

## Fewer frosh to be crowded

By Kenneth Snow

The Dean's Office estimates that there will only be 65 overcrowded freshmen this year, a significant decrease from last year's record level of 232.

"This is the smallest number of crowded students in many years," according to Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood.

Sherwood said that the

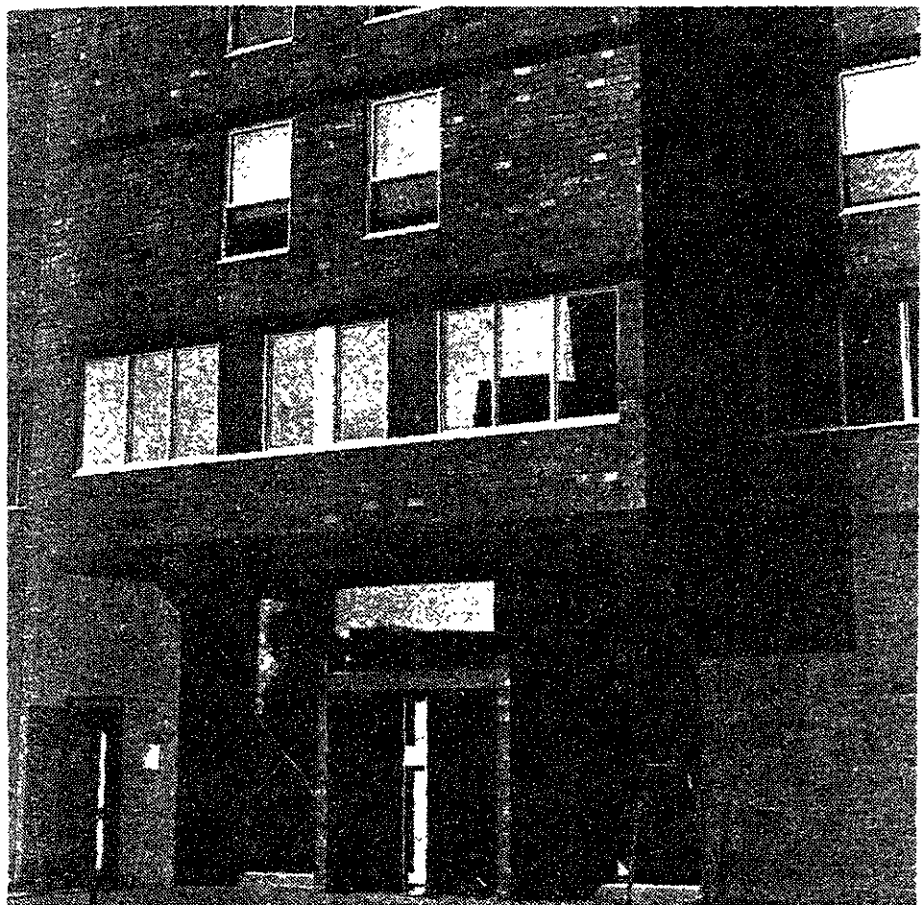
crowding figures are based on a fraternity rush of approximately 380 students. Of these, 360 are expected to be freshmen and the rest transfer and readmitted students. Mark Goldberg '82, Interfraternity Council Rush Chairman, said that as of yesterday afternoon the fraternities were looking for about 350 new residents.

A number of factors contributed to this year's decrease in crowding. Sherwood noted that only 63 transfer students applied for housing in the dormitory system, compared to approximately 120 transfers that have applied for housing in past years. Freshman class size has also decreased from 1081 last year to approximately 1050 this year.

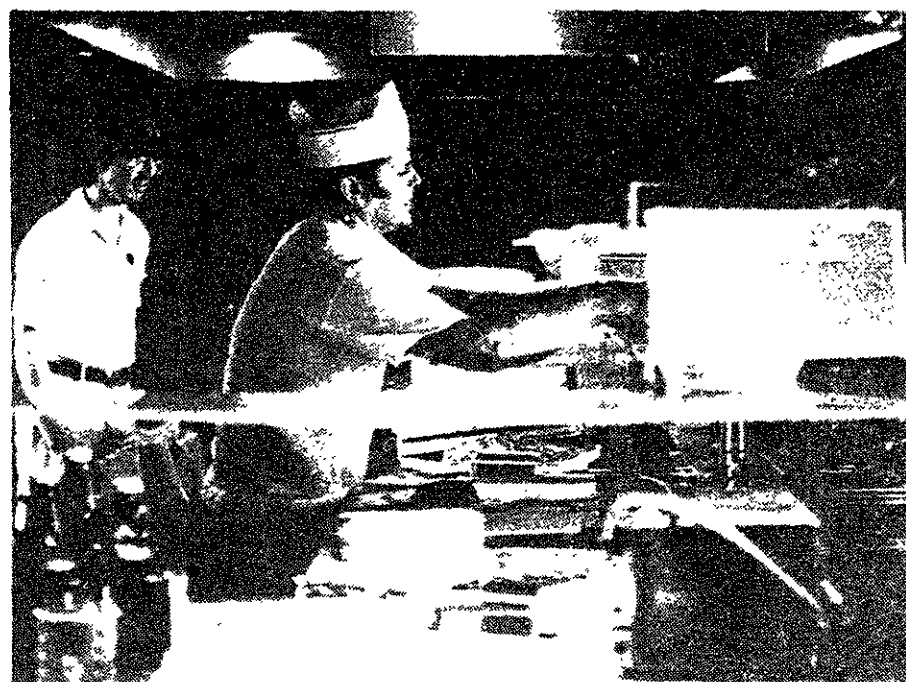
Sherwood noted that "many people here [in the Dean's Office] feel that there will be more no-shows this year than in the past because of financial reasons."

Last year one of the major reasons for the overcrowding situation was the larger-than-expected number of students returning to the housing system. This year the number of upperclassmen returning to the housing system was almost exactly the figure expected.

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The new dormitory at 500 Memorial Drive has helped to ease the overcrowding situation. (photo by Eric Sohn)



Dining service workers may go on strike on September 8 (photo by Eric Sohn)

## MIT prepared for threatened strike

By Barry S. Surman

MIT will continue to provide meals to students in the event of a strike by food service employees represented by Local 26 of the Hotel, Restaurant, Institutional Employees and Bartenders Union, AFL-CIO, according to MIT Director of Housing and Food Services Gene Brammer.

"With supervisory personnel, and students working in students' positions, we will operate one unit and service the student community that is on meal plans," Brammer said. He declined comment on which facility would remain open. During a similar strike in 1974, which lasted six weeks, Walker Memorial was the only open dining facility on campus.

In a statement released Wednesday, MIT's chief negotiator, James J. Culliton, Assistant to the Vice President and

Director of Personnel, cited "unofficial information indicating that the strike date has been moved to September 8," although Local 26 President and Business Manager Domenic Bozzotto would not confirm that report. The previous deadline set by Local 26 was August 16.

Fraternalties have been advised by the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs that picketing at the Freshman Picnic this afternoon is a possibility. The warning, said Bozzotto, was "a well-placed thought; they have good sources." According to

Interfraternity Conference (IFC) Rush Chairman Mark Goldberg '82, there "shouldn't be any problems." Fraternalties were "told to be cordial" by the IFC, which relayed the Dean's Office warning. Goldberg was confident that the effect of such a protest on

(please turn to page 8)

## R/O organizers optimistic

By Stephanie Pollack

Residence/Orientation (R/O) Week is a time to learn that "the MIT environment as a whole is an education," according to Assistant R/O Coordinator Ken Dumas '83.

Dumas and other student organizers of R/O Week are optimistic that the week will be successful. "R/O went very smoothly last year and we hope that it will go smoothly again," noted Sara Henderson '83, Dormitory Council Vice Chairman for R/O.

Several changes have been made in R/O procedures and events. This year, dormitories will participate in Clearinghouse, a computerized system for tracking freshmen during R/O Week. Henderson said that the participation of the dormitories will make the system "a lot more efficient because instead of fraternities calling every dormitory [to find a freshman], they only have to call one."

Mark Goldberg '82, Interfraternity Council (IFC) Rush Chairman, called dormitory participation in Clearinghouse "a new height of cooperation between fraternities and dor-

mitories." He added that the change will "certainly be helpful to the fraternities."

The rules for alcohol use during R/O Week will be the same as last year, according to Henderson and Goldberg. Living groups are not permitted to advertise the availability of alcohol at parties. Enforcement of Massachusetts' 20-year-old drinking age is left to

the individual living groups. "IFC's position is that the law is the law," Goldberg noted. Living groups which disobey the law "are putting their own necks on the line."

The time period between Freshman Picnic and Registration Day has been extended by two days this year. This is the

(please turn to page 2)

## Voyager 2 outbound from Saturn

By Jack Link

A peanut-shaped moon and a kinky ring are among the discoveries made by Voyager 2 that scientists are analyzing at the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) in Pasadena, California, as the unmanned spacecraft leaves Saturn bound for Uranus in its "Grand Tour" of the Solar System.

Operating a billion miles from Earth, Voyager 2, like its predecessor Voyager 1, performed almost flawlessly until early Wednesday morning. Arriving only 2.7 seconds early and within 30 miles of its planned course, Voyager 2 took a closer

look at some of the features discovered by its sister. A problem developed, however, as Voyager 2 passed through the ring plane during a radio blackout.

The problem involves the movable instrument platform which holds the probe's cameras and several other instruments. To aim the platform, both the elevation and azimuth or rotary direction of the platform are set. When the craft emerged from radio blackout, mission controllers discovered that the platform's azimuth control was stuck, rendering it unable to swivel.

The Plasma Science Experiment, designed and built at MIT's Center for Space Research, has not been adversely affected by the platform failure, since its sensors are mounted on Voyager's main body. MIT faculty members and students involved in the experiment are on duty at JPL and the Goddard Space Center.

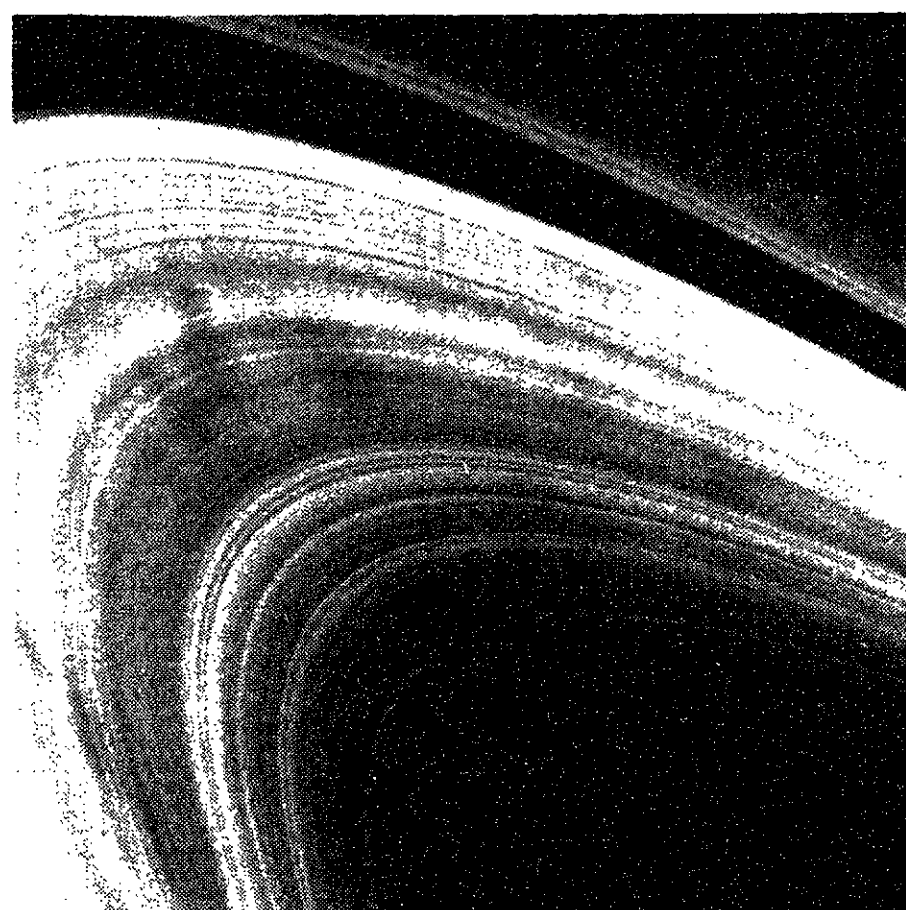
If the problem is not corrected, the cameras will have to be aimed by moving the entire craft, including the seven experiments formerly independent of the platform.

The first action taken by ground controllers after the problem occurred was to tilt the platform away from the sun using the still-functional elevation control to protect the instruments,

according to NASA spokesman Rocky Raab. Early Thursday controllers managed to budge the platform a few degrees, but commands transmitted later yesterday were not executed correctly.

"We don't quite know yet what happened during the blackout," said Torrence Johnson of the Voyager imaging team. "We expected Voyager to pass at least

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High resolution picture of Saturn's rings taken this week by Voyager 2 from a distance of 25 million miles, long before the robot spacecraft's moveable camera platform jammed. Evident are the numerous "spoke" features in the B ring; their very sharp narrow appearance suggests short formation times. (NASA photo via CSR)

## inside

New transfer students are greeted with good news — guaranteed housing for the first time in MIT history. **Page 2**

Women's Residence/Orientation Coordinator Joyce Pollock takes R/O to Wellesley. **Page 2**

Girl groups are back (yeah, pictures too). Eric Sohn does

the honors. **Page 6**

Melting Point. Resident heavy metal-air-guitarist-headbanger, Mark DeCew gives Heavy Metal — the film and the LP — the once over twice. **Page 6**

MIT's Group Velocity is high on energy but low on money. **Page 9**

## Transfers assured of housing

By Barry S. Surman

Members of the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs and student Residence/Orientation (R/O) Week staff greeted incoming transfer students with a welcome report on housing Wednesday night at the opening event of transfer students' R/O.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood told the group, "The good news is . . . that for the first time in MIT history we are able to offer guaranteed housing to transfer students." He

tempered the announcement with a warning that "the housing is only going to be for the 1981-82 academic year so that we can offer housing to next year's transfer students."

Many of the transfers will likely be housed at the new dormitory at 500 Memorial Drive which, according to Sherwood, "is at least close to being complete." He encouraged the transfers to look at other living groups, admonishing them not to judge MIT fraternities based upon "stereotypes

from other universities."

Interfraternity Conference (IFC) President Jim Murray '82 and IFC Rush Chairman Mark Goldberg '82 echoed Sherwood's sentiments, urging new students to consider independent living groups as housing options.

Wean-King Wong, a Malaysian student transferring from Mount Holyoke College, was surprised by the people at MIT. "People told me MIT would be impersonal . . . [I've found] the professors and people I meet friendly and helpful, not impersonal." Explaining her reasons for entering MIT, she said, "If I want to major in engineering, this is the best place," a view shared by many of the transfers. She cited both the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) and the Electrical Engineering program as important attractions.

"I didn't want to stay and see funding cuts and faculty cuts," explained David Hsu, who left the University of Michigan to study architecture at MIT. As an out-of-state student at Michigan, Hsu faced a tuition, room, and board bill of close to \$9000, a figure he considers excessive for a large public university.

Comparing the two schools, Hsu observed, "It's different: the atmosphere is totally different from Michigan . . . the people at MIT are more insular."

Other participants in the meeting, held in the Student Center's Mezzanine Lounge, included International Students' Advisor and Associate Dean Eugene R. Chamberlain, and Dormitory Council President David Scrimshaw '83. The session was planned and hosted by Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert J. Holden.



Freshmen and their luggage began arriving yesterday for R/O 1981 (photo by Eric Sohn)

## New women's R/O activity planned

By Stephanie Pollack

A picnic at Wellesley for MIT and Wellesley freshmen is the newest addition to the list of special activities for women held during Residence/Orientation (R/O) Week, according to Women's R/O Coordinator Joyce Pollock '82.

Pollock said she wanted to include "activities that integrate both MIT and Wellesley women" into R/O Week to introduce MIT freshmen to Wellesley "before they get into all of the negative stereotypes." The event, which will be held September 6, will feature picnic and sporting activities.

Women's R/O activities began last night with a sandwich-making dinner for women in the Bush Room. Freshwomen will gather in the Cheney Room immediately after the Freshman Picnic this afternoon for ice cream. Representatives of co-educational fraternities and the Women's Independent Living Group will

meet freshwomen there and provide transportation to off-campus living groups. Events scheduled for later in the week include a luncheon with women faculty and administrators next Thursday and a get-together with support service staff Friday.

Pollock believes that women's R/O activities are important because people who are "put in a situation where you're definitely singled out for being different" need extra support services. Pollock concluded that "women need to feel that they're special and that that's OK — that they don't have to be the same as men."

Pollock said that Elsewhere would be an important resource for women during R/O week. Elsewhere is a "place for women to go to get away from Rush," and, according to Pollock, women may need to escape more than men. "I think that they're under more pressure just because of the numbers," she added.

## R/O organizers make changes

(continued from page 1)

result of changes in the academic calendar which moved Registration Day ahead two days to Wednesday instead of the traditional Monday. R/O Coordinator Rhonda Peck '82 said the R/O Committee was "encouraging living group activities on Monday" because upperclassmen will be back. An Open House for extracurricular activities will be held Tuesday night.

Peck also noted that Elsewhere, a lounge set up for students who need a quiet place to relax away from the pressures of R/O week, had been improved. Elsewhere will be located in the East Lounge of the Student Center, which Peck noted is a central and visible location. The Student Center Committee will provide furniture, and

Elsewhere will provide games and books "to make it more like a lounge," according to Dumas.

The traditional R/O Week Scavenger Hunt has been turned into an opportunity for freshmen to learn their way around the Institute and meet people in various administrative offices, according to Peck. The Scavenger Hunt, which leaves from the Student Center steps next Friday, will take freshmen to the Information Office, Undergraduate Academic Support Office, Student Assistance Services, and other Institute offices.

Peck summarized her view on R/O week by noting that afterward "everybody thinks that they're in the best place." Her advice to freshmen is to "meet other freshmen and don't worry."



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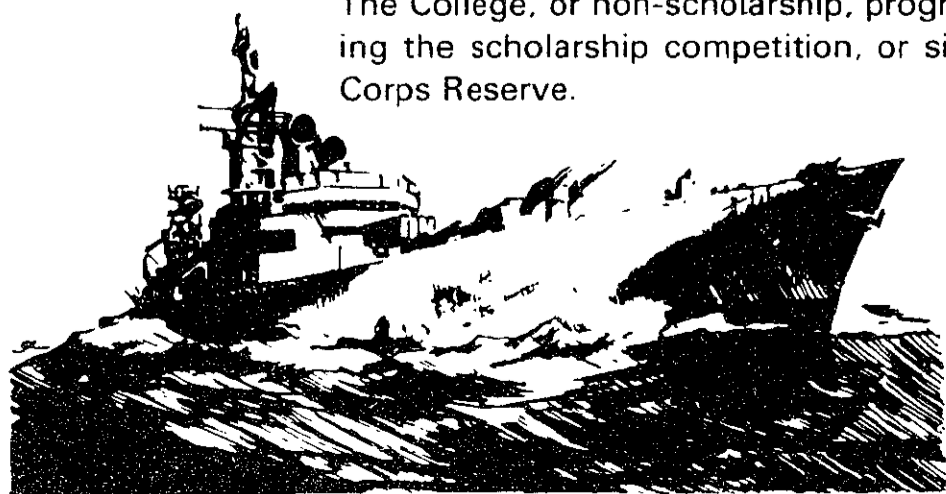
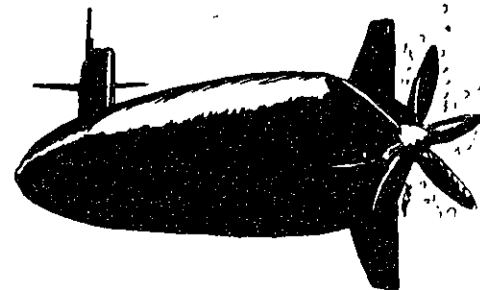
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# news roundup

## World

**New talks set on Palestinian autonomy** — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin agreed Wednesday to resume negotiations on Palestinian autonomy under the Camp David agreement format. The next talks will be held September 23 and 24 at an undisclosed location. Talks were suspended last August by Egypt in protest to Israel's annexation of Arab East Jerusalem.

**Nigeria reduces crude oil price by \$4 per barrel** — Nigeria announced Wednesday that it is lowering the price it charges for crude oil from \$40 to \$36 per barrel, in what could be the first of a series of cuts by OPEC members in response to the growing world oil glut. Nigeria is the second largest exporter of oil to the US, and if other North African producers follow its lead, gasoline prices could drop 2 to 3 cents per gallon in this country.

## Nation

**Medfly spraying expanding in California** — Two new areas of malathion spraying have been added to the 3140 square mile area already being sprayed and under quarantine in northern California, south of San Francisco. The new areas, a 12 square mile section of east Oakland and a nine square mile section of the Los Angeles suburb of Baldwin Park were added when medflies were found in traps in each area. The flies found in Baldwin Park have concerned officials since the area is 260 miles south of the previous area of infestation and Los Angeles is a major produce shipping terminal for the US.

**US spy plane attacked over Korea** — A missile apparently launched from North Korea burst a few miles from a US Air Force SR71 flying at high altitude in international and South Korean airspace, but caused no damage to the plane or crew. The Pentagon statement did not flatly accuse North Korea of launching the missile as details of the incident Wednesday are still being evaluated.

**Double digit inflation in July** — Higher food and housing costs helped push the Consumer Price Index up 1.2 percent in July, to an annual rate of 15.2 percent. A Reagan Administration official and several private economists said inflation will moderate during the remainder of the year, following the general disinflationary movement of the economy in 1981. The sharp rise was led by housing costs, up 1.8 percent, medical care, up 1.3 percent, food prices, up 0.8 percent, and transportation costs, up 0.8 percent.

## Sports

**Ovett sets new mile record** — Britain's Steve Ovett ran a 3:48.40 mile Wednesday breaking the 3:48.53 mark set by his fellow countryman Sebastian Coe a week earlier.

Robert W. Leishman

## Weather

Any cloudiness this morning should give way to mostly sunny skies this afternoon. Winds will be out of the north and east keeping temperatures near 72 at the shore, with inland highs near 76. Clear and cool tonight with lows near 56. Saturday should be partly sunny with onshore winds again. Highs in the low 70's. A warming trend on Sunday with some hazy sunshine and scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs near 80. Chance of rain 20% today, 30% tomorrow, and 50% on Sunday.

James Franklin


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Stephanie Pollack

## Meeting the challenge of R/O

Institute publications often give freshmen the wrong idea about Residence/Orientation Week. Anyone reading the *Freshman Handbook* or *Residence Book* would think that the primary task of a freshman during R/O Week is to find a place to live and figure out which classes to take. They'd be wrong.

R/O Week — for upperclassmen and freshmen alike — is primarily a time for meeting people. Living arrangements can be changed and classes can be added and dropped, but friendships made during R/O Week often last four years or longer. Even passing acquaintanceships started during R/O can make life at the Institute a lot more interesting.

After three R/O Weeks, picnics and parties have started to fade together into a blurred memory of junk food and sleepless nights. Most of the people I have met over the years, however, remain clearly as individuals in my memories. A few R/O encounters are especially clear.

My first R/O meeting actually took place before I arrived at the picnic my freshman year. I was nervously dozing on the train ride, trying to convince my stomach that if it didn't settle down soon it was going to miss some of the world's greatest greasy chicken. Through the jangle of nerves, I heard voices discussing strings of Greek letters. Glancing over the seat in front of me, I saw two MIT freshmen. *Residence Books* in hand.

Talking to the other freshmen calmed me considerably, since I discovered that others were just as nervous as I. I saw one of the guys several times during R/O Week, and we've managed to run into each other in the halls about once a term since then.

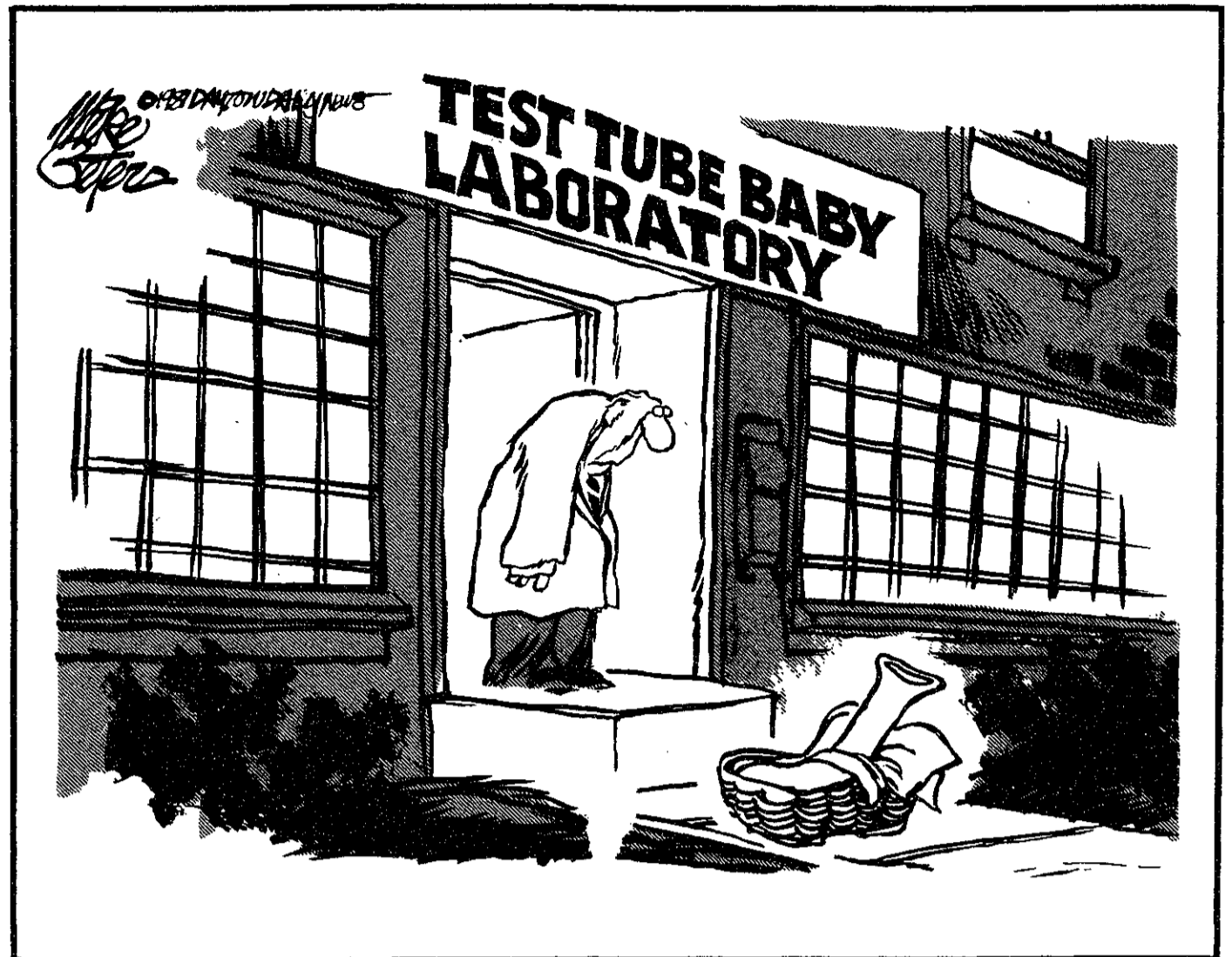
I never learned the names of some of the nicest people I met during my freshman R/O Week. Any time I was lugging my luggage around — I switched dormitories several times to be experimental — people would materialize, grab a suitcase, schlep it to my destination, and disappear again. Many others would patiently answer my endless and obvious questions. It wasn't until I came back for a second R/O that I realized that it is not at all tiresome to answer questions from freshmen, no matter how repetitive they become.

One interesting R/O meeting started very early one morning, after a party. I was sitting in a dormitory lounge and talking to a group of guys when one of them asked me if I'd like to see his baseball cards. I was somewhat nervous about agreeing to visit his room, believing that baseball cards were something like etchings. I was wrong — he really did have a huge collection of baseball cards.

The story of my sophomore R/O roommate falls into the amazing tales category. I was living in a half-open double during R/O Week and was assigned a freshman woman for a roommate. We chatted a few times during the week, but I didn't see much of her. A few weeks later she started dating my ex-boyfriend, who I'd met the previous R/O Week.

One good way to meet people during R/O Week is to give or take a tour. A wide variety of tours — legal and otherwise — is available. Tours of MIT's outdoor sculptures are especially fruitful for those interested in original commentary and widely differing perspectives on life and art at MIT.

The freshmen who will briefly assemble in Killian Court this afternoon will be a diverse group. Eventually they will live in dormitories, fraternities, and at home. Some already know what courses they are taking and others are not yet certain that they want to go to MIT. If there is a single activity that all can engage in during R/O Week which will almost certainly improve their years at MIT, it is meeting people. Rush doesn't make R/O Week special — people make R/O Week special.



→ feedback

## MIT should use interlibrary loans for personal research

To the Editor:

Today I was called and asked if the books I had requested through interlibrary loan were for "personal reading or MIT research." When I replied "personal reading," I was told that I would have to pursue the books myself.

I find this outrageous. When I came to MIT, I (thought I) purchased access to certain services I could use to educate myself. Some of these were the Institute libraries described (misleadingly) in the bulletin by such phrases as "the libraries serve primarily Institute students" and "all of the services offered by a fine research library are available . . . interlibrary loan."

Now I find interlibrary loan unavailable to me for what is contemporaneously termed "personal reading." I wouldn't waste my time reading something I thought

was unimportant; therefore, I'd call it "personal research" and regard it as an important part of my education.

The librarian advised me to use the BPL [Boston Public Library] and their interlibrary loan service. She said our libraries were overloaded with research requests.

I don't want to use the BPL, as a

matter of course and I don't think I should have to. It's a two hour trip there and back on foot.

As for the excuse that research requests occupied our libraries' entire capacity, I thought research and education were parallel goals of the Institute. This stance on interlibrary loan clearly indicates which has priority.

Pamela Keller '84

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**Columns** are usually written by members of *The Tech* staff and represent the opinion of the author only, not necessarily that of the rest of the staff.

**Letters to the Editor** are written by members of the MIT community and represent the opinion of the writer.

*The Tech* will attempt to publish all letters received, and will consider columns or stories. All submissions should be typed, preferably triple spaced, on a 57-character line. Unsigned letters will not be printed. Authors' names will be withheld upon request.

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I'M AN IRA MARTYR... OPEN THE GATE OR I'LL BLOW YOUR KNEECAPS OFF...

# Opinion

Column/Ken Snow

## Of alumni and freshmen

Recently a friend asked me if I felt like a senior. It doesn't seem like I have been here three years, but that cold reality became apparent last June as I stood in Killian Court watching the Commencement exercises.

As the ceremony began, I realized that I knew many of the graduates. It is incredible how many people you touch on in three years of college. The graduates' names were read off, and as another friend or acquaintance received a degree I began to reminisce about the past three years.

Some of these were friends I met during R/O Week. I consider myself to have been a typical freshman: confused, slightly in awe of this place, and ready to take the world — or at least this part of it — by storm. As R/O Week ended the process of making friends was only beginning.

More graduates are receiving their degrees and the flashbacks are endless. Now I'm standing outside at midnight in the middle of January, it is -5° F, and a friend and I are at the wrong end of the Harvard Bridge. My friend suggests we stop for a drink. I agree. Half an hour later, we are in the middle of the Harvard Bridge with a long walk ahead of us. In retrospect it is funny, though at the time it was very cold.

Has it been a year and a half since a friend threw a surprise birthday party for me? Besides being one of the best birthday parties of my life, it was my first surprise party. I certainly have very good friends ... and very crafty ones.

It is amazing how long it takes to present 1500 degrees and there

is very little to do while the ceremony is going on.

Another among the 1500 is a familiar face. We met through some activity, or in a class, or in one of the million and one other places around MIT and Boston where you can meet people. A memory flashes through my mind about some special time the two of us had together, and then I realize that he is no longer a student but an alumnus.

My memories span a variety of activities. Whether during a night of tutoring for a 8.01 exam or during a party, memories and friendships form over the course of three years that cannot be forgotten. I may not remember exactly how well I did on that exam, or how good the party was, but I do remember the friendships.

Now these friends are gone, having left for graduate school or gone out into the "real world." Their loss is felt, but, as a friend recently remarked, "nothing is static."

So begins another year of freshman rush. Freshman picnic, associate advisors, free food, and large beer deliveries are all repeated. The idea is the same but the faces have changed.

Upperclassmen run around putting the finishing touches on rush activities' plans and freshmen settle into their temporary rooms. It is easy to tell the difference between these two groups. Upperclassmen move through Lobby 7 at 3am wishing they were asleep, while freshmen stop and think, "Wow, I really am at college." The wide eyes and naivete are here again.

Many people will encourage freshmen to go visit living groups,

attend the activities, and get involved in groups. These are all very good ideas, but I have another piece of advice. People are very friendly at MIT and rush week is a good time to start meeting people and making friends. You may not remember much about your undergraduate studies, but you will carry friendships and good memories with you for the rest of your life. Besides, they make college much more enjoyable.

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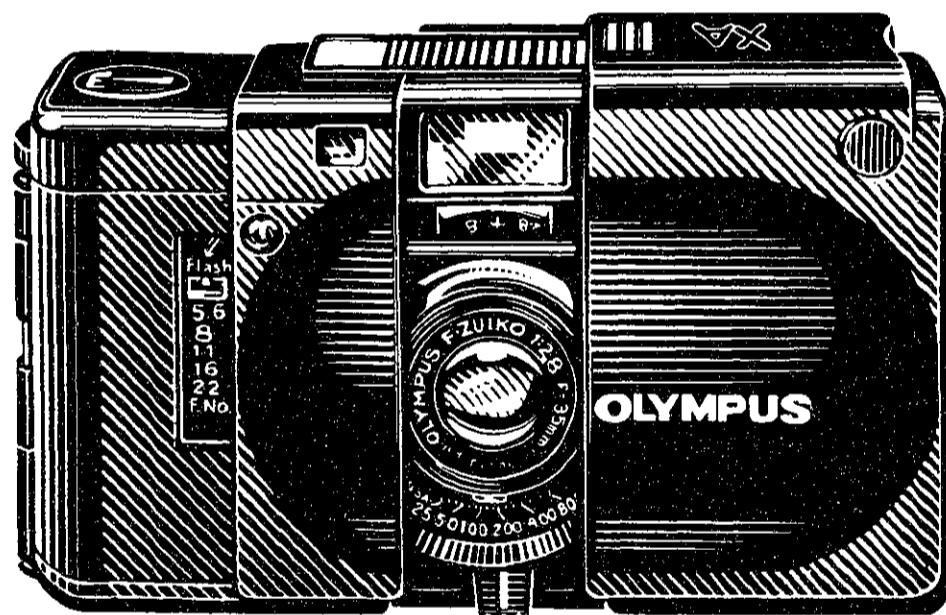
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# Dross and...

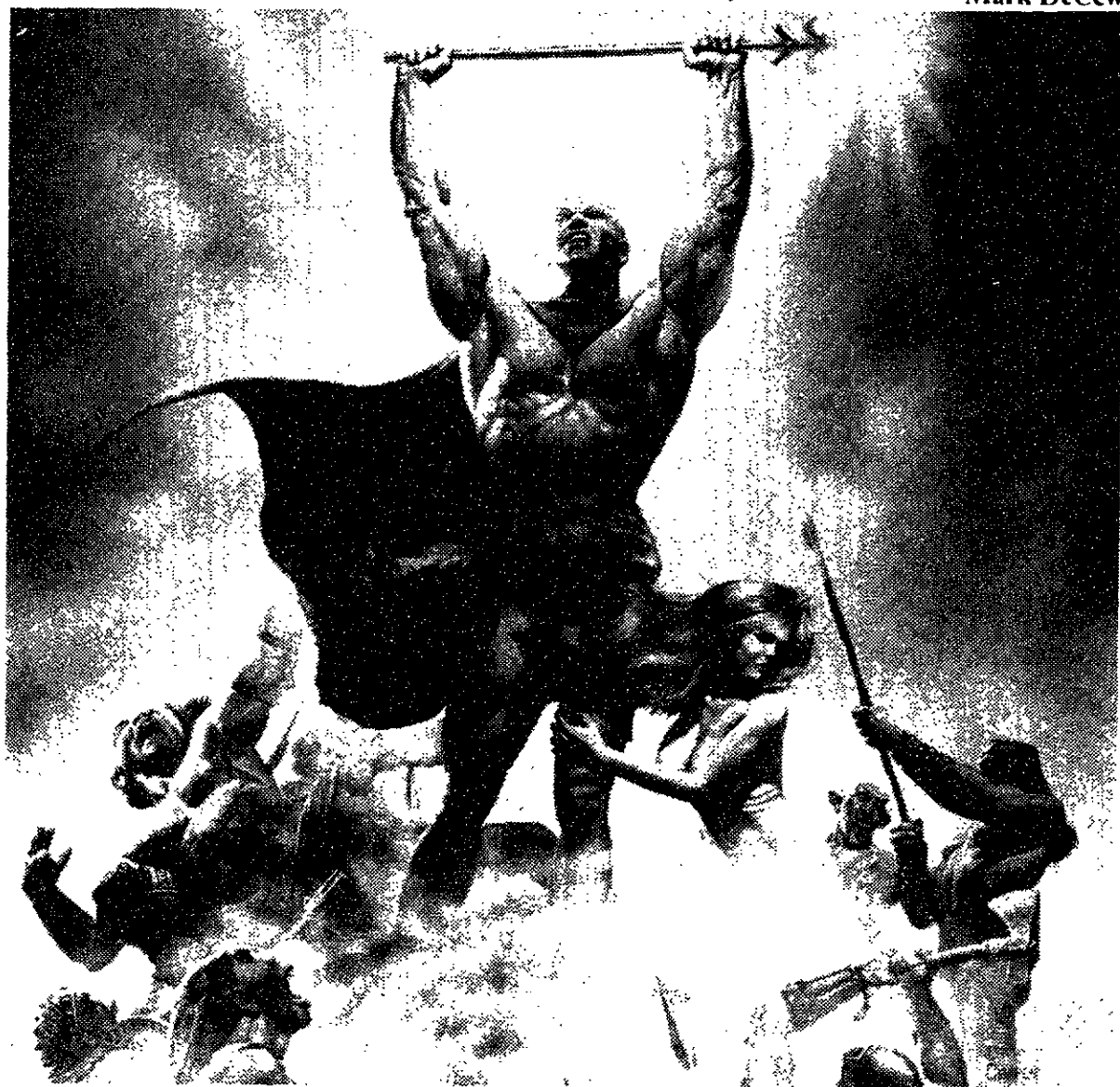
**Heavy Metal**, a Columbia Picture, now playing at Sack Cheri, Sack Danvers, and Galleria.

I had high hopes for *Heavy Metal*. Animated Fantasy with a kick-ass rock 'n' roll soundtrack. Sex, violence, and more colors than the United Nations' flagpoles. What more could I ask? At least that the final product of these incredible ingredients would live up to even my mildest expectations. It didn't.

The basis of the film is the comic book magazine of the same name. The American *Heavy Metal* was patterned after its French counterpart, *Metal Hurlant*. Both are slick periodicals featuring fantastic fiction illustrated by Europe's most bizarre and talented artists. The movie is composed of eight stories, each adapted from an original magazine tale, and all linked together by a green orb known as the "loch-nar." The orb speaks with a voice like the Wizard of Oz and is supposedly the embodiment of pure evil. It floats into each episode to corrupt the characters and provide a continuity link between the unrelated narratives.

The stories are quite good on their own; however, the credit goes to the writers, not the filmmakers. After reading the original comic versions, the animated segments fall flat, almost mocking the sources that spawned them. The variety keeps one from getting bored, though, since each story can be separately tasted and digested before concluding that they all came from the same pot of stew.

A few of the tales do deserve mention. In "Den," the orb transforms a scrawny but loveable nerd into a hairless Charles Atlas and transports him to a world of exotic monsters, naked women, and dangerous adventures. "Harry Canyon" is a twenty-first century cab driver with a peculiar method of dealing with muggers. The film's



*Heavy Metal*, original soundtrack album on Columbia Records.

*Heavy Metal* is currently my favorite album. Since the day I have bought it, I have played it at least once a day and usually at a volume that could deafen an elephant. Never before have I heard an album of original tunes where nearly every song screams "Make me a single!" From the sizzling energy of Sammy Hagar's "Heavy Metal" to the soothing chords of Stevie Nicks' "Blue Lamp," the album provides samples of a dynamic range of musical styles rarely found together on the same piece of vinyl. There is so much pure rock 'n' roll here that Mick Jagger could OD on it.

Many tracks are already receiving airplay, including Cheap Trick's "Reach Out" and Don Felder's "Heavy Metal (Takin' A Ride)." The other big names on *Heavy Metal* are Journey, Grand Funk, Nazareth, Black Sabbath, and Blue Oyster Cult. The disc is also a show case for the up-and-coming French group Trust and Atlanta-based rockers Riggs. The names of the bands are forgotten, however, as soon as the needle strikes a groove and sparks start spewing from the speakers.

longest tale, "Taarna," has a sexy lady on a flying reptile who protects the good and decapitates the evil. The other segments are shorter and with less true direction, but they win or lose on their own.

Even though the animation style changes from story to story, its overall quality varies from fair to mediocre. Over five hundred people were hired for *Heavy Metal* (the credits run longer than some of the segments), and it was probably this supersaturation of animators that prevented a clean and distinctive style from emerging. The artists tried to mimic the "look" of the original pieces, and to some extent succeeded. However, this is usually only in backgrounds and still shots, an attempt that is honorable in spirit but disappointing in results.

I thought at least the music would save the picture but instead it is usually out of place and distracting. The film actually has two soundtracks. The first was composed by Oscar-winner Elmer Bernstein, a soothing classical score, composed to the rhythm of the picture. The other is a collection of original songs by some of the great rockers of the eighties, including Blue Oyster Cult, Black Sabbath, and Cheap Trick. Although the cuts are quite listenable on their own [ed. note: see album review this issue], whenever they appear, it sounds like the usher just turned on the stereo in the back and lifted the needle when he got bored with the song. If the animation and editing were timed to the music, the results would have been far superior.

Many people asked me if this is a good "head" film. In fact, the movie is geared so much for this type of audience that those on drugs might find the movie more enjoyable. But who needs to pay for a movie when the refreshments are the only reason for going? *Heavy Metal* is certainly an atypical animated feature and may be worth seeing for the pure novelty of the concept. But without the proper execution, even the best idea may become a regrettable reality.

Mark DeCew

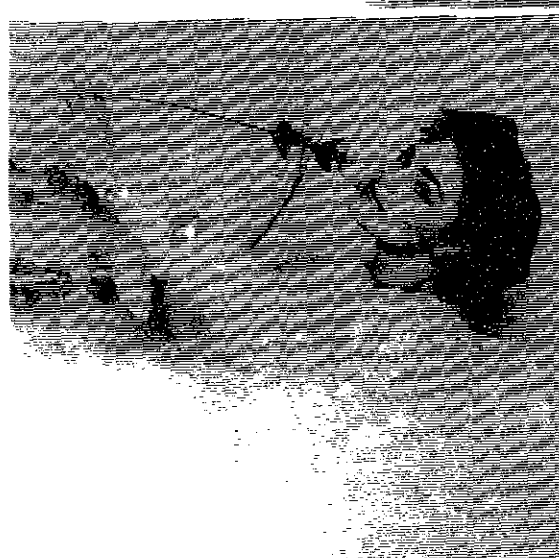
## Precious Metal

My favorite cut on the album has to be the Devo cover of the rhythm and blues classic, "Working in the Coal Mine." The beat grabs you immediately and the punctuated vocals and thumping bass lines drag you head first through the tune. The best way to describe it is "Whip It" with soul.

I think the reason I find this record so appealing (apart from a religious loyalty to hard rock) is because I can play it repeatedly and not get sick of it. Each band performs no more than two songs, so there's no danger of getting bored with a repetitive vocal style or run-on guitar riffs. There is one tune I don't like (Don Fagen's "True Companion") but it's only an instrumental and it gives me a chance to decrease the volume to conversation level (but only for three minutes). Buy this album tomorrow, it's great!

Mark DeCew

Editor's note: Mr. DeCew is The Tech's resident heavy metal music junkie.



## GO-GO'S

Belinda      Kathy      Gina

**I.R.S.**

Jane      Charlotte

## ON THE TOWN

### THEATRE

The MIT Musical Theatre Guild presents **Once Upon a Mattress**, with performances this weekend at 8pm Friday and Saturday (August 28 & 29), and a Sunday matinee at 3:30pm (August 30). Tickets are \$4.50 or \$2.50 with MIT ID, and are available in Lobby 10 or at the MTG office. For information and reservations call X3-6294.

The MIT Educational Studies Program presents **The Silk Shirt** and **Where Are You Going, Hollis Jay?**, Saturday, August 29 at 8pm in the Mezzanine Lounge of the Student Center. Admission is \$3 or \$2 with MIT ID. For information and reservations, call X3-4882.

## Girls K Sing

*Beauty and the Beat* by the Records.

The girl-group sound, harmonies and voices in stratosphere. And the brought it back in style.

Two guys produced the one's reasonable. The other seems to like muddled bass drums. He should be taken out of his misery.

As for the contents, should warn you not to For The Ages or any fluff, pure and unadulterated be tuneful and pleasant to. And it succeeds.

Belinda Carlisle's leading, cutting a wide swath. They compel, not repellent crew is at least competent, nothing challenging enough to show off any talent that

The two songs that have play are "We Got the Beat" and "Are Sealed." The former their single, released a few new producer has drawn Th latter is pleasant enough listen to the lyrics. They're

*It doesn't matter who In the jealous games Our lips are sealed*

Please skip over "Automatic." It drags on for words. Or lyrics, for

The songs range from the bizarre. A good example is "How Much More." Have you heard a song of another girl because Yawn.

In the bizarre category marks on my Heart." They been tossed aside for a standard Top-40 fare. I dare "You Can't Walk in You Can't Sleep)". "Nuff said fact that the bridge is dead

Almost all these tunes hummable and danceable good party record, and a commendable first effort. If you'll be dancing happily to come. I know, I have

### MOVIES

Five years ago, Off the closed by the City of Cambridge the controversial **Throbs: Short, Non-Sexuality and Sensuality**. September 9. Off the present the original. **Throbs**. There will be 7:50, and 9:55pm, plus day at midnight.

### MUSIC

Now's the time to set up-and-coming bands Modern Method Records up-and-coming labels run two shows: the first at 3pm and features **Somebodies**, **Future Dr Swingers Resort**. The 20 (and over) starts at **Someone and the Some Native Tongue** and New shows cost \$4.50

# You've Heard It Before??



Why are Bostonians so placid? Surely there's enough dirt, racism, and economic stagnation in this city for someone to get mad about; governmental indifference and monopoly capitalism are nationwide conditions. Instead we keep churning out attractive art combos that enjoy musing publicly about their personal neuroses. L.A.'s Black Flag played a one-off show at Boston's Channel Club last Saturday night, bringing home painfully what a complacent town we are, but also serving to remind that under the surface, all is not well. Black Flag is one of a growing number of so-called hardcore bands which have sprung up chiefly in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. (two cities with a plastic shrink wrapping of some note) and paralleling the skinhead-subpunk movement in England.

Although Boston seemed singularly uninterested in receiving any message (Black Flag managed only a very short set), the point is that these bands (names to remember are the Adolescents, T.S.O.L., Minor Threat, S.O.A.) are surviving, constantly releasing material, and building a youth following. Black Flag has two new singles out and a third currently in production.

What they write about is unpleasant and important: in England similar bands have chronicled and predicted the social unrest now rocking that country. Americans remain curiously indifferent to the warning signals on their own turf, and with the exception of these bands underground opinion is at an all time low.

An excellent film documentary of this phenomenon — *The Decline of Western Civilization* (the film's soundtrack is also available) — by filmmaker Penelope Spheeris is coming to Boston on September 11 at the Nickelodeon Cinema. The film (highly praised by the New York Times!) details this in-progress protest movement, and articulates the nature, rage, and fury of America's most ignored harbingers.

sheena

## ARTS

# Up, Up, and Away!

Propeller Sampler EP. on Propeller Records.

From its "pay no more than \$2.00" warning on down, the first EP to come out on Propeller exudes honest endeavour and local intelligence. Propeller is a new "collective" label bringing together ten Boston bands who — if it weren't for this capital and profit sharing venture — normally would never get near vinyl. The bands run the label, make decisions together, and sidestep the heartbreaking machinations of the rock industry. The ambitiousness and worth of such an effort alone justifies this four song EP.

But I was waiting for it under even less commendable circumstances. Three of the four songs were hit tapes at MIT's WMBR before getting waxed — overplay of Neats' "Six" became an occupational hazard. Indeed, "Six" ties for first place with CCCP-TV's "Fear That Mindless;" either song is worth those \$2.00.

"Mindless Funk" is anything but mindless. It's a swirling bit of anglo-funk (the thing for white boys to do these days ...) with a delicacy and charm that usually eludes the band in performance. The counterpoint between lead singer Chris Robot's (that name is *not* an affectation) droney, nervous vocals and Wayne Simpson's featherlight, sharp guitar work is paralleled by the contrast between the meditative keyboard work and the airy cymbals placed carefully throughout the song. For its sheer compositional sophistication, "Mindless Funk" is one of my favourite local releases this year. Propeller's artists are some of Boston's more intelligent scenemakers and lyrically it's good to have something to chew on, as Robot winds through the advancements and retrenchments inherent in all but the most mindless relationships.

"Moving Targets," by Wild Stares is fairly forgettable and no more than competently performed. It's not offensive, but the images are labored and it's far too derivative. Eight hundred bands in the UK have made this point already in an equally uninspired manner.

The flip, however! ... you keep picking up the needle and dropping it back on that slinky opening bass line — more, more, more. Doug Simmons of the Phoenix calls the Neats "avant-garage," and a better summing-up would be hard. 'Sixties guitar riffing, 'sixties organ doodling, and 'sixties off-the-wallishness define the Neats, and "Six" is their seminal song, garage archness mixed with eighties artfulness. The foursome work together so tightly that you'd have to be straightjacketed before you could resist falling into the hypnotic groove of this song. No party this fall should be without it: tape dance steps for "The Swim" and "The Clam" to your bathroom door, and the rest just follows.

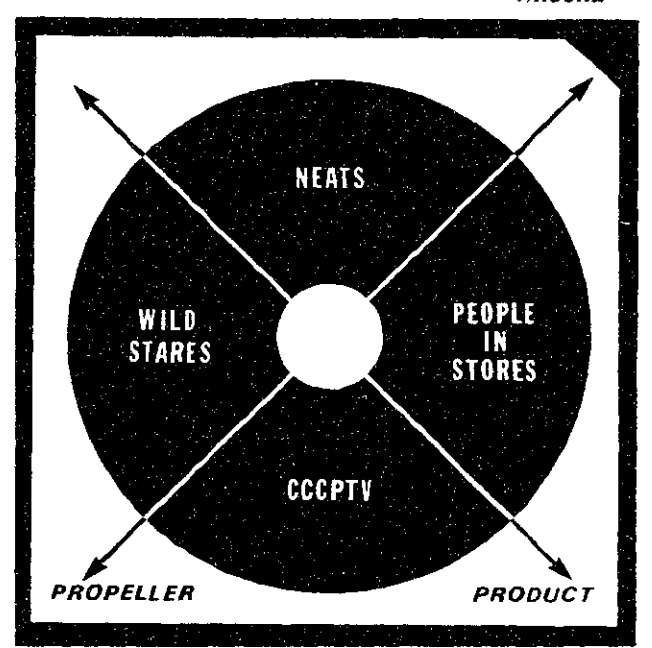
People in Stores submit their tape, "Factory," to the EP. They're a superb band live, and this song in particular often finds flawlessly the funky-industrial sound the band works toward. But the studio effort is too industrial, too cool, too dispirited — the subject matter and the playing weight each other down hopelessly. They ought to try again and try less self-consciously.

I'm sure all these groups will be busy; Propeller has big plans, good bands. *Five Independence!*

Sheena



The Prince (Jim Mahoney) and the King (Bob Shepard-Blue) act royally in the Musical Theater Guild's production of *Once Upon A Mattress* (photo courtesy of Technique)



## Four unions now without contracts

(continued from page 1)

the rush would be minimal, quipping, "It will be such chaos at the end [of the picnic] that they'll probably be trampled anyway."

Local 26 is one of four unions representing Institute employees currently working without contracts. Negotiations are continuing between MIT and the Research, Development and Technical Employees Union (RDTEU) and Local 14 of the Plant Employees Protection Union, and a tentative agreement with Local 254 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) was reached late yesterday.

According to a source familiar with the negotiations, the agreement is a two-year contract providing annual salary increases of ten percent, a one-time, five-week paid vacation for employees with between fifteen and twenty years seniority, and an increase in pension benefits. An approval vote by the rank and file is scheduled for Monday night.

The same source indicated that a meeting between MIT's negotiators and the RDTEU is likely today.

Negotiations between MIT and the food service workers have remained at a standstill for over a month. Bozzotto walked out of a negotiating session July 23, and has refused to resume bargaining since then. He indicated last night, however, that "if R and D [the RDTEU] gets the same offer as SEIU, I'll call Culliton." Culliton said, "I have not been called. I'm willing to sit down and talk. We have proceeded in the spirit of collective bargaining."

Bozzotto blamed Culliton for the breakdown in contract talks. "Obviously he has no plans for being serious with us," he said. "... I'm more than willing to call

when MIT makes a serious offer. Nine, nine, eight and a half is not a serious offer." Bozzotto was referring to MIT's offer of wage hikes of nine percent for two years, and of eight and one half percent for the last year of a three year contract, made to the other three unions earlier in the week.

Local 26 demands include language revisions in job descriptions, increased Institute participation in insurance premium payments, and wage increases of fifteen percent for each of three years. Culliton saw the demands as an indication that union "officials appear to be strongly oriented toward the work practices and requirements of hotels and commercial restaurants, which are quite different from those of educational institutions."

On Wednesday, Bozzotto was less confident about the possibility of future negotiations. "Someday," he said, "MIT will make its final offer; then it might be worthwhile to go in and reject it in person." He indicated that a show of solidarity among the MIT unions was likely. "There is an understanding that there will be a joint [strike] deadline. We haven't decided that date yet."

Commenting on the possibility of a job action, Bozzotto said, "We don't want to bother the students; we don't see them as our enemy ... if anybody has to be put out it's the negotiators." Action taken to date has been limited to a rally and press conference and picketing in front of Culliton's Cambridge home. Others targeted for possible picketing include Manager of Labor Relations James J. Fangel, Vice President Constantine B. Simonides and President Paul E. Gray '54. Said Bozzotto, "We'd like to go out and visit them like we visited Culliton."

## Some crowding is unavoidable

(continued from page 1)

Sherwood explained that a small amount of overcrowding is unavoidable. He said that freshmen may request crowding for any number of reasons. Crowded students also take the place of students who leave the housing system during the fall term. "We need some crowding so that we don't have empty beds second semester," Sherwood added.

The opening of 500 Memorial Drive also eased the crowding situation. Sherwood noted that the carpenters' strike which occurred during the summer ended early enough for the building to be completed. At the time the building was designed, the class of 1985 was expected to be 1100. The Academic Council later voted to limit class size to 1050.

Some students have already moved into the living areas on the top four floors of 500 Memorial Drive. The Turner Construction Company plans to fulfill its original agreement with MIT to turn the completed building over to MIT by September 1, according to Sherwood. He added that he is "delighted. It is fantastic to see students living there."

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### R/O Week

The telephone number for the R/O Center given on the schedule is incorrect. The correct number is 253-8172.

\* \* \* \*

Volunteers are needed to help at the **International Open House** being held in the Bush Room 10-195 on September 1, 2, and 3. Anyone interested in helping should call Julie Roberts at x3-1614.

### Announcements

The Bursar's **Student Accounts Office** will be open Friday, September 4, 1981, from 9 to 4 for receipt of payments and emergency dean fund loans only.

The purpose in limiting the daily activity is to provide office staff time to prepare for Registration. Students who have other financial matters to discuss should delay coming to the Bursar's Student Accounts Office until Tuesday, September 8, 1981, when normal office hours will resume.

### Activities

A Grand Prix **chess tournament** will be held on September 12-13. The four round Swiss-style tournament will be in three sections: Open, Reserve (under 1900), and Booster (under 1600). Registration is from 10-11am with rounds at 11 and 4 on Saturday and 10 and 3 on Sunday in Room 491 of the MIT Student Center. The entry fee is \$12 (\$15 at the door).

## notes

For more information, call Brad at 494-0263 or x3-7554.

### Off-Campus

On the evening of Saturday, August 29th, Boston's fourth annual "**Women Unite: Take Back the Night**" will be held to protest the continual violence against women. Take Back the Night is an event comprising marches at night throughout the city, culminating in a rally to be held in Roberto Clemente Park at 9:30pm. Marches will begin at Boston Common at 7 as well as from Dorchester, Cambridge, Somerville, Allston/Brighton, and Jamaica Plain. For more information, call Ellen Brenner at 262-3624.

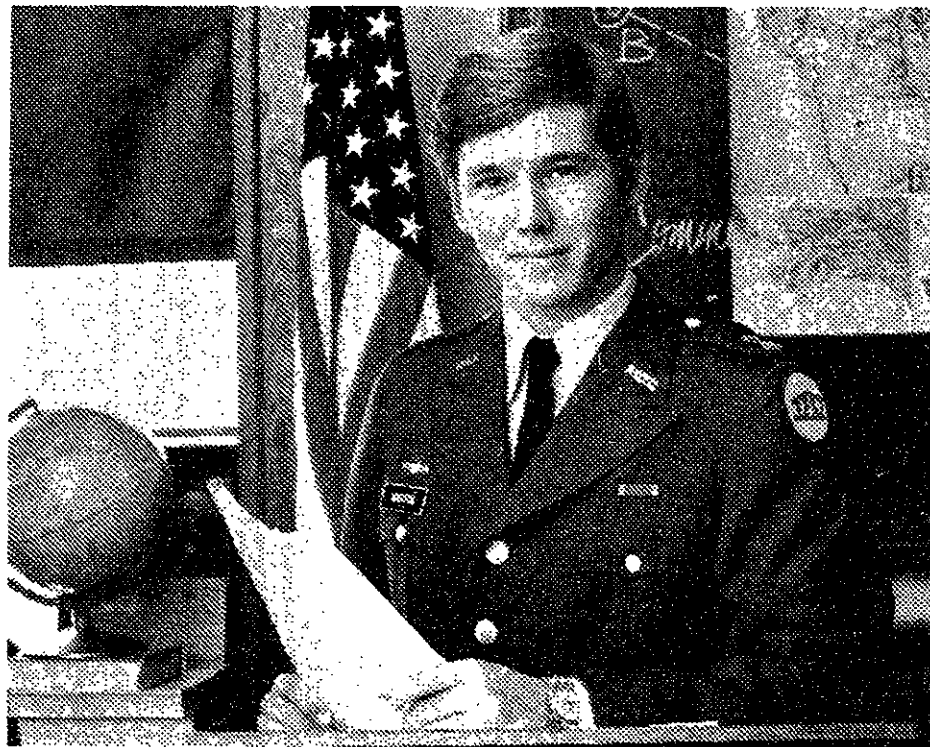
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## Feature

**"A human powered billboard"**

By Joseph Romm

2:10pm, Room 8-032, the Group Velocity Machine Shop.

"Basically, we have no money to go to England," said Bruno Mombrinie '82. So began a busy Wednesday afternoon with the senior in Mechanical Engineering who heads Group Velocity, MIT's attempt to beat the world speed record of 62.93 miles per hour for a human powered vehicle (HPV).

2:25pm. A quick stop to see Campus Patrol about not towing Group Velocity's rented car.

Group Velocity's HPV, named the New Wave, is a cigar-shaped bicycle which is powered by five sets of foot pedals and four sets of hand cranks. The five riders lie almost flat on their backs to fit into the 43' x 25" x 28 1/2" machine. All five use both their hands and feet to power the machine, except the lead man, who uses his hands to steer. Group Velocity hopes that the five riders, who have been training for months, will achieve a speed of 65 mph.

2:35pm. An unsuccessful attempt to see Mechanical Engineering (ME) Professor Woodie Flowers.

The challenge now is to get \$50,000 or more by September 1 to pay for Group Velocity to take the New Wave to Brighton, England to compete with other HPV's on September 5 for a prize of 2000 British pounds.

2:50pm. After a ten minute wait, a successful attempt to see ME Professor David Wilson.

According to Mombrinie, the machine is a "big billboard," with advertising space now available on at least one side. Sponsors are needed who want their name to be associated with what may very well become the world's fastest HPV.

3:15pm. Another 15 minute wait to see ME Professor Karl Hedrick, on whose design the New Wave is based.

In a test run on Tuesday at Hanscom Air Force Base, one person pedaled because the New Wave had not yet been outfitted

for five pedalers. Group Velocity hopes to have the machine ready Saturday for a major run to break the world record.

4:15pm. Running from Building 3 to the rented car to get \$1000 before 5:00 to make completion of the New Wave possible.

The theory behind the design is that with a given frontal cross-section for the streamlined machine, the more humans pedaling, one behind the other, the faster the machine will go.


4:40pm. E-19 says the money won't be available until Thursday morning.

Two key features which make the New Wave so fast are the Lexan jacket which is zipped over the frame to minimize aerodynamic drag, and the continuously

variable Whisper Transmission. The Whisper Transmission has two bobbins, one of which starts out with the chain wrapped around it. As the vehicle moves, the chain starts to wrap around the other bobbin, yielding a continuously increasing gear ratio.

5:00pm. The Simplex warehouse just off Central Square where the New Wave is stored.

The New Wave is the product of approximately four months of work and \$4000. Besides Mombrinie, the human power behind the machine is Sarah Gavit '81, Tim Hilby '82, and some twenty other members of Group Velocity. If they all operate at as frantic a pace as Bruno Mombrinie, breaking the world record will be no problem.



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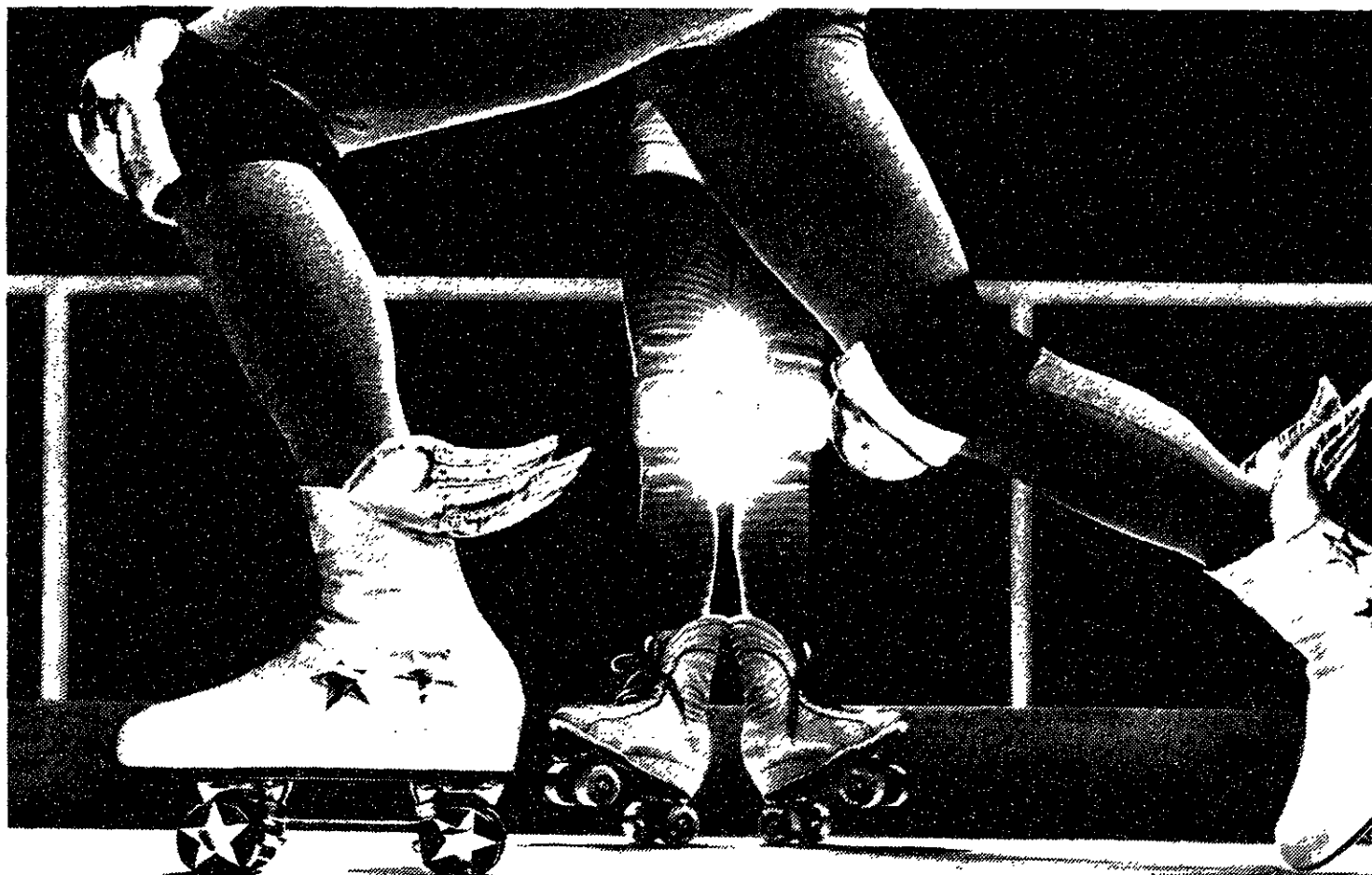
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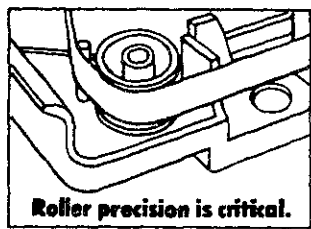


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FOR SALE — 1977 Toyota Corolla, 5 spd, good exterior (yellow) and interior (tan), new brakes, just tuned, no mechanical trouble. Call Mike Brower, 247-8691 or 225-6484 (leave message if not there)

**"O. Reason not the need!"**

Any person interested in auditioning for the MIT SHAKESPEARE ENSEMBLE call Larry Lane, Director - x2903. Our next full production is MacBeth, October 22-27

**Piano Lessons**

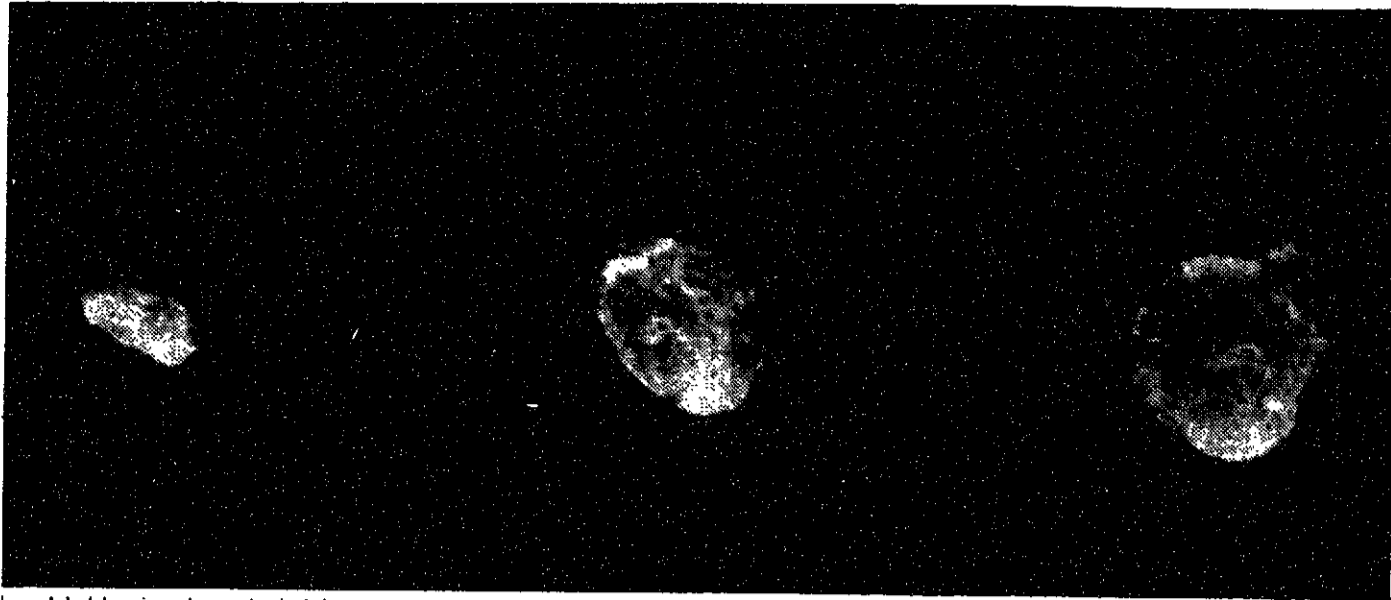
Concert Pianist, recently moved to Somerville accepting advanced pupils and a limited number of serious beginning and intermediate students. Dorothy Siegart 666-4582.

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# Voyager camera stuck



Look! Up in the sky! It's a peanut — a hockey puck — no, it's Hyperion! These three views of the Saturnian satellite Hyperion illustrate the irregular shape revealed as Voyager 2 approached the hamburger shaped satellite, measuring roughly 220 by 130 miles. (NASA photo via CSR)

(continued from page 1)

1200 kilometers outside the G ring."

A photopolarimeter, also mounted on the platform, was particularly important because the one on board Voyager 1 was destroyed by an intense radiation field surrounding Jupiter. In the photopolarimeter's most crucial experiment, Saturn's rings were counted and measured just before the platform failure.

Before the failure, scientists observed that the satellite Hyperion has a shape variously described as a peanut, a beer can, and a hockey puck, depending on what angle it is viewed at. The direction of its axis may indicate that the satellite is relatively new to its orbit.

Voyager 2 later discovered a crater on Tethys, another of Saturn's satellites, covering 250 miles of the satellite's 650 mile diameter. The observation marked the largest crater/satellite ratio discovered thus far, greater even than that discovered on Mimas by Voyager 1 during its flyby last December. Mimas itself would fit inside the Tethys crater.

The existence of an eccentric, possibly discontinuous, ring inside the Encke division was confirmed, perhaps raising as many questions as Voyager 1's discovery of the braided F ring.

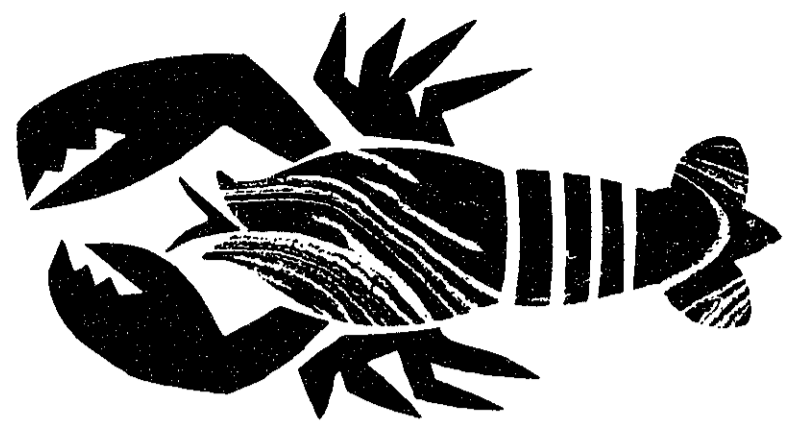
According to imaging team member David Morrison, the "kinky Encke" is similar in some respects to the F ring, which no longer looks quite the same as it did from Voyager 1. Voyager 2 approached Saturn at a sharper angle than its predecessor, giving it a better view of the rings and smaller satellites.

Enough was accomplished before the platform failure for chief project scientist Ed Stone to proclaim the mission "99% suc-

cessful" late Wednesday night. Stone was speaking on MIT-TV over the NASA Space-Net. The final hour of scheduled coverage of the mission will be presented live via satellite on MIT cable 8 tonight at 8pm.

Stone's statement, coming as Voyager 2 completes the first half of its voyage to Neptune, reflects

doubts participants have expressed in the past as to whether Voyager will continue to function during its rendezvous with Uranus in 1986 and Neptune in 1989. Funding for the Grand Tour concept was not originally approved, so the Voyager craft were not specifically designed to explore Uranus or Neptune.



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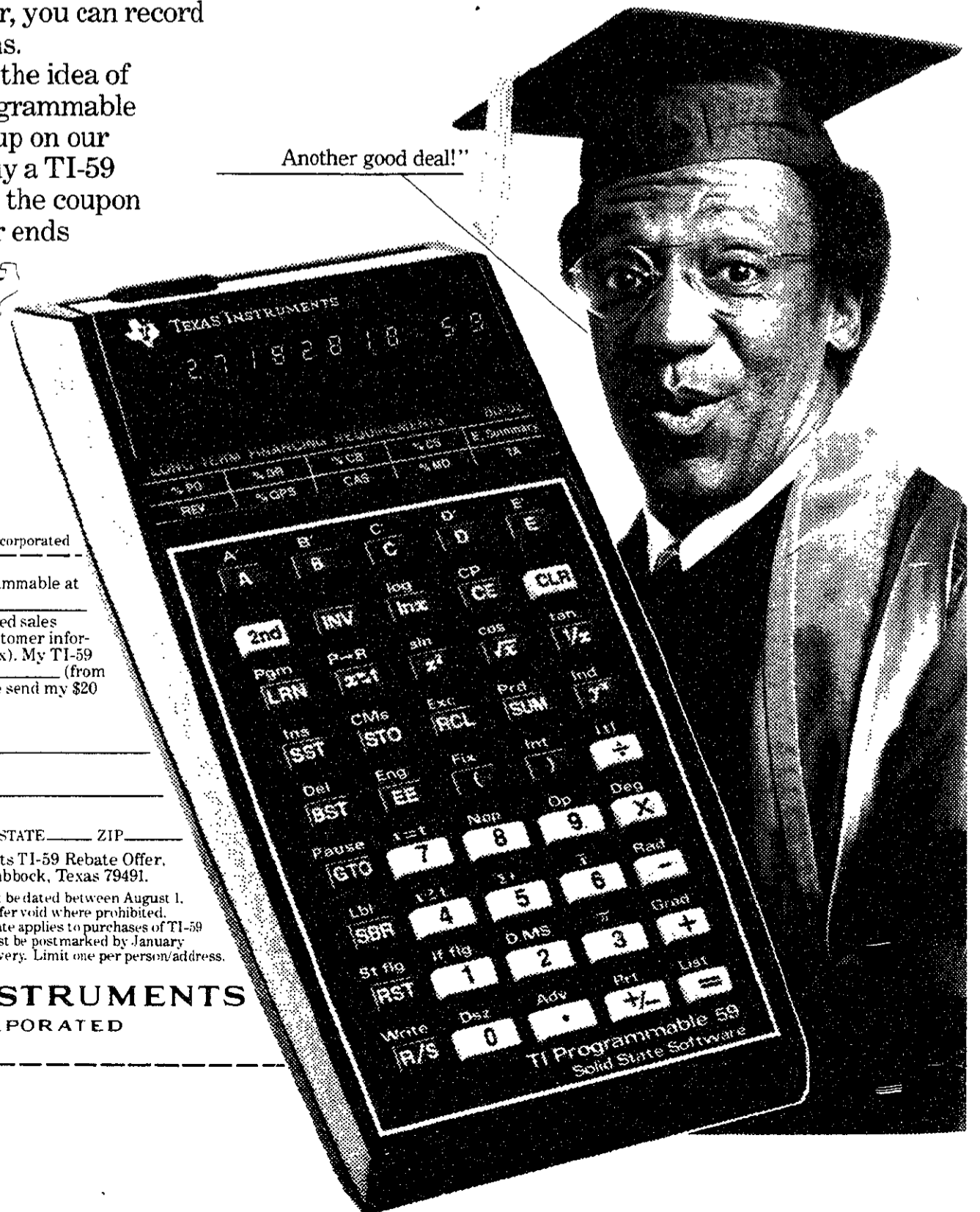
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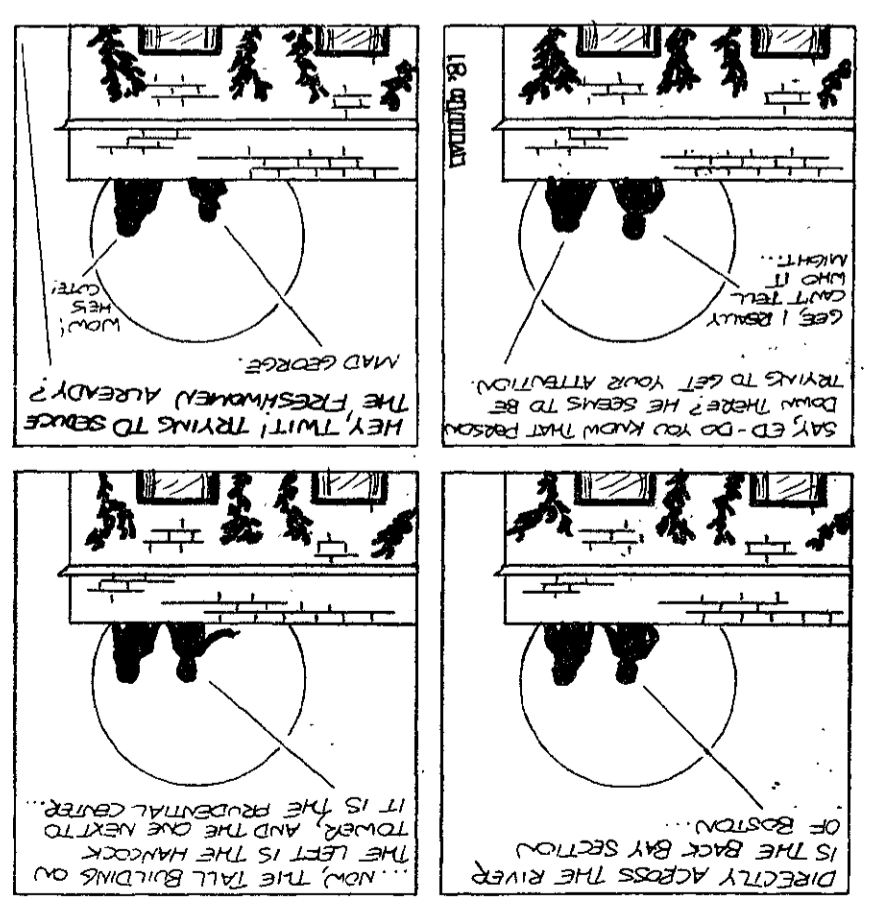


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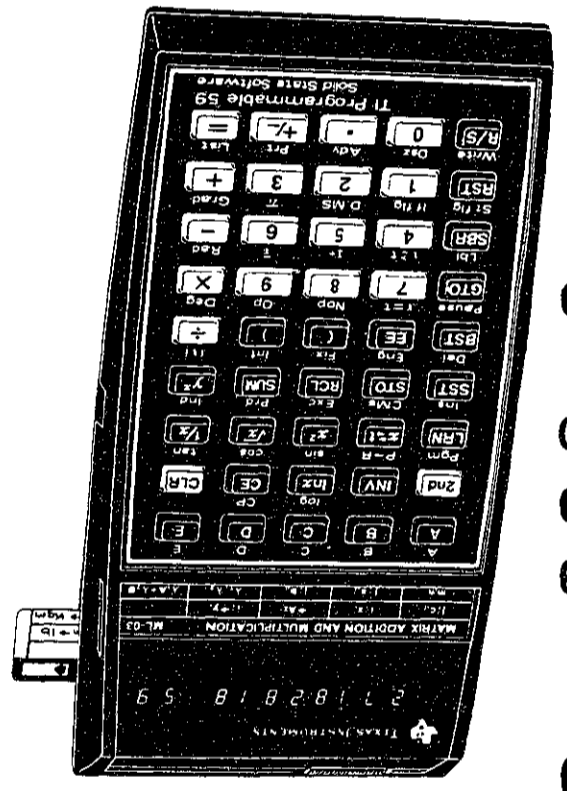
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# MIT construction to finish shortly

By Laura Farhie

The intersecting Whittaker College and Health Services buildings now under construction on the east side of campus constitute "the biggest single building we've constructed since the original group of buildings," according to Director of Physical Plant Paul Barrett.

The buildings, which will open at the end of December, are one of four major construction projects underway at MIT which will be completed by the end of this term. The other facilities are the renovated building at 1 Amherst Street, an additional parking lot on the west side of campus, and a landscape at a site for a potential Arts and Media Technology building.

The infirmary will move from its present location into the Health Services building on Carleton Street during the Christmas vacation, the time of the "lowest population density," said Barrett. Medical equipment, such as x-ray machines, is currently being purchased; modelling of the interior of the building is also underway.

The Whittaker College of Health Sciences, Technology, and Management will contain laboratories for the life sciences, explained Barrett. The basement will house cages and facilities for animal research. The entire

building has 250,000 square feet of floor space.

The building at 1 Amherst Street, formerly known as the Webster Building, will be completely renovated by mid-October. The Energy Laboratory, headed by Ford Professor of Engineering David White, is currently moving into the third and fourth floors of the building, said Barrett. The second and first floors of the building will be occupied in September and October, respectively.

"The building [name] was changed to 1 Amherst Street so that we don't perpetuate the Webster name," said Physical Plant Office Manager Kenneth Thompson. He explained that the building might later be named after a generous donor.

Construction workers are currently "demolishing one-story buildings that were formerly warehouses" on Vassar Street across from Tang Hall in order to build a parking lot, according to Barrett. The 340,000 square-foot parking lot will hold approximately 100 cars, he added.

Thompson explained that the former warehouses were part of the MIT real estate and had been leased to independent renters "within the reality of how long the site might stay there." MIT gave the owners at least six months notice that they would



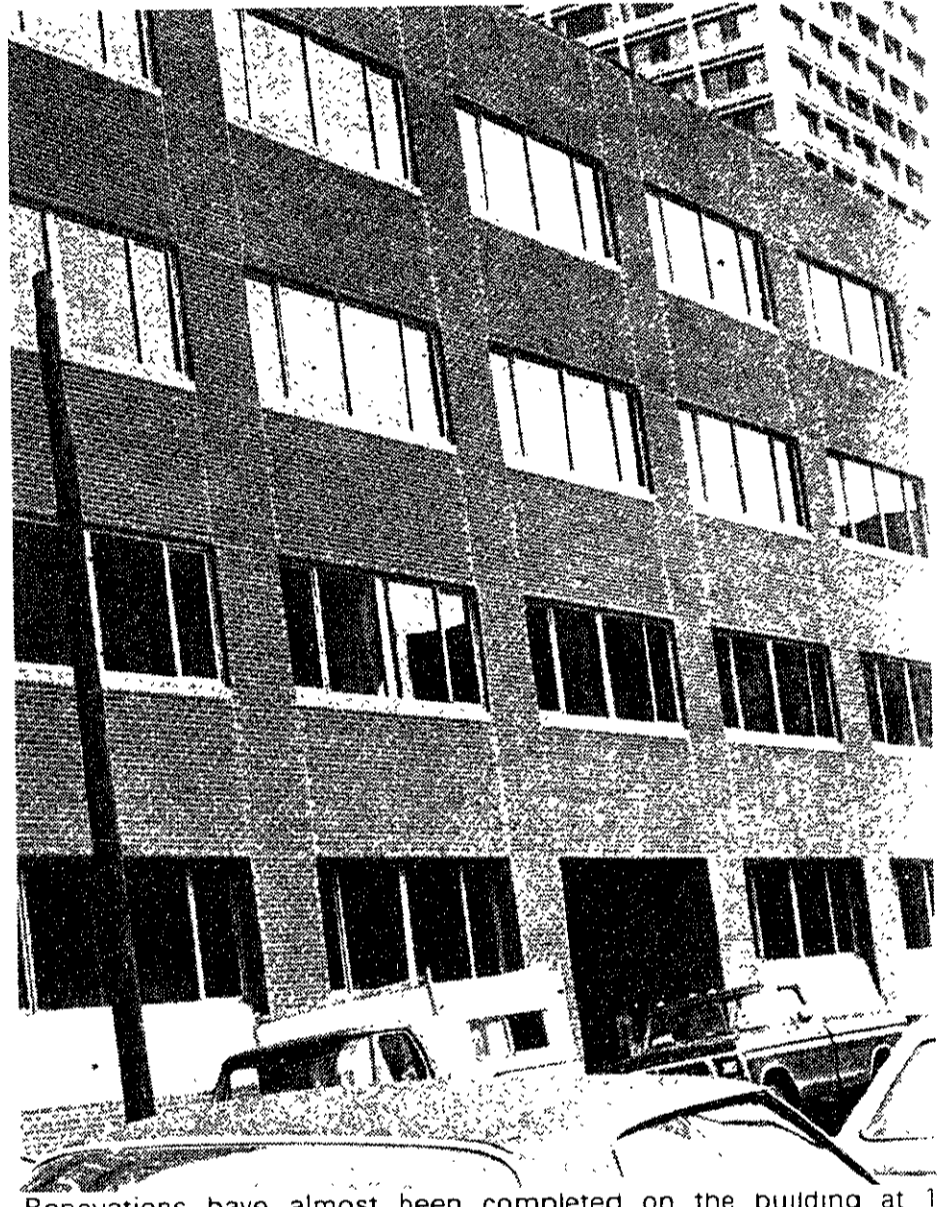
Construction is continuing on the Whittaker College building on Carleton Street. (photo by Linda Custer)

have to leave, and took the responsibility for finding the owners of other warehouses on its real estate.

Last summer, MIT demolished Building E21, located across from the East Campus parallels on Ames Street. A "simple landscape" is being put there, said Thompson, and if they reach the "threshold level of funding," an Arts and Media Technology Building will be constructed.



An empty lot now marks the former location of Building E21 (photo by Linda Custer)



Renovations have almost been completed on the building at 1 Amherst Street. (photo by Linda Custer)

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