

The Tech

Test scores higher for Class of 1993

By Prabhat Mehta

Standardized test scores for the entering Class of 1993 were generally higher than those for students admitted last year, according to data provided by the Admissions Office.

The mean score on the Scholastic Aptitude Test math section for entering students rose from 722 for the Class of 1992 to 735 for this year's incoming freshmen. Verbal scores on the SAT rose from 618 to 621.

Performance on other standardized tests also improved. The mean math score on the American College Test for the incoming freshman class was 33, and the composite score was 30. These figures were up from last year's, according to Elizabeth Johnson of the Admissions Office.

"We certainly were more aware that some faculty thought that scores should be higher," Johnson noted. She acknowledged that this influenced the judgment of admissions personnel this year but added that no explicit policy changes had been implemented.

"Last year was an aberration" because scores were not weighed as heavily as usual, Johnson said. Partially as a response to concerns by faculty members over changing admissions standards

and declining student performance, the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid released a report in May suggesting that the Admissions Office place greater emphasis on grades and test scores in mathematics and science and that "non-academic [credentials] be considered mostly as a means of distinguishing among individuals of comparable academic ability."

Little change in number of women and minorities

Currently, 1071 students are expected to enter as freshmen. Actual enrollment, however, will probably drop by about 20 students in what is known as the "summer melt," Johnson said. Some students decide over the summer for "economic and other reasons" that they cannot attend MIT in the fall, she explained.

Of the 1071 presently expected to enroll, 359 are women. This figure, which is 33.5 percent of the class, remains essentially unchanged from last year, and about four percent shy of the Class of 1990's record-high percentage. The percentage of women was maintained despite a pledge by Director of Admissions Michael Behnke last year to address the lack of progress in

admitting women.

The percentage of underrepresented minorities declined from last year's record high of 17.3 percent to 14.5 percent this year. This decline of over 16 percent, however, still represents an increase over previous years. The Admissions Office expanded minority recruitment efforts beginning with the Class of 1992, when a full-time staff member was hired to work on attracting minorities. This year's percentage of students accepted who were underrepresented minorities was the second highest ever, with last year being the only year with a higher percentage.

The 155 underrepresented minorities expected to enroll include 4 Native Americans, 22 Puerto Ricans, 80 blacks, and 49 Mexican Americans. The rest of the class consists of 21 other Hispanic Americans, 256 Asian Americans, 563 whites, and 76 international students.

Applications this year dropped by 10 percent, but the quality of the applicant pool increased, according to Behnke. All Ivy League schools this year except Princeton also experienced a decline in the number of applicants, Behnke said.

The size of the entering class, however, will be slightly larger than that of a typical class because of the need to increase revenue in the wake of MIT's budget problems. While, after "summer melt," this year's class will have about 1050 students, recent classes have had about 1000 students. The percentage of students accepted this year increased from 25 percent to 28 percent.

Cambridge first city to regulate animal research

By Linda D'Angelo

The Cambridge City Council set a nationwide precedent last month when it approved an ordinance regulating animal experimentation in all universities and private institutions in Cambridge, according to Ken Russell, assistant director of a lobby group, the Cambridge Coalition for Responsible Research. This represents the "first time that any legislature has decided that animal research needs greater regulation," Russell said.

Although the ordinance height-

ens public awareness of the issue, it will not result in any major changes in the regulation of MIT laboratories, according to MIT spokesman Ronald P. Suduiko.

In the past animal research at MIT has been monitored by an animal care and use committee which includes a "good cross-section of representatives," Suduiko said. The committee conducts a monthly review of animal research proposals and facilities. And since it is federally funded, MIT has always been subject to annual federal and state inspections, Suduiko added.

The unanimous approval of the council's ordinance on June 26 ended a process that began in May 1987 when the council banned certain animal research procedures commonly practiced in the city's 13 research institutions. The Draize test, used mainly in the testing of cosmetics, was banned as was the LD50, in which groups of animals are poisoned without anesthesia until half of them die.

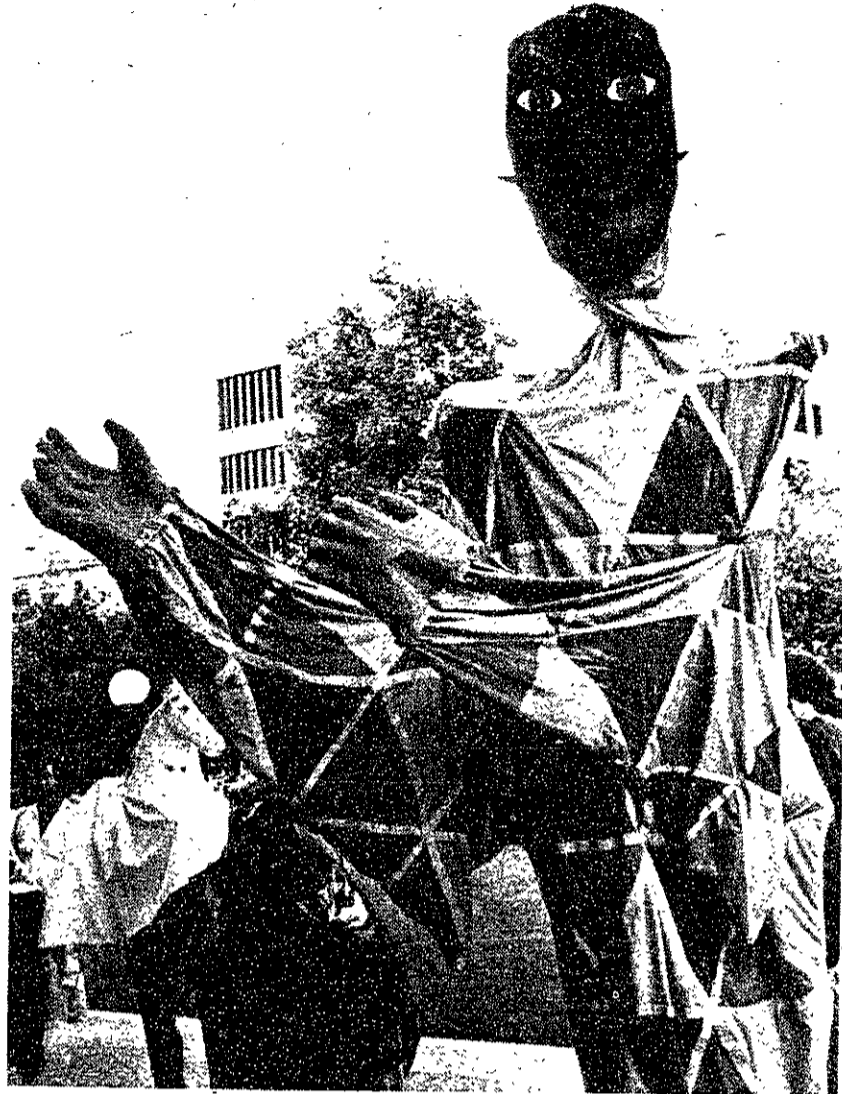
This move "marked the first time any research procedure had

(Please turn to page 2)

inside

Film version of Charles Dickens' *Little Dorrit* is hours long and still incomplete. Page 7.

* * * * *
New Bond is violent and serious. Page 11.



Jonathan Richmond/The Tech
One of many puppets caught parading outside the Student Center on July 9 during the convention of Puppeteers of America, held at MIT.

Number of engineering majors up from last year

By Annabelle Boyd

The School of Engineering attracted 66.3 percent of those members of the Class of 1992 who declared majors last May, according to the Registrar's current count. The figure represents a small increase from 1988 when 61.9 percent of declared majors were in engineering.

One hundred thirty of the 982 outgoing freshmen have yet to choose a department. Students are not required to designate majors until the end of the sophomore year.

The percentage of students entering the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science rose slightly over last year, ending a three year downward trend in enrollment. Of those students who chose departments, 233 (27.3 percent) declared majors in EECS. Last year, 24.3 percent of the freshman class chose that major. Just three years ago, 33 percent of the freshman class declared Course VI.

More freshmen declared majors in EECS than in the second and third place departments — mechanical engineering and aeronautics and astronautics — combined. Mechanical engineering showed a slight rise from the last year, while aeronautics and astronautics experienced a small dip in its share of the class.

Chemical engineering attracted 56 majors, compared to 46 last year. Nuclear engineering and material science and engineering each experienced modest decreases in their percentages of the outgoing freshman class. Civil engineering showed a substantial 40 percent drop in its share.

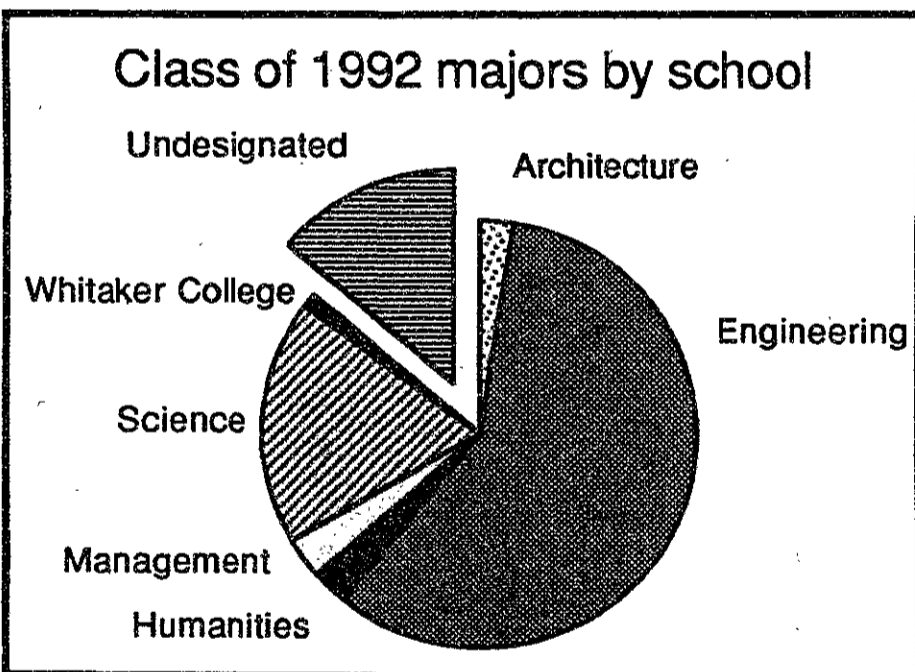
About 22.5 percent of the Class of 1992 who picked departments chose to major in the School of Science — a moderate decrease from last year's 25.2 percent. The school has so far attracted 192 new students. Among the science departments that have shown declining strength are physics, math, biology, and

earth, atmospheric and planetary sciences. Only chemistry showed an increase in enrollment.

The number of students entering the School of Architecture and Planning dropped to 25 from last year's 44. The Department of Cognitive Science, which is in the

Whitaker College of Health Sciences, Technology, and Management, has so far attracted 12 new students. The Sloan School of Management drew 30 majors, one less than last year.

The School of Humanities and



ODSA restricts summer mailings

By Andrew L. Fish

The Office of the Dean for Student Affairs placed new restrictions on mailings from Independent Living Groups and student activities to incoming freshmen. The restrictions prompted complaints from some student activities and the Inter-Fraternity Council.

Staff of the Undergraduate Academic Support Office decided that incoming students were receiving too many mailings from student groups — as many as 90 in some cases — according to Residence/Orientation Coordinator Elizabeth M. Ling '90. As a result, the ODSA limited fraternities to one summer mailing, prohibited summer mailings from dormitories and academic departments, and only allowed activities to submit items for a single general mailing, rather than sending material directly to freshmen.

In addition, the ODSA restricted the depiction of alcohol in summer mailings. Fraternities

cannot be "selling their houses on the basis of alcohol," said Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Mary Z. Enterline. This rule bans the practice of some ILGs of advertising house bars in rush books, among other things. Enterline said this policy was based on the advice of lawyers, since incoming students are below the legal drinking age in Massachusetts.

The ODSA also continued a ban on racist and sexist material which has existed for many years, Enterline said.

IFC President Anthony N. Gerber '90 said that some living groups felt the ODSA had been "a little picky" in enforcing the restrictions this year. He said some houses were forced to reprint books because they did not receive approval.

In prior years, ILGs had been permitted to place almost anything in summer mailings, Gerber said. But the ODSA has been more stringent this year, upset-

ting ILGs who felt "something was taken away from them," Gerber said. But other ILGs were "moving in the direction" of the ODSA guidelines independently, and were not opposed to ODSA oversight. An IFC advertisement in *The Tech* [June 5] protesting the classification of a photograph of a man with two bikini-clad women from a rush book as sexist did not represent the views of the entire IFC, Gerber said.

But Gerber said the IFC was most concerned with the restriction on the number of summer mailings. He explained that in the past ILGs had sent several items to incoming students, including rush books, party invitations, and followup letters. The IFC did not know how the mailing restriction would affect rush, he noted, though it could result in more telephone contact with freshman. But Gerber emphasized that the IFC had fought against the policy and was still (Please turn to page 2)

HASS to offer two new minors in fall

By Annabelle Boyd

Students will now be able to designate a minor in Theater Arts or Urban Studies and Planning, according to Lily Spear, coordinator for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Office. These new minors were created last term by the Minors/Major Concentration Committee in response to student interest, and will be open to all students in September.

Though only one year old, the minors program has already attracted 189 MIT students, including 56 students in the recently graduated Class of 1989. "Student response to the program has been very positive," Spear said.

According to Spear, because of the program's newness, few institutional policies have yet been established which officially encourage students to take advantage of the minor. "The main publicity for students to minor is still the field itself and word of mouth," she said.

"But the information is getting out," she added.

In addition to the two new areas, a student may minor in anthropology and archaeology; economics; foreign languages (French, German, Russian and Spanish); history; literature; music; philosophy; political science; psychology; science, technology and society; women's studies and writing.

Though students are minoring in all open areas, music and economics have proven the most popular, attracting 38 and 37 students respectively. Literature, psychology, political science and writing have approximately twenty students each. The French, German, Spanish and women's studies minors have also attracted substantial student attention.

To obtain a minor, a student must complete six subjects of a curriculum approved by the MMC Committee. Of the six subjects, at most five may count toward the eight-subject HASS requirement. Of these five, at most one may count toward the

three-subject HASS distribution requirement. A minor must be declared at least two full terms before graduation.

The six subjects which compose the minor are arranged into three levels of study. First-level subjects offer training in an essential methodology or broad-ranging coverage of primary materials. Second-level subjects complement the first — broad followed by narrow or the reverse — and third-level subjects culminate the student's work in the field.

According to a report issued by the Committee on the Undergraduate Program, the minor in HASS subjects differs from existing programs in important ways. The double major requires 450 units of credit for degrees in two distinct departments, forcing students to overload. Through the minor program, a student can gain in-depth experience in a field other than his major without overload, the CUP report stated.

Cambridge animal law a national first

(Continued from page 1)

been banned because it was considered cruel and unnecessary" and caused the CCRR to sponsor the initial ordinance. Russell said. This, coupled with a "tremendous outpouring from Cambridge citizens and students," led Cambridge Mayor Alfred Vellucci to appoint a Blue Ribbon Committee. The recommendations of this BRC formed the basis for the legislation.

The ordinance requires the appointment of a commissioner of laboratory animals to "oversee the care and use animals" by performing unannounced inspections. It further specifies that the CLA should "possess an understanding of animal welfare, physiology and psychology" but not be "aligned with an antivivisection or research institution."

Institutions are required to register with the CLA and provide him with information such as the "number and species of animals used" and the "fate of all federal and state inspections concerning animal care and use in the previous year." This increased communication is important, according to Suduiko, because rather than a "crisis management situation," it fosters an "ongoing relationship in the interest of the animals."

As the "representative of the public," the CLA would "bring information back to the public."

Russell explained. This reporting feature would "provide assurance to the city that the requirements were being adhered to" as well as provide a vehicle for any questions raised by the public, Suduiko said.

The establishment of an autonomous animal care committee with the power to disapprove or restrict research is also specified. The committee must include an "individual who is not affiliated with the institution in any way and who is neither aligned with an antivivisection nor a biomedical movement."

Attempts had been made to extend the requirements for this unaffiliated individual to include being "an animal welfare advocate." But the "institutions felt very strongly" about this and "a tremendous amount of pressure was brought to bear about this one point," Russell said. The attempts were defeated by the council.

Lastly, the ordinance makes all institutions in Cambridge subject to federal and state regulations. Previously, privately funded institutions which did not use cats, dogs or primates in their research were excluded from these regulations.

The main goal of the ordinance is the strengthening of public accountability, according to Russell. "Millions of dollars of federal money, tax money, are spent on animal research and

some of it is questionable," he explained. So rather than allow "researchers to approve each other's research," the ordinance "opens the process to public scrutiny" and prevents "public money from being spent behind closed doors."

Although it was not adopted in the ordinance, the requirement of an animal rights advocate on animal care and use committees is still an option, according to Russell. If these committees were "modeled after the institutional review boards which regulate human research subjects," an advocate for animal rights would be included to represent "the interests of the vulnerable subjects," he added.

Furthermore, the appointment of an animal rights advocate to the animal care and use committee would provide "an alternative perspective," Russell said. This could only help, he noted, for the "more people giving ideas, the better the science."

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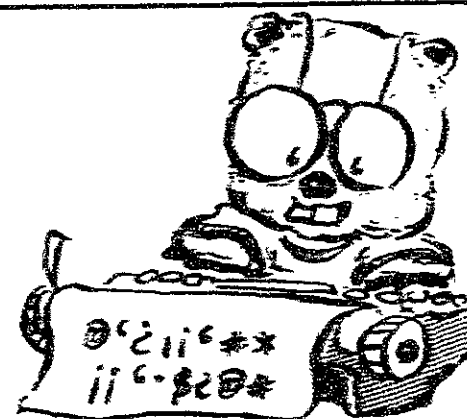
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ODSA limits and screens summer mailings to frosh

(Continued from page 1) opposed to it.

Publications concerned about restrictions

The consolidation of the activities mailing prompted concerns from two campus publications about possible censorship. The R.O. committee asked activities for advance copies of materials to make sure they conformed with the ODSA standards. But The Tech and the alternative newspaper The Thriller did not allow the committee to conduct any prepublication review, and both publications were being printed shortly before the mailing was to be issued.

Steven D. Penn G., a member of the Alternative News Collective (which publishes The Thriller), complained that the approval procedure was "totally authoritarian." The policy is "basically being dictated by the Dean's Office [and] there is no appeal process," Penn said. "Where do you go if you disagree with a decision?"

Penn emphasized that not printing racist, sexist, or homo-

phobic material were "things that I agree with." He "would feel much different if [the policy] were arrived at by students." Penn said summer mailings were communications from students to students and did not believe there should be administrative interference. A student-enacted policy would also be more democratic, he said.

Penn said the Thriller staff did not modify the content of their issue for fear of exclusion from the mailing, and he did not believe the issue contained anything inappropriate.

Ling emphasized that the committee was not reviewing publications for editorial content. She said that only racist, sexist, or "obscene" material would be banned, though she could not give examples of what fell into these categories.

Ling said there had been almost no problems with other activity submissions. Also, she noted that very few activities had sent mailings independent of the activities packet in the past, so the consolidation of mailings had little impact.

news roundup

from the associated press wire

World

US offers payments for victims of downed airliner

The State Department said the United States is offering payments to the families of relatives killed when a US Navy cruiser shot down an Iranian airliner over the Persian Gulf last year. The plan calls for the United States to pay up to \$250,000 per victim, most of whom were Iranians. But a State Department spokesman said Iran must first find an "appropriate intermediary" to disburse the funds.

Norway complains about Soviet sub

Norway is still unhappy over a mishap aboard a Soviet nuclear-powered submarine off the Norwegian coast. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday the fact that the Soviet Union said there was never a fire on the submarine is beside the point. He said when there is a problem with a nuclear submarine, Norway wants to be informed.

Poland sets up Vatican ties

Poland took another step toward reform yesterday — establishing diplomatic relations with the Vatican. The predominantly Catholic nation is the first Warsaw Pact country to set up official ties with the Vatican. The officially atheist government cut relations with the Church when it came to power in 1945.

Local

Local officials protest aid cut

City and town officials from across Massachusetts took part in a State House rally yesterday against Gov. Michael Dukakis' veto of local aid. They said their communities could not take a cut of \$100 million for fire, police, and school department budgets. But Dukakis told an afternoon news conference he had no choice — the money is just not there. Mayors, selectmen, and town managers came to the State House steps to oppose the move. Newton Mayor Ted Mann said the problem involves the quality of life. He said under Proposition 2½ the cities and towns must rely on state aid — there is no other place for communities to turn.

Last week Dukakis cut \$210 million from the budget for fiscal 1990. Under state law, he cannot sign the budget until it is in balance.

Nation

Stealth flight termed success

The two-hour maiden flight of the B-2 Stealth Bomber appeared flawless to people watching from the ground — and the pilots in the air said that's just about what it was. Test pilot Richard Couch told reporters after yesterday's flight in Southern California that the B-2 is a "very nimble" aircraft. And one other thing, he said flying it was "a lot of fun."

Congress may have another description in mind — such as "too costly" — when it comes to the \$500 million aircraft. The House Republican whip, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, said there is still a great deal of reluctance to spend that much money. And Democratic House Speaker Thomas S. Foley said it is an uphill fight for the bomber. Last week, the House Armed Services Committee voted to reduce spending for the aircraft.

Most mine strikers return to work

Most of the tens of thousands of miners staging wildcat strikes over the last several weeks have reportedly heeded a call from union leaders to return to work. But miners in West Virginia are still off the job. Meanwhile, United Mine Worker President Richard Trumka and the head of the Pittston Coal Company are due to meet today at the behest of a federal judge. The wildcat strikes were spawned by a walkout at Pittston.

Oil leaks force car recall

Federal safety officials are urging owners of over 500 thousand Ford Escort, EXP, and Mercury Lynx cars to heed a company recall. The national highway traffic safety administration said a problem resulting from oil leaks allegedly has caused nine injuries and two deaths.

Administration forecasts compliance with Gramm-Rudman

The Bush Administration is predicting the Gramm-Rudman limits will be met in fiscal year 1990. Sources say the budget office tomorrow will project a deficit of just over \$105 billion, not including the sale of federal assets that would lower the figure even further to \$99 billion. Both figures are well within Gramm-Rudman limits that would trigger automatic cuts across the board.

Sports

Dissident NFL owners meet

The NFL owners who blocked the confirmation of New Orleans Saints executive Jim Finks as the next league commissioner met last night in suburban Chicago. They were planning to consider a plan calling for three members of their group to meet today with three members of the league's selection committee. The selection committee nominated Finks to succeed the retiring Pete Rozelle, but 11 of the owners blocked confirmation because of opposition to the selection process.

The owners originally gathered to announce their plans for a new international spring league, and they took advantage of the opportunity to continue the search for a new commissioner.

Kent Tekulve retires

Kent Tekulve has retired after 16 seasons as a major league reliever. Tekulve spent over eleven of those seasons with Pittsburgh, and won a World Series title with the Pirates in 1979. He'd been struggling while throwing for the Cincinnati Reds this season. Tekulve holds the major league record for appearances by a reliever — 1050 games. Hoyt Wilhelm holds the record for appearances by a pitcher — 1070.

Weather

All in moderation . . .

The system that gave us yesterday's cool weather will exit the region today, giving way to partially clearing skies. However, a front will remain not far away for the next few days. Initially, the front will be situated to our south, and the weather will be primarily dry. Then, a storm system in the Midwest will slowly approach the coast, pushing the front northward and increasing the chance of showers. All in all, it looks as if we have a smidgeon of this and a sprinkle of that. Temperatures should be near normal for this time of year.

Today: Partly cloudy and pleasant. High near 80°F (27°C). Winds southeast at 5-10 mph (8-16 kph).
Tonight: Continued partly cloudy. Low 57-60°F (14-16°C). Winds light from the southwest.
Wednesday: Mixture of clouds and sun. A slight chance of an afternoon shower. High 78-82°F (26-28°C).
Thursday Through Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers Thursday and Friday. High 75-80°F (24-27°C). Partly cloudy on Sunday with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. High 80-85°F (27-29°C).

Forecast by Robert J. Conzemius

Compiled by Earl C. Yen and Niraj S. Desai

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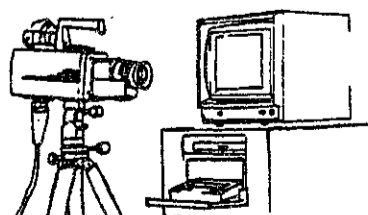
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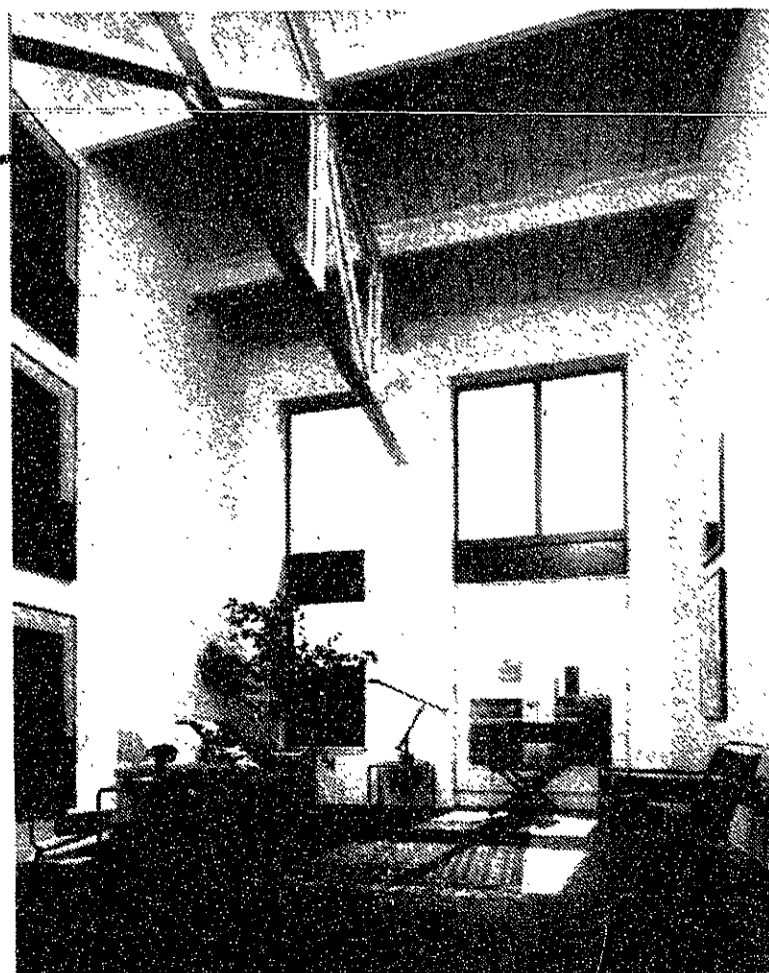
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opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gray's praise for Beijing students was hypocritical

Your article on the MIT Commencement noted the sympathies expressed by MIT President Paul E. Gray for the recently slain Tiananmen Square protesters ["China news dominates graduation," June 27]. However, your article failed to note the obvious hypocrisy of Gray's remarks.

Gray spoke of the Chinese demonstrators' noble goal of a voice in their own governance, but no such voice is allowed at MIT. Gray made his address to an outdoor ceremony at which all newspaper and literature distribution had been banned. In 1969, as associate provost, Gray supported an injunction banning the rights of student antiwar activists to free speech, freedom to gather, freedom to protest, and the right to advocate protest on the MIT campus. Only last year, he and Provost John M. Deutch eliminated an entire academic department without consultation by either students, alumni or faculty.

President Gray praised the month-long Tiananmen Square encampment for democracy, but

last year he crushed the month-long Central Square encampment by the homeless for low-income housing. Again in 1986, when students camped for twelve days in a shanty town to demand MIT's divestment from South Africa, Gray ordered in the police and the destruction crews. Both

encampments were destroyed on rainy Friday mornings at dawn. Before most commuters had left for work, Gray's hired hands had arrested the protesters and eradicated all evidence that people had spoken out for greater democracy.

Steven D. Penn G

Editorial and letters policy

Editorials, marked and printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by *The Tech's* editorial board.

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

The Tech welcomes letters from its readers. All letters are subject to editing and are published solely at the editors' discretion. Authors must sign their letters and include their phone number, and MIT affiliation, if any, for verification, and should type letters double-spaced for ease of reading. Letters should be kept under 500 words. *The Tech* publishes letters anonymously only in rare circumstances, at the editors' discretion. Bring letters to *The Tech's* office on the fourth floor of the MIT Student Center or send them to: Letters to the Editor, *The Tech*, P.O. Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge MA 02139; or to Room W20-483 by interdepartmental mail.



"OK, MOTHER NATURE, GET READY...UH, NOW WHERE DID SHE GET OFF TO?"

The Tech

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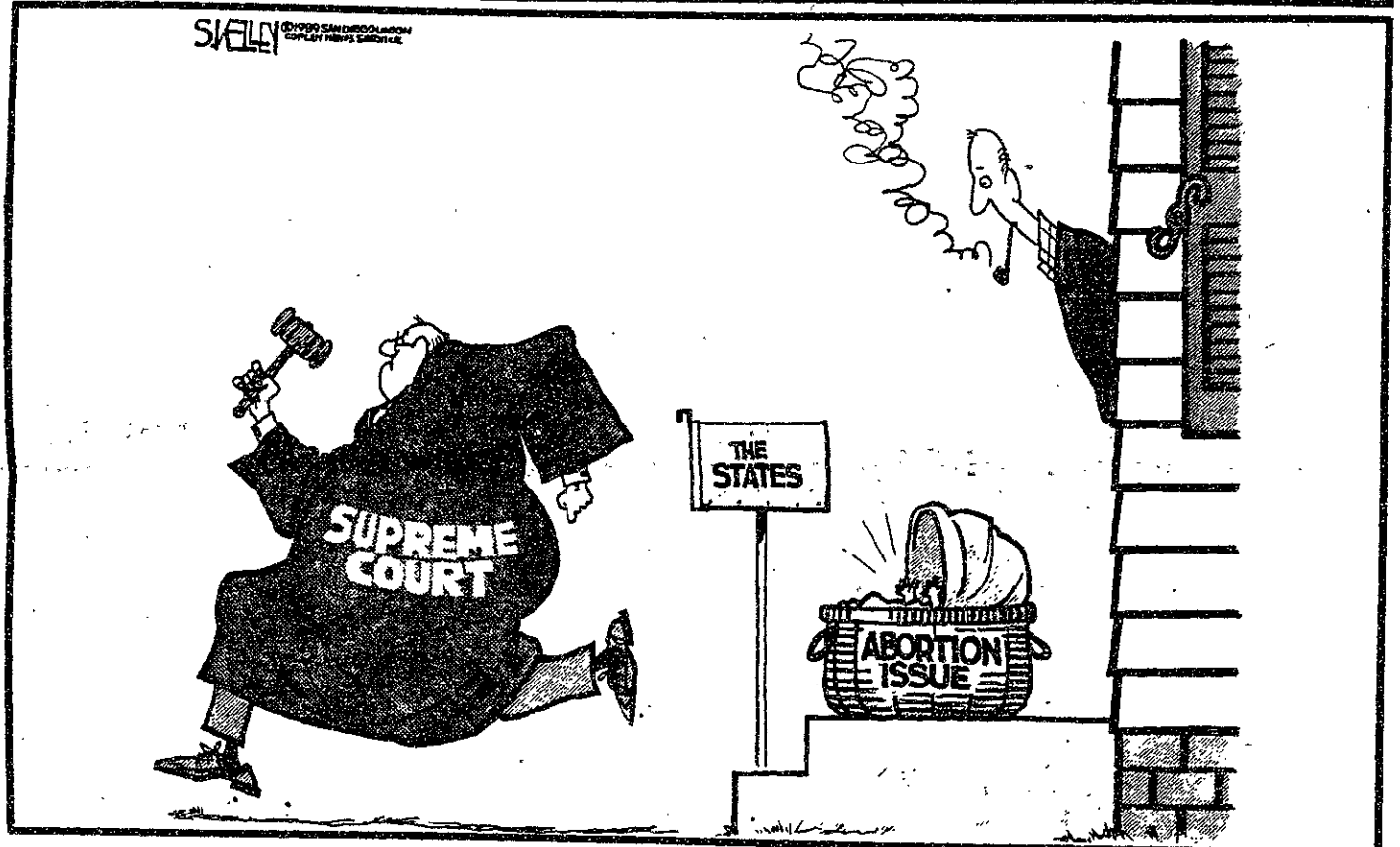
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ILP exploits public resources for private gain

MIT President Paul E. Gray claims that no one is hurt by the school's practice of selling "facilitated access" to government research results through its Industrial Liason Program. The public still gets the research it pays for, Gray argues, so why should we care if MIT makes a few million extra selling the same information to the Japanese?

The hole in Gray's argument is that research papers at MIT leave out the information one would need to use the research results. Reflecting an ideology that "science is neutral," MIT publica-

tions usually omit as irrelevant the context of the work or the intended application.

Through the ILP, corporate clients may purchase the time of a professor who will provide the missing contextual pieces. But the high access fees of the ILP exclude many companies, and labor unions are denied membership even if they are willing to pay.

Rather than using their knowledge to educate students or strengthen US economic security, MIT professors are too often

busy flying overseas or giving demos to foreign visitors, earning "ILP points." The most prominent goal in the ILP mission statement is "to increase MIT's total income for corporations including research sponsorship, gifts, Liason Program fees."

How can Gray argue that this program serves the public? The ILP is a prime example of the expropriation of public resources for private gain.

Rich Cowan '87
 Editorial Committee,
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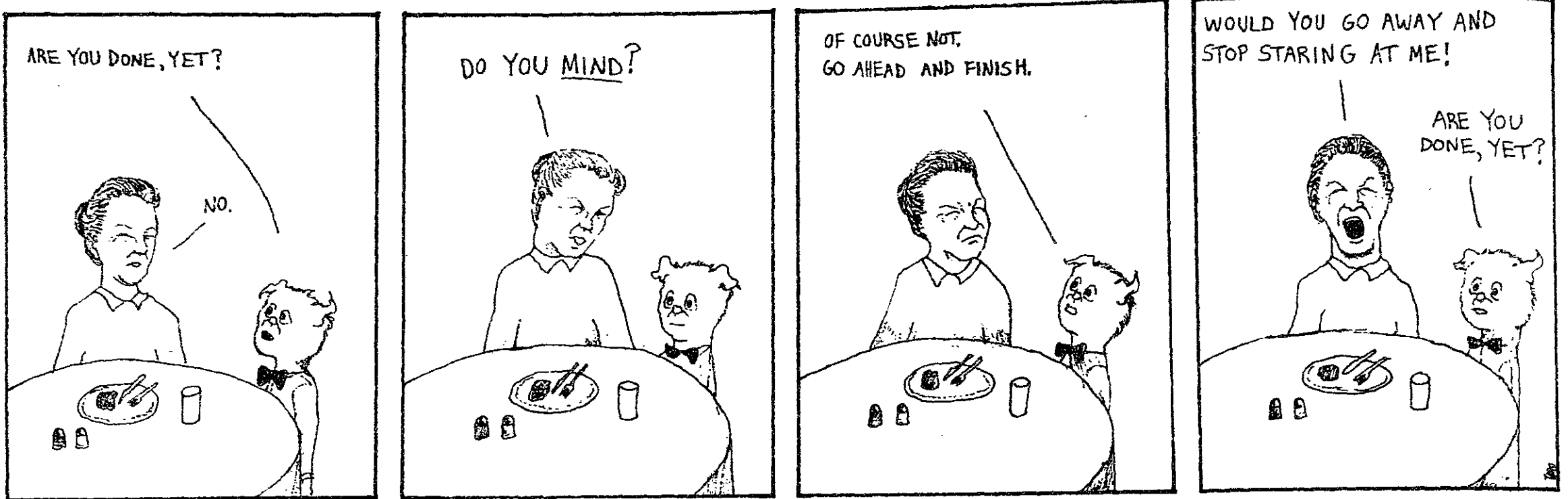
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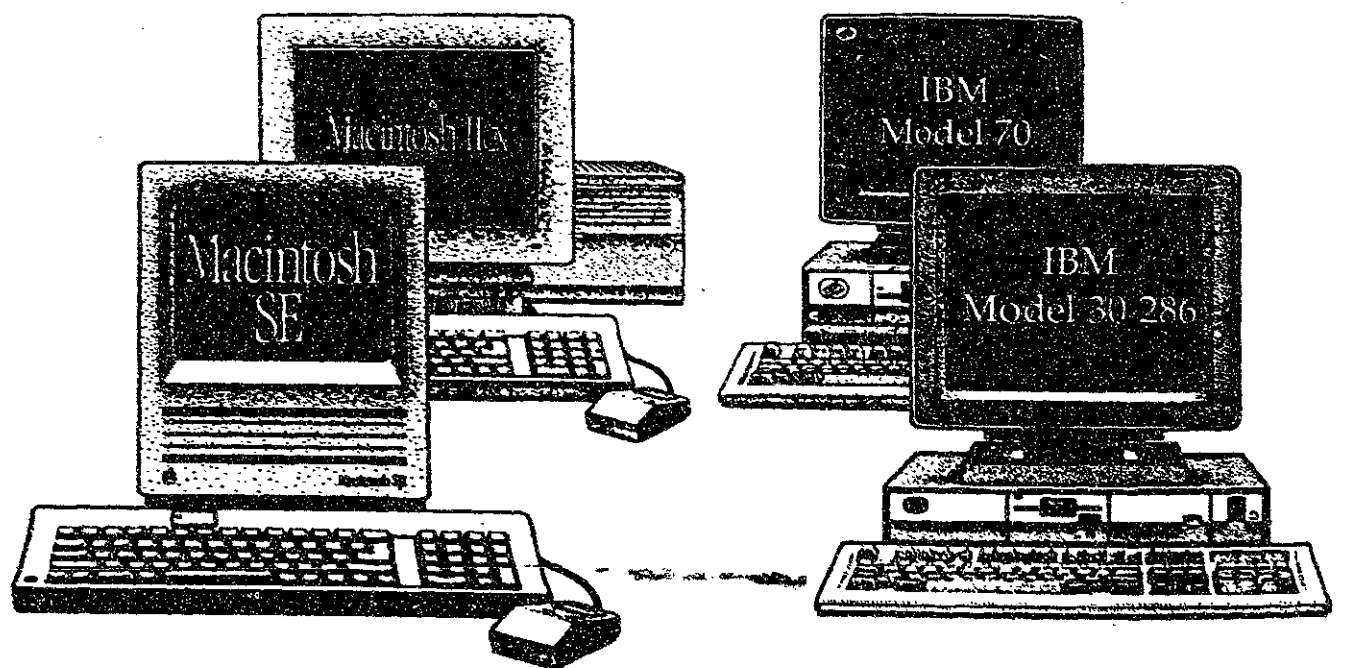


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ARTS

Dan Goodman delights audience with improvisations

DAN GOODMAN

Piano recital.
Killian Hall, July 9.

By JONATHAN RICHMOND

DAN GOODMAN, musician extraordinaire, piano concerto soloist, previously symphony orchestra first cellist, chamber player and director of the Mandala Folk Dance Ensemble Orchestra, and — by the way physicist as well — received his PhD in physics last month but can't keep away from the

MIT concert hall. On July 9 he delighted an appreciative Killian Hall crowd with a varied program which showed both the strength of his musicianship and his versatility at the keyboard.

Only one thing failed to please, and I perhaps here show my prejudice against Bach played on the piano. The program began with the three preludes and fugues from the *Well Tempered Clavier*, Vol. 1. To succeed they need to be played with bounce and resilience: to my ears they sounded heavy and mushy.

The concert really took off, nonetheless, with a group of Brahms *Ballades*, Op. 10.

Goodman showed a keen understanding for their rhythm, bringing out the lilting qualities of No. 2, the animated side of No. 3 and evoking a sense of calm and nicely-balanced proportions to No. 6.

The Brahms Op. 79 *Rhapsody* followed. Strongly articulated, the performance also showed Goodman's sympathy for the poetry of the work.

But if Goodman's Brahms was beguiling, his Chopin — he played five *Études* — was dazzling. There were a few moments when he faltered, but they could be safely ignored given the sparkle and overall panache of his playing, which was not only in the virtuoso tradition, but showed an understanding for the deeper musical concerns of the music. There are moments amidst the brilliance of Chopin's music which demand reflectiveness and warmth. Many pianists, eager simply to show off, brush them off. Goodman found them and

exposed them.

To complete the program Goodman improvised on themes suggested by the audience. His treatment of the "Jeopardy" theme was deadbeat, jazzy and very clever. His variations on Prokofiev's *Lieutenant Kijé* were fluent and witty, his *sturm und drang* approach to "Loch Lomond" bringing an appropriately Scottish Highland darkness to the theme. Yes, there was a drone in the left hand as well!

Someone asked for "Over the Rainbow," and the audience received a compulsory — but forgivable — dose of hard-core schmaltz. "Yellow Submarine," was next selected over Mozart, and Mr. Goodman was only saved from getting a good panning in revenge from this critic by ending his concert with some hilarious Mozartian variations on "Maple Leaf Rag." It was an enjoyable afternoon, and gave much pleasure to all.



Dan Goodman, PhD '89, tickles the ivories at his recital in Killian Hall. Tech photo by Jonathan Richmond.

Despite length, screen adaptation of Dicken's Little Dorrit incomplete

LITTLE DORRIT

Directed and adapted for the screen by Christine Edzard.

Based on the novel by Charles Dickens. Starring Sarah Pickering, Derek Jacobi, and Sir Alec Guinness.

Plays through Thursday at the Somerville Theater in Davis Square.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

MOST PEOPLE WOULD BALK AT watching a six-hour film version of a 900 page novel like *Little Dorrit*. The sad truth is, however, that even six hours of film isn't enough to do justice to such a gargantuan novel — especially a novel written by Charles Dickens, who likes to weave subplots and characters into intricate tapestries. And considering how tricky it can be in general to translate a novel into a

film, the task of properly filming *Little Dorrit* seems almost impossible indeed.

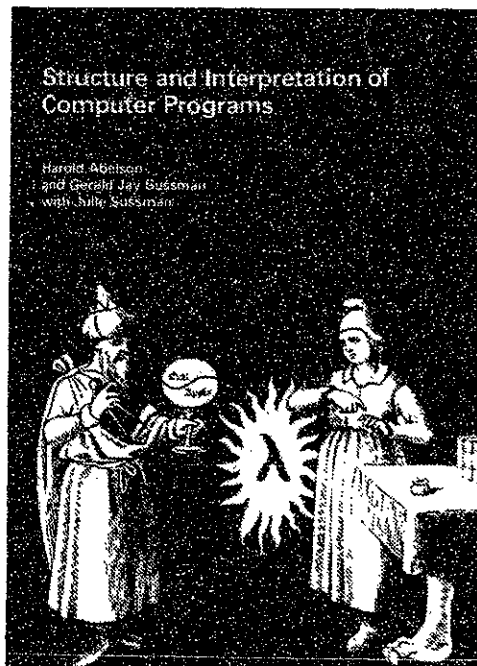
Undaunted, British director Christine Edzard decided to bring the novel to the screen, the first adaptation attempted since the 1930s. Her film is highly ambitious but not entirely successful. One element in her favor is that Dickens tends to convey ideas through meticulous description and narrative action, which are relatively easier to bring to film than than philosophical discussions of the type found in, say, the novels of Milan Kundera (*The Unbearable Lightness of Being*). Unfortunately, Edzard has left out much of Dickens' novel. She has also reduced the screentime given to several important supporting characters; keeping track of them is difficult unless one is familiar with the novel ahead of time.

(Please turn to page 11)

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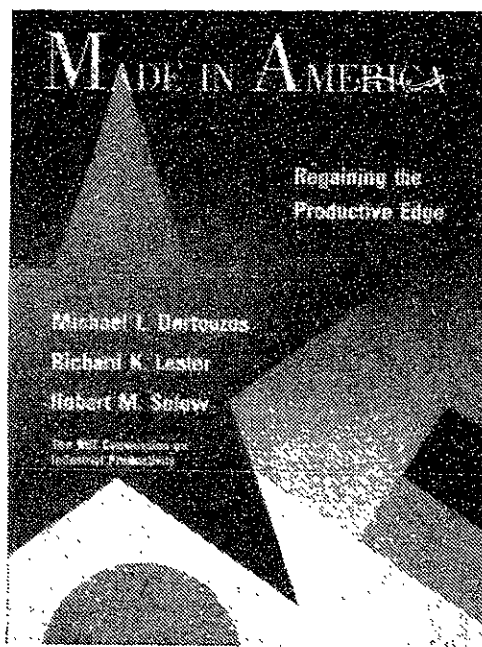
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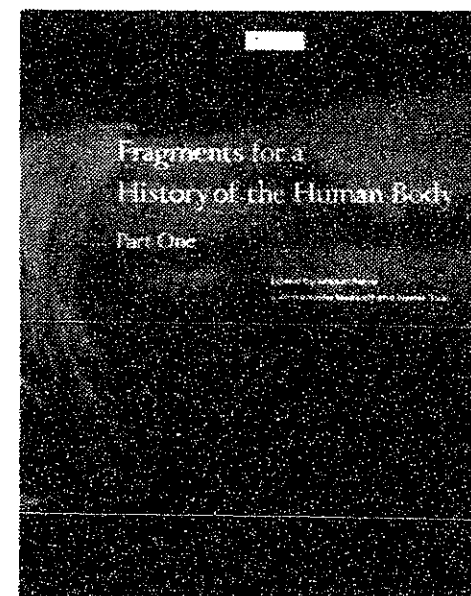


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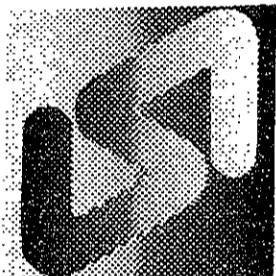
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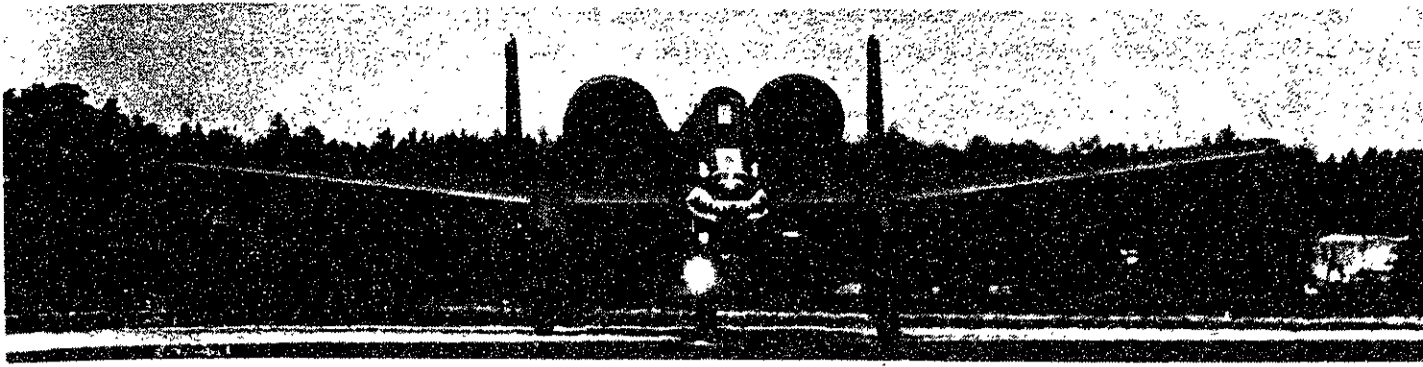
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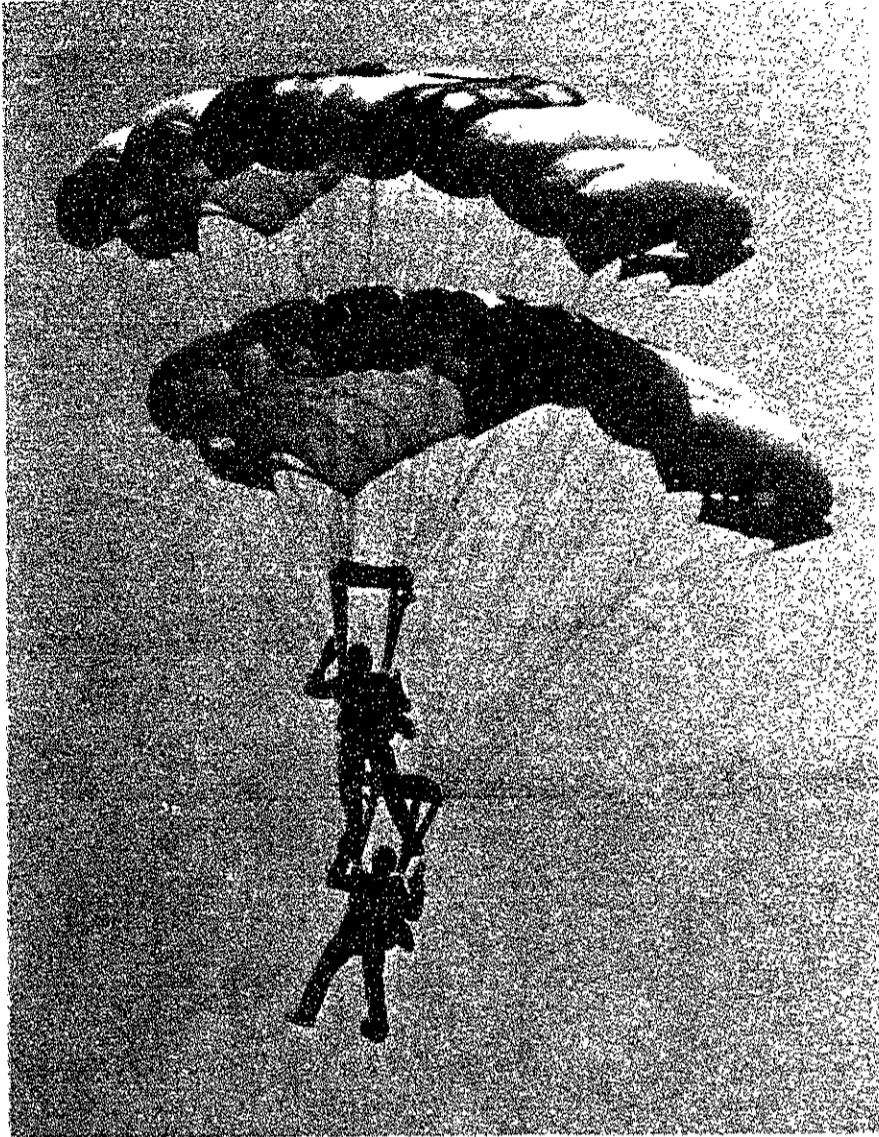
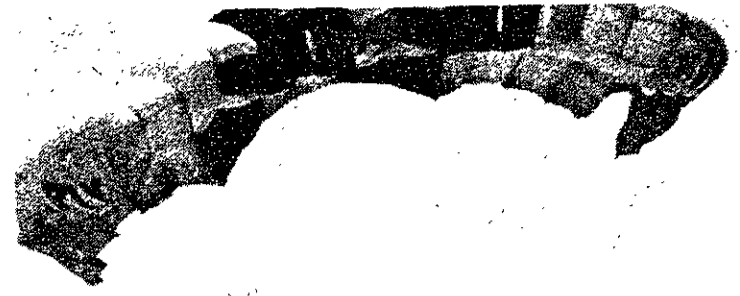
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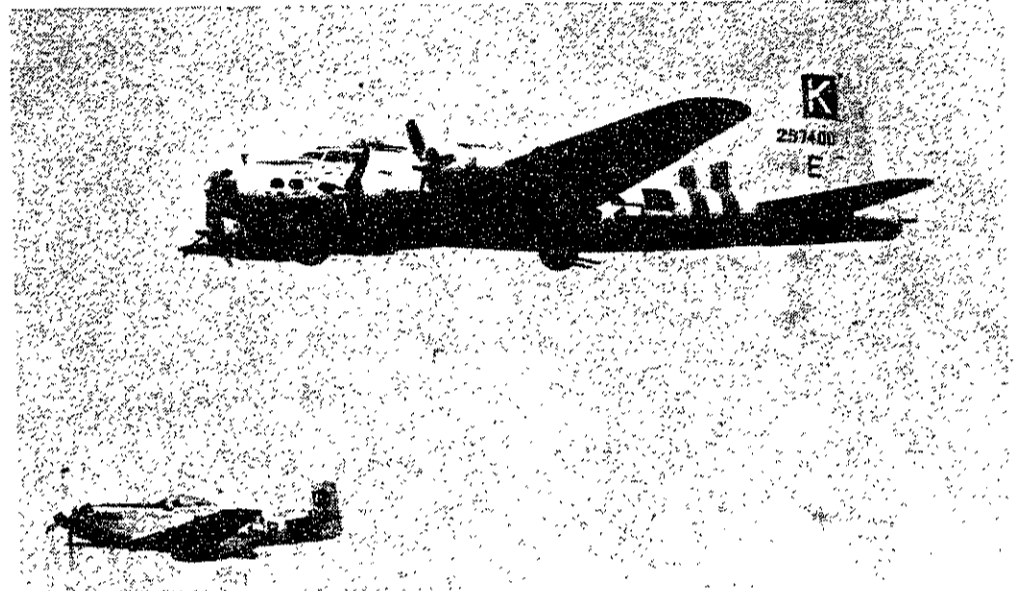
Golden Knights, remaining together until landing

Hanscom Air Force Base

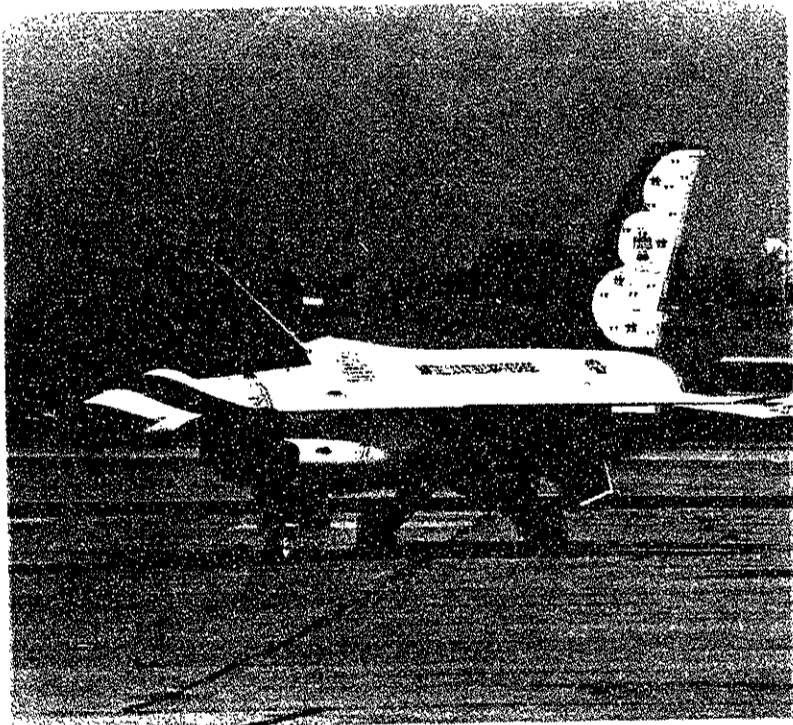


One of the Golden Knights

Air Show



B-17 Flying Fortress (foreground) with P-51 Mustang escorting



Air Force Thunderbird
F-16 Fighting Falcon



F-18 Hornet, from the rear

Photos by

Michael Franklin



C-5 Galaxy



AV-8B Harrier executing a vertical takeoff

A taxing woman returns in Juzo Itami's savage satire

A TAXING WOMAN 2

Written and directed by Juzo Itami.
Starring Nobuko Miyamoto and Rentaro Mikuni.
Opens Friday at the Coolidge Corner.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

HOLLYWOOD KEEPS CHURNING out so much garbage in the guise of sequels that one shudders to hear that a sequel of a favored film has been made. However, *A Taxing Woman 2* is a film that transcends the usual rules. More biting in its satire, the sequel is not only better than the original, it is also, quite simply, the best film

Japanese director Juzo Itami has made in his career.

In *A Taxing Woman* (1987), Itami introduced the world to Ryoko Itakura, a female tax inspector who begins by chasing small-time tax cheats and ends up unraveling the complex financial dealings of some wily businessmen. It was, in retrospect, a mild-mannered, witty film that poked fun at the Japanese penchant for tax evasion.

In the sequel, Itami gives Ryoko (played by his wife of nineteen years, Nobuko Miyamoto) and her colleagues much bigger game to hunt: a fundamentalist religious order named Heaven's Path — led by Chief Elder Tepei Onizawa (Rentaro Mikuni). Onizawa is, in reality, an influence peddler who uses his talents to evict

tenants from buildings so that new office towers can be built. One thing leads to another, and soon the scandal extends its reach to major banks, corporations, and even the Japanese Diet (House of Parliament).

If a plot spanning religion, taxes, corporate finance, bribery, and politics seems too fantastic to be believed, one only need remember that the recent Recruit bribery scandal was so pervasive that it toppled the administration of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita. Itami's previous films have shown that his greatest gift is probing contemporary Japanese social realities. That Itami has done so in this film is confirmed by the fact that the film broke all Japanese box office records when it was

released in February 1988, well before the Recruit scandal broke.

Itami's debut as film director in 1984 with *The Funeral* raised hopes that a brilliant new satirist was entering Japanese cinema. Because *A Taxing Woman 2* does much to fulfill and build on the promise of that earlier film, Itami is now well on his way to securing his reputation as a major figure of Japanese cinema. Film audiences may have to wait until Itami's next film (a comedy about communication set in both Japan and the United States) for a truly genuine masterpiece of international cinema, but for now, *A Taxing Woman 2* provides a highly welcome respite from this summer's seemingly endless flood of mindless Hollywood sequels.



Inspector Mishima (Toru Masuoka) gets showered in Juzo Itami's *A Taxing Woman's Return*.



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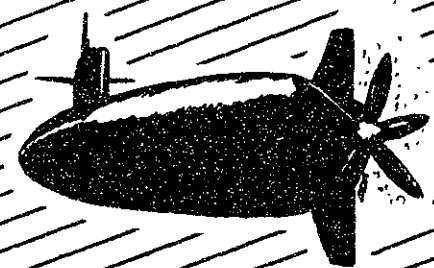
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Greek film about The Woman Who Dreamed doesn't satisfy

THE WOMAN WHO DREAMED

Written and directed by
Nikos Panayotopoulos.
Starring Myrto Paraschi and
Yannis Bezos.

US premiere tomorrow at 8:10 pm
at the Museum of Fine Arts.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

LIKE MANY OTHER NATIONAL cinemas, the Greek film industry is plagued by limited audiences that make it difficult for Greek-language films to be profitable at the box office. Nevertheless, Greece has been able to produce some film directors of note, and Nikos Panayotopoulos is one of them. Unfortunately, his noteworthiness would be difficult to defend in the light of his newest film, *The Woman Who Dreamed*, which is mostly flat and unsatisfying.

In Panayotopoulos' own words, the film is about a "woman [who] dreams continually and tells her husband about her dreams. The presence of the dreams shatters their relationship, and only a lie can restore it. The film [is] seen as a dream and life [is] seen as a film. The convention of the cinema meets that of life!" Assuming that Panayotopoulos' claim is more than a mere publicity department platitude, it would be difficult to describe his premise as anything other than fascinating and full of potential.

Unfortunately, the film fizzles out. If film is seen as a dream, and life is seen as a film, then to complete the syllogism one might conclude that life can be seen as a dream (via the medium of film). That line of thought leads directly to the type of

meta-cinema practiced by the great Russian director Andrei Tarkovsky. Panayotopoulos, though, does not seem interested in exploring the possibilities that lie in that direction. As a result, he never really integrates the dreams of Anna (Myrto Paraschi) within the narrative in any interesting or meaningful way. Essentially, Anna's dreams are little more than a Hitchcockian McGuffin — a detail which leads the plot nowhere — for the surrounding story of Anna's relationship with her husband

(Yannis Bezos).

Still, Panayotopoulos could have created an interesting film with his McGuffin. His real failure is that he didn't. The story of the crumbling relationship between Anna and her husband simply doesn't have the universal appeal that it could have had. In terms of exploring contemporary human relationships, the film cannot hope to match, for example, *Kramer vs. Kramer* (1979) or *Ordinary People* (1980). And one can forget about finding the intense psy-

chological realism that so powerfully fueled Ingmar Bergman's *Scenes from a Marriage* (1973).

Given the film's overall flatness, two subplots that address some political and legal issues don't help the film very much. Cinematically speaking, the film does have some interesting moments. For example, the film both begins and ends with some serenely disturbing black-and-white shots of flat sheets of water. The main title sequence is also notable for the intriguing animated line sketchings that flash on the screen. The acting ranges from average to good, although the performances can hardly be described as inspired.

As with all films, it's entirely possible that some filmgoers will identify sufficiently enough with Anna that the film will work for them. If anything, though, such filmgoers will identify with the fact that Anna's relationship with her husband is breaking down rather than the dreams that ostensibly cause their relationship to unravel. Introducing dreams into a film about human relationships seems to have been, in the particular context of this film, a mistake. At best, this film can be called an experiment that failed. One can only praise Panayotopoulos for his willingness to take some risks. At the same time, however, one cannot overlook the unsatisfying nature of the film that ends up on screen.

Editor's note: The Woman Who Dreamed will be preceded at 6 pm by The Idlers of the Fertile Valley, which was made by Nikos Panayotopoulos in 1978. The film has been compared by some critics to the great Luis Bunuel classic, The Exterminating Angel.



Anna's husband (Yannis Bezos) comforts Anna (Myrto Paraschi) after she has a disturbing dream in Nikos Panayotopoulos' *The Woman Who Dreamed*.

Most recent Bond movie the most serious, violent in years

LICENCE TO KILL

Directed by John Glen.
Written by Michael G. Wilson and
Richard Maibaum.
Starring Timothy Dalton, Carey Lowell,
Robert Davi, and Talisa Soto.
Now playing at the Cinema 57.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

LICENCE TO KILL stars Timothy Dalton as a renegade secret agent bent on revenge in this newest recycling of the mostly stale James Bond formula. Dalton, who is a classically trained actor, gives a better performance than Sean Connery or Roger Moore ever did. That's why this is the most serious and violent Bond in years — the film actually has a little bit of depth, along with several gruesome deaths. Does that make the best Bond flick in years? Maybe. Has James Bond turned into George Smiley? Not bloody likely.

The story still has plenty of chic and sophistication (not to mention the requisite lighter moments) that characterized the

more recent Bond films. The heroines aren't complete window dressing, but they aren't exactly the type of role models that feminists would praise either. All of this results in a thoroughly schizoid (some would say muddled) film. Undoubtedly, the best way to watch this film is to gasp at the death-defying stunts, laugh at the funny parts, and look away during the gruesome parts.

Afterwards, though, the most striking thing about the film is the fact that the producers changed the title of the film from *License Revoked* to *License to Kill*. They were afraid that Americans would be too dumb to understand the meaning of *revoked*. As for the British spelling of *license* in the final title, the producers figured that most Americans wouldn't notice the difference. It's hard to know whether to laugh, cry, or grit one's teeth at this news.

Maybe there's some grand metaphor to be found in the fact that the film evokes precisely the same reaction. Somehow, though, it doesn't seem worth all the worry. After all, as it is written in the end credits, "James Bond will return."



Timothy Dalton returns as James Bond in *License to Kill*.

Dicken's Little Dorrit brought to screen with mixed results

(Continued from page 7)

novel ahead of time.

For all its limitations, there is no doubt



Sarah Pickering as Little Dorrit.

that the film is well-made, especially considering its low budget of about \$10 million. It is being shown theatrically in two parts.

Part 1 is called *Nobody's Fault* and tells the story of Arthur Clennam (Derek Jacobi), who in modern terms can only be described as a loser. He was thoroughly dominated by his mother as a child; as an adult, he finds his childhood sweetheart to be a lazy and overweight widow, and he ends up in the Marshalsea debtors' prison after his financial ruin. But Clennam doesn't seem to realize that no one would take advantage of him if he showed more backbone; he's convinced his misfortunes are "nobody's fault."

The structure of the film seems to be the filmmakers' primary contribution. Part 1 ends as Clennam winds up in prison. Part 2 is called *Little Dorrit's Story*, and it is exactly that. Part 2 retells the entire chain of events, but from the perspective of Amy Dorrit (Sarah Pickering), a meek young woman — known as Little Dorrit — who quietly loves Clennam and eventually helps restore Clennam to his fortune. It is not until the last ten minutes or so of

Part 2 that the narrative continues onward from the end of Part 1.

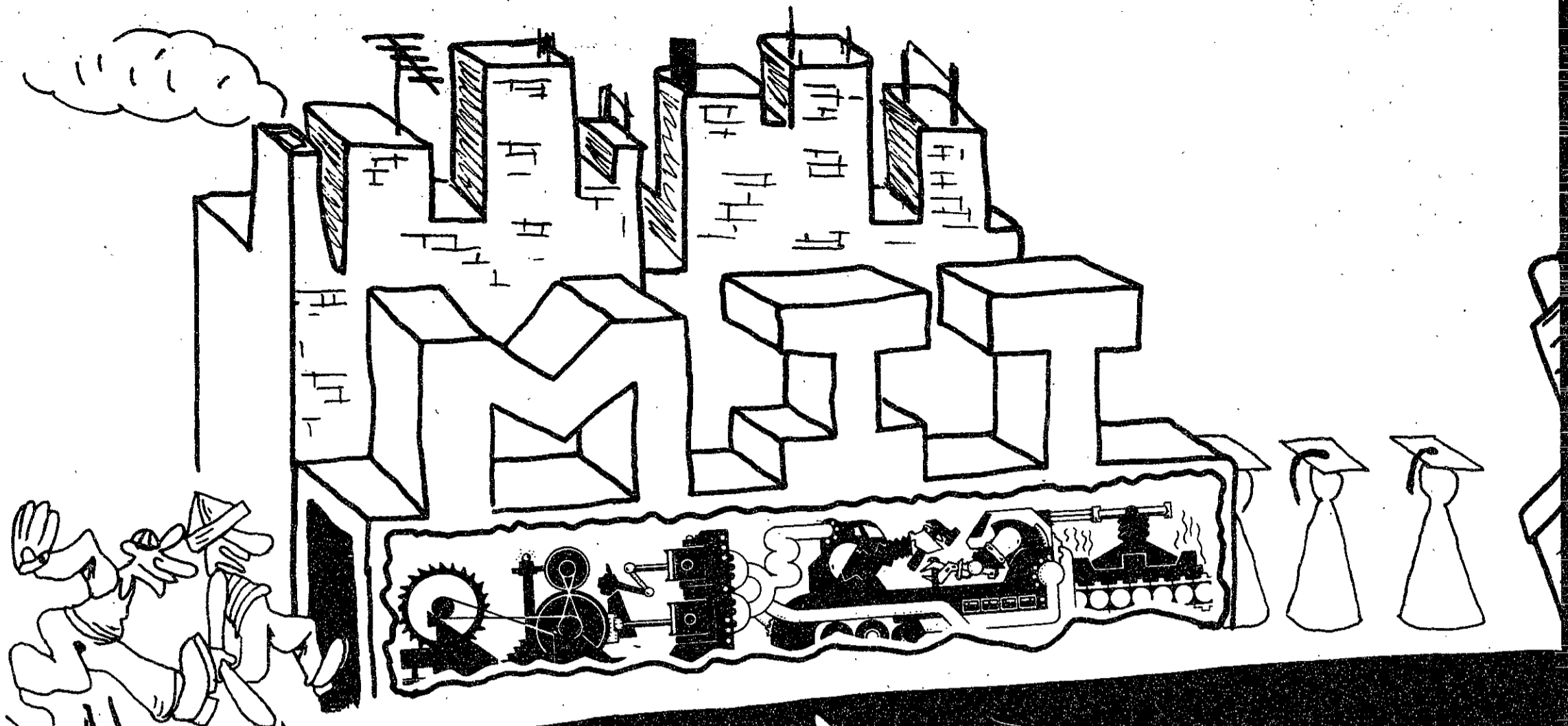
Edzard's adaptation has two primary characteristics, one bad and one good. First, Edzard has eliminated or softened the excessively polemical moments of Dickens' novel. That is to Edzard's credit. However, she consequently has also toned down many of the political elements that reflected Dickens' motivation for writing the novel in the first place. Dickens' father was a prisoner in the Marshalsea prison during Dickens' childhood, and Dickens' himself lived in the Marshalsea for a few months with his father. Those months left an indelible impact on young Dickens, and his novel directly reflects that impact. In Edzard's film version, the political elements are all too often shortchanged, especially in *Little Dorrit's Story*.

What adds to the film's difficulty is that the film is about as uncinematic as any film could possibly be. Virtually every shot is a static one: the camera remains affixed in one position and only pans to follow the short movements of the actors. The camerawork is not very notable, as most of the action is centered well away

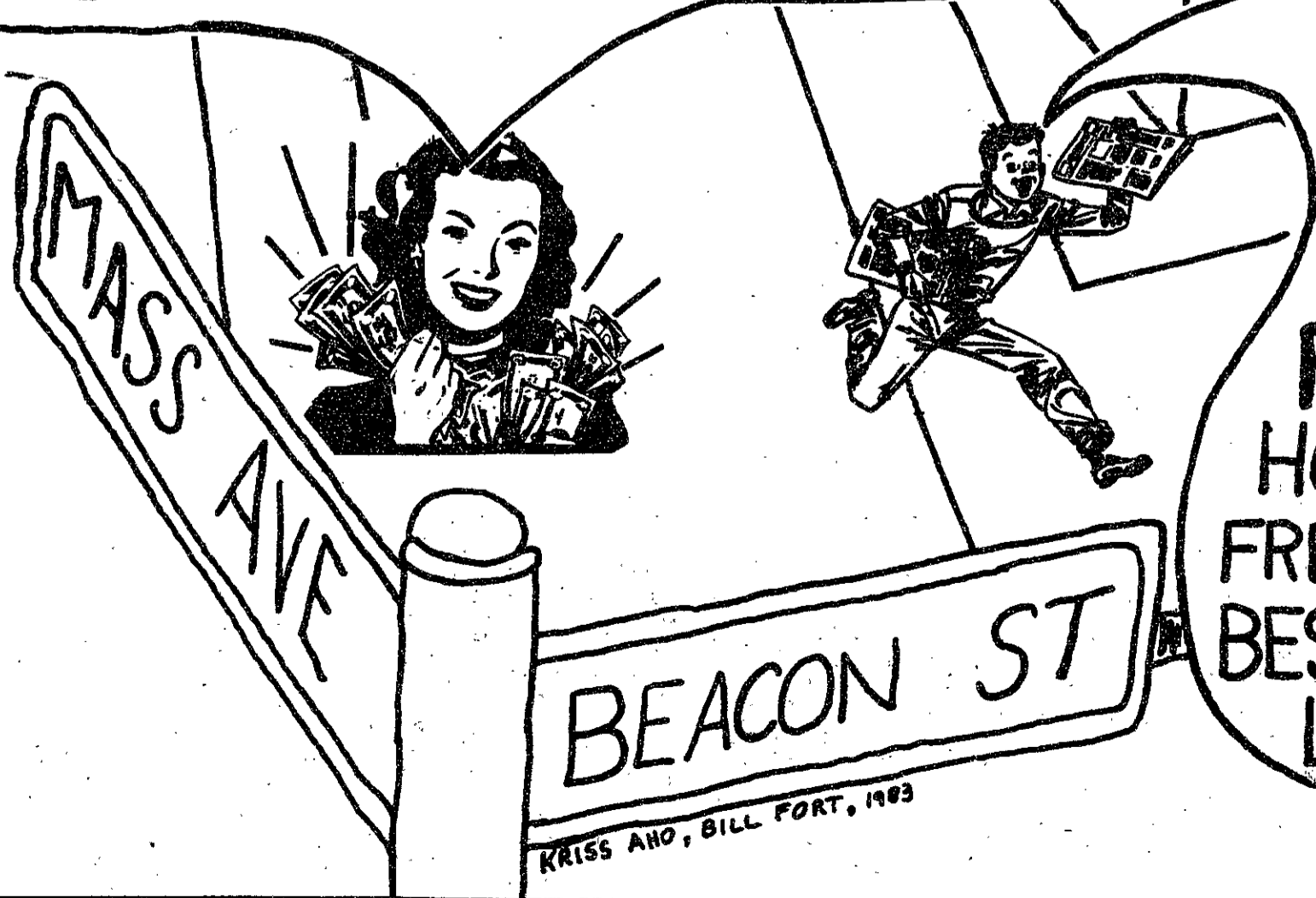
from the frame edges. Indeed, significant portions of the frame are oftentimes black or considerably darkened. There are few facial close-ups, and the editing exists only to hide seams when the camera shifts its point of view.

The one great virtue of the film is that the performances by Sir Alec Guinness as Little Dorrit's father and Derek Jacobi as Arthur Clennam are impeccable. There is no doubt on this score: this is an actors' film, in the way that few American films are. The acting by the other highly accomplished actors (some members of the cast made their acting debut decades ago) — as well as Sarah Pickering's acting, who makes her feature film debut as Little Dorrit — is what actually carries this film. They are what make the six hours pass by much more quickly. And in the final analysis, their performances are what make this film a trying but rewarding experience.

(The above is an expanded version of a review that ran in these pages last September when the film played in the Boston Film Festival.)

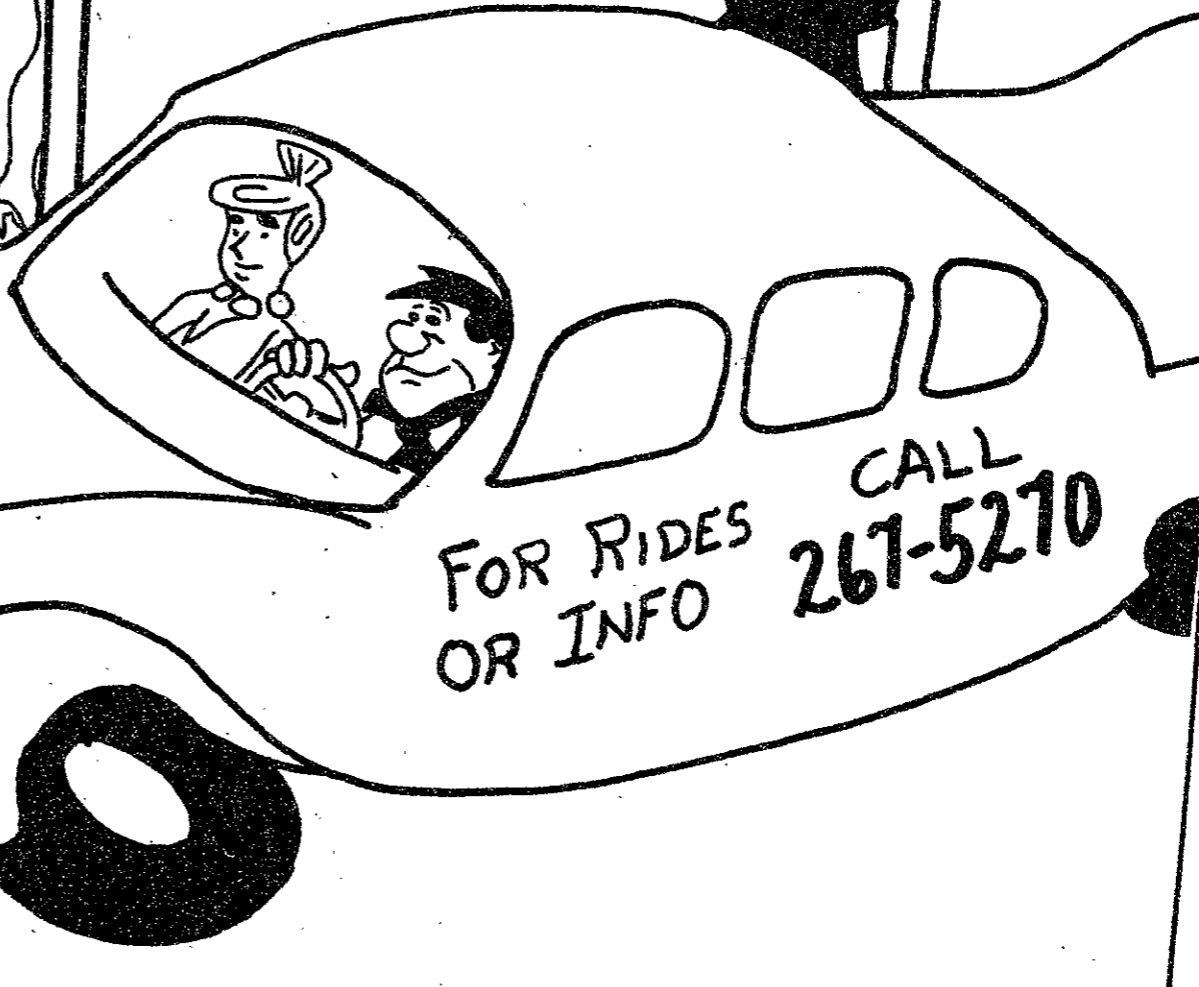
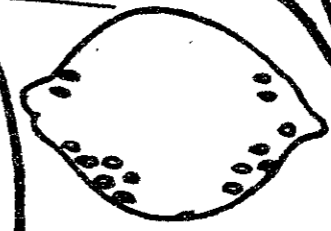
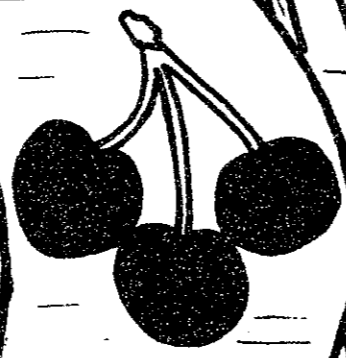


A GOOD TIME
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sports

Men's, women's tennis teams ranked nationally

Sports Update

NCAA honors MIT student-athlete

Senior gymnast Eric Reifschneider has been named the winner of an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship awarded for combined academic and athletic excellence. A four-year letter winner, Reifschneider also finished his MIT career with a perfect 5.0 grade point average in physics and mathematics. The seventh MIT recipient of an NCAA scholarship since 1976, he will use the \$4000 award at Harvard University Law School in September.

Reifschneider's scholarship was one of only six which were awarded to male athletes in Divisions II and III who competed in sports other than football or basketball (which presented their own postgraduate scholarships separately). A total of 100 scholarships were handed out to NCAA athletes in all sports on all levels of competition.

Kelly named coach of the year again

Track coach Gordon Kelly was recently named New England Division III Indoor Coach of the Year by the New England Intercollegiate Track Coaches' Association. Kelly, whose teams have not lost a dual or triangular meet since April 1983, won the award for the third consecutive season on the indoor circuit. It was his ninth Coach of the Year award in his tenure at the Institute.

Men's, women's tennis ranked in top 20

Final national rankings for Division III tennis teams and individuals have been announced, and MIT is well represented in both men's and women's competition. The Engineers finished in a tie for 16th place in the men's rankings, and the women's team earned the 20th spot in the nation.

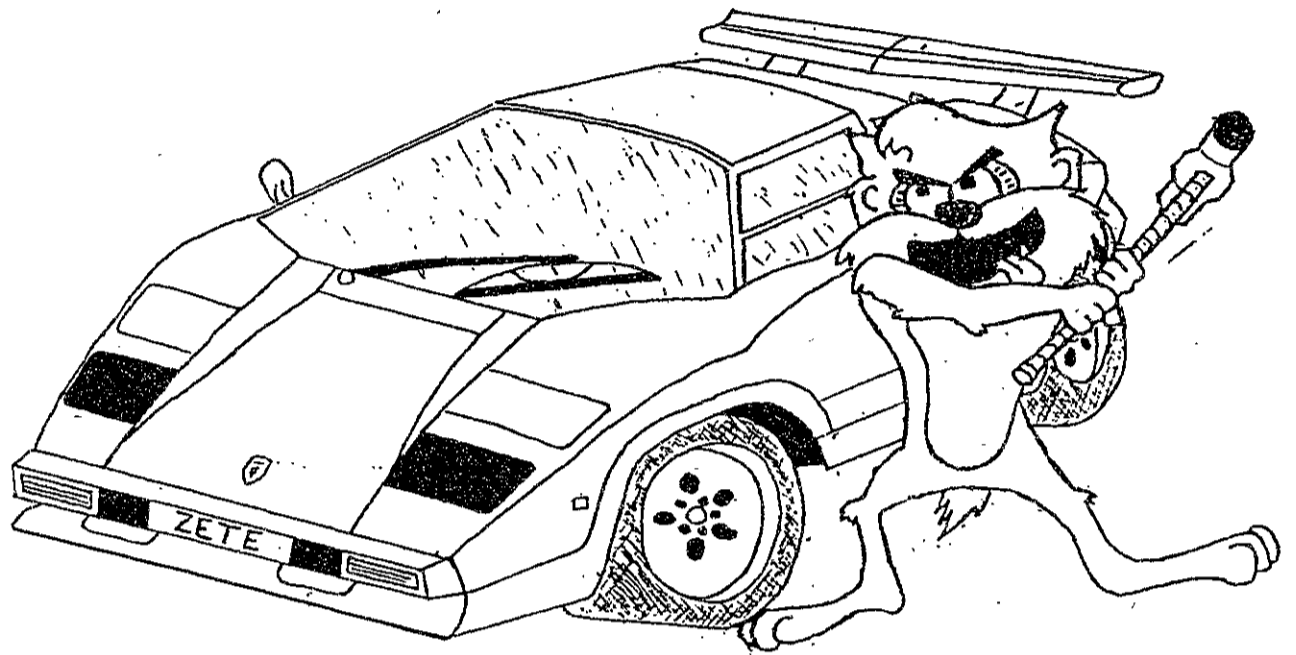
Seniors Kai-Yee Ho and Brian Brown were ranked 23rd in men's doubles, and Ho was the 40th-rated singles player. The team of Ho and Brown made it to Kalamazoo College for the Division III Championships, where they suffered a first-round defeat. Ho also was a first-round victim in the singles Championships. Fiona Tan '90 earned the number 47 position in women's listings.

Midfielder graduates with national ranking in lacrosse

Senior lacrosse player Dave Chang ended the 1989 season ranked eleventh in the nation in goals-per-game scoring average (3.46). The 5'-6", 130-pound midfielder also finished in a fifth-place tie for most points in a game by a Division III player. Chang was named New England Player of the Week the week of May 10.

Compiled by the MIT Sports Information Office

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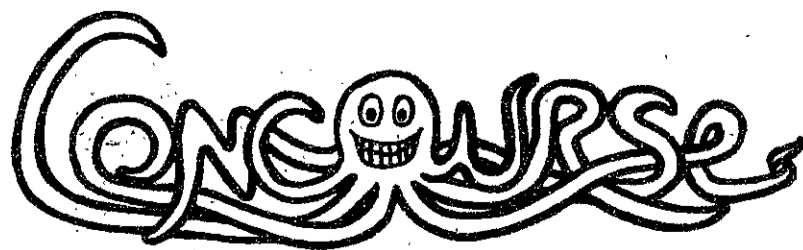
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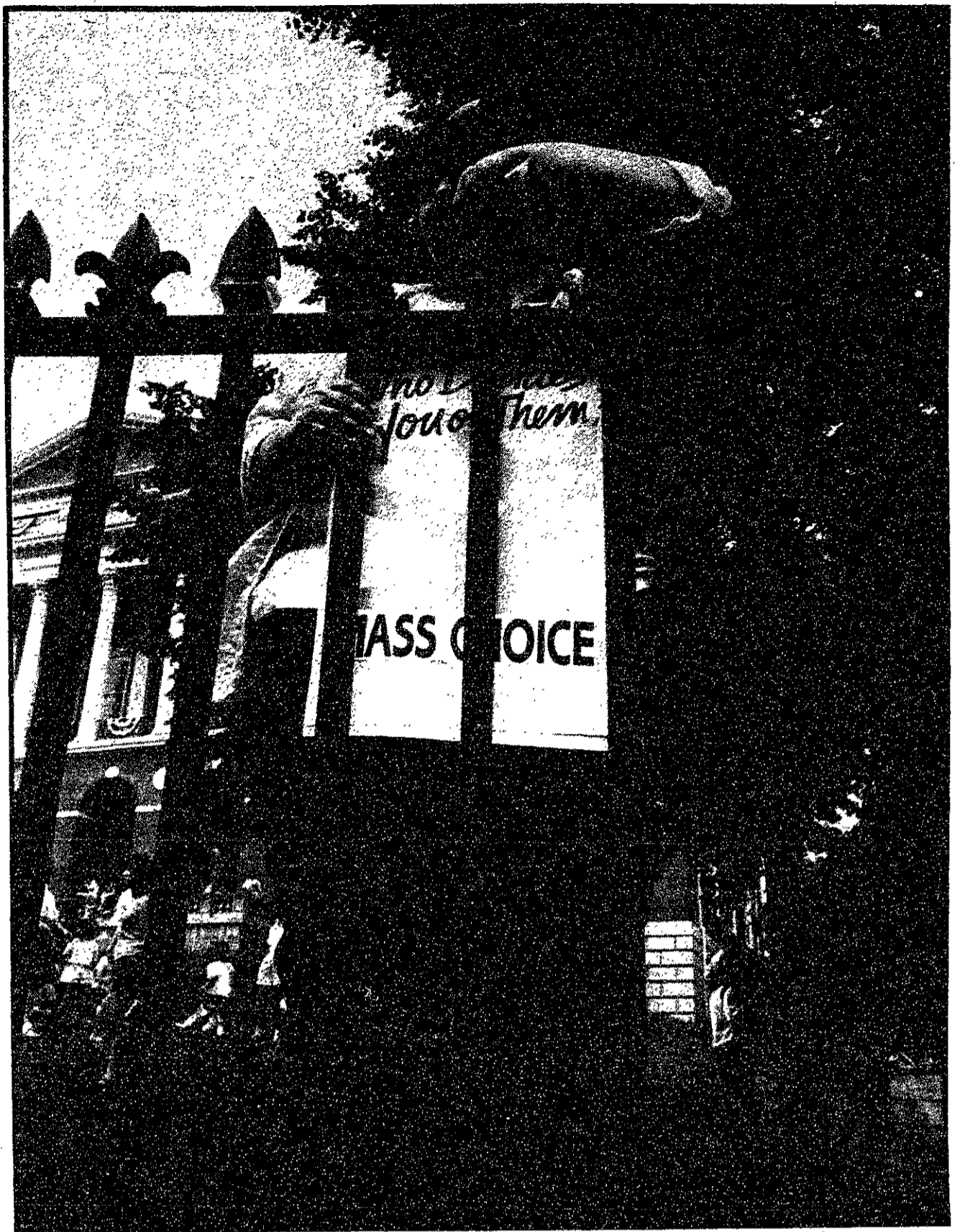
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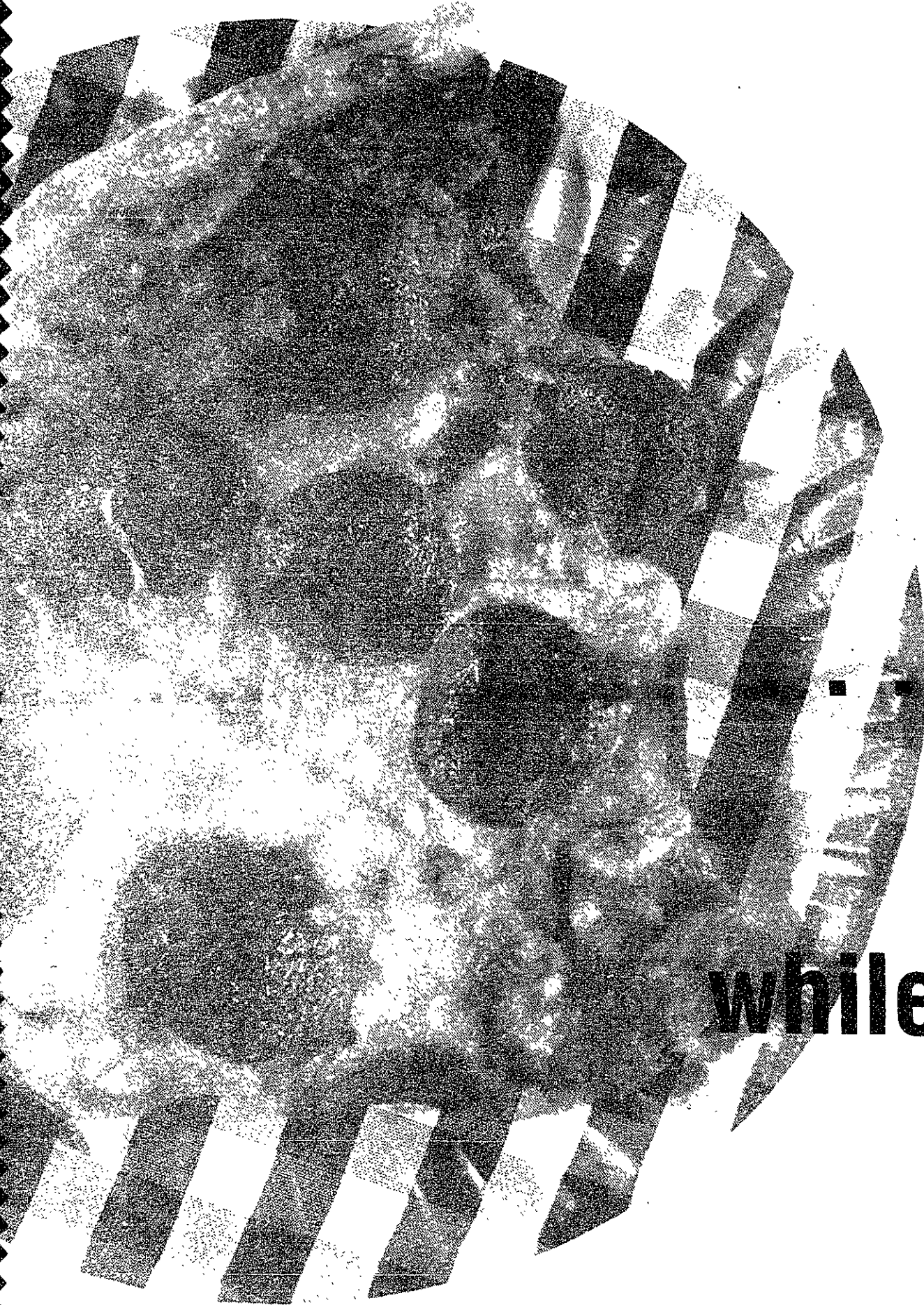
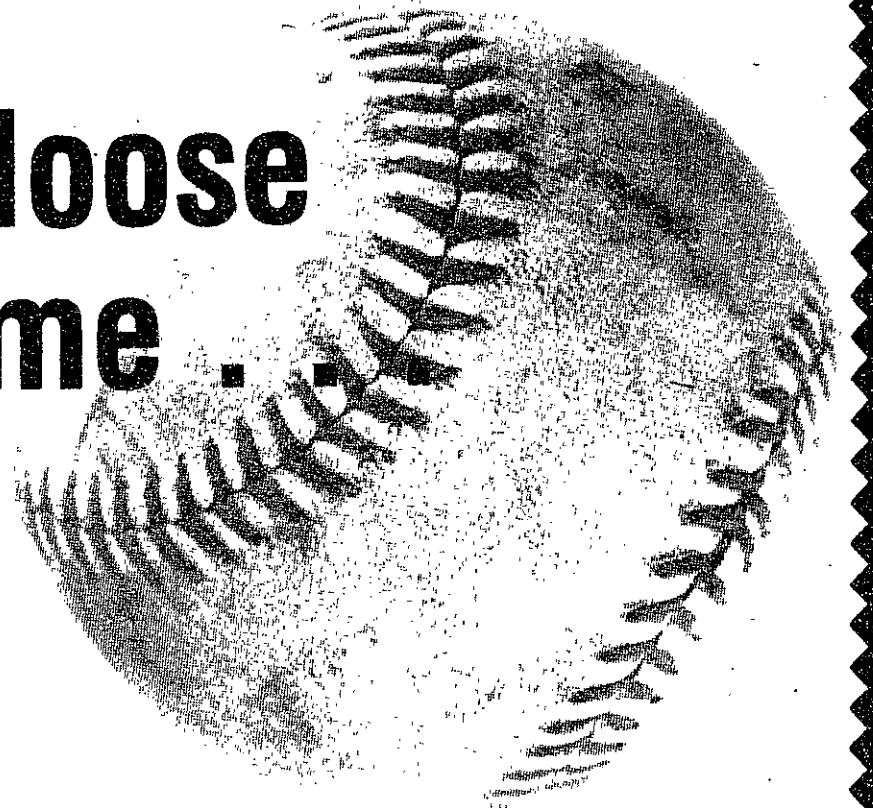
Concourse Lounge, 20C-221



PRO-CHOICE RALLY
July 4th, State House, Boston
Photographs by Christopher J. Andrews



MIT can be a very demanding place, but you have to cut loose and have fun sometime . . .



. . . why not help put together a newspaper while you're at it?

The Tech, MIT's oldest and largest newspaper, is also MIT's oldest student activity. This means not only an opportunity to work in news, sports, arts, opinion, business, production, or photography (previous experience not necessary) but also Sunday night pizza, softball games against other college papers, and a generally fun place in which to hang out.

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