



Tech photo by Michael Klug

Beatrice Manz, Professor at Wellesley College, lecturing about Central America on Tuesday.

## Central American issues discussed at teach-in

By Charles R. Jankowski and Leon M. Balents

The United States is becoming involved in a "widening war" in Central America, according to Martin Diskin, professor of anthropology at MIT. He spoke Tuesday at a "teach-in" sponsored by the MIT Political Science Group on Central America and the Central American Solidarity Association.

Diskin discussed the war in Nicaragua, the Central American country where he spent a part of last summer. He also outlined the United States' involvement in the region.

He detailed the disparity between "fact and Washington ideology." The foreign policy of the United States is aggravating the Nicaraguan situation, he explained.

Diskin was among five speakers at the colloquium. The other speakers included Roxanne Pastor, co-founder and director of the Honduras Information Center, Beatrice Manz, professor of anthropology at Wellesley College, Jack Spence, professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, and a 22-year-old refugee from El Salvador.

The US administration, according to Diskin, is creating circumstances "to provide the spark for an explosion" in Central America. He said US foreign policy is "bleeding [Nicaragua] to death" by financing rebel fighters attempting to overthrow the present Nicaraguan government.

Diskin criticized President Ronald Reagan for neglecting the Central American region. "Ron-

## Hoffman relates difficulties as astronaut on space shuttle

By Jacqueline Gottlieb

Astronaut Dr. Jeffrey A. Hoffman described his April flight on the shuttle Discovery in a lecture Tuesday. Hoffman was one of three shuttle astronauts from MIT.

Hoffman had worked on X-ray astronomy at the MIT Center for Space Research until the late 1970s, after which he left for astronaut training at the Lyndon Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

The crew expected to perform several experiments, launch some satellites and return after five days. Shortly after launch on April 12, the crew successfully launched a small Canadian TELESAT communications satellite.

Trouble began with the launch of a SYNCOM satellite which failed to operate as planned. Ground controllers decided to attempt a rescue operation which included an improvised space-walk.

ald Reagan was so busy doing research and determining that apartheid ceased to exist that he forgot about Central America."

He also attacked Reagan's description of Nicaragua as "a threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States."

Diskin concluded by describing how citizens could affect the government's policy by "breathing down [the administration's] necks. We're not giving up until we stop this murderous policy in Central America."

About 250 people attended the two-hour session. A donation of two dollars was requested for admission to the conference.

### Domino theory discussed

Manz spoke of "gross violations of human rights" in Guatemala and Costa Rica, while Spence discussed US foreign policy concerning El Salvador and Central America.

"The countries [of Central America] are being treated as potential dominoes," Spence said.

Pastor described the Honduran political situation. "Honduras' main enemy is El Salvador, not Nicaragua," she said. She called Honduras a "country of contradictions."

"The people who govern the countries of Honduras and El Salvador are putting aside the wishes of their countries to support the wishes of the United States," she said.

### Refugee tells his story

"To be a refugee is not a choice," explained Saul, a Salvadorian.

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## Gray calls for smaller class

By Katie Schwarz

President Paul E. Gray '54 said yesterday he will ask the Academic Council to reduce the size of next year's incoming class to alleviate dormitory crowding.

"We're not going to have this [level of crowding] again," Gray said. About 500 students are crowded this fall, including upperclassmen in some Institute Houses. The crowding affected 195 dormitory rooms.

Gray said he would not raise tuition to maintain a constant tuition revenue level with a smaller class. The "perturbation" in class size would have only a "second order effect" on the amount of tuition revenue, he added.

Associate Dean for Student

Affairs Robert A. Sherwood reacted to Gray's decision to recommend class reduction with "surprise and delight." He had suggested last week that the Institute may no longer be able to guarantee eight terms of on-campus housing to undergraduates unless class size is reduced.

Removing the eight-term guarantee "doesn't sound to me like a very attractive solution" because it would be unfair to students, Gray said. He could not say whether the housing guarantee will remain because the Academic Council has not yet discussed the problem.

Gray said reducing the class size is a more acceptable way to approach the problem of crowd-

ing. But he did not know how much smaller the next incoming class will be.

The Academic Council will examine the number of spaces expected to be available in Institute housing next fall, Gray said. The council will decide on the class size in December, January or February.

Gray will also ask the Admissions Office to insure that the incoming class does not exceed its targeted size. The Admissions Office must treat the target as a "ceiling," he said.

"I'm not eager to reduce the class size," Gray said, because a smaller class would mean "more unhappy people who wanted [to go to MIT] and couldn't."

## Almost 400 pledge during dry rush

By Craig Jungwirth and Simson L. Garfinkel

Three hundred eighty students pledged fraternities and independent living groups in a rush governed by the new Office of the Dean for Student Affairs alcohol policy.

The *Policy Statement on the Use of Alcohol* places restrictions on the consumption of alcohol in common areas and at certain times during the rush weekend. It additionally prohibits drinking by students under the age of 21.

The InterFraternity Conference (IFC) reported three alcohol-related violations.

As of Tuesday, three hundred eighty freshmen, transfer and upperclass students had pledged fraternities and independent living groups, according to Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood.

"The fraternity system seems to have a lot more stability than" the dormitory system, he said.

IFC Chairman Tinley Anderson '86 said the fraternity system realized "379 definite pledges" and "on the whole, met the goal." But he estimated "three or four" fraternities did not meet their pledge projections.

Sherwood said "seven houses . . . did overcrowd, 14 met [their] target and 12 still had at least one space open . . . Some spaces viewed as open are still crowds."

## Demand increases off-campus rents

By Katie Schwarz

Second in a series on issues affecting housing and class size.

The number of students who remain on campus is on the rise, due to the decrease in availability and increase in cost of off-campus housing, according to officials at MIT, Harvard University and Boston University.

"A high percentage of apartments have gone condo, and most rentals left are at least ten to 15 percent more [expensive] than last year," said MIT Administrator for Housing Service Linda L. Patton in an article in *Tech Talk* Sept. 4.

The number of housing listings the MIT Housing Service received from rental agents and landlords has dropped from 664 in 1982 to 392 this year, Patton said.

Boston's economic growth has caused demand for housing in the metropolitan area to rise rapidly for over a decade, said Peter Dreyer, a consultant for the Boston Redevelopment Authority, in a Sept. 4 article in *Boston University Today*.

Despite the efforts of the Cam-

bridge City Council to preserve affordable housing in the city, "lots of forces are going on" to drive rents up, said Councilman David E. Sullivan '74.

There is less development of low and moderate income rental units because they are less profitable, Sullivan said. A steep rise in the cost of construction and materials since the early 1970s has forced housing developers to concentrate on the most profitable investments, he added.

Owner-occupied houses are more affordable than rented apartments, Sullivan explained, because federal income tax laws subsidize home ownership. Such houses are therefore more likely to be sold and thus more profitable for the developer, he continued.

"We need government to intervene" because the need for low and moderate income housing is not being met, Sullivan said. He urged MIT students to defend their interests by participating in city and local politics.

Cambridge attempts to ensure affordable housing chiefly

day night in a common area" of a fraternity house. Anderson characterized the incident as "not a flagrant violation."

Anderson said he could not recall the third incident. He declined to identify any of the houses involved in the reported violations.

IFC Judicial Committee "representatives were assigned three or four houses which they were to visit periodically" during rush weekend, Anderson said. "We depended on other houses to help monitor and that worked out very well."

The Dormitory Council "sent out representatives to fraternity houses to, what I suppose would be, monitor the situations. However, the IFC didn't reciprocate," Anderson said. "We did not send anyone to the dorms."

"We had a good, clean rush," he concluded.

### Freshmen relate experiences

Several freshmen, who requested that their names and the fraternities' names be withheld, described differing rush experiences concerning alcohol use.

Some observed consumption of alcohol which violated the dry rush policy.

One freshman said he saw a keg of beer in a side room off a common area in a fraternity. The

(Please turn to page 9)

through rent control, Sullivan continued. The city's rent control system is among the most effective in the nation, he added, but the "phenomenally hot" housing market can "overwhelm even substantial measures."

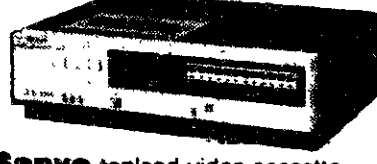
Only 17,000 of the 40,000 units of housing in Cambridge are subject to rent control, according to Sullivan. The remainder are one, two or three-family owner-occupied houses. Such houses are exempt from rent control and likely to remain so because homeowners constitute a large political force, he said.

It is important for the city to "hang onto" the 17,000 rent-controlled housing units, Sullivan said. An ordinance he wrote in 1979 prohibits rent-controlled apartments from being taken off the market by demolition or condominium conversion without the permission of the rent control board. Permission for conversion is difficult to obtain, he added.

Sullivan hopes to encourage the construction of more rent-controlled housing through a

(Please turn to page 10)

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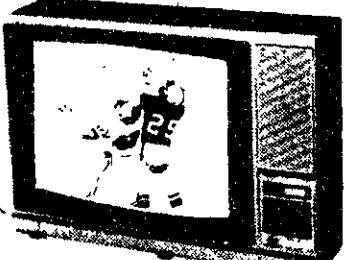


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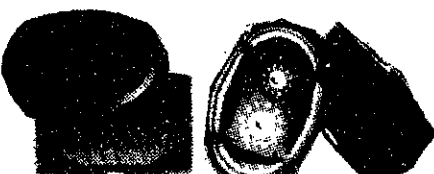
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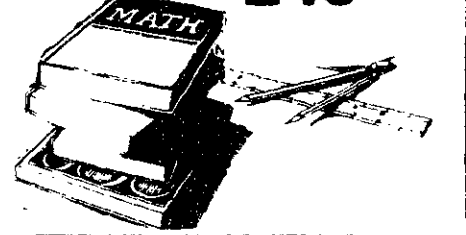


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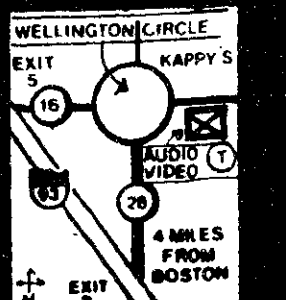
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# news roundup

## World

**Salvadoran president's daughter kidnapped at university** — Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran, daughter of President Jose Napoleon Duarte, was seized by gunmen at a private university in San Salvador Tuesday. One of her security guards was killed and another was wounded in a shootout at the university. No terrorist group claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, but a government official claimed that the guerrillas were responsible.

**European nations to impose sanctions on South Africa** — West Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, France, Ireland, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, and Portugal agreed to a ban on nuclear cooperation, discouragement of cultural and scientific links, an embargo on oil, arms and law-enforcement equipment, and the withdrawal of military attaches from South Africa. The measures are designed to protest the apartheid segregation system.

## Nation

**US ambassador returns to South Africa** — Herman Nickel, US ambassador to South Africa, returned to Johannesburg this week after a three month absence. He called on the white-minority government to begin dismantling key apartheid programs.

**GTE will plead guilty to illegally conspiring to gain Pentagon documents** — GTE Government Systems Corporation said in a statement that it would plead guilty to conspiring to obtain internal Pentagon planning documents, and would pay the Department of Defense \$580,000 for its investigation of the affair. Two GTE officials and a consultant were indicted individually. The company faces a fine of up to \$10,000, while the individuals face up to 25 years in prison and a \$30,000 fine.

**Spacecraft flies through comet's tail** — The International Cometary Explorer (ICE), a half-ton American spacecraft safely flew through the tail of comet Giacobini-Zinner. ICE spent twenty minutes in the comet's tail Wednesday morning. It encountered little dust but an abundance of plasma. The preliminary data seemed to confirm present theories about comet tails.

## Sports

**Rose surpasses Cobb** — Pete Rose hit a one-out single in the first-inning Wednesday night in Cincinnati to surpass Ty Cobb's old record of 4,191 hits. Rose went on to walk, triple, and score a run in the Reds 2-0 victory over the San Diego Padres.

## Weather

**Cooler, possible showers** — It will be cool and cloudy today with possible showers. Tonight it will be extremely cool with near record lows. Saturday should be partly sunny with a high near 60.

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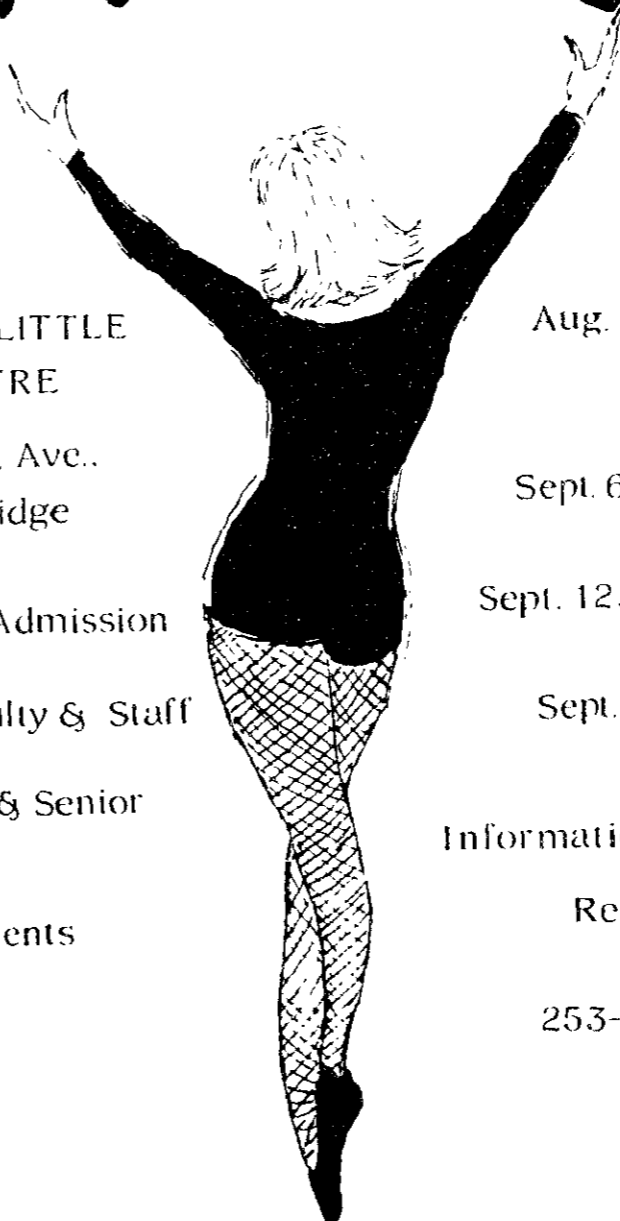
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# opinion

Guest Column/Randy Hertzman

## Gnip, gnop: the good and bad at the Institute

There's a game that some joker put in the lounge on my hall called *Gnip-Gnop* (I think that the G's are pronounced, as in gnurd). The game consists of a long plastic-enclosed board separated into two halves by a plastic shield in which three large round holes are cut. On each end of the contraption are three paddles which rest against six big plastic balls — three in bright pink and three in lemon yellow.

The game starts with three similar-colored balls on each side. At a word, the two players begin ferociously batting their paddles, trying to fling their plastic balls through the center into the other player's side before the opponent can return them. The winner is the one who manages to get all six balls onto the opponent's side of the arena at the same time. It's a pretty silly time, not a game on which outsiders would expect mature, erudite, scientific MIT students to waste much time. Nevertheless, frenetic banging and cursing can be heard emanating from the lounge at any hour of day or night.

Most outsiders don't know much about us. I've come to expect one of a few typical responses whenever I tell someone that I go to MIT. Most common, of course, is "Oh! You must be really smart!" Well, yes, I am pretty smart — so is everyone here. People don't realize, though, my intelligence doesn't say anything at all about who I am. *Gnop*.

Another typical response is "You must be a real computer whiz." I admit it: I know more about computers than the typical off-the-street citizen. I even enjoy using them. But that still is not me. *Gnop*.

People frequently ask me, "What kind of engineering are you studying?" and recoil in astonishment at my response that I probably won't study engineering at all. Why must I be an engineering student just because I attend MIT? *Gnop*.

The one stereotype that most closely corresponds with reality at our Great Institute in the Sky is that concerning the pressure here. It is true: there are simply not enough hours in the day to do all the work assigned, let alone to play IM's, sing, act, throw frisbees, sail, ring bells, hack, and have sword-fights in Killian Court (and 26-100, but that's another story...), to say nothing of such mundane activities as eating (if you can call the ingestion and hopeful digestion of Institute food "eating"), or even (occasionally) sleeping. Yet somehow all this happens on campus. People never believe me when I tell them that MIT fields a greater number of Varsity teams than any of the Ivy League schools. *Gnip*, or perhaps *Gnop* — I'm not sure.

Okay: that's the good side. People seem to make time for whatever on-campus activities interest them (*gnip*, *gnip*). But, submerged in the throes of problem sets (*gnop*), papers (*gnop!*) and even (shudder, though I may, to mention these words this early in the term) tests and exams (*GNOP!*), students all too often cannot summon up the energy to break the potent wall of abstraction that separates their lives and MIT from "out there."

How can we possibly reconcile ourselves to work with the intensity that is a prerequisite of survival at such a goal-oriented place as MIT, while at the same

time remaining uncertain of our eventual goal in life? It is nothing unusual for college students to be unsure about their eventual ambitions, to try different paths in the hope of stumbling upon a way of life that appeals to them, to feel uncertain and insecure upon contemplation of the "real world."

The tragedy is that we chosen ones at MIT feel that we must fulfill the stereotype, that we must be superhuman, that we are too talented to be insecure about anything. Acceptance of complexity is the victim; too many of us, grasping for a justification of our monumental labor here, refuse to acknowledge the intertwining complications involved in any life of value; we seize any security blanket that presents itself, and confidently claim to "know where we're going."

This tendency is frightening, for by nature the universe is too big and complex a place for any but the most mature or the most blindly complacent to contemplate without at least a small gulp of uncertainty.

What are the plastic goals that we pursue? A biggie is money, the ticket to status and a com-

fortable life, the acknowledged driving force of all of Western civilization. What better goal for a young, enterprising college student? The fact that, for most of us, making money is a fairly certain proposition, involving no juggling with Lady Fortune or her minion, Unemployment, cannot but be in our favor. Why court insecurity unnecessarily? *Gnip*.

The proverbial Good Time: that's another goal, perhaps less safe than wealth in the long run, but more easily accessible, here and now. It's surprising how bad MIT parties are in general, considering the number of enthusiastic party-monsters on campus. We have all the essentials — booze, colored lights, bands, loud music. What's wrong? *Gnop*.

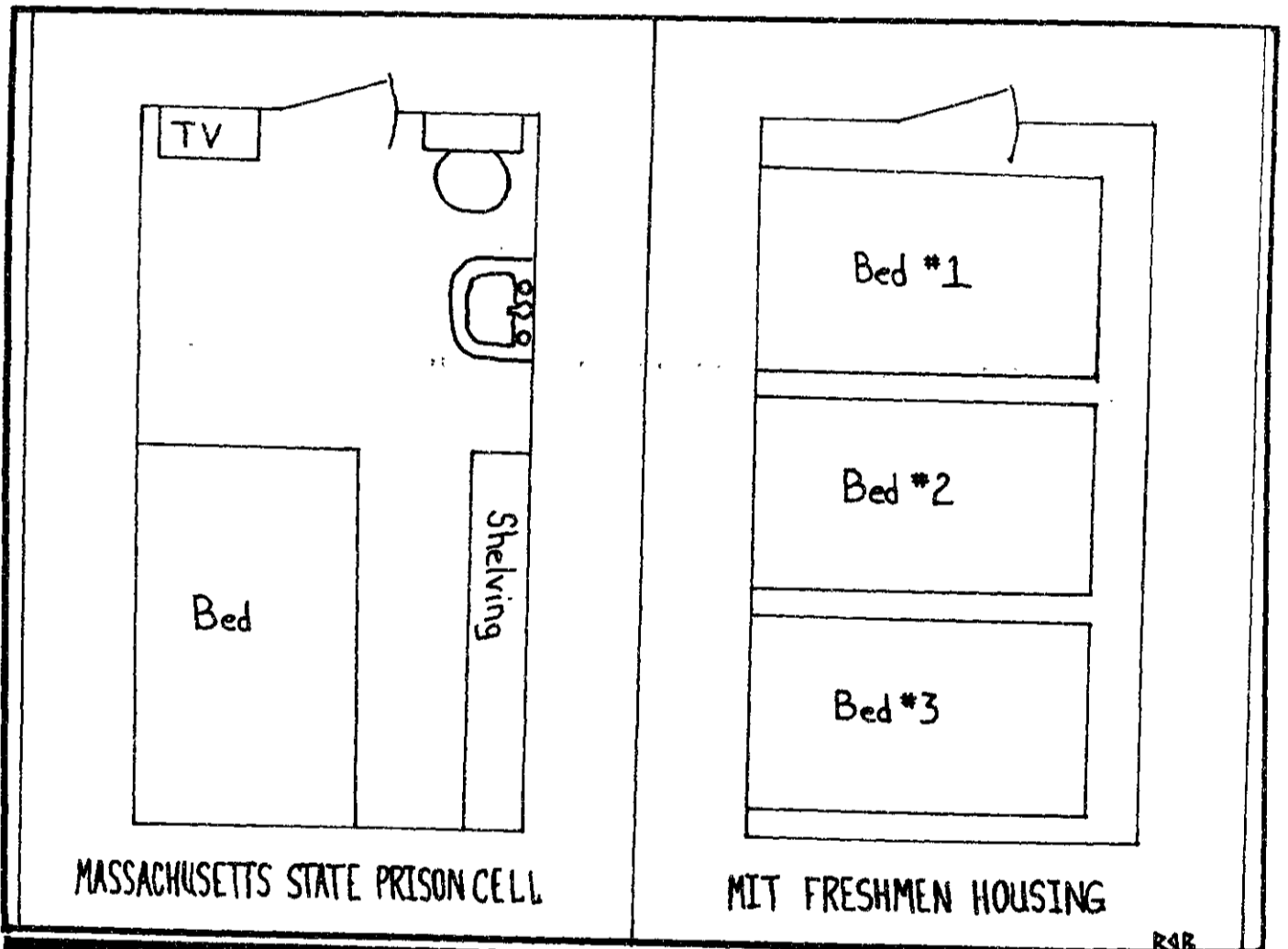
The best party I've attended in over a year was at East Campus, during R/O week. There was a bonfire in our new sandbox, "fruity beverages" on the side, and a reggae band playing in the background. It took a few minutes before I realized why the party was so good. People could talk without having to shout over

the music. It was incredible — I met more people in one night than at the entire previous year's parties. Some of the best conversationalists in the world go to school here — they just can't usually be heard over the music.

Artificial these goals may be; still they are not the worst manifestations of our inability to accept complexity. Most frightening are those of us who deny the need or the place of a goal at all, who spend our days "getting by," who make no commitments and frown on those who do. Apathy is a defense against uncertainty for these people, but what drab lives they lead! Neither *gnip* nor *gnop*, nor anything else, for that matter.

This *Gnip-Gnop* is entirely and completely unnecessary! We, the superhuman intellects of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, faster than a speeding neutrino, smarter than a capital "E", able to climb the Great Dome in a single hack, are still human. Nobody expects us to be machines — except ourselves.

Have a great year. *Gnip-Gnop* is a silly game, anyway.



## The Tech

Volume 105, Number 33      Friday, September 13, 1985

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To the Editor:

I am responding to correct several misperceptions in Simson Garfinkel's Sept. 3 column on the Libraries' automated system ["Libraries' catalog needs automation"].

The MIT Library system is automating its circulation system and building the database for an on-line catalog. While the process of automating has been time-consuming, the first library will go live with circulation this fall and other libraries will be brought up sequentially throughout the academic year. When the first library comes up, public access to the database will be possible from terminals at reference desks in all libraries. Access to the Libraries' database and other library services will ultimately be available through the Athena network (as was previously reported in this newspaper) and through dial-in ports.

The automated system will allow us to monitor the borrowing patterns of the MIT community:

what types of materials. What material an individual patron has out at a particular moment is information available only to authorized staff and is not retained once that material is returned. The MIT Privacy Committee has reviewed and approved the Libraries' information handling system.

The computer that will support the Libraries' database and circulation system is being intensively used by staff as we format and load many years' worth of data

and test and modify the programs that manipulate the data. We in the Libraries are spending a considerable amount of time on our automation efforts. We consider that spending time on careful work at this juncture will allow us to avoid many of the mistakes made by libraries earlier to automate and will pay off in quality service to the MIT community.

Shirley K. Baker  
Associate Director  
for Public Services

*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.

# A cross country odyssey: a honcho, a Honda and a highway

By Corrado Giambalvo

## Feature

I remember last May. Finals and end-of-term papers suffocated my id. Suddenly my only preoccupations were those damn grades and the hope I had not wasted \$5500 of tuition. Yet, I couldn't stop thinking about summer waiting on the doorstep, asserting itself with the occasional day in the 80s, subtly disrobing the people and seducing them outdoors.

I had planned nothing. There was talk of going to China with a friend from Wellesley to make a film, but due to lack of funds and motivation to organize the trip, we folded. Desperately, I started to shop around for something exciting to do, but it was difficult with the pending deadlines of end-of-term papers and finals. Even a job would have been acceptable at this point. Panic set in.

With my mind obfuscated by despair and wishy-washiness, I started to give up on the idea of excitement and began to accept words like "mundane" and "mediocre" in my summer prospects. . . Until one fine day, while sitting around with Marco Monzini, we were visited by a mutual friend from Harvard. He informed us that he was going to La Jolla in Southern California for the summer to work with a high-tech company (it happens to people from Harvard also!) and he wasn't sure how he was going to take his motorcycle across.

Without letting him utter one more word and with my brain racing at 1000 miles a second I offered: "I'll drive it for you!" His eyes stared at me in disbelief. Then, as my face could not hide my eagerness and sincerity, he started to make some calculations.

In the end he agreed to let me drive it. I suppose he figured that it would be cheaper that way, despite the considerable additional mileage. On my part I was ecstatic; in one brief impulsive moment I had rescued my summer plans.

After dealing with insurance and some minor check-ups and repairs, Martin (the

owner) left for Italy leaving me with a specific date to reach La Jolla. When I went to pick up the bike, the mechanics at the Honda dealer were cynical to the point of scaring me: "You really think a 600R is going to make it cross-country? The bike has one cylinder for heaven's sake! It might be a 600cc, but it's an Enduro (off road bike)," said one of them almost condescendingly.

My friend's reactions were no different. It was either that the engine was too small, or the suspensions too high, or the fact that it didn't have a wind-jammer, or that it would be difficult to maintain. I started to question my decision. Had I really decided to do something stupid? But at this point I was too excited to let go. I was ahead of the game; summer had not officially started, and I was already having an affair with a ravishing, red riding machine.

Finals were finally over. I felt satisfied with my academic performance, but now I had a new thing to consume my mind: getting ready for the trip. Given my unavoidable low budget, I thought immediately to plan the route according to where some of my better friends resided. Remarkably, there was an almost perfect linear distribution all the way to Lawrence, KA, followed by a big void all the way to Los Angeles. This posed the first major problem. Martin had agreed to pay for the gas, but had made no mention of accommodation.

My second worry regarded what to bring. The bike had limited space, and I was constrained by the number of tools and bike accessories I had to carry with me. In the end my cargo consisted of two small backpacks: one full of tools, clothes and personal items, strapped on the fender between the front part of the saddle and the back light. The other, my school pack, filled with my documents, money, maps, etc., fit firmly onto my back.

My third and final worry was my father, who, being a motorcyclist himself, was absolutely horrified when he heard what kind of bike I intended to use for the trip. So great was his worry that he offered to ride down from Montréal to meet me in Albany, NY, and check out exactly how I was

set up to cross the land of opportunity.

### STAGE 1: Boston, MA, to Buffalo, NY

On the 30th of May, I was ready. Since I did not own any adequate riding gear, I had to improvise. I borrowed a pair of hillbilly look-alike overalls and a combat jacket from a friend who had AWOLed the army. Martin had given me his red helmet, which I windproofed with masking tape, and for my hands I had a pair of gardening gloves. My feet were in a pair of old Brook racing sneakers. I couldn't find any size 11½ riding boots. Lastly, to protect me from the rain I had a yellow rain-jacket with matching pants.

It was 6 am when I walked through the front door. There was a slight drizzle. My backpacks were waterproofed with plastic bags and I had my foul weather gear on; still, I could not help feeling discouraged. "What happened to all the sunny days during finals week?" I asked myself.

The first operational problem became obvious when I tried to kickstart the cold engine. (That's right, more often than not enduro bikes do not have electronic ignition.) As I fumbled with the decompressor lever (a device to decrease the pressure in the cylinders) and began pressing violently on the kickstarter, I scraped my shin against the protruding foot rest. I was sweating profusely, very nervous and embarrassed. My visor steamed up. All this in front of my Cambridge home. Eventually the wretched bike started. The deep rumble played like a lullaby. I headed toward the Mass Pike thinking to myself that it would be very difficult to ride all the way to Los Angeles if I had so many problems starting the bike, let alone riding it.

After this disappointing debut I made for a gas station. I filled the tank and reset the odometer. The bike had a range of about 110 miles with a full gas tank, so the only way to know how much gas was left, without waiting for the bike to stall, was to monitor the miles travelled.

Near Albany, I met my father at a pre-established exit. It was quite a relief to see him, since the relentless drizzle had dampened my spirit somewhat. I saw him strad-

dling his black and white BMW RT100, clad in a black leather riding suit. He looked like a chic version of The Road Warrior, feet on the ground stabilizing the bike, his white full-face helmet resting on his lap. At first I admired him, then I envied him and the experience of his 63 years as a navigator and traveller (he was a commercial airline pilot.) But then I reconsidered the nature of my trip and I felt like a young, idealistic, romantic and slightly foolish pioneer. I have always been attracted to doing things at a self-imposed disadvantage. Call it masochism if you will, I prefer to refer to it as love of life. In any case, I just wanted my father to be proud of me.

After coffee, bran muffins, a mandatory lavatory visit and the biggest hug, we hit the road; he in front, me following like a gosling following Father Goose. He looked like the greatest Dad in the whole world. All I could think of was whether I would also be riding motorbikes with my son at 63. The 250 miles left for Buffalo suddenly seemed not so distant.

The rain eventually stopped and the sun broke through. We averaged 65 mph which sapped away a lot of my energy. At the last toll booth before Buffalo, we stopped, embraced for the last time and then Dad headed north, back to Montréal. Knowing that I had made it thus far, he could now sleep better at night — only after I called to reassure him.

Megan Smith's house was not too far away. I arrived after 20 minutes to a warm welcome. I once again appreciated MIT for being an institution which gathers people from everywhere.

The next day I spent with Megan and her father touring Niagara Falls. It was here that I had the idea to open a business called "Enter the Waterfall." Essentially, it would provide a closer look at the falls by lowering a tourist as close as possible to the falls via a cable attached to a helicopter.

(Corrado's journey will continue in the next issue of The Tech.)

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## Astronaut Hoffman describes satellite rescue and experience on space shuttle

(Continued from page 1)  
world go by. It was the first time I felt like a satellite myself, revolving around earth." The entire operation took about three hours because of the low manipulative ability in a space-suit.

The ship was brought near the satellite after the space-walk was completed. The swatter was maneuvered using the manipulator arm and the switch was turned as planned. But this did not solve the problem.

The SYNCOM satellite had to

be rescued during a subsequent space shuttle flight. The rescue was "a remarkably successful mission," Hoffman said.

Hoffman described the experiments and day-to-day life on board in detail. He showed slides of the crew watching precession-free spins of gyroscopes and playing with yo-yos, drops of lemonade and free-floating magnet-containing marbles.

"It's really a shame we can't take physics classes out there," Hoffman said. Some of the im-

ages presented at the lecture will be compiled and serve as educational films for physics classes.

Hoffman, an avid mountain climber, likened the food, hygiene and personal space on the shuttle to those of a camping trip.

The astronauts got some of the most fascinating views of the earth as the landscape beneath them changed at a rate of five miles per second. Hoffman spoke of and showed views of the Andes, the Nile River delta covered

by a dust storm and the massive land erosion in Madagascar.

The crew saw 110 sunrises and 110 sunsets during the five-day mission. Hoffman showed a picture of a bright, perfect, red, white and blue ribbon on a black background as an example of what the crew witnessed.

Re-entry into the atmosphere, Hoffman said, "was like being in the inside of a meteor." Hot plasma surrounded and shock waves trailed behind the space shuttle.

Shuttle flights are scheduled

for December, January and March. The main objective of those flights will be to observe Halley's comet.

Hoffman tested one of the ultraviolet telescopes in April that will be used for observations of Halley's comet.

It seems that accurate observations will be possible despite the dust that gathers on the telescope during launch. As an astronomer, the observations will be the most exciting aspect of the trip, Hoffman said.

# Before you make a long distance commitment, make sure you know what you're getting into.



If Fletcher Christian and Captain Bligh had known what being stuck in the same boat would mean, chances are neither would have set foot aboard.

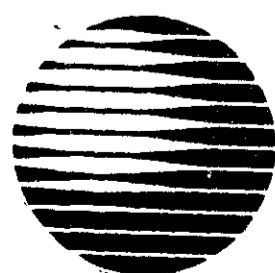
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**Lunchtime lunacy  
 in MIT chapel**



William S. Gilbert

This term's Thursday lunchtime chapel concerts got off to a dashing start with a visit by the Royal Victorian Opera Company which specializes in bringing life to 19th century chamber opera. On offer was a rarity from William Gilbert and Joseph Williams who — as both composer and publisher — avoided the embarrassment of having his name on the score as issuer of his own work by adopting the nom de plume of "F. Pascal."

The story is simple, but effective. It is built on symmetry: There are two pairs of young lovers, one pair of old dotards. During the first half there is a non-existent cloak said to be visible only to true lovers; in the second half there is a real cloak supposedly available only to the eyes of flirts.

The ensemble performed with great energy and kept up the momentum of this tightly constructed piece of froth. Ethelwyn Worden sang Nicolette, the aging coquette. In a wonderful costume, designed to highlight the character's coarseness, she struts across the stage, fooling no-one with efforts at mock-respectability. Having informed the two girls of the "bad news" that their boyfriends are really running after her, she launches into a hilarious aria, nicely sung and supported by a conspiratorial keyboard part deftly played on the harpsichord by Wayne Ward.

Tom Dinger and Mark Kramer — as

brothers and lovers Pierrot and Arlequin — proved to be champions of comedy. Their patter was pitter-perfect and hilarious. "And each of the twins is a brother," they sing, Dinger's fine lyrical voice and flashing eyes matching Kramer's clarity of enunciation and expressions of youthful befuddlement. The simulated suspense from the harpsichord again added to the amusement.

Carol Stone and Jenny Nicholson nimbly portrayed the sisters of mischief Clochette and Columbine, cloaking the plot in confusion over the existence of both the tell-tale garment and their admirers' true love. The boys admit to each other that "we both didn't see it [the cloak]," and prance off in a panic.



Enter Cassandre (sung by Stuart Rubinow), the wealthy farmer, dressed in black and so quick to establish his authority that he accidentally flogs his own side. Rubinow's diction was rich and clear, his tone assertive and characterful. He was es-



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**Friday, September 13**

This weekend, the Musical Theatre Guild will give its last performances of **Applause**. Kresge Little Theatre, today 8pm, tomorrow 3 and 8pm. Information: 253-6294.

LSC shows **The General** at 7:30pm in 10-250, and **Beverly Hills Cop** at 7 and 10pm in Kresge.

**Saturday, Sept. 14**

**Amadeus** in Kresge today, at 6:30 and 10. Said *Tech* critic Jonathan Richmond (9/18/84), "If *Amadeus* does not answer all the questions, it takes us deeper within their impenetrability. The acting is magnificent, direction extraordinary and the music — played with a Classical cleanliness by the Academy of St. Martins-in-the-fields under Neville Marriner — is put together to maximum psychological effect, and justly so, for if ever we are to understand Mozart, it will not be through words or visions, but through his music alone." Go see the most brilliant, telling film of the decade.

pecially funny in league with Worden whose Nicolette we can guess Cassandre will soon wed.

Indeed all ends well, both for the characters in this story and for an audience which returned to work well entertained by this hour of lunacy in the chapel.

Thursday Chapel concerts are a wonderful way of soothing the nerves at that time of the week when the weekend insists on

**Sunday, September 15**

**Banchetto Musicale**, directed by Martin Pearlman, will open the concert season at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. The concert starts at 3pm and features music of Mozart and Haydn.

LSC has **Catch 22** in 26-100, at 6:30 and 9:30.

**Thursday, Sept. 19**

In the Noon Chapel Music Series, Renate Dieker will play recorder, Peter Sykes, harpsichord. Admission free.

**Ongoing**

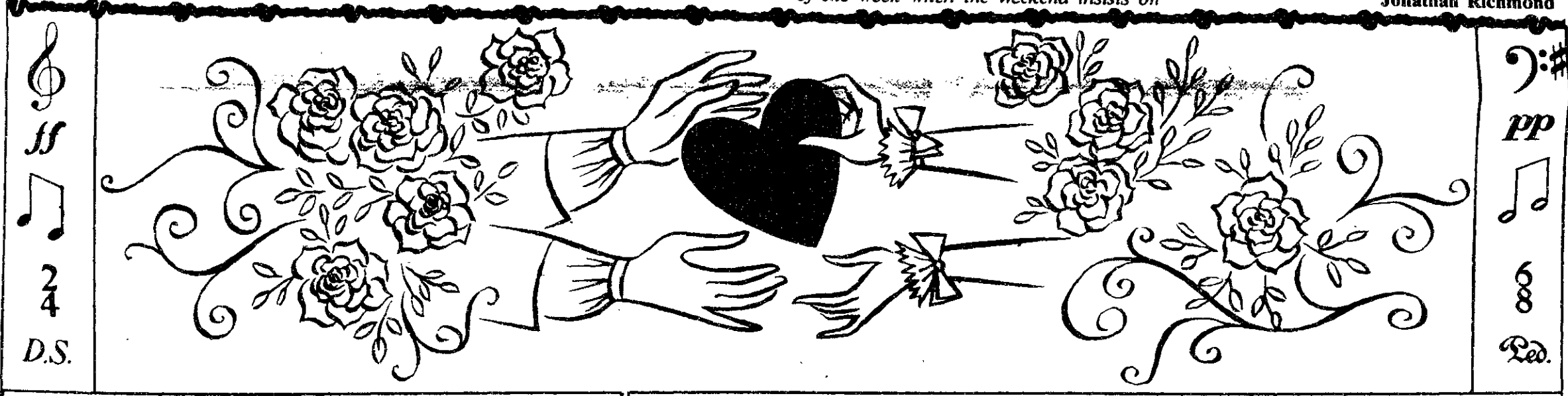
Through September, New York performance artist **Ping Chong** is in residence at MIT. The public is invited to observe him setting up an installation (to be exhibited in October) in the Reference Gallery, Arts and Media Technology Building (E15). Information: 253-4400.

The **Boston Arts Festival** continues through September 15 at the Charles River Esplanade.

Michiel Bos

remaining out of sight. On September 19 Renate Dieker, recorder and Peter Sykes, harpsichord, will play works of Telemann, Van Eyck, Schickhard and Heberle, and on the 26th Thayer Brass — Jonathan Clark and John Ossi, trumpets, Katherine Poor, French Horn, and Maureen Horgan, trombone — will play works by Purcell, Le Jeune and Ramsoe.

Jonathan Richmond



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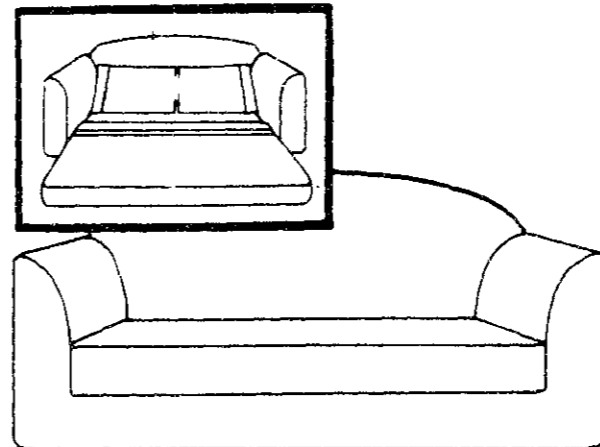
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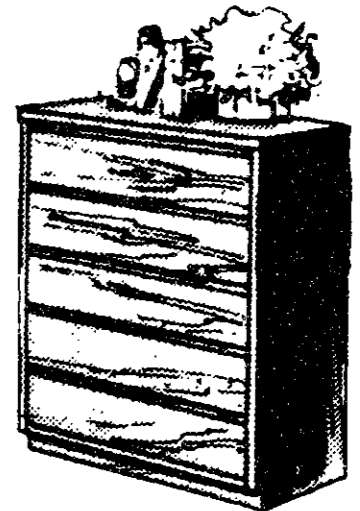
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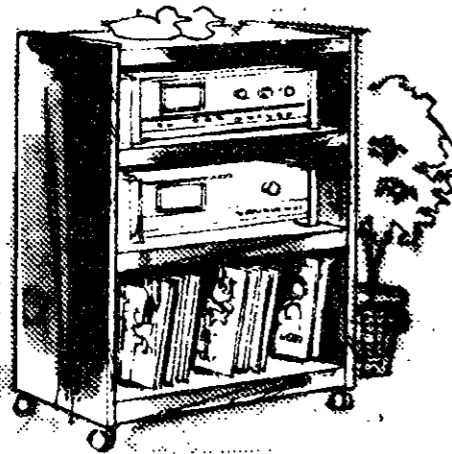
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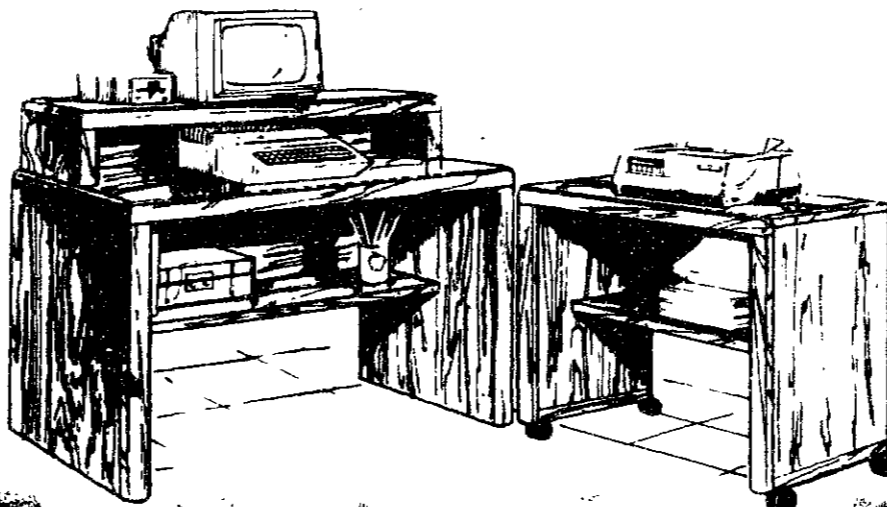
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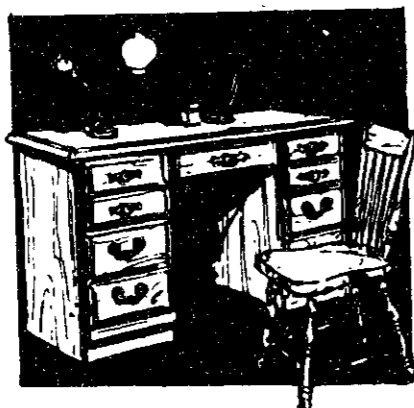
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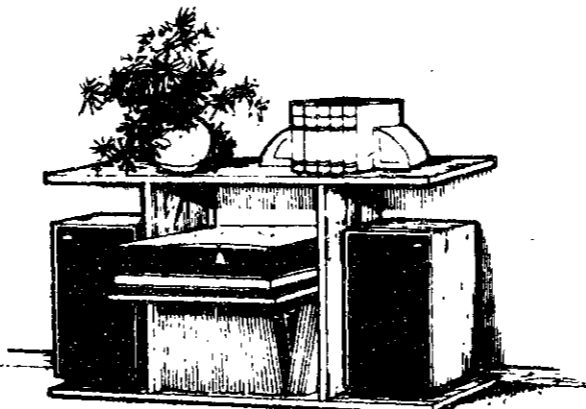
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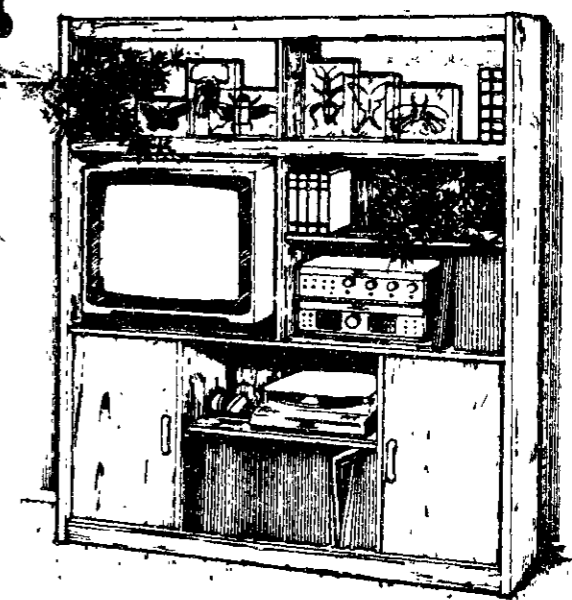
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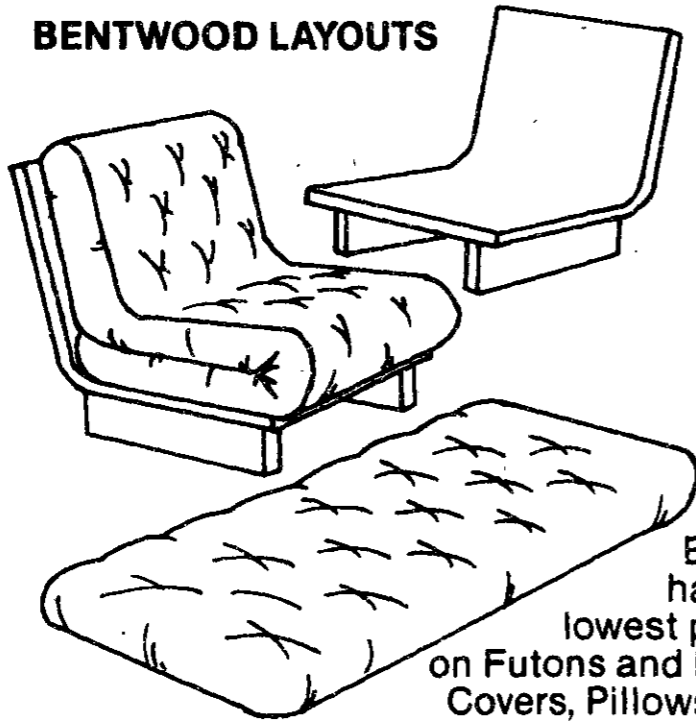


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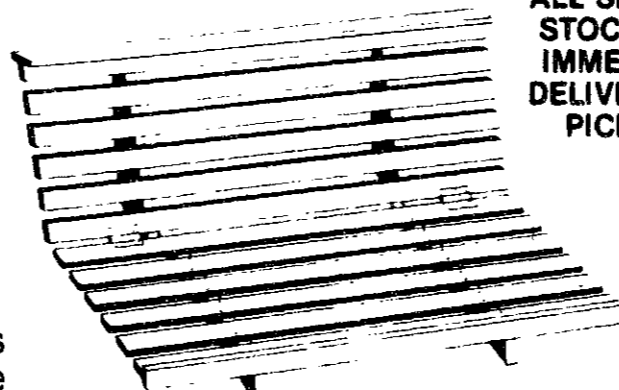
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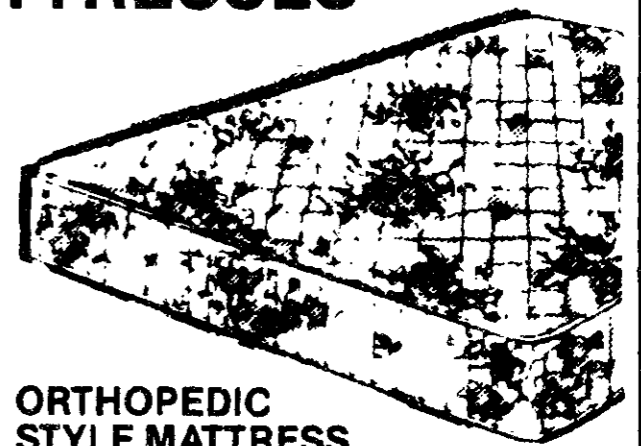
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## Freshmen report differing rush experiences

(Continued from page 1)

fraternity brothers said, "Go in this room because you can't drink in the common area." There were about 10 or 15 freshmen in the room," the freshman said.

Fraternity brothers served an "abortion" in addition to beer, the freshman continued. "It's orange sode, 7-Up and vodka. I was at [the party] late, so maybe that's why they were doing it."

But a second freshman said, "I haven't seen fraternities with alcohol. A lot have been really conscious. 'This time it's dry,' said the brothers. They knew the rules and were following them."

"I was a freshman with beer. I knew they were serving" other freshmen, said a third student.

A fourth freshman had "only been to two" fraternities. "There's alcohol there," he said, "but there's also pot. But they don't ask you if you want it or not. If a freshman wanted it, they would give it."

Other fraternities had alcohol for brothers but did not serve freshmen, according to a fifth freshman. "It was strictly banned. I saw a graduate or alumnus having a beer. It wasn't overt."

"There wasn't a lot [of alcohol]. No freshmen were served," he said. "They all had Sprites or Cokes. I wasn't offered [any alcohol] or pressured. Personally, I'm surprised."

A sixth freshman said he saw alcohol in fraternities on both sides of the river, but not in public places. He added that there was a non-alcoholic bar on a fraternity-sponsored boat cruise.

"Most frats figured 'You're going to have the next four years to drink, so you can hold off for a

week.' One fraternity in Boston "was really good. There was lots of soda. The brothers didn't have alcohol," he said. At another fraternity, "Brothers had alcohol, but no freshmen" had alcohol.

Anderson said he hadn't "been around asking people. But no reports [of violations of the dry rush policy] have come to my attention."

## Central American war discussed

(Continued from page 1)

doran refugee who is touring several New England cities with the Salvadoran and Guatemalan Caravan for Peace and Justice in Central America.

Saul made clear his hope that Americans would help the people of Central America. "I guess that you are people that care," he said. He urged interested parties to "forget about all the things about left and right" — the people of Central America "just need to be fed."

Barry Klinger '85, a member of the Political Science Group on Central America, was "fairly

pleased" with the teach-in. "The attendance was pretty good," he said, although he was disappointed with the lack of time available for questioning the speakers.

Klinger said most MIT students are "apathetic" toward Central American issues, but he noted a "lot more activity last year." Klinger attributed the increased awareness to recent South African demonstrations and President Reagan's re-election.

MIT students can help by "finding out what's going on," Klinger said. "Coming to our events would be a good place to start."

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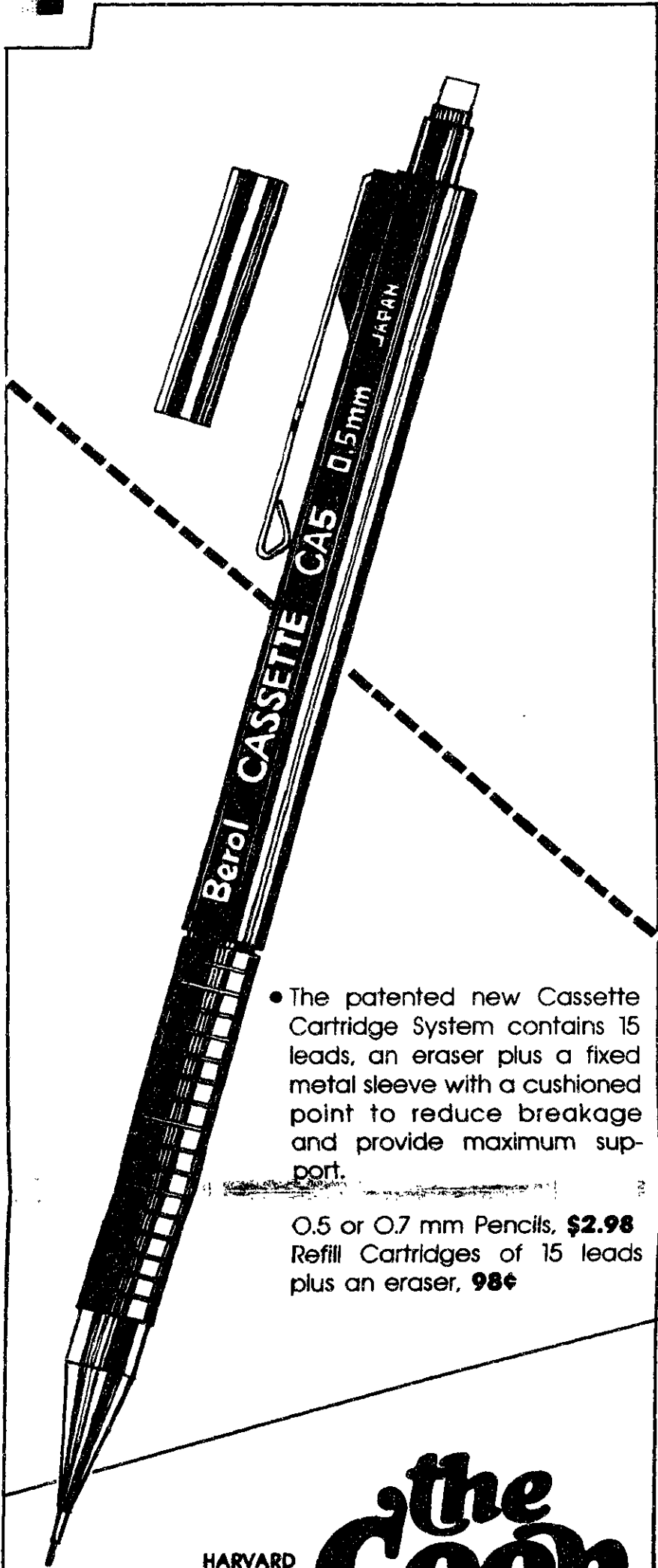
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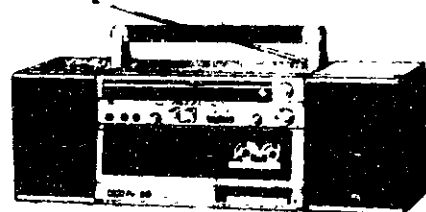
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## Low income housing proposal fails city council by one vote

(Continued from page 1)  
 proposal he sponsored in City Council. Sullivan's "linkage" proposal would "link" large new developments to housing by requiring the developers to provide a certain number of units of low and moderate income housing. Such developments include Cambridge Center and MIT's planned development of the Simplex site. Large developments create jobs, leading to increased demand for housing, Sullivan explained. Furthermore, these jobs are generally high-paying, and the people who take them can afford expensive housing, he added.

Major developments therefore drive up housing prices in their vicinity. Sullivan intends the linkage proposal to counteract this effect.

Sullivan's proposal recently failed a City Council vote. It was approved by six of the nine council members, one fewer than the number needed to pass.

Sullivan speculated that "but for MIT," the proposal would have passed. MIT "fought tooth and nail" against linkage, he said, as did Harvard.

Linkage is a proposal to change the city zoning laws. Such changes ordinarily need the approval of two-thirds, or six members, of the City Council. The proposal needs the approval of three-fourths, or seven members, of the council if the owner of 20 or more percent of the affected land protests.

The Simplex site owned by MIT constitutes more than 20 percent of the land affected by linkage.

Sullivan said he will introduce the linkage proposal again after the City Council election in November, when all council seats are being contested. He thinks it is "likely" that at least one additional supporter of linkage will be elected, and the proposal would then have a "good chance" of passing.

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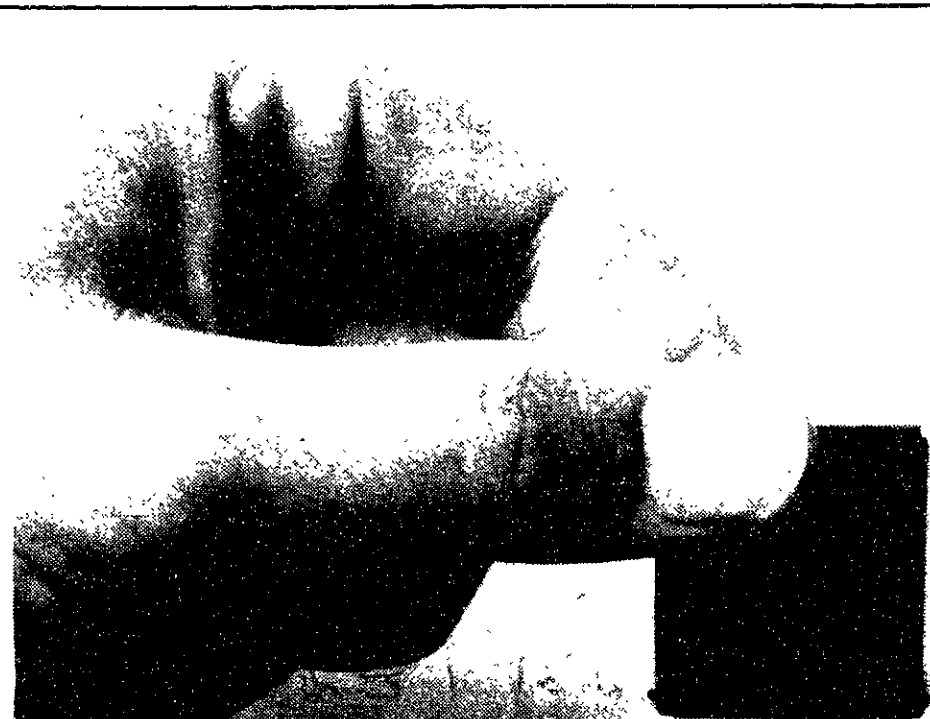
Tuesday, September 17, 8:30 am & 6:30 pm

Orthodox Services will be held on Yom Kippur.

Tickets will be required for all Sunday services. Students can pick up free tickets in Lobby 10 on Sept. 12 & 13 or in Hillel from Sept. 9 - 13. Non-students should contact Hillel.

Holiday meals will be served in the Kosher Kitchen located in Walker Hall, Room 50-007: Sunday at 7:45 pm, Monday at 1:30 pm & 8:00 pm, and Tuesday at 1:30 pm. Prepaid reservations are required by Thursday, September 12. They will be taken at either Hillel or the Kosher Kitchen. We accept both cash and validine.

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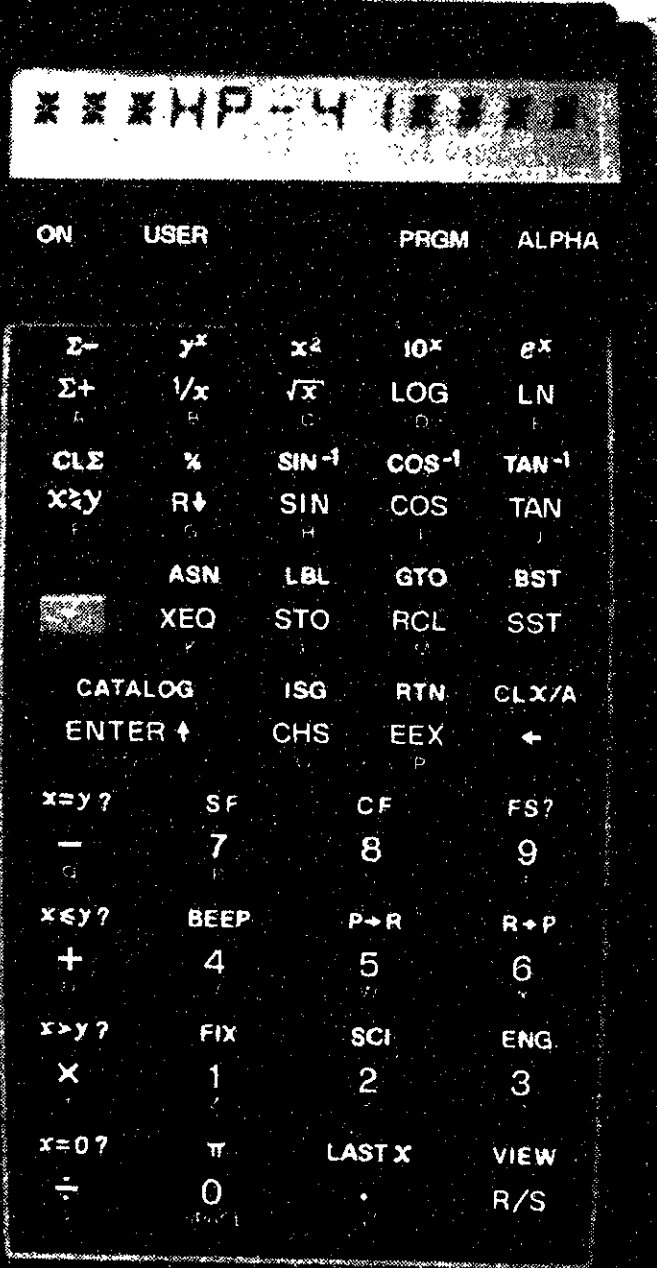
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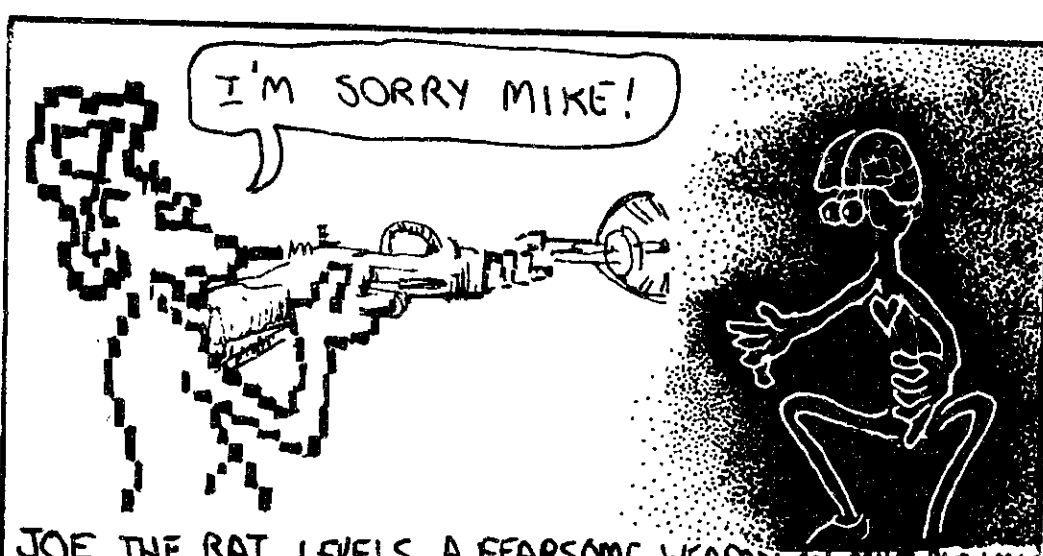
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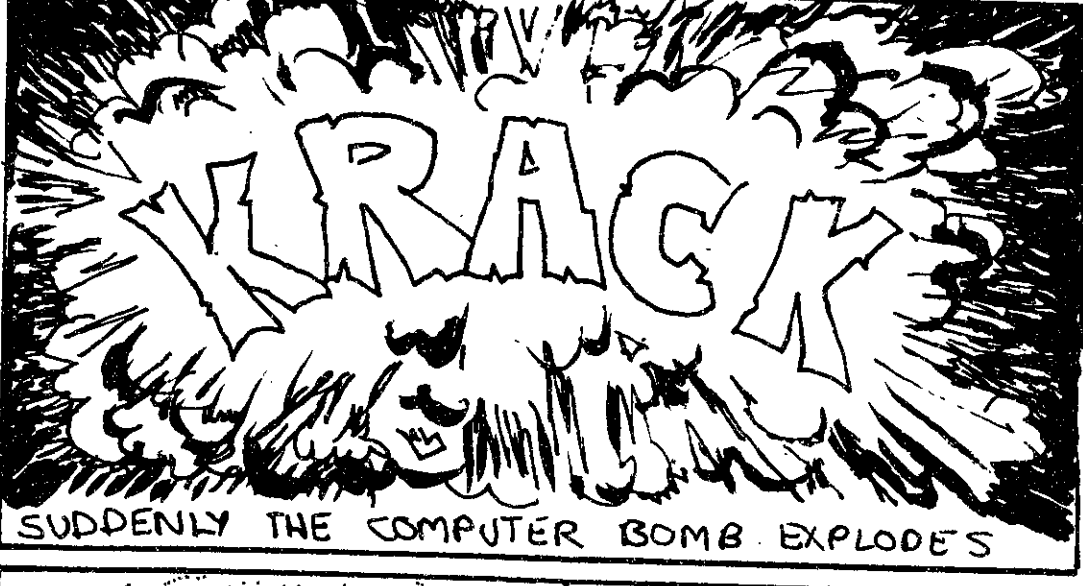
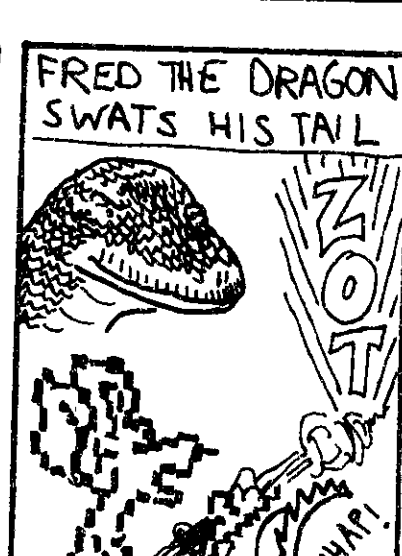
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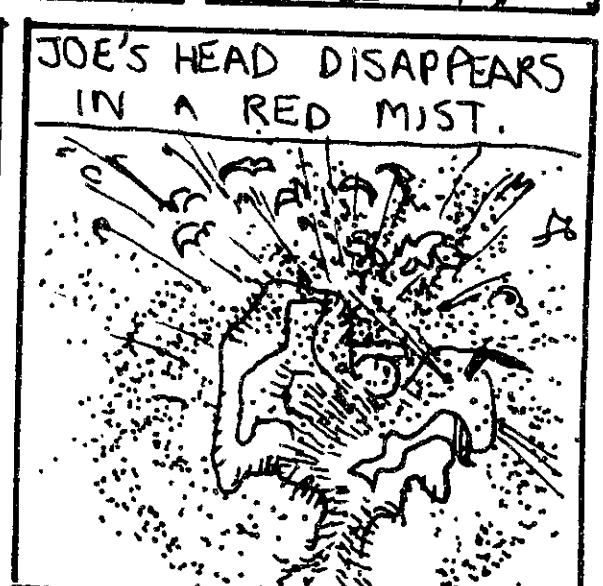
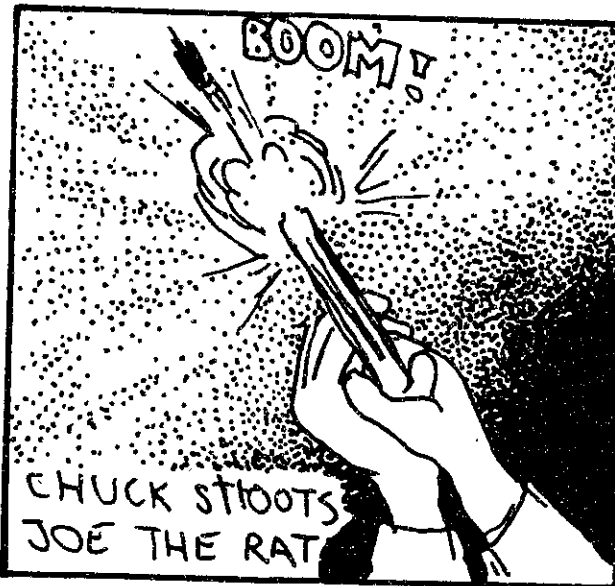
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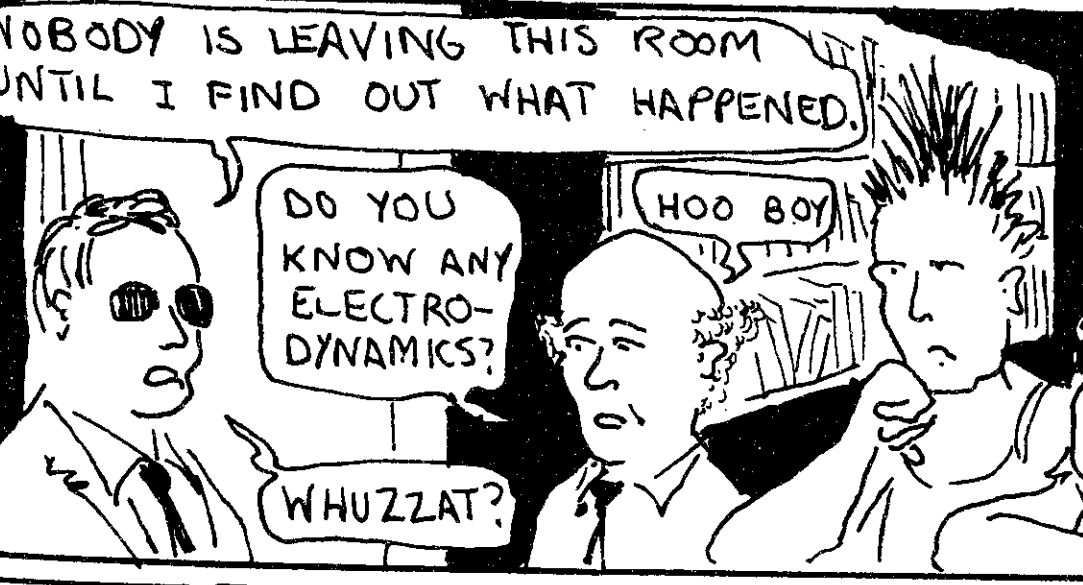
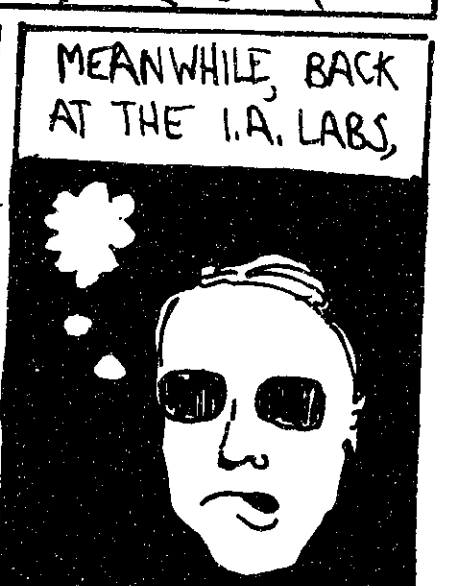
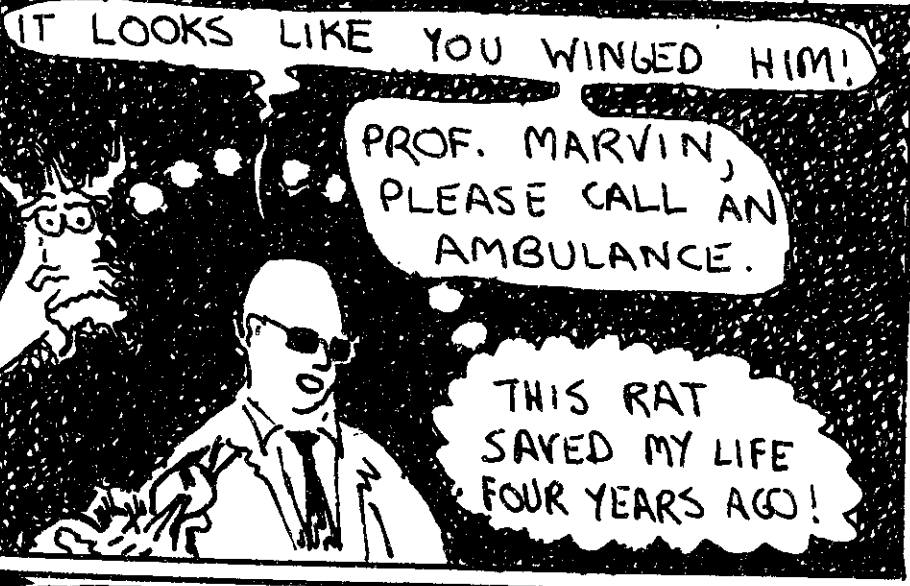
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# sports



Tech photo by Sue Fatur  
Carl Resnick '86 and Karl Tucker '86 practice for the coming soccer season. The first game is today at 3 pm against McAllister College.

## Football to open vs. Stonehill

By Jerome Braunstein

The MIT football team will open its season against Stonehill College tomorrow at 1 pm at Steinbrenner stadium.

Head Coach Dwight Smith said tomorrow's game will be "one of the most difficult games of the season," but he predicts the team will hold its own throughout the season.

Coach Smith described this year's defense as better than in past years. He said the offense is not quite as good as it was in the past, but it is improving. He plans on an overall team equal

to, if not better than, any other team he has coached in his last seven years at MIT. Because the team "lacks depth," Smith hopes his starters will stay healthy.

This year's starting quarterback is Peter J. Gasparini '88. He started a few games last season when last year's starting quarterback was injured. Joining Gasparini in the backfield is full-back Hugh B. Ekberg '88, weighing approximately 255 lbs. Ekberg is one of the fastest runners on the team.

Blocking for Gasparini and Ekberg are two of the most experienced offensive line players

on the team. They are John L. Newton G and co-captain Arthur B. Gregory '87. Newton, in his fifth year as offensive guard, keys the other offensive linemen of their blocking assignments.

Defensive co-captains Larry S. Monroe G and Nicholas S. Nowak '86 both mentioned that the defense looks really good. Most of this year's team played last year.

Last Saturday, the Engineers held a practice scrimmage against Bentley College. Monroe commented that the "offense really moved the ball," garnering two touchdowns in the three fifteen-minute quarters played. The defense claimed many interceptions and fumbles, keeping Bentley scoreless.

The Engineers' record of five wins and three losses sent the team to club finals last season. Their loss in the NCAAF semifinals was disappointing, since they were leading Worcester State at the half. Worcester State later went on to win the championship, and it is now a member of Division III.

## Rugby club defeats Boston Minutemen, 26-11

By Mike Murphy

The MIT Rugby Football Club opened its season last Saturday on Briggs Field with a 26-11 defeat of the Boston Minutemen. The game was part of the Boston Rugby Club's 25th anniversary celebration, which was hosted by MIT.

Sloppy play marked MIT's efforts in the early part of the first half. Boston quickly took advan-

tage of MIT's play to score a try and go up 0-4 after five minutes. A penalty kick made it 0-7 before MIT began to settle down and assert itself.

Solid play on loose balls with aggressive rucking and running put Boston under heavy pressure as the half wound down. The payoff was a try under the posts as the clock ran out by Rich Selesnick G. The conversion made

the halftime score 6-7.

MIT came out in the second half fired up and Boston was soon reeling. Continuous pressure off the kickoff led to an apparent try in the corner by Leo Casey G. MIT drove in another try a minute later under the posts on a pass from Casey to Chris Kuzmaul '86 to make it 10-7.

Boston struck back with a try on an MIT breakdown to go up

10-11. Captain Joe Goss G made a fine run leading to a try by Casey off a pass from Dave Simson '86. Selesnick converted and then scored again to run the score to 20-11. Scoring was wrapped up with two penalty kicks by Selesnick.

(Editor's note: Murphy is President of the MIT Rugby Football Club.)

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