Number of early applicants rises

By David S. Miller

The number of students applying for early admission to MIT has increased 27 percent in the past three years. Admissions Office statistics reveal. Approximately 1400 students have applied for early admission to MIT this year, said Elizabeth S. John- son, associate director of admissions.

The Admissions Office has not yet released the number of early applicants who will be offered admission, Johnson said.

Early action consideration is available to applicants who have completed the MIT application process by Nov. 1 of each year. MIT reviews early applications by mid-December and either admits an applicant or delays a decision until March, when it considers the regular applicant pool.

Early applicants must meet higher standards than regular applicants, since they would be offered admission before the Admissions Office ever sees the regular applications, Johnson explained.

Nevertheless, MIT has offered early action consideration to as many as 31 percent of early applicants, compared to an average of 33 percent of early applicants in the past, according to the Admissions Office figures.

Even though the number of early applicants has increased this year, the Admissions Office does not expect to admit any more total applicants than last year, she said. MIT is attempting to accommodate the housing situation by admitting smaller classes, she commented.

Admissions Office to use new selection process

The Admissions Office has begun using a new selection procedure to review applications, Johnson said.

MIT will rate each applicant this year on academic and personal characteristics, as it has done in the past, she explained. But the academic rating is now comprised of an Academic Accomplishment rating and a newly created Academic Promise rating.

The Academic Accomplishment rating is based in equal proportion on course content, high school grade point average, college board scores, science college entrance exams, honors college list, marks and science grades, and humanities and social science grades, she continued.

The new Academic Promise rating is based on the student's personal qualities, according to Johnson. In other words, it is based on an applicant's potential and sensibility, she explained.

The Admissions Office currently rates applicants based on special talents such as athletics or artistic endeavors, particular area, written or oral communication skills, entrepreneurship, job experience, and organizational leadership.

By Michael Geiger

Residents of 500 Memorial Drive and Rocky House members of Alpha Pi have begun to reflect on the student-run, living-group-based forums on educational policy.

The living-group-based forums, endorsed by the Undergraduate Student Council and the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Educational Affairs, are being organized this fall to encourage students to discuss possible changes in MIT's curriculum, said Robin Wagner, assistant director of the Academic Accomplishment rating.

"We know from discussions that have been occurring with the major decision makers [on educational issues] will be made in the next few months," Johnson noted. "Therefore, we could not sup- port a student-run forum until the student-run forum was created."

"By 1978, all people who had been initiates of the Xi Chapter were no longer there, and there was a request to include the Fenway House alumni in the alumni corp- oration," Haberman said. From the alumni people from the alumni corporation were contacted about the idea and the alumni "volunteered unfortunately to be an academic advisor, in the list of eligible members," Haber- man explained.

"The proposal did not pass due to the fact that a 138-108 majority of the alumni voted in favor of the proposal," Keppy said. "The majority requirement did not pass. The alumni decided that 138-thirds margin to pass, she said. The proposal, however, is on the books as an idea."

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With the smaller number of men at MIT, we may be closer to a future where all-male fraternities and sororities are no more. This year's events have brought the issue to the forefront, and MIT's administration, in its attempt to consider the position of the MIT chapter of the International Fraternity of Sigma Alpha Mu, has taken some steps towards a solution.

Three groups target cancer mechanisms

(Continued from page 1)

describe how a cell reacts to its environment, the group is studying the complex signaling involved in telling a cell whether or not to divide.

It is thought that normal cells become cancerous because genetic factors known as "oncogenes" interfere with this signaling pathway. In the normal state, these genes—named proto-oncogenes—are harmless. However, as a result of exposure to damaging substances, such as radiation, proto-oncogenes turn into oncogenes, which may cause abnormal growth that can lead to cancer. The Cancer Center also developed a biological test for oncogenes, thus making it possible to detect the presence of these genes.

Other members of the group study various facets of oncogene research.

notices

Friday, Dec. 5

Black Rose Lectures presents Sue Hyde and Janice Irvine speaking on "Women v. Hartwick: After the Sodomy Decision." The talk will take place in Room 9-150 at 8 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information call 491-3668.

Saturday, Dec. 6

Professor George Rathjens and Carla Johnston will discuss the state of arms control negotiations and the role of the United States in the arms race.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

Benjamin DeMott, professor of English at Amherst College, will speak on "Which education is empowering" as part of the Cambridge Forum's series on "Understanding Power." Can education be empowering, or is it only a means for society to train the next generation of workers? DeMott will speak at 3 Church Street, Cambridge, at 5 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Jean Bethke Elshtain, professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, will speak on "Family Power and the State: The Invasion of the Child Savers" at the Cambridge Forum. Elshtain will speak at 3 Church Street, Cambridge, at 5 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 18

The first annual Mad Hatter's Ball to benefit the Greater Boston Special Olympics will be held at 8:30 p.m. at the Isabella Court. Tickets cost $15. For more information call 353-9110.
Egyptians charged with plotting coup

Four Egyptian military officers and 29 other men have been charged with plotting a coup by Egypt's top prosecutor. The Interior Ministry said the suspects were part of a Muslim extremist group that wanted to start a holy war and topple the Egyptian government. (AP)

Reagan defends aides' silence

President Reagan defended the right of two of his former aides, Vice Adm. John M. Poindexter and Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, to refuse to testify before the Senate Intelligence Committee. Reagan also said he would allow his former aides to discuss the arrangements. (AP)

Conviction handed down in Grenada

A jury in Grenada has convicted 14 people of murdering Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. His assassination made Grenada a military coup three years ago triggered the US invasion of that Caribbean island. (AP)

Bank bomb turns out to be a false alarm

An alert from a Cambridge bank that a possible explosive device was on the premises turned out to be a false alarm. Cambridge Police Lt. Thomas Brennan said Boston, Cambridge and state police arrived at the Cambridgeport Savings Bank and found a shoebox in a wastebasket. (AP)

Conviction handed down in Iran arms dealings

The president doesn't dispute Vice President George Bush's claim that mistakes were made in the secret dealings with Iran, according to White House spokesman Larry Speakes. Previously, Reagan has insisted that he did not make a mistake in sending arms to Iran.

Honeywell out of South Africa

Another big American company is pulling out of South Africa. Honeywell will sell its interests to local South African businessmen because of the unfavorable business climate. A Honeywell spokesman said all 175 jobs probably would be retained. More than 60 American companies have left the country since January 1985. (AP)

Federal agents have arrested two suspects, one a former Royal Air Force officer, in the investigation into the mysterious theft of a $100,000 gold watch from a famous jewelry store in London.

White House spokesman leaving post

Larry Speakes, Reagan's chief spokesman for five years, will leave. He has accepted a job as senator executive with the Wall Street investment firm Merrill Lynch. He will leave his White House job on Feb. 1. (AP)

Reagan: Errors were made in Iran arms dealings

The president doesn't dispute Vice President George Bush's claim that mistakes were made in the secret dealings with Iran, according to White House spokesman Larry Speakes. Previously, Reagan has insisted that he did not make a mistake in sending arms to Iran.

Reagan still believes there are moderates in Iran he can negotiate with. (AP)

The Senate Judiciary Committee was in its fourth day of hearings about the controversy yesterday, calling deputy CIA director Robert Gates to testify. (AP)

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Thirty years of political progress should not be forgotten

While Ronald Reagan slept, 39 years passed. Awakening in the golden age of world politics, when we could walk the twilight streets and not fear for our lives, when we could trust the government and stand up to the Russians, and when elementary schools taught our children traditional values.

Oh, yes, those were the days.

And so he supported school prayer, serve freedom. And so he opted foreign policy to preserve freedom. And so he opted for a get-tough foreign policy to preserve freedom. And so he questioned affirmative action. And so he supported school prayer.

What Reagan was suggesting was that we erase two tumultuous decades of America's history, the ad- dles in which we witnessed the madness of a young country, the primes of their lives, watched 30 million of them die, see the innocence in some far-off jungle, smelled the acrid smoke of our enemy in some far-off jungle, the primes of their lives, watched their own purposes these men's wars, even when they do not understand them.

Night after night, we studied the papers wounds of our sol- diers in our very own living room, for Vietnam was the first televized war. All is living color. But will his memory recall the blood and horror of that war? Or will we only be able to love and rage for our very lives, expecting to the paroxysm of the pain?

In those years, our cities were dark and lonely. How much will we only be able to love and rage for our very lives, expecting to the paroxysm of the pain?

Purity test was sexist and racist

The questionnaire also assumes that normal sexual behavior is ex- * Have you ever fondled a sexual experience? * Have you ever participated in rape? * Have you ever successfully raped a person? * Have you ever committed incest?

In contrast, can you imagine the question, "Have you ever com- mitted a rape?" Would you find it amusing? Obviously, all of these questions are intolerable and constitute harassment. Rape is not funny. Rape is violence against women. Rape is the same as sexual questions trivialize rape and incest victims who were therefore not included in the Baker House Purity Test may have caused any individual, and I hope that our decision effectively responds to your concerns. If you have any other comments or questions, please contact me through TCA.

Michael Doyle G, President, TCA
Racist behavior will not be tolerated

To the Editor:

I am writing in the wake of recent comments concerning The Report on the Racial Climate on the MIT Campus. This report has provided our community with an opportunity to engage a problem that exists here as well. The Maier Report exactly diagnoses the failing of the HUM-D system and the allowable number of subventions.

The report makes clear that there are two aspects to racism. One has to do with personal thoughts and the other with behavior. While we cannot change the latter, we can do something about the behavior. MIT President Paul E. Gray '44 and I wish to make it clear that racist behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated on this campus.

Setting this as an Institute policy is only a first step. Doing something about it, each of us, however we are, will make the difference.

John M. Deutsch '61

Professor of Literature

To the Editor:

The article by Katie Schwartz '86 and Jai Young Kim '90 on faculty reaction to the HASS proposal [Faculty divided over HASS proposal," Nov. 21] quotes me liberally and accurately.

It left out, though, an important point which I share with many faculty colleagues: that the Maier Committee's Report exactly diagnoses the greatest failing of the current Humanities Distribution system — its failure, ironically, to assure real distribution in the student's exposure to the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences — and proposes to remedy that failing.

Whereas disagreements may remain about identifying the proper distribution categories and the allowable number of subventions, the Maier Report has performed an immense service to clear thinking about educational ends and means at MIT.

Travis R. Merritt

Professor of Literature

Director, HASS Office
Bloodshed inevitable in South Africa

To the Editor:

Perhaps with the best of intentions, columnist Kenneth D. Leiter ’90 has fallen into the same trap as so many Western correspondents in South Africa, namely seeing the country through the eyes of the white minority ["Apartheid cannot die quickly," Nov. 21].

The typical stance of the white "liberal" in South Africa is that it's a shame that apartheid is so "liberal" in South Africa is that it's a shame that apartheid is so terrible since only whites are really capable of running the country. Perhaps this is better than completely unconstructed support of apartheid. But it doesn't count for much unless it leads to willingness to negotiate with, and eventually rode power to, the accepted leaders of the black majority.

Leiter seems to have visited South Africa on the terms set forth by the South African government for foreign visitors as well as for its own white population — have a good time, but don't mix with the black people or really see how they live and what they want.

Hence the acceptance of the standard view that only whites can undertake development. Never mind that South Africa is heavily into the business of sabotaging development in neighbor- ing majority-ruled states. Never mind the example of white settlers who systematically smashed the infrastructures of Algeria, Mozambique, Oman, and so on when they lost their privileged positions there.

Hence the acceptance of so- verignity-appointed Chief Costas Botha as black spokesman over the black unions, communi ty organizations and liberation movements that have had to build their support in the face of intense government repression.

Hence the acceptance of the fiction that Af- ricans in South Africa aren’t too badly off after all. And hence the failure to talk to black Af ricans and find out that they are probably more politically sophis- ticated and involved than Ameri cans of any race.

Yes, change in South Africa will be forced — by the majority of the population of that country, against an intransigent regime. And our choice is to stand with that majority, and try to help that change come as soon as possible, or to stand in white solidarity with the forces of apartheid and make the blood-letting as prolonged as can be.

Alan Zaslavsky

Erratum

The author of the Dec. 2 letter entitled "IAF is a waste of valuable time" was not Melico Yaraka. Letters sent to The Tech in response will not be pub- lished, since the original letter was apparently insin- cere.

The author of the Dec. 2 letter entitled "Hostility not in nation's best in ter- est" was Richard M. Os- good '89, not Dhanesh K. Shaharan G.

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See our entry in the IAP Guide
#1757 (pg. 35)
Class Gift should not go to EFD

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to Morrie D. Tavarez ’87 ("Class gift should make a statement," Nov. 21). This letter is in no way an attack on the divestment movement, although I personally do not believe in the pressing of universities into divestiture.

The suggestion by Tavarez that the Senior Class Gift be donated in full to the MIT Endowment for Divestiture must be carefully examined. There are three important points which should motivate our class to reject Tavarez's proposal.

First, it is clear that the class is not in unanimous agreement on the issue of calling on the MIT Corporation to divest. Although Tavarez points out that the Undergraduate Association referendum on divestiture resulted in a 60 percent vote in favor, it is important to note that less than 40 percent of MIT undergraduates participated in the balloting. And clearly, those in favor of the divestment question were more likely to participate.

Second, the suggestion even then that a majority of the Class of 1987 favors MIT's divestment is open to question. Should it be decided that the Senior Class Gift will be a donation to the EFD, the participation of class members donating to the class gift would drop a great deal (from an already low participation rate). This would merely cause a very limited donation from the class, and would bury our class gift in a pile with all other mediocre class gifts.

In addition to limiting the total donation from the class, the lower participation among class members would destroy the opportunity for the class gift to act as a unifying force for the MIT community. It would tell the whole MIT undergraduate population that the class gift could not be used to display to the community "just how committed we were to the values presented in the referendum." Such a donation would do little more than repeat what has been suggested by the U.A. referendum, the shantytown construction, and other protests which have been held at MIT — that a portion of the MIT population favors divestment of MIT funds from companies doing business in South Africa.

It would be extremely naive to think that even a comparatively generous donation from our class to the EFD would provoke the Corporation into divesting. Assuming MIT does not divest by 1994, the Senior Class Gift would become a donation to the United Negro College Fund and Amnesty International — a donation which would do little in the way of helping the Class of 1987 remember.

A third point to be examined is the effect the gift will have on MIT and its community. Tavarez suggested that the class gift could be used to display to the community "just how committed we were to the values presented in the referendum." The MIT Corporation would have great difficulty in responding to this challenge.

It is the intention of the Class of 1987 to participate in the MIT Corporation by divesting. However, all the MIT community could claim the EFD funds at any time, simply by divesting its portfolio of South African holdings. The Senior Class Gift would then become part of the portfolios of the many individuals involved in MIT. To claim the class gift would be used to display to the MIT Corporation as well as the MIT community the clearly expressed pro-divestiture sentiment by donating.

I disagree, however, with Tavarez on one point. A gift to the MIT Endowment for Divestiture would be a meaningful gift. A gift to the EFD is a concrete expression of distaste for the In- stitutional policies of investing in corporations doing business in apartheid South Africa. As such, it would 'prove the MIT Corporation that there can be "no business as usual" with Class of 1987 alumni until MIT responds to the MIT community's clearly expressed pro-divestiture sentiment by divesting.

The Senior Class Gift should be donated to the MIT Corporate Fund in favor of the United Negro College Fund and Amnesty International. This gift should symbolize a meaningful gift to MIT and its community. The Class of 1987 should make a statement.

Howard M. Brand G.

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by

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The Wulff Lecture honors one of the Institute's finest teachers, the late Professor John Wulff, and is primarily for the benefit of undergraduates, especially freshmen. This year's speaker, Dr. David C. Hill, graduated from MIT and is now on the faculty of Prof. Wulff. His talk will include videotape and film footage of the industrial production of exciting new materials such as metallic glasses. Come out and hear an excellent speaker talk about a fascinating topic.
To the Editor:
Two months before I left South Africa to come to MIT, I walked to a demo on Loop St., Cape Town. It was the door to the Security Police offices and I was there because I wanted a permit to visit my sister. She had been detained in a church on June 16, after attending a service to commemorate those who have died opposing apartheid. Apartheid is not about sharing benches, trains and buses. It is about laws like the Internal Security Act which allow a person to be detained indefinitely without a trial and it is about the power to make such laws and enforce them.

Most South Africans think that change should come slowly and that Botha has already begun to reform apartheid. Two years ago "non-whites" were not the other way around. These changes are no longer segregated. It used to be illegal for whites to ride in the black section of the trains. These changes are elected in the ratio 1:2.

Two years ago "non-whites" were thinking that one plus two will never equal four.

We don't see a lot of hate and take it slow. I want to be free from apartheid, and I've been waiting 19 years. My mother has been arrested since June 12th. Eighty-nine people have died while being held in police custody or detention for their political activities.

My sister was 17, in her final year of high school, when she was detained. She was not the longest person ever to be detained. Children as young as 11 are being held. She stayed for 40 days in the same prison they are holding Nelson Mandela. She was not held in solitary confinement. She was not held in solitary confinement for months on end. She did not die or end up in a psychiatric hospital.

Our family was out of the locked ones. We know where she was and when she had been detained. We got to visit my sister after three weeks; some never do. Families are often not informed of their children's detention.

Don't tell me to wait and take it slow. I want to be free from apartheid, and I've been waiting 19 years. My mother has been waiting 54. I don't want to worry about my family and friends at home.

I want my children to know the children of other races. I don't want to have to feel guilty because my skin is white. I want to be able to be proud to say that I come from South Africa.

Dorothy Theron '89

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To the Editor:
For me, the news that I had a malignant tumor in my right elbow was a blow. I learned it shortly after I'd been elected Captain of the Army football team.

Thanks to early detection, effective surgery and treatment, I was back in three and a half months—not bad for playing football but functioning in every other capacity as captain. I graduated on time. And today, I'm a Lieutenant in the Infantry.

You know, millions of people like myself owe their lives to cancer research. And we take money. Lots of money.

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American Cancer Society
We too easily forget the past

(Continued from page 4)

But that doesn't mean we should, that we shouldn't bear grudges. Among people long dead. It's true that we absolve ourselves of the hatred that cannot be washed away. Books hold the blood of millions changeable words of history. Austria recently elected a president who was once a Nazi soldier, while last year the German chancellor invited the American president to the gravesites of Hitler's soldiers.

Young urban professionals with their short, styled haircuts and conservative suits know where they're going, it's a cultural revolution. Unfortu-...
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Movies on the town

** Blue Velvet — David Lynch’s weird tale of sexual perversion is interesting in its presentation of the darker side of life, but the humor flaws the film in its incongruity with the serious subject matter. At the Nickelsdoo and Harvard Square.

*** Children of a Lesser God — A beautiful, moving love story between deaf pupil (Marlee Matlin) and teacher (William Hurt) with fabulous acting performances by the principals. At the Cheri and Harvard Square.

*** The Color of Money — Scorsese directs and Paul Newman and Tom Cruise star in this excellent sequel to the 1961 “Hustler.” Cruise is a hustler pool shark being compartmentalized by Newman but the film is less about pool than it is about deception and personal redemption. At the Charles, Circle Cinema, and Assembly Square.

Crocodile Dundee — Paul Hogan is likable as the Australian from the Northern Territories and the scenes in the outback are gorgeous. However, the story bogs down once it moves to New York. At Cinema 57 and Assembly Square.

Jumpin’ Jack Flash — Whoopi Goldberg’s talents are wasted in this silly tale of a computer operator who finds herself immersed in international espionage through her terminal. Her romantic involvement with an invisible spy is even less believable. At Pi Alley.

Menace — Gerard Depardieu and Miou-Miou star in this bizarre French film chronicling a trio’s journey of damnation into the underworld. This film refuses to be taken seriously and ultimately defies classification. At the Nickelsdoo.

*** The Mission — Jeremy Irons and Robert De Niro star in this film about the transfer of South American land between Spain and Portugal and its affect on a Jesuit mission above the Iguazu waterfalls. Splendid location photography and excellent character acting. At the Cheri.

The Name of the Rose — Umberto Eco’s book about the importance and beauty of books is reduced to nothing more than a detective novel set in a monastery in 1327. Sean Connery stars as the monk, William of Baskerville. At Harvard Square.

*** Peggy Sue Got Married — Kathleen Turner and Nicolas Cage star in a Francis Ford Coppola film about what a woman wishes she had done when she was eighteen. At the Cheri and Assembly Square.

*** Rouge Baiser (Red Kiss) — Nadia is a young 15-year-old growing up in Paris whose idols are Scarlett O’Hara, Rita Hayworth, and Joseph Stalin. Meeting a photographer at a communist rally, she comes to grips with her leftist beliefs and with her own emotional awakening. At Copley Place.

Former slave trader Rodrigo Mendoza experiences a cathartic moment of spiritual conversion at the side of his confessor, in a scene from “The Mission.” Robert De Niro and Jeremy Irons star in one of the best movies on the town.

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Movies

(Continued from page 12)

*** Round Midnight — Great bebop jazz in Paris during the late '50s is the theme of this wonderful film, an uplifting story of a jazz saxophonist's rise from solitude, lonely greatness to eventual fulfillment. At Copley Place.

*** She's Gotta Have It — Sex, that is. She's pretty and has three lovers who jealously stumble over each other while vying for her attentions. A delightful comedy of sexual manners. At Copley Place.

*** Sid & Nancy — About the life and times of Sid Vicious, bass player for the Sex Pistols, and his groupie girlfriend, Nancy Spungen, this film manages to rise above the standard "docudrama" genre in presenting an emotional account of an unlikable character. At the Nickelodeon and Harvard Square.

*** Something Wild — Melanie Griffith is the hot vixen decked out in black and Jeff Daniels the square, boring vice-president of a tax consultancy waiting for the rebel within him to emerge. The two make for a fun-filled weekend but the film drags when it tries to get serious and violent. At the Paris, Circle Cinema, and Assembly Square.

*** Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home — All your favorite space voyagers return, all with gills. There are porpoises around the waist, and many years of the wiser. Not all of the magic of the televisions is there but, unlike the three previous movies, this film takes a much lighter approach to the subject matter. At Assembly Square.

*** True Stories — David Byrne's funny and absurd vision of life calls up likely stories from a weekly tabloid to posit them in the town of Virgil, Texas. The black and white characters from these stories are molded into real, likeable people. At the Nickelodeon and Harvard Square.

Compiled by Peter Dunn from Tech reviews

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Beaver

By Kevin Burns

TIM, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AEROBIC MATH.

1, 2, 3, 4...

1, 2, 3, 4.

1, 2, 3, 4

1, 2...

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8. A fear of cancer that can prevent you from detecting cancer as an early stage. A stage when it is highly curable. Everyone’s afraid of cancer, but don’t let it scare you to death.

American Cancer Society

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Just when you were starting to get used to it, here comes the conclusion of the legend of Fred.

This week's episode opens as several-aged people are examined for injuries after the mysterious accident at Liverless Labs.

You look fine, whatever you are! She's gone. I can feel it. Where did she go?

I could say the same about you. Hello? anybody there?

How did you find out he was here?

You weren't believing it. What happened to you?

I told the Liverless people I don't want to work for them under any circumstances.

They said that you were going to prosecute me if I didn't work for them. That's a pretty typical tactic.

Fact is, if we prosecuted you the case would get thrown out of court.

I'm going to give you a little piece of advice: why don't you get a job and stay out of trouble? That's easy for you to say, but what can I do with a master's degree in focused energy weaponry?

You mean you're not going to do anything to me at all?

I don't say that. You see, as the defense industry grows, there are more and more people who have gotten fed up with working for it. In a few years the post-militarists will outnumber toppies.

Why do I feel like someone's been playing games with my mind?

I wonder what happened to Athens.

Meanwhile, on a plane vastly removed from our own, two important people locked in conflict. No fair! you let me win! no I didn't swear!

Well, I don't think you were a very convincing notion of evil.

May be I will. Time for bed, lover.

Next episode: The end.