withdraw."

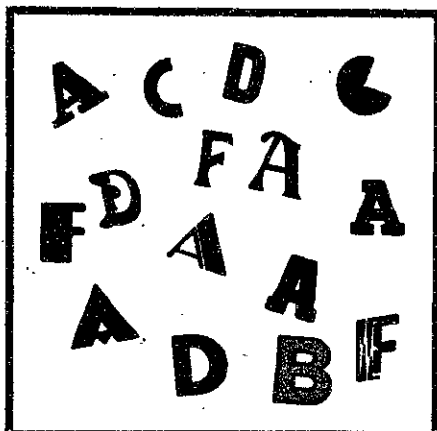
Those students not receiving a Required Withdrawal will likely get put on Academic Warning. A number of students have already been put on Warning as a result of the Grades Meetings held by the CAP in conjunction with Course representatives last week.

Although the final number is not yet known, Dickson predicts that the number of students on Warning for the upcoming term will be "pretty normal." Last spring, 204 students—4.7 percent of those registered—were put on Academic Warning.

Students being reviewed at Monday's Deferred Action Meeting received letters informing them of an imminent Warning or Withdrawal. The letters urged the students to see their advisor or any other person who can justify their poor academic performance to the CAP.

The CAP members feel that his Deferred Action Policy gives a "fair break" to the student.

Dickson also pointed out that students do not appreciate the fact that MIT considers personal reasons for poor performance, while "certain other schools throw a student out even if he's had 'Mono' all term."



A computer puts a notation by a student's name on the end-of-term Summary Sheet, "flagging" them, if their cumulative average is less than 3.0 or if the term load

was less than 36 units.

"The limit of 36 units is only used to consider the student at the Grades Meeting," explained Jeffrey Spivak '82, a student member of the CAP. "It isn't a limit under which warnings are immediately given out."

Many students are under the impression that if the product of their cumulative average and their term credit load is greater than 100, they will avoid being flagged by the computer. This "multiplication system" was abolished by the CAP four years ago because it turned out that certain students with a D average on many units were escaping notice.

## Reagan will bring era of "confusion"

By Stephanie Pollack

It is possible that the "rather elderly white males" of the incoming Reagan administration will create "a decade of terrible disorder and drifting and confusion," according to former Representative Robert Drinan.

Drinan, speaking in 10-250 Tuesday night, predicted that despite ample cause for concern on the part of liberals, the 1980 election would prove to be an expression of dissatisfaction with President Carter rather than a radical ideological shift to conservatism.

The US has not, observed Drinan, "witnessed a revolution as profound as that of 1932" when the liberal philosophy first took hold. Drinan said that Americans were simply scared this time because they saw "fading before their eyes the ideal of a constantly rising standard of living." Drinan does not feel that the gains of the liberal era will be washed away, and that there would be no "generation-long shift to the right."

Drinan represented Massachusetts' 4th Congressional district from 1970 until 1980, when the Pope denied him permission to run for re-election. Drinan had been the only Catholic priest in Congress. A practicing lawyer before running for Congress, Drinan recently began teaching a course in human rights at the Georgetown University Law School.

The former representative denied conservative allegations that the liberals had accomplished as much as was possible. He cited the Head Start program, food stamps, and job training programs as important products of the liberal Democratic era of 1932 to 1980. Drinan noted that liberals had "miles to go before we sleep," mentioning the extension of pension services, improved occupational safety and the eradication of poverty—particularly among blacks—as important but unfinished tasks.

Drinan sees the Reagan administration as having its "back to the wall," with perhaps six months to prove itself to the scared and dissatisfied American people. Dismissing the conservatives' supply side economics as "snake oil economics," Drinan predicted that "like most of us, [the Republicans] will not be thinking long-range." Drinan summarized the Republican philosophy as wanting to cut "waste, fraud, and fat—and who can be against that?"

Drinan confessed that his "vision of the world is very tragic at this moment." He sees arms control as the "number one moral and scientific problem in the world. "War is unthinkable—war always creates more problems than it resolves." The continued rise of the defense

## Gas difficulties hit Mass. Bay area

By Richard Salz

"It's going to be scary. You're going to turn on your gas range and all you'll get is a flicker... and no heat," said Boston Gas spokesman Frank Arricale. Arricale was explaining what would happen if stringent conservation measures weren't enforced.

A bitterly cold winter and some miscalculations have resulted in a gas shortage that now threatens to turn the Commonwealth into one large icicle.

The public first felt the effects of the shortage this past Monday, when the towns of Lowell and Cape Cod practically had to "shut down." Lowell city officials declared a state of emergency, closing all schools and asking all businesses that could not switch to other fuels to close as well. Schools throughout most of the Cape were also closed.

Officials intend to re-open the schools Friday. This would mean a loss of only one school day, as today is a statewide holiday. In addition to the school closings, the gas companies asked all residents to turn their thermostats down ten degrees; other customers were asked to lower them to 40 degrees.

Plans had been made by the Lowell Gas Company and the Cape Cod Gas Company in cooperation with the state to switch over to liquified natural gas reserves, a more expensive fuel imported from Algeria, while cutting down on their natural gas use.

In his State of the Commonwealth speech Monday night, Governor Ed King assured the two localities that the worst of their problems were over. King had been re-assured that there would be no problem with getting the Algerian supplies quickly, and Boston Gas said they would have "no problem" meeting their gas requirements until the crunch had eased.

Less than 24 hours later, however, the company was calling on the state for help during this coldest January on record. King quickly declared an "energy emergency" and outlined a number of state-wide conservation measures.

The utility had apparently miscalculated their needs so badly that an emergency declaration was required to cut consumption and get Boston through the next

(please turn to page 2)



Former Representative Robert F. Drinan spoke in 10-250 Tuesday night. (Photo by Steve Cohen)

budget will be a problem, he claimed, as long as "whenever you have a hearing, generals and scientists from MIT come" to testify that more weapons are needed.

Drinan urged young people to be "well informed, to protest, and to be ready" to support their views. He found it "particularly

distressing that young people don't participate" in elections. During the lengthy question and answer session following his brief prepared address, Drinan quipped that preparedness was necessary since young people "need to know what new outrage they're [the Reagan Administration] perpetuating today or tomorrow."

## MIT starts high-tech S.M.

By Steven Solnick

In an apparent modification of its previously articulated position, the Institute announced yesterday that it would offer a special part-time degree program for engineers in high-technology industry.

MIT's new Master's Degree Program for Students in Industry will allow high tech employees to

obtain a Master's Degree while working largely on a part-time basis and doing their research at their place of employment. Unlike a related degree program for high tech industry offered by Stanford University, the MIT degree would require a one-term residence and a regular Master's thesis.

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## inside

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and David Shaw saw the light. Page 5.

Sweeney Todd has opened at the new Metropolitan Center, and it's a cutting, sharp comedy. Page 5.

The Book of Lists #2 is out, and trivia fiends are happy as can be. Page 6.

The Dark, a local new wave band, appeared at the Rat.

MIT's winter sports teams will be seeing plenty of action this weekend. Page 8.

# news roundup

## World

**Iranian solution draws nearer** — "We are going to release the hostages in two or three days or try them," said Iran's chief hostage negotiator Behzad Nabavi, addressing the Iranian parliament. A number of Western reporters said that Nabavi's speech was an effort to prod the Majlis into action. The parliament adjourned, however, after passing only one of the bills necessary to implement part of the proposed US settlement.

**Rome paper relents** — Rome's largest newspaper has agreed to publish propaganda from the Red Brigades, the Italian terrorist group, in an effort to save the life of a judge held by the Brigades. The paper is breaking with the ranks of the other Italian papers who refused to yield to what they termed "terrorist blackmail." The Red Brigades had condemned Judge D'Urso to death for deciding which inmates should be transferred to maximum-security prisons.

**Begin postpones election decision** — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin postponed until Friday his government's decision on whether to call early elections while one of his ministers tried to work out a plan to hold on to power through the summer. Leaders of Begin's coalition have twice postponed a decisive meeting, and with the session now scheduled for Friday, it means a final decision is almost impossible before Sunday, when the Cabinet next meets.

**Poles strike, briefly** — Thousands of workers called a two-hour strike yesterday in a town near the Soviet border, where the Soviet commander of East Bloc forces met with the Polish Communist Party chief. The two-hour strike was to support farmers seeking to unionize independent of any Communist Party control. Solidarity, the nation's largest union, continued to urge workers to boycott their jobs over the weekend to press demands for an immediate five-day, forty-hour week.

## Nation

**'Super' tampons dangerous** — A study conducted by the Minnesota Health Department claims that women who use high-absorbency tampons run a much greater risk of getting toxic shock syndrome than those who use smaller, less absorbent ones. The study found that all users of a "super" tampon were 17 to 30 times more likely to get the rare, but sometimes fatal, disease. Those using a low-absorbency tampon were two to three times more likely to get it than woman who do not use tampons at all, the study continued.

**Haig: I won't apologize** — Calling Watergate "comparable to the worst of the so-called McCarthy era," Secretary of State-designate Alexander Haig, Jr., said he would not judge the actions of the President or others involved at the time, only that "I think it was illegal and stupid." Haig admitted the White House was guilty of tremendous abuses of power, but told the committee he would "not engage in mea culpa."

By Richard Salz

## Weather

Mostly cloudy today with more mildach 30. Winds will be light and easterly. Some light snow or flurries may begin this afternoon or evening. For tonight, light snow and mild temperatures. Lows will be 21-25, overnight with highs near 30. Lows tomorrow night 15-20, with a chance of some more light snow.

# Personal conservation a must

(continued from page 1)  
couple of weeks. As one spokesman put it, "The governor won't have to announce any other actions if conservation doesn't work. There won't be any gas."

In declaring the emergency yesterday, King asked Boston Gas customers to lower their thermostats to 63 during the day. The utility additionally asked residents to turn the heat down to 58 at night. The elderly are exempted from these requests. In addition, local industries have been asked to set their thermostats at 55 degrees.

Boston Gas also normally draws on reserves of liquefied natural gas, LNG, to offset winter's added need for fuel. On December 28, however, they

received word that their Algerian shipment would not be forthcoming. Still, the company projected that it had enough reserves to last until February 15.

Boston Gas has two LNG storage tanks, both in Dorchester. One of the tanks was completely empty, and the other held only five feet of LNG according to a company spokesman. The normal capacity of the tanks is 100 feet each.

The problem has been exacerbated for all three firms because of delays in the shipment of emergency LNG supplies from Savannah, Georgia.

The first delay was caused by mechanical problems in the communications lines, preventing utility officials from reaching a contract agreement with the

tanker's owner until 7:30 Tuesday night.

The second delay is the result of a Coast Guard regulation requiring tankers to dock only in daylight hours at high tide. The tanker is now expected to pull in January 26 with 50,000 cubic meters of LNG, equivalent to a two-to-three day supply for Boston Gas.

While there is plenty of natural gas in areas such as Texas and Louisiana, the Commonwealth's pipelines are already full. Consequently, the only major delivery expected from any quarter is the tanker — and that won't be for about two more weeks.

Until then, state residents and other users had better bundle up and turn down the heat — or it will just run out.

## High Tech Council was influential

(continued from page 1)

President Paul Gray had addressed the Massachusetts High Technology Council last October on the subject of MIT's cooperation with industry. That speech was widely interpreted at the time as excluding the possibility of any part-time Master's program for industry employees.

The High Tech Council had been pressing for MIT to institute a part-time program similar to Stanford's. The Institute's announcement yesterday acknowledged the High Tech Council's interest in the program and thus, presumably, its impact on the decision.

The announcement indicated that MIT would expect industry to be a "partner in this educational venture."

The degree would be offered by the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; high tech companies in Massachusetts consist largely of the semiconductor firms along Route 128 outside of Boston.

## Announcements

A committee is being formed to investigate the inability to actively include **off-campus students** in UA programs. The central issue the committee will be addressing is the lack of proportional representation in the General Assembly. All are encouraged; for more info, call Bill Ogilvie at x3-2198 or stop by the UA office.

HELP Loans are now available at the interest rate of 9% at your local bank or credit union. Any student attending school in Massachusetts is eligible to apply. Undergraduate students can borrow up to \$3000 a year, and graduate students up to \$5000 a year. You don't have to start paying anything back until six months after you finish school. Contact your bank for information, or call MASS-HELP at 426-9434.

Women's Community Health Center will be sponsoring the following events in January:

Starting Jan. 15, for 5 weeks, a Fertility Consciousness / Woman Controlled Natural Birth Control Group. A method of identifying body changes during menstrual cycles that can be used as birth control, to achieve pregnancy, or as basic body knowledge. Jan. 20, 6-7pm, Menopause Open House. For women to learn about menopause, and to get resources for more information. WCHC also provides pregnancy screening, woman-controlled abortions, slide show presentations on womens' health, and referrals. For more information, call 547-2302.

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## Why Choose Nuclear Engineering As A Career?

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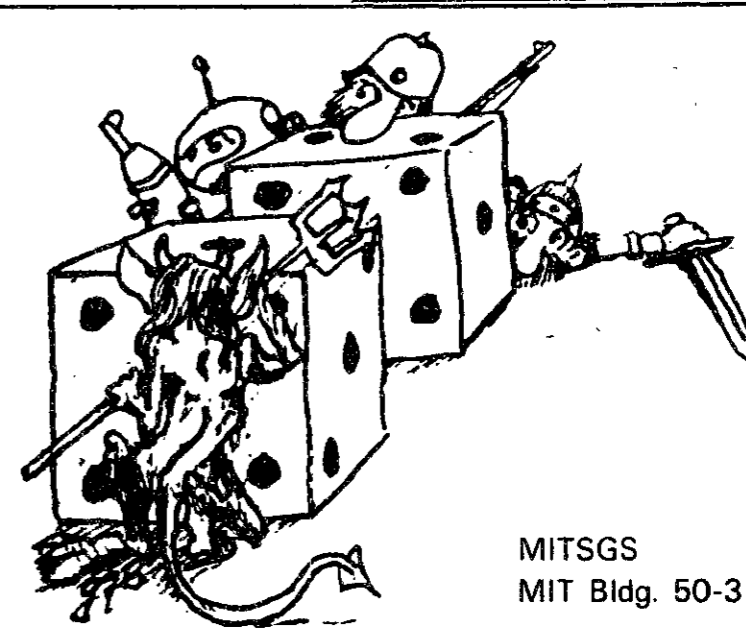
1-4pm Friday, Jan. 23  
Room 24-115

1-2pm *Opportunities in Nuclear Engineering.*  
2-3pm *Panel Discussions with Industries Representatives.*  
3-4pm *Refreshments and Informal Discussion.*

Prof. C. Hiesing-Goodman, S. Piet *Nuc. E. Dept.*  
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# Jan 16-18

MIT Student Center  
Cambridge, Mass.



MIT students learn the art of sleight of hand in the IAP activity "Close-up Magic."

photo essay by  
Jonathon Cohen



Several local high technology companies are inviting students to spend a day with them during IAP. Meet the top brass and get a first hand look at the company. Transportation and lunch provided. Call the company to sign up — today!

Jan. 20	DATA GENERAL Ms. Tina Alger 1-366-8911 x4507	Jan. 26	TERADYNE Ms. Lynn Swensen 482-2700 x2296
Jan. 21	UNITRODE Ms. Sylvana Deluca 926-0404 x250	Jan. 27	ANALOG DEVICES Mr. Ed O'Brien 329-4700 x1530
Jan. 21	THE FOXBORO COMPANY Mr. Bruce Hainsworth 1-543-8750 x2844	Jan. 28	INTERMETRICS MS. SUSAN SIMON 661-1840 x2121
Jan. 22	COMPUTERVISION Ms. Barbara Nannis 275-1800 x2538	Jan. 28	MILLIPOR Mrs. Gloria Ebbs 275-9200 x2107
Jan. 23	Hewlett-Packard, Medical Products Mr. Brad Harrington 890-6300 x136		

If you have any questions, call Bonnie Jones in the alumni center, 10-110, x38222

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Steve Solnick

## Patience, Patience

A funny thing happened to me on the way to Harvard Square the other day. I didn't get there. Instead, I spent 45 minutes in 15 degree weather waiting for the Harvard bus. I finally gave up.

I took respite in the Coop where I waited 15 minutes to buy a roll of film. I finally gave up.

I went home where I have been waiting for the Registrar to produce a copy of my transcript so that I may apply to graduate schools.

They say all good things come to those who wait. I was beginning to doubt it.

\* \* \* \*

On the other hand, I got to thinking. The last year has actually been a particularly fine one for patient people.

Take Paul Gray, for example. After a wait of 30 years in Cambridge, he finally made it to the top of the Tech heap.

Or take the MIT Dining Service (you've got no choice if you're a freshman). After ten years of having to be sensitive to customers' wishes, they finally got their captive clientele back last year.

\* \* \* \*

On a larger scale, of course there are the Republicans, who finally got what they've been waiting for since the fifties — the government.

Ronald Reagan finally got to move out of the Pacific Palisades and into the White House — after only sixteen years of trying.

George Bush may get the same thing if he can only wait a little bit longer.

Henry Kissinger was resurrected after only seven years. Or, at least his foreign policy was. If you doubt this, you need only look at the sooth being said by our incoming Secretary of State, Alexander Haig:

"It neither serves the purpose of social justice nor the vital interests of America to pursue policies under the rubric of human rights which have the practical consequences of driving authoritarian regimes friendly to the West into totalitarian models where they will remain in a state of permanent animosity to the American people and our interests."

That must also have brought a smile to the face of many a South American despot, who has also been waiting eight years for such a tune to rise over Washington.

McCarthyists have been waiting 25 years to hear government aides declare, "The threat to the internal security of the Republic is greater today than at any time since World War II." Congressional and Reagan transition aides have been endorsing the revival of internal security committees in Congress to counter the threat to "internal security." McCarthy must be looking down (up?) on it all with a broad smile.

Anti-environmentalists got what they have been waiting for since the mid-sixties: a Secretary of the Interior like James Watt.

Defense contractors like Simon Ramo (of TRW) got what they have wanted since World War II: control over the civilian science advisory apparatus of the government.

Philadelphia got what it always wanted: the Phillies as World Champions and the Eagles with a shot at it.

\* \* \* \*

Back on the home front, either William MacLaurin or John Freeman may finally get a bridge named after him, after patiently waiting through scores of years of obscurity.

Finally, perhaps the best news of all, the MIT male may finally be achieving widespread social respectability after enduring over a century of stereotyped ridicule. According to a Wellesley student quoted in, of all places, the *Harvard Crimson*, "While Harvard guys might be fun for a few weeks, it is generally the MIT guys who call back and are friendlier."

Hooray for us.



Richard Salz

## Tugging on heart strings

Performers, politicians, and others appearing in the public spotlight have a number of key sentences in their vocabulary which they can use to get an automatic and predictable reaction out of their audience. For example, a stand-up comedian will often open his act with, "Gee, it's great to be here! Isn't Greater North Podunk a wonderful town?" If it is said sincerely enough, the crowd will be reflex yell and cheer. Having thus warmed up the crowd and lessened some of their inhibition and embarrassment, they are more likely to laugh at his other jokes. Johnny Carson uses this technique almost every night: "How many of you ate too much this Thanksgiving?"

Likewise, a politician may end his speech with "We have had enough; America isn't going to be a second-rate power any more!" If said with enough force, he can then walk off the podium and out of the auditorium leaving a cheering crowd behind. This was almost the exact wording of Ronald Reagan's campaign slogan, and George Bush ended many of his speeches with a similar phrase.

The two above examples illustrate a well-known fact: it is much easier to get a reaction from someone by appealing to them on an emotional level than a rational one.

Around Christmas time, Iran released film of the captives' holiday celebrations. All the TV news programs dutifully showed clips. Several commentators pointed out that the film was a blatant attempt to strike an emotional response with the American people. The Iranians, they said, were trying to galvanize the public into forcing the government to accept the speedy settlement — Iran's settlement — to the hostage problem.

The captives' situation has always been an emotional one. At the beginning, an official would merely have to mention the words "United States," and thousands of Iranians would be mobbed in front of the embassy yelling, screaming, and burning our flag in effigy like Joe of Greater North Podunk applauding his home town, it was a reflex reaction brought about by a key phrase.

There was no clear-cut reaction in the US during the same period. Some people thought the action justified, others called it a heinous international crime. President Carter stayed clear of rhetoric, and the other presidential candidates agreed not to comment on the situation.

The situation now, however, is quite different. We are stricken with an overwhelming sense of frustration as the situation continues, while our hopes for a set-

tlement are raised and smashed on a near-daily basis. "That's it, we've been reasonable, now we're mad." Columnists such as William Buckley now suggest that we warn the Russians to keep out of the area while we string a military cordon around the nation.

While disagreeing with this suggestion, it appeals to me on an emotional level. Frustrated at our inability to get our countrymen back, I'm now willing to try anything as a possible cure. While recognizing that Reagan's statement, "we shouldn't pay ransom to barbarians," did nothing to alleviate the tensions, I'm glad he said it.

As America's public emotionalism grows, that in Iran seems to be waning. References to the "Great Satan" (that is, the US) by the Iranian Parliament no longer generate much public reaction. Rather, they add to the slow burn most Americans are currently experiencing.

Nevertheless, it is rational thought, not knee-jerk emotion that generates results in any complex issue. The Iranian decision to involve the Algerian negotiators, I think, shows that they have realized this. Carter's statements show that he realized this from the beginning. It is a lesson Reagan would do well to follow should he inherit the situation on Inauguration Day.

**The Tech**  
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→ **feedback**

## East Campus protests dining

To the Editor:

It has been nearly one full year since the MIT administration initiated a new dining program on this campus. This new program called for many improvements in the dining of the undergraduate residents. These improvements requires concessions by both the students and the administration. The students would give up their freedom to choose how and where they would eat. They would also pay a higher price to eat the meal on the meal plan as opposed to cooking on their own. The administration promised to improve the MIT dining system, add physical improvements to some of the dining facilities, and try to make the dining service more responsive to the students' needs and desires.

The dining report, which was presented in December 1979, called for a complete investigation of dining on the east side of campus, to include either kitchens in either East Campus or Senior House, improvements and expansion of Walker Memorial, or the construction of a house dining hall. This investigation has yet to be started. The only result of this dining program at Walker seems to be the increase of crowds during the meal hours. The crowding, roach, and rodent problems are worse than ever. The residents of the east campus dormitories feel that the administration has not kept their end of the bargain. We residents now request that the promised improvements be started immediately, or the required dining program for the

residents of the east campus dormitories be dropped until some substantial improvements are completed.

Eric Oelkers  
 East Campus President

## Gray should speak solo

To the Editor:

Apparently, the Commencement Committee is beginning a search for an outside commencement speaker. But why? This will be the first commencement under our new MIT President. What would be more appropriate than to allow Dr. Paul Gray to follow recent tradition and give the June 1981 Commencement Address?

Steven Piet G

# ARTS

## Don't be afraid of the Dark

The Dark & II.

The collegiates came to the Rat grind out "rock" band had taken beer-sodden prep bar, unable to emanating from had taken over,

At first listen, but continued otherwise. Their music — each seemingly random mesh to form danceable rhythms. The songs, in the kitchen, are the collective efforts of Karlo (guitar), Karlo (bass), Jace (keyboards), Clark (drums) and Mike (percussion).

Wry lyrics accompany words that deal with mundane occurrences: "Moral Reagan" and "Moral Warfare" ("We Can



Photo by Neal

David Shaw

Rock 'n' Roll, Fish, and making pancakes. Foo Much. My favorite is a tune called "D.S. appointment," a thinly veiled description of a sexual encounter ("I'm ready. Oh, I'm so excited... That's all? Be dead").

Any descriptions are inadequate — the Dark must be seen to be believed. They entered the set at the Rat with a crazed version of "The Thing from the Swamp" (Brady Bunch) and never let the pace slow. During the course of the evening the band covered other classics such as "A Day in the Life" (John Lennon tribute), "Robert Kennedy" and "Secret Agent" (reworked "Grease Bash") — all at unappreciated tempos.

The Dark really shine when playing their own material. The crowd's favorites were "Kancer" (it's only temporary, it's not permanent), "Gasturbine" (great for pogoing), and the trance-like "Foo Much." The band's manic personalities, especially Klyde and Jace, kept Dark fans (Darkies?) and converts on their feet all night.

Make sure you're around when Darkness next descends on Boston. Not only will they play your favorite Beatles songs, but they'll give you money if you



Angela Lansbury brandishes a rolling pin in a scene from "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street."

## Sweeney Todd: shear delight

Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street at the new Metropolitan Center through January 31. Starring Angela Lansbury and George Hearn, directed by Harold Prince.

The tale of Sweeney Todd, the murderous "Demon Barber of Fleet Street," has been captivating audiences for over a hundred years. The story first appeared on the stage in Victorian England in 1847 and has been popular ever since. Steven Sondheim's current version playing at the Metropolitan Center is ample explanation of its popularity.

The show, which won the 1979 Tony Award for best musical, is an avalanche of sheer theatrical energy. Sondheim's score is the most operatic one to hit Broadway since *Porgy and Bess*,

and almost certainly unparalleled for a musical comedy.

There is a diverse collection of songs, all distinctly Sondheim. Some are hauntingly beautiful, like the recurring theme "Joanna." Others are hauntingly witty and upbeat, like the act 1 finale, "A Little Priest," in which Sweeney Todd and his baker companion Mrs. Lovett concoct their cannibalistic scheme.

The title role is an exhausting

tour de force by George Hearn. Portraying the vengeful barber who goes on a jugular-cutting rampage, he is at one moment cold and brutal, at another pitiful, and another positively droll.

His frenetic build to a climactic explosion of gore is artfully complimented by the performance of Angela Lansbury as Mrs. Lovett, the batty baker who sees Todd's victims as a cheap source of filling

(please turn to page 6)

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# ARTS

## 6.031?

**15 MEN AND WOMEN WHO SLEPT WITH 3 OR MORE CELEBRITIES**  
**IN A PLAIN BROWN WRAPPER — LOVE AND SEX**

The Book of Lists #2 by Irving Wallace, David Wallechinsky, Amy and Sylvia Wallace. A Bantam Paperback.

(Listomania (no, not Lisztomania) is sweeping the country, infecting young and old alike with a feverish desire to know if Clara Bow, movie starlet of the roaring twenties, ever took on the USC football team. The Wallace clan seems to hope so, and judging from the sales of the original Book of Lists (2.7 million copies), they may be right.

This sequel is a compendium of miscellaneous trivia, interesting and otherwise. The lists pertaining to history or statistics often prove interesting and amusing. The book claims, for example, that Cambridge is the least segregated city of over 50,000 population in the US. There are lots of amusing anecdotes about various authors (Oscar Wilde, W.H. Auden, Ernest Hemingway) and figures of history.

As long as the lists stick to facts (or well-grounded suspicion) they fare pretty well. The book falls down in lists of a subjective nature, especially those that enumerate the "Ten Best This" or "Five Most Important That" according to some authority or popular entertainment figure. Sometimes it seems that the authors reach pretty far for

When her husband's body was brought to the with expressed in his will that he be buried in a plain brown wrapper. He died with a sword across his chest. He was 45 years old. He died with a sword across his chest. He was 45 years old. He died with a sword across his chest. He was 45 years old.

**11 CURIOUS BIRTHS**  
**1. BORN IN A COFFIN**  
 Gorgias of Epirus was born during the funeral of his father. The pallbearers were shocked to hear unexpected crying. Gorgias was very much alive.

**ACTIVE DRUGS AND PLANTS THEIR DISCOVERERS (POPULARIZERS)**

VESPUCCI (1454-1512)

to desecrate the coca chewing in the New World. He surmised that "they kept this herb in their mouths."

IS (1483-1541)

Western medical practice when he came to a preparation he called "Laudanum" (from the Greek word for "to praise"). He philosophized: "All things are poison. The dose alone makes a thing so."

SYDENHAM (1624-1689)

ture of opium (opium dissolved in water) or Paracelsus's famous concoction, which he called "Morphine." He noted that "Morphine, note is so universal and



**NUMBER OF SPERM FOR 25 MAMMALS**

- 45,000,000,000
- 14,500,000,000
- 8,000,000,000
- 7,000,000,000
- 5,000,000,000
- 4,000,000,000
- 3,978,000,000
- 3,000,000,000
- 1,755,000,000
- 1,500,000,000
- 1,175,000,000
- 1,157,100,000
- 549,600,000
- 500,000,000
- 480,000,000
- 330,000,000
- 197,600,000
- 96,600,000
- 82,500,000
- 4,000,000

extra filler with entries like "Ten Persons in History Whose Lives I Would Have Liked to Live in Past Incarnations," according to Truman Capote, Marcel Marceau, Gerald Ford, and others.

Other filler includes lists of facts that even the most curious reader could do without. Would you believe "Ten Fruits that Ripen After Picking"? If you can manage to wad through these without falling asleep, there are a few amusing quotes in some of the most boring lists. Jacquetta Hawkes (an English archaeologist) desires to be present at the creation of the Painting of the Leaping Bison at Altamira (c. 30,000 BC) to "discover what rites were enacted and the appearance of the artist and what he wore." I guess it's pretty important to know what to wear at a cave painting — wouldn't want to be out of place, you know.

The Book of Lists #2 does hold a treasure of information for trivia lovers and is a good source of educational and amusing historical anecdotes. The next time you wonder who invented the paper bag or who Charlie Chaplin slept with, look it up in the Book of Lists #2.

Kevin Osborn

## You'll

(continued from page 5)

for her meat pies. Lansbury creates an affectingly daffy character in a limited stage time, despite her character's cold-bloodedness. She energizes the slower moments of the show; her pink frilly dress stands in sharp contrast to the grays and whites of the Victorian setting.

The gory Hearn and the dizzy Lansbury create a special magic which manages to fill the mammoth Metropolitan Center. The show is the first theatrical offering at this new center and will be a hard act to follow.

The supporting cast is excellent, albeit unintelligible at times. The cockney accents sometimes come on strong, and the listener's attention may be severely tested. The task is made no simpler by the complexity of the opening music.

Some performances among the supporting characters are noteworthy. Betsy Joslyn and Cris Groendaal have stunning voices as they trill their way through their roles as the two lovers central to Todd's scheme of revenge. Sal Minstretta has a classic comic caricature of Pirelli, Todd's rival barber. Ken Jennings is touching in his portrayal of Lovett's young, innocent assistant.

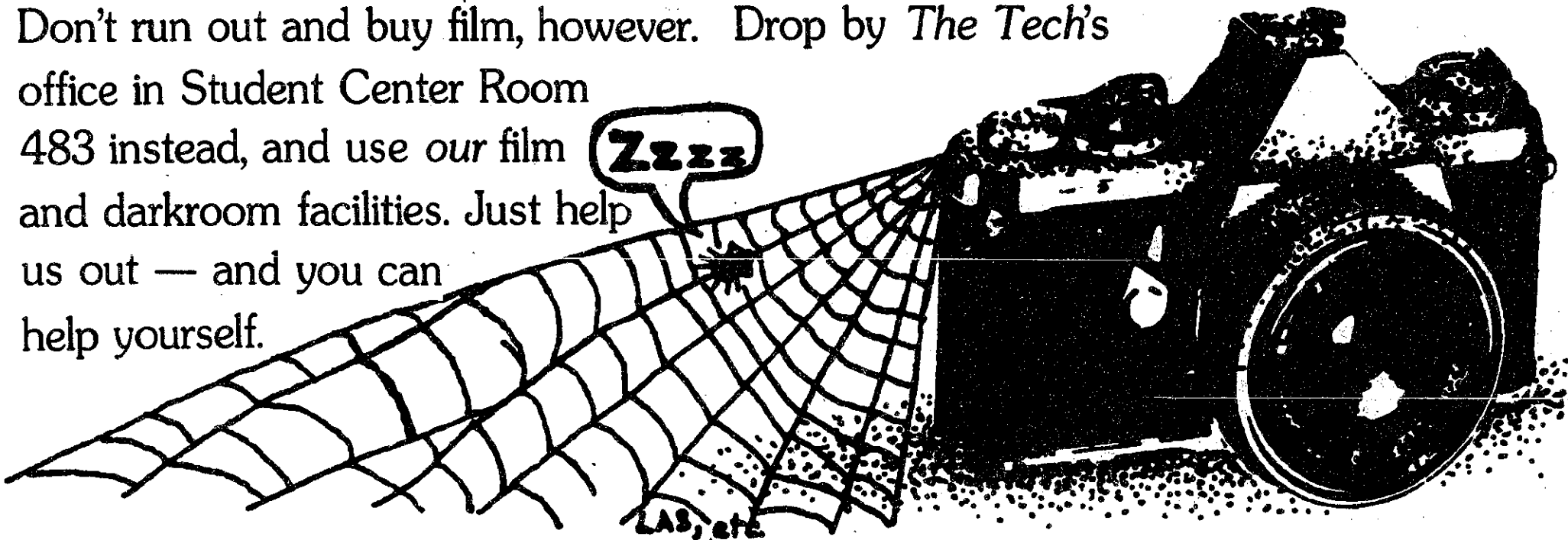
The play gets off to a slow start, but it amply compensates for this with the gripping climax. Billing it as a "musical comedy thriller" may seem an exaggeration, but Sweeney Todd lives up to its advertising promises. The prices are steep for a college audience, but Sweeney Todd may be worth it for a glimpse of modern musical theatre at its best.

Steven Solnick

## laughing

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# The Tech

PHOTO

# comics

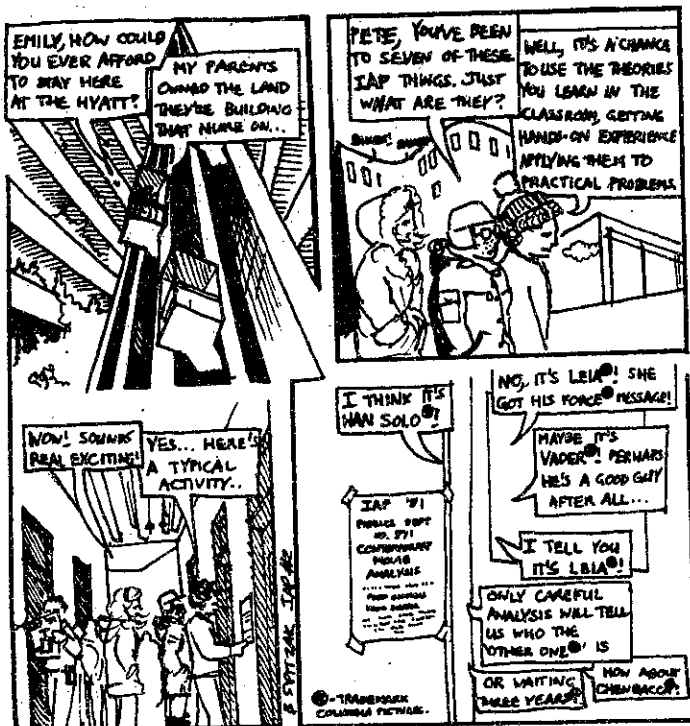
Dybosphere  
By Appelman,  
Plotkin, and Bradley



Paul Hubbard  
By Kent C. Massey



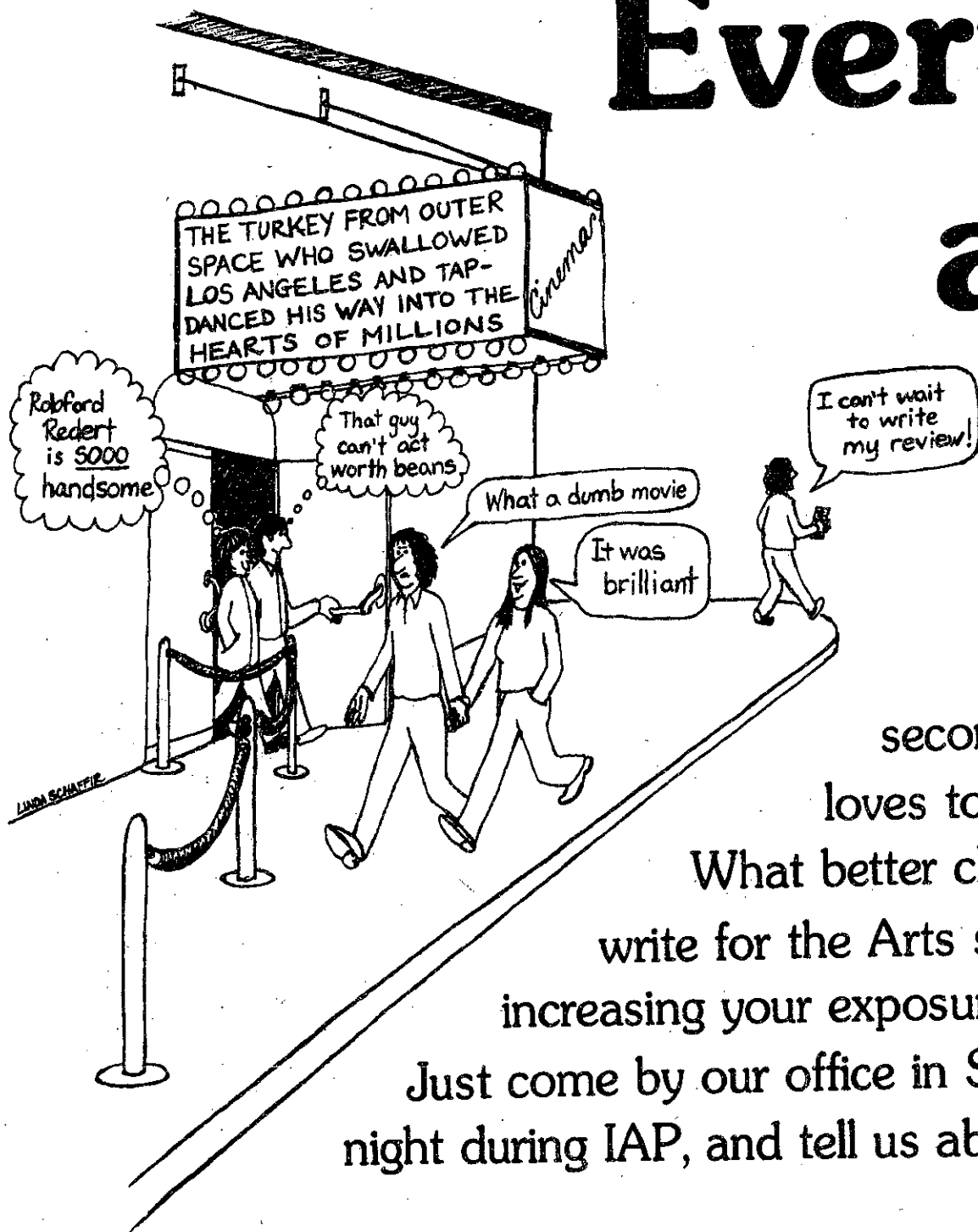
Technicality  
By Bill Spitzak



Stickles  
By Geoff Baskir



# Everybody has an opinion

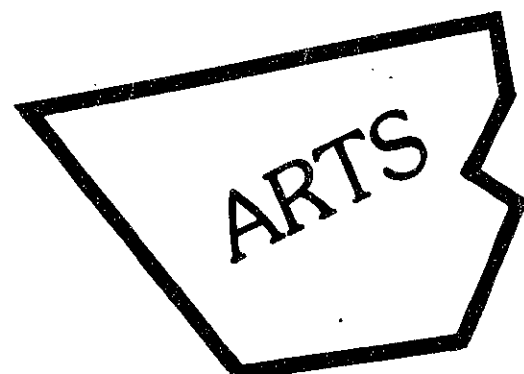


Whether the show was a hit or a flop, whether the actors deserved roses or tomatoes, whether or not the second movement was moving, everybody loves to tell their friends about their night out.

What better chance to spread the word than to write for the Arts section of *The Tech*? Interested in increasing your exposure and lowering your expenses?

Just come by our office in Student Center Room 483 any Tuesday night during IAP, and tell us about it.

# The Tech



# sports

## weekend preview

## score board

**Women's basketball** — In the midst of a three-game losing streak, coach Jean Heiney's team attempts to return to the winning track at Endicott Saturday at 1pm. After five games and a 1-4 record, Anita Flynn '83 is the team scoring leader with an 11.9 average. Donna Wilson '82, the team's top rebounder, is out for the season with a leg injury.



**Men's basketball** — Coach Fran O'Brien's 6-5 squad completed a three-game home stand with three wins in five days last week. The team now faces Bowdoin on the road Saturday at 2pm. The Engineers finished the month of November with a 3-0 mark, but were winless in five games last month, and are currently undefeated in the new year. Mark Branch '83 was named to this week's ECAC honor team in Division III on the basis of his career high 26 points in last Saturday's 74-72 win over Bates. Branch is the Engineers' scoring leader this season with a 17.6 average. In addition, Bob Clarke '81 had his best game of the season in Monday's win over New England College with 19 points and 13 rebounds. Mike Weiss '82 had a career high 14 points in MIT's 68-56 win over Thomas College of Maine last Thursday, a game in which the

Engineers came back from a 19-point deficit in the second half. Lane Wilson '82 grabbed 16 rebounds against Bates, and in the same game Steve Williams '82 added 15 points, a career high that he matched two nights later against New England.

**Indoor track** — Bates faces coach Gordon Kelly's 3-1 squad tomorrow at 5:30 in the athletic center. With four wins in middle distance events, Jeff Lukas '82 has already run the 800 meters in under two minutes this year (1:59.5), as well as posting a 2:34.88 time for the 1000-meter run and turning in a 4:05.07 clocking in the 1500. Last Saturday, in a 73-63 win over Williams, Paul Mahoney '81 won the long jump and triple jump with Jim Turlo '81 taking the high jump. Paul Neves '83 started for the first time all season after recovering from an injury and took second in the 1500 meter run.

**Gymnastics** — The Engineers face Dartmouth at 2pm Saturday in DuPont Gymnasium in this season's home opener. The men's team provided coach Robert Horwitz with a 145.75 - 124.65 win over Harvard in his MIT debut last week. In that competition, Jiro Nakauchi '83 took the all-around title, with teammate Mark McQuain '82 scoring an 8.75 in vaulting. The women also face Dartmouth Saturday, with captain Sandy Young '83 leading the team, which is looking for its first win of the season.

**Fencing** — Both the men's and women's fencing teams face Navy tomorrow at Annapolis before travelling to Philadelphia to face the University of Pennsylvania Saturday. The men's team is 3-1, with its sole loss at the hands of Harvard (14-13) and, in the words of coach Eric Sollee, has "the potential to be one of our more powerful teams." The women have posted a 2-2 records so far this season, giving the team a 63-30 record in six years of varsity competition.

**Hockey** — Co-captains Scott Schwartz '81 and Dale Malone '83, both defencemen, lead the Engineers in battle against Assumption Saturday at 2pm in the Athletic Center.

**Squash** — The Engineers, led by Charlie Calkins '81 who has a 4-2 record, are trying to improve their 1-5 record this season when they return to action Monday afternoon at Trinity. After this, the team travels to Bowdoin and then begins a 12-match home stand.

**Wrestling** — Coach Tim Walsh returns to Amherst, where he had been coach for the last four seasons, when MIT tries to

improve its 1-6 record Saturday at 1pm. Ken Shull '84 leads the Engineers with a 6-0 mark in the 142-lb. division, coming off three individual wins Saturday in competition against Harvard, Coast Guard, and Lowell.

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Men's basketball 68, Thomas 56 Gordon 79, Women's basketball 33

Men's basketball 74, Bates 72 Bates 56, Women's basketball 38 Men's basketball 84, New England College 67

Men's gymnastics 145.75, Harvard 124.65

Indoor track 73, Williams 63

Harvard 39, Wrestling 9 Coast Guard 42, Wrestling 6 Lowell 41, Wrestling 7

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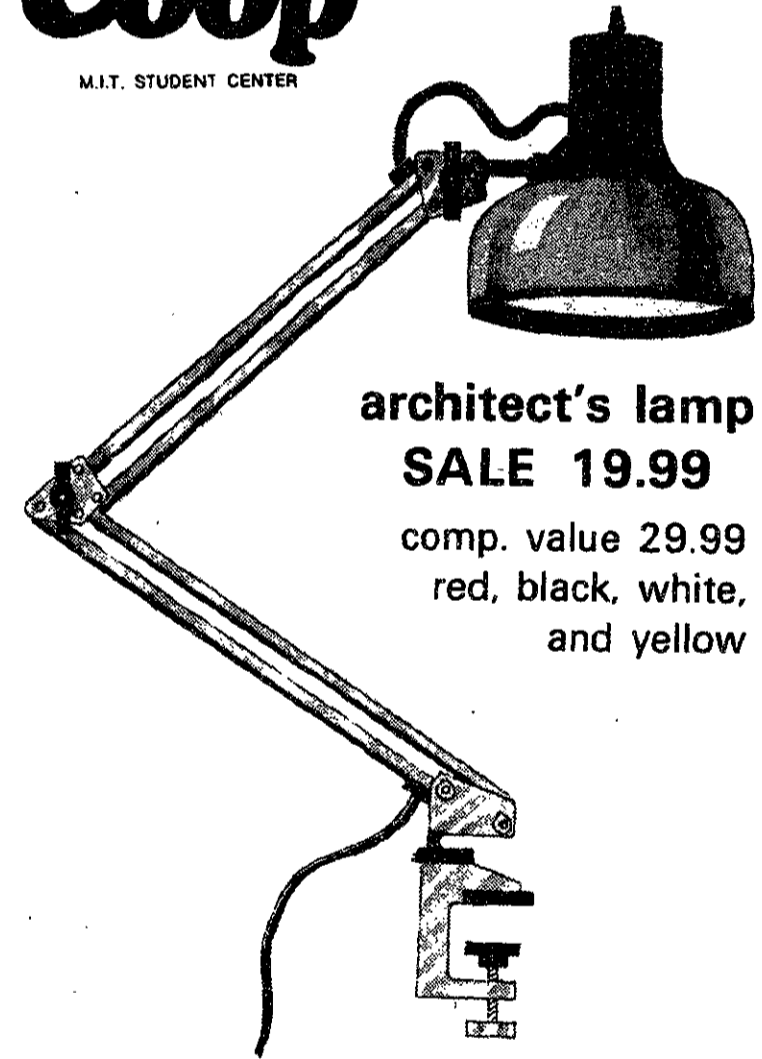
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## the Coop

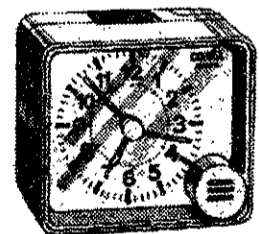
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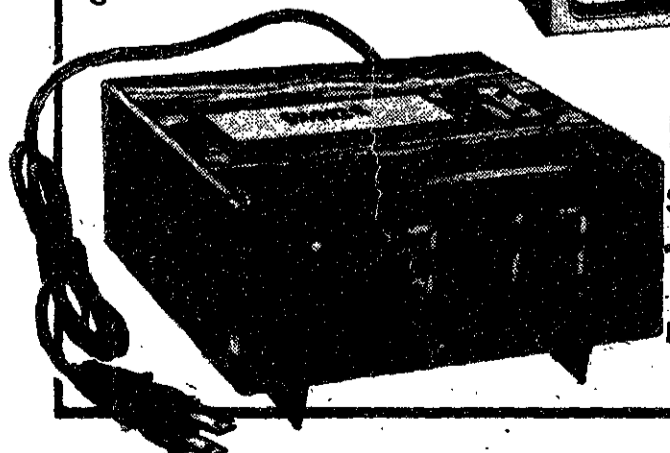
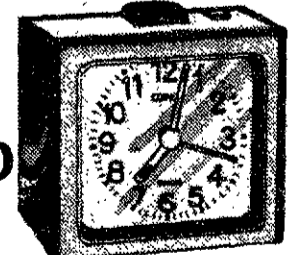
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