

Tech photo by Robert Winters
Cambridge meets the Denver boot — local police immobilized three cars next to Ashdown House recently, in hopes of collecting unpaid parking fines.

Chairman sought for Corp. Wiesner declines offer to replace retiring Johnson

By Barry S. Surman

A committee charged with finding a new Chairman for the MIT Corporation has met once since its appointment a month ago by President Paul E. Gray '54, and the only person asked thus far has turned down the job.

The search committee, headed by Carl M. Mueller '41, will recommend a successor to retiring Chairman Howard W. Johnson for approval by the Corporation's Executive Committee.

Corporation bylaws call for the Chairman's post to be filled by a former president of the Institute, when possible, but President emeritus and Institute Professor Jerome Wiesner declined the position for personal reasons.

Only once since MIT's founding has a Corporation Chairman not been a former President — Vannevar Bush held the Corporation's top post from 1957 to 1959.

According to search committee member Emily Wade '45, the group sent letters requesting suggestions of candidates to alumni officers and Corporation members, and are still awaiting responses. "It's a matter of a name surfacing," she said.

Neither Wade nor committee member Angus MacDonald '46 would speculate on who the next Chairman might be. Mueller was not available for comment.

Johnson is retiring after 12 years at the head of the Corporation, preceded by five years as President of the Institute and seven years as a Dean. He announced his retirement at the June 1 quarterly meeting of the Corporation.

"One thinks of other things one would like to do," Johnson said. He plans to return to writing and teaching after his June 1983 retirement. "There really isn't any time for doing that well" while Chairman, Johnson said.

"I think it's time to turn to someone else," Johnson continued. "MIT is in good shape . . .

it's a good time for me and for the Institute."

The Chairman should be a person who understands MIT well, Johnson said, one whose "heart is here and mind is here."

The search committee will try to find a candidate meeting those qualifications by January, Wade said.

Holden to retire from Dean's post

By Barry S. Surman

Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert J. Holden will retire at the end of September, after 19 years of service to the Institute.

With Holden's departure imminent and administrative funding being cut over the next three years, the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs is planning to consolidate its student activities and residence programs.

"Student activities are here to stay," Holden declared. "I doubt if there will be any policy changes."

Holden came to MIT in August 1953, as general secretary of the Technology Christian Association, now the Technology Com-

munity Association. Many functions then performed by TCA have since been taken over by various MIT offices, Holden said.

Holden moved to the Dean's Office in 1956, and has been faculty resident in Tang Hall since 1967. He plans to return to his former residence in Natick, Massachusetts, to "meet my neighbors again."

"It's been fun," Holden said of his tenure at the Institute. "It's been exciting. Everybody's been great."

Neither Dean for Student Affairs Shirley McBay nor Associate Dean Robert A. Sherwood was available for comment.

MIT seeks Simplex development plans

By Tony Zamparutti

MIT has selected three of five competing real estate developers to submit detailed proposals for the development of the Simplex land.

One of the companies eliminated had not hired architectural and legal consultants for the project, as did all the other competitors, and the other did not seem to want to continue the competition, Walter Milne, Special Assistant to the President, noted.

MIT purchased most of the approximately 20 acre property, located between Massachusetts Avenue, and Brookline, Pacific, and Purrington Streets just north

of the Institute, from the Simplex Wire and Cable Company in 1970. Conflicts between MIT and Cambridgeport residents, and MIT attempts to develop the property, have so far been unresolved.

Five companies submitted preliminary proposals to MIT on May 7, and a panel of MIT administrators has met with representatives of each developer.

The preliminary proposals did not specify uses of the property nor include architectural plans: about seventy-five percent of the final use of the property will eventually be decided by the market, suggested Phillip Trussell, MIT Real Estate Officer.

(Please turn to page 2)

McBay asks five groups to report

By Tony Zamparutti

Dean for Student Affairs Shirley McBay requested five student organizations give reports to the Corporation Visiting Committee on Student Affairs, which will return November 7 through 9.

The five activities are the Undergraduate Association Finance Board (FinBoard), the Lecture Series Committee (LSC), the InterFraternity Conference (IFC), *The Tech*, and the Student Center Committee (SCC).

"The student activities picked are the student activities that are very well off," Charles Brown '84, FinBoard Chairman, said. "It's a very one-sided selection that ignored the student activities that are having trouble with membership and financing. She ignored all the cultural groups, all the competitive groups, and all the small activities."

Steven Immerman, Business Advisor to Fraternities, acknowledged that Dean McBay had asked only large, high-budget, well-established student organizations to report to the committee. "We [in the ODSA] all noticed that at the same time," he reported.

The request for reports is only a preliminary action; other activities will be contacted in the future, according to Associate Dean for Student Activities Robert Holden. "That was kind of a quick first pass," Holden said. "That is not final."

A tentative agenda for the visiting committee to consider drafted by McBay included discussions about student activities and student government, various ODSA services, and consideration of "merger of Residence Programs and Student Activities." Associate Dean for Student Activities Robert Holden will soon retire.

In the past few years MIT has reorganized the ODSA and hired a new Dean. Vice President Simonides, to whom the ODSA reports, noted the office is reevaluating student activities services.

In his 1978 review of the ODSA "I did not do a thorough job looking at that section," Simonides said. "The high priority [was] . . . what became the UASO."

The administration is considering "working residential services and student activity services closer together," noted Simonides.

The ODSA became more visible to student activities last semester, when McBay held a series of dinner meetings with student activity leaders, and Immerman began separate meetings to discuss student activity financing.

Most of the students attending the two sets of meetings were members of large, high-budget organizations such as LSC, SCC, Finboard, and *The Tech*.

The committee is one of several visiting committees which report to the Corporation on the MIT departments. In contrast to those of other MIT visiting committees, the committee's reports are traditionally released, and its meetings open. The Visiting Committee on Student Affairs last met in May, 1981, when the committee evaluated the performance of the Undergraduate Academic Support Office (UASO).

When the committee last visited MIT in April, 1981, it held an open forum with students on a Friday night which few attended. This November, the committee will meet from Sunday to Tuesday, Simonides reported.

Russell F. Chihoski '83

By Kenneth Snow

Russell F. Chihoski '83 died June 13 after a fall while rock climbing near Boulder, Colorado.

Chihoski had planned to receive degrees in electrical engineering, computer science, physics, and mathematics. He was a resident of Baker House who participated in many of that dormitory's activities. Chihoski was also personnel

manager of *Ergo*.

Chihoski's father, Russell A. Chihoski '54, majored in metallurgy, and his mother, Caroline Disario Chihoski '56, received her degree in civil engineering. Chihoski's maternal grandfather was also graduated from MIT. Gabriel M. Disario '28 received his degree in civil engineering.

Chihoski is also survived by three sisters and two brothers.

Edward L. Horton G

By Kenneth Snow

Edward L. Horton G drowned on June 26 while swimming in Eastham, MA. Horton was a second year graduate student in physics.

Horton and several other students were on an outing at Eastham Lake. While in a boat with one other student, he decided to swim to shore. Shortly after entering the water, Horton disappeared. The police recovered his body 40 minutes later.

Horton was vice president of the Black Graduate Student

Association and chaired several programs such as the Minority Graduate Student Orientation Program. Horton received his undergraduate degree at Grambling State University, where he was a drum major in the band.

Horton is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Horton of Shreveport, La.; his wife, Cheryl Coleman Horton; a daughter, Carmen Mercer Horton; a sister, two brothers, his maternal and paternal grandparents and a paternal great-grandfather.

The Tech
summer
publication
schedule

This is the first issue of *The Tech* for summer 1982. Remaining publication dates are Friday, July 30, and Friday, August 13.



Tech photo by Robert Winters
Falafel trucks haven't been such a common sight on Massachusetts Avenue since Cambridge Police began enforcing vending laws.

Institute seeks developers' Simplex plans

(Continued from page 1)

"They're very general," he explained. "You can't ask for a lot of detail at this point."

The major difference in proposals is how they mix market housing units with commercial buildings, Trussell explained.

He noted MIT is particularly interested in the anticipated traffic flows for the streets running through the Simplex site.

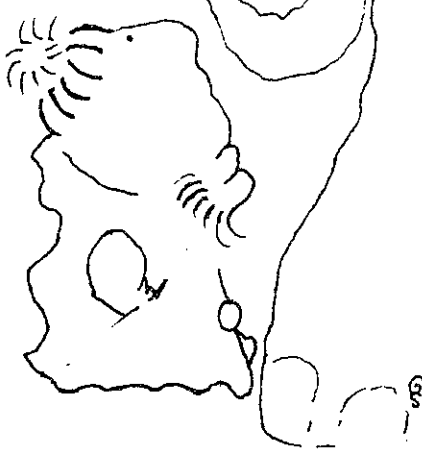
Although the Simplex issue has generated much debate in Cambridge in the past ten years, especially over proposals to change the area's zoning, "It's been relatively quiet," Trucell said. "We haven't heard an awful lot from the neighborhood."

"We've had a couple of meetings with neighborhood people and one with business people," Walter Milne, Special Assistant to the President, noted. Most of the debate over use of the Simplex land should not appear until a single developer is chosen and a definite plan proposed, Milne suggested.

LOOK US UP

Boston Zoological Society

442-2002



Zoomobile
Franklin Park Zoo
Walter D. Stone Memorial Zoo
This space donated by The Tech.

MIT considers plan for Mass. Av. vendors

By Tony Zamparutti

MIT, after asking Cambridge Police in mid-May to oust the vending trucks from Massachusetts Avenue at the entrance to the Institute, is researching a plan to allow food to be sold from allotted spaces of MIT property.

Vice President for Operations William Dickson '56 decided to have the vendors removed after complaints about the smell of food in building 5, rats breeding around the entrance to MIT, and trucks blocking the MBTA bus stop and the cross walk.

In the past two years the number of vendors selling at MIT has increased from one or two to about a dozen, Campus Police Chief James Olivieri noted. He emphasized the removal of vendors "was not the work of the Dining Service."

Under the hawking and vending licenses held by the vendors, trucks cannot park in one spot for longer than ten minutes. Cambridge Police have used the law to remove vending trucks from Massachusetts Avenue and other streets adjacent to MIT.

After the Institute enacted its new policy, vendors lost much business. "It was a complete shock," said Edith Analetto of Blue Goose Pizza. "We weren't prepared for it financially."

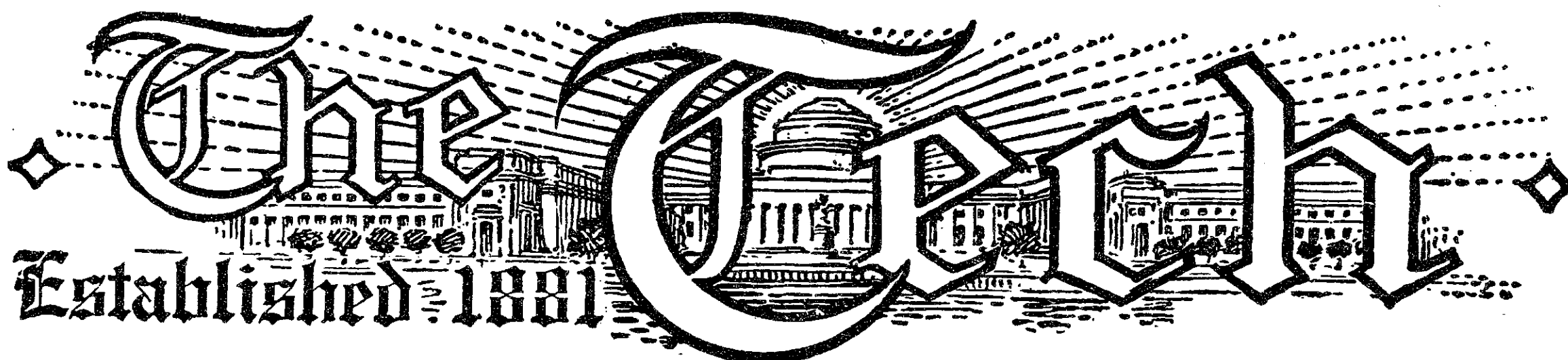
MIT is considering leasing approximately four spots to food vendors, according to Olivieri.

Northeastern University, which now operates such a system, has found "there are a lot of problems," Olivieri said. "Northeastern tells us they opened Pandora's Box."

The first problem would be allocation of spaces among vendors, he explained.

Analetto said she expected Blue Goose Pizza would be one of four vendors allocated a space.

At present, although MIT does not want the trucks to stay around the Institute, "pending some solution, we are not trying to drive them off every street in the Commonwealth," Olivieri added.



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news roundup

World

United States to aid in Palestinian Evacuation — The United States has agreed "in principle" to contribute to a multinational "temporary peacekeeping" force in Lebanon which would facilitate the evacuation of Palestinian guerillas from that country. Following President Reagan's announcement to that effect Tuesday, Palestinian Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir Arafat publicly expressed reservations about the Administration's tentative proposal to evacuate Palestinian units aboard the ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. Administration officials, however, claim that diplomatic sources have advised them that the PLO leaders want the United States to proceed with the evacuation proposal.

Swiss Test of Live Vaccine Stems Spread of Rabies — The use of bait containing live rabies vaccine has apparently eradicated that disease from a limited area of Switzerland. The test, directed by Dr. Franz Steck of the University of Bern, entails the distribution of chicken heads inoculated with the live rabies vaccine throughout the test area as bait for foxes, which are the chief carriers of the disease in Europe. The foxes become immune, breaking the transmission cycle of the disease. Dr. Steck hopes to extend the successful program into other areas of Switzerland between Zurich and Geneva this summer.

South Africa Mine Unrest Results in Dismissal of 1000 — More than 1000 black miners lost their jobs Wednesday in the aftermath of rioting Tuesday night, according to a mining company spokesman. The violence, which occurred in the Kloof mining district 30 miles southwest of Johannesburg was the latest in a series of riots and wildcat strikes occurring there since last Thursday. Black miners revolted over pay raises that have left them earning \$216 per month, one-fifth of a white miner's salary. The 11 and 12 percent raises granted black miners by the Chamber of Mines lags well behind the 16 percent inflation in South Africa. 27,000 of the 450,000 black miners in South Africa have been involved in the unrest, and nine blacks have died thus far.

Nation

Democrats Angered at Republican Ad — A Republican Party television commercial attempting to credit President Reagan for a 7.4 percent increase in Social Security benefits mandated by a 1972 law has drawn fire from Democratic Party leaders. "The Republican Party is betting a multimillion-dollar ad campaign that they can lie to the American people and get away with it," said House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. The commercial features a postman saying, "... I'm delivering the Social Security checks with the 7.4 percent cost-of-living raise that President Reagan promised." Actually, the increases are the result of a 1972 law that automatically increases Social Security benefits each July, based on the Labor Department's assessment of the cost-of-living increase. In April it was determined that the July checks would contain a raise of 7.4 percent.

Local

D.A. Probe Finds \$135,000 of Skimmed Meter Money — The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office has found \$135,000 in cash in safe deposit boxes belonging to one of seven men accused of skimming more than \$500,000 per year in municipal parking revenues. The seven men, all workers in the meter-revenue collection unit of the Boston Traffic and Parking Department were arrested Tuesday and charged with larceny over \$100. Last week, some parking meters were "salted with special coins that glow under ultraviolet light. Investigators say that some of these coins were found in the home of one of the suspects and in a car containing two others Tuesday. A grand jury investigation is to commence next week.

Doctors Start Serving Rape Sentences at Walpole — Two of the three Boston doctors convicted of raping a Brigham and Women's Hospital nurse on September 6, 1980 began serving six-month sentences at Walpole state prison Wednesday. The third doctor, Eugene Sherry, failed to appear for his sentence. The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office said that Sherry might leave the country for New Zealand. There has been no confirmation that Sherry has already left the US.

Weather

Partly to mostly sunny today, high 86 to ninety degrees. Light variable winds and lower humidity will make for a more pleasant day than yesterday. Tonight will be clear with lows between 64 and 68. Tomorrow sunshine and a high temperature between 82 and 86 degrees. Water temperature 62 degrees.

Michael Shimazu

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Opinion

Jerri-Lynn Scofield

MIT alone does not guarantee success

The deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) passed last week, to the chagrin of supporters and glee of opponents. In the end, Phyllis Schlafly's evocation of the evils of coed restrooms seemed more compelling to many male-dominated southern and western state legislatures than the promise of constitutionally guaranteed equal rights for American women.

ERA supporters made many political mistakes and miscalculations, which they began to rectify but never fully overcame in the last year before the ratification deadline passed. The need for the amendment seemed so great, and the reasons for its passage so compelling, that supporters felt its sheer rationality would carry it. They realized too late that rationality and outcome are not always linked in the morass of American politics. Women's equality offended many well-financed, well-organized interests. Too late women realized they needed to play hardball and become involved in strategies of nitty-gritty politics in order to score.

The ERA is not dead yet. It will reappear, as it has since the beginning of the century until, I am sure, it has finally passed. Phyllis and her troupe of dancing girls, however, have had a much more damaging effect on the movement for women's equality than merely sabotaging the ERA: many times last week I heard, "Women don't need the ERA; they have equal rights already."

At MIT, this sentiment is too often expressed. Attendance at this elite university often makes MIT women confident that education will protect them from the evils of discrimination that lurk in the marketplace and afflict only the unskilled, poor, and unconnected. Who needs equal rights? MIT indoctrinates us all to believe we are superior to other known life forms. Yet all women, even those fortunate enough to have MIT on their resumes, are far from achieving equality. Widespread acceptance of the contrary is the most pernicious, and lasting legacy of Schlafly and STOP ERA.

Equality is a concept that can not be readily quantified. As Phyllis diverted attention to who flushes what toilet, she failed to address the compelling economic issues that are central to the struggle for women's equality. Despite years of attention to the issue of equal pay for equal work, the average woman makes fifty-nine cents for every dollar earned by her male colleague. Even closer to home for MIT women is that women at every degree and experience level — bachelor's, master's, or doctorate — in science and engineering fields earn significantly less than do their male counterparts, with the exception of starting bachelor's engineering graduates. Education alone will not end discrimination; educated women must not remain smug, believing sexual inequality affects them any less than it does poor, untrained individuals.

Many fields and opportunities are still closed to even uppity MIT women, who are all too often reminded of the roles that some would have them play. I wonder if any MIT man, upon announcing he wanted to be a neurosurgeon, has been told that it is not a profession for someone of his sex. Or whether any MIT man, upon applying for a position with a large Federal government agency, was told that after graduation with a master's degree, he would be lucky to be offered a position with the agency — as a secretary.

Despite some laws to the contrary, women, even those from MIT, have not achieved equality in the workplace, no matter what Phyllis Schlafly contends. The ERA is no panacea for achieving equal rights, and even after its passage, much remains to be done. Yet both women and men deserve sexual equality.

So the fight goes on.



LOOK GUYS... WHY DON'T WE JUST SAY THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL... AND LET THE LITTLE LADIES LOOK OUT FOR THEMSELVES?

feedback

Baker House not maintained

To the Editor:

Every time I manage to get to Cambridge, I make a point of visiting Baker House, designed almost forty years ago by the late Alvar Aalto, and still one of the most extraordinary examples of the work of that extraordinary architect. Indeed, in some respects, Baker House is probably the best modern building in the Greater Boston area.

After my most recent visit, I am not sure I ever want to come back. One assumes, of course, that a student dormitory will be subjected to a certain amount of abuse; still, one also assumes that an institution of higher learning, like MIT, which boasts one of the finest Schools of Architecture in

the world, would maintain a great building like Baker House at least minimally.

This assumption is unfounded. Baker House, as currently maintained, is a cross between a slum and a garbage dump, and a disgrace to MIT. Perhaps this marvellous building is not appreciated by your institution, and should be taken over by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, or by Walt Disney Enterprises, and maintained in a manner that befits a truly civilized institution.

Peter Blake, FAIA
Chairman, Department of
Architecture and Planning
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Editorial policy

Editorials, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, represent the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of the chairman, editor-in-chief, managing editor, and news editors.

Columns are usually written by members of *The Tech* staff and represent the opinion of the author, and 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 attempts to publish all letters received, and will consider columns or stories. All submissions should be typed, triple spaced, on a 57-character line. Unsigned letters will not be printed, but authors' names will be withheld upon request.

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Volume 102, Number 27
Friday, July 9, 1982

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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published twice a week during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), weekly during January, and once during the last week in July for \$10.00 per year Third Class by *The Tech*, 84 Massachusetts Ave. Room W20-483, Cambridge, MA 02139. Third Class postage paid at Boston, MA. Non-Profit Org. Permit No. 59720. POSTMASTER: Please send all address changes to our mailing address: *The Tech*, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139. Telephone: (617) 253-1541. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. © 1982 The Tech. Printed by Charles River Publishing, Inc.



IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE THAT NOBEL PRIZE SPERM BANK OPENED..

the arts bulletin board



Reggae Sunsplash '81, various artists on Elektra Records.

True Democracy, Steel Pulse on Elektra Records.

Steel Pulse is the first reggae band to sign with Elektra Records, so it is no coincidence that a complete side of *Reggae Sunsplash '81* is devoted to this group. Sunsplash '81, a Jamaican festival tribute to Bob Marley, marked Steel Pulse's first appearance overseas, and a listen to the album reveals that they were the stars of the show. The songs "Sound System," "Ku Klux Klan" and "Handsworth Revolution" display this British-based band's ability to fuse heartfelt political sentiments with complex, off-center music — all with stunning results. The rest of the performances on the record (Rita Marley, Third World, Black Uhuru, Dennis Brown and others) pale by comparison, sounding no better than token appearances for a greatest hits compilation. With the exception of the Steel Pulse set, *Reggae Sunsplash '81* is an unconvincing souvenir.

True Democracy, Steel Pulse's new record, was released within days of *Reggae Sunsplash*. A comparison of the performances reveals a band with important statements to make settling instead for complacency. Although the musicianship on *True Democracy* is as accomplished as ever the lyrics and delivery lack the fire of earlier performances. What remains is a band that is content to "chant a psalm a day," sing about drunkards ("Man No Sober") and cheating women ("Leggo Beast"), and ignore their roots. I-dren want know — a who responsible? Could it be Babylon? Yes yes yes, yes. In any case, don't settle for this album, mon — buy their earlier *Tribute to the Martyrs* instead.

It's that time of the year again; I've got to reduce the size of my "to be reviewed" record pile before it threatens to invade my apartment. The record companies have been very busy recently, managing to release a significant number of records that don't fall into the usual summertime radio and beach fare. So, even if these records aren't the ones you'll be hearing in your car from now until August, there should be at least one disc in this mixed bag of reviews that you'll enjoy. I'll leave that choice to you.

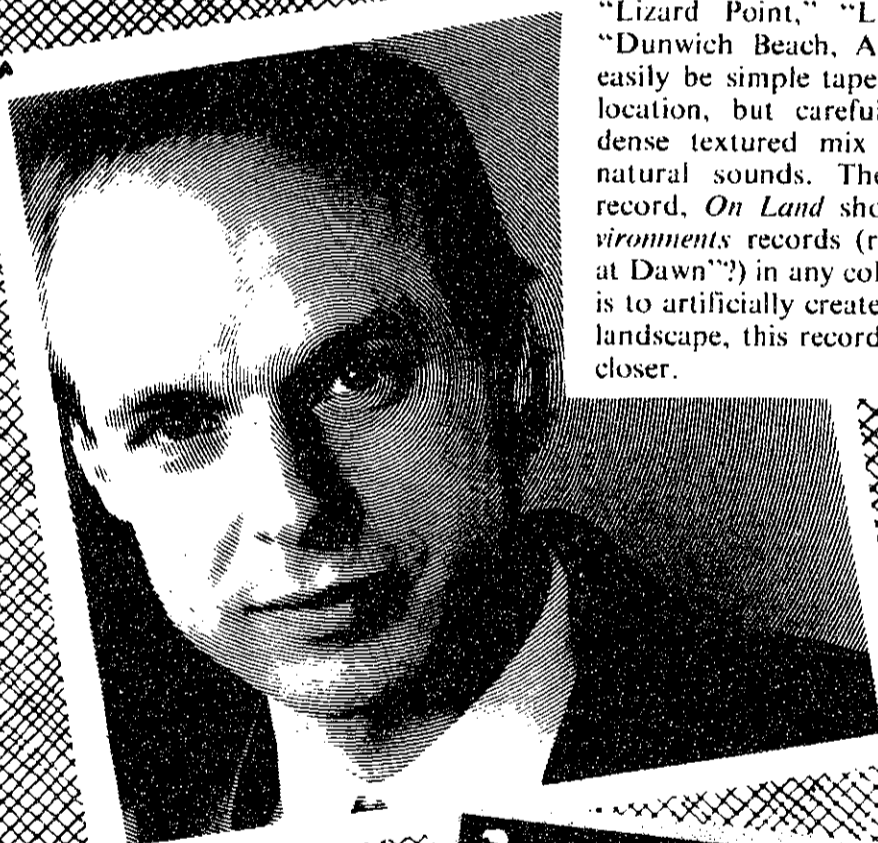
The Hunter, Blondie on the Chrysalis Records.

Yes I know, the hits just keep coming, but does anyone remember when Debbie Harry used to scream when she sang? I do, and listening to *The Hunter* makes me long for the days when Blondie lived in the Bowery instead of Soho. The disc is a perfect example of slick polished popcraft, but it's just too smooth and seamless to be sincere. Will they ever return to their original values? I suspect only if we took away all their money. While we're at it, we should get rid of the syrup in Debbie's voice.



On Land (Ambient 4), Brian Eno on Editions EG Records.

Although this disc is titled *On Land*, I prefer to think of it as "On Water." The latest in Eno's series of ambient (background) music experiments transports the listener to various locales and paints an aural landscape. Pieces such as "Lizard Point," "Lantern Marsh" and "Dunwich Beach, Autumn, 1960" could easily be simple tape recordings made on location, but careful listening reveals a dense textured mix of synthesized and natural sounds. The ideal background record, *On Land* should replace the *Environments* records (remember "Cornfield at Dawn"?) in any collection. If Eno's goal is to artificially create the sounds of a real landscape, this record brings him one step closer.



Live!, the Carla Bley Band on Wat- /ECM Records.

Undoubtedly the quirkiest modern jazz composer, Carla Bley has been touring the country with her gang of crazies for a few years, but until now she has never managed to transfer her band's manic live energy to vinyl. *Live!* shows Carla *et al* at their manic best playing a set of recent compositions and featuring solos from Bley's stellar lineup. A multitude of styles are explored in the set, ranging from the hard-edged fusion of "Blunt Object" to the Sunday-gone-to-meeting gospel of "The Lord is Listenin' To Ya, Hallelujah!" (a piece that features the record's best solo — Gary Valante's New Orleans-style trombone). *Live!* is an excellent introduction to an important, innovative composer, and it will go a long way in dispelling the doubts of those that accuse Bley of being too cerebral. The cover photo's great, too.

The Name of This Band is Talking Heads, Talking Heads on Sire Records.

Another live album, and another dynamite set, this record serves as a chronicle of the five-year history of America's best new wave band. The Talking Heads have always been pioneers, from their early Bowery days of singing about work, buildings, and food to their current cross-cultural polyrhythmic explorations — a band that created the sound so many others duplicate badly. Listen to side one of the set and feel the energy leaping off the vinyl; the Heads were a lean tight band that performed with adrenalin-fueled urgency, and this side presents definitive renditions of the band's early material. Side two presents the classic keyboard-oriented sound

that most people associate with the Talking Heads, while sides three and four are more recent performances recorded with the band's expanded ten-piece lineup. Although these concerts seem sluggish at first (especially when compared to side one), a laid back funk groove becomes evident after a few listenings. The addition of singers Nona Hendryx and Dollette MacDonald transform a "Life During Wartime" into a nonstop dance party, similarly, "Take Me to the River" turns into a gospel raveup. My pick for the best live album of the year, and also one of the finest live albums ever, *The Name of This Band* is essential to any collection. Did I say "America's best" at the beginning of this review? Listen for yourself.



there's more

record reviews, continued



• **Songs of the Free, Gang of Four on Warner Brothers Records.**

After their astonishing debut, *Entertainment!*, the Gang of Four fizzled out; by their second album they were, as they sang, "Paralysed." The recent departure of bassist David Allen and his subsequent replacement by Sara Lee (formerly with Robert Fripp's League of Gentlemen) seems to have spurred Go4 on to a reassessment of their music. Writer/singer Jon King has finally abandoned his misogyny, realizing that love has a place in modern world, a move that may have been due to a presence of a woman in the group. Whatever the reason, *Songs of the Free* is charged with an exuberance normally not associated with the band.

The music is still identifiably Go4's own, a lock-stepped, bottom heavy funk colored by Andy Gill's chopping guitar and King's shrill tenor. Each song is a series of carefully timed builds and releases, usually written around one simple hook. And while there is nothing as visceral as "I Found That Essence Rare," *Songs* has more than its share of good tunes. The opening cut, "Call Me Up," is worth the price of the album, and "I Love a Man in Uniform" shows King at his cynical best. I had just about given up on this band, but *Songs of the Free* provides a needed note of hype. Even though "It is Not Enough," I'll be eager to hear the next try.

• **The Sound of the Sand and Other Songs of the Pedestrian, David Thomas and the Pedestrians on Rough Trade Records.**

An album that will largely go ignored, *Sound of the Sand* is a solo venture by David Thomas, the singer/lyricist/creative force behind Pere Ubu, a startlingly innovative avant-art-new-wave band. Thomas takes a vacation from Ubu, invites a few friends in for a party, records the results and offers them for our listening pleasure. You would expect the record to be strange, but no one expected it to be so much fun! I'd own this just for the acid-beatnik cover of "Sloop John B" (Eat your heart out, Brian Wilson.) and "Happy to See You," a bit of out-and-out silliness ("I was so happy to see you I feel into the basement"). Then there's all the neat guest appearances: all the Ubus, Richard Thompson, John Greaves, Philip Moxham, recognize them? Probably not, but get the record anyway — if you don't like at least one of the tunes, I'll buy it from you.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Shaw has the world's largest collection of strange records he had to buy from people.

David Shaw

firefox

Imagine a fighter that does Mach five, has a weapon system which is thought controlled, exists today and was built by the USSR. That's what this science fantasy (fantasy — not fiction: "science fiction" implies plausibility) movie is about. Clint Eastwood portrays Mitchell Gant, a retired Air Force veteran who is recalled to service to sneak into the Soviet Union and steal this puppy.

Having grown fond of such Eastwood classics such as "Dirty Harry," I went to see *Firefox* with high hopes. Indeed, there is a classic Eastwood scene: As the MiG 31 hangar bay is on fire and Soviet soldiers are machine-gunning dissidents, dressed as a Soviet pilot, stalks calmly into the bay, climbs into the plane, and proceeds to start it. When a security officer asks for his papers, Gant puts his hand in the guy's face and shoves him off the ladder. Classic Eastwood.

Unfortunately that scene lasts only thirty seconds and is the only worthwhile part of the movie.

Firefox suffers excessively from the "let's stop the self-destruct device with one second left to go" syndrome. In one scene, Gant has to land the MiG on an ice floe to refuel from a waiting submarine. The plane rolls to a stop with nose hanging off the end of floe. The plane takes off thirty seconds before two Soviet helicopters come over the horizon. Etc., etc. This can (rarely) work once in a movie; in *Firefox*, we see it again and again and again. Yawn.

Another problem is Gant's Vietnam flashbacks. These attempts to make the movie socially meaningful add nothing and are boring and distracting.

In the beginning of the movie we also have to deal with Gant's sneaking into the USSR and leaving behind a trail of Soviet dissidents who are more than willing to die to get Gant the plane and do so. Die, that is. This further attempt at social meaning ends up being schlock, and stupid schlock at that.

The last major part of the movie is a scene in which the second MiG 31 chases Gant's MiG 31. The special effects are bad — the planes jump around like toys on strings. Gant takes his plane through mountains in the Arctic in an attempt to evade the pursuer: we've seen this before; the scene is stolen from *Star Wars* (substitute channel in Death Star for mountains). Finally, Eastwood activates the rear defense pod (by "thinking in Russian") and blows the following MiG away. Why Eastwood took half an hour to get around to this, or why the Soviet pilot was following so closely even though he knew about the rear defense pods are questions that are never raised, let alone answered.

In summary, the plot is horrendous. There is no acting to speak of — the plot doesn't leave room for any. The directing didn't improve anything, and the special effects were lousy. Besides that . . .

Gerard Weatherby

on the town



MIT's own John Buttrick will give a piano concert including works by Haydn, Franck, Beethoven and Rachmaninoff. Monday, July 12, at 8pm in Kresge. Admission free.

A harpsichord concert by Martin Pearlman — Wednesday, July 14 at 8pm in Kresge. Admission is free.

Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* on the Kresge steps, as performed by the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble. July 9, 10 and 15-17 at 8pm. Seating on the grass, or in the event of rain, in 10-250. Also free.

This weekend's LSC lineup:

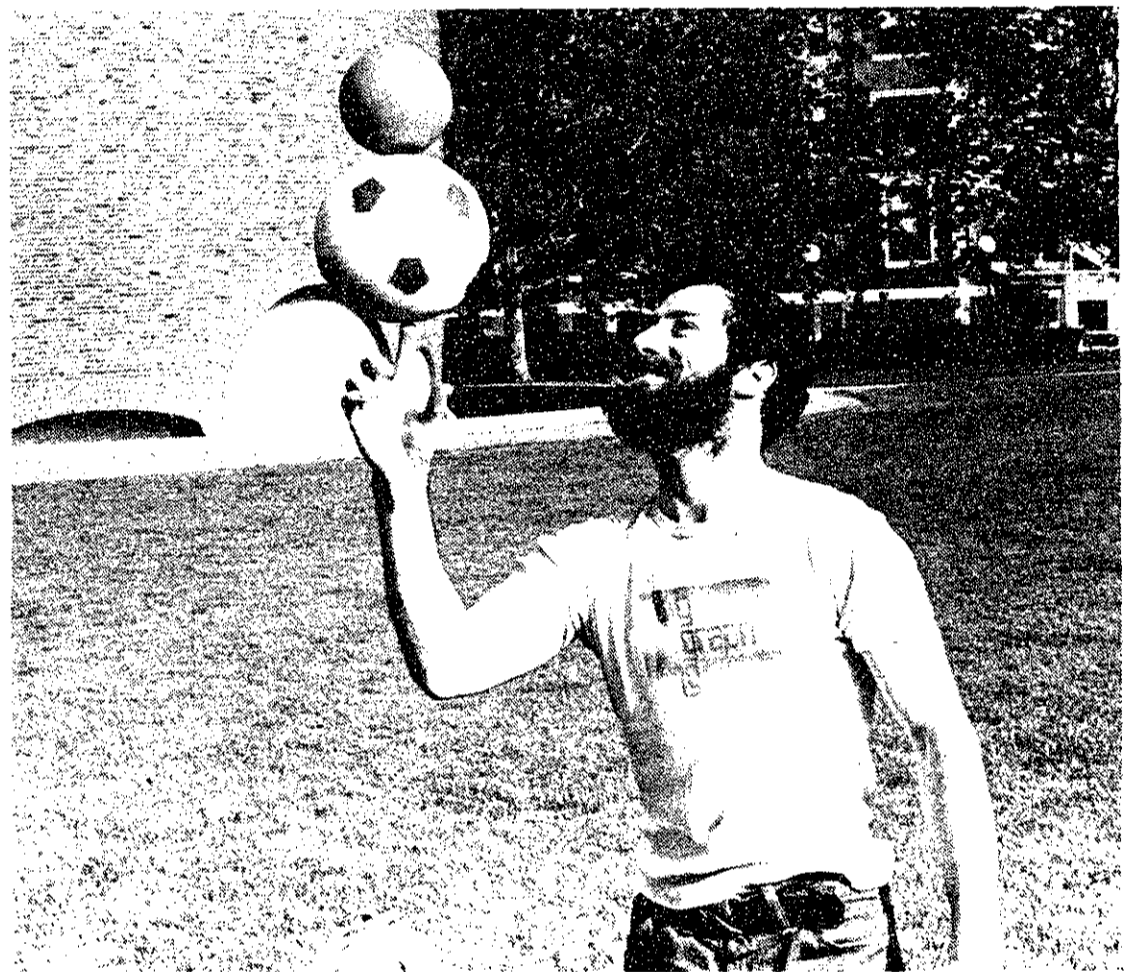
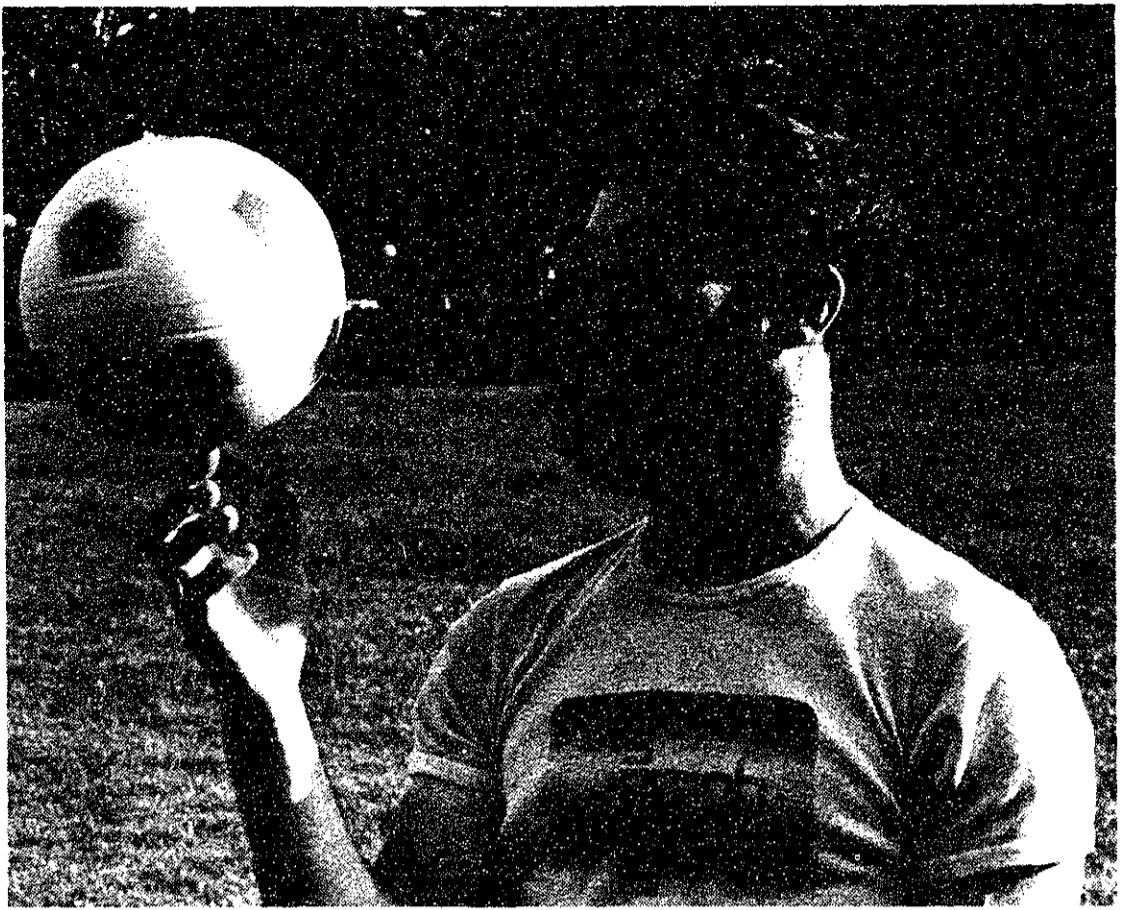
Foreign Correspondent tonight at 7pm in 26-100.

North by Northwest tonight at 8:45 in 26-100.

The Great Santini tomorrow at 8pm in 26-100.

The Student Center Cinema (formerly Midnite Movie) presents *Excalibur* tomorrow at midnight in the Sala de Puerto Rico.

photo



Ball-spinning in one easy lesson.

The master juggler: Andy Rubel.

The photographer: Robert Winters.

Tennis bubble back; cost not yet known

By Jerri-Lynn Scofield

The inflatable structure housing the J. B. Carr Indoor Tennis Facility was reinflated at the end of June at a yet to be determined cost to MIT, according to Paul Barrett, Director of Physical Plant.

"We're negotiating with the insurance company to get a substantial settlement," commented Barrett.

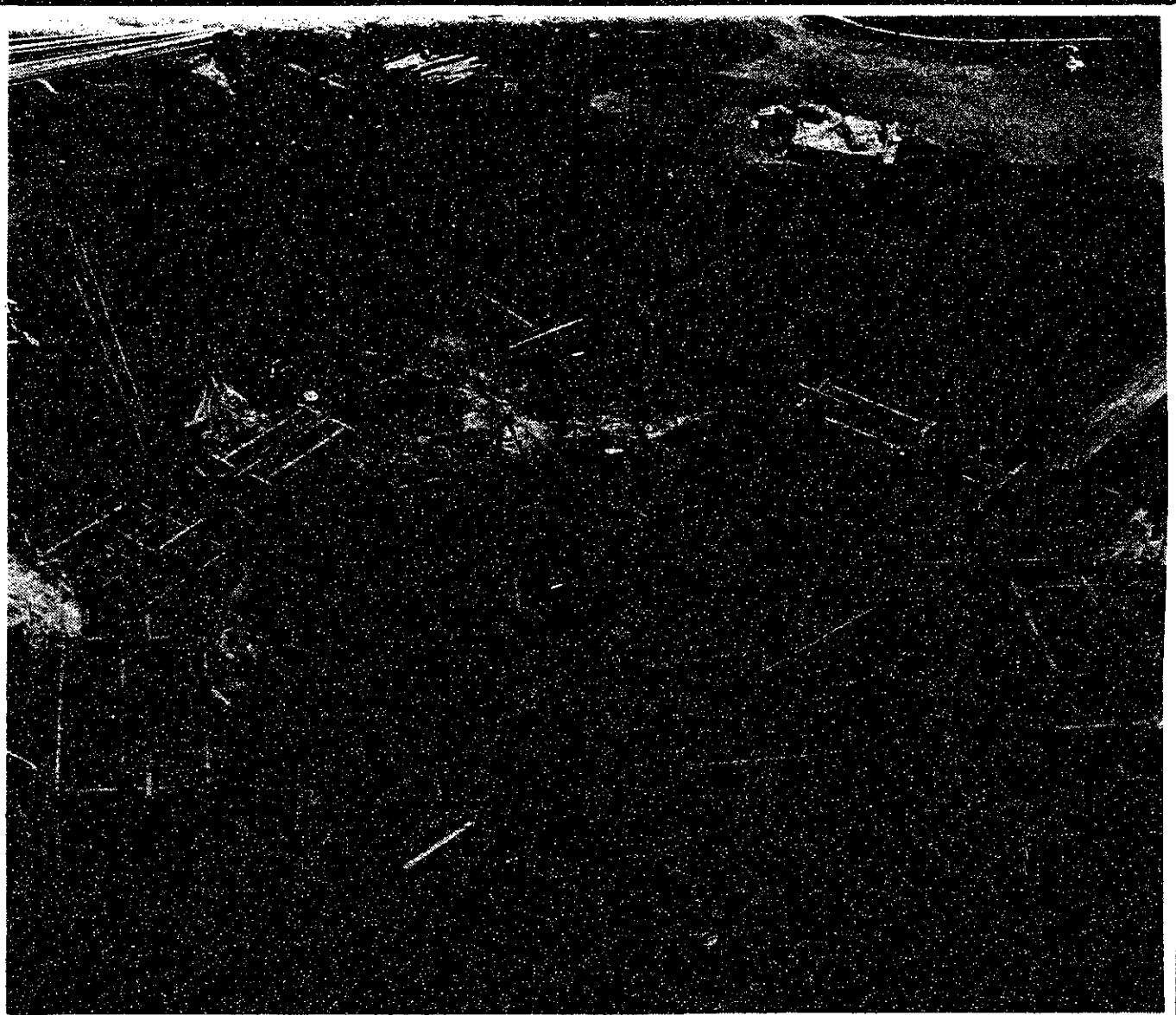
The bubble collapsed after last April's blizzard, which dumped more than a foot of snow on MIT and the surrounding vicinity. Barrett explained "... there was a failure in the electrical system, in the wiring that provided inflation for the bubble." Most damage was caused by the facility's central lighting system, which provided excellent illumination for tennis playing but whose centrally placed poles ripped fabric when the bubble deflated.

Barrett noted the lighting system has been redesigned and replaced, with a more conventional lighting system whose lights have been placed around the perimeter of the tennis courts. The relocated lighting system should not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the bubble should it collapse again.

The severe damage to the bubble necessitated sending it to Buffalo to its manufacturer, the Birdair Corporation, for repair.

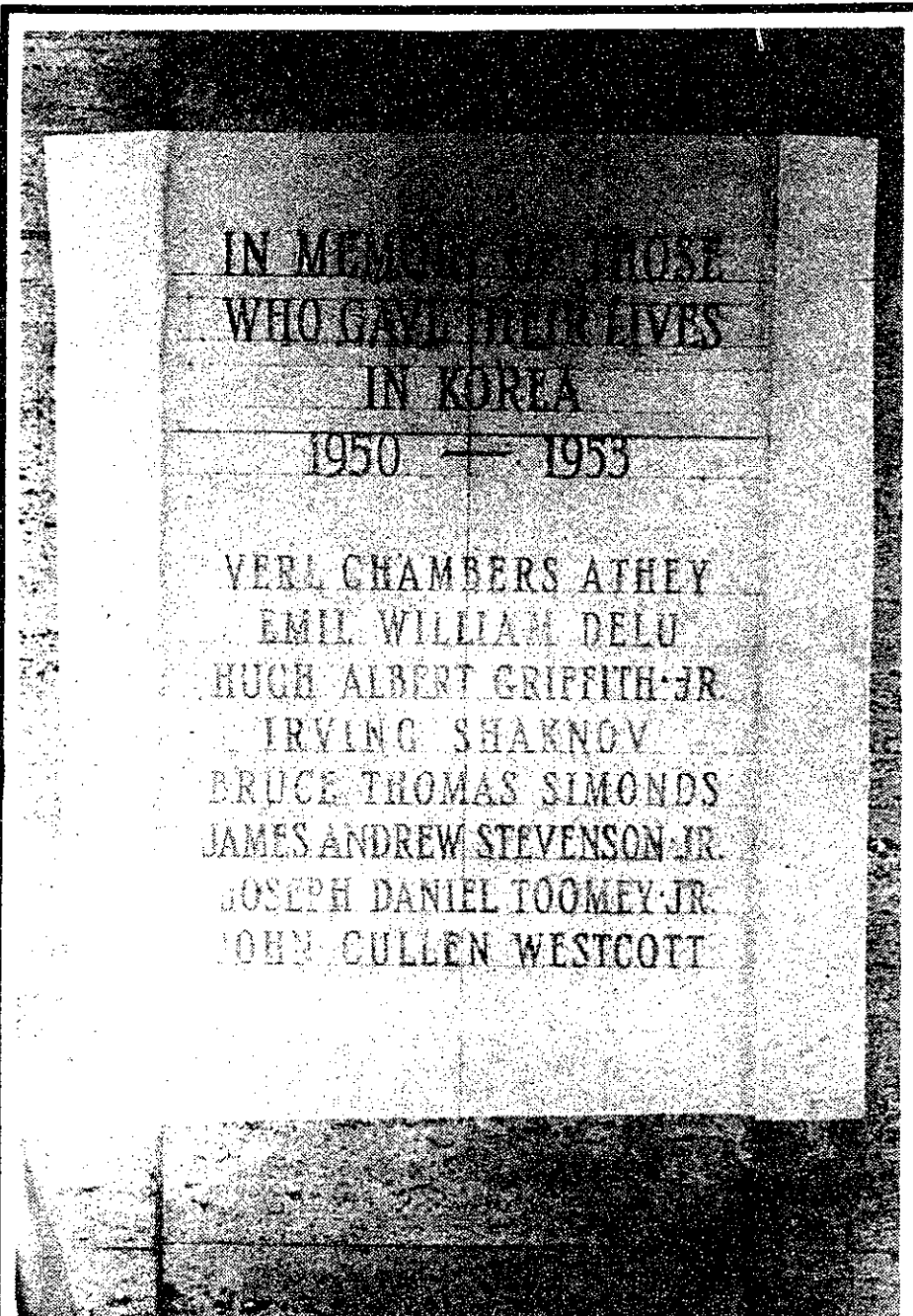
During a blizzard in January, 1978, the MIT tennis bubble also collapsed. This bubble was replaced at a cost of between 60,000 and 75,000 dollars.

John Berlinguet, manager of building maintenance, supervised the bubble's repair, Barrett noted. Berlinguet, who is on vacation, could not be reached for comment.



Tech photo by Gerard Weatherby

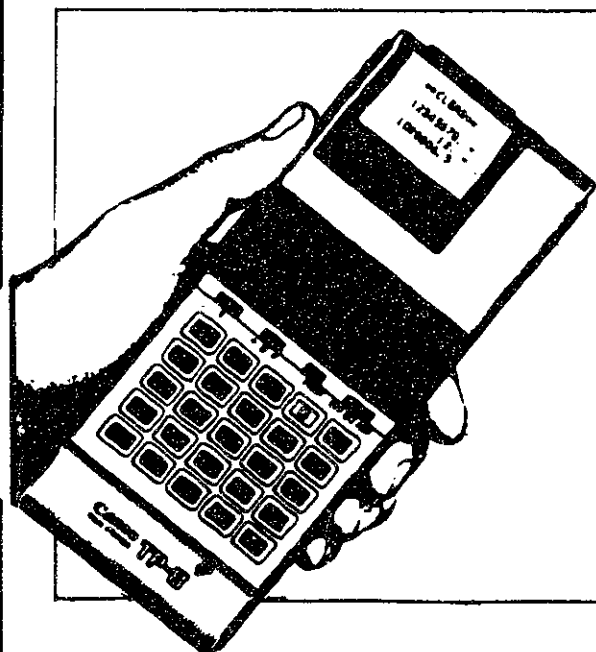
Work continues on the new EG&G electrical engineering laboratory between buildings 36 and 38.



Tech photo by Gerard Weatherby

The Class of 1982 remembers MIT's men who fell in Korea and Vietnam as part of its gift to the Institute. The new memorial in Lobby 10 is shown here as it was being engraved.

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MIT Student Center

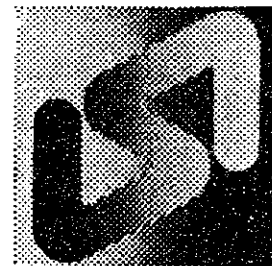


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