

Tuition for 1987-88 will rise to \$12,500

Self-help level remains the same

By Earl C. Yen

The total cost of tuition, room and board will increase to \$16,970 for 1987-88, an \$820 or 5.1 percent increase over last year, President Paul E. Gray '54 announced yesterday.

Tuition alone will rise by \$700, from \$11,300 in 1986-7 to \$12,500 next year. The increase of 5.9 percent is the smallest since 1969. The remaining portion of the rise is from an \$120 increase in room and board fees.

The self-help level, the amount an MIT undergraduate is expected to earn or borrow during the academic year, remains unchanged at \$4,900 for the third straight year. Holding self-help at its current level will ease the financial burden of students needing aid, Gray said.

Each year the Treasurer's Office submits a range of figures for the next year's tuition, and Gray determines the level after consultation with the Academic Council, explained Bryan R. Moser '87, president of the Undergraduate Association.

Norman M. Wereley G, president of the Graduate Student Council, said, "I think it's a reasonable increase." The Academic Council said last month that an increase in tuition to \$12,500 would be the smallest possible rise that would still allow MIT to meet its expenses, Wereley said.

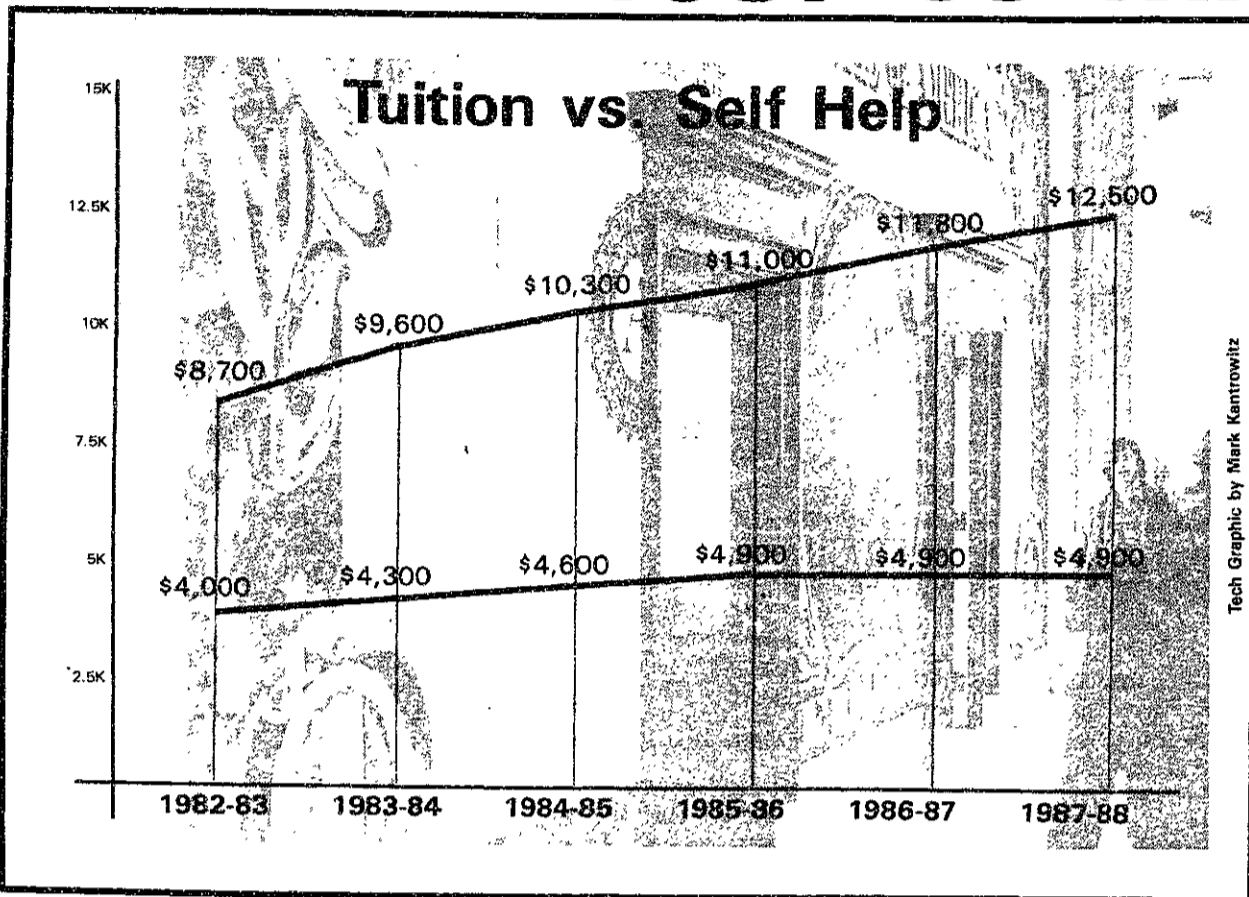
The tuition increase will not bring real increased revenues to the Institute, Moser observed.

"Dr. Gray made a conscious decision to keep tuition as low as possible and is to be commended. MIT no longer wants to be known as number one when it comes to tuition."

Moser added that keeping the self-help level down is an important priority for students because "the self-help level influences student life more than the total cost [of attending MIT] does."

Nevertheless, "MIT's self-help level has been way above those of comparable institutions, and it will take awhile before the self-help level is passed by other schools," Moser said.

Wereley noted that the tuition increase does not have as much of an impact on graduate students compared to undergraduates, since many graduate students are supported by assistantships fellowships. The increase, however, will affect graduate students without support — including many students in the School of Architecture, the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, and the Sloan School of Management.



Tech Graphic by Mark Kamrowitz

UA hopefuls discuss campus issues

By Anita Hsiung

On March 11, MIT undergraduates will be asked to choose next year's Undergraduate Association President and Vice President. Three teams will appear on the ballot: Scott A. Lordi '88 and Denis R. Gulsen '88; Manuel Rodriguez '89 and Alan B. Davidson '89; and Marino D. Tavaréz '88 and Miky Ishida '89.

The candidates for president and vice president of the Undergraduate Association discussed educational reform, student activities, and a number of other issues, in interviews with *The Tech*.

A gap exists between the UA and the undergraduate students, Rodriguez said. Rodriguez, who was coordinator of Student Life at MIT '87 week, feels he has the experience and commitment to bridge this gap. He and Davidson will work to address issues

around the MIT community, such as increasing funding for student groups, the alcohol policy, and Student Center renovation.

Tavaréz has been involved in groups opposing apartheid and calling for divestment of MIT's South African-related investments. Tavaréz has also asked for more student voice in tenure decisions. He and Ishida would work together to ensure that MIT upholds its responsibilities to students and the community, he said.

Lordi and Gulsen believe that the UA needs new people, and that they can "[infuse] new blood" into the campus as president and vice president of the UA. They would keep students informed of UA events and would convey students' opinions to the Institute.

Increasing student involvement

All the candidates expressed concern about getting more students involved in UA activities.

Tavaréz and Ishida were concerned with making students more aware of society in general. MIT has a responsibility to its students and its society, and students should urge the Institute to uphold those responsibilities, Tavaréz said. (Please turn to page 9)

GSC survey addresses graduate life

By Kenyon Potter

First in a two-part series on the 1986 Graduate Student Survey. Today's article focuses on social life and activities.

A majority of the graduate students at MIT felt that "their participation in social activities had decreased since coming to MIT," according to the results of a 1986 Graduate Student Survey.

teacher, and that there are things that are important enough to respond to."

"Being UAP, I've gained a greater appreciation of how people can affect political processes. I believe more strongly in democracy and participatory government."

The role of the UA president

Although the UA president does not have much power, it is possible to be influential, Moser said. "The notion that there's any power in this office is a joke. There were UAPs in the past who thought there was a lot of power, and because of that they turned off the entire campus and didn't get anything done."

"There is possible influence, if the UA president brings students together to get behind an issue. If the UAP can get people involved in an issue, he or she can have influence."

Many people do not seem to think of him as an MIT student, Moser said. "I'm an MIT student, but I think many people think of me as an anomaly. I've worked through my courses just like everybody else. I think all students at MIT have the ability to get involved in MIT life outside of academics. I don't want to be perceived as someone who was into politics and that was it. I'm not an anomaly." (Please turn to page 2)

Add Date delayed

Add Date has been postponed to Tuesday, March 10. Today was the original Add Date, but the Registrar's Office postponed the date until next week because it mailed registration status reports to students late.

Moser reflects on two terms as UAP

Feature

By Robert Adams

The Undergraduate Association has become more effective in influencing MIT policy, according to outgoing UA President Bryan R. Moser '87.

In many cases, students can make a difference in MIT policy, he said. "There are some policies at MIT that no one will change, and I think in some cases that's too bad. But can students affect MIT policy? Definitely yes. I'll give you a few examples."

"The graduate student housing lobby. It wasn't even on the list of MIT's priorities before the campaign began. But after the campaign, it was on the top of the list."

"As another example, I asked students what effect tuition was having on student life. All of the

self-help tuition proposals in the Academic Council were way up. After I made a presentation based on the survey I had taken from students, they no longer considered increasing the self-help level.

However, Moser regretted that MIT did not divest of its holdings in South Africa when the nationwide campus movement began. "I think [the issue of divestment] is a moot question in some ways. The point of divesting one or two years ago or even ten years ago was to show where MIT stood and what our position was. I think that divestment would no longer have the symbolic meaning that it would have had two years ago."

"I think that divestment would still be worthwhile, and that it would help a South Africa that's in need of change. A university should understand its role as a

inside

Review of "The Good Father," a film starring Anthony Hopkins which opens today. Page 6.

Review of Woody Allen's "Radio Days." Page 7.

Review of "Die Walküre," a Metropolitan Opera production which will be broadcast live on WCRB 102.5 tomorrow. Page 7.



Jerry Broda/The Tech
Please give blood! Student gives blood Wednesday at the Technology Community Association's blood drive. Blood can be given in the Student Center between noon and 6pm through Saturday and next week from 2-8pm.



Joseph Weizenbaum, professor of computer science, speaking in Lobby 7 at Tuesday's "No business as usual" protest of MIT's defense ties.

Mike Niles/The Tech

Moser describes shift in the role of the UA

(Continued from page 1)

The UA has been more successful because it has become responsive to the students, Moser said. "Right now, we're at the point of potential. We have demonstrated only slightly that we are capable of doing good things. When students take the student government seriously enough, and tell us when we're doing something wrong, then we're capable of doing great things."

"The UA has become a group of students capable of good service on campus. They're a group of students with the right attitudes, the right experience, and are thinking in the right issues," Moser said. "I'm confident that the UA will do good things in the next few years."

A few years ago, the UA was not serving the students, Moser asserted. "The UA was small, it was made up of students all from the same area of campus, and many of the students were complacent. The UA has become much more issue-oriented since then. Being UAP, I got to meet so many students and I had the opportunity to experiment with different projects."

Problems that persist

Living groups tend to segregate themselves, and this is a problem at MIT, Moser commented. "I think segregation is an important issue at MIT. I live in a fraternity. For me to come across here and get involved as UAP has been a good experience for me and my fraternity. It's a shame that students go through four years at MIT without experiencing the

festiveness of East Campus or what it's like to live in a frat. Each living group has its own culture. It's a shame we never share these experiences with each other."

Discrimination is a major problem, Moser added. "It's a shame that people never experience other races, other religions, other political viewpoints. I've learned more about different types of people and different types of communication."

Moser also commented on MIT's policy on sexually explicit films. "As someone who is supposed to represent many different views on campus, I believe that there's a minority of people on this campus who are genuinely offended, and I think they have every right to be. I think it's important enough that there should be a response to these feelings."

"But as someone who cares about civil liberties, it's clear that the pornography policy is not consistent with what we want to teach MIT students. I think it's possible to sensitize people enough to the negative effects of pornography so that showing it doesn't interfere with the offense that some people may feel." But individual rights should not be sacrificed because of that offense, Moser said.

"I'm awfully thankful to all the people who have been patient and worked hard at the UA. They have given me so many open doors. I've had so many opportunities to experiment and grow while I've been here at MIT."

GSC surveys graduate life at MIT

(Continued from page 1)

sponded that they were not aware of GSC activities, the GSC reported. In general, "students felt that their participation in social activities had decreased since coming to MIT," the survey concluded.

An administration position specifically charged with graduate student affairs "needs to be filled," said Jong-On Hahn G, chairman of the GSC Academic Projects and Policies Committee.

Such an administrator would facilitate better coordination between the GSC and the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs, she explained.

The GSC needs additional revenues to sponsor other graduate functions, Hahn added.

The Undergraduate Association accrues money from the Student Center game room, but the GSC does not receive such

funds, Perkins noted. However, the amount in funds required by the GSC need not necessarily be in proportion with those of the UA, he said.

When students were questioned about Graduate Orientation, held in early fall, the majority responded with "no opinion." Thirty-one percent answered that they were satisfied with orientation and 12 percent said they were not.

These results indicated an unawareness of this GSC function as separate from departmental orientations, the report stated.

In addition, 82 percent of surveyed students replied they did not know the names of their GSC representatives and 64 percent of those expressing an opinion thought the GSC did not "adequately communicate" with the graduate community, the GSC

said.

Thirty-eight percent replied that they believed the GSC did indeed "work on their behalf." A greater portion, 49 percent, responded that they did not know whether the GSC works "on their behalf."

Survey participants were asked to evaluate how their participation in social activities had changed since coming to MIT. Participants responded on a scale between -2 (decreased significantly) and +2 (increased significantly).

Demographic Group	Average Change in Social Participation
All (1575 students)	-0.61
Male (1217)	-0.60
Female (354)	-0.62
US/Perm. (1169)	-0.55
Foreign (389)	-0.77
Asian (256)	-0.73
Black & Hispanic (58)	-0.90
All others (1156)	-0.57
MS (473)	-0.68
PhD/ScD (1068)	-0.56

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news roundup

from the associated press wire

World

Arms negotiators meet with NATO; May reach agreement soon

A delegation of American arms negotiators led by Max Kampelman briefed NATO allies yesterday on a draft treaty to eliminate medium range missiles from Europe. America's allies generally welcome the proposed treaty, which was presented to Soviet negotiators Wednesday. But they are concerned that an agreement will leave the Soviet Union with an advantage because of its short-range missiles.

The negotiators are to meet with President Reagan today. Reagan said that he has "never felt more optimistic" about arms-control efforts. There's been a major breakthrough on the path toward an agreement for arms reductions by the superpowers, he added. (AP)

Spy for Israel given life sentence

Former United States Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Pollard was sentenced Wednesday to life imprisonment for spying on behalf of Israel. The State Department downplayed the impact of the case on US-Israeli relations.

High-ranking Israeli officials expressed hope that their government has learned a lesson from the Pollard case. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said his country made a mistake in its handling of the case. Israeli President Chaim Herzog called for investigations to prevent a repeat. (AP)

Snowstorm claims four in Greece

The worst snowstorm to hit Greece in seven years has left four people dead. The snow, which began in Athens Wednesday, blanketed the Acropolis. The northern provinces of Macedonia and Thrace reported over six feet of snow. (AP)

Sports

Navratilova loses to Graf

Third-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany beat top-seeded Martina Navratilova yesterday 6-3, 6-2 in the semi-finals of the International Players Tennis Championships. (AP)

Red Sox pitcher settles debt

Boston Red Sox team officials said today they settled an old music store bill for pitcher Dennis Boyd. The team says a warrant for arrest of Boyd was withdrawn after settlement with a Boston store. Team general manager Lou Gorman says a breakdown in communications led to the warrant. He says the warrant accused Boyd of larceny. Gorman says the Red Sox paid \$369 to Spec's Music Store. It was to settle a bill for rental of video equipment last spring. Store manager Jeff Clifford says Boyd apparently forgot about the bill.

Gorman says he first heard of the matter when police visited him yesterday at spring training camp in Florida. He says Boyd didn't even know he owed the money. The \$369 will be deducted from Boyd's pay.

The Red Sox today also scratched Dennis Boyd as the starting pitcher for Sunday's exhibition game against Detroit. Manager John McNamara says Boyd has a stiff shoulder and is being examined by the team doctor. (AP)

Nation

Reagan speaks on Iran/contra scandal, wants to return to business

President Reagan delivered a speech on national television Wednesday night on the Iran/contra controversy, in which he responded to the Tower Commission Report on his management of the National Security Council. Reagan expressed anger, disappointment, and unhappiness over the Iran/contra affair, and said the trading of arms to Iran for hostages in Lebanon was a mistake.

Reagan said that he will continue to cooperate with the investigations into the affair. But in an address to the National Newspapers Association, Reagan said that it's time to move on from "inside Washington politics" and get back to the business of governing.

Congressional Democrats said yesterday that they will wait for Reagan to make good on his promise to become more personally involved in running the country. Republicans, however, rallied around the President and praised him for admitting his mistakes in the Iran/contra affair.

The White House reported that the phone calls it's been getting from the public have been overwhelmingly in favor of the speech. More than 90 percent of the nearly 4000 calls were positive, White House Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said. (AP)

Local

New Hampshire legislature opposes request to shrink evacuation zone

New Hampshire's House of Representatives approved yesterday without discussion a resolution asking the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to deny a request to shrink the evacuation zone around the Seabrook Nuclear Plant.

Seabrook's main owner, Public Service Company of New Hampshire, has asked the NRC to let it shrink the evacuation zone around the plant from ten miles to one mile.

The state-federal regulations committee unanimously recommended the resolution be passed.

Opponents of the resolution argued during a recent legislative hearing that Seabrook is as safe at one mile as it is at ten. They said Public Service will maintain plans for New Hampshire communities within ten miles of the plant, regardless of the NRC's decision.

Seabrook is completed and loaded with nuclear fuel but awaits a license to start a chain reaction. (AP)

Boston Massacre commemorated

Honor Guards from the three branches of the military helped the Boston Equal Rights League commemorate the 217th anniversary of the Boston Massacre yesterday. They also honored Crispus Attucks, a fugitive slave who was one of five men killed by British Soldiers. The five are considered the first casualties of the American Revolution.

Now is the time to remember the sacrifices of Americans of all races, Boston City Councilor Charles Yanev said at a ceremony in front of the Old State House.

Boston Mayor Ray Flynn presented a proclamation honoring the event after the national anthem was sung by a group of children from the Crispus Attucks Day Care Center in the city's Roxbury section. (AP)

FBI director named to head CIA

President Reagan announced Tuesday that he would nominate William H. Webster as the Director of Central Intelligence. The selection of Webster, presently Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, seemed to be a move to restore the morale of the CIA and move the Administration beyond the Iran/contra scandal. The selection seemed unusual since the FBI has been at odds with the CIA in the past. (*The New York Times*)

Former National Security Advisor says Reagan's speech contained implicit apology

President Reagan did not make an outright apology for the Iran scandal in his speech Wednesday night, but the apology was implied in the speech, according to Robert McFarlane, a former National Security Advisor to Reagan and a key player in the Iran/contra affair. McFarlane, who was in Paris on business, said that by accepting responsibility and acknowledging mistakes were made, Reagan had apologized. (AP)

Retail sales jumped in February

The nation's top retailers reported unexpectedly strong sales for last month. K-Mart said its sales jumped 13.1 percent last month compared to sales in February 1986. Wal-Mart reported a 44 percent increase. It appears that consumers paid off their Christmas bills early and headed back to the stores, an industry analyst said. (AP)

Opponents criticize child abuse law

Opponents of a bill to give school districts access to New Hampshire's files on people accused of child abuse blasted the measure as infringing on the rights of the innocent.

The bill's sponsors said they would be willing to have the issue studied for a year if that would lead to a better system of catching child molesters before they are hired as bus drivers, janitors, teachers or other employees. (AP)

Weather

Weather to warm up

Warmer weather is heading our way. With the approach of a large ridge from the midwest, we should see a general warming trend here in Boston during the next few days. This weather pattern has had temperatures soaring into the 70's as far north as Montana during the past 2 days. And we should see our temperatures rising to at least 50° by Sunday.

Today: Skies will be sunny early but cloud up towards evening. High temperatures will be in the 40's (5-10°C) and winds will be brisk from the west at 15-20 MPH (24-32 KPH).

Tonight: Partly cloudy skies will keep temperatures warmer than during the past two nights. Low temperatures will be near freezing in the suburbs and 35-40 (1-4°C) in the city. Winds will continue to be westerly.

Saturday: Mostly sunny with highs in the 40's (5-10°C).

Sunday: Mostly sunny with highs breaking 50° (10°C).

Forecast by Robert X. Black

Compiled by Michael Gojer and Akbar A. Merchant

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Interviews at MIT will be March 9, 10 and 19

A project of the Metropolitan Outreach Program of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Council of Greater Boston, 233 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215 • Rochelle Steinberg, Director of Jewish Introductions.

opinion

feedback

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

Letters to the Editor are welcome. They should be typed double spaced and addressed to **The Tech**, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge MA 02139, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483.

Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without express prior approval of **The Tech**. **The Tech** reserves the right to edit or condense letters. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

The Tech

Volume 107, Number 9

Friday, March 6, 1987

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Campus difficult for the handicapped

To the Editor:

On Feb. 27 *The Tech* published an article on the ways in which MIT is accommodating handicapped students ["MIT accommodates handicapped students"]. I know from my own experiences that a lot of ground is left to cover.

I am the spouse of a graduate student and have two small children. When I walk across campus I am usually pushing a stroller. On the campus where I did my graduate work this was no problem because there were elevators and wheelchair ramps everywhere. At MIT it is a different matter.

I have discovered that many of the sidewalks are rough and uneven. The campus is crisscrossed with roads and alleys, each having a curb. If I am lucky there will be a ramp from the curb to the street. But there is not always a ramp on the other side — or if there is, it may be halfway down the block.

In the winter, when snow is shoveled off the walks, it is piled on the curb, often blocking ramps. Frequently there are cars parked in front of the ramps, and often they are campus police or other MIT vehicles. Stairs are everywhere. I have spent 20 min-

utes hunting for a ramp or an elevator to get around a flight of stairs.

But I have no real cause for complaint. If all else fails, I can pick up the kids and the stroller and haul them across the snow, down the curb, or up the stairs. A student in a wheelchair might have no choice but to go home and try again another day. It won't do much good to offer these students extra help with their classes until some of the barriers are removed so they can get to their classes in the first place.

Laura Nielsen

Reminders demean MIT requirement

To the Editor:

The recent flurry of attention concerning Phase II of the Institute Writing Requirement for the Class of 1987 has been effective in communicating the administration's seriousness in enforcing the requirement. However, the attention also conveys a not-so-pleasing message — that writing and the social sciences are still somewhat downplayed.

It seems somewhat unnecessary and ironic to have to remind students of the requirement. A requirement is a requirement. The Writing Requirement became an Institute requirement in 1983. It became a requirement like all other requirements — they must all be passed.

It has become nothing less since then. It is listed in the *MIT Bulletin* and the semesterly *Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Guide*. It is listed, along with all other requirements not yet completed, at the bottom of every person's grade report.

Anyone who neglects to meet it must assume the responsibility for the error. That person will plainly and simply not graduate, just as would be the case with any other requirement. It is now that other's problem.

A similar situation is that of

South Korea, where President Chun Doo Hwan continually reaffirms his pledge to step down from power in 1988. He ought not have to repeat his pledge — South Korea's constitution says he must step down at that time.

That he must repeat his pledge is thus funny to most Americans since we have a tradition of respect for law and constitutions. Furthermore, Chun's necessity to reaffirm his promise indicates a basic distaste between mass and elite.

That it is necessary to continually remind students of their requirements, when it is their responsibility to know what they are, also seems funny at best. It implies that students need to be led by the hand or to be reminded of the importance of writing ability.

Writing well ought to be positively encouraged — not emphasized by the "punishment" of not graduating if one does not meet the requirement. Furthermore, the way the Writing Requirement is singled out and continually emphasized tends to imply that this particular requirement is against students' nature and has not been adequately heeded.

In short, the Writing Requirement reminders have made a

mockery of established practices, regulations, and procedures. They have also indicated the value accorded at MIT to writing, the humanities, and the social sciences relative to science and engineering.

A *Tech* editorial partially reflected this regrettable attitude ["All seniors must finish requirement," March 3]. If "the ability to write is a basic component of an educated mind," then it is ironic and insulting to say that "exceptions to this requirement would be unfair to [those] who have met [it]."

By calling this situation unfair, *The Tech* seems to cheapen the requirement, almost as if it were something painful and hard that must merely be finished. If the requirement were not enforced, it ought not be unfair to anybody. Rather, those individuals who have completed the requirement benefit themselves from knowing how to write well, or at least better than before.

They acquire this benefit regardless of whether others have completed it. It is those who have not completed it who are being unfair to themselves. Kudos to all those who can write well.

Pai Hwang '87

Pornography policy is not censorship

To the Editor:

Recently there has been some discussion over the showing of the movie "Deep Throat" by Adam L. Dershowitz '89 and the allegedly unjust charges brought against the student by the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs ["Tewhey files complaint against X-rated showing," Feb. 20].

MIT's policy of restricting the showing of movies considered pornographic by an *ad hoc* committee does not violate the constitutional rights of students and is not censorship.

My position is based on the idea of property rights. I am aware that people may object to the showing of pornographic movies on campus for feminist or other reasons. This, however, is not my position. My position is simply that the MIT administration should have the right to maintain and enforce a policy as it sees fit.

After the student showed the film, his uncle Alan Dershowitz, a Harvard professor, commended him for standing up "to an inexcusable and pernicious form of censorship" ["Professor defends nephew's actions," Feb. 20]. He added that the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act prevents universities from violating the constitutional rights of students.

What are a student's constitutional rights? Certainly they in-

clude freedom of speech, assembly, and worship. I assume that Prof. Dershowitz would say that MIT's policy violates the right of free speech and expression. How-

ever, I would say that there is no such thing as the right to speak and assemble as one pleases on someone else's property.

(Please turn to page 5)

Not all ROTC cadets must serve active duty

To the Editor:

I would like to clear up some potential confusion regarding the article in *The Tech* on the Air Force ["ROTC branch allows limited service," Feb. 24].

The article described the rather drastic steps the Air Force is taking to reduce the number of cadets that are commissioned on active duty this year, including placing cadets in the Air Force Reserve and giving them the option of not serving at all if they pay back their scholarship.

While this problem is unique to the Air Force, the situation that caused it is also unique to the Air Force. All the services have to cut the number of officers that they have on active duty. However, a higher percent of Air Force cadets usually go on active duty than Army cadets, for example. The Air Force's situation is unique because the cadets that they are putting into the reserves expected to go on active duty.

The reader of the article may have received the impression that

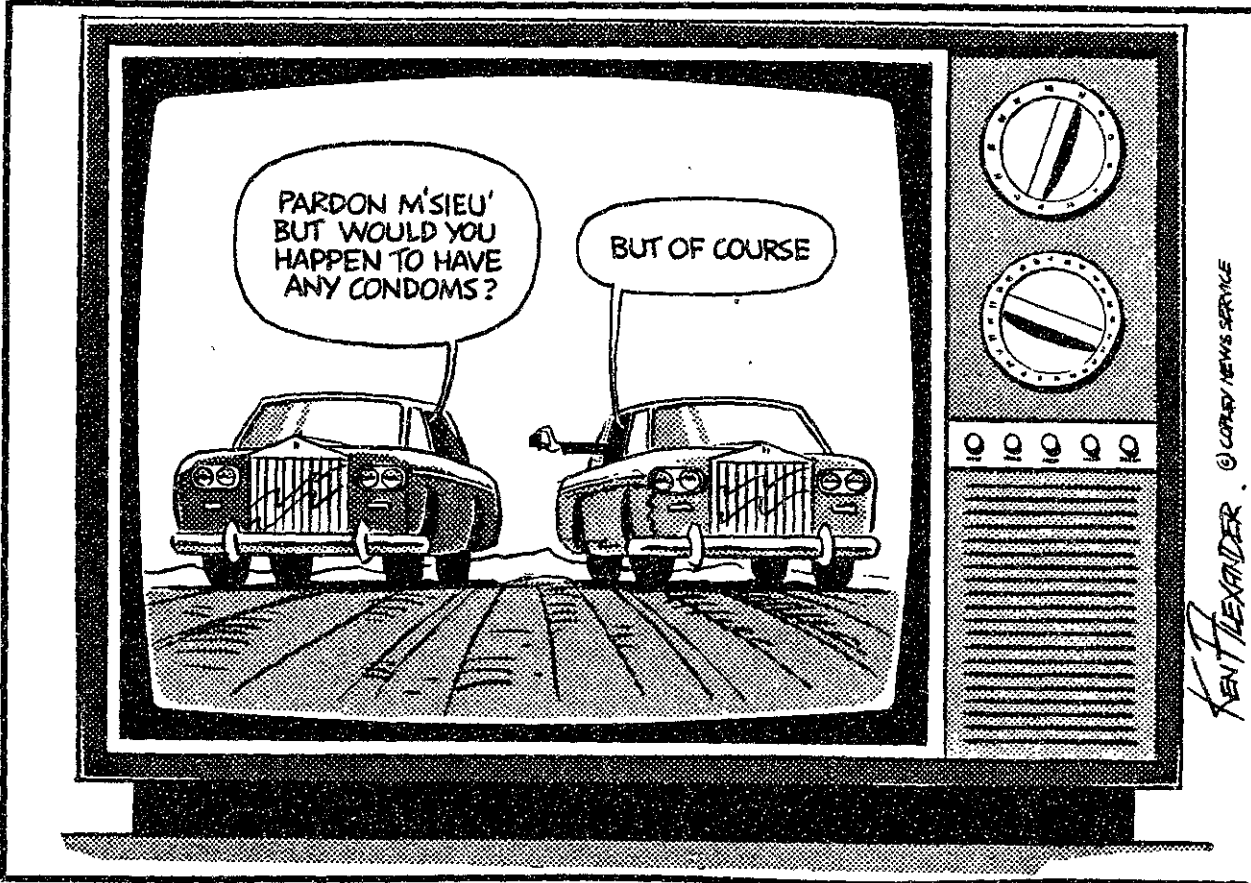
everyone in the ROTC program must serve on active duty. While that may have been the case with the Air Force until this year, it is not true of Army ROTC. ROTC is, after all, the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. While any non-scholarship cadet may request active duty, they are not guaranteed to get it.

On the other hand, most Army scholarship cadets are required to serve on active duty if the Army wants them to. Scholarship cadets may request reserve duty, and most of them get it, including everyone at MIT who requested it. The Army also offers programs for both scholarship and nonscholarship cadets that do guarantee reserve duty only.

In fact, of the approximately 24 seniors in the Army program, only eight are going on active duty in June. The rest are entering the reserves or are on an educational delay attending graduate school.

Charles E. Davis Jr. '87

opinion



Institute has right to restrict films

(Continued from page 4)
 For someone to determine what is and is not allowed on his own property is not censorship. In this particular case, if a student wants to show a pornographic movie on Registration Day but MIT denies him permission to do so on campus, he is perfectly free to show the film off campus, so long as he can find someone who will permit him to rent or use his space. His right to freedom of expression is, therefore, not being denied.
 Prof. Dershowitz's argument would be correct if this were a case of government censorship of certain forms of expression. Certainly, I am opposed to government bans on the distribution of items such as pornography. But MIT is not public property; it is a private institution, and the state's civil rights laws should not apply to a policy such as MIT's.
 I could be wrong; it could be that Prof. Dershowitz's interpretation of the law is correct, but in this case the law itself would be immoral, as it would prevent universities from setting their own policies.

Is "Deep Throat" sexually explicit? I do not know; I have never seen the film. The MIT policy states that unrated or X-rated films must be brought before a committee before being shown. Clear enough. The fact that a Cambridge judge found the film acceptable is completely irrelevant. MIT sets the standard on its property, not the city or state.
 Finally, is the policy too vague? Maybe. Again, I am not an expert in judging pornographic films. But it should be clear that vagueness is not the point of dispute between Dershowitz and MIT; Dershowitz states without a hint of vagueness that he violated the policy. His point is that "it is offensive for MIT to control morality through censorship."
 There are a number of points that perhaps could be clarified concerning the policy. For example, does the policy apply only to movies shown in public areas, such as lecture halls and dormitory lounges, or does it apply to the privacy of one's room? Cer-

tainly it is reasonable to expect a certain amount of privacy in one's room.
 Also, should advertising be permitted? It can be argued that advertising would make the event public and therefore should not be permitted, assuming that MIT decides to continue the policy. Perhaps it would be helpful for students, faculty, and staff to discuss the policy and to decide whether the policy should be made clearer or whether it should be eliminated entirely.
 Such a discussion may be of value. But my purpose is not to say that MIT should or should not have such a policy. Also, I have no opinion on whether Dershowitz should be punished or not. My only position is that, within the bounds of respecting a student's reasonable expectations of privacy, MIT should have the right to maintain and enforce policies as it sees fit.
 Alan E. Maestri '88

feedback

ODSA's actions have dangerous implications

To the Editor:
 About two years ago, the apartment across the hall from mine was broken into. For several months after, I found that my imagination would magnify little late-night noises into visions of lurking evil-doers. Well, the MIT community has recently had a break-in, and I am starting to hear noises.
 The recent break-in to which I refer is the recent action by the MIT Thought Police against Adam L. Dershowitz '89 for showing the movie "Deep Throat" ["Tewhey files complaint against X-rated showing," Feb. 20].
 The "little noise" requires a bit of explanation. (You are going to laugh.) I attended the Lecture Series Committee showing of Monty Python's "The Meaning of Life" Friday night. Before the movie started, a slide came on explaining how the film distributor had sent a bad print: a scene was missing.
 Coincidentally, the missing scene was the only sexually explicit one in the movie. (I don't know this for sure, as I've never seen the uncut version. But, be-

lieve me, you could tell it was going to be explicit.)
 Here is where my imagination starts playing tricks. Could it be that LSC was worried about the reaction of the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs, and so requested a cut version from the distributor? (Do film distributors even make available unofficial censored versions? I don't know.)
 If this were the case, it would be even worse than the Dean's Office's outright suppression of free speech: they would be pressuring other bodies into policing our thoughts and lying about it.
 Of course this scenario is ridiculous, like most things overactive imaginations come up with. Surely it was just the upstairs neighbor going to the bathroom in the middle of the night. I just wish we had not had that break-in.
 Robert J. Hall G
(Editor's note: Michael V. Edmunds '89, chairman of LSC, replied that two scenes had been removed from "The Meaning of Life," and both were explicit. When LSC realized the print had been edited, they attempted unsuccessfully to get a replacement.)

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Anthony Hopkins perfectly miscast in "Good Father"

THE GOOD FATHER

Directed by Mike Newell.

Starring Anthony Hopkins and Roger Miles.

Opening today at Copley Place Cinema.

By PETER DUNN

THE JURY IS STILL OUT ON THIS topic: when husband and wife become separated, who better deserves to take care of the child? But "The Good Father" delves less into actually answering this question than in probing how this dilemma affects the parents involved.

"The Good Father" begins with a long track in, pan left to the backs of a father and son sitting on a bench in a small inner-city park. It then cuts to a closeup of the faces of the two, the son lazily sleeping on his father's shoulder, the father gazing into the distance with a pensive, detached look on his face. This sequence of shots repeats itself throughout the film as each scene begins, progressing from empty longshot to intense closeups, establishing characters as alone and confused in surroundings they cannot completely control.

It is in this type of world that Bill Hooper (Anthony Hopkins) lives, a world where he is alone (separated from his wife), angry (at his wife and women in general), and confused (about his anger toward his wife). "The Good Father" does not paint a pretty picture of separated men — it seems that once they leave their wives, they become jerks. Bill takes every opportunity to deride women, to put forward his philosophy that they all want men dead. He is constantly referring to them as "bitches." For the greater part of the film he is portrayed as a leather clad motorcyclist whose demeanor is just as sullen as his looks. He is nothing but insulting to his wife every time he returns his son to her after the visit he is allowed once a week.

Bill befriends another man separated from his wife, Roger Miles (Jim Broad-

bent), a man whose predicament is worse than Hooper's. Roger's wife left him to live with her lesbian lover and further plans to take their son with her when she moves to Australia. Bill aids Roger in his custody case over the child wherein Roger lies at the stand to further his position. The picture is further blackened by this underhanded dirty play in the courtroom.

But if men are portrayed as horrible monsters, women are portrayed no less sympathetically. They are contemptible for hoarding the children to themselves, allowing the men only one or two days a week to see them. Roger's wife's lesbianism is clearly presented in the film as an insult to Roger's masculinity. A female legal counselor even wears a T-shirt with the words "All men are rapists" emblazoned across it and, when asked, says she believes it to be the absolute truth. Women are portrayed as more than just a threat to men, but as their adversaries.

"The Good Father" has a mesmerizing, dreamlike quality to it, the type of film where you can *feel* the characters asking themselves, "How can this be happening to me? Why am I acting this way?" The tense closeups add to this quality, emphasizing the troubled thoughts behind the pained faces. At first it seems that Hopkins is miscast in the role as Bill Hooper, his sudden outbursts of rage and sarcasm overplayed too much. But the audience quickly warms to Hopkins as he is *perfectly miscast* — he seems so out of place, whether in black leather motorcycle outfit at a posh *hors d'oeuvres* party or clumsily kicking the door to his wife's flat in blind rage, that his acting only underscores the fact that Bill is so removed from the real world.

It is as the custody case proceeds that Bill's life once again returns to "normal" — at first it is the simple satisfaction of once again controlling his life, of making life just as miserable for the women as they had made it miserable for him. But soon he begins to come to the realization that women are just as human as he and



Anthony Hopkins as Bill Hooper, a man bitter over his estrangement from his wife and son, in "The Good Father."

with this also comes the realization of how much of a creep he truly is. This understanding is perfectly reflected as the film progresses from dark, grainy grey and browns to brighter, sunlit whites. So the film is ultimately less about controlling one's life and more about simply understanding and coming to terms with it.

"The Good Father" is a disturbingly mesmerizing film. It is not easy to accept at first — how can it be easy to like any of the confused, angry characters whose motivations all seem so selfish — but its final message of acceptance and redemption leave the viewer with a better feeling about human nature.

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**The Committee on the
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ARTS

Woody Allen's new film does not show the unity of his previous work

RADIO DAYS

Written and directed by Woody Allen.
Starring Mia Farrow, Seth Green,
Julie Kavner, Josh Mostel, Michael
Tucker, and Dianne Wiest.
At the Allston, Cheri,
and Harvard Square.

By PETER DUNN

WOODY ALLEN HAS, in the recent past, only made two types of movies: nostalgic comedies set in the early 20th century and intellectual comedy melodramas, usually set in present day New York. Allen has consistently alternated between these two genres beginning in 1983 with the nostalgic "Zelig," returning to present day with "Broadway Danny Rose," jumping back to the Depression era with "The Purple Rose of Cairo," and returning once again to the 1980s with last year's Oscar nominee, "Hannah and Her Sisters." In this way Allen perfectly exemplifies the Lumière/Méliès dichotomy where his period pieces are rooted in fantasy (the chameleon man in "Zelig," the real movie characters in "The Purple Rose of Cairo") while his present day stories often deal bluntly with the real problems of present day human relations. So, following the trend, it is no surprise then that this year's Allen entry, "Radio Days," once more returns us to a nostalgic period in

America's past.

But another integral part to Allen's films, whether nostalgic or current, has always been his unique blend of sex, love, and comedy. Instead of embracing the Truffaut philosophy of "Les femmes sont magiques," Allen instead chooses to portray the reverse side of the coin: "Men are klutzes." This philosophy is most often

embodied by Allen himself but also by other actors in films where he does not play a major role — Jeff Daniels as the naïve film character in "Purple Rose" or Michael Caine as the desperately infatuated husband in "Hannah." This philosophy undeniably lends some attractiveness to Allen's films since they always favor the underdog. It is not James Bond 007 who

wins the girl, nor is it Clark Gable, or Humphrey Bogart, or Indiana Jones — it is the geek with the thick glasses, the socially inept nerd, who wins the heart of the beautiful heroine. It is then surprising that this typically Allenesque theme is not present in "Radio Days."

As with Allen's other period pieces, "Radio Days" deals with fantasy but to a less farfetched degree: Joe (Seth Gordon) is the young boy infatuated with the Masked Avenger and obsessed with obtaining the secret decoder ring; his mother (Julie Kavner) lingers on the memory of a previous courtship and wonders how her life might be if she had not married her current husband; Joe's father (Michael Tucker) is always scheming some get rich quick plan; Aunt Bea (Dianne Wiest) is constantly searching for Prince Charming but finds nothing but cowardly, homosexual, married frogs; Sally White (Mia Farrow), the beautiful but brainless cigarette girl, aspires to be a radio personality.

Each of these many fantasies is humorous and touching in and of itself, but the whole makes for a muddled soup. The film is very episodic and could be leveled for the choppyness of the storyline. However, "Zelig" and "Broadway Danny Rose" were also episodic but Allen managed to bring these all together with a unifying theme — the developing love affair between the chameleon man and his doctor in the first and between Danny Rose and the floozy in the latter. But while most Allen films were brought together by the themes of love and sex, these unifying motifs are mostly absent from "Radio Days" and the film loses direction. The only episodes which seem to consistently develop, and hence which consistently build in humor, are those which involve Aunt Bea and her many unsuitable suitors.

While the lack of unity of "Radio Days" detracts from the enjoyment of the film as a whole, the nostalgia for that golden era of radio which Allen instills throughout only aids all the more in dividing one episode from the next. When Aunt Bea, her date, and Joe visit New York City to go to the Radio City Music Hall, there is a long languorous sequence as they slowly walk through the massive, beautiful halls until they finally enter the movie theater to Jimmy Stewart and Katherine Hepburn passionately kissing. But the sequence is so unmotivated that the thoughts rising to the forefront of the mind are not, "My God, that place is so beautiful! Was everything so wonderful during the age of radio?" but rather, "Why would anybody want to walk into 'The Philadelphia Story' half way through the film?"

So, while "Radio Days" is humorous and touching in parts, it lacks the unity of theme to make it another great Woody Allen film. The film seems nothing more than a jumbled mix of short skits, each very funny, but not totally satisfying as a whole. It is a shame to have to accuse Allen of not being able to handle issues other than love and sex.



Joe (Seth Green, center) with his mother (Julie Kavner) and father (Michael Tucker) in Woody Allen's film, "Radio Days."

Hojotoho! Last chance to hear the Met's "Walküre"

DIE WALKÜRE

At the Metropolitan Opera
in New York City.
James Levine, conductor.
Timothy Jenkins, tenor.
Hildegard Behrens, soprano.

By JULIAN WEST

TOMORROW MARKS THE TENTH AND last performance for the season of "Die Walküre," the first opera in the Met's new Ring cycle. The matinee is sold out, so you cannot see it, even if you intend to be in New York. But you can hear it, simulcast on "Saturday Afternoon at the Met" on WCRB 102.5 FM at 1:30 pm. It is a production not to be missed, both a triumph in itself and the keystone of the major Met project of the decade.

On Wednesday night, Hildegard Behrens was the perfect Brünnhilde, a devoted Wagnerian who understood her job and was completely capable of performing it. Her voice was delightfully unstrained as she hit the exultant high notes with ease and evident joy.

The supporting principals were all accomplished Wagnerians. Baritone Donald McIntyre was commanding as Wotan, booming out his commands yet fragile at times. As Sieglinde, Jeannine Altmeyer, who also sings Brünnhilde for the Met, was a stunning crowd pleaser. Aage Haugland sang Hunding, and Brigitte Fass-

baender was a well characterized Fricka.

The orchestra, under the steady, careful pacing of the Met's artistic director, James Levine, was nothing short of brilliant, particularly in the third act. It began with the finest operatic version of "The Ride of the Valkyries" I have heard, and preserved a high level of intensity until a haunting rendition of the "Magic Fire Music." The Valkyries who negotiated the precipitous score of "The Ride" so remarkably were all in their debut season with the Met, save Eleanor Bergquist as Gerhilde.

The one disappointment was making do with Timothy Jenkins in the role of Siegmund, who replaced the ill Peter Hofmann. Jenkins is a fine tenor and sang Siegmund earlier this season, but is less suited to the part either physically or vocally than Hofmann.

It is just as well that Jenkins was familiar with the production, because it does call for a lot of acting. The father-daughter relationship between Wotan and Brünnhilde was developed particularly well; Behrens and McIntyre had excellent, subtle scenes together.

Günther Schneider-Siemssen's monolithic sets were strikingly realized, but merely ordinary in conception. If the Valkyries' summit looked like a lot of mountains I have seen, it also looked like those from a lot of comic books I have read. However, it fit the bill for the Met's evident intention to create a definitive Ring cycle.

It was under the influence of the lighting

department that the sets came into their own. The audience could watch the same rocks for an hour and a half and still find something new to look at, thanks to variations in the mood lighting, the "weather" (which including dusk and lightning), spotlights, and some dramatic backlighting. On the dark stage, features which were sometimes invisible were at other times in high relief.

Too much has been made of the climactic special effects; they were a disappointment after the publicity. Fortunately this leaves my own conception of the magic fire intact, and you might do as well to listen to the radio broadcast with a little imagination. But the real reason the fire was unsurprising was that the lighting was so perfect throughout.

Perhaps the worst thing about conventional sets is the costumes; there were too many horns and breastplates to be taken entirely seriously. The Valkyries' costumes did have a slightly contemporary rags-and-riches look to them, but there was nothing too striking here. But the Met is never big on radical stagings, so the audience could hardly expect a Ring to rival the Bayreuth production with its Victorian gods.

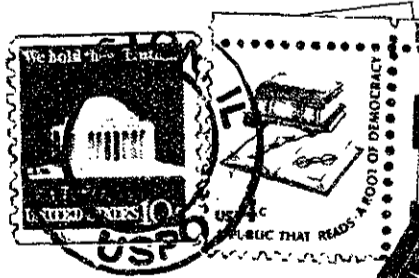
What we have instead is a Ring to replace the Seattle production, which finally surrendered a losing financial battle and opted not to stage a cycle next season. I, for one, impatiently await "Das Rheingold" and "Siegfried," now in preparation for the 1987-88 season.

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UA hopefuls discuss their platforms

(Continued from page 1)
vareze said. For example, MIT should help the homeless of Cambridge — homeless who are often found sheltering themselves in the Student Center's 24-hour coffeehouse or in other Institute buildings, he said.

Lordi and Gulsen intend to keep up dialogue with leaders of living groups in order to ensure better communication between the UA and the students. This measure will help get the UA more in touch with how students think, Lordi said.

Rodriguez and Davidson hope to improve communication links between the UA and the students through their representatives. They stressed the need for more events to air student views on student life and academic conditions. They plan to revitalize the Student Committee on Educational Policy in order to provide student input to the administration, especially on education reform.

The candidates discussed a number of other campus issues:

● **Educational reform.** Rodriguez noted that MIT is now giving extracurricular activities more emphasis in admissions decisions. Since the incoming students have diverse interests, drastic changes in the Institute curriculum are not needed and people should be able to pursue what they want, Davidson added.

Educational reform has put MIT in a dilemma, Tavarez said. "They are admitting a more well-rounded class, but there is also a curriculum reform going on in which they are cutting down the number of humanities classes and narrowing their requirements."

Tavarez said he would rather see some treatment of ethical and social issues enter into the existing curriculum, such as teaching science ethics in a first-year physics class.

● **Funding of activities.** Tavarez and Rodriguez differ on whether MIT should increase funding of student activities and clubs. Rodriguez would like to increase the amount of money available to student activities. "FinBoard [the UA committee that allocates funds for student activities] provides the same amount of funds for the 190 clubs on campus as they did in 1969, which means that funding went down 60 percent," he said.

Tavarez, on the other hand, feels that the problem lies in the direction of funding, and simply increasing the total amount of funding is inadequate. FinBoard has too much control over what the finances are used for, he said.

Right now, the FinBoard's

money cannot go to support political groups and events; such groups should not be excluded from the funds, Tavarez argued. He would change policy to encourage student say in the allocation of the funds, without tacking additional funding onto tuition.

● **Tenure policy.** Rodriguez and Davidson feel that a significant flaw in tenure policy is that there is no appeals process for the faculty. Each department has a committee that makes tenure decisions, Davidson said. If there is enough student feeling on a particular tenure decision, they can present their views to the appropriate committee to address the problem, he said.

Lordi and Gulsen believe that students should have input on tenure, but tenure decisions should ultimately be left up to faculty and administration.

Tavarez and Ishida would like students to have more power in tenure decisions. "We make up the place, so we should have some voice," Tavarez said.

● **Pornography policy.** Tavarez said he was against "exploitation in general," but that he does not think the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs should censor pornography. Instead, women's groups should protest against pornography.

Rodriguez favored dialogue among students, especially be-

tween civil rights groups and feminist groups. He hoped discussion with the dean's office would lead to a resolution.

The Institute should not censor anything, but people who show films that may offend some should be considerate of other students' opinions, Lordi said.

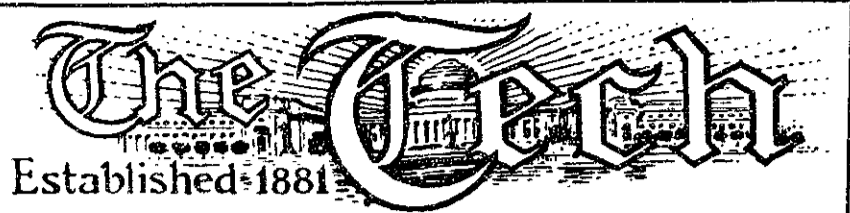
● **Alcohol on campus.** Baker House has now gone "dry" because of an incident during a party, Rodriguez said. He intends to approach the alcohol issue by getting living groups together with the administration to clarify rules about drinking.

Ishida believes that a dry campus would endanger student rights. "We need rules in general but we don't need [the dean's office] to run our personal lives," she said.

Lordi and Gulsen believe that students are capable of drinking responsibly and not abusing alcohol.

● **Student Center renovations.** All the candidates support a redesign of the Student Center. Students should have a major voice in what goes into the new Student Center, which will be redesigned from the basement to the third floor, Davidson said.

Lordi and Gulsen, who are both members of the Student Center Committee, believe that they are in contact with students and that preliminary plans look good.

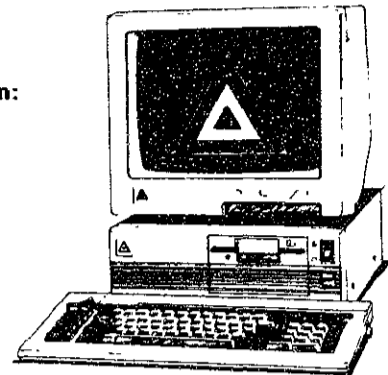


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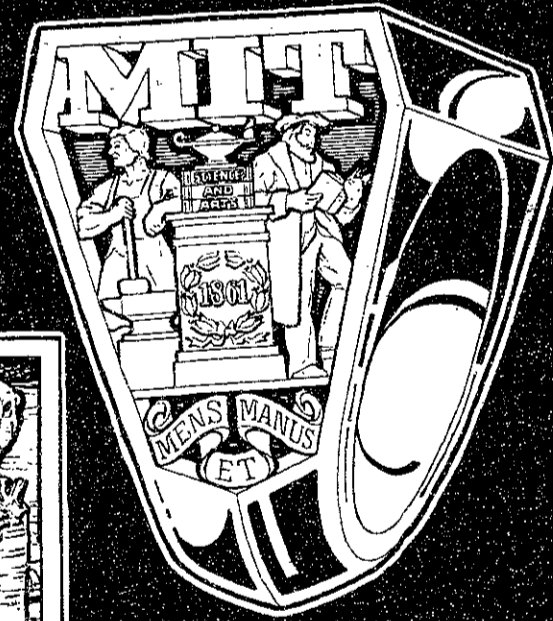
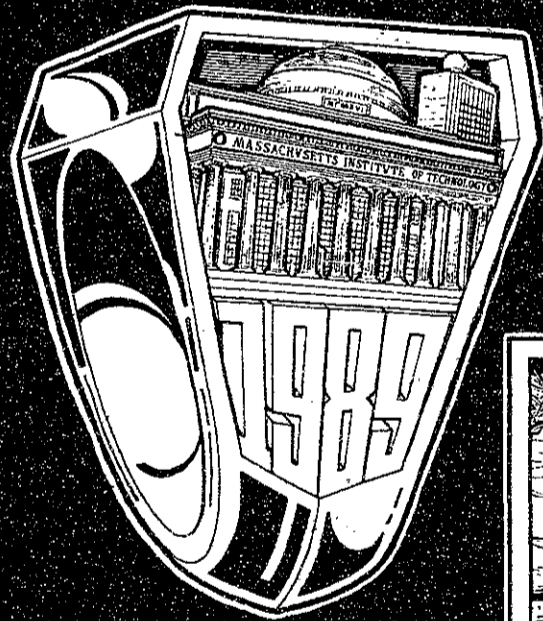
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sports

Engineers defeat Camels, 5-3

(Continued from page 12)
Connecticut team had taken the lead, the Engineers took it away from them.

Only 17 seconds later, with less than a minute left, Linde tied the score. With the puck at center ice, it popped out from the boards on the right and Linde began skating towards the net with it. Then, she used the Camel defenseman as a screen and put the puck low underneath the Connecticut goaltender. The momentum had now swung in MIT's favor as they showed Connecticut that they had no intention of losing the lead.

The third period was perhaps the most exciting since the Engineers were playing the best hockey they had played all afternoon. It was also the least exciting since it was essentially over in the first minute and a half of play.

With the Connecticut fans yelling, "You're gonna go down," the Engineers quickly silenced the catcalls when they scored less than a minute into the third period. The goal was all Bonugli as she set it up from the very first faceoff.

The Camels won the face off but Bonugli stole the puck from the Connecticut defenseman to get a breakaway — she did not score but she got another faceoff in the Connecticut zone. The puck stayed in the Connecticut zone and Bonugli took the next

three shots on goal, each time coming inches within scoring.

Finally, the Camels moved the puck to the boards in the right corner but somehow a long pass made its way to the front of the Connecticut net. All alone in front of the net, Bonugli tried jamming the puck in once again but the Camel goalie once more denied her the goal. As the puck rebounded off the goaltender's pads, Bonugli's perseverance finally paid off as she flipped a shot in. MIT led, 4-3.

With the Connecticut fans now clamoring for the Camels to tie the score, the Engineers silenced them for good as they put in an insurance goal just 40 seconds later.

Lofton gained control of the puck at the MIT blue line and sent a long pass to Schermer streaking up the left wing. Schermer then outskated the two Camel defensemen to slide the

puck underneath the Connecticut netminder. With the Engineers up by two goals and completely controlling the game, the remaining 16 minutes of play seemed unnecessary.

The MIT players' forechecking was superb as they constantly kept the puck in the Connecticut zone. Furthermore, the Engineers' passing seemed to click — every pass found its mark and the MIT squad moved up the ice completely unhindered.

The Camels tried putting on the pressure in the last six minutes of play but the Engineers were forechecking and passing too well for Connecticut to pose any real threat. Finally the Camels, pulled their goalie in the last minute of play and Bonugli skated up the ice to put her third goal of the afternoon in. Unfortunately it was disallowed as the buzzer had sounded just a second before.

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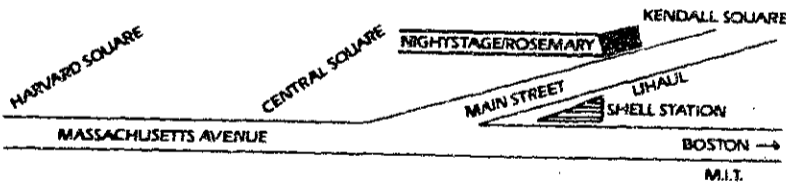
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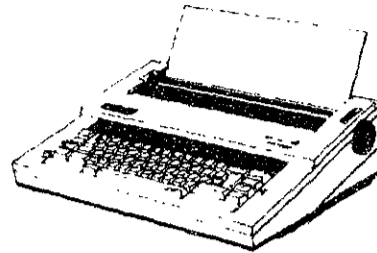


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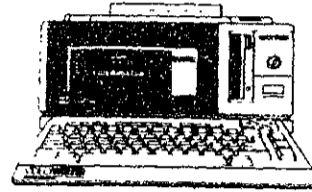


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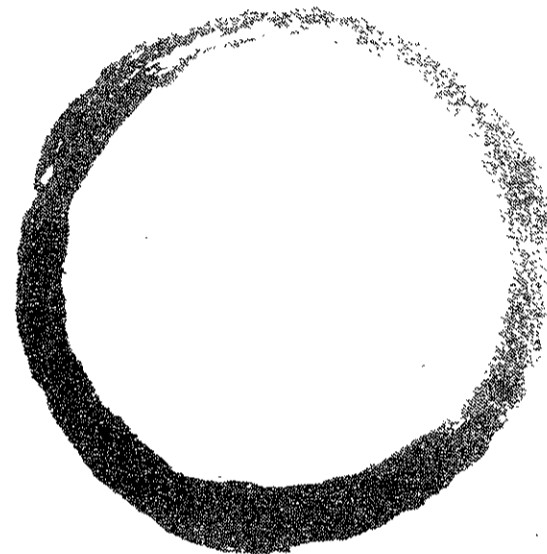
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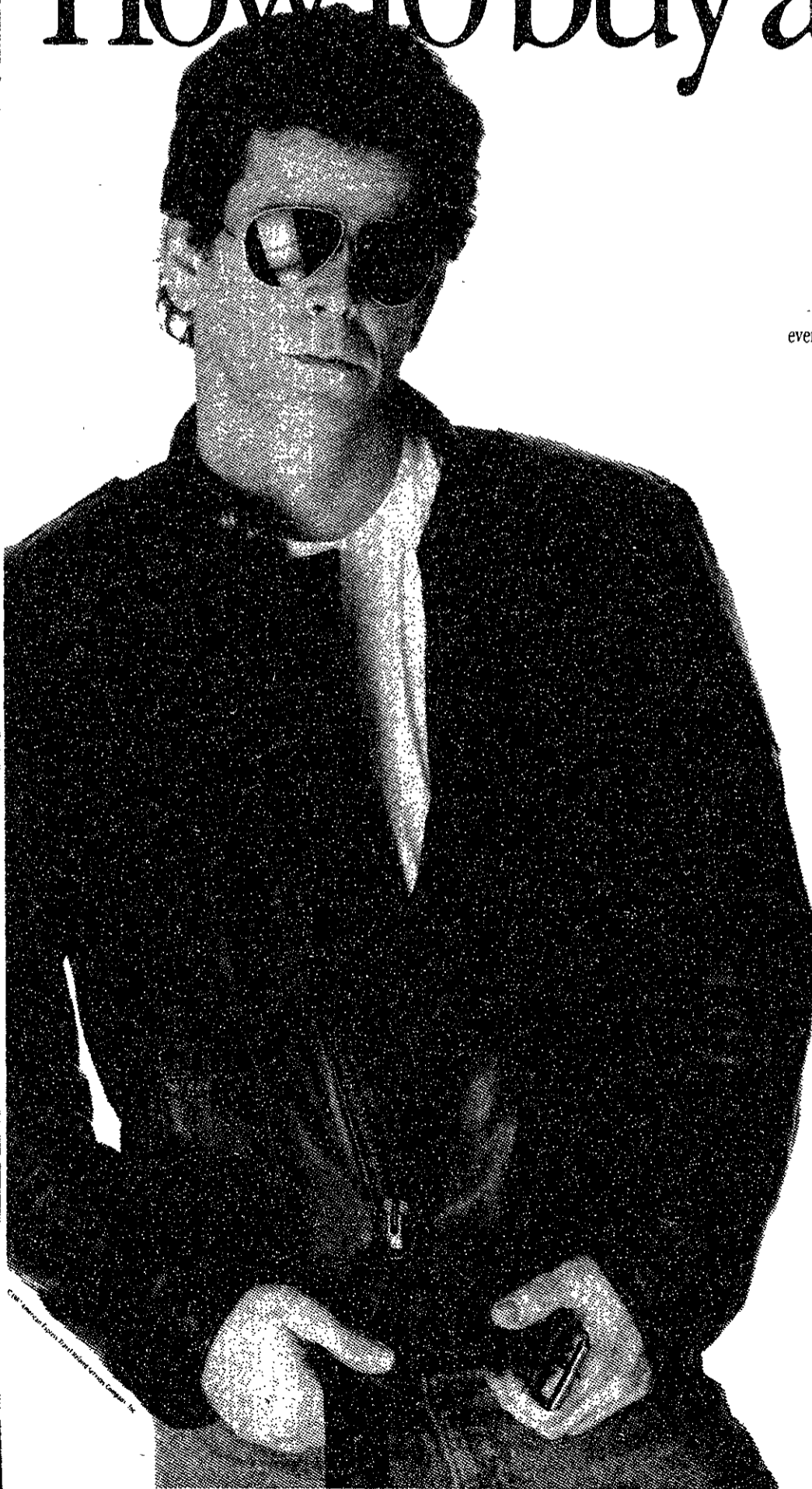
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sports

Women's hockey defeats Connecticut

By Peter Dunn

The women's hockey team finally pulled out of its two game winless streak with a thrilling and close-fought encounter with the Connecticut College Camels last Tuesday in New London, Connecticut.

The Engineers, ending the first two periods at a 3-3 stalemate, completely dominated the third, to bring the final score to 5-3 before a meager audience of five fans.

The game was highlighted by excellent passing in the third period by the Engineers and by two goals from Michelle Bonugli '88, who missed finishing a hat trick by a mere fraction of a second.

MIT scored at the 13 second mark of the first period. From the opening faceoff, the puck was moved up the ice by the Engineers until it made its way to the right corner of the Connecticut

zone. There Sandy Linde '87 got control of the puck. She took it behind the net to the left side and passed to the front of the goal-mouth.

Elizabeth Schermer G, at the left of the net, redirected the pass across the crease. Liza Lofton G then jammed the puck into the goal.

Despite the early goal, this was not to be a rout for the Engineers. The teams were evenly matched and both forechecked well, forcing many turnovers in both the MIT and Connecticut zones.

The Engineers showed good coverage of their slot but allowed the Camel defensemen too much time to shoot from the point. The MIT squad was much faster than the Camel skaters, thus allowing them to break up the ice very quickly and catch up to the play when the Camels got control

of the puck.

After the first goal, the game remained deadlocked as neither team could gain the upper hand. Seven minutes into the period, the Camels started applying the pressure — the Engineers got lucky as the puck crossed the crease a few times and once even ricocheted off the goal post.

This pressure continued for the next two minutes and resulted in a goal for the Camels at the 8:53 mark. A Connecticut player gained control of the puck from a face off in the left of the MIT zone and, drew the puck to the other side of the net, and lifted a backhand into the goal from a difficult angle. This tied the score at 1-1.

The goal, however, did not deter the Engineers, but instead made them redouble their efforts. Making better use of the wide Connecticut College rink for long

passes and depending less on the boards, the MIT team began moving up the ice better.

MIT once more regained the lead as Bonugli scored unassisted for her first goal of the afternoon. Just coming onto the ice as the Engineers were changing lines, Bonugli stole the puck from a Camel defenseman at the left of the neutral zone. She then stickhandled with the puck, circling wide up the right wing, and cut in towards the net. All the while fending off the Connecticut defensemen, Bonugli finally let go a backhand to beat the Camel goalie at the 13:33 mark.

The second MIT goal lifted the Engineers' confidence and they dominated the remainder of the period, although they could not put in another goal. This domination carried over into the beginning of the second period as the Engineers kept the puck in the Camels' zone during the early minutes of play.

The MIT players constantly stole the puck off the Connecticut skaters' sticks as they tried to stickhandle up the ice. In addition, the Engineers moved towards the puck while the Camels simply waited for it to reach them. This afforded many opportunities for the faster MIT players to steal Connecticut passes.

But despite controlling the play, just as in the final minutes of the first period, the Engineers

could not put a goal in during the early minutes of the second. At the 5:49 mark the Camels evened the score, again as the Engineers let a Connecticut player gain control of the puck too close to the net.

MIT goaltender Kelly Grant '86 stopped a shot from the right of the slot but permitted the puck to deflect straight out in front of the net. This allowed a Camel forward on the crease to slide the puck to the left and lift it over Grant, who was lying on the ice.

This goal resulted in the MIT team losing some of its composure. The Connecticut squad now prevented the Engineers from stickhandling up the ice and even when the MIT team got into the Connecticut zone, they could not get many shots on the net. But as the period wound down the advantage evened out, and it looked as if the second period would end a tie.

With just over a minute left in the period, the Camels gained the lead for the first time in the game. A long shot from the left point stopped as it hit a player in the crowd in front of the net. A Connecticut forward then drew the puck backward a couple of feet and lifted it into upper left of the net. It now looked as if the Camels would take the lead going into the third period.

But just as suddenly as the

(Please turn to page 10)

Gymnasts vie for US championships

By Eric M. Reifschneider

The MIT men's gymnastics team is on the verge of qualifying for the national championships in Division II-III of the United States Gymnastics Federation, despite a disappointing fourth-place finish in the last meet of the season.

Teams for the championship meet are selected based on the average of a team's highest three scores during the season. The six teams with the highest averages qualify for the meet, which will be held April 11 at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

MIT ranks sixth among Division II-III schools with an average of 197.6. However, University of Lowell, presently placed seventh at about 189 points, still has one more meet, to be held March 28. Unless Lowell surpasses MIT with a high score in that meet, Coach Fran Molesso and his gymnasts will realize their ultimate goal of representing MIT in the national championships.

MIT also has gymnasts in contention for the individual competition at the national championships. Individuals are ranked on the same high-score basis as teams; the top 18 qualify for the championship meet.

Co-captain Brian Hirano '87 will almost certainly qualify for the all-around competition, where he ranks 8th with an average of 47.28. His averages of 8.93 on rings, 8.70 on floor, and 8.72 on vault rank him 5th, 6th, and 12th, respectively, and should qualify him for those events as well. Eric Reifschneider '89 is 13th in the all-around

standings with an average of 39.90.

Competing in the national championships would give the MIT gymnasts a chance to redeem themselves for the fourth-place finish in the New England Championships last Sunday at Springfield University.

The University of Massachusetts at Amherst won the meet with a score of 262.9. Springfield placed second with 245.9. Lowell, whom MIT defeated earlier this year, took third with 197.65. MIT's 192.5 was fourth, and Dartmouth College finished fifth at 148.05.

MIT was assigned to pommel horse for its first event. Most gymnasts consider pommel horse the most difficult event to hit in competition, and MIT seemed destined to prove it in this meet. The team's abysmal score of 21.55 put it far behind Lowell, which started on its best event, rings. Despite better performances on the other events, MIT was never able to overcome its poor start.

The highlight of MIT's individual performances was Hirano's 8.85 on rings, which earned him third place in the meet. MIT improved the most on floor. Hirano stuck a double back flip for an 8.5. Mark Malonson '89 finished his routine with an immediate back flip for a 7.15. Reifschneider added an Arabian half-twisting front flip to his routine for a 6.95, and Alan Nash '89 nailed a full-twisting back flip for a 6.75.

Four gymnasts had season-high scores on vault: 8.35 by Chiu Jeng '87, 8.45 by Norman Chen

'88, and 8.5 by Reifschneider and Nash. On parallel bars, Nash nailed a full-twisting stutz for a 6.8, and Hirano and Reifschneider scored 8.1 and 7.25, respectively. Carl Weiner '87 did strong routines on rings and parallel bars for scores of 6.15 and 5.8.

The MIT women's gymnastics team will compete in its New England Championships Saturday at the Coast Guard Academy. Two members of the team, Allison Arnold '90 and Rosemary Rocchio '90, have qualified for the Division II-III Regional Championships March 28 at Cortland, New York. Each can compete in the all-around competition and may qualify for the women's national championships, also April 11 at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

(Editor's note: Eric M. Reifschneider '89 is a member of the men's gymnastics team.)

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