MIT celebrates Black History Month

By Sharon G. Price

February is nationally recognized as Black History Month and MIT is celebrating with a variety of events including films, guest speakers and theatrical presentations. Victoria D. Boyd '91, co-chair of the Black Student Union, said non-majority turnout has been minimal, and she hopes for greater community participation in upcoming events. "We've been trying to focus on making the events really visible to the public," Boyd said.

"We're doing a lot more this year than in previous years," Boyd said. Overall turnout so far seems to have grown along with the agenda, a development which Boyd attributed to increased student participation in the planning of events.

A showing of the first and second parts of the Eyes on the Prize series kicked off the month and was well attended, according to Boyd. "The best test will be when we start having our larger events, though," she said.

Last night's activity was a showing of Talent Extranagous, a production featuring students, according to Shawntaqua J. Williams '94.

Boyd predicted that the guest appearance of actor and director Ivan Dixon will also be popular. Dixon, well known for his role on Hogan's Heroes, will present his film The Spook Who Sat by the Door on Feb. 15.

Some of the other events of the celebration will include Cultural Awareness Day on Feb. 12, a minority career fair on Feb. 22, and the theatrical presentation African American Living Museum on Feb. 27.

A complete list of the activities offered is available in Room 5-106.

Dating to the early 1960s, Black History Month is celebrated nationwide.

The idea behind the month originated with Carter G. Wilson, one of the first black historians, who saw the celebration as a way to increase understanding and appreciation for black history.

MIT has celebrated Black History Month for well over a decade.

Asbestos in Building 20 may delay its demolition

By Dave Wait

The MIT campus may never be rid of Building 20. The iconic historical landmark, site of the development of microwaves during World War II, has been marked for destruction since former president John M. Drutch '51 called for its demolition three years ago.

But in order to tear down the building, MIT will have to spend millions of dollars to isolate, remove and dispose of each piece of concrete inside it. According to sources with MIT Physical Plant, the asbestos in Building 20's walls, which was mixed into the concrete, will take months or years to remove.

Almost all MIT buildings have asbestos in them somewhere. Many of the steam pipes which run through the basements and heat the dormitories use asbestos in their insulation, several sources said. Others, like Building 20, had asbestos mixed in their concrete.

When properly sealed, asbestos poses little hazard. The asbestos mixed in with the concrete in Building 20 poses no hazard to the building's occupants, according to the Industrial Hygiene Office, which is located there. But cracks in the paint over the insulation, or crumbling concrete, could allow asbestos fibers into the surrounding air.

A cleanup of all the walls in Building 20 would take months, according to Physical Plant, and would require quarantining whole rooms in the building for days or weeks at a time while the walls are removed.

Director of Planning O. Robert Simha suggested that it could be a decade before Building 20 is finally replaced. "We've got an awful lot of other things to digest before we're going to tackle Building 20," he said.

Simha noted that MIT has neither the space to relocate the people currently in Building 20, nor the money to clean up and replace the building. "These are a few of the reasons why we're not going to do it," he said.

(To page 11)

MIT, BU plan to merge NROTC

Wellesley program may get cut

By Reuven M. Lerer

Citing "future budget limitations" and "plans for a smaller Navy and Marine Corps," the Navy Reserve Commission's Training Corps program announced last month that it will be forming a "consortium" between the Navy ROTC programs at Boston University and MIT.

The plan will affect students from Harvard University, Tufts University and Wellesley College, who participate in Navy ROTC programs at MIT, as well as students from Boston College and Northeastern University, who are enrolled in the BU Navy ROTC program.

According to Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Professor Alvin W. Drake '57, who chairs the Institute Committee on ROTC, it is also quite possible that Wellesley students will soon be excluded from the Navy ROTC program altogether.

Capt. Robert W. Sherer, the senior Navy ROTC officer at MIT, said yesterday that he gave President Charles M. Vest a letter describing the changes on Jan. 16, the same day they were announced in Washington, D.C., by the Defense Department.

Sherer said he "knew there was a nationwide review" 18 months ago, because "all the units had to contribute information to any future program." But he added that neither he, nor any of the other heads of Navy ROTC units, were informed of the Navy's decisions until after Congress had briefed.

(To page 10)

MIT sues RCB over Blanch St. delays

By Joanna E. Stone

MIT is filing a suit against the City of Cambridge Reserve Control Board over its recent decision to delay issuing eviction certificates of evic tion for the MIT-owned houses located on Blanch Street. A hearing is being held today at Middlesex County Court to consider the suit.

The board decided two weeks ago to delay the eviction certificates in response to the RCB's realization that it had not followed the agenda of the development proposed for the site.

Currently, there are two MIT-owned three-decker houses remaining on Blanch Street. The two buildings — occupied by a total of four people — are perhaps the only standing example in the way of MIT's long awaited final piece of its plan for University Park: the building of a hotel and conference center on the so-called Simplex parcel in Cambridge.

On June 28, 1989, the Reserve Control Board granted MIT rezoning permits for Blanch Street houses, approving MIT's request to build a 91-room hotel and conference center on the site 1000 feet away from their present location, on the condition that MIT agree to pay for interim housing for the tenants and on the conditional basis that MIT provide 22 additional rent control units to the city.

According to the attorney (To page 13).

Salvador E. Luria

Salvador E. Luria, Institute professor and professor emeritus of biology who shared the 1969 Nobel Prize for medicine or physiology, died at his home in Lexington, MA, on Wednesday after suffering from a heart attack. He was 78 years old.

He won the Nobel Prize for his work on the replication and general structure of viruses, done in loose collaboration with Max Delbrück of the California Institute of Technology and Alfred H. Hershey of the Carnegie Institute.

Luria is also the first to discover virus host restriction in bacteria, a finding that led to the discovery of restriction enzymes, which form the basis of modern recombinant DNA technology.

A faculty member in the Department of Biology since 1959, Luria founded a teaching and research program in microbiology and founded the MIT Center for Cancer Research, which directed from 1972 to 1985.

A vocal supporter of the peace movement, Luria was critical of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the American involvement in Vietnam. Apparently because of his candor, his name appeared on a federal blacklist of 48 names the same year he became a Nobel laureate.

Luria's interest in the humanities rivaled his scientific accomplishments. He taught a course in world literature to Health Science and Technology students and won the National Book Award in the sciences for his non-fiction book, Life: The Unfinished Experiment.

Born in Turin, Italy on Aug. 13, 1912, Luria received his medical degree, summa cum laude, from the University of Turin in 1935. He went on to become a specialist in radiology at the University of Rome.

Luria went to Paris in 1938 to become a research fellow at the Institut du Radium. He immigrated to the United States in 1949.

Luria is survived by his wife Zolla, who is a professor of psychology at Tufts University, and his son, a psychiatrist.

A memorial service will be held at the Institute at a date to be announced.
UA calls for new meal plans

By Katherine Shim

Yesterday the Undergraduate Association overwhelmingly passed a proposal of the UA Food Service Committee which suggested the reduction of dormitory dining services to dinner only, a 10 percent discount meal plan system and no mandatory plans for students living in dormitories without dining facilities.

Under the terms of the proposal, dining hall facilities at Baker, MacGregor and Next House will remain open for dinner only. To accommodate the need for breakfast and lunch, convenience stores will be open in these dormitories during daytime hours.

Under the proposed plan, residents of these three dormitories will be required to purchase a $500-per-term declining balance meal plan. This differs from a mandatory $1835 meal plan that was suggested in December, according to Paul L. Antico '91, chair of the food service committee.

No mandatory meal plan was required for MIT students not living in Baker, MacGregor or Next House.

The committee further suggested that all those who purchase meal plans receive a 10 percent discount on all food purchases. The 10 percent discount system would give students living in independent Living Groups an incentive to buy a meal plan. Graduate students and faculty would also find it advantageous to purchase plans, increasing the total market of the food service contractor, Antico said.

"It is our belief," said Antico, "that a 10 percent discount on food purchases to those paying with a meal card will provide the food contractor with a significant profit, and there may even be no need for mandatory meal plans in the next two or three years."

The committee also suggests that McCormick dining hall be converted into a health food facility where health, vegetarian and kosher foods would be sold. Dining facilities would no longer be available, and a mandatory meal plan would no longer be required for McCormick residents. The convenience store would be open to all members of the MIT community and there is a possibility that new entrances to the area will be built, according to Antico.

In those dormitories with cooking facilities, the committee asks that these facilities be "maintained at operable standards." Under proposed plan, Leland (Please turn to page 12)

Sharp, biology head to swap jobs

By Andrea Lamberth

The director of the Center for Cancer Research and the head of the biology department will switch positions July 1, allowing two prominent MIT biologists to exchange administrative duties while working to lead the Department of Biology. Phillip A. Sharp, biology professor and Professor of Biology Richard O. Hynes PhD '71 will swap administrative responsibilities with Phillip A. Sharp, biology professor and director of the Center for Cancer Research.

The exchange was prompted in part by a request from Howard Hughes Medical Institute, said Dean of Science Gene M. Brown.

Hynes became a Hughes Institute investigator in 1988. The Hughes Institute has "a rule against people serving as full-time administrators of large administrative units," and considers the biology department a large unit, Brown explained.

Even though the Hughes Institute is not in favor of its researchers taking on large administrative duties, Brown supported Hynes biology department head mark in 1989. The committee decided to agree to "allow Hynes to function as department head for a couple of years," Brown said. "They were very clear that it would be temporary," Brown said.

Now, the Hughes Institute has agreed to allow Hynes to function as director of the cancer center "because it's a smaller administrative unit than the biology department," Brown said. He presented the idea to Hynes and Sharp, who agreed to the switch.

Other factors contributed to the decision to switch, Hynes said. "We both could use a change in job...[and] put our energies into something different. But it's also true that Hynes was not happy about my being chair-man," he said.

Brown expects that the change in administrative responsibilities will "sharpen their perspectives with respect to MIT's executive activities in the biological sciences."

Both men will continue their research in their cancer center and "both will have significant administrative responsibilities," Brown said. "For me that's a real plus value, because I know that as dean I can expect outstanding administrators in both of these positions."

Sharp has directed the cancer center for six years, and has been at the center since 1974. Last February, he accepted the MIT presidency, but declined the position one week later. Sharp said at the time that he was declining the presidency because he could not bear to give up his research program and teaching duties.

Traditionally, the positions of director of the cancer center and of biology department chair have five-year terms in the School of Science, but are renewable, Brown said.

Sharp explained the differences between the two positions: "As director of the cancer center, one looks at one research program at MIT in regard to the problems of basic biology relevant to the human disease of cancer, and tries to maintain an intellectually and physically vigorous program," he said.

As a department chair, Sharp said, "One is leading a great department forward in trying to develop its educational role as well as its research role."

"The educational role involves interacting more with the institute and fellow faculty, while the educational role involves encouraging a vision of the future of biology, and how the department fits into that vision."

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34 MIT Students
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Phone Call 3-6994 for reservations or info

Sang Hoon Park

The MIT Food Service Committee is an important and active part of the MIT community. Under the leadership of Paul L. Antico '91, chair of the food service committee, the committee has worked to improve the quality and variety of food available at MIT's dining facilities. The committee's efforts have resulted in a number of significant changes, including the introduction of a new meal plan system and the implementation of a mandatory meal plan.

The committee has also been proactive in addressing student concerns about the food service, such as complaints about wait times and the availability of vegetarian options. Through its advocacy and collaborative approach, the UA Food Service Committee has demonstrated its commitment to enhancing the dining experience at MIT.

In addition to its work on food service, the UA Food Service Committee has been involved in other important initiatives, such as the design of the new student center and the creation of a new housing policy. These efforts reflect the committee's ongoing commitment to improving the quality of life for undergraduate students at MIT.

Overall, the UA Food Service Committee has played a vital role in shaping the student experience at MIT, and its work continues to be an important aspect of the university's commitment to excellence and innovation.
Mitterrand, British commander call ground war "inevitable"  
French President Francois Mitterrand, president of France, said a ground war in the gulf will be hard, but it is inevitable and will come this month. Mitterrand said the NATO offensive "promises to take in the coming days, in any case sometime this month.

In a White House speech, president of France, said a ground war in the gulf will be hard, but it is inevitable and will come this month. Mitterrand said the NATO offensive "promises to take in the coming days, in any case sometime this month.

With political and military leaders increasingly debating the likelihood of a ground war, Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and General Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, left for Saudi Arabia yesterday. They plan to meet with the Saudis and other military leaders, including Desert Storm Commander General H. Norman Schwarzkopf.

U.S. military officials in Saudi Arabia downplayed any allied disagreements over prospects for a ground war. Brigadier General Richard Niel stressed that the allies do not disagree on the issue.

Mitterrand also told a panel of French TV journalists that he does not think the ground conflict will spill into a third world war. He said he did not want the multinational force to end its occupation after the war. He said that would lead to widespread resistance and possibly terrorism outside the region.

Irons sides in plea as president  
Haiti elected its first democratically elected president in the more than 185 years of independence. The Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a leftist Roman Catholic priest, took the oath of office yesterday in Creole, the language of Haiti's impoverished majority, which is celebrated in the streets, but security was tight for the inauguration. At least three times in the past two years, loyalties of the Haitian army rose up to stop Aristide.

Acting promptly after his inauguration, Aristide called on the army to stop its role in perpetrating violence.

Haiti sweats in priest, as president  
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RI House votes to bail out investors  
After nearly five hours of debate, the Rhode Island House approved a bill bailing out depositors in the state's closed banks and credit unions. They vote in favor of the compromise legislation hammered out earlier this week was 60-30. The compromise passed intact despite a number of amendments that were proposed during the debate.

The bill now goes to the senate for debate and a vote. It is likely to be approved in the next five months. The compromise will cover a 17-month period.

Liontornator Paul Cellucci and Secretary of Administration and Finance Peter Nesson testified before the committee today. Nesson said the administration welcomes suggestions from legislators about the state's fiscal issues. But Nesson warned that any recommendations must take a savings goal of $50 million through the end of June.

Mass. representative wants to debate the state budget in two parts  
The chairman of the Massachusetts House Ways and Means Committee believes it is time to take up the state's fiscal issues in two parts. Rep. Thomas Finneran told the Wiel administration he wants to take up fiscal problems for the next five months. The compromise will cover a 17-month period.

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Opinion

Soviets: nothing left to do

Column by Matthias H. Hersch

True viewing, I believe, can be distilled down to two operations — doing nothing when nothing should be done, and doing something when something should be done — both tasks are important.

Some of the nation’s finest presidents, like Calvin Coolidge (as Will Rogers noted), and Grover Cleveland did lots of wonderful nothing, but sadly received no praise for their lack of resolve. History tended, at least until recently, to honor only those who built new world mechanisms, not those who were wise or sluggish enough to let history run its course without interference.

Mikhail Gorbachev is a true master of doing nothing. In any case, he probably does nothing better than any world leader today. He even received last year’s Nobel Peace Prize for doing nothing in the face of global crises, epitomized by his inability to pull the Soviet grasp last year, the Kremlin left the angry nations alone. Sadly, Gorbachev doesn’t do something nearly as well as he does nothing, and that’s not the kind of leadership major reforms require.

Gorbachev has before him a bogglehead of divergent nationalities, clamoring towards some sort of free-market, perhaps even central control, in order to pull his country through the turmoil, needs to do something — break down state enterprises and its antiquated central control mechanism — and do nothing — let the economic market respond to the needs of the consumer. It seems instead to be doing nothing where something is required and doing something nowhere it is required. He has left state-run enterprises alone, and is instead attempting to bolster the antiquated economy and his control over the proving that must be kept in line in order to work.

Attempting to do the arm what he couldn’t with diplomacy, Gorbachev is a leader scorned on the right as a softie and on the left as a thug.

Unlike President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who, during the Great Depression had enough popular support to pass even the most bizarre reforms, Gorbachev is left with a snapshot whose progressive feat was to crush nationalism in the Baltics. Attempting to do the arm what he couldn’t with diplomacy, Gorbachev is a leader scorned on the right as a softie and on the left as a thug.

Matthew H. Hersch is an associate opinion editor of The Tech.

Letters to the Editor

Jackson column misunderstands peace effort

I am generally able to dismiss Bill Jackson’s “column” in The Tech as empty drivel. However, his recent unfounded comments concerning the gulf war and the peace center were particularly nauseating and erroneous (“Students split on gulf war,” Feb. 5).

Jackson’s view of the peace center seems to arise from a poster in the Infinite Corridor, and his inability to recognize the peace center staffs. From this information, Jackson concludes that “people who have invaded us just to live on Strathcon third and protest the war.”

He goes on to liken the center to the “hippy-trippy” 1960s. Jackson besides his opinion of the peace center with the assessment that MIT students are busy people and wouldn’t have time for such an enterprise.

If Jackson had come to the open awareness of his apparent fear of unknown and the bothered to converse with peace center staffs, he would have made several discoveries. He would have found that the peace center is operated by the MIT Initiative for Peace in the Middle East, which was founded by a group of MIT students following an October lecture by Professor of Linguistics and Philosophy Noam Chomsky.

Although the initiative is open to the general community, an overwhelming majority of the 70 active members are MIT students, while over 200 students have signed up to be on our mailing-list e-mailing list. The peace center itself is staffed almost exclusively by MIT students and we certainly appreciate the assistance of the innumerable volunteers outside the MIT community.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Athena working to kill bugs

(Editors' note: The Tech received a copy of this letter addressed to Kenneth A. Ellis '93.) I would like to respond to the letter published in your recent letter to The Tech ("[unnecessary functions since Athena operates," Feb. 5).

First, in your letter, you note the unusual amount of time it took you to log in, and add, "I don't mean to imply that [new Project Athena referees and updates] are the sole cause of this stressful behavior," implying that some of it was the heavy user load. In fact, heavy user load is not what caused the delay; it was caused by light user load.

Unfortunately, Project Athena allowed a bug to slip into the software release. This bug did not manifest itself during extensive pre-release testing, because the conditions during testing did not completely simulate the conditions in the public clusters (the differences are unavoidable).

The bug, which was detected soon after the release, manifests itself when many of the workstations in a cluster are idle. Project Athena is feverishly working on a fix, which should be available some time in the next week.

When the fix is released, I believe you will find that the new software release is significantly faster than the previous release.

The new release adds many features, and at the same time speeds up log-in time and makes more memory available to the workstations used.

These changes are documented in the user reference sections, which are available in printed form in every cluster, in the Athena consulting office and in Graphical Arts. They are also available in the on-line help system.

If you do not find that performance improves considerably after the fix is released, Project Athena would like to hear from you about it. You can talk to Athena through its consultants, in person in the consulting office or by calling 617-547-9707.

Indeed, if you had asked the consultants about the delays you were experiencing, you would have been told about the bug in the release and about the work being done to fix it.

Second, you point out that help is too slow. You're right, it is. Project Athena did not anticipate the speed problems when designing it, and now that the mistake has been realized, a new, faster one is being developed.

In the meantime, the text-based version of ohl, which is quite fast, is available. In any case, other version is superior to what users used to get when they ran help—an out-of-date help message that didn't do much good at all. Ohl is an improvement over what help used to do, not a degradation.

Finally, you express your dislike for the xterm mail interface. It should be obvious that if you don't like xterm, you don't have to use it; it's there for the people who like it, and there are people who like it.

There are at least five different interfaces to mail available on Project Athena. Ohl and the printed help available in Graphical Arts discuss some of those interfaces, and other documents, such as An Instructional Guide to Athena published by the Student Information Processing Board, discuss others. Furthermore, Athena's consultants are available to answer any questions you may have about mail (or any other subject) on Athena.

I hope you have adequately addressed the points you made in your letter. Furthermore, I would like to apologize for the trouble with Athena you have experienced. Project Athena values input from the user community, and I therefore hope you will not refrain from continuing to let Athena know how you feel in the future.

Jonathan I. Kamens '91
Treasurer
Student Information Processing Board

Volunteer Opportunities

Cambridge School Volunteers

The elementary schools have several specific needs:

- to help a small group of 7th graders in the computer lab
- to help ESL students with 7th and 8th grade math
- to help teach basic Spanish to 7th and 8th graders
- to share a hobby or craft with a group of 6th and 7th graders.

Call Antonia Burke at 349-6794.

Hyde Park Youth Council

Volunteers are needed to assist the Youth Outreach Worker from Boston Community Services to coordinate activities with the Hyde Park Youth Council. The Council will plan events such as dances, talent shows, and field trips. College students preferred. Donations and in-kind contributions are welcome.

Contact Al Futterman 325-7800, Ext. 383.

Boy's and Girls Clinic of Boston Community Services is seeking volunteers to help with their Discovery Room, AKA4d art and craft room. Boys and girls in 2nd-6th grade - Friday. Help is also needed in organizing a SCIENCE FAIR during February. Call Connie Rosen at 242-3775.

Habitats for Humanity

Work with Habitat and Central Square: S. St. Paul's AMS church. Four-five homes being renovated for transitional housing for the homeless. Call Lindsay Lee, 661-1118.

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The Office of Admissions is now accepting applications for the position of Admissions Counselor. This is a one year full-time position beginning in July, 1991 (some flexibility is possible). Duties will include:

* conducting question and answer sessions
* interviewing prospective applicants
* visiting secondary schools
* coordinating MIT student involvement in reception area
* participating in admissions committee decisions

Applications for this position are available from Greg Pierson in the Admissions Office (3-108) and should be returned no later than March 1, 1991. Note: This is for 1991 (January or June) MIT graduates.

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- Computer

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- Physics
- Chemistry

What?

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- Computer Graphics
- Semiconductors & Microelectronics
- Electronics

Various career entry paths from MIT to GE will be discussed. These include Development Programs as the:

- Edison Engineering Program
- Manufacturing Management Program
- Chemical-Metallurgical Management Program
- Software Technology Program
- Information Systems Management Program
- Research Technology Program

When and Where?

Tuesday, February 12
Building 4
Room 163

What else?

Light refreshments and handouts.

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JUNE 3 - AUGUST 9, 1991

The NYU School of Medicine's Summer Undergraduate Research Program is designed to offer undergraduates who have completed their junior year of college and plan to pursue a research career as M.D./Ph.D. or Ph.D. students in the Biomedical Sciences an opportunity to participate in the research activities of a laboratory at the School of Medicine under the direction of a faculty member. Each trainee will receive a stipend of $2,100 and housing will be available at a cost of approximately $350. The deadline to apply to this Program is March 1, 1991.

To receive an application package please call Mr. Antonio Rocha at (212) 263-5798 or write:

Summer Undergraduate Research Program
c/o Antonio Rocha, Dept. of Cell Biology
New York University Medical Center
550 First Avenue, New York, NY 10016

ASH WEDNESDAY
13 February
Masses: 8:15 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 p.m.

For more information, call 253-2981
Campus harassment legal but hurtful

During the last three weeks of the fall semester three "free speech" incidents were brought to my attention. Someone late at night used an Athena printer to reproduce digitally a large cropped photo of female breasts and left it in a prominent place near the printer.

One of our faculties, Professor of Literature David M. Halperin, received telephoned death threats because of his visibility in the political movements for gay rights on campus. Then someone mailed to a Project Athena Indian American mailing list several pages of jokes belittling and degrading to women.

In our present legalized and litigious climate, such acts, with the obvious exception of the telephoned death threats, will in all probability be upheld as legitimate exercise of the right of free speech.

But these incidents have hurt people. The women who either saw the picture or read the jokes came to see me not to pursue the right. They came to tell me they felt hurt, ashamed or threatened by these incidents.

It is difficult for people who do these things to realize the effect they have on others, and they often react with ridicule or even outrage when they are asked about why they did it, saying something like, "Can't you take a joke?"

There is no better reply than the Golden Rule: How would you feel if these things had been directed not at women but at your own group? We can expect over the next few years to be steadily engaged in an extended discussion about conflicts of rights.

Whatever the outcome of these discussions, I hope that we will all agree that to live in a community successfully requires understanding of the other person's point of view, respect for the other person, even when points of view differ sharply, and, finally, a large measure of forbearance. As a contribution to the discussion, I would like to say that I do not believe people have a moral right to hurt others and that legitimacy for such acts as I have described above is often achieved through community silence. I am writing because, as a member of this community, I do not wish to remain silent in the face of such acts.

Samuel Jay Keyser
Assistant Provost for Educational Policy and Programs

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Attack on unions inspired by hate

I read a number of opinion pieces in The Tech that I do not agree with, but they rarely upset me. I found Shawn Mastrian '91's column very disturbing. "Unions rob this worker and "making the wrong way" Feb. 5.

I understand that many people do not support the unions in this country. I even think that there are some good arguments that can be used against them, but Mastrian's diatribe against organized labor seemed to be inspired by some kind of hate rather than any serious thought.

I would like to take some time to refute his arguments, but that would miss the point of my objection to the article. Mastrian appeals to blatant untruths to win over our sympathy. Without any kind of support, he describes his workers as "lazy, apathetic."

He claims that a union placed a bomb in Building 5. What is he talking about? Which union has been tried and convicted for that crime?

He says that as a result of unionization, there are "a few men getting fat off the workers." Evidently, Mastrian is unaware of pre-union labor in the Western world. Makers, for example often worked 60-hour weeks under intolerable conditions, and they hardly had enough to eat. The people who hired them were getting fat off of their labor.

Now, in America, every worker owns a car, a telephone, medical insurance, and certainly he or she has enough to eat. Even if the smallest fraction of this improvement was due to union activity then I would support it.

Some feel that most of this improvement was due to the organization of labor. Should these changes be abandoned because an inefficiency has been introduced into the market? Mastrian says that unions have served their purpose now and they should be disbanded, but the primary reason that the improved standard of living has been maintained is the continuing activity of unions.

But, as I said earlier, I am missing the point. I cannot argue with Mastrian. He is not presenting arguments against organized labor, because he argues there are no uses for words like "in-American," "pinko" and "commie."

I would very much like to see a reasonable discussion of organized labor, even one that concludes that unions are bad. I would like to see an article that is not inspired by hatred. I invite Mastrian to write it.

Soon Mastrian will graduate from MIT, and he will be in charge of a big company, getting paid a lot to hire people and fire people. For him, organized labor is the enemy, and since he has trouble convincing himself that they are the bad guys, he is reduced to calling them names and spewing out lies.

David Hogg '92
Loading Zone offers adventurous food, artful decor

LOADING ZONE
(30 Kneeland St., Boston.)

By DAVID HOGG and ROBIN KULLBERG

Everyone who looks in on Loading Zone is impressed. Each of the tables is actually a shallow glass-topped box, the contents of which were designed and created by a different artist. The chairs are tall and beautiful, with casters in unexpected places. The entire service is glass except for the tables, being very lightly cooked, were flavorful beautifully. It was an excellent dish.

The menu lists traditional American dishes such as spare ribs and pulled pork; others might disagree.

Before we go overboard, however, we should say that the dish was good, particularly if the dressing was used sparingly. It was large, too, and would have filled either of us up as a main course.

As a main course, David ordered the grilled vegetables and polenta ($5.95). For the benefit of those less sophisticated than ourselves: polenta is a very solid, crisp sauce made from corn meal, and Loading Zone's rendition was perfect. It had been briefly grilled with the vegetables, giving it an occasional bite. The vegetables, being very lightly cooked, were strongly flavored. The onions were present — though in a good way — but the eggplant was less tender. The fairly mild polenta meshed with the bold vegetables beautifully. It was an excellent dish.

Robin ordered the grilled chicken with peanut sauce ($10.95). It came on a bed of rice with three additional vegetables: a red bell pepper, some small whole squashes, and greens. The delicate peanut sauce went well with the grilled flavor of the chicken, but the side dishes were a bit interisting and very different. The bean salad was served in an unexpectedly powerful liquid that we thought was flavored with jalapeno peppers. The squash and the greens were also very spicy and very different.

Some might be scared off by Loading Zone's prices, but if what we ordered was any indication, the price makes up for at least some of the price. The only thing we preferred were the presenting, and that only because it came first. Of course, this did not stop us from ordering some cactus cake ($5.30) with our coffee. The cake was a pleasant surprise; it was neither the dry, crumbly stuff purchased in cafeterias, nor the wet, thick stuff obtained in cafes. Rather, it was light and fresh. There was also a selection of pies which we are sure are good, because we have tasted them at Loading Zone's sibling (and neighboring) restaurant, The Blue Diner.

Loading Zone gets a good recommendation because it is adventurous, if not always perfect. The biggest danger is getting a set of strong flavors that don't go well together. But at least the individual components will be enjoyable. One should go at least once if only to check out the exceptional decor.

The Tech Performing Arts Series announces

BEAUX ARTS TRIO

The world's most beloved piano trio returns to Boston with a program of classics, including: Mozart, Trio in G (K. 542); Schubert, Trio in E minor, Opus 99; Schumann, Trio in E flat, Opus 100, a Bank of Boston Celebrity Series event.

Jordan Hall, February 15 at 8 pm.

MIT prices: $8.

Tickets are on sale at the Technology Community Association, W/20-450 in the Student Center. Office hours posted on the door.

Call x3-4881 for further information.

The Tech Performing Arts Series, a service for the entire MIT community, from The Tech, MIT's student newspaper, in cooperation with the Council for the Arts at MIT.

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When and Where?

Wednesday, February 13th and Thursday, February 14th at the Placement Office.

The future is working at General Electric

An equal opportunity employer
Shear Madness asks "Whodunit?" with humor

Shear Madness
Written by Paul Portner
Directed by Bruce Jordan
Starring Betze Cloud and Thomas Ouellette
Reviewed Feb. 5, 8, 1991
Play: Indefinitely at Charles Playhouse, Boston.

By BRIAN ROSENBERG

A TRIP TO THE THEATER DISTRICT is one of those things that makes living in Boston worthwhile, despite all the car theft and miserable weather. Brightly lit marquees and warm restaurants beckon as you walk down Stuart Street. Round the corner onto Tremont and you behold the Charles Playhouse. It's not much to behold, actually, and you may have some trouble finding the door. Your trip down stairs will be well worth it, though. If you catch Shear Madness, a delightful interactive comedy "whodunit.

There's no real story, though. Madness, which is the longest-running non-musical play in US history, just began its 12th year at the Charles with an all-new cast. It's too bad we're not expecting sophisticated humor and subtext, because Mad's charms are funny like stand-up comedy. This isn't the kind of play you go to with your parents, because they might look at you suspiciously if you laugh at all the jokes. Shear Madness places in a certain hair salon of the same name on Newbury Street in Boston. The set is cheerfully disheveled, decorated just like that barber shop your mother made you go to when you were six. The stage is a garish pink and green floral print, matched only by the jarring green of the chairs and the bouncy music of the characters. They're caricatures, but they're fun.

In fact, the characters' one-dimensionality gives the actors freedom to develop the parts themselves, particularly during the ad-libbed parts of the play. These improvisations, done with the unique (except for the Rocky Horror Picture Show) element of audience-participation, make the play.

Madness' also centers around a murder of a famed concert pianist, Isabel Czerny. She lives in an apartment above the salon. Before her untimely death, the slightly eccentric Ms. Czerny had become involved in some curious dealings with a few people, all of whom, coincidentally, happen to be getting their hair done when she is killed. The police burst in, and that's when the fun begins. As they attempt to reconstruct the events immediately preceding Czerny's death, the audience points out the actors (each of whom has a motive, of course) are trying to hide. Whom could it be?

Blacker Bradford Shubert, played by Betze Cloud, is a wealthy socialite from Beacon Hill. She seems to be cheating on her husband, and something of a kleptomaniac, but her possible connection with Czerny's death is unclear. Cloud's performance is adequate, and her looks of shock/indignation are extremely convincing, but she was not particularly entertaining.

Edie Lawrence (Ed Peed) is an antique dealer with a history of shady deals, including the sale of waterfront property in Wescotter. He had a meeting with Czerny scheduled at about her time of death, ostensibly to work out a deal for her piano. The police, however, believe he was also going to blackmail her about her affair with the shop's assistant, Peed. Czerny's character is revealed over the course of the play, but peels her innocence with a cool head and admirable intensity.

Barbara DeMaro (Fleury Langon) who managed to put Mrs. Shubert's hair into curls during the short time when she wasn't both chewing her gum and painting her nails, was perfect as a ditzy shop assistant. I have a lot of respect for Langon, who as far as I could tell chewed the same piece of gum for the entire duration of the play. DeMaro's motives for the murder were the most complicated, including her status as chief beneficiary of Czerny's will, her possible sexual involvement with Czerny, and her possible sexual involvement with Lawrence.

Tony Whitcomb (Thomas Ouellette), the shop's flamboyantly homosexual proprietor, is always annoyed by Czerny's incessant work on the piano, and fears that he is losing customers because of it. Wearing a pink shirt, pink belt and pink-trimmed scissors, Ouellette struts across the stage beautifully, often twirling himself into the unsuspecting arms of one frat or the other.

The police officers, played by Nick Rossetti and Richard Stotz, are both very good in their own way. Rossetti serves well as a dumb, annoying Boston cop, though he's too Italian to be Irish as he likes to be. He misspells words like "vote" and "scissors" and runs his mouth a lot. Stotz, as Rossetti's partner, added a dazed, slow-witted manner that was quietly funny.

Whitcomb is easily the most engaging character, in large part because he is so extreme and draws laughter easily. Ouellette's contribution is significant, however. His mannerisms were superb, and his improvisations stood out from the others. One is particularly impressed by his mind. Whitcomb is defending himself from charges that he killed Czerny, saying that if he had killed her, he certainly wouldn't have done it with barber's scissors (the murder weapon). What would you have called it if Whitcomb had killed her with his wings? asks Lieutenant Nick Rossetti. "I don't know — a knife, or a gun. Or I'd put her on the Green Line." Responding quickly to the tide of laughter, Ouellette added "I've been hit from behind before. I rammed over into an abismus."

Sexual, and especially homosexual, jokes such as these were a staple. I suggest you avoid this play if such jokes offend you, because you will be offended. The humor, even when not directly sexual, was certainly raw. During the audience participation, some jokes were turned outward, usually as attacks on a particular theory or its supporter. Some of the funniest jokes were specific to Boston, with a strong emphasis on jokes about the Boston Police. By far the best thing about Shear Madness, though, was being in a theater with a large, engaged audience. There is nothing quite like an onstage performer a suggestion and having it accepted.

So who killed Isabel Czerny? I'm not going to tell you. Go find out yourself.

AMAZING SUBSCRIPTION OFFER!

The Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra has made available to the MIT community several subscriptions for its spring concerts. Join Pro Arte for their 13th season of wonderful performances. Subscriptions include tickets to their February, March, and April concerts. And best of all, you get seats worth $45 for the special price of only $17!

The concerts for which you will receive tickets are:

February 17: Hear the Boston premiere of Robert Starer's Concerto for cello and orchestra (Janos Starker, cello soloist). Other works: Mendelssohn, Overture to "Schone Melusine", Opus 32; Elgar, Elegy for string orchestra, Opus 59; Richard Strauss, Serenade for winds in E flat, Opus 7; Haydn, Symphony No. 101 in D, "The Clock." Leon Botstein, conductor.

Concert at 3 pm in Sanders Theater.

March 17: Pro Arte continues this long association with The Back Bay Chorale. As Beverly Taylor conducts Verdi's Four Sacred Pieces. Kodaly's Budasvary Te Deum will also be performed.

Concert at 3 pm in Sanders Theater.

April 21: Principal Guest Conductor Gunther Schuller leads the orchestra in three works by Weill, Wilder, and Mozart: Concerto for violin and winds, Opus 12 (Tamara Smirnova-Safir, violin), Serenade for winds, and Serenade No. 10 for 13 instruments in B flat.

K. 361, "Grand March." 

Concert at 3 pm in Sanders Theater.

If you would like a subscription to Pro Arte's magical spring performances, or even if you would just like more information about them, please contact Deborah Levinson at The Tech, x3-1541. (Please pay by cash or with a check.) You may pick up tickets for all three concerts at the Sanders Theater Box Office the afternoon of Sunday, February 17. Offer closes on Tuesday, February 12, so act now to get your subscriptions!
Some units are closed

Sherer explained that there has been a decrease lately in the number of students enrolled in Navy ROTC, following a tremendous increase that peaked several years ago. He said that there were 193 midshipmen enrolled in 1986, but only 952 this year. Similarly, he said, there will be approximately 1400 Navy ROTC graduates this year, as opposed to 2100 in 1991.

This decrease has led staff sizes to be disproportionately large at some Navy ROTC units. Sherer said. He gave the example of school which graduates about a dozen midshipmen each year, while supporting officer staff of the same size. "It's a very inefficient way of operating," he added.

Sherer also said that a "number" of Navy ROTC programs in "this vicinity" were going to be down in staff, but would not comment further.

Wellesley News Director Lauri Stasia said she had not heard that Wellesley students might not be eligible to participate in any Navy ROTC, and thus was unable to confirm or deny Drake's report. Wellesley officials who work with students in ROTC programs were unavailable for comment.

Drake said that there had never been many Wellesley participants in ROTC programs, and estimat-
ed that there were between 10 and 40 in any given year. However, he left open the possibility that the Navy might be people whom we would consider helping.

Consortia preserve units while decreasing costs

Sherer described the consortium plan as a way of cutting costs without shutting down any of the ROTC units. A consortium "looks pretty much like two ROSTC units, except that there is only one commanding officer, or one professor of naval science," he said. Sherer said that at least two consortia exist already, in Virginia and San Diego, and they have worked out well so far. Neither Drake nor Sherer thought that the consortium agreement between MIT and BU would affect the students dramatically. Sherer said there would be no changes in teaching staff or classes, and Drake speculated that the location of some drills would be the only change for MIT midshipmen.

Schools targeted for consolidation are required to complete the adjustment by the end of fiscal year 1991, which will be on Sept. 30, 1992. Sherer noted that since he plans to retire in June, it would be reasonable to assume that his counterpart at BU, Capt. Michael Field, would become commander of the MIT-BU consortium. However, he said, such an appointment would have to be approved by the MIT faculty. The Navy announcement said that the combination of closings and consortia would result in a savings of $18.5 million annually, including 80 military and 11 civilian positions. Sherer pointed out that the entire Navy is being made smaller, which he attributed to "the reduction of tensions in Europe and reduction in tensions with the Soviet Union."

Dean for Undergraduate Education Margaret L. A. MacVicar '65, who is in charge of the ROTC programs at MIT, was unavailable for comment.

Changes not surprising

Drake said that while he had not heard what the Navy's plans were before they were actually announced, he was neither upset nor surprised by the proposals. "All the services are looking around... to bring their ROTC programs down in scale," so they can be "managed more efficiently."

Drake added that he thinks the MIT ROTC programs are relatively safe, since MIT graduates can provide engineering and technical skills to the Navy and other armed forces. He added, "I will assume that schools that have very small programs and [are] inefficient, or have not been published or submitted elsewhere for publication. Authors of accepted and rejected papers will be notified by April 1, 1991.

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Call for Papers

MIT-ACM Computer Science Conference

The third MIT-ACM Undergraduate Computer Science Conference will recognize and display quality research done by MIT undergraduates. MIT undergraduates will present papers on a wide variety of Computer Science subjects. The authors of the best papers will receive cash awards. All accepted papers will be distributed.

The goal of this conference is to assemble undergraduates in a forum while:

1. Expands the realm of undergraduate education to issues beyond class subjects;
2. Encourages communication of technical ideas among a peer group;
3. Allows undergraduates to present their work in a formal setting;
4. Provides undergraduates experience with writing and presenting papers.

The conference will cover topics relating to Computer Science. Suitable sources include:

- Term projects for classes (e.g. 6.111 or 6.036);
- UROP projects;
- Summer jobs, including non-proprietory VI-A assignments;
- In-progress theses;
- Personal hacks, which others would find technologically interesting.

We enthusiastically solicit short papers, of about six typed single-spaced pages, or 1500 words. Please submit three copies of papers to the Conference Chairperson by March 15, 1991. Papers must not have been published or submitted elsewhere for publication. Authors of accepted and rejected papers will be notified by April 1, 1991.

Papers will be judged on technical content, cleverness, interestingness, and quality of writing.

For information, contact: Conference Chairperson, Michael de la Maza, MacGregor E2124; x5-9240; mdml@ai.mit.edu.
Asbestos was mixed in with the concrete of this painted wall in the basement of Building 20. Before the building can ever be torn down, all of the asbestos must be removed.

Asbestos in Bldg. 20 Concrete

(Continued from page 1)

not in hand, although we will work toward it," he said.

Dr. Alan M. Ducatman, director of the MIT Environmental Medical Service, offered a different suggestion. "They ought to just cut it off at the foundation, and fly the whole building out with a helicopter," he joked.

"Better still, I hope they decide that it is a historic landmark, and we really can't get rid of it," he added. Either alternative would be less work and potential risk than an entire clean-up.

Physical Plant workers, who sometimes renovate asbestos-laden buildings, run the greatest risk of exposure at MIT, Ducatman said. Before Physical Plant begins work in an old building, they ask the Industrial Hygiene Office to sample the ambient air and nearby old pipe insulation to analyze for asbestos.

The Industrial Hygiene Office handles roughly 300 requests for samples to be analyzed for asbestos each year, according to Kevin M. Coghlan, an industrial hygiene technologist in the Industrial Hygiene Office.

Of these, about 60 percent have a level of asbestos requiring a cleanup, Coghlan said. The Industrial Hygiene Office takes requests from Physical Plant and responds to complaints of hazards from the MIT community.

In one recent example, a repair on a steam pipe joint in the weight-lifting room in Du Pont Athletic Center left an inch-long gash in its insulation through which asbestos was leaking. After a complaint, an analysis of the nearby air and the insulation showed the presence of asbestos.

Coghlan applied a temporary seal to the hole, and put in a request to Physical Plant to permanently seal it. The repair has not been made yet, but the room is still in use, since the temporary seal will hold for a few weeks, according to Coghlan.

The repair itself will probably take only about ten minutes to complete, Coghlan said. A worker will encircle the gash and the surrounding pipe in a glove bag, which isolates the asbestos from ambient air, and then replace the insulation.

Asbestos hazards result mainly from inhalation

Asbestos waste requires some special handling. Yet compared to other dangerous waste, it poses relatively little hazard. "When you bury asbestos, your problem is really done," Ducatman said. Once asbestos is buried in a landfill, it poses little hazard, and asbestos offi.

Coghlan said. "Removing it is OK. Drinking it is OK," Ducatman said. Breathing it, however, is not.

Asbestos fibers can be as little as three micrometers wide. When inhaled, the fibers irritate the lungs, and can cause shortness of breath in very large doses. Once inhaled, asbestos can gradually degrade lung efficiency, and increase the risk of getting lung cancer at high levels of exposure.

But often the cancer does not appear for decades.

Asbestos may also pose a hazard at low levels of exposure, but there the data is much less clear.

Asbestos is actually a generic name for several different minerals with similar chemical structures, some of which pose greater hazards than others.

The asbestos most common in the United States and Canada, known as chrysotile asbestos, is believed to be less carcinogenic than other varieties, according to some studies.

A controversial study published last year in Science suggested that the exposure children get to chrysotile asbestos in American schools causes one thousand times fewer deaths over the long term than playing high school football. But some say these results: misleading, and in fact do not study the people most at risk to asbestos exposure such as construction workers or people who work on renovating old buildings.
If either of these makes your pulse race, talk to us. Having to get a real job isn't so bad. Not when there's a place where the people get as pumped up about technology as you do. A place where you work on real stuff right away. And red tape and bureaucracy aren't an option. Of course, there is a catch. We only want software and hardware professionals who like to be on the leading edge of high technology. That's because our business is helping other high tech companies develop products. We're involved in electronic design automation, automatic test equipment, telecommunications, and custom connections. All four of our businesses are market leaders. Our work environment is well, college. And among other great benefits, we offer an educational assistance plan with 100% reimbursement—up front. So talk to us. Or settle for a job that may turn out to be just work.
MIT sues Rent Control Board

(Continued from page 7)

representing MIT, Scott P. Lewis of the Palmer and Dodge law firm, said his client had a case on its side of the agreement.

A building was constructed on Brookline Street, on the periphery of University Park, for the purpose of providing six rent controlled units. Also, six units from other MIT-owned housing were converted to rent control units.

All 12 units are now occupied by low-income tenants, who were taken from waiting lists for Cambridge public housing, according to Lewis. In addition, MIT has supplied tenants with a list of temporary relocation provisions, including several hotels to choose from, Lewis said.

"There are no cases that I'm aware of in which the Cambridge Rent Control Board extracted so much housing benefit as they have from the development of University Park," Lewis said.

"The board made an agreement, we've lived up to our side of it, we've provided all that they requested and now they're asking for housing," Lewis said.

According to Lewis, MIT's hope is that by prevailing in the suit it will force the Rent Control Board to provide the certificate of evictions requested in June rather than the additional conditions requested from the board's recent decision.

A decade of controversy

Today's hearing represents the latest in a series of what Lewis termed as many years of "exasperatingly tortuous litigation.""It was never even considered by the board...that the land could remain vacant for an unforeseeable number of years," Mason said.

"It was never even considered that these tenants be forced to undergo the hardship of relocation so that the land could remain vacant," Mason said.

According to Lewis, MIT's hope is that by prevailing in the suit it will force the Rent Control Board to provide the certificate of evictions requested in June rather than the additional conditions requested from the board's recent decision.

Since the board's June 28, 1989 decision to grant MIT removal permits, there have been several hearings in which representatives for the tenants have argued for a reversal or delay of the removal permits, in light of the immutability of hardship imposed on the relocating tenants.

In a board hearing this past fall, John Mason, a lawyer arguing for the tenants, claimed that when the permits were granted to allow MIT to relocate the houses on Blanche Street, it was with the understanding that University Park would be able to be completed.

"It was never even considered that these tenants be forced to undergo the hardship of relocation so that the land could remain vacant," Mason said.

Peter Valentine, a resident of Blanche Street for over 20 years, was called to the stand to represent the immutability of hardship that will be suffered by tenants due to relocation that could, in the end, have no purpose.

Valentine began his testimony by stating that he was forced to move from his home because he was currently in karma with his energy fields and relocation might jeopardize this karma. This speech was accompanied by unadmitted evidence, including a bag of grey hair which Valentine claimed had been his own and a display of other hairs which he said showed he had found a way to turn grey hair back to its original color without the use of chemicals, "in other words, to reverse the aging process."

Valentine claimed that if research like his were occurring at MIT, all efforts would be made to accommodate the researcher. He believes that he must remain at his current residence, in its current location, in order to continue his research.

In their decision two weeks ago to delay the certificates of eviction, the board said, "Given the severe disruptive effects of relocation the board was genuinely concerned that that not occur, unless and until the development was going to maturation."

The Rent Control Board did note that "In voting (3-2) to delay the certificates of eviction, the board said, "Given the severe disruptive effects of relocation the board was genuinely concerned that that not occur, unless and until the development was going to maturation.""

The board concluded that such a relocation was not necessary. 

The board made an agreement, we've lived up to our side of it, we've provided all that they requested and now they're asking for housing. The board made an agreement, we've lived up to our side of it, we've provided all that they requested and now they're asking for housing.

Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church
1555 Massachusetts Ave. opposite Cambridge Common
Sunday Worship: 9 and 11am
Undergrad Forum: 5:30 PM

This space donated by The Tech

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1991 The Tech PAGE 13

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By Mark Hurst
Dunzo blazes to MIT 200 m record

By David Rothstein

Indoor track co-captain Mark Dunzo '91 was one of the few bright spots for MIT at last weekend's Greater Boston Championships at Harvard University. Dunzo set a school record in winning the 200 meters in 22.17 seconds, and placed second in the 400, in 49.05. Dunzo bettered a 22.23 school record in the 200, set last year by standout sprinter Boniface Makanjii '90. The 49.05 mark was Dunzo's personal best, and the third best indoor performance ever by an MIT runner.

The team's other co-captain, John-Paul Clarke '91, picked up second place in the 35-pound weight throw (37'-5") and third in the shot put (45'-9").

In other events: Matt Robinson '94 tied for second in the pole vault (14'-6"), and James Kitterly '94 was third in the high jump (6'-3").

MIT bested all other Division III schools at the meet, with 23 1/8 points, while Division I Northeastern University scored 104 1/2 points for a solid, overall victory.

The Engineers had more than their share of bad luck in January, losing three top performers to injury. Leading scorer Kevin Scannell '91 (long and triple jumps, 200, 400) and Steve Cooke '91 (long jump, 400) both suffered strained hamstrings.

Garrett Mooser '91 (high, long and triple jumps, pole vault, 400) suffered a serious head injury in a freakish pole vaulting accident during practice. Mooser is certain not to return to competition this season and, in fact, may be forced to miss the academic term while he recovers.

MIT travels to Bowdoin College on Saturday.

February 28 may change all that.
TOSCANINI'S
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STAFF OF THE TECH. INTERESTED
FRESHMEN, UPPERCLASSMEN,
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