Large frosh class arrives

ODSA anticipates crowding in dorms

By Andrea Lambert

A larger-than-expected freshman class—one less than 200—crowded dorm rooms this year, according to the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs.

"We anticipate crowding near the beginning of the academic year," said John E. Kerfe, associate dean for student affairs. "This is a situation where people will be out in the streets; everyone is going to have a place to sleep." Kerfe stated. "Just as it is not going to be comfortable housing." Kerfe added.

Although the dormitory system can handle the large numbers, the crowds will strain facilities as well as the quality of life in the houses. Kerfe stated. "The situation will have an impact on the houses .... and on the quality of life in the houses." Kerfe said. Usually MIT can house 200 transfer students, but this year the number goes beyond 200, however, the situation will be "untenable," Kerfe said.

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The presence of pornographic material on the net was first reported in the Houston Chronicle on June 10. The paper's article charged that MIT had become a "hub of sexual explicitness." (Please turn to page 10)

Glavin extends Student Center event closing time by half hour

By Andrea Lambert

Campus Police Chief Alex F. Glavin agreed to extend the closing time of events held in the Student Center from 12:30 am to 1:00 am, effective tomorrow.

Glavin approved the later closing time for parties after reviewing a proposal submitted by Ron M. Okamura '91 and Fritz N. Francus '92 last spring. "The Student Board and representatives of seven student groups signed the proposal, expressing dissatisfaction with the earlier closing time," Glavin said. The Campus Police enacted the 12:30 am closing time after a shooting incident outside the student center on Sept. 30 of last year. ("Campus Police arrest 4 after shooting incident," Oct. 3, 1994.) A Boston man, who had been turned away from a party inside the Student Center, began shooting outside. (Please turn to page 9)
Three presidents stress diversity at convocation

By Prabhat Bapna

"Three presidents" each took their turn at yesterday's convocation to stress the importance of appreciating MIT's rich diversity and of fostering a spirit of mutual respect and tolerance.

The revved up, standing room only crowd in Kresge intermittently broke into hooting and hollering, cheering and jeering during the addresses of outgoing Undergraduate Association President Paul E. Gray '94 and Institute President Paul E. Gray '54 and incoming associations. The only crowd in Kresge intermitently broke into hooting and hollering, cheering and jeering during the addresses of outgoing Undergraduate Association President Paul E. Gray '94 and Institute President Paul E. Gray '54 and incoming associations. While the statistics for incoming women and underrepresented minorities were promising, he noted that women comprised only 10 percent of the faculty and minorities only two percent.

In addition, Bapna criticized the Whitaker College's decision last spring to deny tenure to Jeremy M. Wolfe PhD '81, a popular associate professor of brain and cognitive sciences. And as an example of how even seemingly innocuous actions may offend others on campus, he recounted last spring's controversy over the celebration of Christopher Columbus on the Class of 1992 ring, which offended Native American students.

Bapna also discussed some positive signs, including recent efforts by students to establish a Chinese language program, which may begin next year, and the joint effort of students and faculty to combat sexual harassment.

Food Service extends Lobdell dinner to 8 pm

By Andrea Lamberti

Effective September 4, the dinner hours at Lobdell will last from 5 pm to 8 pm, extending the service by one hour. The hot sauce counter and the salad bar, which were previously closed at 7 pm, will be open during that time.

Last year, the Student Athletic Association requested MIT's food service to extend dinner service beyond 7 pm, according to Alan Leo, general manager of food service. They requested the change because some team practices coincided with the dinner hour. The only obstacles to extending the dinner hour were activities sponsored by student groups who signed up to use the Lobdell space 7:30. To accommodate those groups, Undergraduate Association President Manish Bapna worked with Campus Activities Director Phillip J. Walsh over the summer to contact the primary users of the Lobdell space and make other arrangements for them.

Lobdell will be affected in that the cafeteria might "have to be a little more efficient," Walsh said, particularly on the nights the space is reserved for other activities. But he added that "generally events don't start until about 9:00.

"We've always served entrees until 8:00" at Baker House, Leo said, primarily because of students involved in sports. He added that Lobdell is better suited for the longer dinner service, though, because it has better "location and visibility."

The Tech News Hotline: 253-1541

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$W = \int (M+B)_{\text{MIT}}$
Jordanian ambassador voices concern over buildup

Jordan's ambassador to the United States said America is just making things worse for itself by staying in the Persian Gulf. Hussein Hammami said, "Do not delude yourselves that most Arabs welcome the presence of American troops." He said the National Press Club that the region will be radicalized unless the troops go. His nation's economy is closely tied to Iraq's, and the Amman government is to decide tomorrow on a possible exit from the confrontation.

As part of the joint, Jordan hosted a meeting yesterday between Iraq's foreign minister and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Perez de Cuellar said he hopes Iraq is ready to talk about lowering tensions. But he said he can't back away from Security Council resolutions that demand Iraq withdraw from Kuwait.

Mohawks and Canadian soldiers may reopen bridge soon

A bridge that has been a focal point in a dispute between Mohawk Indians and Canadian authorities could be reopened soon. After a meeting yesterday, marked Mohawks and soldiers began dismantling barricades on a bridge leading to Montreal. The army had ordered to clear the bridge by force if the Mohawks refused to cooperate. The Mohawks had blocked the structure to support fellow Mohawks in a land dispute.

California shows big gain in census Mass. to lose congressional seat

As expected, California looks like the big winner in the 1990 census. Preliminary figures indicate the state's population grew to more than 29 million in the 1980s - enough to keep it in first place among the states. The US House of Representatives, cooped 1992, will lose one of its 13 seats in Congress. The national Republican congressional committee said flatly that the Bay State will have to give up one congressional seat. Massachusetts, officials of both the major political parties said that the census figures indicate Massachusetts will lose one of its 11 seats in Congress. The national Republican congressional committee said flatly that the Bay State will have to give up one congressional seat. However, one Democratic analyst suggested that Massachusetts could avoid the loss by finding up to 33,000 uncounted people who took L-tryptophan. The mission had been delayed by fuel problems and was ready for the mission, which is months behind schedule. The launch will place "no earlier than next Wednesday," according to a NASA spokesman.

Shuttle launch delayed

NASA is having more trouble making its machines talk to each other. After earlier trouble with the Magellan Venus probe, NASA engineers could not make the "auto" start on the communications equipment that connects the computers. It postponed the launch of the observatory aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia, which had been scheduled for tomorrow.

The launch will take place "no earlier than next Wednesday," according to a NASA spokesman. The seven Columbia astronauts were in Cape Canaveral, Florida, yesterday, and said that they are more than ready for the mission, which is months behind schedule. An external robotic arm will pick up the observatory and test what he calls the "hallmark of being an astronaut," a precise checkout. One of the issues that have been delayed by fuel leaks, which have since been fixed.

Gainesville tenseness after murders

Gainesville, FL, remains a city on edge, wondering if a serial killer will strike again. Since last Sunday, four university women have been murdered since Saturday, and some were mutilated. Investigators described the killer as a "shrewd, methodical maniac" who is believed still to be at large. The investigation has been delayed by fuel leaks, which have since been fixed.

Rubes

By Leigh Rubin

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Microprocessor patent approved

A great court battle could be shaping up over a little computer chip - one that's used in millions of electronic products. Engineer Gilbert Hyatt said that after a 20-year fight with the US Patent Office, he has been granted a patent for a single-chip computer he invented in 1969. Hyatt said his work led to the development of the modern personal computer, and he plans to seek royalties. But experts said that Hyatt is one of the most challenging big companies that have their own patents.

L-tryptophan contaminated isolated

Federal health investigators reported they have found a contaminant that has contaminated some batches of L-tryptophan. But researchers at the centers for Disease Control said they still do not know how the contaminant got into the nutritional supplement. It is also not known whether the contaminant caused the deaths of 27 people of Kawasaki L-tryptophan.

A small technically hung up the hang up.

Khruschchev to study at Harvard

Nearly 30 years ago, President John F. Kennedy stared down Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev during the Cuban missile crisis. This fall, Khrushchev's son will be named a fellow at a Harvard University school named after the last Soviet president.

Sergei Khrushchev, 55, is one of seven fellows who will attend the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. Khrushchev and some Americans, are at a hotel in Baghdad. One American teacher, Elizabeth Loeff, sounded optimistic. "I'm happy that it's now all over," she said from Baghdad.

Local gasoline prices still rising

Gasoline prices are rising in Massachusetts. A sales report released yesterday by the Division of Energy Resources said that the average full-service price for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline has gone up five cents in the last week, to $1.38. The self-service price is $1.27, up three cents. But the survey also found price differences as high as 20 cents from station to station. Massachusetts gas prices have increased 14 cents per gallon in the last month. Unlike the Iraq invasion of Kuwait, which had contributed to a rise in the price of energy resources Paul Groner said that these are the highest consumers seen seven other people.

One person was admitted to Jordan Hospital in Plymoutn for exposure to malathion. The hospital said the un-identified person was got into the nutritional supplement. It is also not known whether the contaminant caused the deaths of 27 people of Kawasaki L-tryptophan. The Tech PAGE 3 Compiled by Dave Watt

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Weather

R/O looks good

A ridge of high pressure will maintain sunny weather and clear skies through the weekend. . On Sunday, as the high builds eastward, winds will become southeasterly, reducing humidity, warmer temperatures, and an increased threat of scattered showers and thunderstorms. Cooler and drier weather is anticipated for early next week.

Friday: Mostly sunny and warm. Winds 8-20 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny and warm. Winds 8-20 mph.


Forecast by Michael C. Morgan

Compiled by Dave Watt
Sororities need greater role
Column by Joanna Stone
This will be the sixth fall in which sorority rush has been held. And this year a fourth sorority will be joining the MIT Panhellenic. It would, therefore, seem fair to say that sororities are beginning to take on a larger role in the MIT community. And I believe it’s high time that we examine exactly what that role should be.

With study breaks, mixers, formals, and the like, sororities play a large role in the social lives of most of their members. And, let’s face it, a large part of the social life of MIT can be said to revolve around the Greek system. So, with more coming on campus, we can imagine sororities taking on a role of prestige, and social security of sorts, as they have on most other Greek-affiliated campuses across the nation. But this, I think, would be wrong.

It didn’t take all of these “How to Be Different” colleagues last year to clue us in, as MIT students, into the fact that MIT is not like other colleges across the country. Our sororities need not be just like those on other campuses.

Women make up 31 percent of the general population. At MIT they account for little more than a third of the total undergraduate student body. And this percentage seems high, when one considers that out there in the real world, women account for only 11 percent of those in science and engineering careers nationwide.

MIT acts as a bridge of sorts for women. It takes them out of the general population, and prepares them for their future lives in a technological world, in which they may make up a frighteningly small minority. And it is along this bridge where sororities come in. For some women, being in a sorority may be the only time they experience the camaraderie of women helping women. And at MIT, being in a sorority may be the only time a student will experience the camaraderie of a group of women in technology helping women in technology. Thus it seems only right that sororities at MIT should work to help women in technology.

Currently, to the extent that they have a role on the MIT campus, sororities do help women in technology. But, as this role increases, so too should this help.

It’s not a well-known fact that the number of women engineers has begun to decline, but it should be. For one thing, the number should not be on the decline. However, since it is, the fact should be known. Women should vocalize their horror at the current trends. Sororities could prove a concrete, structured avenue for such vocalization.

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Women engineers today seem to be disdained by the women’s rights activists of their generation. (The current lack of women’s groups expressing their outrage at the recent decline in women engineers seems proof of this.) Women engineers haven’t had much help along the way. And they don’t really have any support to look forward to out there as they try to make it in a male-dominated world. Sororities in the future could provide this help in an effort to bring more women into the engineering profession.

But to really understand what role sororities should play at MIT, we need’t look forward, but instead should look back. Sororities were first founded over a century ago, when women were the extreme minority at any institution of higher education. The founding sisters began the sororities for a similar reason, that the women’s groups of today were formed — that is, to help women survive in an unequal world and to in some way try to equalize that world in the process. The sororities acted as support groups to women as they tried to enter fields that had previously been reserved only for men. Women at MIT need more of this support now.

I think sororities owe it to their founding sisters, and to the community, to set an example for women at large. The community service currently performed by the MIT sororities is of course great. But community service geared specifically to women would be better still. They should hold regular seminars open to all women in which women’s issues and current problems are discussed and in which women can network. No sorority sister should be ignorant of the problems facing her as a woman. Sorority members should go to inner-city schools and talk to female students about being a woman at MIT, and about the options out there for women in science and technology. Then, perhaps sororities should help out at battered women’s shelters or rape hotlines. They should make their presence felt by women, for women.

In a male-dominated world, it is tough enough for men in fraternities to make their presence felt socially. But this is not enough for women in sororities, and especially not enough for women in a technological world where decreasing numbers signal that we need to make our presence felt much, much more.

Joanna Stone ’92, an associate news editor of The Tech, is a member of the Alpha Phi sorority.

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**“If you think this pretense of Bush’s vacation looks silly, you should have been around to see Reagan put in a full day of work.”**

---

**“You have no financial debts?” I KNEW THERE WAS SOMETHING PERVASIVE ABOUT THIS GOY!”**

---

**“SOUTHERN SUTOR”**

---

**“CONGRESS”**
Photos by Michelle Greene
Sexually explicit file removed

(Continued from page 1)

chief distributor of sexually explicit traffic on the net, and provoked an inquiry by the NSF into network traffic.

When Greene learned of the

Chronicle's story, he contacted Bruce to ask for a ruling from

MIT as to whether the archive

should be permitted to remain. Greene said that SIPB first learned of the archive through the Chronicle's story; people routinely set up mail servers and mailing lists on SIPB computers without prior announcement, he explained. Jane S. Caviness, an NSF dep-

uty division director, also con-

tacted Bruce to verify some of the details of the Chronicle's sto-

ry, and reminded him of the

NSF's acceptable use policy. Bruce said the NSF was under pressure from members of Con-

grass to take action.

Caviness did not believe that

the drive to control traffic in por-

nography raised any first amend-

ment issues. "The NSFNet is not like a phone company. The

NSFNet is really a kind of special purpose network, limited to both

organizations and uses which are appropriate," she said. "Some

communication should not be

allowed at all, such as sex bondage, adult sex pictures and rec.cpu.erotica are also

propagated via NSFNet."

Without further complaints, Bruce said, the matter is closed.

"The Institute has a stated poli-

cy; we've taken a particular act with respect to one server. Unless people call particular acts to my

attention, I'm not going to pur-

suit it further," he said.

Caviness also will only pursue

this further if complaints persist.

"If we receive reports that there are inappropriate uses of the net-

work, I could follow up. We're

not as a witch hunt," she explained.

About Usenet

Usenet includes a motley collection of hundreds of special in-

terest discussion groups, or newsgroups, distributed throughout

the institutional world. Almost any topic imaginable has a home on Usenet. Newsgroups exist for discussion of the space

shields, the Society for Creative Anarchists, the Human Ge-

nome Project, electronic bulletin boards, political activism, Is-

lamic and Christian religion and culture, sexually explicit stories

and pictures, and many computers and operating systems. The total volume of Usenet traffic runs hundreds of typewritten

pages per day.

Here at MIT, the Student Information Processing Board man-

ages the flow of Usenet news through their news server on

bloom-beacon. mil.edu. Usenet can be accessed at MIT using a

program called rn, or readnews, or the graphical version of

the same program, arn. Both can be found in SIPB's locker on

Project Athena.

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The first minicourse, a general introduction to Athena, will be repeated all afternoon Wednesday (at noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, and 5 pm), the second minicourse, an introduction to word processing and electronic mail, will be repeated all afternoon Thursday, and the third minicourse, on advanced word processing, will be repeated all afternoon Friday. No prior registration is ever required for any minicourse.

FREE COMPUTERS for All M.I.T. Students and Faculty Members (well actually free USE of 400 powerful Athena workstation computers)
R/O changes emphasize academic orientation

By Andrea Lamberti

Several major changes in Residence/Orientation Week this year are intended to shift its emphasis by offering more academic orientation to freshmen in the first part of the week. The changes were also designed to present freshmen with more information about diversity in the MIT community, before residence selection begins today at 4 pm, according to William J. Moliski '79, this year's R/O coordinator.

In the first of the changes, students broke up into discussion groups to talk to classmates about the MIT community after yesterday's convocation, which itself focused on diversity and community at MIT.

Today, freshmen are participating in a design project led by Professor of Mechanical Engineering Woodie C. Flowers '73. It is part of the activities based on the book The Design of Everyday Things, by Donald A. Norman '57, which was assigned to students over the summer.

Students will discuss the book over dinner next Thursday, after a faculty presentation which will include the author Norman himself.

The freshmen are spending this morning exploring MIT in groups of 10 or 11, in search of design problems and poorly designed objects on campus. Their assignment, the second major change in R/O, is to document them with Polaroid photographs and drawings and then come up with solutions.

The third major change in R/O Week this year is the elimination of the annual R/O Picnic. Freshmen will instead eat lunch in small groups with R/O counselors after the design project. An hour-long ice cream social in Killian Court will take the place of the picnic in gathering freshmen for the class picture and the start of rush.

The R/O committee decided to have freshmen eat lunch with R/O counselors, rather than at the picnic, Moliski said, and to create a more casual atmosphere in the question-and-answer sessions with the R/O counselors.

All of these changes were designed to give freshmen "a taste of it all before rush," Moliski said. The way the week is structured this year, freshmen get a "welcome by the president[s], a welcome by upperclassmen, and a welcome by academics" before rush begins, he said.

Changes sparked by Freshman Housing Committee report

This year's R/O committee was influenced by the recommendations of the Freshman Housing Committee, whose November 1989 report stated that R/O Week should focus on orientation to assure "a student's well-being, security, and sense of 'being in the right place' as well as the generation of intellectual excitement."

The report also recommended that students have an introduction to academic opportunities and the freshman curriculum, provision of practical information about student life and co-curricular activities, and introduction to community life and norms, and introduction to the larger community beyond MIT, and orientation for parents.

The beginning of rush after the 1989 R/O Picnic. There will be no R/O Picnic this year.

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200 frosh may face crowding

(Continued from page 1) and ILGs. The typical ILG goal is approximately 380. The admissions office, however, was satisfied with the 380-340 admission ratio - a slight increase in last year's 350-340 ratio, but still below the 400-340 ratio set by the endowment committee.

The report suggests that the funding for the new magnet lab at MIT is the major cause of the increased ILG enrollment. The lab, which receives approximately $3 million a year, was established with a grant from NSF's Division of Materials Research.

The report also notes that the increased enrollment is due to a more competitive financial aid program and an improved image of MIT. The admissions office has cited the high cost of tuition and housing as a major reason for the increased ILG enrollment. The ILG goal for next year is approximately 380.

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So stop by—we're in the lower level of the Stratton Student Center. You'll also find us at many orientation activities, including Parent's Orientation, September 7 & 8, and Family Weekend, October 19 & 20.
From the desk of... LSC

From: LSC
To: Everyone at MIT
Re: Pre-Reg day Movies

Enclosed please find the schedule of movies before Registration Day. Note that I will be expecting everyone to attend each of them.

--L.S.C.

September 7
Predator
7 and 10 in 26-100

September 8
Ferris Bueller's Day Off
7 and 10 in 26-100

September 9
Dr. Strangelove
6:30 and 9:30 in 26-100

September 10
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
7, 9:30 and midnight in 26-100

From:
To:
LSC
Everyone at MIT
Re: Pre-Reg day Movies

Enclosed please find the schedule of movies before Registration Day. Note that I will be expecting everyone to attend each of them.

--L.S.C.

A lot of campus rapes start here.

Whenever there's drinking or drugs, things can get out of hand. So it's no surprise that many campus rapes involve alcohol. But you should know that under any circumstances, sex without the other person's consent is considered rape. A felony, punishable by prison. And drinking is no excuse.

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Robert Mapplethorpe’s extraordinary vision

ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE: THE PERFECT MOMENT

By DEBORAH A. LEVINSON

I
t the Washington Project for the Arts remains an unusual little brownstone near 7th and D Street NW in Washington, DC. Inside, it's neat and prim, with pristine white-washed walls and twisting spiral staircases. Not at all the sort of place in which one would expect to find an exhibit of "obscene" art.

Ironically, the WPA is only a short walk from the Capitol, where Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina spearheads the movement to gut the organization that funded the most profitable exhibition in the gallery's history, Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Moment.

Controversy over publicly funded art will neither begin nor end with Mapplethorpe's homoerotic photographs. In mid-1989, there was an uproar over the work of another photographer, Andres Serrano, whose "Piss Christ" -- a murky, moody photograph of the crucified Christ submerged in his artist's urine -- had been partially funded by a $15,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Suddenly the search for other publicly funded "inappropriate" art was on, and Robert Mapplethorpe's work became the next target.

Mapplethorpe’s earliest efforts were his most controversial. He first achieved notoriety for his work celebrating and documenting New York’s gay community in the late 1970s. Often the photographs explicitly depicted sexual organs and bondage equipment. Yet Mapplethorpe's art always revealed the humanity and emotions of his subjects behind their leather, spikes, and chain mail. His work is a testament to the power of the human community and, subsequently that of Helms.

Harms has objected most forcefully to those photographs that he and others regard as pornographic. The senator has a standard packet of four Mapplethorpe photos he shows to reporters questioning him about his stance on "obscene" art. The photos include "Man in Polyester Suit," depicting the polyester-clad torso of a black man, his uncircumcised penis dangling from his pubic hair and "Route," a two- or three-year-old child caught, shocked, on film -- her eyes averted. Helms claims the latter is a clear example of child pornography. Both photographs are part of The Perfect Moment collection.

In June 1989 the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington cancelled its scheduled exhibition of the Mapplethorpe works. The DC attorney's community retaliated by giving a late-night slide show of the most explicit photos on the Corcoran's marble lobby. Because of the controversy, the district court ruled to see the exhibit exploded, The Washington Post reviewed the show from its catalog, and the Washington Project for the Arts at great expense, picked up the exhibit.

The WPA does not have a large building. They were previously accustomed to greeting about 40 visitors each weekend. During the first weekend of the Mapplethorpe exhibit, 4000 people crowded into the gallery.

So the question remains: Is the Perfect Moment worth all the hype and controversy? Absolutely. The exhibit is a retrospective of a brilliant photographer’s work, ranging from his famous Lisa Lyon series and portraits of New York celebrities, to his starkly sexual flowers and images of the gay community. It’s a fairly even sampling of his oeuvre -- although it does rely a little heavily on Mapplethorpe’s favorite focal subject, the calla lily -- and is accompanied by a 55-minute videotape of a BBC interview with the photographer.

Mapplethorpe’s style is derived primarily from that of Edward Weston. Like Weston, Mapplethorpe produced hundreds of studies of the naked human form, examining its curves and crevices, often at close magnification or unusual angles that a close-up of a nipple looked more like a tiny mountain on an alien landscape or became so abstracted as to lose all of its impact as a sexual object. Mapplethorpe’s creative use of light and shadow and his erotic photos of grapes and eggplant also recall Weston’s Pepper No. 50.

But Mapplethorpe had a style all his own. Raised in a strict Catholic family, Mapplethorpe was influenced by the rigidity of his religion in his later work in every way. Often in the exhibit, one sees careful geometrical layout, as in the two giant orange mirrors "Star" and "Black X." Both are positioned as precisely as a Good Friday mass, the "X" most symbolically so with a tan cross reaching from apex to apex across the carbon-black mirrors.

The cross imagery and its accompanying symmetry also appear dramatically in his 1987 construction "Andy Warhol," where a photograph of the enigmatic artist is framed inside a square-shaped cross. Warhol, his silver wig surrounded by a glowing halo, has a look on his face like a Christ stunned at the revelation of his own godhood. Religious sentiments figure strongly in "Tie Rack" as well, with stickpins piercing stigmata on a figure of the Virgin Mary and a crucifix suspended from rope wound around the pins.

Mapplethorpe was very conscious of these religious undertones and was quoted in one interview as saying: "I was a Catholic boy. I went to church every Sunday. A church has a certain magic and mystery for a child. It still shows in how I arrange things. It's always little altars.

This rigidity and symmetry carries over into his nods as well. "Thomas" shows a muscular black man enclosed within a circular barrier, his arms stretched straight out. And in "Ken and Tyler," two headless figures, one black and one white, pose with their left legs posed like ballet dancers. The photograph is at once precise and erotic, a combination only Mapplethorpe or Weston would have been able to achieve.

Mapplethorpe’s flowers are as carefully arranged by a parent. These restrictions, while some people will not consider them explicit; some are the sensual flowers, others emphasizing its feminine curves. At the size at which the flower photographs have been printed, their sensuality becomes overwhelming. The colors -- yellow-orange lilies against a royal purple background, green poinsettia stems and red silk petals of a penny and bud -- are so vibrant that they draw the viewer in, forcing him to acknowledge their primitive sexuality.

The aforementioned "Poppies" is so explicit that the Washington Project for the Arts displayed it alongside the graphic X, Y, and Z Portfolio. The stems of the poppies curl around each other, intertwined like flower's legs, the phallic bud hovering over the opened flower with palpable malice.

As the WPA, the curator took care to isolate the X, Y, and Z Portfolios from the faint-hearted by placing them in a separate room. The Institute of Contemporary Art has copped out just a little: the portfolios are accessible to everyone, but exhibit tickets are on sale only to those 18 or older, and minors may only attend if accompanied by a parent. These restrictions, while they may seem slightly fanciful, are there for good reason. The portfolios contain explicit depictions of sexual acts, and while some people will find them pornographic, others will be deeply offended.

Not all the works in the portraitos are explicit; some are the sensual flowers, oth-
Macbeth is tense, involving; Acis and Galatea splendid

MACBETH
By William Shakespeare.
The MIT Project for
Summer Student Theater.
Directed by Joe Vanderway '89.
Starring Derek Herrera '92 and Debbie Wells '92.
Killian Hall, August 3-5.

ACIS AND GALATEA
By Handel.
The MIT Summer Opera.
Starring Steven McDonald, Artistic Director.
With Joan Denton, Martin Kelly and David Stoneman.
Killian Hall, July.

By JONATHAN RICHMOND

JOE VANDERWAY drafted a tense and involving Macbeth out of the summer ethers. True, it started a bit slowly, but as the plot advanced so did the drama.

Killian Hall was chosen as venue for the production, and it was ingeniously transformed into an intimate theater space — the audience forming an arc lengthwise — and well-focused on the action happening just a few feet away. There was no shortage of audience: The show sold out on its final scheduled night, and the lines of disappointed theatergoers were so long that an extra show was put on the following day.

If the Shakespeare-thirsty crowds thought they were going to escape the midsummer's heat outside, they hadn't reckoned with the likes of the Lady Macbeth of Debbie Wells '92. No lady to mess with, Wells made Lady Macbeth a figure of icy, calculating authority from the word go. Nicely acted, and quite deliciously evil.

Talking of evil, the witches brewed up a pretty potent potion, too. Jill Bidgood, in particular, had a larger-than-life stage presence, while the sensuously slinky body of Elisa Duggan '93 left no doubt as to the nature of the powers propelling it into action.

Harry Teplitz '91 was Macbeth, and took a bit of time to really warm up. But as the end drew near, he took the audience for a gripping tour of the protagonist's psyche, the increasing dementia of the character invading every nook and cranny of the house.

As to the rest of the cast, all gave performances which were adequate, despite a number of weaknesses. The action occasionally came apart, but it was invariably quickly glued together again, Vanderway cracking the tension to leave all with a great summer evening's entertainment, as well as enough material for sleep-destroying nightmares for a good many more nights to come. Well done! Let's have more theater like this in Killian Hall.

* * * * * * *

THE MIT SUMMER OPERA is a new institution, and long may it live, along with renewed interest in opera at MIT in general. Artistic director Steven McDonald started his venture with Handel's Acis and Galatea, which, in brief, tells the story of how the giant Polyphemus gets jealous of the joys of Acis with Galatea and strikes him dead. Acis becomes immortal, though, transformed into an ever-flowing fountain.

Handel's music is wonderful, and McDonald presented it splendidly, if possibly a bit too rapidly. Joan Denton, as Galatea, was the best of the singers, contributing some very pretty, nicely executed, and also poignant singing. Her "Must I My Acis Bemoan" was quite inspired.

David Stoneman stood tall as Polyphemus, singing affecting enough at times to briefly get us on the giant's side. Martin Kelly had a few rough edges as Acis — his is not a lyrical voice — but he too had his eloquent moments. The choral parts were done mostly, and the band produced sufficient oomph to propel the show along. Let's have more next summer. And during the school year too, please.

A scene from the Project for Summer Student Theater's Macbeth.

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Mapplethorpe’s exhibit captures the perfect moment

“Derrick Cross” (1982)

(Continued from page 12)

The portfolios are displayed with a series of poems by poet and singer, Patti Smith. The prose poems, which are structured as free associations on the letters X, Y, and Z, go straight to the heart of Mapplethorpe’s primary goals, and the sensitize them to gay issues was one of Mapplethorpe’s favorite human subjects. However, his self-portraits are largely an unsuccessful search for his own identity. In one portrait, he outfits himself with horns and a devilish smile; in another, he teases his hair, puts on rouge and lipstick, and stares open-mouthed at the camera in a kind of kinky parody of his friend, poet and singer, Patti Smith. His portraits of Smith are amazing — all at once, they capture her loneliness and her independence, her sensitivity and her wildness. They are feral and primitive. For “Patti Smith (Don’t Touch Here),” Mapplethorpe flanks a Polaroid film cover, clearly marked “DON’T TOUCH HERE. Handle only by the edges” is juxtaposed with the images of Smith clutching at a white wall, alternately looking paranoid, fierce, resigned, and vulnerable. It’s a simple construction and an even simpler concept. It’s just that Mapplethorpe makes it work so well.

Oddly, the artist’s numerous self-portraits are the only ones that fail to reveal a major personality trait. His self-portraits are largely an unsuccessful search for his own identity. In one portrait, he outfits himself with horns and a devilish smile; in another, he teases his hair, puts on rouge and lipstick, and stares open-mouthed at the camera in a kind of kinky parody of Marilyn Monroe. Others show him as a Satan-worshipping terrorist, and a debonair gentlemen. The portraits of his friends capture their perfect moments, but somehow — perhaps he found self-portraits too intimate, too personal? — Mapplethorpe is unable to do the same for himself.

The Perfect Moment is exactly that: a study of the point where sex merges with sensuality, eroticism merges with the edges of pornography, fear of the camera merges with revelation of the inner self. Simply put, it is an extraordinary collection of work by an extraordinary man.

For those who wish to learn more about Mapplethorpe and his work, the ICA is sponsoring a symposium on September 22 at the Hynes Convention Center. The symposium will be moderated by ICA Director David A. Ross, and participants will deliver papers discussing the social, cultural, and historical implications of Mapplethorpe’s art.
The Fullness of Wings

Written by Gary Dorsey
Viking Press, 345 pages, $19.95.

By TIM TOWNSEND

THE RECORD-SETTING FIRST FLIGHT of the MIT Daedalus Human-Powered Aircraft was a triumph of engineering and the human spirit. The flight itself, however, was just the final step in what had been an exhaust- ing preparation of design, construction, and logistics.

Gary Dorsey's new book, The Fullness of Wings, tells the story of the people who led the first successful human-powered flight effort at MIT and how their experiences led up to the Daedalus. Dorsey makes his documentary effort a complete one, not wishing to gloss over the conflicts that always arise within groups working under intense pressure.

The pressures that mounted during the Daedalus Project came from many sides. Sponsors demanded more and more recognition, and instant results. The MIT bureaucracy stipulated over contractual obligations and the use of facilities. Team members faced pressures from classes and job obligations.

In this atmosphere of intense pressure, blowups were bound to happen. Dorsey chronicles how these happened sometimes legitimately, sometimes over trivial matters. Readers expecting to find a glowing account of a rose, cherry story that happened easily will be surprised by Dorsey's frankness. Some participants in the Daedalus story come out looking bad in The Fullness of Wings. Among these are the sometimes-greedy sponsors, the sometimes-temporamental politicians, and the MIT administration.

The MIT administration is depicted as, at worst, holding the program back and, at best, keeping out of the way. Indeed, at some points MIT almost turned its back on the project, perhaps hoping it would go away and quit demanding the special atten tion of faculty and administrators.

However badly the administration is depicted, the academic atmosphere is treated worse. The Institute is shown as a place which has forsaken its roots, where engineers no longer really get involved in hands-on engineering. It was doubted whether anyone in the aeronautics and astronomy departments even really knew how to build an airplane. In contrast to the stifling academic atmosphere, Dorsey describes the attitudes of the hackers and their adventures from underground back ing to rooftop pranks. (He does a good job of it, too, except when he describes Smooch running from the "Harvard side" of the Harvard Bridge to the "MIT side.")

Against the backdrop of a stiffing academic life, the principal figures of the future Daedalus project grew out of the re bellious MIT Rocket Society. Dorsey's book starts with the childhood back ground of Daedalus project manager John Laugford and how his interest in model rocketry led him to meet Harold "Guppy" Smoots running from the "Harvard side." After stumbling upon the remains of an early MIT human-powered aircraft (HPA), the BURU, and concluding it unfuitable after several trials, they decided to build their own HPA. (And did it in 90 days!) This led to the construction of the Chrysalis, the first MIT HPA to successfully fly. After the Chrysalis came the Monarch, which won the Kremer HPA speed prize in 1981. Along the way, the team encountered other hands-on engineers who would become key players in the Daedalus adventure.

The larger challenge presented by the proposed Daedalus flight led to larger problems in its execution. More money had to be raised, more workers had to be recruited, and more arrangements made. The second half of Dorsey's book deals with the progress of the project and tells how just as one problem would be solved, another would pop up.

Poor weather, waffling sponsors, demoralized pilots, a crash — all these problems put stress on the participants, enough to put permanent had blood between some who were supposed to be working together to produce a flight aircraft. Fortunately, the dream of the Daedalus flight led to a team together long enough to realize their goal. Dorsey finishes the book with his ac count of the actual record-setting flight and its bittersweet ending, filled with enough suspense to keep even a mystery fan glued to his seat.

Dorsey does a very thorough job with his first published book. A writer for the Hartford Courant, he wrote a couple of articles about the Daedalus project for his newspaper before being swept up into the life of the project. Dorsey spent more time with the team than any other non-official member and traveled to Greece with the team to witness the historic flight.

After the completion of the project, he began work on the book full-time and spent considerable time interviewing members of the project on their experiences. There is so much information in the book that probably no one on the Daedalus team can read it without learning something new about one of his colleagues. Dorsey errs only in a few minor places, mostly misplaced identities in relating a couple of anecdotes.

The Fullness of Wings is an entertaining and informative account of the formation and execution of the Daedalus Project. Frank and honest, it should be required reading for anyone entering the engineer ing profession. Although nondrama tic at times, it gives a detailed picture of the personal and technical problems which naturally arise in any engineering group, as well as the satisfaction of suc cess which comes after these problems have been surmounted.

(Tim Townsend '90 was a member of the Daedalus Project Team from 1987 to 1988.)

The Daedalus Human Powered Aircraft in its hangar (top); students race to meet Daedalus as it lands (bottom).

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**THEATER**

**Monday, Sept. 3**

**THEATER**

Walking at the Edge, by David Theatre, Ltd. See September 2 listing.

**FILM & VIDEO**

The Regent Theater continues its series Tufts, Working (Pedro Almodovar) and Dark Habits (1984, Pedro Almodovar) at The Regent. Telephone: 267-9306.


**Tuesday, Sept. 4**

**THEATER**

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Jazz Music: Joe Williams at the Regent. See September 3 listing.

**JAZZ MUSIC**

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**FILM & VIDEO**

The Regent Theater continues its series Tufts, Working (Pedro Almodovar) and Dark Habits (1984, Pedro Almodovar) at The Regent. Telephone: 267-9306.

**FILM & VIDEO**

See September 2 listing.

**THEATER**

Street, Boston. No admission charge.

**FILM & VIDEO**

See September 2 listing.
**On The Town**

Compiled by Peter Dunn

Karen Friday’s We Keep Our Victims Ready at the American Repertory Theatre, September 4 to 15.

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**DANCE**

The Boston Ballet in the Wang Center. See September 7 story.

**JAZZ MUSIC**

Joe Williams at the Regattabar. See September 7 story.

**THEATRE**

Karen Friday’s We Keep Our Victims Ready at the American Repertory Theatre, September 4 to 15.

**FILM & VIDEO**


**ONCAMPUS**

theater on September 7.

**EXHIBITS**

The Museum of Fine Arts presents "The Perfect Photograph," a comprehensive survey of photography, continues through September 2 at the MFA. Hours are daily 10-5. Admission is free with a valid I.D. Or, $5 for non-members.

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Joe Williams at the Regattabar. See September 7 story.

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