

## MIT bills activities; exemption sought

By Thomas Huang

MIT is submitting monthly bills to student activities for the Institute's employee benefit program, but is still considering exempting the activities from the program, according to John A. Currie '57, director of finance.

The Institute must contribute to the fund for all employees, including students, Currie said. MIT began collecting funds on July 1 from student activities for the benefit program, he continued.

Any group which employs students must pay an amount equal to 33.9 percent of its payroll toward the MIT employee benefits fund.

"The requirement was stated in MIT's negotiation with the government auditors," Currie said.

The auditors represented the Defense Contract Audit Agency and the Office of Naval Research, according to William R. Dickson '56, senior vice president for operations.

The Institute negotiated an agreement with the auditors to increase benefits from 25.2 percent to 33.9 percent last spring.

"The government says that we must" make raises for all employees, including students, "or none at all," Currie said.

The Institute made the change to make apparent research costs lower by paying research assis-

tants and teaching assistants tuition out of the benefit program, Currie said in March. "Our competition... such as Stanford... has looked as if its research costs less."

Michael P. Witt '84, president of the Undergraduate Association, said, "If the decision is made not to exempt student activities without consulting the students, and the students are affected adversely, then that will show a lack of responsibility" on the part of the Institute.

Jane D. Smith, director of student employment, said she supports the student activities request that they be exempted from the requirement because they have a "legitimate concern."

"The surcharge was not meant to be a hardship on any group," she said. "I hope that whoever makes the decision on exemption will realize that the benefit program is new and things have to be worked out. The committee which developed the program a year ago overlooked the problem with the student groups."

Currie said, "The ball is in the Dean's Office's court right now" because the Dean's office has to approve the students' request for exemption before President Paul E. Gray '54 can withdraw the requirement.

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Rev. Jesse Jackson spoke at a rally supporting antinuclear protests in Europe held on the Boston Common Sunday afternoon. The rally attracted about 3000 people including Boston mayoral candidate Melvin H. King and US Rep. Edward H. Markey.

Tech photo by Rohan S. D. Khaleel

## Activity participation falls Leaders cite academic and financial pressures

By Ellen L. Spero

Leaders of several large student activities report declining participation in their groups, which some claim is a result of increased academic and financial pressures.

"It seems to me that students are spending less time actively pursuing activities," said Peggy

Richardson, executive officer of the Undergraduate Academic Support Office.

"I, too, have noticed the trend of attrition, or the apparent attrition in participation in activities," said Kirsi C. Allison '84, president of the Association of Student Activities, a committee of the Undergraduate Association.

Members of the Association of Student Activities have also noticed the trend, Allison said. "It is harder to find people to participate, especially for the positions of responsibility."

Increases in tuition and equity levels without compensatory increases in wages for student employees are one of the causes of decreased involvement, Allison said.

"People have to work more hours or they feel a greater stress to get better grades or to graduate in less time," she continued.

"We are looking to save people time," she said, "especially the time of those people on the executive boards [of different student groups] on the theory that what benefits them, benefits the other members of the group, by allowing the activity to continue to function."

None of the more than 100 organizations which are members of the Association of Student Activities has submitted statistics on changes in student participation, she said.

Cindi B. Paschal '85, treasurer of Alpha Phi Omega service organization, said, "People have less time and energy to give for [Alpha Phi Omega] activities."

Susan G. Bachrach '85, the group's president, disagreed. "We don't seem to be having a problem. We've got as many people active as we have had in the past."

Paschal said, "We still have the same number of total members, but it gets harder and harder to find people to do things. We used to get 15 to 20 people every Saturday spending six to eight hours on outside projects. Now we're getting 10, [and a maximum of] 15, unless it's a heavily advertised project."

"It's not that people are less interested," Paschal said. "They just feel that they have to put more time into studies and jobs."

Alpha Phi Omega had a good pledge class this year, Paschal said. She expressed concern, however, for "pledge burnout," because many of the fraternity's pledges participate in other student activities.

The Student Center Committee also has a problem with student participation, according to Bill Hobbib '86, secretary of the committee. "People don't have the time. Basically, they have academic and other commitments."

"There are some things that we would like to do, but can't because we don't have enough people to do them," Hobbib said. The committee recently cancelled its Midnight Movies because it lacked a coordinator.

The Graduate Student Council will continue the series with funds from the Student Center Committee, Hobbib said.

Julia A. Inde '84, president of the MIT Musical Theatre Guild, said the group has "a definite problem with student participation. ... People aren't willing to spend that much time on outside activities."

Higher offices not filled

Leo J. DaCosta '82, chairman of the MIT Lecture Series Committee, said, "We have enough people for the lower positions,

(Please turn to page 6)



Gwendolyn Goldsby Grant spoke at the MIT Black Students' Conference on Science and Technology held this weekend.

Tech photo by Suzanne I. Duncan

## Blacks speak on educational skills

By James J. Reisert

"Our most fundamental need is basic education: reading, writing, and arithmetic," said Dr. Percy A. Pierre, president of Prairie View A & M University, at the 11th annual MIT Black Students' Conference on Science and Technology held this weekend.

Pierre, the keynote speaker at the conference, discussed the need for fundamental educational skills Friday at a luncheon attended by more than 200 guests and members of the MIT community.

Standardized test scores have continued to decline in recent years, Pierre said. Enrollment in advanced mathematics and science subjects has dropped, and both secondary schools and colleges face a shortage of good teachers, he said.

The problems are particularly bad for blacks and other minorities, he said. "Blacks are getting the short end of the stick" in traditional educational programs in high schools which tend to group students by ability, Pierre said.

Many college entrance examinations "are exams of the fundamentals — math, communication, reading, and writing," he said. "If we insist on fundamentals, the scores will go up."

Local school boards should require a minimum number of years of study in math and science, he said, and they should also ensure the courses are "real math and science."

Many of the problems in education result from a lack of competent educators, Pierre said. Education majors score lower on the Scholastic Aptitude Test than do those in other majors, he said.

The lucrative high-technology market now draws many potential educators, he said. "Ten years ago the teaching profession was getting the best minority and women available. Today, other opportunities lure them."

Colleges lack professors in engineering and business, he said. "In engineering, we have the option for more lucrative careers in industry."

A teacher should be paid according to his market value, Pierre claimed. "If math teachers are short, pay them more. Pay them what they're worth," he said. Such a system would shift students' interests to those areas where educators are needed.

"We can reverse some of these trends if we understand the fundamentals of a high-tech world:

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## inside

Nader consumes sellers at Northeastern. Page 2.

King brings *The Dead Zone* alive. Page 9.

Fooling with Tom at the Charles Playhouse. Page 9.

Colby crowd crowns soccer shutout. Page 15.

# Nader tells problems of sellers' market

By Edward Whang

"We have a seller-sovereign economy," declared consumer advocate Ralph Nader at a lecture held Sunday at Northeastern University.

"We grow up learning how to sell, not how to buy," he said. Schools offer numerous subjects in business, but provide few classes in consumer education. The schools expect people to know instinctively how to buy, he added.

Consumers are abused as a result of their ignorance, he said, as

government establishes regulations to protect corporations, including exclusive licensing, price fixing, and subsidizing.

"What's at stake here is the environment, the distribution of wealth, and who rules — the political or economic government," he said. Thomas Jefferson once noted the purpose of government is to limit the power of money, Nader said.

Economic policy starts and ends with the seller, according to Nader. Sellers decide what they want people to buy and what

people should know about products. "This problem is due to consumers' lack of organization," Nader said.

Distribution of energy resources is an example of this situation, Nader said. "There are two types of energy. One is expensive, requires much capital to obtain, and one group can get control of it. The other is renewable, super-abundant, and is accessible to all kinds of people.

"The problem with solar energy, however, is that it is available to too many people for Exxon [Corp.]; Exxon has no patent on the sun. It is more profitable for

Exxon to sell non-renewable forms of energy," he said.

Many homes used solar energy during the 1920s, but lack of consumer organization has allowed fossil fuels to remain the most widespread form of energy, Nader claimed.

Had consumers organized during the 1920s and 1930s and studied energy efficiency, "the cars of today would not exist," Nader claimed. "The new cars would get 70 miles per gallon, and 80 percent of car-related deaths would be avoided."

"In the future we can look forward to more waste, more ma-

nipulation, and more poor distribution," Nader said. The Reagan administration, for example, recently approved use of crushed bones and rope strands in frankfurters, he said.

Corporate crime abuses more people than does street crime, he continued. Consumer organization is the only solution to such abuse, he said.

Nader's lecture, part of the Ford Hall Forum series, was held at Northeastern's Alumni Auditorium. Richard Neely, attorney general of West Virginia, also spoke Sunday on judicial activism.



Consumer-advocate Ralph Nader.

Tech file photo

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# news roundup

## World

**Terrorists kill 186 American Marines and 41 French paratroopers in Beirut** — A terrorist, in a suicide attack early Sunday morning, drove a pickup truck loaded with one ton of TNT into the lobby of an American Marine headquarters at Beirut airport. At least 186 US Marines and Navy men were killed, and 32 remain unaccounted for. Minutes later another terrorist drove another bomb-laden truck into a nearby building housing French paratroopers, killing 41 men. A group calling itself the Free Islamic Revolution Movement claimed responsibility for both bombings. Circumstantial evidence points to Iranian involvement in the attack, according to Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. The US will not withdraw its peacekeeping forces from Lebanon, President Ronald Reagan said yesterday. "We must not allow international criminals and thugs as these undermine the peace in Lebanon," Reagan said. "We cannot pick and choose where we defend peace — if some lose, we all lose." The Marines sent replacement troops Sunday afternoon to Beirut from Camp LeJeune in North Carolina.

## Nation

**Reagan unhurt after gunman takes hostages at a golf course** — An armed man crashed a pickup truck through the gates of the Augusta National Golf Course and took Reagan's personal aide and four others hostage while Reagan was playing golf there Saturday afternoon. The gunman, identified as Charles R. Harris of Augusta, brandished a pistol and demanded to speak to Reagan, but refused when given a chance to talk to him by telephone. After two hours and 20 minutes, the gunman gave himself up after freeing the hostages unharmed. Reagan was playing on the 16th fairway and was never in direct danger, Secret Service officials said.

## Local

**Open rebellion in the Massachusetts State Legislature** — Massachusetts House Speaker Thomas W. McGee, D-Lynn, will decide today at 1 p.m. whether or not to remove a defiant subordinate, Majority Leader George Keeverian, D-Everett, from the House leadership team. McGee told Keeverian last year that he would quit the House in 1983 to make way for Keeverian's election to the Speaker's chair. McGee apparently changed his mind, however, causing Keeverian last week to solicit other House members for support for his election to the speakership in 1985. Keeverian, majority leader for the past five years, has been, until now, a loyal lieutenant and is widely respected by other representatives. Many House members fear power struggle between the two will have other impacts in their home districts.

## Sports

**Dramatic nine-second win in the New York Marathon** — Rod Dixon of New Zealand won the 14th New York City Marathon Sunday in 2:08:59, history's tenth fastest marathon time. Dixon passed second place finisher Geoff Smith of Liverpool, England in the final 385 yards of the race. Smith, running his first marathon, collapsed at the finish line with a time of 2:09:08. Dixon became the third person — beside four-time winner Bill Rodgers and two-time winner Alberto Salazar — to win the 26-mile-385-yard race, which drew 15,193 runners despite a steady rain.

## Weather

**The gray Bostonian drizzle continues** — The sky will be mostly cloudy today and tonight, with high temperatures just reaching the 50s and low temperatures dipping into the 40s. Tomorrow will bring a good chance of rain and cloudy skies. The highs will reach 50 degrees.

John F. Pitrelli and John J. Ying



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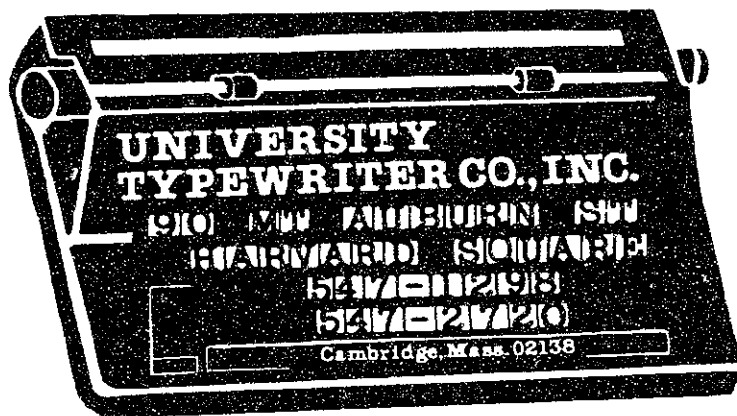
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There will be an informational meeting on General Electric Technical Work and Careers at 5 P.M. on Thursday, October 27, 1983 in Building 37, Room 212.

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## UA News

### General Assembly

—With the election of the new Floor Leader and GA ExecComm members-at-large, the GA now has a full Executive Committee, listed below. If you have any questions about the GA, or if you want us to look into a problem, feel free to give one of us a call at the numbers listed below.

Mike Witt (UAP).....	266-8664
Inge Gedo (UAVP) .....	876-6196
Tammy Abell (Secretary General).....	876-6196
David Libby (Floor Leader).....	dl8739
Ishai Nir .....	dl8751
Rajesh Gandhi .....	576-2792
Dan O'Day .....	dl6316

### —Office Hours:

UAP	Tuesday, Thursday 3-5
Floor Leader	Monday,
	Thursday 11-2 and 2-3

Stop by and talk to us about any problems you have or anything you would like to see changed at the Institute.

—The General Assembly is going to be looking at the following issues over the next few weeks. If you have any comments or suggestions (or flaming) give us a call or come by during office hours (see above).

- pornography at MIT
- Thanksgiving New York Bus
- faculty/student interactions
- the advisor system
- on-campus banking machine
- MIT's policy of deducting 100% of outside scholarships from financial aid
- student employee benefit surcharge
- alumni contributions and tuition issues
- library concerns
- on-campus travel agency?
- donut stand "branch office" near buildings 2 or 26?
- UA Newsletter

—As of this week, there are GA seats open from a few dormitories and a half dozen independent living groups. If you are interested in obtaining one

of these seats, speak to your house president or call the UA Office at 253-2696.

### Freshman/Sophomore Councils

The Freshman and Sophomore Councils will hold a "Get-together" tonight at 7pm in the Baker Master Suite Lounge. Any freshmen interested in joining the Freshman Council are welcome to come to this joint meeting. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Kim at dl7365 or Shar on at dl7352.

### Ugly People

this year's UMOC competition will be held from October 27–November 4. If you are revolting enough to enter this competition and raise money for charity, please call the APO office at 3-3788.

### Attention Seniors

Senior portraits will be taken starting on October 31. Call the **Technique** office this week between 1 and 5pm to make an appointment. If you do not have your picture taken now, it will not appear in the yearbook. This is your **last chance!** Office x3-2980 or dl9167.

### ... and if you can't play rugby ...

TCA and the American Red Cross are sponsoring a blood drive from November 1–10. MIT is one of the primary sources of blood for the New England area, which makes the TCA blood drives very important. Please take the time to give. For more info, call the TCA office at 253-7911.

### Skuffle

One of MIT's largest campus-wide parties, Skuffle, will be this Saturday night, October 29 at Phi Kappa Sigma (530 Beacon Street). Tickets and information this week in Lobby 10.

# Opinion

## Editorial

### Benefit activities, not benefit fund

John A. Currie '57, director of finance, announced last week that organizations which employ students must contribute an amount equal to 33.9 percent of their payroll to MIT's employee benefit program. An agreement MIT made with the federal government requires the Institute to make these contributions, he said.

The MIT benefit program funds, among other things, the pensions, and health insurance of Institute employees. The students for whom these contributions must be made will see nary a penny of that money. Student activities would be put in the position of financing MIT, a serious perversion of roles.

Student groups simply cannot generate 33.9 percent more payroll money. The Student Center Committee coffeehouse would presumably have to raise its prices, the Lecture Series Committee its movie admissions, *The Tech* its advertising rates and typesetting fees, and so on. If they must pay the benefits for Institute employees, they will surely pass the cost along to their primary consumers, the financially beleaguered MIT students.

The requirement also represents an unfair additional burden on student organizations already plagued by declining membership and reduced participation of members. The administration has repeatedly averred that student activities are a central aspect for enriching the student experience. MIT should put its money where its mouth is. President Paul E. Gray '54 is the only person, Currie says, who can exempt student activities from having to subsidize Institute employees. If that be so, Gray must take action to preserve and maintain student activities at MIT.



Column/Simson L. Garfinkel

## Defining limit of popular will

In a barbaric society, the rights of the majority are unlimited: A majority can always force a minority to do anything it wants. Fortunately, we live in a civilized society, in which both the majority and minority have legally defined rights and powers. Unfortunately, the extent of those rights and powers is not well defined.

To what extent may a majority inflict its will on a minority? If it is a minority of one against the majority of a mob seizing his property, then clearly the majority is in the wrong and it is an act of stealing. When the minority is a company, and the majority is a nation nationalizing an industry, the distinctions are not as clear.

When a majority says a minority may not engage in some profitable pursuit like genetic engineering, or take a government contract to design nuclear warheads, because of a moral question on the nature of the project, the issue explodes into a mass conflict.

It is very easy to develop an elitist attitude that only the informed, the expert, should make

decisions on important issues. Experts must be trusted to make decisions on concrete, scientific questions — can you imagine NASA conducting a public opinion poll to determine how much heat shielding the space shuttle requires? In the arenas of economics and social policy, on the other hand, an "expert" is one who agrees with your point of view.

Inherent in the republican form of government practiced in the United States is a great respect for the will of the people. After all, it is the people who elect their representatives to make the laws of the land, and the people who legitimize a government "of the people." It is for this fundamental reason that the United States government is legitimate, and that of the Soviet Union is not.

It is not always possible to know what "the people" want. Rarely, if ever, do "the people" all want the same thing. The referendum is commonly used by states and municipalities to allow the people to decide an issue by a

majority vote. While this may seem the only rational way to decide such issues, the governmental system includes limitations on the authority of majority will, to protect against infringements of individual or minority rights.

The essential problem with such limitations is how they are to be applied. Questions must be screened to ensure they will not allow a majority to hurt a minority. A majority may simply be wrong, so it must not have an opportunity to do something which is clearly immoral or illegal: For the residents of a town to vote to seize the property of the wealthiest man in the town would be both illegal and wrong; the question should never be put to a vote.

The courts should perform the screening function, but they, too, are comprised of people: fallible people who can also make mistakes. The people must, then, limit their own power. Voters must consider whether a particular action is within their power; then they must ponder whether it is morally correct to act.

# The Tech

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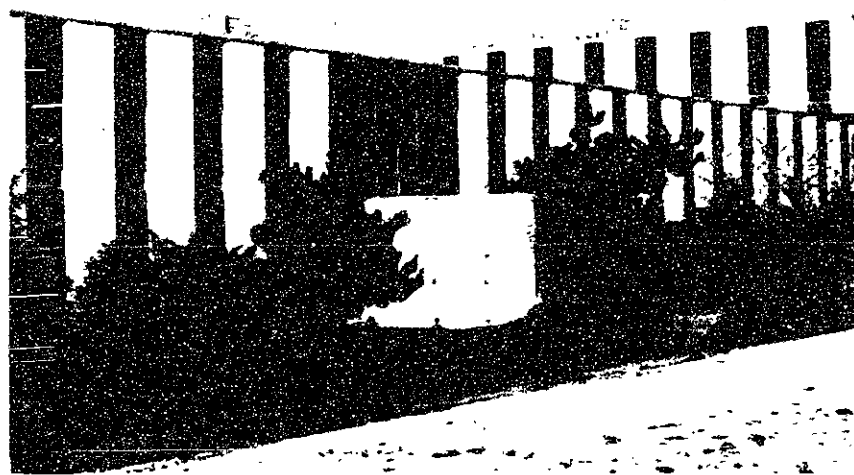
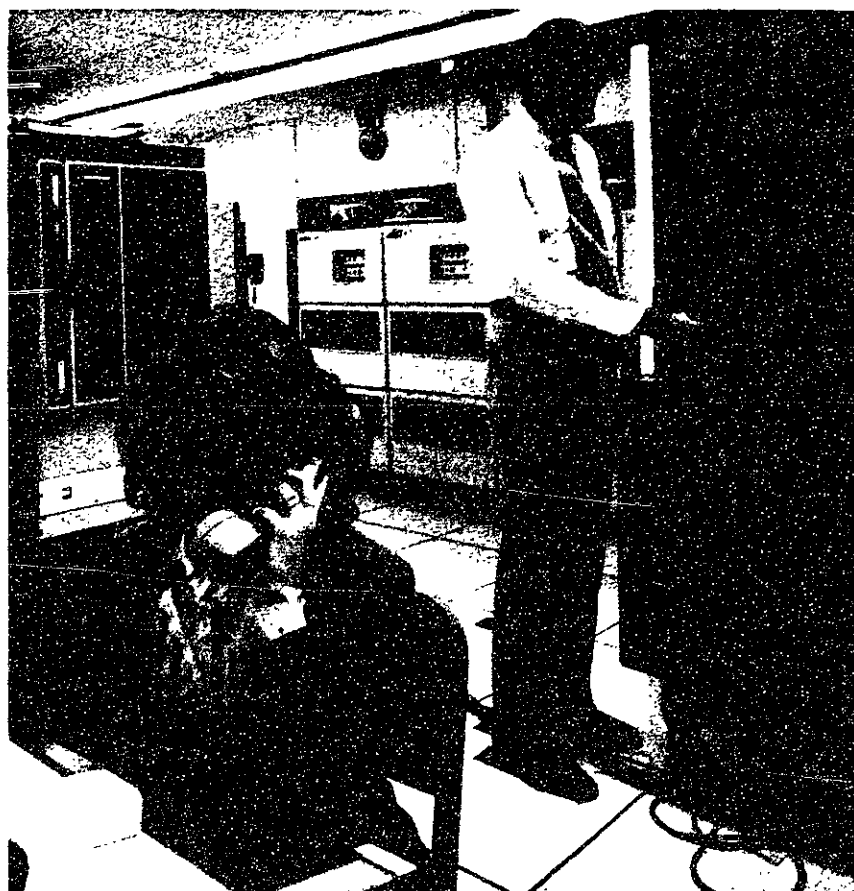
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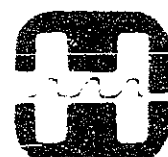
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# Activities lack participation

(Continued from page 1)

but it is tough to get people to take on the larger jobs."

The Lecture Series Committee recently cancelled its Classics Series because it could not find anyone to organize the movies, he said. "There are a lot of people who won't spend the time necessary to do the higher position jobs," he said.

"People who spend a lot of time," he said, "are more likely to be involved in more than one activity."

Suzanne L. Horine '86, editor in chief of *Technique*, said there is a "bigger problem with the amount of time per person than with the number of participants. . . . There are a lot of people who can't give that much time because of academic pressures." There is "no real competition for editorial jobs," she added.

V. Michael Bove Jr. G, chair-

man of *The Tech*, made a similar observation. "The number of people in the running for the higher responsibility positions, which require more work, has declined markedly," he said. "Fewer people are doing more work."

"Between academic and financial pressures, fewer people have had the chance to get involved in student activities, or if they do join, to do a whole lot," Bove said. "If we get fewer voices heard, it hurts the community at large."

### Some groups report growth

Charles Marge '84, president of the MIT Concert Band, said that although he has heard there is a problem with student participation in other activities, he "hasn't found it evident in Concert Band. We actually have more people than we need."

Mary Ann Dionne '85, president of the MIT Spelunker's Club, said her group has grown dramatically in the last two years. "It doesn't take that much time, and when you go to a meeting you actually explore, not discuss the club."

Julie D. Forman '85, president of MIT Hillel, said the group has seen an increase in student participation this term. "Things are looking up, but it is still frustrating because not enough members are active," she said.

"The main issue isn't academic pressures, it's a question of priorities," Forman said.

"Activities at MIT aren't doomed," she said. "We must impress on students that they have a need for what a given activity provides, and then people will make time."

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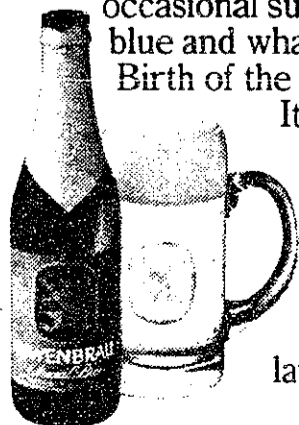
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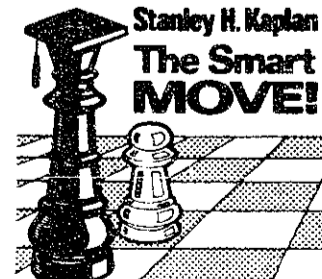


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# Blacks discuss education of minorities

(Continued from page 1)

well-educated people of all races," he said.

## Northeastern recruits minorities

David C. Blackman, assistant dean of engineering and director of a minority engineering program at Northeastern University, spoke on "Technical Literacy: The Importance to the Minority Student."

Blackman travels around the country, recruiting minority students for science programs at

## Dean seeks activities' exemption from fee

(Continued from page 1)

Shirley M. McBay, dean for student affairs, said, "This is not a question that the Dean's Office can resolve. We're dealing with an agreement between the Institute and the government."

Currie said, "Part of the negotiations were governed by a document titled *Cost Principles for Educational Institutions*. There might be some line in" the document which the auditors used to guide their decision. The Office of Management and Budget in Washington publishes the document.

"The Dean's Office has been aware of this situation since our negotiations with the government 18 months ago," Currie said.

McBay said the Dean's Office became aware of the problem only at the beginning of the school term. "I had thought student activities were exempt."

"We do want to explore the problem," she said. "We want to find out if there is some way to exempt the activities."

McBay said she discussed the exemption of student activities at an MIT Academic Council meeting last Tuesday. Dickson agreed to study the requirement at the meeting, she said.

Dickson said yesterday he spoke with those who had represented MIT in negotiations with the government.

"We're going to stick to our agreement with the government," he said. "The money's going to have to come from somewhere. If the activities don't pay, then the Institute will have to eat that cost."

Michael P. Witt '84, Undergraduate Association president said, "What it boils down to is that this seems natural to financial operations. But on the students' side, we see we're not getting any benefits. Student groups also have a lot less money."

"The pubs have to work hard to break even," Witt continued. "They can't cut back on their employees. A lot would be lost on the students' part."

Smith said student activity employees should not be considered

Northeastern, he said. The program is often discouraging "due to the lack of pre-college exposure of minority youths to the various fields of science and engineering," he states in a paper entitled "Technical Literacy and its Importance for People of Color."

"Until we minorities develop a more pervasive awareness of technology and its language we will continue to fail to graduate the number of engineers and scientists proportionate to our representation in society," Blackman said.

Institute employees, because activity employees neither receive tuition benefits nor vacation time.

The employees would see no benefits from the new program, and the student groups would have to pay from their own revenues, she said. The Institute reduces its budget for offices with student employees to compensate for the fee, she added.

"I'm also concerned that this program will cut into Institute offices' practice in hiring students," she said.

"It is costing me more to employ students with the benefit program," she said. The offices do not yet know what impact the benefit surcharge is going to have, she added.

Educators "can be the leaders that the middle and high school students of today can look to," he said. "We can diminish technical illiteracy as well as concerns and fears for the growing technological world."

## Must educate teachers

Paul Parks, president of the consulting firm Paul Parks and Associates, and former secretary of education for Massachusetts, presented a speech entitled "The Impact of Technical Education in the Life Quality of Our Community."

A decaying family structure also hinders education, Parks said. "When children of a broken home come into the classroom ... you can't expect them to do as well. The child has to be educated in the classroom in spite of the education not received at home."

"Public schools have accepted mediocrity," he continued. "Ill-trained people are ill-training our children."

## Promotes computer literacy

Dr. L. Eudora Pettigrew, associate provost for instruction at the University of Delaware, discussed her concern for "Techno-

logical Literacy for the 21st Century."

Much of her talk focussed on the use of computers as an educational aid. "Computers, as a learning device, should be viewed as an adjunct tool," she said.

Lack of good software limited computer-aided instruction until recently, she said. Sales pressure today by hardware and software developers is "unreal," she said, although "the effects of computer-aided instruction is as yet unknown."

"Technological literacy must also include a study of possible results," Pettigrew said. "There is a price to pay for each technological success."

"The center of our study must begin by relating the humanities to scientific studies," she added. "We must not use scientific technology to put a value on life."

## Education faces a depression

Dr. John B. Turner, assistant provost and associate dean of the MIT Graduate School, discussed graduate education in his presentation entitled "Graduate Education for Minorities in the '80s - The Need for More."

Higher education is in a depression, Turner said. The extremely high cost of graduate

education and the minimal difference in starting salaries between those holding bachelor's degrees and those holding master's degrees has caused a decrease in enrollment in graduate schools, he said.

The monthly salary of one engineer with a master's degree was only \$200 more than another with a bachelor's degree, he said, and one engineer with a doctorate received \$600 more.

Blacks received 1000 of the 24,000 doctorates awarded in 1982, Turner said. Most of the blacks' degrees were in social science, arts and humanities, and education, but only nine were in engineering, he added.

"There was an excruciatingly small number in the physical sciences and engineering. The numbers are small, and getting worse."

More than 40 percent of black freshmen do not complete their college educations, Turner said, and many shift from fundamental courses, such as math and science, to courses in remedial English and parenting.

Educators need "to approach education in a revolutionary fashion" and "to return to those things which are important to getting through those places of education," Turner said.

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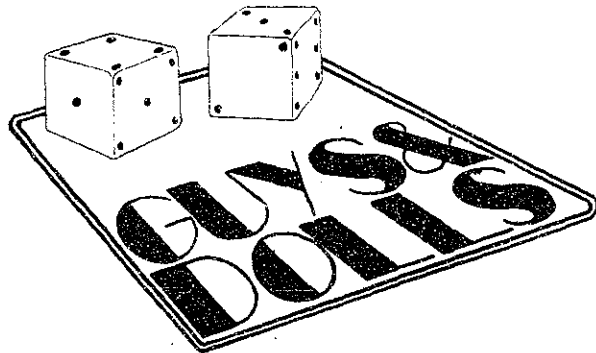
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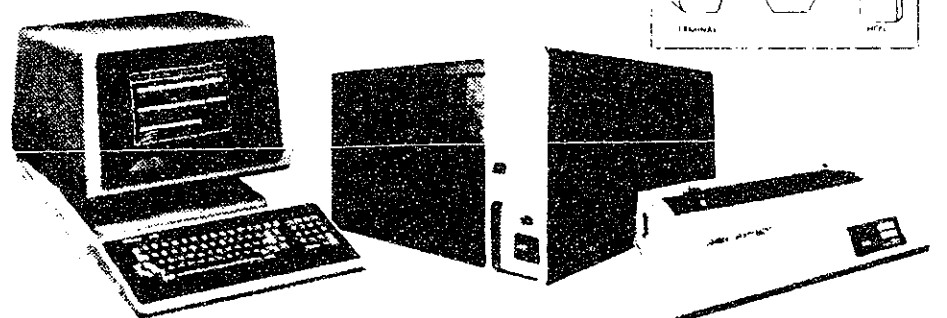
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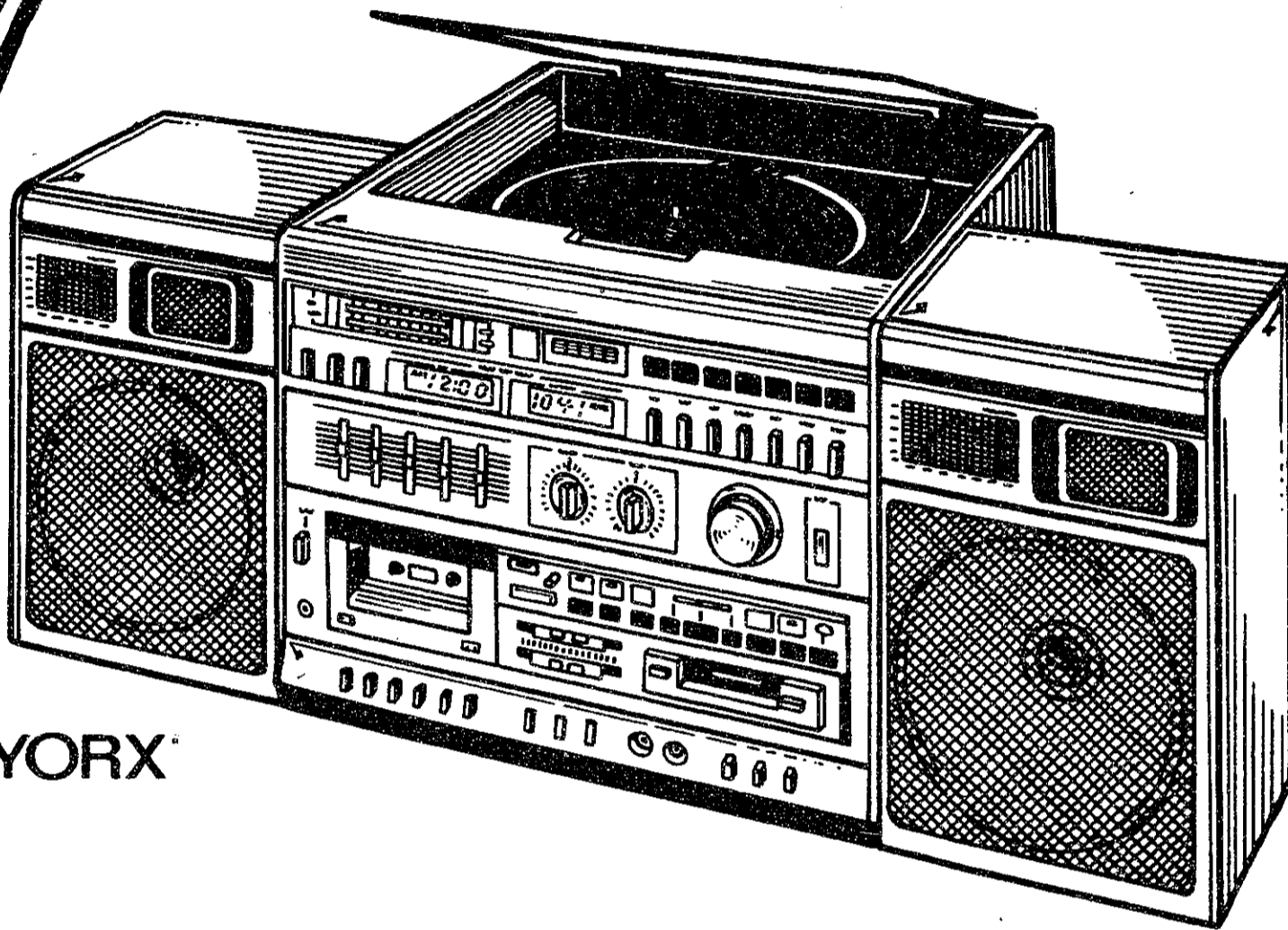
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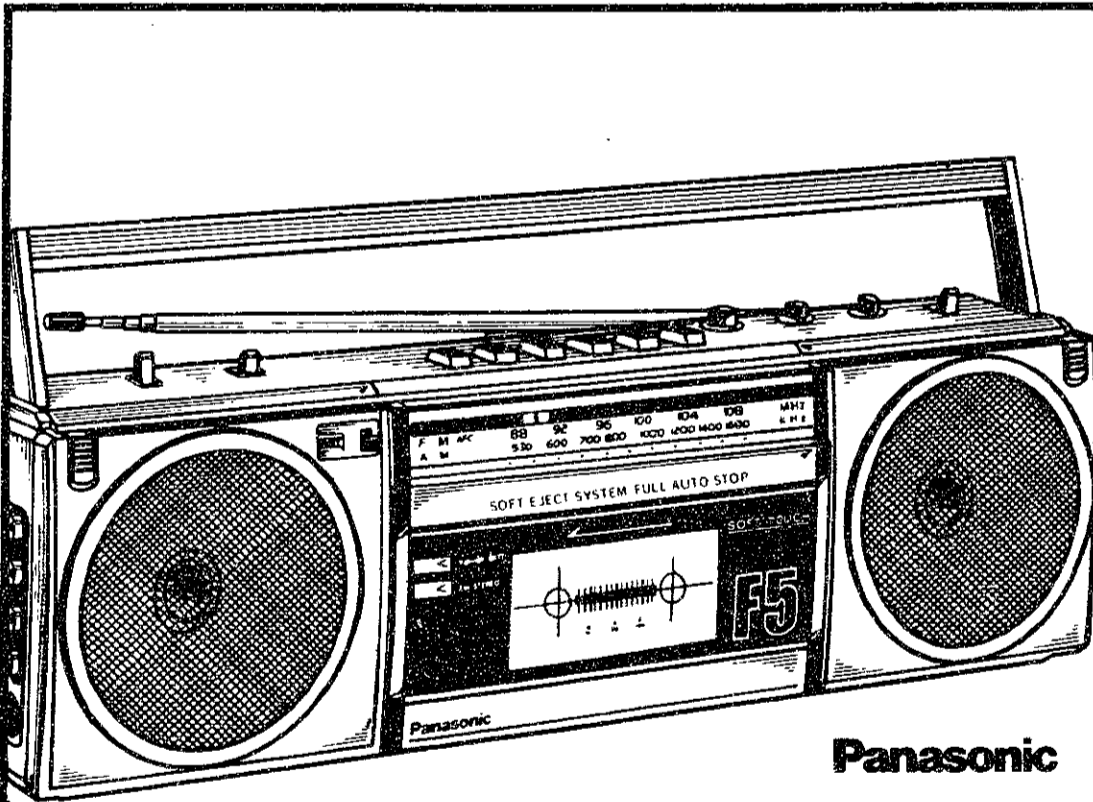
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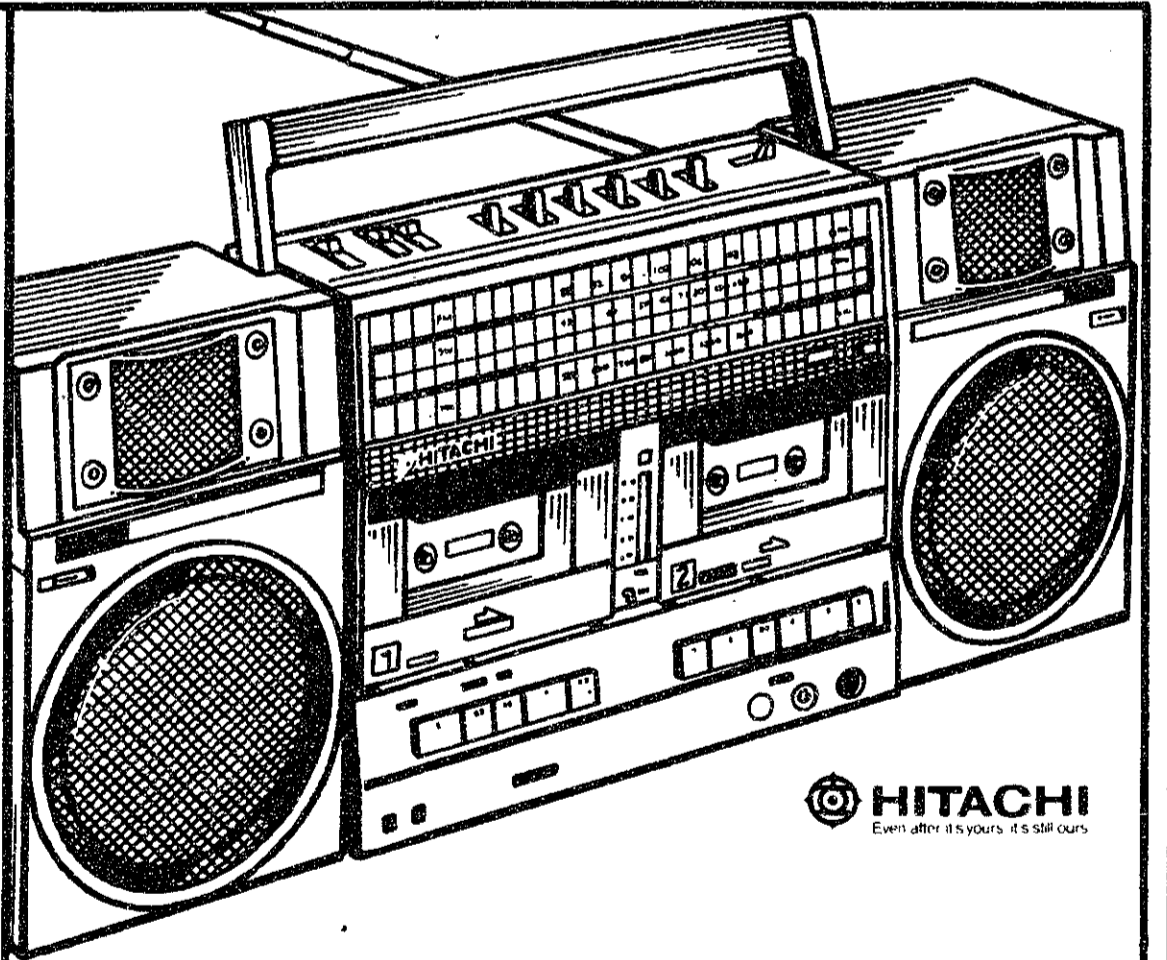
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# Dead Zone has a life of its own

# ARTS

The *Dead Zone*, written by Stephen King, starring Christopher Walken, Brooke Adams, Tom Skerritt, Herbert Lom, Anthony Zerbe, Colleen Dewhurst, and Martin Sheen. Produced by Debra Hill, directed by David Cronenberg, screenplay by Jeffrey Boam; a Paramount Pictures release, now playing at the Sack Pi Alley.

Stephen King's novels are cinematic — they provide the reader with vivid visual images. They also tend to be lengthy. The problem, then, with making a movie from a King novel is the actual transfer of the imagery to the screen while keeping the movie's length reasonably short. *The Dead Zone* does this as well as can be expected, but too much of the book's narrative was omitted in order to keep the film's running time down to a commercially acceptable two hours.

*The Dead Zone* is the story of Johnny Smith (Christopher Walken), a school-teacher in rural New Hampshire, who suffers a coma after an automobile accident. Upon his awakening five years later, he discovers that fellow teacher and his fiancée Sarah Bracknell (Brooke Adams) has married someone else, but he makes another, more startling, discovery — he has been endowed with supernatural powers

which enable him to "see" past, present, and even future events in the lives of others.

Johnny tells his nurse that her house is on fire, thus saving her daughter's life. He tells his doctor, Sam Weizak (Herbert Lom), that his mother is alive — not killed by the Nazis in the invasion of Poland as he had always assumed. Word of Johnny's visions leaks out, and the media demand a press conference to interview this "freak," causing his mother (Jackie Burroughs) to suffer a fatal stroke.

Johnny, who can't decide whether his new-found psychic power is a blessing or a curse, decides to live a secluded life with his father (Sean Sullivan) to avoid publicity. But this is not to be. The sheriff of a nearby town (Tom Skerritt) locates Johnny and pleads with him to assist in solving a series of brutal rape-murders. Johnny experiences a series of "spells" which prove the murderer to be the sheriff's own deputy (Nicholas Campbell).

After this experience, which leaves Johnny weak and shaken, he moves elsewhere to work as a private tutor, where a wealthy businessman (Anthony Zerbe) hires Johnny to help his son Christopher (Simon Craig). Johnny begins to make progress



with his pupil, but at one point "sees" Christopher and his friends falling through thin ice while playing hockey. Johnny's insistence that they not go out on the pond costs him his job, but saves Christopher's life — the boy refuses to participate in the outing, and two of his friends drown as the ice breaks through.

Johnny now realizes that he can not only predict the future, but that he can alter it as well. An encounter with Senate candidate Greg Stillson (Martin Sheen) convinces him that Stillson will eventually become president and start a nuclear war. Johnny decides that it is his moral duty to kill Stillson, knowing what will happen if he does not, and while his gunshots miss their mark he does ruin Stillson's political future. Johnny is killed by one of Stillson's henchmen (Geza Kovacs), but dies satisfied in the knowledge that he has saved humanity from this particular evil.

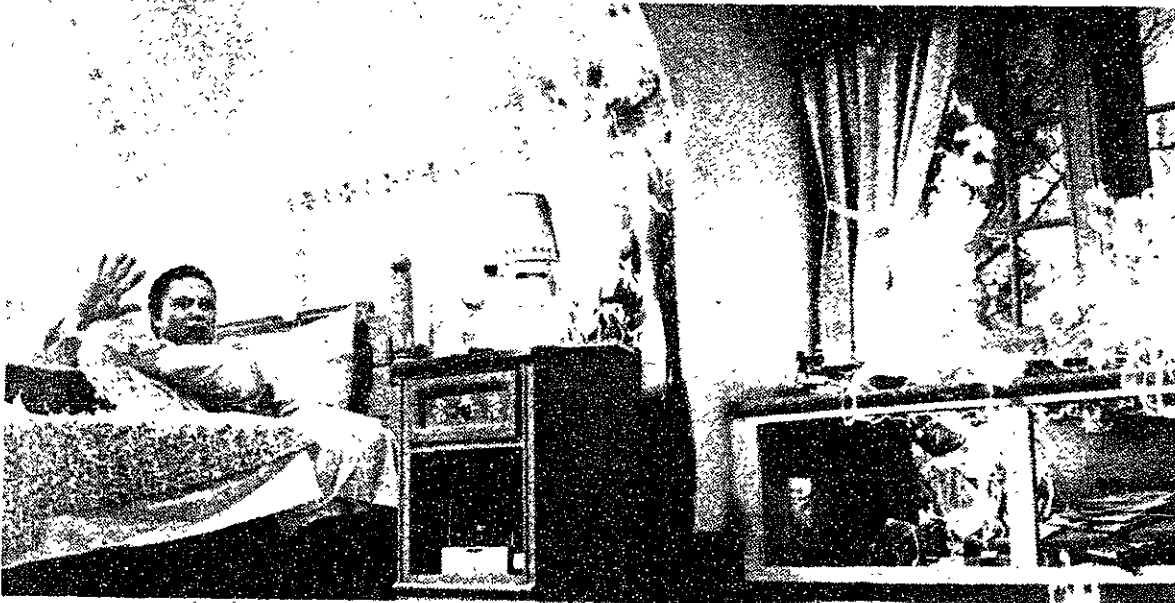
Director David Cronenberg (*Scanners*, *Videodrome*) has melded the hatched storyline of King's book into a satisfying whole, and the visualizations of Johnny's "spells" are exceptionally well executed. Jeffrey Boam's fractured screenplay, however, eliminates some of book's plot, and frequently leaves questions of characters'

motivations and rationalizations unanswered.

Christopher Walken, who won an Oscar for his part in *The Deer Hunter*, is riveting as Johnny. He underplays this role as just an average guy who wants only to lead an unassuming life, not fully understanding what has happened or why it has happened to him. This is in stark contrast to Martin Sheen's delightfully hammy portrayal of Stillson as the consummate sleazy demagogue. Both should be considered for Academy Awards come spring. The other actors are hampered by their truncated roles; only Herbert Lom (of *Pink Panther* fame) transcends this problem, turning in a sympathetic yet pragmatic depiction of Dr. Weizak.

*The Dead Zone* does have a life of its own apart from the novel, but more care should have been taken in adapting King's finely-crafted story to the screen. If a greater portion of it had been filmed, it would have been a more satisfying cinematic experience, even if somewhat longer — the pace is what counts, not actual length. Ultimately, *The Dead Zone* succeeds as a movie, but not as an adaptation of the book.

Drew Blakeman



# Lehrer's still no tom fool

# ARTS

*Tomfoolery*, words and music by Tom Lehrer, now playing at the Charles Playhouse.

"Be prepared!" warns the cast as this entertaining revue embarks on a journey through Tom Lehrer's musical satire and social commentary. The audience is invited to poison pigeons in the park, slide down the razor blade of life, and do the Vatican rag — just as members of the Harvard and MIT communities have been doing for the past 20 to 30 years.

Under the direction of Douglas C. Wager and Geoffrey Ferris, *Tomfoolery* brings back to the Boston stage more than two dozen of Mr. Lehrer's best-loved — and most tasteless — songs. Afficionados will notice that, except for two numbers, the material for the production was collected from *Songs by Tom Lehrer*, *An Evening Wasted with Tom Lehrer*, and *That Was the Year That Was* — Lehrer's original recordings of his tunes. The true addict will also notice that many of the jokes and song introductions have also been appropriated straight from the records with few or no changes. A sense of disorientation results when a familiar introduction is used to lead into the "wrong" song, but newcomers to Tom Lehrer will not notice.

A few of the songs have been changed in an attempt to update the topical references: "Dixie" no longer has a poll tax, and in the listing of "Who's Next?" Lehrer has added "Japan has got its own device — transistorized and half the price." Even Gerry Studts and Jerry Falwell end up dancing cheek-to-cheek. Still other songs of political nature have lost much of their impact due to the changing times. Egypt and Israel are no longer enemies, and few people remember Senator Murphy, let alone finding anything amusing in his background as an actor.

*Bright College Days* was changed for the worse when the original toast ("Here's to



parties we tossed . . .") was removed. *When You are Old and Grey's* amusing repetition of "-ility" suffers from an added string of four-syllable words rhymed in a similar fashion but badly mumbled by Terrence Currier, one of the cast's two members from The Arena Stage's production of the show.

Timothy Jerome, another member from the Arena production, proved to be the only talented comedian in the cast. His solo effort on *The Elements* — a list of the chemical elements set to a Gilbert and Sullivan tune — evoked the first enthusiastic audience response. Jerome was also selected to perform *I Got It from Agnes*, one of the two new songs in the production, and his smile never dimmed as he picked out a victim in the audience and warned, "And if you'll be my friend, I might give it to YOU."

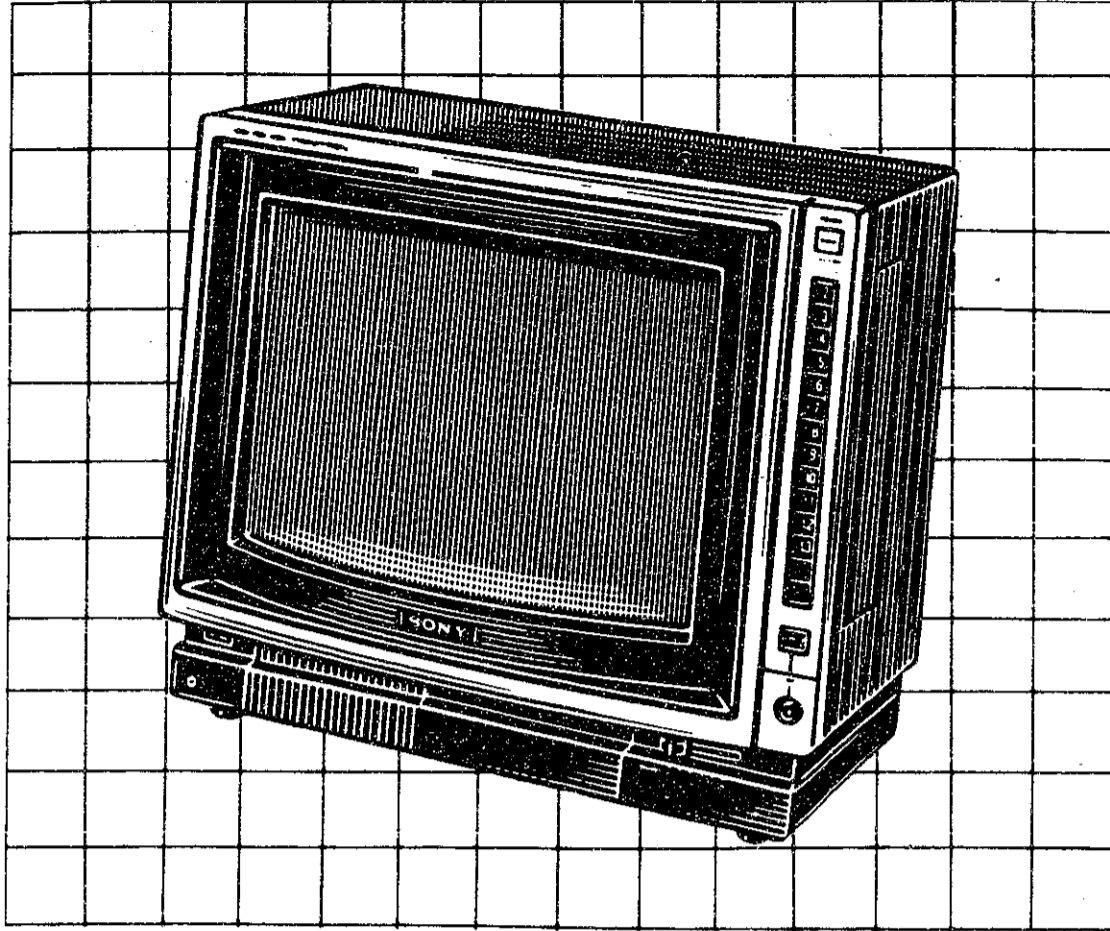
Pamela McLernon donned a sleazy, skin-tight red dress for her delightful performance in the lead role of *Oedipus Rex*, but it suffered from her inability to deliver verbal punchlines. Joseph Dellger provided further evidence of flawed casting: Not only did he lack conviction when retelling Lehrer's old jokes, but he was also much too good a singer for songs which have been sung slightly off-key for years.

The evening's surprise was Robert Fisher, musical director and pianist for the production. While the cast was off donning costumes for *The Vatican Rag*, Fisher was put in the spotlight to sing one of the first Tom Lehrer songs written — *The Old Dope Peddler* — a song as pertinent today as it was 30 years ago. Fisher's performance was rendered in true Lehrer fashion: slightly off-key piano accompanying a slightly off-key voice. He would not have won any musical awards, but then again, neither would have Tom Lehrer.

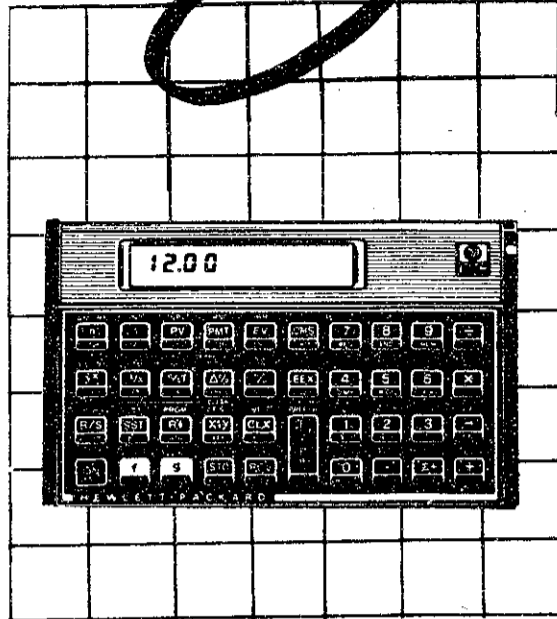
Martin Dickau

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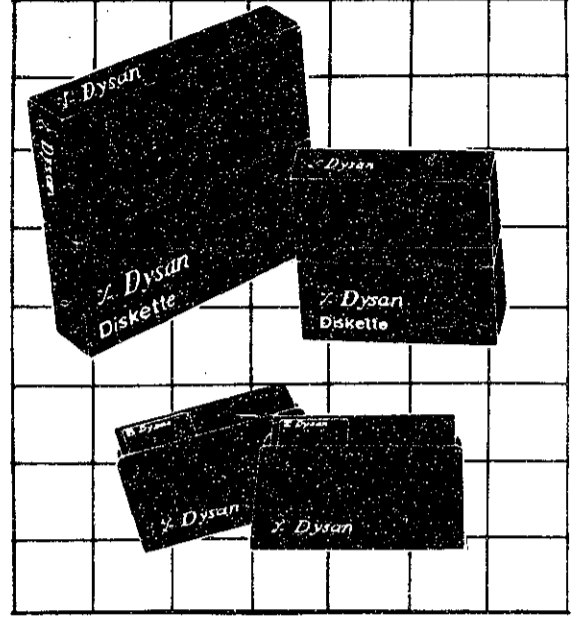
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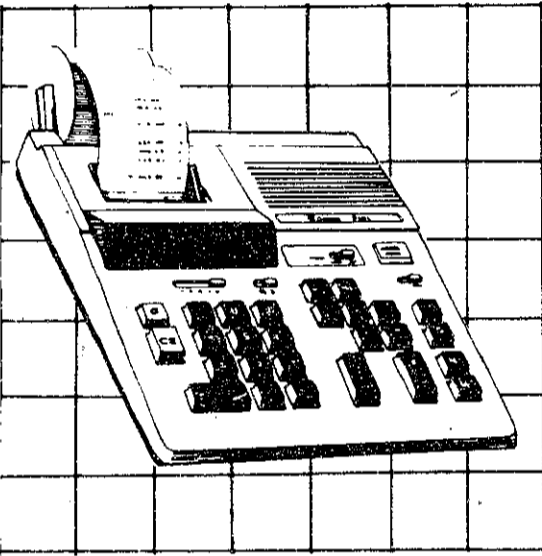
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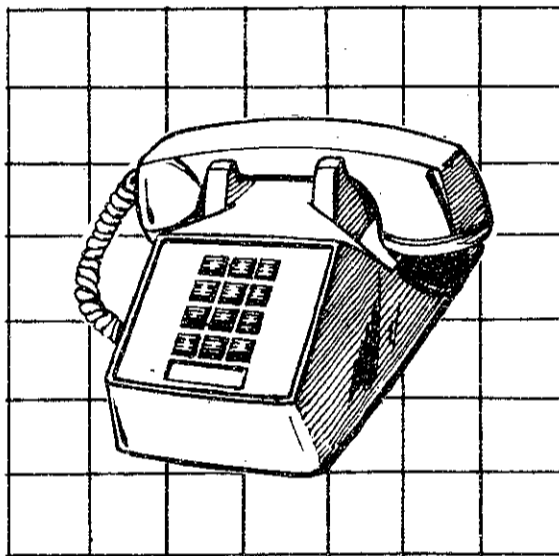
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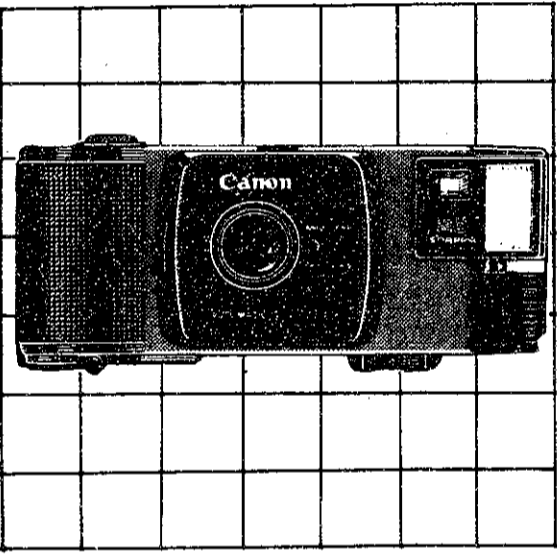
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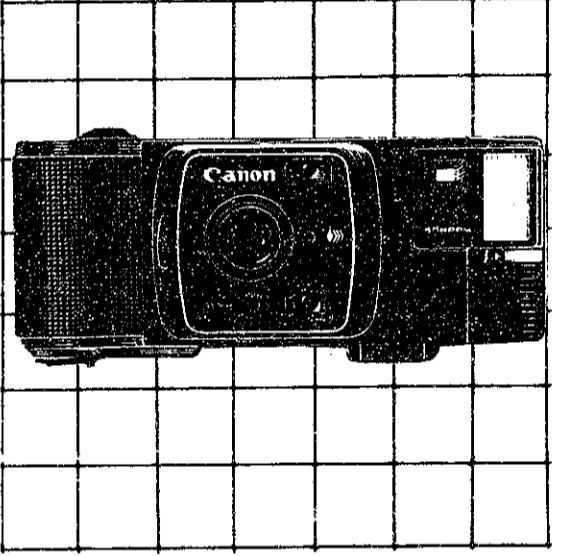
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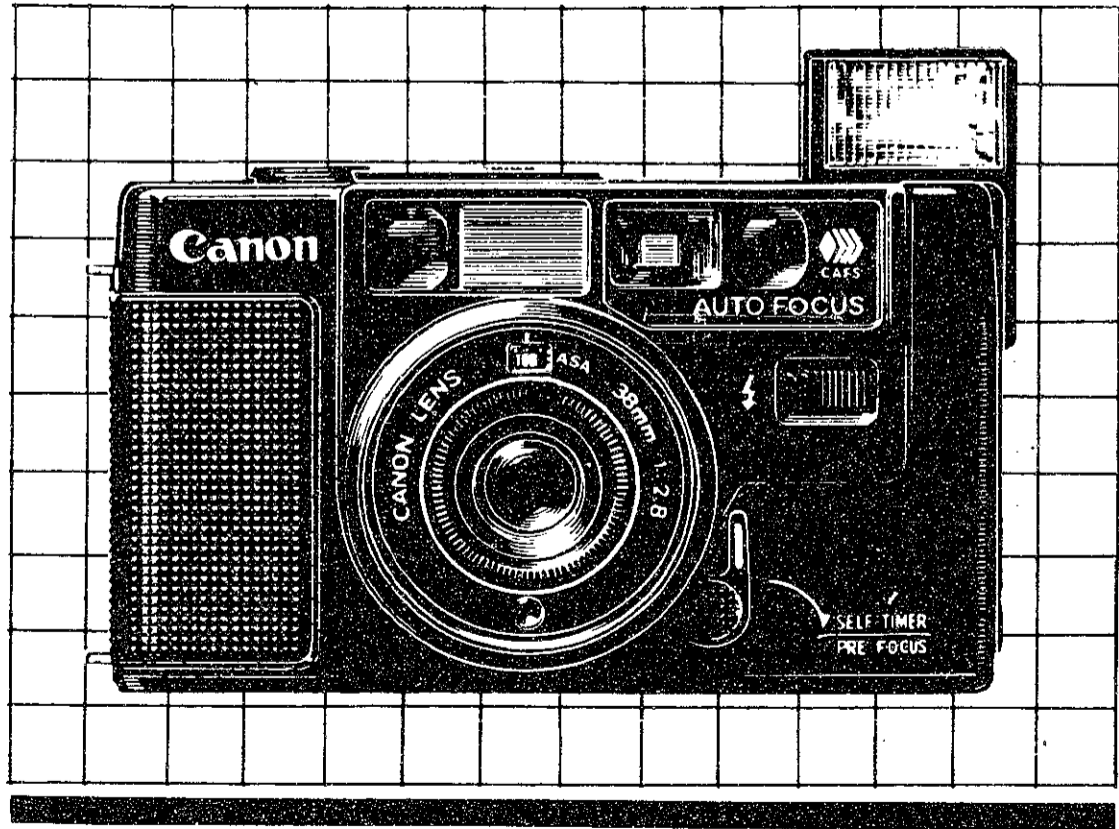
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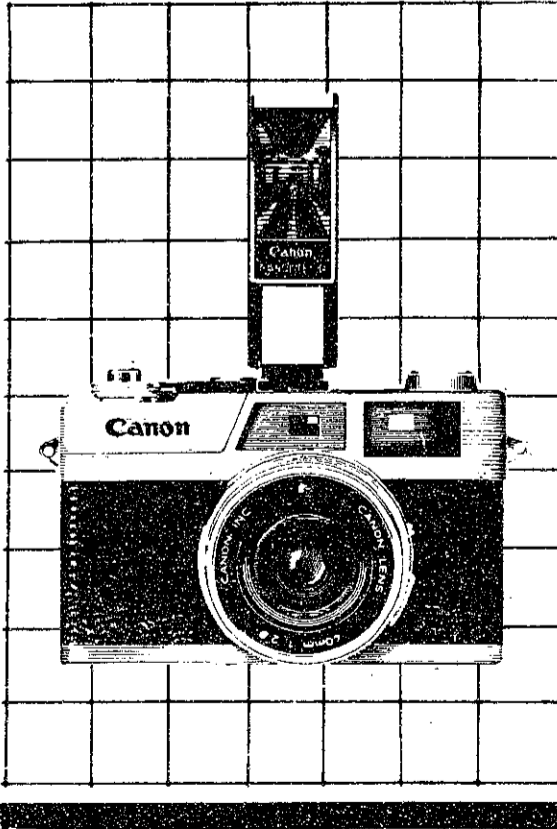
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**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27**

Canon Cameras—Dan Jacobson	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Canon Calculators	6 to 8 p.m.
Emerson	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Panasonic	2 to 4 p.m.

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Dysan Diskettes	1 to 4 p.m.
Minolta Cameras—Bill Coyle	1 to 5 p.m.

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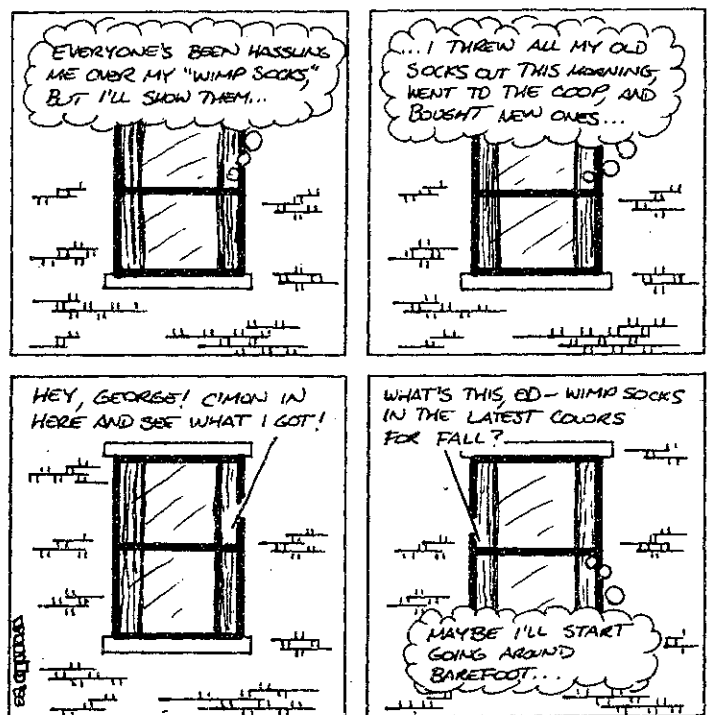
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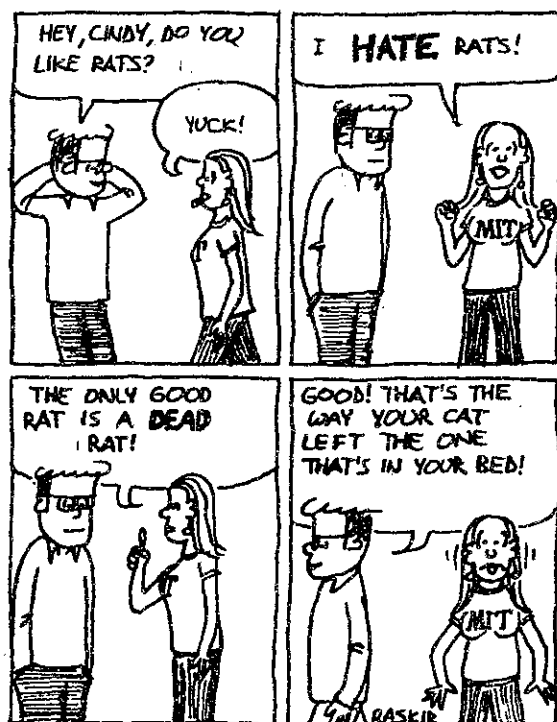
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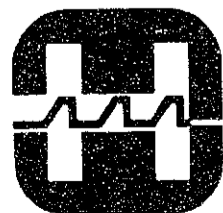
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# **HARRIS**

# sports

## sports update

**Crew** — MIT's women's youth fours, made up of coxswain Hope Nelson '86, Laura Daily '86, Nancy Kirwan '86, Chris Yew '86, and Jeanne Simon '86, finished second of 15 schools at the annual Head of the Charles regatta Sunday. The women's varsity fours placed 11th of 44, and the men's lightweight eights were eighth.

**Cross Country** — The women's cross country team dropped a 17-42 to Rhode Island College at Franklin Park Saturday. Rhonda Wilson '86 led the Engineers, finishing eighth in 20:44. Teammate Karen Neder '86 was behind her with a personal best of 20:52.

**Field Hockey** — The field hockey

team moved to within one game of .500 with a 5-1 win over visiting Framingham State Saturday.

**Sailing** — The varsity sailing team had one of its best weekends ever, winning 18 of 20 races in three regattas. Skipper Al Pleus '84 with his crew of David Lyons '86, John Cross '84, and Tom Schmitter '86 finished second of the eight finalists at the two-day New England Sloop Championships at Coast Guard.

MIT hosted and won Saturday's Dartmouth Bowl Team Race over 10 other schools, winning a three-way race-off with Dartmouth and Tufts to capture the top spot. Sunday the team went to Dartmouth for the Wood

Trophy and placed second of five, with Meg Gower '85 skippering, and winning, her first varsity race.

The women's sailing team was also in action Saturday, coming in fifth of 10 in the Victorian Urn hosted by Radcliffe.

**Water Polo** — The water polo team dropped four of its five matches at the new England League Tournament hosted by Brown last weekend.

**Volleyball** — The women's volleyball team chalked up two more easy wins Saturday, defeating Barrington and Southeastern Massachusetts by identical 2-0 scores. The squad will be in action again tomorrow night when it hosts Northeastern at 7:45 p.m.

## Pistol squad blasts USMA

By Len Rafuse

The pistol team opened its season with a 3125-3061 victory over the United States Military Academy last weekend.

Duncan Hughes '83 led the free pistol event, one of two events comprising the collegiate match, with a 259 out of a possible 300 points. Team captain Dave Martin '84, Jon Williams '83, and Larry Deschaine '84 also contributed some solid shooting to give the Engineers a 69-point lead going into the second event

— standard pistol.

A persistent malfunction in Martin's gun forced him to change weapons and compete with an alternate pistol. Martin was still able to shoot a 544 out of 600, and Williams, Roberto Landrau '85, and Jerry Martin '86 shot well enough for the team

to hang on for the 3125-3061 win.

MIT was not so successful in the separate air pistol competition, losing 1440-1428. Newcomer Homero Rey '86 was one bright spot for the Engineers, firing an outstanding 355 out of 400 in his first intercollegiate match.

## Harriers end at 4-1

(Continued from page 16)

lor was pleased that his team still ran together as a group, but he said that the squad will have to work harder at running in a pack if MIT is to do well at next month's NCAA Division III Qualifiers.

Despite last weekend's set

back, the Engineers are running better with each race and look to be strong contenders in both that meet and the preceding weekend's IC4A meet. The team's goal of doing well enough to advance to the NCAA Division III National Championships is still easily within reach.

## Bad luck does in football

(Continued from page 16)

waiting and leapt to snare the ball before it got to its intended target.

The bad luck struck as Nowak got a poor grip; the ball fell from his hands before his feet returned to the field. A surprised Nickerson, sprawled on his back on the ground, found the pigskin on his chest, and the pass was complete for a 28-yard gain.

An excellent catch by Al Mo-grass brought the ball to the 10 two plays later, and the tired defense could hold no longer. John Smith ran at the goal line three times, finally succeeding from the six.

The Engineers return home Saturday to take on the league-leading Bentley Falcons, who are currently undefeated. The game will be played in Steinbrenner Stadium and will start half an hour later than usual — at 2 p.m.



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# sports

## Colby speeds by soccer, 3-0

By Arthur Lee

A large hostile crowd, no MIT fans, and a team from Colby College combined to hand men's soccer a 3-0 shutout in Steinbrenner Stadium Saturday.

The Engineers fell behind about 12 minutes into the game when Colby's Ted Goodrich scored the first goal off of a Brian Guarnotta corner kick. The visitors had a wide offensive edge, outshooting their hosts 17 to 4, but the goalkeeper Mike Schoen '87 repeatedly sacrificed his body, making seven saves. The improving, scrappy MIT defense also held firm, keeping the deficit at one.

The MIT defense did not fare as well in the second half against the speed of Colby's offense. Pretty passing plays and deep penetrations in front of the goal resulted in the second Colby goal 13:50 into the period.

The Engineers responded with some good offensive hustle from Victor Guzman '87, Joe Pemberton '84, Gary Wilson '85, co-captain Mark Jennings '84, and co-captain Mark Johnston '84. Good drives were made into the Colby backfield, forcing the Colby goaltender to come up with five more saves, but the scoring connection simply was not there.

Colby's offense, meanwhile, continued to probe for holes in

front of MIT's goal. Goodrich kicked a long crossover to his teammate Tony Bentivoglio, who was unmarked as he stood close to the MIT goal. Bentivoglio was able to slip the ball past goalkeeper Schoen with 12:15 left in the game.

The Engineers' defense strove to hold on against the relentless speed of the Colby offense, as the MIT goal was shot on fourteen more times. Goalies Schoen and Robert Noecker '85 had to make nine saves in order to keep the deficit from growing larger. In sharp contrast, the Engineers only managed seven shots on Colby's goal despite some good hustle from individual team members.

MIT coach Walter Alessi in assessing his squad's loss commented, "The team has improved a lot since the WPI game. Our defense was good, but the speed of some of the Colby players gave us problems."

The coach felt that the morale and recent performance of the team were positive factors despite the loss. "Team spirit is now very high. We played tough teams like Bates and Babson, and we did very well against them." The Engineers held Babson, an area Division III power that is in contention for the NCAA national tournament, to a scoreless tie. MIT then went on to beat host

Bates 3-1 a few days later.

"You must give the team a lot of credit," said assistant coach David Aptaker, "There are no fans who come out to watch them, and yet guys like Joey [Pemberton], who may only play fifteen minutes a game, still come out and give their best hustle. He would never have been recruited, but he is out there constantly thinking and making good plays."

Pemberton and the rest of the Engineers will be looking to see a few more friendly faces in the stands Thursday afternoon, when the team hosts Division I Boston University. The game will be in Steinbrenner Stadium and is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

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# sports

## Football drops 30-24 heartbreaker in OT

By Martin Dickau

Numerous fumbles and scoring opportunities went by the board as the football club lost in sudden-death overtime 30-24 to the Worcester State Lancers in Worcester Saturday. Despite the loss, the Engineers had a big claim to victory: They beat The Average.

Prior to Saturday's contest, the Lancers had allowed their opponents a meager 6.2 rushing yards per game. MIT, meanwhile, led the league in offense with 315 yards per outing. The stage for the battle of strengths was set.

The Engineers took the fight to their hosts, using two Worcester fumbles to gain 62 yards on the ground in the first quarter, including a 10-yard touchdown run by quarterback Dave Broecker G. The Average was no more.

The MIT offense stalled after a 27-yard Tom Hastings G field goal early in the second quarter, and the Lancers came storming back, piling up 138 yards of offense and two touchdowns to take a 14-10 lead at the half.

The Engineers were not about to die: Coach Dwight Smith once again pitted his team's strength

against that of Worcester State, with MIT showing exactly why its rushing offense is tops in the league. The visitors piled up another 52 yards rushing — 20 of them on a scoring run by Broecker — to regain the lead.

Worcester responded with a blistering aerial and ground attack that produced 10 fourth-quarter points and a 24-17 lead with three minutes left in regulation.

Jim Bittman '85 contributed a 30-yard return on the ensuing kick-off, and the offense took full advantage, putting together a

drive capped by senior halfback Fred Allen's 12-yard touchdown run with 1:32 left on the clock. Hastings' kick tied the score at 24.

The fourth Worcester fumble on the following kick-off return gave the Engineers a chance to win. MIT moved to the Lancer nine, but running plays had forced the Engineers to spend all of their timeouts. So, with only seconds left, Smith sent out his field goal team, but Hastings' 26-yard attempt went wide, and the game went into sudden-death.

MIT was given a golden oppor-

tunity when Worcester running back Ian Nickerson fumbled at midfield and MIT linebacker Erik Gilbert '84 recovered on the Engineer 48. Broecker brought the visitors to the doorstep, launching a 38-yard strike to Allen. MIT lost its chance when Allen fumbled away on the next play.

A good defensive play and some bad luck proved to be the deciding factors. Lancer quarterback Sean Mahoney started a drive from the 15 with a pass toward the sideline, where he had Nickerson waiting. MIT linebacker Nick Nowak '86 was also

(Please turn to page 13)

## Scoring binge lifts rugby, 26-7

By George Walrond

All season long the MIT rugby football club's "A" side has been frustrated with possessing the ability to run the ball against its opponents but being unable to

score effectively. Saturday, however, MIT exploded in a first-half scoring blitz for 22 points against the Boston Gentlemen.

The Beavers' Leo Casey led the way early with the first of his three tries on the afternoon.

Within a minute, wing Pat Antaki made a strong 30-yard scoring run, leaving three dazed Gentlemen lying in his wake.

Minutes later forward John Polcari fed Casey a pass which gave the flyhalf an open-field run to the try zone. Then Tom Hill broke off a scrummage to score the fourth Beaver try. Mike Hunter kicked the conversion, making the score 18-0 with only 10 minutes gone. MIT fullback Robert Whitelaw broke another long dash later in the half for the period's final try, and the Beavers had a 22-0 lead.

Boston collected itself during halftime and came out with a stiff defense in the second stanza.

The Gentlemen managed to keep most of the second-half play in the MIT end of the field, but repeated drives at the Beaver goal were thwarted. MIT's flankers Reg Gott and George Walrond teamed up with the Tech backline to shut down Boston's running game.

The Gentlemen finally scored on a penalty kick to make the score 22-3. Boston's Phil Dicristo added another four points on a short run for a try, but MIT scrum half Matt Tobin literally stole the ball away from the Gentlemen's scrum and started a 60-yard run that resulted in Casey's third try and a final score of 26-7.

### Lancers 30-24 OT

Worcester	0	14	0	10	6	—	30
MIT	7	3	7	7	0	—	24

MIT—Broecker 10 run (Hastings kick)  
 MIT—FG Hastings 27  
 Worcester—Nickerson 26 run (Rockwood kick)  
 Worcester—Smith 34 run (Rockwood kick)  
 MIT—Broecker 20 run (Hastings kick)  
 Worcester—Smith 1 run (Rockwood kick)  
 Worcester—FG Rockwood 20  
 MIT—Allen 12 run (Hastings kick)  
 Worcester—Smith 6 run  
 Attendance—200

	Worcester	MIT
First downs	22	16
Rushes-yards	52-240	58-211
Passing yards	192	102
Return yards	127	122
Fumbles	26-13-0	17-7-1
Fumbles-lost	6-199	8-284
Penalties-yards	6-5	1-1
	8-95	4-44

Individual Leaders  
 Rushing—Worc., Smith 25-157, Nickerson 16-68  
 MIT, Allen 14-86, Broecker 21-68  
 Passing—Worcester, Mahoney 26-13-0-192, MIT, Broecker 16-7-1-102  
 Receiving—Worcester, Moggars 4-76, Dean 5-51  
 MIT, Allen 3-67, DeRubeis 2-21

## Cross country splits with Williams, Tufts

By Christopher Y. Kim

The men's cross country team ended its dual-meet season on a mixed note, defeating Tufts and losing to Williams Saturday at Franklin Park. The Bears from Williams spoiled MIT's perfect record with a close 25-30 victory, leaving the Engineers at 4-1 in dual-meet competition.

The Bears' last-mile surge proved to be the deciding difference, despite stellar performances from MIT's top five runners. The Engineers held the second through fifth positions and led the scoring at the three-mile mark, but Williams overtook MIT's third and fourth runners

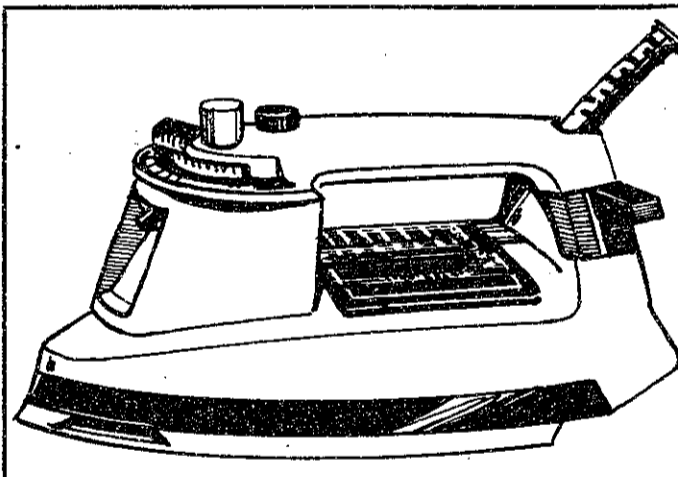
with a mile left and hung on to preserve the victory.

Although the loss was a disappointing one, there were a few bright spots in MIT's performance. Led by Bill Mallet '86 (25:14), who knocked off 34 seconds off his personal best, the first five harriers all set their own course records. Mallet, Mike Lyons '85, Bill Bruno '85 and Ron Smith '85 finished within a close 28 seconds of each other, but MIT's fifth runner Greg Harrison '86 finished 30 seconds behind Smith.

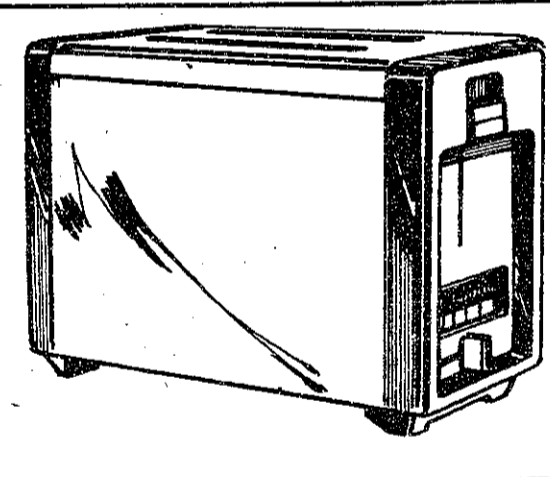
Engineers' coach Halston Tay-

(Please turn to page 13)

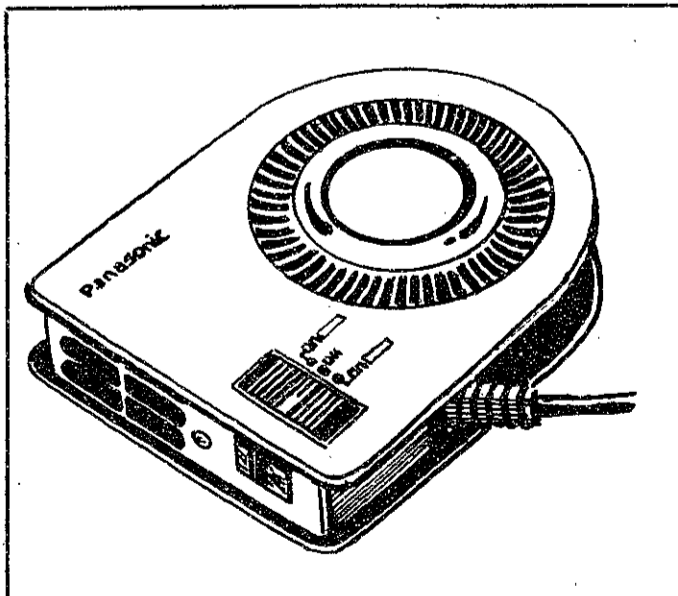
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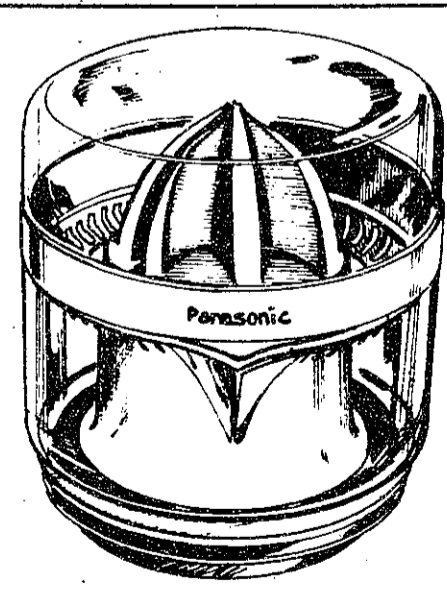
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