

Tuition revealed today

By Burt S. Kaliski

The Academic Council meets today at 10 a.m. to recommend to the Corporation Executive Committee the tuition and equity level for 1984-85.

Members of the Academic Council who are said to know the figures were in meetings yesterday and could not be reached for comment. They are President Paul E. Gray '54, Senior Vice President William R. Dickson '56, and Vice President Constantine B. Simonides.

Gray is expected to announce the recommended tuition and equity level later this week. The Corporation Executive Committee usually has approved the levels soon after the announcement.

Tuition for 1984-85 will exceed \$10,000 if a trend in increases which has held for seven years continues. Each year since 1977, the Institute has raised tuition by a greater percentage than the Consumer Price Index rose the previous year.

That index rose by 4.98 percent in 1983, and an increase in tuition of the same level would yield a \$10,078 bill for 1984-85.

Halt Increased Tuition, a committee of the Undergraduate Association, is expected to protest the likely increases this week.

The committee, in a draft of resolutions prepared by campus coordinator Robert L. Krawitz '86, has demanded:

- tuition not exceed \$10,000, and equity level remain at \$4300;
- MIT join Ivy Group colleges in a campaign for increased federal financial aid;
- the Institute make research attractive to potential contractors "that do not primarily affect undergraduates adversely";
- the federal government pay (Please turn to page 2)

Zionist group holds protest on Middle East conference

By Ellen L. Spero

About 15 students from six area colleges protested last Sunday outside a closed conference on Middle East issues held at MIT.

The students said the conference, held this weekend, did not present an Israeli view.

"We . . . protest the one-sided nature of this Mideast Conference," said a statement issued by the students. "The Middle East conflict has many sides to it. We believe that the MIT community has a right to hear them all."

Professor Louis Kampf, faculty advisor to the MIT Commission



Tech photo by Simson L. Garfinkel

Cambridge firemen prepare to extinguish the fire in the basement of Building 2 Friday morning.

Fire in Building 2 basement

By Andrew Bein

A electrical fire in Building 2 filled it with smoke and resulted in the cancellation of classes Friday afternoon. No one was injured in the fire.

An alternating current cable in a manhole underneath the basement of Building 2 "burned off" its lead shielding, according to Paul M. Blanchard, Electrical Services manager of the MIT Physical Plant.

The cable "came into contact with the [direct current]," causing the explosion which led to the fire, Blanchard said.

"We got a call on the 100 emergency line at 11:43 a.m.," said Lt. Anne P. Glavin of the MIT Campus Police.

Ernest DiAngeles, deputy chief

of the Cambridge Fire Department, said firefighters "got there three or four minutes after the explosion and had the fire out in two or three minutes." An MIT "direct line" alerted the fire department, he explained.

The firefighters extinguished the electrical fire with Ansul, a dry powder chemical, he said.

"The wiring itself was the only thing burning, but that caused a lot of smoke," DiAngeles continued. "It wasn't serious, there was no danger at all. . . . It is a real good building."

Students from Building 2, the Richard Cockburn MacLaurin Building (Building 4) and parts of the George Eastman Research Laboratory (Building 6) were evacuated, according to Glavin.

One pair seeks top UA offices

By Burt S. Kaliski

Only one team of students is running for the offices of president and vice president of the Undergraduate Association, and 21 of 26 class offices have one or no students competing.

David M. Libby '85, former floor leader of the UA General Assembly, and Stephanie L. Scheidler '85, an Association of Student Activities representative to the UA Finance Board, are on the March 14 ballot for the highest offices.

Seven of the class offices will have no names on the ballot, although students are expected to mount write-in campaigns for two of those offices. Another 14 offices have only one candidate.

Class Presidents Noelle M. Merritt '85 and Vivienne Lee '86 will run for re-election, as will Vice President Barry D. McQuain '85.

Michael R. Candan '85 will run against Merritt, but the other incumbents are unopposed.

The Class of 1987 has the greatest competition for election with four students vying for president, five for vice president and three for treasurer.

Kip Dee Kuntz '85, a member of the UA Election Commission, blamed the lack of presidential candidates on a lack of interest and pressure from *Tech* editorials.

"This year *The Tech* has been attacking the GA on practically every issue," he said. "The UA president is becoming a public scapegoat for the rest of the inefficiencies of student government."

"Everybody knows that we have to do something to the GA to make it . . . more responsible and more efficient," he said, but no one is willing to invest the time.

Hauke L. Kite-Powell '84, chairman of the commission, disagreed. Asked if the job of UA president required too much work, he replied, "No, I can't imagine that really."

"The image the job still has around the Institute is not something that's really very glamorous," Kite-Powell added.

Two other teams applied for candidacy for the top offices but neither completed the required petitions by the Feb. 24 deadline, according to Kuntz. Those teams are Dennis Benjamin and Mike Thomas, and Jeff Wanis and Bernard Gunther.

The ballot will also include a referendum on pornography non-binding on the General Assembly, but the wording of that question is not yet decided.

The General Assembly was unable at a recent meeting to approve inclusion of several referendums on changes to the UA constitution by the Feb. 24 deadline. "We did not receive a mandate by the GA, . . . nor did we receive a petition," Kuntz said.

One proposed referendum, that of a student activities fee, would have required changes in the UA's relationship with the (Please turn to page 2)

Most noon classes there were cancelled.

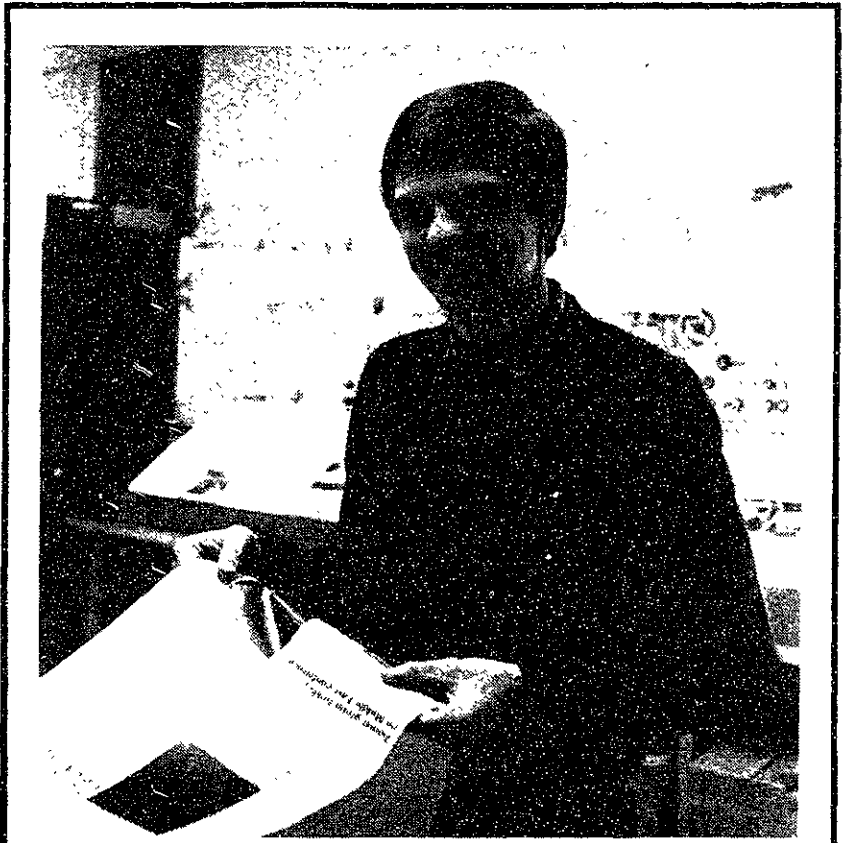
Blanchard said Building 2 "was down for both lighting and power [until] . . . 1 a.m. on Saturday." As a result of the fire, he said, the direct current was off throughout the Institute.

"The [alternating current] burned out inside the hole probably because of age" and water present in the manhole, he explained. The wire had been installed in 1956, but some "low voltage system" cable has been in place since 1916.

"We will be upgrading Building 2 as a result of this," Blanchard said. "There will be a future shut down," in power for the building.

The explosion occurred in an electrical wiring closet next to the laboratory of Professor Jeffrey I. Steinfeld '62.

Eric L. Schweitzer G, a member of Steinfeld's lab, said, "It is (Please turn to page 17)



Tech photo by Simson L. Garfinkel

Contributing Editor V. Michael Bove G processes front page of this issue of *The Tech*, which was laid out on the Tech Electronic Newsroom computer system and phototypeset in one piece on a digital cathode-ray-tube typesetter. This is believed to be the first time any college newspaper has attempted full-page photo-composition.

inside

Even in death, John Lennon remains a musical force to be reckoned with. Page 11.

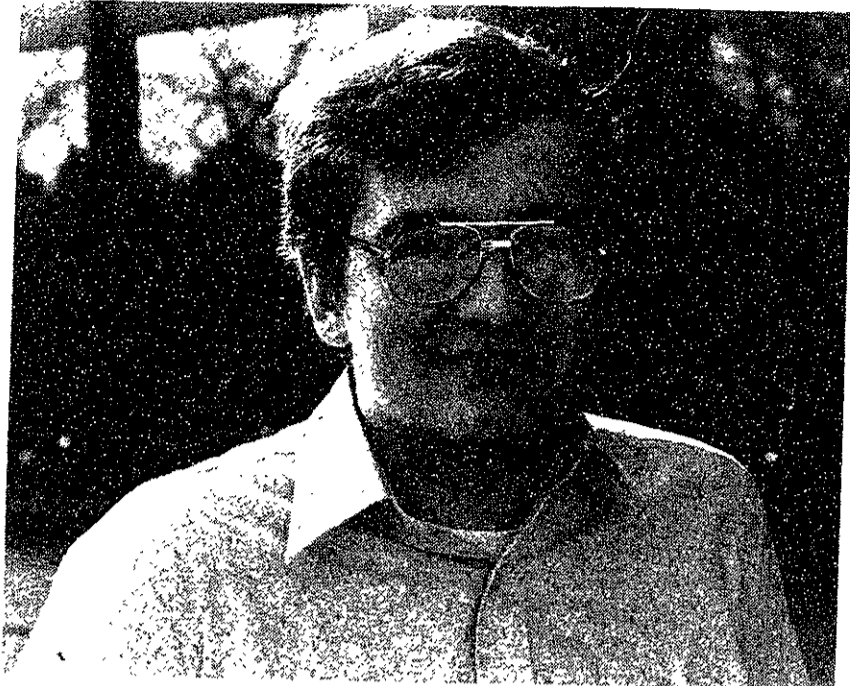
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Satanism and rock 'n' roll have always been strange bedfellows. Page 11.

* * * *

Alumni tell *How To Get There From MIT*. Page 15.

"Shvartzes" is a Yiddish word used as a derogatory term mean- (Please turn to page 2)



Tech photo by Henry Wu
David M. Libby '85, former floor leader of the UA General Assembly, is running unopposed for the position of Undergraduate Association President.

Students seek election

(Continued from page 1)

Office of the Dean for Student Affairs, Kuntz said. "It's just not something we wanted to fiddle with."

The commission reserved space for four drop posters in Lobby 7 from the Technology Community Association, expecting a better showing of presidential candidates, Kuntz said. The commission will now use those spots to advertise the election.

Candidates met Saturday

Members of the Election Commission met with the candidates Saturday to discuss plans for election forums. The single presidential forum, scheduled for March 8, will likely be changed to include class officers, Kuntz said.

In Class of 1984 elections, Diane M. Peterson, now vice president, seeks to head the class for the next five years. Michael D. Battat is running for vice president, and Lisa C. Tener seeks the office of treasurer. Henri J. Meerman and Peter Tu are competing for secretary, and the ballots for two member-at-large spots will be left blank.

George Ailen is running for social chairperson of the Class of 1985, but class secretary, treasurer, and publicity-newsletter positions are vacant.

In elections for the Class of 1986, Sharon A. Israel, who lost a bid for vice president last year, will try again; Toi A. Beveridge,

now publicity chairperson, is running for treasurer; Hannah E. Bond is running for publicity chairperson; and the team of D'Juanna White and Alka Jain is running for two social chairperson spots.

The Class of 1987 presidential ballot includes Steven L. Geiger, Grace W. Veng, Kevin R. Foote, and Todd C. Malone. Five students — Thomas E. Abell, Janet C. Desaulniers, Thomas R. Hoffman, Bryan Mose, and Stephen J. Thome — are competing for vice president.

Paul G. Shepard, Kerry O'Neill, and Timothy Jones will appear on the ballot for treasurer. Randi L. Rubin is trying for publicity-newsletter chairperson, and the team of David Brown and Kevin Murphy will try to become social chairpersons. No one is running for secretary.

Zionists protest conference

(Continued from page 1)
ing "black people."

Kampf confirmed making those remarks, but said he meant them as a joke.

A. Paul Cravedi, a volunteer for the American Friends Service Committee, one of the groups present at the conference, said, "All points of view are being represented and discussed. A large proportion of those present are representatives of Jewish organizations."

Hillel's Elat disagreed, saying that holding a conference on Saturday, the Jewish sabbath, excludes religious Jews, who

"would probably be Zionists." By effect, he said, this "keeps one view point out of the discussion."

Browning said, "There is a lack of knowledge of what's going on because we get very biased information in this county because the administration has more or less defined the information available. This makes it impossible for certain things to be raised for discussion."

The students' statement says faculty members have too often "disguised the anti-Israel nature of their events by giving them such titles as 'Teach-in' or today's 'The Middle East Conferen-

ce,' all of which imply that both sides of the issue will be addressed.

"We . . . have a responsibility to expose such 'conferences' for what they are: anti-Israel rallies."

Browning said the conference was "directed at groups that do peace work." Those who attended "represent a broad spectrum of people who want to learn more about the situation in the Middle East."

The conference was "not for the general public," Kampf said. An invitation and payment of a fee was required to attend.

Group opposes new tuition

(Continued from page 1)

for all expenses in the Reserve Officers Training Corps program;

- MIT continue "need-blind" admissions;

- the Institute investigate new methods of financial aid;

- the Student Financial Aid Office not reduce financial aid awards by the full amount of scholarships received;

- a budget advisory committee, including students and faculty members, be established; and

- Corporation meetings be open to all members of the MIT community.

A similar committee last year organized a march to Gray's house.

Tuition has more than doubled in the last six years, as a result of annual increases blamed on a variety of reasons by members of the MIT administration.

Simonides, in 1983, blamed an increase of 10.3 percent on rising faculty salaries and a flow of students to engineering.

Gray, in 1982, blamed "the decision of the government to pull back from student aid and [the Institute's intention] to pay particular attention to faculty salaries" for an increase to \$8700.

Gray, in 1981, said the major reason for an increase from \$6200 to \$7400 was the need to raise the salaries of assistant professors.

Stuart H. Cowen, vice president for financial operations in 1980, said that inflation, energy

costs, increasing salaries, fundraising difficulties and renovations contributed to a 17 percent increase.

The tuition increase in 1979, from \$4700 to \$5300, was said to be the result of an estimated \$280,000 budget deficit for fiscal year 1979.

Simonides, remarking on a 17.5 percent increase in 1978, warned: "As long as inflation continues, we cannot see any possibility of not having yearly increases."

February 24, 1984

COOP NOMINATIONS

The Board of directors of the Harvard Cooperative Society has 23 members, 11 of whom are students from M.I.T. and Harvard, 11 are members of the faculty and staff or alumni of M.I.T. and Harvard and one is the General Manager of the Society.

The following persons have been nominated by the Stockholders of the Society to serve as Student Directors during the 1984-1985 school year.

HARVARD AND RADCLIFFE COLLEGE STUDENTS

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Timothy J. Keating '85
Carol Orenstein '85

HARVARD GRADUATE STUDENTS

Karlo J. Duvnjak '85
Fredrick T. Smith '85
Lee Weeks '85

M.I.T. UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Jeremy E. Verba '86
Karen B. Wohl '86

M.I.T. GRADUATE STUDENTS

Martin Fuchs '85
Anil Mansharamani '85

PROCEDURES FOR ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS FOR STUDENT DIRECTORS

Additional nominations for student directors may be made by petition by at least one hundred (100) student members and filed with the Clerk of the Society (by leaving the petition at the General Manager's office in the Harvard Square store) not later than 5 p.m. March 19, 1984

Ballots will be distributed in April to all student members for the purpose of electing eleven from the whole list of nominees. If you are interested in becoming a petition nominee you should promptly acquire petition forms and instructions from the caehier's office in any of the Coop stores. Remember that completed petitions cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. March 19, 1984.

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news roundup

World

Navy ships shell Lebanon — US Navy ships fired on Syrian and Druze forces in the mountains east of Beirut Saturday. Lebanese army officials said the Americans were responding to shelling from the mountains. Meanwhile, 1000 US Marines completed the final phase of their withdrawal from the Beirut airport to ships off the Lebanese coast. About 150 Marines are remaining at the US Embassy as guards.

Persian Gulf war heats up — Fighting in the 3½-year-old border war between Iran and Iraq grew fierce again this weekend. Both sides claimed to have repelled enemy assaults and to have killed thousands of opposing troops.

Nation

New Hampshire primary today — The Democratic party will hold the first primary of the 1984 presidential election today in New Hampshire. A poll of 500 New Hampshire Democrats last week by WBZ-TV showed support for former Vice President Walter Mondale at 32 percent, Sens. John Glenn (D-Ohio) and Gary Hart (D-Colo.) tied at 15 percent, the Rev. Jesse Jackson at 8 percent, Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Cal.) at 4 percent, former South Dakota Sen. George McGovern at 3 percent, Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) at 2 percent, and former Governor of Florida Reubin Askew at 1 percent.

Jackson faces questions about anti-Semitism — The Rev. Jesse Jackson, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, is once again involved in a controversy over allegations of anti-Semitism. Jackson was accused in Wednesday's *Washington Post* report of calling Jews "Hymies" and New York City "Hymietown" in a conversation with a *Post* reporter. Jackson first had said he could not recall making the statements, and deplored "media fascination" with the issue, but yesterday he admitted he made the remarks in a private conversation which was overheard by the reporter.

Local

Amherst College abolishes fraternities — The Amherst College Board of Trustees announced Saturday that its fraternities will be abolished next June. The trustees decision followed a five-month study of allegations of rowdiness and pranks at Amherst's eight fraternities. The quality of life on campus has "become inadequate," it added. Seven students staged a hunger strike last week in support of the fraternities, stopping their fast when the board agreed to meet with them before voting. Eighteen percent of the Amherst student body live in fraternity houses, while 42 percent belong to fraternities.

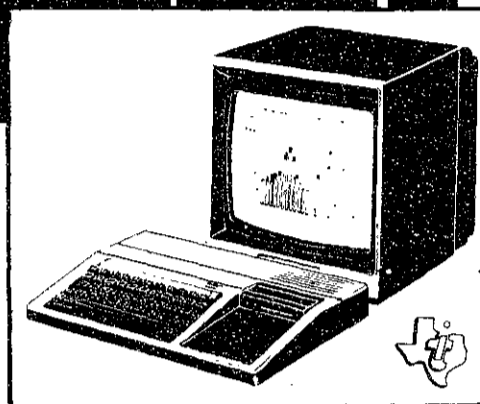
Morning stroll a real drag — Boston police said 18-year-old Andrew A. Fruman hit a man with his car around 3 a.m. near South Station, and dragged Clougherty to Harvard Square before being stopped by police. The victim, Bernard Clougherty, was mutilated beyond recognition by the seven-mile ride underneath Fruman's Trans Am, was identified by his clothing by relatives. Fruman was arraigned yesterday for killing Clougherty and for possessing dangerous weapons: martial arts sticks and a double-edged knife.

Weather

Yuck-o, yuck-o — One inch of snow in the city is expected to turn to rain tonight. High temperatures from 36 to 40 today — holding steady tonight. Temperatures around 40 tomorrow with rain and snow continuing.

Janice M. Eisen

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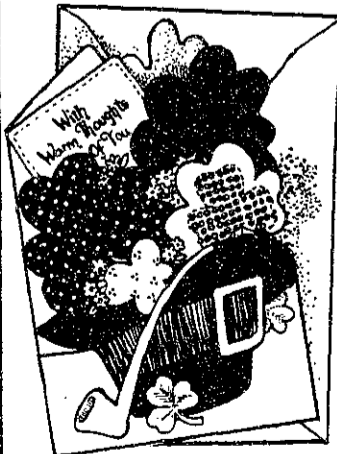
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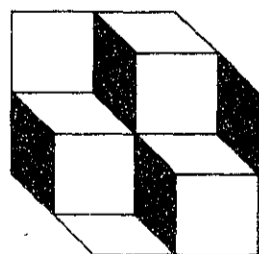
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opinion

Editorial

Letter to the President

Dear Dr. Gray,

As you know, the annual announcement of next year's tuition is one of the most important events in any spring at MIT. This year is no different, and most of the 4500 undergraduates are waiting with baited breath for your decision on our bill for next year. We hope you show wisdom in your decision.

In recent years, the tuition has consistently risen faster than inflation. We realize that the tuition level is established after complex analysis of MIT's overall income and commitments, so it would be foolish for us to expect you always to keep tuition increases within the bounds of the inflation rate. But you have to look at it from our side, too. Increases in tuition are understandable, but when those increases are very large year after year, it becomes difficult both to accept and to pay.

The cost of education is already out of reach for a lot of people. Continued increases could put MIT out of the reach for a lot more of us. We really hope that does not happen, Dr. Gray. Again, an MIT education is invaluable; it should not be unaffordable.

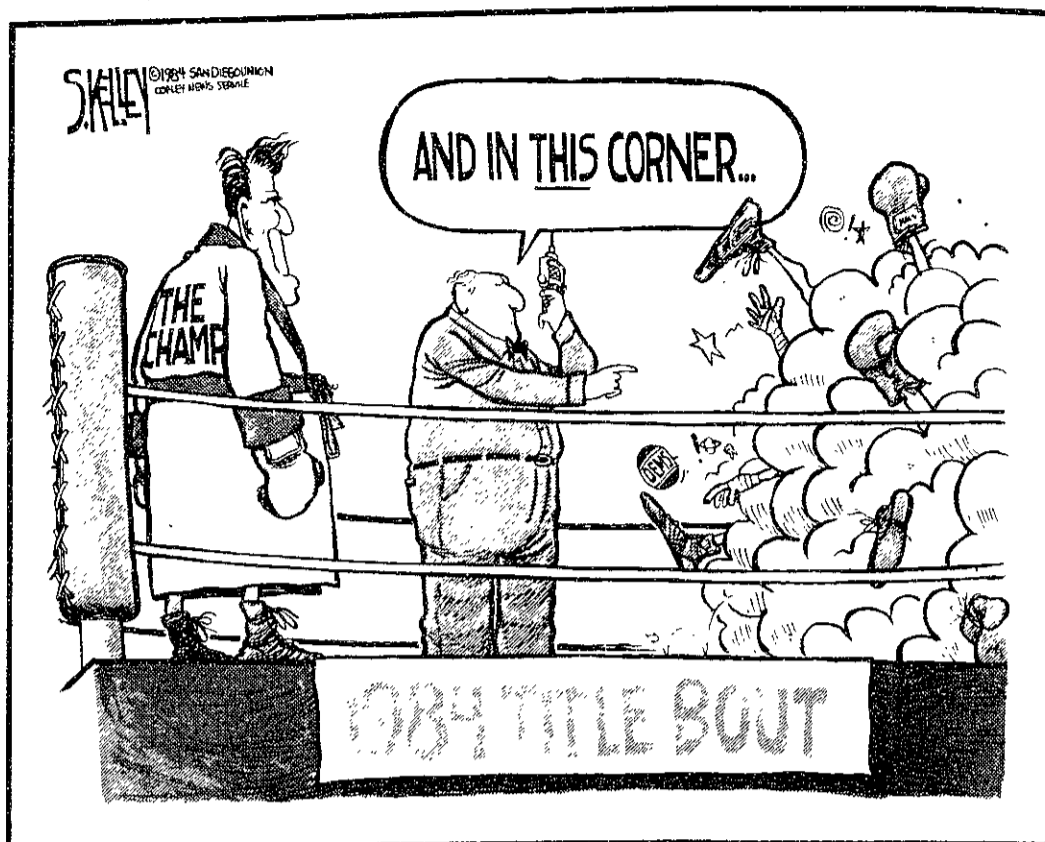
Nationwide, the average increase in private college tuition between 1980-81 and 1982-83 was 15 percent while MIT's tuition increased by over 24 percent. MIT's tuition is already the highest in the United States; there's no reason we should have to boost our lead. MIT may be superior to most colleges in quality of education, but that does not mean it has to be superior in tuition rate increases.

There is also the issue of financial aid policy. Most of the undergraduates are now on some form of financial aid, and when you consider next year's tuition, you must also think about financial aid policy. Everyone knows someone on financial aid who owns an expensive stereo as well as someone not on aid who works many hours a week to get by. Obviously, most students are not cheating the Institute, but a more careful consideration of the requirements for aid would make the system fairer.

In the past few years, tuition has gone up faster than the equity level. This means students from higher income families are shouldering an ever-increasing proportion of the tuition burden, compared to students from lower income households. You should consider whether this trend is appropriate and if it should continue. In any event, both tuition and equity level should not increase at a inordinate rate.

Whatever the final decision on tuition and financial aid turns out to be, we hope you make your decision in the context of the tuition trend over the past decade. Tuition rate increases have surpassed the inflation rate in each of the past ten years. For the 1982-83 year, tuition was up over 17 percent while the inflation was less than 5 percent in 1982.

MIT's booklet "Financial Aid for Undergraduates at MIT," states "If MIT cannot meet the demonstrated and reasonable financial need of its students, regardless of financial need of its students, and cannot offer a level of financial assistance which is comparable to that at other leading universities, the exceptional strengths of the student body may be threatened." We hope these words are not mere rhetoric, but that the basic philosophy reflected by this statement will be reflected in next year's tuition level and financial aid policy.



Editorials

Inequity runs on time in the Student Center

The Student Center Committee has once again usurped the authority of yet another student government group. Its decision to allocate \$20,000 to finance an appearance by The Go-Go's during Spring Weekend intrudes into the purview of the MIT Social Council and the Undergraduate Association General Assembly.

The issue is not one of whether The Go-Go's are a good band for Spring Weekend, nor of whether there should be a spring concert at all, but of who may distribute student resources. The members of the Student Center Committee are not elected by the students and are not in practice responsible to the General Assembly. The committee is turning the Julius A. Stratton '23 Student Center into a private fiefdom. During January it unilaterally reallocated student activity space without the requisite approval of the Association of Student Activities or the General Assembly.

The committee has control of two monopolies in the Student Center — a coffee house and game room — ostensibly to finance improvements and activities in the Student Center. A Go-Go's concert is neither.

Former committee Chairman John Mark Johnston '84 defended the expenditure: "If someone suggests a constructive way to spend \$90,000 a year in the Student Center, I'd be more than glad to do it. But if our committee can improve the entire social life at MIT, then we will be helping ourselves because we will have a better community spirit."

Community spirit is a good thing. The Student Center Committee, however, is not the proper forum for determining the best way to achieve that spirit. That job belongs to the General Assembly. The committee collects and disburses money from its monopolies. That job, too, belongs to the General Assembly. The assembly has the only just authority over student resources.

Proponents argue that Undergraduate Association President Michael P. Witt '84 and the General Assembly are impotent — at least the Student Center Committee gets something done. These assertions are true. Likewise, Benito Mussolini made the trains run on time in fascist Italy. In both cases, an authority not responsible to an electorate achieved efficiency at the price of equity.

The General Assembly must exert its authority over the Student Center Committee. The assembly should collect the money from the game room and the coffee house and then allocate it as the assembly sees fit. The Student Center Committee should be stripped of its authority and made no more than an arm of the General Assembly — the only acceptable representative of the students.

Time has Wittled away for government reforms

Time has run out for Undergraduate Association President Michael P. Witt '84, who after much prodding has finally seen fit to propose changes to the UA General Assembly constitution. The proposals, however, came after the Feb. 24 deadline for referendums and take the form of suggestions rather than amendments, rendering them effectively useless.

On Feb. 16, Witt outlined the creation of three governmental bodies: a council to replace the General Assembly and assume the budgetary, legislative and representative powers of the Undergraduate Association; a joint committee to discuss issues involving graduate and undergraduate students; and a council of student representatives to advise the UA Council and the UA president.

Former UA President Chuck Markham '83 recently proposed a non-binding referendum which would have asked voters to choose among three alternatives for selecting General Committee chairmen: presidential appointment, GA approval, and spring elections. It is unfortunate, even predictable, that Markham was not present at the meeting to back his proposal. The General Assembly unanimously rejected it, foolishly preventing the students from expressing their preferences on a issue the assembly must address.

Witt's offering is a classic case of too little, too late. True, he was sidetracked by the outbreak of the employee benefits issue in November, but his administration's lack of results still prevails — symbolic of the hollow silence beneath the surface of student government promises.

The Tech

Volume 104, Number 6

Tuesday, February 28, 1984

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opinion

Robert E. Malchman

Letter from the editor

Editor's note: This column was sent as a letter to the editor of The Harvard Crimson's magazine, What Is To Be Done and to the editor of The Wellesley News. To the Editor:

The article titled "Some Like It Hot: Spending a Year at Wellesley" appearing in the Feb. 23-29 issue of *What Is To Be Done* is an excellent example of biased, self-serving journalism masquerading as a feature. I am offended both as a male resident at Wellesley College for the 1983-84 academic year, and as editor in chief of *The Tech*, MIT's oldest and largest campus newspaper.

John D. Solomon, the editor of the magazine and author of the article, purports to describe the life of a male "coed" at Wellesley as experienced by Chuck Mathers, a visiting junior from Bowdoin College. Instead, Solomon exploits Mathers as a vehicle for the editor's preconceived notions of a women's college, degrading the college, Mathers, himself, and his magazine in the process.

One need not look further than the headline for a demonstration of Editor Solomon's bias. Who are the "some" who like it "hot?" They are never revealed. In any event, Wellesley is neither rich in thermal radiation nor does it have any association with the Billy Wilder movie. Why then, would those "some" be drawn to the college?

The ubiquitous, unnamed "some" strike again in the cap-

tion of a photograph of the college's entrance sign. "Some say it's heaven on earth," the caption states. Editor Solomon should learn how to attribute what he writes, lest someone believe he is manufacturing a bogus authority to lend credence to his views.

A caption to a photograph of Mathers declares him "The Most Happy Fella." It is unclear how Editor Solomon arrived at this assessment. Mathers is quoted as being "very happy" at Wellesley, but then I am happy, too. Wellesley has afforded me a great opportunity to learn in a new environment and to meet different people — not different reproductive organs.

It would be interesting to know how Editor Solomon quantifies happiness to determine who is "The Most Happy." He did not consult me as to the extent of my happiness, which may or may not be greater than Mathers'.

Specific examples of bias in the body of the story are legion, too numerous to mention here. I would be happy, however, to provide on request a more complete content analysis as well as a lesson in journalistic ethics for Editor Solomon.

Student publications have a difficult-enough time achieving and maintaining credibility. Slanted stories like Solomon's have a deleterious effect on that credibility. If Solomon wanted to write a column characterizing Wellesley as a playground for men, he should have had the

courage to say he was presenting his own opinion.

What Is To Be Done? rhetorizes the magazine's flag. How about starting with responsible journalism?

Column/Joseph J. Romm

Better Living Through Chemistry

Fifth in a Series.

My responses to the three questions that I am most commonly asked are 1) I am trying to convince freshman not to worsen the Course VI problem; 2) the names have been changed to confuse the innocent, confound the guilty, and annoy the hell out of everyone else; and 3) I'm sorry but I don't have my watch with me.

I am being especially analytical today because my topics are Courses V and X, Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, respectively. Let me say right off that although I might be trying to make a poignant contrast between these two utterly different departments by synthesizing them into one column, it is just as likely that I do not have enough marginally amusing material for two separate columns.

Let me start with Course V — Chemistry. At last, a pure science, and with it the two main benefits of studying a science at MIT: 1) The chance to gain tremendous insight into the workings of the universe; and 2) an

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

Columns are usually written by members of *The Tech* staff and represent the opinion of the author, and not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the Editor are written by members of the MIT community and represent the opinion of the writer.

amazingly small number of departmental requirements. You can satisfy all of you chemistry degree requirements together with the Science Distribution and Lab requirements with a mere ten departmental courses, figuratively dozens of terms before your Course VI friends (and enemies).

Now to see if you can be a good chemist. If you look up "Good Chemistry Student" in your Funk and Wagnall's quasi-abridged pseudo-non-sexist dictionary, it says, "a person who, after a bad chemistry student spills lye (sodium hydroxide) on her, unhesitatingly reaches for the hydrochloric acid and pours just the right amount on the lye, licking off the resulting salt water. See Good Chemistry Student's revenge." Under "Good Chemistry Student's revenge" it says "See trinitrotoluene."

Speaking of good chemistry students, "K" was considerably overweight before coming to MIT and majoring in Course V. After taking a few chemistry courses, he hit upon a revolutionary diet based on the fact that

since Tab has only one calorie, if you drink it icy cold, you will actually lose weight. (Tab is a registered trademark of one of the world's largest chemical additive companies.) Mr. K began drinking 200 Tabs a week, and in one year he had lost 50 pounds and won a trophy for being the "least annoyingly unattractive Californian" in the 1983 USA quiche-eating contest.

Mr. K's principal interest is in biochemistry because he wants to start his own pharmaceutical company. He wants to create a sugarless sweetener that does not cause cancer when fed in massive doses to laboratory rats. You see, Mr. K is fed up, as it were, with the taste of Tab. He cannot stand drinking one Tab, let alone the 10,000 he must consume each year to keep himself looking like a real person-person (or he-man, to my more sexist readers).

More importantly, Mr. K is disgusted by the current state of pharmaceutical research, which I can demonstrate by way of this column's Least Insignificant Bit (Please turn to page 6)

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opinion

Course X toughest at MIT

(Continued from page 5)

of Education Learned (LIBEL). Here is the LIBEL for Mr. K in Course V: After coming back from a chemistry department symposium, Mr. K said, "Did you know that Harvard University was just awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Food and Drug Administration to develop a time-released placebo?" Needless to say, Mr. K was not placated by my just-making-conversation response that this nation already had a time-released placebo — Ronald Reagan's arms control efforts.

The key to understanding a science at MIT is that the problems asked in an advanced science class are so difficult they can only be solved if you know the answer ahead of time.

For the sake of smooth transition, the key to understanding an advanced engineering class at MIT is that although the problems are conceptually easier, the number of "correct" answers is limitless and the difficulty lies in determining which of a variety of approaches will achieve the optimum answer. Course X, however, is considered by many to be the most difficult department at MIT, perhaps because it combines the toughest aspects of both science and engineering.

In any event, probably the smartest person I ever knew was "L" a Course X major who consistently got 50 points above class average on her Chemical Engineering tests. Ms. "L" was so smart that she could solve in a few minutes Physics I (8.012)

problems that I and my Course II friend, Mr. E, could not solve in hours, even though she never took the subject. She was so smart that no one else on the hall understood what she was actually doing her research on, except that it had something to do with making vast quantities of energy. She was so smart it only took her half an hour to watch *60 Minutes*. Sorry about that.

Courses V and X are for applied quantum mechanics, applied chemistry, biochemistry, biomedical engineering, fuel and energy engineering, polymer research, or for learning why death is the state of being in thermal equilibrium with the dirt, or just for earning a better living through chemistry.

feedback

Write on well-focused topic

To the Editor:

Actually, this is not really a letter to the editor, but rather to *The Tech's* main editorial writer, Simson L. Garfinkel. Simson, I sat patiently through your inane "Five-Part Series on Education," because I figured after Part Five was printed, that would be it. No more Simson L. Garfinkel editorials. Unfortunately, I was wrong, and your latest editorial, "Gun Mentality Bad" [Feb. 24], beats even your previous ones for ridiculousness.

You start off by haranguing against the recent decision allowing Boston cab drivers to carry guns. Your stance is reasonable; I would not want my little sister to ride with "a smelly, slimy, cigar-smoking, gun-slinging cabbie" either. (I hope no cab drivers read *The Tech*, Simson — for your sake.) You were not very fair about describing the true situation, though; just because cabbies can carry guns does not mean they are going to flood the gun shops, even if some of their fellow drivers have been shot on duty. In fact, presidents of at least some of the cab companies still refuse to let their drivers carry guns, and you can always ride in one of their cabs. But even so, your opinion is reasonable, and you are entitled to print it regardless.

Somehow, though, your editorial moves from gun-carrying cabbies in Boston to street crime in Philadelphia. To me, they do not seem connected, but let us forget about that for a minute. Your argument runs basically like this: "Because some of my friends have been mugged in the last four years (when they were of high school and college age) but not before then (when they were in elementary school and junior high), Reagan has increased the crime rate in Philadelphia." This is the most half-assed nonsequitur I have ever heard. If you want to base your opinions on the experiences of friends, then I have friends at Haverford College and the University of Pennsylvania who have not noticed this dramatic rise in Philadelphia crime. But if you want to base your opinions on facts, the fact is that the nationwide crime rate fell 4.2 percent in 1982, a reversal of the previous trend. (I do not think the 1983 figures have been compiled yet.) If you have any real proof that, as you say, the crime rate in Philadelphia was virtually zero until Reagan was elected, at which point it shot up abominably, I would like to see it. If you do not, you should not be writing an editorial about it.

Finally, Simson, you take another giant conceptual leap and

start writing about how Reagan is going to blow us all off the face of the earth and how we have to vote him out of office in November to ensure the continued existence of humanity. I am not going to argue with you about this, because it would take more than a letter, and because everyone has a closed mind on the subject anyway. I do have to wonder, though, how nuclear war came into an essay that was ostensibly about gun-toting cabbies in Boston. Or maybe it was about crime in Philadelphia. Or maybe it was about nuclear war all along, and the first two-thirds of it was just some unrelated "lead-in." Or maybe a typesetter at *The Tech* was cramped for space and spliced together three of your editorials, figuring nobody would notice. You tell me.

Simson, when you are writing an editorial, it should be on a well-focused topic, not just a random attack on anything that happens to cross your mind. You should research the topic so you know what you are writing about. If doing these things is too much work for you, then I wish *The Tech* would fill your space next time with record, movie, or restaurant reviews — something we can use. If none of these are available, I would rather just see another Budweiser ad or a blank page. I hope Berkeley Breathed names the rabbit after

you, Simson.

Rick Register '84

Editor's note: "Editorials," marked as such, represent the official opinion of The Tech and are written by the editorial board, consisting of the editor in chief, the chairman, the managing editor, the news editors and the opinion editor. Garfinkel's piece was a signed "column," expressing his own opinion.

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Class of 1986



Thursday

March 1

10am-4pm

Lobby 10

feedback

Explains tuition riot details

To the Editor

Because the tuition riot is intended for everybody to participate, I would like to clear up some illusions that may dissuade participants.

The first illusion is our fault. Do not worry, you will not be rudely awakened at 3 a.m. by "megaphones in dorm hallways;" David M. Libby '85 misstated our original plans to use them outdoors. Some dormitories rightly objected. Since our goal is to rally students together, not to alienate them into showering us with projectiles from the roof of Baker House, megaphones will be used sparingly.

Another problem is that last Friday's Tech article understated tuition increases. I was quoted in as saying "tuition increases have been on the order of six percent." What I actually said was that the next tuition increase will be at least six percent, according to Director of Finance John A. Currie. In reality, tuition increases have ranged from 10.3 percent to a staggering 19.5 percent in each of the past five years.

Third, I act as an interested student, affected by leaps in tuition yet dismayed by student apathy. Because tuition riots are not among the duties of my class government office, listing that office in the article serves no purpose but to alienate potential participants who dislike student government or create the false impression that I am organizing the rally to-win votes. In fact, I am not even running for office.

My final comment has nothing

to do with the Tech article. It is addressed to you freshmen and women who have approached me, concerned about tuition but afraid of the "consequences" of getting involved. Maybe our flyer carried the "1984" analogy too far. Assembly and protest are protected means of expression. If you participate, you will not be blacklisted. You will not be expelled. You will not be placed in "Room W20-101."

By protesting, you will be sending a message to the administration, the MIT Corporation, and the American people who watch the demonstration on television that education is becoming unaffordable for all but the very rich, and that steps must be taken to reverse the cuts of the Reagan administration. The only way to combat apathy is to stop talking about it and get involved.

But do not just come to the tu-

ition riot. Write your congressmen and join our excursion to Washington on National Student Lobby Day, March 26 (the first day of spring break). Or join the Ivy Group protest, a simultaneous day of action at the nine Ivy Group schools (MIT plus the Ivies). Or participate in the next student telethon.

And if you can not make time for all these suggestions, join the riot. It will be a memorable experience. Soon you will hear from us the announcement of the demonstration. Then the administration will be hearing from all of us.

Richard A. Cowan '84

Editor's note: Cowan's position as "an interest studented" is not separable from his position as president of the Class of 1984. His constituents have a right to know what issues he chooses to address.

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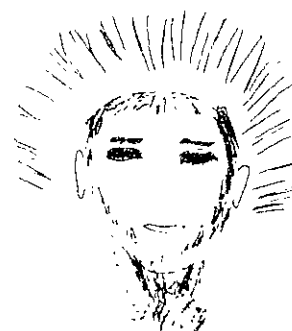
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feedback

Garfinkel's column overly biased

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Simson L. Garfinkel's "opinion" [Feb. 24].

It is reassuring to know that Garfinkel can trace most of

Criticizes Garfinkel

To the Editor:

Next time you pick up *The Tech*, be careful. It might flame at you.

A recent decision by *The Tech* editorial board allows columnists to shoot their mouths off at random. It is believed that allowing this sort of flaming is a wonderful expression of First Amendment rights.

If you knew you were reading a paper whose writer packed an IQ of .357, how would you feel? I do not know about you, but I would not feel very happy.

Just picture your younger sister coming to visit for the weekend. She arrives on campus and picks up *The Tech*. There she finds a smelly, slimy, knee-jerk, mud-slinging column. How do you think that she is going to feel?

The Tech's decision is intended to protect free speech, but it results in an escalation in foolishness in the halls of MIT. Instead of opening a forum of discussion, writers are likely to retaliate with sarcasm — just look at this letter.

OK, Simson, I will be straight with you. I agree President Ronald Reagan's policies are generally poor, but to accuse him of destroying Philadelphia in three years? I do not support arming cabbies (or any other non-law-enforcement citizens) either, but my refusal to accept this action is not based on a view of cabbies as smelly, slimy and cigar smokers. Least common denominator thinking has no place in intelligent discussion. Fighting flaming with flaming isn't the way to defeat Reagan.

Now, Simson, will you be straight with us?

Oren Helbok '87

Editor's note: The Tech's policy is and has always been to permit members of the MIT community to present their views, whether or not those views please that same community.

notices

Announcements

Add Date is Friday, March 9, 1984. Last day to add subject to registration. Also last day for juniors and seniors to change an elective to or from pass-fail grading.

* * * * *

The William L. Hsu Prize in Music, an award of \$325, will be granted to the composer of a Brass Fanfare in honor of the 100th anniversary of Music at MIT. The composition must be 2-3 minutes in length and must be submitted to Prof. Marcus Thompson, Head of the Music Section (14N-434) by 5:00 pm, Friday, March 23. For guidelines and info contact the Music Office 14N-434, x3210.

* * * * *

A prominent divorce lawyer, Philp Woodbury, will describe court procedures and resources in a lecture-discussion entitled "Dealing Successfully with the Divorce Court and Legal Issues." Sponsored by and held at Riverside Family Institute, 259 Walnut St., Room 14, Newtonville, at 8 pm. For more info call 964-6933.

America's crime problems back to the president. In perhaps one of the most innane attempts of politicizing any and all subjects Garfinkel has proven exactly how biased he is.

Certainly the president did not intend to "arm citizen against citizen . . ." and I would find it hard to believe that Boston Police Commissioner Joseph M. Jordan consulted the White House prior to his decision to allow those cab drivers with permits to carry a weapon.

Philadelphia and its former Mayor Frank L. Rizzo were not set on a Hollywood stage either. The mayor of a municipality has far greater control over the everyday occurrences of its police department than any Washington based governmental agency.

The threat of nuclear war did not suddenly rear its radioactive head in 1980, long before Garfinkel was writing his highly opinionated and one sided articles nuclear was a possibility and threat. Remember John F. Kennedy and the Cuban missile crisis?

I do not want Garfinkel to believe that his sister will probably take a ride with a "smelly, slimy, cigar-smoking, gunslinging cab-

by" either. In actuality most of Boston's cab drivers do not fit into that category. If Garfinkel researched his material before "shooting-his-pen-off" (yes, we know the pen is a mightier weapon than the sword), he would have discovered that at Logan airport in particular, many of the cab drivers are former citizens of the Soviet Union; and unlike Garfinkel some of them are both highly educated, and experienced with the real world, and its facts of life.

Garfinkel wrote how there was a "definite connection" between President Ronald W. Reagan and the "cheapening [of] the value of life . . ."; really, what unbiased, unopinionated, factual proof do you have?

My opinion is that Garfinkel was bored with a normal introduction to a written attack upon President Reagan, and failed in an attempt to trick the reader into believing that his written monologue dealt with guns.

A challenge I propose to Garfinkel is to both attempt to use constructive criticism, and find something good to write about President Reagan.

Fred Hillenbrand G

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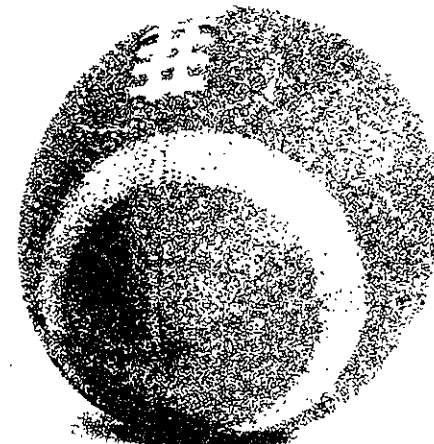
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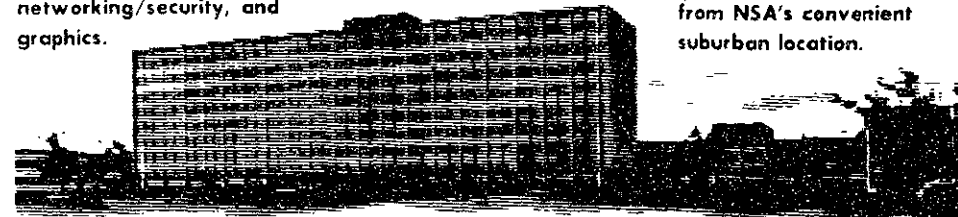
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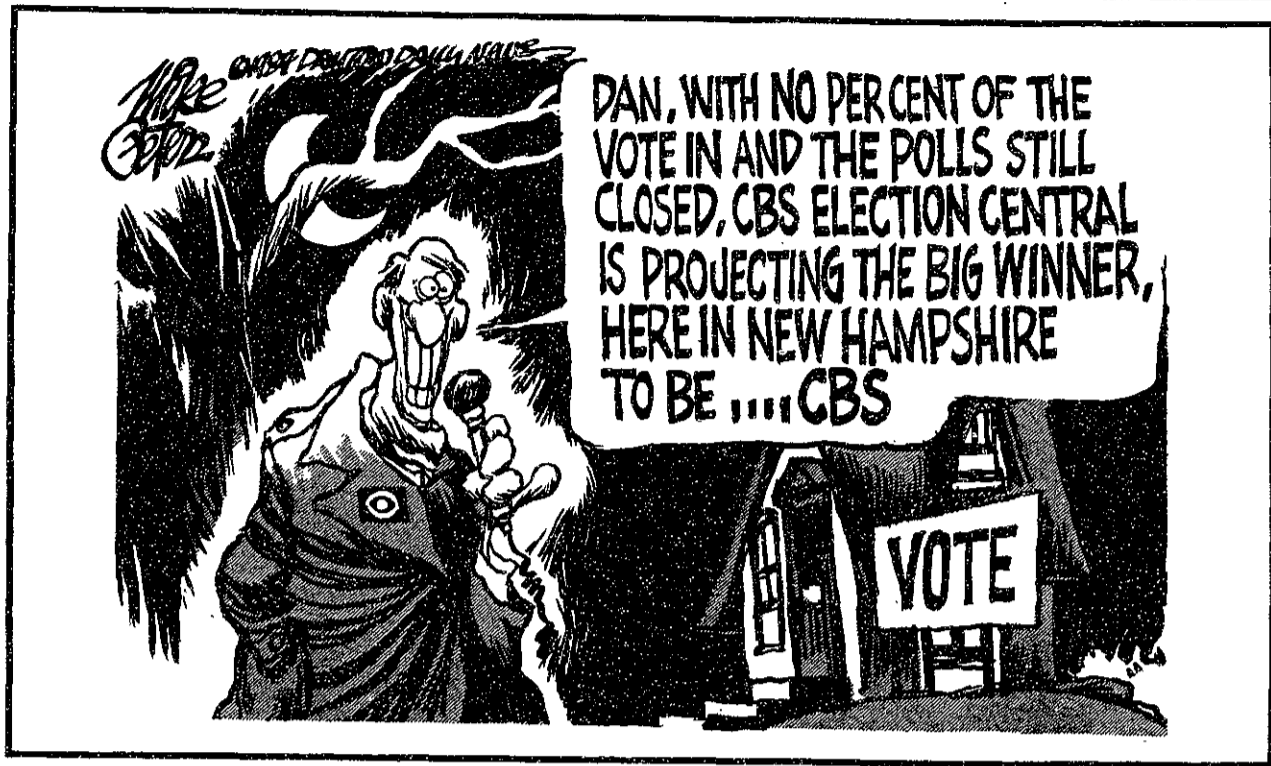
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opinion



feedback

Questions enterprise

To the Editor:

I realize that I am acting a little late and that the party involved was not the brightest, but I hope you will print my story to warn the rest and help me too.

A week before finals week last term, my mom received a letter offering a box of goodies to send to your poor suffering MIT son or daughter. It professed to include healthful nuts and dried fruits, gum, juice, and candy. It also included a special offer and for a couple bucks more, an additional goody was included to make your child extra-smart. The letter admitted to not being rec-

ognized by MIT but was signed by "Joan Wilson, '86."

My mom, in her good-nature, bought the whole thing with the additional item for smartness. After sending in a check for over \$13, the box never came.

I asked around and found that some students here have received such a box, and some have heard of this sham. Joan Wilson is not in the MIT directory. If anyone can give me any information about this hoax or has received one such box and can tell me how to contact "Joan Wilson," it would be greatly appreciated.

Jennifer Hyman '87

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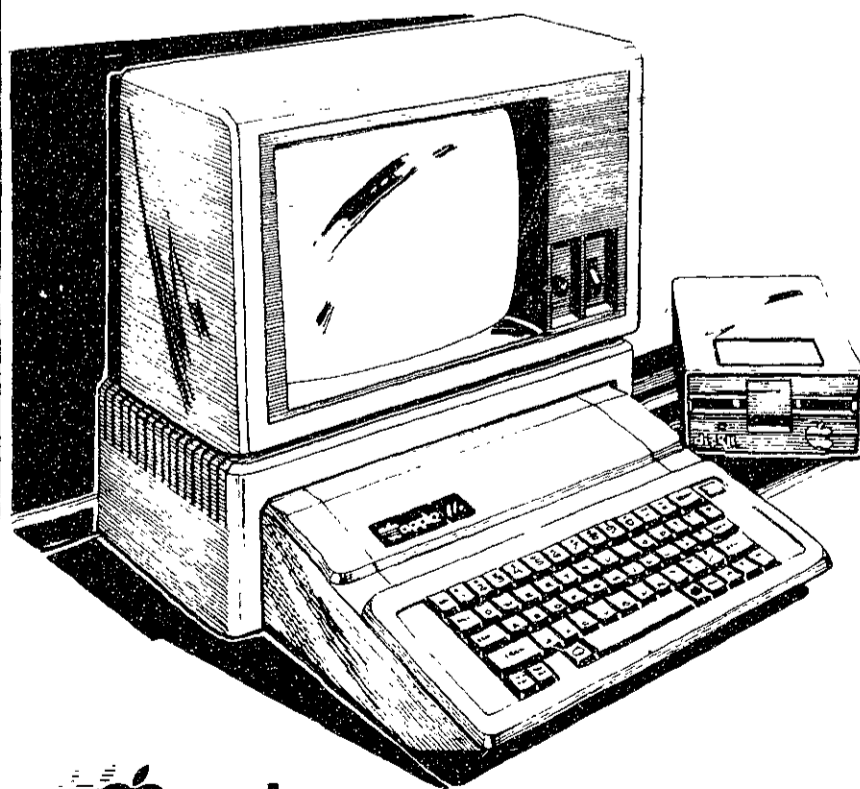
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Paul G. Gabuzda '85

Business Manager Volume 104
Advertising Manager Volume 103
Night Editor Volume 101
Production Staff



Tech photo by Simson L. Garfinkel

“I was an editor of my high school paper. Upon my arrival at MIT three and a half years ago, I contacted *The Tech* and expressed an interest in learning a different aspect of newspaper publication: production. As advertising manager and business manager, I have been involved in a third, but equally important, side of newspaper operations. The business office sells advertising, circulates the paper, manages accounts, controls all expenditures and arranges financing for purchases of equipment, like our new electronic newsroom and typesetting facilities.

“*The Tech* as a student activity is a place to meet people, make friends, seek diversion from academic life, and work with peers toward common goals. *The Tech* as a newspaper is a place to learn about journalism, layout, graphic arts and the many other operational aspects of publication. The business office has provided me with extraordinary opportunities to acquire financial and managerial experience which will be highly useful to me in pursuit of a career in corporate management.

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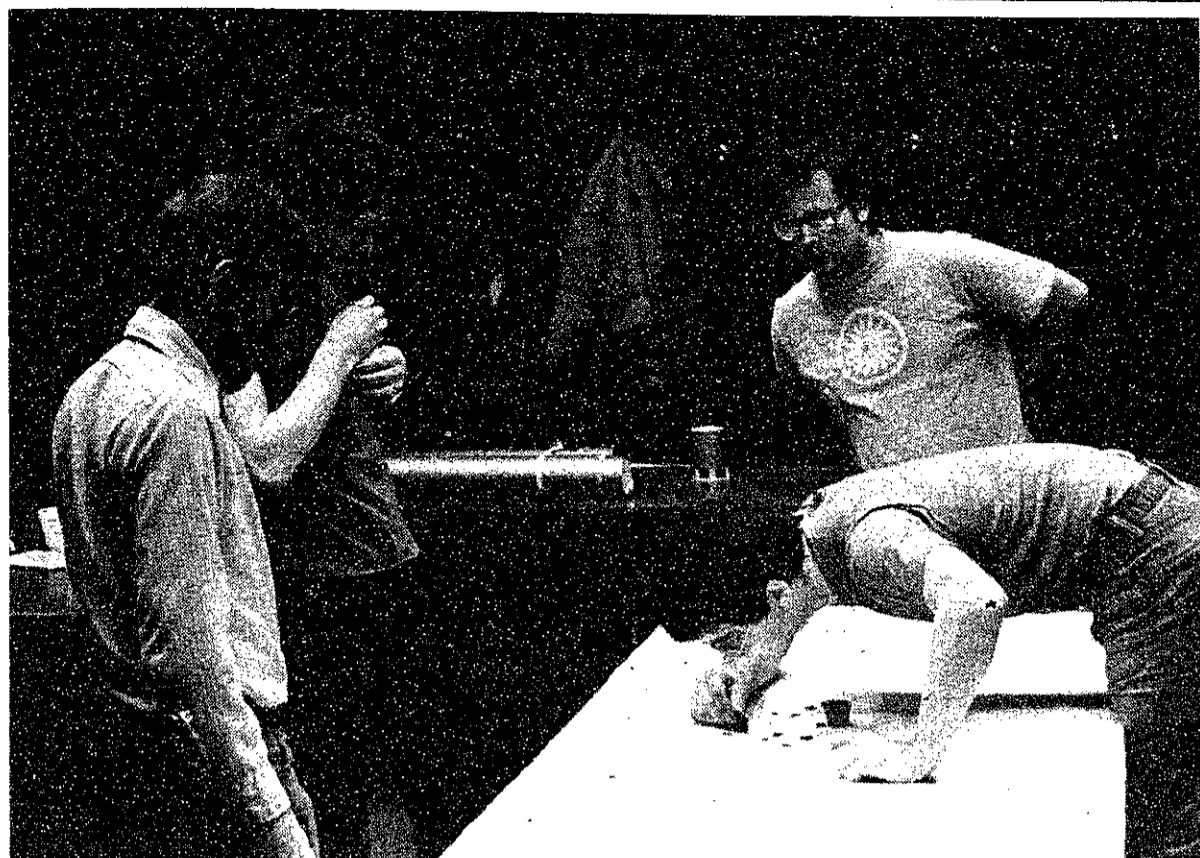
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Tech Photo by Jim Butler

Arye Gittelman '83 attempts a shot during the World Pairs Tiddlywinks Championship held February 18-19 at MIT. Arye and Larry Kahn '75 defeated Charles Frankston '84 and Joe Sachs '77 by a score of 29-13.



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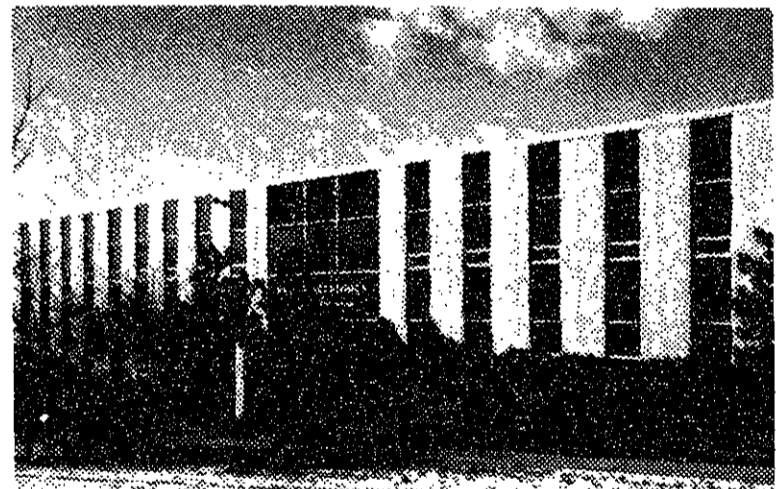
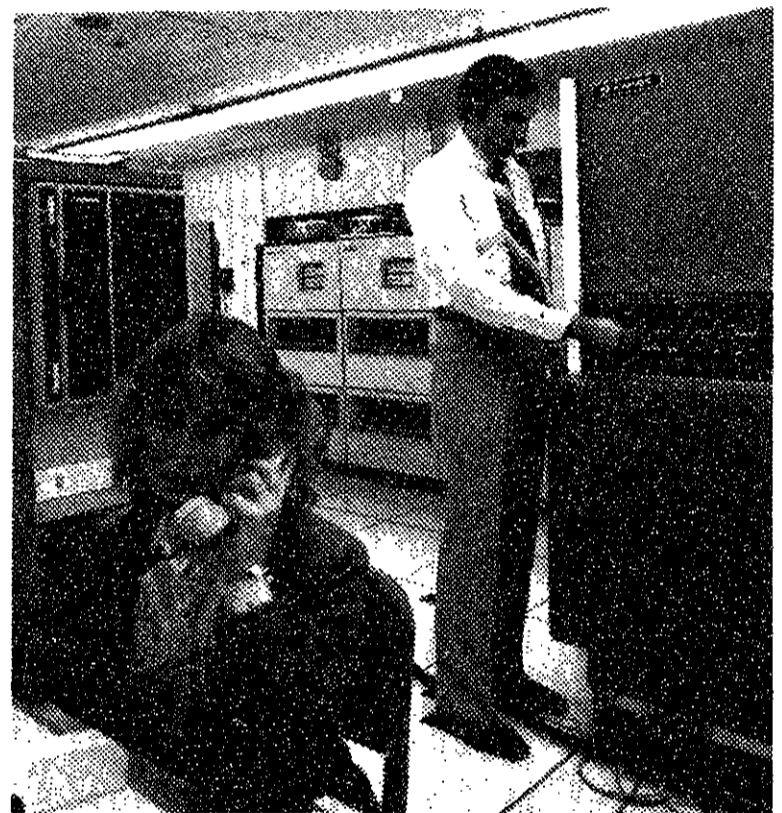
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Feature

Alumni write about careers

By Diana ben-Aaron

The MIT Office of Career Planning and Placement has become a trend-setter among college placement offices by publishing a magazine of articles written by alumni about their careers.

The magazine, titled *How To Get There From MIT*, is aimed at "undergraduates who are still making up their minds about what they would like to do with their MIT education," said Robert K. Weatherall, director of Career Planning and Placement. Its purpose is "to show them that there are a great many worthwhile directions in which they can go."

"I think we are the first college to do anything like it," Weatherall said. "I've shown it to other placement officers and some of them have indicated they may do something similar."

"We asked someone from each major and each of the obvious

interdisciplinary fields to write an article. Most of them were people we remembered as students or people the faculty remembered," Weatherall explained.

"We were marvelously fortunate in the way the alumni came through for this. They did extraordinary work," he said.

Weatherall said he plans to make the magazine an annual publication. He says he would like to publish the next issue on Oct. 1. "We're just now gathering names for the next one, and if people have suggestions for names or topics, we'd like to have them," he said.

In particular, Weatherall said he is seeking articles from alumni in sales, consulting, financial positions, arts and religious vocations, and entrepreneurial ventures."

"Because of the great concern about students choosing electrical engineering and computers sci-

ence as a major, we are going to ask the alumni to stress a bit more this time how they chose their major," he continued. "We want to emphasize that you can dabble in electrical engineering and computer science without necessarily majoring in it."

How To Get There From MIT benefits companies as well as students, Weatherall said. "It is more likely than any other placement-office publication to be read by students, so it provides a good vehicle for the companies' advertising."

The placement office will not send *How To Get There From MIT* to students because of prohibitive mailing costs, Weatherall said. However, students can pick up free copies at the placement office or the Undergraduate Academic Support Office. The magazine will also be for sale at the Tech Coop and the MIT Press bookstore.

Man breaks into Ashdown

By Ronald W. Norman

A graduate student at Ashdown House aided in the capture and arrest of a man who entered her room at 1 a.m. Sunday. The student, who refused to release her name, was not injured and no property was taken from her.

Campus Police arrested the intruder, and a Cambridge grand jury is expected to hear the case next week, according to Lt. Anne P. Glavin.

Patrol Officer Paul Conway arrested Peter Lee, a 19-year-old male while he was fleeing after "skirmishing" with the night

watchman. Lee has nine outstanding warrants for his arrest from Cambridge and Dorchester, according to Glavin.

The case will probably be given priority in court and "... he'll be right off to prison," Glavin said.

Lee has been charged with breaking and entering in the night and trespassing. He has also been charged with assault and battery stemming from his altercation with the watchman, Glavin said.

The graduate student said yesterday, "I always thought I was safe in the dorm. ... Now I

know it's not safe.

"I feel I was very lucky. ... It was nice of him not to attack me," she added.

Lee is also charged with receiving stolen property worth over \$100. Police found a Seiko watch in his possession, which had allegedly been taken from another Ashdown resident's room that night.

The victim told the police she had been half asleep when a tall man cautiously entered her room. When the intruder discovered her, she said he told her, "Don't scream — there's a party downstairs and I'm looking for someone."

The student then followed the intruder downstairs where she called for help and was aided by the night watchman.

notices

Tuesday, Feb. 28

Lois Starkey will speak on *The Changing Role of the Country House* at 8 p.m. at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. The lecture will be held in the Tapestry Room, with a reception following. Cost: \$5 members, \$7.50 non-members. Call 566-1401 for more information.

Wednesday, Feb 29

Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel and the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University present as part of the Israeli Film Series "But Where is Daniel Wax" at 7:30 at Boylston Hall. Admission is \$1.50 for students, \$2.50 for general public.

Fran Hosken, editor of Women's International Network News, will speak on "Traditional Practices Damaging Women's Health" at the Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Harvard Square. Free.

Saturday, March 3

The Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility is sponsoring an educational conference on "The Road to Arms Control" at Andover West Junior High School from noon to 4 pm. Featured speaker Congressman Edward Markey. Free and open to the public. For more info call the GBPSR office at 497-7440

Sunday, March 4

Guignol, the mischievous French puppet, returns to the French Library in Boston to celebrate Mar-

di Gras with a puppet show at 3 pm. Admission is free to French Library members; others \$1. For more info call 266-4351.

Monday, March 5

Beth Israel Hospital is offering a support group for women with breast cancer. Participation is not limited to women currently undergoing treatment. New group begins today. For more info call 735-3755.

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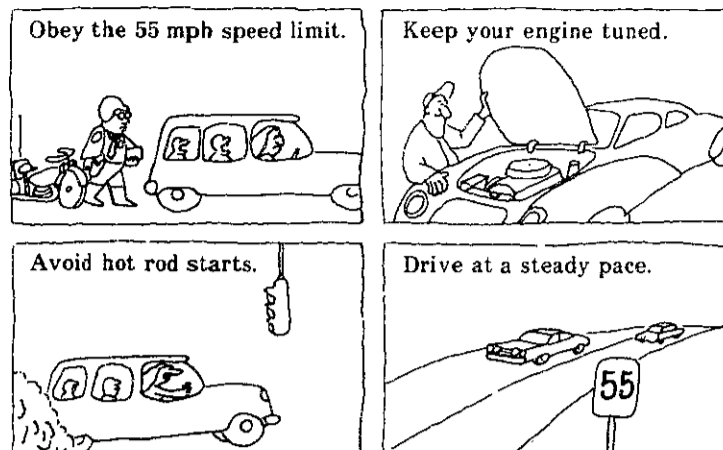


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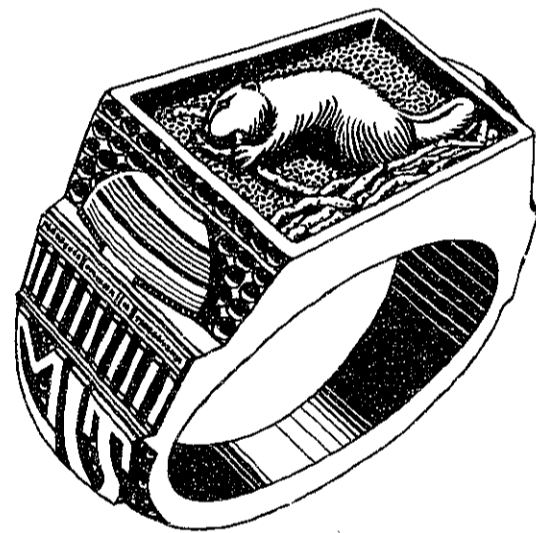
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Fire in Building 2 fills halls with thick smoke

(Continued from page 1)

a minor disaster if the vacuum pumps shut off," as they did from the fire, "but we were lucky that most things were shut off."

"The chemistry department VAX crashed," because of the building's power loss, Schweitzer said. "I think they managed to salvage all the files."

"One of the terminals blew up," he added.

John M. Fresina of the Safety Office said he will, "try to analyze what happened and how we can prevent it from happening again."

"I don't recall anything like this . . . not in recent memory, and I've been here for 23 years," he said. "It was a pretty unusual incident."

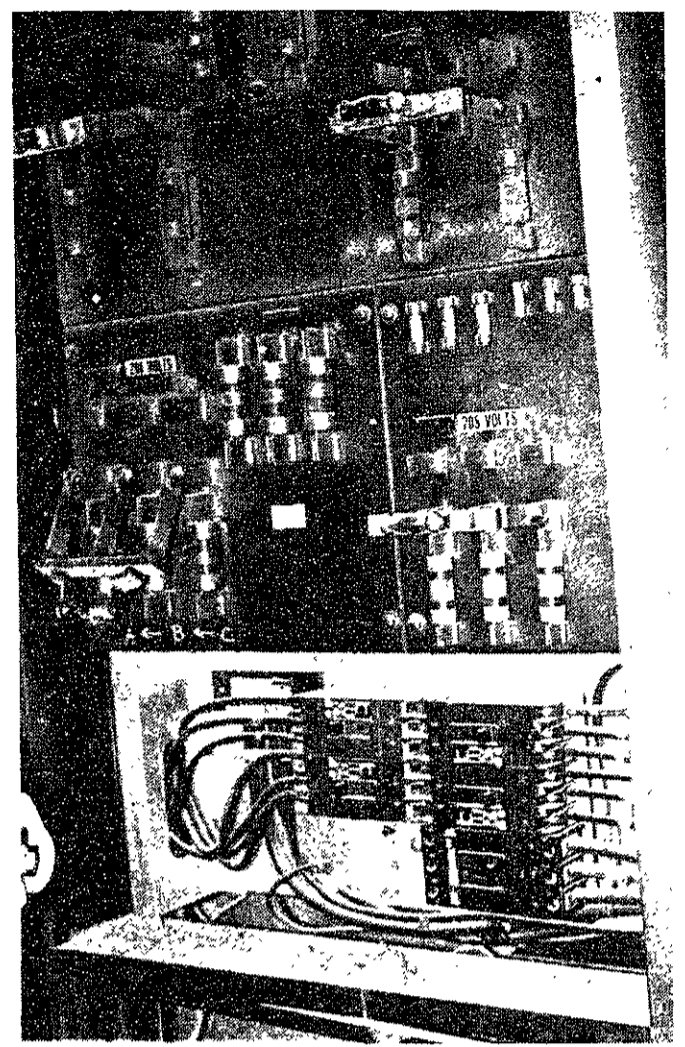
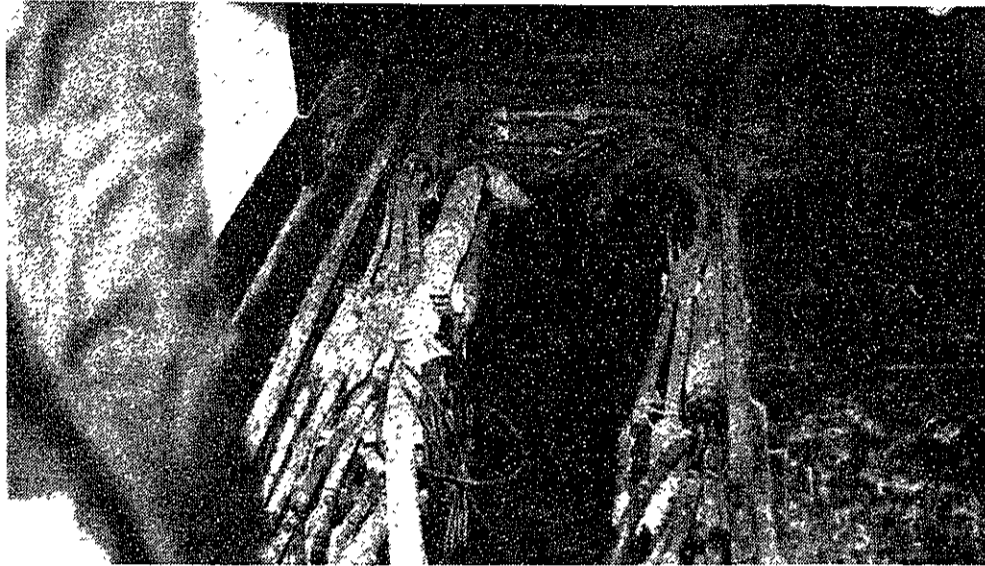
Patricia J. Lodi '87, who was present at the fire, said, "I couldn't even see the end of the hall through the smoke."

"I asked if anyone pressed the fire alarm yet, but the fire marshal had already been called," she said.

Edward H. Gornish '86 said, "I was in a class in Building 4, and a few minutes before the class ended we smelled smoke, so our instructor just closed the door."

"Later I started walking to my next class in Building 2 and when I got to the second floor a fireman yelled, 'Come on, get out of here!'"

"In the hall I saw a math professor and I asked him if Course XVIII was responsible for this," Gornish said. "He told me 'we only deal with numbers, and numbers don't burn.'"



Tech photos by Sison L. Garfinkel
Cambridge firefighters examine damage in basement of Building 2.

Switch box in basement of Building 2 where fire may have started.

Erratum

An article in the Feb. 17 issue of *The Tech* misrepresented a statement by Bill Hobbib '86, secretary of the Student Center Committee. His position on the pornography referendum on the March 14 ballot is that it should concern "pornographic" films, not just sexually explicit, "adult" films.

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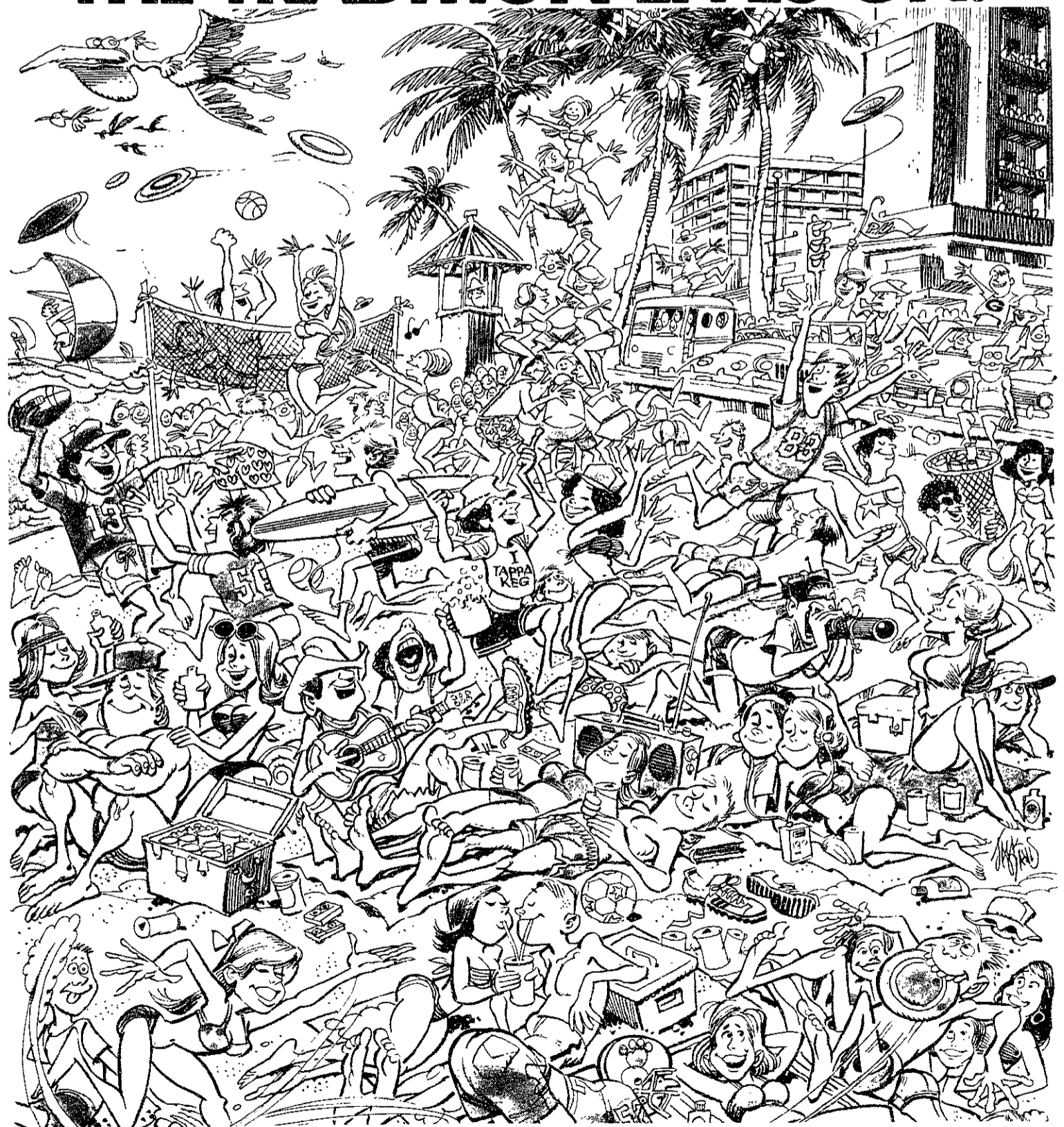
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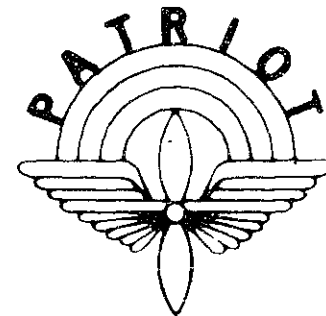
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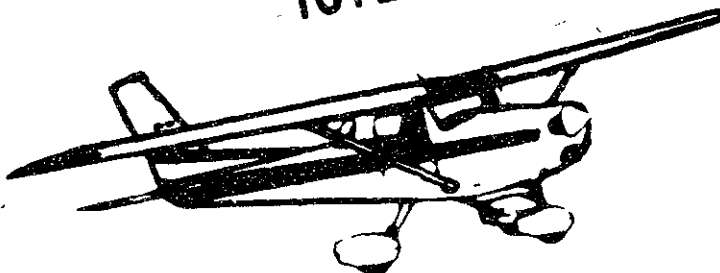
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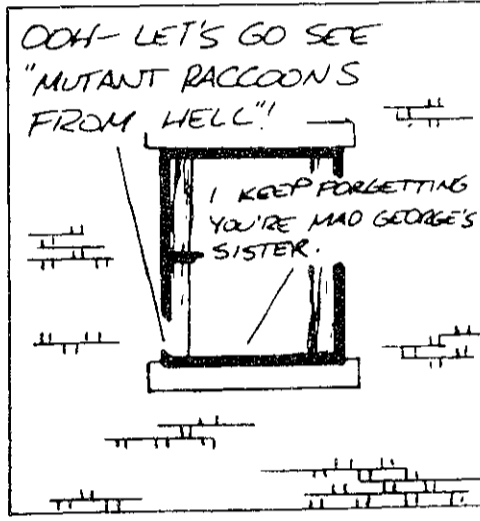
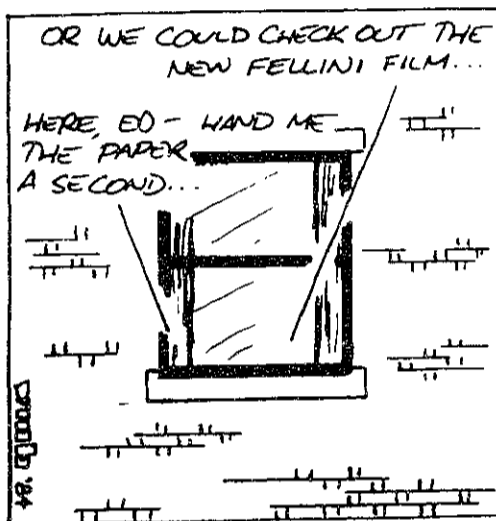
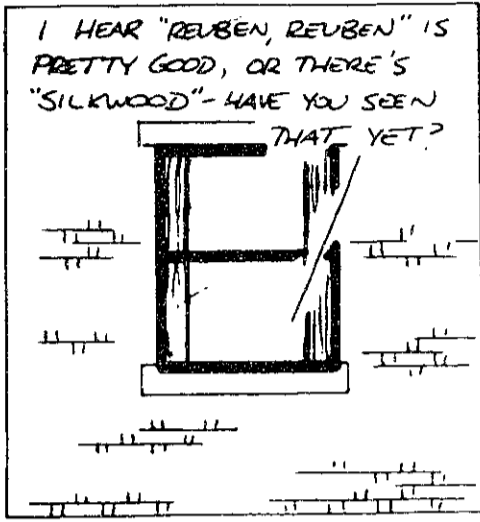
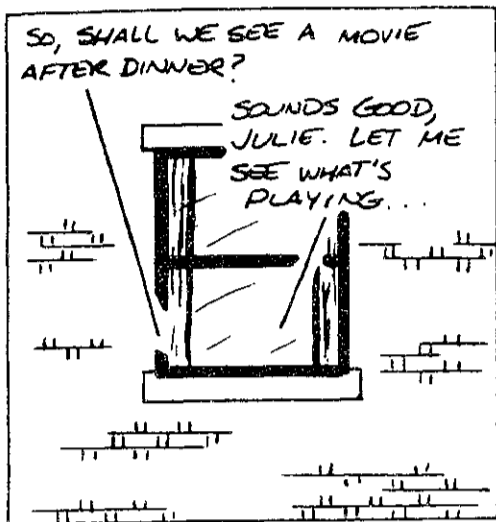
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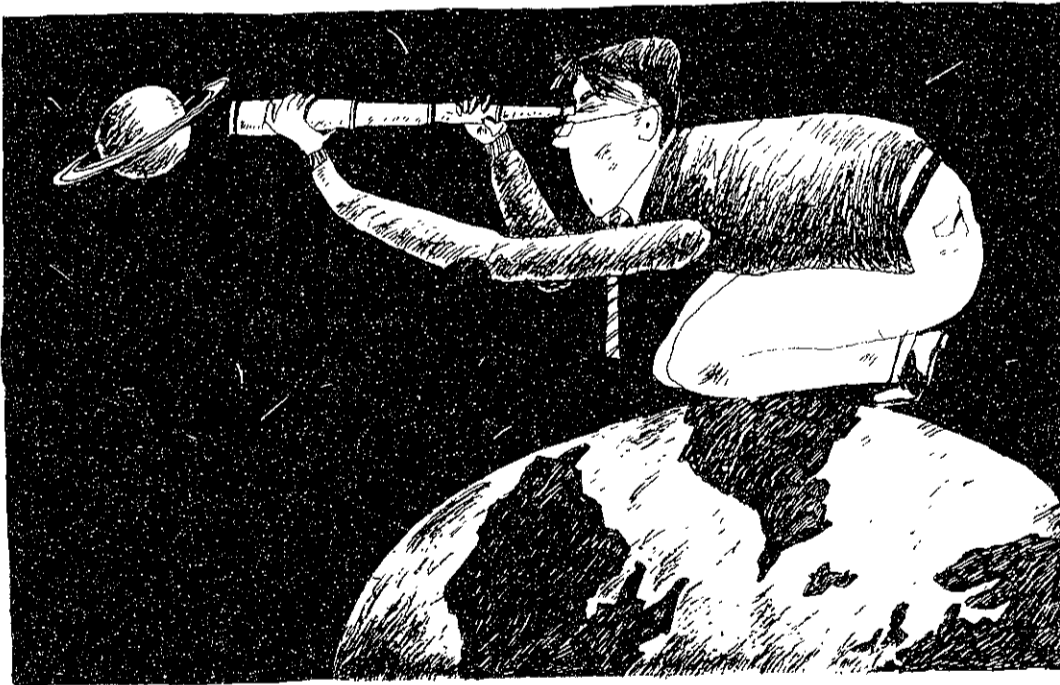
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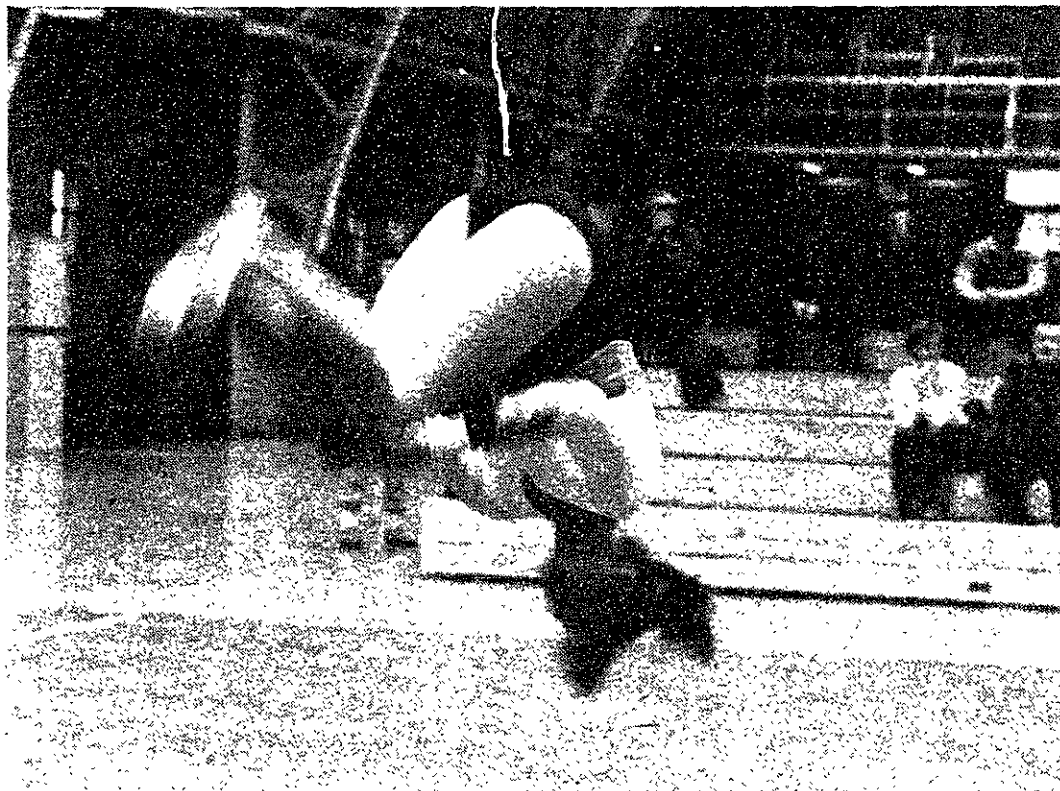
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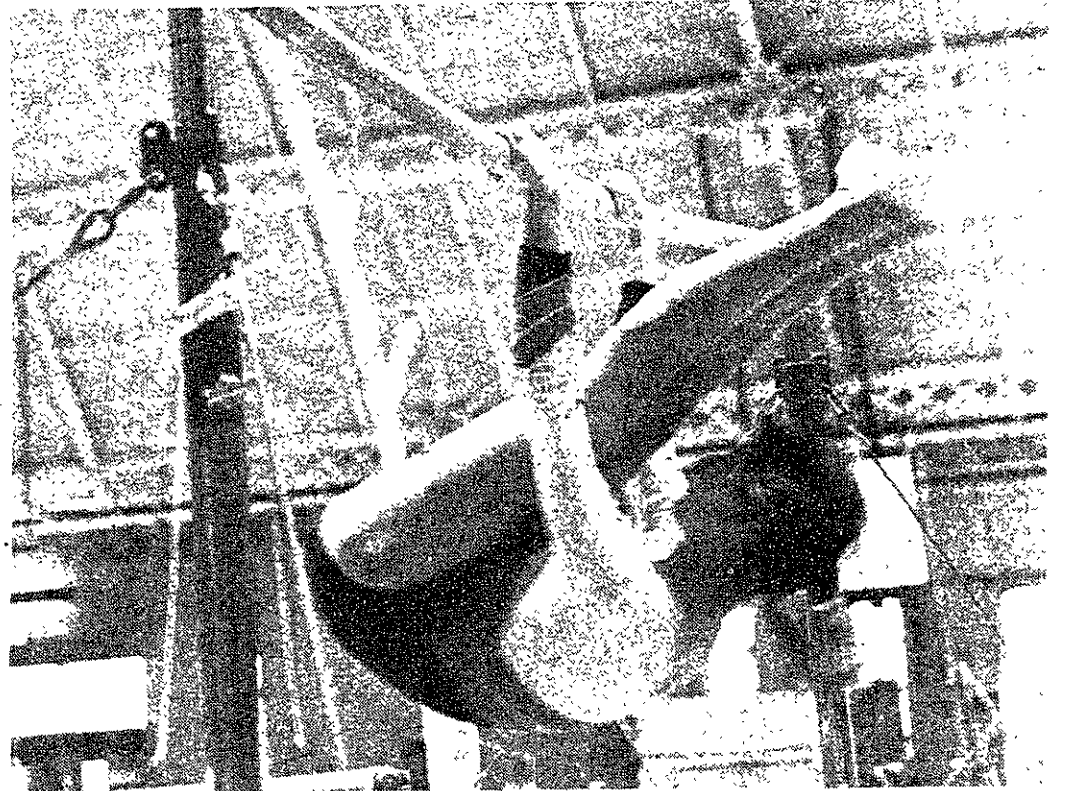
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sports



Tech Photo by Willie Tsang

Evie Vance '86 of the Women's Gymnastics team executes a back flip during a meet against Bridgewater State College on Saturday in duPont Gymnasium.



Tech Photo by Willie Tsang

Missy Maxfield '85, who won the all-around competition with a 31.95, swings through her dismount preparation in Saturday's meet.

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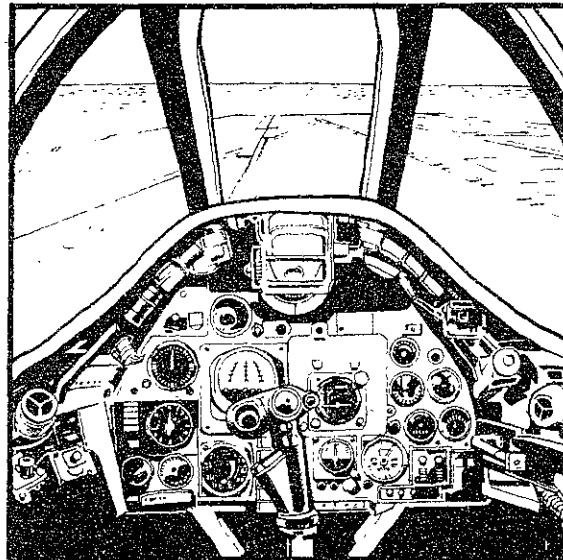
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