

LUCChA addresses minority concerns

By Michael J. Garrison

First in a series examining minority issues at MIT.

"The 'Tute has been ripping us off in its commitment to affirmative action," charged David Martinez '85, a member of La Union Chicana por Aztlan (LUCChA).

Martinez cited the elimination of the minority financial aid packet as an example of MIT's disservices to minorities.

Dean for Student Affairs Shirley M. McBay refused comment on the subject of minority discrimination, although her office organized a discussion on the subject of minority life during its Quality of Life meetings this term.

LUCChA worries that the Institute is lessening its commitment to minority students. "The administration has followed certain nation-wide trends" that lead to discrimination, according to group member Louis Rodriguez Jr. '85.

Robert M. Randolph, associate dean for student affairs, disagreed, "MIT has made a commitment to minority students and intends to continue to honor [its commitment]."

The administration has made changes in both policy and the Office of Minority Education, but "the commitment has remained constant," Randolph emphasized.

Martinez said his group has been studying admission trends for Mexican-American and black students. The percentage of Mexican-Americans on campus, 1.7, is much lower than the national average, estimated between four and five percent, he said.

Rodriguez said the "most blatant [discrimination at MIT] is our representation in numbers, both of blacks and Chicanos and Puerto Ricans. [The problem of

decreasing] financial aid is discouraging minorities from coming here, especially from out of state."

Fifty-nine percent of Mexican-Americans admitted actually are matriculated, Martinez said. "The major reason is money," he asserted.

Sixty-four percent of all admitted applicants to the Class of 1988 chose to attend MIT.

LUCChA has been working to increase the number of Mexican-American students at MIT by calling and writing to admitted students, Martinez said.

"If it weren't for a phone call, I wouldn't be here," said Richard R. Bueno '88, another LUCChA member.

When MIT does "admit Chicanos students they are from unrepresentative [economic] backgrounds," Martinez asserted.

"Since Reagan took office there has been a 40 percent drop in students from families [with yearly income] under \$24,000," he continued.

"Chicanos are basically poor people" with 60 percent of all families earning less than \$20,000 annually, he said. They "have been hit hard" by the decline in lower income students.

The Institute's policies are the problem, not the individual members of the administration, according to Rodriguez. "A lot of [MIT] policies discriminate against minorities, but [it does not] seem like it to non-minorities."

Randolph acknowledged "there is a lot of anxiety" with the reelection of Reagan, but said, "I don't think that Reagan is going to determine what MIT does." He emphasized the importance of a "community where people have confidence in the good intentions of others."



Tech photo

The almost-renovated Amherst Alley with traffic already moving in both directions. The alley will become a one-way street westward Dec. 10.

Alley direction is opposed

By Brian Hou

The administration's initial plan to direct traffic westward on Amherst Alley has drawn fire from some students on MIT's West Campus.

A group composed of representatives from all dormitories and fraternities of the West Campus, except the graduate apartment complexes of Westgate and Tang Hall, has tried to change that plan. The group, the Amherst Alley Reconstruction Committee (AARC), wants the direction of traffic to be eastbound.

The final decision about the direction was made Nov. 30.

Daniel Harasty '86, of Phi Beta Epsilon, organized the group. "I'm happy that the con-

struction is finally under way, because the students will have greater safety and security," he said.

"However, I'm disappointed that the Institute is so insistent about the direction of traffic," he added, "which creates an unnecessary inconvenience for students who want to go eastbound on Memorial Drive."

According to Gene Brammer, Director of Housing and Food Service, the major reason for the reconstruction is to cut down the traffic, increasing student safety.

"Amherst Alley is for pedestrians only; it's never intended for traffic use. Making the traffic one way and westward will reduce the traffic in the alley," Brammer ex-

plained. Directing the traffic westward will also facilitate the access for emergency vehicles.

There appears to be two major complaints about the "west-bound" design:

- Members of fraternities on Amherst Alley will have to drive westward along the alley, turn on to Vassar Street, and finally make a right on Massachusetts Avenue in order to eventually drive eastward on Memorial Drive.

- Taxis moving eastward on Memorial Drive, headed for Baker House, will have to go all the way to Massachusetts Avenue, and make a U-turn, and to get on Amherst Alley. A faster route would be to move eastward on Vassar Street.

The AARC met for the first time two weeks before Thanksgiving. The members decided to gather petitions from concerned students and to find a person with whom to discuss the issue, Harasty said.

"We received an overwhelming response from the residents from Number Six Club to McCormick Hall," he said. "However, the petitions have been collected but not delivered, because we just want to find out how much support we can get from other students."

The petitions have been circulated around the dormitories and fraternities along Amherst Alley.

The committee has also sent representatives to talk to Senior Vice President William R. Dickson '86. "He is very open-minded and he really listened to our concern," remarked Mike Stracher '85, who represents MacGregor House on the AARC.

"He suggested a two-week trial for the traffic to go westwards, see the reaction of the residents, then make a final decision. But it's still uncertain," Stracher continued.

"Actually, all the house masters oppose this plan," Stracher added.

The road has been paved with binder coat, and landscaping will start next spring as soon as the weather permits. The condition of the alley will otherwise remain the same. "However, the mess along the sidewalk will be cleared within the next two weeks," said Brammer.

Cognitive Science is alternative to VI

By Mathews M. Cherian

Third in a series examining alternative programs to Course VI.

The Department of Psychology's (Course IX) degree program in cognitive science is a good alternative to the overcrowded Department of Electrical Engineer-

ing and Computer Science (EECS), according to Professor Mary C. Potter, director of the program.

The Bachelor of Science in Cognitive Science is designed for those who wish to study natural intelligence. It draws on the ex-

pertise of many fields: neuroscience, linguistics, philosophy of mind, cognitive psychology, and artificial intelligence.

"Some Course VI students have been attracted [to cognitive science]," Potter said. However, the actual number of students who did not major in Course VI because of the cognitive science program is not known, she continued.

Most of the students in the department declared cognitive science as their major from the very beginning, rather than coming over from a different department.

Of the students who double-major in the department, more are from Course VI than from any other department, but that is just because there are more Course VI students around than other majors, she said. "We have a very diverse group of students."

The department encompasses students with many different interests. "Some are interested in neuroscience, some in linguistics and philosophy, and many in cognitive psychology or some combination of artificial intelligence and one of the others," Potter explained.

The cognitive science major is a good alternative for "people who are interested in computer science but are not as interested in the hardware side," Potter said. "This major allows a student to step out of the technical

aspects and move into more abstract aspects.

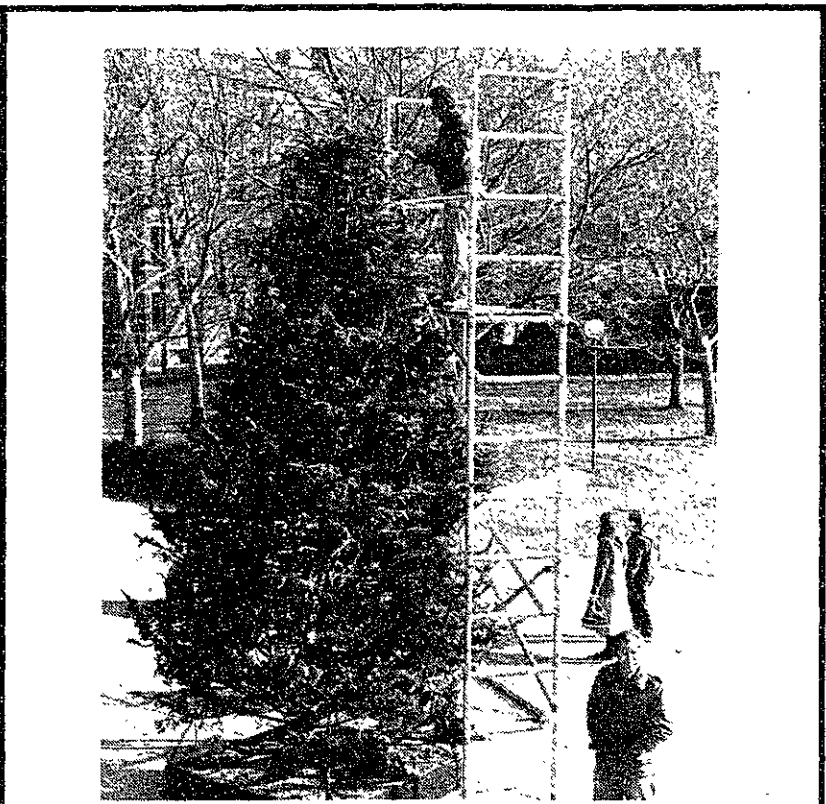
"Some students [in Course VI]," she continued, "feel a little disinclined by the total dose of computer science. This is a small step back from complete computer science," Potter explained. "It is for [the Course VI] students who opt not to go by the mainstream."

Student have been pleased so far with the Cognitive Science major, Potter said. "They like the flexibility it allows them." The program especially appeals to self-directed people who would like to be given the chance to pursue their interests a little more freely, she added.

According to Potter, graduates of the Cognitive Science major can go in a variety of different directions after school. "They have good opportunities for graduate training in linguistics, psychology, and computer science."

Their options in industry are good, as well, she said. "Human-machine relations are becoming increasingly important."

The Cognitive Science program was developed four years ago. It grew out of the MIT Center for Cognitive Science, which was founded in 1978. Potter said. The Center was established with a sizable grant from the Sloan foundation and brought together faculty interested in cognitive science.



Tech photo by Moezaddin Karimeddiny

A worker from the physical plant puts the final touch on the annual non-denominational holiday shrub in front of the Student Center last Friday.

Gaggle cops 105th Tech board

Special to The Tech

It was a landslide victory for the New West when the managing board of *The Tech* elected Ellen L. Spero '86 chairman of Volume 105 of MIT's oldest and largest student newspaper in a 12-hour election marathon Saturday. Spero will be the first denizen of Next House to serve on *The Tech's* executive board.

The board made Thomas T. Huang '86's day when it elected him editor in chief of Volume 105. Huang, also a Next House resident, denied that he had been swept to victory on Spero's coattails, pointing out that he had run unopposed.

Newly-elected Volume 105 managing editor Gregory D. Troxel '87, of Baker House, said his first move would be to change *Tech* style for time of day to the 24-hour military clock. Troxel regretfully announced that, due to FCC regulations, he would be unable to carry out his intended program to speed intra-departmental communications by equipping every production worker with a handheld two-way radio.

"A Swiss bank may not have an ATM on the Infinite Corridor, but it has other advantages," tersely commented Robert W. O'Rourke '85, business manager for the next volume, between phone calls to his present and future bankers. O'Rourke is the latest product of the infamous Pi Lambda Phi Business Office Dynasty to serve on the newspaper's executive board.

The board tapped incumbent chairman Martin Dickau '85 to fill the post of executive editor. In recognition of the fact that executive editor is the least well-defined of the five executive board positions, the present managing board gave Dickau a mandate to help train the fledgling associate news editors, with particular attention to the innovative use of verbs. The MacGregor hockey player is the three-year veteran editor of *The Tech's* sports section.

The youth vote will be an important factor on next year's managing board. One sophomore and five freshmen were chosen to head the Volume 105 news department as associate news editors: Harold Stern '87, Mathews "Mat" Cherian '88, Michael J. "MJ" Garrison '88, David P. "Ham" Hamilton '88, Ben "Sting" Stanger '88 and Craig A. "Craig" Jungwirth '88.

Carl A. LaCombe '86 was re-elected night editor, while Ronald E. Becker '87 was elected night editor for the first time. While Becker has not announced an ambition to fill every position on the paper, seasoned pollsters have noticed that this will be his fourth managing board position in eight months.

Elsa Chen '88, Mark W. Eichin '88, and Eric N. Starkman '88 will understudy LaCombe and Becker as Associate Night Editors. Chen, Eichin, and Starkman have already filed petitions under the Right to Know Law to find out whether they will be working with square- or triangular-bladed X-acto knives.

Sidhu Banerjee '87 will assume and Steven H. Wheatman '86 will continue the job of photo editors for the next volume. Their duties will include maintaining the *Tech* photo file, home of the ubiquitous *Tech* file photos. In what they claim was not a movement to close the gender gap, but an impulse to provide better alternatives to *Tech* file photos, the board named Sherry K. Lee '87 associate photo editor.

From the people who brought us Monty Python and Henry

Purcell comes *The Tech's* resident Briton Jonathan E. D. Richmond G, re-elected arts editor. "Only in America," said Richmond, who dedicated his second term to improved coverage of the Boston Mozart scene.

Richmond agreed, however, to draw on the cosmopolitan talents of associate arts editors Corrado Giambalvo '86 and Michael Bos G to keep the department well-rounded and maintain its international flavor.

"It's too late to make the down payment on that Porsche," grumbled Michael J. Kardos '86 when he learned at 9:17 pm Saturday night that he had been elected advertising manager.

His despondence was balanced by Dickau's elation when he introduced Paul Paternoster '88 to the board, crying, "I've finally found someone to take over the back page!" The board responded by electing the freshman sports sensation Associate Sports Editor.

Three seniors were elected contributing editors for the next volume or the rest of their stay at MIT, whichever ends first. Diana ben-Aaron '85 and Robert E. Malchman '85 will ensure the re-

presentation of Eastern (Senior House, actually) liberalism at *The Tech*, while free-market tycoon Scott I. Chase '85 will ensure that plastics figure heavily in the redecoration of the business office.

The board re-elected Simson L. Garfinkel '85 to the Campus Gadfly Contributing Editorship and V. Michael Bove G, originator of *Outside Looking In* and the "Ideas" supplement, to the V. Michael Bove Contributing Editorship.

Rounding out the roster of contributors will be the witty, handsome and intelligent Andrew S. Gerber '87, who was elected even though suspected of changing the content of news without the consent of the Editor in chief, retiring photo editor P. Paul Hsu '86, and reporter Andrew Bein '87.

The age factor finally overcame Paul G. Gabuzda '85 and Matthew W. Gamporcaro '85, who formally retired to the pasture of Senior Editor for the next volume. The board officially conferred eternal youth on Bove, however, naming him most likely to be here for Volume 110.

The new board will take office at the beginning of second term.

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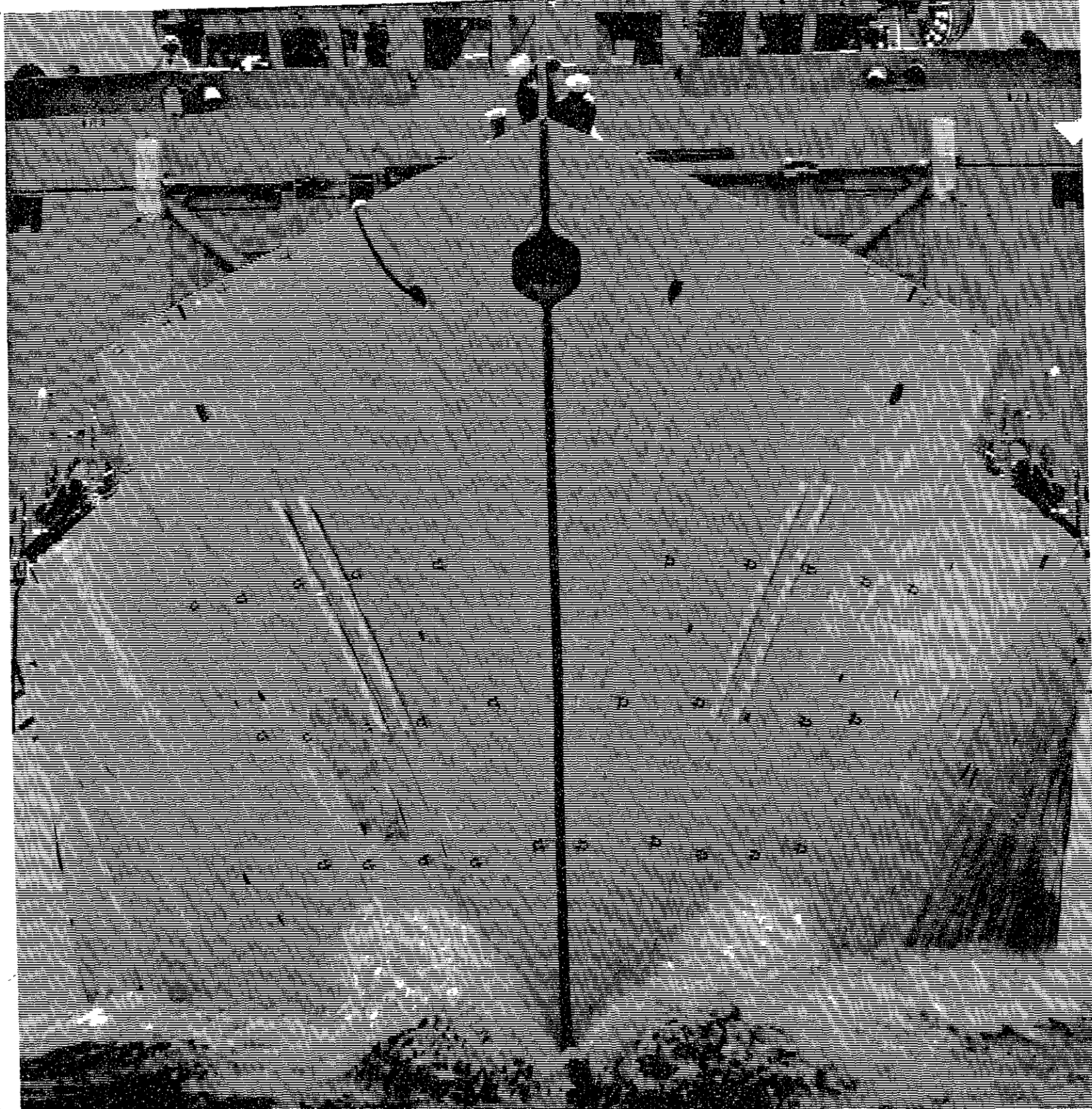
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news roundup

World

Chile mediation deemed essential — The United States should make a maximum effort in preventing Chile from turning into "another Nicaragua," Reagan administration officials said Saturday. The officials have said that developments in Chile, including the state of siege declared by President Augusto Pinochet on Nov. 6, had caused serious concern within the administration. They said a consensus had formed to try to bring forth mediation — perhaps by the Vatican, other Latin American countries, or the United States itself — which could hasten a transition to democracy.

Nation

The second derivative should become just a bit less positive . . . — Republican leaders in the Senate last week called for the White House to slow the growth of military spending as part of an effort to reduce the federal deficit. Sen. Robert Dole suggested cuts reducing the military budget by \$30 to \$50 million over the next three years. The deficit is expected to be \$210 billion this year.

Weather

No snow on the horizon — Today will be chilly and windy, with highs of 36 to 40, dropping to the mid-30s tonight. Wednesday should be similar, as the predicted snow has moved out to sea, leaving us with only the blustering cold.

Diana ben-Aaron
Ellen L. Spero

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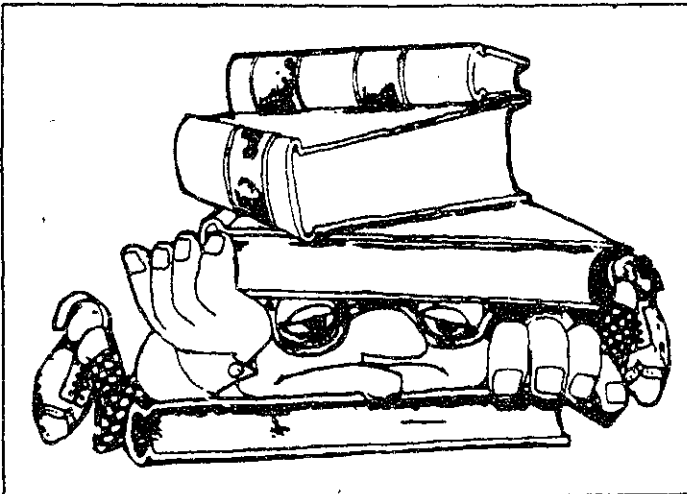
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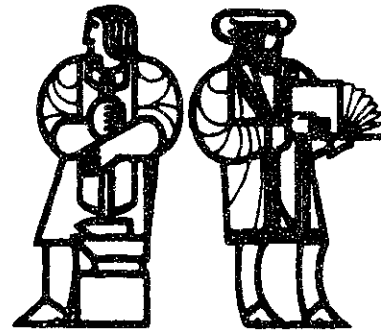
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opinion

Editorial

Dorm tutors must not be watchdogs

The Undergraduate Association (UA) is considering endorsing a proposal from the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs (ODSA) requiring tutors in Institute Houses to report students using drugs to the housemaster. This plan is part of an Institute-wide crack-down on drugs that began with the death of a student in a fraternity last spring. The drug problem at MIT certainly merits recognition and action from the UA and the ODSA, but placing the burden of responsibility on tutors is the wrong way to address it.

A great deal of effort goes into choosing hall tutors. Applicants must describe in writing their reasons for applying and their previous counseling experience. The Dean's Office and the housemasters screen the applications before the undergraduates winnow them further, interview the candidates, and submit their choices in rank order to the Dean's Office.

Presently, tutors are on an almost equal footing with other dorm residents. They play on house teams, go to house parties, and sit out in the halls talking all night, just like everyone else. However, they can also be an important resource for advice. They fulfill a civic duty simply by being approachable, concerned, slightly older neighbors.

Tutors can gently steer people on drugs toward the resources they need, such as counseling deans, Nightline, the medical department, or housemasters. The ODSA must strive to make tutors more aware of availability of resources. However, tutors' only real responsibilities are to listen and encourage people with problems to get help; they can no more stop someone from using drugs than they can keep him from destroying himself in other ways if he is really determined to do so.

The ODSA must also train tutors to recognize drug problems — but so they can take a more active role in identifying problems, not so they can police us. Correspondingly, dorm residents should be take greater responsibility for each other and for choosing tutors who would be able to help them if they are in trouble.

Heavy and continued drug dependence is a sign of deeper problems. The proposal would shift the focus of the tutoring system to the legal implications of the symptoms while ignoring students' real needs for help. At present, many undergraduates feel unafraid to approach their tutors about any problem, including drugs. They feel their troubles will be treated confidentially, as a good friend would. But as soon as tutors become instruments of the law, other students will be afraid to tell them what they need to know to help. Drug culture will be pushed underground, and more tragic deaths may result.

No one — not the undergraduates, not the deans, and least of all the tutors — should fall into the seductive trap of seeing the proposed changes as mere modifications of the present system. They amount to a completely new system, one in which the tutor is not another student but a babysitter, policeman and dean, all at the same time. The changes would take away a needed undergraduate support in the dorms, and replaces it with little 24-hour deans. The new relationship between "tutors" and their charges will become an impossible one, for everybody involved.

The current situation has flaws, but the proposed system is infinitely worse. Tutors and undergraduates must block the proposed changes by voicing their opposition at ODSA tutor-housemaster meetings, in house government, and on the floor of the UA council. We must not let momentary drug paranoia undermine the trust of this unique relationship.



Column/Adam B. Rosen

Fear of rapid changes in society is the cause of current conservatism

History has shown that changes in attitude go in cycles. Swings between radical and conservative, though perhaps not to the extremes, happen many times during a nation's life. This is particularly true during periods of revolution or extreme change by the very nature of these events. The United States, and by extension Western civilization, is today undergoing just such a period of rapid change; concurrently, general attitudes are changing rapidly — towards conservatism.

Some argue that this is to be expected in light of the extremely radical attitudes of the sixties, that we're simply experiencing the backlash of that movement after a decade of apathy and moderation. That is a valid point and indeed a plausible explanation for our current situation, but, just as the swing left in the sixties swelled to unforeseen dimensions, our current move to the right is exceeding expectations.

Why has this happened? Western civilization has undergone periods of change before, each faster and more intense than its predecessor. The agricultural revolution placed great stress on the time-tested societies of nomadic man, as did the industrial revolution on agricultural man. Eng-

land's Glorious Revolution was extremely turbulent for its day but paled beside the French Revolution, which in turn lacked the ferocity of the US Civil War, etc. What we're experiencing today are changes which surprise even the most astute social planners.

Our current period of flux, aptly termed the Superindustrial Revolution in Alvin Toffler's book *Future Shock*, is not only changing society as it progresses but also changing itself.

As this Superindustrial Revolution grows, it produces new paths. The Electronics Explosion has led not only to unimagined products (as did the use of the assembly line) but to unforeseen applications of these products; when magnetism was first tamed for domestic use, could anyone conceive of a nuclear magnetic resonance scanner?

The most prominent prodigy of the Superindustrial Revolution, the computer, is a device which by design very few people know what to do with; current advertising is centered around the theme that the possibilities are endless.

This is an important point. We're developing technology faster than we know what to do with it. NASA is planning to build a permanently manned

space station by 1992 with the intent that "its uses shall evolve during its lifetime." This disturbs a great many people; they don't see the need for such things.

There is a pronounced difference between today's progress and progress in the past, but why should that matter? People have always been afraid of change. When the first automobiles rolled off the assembly line some pessimistic person probably bemoaned to his wife:

"Oh darn, Martha, soon we'll have these disgusting machines everywhere, running our lives; I just don't like it. Where's my faithful horse?"

What's significant is that this man knew what the car was for and, more importantly, that he didn't care for it. Today we not only don't know what purposes our devices shall serve but we're not even sure whether we want them or not.

Almost everyone has extolled the virtues of the computer at one time or another, yet he still fears that Big Brother is watching. To most people, computers are still mysterious "black boxes."

How does this lead to conservatism? We're scared; scared that these machines will run our lives,

(Please turn to page 5)

The Tech

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opinion

Society changing faster today than ever before

(Continued from page 4)

scared that they'll take our jobs, scared that the whole idea of intimacy and humane uses of technology are being sacrificed for the development of technology for its own sake.

We consciously try not to admit our fears; we laugh when missile test firings go awry and complain when the company computer louses up our bill. We joke about nuking the Russians. Our subconscious plays havoc with this fear; suddenly (although it's nothing new) the golden days of yesteryear look so much easier than the present, and we chase after them with a vengeance.

We turn to things like religion and strict morality; prayer in school becomes acceptable again. Reagan isn't the first person to suggest these actions in the past twenty years, but now people are willing to accept it.

Time magazine did two cover stories, one on the end of the sexual revolution and the other on the return to civility, thank you Miss Manners. Conservative measures have sprung into action across the nation. In my home county there's an anti-smoking law, extremely strict driving laws, seat belt laws, gun laws, drinking laws and an anti-pornography bill in the running. Abortion is on the verge of being outlawed. The fifties are back in style; drug use, always an escape measure,

has suddenly reached epidemic proportions and tough anti-drug laws come into being. Note that these things aren't necessarily wrong by themselves, just that collectively they form a very strong pattern.

An extremely conservative administration wins re-election on the basis of a conceived image; it hasn't done anything to slow the pace of change either. And still, after all this, we grow even more afraid.

The great civilizations of history didn't fall to conquerors have fallen when they've reached their maximum levels of adaptability. Have we reached this level? Are we in for a fall? I believe not; we've come too far.

There is a way around the problem: we must learn to integrate the new with the old, to let go of a society where lifetime career decisions are made in high school and everything is known beforehand. We must yearn for the uncertainty in our lives, to view the future as challenging rather than as oppressive.

The change we're experiencing will not stop, or even slow down, because we choose to turn the other cheek. We must get the change under our control by wanting it to occur and thriving on the results; otherwise it will overwhelm us, drown us in the flood of progress. The choice is ours; so far, we've made the wrong one.

feedback

Loans exist to satisfy self-help portion of aid

To the Editor:

Craig Jungwirth's article in the Nov. 27 *Tech* ["Student interest in activities declining"] contained a statement that may mislead your readers.

In a remark attributed to a resigning member of the Undergraduate Association Council, Jungwirth talks about "the self-help, the amount a student must earn during the academic year."

Be it hereby proclaimed to one and all that the amount a student at MIT must earn during the year

is zero. Our aid program features a self-help level that is a combination of work and/or borrowing — the proportion of each is determined by each student, not by MIT. A student who wants to serve on the UA Council or participate in any other endeavor need not work (if that's a problem) — there are loan funds to be had to satisfy the entire self-help amount.

Leonard V. Gallagher '54, Director
Student Financial Aid Office

Disagrees with review

To the Editor:

I did not see a performance of the play, *Pride and Prejudice*, but as an admirer of Jane Austen I must object to Scott Lichtman's characterization ["Wellesley production of Jane Austen mildly successful," *The Tech*, Nov. 27] of the novel upon which it was based as "cynical commentary on Victorian England."

First, Jane Austen published *Pride and Prejudice* in 1813; she could hardly have been commenting on a period named for a queen who had not yet been born.

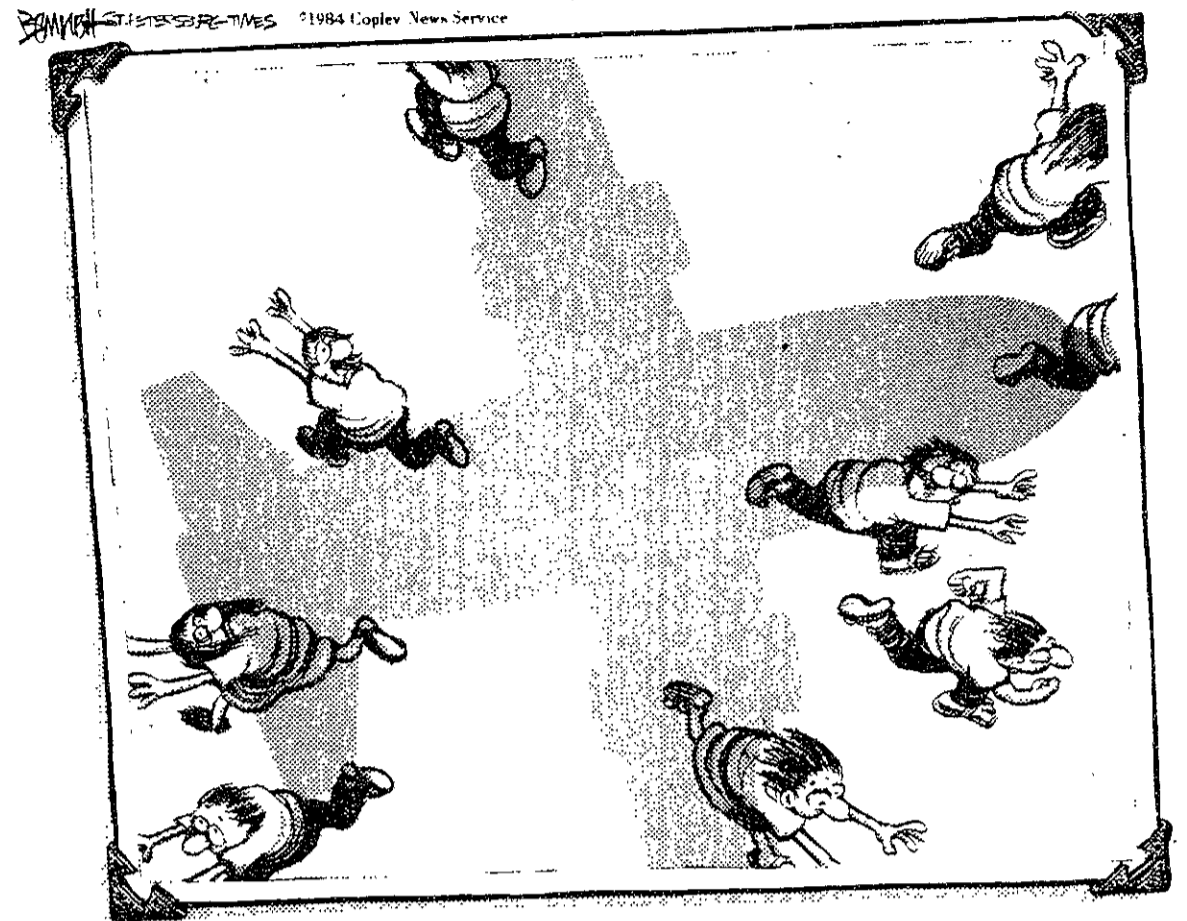
Second, calling Jane Austen's portrayal of the Bennets and their friends "cynical" is simply not accurate. It is rather the absence of cynicism that gives so much of Jane Austen's work its quiet power. Cynicism implies disdain and the kind of sweeping contempt which precludes meticulous and curious observation — the very opposite of the subtle humor, precision, and the deeply compassionate spirit that permeates *Pride and Prejudice*.

William Gilson
Department of Psychology

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

Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the Editor are welcome. They should be addressed to *The Tech*, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge MA 02139, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Letters should be typed and bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.



U.S. aerial photo of the Nicaraguans' paranoid state of alert...

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The Tech

Announcing *The Tech's* essay and editorial cartoon contests:

Essay Contest

- **Topic:** MIT in the next century.
- **Eligibility:** Any member of the MIT community (except members of *The Tech* staff) may submit an entry. One entry per person is allowed.
- **Specifications:** Entries must be between 500 and 1000 words long and must be typed, double-spaced, on 8½-by-11 inch paper.
- **Publication:** Entries must not have been published elsewhere. *The Tech* reserves all publication rights to entries. All submissions become property of *The Tech* and will not be returned.
- **Deadline:** Submissions must be received by 5 pm, January 17, 1985.

Cartoon contest

- **Eligibility:** Any member of the MIT community (except members of *The Tech* staff) may enter. Three cartoons per person are allowed.
- **Content:** Cartoons can be about any topic of interest to the MIT community. Entries will be judged on humor, satirical effect, artistic value, clarity, and good taste.
- **Specifications:** Entries should be rectangular single frames, submitted in black ink on white paper. Width should be between four and eight inches and height should be between four and eight inches.
- **Publication:** Cartoons must not have been published elsewhere. All submissions become property of *The Tech* which reserves all publication rights. Entries will not be returned.
- **Deadline:** Submissions must be received by 5 pm, January 17, 1985.

Prizes will be announced in future issues.

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What do you think of Amherst Alley construction?



Karen Wohl '86, Course VI-1, Baker House:

"I think it's a good idea that they're reconstructing it, but . . . it's kind of silly that they're only making it one way. . . . The street is still the same width. I think it's kind of silly that they're making it go the same direction as Memorial Drive. . . . Someone at Baker House was sending around a petition trying to make it go east, which I think would be a lot smarter."



John Koonmen '87, Course XIV, Burton House:

"It's a good idea. I think the construction firm they chose is pretty poor. What I heard was it was supposed to be done this summer. . . . If you ever walk by here and you take a look at the work these people are doing, they're not doing anything. They're standing around . . . What have these guys done in the last month? I think that doesn't make too much sense because Memorial Drive also runs [east] so it seems that in order for people to go the other way, I don't see how they're going to do that except drive all the way around and come back here."



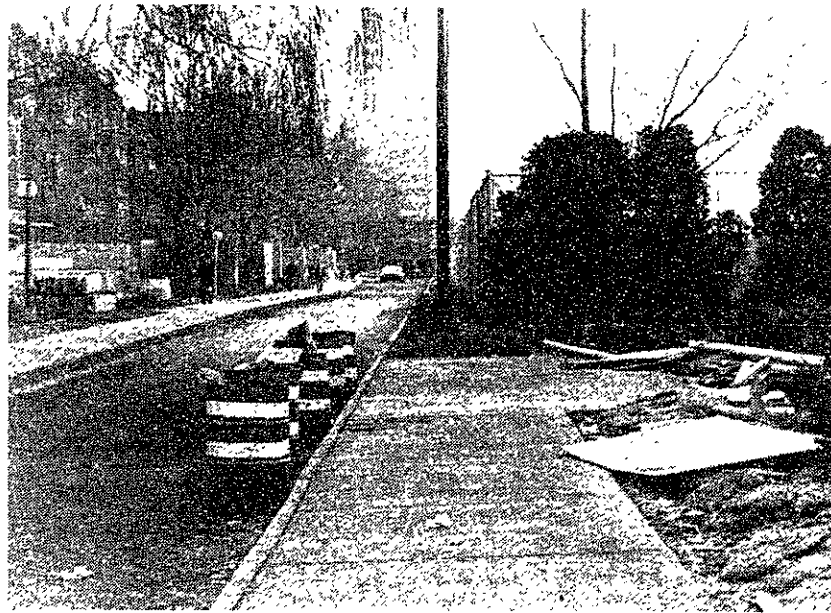
Lianna Cleland '86, Course III, Burton House:

"Well, I think it's a good idea because I know that these people [at Baker House] have a bad time coming out. I don't think it was handled very well. It was supposed to be finished . . . by Rush. . . . I think it looks terrible. I guess it'll probably look good later. And it really kills me that they took those trees out. . . . Frankly I think what will happen is that people who would normally be driving down Memorial Drive would take shortcuts through here. We don't need city traffic."



Joao Rosa G, Course XII, Tang Hall:

"I don't like how they took those trees out. I like the fact that it's going to be a one-way street. The traffic here was too heavy, and now I think it's going to be okay. Either way it's okay. . . . I think east would be a better idea."



Responses compiled by Earl C. Yen
Tech photos by Elliott F. Williams



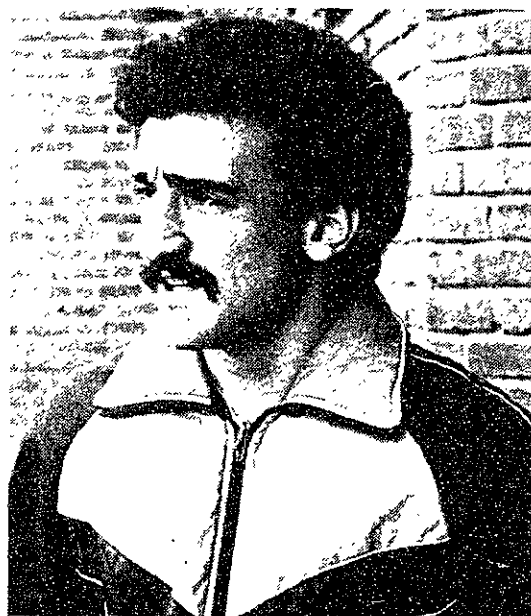
Jim Bernabeo '87, Course XVI, Baker House:

"It's good to get the road away from there. They're really slow, though. It's taking them years to do this and it's not that complicated. . . . I think it would make more sense to go the other way [east] since you have Memorial Drive right here going in that direction."



Ed DeVoe '87, Delta Kappa Epsilon:

"I think it was fine the way it was. I guess the way it's set up now, it's not that bad. They also want to have it go west which is ridiculous because Memorial Drive already goes that way. None of us down there really likes it that much. My impression is that it's just a bunch of old ladies who have some money."



Gary Wyetzner '85, Course VI-1, Baker House:

"Yes [it's a good idea] because I almost got killed a few times by cars coming by. [The direction] really doesn't make a difference. . . . I had a car one summer, and it really didn't matter much."



Valerie Brown '87, Course VII, Next House:

"I'm glad they're doing it, but I don't think they should make this one way at all. . . . I live in Next House, and it's just going to isolate us. We signed a petition saying that we wanted it to be two-ways . . ."

Do you think the traffic should move eastward or westward?

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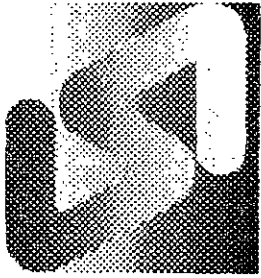
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ARTS

Operatic affairs

The Tales of Hoffmann, by Jacques Offenbach, at the Opera Company of Boston, conductor Neville Dove; Nov. 30, Dec. 2, 5, 9; 8 pm at the Opera House; student rush tickets \$10.

The Opera Company of Boston falls short of the mark in their production of *The Tales of Hoffmann*. The key problem was pace: the opera lacked life and seemed to progress far too slowly. Particularly unfortunate was the poverty of performance of John Alexander in the title role. Hoffmann is supposed to be a naive romantic dreamer, easily drawn into affairs of love. But at Friday's performance Alexander's voice had a harsh edge and his portrayal was made still more unconvincing by stiff and mannered acting. Alexander's act, with unnatural gestures of the arms, and feet almost rooted to the floor, represents a dated concept of opera: if you can sing, the drama will freely flow from the music alone. But as he neither sang with distinction nor acted well, the central character of the opera was a loss.

Perhaps the problem did not lie in Alexander alone: Bliss Hebert's staging was generally static and lacking in flair; choral scenes were particularly disappointing, and not improved by a lack of coordination of voice as well as act.

Ruth Welting proved to be a glowing exception to the general mediocrity of the evening. Spalanzani, who announces himself as a physicist, in fact turns out to be Course VI. His pioneering work in AI leads him to the creation of an object for the man otherwise bereft of love: an Artificial Lady, Olympia, whom he hopes to trade for a handsome payment.

Hoffmann, of course, immediately falls for Olympia, and is wholly taken in. Ruth Welting's performance was nothing short of brilliant; the cleverly articulated robotic

clip to her voice did nothing to detract from her beauty of tone. And her acting was hilarious: Olympia came across as the height of grace clothed in the epitome of artifice. To added humorous effect, the doll had a faulty algorithm (or should I say algorithm?), resulting in quirks, lost, perhaps, on the bewitched Hoffmann, but wholly enchanting to the enthusiastic audience.

There were two other singers who put in consistently notable performances: Adelle Nicholson as the Muse of Poetry/companion of Hoffmann, one of the only singers whose French diction came through clear and crisp and who sang with endearing sweetness to boot; and Justino Diaz, creating both a truly nasty Dr. Miracle, and an even less savoury Dapertutto, aptly described in the program as "an evil genius." Diaz's cool dark tones evoked the essence of badness; his poise was most satisfyingly sinister. We'd all rather let Hoffmann get mixed up in his less than delightful ways, and steer clear of him ourselves.

Orchestral performance was mixed. There was some roughness during the early parts of the first act, which returned occasionally later in the performance; Difficulties in making transitions between *piano* and *forte* led to *fortissimo* onslaughts, the brute force of which was more than a little crude. But the dark undercurrents set in motion for the entry of Dr. Miracle were highly effective and the opening of Act III was nicely done, sensuous strings filling the air with an incense of sweet anticipation.

The Act II set — a laboratory of gadgets fit for the maddest of scientists — was the most interesting; other settings were satisfactory too.

The production, then, did have its high spots, but a lack of drive at other times made the evening drag.

Jonathan Richmond



John Alexander and Ruth Welting in *Tales of Hoffmann*

Complex performance

Messiah, performed by the MIT Choral Society; conductor John Oliver with soloists Martha Elliott (soprano), Gloria Raymond (mezzo-soprano), Mark Fularz (tenor) and James Kleyla (baritone); Nov. 30, Sacred Heart Church, East Cambridge.

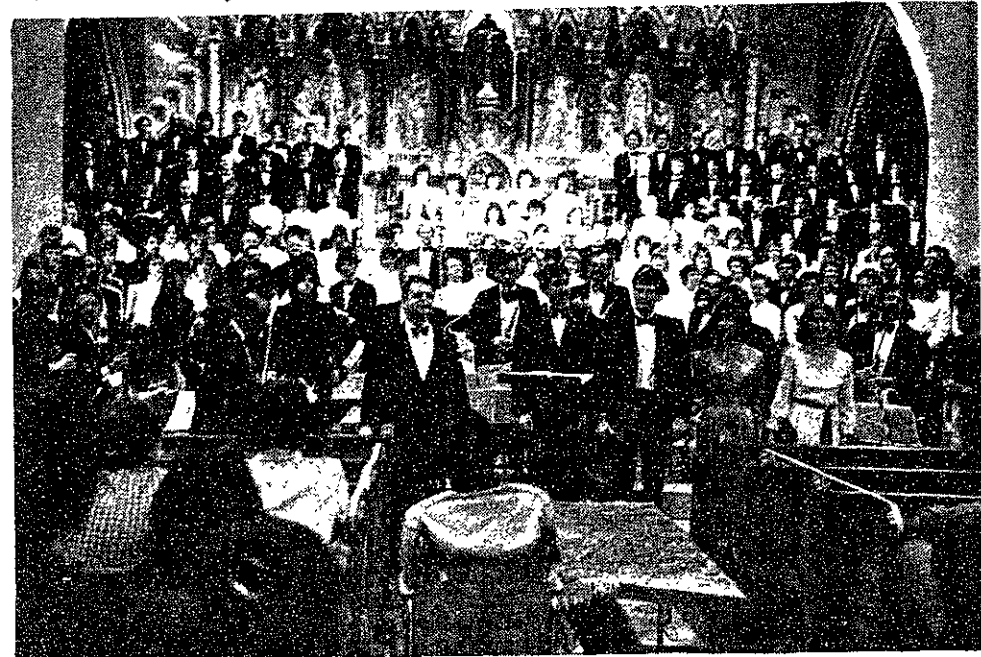
The MIT Choral Society, replete with about 170 singers and 35 instrumentalists, put on a spirited performance of Handel's perennial Christmas favorite, *Messiah*. The ensemble was larger than Handel intended (the chorus was 40 strong at the premiere) but was by no means the most bloated — 4000 singers were used in a performance in 1923.

Martha Elliott has a very delicate, sweet voice, very similar to Kiri te Kanawa's, and her rendition of the soprano aria "I know that my Redeemer liveth" was one of the most moving performances I have heard; comparable to Kaaren Erickson, the soprano in Robert Shaw's recording of *Messiah*. The chorus also put on a splendid performance. The Hallelujah Chorus, for example, was sung with awesome sonority and grandeur. The hall has warm, over-reverberant acoustics, which are appropriate for the chorus sections, but make the sibilance of the soloists peculiar.

The performance was not without fault: the alto aria "How beautiful are the feet" and the tenor aria "Thou shall break them" were performed so badly that the conductor redid them. "Why do the nations so furiously rage together?" was taken at too fast a tempo for my taste, and the chorus made too much noise when they sat down after each chorus piece. On the whole, nonetheless, it was done with great enthusiasm, and was a very enjoyable evening for those who managed to obtain tickets for the performance.

Poh Ser Hsu

Although the performance was taped, the recording is available only to the performers. But I would recommend those who missed the performance to listen to Telarc's newly released recording of the work featuring the Atlanta Symphony and Chamber Chorus, conductor Robert Shaw, with soloists Kaaren Erickson, Sylvia McNair, Alferda Hadgson, Jon Humphrey and Richard Stilwell and a chorus of 60: Both musically and sonically, it has few peers.



MIT Choral Society performs *Messiah*.

Tech photo by Poh Ser Hsu

Local bands Breed

Let's Breed, a compilation of local bands, a *Throbbing Lobster* release.

The *Throbbing Lobster* saga continues with Chuck Warner's latest compilation, *Let's Breed*. Like its predecessor *Nobody Gets on the Guest-List*, this album features a collection of outstanding material taken from Boston's most popular club bands. Every time I listen to this album I come away with a different favorite cut.

Of the fourteen bands represented on *Let's Breed*, five appeared on the previously released *Nobody Gets on the Guest-List*. However, the second *Throbbing Lobster* effort provides a greater diversity of musical styles than its forerunner. *Scruffy the Cat* offers a down-home sound with "Oldest Fire in the World." This cut distinguishes itself with the country style vocals of Charlie Chesterman, banjo picking of Stona Fitch, and acoustic bass work of Mac Paul Stanfield.

Scruffy the Cat segues into Chain Link Fence and "All Except You" which brings us back to a more traditional brand of alternative rock and roll. Noonday Underground also makes an appearance on this compilation, despite their recent break-up due to musical differences. First among these differences was too many song writers. There had always been two faces to this band and "Simple Man" represents the creative talents of the Leslie Greene side of Noonday Underground. Leslie is now off pursuing her own interests while the remaining three members of Noonday Underground have added a new bass player and reformed to yield the latest addition to the Boston music scene, The Last Stand.

Half way through side one on the album, Christmas presents the "Boys' Town Work Song." This is a catchy tune that you will soon be humming. The first side closes with cuts from the Odds, Outlets, and Unattached. The Outlets have been hitting the local club scene for over four years now and will be releasing their first piece of full-length vinyl in the near future. Their rendition of "Not Too Late" on this album shines through as nothing less than excellent.

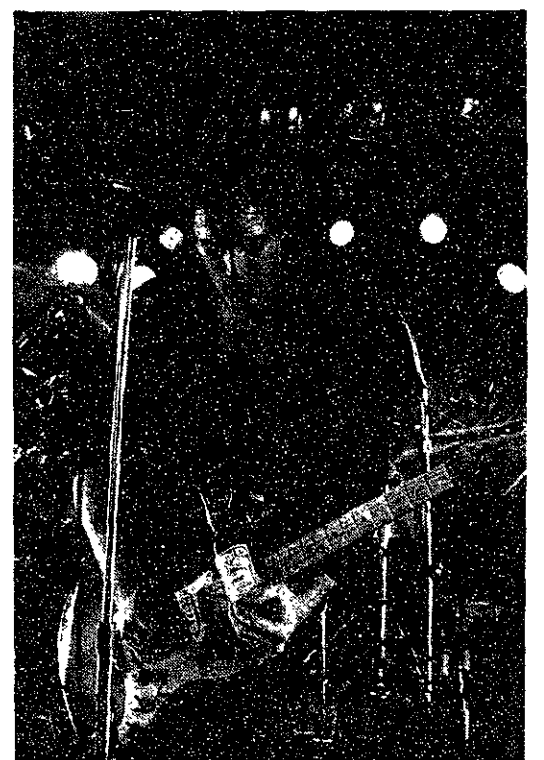
If I had to pick one cut on this compilation that deserves to make it really big, it would be "Heart Upside Down" by the Busted Statues. Previously found only in the tape library of your local college radio station, this song became one of the past

summer's most requested items for airplay. Released just in time for the holiday, *Dumptruck* performs "Thanksgiving" on this second *Throbbing Lobster* compilation. Although their album *D is for Dumptruck* has been largely ignored, *Dumptruck* is one of Boston's best guitar bands. If you're into great guitar work with psychedelic influences, this cut is just what the doctor ordered.

I was slightly disappointed with the recorded version of "(That's Why I Always) Dress in Black" by the Blackjacks. This is a great live tune, but something was lost in the translation to vinyl. The Underachievers, Flies, Edge, and Prime Movers also appear on *Let's Breed* in the grand tradition of *Throbbing Lobster* alternative rock and roll.

Is the *Throbbing Lobster* compilation saga now complete? I hope not, but this LP should serve to tide us over for at least a few months while Chuck Warner catches his breath after his first two commendable efforts. *Let's Breed* puts forth a collection of music from Boston's garage and alternative rock and roll culture not to be missed. Get some today.

Stephen A. Brobst



Tech photo by Stephen A. Brobst
Johnny Angel of the Blackjacks.

sports

Harriers extend winning streak

By Arthur Lee

The MIT indoor track team extended its 12-meet winning streak to 13 by trouncing WPI and Brandeis last Saturday at the Athletic Center. The Engineers racked up a total of 85 points, equalling the combined total of WPI's 49 and Brandeis's 36.

The Big Guys of the team performed well in the weight events. Co-captain Pat Parris '85 bested everyone in the 35-lb. category with a throw of 54' 10". Greg Procopio '85 snared third place with a respectable distance of 47' 10" despite a hamstring injury, contributing two points to the MIT cause. Bill Kelly '85 rounded out a fourth place with his throw of 43' 11".

However, the weightmen performed less well in the shot put. Parris was the only one who managed to place in the event, taking third with a throw of 43' 3". Procopio, who normally would have done very well, had to adopt a less powerful stance facing the field because of his injury. He was unable to place in the event.

Ed Freeman '86 outdistanced everyone in the long jump with his 20' 11-1/4". Another Ed, Ed Martin '88, captured a fourth place in the triple jump. Martin accomplished it with a distance of 40' 6-1/2".

In the leaping-tall-buildings department (a.k.a. a high jump), Brad Smith '85 snared a second spot by clearing 5' 8". Teammate Joe Alfano '88 brought in one more point to the MIT cause by taking fourth place with the same height, although requiring more attempts.

Rod Hinman '88 and Eugene Tung '88 gave excellent showings in the first running final of the day, the 1500-meter. Hinman clocked in at 4:07.2 while Tung came in four-tenths of a second later. Sean Garrett snared a second spot in the 55-meter hurdles with a respectable track scorcher. He clocked in at 8.20 seconds, just two one-hundredths of a second faster than a WPI competitor. This was determined only after a lengthy examination of the Accutrack photograph since the field judges could not agree on the call. After some discussion, Garrett was awarded the second place, and MIT got the three points it deserved.

In the 400-meter run, freshman Ted Bosey won a close one against teammate Mike Hammond '87. Bosey had a time of

52.08 while Hammond clocked a 52.10 seconds.

The Engineers won, placed, and showed in the 500-meter. Dave Richards '86 won with a time of 1:08.05. Dan Lin '86 placed with his time of 1:08.82. Alejandro Menchaca '85 showed at 1:10.49. Steve Marshall '88 was the lone winner in the 55-meter dash, bringing in a big five-pointer for the Tech cause. He scorched by everyone with a time of 6.78 seconds.

In the 800-meter run, the veterans of the team really shone. Co-captain Ron Smith '85 won with a pretty commanding time of 1:58.87. Teammate Andrew Peddie '86 came right behind him with a performance of 1:59.24. John Hradnansky '85 rounded out with a third place time of 2:00.19.

Pole vaulter Ross Dreyer '86 was his usual high-flying self last Saturday as he captured the crown by clearing 13' 3". Roger Carpenter '88 showed some good orbiting abilities as he cleared 12 feet to get fourth place.

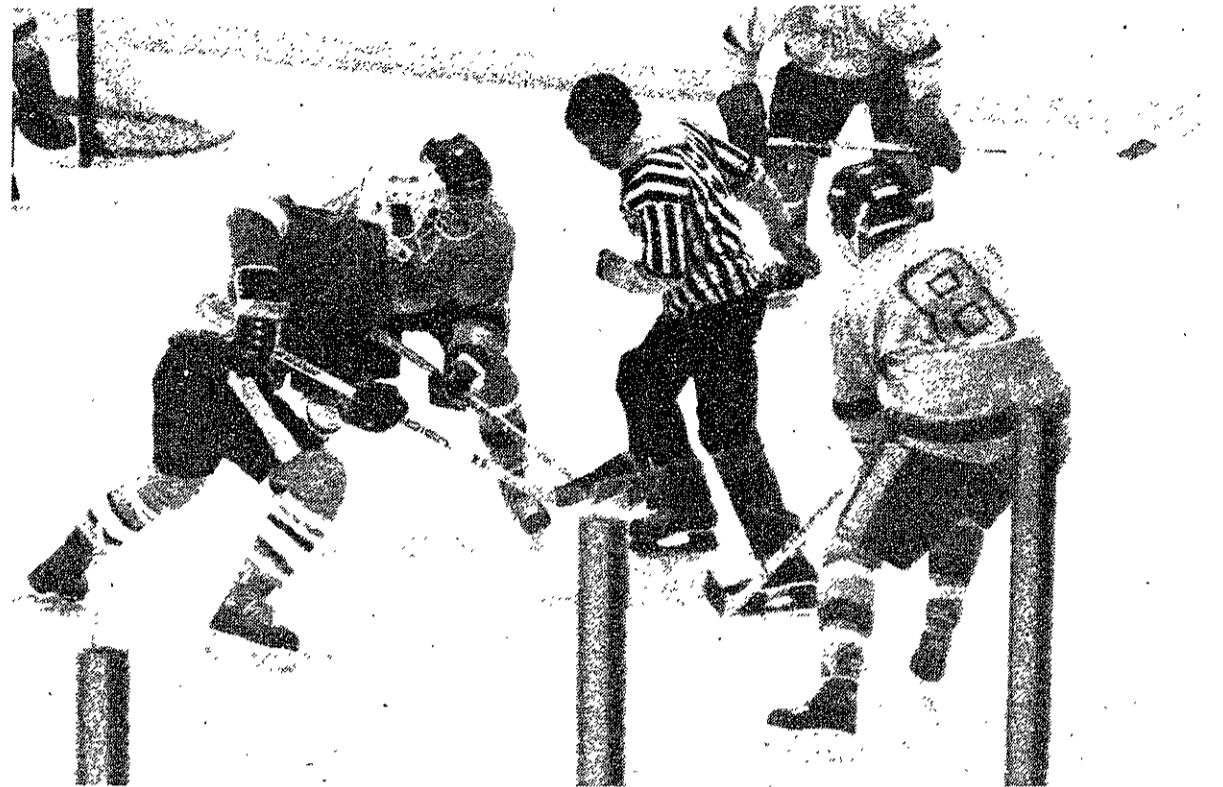
In the 1000-meter run, MIT failed to win first place, but they took everything else. Brian Callaghan '87 took 2:40.26 to finish second. Tung took third with a time of 2:43.08. Teammate Hinman managed a fourth place with his time of 2:45.54.

In the grueling category, a.k.a. a 3000-meter run, skinny Bill Mallet '86 snared second place with a time of 8:54.3. Senior Bill Bruno, who just finished the morning session of the Putnam Math Competition, came in with a courageous time of 9:02.1 to take fourth place. After cooling off from the grueling race, Bruno went back for the afternoon session of the Putnam exam.

The Engineers finished up the day by winning both the 1600-meter and 3200-meter relays. In the first race, Marshall, Bosey, Richards, and anchor-leg Lin cooperated in a winning time of 3:31.88. Mike Lyons '85, Hradnansky, Peddie, and anchor-leg Smith ran the latter in a time of 8:16.89.

When asked to comment on the win, the coach smiled and said, "We did pretty well." In addition, he said that the team performed well even when some key members were injured and could not participate.

The Engineers will now try to extend their 13-meet winning streak past Division I school Holy Cross this Friday, 6 pm, at the Athletic Center.



Tech photo by Bill Flowers

Three members of the ice hockey team head off a Tufts University player as a referee watches from the center of the fray. MIT beat Tufts, 5-3, in Saturday's game in the New Athletic Center. See Sports Update, page 11.

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Building 4, Room 163

SPEAKERS:

Lew Counts, *SBEE, MIT*
Linear Engineering Manager

Ted Dintersmith, *PhD Physics, Stanford*
Division Marketing Manager

John Yasaitis, *PhD Material Science, MIT*
Digital Process Development Manager

Alan Strelzoff, *PhD Physics, Columbia*
Director, Machine Vision Products

Jack Memishian, *SBEE, MIT*
Division Fellow

Refreshments will be served



Tech photo by Mike Frey

Greg Procopio '85 swing through to a nice 47' 10" for third place in the 35-pound weight throw at the home indoor track meet Saturday.

sports

Sports Update

Men's bball pounds CalTech

The men's basketball team made its presence felt in the Lopata Classic at Washington University in St. Louis last weekend. The Engineers lost a close 50-48 battle to Johns Hopkins Friday in the first game of the tournament despite 23 points and 13 rebounds by forward Mike McElroy '87.

The Engineers came back Saturday in a historic contest with Caltech, pounding the Beavers, 71-46. The game marks the second time the schools have met in athletic competition and the first basketball contest between the two. The first time the schools met, Caltech's water polo team defeated MIT, 15-9, in 1981.

Forward Craig Poole '86 led the Engineers with 28 points and earned himself a berth on the all-tournament team. Center Bud Taddiken '85 chipped in 12 points and 12 rebounds, and McElroy scored 11.

MIT's wins so far, with the record at 2-4, already equal the total number of wins the squad had last year.

Women romp in swimming opener

The women's swimming team cruised past host Regis Wednesday, 95-44, in the squad's season opener, with two MIT swimmers turning in performances qualifying them for the national championships at the end of the season.

Veteran diver Lori Blackwelder Peterson '86 broke the record she set when she won last year's New England Championships and qualified for the Division I nationals (MIT is Division III). Freshman Linda Sprys' time of 2:17.62 in the 200-meter individual medley also qualified her for the national championships.

Beside Peterson and Sprys, MIT had five other first-place finishers, as the Engineers took the top spots in 12 of the 16 events.

Hockey tops Tufts

Ron Brisco '86 scored two goals and assisted on two others, as the men's hockey club defeated the Tufts Jumbos, 5-3 Saturday afternoon. The win raises the squad's record to 2-0 on the young season.

Women fencers do well in tourney

Ann Zabudoff '86 finished second behind UMass-Amherst's Rita Geileils in the Holiday Invitational Tournament at Southeastern Massachusetts University last weekend. Zabudoff finished sixth in the same tournament last year.

Linda Ystuenta '88 continued to show her potential, following in third place. Karen Dryer '88 placed sixth, and team captain Penny Axelrad G was seventh in the field of 40.

Wrestling splits

The wrestling team lost to host Wesleyan, 26-20, before coming back to defeat Bowdoin, 32-24, in Middletown, Conn. last weekend. The Engineers are ranked fifth in the season's first New England Division III coaches poll.

Martin Dickau

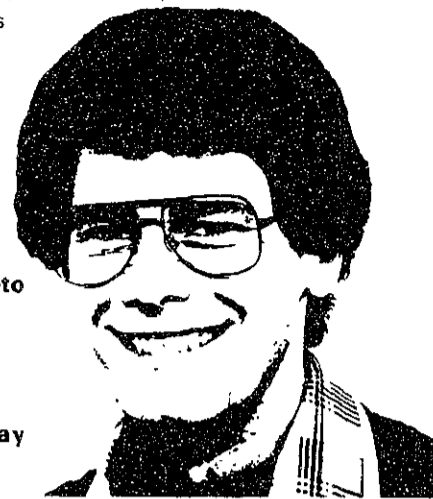
Squash gets off to disappointing start

The squash team experienced some early-season troubles, opening its season with four straight losses. Thursday the squad dropped its home opener to Navy, 9-0. MIT then went to Middletown for a round-robin tournament at Wesleyan and lost to Stony Brook, 7-2, Friday, to host Wesleyan, 6-3, and to Lehigh, 5-4, Saturday.

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sports

MIT volleyball goes to NCAA final four

By Paul Paternoster

"It was one of the all-time greatest sports wins in MIT history." That's how Sports Information Director Ken Cerino described the women's volleyball team's victory over number-1 ranked Juniata in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III championships this past weekend.

This best-of-five contest went down to the final game. The Engineers defeated Juniata (15-8, 15-8, 5-15, 12-15, 15-11) on the top-ranked team's home court. MIT had been ranked 7th going into the match.

This marks the second straight year that MIT has made it to the final four. By virtue of their latest victory, the squad can now be recognized as the best team in the East.

This Friday night the Engineers will be in Elmhurst, Illinois trying to prove to the nation that they are more than just the best team in the East. The squad will face Calvin College (29-7) from Michigan. Calvin upset the University of North Carolina at Greensboro 3-1 to advance to the semifinals.

One could summarize the Engineers' victory in two words: Lori Cantu. The 5' 8" senior from San Antonio, Texas was the dominant force on the floor. "Everything she hit, scored," said Coach Karyn Altman describing Cantu's performance.

In the fifth game, Cantu sustained an injury diving for a ball. She landed on her elbow and then hit her head on the floor, opening a gash above her eyebrow which required 10 stitches to close. Trainer Cathy Davis quickly patched up the cut and Cantu, a 1983 All-American, went back to business as usual,

leading the Engineers in hitting.

Although the match was played on Juniata's home court, Altman felt that it did not aid MIT's opponents at all: "Playing in front of a thousand people, there was a lot of pressure for both teams." She added that this was the first time the teams had played each other and this only added to the pressure as each team did not know what to expect. As a result she felt that Juniata's play was shaky.

After going up 2-0, MIT dropped the next two games. Altman noticed that after the team took that quick lead they began to tense up. "We were passing tight, about 10 to 12 feet off the net instead off right at the net, and we weren't hitting well," Altman explained.

MIT had a chance to win the fourth game, as the score was 12-12 late in the game, but a couple of mistakes quickly allowed Juniata to tally three points to win.

Altman regrouped her squad after the fourth game and in the final game the Engineers demonstrated their character and strength by defeating Juniata despite two setbacks. The first setback was Cantu's injury. The team was trailing 5-4 when Cantu returned the Engineers had taken a 7-5 lead. This gave the team an added boost of confidence according to the coach.

The team increased its lead to 12-5. At that point the team suffered its second setback which was a temporary slump allowing Juniata to score six consecutive points to close the Engineers' lead to only one point. With Cantu on the front line and Rachel Chin '87 and Janette Kauth '85 serving, the team did not get discouraged and was able to run

off three points to end the exciting contest.

Objectively viewing the victory, Altman concluded that hustling was the key factor for the Engineers. "Our mistakes were being compensated for by people running all over the place." She added that squad won this quarterfinal match without playing its best game. With the exception of Cantu, the team was not hitting well. Altman hopes to see the team "put it all together, both defensively and offensively" in Friday's match against Calvin.

If the Engineers win this match, they will face the winner of the match between Laverne and UC-San Diego. UC-San Diego defeated the Engineers in last year's playoff competition and Altman feels that if the Engineers play this team again they will be "psyched" to even up the score.



Tech photo by Bill Johnson

The women's volleyball team plays Eastern Connecticut State University in the first round of the 1984 NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball Championships earlier this season. That game paved their way to a victory, 3-2, against Juniata College in the quarterfinals of the championships last weekend.

Bball defeats Regis

By Chris Kelley

The women's basketball squad defeated Regis, 51-41, last Saturday in a straightforward match. The largely empty bleachers, occupied primarily by a ragged contingent of Regis supporters, and the moody afternoon lighting of the cage were appropriate for the slow-paced match played. The women ran a very solid defensive game that froze Regis on the scoreboard more than once. At the other end of the court, however, the team did not display the shooting power it is capable of, losing the chance to turn things into a blow-out.

The Engineers took the lead permanently about the middle of the first half and the scores never got close again. Building from a tie at 10 points, MIT coordinated offense and defense long enough to rack up 12 consecutive points in four minutes. With six minutes left to play, Regis broke back

onto the board with 6 rapid points and the half ended with the score 26-18.

The second half proceeded in almost identical fashion. MIT started on a short streak that added eight consecutive points to their lead in the first part of the half, to make the score 34-20. When that fizzled, the game degenerated into a slow moving sort of free-for-all with steals and intercepted passes on both sides. Regis was not an impressive enough team to put any significant dent in the size of the gap that remained, even with MIT's high shooters missing their basket attempts.

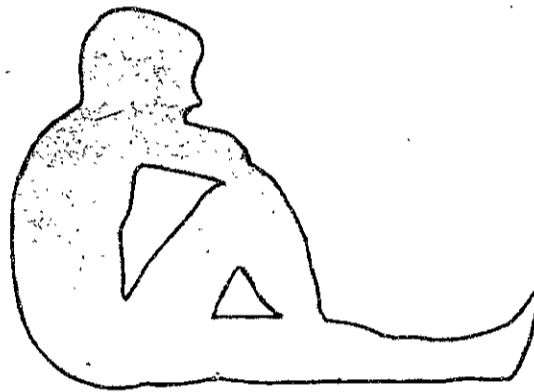
The team is, as coach Jean Heiney noted, always glad to win any game. The team is going to have to apply its shooting prowess more steadily if it wants to come out on top at the end of some of the more ugly games ahead. MIT travels to Colby-Sawyer this Wednesday.

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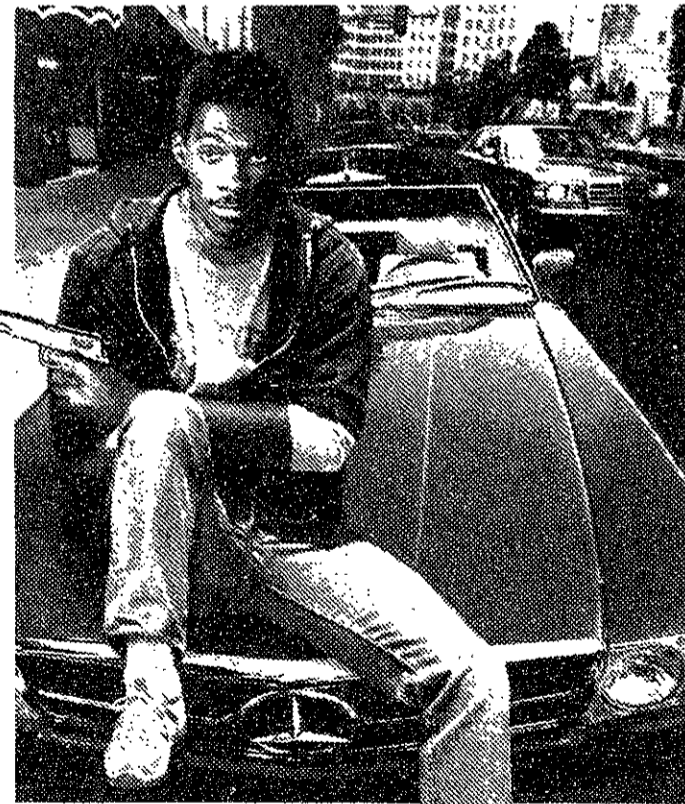


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