

Ken Church/The Tech

With the completion of the west side of the new Harvard Bridge, demolition began on the east side. The construction should be finished next summer.

Harbison wins MacArthur fellowship

By Irene C. Kuo

Professor of Music John H. Harbison, winner of the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for musical composition, received a \$305,000 fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation on July 17.

Harbison, who joined the faculty in 1969, is the eighth person affiliated with MIT to have won a fellowship in the nine-year program that has existed.

Often called "genius grants," the fellowships were created to "allow extraordinarily talented individuals from all walks of life to work at their highest potential without interference and free of financial constraints," said Adele Simmons, foundation president. This year's 29 winners may use their five-year stipends — which range between \$130,000 and \$350,000 — however they wish.

Harbison said he plans to use his award to write pieces for which he does not have commissions. "There are works that I want to do, but no one wants me to do. The [fellowship] is a real luxury."

Harbison hopes to reduce his teaching load someday in order to pursue these interests. He could not do so this fall, when he will teach Schubert to Mahler (21.627) and Music Composition (21.681), because of special arrangements Boston University students had made to come to MIT.

He said he would like to keep his "connection" with the Institute. "I enjoy teaching at MIT or I would not be here." He added that, from encounters with recent students, he approved of Admissions Director Michael C. Behnke's skill at "breaking the mold."

A "composer, performer, conductor, writer, organizer, and promoter of contemporary music," in the words of the awards announcement, Harbison received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1977; has been a resident composer for the American Academy in Rome, the Santa Fe Chamber Festival, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic; performs as a jazz pianist; and has been co-

artistic director of Collage, a new music ensemble in Boston.

Harbison plans to conduct cantatas at Emmanuel Church until January 1990 and to perform a concert with Collage next February. He said he hopes to work more closely with people in the MIT performance series when they perform the Bach Cantatas next spring than he has in the past.

Higgins might have headed NROTC

Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins, the American hostage believed executed by his pro-Iranian captors in Lebanon, had hoped to come to MIT when his assignment in Lebanon ended. Higgins wanted to head the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program based at the Institute.

"I have decided to ask the Marine Corps that I be stationed as the commanding officer of the NROTC at Harvard-MIT in Cambridge," Higgins wrote Suzanne Berger, head of the Department of Political Science, in January 1988. The letter was written one month before Higgins was abducted while serving as part of a United Nations peacekeeping force.

Berger and Higgins met when he was a fellow in 1986-87 at an MIT program in Washington that gives senior military and civilian officials insight into foreign cultures.

Bexley residents warned about roof

By Andrew L. Fish
and Annabelle Boyd

The Office of the Dean for Student Affairs increased the fine for trespassing on the Bexley Hall roof from \$50 to \$500. The increase, which was revealed yesterday, was prompted by a June 3 incident, in which two Molotov cocktails were thrown from the Bexley Hall roof into the alley behind the building.

A letter from the Residence and Campus Activities Section of the ODSA said that while sanctions had been imposed on the student who threw the cocktails, "the community of a house bears some responsibility in establishing behavior within that commu-

nity and towards its members." The letter, signed by Senior Staff Associate for Residence and Campus Activities Andrew M. Eisenmann '75 and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Stephanie Harriston-Diggs, concluded that "given the nature of this incident, that responsibility has not been accepted by the house."

William Orme-Johnson, Bexley's housemaster, said a number of students were on the roof when the incendiaries were thrown. "It became apparent during the hearing that MIT held on the incident that these people were members of Bexley," he said.

Harriston-Diggs said the pitching of the Molotov cocktails off the roof represented "inappropriate and unacceptable behavior."

"Students at Bexley knew the roof was off-limits, and someone should have intervened before things went so far."

MIT has longstanding rules banning students from the roofs of Institute buildings. But the restrictions have been loosely enforced, and residents of Bexley and several other dormitories frequently use their roofs for barbecues and parties. The fine for

trespassing on the roof was increased seemingly to add teeth to the rule. The fine for trespassing on the Green Building also was raised to \$500 last January because of persistent trespassing problems.

Shortly after the hearing on the incident, the Housing Office constructed partitions on three of the four accesses to the Bexley roof, and put a lockable grating on the fourth entry, so workmen could still get to the roof, Orme-Johnson said. Residents of the house have since destroyed the partitions, Johnson said.

"Bexley will be holding a meeting on Thursday to discuss the roof, and it is very likely that the house will be charged a goodly amount of money by the Dean's Office," Orme-Johnson said.

Some residents were upset that the roof was blocked off without consulting them, Orme-Johnson added.

In addition to the \$500 fine, any student caught on the Bexley roof will have "to explain why the privilege of living in MIT housing should not be revoked," according to the letter from the Dean's Office.

Committee sends freshwomen book

By Annabelle Boyd

The Women's Residence/Orientation Committee will be providing each incoming freshman with a copy of *The New Our Bodies, Ourselves* compiled by the Boston Women's Health Book Collective. The freshmen will receive this book when they first check into the R/O center on Thursday, Aug. 31.

The New Our Bodies, Ourselves is the updated version of *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, which first appeared in 1969, and generated much discussion on such women's issues as nutrition, abortion, violence against women, birth control and sexuality.

In addition to the distribution of the book, a "book party" will be held during orientation week, at which representatives from the Boston Women's Health Book Collective will discuss the book with the in-coming freshmen.

According to Debra Armstrong '91, a member of the Women's R/O Committee, the committee hopes that this book will serve not only as a valuable resource for the in-coming freshmen, but also that it will show them that MIT possesses the resources necessary to deal with the special interests and concerns shared by women.

Providing the freshmen with a copy of this book is not an

original idea, as it was done for the incoming freshmen in the late 1970s, Armstrong said. However, this practice was discontinued in the early 1980s, primarily due to lack of funding. According to Armstrong, many people — both students and staff — felt that giving the book to freshmen was "important," and a "good idea," so mounting the funding campaign to reinstate the book as a part of the R/O experience was not too difficult.

Working through the Women's R/O Committee with Christina Boyle '91 and Kelly McDonald '91, Armstrong raised the funds necessary to purchase 380 copies of the book, one for each incoming freshman. If potential donors were reluctant at first, once they were made aware of the issues addressed in the book, they became, in most cases, generous and supportive, Armstrong said.

According to R/O Coordinator Elizabeth Ling '89, "Even groups with tight budgets have been giving money, support and encouragement."

In addition to the book, each freshman will receive a pamphlet reporting the organizations which donated the money to buy the books, and explaining which resources each group has to offer to women at MIT. The following groups have contributed to the project thus far: the Women's Studies Program, Lynn Roberson (Cheney Fund), the Medical Department, the Literature Section, Gays at MIT, the Ad Hoc Committee on Lesbian and Gay Studies, Andrew M. Eisenmann '75 (the Dean's Office), the Women's Independent Living Group and Associate Provost S. Jay Keyser.

In providing *The New Our Bodies, Ourselves* to this year's incoming freshmen, the Women's R/O Committee hopes to begin a tradition of purchasing the book for the women of each incoming class, Armstrong said.

According to Ling, the distribution of this book "distinguishes the Women's R/O Committee from other groups, and sets an important example for other groups to follow."

Project Athena to be open to grad students

By Annabelle Boyd

Graduate students will have full access to Project Athena in September, according to Project Athena Director Earl M. Murman. Currently, one-third of MIT graduate students have Athena accounts.

By the end of summer break, Project Athena personnel will have deployed approximately 250 new workstations in departmental clusters to facilitate the new graduate student accounts. As with undergraduate accounts, graduate accounts must be renewed every September. Each graduate account will be provided 1.2 megabytes of backed-up disk space for personal files as well as use of non-backed-up space. In addition, a graduate student may request limited amounts of extra backed up space.

Graduate student accounts will (Please turn to page 2)

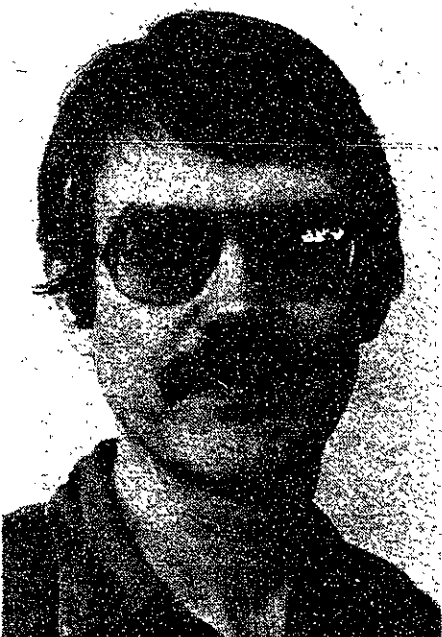


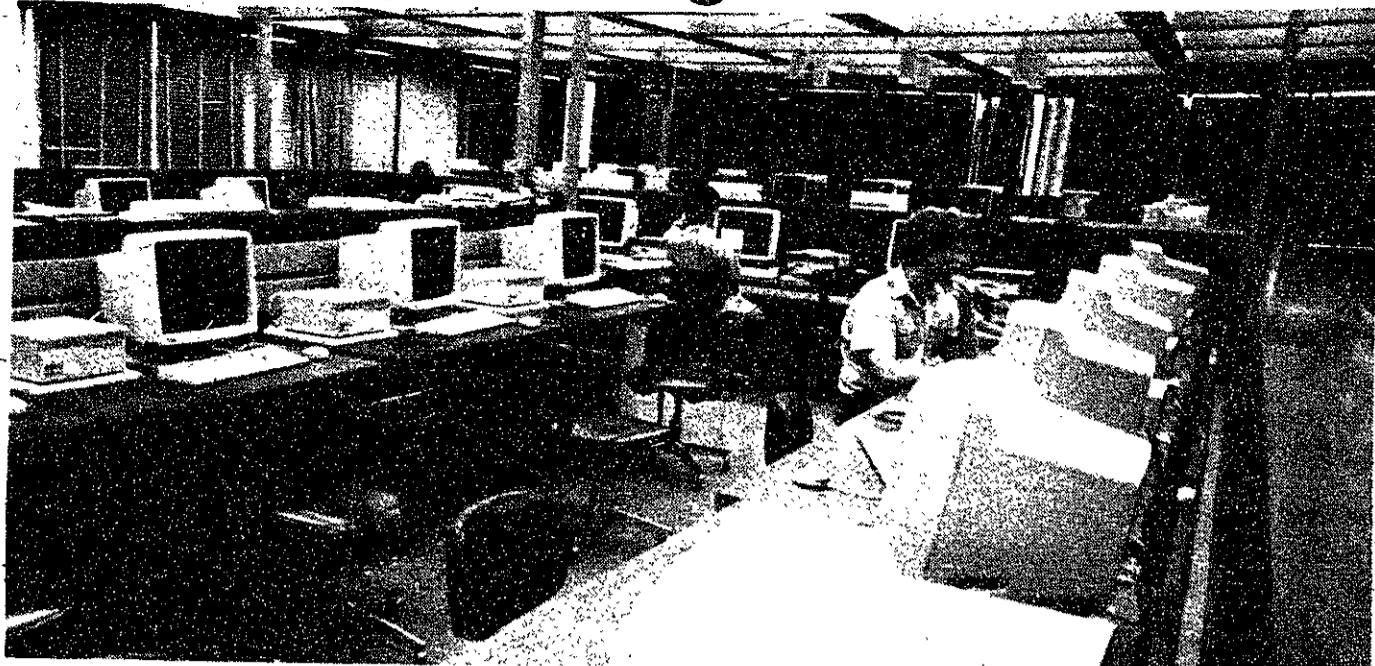
Photo courtesy MIT News Office
Professor John H. Harbison

inside

Todd Machover's electronic music and Yoichiro Kawaguchi's images presented at The Cube. Page 7.

MIT Community Players' performance of *Fiddlers* offers funny individual performances and a string of small funny moments. Page 7.

Athena opens to graduate students



Ken Church/The Tech

The Student Center Athena cluster has received new workstations in anticipation of increased demand from graduate students.

(Continued from page 1)

also be provided with print service, which consists of 500 free pages per semester of laser printer hardcopy. By January Project Athena will offer to both undergraduate and graduate students the option of additional hardcopy for a fee, according to Murman.

Also, graduate student accounts will have full access to electronic mail service, on-line consulting and training.

However, Athena's grants, as well as a number of Athena software licenses, limit use of Athena

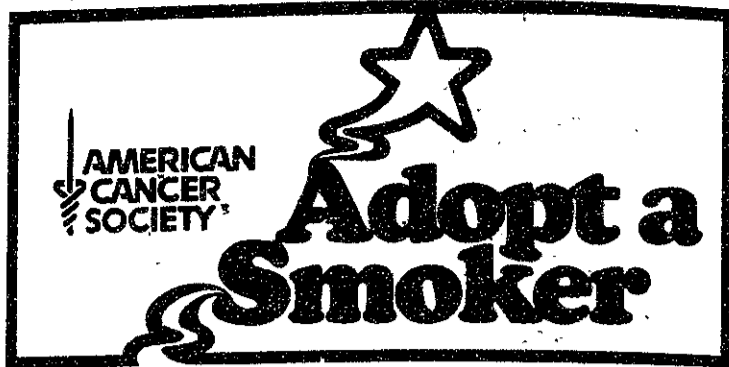
to educational purposes. Therefore, graduate students will not be able to utilize the Athena facility as a substitute or de facto resource for research computing. However, Project Athena construes this restriction on workstation utilization broadly, according to Murman.

The new workstations will be supplied by Project Athena, available under the Digital Equipment Corporation and International Business Machines grants, and they will be configured as standard public workstations. In addition, Project Athe-

na will provide one laser printer for every twelve workstations.

Murman expects about two-thirds of the graduate student body to open Athena accounts next term. This is compared with the 90 percent of undergraduates currently with Athena accounts.

In a letter released at the end of last term, Murman reported that during the 1988-1989 academic year, approximately 100 undergraduate and graduate subjects used Athena for assigned work, and that 1600-2000 different people used Athena each day.



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Book on homeless sent to freshmen

The Undergraduate Academic Support Office in conjunction with a student committee will mail a copy of *Rachel and Her Children*, Jonathan Kozol's story about homelessness, to each incoming freshman. Discussion groups during Residence/Orientation Week will focus on the book and on the issue of homelessness.

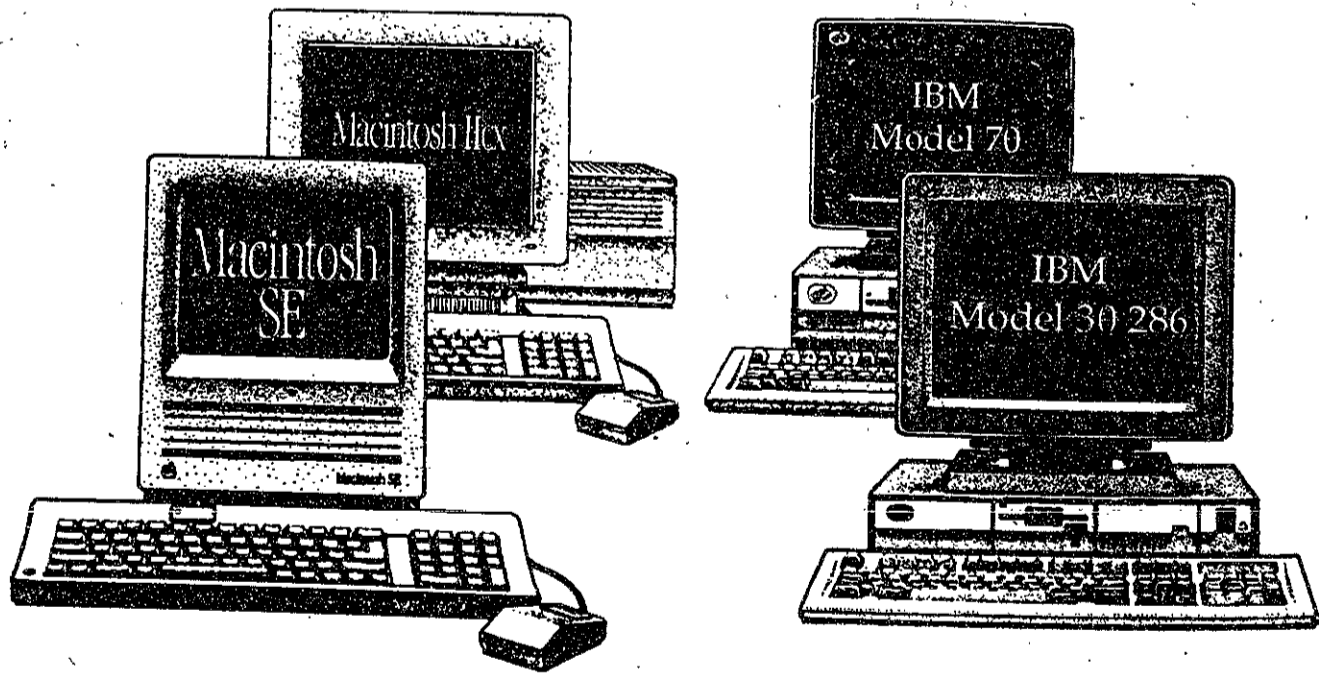
This is the third year in a row that MIT has sent a discussion book to the incoming class. Last year's selection was *Beloved*, Toni Morrison's Pulitzer-Prize-winning novel. In 1987, freshmen received Professor Leo Marx's *The Machine in the Garden*, a study of the impact of industrialism on American life and values.

The book program was added to freshman orientation three years ago in an effort to get incoming students to think about social and political issues.

MIT's choice of homelessness to be this year's issue has generated some controversy because of the Institute's strained relationship with the city's homeless and their advocates. The \$250 million University Park development on the Institute-owned Simplex site has particularly drawn fire from critics who allege that the project ignores the city's housing needs.

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news roundup

from the associated press wire

World

Higgins dead, FBI concludes

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has reportedly concluded that Marine Lt. Col. William Higgins is dead. A Pentagon official said analysts now believe the body shown hanging from a rope in a videotape released by Lebanese extremists is that of Higgins. According to sources, pathologists who examined the tape could not determine how or when Higgins died.

Higgins was abducted in South Lebanon in 1987 where he was in command of a United Nations peacekeeping force. A week ago the group holding Higgins claimed to have hanged him after Israel refused to release an abducted Moslem cleric.

President Bush remembered Higgins during ceremonies yesterday marking the 200th anniversary of the old War Department. Bush, his voice choked by emotion, said Higgins is a "symbol of courage" for all American servicemen.

Britons try out for Soviet space program

About 150 candidates are still in the running to become Britain's first astronaut. They have started medical testing to determine physical and psychological stamina. Finalists start training this fall at the Soviet Space Training Center in preparation for a joint mission to the Soviet space station *Mir*.

Arms talks proceed slowly

Round one of the latest round of superpower arms talks in Geneva has ended with both sides expressing disappointment over lack of agreement. The talks on cutting long-range nuclear forces were the first since President Bush took office. Both sides agree that full agreement on a strategic arms reduction treaty is not on the immediate horizon.

US, Mexico discuss drugs and economics

The drug war and economic issues are among the items on the agenda of talks between top US officials, including Secretary of State James A. Baker, and Mexican leaders. US officials are giving high marks to President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's new administration for increased efforts at fighting drug trafficking.

At a Mexico City news conference, Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady also had praise for Salinas' efforts to reorganize his country's debts.

US, USSR to negotiate grain deal

US and Soviet officials will begin negotiations toward a new, long-term grain agreement in December. Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter explained "it makes sense to negotiate an agreement with the Soviets because they are in need of a stable supply of grain and we have grain to export." He added that a new long-term grain agreement would help stabilize the trading relationship between the two countries, and "hopefully serve as a mechanism for additional sales." Negotiators failed to reach such an agreement during efforts last year and instead extended the 1983 version, which now will run until the end of next year.

Nation

Phone strike affects 15 states

Callers in 15 states seeking operator or directory assistance are likely to wait longer than usual for service. One-hundred-fifty-seven thousand workers are on strike against three regional phone companies. The stoppage has apparently affected some repairs and installations, as well. Heavy business phone use on this first full day of the strike has reportedly caused the delays. Informal talks are expected soon but no new negotiations have been set between strikers and management.

Congressman's plane missing

A spokeswoman for Democratic Rep. Mickey Leland (TX) said last night that it is "very premature" at this point to be worried about his plane missing in Ethiopia. The plane carrying Leland and his party failed to arrive at a refugee camp near the Sudanese border, and the State Department said it is concerned. But the Leland spokeswoman said he may have opted to go to a different camp.

Shuttle launched deemed likely

Weatherwise, chances for launching the space shuttle on time are improving. Forecasters say there is now only a slight chance bad weather will delay this morning's launch of the *Columbia* and its secret payload. It is thought to be a spy satellite the five-man crew will launch into orbit. *Columbia* — NASA's oldest shuttle — is making its first flight in more than three years.

Sports

Rose asks for court delay

Attorneys for Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose have asked a federal judge to delay a scheduled August 17 meeting between Rose and baseball commissioner Bart Giamatti. Rose's attorney also requested a stay in all further proceedings in the case pending final word on which court system will oversee the Rose lawsuit against Giamatti.

Service academies sign pact with Liberty Bowl

The three military academies yesterday signed a five-year contract with the Liberty Bowl that will send one of the schools to the Memphis, TN, game each year. The winner of the Commander in Chief's Trophy — which is awarded annually to Army, Navy, or Air Force — will earn a spot in the Liberty Bowl. There is a provision which allows the bowl to choose a non-academy team in the event of poor records for the academies.

Red Sox sign right-hander

Journeyman right-hander 33-year-old Greg Harris was signed by the Boston Red Sox yesterday to bolster an injury-riddled pitching staff. Harris, released recently by the Philadelphia Phillies, reported to the Red Sox in time for the opener of a three-game series with the Royals in Kansas City last night. Since 1981, Harris has pitched for the New York Mets, Cincinnati, Montreal, San Diego, Texas and Philadelphia. He spent three full seasons with Texas before dividing the 1988 season between Philadelphia and the minor leagues.

To make room on the 24-player roster for Harris, the Red Sox originally announced that sore-armed rookie Eric Hetzel would go to Pawtucket in the International League. An hour later, though, the Red Sox changed their minds and said that Hetzel had been placed on the 21-day disabled list, effective August 3.

Divorcing couple fight over fertilized eggs

The legal battle over the fate of seven fertilized human eggs is under way in a Maryville, TN, courtroom. Mary Sue Davis and husband Junior Lewis Davis are divorcing after ten years of marriage. The couple took part in an in-vitro fertilization program six years ago and Junior is trying to keep Mary Sue from using any of the fertilized eggs to become pregnant.

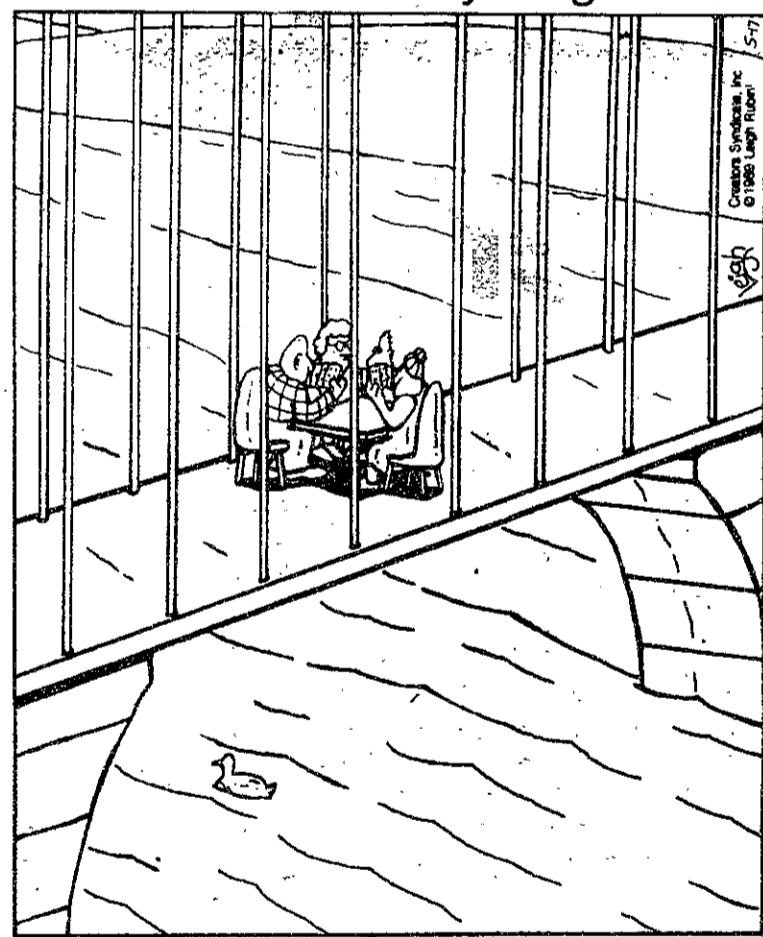
Utah to fund cold fusion

Cold fusion is not getting the cold shoulder in Utah. A state panel has voted to release \$4.5 million to the University of Utah for research into the phenomenon. Two chemists at the school claim they have sustained a fusion reaction at room temperature. But the scientific community has been generally skeptical.

NYC recognizes unmarried couples

Unmarried couples now have official status in New York City. Mayor Edward Koch has declared that city workers who have lived together at least a year with another unmarried adult will be recognized as "domestic partners." That entitles them to the same bereavement leave that married people get. The order includes homosexual, heterosexual and non-sexual relationships.

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Bridge, on the River Kwai.

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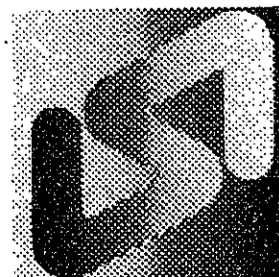
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opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Institute should improve access for the handicapped

(Editor's note: The Tech received a copy of this letter to President Paul E. Gray '54.)
Dear President Gray:

I am a student worker in the MIT Libraries Acquisitions Department. On Thursday, July 20, I had to deliver a bundle of computer printouts on a handtruck to Dewey Library. I planned on using the handicapped access ramp to enter the building, assuming that it could be easily located. When I reached the building, however, not only was I unable to find the ramp, but no one I asked seemed to know how to enter either. Finally, someone suggested my using the ground entrance on the east side of the building. Upon going through the door, I discovered that I would have to go down a flight of stairs to reach the elevator. I was forced to leave the cart behind and carry the printouts the rest of the way. Although I was not terribly inconvenienced, I realized the difficulty this would pose to a handicapped student.

After I left the building (again with the cart) and walked through the parking garage under Sloan and Dewey, I saw what must be the handicapped entrance — a set of double doors and ramps hidden behind a tall concrete slab. Even if I had known the entrance was located in the garage, I would have had a hard time finding it, never mind reaching it. People in wheelchairs cannot carry their chairs across

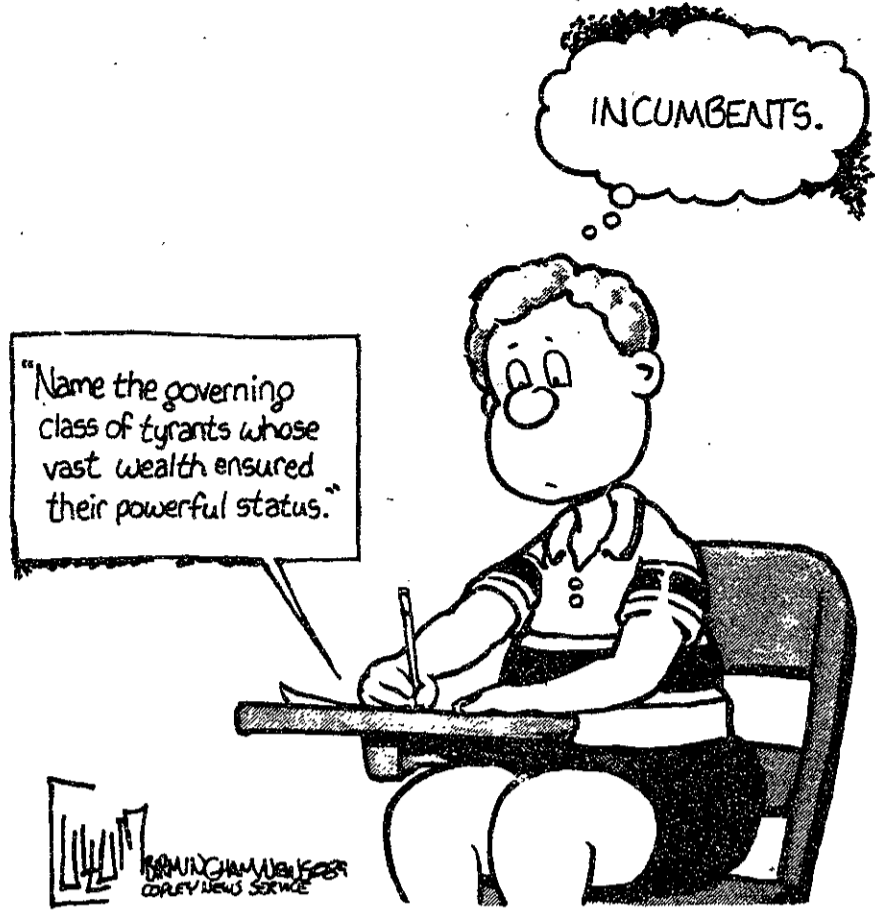
grating as I carried across the cart.

When I returned to work, concerned about this problem (and the problem of the Sloan entrance, located in the same garage in an area marked "Deliveries here"), I called the Information Office to relate my frustration. I was transferred to the Planning Office, where I repeated my story and was again transferred, this time to the Physical Planning Group. The woman who took my call was polite, saying that she was aware of the problem. Her office had once researched the access method for a handicapped student who had to use the library. When I asked her why there had not been any sort of signs posted to help she

implied that there were many trouble spots to deal with and insufficient resources. In the end, she appreciated my concern but did not promise any action.

I do realize that the Physical Planning Group is willing to research routes for MIT's handicapped students and I am certain that MIT has a guide to handicap access for its students. However, I am concerned that a visitor to our campus would not know where to get that kind of help. Posting signs with arrows and placing a pathway over gratings would be an inexpensive and quick way to show guests that MIT believes in equal access to all.

Paula Cuccurullo '91



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.

The Tech

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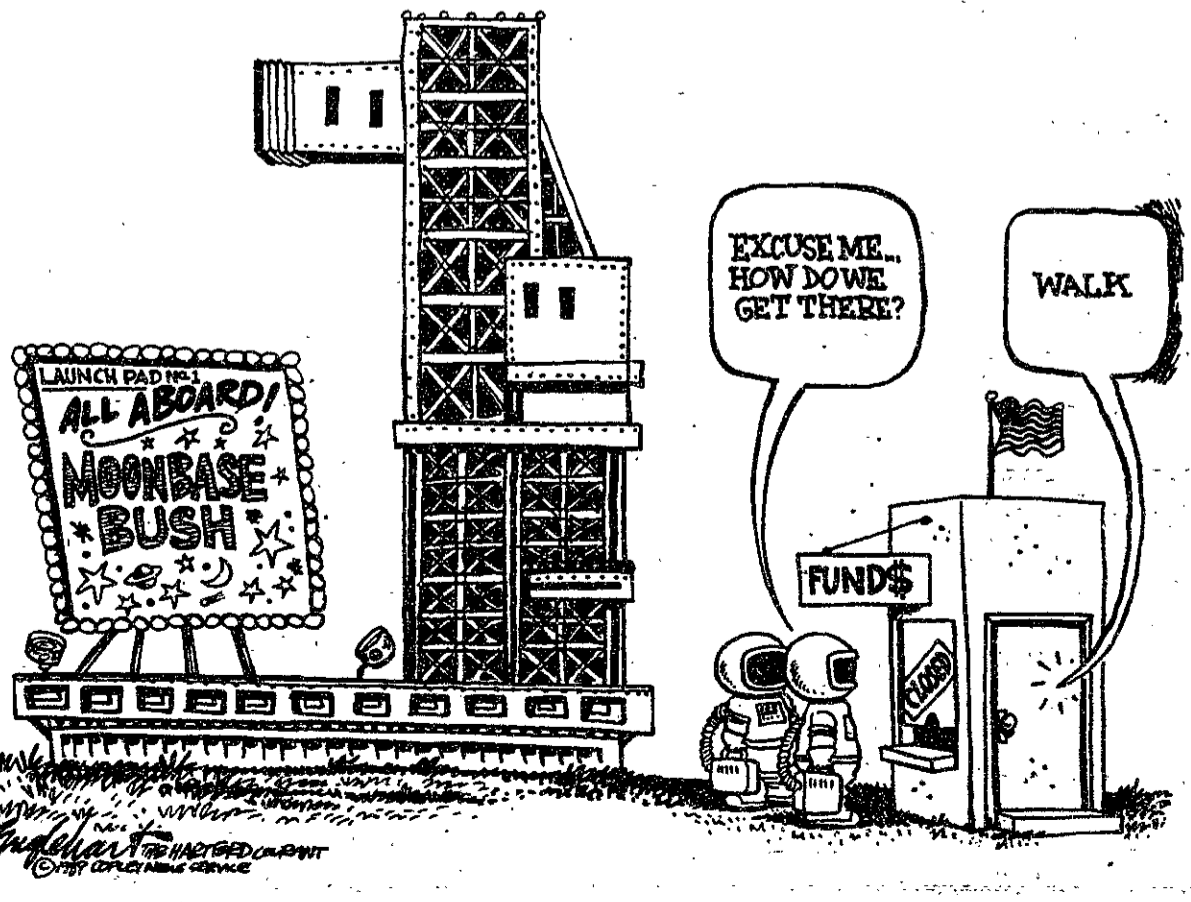
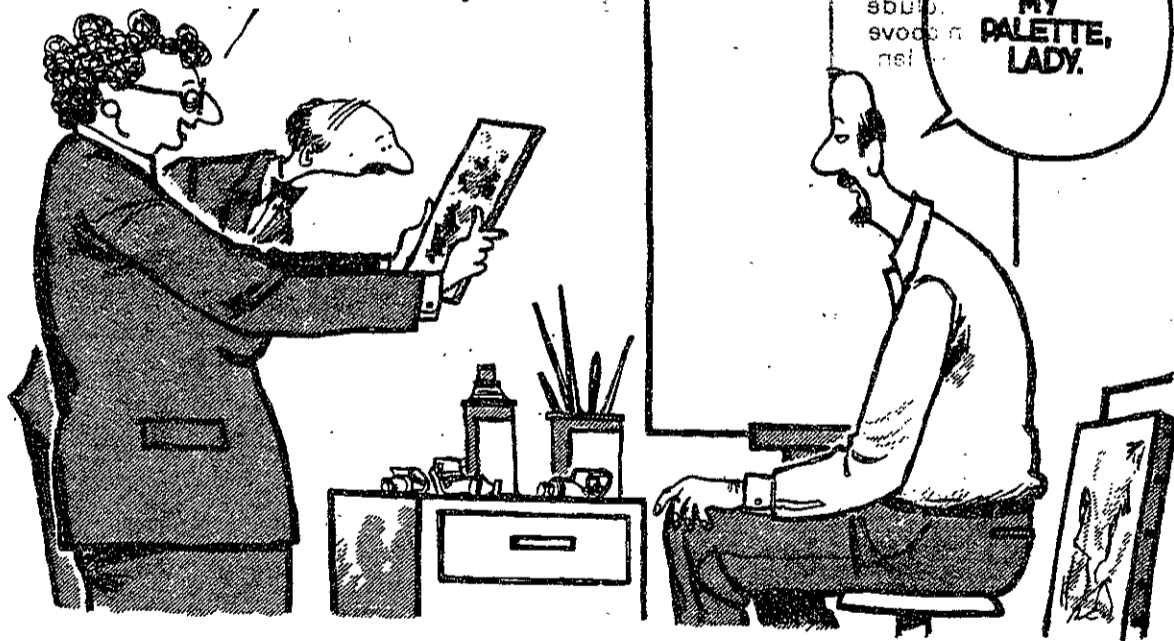
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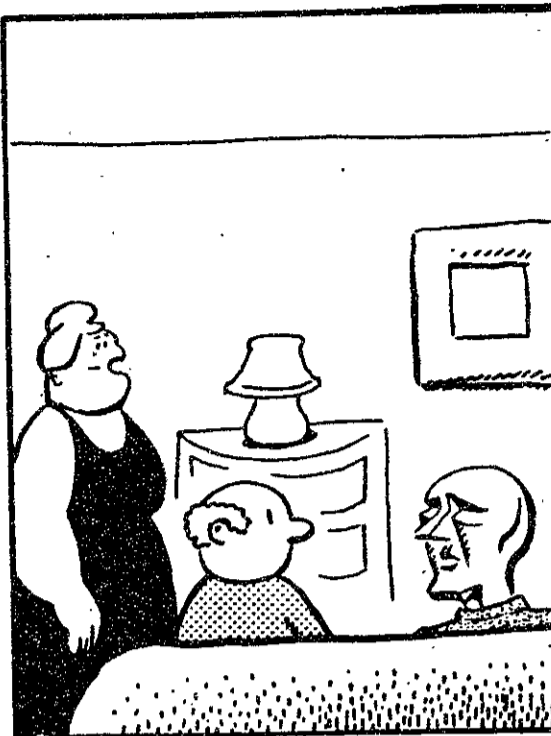
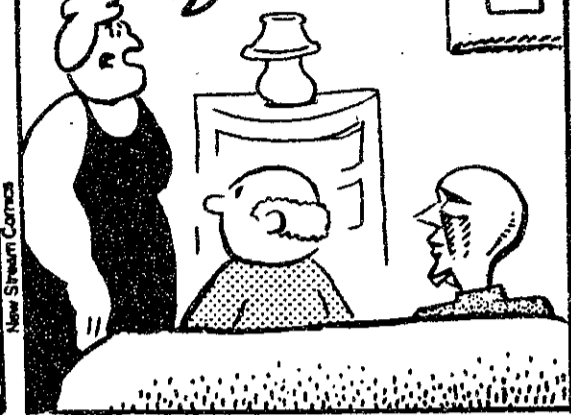
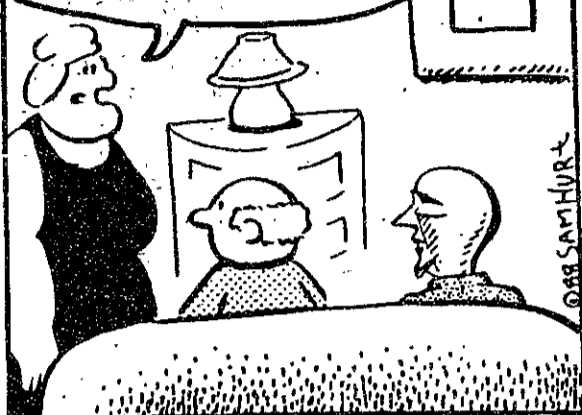
comics

EYE BEAM

by Sam Hux

OK- SIT DOWN YOU TWO. I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYONE'S FEELINGS, BUT I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY. I KNOW YOU BOTH CARE FOR ME, AND I'M VERY FLATTERED...

... BUT THERE'S NO ROOM IN MY LIFE FOR A RELATIONSHIP RIGHT NOW. I JUST WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE. I HOPE I'VE MADE MYSELF CLEAR.



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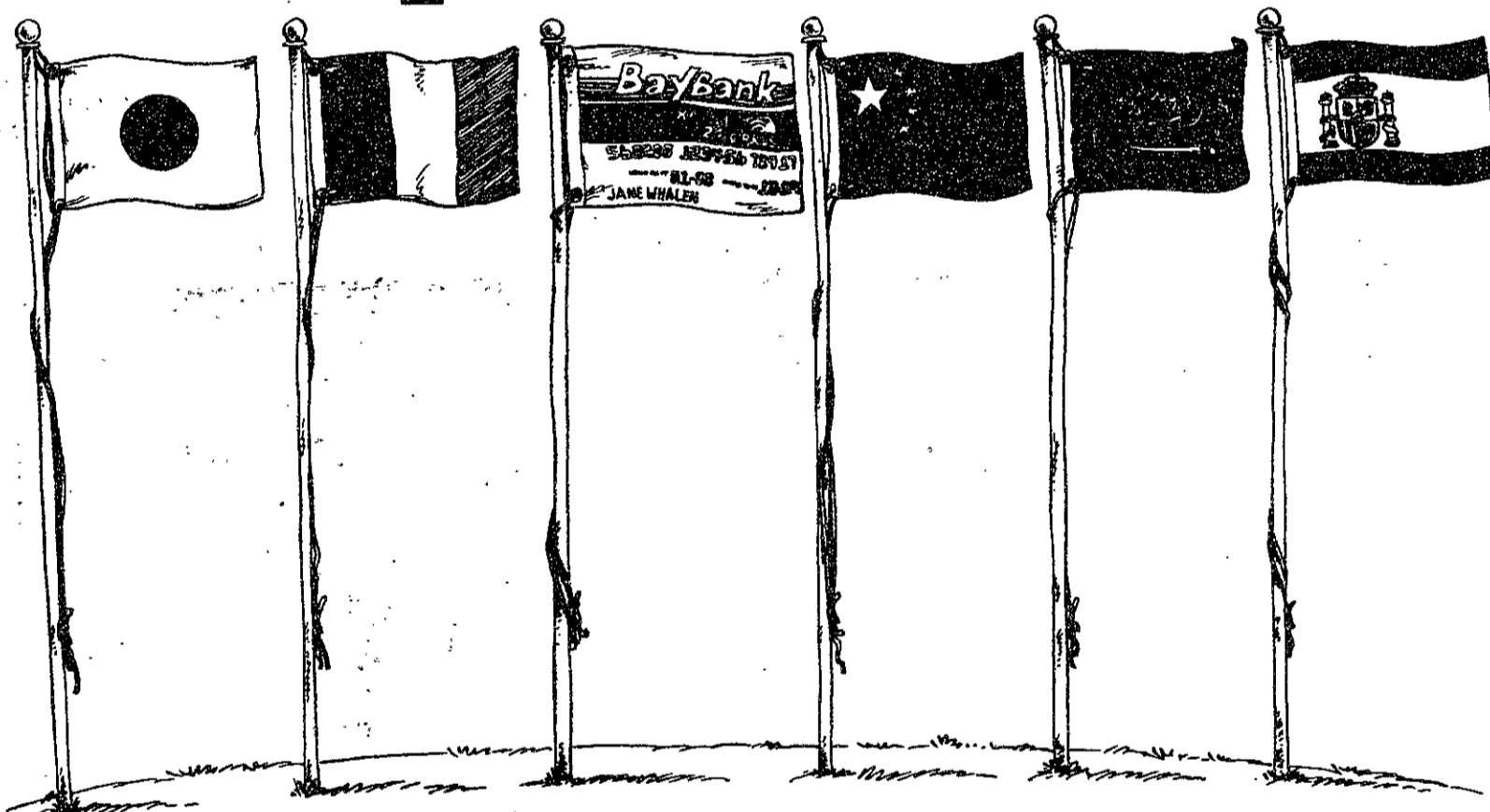
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From Einstein to slapstick: the Australians know best

YOUNG EINSTEIN

Directed by Yahoo Serious.

Written by Yahoo Serious and David Roach.

Starring Yahoo Serious, Odile le Clezio, and John Howard.

Now playing at the Copley Place Cinema.

By ROB MARTELLO

"I N 1905 HE DISCOVERED THE theory of relativity. In 1906 he discovered rock and roll." Yes, that's how Warner Brothers is selling this Australian comedy. The film does take a few liberties in describing the life and adventures of Albert Einstein. But what do you expect from a producer, director, writer, and star by the name of Yahoo Serious?

Young Einstein was released last December in Australia, where it rivaled *Crocodile Dundee* and *Star Wars* in box office popularity. This isn't surprising, considering how thoroughly Australianized the film is. (For starters, Einstein is born in the backwoods of Australia.)

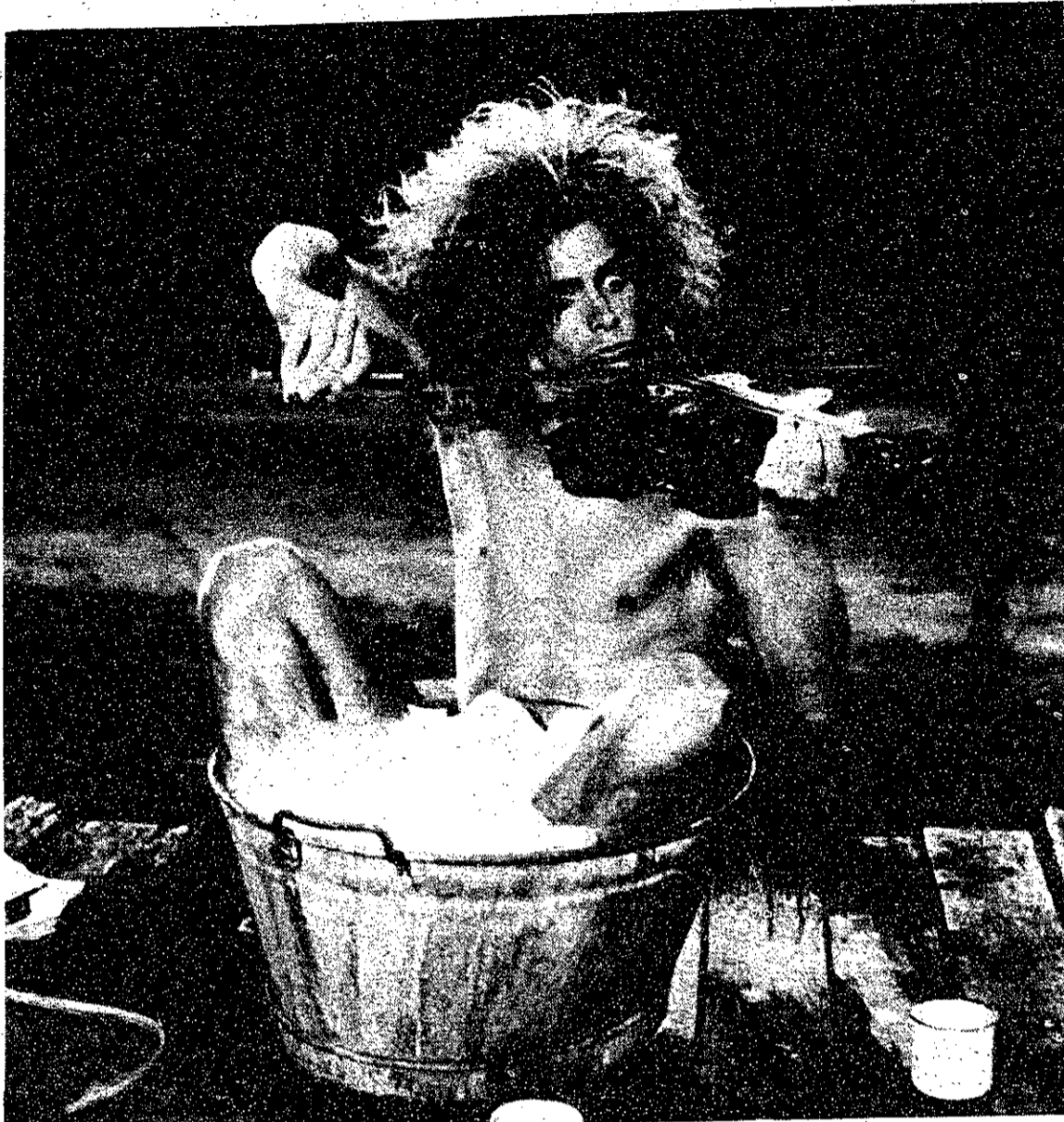
At a press luncheon last April, though, Serious acknowledged that he wanted to relate to all possible audiences. Consequently, he employs flashy special effects, dazzling scenery, cartoonish sound effects, wild stunts, and a fantastic soundtrack (ranging from Icehouse to classical music). Unfortunately, this strategy makes the film only marginally satisfying for any particular audience type. There are many scenes that are overly drawn out or simplistic, and others have a complexity that seems

out of place in a screwball comedy.

Unquestionably, the film's plot (or rather, the lack thereof) is a drawback. The blatant disregard for all historical facts and common sense strips all seriousness (no pun intended) from the movie. On the other hand, certain themes dreamed up by Serious (such as Einstein's romance with Madam Curie or the descriptions of various scientific theories) are carefully developed in the manner of a drama. But the pace of the film varies wildly, and the lack of continuity from scene to scene is unsettling.

Any advance description of the storyline would detract from the comedic shock value of the film. Even an exact historical knowledge of the details of Einstein's life will give no indication of the countless plot twists. Similarly, the only purpose of the acting is to create unbelievable characters personifying the extremes of human behavior. Stereotypes and anachronisms abound.

If the viewer is able to throw all dependence on reality to the winds before entering the theater, then *Young Einstein* might be very enjoyable. The camerawork is superb, and the rugged Australian outback is appealingly photographed. The soundtrack, which went platinum in Australia, is first rate, except where it is eclipsed by inane sound effects. The stunts are all performed by Serious himself, and the action sequences are amusing in their impossibilities. But although the jokes and plot can be very funny at times, the audience spends more time laughing at the film than with it.



The ever-inventive Albert Einstein (Yahoo Serious) fiddles and bathes simultaneously in *Young Einstein*.

Film explores terminal illness with integrity, intelligence

HERSENSCHIMMEN [MIND SHADOWS]

Directed by Hedy Honigmann.

Screenplay by Hedy Honigmann and Otakar Votocek.

Based on the novel by J. Bernlef. Starring Joop Admiraal, Marja Kok, and Melanie Doane.

Plays tomorrow at 6 and 8 pm at the Museum of Fine Arts.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

Hersenschimmen ("Mind Shadows") does not provide its audience with any easy escape. The whole film is dedicated to portraying the twilight years of Maarten and Vera Klein, an elderly Dutch couple living in a small Nova Scotia community. Maarten develops Alzheimer's disease — a mental affliction that causes premature senility — and his wife Vera (Marja Kok) has to take care of him and learn to cope with the strain and difficulties that enter their life. Despite some problems in the film's construction, the sheer power of this material forces its viewers into stark confrontation with human mortality.

Joop Admiraal, who plays Maarten and

whose mother in real life suffers from the disease, gives a performance that is the bedrock anchor of the film's success. He brings home the full impact of Alzheimer's disease on an aging brain, drawing the viewer into Maarten's world with all its mental *non sequiturs* and discontinuities. He also convincingly portrays a spectrum of symptoms that range from Maarten's incipient absentmindedness to his paranoid tendencies when he finds himself in a nursing home at the end of the film.

The performances of the other actors, however, range from the merely adequate to downright problematic. On the one hand, Marja Kok's portrayal of Vera (Maarten's wife) is good enough to hint at the sad and difficult direction her life has taken. On the other hand, Rick Collins' role as the owner of a bookstore calls for him to be onscreen for only a few moments, but those moments are awkward. Perhaps these lapses can be ascribed to elements of regional filmmaking that pop up from time to time in the film.

For the most part though, the other actors don't shine because the script simply doesn't allow them to do so. Melanie Doane, for example, is a beautiful young Canadian actress making her feature film

debut. She plays Phil Taylor, a live-in nurse hired by Vera to take care of Maarten during the day. The role of Taylor, as provided by the screenplay, is too limited to allow Doane to exercise any acting talent she may possess. The same goes for other characters, most of whom are constantly overwhelmed by Maarten's persona and story.

That is why director Hedy Honigmann's strong focus on Maarten is such a mixed blessing: The other characters are not very satisfying because they are not fully articulated characters in their own right. They exist primarily as foils for Maarten and his mental deterioration, and even then Honigmann's direction only allows hints and whispers to come through. These characters should not be relegated to the background so much, because Alzheimer's disease can severely punish relatives of those afflicted by the disease, making their whole lives revolve around the painful and steady deterioration of their loved one.

Maarten's closest relative is, of course, Vera, his wife. Honigmann may have decided to devote relatively little time to Vera and other characters to avoid detracting from the film's focus on Maarten. Honig-

mann may also have wanted to subsume the secondary characters into the background in order to strengthen the film's austere presentation of the cold and harsh Canadian winter environment. Finally, there is also the fact that audience members who have faced Alzheimer's in real life will need only a minimal presentation of Vera's plight to identify with her character. All of these issues underlie Honigmann's approach, but Honigmann is only partly successful in making them work to her advantage. As a result, most of the secondary characters remain vague and murky.

Nevertheless, Honigmann's direction is good enough to bring the issue of Alzheimer's disease to the screen, and she has done so with sensitivity, intelligence, and care. In particular, she has coupled Admiraal's startling performance with the inherent power of the film's subject matter. Considering that this project was markedly different from any that Honigmann tackled before (her background is in short, experimental films), her direction of this film is enough to raise hopes for her future efforts. One can only admire the integrity of a filmmaker who willingly takes on a topic with as little popular appeal as Alzheimer's disease.



Vera Klein (Marja Kok) watches helplessly as the mental state of her husband, Maarten (Joop Admiraal) steadily declines in *Hersenschimmen* ("Mind Shadows")

ARTS

Community Theater carries on Gilbert & Sullivan craze

RUDDIGORE

By Gilbert & Sullivan
Presented by the MIT Community
Players.

Directed by Ronni Marshak.
Musical direction by David Goldhirsch.
Kresge Little Theater, August 4-6, 10-13
and 17-19.

By KATIE SCHWARZ

AN EXUBERANT GILBERT AND SULLIVAN extravaganza would be a refreshing distraction from the dog days of August. Unfortunately Kresge Little Theater just can't accommodate the huge, entire-cast-prancing-around-the-stage numbers I expect from Gilbert and Sullivan. What this Community Players production has to offer instead is funny individual performances and a string of small funny moments coming from good attention to detail.

Whoever becomes baronet of Ruddigore inherits a curse with the title: he has to commit a crime every day or die in agony, and therefore has a lot of trouble getting girls. If you're not already rooting for various couples in the play to overcome this problem, there's a corps of professional bridesmaids on stage most of the time encouraging people to get married. The bridesmaids, being rather single-minded, are starting to become dull when the more interesting characters show up, rotundly evil Despard Murgatroyd and Mad Margaret with round, rolling eyes and jumping-bean animation.

Henry Kettell as the lead, Ruthven Murgatroyd, has his acting skills tuned just right for a light operetta, casting about lovelorn puppydog looks. He's hilariously pitiful when, revealed as the

rightful baronet of Ruddigore, he has to put on the sinister black cloak and mope around the stage while his best friend is dancing with his girl. The flamboyant cloak almost deserves star billing itself.

Another great comic touch comes from David Harrison as the menacing ghost of a former Ruddigore who turns mushy and cooing at the sight of his old (still living) girlfriend. That comes in the second act, where poor Ruthven moves into his castle to confront his picture gallery of Ruddigore ancestors, whose ghosts jump out of their picture frames to torment him (a special effect that drew ooh's from the audience).

The Community Players have lured many Gilbert and Sullivan fanatics to the cast from outside MIT. All of the leads are good singers. The choreography was too often on the stately side, perhaps to avoid people bumping into each other in the confined space. Fortunately only a few actors are needed to sing "This particularly rapid unintelligible patter is almost certainly not heard and if it is it doesn't matter," and for many other jokes in the show.



Richard (Spencer Klein) and Robin (Henry Kettell) reunited after Richard has been at sea.



Margaret (Julie Friedli) and Despard (Erik Dickinson) cutting a "respectable caper" in the Baronet of Ruddigore's castle.



Kawaguchi's unimaginative images are disappointing

KAWAGUCHI/MACHOVER
Images by Yoichiro Kawaguchi.
Music by Tod Machover.
The Cube, August 2.

By JONATHAN RICHMOND

IF TOD MACHOVER WISHES TO ADVANCE his well-earned reputation as an innovator in electronic music further, he will find people of greater talent than Yoichiro Kawaguchi with whom to collaborate in the future.

Last Wednesday's performance in the Cube, with images by Kawaguchi and music by Machover, began with a piece called *Milky*. Kawaguchi's images here were relaxing in a hallucinatory sort of way, if rather lacking in imagination. But with *Morphogenesis*, the show turned to the grotesque, with large ugly objects and swirling tentacles coming and going across the screen as if we were witnessing early Monty Python graphics on a bad day.

Kawaguchi's images are sometimes brash and psychedelic, but seem to come out of the 1960s and have little that is either fresh

or new to offer. Aquatic themes predominate in his work, but the marine life flows across the screen with an artificially programmed facility which suggests nothing of real life. It became clear before the first part of the show ended that Kawaguchi has few ideas, and that they are all rooted in displaying technical virtuosity rather than developing artistic content.

The major item on the program was the world premiere of *Flora*, a collaboration between Machover and Kawaguchi. This piece is supposed to connect together the organic and the artificial, and a computer processed human voice plays a central role. Machover used the voice in dramatic ways, transforming and shaping its sound to produce a variety of quite compelling effects. The screen unfortunately offered little more than a display of more grotesquely undulating surfaces and Pythonesque writhing shapes, the product of a computer hacker immersed in the cleverness of his machinery and blind to the wonders of the real world. The inventiveness of Machover's score deserved something much better.



Jonathan Richmond/The Tech

Image from the opening of *Flora*, given its world premiere in The Cube.

comics

