GA opposes hidden grade plan

Urges faculty vote to alter CEP proposal

By Tony Zampanutti

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Massachusetts students rally in support of nuclear freeze

By John J. Ying

Last Tuesday, thousands of students rallied at Northeastern University and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst to mark Nuclear Freeze Day in Boston.

In states, including Massachusetts, and twenty-five cities and counties nationwide have placed a nuclear freeze referendum on their November 2 ballot.

Student activities seek space

(Continued from page 1)

The announcement of the 2,000 Massachusetts students and several groups such as the Lawyers Alliance for Nuclear Scientists has also begun a campaign to get the results of the nuclear freeze movement into Congress calling "to achieve a mutual and verifiable freeze on the testing, production, and future deployment of nuclear warheads, missiles, and other delivery systems."

Last month, the nuclear freeze movement encountered its first political setback. By a vote of 204-202, the House of Representatives narrowly endorsed an Administration-backed proposal that supports the recently begun Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) in Geneva and prompts the US and the Soviet Union to freeze nuclear weapons at "equal and substantially reduced levels."

President Ronald Reagan has argued that the idea of limiting the number of nuclear weapons, but has suggested an intermediate freeze would permanently lock the Soviets into a position of superiority. Reagan proposes a "freeze" that "after we have been able to negotiate the Soviet Union into a reduction on both sides of all kinds of weapons."

(Continued from page 1)

The Association of Puerto Rican Students is also looking for office space. "We were accredited by USA seven or eight months ago, and we’ve been looking for office space since then," said vice president Maria Elena Lara '84.

The ASSA executive committee allocates student activity office space in the basement and on the fourth floor of the Student Center, and some space in Walker Memorial. Other student activity offices in Walker are assigned by the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs.

"I don’t need a lot," said SEDS’ Diamantis, "just a desk, and a file drawer."

MIT names OME chief

(Continued from page 1)

Professor Wesley Harris, the first director of the office, MacLaurin was named OME director September 1, succeeding Clarence Williams, Special Assistant to the President, who was acting director while the committee searched for a replacement.

MacLaurin hopes to stimulate even pre-high school students to pursue science-oriented careers. The new director said he is appealed that Massachusetts has no statewide high school science or math requirement.

"There is a tremendous amount of gifted, intelligent minority students out there, and MIT must make an effort to get them here," said MacLaurin.

OME’s primary function is to provide academic support to minority students. The office runs Interphase, a seven-week summer program of intensive preparatory classes for entering freshmen, a "buddy system," matching freshmen with upperclass student counselors, seminars on managing academic and studying time, and a student-staffed tutorial program.

OME also operates a "freshman watch," to try to identify freshmen’s problems before they become overwhelming. The OME receives reports on freshmen academic performance, and works closely with advisors and instructors to correct any problems.

MacLaurin emphasized the OME is "not about special treatment -- we just try to be helpful."

MacLaurin first became interested in science education in 1979, when he ran a summer program at Brandeis University for students gifted in science.

MacLaurin received his doctorate in Biology from the Harvard Medical School. He specializes in experimental hematology.

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news roundup

World

Sweden seeks Soviet sub — The Swedish navy dropped depth charges on a suspected Soviet submarine reported near a secret military base this week, while the Soviet news agency, Tass, suggested the submarine might be a "deliberate invention seeking to shatter trust and traditionally normal relations between the USSR and the Scandinavian countries." The submarine was sighted a week ago in Horsfjorden Bay near the Masko naval base in the Baltic Sea.

Nation

Reagan warns candidate to "shut up" — President Ronald W. Reagan told Gary R. Arnold, a congressional candidate from California, to "shut up" Wednesday at a White House meeting for Republican candidates for the US House of Representatives. Arnold interrupted Reagan, accusing the President of abandonning his conservative platform, claiming "... we have a Tylenol-tampering situation here, and we have Reaganism setting into the nation's body politic..." Nancy Sneed, executive director of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, said of Arnold, "we didn't know he was a book."

Local

House passes bill allowing King to appoint judges — The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a bill Wednesday allowing lame duck Governor Edward J. King to make appointments to 14 new state judgeships. Opponents of the bill claimed Democrats voting for the bill bowed to pressure from House Speaker Thomas W. McGee, who backed King in his unsuccessful bid for his party's nomination to the Commonwealth's highest office.

Weather

Into each long weekend a little rain must fall. Periods of rain and drizzle will interrupt the fog today, as the temperature stays in the 50's. The rain will end tonight as skies clear somewhat. The low will be near 50.

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Hughes representatives will be on campus

October 27

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Write yourself in.
Everyone may look forward to. It is possible to run such classes like true seminars, where professors often push students interested in majoring in some area of science away from that perspective and back to the more traditional MIT havens of engineering or natural science.

Yet, as I continue my fourth year at MIT, I can share a secret I have discovered about the last three years. Our social science departments feature nationally renowned faculty, a wide range of course offerings, small classes enabling professors to know: I am a social science major. That seems like a relatively simple statement, yet many forces at MIT prevent undergraduates from making such a declaration. Personal preconceptions, parents' and professors' often push students interested in majoring in some areas of social science away from that perspective and back to the more traditional MIT havens of engineering or natural science.

The aspiring social scientist at MIT has many advantages over students who undertake the same course of study elsewhere. Such a student is not competing with the world. Professors not overburdened with students often have time to devote to educating the mind, rather than fantasizing about future high-paying jobs. Starting salary alone does not reflect the quality of an undergraduate education.

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Student unamused by posters

To the Editor:

We never cease to be amused by what's passing for funny these days. Just this morning the halls of the Institute were littered with counterfeit G&M posters. Did you see one? It talked about buffs and masturbation and cock rings and all sorts of neat stuff. Some people see them and grimace, or check out, or said, "What a neat hack." A well-planned hack is the correct pronunciation. Some put a great deal of time into those, hoping to amuse us all.

We are not amused. How cruel and senseless can people be? Would that sort of abuse directed at any other minority seem as funny? Have we really reached the point where that style can be viewed as good-natured joking? Stop and think a minute. Imagine being gay, trying to decide whether or not to "come out", and being dramatically confronted on the campus with a poster that shows a society sex logo. Imagine being made the butt of jokes for feeling affection for someone else, simply because you chose the "wrong person." Imagine a crucial, unchangeable part of your personality being de-

The Tech, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139, Third Class postage paid at Boston, MA. Non-Profit Org. Permit No. 57675. 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, subscriptions, and typesetting rates available © 1982 The Tech, Printed by Charles River Publishers.
SCEP presents alternative to CEP pass/fail recommendation

I believe that this end will not be achieved, and timely information for making educational decisions, we believe that this end will not be accomplished by virtually eliminating all end of spring term evaluations and replacing them with one-dimensional letter grades.

The objective of the freshman evaluation procedure, according to the recommendations, is to give a richer picture of each student's performance and experiences than [does] letter grading and "to provide broader indices of learning and performance." The formalization of internal grades does not make any superfluous grades, and the CEP cites the low response rate to the end of spring term evaluation as justification for supplementing the narrative evaluation form with internal grades. We feel that this problem could be solved satisfactorily by a reworking of the existing evaluation scheme — the simplest solution being that the faculty initiate the forms, guaranteeing that the students receive the necessary feedback.

SCEP therefore proposes that the end-of-spring term student-initiated evaluation form be replaced by a faculty-initiated "check-box" report similar to the one that has been proposed for the fall term. While check-boxes are not the only alternative to letter grades, they do provide a "richer picture" of performance with the "broader indices" that the CEP desires. Since check-boxes draw on information that most instructors keep routinely, the proposed system should not add an additional burden to our already busy faculty. They also relieve the implicit pressure that students find from graduate and professional schools, their parents, and even themselves that is inherent in a letter grading situation.

Steven Barber '84
Co-Chairmen, Student Committee on Educational Policy

CEP needs to hear students

I would like to clear up some of the confusion surrounding the CEP freshman grading proposal. Over the past three weeks, numerous articles and the like have appeared in The Tech concerning this issue. I feel that most people are confused by the profusion of verbiage concerning the matter.

SCEP (Student Committee on Educational Policy) has been discussing the proposal for the past four meetings. The article by Tony Zamparutti (9/28), and the letter by Steven Barber, Steve Rubel, and James Taylor have given a misleading view of the opinions of SCEP. For example, Mr. Zamparutti quoted a member (myself) as saying that most students, and even themselves that is inherent in a letter grading situation.

Steven Barber '84
Co-Chairmen, Student Committee on Educational Policy

UA HOMECOMING ELECTIONS

Nominations for Homecoming King and Queen will be accepted Wednesday, October 13, 10am to 3pm, in Lobby 10.

Each student may nominate up to five students. The five individuals receiving the most nominations in each category will be placed on the ballot.

Election will be held Friday, October 15, 10am to 3pm in Lobby 7. Votes will be cast in a standard preferential manner as specified by Robert's Rules of Order.

MIT ID will be required for nominations and voting.

UA Election Commission

MIT Placement Office regarding our on-campus interviews to be held Friday, October 15, 1982.

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Discusses pass/fail

By the Editor:
The editorial in The Tech of October 5 inspired me to add my opinions. Yes, some student proponents do have lazy reasons for the proposal. After all, they are grades, and the faculty that composed the proposal. They often fall short of their goals against their recommendations.

There is no way to study the effects of these changes. The best we can do is see if it works. That's what the CEP plans to do. They have disclaimed the possibility of judging the proposed changes after the experimental period.

I feel that grades in the spring term are not useful feedback. A student cannot tell from a grade whether performance needs improvement. Perhaps the quickbox addition to the evaluation forms could be used instead.

The CEP has good intentions even if their methods are faulty. They want to provide you with feedback so you'll be prepared for later courses. They could always assume that you knew the material and proceed accordingly, giving D's and F's to those who are not prepared. At least they want to give you some idea of whether you are ready to proceed or not.

I also don't believe that the CEP feels this proposal is the only way to solve this problem. Let's be fair to the faculty. They have discussed this issue for some time now. They are extremely busy at the end of the term. Students don't fill out test forms because it's too much hassle. I'm sure the faculty feels the same way. If it is a pain for us to fill in five forms, we should consider doing 30 or 60 amid thesis evaluations, defenses, etc.

This proposal doesn't create hidden grades, it just makes it easier for you to access them. They often exist now. If your performance needs improvement, the quickbox addition to the evaluation forms could be used instead.

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This proposal doesn't create hidden grades, it just makes it easier for you to access them. They often exist now. If your performance needs improvement, the quickbox addition to the evaluation forms could be used instead. They may help students to access their results.
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Letter misconstrues Scofield column

(Continued from page 5) students "really didn't seem to care at all" about the proposal. That is true, but I got the feeling from what he wrote that SCEP was in favor of or neutral towards the CEP proposal. In fact, the majority opinion was against the plan.

In addition, the letter by Mr. Barber et al. misrepresents Lynn Scofield's column of September 25. The letter claims that Scofield was in favor of or neutral to the plan. In fact, she later goes on to demonstrate that grades would be counterproductive for this purpose.

On the point that the narrative forms are being (or not being) replaced: the letter is technically correct. However, is anyone really ignorant to believe that the majority of professors will continue to use the narrative when they can give a grade instead? The narrative will be a red herring in this case, anyhow; for all practical purposes, the narrative is being replaced.

The statement that internal grades would be used in the spring only is irrelevant, as is the point that the slot for the grade would be eliminated (now where would the professor put the grade? I'm confused). What is important is that the grades would be complete. This violates the spirit, if not the principle, of pass-fail. I will not take the space to discuss why; I instead refer the interested reader to Scofield's column and that of October 5.

Perhaps it may interest some people that SCEP endorsed a different proposal, to use check boxes and narrative, with no provision for any grades (my emphasis). While I do not consider it ideal (I prefer Scofield's proposal), it is a compromise that should be acceptable to all parties. If a department should choose to keep internal grades (which it shouldn't need to, if the evaluations are kept up-to-date), the grades should not be available to anyone, including the student. This would eliminate any pressure from graduate schools to release grades hopefully.

The problem, CEP has endorsed the grade proposal. The faculty has not voted on it yet; it is critical for us to make our opinions known. The next CEP meeting, on Thursday, October 14, will be attended by the faculty. CEP. I urge anyone with any opinion on any of the proposals to attend. If the CEP receives strong feedback from the student body, it may change its mind accordingly. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center Room 400.

Robert Krawitz '86

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October 4-15
Brandeis defeats men's soccer

By Arthur Lee

In an exciting game played Tuesday at Steinbrenner Stadium, the men's soccer team lost by a score of 3-2 to Brandeis University, the number one-ranked Division III team in the country.

Brandeis completely dominated the offensive action in the first half, easily getting 18 shots on MIT's goal, while the Engineers could only manage one. MIT goalie Bob Schaefer '83 put on an incredible performance, making 12 saves. Despite some fine defensive efforts, the MIT defense broke down under constant heavy pressure, allowing Brandeis' Peter Henne to score with just 30 to go in the period.

For the first three minutes of the second half, the score remained 1-0 in favor of Brandeis. But less than a minute later, Brandeis scored again. With a shot from Germano Dimembro, MIT came back, however. Carlos Ipeirra '83 set up a shot for John Mark Johnston '84, who slipped the ball by the goalie for a score of 2-1. A minute later, MIT was called for obstruction in front of its own goal. Consequently, Brandeis was awarded an indirect kick less than ten yards from the goal. Goalie Schaefer simply could not make the save as Brandeis' Jim McCulloch charged and kicked the ball into the goal pocket.

At this point in the game, MIT's defense let up. 18:53 into the half, the Engineers allowed an unmarked man standing in front of the goal to head the ball into the goal for a deficit of 5-1. The Engineers tried their best to score, but for a while, they succeeded. Co-captain John Bass '85 assisted co-captain John England '83 in a scoring drive that made the score 5-2. But further offensive attempts to salvage the game proved futile. In analyzing the loss, Coach Walter Alessi said, "They simply were the better team. We did give them a run for their money for a while."

That is certainly true because in all their previous eight games, Brandeis only gave up three goals, and MIT got two in one game. With this victory, Brandeis remains undefeated.

Next Wednesday, MIT faces Boston College, another tough opponent, for a home game at Steinbrenner. Game time is 5pm.

**Sports**

**Fall baseball is victorious**

(continued from page 16)

The fall mound corps consists of Mike Snyder '83, DeChristina, Ferguson, Hardy, and MacLeod. Other players are John Koh '85 and Tim Sullivan '85. The returning freshmen include Mark Ford, Lou Spiridigliozzi, Paul Szymanski, and George Apostol.

The team will need to be in action again when they travel to New Hampshire for the Manchester Invitational, finishing off its first successful fall season.

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One step ahead of a changing world.
Baseball outlasts Brandeis

By Robert E. Malechman
In the gathering darkness, the MIT baseball team staved off a six-run ninth inning Brandeis rally by two on Sept. 25. The victory, coupled with a 9-2 drubbing of Mass Bay on Tuesday, raised the Engineers’ record to 10-2.

Tom Wolfe ’83 singled Switzer and Huffman in, and Henry Hoeb ’86 delivered a big two-run triple. Doug MacLeod ’86 bunted a two,...letter across six innings in an abbreviated game.

Co-captain Steve Lubiak ’83 agreed, “The pitching is consistent, and we have good frosh.

Coach Fran O’Brien attributed MIT’s success this fall to a jelling of the team’s squad and a talented crop of freshmen.

The Engineers also put together a big third inning against Mass Bay the day before. With the score tied at two, courtesy a first-inning two-run homer by Huffman, Bruce Diaz ’84 led off with a walk. Ken Switzer ’86 singled, and Huffman drove in Diaz with a single. After Mike DiChristina ’85 struck out, Poole walked.

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