

GA hears judicial changes

By Sandy Cohen

A new proposal by two faculty members of the Discipline Committee, Roy Kaplow III and Louis S. Osborne VIII, for internal reform of that group met mixed reaction at Tuesday night's General Assembly meeting.

The GA passed by a vote of 34-3 a motion commending the Discipline Committee for its attempt at self-change, but questioning the ability of the committee, operating under the proposed reforms, to handle so-called "political" cases, specifically those of the alleged trespassers.

The plans would change the role of the Dean for Student Affairs from prosecutor to general overseer of the case, and allow the Committee to ask another faculty member to preside when it does not wish one of its own members to do so. The Institute would pay for legal counsel, probably law students, to assist in the preparation of cases for both parties. Also there would be a "President's Judicial Advisory Board" available to consult with the President as an appeals measure.

The motion proposed by Cathy Buckley '71, concerning the Discipline Committee, engendered much heated discussion. Greg Habeeb '71 presented the partial results of the GA poll on whether internal disciplinary action should be taken against the students accused of trespassing. 568 of those who were polled said that action should be taken, while 830 disagreed. The second question was rather confusing, but it was evident that many students would rather see

any action that is taken postponed until a new judicial system is in operation.

Mermell appointed

Also considered before passage of Miss Buckley's motion was whether the GA wished to reverse the action taken by the Executive Committee when it chose Andrew Mermell '72 to fill the vacancy on the Discipline Committee left by the resignation of Peter Kramer '70. Many representatives questioned the political value of appointing someone to a committee whose disolution the group had previously demanded (at its January 13 meeting). Mermell and others maintained that an additional student voice on the Committee would aid in its reformation.

Actual consideration of the motion began when Jerry Greer '71 proposed a resolution which would have asked the MIT community to disregard any internal action which the Institute might take. Tracy McLellan '71 then proposed to substitute for Greer's motion one commending the Discipline Committee for its steps toward reforming the judicial process. The move to substitute was tabled, and Greer's motion was defeated.

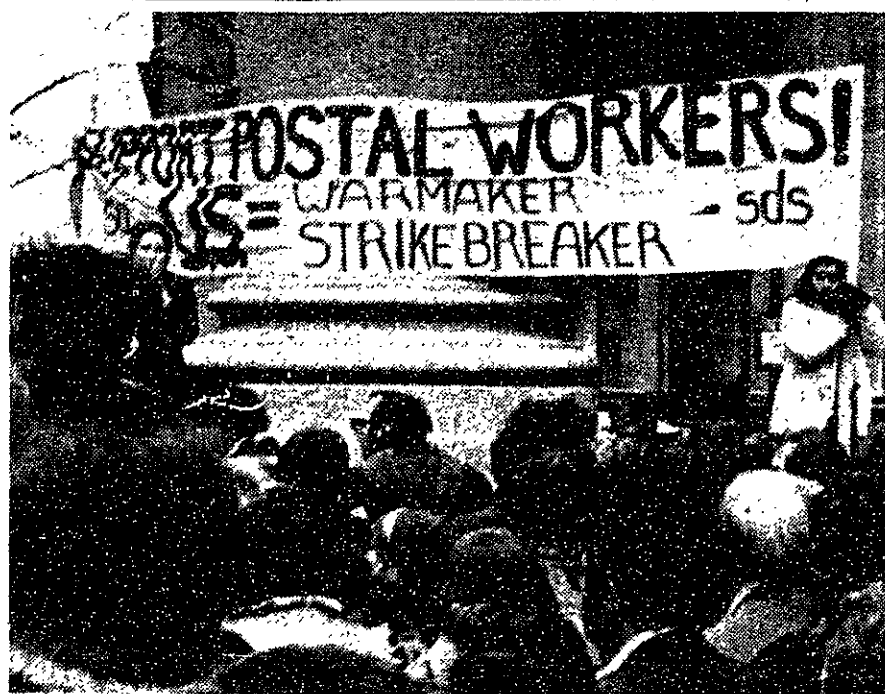
James S. Wiley '73 then removed Miss McLellan's motion, and it was amended to ask the Discipline Committee to take into account the results of the GA poll. Miss Buckley then made her motion to substitute, which was passed 30-9. After an unsuccessful attempt was made to adjourn, the motion was overwhelmingly passed.

GA joins SMC

In another motion passed at the meeting, the General Assem-

bly joined a coalition which is organizing the anti-war activities to be held in April. Several other campus organizations may be participating in the coordination of these activities.

Ed Grossman '71 and Peter Lindner '71 were approved by the GA as co-chairmen of SCEP. Gary Felser '71 was approved as SCE chairman and Harvey Baker '72 and Bob Longair '73 were confirmed as appointees to the Nominations Committee.



About 150 students demonstrated in favor of striking postal workers Tuesday at Post Office Square. The demonstrators started slowly, marching around the triangle in the center of the square while a number of striking Post Office workers looked on.

Photo by Harold Federow

11 students to face MIT discipline for occupation

By Joe Kashi

Dean for Student Affairs Daniel Nyhart announced yesterday that he had transmitted charges against 11 MIT students to Discipline Committee chairman Roy Lamson XXI for the occupation of the President's office.

This will begin the internal disciplinary process against 11 occupiers of the President's office who are still students at

MIT. Previously, 28 had been charged in civil court, but the cases have been continued without further action until November.

Nyhart gave the charges to Lamson early Thursday afternoon; Lamson notified those charged of the proceeding against them late Thursday. They will have ten school days to reply to the charges under the new regulations adopted by the committee.

After counsel for both sides has helped prepare the charges and response, the committee will sit in executive session to decide whether to conduct hearings on the charges or to dismiss them. The counselors would not play an active role in the hearings themselves.

Students charged

MIT students charged are: Frank Taylor '71, Rich Eddleman '70, Peggy Hopper '71, David Krebs '72, Charles Simmons '72, Aaron Tovish '71, Jeffrey Mermelstein '72, Donald Wolman '71, Peter Kramer '70, George Katsiaticas '70, and Tom Goreau '71.

Transmission of the charges was originally set for several weeks ago, but was postponed until the GA task force on judicial reform could report and until civil action was taken so as not to prejudice the cases of the students charged.

Governance talk finds easy harmony elusive

By Alex Makowski

Few solutions emerged during Monday evening's discussion of the role of students in campus governance, as those students, faculty, and administrators present were seldom able to reach a consensus.

President Howard Johnson's description of the administration's proper function as "trying to understand what this Institute's contribution to its students and society should be" went unchallenged, but few other opinions fared as well.

The thirty-five or forty participants grappled with the problem of delineating boundaries of power for the administration ("I've heard people suggest that maybe the administration should put chalk in the classrooms" - Kevin George '71), faculty ("Until a short time ago, the faculty was just not interested in the job of running the Institute; they came here to research and teach" - Professor Louis Smullin), and students ("Having students run MIT would lead to chaos and disaster" - Provost Jerome Wiesner).

Administration stance

The focal point for much of this criticism was the administration. Though Wiesner asserted that the "great bulk" of the student body was "content enough" with the administration, and President Johnson

maintained that "If I ever woke up some morning without feeling that students were giving me top marks, I'd leave," several undergraduates were convinced that students are underrepresented; that they are "second-class citizens." UAP Wells Eddleman argued that his constituency, having no real power, is left only with the tool of persuasion.

None of the faculty members present were inclined to criticize the administration. Smullin noted that traditionally MIT has favored a strong president, while Johnson added that Professor Charles Kindleberger, past Chairman of the Faculty, had pointed out that the faculty had agreed to hand a large part of the bread and butter work of running the Institute over to the administration.

Student Government

The role student government should play was another much-debated issue. Greg Chisholm '73 argued that the General Assembly, bereft of any power, had degenerated to little more than a debate society. A solution proposed was to delegate to that body proportional control over those areas of campus governance that directly affected them. Commons, for example, would be solely the purview of student government, while students would have some say in curricular decisions.

Spring war protest nears

By Lee Giguere

A mass demonstration against the Vietnam war is being planned by a coalition of Boston anti-war groups for April 15.

Plans call for a late afternoon rally on the Common with eleven speakers. The organizers foresee a demonstration similar to that of last October 15. There is also the possibility of smaller demonstrations sponsored by members of the coalition earlier in the week.

At MIT, the Student Mobilization Committee is planning a meeting on April 8 in the Student Center to organize MIT's participation in the April 15 demonstration. According to Stu Singer, the group plans to begin canvassing on campus on the 13th and 14th. Singer felt that "99%" of the campus is against the war and gaining support for the 15th is going to be largely an organizational problem.

Bob Bresnahan, coordinator of the city-wide rally, said that the success of the day "hinges on whether the demonstration catches on," especially with local newspapers since the coalition does not have large resources for publicity. He said that many of the "liberal" papers which supported October 15 might have been scared off by the radicals who became associated with it. He said, however, that if they (the newspapers) do come out in support of the day, "it will be bigger than October," since sentiment against the war is still as high as it was in the fall.

Referendum

The coalition is also working to have a referendum put on the November ballot which would ask as "a question of policy" whether the people wanted the war to continue. The referen-

dum would call for "total withdrawal of US troops" from Southeast Asia, with the slogan "Let the people vote on the War." Currently, the petitions are being prepared so that they will fulfill all legal requirements. Petitions to have the policy question placed on the ballot will come out "a week or two before the fifteenth" according to Bresnahan. There will also be a call for the governor to put it on the ballot.

Bresnahan said that the New Mobe will distribute literature for local groups to use in canvassing before the fifteenth. The

Mobe will not, however, attempt to organize door-to-door canvassing as it did in October. Instead, the SMC will distribute leaflets at transportation centers, schools and factories in the area.

Speakers will include Father Robert Drinan, congressional candidate, Senator Charles Goodell of New York, Mike Kelly, gubernatorial candidate in Massachusetts, Carol Lippman, national secretary of the SMC and a member of the Black Panther Party. Negotiations with Boston city officials for the use of the Common and for parade routes have also begun.

BSU to hold conference on South Africans' plight

A conference on the "Crisis in Southern Africa" will be held at MIT on the 9th and 10th of April to discuss measures that might help alleviate the plight of black citizens of legally-segregated South Africa.

The conference, to be held in Kresge Auditorium, is being sponsored by the MIT Black Students Union. America's relations with South Africa, especially economic investments by US companies in white-controlled South African industry, will be one of the main subjects of the conference.

Among the other aims of the conference will be the establishment of information networks about conditions within South Africa and guerilla activities there.

The conference will assume two formats: small discussion groups of 20-30 people and larger plenary sessions with panels

and featured speakers. Speaker topics will include "Perspectives on Southern Africa," "The Revolution in Southern Africa," "South-African Imperialism and Revolution," and "Black Africans and International Black Liberation."

African representatives

Representatives from the black liberation movements in South Africa, Mozambique, Angola, and South West Africa, and the African National Conference will be present. Registration forms are available in room 4-332.

A featured speaker will be Dennis Brutus, a South African poet in exile. Brutus was among the first to attempt to stop South Africa's segregated teams from going to the Olympics. His work is presently banned in South Africa. Brutus expects an armed black liberation struggle to begin soon in his homeland.

Travesty of justice

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It was a stated fact that the administration was going to bring the cases of those involved up before the judicial process. It is a fact that the efforts which went into changing the Discipline Committee were expended for the purpose of making the Discipline Committee a more equitable process for internal discipline. It was a fact that the charges would be acted upon in the near future. Yesterday "the near future" became "now" and the charges were transmitted to the newly changed Discipline Committee. The General Assembly naively attempted to insist that reality not be allowed to occur.

If the General Assembly was unaware of these facts, as the discussion on Tuesday might have indicated, it can be accused of ignorance. To propose such a motion in the face of the reality of the situation without offering an alternative proposal is totally irresponsible. The GA Judicial Task Force worked on the problem for weeks and concluded that the proposed Discipline Committee

changes were commendable and appropriate, especially in light of the circumstances. The General Assembly in a single three hour meeting decided to the contrary. Considering the time and effort spent by the Judicial Task Force it is a travesty that the GA, in all of its wisdom, could so quickly vote in opposition to the painstakingly considered views of the Task Force.

Many members of the General Assembly expressed a desire to see a new judicial system evolve from the work of the Commission's Task Force on Governance headed by Professor Campbell Searle; it is implied by the motion which "insists or requests" that "... these cases be deferred until a new system is implemented. ..." This is also the desire of the Discipline Committee itself which states in its proposed changes, "The outlined procedures are not to be construed as creating a final system. It is anticipated that further changes may be made on the recommendation of the MIT Commission." We support such changes and anxiously await the Commission's recommendations.

It is clear that once again a motion passed by the General Assembly will be severely criticized and de facto ignored, all because it is the result of an uninformed body of people inclined towards hasty, dramatic votes on "pressing issues." The need for careful deliberation of formal motions is obvious if these motions are to be listened to and respected. With this in mind we propose a simple solution to this lack of a deliberative process; all motions must be passed at two consecutive meetings before they are considered a formally passed motion. This would serve to stimulate thoughtful discussion of issues and careful consideration of facts, thus preventing such a travesty as occurred last Tuesday night.

Nixon ignores basic rights

By Joe Kashi

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Wednesday's *New York Times* reports that Nixon has instructed the National Park Service, which administers the White House grounds, to require a protest group planning to picket in front of the White House to disclose two weeks before any planned demonstration "any records of arrest, convictions and jail terms of those due to take part." Moreover, the new regulations require "the disclosure of any previous demonstrations in which the demonstrator had taken part, as well as the degree to which he advocated the use of violence."

When considered along with Agnew's intimidation of the national press, the Chicago Conspiracy Trial, and the daily branding those who disagree with the Nixon Administration as "nuts and kooks," this latest step to still the voice of a dissenting segment of the American public and keep watch on it is past the stage of being ominous.

If, as Thomas Jefferson said "It is the duty of every citizen to dissent," is it not the duty of a responsible government to allow and listen to dissent? That group of men in Washington

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THE TECH

VOLUME XC, NO. 14

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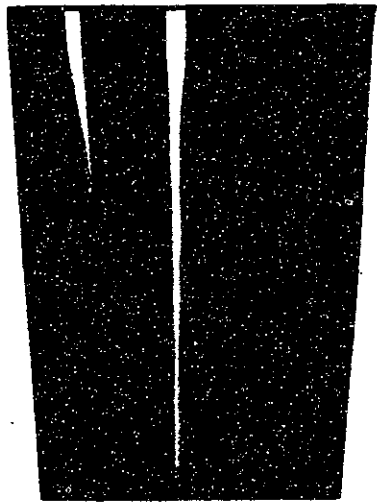
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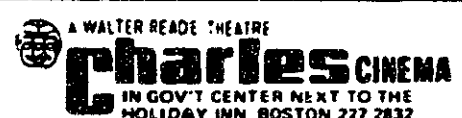
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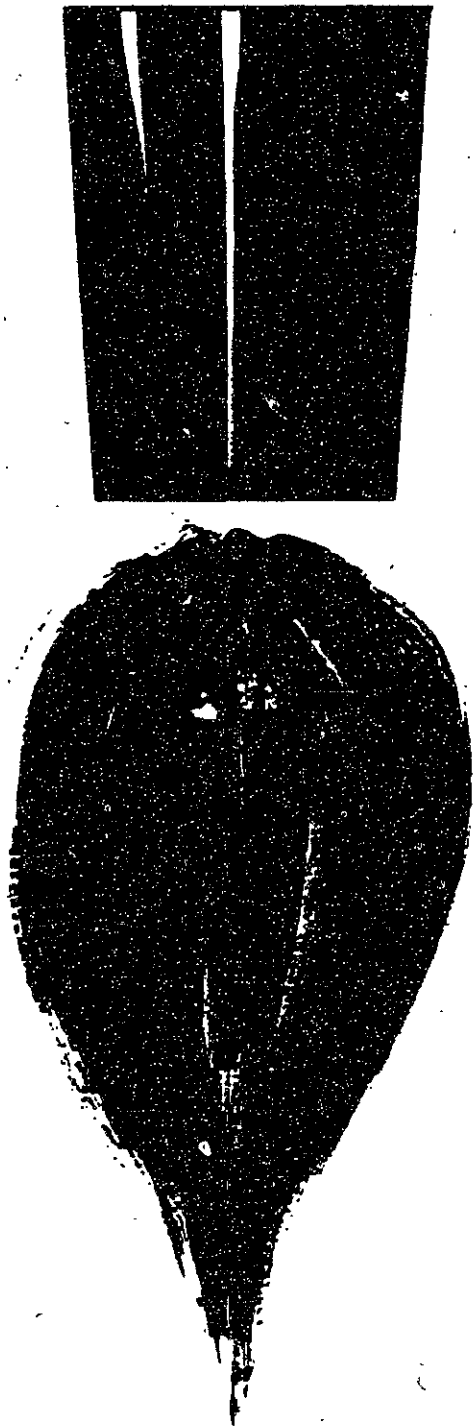
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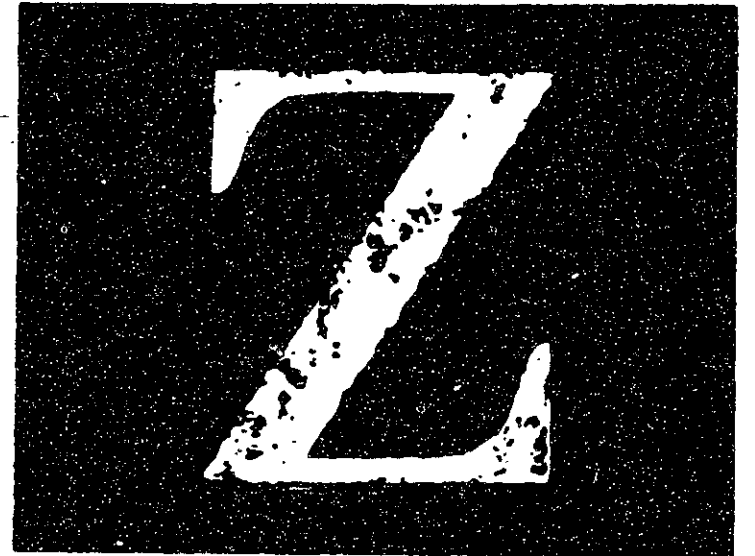
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Pommares Fencer of Year

Guy Pommares '71 was named the Epee Fencer of the Year at the national fencing championships held at Notre Dame last week. He fought his way to a fifth place finish in the competition after a poor start. This was good enough to win

him a spot on the All-American epee team. The Fencer of the Year award is a worthy companion to the Cointa trophy which was voted him by the other fencers at the IFA Easterns where he placed second. Both of these

awards are based on skill, style, determination, spirit, and all-around sportsmanship. They are among the most coveted awards in American collegiate fencing. The national tournament itself was quite an exhibition, as the sponsors spared little ex-

pense in an attempt to produce an exciting show. This resulted, unfortunately, in some behind-the-scenes politicking as some rules were bent to prevent fencers from schools vying for the team trophy from being eliminated early.

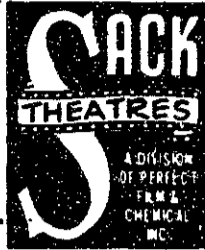
The first day of the tournament consisted of ten man elimination pools. Pommares was one of the two epeeists who slashed through their pools undefeated. This left him in good position for the semi-finals the next day. He could pace

himself, winning only as many matches as were needed to reach the finals the third day. Then the tournament officials announced that the semi-finals and the finals were to be combined into a single 24 man round robin. Although a change of this sort is against international rules, the tournament went on.

Already upset, Pommares was paired against the other undefeated fencer in the opening round. He lost this match, as well as several others that first day. Although he fenced much better the final day, he ended up fifth.

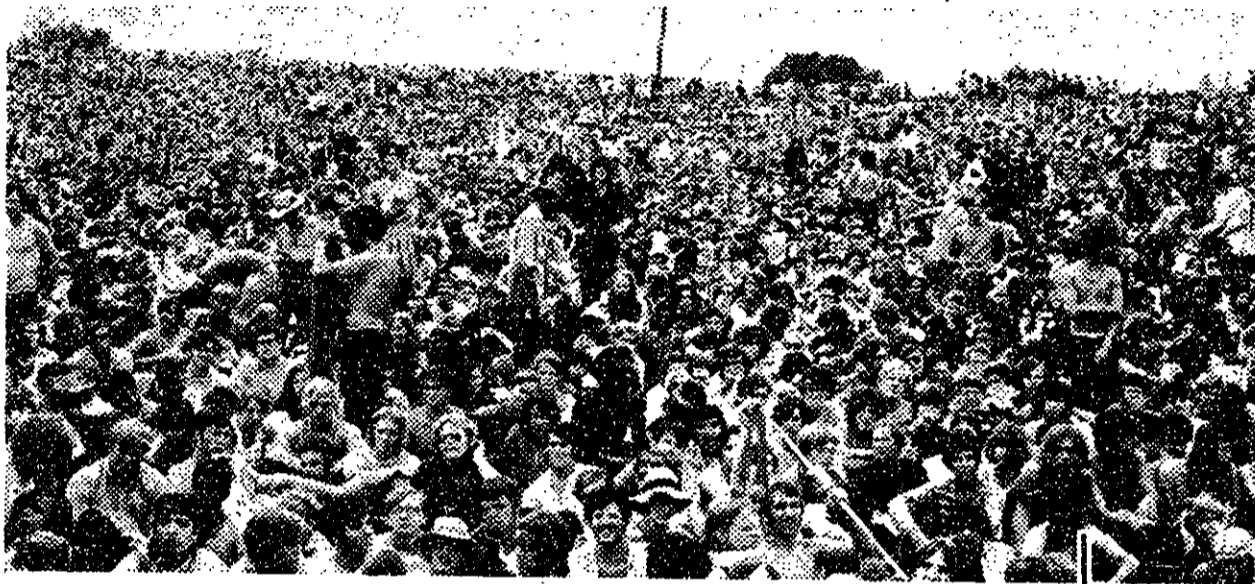
Much credit for Pommares' success this season must go to Coach Ed Richards. Before Pommares came to the US three years ago, he had studied for many years under a French master. Thus he came to the US with a beautiful, classic fencing style which was effective in European competition, but poorly adapted to the totally different style of intercollegiate fencing in this country. Coach Richards, who is one of the best American fencers, worked with Pommares in adapting his style and the results deserve praise from the entire MIT community.

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