

Graduation today 1620 students to receive degrees

By Jay Glass

Today, beginning at 10 am, MIT will bestow 1798 degrees upon 1620 students at its 116th commencement exercises.

MIT officials did not release the number of students who had planned to graduate but were not granted degrees. The MIT Information Office stated Wednesday that 1695 seniors and graduate students would receive degrees. That afternoon, the faculty met to officially consider degree recommendations.

The ceremony will begin with an academic procession starting outside MIT's 77 Massachusetts Avenue entrance. Principals, Guests of Honor, Corporation Members, and the Faculty will lead the graduates to Killian Court.

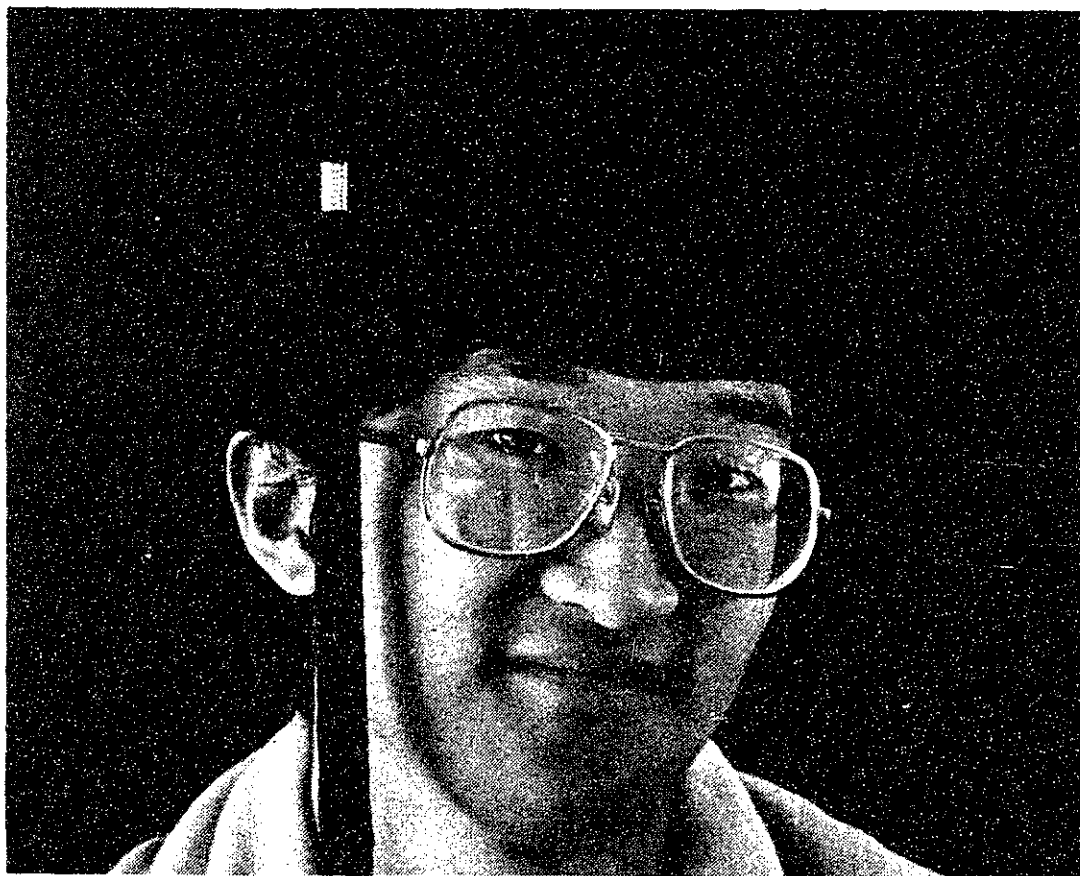
Katherine Graham, chairman and chief executive officer of The Washington Post Company, will deliver the first MIT commencement address given by an outside speaker since 1963. The previous eighteen commencement addresses were presented by MIT's President. Following Graham's speech, President Paul E. Gray

'54 will briefly address the graduates and confer each graduate's degree. As each student receives a degree, the student's name will be announced by the dean of this or her school.

Rev. Robert Moran, CSP religious counselor for MIT's Roman Catholic community, will deliver the invocation. Music for the academic procession will be presented by a brass ensemble led by Herbert Philpott. Killian Court music will be provided by the John Oliver Chorale, led by its founder, and a brass ensemble led by John D. Corley, Jr.

This year's commencement marks a century since William Barton Rogers, MIT's founder, collapsed and died during a farewell address in the 1882 ceremony. A public exhibition in his honor is now open in the Margaret Hutchinson Compton Gallery, room 10-150.

Tuesday's exercises are the fourth held outdoors in modern times. Previous commencement sites included MIT's Rockwell Cage and Symphony Hall in Boston



A picture is worth a thousand words...

Tech photo by Bill Coderre

Congratulations to all graduating seniors from *The Tech*.

Samuelson rates economy

By Tony Zamparutti

Institute Professor Paul A. Samuelson, Nobel Laureate in economics, began his lecture entitled "The Reagan Age: Reserving Post-Roosevelt Economic Trends" Wednesday by noting that before the election of Ronald Reagan, few people were interested in economics lectures.

"People in my profession should be very grateful to Ronald Reagan," he told a packed audience in room 9-150. "Our new president has managed to create an interest in 'the dismal science'."

Samuelson added he would try to give a non-partisan view of present economic problems. He termed the present recession "the first Reagan recession," explaining he does not know whether others will occur during Reagan's Presidency, and predicted the economic downturn will bottom out around the middle of the year.

Ronald Reagan's election could be the second most important election in the 20th century,

Samuelson said, behind that of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932, because of Reagan's intention to reduce the economic impact of government and to move toward a pre-New Deal free market economy.

"Reagan's team realizes they do not have a mandate from the American people to do so," added Samuelson.

"Some people are bird-watchers, some are women-watchers; I am a Ronald Reagan-watcher," Samuelson declared. "Ronald Reagan is a serious conservative," added Samuelson, more conservative than he appeared in the 1980 campaign.

Public debate on Reagan's philosophies is needed, suggested Samuelson. "Let the American people decide in unhurried public debate how much of the humanitarian policies of recent decades should be abandoned," he said.

Using the theories of supply-side economics and political sentiment against government spending, the Reagan Administration was able to pass the Kemp-Roth tax cuts, Samuelson explained. The Kemp-Roth tax plan cuts federal income taxes by 30 percent over three years.

The recession that began last autumn proved that the Laffer Curve, a basic tenet of supply-side

economics, does not work, according to Samuelson. He stated the final year of Kemp-Roth tax cuts might be eliminated.

The Federal Reserve could ease its restrictions on the rate of growth of the money supply, an action which might ease the recession, noted Samuelson.

Samuelson noted that inflation has fallen dramatically in recent months, but cautioned, "price stability is not here, and I feel, is not around the corner." He said the "volatile... prices have fallen the most," and warned they could rise again in the future.

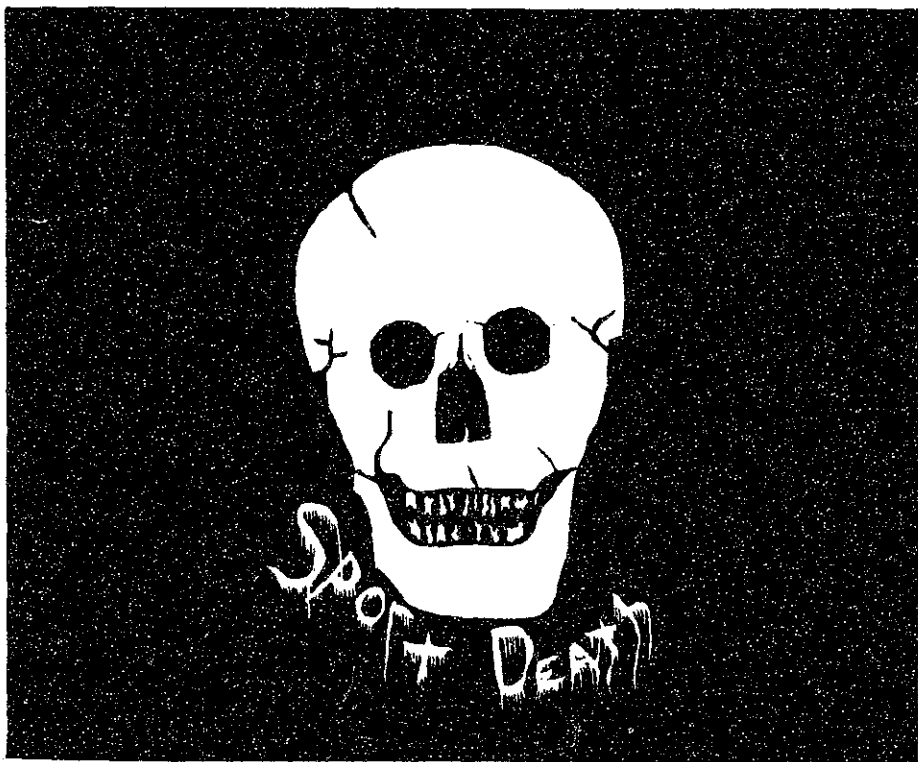
Nevertheless, the core, long-term inflation rate stands between 6 1/2 and 8 percent, less than during the Carter administration, Samuelson said.

Many unions are settling for lower wage increases than previously, he noted, and these concessions could help moderate the inflation rate.

The stubbornness of interest rates, which have not dropped in the face of lower inflation, is surprising, Samuelson said. The present real interest rate discounted for the effects of inflation, is about 8 percent, an unprecedented figure, Samuelson declared.

Over the next twenty year and beyond, the United States will

(Please turn to page 2)



Deans censor residence book

By Tony Zamparutti

The Office of the Dean for Student Affairs required several living groups to make changes in their presentations in next year's undergraduate residence book, and has asked Senior House to delete mention of its unofficial motto, "Sport Death."

"The Dean's Office is responsible for whatever is included in the residence book, declared Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood. References potentially embarrassing to the Institute or offensive to freshman or their parents are stricken, he

explained. In particular, references to alcohol are removed, he noted.

"I do not feel comfortable with ['Sport Death'] in the book," Sherwood said.

The last sentence of Senior House's entry originally read "Come by and find out the true meaning of Sport Death or just experience the carpets," according to Pamela Keller '84, Vice President of Senior House.

The Dean's Office asked Senior House to change the sentence and to remove a photograph of a

junked car in its courtyard with "Sport Death" graffiti.

In response to a letter from Keller, Sherwood sent the dormitory a letter stating his decision, but the letter "did not contain any arguments" explaining the decision, Keller said.

"There has been a lot of discussion of the 'Sport Death' logo in this office," Sherwood noted. In addition, he said, faculty members, staff, and some personnel in the Medical Department are concerned about the logo. Some people "wondered if it was drug-related," Sherwood said.

The Dean's Office wants to see "an environment that all students will be comfortable in" at each dormitory, Sherwood said. Nevertheless, the deletion of the term "Sport Death" from the Residence Book "is not going to change the behavior in Senior House," he added.

The Dean's Office made other changes in living group submissions to the residence book, such as eliminating a photograph from MacGregor House that showed a can of beer in its background.

inside

Frank L. McNamara, Jr. makes a run for Tip O'Neill's eighth congressional district House seat. **Page 2.**

MIT can change your perceptions of what you want to be when you grow up. **Page 5.**

In case you missed Mike Peters during finals... **Page 5.**

If you hadn't spent all that money on tuition you could've bought... **Page 7.**

Pirates spotted in Boston. **Page 7.**

McNamara runs against Tip O'Neill

By Barry S. Surman

Frank L. McNamara Jr., a 34-year-old lawyer from Beacon Hill, officially announced May 18 he will challenge Speaker of the House Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr. for Massachusetts' eighth congressional district seat in the US House of Representatives.

O'Neill has represented the district, which includes Cambridge, Boston's downtown, North End, and Beacon Hill, Charlestown, Watertown, Brighton, and Belmont, since John F. Kennedy left the seat in 1953.

O'Neill's policies, McNamara said in his announcement speech

at Government Center in Boston, "are out of date, damaging to the country, and harmful to the people of our district."

"At a time when people are looking to government officials everywhere for change, vision, and hope, McNamara said, "they are frustrated by a Speaker whose slavish adherence to an antiquated philosophy and inflexible political habit compel him to oppose any change, obstruct that vision, and stifle all hope."

McNamara's address cast O'Neill as a big spender, blaming the Speaker for inflation, and accusing him of patronage.

McNamara, a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Virginia Law School, spent \$62,631 on his campaign between July 1, 1981, and March 31, 1982, according to documents filed with Federal Election Commission. In the same period, the McNamara campaign raised over \$85,000 in contributions.

Much of McNamara's campaign funding has come from outside Massachusetts: Over \$17,000 in major contributions came from outside the state in the first three months of 1982, largely from Texas and Oklahoma.

Republican McNamara faces a difficult challenge: O'Neill has taken at least three-quarters of the vote in each of the last three contests for his House seat.

"I set myself against the Speaker of the House," McNamara said, "one of the most powerful and entrenched elected officials in America. This will be no ordinary campaign. This is a race of great significance for our district and for the country, and I intend to run it to win."

Future of the economy

(Continued from page 1)

lose many manufacturing industries to countries in the Pacific basin such as South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore, he predicted. The United States will become mostly a service economy, though some will work in high-technology industries, he added. Denver,

Colorado and Fairfield County, Connecticut are good examples of such economies, Samuelson said.

The American economy, overall, is still healthy, said Samuelson. "I don't think we're in a crisis. Most of the American troubles were are talking about are troubles of affluence."

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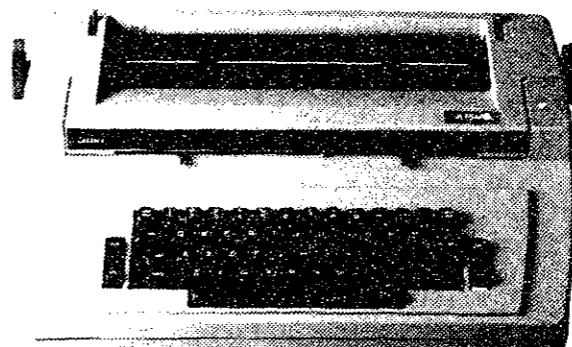
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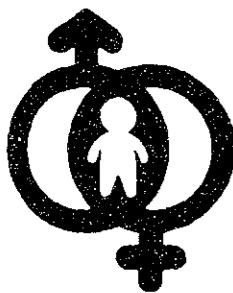
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Seniors: prepare for hard times

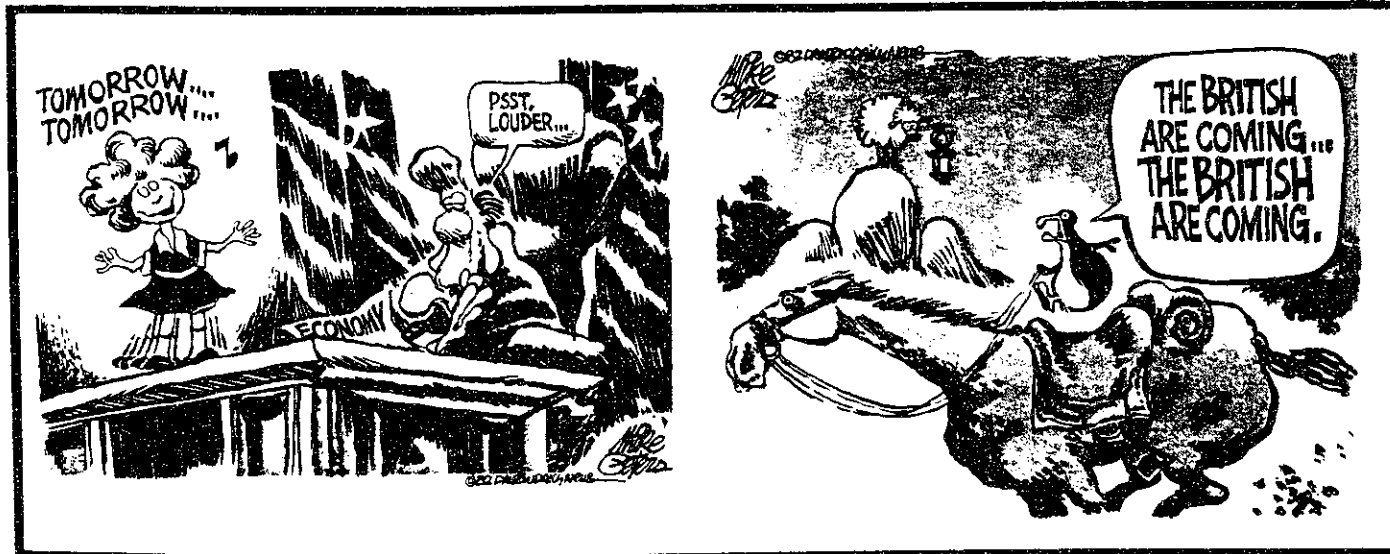
Commencement is frequently the most tradition-bound ceremony at any university. MIT is no exception to this rule. When the Class of 1982 gathers in Killian Court Tuesday to receive degrees, they will follow patterns set by many previous graduating classes, yet this year's ceremony will differ from recent ones in one significant way.

Since 1964, the featured speaker at MIT Commencements has been the university's president. This year, however, Katharine Graham, publisher of the *The Washington Post*, will fulfill this role. Although some have questioned the choice of Graham as Commencement speaker at such an avowedly technology institution, a newspaper publisher, and particularly the one of a Washington D.C. rag, may be the ideal choice to address graduates in 1982.

In two significant areas, political actions have clouded the future for this year's graduates. Since Graham's newspaper lies in the nation's capital, she may be well-prepared to comment on these problems. This year's graduates are entering the job market of an economy in deep recession. Reagan Administration policies have produced the highest post-Depression unemployment rate ever, of about ten percent. Fortunately for the class of 1982, the job picture for MIT graduates is not so bleak. Nevertheless, it is a sobering thought to be entering an economy that may be skittering into a morass as deep as the Great Depression. And in the Depression, even many engineers and professionals lost their jobs.

For those members of the Class of 1982 who choose to continue in school, the situation is not much more promising. Funding for education, particularly at the graduate level, is extremely uncertain. The Reagan Administration continues to advocate cutting aid to education significantly, particularly for graduate students. The poor economic situation makes individuals and corporations less able to contribute to universities, creating a drain on reserve funds. Both factors combine to produce a less than auspicious outlook for those who wish to stay in school.

It is often said one does not appreciate MIT until one has left the Institute. Graham's presence at this year's Commencement exercises may help bring a larger world perspective to MIT. As this year's graduates prepare to leave the protective shelter of MIT, they will be entering a difficult environment. It is a popular to complain about MIT while one is here; the problems that await new graduates in the outside world may be even more fearsome than those MIT can conjure up.



Mark Tessler

Reagan ignores energy crisis

A familiar scene is now being replayed in Washington, D.C.: a President is faced with growing opposition from the American people and a deep economic recession. Once again, the politicians in Washington are not discussing an issue that is central to this country's troubles: the energy problem.

Sixteen months ago, Ronald Reagan rode into the White House hoping to solve America's economic problems. While ignoring the energy crisis, he claimed that fifty years of "tax and tax, spend and spend" Federal policies had caused the US economic woes. He wholeheartedly embraced supply-side economics as a panacea that would restore prosperity in America. Promising an unprecedented business bonanza, he persuaded Congress to institute a program that he hoped would lead to economic recovery by transferring money from the poor to the wealthy—the Economic Recovery Act of 1981.

Unfortunately, Ronald Reagan's supply-side boom has

not materialized. Inflation has been reduced, but only because the United States has plunged into its worst recession since World War II. Unemployment is at a postwar high of 9.4 percent. Business bankruptcy rates are at a post-Depression high. Reaganomics has not worked.

President Reagan's policies have been a failure, but he did not cause the current recession—it originated in the aftermath of the 1979 doubling of oil prices. In fact, Ronald Reagan is not the only recent President who has failed to solve America's persistent economic difficulties. High unemployment and inflation rates have plagued this country ever since the Arab oil embargo of 1973-74. Since that time, the price of oil has increased by over 900 percent. Presidents Ford, Carter, and Reagan all have tried to restore prosperity to the United States, but the skyrocketing price of energy has thwarted their plans.

In spite of the importance of the energy problem, it has been neglected in the Washington

economic debate. Lulled into complacency by a temporary oil glut, the Reagan Administration has ignored the energy crisis and proposed the elimination of almost all Federal energy initiatives. President Reagan has refused to recognize the threat of oil supply disruptions, and he has wrecked vital Federal programs for conservation, renewable resources, and energy research and development. It is unfortunate that the President has not learned the costly lessons of the oil embargo of 1973-74 and the oil panic of 1979; by ignoring the energy problem today, he has guaranteed that painful lessons will again have to be learned tomorrow.

America's economic problems will not be solved by the Reagan Administration's income transfers from the poor to the rich. Long term economic growth will ensue only when the government deals with America's fundamental problems—like the energy crisis. The Democrat who succeeds Reagan should recognize this fact, or he too will be a one-term President.

The Tech

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feedback

Katz's column distorted facts

To the Editor,

Michael Katz's guest column in the May 11 *Tech* contains a serious distortion of fact and a number of questionable judgments. Katz claims the U.S. has a standing policy of "threatening a nuclear first strike in response to hypothetical Soviet Aggression in Europe." A "first strike" in the jargon of nuclear war normally means a strike directed at the enemy homeland in order to destroy his strategic nuclear weapons before they can be used. The U.S. has avoided acquiring the capability to make such an attack and makes no such threat. It does threaten to use tactical nuclear weapons in Europe against attacking Soviet troops. The weapons would mostly fall on West German soil; the West German government supports the policy because no one wants to build conventional forces capable of defeating the Warsaw Pact.

Katz goes on to suggest that U.S. policy is less a deterrent to Soviet conventional aggression than a potential cover for Western adventurism. In fact, Mr. Katz and the Soviet leadership have the best possible evidence that the U.S. is not interested in military aggression. After WWII our exclusive possession of nuclear arms probably made it possible for us to prohibit others from developing them, enforce our prohibition by on-site

inspection and establish a world empire. Unlike Mr. Katz, the Soviets believe the evidence: their land based missiles are nearly all liquid fueled. Since they cannot be stored fueled, they are a poor deterrent to the quick firing solid fueled Minutemen, but their size makes them effective in a premeditated Soviet first strike.

Katz is correct in claiming that Warsaw Pact forces actually in Europe have only a small numerical superiority over NATO (though their margin is greater than that of German over France in 1939). However, their reserves are much larger and closer: the Soviet Union has about 160 divisions to our 16. This immense army, its offensive indoctrination, tactics, and training, and history give the lie to Katz's claim that Russian suffering in WWII ensures Russia will start no wars. Russian and German suffering in WWI did not prevent them from agreeing to divide Poland, beginning WWII. Russian suffering in WWII did not prevent the gratuitous Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In fact, decisions in the Soviet Union are made by a handful of men, who participated in the murder of millions of their fellow citizens, still praise the chief murderer (Stalin), and are now (according to French doctors on the scene) using booby-trapped toys to cripple Afghan children.

However, McNamara, et al, do make a sound argument for renouncing U.S. first use of tactical nuclear weapons. Thanks to growing Soviet nuclear superiority, such a threat may not be believed by Russians, who may attack, while it provides the Europeans with an excuse for relying on us to defend them. If we renounce first use, we can contribute little to European defense: our army is too small, too ill-trained, too far away. Forced to rely on themselves, and given time and will, the West Europeans could probably build forces capable of deterring any aggressor. Of course, that has been true the last two times Western Europe has sucked us into war. Further, a European defense would almost certainly include German nuclear arms.

All this is speculation about an unknown future. Past predictions about war and peace have been mostly wrong. The only certainty in the subject is that U.S. presence and policy have kept the peace in Europe for thirty-five years.

No protest march or letter, no scrap of paper signed by however many fickle American or ruthless Russian leaders, is going to eliminate the threat of nuclear war. We will live with that threat all our lives, and it will take all of our knowledge, judgment, courage, and patriotism to keep it merely a threat.

Allen C. Ward

opinion

Jon von Zelowitz

You can even grow and find some freedom at MIT

When I was ten years old, I decided I wanted to become an architect when I grew up. I told mom and dad, and they encouraged me; that's what moms and dads are for. I was satisfied and secure to have found my calling and my folks were probably happy that I no longer wanted to be a race car driver.

When I began high school, I discovered computers. They were even more fun than drawing was, and I soon became a classic high school computer whiz and forgot all about my previous plans. Of course, I had the standard high school computer whiz's dream: to go to MIT, get a degree in computer science (probably a Ph.D.), and get a job in the industry.

Almost immediately after arriving at MIT, though, my interests began to change again. Just as the freer and richer environment of high school had allowed me to discover an interest in computers, my experience at MIT uncovered an interest in forms of communication, especially newspapers.

I realize that when I graduate I will probably have to take a computer hacking job to pay off the \$10,000 in loans which I hold. I'll certainly take advantage of the fact that my MIT degree virtually guarantees me my choice of jobs in the field. But after the year or two that it will take to get on my feet financially, I won't feel tied down to that profession.

working at *The Tech* does not necessarily uncover journalistic talent in everyone; this fact can be verified by glancing through most editions. One fellow who is graduating today, and who worked on *The Tech*, has the makings of an excellent reporter and says he likes the newspaper work more than his major, Chemistry. He's headed for medical school, a plan he made long before he joined the newspaper.

Another graduate from *The Tech* this year is superb at financial management. His 6-1 thesis dealt more with business than with computers, and had nothing to do with bio-electrical engineering. He, too, is headed for medical school.

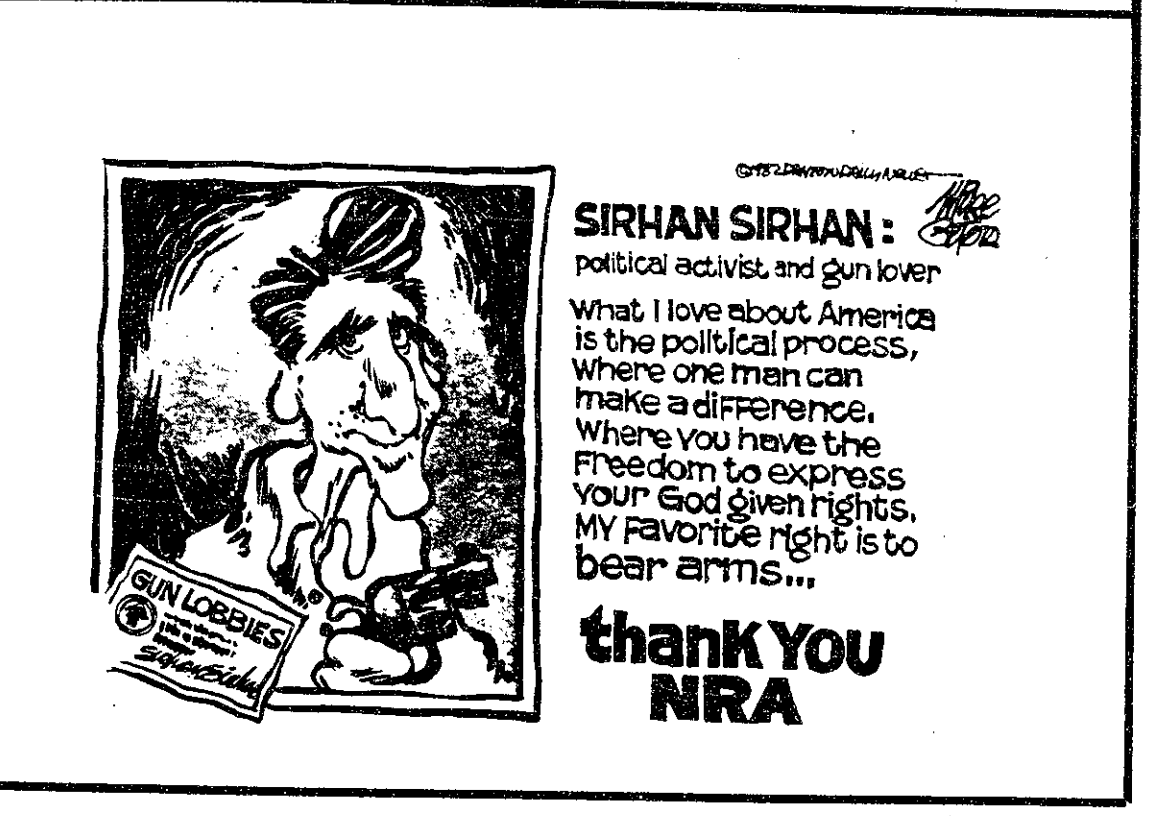
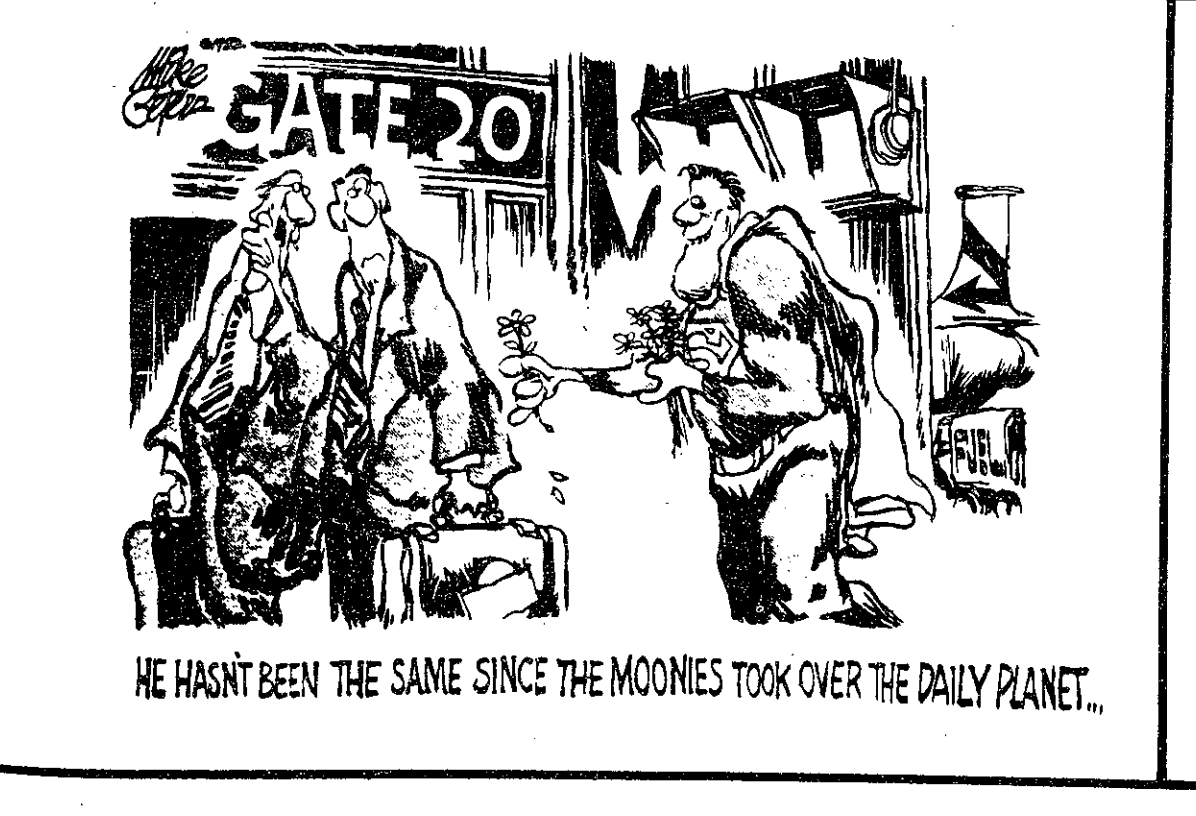
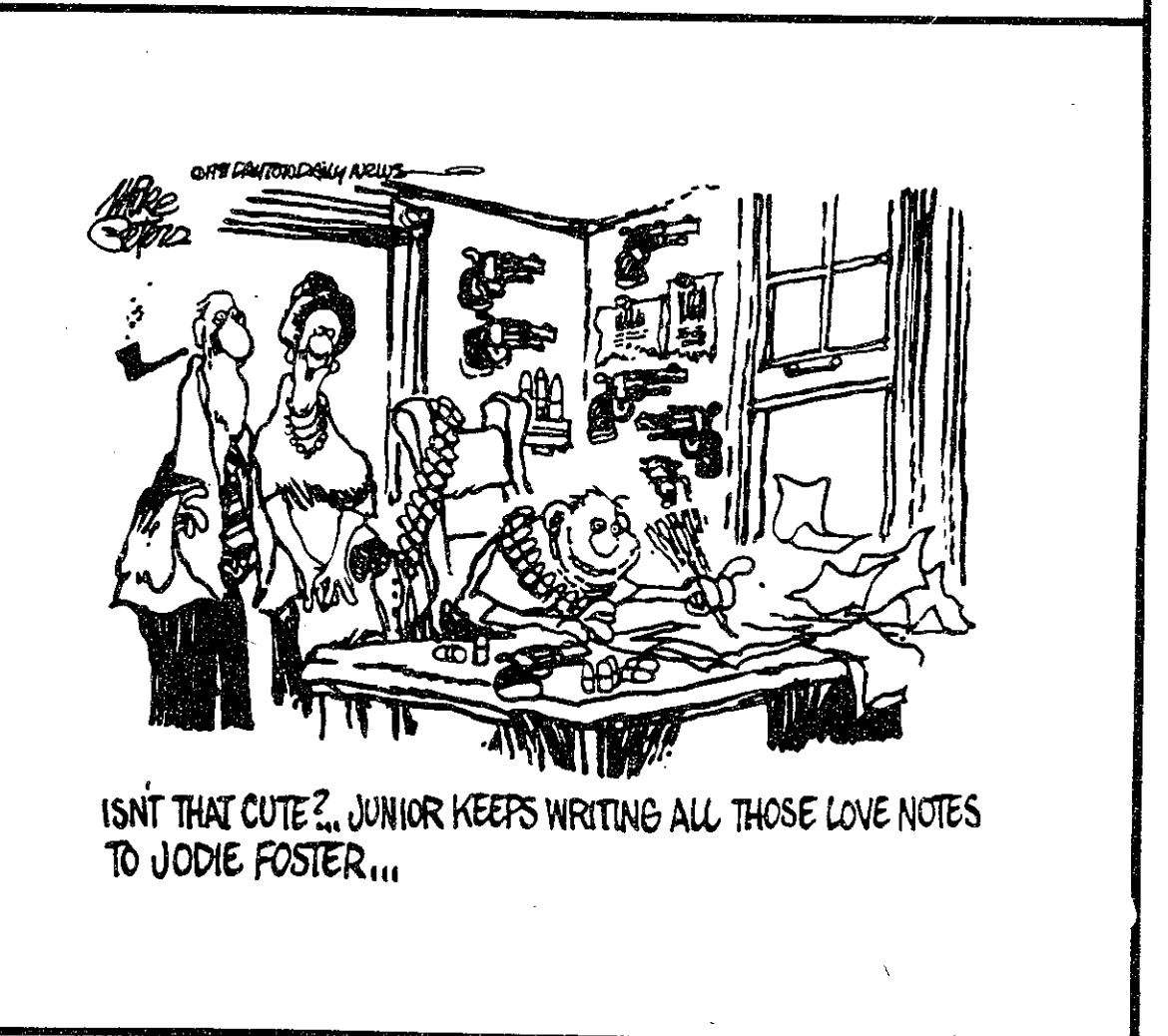
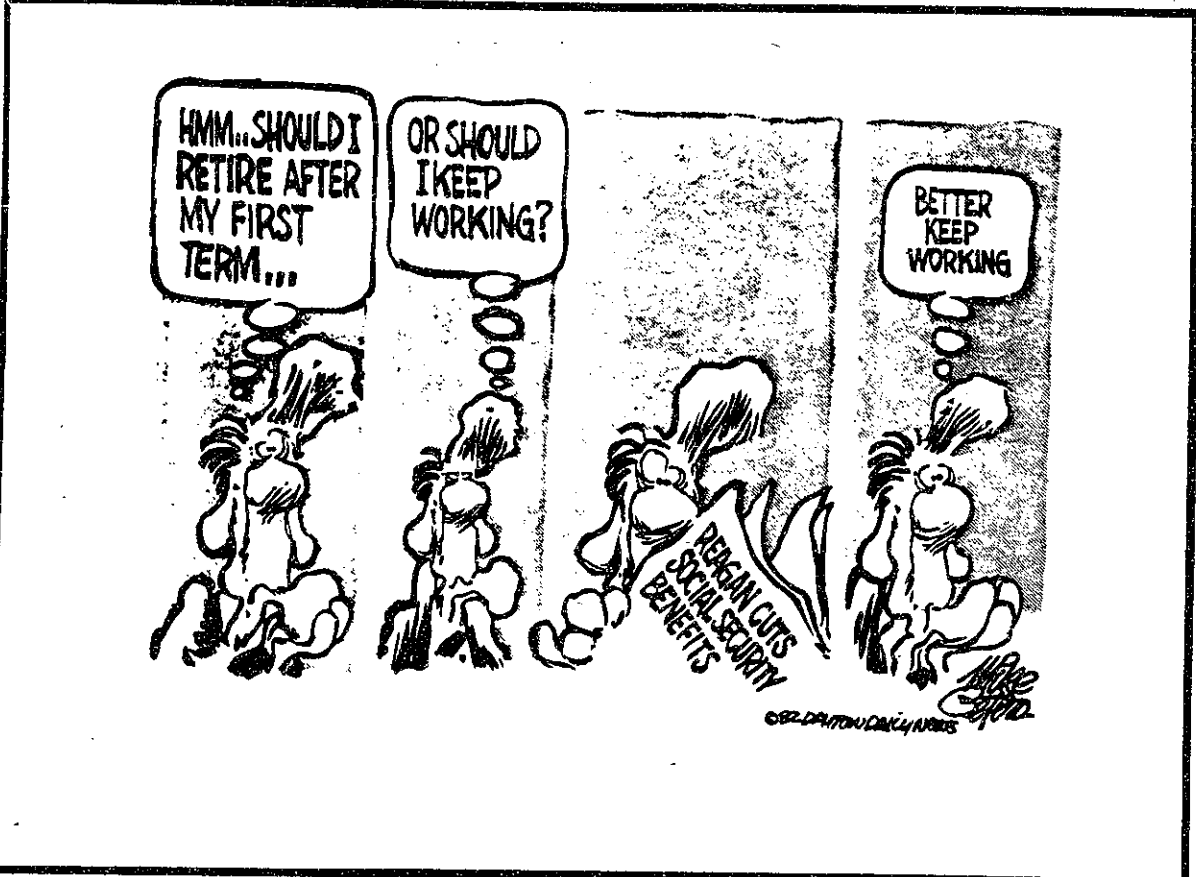
A friend from Senior House who is something of a free spirit is also graduating. He proudly told me that he had bagged a job at DEC. Unable to believe that he would choose to be tied down in such a monolithic company after he had paid back his loans, I asked him how long he planned to stay there. He got mad and walked away.

The future is very much oriented toward people who enter with a course firmly in mind and who stick to it blindly and stoically through life. This is certainly a successful system for many graduates.

Of those who find new interests after entering, some drop out or

take time off to replan their lives, some wait until their grades become so bad that the CAP forces them out, and some (like me) take their time off unofficially in stretches during each term. Unfortunately, many students, in spite of their newly-discovered abilities and interests, find it easier to continue according to the life-long plan which they developed in high school.

In the years since high school nearly all of us have become less narrow and more socially mature. I have become almost an entirely different person with new motivations and interests. I'm glad that I'm not still following the voyage mapped out by that skinny high school computer nerd.

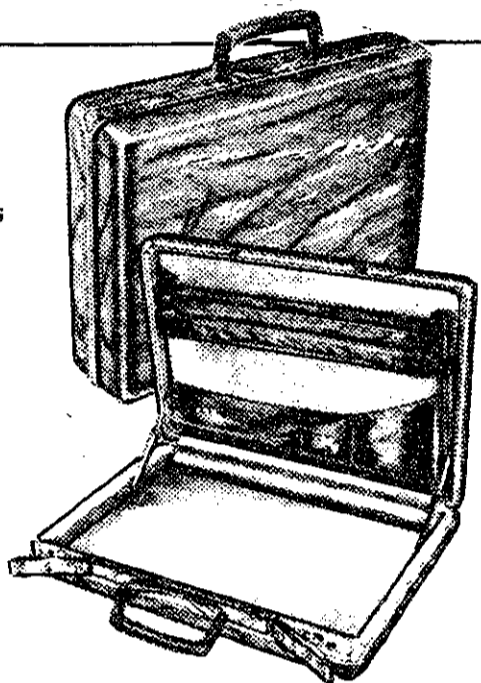


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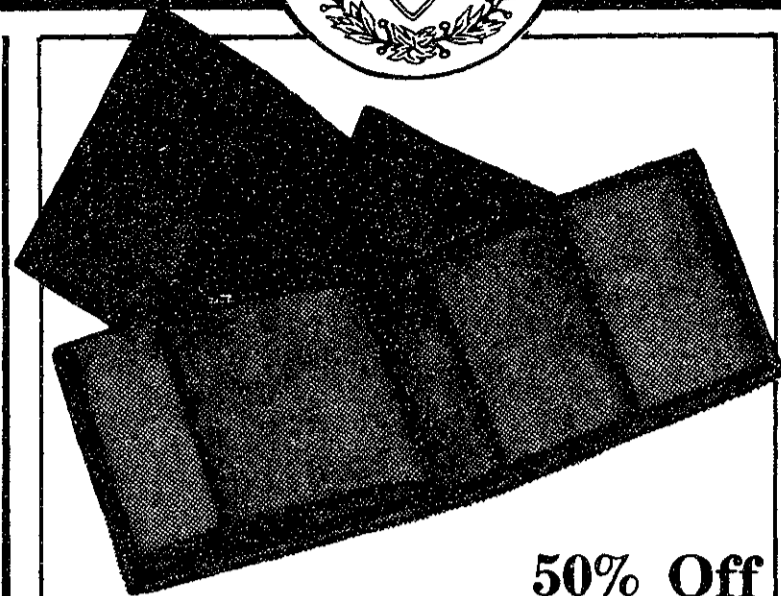
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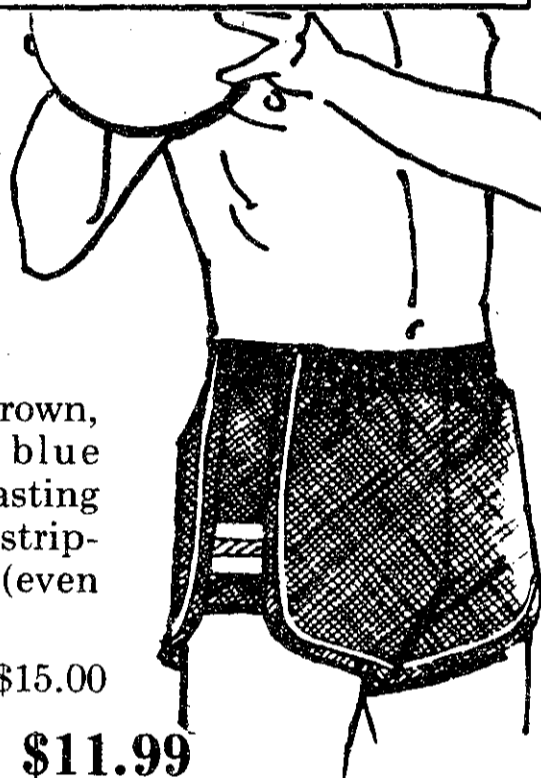
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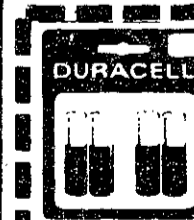
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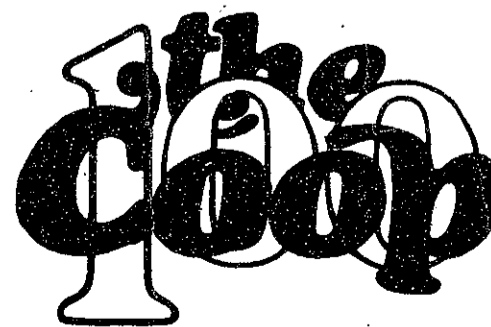
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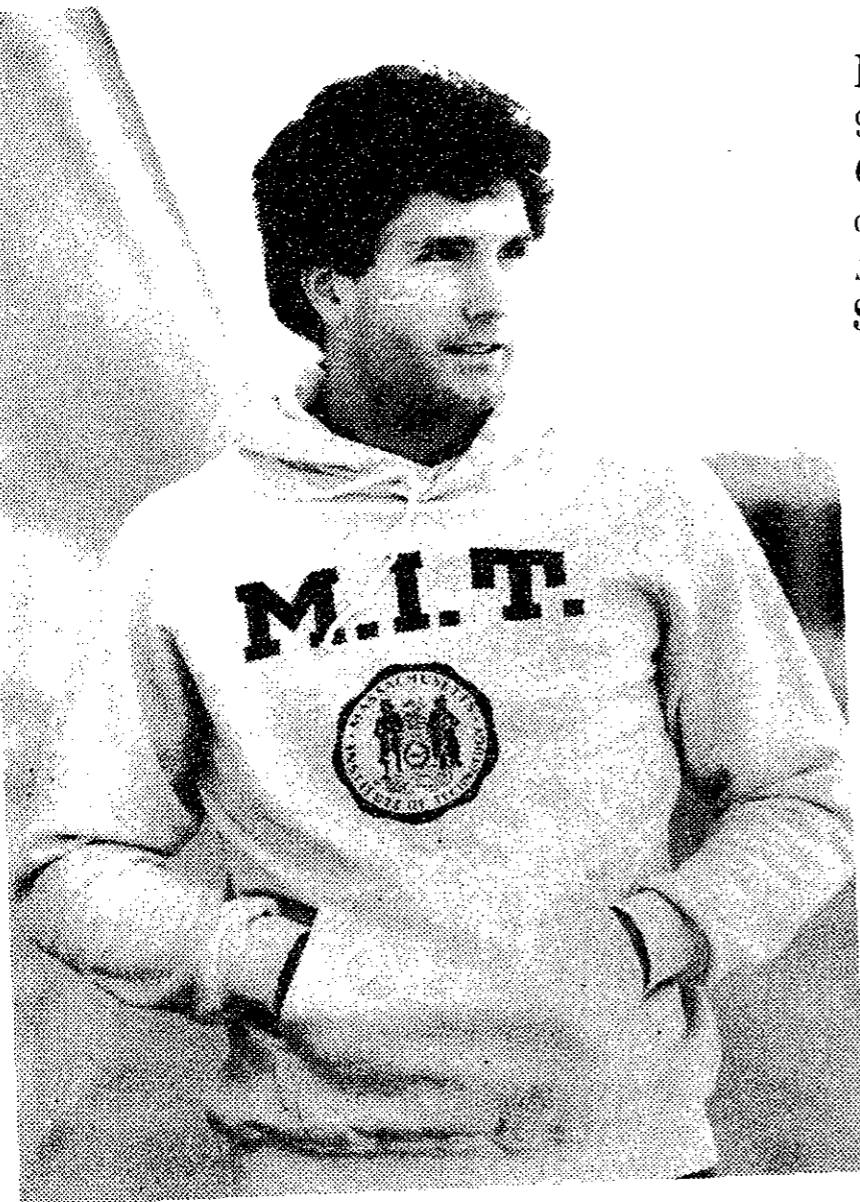
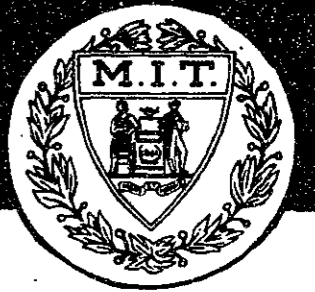
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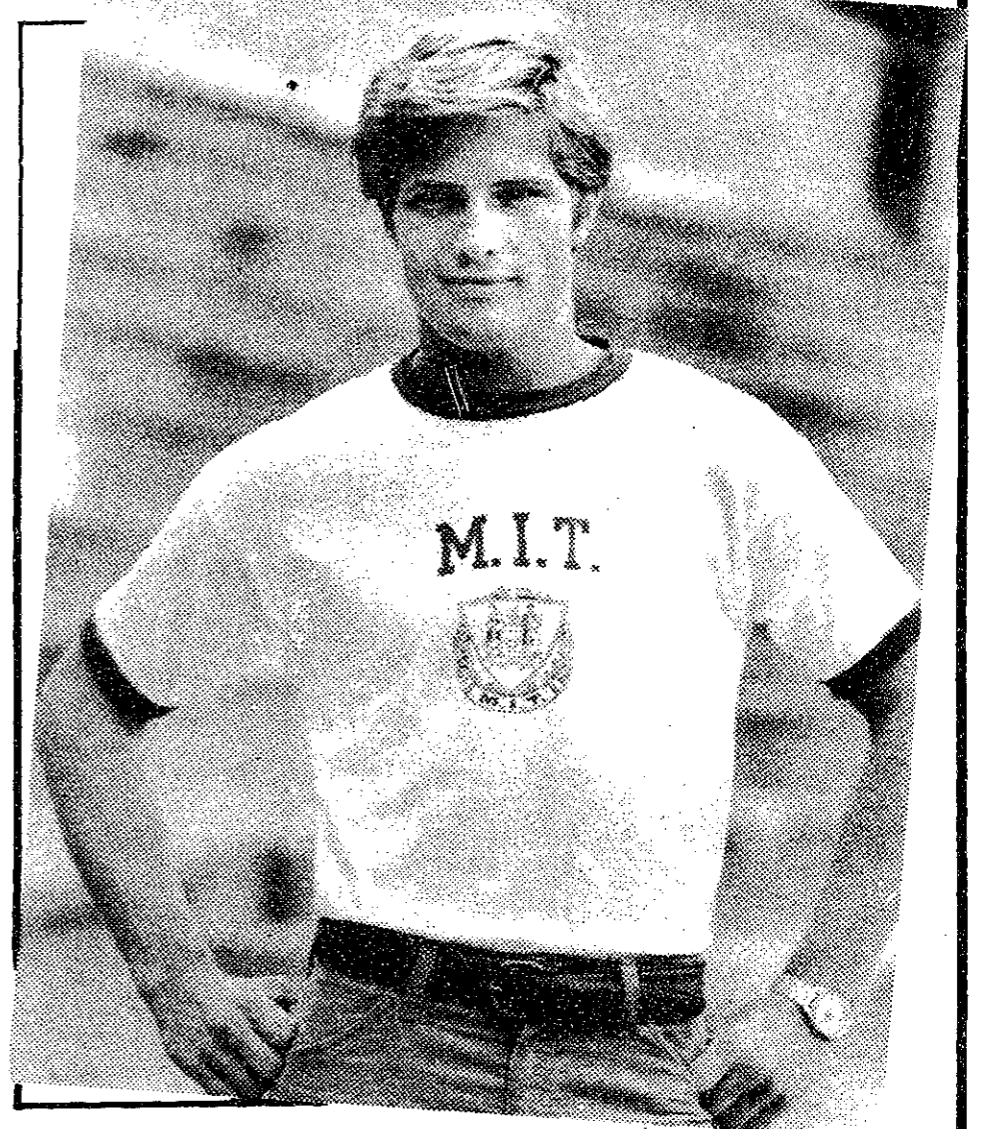
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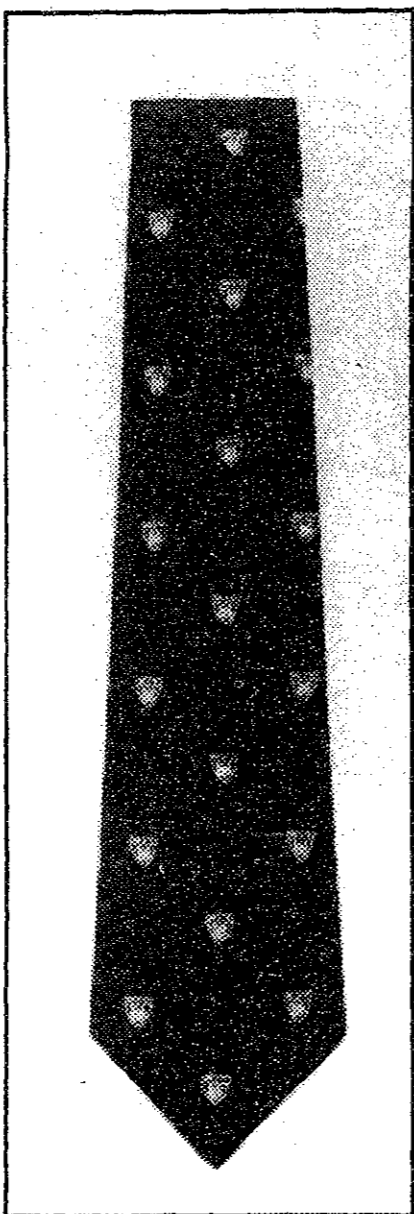
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